

City of Calmar  
P.O. Box 268  
Calmar, IA 52132

# City of Calmar Newsletter

AUGUST 2011

Our hanging flower baskets and redwood planters are just BEAUTIFUL! They are a GREAT addition to town and welcome drivers and visitors from every direction. These plants are so beautiful because of **Linus "Sam" Sabelka**. He waters them every morning before the crack of dawn and I have seen him on the very hot days watering in the evening also. He also fertilizes as needed. So when you see him tell him what a great job he is doing and if you are bored, offer to water for a day or two to give him a break. You do not have to leave the tractor seat to water. Thanks also to **Wayne Wiest** for his help watering our flower baskets.

This fall after the freeze these baskets will be taken down and returned so they can be planted and used again next year. Donations toward these baskets will be ongoing as we will be accepting donations for next years baskets.

## DONATIONS RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

Jeremy & Stacy Merrill in honor of Sam Sabelka  
Joe & Connie McCasland in memory of Mary McCasland  
Calmar Corvette Club  
Randy & Lois Poshusta  
Bernice Busta  
Luther & Karen Anderson  
Darlene Elsbernd



**Calmar City Officials**

**Joe McCasland, Mayor**  
 Larry Huinker, Mayor pro-tem  
 Isaac Phillips, City Council  
 Corey Meyer, City Council  
 Dennis Kleve, City Council  
 Luther Anderson, City Council

<p><b>Police</b>                  Joe Ward, Police                  Lance Peters, Patrol Officer                  101 S. Washington St.                  563-562-3224 (non-emergency)                  911 (emergency)</p>	<p><b>Public Library</b>                  Linda Crossland, Library Director                  101 S. Washington St.                  563-562-3010                  Open 12-6 Mon.—Fri.                  Saturday 10 A.M.—1 P.M.</p>
<p><b>Public Works</b>                  Junior Boyer, Superintendent                  101 S. Washington St.                  563-562-3349                  319-361-2506 ( cell)</p>	<p><b>Water/Wastewater</b>                  Matt Bullerman, Superintendent                  101 St. Washington St.                  563-562-3150                  319-361-2505 (cell)</p>
<p><b>Calmar Swimming Pool</b>                  Annie Rude, Manager                  Hwy 24                  562-563-3148                  319-361-8532 (cell)</p>	<p><b>City Clerk</b>                  Michele Elsbernd                  101 S. Washington St.                  P.O. Box 268                  563-562-3154                  563-562-3903 (fax)                  319-361-2507 (cell)                  calmarcc@calmaria.com (email)                  Calmaria.com (web site)</p>

**Calmar Public Library News**

*The Calmar Library has their own web site. It is currently in the development stage and items are being added regularly. You can visit the site at: [www.calmarlibrary.com](http://www.calmarlibrary.com)*

**Current Calmar Library Board Members**

James Huber, President  
 Kay Heying, Shirley Kirby, Emily Hoffert, Brandi Schissel, Connie McCasland and Sandy Holthaus

**WINNESHIEK COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY**

The Winneshiek County Comprehensive Plan Committee is asking Winneshiek County residents to take a few minutes and complete their survey. This will help guide how the county and the City of Calmar plan for the next 20 years.

**YOU ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY**

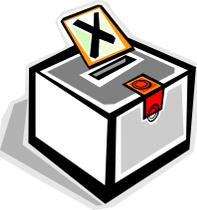
Hard copies of the survey are available at the Calmar City Clerk's office and the Calmar Library. You can also take the survey online. To do so type this link into your computers address bar [http://www.winneshiekcounty.org/planzone\\_1.html](http://www.winneshiekcounty.org/planzone_1.html)

**SIDEWALK INSPECTIONS**



The City personnel will soon be undertaking its annual sidewalk inspection. Sidewalks, or portions thereof, needing repair will be marked accordingly and notification will be sent to the property owner. A permit is required prior to reconstruction, but there is no fee for this permit. Residents are encouraged to call with any questions they may have.

**1-800-292-8989** | **811**  
[www.iowaonecall.com](http://www.iowaonecall.com) | Know what's below. Call before you dig.



**Calmar City Elections**

**On Tuesday, November 8, 2011 Calmar residents will have the opportunity to elect a Mayor and three council members. The current term of Mayor McCasland and council members Luther Anderson, Larry Huinker and Corey Meyer are due to expire on December 31, 2011.**

If you are interested in running for one of these positions you will need to pick up a nomination petition and have it signed by at least ten people eligible to vote in Calmar. An "Affidavit of Candidacy" and the petition need to be completed and delivered to the City Clerk's office at 101 S. Washington Street. Candidate filing begins Monday, August 15th and ends with papers due at the Clerk's office by 5:00 P.M. Thursday, September 22, 2011. Nomination papers are available at the Calmar City Clerk's office.

