

# THE SUMMERFIELDS

# SPOTLIGHT

FOCUS ON THE NEIGHBORHOOD

A COMMUNITY WHERE DIVERSITY IS VALUED, COMMUNICATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED AND AN ATTITUDE OF LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER IS RESPECTED

A Publication of the Summerfields Neighborhood Association

April 2021

## Important Fort Worth Municipal Elections

Extracted from City of Fort Worth Website

The next General Election for Fort Worth Mayor and City Council will be held May 1, 2021. As the election approaches, specific polling locations in the counties where the City has registered voters, currently Tarrant, Denton and Parker, will be published in accordance with state law.

Candidate Qualifications are as follows:

- Be a United States citizen (TEC)
- Be 21 years of age (City of Fort Worth Charter)
- Be a qualified voter (City of Fort Worth Charter)
- Be a registered voter as of February 12, 2021 in the Council District for which you are seeking election. (TEC)
- Not been determined mentally incompetent by a final judgment of a court (TEC)
- Not been finally convicted of a felony from which not pardoned (TEC)
- Resided continuously in the state for 12 months and City for 6 months immediately preceding February 12, 2021 (the filing deadline). (TEC)

Resided continuously in the Council District for which you are seeking election for 180 days (July 17, 2020) before the first allowed filing date for the election. (City of Fort Worth Charter)

(See page 4 for information on Mayoral and District 4 City Council candidates)

## SNA Presidents Corner



I want to stress the importance of the upcoming City of Fort Worth elections. Typically less than 5% of registered voters turn out in City elections. People just don't seem to realize what a major impact elected city officials have on our everyday lives..

These folks make decisions that affect our lives every day. They determine the budget and staffing for all the City's departments, such as public safety, code compliance, fire. They maintain and maintain our sewer and wastewater systems, repair our streets, establish zoning and construction standards that impact the quality of our neighborhoods, and establish how and when our trash is picked up. In addition to the all this, they set the tax rate on our homes. In 2022 they will also decide how to add two new council districts and equitably realign the remaining eight districts. I would think all this, and more not mentioned, merits more than a few thousand people voting.

The point is that national elections get much more press and exposure, but local elections seem to be considered insignificant. That is definitely not the case. I encourage you to get informed and vote for the candidates of your choice.

The SNA does not endorse candidates, but I would like to say when working with Cary Moon and his staff the last four years we have found them to be proactive, accessible and responsive.

### Table of Contents

Pg 2-3 Development

Pg 4 City News

Pg 5-6 Code Info

Pg 7 Crime Map

## New Parkview Elementary School Construction Has Begun

Construction trailers and a fence have been put up at Parkview Elementary School. This augers the upcoming construction at that site. Most of the current school will be taken down and a new two-story facility will be built on the east side of the property.

It should feature lanes in the parking lot along Bayberry for parents to line up while waiting to pick up their children, reducing much of the traffic that currently lines up along Bayberry. The construction phase is scheduled to start on April 1st, 2021.

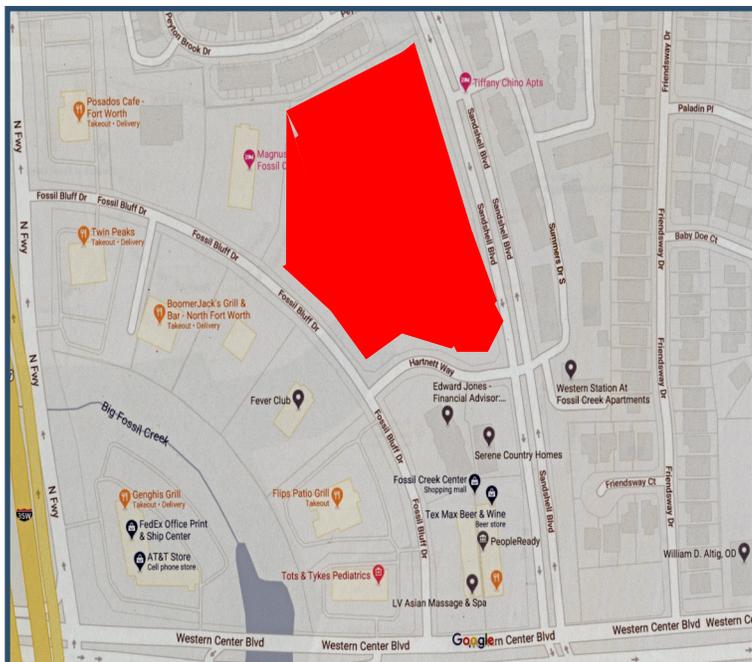
## Developments Currently in Progress

A convenience store is under construction at 4550 Basswood Blvd., just to the east-of Ace Hardware. Long-time residents may remember that this site originally had a privately run recreational facility with tennis courts and a swimming pool. It went out of business in the early 1990s. For safety reasons the pool was filled in with dirt and the tennis courts removed. They're removing the old swimming pool and are preparing the site for the new store. We are again trying to determine what is planned there. At one time that land was purchased by a plumbing company, but we do not know if they are still the property owners.

