

Snow Removal Policy - What You Need to Know

The City of Broken Arrow is tasked with maintaining more than 439 lane miles of roadway. During the winter season, extra precautions are taken to ensure roads are safe for traveling.

A summary of the City's snow removal policy is provided below. A brochure that includes more information, along with a map of arterial and secondary streets, can be found at www.BrokenArrowOK.gov. Copies may also be picked up at City Hall, 220 South First Street.

- During snow events, Street Department crews will clear arterial roadways first as conditions warrant, with consideration for side streets (also known as collector/feeder roads) discussed after arterials are cleared.

- Neighborhood streets will not be plowed, unless the grade of street(s) exceeds a 10% slope.

- If freezing rain is forecasted, crews will pretreat the roadways with a mixture of sand and salt.

- Snow plows cannot remove ice or packed snow from roadways. The sand/salt mixture will make ice/packed snow safer to travel, but sun and warm temperatures are the only thing that will remove ice. As the ice becomes slush, it can be plowed off the roadway.

- Although each truck is equipped with a snow plow,

plows are designed to clear snow that is up to four (4) inches. When there is a heavy snowfall in a short period of time, the snow must be removed in increments of four (4) inches at a time.

- The City has 16 dump trucks equipped with snow plows and sanders. The Street Department operates up to 16 trucks on 12-hour shifts, 24 hours each day during inclement weather.

It is important to note that the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) maintains the Broken Arrow Expressway, Old Highway 51 and the Creek Turnpike.

If weather conditions deteriorate and the City's refuse trucks are unable to travel on neighborhood streets, regular trash pick-up will be postponed and resume on the next regularly scheduled pickup day.

The City's public information office will provide regular updates on the road situation through www.BrokenArrowOK.gov, email alerts, automated phone calls, social media and local media outlets.

Want to Receive Automatic Alerts?

To receive email alerts, go to www.BrokenArrowOK.gov, click on "Notify Me" and follow the instructions. To receive automated phone calls, click on "Connect CTY" and follow the instructions.

New Ambulance Billing Policy in Place

A new billing process for users of Broken Arrow's ambulance transport service went into effect on November 6, 2014.

Customers will now be responsible for the balance due on ambulance transport bills after insurance payments have been made. Broken Arrow City Councilors approved the change, in an effort to close the gap between operational expenditures and revenues in the General Fund budget.

"This is a billing practice many medical providers already have in place, so it should be a familiar process for those who utilize medical services," said Acting City Manager Russell Gale. "Broken Arrow operates the largest fire-based advanced life support EMS in Oklahoma, and appropriate funding is needed to continue providing that service at a level expected by residents."

For example, if a patient's health insurance provider paid \$600 on a \$1,200 ambulance transport bill, the City would have waived the remaining \$600 balance under the old law. As a result of the ordinance change, the City will now require residents to pay the remaining balance. The amount of the balance due will vary based on the patient's insurance coverage.

The ordinance change is expected to generate \$333,000 for the remainder of the current fiscal year. The increased revenue is needed to support the City's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) division. Budgeted expenditures of \$4.04 million far exceed the budgeted revenue of \$2.35 million.

The Broken Arrow Fire Department manages one of the few municipally-operated EMS in Oklahoma and is responsible for six (6) EMS units that serve more than 104,000 people in a

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Sanitation Division News

How to Safely Dispose of Needles, Syringes, and Other Sharp Items

Many residents use needles, syringes, hypodermic needles and scalpel blades for medical reasons. While state law allows these items, known as sharps, to be thrown away with household waste, it's important to dispose of them in a safe way.

Improper disposal of sharp items, including broken glass, poses a risk to City of Broken Arrow Sanitation staff, who must handle the waste. It also poses a risk to neighbors and children, who either move or come into contact with curbside waste.

It is recommended that home-generated sharps be returned through mail-back disposal programs. Residents may also use lockable sharps containers or needle destruction devices such as Needle Cutter. Otherwise, sharps may be packaged into a rigid container and clearly labeled "SHARPS", prior to disposal into the solid waste system.

Common household containers which can be used are:

1. Liquid detergent and bleach bottles
2. Liter pop bottles
3. Other opaque, sturdy plastic container with a screw top lid

Under Section 12-26 (a) Code of Ordinance, the City of Broken Arrow prohibits disposal of sharps outside the rigid container, and sanitation employees will not pickup if observed in this manner.

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Ambulance, From page 1

105 square mile area. Last year, 77% of the Fire Department's calls were EMS related.

In 2013, the Fire Department reported a total of 18,314 apparatus responses. Fire had 7,897 responses and EMS had 9,570 responses. The remaining responses were made by brush trucks, Battalion Chiefs and Fire Prevention personnel.

