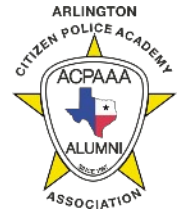




March NEWSLINK



March 2021

BACK THE BLUE - WE HAVE YOUR BACK

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You may have received an emergency alert recently from the City of Arlington regarding water service. This is part of our new emergency notification system CodeRED.

CodeRED helps the City connect with residents via phone calls, emails and text messages during public health and safety crises – for example, the boil water alert, evacuations, garbage and recycling updates, gas leaks, severe weather alerts and much more.

How Does CodeRED Work?

CodeRED is a web-based emergency notification system that provides local governments the security to send information and urgent notifications to residents and businesses over phone, text message and email. This system provides quick communication with thousands of residents within minutes. This is a free service to all City of Arlington residents and businesses.

Text to Sign Up

To sign up to receive free notifications from the City’s emergency notification system, text *ARLINGTON* to 99411. You will receive a link to the CodeRED webpage where you can sign up for notifications. You can select which notifications you’d like to receive and add your preferred methods of communication.

Multiple Languages

Whenever you sign up with a managed account, you can select 1 of 23 different languages for your notifications. Simply select your preferred language at sign-up.

Continued on page 2

BOD Meeting - 6:30 PM
No meetings until further Notice
South Station

Membership Meeting 7:00 PM
No meetings until further notice
West Station



Arlington Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association



CodeRED messages are sent via a #866-419-5000 phone number for emergencies and a #855-969-4636 number for general notifications. To be sure you can receive all notifications, save these numbers as “CodeRED” in your contact list. If you would like to hear any message again, just call the number back to have it repeated.

Text ARLINGTON to 99411 to sign up or [click here to register online](#).

The City has also created printable posters, [available in English](#) and [Spanish](#), to share with your community.

Arlington Announces Water and Sewer Billing Credit for Storm Recovery

Arlington Water Utilities made billing changes this week to help customers who may have experienced higher than their average water usage this month due to plumbing, fire suppression or irrigation line breaks to their homes or businesses or dripping faucets to prevent freezing pipes. Starting immediately:

Arlington Water Utilities will issue a "storm recovery credit" to water utilities customers who have higher than average usage during the billing period that includes Feb. 13 through Feb. 28, 2021. Credits will be provided for sanitary sewer as well.

The credit amount will be based on an average of a customer’s water usage for their previous three billing periods (November 2020 and December 2020, January 2021) and February 2020.

If a customer’s February 2021 usage is higher than that average, a bill credit will be automatically issued for the difference between the two amounts. No paperwork is required.

Storm recovery credits will begin appearing on bills for eligible accounts after March 1.

The City will also issue storm recovery bill credits to commercial customers such as apartment complexes, condominiums, and businesses.

Arlington Water Utilities customers can access information about their water usage, including hourly readings for those with remotely read meters, by visiting ArlingtonTX.gov/KnowYourH2O.

The storm recovery credit will not be shown on bills issued before March 1.

To see a .pdf copy of your bill on the website, click on the "Bills & Payment" tab on the left side of the screen. The billing date will be in the top right corner of your bill.

Arlington Water Utilities is also waiving late fees for the period of time from Feb. 13-22, 2021 due to difficulties in making payments.

Editors Note

On the following page we will have series of internet safety and security information. Send me your comments.



SCAM WARNING

Prediction No. 1: COVID-19 scams, malware, and fraud will follow the news

We are all eager for a vaccine to end the COVID-19 pandemic. And that eagerness? It's great news for scammers.

Security experts, including those at the Better Business Bureau, are already warning consumers to watch for phishing attempts linked to vaccine news. What to expect? Plenty of phishing emails promising consumers early access to COVID-19 vaccines or giving them the chance to buy doses by mail.

Of course, these messages will be scams. Phishers might ask victims to send payment for a "vaccine" that they don't have. Others will use consumers' anticipation of a vaccine to scam them out of their credit card or other financial information.

Consumers can avoid these scams by realizing two key facts: The COVID-19 vaccine is not for sale and there's no way for them to skip the vaccination line. Any message promising them early access to the vaccine is certainly a scam.

The challenge here? Many people desperately want to believe they can get their COVID-19 vaccines quickly. That desperation makes them more vulnerable to phishers. Why? They want to believe the message scammers are promoting. That makes them more likely to turn off their skepticism when they receive a phishing email.

The perils of working from home

More of us are working from home today, and that's a trend that's likely to continue into 2021 even as COVID-19 vaccines are rolled out. As more people work from home, expect a continual rise in malware attacks.

Why? People's home laptops and devices are rarely as secure as workstations based in the office. At the same time, employees working at home might feel more comfortable downloading questionable content or visiting potentially infected web sites if their bosses aren't sitting just down the hall.

