



After Hours

For Public Works after-hour incidents (ie: water leaks, sewer backups, low-water pressure, no water, etc.) please call 405.485.9391. The City's Central Dispatch is manned 24-7 and will contact the on-call personnel regarding the incident.

Alert System

Sign up for the City's NEW Emergency Alert System by going to the City's website [below](http://blanchardok.pt7.civic-cms.com/.../pa.../emergency-alerts) at <http://blanchardok.pt7.civic-cms.com/.../pa.../emergency-alerts>.

Animal Control

There has been a recent increase in the number of barking dog complaints.

Therefore, the Blanchard Municipal Court has set forth the following policy:

1. After the initial complaint, the owner of the premises where the animal is located will receive a letter from the City of Blanchard Animal Control stating that complaints of a barking animal has been received alleging that the barking was creating a nuisance and

that pursuant to Section 3-101(30)(e) of the Blanchard Code of Ordinances, any dog that engages in loud, frequent or habitual barking, howling, yelping or other noise or action that disturbs any person or neighborhood within the city limits is defined as a Nuisance Dog;

2. On a subsequent complaint regarding events that occurred after the owner of the premises had received the ACO's letter, the owner of the premises shall receive a formal written warning from the ACO for a violation of Section 12-302 and attaching to the formal written warning a copy of the letter previously served on the property owner.
3. On a subsequent complaint regarding events the occurred after the owner of the premises had received the ACO's formal written warning, a Citation for a violation of Section 12-302 will be issued.
4. On a subsequent complaint regarding events that occurred after the Citation had been issued and served, the City Manager and City Council may proceed with formal abatement of the nuisance

pursuant to Section 12-303 and after an Order of Abatement is issued, a new citation may be issued each day that the nuisance is allowed to continue.

Ballot Questions



Voters will consider the following two (2) state questions on the upcoming General Election Ballot. They are as follows:

STATE QUESTION NO. 805: This measure seeks to add a new Article II-A to the Oklahoma Constitution. This new Article excepts and does not apply to persons who have ever been convicted of a violent felony. It would prohibit the use of a former felony conviction to increase the statutorily allowable base range of punishment for a person subsequently convicted of a felony. Individuals who are currently incarcerated for felony sentences that were enhanced based on one or more former felony convictions, and whose sentences are greater than the maximum sentence that may currently be imposed for such felonies, may seek sentence modification in court. The new Article sets forth a detailed process for such sentence modification, including but not

limited to requirements for a hearing, appointment of counsel for indigent petitioners, and notification of victims, and requires that the court impose a modified sentence no greater than the current maximum sentence which may be imposed on a person convicted of the same felony with no former felony convictions, and which results in no greater time served in prison than under the original sentence. It establishes an appeal procedure, provides an effective date, and contains a severability clause.

STATE QUESTION NO. 814: This measure seeks to amend Article 10, Section 40 of the Oklahoma Constitution (Section 40), which directs proceeds from the State's settlements with or judgments against tobacco companies. Currently, Section 40 directs 75% of proceeds to the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Fund (TSET Fund), where earnings may only be used for tobacco prevention programs, cancer research, and other such programs to maintain or improve the health of Oklahomans. Meanwhile, the remaining 25% of proceeds are directed to a separate fund for the Legislature (Legislative Fund). The Legislature can also direct some of that 25% to the Attorney General.

This measure amends Section 40 to reduce the percentage of proceeds that go into the TSET Fund from 75% to 25%.

As a result, the remaining 75% will go to the Legislative Fund and the Legislature may continue to direct a portion to the Attorney General. The measure would also restrict the use of the Legislative Fund. Section 40 currently states only that the Legislative Fund is subject to legislative appropriation. If this measure passes, money from the Legislative Fund must be used to get federal matching funds for Oklahoma's Medicaid Program.

Please exercise your constitutional right to vote! **Tuesday, November 3rd**. More information on all State Questions can be found on the Secretary of State's website.

BETA Action

The Blanchard Economic Trust Authority (BETA) held their October meeting on **Monday, October 5th**. The Board of Trustees discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following items:

- ▶ Discussed economic development activities in Blanchard;
- ▶ Discussed a new Farmers Market in Blanchard;
- ▶ Approved Consent Agenda.

The next meeting will be **December 7th**.

Citizen Collection Center

The Center is operating under new hours as follows:

- Sunday ~ **CLOSED**
- Monday ~ **3pm to 7pm**
- Tuesday ~ **8am to 10am**
3pm to 7pm
- Wednesday ~ **3pm to 7pm**
- Thursday ~ **8am to 10am**
3pm to 7pm
- Friday ~ **3pm to 7pm**
- Saturday ~ **7am to 12Noon**

These temporary hours will remain in effect until **November 1st**. Please visit the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us to see what is accepted and what is not.

Code Enforcement

Help beautify Blanchard! The City of Blanchard issues citations that are heard in Municipal Court monthly for violations of any of the following:

- * Trash and/or debris on your property.
- * Tall weeds or grass (including edging along the street and sidewalk).
- * Inoperable and/or junk vehicles.
- * Trailers and autos in alleyways.
- * Tree limbs over hanging the street with less than 8 foot clearance.
- * Failure to trim trees, grass and weeds in alleys.
- * Leaving grass in the street after mowing.

Columbus Day

On October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus landed on a small island in the Bahamas, convinced that he had reached the East Indies. Now, by federal law, Columbus Day is celebrated on the second Monday in October which is **Monday, October 12th**. However, City offices will be open for business.



The City is seeking qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

- * Full-Time CLEET Certified Police Officer or obtain CLEET Certification within one-year of hire; must be 21 years of age or older.
- * Full-Time 911 Communication Dispatcher.
- * Full-Time Street Maintenance Laborer.

An application can be downloaded from the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us. Please return to City Hall, 122 North Main, Blanchard, OK 73010 or mail to City Hall, P.O. Box 480, Blanchard, OK 73010.

The City of Blanchard is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

E-Waste Collection

An E-Waste Collection Event will be held tomorrow **Saturday, October 10th** from **1pm to 5pm**.

The City will accept the following items at the Collection Center to include fans, printers, keyboards, copiers, scanners, paper shredders, toner/ink cartridges, monitors, TVs, consumer electronics and smoke detectors, etc.

Participants must present their pass or a Blanchard trash bill.

Fall Break

The Blanchard Public Schools will be out of classes on **Thursday, October 15th** and **Friday, October 16th** for Fall Break. **NO SCHOOL!**

FOOD TRUCK TUESDAYS

Food Truck Tuesdays are back during the month of **October** from **11am to 2pm**:

| <u>Dates</u> | <u>Vendor</u> | <u>Type</u> |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 13 th | Yum Pig | BBQ |
| 20 th | Pops Pockets | Indian Tacos |
| 27 th | Trevino's | Mexican/BBQ |

Health Testing

The Health Department located on North Main Street in Blanchard provides COVID

testing on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 10am and every other Fridays.

Hotel-Motel Tax

A question FOR or AGAINST a proposed hotel-motel tax for Blanchard will be on the General Election on **Tuesday, November 3rd**.

CAN LODGERS GET REBATES ON THIS TAX?

In rare circumstances, refunds may be considered when there is verifiable, corroborating proof of an erroneous, illegal or unconstitutional tax collection.

DOES THE TAX APPLY TO JUST THE COST OF THE ROOM OR ARE OTHER LODGING CHARGE INCLUDED IN THE TAXABLE AMOUNT?

If the cost of the lodging includes amenities that are not optional, the entire lodging rate is taxable. Charges for other taxes and optional items offered for a separate fee would not be included in the tax but may be subject to sales or use tax.

For more information, see IRS Publication 535, Business Expenses, or consult a professional tax preparer.

If approved on the upcoming ballot, collections will begin on January 1, 2021, at Midnite.

The City is recruiting hotels and motels to locate in Blanchard. Part of the pro forma calculations is the amount of

lodging tax charged in a community. This determines the feasibility of a hotel-motel, rates and the number of rooms.

HH Hazardous Waste

A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event will be held on **Saturday, October 24th** from **1pm to 5pm**.

Items that will be accepted will include tires, batteries, oil, paints, etc.

Further information will be sent to all citizens in the October utility billing.

Meeting Calendar

October 15th ~ Planning Commission
Special Meeting

October 20th ~ Board of Adjustment

October 22nd ~ Code/Juvenile Court

October 27th ~ Traffic Court

October 27th ~ City Council

October 27th ~ BMIA

October Events

10th ~ E-Waste Collection

12th ~ Columbus Day

13th ~ Food Truck Tuesday

16th ~ Boss's Day

17th ~ Ride for Memorial (Poker Run)

20th ~ Food Truck Tuesday

24th ~ HH Hazardous Waste Collection

27th ~ Food Truck Tuesday

31st ~ Pumpkin' Fest

31st ~ Halloween

On the PC Agenda

The Blanchard Planning Commission will hold a Special Meeting on **Thursday, October 15th** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following items:

- ▶ Public Hearing on zoning application seeking reclassification from A-1 to R-E;
- ▶ Resolution recommending approval or denial to City Council on zoning application;
- ▶ Public Hearing on Conditional Use Permit for Medical Marijuana Growing Facility;
- ▶ Resolution recommending approval or denial to City Council on Conditional Use Permit;
- ▶ Public Hearing on Conditional Use Permit for Medical Marijuana Growing Processing Facility;
- ▶ Resolution recommending approval or denial to City Council on Conditional Use Permit;
- ▶ Lot Split application;
- ▶ 2035 Comprehensive Plan;
- ▶ Consent Agenda.

The next meeting will be November 12th.

Permits Required

Residents may experience an increase in door-to-door sales associates. If you do encounter a solicitor at your door, they are required to have a permit from the City of Blanchard. These permits are required because they allow the City to perform background checks on applicants, which then allows the City to approve or deny the permit request. Not only are solicitors required to carry the permit on them at all times, they are also restricted to go door-to-door from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Residents who wish to have no interaction with solicitors are asked to display "No Solicitation Allowed" or "No Peddlers Allowed" sign that can be easily visible. If you suspect that a person in your neighborhood is soliciting without a permit, please call the Blanchard Police Department at 405.485.9391.

PumpkinFest



Are you ready for a real **SPOOKY GOOD TIME?**

The City's annual event will be held on **Saturday, October**

31st from **6pm to 9pm** on Main Street.

Activities include:

- Costume Contest (Ages 0-10) (11-18) & (19-over)
- Pet Costume Contest (all pets must be on a leash)
- Face Painting
- Free Candy & Refreshments
- Games and Trunk or Treats
- Safe Candy Walk & Music

For more information, please contact Chris Wittenbach at 248.6521 or parks@cityofblanchard.us.

Sales Tax Collections

Sales taxes received for October are more than eighteen percent (18.483%) above the monthly budgeted projections based on a 4% rate for August retail sales of \$6,788,069. Also, this month's collections are more than four percent (4.96%) less than last month [September '20]:

| Month | YTD | % |
|-----------|------------|--------|
| July | 271,270.01 | 13.70 |
| August | 283,592.81 | 26.26 |
| September | 284,986.09 | -13.80 |
| October | 271,522.76 | 5.08 |
| November | | |
| December | | |
| January | | |
| February | | |
| March | | |
| April | | |
| May | | |
| June | | |

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| TOTALS | 1,111,371.67 | 5.62 |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|

Senior Citizens Notice

The Blanchard Senior Citizens is still cooking carryout meals daily (5-days a week less holidays).

LUNCH MENU

(Oct 12 - Oct 16)

Monday ~ Chicken Fritter, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, Bread, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Corn Chips, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ BBQ Pork, Parsley Potatoes, Vegetable, Bun, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Pinto Beans, Beets, Potatoes, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Fish, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Cornbread, Dessert.

If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge in the City's daily nutrition program. A suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested. Citizens under the age of 60 may participate but are required to pay \$5.00 for the meal.

Please call 485-9260, if you would like to be considered for a home delivered meal. Please be advised, the home delivery will begin the next business day.

Shop Local

Here's what happens when you "shop local."

1. More of your money will be kept in the Blanchard economy: For every \$100 you spend at a locally owned businesses, \$68 will stay in Blanchard. What happens when you spend that same \$100 at a national chain? Only \$43 stays in the community.*

2. You embrace what makes Blanchard unique: You wouldn't want your house to look like everyone else's in the U.S. So why would you want your community to look that way?

3. You create local jobs: Local businesses are better at creating higher-paying jobs for your neighbors. When you shop locally, you help create jobs for teachers, firemen, police officers, and many other essential professions.

4. You help the environment: Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.

5. You nurture community: Local business owners know you, and you know them. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of chains.

6. You conserve your tax dollars: Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and more money available to beautify the community. Also, spending locally instead of online ensures that your sales taxes

are reinvested where they belong in Blanchard!

7. You create more choice: Locally owned businesses pick the items and products they sell based on what they know you like and want. Local businesses carry a wider array of unique products because they buy for their own individual markets.

8. You take advantage of their expertise: You are their friends and neighbors, and locally owned businesses have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you. They're passionate about what they do. Why not take advantage of it?

9. You invested in entrepreneurship: Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. You made Blanchard a destination: The more interesting and unique Blanchard community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This benefits everyone!

**Source: Civic Economics - Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.*

Special Meeting

Due to a Lack of Quorum at the regular meeting last nite, the Chairman has called a Special Meeting of the Blanchard Planning Commission for **6:30pm, Thursday, October 15th** to

discuss, consider and take appropriate action on agenda items found in the article 'On the PC Agenda.'

Tall Grass & Weeds

The City of Blanchard is committed to maintaining clean and attractive residential neighborhoods. To help accomplish this goal, the City of Blanchard has adopted regulations concerning the abatement of tall grass, weeds and trash.

The City of Blanchard Municipal Code concerning public nuisances and property enhancement requires that owners or responsible persons of property located within the municipal city limits are prohibited from allowing debris, junk, waste or trash to accumulate, or weeds or tall grass over twelve (12") inches in height, dead trees, bushes, and shrubs to grow or stand upon the premises. This regulation is based upon the Oklahoma State Law Title 11, Section 22-111 which sets forth the procedure and definitions for the cleaning and mowing of property.

2020 Election



November 3rd ~ General Election

Use Tax Collections

Use taxes received for October are more than sixteen percent (16.997%) below the monthly budgeted projections based on a 4% rate for August retail sales of \$2,136,806.50. Also, this month's collections are more than nine percent (9.21%) higher than last month [September '20]:

| Fiscal Yr Month | Collections YTD | % Δ Prior Year |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| July | 93,410.49 | -12.51 |
| August | 77,952.78 | -30.94 |
| September | 78,265.11 | -35.56 |
| October | 85,472.26 | -66.16 |
| November | | |
| December | | |
| January | | |
| February | | |
| March | | |
| April | | |
| May | | |
| June | | |
| TOTALS | 335,100.64 | -43.55 |

Water Restrictions

Water users in Blanchard are under mandatory odd/even watering (Stage 1) which is in effect until further notice as required under the contract with the City of Oklahoma City.