

Community Newsletter

FEBRUARY/
MARCH 2005

Filing Dates Set for May Elections

The City of Benbrook will hold a General Election on Saturday, May 7, 2005. The candidate filing period is February 5, 2005 through March 7, 2005. The following positions are up for election:

City of Benbrook (2-year term):

- Mayor, Place 1
- Member of Council, Place 3
- Member of Council, Place 5
- Member of Council, Place 7

Benbrook Library District (2-year term): 3 Trustees

Requirements for City Council :

1. Be a United States citizen.
2. Be 18 years of age or older on the first day of the term to be filled at the election.
3. Have not been determined mentally incompetent by a final judgment of a court.
4. Have not been finally convicted of a felony from which the person has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disability.
5. Have resided continuously in the State for 12 months preceding the deadline for filing an application.
6. Have resided in the City for 12 months before the date of the election.
7. Be a registered voter of the City of Benbrook.

City Council typically meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:30 P.M.

Candidate Packets for City Council may be picked up and applications filed in person at City Hall, City of Benbrook, 911 Winscott Road.

For additional information, please contact Joanna King, Benbrook City Secretary, at 817-249-3000 or jkking@cityofbenbrook.com.

Library Board Information:

The Benbrook Public Library is governed by a five-member board of trustees. Each trustee is elected for a two year term. The terms are staggered so there is a Library Board election each year. Library trustees must be residents of Benbrook and registered voters.

The Benbrook Library District Board of Trustees meets monthly, usually on the second Monday, at 6:30 P.M. These meetings are open to the public.

Candidate Packets for Library Board may be picked up and filed in person at the Benbrook Library, 1065 Mercedes.

For more information, contact Mike Baldwin, Library Director, 817-249-6632 or mikeb@benbrooklibrary.org.

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Bridge on Old Benbrook Road Closed

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has temporarily closed a section of Old Benbrook Road for bridge replacement. TxDOT estimates reopening the bridge by May.

American Legion Post 297 may be reached from Winscott Road to Old Benbrook Road.

Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off

Are you looking for a way make a difference in the community?



Individuals and groups are invited to participate in the annual "Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off" on **April 2** from **9:00 to 11:00 A.M.** Participants will pickup litter along a designated street or park area and take full garbage bags to a dumpster that will be located at the City Maintenance Facility at 467 Winscott Road. Neighborhood associations, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, school groups, civic and other interested organizations are especially encouraged to participate. A list of suggested cleanup areas and free garbage bags are available at City Hall.

The Trash-Off is the single largest one-day cleanup in Texas and is Texas' signature event of the Great American Cleanup™, the nation's largest annual community improvement program. This year, more than 1,300 groups across Texas are expected to participate on April 2 in litter prevention and cleanup activities. Local volunteers will be joining forces with over two million volunteers nationwide participating in approximately 30,000 Great American Cleanup™ activities in more than 14,000 communities. Last year, Great American Cleanup™ volunteers picked up almost 10 million pounds of litter, cleaned over 95,000 miles of roadways and more than 6,000 miles of lake and river shorelines, saving thousands of tax dollars on cleanups and community enhancement projects.

Aside from the one-day cleanup event, interested groups may also adopt a street, highway, or park to maintain on a routine basis. Signs identifying on-going volunteer efforts will be posted on designated routes at a later date to recognize committed groups. For more information, please contact Shawna Cortez at **817-249-3000** or scortez@cityofbenbrook.com.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and E-Cycling Event

**When: Saturday, April 2
9:00 to 11:00 AM**

Where: New Location!

Benbrook Industrial Park - 7400 Block of Benbrook Parkway

As part of the Great American Cleanup™ and the Keep Benbrook Beautiful program, the City of Benbrook will host a Household Hazardous Waste Collection & E-Cycling Event for **BENBROOK** residents on Saturday, April 2 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at Benbrook Industrial Park, located off of Winscott Road, in the 7400 block of Benbrook Parkway (where Benbrook Parkway dead-ends).

Through an agreement with the Fort Worth Environmental Collection Center (ECC), the City of Fort Worth will provide a mobile collection unit and several personnel to collect the following materials: acids, aerosol cans, antifreeze, all batteries, brake fluid, craft & hobby materials, degreasers, drain cleaners, fertilizer, fluorescent lights, herbicides, household chemicals, motor oil, oil filters, paints/stains, paint thinners, pest strips, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, photo chemicals, pool chemicals, solvents, transmission fluid, and varnishes.

Cyclone Aluminum & Steel will also be on site to collect **electronic waste such as computer monitors, keyboards, CPU's, scanners, printers, printer cartridges, fax machines, phones, and cell phones.**

The following materials **cannot** be accepted: ammunition, explosives, and medical waste, radioactive material (smoke detectors), waste generated by businesses, TVs, tires, propane

and butane cylinders.

For safety and to make the collection of materials less costly and more efficient, please:

Give usable products to someone who can use them.

Keep chemicals in original containers; place broken / leaking containers in a second container of like material (i.e. glass for corrosives, metal for flammables).

Label unmarked containers if contents are known.

