

IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ **BIKE MONTH ROLLS IN**
- STREETCAR UPDATE**
- GET WATERSMART**
- BULK TRASH TIPS**



STATE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS

Mayor Mark Mitchell

Celebrate your neighbors!

2019 State of the Neighborhoods Awards and Workshops

Come out and celebrate individual and neighborhood can-do spirit and empowerment at the 2019 State of the Neighborhoods Awards and Workshops from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 13, at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave.

The morning will begin with a light breakfast followed by Mayor Mark Mitchell offering the annual State of the Neighborhoods address featuring the theme of empowerment and sharing highlights from 25 years of the Maryanne Corder Neighborhood Grant Program. The Mayor and City Council will then present awards for Neighbor of the Year, Property Beautification, Alley Upkeep, Sustainability, Historic Preservation and – new this year – the Arts and Culture category recognizing individuals and organizations making significant contributions through visual arts, performing arts or cultural events and activities in Tempe. Arts award nominations are due by March 10 and forms are at tempe.gov/arts; other categories were due in February.

Then select from our community building workshops to help you connect with other residents and broaden your knowledge on specific topics. You'll want to register for the workshop of your choice at tempe.gov/StateoftheNeighborhoods or by email at neighborhoods@tempe.gov. Event sponsors include Salt River Project, Cartel Coffee, Donut Parlor and Whole Foods Market.

Tempe PRE applications open March 4

Tempe PRE is recruiting students ages 3 and 4 for its fall 2019 preschool classes. As it heads into its third year, the program is now tuition-based with three different types of spots available: free; half-tuition; and full-tuition. The quality educational experience is the same regardless of level of payment. Income-qualified Tempe families can apply for financial assistance to help cover tuition. All students must be potty-trained and be at least 3 years old by July 31 to be eligible. Tempe PRE is held in classrooms located in 13 local elementary schools around the city. For program details and to apply, visit tempe.gov/TempePRE. For questions, contact program staff at pre-k@tempe.gov or 480-858-7735.



Refresh your tempe.gov bookmarks!

Tempe has refreshed its website with a new look and useful new features. We've made it easier to pay bills, reach Tempe 311 and find the information you need most. The site now offers a page reader for those who prefer to have the page read aloud. We've also created a special section for Tempe Public Library, tempepubliclibrary.org, to help people check out books, download videos or find the research they need faster and easier.

Do you have favorite pages on our site that you have bookmarked? Those bookmarks will no longer work because we have refreshed the site. You will need to refresh them in order to avoid broken link error messages. Simply go back into tempe.gov today, find your favorite page and re-bookmark it. Delete your old bookmark and you're all set!

Join Jennifer on March 23



Councilmember Jennifer Adams is hosting a rotating, casual conversation series in zip codes throughout Tempe. The next event

highlights topics of interest for residents in 85282, but any Tempe community members are welcome to attend as well. The event is happening from 1-2 p.m. on Saturday, March 23, at Friendship Village, 2645 E. Southern Ave. For more information about Adams' service, visit tempe.gov/adams.

Tourism is booming in Tempe



More tourists flocked to Tempe in 2018 – 12 percent more than in 2017 – and generated \$175 million in hotel room bookings. This is an increase of \$36 million from 2016!

Brian McCartin, President & CEO of the Tempe Tourism Office, said a few factors explain the increase

in demand for Tempe hotels: the growing business community; the popularity of ASU; new flights into the area; and the marketing efforts of the Tempe Tourism Office that target meeting and sports event planners.

In addition, 600 new hotel rooms came online in Tempe in 2017, including two Hilton Garden Inn Hotels, Fairfield Inn by Marriott and Home2Suites. The new inventory, coupled with a rise in average daily rates, contributed to the room sales growth for Tempe. The number of rooms will grow again with a new Westin, Canopy by Hilton and Omni hotels coming soon.

The tourism industry in Tempe employs 8,000 people. According to a tourism economic impact study, Tempe is visited by 3.7 million tourists a year and direct visitor spending is \$730.5 million annually. Of that, more than \$92 million is spent at special events, local arts venues and Tempe attractions.

The Tempe Tourism Office is a non-profit organization devoted to marketing Tempe as a desirable visitor and group destination. Visit www.tempetourism.com for details.



Geeks Night Out returns March 20

Discover the science at Geeks Night Out on Wednesday, March 20, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tempe's signature Arizona SciTech Festival event is presented by State Farm and blends science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM). The free event merges fun and education, showcasing everything from robotics demonstrations and solar-powered race cars to science experiments and coding exercises. Enjoy live entertainment, food trucks, bounce houses and more. Meet us at the Tempe Community Complex, 3500 S. Rural Road. For more information, visit tempe.gov/geeks.

EVENTS

MARCH 29-31

The Spring Tempe Festival of the Arts takes over Mill Avenue and Downtown Tempe. Great shopping, food and fun!
tempefestivalofthearts.com

APRIL 6

Tempe Human Services Day is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tempe Community Complex, 3500 S. Rural Road. Resource booths and onsite services will be there, along with a human services symposium.
TempeHumanServicesDay.org

APRIL 6

April Pools Day is 1-5 p.m. at Kiwanis Wave Pool and will feature water safety activities, CPR demonstrations and swim lessons. Admission is free.
tempe.gov/waves

APRIL 11

The Senior Health and Wellness Expo happens from 8 a.m. to noon at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave. Explore community resources at this free event. Free screenings, class demonstrations, a light breakfast and a door prize drawing.
tempe.gov/pyle

APRIL 20

The next Zero Waste Day will be 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Tempe Fire Training Facility, 1340 E. University Drive. Recycle your hazardous household products, shred documents and donate items to charity.
tempe.gov/ZeroWaste

Full events calendar at tempe.gov!

Tempe Streetcar update

Tempe Streetcar construction is in full swing, with tracks in the ground along Mill Avenue south of University Drive, around the Gammage Curve and continuing east on Apache Boulevard.

It's a great time to use alternative modes of transportation to ease commute challenges and reduce congestion. Tempe has a comprehensive transit network that includes 215 miles of bikeways, Valley Metro Rail, the FLASH circulator, and more than 16 bus routes and six free Orbit neighborhood circulator routes. Valley Metro's Commute Solutions program helps connect riders with alternative solutions that include carpool, vanpool, bus, light rail, telework, biking and walking. Visit valleymetro.org/commute-solutions or ShareTheRide.com to get started.

Use caution when traveling in construction zones. Stay alert and follow posted traffic signals and signs during construction. Bicycle and scooter riders should cross the tracks at a 60- to 90-degree angle.

Valley Metro's Shop On program promotes businesses along the route during construction. To download a Shop On Rewards card visit www.valleymetro.org/tempe-streetcar-business-directory. For more information on Tempe Streetcar, visit valleymetro.org/tempestreetcar. Email Jordan Brackett at jbrackett@valleymetro.org to be added to the weekly construction notification email list.

Suspect a water leak? Get WaterSmart

Household leaks waste nearly 1 trillion gallons of water annually nationwide, so each year we hunt down the drips during Fix a Leak Week. Our water meters track water usage, so you know if something on your property is using water when you're not. We offer personal water consultations with conservation staff who can visit your home and perform a free water efficiency checkup. And our new WaterSmart online water use portal connects residents to their hourly and monthly water usage and sends high-usage alerts, so you can find and fix leaks all year round. WaterSmart is ready now for early access, so register for your free account at tempe.gov/watersmart and start tracking your usage and hunting down leaks today.

Spring water conservation workshops

Tempe hosts workshops that teach residents how to design, implement and maintain a beautifully water-efficient yard. Visit tempe.gov/conservation to see all upcoming workshops. Classes include landscape design, plants for birds and irrigation maintenance. To register, call 480-350-8351 or email conservation@tempe.gov.

Bulk trash reminders

Bulky items and green material must be a minimum of 4 feet from utility boxes. Bulk trash piles should be 4 feet from the green organics bulk pile. The amount of green and mixed waste allowed for each collection will be limited to approximately 10 cubic yards – roughly the size of a small SUV. Items should be placed out for collection no earlier than 10 days prior to the Monday of your collection week and no later than 5:30 a.m. on Monday of your collection week. Residents with alleys: consider placing your items out the weekend immediately prior to the start of your collection week to reduce contamination and increase diversion from the landfill. Place all items in the alley along your fence line so the collection vehicles can pass. Plan your major brush and bulk disposal projects around the city's collection schedule to avoid putting out your material too early. Residents who place their material out prior to the 10-day rule are subject to fines. For more info visit tempe.gov/SMART.

