

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. To request an email subscription to this newsletter, or for more information, please contact us at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov



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03/06/19

MORE SNOW IS COMING – Predictions are for yet another very large winter storm this weekend. Whether that precipitation is in the form of snow or freezing rain or regular rain or all three is yet to be determined, but if it's snow, it will be heavy snow which is harder for the plows to remove.



At this point in this weird winter, it's hard not to talk about more snow without laughing, but getting your car buried beneath that kind of snow won't be a laughing matter. Something to keep in mind if you need extra incentive for moving vehicles off the roads before the snow comes!

If you don't have off-street parking, please make plans now to find a place for your vehicle before the storm arrives. Thanks for your cooperation.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) –

Blues, blues and blues. Winter, snow, shoveling blues. I got some of those. There is a pretty recent blues song that has

this line in it *"Gravity is working against me and gravity wants to bring me down."*

You know, there is always something pulling us down. Snow, concerns about flooding, housing, paying bills, getting to work on time, or even getting those fundraiser cookies sold. You name it, there is always something pulling at us.

But Saint Peter is a great community filled with wonderful people who volunteer, who work hard, who care about serving others, who buy some of those cookies or butter braids or raffle tickets, and who care about others. So...don't let all that stuff get you down too much. Don't worry too much and know that by being a community together we are

able to do more and be better than we could as individuals. Community is where we live, play, work and gather together.

I have a small prize for the first person who can name the songwriter who wrote the underlined lyrics at the start of this column. Send your guess to barbaral@saintpeter.mn and the first correct answer will be the winner.

STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN - The City of Saint Peter Stormwater Utility will conduct a public meeting regarding the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) **TODAY** (Wednesday, March 6th), from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Senior Center at the Community Center at 600 South Fifth Street. At the meeting Stormwater Utility staff will provide the public with an opportunity to review the SWPPP, ask questions, and receive some additional literature on stormwater pollution prevention. For more information on this meeting, please contact the Public Works Department at 507-934-0670.

THE BIG GREEN "X" – The big green "X" stands out in stark contrast to the brilliant white of the snow and the sign is appearing all over town. But what does it mean? Inquiring minds want to know!

As it turns out, underneath the X and underneath the several feet of snow, is one of the many stormwater catch basins that are part of the City's public infrastructure. That's important to know because before our mountains of snow start to melt, City crews will be working hard to clean out the area around that catch basin so the melting snow flows easily into the storm sewer system.

You might also be wondering how we know where those catch basins are. Thanks to the technology that is GPS (global positioning system) software, the City has a detailed inventory of every part of our infrastructure...trees, fire hydrants, water mains, manholes, and yes, even storm sewer catch basins. In addition, the storm sewer catch

basins are made out of metal so occasionally a metal locator will be used to find the basin.

So, if you notice a big green **X** in a snowbank near you, expect to see work happening in the area before the big thaw.

CITY COUNCIL ADVISORY BOARDS – This is the fourth in a nine part series on the City Council’s advisory boards. These boards are comprised of mostly citizen members and are tasked with various responsibilities....the most important of which is providing recommendations to the City Council. Applicants are recommended for appointment by Mayor Zieman and the full Council votes on each appointment. Last week’s article focused on the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) and this week we’re highlighting the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA).

The HRA is comprised of five members who serve five year terms. The City’s Community Development Director serves as an Ex-Officio. Unlike HRA’s in other communities, the Board’s sole task in Saint Peter is operating and maintaining the City’s public housing structure, Park View Manor located at 1010 South Fourth Street.

The HRA meets on a monthly basis and current members include Dennis Swenson, Jan Glimsdal, Mary Ann Scharf, Judy Pedersen and Councilmember Steve Grams.

Meetings of the HRA take place on the first Monday of each month beginning at 3:30 p.m. at Park View Manor.

If you are interested in applying to be on one of the many City Council advisory boards or commissions, applications are available from the City Administrator’s Office at City Hall (227 South Front Street) or by emailing barbaral@saintpetermn.gov.

To be eligible for appointment to an advisory board, applicants must live within the corporate limits of the City and must commit to making the regularly scheduled meetings of the board.

Next week’s edition of the Hot Sheet will provide information on the Hospital Commission.

INTERSECTION

SIGHTLINES- Complaints about impaired sightlines at intersections are becoming more frequent. For those in smaller vehicles, these intersections can be especially dangerous because of the towering piles of snow that have accumulated this winter. Even for those



of us driving SUV’s or trucks, it is becoming a challenge to safely pass through certain intersections in town.

Please know that the Public Works Department is working hard to get to these intersections, but with the snowfalls every couple of days, they are stretched pretty thin and can’t do all the work they would otherwise doing.

You can help though. If you know of a particularly dangerous intersection, please contact the Public Works Department (507-934-0670) to report it. Be prepared to provide the names of BOTH cross streets at the intersection and we will put it on the list of areas needing attention.

Finally, please keep in mind that this has been an extremely unusual winter with more snow than we have had for decades and we’re running out of places to put it all. Be patient with the City and we’ll keep doing our level best to try and keep up with all the issues this winter has presented.

RAPTOR CENTER – The whole family is invited to a FREE presentation by the University of Minnesota Raptor Center on Friday, March 15th beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Center gym.



A Raptor Education Specialist will bring three raptors and a variety of hands-on props and activities making this program a complete educational experience. The event is open to the public, but we ask that kids be accompanied by an adult. Early Out Rec Kids who wish to sign up for this program may do so at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/recreation>.

Raptors come in all sizes and you can get to know more about the education Raptors like Gladdie (pictured above) on the Raptor Center website at <https://www.raptor.umn.edu/about/meet-our-birds/gladdie>.

FOOD WASTE COMPOSTING COMING TO SAINT PETER

- Here’s a little heads up on a new program coming to Saint Peter...food waste “green” composting. Starting sometime this spring, the City will offer drop-off site food waste composting to residential customers at two locations. This great program comes with no additional utility charges and the added benefit of possibly reducing the size of your refuse curbie to save additional money too.

Drop off locations for food waste will be provided and customers who sign up for the program will be provided a code to use at the drop-off facility.

By offering this program, the City hopes to reduce waste going to the landfill, see the use of these materials go to better environmental purposes, and, hopefully in the future, save a few dollars on overall disposal costs; not to mention making the world a better place for gosh sakes!

Keep an eye on the Hot Sheet and the City's social media sites for more information on this great program.

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action at the City Council meeting held on February 25, 2019 included a public hearing and subsequent action to authorize submission of a grant application for Small Cities Development Program funds for a housing rehabilitation program in specific areas of Saint Peter; authorization to submit an application for Local Road Improvement Program funds for improvement to Township Road #361 which is directly west of the High School; approval for City assistance for the Ambassador's St. Patrick's Day parade; modifications to certain employee position descriptions; and approval for execution of an agreement with School District #508 for maintenance of Community Spirit Park.

The next regular City Council meeting, will be Monday, March 11th beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center.

SNOW SHOVELING HELP – Do you need help with snow shoveling, or do you maybe know someone who does? The City is partnering with Saint Peter High School students to get you help.

The program is designed to help local property owners get sidewalks shoveled to City standards. This is a win-win for property owners, the students (who make money for their sporting activities) and the City who no longer has to send crews out to shovel private sidewalks.

Admittedly the program came about rather late in a very snowy winter, but every year the City and Chamber get calls from people looking for help with shoveling. This program is something that may continue into future winters if there is a need.

If you would like to sign up to have your walk shoveled by some energetic high school students,

please contact us at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov or (507)934-0663 to sign up.

EMERALD ASH BORER - In the fall of 2018, the City Council passed an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)



Management Plan. As part of the City commitment to resident education, communication, and outreach we want to distribute information from the EAB plan, share some EAB websites that have excellent information, and ask for your cooperation in minimizing the impacts of EAB within our urban forest.

EAB, *Fairmaire (Coleoptera Buprestidae)*, is an invasive beetle, first detected in southeastern Michigan in 2002. EAB larvae feeds on the inner bark of ash trees and attacks all species of ash trees found in Minnesota including green ash, black ash, and white ash. EAB has no natural predators in the USA and research has shown that it kills 99.7% of all ash trees common to Minnesota. EAB was first detected in Minnesota on May 13, 2009 in St Paul. Currently EAB has not been found in within the Saint Peter; however it is approximately 40 miles north in Scott County and 70 miles east in Dodge County, and 70 miles south in Martin County.

The City has approximately 1,000 ash trees on the public Right of Way (ROW) which amounts to 22% of all boulevard trees. In addition, there are also large populations of ash trees on private property. EAB moves fairly slow; however, humans assist in the long distance spread of EAB by moving contaminated wood, such as bringing wood to campsites.

