



Good Neighbor, Galveston...

...Your Guide to Community Improvement



# Good Neighbor, Galveston... the Resident's Guide to Neighborhood Improvement

**THE CITY OF GALVESTON** is comprised of a unique blend of traditions and cultures that make our historical coastal community truly one-of-a-kind. We take great pride in providing a safe, attractive environment for all who venture to our Island and this legacy is only continued through the support of our residents and property owners.

Galveston has so very much to offer: beautiful neighborhoods, higher education institutions, healthcare entities, maritime industry, and much,

much more. By working together, we can preserve the historical, cultural, and aesthetic value of our landscape - something that we all truly treasure.

In order to maintain this sense of community, it is paramount as residents and property owners that we strive to invest in our City through appropriate maintenance. This guide illustrates the codes and ordinances in place to help maintain the health, safety, and welfare of our community as a whole.

*- Let's be Good Neighbors, Galveston!*

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## REFUSE AND LITTER DISPOSAL

### REFUSE COLLECTION

Once a week residential refuse is collected within the City of Galveston. Carts should be placed out no earlier than 5 PM on the day preceding collection day and no later than 7 AM on your regularly scheduled collection day. All carts should be removed from the curb and appropriately placed no later than 10 PM on your regularly scheduled collection day.

*Chapter 15, Article 1, Section 3—Containers Generally*

### BULK WASTE PICK-UP

Bulk item pick-up is a collection service for heavy items including appliances, furniture, tree limbs & brush, etc. that may be requested for pick-up in advance. If you schedule a refrigerator for pick-up, please remove the door and antifreeze prior to placing it at the curb. Contact the Public Works Department at (409) 797-3630 prior to 3 PM and it can be scheduled for pick-up the next business day.

### RECYCLING

The City has an ECO Center located at 702 61st Street that is open for drop-off 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Staff is available to assist residents Monday through Saturday from 8 AM to 4:45 PM. There is also a drop-off center at Lindale Park located at 4th Street & Marine. Senior citizens interested in curbside recycling may contact Public Works at (409) 797-3630.

### TRANSFER STATION

Don't dump! The City's transfer station is located at 5515 Harborside Drive. The facility is open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM and on Saturday from 8 AM to 3 PM. Residents must present a current City of Galveston water bill confirming use of refuse services as well as a photo ID.

## HOME/STRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

### SAFETY MEASURES

Please post physical address numbers so that they are clearly visible from the street.

Property owners should promptly repair sewage line breaks or leaks and report City line issues immediately.

Please refrain from storing vehicles, furniture, building debris, etc. on residential premises.

Property owners should adhere to the paint removal ordinance when remodeling or updating a structure.

*Chapter 18, Section 5 & 6—Permit requirement for external paint removal*



## TREE TRIMMING, PLANTING, OR REMOVAL

### TREE MAINTENANCE

Trees should not cover or obstruct signage. Residential and commercial property owners should ensure that all trees over the streets are trimmed no less 15' above the roadway. Trees that obstruct or cover signage must be trimmed or removed by the property owner.

*Chapter 34, Article 1, Section 6—Intersection visibility; Chapter 23—Nuisances*

## VEHICLES (BOATS, RVs, & TRAILERS)

### “JUNKED” & ABANDONED VEHICLES

Property owners should not allow the storage of “junked” vehicles. A “junked” vehicle is defined as self-propelled vehicle that does not have valid plates or inspection; or is wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled, or discarded; or has been inoperable for 48 consecutive hours on public property or 30 consecutive days on private property.

City officials encourage you to report abandoned vehicles on private property to the City's Code Enforcement Division by calling (409) 797-3660. All abandoned vehicles on public rights-of-way to the Galveston Police Department at (409) 765-3702.

*Chapter 23, Article II—Abandoned or junked vehicles*

# SIDEWALKS, ALLEYS, GUTTERS, AND CURBS

## SIDEWALKS

Sidewalks provide walkability for Galveston residents and visitors alike. City ordinance authorizes residential and commercial property owners to construct sidewalks that are done so with the approval of the City Engineer. Once the sidewalks are constructed, the property owners assume responsibility for maintenance. This applies to sidewalks constructed prior to the current property owner. Maintenance includes keeping the area free of litter, debris, overgrown vegetation, and trip hazards.

*Chapter 32, Section 10 & 11—Streets, Sidewalks, & Public Places; Chapter 23—Nuisances*



## CURBS

Curb construction, maintenance, and repair is necessary for maintaining a safe environment for vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Residential and commercial property owners are responsible for ensuring curbs abutting their property are safely and aesthetically maintained. Curbs should be routinely checked for trip and/or fall hazards.

*Chapter 32, Section 10 & 11—Streets, Sidewalks, & Public Places*

## GUTTERS

Street gutters should be kept clear of all litter including but not limited to weeds, grass, and leaves. Residential and commercial property owners should not allow the deposit of litter into the street gutters as this is not only unsightly, but also affects proper drainage from our roadways.

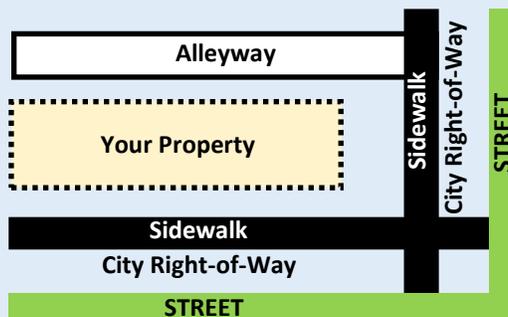
*Chapter 32, Section 10 & 11—Streets, Sidewalks, & Public Places; Chapter 20, Section 7; Chapter 23—Nuisances*



## ALLEYS

Alleyways serve an important function as a City right-of-way, allowing additional access to private property. Property owners are required to maintain the area from the middle of the alley to and including the street per City ordinance. This area should be free of debris, litter, and overgrown vegetation including decorative landscaping & low hanging tree limbs.

*Chapter 32, Section 10 & 11—Streets, Sidewalks, & Public Places; Chapter 23—Nuisances*



# LANDSCAPE/PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

## GRASS/HEDGES/WEEDS

Per City ordinance, all grass and weeds must be cut below 9". Hedges should be trimmed to maintain aesthetic appeal. Grass, weeds, and other vegetation should be manicured along curbs /sidewalks properly.

## FENCING

Fencing should be kept clean, in good condition, and be free of graffiti. No fencing should exceed 8' in height unless specific conditions are met.

*Chapter 29, Article III, Section 29-68—Fence Regulations*

## RIGHTS-OF-WAY

The City rights-of-way should remain free of any items that cause obstruction. These areas include, but are not limited to, the sidewalk areas, parking lanes, streets, alleyways, etc. Posting notices on trees, utility poles, traffic signs, or in any other form in the rights-of-way is strictly prohibited unless proper permitting has been issued.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Eliminate areas or containers on your property that collect water. Mosquitoes thrive in this type of environment which can be easily avoided.

*Chapter 23—Nuisances*

# PUBLIC PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, & BEACHES

## DOG PARKS

The City of Galveston has several dog parks available for the public to use. Please note that all pet waste must be picked up and disposed of properly. Each dog park has a waste receptacle with waste bags however, we encourage you to consider bringing additional waste bags.

All pets must be leashed once you exit the designated dog park fenced areas. Aggressive dogs are not permitted and residents are encouraged to call (409) 765-3702 to report any and all complaints.



## PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS

All City parks and playgrounds are open to the public, free of charge and may not be restricted from entry unless properly permitted. Park hours are from 6 AM to 10 PM unless otherwise posted. Our tennis court facilities offer lighting after dusk.



## GALVESTON BEACHES

The City of Galveston has a beautiful coastline of open beachfront just waiting for you! There are numerous free access points as well as areas that provide accommodations for a small beach user fee. For a list of amenities, facilities, and beach pocket park locations, please visit the Galveston Park Board's website at <http://www.galvestonparkboard.org/>.

## GLASS BEVERAGE CONTAINERS & ALCOHOL

Per City ordinance glass containers are not permitted on public property including but not limited to City parks, Seawall Boulevard including rights-of-way, and all beachfront. Additionally glass containers are not permitted Downtown during special events.

Alcohol is strictly prohibited from all City parks and ball fields.

*Chapter 26, Section 11—Glass containers prohibited; Chapter 8, Section 7—Glass beverage containers; Chapter 24, Section 10—Glass beverage containers prohibited on The Strand*



## THE HIGHLIGHTS

**Keeping our City beautiful is a unified effort.** Property owners are the first line of defense in keeping our Island a clean, safe, and inviting place for current and future generations.

- ◆ Please remove all litter, garbage, rubbish, etc. from your property and neighboring rights-of-way including sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and alleyways.
- ◆ Overgrown landscaping is a public safety hazard and unsightly. All shrubbery, trees, grass, etc. should be kept trimmed and properly manicured along sidewalks, driveways, and curbs.
- ◆ In an effort to keep pest nuisances as minimal as possible, please ensure you are not providing a welcoming environment for rats, snakes, mice, or other nuisance pests and animals.



# IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>409-797-3630</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS (AFTER HOURS DISPATCH)</b>	<b>409-797-3971</b>
<b>UTILITY BILLING/WATER</b>	<b>409-797-3550</b>
<b>ANIMAL CONTROL</b>	<b>409-765-3702</b>
<b>CITY MANAGER/ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>409-797-3520</b>
<b>CITY SECRETARY/CITY COUNCIL</b>	<b>409-797-3510</b>
<b>DEVELOPMENT SERVICES/CODE ENFORCEMENT</b>	<b>409-797-3660</b>
<b>MUNICIPAL COURT</b>	<b>409-765-3740</b>
<b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b>	<b>409-797-3700</b>
<b>ISLAND TRANSIT</b>	<b>409-797-3900</b>
<b>BEACH MAINTENANCE/POCKET PARKS</b>	<b>409-797-5000</b>



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