

FLY EASY. FLY WACO.

New Year, New Airport. Waco Airport Renovation Unveiled!

After one and a half years of construction, the newly renovated Waco Regional Airport is ready for takeoff!

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The approximately \$10 million terminal renovation project was made possible with about \$9.5 million in Federal Aviation Administration funds. The goal for the project was to provide a comfortable modern facility that provides the travel amenities that our community deserves. The multi-phase project includes a complete overhaul from floor to ceiling with new terrazzo flooring, vaulted ceilings, lighting, restrooms, furniture, charging stations, upgraded infrastructure, and more!

ARTWORK

The City of Waco also collaborated with Creative Waco to commission artwork that welcomes both residents and travelers through a journey of Waco's rich history and vibrant culture.

"Ice Age Migrants" by Manca Ahlin intricately laces together a tribute to the Waco Mammoth National Monument, while "Waco, Texas—Past, Present and Future" by Mike Tabor artfully features the iconic Waco Suspension Bridge in both its 1870 brick-faced and 1914 stucco-faced facades.

"Welcome to Waco" by Eirini Linardaki bursts with color, featuring the ALICO building and Suspension Bridge, adorned with illustrations contributed by residents in their native languages. Bryant Stanton's "Silent Wings, Taking Flight" tells the local flight story with



negional / in port

metallic scissor-tailed flycatchers on an aluminum spiral honoring the Women Army Service Pilots and their role during World War II.

Lastly, "Wichita Grass Houses" by Camargo Copeland Architecture merges tradition with technology, presenting a computer-engineered panel that showcases the construction of Wichita Grass Houses, a testament to our indigenous heritage.

NEW LOGO

The City of Waco also launched a new logo for the Waco Regional Airport that better reflects the modern airport and City branding.

FUTURE RESTAURANT

Coming soon to Waco Regional Airport will be a new restaurant available to both passengers and locals in addition to food and beverage options on the secure side after passengers go through security.

FLY WACO

In the meantime, airport guests currently have the option of three flights daily to DFW with American Airlines. To learn more about the Waco Regional Airport and to make travel plans, visit <u>waco-texas.com/airport</u>.

General Election Positions for Mayor, District One, & District Three

The City of Waco's general election for Mayor and Councilmembers for District One and District Three will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024. The filing period for a place on the ballot is Wednesday, January 17, 2024, to Friday, February 16, 2024.



Applicants must live in those council districts for six months to run for those seats.

HOW TO FILE FOR A PLACE ON THE BALLOT

Applications and candidate packets are available online at <u>waco-texas.com/elections</u> or at the City Secretary's Office in City Hall, 300 Austin Avenue. For questions, please contact us at (254) 750-5750.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

- Mail to: City Secretary's Office, City Hall, 300
 Austin Avenue, Waco, Texas 76701, Attention:
 Michelle Hicks
- Email to: citysecretary@wacotx.gov.
- Drop off at: City Hall, 300 Austin Avenue.
- Applications must be notarized.

MAY ELECTION

Early voting will be held from April 22, 2024, through April 30, 2024. Those elected will be sworn in at a special Council meeting on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 6 p.m.













In Case You Missed It: Waco Celebrates the Holiday Season!

Waco embraced the holiday spirit this season with a series of festive events that brought cheer to the community. The celebrations kicked off with Waco Wonderland at Heritage Square on December 1. The three-day celebration transformed downtown Waco into a winter wonderland, featuring a Ferris Wheel, Mistletoe Market, food trucks, performances, a parade, and snow tube hill. The highlight of the first night was the dazzling tree-lighting ceremony followed by the firework display.

The festivities didn't end there! The Solid Waste and Fire Departments added to the holiday magic with their Grinchmobile and Holiday Cheer Engine. They were both decked out in holiday lights and decorations, and the Grinchmobile even featured a bubble machine. For wildlife enthusiasts, the Cameron Park Zoo Wild Lights, presented by Reliant and sponsored by TFNB Your Bank for Life, also returned with their grand display of lights.

Waco truly shone with holiday cheer last year. We can't wait to do it again this year. Here's to an incredible 2024!

