



PHX CONNECT

The Weekly Connection Newsletter for City of Phoenix Employees • December 20, 2023

Holiday

Wrap



We were excited to see so many employees and their family members who joined us for the 2023 City Employee Appreciation Night at Zoo Lights. The event drew approximately 2,000 people. Here are few snapshots from the night. Wishing you all a happy and healthy holiday!

Check It Out!

Employee New Year Resolutions on P. 4

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

City of Phoenix offices CLOSED
on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1

CHAIR MASSAGES AT CITY HALL

Free 10-minute massage (walk-in and signup available) will be available to all City of Phoenix employees on **Jan. 16** and **Jan. 24** from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at City Hall, Assembly Room A.



The sign-up sheet will be available at the time of the events, so come by and select the time that you would like to have a massage.

NEW PENSION SYSTEM



The City of Phoenix Employees' Retirement System (COPERS) is implementing a new pension administration system which will allow us to better support our members.

During January and February of 2024, our Benefits Staff will be completing every process in both our current system and the new system to verify that everything is processing perfectly before going live in the new system on Mar. 1. We ask for your patience during this time. Appointments with our office will be limited to employees who are eligible to retire before July 1, 2024. If you are not eligible until after July 1, 2024, please reach out to us after Mar. 1.

We also ask for your patience regarding the timing of annual member statements. They will be processed from the new system and should be going out sometime in February of 2024. Thank you and we wish everyone a very Happy New Year!

Join the **Conversation**



STUDENT LOAN BENEFIT



Experiencing issues with your student loans? Our partner Savi can help!

Savi, our student loan benefit provider, has been assisting borrowers in maximizing savings as they transition back into repayment. Recently, Savi has heard from many borrowers about a range of issues they are experiencing with their student loan servicers, leading to complications in making their payments. This includes pain points such as payments being miscalculated, not receiving bills on time, having application processing delays, and more. As a result, Savi has put together [this quick questionnaire](#) to hear if you or your family members have experienced any of these issues or need help with your student loans.



For more information on Savi and our partnership, [watch this video to learn more about how you can tackle your student loan debt.](#)

BENEFITS WELLNESS DRAWING



Employees that get two dental cleanings between Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 will automatically be entered in the 2023 dental drawing for a chance to win prizes like gift cards or a Sonic electric toothbrush!

Employees do not need to provide proof of visit. HR Benefits and Wellness will contact Cigna, our dental provider, for a list of employees who have completed two dental cleanings in this timeframe.

View [this flyer](#) for more information. Questions? Contact our Wellness Department: at (602) 262-4777 or visit our [Wellness Website](#).



We all know how great a fireplace can be on cool winter nights, especially during the holidays. However, during the winter Maricopa County has a problem with smoke. If the issue is not corrected and the smoke levels remain near the federal health



standards, Maricopa County could face burdensome federal regulations, possible fines, and a substantial health risk for our residents.

Please “Burn Cleaner, Burn Better,” and on No Burn Days, don’t burn wood.

If possible, use a gas or electric fireplace, convert your wood-burning fireplace to natural gas, or retrofit your fireplace with an air pollution reduction device.

Maricopa County Air Quality Department offers a free fireplace retrofit program. For more information call 602-372-WOOD (9663) or visit Maricopa.gov/AQ.

LISTEN OR WATCH NEW EPISODES:



FEATURED JOB OF THE WEEK

Solid Waste Equipment Operator CDL Trash Truck Driver

Pay Range: \$26.18 to \$35.08 per hour

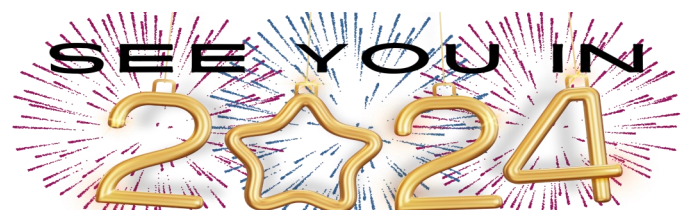
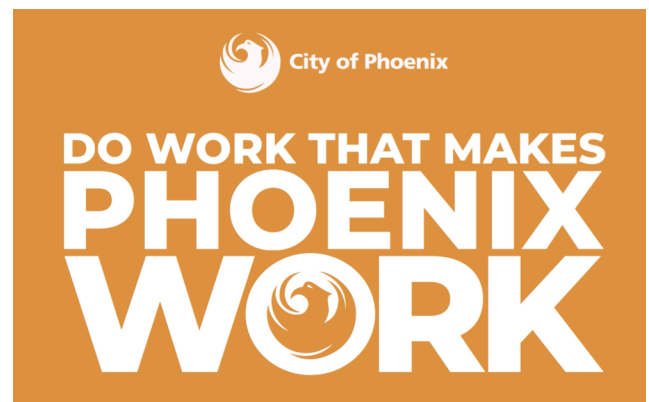
Hiring Range: \$26.18 to \$30.31 per hour

The solid waste equipment operator (SWEO) in the Public Works Department operates solid waste collection trucks and other heavy equipment used for collecting refuse, recycling, and other waste material. Duties also include performing daily CDL pre-trip and post-trip inspections. Operators will be required to routinely climb in and out of equipment, perform light manual labor, provide customer service, and meet established performance standards.

For more information, [visit the City's employment website](#) or log into eCHRIS. [Check out the latest job openings.](#)

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know the recruitment window for City jobs vary in length? Some jobs are open for a couple weeks while other jobs can close in as little as seven days – especially those where a high volume of responses is expected. Don't delay – apply today!



Please note:

The PHXConnect will not be published on **Dec. 27** or **Jan. 3**. We will return on Jan. 10!

"People may hear your words, but they feel your attitude."

-Jesse R. Esquivel, Water Services Dept.

"Embrace challenges, seek learning, expand skills for continuous professional growth and career advancement in 2024."

-David Fierro, Public Works Dept.

"Take advantage of uncomfortable opportunities."

-Kelly Patterson, Water Services Dept.

"Build an outstanding team of transit planners for Phoenix."

-Kevin Ten, Public Transit Dept.

"Research additional funding opportunities for my programs."

-Michelle A. Litwin, Office of Heat Response and Mitigation

"My New Year's Resolution is to volunteer more and build on professional courses and networking opportunities."

-Monica Figueroa, City Clerk

"Earn my certification through the Institute of Asset Management to help the Aviation Dept. effectively operate and maintain facilities."

-Jerry Temple, Aviation Department

"Keeping the City a transparent and secure place to work."

-Jonathon Neitzel, Human Resources Dept.

"Strengthen core skills by intentionally learning something new in my field."

-Tanya Miller, Water Services Dept.

"Utilize free tutorials to become more proficient in Canva and Greenrope."

Yolie Briseno, Communications Office

"Work to improve and/or create training content to assist hiring managers through the selection process."

-Jaime Reeves, Human Resources Dept.

"Attain my Certified Facility Manager certification."

-Gabriel Nevarez, Aviation Dept.

"My New Year's Resolution is to become more proficient in Excel and volunteer in more departmental activities."

-Blaine Comeaux, City Clerk

"Obtain the ACE Airfield Lighting Maintenance certification to enhance my expertise."

-Robert Arthur, Aviation Department

"To take advantage of training opportunities that build specialized skills"

-Danielle Vermeer, Office of Innovation/Environmental

"Inspire our team to find solutions and ask 'why not?'"

-Emilie J. Brown, Water Services Dept.

"Become a stronger leader and build trust/team camaraderie amongst my team."

-Erica Brown, Human Resources Dept.

"Commit to progress over perfection in my ongoing projects."

-Ginny Svec, Water Services Dept.

2024

