



THIS IS EL DORADO

Downtown public parking

Have you needed to go downtown but weren't sure where to park, especially with the construction underway? Below is a map of the public parking lots around the Main and Central downtown area.



What's Happening in El Dorado

- Dec. 2 & 16 - City Commission Meetings
- Dec. 2 - Community Potluck @ Senior Center
- Dec. 4 - Chamber Chat
- Dec. 5 - Thankful Thursday
- Dec. 5-7 - Old Fashioned Christmas (See below)
- Dec. 6 - EHS's Encore and Grandview's Excite Caroling @ Coutts Museum
- Dec. 12 - Thursday Speaker Series @ Kansas Oil Museum
- Dec. 14 - Coutts Museum's Artisan Market and Live Artist Competition @ Kansas Oil Museum
- Dec. 17 - Coutts Brown Bag Program
- Dec. 17 - Library Book Club
- Dec. 19 - Live Band "Branded" @ El Dorado Senior Center
- Dec. 25 - City Offices closed for Christmas
All trash routes will run normally
- Jan. 1 - City Offices closed for New Year's Day
All trash routes will run normally

COMMISSION RECAP OCTOBER MEETINGS

- The Commission set the public hearing to consider proposed assessments for Project 597, an extension of the sanitary sewer main to serve the Garcia Court area.
- The Commission accepted the application from Frontier Development Group for the Moderate-Income Housing Grant Application and authorized a resolution of support for the rehabilitation and reuse of 124 S. Main, with the lower level being commercial and upper levels residential.
- The Commission approved a resolution authorizing the vacation of two feet of a utility easement in the Greens at Prairie Trails Subdivision.
- The Commission received the quarterly report from El Dorado Inc.
- The Commission approved the 2025 Salary Schedule for the City.
- The Commission approved a resolution for the Reinvestment Housing Incentive District on South Main.

Watch the full meetings at eldoks.com/135/Agendas-Minutes-and-Videos

Old-Fashioned Christmas

- **Thursday, December 5, 4-7 p.m.**
FREE Horse Drawn Carriage Rides (Location to be determined)
- **Friday, December 6, 5:15-6:00 p.m.**
Commemorative Christmas Tree Lighting
Bring an ornament commemorating a loved one to put on a special tree. (Location to be determined.)
- **Friday, December 6, 6:30-7:00 p.m.**
Caroling at the Coutts - Music performed by EHS Encore and Grandview Excite; Coutts Museum of Art, 110 N. Main Street
- **Saturday, December 7, Noon-8:00 p.m.**
Santa in Boom Town - Kansas Oil Museum, 383 E. Central
1-3 p.m. — Visit Santa in the Schoolhouse; Living History in Boom Town; Hot Chocolate; Free Activity Packets From North Pole
5 p.m. — Judging of Chili
6-8 p.m. — Community Tasting and Fan Favorite Voting
8 p.m. — Winners Announced
- **Saturday, December 7, 3-7 p.m.**
Santa Central - 3 - 4:45 p.m. - Photos with Santa and Fresh Baked Cookies (location to be determined)
Christmas Parade - 5:30 p.m. - Starts at 4th & Main; travels south on Main to First, then west to Taylor (route subject to construction schedule)

Traina new Senior Center director Sewer averaging begins in December

The El Dorado Senior Center Board announced new director Kristina Traina on Sept. 9. "I wanted to serve my community in a different capacity and help grow the Senior Center," she said.

Since starting she has been working to expand the existing programs and also start new programs for the seniors in the community. This includes more exercise programs, more games and activities, and expanding the crafting opportunities.

"It's serving people who have been in the community a long time and now they are helping grow the Senior Center," she said.

The Center also is always looking for volunteers, as well as new members. You only have to be 50 to join, and the fee is \$10 a year.

"For a lot of people coming here, it gives them a purpose," she said. "Another great thing is all of the senior resources available. We are able to provide those contacts. It's very fulfilling and rewarding. I tell everyone it's El Dorado's best kept secret!"

Kristina and her husband, Brandon, have two children, Mason, 6, and Jolie, 3, and a new puppy, "Blue." She serves as co-chair of the Celebration of Freedom Committee and coaches Kindergarten soccer. She is an avid KU basketball fan and enjoys playing tennis and pickleball with her family.



Daily Activities at the Senior Center:

- 9 a.m. - Coffee Group
- 11:30 a.m. - Lunch
- 2 p.m. - Open games

Weekly Activities at the Senior Center:

- Mondays - Morning Movers walking group at 9 a.m.; Aerobics at 10 a.m.; Mexican Train Dominoes at 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesdays - Bible Study at 10 a.m.; Bingo at 12:30 p.m.
- Wednesdays - Back to Balance at 10 a.m.; Hand and Foot at 12:30 p.m.; Prairie Port Seniors at 1 p.m.
- Thursdays - Tai Chi at 9:30; Mexican Train Dominoes at 12:30 p.m.
- Fridays - Morning Movers at 9 a.m.; Aerobics at 10 a.m.; Hand and Foot at 12:30 p.m.

Monthly Activities at the Senior Center

- 1st Monday - Potluck at 6 p.m.
- 2nd Monday - Craft Corner
- 3rd Monday - Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group at 5:30 p.m.
- 3rd Thursday - Live Bands and Dancing at 6:30 p.m.



To calculate your sewer rates for the year, the City of El Dorado uses a process each winter called sewer averaging.

The city averages the months of December, January and February. During these months, there is typically not irrigation or other warm-weather water activities, so this accounts for only water going down the drains from essential use, such as the shower, toilet and washing machine. This method provides a reasonably accurate method to determine the amount of water treated at the Wetlands & Water Reclamation Facility, for which you will be charged.

To ensure your rate is as low as possible, it is beneficial to conserve water use during these months, such as checking for leaky faucets and running toilets; installing water-efficient plumbing fixtures and turning off the water while brushing your teeth.

So why is your rate different December through February? During the months the city is doing the averaging, you are paying for the actual volume of water that you use.

For new residents the sewer average is based on the city's average residential sewer rate. Once you have been a resident during the winter months, you will have your own average calculated.

If you have a water leak during those months, it is important to get it fixed, then bring the receipts from the repair to City Hall and they will adjust your average so you are not penalized for that leak the rest of the year.

To calculate your own average sewer charge you can use this formula:

5,984 gallons usage in December
5,610 gallons usage in January
6,358 gallons usage in February
3-month usage average of 5,984 gallons

The current sewer rate is \$3.58 per 1000 gallons plus a readiness to serve fee of \$12.74. Multiply your average usage (5,984) by 0.00358 which equals \$21.42, add the \$12.74 readiness to serve fee for a total sewer charge of \$34.16. This will be your monthly sewer charge for the rest of the year.

Without using the averaging, your cost could be about \$40 more a month throughout the year.

Why is this charge important?

Sewer rates are an integral part of the Sewer Fund which pays for operation and maintenance of the city's sewer collection system, including underground piping and lift stations. In addition to the collection of sanitary sewer flows, the Wetlands & Water Reclamation Facility has to treat it by removing nutrients and any harmful bacteria before discharging to the Walnut River.

For questions on your rate or the averaging, please call City Hall at 316-321-9100.



Coming soon! The City will soon be offering a public portal for checking your water account. Be watching for more information in the December newsletter.