Stay Informed! Register for Emergency Notifications.

With the severe weather season coming soon, remember to sign up for the mass emergency notification system, so that the Waco-McLennan County Office of Emergency Management can reach you with timely updates on severe weather in our community.

The phone, text, and email system can alert you based on the locations you select, whether that's for your home, kid's school, or your workplace.

Remember, if we can't reach you, we can't alert you. Sign up at <u>waco-texas.com/emergency</u>.





Cameron Park Zoo Weekly Specials Throughout 2024!

Cameron Park Zoo is excited to announce weekly specials throughout 2024. Every week, the Zoo will promote **BFF Mondays** — which stands for **Bring Friends and Family**. If a guest purchases one full admission ticket, they will receive a 50 percent discount for two additional guests. The guests must enter the Zoo at the same time.

In addition to BFF Mondays, Cameron Park Zoo also announces **Wild Wednesdays**. Every Wednesday, residents of McLennan County can enjoy \$10 admission per person. Proof of residency is required.





Searching for the Perfect Valentine's Day Date Night?

Surprise your sweetheart with a couple's painting class and tasty dinner for two at "Paint Talk" on Saturday, February 10!

We'll provide the painting supplies, canvas, and step-by-step instructions to create a fun masterpiece with your partner. Local artist Tashita Bibles will serve as the evening's painting instructor. The deadline to sign up is February 5.

WHERE: City of Waco Multi-Purpose Center, 1020 Elm Ave. WHEN: Saturday, Feb. 10 | 6-9 p.m. COST: \$60 per couple (includes dinner and dessert) SIGN UP: Call (254) 750-1956. Space is limited. Reserve your spot today.











Date Night for the Whole Family! Valentine's Day Fun

at the Waco Library

Come enjoy a special Valentine's Day event for the whole family! Join us for Family Date Night Paint Night at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14 at Central Library (1717 Austin Avenue).

The event is for families with kids ages 0 to 11.

Your group will work together to create an art piece that celebrates how much you love each other

using special stencils custommade for your family by Ms. Rachel. Canvases are limited so be sure to register online to save your spot in this fun, free program!



Join a Book **Club with the** Waco Library!



JASPER FFORDE

Do you enjoy lively discussions about books? Look no further! The Waco Library has three great book clubs for you to come together with fellow bibliophiles. New members

are always welcome, and no purchase is required to join.

BOOKS & BREWS

The next meeting is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13 at the Waco Ale Company (806 Austin Ave). This month's book: Deliberate Cruelty

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

The next meeting is at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 11 at South Waco Library (2737 S 18th ST). This month's book: Eyre Affair

KIDS BOOK CLUB

(For kids ages 6 to 11) The next meeting is at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 23 at Central Library (1717 Austin Ave). This month's book: Wings of Fire



Apply for Waco WACO CITY ACADEMY **City Academy!** Get Involved with Your Local Government.

City of Waco is hosting its third Waco City Academy in March! City Academy is a FREE ten-week class offering an interactive, behind-the-scenes look into city government with presentations and hands-on activities from each department.

Classes will be on Thursday evenings from mid-March to mid-May. Seats are limited to 20 participants, first applied/first enrolled. Three seats are reserved for residents from each council district, and the remaining five will be filled regardless of district.

- Applications are open from 8 a.m. Tuesday, January 16 to 5 p.m. Monday, February 15 (or until seats are filled).
- Applications are available at City Hall, 300 Austin Avenue, or online at waco-texas.com/cityacademy.



To learn more, contact us at neighborhoods@wacotx.gov or (254) 750-5774



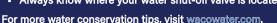
Winter Water Conservation! Avoid Costly Water Waste.

It's easy to put water conservation on the back burner during the winter season. However, we encourage you to consider a few easy steps to save you from costly repairs and avoidable water waste.

- To lower your chance of frozen water pipes, make sure to insulate any water supply lines that are in unheated areas.
- Contrary to popular belief, dripping faucets during freezing temperatures can save you money - almost like inexpensive insurance. By keeping water moving, you'll reduce the chance of freezing.
- Drastic temperature changes can cause pipes to expand and contract. So, after a thaw, inspect your pipes to make sure there are no leaks.



- Always know where your water shut-off valve is located!





Meet Eleanor! New Masai Giraffe at Cameron Park Zoo

Cameron Park Zoo welcomed Eleanor, a new Masai giraffe, in early December. Eleanor comes to Waco from the San Diego Zoo and was born on January 30, 2021. Cameron Park Zoo is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and participates in the Species Survival Plan for Masai giraffes. Eleanor was recommended to come to Waco as a match for Dane, the Zoo's 10-year-old male Masai giraffe.

Eleanor was quarantined for about 30 days, so that she could get comfortable with her new home. After quarantine, she will be introduced to Dane and Jenny, a reticulated giraffe who shares the habitat.

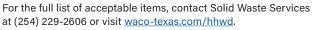


Spring Cleaning is Almost Here! Dispose of Hazardous Waste Responsibly

On Saturday, March 23, City of Waco Solid Waste Services is hosting the annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. The multi-city event from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Solid Waste Operations Center (501 Schroeder Drive) is a FREE and easy way to responsibly dispose your household chemicals and other dangerous waste. Help us save the environment from the toxic effects of hazardous waste!

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS: paints, CFL and fluorescent bulbs, batteries, electronics, scrap tires, automotive fluids and filters, cleaners, poisons, and other chemicals.

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS: containers larger than 5 gallons, explosives, fireworks, ammunition, agricultural chemicals, dioxins, radioactive material, large appliances, or commercial waste.



NEW Vacant Lots Available! Properties Well Below Appraised Value



The City of Waco has a NEW batch of vacant lots for sale in the Carver Neighborhood! The listed lots are below appraised value and a great opportunity to build a new home! Construction must be completed within two years of the recorded deed.

City of Waco Purchasing staff are available to help with the bidding process. Learn more at cityofwacoproperties.com.



119

Don't Miss a Beat Personalize Your City of Waco News



Customize your news experience by subscribing to our eNewsletters and text alerts. Tailor your updates to match your interests and ensure you get the latest and most relevant information. You're also

welcome to update your preferences or unsubscribe at any time. We're regularly adding more topics, so check back to see what's new! Visit waco-texas.com/subscribe.



W ACO OF

MyWaco Report a Problem Download the MyWaco app or visit mywaco.com.



Join Your Neighborhood Association Learn more at waco-texas.com/neighborhoods.



Subscribe to the City eNewsletter Text NEWS to 1 (888) 714-3083 or visit <u>waco-texas.com/subscribe</u>.

The sanitarian in the Health District's Environmental Health

HIGHLIGHT

CAREER

Sanitarian at the Waco Public Health District

team is responsible for inspecting and permitting every restaurant, food truck, and concession stand in McLennan County. Sanitarians also inspect childcare facilities, public and semi-private pools, hot tubs, spas, and general sanitation complaint investigations. This team also monitors the City's tobacco and smoking ordinance.

JOB OPENING

Are you interested in a career opportunity as a sanitarian? The Health District currently has job openings, and new employees are eligible for a \$3,000 hiring incentive.

WHY WORK FOR WACO?

As one of the largest employers in town, the City of Waco offers competitive salaries and benefits, tuition reimbursement, paid parental leave, job security, and an opportunity to give back to your community. Visit <u>workforwaco.com</u> for current openings. For assistance, call us at (254) 750-5740.



3,000 Hiring

Incentive

We Are Waco

What We Do. How We Live. Who We Are.

Waco is a progressive and diverse city with a vibrant community spirit, and we think the people who call it home are incredible!

The "We Are Waco" video series showcases the local businesses, organizations, and artists that make Waco, Waco. Watch the full video series with over 100 videos at MyWacoTV.com and on our social media. Have an idea of who we should feature in the next video? Let us know at <u>waco-texas.com/WeAreWaco</u>.









P.O. Box 2570 Waco, Texas 76702

f /cityofwacotx

X /cityofwaco

O /cityofwaco D /mywacotv