



Recycling in Seward

The Seward Recycling Center is doing its part to help save the environment by accepting items for recycling that people often toss in the trash such as paper, plastic, and even used engine oil. The Recycling Center now has an oil recycling trailer for used oil from cars, trucks, and lawn mowers. Used oil filters may be dropped off.

The Recycling Center is also expanding the plastics it accepts. In the past only number one and two plastics were allowed. Now number one through seven plastics are accepted. Look on the plastic container for an identification number stamped on it. If there is no number, that item is not recyclable. Information cards are available which list what is accepted at the Recycling Center. They include instructions for how to prepare the items for recycling, and list the hours of operation. These cards may be obtained from the Seward Recycling Center, the City Hall, or the Public Works Office.

Last July the Seward Recycling Center was honored with the Keep Nebraska Beautiful Award of Excellence in the business/industry category. Originally the Izaak Walton League operated the Recycling Center. During the early 1990s the City of Seward acquired it. Located at 340 South Seventh Street, it is currently operated by one part-time employee on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Volunteer organizations help out on Saturday mornings.

The following groups volunteer their time:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| A.A.R.P. | Concordia University |
| First Presbyterian Church | Frieden's United Church of Christ |
| Izaak Walton League | Kiwanis Club |
| Knights of Columbus | Rotary Club |
| St. John Lutheran Church | |

If any groups or organizations would like to join this list of volunteers, contact the Public Works Department at 643-4000. All donated time is appreciated.



Seward Recycling Center employee Don Plessel unloads recyclable materials into one of many large containers.

City of Seward Recycling Center 340 South 7th

Recyclable Symbol on
bottom of container



RECYCLABLES REQUIRE PREPARATION

Material	Acceptable	Preparation
Newspaper Magazines Mail, Catalogs, Books Glossy paper		**SEPARATE EACH** Tie in bundles or place flat in brown grocery bag
Cardboard		Tie in flat bundles or place flat in trailer
Aluminum	Cans Foil	Rinse and place in plastic garbage bag Rinse, crush and/or bag
Glass		***NOT ACCEPTED***
Plastic	No. 1 thru No. 7 plastic containers, milk jugs, 2-liter & small pop bottles, soap & bleach containers	**SEPARATE EACH** Remove ALL lids, place in bags
Steel	Cans	Wash, remove label, lids
Batteries	Automotive	No holes and lids on
Computer Paper		Bag in grocery sacks, SEPARATE from other paper, and no staples
Used Oil and Filters	-Record in Office First-	Dump oil in oil tank free from water, anti-freeze, etc.

CENTER HOURS AND DAYS OF OPERATION

- 9:30 am to 11:30 am, Saturdays
- 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Tuesdays
- 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Thursdays

The Recycling Center on Saturdays is staffed by volunteer workers from different organizations.

Be Creative @ Your Library This Summer

This summer children in our community will enjoy participating in drama, music, art, crafts, dance and movement. The theme for the 2009 Summer Reading Program is Be Creative @ Your Library. Seward

Be Creative @ YOUR LIBRARY



Memorial Library will offer a variety of programs for children ages 3 through 4th grade during June and July. Many busy weeks will end with Friday afternoon movies. Programs begin June 1 and conclude with the family finale at the Seward Bandshell where the String Beans will perform on July 30 at 7 p.m. There is sure to be something of interest for every child. Registration for this special summer of activities begins May 13 and can be done by stopping at the library, calling 643-3318, or visiting the library website: www.sewardlibrary.org.

Don't miss out on any of the creative opportunities at your library!

Summer Fence Projects

During summer months many homeowners do outside improvements to their property. If adding a fence to your yard is one of this summer's projects, the Seward Building Inspectors would like homeowners to be aware of the current regulations.

A fence must be located completely on your property. Remember, the property line is the beginning of your property as well as the adjacent neighbors. Your property starts at the inside of the property line. It is a good practice to set the fence inside your property lines, to insure rights of ownership. If you are not sure where to find your property lines, you can have a registered surveyor



locate them for you. The City cannot locate property lines. The maximum height allowed for a rear yard fence is six feet six inches (6' - 6"). However the panel height shall not exceed six feet (6' - 0"). The maximum height allowed for a front yard fence is four feet (4' - 0"). Any fence located on a corner lot or adjacent to an alley way will need to maintain a site distance for vehicles. To insure safety and visibility, the maximum height in these areas is thirty inches (30"). Check with the Building Department for site distances.

