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August 2023

News Summary

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

OFFICE PHONE
210-497-3022

EMAIL
CONTACT@ENCINOPARKHOA.COM

ADDRESS
1923 ENCINO RIO
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78259

**SPECTRUM ASSOCIATION
MANAGEMENT**
210-494-0659

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY 9 AM-2 PM
WEDNESDAY 12 PM-6 PM
FRIDAY 9 AM-2 PM

THE MANAGER WORKS REMOTELY
ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS.
IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE,
PLEASE CALL 210-497-3022 AND
LEAVE A VOICEMAIL OR EMAIL
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Message from the Board

By Peggy Wardlaw



Hello Neighbors,

Encino Park Needs YOU! This is your homeowner's association. The Encino Park Board of Directors (BOD) makes decisions for the neighborhood. Board members decide on budgets, contracts, rules for the pool and amenities, improvements, and member requests as well as other issues. We are your elected representatives.

If you disagree with decisions made by the Board, or you are just interested in serving your community, please submit your name to be voted on to serve on the Board. New members are elected to our Board of Directors every year in October. If you are interested in serving on our BOD, please fill out a bio and email to contact@encinoparkhoa.com or drop off at the Encino Park onsite office. The office is open Monday and Fridays, 9 AM- 2 PM and Wednesdays 12-6 PM. A bio is located in this newsletter. Bios need to be submitted by August 15th to appear in the September newsletter and by August 28th to appear on the **official Proxy form to be mailed Sept 7th, 2023. Then please VOTE.** You will receive your form in the mail with instructions on how to vote.

It has been so hot this summer and we are lucky to have such a wonderful pool to cool off in. We hope everyone has enjoyed the renovated pool house and restrooms as well as the upgraded playground equipment. The tennis courts have also been resurfaced and Pickle ball court lines added. Thank you to everyone who paid their HOA dues and allowed us to accomplish these additions. The pool is open daily from 1-9 PM through Labor Day and will close at 9PM on Monday September 5th.

Come celebrate Labor Day and the end of the pool season on Monday, September 5 at the pool! Bring your own beverages, food and enjoy the neighbors before we roll into Fall. Treats and other fun items will be provided during the afternoon.

(form on page 3)



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: RANDY SMITH
VICE PRESIDENT: JASON WILLIAMSON
SECRETARY: DOUG BOCK
TREASURER: CINDY CRAFT
PARLIAMENTARIAN: CARA JACOBSEN
MEMBER AT LARGE: PEGGY WARDLAW
MEMBER AT LARGE: JAMES SANDOVAL
MEMBER AT LARGE: CHRIS ARCHER
MEMBER AT LARGE: ASHLEY BRYANT

COMMITTEE & CLUB CHAIRPERSONS

Architectural Control..... 210-497-3022
Block Captain - Gail Lamb/Daphne Sohocki 210-901-9936
Crime & Safety Committee - Dyan Montesclaros ..210-481-7890
EP Involvement Committee - Sunny Brown 210-497-3022
Over 50 Club - Dalia Benzick..... 210-497-3022
Park Committee - Peggy Wardlaw210-386-6601
Pet Finder - Cindy Haines.....210-573-1085
Pool Committee - Cara Jacobsen 210-497-3022
Swim Team - John Kirschbaum..... 210-497-3022
Women’s Club - Nancy Thomas..... 210-497-3022

**TO VOLUNTEER FOR A COMMITTEE,
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.**

ENCINO PARK SWIMMING POOL - 210-497-4333

OFFICIAL WEBSITE: SPECTRUMAM.COM

INFORMATIONAL: ENCINOPARKHOA.COM

Non-Emergency Numbers

**Constable Precinct 3: 210-335-4750
SAPD: 210-207-7273 311: (512) 974-2000**

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AN EPIC EVENT

ENCINO PARK INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Playdate at the Park

Calling all families with kiddos! Great way to meet your EP neighbors and get some fresh air!!
Donuts and coffee provided.



Every 2nd Saturday from 10:00 – 11:30 Starting March 11

Coming this Fall:

We are planning some fun events for the Fall!

Back by popular demand will be the
3rd Annual Chili Cook-off
with a Fall festival flair

Monday, October 23, 2023

More details to come!

Join Us!



Get involved and join EPIC by helping plan and volunteer for fun events for Encino Park! Watch your email or the EP Facebook page for announcements of events. Contact **Sunny Brown** at gsbrown@swbell.net if you would like to help.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL
NIGHT AT THE POOL!**

The EPIC team is excited to invite all of our neighborhood kids going into 6th, 7th and 8th grades to the pool on

**Thursday, August 10
7pm-9pm**

We will have pizza and other goodies for the kids. Stay tuned for more information on the marquis and the Encino Park Facebook page.



OVER 50 CLUB

Submitted by Dalia Benzick

Summer is in full force and so is our Over 50 group. We are loyal members who come faithfully twice a month to socialize with neighbors, have lunch and play games as our brains need stimulation and meeting new friends bring joy to our lives. Stay out of the heat and join us the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 11:30 till 2:00 p.m. in our very cool Community Center. For more information, call the office at 210-497-3022.

WE'RE GLAD YOU ASKED!



Q: I heard the pool is closing early this year? Is this true and why?

A: Dear Homeowner,

Yes, it is true. We found out in June that we had a leak and the company that will fix it needs a minimum of 5-7 days to fix what they think is the issue. I am sure all of us have had some car issue or leak in their house and when the mechanic or contractor opens it up, they find more issues than they were anticipating.

At first the board wanted to address the leak as soon as the contractors were able to come out, but that was the first part of July and we were concerned that 5-7 days would turn into 2-3 weeks or longer. We were going to close the pool once our children went back to school, but then we would not be able to enjoy the pool for Labor Day. So, to keep as many residents as possible happy, we decided to make Labor Day the last day of the 2023 Encino Park pool season.

Thank you for your question.

John Travis / architect

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cell: (210)683-3834

jtravis2@satx.rr.com

Encino Park HOA Board Member Candidate Profile

We appreciate your interest in serving your community. Please fill out this form if you are interested in running for the Board of Directors. Individuals must be able to commit to a full term and give 5-10 volunteer service hours each month.

(please print legibly)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email: _____

Please provide a short paragraph of information about yourself and why you feel you would be a benefit to the community by serving on the Board of Directors (previous experience, what you would like to do for the association, etc.)

Remember, volunteering to be a board member requires 5-10 hours of volunteer time per month for a full term. Only submit this form if you can meet this time commitment. Your name will be listed on both the absentee voting ballot (mailed with the Annual Meeting notice), as well as the voting ballot to be handed out at the Annual Meeting.

Acknowledgement: My signature below acknowledges that I wish to volunteer and become a candidate for election to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting scheduled for **10/12/2023**.

Signature

Date

This form is due back to the Encino Park HOA office by 5pm on **Monday, August 28, 2023**. Please email form to contact@encinoparkhoa.com.



A 4TH OF JULY THANK YOU!

Summer wouldn't be complete without our annual Independence Day Celebration! Thank you to everyone who attended and helped with the event on Saturday, July 1. We had roughly 200 neighbors enjoying the pool and festivities all afternoon.

We had a great group of volunteers to make our party a success:

Sunny and Gordy - Sunny, your organization skills are bar none. Gordy, the parade would not have been a success if you weren't in charge. And thank you so much for MC'ing all day – it kept the flow of each event.

Geoff, Holly and Kelsey for cooking and wrapping all of those hot dogs. Plus all of the help with the decorations on Fri morning!

Ashley and Sandy for being present and helping out wherever needed.

Crystal and Theresa for bringing more ice!

The Swim Team for all of the extra food donations! The sodas were a hit and the blow pops were awesome prizes.

Mandy and Mason for helping set up the food, provide that fantastic fan and serve - not to mention the delicious grapes that were devoured. And for putting out all of the flags on Fri!

Gayle and Tim for bringing extra games, decorations, putting out flags and always jumping in when you could see I needed help.

Francheska and JC for putting out the USA flags Friday morning.

Jenn for letting us use her pool key for early access!

Noelle, Jessica, Cat and the entire EP lifeguard team for all of the guidance, extra attention and staffing throughout the planning and day of.

Ian and the Boy Scouts for the beautiful flag raising ceremony and pledge of allegiance.

Scott, Parker and Madison for all of the pre-work, dealing with my crazy and helping with setup and teardown of the USA flags.

We always love feedback or recommendations for 2024. If you have ideas on different games, timelines, food or just want to be part of the team to make the event happen, please reach out to cara.jacobsen68@gmail.com.



ENCINO PARK WOMENS' CLUB

By Donna Morton

The Women's Club will begin their new year on **Monday, August 14 @ 7pm**. (Our year is August '23-May '24.) All women are cordially invited to be an active member of the Encino Park Women's Club, and to take part in all of the activities including fund raising support of the EP Community. Membership dues is \$30 for the year. Former members bring a new member to our first of the year meeting, and each can join for \$15!! New member's dues will be \$15 (if you have never been a member). It is a Bargain to come and join @ our first Monday meeting!!

BUNCO!!!



Monday, August 14 @ 7pm – The FUN begins with a light supper and

BUNCO!! \$5.00 to play and gain a chance to be a BIG WINNER!!! No worries if you have never played before... Everyone will have a partner who can coach you along the way. (It is a very simple yet fun game, that gives you a chance to move around the room to meet your neighbors as the play proceeds). This is one of our most popular evening events, so come be a part of the fun!!! Join, enjoy the fun and friendship; be a part of the Encino Park Women's Club and put your support into keeping our Community "Amazing"!

Out to Lunch



I hope everyone is having a nice summer. Even though the weather doesn't reflect it, summer will soon be winding down and "school-year" schedules will be back in place. After taking July off, we will gather together again this month for lunch. Join us for brunch or lunch, whatever is your pleasure to order, at Magnolia Pancake Haus on **Friday the 25th at 11:30**. If you're not aware, Magnolia has moved from their long-time location in Embassy Oaks Shopping Center off of Bitters and West, to our "back yard"- Gold Canyon and 1604, in front of Academy Sports. Known for their famous breakfasts, they also have an array of delicious lunch items from salads to burgers. Call Janet at 210-481-9956 by Wednesday the 23rd if you plan to attend, or if you have questions about this group.

In June, eight of us ladies had a great time dining at Aldino's in the Vineyard. This well known and always wonderful establishment did not disappoint us at all. The food was scrumptious and our service was divine. We had a great time visiting with each other and discussing our summer plans and activities. Thank you to Dalia Benzick for selecting this restaurant and making the arrangements for us.



ENCINO PARK'S BLOCK CAPTAIN PROGRAM

Informational Meeting August 27, 2023 2pm via Zoom for Block Captains, Neighborhood Ambassadors and ALL EPHOA Residents Who Want to Attend!

The Encino Park Block Captains Committee will be holding our annual Informational Meeting at 2pm on the last Sunday in August. This "virtual" get-together is for ALL Encino Park neighbors interested in learning more about the Encino Park Block Captains program, and about our plans for the annual October national night out neighborhood event called San Antonio Neighbors Together (SANT) which is the first Tuesday in October.

San Antonio Neighbors Together is a community outreach initiative intended to bring neighborhoods together, foster a police-community relationship, and to organize and unite neighborhoods against crime. It has been proven that in communities where neighbors know each other, there are lower crime rates!

We will share event ideas, informational resources, and discuss supplies available to our EP Block Captains and Neighborhood Ambassadors for this year's annual SANT event. Ideas for the types of activities you can choose for that day which can range from as little as asking your neighbors to turn on their porch lights at 7:00pm, handing out the EP Goodie Bags we put together, to having an outside block party potluck!

