



Tempe Today

January 2020

Making Waves in the Desert

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New trash and recycling collection days

Beginning Feb. 3, all trash and recycling residential customers will have a new pick-up day. Customers in the green organics bin program also will see a change. Bulk trash collection (with green organics) is not affected. Using a new route management system has given the city the ability to better manage resources and reduce costs. Moving trash collection to Monday through Thursday will improve service, reduce fuel use and lower Tempe's carbon footprint. Operating more efficiently helps keep rates lower.

The new collection schedule is based on the number of homes on a route and the amount/weight of solid waste and recycling collected. The new collection schedule is no longer based on geographic boundary lines.

Your new day can be found at tempe.gov/SMART or by calling Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2020 solid waste rate adjustments

New rates for solid waste services went into effect on Jan. 1. The rates are increasing the utility bill for residents by \$2.04 a month.

These rate adjustments will help ensure the reliability and affordability of solid waste services. Our focus is maximizing efficiency to keep rates as low as possible. Factors that went into the rate increase include: commercial and residential container replacement costs; equipment and fuel; recycling processing costs and the green organics program; the alley maintenance program; and commercial and residential costs of service.

If you have questions about the rate changes, contact Customer Service at 480-350-8361, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., or visit tempe.gov/SolidWasteRateStudy.



2020 U.S. Census is coming

In mid-March, all households will receive an invitation letter by mail with directions on how to complete the 2020 U.S. Census. This is a requirement within the U.S. Constitution that every resident must be counted every 10 years. Participation is easy, secure and important. In fact, participation has never been easier, thanks to the ability to respond online for the first time! As many as 70 percent of Americans are expected to choose the online response option, but other options will be available as well. Counting everyone is vitally important for your local community because Census numbers are used to calculate Tempe's proportional share of federal funding for streets, housing, transportation, education and more. If you have any

questions, visit tempe.gov/Census. There, you'll find links to local, regional and federal Census information. If your community organization, faith group or neighborhood would like more details or if you are interested in displaying Census information, please reach out to Nikki Ripley at 480-350-8846 or nikki_ripley@tempe.gov.

tempe.gov

480-350-4311

Share your views on the city budget

The City of Tempe will hold public meetings and host an online forum to engage community members about projections for the city's operating and capital budgets, and to hear your priorities for the 2020-21 fiscal year and beyond. Public forums will be held;

- Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 6 p.m.,
at Kiwanis Recreation Center, 6111 S. All-America Way
- Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m.,
at Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road
- Saturday, Feb. 22, at 10 a.m.,
at North Tempe Multi-Generational Center,
1555 N. Bridalwreath St.

Community members are also invited to submit ideas and feedback via Tempe Forum, the city's online forum tool. Visit tempe.gov/forum and select the budget question. For updated details on the formulation of budgets for the 2020-21 fiscal year, visit tempe.gov/BudgetPlan.

Free program for parents of children with disabilities

The City of Tempe is offering a series of free classes designed for parents of children with diagnosed disabilities. The next class is Feb. 6.

The Stepping Stones Triple P family intervention program, for families with children ages 12 and younger, aims to help parents develop effective management strategies for dealing with a variety of childhood behavior problems and developmental issues.

All classes are held 5-7 p.m. at Getz School, 625 W. Cornell Dr. Childcare is available. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Registration for classes and childcare is required at tempe.gov/triplep. The topic for the Feb. 6 class is Helping Children Reach their Potential. The topic for the March 26 class is Changing Problem Behavior into Positive Behavior.

"We know parenting can be difficult at times for all families. For parents of children with disabilities, it can be especially challenging," said Marie Raymond, human services manager with the city. "The Stepping Stones Triple P program is designed to support families by teaching parents how to encourage their child's social and communication skills, emotional self-regulation, independence and problem-solving skills."

For more information about the City of Tempe's education programs, visit tempe.gov/education.

Voter registration ongoing for city election

Two Mayoral candidates and five City Council candidates will be on the March 10, 2020, election ballot. Elected candidates will be sworn in to four-year terms in July 2020.

This will be Tempe's second Ballot by Mail election, which means that every registered voter will automatically receive a ballot. Voters can return their ballots by mail, drop off their voted ballots or get replacement ballots at ballot centers in Tempe or at the Maricopa County Recorder's Office in Phoenix or Mesa.

Tempe voters can text "Join" to 628-683 or visit <http://textsignup.maricopa.vote> to sign up to receive email or text alerts from Maricopa County Elections, and updates regarding the status of their ballot.

Register to vote by Feb. 10. Ballots will be mailed starting Feb. 12. Register to vote through the Maricopa County Elections Department at 602-506-1511 or at www.maricopa.vote.

Tempe 11 televises a limited number of candidate debates and forums for city elections. Sponsored by various community groups, the scheduled forums are Jan. 15, Jan. 29 and Feb. 19 at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave., from approximately 6-9 p.m. For live streaming and replays, visit tempe.gov/tempe11.

The city also tapes and airs televised statements from certified Mayor and Council candidates. Before each Regular Council Meeting starting Jan. 16, Tempe residents can tune in to Cox Channel 11 or Century Link Channel 8012 at approximately 5 p.m. to watch candidate statements that will be taped earlier on those same days. The statements will re-air regularly on Tempe 11 until the next Regular Council Meeting, when a new batch of statements will be recorded. Statements also can be viewed anytime at tempe.gov/tempe11.

Information can be found at tempe.gov/election. Voters also can call Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311 or email clerk@tempe.gov.

EVENTS

FEB. 7-10

ASU's annual Kajikawa Classic softball showcase is at Tempe Sports Complex and Farrington Stadium. <https://pac-12.com/arizona-state-softball/schedule>

FEB 8

Highline Canal Multi-use Path opening from 9-11 a.m. The event will be on the path, just north of Auto Drive. tempe.gov/HighlineCanal

FEB. 8

Tickets go on sale Feb. 8 at Tempe Diablo Stadium for spring training with the Los Angeles Angels. angels.com & tempe.gov/diablo

FEB. 18

Registration begins for spring classes and activities. Look for the Tempe Opportunities brochure beginning Feb. 13. tempe.gov/brochure

FEB. 29

Tempe's annual PlayDay event at Kiwanis Park from Noon to 4 p.m. Explore active options for families. tempe.gov/FamilyFun

Full events calendar at tempe.gov!

City plans for future of urban core – next public hearing is Feb. 13

During the next 20 years, the population of Tempe's urban core is predicted to double. The number of houses and apartments is expected to increase by 80 percent and the amount of office and retail space in the area will go up by about 50 percent.

The city's Urban Core Master Plan will help us plan for this growth. The plan looks at 6 square miles from Loop 202 on the north to the Union Pacific Railroad tracks on the south, and from Hardy Drive on the west to Loop 101/Tempe Canal on the east.

The plan has several elements, including a Development Bonus Program that allows developers to add housing units or commercial office space in exchange for providing community benefits, such as affordable/workforce housing, sustainability elements, public improvements or amenities or preservation of historic resources. Developers would work to protect our historic resources, create affordable housing (on-site or in-lieu fees) or provide extra public open space if they want to exceed the density or building heights identified in the new "Urban Code" zoning districts.

The Urban Core Master Plan was developed through a two-year process that included more than 30 public meetings and online public input opportunities, as well as public hearings by the Development Review Commission and City Council. A second Council public hearing is scheduled for Feb. 13. For more information, visit tempe.gov/UrbanCore.

Construction begins on city's first roundabout

Beginning Jan. 20, the intersection of Ash Avenue and Rio Salado Parkway will be closed to all traffic, including vehicles, bikes and pedestrians, to construct Tempe's first roundabout. The intersection will reopen on Feb. 27 with the new configuration, which was designed to create access in all directions, improve connectivity and facilitate traffic flow. Tempe Streetcar will pass through the roundabout when it begins operating in 2021.

Roundabouts have many proven safety and efficiency benefits, including reduced collisions and traffic delays. Roundabouts are planned for two other intersections, College Avenue at McKellips Road and Grove Parkway at Priest Drive.

The roundabout at Rio Salado and Ash will include a landscaped gateway island along with bike treatments and pedestrian crossings. It will not have a traffic signal, except for a streetcar-specific signal to allow the vehicle to move through the intersection from the Tempe Beach Park stop.

