

City hall has been contacted by many of our citizens concerning the clean out of culverts, ditches, and creeks located inside the city limits.

We are aware of the need to have these items addressed. The city councils positions on these items are listed below:

1. The City of Wells has 2 creeks that fall in a flood zone regulated by FEMA. The creeks are located on 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>nd</sup> Street, , Warren Road & Wright Patman Drive. If your property borders these flood zones we request that you keep the creek free of trash. Do not add yard clipping, sticks or anything else that was not placed there by nature. Creating water breaks in the flood zone will cause the water to back up downstream and can flood other property. All installed water breaks will need to be removed.
2. Culverts located in a driveway or access to the personal property is the property owner's responsibility to keep clean and free of debris to allow rainwater to flow freely.
3. Each property inside the city limits is required to have a culvert installed at their driveway. Driving through a ditch breaks the ditch line down and will cause your property to flood. The city can help with the installation. The property owner must provide the culvert and fill dirt to complete the work.
4. Broken culverts are the property owner responsibility to replace. The city can help with the removal and reinstallation. The property owner must provide the culvert and fill dirt to complete the work.
5. If the property owner or property renter burn trash, leaves or limbs in the ditches then the property owner is responsible to remove anything that can stop water flow when it rains.
6. At no time should a property owner or property renter rake their leaves or throw their tree limbs onto someone else's property or let them pile up in the ditches.
7. Since the city does not have the resources to dig out ditches or remove debris and trees that have fallen into creeks; we have to rely on the county commissioners to help us. We have sent the Cherokee County Commissioners Court an Interlocal Agreements to request help. When this help is approved the work will be done on the counties schedule.

As taxpayers, we understand that it is frustrating to have to wait on the county for help. If you would like to write your county commissioners court, please write to the address listed below.

Cherokee County Commissioners Court  
135 S. Main, 3rd Floor  
Rusk Texas 75785

Commissions court meets twice a month.

The agenda for the meeting will be posted on their website.

<http://www.co.cherokee.tx.us/>

County Judge

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Precinct 1 Commissioner

**Kelly Traylor**

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**WELLS REPRESENTATIVE**

Precinct 2 Commissioner

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