

Environmental Report March 2020
Environmental Manager
Teresa Sidwell

Roadside Cleanups – There must have been a sale on mattresses in March because Officer Cervantes and I took the grappaling truck out twice in March to cleanup 9 sites of roadside dumping in Benton County and collected 11 mattresses, 1 couch, 1 vacuum cleaner, 3 televisions, a blow-up mattress, as well as blankets, sheets and pillows.



The first annual NWA EcoFest has been postponed to November 6-7. It will be held indoors at the Benton County fairgrounds from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. Friday will be a Free Field Trip day for area schools and Saturday will be open to all of the public. Area agencies, businesses and groups will share their message of environmental protection in an interactive way that excites the public about caring for our environment. **Share with potential exhibitors and the public.**



[@nwaecofest](#) on Instagram has a link in the bio to the event [website](#).

Follow, like, and comment on the NWA EcoFest social media accounts.

Working Remotely – Officer Cervantes and I have been working from our home for three weeks. It has been an adjustment for both of us but we are starting to settle into a routine. When we get new cases or need to followup on existing cases we try to avoid face-to-face contact. Most communication is done by phone, email or regular post.

Like MERS and SARS, COVID-19 is a betacoronavirus that has its origins in bats and the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak was in the Chinese city of Wuhan in Hubei Province. Since we deal with the public every day, I have instructed my staff so that they are alert to the symptoms of COVID-19. The virus can take anywhere from two to 14 days to incubate, and even then, some of the infected may not exhibit any signs. However, the main signs are fever, cough, and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. Some victims have also reported having headaches, being excessively tired, and suffering from diarrhea. The fact is that COVID-19 can range in severity from very mild to acute. Older people or those with underlying medical conditions are especially at risk.

To reduce the risk of exposure I have told my staff to

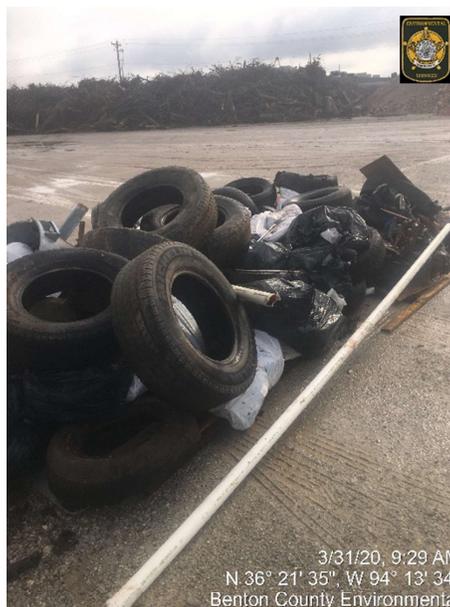
- maintain a distance of at least six feet from other people
- wash hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water often
- when in the field use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- avoid touching mouth, eyes, and nose with unwashed hands.

Carry the following PPE

- disposable gloves
- face mask
- single-use coveralls
- Eye protection
- Clean and disinfect duty belt and gear daily
- Dispose of used PPE properly
- Avoid shaking clothes and launder uniform daily

If they feel they have been exposed to or have contracted COVID-19 or any other contagious disease they have been asked to remain at home and contact me immediately for instructions. The grim reality is that all first responders can potentially be exposed to infectious diseases at almost any moment during their daily shift. We can potentially come into contact with individuals who are carriers of everything from hepatitis to tuberculosis.

Adopt A Road Cleanups – The Corona virus did not slow down the illegal dumpers. Our Adopt a Road groups were out in force in the month of March. Sunset Bay Estates picked up 25 tires, 10 bags of litter and other assorted items (pictured right). The Jackson's Group picked up 8 bags of litter, a box spring and a Christmas tree stand. Another group picked up 4 humidifiers, 1 TV, 3 tires, 10-1 gallon containers of used oil, 4 bags trash, and 1 gallon of paint in the Butler Road and Osage Road area of Siloam Springs. We love our volunteers!



