

CITY OF MARKESAN FALL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 39

City Hall: 398-3031

OCTOBER 2015

Have Questions? **Get Answers!**

Contact the person or office listed to get the answers you need:

Assessment – Action
Appraisers, 888-796-0603

Building Inspections –
General Engineering,
608-745-4070

Community Center Rental –
City Hall, 920-398-3031

Dog Licensing – City Hall,
920-398-3031

Park Shelter Rentals – City
Hall, 920-398-3031

Parking Tickets & Citations –
Markesan Police Dept.,
920-398-2121

Tax Collection – City Hall,
920-398-3031

Trash & Recycling –
Waste Management,
888-960-0008

Water/Sewer Billing – City
Hall, 920-398-3031

Voter Registration – City Hall,
920-398-3031

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO HOLD YOUR NEXT PARTY?

Markesan has the City Hall Community Room and Park Shelters available to reserve for your next party or get-together. The City Council recently made several changes to the process of renting these facilities. Please note these changes:

There has been an increase in rental fees if you are not a resident of the City (fees listed below are for “residents/non-residents”)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| * Community Room (\$35/\$60) | * Comm Room w/Kitchen (\$50/\$75) |
| * Soldiers & Sailors (\$60/\$85) | * S&S Scout Cabin (\$60/\$85) |
| * Hein Park (No Charge/\$25) | * Kiwanis Park (No Charge/\$25) |

- A reservation form and payment of the appropriate rental fees are required to reserve facilities. “Phone holds” will not reserve the date.
- Cancellations more than 14 days prior to reservation date will receive a refund of fees, less a \$15 processing charge.
- Cancellations less than 14 days prior to reservation will not be refunded.
- A security deposit of \$100.00 (separate check) is required for all rentals and should be paid when you pick up the key.
- Reservations can be made up to one year in advance for any facilities.

Watch for Upcoming City Budget Hearing

In 2014, the City of Markesan’s portion of your tax bill was 35.2% of the total bill? That means for every \$1 you paid in taxes, only 35 cents was kept by the City. The remainder is sent to other taxing jurisdictions, including Green Lake County, State of Wisconsin, Markesan School District, and Moraine Park Technical College. That means last year on an average \$100,000 home, approximately \$879 stayed in the City, to pay for all the City’s services, including trash collection, road maintenance, police & fire protection, and various other services! The mill rate (tax rate per \$1000 in assessed value) for 2015 is not set, as the City and other jurisdictions are still working on budgets for next year. Watch for notice of the upcoming City Budget Hearing in early November.

2016 Dog Licenses

All dog licenses **expire Dec. 31, 2015**, regardless of when they were issued. New 2016 licenses will be available by early December. **Please note, the fees have changed. The new fees are \$5 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$10 for unspayed/neutered dogs.** A late fee of **\$15 per dog** is charged if dogs are not licensed by Mar. 31, 2016. A current rabies certificate is required to obtain a license. If you no longer have a dog that was previously licensed, please call the staff at City Hall (398-3031) so our records can be updated.

You may obtain a license by mail. Send (or drop in City Hall’s drop box) a copy of the rabies certificate, the appropriate fee, including late fee if applicable, **and a self-addressed, stamped envelope** and your dog license and tag will be mailed to you. Failure to obtain a required license is subject to a \$98.80 citation.



City Website

The City of Markesan is working on developing a new website. Although it is in the early stages, some basic information, and the complete City Code of Ordinances are available online right now. Go to www.markesanwi.gov and check it out!

Please note the following City Hall and Public Works & Water/Wastewater Department closures over the holidays:

- Nov. 26 & 27, 2015
- Dec. 24 & 25, 2015
- Dec. 31, 2015 & Jan. 1, 2016



Trash & recycling pickup will be on Sat., Nov. 28th, Sat., Dec. 26th, and Sat., Jan. 2nd, respectively.

Brush & Leaf Pick-Up

Curbside yard waste pick-up is for the disposal of residential leaves, garden waste, and brush generated from routine yard maintenance. This service is not intended for lot cleaning or tree removal. The City reserves the right to refuse to pick up items not in compliance with the following guidelines:

Separate leaf, brush and garden waste piles may be placed at the curb. Do NOT place on the street. Leaves can be placed in a loose pile. Bagged leaves will not be accepted. Brush and garden waste need to be bundled or placed in totes. Please note root systems will not be collected, and are not accepted at the Recycling Center.

