

# City of Amery Newsletter



October 9th, 2023



## NEW HOURS AT CITY HALL

**7:00am-5:00pm**  
**Monday-Thursday**  
**Closed on Fridays**

### CodeRED - COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION ENROLLMENT

We are partnering with Polk County's CodeRED notification system. Please create an account (or register as a guest) to customize your notifications and contact information. It's all private and will not be shared or sold. This will allow Amery and Polk County dispatch to notify you of emergency situations or critical community alerts. You can opt in for weather alerts too! <https://tinyurl.com/polkr>  
You can register your home and business so you get alerts even if you're away. We also have an app you can download from your App store that will cover CodeRED alerts anywhere in the USA that CodeRED is used.

To learn more, please visit Polk County Preparedness website (<https://tinyurl.com/polhealth>) or call the city of Amery at 715-268-7486.

### Dates to Remember

November 10	Veterans Day Observed
November 15	Utility Bills Due
Nov 24 and 25	City Offices Closed for Holiday
Dec 25 and 26	City Offices Closed for Holiday
January 1	City Offices Closed-New Years Day
January 31	1st Real Estate Tax Installment Due
1st Wed of Month	Council Meeting at 5pm
3rd Wed of Month	Committee of the Whole Mtg 5pm

### Council Members

Rick Van Blaricom	(715) 268-2264 rick.vanblaricom@amerywi.gov
Mayor	
Eric Elkin	(715) 269-9547 eric.elkin@amerywi.gov
President	
Mykaela Thompson	(715) 554-0040 mykaela.thompson@amerywi.gov
Sharon Marks	(602) 705-6598 sharon.marks@amerywi.gov
Sarah Flanum	(715) 268-4223 sarah.flanum@amerywi.gov
Mike Manor	(262) 210-9012 mike.manor@amerywi.gov
Roger Van Someren	(715) 554-1392 roger.vansomeren@amerywi.gov

### Amery City Hall

104 Maple St W, Suite A  
Amery, Wisconsin 54001  
Phone: (715) 268-7486  
E-Mail: [cityhall@amerywi.gov](mailto:cityhall@amerywi.gov)  
Website: [amerywi.gov](http://amerywi.gov)  
Office Hours: Mon—Thurs 7:00am to 5:00pm  
Closed on Fridays

### Important Notice to Utility Customers

All water and sewer bill balances that were in arrears on October 1st must be paid in full by 5:00 PM on **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 2023**. Any bills left unpaid will be placed on your Real Estate Tax bill with an additional **10% penalty**. Please pay your bill promptly. Anyone who is going to be gone for the winter or for an extended period of time, **MUST** contact City Hall before you leave so that we can make a note of it, and not bill you for garbage during the time you are gone. You will NOT receive credit if you call after the billing has been done.

### AUTO-Pay Feature for Utility Payments

Just a reminder that you can sign up for Auto-Pay. Stop into City Hall for the necessary form.

### Sewer Rate Increase

There will be a **33.5%** sewer rate increase effective **October 1, 2023**.

### Garbage Bill Changes

The City of Amery entered into a new contract with Waterman's Sanitation effective October 1, 2022. With this new contract, garbage service at residential homes will be increasing to \$21.63 per month for 35 and 64 Gallon Carts and to \$23.69 per month for 96 Gallon Carts. Garbage will still be included on the quarterly utility bill that is sent out by the City of Amery.

### ALL Dog Licenses Expire December 31st

Drop by City Hall after December 31<sup>st</sup> to renew your pets license. Licenses run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. A copy of the rabies certificate from your veterinarian is **required** to obtain a license. A Late Fee of \$5.00 per dog will be added after March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Spayed / Neutered - \$5.00    Unaltered / Intact - \$10.00

### Tax Collection

To avoid long lines, tax payments can be made by mail, or dropped in the City's payment drop box. If you choose to pay in person, payments can be made at City Hall by cash or check. Regular hours are Monday through Thursday 7:00 am - 5:00 pm. City Hall is CLOSED: Weekends, December 25th, December 26th and January 1st. Please note: Payments placed in the drop box between close of business on December 28th and 6:45 a.m. on January 2nd will be processed as a 2023 payment.

### Electric Car Charging Stations

The car chargers are still in "flux" at this time. We are waiting for final parts to get the chargers up and running. Supply is not meeting demand with the way the country has been going. When the chargers are up and running, an announcement will be made. Most likely on our city website, Facebook, and an announcement with the City Administrator's Report at Committee of the Whole. We will keep WPCA Radio Station notified. We will have a ribbon-cutting ceremony to "kick-off" the use of the chargers to the public at Soo Line Park.

## AMERY AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Special Events:

**National Chess Day** - Saturday, October 14 from 10 am - 12 pm

**Festival of Children's Authors:** The Amery Library, Amery School District, and Friends of the Amery Library are pleased to announce a **MAJOR** series of children's author visits! Thanks to the generous sponsorship of these three institutions, Amery students will get to attend author talks at their schools, AND each author will present to the public as well. All are invited to attend the **FREE** family events whether or not you have an Amery School District student. Author and illustrator Scott Magoon will be in Amery on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 pm at Lien Elementary Cafeteria, author Erin Soderburg Downing will be here on Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 pm at the Amery Intermediate School Gym, and author Jennifer Nielson will be here on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6-7 pm at Lien Elementary School Cafeteria.

**Local author talk:** Carol Morfitt Welch - Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm

**Trick or Treat at the Library:** The Amery library is once again participating in the Amery Community Club's Business Trick or Treating on *Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 1 PM*. Bring the kids in for some goodies, bookmarks, and FREE BOOKS while supplies last!

### Ongoing events:

#### Children's Story Time:

Join Miss Emma, the Youth Services Librarian, for story time on Wednesdays at 10am in the Makerspace.

#### Third Thursday Crafting:

Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 PM. Just in time for Halloween, learn how to make felt crows on real branches in our open house-style craft class. Ages 18 and up, while supplies last. Future dates for Third Thursday are Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> (note the earlier date for this month).

**Monday Movie Nights:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month is movie night at the library - 6 pm - see <https://amerylibrary.org/1st-monday-movie-night/> for the movie we will be showing.

**Book clubs:** We have three book clubs to choose from: Books & Brews on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, Mystery on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, and Science Fiction/Fantasy on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month - see <https://amerylibrary.org/bookclubs/> for details.

**Science Fiction Film Festival** - films inspired by Gene Rodenberry - Fridays at 6 pm.

**Death Cafe (support group)** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month (October 10th, November 14th, December 12<sup>th</sup>) at 6 pm.

**History Night** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6 pm (October 11<sup>th</sup>) - October's talk is entitled Abraham Lincoln: From a Log House to the White House.

**Friends of the Library Book Sale** - Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 pm and Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am - 12 pm, Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 3-5 pm and Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to 13 pm, Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 pm and Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to 12 pm.

### Calendar of Events

Events and Times are subject to change.

See the Amery Free Press for details/changes

#### Saturday, October 28

11am-1pm — Business Trick or Treat Games, Food, and Activities to follow at Michael park

**Wednesday, Nov 1**—Amery's Christmas Punch promotion begins

**Sat., Nov 25** - Small Business Saturday

#### Saturday, December 2

Holly Jolly Stroll  
Pictures with Santa  
Clydesdale Carriage Rides  
Fire Hall Chili Feed  
Light Up The Town Parade  
Other community activities to be announced

### Amery Fire Department

Below are some helpful tips to keep you and your family safe:

- Ensure your home is equipped with working smoke detectors that are tested regularly and have batteries replaced yearly.
- Create a fire escape plan for your home and make sure all of your family is aware of how to exit the home and where to meet in the event of a fire. Practice the plan after it has been created.
- In the event of a fire, exit your home and call for help. Do not return to the home to retrieve belongings.
- Teach household members to Stop, Drop, and Roll if their clothes catch on fire.

## PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES AND REMINDERS

**Parks Close** - The water and restrooms will be shut off in all city parks on November 1st, weather permitting. The Dump Station at the campground will also close at this time.

**Snow Removal** - City ordinance requires the owner, occupant, or person in charge of each building, structure, or unoccupied lot in the City of Amery to clean the snow and ice from the entire width of the sidewalk in front of the building within 24 hours after the cessation of a snowfall. If any ice cannot be removed, the owner or occupant is required to sprinkle the ice with salt, sawdust, or sand.

### Leaf, Snow and Other Debris

**Removal** - No person shall clear their property of accumulated snow, ice, leaves or other debris onto any city street or other city property. Snow shall not be piled at or near intersections so as to obstruct the view of pedestrians or operators of motor vehicles. The failure to clear sidewalks and/or depositing snow, ice or leaves upon any sidewalk, alley, or street of the City is a public nuisance. The Public Works Director may cause any snow, ice or leaves deposited to be removed and the cost of said removal will be charged to the property owner from which said snow, leaves or ice has been removed. If not paid within 30 days, the cost of the removal shall be added to the tax roll as a special tax or recovered in an action against the owner or occupant.

**Fire Hydrants** - If you have a fire hydrant near your property, please keep snow and debris cleared away from the hydrant so it will be accessible if needed.

**City Landfill** - There will be no leaf pick-up. The landfill is open the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month of October from 9am to Noon. The landfill will close for the season after **November 4th**. The City landfill will only take clean lumber, brush, leaves, and compost as well as concrete and asphalt from city residents. **All leaves must be removed from their bags at the landfill.** Other larger items, such as appliances and furniture should be taken to Waterman's Sanitation located at 663 85th Street, for disposal or call (715) 268-6471 for more information. There will not be a Christmas tree pick-up this year. The landfill will be open the first week in January for you to dispose of your tree yourself.

**Winter Parking Restrictions** will be in place from **November 1st through April 15th**. There will be no parking on City streets from **2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.** Please make off-street parking arrangements for winter now. Vehicles parked on the streets during restricted hours will be ticketed by the Police.