

# Civic Connection

. . . A message from your City

#### City of Elkhorn

P.O. Box 920 9 S. Broad Street Elkhorn, WI 53121

723-2219 Public Works Dept. 723-2223 Parks & Rec. Dept. 741-5114 Light & Water (Billing) 723-2910 Electric Dept. 723-3138 **Building Inspection** 741-5115 Zoning 741-5124 Assessor 1-800-770-3927 Police Department 723-2210 Municipal Court 723-2340 Library 723-2678 Water Dept. 723-2223

#### Mayor: Michael Roberts City Council Districts:

One: Howie Reynolds
Two: John Karcher
Three: William Hoffmann
Four: Scott McClory
Five: Charles Van Dyke
Six: Julie Taylor

Staff:

City Adm.: Sam Tapson
City Clerk: Nancy Jacobson
City Treasurer: Mary Hinske
Public Works: Terry Weter
Parks & Rec.: Jeff Simons
Electric Utility: Art Schmitz
Police Chief: Joel Christensen
Fire Chief: Rod Smith

Library Dir. Lynn Schofield Dahl

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## Tax Freeze vs. Tax Caps

For the past several months, the media has been filled with stories about the so-called Property Tax Freeze adopted by the State Legislature. In truth, neither the legislature's proposed freeze, nor that which was adopted in the State's budget are tax freeze measures.

Both the legislature's initiative and Governor Doyle's plan are measures designed to slow the rate at which local governments may increase taxes. This is an important distinction, because the expectation of zero growth in property taxes is not supported by the language of the State Levy Limit.

What is allowed by the Levy Limit is an increase in taxes that is the <u>greater</u> of 2% or the actual change in equalized property value attributable to "new

construction." In Elkhorn's case, new construction accounted for an 8.4% change in equalized value. Thus, the City would be authorized a property tax increase of 8.4%, and still meet the standards of the "levy limit". It is also worth noting that debt service expenses, that is the principal and interest on borrowed funds, are not subject to the levy limits.

While the City certainly is not entertaining an 8.4% property tax increase, it is important for residents to understand that a zero growth tax levy is neither required by law, nor likely to be attained. What is more likely to be attainable is a tax levy increase that approximates the change in the Consumer Price Index, or roughly 3% to 4%.

## Going on line: cityofelkhorn.org

The City of Elkhorn is celebrating a technological advance. By the end of 2005, Elkhorn residents and the rest of the world will be able to explore Elkhorn, Wisconsin.

The official newsletter, which will continue to be published twice a year, was the first step in better informing the public of City business. With the new website, residents will be able to get up-to-date information concerning brush pick-up, street

projects, new ordinances and much more.

You will be able to access meeting agendas/ minutes, departmental information and city hall

hours. The site will offer links to other helpful websites such as the Matheson Memorial Library and the Chamber of Commerce.



We will continue to add useful information and links to the website on a regular basis.

Surf Elkhorn online!

## How to become a candidate for Alderman, Mayor

December 1, 2005, marks the first day that residents of Elkhorn interested in running for office at the City level can circulate nomination papers.

Offices up for election include the Mayor and Aldermen of District 3 (Wards 2 & 3), 4 (Wards 4, 5, & 15) and 6 (Wards 7 & 8). Anyone living within the City limits is eligible to run for Mayor as long as they are a citizen of the United States, the State of Wisconsin and an elector of the City. Aldermen must abide by the same requirements as the Mayor, but, with the addition of being a resident of the District in which they are running.

The City Clerk will have available for residents interested in running for office a campaign packet on November 21. The packet contains a Campaign Registration Statement, Declaration of Candidacy and Nominations papers. Candidates are exempt from fil-

ing campaign finance reports if they do not spend more than \$1,000 on the campaign or accept any contributions or cumulative contributions of more than \$100 from a single source during the calendar year.

The number of signatures needed for nominating the Mayor is 50 to 100. Aldermen require 20 to 40 signatures. Those who sign the nomination papers must be electors of the City and in the case of the Aldermanic race, they must be electors of the District.

The Campaign Registration Statement, Declaration of Candidacy and nomination papers are due to the City Clerk's office by 5 p.m., Tuesday, January 3, 2006. City Hall will be kept open until 5 p.m. Incumbents not seeking office must file a Notification of Noncandidacy at the Clerk's office by 5:00 p.m., December 22. For more information on becoming a candidate for the 2006 elections, please call the City Clerk at 723-2219.

## **New plans for City's Parks**

Preliminary plans are being reviewed by City officials and the Recreation Advisory Board for upgrades of four parks: Tasch, Babe Mann, North Broad Street and Market Street.

The Park & Recreation Department and the Recreation Advisory Committee are working with Schreiber/Anderson Associates, park planners, on concepts that would enhance the parks and bring more activities to residents of Elkhorn. Plans are available for viewing by the public at the Parks and Recreation Center. The concepts will be presented to the City Council at an October meeting.

