

**GARBAGE PICK UP**



Have your garbage out by **6:00 a.m.** each week to ensure pick up. The routes change at times for various reasons and your garbage may need to be picked up before your "usual time". This also applies to recycling, which is every other week. Winter and snowy weather are approaching. Please place your garbage cans/bags in your driveway or curbside in a cleaned off place. Cans and bags on or behind snow windrows cannot be seen and will not be picked up. The Sanitation crew says "Thank You" for all your cooperation, which results in timely and efficient garbage collection.

**RECYCLING**



Please place your recycling items curbside so you and the City can receive full credit. When you take your recycling items to the Genesis drop boxes, the City receives only a small percent of the credit. It pays to recycle curbside!

**TAP WATER VS. BOTTLED: FACTS OUR CUSTOMERS NEED**

Did you know that the bottled water people purchase at a rate that equals \$5 per gallon may be the same water that flows out of their kitchen sink? Approximately 25% to 40% of the bottled water sold in the United States comes from a municipal water source. Consumers are therefore paying hundreds to thousands of times more for repackaged municipal water that costs them only pennies per gallon out of their tap.



The bottled water industry is regulated as a food by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) while the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates municipal water. The following are some differences between municipal water and bottled water:

**Tap Water Regulated by EPA**

- Cannot have confirmed E. Coli or fecal coliform bacteria.
- Filtered and/or disinfected.
- Drinking water standard violations are enforced.
- Water must be tested by certified labs.
- Tap water results must be reported to state officials.
- Water operators must be certified.
- Must provide consumers with annual water quality report (Consumer Confidence Report), including source of water.
- Costs pennies a day.
- Must maintain chlorine residual in water to prevent bacteria growth.

**Bottled Water Regulated by FDA**

- A certain amount of any bacteria is allowed.
- No federal filtration or disinfection requirements.
- Bottled water in violation of standards can still be sold.
- Bottlers not required to have certified lab testing.
- No tap water reporting requirements.
- Bottled water plant operators do not have to be certified.
- No public right to know requirements. Not required to disclose water source or treatment methods.
- Cost can vary from \$.80 to \$10 per gallon.
- No disinfectant to kill bacteria in bottles required.

The bottled water industry is a multibillion dollar industry that, with clever marketing, can lure consumers into thinking that the quality and purity of bottled water is higher than a municipal water supply.

**JEFFERSON PARK AND RECREATION PROGRAMS**

**Session 1 and Session 2 Coed Recreational Volleyball need more teams. If interested in putting together a team or joining a team, Contact Vicky at 386-3412.**

**1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Wrestling Session I**, Nov 12-Dec 10 @ High School Wrestling Room. \$10  
**Lil Ram Holiday Classic Wrestling Tournament (1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade)**, Saturday, Dec. 29 weigh-ins from 7-8 am and competition begins at 10 am @ JS Middle School. \$10 pre entry or \$12 at the door  
**Fit Kids Session II** Oct 30-Dec 6 Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:45-4:30 pm @ GCCC \$20



**New Class**-Mommy & Me will meet Mondays through the school year. This program is a structured play group designed for moms and children to make new friends. It provides one-on-one bonding times for moms and children. Amy Roberts is instructor. 12-24 months meet 9:30-10:10 am and 24-36 months 10:15-10:55 am. \$30 per month  
**Grade School Volleyball 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade** Saturdays 9-10 am with Donna Carhill and Ram VB squad. Be prepared for Middle school volleyball learning the fundamentals of the game. \$15



**Fall Scavenger Hunt** Friday, October 26, 4-5:30 pm for boys & girls 3rd-5<sup>th</sup> grade meet at the GCCC. \$5  
**Mini Flags**, Tuesday & Thursday, Nov. 27 & 29, 3:45-5:15 pm. Learn a flag routine and perform at the home basketball game with Kara Rowedder, Kim Braun and the 2007 Flag Team on Friday, Nov 30 @ GCCC. \$10  
**Halloween Party** Thursday, Oct. 25, 3:45-5:00 pm. Enjoy Halloween festivities at the Greene County Community Center. In cooperation with Chamber of Commerce and the Jefferson Public Library. FREE  
**Ball Room Dancing for Adults** with Michelle Fields Tuesdays, Nov 6-Dec 11, 7-8 pm at High School Cafeteria. \$20/couple or \$15/individual



**Session II of Coed Recreational Volleyball League**, Jan 6-March 9 on Sundays from 5-8 @ GCCC. Cash prize for winning team amount depending on the number of teams participating. \$75 per team

**Tae Kwon Do** Sundays Oct 21-Dec 16, 5:30 pm with Master Rick Humpal, 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt. For 4 years and older. \$15



**Martial Arts for Adults** with Master Rick Humpal, 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt, Sundays at 4:30 pm \$15

**A variety of fitness classes** are being offered starting Oct 29 & Oct 30th. See the Fall Brochure for a complete schedule.