We are still trying to find out what's going in at the southwest intersection of Sandshell and Basswood Blvds. They are currently moving dirt on this acreage. The sign that has been posted on this land for quite some time has stated in was the future site of a car wash. We are attempting to confirm that.

A building is well into construction just across the street by the drive-thru storage facility . We are investigating the building's planned use, but as yet do not know what is going in at that location. We will provide this information when it is available. It has the same zoning as the storage facility.

## Standard Multi-Family Apartments Proposed In Our Area



A developer has been working with Councilman Cary Moon and area neighborhood organizations, including the SNA, to construct a 200 unit apartment complex on the land bordered by Fossil Bluff, Hartnett, and Sandshell Blvd. This is the land just to the south of the Carriage Place townhomes who's Association we are supporting.

While the SNA has traditionally opposed new standard multi-family zoning changes, this is not a normal situation. This site is currently zoned G, high intensity commercial. This type of zoning allows several large non-residential facilities such as the Main Event bowling and gaming center in the Presidio Shopping area. Because of the risk of such G-zoned facilities building on this land, the SNA has conditionally supported this multi-family development.

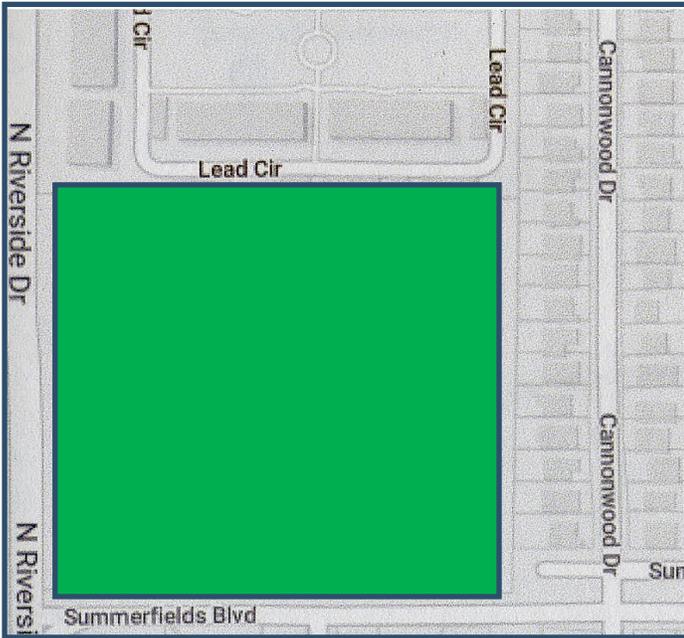


Concept Drawings from the Developer.  
Final design is yet to be finalized.



## Japanese Restaurant Hopes to Open on Basswood

Takara Japanese Restaurant hopes to move into the vacant building at 3088 Basswood Blvd previously occupied by the Chinese Buffet that closed down last year. Takara has applied for a variance that would allow them to sell liquor, beer and wine with their meals. Since that property abuts a school (Basswood Elementary) alcoholic beverage sales are prohibited. The owners are working with Keller ISD and have submitted a variance request with the City. At this time we do not know the status of this project, but will keep you posted as things go forward.



The SNA supported the development of a seniors only (55+) multi-family housing facility on the vacant land located at the northeast intersection of Summerfields Blvd. and N. Riverside Drive. The zoning change request for this facility was approved in August by both the City’s Zoning Commission and the City Council.

There is no known date for the start of construction, but we’ll pass you updated information when we receive it.



Concept Drawing

## Area Road Construction Updates

We have noticed flags placed to identify utility line locations at the Basswood and N. Beach intersection. This project was funded in the City’s last Capital Improvement Program (CIP) bond package and will install two turn lanes in every direction to help alleviate traffic congestion at this busy intersection. While no start date is currently known, the signs mean this road project could commence in the not to distant future.

The construction to widen N. Riverside Drive to a four lane road from N. Tarrant Parkway south to Basswood Elementary school should complete later this year. They have installed two traffic circles. The one at Thompson Road is almost finished and they are well into completing the traffic circle at Summerfields Blvd.. Summerfields Blvd. traffic is blocked off at North Riverside Drive to facilitate completion of the traffic circle at that intersection. Middle School. Please be patient. When completed this will make N. Riverside a four lane road up to North Tarrant. Construction is proceeding well and should be finished, weather permitting, by mid 2021.

A second road improvement project will continue widening N. Riverside Drive from N. Tarrant Parkway northward to the existing traffic circle/four lane road at Shiver Road . It is funded and in the design phase . This project will not begin until the current N. Riverside project is complete. This means we have a couple of years before N. Riverside is a four lane road throughout our area..

# District 4 City Council Candidates

Several websites were searched for biographical information on the candidates. The following is the result of those searches. Biographies were downloaded from Ballotpedia or individual candidates election websites:

**Cary Moon (incumbent) Bio:** Councilman Moon earned a B.S. from Texas A&M University. At the time of his 2017 run for re-election, Moon was the owner of Moon Financial, Inc. His professional experience also includes work as the chief executive officer of Community Bank and the chief financial officer of a medical company. Moon has served as chair of the boards of Fort Worth Tax Increment Finance Districts 7 and 13 and a member of the Fort Worth Internal Audit Committee, the Fort Worth Public Housing Finance Commission, and the Regional Transportation Council of the North Texas Council of Governments. His election website containing extensive data can be found at [www.carymoon.com](http://www.carymoon.com).

**Jorge L. Chavez:** No biography found on Ballotpedia. No election website found.

**Kristie Hanhart:** No biography found on Ballotpedia. Information is available on her website [www.kristiehanhartdistric4.com](http://www.kristiehanhartdistric4.com).

**Max Striker Bio:** Earned a B.B.A. from the University of North Texas and a J.D. from Texas Wesleyan University. At the time of his 2017 run for office, he was an attorney. Striker also served in the U.S. Army from 1990 to 1994. More information available on his website <https://maxstriker.com>

**Tara Wilson:** (No biography found on Ballotpedia, the following was extracted from her election website) Ms. Wilson works as an ER Nurse. She believes in transparency in the decision making process, creating policies that are equitable for everyone in Fort Worth, addressing root causes that impact public safety especially in minority communities, and fiscal responsibility involving the City budget. Her election website containing extensive data can be found at [www/votetarawilson.com](http://www/votetarawilson.com).

**Mayoral Race:** With Betsy Prices announcement that she will not seek another term as mayor, ten candidates have announced for the Mayor’s position. With that large a field it is not possible for us to adequately list information on all these candidates, so residents are encouraged to research the candidates in order to make an informed decision at the poll. It is suggested you research the candidates and make an informed decision at the poll. The mayoral candidates, listed alphabetically by last name, are listed below:

Brian Bird, Daniel Caldwell, Mylene George, Mike Haynes, Cedric Kanyinda, Mattie Parker, Steve Penate, Deborah Peoples, Chris Rector, and Ann Zadeh.

Early voting begins on April 19th. Election day is May 1st. Polling locales have not be released.

## City Drop-Off Locations

The City of Fort Worth is ready to help you with your spring cleaning.

Four drop-off locations provide residents a one-stop drop for everything from household and yard chemicals to bulky trash and furniture to yard trimmings. Residents can easily access the drive through and dispose of these items.

You can dispose of items like TVs and electronics, household and yard chemicals that are not picked up by the trash, recycle or bulk waste trucks. Items such as electronics,, household, yard and pool chemicals, automotive fluids, batteries, light bulbs and paint contaminate a landfill and must be properly recycled.

The drop-off stations are free to Fort Worth homeowners and are open on Monday through Saturday. Residents must provide a Fort Worth water bill or current drivers license with a Fort Worth address. Renters can drop off recyclables only if they present a current Fort Worth water bill.

### Drop-off Locations

Hillshire Drop-off Station  
321 Hillshire Drive, Haslet

Southeast Drop-off Station  
5150 Martin Luther King Freeway

Brennan Drop-off Station  
2400 Brennan Avenue

Old Hemphill Road Drop-off Station  
6260 Old Hemphill Road

Our main code issue in Summerfields is solid waste incorrectly placed curbside. Not following the guidelines usually results in waste not picked up, which detracts from the street's appearance and can lead to fines. No one wants to live in a neighborhood with trash sitting by the street for too long. It detracts from the neighborhood's appearance, makes selling homes more difficult, and eventually lowers property values. Because of this the SNA aggressively monitors waste disposal violations and reports them to Code Compliance. We do not like reporting violations that can result in fines, but there is often no alternatives left to us, We much prefer that residents become educated on the City's waste disposal processes, but will not stand idle while trash accumulates in our neighborhood.

The following are the most common violations we observe:

- Plastic bags containing solid waste (including leaves) placed curbside. ***Anything in a plastic bag must be placed in the brown garbage cart to be picked up.*** Hardware stores sell acceptable paper yard bags for disposing of yard recyclable waste such as clippings, leaves and small branches
- Bulk waste placed curbside too early, sometimes up to three weeks before the next scheduled pickup. Doing so detracts from the street's appearance and could impact neighbors trying to sell their homes.
- Placing bulk waste too close to objects in the yard. Many of the trucks use hydraulic arms to load waste, and if you place it too close to objects such as mail boxes or light poles it may prevent them from picking it up.
- Different types of bulky waste mixed together. Brush and paper-bagged leaves should be separated from furniture and other bulk items. They are picked up by different trucks and go to different locations. Brush and yard clippings are taken to a City facility where along with the paper bags are converted into mulch. This is the main reason they will not pick up yard waste in non-recyclable plastic bags.
- Mixing waste and recyclable items in the Recycle container. Waste and recyclables are picked up by different trucks. Contaminating the Recycle container with household waste will result in the bin not being emptied.
- Placing household and yard chemicals in the recycle or trash containers. These items should be taken to the Environmental Collection Center (ECC) on Bridge Street. You simply drive though, show your driver's license to show you are a Fort Worth resident, and they empty your vehicle for you. See details on the City's web site.
- Placing any electronic item or major appliance curbside for pick up. All electronics should be taken to Brennen Street for disposal. Electronic items such as TVs have integrated circuitry that contain hazardous chemicals such as arsenic. They are disposed of separately so as not to contaminate the landfills.
- Overflowing Waste and Recycle bins. Called "snow cones" because the lid cannot be closed, they can result in the bin not being emptied. Again, the trucks are automated and if the operator feels they cannot empty the container without spillage they will usually bypass the container, thus leaving the resident with another week before it is again eligible for pick up.
- Trash bins left on the street for days after the scheduled pickup date.

Also remember that small limbs (less than 8 feet in length and four inches in diameter) can be placed curbside for pickup with your scheduled weekly trash. Only larger limbs have to wait for the monthly bulk pick up..

## BULK WASTE GUIDELINES

**Note: Bulk pickup week for Summerfields begins on the second Monday of each month and runs through the following Saturday. Bulk waste should not be placed curbside until the weekend before your scheduled pickup week. For more information we urge our residents to visit the Solid Waste webpage on the City's website (see the link at the end of this article).**

The following information was provided by the City of Fort Worth Solid Waste Department:

**Bulk collection is once a month. The New guidelines are in place, so brush up before your next monthly collection**

The city's Solid Waste Services has new easy-to-follow steps to make residential bulk collection safer and more effective for pickup. (continued on page 6)

## BULK WASTE GUIDELINES—Continued from page 5

The goal is to not only collect the waste, but to dispose of it in a safe manner and, when possible, keep it out of the landfill. For example, tree limbs, branches and yard waste are turned into mulch.