Some of the highlights of the plans include:

#### **Babe Mann Park**

- Boat Launch
- Disk Golf Course
- Extend walking path
- 2 Gazebos around the lake shore
- Fishing Pier

#### Drawing of tasch park

#### **Tasch Park**

- Skate Park
- Basketball Court
- T-ball field
- Gazebo or shelter for picnics
- Playground Equipment
- Landscaping

#### **North Broad Street**

- New Playground equipment
- 18" Seat walls
- Perennial plantings
- Low mound planted with 18-24" grass, wood chip paths through grasses

#### **Market Street Park**

- Playground Equipment
- Gazebo
- Perennial Bed w/ ornamental grasses and shrub roses
- Life trail stations
- Walking path

# Elkhorn Police

#### **CRIME PREVENTION TIP: Lighting**

Illuminate your property at night. Don't depend on streetlights or lights from adjoining properties.

- Leave outside lights on after dark.
- Make sure there are no shadows or dark areas around the house, garage, or yard in which a person could hide.
- Check lights regularly and replace burnt out bulbs.
- Protect your lights from vandals with wire covers.
- Be sure your lights don't shine into the eyes of passing motorists or police patrols.
- Padlock your circuit breaker box to prevent lights from being turned off.
- Good four-corner exterior lighting is important, particularly where there are dark areas around the house. Floodlights installed under eaves can illuminate these areas and expose anyone next to the house. Timers or photoelectric cells can be used to turn lights on at dusk and off at dawn.

#### Landscaping

- Trim bushes to less than 3 feet to eliminate possible hiding places, especially near windows, sidewalks, and exterior doors.
- Trim tree canopies to at least 8 feet to allow visibility into your property.
- Make sure that trees and bushes do not block lights.

#### **Maintaining Your Property**

- It is important to keep your property in good condition. Criminals are attracted to property in poor condition because they see that the owners or tenants do not care about it.
- Keep property free of trash, litter, weeds, leaves, dismantled or inoperative vehicles, and other things that indicate neglect in caring for your property.
- Remove graffiti as soon as possible after it is found. This will discourage further vandalism. The graffiti should be covered with matching paint so a "canvas" is not left for the vandals. Hardware or paint stores should be consulted regarding the best products for removing various types of graffiti from specific surfaces without damaging the surface. Extreme care should be used in applying special graffiti removal products like MEK (Methyl Ethyl Ketone) or "Graffiti Remover" on glass or unpainted surfaces.
  - Replace broken windows or screens.
  - Repair broken fences and gate locks.
  - Use screens, wired glass, or other protection for light fixtures and bulbs.
  - Remove loose rocks and other objects that could be used to vandalize your property.

## Winter Parking goes into effect December 1

December 1, 2005, marks the beginning of winter rules for parking on City streets. When the snow flies, cooperation is needed to allow the snow plows to do their job. The rules are enforced as follows:

Parking will be permitted on the even numbered sides of the street on even number calendar days; and, on the odd numbered sides of the street on odd numbered days. The day will be a 24-hour period beginning the preceding day at 5:01 p.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. that calendar day.



If tomorrow is the 15<sup>th</sup>, an odd numbered day, the odd numbered side parking begins at 5:01 the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup>.

All posted no parking zones will remain in effect. Residents should be patient with the snow removal crews because



Since May, Terri Duggan has been the friendly voice you hear in the evenings at the Elkhorn Police Department. She finds being a dispatcher very different than her previous experience answering phones. She enjoys the new job and working at the PD. Her home is in Clinton with her husband and two children. they are attempting to have the major streets cleared by the time school starts and then they concentrate on the secondary streets. The streets that seem to always be last are the culde-sacs because they take the most time to clear. It may seem that your street is always last. The crews alternate routes after every storm to alleviate the problem that one area has their snow removal completed first every time, with the exception of the school routes and downtown.

## Brush Collection October Schedule

### Fall Clean-up time in the City

(includes description of neighborhood boundaries)

Week beginning Tuesday. October 4: Northeast neighborhood

North & east to the City boundaries including both sides of N. Wisconsin & E. Walworth St.

Week beginning Tuesday, October 11: Southeast neighborhood

South & east to the City boundaries including both sides of S. Wisconsin and south of E. Walworth St. Week beginning Tuesday, October 18: Southwest neighborhood

South & west to the City boundaries including both sides of W. Walworth and west of Wisconsin St. Week beginning Tuesday, October 25: Northwest neighborhood

North & west to the City boundaries including property within the boundary of W. Walworth and N. Wisconsin St

#### November Schedule begins on Tuesday the week of:

Nov. 1: Northeast neighborhood

Nov. 8: Southeast neighborhood

Nov. 15: Southwest neighborhood

Nov. 22: Northwest neighborhood

#### Guidelines

- ??Bring brush to the curbside by 7 a.m. Tuesday but no earlier than the Saturday before the scheduled pickup.
- ??Cut ends facing the direction that traffic is traveling on the street.
- ??Diameter—minimum of 3/4 inches to maximum of 6 inches.
- ??Length—minimum of 4 feet to a maximum of 12 feet.
- ??No vines, rakings and roots. These will be handled through the yard waste program.

