



Newsletter

April 2017
Vol. 2

An informational mailing for residents presented by the City of St. Francis • Your comments and suggestions welcome

New Quarterly Sewer Billing

The City of St. Francis owns and operates the sanitary sewer utility that collects all the wastewater from homes and businesses and is a part of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD). MMSD is a regional sewage treatment, water reclamation, and flood management agency comprised of 28 municipalities in the Metro Milwaukee area.

In the past, sewer billing occurred once a year based on individual customer water usage during the 4th quarter. Disadvantages to annual billing included complaints on a single, large bill per year and the inability to recognize abnormal water usage or leaks in a timely fashion - which resulted in inaccurate billing. The City of St. Francis is moving to quarterly billing in an effort to remedy these issues.

So what does this mean to you?

The City Council adopted quarterly billing of sewer bills for the first quarter of 2017. Enclosed you will find a quarterly billing of sewer charges as determined by your actual water usage.

Can we still receive annual billing rather than quarterly billing?

The answer is no. All residential and business users of water and sanitary sewer will be billed quarterly rather than annually.

Did sanitary sewer rates increase with the billing change?

St. Francis sanitary sewer rates are adjusted annually based on the cost of maintaining the sanitary sewer system within the City. 2017 rates reflect a 3% increase to \$.57 per CCF or 100 cubic feet of water used. One CCF equals 748 gallons of water.

Are there any other charges on my quarterly billing?

In addition to St. Francis sanitary sewer utility rates and those rates determined by MMSD, your quarterly bill contains a fixed residential storm water utility charge of \$12.00 per quarter. Business storm water rates may differ based on the size of the property.

When will I receive my new quarterly bills?

Sewer bills will be based on the previous quarter water usage as reported to the city by Milwaukee Water Works. Sewer bills will be sent during the months of April, July, October, and January each year. Payments will be due by April 30th, July 31st, October 31st, and January 31st each year.

How can I pay my new quarterly sewer bill?

Sewer bills may be paid in person at the counter in the Civic Center, deposited in the drop box near the west entrance to the Civic Center (the foyer just outside the Police Department), online at www.stfranciswi.org, or may be mailed in the provided envelope. Use of credit card or debit card is available subject to a processing fee.

Are there any late payment charges?

Late payment charges remain the same. Payments received after the due date will be charged a 2% penalty or a minimum of \$2.00 whichever is greater. Any delinquent balances as of November 15th of each year will be placed on the real estate tax bill.

We hope that you find quarterly billing more convenient. Please contact the City of St. Francis at (414) 481-2300 with any questions or comments.

New City Ordinance on Pets

An ordinance to repeal and recreate section 180-4(H) of the City of St. Francis Code of Ordinances was passed February 22, 2017.

The new ordinance replaced the current limitation of animals, which read "No household shall be allowed to have more than two dogs and two cats of licensable age."

New Language:

"No person or household shall keep or harbor more than the following number of dogs and cats of licensable age in, on or about any single-family residence or residential dwelling unit in the City of St. Francis:

- (a) Two (2) dogs and two (2) cats required to be licensed under this Chapter, or
- (b) Three (3) dogs required to be licensed, or
- (c) Three (3) cats required to be licensed.



Mayor

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Municipal Judge
Honorable Peter Hemmer
(414) 481-2300 Ext 135

Single Sort Recycling

Every Other Week Recycling

Green Week: Garbage ONLY
 Gold Week: Recycle and Garbage
 Red Week: Bulk PickUp
 BLACK: Holiday shift starts that day

MARCH

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Recycling Center Summer Hours (4/1-10/31)

Saturday 9AM - 2PM
 Monday 4PM - 7PM
 Wednesday 9:30AM - 11:30 AM

Visit us online:
www.stfranciswi.org

Garbage and Recycling

Recycling is very important to the City. Recycling reduces the amount of garbage sent to the landfill which in turn saves the City money, since landfills charge a fee to dump garbage. The less garbage sent, the less money the landfill charges, and the cheaper the cost of the garbage collection.

The City switched to single stream recycling in 2015 when the new carts were delivered. All materials labeled 1-7 are recyclable. To make the most of the space in the cart, crush milk jugs, cardboard, and stack newspapers in a paper bag.

Plastic bags from stores are **not recyclable** in the cart, but almost every store has a collection bin to recycle them. Also, electronics are banned from the landfills, and NOT collected by the City or Waste Management.

To get more information on what, how, and where to recycle different materials, see the DNR website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/recycling>. We also have detailed recycling information on the City website.



Update – Economic Development Strategic Planning Meeting

The St. Francis Common Council held a Committee of the Whole meeting on March 27th to discuss strategic plan ideas for 18 sites in the city identified as “areas susceptible to change” within the economic development chapter of the City Comprehensive Plan. (Viewable on City website under “Our Community”.) Volunteer Facilitator Steve Watson worked with the Common Council to brainstorm ideas for development with members of the public in attendance.

A draft development report will be prepared from the ideas for a follow-up meeting to be scheduled in May to include a public meeting or “charrette”. For more details or to share your thoughts please contact the Mayor’s office or City Council members.

Mark Your Calendar:

The St. Francis Memorial’s 25th Anniversary Ceremony will take place at Veteran’s Memorial Plaza (4120 S. Nicholson) on Memorial Day - Monday May 29th. The event begins at 8:30 AM.

COMING UP:

Bee Aware: The Importance of Pollinators

Learn about native bees and other pollinators and how to design a landscape with the succession of blooms needed to sustain them.

Presented by UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Jennifer Lazewski.

April 12 @ 6pm

ST. FRANCIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
4230 S. Nicholson Ave.
(414) 481-7323