

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Sandy McDonald, Deputy County Administrator 304-728-3284

County Commission Imposes Ambulance Service Fee

On June 5, 2014, the Jefferson County Commission voted to impose an Ambulance Services Fee to maintain an adequate emergency ambulance system within Jefferson County. The fee will help to increase staffing and shorten response times. Those who require Ambulance services will still be responsible for any charges and costs imposed by the ambulance provider, as this is not covered by the new fee.

The bills will be mailed out August 25th. Fee amounts are as follows: Residences (occupied or unoccupied)-\$40 per unit and Businesses- \$85 per unit. If your residence has been approved by the Assessor for a Homestead Exemption for the prior tax year (7-2013 to 6-2014), you will receive a 50% discount off of the approved parcel. You may be required to provide proof of the approved exemption. The fee shall be the responsibility of the owner of record of the property unit as of July 1, 2014.

To avoid waiting in line, Residents and Businesses are encouraged to mail their fees as opposed to paying in person. The address is: Jefferson County Commission, Ambulance Fee, P.O. Box 250, Charles Town, WV 25414 with checks made payable to Jefferson County Commission. To avoid paying a late fee, bills must be postmarked by September 30th. The office is located at 124 E. Washington Street in Charles Town.

We have made every effort to ensure our information is correct, basing fee amounts according to Assessor reports and tax records. If you feel you have been erroneously charged you may complete an Exoneration/Modification form that you can pick up at the County Commission office, and need to be turned in by September 30, 2014⁷ to be reviewed by the County Commissioners.

We appreciate all of the assistance Angie Banks, Assessor, and all of her staff have given the County Commission's office with this worthwhile ordinance.

For more information regarding the Jefferson County Ambulance Service Fee Ordinance you can go to the county website at <u>www.jeffersoncountywv.org</u>. To contact your County Commissioners with any comments, suggestions, and questions, email at <u>info@jeffersoncountywv.org</u>.

For further information contact: Carol Swiger, Jefferson County Commission Office 304-728-5606.