



# Renton CityNews

## See. Send. Solved. Renton Responds

**N**OTHING IS MORE FRUSTRATING than traveling through Renton, seeing something that needs the city's attention and not being able to report it.

In September's *Renton CityNews* we introduced residents to Renton Responds, a soon-to-be released application that would solve that problem. The app has been released and the response has been outstanding.

Renton residents have used Renton Responds to report everything from abandoned vehicles to downed street signs to overgrown vegetation that is blocking sidewalks. Their submissions have gone directly to the city department responsible and staff have worked to resolve them. In just over one month, the city has responded to and cleared well over 300 issues.

If you haven't used the app or its

web-based equivalent, it's easy. First use your device's camera to photograph the issue. Upload the photo which automatically sets the location. If you don't have a photo, don't worry, you can enter the address.

Next, select the category you'd like to report and follow a few simple steps to complete the request.

Renton Responds gives the option to create an account, which allows you to receive updates. There is also an option to hide your identity from other users.

Once submitted, the issue goes to the appropriate department for review and possible action. Throughout the process, you will be kept informed via email.

Please remember that by using Renton Responds, you understand that the time to resolve your submission may vary



depending on the type of request and the volume of requests.

The Renton Responds app is available for both Apple and Android devices from their respective app stores. It is also available on the city's website at [rentonwa.gov/rentonresponds](http://rentonwa.gov/rentonresponds).

We hope you'll take advantage of Renton Responds to bring issues to our attention and help us keep Renton a great place to live, work, play and learn.



## 2020 Census

**I**N APRIL 2020, the United States Census Bureau will send each household an invitation to be part of the census. Participation by residents of Renton is important as the results are used to help determine where federal funding will be allocated, including important items like schools, roads, medical facilities, child care and senior centers. So look for the invitation and take part; all answers are confidential. For more information on the upcoming 2020 Census, please visit: [rentonwa.gov/census](http://rentonwa.gov/census).

## Protect your holiday deliveries

The holidays mean shopping and shopping may include home package delivery. If you're expecting packages, the Renton Police Department has put together a short video with tips on protecting those deliveries from thieves. View it at [rentonwa.gov/policetips](http://rentonwa.gov/policetips). Online transactions that culminate in a face-to-face meeting can be made at City Hall in Renton police's Safe Exchange Zone. For more information, call the Renton Police Department at 425-430-7521.



## Secure your property prior to a flood

**FLOODING IS A FORCE OF NATURE** that often can't be controlled, prevented or predicted. According to the National Weather Service, 75% of all presidential disaster declarations in the United States are associated with flooding.

The City of Renton monitors weather forecasts and river conditions continuously and participates in the King County Flood Warning System, which notifies the city when either the Green or Cedar rivers reach established flood stages. In the event of a flood warning, Renton residents are notified several ways: NOAA Weather Radio, local radio and television and local emergency agencies. If flooding is expected to be significant, ALERT Renton or local emergency agencies may provide additional notifications to areas at greatest risk.

Natural channels, wetlands, man-made ponds and open ditches can protect property owners from flooding by providing outlets for excess water. Constructed storm drainage systems must be maintained and kept clear of debris to help prevent flooding. In Renton, dumping debris into any waterway is

prohibited by city ordinance. Report any violations to Development Services Code Compliance Division at 425-430-7373.

Flood losses are not covered under most homeowners' or renters' insurance policies. Renton participates in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, which enables all Renton property owners to obtain considerable discounts on flood insurance, whether or not they are in a floodplain. To find out if your property is in a flood-prone area, obtain a Flood Insurance Rate Map or to get copies of existing Flood Elevation Certificates, contact Yasir Abduljaleel, [yabduljaleel@rentonwa.gov](mailto:yabduljaleel@rentonwa.gov), 425-430-7323.

More information on flood insurance, emergency preparation and ALERT Renton at [rentonwa.gov/emergencies](http://rentonwa.gov/emergencies).

### REPORT DRAINAGE ISSUES

IF YOUR PROPERTY or neighborhood has a drainage problem, request a Surface Water Utility drainage investigation, which includes a site visit. Contact Yasir Abduljaleel, [yabduljaleel@rentonwa.gov](mailto:yabduljaleel@rentonwa.gov), 425-430-7323.

## Community groups host holiday dinners

**THE RENTON SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER** (211 Burnett Ave. N.) will be open Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for their annual Thanksgiving Day Luncheon. A delicious holiday meal will be served at 11:45 a.m.

This free event is open to adults 50 and older. Tickets are required and are available at the Senior Center beginning Nov. 4.

This event is made possible thanks to the support of the Rotary Club of Renton and City of Renton employee volunteers and their families.

