

Why Do We Eat Turkey on Thanksgiving?

Written by John M. Cunningham

As celebrated in the United States, the holiday of Thanksgiving usually revolves around a bountiful meal. Typical dishes include bread stuffing, potatoes, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, and, above all, turkey. How did turkey become the centerpiece of this feast?

It is often assumed that today's Thanksgiving menu originated in an event commonly referred to as the "first Thanksgiving." There is indeed evidence of a meal shared between Pilgrim settlers at Plymouth colony (in what is now Massachusetts) and Wampanoag people in late 1621. But there is no indication that turkey was served. For meat, the Wampanoag brought deer, and the Pilgrims provided wild "fowl." Strictly speaking, that "fowl" could have been turkeys, which were native to the area, but historians think it was probably ducks or geese.

What's more, the Pilgrims do not appear to have considered this meal a milestone worthy of special commemoration. No 17th-century reference to it exists beyond a letter written by Plymouth colonist Edward Winslow.

For the Pilgrims, giving thanks for the autumn harvest wasn't a new concept. As a tradition with roots in European harvest festivals and Christian religious observances, "days of thanksgiving" were fairly common among the colonists of New England. Throughout America's colonial era, communities held their own unofficial Thanksgiving celebrations, and few people associated them with the Plymouth settlers.

By the turn of the 19th century, however, turkey had become a popular dish to serve on such occasions. There were a few reasons for this. First, the bird was rather plentiful. One expert estimated that there were at least 10 million turkeys in America at the time of European contact. Second, turkeys on a family farm were almost always available for slaugh-

ter. While live cows and hens were useful as long as they were producing milk and eggs, respectively, turkeys were generally raised only for their meat and thus could be readily killed. Third, a single turkey was usually big enough to feed a family.

Nevertheless, turkeys were not yet synonymous with Thanksgiving. Some people have credited Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* (1843) with bolstering the idea of turkey as a holiday meal. But another writer, Sarah Josepha Hale, played an arguably more important role. In her 1827 novel *Northwood*, she devoted an entire chapter to a description of a New England Thanksgiving, with a roasted turkey "placed at the head of the table." At about the same time, she also began campaigning to establish Thanksgiving as a national holiday in the United States, which she believed would help unify the country as it teetered toward civil war. Her ef-

forts finally paid off in 1863 with a presidential proclamation by Abraham Lincoln.

As Thanksgiving became an official American holiday, a national mythology formed around it. An 1841 collection of Pilgrim writing had referred to the meal described by Winslow as "the first

Thanksgiving." Although Winslow didn't specifically mention turkey, his fellow colonist William Bradford did refer to a "great store of wild Turkeys" at Plymouth that fall, in a journal that was reprinted in 1856. Before long, the cultural links between Pilgrims, turkeys, and Thanksgiving became an inextricable and integral part of American schoolchildren's education.

From a more practical perspective, turkey has also remained relatively affordable. Although the wild turkey was considered endangered in the early 20th century, its population once again stands in the millions. In addition, modern breeding practices have helped make turkeys both larger and cheaper than ever, thus ensuring their continued place on the Thanksgiving table.



"Where's Mel"? Be the first person to call 501-975-8617 and tell us where you found Mel hiding and win!





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

Thanksgiving Safety Tips

Found at aspca.org

Thanksgiving is a time for friends, family and holiday feasts—but can also be a very

hectic day. With so much going on, curious pets often find a way to snoop where they shouldn't, so it's important to keep them top of mind while giving thanks.

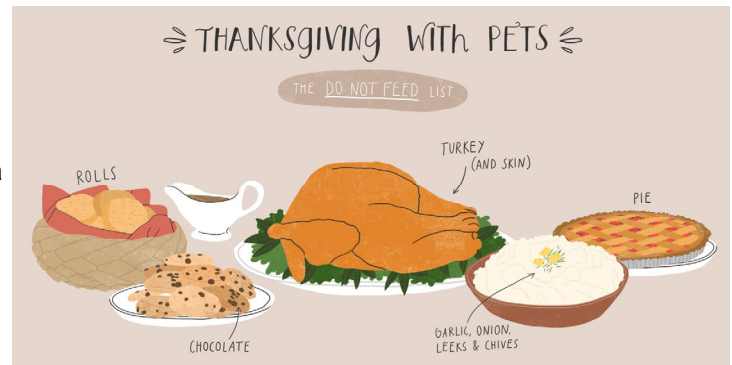


Just a Taste: While we recommend sticking to your pet's normal diet on Thanksgiving, we understand that even our furry friends can't resist the smell of a delicious turkey or other festive dishes. If you do decide to feed your pet a small bite of turkey or other meat, make sure it's boneless and fully cooked. Raw or undercooked turkey may contain salmonella bacteria and poultry bones can be a major choking hazard.

