



ROCKWALL CITY NOTES

A Monthly City Publication

November 2022

Rockwall Readies for Christmas Events

Get ready to ring in the holidays with a hometown celebration to remember. Saturday, December 3 will be a day-long event filled with Christmas cheer with festivities from 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Get a seat early for the 53rd annual Kiwanis Christmas Parade, which starts at the Rockwall County Courthouse (1111 E. Yellowjacket Ln.) and ends up in Historic Downtown. The theme of this year's event is "Happiness is..." For more than five decades, this parade has been a fun family tradition in Rockwall, and it's still going strong.

After the parade, you can head over to the Square to continue the celebration. The Hometown Christmas festivities begin right after the parade at about 10 a.m. The heart of Downtown Rockwall will be transformed with the largest Santa bounce house, snow globe photos, train rides, inflatable slide, food trucks, pictures with Santa, a snow play area, and more.



The celebration wraps up with the 39th annual Christmas Tree Lighting on the lawn in front of City Hall (385 S. Goliad St.). This is a can't miss event that's complete with live music, a photo opportunity with Santa (bring your own camera), free Christmas cookies provided by the Rockwall Women's League, and a coffee and hot chocolate bar. For more information about all the day's events, please visit Rockwall.com.



Helping Hands Toy Drive

Every year Rockwall residents rally to help our neighbors in need during the holidays. Rockwall County Helping Hands has a program to provide toys to make Christmas brighter for more than 1,000 local children. The annual Toy Drive kicks off this year on November 11. Toy tags are available at drop-off locations, such as City Hall, located at 385 S. Goliad St., and new unwrapped toys must be dropped off by 5 p.m. on Monday, December 5. For more information about ways to help with the toy drive, please visit: RockwallHelpingHands.com.



Happening Around Town

Saturday, November 19

FREE Shred Event (Rockwall Residents), Parking Lot Behind The Center (108 E. Washington St.), 8 a.m.-12 noon

Saturday, November 26

Shop Small Event, Historic Downtown Rockwall, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, December 3

Rockwall Christmas Events, Historic Downtown Rockwall, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, December 9-10

Holiday Home Tour, Historic Downtown Rockwall, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. each day

Saturday, December 10

Breakfast with Santa, The Center (108 E. Washington St.), 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 21

Daddy Daughter Dance, Rockwall Hilton at The Harbor

*For more information:
Rockwall.com, PlayRockwall.com*

Out and About in Rockwall



Downtown Decorated for Fall

Once again, the Friends of Downtown Rockwall volunteers have worked to decorate the square to help keep it festive to attract both visitors and patrons to the area. Every year a group of very dedicated volunteers, led by Claudette Hatfield, work to help Rockwall stay vibrant, thriving, beautiful, and festive.



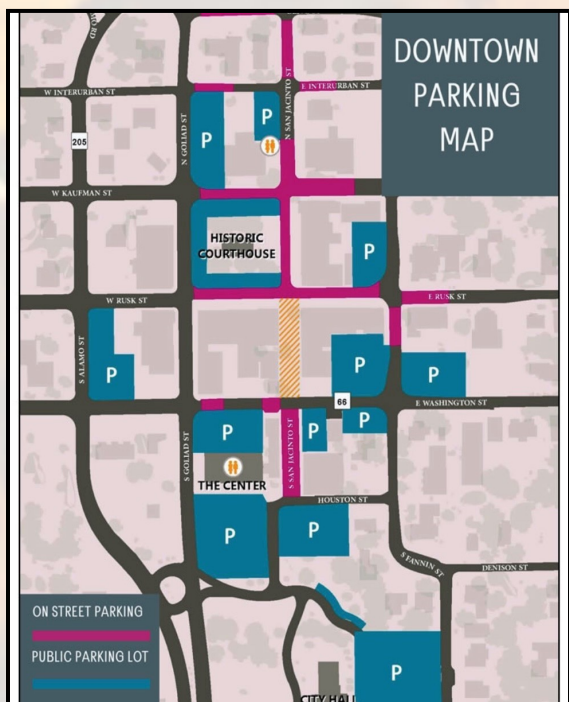
Food and Fun at Farm to Feast

The Downtown Rockwall Association hosted their annual Farm to Feast celebration. It was a gorgeous night to dine under the stars in Rockwall's San Jacinto Plaza. More than 120 guests enjoyed a seasonally inspired menu prepared by talented local chefs. All courses were served family style at the 120 foot table.



Thanking Our Volunteers

Rockwall held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Reception to thank the dedicated people who do so much to keep the city running smoothly. Volunteers donate thousands of hours every year with projects and events through groups such as Volunteers in Parks (VIPs), Friends of Downtown Rockwall, Citizens on Patrol (COPs), and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) just to name a few.



Where to Park in Downtown Rockwall

Did you know? that there are more than 500 parking spots in Downtown Rockwall?! It's true. There are 11 parking lots available and free to the public. Probably the most convenient parking lot, that always has available parking during events, is the one south of The Center (108 E. Washington St.). That lot alone seems to be one of the least utilized, and residents and visitors may find that parking is not as big of an issue if they began using that one.



The map here shows all the free lots in the Downtown area. However, in case it's difficult to read, use the QR code pictured here to link to the Downtown page on Rockwall.com. From there, you can see the same map of all the parking lots in Downtown Rockwall. There are a whole host of events coming up for the holidays and beyond, and we encourage everyone to try parking in one of the convenient lots.

Defend Your Drains—Think Before Putting that in the Sink

As the holidays approach, we tend to create more FOG than normal. Fats, oils and grease, or FOG, comes from meats, butter and margarine, lard, food scraps, sauces, salad dressings, dairy products, and cooking oil.

When FOG goes down the drain, it hardens and causes sewer pipes to clog. This can lead to a sanitary sewer overflow where **raw sewage actually backs up into your home, lawn, neighborhood, and streets**. Not only does this nasty mess cause health issues, it's also expensive to fix, and can run into a nearby stream or river, which affects our drinking water.

Here's how to properly dispose of FOG:

- Put oil and grease in sealable containers for recycling
- Wipe excess grease from pans and throw away
- Toss food scraps in garbage instead of disposal

