



City of Calmar Newsletter

Spring 2010

PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall.....562-3154
Street Department.....562-3349
Library.....562-3010
Fire Dept. Mtg. Rm.....562-3575
Police Department.....562-3224
Sheriff Dept.....800-632-5976
Water/Sewer Dept.....562-3150
Swimming Pool.....562-3148
To report fire, accident or emergency.....911
Alliant Energy.....1-800-Alliant
Black Hills Energy... ..1-888-890-5554

Elected Officials:

Mayor	Mayor Pro-tem
Joe McCasland	Larry Huinker
P.O. Box 21	702 W. Clark St.
562-3403	562-3963

Council Members

Luther Anderson	Corey Meyer
P.O. Box 125	P.O. Box 101
562-3625	562-3254

Isaac Phillips	Dennis Kleve
P.O. Box 591	P.O. Box 94
562-4857	562-3841

Census Day is April 1, 2010



The goal of 2010 Census is to count all residents living in the United States on April 1, 2010. The 2010 Census form is the shortest questionnaire in history.

Census forms will be mailed to you if you receive your mail at a street address. If you receive your mail at a P.O. Box number the census forms will be sent back to the bureau as undeliverable and a census worker will call on you.

BE COUNTED!

Road Use tax money is only one tax distributed by population and the loss or gain of residents would greatly affect our allocation of funds.

A FEW SPRING REMINDERS

You can burn leaves from April 1st.—May 15th, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. No burning on the black-top or hard surface of any street or alley or in curb & gutters.

When you mow, DO NOT blow the clippings into the street!

Now as the weather improves and you start walking and biking, PLEASE BE VISIBLE. Wear your reflective clothing or clip-on lights for YOUR SAFETY! If you walk with your dog, remember to clean up behind the dog!

IT IS THE SEASON—CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

Iowa One Call toll free number is:

1-800-292-8989

(call at least 48 business hours in advance)

If your sidewalk needed repair or replacement and you didn't get it done last year. Please make the repairs or replacement as soon as possible this spring.

Just a reminder our yard waste site is now located near the sewer plant off S. Jefferson or E. South St.



CALMAR CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES

Are scheduled for

May 1, 2010

Call the Calmar Courier
to get your garage
sale on the map

Tips to Avoid Identity Theft

The Federal Trade Commission offers the following safeguards to help protect you from identity theft:



Shred financial documents and paperwork with personal information before you discard them.

Protect your Social Security number. Don't carry your Social Security Card in your wallet or write your Social Security number on a check. Give it out only if absolutely necessary or ask to use another identifier.

Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail or over the Internet unless you know who you are dealing with.

Never click on links sent in unsolicited emails; instead type in a web address you know. Use firewalls, antispyware and antivirus soft-wear to protect your home computer.

Don't use an obvious password like your birth date, mother's maiden name or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

Keep your personal information in a secure place at home.

Recycling: Good for You — Good for the Earth!



You know that recycling is good for the environment, but did you know that it can save you money? Currently, there is NO COST to recycle! Recycling also helps extend the life of our landfill. The recycled materials are used as raw materials for new products.

Winneshiek County Recycling states that the people of Calmar should be commended for their recycling efforts. Calmar is the second largest recycling growth area of Winneshiek County. Terry Buenzow said that the main thing that people can do to make recycling better is to make sure they put everything loose in the collection bins. Plastic bags really slow down the processing. The other thing is to not put Styrofoam in the collection bins.

A good thing to always remember is that recycling is all market driven. With no markets, recycling can not happen.

Winneshiek County Recycling is a publicly owned recycling program. Everyone is welcome to come for a tour and see how their recycling center works. It is the largest recycling center in the area and has the fewest number of employees.

Winneshiek County Recycling is also on Facebook.

Items Winneshiek County Recycling **WILL** take: Basic brown or white corrugated boxes or sheets, cereal boxes, shoe boxes, or similar containers. (remove all Styrofoam, plastic bags and other packaging. Staples are OK to leave in). Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, office paper, phone books, junk mail, brown paper bags and shredded paper. Also feed sacks if the plastic liner is taken out. Plastic food containers stamped with a #1, #2 or # 4 such as milk jugs, soap bottles, butter rubs, juice, pop and water bottles. Herbicide containers are OK if triple rinsed. Dairy supply barrels are OK too. Tin cans, pop cans, aluminum foil, frying pans, cookie sheets and electrical cords. Glass is accepted only directly at the recycling center and is restricted to clear, non-redeemable food container glass only. Glass with a deposit on it should go to a redemption center.

Items Winneshiek County Recycling **WILL NOT** take: Milk or juice cartons and wax coated produce boxes, paper towels, stickers, toilet paper, waxed paper, wall paper and paper plates and cups, Styrofoam, plastic bags, vinyl siding, PVC pipe, rubber, silage bags, Tyvek, motor oil bottles, nails, screws, scrap iron or major appliances.

Recognizing City Employees



Bob Penrod

There are times when a City employee needs to gain access to your home to check for problems or replace parts.

Also, every month, the water meter reader is on your property to get your monthly meter reading.

For security reasons, it is good to know who these people are. The City of Calmar maintenance workers are now wearing the bright yellow-green fluorescent shirts with the City of Calmar and a name patch.

The City's water/wastewater superintendent is Bob Penrod and the public works superintendent is Junior Boyer.

If you ever have a question about someone who says they are with the City, please call the clerk's office at 562-3154 or cell 319-361-2507.



Junior Boyer

A C h a l l e n g e d S e n i o r :

At a certain age, everyone will understand this poor guy... I thought about the 30 year business I ran with 1800 employees, all without a Blackberry that played music, took videos, pictures and communicated with Facebook and Twitter. I signed up under duress for Twitter and Facebook, so my seven kids, their spouses, 13 grandkids and 2 great grand kids could communicate with me in the modern way. I figured I could handle something as simple as Twitter with only 140 characters of space. That was before one of my grandkids hooked me up for Tweetree, Twhirl, Twitterfon, Tweetie, Twittererific Tweetdeck, Twitpix and something that sends every message to my cell phone and every other program within the texting world. My phone was beeping every three minutes with the details of everything except the bowel movements of the entire next generation. I am not ready to live like this. I keep my cell phone in the garage in my golf bag. The kids bought me a GPS for my last birthday because they say I get lost every now and then going over to the grocery store or library. I keep that in a box under my tool bench with the Blue tooth [it's red] phone I am supposed to use when I drive. I wore it once and was standing in line at Barnes and Noble talking to my wife as everyone within 50 yards was glaring at me. Seems I have to take my hearing aid out to use it and I got a little loud. I mean the GPS looked pretty smart on my dash board, but the lady inside was the most annoying, rudest person I had run into in a long time. Every 10 minutes, she would sarcastically say, "Re-calc-ul-ating" You would think that she could be nicer. It was like she could barely tolerate me. She would let go with a deep sigh and then tell me to make a U-turn at the next light. Then when I would make a right turn instead, it was not good. When I get really lost now, I call my wife and tell her the name of the cross streets and while she is starting to develop the same tone as Gypsy, the GPS lady, at least she loves me. To be perfectly frank, I am still trying to learn how to use the cordless phones in our house. We have had them for 4 years, but I still haven't figured out how I can lose three phones all at once and have run around digging under chair cushions and checking bathrooms and the dirty laundry baskets when the phone rings. The world is just getting too complex for me. They even mess me up every time I go to the grocery store. You would think they could settle on something themselves but this sudden "Paper or Plastic?" every time I check out just knocks me for a loop. I bought some of those cloth reusable bags to avoid looking confused but I never remember to take them in with me. Now I toss it back to them. When they ask me, "Paper or Plastic?" I just say, "Doesn't matter to me. I am bi-sacksual.." Then it's their turn to stare at me with a blank look.

SPRING REMINDER

On Sunday, March 14, 2010 a 2 a.m., Daylight Saving Time begins in the United States...



CALMAR

FIREMANS DANCE

INWOOD BALLROOM - SPILLVILLE

Saturday, May 1, 2010

8:00 - 12:00

Featuring the "DEEP RIVER BAND"

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

Recipe Corner

Flower Power Cupcake

- 1 pkg. (2-layer size) white cake mix
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 pkg. (3 oz.) Jello Strawberry Flavor Gelatin
- 1 tub (8 oz.) Cool Whip Topping (thawed)
- Few drops food coloring, any color
- 24 Miniature Marshmallows
- 24 Regular Marshmallows
- 1/4 cup colored sugar or colored sprinkles



Prepare and bake cake as directed on package for 24 cupcakes; cool completely. Pierce cupcakes with wooden skewer or large fork at 1/4 inch intervals. Add boiling water to gelatin mix; stir 2 minutes until completely dissolved. Spoon over cupcakes, adding about 2 tsp. to each. Refrigerate 3 hours. Tint cool whip with food coloring and spread onto cupcakes. Cut large marshmallows crosswise into 5 pieces with clean kitchen shears. Arrange 5 on top of each cupcake to resemble a flower. Place 1 miniature marshmallow in center of each, sprinkle with colored sugar.

Blood Donors: Giving the Gift of Life



April is volunteer month!

This reminds all of us of the importance of fitting consistent volunteer blood donations into our busy schedules.

Blood Drives are held regularly in the area by the Blood Center of Iowa and the American Red Cross.

Listen to the radio, watch the paper, local access television stations and your church bulletins for future blood drives in the area.

To be eligible to donate individuals must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parent consent) however there is no upper age limit as long as the donor is in good health.

In addition donors need to weigh over 110 pounds and not donated whole blood in the past 56 days.

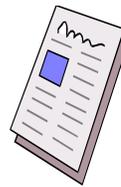
A photo I.D. is required at the time of registration.

Newsletter via Email

Would you like to receive the quarterly City newsletter on email? We are able to send the complete newsletter in a .pdf file. A .pdf extension on a document indicates that it is in a Portable Document Format which is an electronic document that must be read with the Adobe Acrobat computer program. If you are not currently able to view a .pdf file, the Adobe Acrobat reader is available to be downloaded for free at <http://www.download.com>. To sign up to receive the newsletter in an email please send an email to calmarcc@mchsi.com and enter SUBSCRIBE NEWSLETTER in the subject field.



“NAME THE NEWSLETTER”



We are looking for suggestions! What should we call this Newsletter? We are looking for something “catchy” and appropriate for the City of Calmar. Call or email the clerk’s office with your ideas.

Celebrate EMS Week 2010 (May 16 thru May 22)

EMS Week is the perfect time to recognize and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine’s “front line.”

Our area “first responders” spend many hours training each year in addition to taking the time out of their daily, personal schedules to answer calls. Our “South Winn First Responders” are funded solely by grants and donations. Some of the responders are EMT’s, some are Paramedics, all are volunteers. All are CPR Certified and meet once a month in addition to attending county meetings once a month. Responder equipment is based at the Calmar and Fort Atkinson Fire Stations and at the Spillville Public Library. Our South Winn First Responders cover Fort Atkinson, Festina, Spillville, Calmar and the surrounding area.

This is a great time to thank them individually for their ongoing efforts and the service that they provide!

Our dedicated SouthWinn 1st. Responders are: Cheryl Hotvedt (Pres/Sec), Sam Boland, Don Boyer, Dan Dietzenbach, Troy Hageman, Laure Ludeking Sarah Halverson, Alvin Herold (Treas), Keith Herold (Vice-pres), Tammie Luzum, Mike Wilder, Tom Ward, Lana Schmitt, Chad Schissel, Lea Riehle, Laure Rausch, Carrie Quandahl, Judy Ott, Dave Nienhaus, Dalton Smith, and Merrill Guarneri.

Amount of water used for everyday activities:



- Laundry:** 20-45 gallons per load
- Shower:** 20-30 gallons per shower
- Bath:** 30-40 gallons per bath
- Dishwasher:** 15-30 gallons per load
- Toilet:** 3.5-7 gallons per flush
- Garbage Disposal:** 5 gallons per minute of use
- Car Washing:** 5 gallons per minute of use
- Drinking Water:** 1-2 qts. Per day per person



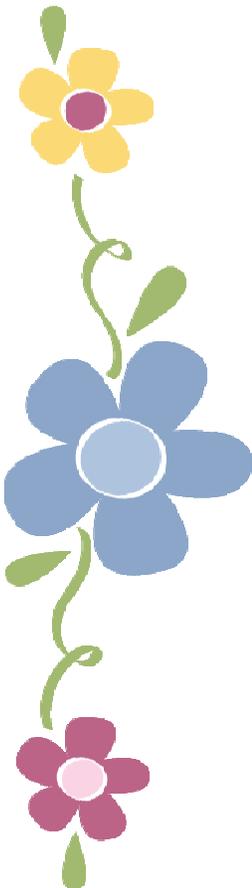
CALMAR FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER

The Calmar Fire Department plans to hold a
TEXAS HOLD-EM TOURNAMENT
MARCH 27, 2010 @ 1:00 P.M.
CALMAR FIRE STATION

Preventing Water Pollution

Did you know that dumping one quart of motor oil down a storm drain contaminates 250,000 gallons of water?

Information from the
ISWEP
Website
More information at
www.iowastormwater.org



It boils down to uncontrolled urban runoff causing havoc in our natural environment and polluting our drinking water sources. This, in turn, affects our health, the environment and the state.

It can also increase the amount of money we pay to mitigate uncontrolled urban runoff damage and ensure a safe drinking water supply.

Following is a list of practices you can begin today to help become part of the solution to preventing water pollution:

Home Maintenance

- Buy household products such as cleaners and furniture polish labeled "non toxic." Use small quantities and purchase only the amount you need.
- Properly use and store all toxic products, including cleaners, solvents and paints. Use up paint cleaners and other products or share leftovers with a neighbor.
- Take household hazardous materials and containers to a hazardous material collection center.
- Use kitty litter or other absorbent materials to clean spills. Depending on the substance, dispose absorbents in the trash can or at a hazardous materials collection center.
- Rinse water based paint brushes in the sink. Filter and reuse paint thinner or brush cleaners. Dispose of used thinner, oil and latex paint at a hazardous materials collection center.
- Recycle reusable materials. Throw litter into trash cans and keep cans tightly covered to prevent foraging by animals.
- Control erosion during construction to prevent dirt and debris from entering storm drains.

Lawn and Garden

- Use pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers in accordance with label instructions. Do not apply before rain, or during strong winds, and dispose leftovers at a hazardous materials collection center.
- Use a broom rather than a hose to clean up garden clippings. Put leaves and clippings in a trash can or a compost pile.
- Divert rain spouts and garden hoses from paved surfaces onto grass to allow water to filter through the soil. Water only your lawn and garden. Caution! Do not use this suggested action in areas with steep slopes or landslide potential. Build a Rain Garden
- Pick up animal waste and dispose in the trash can.

Automotive

- Take used motor oil and antifreeze to gas stations that accept recyclable automotive fluids, or to a hazardous materials collection center.
- Have your car maintained regularly to prevent oil, antifreeze and other fluid leaks.

City of Calmar

P.O. Box 268

Calmar, IA 52132

SPRING CLEAN UP 2010

Saturday, May 8, 2010 from 8:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

Let us help you cleanup your property! The City of Calmar will sponsor a City-Wide Spring-Clean Up Day. This year we will have a large roll off dumpster at the City Shop site. The site will be monitored by city personnel. Only items from residential homes in Calmar will be accepted.

During Spring Cleanup the following items can be brought to the dumpster with no cost to the homeowner:

- 1) Furniture and household items without limit. **(Excludes, TV's, computer equipment, and major appliances)**
- 2) Minor home remodeling debris, provided it is bagged, boxed or bundled, is no longer than 4 feet in length and that each bag, box or bundle does not weigh more than 50 pounds
- 3) Paint cans containing **diy paint** with the lid removed.

The following items can be brought to the city shop site for disposal for a fee of \$ 20.00. Washing machines, clothes dryers, water heaters, furnaces, refrigerators, trash compactors, stoves, microwave ovens, freezers, humidifiers, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, televisions, computer monitors, computers, printers (questions about other items call)

The city will also pick up items for people unable to haul these items to the city shop site, we will pick them up at the curb of your residence. To have these items picked up call the city clerk at 562-3154 to make arrangements. **The following items will not be accepted:** vehicle tires, hazardous waste materials such as liquid paint, solvents, pesticides or herbicides. The City of Calmar reserves the right to reject any items brought to the site for disposal.

To make "SPRING CLEANUP 2010" a successful community-wide program, everyone must cooperate and follow the simple guidelines listed above. If you have any questions please feel free to contact City Hall at 562-3154.