Why are permits required? Safety is the primary reason for requiring building permits. City inspectors check to make sure that the construction and installations are proper for the protection of your family and property, your neighbors, and the buyers of your property.

Do I need to call Diggers Hotline? Yes, you must call diggers hotline 48 hours in advance of any digging to have your underground cables located. Dial 1-800-331-5666. It's free!

Seward City Hall and Utility Office Meter Reminder

The City's Automated Metering Project is progressing very well. Approximately 3,000 (mostly residential) electric meters and 700 water meters have been installed. Residents can expect a call from the Water/Wastewater Department to set up an appointment for installation of a new water meter.

The city of Seward does not sound an "all clear" siren when a tornado warning has ended. This is based on the recommendation of the National Weather Services. There is always a chance of another storm behind the one that just occurred.

Are there any other restrictions I need to know about?

1. Fences shall not be erected or maintained which are constructed of barbed wire or charged with electricity.
2. Access shall be allowed for the maintenance of utility lines, poles, transformers, or manholes. Check with the Building Department for the needed clearances.
3. Fences may not be constructed within two (2') feet of any public sidewalk, or within one (1') foot of any alley.
4. The finished surface of the fence must face the adjoining property or street frontage.

For further important information, please contact the Building Department to learn more about the building requirements for your fence.

City of Seward Contact Information

City Hall	537 Main St		Mon. – Fri.	7:00 am – 4:00 pm
Utilities		643-2927		
Mayor, Administrator, Clerk		643-2928		
Building/Zoning Department	537 Main St	643-4869	Mon. – Fri.	7:00 am – 4:00 pm
Civic Center	616 Bradford St	643-4470	Mon. – Fri.	8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Dowding Municipal Pool	14th and Seward St.	643-4674	<i>General Swim Hours</i>	
			Mon. – Sat.	Noon – 5:00 pm
			Mon. – Sat.	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
			Sunday	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
			<i>Adult Swim Hours</i>	
			Mon. – Sat.	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
			Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 9:30 am
Electric Department	1345 River St	643-3151	Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
Fire Department	222 N 3rd St	643-3811		
Library	233 S 5th St	643-3318	<i>Summer Hours: May 1 – August 31</i>	
			Mon. – Wed.	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
			Thursday	9:00 am – 8:00 pm
			Friday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
			Saturday	9:00 am – Noon
Police Department (non-emergency)		643-2579		
Office Hours	148 S 1st St		Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
Public Works Department			Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
Public Properties Division				
Park Shop	142 N 7th St	643-3971		
Cemeteries	N Highway 15	643-2053		
Street Division	142 N 7th St	643-4000		
Burnsite	S Highway 15	643-4000		
			<i>April – November</i>	
			Each Saturday	8:00 am – Noon
			<i>December – March</i>	
			1st Saturday	8:00 am – Noon
Recycling Center	340 S 7th St	643-3003	Tuesday	10:00 am – 1:00 pm
			Thursday	5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
			Saturday	9:30 am – 11:30 am
Recreation Department	537 Main St	643-3511	Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
Game Information Line		643-9574		
Senior Center	1010 Manor Dr W	643-4466	Mon. – Fri.	9:30 am – 3:30 pm
Senior Shuttle	1010 Manor Dr W	643-3177	Mon. – Fri.	9:30 am – 3:30 pm
Water/Wastewater Department	1040 S Columbia Ave	643-3433	Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Please visit the Seward City Website:

www.cityofsewardne.com

or send an email:

info@cityofsewardne.com

Street Department Saves Energy and Money

The Street Department is trying to do its part in helping save energy and money. Lights and computers are turned off when not in use, thermostats have been turned back, and equipment is shut off and not left idling when not in use on the job site. The Street Department is also looking into more efficient lighting for the shop and office areas.

Green Tip:

Switch from incandescent lightbulbs to compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs). If every U.S. household replaced one standard bulb with a CFL it could save enough energy to power 3 million homes a year.



Dowding Municipal Pool "Going Green"

Energy saving measures will take place at the Dowding Municipal Pool this summer. Settings on the pool heater will be adjusted and lowered during the evening and overnight hours. Heat loss during cool spring and summer evenings is costly and will be monitored closely this year. Water heaters for showers will be set lower, but State mandates will still be maintained.

Energy Saving Rebates Available

The City of Seward in conjunction with NPPD has available two great programs allowing consumers and businesses to take advantage of rebates through efficiency programs.

For some homes up to 50% of energy used is for heating and cooling. One way to minimize that expense is by installing a heat pump. Heat pumps look and cool the same as any efficient air conditioner, however heat pumps are able to heat in the winter and deliver 200%-300% efficiency. A heat pump is able to heat your home by itself during 70% of the winter, saving an annual cost of \$300 to

\$400. Depending on the type of heat pump installed, a homeowner will receive a rebate of \$200 to \$400, and their contractor could receive \$100. This program is for residential applications only.

On average, interior lighting accounts for 28% of a business's energy consumption. It also is a contributing factor to productivity, safety, and employee morale. Mercury vapor technologies used in area lighting loses 50% of their original light output before the end of their rated life. Lighting technologies developed in the past 10 years can help cut light

costs by 30%-60% while enhancing light quality and reducing environmental impacts. The City of Seward's Commercial/Industrial and Area Lighting Efficiency Program offers cash incentives of \$10 to \$75 per fixture depending on the type being replaced and installed. This program is for commercial and industrial applications only.

To learn more information about these two great programs pick up a brochure at the City Hall located at 537 Main, call the City Electric Shop at 402-643-3151, or call Mike Teetor from NPPD at 402-362-7323.

Seward Memorial Library Recycles

Seward Memorial Library recycles many items for the benefit of the public. Paperback books and magazines which are used, but still in good condition, are available to be re-read by others. These recycled items are located in the east lobby and on one revolving rack inside the library. Old issues of a variety of newspapers are also available to the public before being taken to the Seward Recycling Center. Cardboard, aluminum cans, and plastic bottles used by the library

are collected and also delivered to the center. Printed letter paper is re-cut and used for scrap paper or shredded. As an energy saving practice lighting and heating is limited during the night, and all the computers are turned off when the library is closed. The staff is conscience of saving resources and money for the Seward community. As part of the library's continuing commitment to conservation www.sewardisgreen.org was created. Visit this website for more valuable ideas.

Green Tip:

Check your water meter then wait an hour without using your faucets or toilets. Check the meter again. If the number has risen, call a plumber.



Fixing a water leak can save you money!

Seward P.D. Conserves

The Seward Police Department participates in the City's facility energy conservation program. The department conducts facility inspections to confirm cost saving methods are being adhered to regularly. Electronic devices are unplugged and turned off when not in use. Natural light is used to reduce the use of electric lights whenever possible. Windows are opened in the spring and fall to reduce air conditioning costs. Lights are turned off when rooms are not in use.

Green Tip:

Set your computer to go into sleep mode after five minutes of inactivity. Sleep mode consumes 90% less energy than an animated screen saver.



Seniors Go Green

The Lied Senior Center has been "Going Green" for years. Their generation was raised to be conservative and not wasteful.

The Senior Center continues to recycle all recyclable products, which include cardboard boxes in which their supplies are delivered, plastic containers, paper products, and metal and aluminum containers.

A recent survey concluded that efficient lighting is used throughout the building. The heating and cooling system is controlled by computer for the most economic use.

Groundwater Guardians in Seward

Seward was one of the eight charter members of the Groundwater Guardians. The Groundwater Guardians (GG) got its start in 1994 after a threshold of awareness and concern motivated a handful of communities into action to protect groundwater supplies from contamination and depletion. Seward was part of the vanguard of this movement due to agricultural applications of nitrate based fertilizers contaminating Seward's source for drinking water. As a Groundwater Guardian community, a variety of activities were undertaken to assess the contamination, develop mitigation measures and educate the public. Early efforts focused on agricultural practices including improved irrigation techniques, no-till farming, crop rotation and fertilizer application techniques. Today contamination levels are dropping in the aquifer water; however, the average age of water aquifer water is about 25 to 35 years old. This means that Seward's source water is impacted by the fertilizer application rates of many years past. As most residents know, Seward ultimately built a water treatment plant in 2004 to remove nitrates and adjust the corrosiveness of the aquifer water. During the ensuing years, the Groundwater Guardian team in Seward disbanded. Recently, as part of the City of Seward's Wellhead Protection Plan, a new Groundwater Guardian team was formed in February of 2009. Three ROA (result oriented action) items were developed. The ROAs will focus on 1) reviewing the City's Wellhead Protection Plan with all impacted parties involved (City/County/agricultural interests), 2) protecting the aquifer in Seward County during the Keystone Oil Pipeline construction, and the final ROA, 3) the team will lobby the county commissioners to change the county code to restrict future oil pipelines or

any hazardous chemical transport or storage in wellhead protection areas, and to provide for decommissioning of abandoned pipelines or storage.