Within the EAB management plan found at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/Emerald-Ash-Borer> there are three important strategies to help mitigate the effects of EAB. The City has adopted a proactive of treatment and/or removal of ash trees, removing those in decline and those requested to be removed. The intent is to slow the spread of EAB by reducing certain host trees. In combination with this; the City shall consider pesticide use for EAB on public trees to protect trees and reduce beetle populations in potential infested areas.

Finally, replanting, as ash trees are removed, is perhaps the most important part of the EAB Management Plan. Reforestation with diverse species of young trees is the primary objective in retaining the City's urban forest. While it is impossible to avoid pests and diseases, diversity in

Need help snow shoveling?
St. Peter High School Student Organizations
have shovels ready to go
starting at \$20 per sidewalk
Contact barbaral@saintpetermn.gov or
(507)934-0663 to request help

planting with mixed planting schemes can reduce the impact.

We are all stewards of the urban forest within Saint Peter, and the city encourages property owners to be proactive and vigilant for EAB. The more trained eyes that have knowledge of EAB the earlier it can be detected and the more management options the City will have to mitigate against EAB. There are numerous resources on EAB. Below is select list.

- MN Department of Agriculture: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/eab>
- Emerald Ash Borer Information Network: <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/faq.php>
- Minn. DNR: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/eab/index.html>
- Minn. DNR: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/eab/idashtrees.html>

Using the resources, if you suspect an ash tree has EAB, contact the Public Works Department 934-0670 or e-mail angieq@saintpetermn.gov

HELP WANTED – The City of Saint Peter is now accepting applications for the following positions:

- **WASTEWATER OPERATOR** in the Department of Public Works. Minimum qualifications include a high school diploma or equivalent; possession of a State of Minnesota Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certificate or ability to obtain within one year of the date of employment with the City; possession of a State of Minnesota Type IV Biosolids Operator or ability to obtain within one year of the date of employment with the City; possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class A driver's license with Air Brake Endorsement and Tanker Endorsement or ability to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; possession of an American Heart Association Certification as a Basic Rescuer for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiac care or ability to obtain within six months. Desirable qualifications: Satisfactory completion of a technical school program related to wastewater systems operations; up to six years of responsible experience as a wastewater system operator with at least two years experience in



the operation of a Class A, B, or C system or facility, or similar industrial facility; knowledge of the principles, practices, chemicals, and equipment used in wastewater treatment, biosolids treatment and disposal, and pumping operations; ability to perform a wide variety of tests on raw and treated wastewater, and raw and treated bio-solids; knowledge of the principles of plumbing and hydraulics; knowledge of and ability to operate Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system; knowledge of the functions and service requirements of mechanical equipment and machinery; knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of the trade; demonstrated ability to operate a variety of wastewater plant pumping, treatment, and control equipment, biosolids treatment and disposal equipment; demonstrated ability to diagnose problems under emergency conditions and take corrective action; knowledge and experience in the operation of equipment including but not limited to backhoes, dump trucks, jet rodder machine, tanker trucks, main line TV cameras, and line locators. 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. Pay range \$21.16 - \$31.38 per hour depending on certification level. Applicants are required to complete a City of Saint Peter application form available in the City Administrator's Office, 227 South Front Street, Saint Peter, Minnesota 56082-2538 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 April 2, 2019. Faxed applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted April 19, 2019. AA/EEO

- **POLICE PATROL OFFICER** - There is now an immediate opening for this position and the recruitment process has been extended to MARCH 15, 2019. The City of Saint Peter Police Civil Service Commission is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Patrol Officer. Applicants must have a minimum of a two year degree in Law Enforcement from P.O.S.T. accredited college or vocational school or five years experience as a police officer; Possession of a valid current Minnesota P.O.S.T. board license or eligibility to immediately receive a P.O.S.T. board license; possession of, or eligible for a

Minnesota Class D Drivers license; and satisfactory results on recruitment instruments designated by the Police Civil Service Commission, such as oral examinations, written examinations, physical examinations and psychological examinations. Desired qualifications include: four year Bachelor's Degree in law enforcement or related field; experience in working with a law enforcement agency; and specialized training or certificate in a law enforcement related field; customer service oriented employment history. Probationary pay rate has been established at \$27.57/hour. Applications may be obtained at, and must be submitted, along with a cover letter and résumé, to the Saint Peter Police Civil Service Commission, c/o Saint Peter Police Department, 207 South Front Street, Saint Peter, MN 56082, (507)931-1550, by 5:00 p.m. March 15, 2018. Faxed, emailed, and/or late applications will not be accepted. Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

- **SEASONAL POSITIONS** - The City of Saint Peter is now accepting applications for seasonal positions for the 2019 summer season. **Applications are available on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov or at the City Administrator's office from 8:00 am – Noon and 1:00 – 5 pm, 227 S. Front Street, or by calling 507-934-0663.** Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 pm on Friday, March 15, 2019. Faxed, emailed, and/or late applications will not be accepted.

