



# The Village Voice

**Special points of interest:**

**Solid Waste Levy**

**Cost Comparisons**

**Example Costs**

**Benefits**

## Help the roads. Help yourself. Help the environment

On the April 6th election form, there is a ballot item for a solid waste levy. The goal of this levy is to pay for solid waste services that include trash pickup, recycling, yard waste and bulky item pickup. Currently, every household pays individually for solid waste services.

When attending regional solid waste meetings, we found out that the Village can “piggy back” off the Kansas City solid waste contracts. The fees that Kansas City pays are significantly less expensive than what an individual Village household pays:

Weekly trash pickup (with cart) – \$5.62 per house per month

Weekly recycling pickup - \$2.30 per house per month

Weekly yard waste pickup (six months of the year) - \$.41 per house per month

Weekly bulky trash pickup (when resident calls ahead) - \$.48 per house per month

The fee that Allied Waste charges for **just** trash service is approximately \$300.00 per year.

As the Village has no means to collect monthly to pay for solid waste services, a solid waste levy is the only mechanism available. Since it is a levy, it is based on home and personal property valuation. The ballot item has the levy as 20 cents per \$100 of assessed value. An example of the tax increase is:

Home appraised value = \$300,000.

Assessed value = 19% of appraised value = \$57,000

Levy amount = \$0.20 per \$100 appraised value = \$114

Personal property appraised value = \$30,000

Assessed value = 33% of appraised value = \$9,900

Levy amount = \$0.20 per \$100 appraised = \$19.80

Total additional tax = \$133.80

This example is for comparison only, but for most households, it represents a cost savings and additional solid waste services.

There are several benefits of having one solid waste service provider:

1. Decreases the wear on the Village roads by having only one solid waste service provider. One trash truck puts as much wear on the Village roads as 1,100 automobiles.
2. Clearly identifies what large trucks should be in the Village and no others.
3. Provides recycling services, decreasing the amount of trash going into landfills and decreases the amount of new raw materials that have to be procured.
4. Provides options for dumpster rentals for larger projects.
5. Provides express bulky trash pickup (\$50 per 5 items or \$20 per Freon items)

If approved, the new solid waste services would begin January 1, 2011.

The Village Voice is published for the benefit of the residents of the Village of Oaks, MO.

It is published four times a year (Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter).

To receive the Village Voice via email (to save on postage) or for questions, comments or suggestions send an email to [clerk@villageofoaks.org](mailto:clerk@villageofoaks.org).

Emergency contact numbers:  
 Sheriff - 407-3750  
 Fire/Ambulance - 436-3550  
 NKC Hospital - 691-2000  
 St. Luke's - 891-6000  
 Children's Mercy - 413-2500  
 Poison Control - 800-222-1222  
 Power Outage - 888-544-4852  
 Before You Dig - 800-DIG-RITE  
 Nat. Gas Leak - 800-582-0000  
 MODOT - 800-222-6400  
 Highway Patrol - 800-525-5555

**VOTE. VOTE. VOTE.**  
**(OK, only vote once. More than once would be stuffing the ballot box)**

Below is an example of the ballot items as it relates to the Village.

OFFICIAL BALLOT

GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION, TUESDAY APRIL 6, 2010

VILLAGE OF OAKS, CLAY COUNTY, MISSOURI



<p>FOR TRUSTEE 2 YEAR TERM (VOTE FOR TWO)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> JoLynne Walz Martinez <input type="checkbox"/> Peter Nielsen</p> <p>_____ Write In _____ Write In</p>	<p>PROPOSITION #2</p> <p>Shall the Village of Oaks collect a twenty cent levy on one hundred dollars assessed valuation for providing solid waste disposal services? These services include trash pickup, recycle pickup, yard waste pickup and bulky item pickup.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>
<p>PROPOSITION #1</p> <p>Shall the Village of Oaks continue to collect the existing thirty cent levy on one hundred dollars assessed valuation for fire suppression for a period of two years?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>	

2010 Ballot

Bi-annual Financial Statement

Swales



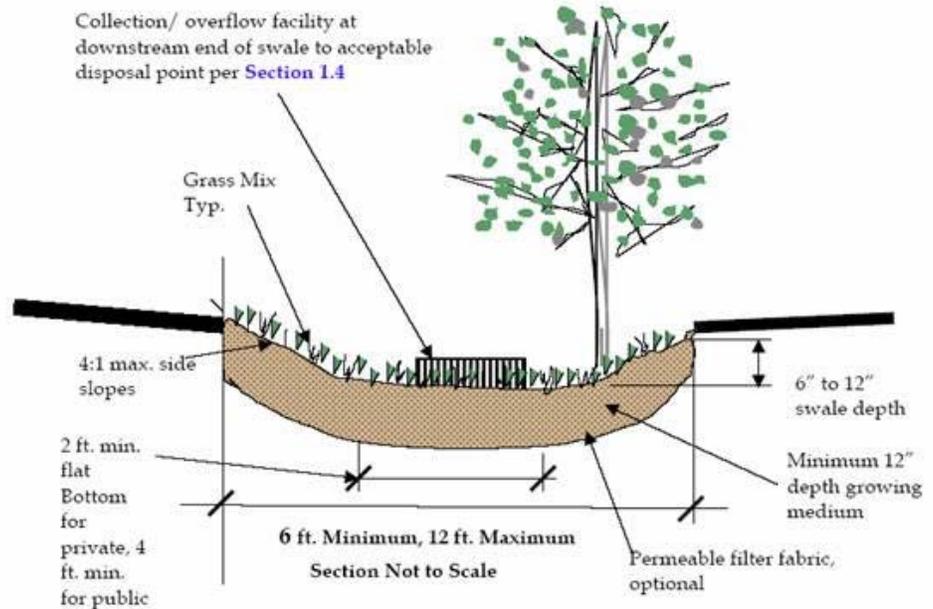
**Where does the money go?**

Enclosed is the bi-annual financial statement for the Village. If you have questions about any of the expenditures, please attend the next Board of Trustees meeting at the Oakview City Hall on April 12th at 7:00 pm.

**What is a swale and how can it help me?**

A swale or bioswale is “a low-gradient, open channel possessing a dense cover of vegetation through which all surface runoff is directed. The bioswale decreases the speed of flows, acts as a storm water detention facility, and allows suspended solids to settle out. The bioswale is considered a creative means of controlling runoff, and has the potential to improve water quality, mitigate wetland loss, provide flood containment, and improve the aesthetics of a site.

## What is a swale and how can it help me? (cont.)



A continual request to Village residents is to keep your ditches clear of leaves and other debris. Other than keeping a pleasant appearance, the main reason is to keep rainwater/storm water off the streets. Over time storm water or ice melt can cause substantial wear to the Village roads.

You may have heard of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and that Staley High School is Missouri's 1st school to be awarded LEED Silver certification. The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) ([www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org)) set up the standards for LEED certification. There are standards in a pilot for neighborhood LEED certification.

Our Village is unique in that we already have some of the elements of a LEED Neighborhood and could begin to work on other elements. In thinking about more sustainable ways of dealing with rainwater and storm water, going back to natural designs that have worked for hundreds of years, like swales, are part of pilot LEED Neighborhoods. Curbs and storm water systems are being replaced with swales, biofiltration and wetlands. Sidewalks are being replaced with walkable neighborhood streets. More trees are being planted to absorb excessive rainwater.

The Board of Trustees will continue to monitor opportunities related to LEED Neighborhoods. If you are interested and need to make improvements to your road-side property, please consider using a swale or other natural design.

### Example Swale Design

### LEED Neighborhoods

### Less Cement. More

### Grass and Trees

