



# CITIZENS' NEWSLETTER

Keeping Our Citizens Better Informed.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS



City offices will be closed on Friday, December 23rd & Monday 26th, 2016, and Monday, January 2, 2017 for the Christmas and New Year Holidays.



### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS DAY TRASH SERVICE



There will not be trash service on Friday, December 23, Monday, December 26, and Monday, January 2, 2017. Trash service and recycling pickup will run one day later for these three weeks.

### 2016 TAXES....JUST A REMINDER

Your 2016 City taxes will be on your tax bill from Lafayette County. You will get ONE Personal Property tax bill and ONE Real Estate bill from the County. Your City portion will be on that County bill. **DELINQUENT TAXES ~ If you owe 2014 or prior years taxes, you still owe the City for those taxes and you will be turned over to Collections at the end of the year if not paid.**

### APRIL 2017 ELECTION FILING INFORMATION

The filing dates for candidates for the April 4, 2017, General Municipal Election, are from 8:00 am. Tuesday, December 13, 2016, through 5:00 pm. Tuesday, January 17, 2017, during regular office hours. Positions up for election are: Alderman in Ward 1, Alderman in Ward 2, and Alderman in Ward 3. If you have any questions about filing for office, please contact the City Clerk at (816) 230-5577.



### UTILITY BILLING

Utility bills are mailed on the last day of each month. You are able to call City Hall anytime after that to check on the amount/payment status of your bill. A 5% penalty is added the morning of the 16th of the month. Anytime between the 1st and 15th of the month, we are able to take payments until the full amount is paid without a penalty. If the bill is not paid on or before the 20th of the month, the utilities will be disconnected without notice on the 21st, and a reconnect fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) will be added to the total. If you have any questions about your bill, or you have not received a bill, please call within the first week of the month.

### DISPOSAL OF BRUSH, TREE LIMBS, YARD WASTE



The City of Odessa is contracting with Heartland Waster to provide a dumpster for yard waste disposal. The location is 400 N. 1st Street. (Street Department lot). This service is for Odessa residents only. Items accepted are grass clippings, limbs and branches, NO TRASH. Commercial disposals are **not** allowed. If using bags, they must be biodegradable only. Please place the debris inside the dumpster, not beside it. Violators will be fined. Please report violations to City Hall, 230-5577. NO DUMPING! This area will be patrolled by the County Sheriff's Office.



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### WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON

### ODESSA OUTREACH CHRISTMAS TREE



Let's decorate the Community Christmas Tree. Odessa Outreach is raising funds by taking donations to decorate the community Christmas Tree located at 101 N. 2nd St. For each \$20 donation, an ornament will be hung on the tree. Those who wish may reserve an angel or a star ornament in memory or tribute to a loved one. A \$100 donation will allow a string of lights to be lit. Treetop ornament is \$250. Ornaments may be reserved at the Odessan, Don's Appliance, and Odessa Diesel Repair. Odessa Outreach is a 501c3 public charity and all donations are tax deductible. Donations are distributed to non-profit organizations serving our community. If you would like to make a separate donation to Odessa Outreach, you can drop it off at the Odessan.

### ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS

Set your thermostat comfortably low in the winter. Then lower the thermostat on your hot water heater to 115 degrees. Take short showers instead of baths. Wash only full loads of clothes and dishes. Use compact fluorescent light bulbs. Turn off any lights in rooms that are not being used. Air dry dishes instead of using the drying cycle on your dishwasher. Clean and/or replace furnace filters once a month. If you do not use the fireplace, plug and seal the chimney flue. Keep windows on the south side of your home clean, and open these curtains during the day to absorb the sun's warmth. These are just a few low cost or no cost, ways to save energy.



### STREET SNOW PLOWING NOTICE



During a snow storm, City Crews will treat the streets with sand and salt. They will normally start around 6:00 a.m. on the morning of or the morning after the storm. The major streets of Main, Mason, Dryden, Johnson, Phillips, 1st, 3rd, North 4th, South 5th, and South 9th Street will be treated and plowed first. Other streets will be done as quickly as possible depending on the storm conditions. **Please avoid parking vehicles on streets when a snow storm is forecast.**

### ODESSA ANIMAL CONTROL

The mission of Odessa Animal Control is to help reunite stray pets with their owners, promote responsible pet ownership and enforce City ordinances regarding animal welfare. The Animal Control Officer, Jenny Norris, can be reached Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-5:00 pm, at 816-633-7575 at the Odessa Police Station located at 301 S 1st St. If you have an Animal Control Emergency after hours - an animal posing an immediate threat to public safety, a stray with a life threatening injury, or an animal has bitten someone - you should still call 816-633-7575 and dispatch will inform an Officer.

### Brrrrr... IT'S COLD OUTSIDE ~ KEEP PETS SAFE AND WARM



Please remember your pets this winter season. They depend on you for their safety, health, and comfort. Please make sure they have a warm, dry, draft free shelter if you do not let them in your home. Make sure they always have fresh unfrozen water. In severe inclement weather, **no pet should be left outdoors.**