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City of Copperas Cove



City Manager's Message

We hope you find our new format reader friendly. Many thanks to Monica Hall and Ashley Borchers for their newsletter contributions.



Summer is here, so remember to check on your neighbors and take extra precautions to avoid heat related illness. Avoid exposure to the sun during the hottest portions of the day and if outdoors be sure to drink plenty of water.

The summer time for City Administration is very busy with budget preparation for the upcoming fiscal year. I would like to remind our readers to view the budget calendar on the City's website and join us at the many workshops and public hearings during the process.

We look forward to closing out fiscal year 2011-2012 with The City's Annual State of the City Address scheduled for September 19, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at Cinergy Cinemas.

Have a fun and safe summer!

Sincerely,

Andrea M. Gardner

City Manager

Public Works

Work Zone Hazards



Most motorists are aware that highway work zones can be dangerous for the workers improving our roadways, but not everyone realizes they can also be dangerous place to drive. In fact, 85 percent of people killed in work zone crashes are motorists. Each year in the United States approximately 1,000 people die and thousands are injured in work zone crashes. Approximately 150 fatalities occur annually in Texas - more than any other state.

Hazardous work zone driving conditions are created by uneven pavement, narrow lanes, concrete barriers, slow-moving heavy equipment, vehicles making sudden stops, and loose gravel. In spite of these conditions, studies have found that the most common reasons for work zone crashes are speeding and inattention to driving. These findings are supported by the fact that one in three crashes in work zones are rear-end collisions.

There can be over 1,000 highway work zones at any one time on Texas highways. This is especially true during peak highway construction and maintenance periods in late spring and summer.

Making Work Zones Safer

Motorists are urged to remember the following driving tips to ensure that the minor inconvenience of highway maintenance and construction doesn't turn into a tragedy.

Drive With Caution

Slow down when directed to do so by traffic signs or by a worker. The number one cause of work zone crashes is excessive speed. Observe all warning signs and drive the posted speed limit. If the speed limit sign is white with black numbers, the speed limit has been established by the Texas Transportation Commission and is enforceable regardless of whether there is any construction activity or not. And remember, traffic fines double in work zones when workers are present.

At 60 mph, a vehicle travels 88 feet per second. Even slowing to 40 mph, a vehicle covers more than 58 feet per second. Because work zones provide little room for maneuvering and virtually no margin for error, it is critical that drivers observe the posted speed limits.

Pay Attention

Highway workers and heavy equipment will often be only a

few feet from the vehicles passing through the work zone. Always be alert to changing road and traffic conditions; take note of warning devices and flaggers' directions, and prepare for the unexpected. Don't take driving conditions for granted.

Avoid distractions while in a work zone. For example, don't use cell phones, change radio stations, tapes or CDs, or refill your coffee cup. A moment of distraction may result in a crash that could claim someone's life.

Extra caution is required when driving in a work zone at night. Hazards are more difficult to recognize, sight distance for workers and drivers is very limited and road markings may be harder to see.

Remember that work zone conditions are fluid and can change from day-to-day. The location of active construction within a work zone can vary greatly. Don't assume that because there wasn't construction in an area yesterday, there won't be one here today.

Be Patient

Traffic delays in work zones are sometimes unavoidable. Aggressive driving makes the situation more dangerous for everyone. Road construction and repair are necessary activities to ensure a safe, efficient highway system and to protect the investment of your tax dollars.

It only takes a little extra time to slow down for a work zone. At 50 mph instead of 60 mph, it takes less than one minute longer to get through a work zone two miles long; and less than 4 ½ minutes longer if the work zone is 10 miles long. The risk is not worth the few extra minutes it takes to get through a work zone.

Plan Ahead

Anticipate events that can happen in work zones and be ready to respond quickly. Normal driving conditions don't always exist in work zones. Remember that a trip through a work zone may take longer. Leave a little earlier when planning your day to arrive at your destination on time.

Motorists must understand that normal driving conditions don't exist in and around highway work zones.

Work Zones Are Everywhere

Because there are so many work zones, the need for attention to safe driving has never been greater. Remember, slow down, pay attention and drive Texas friendly.

Employee Transfers and New Hires

Noel Watson moved from Compost to Fleet
Keith Fields moved from Drainage to Water Distribution

Garrett Gilmore is new to Water Distribution
Chris Aguilar is new to Drainage
Jarred Burge is new to Drainage
Darrell Dick is new to Drainage
Tarroll Kilgore is new to Drainage
MacKenzie Meeks is new to Drainage
Mason Thomas is new to Drainage

Parks and Recreation

City Park Pool Gets a Facelift

To increase the enjoyment of our patrons we have erected two new shade covers. These covers will more than double the previous shaded area. The addition of picnic tables, lounge chairs and sling chairs has increased seating capacity by more than fifty people.



