

# 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)



10/05/16



## PROVIDING ANIMALS WITH SHELTER WALK – **THIS WEEKEND!**

Hit up your family, friends, co-workers, neighbors and even complete strangers for donations for this year's P.A.W.S. fundraiser. This is the 16th year for this fun Trick or Treat Walk which

takes place Saturday, October 8th beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Mill Pond area of Riverside Park. (Registration begins at 9:30!)

A special treat will be available for this year's participants.... a guest artist will be available to do caricatures for \$5 for a pet or \$10 for the pet and their human!

The walk involves stopping at stations along the designated route and collecting donated items from generous sponsors. Pets and people alike are encouraged to dress for Trick or Treating and take part in the costume contest.

Pets must be leashed and pledges should be collected before walk day. Walkers raising \$20 or more will receive a trick or treat bag to participate in the treat stops and those raising \$35 or more will also receive a free P.A.W.S. t-shirt.

All proceeds generated from this fundraiser are used to provide medical care and shelter for abandoned or surrendered animals while they wait for adoption by their forever families. The funds are sometimes also used to buy down the cost of adoption for animals that have been in the pound a long time and need a forever home.

For more information on this event, or to pick up a pledge sheet, please visit City Hall (227 South Front Street) or the Police Department (207 South Front Street) or check out the City's website for a copy of the poster for the walk....[paws poster](#); the brochure to participate in the walk.... [PAWS WALK BROCHURE](#); or the PAWS page at [PAWS PAGE](#).

Don't worry if you don't have a pet to walk! If you love animals and want to help out, register to walk and make friends with someone else's pet or just make a donation. Donations are always welcome!



## MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) – *Drive Thru?*

Now it is true that I have used the drive thru at a McDonald's or Arby's or even Taco John's on

occasion, but a drive thru park?

There is no drive thru park in Saint Peter. It seems that many folks are starting to think that Minnesota Square Park is a drive thru. Minnesota Square Park is our community's front yard. On a recent Sunday afternoon I received reports of up to a half dozen cars that just decided it would be great to drive up to the grills or park near the playground equipment or I don't know, maybe drop off their picnic basket. Hmmmm...

Minnesota Square Park is NOT a drive thru. For specific events or festivals we sometimes allow vehicles in the park in support of the festival, but the park is not a drive thru. If you want to drive in Minnesota Square Park you need permission from the City to do so. If you don't have that permission....don't do it.

I can list off a dozen safety reasons and park damage reasons why there should be no vehicles in the park. That park is a very special place, it is our Community's front yard. We don't come and drive on your front yard so don't drive on our community's front yard. What are you not thinking?

Minnesota Square Park is not a drive thru, or a drive in and drop off, or a place where cars or trucks should be except for special community activities with City permission. It makes me

wonder.....where your front yard is, so we can drive on it.

*(\*\*\*Just an extra note, although this column is about Minnesota Square Park, driving in any City park is not allowed.)*

### **KEEP THE WATER CLEAN OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

– Learn to read the label on household products and look for “caution,” “warning,” “danger” or “poison” – and then be sure to dispose of items with those labels properly. From button cell batteries and bug spray to medicine and mothballs, many common products we use every day contain potentially hazardous ingredients and require special disposal. Dumped on or buried in the ground, these hazardous materials can contaminate the soil and move down into the groundwater or be carried by runoff during rainstorms into nearby surface waters, potentially poisoning our drinking water.



For more resources on keeping our water clean please visit the City of Saint Peter’s website at [stormwater](#) or [www.mnwaterconnection.com](http://www.mnwaterconnection.com).

**PUBLIC POWER WEEK** - The Saint Peter Electric Utility is celebrating Public Power Week, October 2 – 8, 2016, along with more than 2,000 other community-owned, not-for-profit electric utilities that collectively provide electricity to over 48 million Americans.

“Public Power Week celebrates the reliable, affordable electricity the Saint Peter Municipal Utility provides to our community,” said Pete Moulton, Director of Public Works. “Public power puts the people of Saint Peter first, and Public Power Week gives us the chance to emphasize the advantages of locally grown, locally owned power to our citizens,” said Pete Moulton.

Recently the Saint Peter Utility received the RP3 designation which is a nationally recognized standard a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3). “Our service is reliable and safe and we take pride in serving our friends and neighbors.” said Pete Moulton, “The Saint Peter Electric Utility is proud to have served Saint Peter since 1891”.

Public Power Week is an annual national event coordinated by the American Public Power Association in Washington, D.C. The association represents not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities that power homes, businesses and streets in nearly 2,000 towns and cities, serving 48 million

Americans. With no divided loyalties, these utilities are focused on a single mission — providing reliable electricity at a reasonable price, while protecting the environment. More information is available at [www.PublicPower.org](http://www.PublicPower.org).

**HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS OPEN HOUSE** – The City of Saint Peter is participating in a Nicollet County Open House style public meeting scheduled for October 12, 2016 from 4:30-7:00 PM in the Senior Center at the Community Center. The event will provide the public with an opportunity to visit about the upcoming improvements to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 5 (Broadway Avenue), Gardner Road, and the new St. Peter High School project. Representatives from the City will join with officials from Nicollet County and School District #508 to answer questions regarding their particular project. Formal presentations will not be made so please feel free to attend at any time.

Improvements to CSAH 5 (Broadway Avenue) include rehabilitation and concrete surfacing from Sunrise Drive to Gardner Road, construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Gardner Road and the St. Peter High School entrance, right turn lane at 361st Ave, and a right turn lane at the intersection of CSAH 5 and CSAH 20.

Improvements to Gardner Road include bituminous surfacing, multiuse off-road trail from Jefferson Avenue to the intersection of CSAH 5 and Gardner Road, and a roundabout at the intersection of CSAH 5 and Gardner Road.

Work on CSAH 5 and Gardner Road will take place in 2017 with the projects open to traffic by late summer 2017 in conjunction with the opening of the new St. Peter High School.

For information on these projects, please contact Nicollet County Public Works Department at 507-931-1760.

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action taken by the City Council on September 26, 2016 included authorization for purchase of three replacement vehicles for the Public Works Department; approval of the preliminary tax levy; authorization for preliminary engineering work for projects to make improvements at the Front Street Substation and for refurbishing the Broadway Water Tower; approval for renewal of the cable television franchise agreement with Crystal Communications dba Consolidated Communications; approval of new business licenses; designating the new park at Traverse Green Subdivision as Prairie Ridge Park

and the new park adjacent to the High School as Community Spirit Park; and approving modifications to certain positions in the Public Works Department.

The next City Council meeting is October 10, 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).

**MAYOR FOR A DAY CONTEST ENDING SOON!** - Kids...What would you do if you were Mayor for a Day? The League of Minnesota Cities (of which the City of Saint Peter is a member) is asking 4th, 5th, and 6th graders what they would do as "Mayor for a Day" in their annual essay contest—specifically, how they would make it easier for residents to get from place to place (entries must be handwritten and postmarked no later than October 17). This is the second year of this contest and we would really like to see a winner from Saint Peter this year!

Three winners will be chosen, awarded \$100 each, and winning essays will be published in the League of Minnesota Cities magazine. Kids (and their parents) can access the entry form at [MAYOR FOR A DAY CONTEST](#) . Good luck!



**ABSENTEE VOTING** – Absentee ballots are now available from the Nicollet County Public Services Department at the

Nicollet County Government Center (501 South Minnesota Avenue, Second Floor).

Following a change in election law a couple of years ago, voters no longer need a reason to decide to vote by absentee ballot. It is now open to all registered voters.

Voters must first complete an absentee ballot application which is available at the Government Center, or online at [ONLINE ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION](#).

For questions about absentee voting, please contact Nicollet County at 507-934-7806.

**VOTER REGISTRATION** – If you are not registered to vote....or if you moved or



changed your name since the last time you voted....you still have time to pre-register to vote. Pre-registration will save you lots of time on what will surely be a very busy Election Day.

Voter pre-registration can be done online at [Voter Registration](#) or in person at the Nicollet County Government Center (501 South Minnesota Avenue). Voters have until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 18th to pre-register to vote.

**Gustavus students please note....**

Students are not allowed to use 800 West College Avenue as their address for voting purposes.



Students living in Gustavus controlled housing must use their dorm name and room number as their address for voting. This allows election officials to determine which actual precinct students live in as the campus is split among multiple precincts. Students living off-campus must use the actual street address of their residence.

For questions about voter registration, please feel free to call the City Administrator's Office at 507-934-0663 or check out our website at [election information](#).

**HYDRANT FLUSHING** - The Water Utility will begin fall hydrant flushing and flow testing on October 10th. The work is being done overnight between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. to minimize disruption to customers. The work will continue until all hydrants are flushed, but is expected to end by October 21st.

Hydrant flushing could make water cloudy temporarily. Please check your water before doing laundry. If you have questions about this process, please contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.

**PARK CLOSURES** – High river levels have led to flooding in some of the City's parks. Due to this flood condition, the City's dog park and the south end of Riverside park, which encompasses the Frisbee Golf course, have been closed until flood waters recede. Residents are asked to not drive around the barricades to access flooded areas.

**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).

Thursday

October 6

5:30 p.m.

Planning and Zoning Commission

Monday	October 10	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	October 17	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	October 17	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Tuesday	October 18		DEADLINE FOR VOTER PRE-REGISTRATION
Monday	October 24	7:00 p.m.	City Council meeting
Tuesday	October 25	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	October 26	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	October 27	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	October 28	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitor's Bureau
Monday	October 31	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	November 1	5:30 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	November 7	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	November 8		ELECTION DAY
Monday	November 14	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Friday	November 18	8:00 a.m.	Rescheduled Tourism Bureau Meeting* (*Rescheduled due to regular date being the date after Thanksgiving.)
Monday	November 21	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session
Monday	November 21	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday	November 23	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday- Friday	November 24 - November 25		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed
Monday	November 28	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 29	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission

\*\*\*Please note that due to the upcoming holiday season, some meetings may be rescheduled. please contact the City Administrator's office (934-0663) for up-to-date meeting information.\*\*\*