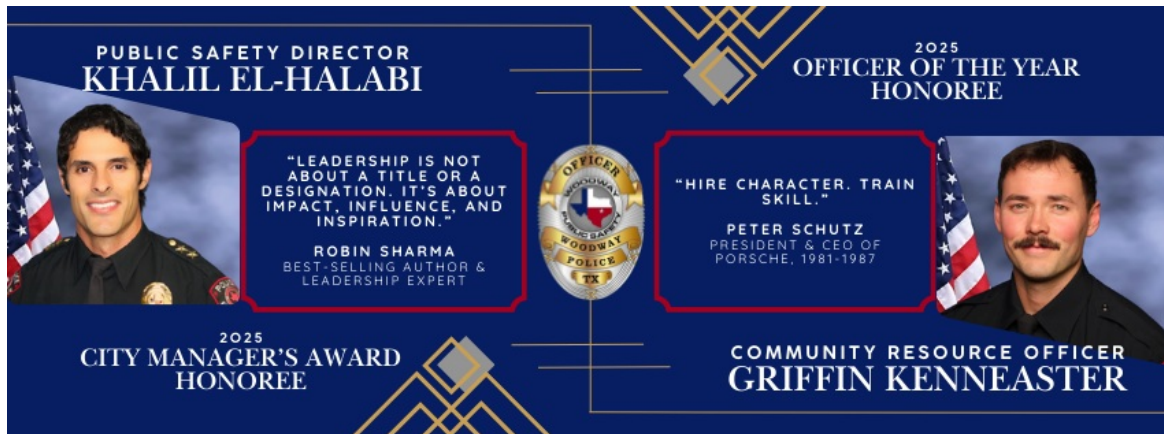


WOODWAY

TEXAS

March / April 2025

Woodway Public Safety: Excellence in Action



The City of Woodway has much to be proud of, not the least of which is our Public Safety Department. Their incredible efforts were rewarded last year with a ranking of 33rd safest city in Texas, a leap from 75th place in 2023, and with more than 1,200 incorporated cities in the state, climbing the Top 100 is certainly something to celebrate.

Also deserving of celebration are the six members of the Public Safety team who were selected by their coworkers for recognition at January's Employee Appreciation Banquet including awards for customer service, community engagement, work ethic, and leadership. Among these honorees were dispatchers, new and recently promoted officers, and the Chief himself. Anyone who has read the department's **Year in Review** will not be surprised, though. Community outreach and crime prevention programs, a rigorous hiring process, and approximately 10,000 collective hours of training over the last year have shaped a department where the statistics and community support speak for themselves.

A great department begins with great leadership, and Chief Khalil El-Halabi's efforts to educate, innovate, and inspire his department are just a few of the reasons why he was honored with the City Manager's Award. With the department since 2008, he is a walking example of the high bar that he sets for those under his command. Along with rising through the ranks from rookie officer to Public Safety Director, he is a graduate of the 91st class of the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas' Leadership Command College, holds a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice, and is currently working toward his PhD in Public Administration. He cares about his team and creating a culture where they care about each other and the community they serve.

Community engagement is definitely thriving under his leadership, and Community Resource Officer Griffin Kenneaster is at the forefront of efforts to guide and grow the WPSD outreach programs. Named Officer of the Year in January, CRO Kenneaster joined the department in mid-2022. His boundless enthusiasm and appetite for learning garnered him recognition as both Valedictorian and Class President of his Police and Fire Academies, as well as the City's Newcomer of the Year Award at last year's banquet.

Together, these two outstanding members of an already exceptional department are spearheading efforts to strengthen the connection between Public Safety and the citizens they serve and protect. Some of the programs already familiar to residents include the July 4th and Christmas parades, collections for Salvation Army's Angel Tree and the Marine Reserves Toys for Tots programs, Citizens Police Academy, Family Movie Night, and Woodway Night Out.

What people may not know is that these are just a drop in the bucket, and that programs are constantly being developed or improved to better serve community needs. Here are a few of the

things that Woodway residents and businesses can look forward to this year:

- **Youth Programs:** WPSD is deeply committed to fostering youth involvement in the community. Each year, officers engage in area youth events and conduct more than 100 by-request presentations. They work with local schools, homeschool groups, and daycares on initiatives that include “Stranger Danger” and safety presentations, tours of the Public Safety Department, and school visits to build meaningful connections with the next generation.
- **Thanksgiving Turkey Fry:** This new Turkey Fry and Fire Safety event offers important instruction to the community on safely frying a turkey for the holidays. While fun and delicious, deep-frying turkeys can also pose significant fire risk. With this live, officer-led demonstration, attendees can learn how to properly handle equipment, maintain safe frying conditions, and prevent accidents that could lead to dangerous fires. This program promises a tasty and informative November.
- **Partnered & Protected:** Launching in 2025, this program is built on the principle of strength in unity, enhancing the safety and security of local businesses while fostering stronger relationships between the community and Woodway PSD. Through this program, businesses will be able to request safety walkthroughs from officers who will identify potential vulnerabilities in security, fire hazards, and recommendations to correct them. Those officers will also collect emergency contact information to enhance efficiency during response to any incident. Participating businesses will receive stickers or signage to display on their property, symbolizing this partnership and promoting trust and mutual respect between local businesses and officers, as well as serving as a deterrent to criminal activity. Chief El-Halabi and CRO Kenneaster look forward to actively promoting this program, with plans to kick off the initiative by visiting each of the City’s existing businesses and extending a personal invitation to participate.

If you would like to learn more about these, or any community programs offered by Woodway Public Safety Department, please reach out to CRO Griffin Kenneaster at gkenneaster@woodwaytexas.gov for more information.

City Updates



City Council Meetings Complete 2025 Schedule

January 13th @ 5:30 p.m.
January 27th @ 5:30 p.m.

February 10th @ 5:30 p.m.
February 24th @ 5:30 p.m.

March 17th @ 5:30 p.m.
March 24th @ 5:30 p.m.

April 14th @ 5:30 p.m.
April 28th @ 5:30 p.m.

May 12th @ 5:30 p.m.
May 19th @ 5:30 p.m.

June 9th @ 5:30 p.m.

July 14th @ 5:30 p.m.

August 11th @ 5:30 p.m.
August 25th @ 5:30 p.m.

September 8th @ 5:30 p.m.
September 22nd @ 5:30 p.m.

October 6th @ 5:30 p.m.
October 27th @ 5:30 p.m.

November 10th (two meetings)
5:30 and 5:45 p.m.

December 8th (two meetings)
5:30 and 5:45 p.m.



**Click Here to access
City Council
Live Stream**



**Click Here to access
Meeting Agendas
& Minutes**

Link to City Council Meeting Agendas: <https://woodwaytexas.gov/meetings-agendas/>

Link to Live Streaming/Past Live Streams for City Council Meetings:
<https://www.youtube.com/@CityofWoodway>



ELECTION NEWS!

At the February 10th meeting, the City Council ordered the annual City of Woodway election to be held on the State prescribed date of Saturday, May 3, 2025. At this year's election, three City Council members will be chosen to serve the residents of Woodway. Election information can be found on the City's website (woodwaytexas.gov) by clicking on "Elections."

NOVEDADES SOBRE LAS ELECCIONES

En la asamblea del Consejo de la Ciudad celebrada el 10 de febrero se ordenó que las Ciudad de Woodway elecciones anuales de la ciudad se lleven a cabo el 3 de mayo de 2025, que es la fecha estipulada por el Estado de Texas. En las elecciones que se llevarán a cabo este año, se elegirán tres Concejales de la Ciudad para servir a los residentes de Woodway. En el sitio web de la Ciudad, podrá encontrar información sobre las elecciones (woodwaytexas.gov) pulsando sobre "Elections" (Elecciones).

