

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 www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



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SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

Minnesota Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 11-15, 2016. Each day of the week focuses on different weather-related hazards as follows:

- Monday – alerts and warnings
- Tuesday – severe weather, lightning and hail
- Wednesday – flooding
- Thursday – tornadoes (with statewide tornado drills)
- Friday – extreme heat



More information on these topics is available on the Minnesota Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management website at <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/weather-awareness-preparedness/Pages/severe-weather-awareness-week-program.aspx>.



Two statewide tornado drills will occur on Thursday, April 14th (1:45 p.m. and 6:55 p.m.) and the Police Department will be testing emergency sirens at each of those times. During the test, outdoor warning sirens and NOAA weather radios will both sound in a simulated tornado warning. The first drill is intended for institutions and businesses. The evening drill is intended for second shift workers and families.



During this week of severe weather awareness, Nicollet County Emergency Management Department will also be testing their Emergency Notification system called "Everbridge". This will occur on **Tuesday - April 12, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.** The Everbridge system has the ability to quickly deliver messages to targeted areas or to the entire county in an emergency or disaster. It is important to periodically test the notification system to make sure it is working properly and if not, the County can address any issues experienced during the test call. **When you receive a call, it is important to listen to the entire message. Residents DO NOT NEED TO RETURN THIS CALL.** Citizens who do not receive the test call are encouraged to visit the County's website at www.co.nicollet.mn.us to sign-up for future emergency notifications and for more information on emergency preparations or management in Nicollet County, please call the Nicollet County Emergency Management Office at 934-7874.

As we enter into the severe weather time of the year, it is important to remember the terms that are used when advisories are issued:

* Tornado/Severe Thunderstorm "**WATCH**" - means that conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes or severe thunderstorms. When a watch is issued for Nicollet County or our portion of the County,

pay close attention to the weather and make sure that everyone in your family knows the correct action to take if the weather gets worse.

* Tornado/Severe Thunderstorm **“WARNING”** - means a tornado or severe thunderstorm has been reported or is indicated by weather radar. Warning information includes the tornado or storm’s location, direction and speed. If the warning is issued for Nicollet County, or our portion of Nicollet County, **TAKE SHELTER IMMEDIATELY.**



* Warning sirens are tested year round on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. to assure that the sirens will work in the event of an actual emergency. If you hear the steady tone of a siren at any other time, it means that severe weather has been sighted in our area and you should take shelter immediately.

* There is no all clear siren, so take a battery powered radio with you to the shelter so you can monitor when it is safe to emerge.

* When the sirens sound, please don’t call the City or the Police Department to ask why the sirens are going off. Emergency personnel will be busy tracking the storm and dealing with emergency calls while other City employees will be directed to emergency shelters. Take shelter immediately and save your questions for later!

* If the sirens sound, don’t stand outside looking for the storm. Don’t climb on your roof to get a better viewpoint and don’t drive around trying to track the storms. Some storms move so quickly and are so unpredictable you might not have time to get to your shelter before the storm strikes or changes direction. Leave the storm spotting and tracking to the professionals.



* Identify your storm shelter now....before you need it. When people change residences, identifying a storm shelter is not something that usually is discussed before moving in, but it’s important to think about exactly where you will go in the event of a storm warning and discuss it with your family. If you live in a mobile home community, make sure the storm shelter is accessible, clear of debris and stored materials and unlocked so that you can get in it in the event of an actual emergency.

* If you are traveling in bad weather take note of the county you are in so you can take action in a severe storm warning. If you don’t know you are in Fillmore or Brown or Jackson County and a warning is issued over the radio for that county, you won’t know to take shelter!

If you would like more information about severe storms preparedness please call the Saint Peter Police Department (931-1550) or Denise Wright at Nicollet County Emergency Management (934-7874). Additional information is also available through the State of Minnesota Division of Homeland Security website at <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/weather-awareness-preparedness/Pages/severe-weather-awareness-week-program.aspx>. The severe weather information contained in today’s Hot Sheet includes information from the Minnesota Division of Homeland Security website.

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council on March 28, 2016 included approval of change orders and final acceptance for the Front Street Substation Roofing Project; approval of a façade renovation loan for Blaido, Inc. dba 4 The Team; approval for modification of benefit payout terms in the Fire Department bylaws; approval for transfer of \$450,000 in General Fund reserves to the Park Land Dedication Fund; authorization for Brett Annexstad to lease Outlot A of the Magner Farm Second Subdivision for one growing season; a closed session and subsequent action related to land acquisition negotiations with National Retail Properties for a portion of the property at the

northwest corner of the Old Minnesota Avenue/West St. Julien Street intersection.

The next City Council meeting is April 11, 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.

MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) - Winter has gotten long and although we have starting to see a number of signs of spring, I



still, on occasion, feel the cold bite of the wind that at times seems ever present in Saint Peter.

As our crews start to get parks ready and you start to be outside a bit more, please know that spring is sometimes fickle. It is 55° one day and 25° on the next. I am looking for the consistency of 72°. It might take a while, but soon enough we will get it.

One thing that we notice as we watch overall electric use is when it gets hot it takes a few days for people to turn on their A/C units. The first really hot day we can see a few pop on, the second day a few more pop on, but when we get that third really hot day in a row where it is getting hard to sleep, people say, "Heck with it!" and they turn them on. Since we are in the electric business we are okay with selling electricity and right now I am all for a bit warmer weather. Are you?

It makes me wonder.....

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK - The Saint Peter Public Library joins libraries in communities nationwide in celebrating the dynamic changes that are happening in today's libraries. April 11th-16th is National Library Week - a time to highlight the changing role of libraries.

During this week our Library staff invites the public to visit the library. Check out the display of library



artifacts and documents from the turn of the century. Attend a screening of "Discovering Beverly Cleary", one of the most beloved children's authors, on Tuesday, April 12th (her 100th birthday!) in the library meeting room; screenings at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Put your

name into one of several prize buckets by making a small donation that will help support this year's Summer Reading Program. Learn about Hoopla a new digital media service that will allow you to instantly borrow free digital movies, music, eBooks and more, 24/7, with your library card. Hoopla will soon be available at the Saint Peter Public Library.

Libraries continue to level the playing field for people of any age who are seeking information and access to technologies that will improve their quality of life. First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April.

For more information, visit the Saint Peter Public Library, follow us on Facebook or check out our website at www.saintpetermn.gov/library.

BARBECUE SAFETY TIPS - Barbecuing in any environment presents certain hazards that people should consider so that they can take precautions to reduce the likelihood of starting a fire. Here are a few tips that can help make barbecuing safer.

- If possible, it is best to keep your grill 15 feet from your home although some gas or electrical type grills can be within 18 inches of your home and installed on a deck. Before doing so, check and follow the manufacturer's instruction guide for safe distances from combustibles.
- LP cylinders should be stored outside of the house.
- Keep charcoal briquettes and lighting fluid stored away from living areas of your home.
- Charcoal briquettes should be allowed to cool naturally then doused with water before being placed in the trash.
- If you live in an apartment building or a rental home always check with the landlord or management to find out if, and where, you can safely grill.



With a little pre-thought and common sense we can make this summer a safe and tasty one. More information on this and other tips can be found at the State Fire Marshal Division website at www.fire.state.mn.us,



UTILITY BILLS – Did you know that City of Saint Peter utility customers can not only pay their bills online, but can also review them online? Although this feature has been around for quite a while, not everyone knows that the service is available. Check out your bill online at <https://stpetermn.enerlyte.com/>.

And if you are not into paying bills online, the City offers automatic bank pay. The amount of your bill is taken out of a checking or savings account on the due date each month. You will still receive a paper copy of your bill each month, but it will be marked "DO NOT PAY – PAID BY DRAFT".

For more information on this program, please contact the Finance Department at 934-0664.

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

- **PART-TIME LIBRARY CIRCULATION CLERK** – in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department. Minimum qualifications: Experience working with public in customer service setting. Desired qualifications: Experience in provision of library services; ability to operate a PC and use internet and related programs including on-line cataloging system. Up to 13 hours per week. (M-F days

plus some Saturdays.) Wage \$9.50/hour. Applicants are required to complete City application form available in the City Administrator’s office at 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1-5:00 p.m. or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator’s office by 5:00 pm on April 20, 2016. Faxed, late, and/or emailed applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

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.

Thursday	April 7	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	April 11	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	April 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	April 18	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
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