

Around Town

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By Billy Ray McKelvy

De Queen Mayor

Here's a list of some of the most frequently asked questions received at city hall:

Q: Do I have to get a building permit to build an addition on my home?

A: A building permit is required if you are making a permanent addition to a home or building. A permit is also needed to build a portable building. Permits may be obtained at the city's code enforcement office at the De Queen Fire Station. Costs start at \$15.

Q: Why has my water service been cut off?

A: The most common reason is for non-payment of the water bill. Bills are mailed no later than the 24th day of the month and you have until the 10th day of the following month to pay. After the 10th day, a 10 percent penalty will be added to the bill. If bills have not been paid, water service will be cut off on the first working day after the 15th of the month and an additional \$25 reconnection fee will be applied. The city offers automatic bank draft of utility bills if that is more convenient.

Q: Will city crews pick up my old appliances for disposal?

A: The city picks up large items during city clean-up weeks, scheduled during spring and fall. The next pick-up will be during fall clean-up week which will be Oct. 8-12.