

# City of Lawton

May 2011

712-944-5960

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

Water meter readings are generally taken around the 20th day of each month.  
Invoices for water, sewer, garbage and landfill are sent on the 1st of each month.  
These invoices are delinquent if not paid by the 20th of that same month.  
A 10% Late Fee will be assessed on all delinquent accounts.

## New Water Meter Readings

For the past five years, water bills have been sent monthly rather than quarterly, and water meter readings have been estimated for two months with an "actual" reading on the third month.

That has changed with this water billing cycle.

As you are aware, we are currently installing new "radio read" water meters. Because of the new technology, we are able to more quickly read the numerous water meters in the city. Since several have now been converted to the new system, it allows time to go to the old-style meters and enter those numbers into the new hand-held device in a matter of a few hours rather than two or three days.

Water billing will still be done on a monthly basis, but your meter will be accurate by billing for your actual usage each month rather than by an estimate.

Once a new meter is installed in your home, we will be able to help you find a potential leak. For instance, this past month one of the new meters showed a high volume of water being used over a two day period. Approximately 300 gallons of water were passing through the meter every hour. It turned out a "toilet" had not shut off. Once the water goes through your meter, it is your responsibility to pay for it, even if it goes directly into the drain or out onto the ground. Not only is that expensive for you, but it also is a waste of treated water for the city. Nobody wins in that situation.



When updating your meter, the guys will need to get into your basement to your existing water meter. If the entire meter needs to be replaced, it will take the guys about an hour. If only the top needs to be replaced, it will take them less than 10 minutes. When deciding if the entire meter needs to be replaced, Mark and Jodi will be looking at the number of gallons that have run through the meter as well as the age of the meter itself.

Mark Vaul, left, and Jodi Stender, right, are the two men working in the Public Works Department for the City of Lawton. It will be one, or both, of these men that comes to your house to install the new water meters.

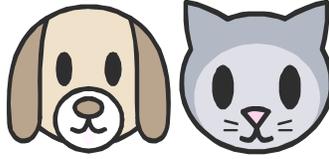


**It's scary when you start making the same noises as your coffeemaker**

~~Maxine

## Pet Tags are in

All dogs and cats must be licensed if they are at least 3 months of age.



Rabies certificates for your pets must be current before a new license will be issued by the City. Contact City Hall to see if your pet record is up-to-date.

The tags for 2010 are a red clover and will expire June 30, 2011. New tags for 2011 are a blue daisy and will take you through June 30, 2012.

Cost to license dogs and cats is \$5 annually if they are spayed or neutered. If they are not spayed or neutered, the cost is \$10 annually.

## City Wide Rummage June 11

Renee Eyres has contacted City Hall with the dates of the 2011 City-Wide Rummage Sale. This year, again, it will be held the weekend prior to Father's Day. It will be held Saturday, June 11. Please contact Renee for further information at 712-251-4190 or by email at [kreyres@yahoo.com](mailto:kreyres@yahoo.com).

Please give Renee your full support if you plan to participate. If you don't plan to pay the fee, please don't try to reap the benefits.

The City-wide rummage sale is run entirely by volunteers. A big THANK YOU to Renee for coordinating it again this year!!

**Registration forms are included with this water bill.**

**The 2011 Water Quality Report for the City of Lawton has been included with this water bill. It will also be posted at the Lawton Post Office, and on the City website prior to the end of May.**

***Remember to call 811 before doing any digging.  
It's the law!***

### LAWN WASTE CANS



CHN Garbage is the local garbage hauler for Lawton. They have contracted with the city to provide specially marked cans for residents to use for lawn waste. Cost of these cans is \$150 for the summer and they must be pre-paid before a can is delivered. Cans are picked up and dumped every week. They

will be picked up on Mondays by the regular driver. The higher-than-normal cost of these special lawn waste cans is due to the excessive tonnage that is incurred from grass clippings.

If you would like to get a can for your lawn waste, please contact City Hall. With the tornado in Mapleton, CHN lost their building and much of their inventory. Bear with us as we try to help CHN "make do" with the lawn waste cans.

### Additional Pet Reminders

Recently a resident was in my office complaining about the neighborhood dogs barking and running at-large. He was particularly concerned about those owners that allow their dogs to bark endlessly, and those that stand by while their dog/cat defecates on someone else's property without bothering to clean it up.

If you have a concern with a pet owner, talk to him/her. Yes, we have ordinances against such behaviors, but unless you are willing to sign a Citizen Complaint Form and go to court over the issue, our hands are tied. We will go to court if need be, but we need to have documentation and proof of an ongoing problem.

As a pet owner, PLEASE keep your dogs and cats at home...and PLEASE don't let them "do their thing" on someone's property unless you clean it up! If you have children walking the dog, send a bag with them, too.

### City Wide Clean-Up Wednesday, June 15

**Appliance tags will cost \$10 each and must be affixed to most appliances set out for pick up. Complete details will be in the June newsletter.**