



CITIZENS' NEWSLETTER

Keeping Our Citizens Better Informed.

APRIL 5, 2016 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

A General Municipal Election will be held in the City of Odessa, Missouri on Tuesday, April 5th, 2016, between the hours of 6:00 am and 7:00 pm. Voting polls are located at the Community Building in Dyer Park, and at the New Horizons Presbyterian Church located on S. 131 Highway. Candidates who filed for this election are:



<u>Mayor</u>	<u>Alderman ~ Ward 1</u>	<u>Alderman ~ Ward 2</u>	<u>Alderman ~ Ward 3</u>	<u>Collector</u>
Adam Couch	Steve Lockhart	Steve Wright	Ray Harves (filed as write-in) Elaine Barber (filed as write-in)	Jennifer LeBlanc

(Check your voter registration card for your voting location)

For election questions please contact Odessa City Hall at (816) 230-5577.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT—VOTE

OUT OF STATE VEHICLE SALES TAX ~ VOTE ON APRIL 5TH



How does this tax affect me? The tax only applies if you buy a motor vehicle, trailer, boat or outboard motor from out-of-state. Similar purchases in state will still be subject to local sales tax regardless of the vote.

A **NO** vote means the existing tax will continue; **NO NEW TAX WILL BE IMPLEMENTED.**

Approval of this measure will result in a reduction of local revenue to provide for vital services for the City of Odessa and it will place Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats and trailers at a competitive disadvantage to non-Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats and trailers.

A **YES** vote means local sales tax will only be collected on eligible in-state purchases. Local sales tax collected on eligible out-of-state purchases will end and the revenues the City has been receiving will be lost.

We urge **EVERYONE** to please take the required few minutes and vote on this important issue.



BUDGET BILLING FOR ODESSA UTILITY BILLS

If you are on the Budget Billing Program, April is the month for the yearly settlement. Accounts that have received either credit or debit will have the appropriate amount applied to this month's bill. A new budgeted amount will be calculated and begin on next months bill.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR PET SPAYED OR NEUTERED



The Humane Society estimates that everyday, roughly 70,000 puppies and kittens are born in the United States. As a result, every year millions of animals are killed because there are just not enough homes for them. There are statistics that show an animal is euthanized every 6 1/2 seconds in this country. Animal overpopulation has reached a crisis in this country. The cost to catch, feed and destroy these animals is staggering. The only way to guarantee that an animal will not reproduce is to make sure you have them spayed or neutered.



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SEVERE WEATHER SHELTER LOCATION

The First Christian Church located at 3rd & Dryden will be open as needed for severe weather.

COMMUNITY ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

It's still not too late to enroll in an adult education class for personal enrichment. Classes run through April 29th, 2016. Class hours are in the evenings from 6:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. and are located on the campuses of Odessa High School or Middle School.



District adults are invited to browse on-line through the Spring 2016 Community Adult Education Course Catalog for subjects that interest you. Visit www.odessa.k12.mo.us to view the course catalog or call (816) 633-5316 for copies of the catalog. Most courses are free, but there are some instructors who may have a class supply list or require a fee for materials. **SIGN UP TODAY!**

LAFAYETTE COUNTY HOUSEHOLD ELECTRONIC WASTE DROP OFF

Lafayette County is holding an electronic waste drop off on Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 8:00 am to Noon. The location will be at the Road & Bridge Shed on the North Outer Road in Higginsville, west of Kleinschmidt's. There is **NO** charge for this service. This is for Lafayette County residents. The County will be offering a hazardous waste drop-off in the near future. When we find out the details, we will publish in upcoming newsletters, on the City website and on the City's Facebook page. Stay Tuned...

CITY FISHING AND BOATING PERMITS



Taking into consideration the needs of our citizens, guests and their families who want to fish and boat at the Odessa Reservoir, the City has made arrangements to have City fishing and boating permits available at the Odessa Police Station and Odessa Gun and Pawn also. Please bring the **EXACT** amount of funds for these permits at these locations. No credit cards will be accepted at these locations. If you use a credit card at City Hall, you will be charged a 2.85% fee.

The Odessa Police Department is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (Call OPD at (816) 633-7575 for availability) Odessa Gun and Pawn is open Tuesday—Friday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. To fish at Lake Venita, you only need a Missouri State Fishing license.

CITY WEBSITE / FACEBOOK PAGE HAVE BENEFICIAL INFORMATION

Check out the information available on the City's webpage at cityofodessamo.com and on the City's Facebook page. It is intended as a line of communication to keep citizens informed about what is going on in town. Upcoming meetings, meeting packets, agendas, approved meeting minutes, job openings, applications and helpful reminders are just a few items that can be found.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE ~ WEEDS

Before you know it, it will be time to start mowing the lawn, trimming the weeds, and getting rid of the brush piles. The City of Odessa has adopted the 2006 International Property Maintenance Code. In **Section 302, Subsection 302.4 ~ Weeds**, it states in part; All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 10". Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens.

