



# CITIZENS' NEWSLETTER

Keeping Our Citizens Better Informed



## MERRY CHRISTMAS



City offices will be closed on Monday, December 25, and Tuesday 26, 2017, as well as Monday, January 1, 2018, for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.



### APRIL 2018 ELECTION FILING INFORMATION



The filing dates for candidates for the April 3, 2018, General Municipal Election are from 8:00 am Tuesday, December 12, 2017, through 5:00 pm Tuesday, January 16, 2018, during regular office hours. Positions up for election are: Mayor, City Collector, 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.

### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY TRASH SERVICE

There will not be trash service on Monday, December 25, 2017, or Monday, January 1, 2018. Trash service and recycling pickup will run one day later during these two weeks.



### YARD WASTE DROP-OFF SITE ~ 100 N FIRST STREET

The yard waste dumpster, located at 400 N First Street is provided as a service for the citizens of Odessa. Recently, some people have been using it as a regular dumpster for trash. It is meant for yard waste only. Yard waste is considered leaves, (in paper bags only, NOT PLASTIC bags), tree twigs, limbs, and branches all cut into manageable pieces. If the dumpster is full, please call City Hall and we will call and have it emptied or replaced. Please do not just dump the leaves, bags, etc. at the site outside of the dumpster.

### INCREASE IN TRASH SERVICE COST

PLEASE NOTE: There has been a \$2.00 increase in the City's trash charge. This change will reflect in a \$2.00 increase in your Level Billing amount.



### 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 am on the morning of or the morning after the storm. The major streets of Main, Mason, Dryden, Johnson, Phillips, First, Third, North Fourth, South Fifth, and South Ninth will be treated and plowed first. Other streets will be done as quickly as possible depending on the storm conditions. Please remove your vehicle from these streets before a snow storm. Thank you for your cooperation.





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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS



### SEVERE WEATHER SHELTER

The Community of Christ Church, located at 515 S First Street, is the City's Severe Weather Shelter.

### 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 Railroad Park on Second Street. 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. Those ornaments will bear the names of the individual being honored. A \$100 donation will allow a string of lights to be lit. Ornaments may be reserved at the Odessan, Don's Appliance, Tucker's, 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 the curtains during the day to absorb the sun's warmth. These are just a few low cost, or no cost, ways to save energy.

### TRAVELING DURING THE WINTER MONTHS

With Odessa being outside the metropolitan area, traveling between cities and services can mean long distances on the road. December is a good time to prepare an emergency roadside kit for your vehicle. Traveling in unpredictable weather can be dangerous due to unexpected snow storms that reduce visibility and ice that make roads slippery. It's important to be prepared in the event you are stranded in your vehicle due to inclement weather.



Here are a few things to consider including when preparing a kit - An athletic nylon bag, a first aid kit, tools (duct tape, hammer, pliers, jumper cables), extra clothing (gloves, caps and blankets), flashlights, flares and safety triangles, non-perishable food items, and an ice scraper and shovel. Better safe than sorry.

### Brrrrr... Its Cold Outside ~ Remember To Keep Pets Safe & Warm



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