



# City of New Germany

Monthly Newsletter

## SEWER/WATER BILL CHANGE

Each year in May your sewer portion of your utility bill is refigured and is based upon your water usage from January, February and March. This is a fixed fee for the next 12 months. If you have any questions, feel free to call the city office. Please remember to tear off the bottom portion of the card (perforated) and return with payment.

## SUMP PUMPS

Reminder that sump pumps should pump water out onto the lawn or curb NOT into floor drains or sanitary sewer system (illegal). This helps protect the city's pond which treat wastewater. Please work together and make sure your sump pump is discharging where it should be discharging into your lawn or the curb and continue this practice throughout the year, not only in spring/summer.

## ORDINANCE 101 , SECTION 2 PROHIBITED WASTES.

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, surface water, ground water, sub-surface water, roof run off, yard drainage, yard fountain, pond overflow, unpolluted industrial or commercial process water, any type or form of clean water or any substance other than sanitary sewage into the sanitary collection system of the City of New Germany. The City may inspect and if you are not in compliance you could receive a \$100 fine per month until compliant. Please make sure you are complying. Please call or stop by City Hall if you have any questions.

## Where does water pollution come from?

When you picture water pollution, often we imagine a pipe pouring a chemical into a lake or river. Most of these types of point source pollution (so named because you can point at them), are highly regulated because of the Clean Water Act of 1972 and monitored so they don't add toxins and chemicals to waters.

The number one cause of water pollution in the United States is actually rainwater that falls on our landscape, collects pollutants and then flows into lakes and rivers. Here's why. When rain lands on our developed communities, there are so many hard surfaces like streets, driveways, and rooftops, that much of the rain can't soak into the ground so it runs off. This extra water, called stormwater runoff, drains through storm drains and into to nearby lakes, rivers and wetlands carrying with it any pollutants it washes off the land. This include pet waste, motor oil, leftover salt from de-icing, trash, lawn fertilizer, leaves and grass clippings (which although natural can create algae), and anything else found on the landscape. This water is not treated at a wastewater treatment plant like the wastewater from our homes.

Keeping pollutants off the ground and providing more places for rainwater to soak into the soil makes a huge difference. If we all take a few steps to reduce the pollution caused by stormwater runoff, that's huge rewards for the water quality of our local lakes and rivers.

As most properties are privately owned residential or business lots, the way each is managed has a huge impact on our waters. Lawns, driveways, parking lots, curbs and garages can contribute a lot of pollutants to waters. Nutrients, bacteria, dirt and chemicals are all found on these surfaces. Here are some methods you can use to improve water quality.

- Keep curbs and sidewalks free of leaves and grass clippings. Although natural, these add extra nutrients to water and can create algae. Sweep leaves and grass clippings up and compost them. Do not dump them in ravines, woods, out lots or ponds.
- Pick up and dispose of pet waste. A recent University of Minnesota study found pet waste to be a leading source of phosphorus in the metro area. Communities are seeing more and more little plastic bags of dog waste left on public trails. Go all the way. Pick it up AND dispose of it, otherwise that's just trading poo for litter.
- When spring cleaning, don't wash off your driveway or garage with a hose. All that gunk flows into the nearest storm drain and then into lakes and streams. Sweep up grit and dirt and dispose of it in the garbage.
- Take vehicles to a commercial car wash. The wastewater goes to a wastewater treatment plant where many pollutants are removed. Car wash facilities conserve water too, using up to 60% less water per wash. Protect storm drains. It's very important that *only rain goes down the drain* It is illegal to dump anything else down these storm drains.



# May 2021

• City/Office Staff

**SHERIFF: 911**

**Mayor—Steve VanLith**

**952-353-2571**

**Council Members:**

**Shirley Jaeger**

**952-353-2208**

**Ty Turnquist**

**952-353-2456**

**Tom Mielke**

**952-353-2526**

**Kevin Grove**

**952-484-1540**

**City Clerk—Treasurer**

**Twyla Menth**

**Office Asst —Connie Stahlke**

**Water/Sewer—People Service**

**Lee 612-636-2434**

**Jerry 612-644-0139**

**Public Works—**

**Steve Van Lith**

**Jim Heimerl—Seasonal**

**Janitor—Tony Burke**

**Meetings -**

**Council—1st & 3rd Tues-  
day at 7:00**

**Commercial Club—**

**4th Monday - 7:00**

**Fire Dept.—1st Mon  
7:00 pm**

**Planning Commission—4th  
Tuesday @ 6 PM as needed.**



**Monthly Newsletter**

300 Broadway Street East  
 PO Box 177  
 New Germany, MN 55367-0177  
 Phone 952-353-2488

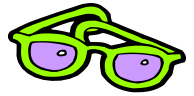
Fax: 952-353-8021  
 E-mail: [ngcityhall@gmail.com](mailto:ngcityhall@gmail.com)  
 Office Hours: Monday through Thursday  
 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
 Closed Fridays  
[www.cityofnewgermany.com](http://www.cityofnewgermany.com)



- Reminder to residents—it is your responsibility to mow or weed whip around your mail boxes, not the City's.
- When you encounter issues with dog's running at large; call the Sheriff's department and report the issue. This will dispatch a CSO Officer to investigate the complaint and tickets may or can be issued.



# JUNE 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Council	2	3 recy- cle	4	5
6	7 FD Mtg	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Council	16	17 recy- cle	18	19
20	21	22 Pc Mtg	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**COMPOST SITE**—Compost dumpster is at the City Shed, reminder the BRUSH goes to the Mayer site.



**CITY CODE**

92.02 City Code—(A) The following are hereby declared to be nuisances affecting health:

(6) Grass and/or weeds which have grown upon any property to a height of 6 inches or more inches, overgrown, uncontrolled vegetation, shrubs, trees and vines that are conducive to the accumulation of refuse, debris, or the harborage or breeding of vermin.

(Q) Shipping containers, storage containers, temporary structures, and the storage of boats, campers, trailers and other recreational related items shall not remain in one area for more than 180 days. Items that are required to be licensed shall be currently licensed and shall be parked on an impervious, concrete, or asphalt surface.

Ordinances are established to ensure the enjoyment of each resident's property and to maintain a quality of life for our community. Please be a considerate community member. The city does have running at large DOG ORDINANCE, please contain your pet.

To see the entire ordinance please request or online.

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***Burning Within City Limits***

The only Burning allowed within the city are recreational fires of 3x3x3 or less. These fires must be contained to a fire pit, fire ring or outdoor fire place. The only items you can burn are split wood or small twigs. **No burning building materials, plastic, paper, furniture, or anything hazardous.** If someone calls in your fire, the city and or fire chief may do an inspection and call the public safety department if you are not in compliance.

Do not leave your recreational fire unattended.



Garbage service reminder: Please call the City office to make any changes to your garbage service. This includes a name change on the account, a size of can exchange, or to replace broken cans. These requests need to come from the city office as the city is on a contract with Waste Management.

**JUNK & BLIGHT ISSUES IN THE CITY**

It is that time of the year when the city will be inspecting properties and letters will be going out if in violation of the city ordinance. If needed, the city will tow, hire a crew to clean up or do whatever is necessary to clean up our city. Any clean up that needs to be done by the city, or hired out, will be your financial responsibility and if you choose to not pay the bill it can be assessed to your property taxes in November. Let's be proud of our city— your home is your responsibility—be proud of it. This includes old fences, vehicles, debris/junk around property. Please stop by City Hall for the complete ordinance

