



# City of Battlefield Newsletter

December 2014

An official publication of the City of Battlefield  
[www.battlefieldmo.gov](http://www.battlefieldmo.gov)

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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.

### 2nd ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING.

Please come join us Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, for our 2nd annual tree lighting ceremony at 6:00 p.m. There will be hot cocoa and cookies in the Community Room afterwards. The Wilson Creek Choir is working on a musical and will not be singing this year. We are working to get another area school choir to sing during this year's tree lighting. Come join us and help us kick off the holiday season and stay for the Board of Alderman meeting.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

## SANTA IN THE CITY

Our annual Santa in the City will be on Saturday December 13th from 9 AM—11 AM. Come on down in your best Christmas duds and have your picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

We're also going to have a coloring contest for artists from 1-12 years of age. We're giving away some great prizes to the winners of each age group. We'll also have Christmas movies playing in the big room while you color.

As if that wasn't enough, there will also be a pancake and sausage breakfast in the Community Room. This is hosted by local church groups as a community service. All we ask is that you bring one (or more) non-perishable food items as a donation. Cash donations are also accepted. All donations will be divided between the churches and used to help those in need of help during the holidays. So come join us, see Santa and have a great breakfast.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

## THANKSGIVING & HOLIDAY COOKING SAFETY

Thanksgiving is my favorite time of year. Family and friends gathering, the brisk air, wonderful meals, and, of course, football. However, we need to be mindful of some basic fire safety tips during the holiday so a dinner doesn't become a tragedy. Always stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food. You should never leave your home when you have a turkey or ham in the oven, or it can lead to a disaster.

Have activities that can keep the children out of the kitchen during the busy times. Games, puzzles, or books can keep them busy. You can also get the kids involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside of the kitchen.

Always check your smoke alarms to make sure they are working. Test them by pushing the test button. If you need assistance with your smoke alarms or need smoke alarms, contact the Battlefield Fire Protection District at 417-881-9018 or by visiting their website at [www.battlefieldfire.com](http://www.battlefieldfire.com). As always, be fire safe and enjoy your holiday.

Battlefield Fire Protection District

## 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. To run for the Mayor position you must be at least 25, have lived in Battlefield for at least 1 year and be willing to serve 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 Dec.17 for your election package.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

## BURNING INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF BATTLEFIELD

It's that time of year again when our trees drop all their leaves in our yards. While you may be tempted to rake the leaves into a pile and burn them, please don't. Burning leaves or other yard or other burnable waste presents hazards to your home and your neighbors homes.

Take your leaves and other yard waste to the yard waste recycling facility located near the SW power plant. Take Highway M west toward Republic; turn right at Farm Road 107, cross the railroad tracks (careful at this point, it's not the most car/truck friendly crossing in the area), turn right at the stop sign and then follow the road until you hit the recycling facility.

Limbs and other woody debris will cost you \$3.00/load while grass and leaves are free to dispose of.

Burning could get you a citation from the Battlefield Police or from the Fire Department which could cost you a whole lot more than recycling it.

You could also be charged with negligent burning if by chance you caught your neighbors fence, accessory building or home on fire.

### **Section 210.355**

[Ord. No. 05-09 §1, 5-17-2005; Ord. No. 10-17 §1, 8-17-2010]

A. *Definitions.* As used herein, the following terms and phrases have the definitions which follow each:

#### **OPEN BURNING:**

The combustion of any matter except in a closed chamber described in Subsection (B) and except open burning for recreational purposes as herein defined.

#### **OPEN BURNING FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES:**

Campfires and other fires used solely for recreational purposes, ceremonial occasions or for the outdoor non-commercial preparation of food. Fires for the purposes described herein shall utilize only vegetative woody materials or untreated wood products and shall not include the open burning of leaves.

#### **UNTREATED WOOD PRODUCTS:**

Lumber or other wooden materials that have not been chemically treated for resistance to moisture, fire, fungi, insects and other pests or which have not otherwise been treated or manufactured with chemicals or do not contain adhesives or resins. Untreated wood products do not include plywood, particle board, chip board or wood with other than minimal amounts of paint, coating or finish.

Open burning, except open burning for recreational purposes, shall not be permitted anywhere within the City limits except when undertaken pursuant to a valid permit issued by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. As used herein, open burning shall include the combustion of any matter except in a closed chamber and shall include the burning of trees, brush, leaves or other forms of vegetation. A chamber shall be regarded as closed when, during the time combustion takes place, such chamber is fully enclosed except for such apertures, ducts, stacks, flues or chimneys as are necessary to provide combustion air and to permit the escape of exhaust gases.

# Addendum to the Newsletter – December 2014

## **Averaging period begins to set next year's sewer rates.**

Each year we take a three month average of your water bills. This is used to determine new sewer rates that take effect with your April 2015 bill. This period begins November 15, 2014 and runs through February 15, 2015. We use these three months because this is when your water usage is typically at the lowest. You aren't watering lawns; washing cars; filling pools or hot tubs or other large water uses.

Your new sewer bill that comes in your April bill will be your sewer rate each month. If you use more water this averaging period than you used last averaging period, your sewer rate will go up. Conversely, if your water use average is lower this period than last averaging period, your sewer rate will likely go down.

Here are some tips to help you use less water. You can probably think of many more.

Take shorter showers or baths.

Only use the dishwasher or clothes washer when you have full loads.

Check for running toilets or leaky pipes and have them repaired.

For those who move to town late in the averaging period or after the averaging period, we use a set base amount based on the number of people in your home. This will be your monthly bill until the next averaging period comes around.

If you have questions concerning the averaging period, give us a call at 883-5840.

