Hickory Creek Master Parks Plan Meetings

Attend a visioning session. No reservations needed.

Wednesday, April 10 and Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 PM

Council Chambers, 1075 Ronald Reagan Avenue

All members of the Hickory Creek Community are invited and highly encouraged to participate in this visioning opportunity. Your input is important.
On March 20, Hickory Creek, Texas was named an 11 year Tree City USA® by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

Hickory Creek achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least $2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

“Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like Hickory Creek make smart investments in urban forests,” said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

The Public Works Department planted twenty-five Cedar Elm trees throughout the Town. These trees were planted at Town Hall, Hickory Creek boulevard, Sycamore Bend Park, and Point Vista Park.

ABOUT THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION: The Arbor Day Foundation is a million-member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information on the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.
NEVER leave your pets alone in a parked car, it’s the law! It is unlawful for any person to intentionally or knowingly confine or allow to be confined any animal under such conditions or for such a period of time as may endanger the health or well-being of the animal due to heat, lack of food or water or any other circumstance which causes suffering, disability or death of the animal.
We hope everyone is having a great year! With summer coming around the corner we just want to remind everyone about some important safety tips!

**Protect Your Mail:** While you’re away, have your mail held at the post office or have mail and packages picked up immediately. Never leave packages visible on your porch and never leave mail in your mailbox for a lengthy period of time. Thieves are known to follow delivery trucks and postal carriers and then grab items that are left out in public view.

**Vacation House Watch:** If you are planning to go on vacation, contact the police department (940) 497-3520 and make arrangements to have your home added to the vacation house watch list. You can also go online [www.hickorycreek-tx.gov](http://www.hickorycreek-tx.gov) and complete a vacation watch form there.

The **Hide, Lock, Take** program is a great one to remember every time you park your vehicle. Just remember these simple guidelines – **Hide, Lock, Take. Hide** your valuables in the trunk of your vehicle. Never leave items in plain sight inside your car; always **Lock** your vehicle to deter thieves; and remember to **Take** your keys with you.

**Report Suspicious Vehicles:** If you notice a vehicle making multiple passes through your neighborhood and something seems “off,” contact the police department by either dialing 9-1-1 for emergencies or the non-emergency number at (940) 349-1600 to report it. Hickory Creek Police will respond immediately and attempt to make contact with the driver to determine if they have a legitimate reason to be in the area.

We would also recommend that you write down the non-emergency phone number and place it on your refrigerator door or a place that is easily accessible to you and your family. Make sure your children are aware of these tips, and the phone number to call, in the event of a situation that is not a 9-1-1 emergency.

The Hickory Creek Police Department is here to provide you with quality service 24/7. Please don’t hesitate to contact our department for any reason. We are always happy to assist you.

**Have a Great Summer!**
WELCOME OFFICER KOSHY!

In January 2019, Arun Koshy joined the Hickory Creek Police Department. Officer Koshy grew up in Mesquite and was very active in his local church community. To gain a better understanding of the Criminal Justice System, Officer Koshy attended the University of Texas at Arlington and studied Criminology and Criminal Justice. Officer Koshy also worked for a year in the jail which gave him a more hands on exposure to the Criminal Justice System. He enjoys spending time with his friends and family in his time off. Officer Koshy is excited to serve and protect the Hickory Creek community.

CITIZENS ON PATROL IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Hickory Creek Police Department Citizens On Patrol (C.O.P.) program is now accepting applications. The mission of the program is to assist the Hickory Creek Police Department and the community by patrolling the streets, neighborhoods, businesses, and parks in an effort to recognize suspicious activity, assist on-duty officers, prevent crimes, and establish a rapport with the citizens of Hickory Creek.

Citizens on Patrol can help deter crime with highly visible patrol and observation, perform duties that enable officers to concentrate on higher priority duties, and provide extra eyes and ears for the police to help maintain a safe and crime free environment within the community. C.O.P. members are not peace officers but are non-confrontational volunteers who partner with the police department to keep Hickory Creek a safe and desirable place to live and work.

C.O.P. duties can include patrolling neighborhoods, parks, business areas, traffic control, vacation watch, event security, reporting suspicious persons or activity, crime scene perimeter control, motorist assist, nuisance abatement, etc.

To qualify for the Citizens on Patrol you must be 21 years of age, have or obtain a valid Texas drivers license, no felony convictions, and must be able to pass a background check. Once approved, applicants will be required to complete a weekly training commitment for up to 14 weeks. For more information regarding the Citizens on Patrol program or to apply, please contact Chief Dunn at Carey.Dunn@hickorycreek-tx.gov or call 940.497.3520 ext. 254.
Council Recognitions

Chief Ross presented the Town of Hickory Creek a plaque representing the Lake Cities Fire Department’s achievement of receiving an ISO Class 2 Rating.

Eagle Scout Candidate, Grayson Spradlin, installed a safe boating sign, replaced and painted safety bollards and tore down old pay stations in Arrowhead Park.

Town Secretary, Kristi Rogers, was recognized for her recertification through the Texas Municipal clerk certification program. Kristi has served the residents of Hickory Creek for 19 years!

Economic Development Corporation President, Nate Prevost presented Lynn Clark with a plaque in appreciation of her service as President and continued service as Treasurer on the Economic Development Corporation.
**GARAGE SALE PERMIT**

Spring is the perfect time to go through your house and get rid of unwanted items. If you want to hold a garage sale in Hickory Creek, there are a few things to remember:

- A permit is required. The permit fee is $5. Only two sales may be held at an address per year.
- The sale may last for 3 consecutive days and may open at sunrise.
- The only items that can be sold are the used personal property of the residents holding the sale. Items purchased for resale or made specifically to be sold at an occasional sale are prohibited.
- A total of 5 signs may be placed out. All signs must display the address, dates and times of the sale, and the permit number. They may be no larger than 4 square feet, be posted on a wood or metal spike in the ground and must be placed on private property. Any signs found on public right-of-ways, attached to any other signs, posts, poles or traffic control devices, or that do not have a valid permit number will be removed.
- Signs may be placed out 24 hours before the sale starts and all signs and sale items need to be picked back up the morning after the sale closes.

If you have any questions about how to have a garage sale, please contact Code Enforcement at 940.497.2528 or pick up a copy of the Garage Sale Brochure at Town Hall.

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**UPCOMING BULK TRASH DAYS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APRIL 18</th>
<th>MAY 16</th>
<th>JUNE 18</th>
<th>JULY 16</th>
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</table>

**LOW COST VACCINATION CLINIC**

Where: Hickory Creek Animal Services
970 Main Street

When: Saturday May 18, 2019
10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Presented By:

- Corinth Veterinary Clinic
- Hickory Creek Animal Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccines (Rabies, DHLPPC &amp; FVRCP):</th>
<th>$10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microchip with lifetime monitoring:</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All pets must be in a carrier or on a leash.

For more information, please contact Animal Services at 940.465.7444

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**ZEBRA MUSSELS. DON'T BE A CARRIER.**

Clean, drain, and dry your boat.
The next time you are taking care of your yard, remember to keep yard debris out of the storm drains. Storm Drains are designed to carry rain water away from our streets and into the waterways. Here are some helpful tips to help keep the storm drains clean.

**Don’t overwater your lawn.** Much of the water applied to lawns and gardens is never absorbed by plants. Water applied too rapidly is lost as runoff, which may carry polluting fertilizers and pesticides into our lake.

**Use the correct amount of fertilizer, more isn’t better.** Costly synthetic fertilizers and pesticides are applied to compensate for the loss of nutrients and protection once provided by organic debris and rich soil life. As your soil loses its organic matter, it allows more of these chemicals to run off and wash through it—contributing to the pollution of lakes, streams, and underground water. Instead, use a “soil amendment” or make your own compost.

**Bag your lawn waste and leave it on the curb for pick up.** Sweep up clippings and fertilizer from paved surfaces and dispose of them properly. Rake leaves and grass clippings out of the street and gutter. You can also collect leaves and grass clippings for mulching and composting. Yard waste will be collected as Bulk Trash on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Contact Republic Waste at 972.316.0789 for information on collection procedures.

**Do not throw trash or dispose of chemicals in storm drains.** Remember, what goes onto the storm drain come out in the lake.

