

# CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!  
City Info Line 507-934-0675 TDD #711  
The City of Saint Peter is an equal opportunity provider.



The following information is a publication of the City of Saint Peter, City Administrator's Office, 934-0663, 227 South Front Street. Please contact us at [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov) [www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter](http://www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter)



10/21/15

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of October 12, 2015 included award of the bid for installation of a watermain on Gardner Road to Chard Tiling and Excavating; approval for modification to the repayment terms for revolving loans provided to Greg/Neysa Schettler; approval for Bolton and Menk, Inc. to provide preliminary engineering and receipt of bids for a project to extend utilities along Traverse Road; approval for City assistance for a haunted hayride fundraising event for the Nicollet County Trails Association Snowmobile Club; authorization for submission of a grant application to the Department of Transportation for promotion of the City's transit system; approval of a Tree Worker license; and closed sessions to discuss negotiations related to land purchase, land sale and a land easement.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, October 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center. For more information on City Council meetings, please contact the City Administrator's office at 507-934-0663. Copies of the Council packet are also available on the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/city](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city).



**WANT TO BE A FIREFIGHTER?** - Have you ever thought about volunteering to help your community by serving as a Volunteer Firefighter? If so, now might be your opportunity. The Saint Peter Fire Department is seeking up to five individuals to train and serve as Firefighters beginning January, 2016.

Not sure if this volunteer position is for you? The Fire Department will be hosting an open house on

Thursday, November 5th from 6-8:00 p.m. at the Fire Station (227 West Mulberry Street) to answer questions and provide more information to interested candidates. If you are considering applying, but not quite sure what is involved, we encourage you to attend the open house to find out more. Officers and other members of the Department will be in attendance to answer your questions and provide more information on what's involved in serving as a Firefighter. And, because service on the Department impacts the entire family, candidates are also strongly encouraged to bring family members and significant others to the open house so they can ask questions also.

Additional information on how to apply to be a Volunteer Firefighter is available on the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/employment](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/employment) or at the end of this edition of the Hot Sheet.



**P.A.W.S. WALK** - Are you ready for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual P.A.W.S. Walk this Saturday, October 24th? Registration takes place 9:30 am - 10 am in the Mill Pond area of Riverside Park. The walk will start at 10:00 a.m.

As usual the walk will be a trick or treat walk through the downtown area with stops at participating businesses. Both pets and owners are encouraged to come in costume! (Prizes will be awarded!)

Concessions will be available at the Mill Pond with all funds going to Providing Animals With Shelter (P.A.W.S.) Top donors and costume winners will be announced at 11:45 a.m.

Please help impounded animals by raising money for their care. Pledge forms are available at City Hall (227 South Front Street), the Police Department (207 South Front Street) or from the Kind Veterinary Clinic at 101 West Grace Street.



### FALL YARD WASTE COLLECTION

- The City will be collecting leaves and grass clippings curbside beginning October 26th. The crew will begin with the area north of Broadway Avenue starting at 7:00 A.M. Monday, October 26th and start on properties south of

Broadway Avenue at 7:00 A.M. Monday, November 9th.

The collection process is accomplished by one person driving the vacuum truck with another person walking behind using a hose to collect the leaves and grass clippings. For this reason, please do not put the leaves in a bag and NEVER include animal wastes with the leaves, as the person using the hose gets covered with a fine dust of whatever is in the leaves.

Leaves must be placed on the boulevard parallel and adjacent to the curb. Please...for the safety of those using the roadway, do not rake materials into the street.

The collection process is quite lengthy (it took five weeks for the whole town in 2014) which may necessitate starting the collection before all the leaves have fallen. This sometimes occurs because of the need for the streets to be swept before the snow falls. To be as fair as possible to residents, the end of town that crews start on is rotated each year.

Those living on a corner lot might experience one side being picked up before the other as the trucks run north to south and then east to west to be more efficient in the collection process. (Suggestion: Place all leaves on the north-south street if you want all your leaves picked up at the same time.)

Crews will only go through an area once, so if your yard waste is not out by the dates and times mentioned above it will not be picked up but can be taken to the drop-off site at the intersection of West St. Julien Street and North Swift Street.

To help the City serve you better, please do not park in front of the yard waste until pick-up is complete.

Should you have any questions, please call the Department of Public Works Office at 934-0670.



**HOLIDAY LIGHTING REBATES** – It's time to trim your tree and trim your electric bill! Okay, so maybe it's not really tree trimming time, but if you will be in the market for new, energy efficient decorative lighting, don't forget to apply for your rebate from

the City of Saint Peter.

LED decorative lighting saves energy and money; last up to 10 times longer than traditional incandescent strands; are cool to the touch, energy efficient; and if one bulb burns out, the other bulbs stay lit.

The rebate program is only available until December 31, 2015 so buy your new lights and apply now before you forget! Rebates are only available for City of Saint Peter electrical utility customers and the lights must be used within the City's service territory.

Rebate forms are available from the Finance Department in City Hall or on the web at <http://smmpa.org/members/saint-peter-municipal-utilities/home-services/holiday-led-rebate-campaign-limited-time!!!.aspx>.

**CURBIE PLACEMENT REMINDER** - Residents are reminded that recycling and garbage curbies are to be placed behind the curb, on the boulevard, on recycling day. Unfortunately more and more homeowners are placing their curbies in the roadway versus on the boulevard and this creates



dangerous driving conditions. Pedestrians walking in the roadway or those on bikes must be further out into the street to pass the curbies and that puts them in more danger.

Keeping curbies on the boulevard will also allow the City's street sweeping activities and snow plowing to take place without having areas that the trucks have to go around. This makes the street clearing activities more effective and keeps costs down as the work can be completed more efficiently.

So PLEASE.....keep your recycling and garbage curbies on the boulevard and out of the roadway to prevent dangerous driving situations.

Thank you for your cooperation.



**HALLOWEEN FUN RUN** – Join us for the 12th Annual Halloween Fun Run and Walk and Lil' Monster Dash presented by the Mankato Clinic and the Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic on Saturday, October 31st!

Participants can still register through October 23rd, but will not be guaranteed a long

sleeve t-shirt. Registration fees after October 16th are: Individual-\$35, one Lil' Monster and one adult 5K-\$45, and Team Challenge member for \$45. Lil' Monsters still pay only \$14.

Great prizes will be awarded for costume categories, the top three male and female finishers, and the top individual in each age group.

Come to run, view great costumes, play in Spookyville, get your face painted, and cheer on the participants!

For more information or to register, go to [www.stpeterfunrun.com](http://www.stpeterfunrun.com), stop in at the Recreation and Leisure Services Department located at 600 South 5th Street Suite 200 or call 934-0667.

**COLD WEATHER RULE NOTICE** - The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule provides that from October 15th through April 15th, the City of Saint Peter, the utility provider for Saint Peter residents, cannot disconnect a residential utility customer for nonpayment if **all** of the following four requirements are met:

- 1) The account is current for the billing period immediately prior to October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) The electric disconnection would affect the customer's primary heat source.
- 3) The customer's household income is less than 185% of the federal poverty level, as documented by the customer to the City.
- 4) The customer has filed a "declaration of inability to pay" form with the City.

For the cold weather period October 15<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year the City of Saint Peter will install a limiting meter rather than disconnect service for a customer whose account has become delinquent.

The limiting meter will only allow customers to run their furnace, refrigerator and one or two lights. Customer's whose service is limited must pay all past due amounts plus a reconnection charge of \$70.00 plus tax prior to reconnection. The charge for reconnection after 3:30 pm or when the Finance Department is otherwise closed is \$300 plus tax.

What should a customer do if they can't pay their utility bill? A customer with a delinquent account may request a payment arrangement. The payment arrangement will require the customer to pay the current bill each month and make payments on the unpaid portion on a payment schedule limited to six (6) months. If payment is not made on the date agreed to by the customer and the current utility bill is not paid by the fifteenth of each month, service will be immediately disconnected. During the cold weather period, a limiting meter will be installed.



Customers needing help paying utility bills may qualify for state or federal fuel assistance. For complete qualifications and application information, please contact the Nicollet County Social Services office (934-8559) or the Minnesota Valley Action Council (934-5224). The Salvation Army Heat Share program may also be able to help and can be reached at 326-5017.

### FIRE PREVENTION MONTH -

Saint Peter Fire Chief Ron Quade would like to remind all Saint Peter residents that October is "Fire Prevention Month". And because this is such a significant event for fire safety, Chief Quade would like to encourage families to meet to discuss and practice their family escape plan in the event of a fire.



The plan should include having at least two (2) exits from each room (make sure that if you include windows that you will be able to actually fit your body through the window) and designating a "meeting place" where the whole family will gather once the home has been evacuated. That way you can ensure everyone made it out safely.

October is also a good time to have a professional look over your home heating system to ensure that everything is working properly. This could not only help prevent a fire, but also save you money on heating bills by keeping your system working efficiently. Also be sure to check any auxiliary heating equipment (like space heaters or electric fireplaces) for frayed electrical cords etc. to help eliminate the possibility of a fire.

Never use extension cords or power strips with auxiliary electric heating equipment. Instead plug the equipment directly into an outlet. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, heating was the second leading cause of all residential building fires following cooking. Let's make sure your home is not one of the over 50,100 heating fires in residential buildings that occur each year in the United States.

Daylight savings time will begin soon and we will all set our clocks back an hour. That's the perfect time to make sure your smoke detectors are working correctly by replacing the battery. And remember.....smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors need to be replaced every ten years even if they seem to be working correctly.



For additional heating fire safety tips please visit <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/index.shtm>. Let's all work extra hard to make this upcoming heating season the safest one yet!

