

NP you!



WINTER 2016

A community newsletter
for the customers of

Norwich
Public Utilities

Norwich is Talking Trash!

The City offers convenient bulky waste disposal options for residents

The City of Norwich is relaunching its bulky waste pickup program to address a growing concern in our city. Bulky waste is accumulating in neighborhoods throughout Norwich -- creating both public health and public safety concerns.

All residences in Norwich that are served by Willimantic Waste are entitled to two FREE bulky waste pickups each year. The process is easy -- simply call Willimantic Waste at 860-423-4527 to schedule a pickup. See the list in the sidebar for what can and cannot be picked up curbside.

How much can be picked up? Materials to be picked up should be no more than a rectangle area about 6 ft x 10 ft x 4ft, or about the size of a standard pickup truck bed.

If you don't want to wait, you have items that are not allowed for pickup, or you have exceeded your twice per year allotment, you can always bring the items to the City's Transfer Station located on Rogers Road. For added convenience, as of January 1, 2016 on one weekend each month through 2016 the hours of operation will be extended.



Removing Snow from Meters

Norwich Public Utilities is reminding customers of the importance of keeping the area around natural gas meters free from snow. Fire departments and other emergency response personnel must have access to gas meters in case of an emergency shut-off situation. NPU Meter Readers also need access to meters to avoid estimated bills.

When removing snow around gas meters:

- Make sure you know the exact location of your meter before you begin to remove snow
- Maintain a safe distance between gas meters and shovels, snow blowers, and other equipment while shoveling

- **NEVER** push snow against gas meters, gas piping, or appliance vents (make sure all vents are free of snow or other obstructions)
- **NEVER** pile snow on top of gas meters, gas piping, or appliance vents

All natural gas customers should be aware that gas meters that are buried in deep snow or damaged by snow removal equipment could begin to leak. Gas meter leaks are a potentially hazardous situation.

Customers are encouraged to report any problems with their meters to NPU's Gas Emergency line at **860-887-7207**. If there is a natural gas odor present, exit the premises and call **911** right away.

What can and can't be picked up through the bulky waste collection program:

Items not allowed for curbside pickup can be brought to the Norwich Transfer Station and disposed of at no charge.

Please review the following guidelines for proper disposal:

Allowed for Curbside Pickup:

- Appliances, (without freon)
- Tires with rims removed
- Scrap wood (neatly stacked)
- All furniture, including mattresses
- Carpeting (rolled or folded)
- Metal (no more than 50 pounds per piece)

Transfer Station Disposal Only:

- Refrigerators and other appliances containing freon
- TVs, stereos, computers, monitors and other electronic equipment
- Sheetrock, shingles, and other construction materials
- Toilets, sinks, shower stalls and bathtubs
- Propane tanks (for safety reasons, tanks must be empty)

To schedule a FREE pickup,
call Willimantic Waste at
860-423-4527.

**City of Norwich
Transfer Station
Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 11 AM & 12 PM - 2:30 PM
Saturday
8 AM - 12 PM**

2016 Extended Weekend Hours:

Jan. 30-31; Feb. 27-28;
Mar. 26-27; Apr. 23-24;
May 21-22; and June 18-19
(add'l dates to be announced)

Saturday 8 AM - 4 PM
Sunday 12 - 4 PM

A minute with the Mayor: CDBG Funds are an investment in Norwich's future



Deb Hinckley
Mayor of Norwich

funds available under this long-standing program.

The CDBG program was established in 1974 and is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). According to HUD, the CDBG program was established to help local governments address significant challenges in their communities and benefited an estimated 3.3 million residents across the United States last year.

In light of the recent discussion about the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, it is important that the taxpayers of Norwich

understand the process by which our city makes

significantly more

CDBG funds are used to benefit low-to-moderate income individuals at the end of a process that includes the following:

1. A Request for Proposals is published in a local newspaper early in the year for applicants to apply for CDBG funds. Categories may be limited if the Council and/or Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) decides to focus on a more specific group of priorities.
2. The CDAC will hold at least one meeting open to the public after all applications are submitted and prior to any deliberations taking place.
3. The Office of Community Development will prepare a draft of the Annual Action Plan which is made available for a 30-day citizen comment period prior to implementation. The availability of the draft Plan will be published in the Norwich Bulletin at the beginning of the comment period.
4. A public hearing will take place as part of a meeting of the Norwich City Council

prior to any vote on expenditures included in the Annual Action Plan.

5. The City will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing or at the public hearing(s) before preparing the final Action Plan.

6. After the public hearing and discussion, City Council will vote on a resolution approving the Action Plan.

The CDBG process is very competitive, with requests by local organizations typically exceeding the funding that is available each year. As a result, the Mayor and City Council aim to allocate CDBG resources to benefit the greatest number of residents while balancing the overall priorities of the City.

The City encourages resident participation in this process. If you have any questions regarding the CDBG process, please contact the Office of Community Development at 860.823.3770.

NPU hosts successful blood drive

NPU and City of Norwich employees ended 2015 by participating in a blood drive held at NPU on December 16. A total of 25 pints of blood were collected. According to the Red Cross, each pint of blood can save up to three lives.

Because more than 20% of the nation's blood supply is donated by college or high school students during the school year, during the holiday season and summer months donations drop, according to Joanne Krekian of the American Red Cross. These are the times when donations are critically needed. Making and keeping appointments helps the American Red Cross maintain a sufficient blood supply throughout the year.

Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood, resulting in more than 41,000 blood donations needed each day. Unfortunately, of the 38% of the U.S. population eligible to donate, less than 10% actually do, with the typical blood donor only donating once a year. If donors increased their donations by only one time there would rarely be a shortage.

For more facts about blood need and the blood donation process, including local blood drive locations, visit www.redcrossblood.org.

PROPERTY REHABILITATION HEATING PROGRAM

0% Interest Loans Available for Energy Efficient Heating Systems



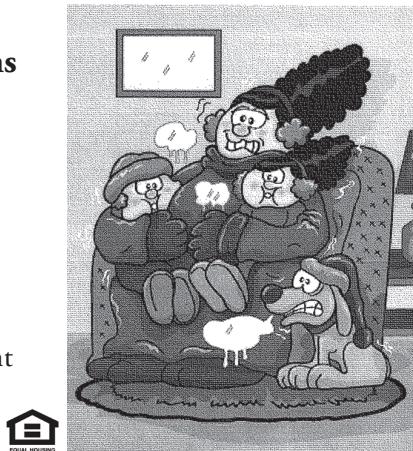
HUD Income Limits apply
1 to 3 family Owner Occupied homes
located in the City of Norwich

Limited funding available • restrictions apply



For More Information Contact
City of Norwich
Office of Community Development
23 Union St. • 860-823-3770

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



NPU Receives Honor by NEWWA

The New England Water Works Association (NEWWA), the New England chapter of the American Water Works Association, recently awarded NPU the George C. Whipple Award. This award recognizes excellence in protecting the public from waterborne contamination and assuring public health.

Among the criteria for the George C. Whipple Award is a demonstrated commitment to outstanding customer service and the use of innovative testing methods consistent with the ultimate goal of protecting public health.

George Chandler Whipple (1866 - 1924) was an American civil engineer and an expert in the field of sanitary microbiology. He is best known as a co-founder of the Harvard School of Public Health.



HERE TO SERVE YOU

Visit our website for more information: norwichpublicutilities.com
Please call, fax or e-mail us your questions, comments and suggestions.
Norwich Public Utilities, 173 North Main Street, Norwich, CT 06360
TEL: 860.887.2555 Fax: 860.823.4172 E-mail: communitymatters@npumail.com

