

## CIVIC CONNECTION

[www.cityofelkhorn.org](http://www.cityofelkhorn.org)

. . .A message from your City

### CITY OF ELKHORN

P.O. Box 920  
9 S. Broad Street  
Elkhorn, WI 53121

City Hall	723-2219
Public Works Dept.	723-2223
Parks & Rec. Dept.	741-5114
Utility Billing	723-2910
Electric Utility Dept.	723-3138
Building Inspection	741-5115
Zoning	741-5124
Assessor	1-800-770-3927
Police Department	723-2210
Municipal Court	723-2340
Library	723-2678
Water Utility Dept.	723-2223
<b>After Hours (Electric, Water, Sewer)</b>	
<b>Emergency No.</b>	<b>723-3229</b>

**Mayor:** John T. Giese  
**City Council Districts:**  
One: Howie Reynolds  
Two: Gary Payson  
Three: Ronald Dunwiddie  
Four: Scott McClory  
Five: Charles Van Dyke  
Six: Julie Taylor

**Staff:**  
**City Adm.:** Sam Tapson  
**City Clerk:** Nancy Jacobson  
**City Treasurer:** Mary Hinske  
**Public Works:** Terry Weter  
**Parks & Rec.:** Jeff Simons  
**Electric Utility:** Art Schmitz  
**Police Chief:** Joel Christensen  
**Fire Chief:** Rod Smith  
**Library Dir.:** Lynn Schofield-Dahl

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## City considers alternative site for Elkhorn Police Department

After careful consideration of the Elkhorn Police Department's long-term needs, the Common Council determined that the "West Wing" of the County Administration Building simply did not meet those needs.

Rather than spending upwards of \$1 million on remodeling the County offices, only to outgrow the space within 10 years, the City is now evaluating

alternative sites that will accommodate the construction of a facility to house the Police Department and Municipal Court for 20 plus years.

Police Chief Joel Christensen supports the Council's decision to seek another site. "New construction is a good idea," Christensen said. "Moving to the "West Wing" would have only been a short term remedy."

Chief Christensen is anxious to move out of the present facility, which lacks space and is inadequate for today's technology of law enforcement, but he wants to move into a long term facility.

Although the upfront cost of building a new facility is greater than that of remodeling, the long-term benefits of a new facility serve to off-set the higher initial cost.

## New look coming to the downtown

Residents will notice a new look to the downtown area as employees from the Public Works Department begin installing seating benches this spring.

The Downtown Elkhorn Partnership selected a Victorian style of bench to enhance the appearance of the area and to provide comfortable seating for residents and visitors.

The benches are made entirely out of recycled materials. The sides are black recycled iron and the slats recycled plastic mimicking the appearance of wood. The choice of materials provides a mini-



Members of Downtown Elkhorn Partnership (from left) Jim Schoberg, Alderman Julie Taylor, Sue Wallem, Len Badtischer check out Public Works Crewman Jamie Oppers work.

num of future maintenance by the Public Works Department. The Downtown Partnership Group is made up of downtown merchants, along with representatives from the Chamber of Commerce,

Fair Board, a service provider and city representative. Any downtown business owner interested in finding out more about the group or who has a desire to participate can contact Alderman Julie Taylor.

## Letter from the Mayor . . . .

Fellow Citizens

As spring approaches we see many changes about to take place in our community. The much anticipated Walgreen's Store will soon be breaking ground on the area north of Peoples Bank. Following that I'm confident we will see other commercial and retail developments coming to the community.

We have in place an excellent growth plan which does not prevent the City from growing but does give us a direction and allows us to regulate those wanting to grow with us. It is near impossible to stop all growth as we are one of the fastest growing areas in the state. We do have the capability to decide what is allowed to come here, how fast and where.

Our parks will be improving this year with several equipment additions and the new Market St Park scheduled. Working with the Chamber of Commerce, the Holton Band and many other groups we can look forward to an exciting 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in Sunset

Park. Last year's event showed what working together as a community can accomplish. As a resident here for the last 36 years I can't think of a better place to live or be Mayor. We will continue to work towards making Elkhorn a model community for all.

*Mayor John T. Giese*

### **SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT NEEDED FOR BLOCK PARTY**

If you are planning a block party or other special event, remember to come to City Hall for your Special Event Permit. You are required to apply for a permit. The permit allows City departments to work with event planners whether they are a group of neighbors holding a block party on a City street or an organization holding a fundraiser on public lands.

Events are reviewed by the Events Staff Review Team. Come to City Hall for a Special Events Permit. Call the City Clerk for more information at 723-2219.

## City schedules Open Book, Board of Review

The City's Assessor, Accurate Appraisal, completes its inspections for 2007. Notifications of changes in assessed value will be mailed in early May. The full value form of assessing property, which the City uses, keeps the assessed values of the City at 100% or close to it.

Assessors visited 850 properties - 92 commercial and 758 residential in January and February of 2007. In addition to the physical inspections, the Assessor evaluates all other properties through a market value analysis, and checks on all sales, major building permits and new construction that occurred in 2006.

All property owners can expect some changes in their assessments on an annual basis. However, the changes are not as great as they would be if the City waited four or more years to do a City re-evaluation.

Property owners will have an opportunity to meet the assessor one-on-one during the following dates and times of Open Book at City Hall in the Council Chambers:

- **Tuesday, May 15, 2007**  
**11 a.m. to 7 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, May 16, 2007**  
**9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

During Open Book you should bring any information, such as a recent appraisal, to support your argument of what you feel is the correct information for your property. Appointments may be made at City Hall, 723-2219, after the notices have been sent.

**If you received a certified letter asking that you schedule a physical inspection and did not respond, you will not be able to challenge the assessment at Board of Review.**

If you are not satisfied with the results of Open Book, Board of Review is the next step. **Board of Review is scheduled for Wednesday, June 6, 2007, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall.** Objection forms and a Board of Review Guide for Property Owners will be available in the Clerk's Office May 9, 2007. Objection forms must be completed and submitted to the City Clerk.

Board of Review members will be established after the April General Election. Board members consist of the Mayor, City Clerk, and three Aldermen. At least two members must be certified. Certification is obtained through a State Training Program.

For more information concerning assessments, call Accurate Appraisal at 1-800-770-3927 or visit [www accuratessessor.com](http://www accuratessessor.com).

**Business Owners: If you no longer have taxable personal property in Elkhorn, please notify the City Clerk.**

# Elkhorn Police

## CRIME PREVENTION TIP

### BICYCLE SAFETY

Riding a bicycle can be a fun and exciting means of transportation. When you ride, you are not alone. You share the road with cars, trucks, and other cyclists. For those using the sidewalks allowing bicycle travel, you share them with other pedestrians and bicyclists. Keep your summer safe by following some simple safety tips.

- 🚲 Protect your Head – Wear a helmet
- 🚲 Go with the flow of traffic – Obey the rules of the road
- 🚲 Be aware of traffic around you – know your surroundings
- 🚲 Stay Alert – Keep a look out for obstacles and hazards
- 🚲 Know your ABC's of bicycling
  - Air in you tires
  - Brakes that work properly
  - Cables and chains that function properly
- 🚲 Be aware of darkness – If you must ride at night you should have a front light, rear reflectors, reflective clothing including ankles, wrist, and back, and helmet. Ride in areas that are familiar to you.



#### Protecting your bike from theft:

A bicycle can be stolen from just about any place, but simple precautions can deter would-be bike thieves. Remember, most bikes that are stolen were not locked.

- 🚲 Always lock your bike
- 🚲 Secure it to a stationary objects such as a post, fence, tree, or a bike rack
- 🚲 Secure both wheels and the frame
- 🚲 Park your bike where it can be seen



## ANNUAL BIKE RIDE SET FOR JUNE 9

Mark your calendar! The annual Police Department Bike Ride is set for June 9 at 10:30 am. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. This year's ride and related activities will be held at the Walworth County Fairgrounds. Proceeds raised at the ride will go to the Ronald McDonald House. Participants are encouraged to bring a non-perishable item for the Lakeland Animal Shelter and/or Elkhorn Food Pantry. Check the newspaper and the City's website for registration details as the event grows closer.

## Recreation Dept. plans fun summer

Summer 2007 promises to be an exciting one at the Parks and Recreation Department. "New" is the key word this year for programming.

Many new family pool activities are scheduled, including Photo Safari, Bathtub Run, Garbage Golf and Friday Night Flick & Float. Adult programs new this year include H2O Walk & Stretch, Ceramics and more scrap booking classes.

Budding horsemen will get a chance to experience the real thing during one of the new youth programs—Horses!

Horses! Horses!. Summer Survivor . . . Leadership Island is also planned along with a variety of art classes. Deadline for baseball and softball sign-up is April 13.



## Spring Brush Collection

### April Schedule

(includes description of neighborhood boundaries)

**Week beginning Tuesday, April 3** Northeast neighborhood

North & East to the City boundaries—both sides of N. Wisconsin & E. Walworth St.

**Week beginning Tuesday, April 10:** Southeast neighborhood

South & East to the City boundaries—both sides of S. Wisconsin and South of E. Walworth St.

**Week beginning Tuesday, April 17:** Southwest neighborhood

South & West to the City boundaries—both sides of W. Walworth and West of Wisconsin St.

**Week beginning Tuesday, April 24:** Northwest neighborhood

North & West to the City boundaries—property within the boundary of W. Walworth and N. Wisconsin St

**May 1:** NE neighborhood    **May 8:** SE neighborhood    **May 15:** SW neighborhood    **May 22:** NW neighborhood

**June 5:** NE neighborhood    **June 12:** SE neighborhood    **June 19:** SW neighborhood    **June 26:** NW neighborhood

### Guidelines

- \* Bring brush to the curbside by 7 a.m. Tuesday but no earlier than the Saturday before the scheduled pickup.
- \* Cut ends facing the direction that traffic is traveling on the street.
- \* Diameter—minimum of 3/4 inches to maximum of 6 inches.
- \* Length—minimum of 4 feet to a maximum of 12 feet.
- \* No vines, rakings and roots. These will be handled through the yard waste program.
- \* Do not commingle leaves with brush .

