



City of Battlefield Newsletter

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An official publication of the City of Battlefield

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CITY MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the City of Battlefield is to serve its customers by providing courteous and responsive service; promoting economic opportunity; enhancing the quality of life for its citizens; and building a better City for future generations.

HOLIDAY SECURITY

Whether you're leaving or staying home this Christmas, you can take steps to help make the season safer for you and your family.

If you are leaving, call us with your information for our Vacation Watch Program. We'll make officers aware you are going to be gone so they can help watch for suspicious activity. The best step you can take is to have trusted friends, relatives, or neighbors watch your house. They should make it look lived in by getting the mail daily, change lighting and window shade patterns, snow removal, etc.

If you stay home be careful what trash you put next to the curb. A box with a picture of a brand new big screen television or other electronic devices is a neon sign to a burglar. Tear the boxes down or better yet put them in your recycle receptacle.

It is sad to say, but many thefts this time of year come from within – usually cash and jewelry being stolen during a party or by people staying at your house; here, an ounce of prevention is truly worth it. People who would not otherwise consider stealing something are tempted by the opportunity and pressures of the season. Lock your valuables!

Make sure you report suspicious activity immediately to 911. I regularly get calls from people who report something suspicious several days later – when in doubt, call. We'd rather investigate a dozen false alarms than have that one time when it matters, go unreported.

Chief David Valley
Battlefield Police Department
890-9876

From all of us to all of you, we hope you have the most Merry and Blessed Christmas; Chanukah Sameach; Happy Kwanzaa; and for those of you who don't do the holiday thing, have a fine Festivus.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

ELECTION TIME ROLLING AROUND AGAIN

Our city-wide general election is coming up soon. We have 3 Aldermen seats that will be up for election/re-election. The Aldermen positions that will be available are:

Ward I—One spot available
Ward II—One spot available
Ward III—One spot available

The first day to file to run is **December 17, 2014**. The final day to file to run will be **January 20, 2015**.

To run as an Alderman you must be at least 18, have lived in Battlefield and in your ward for at least 1 year, and be willing to serve for a 2 year term.

If you want to get into politics or serve your community, now is the perfect time.

Stop by and see Beth West any time on or after **December 17, 2014** for your election package.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU

Congratulations to Sgt. Steve Carpenter with the Battlefield Police Department. We recently celebrated his tenth anniversary with our department. It is very difficult for a small agency to retain good people so we are particularly grateful to have Sgt. Carpenter stay with us for that many years.

Sgt. Carpenter graduated the Drury University Police Academy in 1998. In 1999 he started his law enforcement career in Battlefield as a reserve officer for six months. He then became a reserve deputy with the Greene County Sheriff's Office for almost three years. While working as a reserve officer, he was the Loss Prevention Supervisor for Bass Pro Shops for five years. Sgt. Carpenter then became a full time Police Officer for the City of Battlefield in October, 2004.

Chief David Valley
Battlefield Police Department
890-9876

CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY

As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.

Picking a Tree

- ❖ Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

Placing the Tree

- ❖ Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- ❖ Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- ❖ Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- ❖ Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

Lighting the Tree

- ❖ Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- ❖ Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- ❖ Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- ❖ Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

After Christmas

- ❖ Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry.
- ❖ Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.
- ❖ Check with your local community to find a recycling program.
- ❖ Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

Facts:

- One in every three home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical fires.
- Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly one in every five of the fires.

Adapted from a National Fire Protection Association article by:

Bryan Newberry, Fire Chief—Battlefield Fire Protection District

EXERCISING AFTER DARK?

If you're out after dark, on or near the streets here in Battlefield, I beg you, wear something reflective or at the very least, light colored. Stay safe and don't become a statistic. Your loved ones want you around for many Christmases to come.

Rick Hess, City Administrator and safety scold