

City of Maryville Newsletter



Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| Winter Work at the Golf Course | 2 |
| Water & Sewer Rates May Increase | 3 |
| Steps to Prepare for Drinking Water Emergencies | 3 |
| U.S. Census 2010 | 4 |
| Spring Fever | 4 |

City Officials

- Mayor—Chad Jackson
- City Council Member—Carole Coutts
- City Council Member—Pat Cummings
- City Council Member—Ron Moss
- City Council Member—Mike Thompson
- City Manager—Matt LeCerf
- City Clerk—Sheila Small
- Finance Director—Denise Town
- Human Resources Manager—Amy Strough
- Parks & Recreation Director—Rod Auxier
- Public Safety Director—Keith Wood
- Public Works Director—Greg Decker

Mozingo Ten Year Planning Committee

by David Middleton, Lake Maintenance Superintendent

We have had three discussion/organizational meetings this winter to gain a better view of what the citizens want and expect at Mozingo as well as to organize a committee to set in place a new ten year plan.

The first meeting was attended by twenty one citizens and included discussions of what citizens felt the focus areas for the ten year plan should include. Additional cabins and RV sites with more camping, bath facilities, and asphalt for the unpaved gravel roads and parking lots were at the top of the list. With over ten years of use, the role of maintenance at the park was also deemed to be a major piece of the overall picture.

Thirty citizens attended the second meeting. In addition to the focus areas, we discussed possible community surveys

and continuance of the community meetings to obtain as much community involvement as possible. Attendees were asked to form a committee to research and plan the direction of the ten year plan using the input from the meetings as a guideline. It was hoped that there could be representation from each of the many facets of recreation offered at the lake by community members.

The third meeting had eight citizens in attendance. Ed Schieber, Lisa Luke, Jon Gustafson and Angie Jones volunteered to serve on the ten year plan committee. Other interested persons were out of town but plan to attend the next meeting. Horseback riding and camping were added as top priorities and previous subjects were discussed in greater detail and length.

Marketing to reach a greater number of possible users for both the lake and golf course was discussed, including enhancements to the website and circulation of more detailed brochures. It was reported that Mozingo employees manned informational booths at three sports shows this winter—Topeka, Omaha and Kansas City. A large number of people who visited the booths had already used Mozingo facilities and their suggestions were very much in line with the committee discussion with the addition of boat rentals. It was felt that the shows have proven to be a very useful marketing tool.

Anyone interested in additional needs, or providing ideas for either the lake or golf side of Mozingo is invited to attend the next meeting March 25 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mozingo Golf Course

Severe Weather Awareness

by Keith Wood, Director of Public Safety

As you get this edition of the Community Newsletter, we will be in severe weather season.

One of the best things you can do to protect yourself from the hazards presented by this season is to inform yourself, or make yourself aware.

The best time to prepare for any situation is before you are confronted with it. This certainly holds true of severe weather.

If you have not done so by now, make it a point to get informed as to the terminology used during this season such as thunderstorm / tornado, watch /

warnings and have a respective plan of action for each of those given various scenarios such as varying locations (i.e., home, work, on the road, other locations you may frequent).

While we will do everything that we can to make sure that you, our citizens are safeguarded during this season, we try to stress that ultimately, personal safety is a personal responsibility, and awareness is certainly a part of that. Know the risks/hazards and have a plan.

We also suggest that you have alternate sources of information

with which to keep yourself informed with during these weather events. Almost every source is vulnerable to failure (especially during these high-risk times), so having "source-B" is always a good idea.

A good tool to help you in your awareness effort or to prepare is a Booklet from the State of Missouri entitled *Planning for Emergencies: Three Steps to be Prepared, A Family Safety Guide* which is part of the "Ready in 3" program. We have copies available for you at Maryville Public Safety upon request.



Mike Thompson is stepping down from his City Council seat this April. He has served the City as a Council Member and/or Mayor since April of 1997. Thanks for your dedicated service to our community over the last 12 years Mike!!

Got a Comment or a Suggestion?

Visit the **Feedback** section of our website at www.maryville.org and voice your opinion.

Hours of Operation

City Hall

M–F 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Maryville Community Center

M–Th 5:30 a.m.—10:00 p.m.

Fri. 5:30 a.m.—8:00 p.m.

Sat. 7:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Sun. 12:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

Library

M–F 9:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Sat. 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Landfill

M–F 7:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Winter Work at the Golf Course

By Ron Darnell, Golf Course Superintendent

What do you guys do out there all winter? I have been asked this question many times every off season since we opened Mazingo Lake Golf Course 14 years ago. It is easy to become aggravated when confronted with this question but really it should be taken as a great opportunity to inform our community what is actually accomplished this time of year. The biggest gains in golf course improvements are always initiated and often completed in the off-season. This year we have a concrete cart trail program underway. We plan to do as much of this project as possible this month or as soon as weather conditions allow us to minimize disruption of play and inconvenience to the golfers.

I have tried to prepare a list of activities and projects that we do most every winter. It will not encompass everything by any means but maybe it will give you an idea of the many things we do accomplish.

Course setup for winter play: We allow winter golf on Mazingo every day that the weather permits. Yes, it may be winter but golfers expect and deserve the best possible playing conditions attainable. This requires many labor hours whether we are raking bunkers or moving tees and changing cups.

Course clean up: This includes fallen limb pick up and removing piles of leaves and debris. This is an ongoing detail.

Monitoring turf health: We are always scouting for winter injury so we can be prepared for a recovery plan in the spring.

Pest Control: We apply herbi-

cide for weed control during the off-season in our buffalo grass rough. This frees up valuable time when the weather does break in the spring.

Advance ordering of fertilizer, pesticides and other chemicals: There is a significant cost savings by taking advantages of discounts associated with early order programs. Municipalities require a minimum of three bids for each specific product and this takes significant time to obtain fair and competitive bids.

Capital equipment purchases: These purchases have the same requirements as above. This year we already have accepted delivery of two new green mowers.

Continuing Education: Staying abreast of the newest technologies, products and techniques is important to the success of the facility and in some cases, such as pesticide recertification workshops, it is a requirement.

Annual equipment maintenance and repair: Extensive preventative maintenance in the winter is crucial for equipment reliability in the golfing season. Some equipment operates seven days a week during the growing season, while others operate three days per week. Well maintained and clean equipment results in a better conditioned golf course as well as increased equipment longevity and trade in value. This includes servicing the golf cart rental fleet.

Mower blade sharpening and reel grinding: This off-season we spun ground 45 reel type cutting units and sharpened the bed knives. This job takes

many weeks to accomplish in itself. Many golf courses contract this out, but we do it in-house at a significant cost savings.

Irrigation system: The entire system is blown out and winterized in November, then recharged and completely gone through and tested in March.

Tree Maintenance: We do selective tree removal in the winter when it is less disruptive to the golfers.

Bunker work: Winter months are a great time to perform bunker maintenance. We add or replace sand and redefine all the edges when the ground is not frozen solid.

Maintenance facility improvements: A clean and organized work facility leads to better productivity and efficiency. It also improves employee morale by providing pleasant working conditions.

Accessories: All of the course's accessories are brought in for cleaning, refurbishing and repainting, or replacement. This includes all ball washers, trashcans, divot mix containers, benches, tee markers, and flagsticks.

Safety: Winter is a great time for planning and developing safety and training procedures.

There are many other projects not mentioned in this article that are performed over the winter, but hopefully this list will give you a better idea of what our winter work is like. So what do we do all winter? We prepare for the next busy golfing season. Did I forget to mention *Goose patrol*?

Water & Sewer Rates May Increase

By Matt LeCerf, City Manager

On April 13, 2009 the Maryville City Council will consider an ordinance which would increase water and sewer rates for its customers. This increase would cause both water and sewer rates to climb 10% and 15% respectively. The purpose of this increase is to service many objectives associated with the water and sewer improvements to both the plant and infrastructure for the City of Maryville. The City of Maryville has put together a Capital Improvement Plan, which has an estimated timeline of 7-10 years. The cost to perform all of these improvements is in the area of approximately \$20,000,000 split nearly evenly between water and sewer improvements.

