

# 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  
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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)



04/20/16



## **MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) - Who cares....Blah Blah Blah.**

Sometimes it is hard to know who cares and even harder to figure out what they care about. If your house is like mine there is hardly enough time between work, kid activities, helping parents, and occasionally cleaning the bathrooms, to care about much else. As I mentioned a couple weeks back, I was thinking about the future and as my thoughts started to crystalize I said I would write about some of them.

One of those crystalized ideas is looking to the future; looking to continue to provide benefit to the people that live and work here. As we look to improve the quality of life in our community we need to answer this question. What do we care about?

Here are five things the Council cares about: Good schools, a vibrant business community; available day care; affordable housing and planning for changing demographics.

Do you care about one of these things? Do you care about something different? It could be a big thing or a little thing but whether little or big, if we care about it we should spend our time and resources on it shouldn't we?

I would love to know what you care about. I would really like to hear from you. Send the one City or community thing you care about most. Send that thing, that phrase, or that one word. What do you care about here in Saint Peter? I plan to read all the submittals and compile a list of what you told me you care about. I will publish the list in a future *Hot Sheet* and maybe we can talk about some of those things too. Please send your ideas to this email link [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov).

Do you care? I know you do. What do you care about? It makes me wonder.....

**TRAVERSE GREEN LOT SALES** – When news of the City Council approving the development of Traverse Green Subdivision broke, folks began calling City Hall asking how they can buy a lot.

Lots are not ready for sale yet, but for those who are interested, please watch the City's website, Facebook page, the Hot Sheet, and public access Channel 8 for more information. The City will provide lots of publicity about the process and when it will begin so if you are interested, check back often.

When lots are available for purchase, interested individuals will need to contact the Community Development Department at City Hall (507-934-0661 or 227 South Front Street) for information. At that time the Community Development Department will have a map of the development, individual lot prices, information on restrictive covenants that will be implemented in the subdivision, and maybe most importantly, information on financing assistance programs for qualified buyers.



**PICK UP AFTER YOUR POOCH** – Dog owners are reminded of the need to pick up after their pooch when the dog is off their property. Since the weather has turned nice, more and more pet

owners are walking or exercising their pets at the Mill Pond. Unfortunately many are not following the rules as dogs are running off leash and poop is not being picked up by the owners.

To ensure the continued ability to utilize the Mill Pond area with your dogs, pet owners are asked to be responsible and to leash your dog, license the

dog with the City, and pick up the pet's waste. It's not only a polite thing to do, it's also the law!

Help us ensure a safe and beautiful outdoors for everyone.



**PETS OF THE WEEK –** The “Pets of the Week” include a shy cat and a spunky kitten.

Shirley is an adult cat who will be ready for her new home Friday. She is a little scared and shy right now. Shirley is looking forward to a new

home and a comfy spot to snuggle up in. She is about 5 years old and already spayed. We'd like to get her out of the scary pound and into a forever home soon and her adoption fee has been reduced to \$30!

Fluffy needs a home and room to play! She is about 12 weeks old, female and long hair. ADORABLE!!!! Her adoption fee is \$135.

If your family can provide a forever home to any of these great pets, or if you can help any of the animals in the pound find a forever home, please contact Community Service Officer Janet Ireland at the Police Department at 931-1550, or Alaina at Kind Veterinary Clinic at 931-4700. All animals are spayed/neutered and up-to-date on vaccinations before being adopted out.



**COMMUNITY CENTER HOURS** - Community Center hours will be changing for the month of May and throughout the summer months based on the season and reduced levels of activity in the building.

During the month of May, the Community Center closes early on Fridays at 8 p.m. Hours on Saturday will be 9am to 4pm. From May throughout the summer, the building will be closed on Sundays except by special arrangement. Please note that the Community Center will also be closed over the Memorial Day weekend, (May 24-26, 2016).

In June summer hours begin and run through Labor Day weekend. Monday through Friday hours will be 6am to 8pm; Saturdays 9am – 4 pm and the building will be closed on Sundays except for approved reservations.

If you have any questions, or would like to inquire about room rentals, please contact the Recreation and Leisure Services Department, Suite 200 of the Saint Peter Community Center by calling 934-0667 or emailing [jenh@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:jenh@saintpetermn.gov). Hours are also listed on the City website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/communitycenter](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/communitycenter).



**COMMUNITY CENTER GYM CLOSURE –** The Community Center gym will be closed for annual maintenance from May 16-21, 2016. The gym will reopen on May 23rd. We apologize for the inconvenience.

**SPRING YARD WASTE COLLECTION** - Brush, tree trimmings, and grass clippings will be collected curbside beginning Monday, May 2nd. The City will only be collecting brush, garden waste, and grass clippings. (Leaves will not be picked up but can be taken to the brush drop-off site.) Brush and garden waste must be separated and placed parallel and adjacent to the curb (do not put it on the street or in bags) by 7:00 A.M. Monday, May 2nd. Brush and tree trimmings should be cut to lengths no longer than eight feet. Please note: it does take more than one day to pick up but we will only go through an area once; therefore, if your yard waste is not out by 7:00 A.M. Monday, May 2nd, it will not be picked up, but can be taken to the brush drop-off site. There will be no alley pick up.

Please help us serve you better by not placing brush and grass clippings by trees, posts, etc. and please do not park in front of the yard waste until pick-up is complete.

Also, please do not put animal waste (dog, cat, rabbit, etc.) in soft yard waste piles as it will NOT be picked up.

This service is provided and funded by the environmental services fee on City utility bills.

**BRUSH DROP OFF-SITE –** The City's brush and garden waste drop-off site is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for use by City utility customers. The drop-off site is located across the street from the Department of Public Works facility, 405 West St. Julien Street, at the southwest intersection of West St. Julien and North Swift Streets and is open year round for City utility customers. A separate bunker is now provided for dropping off fill (rocks, dirt, etc.).

**WOODCHIPS AND COMPOST AVAILABLE - FREE** woodchips and sifted compost material, when

available, will be at the brush and yard waste drop off site for use by City utility customers. The material is free to utility customers (utility fees pay for this service), but you will have to bring your own shovels, bags or containers. Please refrain from placing foreign material in this area.

Please call the Department of Public Works at 934-0670 if you have any questions.

**FLUORESCENT BULB RECYCLING 2016-** City residential or small business utility customers (defined as organized for profit and less than 20 full-time employees), can recycle fluorescent bulbs on Wednesday, May 4th at the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility, east entrance, located at 400 West Saint Julien Street. Collection hours will be 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



A recycling info form will be included in the May 1st utility bills. The form should be completed and returned with the bulbs when they are dropped off.

The first 10 bulbs are free, but there will be a small fee for recycling of bulbs in excess of 10. Please place the bulbs in the original containers if possible, but refrain from taping the bulbs together.

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action taken by the City Council on April 11, 2016 included approval of the preliminary and final plats for a new housing subdivision to be called Traverse Green Subdivision; award of bids for construction of infrastructure in the new subdivision; scheduling a public hearing on establishment of a housing Tax Increment Financing district for the subdivision; award of the 2016 seal coating project to Allied Blacktopping Company; approval for purchase of a field maintainer/painter from Kromer Company to be funded by the 2016 equipment certificate; approval for temporary closure of South Seventh Street between West Elm/St. Paul Streets on April 29th for a Gustavus Adolphus College block party; approval for lease of Suite 211 at the Community Center to Good Samaritan Society Home Health Care; approval for Bolton and Menk, Inc. to serve as host for the City's GIS program; and adoption of a traffic sign installation and maintenance policy.

The next City Council meeting is April 25, 2016 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).

### WIPES CLOG PIPES

– Please....DON'T FLUSH WIPES! Despite often being labeled



“flushable,” disposable wipes that are flushed down toilets don't break down in the sewer system. These wipes are often used in private homes, medical facilities and nursing homes. Flushed wipes cause expensive problems for the City's Public Works Department which has to clean them out of screens and pumps, and remove wipe-based clogs. And as with most expensive problems, the cost is then passed on to customers.

Many homeowners have experienced plumbing problems because of wipes, so you may have expensive maintenance issues at home if you flush them. Wipes may be labeled "flushable," but they don't degrade in the system. Flushing them is like flushing a handkerchief or other item made of cloth as shown in this video created by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQEAiTUziOc>

Our sewer systems and treatment plants were not designed to handle wipes. They gum up the system, clog pipes and pumps, and cost taxpayers and residents lots of money in additional maintenance costs. So if you must use wipes, please put them in the trash, not the toilet!

And here's one more MPCA video that helps get the message out there...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nz0FFHL9rww>

If you have questions about this topic, please contact the City's Public Works Department at 934-0670 for more information.



**SISTER CITY VISIT** - Mayor Zieman recently traveled to Saint Peter's Sister City of Petatlan, Mexico. Here is a brief update on his travels.....

*“My wife, Woody and I recently returned from our Sister City, Petatlan, Mexico after a week-long*

*adventure with a group of amazing Gustavus students and Saint Peter community members. We were part of the Learning To Serve program that was established by Gustavus in conjunction with the Sister City program. The group of eighteen spent a week teaching English and building community and cultural involvement and*

relationships. We were hosted by local families who welcomed us as longtime friends. Woody and I were expecting an oasis that is located about 30 miles east of Ixtapa, but Petatlan and the surrounding smaller communities are very poor with high unemployment. The 1977 fire truck that St Peter donated to Petatlan remains a jewel to the residents and their fire department. Any help/donations/assistance we can provide to them is appreciated beyond belief.

The Gustavus students have made four short videos/documentaries showing their experiences which they are hoping to have available soon for viewing on SPPA.

“Anyone wanting more information about our adventure, please contact me @ 507 934-2107 or email [woody@hickorytech.net](mailto:woody@hickorytech.net).”

**ATV YOUTH TRAINING COURSE** - The Saint Peter Police Department, with assistance from the Nicollet County Sheriff’s Office and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Enforcement Division are happy to announce a youth ATV course on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at 10:00 AM at

the Nicollet County Fairgrounds. This course provides youth, ages 11 and older, an opportunity to learn about many topics related to ATV safety including but not limited to basic ATV controls, hand signals, basic operation, ATV laws, and how to respectfully ride and maintain our natural resources.

While bringing an ATV to the course is not required, mandatory rider safety equipment is needed to participate in the hands-on test. Also, completion of the online course is a prerequisite to this training. For details on how to locate an online course, please visit <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/vehicle/atv/index.html>

This class will fill to capacity very fast. If you have any questions, please contact Police Officer Jon Hughes at the Saint Peter Police Department by email at [jonh@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:jonh@saintpetermn.gov) or by phone at 507-931-1550.

**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).

Friday	April 22	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	April 25	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	April 26	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	April 27	12:20 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	April 28	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Monday	May 2	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	May 2	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Thursday	May 5	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	May 9	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	May 10	5:30 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	May 16	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	May 16	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	May 23	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday	May 25	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	May 26	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority

Friday	May 27	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	May 30		MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY – City offices closed
Tuesday	May 31	3:00 p.m.	City Council Goal Session