

Louisburg Speaks ^{KS}

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August - September 2022



The Louisburg city's burn site, located south of the Public Works building on Rogers Road, was temporarily closed July 11 by an order from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Plan to reopen burn site approved by council

The City of Louisburg burn site available for city residents should be reopening soon after action taken at the Aug. 1 City Council meeting.

The City submitted a recommended plan for the burn site to Kansas Department of Health and Environment for approval after the meeting.

The City was notified in mid-July the site was in violation of its permit with the state that saw nighttime burning and unlawful dumping, including trash,

metal and painted lumber.

That nighttime burning likely happened when new brush was dumped on a hot spot and allowed the fire to reignite.

City officials are not sure how long it will take to have the plan approved. Once approval is granted the site will reopen under conditions listed on the next page.

The Council approved adding higher definition cameras at the site both to

monitor the burn and to also watch for illegal dumping and to allow for prosecution.

The Council decided to review the operations one month after the site reopens to determine if any modifications need to be made to the stipulations.

Notice will be made on the City's website and Facebook page when the site is allowed to reopen.

See Page 2



From Page 1

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City Hall

Nathan Law
City Administrator
215 S. Broadway
Louisburg, KS 66053
913-837-5371
www.louisburgkansas.gov
Hours: 7 am - 4:30 pm
Monday-Friday

Police Department

Chief Tim Bauer
209 S. Metcalf Rd.
Louisburg, KS 66053
913-837-3191

Fire Department

Chief Gerald Rittinghouse
205 S. Metcalf Rd.
Louisburg, KS 66053
913-837-4700

Burn site conditions

- Limit access to the burn site to weekends, Saturday and Sunday only. Gated all other times.
- Monday morning employees will sort through and push into a pile only that brush small enough to be allowed to burn. All other items to be removed as needed, and review for non-compliance and prosecution.
- Identify an area for stacking wood suitable for city residents to haul off for their own use.
- Continue to allow for leaves to be disposed in the designated area at the site for hauling to a compost or disposal site elsewhere.
- Tuesday of any given week is the only day during which burning of brush will occur. If employees decide conditions are unsuitable to burn on a Tuesday, the site will either be rearranged to continue to allow brush dumping until the collection area is full, or the site will remain gated until the burn operation may safely reduce the amount of brush at the site.
- The burning operation will be supervised by a combination of onsite employees and offsite camera monitoring until the fire is extinguished. Once the burn is down to a small amount, the pile will be spread out to allow for faster extinguishing of any smoldering material and reduce the risk of relighting. Relighting risk is significantly reduced by having the site gated off much of each week, allowing employees to control proximity to any additional brush that may ignite.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

Council endorses revenue neutral budget

What a great 4th of July Freedom Fest we had. Now on to other things and the biggest is the budget for 2023.

We have had several workshops trying to get all the details worked out so we could hit Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR). Well, alas, we did hit it; in fact we are below it, and I'm proud of our city officials and staff that made this happen. Some long evenings were spent on this. Not only did we help our Louisburg citizens by not increasing property taxes, I believe we were fair to our employees, also. The public hearing is coming up on the 2023 budget, so if you would like your voices heard, please come to the council meeting August 15.

Metcalf 2.0 is finally getting start-

ed. There will be a great sidewalk from 68 to Ron Weers Park after it is finished. We had a great ribbon cutting at Ron Weers Park to kick off this project. I would like to thank everyone that came to support this.

I can't believe it is school time already. Please watch out for all the kids traveling to and from school whether by bike or on foot.

Everyone enjoy the rest of your summer.



DONNA COOK

Donna

Louisburg Speaks is published six times a year by the City of Louisburg for its residents. Please direct questions or comments to jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov

The City of Louisburg requires building permits. Please call the Building & Zoning Department at 913-837-5811 before beginning any construction project.

Council approves new trash contract

The City Council approved moving forward into negotiations on a solid waste contract with Waste Management at its July 18 meeting. The council had released a Request for Proposals as the current solid waste contract expires Oct. 1.



Only one RFP was received.

The new contract, which is expected to be ratified by the Council at a September meeting, indicates the company will move to automation of trash pick-up services.

This will require all residential or commercial customers to have a poly cart or dumpster for trash and recycling options. Those customers who currently rent their carts will see a reduction in their bill.

The residential rate will be \$19.47 per month for trash and recycling. This includes the cost of the carts. Each home will receive a 95-gallon trash cart. A second trash cart is available to rent at \$10.50 per month. Each residence will also receive a 65-gallon recycle cart as part of the contract.

Trash and recycle pick-up day will remain on Tuesday inside the city limits.

The once-a-month bulky item pick-up will continue on the first Tuesday of each month.

One change in the bulky item pick-up will require residents to notify the trash hauler of a bulky item left at the curb. Waste Management will provide more information to residents prior to this change taking affect.

Residential yard waste pick-up is offered as an add-on cost. Residents who use this service may set out grass clippings and leaves in brown paper bags or limbs bundled in 5-ft lengths. The yard-waste pick-up cost has increased slightly to \$7.25 per month.

Eight bags or bundles of yard waste is allowed from January to September. Ten bags/bundles are allowed from October through December.

AUTOMATED SERVICE

Waste Management is moving its Louis-

burg services to automation. New trucks are on order and should be added to the fleet around the first of the year.

Bryce Smith, district manager for WM, said the firm has ordered additional

carts and will deliver to those customers without carts as they arrive. Cart delivery could start as early as this fall, but all carts are expected to be delivered by the end of the year.

Smith said moving to automation allows for safer trash collection for its employees. It also improves collection efficiency, which can help reduce operational and labor costs, and aids in keeping service rates competitive.

An added benefit, Smith said, is all recycling tubs will be replaced with carts and should eliminate recycling from blowing through neighborhoods.

In Louisburg the company offers roll-out or push services without charge for residents 75 and over or disabled residential customers.

A city-wide clean-up will still be offered with a date in the spring to be determined.

A calendar for solid waste and yard-waste pick-up is available on the Garbage Collection page on the City's website.

COMMERCIAL RATES

Commercial rates also adjusted but was not an across-the-board percentage increase. Commercial customers who have questions should contact WM. Contact information is available on the City website on the Garbage Collection page.

MORE INFORMATION

Waste Management will provide notification to its Louisburg customers with details on changes in service, the poly cart delivery and new rates after the final contract is approved by the Council.

Trash service returns to regular pick-up hours after Labor Day

Early trash pick-up due to Waste Management's summer heat schedule will end the week after Labor Day. Residents should have their trash to the curb by 7 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16.

Residents are reminded that trash service is delayed by one day for the Labor Day holiday.

Residents can learn more about the City's garbage collection at: <https://bit.ly/2RYdoEn>

New water rates coming

Louisburg water customers will see a slight increase on their October bill after the Council approved a rate adjustment.

Council approved increasing rates by an average of \$2 per customer at its Aug. 1 meeting.

The Council will review the rates next year to see if an additional adjustment is required.

Talking Tombstones

A Talking Tombstones program presented by the Louisburg Historic Commission is being planned in October.

Talking Tombstones will highlight five Louisburg mayors and provide a brief presentation on each of the mayors.

The event is planned for 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8 at the Louisburg cemetery.

Mayors that will be featured include JT Blair, Roger Coltrin, Gene Elliott, Warren McCandless and Joe Towne.

This is one of several events this year the commission has conducted to encourage community members to learn more about Louisburg's history.



Snow Buddies, Home Buddies sign-ups available

It's up to Mother Nature, if after an exceptionally dry summer, if Louisburg will be hit by a wicked winter weather season with lots of snow.

With fall almost here and winter approaching it's time to take sign-ups for two programs that help Louisburg's senior citizens and disabled residents.

HOME BUDDIES

In the Home Buddies program, senior citizens or disabled residents may get assistance with yard clean-up including raking leaves and cleaning out flower beds before winter.

Louisburg High School's Future Business Leaders of America organization will be assisting with this program.

To be placed on the list, please call City Hall at 837-2324 beginning Oct. 1. The workday is planned for 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Nov. 5.

This will be a first-come, first-served program based on the number of volunteers.



SNOW BUDDIES

Snow Buddies is a volunteer program that matches our city's senior citizens or those who may have a disability and are unable to shovel snow from sidewalks on their property with a volunteer who is able to assist with snow shoveling.

The program also seeks volunteers to shovel a path from the front door to the sidewalk or street, if there is no sidewalk on the property.

To qualify, you must be a senior citizen or have a disability that makes it difficult to shovel snow. You must live in

a single-family residence.

Those who would like to volunteer are asked to commit for the entire winter season and to shovel any sidewalk on the property as well as a path from the front door to the street/sidewalk. Volunteers are not expected to shovel the entire driveway but are asked to shovel within 24 hours of a snow event.

This will be the sixth year for the program and usually averages about 20 Buddies each year.

SIGN UP

You may sign up for the program on the City's website under the "Volunteer" section. Look for the Snow Buddies sign-up under the Good Neighbors section or use this quick link: <https://bit.ly/3mcgwyi>. If you are unable to sign up online, please call City Hall at 913-837-2324. The program is on a first-come, first-served basis and is based on the number of volunteer shovelers.

The City administers both programs.



These Louisburg High School students were Snow Buddies in 2018.

Louisburg Snow Buddies



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Louisburg City Hall closed for Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 5

Louisburg City Council
6:30 pm Tuesday, Sept. 6
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Historic Preservation Commission
6:30 pm Wednesday, Sept. 7
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Park & Tree Board
6:30 pm Monday, Sept. 12
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council
6:30 pm Monday, Sept. 19
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Recreation Commission
6 pm Tuesday, Sept. 20
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission
6:30 pm Wednesday, Sept. 28
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Cider Run
presented by Chamber of Commerce
3-8 pm Saturday, Oct. 1
Downtown Louisburg

Louisburg City Council
6:30 pm Monday, Oct. 3
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Historic Preservation Commission
6:30 pm Wednesday, Oct. 5
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Talking Tombstones
presented by Historic Preservation Commission
6 pm Saturday, Oct. 8
Louisburg Cemetery

Haunted Hayride
presented by Louisburg Recreation Commission
Saturday, Oct. 8 Lewis-Young Park

Louisburg Park & Tree Board
6:30 pm Monday, Oct. 10
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council
6:30 pm Monday, Oct. 17
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Recreation Commission
6 pm Tuesday, Oct. 18
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Halloween on Broadway
4-6 pm Saturday, Oct. 22

Louisburg Planning Commission
6:30 pm Wednesday, Oct. 26
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

DEA Drug-Take Back
10 am-2 pm Saturday, Oct. 29
Louisburg Police Station

Electric Light Band show
LHS Wildcat Marching Band
7 pm Saturday, Oct. 29
Wildcat Stadium
Rain date: Sunday, Oct. 30