Then there's the fact that phishing attempts are on the rise as more people are spending more time online at home. The UK National Health Service is a good example. The agency's workers were exposed to nearly 40,000 spam and phishing attacks from March through the first half of July, a period that coincided with the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in their country.

All the time people are spending online today represents a perfect breeding ground for malware. People who are bored may be more likely to explore new web sites or let their guards down when an email that looks like it comes from work directs them to a malware-laced site.

Furthermore, some of us had to include new equipment at our home office, much of which is internet connected and possibly vulnerable. A lot of us may not have the time, energy or knowledge to properly manage such equipment in terms of safety. Thus a new threat vector opens up for attackers to invade. The best defense remains strong, and frequently updated, security software and a dose of skepticism. People working from home need to look for the signs that an email sent from work isn't really from their company, clues that include everything from generic greetings to typos and grammatical errors. And if they're suspicious of an email that supposedly comes from their boss or employer? They should contact their companies to make sure it's legitimate.



William (Bill)
Smith Sr,

William J Smith Sr., age 94, of Arlington, Texas passed away on Saturday, February 6, 2021. William was born July 19, 1926. William gave 50+ years of proud service to the defense of this country, traveled the world and was a member of the Arlington Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association. He was a dedicated and faithful husband, loving Father and cherished Grandfather. Left to cherish his memory are daughters Sue Gregg and Marge Gore, Son William Smith Jr., Son in Law Robert Gore Sr., grandchildren Robert Gore Jr., Christopher Gore, William Gregg, Margie Gregg and numerous extended friends and family. He was preceded in death by Zarik, (Stella) his wife of 61 years.

VIA & HANDITRAN OFFER FREE RIDES TO ARLINGTON RESIDENTS WITH CONFIRMED VACCINE APPOINTMENTS

- Visit www.arlingtontx.gov/via to request a Via promo code. Each promo code will be good for two free round trip Via rides to any of the eligible vaccine sites:
 - » Esports Stadium Arlington + Expo Center
 - » Globe Life Field
 - » AT&T Stadium

Riders will be asked to show proof of their vaccine appointment (text or email) to the Via driver.

- Handitran also is offering free rides to vaccine sites. To schedule a ride, call 817-459-3704.



When it comes to scams, let's look out for one another

This pandemic has brought lots of side effects. Lost jobs, lost income, and lost homes are themes we see around the country — and scammers know just how to take advantage of these worries. Another side effect of the pandemic is isolation, which scammers also like to use to their advantage. During National Consumer Protection Week, which starts today, I'm asking you to join me in fighting isolation to fight scams.

The FTC knows that people who talk about scams are much less likely to fall for them. So, when people of any age are on their own too much, they don't have the chance to talk things out. And when scammers — who are calling, emailing, and texting — might be a person's main source of contact, nothing good happens next.

So, today, pick up the phone. Call someone you haven't talked with in a while. Maybe somebody who might be too much alone. See how they're doing. And work into the conversation these ideas:

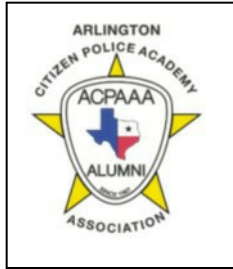
- * Scammers have lots of fake stories: early or guaranteed access to vaccines (no such thing), you've won a prize (you haven't), your computer needs tech support (it doesn't), they're an online love interest (not if they want money).

- *Whatever their story, scammers want you to pay or share your personal information.

- *Nobody legit will ever (EVER) tell you to pay by gift card, money transfer, or cryptocurrency.

- *No government agency will ever call/email/text to ask you for money, your Social Security, bank account, or credit card number.

After you've reached out and shared these ideas, invite your friend or relative to call you back: just to talk, or if something fishy comes up and they want a second opinion. And if someone paid a scammer, please tell them to report it: [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/whats-new/2020/03/report-fraud) .



2021 ACPAAA Membership Registration

New Member Renewal Member

Contact Information

(Please print legibility)

Name: _____

Birthday (Month and Day only): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

I am interested in helping in the following areas and may be called when assistance is needed:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly meeting snacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Golf Tournament |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nomination committee | <input type="checkbox"/> CPA class meals/desserts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Police Week Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Cops |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography |

Annual Dues are **\$20.00** per person.

Payment may be made by **check** (payable to **ACPAAA**)

or via the **PayPal** link on www.acpaaa.org.

Bring this completed form to a monthly meeting or mail it to:

ACPAAA, PO Box 944, Arlington, TX 76004

Welcome to the ACPAAA and we appreciate your support for

the Arlington Police Department!

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### For Office Use Only

Date Rec'd \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

PayPal  Cash

**BACK THE BLUE--WE HAVE YOUR BACK**