

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. www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



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MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE – I know you know, but.... You, if you are a Saint Peter resident, are owner in a great medical facility - River's Edge

Hospital and Clinic (REHC).

As a partner in ownership, I thought you may want to know what the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey reports about the satisfaction of patients who rated the services of our Hospital. The survey says.....

How fantastic for us as owners, but maybe even more importantly, for the people we serve. If you go to River's Edge Hospital and Clinic, I know you will get great service, so I would encourage you to check it out. You'll get wonderful service by great care providers. For more information on the Hospital, please visit them at 1900 North Sunrise Drive, or on their website at www.riversedgehealth.org.

Will you check them out? It makes me wonder.....

WASHINGTON AVENUE LINK PROJECT OPEN HOUSE - The public is invited to an open house informational event on April 10th from 6-8 p.m. at the Community Center (600 South Fifth Street) in the Senior Center room.

Design of the proposed Washington Avenue Link Project is nearing completion. The project will include construction of a new roadway from where North Washington Avenue intersects with Davis Street to a new intersection at Dodd Avenue (TH22). Also included in the project are stormwater improvements, sidewalk construction and landscaping. The existing median along North Washington Avenue from Sumner Street to West St. Julien Street will also be replaced with reconstruction of the frontage road and new sidewalk constructed on both sides of North Washington Avenue between Sumner and Davis Streets.

City staff has met with many of the residents living adjacent to the project. From these meetings, specific details relating to the improvements along their property were received and incorporated into the construction plans.

Updated plans will be available for the public to review at the open house on April 10, 2013 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. City staff will also be present to answer questions, review the proposed

QUESTION	REHC	MN	US
Patients who reported their nurses always communicated well	87%	79%	78%
Patients who reported that their doctors always communicated well	94%	83%	81%
Patients who reported that they always received help as soon as they wanted	84%	72%	66%
Patients who reported that their pain was always well controlled	78%	71%	70%
Patients who reported that staff always explained about medicines before giving it to them	73%	64%	63%
Patients who reported that the area around their room was always quiet at night	81%	64%	60%
Patients who reported that their room and bathroom were always clean	95%	77%	73%
Patients at each hospital who reported that YES they were given information about what to do during their recovery at home	87%	86%	84%

plan details, and receive comments and suggestions.

All citizens of Saint Peter are invited to attend.

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of March 25, 2013 included sale of \$730,000 in equipment certificate bonds (to finance the new fire truck and some other equipment); approval of the 2013 water fund budget and increases in water rates; approval of the right-of-way plat for the extension of North Washington Avenue; scheduling a public hearing on the proposed vacation of Ewing Street; approval for continuation of the rain barrel program which began in 2012; rejection of the lone bid received for the air pollution equipment on the electric generation plant; approval for the unbudgeted purchase of a replacement boiler for the Library; and a closed session to discuss real estate acquisition negotiations.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, April 8th 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 934-0663. Copies of the agenda and Council packet are also available on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov/city.

WATER RATE CHANGES– New water treatment improvements for the City were placed in operation in the summer of 2010. The improvements were funded by a combination of grant funds, low-interest loan funds, and a utility bond.

Repayment of the bond and loan funds begins this year and will be payable over the next 20 years. As was projected in 2008, water rates need to increase to be able to fund the annual debt payments, capital and operation costs for production of the improved quality of water, and increased capacity.

Monthly base domestic and irrigation charges for City utility customers will be increasing in April and October of this year. Residential 5/8" irrigation meters will remain at no base charge. Over the next 18 months, **starting April 1st**, consumption rates will also change. Changes include a \$.25 - \$.50 increase in domestic water, \$.50 - \$.75 increase in irrigation and the elimination of the 1,000 gallons for a \$1.00 charges.

For detailed information on these rates changes, please visit the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/sites/default/files/meetings-agendas-packets> or contact the Finance Department at 934-0664.

SURPLUS PROPERTY AUCTION – The City is auctioning off quite a bit of surplus property for which it no longer has a need.

Items available for purchase include a 1993 Ford Ranger pickup truck (pictured here) which was used for meter reading, Motorola radios and associated equipment, 35 mm cameras, vcr's, and camcorders. Some of this equipment is pretty "vintage" and will be sold as one big lot.



The auction is an online auction through the State of Minnesota Department of Administration website. To participate in the auction, go to <http://www.fss.state.mn.us/SurplusServices.html>. Bidding on these items closes soon so don't hesitate if you are interested in bidding.

RECREATIONAL FIRES - Spring is a great time of the year to enjoy a recreational fire in your backyard with friends and neighbors. But it's important to do so safely. The following rules must be followed if you are going to enjoy a recreational fire at home....

- Recreational fires must be at least 25 feet from all buildings or combustible materials. Combustible materials are things such as wood, paper, and plastics [MSFC (07) Section 307.4.2].
- Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure must be eliminated prior to ignition [MSFC (07) Section 307.4.2].
- Recreational fires must be constantly attended until the fire burns out completely or is extinguished [MSFC (07) Section 307.5].
- A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with MSFC (07) Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand,



or garden hose must be readily available at all times until the fire is extinguished. [MSFC (07)

Section 307.5].

- The only materials permitted in a recreational fire are wood from trees, small branches, brush, or charcoal. Treated lumber materials, construction debris, garbage, plastic materials,

or waste materials are not allowed to be burned in recreational fires [MN Statute 88.171].

- Recreational fires must be immediately extinguished if they pose a fire safety risk, if they are not in compliance with the above, or when directed to do so by a Police Officer, Firefighter, Fire Warden, or DNR Officer [MSFC (07) Section 307.3].

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

- **STREETS CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE WORKER** - in the Department of Public Works. Minimum qualifications include a high school diploma and two years of responsible construction experience in carpentry and masonry; possession of or ability to obtain a valid certified chemical applicator's license (for street right-of-ways) within six months 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 to obtain within one month 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 obtain within six months. Desirable qualifications: knowledge of

practices, methods, tools, and equipment used in the construction trades; skill in use of construction tools and equipment; ability to read and interpret blue prints, diagrams, and engineering sketches; ability to make moderately complex mathematical calculations; knowledge of state and local building codes; and knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of the trade and of equipment operation. **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. Starting pay range \$15.33 - \$21.84 per hour. 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 Wednesday, April 17, 2013. Faxed, e-mailed, or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted Friday, May 3, 2013.

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.

Monday	April 8	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission
Monday	April 8	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday	April 10	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Washington Avenue Link Project Open House
Monday	April 15	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	April 15	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	April 22	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	April 23	6:00 p.m.	Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting
Wednesday	April 24	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission Meeting
Thursday	April 25	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	April 26	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	April 29	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	April 30	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission