



# CONNECTIONS

PUBLISHED FOR THE CITIZENS OF COWETA

MARCH 2012

PROVIDED TO YOU BY THE COWETA CITY COUNCIL: MAYOR ROBERT MORTON, VICE-MAYOR BILLY EMBREY, COUNCILMEMBER ROY DALE, COUNCILMEMBER TIMOTHY KELLEY AND COUNCILMEMBER STEVE GARMAN

## THE CITY OF COWETA UPDATES ITS COMMUNICATIONS TO LOCAL RESIDENTS

The City of Coweta recently upgraded its communication technology to better inform city residents in numerous ways including weather alerts, upcoming events, road closures and much, much more. The City now uses Blackboard Connect to send messages to its residents to better inform the public. Possible notifications may include fire emergencies, flood alerts, bomb threats, hazardous material spills, snow emergencies, water outages, power outages, trash collection schedule changes, election schedules and neighborhood watch alerts. These notifications go out to all City of Coweta active land line phone numbers within the city limits. If you would like your cellular phone added to the notification list, or if you wish to opt out, please call Tom Tillotson at (918) 279-7216.

## EARTH DAY APRIL 22ND

### SOME THINGS YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR EARTH:

Spring is near and that means yard work. One way to save time and effort is to NOT bag your grass clippings, leaves, tree limbs and so forth. Leaving lawn clippings on the yard creates a healthier lawn. Soil organisms recycle the clippings into free fertilizer, and you save all the work of bagging. Compost leaves and branches for more fertile soil. Leaving the clippings on the lawn will also lessen the need for watering your lawn. And please, keep the grass clippings out of the street. It does not look good on the asphalt and it can clog storm drains. Other ideas for Earth Day: plant a tree, recycle, conserve water, use "natural organic" fertilizers, and visit the EPA website at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) for lots of ideas and information.

## From the Coweta Fire Department:

The Insurance Service Office (ISO), a leading source of information on property/casualty insurance risk, provides information about communities' fire protection, water systems, other critical infrastructure, building codes, and natural and man-made catastrophes. This information is used by insurance agents to determine rates charged to homeowners. The better the ability of a community to provide fire protection and enforce critical building codes, the lower the rate a homeowner will pay for insurance. Coweta has recently been issued a better rating assessments by ISO for fire protection, from a 7/9 to a 5/8B and for building code enforcement from a 6 to a 4 for residential and from a 5 to a 4 for commercial. We encourage all citizens to contact their insurance company to determine if you will be getting a reduced rate.

## DOWNTOWN

The City of Coweta will be conducting Fire Safety and Good Housekeeping inspections of all businesses in the Downtown District that do not have a valid Certificate of Occupation. These inspections will commence in early April 2012 and will involve the Building Official, Code Compliance and the Fire Department. The purpose of these inspections are to address any hazardous conditions, such as inadequate fire extinguishers, overloaded power outlets, blocked escape exits, dangerous storage or exposed live wiring, to establish owner and tenant contact details, to establish a floor plan of the existing buildings, and to issue each building a Certificate of Occupancy for its current use.

## FROM THE LIBRARY

Check the Coweta American and the Coweta Public Library, beginning in March, for programs scheduled during the week of Spring Break, March 19-23.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Two Coweta Police Officer's are soon to graduate from the CLEET Academy in Ada, Oklahoma. Officer Garrison and Officer Groves are looking forward to their graduation and eager to return to their assigned duties.

The Patriot System upgrade to the E911 dispatch center is progressing. This much needed update will allow our E911 Communications Center to dispatch and send critical data information to emergency personnel in the field and other Public Safety Answering Points quickly and efficiently.

## NEW TRASH ORDINANCE

Trash to be put out no later than 7:00 a.m. on the regularly scheduled collection day and no *earlier* than 24 hours prior to the scheduled collection day. Containers must be removed no *later* than 12 hours after collection by the City of Coweta.

## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The City of Coweta has been working diligently with Coweta Public Schools on the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program for our community. City and school officials are almost complete on the preparation of a strategic plan and Sidewalk Master Plan, but there's still time for your input. Citizens are encouraged to submit suggestions, ideas, and recommendations for the plan to Kathleen Easley at (918) 279-7213.

## HOUSEHOLD POLLUTANT COLLECTION

April 14 & 15, 2012

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tulsa Fairgrounds

15th and Sandusky

**Coweta Residents Welcome!**

Visit the M.e.t. website for information on what is accepted at this event.

[www.metrecycle.com](http://www.metrecycle.com)

## PUBLIC WORKS

**Wastewater:** Improvements to the wastewater collection system in the area of Division Street and West Oak have begun. New wastewater collection lines will be installed on West Oak and in the easement area to the rear of the homes on North Division and Old Main.

**Water:** Site plans for the water plant upgrades are being reviewed by ODEQ. Once approval is given by ODEQ the City of Coweta will move forward with bidding and construction of this long awaited project.

## FREE DUMP DAY

In conjunction with ODOT's Trash Off, the City of Coweta will hold it's annual **Free Dump Day** on Saturday, April 21, 2012, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Residents may take trash to the Wagoner County Fairgrounds on 30058 East 147th Street South. Please call Public Works for acceptable items at (918) 486-8073. No hazardous wastes will be accepted. Metal items can be taken at the Public Works facility located at 30151 East Hwy 51.

## City Hall Will Be Closed :

**April 6, 2012 (Friday) Good Friday**

**May 28, 2012 (Monday) Memorial Day**

**There will be no trash service on those days**

## TRANSIT

**FREE RIDES AVAILABLE THROUGH  
SOONER CARE FOR THOSE ON  
MEDICAID: CONTACT (877) 404-4500**  
**For all others: \$1.00 per trip in town.**  
**Handicap accessible.**  
**(918) 486-1783**



TOBACCO STOPS WITH ME.

[WWW.STOPSWITHME.COM](http://WWW.STOPSWITHME.COM)

In Oklahoma, 710 adult nonsmokers die each year from exposure to second hand smoke. Exposure to second hand smoke increases the risk of heart attacks, lung cancer and strokes.