Make sure you are mindful of the ingredients and spices in your food as well. Onions and garlic are both prevalent in a lot of Thanksgiving dishes and can be toxic to pets. Bouillon cubes used for making stocks and gravy contain high amounts of sodium which can lead to gastrointestinal problems and even seizures. Raw yeast bread dough can also be toxic to pets. The raw dough can expand in the stomach, causing them to become bloated, and the ethanol (alcohol) will be absorbed by the body, leading to drunkenness and other serious side effects.

Don't Let Them Eat Cake: If you plan to bake Thanksgiving desserts, be sure your pets keep their noses out of the batter, especially if it includes raw eggs—they could contain salmonella bacteria that may lead to food poisoning. Desserts containing artificial sweeteners, like xylitol, can cause low blood sugar, liver damage or even death. Chocolate is also a major hazard to our four-legged friends and can cause vomiting, diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst and urination, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures and even death.

A Feast Fit for a King: While your family enjoys a special meal, give your cat and dog a small feast of their own. try



mixing some pieces of turkey, sweet potatoes and green beans into their usual dinner. You can even top it off with a drizzle of gravy. You can also opt to stuff their Thanksgiving treats into a puzzle toy to keep them occupied during your meal.

Watch out for Guests and Holiday Decor: If you are hosting guests, just remember that more people in your home may be overwhelming for pets. Try leaving a few blankets on the floor or a bedroom door open so they have a quiet place to curl up and relax. Additionally, keep in mind that your guests may have personal items, like medication, on them. Pets ingesting medication is all too common and can be very dangerous. Remind your guests to keep their personal items up and out of paws' reach.

You will also want to pay attention to the holiday decorations, like floral arrangements and plants.

Don't Forget to Take Out the Trash: This may be the last thing on your mind while trying to keep up in the kitchen, but your garbage can fill up with bones, chocolate, onions and plenty of other holiday hazards mentioned above. Try to remember to empty your trash throughout the day so that curious pets don't get into trouble. Or, do your best to keep *your pet out of the area where the trash is.*

If you suspect your pet may have ingested a toxic substance, please contact your veterinarian or call the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435 immediately.



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

Thanksgiving Safety Tips for Cooking and Fire Prevention

Found at safety.af.mil



Before Cooking the Turkey

- **Read Labels Carefully:** If you're serving a fresh turkey, purchase it no more than two days before Thanksgiving. Check labels to determine if it's fresh or frozen.
- **Use Thermometers:** Store your turkey at 40 °F or below with a refrigerator thermometer. Use a food thermometer to ensure the turkey is fully cooked to 165 °F.
- **Thaw Safely:** Allow 24 hours in the refrigerator for every 4 to 5 pounds of frozen turkey. Keep it in a container to prevent juices from dripping on other foods.

While Cooking the Turkey

- **Wash Hands Thoroughly:** Wash hands with warm water and soap for 20 seconds before handling food.
- **Don't Wash the Turkey:** Washing spreads harmful pathogens. Fully cooking the turkey is the only way to kill bacteria.
- **Avoid Cross-Contamination:** Keep raw turkey away from other foods. Use separate utensils and clean them thoroughly after use.
- **Cook to the Right Temperature:** Confirm the turkey reaches 165 °F with a food thermometer, checking the thickest part of the breast, the innermost thigh, and the innermost wing.



