

Pets are part of the family. They love us unconditionally and they bring us much joy. Please treat them with the respect and love that they deserve.

The Animal Adoption Center/Shelter Advisory Committee met for the first time on January 24, 2011. The Advisory Committee's main responsibility is to assist the City's Animal Shelter in complying with the requirements of Chapter 823 of the Health and Safety Code, Title 10 Health and Safety of Animals. One of the goals of the Advisory Committee is to educate the public about our Animal Shelter.

Last year our shelter had to euthanize over 300 animals because no one wanted them. Euthanizing an animal is far more humane than leaving them to starve to death, or to be injured or killed by a vehicle. People think that an animal can fend for itself, but most domesticated dogs and cats do not have this ability. Did you know that it is a felony offense to abandon an animal?

The most important action you can take is to have your dog or cat spayed or neutered. Please don't wait until it has a litter of unwanted puppies or kittens – do it now. There are programs available to help defray the cost. One of those programs is the Kaufman County Animal Awareness Project (KCAAP) in Crandall. Their telephone number is 972-472-3500. An appointment is necessary for surgery, but they have walk-in shot clinics during the week and one Saturday a month. Forney Animal Hospital also provides low-cost vaccination clinics for dogs and cats on the first Saturday of every odd-numbered month (unless it is a holiday weekend) from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. The telephone number for Forney Animal Hospital is 972-564-1015. Check with your veterinarian – he/she may have low cost clinics, too.

The Forney Animal Control Department works tirelessly to unite owners with their lost pets and to promote the adoption of unclaimed, unwanted, stray, and abandoned pets within the Forney city limits. Our Animal Control Department cannot pick up or accept animals from outside the City limits, that is the responsibility of the County. The most important thing to remember, however, is that you do not have to be a resident of Forney to redeem a lost pet or adopt a pet. ***If you have lost a pet or would like to adopt a dog or cat, please call our Animal Shelter at 972-564-2351.*** You may have to leave a message, but they will return your call. The City only has two Animal Control Officers and they are kept very busy. ***An important fact you should know is that we are only able***

to hold an animal for 72 hours. For more information on how to contact us, please visit our website at www.cityofforney.org and click on the Animal Control button under City Services.

The adoption fee is extremely reasonable, it is only \$25.00, however, it is non-refundable. We do require you to have the animal vaccinated and spayed or neutered. The policy regarding adoptions from the Forney Animal Shelter is online and should be reviewed before you adopt an animal.

The City does have a leash law – you must restrain your dog at all times. Be sure to take a plastic baggie with you when you “walk” your dog, because we have a “Pooper Scooper” law, too. State law requires that all dogs and cats four (4) months of age and older must be vaccinated for rabies every three (3) years by a licensed veterinarian. For the three-year license, you must get the first rabies vaccine with a booster in one year and then followed by boosters every three years.

If you are unable to continue caring for your pet, please contact our Animal Shelter. We have numbers for rescue groups and other information that will help you make what we know is a difficult decision.

Citizen Survey

Please be sure to return the Citizen Survey by the date shown on the survey. Your participation is extremely important.

Upcoming Election

The General Election is scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 2011. Early voting by personal appearance starts on May 2, 2011, and ends on May 10, 2011. In addition to the Saturday early voting on May 7, 2011, there will be two late days during early voting: Thursday, May 5, 2011 and Tuesday, May 10, 2011. The early voting location in Forney is the County's Sub-Court House on Main Street. The City contracts with the County for election services, so for information regarding where you will need to vote on Election Day, please call the Election Administrator at 972-932-0298.

NOTE: This newsletter was prepared and printed at the beginning of March. Please check our website to see if we were able to cancel the election. Any notice will have been posted after March 2nd.

Board & Commission Members Honored

On Saturday, February 26, 2011, the City Council held its Annual Recognition Banquet honoring the volunteers who sit on our various boards and commissions. In addition to the great food provided by 4T's BBQ, each board member received a Jr. Portfolio. These volunteers help make Forney a great place to live and work and their dedication to the City is greatly appreciated.

If you think you would be interested in serving on a board or commission, the link to the application and information about each board can be found on our website at www.cityofforney.org on the City Secretary's page. If you don't have access to the internet, contact the City Secretary at 972-564-7302 and she will send you an application.

