

## CITY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

In observance of the following holidays, all City offices will be closed:

Thursday, Nov. 25: Thanksgiving Day  
Friday, Nov. 26: Day after Thanksgiving  
Thursday, Dec. 23: Christmas Eve (Observed)  
Friday, Dec. 24: Christmas Day (Observed)  
Friday, Dec. 31: New Year's Day (Observed)  
Monday, Jan 17: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

## CITY COUNCIL

Lew White, Mayor  
Angie Gonzales-Sanchez, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Brad Westmoreland, At-Large  
Juan Mendoza, District 1  
Derrick David Bryant, District 2  
Kara McGregor, District 3  
Jeffrey Michelson, District 4

The City Council holds its regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Detailed agendas are available at [www.lockhart-tx.org](http://www.lockhart-tx.org). Council meetings are also video streamed live and indexed at [www.lockhart-tx.org](http://www.lockhart-tx.org)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

City Hall: (512) 398-3461

Animal Shelter: (512) 376-3336

Animal Control: (512) 376-3336  
\*after hours call (512) 398-4401

Public Works: (512) 398-6452

Library / Technology Center:  
(512) 398-3223

Utility Billing: (512) 376-2475

Electric Department: (512) 398-6117  
\*after hours call (512) 398-4401

Fire Department: (512) 398-2321

Municipal Court: (512) 398-8330

Police Department: (512) 398-4401

Water Department: (512) 398-3615  
\*after hours call (512) 398-4401

Physical Address:

City of Lockhart  
308 West San Antonio Street  
Lockhart, Texas 78644

Phone: (512) 398-3461  
Fax: (512) 398-5103

Website: [www.lockhart-tx.org](http://www.lockhart-tx.org)

# Reverse parade rolls in again for Dickens Christmas

It's making the best of times in the worst of times. The Dickens Christmas Reverse Lighted Parade rolls into Lockhart once again as COVID-19 continues to be a concern in the community.

Just like last year, floats, bedecked with festive holiday decor, will stay put as people drive through in their cars to enjoy the spectacle. Those who plan on driving through to check out these floats are asked to remain inside their vehicles and drive through slowly.

"We have started a new tradition with 'A Dickens Christmas Reverse Lighted Parade,'" said Bertha Martinez,



Library Director. "Just as Scrooge said: 'I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me.'"

The Dickens Christmas Reverse Lighted Parade will be held on Saturday, December 4th, 7 - 8:30 p.m. The reverse parade

route begins in front of the Dr. Eugene Clark Library on S. Main St., then right on Market St., U-turn west on Market St., north on Main St., and ends on San Antonio St. (SH-142).

Father Christmas, more widely known as Santa Claus, will also make a special appearance at the event.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Planning on traveling this holiday season?

More people will be hitting the roads this year to visit loved ones for the holidays. If you're one of those people, here are a few tips from the Lockhart Police Department:

- Leave early and plan ahead for heavy traffic.
- Get plenty of rest before taking the wheel.
- If you're heading somewhere cold, prepare your car for winter.
- Keep an emergency preparedness kit with you.
- Buckle up.
- Put your cellphone away.
- Don't drink and drive.



### Also, Lockhart Fire/Rescue reminds you not to set your house on fire!

- Place your Christmas tree at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators, and other heat sources.
- If using an artificial tree, make sure it is fire resistant.
- Use outdoor lights outdoors and indoor lights indoors.
- Place candles where they won't be knocked down, or opt for flameless candles.
- Never leave candles and/or fireplaces burning unattended.
- Keep matches and candles out of reach of children.
- Turn off all the lights and decorations when you go to bed and when you leave the house.

# Are you considered a “critical care” utility customer? If so, let us know!

In response to power outages associated to Winter Storm Uri, Gov. Abbott signed a new state law that requires municipally-owned electric utilities, like the City of Lockhart, to identify their critical utility customers. They include public safety facilities (e.g. hospitals, police and fire stations, etc.) and medically fragile customers.

If you or a loved one is considered medically fragile, you will need to fill out the City of Lockhart’s **Application for Chronic Condition or Critical Care Residential Customer Status** form. The application must also include a signed letter from a physician stating the medical needs of the resident or any resident in the household.

The form is available for pick up at Lockhart City Hall (308 W. San Antonio St., Lockhart, TX 78644), 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. You may also download the form from the City’s website ([https://www.lockhart-tx.org/page/utility\\_home](https://www.lockhart-tx.org/page/utility_home)). Once it is completed,

your physician will have to fax it to the Utilities Department at (512)398-4196 or e-mail the form to **customerservice@lockhart-tx.org**.

If your application is approved, you will be notified by mail. Once classified as a critical customer, in the case of extended power outages, our emergency personnel will conduct a wellness check on your household.

**Questions?** Call our Utilities Department at (512) 376-2475.

### Holiday garbage schedule

Trash will not be collected on Thanksgiving Day.

If your regular trash day is Thursday, November 25, it will be picked up Friday, November 26.

If your regular trash day is Friday, November 26, it will be picked up Saturday, November 27.

Trash will be picked up as scheduled on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve.

LOCKHART ANIMAL SHELTER

## WANTED: Lockhart Animal Shelter Volunteers

Compassionate, dedicated, and hardworking volunteers are essential to the Lockhart Animal Shelter. If these words happen to describe you, we encourage you to apply!



To volunteer, you must:

- Love animals.
- Be at least 12 years old. Volunteers under 18 are required to be accompanied by a parent.
- Read and comprehend detailed policy information and follow shelter rules.
- Communicate with fellow volunteers, shelter staff, and prospective pet parents professionally.
- Fulfill all responsibilities independently.
- Be able to stand, and/or walk for up to three hours comfortably; lift and carry up to 20 pounds; reach and lift.
- Have a reliable means of transportation to and from the Lockhart Animal Shelter.

Still interested? Contact the Lockhart Animal Shelter by calling (512) 376-3336 or e-mail [LAShelterTX@yahoo.com](mailto:LAShelterTX@yahoo.com).

**LOCKHART ANIMAL SHELTER NEW HOURS:**

- Tuesday-Friday: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Saturday: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- Sunday-Monday: CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

**\*\*\*TIME TO CONSERVE\*\*\***

KEEP YOUR SEWAGE COSTS DOWN BY CONSERVING WATER USAGE IN DECEMBER, JANUARY, AND FEBRUARY!

Residential customers are charged a fixed sewage rate, which is determined by taking the average of a customer’s water usage in those three months. That average becomes their sewage rate for the next 12-month billing period of April to March.

A new average is recorded each year to establish the customer’s sewage charge.

ENERGY-SAVING TIPS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Decking the halls with Christmas lights and other decor can get you into the holiday spirit, but that upcoming electric bill can also make you feel anything, but merry. In fact, many utility providers have found that energy use goes up during the holidays due to cooler weather, increased use of appliances, and lights staying on longer.

Here are some conservation tips from the Public Utility Commission of Texas that will help ensure your holidays stay ‘merry and bright:’

- Set your thermostat at 68°F or lower - every degree of extra heating will increase energy usage six to eight percent.
- Dress warmly.
- Use more blankets at night.
- Set ceiling fans on reverse to re-circulate the heat that builds up near the ceiling.
- Always turn lights off in rooms you are not using.
- Lower the thermostat on your hot water heater. For each 10 degrees of reduction, you can save 3-5 percent in energy costs. 120°F is suggested unless your dishwasher does not have its own water heater, in which case 130°F - 140°F is suggested for optimal cleaning.
- Wrap the hot water heater in an insulation blanket.

## Blue Santa Is Coming To Town!

It’s that time of the year again! The Lockhart Police Association is accepting applications for the Blue Santa Program. The program helps ensure Lockhart’s children have presents under the Christmas tree. In order to receive a present, you need to fill out an application. You can pick one up at the Lockhart Police Department, 214 Bufkin Ln. Applications must be completed and turned in at LPD no later than Friday, December 10, 5 p.m.

**Want to donate?** Drop off new and unwrapped toys for kids aged 2-15 years at LPD.

**Questions?** E-mail [palockhart-bluesanta@gmail.com](mailto:palockhart-bluesanta@gmail.com)



### What to do with your live Christmas tree once the holidays are over...We can help take care of that!

The City of Lockhart offers tree recycling for FREE! So, when you are ready to say ‘goodbye’ to your live Christmas tree, call our Public Works Department at (512) 398-6452 to arrange for collection.

Once you’ve set up a time, make sure the tree is free of ornaments, lights, tinsel, nails, screws or tree bases before placing it curbside. Then, we’ll pick it up and take care of the rest!