#### **ABSENTEE VOTING CONTINUES -**

Don't feel like going to the polls on Election Day but still want to vote? Voters in Minnesota now have the option of voting by absentee without having to give a reason. (Previously voters had to state one of several reasons allowed under Statute for voting by absentee.)



Absentee ballots are available from the Nicollet County Public Services Department (formerly known as the County Auditor's Office), at 501 South Minnesota Avenue during regular business hours and on Saturday, October 31st from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Absentee voting will continue until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2nd. Voters will need to fill out an absentee ballot application which can be obtained either from the Public Services Department or online at <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/ABRegistration/ABRegistrationStep1.aspx>. All absentee ballots must be received by the Public Services Department by Election Day or the ballots won't be counted.

**PARKS CLOSING SOON -** All of the City's parks facilities will close for the season on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. This includes closing and winterizing the bathrooms and drinking fountains.

This work is done to prevent damage to pipes and fixtures that occur when the weather is colder. The facilities are also closed before Halloween to prevent vandalism. Please note that closing of these facilities could occur sooner should the weather become much colder.



Should you have any questions about closing the parks facilities, please contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.

**HELP WANTED –** The City of Saint Peter is accepting applications for the following position:

- **INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNICIAN** - in the Stormwater Utility of the Department of Public Works. Candidates for this position will spend the majority of their time working outdoors. Major duties include locating water, sewer, and stormwater lines, cleaning stormwater collection systems, checking and repairing stormwater sump basins and downstream defenders, raising manholes and recording information on the City's geographic information system (GIS).

This position works closely with contractors and property owners in observing construction practices and work performed in the right-of-way and on private property. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** high school diploma or equivalent; Possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class A driver's license with Air Brake Endorsement and Tanker Endorsement, or to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; Possession of Erosion/Sediment Control Inspector/Installer Certificate or the ability to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; Possession of the Erosion/Sediment Control Site Management Certificate or the ability to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; Knowledge of "as-built" records, ability to read blueprints, maps, specifications used by contractors in the field of construction; and Possession of an American Heart Association Certification as a Basic Rescuer for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiac care or obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City. The desirable candidate will also possess many other skills, have additional experience and/or will have completed advanced education courses that will make the individual successful in this position. More information on these qualifications is identified in the job description that will be provided to prospective candidates along with the required job application. **NOTICE:** The successful candidate must complete and pass a pre-employment physical and drug test and is subject to post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, return to duty, and follow-up drug and alcohol testing required by federal regulations. \$18.06 to \$27.96 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City of Saint Peter application form available in the City Administrator's Office or by calling (507) 934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18, 2015. Faxed, e-mailed, or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted on December 2, 2015. AA/EOE

- **PART-TIME BUS DRIVERS** (no benefits)- **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** High school diploma or equivalent; possession of valid State of Minnesota Driver's license. **DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:** Experience working with the public; experience operating two-way radio/phones; training in vehicle mechanics; previous bus driving experience. Starting wage

\$14.48 per hour. Applicants are required to complete City application form available from the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1-5 p.m. or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's Office by 5:00 p.m. November 20, 2015. Faxed, emailed, and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

- **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER** - in the Fire Department. Up to five (5) Firefighters will be hired. Minimum qualifications: High school diploma/GED; at least 18 years of age; reside within a six (6) minute response time from the Fire Station; possess a valid driver's license; and ability to read and write the English language. An open meeting for interested

candidates and their significant others will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2015 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Fire Station (227 West Mulberry Street). Successful candidates will begin service January 1, 2016 and will be required to successfully complete required Firefighter schooling within one year. Applicants are required to complete a City application form which is available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street or by calling (507)934-0663. Applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 p.m. on November 20, 2015. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE

**CITY MEETING CALENDAR** - This calendar is subject to change. Should you have a question on a meeting date/time, please contact the City Administrator's Office at 934-0663 or visit the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov).

Monday	October 19	5:30 p.m.		City Council Workshop
Monday	October 19	7:00 p.m.		Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday	October 21	5:30 p.m.		Heritage Preservation Commission
Friday	October 23	8:00 a.m.		Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Saturday	October 24	10:00 a.m.		P.A.W.S. Walk
Monday	October 26	7:00 p.m.		City Council Meeting
Tuesday	October 27	5:30 p.m.		Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	October 28	12:20 p.m.		Hospital Commission
Saturday	October 31			HALLOWEEN FUN RUN
Monday	November 2	3:30 p.m.		Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	November 2	5:30 p.m.		City Council Workshop
Tuesday	November 3			ELECTION DAY
Thursday	November 5	5:30 p.m.		Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	November 9	7:00 p.m.		City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 10	5:30 p.m.		Library Board
Wednesday	November 11			LEGAL HOLIDAY – VETERAN'S DAY City Offices Closed
Monday	November 16	5:30 p.m.		City Council Workshop



Monday	November 16	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Thursday	November 19	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	November 20	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	November 23	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 24	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	November 25	12:20 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday- Friday	November 26- November 27		LEGAL HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING City Offices Closed