Rabbit Fest

City Employees Partner with the Chamber of Commerce to make Rabbit Fest a Success



Rabbit Fest Softball Tournament

Largest turnout in years. This year we had two divisions, Men's and Coed. The men's division hosted 13 teams while the coed had 9. This is double the number of teams from last year. This tournament has become one that many local teams look forward to and we anticipate that it will continue to grow.



Hills of Cove Golf Course

2012 Texas A&M Central Texas Golf Classic

The City of Copperas Cove is proud to announce that we will be hosting the 3rd Annual Texas A&M Central Texas Golf Classic on Saturday, July 21, 2012 at the Hills of Cove Golf Course.



Police Dept.



Torch Run Photo - On May 22nd the Copperas Cove Police Department sponsored a 2-mile run throughout the City on behalf of the Law Enforcement Torch Run Committee. The event was held to raise funds and bring awareness to the Special Olympics Texas program. CCPD Officers welcomed City Manager Andrea Gardner and City Councilman Frank Seffrood as special guests to run in the event. Sgt Keller would like to thank the city staff who purchased the 2012 Torch Run shirt and cheered for the team.



Crime Stoppers Awards - On May 14th the Copperas Cove Crime Stoppers presented several awards during a ceremony at the Police Department: Officer Jim Dudden - Peace Officer of the Year, Camila Peralta - Communications Operator of the Year, Gretchen McWhorter - Best Supporting Player

Fire Dept.



Chief Sean Hughes has a professional fire service career spanning almost 28 years. Chief Hughes currently holds Master Firefighter, Master instructor, Master Arson Investigator and Master Peace Officer certificates in Texas. He is also a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) through the International Association of Emergency Managers and a Texas Emergency Manager (TEM) through the Emergency Management Association of Texas. He also holds International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) seals as Firefighter II, Fire Investigator, Haz-Mat Operations and Fire Officer I & II. Sean is currently designated as a Chief Fire Officer (CFO) from the Center for Public Safety Excellence.

Chief Hughes began his involvement in the fire service as a Junior Volunteer at the age of 15. He began his professional fire service career in 1984 with the Mansfield, Texas Fire Department. In 1987, he was hired by the North Richland Hills Fire Department as a Firefighter/EMT. While there he obtained his Paramedic certification and moved up through the ranks of the department, ultimately achieving the rank of Division Chief.

Chief Hughes holds current memberships with the International Association of Fire Chiefs, Texas Fire Chiefs Association, International Association of Emergency Managers, Emergency Management Association of Texas, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, International Society of Fire Service Instructors, and the Texas Association of Fire Educators.

Unity Committee

The City Manager and Council recognized the outgoing Unity Committee Members at the May 15, 2012 Council Meeting. Those

recognized include:

Stephen Clendenen, Chairman - Fire Lieutenant

Jose Velazco, Member - Police Department Custodian/Animal Control
Kennel Attendant

Maria "Becky" Burns, Member - Police Communications Operator

Robert Browning, Member - Information Systems Specialist II



At the same meeting, the City Managers and Council welcomed the incoming Unity Committee Members that will serve June 2012 - May 2013. Those members include:

Jeremy Alber, Chairman - Police Sergeant

Carroll Merrell, Member - Meter Reader/Service Technician

Tiffany Truque, Member - Municipal Court Clerk

Becky "BJ" Johnson, Member - Solid Waste Administrative Assistant

Joseph Diaz, Member - Patrol Officer

Mark Willingham, Member - Recreation Coordinator, Parks and
Leisure Services

Dawn Farmer, Member - Accounting Technician, Financial Services
Department

Christopher Altott, Member - Wastewater Chief Plant Operator

Travis Daniels, Member - Solid Waste Driver

Employee Service Awards

Employee Service Awards - April 2012



Beau Brabbin, Code Enforcement Officer, 5 Years
 Dexter Ferdinand, Patrol Officer, 5 Years
 Kristopher Hurst, Firefighter/EMT, 5 Years
 Steven Scott Howard, Fire Captain, 5 Years
 Jose Melendez-Rosado, Patrol Officer, 5 Years
 James Dudden, Patrol Officer, 10 Years
 Alfredo Chavez, Part Time Municipal Court Bailiff, 15 Years
 Martin Ruiz, Police Sergeant, 15 Years
 Joaquin Salazar Jr., Police Sergeant, 20 Years

Employee Service Awards - May 2012



Autumn Downing, Code Compliance Officer, 5 Years
 Kevin Bell, Light Equipment Operator, 10 Years
 Ernest Wilkins, Drainage Laborer, 10 Years

Employee Service Awards - June 2012



Benjamin Smith III, GIS Technician, 15 Years (no photo)
Teresa Swenson, Assistant Library Director, 15 Years
Debra Anderson, Administrative Assistant/Evidence Technician, 20 Years

The City of Copperas Cove would like to extend a "Thank You" to the Service Award Recipients for the months of April, May and June 2012.

