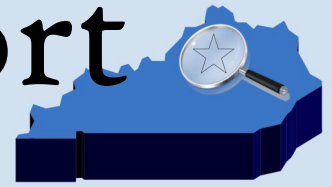


Focus on Frankfort



City of Frankfort

Summer, 2014

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Public Safety Makes the Grade

Both the Frankfort Police Department and Frankfort Fire Department made great strides in their organizations over the last few months. While the Fire Department obtained a higher ISO rating, the Police Department earned accreditation. Both of these accomplishments are a great source of pride for the city and could mean possible savings to the citizens of Frankfort.

Police Department Earns Accreditation

The Frankfort Police Department recently earned accreditation through the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police according to Chief Mark Wilhoite in June of 2014. The department had to meet 161 individual standards from record keeping to evidence to use of deadly force.

Benefits for attaining accreditation for the Police Department and the City include pride in being recognized as a professional agency, protection for officers, administrators, and the City from lost time due to injury and civil litigation as well as assurance to the community that their police department is committed to excellence in providing police service.

Another benefit of accreditation will be saving the taxpayers money by reducing liability insurance premiums by 10% according to Chief Wilhoite. The Frankfort Police Department is one of only 90 Kentucky law enforcement agencies to attain KACP accreditation.

Chief Wilhoite stressed that the entire department was responsible for the accreditation, but gave a special thanks to the Accreditation Team for all their hard work. The teams consisted of Major Jeffery Abrams, Captain Walter Martin, Lieutenant Steve Sutton and Sergeant Lynn Aubrey. Congratulations to Chief Wilhoite, the officers named above and the entire Department.

Fire Department Obtains New ISO Rating

Frankfort Fire Chief Eddie Slone announced earlier this year that the Frankfort Fire Department received an ISO (Insurance Services Office) review in December, 2013 and recently received confirmation that the department's rating had been lowered from a rating of 3 to an ISO rating of 2 effective July 1, 2014.

According to Chief Slone the review took into consideration three areas; the dispatch center, water supply and fire department capabilities. "It is my belief, after informal conversations with the review team, that improvements were recognized in all three grading categories," Slone said.

"The vast majority of the areas that showed improvement during the review were the result of the efforts of the people in our department, not the result of purchasing new equipment," Slone said. He continued by emphasizing that the process had begun with efforts of employees that have since retired from the department especially former Chief Wallace Possich.

Chief Slone also stressed that although it's nice to have the improved rating, the Frankfort Fire Department's goal is to continue training, cutting response times

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Mayor's Message— Summer Safety Tips

Warmer weather often means more adults and children walking and biking in our neighborhoods, while summer construction works adds the potential of dangerous situations in our roadways. Below are some Summer Safety Tips from our Police Department to help all citizens be aware of these situations.

Pedestrian Safety

- ◆ Always walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic.
- ◆ Don't assume vehicles will stop. Make eye contact. If a driver is on the phone they may not be paying enough attention.
- ◆ Be alert to engine noise and backup lights.
- ◆ Cross streets at marked crosswalks or intersections, if possible.
- ◆ Children under 10 should cross the street with an adult.

- ◆ Put down all handheld devices and look left, right and left again before crossing.

Bicycle Safety

- ◆ Wear a bike helmet to protect your brain and save your life.
- ◆ See and be seen. Wear bright, neon or florescent colors while riding.
- ◆ Control your bike. Ride with both hands on the handlebars unless signaling a turn.
- ◆ Watch for road hazards such as pot-holes, gravel, puddles, leaves or dogs.
- ◆ Be predictable. Ride in a straight line, not in and out of cars. Signal your moves to others.
- ◆ Go with the traffic flow. Ride on the right side in the same direction as other vehicles. Go with the traffic flow—not against it.

Thanks for letting us share these Safety Tips. We hope they will help you have a fun and safe summer.

William I. May
Mayor



William May-
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For more Summer Safety Tips see the city website at www.frankfort.ky.gov



Bill Scalf, Sewer Director
wscalf@frankfort.ky.gov

Sewer Department to Conduct Rate Study

Over the last several months citizens of Frankfort have seen a change in their utility bills, primarily due to the method the Frankfort Plant Board uses to calculate their water bill. According to Bill Scalf, Sewer Director, current bills show a 2,000 gallon minimum sewer usage charge and some citizens who use less than the minimum have voiced their concerns.

Scalf went on to explain that the minimum usage charge is not a new concept and has, in fact, been in place for several years. "The minimum monthly charge of 2,000 gallons of water was actually established by ordinance years ago. Nothing has changed," he said.

Minimum usage charges were established to help maintain the entire system. This includes the overall cost of

getting wastewater to the treatment plant as well as treating it. Maintenance of pump stations, lines, employee salaries and treatment all go into the overall cost to run the system. Scalf did not have a dollar amount for how much it actually costs to move and treat one gallon or 2,000 gallons of wastewater, but he may have the answer soon.

According to him there are funds in the upcoming budget to pay for a rate study. "We plan to conduct a complete cost of service study to determine dollar amount per service per customer." He continued, "We'll take a hard look at the results and this may lead to rate adjustments."

Scalf pointed out that in some cases a close look at the system can benefit citizens such as the recent removal of the sewer lateral fee.



Rain Barrels still available for purchase. Call 875-2448 for information.



City's New Arborist Plans Educational Workshops

Frankfort has a new arborist! Lorri Grueber comes to Kentucky's capital from New Albany, Indiana by way of St. Louis, Missouri. Always a lover of plants, she began working in the field as a "Green Gorilla" volunteer at the Louisville Zoo. That's where she "fell in love with pruning trees." Lorri has studied horticulture at the University of Louisville, St. Louis Community College, and the University of Kentucky. She holds two certifications from the International Society of Arboriculture.

The City's arborist is primarily responsible for taking care of city-owned trees – the ones in the City parks, along street right-of-way, and "other trees as assigned." She is involved with the selection, planting and maintenance of new trees, dealing with hazardous trees, code enforcement, and landscape planning. Privately owned trees are outside her realm of responsibility, but property owners should consult with her before tampering with a tree if there is any doubt as to its ownership.

Arborist Grueber stresses the need for "good tree education." She plans a series of informative, grant-funded workshops where citizens can learn to be good stewards of their trees.

Perhaps the greatest natural threat to local trees at the moment (aside from people, who destroy more trees than anything else) is the ongoing invasion by Emerald Ash Borer. As Grueber puts it, "No ash tree will be safe." These insects will be the subject of a workshop scheduled for January of 2015. Other perils lie ahead, including attacks by the Asian Longhorn Beetle that attacks hardwoods and Thousand Canker Disease that kills walnut trees. Arborist Grueber expects to stay busy tending the City of Frankfort's trees and helping Frankfort citizens care for theirs.

Mobile Data Computers Help Frankfort Fire Department Be Prepared

The Boys Scouts have used the slogan "Be Prepared" for decades, but the Frankfort Fire Department has taken measures to help them be prepared when heading toward an incident. All ambulances and fire trucks are now equipped with Mobile Data Computers or MDCs. These MDCs are electronic tablets installed in the vehicles that enable the Fire Department to enter the address of the incident. The MDCs give directions to the incident much like a regular GPS. However, the MDC gives additional information the Fire Department needs such as the closest water hydrant, what type of hydrant is available, and what the water pressure is for that hydrant.

MDCs also give an aerial photo of the incident location, the closest intersection so fire fighters can decide what the best approach may be and gives a Pre-Plan if one is available. "The Pre-Plan tab is the reason this program was created," said Bobby Ripy of the Frankfort Information Technology Department. "Many buildings in Frankfort have Pre-Plans, or plans that give specific information about that building in an emergency. It's helpful for the Fire Department to have that information as they proceed to a fire or other emergency," he continued. Fire Chief Eddie Slone said

the MDCs have been a great asset for his department by replacing several binders, maps and pre-plans. EMS reports are now also electronic which allows patient care reports to be completed in the field., he said.

Fire Department —Continued from Page 1

and other activities to become the best fire department it can regardless of its ISO rating.

What is ISO

According to the ISO Mitigation Online website it was created to help establish appropriate fire insurance companies need reliable, up-to-date information about a community's fire-protection services. ISO provides that information through the Public Protection Classification (PPC™) program.

The program provides an objective, countrywide standard that helps fire departments in planning and budgeting for facilities, equipment, and training. And by securing lower fire insurance premiums for communities with better public protection, the PPC program provides incentives and rewards for communities that choose to improve their fire-fighting services.



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Days of Knights Returns to Cove Spring in 2014

Citizens of Frankfort and surrounding areas are invited to take a short walk into the Middle Ages on October 10-12, 2014. The City of Frankfort's Department of Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites will sponsor Days of Knights – A Medieval Experience at its Cove Spring Archery Park that weekend.

The main purpose of this event is to draw attention to the park's new archery facilities. So, Days of Knights will feature medieval style archery competitions using longbows and crossbows. There will be demonstrations of these weapons, showing their strengths and weaknesses and stressing their effects on armor. Primitive hand cannons will be fired as part of these demonstrations as well. Much bigger medieval artillery will make its presence known in the form of a trebuchet – a big, counterweight powered machine capable of hurling heavy projectiles into the walls of castles.

The centerpiece of the weekend will be a time-line living history encampment. This will show the evolution of costume,

accommodations, and weapons through the medieval period from around 1000AD up to 1600AD. Historical accuracy will be stressed. Expect to see properly costumed and equipped knights, ladies, serfs, archers, monks, and other medieval personalities – but no Tolkien or Harry Potter characters, wizards or pirates. There will be lectures about medieval society. Event managers will present jousting and dismounted combat on the event's spacious "Field of Mars" demonstration field. School groups and home school students are especially welcome, and there will be special tours for them on Friday, October 10.

Admission to this event is free, and there is no charges to participants. See www.daysofknightsfrankfort.com. Sky Trail Park is on Peaks Mill Road off US127 North (Owenton Road) just north of Frankfort, Kentucky. For other details, contact the event manager at frankforthisory@yahoo.com.



We're on the Web
Frankfort.ky.gov