5 ways to celebrate Bike Month

Tempe is celebrating Bike Month in April. Here's how you can ride along! Details are at tempe.gov/BikeMonth.

TOUR DE TEMPE

Join more than 1,000 riders at the 23rd annual Tour de Tempe Community Bike Ride from 7:30 to 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 7, at Kiwanis Park, 6111 S. All-America Way. This free, 12-mile ride starts at 9 a.m. and check-in starts at 7:30 a.m. Riders can get free breakfast, coffee and T-shirts! Helmets are required and riders should bring water. Register online through April 4.

BIKE TO WORK DAY

The first 350 bike riders can stop by one of seven locations during Tempe's 27th annual Bike to Work Day, from 6:30 to 8 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17, and get a free breakfast and T-shirt. At 7 a.m., riders can also join City Councilmembers on a bike ride from Whole Foods Market to Daily Jam in downtown Tempe. Find all the breakfast locations online.

ARIZONA BIKE SUMMIT

Check out the Arizona Bicycling Summit happening on April 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Educators, planners, public health professionals and cyclists discuss current and upcoming bike projects in Arizona. Visit cazbike.org/summit2019.

NOMINATE A BIKE HERO

Do you know someone who makes biking better in Tempe? Nominate them to be the 2019 Tempe Bike Hero. Nominations are accepted through April 30. Nominees must live, work or operate a business in Tempe.

FREE WEEK OF GRID

Get a free seven-day GRID pass by visiting gridbikes.com and using promocode GRID2WORK2019. Tempe has more than 215 miles of on-street bike lanes and multi-use paths. The city is designated a Gold-Level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists.

Tempe City Council



Mark W. Mitchell
Mayor

Lauren Kuby
Vice Mayor

Jennifer Adams
Councilmember

Robin Arredondo-Savage
Councilmember

Kolby Granville
Councilmember

Randy Keating
Councilmember

Joel Navarro
Councilmember

Andrew Ching
City Manager

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

Check tempe.gov/clerk for updated schedules of City Council meetings and agendas or call 480-350-4311. Meeting dates are subject to change.

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

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

Transit service changes

Transit service changes for FLASH and Route 62 are coming in April. Visit www.valleymetro.org for information.

Adults 50+ needed as reading tutors

Adults ages 50 and older who would like to tutor young students, and can commit to a full school year, can learn more about the Experience Corps program by attending an information session this spring. Sessions are 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on March 19, April 17 and May 14, at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road, in the lower level Program Room B. For more information, visit tempe.gov/ExperienceCorps.

Race to Alleviate Homelessness

Join the Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA) and the City of Tempe as they host the Tempe Race to Alleviate Homelessness at Kiwanis Park at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 13. Proceeds support TCAA's I-HELP program, Tempe's emergency shelter for men and women experiencing homelessness. This event will feature an officially timed 5K run and 1-mile walk. For details, visit www.tempeaction.org.

Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt is April 20

The 12th Annual Tempe Community Easter Egg Hunt is happening at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 20, at the north soccer field at Kiwanis Park, 6111 S. All-America Way. The event is free and open to children 10 and under. It is produced by the Kiwanis Club of Tempe and the Tempe High School Key Club. More than 9,000 plastic Easter eggs filled with prizes will be scattered on the field. Starting at 9 a.m., two age groups (2-5 and 6-10) will be able to collect as many eggs as they can. The Easter Bunny will be roaming and available for pictures. Face painting, games and crafts will be offered. Bring your own baskets or sacks for egg collection!

Turn in old, expired meds

Tempe Police are partnering again with the Arizona Drug Enforcement Administration and law enforcement agencies across

the state for an upcoming drug "take back" event. It happens from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, at the Tempe Police south substation, 8201 S. Hardy Drive. Disposal is anonymous. In addition, two secure medication disposal kiosks are available for community members year-round during business hours at the Apache Police Substation, 1822 E. Apache Blvd, and downtown Police Headquarters, 120 E. Fifth St. For additional information about the event, contact Molly_Enright@tempe.gov or 480-858-6148.

April 2019 Mixed Bulk & Green Organics Collection Schedule

	Collection Dates	Collection Type
Area A	APR 1-5	BULK TRASH
Area B	APR 8-12	GREEN ORGANICS
Area C	APR 15-19	BULK TRASH
Area D	APR 22-26	GREEN ORGANICS

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.

tempe.gov/smart • 480-350-4311