**Mow the top 1/3 of your lawn and leave the grass clippings on the lawn.** Leave grass clippings on the lawn to decompose into the soil. Leaving lawn clippings on the lawn provides about 2 pounds of nutrients per 1,000 square feet of lawn per year, along with the perfect balance of essential nutrients that are not in most commercial fertilizers. Remember, town ordinances require lawns to be kept below 12 inches in height. Placing the clippings and other lawn waste in the street is also against town ordinance and can result in citations.

Keep in mind that your yard is a piece of Earth that is directly connected to everyone else’s. You can decrease the runoff from lawns carrying topsoil and chemicals into the streams and lakes we rely on for drinking water. You can also reduce erosion, improve water and air quality, and conserve limited resources for generations to come.
**SENIOR CITIZENS (60+)**

The Lake Cities Seniors is a group of senior citizens (60+) from Corinth, Hickory Creek, Lake Dallas, and Shady Shores, who meet every Tuesday morning from 10 am to noon at Lake Dallas City Hall (212 Main Street, Community Room) for games followed by a potluck, free coffee, and lunch. There is no cost to join so come meet new friends!

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**HICKORY CREEK BUSINESS OWNER MELISSA HORTON RECENTLY APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR ABBOT TO TEXAS EARLY LEARNING COUNCIL**

Carrollton resident and Hickory Creek business owner Melissa Horton was recently appointed by Governor Abbott to the Texas Early Learning Council. The Texas Early Learning Council serves as Texas’ state advisory council as required by the federal Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007. The Council utilizes its breadth of stakeholder representation to increase coordination and collaboration across state agencies and local program and service providers in order to improve the quality of and access to early childhood services across Texas. In 2019, the Council will lead a statewide birth-five needs assessment and strategic plan as part of Texas’ Preschool Development Grant project. In addition to Melissa, 19 other Texans were appointed as well. With education at the top of the legislature’s agenda this session, members like Melissa are critical.

Melissa has been an education and child advocate for nearly two decades. She first entered the industry as a teacher with Primrose Schools, quickly working her way up to being named Director of Primrose School of Hickory Creek. Melissa is now Franchise Owner of the school and also serves as President for the Texas Licensed Child Care Association.

**CONGRATULATIONS MELISSA!**
Plant diseases can cause a loss in yield of the crop or damage to the aesthetics of the plant itself. To make matters worse, these issues can also weaken the integrity of a tree. In this instance, hazardous situations may occur in which property damage or even serious bodily injury could result from falling branches or even the toppling of the tree itself. In order to avoid such hazards, it is important that you are able to recognize the telltale signs of common tree diseases so that you may take the necessary actions to remedy the issues.

Disease outbreaks are often seasonal, regional, and species specific. The following list are some tree ailments that you may encounter, but infestations and disease will vary from location to location.

**Anthracnose**

Anthracnose is one of the leading plant diseases in trees and shrubs. This condition stems from a fungus that attacks the leaves, twigs, flowers, and fruits of several different species. It is commonly found throughout North America, with sycamore and flowering dogwood being the most heavily impacted species.

The symptoms of this condition vary by the pathogen as well as the host species. Nonetheless, some of the common indicators include premature leaf defoliation and twig blight that presents as witch’s broom – a deformity that causes shoots to densely grow in one spot.

Fungicide applied at bud opening or injected systemically should remedy the condition in sycamores. For dogwood, on the other hand, application should begin at bud break and continue throughout the growing season.

**Apple Scab**

Apple scab is a leaf disease that occurs in the early season and affects crabapples. Some cultivars are more resistant to the disease than others. With this condition, you’ll notice scab-like lesions forming on the leaves of the plant. Eventually, the lesions will cause premature defoliation.

While this disease is mainly aesthetic, homeowners in particular will likely find apple scab objectionable. The issue can be effectively managed by applying fungicidal agents containing ingredients like fenarimol at bud break.

**Cedar Rusts**

Cedar rusts are foliar diseases that attack rosaceous plants, including hawthorn and crabapple. As with apple scab, some species are more susceptible to the condition than others. This disease causes orange or rust-colored spots of the leaves of hawthorn and crabapple trees in the spring. Twig cankers may also form and cause dieback.

