



THE LAWRENCE LIFT NEWSLETTER

CHECK OUT OUR NEW ONLINE BILL PAY

I would also like to encourage our Lawrence Utility customers to take advantage of our new on-line bill pay platform with recurring credit card option. This is a very convenient new feature and is easy to set up. It is necessary to create login credentials and I would strongly suggest the use of a password manager app or some other password management system! We have had calls from folks who have forgotten their passwords, which can be reset through the automated process within the bill pay platform. We also have two new payment stations available for our customers. One is in the Billing Office lobby and the other is in the lobby of the City Government Center at 9001 East 59th Street. You can set up user accounts as well as make credit card payments on these secured devices.

Check out our new online bill pay! Visit us at www.cityoflawrence.org/billpay to enroll in e-bill and pay by credit card! Remember to record your password somewhere secure after you set up your account!

ISSUE 35

The City of Lawrence Police Department is currently accepting applications for the 2019 Citizens' Academy. The Citizens' Academy is a 10-week program designed to give citizens a greater understanding of the inner-workings of their police department.

The Citizens' Academy introduces citizens to a wide variety of topics and operational functions and procedures of the department. There will be several speakers who will present and as well as provide practical exercises in wide array of topics from Crime Scene Investigations, K-9, Patrol, and Emergency Vehicle Operations, and much more.

Participants in the Citizens' Academy are selected by the Chief of Police through an application process. There are a limited number of seats available for this academy.

Applicants must meet the following criteria to attend the Citizens' Academy:

- Must be 21 years old prior to the start of the academy
- Must live or work in the City of Lawrence
- Must not have had any misdemeanor arrest for the past five years or felony arrests at any time

The academy starts Thursday, March 7, from 6p.m. to 9p.m., and will continue for 10 weeks. Classes will take place at LPD's Craig Herbert Range located at 9530 E. 59th St.

Applications will be accepted January 1 to February 1. Applications can be accessed from the City of Lawrence website at www.cityoflawrence.org. Information and applications are also available at LPD's offices located at 9001 E. 59th St.

To learn more, please contact Deputy Chief Curtis Bigsbee at 317-542-4518.

Dear Lawrence Utility Customer,

I hope everyone's year is off to a great start! You may recall that a few issues ago I mentioned the problem with litter in our City and how bad it has gotten. Along these lines, I have received communications concerning another aspect of the appearance of our City and it concerns the trash and recycle bins we roll out on trash and recycle days. The following comes directly out of our City Code in Section 5-2-3-2:

- Residents shall adhere to the day provided for the collection of the garbage and trash within their respective areas and shall not cause any container to be set out prior to 6:00 p.m. on the evening prior to the day of collection in their area, and shall cause the garbage and trash containers to be removed from public view not later than 6:00 p.m. on the day the collection of the garbage and trash has been made.

Please be considerate of your neighbors and store your trash bins so that they are not seen except on trash and recycle days. If possible, store them in your garage, or on the side of the house with a blind or screen structure, so they are not visible from the street, or perhaps behind the house. Also, when you do roll out your trash and recycle bins, please be sure you have not overfilled them, which results in loose trash being blown out of them and scattered all over the City. These simple things will go a long way towards enhancing the appearance of our

City and its neighborhoods.

Grease continues to be a problem with our sanitary sewer system. I know I have mentioned this before, and I believe it bears mentioning again. Our sanitary sewer system has enough problems related to age and structural integrity without our adding to the problem unnecessarily. Many believe that hot water and dishwashing detergent is an adequate solution. It is not. It may get the grease away from your sink, but as grease travels further into your house plumbing and eventually to your service line outside the house and into the public main, that water temperature cools and the grease begins to coagulate and ends up sticking to pipe walls, resulting in clogs. This leads to backups, spills and increased costs on the utility, which ultimately are borne by ratepayers. It is particularly troubling because all it takes is a little awareness on the part of our residents and business owners to greatly reduce the negative impacts of grease. Here are some simple solutions:

- Wipe greasy pots, pans and dishes with a paper towel and dispose of the paper towels in the trash.
- Collect grease in a used can, bottle or jar with a secure lid and when full, dispose of in the trash.
- Inspect and maintain grease traps/interceptors regularly to ensure proper function.

The more issues we encounter that are related to grease will inevitably result in higher maintenance

and treatment costs. Not to mention the potential for additional regulatory action related to resulting spills and backups. Grease is a problem we can all do something about to reduce the impact of future sewer rate increases. Please be mindful of how you handle grease and dispose of it properly instead of the seemingly easier option of running it down the drain. That drain option will end up costing us all.

It is that time of year when people are considering renovations or remodeling their homes. Our DPW Director would like to remind people to check contractor's out thoroughly before entering into any agreements or contracts. Make sure they are licensed, bonded and insured to work in the City of Lawrence and that they know that they must have valid Lawrence building permits. If you are unsure of the licensing and/or permitting requirements for the City of Lawrence, please visit: <http://www.cityoflawrence.org/public-works/permits-guidelines>. A little time spent in researching requirements prior to jumping into a project can prevent a lot of delay or frustration in getting your project completed. You can also find a listing of Lawrence licensed contractors at the link above.

Thank you,



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