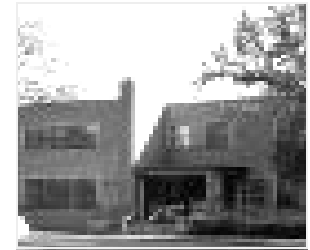


COLD SPRING NEWS



The City of Cold Spring Administration
5694 East Alexandria Pk.
Cold Spring, KY 41076
Phone: 859-441-9604 Fax: 859-441-4640
www.coldspringky.gov



Police Department
5589 East Alexandria Pk.
Cold Spring, KY 41076
Phone 859-441-6289 Fax: 859-441-6806
www.coldspringpd.org

October, 2013

Dear Cold Spring Residents and Business Partners:

As always, I hope this letter finds all is well with you and your family. It's hard to believe summer has come and gone and winter is just around the corner! (And, as usual, our excellent Public Works Department is gearing up for snow and ice Mother Nature may have in store for us!)

CITY ASSUMPTION OF EPA STORMWATER RESPONSIBILITY:

The most significant topic since the City's last newsletter has been the City's assumption of the EPA required stormwater cleanliness responsibility effective OCTOBER 1, 2013.

Prior newsletters and direct mailings to all residents and businesses have detailed at length as to why City Council and the Administration have chosen to accept this responsibility. In summary, in 2008 Sanitation District 1 (SD1) refused to accept the responsibility it promised the residents of Cold Spring in 2003, thus creating significant potential financial liability for the City. Following extensive discourse with SD1, during 2009 the City filed a lawsuit to require SD1 accept such responsibility. The court ruled in 2010 that the 2003 agreement between SD1 and Cold Spring was invalid, thus allowing Cold Spring to assume stormwater responsibility on its own. As an FYI, in 2008 Council and the Administration had fully prepared for this outcome prior to the issuance of the lawsuit. Promptly following the court's 2010 decision, the City notified SD1 of the City's intention to assume all stormwater responsibility. SD1 immediately advised the City that even though the City would assume all stormwater responsibility, SD1 would continue to charge our residents and businesses a fee for stormwater administration. Again after discourse with SD1, in 2011 the City filed a lawsuit to stop SD1's ability to issue a fee to our residents and businesses and not provide services. In early 2013, SD1 agreed to cease issuing Cold Spring residents and businesses a stormwater fee.

Immediately following the settlement, the City formed an ad-hoc subcommittee to officially put into action the 2008 drafted plans to assume full stormwater responsibility. As chosen by Council, the committee is comprised of Councilmen Lou Gerding, Dave Guidugli, Rob Moore, City Attorney Brandon Voelker and me. In conjunction with Environmental Rate Consultants (ERC), a leading consultative firm regarding EPA stormwater compliance, the committee has met (and continues to meet) numerous times to: 1) fulfill all EPA/State required regulatory and administrative compliance; 2) establish City systems, organization and processes for the newly acquired stormwater responsibility; and 3) using a long-term outlook, formulate current and ongoing costing for compliance and related fee to be collected from residents and businesses for this compliance.

As a result of the committee's extensive work to date, on September 23 and 30, 2013, City Council unanimously ratified an ordinance establishing the City's stormwater program and establishing the necessary stormwater fee to be charged to residents and businesses. Essential aspects are:

- SD1's current rate is \$4.80 per month.
 - o As communicated to you by SD1, SD1 will bill in October for fees through September.
- For 2013 and 2014, the fee for Single Family and Duplex dwellings will be \$4.50 per month.
 - o The City stormwater fee will be itemized on residents' real estate/waste collection bills issued in October each year.
 - * Billed in October 2013, the 2013 City fee will cover October, November and December, 2013 = \$13.50
 - * Billed in October 2014, the 2014 City fee will cover the entire 2014 calendar year = \$54.00
- For 2013 and 2014, the fee for all other dwelling units (condominiums, etc.) and businesses will be \$4.50 per month *per 3,000 square feet of impervious surface* (concrete, gravel, rooftops and similar, called an equivalent rate unit ("ERU") in stormwater jargon).
 - o Note: SD1 fee was calculated on 2,600 sq. ft.
 - o Bills will be issued quarterly beginning January 1, 2014 for the PRIOR three months.
Thus, the January, 2014 fee invoice will be for October, November, and December 2013.

