

NEWS RELEASE: Feb. 14, 2008

### **Greene County ice storm debris disposal info**

Greene County residents with ice storm debris are urged to take advantage of the free drop-off period at the Yardwaste Recycling Center and the Springfield Municipal Landfill.

Fees at the YRC and the Landfill will be waived until March 16 for Springfield and Greene County residents with brush and limbs from the ice storm. In addition, the YRC will begin its spring hours earlier than usual and remain open from 1-5 p.m. on Sundays beginning this weekend. Brush taken to the YRC should be cut in maximum 4-foot lengths and must be less than six inches in diameter, and no stumps and rootballs are permitted. Staff members from City of Springfield and Greene County are partnering to provide the extended service at the YRC.

At the Landfill, there is no restriction on the size of limbs and brush except that individuals must be able to unload their own debris. There is a charge of \$28.65/ton for stumps and rootballs.

Greene County residents living outside city limits may also be able to burn debris. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has waived debris burning permit requirements until March 15. County residents may burn debris only if they meet the following criteria:

- Debris burning may not take place within 600 feet (200 yards) of an occupied structure.
- Residents must notify their local fire authority before burning debris.
- Residents burning debris are advised to use extreme caution and exercise common sense. Do not leave a fire unattended.

Greene County officials are in the process of assessing damage from the Feb. 11 ice storm and are reviewing debris disposal options. Although isolated areas in southern Greene County experienced heavy vegetative damage, initial assessments show damage from the recent storm is significantly smaller in scope than the county-wide disaster caused by the January 2007 ice storm. The January 2007 event triggered local, state and federal disaster declarations for Greene County. No such declarations have been made in Greene County for the Feb. 11 event.

Greene County Highway Department crews continue to clear ice and debris from the 1,300 miles of roadways in unincorporated Greene County. All county roads are open and passable, but several remain partially obstructed by low-hanging and fallen debris. Highway Department crews hope to have all county roads cleared of debris by Saturday afternoon. After roadways are cleared, Highway Department crews will begin clearing debris from county-maintained rights-of-way, a process expected to take at least three weeks, weather permitting.

Directions to the Yardwaste Recycling Center – Go west on Sunshine (U.S. 60), turning left (South) onto Farm Road 115. Turn left (East) onto Farm Road 164 and follow the signs to the Yardwaste Recycling Center. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday – Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sundays (Feb. 17– March 16). For YRC information, call the City of Springfield Recycling Hotline at 864-1904 or visit the City’s Web site at: [springfieldmo.gov/recycling](http://springfieldmo.gov/recycling).

Directions to the Landfill – Go north on Missouri 13 (Kansas Expressway) 9 miles from the Interstate 44 intersection to Farm Road 34. Go left on Farm Road 34 – follow the signs to the Landfill entrance. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information or media inquiries, call Dan Smith, Greene County Highway Administrator, at 831-3591; or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 829-6019 or 379-5713.

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