

**Happy  
Father's  
Day**

# City of Lawton

June 2007

www.lawtoniowa.com

Water meter readings are generally taken around the 20th day of each month.  
Invoices for water, sewer, garbage and landfill are sent on the 1st of each month.  
These invoices are delinquent if not paid by the 20th of that same month.  
A 10% Late Fee will be assessed on all delinquent accounts.

## ESTIMATED READINGS THIS MONTH

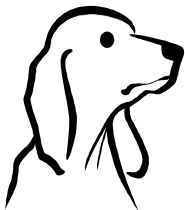
Most of your water meter readings were estimated this month. The July invoice will be with "actual" readings again, and will bring you up-to-date for the quarter. Please call City Hall if you are concerned with the estimate you have been given. You are welcome to pay extra if you know you've used more water than usual.

## IOWA ONE CALL

Before doing any digging or disturbing of the ground, remember to call **Iowa One Call at 1-800-292-8989**. Iowa One Call will then contact the utility providers in your area (including, but not limited to, the phone company, MidAmerican Energy and the City). These people will then come out and locate, or flag, their utility lines on your property.

If you dig before calling Iowa One Call and you happen to hit an underground line, it will be your responsibility to pay for the repairs. This can be extremely costly to you.

## PET LICENSES



ALL dogs and cats are required to be licensed through the city. Cost is \$5 for spayed or neutered animals and \$10 for non-spayed or non-neutered animals. Proof of current rabies vaccination must be presented prior to tags being issued. Current tags will expire June 30, 2007.



## June 2007 Calendar of Events

### GARBAGE SCHEDULE

June 4  
June 11  
June 18  
June 25

### RECYCLE SCHEDULE

June 4  
June 18

### MISCELLANEOUS SCHEDULE

June 5, 5:00 pm  
Council Meet.  
@ City Hall  
  
June 13, City Hall Closed

## SOLICITORS - PEDDLERS DOOR-TO-DOOR SALESPEOPLE

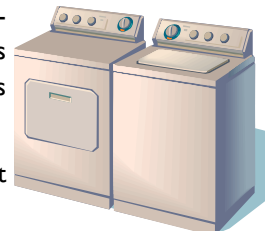
All solicitors, peddlers and door-to-door salespeople are required by City Ordinance to register at City Hall prior to visiting residents within Lawton. They are required to provide valid ID, vehicle registration, and several other pieces of information. On the form they are issued, it clearly states the dates they may be in town, as well as the time of day permitted. City Ordinance requires no solicitors or peddlers be in town on Sundays or Holidays, and only from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

## City Wide Clean-Up

Each spring the City of Lawton and CHN Garbage team up to provide a day for our residents to get rid of appliances and other large items that don't fit into the garbage can. This day has been set up for the Monday after Father's Day, June 18, 2007.

Appliance stickers may be purchased for \$10 at City Hall, and must be affixed to any appliance set out for pick up. Appliances needing stickers include stoves, microwaves, refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, furnaces, air conditioners, dehumidifiers and water heaters. Appliance stickers are NOT required for television sets.

Above-mentioned appliances without stickers will not be picked up.



## UNWANTED CANS???

The F.A.M.I.L.Y. Group has a "can cage" located behind Mid-Step near the intersection of Main and Ash Streets. The cage also takes clean pop, beer and liquor bottles. The cage does NOT accept water bottles. Please deposit cans or bottles that are labeled with an "IA 5¢" deposit mark only.

**Thanks for supporting the F.A.M.I.L.Y. Group!**

Any man can be a father but it takes someone special to be a "Dad"

## ~CITY-WIDE RUMMAGE SALE JUNE 16~ DEADLINE TO REGISTER JUNE 9, 2007



Remember to register for the City-Wide Rummage sale. Cost to register is \$3 in advance or \$6

day of sale. Registrations can be handled online or by sending your information to the coordinators. A link to the garage sale website is available from the City Webpage: [www.lawtoniowa.com](http://www.lawtoniowa.com). If you have questions, call Heather at 944-5153 or email her at: [lawtongaragesale@yahoo.com](mailto:lawtongaragesale@yahoo.com).



## AMERICAN FLAGS

Do you have an American flag that is torn, tattered or faded...and in need of replacement? Don't forget about the flag depository located in front of City Hall. This box is a recycled US Postal box that has been very carefully repainted red, white and blue. On the front is the American Legion logo.

Our American Legion can also replace your worn flags. Two sizes are available for purchase: 3'x5' and 4'x6'. The flags are very high quality with metal grommets for proper hanging. New flags may be purchased at City Hall during regular office hours. Currently flag prices are \$14 for 3'x5' and \$20 for 4'x6'. Make checks payable to the American Legion Post #718.

You are welcome to attend a flag burning ceremony scheduled to be held June 14, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the George Nelson Post #662 in Sergeant Bluff.

## GARBAGE CAN USAGE REMINDERS

The City has been asked to remind residents of proper usage of the garbage cans from CHN Garbage. The cans we have come in two sizes: 65 gallon and 90 gallon. If you recycle, a 90-gallon can should be sufficient for most families. Smaller sized families can probably get by with a 65-gallon can.

With all the building and remodeling projects going on in Lawton, we have also been asked to remind residents that construction and demolition materials ARE NOT to be placed in the CHN garbage cans. You are asked to either haul your construction and demolition materials to the Woodbury County Area Landfill south of Merville yourself, or get a dumpster at the site.