In addition, the City of Seward has applied for Ground Water Green Site status for the highly regulated green space of the proposed wellhead protection area. Seward will proudly display the GG logo on the City website in the near future. The GG website is: www.groundwater.org. For further questions, please contact David Lathrop at the Water Department 402-643-3433.

Note: Please keep a pathway to water meters open. The City has changed out 33% of 2500 water meters to date as part of the conversion to an automated meter reading system. We are ahead of schedule. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Green Tip:

Replace traditional showerheads with high-efficiency models. You will use 30% fewer gallons of water every time you shower. Look for 2.5 (or lower) gallon per minute models.



Deliciously Nutritious Meals at the Senior Center

Delicious meals are provided Monday through Friday each week as a convenience for ALL senior citizens in the Seward area. Meals are served at noon in the Lied Senior Center located at 1010 Manor Drive W. Seniors do not have to be “needy” to take advantage of these nutritious meals.

Reservations must be made by noon the day before you wish to eat by calling the Lied Senior Center at 402-643-4466.

Menus are available in the *Seward County Independent* and the *Senior Center Gazette*. The meals are designed by a dietician and offer a healthy selection of meats, vegetables, salads and fruits at a reasonable price. Currently, some of the tasty main courses are crispy chicken, porcupine meatballs, beef tips, salmon loaf, roast turkey and dressing, pork cutlet, chicken fried steak, ham balls, baked chicken breast, roast pork, roast beef and goulash, which all sound good!

The best attendance at meals is always

at the Birthday-Anniversary celebration held each month at noon on the second Wednesday. After this delightful meal, those attending are treated to cake and ice cream followed by special entertainment at 1:00 p.m.

The monthly catered meal is well attended. Recently this has been served on the first Tuesday of each month. The overwhelmingly favorite entree is chicken fried steak. Musical entertainment follows the meal. A potluck is offered on the second Thursday of each month. Delicious home cooking is enjoyed by all who attend.

A “big hit” with Seward-area residents is the monthly Potato Bake. This event is a fund-raiser for the Lied Senior Center and usually is served each month on the fourth Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Approximately 200 people from throughout the area are served. The menu consists of #1 Idaho potatoes, cooked to perfection in the Center’s convection oven, and served with condiments to fix the

potato just the way you want it. Condiments include meat sauce, melted cheese, broccoli and cheese, grated cheese, butter, plain sour cream, sour cream with chives, chopped onions and real bacon bits. These are delicious! A popular part of the Potato-Bake lunch is the dessert table filled with homemade pies and various other desserts. Put this event on your calendar as a “must do!”

Try dining at the Lied Senior Center for a delicious meal in a friendly atmosphere!



Recreation Department Works With Many Sports

The Recreation Department is getting ready for the summer baseball and softball season. Teams practice in May for games scheduled from May through July. Youth games are played at the Plum Creek Sports Complex on Monday through Thursday evenings. There will be a number of softball and baseball tournaments held this summer at Plum Creek Park. Seward will host the American Legion Junior Area (district) Tournament during July 15 – 20 this summer. Come out to the ball park and watch area teams compete.

Tennis anyone? There is some interest in starting an adult tennis program in Seward. For more information please contact the Recreation Department at



643-3511. The Recreation Department would like to get a league started with singles and/or doubles. Matches would be played at the Plum Creek tennis courts.

The Recreation Department is organizing an adult coed and/or women’s sand volleyball league this summer. For more information contact the

Recreation Department office. Games are played in the evenings on the courts in 4-H Park.

The end of the summer brings the start of football season for the Youth Tackle Football Program. The 5th and 6th grade boys begin practices in August, and games start in September. The boys compete in the Blue Valley Football League with approximately 15 other teams.

Look for registration forms for 3rd and 4th grade girls fall volleyball, boys 3rd and 4th grade flag football, and Pre-K through 2nd grade soccer as soon as school starts. The games are played during September and October.

