

Pilot effort targets the worst nuisance properties

A new initiative from Fort Worth City Hall has a plain and simple goal: become a nuisance to the city's most persistent nuisance properties.

The initiative will aim to enhance enforcement efforts at properties that have been the site of continual criminal activity and violations of City codes.

Three properties were selected for the NET Force pilot program based on repeated

criminal activity; violations of building, health and fire codes; impact to the surroundings, including spillover crime and their proximity to residential neighborhoods and community facilities; and nuisance owners with repeat violations.

Inspections and enforcement on the three initial properties began in January.



New technology to help streamline non-emergency calls

The City of Fort Worth launched an automated call triage technology that provides a new way for residents to get expedient help with non-emergency requests, while conserving 911 operators for true emergencies.

This addition will significantly improve the ability to respond to all public safety requests.

When a community member calls a 10-digit administrative phone number to report fireworks, an abandoned vehicle, a traffic violation or other issue that is not an emergency, they will

**Smart Tech.
Rapid Response.
Better Service.**



be greeted by an AI-powered virtual assistant that will dynamically and verbally engage, in English or Spanish, to identify and act on the caller's request quickly.

Public safety communicators provide real-time monitoring of each interaction and will continue to respond to all emergency requests, so call 911 during an emergency.

Water seminars bring refreshing new speakers, topics, formats

The 2026 Water-Saving Seminars series begins in March and runs monthly through October. Each class meets on a designated Thursday from 6-8 p.m. at the Botanic Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) building, inside the Fort Worth Botanic Garden.

Tickets for each seminar are released one month before the class date and include trivia, giveaways and plenty of fun. All classes, including those that sell out, will stream live on social media.

This year brings a complete refresh with new speakers, topics and formats. The 2026 lineup highlights creative, practical water-saving ideas for indoor and outdoor use.

Sessions are built for homeowners, renters, gardeners and anyone managing irrigation or household plumbing.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2026:

- Monthly Thursday evening classes, March through October
- Instruction from local experts and utility specialists
- Seasonal topics tied to real water-use patterns

SaveFortWorthWater.org

WORTH KNOWING

► Fort Worth **shelter dogs** now have more room to run, roam and reset, thanks to a \$72,000 gift from longtime animal lover Ransome Hughes Rombauer, who funded the installation of new fencing at the Silcox Animal Shelter. The upgrade has allowed staff to fence off several smaller play yards, meaning more shelter dogs can safely enjoy the outdoors, socialize and soak up the sun each day.

► The City of Fort Worth joined students, educators and community partners to unveil the new "Hands of Unity" **mural** at 1000 W. Lowden St. The mural was created by students from I.M. Terrell Academy in partnership with the Park & Recreation Department's Graffiti Abatement Program and its new Palette Program, which supports community-led public art projects citywide.

fortworthtexas.gov/departments/parks/services/gap-palette-program



► The City marked a major milestone in the first phase of the **Fort Worth Convention Center**'s expansion, part of a larger economic development strategy to attract meetings from across the state and nation. The \$95 million Phase 1 includes a grand southeast entrance and terrace, food and beverage facilities, retail coffee bar, 11 new loading docks and realignment of Commerce Street.

fortworth.com/convention-center

WORTH GOING



► Be part of the **March Madness** women's basketball tournament in Fort Worth. This is the fourth year of an updated format where viewers can watch eight teams battle it out in the Sweet Sixteen and Elite Eight rounds and witness two teams advance to the 2026 Women's Final Four. The action takes place March 27-30 at Dickies Arena.

fortworth.com/ncaa-womens-basketball-regional/



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