Through nine months in 2014, the Fire Department reported a total of 14,702 apparatus responses. Fire had 6,423 responses and EMS had 7,431.

Sanitation, From page 1

Holiday Trash Schedule

City offices will be closed Thursday, December 25 and Thursday, January 1. There will be no trash pickup on either of these days.

Trash pickup for the Thursday route will resume on the next regularly scheduled pickup day, which is Monday.

New Locations Added to Redeem Trash Bag Vouchers

Additional retailers (see box) are now participating in the City of Broken Arrow's trash bag voucher program, which is managed by WasteZero, a contractor for the City. Some helpful reminders about the program are listed below:

- The vouchers are perforated. Residents will need to separate them and redeem only the one(s) you need.
- Take the voucher to one of the participating local retail stores.
- Residents will not be charged for the bags, but must have a voucher to receive bags at no charge.
- Vouchers are redeemable one time only, as they are tracked by barcode and therefore cannot be duplicated.
- If additional bags are needed beyond the standard issue, bags may be purchased at participating retailers for a nominal fee.
- Remember to use the voucher before it expires.
- The next set of vouchers will be mailed in April.

Questions? Call the Broken Arrow Sanitation Division at 918-259-8373.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Ongoing — Broken Arrow Youth Soccer Online registration runs through January 17 for boys and girls ages 4 to 18. The 2015 season begins in March. For more information visit www.bascok.com or call 918-258-5770.

Ongoing — 2014 Christmas Tree Exhibit runs through Dec. 13, BA Historical Society Museum, 400 S. Main St.

Dec. 2 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

Dec. 4 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

Dec. 5 — LeeAnn Womack Holiday Show 7:30 p.m., BA PAC, 701 S. Main St. For more information, call 918-259-5778.

Dec. 6 — Annual Broken Arrow Civitans Christmas Parade 10 a.m., Main Street.

Dec. 16 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

Dec. 16 — Buy Broken Arrow prize drawing 3 p.m., Moody's, 2013 W. Kenosha St.

Dec. 18 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

Dec. 19 — Debby Boone Holiday Show 7:30 p.m., BA PAC, 701 S. Main St. For more information, call 918-259-5778.

Dec. 20 — Pizza with Santa 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Nienhuis Park Community Center, 3201 N. 9th St.

Dec. 25 — City offices closed for Christmas.

Dec. 31 — New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance 6:30 to 10 p.m., Broken Arrow Senior Center, 1800 S. Main St.

Jan. 1 — City offices closed for New Year's Day.

<p>Atwoods 2351 East Kenosha Street Broken Arrow, OK 74012 918-355-1300</p>	<p>Reasor's 3701 South Elm Place Broken Arrow, OK 74012 918-451-2890</p>	<p>Walmart 2301 West Kenosha Street Broken Arrow, OK 74012 918-259-9126</p>	<p>Walmart 6310 South Elm Place Broken Arrow, OK 74011 918-455-4354</p>
<p>Reasor's 1100 East Kenosha Street Broken Arrow, OK 74011 918-251-5800</p>	<p>Sprouts Farmers Market 851 East Hillside Drive Broken Arrow, OK 74012 918-806-0810</p>	<p>Walmart 3900 East Hillside Drive Broken Arrow, OK 74014 918-355-1024</p>	<p>Warehouse Market 1750 South Aspen Avenue Broken Arrow, OK 74012 918-258-2558</p>

20th Anniversary of Buy Broken Arrow

Each year, the Broken Arrow Area Chamber of Commerce holds an annual Buy Broken Arrow Campaign that promotes the many wonderful businesses that are a part of our community. This year's campaign began on Nov. 1, and will continue through Dec. 14.

When you shop or dine with participating Broken Arrow merchants, you receive tickets for your chance to win part of \$15,000 in cash and additional prizes! On Dec. 16, the drawing for the \$10,000; \$3,000 and \$2,000 cash prizes will be held at Moody's in Broken Arrow at 3 p.m.

The winning ticket holders will have two business days to claim the money. If not claimed, the second number will be drawn on Dec. 18 at 3 p.m. After Dec. 18, the drawing dates are as follows until a winner comes forward: Dec. 22, Dec. 29, Jan. 2, Jan. 6, and Jan. 8, all at 3 p.m. The Chamber office will be closed on Dec. 24-26, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Watch your local news and check the Chamber's website, www.bachamber.com, the Buy Broken Arrow Facebook page www.fb.com/buybrokenarrow or the City of Broken Arrow's website, www.BrokenArrowOK.gov, for the winning numbers to be announced.

Ticket holders do not have to be present at the drawing to win.

