

AROUND TOWN

City Issues Mandatory Water Restrictions

On August 15, Mayor Annise Parker implemented the City of Houston's "Stage Two" water conservation plan, making the previous voluntary water restrictions mandatory for all residents.

Under the Stage Two plan, Houston residents are required to repair all detectable leaks within 72 hours of discovery and limit outdoor watering to two days a week.

Residents at even-numbered street addresses can water their lawns on Sundays and Thursdays, between the hours of 8 p.m. and 10 a.m. Residents with odd-numbered addresses can water on Saturdays and Wednesdays, between the hours of 8 p.m. and 10 a.m.



Residents are also encouraged to take other water-conservation measures when possible

Ways to Conserve Water:

- Keep showers under five minutes
- Turn water off while brushing your teeth
- Wash only full loads of dishes or clothes
- Replace older model showerheads and faucet aerators with new low-flow models and install low water use toilets
- Inspect toilets for silent leaks by putting food coloring in the toilet tank. If colored water leaks into the toilet bowl before flushing, water is being lost due to a worn flapper
- Refrain from washing any vehicle or motor-bike unless the dirt poses a driving hazard
- Refrain from washing down any sidewalk, walkway, driveway, parking lot or any other hard-surfaced area
- Refrain from filling, refilling or adding water to any indoor or outdoor swimming pool, spa or whirlpool.

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NMCA Officers & Board Members

- Lloyd Matzner—President
- Bryan Frazier—Vice President
- Sarah Louderduck—Secretary
- Scott Howard—Treasurer
- Susan Allen—Board Member
- Lance Jones—Board Member
- Kathy Nicholas—Board Member
- Allen Ueckert—Board Member
- Ray Wilson—Board Member

Tree Watering Tips

As drought conditions continue in Houston the [Texas Forest Service](#), [Texas Urban Forestry Council](#) and the [Texas Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture](#) have some Tree Watering Tips to help your trees survive

the drought. ([Tree Watering Tips pdf file](#))



**City Issues
Temporary ban
on all
barbeque pits
in parks**

The Metropolitan Service Center — much more than a polling place

Community Spotlight: The Metropolitan Service Center

The Metropolitan Multi-Service Center located at 1475 West Gray is operated by the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. The facility houses the



H.P.A.R.D.'s Adaptive Recreation Section. Created in 2006 it provides a variety of recreational, sporting and quality of life programming for people with disabilities. Opportunities include structured classes, a fitness room, a full court gym, an indoor heated pool for use by people with disabilities, a beep baseball field, a tennis court, a quarter-mile outdoor trail, and an urban garden.

The newest addition to the MMSC's facilities is the Vale-Asche Foundation Playground Without Limits. It opened on April 16, 2011 with a day long "Festival of Abilities"



Do you work with an organization that offers sports, recreation and wellness activities for people with physical disabilities? Are you're a recreational teacher, coach or health professional or an individual interested in meeting and sharing information regarding adaptive sports and recreation? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please call 713-284-1973.



City Hall Farmers Market Returns

Circle Wednesday's on your calendar as the day to shop and lunch at the Downtown Farmer's Market. Located by the City Hall Reflecting Pool, the market is open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Wednesday.

It's featuring six new vendors for fall, including Cajun Cuisine from The French Fig, vegan food truck Green Seed, Tennessee-style pulled pork barbecue sandwiches from Porkside BBQ & Grill,

empanadas from Lucia's, citrus from Sturdivant Farms and variety of lunch items from It's A Wrap food truck plus 30 other vendors.

Neartown/Montrose: The Most Walkable Neighborhood

The blog **Walkscore.com** rates the Neartown-Montrose area as the most walkable in the city. Our neighborhood received an 82 score and stands atop of the list of the most walkable neighborhoods that include the Greenway/Upper Kirby Area, Midtown and Downtown. Nationally, the most walkable cities are New York, San Francisco, Boston and Chicago .

What make a walkable neighborhood?

- ◆ **A center:** Walkable neighborhoods have a center, whether it's main street or a public space.
- ◆ **People:** Enough people for businesses to flourish and for public transit to run frequently
- ◆ **Mixed income, mixed use:** Affordable housing located near businesses.
- ◆ **Parks and public space:** Plenty of public places to gather and play.
- ◆ **Pedestrian design:** Buildings are close to the street, parking lots are relegated to the back.

Walkscore's mission is to promote walkable neighborhoods. A walkable neighborhood is one of the simplest and best solutions for the environment, our health and our economy. The Walk Score Advisory Board includes urban planning, environment and technical experts from such institutions as the Sightline Institute and The Brookings Institute.

Electrical Vehicle charging stations at the Montrose Whole Foods

Electric Cars in Houston—250 Charging Stations by 2013

The city of Houston and its electric partners has launched an comprehensive city-wide electric vehicle program. "This innovative technology is party of our alternative transportation future" said Mayor Anise Parker at last week's kickoff event. Use of electric vehicles will help the city save money by reducing fuel costs while also reducing in-city tail pipe emissions.

The city recently purchased two Nissan Leafs. They are the first two all electric vehicles

in the city's fleet. Another 23 vehicles will be purchased by the end of the year .

NRG EV services (eVgo) the city, and ECOtality will be installing 28 charging stations at city parks and libraries. GRIDbot will handle the installation of an additional 28 more municipal charging stations in parking garages underneath Tranquility Park for the charging of city vehicles.

Other charging stations will be available at some area grocery stores. The Whole Foods at Waugh and West Dallas has two charging stations. The HEB currently under construction at West Alabama and Dunlavy.



The North Montrose Civic Association was formed over 25 years ago to promote civic affairs in the neighborhood. NMCA is a non-profit organization that depends on voluntary membership and participation. Our borders are north/south between Allen Parkway and W. Gray/Peden and east/west between Shepherd and Taft.

NMCA
On the web at
Northmontrose.
com

Reminder

1. *Renew NMCA Membership*
2. *Sept 14 meeting*
3. *National Night Out October 4*

North Montrose is now in the City Council District C

In August the Department of Justice has approved the city council redistricting plan for Houston. The plan creates Two more City Council districts, and redraws of single member districts to reflect Houston's

population growth as reported in the 2010 US Census. The North Montrose Voting precinct will now be in District C. The district boundaries include Montrose, Midtown and most of the Heights.