

## At Your Service

a bulletin of community news

# November 2009

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## Christmas Village and Holiday Electric Light Parade



Santa arrives in Ogden on Saturday, November 28, with the Holiday Electric Light Parade at 5:30pm and the Christmas Village Opening Gala at 6:30pm. Come downtown to enjoy the parade, live entertainment, and fireworks show as the lights of Christmas Village are turned on and the month-long celebration at Municipal Gardens begins.

On Saturday, December 5, Christmas Village offers a full day of special events beginning at 1pm with a free showing of "A Christmas Story" the beloved movie featuring Ralphie and his pursuit of a much coveted BB gun. The fun continues with a scavenger hunt beginning at 3pm (sign up for the hunt at the amphitheater just prior to 3pm). Karaoke follows at the amphitheater at 4pm, a free concert by popular vocalist Josh Evertsen at 7pm, and the evening wraps up with a Christmas choir at 8pm.

Enjoy Christmas Village all season long as Santa greets children in his castle on weekdays from 6 to 9pm and Saturdays 5 to 9pm. The Amphitheater features live entertainment Tuesday through Friday from 6:30 to 8pm (call 801-627-2823 if you would like to perform). Mrs. Claus guides school groups through the village during daytime hours (call 801-629-8284 to schedule a tour). Hot chocolate is sold to benefit the Shoes for Tots program. Santa's Store offers Christmas Village sweatshirts, Christmas cards, and other novelties to raise funds for new lights and displays for the future of Christmas Village. New to the village this year is a "Penny Ski Jump and Bobsled Ride" where children can turn loose change into a fun way to donate to Christmas Village and help it grow.

Bundle up and come downtown, stroll through Christmas Village, and enjoy the sights and sounds of the season. More information is available at [www.ogdencity.com](http://www.ogdencity.com) or 801-629-8284.

### Holiday Events at Golden Hours Senior Center

Take a break from the holiday rush to enjoy the Old Time Fiddlers performing December 16 at Golden Hours Senior Center from 11am to noon. The Center's Christmas Party Luncheon will be held December 17 at 11:30am, make reservations at 650 25th Street or 801-399-5230.

### So Many Upcoming Community Events...

There are so many fun things to do in Ogden especially around

the holidays. Find out what's happening next by visiting the online community calendar at [www.ogdencity.com](http://www.ogdencity.com). All of the area's most exciting venues and prominent events are listed here in one convenient place. Logon and see what's happening in Ogden. It's all within reach.

## Holiday Safety

The Fire Department wants you to stay safe and enjoy this holiday season. A little extra time and some common sense can go a long way in preventing disasters.

- Keep Christmas trees away from heat sources like fireplaces or vents and out of the way of traffic and exits. Avoid corridors.
- If you have a live tree, water it daily. Dry trees burn very hot and rapidly and they provide a quick mechanism to ignite the entire room.
- Extension cords should be UL listed and plugged directly into a wall outlet. Do not piggyback cords together and do not overload electrical circuits with too many lights or appliances.
- Tree decorations should be non-combustible or flame retardant. Tree candles are an absolute no-no.
- Always turn off Christmas lights before leaving. Never leave lights on when no one is home.
- Take extra care when using candles.
- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet from any combustible surface or material. Make sure the heater is turned off when no one is home.

# Ogden a Safe Place according to FBI 2008 Crime Stats

Ogden had a banner year in 2008. Not only was crime down, consistent with an overall downward trend for the past several years in Ogden, but 2008 numbers specifically saw a significant drop.

Each year in October the FBI publishes statistics for the previous year's crime data of US cities in the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) at FBI.gov.

Statistics for surrounding cities in northern Utah were compared to the crime stats in Ogden using a per one-thousand residents approach. The comparisons reveal that Ogden's crime rate is far lower than many northern Utah cities.

Ogden has been overshadowed in the past with an unsubstantiated image of crime and we seek to change that local image with hard core facts proving otherwise."

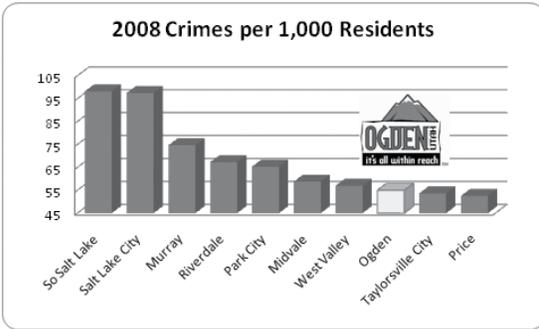
Many factors are credited for the lower crime rate in Ogden including City sponsored initiatives like the good landlord program along with strategies the police department has put in place like community policing and the crime reduction squad initiated in November 2007.