**For more information and registrations, contact the Greene County Community Center at 204 West Harrison or call 386-3412.**



October, November, December 2007

Issue 9

**CITY ANNOUNCES FALL CLEAN UP DATES  
OCTOBER 22-OCTOBER 26, 2007**



Fall Clean Up Week is the perfect time to prepare your yard and house for those long winter months by disposing of your old furniture, leaves and unsightly items lying around your property.

Your pick up day will be the day your garbage is normally collected. **Reminder: These materials must be separated.** Metal with metal, wood with wood, garbage with garbage, yard waste, etc. ***If this is not done the material will be left.***

Charges will apply for appliances and e-waste items. All other items will be free. Also, yard waste bags do not need a sticker this week.

For further information watch for articles that will be published in the Jefferson Bee and Herald newspapers.

**BRUSH CHIPPING** — The week of October 22nd is the **final** brush chipping week for the year. This is Jefferson's fall clean up, so your brush will be picked up on your regularly scheduled garbage day.

**FALL BURNING**



Autumn brings the common activity of removing leaves and yard waste from private yards. The burning of yard waste in Jefferson on private property is permitted. This does not permit any burning on sidewalks, streets or the area between the sidewalk and street commonly identified as "the parking." Those areas are not private property. When the burning of yard waste on private property does occur, someone should be present at all times to prevent the fires from spreading unnecessarily. You should take into consideration the amount of smoke that will be generated and whether the smoke will affect your neighbors negatively. In some cases your choice to ignore a potential disruption to a neighbor could be construed as a nuisance, which would likely be followed up by a visit from the City Code Enforcement Officer. Common sense, accompanied with some mutual respect toward your neighbor, will go a long way toward providing an incident free clean up. For further information regarding the legalities of open burning in the community see Municipal Code Section 105.05. Access to the Municipal Code of Jefferson can be gained through the City of Jefferson website @ [cityofjeffersoniowa.org](http://cityofjeffersoniowa.org)

Dan Taylor, *Chief of Police*

**TREE ORDINANCE**

The ordinance states that all trees adjacent to the street and sidewalks must be trimmed 2 feet behind the curb, 15 feet above the street, and 10 feet above the sidewalk to make clear travel for pedestrians and vehicles.



**Newsletter Articles**

- FALL CLEAN UP
- FALL BURNING
- TREE ORDINANCE
- FROM THE BUILDING OFFICIAL
- TRAFFIC FLOW CHANGES
- EMERGENCY WEATHER WARNING SIRENS
- JEFFERSON PUBLIC LIBRARY
- SEWER BACKUP
- SNOW REMOVAL
- CODE ENFORCEMENT
- GARBAGE PICKUP
- RECYCLING
- TAP WATER VS. BOTTLED
- PARK & REC PROGRAMS

**COLUMBUS DAY  
OCTOBER 8, 2007**

All City offices closed.

Mon. thru Thurs. garbage routes delayed 1 day.



**BEGGARS NIGHT  
TUES. OCTOBER 30, 2007**

Suggested 5:30 -7:30 P.M.  
For this year only, the date has been changed from the 31st to the 30th.

**VETERAN'S DAY  
NOVEMBER 12, 2007 (observed)**

All City offices closed.

Mon. thru Thurs. garbage & recycling routes delayed 1 day.



**THANKSGIVING  
NOVEMBER 22, 2007**

All City offices closed. No garbage service.

Day after Thanksgiving, City Hall closed, but Thurs. and Fri. garbage routes will be picked up.

**CHRISTMAS**

City offices close at 12:00 p.m. December 24th.

All City offices closed 12/25. Tues thru Thurs. garbage & recycling routes delayed 1 day.



### FROM THE BUILDING OFFICIAL



The construction season is going well with over \$10 million worth of building projects under way. This means there is a lot of growth in the City of Jefferson.

As of July 1<sup>st</sup> the City of Jefferson requires a building permit for decks, fences, sidewalks, and driveways. There are setbacks and/or special requirements for each one.

The City will continue to work on cleaning up dilapidated structures. We expect property owners to take care of these structures by repairing, replacing, or removing them promptly. Letters of Abatement Proceedings will be sent out if these structures are not taken care of. If you have any questions whether you have a dilapidated structure, call Mike Wright, Building Official at City Hall 386-3111.

### TRAFFIC FLOW CHANGES ARE IN MOTION AROUND THE SCHOOLS



#### Jefferson Elementary:

Traffic flow changes have taken place around Jefferson Elementary school on Russell St. The current Yield signs at the intersections of Olive & Russell and Cedar & Russell have been changed to permanent stop signs. Stop signs have been placed on Russell St. at each of those intersections, making each of those intersections 3-way stops while school is in session. Several pedestrian warnings signs will be placed approaching each of those two intersections. Finally, the first two diagonal parking stalls on the west end of the parent parking have been repainted and closed for use. It has been determined that when used, vehicles backing out of those two stalls back directly into the cross walk at the intersection of Olive and Russell. All of the above changes are meant to improve the safety of the students attempting to cross in the cross walks at those intersections.



#### Jefferson / Scranton High School:

The change at the high school will be much less obvious. There has been a continuous problem with vehicular traffic leaving the traveled portion of the roadway on Ram Drive between Sunset Place and the gravel drive approximately 200' to the east. Lack of appropriate drainage has attributed to the issue. The city will be installing curb and gutter to improve drainage and reduce off-roadway traffic usage at that location.