Boards & Commissions

To help guide our City into the future, the City Council (all of whom are volunteers serving without pay) solicits the participation of our residents to serve as volunteer board/commission members. Rewards for services are not measured in dollars but in the satisfaction of knowing that you care enough to give back to your community. The City Council conducts an annual call for board/commission applications early each year.

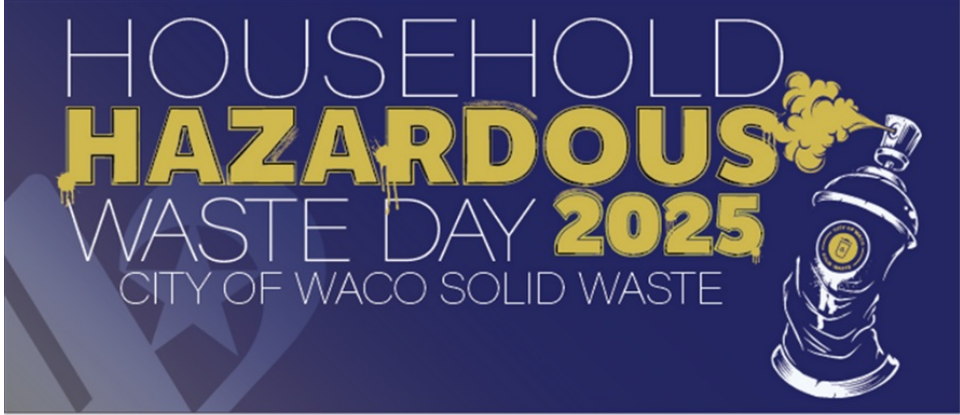
The City Council Nominating Committee meets in April to consider appointments to fill all anticipated vacancies and then makes a recommendation to the entire City Council for action in May. Appointments are also made during the year as vacancies occur.

There are currently four established boards and commissions, three of which meet on a regular basis. More information on meetings and qualifications is available on the [Application for Volunteer Service form](#), [linked here](#), but briefly:

- The **Planning & Zoning Commission** holds regular meetings each month to act on a wide variety of issues involving zoning and development within the City of Woodway, conducting public hearings and making recommendations to City Council regarding these issues as appropriate.
- The **Parks & Recreation Commission** is an advisory body to the City Council on all matters relating to recreational facilities in Woodway. This commission holds regular meetings in January, March, May, August, and October, and occasionally assists with special events and projects throughout the year.
- The **Youth Commission** is made up of Woodway residents in grades 7 through 12 who serve as an advisory body to the City Council on matters relating to young citizens. Except for June and July, regular meetings are held each month and members are expected to assist with special events and projects conducted throughout the year.
- The **Board of Adjustment** addresses appeals filed with the City regarding application and interpretation of certain ordinances pertaining to zoning and nonconforming uses of real property. There is no regular meeting schedule. These members meet only under the

advisement of the City Attorney.

Those interested in applying to serve should submit the **Application for Volunteer Service** form to the City Secretary no later than April 15th.

The poster features a dark blue background with the text "HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY 2025" in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Below this, it says "CITY OF WACO SOLID WASTE". To the right is an illustration of a silver fire extinguisher with a yellow flame coming out of the nozzle. Below the main text are logos for Bellmead, Hewitt Texas, Lacy Lakeview, and Woodway Texas. A large green vertical banner on the right side contains the text "CLICK TO PRE-REGISTER" in white, uppercase letters.

HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS
WASTE DAY **2025**
CITY OF WACO SOLID WASTE

BELLMead HEWITT TEXAS LACY LAKEVIEW CITY OF WACO SOLID WASTE WOODWAY TEXAS

MARCH 22, 2025
7:00 AM – 1:00 PM
501 SCHROEDER,
WACO, TX 76710

CLICK TO PRE-REGISTER

The City of Waco is hosting the annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, providing residents with a **FREE** and safe way to dispose of hazardous household materials. Mark your calendars for 7AM to 1PM on Saturday, March 22 and take advantage of this community service.

