



City of Battlefield Newsletter

August 2015

An official publication of the City of Battlefield
www.battlefieldmo.gov

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.

SEWER RATE INCREASES

Due to rate increases from Springfield, we are having to raise sewer rates for all of our customers.

We really do not enjoy having to raise rates, but we have no other option. We must honor a contractual obligation with the City of Springfield to raise rates when they do, so we have enough money coming in every month to pay our service costs. In addition to our contractual obligation to Springfield, we have an even more important obligation, and that is to you, our customers and citizens.

We must maintain our sewer infrastructure in the best shape that we can to provide you with adequate waste removal service, and maintain an adequate sewer repair reserve fund. This fund allows us to make major repairs and upgrades to the system without having to continually turn to the bond market for funding. The new rates will go into effect July 15th and are on August sewer bill.

Your usage is based on the 3 month water use average over the winter months. Your water use average will not change for the remainder of the calendar year.

The rates will be:

Base rate for residential:	\$23.45
Base rate for non-residential:	\$29.11
Volume Charge per 1,000 gallons:	\$4.25

Questions concerning your sewer bill should be directed to the Utility Billing Office which can be reached at 883-5840.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

ELECTION ALERT!

For those of you new to Battlefield and for those of you who have not changed your voter registration, this information is for you.

If you haven't changed your voter registration, come in and see our Voter Registration Clerk, Beth West. A current voter registration is necessary for you to vote in upcoming elections.

Beth is also our City Clerk, among many other hats she wears. Our office hours are M-F from 8-5. Please call 883-5840 to see if Beth will be here so you don't make an unnecessary trip.

Upcoming elections and last days to register to vote.

August 4th, 2015: Last day to register to vote in this election is July 8th, 2015. City Hall will be closed on Friday July 3rd, 2015.

November 3rd, 2015: Last day to register to vote in this election is October 7th, 2015.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

ANNUAL BUDGET

On June 23rd the Board of Aldermen passed our annual budget that became effective July 1, 2015 and runs through June 30, 2016.

The budget is a balanced budget per state statute.

The budget and budget summary are available for you to check during normal business hours, 8 AM to 5 PM at:
Battlefield City Hall,
5434 S. Tower Drive
Battlefield, MO. 65619
Or online at www.battlefieldmo.gov.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

STORM WATER DRAINAGE AND ILLICIT DUMPING

Do you know where storm water runoff goes? Storm water runs to Wilson Creek and the James River and from there to Table Rock Lake. What gets into our storm water drainage systems in the city eventually gets to Table Rock.

There are two ways for water to get out of the City. In the newer subdivisions, water flows into storm water drains along the curbs into underground storm drains and flows to outfall areas around the edge of the City. In the older subdivisions storm water is moved out of the City by ditches. Both methods are efficient ways to transfer the water out of Battlefield.

Putting anything illicit into our drainage systems, regardless of what type drainage system it is, is illegal and could potentially subject you to significant fines. Some illicit items are: motor oil or other petroleum products; mass quantities of pesticides/herbicides; large amounts of grass or leaves. These are just a few examples of things not to put in the storm drain boxes or ditches or drainage easements.

Help keep our water clean and dispose of illicit items responsibly. Take used motor oil or other petroleum products to recycle centers; do the same with pesticides/herbicides and take grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste to the yard waste recycling center on FR 164 near the SW Wastewater Treatment Center. These are the directions to the Yard Waste Recycling Center from Battlefield. Travel west on Hwy M, toward Republic, to FR 107. Turn right on FR 107 and follow it to FR 164. Turn right on FR 164 and follow the road to the recycling center. It's free to take grass/leaves or other grass like yard waste, and \$4.00 per pickup or trailer load of limbs from homeowners.

Charges for businesses may vary, please check this website for more information.
<http://www.springfieldmo.gov/491/Yardwaste-Recycling-Center>.

Those of you that have a drainage easement as part of their back yard must keep the grass/weeds mowed to 12 inches or less in height. DO NOT dump any yard waste in the drainage easement as it restricts the normal flow of storm water, potentially can cause storm water backup onto your neighbors property, and can provide a nesting place for vermin and other undesirable creatures. Be responsible and keep your drainage easements mowed.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

YOU ARE YOUR OWN FIRST RESPONDER

During a devastating natural or man-made disaster you should be prepared to care for yourself, without any government assistance, for a **MINIMUM** of 72 hours.

It is not that emergency workers or relief personnel (Red Cross or other non-governmental organization) or government agencies won't get to you as fast as you might like, but they can't reach everyone immediately. You could get help in a few hours or it might take days.

In addition to that, basic services such as electricity, water, sewage, cell phone service or the internet might be cut off for days, a week or even longer.

Help yourself and your family. Build a disaster supply kit and be ready to care for yourself and your family. Find out how to build your kit at www.ready.gov.

Remember, **YOU** are your own first responder.

Rick Hess, City Emergency Management Director