

LUCAS LEADER

A publication of the City of Lucas

www.lucastexas.us

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Mayor's Message

By Jim Olk



Recently I received a complaint about noise due to low flying aircraft and several members of the City Council have also noted that air traffic seems to be at an all-time high over Lucas. If you believe that noise from any aircraft is bothersome, the McKinney National Airport has created a 24-hour hotline to facilitate communication between the

airport and nearby residents to help identify atypical noise events or concerns. To start with, the airport itself has no regulatory jurisdiction over the takeoff, flying, or landing phases of aircraft flight, however, it does maintain records of complaints and investigates atypical noise events. Only the Federal Aviation Administration has regulatory jurisdiction over aircraft in flight.

The McKinney National Airport recognizes the importance of being a responsible neighbor, and is committed to managing the impact of aircraft operations on local residents. They have performed a voluntary noise study that examined the noise impact of aircraft operations on their surrounding communities. The study considered many factors and involved noise monitoring, stakeholder input and 15 public meetings. Upon completion of the study the Federal Aviation Administration concluded that the critical levels of noise, as defined by federal standards, were contained primarily on airport property and that no mandatory noise abatement measures outside of the airport were required. However the airport recognizing that aircraft operating on and around the airport may impact neighbors, has since incorporated a series of voluntary measures otherwise known as the Flying Friendly Initiative.

So if you notice low flying aircraft or find the noise bothersome, before calling the hotline please try and note some of the following information: date and time of the incident, whether it was a jet or propeller driven aircraft, number of engines, straight or swept wing, high or low wing, fixed or retractable landing gear, color and paint scheme and the aircraft registration and/or the "N" number. Once you have jotted down as much info as you can gather call the 24-hour airport hotline at 972.547.7399. Be sure to let them know if you would like a return phone call and provide as much detail about the nature of the event and aircraft as possible. If you believe an aircraft is in violation of any FAA standard please feel free to contact the FAA's Dallas Flight Standards District Office at 214.277.8500 with the registration number (located on the tail section) and description of the aircraft.

Stinson Road at West Lucas Road Intersection Update

The widening of Stinson Road at West Lucas Road project is underway. The contractor is planning to complete the project by the end of September. Stinson Road will be widened to two northbound lanes at West Lucas Road to separate the right and left turns onto West Lucas Road from Stinson Road. About 250 feet south of the intersection, Stinson Road will narrow to two lanes. This project was expanded to include the West Lucas Road/Country Club Road intersection. At the West Lucas Road/Country Club intersection, the work includes drainage improvements, guardrail removal, and possibly a new driveway. Two of the existing driveways on the south side of West Lucas Road might be relocated into a single new driveway at the intersection. The new driveway is proposed to coincide with the reconstruction of the traffic signal by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in July or August. If this relocation takes place, TxDOT will add a new traffic signal for the northbound

West Lucas Road Update

For several months, the City and Reynolds Asphalt have been working together to resolve the pavement failures that started to appear late January after the paving part of the project was completed in early December. Once the roadway was widened, Reynolds Asphalt overlaid the entire width of the road with a 1.5-inch overlay. Unfortunately, the 1.5-inch overlay turned out to be much less than 1.5 inches. In every location that the pavement has failed since December, the overlay has been shown to be less than an inch. Reynolds Asphalt has agreed to replace any overlay section found to be less than 1.5 inches. In June, Reynolds Asphalt will core the overlay in at least 33 locations to determine the extent of the thin overlay areas. The replacement of the overlay failure should take place in July.

Water Consumer Confidence Report

The City of Lucas is required to meet all standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for safe drinking water. Lucas drinking water is safe and complies with all water quality standards. The City's 2017 annual drinking water quality report can be found at <https://www.lucastexas.us/drinking-water-quality-report-ccr-latest/>. The source of drinking water used by the City of Lucas is purchased surface water from the NTMWD. For more information on the report, contact the Public Works Director/City Engineer Stanton Foerster at 972.912.1208 or stanton@lucastexas.us. Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available at www.dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW and the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.



July

July 4	Holiday City offices closed
July 5	City Council Meeting City Hall 7 pm
July 12	Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall 7 pm
July 19	City Council Meeting City Hall 6 pm
July 24	Parks and Open Space Board City Hall 7 pm

Upcoming Special Events

October 20 - November 3	Scarecrow Contest Display Community Park
November 3	Arbor Day/Fall Sweep Clean-Up Community Park 8 am - Noon
December 7	Country Christmas Community Park 6 - 9 pm
April 6, 2019	Texas Trash Off/Spring Clean-Up Community Park 8 am - Noon
May 11, 2019	Founders Day Community Park 12 - 4 pm

Fiscal Year 18/19 Budget Work Begins

The City Council will host their Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget workshop on Thursday, July 19 at 6:00 pm at City Hall. For information on the Fiscal Year 18/19 budget process, contact the City's Finance Director Liz Exum at 972.912.1201 or lexum@lucastexas.us.



The City of Lucas wants everyone to have a safe Fourth of July, but please do not include discharging fireworks as part of your festivities. We want to remind everyone that the use of fireworks is **prohibited**. More importantly, the City of Lucas prides itself on being animal-friendly and fireworks can be very dangerous to our pets and livestock. The City is also blessed with beautiful trees; the risk of fire from the use of fireworks is significant and presents a substantial risk to your home. Do you know that

one of the major causes of grass fires is the use of fireworks? Discharging fireworks can also cause problems for our veterans and families with young children; using fireworks is not part of the Lucas culture!

Using fireworks is prohibited by City ordinance in the city limits of Lucas and within 5,000 feet of our city borders. Law Enforcement and Code Enforcement Officers will be out patrolling July 4 and violators of the ordinance will have their fireworks confiscated and may also receive a citation. City staff will place signage in strategic locations reminding everyone that using fireworks in Lucas is **illegal**.

Q What should I do if my neighbor is setting off fireworks?

A Call 911.

Q Can I shoot fireworks from a large-acre tract of land that I own in the City of Lucas?

A No. This is a violation of City ordinance.

Q A City employee stopped by my house last year and I told them that their rules don't apply because I lived outside the City.

A If a City employee stopped by to see you, it means you either are located in the City or in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City and/or within 5,000 feet of the city limits so the ordinance prohibiting discharging fireworks does apply to you.

Q Can I shoot fireworks from a public roadway, public park, or U.S. Corps of Engineer property?

A No. This is a violation of City ordinance and a citation may be issued.

Q I have lived in Lucas for years and have always had a huge party that includes discharging fireworks, is this a new regulation?

A No. Fireworks have been prohibited since November 6, 1979.

Q I live in a neighborhood outside the city limits, so I can still shoot fireworks, right?

A False. Any neighborhood that is not in the City but is within 5,000 feet of our city limits is prohibited from discharging fireworks.

Q What will happen if I start a fire by shooting fireworks?

A If the fire is found to be started intentionally and damages the property of another, you may be subject to the charge of Arson. If the fire is found to be started accidentally and damages the property of another, you may be subject to a fine. In either case, you may be held civilly liable for damages.

Residents are encouraged to celebrate the Fourth of July without the use of fireworks. There are many Independence Day celebrations that include a professional fireworks display within close proximity to Lucas. Should you have any questions, contact the City's Code Enforcement Officer at 972.727.8999 extension 3001.

Celebrating Lucas Fire-Rescue Volunteers



David Leonard has been a volunteer with Lucas Fire-Rescue for 20 years, joining the department on July 1, 1998. He currently serves as the Night Incident Commander for Lucas Fire-Rescue, and previously served as the department's Training Officer for 17 years. He has consistently been one of the

top five members of the department to answer emergency calls and continues to demonstrate his commitment to Lucas Fire-Rescue. In 2005, he was awarded the City of Wylie Lifesaving Award for administering successful CPR on a coworker. He has numerous certifications including Emergency Medical Technician, Firefighter, Instructor, and Safety Officer, just to name a few that make him an incredible asset to our department.

Chief Leonard and his wife, Cappi, have been married for 40 years. They have two daughters, Kellie and Leslie, and three grandchildren, TJ, Haylie, and Emory. He was born in Columbus, Ohio at the Lockborne Air Force Base. When David was eight years old he had the opportunity to ride on a fire engine for the first time and it was at that moment, he knew he wanted to be in fire service. He is a United States Air Force Veteran and served our country for 6 years. In 2016, he graduated from Waldorf University with his bachelor's degree in Fire Administration. He is currently employed with the North Texas Municipal Water District as a Safety/Emergency Management Coordinator.

Chief Leonard obtained many "firsts" during his early years with the department. He was the first non-resident of Lucas to become a volunteer, the first non-resident to be promoted to a Captain, first Battalion Chief of the department, and was the first volunteer to become Firefighter certified. As the Training Officer for Lucas Fire-Rescue, Chief Leonard delivered and coordinated department training classes two times per month. He also developed the 3-session break-out training program that allowed the firefighters to learn three different skills during one training night. He also established computer-based training into the program, implemented Unmanned Aerial Vehicle into the training program, and created the "Wheel of Knowledge" that is still used today to refresh the firefighter's knowledge on topics of the Fire industry.

Chief Leonard has dedicated many years of his life to the fire industry including 20 years at Lucas Fire-Rescue, 10 years with the Allen Fire Department Reserves, and as an instructor for Collin College Fire Science Program for 10 years. He has made an incredible impact on this department and has accomplished many great things over his career in fire service. Chief Leonard has not only impacted this community and its citizens through his dedicated service, but also countless other communities through instructing classes at Collin College and Lucas Fire-Rescue Department. This dedication to training and continuing education has developed many young and older firefighters with little to no experience become valued members of not only our department, but also many other departments in Collin County. The amount of knowledge that he has provided to these firefighters, has served as a great foundation for their ongoing careers in the fire service. While he may never realize the impact that he has had on these students lives, they will always remember Chief Leonard in their dedicated service and careers.

New Recycling Opportunity

A local advocacy group called Save Lucas Recycling is offering to recycle your Styrofoam. Bring your clean Styrofoam food containers (clamshells, cups, meat trays, egg containers), packing materials, and other Styrofoam products (no packing peanuts) to the monthly recycling drop off.

When: The first Saturday of each month (check the Save Lucas Recycling Facebook and Twitter pages for updates on cancelations due to inclement weather)

Time: 1- 3 pm

Where: Starbucks parking lot
2680 W. Lucas Road in Lucas - Look for the banner

This is not a City of Lucas sponsored event.

Easy Recycling Tips

Sometimes we want things to be recyclable, so we put them in the recycling cart - a greasy pizza box, a disposable coffee cup, the odd plastic bag. Putting these objects in with the rest of

the recycling can do more harm than good. Too many of these items will contaminate a batch of recycling which means waste managers might not be able to find buyers for the materials, especially now that China, one of the world's main importers of recyclable waste, has said it will reduce the acceptable contamination level from three percent to .5 percent. To avoid contaminated loads being sent to the landfill, here are tips to help reduce contamination:

Disposable cups - Most single-use cups are lined with a fine film of polyethylene, which makes the cups liquid-proof, but also difficult to reprocess because the materials have to be separated. Trash the cup but check the lid to see if it can be recycled.

Pizza boxes - Pizza boxes are among the most common offenders of recycling contamination. The oil often seeps into the cardboard and cannot be separated from the fiber, making that material less marketable to buyers. But there are two sides to a pizza box, so if the lid section is not oily, tear it off and recycle it.

Food residue - Rinsing out recyclables can be as important as putting the right thing in the recycling bin. You don't have to scrub containers sparkling clean, but too many scraps of food and liquid can contaminate a load, which could then be sent to a landfill.

Plastic bags - Plastics bags should not be put in the recycling cart. They create a nightmare for waste managers by plugging up machinery. Several merchants in the area offer plastic bag drop-off boxes where these nonrigid plastics are collected and then sent to special facilities for recycling.