For more information about roundabouts in Tempe, visit tempe.gov/roundabouts; for bus detours, visit valleymetro.org/rider-alerts; for Tempe Streetcar, visit valleymetro.org/tempestreetcar.



Tempe seeking members for new Desert Conservation Commission

Tempe is home to two desert preserves, Papago Park and Hayden Butte, which offer a truly unique experience in the heart of the Valley. These preserves require a thoughtful approach when planning for the recreational use, conservation and design for future amenities.

In November 2019, the Tempe City Council approved the formation of the Desert Conservation Commission, which will ensure these special places are preserved for years to come. Applications for commission members are being accepted now through Jan. 31, 2020. Applicants who meet the criteria for the commission composition are encouraged to apply.

Commission member descriptions:

- Representative from a tribal nation;
- Expert in Sonoran Desert flora and fauna;
- Representative from a group made up of outdoor recreation enthusiasts;
- Expert in issues of water or riparian environments;
- Expert in issues of historic or archeological preservation;
- Representative from an organization that represents Tempe businesses;
- Representative from an academic institution;
- Tempe resident serving on the Parks, Recreation, Golf, and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board; or
- Tempe resident, at-large.

Appointments to this commission will be made by the Mayor, with formal approval from the City Council once the application and review processes are complete.

Visit tempe.gov/clerk for information on all Tempe boards and commissions.

Tempe City Council



Mark W. Mitchell
Mayor

Lauren Kuby
Vice Mayor

Jennifer Adams
Councilmember

Robin Arredondo-Savage
Councilmember

Arlene Chin
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)

Empty Bowls raises funds to provide food for hungry

Tempe students and artists create clay bowls and other pottery to help raise money for the organizations that help hungry people in Tempe. Proceeds from the event benefit Tempe Community Action Agency, www.tempeaction.org, and United Food Bank www.unitedfoodbank.org. At the event, \$10 purchases a bowl and a simple meal of soup and bread. The 2020 Tempe Empty Bowls will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Feb 28 at Sixth Street Park and Feb 29 at the Tempe Community Complex, 3500 S. Rural Road.

Free tax preparation for eligible residents

Tempe Community Council offers a free tax preparation service for taxpayers earning \$56,000 or less in 2019. Seniors and those with disabilities also qualify. IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers will help determine if you are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit to maximize your refund or reduce taxes owed. The Tempe VITA site will be open each Saturday, Wednesday and Thursday from Feb. 1 through April 11 (closed for Spring Break March 7-14). Schedule your appointment online (available Jan. 15), drop off tax paperwork and return at a later date, or utilize myfreetaxes.com to self-prepare tax returns. Tempe's tax site is at Gracie's Village Community Room, 1540 E. Apache Blvd. For more details, visit www.tempecommunitycouncil.org or call 480-858-2300.

ASU Open Door event

As part of the Arizona SciTech Festival, ASU is inviting families, students and the community to ASU Open Door. During the month of February, explore the innovative spaces accessible only to ASU students and discover why ASU is the most innovative university in the nation. Visitors can participate in hundreds of interactive and hands-on activities. The event and parking are free. For more information and registration, visit opendoor.asu.edu.

Tempe Public Library annual writing contest

Aspiring writers are invited to participate in the sixth annual Tempe Community Writing Contest. Submissions in poetry, fiction and creative non-fiction will be accepted. A contest to design the cover is also underway. Submissions for both contests will be accepted between Jan. 7 and Feb. 18. For more information, visit tempepubliclibrary.org/WritingContest.

College Connect workshops return in February

Tempe's College Connect program connects students and parents to free resources they need to fulfill their dreams of a post-secondary education. Here is the upcoming workshop lineup:

- Saturday, Feb. 1 – Summer College Camps, Paying for College & Getting Career Ready
 - Saturday, April 18 – Summer Job and Volunteer Fair
- For a full calendar and to schedule a one-on-one appointment, visit CollegeConnectTempe.org

February 2020
Mixed Bulk & Green Organics
Collection Schedule

	Collection Dates	Collection Type
Area A	Feb 3-6	
Area B	Feb 10-13	
Area C	Feb 17-20	
Area D	Feb 24-27	

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

tempe.gov/smart 480-350-4311

City of Tempe advances in national competition to boost middle class

The City of Tempe's Care4Me team is one of three teams to win the local Alliance for the American Dream competition at Arizona State University and advance to the national semi-finals to present an innovative solution that connects families with child care and social supports. The teams are ultimately vying for up to \$1 million in funding to support a range of efforts that boost middle class incomes.

