

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF CITIZENS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF BOONE.

The city of Boone has made a dedication to its citizens: Provide a greater level of information and education while maintaining financial stability. We hope this newsletter will help our citizens become more aware of city government activity.

Your Government Boone

Open Burning

Each year your City Government receives calls and concerns from citizens that would like to see a full burn ban implemented. This year the issue came to Council with emphasis only on leaf burning. During various presentations it was discussed how leaf smoke can have negative impacts on people. Those that suffer respiratory ailments are some of the more severely impacted. Boone is a Tree City USA with a proportionately large number of trees and street trees. There were comments supporting both sides of the debate. Ultimately the city of Boone reaffirmed a policy decision to maintain the current Burning Ordinance.

The Ordinance limits the days that landscape wastes can be burned and the hours of the day it can be burned. Periods of open burning are restricted to:

- April 15th - May 15th (8 am to 7 pm)
- Oct 1st - Nov 15th (8 am to 5 pm)

Burning outside of these times will result in a hefty fine. The Mayor and Council realize that smoke can have negative impacts on neighbors and those that suffer from irritations from leaf smoke. For that reason the City will also take a strict approach to enforcement regarding nuisance. In a situation where an individual finds smoke to be of a nuisance, even during open burning times, the Fire Department may be contacted to file a complaint. Upon

verification of nuisance conditions the Fire Department will require the fire to be fully extinguished. A fine is not issued so long as burning occurred during open burning times and only yard waste (leaves, sticks) is being burned.

For those that do call the dispatch center or the Fire Department, please understand that our resources are limited and that the Fire Department's primary responsibility involves emergency response. In some circumstances the fire fighters may be responding to medical calls or fire emergencies whereby response to a nuisance complaint may be delayed.

Recreational Fires:

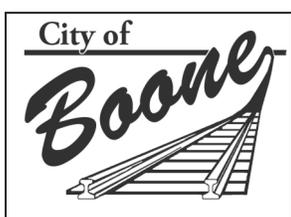
- Firewood burning in a fire pit or charcoal in a grill are not restricted to the open burning dates noted above.

Our community health and well being is important to the Mayor and Council. So too are the freedoms associated with owning property. Our elected officials have worked hard to find the delicate balance of individual freedoms and community protection. Ultimately it is felt that the current burning ordinances were well crafted to balance those interests.

Finally, please note that burning trash is illegal at all times.



VISIT WWW.BOONEGOV.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Boone Farmer's Market Thursday's 3pm—6pm at 6th and Story parking lot
- September 19-20-21 Day out with Thomas and Friends info at www.scenic-valleyrr.com
- October 9 Boone Fire Department Open House
- October 4, 7-8 & 11th Pumpkin Express Train info at www.scenic-valley.com
- October 23rd Boone Area Merchants "Trick or Treat" night downtown
- October 23rd & 24th KWBG Fall Auction

Reminder of the Water Rate Adjustment

This will be the second billing period with your water rate increase for your inside meter. The increase should be about \$3.96. Outside meters will see a slightly higher increase.

The purpose of the rate adjustments is to address past, present and future maintenance of our water system. We have a complex network of water lines and water towers along with a state-of-the-art water treatment facility. To adequately maintain these systems we must be vigilant about repairs. We must also effectively plan for the future through the establishment of depreciation. Depreciation is a method of gradually saving money to make



large repairs in the future.

There are two primary reasons for the rate increase; First, the past rate structure provided the first 100 Cubic Feet (CF) as inclusive with the base rate. Our analysis has shown that the base rate should be adjusted to cover our fixed costs. When we included the first 100CF of water in the base rate we were not receiving proper compensation for that water. The new rates will no longer include the first 100CF of water. Customers will pay for all water used. Second, we found that our base rate is not covering our fixed costs. Our hope is that over the next several years we can make further adjustments in our operations to keep our utility costs manageable.

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

Two adult Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetles have been collected from a trap in a residential tree in Boone and have been positively identified as EAB by a federal identifier. The trap was placed in the tree this summer after suspect galleries were found in an ash tree branch that fell during a storm.

FAQs:

- What is the emerald ash borer? It is a very small, shiny green beetle (½ inch long x ⅛ inch wide; about the size of Mr. Lincoln's image on a penny).
- How did it get to Iowa? Most EAB infestations in the United States have been started by people unknowingly moving infested firewood, nursery plants, or sawmill logs. The adult beetle also can fly short distances (2 to 5 miles).
- Should I be concerned about EAB? Yes. It kills ash trees, usually in 2-4 years.
- How do I know if my ash tree is infested?
 1. Thinning or dying branches in the top of the tree
 2. Water sprouts (suckers) halfway up the trunk
 3. Feeding notches on edge of leaflets
 4. Woodpecker feeding sites/many bark flakes on lawn
 5. S-shaped feeding galleries under dead bark
 6. D-shaped exit holes (1/8 inch diameter)
- Who can help me determine if my tree is infested?
 1. State Entomologist Office, IDALS: 515-725-1465
 2. Iowa DNR Forestry, 515-281-4915
- What should a homeowner or tree care company do with ash trees cut down in or near the infested area? Dispose or use the wood within the quarantined area.
- What about treatment options? Ash trees can be protected with insecticide applied by a commercial pesticide applicator or the homeowner. Trees must be healthy, vigorously growing, and valuable to your landscape. Most of the treatments must be done each year for the life of the tree. There is one treatment that lasts for two years (Tree-Age). Keep in mind that treatment may not be effective for a given tree due to past injuries, age of the tree, soil moisture, soil compaction, and other site and environmental factors. Preventive treatments are most effective. Infested trees with less than 30% dieback of the crown might be saved for a few years, but the tree's crown will be misshaped as a result of removing the dead branches.

Please go to www.boonegov.com/eab for more information

Boone Pioneer Center (Senior Center) 1112 Story St

Do you know what they offer?

The Boone Pioneer Center has been updated with new flooring, updated lighting, renovated restrooms and many more improvements. The Center is also fully air conditioned.

- **Rentals— Family reunions, holiday gatherings, bridal or baby showers**
Deposit \$35.00 holds your date and \$75 is the rental fee
Call 515-298-1004 or 515-432-3580 to reserve your date
- **Congregate Meals— Served daily (except holidays). \$3.50 requested donation**
Call 515-432-8329 a day in advance to make your reservation.
You may pick up monthly menu at the Center.
- **Potlucks—Held the second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Thursdays each month. Eat at 12 noon**
Bring a dish or make a donation
- **Card Playing—Every Monday 5:00 pm to ??? and every Thursday 1:00 pm to ???**
- **Quilting— Each Friday of the month from 12 noon to 4:00 pm**
Teaching also available on how to quilt.
- **Weaving—You can also learn how to weave rugs**

Are you alone? Come join us to make new friends
Any questions call 515-298-1004 or 515-432-3580