

OCTOBER CWD TRANSITION UPDATE

CWD Rates for Residential Solid Waste and Recycling

Base Residential Services for All Lucas Residents	Monthly Rate
Solid Waste Service (once a week – trash cart included)	\$26.10
Recycling Service (once a week – recycling cart included)	
Unlimited Bundled Brush Collection (once a week)	
Limited Bulk and Unbundled Brush Collection (once a week)	
Doors Side Household Hazardous Waste and Used Electronics Collection (twice per year per resident)	
Senior Citizen Rate (age 65 or older) for Base Residential Services	\$23.49
Optional Residential Services for All Lucas Residents	Monthly Rate
Additional Trash Cart (each)	\$13.19
Additional Recycling Cart (each)	\$5.44
Concierge Service for Solid Waste Only (once a week – CWD cart)	\$30.81
• 0 ft – 100 ft from public street to point of collection	
• 100 ft – 300 ft from public street to point of collection	
• 300 ft and more from public street to point of collection	TBD
Excess Bulk and Brush Accumulations Collection (per yard)	\$15.00
Manure and Stable Matter Collection (once a week – CWD cart)	\$29.00
Additional Manure and Stable Matter Collection Cart	\$19.00
Replace Lost/Stolen Trash or Recycling Cart (each)	\$76.05

Upcoming Trash and Recycling Transition

Beginning in October 2022, Community Waste Disposal (CWD) will become the new residential trash and recycling services provider. The new base residential trash and recycling services will include one free CWD trash cart and one free CWD recycle cart. All residents will receive weekly collection of trash, recycling, and brush/bulk. In addition, all residents will have the opportunity to request door side collection of household hazardous waste or used electronics twice per year. These services are included with your base residential rate of \$26.10 (including taxes and fees). A senior citizen discount rate of \$23.49 (including taxes and fees) is also available to request if you meet the requirements. There are also optional services you may request for an additional fee such as extra carts, concierge service, and manure/stable matter collection. In preparation for the upcoming residential trash and recycling services transition to Community Waste Disposal (CWD), please be aware of the following updates regarding the transition process from Barnes Waste Disposal and Republic Services to CWD:

NEW UPDATE: CWD Delivery of New Trash and Recycle Carts

CWD will be delivering one new trash cart and one new recycle cart to each Lucas residence early beginning September 26, 2022. Your new trash cart and recycle cart will be delivered on what would be your new service day. When you receive your new trash and recycle carts, you can begin to utilize them. The new CWD service will begin October 3, 2022. There will also be a CWD brochure attached to your new cart which provides information on the new available services and collection schedule.

NEW UPDATE: Look Up Your Service Day

CWD has developed an online search tool for you to easily look up your service day. To use this online tool, go to <https://communitywastedisposal.com/view-my-schedule> and enter your residential address. After entering your address, your collection schedule will show the day that will be your weekly pickup. Please note CWD service will begin the week of October 3, 2022.

Republic Services Recycle Carts Removal

The last day of subscription-based recycling service by Republic Services is September 23, 2022. Please leave your Republic

recycle carts out after your regular recycling pickup has been collected. Your Republic recycle carts will be removed beginning September 24, 2022. Republic Services will be sending out notifications to remind all subscribers to leave their recycle carts out so they can be removed. If your recycle cart does not get removed, please continue to leave the cart out until it is removed by Republic Services.

Barnes Waste Disposal Trash Carts Removal

The last week of trash service by Barnes Waste Disposal is September 26-30, 2022. Please leave your Barnes trash carts out after your regular trash pickup has been collected. Your Barnes trash carts will be removed throughout the weekend and the first week of October. If your trash cart does not get removed, please continue to leave your cart out as work crews will continue to remove any remaining carts.

Senior Citizen Discount Rate

The City will offer a senior citizen discount rate for seniors ages 65 or older on base residential trash/recycling services only. Seniors ages 65 or older can apply for the senior citizen discount rate. This discount does not apply to additional optional services such as extra carts, concierge service, excess bulk, or manure/stable matter collection. To learn more about the requirements and how to submit an online request form for the senior citizen discount rate, please go to: www.lucastexas.us/senior-citizen-discount-request.