Convenience Center Program

In an effort to maintain the health and safety of our citizens and the District employees, the District suspended the Convenience Center Program and the Composting Program effective March 19 until further notice. Due to the number of daily and weekly interactions created with these programs, we believe this step is necessary in order to assure our greatest chance of preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus to the public or to District staff. The potential adverse effects related to temporary suspension of these programs is nominal as temporary stockpiling of either yard waste materials or bulky items will not quickly cause an environmental or public health crisis.

| Waste Brought to Convenience Centers | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| CENTERTON | # OF LOADS | HHW VISITS | APPLIANCES | ELECTRONICS | FURNITURE | METAL | PLAYGROUND | TIRES |
| January | 767 | 152 | 149 | 537 | 793 | 641 | 50 | 299 |
| February | 819 | 168 | 155 | 493 | 987 | 733 | 113 | 211 |
| March | 475 | 104 | 104 | 293 | 626 | 638 | 27 | 177 |
| 2020 YTD | 2061 | 424 | 408 | 1323 | 2406 | 2012 | 190 | 687 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| ROGERS | # OF LOADS | HHW VISITS | APPLIANCES | ELECTRONICS | FURNITURE | METAL | PLAYGROUND | TIRES |
| January | 737 | 126 | 369 | 563 | 859 | 966 | 61 | 347 |
| February | 854 | 122 | 288 | 468 | 804 | 849 | 107 | 166 |
| March | 412 | 77 | 70 | 245 | 380 | 421 | 59 | 296 |
| 2020 YTD | 2003 | 325 | 727 | 1276 | 2043 | 2236 | 227 | 809 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| SILOAM SPRINGS | # OF LOADS | HHW VISITS | APPLIANCES | ELECTRONICS | FURNITURE | METAL | PLAYGROUND | TIRES |
| January | 96 | 37 | 19 | 135 | 49 | 72 | 7 | 157 |
| February | 94 | 34 | 22 | 88 | 78 | 45 | 0 | 102 |
| March | 56 | 30 | 13 | 36 | 41 | 24 | 5 | 0 |
| 2020 YTD | 246 | 101 | 54 | 259 | 168 | 141 | 12 | 259 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| SITES COMBINED 2020 | # OF LOADS | HHW VISITS | APPLIANCES | ELECTRONICS | FURNITURE | METAL | PLAYGROUND | TIRES |
| | 4310 | 850 | 1189 | 2858 | 4617 | 4389 | 429 | 1755 |

NOTE: # of appliances, electronics, furniture, metal, playground equipment, and tires are based on number of items collected. HHW is based on the # of visits, not the # of items brought per visit.

| 2020 Expenses for Waste Disposal | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 2020 County Expenses | Bulky Waste Centerton | Bulky Waste Rogers | Bulky Waste Siloam Springs | Attendant's Wages** | Household Hazardous Waste Disposal(all sites)* | Advertising | In-house recycling | Roadside Cleanups | Nuisance Cases | TOTALS |
| BUDGET | \$58,739.00 | \$40,380.00 | \$11,000.00 | \$51,598.89 | \$30,000.00 | \$6,000.00 | \$3,780.00 | \$6,572.11 | \$34,680.00 | \$ 242,750.00 |
| ACTUAL COSTS | | | | | | | | | | |
| JANUARY | \$ 3,253.26 | \$ 4,142.04 | \$ 101.19 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 68.81 | \$ - | \$ 7,565.30 |
| FEBRUARY | \$ 4,529.80 | \$ 2,281.46 | \$ 818.41 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 18.81 | \$ - | \$ 7,648.48 |
| MARCH | \$ 2,530.76 | \$ 2,583.10 | \$ 101.10 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 5,214.96 |
| SPENT Y-T-D | \$ 10,313.82 | \$ 9,006.60 | \$ 1,020.70 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 87.62 | \$ - | \$ 20,428.74 |

*BCSWD will use up to \$30,000 of their budget for HHW before billing the County. **Attendant's wages billed quarterly.

