



# City of Lawton



March 2014

712-944-5960

www.lawtoniowa.com

Water meter readings are 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.

## March 2014

This star indicates "Recycle Day"  
(Use Gray/Pink carts  
or small green tubs only)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 ★ City Council meet 5:00 pm	5	6 Garbage	7	8
9 Daylight Savings Begins	10	11	12	13 Garbage	14	15
16	17	18 ★	19	20 SPRING Garbage	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Garbage	28	29
30	31					

### Snow Emergency Ordinance

Our current snow emergency ordinance in Lawton states that a snow emergency "shall be conclusively presumed" if we have had 6" of snow or more by direct accumulation or by drifting.

To be more consistent with neighboring communities, and to assist the city snow removal crew, council is considering modifying that section of the ordinance to read "two inches" rather than the current six inches. They have approved the change with the first reading in February, and will hear a second reading in March. At that time, they will have the option to waive the third reading and give final approval of the amended ordinance.

Vehicles left on un-cleared portions of the street may be tagged with a notice to move such vehicles within 12 hours. Failure to do so could result in the city having the vehicle moved or towed.

**DAYLIGHT  
SAVINGS TIME  
BEGINS**

**MARCH 9, 2014**



### Yard Waste Carts

Although it seems early to start thinking about yard waste, April is only a month away. Yard waste carts will be picked up beginning April 3rd.

If you had a cart last year and did not request it be picked up, I will begin billing you on your May 1st invoice. Please notify City Hall if you want to change your service. Cost is \$10/month for the GREEN cart.

**"If we had no Winter, the Spring would not be so pleasant"**

-Anne Broadstreet

**2014 Area  
Sewer Rates**

City	Based on water use?	User Fee	Flat Rate	Basic Charge	Thence	Cost of 5,000 gals. usage	Cost of 10,000 gals. usage
Anthon	65%			\$ 7.80/1,000 gallons	\$ 3.12/1,000	\$ 20.28	\$ 35.88
Bronson	NO		\$ 13.00	-		\$ 13.00	\$ 13.00
Correctionville	yes	\$ 17.00		\$ 3.75/1,000 gallons	-	\$ 35.75	\$ 54.50
Cushing	NO		\$ 15.00	-	-	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
Danbury	yes			\$ 3.50/1,000 gallons	-	\$ 17.50	\$ 35.00
Lawton	NO		\$ 8.00	-	-	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00
Moville	yes			\$ 16.00/1,000 gallons	\$ 1.60/1,000	\$ 22.40	\$ 30.40
Pierson	100%			\$ 13.00/5,000 gallons	-	\$ 13.00	\$ 25.50
Salix	yes			\$5.00	\$2.85/1,000	\$ 19.25	\$ 33.50
Sloan	yes			\$ 23.00/1,000 gallons	\$3.00/1,000	\$ 35.00	\$ 50.00
Smithland	NO		\$ 16.50			\$ 16.50	\$ 16.50
Whiting	100%			\$16.65/3,000 gallons	\$ 4.20/1,000	\$ 25.05	\$ 46.05

Average for 5,000 gallons \$ 20.06

Average for 10,000 gallons \$ 30.28

*As you can see by the table above, Lawton's sewer rate is considerably lower than that of neighboring communities. Council is proposing to raise sewer rates to \$12.00/month flat rate. Although this is a 50% increase, we will still have the lowest sewer rate of the twelve communities listed above.*

*As you look at the table, you will see the majority of our neighbors bill according to water usage. In fact, most of Iowa bills sewer in that manner. That may be in our future, but as of right now, Council has decided to keep our rate a "flat rate".*

*Council approved first reading of the ordinance to modify our sewer rates at the February meeting. A second reading will take place at the March meeting. Council will then have the right to waive the third reading and give final approval at the March meeting. If they choose to do this, the rate increase would go into effect April 1, and would show up on the May 1 invoices.*

## Time for your 6-month reminders...

### SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES



It is recommended that we change our smoke alarm batteries every six months. The first day of Spring and the first day of Fall are two easy days to associate with changing smoke alarm batteries. Protect your family. Change your batteries now.

Recently a news item on TV spoke about the fire dangers of inappropriately stored 9-volt batteries. I called Mary Miller with the Iowa State Fire Marshall's Office to see if there was any merit to the concern. She said she had not yet been notified of this. She has promised to contact me if she hears anything differently. I will, in turn, notify you.

To be on the safe side, store your 9-volt batteries in their original containers instead of loose in a drawer. If this is not possible, cover the negative and positive posts with electrical tape to keep them from touching anything metal.

### Please Help Your Emergency Responders!!



Please be sure your house numbers are visible and easy to read from the street. It is recommended that you use numbers at least 4" to 6" in height. It is not necessary that they are reflective in nature, however they should be a contrasting color from the background to aid emergency responders.

Also, if possible, PLEASE turn on a porch light or other outdoor light to bring attention to your home in an emergency situation.