

The importance of recycling in Clark County

Trash is such a natural part of day to day life, but how much trash is actually produced, and what can we do to help prevent local landfills from becoming over full? Recycling is the most effective way to protect our landfills and so much more.

Clark county uses Cook's Wastepaper and Recycling out of Brookings South Dakota for our local trash and recycling pick up. Cook's picks up recycling in Clark county every first and third Friday of every month. The first Friday with recycling pick up this month is this Friday October 7, 2022.

The average person creates just under five pounds of trash in a day, and a family produces approximately 18 pounds of trash in one day. An estimated 75 percent of trash produced can be recycled. However, only about 25 percent is actually recycled.

Cook's Wastepaper and Recycling does not provide a specific receptacle for recycling. Residents are encouraged to use personal trash receptacles that can be purchased locally or plastic storage totes. Whatever container you choose to use will be emptied by Cook's and left back at the curb to be used again on the next recycling pick up



day.

The list of acceptable items for recycling with Cook's Wastepaper and Recycling include: corrugated cardboard, newspapers (including advertisements), chipboard (cereal boxes), magazines, junk mail and office papers (shredded paper is to be bagged in a clear plastic bag), phone books, plastic bottles, jugs, and tubs (caps on bottles and jugs are permitted), aluminum beverage cans, tin or steel cans (aerosol cans are permitted as long as contents have been completely expelled) and clean aluminum foil and trays.

Cook's asks that recycling is not bagged in trash bags or other plastic bags as they are not considered recyclable. Recyclable items can be

placed into receptacles individually.

In addition to plastic bags and trash bags, the following items are not considered recyclable: any municipal solid waste, any hazardous items, yard waste, electronics, books, tapes and CDs, gift wrap, tyvek or nylon envelopes, tissue paper or paper towels, diapers, wax paper, photographs, heavily dyed or neon colored paper, foil paper, styrofoam, paper plates, plastic silverware, straws, food bags (chip bags, frozen food bags, cereal bags, bread bags), flexible packaging, window glass, mirror glass, shower curtains, cups and lids, piping, miscellaneous steel pieces (including coat hangers), appliances, wood, wax cartons (milk and ice cream), aseptic containers (juice boxes), glass of any kind and dry cleaning bags.

Clark county residents are encouraged to practice recycling and eliminate waste filling local landfills. Cook's Wastepaper and Recycling can be contacted via phone or email with questions about recycling. 1-800-CLEANUP(2532687) is also a good resource to access information about properly disposing of any materials listed on the not acceptable for recycling list.

October city council meeting raises water rates and approves 2023 budget

The October meeting of the Clark City Council was the beginning of raising water rates and the finalizing of the 2023 budget, both in ordinance form.

Ordinance #578 will raise water rates by 50¢ per 1,000 gallons from \$5.20 per 1,000 to \$5.70 per 1,000 gallons beginning in January 2023, for December 2022 billing.

Ordinance #577, the 2023 appropriations ordinance was approved by council members Andrew Zemlicka, Derrick Dohmann, Melissa Nesheim, Nick Dalton, Brandon Kottke and Shane Hagstrom, after a fairly lengthy discussion. (Ordinance #577 is shown elsewhere in the Clark County Courier this week.)

Much of the budget discussion dealt with lines of communication, as board members wanted to know about significant purchases, prior to the purchase, not after the fact or during the process.

Three Clark Chamber of Commerce members, Cassi Kottke, Nicole DesLauriers and Angie Werdel visited with the council about city donations to the Chamber. The city council decided to leave dues, Potato Day insurance and the \$3,000 donation as the same as last year.

The consensus of the council was that community activities are vital and important and need to continue. "We like to see things happening."

The public meeting lasted approximately one hour as did the executive session following, with no motions after the closed meeting. It was called for personnel and contractual reasons.

In other business:

* Clark resident Luanne Warren, who lives on 900 block of N. Smith St. had three questions regarding easements using city property. Without legal advice, the council said that Warren needed to direct her questions to city attorney Chad Fjelland.

* Rotarian Dr. Craig Spieker is looking for options concerning watering the baseball field throughout the summer. Whether or not opening one of the closed Clark water wells will be an agenda item at the November meeting, it was voiced. Nothing is in the 2023 budget for this item.

* It was reported that the golf course has a \$41,000 profit margin for 2022.

* The next meeting will be Monday, November 7.



Busy Squirrel Dig was a game featured at harvest festival this weekend in which kids would dig in corn kernels to find hidden fall objects such as pumpkins and scarecrows. Once hidden objects

were found and collected, kids were rewarded with edible prizes. Pictured above is Jorah Yexley (3) celebrating his victory while waiting for his fruit snack prize from game host Alyssa Reidburn.

