

TEMPE TODAY

a community newsletter



VOLUME 33 ~ ISSUE 1

WWW.TEMPE.GOV

JANUARY 2017



Spring classes begin in March

Spring into something new!

The Spring 2017 Tempe Opportunities Brochure features hundreds of programs for every interest, age and ability, including health and fitness, art, dance, special interest, sports, aquatics and boating offerings. The brochure will be available online and can be found at City of Tempe facilities beginning Feb. 6. Registration for Tempe residents will begin Feb. 21 and Feb. 27 for non-residents.

Visit www.tempe.gov/brochure or call the Recreation Administration Office at 480-350-5200 for more information. Registration can be completed online, by fax or in person at many Tempe community centers.

Tempe Public Safety Memorial opens



Tempe residents and many community donors brought the new Tempe Public Safety Memorial to reality. It was dedicated in December in a public ceremony. Located at the entrance of Tempe Beach Park, Mill Avenue and Rio Salado Parkway, the memorial honors local public safety heroes who gave their lives in the line of duty. A police officer, firefighter and police canine are depicted in the "Call to Action" sculpture. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/publicsafetymemorial.

January water and sewer rate increase suspended

On Dec. 8, the City Council voted to suspend a planned 4.75 percent water rate increase and 2.5 percent sewer increase that were scheduled for Jan. 1, 2017. As part of a 2015 rate study for water, sewer and solid waste utilities, the City Council had approved a two-year increase to utility rates. Each utility bill has sections for water, sewer and solid waste.

The first of the planned increases went into effect Jan. 1, 2016. The second water and sewer increases will not happen as scheduled in January 2017. Instead, the Council decided to examine the impacts of the 2016 water and sewer rate changes to various types of residential users, as well as to explore additional educational opportunities to encourage water conservation among high users.

For many years, Tempe has had a rate structure intended to incentivize conservation among residential water users. In 2016, tiers were revised to signal a stronger conservation message and to reduce bills for those with lower consumption while raising rates for the highest users.

The 2017 water and sewer increases, which have been suspended, were planned inflationary adjustments. Solid waste inflationary rate increases were unaffected by the Council decision – they will proceed in January and will equate to about 60 cents additional per month for single family residential customers.

continued on page 2

CONTACT:



480-350-4311

E-Mail: Tempe311@tempe.gov

www.tempe.gov/311

Free iPhone & Android app

CONNECT :

[www tempe gov/forum](http://www.tempe.gov/forum)

www.tempe.gov/enews

INTERACT :

facebook

[cityoftempe](https://www.facebook.com/cityoftempe)

twitter

@Tempegov



@Tempegov



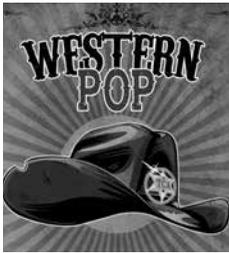
Tempe11video

continued from page 1

Rate studies are done every two years in Tempe. The next scheduled rate study will begin in March, and it will include a robust public input process.

Rate adjustments help ensure the reliability and affordability of basic water, sewer and solid waste services. They also help support the replacement of aging infrastructure, which can reduce water main breaks and service interruptions.

For questions, call Customer Service at 480-350-8361, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., or visit www.tempe.gov/utilityrates, where you can find a detailed overview of the 2015 rate study process and see the tiered water rate structure.



Western POP exhibit at Tempe Center for the Arts

The newest exhibition at the Gallery at TCA is Western POP:

Facts and Fiction of the American West. It runs Jan. 3 to May 6 at the Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway.

The artworks, memorabilia, music and historical displays will celebrate the nostalgia tied to the western genre and expose the facts and fiction about morality, race relations and economics in the American West. As part of the exhibition, Tempe Center for the Arts will host a Western Pop Film Festival, a collaboration with ASU's Center for Film, Media and Popular Culture from Feb. 1-3. The exhibition will also include a panel discussion on March 15, a satellite exhibition at Tempe Post Office through April 12, and a Western Radio Hour on April 21 at 7 p.m. in the Gallery. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/TCAGallery.

Free tax prep is here

Tempe Community Council offers a free tax preparation service for taxpayers earning \$54,000 or less in 2016. Seniors and those with disabilities also qualify. IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers will help determine if you are eligible for Earned Income Tax Credits to maximize your refund or reduce taxes owed. Tempe's tax site will be located at Gracie's Village Community Room, 1540 E. Apache Blvd. It will be open each Saturday, Wednesday and Thursday from Feb. 4 to April 15, and will be closed March 4-11. To avoid wait times, qualified taxpayers can preschedule appointments online, drop-off tax paperwork and return at a later date, or utilize myfreetaxes.com to self-prepare tax returns. For more details, times and what to bring, visit www.tempecommunitycouncil.org or call 480-858-2300.

