

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 13, Issue 12

December 2024



The Mayor's Christmas Tree lit up for the holidays. Last year, it was next to City Hall. In 2024, it will be back in the lawn of The Greenspace.

## What's In This Issue

1

**Renew City Licenses for 2025**  
End of the year means its time to renew your pet tags, unconventional vehicles

2

**Utility Rates in 2025**  
Rate changes take effect in 2025 to keep our water and sewer system operational

3

**2nd Street Reconstruction Project**  
KDOT Awards Edgerton Cost-Share Grant for safety improvement project

4

**Holiday Trash Collection**  
Trash collection will shift one day later due to the Christmas and New Years holidays.

## Community

### Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Visit

The holidays are here! Join Mayor Roberts and your friends and neighbors to flip the switch and light up the Mayor's Christmas Tree on Friday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. in Downtown Edgerton.

Children from the Edgerton Elementary Choir will perform some holiday favorites before the tree is lit up. This year's ceremony will be held in The Greenspace Lawn. After the tree is lit, the public will be allowed to get a sneak peek walk-through of the new building before we head across the street to Community Hall to visit with Santa!

Enjoy cookies and hot cocoa provided by our friends at Central Bank of the Midwest and the Edgerton United Methodist Church.

Every child who attends will take home a gift (while supplies last).

### Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund:

The Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund is accepting donations to help local families during the holidays. All the money raised stays right here in town and goes to people who may not be able to afford gifts or food this holiday season. The Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund specifically targets families that may not qualify or that slip through the cracks of other holiday programs.

All donations are tax deductible. Scan the QR code to the right with your phone to make a donation today or go to [edgertonks.org/holidays](http://edgertonks.org/holidays) to learn more!





## E 2nd Street Reconstruction Project Wins State Grant

The City of Edgerton was awarded a \$1 million KDOT Cost-Share Grant to offset the costs of the 2nd Street and Edgewood Reconstruction Project. This grant leverages state and local funds to make your tax dollars stretch further.

Staff has been diligently working with property owners along the project route to obtain easements necessary for construction to begin. Easement documents with notarized signatures are due back to City Hall by December 2. Please contact CIP Project Manager Holly Robertson at 913-893-6231 if you have questions or need clarification about your easement documents.

The E 2nd Street/Edgewood Reconstruction Project includes new pavement, curbs and gutters, storm water improvements, street lighting and sidewalks. This will be a complete reconstruction, so there will be significant impacts for residents who live along or near E 2nd Street between the Co-Op and Nelson Street and for residents along Edgewood between E 2nd Street and W 4th Street.

Project updates will be posted online at [edgertonks.org/street-reconstruction](http://edgertonks.org/street-reconstruction)

## Community

### City License Renewals for 2025

Pet tags and unconventional vehicle permits expire at the end of December. Please make sure to renew your permits and pet tags for 2025.

Pet tags are \$5 for spayed/neutered dogs and cats or \$25 for animals that are not fixed. Seniors ages 60+ can register their spayed/neutered animals for free. The City will again host a low-cost vaccination clinic in March for anyone who needs to get a rabies, distemper, or microchip for their pets. Appointments will be available starting in early February.

Unconventional vehicle permits apply to anyone age 16+ that would like to drive golf carts, UTVs, side-by-sides, or similar vehicles on City streets. Vehicles must be insured. New tags are \$100. Renewals are \$25 as long as you did not have any traffic infractions in the past year. More details about the permits can be found at [edgertonks.org/unconventional-vehicles](http://edgertonks.org/unconventional-vehicles).

### NEW ONLINE PORTAL

The City is launching a new online license portal to allow you to apply and pay for things like pet tags, unconventional vehicle tags and business licenses. The portal will allow you to upload documents and apply online without the need to come to City Hall in-person. Individuals must request access to the portal before applying for licenses. The portal will be available in December at [municipalonlinepayments.com/edgertonks](http://municipalonlinepayments.com/edgertonks).

If you would rather renew pet tags and unconventional vehicle permits in-person, forms are still available at City Hall during regular business hours (Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm).

## Edgerton Community Food Pantry



The Edgerton Community Food Pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, December 21. It's located at the United Methodist Church. Customers should park on the west side of East 4th Street near the single glass door. Volunteers will load food in vehicles.

The food pantry is available to every family in the Gardner Edgerton USD 231 district.

## Utilities

### New Utility Rates Take Effect Jan. 1

As the City works to remain self-sustaining with our water and sewer utilities, rate adjustments are necessary to account for inflation and maintenance costs. Customer charges are based on what it costs to operate and maintain the utility. The City regularly conducts rate studies to ensure the financial health of our utility systems. The 2024 rate study recommends small yearly increases to avoid large rate increases in the future.

#### **Water Utility**

The average household uses approximately 3,000 gallons of water per month. In 2024, the typical bill totaled \$44.78. In 2025, the cost for the typical household will increase by \$2.15 to \$46.93.

#### **Sewer Utility**

The average household bill will increase \$1.51 to \$38.53 in 2025. Sewer rates are based on each customer's winter average. Calculated in the months of December, January, and February, the winter sewer average is based on the average water usage during those months, when outdoor usage is very limited.

#### **Trash/Recycling/Yard Waste**

The City's solid waste contract with Gardner Disposal has been renewed. Rates had not changed since 2015. The new contract increases the cost of trash pick-up from \$15 to \$22 per household. The city subsidizes half of the cost of trash pick-up, so residents will only pay \$11 per month. Additional trash carts can be added to individual accounts for \$7.50 per month or \$3 for additional recycling carts.

#### **Bulky Item Pick-Up**

The new solid waste contract also includes additional bulky item pick-ups. In 2025, each household is allowed to put one item weighing up to 100 lbs on the curb each week for free. Items must fit fully inside the truck when cycling. This is a change from the current contract, which only allows for one free furniture item per week. Residents will still need to schedule bulk item pick-ups at least three days in advance by calling Gardner Disposal at 913-856-3851.

The combined total increase is less than \$7 a month for the average household. The new rates become effective with the January 1, 2025 utility bill. The City's Utilities department is committed to ensuring every member of our community has safe, reliable service.



**Go paperless! Never miss a paper statement again. Save money and time by setting up your account at [municipalonlinepayments.com/edgertonks](https://municipalonlinepayments.com/edgertonks). Need help? Current users can call City Hall at 913-893-6231 and request email only.**

### **Special Trash Collection Schedule for the Holidays**

Gardner Disposal will pick up trash one day late the week of Christmas and the week of New Year's. Trash pickup will move to Thursday, December 26 and Thursday, January 2. **Gardner Disposal will also accept up to 10 additional bags of trash per household from December 26-31.**

#### **Recycling**

Some holiday waste can be recycled, including: wrapping paper (no glitter) and gift tags, holidays cards (no glitter) and envelopes, paper & plastic decorations, clean tin foil food plates & pans (food free).

**Holiday lights cannot be recycled curbside.**

## From FD#1:

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. More than one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles and more than two of every five decoration fires happen because the decor is placed too close to a heat source. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

If you have any questions, contact Johnson County FD#1 at 913-764-7635.



- Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.



## Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Calling all Clark Griswold's of Edgerton! It's time for the annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest. Show off your holiday light display and you could win a gift card in time for Christmas! Send us pictures of your decorations at [edgertonks.org/holidays](http://edgertonks.org/holidays) and we'll post them on the City's Facebook page. The home with the most "likes" will win! Photos must be submitted by December 12 at 4pm to be entered.

## Events Coming Up

These are **just a few** of the events in December. Check out the full schedule and register for Parks and Recreation events at [edgerton.recdesk.com](http://edgerton.recdesk.com) or by calling 913-893-6231 during normal business hours.

**Public Meetings** are held in-person in City Hall. Anyone wishing to speak must sign up upon arrival.

- December 4 - Kids DIY Handprint Holiday Towel  
*Community Hall*
- December 6 - Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting  
*Downtown Edgerton*
- December 7 - Jingle Puzzle Dash  
*Community Hall*
- December 10 - Planning Commission Meeting  
*Edgerton City Hall*
- December 12- City Council Meeting  
*Edgerton City Hall*
- December 13 - Kids Night Out: Holiday PJ Party  
*Community Hall*
- December 18 - Senior Lunch & BINGO  
*Community Hall*