Beautiful day for Harvest Festival

Hundreds showed up on Main Street in Clark Saturday to participate in the many activities offered at the fourth annual Harvest Festival. Kids made the best of two bouncy houses outside of the Courthouse.

The street was lined with several games, activities and treats. Some of the games included: plinko, the busy squirrel dig (pictured above), ring toss, Nerf gun target shooting and kiddie pool fishing. All of the games offered prizes for the players.

Treats were available through-

out the festival. Cotton candy was handed out among the crowd. There was a popcorn station providing participants with bags of popcorn. Snow cones and walking tacos were also available for purchase.

There were lines of children waiting to choose a balloon animal. Other activities included: an all ages pumpkin decorating contest and face painting.

The fourth annual Harvest Festival was held Saturday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. by the Clark Area Chamber of Commerce.



Kent Warkentien combines this soybean field just south of Bailey's Lake, north of Clark. It is forecast to stay dry the next week, so look for the bean harvest to get ramped up.

Harvest season kicks off in Clark County

Harvest season has kicked off in Clark County and the rest of South Dakota. Some locations in the east central part of the state are nearing the finish line. "It's nice to have an early harvest. Typically farmers are just now thinking about getting started on beans," commented Jon Kleinjan SDSU Extension Agronomist, Brookings.

This growing season, the Clark area has had more precipitation than other areas of the state, pro-

viding the potential for closer to average yields this year. "Considering overall precipitation amounts, the crop is fairly good," added Kleinjan.

Fields are seeing slightly below average yields so far this harvest, but it is still early to predict. "Running out of water at the end of summer is a major contributor to the below average yield prediction" says Jon Kleinjan. Kleinjan added, "with the wet spring locally the potential for some green yet in the corn could

also be a factor in the below average yield this season".

Local forecast predicts overnight frost in the area tonight. Kleinjan adds, "It's late enough now that the frost shouldn't do too much with the exception of possible crops still green and growing due to late planting. For the most part, it shouldn't hurt, and some might welcome it"

Harvest Season (continued on page 4)



S.D. Veterans Affairs officials provided information at Legion town hall meeting

This Monday, Secretary of the South Dakota Veterans Affairs, Greg Whitlock was the guest speaker at the Clark American Legion. Whitlock provided an overview on the County Veteran Service Officers duties, the new South Dakota Veterans Cemetery in Sioux Falls and discussed the State Veterans Home in Hot Springs.

Accompanying Whitlock was Brett Dickerson, the Program Manager for the VA Claims Office in Sioux Falls. He oversees the processing of veteran claims. Guy Arnold was also in attendance. Arnold is a Field Service Officer that supports the Northeast region of the state. He assists the County Veteran Service Officers.

According to Clark County American Legion Commander Darin Lewis, "Dickerson explained how the claims office functions and how the VA healthcare and benefits departments don't always communicate with each other, and how important it is that Veterans communicate with both departments. He also explained the new PACDAC data that expands

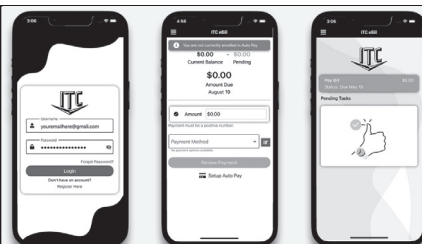
Agent Orange presumptions to a few areas outside of Vietnam. A new presumptive condition added to Agent Orange exposure is Hypertension, for Veterans deployed to Southwest Asia, there are now 24 presumptive conditions that Veterans can file a disability claim for."

Clark Veteran Service Officer Lewis recommends Veterans with issues after deployment to Southwest Asia, come visit him and get the process started. Lewis explained what documentation is needed to file a disability claim and stressed that Veterans talk with their spouse to ensure they understand the Veterans disability issues.

The panel then fielded questions on service connected disabilities, pensions, financial benefits, care in the community and burial benefits. The American Legion Commander Rob McGraw thanked Secretary Whitlock for coming to Clark and answering the County Veterans and their spouses' questions.

Shown speaking is Brett Dickerson, flanked by Greg Whitlock, Guy Arnold and Darin Lewis.

WEATHER			
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
September 27.....	69	47	0
September 28.....	66	41	0
September 29.....	69	40	0
September 30.....	76	54	0
October 1.....	75	55	0
October 2.....	76	54	0
October 3.....	76	55	0
2022 precipitation to date	18.02		
2021 precipitation to date	18.47		



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