



November 1, 2009

City of Lawton

November 2009

712-944-5960

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.

READINGS ARE *ESTIMATED* THIS MONTH

CITY ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2009

Two Council seats and the Mayoral seat are up for election this year. Those positions are currently held by Terry Masching, Todd Roerig and Jeff Nitzschke respectively.

Those filing for election, and therefore on the ballot, are: Mayor (two-year term) - Jeff Nitzschke; Council (four-year term) - Terry Masching and Reed Burson.

The City Election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 3, from noon till 8:00 p.m. at the Friendship Center. All residents of Lawton are encouraged to come out and vote.

BUILDING PERMITS: The City of Lawton requires a building permit for ALL outside projects INCLUDING landscaping. You MUST get an application, and it MUST be approved by the Building Permit Committee prior to any construction...including the moving of dirt prior to building. Pouring a cement slab or putting up a fence also require building permits from the City. Blank applications may be picked up at City Hall or downloaded from the city website.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG: Before doing any digging or disturbing of the ground, remember to call Iowa One Call at 1-800-292-8989. This is necessary with all projects, even the planting of trees or bushes. Iowa One Call will notify all necessary utility companies of the impending dig. Within 48 hours each company will come to your property and "locate" their underground lines. *If you dig before calling Iowa One Call, you are responsible for any damage that may occur.*

THANK YOU

The Lawton Friendship Center Board has disbanded after encountering a declining membership. They have very generously endowed the City of Lawton, Lawton Community Fire Department and Lawton Ambulance with the excess money they have taken in over the years.

We THANK the Friendship Center Board for their generosity!!



**City Hall will be CLOSED
Thursday and Friday
November 26 & 27
to observe Thanksgiving**

2010 Federal Census

You should soon be receiving a Federal Census questionnaire at your home. It is imperative that you take the time to answer your questionnaire honestly when it arrives in your mailbox. Our funding depends on your answers.

The 2000 Census showed the City of Lawton with a population of 697. We have had over 40 building permits issued since that time for new homes!!! Can you imagine what our numbers are going to show in the 2010 Census??

The ground work has been laid over the past two years to make sure we have all our new homes, streets and residents accounted for. I am looking forward to seeing how much we have grown in the past ten years. Please be sure to do your part!!

If people concentrated on the really important things in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles.



Tree Trimming

Residents are reminded to keep trees trimmed that overhang sidewalks and streets.

Trees must be trimmed at least 8' above sidewalks and at least 15' above roadways and streets.

Trimmed branches and trees can be taken to the tree pile west of the city shed on West Main Street. If you hire the service done, your tree trimmer may also take branches to this pile. However, he does need to stop at City Hall for a permit. There is no charge for the permit, but we do need to know tree services are working for a local resident.

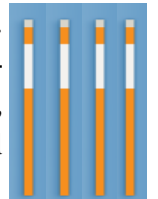
SNOW STAKES

If you've lived in Lawton through at least one winter, you've probably seen many of these snow stakes lining people's lawns around town. However, if you're new to the area, this may be something you want to consider for yourself.

Snow stakes come in a variety of styles. The ones shown below are reflective on the white portion toward the top. There are also snow stakes that have a blue disk at the top that is reflective. These are placed just inside the curb on your lawn. When the snow is blowing and the guys are out cleaning in the early morning hours, their headlights pick up the reflectors so they can see where the street edges are. Consider investing in some snow



stakes for yourself. They can be purchased at Bomgaar's, Menard's and Lowe's.



Fall & Winter Reminders



Ready or not, fall is upon us and winter is just around the corner. With the season comes some reminders that need to be shared with all of you.

GRASS CLIPPINGS: Although this has been stated before, it seems to be an ongoing problem. Some of our residents continue to mow their lawns and blow grass clippings onto the streets. Not only does this make your street look "dirty", but when it is washed into the storm sewers, it can cause major issues. City Code does not allow items or debris to be placed on the streets.

LEAVES: Leaves that fall onto the streets because of Mother Nature will be cleaned up by the city. However, please do not rake or blow your leaves onto the street. You will be asked to remove them. As with grass clippings, it is against City Code to place leaves on the streets, also.

SNOW: As much as we'd rather not think about snow, it's bound to hit us harder than the few little snow showers we saw mid-October. The street crews come out early in the morning to try to get streets opened prior to most of our residents having to go to work. They generally start clearing streets by 3:00 a.m.

PLEASE...if we have snow in the forecast, do not park your cars in the streets. Having cars in the street slows the street-cleaning process down. Although Lawton isn't very big, we have a lot of area to cover and only two men to do the work. They need your cooperation!

If you happen to be home and have a car in the street, please go out and bring it into your driveway or park it on an already-cleaned portion of the street.

Also, please DO NOT put your snow onto the street or onto your neighbor's property!

