**WINTER NEWSLETTER**

 Village of South Charleston 2023

No one knows what the weather will be like in the upcoming months, but the Village Maintenance Crew is prepared to keep our streets clear of snow and ice. We appreciate your patience and caution around the plow trucks and tractors. Remember to **blow or shovel your driveways and sidewalks into the yard and not into the roadways.** This causes further hazards for motorists. As always, drive safe and give yourself plenty of time for your commute.

Ordinance 76.14 STREET PARKING AND SNOW REMOVAL.

1. *A snowfall emergency shall be deemed to exist when such snowfall exceeds two inches on a primary thoroughfare.*
2. *Between 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. during a snowfall emergency, vehicles shall be parked only on even-numbered sides of streets on those nights with an even calendar date, and on odd-numbered sides of streets on those nights with an odd numbered calendar date.*

Clearing of snow on the sidewalk (including crosswalk approach) is the property owner’s responsibility. Ordinance 96.06 states, *“No owner or occupant of abutting lands shall fail to keep sidewalks, curbs and gutters in repair and free from snow, ice or any nuisance.”*

We have reached out to AES regarding the outages occurring within the Village. AES has stated that these are “forced” outages due to line repairs and maintenance. They are working diligently to restore quality service to the area. They have also stated that these outages DO NOT have anything to do with “over taxing” the grid or too much power being drawn by users. Sunrise Cooperative has also been in contact with AES. These outages are not caused by Sunrise Cooperative or any other industrial businesses in the area. The Village is monitoring the situation and will get updates as they come available from AES.

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**COMING SOON** - Look for changes on the Village website in the upcoming weeks. We are working on updates and also making it mobile friendly. There will be real-time updates on Village emergencies, such as water main breaks, boil advisories and weather event information. You can still sign up for online payments for water bills. Check it out at [www.villageofsouthcharleston.org](http://www.villageofsouthcharleston.org).



REMINDER: Water bills are sent out quarterly. This means you will receive your bills in **January, April, July and October**. The bills are due at the beginning of the following month. If you do not receive your bill in these months, please contact the office at 462-8888 for a copy. The Village is not responsible for lost mail, if your mail is lost, you may need to contact the post office regarding delivery issues.

FROM THE POLICE CHIEF

I hope everyone was able to stay warm over the past week with the dismal temperatures. I want to thank you for your patience while we cleaned the streets and dealt with the miserable weather over Christmas. I hope you all have a prosperous New Year.

I want to cover a few things. First, we now have flashing lights at West Columbus Street and Jamestown Road. These are the same style lights that were installed on North Chillicothe at John Street. The squad will still be stationed there in the mornings for the safety of our children. There is a push button on the pole to activate the lights, so you might want to go over that with your child. Also, let them know just because the flashing lights are activated that the cars are not always going to stop.

While we are on the subject of school safety, we also have a second School Resource Officer (SRO) in the schools. We will now have one in each building. Officer Kyle Marlett will be at Miami View, so please make him feel welcome. Sgt. Dunsmore will be at the High School and will be overseeing both buildings.

Remember, with winter underway, we will use the snow ordinance if necessary during winter storms. This will be addressed on the Village Facebook page and, if needed, on the local news.

The last thing I want the Village residents to be aware of is the large increase of speeders in the Village. Since Covid, speed citations have tripled. We want to make you aware of this so we can get the word out. We are aware that we have a lot of people passing through town during a normal business day, but a lot of these issues are on our side streets like Clifton Road and Church Street. Let your children know to watch traffic and be cautious. We are trying to conduct extra patrols in these areas. Some of the issue is people using GPS to map and are not paying attention to speed signs while they are just listening to their phones.

Thank you and again Happy New Year

At the Flashing Crossing Lights, please be sure to share safety tips and guidelines with your children to ensure their safety.

* Always use the designated crossing area
* Look left, right and left again before crossing
* The Flashing lights are there to alert motorists of someone at the crosswalk but it **does not guarantee that they will stop**
* Always make eye contact with drivers before stepping into the street