



KEISER NEWS

"Small town, big heart - that's Keiser!"

2024

September Newsletter

Vol 17

FROM MAYOR RICK CREECY

Keiser Residents Face New Sewer Rate Increase to Fund Essential Infrastructure

Over the years, the City of Keiser has seen gradual increases in water and sewer rates as we work to maintain and improve our community's essential infrastructure. Most recently, during the August 2024 City Council meeting, a decision was made to raise sewer rates to address the city's \$550,000 loan taken to fund critical upgrades to our aging sewer system. This loan, structured as a 10-year note with an estimated monthly payment of \$4,825, necessitated an increase in the sewer base rate from \$16.57 to \$30.00, along with an increase in the per-gallon meter rate.

This \$550,000 will cover several vital projects, including the recent cleaning and televising of our sewer system, which was completed to assess and clear the existing lines. It will also fund the construction of a new Sewer Lift Station on Main Street by the Methodist Church and cover the necessary engineering fees for our broader Sewer Project. These improvements are essential steps toward ensuring the continued functionality of our sewer system.

It's important not to become complacent just because we haven't recently experienced any major sewer issues. The new Lagoon Lift Station installed in March of this year has greatly improved our system, as did the recent cleaning of our sewer lines, where we removed significant blockages caused by tree roots and debris. However, we must remain vigilant, as tree roots will inevitably work their way back into the sewer lines, causing more obstructions. Our older clay sewer pipes continue to deteriorate and will eventually collapse, leading to further problems. The only long-term solution is a complete sewer

replacement, which is estimated to cost around \$4.3 million. In a few weeks, we will be submitting an application for a "Loan Forgiveness" grant with Arkansas Natural Resources, and we also have a \$2 million grant request in with the Delta Regional Authority. These efforts are aimed at securing the necessary funding to replace our aging sewer system and prevent more significant issues in the future.

For some perspective, since 1983, the general cost of living has increased significantly due to inflation. Despite these rising costs, our water and sewer rates have remained relatively stable over the years, with only modest adjustments. In 1983, the base rate for water was \$7.50, and the sewer rate was \$3.75. By 2006, these rates had increased to \$10.50 for water and \$5.25 for sewer. In 2010, a \$10 monthly surcharge was added, though the base rates remained unchanged. In 2023, the water rate was adjusted to \$13.13, and the sewer rate increased to \$16.57 following a state-mandated Water/Sewer Rate Study and the \$10 surcharge was eliminated.

Now, with the new rates effective in September 2024, Keiser residents will see a sewer base rate of \$30.00, in addition to the existing water base rate of \$13.13, plus the applicable per-gallon charges. These increases are crucial for ensuring the continued operation and improvement of our water and sewer systems, which are vital to the health, safety, and well-being of our community.

Copies of the new ordinance are available for review at City Hall and on our city website. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work together to support and improve the services that are essential to our daily lives.

City Council meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. All welcome.

Follow us on Facebook and at our website www.cityofkeiser.com

Water bills due the 16th of each month. Late charges will be applied on the 16th and shutoff on the 27th unless the 27th is Friday.

Remember riding ATV's on city streets is a violation of state law and will be enforced.

Remember the city has a leash law. If you are walking your dog in the city limits they MUST be on a leash. No exceptions.

If you have not yet registered your dog or cat. Please come to City Hall and do so.

You can buy 40 gallon garbage bags at City Hall. There are 50 in a roll and the cost is \$10.00 per roll.

Home owners and contractors are required to notify city hall before any mechanical excavation can be done.

City Hall—870-526-2300

New City Hall Hours

Hours 8:00am to 4:45pm M-F
Closed 12:00 to 1:00 for lunch

Peggy Sellars - Recorder/Treasurer

THE COST OF LIVING

With the 2024 presidential election upon us, the economy is a hot topic right now. Candidates from both sides are promising to make the financial load a little lighter for all of us. We could all use a break from the high cost of living. Economists define “cost of living” as what it costs to maintain a certain standard of living.

Times are tough. There’s no doubt about that. For my newsletter article for September, I had planned to make a comparison of the cost of living today versus five or ten years ago. In doing my research, just out of curiosity, I decided to look back to 1965, the year Jerry and I married.

We rented a one-room furnished house. The rent was \$17.50 a week. Jerry brought home \$30 a week from his job. Minimum wage was \$1.25 per hour. We ate a lot of beans and cornbread (still do). I soon was hired by One-Hour Martinizing as a counter girl. My first check was around \$25. I walked to the Piggy Wiggly in Osceola and spent every penny of that \$25 on groceries and a taxi to take me and my groceries home. When Jerry came home from work that day all the cupboards and the refrigerator were full of food.

In 1965, bread was twenty cents a loaf. Milk was a whopping forty-nine cents a gallon. Gasoline was thirty-one cents a gallon. Those were the days when the gas station attendant put your gas in. “Fill her up” was not in our vocabulary. Two- dollars’ worth of gas would get us to where we needed to go. Thursday night was dollar night at the drive-inn. That was our entertainment. We didn’t have a TV.

If we could scrape up a dollar, we could go to McDonald’s and buy us each a hamburger, fries, and a coke. Sometimes we had to be creative in coming up with that dollar – looking through the couch cushions, selling coke bottles. I’m pretty sure some of you know what I’m talking about.

In 1965, you could go to the local Ford dealership and buy yourself a brand-new Ford Mustang for \$3,300. Statistics state that buying a new home in that year would cost \$20,000. Jerry’s parents had a new home built in 1968 for \$8,400 with a \$40 per month payment.

Today, many folks are struggling to keep the bills paid and food on the table. Eleven dollars per hour minimum wage is just not enough to maintain a comfortable standard of living, especially with prices continuing to rise. In trying to make my case for these hard times we are living in, I realized how blessed I am today. I don’t mean to brag or boast in any way (that’s a joke), but I can afford to go to McDonald’s any time I want and buy a hamburger, fries, and coke. I can pull into the gas station and “fill her up” if I want to. I’ll bet most of you can too.

There’s still a lot of things that I would like to have that I can’t afford, but I do have everything I need. I would like to replace my 2016 Lincoln MKZ with a new one, but that’s not going to happen. I would like to travel. That’s not happening either, but, I’ve already been to some fascinating places. I don’t need designer clothes to just wear around the house. But, I did find a house dress at Walmart for only \$10, and I was able to buy it.

By faith, I am going to say that things are going to get better for all of us, but until it does, let’s count the blessings we have now. I once saw a plaque that said, “What if all we had today was what we thanked God for yesterday.”



Penny Wilbanks - City Hall Coordinator

A Trip to the Park

The City Park is still a work in progress, not quite complete yet, but it's already becoming a place for making memories. Recently, we took a trip there to celebrate a little boy's birthday. The day was hot, the air thick with humidity, and we had to be mindful of our steps to avoid tripping over a few unfinished areas. Despite these minor challenges, the visit was well worth it.

It was a truly special day for a very special little boy. His face lit up with joy to have friends and family gathered around, sharing laughter and fun under the warm sun. But the day wasn't just special for him; it was meaningful for everyone who attended. We played games, shared stories, and simply enjoyed each other's company in a place that belongs to all of us — our very own Keiser City Park. It's more than just a park; it's a part of Our Town, a place where we come together as a community.

So, whenever you need a little extra sunshine in your life, gather up the kids, pack some snacks, and take a trip to the park. Make it your own adventure at the Keiser City Park!



New City Hall Hours



Monday - Friday from 8:00 - 4:45

Closed for Lunch from 12:00 - 1:00

Happening Around Town - Keiser Update



New Police Chief

The City of Keiser is excited to welcome Mike Shively as our new Police Chief. Chief Shively brings with him a wealth of experience gained over several years in law enforcement, and he is already making significant strides in his new role.

Since taking the position, Chief Shively has hit the ground running, focusing on several key areas to strengthen our community's safety and security. He is diligently working to ensure that our police department complies with all state regulations, reflecting his commitment to maintaining the highest standards of law enforcement.

In addition, Chief Shively is developing a robust strategy for community policing and code enforcement, recognizing the importance of building trust and positive relationships between the police force and the residents of Keiser. He is also in the process of interviewing candidates for a second full-time officer, aiming to enhance the department's capacity and responsiveness to the needs of our town.

Moreover, Chief Shively is putting a strong emphasis on traffic enforcement to ensure our streets are safe for all. His proactive approach and dedication to these priorities have already begun to make a noticeable impact.

We are confident that with his leadership, the Keiser Police Department will continue to grow and adapt to meet the community's needs. Welcome aboard, Chief Shively! We look forward to the positive changes and improvements you will bring to our city.

Leadership Classes

We are proud to announce that our Team Lead, Dylan Smith, will be attending the Mississippi County Leadership Academy. This valuable training will pro-

vide Dylan with a range of skills to help him supervise our city employees more effectively.

Throughout the program, Dylan will learn essential tools such as public speaking, conflict resolution, planning and decision-making, and key principles of leadership. These skills will empower him to lead confidently and efficiently, ensuring that our city operations run smoothly and effectively.

We are excited to see Dylan apply what he learns to help our city function even more efficiently in the future. Congratulations, Dylan, on this great opportunity!

Street Repair

The City of Keiser is actively working to improve our roads by patching potholes around town. Our team is dedicated to making sure our streets are safe and smooth for everyone. If you notice a pothole in your neighborhood, please don't hesitate to contact City Hall at 526-2300 with the location, and we will make sure it gets patched as soon as possible. Your help in keeping our town well-maintained is greatly appreciated!

City Park

We are excited to share the latest updates on our City Park improvements! The equipment for the new Senior Area is on order and should arrive within the next month. This area will feature exercise equipment, picnic tables, and park benches, providing a welcoming space for our seniors to relax and stay active.

Additionally, new playground equipment will soon be installed just south of the recently added play structures, creating an even larger fun zone for our young children to enjoy. The new walking and biking trail is also on track to be functional in 2025, offering a safe and pleasant space for everyone to ride bikes or take leisurely walks.

We have recently submitted a grant application to the state of Arkansas to repair and upgrade our restroom facilities, which have experienced vandalism over the years. We are committed to making our City Park a safe, clean, and enjoyable place for all.

Keiser Fall Festival

As the cool autumn air starts to blow in the Keiser Special Events Committee greets it with a warm welcome as we gear up for the Fifth Annual Keiser Fall Festival happening Saturday, September 28th from 10am-5pm. We have made it our personal mission to bring life back to our City Park and through the hard work of the committee and the effort it takes to put on the festival we are seeing our hard work come to fruition. This year's festival is set to be a great one! With many vendors who will have a wide variety of products from wreaths, clothing, permanent jewelry, and much more! If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact Donna Gardner or Megan Owens for details. Back by popular demand our annual Pumpkin Race which has become a crowd favorite for all that attend as well as the Little Miss Yellow Jacket Pageant for girls ages 0-13. Please see Alayna Hattenhauer or Kelsey Horton to get signed up. Also making a return will be our 50/50 raffle as well as a

Gun raffle, you can now purchase chances through any committee member or the day of the festival at the committee booth. New to the festival this year is the Honey Calling contest and Corn hole tournament! We can't forget about the food, there will be a great variety and lots of it! So grab the family and come to Keiser for some great family fun that you're sure to enjoy!



KEISER



September 28th

The History of Labor Day

Labor Day, a holiday many of us associate with the end of summer, backyard barbecues, and a long weekend, is much more than just a day of rest and celebration. Observed on the first Monday of September, Labor Day carries a rich history that reflects the spirit of resilience and determination of the American workforce. It's a day set aside to honor the men and women who built the foundation of our nation's prosperity, through hard work, innovation, and a tireless commitment to progress.

The Early Days of Labor Day

The idea for a holiday dedicated to workers emerged in the early 1880s, a time when the United States was rapidly transforming. The country was in the midst of the Industrial Revolution, which brought about incredible growth and modernization. Factories were springing up across the country, railroads were expanding from coast to coast, and cities were bustling with new economic opportunities. However, this era of growth came with a cost: for millions of workers, it meant grueling hours, unsafe conditions, and minimal rights in the workplace.

In those days, it was not uncommon for workers, including children, to work 10 to 12 hours a day, six or even seven days a week, often in hazardous environments. There were no regulations to protect against workplace injuries, no standards for fair wages, and no laws to guarantee time off or paid leave. It was within this context that the labor movement began to take shape, advocating for the rights and dignity of all working people.

In 1882, a group of labor organizers in New York City, led by the Central Labor Union, proposed a holiday to celebrate the working class. On September 5, 1882, they held the first Labor Day parade in American history. Thousands of workers from different industries took to the streets, marching proudly with banners that demanded better pay, shorter work hours, and improved working conditions. This inaugural event was both a protest and a celebration—a way to stand in solidarity and recognize the vital role of labor in society.

From Local Celebration to National Movement

The enthusiasm generated by the first Labor Day parade in New York quickly spread to other cities. As more people became aware of the importance of workers' rights, the idea of dedicating a day to honor labor gained traction. In the years that followed, cities across the country began organizing their own Labor Day parades and festivities, and states started recognizing the holiday officially. By 1887, Oregon became the first state to pass a law declaring Labor Day a state holiday, and several other states followed suit.

The labor movement continued to grow, fueled by a series of strikes, rallies, and protests. Workers were no longer willing to accept dangerous conditions, exploitation, and low wages. The demand for fair treatment and recognition of their contribu-

tions reached a turning point with the Pullman Strike of 1894. This massive railroad strike, sparked by wage cuts and poor working conditions, disrupted rail traffic nationwide and resulted in violent clashes between striking workers and federal troops. The strike highlighted the deep tensions between labor and management, and it shocked the nation, prompting urgent calls for change.

Labor Day Becomes a National Holiday

In the wake of the Pullman Strike, President Grover Cleveland and Congress sought to mend relations with American workers. On June 28, 1894, just days after the strike ended, Congress unanimously passed a law making Labor Day a national holiday. This gesture was seen as an effort to recognize the significant role workers played in the nation's development and to heal some of the divisions exposed by the labor unrest.

Since then, Labor Day has been celebrated every year, evolving into a day not only to acknowledge the contributions of workers but also to enjoy leisure activities, community events, and family gatherings. Over the decades, the holiday has become synonymous with the end of summer, back-to-school preparations, and a final long weekend before the cooler months set in. But at its core, Labor Day remains a powerful symbol of the struggle for fair wages, safe working environments, and the right to organize and advocate for better conditions.

Labor Day Today: A Time for Reflection and Celebration

Today, Labor Day is a reminder of how far we've come and how much we owe to those who fought for the rights we enjoy. Thanks to the efforts of past generations, we now have labor laws that provide protections against exploitation, ensure workplace safety, and establish minimum wages. The holiday serves as a time to reflect on the progress made, celebrate the achievements of American workers, and acknowledge the ongoing challenges that workers face in our modern economy.

While many people celebrate Labor Day with picnics, parades, and a day off from work, it's also an opportunity to honor the spirit of those who fought for fair treatment and equal rights. It is a day to recognize the dignity of all labor—whether in factories, fields, offices, schools, hospitals, or any of the countless other places where work takes place. It's a moment to express gratitude for the sacrifices made by workers over the years, and to consider how we can continue to build a fair and just workplace for everyone.

So this Labor Day, as we enjoy time with family and friends or take a moment to relax, let's also remember the historical significance behind the holiday. It's a day born out of struggle and perseverance, and a testament to the power of solidarity and collective action. Here's to the spirit of Labor Day—and to all the workers whose efforts keep our communities strong and thriving.

Kickoff to Football Season in Arkansas

As the sweltering days of summer give way to the crisp, cool air of fall, there's one thing on the minds of Arkansans everywhere—football season is upon us! The thrill of the game, the roar of the crowd, and the pride of our teams unite us all in a shared passion that runs deep in the veins of our state. This year, we have plenty to look forward to, from the college level down to the heart of our community with high school football.

Arkansas State Red Wolves: Eyes on the Sun Belt Prize

In Jonesboro, the Arkansas State Red Wolves are gearing up for what promises to be a thrilling season in the Sun Belt Conference. Under the leadership of Head Coach Butch Jones, the Red Wolves are determined to rebound and rise through the ranks. With a mix of seasoned veterans and promising newcomers, the team is focused on making a strong statement this year. Fans can expect fierce competition as the Red Wolves take on conference foes like Southern Miss and Troy. Every game will be a test of grit and determination, and we can't wait to see how our Red Wolves rise to the challenge.

Arkansas Razorbacks: Charging Through the SEC

Over in Fayetteville, the Arkansas Razorbacks are set to charge into the SEC with the strength and speed that have made them a formidable force in college football. Head Coach Sam Pittman has instilled a sense of toughness and resilience in the team, which will be crucial as they face off against some of the best teams in the country. This season's schedule is packed with marquee matchups, including games against Tennessee, LSU, Texas A&M and an old Southwestern Conference rivalry rekindled against the Texas Longhorns. The Razorbacks will rely on their explosive offense, with the return of Coach Bobby Petrino, and a stout defense to navigate the gauntlet that is the SEC. The fans' support—whether it's from the stands at Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium or in living rooms across the state—will be vital as the Hogs aim to climb the SEC standings. This season promises to be filled with memorable moments, hard-fought games, and plenty of "Woo Pig Sooie" chants echoing across the state.

Rivercrest Colts: Community Pride on Display

Closer to home, our attention turns to the pride of our community—the Rivercrest Colts. High school football in Arkansas is more than just a sport; it's a cornerstone of community identity, bringing together families, friends, and neigh-

bors every Friday night. The Colts, with their rich history and tradition of excellence, are ready to add another chapter to their storied legacy. With a roster full of talented athletes and a coaching staff dedicated to developing young men on and off the field, the Colts are poised to make a deep playoff run this season.

The Rivercrest Colts are not just playing for wins—they're playing for the pride of our community. The stands will be filled with parents, alumni, and fans who have watched these young men grow from Jr. High to varsity. The Colts' relentless work ethic and team-first mentality embody the spirit of our town, and we know they'll leave it all on the field every week.

A Season to Remember

As we embark on another football season, let's embrace the camaraderie and community spirit that football fosters. Whether you're tailgating with friends, attending a game, or cheering from the comfort of home, your support makes all the difference. This season, we'll celebrate the highs and navigate the lows together, united by our love for the game and our teams.

From the Arkansas State Red Wolves fighting for Sun Belt glory, to the Razorbacks charging through the SEC, to the Rivercrest Colts playing with heart and determination, there's no shortage of reasons to be excited. So, dust off your jerseys, gather your friends and family, and let's get ready for a season filled with unforgettable moments.

Go Red Wolves! Go Razorbacks! Go Rivercrest Colts!



Embracing Tradition and the Outdoors: Deer Season in Arkansas

As the cooler days of fall settle over Arkansas, anticipation builds among hunters across the state as deer season approaches. For many, this time of year is more than just a sport; it's a cherished tradition passed down through generations, a time to connect with nature, and an opportunity to enjoy the peace and solitude of the great outdoors. Arkansas, with its diverse landscapes ranging from the rolling hills of the Ozarks to the dense forests of the Delta, offers a rich and varied hunting experience that attracts both seasoned hunters and newcomers alike.

Deer season in Arkansas typically begins in late September with archery season, followed by muzzleloader and modern gun seasons. Each segment of the season provides its own unique challenges and rewards, whether you're using a bow, muzzleloader, or rifle. The state's abundant deer population and the vast stretches of public hunting land, including wildlife management areas and national forests, make Arkansas a prime destination for deer hunters. Regulations and specific dates vary by zone, so it's crucial for hunters to review the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's guidelines to ensure they are following the rules and practicing safe, responsible hunting.

For many Arkansas families, deer season is a time-honored tradition that brings people together. It's not uncommon to see multi-generational hunting trips, where grandparents, parents, and children share the excitement of the hunt and the camaraderie that comes with it. Beyond the thrill of the chase, deer hunting in Arkansas also plays an essential role in wildlife management. The state's deer population is carefully monitored, and regulated hunting helps maintain a healthy balance, ensuring that the ecosystem remains stable and that there is enough food and habitat for the deer and other wildlife to thrive.

The experience of deer hunting in Arkansas is

about more than just the harvest. It's about waking up before dawn, breathing in the crisp fall air, and listening to the sounds of the forest coming to life. It's about the quiet moments spent in a deer stand, watching as the first light of day filters through the trees. It's about the stories told around the campfire at the end of the day, the lessons learned, and the memories made. For many hunters, these moments are what make deer season in Arkansas truly special.

As the season begins, hunters are reminded to prioritize safety, not only for themselves but also for others in the field. Wearing hunter orange, following firearm safety protocols, and being aware of your surroundings are critical practices to ensure a safe and successful hunt. Additionally, hunters are encouraged to respect the land, whether they are on public or private property, and to leave the environment as they found it, preserving it for future generations to enjoy.

Deer season in Arkansas is a time of anticipation, tradition, and respect for the natural world. Whether you're a lifelong hunter or just starting out, the season offers an opportunity to experience the beauty and challenge of the hunt, to connect with nature, and to be a part of a tradition that is deeply woven into the fabric of Arkansas life. As the days grow shorter and the leaves begin to turn, the excitement of deer season is palpable, promising another year of adventure and lasting memories in the Arkansas wilderness.



Prepare Early for the Arrival of Fall and Winter

As summer gives way to the cooler and crisper days of fall in Arkansas, it's essential to prepare both your home and vehicle for the changing season. The transition from hot weather to cooler temperatures can bring about unexpected challenges, but with a few thoughtful steps, you can ensure that your home stays comfortable and your vehicle remains safe and reliable.

Start with your home's heating system, as it will soon become a critical component of your daily comfort. Schedule a professional inspection of your HVAC system to ensure it's in optimal working order. Change your air filters to improve efficiency and indoor air quality, and check that your thermostat is functioning correctly. A well-maintained heating system not only keeps your home warm but can also help keep your energy bills in check as temperatures drop.

Next, take a close look at your doors and windows, as these are common sources of drafts that can let cold air seep into your home. Inspect for any gaps or cracks, and use weather stripping or caulk to seal them up. Properly sealed doors and windows can make a significant difference in maintaining a consistent indoor temperature and reducing your heating costs.

As fall progresses, leaves begin to accumulate, creating potential problems if left unchecked. Make it a priority to clean out your gutters and downspouts regularly. Clogged gutters can lead to water overflow, which can damage your roof, walls, and foundation. By keeping your gutters clear, you ensure that rainwater is properly directed away from your home, protecting it from water damage.

Don't forget your lawn and garden as you prepare for fall. Rake up fallen leaves frequently to prevent them from smothering your grass, which could lead to bare patches come spring. Consider aerating your lawn and applying a fall fertilizer; this will help your grass develop strong roots that will support healthy growth when the warmer weather returns. If you enjoy gardening, fall is an excellent time to plant cool-weather vegetables like broccoli, spinach, and lettuce, which thrive in the milder temperatures.

With the increased use of heaters, fireplaces, and other heat sources, it's crucial to ensure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are in good working order. Test each detector in your home, replace the batteries if needed, and consider replacing any units that are more than 10 years old. Functioning detectors are your first line of defense against fire hazards and carbon monoxide

poisoning, particularly as you begin using heating appliances more frequently.

Turning to your vehicle, the cooler fall weather can have an impact on its performance, so it's important to make sure it's prepared for the season. Begin by checking your tires. As temperatures drop, so can tire pressure, which can lead to reduced fuel efficiency and poor handling. Make sure your tires are properly inflated and have adequate tread depth for safe driving on wet, slippery roads. If you haven't already, consider switching to all-season tires, which offer better traction in a variety of conditions.

Your vehicle's brakes are another critical safety feature that needs attention. Wet leaves on the road, along with increased rain, can create slippery conditions, so it's essential to ensure your brakes are in top condition. Listen for any unusual noises, such as squeaking or grinding, which could indicate that your brake pads are wearing thin. If you notice any issues, have your brakes inspected by a professional mechanic.

Windshield wipers often take a beating during the hot summer months, leading to cracks and wear that can reduce their effectiveness. With fall bringing more rain, it's a good time to replace your wiper blades to ensure you maintain clear visibility in wet conditions. A simple, inexpensive wiper blade replacement can make a significant difference in your safety while driving.

Additionally, cold weather can be tough on your car battery, especially if it's already a few years old. Have your battery tested to ensure it's holding a charge, and if it's more than three years old, consider replacing it to avoid the inconvenience of a dead battery on a chilly morning.

Finally, check your antifreeze and prepare an emergency kit for your vehicle. The unpredictability of fall weather in Arkansas means that you could encounter unexpected situations on the road. Your kit should include essentials such as a blanket, flashlight, first-aid supplies, jumper cables, and a spare tire. In the event of an emergency, having these items on hand can provide comfort and assistance until help arrives.

By taking the time to prepare your home and vehicle for the fall season, you can enjoy the beauty of autumn in Arkansas with peace of mind. These simple yet effective steps will help you avoid unnecessary problems and keep you and your family safe and comfortable as the weather changes.

The Beauty of Fall in Arkansas

As summer fades and the cooler days of fall approach, Arkansas undergoes a stunning transformation, with its landscapes coming alive in vibrant shades of red, orange, and yellow. This seasonal change offers a unique opportunity to explore the natural beauty of the state, making it an ideal time for outdoor adventures and scenic drives. From the rolling hills of the Ozarks to the dense forests of the Ouachitas, Arkansas provides some of the most picturesque views during the fall months, typically from early October through mid-November.

One of the prime destinations for experiencing fall colors is the Ozark National Forest in northern Arkansas. Covering over a million acres, this forest offers a diverse mix of hardwood trees that create a breathtaking display of autumn hues. The Pig Trail Scenic Byway, also known as Highway 23, is a particularly scenic route through the forested mountains, with ample opportunities for hiking, picnicking, and camping. For those looking for a more challenging hike, Hawksbill Crag, or Whitaker Point, provides panoramic views that perfectly capture the essence of fall in the Ozarks.

Mount Magazine State Park, home to the highest point in Arkansas, is another excellent spot to witness the season's beauty. Located within the Ozark National Forest, Mount Magazine offers stunning vistas and a variety of outdoor activities. Whether you choose to drive along Cameron Bluff Overlook Drive or hike the Signal Hill Trail to the state's highest peak, you'll be rewarded with spectacular views of the surrounding landscape, adorned in brilliant fall colors.

Petit Jean State Park, situated in the Arkansas River Valley, is named after Petit Jean Mountain and is a must-visit during the fall. The Cedar Falls Trail, leading to a 95-foot waterfall, is particularly popular and is surrounded by vibrant autumn foliage. The overlook at Mather Lodge offers a breathtaking view of the valley below, where the fall colors blanket the hillsides, making it a favorite spot for nature lovers and photographers alike.

The Ouachita National Forest, spanning across western Arkansas into eastern Oklahoma, is another destination not to be missed. The Talimena Scenic Byway, a 54-mile route through the forest, offers some of the most stunning views of the Ouachita Mountains, with numerous overlooks perfect for enjoying the fall scenery. For those who prefer hiking, the Ouachita National Recrea-

tion Trail provides an immersive experience, allowing you to walk among the colorful trees and breathe in the crisp fall air.

The Buffalo National River, America's first national river, flows through the Ozark Mountains and offers some of the most scenic fall views in Arkansas. Surrounded by towering bluffs and dense forests, the river is a peaceful place to witness the changing leaves. A float down the river provides a unique perspective on the fall colors, while hiking trails like Lost Valley Trail lead to beautiful spots like Eden Falls, where the autumn foliage creates a stunning backdrop.

Finally, Hot Springs National Park, located in central Arkansas, combines the beauty of fall with the historic charm of its namesake town. The park's trails, including the Sunset Trail, offer opportunities to enjoy the fall colors while exploring the area's famous thermal springs. For a panoramic view of the surrounding Ouachita Mountains, the Hot Springs Mountain Tower is the perfect vantage point, offering a sweeping view of the vibrant fall colors. After a day of exploring, visitors can unwind in one of the historic bathhouses in Hot Springs, making it a perfect fall getaway.

Fall in Arkansas is a time of breathtaking beauty, where the landscape transforms into a vibrant tapestry of colors. Whether you're exploring the rugged mountains of the Ozarks, driving the scenic byways of the Ouachitas, or floating down the tranquil waters of the Buffalo National River, there are countless opportunities to savor the season's splendor. As the season changes, it's a wonderful reminder to slow down, appreciate the natural beauty around us, and make the most of the crisp, cool days that autumn brings.



Christmas in Keiser



September 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6 Read a Book Day	7 Bacon Day
8 Grandparents Day	9	10 Suicide Prevention Day	11 Patriot Day	12	13	14
15	16 <i>Council Meeting</i> <i>Water Bill Due</i>	17	18 Cheeseburger Day	19	20 Pizza Day	21 Day of Piece
22 Start of Fall	23	24	25 Daughter's Day	26 Pancake Day	27	28 Son's Day
29 Coffee Day	30 <i>Cutoff Date</i>					

City Fun Page

FOOTBALL

J X A Y D R B Y K T N I M Z H F F P N N
Z F C Y E O Q O A D E F E N S I V E F T
H M U T L Y E A M B O F F E N S I V E A
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F Q V C E N D H B L C U R T R L M R W G
J D F A Q X G O I A P P N H V C K C G L
K Q U A R T E R B A C K E B O D F E E X
H A U D I B L E O F X K R L E W M P W H
U I Z L J D N B A C P K B O M X S T Q C
D F J O F F S I D E P P A C O B L I T Z
D Q P O R T E T N H U I C K S P J O W D
L A U I O Q P Y D V N J K H Q K C N V S
E W W A I I Y G D T T S A F E T Y S O A
N G F A R L I N E B A C K E R J G N S C
U B P F O T K I C K O F F W V C Q A V K
L T V P A O E V K J G N S E O D V P H J
N A N G O O N R E Z H O B E S A F E T Y

Interception

Quarterback

Linebacker

Blitz

Cornerback

Touchdown

Offensive

Punt

Touchback

Kickoff

Offside

Sack

Defensive

Holding

Safety

Huddle

Fumble

Safety

Audible

Quarter

Block

Tackle

Snap

Contact Us



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