For Special Collections or if the crew has to return and chip the brush because it was not out by the prescribed time or if it goes beyond the homeowner's normal pruning and trimming, a charge will be applied. Call the Public Works office at 723-2223 for the charges or to schedule an appointment for a special brush collection.



### **Fall Leaf Collection/Seasonal Burning**

**The Fall Leaf Collection** begins Tuesday, October 25 and ends December 6. The City's garbage/recycler, Onyx, is contracted to conduct the leaf collection. On alternating weeks, the City will be divided into two sections during the Fall Leaf Collection. The schedule is as follows:

East of Wisconsin Street: Beginning October 25 West of Wisconsin Street: Beginning November 1

Please rake leaves into the gutter no earlier than Saturday and no later than 7 a.m. on the scheduled day. Do not place them in bags or boxes. Onyx will pick up the leaves from the gutter. If you have any questions concerning Fall Leaf Collection call Onyx Waste Services at (800) 248-2373.

Seasonal leaf burning is allowed between October 1 and November 30 without a permit. Requirements are as follows:

- -Burning shall occur on the resident's property at a minimum distance of 15 feet from any occupied dwelling.
- -**Do not** burn on streets, sidewalks, terraces, or any other location within the public right-of-way.
- -No burning when wind is in excess of 18 miles per hour.
- -Burning permitted between the hours 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.



#### Yard Waste and Grass Clippings Drop-off Site

**Open through October 29** 

Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

At the City Garage, 12 E. First Avenue (Fenced in area adjacent to N. Washington Street)

- -Leaves, vegetables, and grass clippings
- -Yard/garden debris and brush—including clean, woody vegetative material no greater than 3 inches in diameter
- -Stumps, roots or shrubs with intact rootballs are not yard waste.
- -Containers must be:
- -30 gallon paper bags
- -Dry cardboard boxes not larger than 3 X 3 feet
- -Tightly bundle tree limbs and branches no greater than 3 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length with twine (not wire or nylon)
- -Plastic bags are prohibited.

### Tax Bills will be mailed by mid-December

#### MATHESON MEMORIAL LIBRARY OFFERS SPECIAL PROGRAMMING FOR ALL AGES

Fall means new library hours and a variety of activities for all ages. The library hours at Matheson Memorial Library are Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Stacey Schultz, Youth Services Librarian, has great plans for the young patrons to enjoy the upcoming holidays. Monday, October 24, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., is craft night for Fall/Halloween, ages 5 to 12. Registration at the library begins October 10. Monday, November 14, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. is craft night for Thanksgiving, ages 5 to 12 with registration beginning October 31.

Monday, December 12, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. is ornament making night, ages 5 to 12 with registration beginning November 28.

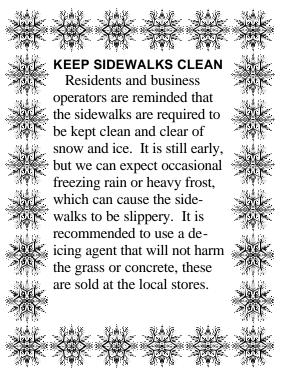
Halloween is an exciting time at the library. In addition to the craft nights, Thursday, October 27, stories and games will be offered to children ages 5 and up. Registration begins October 17. On Friday, October 28, a Spooktacular Movie Day is planned with free movies and popcorn. The movies are "Monster's Inc." at 10 a.m. and "The Haunted Mansion" at 1 p.m. No registration is required. Families are welcome.

Ages 7 and up are invited to a Harry Potter Party, Saturday, November 12, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Elkhorn Community Center. Registration begins October 24. Children are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite Harry Potter character.

No phone registrations are accepted for these events.

After school game days have been planned for Wednesdays, 4 to 4:45 p.m., October 12, November 16 and December 14. It is the perfect opportunity for children 5 and older to bring their friends and join the Youth Services Department for an afternoon of board and card games. The games and snacks are provided. Registration is not required.

Reference Librarian Orty Ortwin has scheduled two special programs for adults. You are never too old to learn about ghosts. On October 19, patrons will be discussing *Ghost Hunting in Wisconsin* by Richard Hendrix. November 16, *Quilts & the Underground Railroad* by Julie Tharp will be discussed. Children also have their own book discussions. On Wednesdays, October 19, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., November 30, and December 21. Children book discussions will be held for third through fifth grades. Sign up sheet is available at the library.



#### ACCESSIBLE VOTING MACHINES: HAVA MANDATE

January 1, 2006, is the deadline for a HAVA (Help America Vote Act) mandate to place one accessible voting machine in every polling place. The State of Wisconsin received a grant of \$18,000,000 to implement the mandate. The HAVA grant will pay the cost of the machines at a range of \$5,000 to \$6,000 for each polling place and the first year of maintenance and programming, an amount as yet not determined. Our municipality will be responsible for maintenance and programming in 2007.

When the City will receive the machines is not clear. Presently, the State Election Board has not approved any systems. Vendors of systems must be qualified at the Federal level and receive State approval. "I am not sure if we will see the machine in the February primary," City Clerk Nancy Jacobson said. "There will have to be training for our inspectors and 2006 is fast approaching. I intend to make the machine available to those with disabilities and all other voters. It does not make sense to have a \$5,000 machine and pay maintenance every year to have it sit there and be used occasionally."

When the machine is in place, Election Inspectors will assist voters in its use at the 2006 elections.

#### **LEAD DRINKING WATER AND YOU!**

Published by Elkhorn Water Department P.O. Box 920 Elkhorn, WI 53121

Lead in our environment is a public health issue about which we should all be concerned.

Lead is a soft metal, which is now known to be harmful to human health if consumed or inhaled. Since lead accumulates in the body, its potential for harm depends upon the level of exposure from all sources. There are three potential sources for lead to accumulate in the body. The major source is from food, and lead is also inhaled from the air. The other potential source of lead is from your drinking water.

To protect the public's health, public drinking water supplies are governed by the Safe Drinking Water Act under which the United States Environmental Protection Agency sets water standards.

Although there is a high level of compliance with drinking water standards throughout the United States, there is still reason for some concern about certain contaminants, which may get into public drinking water supplies, including lead.

As your supplier of drinking water, this information piece has been prepared to help educate you on this issue.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets drinking water standards and has determined that lead is a health concern at certain levels of exposure. There is currently a standard of 15 parts per billion.

Part of the purpose of this notice is to inform you of potential adverse health effects of lead. This is being done <u>even though</u> your water may not be in violation of the current standard.

The U.S. EPA and others are concerned about lead in drinking water. Too much lead in the human body can cause serious damage to the brain, the kidneys, the nervous system, and red blood cells. The greatest risk, even with short term exposure, is to young children and pregnant women.

Lead levels in your drinking water are likely to be highest:

If your home or water system has lead pipes, or If your home has copper pipes with lead solder, and

If the home is less than five years old, or If you have soft or acidic water, or If water sits in the pipes for several hours. Typically, if lead is present in drinking water, it enters after the water leaves the local water treatment plant. The most likely source for lead contamination is in the home or residence. The most common cause of lead entering drinking water is corrosion, a reaction between the water and the lead pipes or the lead-based solder.

When water stands in the pipes of a residence for several hours without use, there is a potential for lead to leach, or dissolve, into the water if a lead source is present. Soft water (water that makes soap suds easily) can be more corrosive and, therefore, have higher levels of dissolved lead. Some home water treatment devices may also make water more corrosive.

It was common practice in the Unites States through the early 1900s to use lead pipes for interior plumbing. Since the 1930s, copper pipe has been used for residential plumbing. Until 1986, however, lead-based solder was used widely to join copper pipes. Lead free solder and lead free materials are now required by federal law for use in new household plumbing and for plumbing repairs To find out if the plumbing in a residence contains lead, try scratching the pipe with a key or screwdriver. Lead is a soft metal and is dull gray in color. If lead pipes are present they will scratch easily and will be shiny when scratched.

Dissolved lead cannot be seen in water. Testing by a state approved laboratory is the only way to determine if drinking water has high levels of dissolved lead. Please contact your local utility or health department for the name of an approved laboratory. The lab will provide the correct procedures to be followed for a water test. The U.S. EPA estimates that a test should cost somewhere between \$20.00 and \$75.00.

It the drinking water is determined to have high levels of dissolved lead, or if there is an abiding suspicion of lead contamination because of the presence of soft water, lead pipes, lead solder, and other lead based plumbing materials, there are ways to minimize exposure.

One way is to "flush" each cold water faucet in a home when water stands more than a few hours. Flushing a cold water faucet means allowing the water to run until it gets as cold as it will get before each use. Normally this may take two or three minutes. Keep in mind that toilet and shower use or doing laundry with cold water will also move water

through the plumbing system, and this will reduce the amount of time needed to flush the cold water faucet from five (5) to thirty (30) seconds.

Another way is one of avoidance: do not cook with or consume water from the hot water faucet. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly than cold water. Especially avoid using hot tap water for making baby formula. If hot water is needed for cooking or oral consumption, draw water from the cold water tap and heat it on the stove.

If plumbing repairs or other plumbing work is done, make certain that only lead free solder and other lead free materials are used. This is now a federal law.

There are other actions which can be taken by household users to reduce the risk of lead in drinking water For additional information, contact your local utility, county or state health department or the U.S. EPA. The U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water department has a toll free hotline dedicated to this subject—1-800-426-4791 and also has prepared a booklet on this issue.

This information has been approved by the U.S. EPA and meets EPA's lead public notice requirements under Section 1417 of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986.

#### ELKHORN WATER DEPARTMENT

The average lead content from forty sample points within the water system is 8.9 parts per billion. This is well below the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water standard of fifteen parts per billion. However, the tap water in your home may be higher if lead plumbing materials have been used in the house.

The Elkhorn Water Department has a continuous water treatment process and adjustments are made to maintain a PH (alkalinity value) level of the water delivered to your home to be minimally corrosive, which dissolves lead more slowly than corrosive water.

