



City of Battlefield Newsletter

February 2015

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.

Tips For Safe Winter Driving:

Clear the top of the car, the windshield and the windows of all snow and ice before driving.

Always bring warm clothes and extra water in the car with you.

Be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Double the amount of space you would normally put between you and the car in front of you.

Brake and accelerate slower than normal.

Do not slam on the brakes if you can help it.

Know that many people are nervous when driving in winter weather and use caution when passing.

Stay 50 to 100 feet away from an active plow truck when possible.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

NEW SEWER PAYMENT OPTION

We will be offering another payment option to sewer customers to pay online through our website. We hope to have everything up and running by February 1, 2015. There is a red button on our website, [www dot battlefieldmo dot gov](http://www.dot.battlefieldmo.gov), that says "Make Sewer Payment, Click Here". You will be able to use your credit card to pay your sewer bill and get a receipt the same day. This is through a 3rd party vendor and they charge a service fee of \$2.75 or 3%, whichever is greater. You can also have your sewer bill sent directly to your email. If you are interested in using either the new payment option or the e-bill option please call 883-5840 after February 1 and ask for Utility Billing.

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 or 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 final day to file to run for one of the Alderman Positions is **5 PM, Tuesday January 20, 2015**. A reminder, City Hall is closed Monday for the Martin Luther King, Jr. remembrance day.

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.

Stop by and see Beth West any time **8-5, M-F** for your election packet.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

Postal Service Confirms Cuts That Will Slow Mail Down

Budget cuts are pushing the U.S. Postal Service to slow down first class deliveries. A spokesman for the American Postal Workers Union says people will lose about a day or two on mail headed outside of Springfield, like to Lebanon. He says the bigger issue is when the Springfield processing center moves to Kansas City in

J u l y .
If you still mail a check to pay your bills, it's going to take longer for them to get where they're going. You will want to make sure you mail your sewer payments a couple of days earlier than you normally do to ensure your check arrives at City Hall on or before the 5th of each month. Any payment that arrives after the 5th of the month is considered late and will incur a late fee. If you have any questions, please call City Hall at 883-5840.

Rick Hess, City Administrator

4 MYTHS OF WINTER DRIVING

Myth 1: Winter Tires Aren't a Necessity:

"Most people think a winter tire is just for ice and snow, but it is better performing on cold pavement," Director of Bridgestone Winter Driving School Mark Cox said.

Unlike summer or all-season tires, which get hard in cold air, winter tires stay pliable down to the lowest temperatures, according to Cox. These tires also stick well to the pavement in wintry conditions.

Myth 2: All-Wheel Drive is Invincible in the Snow:

While all-wheel drive splits grip between four tires instead of two thus allowing the driver a greater margin of error, simply having all-wheel drive does not enable a person to be necessarily safer in the snow.

"All wheel-drive creates a false sense of confidence, people assume that the vehicle stops and corners better but that is not the case," Cox said. "When it comes to turning and stopping, all vehicles are created equal."

Myth 3: All-Season Tires are Fine for winter:

Sneakers can be worn in the summer and the winter, but a person gets better comfort and performance if they wear sandals in the summer and snow boots in the winter. The same goes for tires, Cox explains.

"An all-season tire is a compromise, it is engineered to be medium in the summer and medium in the winter," Cox said.

Due to the engineering of an all-season tire, these tires do not stay as soft as a winter tire in lower temperatures and as a result are simply not as effective in colder weather.

Myth 4: For Better Traction, Under Inflate Tires:

This legendary myth is far from the truth, as under inflation of a tire takes away from performance, effectiveness and safety.

"When temperatures are dropping you lose one pound of inflation for every 10-degree drop in temperature," Cox said. Under inflation can actually damage tires when withstanding winter weather. For the best performance, tires should be inflated to the car's manufacturers recommended inflation rate which is listed on the inside of the car door.

When out on the roads, drivers only have control of three things; the brake, the accelerator and the steering and wintry weather adds additional challenges.

"It takes from four to 10 times longer to stop on ice and snow than on dry pavement," Cox said. "The more slippery it is, the more critical it is that the driver be smooth with all of their inputs."

POTENTIAL NEW POLICE OFFICER

Chief Vallely will be proposing hiring a new police officer at the January 20th Board of Aldermen meeting. This will be our third new officer since you passed the half cent sales tax dedicated to our Police Department. We promised to hire a new officer every 12-18 months, and so far we have been able to meet that standard thanks to your foresight.

Rick Hess, City Administrator