Using Social Media for Public Awareness

Rita J. Cassida, P.E. City of Louisburg Public Works Director/City Engineer

What is Social Media

- A way to communicate using computers, smart phones and tablets and the internet
- Types of Social Media
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Pinterest
 - YouTube
 - Blogs

Why Use Social Media?

- It's Fast
- It's Cheap
- It's Easy
- It's Effective

It's Effective

Here is a look at how the number of active users on Facebook has grown

1 million — End of 2004 5.5 million — End of 2005 12 million — End of 2006 20 million — April 2007 50 million — October 2007 100 million — August 2008 150 million — January 2009 175 million — February 2009 200 million — April 2009 250 million — July 2009 300 million — September 2009 350 million — End of 2009 400 million — February 2010 500 million — July 2010 608 million — End of 2010 750 million — July 2011 800 million — September 2011 845 million — End of 2011 901 million — March 2012 955 million — June 2012 1.01 billion — September 2012 1.06 billion — December 2012 1.11 billion — March 2013

Source: Facebook Inc.

Social Media Facts

Consider a few facts from a new survey from Allstate and the National Journal (2012)

- 64% of U.S. adults are active on social media
- 79% of social media users are likely to seek the opinions of others before buying goods or services, and 64% of them have changed their minds because of those opinions
- 59% of social media users say a company's social media activities make the company appear "accessible and responsive"
- 64% of social media users want to see companies use social media for customer service.

Emergency

- One other plus of social media people will do whatever it takes to stay connected to social media, especially in an emergency.
- Power may be out but people will still use their phones to text, email, and check Facebook
- Many use their car to keep their phone charged.

Using Facebook

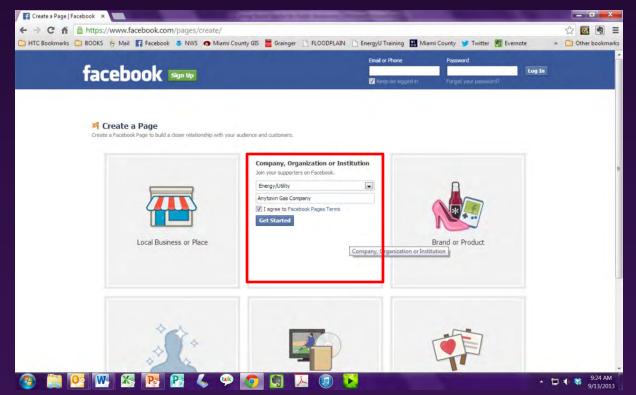
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Type of Page

- Energy/Utility
- Government Organization



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- Create a New Business Account

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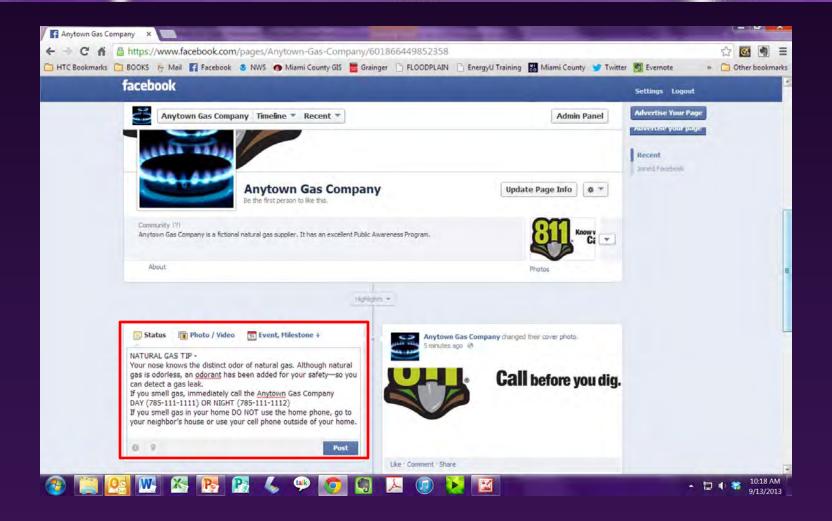
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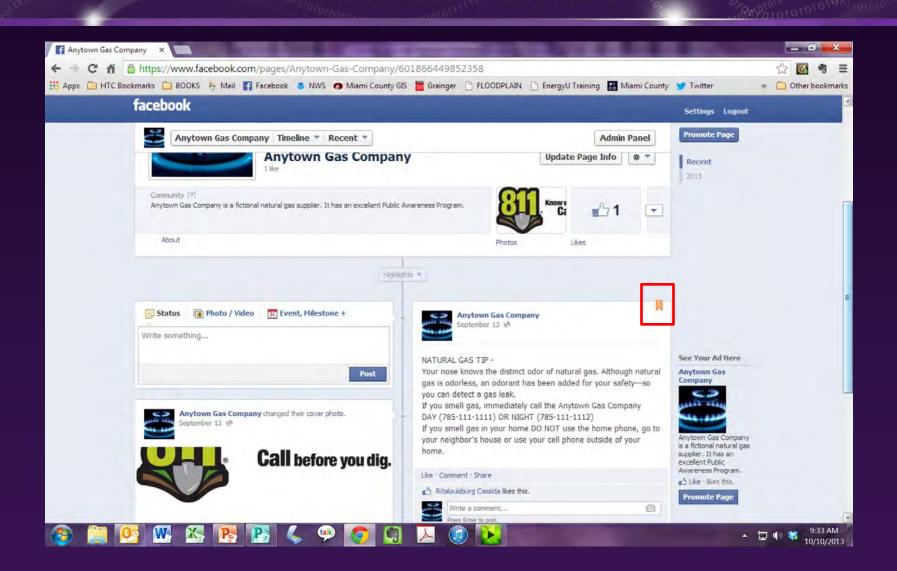
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Pinned Post