In deciduous hosts, the disease can be managed with the application of fungicide at bud break. Also, select a fungicide that contains triadimefon as an active ingredient.
HOW TO IDENTIFY TREE AILMENTS CONTINUED

**Diplodia Tip Blight**

Diplodia is a common disease that attacks various types of pines, such as the Austrian pine. It generally develops at the base of the tree and moves upward and causes dead shoots with half elongated needles. Black fruiting structures are also typically apparent between needles and on the cones.

Sanitation and pruning along with the application of fungicide at bud swell is an effective treatment. Fungicides used for treatment should contain thiophanate-methyl.

**Dothistroma Needle Blight**

Needle blight is a fungal disease in pines that causes premature defoliation in mature trees and stunts the growth of young trees. In North America, the disease affects as many as 35 pine species. Symptoms of the condition include yellow or tan bands on needles, followed by needle dieback.

To manage the condition, you should apply fungicide containing copper hydroxide and mancozeb at bud break.

**Lethal Yellow**

Lethal yellowing is a disease that impacts the palms of Florida and Texas – particularly the Canary Island date palm and coconut palm. It is cause by a bacteria-like organism known as phytoplasma, which is transported by a plant hopper insect. The condition typically involves flower death, premature fruit dropping, and yellowing of the foliage.

The condition can typically be treated effectively with an antibiotic injected into the trunk. The active ingredient in this injection is oxytetracycline hydrochloride.

**Oak Wilt**

A systemic fungal disease, oak wilt results in tree death. The disease affects more than twenty species throughout Minnesota, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, and New York. Symptoms include leaf wilt, rapid discoloration, and premature defoliation, as well as vascular discoloration.

Trees in the white oak family can be treated; however, red oaks cannot. To prevent the condition, inject trees with systemic fungicide during the growing season.

**Powdery Mildew**

Powdery mildew is a condition caused by fungal pathogens that grow superficially on the surface of the plant and produce white fungal threads and spores. Leaf, flower, and short distortion occur when the fungus attacks young tissue. As the infection increases, tissue becomes dried and brown.

To prevent the condition, select tree varieties resistant to the pathogen. As with many other conditions, fungicide can also be applied when symptoms first become apparent.
In an effort to increase your property value and improve livability in our Town, Hickory Creek is offering a tree rebate program beginning November 1, 2018 through May 1, 2019. To participate, purchase one of the qualifying trees below and you can apply for a $25 rebate for each tree, up to three trees per property. Select a tree that is at least five gallons in size, costs at least $25, receive a paid invoice or receipt showing the date of purchase, supplier name, and address, the size of the tree(s), and the price of the tree(s). Only trees purchased between November 1, 2018 and May 1, 2019 qualify. Residents may fill out the application online or at Town Hall for the rebate. The Town Council has appropriated a limited amount of funds for this program. Once the funds are extinguished, there will be no further rebates. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first served basis. For more information regarding the program go to our website www.hickorycreek-tx.gov. Click under Community and Tree Rebate Program or contact Town Hall at 940.497.2528.

**BIG TREES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Botanic Name</th>
<th>Leaves</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bald Cypress</td>
<td>Taxodium distichum</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full/partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Jack Oak</td>
<td>Quercus marilandica</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bur Oak</td>
<td>Quercus macrocarpa</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Elm</td>
<td>Ulmus crassifolia</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinquapin Oak</td>
<td>Quercus muehlenbergii</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full/partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacebark Elm</td>
<td>Ulmus parvifolia</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live Oak</td>
<td>Quercus virginiana</td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pecan</td>
<td>Carya illinoensis</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Oak (Shumard)</td>
<td>Quercus shumardii</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Oak (Texas)</td>
<td>Quercus buckleyi</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEDIUM/SMALL TREES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Botanic Name</th>
<th>Leaves</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desert Willow</td>
<td>Chilopsis linearis</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dogwood</td>
<td>Cornus florida</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever's Maple</td>
<td>Acer campestre</td>
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<td>Partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexican Buckeye</td>
<td>Ungnadia speciosa</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexican Plum</td>
<td>Prunus mexicana</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexican White Oak</td>
<td>Quercus phellos</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possum-haw Holly</td>
<td>Nyssa biflora</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full/partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redbud (Texas)</td>
<td>Cercis canadensis</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soapberry</td>
<td>Saponaria officinalis</td>
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<td>Full/partial</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX Mountain Laurel</td>
<td>Sophora secundiflora</td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viburn</td>
<td>Viburnum opulus</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wax Myrtle</td>
<td>Myrica cerifera</td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yaupon Holly</td>
<td>Ilex vomitoria</td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>Full/partial</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Hickory Creek would like to announce the retirement of our Court Administrator, Gayla Martin. Gayla has been with the Hickory Creek Municipal Court for 17 years and we are very proud of the growth and achievement accomplished during her tenure. The Town would like to thank Gayla for her commitment in serving the court professionally, efficiently, and with great integrity. The Town is confident Gayla is leaving the municipal court in good hands with her successors. Thank you Gayla Martin for a job well done and happy retirement!