Dirty diapers (yes, people do this) - Waste managers say they turn up at their recycling facilities often. Disposable diapers are not recyclable and should be put in the trash.

Bottles with spray attachments - You look at that empty bottle and see the #1 inside the triangle on the bottom, and just toss it into the cart — but wait! Inside the sprayer head is a little metal spring that if thrown in for recycling and gets melted with a bale of plastic, could contaminate the whole lot. Remove the sprayer head and recycle only the bottle.

Things to Know About Orphaned and Injured Animals



Every year, particularly during the spring and summer, hundreds of young wild animals are unnecessarily picked up by the general public and referred to game wardens or wildlife rehabilitators for treatment and rearing. The most commonly referred animals are baby birds and deer fawns. It is important to realize that many such human-animal encounters are unnecessary and can even be detrimental to the wildlife concerned. The following information can help to avoid handling or picking up baby animals unnecessarily, and when the need arises, handle such animals in a way to minimize stress or trauma, and maximize the animal's chances of being successfully returned to the wild. Because of the danger of disease transmission, any suspected orphan should be kept away from domestic pets.

1. Offspring falling from nest: Many animals deliberately avoid areas where their offspring are present. Such "hiding" behaviors reduce the chance of calling a predator's attention to the young. While you may not see the parent, it is likely close by. Observe the nest to see if the parent returns. If you believe the nest is abandoned, without touching the nest, place small sticks around it. If after a day the sticks have been disturbed and the offspring still appear to be healthy, the nest has probably been visited by a parent.
2. Grounded baby birds: Frequently, birds seen hopping on the ground begging for food do not require your assistance. It is common for birds to fledge from the nest before they are fully feathered or flight-ready. They will be fed on the ground for a day or two until they are able to fly. Usually, if the grounded bird is a healthy fledgling, you will see a parent attending it or foraging nearby. Baby blue jays are slow to mature, so the fledgling stage will generally take longer for them.
3. Abandoned deer fawns: In Texas, it is very common for people to encounter seemingly orphaned or abandoned deer. Mother deer typically leave their fawns bedded down while they are away foraging. If the fawn is not crying, is not covered with fire ants, the eyes are not swollen and there are no visible wounds, do not handle or disturb it. Your presence will only cause unnecessary stress for the fawn.

This information should help to avoid handling or picking up baby animals unnecessarily and handling animals in a way to minimize stress or trauma, and maximize the animal's chances of being successfully returned to the wild. To contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife call 800-792-1112 or to review a list of local wildlife rehabilitators go to <https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/rehab/list/counties/index.phtml?id=43&county=Collin>.

We Live in the Country so What's the Problem with an Unrestrained Dog?

The City of Lucas would like to remind all dog owners of their responsibility to keep their dogs from running at large. This means your dog is required to stay on your property and under your control at all times (please refer to Section 2.02.009 of the Code of Ordinances regarding the restraint of dogs which is available on the City's website at www.lucastexas.us).



Allowing your dog to run at large, puts your dog at serious risk of getting lost, run over, in a fight with another dog or shot (yes, it is legal to shoot a dog that is harassing livestock). As a community that prides itself in being animal friendly, lets protect our dogs from the risks associated with allowing your dog to roam the neighborhood. By the way, a dog owner is liable for their dog's actions.

Your neighbors do not want to create an unfriendly atmosphere and will sometimes endure adversity to avoid a potential conflict and hard feelings. We always want to encourage pet owners to be mindful of our neighbors and to be responsible pet owners. Should you encounter a loose dog, please do not hesitate to contact Collin County Animal Control at 972.547.7292 or Lucas City Hall at 972.727.8999.

Scarecrow Contest in October



This October, the City of Lucas Parks and Open Space Board will hold their 4th annual Scarecrow Contest. You may register to enter the contest October 13-19 at City Hall and get a display space assigned to you. It's easy, it's free and prizes will be awarded. The scarecrows will be on display at the Lucas Community Park beginning Saturday, October 20 through Arbor Day, November 3. So plan to stroll around the park and enjoy the scarecrow competition showcasing creative and colorful scarecrows.