All Encino Park neighbors are welcome to attend our virtual Information Meeting. Please join us even if it is just to hear the information available and to spend time with some of your EP neighbors! Just by spending a little time hanging out and getting to know your neighbors contributes to helping make Encino Park a strong and safe community!

PLEASE RSVP to receive the ZOOM link for the virtual meeting at this link <https://bit.ly/3nUbqH8> or scan this code:



Block Captain Calendar of Events

NOW – Help recruit Sponsors to Donate to our **Goodie Bag**. (See other article.)

8/27/23 - 2pm - 3pm – **Annual Encino Park Informational Zoom Meeting**. ALL Encino Park Residents Welcome! RSVP <https://forms.gle/Dmdqyqq93M1EWoMJ6>.

9/20/23 – **Goodie Bag Donations Due** from Sponsors

9/27/23 1pm-4pm – **Goodie Bag Stuffing Day**. Volunteers needed!

9/27/23 - **Goodie Bag Pick Up from EPHOA** - 4pm-6pm. Volunteers needed!

10/3/23 – **SAN ANTONIO NEIGHBORS TOGETHER** (National Night Out)!



WANT TO INTRODUCE YOUR BUSINESS TO OUR RESIDENTS?

The Encino Park Block Captains Committee collects items donated from local businesses to include in our Encino Park San Antonio Neighbors Together "Goodie Bags" that will be handed out to over 500 residents on October 3rd during the Block Parties happening in Encino Park on that day. Currently we have 58 of the 71 blocks in Encino Park with a Block Captain! We are a very active and strong community.



Items we are requesting can have your business name and contact information on the item, however the donated items must be "usable" items. Examples:

- First Aid Kits or Products
- Flashlights or Other Safety Reflective and Outdoor
- Products
- Coupons for FREE usable items or food
- Small Home Products or Sample Items
- Small Office Products or Sample Items
- Food/Snacks with clearly marked ingredient labels (to send home in the goodie bags)
- Small Electronic Gizmos
- Fidget Toys

We will need your donation dropped off to the EPHOA office no later than September 20th. Leftover bags will be handed out to new residents of the Encino Park HOA, as well as to the other residents throughout the month of October!

If interested or have questions you can email you can reach out to Daphne Sohocki & Gail Lamb at 210-901-9936 or by email to EPBlockCaptains@gmail.com, OR you can complete our Sponsorship Form Questionnaire at this link <https://bit.ly/3AV0pNx> or scan this code:



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ELITE SERVICE

CALLING ALL VENDORS!!

We are currently in the process of accepting applications for vendors who want to have a day of great sales at this annual Encino Park event.

There will be vendors selling all types of items, local school performances and food available.

This year we are trying something different this year and will only be holding the event for one day—Saturday, October 7th.

Enclosed in the newsletter you will find the vendor application and general information. If you have further questions, please contact one of the co-chairs, **Elice Palmer or Cindy Craft at epmarketdays@gmail.com**.

The monies made from our fun Market Days are used to support the Encino Park neighborhood and to fund our annual Scholarship prize. We look forward to successful Fall shopping at our amazingly fun Market Days!



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ENCINO PARK MARKET DAYS

October 7, 2023

9am to 6pm

**Encino Park Community Center
 1923 Encino Rio**



Admission and Parking is always free!

Come out and shop the dozens of local vendors selling a wide variety of wares including jewelry, home décor, seasonal items, food, clothing, crafts and so much more!

Vendor space is still available! For additional information e-mail: epmarketdays@gmail.com

Sponsored by the Encino Park Women's Club to benefit the EP Community and the EP Scholarship program!