**Renee O’Neill, Court Administrator**

Renee O’Neill was hired in January of 2019 to replace Gayla Martin as the Court Administrator. Renee joins our staff with over 11 years of municipal court experience. She started her career in city government as the City Treasurer in Douglass, Kansas, where she served for 9 years. In 2016, Renee moved to Texas and was hired to the City of Lake Dallas. She started at Lake Dallas as a Deputy Court Clerk until she was promoted to a Deputy City Secretary. She was serving as the Interim Finance Director prior to accepting the position with Hickory Creek as the Court Administrator. She currently holds the Level II Certified Court Clerk certification. She has been married to her husband Chris for 32 years and they have two daughters, Samantha and Cassidy. Samantha is 23 years old and graduates from UNT this Spring. Cassidy is 21 years old and a graduate of UNT.

**Ashley Vinson, Deputy Court Clerk**

Ashley Vinson is our newest hire as Deputy Court Clerk, and is a Level II Certified Court Clerk. She was born in Denton Texas, but has been in the Lake Cities area since 1996. She has lived in Lake Dallas, Corinth, and recently moved to Hickory Creek in 2018. She graduated from Texas Woman’s University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice and Business Management. Ashley started her career in local government in 2010 working as a 9-1-1 dispatcher and in 2013 she moved over to the municipal court. She is a foster parent and currently has a sibling trio who are twelve, ten, and three. Her evenings and weekends are spent at the soccer and baseball fields.
**Community Reminders**

**General Election - Cancelled**

The Town of Hickory Creek Election scheduled for May 4, 2019 for the purpose of electing Councilmember Place 1, Councilmember Place 3 and Councilmember Place 5 has been cancelled due to the Councilmembers being unopposed.

**Republic Services Senior Discount**

Hickory Creek provides a 30% senior discount on trash and recycling services for residents over 65. To get signed up, bring your trash bill and driver's license to Town Hall and let us know you're eligible for the discount. The Town will contact Republic Services for your discount on future bills. Once your information has been submitted, there is no need to reapply each year. Senior discounts previously applied for with Waste Management will carry over to Republic Services.

**Lake Cities 4th of July**

This is a spectacular, one-of-a-kind celebration uniting the communities of Lake Dallas, Corinth, Hickory Creek, and Shady Shores in celebration of our Nation's birth. The festivities begin with a patriotic parade followed by food, contests, vendors, and toe-tappin' music. The day is brought to a close with one of the largest, most dazzling fireworks displays in the area. For more information go to www.lakedallas.com

**Denton County Alert**

Denton County switched providers for our mass notification system. If you previously signed up for alerts using CodeRED, Nixle, or our oldest system Reverse 911, it will be necessary for you to create a new account on the Everbridge system.

Any data provided to CodeRED, Nixle, or Reverse 911, has been deleted from their system. Your current up to date information will ensure we have a means of contacting you.

To get signed up go to www.dentoncounty.com. Under Departments Click on Emergency Services, Emergency Services/Fire Marshal and then Emergency notification. You will need to set up a new account even if you had been previously signed up with CodeRed.
Visit Your Town Hall

Parks & Recreation Board—2nd Monday @ 6:30 PM
Planning & Zoning Commission—1st Wednesday @ 7 PM
Town Council—3rd Tuesday @ 6:30 PM
Economic Development Corporation—4th Thursday @ 5:30 PM
www.hickorycreekEDC.com

Upcoming Town Closures

April 19  Good Friday
May 27  Memorial Day
July 4  Independence Day

Not on Facebook? Go to our website at www.hickorycreek-tx.gov. Click on Notify Me and receive updates by e-mail or text from the Town of Hickory Creek.