For Special Collections or if the crew has to return and chip the brush because it was not out by the prescribed time or if it goes beyond the homeowner's normal pruning and trimming , a charge will be applied. Call the Public Works office at 723-2223 for the charges or to schedule an appointment for a special brush collection.

## Spring Leaf Collection/Seasonal Burning

**Spring Leaf Collection** takes place for two weeks in April. The City's garbage/recycler, Veolia, is contracted to conduct the leaf collection. The City will be divided into two sections with Leaf Collection occurring Tuesday through Friday as follows

**East of Wisconsin Street:** Tuesday, April 3 - Friday, April 6    **West of Wisconsin Street:** Tuesday, April 10—Friday, April 13

**Please rake leaves into the gutter no earlier than Saturday and no later than 7 a.m. on the scheduled day. Do not place them in bags or boxes. Do not commingle brush with leaves.** Veolia will pick up the leaves from the gutter. If you have any questions concerning Spring Leaf Collection call Veolia at (800) 248-2373.

**Seasonal leaf burning is allowed between April 1 and May 31 without a permit.** Requirements are as follows:

- \* Burning shall occur on the resident's property at a minimum distance of 15 feet from any occupied dwelling.
- \* **Do not** burn on streets, sidewalks, terraces, or any other location within the public right-of-way.
- \* No burning when wind is in excess of 18 miles per hour.
- \* Burning permitted between the hours 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.



### Yard Waste Drop Off Site At the City Garage

12 E. First Avenue (Fenced in area adjacent to N. Washington Street)

**May 2 through October 27**

**Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

- \* Leaves, vegetables, and grass clippings
- \* Yard/garden debris and brush—including clean, woody vegetative material no greater than 3 inches in diameter
- \* Stumps, roots or shrubs with intact rootballs are not yard waste.
- \* **Containers must be:**      30 gallon paper bags      Dry cardboard boxes not larger than 3 X 3 feet
- \* Tightly bundle tree limbs and branches no greater than 3 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length with twine (not wire or nylon)
- \* **Plastic bags are prohibited.**

# HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE VOTER MACHINE NOW IN USE

What is a TSX? Sorry it is not some prehistoric animal. Actually it is the future of voting. In the next few years, it is most likely that the TSX will replace the present Opti-Scan voting machines for all voters.

The TSX is the result of a Federal mandate to provide one voting machine that is accessible to individuals with disabilities in every polling place.

Each municipality received a \$6,000 grant for the machine in 2006. The electronic voting machine makes it possible for those

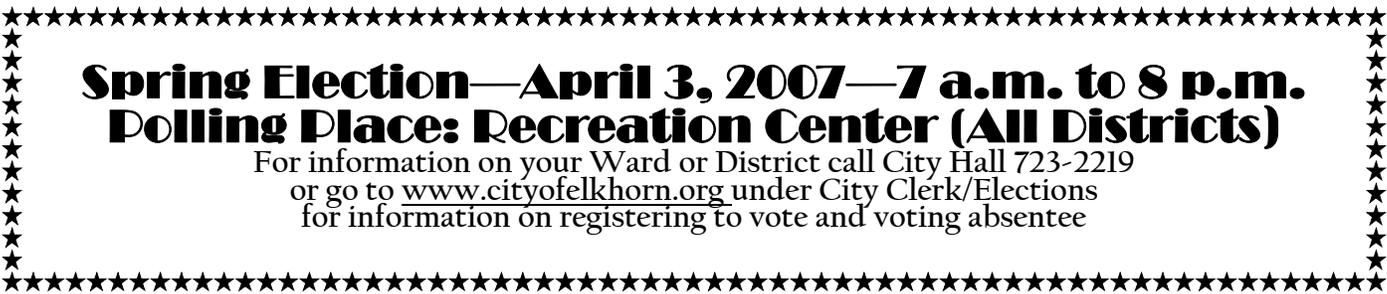
who are visually-impaired or non-readers to be able to have his or her vote counted. The machine can also be used in a variety of different languages.

Even if you are not disabled, the machine is ready to use on Election Day by anyone. A voter sees the ballot on a touch screen and is directed through a simple process. The ballot can be enhanced for those with limited vision or if vision is extremely impaired earphones are available with a voice recording of each candidate. An Election Inspector is available to help the voter.

Unlike some states, the State of Wisconsin requires the machine to have a paper ballot. Ballots are rolled into the machine and removed after the polls close by the Election Inspector. All results are sent by modem to the County Clerk.

If you are interested in using the machine, tell the Election Inspector giving you your voter number that you would like to try the TSX.

If you would like to know more about the new system call the City Clerk's office at 723-2219 or check out the Wisconsin State Elections Board website.



## **Spring Election—April 3, 2007—7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Polling Place: Recreation Center (All Districts)**

For information on your Ward or District call City Hall 723-2219 or go to [www.cityofelkhorn.org](http://www.cityofelkhorn.org) under City Clerk/Elections for information on registering to vote and voting absentee

### **ALDERMANIC DISTRICT I: NO CANDIDATE ON BALLOT**

#### ***Takes write-in to fill position or Council appointment in May***

The January deadline for candidates filing papers left one spot on the ballot vacant.

Voters living in the southwestern portion of the City will not know who their representative is until the day after the election. The reason for the delay is that it will take a write-in to place someone in the position of District 1 Alderman.

A person who is interested in becoming a write-in is required to complete a campaign registration statement with the City Clerk. However, for a write-in there is no dead-

line to file, according to the state statutes on elections.

The winner of a write-in is determined by whether the individual lives in the district and has the most votes. Often, Election Inspectors are faced with a list of write-ins such as Mickey Mouse or someone's best friend or family member that has no interest in being on Council. Please consider the seriousness of write-ins if you plan on writing someone in.

The procedure is to fill in the circle at Write-in and write the person in on the adjacent line. Inspectors will be reviewing all ballots for write-ins. If there is a tie between two valid write-ins a toss of a coin by the Clerk determines the winner.

JUST A REMINDER . . . . .

#### **SUMMER BASEBALL PARKING AT SUNSET**

During summer baseball parking restrictions will go into effect at the south end of the baseball fields in Sunset Park.

There will be no parking on the south side of W. Centralia Street from Devendorf to Park streets.

Violators will be ticketed.

#### **APRIL 1 DEADLINE FOR PET LICENSES**

Pet owners are responsible for licensing their cat or dog with the City by April 1. Remember to bring your rabies certificate. For more information call 723-2219.

# Your Bill of Rights as a Residential Electric Utility Customer

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) prepared this brochure to let you know your rights as a gas or electric customer. It includes answers to your most common questions and concerns. If you have a question or problem with your service, first contact your utility. If your utility cannot solve the problem, call the PSC.

## ENERGY USAGE REPORTS

Moving? Before you buy/rent a home or an apartment, call your utility. They can give you an average of how much energy was used at the new address during the last 12 months. Or, they can tell you the largest and smallest bills for the last 12 months. There may be a charge for this service.

## PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION (I.D.)

Before you open an account, a utility may ask you to show I.D. Some types of valid I.D. include:

- Photo I.D. card
- Driver's license
- U.S. military card
- Current utility bills
- Bank statements
- Rental agreements
- Social service agency letter I.D.
- Employment letter I.D.

## DEPOSITS

1. If you are a **new** residential customer, you may be asked to post a deposit if:

- You did not pay an undisputed bill for the same type of service anywhere in Wisconsin during the last six years.

2. If you are a **current** residential customer, you may be asked to post a deposit if:

- Your service was shut off during the last 12 months for non-payment.
- You falsified a service application.
- Your payment for service from November 1—April 15 is 80 days or more overdue and you have the ability to pay
- Your electric bill becomes 60 days or more past due in the first 8 months of new service.

3. You do **not** have to post a deposit if your income is below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty level guidelines.

A normal deposit is the sum of the two largest consecutive bills during the last 12 months:

<b>Example:</b>	January	\$225
	February	<u>+\$200</u>
		\$425 deposit

The deposit for those who are able to pay their winter heating bill, but do not, is the sum of the four largest consecutive bills during the last 12 months:

<b>Example:</b>	December	\$200
	January	+\$225
	February	+\$200
	March	<u>+\$150</u>
		\$775 deposit

A utility must pay you interest on your deposit. Each year the PSC sets a new interest rate. Your deposit and any interest earned must be returned to you after you have paid your utility bill promptly for 12 months.

## MONTHLY BILLS

You will be sent a bill about every 28—31 days. To avoid a late payment charge or shut-off notice, pay your bill by the date printed on your bill.

## WHAT'S ON YOUR BILL?

All bills include:

- Customer name
- Billing address
- Service address (if not the same as the billing address)
- Current meter reading and date
- Prior meter reading and date
- Number of gas or electric units used
- If it was an estimated reading
- Next meter reading date
- Number of days billed
- Class of service
- Amount due
- Tax

## METER READINGS

The PSC requires utilities to read your meter at least once each six months. You must allow these readings.

If a meter reader cannot get to your meter, you will get an estimated bill. To avoid estimated readings, you can read your own meter. Ask your utility for a card to record your reading.

## LATE PAYMENT CHARGES

A utility can add a late payment charge if your:

- Bill is not paid by the due date printed on your bill.
- A late payment charge can be:
- A one time charge of 3 percent of current unpaid charges (minimum 50 cents), OR
- A monthly charge of up to 1 percent of the total unpaid balance (including unpaid late payment charges).

## OTHER CHARGES

Some customers are able to pay their winter heating bills but do not. A utility may take legal action to collect payment from these customers and may report the unpaid bill to a credit bureau. These customers may also have to pay the utility's cost of collecting monthly payments.

## BUDGET PAYMENT PLANS

To manage high winter gas bills or high summer electric bills, ask your utility about budget payment plans. This allows you to average estimated annual use into even monthly payments. Each six months your payment amount is readjusted to reflect your actual use. At the end of a budget year, your bill is adjusted to correct overbilling or underbilling. These payment plans are available to all residential gas and electric customers, even if in arrears.

## INSTALLMENT PLANS FOR OVERDUE BILLS

You may use an installment plan to pay what you owe your utility. This helps you pay your current bills and any overdue bills. You will be asked to make a "fair" down payment and "fair" installments. A "fair" amount is based on:

- Your ability to pay
- The size of your overdue bill
- How long your bill has been overdue
- Your payment history
- Reasons your bill is overdue
- Other important factors

Your utility may ask you to sign an installment agreement. Do not sign it unless you agree to the terms. You have the right to negotiate an installment agreement.

If you do not pay installments as agreed, the utility may shut off your service. If you do not pay, the utility does not have to renegotiate an agree-

ment before it shuts off your service. It is up to you to let the utility know about important reasons to negotiate a new plan.

If you and a utility cannot agree on an installment plan, you can file a dispute with the PSC. While the PSC reviews your dispute, your service should not be shut off. However, you must pay all bills not in dispute.

### CREDIT REPORTING

If an account becomes due and no payment arrangements have been established between the customer and a utility, the utility may report the account to a credit bureau. It may also use the services of a collection agency to collect on the account.

### SERVICE DISCONNECTS

Your service can be shut off if:

- You fail to pay your bills.
- You fail to pay installments as agreed.
- You fail to post required deposit.
- A prior customer living at your address has an unpaid bill for the same address.
- You fail to pay the utility's costs for collecting an overdue bill.
- You tamper with your meter.
- There is a safety hazard.

A utility is permitted to transfer a landlord's unpaid bill from a residential property to the office or home of the landlord or property manager. If the bill continues to go unpaid, service can be shut off at the landlord's or property manager's office or home.

A utility must send you a notice before your service is shut off for non-payment. This notice must include:

- Reasons for the shut-off.
- Date when service can be shut off.
- How to contact the utility about the shut-off.

The notice should be mailed to your home or mailing address at least ten days before the shut-off. A notice must also be posted at the service address if it is not the same as your home or mailing address. The utility is also required to make a reasonable attempt to contact you by telephone or in person before the service is shut off.

If service is not shut off within 20 days after the notice is mailed, the utility must:

Leave a new notice at the site 24 (but not more than 48) hours before service is shut off.

### MEDICAL PROBLEMS

For extra time to make payment arrangements, the utility will delay service shut-off, or restore service if shut off, for up to 21 days if there is a medical problem or other crisis. The utility may ask for a letter about the crisis from your:

- Doctor
- Public health official
- Social service official
- Police or Sheriff

It is also possible to extend the 21-day delay.

### THIRD PARTY SHUT OFF-NOTICE

You can ask the utility to send a copy of your shut-off notice to a relative, guardian or other third party.

### WINTER SHUT-OFF RULES

If there is no threat to human health or life, a utility can shut off service from November 1 - April 15. A utility can also shut off service from November 1 - April 15 if a household income is greater than 250 percent of the Federal Poverty level guidelines.

Before service can be shut off, a utility must:

- Obtain written approval from their vice president or higher executive.
- Deliver this written approval to the PSC by 3:30 p.m. the day service is to be shut off.
- Visit the site the next day where service has been shut off to:
  1. Check customer's well-being.
  2. Tell the customer about payment plans.
  3. Tell the customer about special assistance.

These rules also apply to business and farm accounts serving residential dwellings. Before winter, a utility must attempt to contact customers whose service was shut off for nonpayment of bills. Each utility makes a special effort to turn on service before it gets cold. If you know of someone who has no heat, call your utility. You do not have to give your name. If service is not turned on in a reasonable time, call the PSC.

### HAVE A DISPUTE?

First contact your utility to try to solve the problem. If you are behind on your bill, the utility will offer you an installment plan to pay your bill.

If the utility cannot solve your problem, call the PSC at **1-800-225-7729**. While the PSC reviews your dispute, your service should not be shut off. However, you must still promptly pay any charge not in dispute. After the PSC completes its review, a staff member will contact you and your utility and will attempt to find an agreement that is acceptable to all parties.

### BILINGUAL SERVICE

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is also able to provide customer assistance in Spanish. When calling the PSC, please ask to speak to a Spanish-speaking representative.

### SERVICIO BILINGÜE

En la Comisión de Servicios Públicos del estado de Wisconsin (PSC) podemos asistirle en Español. Cuando llame a la PSC, pida hablar con un representante de habla hispana.

### SAFETY NOTE

In order to prevent severe burns and unnecessary energy consumption, water heater thermostats should be set no higher than 125 degrees.

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. If you are speech, hearing, or visually impaired and need assistance, call (608) 266-5481 or TTY (608) 267-1479. We will try to find another way to get the information to you in a usable form.

Fax (608) 266-3957  
 TTY (608) 267-1479  
 Consumer Affairs (800) 225-7729  
 General (608) 266-5481  
 Email PSCRECS@PSC.STATE.WI.US  
 Web Site <http://www.psc.state.wi.us/>  
**610 N. Whitney Way**  
**PO Box 7854**  
 Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854  
 1000B (7-17-00)

**CITY OF ELKHORN WATER RATES**

**Effective March 1, 2006**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Office Phone (262) 723-2910

After Office Hours Emergency

Phone (262)723-3229

**General Service - Metered -- Mg-1**

**Monthly Service Charge:**

5/8 inch meter .....	\$ 4.95
3/4 inch meter .....	4.95
1 inch meter .....	9.00
1- 1/4 inch meter .....	12.00
1-1/2 inch meter .....	18.00
2 inch meter .....	30.00
3 inch meter .....	54.00
4 inch meter .....	123.00
6 inch meter .....	213.00
8 inch meter .....	243.00
10 inch meter .....	363.00
12 inch meter .....	504.00

**Plus Volume Charge:**

First 1,670 used each month .....	\$3.70 per 100 cubic feet
Next 5,000 used each month .....	\$3.44 per 100 cubic feet
Next 26,670 used each month .....	\$2.65 per 100 cubic feet
Over 33,340 used each month.....	\$2.10 per 100 cubic feet

**Billing:**

Bills for water service are rendered monthly and become due and payable upon issuance following the period for which service is rendered. A late payment charge of one percent will be added to bills not paid within 20 days of issuance. This late payment charge will be applied to the total unpaid balance for utility service, including unpaid late payment charges. This late payment charge is applicable to all customers. The utility customer may be given a written notice that the bill is overdue no sooner than 20 days after the bill is issued. Unless payment or satisfactory arrangement for payment is made within the next ten days, service may be disconnected pursuant to Wis. Adm. Code., ch. PSC 185.

**Combined Metering:**

Volumetric meter readings will be combined for billing if the utility for its own convenience places more than one meter on a single water service lateral. Multiple meters placed for the purpose of identifying water not discharged into the sanitary sewer are not considered for utility convenience and shall not be combined for billing. This requirement does not preclude the utility from combining readings where metering configurations support such an approach. Meter readings from individually metered separate service laterals shall not be combined for billing purposes.

**Private Fire-Protection Service-Unmetered-- Upf-1**

This service shall consist of permanent continuous unmetered connections to the main for the purpose of supplying water to private fire protection systems such as automatic sprinkler systems. Standpipes, and private hydrants. This service shall also include reasonable quantities of water used for testing check valves and other backflow prevention devices.

**Monthly for Private Fire-Protection Service Demand Charges:**

Size of Connection	Charge
2-inch .....	\$ 8.40
3-inch .....	15.90
4-inch .....	26.40
6-inch .....	52.80
8-inch .....	84.30
10-inch .....	126.60
12-inch .....	168.60

**Billing:** Same as schedule Mg-1.

**Public Fire-Protection Service -- Fd-1**

Under Wisconsin Statutes, Section 196.03(3)(b), the municipality has chosen to have the utility bill the retail general service customers for public fire-protection service.

This service shall include the use of hydrants for fire- protection service only and such quantities of water as may be demanded for the purpose of extinguishing fires within the service area. This service shall also include water used for testing equipment and training personnel. For all other purposes, the metered or other rates set forth, or as may be filed with the Public Service Commission shall apply.

**Monthly Public Fire-Protection Service Charges:**

5/8 inch meter.....	\$ 7.80
3/4 inch meter.....	7.80
1 inch meter .....	19.41
1 1/4 inch meter .....	28.80
1 1/2 inch meter .....	39.00
2 inch meter .....	62.10
3 inch meter .....	116.70
4 inch meter .....	194.10
6 inch meter .....	390.00
8 inch meter .....	621.00
10 inch meter.....	933.00
12 inch meter .....	1242.00

This rate is in addition to Schedules Mg-1, Ug-1, Mgt-1 and Mz-1.

**Billing:** Same as Schedule Mg-1

**General Water Service - Unmetered -- Ug-1**

Where the utility cannot immediately install its water meter, service may be supplied temporarily on an unmetered basis. Such service shall be billed at the rate of \$23.45 per month. This rate shall be applied only to single-family residential and small commercial customers and approximates the cost of 500 cubic feet of water per month under Schedule Mg-1. If it is determined by the utility that usage is in excess of 500 cubic feet per month, an additional charge per Schedule Mg-1 will be made for the estimated additional usage.

**Billing:** Same as Schedule Mg-1

**Reconnection Charges -- R-1**

	<b>During Normal Business Hours</b>	<b>After Normal Business Hours</b>
Reinstallation of meter, including valving at curb stop	\$30.00	\$40.00
Valve turned on at curb stop	\$25.00	\$35.00

Note: no charge for disconnection

**Billing:** Same as Schedule Mg-1

**Bulk Water -- BW-1**

All bulk water supplied from the water system through hydrants or other connections shall be metered, or at the direction of the utility, estimated. Utility personnel or utility-approved party shall supervise the delivery of water.

Bulk water sales are:

1. Water supplied to the tank truck or from hydrant for the purpose of extinguishing fires outside the utility's immediate service area;
2. Water supplied by tank truck or from hydrant for purposes other than extinguishing fires such as irrigation or the filling of swimming pools; or,
3. Water supplied from hydrants or other temporary connections for general service type applications. (Water supplied for construction purposes - see Schedule Mz-1)

A charge for the volume of water used will be billed to the party using the water at \$3.70 per 100 cubic feet. A service charge, in addition to the volumetric charge, will be \$30.00.

In addition, for meters that are assigned to bulk water customers for more than 30 days, the applicable service charge in Schedule Mg-1 will apply after the first 30 days.

The water utility may require reasonable deposits for the temporary use of its equipment under this and other rate schedules. The deposit(s) collected will be refunded upon return of the utility's equipment. Damaged or lost equipment will be repaired or replaced at the customer's expense.

**Billing:** Same as Schedule Mg-1

**Seasonal, Emergency or Temporary Service -- Mgt-1**

Seasonal customers\* shall pay an annual seasonal service charge equal to twelve times the applicable service charge in Schedule Mg-1. Water use in any billing period shall be billed at the applicable volume schedule in Mg-1 and the charge added to the annual seasonal service charge.

In addition, customers who have an additional meter pursuant to Schedule Am-1 shall also pay an annual seasonal rental charge equal to twelve (12) times the applicable additional meter rental charge in Schedule Am-1.

For disconnections of service, not previously considered as seasonal, emergency, or temporary, if service is resumed at the same premises by the same customer within a 12-month period, and if there has been no service to another customer during the intervening period, the customer shall be billed for the pro rata share of the applicable monthly service charge for the period of disconnection.

Further if service has been disconnected, or a meter removed, a

charge under Schedule R-1 shall be applied at the time of reconnection or meter reinstallation.

\* Seasonal customers are general service customers whose use of water is normally for recurring periods of less than a year. This includes service under Schedule Mg-1 and/or Schedule Am-1.

**Billing:** Same as Schedule Mg-1

**Building and Construction Water Service -- Mz-1**

For single-family and small commercial buildings, apply the unmetered rate (Schedule Ug-1).

For large commercial, industrial or multiple apartment buildings, a temporary metered installation shall be made and general, metered rates (Schedule Mg-1) applied.

**Billing:** Same as Schedule Mg-1

**Additional Meter Rental Charge -- Am-1**

If a customer requests the installation of an additional meter\* to receive credit for clear water not discharged into the sanitary sewer system, or if a sewerage service customer who is not a customer of the water utility requests the installation of a meter to determine the volume of sewage discharged into the sanitary sewer system, the utility shall furnish and install this additional meter. This rate shall be applied only to single-family residential and small commercial customers. At utility discretion, it may also be applied to other customers. A rental fee shall be charged for the use of this meter and the following rates shall apply.

**Billing:** Same as in Schedule Mg-1

\*For the Schedule Am-1 rate to apply, the additional meter must be installed on the same service lateral as the primary meter. Also, if the metering configuration is in the Addition Method, the Schedule Am-1 rate will apply only if the additional meter is 3/4-inch or less. If the additional meter is larger than 3/4-inch in the Addition Method, then Schedule Mg-1 rates apply to the primary meter and the additional meter as separate accounts.



5/8 inch meter .....	\$2.10 per month
3/4 inch meter .....	\$2.10 per month
1 inch meter .....	\$3.00 per month
1-1/4 inch meter .....	\$3.90 per month
1-1/2 inch meter .....	\$4.80 per month

Initial Meter Installation Charge - \$30.00

**For your information . . .**

**Dept. of Motor Vehicles—723-2090**  
**County Treasurer—741-4251**  
**County Clerk—741-4241**  
**Clerk of Courts—741-7012**  
**Child Support—741-7100**

## Employee spotlight

### Serving the Community



**Sally Nie**, Children's Librarian, brings a cheerful smile and a lot of fun for the

young patrons. She was a school librarian in Barrow, Alaska for two years. It was a village of 6,000 and you had to fly in and out. She received her Master's in Library Science in Vancouver, British Columbia. Sally is happy to be in Elkhorn. She loves the families and the youth are great.

**Chris Imhof**, a resident of Lyons and former journeyman electrician, enjoys working for the City. He likes the variety of work he does as an Electric Utility Technician and his mentors, the Electric crew. When he is not working, Chris enjoys spending time with his four children. He is an avid outdoorsman, woodworker, gardener and cook.



**Molly Nesbitt**, Reference Librarian, enjoys meeting with the library's Book Discussion Group. She will be conducting computer classes for the library's patrons. Molly received her Master's in Library Science at Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois. Among her favorite pastimes is being a cast member at the Bristol Renaissance Fair. Molly enjoys music and is in the process of writing a novel.

### Important Information About Your Drinking Water Chlorine Levels in Drinking Water May Fluctuate

The City of Elkhorn water system is working to correct a problem that is causing a reduction of chlorine residual in parts of the water distribution system. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should expect, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

Chlorine is routinely added at our wells and water treatment facilities as a normal treatment process. Chlorine reacts with many naturally occurring substances such as organic matter, nitrites, iron, manganese and ammonia. These substances combine with chlorine and can change the chlorine residual available within the water distribution system.

#### What should you expect?

During the next several months, chlorine levels may fluctuate. Because of changes in the chlorine feed rates, you may become more aware of the taste or odor of chlorine in your tap water.

#### What should I do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

If someone is highly sensitive to chlorine, you may want to take some extra precautions with the water from your tap during the correction period. (If you are sensitive to chlorine, you may want to consult with your doctor.)

If your aquatic pets are sensitive to chlorine, you may want to take some extra precautions with the water from the tap during the correction period.

Place water for drinking in a pitcher or other appropriate container and place it in the refrigerator to reduce the otherwise noticeable chlorine taste or odor.

#### What is being done?

The City is working with a consulting engineer to determine the cause of the chlorine residual loss, and to determine what corrective actions are necessary.

As always, we are continuing to monitor your drinking water to insure that it is safe for your consumption and other use.

Similar notices will continue to be sent to our customers until the chlorine depletion problem is resolved.

For more information, please contact the City Administrator at (262) 723-2219.

# UNDER CONSTRUCTION

## Market Street Park

The City of Elkhorn Park and Recreation Department is set to complete developments to Market Street Park. The plans include adding a walking path around and through the park, plantings, and installing playground equipment and swings. The playground equipment will be installed with a poured in place surfacing that will allow greater accessibility for individuals with special needs. Two playgrounds will be installed, one for ages 2-5 and another for ages 5-12.



Plans for the park may be viewed at the Park & Recreation Department.

## Electric Lines Go Underground

The City of Elkhorn Electric Department, Charter Cable, and the State Line Long Distance Telephone Company plan on replacing overhead lines with underground. The areas affected will be the 200 and 300 blocks of Second Street, the 200 and 300 blocks of Westlawn and the 400 block of Church Street only on the west side of the street.

This is an opportunity to have your service from the lot line to your home changed to underground at no charge from the utilities. Contact your electrician to see what costs there may be to upgrade your electrical

equipment in your home. For more information you can contact the Electric Department at 262-723-3138.



## Well No. 8 Project/Chlorination Improvements

Testing has been completed on the 1800-foot deep water supply well located next to the Walworth County Law Enforcement Center. Construction of about 12,000 feet of water main that will connect to Well No. 8 is currently under construction. A new chlorination system for the Lakeland and Centralia facilities is nearing completion.

## Fire Dept. receives grant

The Elkhorn Area Fire Department received a \$35,000 grant for a Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Cascade refilling system. The system replaces an out-of-date system that does not work well with the new air packs received through an earlier grant.



The unit provides the firefighters with a safe filling station, as well as providing them with clean air to breathe.

# Moratorium on disconnects ends April 15



April 15 marks the day that the State of Wisconsin winter moratorium ends. Annually, on November 1, utilities

cannot disconnect its electric customers due to outstanding balances on their accounts. The State created the law to protect those who cannot pay their bills in full when temperatures may plummet. Each month, area electric users are notified by mail if their bill is at least two weeks past due. If customers continue to pay their utility bills to the extent possible throughout the winter months, a large utility bill on April

15 can be avoided. The bill does not go away, it just accumulates with penalties.

After April 15, the Elkhorn Utility is allowed to use the red tag and disconnect procedure for residents who fail to pay their utility bills.

### Community Action available

Elkhorn Electric and Water Utility works with Community Action, Inc. to assist customers with bill payments when financial difficulties exist. Customers can apply for assistance through this program at (262) 728-8296.

Community Action office hours for 2006 at City Hall are as follows:

### Tuesday, April 10

1 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

### Thursday, April 12

8 a.m.—noon

### Tuesday, April 17

8 a.m.—noon

1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 18

8 a.m. – noon

1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

If you are a customer who does not make payments during the moratorium but has the ability to pay, Elkhorn Utility can take you to court. The court would require the customer to pay three times the balance at the time of judgment.

City of Elkhorn  
P.O. Box 920  
9 S. Broad Street  
Elkhorn, WI 53121