



Spring 2016

City of Granite Shoals, Texas

Spanish language newsletter available at City Hall lobby or at the website.
www.graniteshoals.org

City Council approves trial run of Deer Management Program

Granite Shoals City Council authorized the Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC) to conduct a 'Pilot Program' of archery-based deer management in the City of Granite Shoals. The Council approved the plan (as Ordinance #685, February 23, 2016) after carefully reviewing the pilot program design and finding significant safety measures included. This pilot program will be a test to see if an archery-based deer management program is feasible. The pilot program is strictly limited to participants selected, trained and coordinated by the Wildlife Advisory Committee and will be conducted on specific program sites which are safely isolated from structures and roadways. The city ordinance regulating firearms is still in effect. *There is no bow-hunting in the city, except as part of this program.*

The WAC members base all recommendations on protecting the health, safety and well-being of the residents of the city, both human and deer. The committee members have been provided with ample evidence to indicate the health of our urban deer herd is compromised due to overpopulation.

The WAC held an information meeting for interested volunteers on Thursday, March 24, 2016. If you are interested in reviewing the volunteer information packet, it is posted on the city website.

The WAC will propose that City Council adopt a 'No Deer Feeding' Ordinance in Spring of 2016. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists recommend this type of Ordinance be instituted as a part of an overall Deer Management Plan.

After the No Deer Feeding law is passed, there will be another Town Hall meeting held to inform the community about the deer management effort. Please join us!

In August, the WAC members will conduct the annual Deer Census.

In October, the Deer Management Pilot Program is scheduled to begin.

All City Council and WAC meetings are open to the public and citizens are welcome to attend. Agendas are available at the city website, or from the City Secretary.



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To get the most up-to-date information regarding the Deer Management Program, the 50th Birthday Bash, City Wide Clean Up Day, the upcoming elections or any other city activities, please visit the City of Granite Shoals website at www.graniteshoals.org.

Letter from Mayor Brugger / April 2016:

To the citizens of Granite Shoals: A year ago, citizens indicated their **main concerns** were **roads, unsightly yards** and **facilities for senior citizens**.

City Roads Council is actively working to improve two of the City's three arterial roads; Phillips Ranch Road and Prairie Creek. In November, 2015, citizens attended a Town Hall Meeting, where discussions were held on the need for a public infrastructure project to rebuild or repair the City's main roadways. Arterial traffic counts were presented. Changes to the city's Comprehensive Plan related to definitions of arterial and collector roads was discussed, as well as road design requirements. Financing a project with bonds and partially with monthly fees was also discussed, although the use of fees was rejected by attendees.

Since the November meeting, Council has continued to focus on this issue. Cost estimates are now available for rebuilding a partial segment or the full length of Phillips Ranch Road and Prairie Creek. An engineering firm, a financial advisor and a bond council have been selected with the intent to place a bond package before the voters in November, 2016. An opportunity for a road grant with the U.S. Department of Agriculture is being explored which would provide funding at a rate of fifty-five cents for each dollar requested. The Council passed a Resolution in March to authorize the application for a grant not to exceed five million dollars, the amount needed to rebuild the full length of both Phillips Ranch Road and Prairie Creek, to install needed water line improvements along Prairie Creek and to fix existing road safety issues. If the city is awarded the grant, it generally takes two years to process.

For general maintenance of roads, the City Council is placing options before the voters on the May 7th ballot, to change the City's sales tax collection rate and allocation. Information on this proposal can be seen on page 5 of this newsletter.

City Clean-up Another citizen concern was unsightly yards. City staff has responded by increasing the goals for the code compliance officers to address junk vehicles, property maintenance, house number infractions, unsafe structures / building removal and zoning infractions. Also, the city continues to hold two City-wide Clean Up Days each year. The next Clean Up Day is April 30th.

Recreation for Youth and Seniors Council has heard from numerous individuals that the City's recreation facilities for all ages are a concern. The City needs soccer fields, basketball courts and improvements to our community center. An agreement with the Marble Falls ISD is being explored to place a soccer field adjacent the Highland Lakes Elementary School. An Outdoor Recreation Grant with the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife is being written with a February 2017 submittal date for renovating the largest of the granite processing buildings adjacent to City Hall. Courts for indoor soccer, basketball, pickle ball and other recreational activities are being considered. This grant will only be submitted as long as the existing building and adjacent land can be used for the City's matching requirements. Council recently approved a Community Enhancement Fund Grant Application, again with a February 2017 submittal date, for renovating or replacing the Community Center. This grant is a unique opportunity because it would provide funding at a rate of ninety cents for each dollar requested.

The City Council recently began investigating options for future uses of the City's airport. The airport is technically a city park. Although the City has 19 public parks, the Council was looking at other options for recreational facilities, including use of the airport for soccer fields. Public input on the future use of the airport was obtained. An ordinance establishing a new Airport Advisory Committee was passed. A full complement of committee members was approved, including individuals having flying experience and an interest in seeing the airport's use grow.

We appreciate all citizen input. Please feel free to contact me or any Council Member with questions or concerns about these or any other topics.

**Granite Shoals Wildlife Advisory
Committee (WAC)
(A Timeline/Summary)**

March 2014: WAC Established by Ordinance #639. Committee charged to research, in a step-wise manner, the issue of possible urban deer overpopulation in the City of Granite Shoals, and options to address it, if applicable. The most important factor in their work is to promote safety, health and well-being for citizens and deer.

January 2015: Conducted a 'Citizen Survey' related to citizen attitudes regarding the deer population issue in the city. Citizens responded 76% that they would support the WAC research further into the question of whether deer management is needed.

May 2015: Town Hall Meeting Held at Fire Hall, Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) biologists give presentation and moderate discussion of Deer Management.

August 2015: Deer Census conducted in cooperation with experts from the TPWD— A sample area was used, starting on the east and moving to the west side of town. This count provided a baseline to work from but is only a sampling. In the 1,737 acres evaluated during the sample count; combined white-tail deer counted was 778. This means that there are approximately 1 deer per 2.23 acres. To put this in perspective, a healthy average deer population on a ranch is 1 deer per 8-10 acres of natural habitat. The sample count indicates there are more deer than the habitat can support.

December 2015: Chair of Committee presents report of findings to City Council.

January 2016: City Council meets in Special Joint Workshop with the WAC to consider options for deer management.

February 2016: City Council adopts Ord. 685 which authorizes a pilot program of deer management utilizing bow-hunting under rigidly controlled circumstances. (see page 1)



**Join the fun
50th Year Bash
begins with the**

**Granite Shoals 50th 5K Fun Run/Walk with
Leo Manzano**

Saturday, April 23

Leo Manzano Hike Bike & Run Trail in Quarry Park

2221 North Phillips Ranch Road

Check in at 8 a.m. for 9 a.m. start

Fill in this form or one from www.graniteshoals.org. Submit with the entry fee for each applicant at City Hall, 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Rd.
– Adults: \$10 - Teens: \$5 - Kids 12-under free.

5K Fun Run/Walk with Leo Manzano Registration Information

Name _____

Age _____ Sex _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Event: ___ 1-mile Fun Run ___ 5K Run ___ 5K Walk

T-Shirt Size: ___ Youth ___ Adult (circle one) S M L XL
XXL

(Pick up T-shirt packets at City of Granite Shoals, 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Rd, Friday, April 22, 4-30-6:30 p.m.)

Waiver

In consideration of this entry, I hereby release the City of Granite Shoals from any and all injuries incurred to me or by me or any acts or omission by any organization or individual that take place at said race. I further certify that I am physically able to participate in this event.

Print Name _____

Signature of participant or guardian if under 18

Date: _____ Emergency Contact: _____

Phone: _____

(Proceeds will go to the cost of the race and to The Roddick Youth Tennis Foundation.)

Quarry Park at City Hall

The Interpretive Center and Wildflower Garden are now open at Quarry Park .

The Interpretive Center is the hut-like structure at the entrance to the Municipal Complex at 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Road, Granite Shoals. Inside is information for visitors all about Granite Shoals, and about the granite stone native to this area. Nearby you will see an official Monarch Butterfly Waystation. This garden of milkweed (with Bluebonnets, of course) was brought to us, in part, by a grant from the Native Plant Society. The gardeners are the Granite Shoals Beautification Advisory Group and the Highland Lakes Master Gardeners.

**VISIT AND LIKE
US ON
FACEBOOK**





Upcoming Events:

- April 23, 2016—City 50th Birthday Bash
- April 24, 2016—City Wide Worship Service of Thanksgiving for our community.
- April 30, 2016—City Wide Clean Up Day at City Hall Complex
- May 7, 2016—City of Granite Shoals Elections 7 AM to 7 PM. City General Officers Election for Council Places: 2, 4 and 6. Sales Tax Election.
- May 21, 2016—in Marble Falls, Burnet County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
- May 30, 2016—City Holiday - Memorial Day
- June-Sept, 2016—Nominations accepted for John Rinehart Memorial Award for Outstanding Community Service.
- July 4, 2016—City Holiday—Independence Day
- September 5, 2016—City Holiday - Labor Day
- November 5, 2016—Veterans Celebration

Carl Brugger, Mayor	mayor@graniteshoals.org
Anita Hisey, Place 1	council_place1@graniteshoals.org
Shirley King, Mayor Pro Tem, Place 2	council_place2@graniteshoals.org
Eric Tanner, Place 3	council_place3@graniteshoals.org
Tom Dillard, Place 4	council_place4@graniteshoals.org
Todd Holland, Place 5	council_place5@graniteshoals.org
Mark Morren, Place 6	council_place6@graniteshoals.org

The May 7, 2016 Granite Shoals Elections are coming!

The City is holding both a General Election (to elect Council Members) and a Special Election (for Sales Tax options).



This is what you will see on your General Election Ballot:

City Council, Place #2: Shirley King

City Council, Place #4: Tom Dillard
Arturo Rubio

City Council, Place #6: Mark Morren
Michael Steenbergen
Will Skinner

Here are the Special Election ballot propositions:

PROPOSITION 1: The adoption of a local sales and use tax in the City of Granite Shoals at the rate of one percent, the adoption of a local sales and use tax in the City of Granite Shoals at the rate of three fourths of one percent to provide revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets, and the abolition of the additional sales and use tax within the city.

PROPOSITION 2: The reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of Granite Shoals at the rate of one fourth of one percent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. The tax expires on the fourth anniversary of the date of this election unless the imposition of the tax is reauthorized.

Sales Tax for our City

	2014 (Previous) Rate	Current Rate of Sales Tax	Prop 1 and 2 Proposed Rates May 7, Election Ballot
State	\$0.0625	\$0.0625	\$0.0625
Local - General	\$0.0100	\$0.0100	\$0.0100
Local - Street Maintenance	\$0.0025	\$0.0025	\$0.0100
Local - Property Tax Relief	*	\$0.0050	removed
Total Sales Tax Rate	\$0.0750	\$0.0800	\$0.0825

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE OR TO UPDATE YOUR VOTER ADDRESS FOR CITY MAY ELECTIONS IS APRIL 7, 2016.

Improved communication with the citizens of Granite Shoals is a high priority for City Council and city staff. Please give us input regarding this newsletter, the city website, the Facebook page and the Town Hall meetings. We also maintain an outdoor six-panel bulletin board at 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Road. Mayor Brugger has held one 'Meet With Mayor' night and is eager to schedule more of these if there is interest. We wish to hear from you.

May 7, 2016 Granite Shoals General and Special Elections

Election Day : All voters in the City of Granite Shoals (Precinct 3 and Precinct 18) will vote 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Granite Shoals Fire Department, 8410 W FM 1431, Granite Shoals, TX 78654

Early Voting will be conducted each weekday at:

Polling Place		Address			City	
Burnet County Courthouse		220 S. Pierce			Burnet, TX 78611	
Marble Falls Courthouse Annex		810 Steve Hawkins Pkwy.			Marble Falls, TX 78654	
Sun-day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<i>April 25</i> 8am-5pm	<i>April 26</i> 8am-5pm	<i>April 27</i> 8am-5pm	<i>April 28</i> 7am-7pm	<i>April 29</i> 8am-5pm	<i>April 30</i>
<i>May 1</i>	<i>May 2</i> 7am-7pm	<i>May 3</i> 8am-5pm	<i>May 4</i>	<i>May 5</i>	<i>May 6</i>	<i>May 7</i> Election Day

Voters should bring voter registration certificate (it is blue) and photo identification.

*Visit the City of Granite Shoals
official city website at
www.graniteshoals.org*

CITY WIDE CLEAN UP DAY
APRIL 30, 2016
8:00 AM TO 12 NOON
AT CITY HALL

The City of Granite Shoals relies on the service of community-oriented citizens. Without the help of committed citizens; the City would not function. Each Board, Committee and Commission plays a significant role to keep Granite Shoals vital, responsive and responsible. The citizens who serve on these various boards volunteer their time to improve the quality of life for everyone in Granite Shoals. Some of the City of Granite Shoals Boards & Commissions are:

- Wildlife Committee **
- Board of Adjustments **
- Planning & Zoning Commission
- 50th Anniversary Year (2016) Celebration Event Committee **
- Airport Advisory Committee
- Streets and Water Advisory Group (SWAG) *
- Parks Committee **
- Beautification Advisory Group (BAG) **

** Committee has vacancies

If you are interested in applying for consideration of appointment to a city committee, please complete the application form. These forms are available at City Hall, or on the city website. For assistance, contact the City Secretary at 830-598-2424 x303.

Phone: (830)-598-6129 On-Call / Emergency

(830) 598-2424 Billing / Office

Dear Citizens of Granite Shoals,

Mandatory Language for Public Notification: MCL Coliform Violation (TCR 22)

This notice is to notify you, the City of Granite Shoals, water system PWS ID TX 0270049, collected three water samples during March 2016 that contained coliform bacteria. This water system is required to submit a minimum of six routine water samples each month for bacteriological analysis. Three routine samples were coliform-found and zero of the three repeat samples for each of the routine coliform-found samples were coliform-found for March 2016.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sets drinking water standards in Texas and has determined that the presence of total coliform is a possible health concern. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. For water systems analyzing at least 40 samples per month, no more than five (5) percent of the monthly samples may be positive for total coliform. For systems analyzing fewer than 40 samples per month, no more than one (1) sample per month may be positive for total coliform.

We took the following action to address this issue: Repeat samples were taken at each of the locations where the original samples were collected and these samples did not contain coliform bacteria. In addition to sampling at the original sample collection site, additional samples were collected upstream and downstream of the original sample point at each of the three sample sites. All samples tested negative and did not contain coliform bacteria. The repeat samples were collected, submitted for analysis, and results reported to the TCEQ as part of the standard operating procedure.

At no time during this monitoring period was the quality of the drinking water that was produced and delivered to the citizens of Granite Shoals compromised. We continue to strive to deliver the safest water possible to our citizens.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact Peggy Smith at 830-598-2424.

What are health effects of lead and how can I reduce my exposure? If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Granite Shoals Water Systems are responsible for providing drinking water that meets all federal and state standards, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. More information on the Health Effects of Lead, and Steps You Can Take To Reduce Exposure to Lead in Drinking Water may be found at: www.graniteshoals.org/DocumentCenter/View/632.



Granite Shoals 50th Year Bash !!

Join in the fun, make a memory—share a memory

2221 North Phillips Ranch Road

Saturday, April 23, 2016

8 a.m. - Sign in, Leo Manzano Hike/Bike Trail, for 9 a.m. start of 5K run/walk, led by Leo Manzano in Quarry Park.

10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. - Visit history display and Highland Lakes Elementary poster contest exhibit in City Hall.

10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. - Dine & Shop 30+ Food & Craft vendors

11 a.m. - Opening Ceremony balloon release – free hot dogs & some 50th anniversary cake.

Noon-5 p.m. – Kids activities (train rides, ring toss, bounce houses, soccer shots, fishing, bean bag toss)

1 p.m. - Bash the Giant Piñata

2-3 p.m. – Water Balloon Toss for all ages

Noon-7 p.m. - Music festival headlined by John Arthur Martinez

Sunday, April 24, 2016

11 a.m. - Community-Wide Celebration of Thanksgiving & Hope, a worship service with Granite Shoals Faith Alliance outdoors at Granite Shoals City Hall (some chairs provided or bring your own).



www.graniteshoals.org

City of Granite Shoals, Texas

2221 N. Phillips Ranch Road

Granite Shoals, TX 78654

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