The event is open to residents of Woodway, Bellmead, Hewitt, Lacy Lakeview, and Waco. Proper disposal of items like paint, household cleaners, and other hazardous materials is crucial to keeping our soil and waterways clean and safe.

Save Time with the Fast Lane!

Pre-register online to access the fast lane and make your drop-off quick and easy. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with your registration form attached. On the day of the event, bring a printed or digital copy of your confirmation form or have your recipient number ready at check-in.

If you do not pre-register, don't worry! Simply bring your utility bill and a valid photo ID to participate.

Register now and do your part to keep our community green!

Register by visiting
<https://us.openforms.com/Form/757b2e4f-fe78-4400-bdeb-e12dd67b0475>

Why are they
doing that?



CITY MAINTENANCE AT A GLANCE



SIREN



TESTING



Springtime is great,
Tornadoes are scary,
The sound of the sirens
Makes people wary



So what is all the noise about?
Well, sirens need to be tested
regularly for several reasons:

- To make sure they are working
- To identify any needed repairs
- To familiarize residents with the sound
- To condition the batteries



The City offers two complimentary Large Item Pickup services per year for residents. These dates are coordinated with Frontier Waste Solutions and will occur on your second trash day of the week. The first Large Item Pickup service for 2025 is scheduled for April 24th and 25th.

When using this service, please limit the number of items placed curbside. Televisions and tires must be taken to the landfill for disposal, and refrigerators must be tagged by a licensed professional to be picked up curbside. Hazardous waste is not collected on these dates, but it can be disposed of on the City's Household Hazardous Waste Day, which is scheduled for March 22nd.

To schedule an additional Large Item Pickup service, contact Customer Service at City Hall at 254.772.4480 or email customerservice@woodwaytexas.gov. The cost for the additional service is \$85.05.



Happy Administrative Professionals Day

To the unsung heroes who keep the gears
turning, the paperwork flowing, and the office
humming with efficiency