Dan Taylor, Chief of Police

### EMERGENCY WEATHER WARNING SIRENS

The City of Jefferson purchased and installed new emergency weather warning sirens throughout the City of Jefferson during the summer of 2005. The purpose of the sirens is to give advanced audible warning to people in the event of incoming inclement weather.



The council approved the following policy regarding the activation of the sirens. In the event the Greene County Communications Center receives a "Tornado Warning" issued by the National Weather Service identifying the City of Jefferson is included in the path of a "tornado warning zone," the dispatcher shall activate the sirens so the people of Jefferson can seek appropriate cover. This siren activation does not necessarily mean that a tornado has been sighted and is headed directly for Jefferson. It does however extend the advanced warning to the people that may not have received that warning otherwise. It is the Councils' intention to make sure a warning with a potential for devastation is extended to those not otherwise around or near any other means in which they could have received that warning.

Current siren activation policy also authorizes any law enforcement officer working within the county, any fire department member, the Emergency Management Director, a reliable citizen's report within (5) miles of a city, and the communications operator (when notified by the national weather service) to request the activation of the emergency weather sirens.

Upon activation of the sirens everyone should seek protective cover immediately. You should turn to a local radio or T.V. broadcasting station for further information regarding the emergency creating the warning.

*Note:* An automated siren test takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. (except for the months of December, January, February and March) to ensure their working order. On the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday the sirens will activate for five seconds and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday they will activate for thirty seconds.

### JEFFERSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### WHAT DO I DO IF MY SEWER BACKS UP?

#### Tracing Your Family Tree... Who Will You Find?

The largest online genealogy resource available... A vast treasury of genealogical data... User friendly searching...New content every week...FREE searches...Remote access!

**Announcing Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest Online Databases available for researching at your local Greene County Library through June 2008!**

Stop by your local Greene County Library for details. This cooperative project is sponsored by the Greene County Community Foundation, Greene County Board of Supervisors, Greene County Genealogical Society, Churdan Public Library, Grand Junction Public Library, Jefferson Public Library, Rippey Public Library, Scranton Public Library, and William Paton Public Library.

Visit the [new library website at www.jefferson.lib.ia.us](http://www.jefferson.lib.ia.us)

Friends of the Library Book Sale  
Sept 29th-Oct 6th

#### Take a walk through the Spooky Tales Haunted House...

Thursday, October 25, 2007  
5:00-7:00 p.m.  
Jefferson Public Library



FREE!  
All ages are invited for a "come and go" event filled with treats, trinkets, and "spooky" characters...S C A R Y, but not TOO scary!

This is a cooperative program with the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce and the Greene County Community Center.

If you experience a sewer backup, call the Wastewater Treatment Plant at 515-386-4711 during regular business hours, or call the LEC at 515-386-2136 after hours and holidays. The maintenance crew will be notified of the problem to determine if the stoppage is in the City main or in your sewer service line. If the City main is found to be clear, it is the responsibility of the property owner to call a plumber or sewer/drain cleaning service to correct the problem. The property owner is responsible for maintaining adequate flow to and through the sewer lateral from the property structure and into the City sewer main. If the blockage is in the City main, we will fix it promptly and keep you informed.

**IMPORTANT:** Check your homeowner's insurance policy to see if you have coverage for backups. If you do not have coverage, consider adding it to your policy. In most cases the City's insurance will not cover your damages in the event of an incident.



### SNOW REMOVAL PUBLIC NOTICE



The clearing of the snow from the public streets is essential to enable traffic to move. Vehicles parked on the city streets during snow removal makes it impossible to clear those streets of accumulated snow. It is therefore necessary to define the time that vehicles shall be left on the streets.

A "Snow Emergency" means any accumulation of snow in the amount of one-half inch, or any amount in excess thereof.

City ordinance prohibits any person from parking, abandoning, or leaving unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley, or City-owned off-street parking area during a snow emergency unless the snow has been removed or plowed from such street, alley, or parking area, and the snow has ceased to fall. A snow emergency parking ban shall continue from its inception through the duration of the snowstorm and the forty-eight hour time period after cessation of the storm (except upon the streets that have been fully opened.)

The City ordinance will be strictly enforced. Please help us by removing vehicles from the City parking areas whenever the ordinance applies.

Dan Taylor, Chief of Police



### CODE ENFORCEMENT



It is the duty of the owner or occupants of all lots or lands within the City to keep all sidewalks in front of and adjoining the property, owned or occupied by them, free and clear from all snow and ice and other accumulations.

In the event the property owner does not keep the sidewalks clean as provided in this section, the City may, after a period of twelve hours, without notice to the property owner, cause the same to be removed and the sidewalk cleaned.

Persons who fail to abate these types of nuisances may be issued a municipal infraction citation or the City may abate the nuisance and assess all costs to the homeowner by placing a lien on their property taxes. The normal charge for the City clearing snow from sidewalks is \$70.00 per hour.

Tom Heater, Code Enforcement Officer