Fire Safety in the Kitchen

- **Have a Fire Extinguisher:** Keep an extinguisher in the kitchen and ensure your family knows how to use it.
- **Be Cautious with Turkey Fryers:** Fryers can pose fire and burn hazards. Follow manufacturer instructions and keep fryers outside, away from flammable materials.
- **Dress Safely:** Avoid loose clothing while cooking. Opt for short, close-fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves to reduce the risk of catching fire.
- **Smoke Alarms:** Ensure smoke alarms are installed on every home level. Test them monthly and replace units older than 10 years.
- **Stay Vigilant:** Never leave cooking food unattended and keep flammable items like food packaging and oven mitts away from burners and heat sources.
- **Kid-Free Zone:** Create a three-foot safety zone around the stove and hot food preparation areas.
- **Smother Small Fires:** Keep a lid nearby to extinguish grease fires by covering the pan and turning off the heat.



What do our Firemen and women do when then they aren't fighting fires and in between on-going training? They go visit schools, daycares, teach young people about fire service and more!





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

Senior Center—total core members 2,273. 454 extended members, 18 city employees. Volunteer Services—no hours provided.

Finance—city sales tax collections were higher than the same period a year ago by 7.9%. County sales tax collections were also higher for the same period by 7.1%. (September receipts represent retail sales from the month of July). Food and lodging tax collection for 2025 are approximately \$350,000.00 above the same period of the previous year.

Sanitation—Garbage and yard waste crews collected 2,228.53 tons (4,457,060 lbs) of household garbage, rubbish and junk. Yard Waste crews also collected 65 loads (1,746.60 cubic yards) of green waste. 210 waste tires picked up. Sanitation Code performed 15 inspections, 4 re-inspections and issued 4 notices for non-compliance. No citations were issued. Recycling tonnage (no change) 185.02 (yearly total 1,460.33 tons). Units 50 & 51 (Street Dept) picked up 389 bags of trash, other units picked up 142 bags of trash, along with car parts, buckets, shopping carts, etc.

Traffic Services—Barricade Permits—89, AR One Call—25, Signs/Post replaced—92, City Vehicles marked with logo—2.

Police—violent crime increase 2% from pervious month, property crimes were down 15%. Be proactive...**LOCK YOUR DOORS! Vehicle doors, house/apartment doors, storage building doors. Do not leave valuables in your vehicle. Do not leave your garage doors open** if you are not at home or not in the yard. K9 Jared retired in September after 7 years of service.

Fire—1,186 incidents, 630 Rescue & EMS, 245 Good Intent Calls, 139 Service Calls, 87 False Alarm, 57 Fire. 4,100 Fire Training hours. 186 Building Surveys.

Emergency Services/911—Incoming calls: 6,167—non-911 calls, 6,229—911 calls, 622—abandoned 911 calls.

Planning—sign permits—5, banner permits—1, demolition permits—14, 7 commercial remodel — average \$194,857, 0 new commercial—average \$0, issued 0 new single family residence permits—average \$0, 66 residential remodel—average \$15,022, 5 residential additions—average \$11,200, 0 new multi-family units. Planning Zoning Officer issued 1 citation, 31 inspections/site visits, investigated 18 sign code violations and investigated 16 complaints.

Code Enforcement—(September) assigned calls—150, initiated calls 550, citations—3, violation notices—597, vehicles tagged—109, vehicles towed—5, lots posted—12,

signs removed—0, structures inspected—47, rental inspections—32, food service inspections—23, search warrants—5, structures condemned—1, houses demolished by city—9, houses demolished by owner—4, vacant lots cleaned/mowed—333, lots with structures cleaned/mowed—141, vacant houses secured—4, tires removed—0.

Parks and Recreation—Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum had 924 visitors. Group visits: Jacksonville Lighthouse Elementary (34, Hazen Christian Academy (20). Overnight: Toop 435 (20), Troop 320 (11), Troop 3410 (27), Fort Smith Sea Cadets(4), Jacksonville Lighthouse Elementary. Special Event: Partnered with Arkansas Symphony Orchestra to celebrate 80th Anniversary of V-J Day with



a quintet concert atop the USS Razorback (75). Field use: Soccer 121 practices/ 217 games/ 2 tournament, Youth baseball 26/0/2, Softball 26/61/0, Senior Baseball 16/3/1, Stone Links Cricket 2/0/0. Facility rentals: Pavilions—62, Hospitality House—8, Idlewild—6, Stone Links—5, River House—8. Golf hosted NLR High School Invitational, Moose Lodge, UAMS, Catholic High Invitational,

Central AR Pro-Am, High School 3-A Conference Championship, AR Open Pro-Am, AR Open Round 1 and AR Open Round 2. Tennis High School Play, Tri-Level State and Junior Academy. ASpire Program Staff promoted creative and mental wellness with hands on learning about healthy eating habits, mindfulness and stress management. Pilgrim Progress Missionary Baptist Church partnered with Sherman Park Community Center—hosted “Soles for School” event—over 50 families signed up to received a free pair of shoes—128 pairs were distributed to youth within the community.