A condition of employment shall be successful completion of a background investigation, and successful completion of pre-employment drug test. Employees will be subject to post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, return to duty, and follow-up drug and alcohol testing. Must be at least 16 years of age for Recreation and Leisure Services positions; 15 years of age for aquatics positions and 18 years of age for Public Works positions. The following seasonal positions are available:

- **PUBLIC WORKS SEASONAL LABORER:** Duties include a variety of manual labor tasks associated with the care, maintenance, and cleaning of City facilities and equipment including, but not limited to, painting, washing, mowing, weeding, digging, cleaning and organizing; planting, trimming, and removal of trees and shrubs and mowing and trimming facilities. 40 hours/week. Applicants must possess a minimum valid Class C or D driver's

license. Must pass pre-employment drug test; subject to post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, return to duty, and follow-up drug and alcohol testing required by federal regulations. Starting wage \$10.25/hour. Minimum age: 18.

- **RECREATION COORDINATOR:** Train and supervise staff, organize and implement summer programs. Leadership and supervisory experience with recreation activities required. Need strong organizational, motivational, planning and leadership skills. 35–40 hours/week. Mid May–End of August. Starting wage: \$11.25/hour.
- **SUMMER CAMP COORDINATOR (Jr. Explorer K-3 and Explore IT! Gr. 4-5):** Train and supervise staff, organize and implement summer programs. Leadership and supervisory experience with recreation activities required. Need strong organizational, motivational, planning and leadership skills. 35–40 hours/week. Mid May–Mid August. Starting wage: \$11.25/hour.
- **LITTLE RASCALS (PRESCHOOL) COORDINATOR:** Train and supervise staff, organize and implement summer programs for 3-5 year old children. Leadership and supervisory experience with recreation activities required. Need strong organizational, motivational, planning and leadership skills. 35–40 hours/week. Mid May–Mid August. Starting wage: \$11.25/hour.
- **VOLUNTEER IN THE PARK COORDINATOR:** Recruit, train, assign and supervise youth volunteers. Strong organizational skills and previous work with youth required. Assist organization and implementation of Exploration Recreation Program. Flexible hours. 30–40 hours/week. May–August. Starting wage: \$11.25/hour
- **RECREATION LEADERS:** Responsibilities include implementing youth summer recreation and sports programs and special events. Previous experience working with youth desired. Strong leadership and organizational skills required. Mid May–mid/mid-August. 35–40 hours/week. Starting wage: \$10.00/hour.
- **HEAD LIFEGUARDS:** Duties include supervision of aquatics personnel, pool patrons, and pool facility. Must have three years of lifeguard experience. Current WSI, LGT, First Aid and CPR certificates required. Strong leadership background. Minimum age: 18. Starting wage: \$11.50/hour.
- **LIFEGUARD/WSI:** Duties include teaching swim lessons and supervision of swimmers.

Some maintenance. Full, part-time and substitute positions. Current WSI, LGT, First Aid and CPR Certificates required. Starting wage: \$10.65/hour.

- LIFEGUARD (without WSI): Duties include supervision of swimmers and some maintenance. Full, part-time and substitute positions. Current LGT, First Aid and CPR

Certificates required. Minimum age: 15. Starting wage: \$10.25/hour.

- OUTDOOR POOL CASHIER: Duties include collection of pool fees, light bookkeeping, some maintenance and strong public relations skills. Minimum age: 15. Part-time. Starting wage: \$7.65/hour.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR – For questions on meeting dates/times, please contact the City Administrator’s Office at 934-0663. Full calendar available at www.saintpetermn.gov.

Thursday	March 7	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	March 11	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	March 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	March 18	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Friday	March 22	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	March 25	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	March 26	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	March 27	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	March 28	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Monday	April 1	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	April 1	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Thursday	April 4	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	April 8	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	April 9	6:00 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	April 15	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	April 22	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	April 23	6:00 p.m.	City Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting
Wednesday	April 24	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	April 25	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	April 26	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	April 29	3:00 p.m.	City Council Goal Session
Tuesday	April 30	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission