

OCTOBER 2018

A FEW TIDBITS OF INFORMATION FROM THE CITY OF MONROE CITY . . .

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- CAMPAIGN FOR CLEAN DRAINS
- HISTORY REVIEW DAY
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Make a Difference Day – October 27th - The annual Make a Difference Day will be on October 27th.

Holiday Residential Trash Schedule - Thanksgiving week will be the normal schedule. Christmas week will be modified to Wednesday, December 26th and Saturday, December 29th. New Year's week will be the normal schedule.

Campaign for Clean Drains - Just a reminder that your toilet is not a trash can. Many things that should go in the trash are being flushed down the toilet. Even if they are labeled as "disposable" or "safe for sewers and septic system", these items should not be flushed down the drain – cleaning wipes, paper towels, dental floss and teeth whitening strips, baby wipes and disposable diapers, needles, syringes and other medical waste, feminine hygiene products, coffee grounds, kitty litter, toilet seat covers, rags, towels, washcloths, mop/cleaning brush refills, cotton balls and cotton swabs. Anytime the wrong thing is flushed down the toilet, damage can occur to plumbing. Toilets, sewer pipes and wastewater treatment facilities are designed to transport and handle toilet paper and human waste only.

History Review Day - – The first Monday of each month is designated as "History Review Day" from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at City Hall. Our goal is to develop a booklet which will contain information and hopefully a picture about each location in town – residence, business, industry – that was here or is still here. There is also a Facebook Page - "Monroe City's Past, Present & Future" which we have started. We encourage you to post information about your place of business or residence, history, prior owners, interesting facts, etc. We would love to have pictures from the past as well as current. The purpose is to keep a hold of our past, as well as pass it on to the younger generation not only through this booklet, but through activities that we have planned for next fall if not before. As they say, "you get out of something what you put in to it" and the more people that contribute the more information we will have for our town. If you are not able to come to City Hall, but would like to set up a different time to meet or you need someone to come to your location, please call Connie Painter at 573-822-4014 or Jackie Pangborn at 573-406-8503 to set up an appointment.

Recycling – Tuesday of each week – must be at the curb by 7 a.m. – MUST BE IN CLEAR BAGS

Recycling will be picked up for the entire City on Tuesday of each week. Please have your recyclables out by 7 a.m. by the curb in **clear** bags which are available at City Hall at no charge. It is very important that all recycling be in clear bags and be placed approximately 5' from the regular trash. The solid waste pickup company has been instructed to NOT pick up any clear bags. The Sheltered Workshop will ONLY pick up clear bags. If it appears to the Workshop that the content of the bag is regular trash instead of recyclables, they will NOT pick it up – and they will not pick up glass. Contact the Monroe City Sheltered Workshop at 573-735-4751 if you have questions on what is accepted as recycling.

Emergency Services Reminders

- ✓ Facilities that are utilized during tornadoes and storms are the Holy Rosary Catholic Church basement, the First Baptist Church basement, the Christian Church basement and the City Hall basement.
- ✓ Always keep your homes and vehicles locked.
- ✓ Make sure that you have a house number on your residence/business that can be seen from the road.
- ✓ Change out your fire alarm batteries every year.
- ✓ Carbon Dioxide is a silent killer – test your alarms monthly, professionally clean your chimney/heating system annually, keep your vents clear for your furnace, clothes dryer, stove and fireplace, use only battery-powered lights in confined areas, have a home inspected for CO before you purchase it, do not run cars in attached garages and do not use barbecue grills or run an internal-combustion engine indoors or near buildings.

Real Time Weather -This information can be obtained at www.agebb.missouri.edu/weather/realtime/monroe.asp.

Building, Construction, Remodeling, etc. – If you have plans to do an addition, upgrade your electric, remodel, build a garage, new residence, etc., please contact Brian Miller, the City’s Building Inspector BEFORE anything is done. There may be certain permits that need to be issued before anything can be started. Brian Miller can be reached at 573-735-4585 extension 226.

Utility Meters - Every month City personnel read the meters at each residence and business in town. If there are fences that prohibit the meters from being read, it is requested that there be some way for our personnel to get inside the gate to read the meters. If there are dogs that roam inside a fenced area, the personnel may not go inside the fence and it is requested that the dogs be chained far enough away from the meters so that the personnel can safely read the meters. Please keep meters free from brush and debris.

Utility Service/Bill Issues Should you have an issue with a utility service – electric, gas, water or sewer – please contact the City of Monroe City at 573-735-4585 or contact Monroe County 911 at 573-735-4411 so that a utility employee can be called out to review the situation and try to determine if it is a City issue or the citizen’s issue. The City of Monroe City will NOT be responsible for any bills citizens incur for review/repair of utility services.

As a reminder, Utility Bills are due INSIDE City Hall by 5 p.m. on the due date. Any bills put in the box after 5 p.m. on the due date will receive a 5% penalty.

Culvert Replacement Program

The City has a culvert replacement program for those that have a culvert that needs to be replaced. The resident is to purchase the new culvert that meets City specifications and the City will remove the old culvert and install the new culvert. Contact Kevin O’Bryan at 573-735-4759 for additional information.

Sidewalk Replacement Program

The City has a sidewalk replacement program for residential sidewalks that are generally used by pedestrians, run parallel with the street, and that are in a deteriorated state and need to be replaced. The City will remove the existing sidewalk and order and pay for the concrete for the new sidewalk. An application and a complete listing of rules and regulations can be picked up at City Hall. Contact Kevin O’Bryan at 573-735-4759 for additional information.

Yard Waste Burning – Leaves and yard waste can be burned in the ditches during the months of April, October and November. DO NOT BURN ON THE CITY STREETS.

City Brush Pick Up – Every Friday – must be at the curb by 7:30 a.m.

- The items must be at the curb by 7:30 a.m. on Friday morning.
- Limbs are not to be longer than 12’ (twelve feet). Pieces less than 1’ should be in a container or box that can be easily dumped into the truck. Put all sticks in one pile – do not create smaller separate piles around your residence.

- Only brush, leaves and grass clippings will be picked up. Leaves and grass clippings (no cat litter) must be in a plastic bag or container. No wood, fence, tin, concrete, cat litter, animal waste, etc. will be picked up.
- If someone is hired to cut down a tree or just trim limbs, the contractor must haul brush off.
- No brush will be picked up if it is in an alley – unless the alley is paved.
- If you cut down a tree, limbs should be put in one pile and chunks of wood should be put in another pile.
- When piling a big pile of brush – pile should not exceed 10’ in height.
- Stack the limbs in the ditch parallel with the road & keep a 2’ gap between brush piles so they don’t become entangled.
- Keep brush piles in the ditch and away from obstacles such as poles (electric and other), guide wires, water meters, fire hydrants, other trees, etc.
- No brush is to be in the street.
- Yard wastes, leaves, clippings & small limbs can be burned in April, October and November. DO NOT burn directly on the City street – burning must be done in the ditch.
- Citizens can take brush, leaves and grass trimmings to the City Barn and dump them in the designated area. The leaves and grass trimmings must be removed from the bags.

Agricultural Equipment - When operating agricultural equipment in the streets of Monroe City, please take caution and pay attention to low hanging cables – electric, cable TV, phone, etc.

Take precautions in work zones or work areas

Throughout the entire year, our City workers find themselves in situations that could become serious if the proper steps aren’t taken to protect them and our citizens. Therefore, we wanted to take this opportunity to remind people to pay special attention when you are going down the street and see equipment, trucks, fluorescent vests, etc. in or near the road. Slow down and be aware of what is going on and take an alternate route if possible. This not only includes people in vehicles, but people walking, on bikes, scooters, or any other means of transportation. If you find yourself following them down one of the streets, alleys, etc., please maintain a safe distance behind them. These precautions are not only for the safety of our employees but also for you as well.

Pad Mount Transformers - There is a required clearance on these transformers in order for the City crews to make repairs, observe defects, etc. Please keep the three sides of the transformer clear of obstructions (landscaping, flowers, bushes, etc.) within 3’ of the transformer; on the side of the transformer that has the latch there needs to be a 10’ clearance. If there is a situation please be advised that any landscaping may have to be removed in order to make the necessary repairs and it will not be replaced.

Tree Planting Guidelines

Trees are a beautiful asset to our landscapes. However, they need to be planted away from power lines.

“No Planting Zone” is located beneath power lines and for 20’ to either side of them – please do not plant any trees or bushes in this area.

The “Medium Zone” is located adjacent to the No Planting Zone and the purpose is to avoid high branches that overhang power lines or trees that could topple into the lines during severe storms. Trees in this area should not exceed 40’ in height when full grown.

The “Tall Zone” is located anywhere outside of 50’ from either side of the power lines. Taller trees can be planted in this area can provide significant energy benefits by providing cooling shade in the summer and protection from winter winds.

South Lake Memorial Tree Project

A Memorial Tree Drive has been established at South Lake by the Park and Cemetery Board. With the assistance of the Department of Conservation, a plan was developed for the installation of new trees and the removal of existing deteriorating trees keeping in mind the purpose of the South Lake. Six to eight foot tall trees can be purchased through City Hall and they will be planted and mulched by Wink’s Lawn Care. A plan is in place to care for the new trees. Anyone wishing to view the complete plan can do so at City Hall. Many of the trees can be seen at Wink’s and the prices range between \$175 to \$275 per tree. Some trees that have already been planted can be “adopted” at a cost of \$50. Please contact Jackie Pangborn at 573-735-4585 extension 224 at City Hall if you have any questions or wish to purchase a tree in memory of a loved one.

St. Jude's Cemetery Decoration Policy

Flowers and decorations are only allowed on the ground from December 1st to March 1st and no more than 5 days past the day of interment.

Except as stated above, all flowers and decorations must be kept in a vase on the monument or in a device that is attached to the monument. Flowers and decorations are not permitted on the ground at any other times or they will be removed UNLESS they are in a pre-approved container. Samples are attached to the Information Board located at the main entrance of the Cemetery. If anything attached to the monument interferes with the mowing, it will also be removed.

The only objects that are allowed to be installed permanently in St. Jude's Cemetery are head stones and foot stones. All foot stones must be installed in such a manner that an engaged mower may pass over them without causing damage to the items or the mower. Shrubbery/bushes, everlasting lights and other permanently installed items are not permitted and will be removed. Shrubbery/bushes that were planted prior to 2/17/11 will be grandfathered in and will not be removed as long as they are maintained. However, shall they come untended or overgrown they will be removed at the City's discretion. Any items on the ground, around the stone, items that make a boundary around the plot or generally interfere with the mowing/maintenance process will need to be removed by when the mowing season begins the 3rd Monday in March and ends the 4th Friday in October.

Upcoming Events . . .

- ✓ November 2nd - Chamber Meeting – City Hall – 8 a.m. – First Friday of each month
- ✓ December 1st – 3 p.m. – Christmas Street Stroll through downtown Monroe City
- ✓ December 1st – 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Pictures with Santa in downtown Monroe City
- ✓ December 1st – 7 p.m. - Christmas Parade
- ✓ December 8th, 15th and 22nd – Visit Santa in his house at C & R

*For info on these and other events, please "like" the Monroe City Chamber of Commerce on Facebook.

CITIZENS OF MONROE CITY

October 18, 2018

We have had many changes in our local government and I would like to thank everyone that has voiced an opinion; I would like to address a few of them.

Contracting PeopleService, Inc.

PeopleService, Inc. was contacted and they responded the same day and had a representative on-site the next day. We had contacted Alliance Water services with no response to our needs. The City did not have certified personnel that were qualified to produce clean water to the City. The City was in need of emergency help and quick.

The proposal from PeopleService, Inc. included water plant, water distribution, sewer collection and sewer distribution. They would provide the opportunity for our existing employees to apply for a position with PeopleService, Inc.

To continue providing our Citizens with the best quality of water possible, it was a unanimous decision by the Board of Aldermen that contracting with People Services would be the best route for assuring our citizens are getting quality water.

New Sewer Plant

Our sewer plant was built in 1969 with a life expectancy of 30 years. The City is coming up on 50 years for this plant in 2019. This is an issue that should have been addressed and taken care of before now. Monroe City has to have a new sewer plant. We are gathering information on land, layouts and tax bonds. Monroe City will be building a new plant in the near future.

Appointing our City Attorney

I have appointed a new attorney for the City. John Wilcox has represented the City for the last 12 years. He served our City faithfully and helped guide us through many obstacles. Mr. Wilcox and I agreed that it was time to move on. Thank you Mr. Wilcox for the many years and dedication to Monroe City you have put in.

Mr. Michael Williams was appointed as the new City Attorney. Mr. Williams is a long time resident of Monroe City and has an office in the City.

Thank you everyone for the support you have provided to me and the Aldermen.

MAYOR JOHN LONG

City Contact Information

- City Hall – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday573-735-4585
- City Administrator573-735-4585 – ext. 224
- City Clerk573-735-4585 – ext. 225
- Municipal Court Clerk.....573-735-4585 – ext. 225
- Building Inspector573-735-4585 – ext. 226
- Library – 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday.....573-735-4585 – ext. 246
- Police Department – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday.....573-735-4431
- After hours, call 911 for emergencies or 735-4411 for non-emergencies
- City Street Department – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday573-735-4759
- City Gas, Water & Sewer Dept. – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.....573-735-2488
- City Humane Officer – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday573-735-4585 – ext. 241
- City Electric Plant – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. Monday thru Friday573-735-4441
- City Sewer Plant – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.....573-735-4451
- City Water Plant – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Sunday.....573-735-2822
- City License Office – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday.....573-735-4585 – ext. 228
- Monroe City Fire Department - 911 Emergency, 735-4405 Non-Emergency

Mayor – John Long

Ward I Aldermen – Jason Osbourne & Jeremy Moss

Ward II Aldermen – Marvin Viloría & Dane Foster

Ward III Aldermen – Connie Painter & Melissa Hays

City Council meetings are normally the first and third Thursday each month. Please contact City Hall to confirm.

CUT AND RETURN BOTTOM TO CITY HALL IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO.

**CITY OF MONROE CITY
RESIDENT INFORMATION SHEET**

Please complete the information below and return it to City Hall at your earliest convenience so that we can update our files with your contact information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Best Contact Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM YOUR NATURAL GAS COMPANY

The Monroe City Gas Department continually evaluates its security procedures to ensure the highest levels of security. Also, the City works diligently to ensure pipeline safety through a variety of measures including inspection programs, public education programs, pipeline markers, facility mapping, leak surveys, patrolling, pressure monitoring, odorization and liaison with public officials.

The City of Monroe City Gas Department operates 55 miles of natural gas pipelines in its territory. These pipelines reliably and efficiently deliver natural gas throughout the City's territory. Natural gas energy is the most popular heating fuel in America and its pipeline system is among the safest and most secure methods of transporting energy.

Natural Gas is lighter than air, non-toxic and contains no poisonous ingredients. Breathing natural gas is not harmful as long as there is an adequate supply of air to breathe along with it.

Natural gas by itself will not burn. Combustion can occur only when there is a mixture of gas and air containing between 5 percent and 15 percent natural gas and between 95 percent and 85 percent air.

An odor that smells like rotten eggs is added to natural gas so that you can smell it.

Because of its unique qualities of being lighter than air with a narrow band of combustions, natural gas is one of the safest energy sources available. Understanding and following safety procedures will make it even safer.

IF YOU SMELL A FAINT ODOR OF NATURAL GAS INSIDE YOUR HOME OR BUILDING:

1. Investigate immediately.
2. If the source of odor cannot be located or corrected, call the Monroe City Gas Department's emergency number immediately at **573-735-4411, 24 hours a day**. A representative from the Monroe City Gas Department will inspect your home or building at no cost to you.

IF A STRONG OR PERSISTENT ODOR OF GAS IS PRESENT IN YOUR HOME OR BUILDING, OR IF YOU HEAR A HISSING SOUND OF ESCAPING NATURAL GAS:

1. GET EVERYONE OUT OF THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY.
2. LEAVE THE DOORS OPEN.
3. USE A NEIGHBOR'S PHONE OR CELLULAR PHONE OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING AND CALL 573-735-4411.
4. **DO NOT** OPERATE ANY ELECTRICAL SWITCHES, APPLIANCE CONTROLS, OR PULL ANY PLUGS FROM THE OUTLETS.
5. **DO NOT** USE THE TELEPHONE IN THE HOUSE OR BUILDING CONTAINING THE ODOR.
6. **DO NOT SMOKE.**

IF YOU SMELL OR DETECT NATURAL GAS OUTSIDE CALL IMMEDIATELY:

The Monroe City Natural Gas Department's 24 Hour emergency phone number is **573-735-4411**.

FOR YOUR SAFETY: FLAMMABLES AND APPLIANCES – DO NOT MIX:

1. DO NOT use and/or store flammable products such as gasoline, solvents or adhesives in any room or area near the water heater or any other gas appliances.
2. Water temperatures over 125 degrees Fahrenheit can cause severe burns instantly from scalds.

**Call the Monroe City Gas Department If You Smell Natural Gas at
our 24 – Hour Emergency Number 573-735-4411
Before you DIG call 811
800 344 7483**

PIPELINE PURPOSE AND RELIABILITY

The City of Monroe City Gas Department operates 55 miles of natural gas pipelines in its territory. These pipelines quietly, reliably, and efficiently deliver natural gas throughout the service territory for household, commercial, and industrial use. Natural Gas energy is the most popular home heating fuel in America and its pipeline system is among the safest and most secure methods of transporting energy. The natural gas industry works very closely with governments and stays abreast of new security methods and technologies to ensure the highest level of security. The City of Monroe City Gas Department also evaluates our security procedures on a regular basis and continually enhances security programs as necessary and appropriate to meet our needs.

AWARENESS OF HAZARDS AND PREVENTION MEASURES UNDERTAKEN

The United States natural gas transmission and distribution system has the best safety record of any type of transportation system in the country. Natural gas is clean, convenient, and efficient, which makes it the popular energy choice. Like all forms of energy, however, it must be handled properly. Despite an excellent safety record, a gas leak caused by damage to a pipeline may pose a hazard and has the potential to ignite. We work diligently to ensure pipeline safety through a variety of measures including:

One-Call program, Inspection programs, Design and construction practices, Workforce qualifications, Public education programs, Industry safety practices and Government oversight; Pipeline markers and facility mapping, Leak surveys, Patrol of critical facilities, Pressure monitoring, Odorization, Liaison with City Agencies and Security measures.

LEAK RECOGNITION AND RESPONSE

A gas leak is usually recognized by smell, sight, or sound.

Smell – Natural gas is colorless and odorless. Before it reaches you, we add a distinctive, pungent odor, which most people associate as smelling like rotten eggs, so that you'll recognize it quickly.

Sight – You may see a white cloud, mist, fog, bubbles in standing water, or vegetation that appears to be dead or dying for no apparent reason.

Sound – You may hear an unusual noise like roaring, hissing, or whistling.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU SUSPECT A LEAK

Move - to a safe environment.

Do Not - strike a match, use telephone; switch on/off appliances, lights or even a flashlight in the area where you smell gas.

Call - 573-735-4585 during normal business hours, 911 after hours & on weekends to report the leak. A serviceman will be dispatched right away to investigate. There is no charge for this service.

DAMAGE PREVENTION AWARENESS

An important part of maintaining the City of Monroe City Gas Department's safety record is an effective damage prevention program. Ours includes regular patrols of the pipeline, increasing public awareness of the existence of the pipeline, and participation in the Missouri One Call Program.

The greatest risk to underground pipelines is accidental damage during excavation. To protect the City of Monroe City's natural Gas pipeline and other underground facilities, it is critical that individuals use the One Call System prior to any excavation-related activities on public or private property. The law requires that all persons planning to do any excavating notify the One Call System at least three working days and no more than 10 working days before digging.

CALL THE MISSOURI ONE CALL SYSTEM BEFORE YOU DIG 1-800-DIGRITE (1-800-344-7483) OR 811

The One Call Center will contact the City of Monroe City and owners of other underground facilities in the immediate area so that we can mark the location of our facilities prior to excavation. There is no charge for this service. Excavators are required by law to take certain precautions when working in the immediate area of underground facilities; the One Call Center can provide the details of what is required. Failure to comply with this law can jeopardize public safety and result in costly damage and substantial fines for the excavator.

Any Damage of our underground facilities, even if it appears to be minor, should be reported to the City of Monroe City Gas Department immediately. A gouge, scrape, dent, or crease to the pipe or its coating may cause a future leak or failure. It is imperative that the City of Monroe City Gas Department and other owners inspect and repair any damage to their facilities.

HOW TO GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You may call us at (573) 735-2488 from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM to get additional information about natural gas and the proper use of it.