Provided by Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Treasurer

North Little Rock School District will resume classes Monday, August 11, 2025

First Day of School—August 11

Holidays:

September 1—Labor Day
November 27-28—Thanksgiving holidays

December 24-31—Winter holidays

January 1—New Year's Day

January 19-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

May 25—Memorial Day

Work Day (no students)

January 5

No School Days October 17



October 31 (K-12 only) November 24 & 25

December 22 & 23

January 2

January 6 (K-12 only)

February 13

March 23-27—Spring Break

District Closed Days

November 26

December 26

December 29, 30 & 31

March 27

Last Day of School—May 22

Note: additional days are included on the NLRSD website at https://www.nlrsd.org, then click on District Calendar.

As summer draws to a close and children start heading back to school, family life can get pretty hectic. It's important to remember – and share with your children – some key tips that will help keep them safe and healthy throughout the school year.

Transportation Safety Tips

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they take proper safety precautions. Here are some tips to make sure your child safely travels to school:

Walking:

Review your family's walking safety rules and practice walking to school with your child.

- Walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing traffic
- * Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing, and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections
- * Stay alert and avoid distracted walking.

Bike Riders:

Teach your child the rules of the road and practice riding the bike route to school with your child.

- * Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, and in a single line
- * Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street
- Stay alert and avoid distracted riding
- * Make sure your child always wears a properly fitted helmet and bright clothing.

Bus Riders:

Teach your children school bus safety rules and practice with them.

- * Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus
- Teach your children to stand 6 feet (or three giant steps) away from the curb
- * If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach him or her to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other.

Teen Drivers:

Car crashes are the No. 1 cause of death for teens. Fortunately, there is something we can do.

- * Teen crashes often happen because they are inexperienced; practice with new drivers every week, before and after they get their license
- * Set a good example; drive the way you want your teen to drive.

...continued on page







North Little Rock **Animal Services** For more information call **501-791-8577**

5 Ways Pets Help With Stress and Mental Health

Found at heart.org

Your co-worker at home helps you have a happier, healthier mind.

Millions of people around the world love

their pets. They're part of the family! We enjoy their companionship and going for walks, playing with them and even talking and singing to them. Evidence suggests that attachment to pets is good for human health

and even helps build a better community.

It's no secret that pets can contribute to your happiness. Studies show that dogs reduce stress, anxiety and depression. They ease loneliness, encourage exercise and improve your overall health. For example, people with dogs tend to have lower blood pressure and are less likely to develop heart disease. Just playing with a dog has been shown to raise levels of the feel-good brain chemicals oxytocin and dopamine. This creates positive feelings and bonding for both the person and their pet.





Pets can be especially helpful as we grow older. In a survey on healthy aging, adults over 50 reported these top benefits:

- Less stress
- Better sense of purpose
- More social connection
- Help coping with physical or emotional pain
- Feeling loved
- Able to enjoy life more

5 ways pets help your mental health

- Pets can reduce work-related stress. Two out of three employees say work stresses them out, and 40% say their job gets in the way of their health. Studies show that pets in the workplace help reduce stress and improve employee satisfaction.
- Pets can help increase productivity, wherever you work. When a dog joins a virtual meeting, group members rank their teammates higher on trust, team cohesion and camaraderie.
- Pets help manage anxiety. Now more than ever, many people are feeling anxious or struggling with mental health. Pets provide companionship and support.
- 4. Pets can help you be more active. They give you a reason to get outside, get some fresh air and get active, which is proven to improve your mood, sleep and mental health.
- Pets provide a sense of togetherness. The bond with a pet helps you not to feel alone. When owners see, touch, hear or talk to their companion animals, it brings a sense of goodwill, joy, nurturing and happiness.

AIR TEMP	CONCRETE	ASPHALT
80°	95°	115°
85°	105°	130°
90°	125°	140°
95°	140°	155°
7 SECOND RULE	- PLACE HAND ON	THE SURFACE

TOO HOT FOR YOUR HAND, TOO HOT FOR YOUR HOUND



How hot is too hot?

If the surface is too hot for your hand, it's too hot for your pet!

Only walk your pet in the early morning or evening if possible.

Try to stick to walking on cooler natural grass. Hot streets and other surfaces can burn your pet's feet.

See the chart to the left.

And lastly...do not leave your pet in your car! It only takes minutes for the temperature in a vehicle to rise to fatal levels.



Need a new addition to your family? Call 501-791-8577 ...we've got the perfect companion for you!

Our shelter is full of dogs, cats, puppies and kittens in need of a furever home. Please consider adopting a shelter pet for your next pet. Please Don't Litter Spay or Neuter Your Critter

Don't shop! Please adopt!



North Little Rock Fire Department





Keeping Your Home Safe

Fire Prevention



of homes have smoke detectors that **do not** work or are missing batteries.

CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS



Working smoke alarms can double your chances of survival in a fire.



Replace batteries twice a year and keep alarms free of dust.



Smoke alarms should be installed on **every floor** of your home.



KNOW THE RISKS



There is a house fire every ten seconds in the U.S.



Cooking is the leading cause of house fires.



Home fires can spread in as little as thirty seconds.



More than **15,000** fires a year are started by clothes dryers. Clean the vents at least once a year.

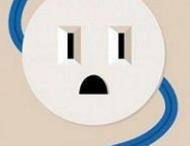


Make sure that your family has a fire escape plan for your home and practice it regularly.



Remember: If there's ever a fire, GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL for help.







Electrical fires can be caused by: broken wires, wire insulation drying out, loose switches or receptacles, and overheating caused by dirt and oil.



Get your electrical system checked by a licensed electrician **every four years**.



Faulty wiring is the number one cause of electrical fires. The warning signs? Flickering lights; breakers that always trip; fuses that blow; a burning smell when you plug in appliances; outlets and switches that spark; and discolored wall outlets.

The long hot days of summer are here.

So far, we have had bountiful rainfall. However, the past few summers have included droughts. Now is the time for **be mindful** and fire-safe! When camping, be sure you properly manage and put out fires. If you are a smoker, be sure vou **extinauish** your cigarette

properly. Never throw your cigarette butts on the ground or out your car window. A single spark is enough to start a fire. When grass is dry, do not park your vehicle in a high grassy area as the heat from the vehicle could start a fire.

If you do have an outdoor fire, be sure to keep the proper fire extinguisher for the type of fuel being used. If you are camping, keep water close by in case it is needed.

If you see or loose control of a fire, call 911.



Mayor Terry C. Hartwick holds a monthly department head meeting. Department heads provide a report of activities, projects, and accomplishments. **June 2025**

Senior Center—9,356 visits, 164 new members, total active members 2,705. Day trips included Hot Springs, Alma A to Z Store, Wood Grill in Benton, Bass

Pro Shop, Memphis, TN, Mt. Magazine, Cave City Watermelon Festival, National Civil Rights Museum, Memphis, TN. 960 volunteer hours and 87 new members. 6 group trips.

Finance— City sales tax collections was lower from same period last year by 5.1%. County collections were higher by 1.89%. Retail tax down 2.6%.

Sanitation—Garbage and yard waste crews collected 969.37 tons (1,938,740 lbs) of household garbage, rubbish and junk. Yard Waste crews also collected 67 loads (1,868.60 cubic yards) of green waste. 292 waste tires picked up. Sanitation Code performed 15 inspections, 4 reinspections and issued 11 notices for non-compliance. No citations were issued. Recycling tonnage 164.32. Units 50 & 51 (Street Dept) picked up 459 bags of trash, other units picked up 222 bags of trash, along with car parts, buckets, shopping carts, etc.

Traffic Services—Barricade Permits—67, AR One Call—27, Signs/Post replaced—10, City Vehicles marked with logo—4.

Police—violent crime and property crimes 17% decrease, Detective Zach Lease retired after 19 years of service. 6 new applicants selected to attend Police Academy. Reminder—LOCK YOUR DOORS! And do not leave valuables in your vehicle.

Fire—1,267 incidents, 731 Rescue & EMS, 213 Good Intent Calls, 158 Service Calls, 91 False Alarm, 45 Fire. 5,169 Fire Training hours. 148 Building Surveys.

Emergency Services/911—Incoming calls: 5,862—non-911 calls, 6,356—911 calls, 588—abandoned 911 calls.

Planning—sign permits—8, banner permits—0, demolition permits—10, 6 commercial remodel — average \$620,374, 0 new commercial—average \$0, Issued 27 new single family residence permits—average \$168,528, 66 residential remodel—average \$14,125, 5 residential additions—average \$18,200, 0 new multi-family units.

Code Enforcement—assigned calls—87, initiated calls 353, citations—3, violation notices—596, vehicles tagged—111, vehicles towed—14, lots posted—10, signs removed—0, structures inspected—47, rental inspections—24, food service inspections—1, search warrants—0, structures condemned—3, houses demolished by city—2, houses demolished by owner—4, vacant lots cleaned—327, mowed—297, lots with structures cleaned—74, mowed—297, vacant houses secured—1, tires removed—0.

Parks and Recreation—Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum had 1,763 visitors. Group visits: Troop 605 (43), American Exchange Project (12), Birthday (30), Overnight (36). Celebrated Museum 20th Anniversary, Museum Ships on Air—June 6 thru 8 (25), retired Admiral Matt Zirkle visited Field reservations: Soccer 58 practices, 116 games and tournament. Youth Baseball 21 practices, 8 games, 1 tournaments. Softball 5 practices, 107 games, no tournaments. Senior Baseball 11 practices, 5 games, 0 tournaments. Disc Golf 1 tournament. Stone Links Cricket 3 games. Facilities rented: pavilions rentals (100), Hospitality House (13), Idlewild (2), Stone Links (5), River House (9). Burns Park Golf hosted the following tournaments: Hot Dog Scramble every Wednesday, Ladies City Play, ASGA State Tournament Qualifier, Burns Park Junior Invitational, Wal Mart, PGA Section Junior, PGA Drive, Chip and Putt, LRAFB Outing. Burns Park Pickleball: 3 Leagues use 7 courts Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 6 - 8 p.m. Lessons offered. All month—Leagues play. Tournaments held June 1 and 20, 2025.

Animal Services— Incoming:

Dog 153/ytd 888 Cat 122/ytd 537 Other 12/ytd 36 **Adopted**:

Dog 23/ytd 234 Cat 98/ytd 440 Other 2/ytd 25 **Reclaim**:

Dog 31/ytd 158
Cat 4/ytd 9
Other 10/ytd 11
Euthanized:

Dog 106/ytd 462 Cat 5/ytd 42 Other 0/ytd 0

Service calls: 499/ytd/2,958 Citations: 50/ytd 172

Vouchers (spay/neuter) issued: 35/ytd 183

NLR Electric—

Customers: 40,887 Revenue: \$9,316,267 Peak Demand: 203,490 kW Territory: 60 square miles

RS (Residential Solar) Net Meter Customers: 392
Total RS solar panel capacity: 2,931 kW
Average RS solar panel capacity: 7.48 kW
Residents with solar arrays larger than 10 kW: 65
Total capacity of customer-owned solar: 6,096 kW

Major outages: none.



Continued on next page...

Revenue Expenditure Report—

Month Ending 6-30-2025

Povonuos

Nevellues	
Miscellaneous	\$ (460,076.20)
Licenses & Permits	\$ 211,503.21
Property Tax	\$ 736,189.48
Intergovernmental	\$ 66,026.03
Franchise Fees	\$ 213,814.11
Local Option Sales Tax	\$ 4,133,260.89
Charges for Services	\$ 292,307.18
Fines & Fees	\$ 209,186.60
Interest Income	\$ 46,326.71
Total	\$ 5,448,538

Expenditures		
Administration	\$ 3	317,853.06
Animal Shelter	\$	103,506.79
Special Appropriations	\$1,0	023,253.36
City Clerk	\$	55,185.24
Emergency Services/911	\$ 3	368,755.55
Finance		167,770.80
Fire	\$2,2	283,531.68
Health	\$	8,848.34
Legal	\$ \$ \$	93,852.96
1st Court	\$	69,161.49
2nd Court	\$	56,714.24
Human Resources	\$	137,440.41
Planning		139,764.00
Police	\$3,0	080,442.03
Code Enforcement		156,797.08
Engineering	\$	64,686.28
Neighborhood Services	\$	60,218.02
Sanitation		607,326.75
Vehicle Maintenance	\$ '	137,166.62
Senior Citizens Center	\$	134,296.64
Communications	\$	24,117.24
Fit 2 Live	\$	1,809.27
Total	\$9,0	092,498

...continued from page 1...

Driving Your Child to School:

Stay alert and avoid distracted driving.

- Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school's dropoff procedure
- Make eye contact with children who are crossing the street
- Never pass a bus loading or unloading children
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus.

School Safety Tips

Many school-related injuries are completely preventable. Follow these steps to ensure your child's safety at school.

Choose a backpack for your child carefully; it should have ergonomically designed features to enhance safety and comfort.

- Ask your children to use both straps when wearing their backpack to evenly distribute the weight on their shoulders
- Don't overstuff a backpack: it should weigh no more than 5% to 10% of your child's body weight
- Rolling backpacks should be used cautiously since they can create a trip hazard in crowded school hallways

Playgrounds and Sports:

- To reduce strangulation hazards on playgrounds, have your child leave necklaces and jackets with drawstrings at home
- A few bumps and bruises can be expected when your child plays sports, but head injuries should never be ignored.





Pickleball players of all ages recently competed in a tournament at Burns Park Pickleball complex. All proceeds benefited Special Olympics Arkansas. Lots of laughs and fun were had for a great











Understanding effects of heat on mental health

By Deb Balzer found at https://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/understanding-effects-of-heat-on-mental-health/

"A study of over 2 million people found an increased visit rate or incidence of people going to the emergency department with psychiatric and mental health-related concerns during periods of high heat," says Dr. Robert Bright, a Mayo Clinic psychiatrist. "It showed a higher level of visits for substance abuse, anxiety, mood disorders, and even people with schizophrenia had an increased incidence of distress or issues with their illness, bringing them to the emergency department."

Heat and emotions

A common side effect of extreme heat is irritability, which can arise from physical discomfort and disrupted sleep patterns. The fatigue from sweating, working in the heat and the lack of quality sleep can leave people feeling stressed and on edge.

Dr. Bright says that others may be irritable due to heat. That can lead to tempers flaring or even road rage.

"It's really important for people to have grace for themselves and grace for other people. Everybody's struggling. It truly is something that's affecting every one of us, so step back and try to think through these things at a cognitive high-level. This is what's happening. Recognize that and do not just react impulsively from that emotional part of your brain," says Dr. Bright.

Heat and psychiatric medications

Certain medications can heighten the risk of heat-related issues from a psychiatric and medical perspective. Diuretics, for instance, can cause increased urine output, leading to dehydration, mental status changes and confusion.

"Medications used for mental health for illnesses, such as schizophrenia or bipolar illness, can change your regulation of heat and your ability to sense that you're too hot, your ability to sweat. I've seen people walk around with heavy mink coats when it's 100 and 105 degrees outside not recognizing that because of their lack of thermo regulation or ability to regulate their body temperature," says Dr. Bright.

Dehydration can also affect levels of some medications, such as lithium — which can become more concentrated in the body and potentially lead to toxicity.

"Some medications like lithium, for example, if you get dehydrated, your lithium level can rise significantly. Lithium has a very narrow therapeutic range. And you can become quite toxic with lithium, which can be quite serious with heart arrhythmias, coma, seizures and even death, if it got severe enough," Dr. Bright says.

Drinking plenty of water and staying cool can help mitigate these risks.

What to do

If you need help, seek help.

"If you're feeling really overwhelmed and as though you truly can't cope, then it's time to reach out for help," says Dr. Bright. "Whether that is walking into an emergency room and asking for assistance or contacting a therapist or counselor."

Finding ways to stay cool may be a good starting point to help reduce periods of intense heat. Dr. Bright says he knows only some people have air conditioning and recommends trying public spaces that may offer relief if you don't have access at home. "If you don't have a place where you have air conditioning, and if you can, go to a cool place with air conditioning, go to the mall, go wherever it might be that you can go hang out for the day, go to the library to do those things to relieve yourself of some of the stress of the heat," says Dr. Whiteside.

Effects of hot weather, humidity on blood pressure, heart

By Cynthia Weiss found at https://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/mayo-clinic-q-and-a-effects-of-hot-weather-humidity-on-blood-pressure-heart/

In summer weather, blood pressure can be affected by the body's attempts to radiate heat. High temperatures and high humidity can cause more blood flow to the skin. This causes the heart to beat faster while circulating twice as much blood per minute than on a normal day.

The greatest risks are when the temperature is above 70 degrees and the humidity is more than 70%. The higher the humidity, the more moisture in the air. Some people are at higher risk of being affected by humidity, including people over age 50; those who are overweight; or those with heart, lung or kidney conditions.

Heat and sweating also can lower the amount of fluid in the body, which can reduce blood volume and lead to dehydration. This can interfere with the body's ability to cool off and may strain the heart.

When the body loses more fluid than is taken in, the body may not have enough water or other fluids to carry out its normal functions. Anyone can become dehydrated, and it can lead to serious complications for people at greater risk due to age, chronic conditions, or outdoor activity such as work or exercise.

Other risk factors include:

- Heart, lung, and kidney problems
- The use of diuretics, sedatives or blood pressure medication
- Following a low-salt or low-sodium diet
- Circulatory disease or problems with circulation

People with a history of high blood pressure should monitor their blood pressure during heat waves. They also should drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated, avoid the midday heat, eat a healthy diet, and apply sunscreen and wear a hat while outdoors. In most cases, when in doubt, stay inside a cool environment.

Warning signs

Signs that your body isn't keeping up with the heat include:

- Cold, clammy skin
- Confusion
- Dizziness
- Disorientation
- Rapid pulse
- Excessive sweating or an inability to sweat
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle cramps or spasms
- Nausea
- Swelling in your arms or legs

If you or a loved one are exhibiting more than one or two of these symptoms, take shelter out of the heat and seek medical intervention immediately.