If additional information is required, contact: Elkhorn Water Department P.O. Box 920 Elkhorn, WI 53121 Telephone (262) 723-7374 Or (262) 723-2223

# Important Information About Your Drinking Water Chlorine Levels in Drinking Water May Fluctuate

The City of Elkhorn water system is working to correct a problem that is causing a reduction of chlorine residual in parts of the water distribution system. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should expect, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

Chlorine is routinely added at our wells and water treatment facilities as a normal treatment process. Chlorine reacts with many naturally occurring substances such as organic matter, nitrites, iron, manganese and ammonia. These substances combine with chlorine and can change the chlorine residual available within the water distribution system.

#### What should you expect?

During the next several months, chlorine levels may fluctuate. Because of changes in the chlorine feed rates, you may become more aware of the taste or odor of chlorine in your tap water.

#### What should I do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.

If someone is highly sensitive to chlorine, you may want to take some extra precautions with the water from your tap during the correction period. (If you are sensitive to chlorine, you may want to consult with your doctor.)

If your aquatic pets are sensitive to chlorine, you may want to take some extra precautions with the water from the tap during the correction period.

Place water for drinking in a pitcher or other appropriate container and place it in the refrigerator to reduce the otherwise noticeable chlorine taste or odor.

#### What is being done?

The City is working with a consulting engineer to determine the cause of the chlorine residual loss, and to determine what corrective actions are necessary.

As always, we are continuing to monitor your drinking water to insure that it is safe for your consumption and other use.

Similar notices will continue to be sent to our customers until the chlorine depletion problem is resolved

For more information, please contact the City Administrator at (262) 723-2219.

#### CITY OF ELKHORN ELECTRIC RATES

#### Residential Service -- Rg-1

**Application:** This rate will be applied to residential single-phase customers for ordinary household purposes. Single-phase motors may not exceed 5 horsepower individual-rated capacity without utility permission.

#### **Monthly Customer Charge:**

Single-Phase: \$6.00 Three-Phase: \$12.00

Energy Charge: \$0.0661 per kilowatt-hour (kWh).

Plus: Power Cost Adjustment Clause (See PCAC Section)

Minimum monthly bill: \$6.00 per month (customer charge)

**Prompt payment of bills:** A charge of no more than 1% per month will be added to bills not paid within 20 days from date of issuance. This late payment charge shall be applied to the total unpaid balance for utility service, including unpaid late payment charges. This charge is applicable to all customers. The utility customer may be given a written notice no sooner than 20 days after the bill is issued and unless payment or satisfactory arrangement for payment is made within the next 10 days, service may be disconnected pursuant to the Wis. Adm. Code, section 113.

#### Residential Service -- Optional Time-of-Day

**Application:** This rate schedule is optional to all Rg-1, Residential Service customers. Customers that wish to be served on this rate schedule must apply to the utility for service. Once an optional customer begins service on this rate schedule, the customer shall remain on the rate for a minimum of one year. Any customer choosing to be served on this rate schedule waives all rights to billing adjustments arising from a claim that the bill for service would be less on another rate schedule than under this rate schedule.

Once on this rate, the utility will review billing annually according to Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 113.

#### Monthly Customer Charge:

Single-Phase: \$6.00 Three-Phase: \$12.00

#### Energy Charge per kilowatt hour (kWh):

On-peak: \$0.1205 Off-peak: \$0.0405 **Power Cost Adjustment Clause:** Charge per all kWh varies monthly. (See PCAC section.)

#### **Pricing Periods:**

On-peak: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, specified below.

Off-peak: All times not specified as on-peak including all day Saturday and Sunday, and the following holidays: New year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day, or the day nationally designated to be celebrated as such.

#### **Prompt Payment of Bills:** Same as Rg-1

**Minimum monthly bill:** The minimum monthly bill shall be the customer charge.

**Moving Provision:** If a customer moves within the utility's service territory, both the original and the new customer have the option to retain time-of-day billing or to transfer to the Residential Service rate, Rg·1, at no cost to the customer.

**Joint Residential/Commercial Customers:** A customer occupying a building or apartment for residential and commercial purposes jointly shall be billed on another rate which is determined based on the customer's load.

#### General Service -- Gs-1

**Application:** This rate will be applied to single and three-phase customers. This includes commercial, institutional, governmental, farm and other customers. The monthly Maximum Measured De-

#### Effective August 1, 2005

mand of customers served on this rate shall not exceed 75 kilowatts for three or more months in a consecutive 12-month period.

Gs-1 customers shall be transferred into the appropriate demand class as soon as the application conditions of that class have been met.

#### Rate:

Customer Charge: Single Phase: \$8.00 per month.

Three Phase: \$12.00 per month. \$0.0724 per kilowatt-hour (kWh).