APRIL 23, 2025

City Hours & Closures

**CITY OFFICES CLOSED
IN OBSERVANCE OF**

Good Friday

APRIL 18, 2025

Discover Woodway: Your Guide to Local Events

**SUNSET
YOGA**

*featuring
Asana with Annie*

March 6th
6:00PM-6:45PM
Carleen Bright Arboretum

FREE TO THE PUBLIC



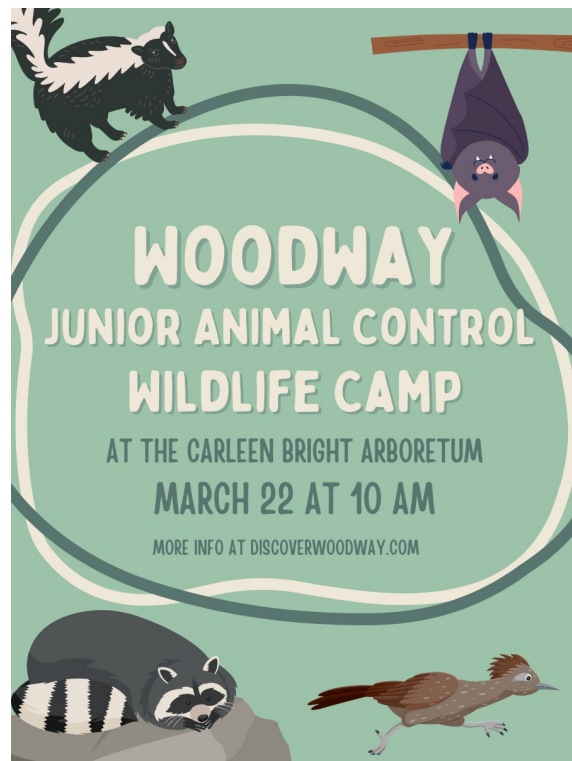


WOODWAY
FARMERS MARKET

MAR 16 | APR 26 | MAY 18

11 AM - 2 PM
CARLEEN BRIGHT ARBORETUM

discoverwoodway.com



WOODWAY
JUNIOR ANIMAL CONTROL
WILDLIFE CAMP

AT THE CARLEEN BRIGHT ARBORETUM
MARCH 22 AT 10 AM

MORE INFO AT DISCOVERWOODWAY.COM

CARLEEN BRIGHT ARBORETUM

**ARBO
FEST**



APRIL 26
10AM - 4PM

discoverwoodway.com



**Mother & Daughter
Brunch**
5.10.25

Tickets on sale April 10th
discoverwoodway.com

SINCE  2012

PAVILION

AT THE ARBORETUM

YOUR IDEAL SETTING FOR
WEDDINGS, CELEBRATIONS,
AND MORE!



10%
DISCOUNT
FOR WOODWAY
RESIDENTS



CALL US AT 254.399.9204 FOR PRICING AND AVAILABILITY

Woodway Public Safety

OFFICER WINGET SAYS...



COMPLIANCE TIPS FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT AND ANIMAL CONTROL

PET REMINDERS

Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3

To protect your pets and your fellow citizens, please remember that the ordinance requires pets to be on a secured leash when outside of a confined area.

Is your pet an escape artist?

Storm season is upon us, and startled pets might be looking for a way out. Make sure to check your fence regularly for holes or loose boards.

BRUSH REMINDERS

Code of Ordinances, Sec. 7-4

If you have brush or tree limbs that do not fit in your residential disposal container, please remember that they must be:

- In tied bundles or disposable containers
- Cut to lengths of 4 feet or less
- Weigh no more than 50 pounds per bundle or container
- All vines and thorny bushes must be in disposable containers

FOR KIDS WHO LOVE CRITTERS

Whether you are looking for a unique learning opportunity or just have a child who is interested in every critter who comes into your yard, Officer Winget has just what you have been looking for!

The first **Jr. Animal Control Wildlife Camp** is coming to the Carleen Bright Arboretum on March 22nd at 10:00 AM! Ages 2 and up are welcome, and parents must remain with their child(ren).

Congratulations!



Corporal Webb



Corporal Canter

Celebrating Leadership & Service

Congratulations to Corporals Webb and Canter on their recent promotions!

Cpl. Webb has been with the Department for 5 years and stays very busy as a K9 Officer, a Field Training Officer, and a member of the Ropes & Rescue and SWAT Teams. He is a past recipient of Woodway PSD's Officer of the Year award, a decorated officer and an emerging leader within the organization.

Cpl. Canter has also been an instrumental part of the Public Safety team for over five years, quickly moving into the position of Team Leader of the Unmanned Aircraft System (Drone) Team. He also serves as one of the department's premier Field Training Officers and a member of the High Angle Rope Rescue Team.

The initiative and attitude of service demonstrated by these two officers offers promise for a bright future for these men, Woodway PSD, and the Woodway community. Once again, congratulations to them both!

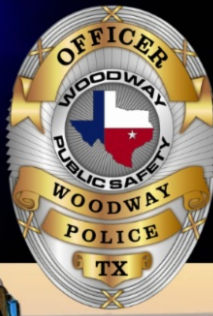


Bound for the Brave Recap

This year, we are thrilled to share that runner signups increased by 7% and, thanks to your generosity, we received more donations than in previous years.

We are truly humbled and grateful for the amazing support shown to the 100 Club. Your donations have made an immeasurable impact, providing critical assistance to the families of fallen and injured first responders when they need it most.