Optional Additional Services

If you are interested in requesting additional optional services such as reducing your existing trash carts, adding extra carts, concierge service and manure/stable matter collection, please submit a trash/recycling request form at: www.lucastexas.us/trash-recycling-services-request-form.

If you have any questions, please contact Assistant to the City Manager Kent Souriyasak at kent@lucastexas.us or 972.912.1213.

LUCAS LEADER

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By Jim Olk

Thought we would talk about the City budget this month. Our City budget is adopted in September and the City Council has been going over the numbers for several months now. We have been looking at what we need for the upcoming year, as well as large items and capital projects several years into the future.

One of the things that I have asked City Council to consider is looking at more of a pay-as-you-go budget approach. Most governmental entities borrow money for large capital purchases using bonds or Certificates of Obligation to fund those purchases. Whereas a pay-as-you-go budget plans for future capital expenses and sets aside (or saves) for those upcoming expenses. This type of pay-as-you-go budget is extremely difficult to switch over to with recent changes made at that State level regarding tax rate increases. The upside to using bonds or Certificates of Obligations is that you can build that street or buy that piece of equipment now rather than waiting until you have saved up the capital for making that purchase. The downside of borrowing money is that we use tax dollars to pay interest. As the interest rates climb, this may be more of an issue affecting the total amount of what the City could borrow.

Let me give you an example that we are looking at right now. We know that we will need to replace one of our fire engines in six to seven years, but with a two-year lead time on fire engines, we will need to have that money in four to five years. A new fire engine is a \$1.2 million dollar purchase. So as a City Council, do we find a way to save \$250,000 a year for the next five years to pay for it outright; do we wait until that time and borrow the money not knowing what our interest rate will be and how long until we pay it off; or do we look at some combination of the above saving and borrowing?

As I mentioned earlier, with the State limiting how much of an increase can happen in our property tax rate without an election, it becomes very difficult for City Council to make a decision on how to fund these big purchases. Just as a side note, a one cent change (up or down) in the City's property tax rate equates to approximately \$150,000 increase or decrease in the City's property tax levy.

There is really not a right or wrong way in choosing which way to budget for capital expenses. There may even be a good hybrid mix of budgeting that can work for the City of Lucas. I just wanted y'all to know that your Council does study the budget in depth and they are always looking at what is best for the community and what will keep Lucas the gem that it is.

Please feel free to let City Council know how you feel about saving vs. borrowing for those known items. Once again, thank you for allowing us to serve you.

PUBLIC HEARINGS SET TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND TAX RATE

A public hearing has been set for September 1, 2022, at 6:30 pm to consider and approve the fiscal year 22/23 budget for the Lucas Fire Control, Prevention and EMS District. Immediately following the Lucas Fire Control, Prevention and EMS District meeting (approximately 6:35 pm), a public hearing to consider and approve the City of Lucas proposed fiscal year 22/23 budget will take place.

Setting the tax rate for fiscal year 22/23 will occur following adoption of the budget. If the proposed tax rate does not exceed the "voter-approval" rate (the lowest tax rate option of \$0.244823) no public hearing is required. If the proposed tax rate exceeds the "voter-approval" rate, a public hearing to consider and approve the proposed tax rate will be held September 1, 2022. The City Council will then take a record vote on the proposed tax rate. For information on the budget process or the City's tax rate, contact the City's Finance Director Liz Exum at 972.912.1201 or lexum@lucastexas.us.

Upcoming Events

To watch live meetings, or to view prior meetings, visit: www.lucastexas.us/departments/public-meetings. Live streaming for City meetings are active approximately 15 minutes prior to the start time.

- September 1** Lucas Fire District Meeting
City Hall | 6:30 pm
- September 1** Budget and Tax Rate Adoption at City Council Meeting
City Hall | 6:35 pm
- September 8** Planning and Zoning Meeting
City Hall | 6:30 pm
- September 15** City Council Meeting
City Hall | 6:30 pm
- September 27** Parks and Open Space Board
City Hall | 6:30 pm
- September 28** Board of Adjustment
City Hall | 6:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 5** City Hall Closed in Observance of Labor Day
- September 10** Lucas Farmers Market
Community Park | 8:00 am - Noon
- September 17** Public Lands Trail Cleanup
Community Park | 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- September 24** Lucas Farmers Market
Community Park | 8:00 am - Noon

KEEP YOURSELF INFORMED INSTANTLY - SIGN UP FOR NIXLE

The City of Lucas has partnered with Nixle to implement its Community Notification System to alert residents in real-time for localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories. You can sign up for both text and email alerts by visiting www.lucastexas.us/nixle/ and submitting your information to Nixle. If you need assistance with setting up your Lucas Nixle notification, please contact the City of Lucas Fire-Rescue Department at 972.727.1242.

LUCAS FARMERS MARKET

This season has been one of the best seasons yet for the Lucas Farmers Market. The Market has seen a variety of new vendors offering amazing products to the public. So far this season, the Market has sold wagyu beef, chicken, berkshire pork, eggs, produce, and artisanal foods and products. Youth Booths continue to grow at the Market and showcase the bright futures of local, young entrepreneurs. With only four more markets remaining for the 2022 season, there is a limited amount of time to check out the Farmers Market and support local vendors.

Upcoming Market Events

- September 10 Lucas Fire-Rescue Event and 9/11 Remembrance
- September 24 Bee Keeping 101 Demonstration
- October 8 World Food Day Celebration
- October 22 Pumpkin Decorating for Kids

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Mark your calendars for the City of Lucas Country Christmas event taking place Friday, December 9, 2022, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. This yearly event takes place at the Lucas Community Park and features loads of fun activities for the community and their families. Last year's event featured the annual holiday tree lighting ceremony, Santa's workshop with an elf, a movie in the park, an ice skating rink, and a special Lucas Farmers Market with holiday-themed items. This upcoming Country Christmas promises to be bigger and better than ever.

SEPTEMBER 11 REMEMBRANCE

At the September 10, 2022 Lucas Farmers Market, Lucas Fire-Rescue will honor the 21st anniversary of September 11, 2001, and will host a 9/11 ceremony that will include the fire engine and other apparatus. Fire Chief Ted Stephens will lead in a moment of silence after giving a short synopsis of the events of 9/11. In addition, the engine horn and bell will be used to mark the significant timeline of events during that historic morning. Let us never forget.

Lucas Fire-Rescue will also debut their new "Fire Safety House" that will allow children to climb in and learn safety techniques from our firefighters while inside the inflatable "building". There will also be several giveaway items for the young and the young at heart! The Friends of Lucas Fire-Rescue will be on hand selling beautiful barn quilts to raise money to restore Ol' Streaker.

JOIN A CITY OF LUCAS BOARD OR COMMISSION

Would you like to serve your community and get involved? One way to do that is to serve on a City of Lucas Board or Commission. The Lucas City Council is always looking for dedicated individuals that are interested in preserving the quality of life in Lucas. One way to learn more about the City boards and commissions is to attend the Meet and Greet Open House scheduled for October 27, 2022, at 6:30 pm with the City Council where each board and its duties will be discussed. Applications will be accepted through November 1, 2022, prospective candidates will interview with the City Council in November, and the appointment process of selected candidates will occur in December. To serve on a City Board all candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Be a citizen of the City for 12 continuous months prior to appointment
- Be 18 years old prior to the date of appointment
- Have not been convicted and are not currently charged with a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude
- Have no indebtedness to the City, such as delinquent taxes
- Be a qualified voter of the City

To learn more about the duties of each board and commission and to submit an online application, visit the City's website at www.lucastexas.us/departments/boards-commissions/. For any additional questions, contact the Interim City Secretary Kent Souriyasak at 972.912.1213 or kent@lucastexas.us.



The Public Lands Trail Cleanup will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2022, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The City is partnering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Trinity Trail Preservation Association to remove trash and debris along the Trinity Trail at Lavon Lake in observation of National Public Lands Day. If you are interested in volunteering at the Public Lands Trail Cleanup, please fill out an adult or minor volunteer registration online form at: www.lucastexas.us/event/2022-public-lands-trail-cleanup. All preregistered volunteers will be contacted prior to the cleanup event with instructions.

