

MAYOR'S MESSAGE – January 2021



Let Old Glory Wave

A new flag pole was installed at the Wild Plum gate during the past holidays. This completes the installations of flag poles at the McAfee gate and the Wild Plum Gate. A third flag pole may be set at the Osage gate at a later time but this addition is pending the final design for the entry to the Osage gate. A special thanks goes out to Tex Welch for his assistance in setting the flag pole. The flags will really improve the entrances into TimberCreek Canyon and hopefully express the patriotic feelings of many folks within our community.

2020 and Weather and Climate Outlooks

Looking back at the January 2020 Mayor's Message, there were high hopes for the past year. 2020 was a bit of a disappointment with the COVID-19 virus, social distancing, recommendations for everyone to wear a mask and as Ray Stevens sang, "we're washing our hands like racoon with OCD"! The Corona virus has taken its toll on friends and loved ones and is producing significant changes in all our lives.

As reported in November, La Niña continues with below average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the Equatorial Pacific Ocean. The Climate Predictor Center (CPC) forecasts an 85% chance that La Niña conditions will persist through the winter and a 60% chance through April. 2020 was a dry year with reportable moisture levels down 25 to 40% in the Texas Panhandle. We have already seen warmer and drier conditions that are likely to continue through the Spring and into early Summer. Drier than normal conditions are likely to develop across portions of

the of the Texas High Plains this winter. Warm and dry are precursors to “red flag” warnings. **BE AWARE and BE FIREWISE!**

Here is a link to a video made by Living with Fire. This video is a little long but they present great material on how to make your home more hardened against ember intrusion. Please feel free to share this video with your friends and neighbors and help keep our area safe from wildfire. Video provided by James DeGrazia with the Texas A&M Forestry Service.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-g4-kyiDwU&list=PLFB25MuKORSxmPuRfWHj8jnpXkhlSn3ri&index=5>

COVID-19 Continues in Condition Red

As most folks are aware we have entered especially dark times with the rapid spread of the COVID 19 virus. Everyone should take this threat seriously. There is some evidence that not everyone who contracts this virus becomes sick but they can still spread the virus to those who are more susceptible. Many areas within Texas are having difficulty obtaining the Pfizer or Moderna vaccinations. Amarillo has been blessed with adequate doses of vaccines so far. I would encourage everyone to take the vaccination if possible. These are safe vaccines with the only issues reported concern sensitivity to vaccine ingredients. Most virologists agree that it will take 75 to 80% of all individuals gaining natural immunity from actually having the virus and those individuals who have taken the vaccine to gain enough immunity to curb this disease (herd immunity). Just because many individuals are taking the vaccine does not mean we will be back to normal in 6 months. The CDC says it may well be into 2022 before we see normal social conditions return.

Remember:

1. Avoid going to public places to the greatest extent possible.
2. Be aware that the greatest Covid transmission risks are at indoor restaurants, bars, and coffee shops.
3. Wear a mask whenever in public or at work. This reduces the risk of transmission to others.
4. Avoid any proximity to anyone without a mask, or a person who wears a mask that doesn't cover their nose.
5. Wash your hands frequently when at work or around others.
6. Don't go to work sick – you may be infecting your friends and coworkers.
7. Limit family gatherings and keep your distance. Many of our Covid-19 infections are from family gatherings.
8. Get your flu shot. Last March/April it was reported that 16% of Covid patients catch influenza at the same time which may partially explain the higher death rates.

Let's be part of the solution to COVID-19 pandemic not the problem!

The hospitals are doing better than ever at reducing the death rate from Covid-19. But there are still many, many tragedies from this virus in Amarillo and the Panhandle. Many survivors are left with severe disability. *The above recommendations are provided from Amarillo Medical Specialists.*

Wood Chipping – Tennis Courts

The pile of brush at the west end of the tennis court is finally gone. Circumstances beyond the Mayor's and Aldermen's control and the Texas Forestry Service drug this process out further. The Fall cleanup will be evaluated by the Board and new regulations and possibly a new site will be discussed for the Spring Cleanup. In the future, if you bring yucca to the site, you must place them in the roll off yourself. The yucca plants jam up the chipper. In the future all material must be able to go through the chipper.

Road Safety

TCC residents enjoy a great location for outdoor activities. Many enjoy walking, jogging, bicycling, motorcycling, and riding ATV's or golfcarts on area roads within the Village. Everyone should be able to enjoy the great outdoors on Village roads but we are experiencing problems and most of it has to do with distracted driving when operating a vehicle. The maximum speed limit in TCC is 30 mph. When you add the hills and curves within this area the slower foot traffic and bicycles are at risk of not being seen by faster moving cars. Please drive safely and watch out for others!

Remember:

1. If you walk or jog, use the left lane or lane for oncoming traffic.
2. If you bicycle, or use any motorized vehicle, stay in the right lane.
3. If you walk or jog, please wear bright colored clothing or clothing with reflective material (especially at night.)
4. If you walk or jog with a pet, be sure to keep your pet on a leash.
5. You must be 16 years of age to operate an ATV or golf cart without a licensed adult in the front seat.!

January Board Meeting

Items of interest:

1. Mike Young with Doshier, Pickens, & Francis will present TCC Audit for 2020. Audit will not be presented for approval until February Board Meeting.
2. Chuck Lynch will present preliminary plans for the new "Community Center".

UPCOMING DATES 2021

Next Board Meeting: January 14, 2021

Spring Cleanup - TBA

TCC Village Day – TBA

FireWise Picnic – TBA

Fall Village Clean Up – TBA