Animal Services—

Incoming:

Dog	113/ytd	1,253
Cat	94/ytd	753
Other	1/ytd	46

Reclaim:

Dog	15 /ytd	203
Cat	1/ytd	12
Other	0/ytd	11

Service calls: 481/ytd/4,317

Citations:22/ytd 251

Vouchers (spay/neuter) issued: 35/ytd 283

Adopted:

Dog	35/ytd	353
Cat	67/ytd	624
Other	1/ytd	34

Euthanized:

Dog	80/ytd	672
Cat	14/ytd	87
Other	0/ytd	1

NLR Electric—

Customers: 40,904

Revenue: \$11,070,382

Peak Demand: 194,879 kWh

Territory: 60 square miles

RS (Residential Solar) Net Meter Customers: 394

Total RS solar panel capacity: 2,931 kW

Average RS solar panel capacity: 7.46 kW

Residents with solar arrays at lease 10 kW: 77

Total capacity of customer-owned solar: 11,185 kW

Major outages: NLR Electric none, Entergy multiple trip/reclose events affecting Galloway.

Revenue Expenditure Report—*Unaudited Month Ending 9-30-2025***Revenues**

Miscellaneous	\$ 75,801.67
Licenses & Permits	\$ 182,326.01
Property Tax	\$ 576,452.61
Intergovernmental	\$ 251,475.56
Franchise Fees	\$ 246,127.88
Local Option Sales Tax	\$ 4,215,100.81
Charges for Services	\$ 246,934.01
Fines & Fees	\$ 180,792.30
Interest Income	\$ 44,839.00
Total	\$ 6,019,849.85

Expenditures

Administration	\$ 208,872.62
Animal Shelter	\$ 83,757.46
Special Appropriations	\$ 1,988,780.95
City Clerk	\$ 40,656.77
Emergency Services/911	\$ 225,694.33
Finance	\$ 161,773.78

Fire	\$1,646,387.50
Health	\$ 6,546.92
Legal	\$ 73,022.96
1st Court	\$ 48,514.30
2nd Court	\$ 39,104.48
Human Resources	\$ 84,836.16
Planning	\$ 105,806.38
Police	\$2,255,495.56
Code Enforcement	\$ 125,870.67
Engineering	\$ 54,159.46
Neighborhood Services	\$ 38,654.38
Sanitation	\$ 373,051.63
Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 106,221.31
Senior Citizens Center	\$ 81,414.88
Communications	\$ 22,878.38
Fit 2 Live	\$ 2,328.64
Total	\$7,768,829.52

Obituary—Paul P. Holderfield, Jr.

Paul Phillip Holderfield Jr. "Bro. Paul Jr.", 73, beloved husband, father, brother, papa, and pastor of Friendly Chapel Church of the Nazarene in North Little Rock, went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 8, 2025.

Born in North Little Rock, AR on August 11, 1952, Paul the oldest of three children, was a standout athlete in baseball and basketball, and played on four state championship teams at Ole

Main High School, two for baseball and two for basketball. He was also an accomplished singer, in his own mind. Bro. Paul Jr. served in the Air National Guard and then went on to be a bread man for Colonial Baking Co. for 25 years. A career he loved, selling and serving Colonial Bread to his customers. At the passing of his father Bro. Paul Sr. in 1998, Bro. Paul Jr. took over the pastoral responsibilities of Friendly Chapel Church of the Nazarene and served the "Bread of Life" for 28 years to the community of North Little Rock, AR.