Renton Ecumenical Association of Churches (REACH) hosts their annual free Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, from 1-3 p.m. at Luther's Table (419 S. Second St. #1). REACH will also host a Christmas Dinner at Luther's Table on Dec. 25 from 1-3 p.m.

## Schedule your Clean Sweep collection

**RENTON SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE** customers are eligible to schedule one collection of extra garbage to take place on their regular garbage day at no additional charge in 2019. Accepted are up to two bulky items and ten units of garbage. Review guidelines and see a list of accepted items and scheduling instructions at [rentonwa.gov/cleansweep](http://rentonwa.gov/cleansweep).





## The Gift of Giving

The city's annual Giving Tree drive benefits Renton families in-need through Renton Salvation Army. Trees will be in the lobby of Renton City Hall (1055 S. Grady Way) and the Renton Community Center (1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.) from Friday, Nov. 15 to Monday, Dec. 23.

A donation to the Gift of Play Recreation Scholarship fund is used to cover program fees for low-income youth and participants in adaptive recreation programs. Gift of Play donations should be returned by Dec. 23. For more information, call 425-430-6694.

## Holiday happenings

### SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

**THE RENTON DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP** and the City of Renton co-host the annual Small Business Saturday and Downtown Tree Lighting on Saturday, Nov. 30. The celebration is part of a national event to encourage shopping small, local businesses during the holidays. Shopping, games and prizes for all ages will take place throughout downtown starting at 10 a.m. Check in at the Renton Civic Theatre to pick up your free goodie bag (while supplies last). Crafts, hot cocoa and live entertainment will begin at the Renton Pavilion Event Center at 3 p.m. and, of course, the arrival of Santa and lighting of the holiday tree at 5 p.m.

### SANTA'S HOUSE

**MEET AND TAKE PHOTOS WITH SANTA** at the Renton Civic Theatre. Bring your children and favorite pets to capture holiday moments with the whole family. Santa's House will be open the first three Saturdays in December from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Renton Civic Theatre (507 S. 3rd St.). Your visit includes a free downloadable image and the option to purchase prints.

### CLAM LIGHTS

**CLAM LIGHTS**, a Renton tradition, returns on Dec. 6 as 200,000 holiday lights will usher in the holiday season and cap an evening of holiday spirit and visual effects. Opening night festivities start at 5:30 p.m. at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park with the lights coming on at 6. The display will continue each evening from 5 to 9 p.m. through Jan. 1. Learn more at [rentonwa.gov/clamlights](http://rentonwa.gov/clamlights).



## Prepare your home for colder weather

**AS THE WEATHER TURNS COLDER**, Renton residents should take some preventative steps to keep their homes safe. The following tips are provided by the Saving Water Partnership and Renton Regional Fire Authority.

### PROTECT YOUR PIPES

**EACH WINTER**, we hear about homes suffering damage from water pipes that freeze and then burst. By taking these simple precautions, you can avoid the mess and cost of repairs.

- Insulating your water pipes prevents freezing and is especially important if you are away for an extended period and heat your home to a lower-than-normal temperature. Insulating your hot water pipes at the same time will eliminate condensation and save on energy costs.
- Outdoor spigots (faucets) are susceptible to freezing and should be drained and insulated.
- The water shut-off valve should be located. Turn off the flow of water in case of a leak or pipe break as soon as possible.

### HEATING SAFETY

**SOME RENTON RESIDENTS** will turn to alternative home heating methods. It's important to be aware of potential problems associated with baseboard heaters, space heaters, fireplaces, wood stoves, and radiators. Renton Regional Fire Authority has these tips to help prevent a fire in your home.

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from any heat source.
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect chimney and vents every year.
- Do not discard your ashes into a combustible container such as a paper or plastic bag, a cardboard box, or a plastic trash can.
- Never use your oven or barbeque as a heat source.
- Turn space heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Plug only one heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and test monthly.



## Polar Bear Plunge 2020

Grab your family and friends and start 2020 right with a dip in the refreshing waters of Lake Washington on New Year's Day. Last year's Polar Bear Plunge saw a record number of participants race from the beach at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park. Afterwards enjoy hot coffee and delicious clam chowder from Ivar's. Polar Bear Plunge will be January 1, 2020, at 11 a.m. [rentonwa.gov/polarbear](http://rentonwa.gov/polarbear)

## Community Calendar

### City Facilities Closed

November 11, 28 & 29  
December 25 & 26  
January 1 & 20

### Travel Preparedness

**THURSDAY, NOV. 14, 6:30-8 P.M.**  
Renton Technical College, 3000 NE 4th St.  
Resources, plans, and tips to be disaster-ready.  
Ages 13 & up, adults must accompany minors.  
[rentonwa.gov/rep](http://rentonwa.gov/rep) or call 425-430-6700.