Attend Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature

Curious about what goes on at the State Capitol? Tempe residents are invited to join the Mayor and City Council for Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature on Wednesday, Jan. 25, from 9-11 a.m., at the Arizona State Senate, 1700 W. Washington St., in Phoenix. Meet your City Councilmembers and Tempe's state legislators, learn about Tempe's approach to representing the city at the Legislature, and take a self-guided tour of the Capitol after the program. Confirm your spot with the city's Neighborhood Services Division at www.tempe.gov/neighborhoods, or 480-350-8234.

Free parking is available at the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, 1820 W. Washington St., Phoenix. To take public transportation to the event, visit www.valleymetro.org for bus, light rail and park-and-ride information.

Policy changes at the state level can affect resources, activities and operations in Tempe so it's important to stay informed. Residents are encouraged to bring questions and share neighborhood stories. For periodic email updates throughout the legislative session, visit www.tempe.gov/lists and select the "Government Relations" list.

Recycle-A-Bicycle program needs donations



Did you get or gift a new bike during the holidays? Tempe's Recycle-a-Bicycle program needs your old bike. Don't worry if it's missing a pedal or a chain – the program also needs new and used bike parts and new and used repair stands.

This innovative program launched in August at Gililand Middle School was a success in its first semester. The Recycle-a-Bicycle program fosters health, development, stewardship and empowerment among at-risk Tempe youth by getting bicycles donated by the community into their hands.

Community members can drop off bikes between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. daily at these Tempe Fire Stations: Station 1: 1450 E. Apache Blvd.; Station 2: 3025 S. Hardy Drive; Station 3: 5440 S. McClintock Drive; Station 4: 300 E. Elliot Road; and Station 5: 723 E. Curry Road. Bikes can also be dropped off at Gililand Middle School in the front office during school hours.

Walk-in Wednesdays

Walk-in Wednesdays Open Mic Night is back at the Tempe Center for the Arts. Join host Walt Richardson for a relaxing evening of live music at the best open mic venue in the region. For more information visit www.tempe.gov/TCAopenmic.

Life after high school? Plan for it with College Connect



Young people wondering what to do after high school, whether college is the right choice and how to pay for it all are getting helpful answers from Tempe's ongoing College Connect program. Join any of these free College Connect workshops from 10 a.m. to noon on upcoming

Saturdays (Feb. 4, April 8) to find answers. The workshops, focused on different topics each time, are held at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road. Day-of registration opens at 9:30 a.m. Students attending the workshops will be entered in a drawing to win one of five \$250 scholarships. For more information and to register for the workshops, visit www.CollegeConnectTempe.com.



Unite at the annual Unity Walk

Meet your neighbors and those from other communities at the annual Regional Unity Walk and Diversity Reception on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 6 p.m.

Join residents of Tempe, Chandler, Gilbert, Guadalupe, Mesa, Phoenix and Scottsdale for a walk to promote mutual respect and understanding. Pick one of two start locations at Tempe Town Lake and meet in the middle as a showing of unity. Either walk is one mile. No registration is required and the walk is free.

Community members from Chandler, Phoenix, Scottsdale and Gilbert will assemble at Tempe Town Lake Marina (north side of Town Lake). Residents of Tempe, Guadalupe and Mesa will assemble at the Tempe Beach Park Amphitheater. Walkers are asked to assemble by 5:45 p.m. Get all the details at www.tempe.gov/diversity.



Play like a kid again at Tempe's Annual PlayDay

On Saturday, Feb. 25, kids of all ages will have the opportunity to have fun and stay active at the city's 8th Annual PlayDay. The free community event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kiwanis Park, Baseline Road and Ash Avenue. Children and adults can join a variety of structured and unstructured games and events, including kayaking, Kid Zone Experience, Diablo Dash family friendly obstacle course, the Just for Kids Fishing Festival, sports skills and drills and inflatable games.

The Fishing Festival sponsored by Anglers United and Arizona Game and Fish will begin at 8 a.m. on the west side of Kiwanis Lake. Poles, bait and a little help will all be provided for the young anglers. The Kid Zone Experience will feature cooking challenges, speed stacking, yo-yo competitions and more. The Diablo Dash, sponsored by the Tempe Diablos, is a free, family-friendly obstacle course that will have you running, crawling, climbing, sliding and laughing your way to the finish line!

For information, visit www.tempe.gov/familyfun or call 480-350-5200.

Tempe Empty Bowls helps the hungry

Thousands of Tempe-area elementary and high school students, as well as local artists, are creating clay bowls and other pottery to raise money for the hungry in our community as part of the Tempe Empty Bowls program. Proceeds benefit the feeding programs at Tempe Community Action Agency and United Food Bank. At the event (www.facebook.com/tempeemptybowls), a \$10 donation purchases a bowl and a simple meal of soup and bread, symbolic of the caloric intake that must sustain many in our community for an entire day.