All volunteers should meet at the Highland Park Trailhead where check-in and registration will be located. The following are driving directions to get to the Highland Park Trailhead from U.S. Highway 75:

1. From U.S. Highway 75, exit Bethany Road and go east for approximately 6 miles to FM 1378 (West Lucas Road).
2. Go on FM 1378 (West Lucas Road) to the stop light and turn left on FM 3286 (East Lucas Road) at the Lucas Food Store.
3. Drive 2.4 miles and go over the first bridge over Lavon Lake.
4. Turn left on Snider Lane, which is before the second bridge.
5. Drive and look for the white pipe fence on your right.
6. This is the Highland Park Trailhead.

All volunteers will receive cleanup supplies and City staff will safely transport volunteers to cleanup areas. After the cleanup event, a special volunteer lunch will be provided at the Highland Park Trailhead. The Blackland Prairie Raptor Center will have live raptors onsite with an educational, interactive experience. North Texas Municipal Water District will have an education stream water trailer. The City encourages the community to volunteer in the Public Lands Trail Cleanup as we continue to promote the beautification of Lucas and public lands.

OUTDOOR WATER SAVING TIPS

Train your lawn to drink less.

You can encourage deeper roots and a more drought-tolerant lawn by spacing out irrigation days to no more than two days a week.

Know when to water.

Follow the weekly watering advice offered every Monday on SaveTarrantWater.com. The watering advice can keep their irrigation systems off an average of 25 or more weeks per year.

Timing is everything.

Avoid watering between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm. Up to 30% of the water sprayed during this time of day can be lost to evaporation.

Check your rain and freeze sensors.

Make sure your rain and freeze sensors are working properly on your sprinkler system. If you don't have one, install one. They are a proven way to reduce your overall outdoor water use by 5 to 10%.

MOVIE IN THE PARK: ENCANTO FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 AT 7:30 PM

This year's Movie in the Park will feature Encanto! This animated fantasy comedy film has won 41 awards globally and follows a family, the Madrigals, who receive magical gifts that they use to



help people in their rural community. Encanto is about family, humility, determination, and the importance of community. The event will be held at the Lucas Community Park (665 Country Club Road) on Friday, October 14, 2022. The movie will begin at 7:30 pm following sunset. During this event, the City will be giving away free hot dogs to all attendees. Families are also welcome to bring their own food, lawn chairs, blankets, and pillows to the event. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy Encanto with your family and friends on an outdoor big screen in the City's very own Community Park!

IMPORTANT CITY ALERTS

New Public Information and Citizen Request Systems

The City is currently transitioning to GovQA/Granicus for new public records and citizen request management (CRM) systems that will be user friendly while ensuring you get the information you need. The new public records and CRM are expected to be implemented before the end of September and will be available to access on the City's website. This new system offers a more robust process for you to track your requests. The City will be offering the CRM as a new feature for residents to easily report and track issues online. Residents will be able to conveniently report issues such as potholes, noise, dumping, fallen trees, and more. With this new CRM system, the City will be able to track and provide updates to residents regarding reported issues. Please look out for more information on how to access the new public records and CRM systems after the City has completed the implementation process and goes live.

North Texas Municipal Water District Odor Control at the Wilson Creek Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant (3020 Orr Road)

North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) has a dedicated crew to maintain odor control equipment and respond to any complaints. This team is trained to respond quickly, identify the source of odor, and make necessary adjustments. If you have a question or concern about odor at any NTMWD facility, please contact 469.626.4900 to speak to an odor control specialist.

New Telephone System at City Hall and Fire Station

In early August, the City began the process of transitioning over to a new digital telephone system to replace the current outdated system at City Hall and the Fire Station. The outdated telephone system had aging hardware in which parts are obsolete and created voicemail system issues. The transition to the new telephone system will not cause any change to current city telephone numbers. The new digital telephone system and voicemail should be fully functional by or before September.

Republic Services Billing Issue

Republic Services' final bill shows billing through October 31, 2022. Republic's billing system has billed subscribers for this final quarter and will be issuing refunds after all accounts have been closed. Republic Services will also be sending out a "call blast" to customers to provide an update regarding this billing matter. Contact Republic Services at 972.422.2341 for any questions.