The three teams will compete in March for a slot in the finals in the competition by Schmidt Futures, a philanthropic initiative founded by Eric and Wendy Schmidt that finds exceptional people and helps them do more for others together.

The Human Services Department's Care4Me helps families find quality, affordable child care that meets their needs. By assisting parents as they navigate this complex system, Care4Me enables users to return to work, increase their work hours, seek promotions and pursue educational opportunities, all of which enhance their earnings or earning potential.

The national competition challenges teams to devise innovative solutions that increase by 10 percent the net incomes of 10,000 middle class households by 2022. Those solutions seek to increase earnings, decrease expenses or do both.

For more about the City of Tempe's Human Services Department, visit tempe.gov/HumanServices.



Free bike registration

Did you get a new bike for the holidays? Keep it safe by registering it for free! Bike registration helps Tempe Police identify lost or stolen bikes. All you need is your bike's serial number, make, model and color and your name and contact information. Protect your bike by registering it at tempe.gov/RegisterYourBike.

City achieves perfect score for inclusive practices

For the sixth consecutive year, the City of Tempe has achieved a perfect score of 100 on the Municipal Equality Index (MEI.)

The MEI examines cities' inclusive laws, policies and services for LGBTQ community members. Cities are rated based on non-discrimination laws, municipal services, law enforcement and more.

This year, 506 cities were rated on 49 different criteria. Tempe was one of only 88 cities from across the nation that achieved the maximum score of 100. Additionally, the City of Tempe has achieved MEI All Star status as a city dedicated to equality despite restrictive state laws. Learn more about Tempe's efforts to be inclusive at tempe.gov/diversity.



Tempe student builds planters for adaptive recreation students

One Tempe student is raising the bar for innovation while giving back to youth and young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). As part of an Eagle Scout project, Corona del Sol High School student Nathaniel Thompson wanted to create something to teach others about independence and sustainability. He made adaptable raised planter beds for Tempe's LEAP program, which provides after-school programming for youth with IDD. Nathaniel raised all the funds for supplies and built two planter beds that will allow LEAP to learn about horticultural therapy and create a space for those in wheelchairs to plant and harvest. The unique planters are on wheels, making them easy to move. They are also raised, allowing people in wheelchairs to pull up and use the beds.



Heed 'No Burn Day' warnings

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) regularly conducts tests on particulate matter (PM) to ensure our air quality meets federal and state guidelines. On days when PM is expected to be too high, a health watch or high pollution advisory is issued, resulting in a No Burn Day. Residents are not allowed to burn wood in their fireplaces, stoves, chimneys and fire pits on these days. Gas or electric fireplaces are fine to use. Check out tempe.gov/AirQuality and visit www.cleanairmakemore.com to sign up for No Burn Day alerts.

Donate used bikes

Help local kids by donating used, rideable bicycles of all sizes and types – BMX bikes, mountain bikes, beach cruisers. Don't worry about a flat tire, missing pedal, worn-out grips or a broken chain. Students who take part in the Recycle-a-Bicycle program learn how to fix those things! Three Tempe Fire Medical Rescue stations accept donated bikes on the first Monday of the month. If firefighters are out on a call, leave the bicycle at the front door.

- Station 1: 1450 E. Apache Blvd.
- Station 3: 5440 S. McClintock Drive
- Station 4: 300 E. Elliot Road

Donations also are accepted at:

- Household Products Collection Center, 1320 E. University Drive, on Fridays 7 a.m. to noon and Saturdays 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Gililand Middle School, 1025 S. Beck Ave, on weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the school year, excluding holidays.

For more information, call Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311.



Easily navigate city services with Tempe 311

Tempe 311 is a valuable service for residents that makes it easy for you to take care of city business. You can use it for trash and recycling service requests like broken containers. You can use it to report graffiti or illegal dumping. You can also get valuable information about permits, city facilities and classes. There are three ways to reach Tempe 311: call 480-350-4311; submit a request at tempe.gov/tempe311; or download the mobile app.