



City Limits Newsletter

April 2024

SPRING CRIME PREVENTION TIPS Reminder from Chief Zink...

- During the spring weather, many people open windows or sliding glass doors while they are at home. Always remember to close and lock your windows and sliding doors when you go to bed or leave the house.
- Keep doors locked at all times. If you are working in the back yard, keep your front door and garage door closed and locked; and lock your back door when you are in the front yard. Always lock your doors when you leave, even if you only plan to be gone for a few minutes.
- Install motion-activated lights in your front and back yards, so that when someone approaches your home, the lights automatically come on.
- Put all ladders and other tools back into a secure storage area after you use them. Ladders and other tools can be used by criminals to access your home. Always lock any storage unit or shed you have on your property.
- Be aware of home improvement scams. If a contractor or salesman shows up at your door unannounced, do not do business with them.
- If a utility representative comes to our house, request identification. True representatives will carry their identification and they will gladly show it to you. Call their company for verification.
- In warm weather months there is a tendency to leave items, such as bicycles, gardening tools, lawnmowers, weed eaters, and other yard tools lying around in the open. Make sure you lock up your property in your garage or yard shed.
- An open garage door or yard shed can also be inviting, keep them closed.
- Always remember to roll up your car windows, take any valuables out of your car, and lock your doors every time you exit your vehicle, even if your vehicle is parked in your driveway.
- Being a good neighbor can be one of the best crime prevention tools. Watchful, attentive neighbors can identify activity that is not "normal" in their neighborhoods and alert the Wilmington Police Dept (911 or 815-476-2811).

BURNING POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

The term "open burning" is defined as "intentionally ignited bonfire, grass fire or other similar burning conducted by any person or persons in the open air or in an incinerator or similar device, where from the flame, smoke, burning embers or ash enter or discharge into the open air."

The term "clean wood" is defined as "dry, seasoned wood and not including (a) landscape waste, including but not limited to leaves; (b) painted wood or lumber; (c) treated wood or lumber; or (d) any wood product which produces noxious odors or black smoke when burned."

It is unlawful to build ignite or maintain any open burning without a permit within the City with the following exceptions:

- On property zoned for residential use on lots of 60,000 square feet or larger
- The site of the open burning is located at least 50 feet from all structures and no conditions exist that could cause a fire to spread to within 50 feet of a structure;
- The open burning is located outside of the applicable zoning setback;
- The open burning is constantly attended until the fire is extinguished;
- Clean wood is used for fuel, no burning of trash, leaves, or other debris is permitted; and
- A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment or materials, such as sand, water barrel, garden hose, or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

Portable, outdoor fireplaces or containers are permitted following all of the following standards:

- On property zoned for residential use;
- The fireplace or container is located at least 20 feet from all structures and property lines;
- The fireplace or container is covered to contain burning embers and ash;
- The fire is constantly attended until the fire is extinguished; and
- Clean wood is used for fuel, and no burning of trash, leaves, or other debris is permitted.

An outdoor fireplace may be utilized and/or constructed following approved plans and a permit issued by the city

If you need a fire outside of the specs listed above a permit must be obtained. Please complete the [Open Burn Permit Application](#) before you commence an open burn.

HAPPY WORKIVERSARY!

Phillip Bukovic	8 years
James Gretencord	2 years
Heather Whyte	2 years
Brandon Warick	2 years

OTHER IMPORTANT INFO

Electronic Recycling is held each month on the second Thursday from 5pm to 7pm at City Hall in the front parking lot.

2024 Golf Cart Stickers are available for purchase. Applications are available at City Hall or online.

MEETING CALENDAR

April 2 - 7:00 PM
City Council

April 4 - 5:00 PM
Planning & Zoning

April 9 - 6:00 PM
Committee of the Whole

April 16 - 6:30 PM
Finance, Admin, Land Acq

April 16 - 7:00 PM
City Council

CONTACT INFO

Mayor

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4th Ward

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PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #2

The City of Wilmington is updating its Comprehensive City Plan and preparing a NEW Master Parks Plan! This is a great opportunity for YOU to provide the City with feedback on our collective future vision with long-term goals and objectives for ALL public spaces and activities that affect the City of Wilmington.

Mark your calendar and please join us on April 17, 2024, for the second Public Open House, from 4:00pm to 7:00pm at Wilmington City Hall (1165 S. Water Street). The open house will be a great opportunity to learn more about the project, engage with interactive exhibits, identify key community issues, and share other thoughts and ideas.

RATE INCREASES

The utility rate increase (related to water, sewer, and refuse) will go into effect on May 1, 2024, and be reflected on the June 1, 2024 utility bills. The new rate sheet is included on page 3 of the newsletter.

City Council approved the implementation of an ongoing annual automatic rate adjustment in 2018. Ongoing rate adjustments will be reviewed to help ensure the reliability and maintenance of basic water and sewer services in our community.

Wilmington elected officials and city staff are committed to managing these costs most efficiently and sustainably while maintaining our commitment to the city's future growth. The Wilmington residents who have lived here many years and those just moving in will continue to benefit from the quality services we strive to provide.

If you have questions about this rate increase, please feel free to contact our utility office at City Hall at (779) 801-2192.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT MAO

What is your role at the City? How long have you been with the City and what position did you start at? ***I am currently one half of the Wilmington Police K9 Unit. I have been with my handler since April 2017. I started as just a K9.***

If you could switch your job with anyone else within the City, whose job would you want? ***Deputy Chief Dole, he has a tennis ball in his office.***

What is on your wish list for the next 5 years with the City? ***I plan on retiring and living life like a regular Dog without so much pressure.***

If you could have an unlimited supply of one thing, what would it be? ***Tennis balls and head scratches!!!!***

What is your favorite aspect of your job? ***Thinking my handler is the one running the operation. When everyone knows I am the real one behind it.***

What has been your favorite project that you worked on here at the City? ***Community demonstration, I love meeting all the people who pet me after I show them my job.***

Three words that best describe you? ***Loyal, Driven, Thorough***

People would be surprised if they knew what about you or what's your secret talent that no one knows about? ***I find items that bad guys try to hide.***





City of Wilmington

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PUBLIC NOTICE
DATE OF NOTICE: MARCH 28, 2024
WATER, SEWER, AND REFUSE ANNUAL RATE INCREASE

Customers Located Inside City Limits
FY 2025 Monthly Utility Rates Effective May 1, 2024

	Regular Monthly Fees	Senior or Disabled Rate 10% Discount 65 or Older
Water Per 1,000 Gallons	8.93	8.03
Sewer Per 1,000 Gallons	9.53	8.56
Water Base Fee	9.72	no discount
Sewer Base Fee	38.87	no discount
Meter Replacement Fee	2.32*	no discount
Garbage	24.25	no discount
TOTAL MONTHLY MINIMUM BILL	93.62	91.75
TOTAL MONTHLY MINIMUM BILL WITHOUT GARBAGE	69.37	67.50

Customers Located Outside City Limits
FY 2025 Monthly Utility Rates Effective May 1, 2024

	Regular Monthly Fees	Senior or Disabled Rate 10% Discount 65 or Older
Water Per 1,000 Gallons	13.40	12.06
Sewer Per 1,000 Gallons	14.28	12.85
Water Base Fee	14.58	no discount
Sewer Base Fee	58.32	no discount
Meter Replacement Fee	2.32*	no discount
Garbage	N/A	N/A
TOTAL MONTHLY MINIMUM BILL	102.90	100.13

*Based on a 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Replacement Fee.

Water Turn On / Turn Off fees are **\$50.00 on / \$50.00 off = \$100.00.**

Bulk Water is \$33.78 per 1,000 with a minimum \$84.46 if under 1,500 gallons. Hydrant

Meters are a \$1,125.71 deposit, a \$56.18 per month rental fee, charged at Bulk Rate.

Utility bill service shall be sent by the City to the customer on the first day of the month succeeding the period for which the service is billed. Utility bills are due and payable on the twenty-first day of the month. A penalty of 10% shall be added to all bills not paid by the due date. [\[52.02 Code of Ordinances\]](#)



METER & RATE INFORMATION

Meter Size	New Installation Cost	Replacement Cost	Annual 15-Year Life Expectancy	Monthly Fee
5/8" x 3/4"	511.88	418.09	27.87	2.32
1"	559.66	444.88	29.66	2.47
1 1/2"	839.93	648.68	43.25	3.60
2"	1,831.85	1,359.07	90.60	7.55
3"	2,247.57	1,513.08	100.87	8.41
4"	2,781.02	1,664.56	110.97	9.25
6"	4,147.72	2,194.36	146.29	12.19
8"	5,026.47	2,819.16	187.94	15.66