- Pinned posts are Page posts that admins have chosen to display prominently at the top of their Page. A pinned post always appears in the top of a Page's timeline and has a flag in its top-right corner. A post a Page admin pins to the top of their Page will remain there for 7 days. After that, it will return to the date it was posted on the Page's timeline.
- Posts from people who like a Page are not eligible to be pinned posts. Page admins can only pin posts created by the Page.

Pinned Post



Highlighted Post

- Highlighted Posts let users amplify their status updates by expanding them to widescreen
- Highlighted Posts will always appear on users' timelines, while other posts will become hidden over time
- Highlighted Posts are free for all users and Pages
- A user or page admin can highlight any kind of post on their own Page including status updates, photos, offers, videos and questions
- Users can un-highlight a post at any time, and the post will revert back to its normal size

Highlighted Post

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How to Like a Page



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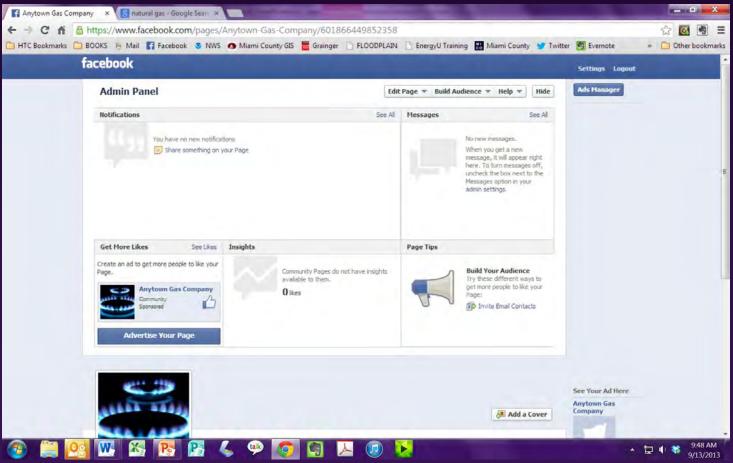
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How to Share

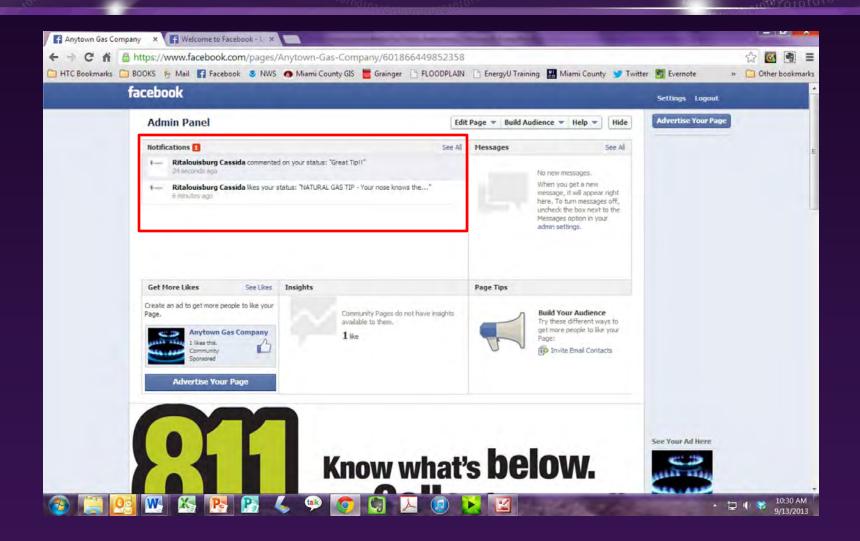
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Admin Panel