The \$4.50 billing rate per unit is projected to provide the City approximately \$250,000 in stormwater fees annually. Current annual stormwater related expenses are projected to be approximately \$280,000 per year for the next two years or so. The expenses also include "startup" consulting fees to assist in EPA/State regulatory compliance. "Startup" includes purchase of: software, GIS data access costs, and communication and educational materials. It is anticipated that part-time help will be needed for ongoing administration of the program. Funding to cover the difference between expenses and fee income for the program's initial two years will be provided by the City's "general fund". It is important to note that advances by the general fund are: 1) in lieu of costly bank borrowing, and 2) required by City ordinance to be repaid by collected stormwater fees when collected monies exceed projected expenses. Such funding format was designed to keep the overall program cost to a minimum and at the same time preserve the integrity of the City's general fund.

Assuming no unforeseen EPA regulatory compliance requirements, it is anticipated that stormwater program "start-up" costs will diminish over time (potentially year 3 and forward) and thus provide the opportunity for future rate reductions during the annual stormwater fee review.

With such a change there will be many questions. A "frequently asked questions" sheet is enclosed and will be posted on the City's website. Additionally, please feel free to contact any Council representative, me or the City office.

On a lighter note, City happenings:

VETERANS' DAY CEREMONY:

The City will be honoring our country's veterans on Sunday, November 10, at 1:00pm. The ceremony will be held at the City's Veterans' Memorial located in the beautiful grove of trees to the front right of the City building.

PARKS, RECREATION AND TREE COMMISSION:

The "trunk" sale held on City grounds on Saturday, September 14, was a wonderful success. There were many sellers and buyers with the result of extra money for some, extra "stuff" for others and a good time for all.

The City's annual "Day in the Park" was held Sunday, October 6, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm on the main grounds of the City building.

The Parks and Recreation Commission is a very vibrant, creative group of volunteers and I sincerely thank them for their hard work. If you would like to join this energetic and fun group, please contact our City office. Volunteering your time not only enhances the "livability" of our community, but your efforts also allow such wonderful events to be presented at a reduced cost to your fellow taxpayers.

SNOW SAFETY / EMERGENCY REMINDER:

Should a snow emergency be declared due to severe weather, our City website (www.coldspringky.gov), our City weather emergency line (859-441-9604), and all local television stations will be updated regarding such.

Also, during "after hours" time periods when City offices are closed, residents can obtain information regarding changes in City services via recorded messages on the City voicemail system. Simply call the City office number 859-441-9604 and press "1".

Please remember: when a snow emergency has been declared by the City – PARKING ON CITY STREETS IS PROHIBITED.

In general, not parking on City streets during snow and ice events helps keep our City safe and helps our Public Works crew maneuver easier and clear the streets more effectively.

As always, it is a pleasure and privilege to work with each and every one of our Council members. Their tireless efforts and deep concern for the long-term well-being of the City are greatly appreciated.

Council meets the second and fourth Monday of every month at 7:30pm. The second Monday is a "caucus" meeting where City business is discussed; however, no Council voting takes place. The fourth Monday meeting is a "general" Council meeting, where City business is discussed AND Council voting does take place. I continue to urge each and every resident to attend at least ONE meeting a year. If you cannot attend, the fourth Monday meeting is videotaped and shown regularly on cable channel 16.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any issues or suggestions. I can be reached at 859-441-9604, extension 126 or mayor@coldspringky.com, or alternate contact at 859-441-9604, extension 111 or mark.s@coldspringky.gov. I look forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you someday soon.



Mark Stoeber

Mayor

Q: Will the current \$4.50 rate change?

A: The current rate is approved and set for 2013 and 2014. Rate increases must be approved by the City Council and will be reviewed annually. The rate will be reviewed again in 2014 for 2015. Assuming no unforeseen EPA regulatory compliance requirements, it is anticipated that stormwater program “start-up” costs will diminish over time (potentially year 3 and forward) and thus provide the opportunity for future rate reductions during the annual stormwater fee review.

