



Orchard Grass Hills News

January 2010

Mayor's Moment:

Greetings! Hello to all our seasoned residents, and welcome to all our new residents. Here are a few updates concerning the city. We are in the process of getting the city website up and running. It should be very user-friendly. If you see any problems or have any constructive suggestions for the website please feel free to contact the mayor.

As we continue through the end of the rainy season, please be patient with drainage problems. Your mayor and council are diligently striving to get the most out of your tax dollars for drainage improvements. Projects have been approved and completed in the 9200 block of Woodreed Court and the 7300 block of W. Orchard Grass. There are other projects in the works.

We are entering the snowy season and are contracting again with Kingsbury. If there are any problems with snow removal please direct ALL complaints to the mayor or a council member. We will address each complaint appropriately.

At the October council meeting, council member, Doug Bade, announced his resignation effective October 19th. He and his family sold their house and moved out of the city. We wish to thank Doug for his service to the city. He was a great asset to the city and his resourcefulness will be missed. At the November meeting the council unanimously elected Doug Lalli to the vacated position. Doug brings with him a wealth of talent and insight. We look forward to working with him in the months to come.

May each of you have a very Happy New Year!

Darlene Yarberry
Mayor, City of Orchard Grass Hills



January 2010

City of Orchard Grass Hills Personnel

Mayor:

Darlene Yarberry 241-7963

Fax 241-7963

E-mail: oghmayor@hotmail.com

City Treasurer:

Kim Taylor 243-2916

Fax 243-0959

City Clerk:

Patty Eiden 243-2916

Council Members:

Darrell Bramer 241-0958

Bob Dalton 241-1416

Connie Kirchner 243-0948

Doug Lalli 243-2938

Misty Nicholson 243-3178

Jim White 241-7803

City Attorney

Kyle Hubbard

City Engineer

Dale Hettinger

Police

Oldham County 222-1300

Neighborhood Watch Program

As you may know, in conjunction with the Oldham County Police Department, some residents have decided to reactivate the Neighborhood Watch program. Crime is on the increase around the country and in our area due to the down economy. One of the best ways to reduce crime in our neighborhood is via a watch program. **For the program to be effective, residents need to sign on as Observers or Captains. The more involvement we have the better the results.** Also, being organized will create a two way communication with the police so we stay informed about activity in our area. Police will let us know issues of concern and Captains can communicate concerns to the Police. ***We need volunteers!! If you wish to help out, please send your name, address, and phone number, involvement preference (Observer or Captain) to OrchardGrassNeighborhood-Watch@gmail.com.*** You will then be contacted with more information about upcoming meetings and plans to get our Neighborhood Watch organized and running. In the mean time, we all can help keep our neighborhood safe by keep a watchful eye and alerting police of any suspicious behavior. The police can be contacted at 222-0111 or 911 for more urgent needs. Let's get organized, watch out for each other, and keep our city safe!! For more information on Neighborhood Watch programs, visit www.ncpc.org.

Slow Down!

We are having problems with speeding within the City, which endangers our residents, and especially our children. Please pay attention to and observe the speed limit!!

FEMA Update

We were able to recoup \$8,560 of the funds expended on removal of debris from the ice storm.

Website

We are in the process of rebuilding our City Website. Visit www.cityoforchardgrass.com for more information...

Home Alarm Ordinance

Oldham County has enacted an Ordinance mandating application of permits for home alarms and prohibiting three or more false alarms within a permit year. Civil penalties will be imposed for any violation of the Ordinance. For details, visit: <http://www.oldhamcounty.net/Ordinances/Ordinances/Alarm%20Ordinance%206-16-09.pdf>

Property Owner's Responsibility In the Right-of-Way

"Our County road department spends countless hours during the summer and fall trimming vegetation from the right-of-way of county roads. This work helps make sure that important sight-lines are open and school buses and other large vehicles are not forced into the other lane of traffic to avoid striking overhanging vegetation. While the County road crews will continue to do their work, we should all understand that the Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) also requires private landowners to take an active role in helping to keep County roads safe by maintaining any County road right-of-way bordering their property.

State law permits County road department crews to trim or remove trees, shrubs and tall grass from the county road right-of-way, and to remove vegetation that dangerously blocks a sight line at intersections, even when the trees, shrubs, or tall grass is on private property; however, the fiscal court can order landowners or managers to do the same, and may even issue a fine for non-compliance.

KRS 179.220 and KRS 179.230, directs owners and managers of property that fronts county roads to trim any vegetation more than five feet tall along a county road right-of-way. This law also requires landowners to remove obstructions that hang into the right of way, for example, from trees or shrubs, even when the base of the plant is on private land. County road right-of-ways can extend as far as 40 feet from the center on both sides of a county road, and will never be less than 15 feet from the center-line.

Speaking of road rights-of-way, under KRS 179.380(2), it is against the law for an, 'owner or tenant (to) fill up any ditch or place anything in any ditch so as to interfere with the purposes for which it was made.' This law is meant to prevent floods when a drainage ditch is blocked by debris and applies to drainage culverts and ditches along county roads as well as on drainage easements that are part of a subdivision or other development. 'Owners must also keep their driveway culverts clear of soil, leaves and debris and are prohibited from placing permanent structures such as walls and basketball goals or large rocks, along the roadway.' Please keep these statutes in mind as you do your fall clean-up and prepare for winter."

