



City of Calmar Newsletter

WINTER 2010

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

Public Library
Linda Crossland, Library Director
101 S. Washington St.
563-562-3010
Open 12-6 Mon.—Fri.
Saturday 10 A.M.—1 P.M.
Website: www.calmar.lib.ia.us

Police
Joe Ward, Police
Lance Peters, Patrol Officer
101 S. Washington St.
563-562-3224 (non-emergency)
911 (emergency)

Public Works
Junior Boyer, Superintendent
101 S. Washington St.
563-562-3349
319-361-2506 (cell)

City Clerk
Michele Elsbernd
101 S. Washington St.
P.O. Box 268
563-562-3154
563-562-3903 (fax)
319-361-2507 (cell)
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Calmaria.com (web site)

Special thanks to Linda Crossland for proofing this edition of the Newsletter



The Mayor, City Council and City Employees wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, a Healthy & Safe New Year.

WINTER SNOW REMINDERS

It's the time of the year for our winter reminders regarding snow and other winter related issues. Please note the items listed below. We publish these for your information and safety.

If you have a **SIDEWALK** in front or aside of your residence or business in the City limits of Calmar, **IT IS NECESSARY FOR YOU TO KEEP IT FREE OF SNOW AND ICE ACCUMULATIONS!** You have 24



hours from cessation of snow fall or forming of ice to remove the accumulations. If not done, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner. You will be notified and given one warning, either a door posting or a visit or call from the police department. If the accumulation or snow or ice isn't removed after this notification the City will take action to correct the problem at your expense.

A SNOW EMERGENCY

is when snow fall accumulates to 3" or more. At this

time vehicles shall park on the even side of the street until snow is removed then move vehicles to the odd side of the street. Vehicles are to park in the North lot uptown until the south lot is cleared then move the vehicles to the south lot. The fine for violations is \$ 25.00. **SNOW REMOVAL** is always a challenge. We strive to remove snow and ice safely and as quickly as possible. PLEASE HELP BY FOLLOWING THE RULES.

Remember when you move snow, blow snow or shovel. It is unlawful for any person to throw or push snow or ice from private property onto any street or alley OR the property of your neighbor.

REMEMBER YOUR METER READER AND TRY TO KEEP A CLEAR PATH FOR THEM TO THE RESPECTIVE (WATER, ELECTRIC, GAS) METER.

Please shovel out the fire hydrant near your home for everyone's protection.

Check your chimney for possible blockages, replace your furnace filters and be sure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors work.

Snowmobiles are only to be operated on streets that have NOT been plowed OR on such streets designated as the SNOWMOBILE route OR during an emergency when snow upon the roadway renders travel by conventional motor vehicles impractical.



Your Refrigerator — tips to save energy

Now when the cost of electricity has increased drastically, upgrading your old refrigerator is one of the best energy-saving moves you can make. According to the American Council for Energy-Efficient Economy, a typical new refrigerator with a top-mount freezer and automatic defrost uses about half the energy of a comparable 1990 model. Considering refrigerators account for a big share of your home's energy consumption— about 14 percent for most models—a new fridge will save you money. Before you go shopping consider these buying tips:

- Look for the label. Refrigerators that carry the ENERGY STAR logo use 20% less energy than those without the label.
- Be Size wise. Buy only as much cold-storage capacity as your household needs. The most energy-efficient models are 16 to 20 cubic feet
- Consider the freezer location. Refrigerators with top-mount freezers use 10 to 25 percent less energy than those with the freezer on the bottom or side
- Weigh the cost of convenience. Unless you can't live without through-the-door ice and water dispensing, you'll save energy and money by skipping these features— they increase energy use by 14 to 20 percent and raise the purchase price by up to \$ 250.
- Buy a unit with automatic moisture control. They're designed to prevent moisture accumulation on the exterior without using a heater. Models with an anti-sweat heater consume 5 to 10 percent more energy than those without.
- Get rid of the old unit. Don't put your old refrigerator in the basement or garage. Purchase a new unit that accommodates all of your needs. There is a rebate program through your electric company that pays you money to upgrade to an energy efficient model and takes your old unit away to be recycled.
- Rather than sticking hot foods into the fridge, let them cool first so your fridge won't have to work as hard
- Defrost it. Frost build up decreases the efficiency of your unit.
- Position the fridge away from heat producing appliances and away from the wall so air can circulate behind it.
- Inspect it to be sure the doors seal tightly by closing the door over a piece of paper. If you can easily remove the paper it is time to replace the door gasket.
- Clean it at least once a year. Vacuum your refrigerator's condenser coils to help it cool faster and run less frequently
- Adjust it. Keep your refrigerator compartment between 37 and 40 degrees and your freezer between 0 to 5 degrees for optimal food storage temps and efficiency.



Recipe Corner

Sausage Casserole — Great for Christmas Morning, great for dinner too!

Ingredients

- 1 pound sage flavored breakfast sausage
- 3 cups shredded potatoes, drained & pressed
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 12 ounces mild Cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1/2 cup onion, shredded
- 1 16 ounce container small curd cottage cheese
- 6 jumbo eggs



Directions

Preheat oven to 375 degrees, lightly grease 9X13 baking dish, brown sausage, drain, crumble and set aside. In baking dish stir together the shredded potatoes and butter. Line the bottom and sides of the baking dish with the mixture. In a bowl, mix the sausage, cheddar cheese, onion, cottage cheese and eggs. Pour over the potato mixture. Bake for 1 hour or until toothpick comes out clean, cool 5 minutes before serving. Serves 12.

Flower Baskets



We are still seeking donations toward our flower baskets for 2011. You can leave your donation at the Clerk's office or drop off with your water bill. To date we have approximately 1/3 of the amount needed to fund the proposed 80 baskets. We sincerely appreciate your support!

FIVE STRESS RELIEVERS!

An Attitude of Gratitude!

Laugh!

Do a Good Deed!

Be Active!

Relax!



Stay Warm this Winter & Save Money!

You've insulated and sealed up your house for winter. There are still a few easy steps you can take to save your hard earned \$\$.

Close the air registers to rooms not in use to usher more heat to the occupied spaces.

Space heaters do gobble energy but could still use less than your furnace, especially at night. Plug in an electronically controlled heater at night to keep your bedroom at the ideal temperature (be sure to purchase an approved heater, put on a level surface away

from traffic.)

Reverse your ceiling fan to turn clockwise on the lowest speed. You'll send air upward and circulate the hot air that naturally gathers at the ceiling.

Invest in a programmable thermostat. You can save money by setting it to 70 degrees or lower when you are home and 62 or lower at night or when you are away from home

You can also save money by wrapping your water heater with an insulation blanket

(fiberglass batting attached to a heavy plastic sheet). Check your manufacturer's instructions as some of the newer energy efficient water heaters are so well insulated that extra insulation is not recommended.

Know when to open and close the curtains. During heating season, keep draperies and shades on south-facing windows open during the day to allow in sunlight and warmth. Close them at night to reduce the chill from cold windows.

Every time you open the oven door to check on those cookies, the oven temperature drops by 25-50 degrees. Save energy by using the oven light to keep an eye on those tasty treats instead.

REMINDER FROM THE CALMAR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Joe Ward says now is the time to get your vehicle ready for winter. Check your anti-freeze and tire tread.

Also change to Winter-Driving Habits, slow down, drive according to the road conditions!



When the Christmas lights go up you will notice that the City has purchased several NEW decorations. We are in the process of updating our old obsolete decorations and plan to replace them with the new LED energy efficient lights. We will be replacing several each year for the next 2 or 3 years until they are all updated.



The Snowmobile Route within the City

limits has been revised. The ONLY changes are coming in from the West, snowmobiles are to travel on West Street to West Main Street to Charles Street. New revised maps are available at the Clerk's Office/ Calmar Police Department or Drilling All Season Sports.



CITY OF CALMAR
P.O. BOX 268
CALMAR, IA 52132



SANTA
IS COMING TO CALMAR

December 11, 2010

11:00– 1:00 P.M.

Calmar Public Library

Cookie Decorating

Bring Your Camera

**Sponsored by Calmar Commercial Club
& the Calmar Public Library**