NOW



HIRING



SPECIALIZED ASSIGNMENTS

- SWAT
- TECHNICAL RESCUE
- K-9 HANDLER
- CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS
- DRONE PILOT
- HOSTAGE NEGOTIATOR
- FIRE ARMS INSTRUCTOR
- TRAFFIC RECONSTRUCTIONIST
- SECRET SERVICE TASK FORCE
- EMT/PARAMEDIC
- GRACIE SURVIVAL TACTICS
- SNIPER TEAM
- MENTAL HEALTH PEACE OFFICER
- PUMP OPERATOR
- DRIVING INSTRUCTOR
- EXPLOSIVE BREACHER

STARTING PAY

CERTIFIED: \$71,633-\$93,759*

*Based on training experience

Retirement & Pension

- EMPLOYER PROVIDED: MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND VISION INSURANCE
- TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT
- 20 YEAR RETIREMENT
- 7% EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION
- 2:1 EMPLOYER MATCH

BENEFITS

- UNCERTIFIED NEW HIRES WILL BE SENT TO COMPLETE POLICE AND FIRE ACADEMY
- 4 ON 4 OFF SCHEDULE
- 12 HOUR SHIFTS
- PAID SICK LEAVE
- EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVE PAY
- 14 PAID HOLIDAYS
- LATEST TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT



254-772-4470



920 ESTATES DR. WOODWAY, TEXAS 76712



PUBLIC SAFETY MATTERS



A Message from the
Public Safety Director

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT
SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY THIS SPRING**

Preparing for storm season is crucial to ensure your safety and minimize damage.

Here is a practical checklist to help you get ready:

1. STAY INFORMED:

- Outdoor Warning Systems (Tornado Sirens) are ONLY meant to be heard if you are outside. Do not rely on these for severe weather alerts if indoors!
- Monitor weather forecasts and download weather apps to stay updated on severe weather.
- Know the difference between watches and warnings in your area.

2. CREATE AN EMERGENCY PLAN:

- Discuss with your family how to communicate and where to meet if you get separated.
- Identify the safest places in your home where you can go during a storm.

3. PREPARE AN EMERGENCY KIT:

- Include essentials like water, non-perishable food, a flashlight, batteries, a first-aid kit, medications, important documents, and cash.
- Don't forget masks, sanitizers, and personal hygiene items.

4. PROTECT YOUR HOME:

- Trim or remove damaged trees and limbs to prevent them from causing damage.
- Secure outdoor furniture, trash cans, and other loose objects that could become projectiles.

5. CHECK YOUR INSURANCE:

- Review your insurance policies to make sure you are adequately covered for storm damage.
- Keep insurance documents in a safe, waterproof place.

6. BACKUP CRITICAL DATA:

- Ensure important digital information and precious memories are backed up in the cloud or on a secure external drive.

7. KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY RESOURCES:

- Reach out to neighbors, especially the elderly or those with disabilities, to create a mutual support network.

8. POWER PREPAREDNESS:

- Have a plan for power outages, such as buying a generator or knowing where local charging stations may be.
- Keep phones and other essential devices fully charged when you know a storm is coming.

By planning ahead and staying informed,
you can weather the storm season more securely and comfortably. Stay safe!

Join the Excitement at the WFC!



WFC | **woodway**
FAMILY CENTER

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

VISIT
[HTTPS://DISCOVERWOODWAY.
COM/FAMILY-CENTER/YOUTH-
PROGRAMS/](https://discoverwoodway.com/family-center/youth-programs/)



WFC | **woodway**
FAMILY CENTER

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Visit
[https://discoverwoodway.com
/family-center/senior-
programs/](https://discoverwoodway.com/family-center/senior-programs/)

Woodway Staff Anniversaries

March

PUBLIC SAFETY
NOLAN SCHAFER
21 YEARS

PUBLIC WORKS
RANDY BLACKWELL
7 YEARS

**Happy
WOODWAY
Anniversary!**

April

PUBLIC SAFETY
JACOB WILLIAMS
12 YEARS

PUBLIC UTILITIES
JADEN LIRA
1 YEARS

HONORING OUR STAFF FOR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Woodway Reels



Bound for the Brave 2025

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/WC-OW48qUgA?feature=share>



922 Estates Drive, Woodway, Texas 76712

City Councilmembers:

Mayor Amine Qourzal • Mayor Pro Tem John Williams
David Russell • Storey Cook • Janell Gilman
David Keyston • Ken Sury



City of Woodway | 922 Estates Dr | Woodway, TX 76712 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)