What's Happening in Oldham County
Fall/Winter 2009, P. 6

Ordinances

Rental Ordinance: Rental property owners must file for a permit and pay a yearly license fee. Rental property owners must also file a yearly tax form. If you are currently renting property, please contact the Clerk to ensure the rental property is properly licensed with the City.

No-Solicitation Ordinance: We have recently had several solicitors within the City. This is a reminder that the City Council has passed an Ordinance that prohibits door-to-door soliciting within the city limits, with the exception of scouts, charities, schools, churches, and for political reasons. **If anyone shows up at your door for soliciting purposes, other than those mentioned above, please inform them that we have a no-soliciting Ordinance, and ask them to leave the City. If they refuse to leave, you need to call the police.** Signs are posted at all the entrances to the city. The city does not issue or recognize soliciting permits.



Keep our City Safe and Neat!!

In an effort to keep our City safe and avoid a decrease in the value of our properties, an Ordinance relating to Abatement of Nuisances in the City was passed in 2005. This Ordinance prohibits items to exist on your property, including, *but not limited to*, the following: trash, debris, lumber, furniture, portable basketball goals on any sidewalk, right of way or street, temporary structures (such as trailers, campers, tents, boats), unruly dogs or non-operating vehicles. In addition, the Ordinance requires us to maintain our property by keeping it neat and attractive in appearance, which includes keeping the grass cut. If the City is required to cut a resident's grass, a lien may be placed on the property for the amount the City is required to pay for the job. Any violation of the Ordinance may result in a \$100.00 fine for each violation, with an additional \$100.00 per day that the nuisance remains on the property. Also be aware that our Ordinance mandates that all dogs must be on a leash. Please help us take care of our City by removing nuisances that will be detrimental to our safety and the value of our property.

Insurance Surtax

A reminder that the Insurance Surtax rate is now 10%. This is for any home, auto, boat and first year of life insurance. The city receives 5% and Oldham County is receives 5%. As of July 1, 2009, the full 10% should be directed to Orchard Grass Hills. This money helps fund city projects. **Please check your insurance premiums or call your insurance agent to confirm this is being directed to the City of Orchard Grass Hills. The city code is #358.** As we all have a Crestwood mailing address this is important information to have verified. Let your money work in your city and not in Crestwood.

Drainage projects completed... your tax dollars at work!

Drainage projects were completed on the following properties in and beyond fiscal year 2008-2009:

9200 Block of Bermuda Ct: Corrected open space for drainage

9400 Block of Jonathan Pl: Corrected ditch to control water

9200 Block of Foxtail Ct: Unblocked drainage

7500 Block of E. Orchard Grass: Replaced catch basin

9300 Block of Plumwood Pl: Replaced concrete ditch with rip-rap

Bermuda Ct/ W. Orchard Grass: Replaced broken catch basin box

9200 Block of Aristada Pl.: Placed pipe under driveway and replaced drice

9200 Block of Woodreed Ct: Corrected water buildup into house and garage

9200 Block of Woodreed Ct.: Modified grate & corrected erosion

7400 Block of Woodreed Pl: Corrected major erosion

7300 Block of Sideoats Dr: Corrected drainage due to railroad ties

7300 Block of W. Orchard Grass: Reshaped roadside ditch to correct drainage

Snow Plow Removal

Winter is here! With winter often comes snow, and with snow, comes the need for snow removal. We are very appreciative of the services that have been offered by Kingsbury's in the past and look forward to a continued good relationship with them. Please keep this in mind when a problem arises with their services, and *do not contact Kingsbury directly*, but direct any complaints or problems to the Mayor or City Council. Please also be cooperative in keeping snow shoveled from your driveway out of the roads, so that they can properly plow the roads.

CITY OF ORCHARD GRASS HILLS
P.O. Box 25
CRESTWOOD, KY 40014

JANUARY 2010

Who to Call

Utilities:

Industrial Disposal	628-9000
LG&E	589-3500
Sewer	225-9477
Plant Operator: Wayne Mills	523-0835
Alex Smith (clean up)	523-1973
Insight Cable	357-4400
Natural Gas service	627-3772
Bell South service	557-6111
Louisville Water	583-6610

County Services:

Animal Control	222-7387
Fire Dept. (non-emergencies)	241-9366
Oldham County Health Dept.	
Environmental	222-3519
Health Issues	222-3516
Planning & Zoning	
Nuisance complaints, etc.	222-1476
Briar Hill Park (problems/bookings)	222-2154

Other:

Oldham Era	222-7183
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Police Beat

Thefts from unlocked vehicles has increased. Here are some ideas for keeping your community, your neighbors, and yourself safe.

- Remember to lock your vehicle doors at night.
- Leave your porch lights on at night.
- Make sure the doors to your home are locked.
- Keep an eye out for anything out of the usual in your area.
- Report any suspicious activity to the Oldham County Police Department at 222-0111 (for non-emergencies) or 911 (for Emergencies).
- When you go on vacation, let only a few close neighbors know that you will be gone.
- Make sure you stop your mail or have a trusted neighbor pick it up. Leave emergency numbers with your neighbors.
- ◇ Before you leave notify the police department that you will be gone so that they can patrol the area more often.

***City council meetings are at the Pewee Valley Fire Station** located at 8607 Foley Avenue off Highway 146 (LaGrange Road) behind PNC Bank - just East of Jucy's Bar-B-Que. The meetings are open to the public and meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.