**Little League Field Update**

**We want to thank the following for their donations toward the project.**

Calmar Development.....	\$5000.00
Calmar Commercial Club.....	\$2000.00
Calmar Lions Club.....	\$2000.00
Security State Bank.....	\$ 500.00
Schluter—Balik Funeral Homes.....	\$ 100.00
Dental Associates (Heather Tigges).....	\$ 50.00
Calmar Lion's Club (grant requested thru Spectrum) .....	\$ 2000.00
Joe & Connie McCasland in memory of Mary McCasland .....	\$ 100.00



Alliant Energy for installation of the poles  
Northeast Iowa Community College for trenching  
Grassmasters for hydro-seeding

**Burning of leaves is allowed from September 15th thru November 15th ONLY and then between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. There is to be no burning on the blacktop or paved surface of any street or alley or in curbs and gutters within the City limits.**



**PET WASTE STATIONS**



Due to many complaints regarding hygienic disposal of dog and pet waste along the bike trail the City has purchased two pet waste stations. These stations will provide a convenient bag-dispensing and disposal center. These stations will be placed on each end of the trail within the city limits. Pet owners PLEASE use them. If you see someone walking their dog and not properly disposing of pet waste and you know who it is,

please report to the Calmar Police Department so a citation can be issued.

**WATER METER RADIO READ SYSTEM**

The City of Calmar thanks everyone for their co-operation with city personnel to install the radio transmitter to your water meter. Work has been completed to all but a few properties that are currently vacant. We will be reading the water meters as close to the 15th of each month that we can. The bills will be generated shortly thereafter with the same due date of the 5th of each month.

**OUTDOOR WATER METERS**

For those of you with outdoor meters. We will now be reading these once (in the fall). You may call us with your reading by the 15th if you would like usage subtracted monthly. Remember to take your meter inside in the fall BEFORE it freezes. If the meter freezes you will be responsible for replacement costs.

## Calmar Fire Department News



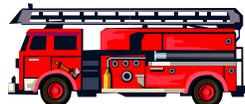
With the help our Rural Trustees and the Winneshiek County Supervisors the Calmar Fire Department was able to upgrade our Rescue Truck that carries the Jaws Of Life and other rescue equipment and replace the older over weighted truck that was previously used. The new 2011 Ford F-550 will include a 4 door cab, traverse trays which help to get at equipment no matter what side of the truck a person is on, and will have longer lengths of hydraulic hose for Jaws of Life Calls. Business partners in this venture were Klimesh Ford in Calmar, Alum-line in Cresco, First Impressions of Freeport.

The previous Rescue Truck was transformed into a Grass/Wild land fire-fighting unit. This involved removing the utility bed and adding a flatbed and used water pump/tank. Business partners for this project included Featherlite in Cresco (Flatbed), Calmar Motors (labor), and Decorah Fire Department (water pump & Tank). The City of Calmar and Calmar Fire Department fundraising efforts funded this project.

### SOUP SUPPER & FIRE TRUCK PARADE



The Calmar Fire Department will also host its fall soup supper fundraiser and fire truck parade on Sunday October 9, 2011 to start off Fire Prevention Week. The soup supper will be from 3 – 6:30 pm with Chicken Noodle and Chili as part of the menu. This will be a free-will donation benefit. The Fire Truck Parade of Lights will begin at about 7 pm through downtown Calmar. This will include fire truck from all around our area from antique to currently serving. Participants are told **NOT** to sound their sirens during this parade to make this enjoyable for all ages. Mark your calendars today!



## The Calmar Fire Department also offers the following tips for the upcoming fall cool weather:

### Home Heating systems

Have your heating system professionally inspected, cleaned, and serviced every year. Make sure to have your fireplace inspected and cleaned prior to using and learn what you can do to reduce creosote buildup.

### Space Heaters

Space heaters can be dangerous if not used following general safety guidelines. Check your owner's manuals for general maintenance and cleaning instructions. Before using space heaters, inspect them for damage, including the power cord, and know how to operate them safely. Keep 3 feet of empty space around the space heater, never place anything on it to dry, and do not place/store flammable objects or liquids near the space heater. Turn space heaters off when leaving the house or going to bed.

### Fuel Fired Devices

Flammable liquids should not be stored in inside the home or in an attached garage or shed. This includes any unused fuel still in the fuel tank. Store this equipment away from your home or drain excess fuel out of the tank before storing. This simple safety precaution will help prevent accidental fires from escaping fuel vapors.

### Smoke Detectors

Don't assume these life saving appliances work just by looking at it. They require some basic maintenance to make sure they will work properly. Nuisance or false alarms are the number one cause for battery removal and are usually caused by installing units too close to the kitchen and or heating vents. Relocate units closer to or inside sleeping areas to prevent false alarms.

- Replace the battery when necessary or at least once a year.
- Clean dust from around the cover to let air flow inside.
- Replace units that are ten years old or if its reliability is in question.
- Push the test button once a month to make sure it works properly.

### Carbon Monoxide Detectors

CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.

- CO detectors should be used in homes that use natural gas, propane, or wood burning appliances.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel.