

VILLAGE OF STRATFORD

September 2009

NEWSLETTER



ARE HIGH ENERGY COSTS GETTING YOU DOWN?

Households meeting certain income guidelines may qualify for financial grants to assist in paying for winter heating bills. Grants are determined based on energy costs, household size, income, and dwelling type. The Energy Assistance team will be in Stratford to accept applications, *by appointment only*, as follows:

October 14th and November 12th
10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.
Community Hall, 300 East Larch Street

Contact Energy Services at 715-842-3111 if you have questions or to schedule an appointment. Homebound residents may request the application materials be mailed to you.

Something to think about from...



➡ It seems like credit and debit cards are accepted nearly everywhere, for most any type of purchase. The Stratford Water & Electric Department does not accept payment for utility bills by credit or debit card due to the additional processing fees and equipment costs. As a municipal utility, and governed by the Public Service Commission, we strive to maintain costs as low as possible for all of our utility customers.

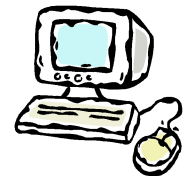
➡ The Water & Electric Department currently receives many utility payments from customers who use their bank's online bill-pay services. When using this service, be aware of the monthly due date. Your online bill-pay request must be completed in advance to assure the payment reaches our office by the due date to avoid late fees. Local utility payments can be made at the utility office during business hours, by mail, or at the Stratford State Bank.

➡ **Do your meter reader a favor!** Take a good look at the area surrounding your outdoor utility meters and the path the meter reader will walk this winter. Be sure the area is clear of debris and pets, with shrubs trimmed and snow removed to allow for clear access and view of the meters. Thanks!

ELECTRONICS & HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

The Village of Stratford and the neighboring municipalities that make up the Stratford area fire district have scheduled a recycling drive for computers, electronics and hazardous wastes.

Saturday, October 3, 2009
8:00 a.m.—12:00 noon
Stratford Area Fire Station
513 South Weber Avenue



Computer components (including laptops and printers) and electronics will be collected. Televisions, copiers, fax machines and microwaves will be accepted. Disposal fees of just 30 cents per pound will be charged. Console televisions are a flat rate of \$15.00.

Hazardous wastes will also be collected for proper disposal. Items such as paint and paint thinner, old gasoline or oil, auto repair products, kitchen and bath aerosol products, fungicides, herbicides, fertilizers and glues are some of the items to be collected. A complete list of items can be found at the Village's website.

This cooperative event qualifies each of the participating municipalities for an additional grant for providing a recycling "efficiency". The Village received nearly \$14,000 in recycling grants in 2009, reducing the overall cost of collection services to our residents.

POLICE DEPT. RECEIVES GRANT

The Stratford Police Department received grant funding to purchase and install a Mobile Data Center (MDC) in the new squad car. All driver and vehicle records can now be accessed via the MDC, without contacting the Marathon County dispatchers. Soon all traffic crashes and citations will be processed electronically.

The in-squad computer is also an "instant message" system allowing officers to review the complaint, and access history of police activity at a certain location prior to responding to a call. A GPS mapping system is another of the MDC's features.

Officer Eric Colby attended several days of training to manage the MDC system at the local level.

Additional Heritage Trail Donations Received

Thanks to the following Village residents for adding to the construction fund for Stratford's Heritage Trail. Donating at the SPONSOR level (\$1,000 to \$4,999) are Tom and Mary Stack, and at the FRIEND level (\$100 to \$999) is Sue Eidahl. The Village Board will soon be setting a bid date in preparation for the boardwalk construction during the dormant winter season.

Information and donation forms are available at the Village office or by visiting the Village/Chamber website and clicking the TRAIL link on the left side of the home page. www.stratfordwi.com



RECYCLING UPDATES

In effort to reduce the amount of hazardous waste entering our landfills, the Village of Stratford now has collection containers available for recycling items in addition to the containers and paper products collected curbside each week. Household batteries, compact fluorescent bulbs, and cell phones can be dropped off at the Municipal Building, while tube-type fluorescent bulbs can be dropped off at the Water & Electric Shop. Tube-type fluorescent bulbs (either 4-foot or 8-foot lengths) should be boxed or taped together to minimize breakage.



These items will be periodically delivered to the County's hazardous waste facility for proper recycling and disposal. This is a service to Village households only. Businesses wishing to dispose of these items should work with your contracted waste hauler.



Village Garage Gets A Face Lift

An "extreme makeover" was recently completed on the Village Garage, located on East Larch Street north of Klemme Park. Following an emergency roof replacement by Stratford Building Supply earlier this year, the Public Works crew worked hard to give the Village Garage a fresh coat of paint. This building formerly housed the Fire Department prior to construction of the new station on South Weber Avenue in 2003. These improvements will help the Village Garage serve our community for many years to come. Nice job guys...It looks like a new building!

Mark Your Calendars



September 7 — Labor Day

(Municipal Office and Shop are closed)

October — Document destruction at Stratford State Bank

(No charge, during lobby hours. Certified services provided by IROW. Call 687-2411 for more details.)

October 3 — Hazardous Waste & Electronics Disposal Event

8:00 a.m. - Noon, Stratford Fire Station

October 14 — Energy Services, Community Hall,

10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. (Call 715-842-3111 for an appointment or information on the heating assistance program.)

October 15 — Fall Clean Up Day

(Refer to your Garbage & Recycling brochure for details.)

VILLAGE OF STRATFORD

265 North 3rd Avenue
P.O. Box 12
Stratford, WI 54484-0012
www.stratfordwi.com

Clerk / Treasurer687-4166
Police Dept. (non-emergency)687-3131
Water & Electric Dept. (billing).....687-4166
Water & Electric
and Public Works Shop687-4118

The Importance of Visible House Numbers

Village of Stratford Ordinance requires a house number or site address on every home and building in the Village. Emergency response time can be greatly reduced when emergency vehicles can quickly identify an address relayed by a 911 dispatcher.

House numbers should be in a color contrasting the siding, placed above or at the side of the main door facing the street. If a number placed at the main door is under a porch area or not easily viewed from the street, then select an alternate location, preferably near an exterior light for easy nighttime visibility. If no part of the building is visible from the street or if the building is more than 75 feet from the street line, the house number should be placed on a gate, post, fence, or appropriate place that can be easily seen from the street. Be sure trees and shrubs are trimmed so the house number is not obscured from view.

Standard house numbers and frames are available for purchase during public works business hours, 7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m., at the shop located at 212 South 3rd Avenue.