Like his father, Bro. Paul Jr. lived his life fully in service to Jesus Christ, through serving God's children, "others". "Others, Lord, yes others, let this my motto be, help me to live for others that I may live like Thee". Bro. Paul Jr.'s love and devotion to his family was his greatest personal passion! Never missing time with his Cathy, his children, and seven grandchildren. His crown of joy was his grandchildren; and his children knew beyond a shadow of a doubt, he hung the moon. Proverbs 17:6 "Children's children are the crown of old men, And the glory of children is their father." As senior pastor of Friendly Chapel Church of the Nazarene, Bro. Paul Jr. continued Bro. Paul Sr.'s legacy of serving the community through serving others with meals, clothing, and time devoted to sharing the word of God and His love for us through His son

Jesus Christ; in whom all made equal in love. Galatians 3:28: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus".

Bro. Paul Jr. is survived by his loving wife Cathy Holderfield of 43 years, four amazing children, Patty Camp (Mark), Courtney Bland (Chauncey), Krystin Cheatham (Lawrence), and Paul Phillip Holderfield III (Courtney); and seven incredible grandchildren, Lauren, Collin, Emma, Eli, Parker, Bryce and Tyler Paul "Cannonball". Sister Paula Owens (Tom) and brother Phillip Holderfield (Donna), and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Paul is preceded in death by his parents Paul and Barbara Jean Holderfield, and grandson John Paul Camp.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Paul's life work.

Donations made to Friendly Chapel Church of the Nazarene or to Friendly Chapel FLAME are 501 (c)(3) tax deductible.

Checks may be mailed to: Friendly Chapel – Memorials, 116 S. Pine St., North Little Rock, AR 72114.

Brief History of the Friendly Chapel Church—

Paul Holderfield, Sr. began feeding a group of underprivileged youth at the North Little Rock Boy's Club, which at the time was the old Fourth Street Jr. High, where he worked part-time. A church mission started in an abandoned school buildings with 16-20 children who lived in Eastgate Housing Project.

The Friendly Chapel Church of the Nazarene was established in 1972. A few years later, Bro. Paul Sr. felt "a call" to the ministry and left the North Little Rock Fire Department and became a pastor of the church.

Over the years the program evolved to include a multi-purpose facility with a full-size basketball court, a conference room, dining area, modern kitchen and housing for people needing spiritual and vocation help. Bro. Paul Sr., died in 1998. Bro. Paul Jr. took over the pastoral responsibilities and served the "Bread of Life" for 28 years to the community in North Little Rock.

North Little Rock Ordinance No. 9223 prohibits signs in the public right-of-way

Ordinance 9223 was adopted by the North Little Rock City Council March 9, 2020. This ordinance references a proliferation of the placement of signs in the public right-of-way that resulted in clutter in the City's public spaces.

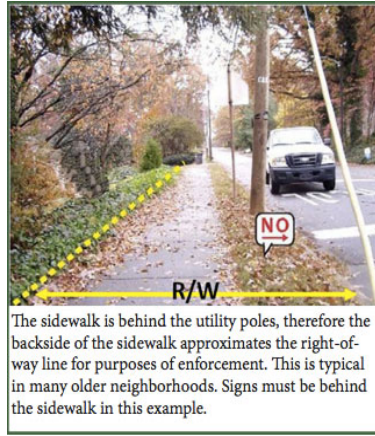
So what is a sign? The ordinance indicates a "sign" shall mean any device, fixture, placard, display, or structure visible to the general public that uses or is designed to use any color, form, graphic, illumination, symbol, writing, or visual presentation of any kind to advertise, announce, draw attention to, or identify a product, place, activity, person, institution, business, or other entity, or to communication a message of information of any kind to the public.

Public right-of-way. Any area of real property dedicated to or owned by the City of North Little Rock or the



public or any other public body (like state highway), or over which the City of North Little Rock, or the public, or any other public body holds easement, for public street, alley, sidewalk, pedestrian, equestrian, or public utility purposes.

Governmental sign means any sign erected by, or on behalf of, the unite of government having jurisdiction over the public right-of-way.



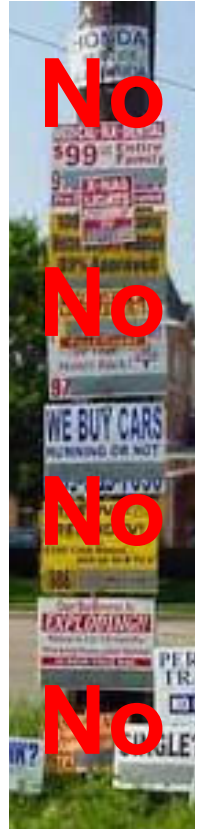
The sidewalk is behind the utility poles, therefore the backside of the sidewalk approximates the right-of-way line for purposes of enforcement. This is typical in many older neighborhoods. Signs must be behind the sidewalk in this example.

Except for governmental signs erected by, or on behalf of, the unit of government having jurisdiction, no sign may be placed or located on or within any public right-of-way in the City of North

Little Rock, OR affixed to or upon any public property located within the public right-of-way. This prohibition includes any sidewalk; drainage ditch; landscape strip; shoulder; parkway; crosswalk; median; curb; light post; utility pole, wire or cross bar; traffic or parking control signs or devices; hydrant; tree; shrub; or any other object located within the right-of-way.

A sign found in any of the above locations can be removed by any employee of the city who is authorized to do so by the Mayor or his designee. Any sign removed shall be placed in the custody of the Street Department and stored for a minimum of ten (10) days.

If you would like a copy of the sign, please contact the City Clerk's Office at CityClerkOffice@nlr.ar.gov.



North Little Rock City Offices will be closed
the following days in November:
Tuesday, November 11, 2025—in observance of
Veteran's Day

***Garbage and trash routes will run as scheduled—
routes will not be delayed!***

City Offices will be also be closed

**Thursday and Friday,
November 27 and 28, 2025—**

in observance of the Thanksgiving Holidays

***Garbage and trash routes will be delayed one-day,
Thursday, November 27, 2025. Thursday's route
will be picked up on Friday and
Friday's route will be picked up on Saturday.***



Peddlers Permit City of North Little Rock

Issued to: **Mel Dun**

Issued: 10/1/2025

Expires: **12/31/2025**



Sex: Male

Eyes: Brown

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 no licensed door to door solicitors in the city as of September 30, 2025.**

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.

****If a business operates 1 day into the new year, it is required 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 taxes:

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, day-care, 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.

City Offices located at 700 West 29th

Construction and Building Services Mary Beth Bowman	501-975-8881
Finance, Ember Strange/Anita Worley	501-975-8802
Human Resources, Betty Anderson Fit 2 Live, David Baxter	501-975-8855
Legal, Amy Fields, City Attorney	501-975-3755
Planning, Shawn Spencer	501-975-8835
Utilities Accounting, Terrell Milton	501-975-8888

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

Central AR Development Council.....	501-603-0909
Little Rock Catholic Charities...	501-664-0640 ext 459
Saint Francis House.....	501-664-5036
Watershed.....	501-378-0176
Helping Hand of Arkansas.....	501-372-4388
River City Ministries.....	501-376-6694
Arkansas Metro.....	501-420-3824
Arkansas Food Bank.....	501-565-8121
American Red Cross.....	501-748-1021
Salvation Army.....	501-374-9296

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 November 2025.



Nov 3—7, recycle
Nov 10—14 no pickup
Nov 17—21, recycle
Nov 24—28 no pickup



LAMAN CON

WORLDS OF WONDER



FANTASY CRAFT WORKSHOP FOR AGES 13 & UP
FRI., NOV. 7 FROM 5-7 PM AT
ARGENTA LIBRARY, 420 MAIN ST. NLR, AR



LAMAN CON 2025: WORLDS OF WONDER

SAT., NOV. 8 FROM 9 AM - 3 PM

AT LAMAN LIBRARY, 2801 ORANGE ST., NLR, AR

Dive into Worlds of Wonder inspired by DnD, gaming, and galaxies beyond. Enjoy scavenger hunts, character photo ops, vendors, tournaments, trivia, and creative workshops for fans of all ages.



ADULTS ONLY COSPLAY CONTEST & TRIVIA SHOWDOWN
SATURDAY, NOV. 8 FROM 5-6:30 PM AT
INNOVATION HUB, 204 E. 4TH ST., NLR, AR



FREE AND OPEN TO ALL AGES

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025

AT THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM'S LAMAN LIBRARY, ARGENTA LIBRARY, AND INNOVATION HUB

LEARN MORE AT [NLRLibrary.org/laman-con](https://nlrlibrary.org/laman-con)

Staff Birthdays:

- Nov. 15 – Jeff A.
- Nov. 15 – Marissa G.
- Nov. 16 – Bekah H.
- Nov 30 – Adam B.

Work Anniversaries:

- 1 year – Lewis D.
- 2 years – Joe H.
- 13 years – Toni S.



[NLRLibrary.org](https://nlrlibrary.org)

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

@NLRLibraries



November Birthdays

Name	Dept	Date	Name	Dept	Date
UNDERWOOD, JUSTIN	PUB WORKS/ENGINEER	1	SHELDON, JOSEPH	POLICE	17
HANKINS, JOSHUA	PARKS MAINT	2	SPECKELS, SEAN	FIRE	17
O'KELLEY, CLINTON	POLICE	2	STATEN-BENNETT, ARNESSA	ADMIN	17
QUINN, RODERICK	POLICE	2	WHALE, SHANTAE	PARKS MAINT	17
VICKERS, DUSTIN	POLICE	2	BOWERS, DANA	POLICE	18
LANE, PATRICK	STREET	3	BURKES, TIFFANY	CODE ENFORCEMENT	18
NEWTON, VINCENT	SANITATION	3	BROWN, ROBERT	STREET	19
ANDERSON, BETTY	HR	5	DALLAS, RAUL	POLICE	19
BAILEY, KEILER	ELECTRIC	5	FISHER, JULIE	HR	19
CALVIN, LATOYA	OES/911	5	MOORE, DAVID	POLICE	19
MILLER, MARIE-BERNARDE	LEGAL	5	GATLIN, DEAN	STREET	20
BURKS, JOSH	FIRE	7	HARNESS, LISA	POLICE	20
DURAN, DANTANIEL	FIRE	7	MCNAUGHTON, DUSTIN	PARKS GOLF	20
JONES, JUSTIN	FIRE	7	SANE, AMY	OES/911	20
OFFORD, TINA	SANITATION	7	CARTER, BRITNEY	OES/911	21
BRADSHAW, JUSTIN	FIRE	9	FISCHER, BRIAN	PARKS GOLF	21
FLOYD, SHAQUITA	ELECTRIC	9	PIERSON, KEITH	POLICE	21
NORMAN, SYLVIA	ELECTRIC	9	ROBERTS, ANDREA	ELECTRIC	21
JOHNSON, MICHAEL	TRAFFIC	10	SMITH, JENA	ELECTRIC	21
MARTIN, LINCOLN	STREET	10	EGLI, BRIAN	FIRE	22
STROUD, CODY	POLICE	10	NEBLING, TODD	STREET	23
TOLLETT, YANCY	POLICE	11	FORNEY, JOSHUA	POLICE	25
HODGES, WILLIAM	ELECTRIC	12	HALEY, DANIEL	POLICE	25
MAXEY, BRECK	IT	12	PERKINS, BETTY	PARKS CONCESSIONS	25
BECK, ROBERT	ELECTRIC	13	MILLER, JAMES	ELECTRIC	26
HALE, JOHN	PLANNING	13	DORRELL II, DENNIS	POLICE	27
TATUM III, JOHN	FIRE	13	VANG, BRUCE	SENIOR CENTER	27
HERNANDEZ, RAGAN	POLICE	14	DRONE, PHYLLIS	POLICE	29
MIDDLETON, JEREMY	ELECTRIC	15	RAMIREZ, EDGAR	IT	29
FLIPPIN, RANDY	POLICE	16	HANKINS, THOMAS	ELECTRIC	30
HEEP, HUNTER	FIRE	16	NEELEY, JAMES	POLICE	30
HUNTER, SHELBY	POLICE	16	POOL, LUKUS	FIRE	30

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)

November Anniversaries

Name	Dept	# Yrs	Name	Dept	# Yrs
BOWMAN, MARY BETH	ADMIN	12	ANDREWS, MICHAEL	PARKS MAINT	6
SMITH, MAGGIE	ANIMAL SHELTER	3	TURNER, JASON	PARKS MAINT	3
JONES, JONATHAN	CODE ENFORCEMENT	4	PRINCE, TROY	PARKS MAINT	9
MCEUEN, TIMOTHY	CODE ENFORCEMENT	7	PEOPLES, ERNEST	PARKS RECREATION	33
DAVIS, DARNELL	ELECTRIC	2	MATTOX, DAVID	POLICE	4
WOOLF, JACK	ELECTRIC	4	SPARKMAN, EMILY	POLICE	1
ATKINSON, ALEX	ELECTRIC	1	KULESA, LOGAN	POLICE	4
LOTT, JACOB	ELECTRIC	2	ADKINS, GIOVANNA	POLICE	6
SNIDER, KATHRYN	ELECTRIC	15	ROBINSON, LAURIE	POLICE	37
HERRING, LESTER	ELECTRIC	5	HENSON, ERICKA	POLICE	4
YANCEY, CYNTHIA	FIRE	27	HARNESS, LISA	POLICE	4
WILLETT, NATHAN	FIRE	2	COOK, DAVID	PUB WORKS/ENGINEER	10
HEEP, HUNTER	FIRE	2	BUTLER, ROBERT	SANITATION	10
FIELDS, HUNTER	IT	5	YOUNG, ANTWONE	SANITATION	20
MCCURLEY, WILLIAM	IT	7	SMITH SR, ERIC	SANITATION	23
DICUS, JONATHAN	IT	12	MIDDLETON, WILLIAM	STREET	9
DEAN, DOMINIQUE	OES/911	2	ADAMS, STEVE	STREET	43
BECK, NICHOLAS	OES/911	6	TERRY SR, CHRIS	STREET	31
COLLINS, RACHEL	PARKS ADMIN	2	MAHAN, JACOB	TRAFFIC	19
SANDERS JR, FREDDIE	PARKS MAINT	3	DILLON, KATHRYN	VEHICLE MAINT	16
MCCOY, JOHNATHAN	PARKS MAINT	1	TENNER, ANDREAUS	VEHICLE MAINT	7

LEAF REMOVAL BEGINS NOVEMBER 17

LEAF REMOVAL WILL BEGIN IN
EACH WARD ON NOVEMBER 17.

LEAF UPDATES WILL BE POSTED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY AFTERNOON ON THE CITY'S WEBPAGE AND THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK APP, INCLUDING ALL SOCIAL MEDIA. RESIDENTS CAN ALSO CALL 501-371-8340 FOR AN UPDATE ON THE LOCATION OF THE LEAF TRUCKS.

The Leaf Vacs are coming back!!!

If you want the city to vacuum your leaves, please rake them within 6 feet of the curb so equipment can reach them. **DO NOT** rake leaves into the street. **DO NOT** block sidewalks.

If you want your leaves removed weekly, bag 'em up and put them at the curb. Bagged leaves will be picked up on your weekly scheduled yard waste pickup date.



North Little Rock City employees came together last month at the City Services building where they held a competition which included a chili cook off, costume contest and best table décor.

The best chili award went to the NLR Police Department, with the Fire Department taking second. Planning came in third.

Best table décor went to the Finance Department with their larger than life haunted house followed by Vehicle Maintenance. HR came in third.

Best costume was awarded to NLR Electric, followed by the group from Duck Dynasty (aka City Engineer). Tie for third—Emergency Services and Traffic.



The City Clerk/ Treasurer's Team at City Hall participated in Argenta Trick or Treat and welcomed visitors to the Pirates Cove (aka City Hall Lobby). Guests were able to walk the plank to claim their treasure while visiting with our band of buccaneers.





Also participating in the Halloween spirit this year, here are a few pictures from the folks at the Laman Library branches (Main, Argenta and The Innovation Hub).

Mayor's Tree Lighting

Tuesday, November 18, 2025
6:00 p.m. in Argenta Plaza



Arrive at 5:30 p.m. and enjoy:

S'mores sponsored by First Security Bank
Hot Chocolate & Cider
Entertainment from ACT
NLR Animal Shelter mobile unit
Commemorative Christmas ornament

Everyone is encouraged to bring:

Canned goods for the unsheltered
Items for the NLR Animal Shelter



Scan Me



Sponsors: First Security Bank, NLR Kiwanis Club, and NLR First Assembly