Ogden City's crime analyst, David Weloth says "these are the lowest crime numbers we've seen in Ogden in at least 18 years."

Ogden City has taken a much more proactive approach to law enforcement in recent years than traditional law enforcement tactics that operate in a reactive way. Working more aggressively in common problem areas and with common offenders gives officers a bigger presence where it is needed most.

Ogden City police officers consistently check in on parolees and other persons of interest to send a message that they are being watched. Frequently checking for driver license revocations and outstanding warrants is also proving to make a positive impact to lessen crime in the city.

"These proactive steps are helping officers eliminate the opportunity for criminal activity in Ogden," reports Weloth.



"Ogden is a safe place to live, work, and play," says Mayor Matthew Godfrey, "and the latest UCR statistics from the FBI prove it. Unfortunately,

## 2009 Mayor's Holiday Season Awards

Nominate yourself or a neighbor for this year's annual Mayor's Holiday Season Awards!

Each year this friendly competition is meant to recognize residents who use lights and decorations to contribute to the holiday atmosphere and beauty of Ogden during the holiday season. This is a great way to acknowledge the hard work and festive spirit of your friends and neighbors—or yourself.

Four winners will be selected and awarded a \$75 cash prize. Nominations are due by Monday, December 14 at noon. There are three ways to make a nomination:

1. **Email entry:** Send an email to [holidayawards@ogdencity.com](mailto:holidayawards@ogdencity.com). Attach a photo of the home you feel captures the essence of holiday magic; do not embed the photo in the email, attach it as a separate file. Include the address, name, and phone number of the festive home owner in the body of the email.

2. **Photo entry:** Snap a picture of the home you feel captures the holiday magic. On the back of the photo write the address, name, and phone number of the festive home owners. Mail the photo to Office of the Mayor, 2549 Washington Blvd, Ste 911, Ogden Utah 84401.

3. **Form entry:** If you cannot provide a photo of the home you wish to nominate, cut out and mail in the form. Ogden City will make every effort to contact the homeowners to obtain a photo.

New feature this year: all entries will be posted at [www.ogdencity.com](http://www.ogdencity.com) where residents can logon and cast a vote for the



*2009 Mayor's  
Holiday Season Awards*

NOMINEE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deliver in person or mail to: Office of the Mayor,  
2549 Washington Blvd, Ste 911, Ogden UT 84401**

people's choice award. Be sure to logon and vote and view all the amazing festive homes in your own neighborhood and surrounding areas. Photos, names, and addresses will appear on the City's website and winners will be announced in the City newsletter, website, and local newspaper. Nominations are considered full consent to publish without limitation.

Continued efforts from citizens to make Ogden beautiful, especially during the holiday season, are appreciated, and the many beautifully decorated homes throughout our city are a gift for all of us to enjoy.

## Keep Hydrants Cleared of Snow

With winter fast approaching, our Fire Department has a very important safety reminder for us: please be aware of the fire hydrants in front of your home and keep them clear of snow when you go out to clean your driveways and sidewalks.

It is the responsibility of homeowners to clear the sidewalks and the fire hydrants located in front of their property (2006 International Fire Code section 508.5.5). If you are unable to get the hydrant cleared, you may call 629-8074 to request assistance.

## Home Ownership



Own in Ogden program offers down payment assistance for low and moderate

income households. For more information, call 801-629-8940.

Sea Propietario: Sea Propietario en Ogden ofrece ayuda para los costos de enganche para familias de moderados y bajos ingresos. Para recibir más información llame al 801-629-8940.

## Holiday Schedule

Please make note of the following delays in trash and recycle collection due to upcoming holidays.

- **Veterans Day:** Wednesday, November 11, no delay.
- **Thanksgiving Day:** No collection on Thursday, November 26. Thursday's pickup will be moved to Friday and Friday's pick up will be moved to Saturday.
- **Christmas Day:** No collection on Friday, December 25. Friday's collection will be moved to Saturday.
- **New Years Day 2010:** No collection on Friday, January 1. Friday's collection will be moved to Saturday.