Use the trunk rather than the passenger compartment of a vehicle to transport chemicals.

IMPORTANT

A recent **BENBROOK water bill** must be shown as proof of residency.

Items will not be accepted until Fort Worth's collection unit is set up and authorized staff are available to load and transfer items from vehicles to the collection unit (at 9:00 AM).

If the weight capacity of the collection unit is reached before 11:00 AM, attendees will receive vouchers to take household hazardous waste materials to the Fort Worth ECC.

For more information, call Shawna Cortez at 817-249-3000.

Take a BYTE out of Waste!

Electronic waste or e-waste, is the fastest-growing segment of municipal solid waste. Over 2 million tons of e-waste is buried in landfills each year. Computers contain an average of four pounds of lead, and other potentially hazardous materials like chromium, cadmium, mercury, beryllium, nickel, zinc, and brominated flame retardants.

General Election Voter Information

When:

Saturday, May 7, 2005

Where:

Polling Places on Election Day are:

Precincts 1009, 1337 -

Western Hills High School
3600 Boston Avenue

Precincts 1021, 1206, 1208, 1302, 1460 -

Central Fire Station
528 Mercedes Street

Precinct 1339 -

The Church in Cityview
6610 Southwest Blvd.

What are the voting hours?

From 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M., Saturday May 7, 2005.

Who is permitted to vote in the election?

All persons residing within the City limits of Benbrook who possess an effective and valid Voter Registration Certificate issued by the Tarrant County Election Administrator.

When and where is Early (absentee) Voting?

Early voting by personal appearance will be held at Benbrook City Hall, 911 Winscott Road between the hours of **8:00 A.M.** and **5:00 P.M.** on weekdays. The early voting period is from Wednesday, April 20, 2005 through Tuesday, May 3, 2005.

Can ballots be obtained and cast by mail?

Yes, ballots to be cast by mail can be obtained from the City Secretary upon receipt of an application. Formal applications can be requested from the City Secretary's office either in person or by phone. Informal applications for a mail ballot must be in writing and must be signed by the voter. Mail applications to:

Early Voting Clerk
Joanna King, City Secretary
P.O. Box 26569
Benbrook, Texas 76126-0569

Both formal and informal applications for a ballot by mail must include:

1. The applicant's name and the address at which the applicant is registered to vote,
2. The address to which the ballot is to be mailed,
3. An indication of each election for which the voter is applying for a ballot; and
4. An indication of the ground of eligibility for voting may mail.

What are the requirements to obtain and cast a ballot by mail?

The requirements to be eligible to vote by mail are:

1. Voter is 65 years of age or older on Election Day.
2. Voter is confined in jail.
3. Voter has a disability.
4. Voter is expected to be absent from the county on Election Day and during hours of regular early voting by personal appearance. Applications must be submitted from outside the county if submitted after early voting by personal appearance has begun. **BALLOTS MUST BE MAILED TO AN ADDRESS OUTSIDE THE COUNTY. RETURN BALLOTS MUST BE POST MARKED AND RECEIVED FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTY.**

What is the deadline for submitting applications for mail ballots?

Applications for a ballot to be voted by mail must be received in the City Secretary's office by April 29, 2005. These applications must be received through the mail after early voting has begun.

For more information, please contact Joanna King, City Secretary at 817-249-3000.

City of Benbrook
PO Box 26569
911 Winscott Road
Benbrook, TX 76126-0569



Benbrook Community Newsletter

February/March 2005
A bi-monthly publication of the
City of Benbrook

City Council

Felix T. "Bear" Hebert, Mayor
Robert Cook, Place 2
Keith Bailey, Place 3
Rick Allison, Place 4
John Vander Pan, Place 5
Jerry Dittrich, Place 6/Mayor Pro Tem
Ron Sauma, Place 7

Benbrook City Council normally meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at City Hall, 911 Winscott Road. For more information, call 817-249-3000.

E-Mail Us:

info@cityofbenbrook.com

We're on the Web!
www.cityofbenbrook.com

City Hall
will be closed
Monday
February 21, 2005
for
President's Day.



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Please note: Certain material included in this newsletter was provided by other entities. Any opinions expressed by those entities do not necessarily reflect the official views of the City. The City reserves the right to edit as necessary; however, the City does not guarantee the accuracy of the information provided and is not responsible for errors or omissions.

Benbrook Economic Development Update

EDC Addition – N3 Development is currently constructing the drive-through Starbuck's at the corner of Benbrook Boulevard / I-20 and plans a spring opening. No definite "casual dining restaurant" has been identified for the remainder of the property, which has been re-platted into two lots.

Benbrook Industrial Park - Salon Support, Inc. is finalizing plans to begin construction of a 30,000 square foot distribution center (one of 3 planned buildings) located in the Benbrook Industrial Park.

TXU Delivery – TXU Electric Delivery reportedly purchased 10-acres of land in Benbrook at the Winbrook site and plans construction of a 15,000 square feet facility that will house many divisions of the company. Total employment at the Benbrook location is projected to be 100. The new service center is set to open by April of this year.

For more information, please contact the Benbrook Economic Development Corporation at 817-249-6990.