

DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

DeSoto Parks & Recreation Provides Free Wi-Fi In All City Parks

Summer is here, which means it's time to get out and discover the great things happening at your local parks. DeSoto Parks & Recreation Department is excited to announce that free public Wi-Fi access is available in all City parks.

Wi-Fi is no longer considered an amenity, and has been identified by the National Recreation and Park Association as a public utility. Access to the internet, so that we can be tethered to our smart phones, is a basic expectation.

"DeSoto Parks & Recreation is dedicated to NRPA's commitment to create healthy, sustainable and equitable communities," said M. Renee Johnson, Managing Director of DeSoto's Parks & Recreation Department. "We're excited about our partnership with Spectrum, which provided the infrastructure allowing us to promote digital literacy through access to Wi-Fi in DeSoto Parks." Spectrum customers can utilize unlimited free usage of Wi-Fi access in our parks on their smart devices with their Spectrum login information. Guests who are not with Spectrum can utilize up to 30-minutes of complimentary W-Fi access.

"Providing free Wi-Fi to everyone at DeSoto Parks is a key factor in promoting the City Council's Goal to Enhance the Quality of Life in DeSoto," said Mayor Curtistene McCowan. "Having internet access will enable residents to stay better connected to family and friends, share park experiences and read e-books while enjoying open green spaces. The social and educational opportunities are endless!"

"It is the City Council's continued commitment to ensure residents and visitors are provided dynamic recreational and educational opportunities in public parks spaces," said Mayor McCowan.



The Nationally Accredited and award-winning DeSoto Parks and Recreation Department's mission is to enrich the quality of life in DeSoto, provide world class customer service, premier parks and dynamic recreational experiences.

The National Recreation and Park Association is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that all Americans have access to parks and recreation for health, conservation and social equity. Through its network of 60,000 recreation and park professionals and advocates, NRPA encourages the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles, conservation initiatives and equitable access to parks and public space. For more information, visit www.nrpa.org.

City Calendar

July

2 Arts Commission Mtg. Civic Ctr. 6 pm
2 Park Board Mtg. Civic Ctr. 6 pm
3 City Council Mtg. canceled for holiday
4 City Facilities Closed for July 4th Holiday
5 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
5 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
5 Historical Foundation Mtg.- 6 pm
10 Planning & Zoning Mtg.
17 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
23 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am
24 Planning & Zoning Mtg.—City Hall 7 pm
27 BIFF Band Concert Amphitheater 8 pm
27 & 28 City Council Budget Meetings

August

2 Historical Foundation Mtg. - 6 pm
2 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
2 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
6 Park Board Mtg.—Civic Ctr. 6:30 pm
7 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
7 National Night Out - 7 to 9 pm
13 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6pm
14 Planning & Zoning Mtg. -City Hall -7 pm
16 Civic Academy Begins -City Hall 5:45 pm
21 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
22 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
24 Rob Holbert Concert Amphitheater
8:30pm
27 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am



DeSoto's Civic Academy for Adults and students aged 16 and over begins a new class on August 16, 2018. The sessions are FREE and include all supplies and dinner for participants. The sessions will be held on eleven consecutive Thursday evenings from 5:45 pm to 8:30 pm beginning August 16, 2018. To attend or for more information, please contact Nelda Bond at 972.230.9643

A Message From Code Enforcement

City ordinance requires that all vehicles must be parked on improved surfaces. No vehicle should be parked in the front or side yard of a residence at any time, except on a driveway or on an improved surface such as reinforced concrete.



Additionally, parking in the alley is prohibited at all times so as to not interfere with the free and uninterrupted movement of traffic.

City ordinance also requires that property be maintained free of any junk motor vehicles. A junk motor vehicle is any vehicle that is inoperative and remains inoperative for more than 45 days or is inoperative and does not have a current registration sticker or inspection sticker. A junk motor vehicle is also any vehicle which is wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled or discarded. These vehicles may not be visible anywhere in the public view, public right-of-way, street or any other private property.

If you would like to report a code violation, please call the Code Enforcement office at 469.658.3075.



This year's National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 2018 from 7 to 9 pm. Crime watch groups, homeowners associations and neighborhood groups are encouraged to come outside their homes that

evening and join together for a show of community support. Make plans now for your neighborhood block party or event on National Night Out. To schedule a police or city official visit or for more information, call Officer Jessica Ryan, at 469.658.3055. You can also register your block party with the national organization at <https://natw.org/registration>.