Hints for a Safe Summer from the Seward Police Department

Fireworks are a popular part of summer life in Seward. The Seward Police Department reminds everyone that City ordinances should be followed regarding the ignition of fireworks. Fireworks may be sold starting on June 28 and ending on July 4. Fireworks may be discharged from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. On the Fourth of July they may be discharged until midnight. The discharging of fireworks is prohibited within one block of the parade route for the period of time commencing one hour before the start of the parade and ending one-half hour after the time the parade is finished. The discharging of fireworks is also prohibited in or into any park or onto any public property within the municipality for the period of time commencing two hours before and ending one-half hour after any public event such as, but not limited to, concerts and public fireworks displays. Fireworks safety should always be practiced. A list of fireworks related City Ordinances are available on the City of Seward website under Municipal Codes Chapter 6.

With the increased summer activity

comes the need for added caution. Many residents and visitors will be biking and walking, and due attention needs to be given for the increase of pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The playgrounds and parks throughout the city are utilized heavily, and everyone should be cautious when driving near or into those areas.

During the warmer months the Seward Police Department seeks to maintain Seward's appearance by investigating nuisance and junk vehicle complaints. Please keep your vehicle licensed and in running condition. Keeping Seward clean is an effort in which all residents should participate.

Licensed dogs are much more likely to be reunited with their owner. Dog licenses can be purchased at the Seward Police Department. Please, comply with the leash law ordinance for the safety of your dog as well as the safety of others. Everyone enjoys clean parks and sidewalks so pick up after your pet when necessary. Children of all ages play in our parks, so help keep the public areas clean.



Community police efforts within Seward include bike patrol, foot patrol and crime prevention educational programs for individuals or groups of all ages. Please contact the Seward Police Department with your crime prevention educational requests.

If you are thinking about a career in law enforcement, consider the Seward Police Department. When the need arises to hire or create an eligibility list, we advertise on the City of Seward website as well as the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training website under job listings. Current information regarding the Police Department can be found on our website – www.sewardpolicene.org. The Seward Police Department employees are here to serve your needs. Please ask for assistance when needed.

Street Department Creates Gates

Gates have been installed at North 4th Street and Waverly Road. They will be used for access to the Seward Cemetery during funerals and other cemetery operations. The gates were designed, fabricated, painted, and installed by members of the Seward Street Department. They were designed to blend with the existing and future cemetery fence.

The Street Department has several concrete street repair projects planned for this summer. Some of the larger repairs will be done on Hillcrest Drive and on Plainview Avenue. Some smaller repairs will be done on other streets around the city. There will also

be some projects with alley approaches and sidewalk replacement.

The tree trimming program covers a large area this year. Areas to be

trimmed are located west of 6th Street and south of Hillcrest Drive. Everything on the south side of Highway 34 will also be trimmed.



Jeramie Schoepf, Ron Fryc, Mel Aldrich and Randy Sanley of the Seward Street Department.

Spring is Here and Public Properties is Outdoors

The Public Properties Division is busy with their usual spring activities. Staff are setting up and marking youth soccer fields. Baseball and softball infields are being groomed for the upcoming season as well as all athletic fields being aerated. Picnic tables and trash barrels have been distributed in the parks for the summer picnic season. Perennial plants in the park flower beds will be

cut back, mulched and fertilized, and of course mowing will begin and continue throughout the summer and fall.

The Blue Valley Campground is open and ready for the summer season. This site is open from April 1 through November 1. Check out the City of Seward website for more information on fees and facilities available.

through October 31. Your cooperation is appreciated.

The Public Properties Division is following their new conservation plan which includes fuel control/reduction strategies as well as encouraging more energy efficient operations to perform jobs.

The new Cattle National Bank Baseball/Softball Training Facility building has been erected. At this point, the training facility is an unfinished building with a concrete floor but no electrical wiring, light fixtures or insulation. The Public Properties Division is looking for any group or individual interested in donating to this project. The Baseball/Softball Associations are planning summer fundraisers to help complete the facility. The training facility is located in the Plum Creek Sports Complex. Check it out!



City employee Bob Core prepares the baseball fields for the season.

At the Seward cemeteries, employees are mulching leaves, picking up tree branches, grooming rock roads and mowing in preparation for the busiest time of the year, Memorial Day weekend. The staff would like to remind lot owners in Seward, Greenwood and Anderson Cemeteries that all items placed around monuments in grassy areas over winter need to be removed as soon as possible. According to cemetery rules and regulations, no items are allowed on grass from April 1

PRRST STD
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POSTAGE
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Seward, NE
Permit No. 7