The 2017 Tempe Empty Bowls will be held from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 24, at Sixth Street Park (downtown Tempe) and Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Tempe Community Complex, 3500 S. Rural Road (beside the library). Proceeds benefit Tempe Community Action Agency (www.tempeaction.org) and United Food Bank's Kid's Café program (www.unitedfoodbank.org).

Calendar

This is the tentative January/February schedule for Tempe City Council meetings. Check www.tempe.gov/clerk for updated schedules.

January 5, 2017

4 p.m., Work Study Session

January 12, 2017

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

January 26, 2017

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

February 2, 2017

4 p.m., Work Study Session

February 9, 2017

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

February 16, 2017

4 p.m., Work Study Session

February 23, 2017

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

Agendas as posted a minimum of 24 hours before each meeting outside of the City Council Chambers and on-line at www.tempe.gov/clerk. Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Confirm meeting dates and times online or by contacting the City Clerk's office at (480) 350-4311.

Meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

Tempe City Council

Mark W. Mitchell
Mayor

Robin Arredondo-Savage
Vice Mayor

Kolby Granville
Councilmember

Randy Keating
Councilmember

Lauren Kuby
Councilmember

Joel Navarro
Councilmember

David Schapira
Councilmember

Andrew Ching
City Manager

To contact the Mayor and Council, call 480-350-8110.

Tempe Today editor Nikki Ripley
nikki_ripley@tempe.gov
480-350-8846 or
480-350-8400 (TDD)

City of Tempe
31 E. 5th St., Tempe, AZ 85281
www.tempe.gov

News you can use

Neighborhood Awards nominations accepted through Feb. 15

Nominate a great community member or business for the city's annual Neighborhood Awards. For the first time, this year's awards will include a category for sustainability. The Mayor and City Council will recognize all nominees and celebrate award winners at the 2017 State of the Neighborhoods Awards and Workshops on Saturday, April 22, at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave. For nomination forms and event information as it becomes available, visit www.tempe.gov/stateoftheneighborhoods. For more information on the sustainability achievement award in particular, email carla_sidi@tempe.gov.

Kajikawa Softball Classic returns

The Arizona State University Women's Softball Team will host the annual Kajikawa Classic from Thursday, Feb. 9, through Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Tempe Sports Complex and ASU's Farrington Stadium. The Lady SunDevils will open their 2017 season at home on Feb. 9 as part of the event. The 2017 tournament features 16 teams that competed in the postseason last year, including six teams that advanced out of regional play. The Kajikawa Classic is named after Bill Kajikawa, a legendary coach and founder of Sun Devil Athletics. The community is invited to attend the action-packed tournament.

Anaheim Angels home opener Feb. 25

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim will return to their spring training home at Tempe Diablo Stadium when they host the Milwaukee Brewers on Saturday, Feb. 25. The Charity Game will be held Feb. 27 against the San Diego Padres. The season will run through March 28 at Diablo Stadium. Tickets are on sale now at www.ticketmaster.com or you can purchase them at the Tempe Diablo box office beginning Feb. 18. Tempe Diablo Stadium is located at 2200 W. Alameda Drive. Visit www.tempe.gov/diablo for information on games, tickets, stadium hours, directions and parking.

Watch State of the City 2016

Watch Mayor Mark Mitchell talk about innovation, education and incubation in Tempe at the 2016 State of the City Address, which was held Dec. 1. Visit www.tempe.gov/mitchell and click on "State of the City 2016."

ASU Night of the Open Door

Explore ASU the entire month of February! Children can let their imaginations run wild during ASU Night of the Open Door. Every year ASU invites the local community to visit any of the five campus locations to explore the innovative spaces normally accessible only to ASU students. Visitors can participate in interactive activities and talk to students, faculty and staff. As a signature event of the Arizona SciTech Festival, ASU invites you and your family to discover all things science, technology, engineering, arts and math. The Tempe campus will be open to explore on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 3-9 p.m. Admission is free. For ticket and location information visit, www.opendoor.asu.edu.

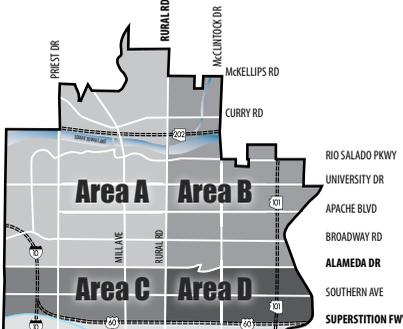


FEBRUARY 2017

Mixed Bulk Trash Collection Schedule

	Collection Week	Collection Type
Area A	FEB 6-10	MIXED BULK WASTE
Area B	FEB 13-17	
Area C	FEB 20-24	
Area D	FEB 27-MAR 3	

Items may be placed for collection no earlier than 10 days prior to Monday of your collection week and no later than 6 a.m. on Monday of your collection week.



www.tempe.gov/slashthetrash • 480-350-4311