

March 2018



VILLAGE OF SMITHTON ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Village Hall
101 S. Main St.
P.O. Box 330
Smithton, IL 62285
618-233-4180
618-233-0880 fax

Smithton Police Department
116 S. Main St.
P.O. Box 494
Smithton, IL 62285
618-233-0550
fax 618-233-6798

MAYOR & BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mayor

Raymond F. Klein

Trustees

Virgil Becker

Joseph Yach

Micheal Smallwood

Jason Becherer

Charles Rogers

James Elbe

*** VEHICLE STICKERS & ANIMAL TAGS ***

Each household is **REQUIRED**, on an annual basis, to purchase Village vehicle stickers for their vehicles and animal tags for any dogs or cats.

April 2—Stickers and Tags go on sale

May 1—Stickers double in price

June 1—Stickers double in price plus a \$60.00 penalty

July 1—Stickers double in price, plus a \$60.00 penalty, plus a \$75.00 citation and up to \$750 in fines

Stickers and tags may be purchased via U.S. mail, our 24 hour drop box, or in the office. The Village Hall is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-5:00 pm and the office will be open on Saturday, April 21 from 8:30 am-12:00 noon.

Sticker & Tag Fees

\$5 for each vehicle

\$2 for each motorcycle

\$3 for each vehicle for Senior
Citizens (65 & over)

\$2 for each animal tag

*** NEW THIS YEAR ***

Low Speed Vehicle & Non-Highway Vehicle Stickers

(UTV, Golf Carts, etc.)

\$25 Smithton Residents

\$30 Non-Residents

Per Village Ordinance, vehicles must have required equipment and be compliant per state statutes. **Inspections are required. For more information contact Village Hall at 618-233-4180; to schedule your inspection contact the non-emergency police line at 618-233-0550. An officer will also be available at the Village Hall from 8:30 am-12:00 noon on Saturday, April 21 for inspections.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS

The Village Board Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 pm. The public is always welcome to attend.

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2018 the Smithton Village Hall will be closed daily from 12:30 pm-1:30 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2 Stickers & Tags go on sale

April 21 Village Hall is open from 8:30 am-12:00 noon to purchase Stickers & Tags

April 27 & 28 Smithton Fire Dept. Smok'n in the Park

April 30 Liquor Licenses Due

April 30 Business Licenses Due

April 30 Gaming Licenses Due

May 5 Village Wide Yard Sale

May 8 & 9 Village Clean Up Days

July 13 & 14 Turner Picnic

July 27 & 28 Smithton Homecoming Picnic (Parade Saturday, July 28 @ 5:00 pm)

VILLAGE HALL OFFICE STAFF

Scott Saeger, Village Engineer

Debi Boeving, Village Clerk

Annette Parker, Deputy Clerk

Beth Buehlhorn, Secretary

Michelle Schlarman, Secretary

COMING SOON ... We are working on creating a new website for the Village. Look for us in the near future at SmithtonIL.org

*****RECYCLING FACILITY *****

Smithton's Recycling Facility is located at the south end of the Smithton Senior Center parking lot at 711 S. Main Street. It is open daily from 7:30 am to 9:00 pm. It is Single Stream Recycling. This facility is only for Smithton, Smithton Township and Prarie DuLong Township residents only.

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM DROPPING OFF RECYCLABLE ITEMS WHEN CONTAINERS ARE FULL OR GATES ARE CLOSED. Recycling contractor will not pick up items deposited outside of the containers and you may be *prosecuted with illegal dumping*. Containers are emptied on Monday's and Fridays.

Acceptable items include:

Cardboard (must be broken down), newspapers, magazines, junk mail, phone books, office paper, folders, clean food and drink cans made from tin, steel or aluminum, plastic containers (not plastic bags) with symbols #1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 7, and glass containers.

No other items are accepted. **DO NOT** deposit paint and chemicals, electronics styrofoam or plastic bags.

LICENSES

Business Licenses are due to be purchased by May 1, 2018. The cost is \$20 each. All businesses, including home based businesses, are required to purchase a business license and will only be issued upon review and approval.

Liquor Licenses for businesses are due to be purchased by 12:00 noon on April 30, 2018. The cost is \$200 each.

Gaming Licenses for businesses are due to be purchased by 12:00 noon on April 30, 2018. The cost is \$25 per machine.

BUILDING PERMITS

If you are planning any type of exterior remodeling on your home or business, including but not limited to decks, patios, sheds, fences, driveways, pools, etc., please contact the Village Hall to inquire if a building permit is necessary and you are in compliance with our Zoning Ordinance. Building Permits may be obtained at the Village Hall.

VILLAGE CLEAN-UP

The Village clean-up, **FOR VILLAGE OF SMITHTON RESIDENTS ONLY**, will be held on Tuesday, May 8 and Wednesday, May 9. Dumpsters will be located at the Village Park, and are to be used from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm only. **Non-residents using the dumpsters will be prosecuted for illegal dumping.**

White goods and electronics/TVs will be accepted. **DO NOT** place these items in the dumpster—there will be somebody there to direct you with these. There will be a fee for recycling of televisions. If you have a white good you would like picked up, please contact Kevin Schwaegel at 618-781-8811.

Unacceptable items are: household trash/garbage, tires, paint, oil products, hazardous waste, or yard waste of any kind. Dumpsters will be video monitored and any violators will be prosecuted.

VILLAGE WIDE YARD SALE

May 5, 2018

If you would like to be part of the advertising, please contact the Village Hall. Permits are not needed. Please be sure to remove any signs posted by the end of the day.

SMITHTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

NON - EMERGENCY CALLS

Please call 618-233-0550

Leave a message and the officer on duty will return your call.

NOTE If you see anyone or anything suspicious in your neighborhood, at the park or around town, please contact the police department immediately by calling the non-emergency number 618-233-0550 or 911 if you feel it is an urgent issue.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Village's emergency notification system gives emergency notification calls to residents for storm warnings, boil orders, hazardous situations, and other issues. If you are interested in receiving these notifications and are not currently receiving them, please contact the Village Hall to have your number added to the system.

WARNING SIRENS are placed at four locations within the Village. These sirens are activated only during tornado warnings and are tested the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am.

STORM SHELTER A shelter location for severe weather is located in the education/office building behind St. John United Church of Christ located at 7 South Street. The building will be opened when a tornado warning is issued for the Village of Smithton. Please remember no pets are allowed.

SOLICITING Anyone desiring to solicit in the Village of Smithton is required to complete a Registration Application wherein a background check is performed for each person going door-to-door. If approved, they will be issued a permit for a period of 2 weeks. Anyone who has registered with the Village shall have their Solicitor's Permit from the Village of Smithton with them when soliciting in the Village of Smithton. **If you witness someone soliciting without a permit, please notify the Police Department immediately at 233-0550.**

HOUSE WATCH If you plan to be out of town and would like extra police patrols by your residence, please call or stop by the Village Hall and complete a House Watch Form.

FRAUD Fraud cases have seen a rapid increase throughout the Nation and Smithton is no exception. Fraud comes in many areas such as telephone calls, mail, internet transactions and even face to face meetings. Generally, the elderly are targeted, but any age of person can easily fall victim to the experienced scammer. Residents are reminded to be cautious when dealing with individuals unknown to them. **If the deal sounds too good to be true, it most likely is the case.** Remember anyone soliciting in Smithton should have a permit issued by the Smithton Village Hall.

Help elderly parents understand the dangers of dealing with potential fraud cases. Report anything that seems like it may be fraudulent to the Smithton Police Department. For more detailed information regarding fraud cases, refer to the FBI website at fbi.gov.

ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS The Smithton Police Department enforces all Ordinances. Citations will be issued for any Ordinance violations.

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS A CONCEALED FIREARM ON ANY VILLAGE OWNED PROPERTY WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF SMITHTON

WATER/SEWER ACCOUNT PAYMENT POLICY

Water bills are mailed the first part of the month with a late fee being assessed after 5:00 pm on the **20th** of each month. If payment is not received it is considered delinquent and a notice will be sent giving you the final due date and a scheduled disconnect date. Services will be disconnected without further notice with a \$100.00 reconnection fee charged to restore services. **Water/sewer accounts will not be permitted to roll over from month to month and must be paid in full each month.** We cannot deposit a check if the written amount does not match the number amount written on the check or if the check is not signed. The check will be returned to us and you will incur additional fees. If you participate in online bill pay through your bank, please allow 10 days for us to receive their payment, and be sure to **include your service ID number** found on your water bill with your payment to ensure that payment is being applied to the correct account—THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.

If you are filling a swimming pool, a one-time credit will be given on your sewer charge only. You must contact the Village Hall in order to receive that credit; credit will not be given on past-due accounts.

UTILITY DEPARTMENT

The Village Utility Department asks that you please refrain from placing wipes, facial tissues, rags, diapers, paper and cloth towels in toilets as it is causing problems with the impellers and pumps in our sewer systems.

If you have encountered a blockage in your sewer lines and have fixed or repaired it on your premises, please notify the Village so we can inspect our lines which may alleviate further problems.

SNOW REMOVAL

When there is ice or snow on the Village streets and the Smithton Village Street Department crews are out plowing, please do not park your vehicles on the street — plan to park them in the driveway or plan accordingly. It is very difficult to plow the streets with vehicles in the roadway. This could pose a very dangerous situation not just for the employees, but for your vehicle as well.

YARD CLEANING

When cleaning your yard, do not blow or sweep grass clippings, gumballs or leaves into the street. This will cause serious blockage in the storm sewer inlets located along the streets.

By Ordinance it is illegal to burn yard waste on Village streets. It must be burned on your property. Burning of yard waste can only take place from dawn to dusk Monday through Saturday. No burning is allowed on Sundays.

Violations are subject to a \$75.00 minimum fine.

STREETLIGHTS

If you notice a street light out in your neighborhood, please contact your utility company:

Ameren: 1-800-755-5000, or AmerenIllinoisSolutions@ameren.com

Monroe County Electric: 618-939-7171

SMITHTON VILLAGE PARK

- The Village Park opens in April.
- Pavilions are available for resident's use and can be reserved at the Smithton Village Hall. There is a \$25 fee plus a \$25 refundable deposit.
- Fishing is allowed at the Village Park Lake per posted regulations and limits. A fishing license is required.
- No boats are allowed on the Lake.
- No pets allowed on ball fields.

Please help to take pride and care of our Park.

Signs are posted throughout the Park offering rewards for vandalism. The Park is also under video surveillance. If you witness someone destroying property or engaging in improper or dangerous acts, please contact the Smithton Police Department immediately at 233-0550. If there is no answer, leave a message and the officer on duty will return your call.

REMINDER PET OWNERS

Please keep your dogs/cats under restraint at all times and "clean up" after your pets when not on the owner's property. Be sure to purchase your animal tags from the Village Hall.

SMITHTON COMMUNITY GARDEN

If you are interested in a lot at the Smithton Community Garden located at Jo Mar Dr. and S. Hickory St., contact the Village Hall or email crogers@smithton-village.com.

CEMETERY

Decorations in the cemetery are removed on the 2nd Monday through Thursday of March, June and October. The caretaker will remove temporary grave markers, designs and floral pieces that are placed on the grave at the time of the funeral when they become unsightly or no longer legible. Glass containers and tin cans are not permitted at any time. Receptacles for cut flowers shall be sunk level with the ground, thus ensuring the safety of such articles and facilitating the cutting of grass from graves. Enclosures of any kind or nature around lots or graves are prohibited. **No dogs are allowed in the Cemetery.**

WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Village of Smithton is under contract with Waste Management for trash pickup. The Village handles billing for curbside trash pickup only. Optional yard waste service collection and Waste Management trash container (cart) billing is handled by Waste Management. Should you need assistance or have any questions about your service, please contact Waste Management at 1-800-989-2783.

If you are a senior 65 or over, you can receive a discounted rate by stopping by the Village Hall and providing us a copy of your drivers license or ID for verification.

ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION

Most of our residential Ameren Illinois electric customers are aggregated with Homefield Energy as their electrical supplier. There are several other companies who may solicit via phone, mail, or personal visit asking you to contract with their company. Remember if you witness someone soliciting without a permit, please notify the Police Department immediately. You are reminded to NEVER give out personal information such as Ameren account numbers, banking information, etc. to any company as you incur the risk of being unknowingly switched to another company. Keep in mind that Ameren Illinois nor Homefield Energy will NEVER contact you by phone or ask you to verify personal information. Should you have any questions regarding the Electrical Aggregation program, please call the Village Hall at 233-4180. Please note that the electrical aggregation program DOES NOT pertain to Monroe County Electric Cooperative customers.