Energy Charge: \$0.0724

Plus: PCAC (See PCAC Section)

**Minimum Monthly Bill:** The minimum monthly bill shall be the customer charge.

**Prompt payment of bills**. Same as Rg-1.

**Farm Customer:** Defined as a person or organization using electric service for the operation of an individual farm, or for residential use in living quarters on the farm occupied by persons principally engaged in the operation of the farm and by their families. A <u>farm</u> is a tract of land used to raise or produce agricultural and dairy products, for raising livestock, poultry, game, fur-bearing animals, or for floriculture, or similar purposes, and embracing not less than 3 acres; or, if small, where the principal income of the operator is derived therefrom. (Otherwise, the service used for residential purposes is classed as residential, and that used for commercial is classed as general service.)

Determination of Maximum Measured Demand: The Maximum Measured Demand in any month shall be that demand in kilowatts necessary to supply the average kilowatt-hours in 15 consecutive minutes of greatest consumption of electricity during each month. Such Maximum Measured Demand shall be determined from readings of permanently installed meters or, at the option of the utility, by any standard methods or meters. Said demand meter shall be reset to zero when the meter is read each month.

#### Small Power Service -- Cp-1

**Application:** This rate will be applied to customers for all types of service if their monthly Maximum Measured Demand is in excess of 75 kilowatts (kW) per month for three or more months in a consecutive 12-month period unless the customer exceeds the application conditions of the large power time-of-day schedule.

Customers billed on this rate shall continue to be billed on this rate until their monthly Maximum Measured Demand is less than 75 kW per month for 12 consecutive months. The utility shall offer a customer billed on this rate a one-time option to continue to be billed on this rate for another 12 months if their monthly Maximum Measured Demand is less than 75 kW per month. However, this option shall be offered with the provision that the customer waives all rights to billing adjustments arising from a claim that the bill for service would be less on another rate schedule than under this rate schedule.

Customer Charge: \$10.00 per month

**Distribution Demand Charge:** \$0.50 per kW of distribution demand.

**Demand Charge:** \$6.75 per kW of billed demand. **Energy Charge:** \$0.0475 per kilowatt-hour (kWh).

Plus: PCAC (See PCAC section)

**Prompt payment of bills:** Same as Rg-1.

Minimum Monthly Bill: The minimum month bill shall be equal to the customer charge, plus the distribution demand charge.

**Discounts:** The monthly bill for service will be subject to the following discounts applied in the sequence listed below:

<u>Primary Metering Discount:</u> Customers metered on the primary side of the transformer shall be given a <u>2.00</u> percent discount on the monthly energy charge, distribution demand charge, and demand charge. The PCAC and the monthly customer charge will not be eligible for the primary metering discount.

<u>Transformer Ownership Discount:</u> Customers who own and maintain their own transformers or substations shall be given a credit of \$0.20 per kW of distribution demand.. Customer-owned substation equipment shall be operated and maintained by the customer. Support and substation equipment is subject to utility inspection and approval.

Determination of Maximum Measured Demand: The Maximum Measured Demand in any month shall be that demand in kilowatts necessary to supply the average kilowatt-hours in 15 consecutive minutes of greatest consumption of electricity during each month. Such Maximum Measured Demand shall be determined from readings of permanently installed meters or, at the option of the utility, by any standard methods or meters. Said demand meter shall be reset to zero when the meter is read each month. The Billed Demand shall be the Maximum Measured Demand.

**Determination of Distribution Demand:** The Distribution Demand shall be the highest monthly Maximum Measured Demand occurring in the current month or preceding 11-month period.

#### Large Power Service -- Cp-2

**Application:** This rate will be applied to customers for all types of service, if their monthly Maximum Measured Demand is in excess of 200 kilowatts (kW) per month for three or more months in a consecutive 12-month period, but not greater than 1,000 kW per month for three or more months in a consecutive 12-month period.

Customers billed on this rate shall continue to be billed on this rate until their monthly Maximum Measured Demand is less than 200 kW per month for 12 consecutive months. The utility shall offer a customer billed on this rate a one-time option to continue to be billed on this rate for another 12 months if their monthly Maximum Measured Demand is less than 200 kW per month However, this option shall be offered with the provision that the customer waives all rights to billing adjustments arising from a claim that the bill for service would be less on another rate schedule than under this rate schedule.

Customer Charge: \$40.00 per month

**Distribution Demand Charge:** \$1.00 per kW of distribution demand.

**Demand Charge:** \$7.00 per kW of on-peak billed demand.

Energy Charge: per kilowatt hour (kWh)

On-peak: \$0.0500 Off-peak: \$0.0330

Plus: PCAC (See PCAC section)

**Minimum Monthly Bill:** The minimum monthly bill shall be equal to the customer charge, plus the customer demand charge.

**Prompt Payment of Bills:** Same as Rg-1.

**Determination of Maximum Measured Demand and On-peak Maximum Demand:** (See Small Power Cp-1)

**Pricing Periods:** 

On-peak 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Holidays, specified below.

Off-peak: All times not specified as on-peak including all day Saturday and Sunday, and the following holidays; New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day. Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day; or the day nationally designated to be celebrated as such.

**Discounts:** See Small Power Service — Cp-1 for Discount Information

**Determination of Distribution Demand:** The Distribution Demand shall be the highest monthly Maximum Measured Demand occurring in the current month or preceding 11-month period.

**Determination of On-peak Billed Demand:** On-peak Billed Demand shall be determined each month by the following formula:

On-Peak - On-Peak Maximum Measured Demand x 90% Billed Demand Average Monthly Power Factor

The Average Power Factor is obtained by the following formula, where A = monthly use of kilowatt-hours and B = monthly use of lagging reactive kilovolt-ampere-hours as obtained from a reactive component meter. Any reactive component meter used shall be equipped with ratchets to prevent registration of leading Power Factor.

Average Monthly Power Factor 
$$=$$
 A  $A^2$  Plus  $B^2$ 

1-hour Notice Rate \$3.17 Instantaneous Rate \$3.93 Additional information available at City Hall.

#### Power Cost Adjustment Clause (PCAC)

All metered rates shall be subject to a positive or negative power cost adjustment charge equivalent to the amount by which the current cost of power (per kilowatt-hour of sales) is greater or lesser than the base cost or power purchased (per kilowatt-hour of sales).

The current cost per kilowatt-hour of energy billed is equal to the cost of power purchased for the most recent month, divided by the kilowatt-hours of energy sold. The monthly adjustment (rounded to the nearest one one-hundredth of a cent) is equal to the current cost less the base cost. The base cost of power (U) is \$0.0509 per kilowatt-hour.

Periodic changes shall be made to maintain the proper relative structure of the rates and to insure that power costs are being equitably recovered from the various rate classes. The company shall file a request with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin within 30 days for changes in the rates to incorporate a portion of the power cost adjustment into the base rates, if after final wholesale rates have been authorized, the monthly adjustment (A) exceeds \$0.0150 per kilowatthour

For purposes of calculating the power cost adjustment charge, the following formula shall be used:

$$A = \frac{C}{S} - U$$

 $\underline{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$  is the power cost adjustment rate in dollars per kilowatt-hour rounded to four decimal places applied on a per kilowatt-hour basis to all metered sales of electricity.

**S** is the total kilowatt-hours sold during the most recent month.

 $\underline{\mathbf{U}}$  is the base cost of power which equals the average cost of power purchased per kilowatt-hour of sales for the test year period. This figure remains constant in each subsequent monthly calculation at \$0.0509 per kilowatt-hour until otherwise changed by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

 $\underline{C}$  is the cost of power purchased in dollars in the most recent month. (net of wholesale interruptible credits) PLUS amounts credited to retail customers for interruptible service in the current month. Cost of power purchased for calculation of C are the monthly amounts which would be recorded in the following account of the Uniform System of Accounts:

Class A & B utilities: Account 555
Class C utilities: Account 545
Class D utilities: Account 540

#### General Rules

**Reconnection of a Seasonal Customer's Service:** Reconnection of a service for a seasonal customer who has been disconnected for less than one year shall be subject to the same reconnection charges outlined below. A seasonal customer shall also be charged for all minimum bills which would have been incurred had the customer not temporary disconnected service.

**Account Charge:** An account charge of \$10.00 shall be paid by each applicant for service whether for a new account or for a transfer of account. The purpose of this charge is to defray the cost incurred in clerical and bookkeeping activities, the turning on of service and/or meter reading required for each new account or transfer of account.

#### **Billing:**

**Regular** - Bills for service will be rendered monthly unless otherwise specified. The term "month" for billing purposes will be the period between any two consecutive readings of the meters by the utility, such readings to be taken as nearly as practicable every 30 days within the provisions of the Administrative Code PSC 113.15.

**Budget Payment Plan** - A budget payment plan, which is in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 113, is available from the utility. The utility does not use a fixed budget year. The utility will calculate the monthly budgeted amount by spreading the estimated annual bill over eleven months, with the last month consisting of any end of year adjustments.

#### Disconnection and Refusal of Service:

**Reasons for disconnection:** Service may be disconnected or refused for any of the following reasons:

- 1. Failure to pay a delinquent account or failure to comply with the terms of a Deferred Payment Agreement.
- 2. Violation of the utility's rules and regulations pertaining to the use of service in a manner which interferes with the service of others or to the operation of nonstandard equipment, if the customer has first been notified and provided with reasonable opportunity to remedy the situation.
- 3. Failure to comply with deposit or guaranteed arrangements as specified in s. PSC 113.0402.
  - 4. Diversion of service around the meter.

**Deferred Payment Agreement:** The utility shall offer Deferred Payment Agreements to residential customers. The Deferred Payment Agreement shall provide that service will not be disconnected for the outstanding bill if the customer pays a stated reasonable amount of the outstanding bill and agrees to pay a stated reasonable portion of the remaining outstanding balance in installments until the bill is paid. In determining what amounts are "reasonable", the parties shall consider the following:

- a. Size of the delinquent account.
- b. Customer's ability to pay.
- c. Customer's payment history.
- d. Time that the debt has been outstanding.
- e. Reasons why the debt has been outstanding.
- f. Any other relevant factors concerning the circumstances of the

**Reconnection Billing:** All customers whose service is disconnected in accordance with the disconnection rules as outlined in Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 113, shall be required to pay a reconnection charge. The charge shall be \$35.00 during regular office hours. After regular office hours the minimum reconnection charge of \$35.00 applies plus any overtime labor costs, not to exceed a total maximum charge of \$70.00.