### Newcomer's Hour

**FRIDAY, NOV. 15, 10-11 A.M.**  
**FRIDAY, DEC. 20, 10-11 A.M.**  
Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave. N.  
Free. Meet the staff and learn about all the exciting programs and activities available.  
[rentonwa.gov/rsac](http://rentonwa.gov/rsac)

### Giving Trees

**NOV. 15-DEC. 23**  
City Hall, 1055 S. Grady Way  
Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.  
Provide items or donate to assist Renton children living in situations that make holiday gifts an unattainable luxury. [rentonwa.gov/givingtrees](http://rentonwa.gov/givingtrees)

### Hassle Free Holiday Bazaar

**FRIDAY, NOV. 22, 11 A.M.-6 P.M.**  
**SATURDAY, NOV. 23, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.**  
Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.  
Free. Over 100 vendors. Food, refreshments and ATM. Happy Hour on Friday, 4-6 p.m.  
425-430-6700 or [rentonwa.gov/holidaybazaar](http://rentonwa.gov/holidaybazaar)

### Winter Golf Tournament Series

**ALL EVENTS START AT 9 A.M.**  
Maplewood GC, 4050 Maple Valley Hwy  
Must have a verifiable handicap. 425-430-6800.  
Saturday, Nov. 23: Two-Person Scramble  
Saturday, Dec. 14: Individual Points  
Saturday, Dec. 28: 2-Person Best Ball  
Saturday, Jan. 11: Medal Play

### Small Business Saturday

**SATURDAY, NOV. 30, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.**  
Downtown Renton  
Shops and restaurants celebrating with specials, giveaways and a scavenger hunt for kids.

### Downtown Tree Lighting

**SATURDAY, NOV. 30, 3-7 P.M.**  
Pavilion Event Center & Piazza Park,  
233 Burnett Ave. S.  
Enjoy music, snacks, a pop-up market and kids' activities. Tree lighting and Santa's arrival at 5 p.m. [rentondowntown.com](http://rentondowntown.com)

### Fashion & Style in early King County

**TUESDAY, DEC. 5, 6-7 P.M.**  
Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S.  
Local historical fashion expert Elizabeth Korsmo discusses Seattle fashion of the mid-19th century. [rentonwa.gov/museum](http://rentonwa.gov/museum)

### Clam Lights Opening Night

**FRIDAY, DEC. 6, 5:30 P.M.**  
Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park,  
1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N.  
Evening of holiday spirit and visual effects. Lights come on at 6 p.m. Light display runs through January 1, 5-9 p.m. [rentonwa.gov/clamlights](http://rentonwa.gov/clamlights)

### K9 Candy Cane 5K Fun Run & Walk

**SUNDAY, DEC. 8, 9:15 A.M.**  
Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.  
For competitive runners, fun runners, walkers and families with or without dogs.  
[rentonwa.gov/candycane](http://rentonwa.gov/candycane)

### Adaptive Rec Holiday Dance Party

**THURSDAY, DEC. 12, 7-8:30 P.M.**  
Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave. N.  
"Club Thursday" is an exciting social club for teens and adults with disabilities.  
[rentonwa.gov/register](http://rentonwa.gov/register). Code 4846.

### City Concert Band Holiday Concert

**SUNDAY, DEC. 15, 2 P.M.**  
Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center,  
400 S. 2nd St.  
Enjoy the sounds of the holiday season with this 65-member band. \$10 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors 50 & over. [rentonwa.gov/rccb](http://rentonwa.gov/rccb)

### Polar Bear Plunge

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1, 11 A.M.**  
Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park,  
1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N.  
Start the New Year with an exhilarating dip into Lake Washington followed by Ivar's clam chowder. [rentonwa.gov/polarbear](http://rentonwa.gov/polarbear)

## City Contacts

General Information	425-430-6400
Mayor	425-430-6500
City Council	425-430-6501
Chief Admin Officer	425-430-6500
Administrative Services	425-430-6868
City Attorney	425-430-6480
City Clerk	425-430-6510
Code Enforcement	425-430-7373
Community & Economic Development	425-430-6575
Community Services	425-430-6600
Emergency Mgmt	425-430-7723
Graffiti Reporting	425-430-7362
Human Resources & Risk Management	425-430-7650
Municipal Court Judge	425-430-6550
Police (business line)	425-430-7500
Public Works	425-430-7394
Regional Fire Authority	425-271-7900
Street/Water/Sewer Maintenance	425-430-7400
Utility Billing	425-430-6852

**EMERGENCY** ..... 911  
**Non-Emergency** ..... 425-235-2121



The City of Renton provides reasonable accommodation upon request.



**rentonwa.gov**

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