August in Texas can be steamy to say the least. Some cities in Texas have elected to celebrate National Night Out on the first Tuesday in October when the weather is much cooler. If that sounds good to you, the DeSoto Police agree and will host a special crime prevention event for the whole community on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 from 7 to 9 pm at the DeSoto Civic Center. Watch this newsletter for more information on that event.



GROW DESOTO BUSINESS INCUBATOR

Opening Soon

The incubator will contain a variety of restaurants, retail spaces, including Kay Bee Bakery, Alina's Tex Mex, Peace.Love. & Eatz Smoothie Bar, Sheer Elegance Boutique, Bold Prints, Shu Esq Shoe Bar, Nikki StyleCo.com, Eclectics, Albra Dewyn, Delightful Sweets, and more. Watch this newsletter for information on the grand opening in early fall.



KOHLER FAUCETS

Completed in May 2018

The new DeSoto facility is the largest Kohler manufacturing/distribution center in the company's portfolio at 1.3 million square feet and represents a \$65M capital investment with 200+ new jobs.



HOME2SUITES BY HILTON

Opened in April 2018

Home2Suites is a 4-Story hotel with 7,500 SF of conference meeting and banquet space. It represents a \$9M capital investment with 23+ jobs.



GLō BY BEST WESTERN

Opening Summer 2018

This boutique hotel by Best Western represents a \$6.7M capital investment. It will have 75 rooms, 1,000 square feet of meeting space, a fitness center, a relaxing spa area, and an inviting communal space for work and play. This project will add 29+ new jobs.



LABEL CRAFT

Renovation to be Completed August 2018

Canadian label manufacturer, Label Craft, purchased this 39,000 square foot facility for renovation making a \$2.4M capital investment in DeSoto which will bring 25+ new jobs.



GLOBAL PRIME

Groundbreaking - August 2018

Global Prime is a 50,000 square foot, 102-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility that will be located off of Hampton Road. It represents a \$10M capital investment and will add 70+ new jobs.

Are You Interested In Applying For An Arts Grant

If you have enjoyed a live concert at the DeSoto Corner Theatre, a performance by Texas Winds Musical Outreach at a local senior facility, or one of the Juried Visual Arts Shows sponsored by the DeSoto Art League on display in the DeSoto Library, you have enjoyed programs funded by DeSoto's Cultural Arts Grants Program. These are just a few of the arts and entertainment opportunities made available to DeSoto residents by this program.

Applications for funding of projects scheduled to take place in 2019 are accepted from August 1st through September 28th. Qualifying nonprofit arts organizations can request funding for their projects by completing the application form available at www.artsdesoto.com or by calling the DeSoto Arts Commission staff liaison at 972.230.9648 to request an application.

The DeSoto Arts Commission will host an information session on Monday, August 13, 2018 at 7 pm in Pecan Room I in the DeSoto Civic Center to provide information on the City's arts grant funding process for arts projects taking place 2019. Please call 972.230.9648 to RSVP to attend this meeting.

FREE EVENT

CITY OF DESOTO
DESOTO TOWN CENTER



2018 DESOTO
ARTS LIVE!

FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
DESOTO, TX | NOON - 10P



performance by:
RUBEN STUDDARD

- CRAFT VENDORS
- LIVE MUSIC
- FOOD TRUCKS
- KIDS ZONE
- ART VENDORS
- ART DEMOS

featuring **THE DAZZ BAND**
hit song, "Let It Whip"

Sponsored by:
 DeSoto Parks & Recreation

DeSotoArtsLive.com Call 972.230.9648 for more info.



Rob Holbert Group
August 24th 8:30 pm

DeSoto Arts Commission's Fourth Friday Concert series moves outdoors to the Amphitheatre behind the DeSoto Public Library located in DeSoto Town Center at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road for the summer. Grab your lawn chairs and join us at the Amphitheater on August 24, 2018 at 8:30 pm for a free concert featuring the smooth jazz and R&B sounds of the Rob Holbert Group. Concessions are available for purchase. For more information, please call 972.230.9648.

DeSoto's **GOT** 2018
★ TALENT

Talent Tournament
Sat. August 18, 2018 5 to 9 pm
Battle of the Finalists Showcase
Sun. August 19, 2018 1 to 6 pm
At DeSoto Corner Theatre

Come see DeSoto's most talented performers compete for a \$1,000 cash prize. DeSoto's Got Talent is presented by Stand 4 Sisterhood and made possible by a DeSoto Cultural Arts Grant. Call 469.730.3621 for information.