Public Works has scheduled leaf pick-up for the following dates: Oct. 12, Oct. 19, Oct. 26, and Nov. 2. All leaves should be raked into the terrace area between the street & sidewalk by 7:00am. Additional dates may be scheduled if needed, subject to weather conditions.



Fall leaf pickup is designed to pick up the majority of leaves as weather allows. It is not designed to be a total leaf pick-up, but to assist residents in caring for their property. If you have additional leaves or other compostables, you may continue to take them to the Recycling Center, located on Hwy A east of the City, which is open from 8:00am to 2:00pm every Saturday. An attendant is present to supervise the site. Brush under 6" in diameter may be deposited on the brush pile at the Recycling Center. Leaves, grass clippings, and yard and garden waste may be placed on the compost pile. Check with the attendant if you have any questions.

Did You Know...?

As of July 3, 2015, a new State law requires that drivers treat any stop light suffering from a power outage as a stop sign.

Therefore all vehicles must stop, and take their turn, as if a stop sign were at the intersection.



Building Permits

Building Permits are required in the City of Markesan, so that inspections can be made to ensure safety and that the work meets all required codes. Permits are valid for 18 months and can be renewed for an additional six months at no additional cost. Contact the Building Inspector, James Lawton, at 608-697-7779, prior to beginning any project to verify whether a permit is needed.

Library Activities

- ❖ Lego Club – 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every Month at 4:00 pm
- ❖ Book Club – 3rd Tuesday of the Month (Oct 20) at 6:45. We will be reading The Signature of All Things, by Elizabeth Gilbert
- ❖ Story Hour – Every Thursday at 10:30 am until Oct. 22
- ❖ Spooktacular Party – Sat. Oct. 31 10 am – Games, Crafts & Cookie Decorating and 11 am – Movie Matinee

Coming Soon... Make and Take Crafts (Nov/Dec) with nominal cost for materials.

Cemetery Clean Up

Cemetery clean-up will be from Oct. 15-31. Please help clean-up efforts by removing any decorations you would like saved prior to Oct. 15th. Decorations left after Oct. 15th may be discarded by City crews during the clean-up. You may return your items to the cemetery after Oct. 31st.

Winter Is Coming!!!!

Despite the unusually warm fall, we are likely to get snow again this winter! Follow these guidelines to help prevent problems:

- Winter parking is in effect from Dec. 1st to Apr. 1st. No parking is allowed on City streets from 2:00-6:00am to allow for snow removal. Illegally parked vehicles may be subject to citations or towing, with towing costs paid by the owner.
- Per City Code Sec. 330-14, property owners are responsible to clear snow and/or ice from sidewalks within 24 hours from the time snow ceases to accumulate. It may not be deposited on City streets or rights-of-way.
- Check your mailbox post to ensure it can withstand the force of plowed snow. Damage to mailboxes from snow coming off a plow is the owner's responsibility.
- Much of the snow plowing takes place during early morning hours. Please keep this in mind when placing your trash and recycling out for morning pick-up.
- Snowplow operators are extremely safety-conscious, but they need your help. Stay back and let them safely do their job. Don't take a chance, don't "crowd the plow."

Trick or Treat

Trick-or-treating will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 5:30-7:00pm. Highly used streets may be closed during these hours, please plan accordingly. Also join the Kiwanis as they will again hold a Halloween party, with food & games, at 4:30pm at City Hall.

Turn on your porch or outside light to let trick-or-treaters' know that you have treats. If you do not wish to participate, leave outside lights off during trick-or-treat time.

Bulky Trash Day

Bulky Trash Day for Markesan residents will be **November 13, 2015**. Place items for disposal at the curb no later than 6:00am that day, however, items should not be curbside more than 24 hours prior to that day. Please be aware of the following to ensure that your items are picked up by Waste Management:

Furniture, mattresses, carpet, storm windows & doors, and lumber are accepted. Lumber cannot be more than four feet in length, and should be bundled together in bundles of less than 50 pounds. Latex paint cans are accepted if the contents have been dried to a solid and covers removed.

All items must be able to be handled easily by two people without risk of injury. All small items must be in containers – **no loose** items should be set at the curb. Please do not place items in cardboard boxes if they could get wet from dew or rain. Also, all items **MUST** be from Markesan residents.



Items that WILL NOT be accepted include:

- ❖ Tires
- ❖ Liquids
- ❖ Yard Waste
- ❖ Remodeling/Demolition Waste
- ❖ Roofing Materials
- ❖ All electronics (computers, TV's, monitors, etc.)
- ❖ White Goods (stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc.)