

CITY OF ELLINWOOD NEWSLETTER

As we enter the summer months, there are several items about which we need to remind our citizens. Please take the time to review these items and call the city office with any questions.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE READ

SOLID WASTE

Curbside trash pick-up has been in place since 1998 and it has always been the intention that all trash must be placed in the container for it to be collected.

If you cannot get all your trash into one container you can request a second container. This charge is an additional \$3.00 a month.

If you have large items that need collected that will not fit in a container such as a TV, mattress or chair, you can call the City Office in advance for a special pickup at an additional charge.

After trash has been collected please place your container back to your house as soon as possible. This will keep the container safe from damaging winds, accidental bumps by vehicles, and it helps keep the neighborhood looking nice.

BUILDING PERMITS

A building permit is required anytime you make an improvement on your property. Items include an addition to your home, replacement or installation of a new fence, sidewalk, patio, or small garden shed, to name a few. This also includes planting of shrubbery and trees on the city right of way located in the front of your home, so plants are not placed over City utilities or in places that block driver's views when nearing the intersection.

CONTRACTORS

Contractors doing work in the City of Ellinwood have to be licensed and insured. This includes anyone doing carpentry, concrete, electrical, plumbing and tree service. This requirement is to make sure the contractor is reputable and insured for the protection of the homeowner in the event their property is damaged because of sub-standard or faulty work. Before the contractor starts working for you make sure they have a City license.

WEEKEND & AFTER HOURS CALLS

Other than emergencies, all weekend and weekday calls after 4:00 p.m. should be made to (620) 564-2211. The answering service will take your call and then contact the appropriate personnel for the problem. This applies to all situations such as water leaks, electrical problems, downed trees, etc.

ADDRESSES

Homes must have house numbers located on the front of the residence. This helps emergency personnel locate you in a timely manner.

DIG SAFE

When planning a building project, do not forget to call Dig Safe at 811 if you will be doing any work that involves digging below the surface of the ground, this includes such things as simple as planting trees and shrubs.

DOGS & CATS

Throughout the year, the city office and law enforcement receive more complaints about dogs and cats at large than any other topic.

City ordinances require that all dogs and cats at all times be kept in an enclosure of sufficient size and strength to maintain that animal unless the animal is on a leash and under the direct control of a person old enough to control the animal. The requirement for a pen applies to cats as well as dogs. The ordinance also prohibits pets being leashed in the yard longer than one hour.

City ordinance requires all pets to be licensed in the city. To avoid costly pet impound fees bring in your pet's proof of rabies vaccination and purchase a pet license for \$5.00. If your pet is found with a registered tag our local law enforcement will be able to bring your pet back home instead of placing it in the city impound with costs in excess of \$40.00 per day.

FIRE PITTS

There has been an increase in the use of fire pits over the past several years. The Fire Department responds to numerous calls every year when someone sees a fire in the neighbor's yard. Many times this happens because the fire in the pit is much larger than is allowed by ordinance. The City does have regulations in place to make the use of a fire pit safe and help reduce false alarms for the Fire Department. These regulations are as follows:

No fire pits shall be more than three (3) feet in diameter.

All below ground fire pits shall be at least four inches in depth and shall be surrounded on the outside, above ground by a non-combustible material such as steel, brick or masonry. Below ground fire pits cannot exceed three (3) feet in diameter and the fire shall not exceed two (2) feet in height.

Fire pits should be covered with a screen with openings no greater than one inch, and any fire in the pit should be contained within the screen.

Keep the fire small!

Only natural firewood or commercial logs may be burned in a fire pit, no leaves.

THE FOLLOWING CITY CODES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED

OBSTRUCTIONS AT INTERSECTIONS

Plants and shrubbery located on intersections are not to exceed 2 1/2' above the bottom of the curb or be planted within 10' of a fire hydrant. Anything above this height creates a safety issue for motorists and pedestrians. If you own property at an intersection please keep an open line of sight for drivers by keeping your shrubbery or flowers below the 2 1/2' height.

PORTABLE BASKETBALL GOALS

All portable basketball goals should be moved away from the street when not in use. It is prohibited to have a basketball goal in the street at any time.

YARDS & JUNK VEHICLES

We are in the spring season and it's time to clean up. By ordinance, property owners are required to maintain a mowed, clean, and junk free yard. Please remove unsightly junk and debris from your property. Vehicles are also required to be tagged and operable or they must be removed. Failure to be compliant will lead to a notice from the City and a possible fine if the problem is not resolved.

GRASS CLIPPING

Please do not mow so that grass clippings go into the street gutters. It is unsightly and once grass clippings wash into our storm sewers, they restrict drainage of the water runoff. In times of heavy rain, this contributes to our street flooding. Leaving grass in the gutter after mowing is in violation of our littering ordinance.

COMPOST SITE

All grass clippings, tree limbs, and other lawn and garden waste should be taken to the city compost site north of town. Please remember that the compost site is not a trash dump site. If you see anyone disposing of anything that should not be there such as construction debris, furniture, or just trash in general, please contact the city office so we can deal with the problem.

CITY WIDE CLEAN-UP

APRIL 27TH—MAY 6TH

As a part of the City's clean up initiative the City will accept various items for disposal at the city public works maintenance shop located at 505 East Santa Fe. This drop off is available to city residents only. Signage will be posted where various items are to be placed.

NO HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS, PAINTS, INSECTICIDE, OR OTHER HAZARDOUS MATERIALS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Accepted items are as follows:

- ◆ **Tires. Small pickup and car tires only. No rims or large tires. Tires should be left at the designated area south of the city shop.**
- ◆ **Computers, televisions, monitors, microwaves, and other electronic material should be placed in the designated dumpster.**
- ◆ **Iron and other metal products should be placed in the designated dumpster.**
- ◆ **Appliances should be placed in the designated area.**
- ◆ **All other household material should be placed in the designated dumpster**

PLEASE PLACE ALL ITEMS IN THE PROPER CONTAINERS AND NOT ON THE GROUND.

AFTER MAY 6TH 2019, THE CITY WILL BEGIN STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CODE.

Now is the time to clean up your property.