

# THE CHANDLER MESSENGER

June 2015 – Quarterly Issue

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

We invite every resident of the Town of Chandler to attend our public meetings. Below is a list of all of the town's civic boards and their meeting dates and times. Come see your local government in action and participate in the things that affect your community!

Chandler Town Council – meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of every month at 7 p.m. The July 6 meeting has been moved to July 13 at 7 p.m.

Planning Commission – meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. The July 13 meeting has been canceled; the next meeting will be Aug. 10.

MS4 Storm Water Board – meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 6 p.m.

Parks Board – meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

All meetings are held at the Chandler Community Center; meeting dates that fall on a Town Holiday are generally held the following business day.

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: MS4 STORM WATER RELEASES “BLUE IS THE NEW GREEN” VIDEO

The Town of Chandler's MS4 Storm Water Department has teamed up with a few other MS4 communities and supporting agencies to create the first of two new videos. “Blue is the New Green” is a 10-minute video review of basic storm water pollution prevention. This video shows what everyone should be implementing in their homes and yards, and when they are out and about in their communities.

Every MS4 Storm Water Community has 6 Minimum Control Measures (MCM's) that the State of Indiana regulates in each MS4 community. The first is Public Education and Outreach; it involves distribution of educational materials and outreach to inform citizens of the impact of polluted storm water runoff discharges on water quality. The second MCM is Public Participation and Involvement; it involves providing opportunities for citizens to participate in program development or any other way to get involved in the Storm Water Program here in Chandler.

This video is an opportunity to meet both of these measures, while helping to improve the quality of storm water in the Town of Chandler. Please take a few moments of your time to watch this short, but quality video.

Click here to view [“Blue is the New Green”](#) or find a link for the video on the [Chandler Storm Water page](#) of the Town website.

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### *Quarterly Storm Water Tip:*

*Check your automobiles for leaks and recycle your used motor oil*

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## CHANDLER POLICE DEPARTMENT FINDS DRONE

The Chandler Police Department has recovered a drone on the east side of Chandler. If you have lost a drone, contact a police officer. Be prepared to give a full description of the drone, including color, make, size, and markings, as well as show proof of purchase papers and/or any other documentation to have your drone returned.



## DID YOU KNOW... GRASS CLIPPINGS AND LEAF LITTER ARE STORM WATER POLLUTANTS?

Yard debris, including leaves and other organic plant material, like shrubby trimmings and grass clippings, are a significant source of storm water pollution.

When you blow your lawn waste into the street, it can and does clog storm drains, which in turn causes drainage and flooding issues. Storm drains are not connected to the wastewater treatment facility. There is no treatment to remove debris from the water before it reaches nearby lakes, streams, creeks, or the Ohio River.

*Why are grass clippings and leaf litter harmful?*

As this waste breaks down in local waterways, it adds excess nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus to the water. This leads to unwanted and uncontrolled algae and invasive aquatic weeds.

This newsletter sponsored by:

### Chandler Storm Water Department

417 E. Jefferson Avenue  
Chandler, IN 47610  
812-925-7145

[Email](#) | [Website](#)

*What is so bad about algae?*

Algae will naturally occur in lakes and ponds, but excess nutrients can lead an imbalance and high levels of algae. Apart from looking unsightly, excessive algae blooms can block out sunlight and deplete the oxygen level in the water, which can lead to fish kills.

*What can you do to protect water quality while keeping your yard maintained?*

- Mow your lawn often enough so no more than one-third the length of grass is removed. Taller grass has deeper roots, which prevents soil loss and helps the rain soak into the ground.
- Leave the clippings on the lawn or compost them. Be sure to sweep or blow clippings off paved surfaces and back onto the lawn. Intentionally blowing or placing lawn waste in the street is illegal and you could receive a citation and a fine.
- Fertilize only when necessary, or not at all, if it might rain in the next day or two.
- In the fall, place leaves for municipal collection at the edge of the street – never in the street or ditch.
- Clean up after your pets; scoop up pet waste and put it in the trash.
- Only use dry cleanup methods (broom and dustpan or absorbent material) for chemical or fuel spills; never hose a spill into the ditch or storm drain.
- Directing roof drains to a rain garden can significantly reduce the storm water runoff from your property.

If we all do our small part, it will make a big difference!

## A QUICK NOTE ABOUT YARD SALE SEASON

Yard and Garage Sale season is upon us. The Town of Chandler reminds all residents who hold sales to take down any advertising signs you post once your sale has concluded.

Also, everyone needs to remember that during sales, parking can become crowded and very dangerous. Please do everything you can to make every sale as safe as possible by slowing down and keeping alert near garage or yard sale events; kids can dart out from any direction, and quickly.

So have fun, find some deals, make a little money, and help keep Chandler clean and safe.

## FIREWORKS: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE LAWS

Fireworks season is in full swing and the Town of Chandler is reminding citizens of the State Laws governing the use of fireworks. All citizens need to remember that restrictions are in place regarding the use of fireworks, as well as the possible penalties for citizens that violate fireworks restrictions and other applicable laws.

- Fireworks may be used only on the user's property; or on the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks; or at a special discharge location (of which the Town of Chandler currently does not have).
- Fireworks can be purchased only by persons 18 years of age and older. Children may possess or use any kind of legal firework only when an adult of 18 years or older is present.
- Only Class A fireworks can be used by non-licensed citizens and must be purchased from a licensed dealer of firework retail sales. The shooting of Class B and Class C fireworks can only be done by a registered, licensed shooter and they must pull a permit from the State of Indiana.
- Penalties for violating the fireworks law can range from a Class A misdemeanor up to a Class C felony in the case of the reckless or intentional use of fireworks that results in a person's death.
- There are four holidays (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and New Year's Eve) during which fireworks may be discharged from 9 a.m. until midnight. Any other day of the year, fireworks may be discharged from 9 a.m. until 11 p.m.
- Local and State littering ordinances are in effect, and you are subject to fines if you do not clean up your discharged fireworks and properly dispose of them.

We want to stress the personal responsibility of each citizen in the Town of Chandler. Be a good neighbor, obey all of the laws, use common sense, be kind to animals (most animals and pets do not like loud noises, especially from fireworks), clean up your mess, and most of all – Be Safe!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS: 2015 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Plans for the Town of Chandler's Annual National Night Out are underway. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 4, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Chandler Community Center.

This event has been a big success in the past and is growing every year. There will be plenty of food and fun for all ages. The Chandler Fire Department will be on site, along with many other civic groups and businesses. We need you to mark your calendars and please plan to attend this free National Night Out 2015 celebration.