Do you have questions regarding your trash and recycling pickup? If so, you can contact CWD directly at 972-392-9300, Option 2, weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You can see the CWD schedule on their website at www.CWD.to. If you lost the flyer that came with your new CWD recycling bins, you can also find and print a full-size copy of the Yes/No recycling chart at www.CWD.to.



National Environmental
Education Week

Discover the Ocean
April 10-16, 2011



The ocean covers nearly three quarters of our planet's surface, provides 70 percent of the oxygen in the atmosphere and houses about 20 percent of the known species on Earth. It regulates climate and weather and provides food and energy resources for humans worldwide. No matter how far from the coast, water in every stream or river eventually ends up in the ocean, and all life on Earth is dependent upon its health. More than half of all Americans live within 50 miles of the coast, but whether near or far, our lives are inextricably linked to the ocean. Recognizing the importance of protecting the health of our ocean and understanding our dependence upon it regardless of its proximity, the National Environmental Education Week (EE Week) 2011 theme is *Ocean Connections*.

Participating educators will have access to hundreds of ocean-related lesson plans and resources and opportunities to participate in educator webinars and interact with experts and scientists. They'll also receive a grade-appropriate EE Week planning toolkit, certificates of participation and much more. In addition, EE Week will provide special resources, lesson plans and opportunities for educator professional development and student learning about the Gulf oil spill.

Learn more by visiting www.eeweek.org/ocean_connections.

UPCOMING – MOVIES IN THE PARK

May 14th -- "TANGLED"
May 21st -- "HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON"
June 18th -- "MEGAMIND"

Movies sponsored by Orange County
Container Group LLC



Earth Day
April 22, 2011

Arbor Day
April 29, 2011

Celebrate – Plant a Tree!!!

Upcoming Special Event

FORNEY FIT FEST is coming to Main Street in Downtown Forney on **Saturday, May 7, 2011**. Beginning at 8:30 am with a 5K RACE and 1 mile FUN-RUN, the festival includes activities, demonstrations, vendors, entertainment and food until 3:00pm for the whole FAMILY! Come experience everything there is to know about living environmentally, physically, mentally and spiritually FIT - in FORNEY! For more information contact Karen at publicworks@cityofforney.org or visit www.forneytexasedc.org.

Blackboard Connect

When presented with a time-sensitive situation, we provide our entire community with reassurance and timely information by communicating with Blackboard Connect. If you have a land line, then it is automatically registered with the Blackboard Connect, because it uses a reverse 9-1-1 phone list. However, you can log into the system and add information such as cell phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc. To do so, go to our website at www.cityofforney.org and at the bottom of the main page click on GET CONNECTED, and then follow the link "SIGN UP NOW." We like to keep this information as current as possible to ensure we have a line of communication with our citizens. If you have any questions in reference to the information entered for your address, please contact Ashley at the Forney Police Department at 972-564-7611.

Important April Dates

April 5, 2011 – City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
City Hall, 101 E. Main Street

April 14, 2011 – Last day to register to vote
(to be able to vote in the May General Election)

April 19, 2011 – City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
City Hall, 101 E. Main Street

April 22, 2011 – Good Friday
City Offices are Closed

April 24, 2011 – Easter Sunday



Landscape and Garden Series Workshops

[Texas SmartScape® Workshop](#) (Waterwise Native and Adaptive Plants for our area) **March 19, 2011 9 am – 12 pm**

[Talking Trees Workshop](#) (Pruning, Selection, & Health)

DATE CHANGE April 9, 2011 9 am – 12 pm

[Landscape Maintenance Workshop](#) (Cost Effective Practices for Lawn Maintenance & Gardening) **May 21, 2011 9:00 am – 12 pm**

[Water Wise Landscape Workshop](#) (Basic Irrigation, Irrigation Self Audit, Scheduling Controller, & Rain Catchment practices) **June 18, 2011 9:00 am – 12 pm**

All Classes will be located at:

Forney's Central Fire Station, 104 E Aimee, Forney, Texas 75126

Cost: \$FREE to Forney Residents - \$5 per Workshop for County Residents

Reservations: Karen Sanders, City of Forney Public Works

publicworks@cityofforney.org; 972-564-7340 www.cityofforney.org