**Insufficient Fund Charge:** A \$15.00 charge from the utility, plus

any additional fees charges to the utility by the financial institution involved, will be applied to the customer's account when a check rendered for utility service is returned for insufficient funds. This charge may not be in addition to, but may be inclusive of, the water utility's insufficient fund charge when the check was for payment of both electric and water service.

Access to Customer's Premises. Authorized agents of the utility shall have access to customer's premises at all reasonable times for the purpose of reading meters, making repairs. making inspections, removing utility property, or for any other purpose incident to the service.

Complete rules on file at City Hall Offices, 9 S. Broad St, and the Elkhorn Electric Utility office at 400 Koopman Lane, Elkhorn.

### BILLS REMAIN DURING WINTER MORATORIUM

November 1 marks the day that the State of Wisconsin winter moratorium begins.

Annually, the date marks the time when electric utilities cannot disconnect customers due to outstanding balances on their accounts. The State created the law to protect those who cannot pay their bills in full when temperatures may plummet.

Disconnections begin again after April 16. If customers continue to pay their light and water bills to the extent possible throughout the winter months, a large utility bill on April 16 could be avoided. The bill does not go away, it just accumulates with penalties.

REMEMBER, that Elkhorn Light and Water works with Community Action to assist customers with bill payments when financial difficulties exist. Customers can apply on an annual basis from October 1 through September 30 for assistance through this program at (262) 728-8296.

If you are a customer who does not make payments during the moratorium but has the ability to pay, Elkhorn Light and Water can take the customer to court. The court would require the customer to pay 3 times the balance at the time of judgment.

#### COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2004/2005

Elkhorn Light & Water began collecting Public Benefits program fees as mandated by the State from its customers in October 2000. For the fiscal year (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005), the total Public Benefits fees collected were approximately \$67,312. This was spent on the following programs.

Low-income Customer Credit Program:

This program is intended to ease the energy burden facing our customers with limited financial resources. Customers may be eligible for the Customer Credit Program under which they can receive an account credit of up to \$150 of their annual electric costs. Customers may also qualify for an annual Crisis Assistance payment of up to \$200.

FUNDS PAID FOR CUSTOMERS = \$23,705

NO. OF CUSTOMERS SERVED = 191

AVERAGE SIZE CREDIT = \$124.00

#### Energy Efficiency Programs:

This program focuses on electrical savings. Eligible savings include compact fluorescent light bulb installation, refrigerator replacement, and domestic hot water heating measures where homes have electric hot water heat (water heater tank wrap, pipe insulation, low-flow showerheads, and faucet flow restrictors.)

FUNDS SPENT = \$37,220

NO. OF CUSTOMERS SERVED = 136

REFRIGERATORS REPLACED = 32

NO. INSTALLED CFL LIGHTBULBS = 626

NO. OF HOMES RECEIVING HOT WATER SAVING MEASURES = 36 ESTIMATED KWH SAVED = 120,723/YEAR

Community Action, Inc., Delavan, has been contracted to administer the programs. Interested customers should call 728-8296 to inquire about assistance available.

#### MEDICAL ALERT WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

If you use medical equipment that needs electricity to run, please let us know.

The City has a Critical Needs Response Plan that allows customers with critical needs to be notified of a power outage.

A "Critical Care" customer is defined to be:

- -A customer with specific medical conditions requiring uninterrupted electric service; or,
- -Elderly, disabled and/or home-bound customer who is at risk and requires uninterrupted electrical service to maintain their well-being.

The City will contact the customer or other designated contact person if there is an outage, with an estimate of how long the power is expected to be off in case other arrangements need to be considered for the customers well being.

A form is available at City Hall. Information needed includes name, address, phone number, medical equipment used, and another person to contact if the critical needs resident does not answer the phone. A letter from the doctor is required to be on file stating the patient's name, date of birth and the need for continuous electric service for the health and safety of that individual.

For more information call Jessie at City Hall, 723-2219.





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## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVISED

For the better part of the last eight months the Elkhorn 2020 Community Development Plan has been under review by the City's Plan Commission. The current Plan, which was completed in 1999-2000, was no longer thought to be an accurate reflection of the community's development activity or development requirements.

In particular, the accelerated development of multifamily housing during the mid to late 1990s and its impact on housing balance and population growth, was a concern of Plan Commission members.

A second issue of priority concern to both the Plan Commission and Common Council was the City's financial and physical capacity for accommodating additional population.

The housing balance and growth capacity issues served as the primary focus of the Commission's discussions regarding revision to the Elkhorn 2020 Plan. What has emerged from those discussions is a substantially revised Plan that seeks to restore a balance of housing mix, growth that is managed within the abil-

ity of the City to provide services, and development that strengthens rather than weakens the City's tax base.

The revised "Elkhorn 2030 Plan" is planned to be available for public review in late September with a public hearing on the revised Plan targeted for early or mid October.