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Market Days and General Information

1. There are two inside areas: The Bay Area (9'x9' booth space) and the Banquet Area (4'x6' booth space with 6' table & 1 chair provided).
2. Outside booth spaces are approximately 10'x10' and are located either on concrete or grass. Vendors must provide their own protection from the elements. A canopy is recommended.
3. Display backdrop (provided by exhibitor) **not to exceed 6' in height**. No display backdrops may be used at indoor table spaces.
4. One vendor per booth only, with **no subletting, sharing or re-leasing** of the booth space.
5. All vendors are expected to **operate for the full duration of the Market Days event**.
6. The staff will assign vendor locations. Returning vendors may request specific locations, and every effort will be made to honor requests, but cannot be guaranteed.
7. Pictures of crafts or items to be sold must be provided with the application form. EPWC reserves the right to make the final decision regarding acceptance. We ask that all art/ merchandise be in good taste and that you DO NOT display nudes, profanity, obscenity or objectionable materials. The EPWC reserves the right to ask any vendor to remove a specific item or entire booth for failure to comply with these guidelines and no refunds will be given.
8. For Vendors who are interested in selling home-made food items, this website should answer all your questions: <http://www.texascottagefoodlaw.com>. Be advised that we are not responsible, nor do we have any knowledge about the lawful manner to do this. We simply provide you with a rental space for the weekend.
9. Your reservation is not final until payment has been received. **There is a \$25 returned check fee that must be paid before the event** if your check is returned by your bank to us.
10. In September, you will receive a confirmation email which will include your booth location, additional event information and flyers. Please help us help you by copying/emailing the flyers and passing them out and/or displaying them at other shows.
11. Market Days @ Encino Park is advertised in many ways: ad in the SA Express News, banners on highly trafficked streets, neighborhood newsletters, flyers, Facebook, many craft fair websites and on our HOA web page.
12. Set up for inside vendors will begin Friday night from 6-8pm. Doors will close promptly at 8pm and re-open on Saturday morning at 7:00am. **NO EPWC ORGANIZERS WILL BE ON THE PREMISES UNTIL 6PM FRIDAY.** It is imperative that once you have unloaded, you move your vehicle so that other vendors can unload.
13. There is no security provided on Friday night. Any vendor setting up on Friday does so at their own risk.
14. **DO NOT PARK YOUR VEHICLE AROUND THE PARK / COMMUNITY CENTER DURING SHOW HOURS.** Encino Rio Street Parking should be available for your customers! Vendor parking is at the pool parking lot or side streets (Creek Country or Creek Hill).
15. All vendors participating in our show **MUST** upon checking in donate an item from your product line for our EPWC Holiday Silent Auction. All monies raised are donated to a local charity.
16. Each vendor is responsible for removing from their booth and any trash/garbage.
17. Alcoholic beverages of any kind are not allowed. Food and drinks will be sold. A vendor may bring in food/drink for personal consumption. Smoking is not permitted.
18. **Add \$25.00 for any applications postmarked after September 6th. All payments made after September 6th must be in guaranteed funds (cashier's check or money order). Entry fee will not be refunded after September 6, 2023.**
19. **Should COVID-19 Guidelines prevent gatherings of large groups or have restrictions that impact Market Days full refunds will be given. MARKET DAYS @ ENCINO PARK WILL TAKE PLACE RAIN OR SHINE. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Market Days @ Encino Park is one of the premier events of our EPWC that is enjoyed by so many on the first weekend in October. We look forward to another successful show. See you in October!

For further information or if you have any questions, please contact: Cindy Craft @ epmarketdays@gmail.com or by cell @ 210-850-7602.

MARKET DAYS @ ENCINO PARK APPLICATION, OCT. 7

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email: _____

List and describe your crafts THOROUGHLY AND ACCURATELY. Include a photograph(s) which is representative of your items(s) to be sold.

BOOTH FEES:

Banquet Area 4'x6' Indicate # of Spaces _____ x \$70.00 (6' table & 1 chairs incl.)

Bay Area 9'x9' Indicate # of Spaces _____ x \$70.00 (6' table & 1 chairs incl.)

Park Area 10'x10' Indicate # of Spaces _____ x \$70.00

Prem. Front Yard/Driveway 10'x10' Indicate # of Spaces _____ x \$75.00

Using a generator? YES or NO

Payment can also be made by PayPal @ EncinoParkWomensClub

An additional fee of \$5 must be included when paying via Paypal.

****NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 6TH, 20****

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER SEPT. 6, MUST INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL \$25 AND MUST BE IN GUARANTEED FUNDS (CASHIER'S CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.) APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED IF ADDITIONAL FEE IS NOT INCLUDED.

Please mail the SIGNED APPLICATION, PHOTOS, & CHECK/ MONEY ORDER made payable to:

ENCINO PARK WOMEN'S CLUB

c/o Cindy Craft, 1718 Encino Spring, SA, TX 78259 or 210-850-7602

RELEASE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I hereby make application to participate in the EPWC's Market Days @ Encino Park event to be held October 7, 2023 at the Encino Park Community Center. I have read and hereby agree to abide by the regulations and conditions set forth in the EPWC's 2023 General information sheet and this application.

I hereby release & forever discharge the EPWC & Encino Park Homeowners Assoc., its officers and members from any responsibility, personal liability, loss, claims or damage arising out of or in connection with this event.

Signature & Date: _____

Real Fruit Popsicles Recipe

Ingredients:

Choose your flavor

Banana Blueberry = 1 cup banana, 2.5 cups blueberries

Strawberry = 3.5 cups sliced strawberries

Banana Kale = 3 cups banana chunks, 1/2 cup fresh kale

Mango = 3.5 cups mango, diced

- 3.5 cups coconut water
- 2 tablespoons honey (optional)



Directions:

1. Place ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth
2. Pour into popsicle molds and freeze for 4 hours or overnight.
3. Put under hot water to release popsicles from mold
4. Simply adjust the amounts depending on the volume of popsicle molds you have on hand. Use equal parts of fruit (fresh or frozen) with coconut water– it's that easy. You can also choose to add a touch of honey if desired.



Dear Residents of Encino Park:

My name is Channary Gould and I am the Project Manager for the Stone Oak Area Regional Center. We are in the middle of the planning process for this Regional Center, and this work effort is to implement the City's adopted SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan. If you would like to learn more about the planning process for the Stone Oak Area Regional Center, please feel free to visit the project website at <https://stoneoak.sacompplan.com/>. Part of the planning process involves learning about priorities for each neighborhood so that I can ensure that the Vision, Goals, Recommendations and Strategies that we prepare for the Stone Oak Area Regional Center reflect what is important to residents and other stakeholders. I would love to hear from you about priorities for you and your neighborhood. If you could please spare a few minutes to answer questions through this online form, I'd greatly appreciate hearing from you. Thank you.

<https://forms.office.com/g/GLJXF3cEj2>

Regards-



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EP TEEN DIRECTORY



Name	Age	Contact	Services
Jake Belz	18	210-790-1484	Power Washing, Brush Hauling (2/23)
Wyatt Belz	16	210-309-5570	Power Washing, Brush Hauling (2/23)
Grace Bush	17	210-323-6708	Babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking, house sitting (5/22)
Faith Bush	13	210-323-6708	Babysitting & pet sitting (5/22)
Joseph Bush	16	210-323-6708	Lawn mowing & dog walking (6/23)
Emma Cline	17	210-912-9588	Pet sitting, dog walking and house sitting
Javier Garido	17	210-997-0771	Lawn mowing, Pet sitting, car wash, weed eating (3/23)
Erin Heilbrun	16	210-801-5288	Babysitting, Pet sitting, dog walking, house sitting (2/23)
Julia Hendrix	16	210-363-7642	Babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking (11/22)
Ryan Kruger	15	210-787-0015	Lawn maintenance (7/22)
Maggie Micklitz	17	210-410-2990	Babysitting, Pet sitting, house sitting (8/23)
Clayton Micklitz	15	210-410-2990	Babysitting, Pet sitting, house sitting, Lawn Mowing, Power Washing (8/23)
Vincent Prusinsky	18	210-722-5545	Lawn Mowing, trim hedges, weed eating, power washing services, Pet sitting, dog walking (12/22)
Ignacio Watkins	18	626-975-0676	Soccer coach, soccer trainer, fitness/cardio trainer (7/22)

