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NEWS FOR THE CITIZENS OF WARR ACRES

FEBRUARY, 2014

SEWER RATE INCREASE BEGINNING MAY 2014 BILLING

The sewer charge reflected on your utility bill each month is determined by a fixed base rate and a usage rate. The usage rate is calculated based on winter average water usage for December, January, and February and reflected on your May billing. Due to increased cost of the daily operations of the Sewer Department and addition of one employee, for these reasons the City Council voted to increase the base rate fee only. This is the first base rate increase since 2006. Listed below is the rate increase chart.

RESIDENTIAL	
0 to 2999 Gallons	\$.72
Over 2999 Gallons	\$2.70
COMMERCIAL	
Base Fee	\$2.70
MULTI-DWELLING UNITS	
Base Fee	\$3.24

The City is aware of the need to replace/repair sewer lines and has been unable to address this need on its own due to a lack of funding. Past repairs have been accomplished with the help of matching Federal funds, however future projects will no longer qualify for this option. In order to address this shortfall, the City Council recently approved a Line Maintenance fee increase as follows:

MONTHLY SEWER LINE MAINTENANCE FEE INCREASE PER BILL
 INCREASE FOR ALL CUSTOMERS FROM \$1.00 TO \$1.50

ANNUAL THREE MONTH AVERAGE WATER USAGE

Every year the City of Warr Acres recalculates the next year's sewer rates based on a report from the Oklahoma City Water Department listing a 3 month average consumption of water usage for each residential property. This means that your sewer bill from May 2014 to April 2014 could have an increase, decrease, or your rate could remain the same depending on how much water consumption you had during December 2013, January and February 2014. These new rates will be reflected on your May 2014 bill , which will be sent out around the 20th of May.

If your May 2013 bill reflects a substantial increase, it may be because you had a water leak, a toilet or faucet that continually ran during those three (3) winter months. If you have a plumber repair one of these problems during these months, then you can bring in the plumbing repair bill to Warr Acres City Hall. Our utility billing clerk can recalculate your average water usage for a lower sewer rate. But you **MUST** have a plumbing repair invoice indicating the problem occurred during the months stated above in order for your sewer rate to be recalculated

Helpful Phone Numbers

City Hall	789-2892
Fax	787-5432
Police Department	789-3329
Fire Department	789-5912
Animal Control	789-9025
Municipal Court	495-3032
Inspections & Permits	789-2892
Sanitation Department	491-6474
Streets & Parks	787-1404
Sewer Department	491-6478
Community Center	789-9892
Putnam City Schools	495-5200

City Council Members

Mayor

Patrick Woolley 409-4944

Ward 1

Cathy Maxey
722-1045

Ward 3

Roger Godwin
473-2881

James Mickley
721-7959

Bill McClure
787-5374

Ward 2

Stephen Fuhrman
537-5415

Ward 4

Stewart Shapiro
721-8230

Donnie Ryan
831-6483

Storm Shelters

Storm shelters are available at the following locations for citizens who are away from home when severe weather threatens the City of Warr Acres. Do **NOT** leave your home to seek shelter in one of these locations.

Cherokee Hills Park

NW 67th & Cherokee

Grandma Lily's Park

NW 40th West of MacArthur

City Hall

5930 NW 49th

Recycling

Recycling dumpsters are available at Dorothy Cavener Park, in the area of NW 52nd and Hammond Avenue on the first Saturday and Sunday of each month. Recycling includes, plastic, glass, aluminum and tin cans.



From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life. ---- Arthur Ashe

CONSUMER **FRAUD** TIPS

1. **TELEMARKETING FRAUD.** According to a recent study by AARP, consumers lose more than \$40 billion a year to telemarketing fraud and people over 50 years of age account for about 56% of all victims. **BEWARE** of the following Telemarketers' techniques and key words:



- ✓ Must act "NOW" or the offer will expire.
- ✓ They "WON A FREE GIFT", vacation or prize but must pay in advance to receive it
- ✓ "MUST" send money, give a credit card number or bank card number "IMMEDIATELY."
- ✓ No need for "WRITTEN" information about the company or references including checking with the Better Business Bureau.
- ✓ Cannot afford to "MISS" the "HIGH PROFIT, NO RISK" offer.

2. **ONE RING SCAM.** The Better Business recently issued a FRAUD ALERT for the following:

1

- ✓ Scammers use automatic dialers to randomly call phone numbers. After the first ring, they disconnect.
- ✓ The bad guys hope you'll see that number in your missed call log and be curious enough to return it. Make that call and they've got you.
- ✓ You'll be connected to an expensive international hotline—usually an "adult entertainment" service—that charges as much as \$19.95 as soon as you connect. There may also be a sizable per-minute fee. Those costs typically show up on your phone bill as "premium services."
- ✓ Those area codes include Antigua (268), British Virgin Islands (284), Dominican Republic (809), Grenada (473), Jamaica (876) and Turks & Caicos Islands (649)

3. **DISTRESSED GRANDCHILD SCAM.**



- ✓ Grandparent receives a frantic call from someone they believe to be their grandchild.
- ✓ The supposed grandchild sounds distressed and claims to be involved in some type of trouble while traveling, such as being arrested or in a car accident or needing car repairs.
- ✓ Asks the grandparent to immediately wire money to post bail or pay for medical treatment or car repairs.
- ✓ Asks for several thousand dollars, and may even call back again several hours or days later asking for more money.

4. **DON'T PLAY A FOREIGN/INTERNATIONAL LOTTERY.**



- ✓ Playing a foreign lottery is violating federal law.
- ✓ There are no secret systems for winning foreign lotteries
- ✓ If one foreign lottery ticket is purchased, there will be many more bogus offers for lottery or investment "opportunities" and your name will be placed on "sucker lists" that fraudulent telemarketers buy and sell.
- ✓ FTC recommends that all mail and phone solicitations for foreign lottery promotions be **IGNORED**.
- ✓ The Attorney General can have a person blocked from sending money through Western Union and Money Gram. Wiring money is like sending cash: once it's gone, you can't get it back.

5. **HOME IMPROVEMENT OR REPAIR SCAMS. BEWARE OF CONTRACTORS THAT:**



- ✓ Solicit door to door. (If in need of a contractor, ask people you trust for contractor referrals).
- ✓ Just happens to have materials left over from a previous job or only accepts cash payments
- ✓ Does not list a business number in the local telephone directory. (Deal with local firms with roots in the community and be sure and CHECK THE REFERENCES).
- ✓ Pressures a consumer for an immediate decision.
- ✓ Offers exceptionally long guarantees
- ✓ Asks for the entire payment up-front
- ✓ Suggests that they borrow money from a lender the contractor knows

6. **CHARITY FRAUD. AVOID ANY CHARITY OR FUND-RAISER THAT:**

- ✓ Asks a potential contributor for bank account or credit card information.
- ✓ Uses high-pressure tactics
- ✓ Asks for donations in cash
- ✓ Offers to send a courier or overnight delivery
- ✓ Guarantees sweepstakes winnings in exchange for a contribution