Q: Why is the amount of hard surface area used to calculate the rates?

A: Hard surface areas are used because they prevent water from being absorbed into the ground. Hard surfaces create more runoff and increase the rate (water flow) at which stormwater drains from an area.

Q: What if I don't agree with the City's calculation of the amount of hard surface area I have on my property?

A: You may request a meeting with a GIS technician to review your measurement information if you desire.

Q: Why does Cold Spring need a stormwater program fee?

A: Cold Spring currently has no dedicated funding source to address stormwater quality regulations and flooding and drainage issues within the City. The City needs the dedicated funds to perform preventative maintenance, capital improvements that may be required by the EPA and to meet the federally unfunded mandate from US-EPA referred to as the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) Phase II Stormwater regulations, which are part of the Federal Clean Water Act passed by the US Congress in 1972. This program is managed and enforced by the Kentucky Department of Water (KDOW):

A comprehensive program is needed to:

- Improve the water quality of local rivers and streams

- Reduce flooding

- Improve stormwater drainage

- Address the inflow and infiltration problems

Ensure that the City is in compliance with tough, new unfunded mandates and regulations required by the US-EPA and KDOW

The current budget only allows for minor stormwater emergency repairs. It does not provide the required funds for preventative maintenance, capital improvements or enforcement of the unfunded mandate from the EPA referred to as the KPDES Phase II Stormwater regulations, which are part of the Federal Clean Water Act passed by the US Congress in 1972.

Q: I don't remember voting on this tax. How can the City do this without a vote?

A: This is not a tax. This is a user fee just like your water and sewer user fee. Under State Law, cities are allowed to set up a user fee for water, sanitary sewer and/or stormwater by a vote of the City Council. City Council unanimously ratified this program and related fee on September 23 and 30, 2013.

Q: How can we be sure that the money raised will be used for stormwater improvements and not diverted to other projects by the City?

A: All of the funds raised by the program will go into a stormwater “Enterprise Fund.” Under state law, money in Enterprise funds can only be used for their intended purposes.

Q: How much money does the City expect the stormwater program to collect?

A: The program will generate approximately \$250,000 per year.

Q: What issues will be addressed first when the stormwater program is implemented?

A: The City will first work to ensure that it is in compliance with the new, strict Federal and State unfunded mandate regulations.

Q: How will the money collected for the stormwater program be used?

A: A majority of the funds will be used to comply with the new unfunded Federal and State water quality regulations known as the KPDES Phase II water quality regulations. The remaining funds will be available for minor operations and maintenance projects. Current annual stormwater related expenses are projected to be approximately \$280,000 per year for the next two years or so. Such expenses include “startup” consulting fees to assist in EPA/State regulatory compliance. This also includes “startup” purchase of: software, GIS data access costs, and communication and educational materials. It is anticipated that part-time help will be needed for ongoing administration of the program.

Q: How does stormwater affect the environment?

A: One of the reasons the City is implementing the stormwater program is to meet tough, new US-EPA regulations. In addition to flooding, poor storm drainage also causes water pollution. Uncontrolled run-off contributes to erosion, which causes sediment build-up in our streams and rivers. Stormwater also picks up a lot of things on its way to area streams and rivers – litter, road salt, lawn or garden chemicals, and more. Backyard mechanics who drain oil, antifreeze or gas into the storm sewer pose a threat to the environment.

Q: How will the new program help the environment?

A: The stormwater program will provide funding for public education to inform the citizens and will help reduce pollution in the City. The new program will also fund testing and strict enforcement of current regulations on erosion and pollution control measures.

Q: I have been receiving and paying a stormwater bill from SD1. Aren't you charging me twice?

A: No. The City of Cold Spring was a member of the Northern Kentucky Sanitary District until October of this year (2013). The City has decided to begin handling the stormwater program on its own. SD1 will not be billing our residents for stormwater charges beginning October 1, 2013. That coincides with the changeover to the City billing stormwater charges. These charges will appear on your next property tax bill from the City. You will not be paying a stormwater charge to the City and to SD1.

Q: What will happen if I don't pay the new stormwater charge from the City?

A: Since the charges will appear on your annual property tax bill, the unpaid amount can eventually become a lien on your property.

Q: My bill at SD1 is past due. Since the City is now doing the billing, can I send that money to the City?

A: No. Any bills that you received from SD1 must be paid to SD1. If you send the money to the City, your account will show a credit balance and the overpayment will eventually be sent back to you. We do not have any billing records from SD1 to know if a previous bill has not been paid or not. You must pay the past due amount to SD1.

Talking with your Mayor and Council members

Over the last year the city has been upgrading its technology infrastructure. The city has added a new digital phone system as well as upgraded the City's web site. Thru the upgrade the city has furnished all of its elected officials, city administrator, police chief and city attorney with tablets. The tablets were put in place in order for the city not to have to produce paper packets for each council meeting, now they are produced electronically and forwarded to the council person's tablet. One of the additional benefits of the new system and the tablets is that the city now has the capability for you to email or leave a voicemail for your elected officials. Once you leave your email or voicemail it is forwarded to that person's tablet for them to hear or to read.

If you have recently looked on the Mayor/Council page on the city's web site you may have noticed that on the Mayor/Council page there are now email and voice mailboxes for your elected officials. In order to leave a voicemail for any of your elected officials call the City Building at 859-441-9604 and then use the extension number listed below, or consult the web site using the Mayor/Council page.

To email your elected officials or to leave a voicemail for them please see the directory below.

Title	Name	Email Address	Extension Number
Mayor	Mark Stoeber	Mark.S@Coldspringky.gov	111
Council Person	Dave Guidugli	Dave.G@Coldspringky.gov	112
Council Person	Lou Gerding	Lou.G@Coldspringky.gov	117
Council Person	Adam Sandfoss	Adam.S@Coldspringky.gov	116
Council Person	Kathy Noel	Kathy.N@Coldspringky.gov	114
Council Person	Rob Moore	Rob.M@Coldspringky.gov	113
Council Person	Lisa Cavanaugh	Lisa.C@Coldspringk.gov	115



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Colonel Edward Burk III

The school year is here! Some children will be waiting for buses, some will be walking to school and others riding with parents, all going to one of the four schools in the city. We encourage greater awareness this time of year of that fact of activities around schools. If you have children, remind them to pay closer attention when they are in the area of traffic. If they have a cell phone, then perhaps texting and walking across a street at the same time is not such a good idea. Have them pay attention to signals and cross at crosswalks.

Where there are school buses, there are usually children. Children are likely to do something unexpected, so be prepared. When you come to a school bus that is stopped on any roadway to load or unload children, you must STOP. By law you must remain stopped until all people are clear of the roadway and the bus is in motion. A stop is NOT required when approaching a stopped bus from the opposite direction upon a highway of four or more lanes. This is mentioned because of the number of cars that stop for buses on roads like US 27/Alexandria Pike that are going the opposite direction of the stopped bus.

Also remember that the school zones lights will again be activated and the speed limits are greatly reduced during morning and afternoon delivery and pickup of children during the school week. A couple schools have reduced speeds during the middle of the day for those children going from and to kindergarten classes. Please heed the warnings and reduce your speed appropriately. Fines are doubled for school zone violations and they are not pre-payable. All police departments around the country step up enforcement in those school zones. Pay attention! The children are going to the schools in our city and we want to protect them since they are our future.

The department has received some calls regarding fraud. Some were phone calls, some emails and some mail. First remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Fraud is only possible if you assist in the crime.

Some recent scams involve calls or emails from someone (usually out of the country) indicating that a grandchild or relative was involved in an accident, arrested, etc. and they represent them as an attorney, friend, etc. and need money to get them out of jail, pay for the hospital, pay for the wrecked car etc. This usually happens with grown children that may be away at college or moved to another part of the country. The perpetrators get information from either your social media account or the child's, and do a little research. The perpetrators prey upon your concern and desire to help.

They can be quite convincing, having a great deal of information about the person in trouble. They will ask for money to be wired or money order to be sent to help the person out. First, if you sent the money, it will be gone and there is nothing that we can do to get it back. Next is they will call again and need more money since something else occurred complicating the matter. They will keep getting money until it is gone.

Also, remember don't update ANYTHING you are asked for in an email; that is, Social Security, banks, credit cards,-- any accounts-- anywhere. If you have gone to a company independently, to a site you KNOW is legit, then you may be asked for some updating. That may be ok. But never respond to a request made to you by email for updating anything. The same applies to phone calls. If you called them at a number you know is accurate, you may be asked for some personal information to access something. If you GET, rather than MAKE the call, hang up, then call the company from the phone book to tell them about the earlier call you received. Thieves get cleverer every day. Don't be fooled.

We continue to ask your help and call if and when you see suspicious activity or strange car in your neighborhood. Please call when you see something out of place. Simply put, **"See it, Call it"**. Call the dispatch center at 292-3622 or if critical, call 911. That way we send an officer to investigate the issue, perhaps before something is an issue. The person(s) may not be up to anything or they may be involved in a crime. We will not know until we arrive to investigate or till the crime is reported.

CITY CLERKS NOTES:



City offices will be closed for the Holidays on the following days:

- November 28th and 29th — Thanksgiving Holidays
- December 24th and 25th—Christmas Holidays
- January 1st—New Years Day

Holiday Trash Pickup:

There will be NO CHANGE to your regularly scheduled trash/recycling pickup during the holiday season. Best Way Disposal will continue to pickup your trash and recycling on Fridays during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years holidays.

COLD SPRING PROPERTY OWNERS: Your 2013 property tax bills are included in this mailing. Please note that all tax payments are due by December 31st. After that date, a 10% penalty and 1% interest per month (12% annum) will be applied.

You may make your payment by mail or by stopping by our office. Office hours are from 9 am to 4 pm Monday thru Friday, except for the holidays as noted above.

Only cash, checks, or money orders will be accepted.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



On your mark...Get set...Go!

As your Public Works Team begins the transition from summertime construction & maintenance to winter preparedness, we ask all residents to prepare with us. Hopefully we are not facing a marathon of a winter.

For the Public Works Team this means the winterization of all facilities, routine fall maintenance & especially preparing all trucks & equipment for snow & ice removal. Before the first flake falls, we assure you all equipment is in top shape & that we have a full stockpile of road salt.

For the residents please remember to drive slower & with an increased awareness, park off-street whenever snow is imminent. Please do not deposit the snow from your driveway into the street. We ask you to understand that since snow is plowed from curb to curb, there is no way to prevent some from being deposited in your driveway. Also, to do the best job of snow removal we possibly can requires us to back up our trucks several times at intersections & in cul-de-sacs. This seldom results in a delay of more than a minute, yet many times motorist will dart behind us as we are backing. Obviously this is dangerous & we ask you to please communicate this to the younger drivers in your household as well. Last year many residents were very conscientious of these pointers & really helped us to do our job safer and more efficiently. Thank you. Hopefully we will have 100% cooperation this winter.

HALLOWEEN

Trick or Treat will be celebrated in the city of Cold Spring on Thursday, October 31st, between 6 and 7:30 pm. Motorists should be very alert and watch out for excited children darting out into the streets of your neighborhood.



PARKS RECREATION AND TREE COMMISSION

VISIT WITH SANTA



Mark your calendars for a new date for the popular Visit With Santa event. This year, it will be held on **Saturday, December 14th** at the Cold Spring First Baptist Church in Cold Spring, 4410 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, Kentucky, in their Activity Center. The hours are from noon to 3 pm.

Children will have the opportunity to visit with Santa, and there will be free games, prizes, and treat bags along with refreshments for the children. Bring your own camera and take photographs.

LIGHT UP COLD SPRING

The annual Light Up Cold Spring Contest will be held on Sunday, December 8th, beginning at 6:00 pm. This year, city officials will tour the city and view the various Holiday light displays in our residents' yards.

A winner will be selected for the best Christmas light display, and a small token of our appreciate will be awarded. Runners up will also be named. Remember to turn on all of your outside lights by 6 pm on December 8th.