Our sewer and water rates are significantly lower than other comparable Cities. As a matter of fact, current rates right now are \$5.61 for the first 100 cubic feet for residential and non-residential customers and \$1.49 per 100 cubic feet of water on sewer charges above the minimum (1st 100 cubic feet). One of the most critical and necessary improvements expected to be performed over the next three (3) years is associated with upgrades to our Waste Water Treatment Plant

(WWTP). These improvements are a result of State and Federal regulations being handed down to the local governments to comply with. To compound the issue, little to no funding for these mandated improvements is provided through grants by either the federal or state government. As a result, this directly affects the cities and their ability to perform and provide these necessary services to the consumer and more importantly, the bottom line, to meet the requirements. In late February 2009, the City received its new Waste Water Treatment Plant operating permit and its effluent (discharge) requirements which must be met in order to be compliant with the permit. Estimates for construction to meet these permitting levels are somewhere in the area of \$8-\$13 million. In order to afford these improvements, the City will need to apply for State Revolving Loan funds, which provide low interest loans to municipalities and structure the debt over 20 years. Without necessary rate increases, the City would not be able to afford these mandated facility improvements. The increase in sewer rates will be used to pay down on the debt services associated with the improvements

to the WWTP.

At this point in time water rates are scheduled to increase 10%. Our current rate structure is in a tiered system where there is a minimum charge and a second step for the next 4,900 cubic feet, then a final step for all volume in excess of 5,000 cubic feet. Some of the initial and more critical improvements associated with the water operations include: construction of two new water towers (\$3 million) measuring 750,000 gallons each, purchase of new membrane filters in 2012 (\$2.4 million), new water pumps to replace the existing pumps which are 35 years old (\$650,000), and necessary waterline replacement (\$1 million) to improve the overall pressure and distribution of the water system. Like the improvements on the sewer plant, the revenue from user fees will pay down the debt services associated with these improvements.

Public hearings are being conducted during City Council Meetings and feedback or questions related to the necessary improvements and the proposed scheduled increase may be directed to my office or to your City Council members.

Steps to Prepare for Drinking Water Emergencies

by Denise Town, Finance Director

As tornado season looms closer, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency would like to remind everyone of steps you can take to provide your family with a clean, fresh supply of drinking water available during emergencies.

You should have at least a three gallon supply of water per person. Typically, this would be enough water for three days. Water should be stored in thoroughly washed plastic, glass,

fiberglass or enamel-lined metal containers. Soft drink bottles, for instance, work very well. The containers should be tightly sealed, labeled and stored in a cool, dark place. Under these conditions, water can be stored for six months.

If you do not have stored water and there is an emergency, you can use the water in your hot-water tank, pipes and ice cubes. The water in the reservoir tank of your toilet (not the

basin) can also be used as a last resort. Several government Web sites provide information, including where to find water outside your home, ways to purify water and other steps you can take to prepare for natural disasters. For more information, please contact EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or 703-285-1093. You can also contact the hotline via e-mail at: hotline-sdwa@epa.gov.

If you are interested in becoming a guest columnist in upcoming newsletters, please contact either Sheila Smal or Amy Strough at 562-8001.



Don't Forget to Vote on April 7th

Not on our mailing list?
Call Sheila Smal at 562-8001 or email her at ssmal@maryville.org

For additional safe drinking water information visit:
FEMA <http://www.fema.gov>
American Red Cross <http://www.redcross.org/home>
Dept. of Homeland Security <http://www.ready.gov>

Phone Numbers

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|---------------------|----------|
| City Hall | 562-8001 |
| Airport | 582-2233 |
| Animal Shelter | 562-3333 |
| Code Enforcement | 562-8027 |
| Court Clerk | 562-3526 |
| Finance/Water Bill | 562-8005 |
| Transfer Station | 562-8018 |
| Mozingo Golf Maint. | 562-2638 |
| Mozingo Golf Course | 562-3864 |
| Mozingo Lake Maint. | 562-2089 |
| Public Library | 582-5281 |
| Community Center | 562-2923 |
| Park & Rec Maint. | 562-2636 |
| Swimming Pool | 562-2663 |
| Public Safety | 562-3209 |
| Public Works | 562-8012 |
| Street Dept. | 562-8012 |
| Water Maint. Dept. | 562-8019 |

U.S. Census 2010

by Sheila Smail, City Clerk

It seems as though it was only yesterday that we were anticipating the year 2000 and now 2010 is in the horizon, along with the 2010 U.S. Census. The City of Maryville was asked by the U.S. Census Bureau to assist in the 2010 Census count of our city. Christina James, GIS Technician, and I worked together last year verifying and updating residential information gathered and recorded as a result of the 2000 census. A report was sent back to the U.S. Census depicting changes and additions of residential structures since 2000. The Bureau will use this information to make preparations for mailing out the 2010 census questionnaires to residents.

I have to admit, in the past as I completed the Census forms, I

hadn't given much thought about the impact participating in the U.S. Census could have on our community. By completing your questionnaire you are providing data that directly affects how more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to our community for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. By taking just a few minutes to fill out your census form, you will help ensure that your community gets its fair share of federal and state funding. So mark your calendars, because April 1, 2010 has been designated as "Census Day". That means that all answers to all questions on the census are supposed to be based on information that is valid on that date.

Recently, I was visited by representatives of the U.S. Census Bureau, who asked the City to consider organizing a Complete Count Committee (CCC). The primary focus of the CCC would be to promote the 2010 Census and to ensure that every resident in our community is counted. After organizing the Complete Count Committee, a meeting will be held to discuss the best approach to circulating information to citizens in our community. CCC will be available to meet with the various groups and organizations to highlight the benefits of obtaining a complete count. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on this committee, please call (660) 562-8003, or e-mail me at ssmail@maryville.org.



Spring Fever

by Greg Decker, Public Works Director

As spring approaches we look forward to the grass turning green and the flowers blooming. Most citizens do not associate City Hall with spring and flowers blooming, but we here at City Hall already have those thoughts on our minds especially in regards to the area on South Main and Lincoln Street. Many residents drive by this beautifully landscaped area daily and may or may not notice the landscape around the statue and monuments in the island. Year after year, this area blooms with flowers thanks to the hard work of the Maryville Garden Club. Their attention to detail makes this area pleasing to the eye for everyone passing by. This club has raised the funds necessary to keep the plantings new and

bright for us all to enjoy. Earlier this winter, city crews assisted with the removal of some of the evergreens on the Main Street side of the island to help with visibility and to help open up a new area for new, fresh plantings to be placed this spring by the garden club. With the spring season approaching, we would also like to encourage all Maryville citizens to keep in mind that the City does offer a compost site at the City Facility/Transfer Station located on North Main Street. This site is a free drop off service to the citizens for all compostable material. Tree limbs can be taken out to the Transfer Station but there is a fee charged for the drop off of wood products. These tree limbs are later ground into wood chips

which make a great mulch offered to all patrons for free. Even if you don't have a large truck, bring it out and we will use our equipment to fill it to the top with wood chip mulch for you.

The next time you happen to be on South Main remember to look at the island and take notice of the Garden Club's hard work. If you know any Garden Club members remember to thank them for their contribution to the beautiful landscape they provide for all of our enjoyment.

Thank you Maryville Garden Club – we can't wait for the flowers to start blooming this year!

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

The City of Maryville, is taking applications from citizens interested in serving on the Airport Board, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Board of Zoning Adjustment. If you are interested in getting involved and learning more about these boards, please contact Sheila Smail, City Clerk, at 562-8003 or by e-mail at ssmail@maryville.org.