Employee of the Quarter



EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

(January, February, March 2012)

The Employee-of-the-Quarter Program provides special recognition to City of Copperas Cove employees who have accomplished an extraordinary achievement within the organization.

Andrea Scott-Maguire, Municipal Court Clerk
Was nominated and selected in the following category:

Contributions that have a significant impact on department, City, or the public.



Julie Lehmann, Police Detective Sergeant
Was nominated and selected in the following category:

Consistency, no job is too great or too small.



Upcoming Events



SAVE THE DATE!

**City of Copperas Cove
Employee Summer Picnic
Sunday, July 15, 2012
from 6:30pm-9:30pm**

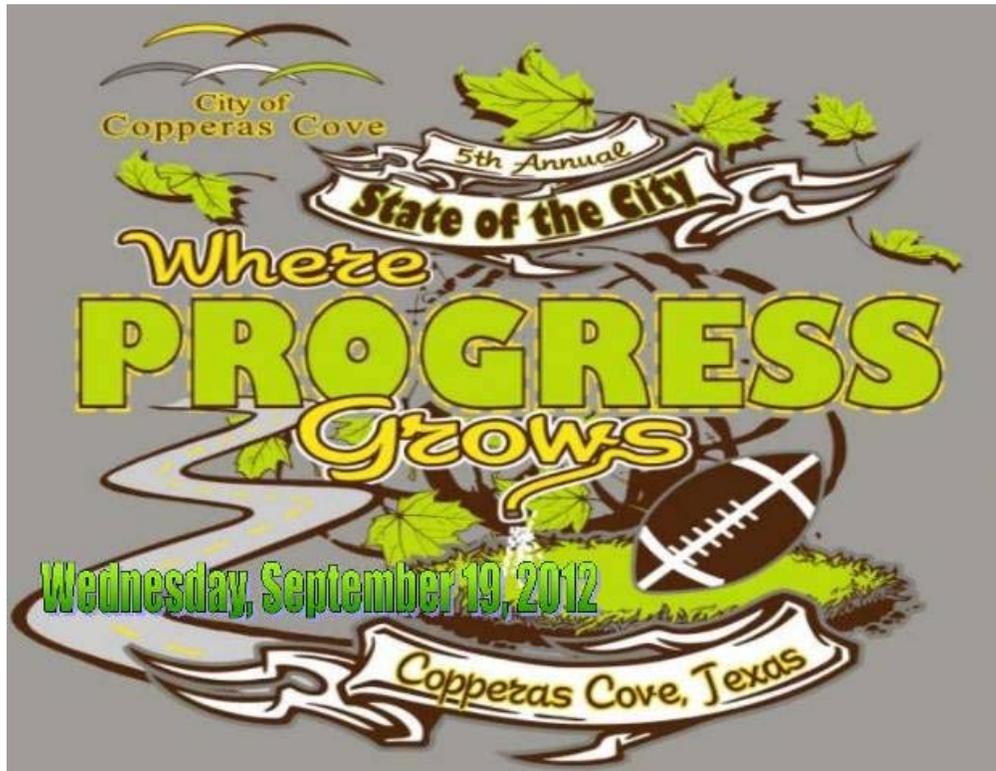
Hosted by:

ec
employee activities committee

Summer Fun USA
1410 Waco Rd, Belton, TX 76513
Phone: 254-939-0366
Website: www.summerfunwaterpark.com

Summer Fun Water Park
It's a Splash!

The graphic features a blue sky with white clouds, several hot air balloons, and the word "SUMMER" in large, colorful, 3D letters floating in blue water. The letters are in shades of green, purple, yellow, red, and blue.



City of
Copperas Cove

5th Annual
State of the City

Where
PROGRESS
Grows

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Copperas Cove, Texas

The graphic features a grey background with a stylized river flowing through the center. The river is surrounded by green leaves and a brown football. The text is arranged in a central, celebratory layout with various fonts and colors.

[Forward this email](#)



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