Teen Service listings are free to all Encino Park residents under nineteen (19) years of age. Ads will run for one year, unless the advertiser calls and requests renewal. To add, remove, or edit your ad, call 210-558-3160 or email Brielle@neighborhoodnews.com. Please put "Encino Park Resident" in the subject line.



Dial 311 to Request City Service Assistance

Call City Customer Service at 311 to request assistance with city-related problems such as pothole repair, missing or damaged street signs, overgrown vegetation in city easements, stray animals, or abandoned cars. Customer service hours are 7 AM to 11 PM Monday through Sunday, including all holidays.

SUMMER WORD SEARCH

Look for the 15 words listed below.

craftskidslove.com

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2023 TAX-FREE HOLIDAYS

A sales tax holiday can save you a good chunk of money – if you know when it is and how it works. In 2023, August has an opportunity to save you back-to-school money in Texas, especially if you're looking for back-to-school deals. But there are tax-free holidays sprinkled throughout the year on other categories, including emergency- and weather-preparedness items, energy-saving appliances and hunting supplies.

What is a sales tax holiday?

A sales tax holiday is a period of time during which many states remove sales tax on certain types of items. Often, the tax-free benefits are limited to a single weekend, but sometimes there are much longer terms.

Sales tax holidays typically restrict eligible purchases by criteria such as product and price. For example, you might be able to purchase computer models that cost up to \$1,000 tax-free, but not ones that cost more.

Texas Tax-Free Holidays:

April 22-24 = Generators / \$3,000, Storm devices / \$300, and Preparedness items / \$75

May 27-29 = Energy Star products / No maximum, Air conditioners / \$6,000, and Other / \$2,000

August 11-13 = Clothing, backpacks, school supplies / \$100

How to save big with a sales tax holiday

Here are some tips for leveraging sales tax holidays to save money:

For back-to-school savings, reserve major purchases like laptops for the tax-free periods in late July or August. For weather-preparedness savings, try to time purchases with tax holidays sprinkled throughout the year.

Keep an eye on the price tags. Typically, only items priced below the limit qualify for the tax-free treatment. When back-to-school shopping for new outfits, for example, if the limit is \$100 on clothing then, as long as each piece of clothing in your cart is priced below \$100, you should save on sales tax for those items. But if the limit on shoes is also \$100 and you're buying a pair priced at \$125, you might have to pay sales tax on them.

Texas limits: Clothing priced under \$100: Jackets, jeans, dresses, jogging apparel, baby clothes, hunting and fishing vests, blouses, shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, tennis clothes, trousers, underclothes, pajamas, golf clothes, scout uniforms, workout clothes and raincoats.

Shop around. Eliminating sales tax shouldn't be your only means of saving money. Check out local kids consignment shops for clothes and shoes not covered by the tax-free holiday. You might also try using websites like Google Shopping or apps such as Flipp to search for products by name and compare their prices at multiple merchants. Doing research ahead of time for bigger purchases, like Energy Star appliances or hurricane-preparedness items, is also key.

Can you buy items online during tax-free holidays?

During the tax-free holiday, you can buy qualifying items online or by phone, mail, custom order or any other means. For the exemption to count for online orders, the item must be bought during the holiday dates and the seller must accept the order to ship, even if it's delivered after the weekend, the Texas comptroller's office said.

Resource:
<https://www.nerdwallet.com/article/taxes/sales-tax-holiday-back-to-school-shopping>

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