Wooden boards can damage the compacting mechanism in the garbage trucks. This is extremely costly to the hauler. Due to the possible damage that may occur, the hauler may not pick up a can that has visible construction materials sticking out of it.

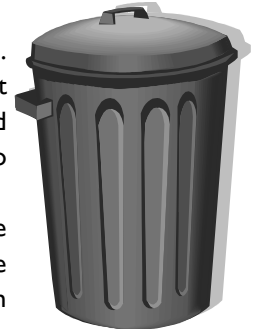
Sheetrock is another area of concern. Although this will not damage the truck, it is extremely heavy and adds tonnage to the tipping scales at the Landfill. We all pay the price when someone throws sheetrock into their garbage can. This

should be an expense paid for by the builder, rather than shared by all the residents in town.

Yard waste continues to be problem. CHN does not want grass clippings put into the garbage cans. Orange lawn and leaf bags are sold at City Hall and are to be used for yard waste.

Residents are reminded that all garbage is to be bagged...and all bags must be INSIDE the cans. If you have too much garbage to fit into one can, you can contact City Hall for a second can. If it's only occasionally that you need more room, hold some of the garbage back for a week...or talk to a neighbor to see if you can put a bag in their can. (Be a good neighbor, and don't make a habit of taking excess garbage to their can though).

Bags that are left setting next to the cans will not be picked up. If a bag falls off the top of the can because the can is too full...it will not be picked up. If the wind happens to catch a bag as it is being dumped, but was actually fully inside the can to start out with, the hauler will get out and retrieve the bag.



## ATTENTION CITY OF LAWTON LANDOWNERS

Pursuant to City Ordinance Code, Section 3-11-3, it is the duty of the owner or owners to cut or destroy weeds or grass that have exceeded twelve inches in height before they bloom or seed, and in any event, by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month from May through October.

Failure to comply with the provisions of Section 3-11-3 will result in the City Weed Commissioner mowing, cutting or removing the weeds, and the cost of the labor and material being billed to the landowner. Such cost will not be less than \$50 and is to be paid to the City of Lawton within thirty days.

Failure to pay within 30 days will result in costs being added to property taxes.

### TREE TRIMMING

Residents are reminded of City Code Sec. 3-14-4, **DUTY TO TRIM TREES.**

This section of code states: **The owner or agent of the abutting property shall keep the trees on, or overhanging the street trimmed so that all branches will be at least fifteen (15) feet above the surface of the street and eight (8) feet above the sidewalks.**

Please be especially mindful near intersections. School buses and other high-sitting vehicles need plenty of clearance to be able to see.

### SIouxLAND COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK

The next scheduled blood drive for Lawton will be Tuesday, June 5th at the Bethel Lutheran Church from 2:00-6:00 p.m. Blood may be donated every 56 days. You must be healthy and be feeling well the day of donation. If you have questions about donating blood, you can contact the Siouxland Blood Bank at 800-798-4208 or visit their website at [www.siouxlandbloodbank.org](http://www.siouxlandbloodbank.org).

**2007 WATER QUALITY /  
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE  
REPORT for LAWTON**  
will be published in the Menville Record during the  
month of June, 2007

## Tree Dump / Burn Pile

The residents of Lawton are welcome to use the tree dump and burn pile located west of the City Shed on West Main Street. However, it appears a few guidelines need to be mentioned again.

Please understand this is for your PERSONAL use only, not that of your commercial tree cutter. Any limbs brought to the sight are to be no larger than 4" in diameter. No garbage or rubbish is to be dumped at this site. In the past we have received metal, tires and other household garbage that is not acceptable.

It has been mentioned that perhaps a gate be placed at the entrance to the tree dump, and that this gate be locked except during regular office hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. City staff does not want to resort to this option, as it will be an inconvenience to both you and the city.

## DOOR TO DOOR SALESMEN

This is the time of year when we seem to be inundated with out-of-town and out-of-state people coming into town trying to sell their wares. I'm not talking about our local Girl Scouts or local school kids with the various fundraisers. I'm talking about major purchases...like vacuum cleaners. It is important for each of you to understand that you do NOT have to let a door-to-door salesman into your home.

A while back I had a young man knock on my door on a Saturday night just before 9:00 pm. I was reading a newspaper and watching a football game on TV. I assumed it was one of the neighbors since he knocked, rather than using the doorbell. I yelled for him to "Come on in". Thankfully, he didn't.

When I got to the door, there was this person holding an air freshener and stated that he had a "free gift" for me, and that he wanted me to help him "fill out a survey". I asked what he was selling, and he said, "Not a thing". As I looked behind him, I recognized an older van parked out on the street that has been used several times over the past few years to peddle vacuum cleaners in Lawton and surrounding towns. Their sales pitch to get inside your home is to offer you a free gift of some kind.

I took the air freshener and sat it inside my door. Then I asked if he had a Peddler's Permit. He said he did. I asked when he got it. He said "a couple days ago". I knew at that point he was lying to me, as I am the one to issue Peddler's Permits in the city of Lawton and only one had been issued recently. I asked if I could see his permit. He said his "boss" had it.

**PLEASE BE CAUTIOUS** when peddlers come to your door. It is **YOUR** responsibility to say "NO" if you really don't want them there. If they have the product you've yearned for all your life, then by all means invite them in. But...if you're not in the buying mood...or if you don't feel they're being honest with you...don't let them in your home in the first place.