



# THIS IS EL DORADO

## El Dorado to install automated metering system in 2024

The City of El Dorado is committed to evaluating public infrastructure and looking for ways to improve our service to residents. For some time, the Public Utilities Department has been looking at an alternative means to read water meters in order to enhance accuracy, aid in succession planning, convert to a single billing cycle and address an outdated system.



After researching the options available and soliciting proposals for an automated metering system, the City Commission approved a bid from Core and Main for the installation of an automated meter infrastructure (AMI) system for the cost of \$2.33 million, with an annual operation and maintenance expense of \$41,700.

The City already made the change to one billing cycle in December 2023, and the process to install the AMI will begin this year, with the installation of meters expected to begin in June or July and to be completed by the end of October.

AMI is an integrated system of equipment that uses radio-based technology to read water meters. This eliminates the need for manual meter reads. Automation allows us to mitigate some of the common issues that we see today when reading meters. Among the benefits, it will reduce water loss, improve operational efficiency, improve customer service and allow for quick identification of leaks within the system. It also mitigates such challenges as difficulty locating meters, extreme weather delays, route capacity and two separate billing cycles.

Installation of the new meter and communication module should take no more than 30 minutes in most cases, with your water service being unavailable for about 15 minutes of that time.

Additional information will be provided to our water customers as the process continues. You also can read more on our website at: [www.eldoks.com/572/Automated-Water-Metering-System](http://www.eldoks.com/572/Automated-Water-Metering-System).

## What's Happening in El Dorado

- Feb. 3 - Kansas Oil Museum 1920s Fundraising Gala
- Feb. 3 - Kansas Oil Museum Family Fun Day
- Feb. 5 & 12 - City Commission Meetings
- Feb. 5 - Community Potluck @ Senior Center
- Feb. 7 - Chamber Chat
- Feb. 7 - DCF LEIP Application Event @ Library
- Feb. 8 - Thursday Speaker Series @ Kansas Oil Museum
- Feb. 13 - Coffee with the Curator @ Coutts Museum
- Feb. 20 - Coutts Brown Bag Program
- Feb. 20 - Library Book Club
- Feb. 28 - Coutts Caterpillars Preschool Program
- Feb. 29 - Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner

**Sign up for event notifications online at [www.eldoks.com](http://www.eldoks.com)**

## Landfill vouchers available to residents for 2024

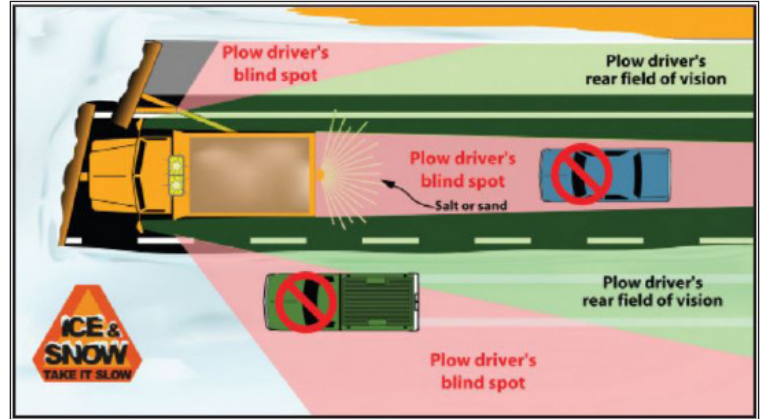
The City of El Dorado will again be offering vouchers to the Butler County Landfill for 2024. The City started this program last year as a new option for spring clean-up.

The program was a success in 2023 so the City will be doing it again this year. Two vouchers for free trips to the landfill will be provided to residents for each address within the El Dorado City Limits. These are not available for commercial properties or landlords.

Residents can visit Public Works, 222 E. Second Ave., or City Hall, 220 E. First Ave., to pick up their vouchers for the Landfill. Residents will need to bring their driver's license that shows they live at the address for which they are collecting the vouchers. The vouchers can then be used at your convenience through the end of the year. (Last year's vouchers can no longer be used.)

For more information or questions, call Public Works at 316-322-4481.

You can learn more about the Butler County Landfill hours and regulations at [www.bucoks.com/274/Landfill-Recycling](http://www.bucoks.com/274/Landfill-Recycling).



## Stay safe on the road this winter with these snow plow safety tips

Winter has already brought us a little snow, with more sure to come in the new year. Please take a moment to refresh yourself on these snow plow safety tips to keep everyone safe on the road this winter:

- Give our snow plow drivers plenty of room on the roads. Stay back at least 30 feet from the rear of a snow plow.
- A snow plow driver has a blind spot behind the plow, as well as on both sides. While it is easy for you to see them, they may not be able to see you.
- Snowplows also may create a cloud of snow that can reduce visibility. Never drive into a snow cloud.

Also, please remember:

- if possible, remove vehicles from the streets. This allows our drivers to clear roads from curb to curb.

El Dorado Public Works crews are constantly monitoring weather situations and will respond with treating and plowing roads when appropriate.

When icy weather is predicted you may see anti-icing materials on the streets (unless rain is predicted which would wash it away). Trucks spray a salt brine before a snowstorm to prevent frozen precipitation from bonding to a road's surface.

During a snow storm, crews begin plowing the main streets (Central, Main, Sixth and the Truck Route) and those around schools if there is a chance that school will be in session. As those are cleared, they try to move on to residential streets.

Please always use caution and have patience when driving in the snow to keep everyone on the road safe this winter.

## City unveils new design for website

The City of El Dorado unveiled a new design for the website this month. The new design highlights the most visited web subpages on the homepage for easier access to that information. It continues to offer a community calendar of events, meeting agendas, news updates and general information about the City. You can visit the website at [www.eldoks.com](http://www.eldoks.com) to stay informed and up-to-date on what's happening in El Dorado. You also can sign up for notifications about upcoming events, news and meetings through the "Notify Me" option on the site.

## Get involved with committees/boards

Are you looking for a way to get more involved in the community? The City of El Dorado has several committees and boards that are made up of residents. They include:

**Board of Appeals/Code Review** - Discuss building code adoption, methods of construction and training. Meets quarterly.

**Board of Zoning Appeals** - Hears and decides appeals where it is alleged an error was made. Meets as necessary.

**Experience El Dorado Committee** - Makes recommendations to the Commission regarding programs and expenditures for the promotion of conventions and tourism. Meets bimonthly.

**El Dorado Inc.** - Recommends plans for identifying potential incentives to increase commercial and industrial. Meets bimonthly.

**Library Board** - Assists in policy and future plans. Meets monthly.

**Planning Commission** - Reviews planning and zoning actions and provides recommendation to Commission. Meets monthly.

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee** - Provides advice about recreational programming to Commission.

**Sales Tax Advisory Committee** - Discusses proposals for use of uncommitted sales tax from city staff. Meets 2-3 times per year.

You can learn more and apply for a committee online at: [www.eldoks.com/136/Advisory-Boards-Committees](http://www.eldoks.com/136/Advisory-Boards-Committees)

DID  
YOU  
KNOW

All dogs and cats are required to be licensed and immunized with a rabies vaccination, which provides protection throughout the licensing period, upon reaching 4 months of age. The licensing period begins January 1 and lasts for one year.