

Don't let a Grinch steal your packages

Here are tips from law enforcement, the U.S. Postal Service and delivery firms:

- 1. Retrieve a package as soon as it arrives. Or avoid delivery by using sip-to-store or curbside pickup.
- Use a tracking feature to check online when a package is scheduled to arrive. UPS, for example, has <u>UPS MY Choice</u> to help track and reroute package deliveries.
- 3. Request that your package is sent with the "signature required" feature so it can't be delivered without one.
- 4. If you're not going to be home, set up a specific delivery time when you will be. Or have the package sent to a trusted person who will be home.
 - FedEx has more than 14,000 sites in the U.S. including FedEx Offices, FedEx Ship Centers and retailers.
 - <u>UPS Access Point locations</u> for pickups include the UPS Store, Michaels, CVS, Advance Auto Parts and self-service lockers.
 - Amazon uses Amazon Lockers.
 - For a fee, USPS offers a <u>"Package Intercept"</u> feature, although not all parcels are eligible.
- 5. Chose an alternative pickup location.
- 6. If you are leaving town, ask for your shipments to be held. USPS' free, <u>"hold mail"</u> requested must be for at least three days and for a maximum of 30 days. Fed Ex accepts <u>vacation holds</u> for up to 14 days,; it also will store your delivery for free for up to five days an many locations.
- 7. Consider a security camera. Some signal your phone, tablet or personal computer if your doorbell is rung.



- 8. Instruct delivery firms where to leave your package so it isn't visible from the street. It could be the side of you house. Or a hiding place.
- 9. Get an app. The FedEX mobile app lets package recipients electronically sign for a package, request a vacation hold or <u>choose a hold</u> at one of its locations. Some security cameras let you use an app to watch over our home from your smartphone. UPS lets you track your shipment on its app.

BRIEFS

Be Prepared for the Winter Freeze

It's not too early to begin preparing for the Winter season. Check these tips off your list and get ahead of the winter freeze:

- Your furnace has been inspected and serviced by a qualified professional during the last 12 months.
- Your chimneys and vents have been cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional and has been checked for creosote build-up.
- Portable space heaters have an automatic shut-off, plugged directly into an outlet (not an extension cord), and placed at least three feet from anything that can burn.
- Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms have been tested making sure they are working properly. Contact Alamo Heights Fire Department for smoke alarm testing.



CITY Calendar

November

Monday, November 1 Planning and Zoning Meeting 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 3 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 p.m.

Monday, November 8 City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.



Thursday, November 11 Holiday—Veterans Day Offices Closed

Tuesday, November 16 Architectural Review Board 5:30 p.m.

Monday, November 22 City Council Meeting Cancelled

Thursday and Friday November 25 & 26 Holiday—Thanksgiving Day Offices Closed*

***NO SOLID WASTE PICKUP**

Voter Centers in Bexar County

During the November election, voters can vote at any Bexar County designated polling site.

Voter Center Model—with the Voter Center Model, the voter can vote at any Bexar County Election Day designated polling sites just as similar to Early Voting. Early Voting allows a voter to vote anywhere Bexar County has designated as their polling sites during Early Voting period. On Election Day, voters can vote at **any** polling site (voter center) within Bexar County. The Voter Center Model has been adopted to decrease the number of provisional ballots and provide additional convenience.

The City of Alamo Heights does not have any city-related items on the November 2nd General, Special, Bond Election ballot. City Hall will not be designated as a Voter Center for the November 2nd Election Day.

For more information, please visit <u>https://www.bexar.org</u> for more information and to view polling sites.

Stage 1 Water Restrictions have been lifted effective Saturday, October 23, 2021.

Remember that the City does have Year-Round Water Regulations:

- Automatic or manual irrigation systems are allowed any day of the week but only before 10 a.m. and after 8 p.m.
- Hand watering with a hand-held hose, soaker hose, drip irrigation system or bucket is allowed any time during the day

Also remember that any sprinkler system must be equipped with a rain sensor to prevent the system from operation during periods of rain.

For any other water related questions contact the Utility Coordinator at 882-1507.

Winter Averaging for Sewer Fees



Reminder: your water consumption during the winter months affects your residential sewer service fee for the next year. Residential sewer service fees are calculated based on the average water usage during three consecutive billing periods. This year your November, December and January consumption will be used for your winter averaging.

For more information or questions, please call Utility Billing staff at 882-1507.



USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

911 for EMERGENCY Fire/EMS (Non-Emergency): 210-824-1281 Police (Non-Emergency): 210-822-3321 Administration and Finance: 210-822-3331 Public Works: 210-882-1518 Water: 210-882-1507 Community Development: 210-826-0516 Court Clerk: 210-882-1501