| 2020 Convenience Center Bulky Waste Disposal | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|
| | HAULS | TONS | COST | HAULS | TONS | COST | HAULS | TONS | COST | TOTAL | TOTAL | TOTAL |
| | CENTERTON | CENTERTON | CENTERTON | ROGERS | ROGERS | ROGERS | SILOAM | SILOAM | SILOAM | HAULS | TONS | COST |
| JAN | 16 | 27.36 | \$3,253.26 | 13 | 17.14 | \$4,142.04 | 0 | - | \$101.19 | 29 | 44.50 | \$7,496.49 |
| FEB | 20 | 17.38 | \$4,529.80 | 8 | 20.65 | \$2,281.46 | 2 | 4.10 | \$818.41 | 30 | 42.13 | \$7,629.67 |
| MAR | 10 | 17.56 | \$2,530.76 | 10 | 17.14 | \$2,583.10 | 0 | - | \$101.19 | 20 | 34.70 | \$5,215.05 |
| YTD | 46 | 62.30 | \$10,313.82 | 31 | 54.93 | \$9,006.60 | 2 | 4.10 | \$1,020.79 | 79 | 121.33 | \$20,341.21 |

Environmental Enforcement Officers

Since Officer Filbeck has been on medical leave Officer Sidwell has reinspected 8 of his existing cases and taken 2 new cases on the west side of Benton County. Officer Sidwell was able to close two cases in the Lowell area. Officer Cervantes has stepped up to fill in while Officer Filbeck has been on medical leave. He was very busy this month with 37 new cases, sign installations, surveillance camera installations, and grappling truck duty.

BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



ENVIRONMENTAL CASE DATA

Refer to the charts below for environmental cases received and actions initiated in March.

| VIOLATION TYPE | QTY |
|--|-----|
| Burn (appliances) | 0 |
| Burn (auto bodies & parts) | 0 |
| Burn (construction debris) | 0 |
| Burn (electronics) | 0 |
| Burn (furniture) | 1 |
| Burn (general waste) | 1 |
| Burn (household garbage) | 0 |
| Burn (mobile home) | 1 |
| Burn (tires) | 0 |
| Bury (auto bodies & parts) | 0 |
| Bury (construction debris) | 0 |
| Bury (electronics) | 0 |
| Bury (furniture) | 0 |
| Bury (general waste) | 1 |
| Bury (household garbage) | 0 |
| Bury (mobile home) | 0 |
| Dumped by others (appliances) | 1 |
| Dumped by others (auto bodies & parts) | 1 |
| Dumped by others (construction debris) | 0 |
| Dumped by others (electronics) | 1 |
| Dumped by others (furniture) | 4 |
| Dumped by others (general waste) | 6 |
| Dumped by others (household garbage) | 4 |
| Dumped by others (metal) | 0 |
| Dumped by others (mobile home) | 0 |
| Dumped by others (tires) | 4 |
| Dumped by others (trees) | 0 |
| Dumped by self (appliances) | 0 |
| Dumped by self (auto bodies & parts) | 0 |
| Dumped by self (construction debris) | 4 |
| Dumped by self (electronics) | 0 |
| Dumped by self (furniture) | 3 |
| Dumped by self (general waste) | 6 |
| Dumped by self (household garbage) | 6 |
| Dumped by self (metal) | 1 |
| Dumped by self (mobile home) | 0 |
| Dumped by self (tires) | 0 |
| Dumped by self (trees) | 0 |
| OTHER | QTY |
| Agency Assist | 1 |
| Camera/Sign installation | 9 |
| Extra Patrol | 3 |
| Littering | 2 |

| ACTION TAKEN | QTY. |
|--|------|
| NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS ISSUED | 1 |
| WARNINGS ISSUED | 0 |
| CITATIONS ISSUED | 0 |
| WARRANTS | 1 |
| COURT APPEARANCES | 0 |
| CASE STATUS | QTY. |
| CASES OPENED THIS MONTH | 59 |
| CASES CLOSED THIS MONTH | 39 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF OPEN CASES CURRENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION | 60 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES CURRENTLY IN COURT SYSTEM | 31 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES CLOSED YTD | 103 |

Only Flush Toilet Paper

The E.P.A. is encouraging all Americans to never flush disinfecting wipes, baby wipes or other items that should not be flushed. Flushing only toilet paper helps ensure that sewage systems will continue working properly. While the E.P.A. encourages disinfecting your environment to prevent the spread of COVID-19, you should never flush disinfecting wipes. Wipes do not break down like toilet paper and cause serious backups. Preventable toilet and sewer backups can pose a threat to human health and present an extra challenge to our wastewater utility workforce. Fixing backups is costly and takes time and resources away from ensuring that wastewater management systems are otherwise working properly. Having fully operational wastewater services is critical to containing COVID-19 and protecting Americans from public health risks.

