



The Holidays Are Coming

2020 has been a year of upheaval and change. Our normal holiday traditions may look a little different this year. For some, this season may be more challenging than ever, with the loss of a loved one or job layoffs or health concerns. That's why it is so important that we continue to support our friends and neighbors here in Edgerton.

If you are planning a family get together for Thanksgiving, please continue to follow CDC guidelines to reduce the risk of COVID-19. No one wants to spend their holidays in the hospital or recovering from a dangerous and sometimes deadly disease. You can find the guidelines at edgertonks.org/coronavirusupdates.

Holiday Traditions in Edgerton:

Our annual **Christmas Tree Decorating Contest** is back for a third year. The theme this year is "Christmas Around the World". Show off your tree decorating skills on a wooden tree cut out by Edgerton artisan Katee Smith. The 4-ft. tall plywood trees are \$40 each, with all the money raised going to the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund.



Groups must register by November 7. Trees will be available for pickup on November 9 and must be returned by November 30. You can register online at edgertonks.org/holidays.

The decorated trees will be on display at the annual Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in December. The community will vote for their favorites and the top three will win a prize.

The **Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** will be held on Friday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Greenspace downtown. Mayor Roberts will flip the switch to welcome in the holiday season. Put this great community event on your calendar today!

Calling all Edgerton's Clark Griswolds! We're looking for nominations for the annual **Holiday Home Decorating Contest**. The residents of the winning houses will be notified and receive a cash prize, a special yard sign and they'll be invited to a City Council meeting to be recognized.

Nominate the best lit homes in town by Wednesday, December 9. Winners will be notified on Friday, December 18.



Inside This Issue:

-  Holidays in Edgerton
-  New City Clerk Named
-  Utility Rates Changing
-  Snow Shoveling Tip
-  Stormwater Repair Project
-  JCSO: Holiday Safety
-  JCFD #1: Portable Heater Safety

Important Upcoming Meetings:

- Planning Commission Meeting:
Tuesday, November 10
- City Council Meeting:
Thursday, November 12
- City Council Meeting-CANCELED:
Thursday, November 26

Dates to Remember:

- Election Day:
Tuesday, November 3

Are you an Edgert?

Each month we'll share interesting and fun facts about Edgerton. If you have a surprising fact to share about living in Edgerton or about the City's history, submit it to kbanks@edgertonks.org and it may be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

Question:

Do you know the story of how the renovation of the Edgerton Bank of Knowledge was accomplished?

Answer on back.

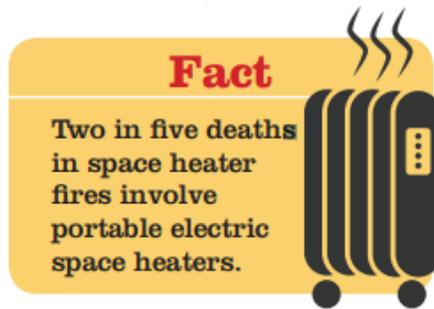
City Hall will be CLOSED
Wednesday, November 11
for Veterans Day &
Thursday and Friday,
November 26-27 for the
Thanksgiving Holiday

From Your Friends at FD #1: Portable Heater Fire Safety

Follow these portable heater tips to help prevent winter fires and to stay safe this winter season.



- Place space heaters on a solid, flat surface. Keep them at least three feet from things that can burn.
- Check your space heater for cracked or damaged cords and plugs. Plug space heaters directly into wall outlets, don't use an extension cord or power strip.



Edgerton Food Pantry



The Edgerton Community Food Pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, November 21. Everyone is asked to enter the gravel parking lot off of 4th street and wait to be directed to turn west onto Hulett. Stop in front of the pantry going west and volunteers will load items into the vehicle.

The Food Pantry is looking for donations of canned goods, canned fruit and soup this month. Monetary donations can be sent to PO Box 95, Edgerton, KS 66021.

The food pantry is available to everyone in the USD 231 school district. It's open every third Saturday of the month at 308 E Hulett, at the corner of 4th and Hulett.

Johnson County Sheriff's Office: Holiday Safety Tips

Thank you to all those who tuned in to our first Virtual Public Safety Town Hall, held on October 20th. The Sheriff's Office, Fire Department and MEDACT were pleased to have the opportunity to discuss the important issues in your community and work together to foster solutions!

Holiday/Consumer Safety

The holidays may look a little different this year with less travel and smaller gatherings but that doesn't mean crime will take a break. We want everyone to have a safe and happy holiday season and share a few things you can do to prepare yourself for the colder weather and upcoming holiday season.



Here are a few things to keep in mind:

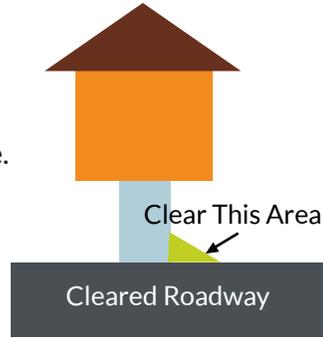
- Avoid leaving running vehicles unoccupied in your driveways – not only is it illegal, it makes it too easy for grinchers to dampen your holiday spirit!
- Break down boxes of large or expensive gift items before placing them out for trash day to avoid advertising what you have in your home.
- Plan ahead for cold weather if travel plans are in your future. Have extra clothing, blankets, bottled water, etc. in your vehicle in case you encounter car trouble in inclement weather.
- Be aware of charity scams. These scams usually take the form of a phone call asking for a holiday contribution to benefit a variety of groups. To protect yourself, say "I don't make financial decisions over the phone" and hang up. Visit www.charitynavigator.org to verify the legitimacy of a charity.
- If you plan on traveling, confirm your alarm systems are in working order (including fire alarms), ensure all doors and windows are locked, and do NOT post vacation or travel plans on social media.
- Consider contacting the Sheriff's Office to utilize our House Watch Program while traveling. Deputies will check your home, when time permits, while you are out of town.



Remember – don't hesitate to report any suspicious activity (no matter how small) to the Sheriff's Office. The non-emergency number is 913-782-0720 and in the case of emergencies, dial 9-1-1.

Snow Season: A Tip to Shovel Your Driveway

If you've ever been frustrated when a plow goes past your driveway and piles snow at the end, there's an easy solution. Clear a spot off to the right side. That gives the plows a perfect place to deposit the windrows (the piles of snow pushed by the plows). Remember to scoop snow to the sides of your driveway and never back in the street!



New Stormwater Repair Project Begins Soon

About 45 feet of stormwater pipeline will be replaced at the intersection of 1st Street and Meriwood. The pipeline is damaged and does not allow storm water to drain correctly. The Edgerton City Council recently approved a bid from J. Richardson Construction Co. for the work.

Work is scheduled to begin later this month and it should be substantially complete before the end of the year.

Utility Rate Changes Coming In 2021

New water and wastewater rates begin January 1, 2021. In 2020, the total typical utility bill is \$68.34 with water and sewer combined. In 2021, the typical bill will increase to \$69.84.

The City of Edgerton utility rates are lower than other surrounding cities in the region, including Gardner, Spring Hill, and Paola. City staff regularly compares water and wastewater rates to neighboring communities as part of the annual presentation to the City Council.

The Edgerton Utilities Department is committed to bringing every member of our community safe and reliable service.



UTILITY RATES

WATER RATES	SEWER RATES
AVERAGE CUSTOMER CURRENTLY PAYS \$39.05 PER MONTH	AVERAGE CUSTOMER CURRENTLY PAYS \$29.29 PER MONTH
2021 APPROVED RATE \$39.66 PER MONTH	2021 APPROVED RATE \$30.18 PER MONTH

Typical customer will pay

\$1.50

more per month beginning Jan. 1

That's less than...



One gallon of milk

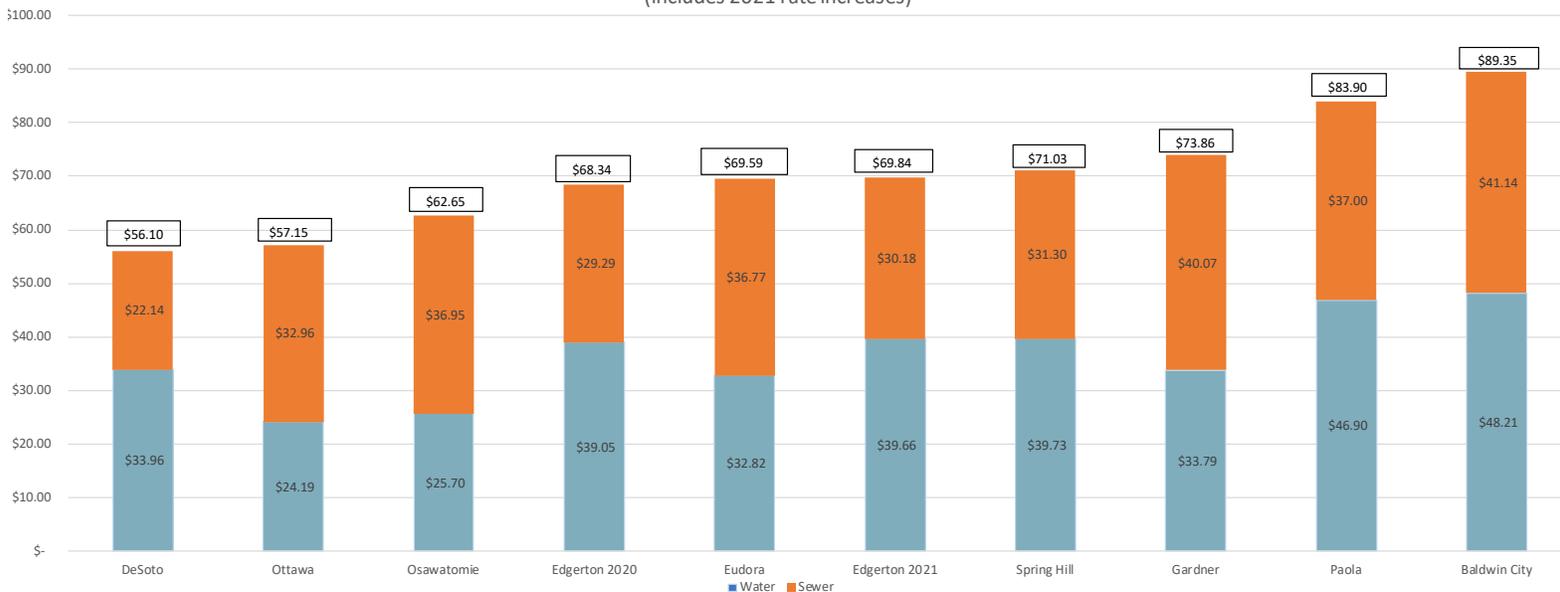


One candy bar



One cup of coffee

Utility Bill Comparison
(includes 2021 rate increases)



Meet Your New City Clerk

The City of Edgerton has a new City Clerk. Alexandria Clower was appointed during the October 8 City Council meeting. Here are five questions to help you get to know Alex:

1. *How long have you been working in Edgerton?* Since March 2018. I was hired on as the customer service specialist and a couple months later took on the role of court clerk.
2. *What's your favorite thing about our city?* My favorite thing by far is the sense of community here in Edgerton.
3. *When you're not working, what are you doing?* Taking care of my crazy family: Jaron, my husband, Willow, my crazy and sassy 3-year-old, and Jaxon, the tiny tot 1-year-old who keeps us on our toes.
4. *Do you have any hidden talents?* I can whistle and hum at the same time. Haha! But really, I'm very creative when I set my mind to it. I like projects and organizing.
5. *What do you want everyone to know about you?* I take pride in what I do and I'm always striving to be and do better.



Alex Clower and Mayor Roberts

A: Edgepert Answer



In the late 1990's, Johnson County agreed to provide library services to Edgerton if the town could provide a building that met the requirements of the county library system. The City of Edgerton purchased the old brick building at the southwest corner of 4th and Nelson Streets. The building, built in 1906, had housed the Edgerton State Bank until the 1930's and needed major renovations before it could function as the town's library.

Renovations on the building began in 1998 with the removal of the interior floor, walls, and ceiling. Local organizations like the Girl Scouts provided food and refreshments to the volunteer workers. A consultant/engineer was regularly on hand to monitor the work efforts. Citizens provided their own tools and equipment for the project. Many local companies contributed materials and labor, sometimes at a reduced cost or no cost. However, most of the renovation project was completed by citizens of Edgerton who volunteered hundreds of man hours toward this massive renovation that took almost two years to complete.

On July 29, 2000, the dreams of so many people were turned into reality with the public grand opening and ribbon cutting of Johnson County's newest library branch, the Edgerton Bank of Knowledge. This huge renovation project is proof of what can be accomplished when a community comes together to achieve a common goal, and puts forth the effort and desire to make that common goal a reality!

Any mention and discussion about the entire library renovation project and drawing interest from the county to even consider expanding its' library services to Edgerton would be remiss if the name of Rita Moore, former Edgerton City Clerk and longtime resident, wasn't mentioned. Rita Moore was the driving force behind the entire library project and it was her vision, reality, and leadership that brought our beautiful Edgerton Bank of Knowledge to this community!