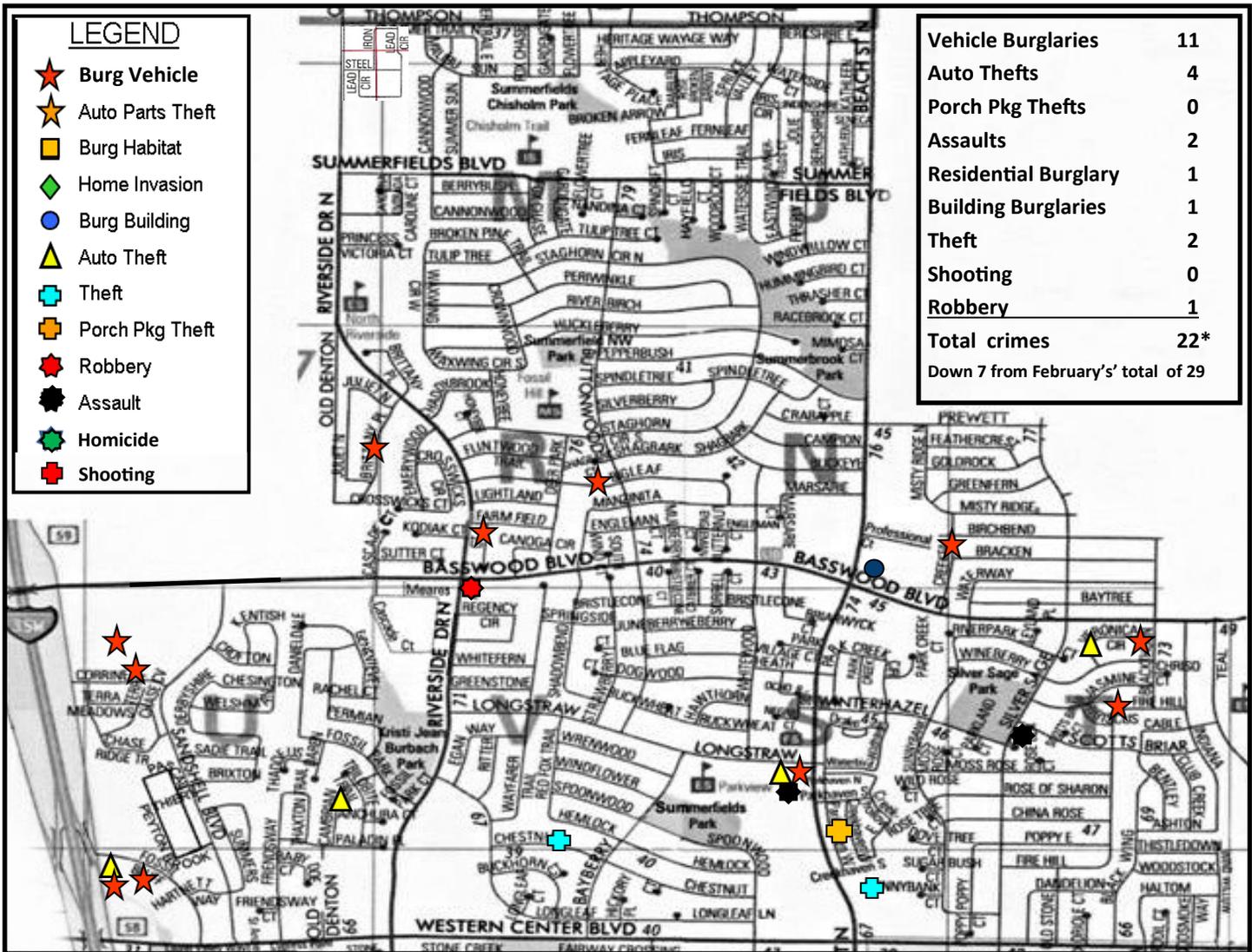
To help curbside pickup go as smoothly as possible, follow the program directions and avoid incurring fines. Here are some best practices and program guidelines:

- Bulk items must be placed on the curb by 7 a.m. Monday of your scheduled collection week. Make sure the pile is not blocked by a vehicle.
- Bulk piles are limited to 10 cubic yards (6 feet by 8 feet by 6 feet), the size of a Volkswagen bug car.
- *Plastic bags are not allowed outside the trash cart*; residents may incur fines if plastic bags are placed curbside.
- All piles, paper yard waste bags and carts must be separated by at least 2 feet to be collected and to avoid extra fees. No materials can be placed between piles since this creates one large, out-of-compliance pile.
- Any items that fit in the brown garbage cart are not considered bulk and should be put in plastic bags and then placed into the brown garbage cart.
- Large limbs refers to those more than 4 inches in diameter and over eight feet long. Brush smaller than this is considered yard waste and can be collected at the curb on your weekly trash pickup day as part of the yard waste collection program. It must be separated from items like mail boxes, carts, large limbs and any bulk piles

To learn more about the program details, including what materials cannot be set out for bulk collection, check the Solid Waste webpage. [http://fortworthtexas.gov/solid\\_waste/bulk/](http://fortworthtexas.gov/solid_waste/bulk/).

Solid Waste Services At-A-Glance					
Questions? Download the Fort Worth Garbage & Recycling App					
	WHEN	HOW	AMOUNT/SIZE	DETAILS	NO
<b>YARD</b> Yard Trimmings Leaves, twigs, grass, shrubs	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m.	In paper bags, or optional purchase of green yard cart	Unlimited paper yard bags - 30 gallon size	Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects (cars, trees, mailboxes, water and gas meters.)	No plastic bags or trash
<b>Brush, Tied</b> Small Branches	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m.	Bundled, tied with string or twine	Unlimited bundles, 8 ft. long, 40 lb. max	Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects	No nylon or plastic straps, ties or wire
<b>Brush, Untied</b> Large Branches	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m.	Stacked branches only. All branches should be in one pile	Limited to 10 cubic yards (8 ft. long x 6 ft. wide x 6 ft. tall) max, about size of VW Beetle car. Branches no longer than 8 ft. and up to 4 inches in diameter	Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects. More than 10 cubic yds. collected within 72 hours billed to resident	No stumps, plastic bags, trash, fencing, lumber, or household bulk items
<b>RECYCLING</b> Visit website or app for all items that can be recycled. <b>Blue Cart</b>	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m. Can set cart out after 6 p.m. the day before your pickup day	Unbagged items. Close cart lid completely. Clean, dry and empty items.	As much recycling as can fit with the blue cart lid closed. Second blue cart available on request - free.	May take extras to a drop-off station. Only put acceptable items in the cart. Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects	No plastic bags, Styrofoam, paper towels, food, plastic wrap, electronics, clothes, medical waste
<b>GARBAGE</b> Household waste only. <b>Brown Cart</b>	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m. Can set cart out after 6 p.m. the day before your pickup day	In tied plastic bags inside brown cart. Close lid completely. Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects.	Your choice: a -32, 64- or 96-gallon cart (price varies with size). As many bags as can fit in brown cart with lid closed	Options for extra garbage: 1. Take to drop-off station 2. Upgrade cart size 3. Purchase city-authorized Pay Bags	No unbagged items; no bags outside cart or stacked on cart
<b>BULK ITEMS</b> For items too heavy/bulky for the cart. Visit the website or app for more details. Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects.	Monthly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m. the Monday of your assigned week; pickup will be any time between that Monday and Saturday	Stacked on curb in one pile. Acceptable items that are too large to fit in the garbage cart. Separate household bulk and large brush piles	Limited to 10 cubic yds. (8 ft long x 6 ft. wide x 6 ft. tall) max; size of a VW Beetle car. More than 10 cubic yds. billed to resident.	Can be set out after 6 p.m. the Friday before your assigned week. Includes fencing, stumps, lumber in bulky pile. Take extra to a drop-off station	No plastic bags, tires, glass, business waste, electronics, sheet-rock, or appliances with coolant or gas
<b>DROP-OFF STATIONS</b> Fort Worth Residents Only. Accepting recyclables, brush, electronics, items for Goodwill and more!	Open: M-F 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. (Hours subject to change) Free for Fort Worth Residents	Drop-off Station #1: 2400 Brennan Ave. 76106 Drop-off Station #2: 5150 Martin Luther King Jr. Frwy 76119 Drop-off Station #3: 6260 Old Hemphill Rd. 76134 Drop-off Station #4: 301 Hillshire 76052	Bring a recent water bill, drivers license or other official ID to prove Fort Worth residency	No commercial waste, no rock or concrete	

## Summerfields Area Crime Map for March 2021



### Summerfields Crime Trends for March 2021:

- The majority of car burglaries (BMVs) were of unlocked vehicles, which remains our most common crime.. It is strongly recommended that vehicles parked outside a garage be locked and nothing left in view from the outside.
- Auto thefts continue to be a problem. Cars left unlocked with key fobs inside contributed. .
- We are seeing an increase in violent crimes—assaults, homicides, robberies and shootings.
- While we had no occurrences this month, Fort Worth is still seeing a spike in catalytic converters taken from a vehicle parked outside. The platinum in the converters sells for around \$300 so is a big draw for thieves.
- We had only one businesses forcibly entered and burglarized.

### Crime Prevention Recommendations:

- If you park your car in the driveway, on the street or in a business parking lot, make sure it's locked. Most car burglaries are of unlocked vehicles. We have car burglars from all over Fort Worth come to our area and police say this is because our area has a reputation among thieves for not securing our property!
- Do not leave anything visible from the outside the vehicle. Doing so could motivate a burglar to forcibly enter.
- Close and lock your garage door. Remember, the door from your garage into your house is usually very flimsy!
- Install motion detector LED lights to illuminate your driveway and property - criminals like the dark.