

City of Winfield Newsletter



Happy New Year!!

NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Dear Winfield Citizens,

As a result of over a decade of non-compliance with EPA Clean Water Act requirements, the WVDEP recently placed the City under a Consent Order, which includes fines and a schedule for attaining compliance with discharge water quality requirements contained in our NPDES Permit for the treatment plant. After months of negotiating, the City was successful in reducing the fines to \$19,380, in large part due to the City's cooperation and the fact that we were already moving forward with plans for construction of a new wastewater plant. The fines are payable in monthly installments beginning in January in the amount of \$1,615.

The existing lagoons were constructed in 1986, and were initially designed to handle a flow of 155,000 gallons per day. Due to tremendous growth in the area, the City increased the permitted flow of the facility to 300,000 gallons per day, with only minor improvements. Therefore, the lagoons are both undersized and overloaded, resulting in the continued violations of our permit requirements.

In 2013, the City engaged Chapman Technical Group to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report evaluating the our options for attaining compliance, and several options were considered. The report investigated connection to the two nearest existing treatment facilities, neither of which have adequate capacity to handle the City's needs, and both are on the opposite side of the Kanawha River, thus further increasing the cost of these options beyond that required for the City to construct a new treatment plant on its own. That's why the Sanitary Board recommended construction of a new plant adjacent to the existing ponds. The report also investigated two different types of treatment plants, and ultimately chose the least costly alternative. The preliminary estimated project cost of a new 500,000 gallons per day treatment plant is \$7.5 million.

We've raised your rates! Where is our new plant? This is definitely the slowest process I have ever been involved

NEW WASTEWATER PLANT (CONT'D.)

with. As of this writing, we are about two months away from completion of the engineering design. Once that is complete, the permitting and funding processes begin, which also is very lengthy. The City had to raise rates early in order to have the funds to pay the \$500,000 required for the design engineering. Please understand that neither the City Council nor the Sanitary Board members wanted to raise your sewer bills, but we had no choice.

In late 2014, the City engaged Chapman Technical Group to design the new treatment plant, and the first order of business was to perform a Phase I Archeological survey for the site. After nearly a year, the City finally obtained clearance from the State Historic Preservation Office regarding the location of the new treatment plant, and the City anticipates the design will be complete in early 2016. Due to the numerous required permits and approvals from regulatory agencies for construction of a project of this magnitude, construction of the new plant will not likely begin until late 2016 or early 2017, and it will take 12 months for completion.

Mayor Randy Barrett



ANNEXATION

As many of you already know the County Commission denied the City's petition for annexation. The City council voted to appeal their ruling. The court date has not been set yet for this hearing. We have heard a lot from you concerning this. A lot of you thought the city limits were already in place to the red light at Rt. 34. We know for a fact that you support these businesses that are against this and are right outside our limits. The small amount they would have to pay to support you will not put them out of business. We have quite a few businesses that are doing very well in the City because of your support. If we have any updates we will try to let you know.

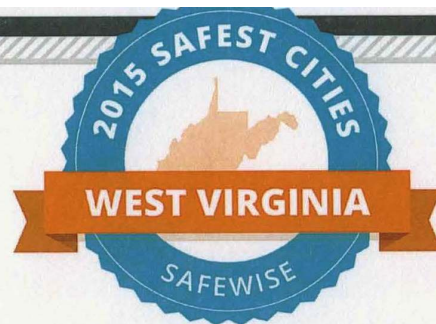
FILE OF LIFE

Every minute in an emergency situation is critical. The File of Life program is an emergency information packet that contains a medical information form for each member of a household. The City of Winfield has attempted to deliver these packets to every resident of the city. If you did not receive your packet, you can pick one up at the Municipal Building or call 304-586-2122 and request that a packet be delivered to you.

HEALTH FAIR

The City of Winfield, Putnam County Emergency Services and CAMC Teays are planning a Health Fair for Saturday, March 5, 2016 at the Winfield Community Center. There will be blood testing (screening) for glucose, Alc's, cholesterol, triglycerides, etc., and there would be a fee for these screenings. Blood pressure and respiratory screenings will be free. More information will be released in February 2016.

***** Winfield has won again for being one of the top ten safest cities in the state. Two years ago we were at number 9 out of ten top cities, and now for the year of 2015, Winfield has moved to 6th in the state. We are very proud of this recognition and it wouldn't have happened if the council had not voted in late 2012 for 24 hour police protection for the city. Hats off to the City Council and the Winfield Police Department for a job well done!**



SafeWise is proud to present this award to the city of

WINFIELD

for their efforts in **community safety** and **crime prevention**.

Winfield was ranked the 6th safest city in West Virginia due to its commitment to the safety and security of its residents.

Elli Bishop, Director of Outreach



David DeMille, President of SafeWise

