

Town of Enchanted Oaks



To: New and current residents of Enchanted Oaks, Texas.

From: Mayor of Enchanted Oaks

Subject: Introduction to the Town of Enchanted Oaks, Texas

Council members and Town staff would like to personally welcome all new residents to the Town of Enchanted Oaks, Texas. We would like to take this opportunity to reach out to all residents and say welcome to you no matter how long you have been a member of the community. We are very proud of our town and would like to offer our assistance in making this your home.

This letter gives a brief overview of Town ordinances, community activities, and facilities as well as answers to some often asked questions.

The Town of Enchanted Oaks was incorporated under Chapter 11 on December 14, 1974 and consequently is subject to all STATE LAWS concerning cities and Towns. For instance, the manner of determining our rate of taxation, type of government, elections, terms of office, traffic law enforcement; is set by the State of Texas. Our taxes are collected for the Town by the Henderson County Tax Office, located in Athens, the County Seat. The Town is restricted to residences only, no business buildings are allowed.

Our Town Council is composed of the Mayor and five Council Members, which are elected for a two-year term. By State Law, if an office is not contested, we can declare the candidates elected and not hold an election. If there is a challenger, the elections will be held the 1st Saturday in November at a designated location. All voters at this election must be registered in Henderson County and live in Enchanted Oaks. County and national elections are held in Payne Springs, usually at the community center.

All positions, including Mayor, Council Members, and Treasurer are strictly volunteer. If you wish to volunteer to assist the Town in any capacity, please call the Town Hall at 903-451-2222, or myself personally.

The Town Hall is used for meetings of the Enchanted Oaks Ladies Club. The Club also sponsors various social functions for residents; for more information about the Ladies Club, please contact Town Hall. The Town Council meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. These are open meetings (by law) and all residents are encouraged to attend. The agenda is posted on the bulletin boards on the Friday before the Council Meeting (or at least 72 hours before).

The Town has two boat ramps, a refuse center, a playground and a swimming pool and parks for the use of Enchanted Oaks residents and their houseguests. Enchanted Isle pays an annual fee for the use of the boat ramps and refuse center.

Boat ramp keys and swimming pool keys may be purchased for \$25.00 and \$50.00 respectively. The boat ramp key is a one-time fee unless the lock is changed. The boat ramps are available to launch and recover boats and PWC's. No overnight parking is allowed. The pool opens Memorial Day weekend, and closes after Labor Day. The public restroom facility at Town Hall is available during pool hours, which are posted. There is a Town Ordinance in place governing the use, operation, control, and maintenance of the pool. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult 18 and over.

A WEATHER ALERT SIREN is located behind the Town Hall and on First Oak. They will be tested monthly at seven P.M. on the day of the council meeting (good weather only).

Fireworks are permitted on private property and the West Boat Ramp during New Years and 4th of July holidays only. Extreme caution should be used when handling fireworks.

The Town distributes a newsletter to residents two times a year called the Acorn. If you wish to receive by email please let the City Secretary know your address. Email has also been a good means to get information out to you quickly and addresses are kept confidential.

Only household pets (including, but not limited to dogs and cats) are allowed within the Town limits and to further protect all residents there is a Leash Law (Ordinance No. 136). Any pet running loose can be picked up and taken to the GBC Animal Control where the owner will be charged a fee to retrieve them. We all love our animals, but residents should be able to walk city streets without fear of unrestrained dogs. The ordinance also notes that owners are to pick up after your own animal and not leave their business in someone else's yard or street. Three (3) dogs are allowed full time at each residence.

As of 1 January 2006 Enchanted Oaks is supported by its own volunteer fire department, with an Insurance Service Rating of 5. We currently have hydrants within 1000 feet of all residences. The EOVPD has a business and training meeting monthly at the Fire Station. If anyone in your family has special needs I would encourage you to identify these to the Town so we may let our fire department know in the event of an emergency. Everyone is invited to attend. The department is always looking for new volunteers. There's a job for everyone.

To report a fire call 9-1-1. Call 9-1-1 for all medical emergencies. Also call 9-1-1 for the police and our Chief of Police or the Sheriff's office will respond.

Oncor provides the electricity delivery service for your selected electric service provider for electricity. Centurylink, Suddenlink both provide bundled services for telephone, internet and TV. East Cedar Creek Fresh Water Supply District provides water and sewer. If you experience any problems with their service, please contact their office directly. There is no natural gas service. Propane is allowed.

On waterfront properties, all dredging, filling, retaining walls, boat docks, etc. from the 325-foot flood line to the water is under the jurisdiction of the Tarrant Regional Water District, **and must comply with Enchanted Oaks codes.** There is a TRWD office located near the spillway in Tool. Please contact their office at 903-432-2814 if you have any questions about the above items. Construction permits are required.

The dumpsters located at the waste management facility (WMF) on Enchanted Dr/Cedarwood are for household garbage **only!!!** You will be provided a card key for use by residents only. The disposal company will not pick up other items. If it doesn't go in your trash can it is not acceptable for the WMF. Please don't place hot fire place or BBQ coals in the dumpsters. We ask all residents to please obey signs and place only household garbage in dumpsters. The dumpsters are monitored by security cameras and there is a fine for misuse. Please write down the license number of anyone illegally dumping and call the Town Hall to report. Please do not dump the following items: appliances, tires, batteries, hazardous materials such as used oil, paint, antifreeze. Henderson County Precinct 2 refuse site is located about 2 miles south of Eustace on the left side of highway 175. Dumping of most any legal item is allowed at a reasonable fee. Hours are: M-F 07:30 a.m. – 01:00 p.m., Sat. 0800 a.m. –03:00 p.m., however it is advised you call ahead to be sure their facility is not too full for you to dump. 903-425-2663.

Do not provide the card key to contractors working for you. Contractors are not allowed to dump your building materials in the refuse center.

You are allowed to burn leaves, weeds, brush, etc. on your property, provided adequate precautions are taken, or unless there is a burn ban in effect by the town or county. Burning is not allowed after dark. You can use bar ditches for burning, but you must clean up the residue to prevent blockage of the drainage system causing flooding of streets and property. There is a Town Ordinance that authorizes the Town to clean up and/or mow lots with weeds, rubbish or unsightly matter and charge the property owner a fee for this service.

Signs on public property (other than directional and street name signs) are limited to "OPEN HOUSE" and "GARAGE SALE" for a period of 72 hours. Signs on private property such as "FOR SALE", "FOR RENT", and political signs are limited in size to a maximum of 24" x 36".

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS VERY IMPORTANT:

Please contact the **Town Hall** if you are planning a home improvement project in the future and definitely before you start to build. We will put you in touch with the Town Building Official for permitting and code compliance requirements. This will be time well spent and money saved, for the Town has a building code that must be complied with. Fence height can only be 4 feet from base to cap.

All portable prefabricated structures and mobile homes are prohibited. Motorhomes and/or travel trailers can be parked or stored on your lot, but cannot be used as living quarters. There is an ordinance that establishes limits on these items on your property.

No extended parking is allowed on any town street for longer than 24 hours. Golf carts or similar vehicles are allowed. Please note that the operator must have a Texas driver's license to operate on public streets. ATV vehicles are not allowed.

If you have further questions please contact Town Hall 903-451-2222 or by email at the city address. My cell phone is 903-603-3303. I have listed below some commonly needed phone numbers for your convenience. Let's all work to keep our Town a nice place to live, one we can all be proud of.

Sincerely
Sam McVay
Mayor

Phone Numbers

Town Hall	903-451-2222 (M-Thur, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM) 903-603-3303 (Mayor's Mobile Phone) Email: enchantedoaks@enchantedoaks.org mayor@enchantedoaks.org
Chief of Police	903-880-9550 (if emergency dial 911) Email: enchantedoaks@enchantedoaks.org
Fire Department	903-451-2222 (if emergency dial 911) Email: eovfd@enchantedoaks.org
Humane Society	903-432-3422
Enchanted Oaks Website	www.enchantedoaks.org
Coast Guard Auxiliary	903-432-4490
Sheriff's Department	903-675-5128
County Refuse Center	903-425-2611 (M-F: 0730 AM to 1 PM, Sat. 0800 AM-3 PM)
Game Warden	903-675-5128
Ambulance Air Service	800-255-2011
Tarrant Regional Water District (Cedar Creek Reservoir)	903-432-2814
Texas Travel Center	800-452-9292 (For Road Conditions Around the State) or http://www.tx.gov/category.jsp?categoryId=12.9