



# CITY OF CALMAR

## I O W A

*If you lived in Calmar, you'd be home now!*



## Calmar Directory

### MAYOR

Joe McCasland 562-3403

### CITY COUNCIL

Larry Huinker 562-3963

Luther Anderson 562-3625

Corey Meyer 562-3254

Isaac Phillips 562-4857

Dave Zweibahmer 562-3141

### CITY SERVICES

City Hall 562-3154

Street Department 562-3349

Library 562-3010

Police Department 562-3224

Swimming Pool 562-3148

Fire Dept. Mtg. Room 562-3575

Water/Sewer Department 562-3150

Sheriff Dept 800-632-5976

Emergency/Fire

Accident 911

### 2009 City Council Elections

One of the most challenging and exciting responsibilities an individual can assume is to become a council member or mayor. The business of city government and local leadership presents a unique opportunity to resolve issues, accomplish goals, and affect the future of your community.

The City of Calmar conducts business on the first Monday of each month at 6:45 P.M. With additional sessions when necessary. Council members are liaisons to the various city departments.

In order to hold office in the city, a candidate must be an eligible elector, meeting the same qualifications required to vote, and be a resident of the city he or she plans to serve.

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009 Calmar residents will have the opportunity to elect a Mayor and two council members. The current term of Mayor McCasland and council members Isaac Phillips and Dave Zweibahmer are due to expire on December 31, 2009.

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 24th and ends with papers due at the Clerk's office by 5:00 P.M. Thursday, September 17, 2009.

Nomination papers are available from the Calmar City Clerk's office or the Winneshiek County Auditors Office.

## NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2009

### Inside this issue

Police News—Landlords 2

Yard Waste—Auto Pay—  
Garbage 2

Back to school—Census 3

Water Rates—Sidewalks 4

Burning—Fire Dept—  
Depot 4

High Water Bill—"ICE" 5

Doggie "do" 5

Memory Walk—Branch-  
ing Out 6

### NOTICE REGARDING TREE TRIMMING



The owner 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 go out and take a look and see if this affects YOU. . The city may trim the trees and access the cost to the property owner in the same manner as property taxes.

### City of Calmar

101 S. Washington St., P.O. Box 268

Calmar, IA 52132

Phone 563-562-3154 Fax 563-562-3903

Email [calmarcc@mchsi.com](mailto:calmarcc@mchsi.com)

[www.calmaria.com](http://www.calmaria.com)



**IOWA ONE CALL**  
1-800-292-8989  
www.iowadonecall.com

Call Before You Dig!  
**1.800.292.8989**  
Call the toll-free number at least  
**48 hours**  
prior to ALL excavations in Iowa.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS



At this time the police department is once again in the process of hiring a second officer. Applications have been accepted and testing will begin shortly with hiring in the fall. If the candidate needs to attend

the academy they would do so in December.

You will also see Chief Ward patrolling in our new police vehicle. The new black Explorer was delivered on July 1, 2009 and has since been fitted with a cage, lights, camera, radar and all the other equipment needed.

Chief Ward states he will be sharing the duties of washing this vehicle with the council members that thought black was a better choice than white for a police vehicle.

## A NOTICE TO LANDLORDS



When you have a tenant moving into OR out of your rental, PLEASE call City Hall so we can make changes to the city utilities account. Some tenants don't bother, or forget, to make this important call.

**THANK YOU!**

## Our Yard Waste Site

The new site seems to be working out very well. The old site has been leveled off and the hill seeded down. This makes the lot over by the city shop much more pleasing to the eye than it was previously.

We appreciated the residents co-operation in the transition from the old to the new site.

Please remember this site is for yard waste only (grass clippings, leaves, brush and limbs.)

This site is provided to the residents and property owners in Calmar at no charge and is currently available 24/7.

## What an easy thing to do!

More and more water customers are discovering the convenience of Automatic Withdrawal for paying their water bills.

Just sign up at City Hall or call and we can e-mail the authorization form to you. You will receive a bill like you normally do and the payment will be automatically deducted on the last bank work day before the bill due date.



If you have an issue with your garbage pick up.

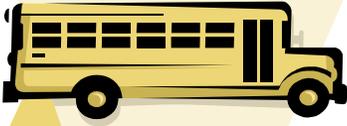
Please call Malcom Enterprises at one of the numbers listed below to have your problem resolved.

563-379-1626 Ross Malcom

or 563-382-4497 or

800-892-6239

## Back-to-School Time



Help keep your children safe from unintentional injury - the number one killer of kids - by teaching them safe ways to travel to and from school.

Pedestrian injuries are a leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 5 to 14, and the back-to-school season provides a great opportunity to teach kids common sense safety behavior.

### Walking to School

Choose the safest route and walk it with your children. Look for the most direct route with the fewest street crossings. Try to choose routes where stop signs are present when crossing the highway. Children under age 10 should walk with an adult or older child every day because they do not have the necessary skills to judge the speed or distance of oncoming traffic. Also, their peripheral vision is 1/3 less than that of adults.

Make sure children look to the left, to the right and to the left again for moving vehicles before crossing the street.

Teach children not to enter the street from between parked cars or from behind bushes or shrubs. Darting into the street accounts for a significant number of pedestrian injuries among children ages 9 and under.

Because drivers have a more difficult time seeing pedestrians, warn children to be extra alert in bad weather. Be a good role model. Children imitate their parents and model their behavior. Your children need you to tell them and show them how to be safe pedestrians.

### School Bus Safety

An estimated 25 million students ride school buses daily. Many injuries occur when children are boarding or exiting because a blind spot extends approximately 10 feet around the bus, obstructing the view of the driver. Children are not aware of this blind spot and may mistakenly believe that if they can see the bus, the bus driver can see them.

A child's behavior at the bus stop is an important aspect of school bus safety. While waiting for the bus, kids should stay out of the street. After getting off the bus, children should, if walking in front of the bus, cross at least 10 feet in front of it.

While on the bus, children should observe the following safety rules:

Remain seated at all times and keep the aisles clear.

## What is the Census?

- The census is a count of everyone living in the United States every 10 years.
- The Census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution
- The next census is 2010
- Your participation in the census is required by law
- It takes less than 10 minutes to complete
- Federal law protects the personal information you share during the census
- Census data is used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute \$300 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year.

United States®  
**Census**  
**2010**

The City of Calmar has received a partnership grant to promote the 2010 Census. We will be ordering Census promotional materials that will be distributed at the clerk's office, area functions and door-to-door. These items are intended to promote Census awareness.

The new 10 Question survey is among the shortest since the first census in 1790.



## Utility Rates

At the July meeting the city council approve a raise in the water rates. These changes will be reflected on your August 2009 utility service bill. We are happy to tell you there is no increase in sewer or garbage rates. The new rates are listed below.

**92:02 RATES AND SERVICE.** Water service shall be furnished at the following monthly rates within the City Limits of Calmar, Iowa: (Code of Iowa Sec. 384.84)

1. First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$15.00 (Minimum Bill) with 3/4" meter or smaller

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$22.00 (Minimum Bill) with 1" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$ 28.00 (Minimum Bill) with 1 1/4" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$34.00 (Minimum Bill) with 1 1/2" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$40.00 (Minimum Bill) with 2" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$46.00 (Minimum Bill) with 3" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$52.00 (Minimum Bill) with 4" meter

2. Next 29,000 gallons used per month @ \$3.00 per thousand gallons

3. Excess gallons used per month @ \$2.50 per thousand gallons

**92:03 RATES OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS.** Water service shall be furnished at the following monthly rates outside the City Limits of Calmar, Iowa: (Code of Iowa Sec. 384:84)

1. First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$21.00 (Minimum Bill) with 3/4" meter or smaller

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$25.00 (Minimum Bill) with 1" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$32.00 (Minimum Bill) with 1 1/4" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$39.00 (Minimum Bill) with 1 1/2" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$46.00 (Minimum Bill) with 2" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$53.00 (Minimum Bill) with a 3" meter

First 1000 gallons used per month @ \$60.00 (Minimum Bill) with a 4" meter

2. Next 29,000 gallons used per month @ \$5.00 per thousand gallons

3. Excess gallons used per month @ \$3.00 per thousand gallon



A reminder to all who received a sidewalk letter in May. The deadline to repair is October 1, 2009. Remember to get a permit and to submit your bill for concrete only (the city will pay 50% of the cost of concrete only up to \$200.00) This reimbursement is made to the property owner.

 **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.**



**The Calmar Fire Department is planning an OPEN HOUSE and FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST. Plans haven't been finalized but be sure to watch for this event and plan to attend.**

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT!**



**An application is being made by Winn. Co. Preservation Commission to get the Calmar Depot put on the Nat'l Register of Historic Places.**

**Once that is done, the Depot Project will be eligible for various grant monies.**

**Calmar needs assistance through a 'Friends of the Calmar Depot' organization to help with doing this. In order to set this up, we need to have those who are interested let us know.**

**There is no previous experience required, no age limit, nor residence in Calmar required either. Call 562-3154 and leave a message or email [calmarcc@mchsi.com](mailto:calmarcc@mchsi.com) if you are interested in joining this group.**

## HIGH WATER BILL? MAYBE IT'S YOUR TOILET



Leaking toilets are the cause of more water waste than any other fixture in the home. Even a silent toilet leak (that's one you normally can't hear) will waste from 30 to 500 gallons of water per day! The ones you can hear will waste much, much more. Such leaks can normally be attributed to a faulty water level adjustment or to a leaky flapper.

Most people will say their toilet does not leak. There is one sure way to find out. Put some food coloring in the tank and then leave for 15 minutes. When you return, look into your bowl to see if there is now color in the water. If there is, your toilet has a leak!

Your water meter can also be a valuable tool in detecting water leaks in your home. Know where it is located and follow this simple process to help determine if there is a leak in your home.

1. Make sure no water is running
2. Turn off all faucets and water-consuming appliances, including ice makers and water softeners.
3. Read your water meter. Write down the current reading
4. Read the meter again a few hours later after a time when you don't think water is being used. If the meter reading has changed, you have a leak.

A good time to do this is before you go to bed at night.

**A good website to visit for more information about water leaks and how to read meters and calculate usage can be found at [www.h2ouse.org](http://www.h2ouse.org)**

## “ICE”

### Your Cell Phone



Your cell phone can help emergency responders and health-care workers to identify you and notify your loved ones. Just program your cell phone's contact list with the codeword: “ICE” (In Case of Emergency) Step 1: Open your cell phone contact list to create a new entry. Step 2: Enter the word ICE with the name and number of the person you would like contacted in an emergency. Step 3: To list multiple contacts name the entries ICE 1, ICE 2, ICE 3. Examples:

ICE 1—Husband Bob

ICE 2—Mother-Mary

ICE 3—Son-Joe

Be Safe. Be Healthy. Be Ready.

## Scooping Up After Your Dog

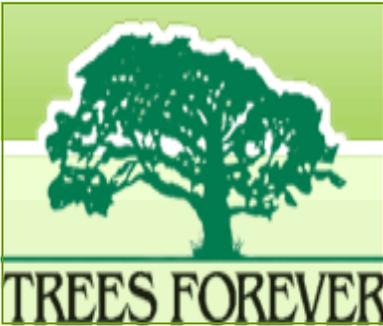


Walking your dog is great exercise for you and your dog. All dogs love to be walked but there is a natural byproduct of this activity...dog droppings. Regular exercise encourages your dog to eliminate his/her waste. You, as the owner, have a responsibility to clean up after your dog and not leave the droppings on someone else's property. When walking your dog, make sure you carry a disposable bag to pick up your pet's waste. The waste should be properly disposed of in your own garbage. Be considerate of your neighbors. This also applies to public property and along the Calmar bike trail. Make walking and biking along the trail a positive and pleasant experience for everyone. Scoop up after your dog!

City of Calmar

P.O. Box 268

Calmar, IA 52132



The City of Calmar through the efforts of Corey Meyer, has received a “Branching Out” grant in the amount of \$1,000. This grant is a partnership between Trees Forever and Alliant Energy.

This grant will provide trees to Calmar residents for fall planting. Applications for a tree can be obtained at the Clerk’s office and will be due by October 1, 2009. The funding formula will allow planting of 40 trees. Each tree will be funded 25% by the homeowner; 25% by the City of Calmar; 25% from the Branching Out grant and 25% by the Fort Atkinson Nursery. The participation of the nursery in this program will ensure we plant only the highest quality species. A list of permitted species is also available at the clerk’s office. One applicant per household, if funding remains after all applications are received you may be considered for an additional tree. The city of Calmar will provide wood mulch to help with moisture control. The Fort Atkinson Nursery will offer a one time fee of \$25.00 for those that want to have the tree professionally planted and maintained.

Upon completion of your application, which will include your choice of approved tree species, trees will be ordered from the Nursery for planting later in October.

**The Alzheimer’s Association Northeast Iowa Regional Memory Walk is an event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer care, support and research—and it calls on volunteers of all ages to become champions in the fight against this fatal disease.**

**2009 Northeast Iowa Regional Memory Walk**

**Saturday, September 26, 2009**

**West Union Recreation Center**

**(for more information contact Jessi Kelly Monday-Friday, 8 A.M.—4:30 P.M. at 319-277-4100 or email [Jessica.kelly@alz.org](mailto:Jessica.kelly@alz.org))**