



CITY OF CALMAR

November/December 2007 Newsletter



City of Calmar Website

Visit the City's website:
www.calmaria.com

This website has recently been updated and has a "NEW LOOK". Check it out!

Cities email address:
calmarcc@mchsi.com

Elected City Officials:

Mayor: George Willis
P.O. Box 207
563-203-0600

Mayor Pro-tem:
Tim Vondersitt
P.O. Box 193
562-3956

Luther Anderson
P. O. Box 125
562-3625

Karen Kleve
P.O. Box 94
562-3841

Dave Zweibahmer
P.O. Box 389
562-3141



"IOWA ONE CALL"
Remember to Call Before You Dig!
The toll free phone number is 1-800-292-8989.



CITY OF CALMAR SNOW REGULATIONS

136.03 REMOVAL OF SNOW, ICE AND ACCUMULATIONS. It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow, ice and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice or accumulations within a reasonable time, not to exceed twenty-four (24) hours following the cessation of snow fall or the forming of ice, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

69.11 SNOW EMERGENCY. Whenever the City experiences a snow fall which accumulates to a depth of three inches or more, a snow emergency shall automatically be in effect and all procedures prescribed by this chapter shall be observed by all persons. The street superintendent shall utilize, at his discretion, all available communications media in the community to give notice to the public that a snow emergency is in effect, but failure of a person to receive such notice shall not constitute a defense to any prosecution for violation of the rules, regulations and procedures prescribed by this chapter where a snow accumulation of three inches or more has occurred.

1. While a snow emergency is in effect, curbside parking of motor vehicles shall be permitted only as follows:

A. All vehicles shall be parked on the side of the street where buildings bear even numbers, until such time as the snow has been removed or plowed from the opposite side of the street where buildings bear odd numbers, until such time as the snow has been removed or plowed from the opposite side of the street.

B. All uptown parking must be in the North lot until the South lot is cleared, then vehicles must be moved to the South lot.

C. Such plan of alternate parking shall supersede all posted parking restriction signs until the completion of snow removal from both sides of any given street within the City limits, after which regularly established parking regulations shall resume and shall be observed by all persons.

2. Removing Violators from the Street. In case any motor vehicle is found parked on any street or alley or parking lot in the City in violation of established or snow emergency restrictions, the Police Department or Street department or anyone under their direction is authorized to move such vehicle and to tow such vehicle to a designated impounding area at the owner's expense. When such vehicle is reclaimed by its owner, there shall be assessed, in addition to any court-imposed fine and costs, a reasonable fee for towing and storage. Neither the City nor its employees or agents designated to move vehicles in accordance with the

provisions of this chapter shall be responsible for any damage to such vehicle occasioned by such moving, towing or storage.

3. Interference with Snow Removal. Any vehicle parked or standing on any street or alley or parking lot in violation of any provision of this chapter so as to interfere with prompt and orderly snow removal is declared to be a nuisance, and in addition to being subject to removal and impounding, may be ticketed for illegal parking, and its owner, upon conviction, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of \$25.00.

4. Reclaiming Impounded Vehicles. Any person who removes an impounded vehicle from any police-designated impounding area without first paying all fines, cost, towing and storage charges, is guilty of a misdemeanor.



CITY PHONE NUMBERS

- City Hall.....562-3154
 - Street Department.....562-3349
 - Library.....562-3010
 - Fire Dept. Mtg. Room.....562-3575
 - Police Department.....562-3224
 - Sheriff Department...800-632-5976
 - Water/SewerDepartment.562-3150
 - Swimming Pool..... 562-3148
- To report fire, accident, or emergency.....911**



Prairie Farmer Bike Trail
The hard surfacing of the Prairie Farmer Bike Trail has been completed to the area OUTSIDE the city limits from Calmar to Cresco.

The hard surfacing of the area within the City limits of

Calmar, Ridgeway and Cresco will happen in the spring/summer of 2008.

Many decisions have to be made by the Pave the Way committee. A trail head, kiosk, location of pavers, and the use of the depot building in conjunction with the trail. The committee welcomes your input.



Results of the recent Election

Joe McCasland will be Calmar's Mayor effective 1/1/08.

Elected to the council seats were Larry Huinker, Corey Meyer, Isaac Phillips and re-elected incumbent Luther Anderson. They will be joining Dave Zweibahmer whose seat was not up for election this year.



NEW POSTINGS OF SPEED LIMITS

Citizens and people traveling through Calmar will soon see some speed limits and sign posting changes.

Starting in June of 2007 the Iowa Department of Transportation with cooperation from the Calmar Police department started an extensive speed study. The study was conducted over several months with the final plan being accepted in late October.

The Iowa DOT sets regulatory speed limits on state and federal highways based on a thorough engineering and traffic investigation.

- These factors are considered:
- road type and surface (curve, hill, etc.);
 - location and type of access points;
 - existing traffic control devices;
 - crash history;
 - traffic volume;
 - sight distances;
 - results of a field review and speed study

The most important part of the speed investigation is the speed study. When choosing a speed drivers take many roadway environment factors into consideration. Therefore, the speed that the majority of people consider prudent is an important value. Data is collected on the roadway under ideal driving conditions. A technical analysis is done on the results to determine 85th percentile. This is the speed value indicating the speed which most (85%) drivers are traveling at or below. Experience has shown that a posted speed limit near this value is the maximum safe and reasonable speed. Studies have shown that traveling much faster or slower than this value can increase your chance of being in a crash.

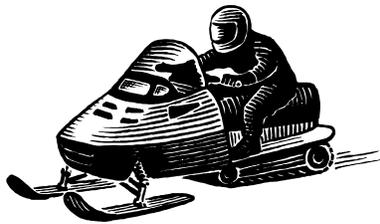
In Calmar the speed limit changes will be as follows;

- Highway 52 north bound, entering from the East. 55mph, 45mph to 30mph in town
- Highway 150 approaching from the south will remain the same.
- Highway 24 approaching from the west; 45mph will be extended to the west; 30mph in town; with new signs for pedestrian crossings.
- West Main Street; 25mph from Charles Street to Maryville Street.
- Highway 52 south, approaching from the north; 55mph, 45mph to 30mph in town.
- One block from the main intersection, in any direction will be 25mph.

There will be a transition/acquisition period, approximately one month for motorist to become comfortable with the new speed limit postings. During this period, the Police Department will attempt to issue only warnings for minor speed violations. After this period there will be a proactive effort to identify and ticket all violations. Motorists need to be aware that the posted speed limit is the speed limit and the tolerance for violations will be minimal, tickets, not warnings will be issued for speeding.



**RESIDENTS ARE
REMINDED
TO
SHOVEL OUT THE FIRE
HYDRANT NEAR YOUR
HOME THIS WINTER.
FOR YOUR PROTECTION,
YOUR FAMILIES
PROTECTION AND YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD
PROTECTION!**



SNOWMOBILE REGULATIONS

ATV's and Snowmobiles shall be operated only upon streets which have not been plowed during the snow season and on such other streets designated as the Snowmobile Route (maps are available at the Clerk's office) or during an emergency when snow upon the roadway renders travel by convention motor vehicles impractical.

SIDEWALKS

City personnel will be doing another sidewalk inspection shortly. Anyone who received a letter previously but has not completed sidewalk repairs will need to complete them first thing in the spring. (Remember a permit is required, no fee is necessary) The new inspection will include anyone with previous problems and any problems that have developed since or were missed in the last inspection. Letters will be sent to these residents and a deadline set to complete the work. Safe sidewalks protect you from liability.





TREES OVER THE
STREET &
SIDEWALK

The owner or agent of the abutting property shall keep the trees on, or overhanging the street & sidewalk trimmed so that all branches will be at least fifteen (15) feet above the surface of the street and eight (8) feet above the surface of the sidewalk.



**The Calmar Public
Library is in the process
of
Accreditation**

**PLEASE COMPLETE
THE SURVEY
ENCLOSED WITH
THIS NEWSLETTER.**

**Completed Surveys
can be returned to
one of the following
locations:**

**Calmar Public
Library
Calmar Clerk's Office
City of Calmar Drop
Box
Calmar Public
Library Book Drop
Box**

**Your
participation is
appreciated.**



**The Mayor,
Council, and City
Employees wish
you a Happy
Thanksgiving, a
Merry Christmas
and a Safe and
Healthy New Year!**

Calmar Public Library Community User Survey - 2007

Where do you reside?

City of Calmar _____ Rural Calmar _____ Other _____

What age group do you belong in?

5-10 _____ 11-13 _____ 14-18 _____ 19-25 _____
26-40 _____ 41-55 _____ 56-65 _____ 65+ _____

What type of books do you read the most?

Fiction _____ Non-fiction _____

What section of books in the library do you feel needs to improve the most?

Children's Fiction _____ Children's Non-fiction _____
Junior Fiction _____ Junior Non-fiction _____
Young Adult Fiction _____ Young Adult Non-fiction _____
Adult Fiction _____ Adult Non-fiction _____

What services of the library do you use?

What extra services beyond what already exists do you feel the library should/could offer?

How often do you use the Internet at the library? _____

● **For parents of preschoolers only:**

A. Are you satisfied with the Children's book section? Yes _____ No _____

B. Besides Story Hour & Summer Reading Program, what other preschool programs should the library offer?

Other comments: _____

Please return completed Community User Survey to one of the following locations:

- Calmar Public Library**
- Calmar City Clerk's Office**
- City of Calmar Drop Box**
- Calmar Public Library Book Drop Box**

CITY OF CALMAR
PO BOX 268
CALMAR, IA 52132