

# CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



## AUGUST 13, 2024

*Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates*

### Human Resources Department

- ❖ Police Department's Cabrina Chase promoted to the position of Records Clerk on July 20th and Stephanie Hall will be promoting to the position of Planner on August 19th.
- ❖ Public Works' Orlando Calderon De La Rosa promoted to the position of Collections Operator on August 3rd.
- ❖ Congratulations to each of them!
- ❖ The Fire Department welcomed a new employee on July 29th. Franklin Conlee was hired for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic.
- ❖ The Parks Department welcomed a new employee on August 5th. Amber Love-Clark was hired for the position of Sports and Aquatics Coordinator.
- ❖ The Finance Department will be welcoming a new employee on August 19th. Remedios Duenas will be hired for the position of Customer Service Clerk.
- ❖ The Pet Adoption Center will be welcoming a new employee on August 19th. Gage Genthner will be hired for the position of Animal Services Officer.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

- Animal Services Officer
- Light Equipment Operators
- Maintenance Technicians
- Part Time Receptionist
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Senior Equipment Operator
- Part Time Recreation Aide
- Firefighter/Paramedic



**School is starting back, and the Library is pleased to offer 24/7 access to our Virtual Library!** From e-books and e-audiobooks, to TexShare databases, to World Book online, our Library offers a wide variety of informative information that can be accessed even when the Library building is closed. Most of these resources can be used as documentable resources for school assignments. Whether you choose to homeschool, attend a private school, or attend a public school, these resources are available for you! Just use your library card number!

Start at <https://harkerheights.gov/library> and use the links on the right hand side of the page.



**The Library will host a Local Author Fair on Saturday, August 17, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Come support local authors of all ages and genres! See their books, and ask about the writing process!

Local authors and illustrators, if you are interested in being involved in the program, please e-mail [hheilman@harkerheights.gov](mailto:hheilman@harkerheights.gov) for more information!

Drop by the Library to see our growing and changing plank creations! Our **“Read, Renew, Repeat” Summer Reading Club members add a plank for every book or hour that you read, listen, or write!** Remember to log the books and/or hours that you read, listen, or write in the Library’s free **“Read, Renew, Repeat” Summer Reading Club!** Visit the reading club website at <https://harkerheights.readsquared.com> to log your hours and books OR visit the Library! There you can sign up for the club, log your books and/or hours, earn virtual badges, complete missions, and see booklists! You can count **ALL THE BOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS** that you have read since the beginning of summer even if you sign up now!



**Our new early literacy programs for our younger patrons** has officially begun! Each week we explore early literacy concepts such as letter knowledge, vocabulary, print motivation, and more!

**Babies ages 0-18 months and their families come for Baby-Time on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.**

**Children ages 3-6 years and their families come for Story-time on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 9 a.m.**

**Toddlers ages 0-3 and their families come on Thursdays at 10 a.m. Registration is not required for these programs.**

**Music Time returns Mondays in September 2024 beginning Monday, September 9!**

**Join the Library for music, rhymes, movement, and more! Babies ages 0-18months and their families come at 9 a.m. Children ages 18 months through 6 years and their families come at 10 a.m. Registration is not required for this program, but seating is on a first come first serve basis.**

**The Library is CLOSED Monday, September 2, 2024, for Labor Day - No classes or programs.**

**Stop by the Library to take a look at the Central Texas College for Kids **Recycled Art Exhibition!** See artworks created with paint, fabric, found objects, recycled materials, and more! Inspired by the need to reduce, reuse, and recycle, these artists have a lot to “say” through their works!**

## RECREATION CENTER

### Beginner Mexican Folklorico Dance

returns to the Recreation Center.

The class will be held on Mondays  
Session 1: August 19 – September 16, 2024 &  
Session 2: September 23 – October 21, 2024.

Class times are 6 pm – 7:15 pm for ages 9-13  
and 7:30 pm – 8:45 pm for ages 14-Adults.  
The fee is \$45.00 per person, per session



Ailsa Jackson (License Professional Counselor, MA, LPC) will host a FREE class for our area youth at the Recreation Center.

### ❖ Life Skills for Youth: Mastering Home and School Responsibilities

Saturday, August 17, 2024 for ages 13+ years old

This course is designed to equip youth with essential life skills that can be applied both at home and at school. Each module focuses on practical, hands-on activities to help students become more independent and confident in their abilities. The course covers laundry, dishes, basic cooking, and organization skills.

Preregistration is required as space is limited (maximum 15 participants) and can be done in person or online at:

<https://secure.rec1.com/TX/harker-heights-tx/catalog>



# Parks & Recreation Department

## ABILITY SPORTS



**Ability Pickleball** is in season and being played at Harker Heights Athletic Club every Wednesday. There is still opportunity to register.

**Ability Soccer** registration is open.



## SPORTS



- ❖ Basketball Registration opens **September 2nd**
- ❖ Youth Soccer fall season will begin **September 3rd**



## AQUATICS

The 2024 Pool Season ended August 11th. It was a great summer!





## SENIOR RECREATION

- **The Harker Heights Granny Basketball** team “Old Glories” participated at the Granny Basketball National Tournament in Kansas City, Kansas on August 3-4. Ten members and a few coaches from the Granny Basketball program represented the team and placed fourth in the Hotsy Totsy Division. There were several teams from many states including Iowa, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arizona, California, Missouri, Canada, and five teams from Texas. The ladies informed staff they had a great time.



The Senior Recreation Program is offering a new class,

**AGING GRACEFULLY: Enhancing Quality of Life for Seniors.**

The class is offered FREE on Tuesdays. It started on August 6

and runs through August 27, 2024. Classes are from 8:30 am – 9:30 am

or 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm. Ailsa Jackson (License Professional Counselor, MA, LPC)

has designed the course to support seniors in navigating the challenges of aging while enhancing their quality of life. Participants will develop essential skills in coping, communication, and managing unsettling emotions. Each module focuses on practical strategies and activities to promote resilience, improve interpersonal relationships, and achieve emotional well-being.

- ❖ **Active Seniors (50+)** are invited to PLAY a variety of recreational activities and games on Thursdays from 12:00 pm – 1:45 pm at the Recreation Center. Each month will be a new activity to keep them moving and having fun. August’s activity is Indoor Baseball and Four Square.



- ❖ August’s **BINGO** will be on Thursday, August 15, 2024, from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.



# Parks & Recreation Department

## SENIOR RECREATION CONTINUED

**Ladies Night Out** for August will be on Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 5:00 pm. Participants will be going to Acropolis Greek Cuisine in Harker Heights. Each attendee is responsible to purchase their own dinner. Registration is required and can be done over the phone by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center.



**Crafty Connection** will be hosted on Monday, August 26, 2024 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Seniors can bring a craft project they are working on at home and socialize with other crafters. If participants don't have a craft project, no worry a craft will be available for them at the Recreation Center.



Save the date for **Grand Day @ the HH Rec Center**. Grand Day will be on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Grandparents are invited to bring their grandchildren, great grandchildren, and /or V.I.P. for fun activities, games, and more. RSVP by calling 254-953-5683 or sign up at the Recreation Center by the deadline of September 4, 2024.



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The **Harker Heights Farmers Market** is currently in its' mid-season break, from August to the end of September. The market will resume on October 5 and run every Saturday through December 21. Be sure to mark your calendars so you will be ready to visit the market again!

Applications to be a **Farmers Market Vendor** continue to be accepted during the break. The last day to submit a vendor application is November 15, 2024. The Farmers Market webpage and application information can be found on the link: <https://www.harkerheights.gov/index.php/programs/farmers-market-2>. For more information, call 254-953-5493 or email [sgibbs@harkerheights.gov](mailto:sgibbs@harkerheights.gov) Be sure to follow the Harker Heights Farmers Market Facebook page on: <https://facebook.com/heightsFM> for further updates on the 2024 season!



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The **Fall Community Garage Sale** will be held on Saturday, October 5th . Residents are invited to host a garage sale at their home during this day and participate in the city-wide event. Registration to have your sale placed on the Garage Sale Map will be opening soon. Be sure to follow <https://bit.ly/harkerheightsevents> for updates on when you can register your sale.



## GET OUTDOORS - GO HEIGHTS!

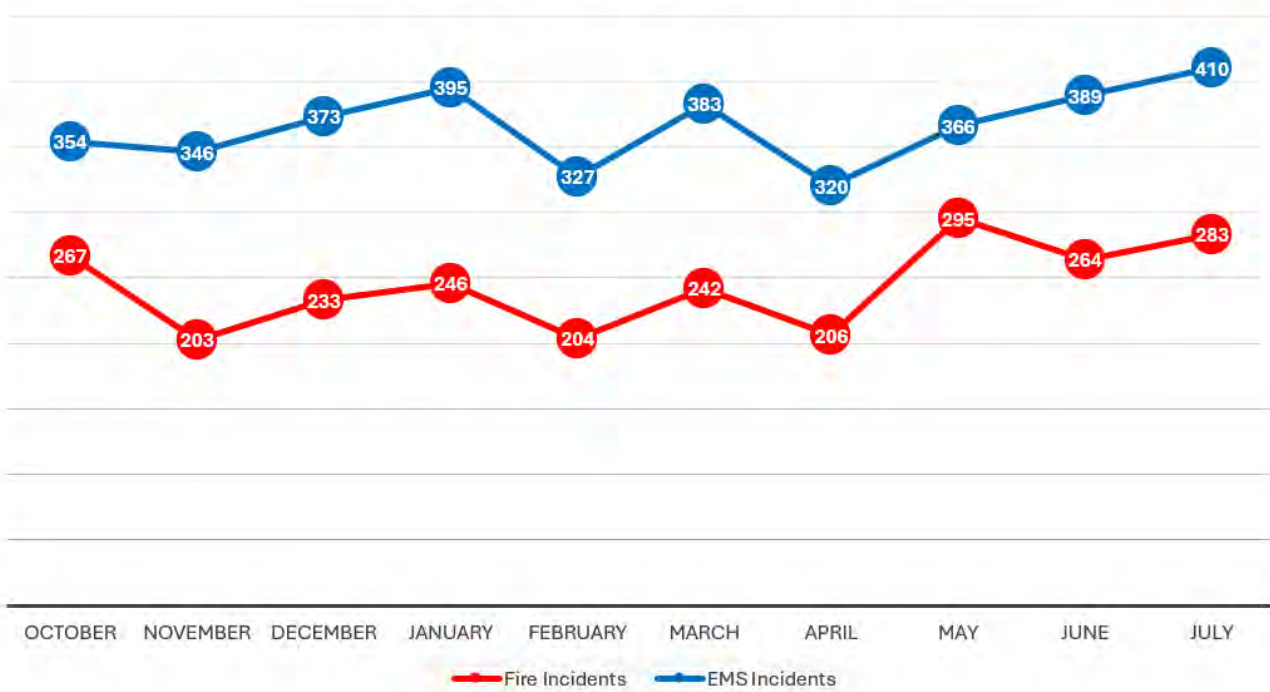
Interested in **Fall Gardening**? Now is the time to prepare your garden beds so they are ready for planting. 4 ft. by 8 ft. garden beds are available at Carl Levin Park Community Garden (400 Miller's Crossing) and at Kern Park (400 S Ann Blvd). For more information on how to obtain a plot visit the Recreation Center (307 Miller's Crossing) or call (254) 953-5657.



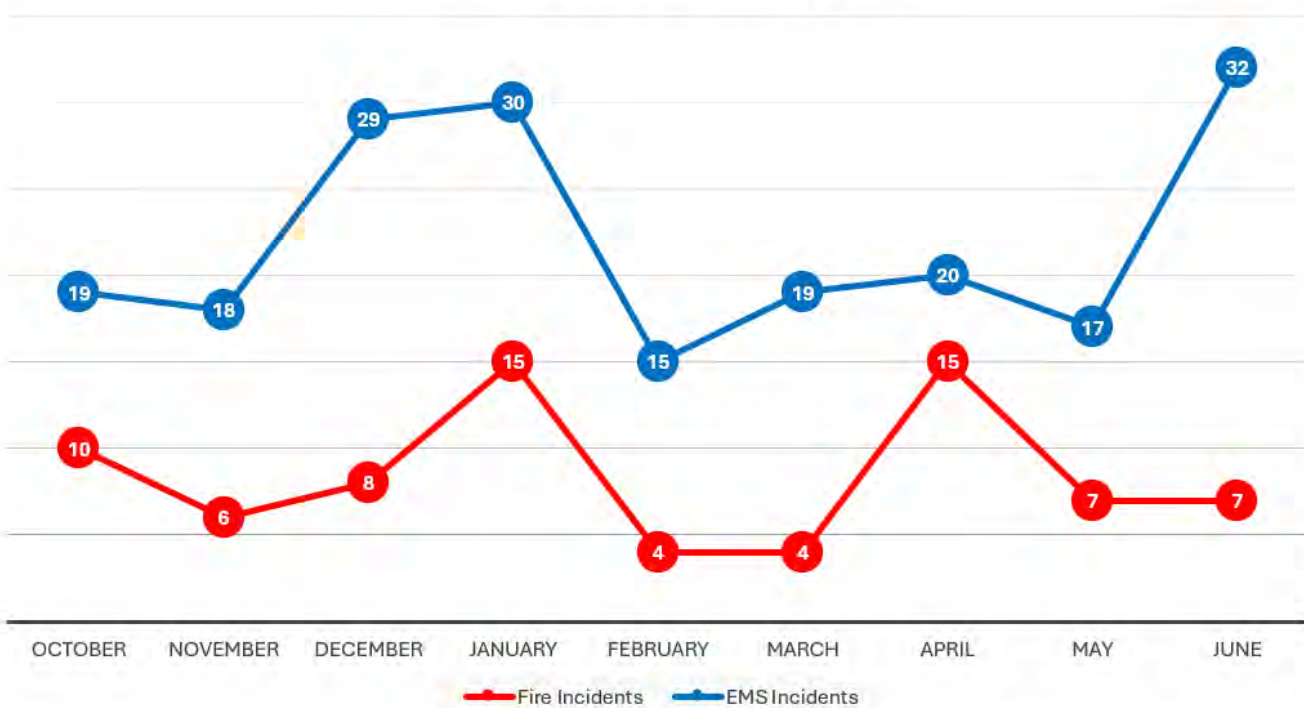


# FIRE DEPARTMENT

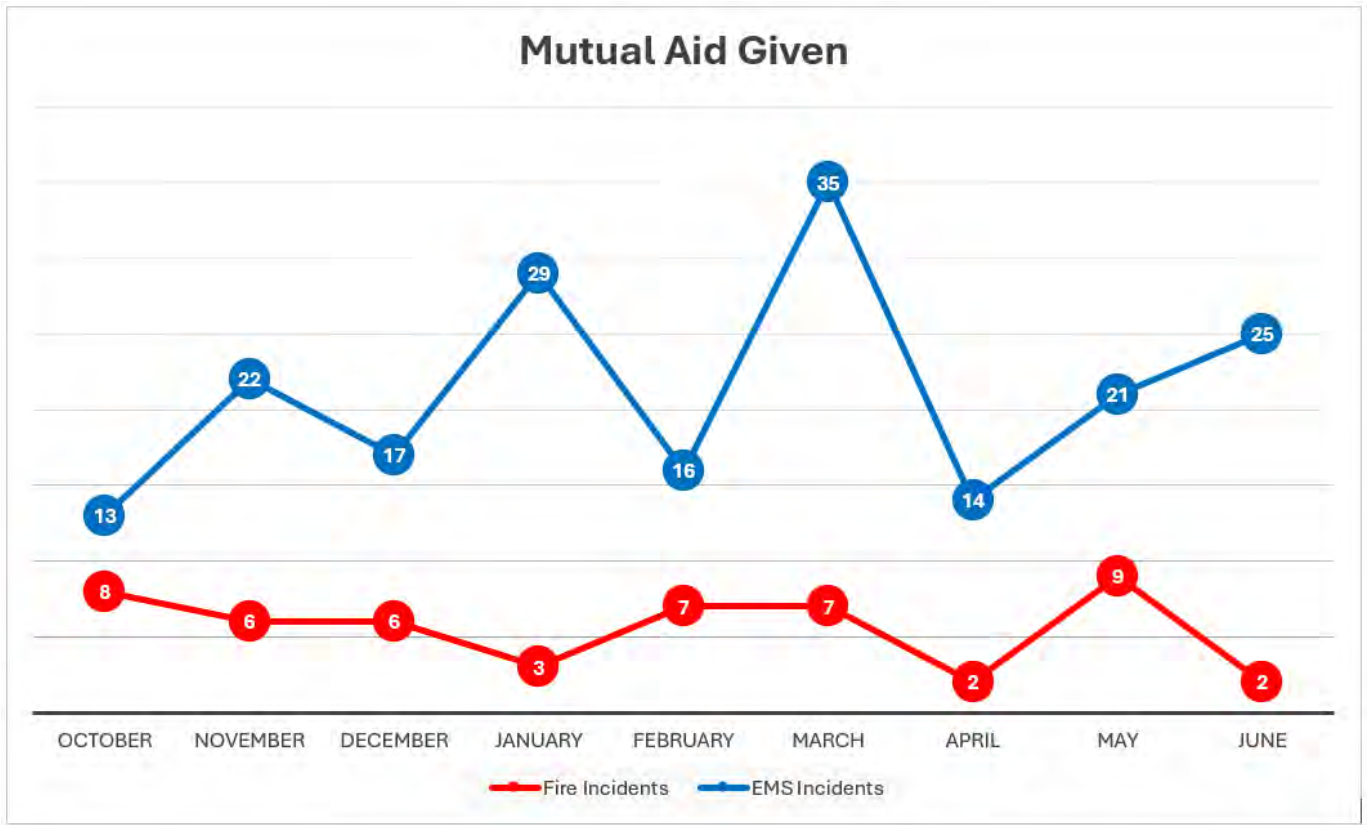
## Fire & EMS Incident Trends



## Mutual Aid Received



# FIRE DEPARTMENT



<b>FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE - JULY 2024</b>	
INSPECTIONS	123
PLAN REVIEWS	7
INVESTIGATIONS	4
DEPARTMENT / AGENCY ASSISTS	15

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

- ❖ The Healthy Homes Division concluded their 2nd Annual Cuts w/Cops event assisting 34 children with back to school haircuts and hairstyles.



National Night out will be October 1, 2024. Registration ends September 20th!

A promotional graphic for National Night Out 2024. The main graphic features a large, waving American flag on the left side. Below the flag, the text "National Night Out" is written in a large, white, serif font. Underneath that, "TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, a red banner contains the text "REGISTRATION ENDS SEPTEMBER 20". To the right of the main graphic are three smaller images: the top one shows police officers in uniform standing in front of a sign that says "HARKER HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024"; the middle one shows a large crowd of people gathered outdoors at night; the bottom one shows a man in a white shirt presenting a certificate or award to a man in a black t-shirt.

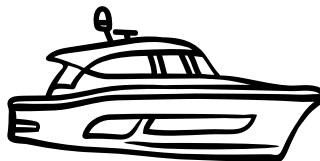
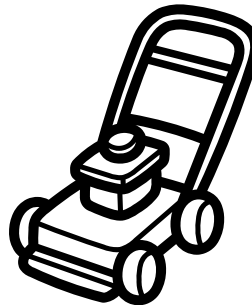
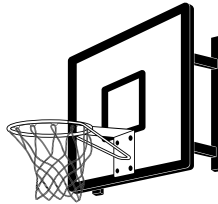


National Coffee with a Cop Day is October 2, 2024.



# JULY 2024 CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY		
July 1 thru July 31, 2024		
Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass	116	38.16%
Outside Storage	46	15.13%
Trash	44	14.47%
Brush	33	10.86%
Grass Parking	27	8.88%
Other*	20	6.58%
Bulk Items	8	2.63%
Trailer	4	1.32%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	3	0.99%
Junk Vehicle	1	0.33%
Maintenance	1	0.33%
Tree limbs	1	0.33%
Basketball Goal	0	0.00%
Boat	0	0.00%
Building Inspection	0	0.00%
Fencing	0	0.00%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Skirting	0	0.00%
Tires	0	0.00%
Total	304	100.00%



CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY		
October 1, 2023 thru September 30, 2024		
Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass	1131	44.13%
Grass Parking	370	14.44%
Outside Storage	363	14.16%
Other*	210	8.19%
Brush	118	4.60%
Bulk Items	107	4.17%
Trash	63	2.46%
Trailer	61	2.38%
Maintenance	43	1.68%
Fencing	20	0.78%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	17	0.66%
Basketball Goal	14	0.55%
Tires	12	0.47%
Junk Vehicle	10	0.39%
Building Inspection	8	0.31%
Tree limbs	8	0.31%
Boat	4	0.16%
Skirting	4	0.16%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Total	2,563	100.00%







City of Harker Heights  
Planning & Development  
305 Miller's Crossing  
Harker Heights, TX 76548  
[planning@harkerheights.gov](mailto:planning@harkerheights.gov)

## Economic Development Report

### JULY 2024 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

#### COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued **one (1)** commercial remodeling permit within the month of July.

- 125 E. Kathey Rd., Goodwill remodel
  - Valued at \$350,000.00

#### RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued a total of **zero (0)** permits for single-family residential construction within the month of July.

The City issued a total of **two (2)** permits for two-family (duplex) residential construction within the month of July.

- 226 N. Mary Jo Drive
  - Valued at \$220,000.00
- 230 N. Mary Jo Drive
  - Valued at \$220,000.00

**To date in calendar year 2024 (January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024) the City has issued a total of twenty-five (27) residential permits: thirteen (13) single-family permits, fourteen (14) two-family permits, and zero (0) multi-family permits.**

#### POPULATION ESTIMATES

As of July 31, 2024, the estimated population for the City of Harker Heights is **35,715** residents. According to the US Census, the population as of April 1, 2020, was 33,097 residents. Since that time, we have added 881 new water accounts with an average household size of 2.97.



# Finance Department



## ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
January	\$458,586.58	\$425,468.44	\$431,215.89	\$347,598.93	\$294,404.59
February	\$534,106.66	\$473,232.50	\$447,458.01	\$259,558.94	\$259,685.74
March	\$505,890.78	\$457,827.45	\$427,327.54	\$337,154.90	\$260,569.11
April	\$449,213.99	\$404,428.51	\$450,611.99	\$341,911.77	\$297,973.05
May	\$470,065.16	\$577,032.32	\$457,447.36	\$455,951.18*	\$337,662.28
June	\$455,755.87	\$508,923.56	\$559,624.69	\$457,853.17	\$291,251.93
July	\$632,588.50	\$549,266.57	\$593,523.31	\$474,837.86	\$433,747.64
August		\$700,084.97	\$626,576.19	\$473,342.17	\$380,976.99
September		\$732,809.66	\$733,557.95	\$575,867.17	\$466,173.61
October		\$640,193.47	\$550,329.57	\$615,499.23	\$433,650.72
November		\$644,238.19	\$597,938.12	\$488,924.69	\$305,732.61
December		\$560,893.99	\$529,760.67	\$540,030.51	\$380,537.34

\*As of April 26, 2021, automatic credit card drafts are now part of the online utility bill payment totals.

## AUTOMATED PHONE PAYMENTS



	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
January	\$111,335.93	\$104,768.73	\$110,804.07	\$122,588.54	\$114,100.16
February	\$122,733.86	\$120,067.52	\$107,542.69	\$90,974.33	\$86,917.11
March	\$113,274.41	\$114,106.26	\$112,330.20	\$143,922.62	\$93,411.41
April	\$97,246.60	\$98,130.13	\$110,142.69	\$126,015.15	\$95,350.65
May	\$109,383.84	\$128,587.47	\$111,214.36	\$114,615.29	\$88,860.54
June	\$103,002.72	\$117,678.21	\$126,583.78	\$117,093.13	\$88,539.21
July	\$128,211.92	\$116,990.27	\$127,979.57	\$114,493.61	\$121,025.84
August		\$160,801.83	\$136,631.66	\$121,311.92	\$113,130.64
September		\$149,676.66	\$153,943.37	\$128,969.57	\$137,771.86
October		\$140,226.20	\$120,331.11	\$133,559.38	\$123,306.75
November		\$141,456.45	\$131,364.63	\$109,105.34	\$94,961.20
December		\$117,512.11	\$114,240.31	\$115,096.07	\$116,508.98



## KIOSK PAYMENTS

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
January	\$15,526.79	\$14,230.92	\$9,974.61	\$13,714.61	\$18,735.25
February	\$14,866.27	\$17,296.49	\$12,965.79	\$11,058.25	\$15,342.02
March	\$16,016.08	\$13,010.92	\$13,519.99	\$16,168.18	\$14,213.01
April	\$13,150.82	\$12,552.09	\$13,777.77	\$14,514.82	\$14,165.99
May	\$11,855.53	\$16,807.66	\$14,264.27	\$12,642.08	\$16,670.43
June	\$16,060.62	\$16,308.52	\$17,616.84	\$13,961.69	\$13,795.19
July	\$16,487.65	\$16,201.62	\$19,794.27	\$13,973.86	\$21,778.38
August		\$21,416.32	\$17,131.77	\$13,053.66	\$17,566.80
September		\$21,162.07	\$21,855.49	\$15,046.80	\$24,119.28
October		\$16,367.61	\$17,549.59	\$19,801.71	\$18,037.50
November		\$20,801.21	\$17,225.45	\$14,707.98	\$15,206.33
December		\$15,884.88	\$19,102.03	\$14,030.94	\$14,953.30

## NUMBER OF E-BILLS SENT OUT



	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
January	4,165	3,798	3,565	3,245	2,719
February	4,192	3,811	3,566	3,290	2,759
March	4,222	3,852	3,555	3,293	2,880
April	4,264	3,922	3,603	3,321	2,819
May	4,256	3,927	3,654	3,364	2,847
June	4,307	3,960	3,698	3,396	2,931
July	4,318	4,061	3,695	3,461	2,976
August		4,021	3,747	3,505	3,069
September		4,054	3,746	3,523	3,072
October		4,092	3,789	3,536	3,127
November		4,105	3,757	3,548	3,186
December		4,128	3,749	3,533	3,201