



MELISSA MINUTE

SEPTEMBER, 2008

Melissa ISO Public Protection Rating Classification Rating Improves Significantly

Fire is the single largest cause of property loss in the United States. In the last decade, fire has caused direct losses of more than \$120 billion and countless billions more in related costs. More importantly, each year fire kills approximately 3,000 people, including 100 firefighters, and injures over 20,000 people.

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) collects information on City fire-protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. In each of those communities, ISO analyzes the relevant data in three major areas: the Fire Department operations, water system, and communications; and then assigns a Public Protection Classification (PPC) ranging from 1 to 10. Class 1 represents exemplary public protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria. PPC ratings have a direct bearing on the cost of property insurance for every home and building in a community.

Earlier this year, the City of Melissa was inspected by the ISO to determine the PPC. Effective October 1, 2008, the ISO PPC rating was lowered from a 7 to a 3. Of the over 46,000 communities rated by the ISO, fewer than 4% are rated a 3 or better.

The lowering of the PPC rating not only indicates an improvement in the fire protection level and an appropriate water supply to protect the structures within a community, but an improved rate impacts homeowners directly by lowering homeowner's insurance policy rates. The average savings is dependent on many factors including type of construction, age and value of the structure, insurance carrier, and many other items. The ISO 3 rating will take effect October 1, 2008. Prior to that date, the information is available to all insurance companies and is well publicized by the Texas Department of Insurance through the State Fire Marshal's Office. Most insurance companies review the rating prior to setting new rates.

You are encouraged to contact your insurance carrier to request the new classification be included in your policy **effective October 1, 2008**. Residents and business owners should check with their insurance agents and verify the new rate and related lower insurance premiums. Notification from the Texas Department of Insurance of the new rates is available at www.cityofmelissa.com and www.melissafire.org. If you have any questions, please call the Melissa Volunteer Fire Department at (972) 837-1268.



CITY COUNCIL

David Dorman, Mayor
Dan Trott, Mayor Pro Tem, Place 5
Randy Kaiser, Place 1
Stan Mercer, Place 3
Bill Reynolds, Place 4
Sharon Weideman, Place 2

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Jason Little,
City Administrator 972-838-2338

Linda Bannister,
City Secretary 972-838-2338

Jan Clark,
City Librarian 972-837-4540

Gail Dansby,
Finance Director 972-838-2338

Dana Nixon, Development
Services Coordinator 972-838-2036

Duane Smith,
Police Chief 972-838-2033

David Wright,
Fire Chief 972-837-1268

Brian Akins, Public Works
Superintendent 469-853-9800

The City of Melissa Wants You!

The City of Melissa is looking for citizens who are interested in serving on various City boards.

You may go on-line at www.cityofmelissa.com to download the application form or come by City Hall to pick up an application.

Please call Linda Bannister, City Secretary at 972-838-2520 for more information.

City Hall is located at:

901 State Highway 121
Melissa, TX 75454-9501
Call (972) 838-2338
Fax (972) 837-2452
www.cityofmelissa.com



Don't Forget to Sign Up for CodeRED, Weather Warning



What if an emergency situation arose in Melissa and all or portions of the city were affected? How can people be notified? The City has implemented a new tool called CodeRED, an emergency notification system capable of placing up to 60,000 telephone calls per hour. A pre-recorded message will be delivered telling residents and businesses about the situation and what action needs to be taken, if any. When a situation arises in Melissa, City staff will turn to the Internet and the CodeRED mapping tools to designate a call area based on addresses. With the push of a few buttons, a pre-recorded message

describing the situation will be delivered to a live person or an answering machine in the affected area, possibly including instructions requiring action on the part of the recipient. CodeRED is a geographical based system where street addresses are needed to select the telephone numbers that will receive emergency notification calls. A calling database has been supplied by Emergency Communications Network with the best known phone numbers for the addresses in Melissa; however this calling list does not initially contain unlisted or cellular telephone numbers. Residents and businesses may add their numbers to the calling database by clicking on the CodeRED icon on the City of Melissa website (www.cityofmelissa.com) and following the instructions. **No one should automatically assume his or her telephone number is included.** All businesses should register, as well as all individuals who have unlisted phone numbers, those who have changed their phone number or address within the last year and those who use a cellular phone as their home phone. The system works with cellular phones but requires a Melissa street address. People who have recently moved to the City but kept the same listed or unlisted number will need to input their current address into the database. When entering information, please fill out all of the screens. The newest data entered will replace the old data. CodeRED will be used for emergencies or disasters that might call for action like evacuation, sheltering in place, or boiling contaminated water, but may also be used in situations that are non-emergency related. For more information about CodeRED, call the City at 972-838-2338.

Fall Events at the Melissa Public Library

Library Fall Festival September 22-26

Bring your family for crafts, games, food and fun!

Library October Fest October 27-31

Contests, Crafts, Cider/Cookies, and fun for the whole family!

Contact the Library for specific times at 972-837-4540



National Night Out 2008

October 7th 2008 6:30 pm

Zadow Park 3001 McKinney Street
Downtown Melissa

Let's Take a Bite Out of Crime as a Community!

Music Provided By: Movin 107.5 FM

Concession Stand, Face Painting
Emergency Vehicles on Display
Dunking Booth, Bounce Houses,
Collin County Humane Society
And Much More!

"Together We Can Keep Melissa a Safe Place to Live"

Chief of Police Duane A. Smith



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS