Sign up today for Cowtown Great American Cleanup

Keep Fort Worth Beautiful is hosting its 39th annual Cowtown Great American Cleanup on Saturday, March 23.

The Cowtown Great American Cleanup is the organization's largest annual litter cleanup and beautification event. In 2023, Cowtown Cleanup volunteers removed more than 170,000 pounds of trash from the city.

Registration opens Feb. 1. The first 5,000 volunteers to register will receive a free T-shirt and litter cleanup supplies.

Join the Earth Party after the cleanup in Trinity Park. Volunteers will be treated to food, live music and entertainment, animal adoptions, vendor promotions and the popular Trashion Fashion Show.

FortWorthTexas.gov/cowtowncleanup



Fort Worth creates inaugural veterans affairs position

In a groundbreaking move to bolster support for the City of Fort Worth's military community, the City has created its first-ever veterans affairs coordinator position. This newly established position marks a significant stride towards prioritizing the needs of veterans, active-duty service members and their families.

This innovative role is designed to streamline services and resources for veterans, ensuring they have access to the support they need to thrive. From navigating healthcare options to employment assistance and educational opportunities, the veterans affairs coordinator will serve as a dedicated advocate for the wellbeing and success of Fort Worth's military members.



The newly created position will collaborate with local organizations, government agencies and veteran service providers to enhance the City's capacity to address the diverse needs of its military population. This strategic approach aims to create a seamless network of support for veterans and their families.

It's clear as mud: remove weeds now to retain moisture in spring flowerbeds

Preparing your plants and property for outdoor water use is a match made – well, outdoors!

Sure, it's wintertime, but bundle up and start pulling weeds now. Weeds and other invasive plant species that may have crept into your beds in fall can literally suck the water and minerals right out from under your plants. Remove them now to help retain moisture in your flowerbeds and avoid the spring pull.

With cold nights now, it may be difficult to imagine warm-weather plants going in the ground. Like all successful projects, early planning is the key to getting the most out of your 2024 flowerbeds. Early bed preparation minimizes water waste by establishing an environment that conserves moisture and optimizes its use through flower placement and irrigation upgrades.

Join Fort Worth Water Conservation from 6-8 p.m. **Thursday, Feb. 8**, for Digging In: Soils, Site and Bed Preparation, and from 6-8 p.m. **Thursday, March 14**, for Spring into Gardening: Tips to Get Growing. Both events will be at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens, 1700 University Drive.



For free tickets, visit the Classes section at SaveFortWorthWater.org.

WORTH KNOWING



A clean city promotes quality of life, economic development and safe neighborhoods.

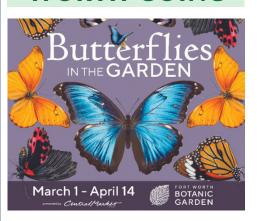
Last year's City budget focused on litter control and street sweeping to advance the overarching goal of a clean, safe city. The City exceeded its goal of 11.5 million total pounds of litter and debris collected by collecting 19.9 million pounds. Additional program accomplishments:

- Cleaning up 7,842 illegal dumpsites and 742 illegal campsites.
- Increasing contracted litter abatement crews from two to 10 through UpSpire.
- Implementing a weekly, quadrant-based plan to maximize impacts.
- Installing a litter control device to demonstrate aquatic litter control tools in Lake Como.
- Enacting a new abandoned shopping cart ordinance, effective last July.

Report litter by calling the City Call Center at 817-392-1234 or using the MyFW app.

City Council authorized Child Care Associates to serve as the City's representative to develop a **childcare facility** at 8201 Calmont Ave., adjacent to the Rise Community Center in the Las Vegas Trail neighborhood. The facility will be known as Child Care Studio at LVT. The agreement permits Child Care Associates to erect a modular building on leased property for the new facility.

WORTH GOING



The much-anticipated **Butterflies in the Garden** exhibit returns to the beautiful
Rainforest Conservatory at Fort Worth
Botanic Garden, March 1-April 14, presented
by Central Market. Marvel at fluttering
butterflies and learn about the amazing life
cycle of these important pollinators while
capturing the perfect selfie. Take the whole
family along for a one-of-a-kind experience
at the largest exhibit of live exotic and native
butterflies in North Central Texas.

§ fwbg.org

Did you enjoy this newsletter? Sign up for daily email updates: FortWorthTexas.gov/subscribe

CityTimes February24.indd 1 11:01 AM