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NEWS FOR THE CITIZENS OF WARR ACRES

MARCH, 2014

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED THE FOLLOWING DATE:



Friday, April 18, 2014

Remember, NO trash will be picked up on the days City Hall will be closed. For those whose normal trash day will be missed - there will be CURBSIDE ONLY pickups on: Wednesday, April 16, 2014

REGISTER YOUR STORM SHELTER



Storm shelters are a great way to protect your family and loved ones from the dangers of Oklahoma's unpredictable weather. While the shelter will protect them from the tornado and most debris, it may become a place where they become trapped

because of debris piled on the shelter. Because of this possibility, we request that you register your storm shelter with the Police Department so that emergency crews can check to make sure you are safely out of your shelter once the danger has passed. You may obtain a form from City Hall or register online through the city website.

FOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS RETAIN SEATS



All four council members who were up for re-election this month were unopposed and retained their seats. James Mickley (Ward 1), Stephen Fuhrman (Ward 3), Roger Godwin (Ward 2), and Donnie Ryan (Ward 4). All returned for another 2-year term. A NEW COUNCIL MEMBER, Glenn Lipinski (Ward 4) was also unopposed and will serve 1 year of a remaining 2-year term. Thank you to those who have chosen to serve their community again.

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

Table listing phone numbers for City Hall, Police Department, Fire Department, Animal Control, Municipal Court, Inspections & Permits, Sanitation Department, Streets & Parks, Sewer Department, Community Center, and Putnam City Schools.

City Council Members

Table listing Mayor Patrick Woolley and Council Members for Ward 1, Ward 2, Ward 3, and Ward 4.

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.

**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.

<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>	
0 to 2999 Gallons	\$ .72
Over 2999 Gallons	\$2.70
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Base Fee	\$2.70
<b>MULTI-DWELLING UNITS</b>	
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:

<b>MONTHLY SEWER LINE MAINTENANCE FEE INCREASE PER BILL</b>
INCREASE FOR <u>ALL</u> CUSTOMERS FROM \$1.00 TO \$1.50

**APRIL IS BIG TRASH PICKUP MONTH**

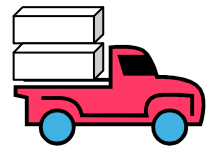
Items must **NOT** be placed out for collection earlier than four (4) days preceding the regular scheduled big trash collection day.

- Ward 1 Wednesday April 2, 2014
- Ward 2 Wednesday April 09, 2014
- Ward 3 Wednesday April 16, 2014
- Ward 4 Wednesday April 23, 2014

Big Trash **INCLUDES**, but is not limited to: household appliances, furniture, carpet, mattresses, box springs, water tanks, fencing (up to 4 panels) and similar non-contracted items, bagged grass, and brush produced as refuse from single-family dwellings. Compressors must be removed from all appliances **BEFORE** collection may be completed. Doors on refrigerators and other bulky items **MUST** be removed before placement on curb.

Items **EXCLUDED** under the definition of big trash include hospital and medical waste, poisons, acids and caustics, explosives, dirt and rocks, sewage and liquid waste, nuclear materials, gasoline, kerosene, propane tanks, degreasers, lubricants, tires and rims, antifreeze, paint, and commercial construction debris, bricks or concrete. Call sanitation at 491-6474 if you have any questions.

**SIZE OF MATERIAL:** Big trash shall be a length not exceeding 10 feet or a weight exceeding 250 pounds. Tree trimmings and branches must be placed together in piles with individual branches not longer than 8 feet and dead trees (not more than 6 inches in diameter).



The **TOTAL** amount allowed at the curb is 8 cubic yards (equal to what you can place in the back of 2 full size pickup beds level with the top of the cab).



**PLACEMENT AND LOCATION** of big trash: Items shall be placed at least five feet (5') from mailboxes, cars, shrubs, or anything else that could interfere with hand loading or mechanical equipment.

Items shall be placed at least ten feet (10') away from utility poles, guywires, signs, fire hydrants and gas meters to allow mechanized pick up.