

Coming
April 8, 2024

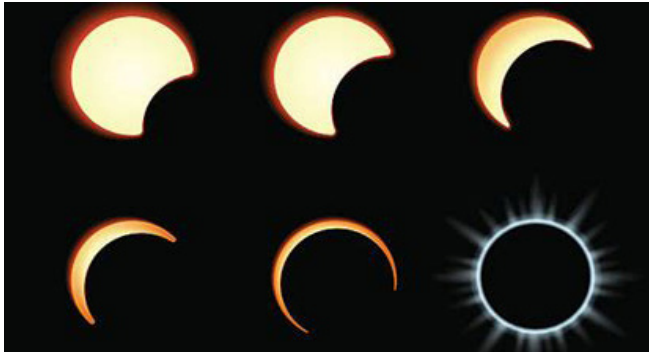
Volume 29- Number 1

January/February 2024

NLR Neighborhood News

#NLRStrong

Preparing For The April 8, 2024 Total Solar Eclipse



On April 8, 2024 a total eclipse will occur over central Arkansas. In fact, central Arkansas will have one of the best, longest views of the totality when the Sun is completely covered by the Moon. It promises to be the biggest total eclipse in memory. It is expected to draw between one million and five million visitors to the state. With a total population of three million people, it will increase our state's population by 1/3rd to possibly doubling it. More than half of the tourists are expected to arrive in the state on Thursday, April 4, 2023 and stay until after the eclipse on Monday.

Experts are suggesting that residents treat the eclipse like a blizzard. Make sure you have enough food, water, fuel, and medicine to last a week, from Wednesday April 3, 2023 to Tuesday April 9, 2024. Expect sales at restaurants, grocery stores, service stations, and pharmacies to increase from 5 to 25 times normal. Traffic may become impassable during and immediately following the event.

The eclipse will start about 12:45 PM and last until 3 PM. The eclipse will be total from about 1:51 to 1:54 PM. During the totality the Sun will be covered by the Moon and the Sun's corona will

be visible. Total darkness will occur at 1:51 PM. The colors you see will change as the spectrum of light changes. The air will cool 12 to 15 degrees. Depth perception will decrease. Winds will pick up. You may experience vertigo, dizziness, or disorientation. Nocturnal animal's activity will increase. Pets should be kept indoors because they may become disoriented and run away. Street lights will come on. Cell phone towers may be overloaded with people taking and downloading pictures, so expect delays in cell service.

When watching the eclipse, correct glasses are required. During the totality (when the Sun is completely covered) those glasses may be put aside. Do not look at the partially covered Sun without proper eye protection!

City departments and partners are planning now for the eclipse. MEMS will be stationing ambulances in areas that may be difficult to reach if traffic comes to a standstill. The state-wide Emergency Operations Center and the Pulaski County Emergency Operations Center will be on alert. All highway construction will be suspended and all lanes capable of being open will be open for traffic. Areas expecting to see the heaviest influx of tourists include Russellville and the Mountain View area.

This promises to be one of the most incredible astronomical events we will witness in our lifetimes. The next eclipse of this magnitude will be in 2045. With a little bit of planning and preparation you can experience it with a minimum of inconvenience.



CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK EMERGENCY SERVICES

WINTER TIPS

WEATHERIZE YOUR HOME

- INSULATE WALLS, PIPES, AND ATTICS.
- COVER ALL CRACKS.
- LEARN HOW TO SHUT OFF WATER VALVES IN CASE PIPES BURST.
- SEAL ALL LEAKS.

TRANSPORTATION

- TRANSPORTATION COULD BE VERY DANGEROUS DUE TO SLIPPERY OR SNOWY ROADS
- KEEP IN MIND THAT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION MAY BE CANCELLED.

CHECK TELEVISION AND RADIO

- AVOID UNNECESSARY TRAVEL.
- CHECK LOCAL AND NATIONAL WEATHER STATIONS.
- IDRIVEARKANSAS.COM
- WWW.WEATHER.COM

One Reason Why We Support Our Community Gardens



A study put out in October of 2023 showed that Arkansas is the worst state in the United States when it comes to food insecurity. The study, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, found that 16.6% of Arkansas households experienced food insecurity in 2022. The other states at the bottom of the list are Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

In fact, 6.5 % of our neighbors had experienced “very low food security” (ranked only behind South Carolina). “Very low food security” is defined as one or more members of a household experiencing reduced food intake and disrupted eating patterns during a year because of limited money and other resources for obtaining food. In other words, going hungry so the kids or senior citizen family member can eat.

Significant portions of North Little Rock are considered food deserts. That is defined as being more than a mile away from a fresh, nutritious food source.

Families are also facing tougher times due to cuts in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that had been increased during the pandemic. Our community gardens can be a source of fresh, nutritious food.

Besides supporting the community gardens in North Little Rock, our garden program has also been working on finding locations for little free food pantries throughout the city. Recycled newspaper boxes are adopted by organizations, churches, or families who volunteer to keep the boxes filled with nonperishable nutritious food. The food, or personal care items, in the boxes are available at no charge to folks who need them.

North Little Rock Commission Meetings

Airport Commission

3rd Thursday, 12:00 pm
City Services Bldg.
700 West 29th Street

City Council

2nd & 4th Monday, 6:00 p.m.
NLR City Hall
300 Main Street

Board of Zoning Adjustment

Last Thursday of each month,
1:30 p.m. / City Services Bldg.
700 West 29th Street

Central Arkansas Water Commission

2nd Thursday, 2:00 pm
CAW Office
3rd Floor Board Room
221 East Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR

*Meetings are currently closed to in-person attendance. CAW will provide a means for the public to attend online.

History Commission

2nd Tuesday, 5:30 pm
506 Main Street

Senior Citizen Commission

Every 4th Monday, 3:00 p.m.
401 West Pershing

Historic District Commission

2nd Thursday, 5:30 pm
506 Main Street

Thomas Cemetery Committee

3rd Monday, 6:15 pm
Levy Baptist Church,
3501 Pike Ave.

Parks & Recreation Commission

3rd Monday, 5:00 pm
2700 Willow Street

Waste Water Treatment Commission

2nd Tuesday, 12:15 p.m.
Waste Water Administration
Building, Conference Room
7400 Baucum Pike, Gate 1

City Beautiful Commission

3rd Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
Neighborhood Services Office
3427 North Magnolia Street

Planning Commission

2nd Tuesday, 4:00 pm
300 Main Street

Questions? Contact the Following

All dates are evening meetings unless otherwise noted.



Amboy Crime Watch

3rd Monday, 6:30
Burns Park Hospitality House,
Military Drive & Joe Poch Road
Paula Lively, 501-350-7649
pkele@aol.com

Amboy Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:30
Burns Park Hospitality House
Military Drive & Joe Poch Rd.
Angelica Barnard, 501-297-8720
Amboynanews@aol.com

Argenta Neighborhood Boosters

John Pflasterer, 501-553-8671
argentaboosters@yahoo.com

Baring Cross Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00
ACTS Church
13th & Franklin Sts.
Harlan Hunter, 501-541-1591

Cobblestone Crime Watch

Call for meeting information
Suni Mc Clelland, 501-920-5330
sunimcclelland@gmail.com

Dark Hollow Community Development Corporation

Every 3rd Tuesday, 6:30
1400 Pine Street
Belinda Burney, 501-376-8144

Dixie Addition Community Development Corporation

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00
914 "H" Street
Earnest Franklin, 501-563-5400

East Argenta Annex Neighborhood Watch Assn

Every 3rd Wednesday, 6:00
Sherman Park Rec. Center
624 North Beech Street
Rowney Torrance, 501-343-1960

Glenview Neighborhood Association Council

Every 1st Tuesday, 7:00
Glenview Rec. Ctr, 4800 E 19th St.
Tim Deloney, 501-945-8820

HOLT Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:30
Gardner Memorial United Methodist
Joy Cameron, 501-374-9520

Keep North Little Rock Beautiful

Every 2nd Monday, 6:00
Rockwater Marina Clubhouse
Randy Naylor, 501-350-8775 or
Lisa Smith, 501-791-2568;
KNLRB@aol.com
or www.Facebook.com/KNLRB

Meadow Park Neighborhood Assn.

Michael Davis, 501-442-0744

Melrose Outreach

Every 3rd Wednesday, 7:00
Melrose Grocery, 807 Willow St.
Tammy Small, 501-541-3703
TammyRSmall@att.net

Military Heights Outreach Assn.

Every 2nd Thursday, 6:30
North Little Rock Community Center
Juanita Henderson, 678-549-6670
Karen Alford, 501-681-5233

NAACP

Every 1st Tuesday, 6:00
P.O. Box 5571
North Little Rock, AR 72119
Deborah F. Rhodes, Ph: 501-819-3890
nlrnaacp201@yahoo.com

Neighbors United for Levy

Every 1st Monday, 6:30
No. Heights Recreation, 4801 Allen
Doug McDowall, 501-758-1668

North Little Rock Landlords Assn

Every 3rd Monday, 7:00
NLR Community Ctr, 2700 Willow St.
Gail Blucker, 501-835-6679

Park Hill Neighborhood

John Gregan, 501-758-7159
johngregan@att.net

Ridge Road Village Neighborhood Watch

Every 4th Thursday, 5:00
4748 Ridge Rd, Phone : 501-771-7500

Rose City Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00
Rose City Recreation Center
400 Rose Lane
Ken Abel, 501-791-8500, lv message
Nlrrosecityneighborhood@gmail.com

Scenic Hill Neighborhood Assn.

Randy Naylor, 501-350-8775

Sertoma Club of NLR

Every Wednesday, 12:00 noon
US Pizza on Warden Road

Sherman Park Neighborhood

Every 3rd Monday, 6:00
8th St. Baptist Church
Corner of Hickory & SA Jones Sts.
Artis Boykin, 501-766-0200

Stone Links Neighborhood Assn.

Every 3rd Tuesday, 7:00
Stone Links Clubhouse
Marie Hollowell, 404-259-2957

Willow Beach Estates Property Owners Assn

2nd Tuesday in March & October, 6:30
Church at Willow Beach
John Santoro, 501-607-1755

**City of North Little Rock
City Hall 300 Main Street**

Elected Officials

Mayor Terry Hartwick 975-8601
City Clerk, Diane Whitbey 975-8617
City Attorney, Amy Fields 975-3755

Council Members

Ward 1

Debi Ross 753-0733
Nathan Hamilton 952-7679

Ward 2

Linda Robinson 945-8820
Maurice Taylor 690-6444

Ward 3

Steve Baxter 804-0928
Ron Harris 758-2877

Ward 4

Charlie Hight 944-0670
Vince Insalaco III 951-0786

NLR Neighborhood News

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Neighborhood Services
P.O. Box 5757 / Zip: 72119-5757
3427 North Magnolia
North Little Rock, AR 72116

Shirley M. Abel, Editor
email:

NLRNeighborhoodServ@nlr.ar.gov
Office: (501) 791-8500
Fax: (501) 791-8516

Office Hours-
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Comments? We would like to hear from you. If you have neighborhood meetings or activities to be placed in the newsletter, please mail, fax, email or call the information to us. Are you reading someone else's copy? If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, contact our office.

North Little Rock Neighborhood News is a bi-monthly publication. Please note the following deadlines for information to be published:

Issue	Deadline Date
March/April	February 1
May/June	April 1
July/August	June 1
Sept/October	August 1
Nov/Dec	October 1

NLR Fire Department F.O.C.U.S. Program



The North Little Rock Fire Department has a program called F.O.C.U.S. - Firefighters Organize Community Understanding on Safety.

This program offers new installed smoke detectors or batteries for existing ones at no charge to our citizens. This is for single-family dwellings. Residents of apartment buildings should contact the property management for their smoke detector needs.

For legal reasons, we also request the resident to fill out a liability form whether we install a new detector or just replace a battery. In addition, we offer a free general home inspection if requested.

Please call the North Little Rock Fire Department at 501-340-5377 to schedule a free smoke detector or home inspection.

2024 North Little Rock Holiday Schedule

**New Year's Day -
January 1, 2024**

**Independence Day
July 4**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 15**

**Labor Day
September 2**

**Presidents/
Daisy Gaston Bates Day
February 19**

**Veterans Day
November 11**

**Memorial Day
May 27**

**Thanksgiving
November 28 & 29**

**Juneteenth Day
June 19**

**Christmas
December 24 & 25**

**For questions regarding Sanitation
and the holiday pick up schedule call 501-371-8340.**

2024 Recycling Weeks

January 14 & 28
February 11 & 25
March 10 & 24
April 7 & 21
May 5 & 19
June 2, 16 & 30

July 14 & 28
August 11 & 25
September 8 & 22
October 6 & 20
November 3 & 17
December 1, 15 & 29

**Recycling Or Holiday Pick Up Questions?
Call Waste Management at (501) 565-0191.**

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)

AGFC, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services Unveil New Nuisance Wildlife Hotline

Witt Stephens Jr Central AR Nature Center--



An expanded partnership between the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Wildlife Services Program should streamline the response to public reports of the occasional wild animal that poses a threat to people, livestock and property. A new nuisance wildlife hotline, 833-345-0315, is available 24 hours a day to provide guidance and assistance.

In the past, biologists and staff from all agencies involved did their best to provide relief to farmers and landowners experiencing property damage or loss to wildlife once they were contacted, getting to the right person caused unnecessary frustration.

"This new system should fix that," Robert Byrd, state director for USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, said. "You just need to call one number and any routing after that is handled on our end of things. If state staff need to handle the issue, we'll send it to the 24-hour radio room at AGFC to get them to get back in contact with you. If it's a call our people handle, we'll route it directly to our field staff and contractors."

Not only will the new system be easier for the public, it should expand the opportunities for all the agen-

cies to work together in combating nuisance wildlife issues.

"We can also share the workload between two agencies rather than one which should reduce our overall workload addressing nuisance animals," Goves said. The AGFC and Wildlife Services also note that smaller issues, such as raccoons and rodents getting into trash cans and squirrels invading someone's attic, likely still will be answered only with some advice on how to handle the situation and possible contact information for services who provide assistance for a fee.

"We simply don't have the manpower to cover all of those minor instances where the animal does not pose an immediate threat to people, livestock, crops or property," Groves said. "But we do have a lot of great information and guidance on our website."



Please notify Neighborhood Services of any address change. Bulk rate mail will not be forwarded.



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