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NEWS FOR THE CITIZENS OF WARR ACRES

MAY, 2015

NEW YEARLY SEWER AVERAGES FOR RESIDENTIAL SEWER BEGIN ON THIS BILL

This is the first month that your new sewer average is reflected on your bill. Your sewer rates are calculated from your water usage we receive from the Oklahoma City Water Department. Every year the Oklahoma City Water Department forwards to the City of Warr Acres a three (3) months average consumption of water usage for each residential property for the winter months of December, January and February. These three months are used because they are the months with the least amount of water being used during the year. The City of Warr Acres then takes this three (3) months winter average and figures the next year's sewer rates. This means that your sewer bill starting this month through April 2016 may have an increase, decrease, or your rate may remain the same depending on how much water consumption you had during December 2014, January and February 2015.



SCHOOL WILL BE OUT SOON & KIDS WILL BE PLAYING.

At the end of this month, school will be out for the summer. Our kids will be playing all around our city neighborhoods. They will be in the yards and in our streets playing or coming back from the city parks.

When driving around our neighborhoods and near our parks, please be mindful and watch out for our youth.



SUMMER FOOD DRIVE FOR THE KIDS

Help feed kids this summer! Children who normally take advantage of school breakfast and lunch programs during the school year are at risk of going hungry.

Nonperishable food donations will be collected during the month of June for the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. Most needed items include: canned meats, meat-based soups, canned fruits, canned vegetables, peanut butter, and rice and beans. Items for donation may be dropped off at City Hall where there is a collection box located in the lobby. All donated food will stay in Warr Acres to help our own citizens in need.

CITY OF WARR ACRES OFFICES LOCKED DURING SEVERE WEATHER

In the event of a tornado warning being issued, the City Hall office buildings will be **LOCKED**. For the safety of our citizens, residents will not be allowed to shelter at City Hall. These buildings were never meant to serve as public shelters and are **NOT** compliant with FEMA standards for a tornado shelter. There are



THERE ARE NO PUBLIC STORM SHELTERS IN WARR ACRES!



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
464-0411

James Mickley
760-0401

Bill McClure
787-5374

Ward 2

Stephen Fuhrman
537-5415

Ward 4

Glen Lipinski
789-8640

Stewart Shapiro
721-8230

Donnie Ryan
831-6483

Storm Safety

HAVE A SAFETY PLAN:

- Have a safety plan for wherever you might be when a tornado strikes – School, work, church, home, shopping, etc.
- Think through your plan in advance, since there may not be much time to act once the tornado is approaching you.
- Practice your plan and be sure all family members know what to do.

Recycling

Recycling dumpsters are available at Dorothy Cavener Park, in the area of NW 52nd and Hammond Avenue on the first Saturday (9-3) and Sunday (1-3) of each month. Recycling includes plastic, glass, aluminum and tin cans. Closed during inclement weather.

PLAN AHEAD FOR SEVERE WEATHER Because severe thunderstorms, damaging winds, hail and tornadoes are common, it is important for the residents of Warr Acres to have a plan on how to react to such events. Tornadoes can often have winds exceeding 300 miles per hour causing property destruction, injuries and death. That's why it's important to pre-plan by developing an emergency plan, assembling a disaster kit and learn some basic information about what to do before, during and after any type of severe weather.

Create an Emergency Plan. Creating an emergency plan for your family can help to ensure their safety when a severe weather incident occurs.

1. Discuss with your family the dangers of possible emergency events and how your family will respond to each.
2. Determine where you will take cover in your home if it becomes necessary and practice going into that safe place.
3. Teach adults how and when to turn off the water, gas and electricity at the main switches.
4. Choose an out-of-state friend or relative whom all family members will call if separated during an emergency.
5. Pick two meeting places: 1) near your home 2) outside your neighborhood
6. Take a basic first aid and CPR class.
7. Keep family records in a water/fireproof safe.

GARAGE SALES IN WARR ACRES: A PERMIT IS REQUIRED to hold a garage sale in Warr Acres. The first two in a calendar year are free with a fee of \$5.00 for every subsequent sale after that. Garage sales can be held no more than **once every three months**. Following is a list of helpful safety tips when holding a garage sale:



1. **Do not advertise the sale as a "Moving Sale,"** which implies the house may be vacant for a long period of time.
2. **Do NOT answer questions about alarm systems,** daytime/nighttime occupancy, etc
3. **Keep a phone** on your person to report any suspicious activity.
4. Place expensive items near you (usually by the checkout table)
5. **Watch your cash box** and keep only a minimal amount of cash on site.
6. It's preferable to not accept checks from strangers.
7. Always **have at least two adults present** during your garage sale.
8. **BE VISIBLE.** Do not go inside when there is no-one around. You may miss some customers and some of your merchandise while you are inside. Let one of your helpers know if you go inside.
9. Don't block the view to your front door or side gate.
10. **LOCK UP THE HOUSE.** Always keep your house locked and no windows left open.
11. **NEVER** allow anyone to go inside your house. If they need a toilet, direct them to the nearest gas station, fast food restaurant or shopping mall.

KEEP POLLUTANTS FROM ENTERING STREAMS.

The excessive use of fertilizers, improper disposal of leaves and yard clippings, overuse of pesticides/herbicides and over-watering can result in the polluting of Oklahoma's streams, rivers and lakes.

The following yard care suggestions will minimize water pollution while keeping a healthy and attractive lawn:

- Keep leaves and grass out of streets, drainage ditches, storm drains and creeks
- Grass clippings can stay on the lawn. They are a natural fertilizer.
- Set blade higher on lawn mower. This reduces stress to the grass and helps develop a drought and pest resistant root system.
- Using too much fertilizer may affect water quality in your area. Nutrients from fertilizers –usually phosphates - enter rivers and streams and stimulate the growth of algae. Excessive algae growth reduces oxygen levels in lakes and ponds, thus killing fish and other aquatic life.
- Choose a fertilizer with a slow-release form of nitrogen to reduce the potential for leaching into groundwater.
- Do not apply fertilizer when heavy rain is forecasted.
- If you are trying to have a greener lawn during the summer, then use iron (chelated iron or ferrous sulfate) instead of nitrogen.
- When applying pesticides, spot treat only affected areas instead of widespread application (Widespread application can kill beneficial insects.)
- Some insects help keep pests under natural control without causing harm to humans. Some of the **"good" bugs** include: Lady Beetle, Assassin Bug, Earwig, Green Lacewing, Big-Eyed Bug, Syrphid Fly