• Show or Hide



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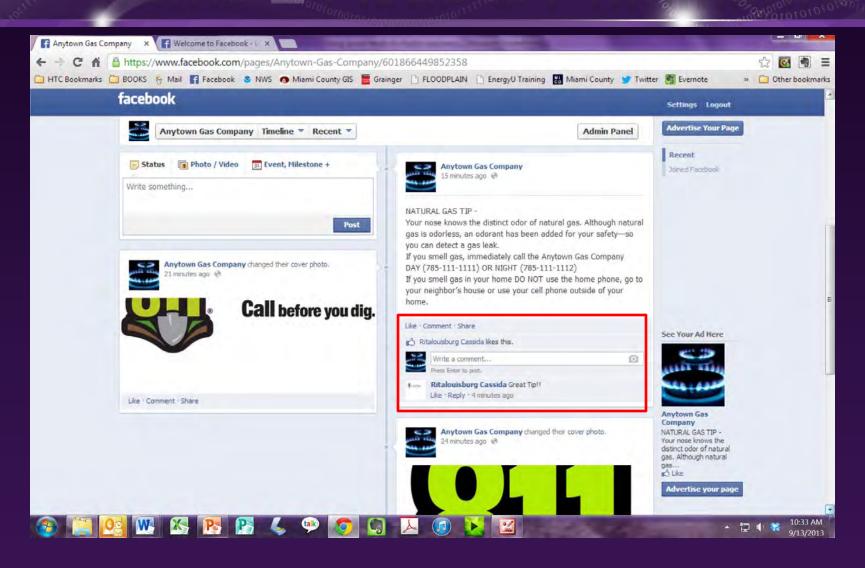






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Status – Likes & Comments



City of Louisburg Facebook

- Started November 30, 2009
- Used to Post a Variety of Items
 - City Events
 - City Projects
 - Job Openings
 - Utility Work
 - Other Public Notices
- First Natural Gas Post August 20, 2010
- Currently 1306 Likes
- Louisburg Population: 4,300
- www.facebook.com/LouisburgKS

Examples of Natural Gas Posts

• NATURAL GAS TIP

 Your nose knows the distinct odor of natural gas. Although natural gas is odorless, an odorant has been added for your safety—so you can detect a gas leak. If you smell gas, immediately call the City of Louisburg Gas Department DAY (837-5371) OR NIGHT (837-5373)
 If you smell gas in your home DO NOT use the home phone, go to your neighbor's house or use your cell phone outside of your home.

NATURAL GAS TIP

- IF YOU SMELL GAS CALL FAST!! AN EMPLOYEE IS ON CALL 24 HOURS A DAY. DAY(837-5371) OR NIGHT(837-5373)
- HOW TO RECOGNIZE A LEAK
- * SIGHT—A dense fog, mist, or white cloud, bubbling in water and creeks, or discolored vegetation
- * SMELL—A distinctive gas odorant
- * SOUND—Whistling, hissing or roaring noise.
- DIG SAFELY!!!!
- For Your Safety and the Safety of Others
- CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!!
- Don't take a chance with your life or someone else's, you never know what is under the ground!
- Call KANSAS ONE CALL at 1-800-DIG SAFE (1-800-344-7233) or call 8-1-1
- OR visit them on the web at WWW.KANSASONECALL.COM

City of Louisburg Facebook

 No Info on Views of Natural Gas Posts until August 2011

Date	Views
August 2011	260
December 2011	190
April 2012	255
August 2012	456
December 2012	403
April 2013	142
August 2013	488

Actual Results on Facebook



Questions



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