(Some of the)

Top Causes of Car Accidents

Found at gjel.com/top-causes-car-accidents
Car accidents for the most part ARE

Car accidents, for the most part, ARE avoidable. However, without fully understanding why car accidents occur, it can be difficult for individuals to know what they can do to prevent them. Some causes are more obvious than others, such as drinking and driving, while others are not so well known.

For instance, though many people know it's illegal to text while driving (in many states). And just taking your eyes off the road for a second greatly increases the chance of a car accident. Many people simply do not understand the very real dangers of distracted driving.

What is the number one most common cause of car accidents in the United States?

10 causes of road accidents include distracted driving, speeding, drunk driving, reckless behavior, poor weather conditions, tailgating, running red lights, inexperienced drivers, road rage, and mechanical failures. Understanding these factors can help prevent car accidents and promote safer roads. According to our research, distracted driving is the number one cause of car accidents.

Distracted drivers divert their attention from the road by engaging in activities such as using a cell phone, texting, eating, or multitasking while driving.

Distracted Driving

At the top of the list, distracted driving is the number one cause of car accidents in the U.S. each year, and though it is a recognized issue, it is becoming increasingly worse. Distracted driving can lead to serious car accidents, often resulting in severe injuries or fatalities.

Distracted driving includes, but is not limited to, texting while driving, operating another handheld device while driving, driving with the music blaring, talking to backseat passengers while driving, eating while driving and more.

Be smart when behind the wheel, and keep all senses attuned to the task at hand.

Speeding

"Everyone speeds" is not a good enough reason to put the pedal to the metal. There are speed limits for a reason. Speed limits are designed to give you enough time to brake for obstacles and other vehicles.

If you are doing 50 in a 35, you may not be able to stop for a red light in time, or you may brake too late when a kid runs out into the road chasing after his or her ball. Follow the speed limit no matter how ridiculous you think it is.

Speeding is a common cause of car accidents. When drivers exceed the speed limit, they have less time to react to changes on the road, which can lead to accidents. The three most important things to know about speeding are:

- Speeding is a leading cause of fatal accidents.
- Speed limits are in place for a reason, and drivers should always obey them.
- Driving at a safe and reasonable speed can help to prevent accidents.

Drunk Driving

Drunk driving used to be the number one cause of accidents, but thanks to cell phones, GPS devices, and tablets, and thanks to drunk driving campaigns, it has moved on down the list.



That said, an unacceptable amount of accidents are caused by drunk drivers each year. Do not be the cause of another tragedy and stay sober. If you do drink while out, have someone (designated driver) drive you, or call a ride share or taxi.

Reckless Driving

Reckless drivers, who engage in aggressive driving, speeding, swerving in and out of traffic, tailgating, and other aggressive behaviors,

contribute to the high number of accidents each year.

Be courteous to others on the road—after all, other drivers have places to be too!—and **drive like a polite**, **civilized human being**.

- Reckless driving is a traffic offense and can result in fines, points on your license, and even jail time.
- Drivers who engage in reckless driving behaviors are more likely to be involved in accidents.
- It is important to always drive defensively and be aware of other drivers on the road.

Running Red Lights

Like drunk driving, this is one of the more obvious causes of car accidents. Red means stop and will never mean anything else. If your light is red, it means that the lights directing traffic in other directions are likely green or yellow.

If you blow through a red light, chances are you will hit someone whose actual turn it is to go. Being distracted by work matters or family matters is not an excuse. If you are too distracted to drive, do not get behind the wheel.

Tailgating

There is never an excuse for driving too close to another vehicle. Tailgating is a dangerous behavior that has led to many fatal car accidents. Ultimately, you should keep two to three car lengths between you and the vehicle in front of you —that distance allows you ample time to stop should the car before you suddenly stop. Keep a safe distance between you and the car ahead of you at all times.

Unsafe Lane Changes

Changing lanes is not unsafe. Changing lanes without looking, when there is little space between the cars in front of and behind you, or at fast speeds, however, is. When changing lanes, always check your mirrors and look over your shoulders, and only change lanes when there is adequate space to do so.

Improper Turns

As a licensed driver in the U.S., you should know how to make a legal and safe turn. Improper turns are a common cause of motor vehicle accidents. Steps for performing a legal turn include using your blinker, slowing down, and obeying all traffic signs and signals. Do not perform an illegal turn when signs clearly indicate turns in a certain direction are forbidden. If you need to get somewhere, take the correct way to that place, as shortcuts cause accidents.

Construction Sites

Construction zones can be confusing, and oftentimes, there is not adequate enough warning for them. That said, if you see orange, be on the lookout. Always follow the posted speeds even when you do not see any workers present, and be extra vigilant about those around you. If you are confused, chances are other drivers are as well.



September marks Hunger Action Month, a time to raise awareness and take action for the 1 in 5 Arkansans who face food insecurity.

This year, the Arkansas Foodbank is launching a campaign focused on destigmatizing hunger resources. Our two primary goals are:

- Encourage neighbors who may need assistance to utilize local food pantries
- From there, increase the number of completed SNAP applications through their SNAP Help Center.

The City of North Little Rock encourages everyone in our community to know how to access hunger relief resources like local food pantries.

Volunteer Locally

If you are a resident who does not need assistance, you can help by volunteering to serve at a food pantry in your area. These pantries are part of the Arkansas Foodbank network and are making a direct impact in your community.

To find the closest Foodbank agency near you visit: arkansasfoodbank.org/find-food.

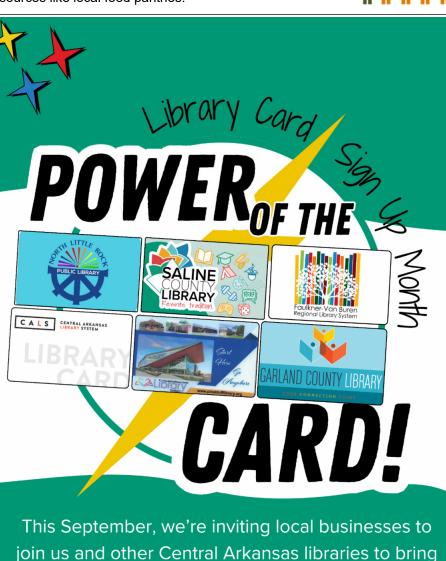
No one knows our community better than our residents. Please consider making a commitment to help in the fight against hunger.

For more information, call Kate Jenkins, Director of Marketing & Communications Arkansas Foodbank—kjenkins@arkansasfoodbank.org or call 501-569-4338.

Each year 31,337,330 pounds of food are distributed to Arkansans who are facing hunger in 33 counties (including Pulaski County).



1 in 5 people face hunger, 1 in 4 are



OUR COMMUNITY the **POWER OF THE CARD.**

Since 1987, September has been celebrated as Library Card Sign-Up Month, a nationwide initiative led by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country. The month is dedicated to encouraging parents, caregivers, and students to take the first step toward academic success and lifelong learning by signing up for a library card.

This year, six Central Arkansas library systems are celebrating in a big way. The North Little Rock Public Library System (NLRPLS) is partnering with the Central Arkansas Library System (CALS), Saline County Library, Faulkner County Library, Pine Bluff Jefferson County Library System, and Garland County Library to launch *The Power of the Card*.

This regional campaign offers special deals and discounts for library cardholders at participating businesses throughout Central Arkansas. It is a win-win for businesses and customers alike. With thousands of cardholders between the six systems, participating businesses get a valuable opportunity to gain new customers, increase visibility, and show support for their local library.

For questions about participating, contact Kevin Newsom at knewsom@nlrlibrary.org or LaReina Fuentes at Ifuentes@cals.org.

Peddlers Permit City of North Little Rock Issued to: Mel Dun

Issued to: Mel Dun Issued: 7/1/2025 Expires: 9/29/2025



Hair: Dun Height: 15 hands

Employer: Equine sunglasses

Type of Goods Sold: Sunglasses for horses

City Clerk and Treasurer Diane Whitbey

By: _SAMPLE ONLY—
only valid with signature

Deputy City Clerk / Treasurer, Revenue

To see a **list of issued permits**, visit the city website at nlr.ar.gov, then click City Departments and scroll down to City Clerk and Treasurer. Look for the dark box and click on Current Door to Door Peddlers.

To see an individual ID/Permit, click on the person's name. All licensed door-to-door peddlers are required to have the ID issued by the City Clerk's Office with them at all times.

**Currently, we have <u>no licensed door to door solicitors in the city as of July 31, 2025.</u>

All persons doing business of any kind within the city limits of North Little Rock are required to have a Business/Privilege License. This includes home-based such as lawn care or internet sales.

<u>If a business operates 1 day into the new</u> <u>year, it is required</u> to obtain a business license at the full fee.

All 2024 NLR Business Licenses expired December 31, 2024. All that have not renewed are now past due. A 50% penalty will be applied to any invoices paid after July 1, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact the North Little Rock City Clerk's Office at 501-975-8617.

Why do cities charge a privilege tax?

Cities charge a privilege tax for the right to engage in specific activities or operate certain businesses within their jurisdiction.

Here is a breakdown of why cities (and towns) use privilege axes:

Revenue Generation:

- Funding Public Services: The primary reason for privilege taxes is to generate revenue for the city.
- Essential Services: This revenue helps fund essential public services like infrastructure, public safety, sanitation, parks, and other community amenities.

User-Based Funding:

- Benefit Principle: Privilege taxes can align revenue generation with those who directly benefit from the city's services and infrastructure by engaging in specific activities or businesses.
- Fairness: It can be argued that those who engage in certain profitable or impactful activities within the city should contribute to the city's upkeep and services.

Regulating Business and Activity:

- Business Operations: Privilege taxes can function as a regulatory tool, ensuring that businesses operating within the city adhere to local rules and ordinances, according to L&Y Tax advisors.
- Permits and Licenses: Many privilege taxes are levied in exchange for a permit or license to operate a particular business or engage in a specific profession, ensuring oversight and accountability.

Examples of Privilege Taxes:

- Business Privilege Tax: A tax on the gross receipts or other measures of a business operating within the city.
- Occupational Privilege Tax: A tax on certain professions or occupations within the city.
- Transaction Privilege Tax (like in Arizona): A tax on specific transactions, often on the seller, for the privilege of doing business in the city.
- Other Examples: Could include taxes on specific activities like short-term rentals, or events, depending on the city.

In summary, cities charge privilege taxes to raise revenue for public services (like police, fire, streets, parks, drainage), ensure businesses contribute to the community, and regulate certain activities within their jurisdiction.

The North Little Rock City Clerk and Treasurers Office team works hard to ensure existing licenses are correct (reflecting the type of business being performed/offered), accurate (ensuring the business is being charged the correct fee based on services offered). Current (following up with existing businesses to ensure they are operating legally within the current year. Tracking new businesses (ensuring all businesses are treated equally and licensed.

If a state license or inspection is required (contractor, daycare, health inspections, etc.) our team will obtain a copy prior to issuing a license. This helps protect our constituents before they hire a contractor, sign up with a daycare or eat in a local restaurant.

We are here to serve our community! If you have any questions, give us a call! 501-975-8617.

North Little Rock City Council Schedule

The North Little Rock City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers in City Hall (300 Main Street, North Little Rock).

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 501-975-8617 or email Diane Whitbey at Dwhitbey@nlr.ar.gov.

The City Council Agenda can be found at nlr.ar.gov, then click on the Elected Officials tab, followed by City Council then scroll to upcoming City Council Agenda.

