

## City of Strafford Newsletter

Fall 2023

### Fall Quarter Highlights

- Oct 16 Board of Aldermen Meeting at City Hall, 6:30 p.m. Open to the public
- Nov 6-17 Fall Leaf Pick Up — all areas of town to have leaves out near the road by November 6
- Nov 23-24 City Hall Closed for Thanksgiving
- Nov 25 Small Business Saturday  
Support local Strafford businesses!
- Nov 20 - Dec 10 Nominate homes for Light Up Strafford. Please see the City's website to use the online nominating form. Be sure to nominate your own home if you have decorated with holiday lights!
- Dec 3 Deadline to have homes decorated for Light Up Strafford
- Dec 9 Strafford Christmas Parade at 5:00 p.m., line up at 4:15 p.m. All participants must have some sort of lighting to be in the Parade
- Dec 21 Light Up Strafford winners announced on social media and on the City's website [www.straffordmo.net](http://www.straffordmo.net)
- Dec 25-26 City Hall Closed for Christmas



### Light Up Strafford

Let's go all out decorating our homes for the holidays! Cash prizes for the winners! What makes the winning home? Have the most beautifully decorated home. The Winner will receive a yard sign and achieve fame and bragging rights as they are announced on December 21 on social media!

- First Place \$100
- Second Place \$50
- Third Place \$25

### Fall Leaf Pick Up

This fall the City will be offering free leaf removal. **No limbs this year.** Please rake leaves into piles nearest to the road or into the ditch by **November 6**. Maintenance crews will remove them. No bags please, just piles.

There is no set time for leaf pickup. Your leaves need to be ready by **November 6** regardless of your area of town in order to be picked up.

If you want to DIY your leaf pickup, you may deposit them on the brush pile at the South end of Howard Smith Park parking lot.

Burning leaves is permitted. A burn permit must be obtained in advance from the Fire Department (417) 736-3679. Burning is not permitted in ditches or on City right-of-way.

### Upcoming City Projects

- North Old Orchard — The City has received some grants to help fund road and drainage improvements on N Old Orchard between Evergreen and Stan Harriman Blvd. Following completion of grant requirements, the City tentatively expects to bid out the project in late 2024.
- North Dogwood — The City has received a grant to improve drainage on N Dogwood between W Kennedy and W Croxdale, and along W Croxdale to N Lincoln. Engineering is expected in 2024, and construction will be coordinated with the N Old Orchard project.

# Changes to Water and Sewer Rates

We wish to remind you that the new water and sewer rates adopted by the Board of Aldermen on August 7, 2023 will be reflected on the November 1 utility bill.

New utility rates and the annual phase-in plan of utility rates can be viewed on the City's website, [www.straftordmo.net](http://www.straftordmo.net). Click on Public Notices, or use the applicable QR code below.

For residential users:

Residential Water & Sewer Rates



For commercial users:

Commercial Water & Sewer Rates



# Residential Trash Service

City staff is currently working to finalize a 1-year contract with Republic Services for trash service.

The City received 3 bids in response to the Request for Proposals for Residential Solid Waste Removal and Recycling Services. One bid did not include Curbside recycling, and one would have cost Strafford citizens nearly twice the current rate. Republic Services bid the best rate for both curbside trash collection and curbside recycling collection.

Republic Services has demonstrated a commitment to improve service, and the City's new contract will assist in ensuring quality service.

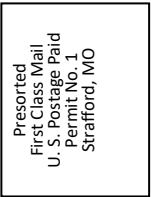
Below are new residential trash rates to be in effect AFTER the new contract is executed. Watch the notes section of your utility bill for updates on this item.

Residential Trash Service		Customer Charge	
Residential Service	\$	16.35	
Senior Citizen Service	\$	15.40	
Additional Cart	\$	6.00	

As a reminder, collection days are:

- Residents SOUTH of I-44 will continue being picked up on Wednesdays
- Residents NORTH of I-44 are now being picked up on Fridays

Recycling will remain the same for everyone — Wednesday pickup for recycling





PO Box 66  
126 S Washington  
Strafford, Missouri 65757

Phone: (417) 736-2154  
Fax: (417) 736-2390

[www.straffordmo.net](http://www.straffordmo.net)

October 5, 2023

RE: New Water and Sewer Utility Rate Structure for Strafford Utility Customers  
Starting on October 1, 2023

Dear Strafford Utility Customer:

We wish to remind you that the new water and sewer utility rates presented at the Public Hearing on July 17, 2023 and approved by the Board of Aldermen on August 7, 2023, will be reflected for usages billed on the November 1<sup>st</sup> billing.

Background — As presented at the Public Hearing on July 17, 2023, utility rates have not been revised in over 10 years. The City has funded basic repairs and maintenance over these years. But as costs have increased, the City's Utility Fund is now only capable of paying for short-term remedies to critical infrastructure needs, which is neither practical nor responsible without having major concerns.

The Board considered several phase-in options to help ease the impact on our utility customers. Therefore, rates adopted by the Board are smaller step increases over a period of years, rather than bigger increases in one or two years.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martha E. Smartt".

Martha E. Smartt  
City Administrator

Residential Water & Sewer Rates



Commercial Water & Sewer Rates



Note: Adjusted trash rates are not a part of this. New rates for residential service will become effective only after the City finalizes a new contract for trash services.

# Recycling Tips for Halloween

Whether you are throwing a costume party or taking kids trick-or-treating, these simple guidelines will make this year's Halloween eco-friendly.



## WHAT TO THROW AWAY

Halloween Toys  
Decorations  
Candy Wrappers  
Costumes  
Makeup

## WHAT TO RECYCLE

Plastic Bottles  
Soda Cans  
Plastic Cups  
Clean Paper Plates  
Cardboard

## WHAT TO COMPOST

Pumpkins  
Party Food  
Unwrapped Candy



## Hosting a Party?

Set up separate, labeled containers for recycling and food alongside your waste for easy disposal. Keep your recyclables loose and make sure they are free of food and liquid.



## Jack-o-Lanterns

Whether whole or carved into jack-o-lanterns, pumpkins can be disposed of in your organic recycling or yard waste container. Unsure if you have an organic recycling or composting facility nearby? We'll help you find one.



## Candy Wrappers

Candy wrappers may feel like plastic, but they aren't recyclable. Unwrapped candy can be disposed of with your organic recycling. Material smaller than a credit card cannot be recycled. Add these to your standard waste container.



## Costumes

Fabric costumes and latex masks can be reused or donated, but not recycled. Donate old costumes to a local thrift store or use as a dress-up costume for kids.

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**STRAFFORD'S**

**"Small Town"**

# **Christmas Parade**

**It's all Happening Downtown!**

**Saturday December 9 5:00pm**

**Grand Marshal Rule #1**

**All Welcome to Attend**

**Bring Whatever you Want!**

**For Safety, Participants must have some sort of Lighting to  
participate in Parade. No Exceptions!**

**If you have any questions or comments call:**

**John Berry, "13<sup>th</sup> year Parade Grand Marshal"**  
**447-844-0555**

**RIGHT AFTER  
THE PARADE**