Planning, Shawn Spencer 501-975-8835

Utilities Accounting, Terrell Milton 501-975-8888

Human Resources, Betty Anderson 501-975-8855

City Offices located at 700 West 29th

501-975-8881

501-975-8802

501-975-3755

Construction and Building Services

Legal, Amy Fields, City Attorney

Mary Beth Bowman

Finance, Ember Strange

Fit 2 Live

City Council Members

Ward 1	Debi Ross Nathan Hamilton	501-753-0733 501-952-7679
Ward 2	Linda Robinson Nicole Hart	501-945-8820 501-960-2461
Ward 3	Steve Baxter Ron Harris	501-804-0928 501-758-2877
Ward 4	Vince Insalaco III Scott Fowler	501-951-0786 501-765-5868

Utility Payment Assistance and Other Numbers

and Other Numbers Central AR Development Council501-603-0909
Little Rock Catholic Charities501-664-0640 ext 459
Saint Francis House501-664-5036
Watershed501-378-0176
Helping Hand of Arkansas 501-372-4388
River City Ministries501-376-6694
Arkansas Metro501-420-3824
Arkansas Food Bank501-565-8121
American Red Cross501-748-1021
Salvation Army501-374-9296

Other Elected Officials

Mayor Terry C. Hartwick	501-975-8601
City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey	501-975-8617

City Attorney Amy Fields 501-975-3755

Dist Court Judge Randy Morley 501-791-8562

Dist Court Judge Paula Juels Jones 501-791-8559

Telephone Numbers for City Hall

Mayor's Office	501-975-8601
Terry C. Hartwick	

City Clerk & Treasurer......501-975-8617
Diane Whitbey

Communications......501-975-8833 Shara Hutchcraft

Revenue Enforcement....... 501-975-8612 Officer David Pettit

Special Projects......501-975-3737
Arnessa Bennett

North Little Rock Curbside Recycling schedule for August 2025.



July 28—August 1, recycle

August —4-8 no pickup

August 11—15, recycle

August 18—22 no pickup

August 25—29, recycle

August Birthdays

Name	Dept	Date	Name	Dept	Date
COLLINS, RACHEL	PARKS ADMIN	1	REAGAN, SHAY	ELECTRIC	13
POE, WILLIAM	FIRE	2	CARR, GRALYN	STREET	14
RATHEY, JHAILAN	POLICE	3	NOEL, ASHLEY	POLICE	14
KLAMM, MICHAEL	PUB WORKS/ENGINEER	4	CHAPMAN JR, ROBERT	STREET	14
ALBERS, RICKY	FIRE	4	MURPHY, LARTHELL	STREET	14
JONES-QUIRARTE, KIMBERLY	ELECTRIC	4	LEONARD, STACEY	HR	14
REDMERSKI, SHANE	ELECTRIC	4	TARKINGTON, SANDRA	ELECTRIC	15
RAY, ERIC	FIRE	5	WIRT, ANGELA	SENIOR CENTER	15
SCOTT, JEFFREY	POLICE	5	MADDEN, CHARLES	FIRE	16
NUTT, MATTHEW	TRAFFIC	5	KING, ERICA	OES/911	18
PRINCE, TROY	Parks Maint	6	COX, BRYEN	FIRE	18
HOPKINS, JEANETTE	OES/911	7	ALLEN, CHAD	ELECTRIC	19
GRAHAM, BRANDON	FIRE	7	COBBS, RAY	FIRST COURT	19
ROSS, DALE	SENIOR CENTER	8	BARNES JR, NAPOLEON	STREET	20
CORNELISON, DANIEL	PARKS TENNIS	8	MARTIN, DELVIN	Parks Maint	20
MARBLEY, MICHAEL	SANITATION	8	HOGAN, RICK	LEGAL	20
CLINGAN, JAMES	VEHICLE MAINT	8	WILDER, MONICA	SECOND COURT	21
EVERETT, AUSTIN	ANIMAL SHELTER	9	HENDERSON, JOHNATHON	SANITATION	21
CARTER, RONALD	ELECTRIC	9	REED, JEREMY	FIRE	21
KING, COURTNEY	POLICE	10	NORMAN, THOMAS	POLICE	22
MORGAN, YESENIA	PARKS ADMIN	10	ROBERTSON, WILLIAM	VEHICLE MAINT	23
STEELE, JASON	STREET	10	COMBS, JOSHUA	FIRE	23
PHILLIPS, ANTHONY	SANITATION	10	WATSON, CURTLAND	SANITATION	25
EMARY, ROBERT	POLICE	10	THOMAS, CHARLOTTE	ADMIN	26
JAMES, DONNA	PLANNING	10	WILSON, JAMES	ELECTRIC	26
BEARD, FLOYD	PARKS RECREATION	11	ABBOTT, CHRISTOPHER	POLICE	26
RIGGIN, RONALD	ELECTRIC	11	SNIDER, KATHRYN	ELECTRIC	27
FRANCISCO, KIMBERLY	OES/911	11	BRYAN, ROBERT	FIRE	28
CRANFORD, RICKY	FIRE	12	BRIDGES, JACOB	POLICE	29
KEHLER, CHASE	FIRE	12	WRIGHT, MARK	POLICE	29
ALSBROOK, AUSTIN	POLICE	12	JONES, LAUREN	FINANCE	29
PHARR, DEBORAH	FINANCE	12	BEAN, LINDA	FIRE	29
AUSTIN, WILLIAM	PARKS GOLF	13	TINDALL, JAMES	ANIMAL SHELTER	30
TERRY, DUSTIN	FIRE	13			

Information regarding employee anniversaries and birthdates is provided by Human Resources the prior year (i.e. 2025 was provided in 2024). So if an employee name is on the list that has retired or resigned, please disregard. Also, typos happen! Please let me know if a name is spelled wrong and a correction will be included next month! For employees who leave the city and come back in a different capacity or department, your length of service may change as well. Example, I worked in the Mayor's Office 10 years, then was elected City Clerk. I have been in the City Clerk's Office 24 years. My total service with the city is 34 years.

If this scenario applies to you, please email me at least one month before the month of your anniversary month so I can include your total service to the City of NLR!

Diane (Dwhitbey@nlr.ar.gov)

August Anniversaries continued on next page...

Name	Dept	# Yrs	Name	Dept	# Yrs
SWAFFORD, MICHAEL	ADMIN	10	REED, JEREMY	FIRE	19
HODGE, LACY	ANIMAL SHELTER	4	COMBS, JOSHUA	FIRE	19
THOMAS, KATELYN	CITY CLERK/TREASURER	13	BEAN, LINDA	FIRE	4
JACOBY, JESSICA	CODE ENFORCEMENT	4	THOMAS-BATRES, ISAIAS	FIRE	5
ROJO, KARLA	CODE ENFORCEMENT	3	WILLIAMS, GARY	FIRE	25
CAPLINGER, JEFFREY	COMMUNICATIONS	21	BRYANT, JASON	FIRE	19
OWEN, DARREN	ELECTRIC	21	WHILLOCK, TOLIVER	FIRE	19
JOHNSON, LOGAN	ELECTRIC	7	MATTHEWS, RICHARD	FIRE	24
DIGBY, ROBERT	ELECTRIC	7	MELSON, JACOB	FIRE	1
PRITCHARD, DAGNY	ELECTRIC	13	RHOADS, LORETTA	FIRST COURT	10
VANG, PAJAI	ELECTRIC	3	HILL, CRYSTAL	FIRST COURT	2
HORSLEY, FARRAH	ELECTRIC	7	RAMIREZ, EDGAR	IT	10
HUGHES, ROBERT	ELECTRIC	15	TREVINO, KIMBERLY	LEGAL	5
HARRIS, JOHN	ELECTRIC	18	SCOTT, DANIEL	NEIGHBORHOOD SRV	30
JAMES, JUSTIN	ELECTRIC	7	MONROE, CHERI	OES/911	21
WEBB, PETRA	ELECTRIC	7	BLANCHARD, ANTHONY	OES/911	3
STEWART, VEDA	ELECTRIC	25	FISCHER, BRIAN	PARKS GOLF	14
JOHNSON, SHANNON	ELECTRIC	12	DEAVER, JACOB	Parks Maint	4
FINCH, MARK	ELECTRIC	23	MARTIN, TEMEKA	PARKS RECREATION	22
FIELDS, JENNIFER	FINANCE	1	CORNELISON, DANIEL	PARKS TENNIS	2
PHARR, DEBORAH	FINANCE	5	BLANKENSHIP, WILLIAM	PLANNING	2
JONES, LAUREN	FINANCE	4	BLACK, BILLIE	PLANNING	15
SMITH, AMY	FINANCE	26	BRAGGS, TIMOTHY	PLANNING	1
STRANGE, SEPTEMBER	FINANCE	6	SIMS, CHAUNCEY	POLICE	17
BENNETT, JEFFREY	FIRE	28	LEASE, ZACHRY	POLICE	19
WOLFE, NATHAN	FIRE	19	CROSS, JUSTIN	POLICE	14
HUNT, MATTHEW	FIRE	19	MADISON, JOSEPH	POLICE	17
FREY, NICHOLAS	FIRE	18	DAVIDSON, BRANDON	POLICE	20
TUBBS, TANNER	FIRE	9	EVANS, PHILIP	POLICE	13
GUAJARDO, CHRISTIAN	FIRE	1	BAKER, ALEXANDER	POLICE	9
HOOKS, JAMES	FIRE	35	GARTRELL, RUSTY	POLICE	20
WILLIAMS, HEATH	FIRE	20	MEDFORD, DUSTIN	POLICE	6
GIPSON, COEDY	FIRE	4	CHRISMAN, JASON	POLICE	14
HAHN, DUSTIN	FIRE	3	WOMACK, JENIFER	POLICE	3
SHOSHONE, RICKY	FIRE	9	BRYANT, JAMES	POLICE	5
DEPRIEST, LANE	FIRE	1	PEACH, MATTHEW	POLICE	14
RUMPH, CHRISTOPHER	FIRE	1	WILLIAMS, WILLIAM	POLICE	12
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August Anniversaries

continued from previous page

Name	Dept	# Yrs
STANLEY, MICHAEL	POLICE	12
THOMAS, RODNEY	POLICE	15
ELENBAAS, JEFFREY	POLICE	15
TAYLOR, SHAMILLE	POLICE	9
THRELKELD, JOSHUA	POLICE	13
EMARY, ROBERT	POLICE	13
BRANCH, CAROLYN	POLICE	25
EDWARDS, CHADWICK	POLICE	19
HENDERSON, CHRISTOPHER	POLICE	8
DAVIS, CORDELL	POLICE	13
BLANKENSHIP, JOHN	POLICE	12
YANCEY, SHANNON	POLICE	6
BOWERS, DANA	POLICE	3
FLIPPIN, RANDY	POLICE	15
MOORE, DAVID	POLICE	12
SCOTT, WILLIAM	POLICE	15
BROWN, CHRISTOPHER	POLICE	15
JERNIGAN, MATTHEW	POLICE	6
GARVIN, BELINDA	PUB WORKS/ENGINEER	14
ABBOTT, RICHARD	SANITATION	27
JACKSON-SHELTON, GLADYS	SANITATION	28
MORRIS, LEVERNE	SANITATION	5
BREEDLOVE JR, CONDOROUS	SANITATION	7
LAMBERT, DONNA	SANITATION	11
WATSON, CURTLAND	SANITATION	15
JONES, CHRISTOPHER	SANITATION	9
OFFORD, TINA	SANITATION	21
CAMP, CHEREON	SECOND COURT	13
WOODALL, PAMELA	SENIOR CENTER	1
SMITH, JOHN	STREET	7
FORTNER, STEPHEN	STREET	1
WAID JR, TOMMY	STREET	10
WILLIAMS, TOMA'Z	STREET	10
ABEL, KENDALL	STREET	10
BROOKS, JOSHUA	STREET	1
DEVINE, DEIDRA	TRAFFIC	27
City of North Little I	Rock Offices will	he cla

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Heat and medication

Just like you should find ways to keep your body cool during high temperatures, you also should store your medications properly, so they are not exposed to extreme heat. Some medications can become degraded during temperature changes, including insulin used for diabetes management.

Store medication in a cool, dry place. If you store medications in a bathroom with a shower, on a window ledge or in a vehicle, keep the medication in the original container to help seal out excess heat and moisture.

Some medications can affect your ability to stay hydrated and respond to high temperatures, including medications used to:

- Treat high blood pressure, including beta blockers and diuretics
- Reduce allergy symptoms, such as antihistamines or decongestants
- Decrease psychiatric symptoms, such as antipsychotics

Things to do when it is super hot outside!

- Visit one of our North Little Rock Library Branches—Laman, Argenta and Innovation Hub.
- If you are a senior citizen, join the Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizen Center—it's a great place for fun and fellowship.
- If you are a member of our Parks and Recreation Community Centers, take advantage of the indoor opportunities.
- Visit the new Burns Park Funland Splashpad
- Visit the Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum
- Visit the Old Mill
- Get out early (before the temperatures rise) and enjoy a walk along one of our many city trails.
- Put your sprinkler out in the yard, pull up a lawn chair and cool off while enjoying the great outdoors. Fun for all ages!



City of North Little Rock Offices will be closed *Monday, September 1, 2025* in observance of **Labor Day.**

Garbage, and trash routes will be delayed one-day all week... *Monday pickup will be Tuesday, and so on the remainder of the week*.

Everyone is invited!



Oops!

We originally called this a groundbreaking - but it's actually an exciting

Announcement Event

We can't wait to share what's coming!



Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 11:00 AM Argenta Plaza, 510 Main St North Little Rock, AR



You're invited to be among the first to discover a bold, new development that's set to become a city icon. Come see what all the buzz is about!











North Little Rock City Officials, staff, business owners and others gathered together recently to

sign a beam that was installed in the structure of the new North Little Rock's new event center.

This venue has been a vision of Mayor Terry C. Hartwick's for many years now.

A recent ground-

breaking was held for a new hotel

across the street from the site.

The location is the former City Services site at 120 Main Street.













FROM SUMMER TO SCHOOL DAYS THIS AUGUST AT THE

NIRPUBLISTED System

Back to School Brunches at Laman and Argenta Libraries

Start the school year with a free Back to School Brunch at your library. On Tuesday, August 5 at 10 AM, visit Argenta Library for pancakes, parfaits, and back-to-school fun. Then on Saturday, August 9 from 9:30 AM to noon, enjoy breakfast, storytimes, a bounce house, and an Open House in the Loft at Laman Library. Both events are free and open to all.

Color Your Classroom: A Bulletin Board Workshop on Saturday, August 9

Teachers, get inspired for the new school year at Color Your Classroom: A Bulletin Board Workshop on Saturday, August 9 from 10 AM to 12 PM at Laman Library. Explore library resources like Cricut and die-cut machines, bulletin board paper, and a large format printer. Learn tips and tricks to create fun, affordable classroom decor. Free and open to educators.

Potato Party on Saturday, August 16 at the Innovation Hub

Celebrate National Potato Day a little early at our Potato Party on Saturday, August 16 from 11 AM to 1 PM at the Innovation Hub. Drop in for hands-on STEAM fun with potato printing, circuits, games, and creative challenges. Free and open to all ages.

Speed Puzzle-Palooza on Saturday, August 23 at Laman Library

Put your jigsaw skills to the test at Speed Puzzle-Palooza on Saturday, August 23 from 9:30 AM to 1 PM at Laman Library. Compete solo or as a team of up to four to see who can finish their puzzle the fastest. Winners take home prizes, and all participants keep their puzzle. Free to enter. Registration required by August 2 at nlrlibrary.org/speedpuzzling.

Learn something new at NLRPLS' Innovation Hub!

Check out the Innovation Hub's adult classes at hub.nlrlibrary.org!



Find our full calendar at programs.nlrlibrary.org/events!

Staff Birthdays:

- August 1 James W.
- August 4 Kat D.
- August 27 Megan H

Work Anniversaries:

- 1 year Kendell S. 12 years Caleb D.
- 3 years Damarco N. 41 years Kathy S.
- 3 years Robert R.



William F. Laman Public Library 2801 Orange Street, NLR, AR 72114 501-759-1720 Argenta Public Library 420 Main Street, NLR, AR 72114 501-687-1061 Innovation Hub 204 E 4th Street, NLR, AR 72114 501-907-6570 eNLRlibraries





160 miles of yard sales along Arkansas Highway 64—from Fort Smith to Beebe For information visit: https://www.facebook.com/bargainsgaloreonhwy64/.

Arkansas 2025 Sales Tax Holiday

Visit https://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/office/taxes/excise-tax-administration/sales-use-tax/2024-sales-tax-holiday/ for more details.



EXEMPT:

Aprons

Clothing—less than \$100 per item

Formal wear Rubber pants

Garters and garter belts Athletic supporters Sandals Scarves Baby receiving blankets Girdles

Bathing suits and caps Gloves & mittens for general use Shoes and shoe laces

Beach capes and coats Hats and caps Slippers Belts and suspenders Hosiery Sneakers

Boots Insoles for shoes Socks and stockings Coats and jackets Lab coats Steel toed shoes

Costumes **Neckties** Underwear

Uniforms, athletic and non-athletic Diapers, including disposables Overshoes

Earmuffs Pantyhose Wedding apparel

Footlets Rainwear

EXEMPT:

Clothing accessory or equipment —less

than \$50 per item

Handkerchiefs Wallets Briefcases Cosmetics Watches Jewelry

Handbags Sun glasses, non-prescription Wigs and hair pieces

Umbrellas Hair notions, including barrettes, hair

bows, hair nets

Electronic Device—an electronic commonly used by a student in a course of study

Computer Keyboard Printer Calculators Cellular Phone **Tablet Desktop Computer**

Computer Monitor E-Reader

Computer Mouse **Laptop Computer**

EXEMPT:

Binders

School Supplies—an item commonly used

by a student in a course of study

Limited to items listed below.

Highlighters **Book Bags** Index cards **Protractors** Index card boxes Cellophane tape Rulers Blackboard chalk Legal pads Scissors

Compasses Lunch boxes Writing tables

Composition books Markers Paper—loose leaf ruled notebook paper

Pens

Crayons **Notebooks** Copy paper **Erasers** Pencil sharpeners Graph paper

Folders—expandable, pocket, plastic, and Pencil boxes and other school supply

Tracing paper, manila paper, colored manila boxes paper, construction paper

Glue, past, and past sticks **Pencils** Poster board

To see a complete list of ALL ITEMS which are EXEMPT and non-exempt (taxable) visit:

https://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/HolidayItemizedList.pdf.

For customer service assistance, call 501-682-7104 Monday thru Friday between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm.