MnDOT OPEN HOUSE – Our partners at the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) have invited the St. Peter community to an open house event on Tuesday, June 28th from 4:30-7:00 p.m. in the gym at the St. Peter Community Center.

This public event will offer information about future and current roadway construction projects in and around St. Peter and provide a chance for the public to learn more directly from MnDOT project staff.

The event is also a family friendly event with a chance for kids to participate in interactive activities and for the whole family to enjoy some refreshments.

And, for those of you interested in a career with the Department of Transportation, the event will include information on career opportunities with MnDOT.

TRI-COUNTY SOLID WASTE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COLLECTION – The Tri-County Solid Waste office is sponsoring a hazardous materials collection this Saturday, June 18th from 9 am – 1 pm at the City of Saint Peter wastewater treatment plant at 400 West St. Julien Street (enter from the North Swift Street side please).

Please see the graphic below for more information on what hazardous materials will be accepted at the collection.

ENERGY SAVING TIPS – For many households, this week’s heat wave will drive up energy costs. Here are a few tips from the U.S. Department of Energy that homeowners can use to stay cool and not break the bank.

• Service your air conditioner. Easy maintenance such as routinely replacing, or cleaning air filters can lower your cooling system’s energy consumption by up to 15 percent. Check your air conditioner’s evaporator coil, which should be cleaned annually to ensure the system is performing at optimal levels.

• Open windows. Opening windows creates a crosswise breeze, allowing you to naturally cool your home without switching on air conditioners. This is an ideal tactic in spring when temperatures are mild.
- **Use ceiling fans.** Cooling your home with ceiling fans will allow you to raise your thermostat four degrees. This can help lower your electricity bills without sacrificing overall comfort.
- **Cook outside.** On warmer days, keep the heat out of your home by using an outdoor grill instead of indoor ovens.
- **Install window treatments.** Energy efficient window treatments or coverings such as blinds, shades and films can slash heat gain when temperatures rise. These devices not only improve the look of your home but also reduce energy costs.
- **Caulk air leaks.** Using low-cost caulk to seal cracks and openings in your home keeps warm air out -- and cash in your wallet.
- **Bring in sunlight.** During daylight hours, switch off artificial lights and use west facing windows and skylights to brighten your home.
- **Set the thermostat.** On warm days, setting a programmable thermostat to a higher setting when you are not at home can help reduce your energy costs by approximately 10 percent.
- **Seal ducts.** Air loss through ducts can lead to high electricity costs, accounting for nearly 30 percent of a cooling system’s energy consumption. Sealing and insulating ducts can go a long way toward lowering your electricity bills.
- **Switch on bathroom fans.** Bathroom fans suck out heat and humidity from your home, improving comfort.

Granted some of these things can’t be done in time to beat this week’s heat wave, but these tips will help lower your costs over the long run.

For more information, please visit the Department of Energy website at [https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/articles/10-energy-saving-tips-spring](https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/articles/10-energy-saving-tips-spring).

**ELECTION JUDGES** – The last time you voted did you notice the nice man or woman that helped you through the process? Did you wonder how you could get that temporary job?

Those people are Election Judges, and they work for the City of Saint Peter. While we just finished up a special primary election, we have already turned our attention to recruiting for Election Judges to serve during the August 9th primary and the November 8th general elections.

To be eligible for appointment as an election judge, a candidate must be:

- Eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota
- Affiliated with a major political party
- Able to read, write and speak English
- Appointed by the City Council
- Trained and currently certified as an election judge

An Election Judge cannot be:

- A candidate in that election (i.e., be running for an office on the ballot used in that precinct)
- The husband, wife, parent, step relative, child, brother, or sister of a candidate or another judge in the same precinct
- A challenger

Did you know that high school students can also be appointed as Election Judges? High school students aged 16 and 17 can be Trainee Judges and we love to work with them. (Students 18 and over can serve as full-fledged judges.) Students must be in good academic standing and have permission from their school and parents. Trainee judges perform most of the same duties as the adult judges except those requiring judges of different political affiliations and, like the adults, are paid for their service.

But it’s not as simple as just applying and being appointed. All Election Judges must attend a mandatory training session before the election. This almost three-hour training is required by the State and without it, Judges are unable to serve.

So how do you apply? Please contact the City Administrator’s office by email (barbaral@saintpetermn.gov) to request an application, or visit the City’s website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment).

The deadline to apply is coming up quickly so please don’t delay!

**PLEASE BE A GOOD PET OWNER** – It’s unfortunate, but the continuing number of complaint calls being received by the City indicate some people just don’t want to be good pet owners. Please remember the following rules of the road when you take your dog off your property:

- Pet owners are not allowed to let dogs run at large (unleashed) unless in a designated dog park.
- Leashed dogs are allowed in Riverside Park, Riverside Park Extension, Traverse des Sioux Park, McGill Park, Hallett’s Pond (on the trail only), and the Public Conservancy Area in Nicollet Meadows 2 Subdivision directly west of
Jefferson Park. Not sure where these parks are? Please visit the City’s website for more information (www.saintpetermn.gov.)

- Dogs old enough to be vaccinated against rabies must be licensed by the City and under control of their owner at all times.
- Owners MUST pick up after their dog’s waste and properly dispose of said waste.

Being a responsible pet owner means being a good neighbor, so we ask all pet owners to comply with these regulations.

WHERE DO I GO FOR INFORMATION ON…..? – Are you new to Saint Peter? Maybe you’re reading the Hot Sheet online looking for information about our community? Maybe you are a City resident and just don’t know who to go to for information on a specific topic.

Here’s a list that might be helpful to you this summer:

- Fourth of July events – Parade, park events, fireworks, etc… Check out the Chamber of Commerce website at https://www.stpeterchamber.com/
- Nicollet County Fair – times, dates, location, judging, events, etc…. Check out the Fair Board’s website at www.nicolletcountyfair.com.
- The City pool – contact the outdoor swimming pool by calling 934-3951.
- Recreation activities for children and adults – contact the City’s Recreation and Leisure Services Department at 934-0667 or the Recreation Hotline at 934-0070 for cancellations and updates.
- Riverside Campground information – Riverside Campground, located behind the Police Department between the Minnesota River and the Mill Pond is a popular spot for both tent camping and RV’s. Reservations can be made, and more information is available on the City’s website at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/490/Camping.
- How do you reserve a City park for a family reunion, company picnic, or wedding? Contact the City’s Recreation and Leisure Services Department at 934-0667. Forms are also available on the City’s website at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/490/Camping.

- Do I need a permit? From fences to new home construction, it’s important to find out if a permit is required before you start construction. The City’s website has a lot of information, but if you can’t find what you are looking for regarding building permits, please contact the Building Department directly at 507-934-0662.
- Orange passes – you may be wondering what an orange pass is. It’s the sticker you need on your vehicle to access the City’s yard waste drop off site on North Swift Street. All residential utility customers were provided with a sticker at no cost in a utility bill. Additional stickers are available from the Finance Department for a fee of $5.00 for residential utility customers.
- Did someone knock on your door trying to sell something? Unless the company has a fixed and permanent location in Saint Peter, anyone selling goods or services door to door in a residential neighborhood is required to obtain a peddler’s permit from the City. (Please note this does not apply to vendors you have invited to your home like Schwan’s.) Ask to see their permit and if they can’t or won’t show it to you, please notify the Police Department at 507-931-1550.
- Is your pet missing? We get it. Sometimes a cat will escape through an open door, or a dog slips off their leash and they go missing. Call the non-emergency number at the Police Department (507-931-1550) to find out if the animal has been impounded. One of the benefits of having your dog or cat licensed (and the animal wearing the license on its collar) is for situations like this. If your animal is impounded, the Police Department will check the dog/cat license records for the owner’s contact information. If current info is on hand, the owner can claim their pet before incurring impound fees.
- Are you planning on digging in your yard? Don’t forget to call 811. Utility lines are all buried in Saint Peter and Minnesota law requires anyone who is planning on digging to contact Gopher State One-Call BEFORE you put a shovel in the ground. You provide info on where and when you want to dig and then Gopher State will notify all public utility providers to mark the area, so you know where it’s safe to
Silent Drowning – Each year some Minnesota families face the unthinkable – losing a loved one to accidental drowning. With more people flocking to pool complexes and area lakes for relief from the heat wave, it’s a good time to repeat an annual warning about “silent” drowning.

You know how in the movies people who are drowning thrash around and cry out for help? They wave their arms above their head trying to signal someone on shore or draw the attention of a lifeguard. They flap desperately and scream for help, again and again. Unfortunately, that picture is what many of us have in our minds when we think of drowning. But it’s not real life.

Drowning isn’t loud – it’s silent. It’s quick and deadly and unless you’re a trained professional you may miss the signs of drowning all together. Drowning victims are using so much energy and air to keep alive, they don’t have the ability to call for help. As they struggle to stay above the water, their lungs may already be filling with water before they slip silently beneath the surface. While we might expect them to wave their arms in the air to attract help, in reality, their natural instinct will be to keep those arms moving trying to stay above water.

Lifeguards know the warning signs of drowning but to untrained eyes this is not what most think drowning looks like, which is even scarier.

In the last few years, a public safety spot on television outlined the dangers of “silent” drowning. It begins with a little girl in a swimming pool while a group of adults are visiting on the pool deck behind her. No one is watching her. She starts….”Hi, in a minute, I’m going to drown. My Mom thinks Dad is watching me. Dad thinks Mom is watching me, but actually no one is watching me….” It’s really an impactful message. If you’d like to watch, here’s the link, https://abbeyshope.org/video-gallery/.  

According to experts, unless the victim is rescued from the water, they have anywhere from 20 – 60 seconds before full submersion will occur and then this becomes an extremely dangerous and lifethreatening scenario no one ever wants to experience.

Did you know that young children have what is called a diving reflex? If a toddler falls in the water, they have a natural instinct to hold their breath and sink. They won’t fight for the surface; they don’t splash and scream. When they slip under the surface, especially among a crowd of people, they can easily go unnoticed because drowning is silent.

Children, young children in particular, are noisy swimmers. When have you ever been at a pool when children aren’t splashing or playing loudly? It’s a terrifying sound when they’re quiet and by the time you’ve noticed the lack of sound, it might be too late.

Here are the real signs of drowning (for both adults and children) every person should watch for.

- Head tilted back: The victim will tilt their head back to attempt to get air and breathe.
- Mouth at water level: A drowning victim is trying to keep their mouth at water level to get air but has no time to yell for help because they are barely able to take in air. The mouth will bob up for air and back down under the water.
- No waving or hailing for help: Nature instinctively forces victims to extend their arms laterally and press down on the water. Pressing down on the surface of the water permits drowning people to leverage their bodies so they can lift their mouths out of the water to breathe.
- Eyes appear glassy/empty.
- Bodies stay upright in the water: The victim will stay upright in the water because of the lateral arm pressing, but there is usually no supporting kick.

More helpful information is available on the City’s website at www.saintpetermn.gov.
In the event of a near drowning incident for your family do you know how to give a child CPR? One in three parents don’t, but it’s essential to have training for not only water saving and near-drowning resuscitation, but also for accidents, suffocation, smoke inhalation, electric injuries, SIDS (possible sudden infant death syndrome), and other medical issues. The American Red Cross offers CPR classes on a regular basis. If you’re not trained in CPR, it might be something to consider.

It only takes a moment for a child to drown so as we enjoy backyard pools, the lake, and even the City’s outdoor pool, it’s up to each of us to know what to look for and possibly save a life.


(Note…Abbey’s Hope is a foundation started by the family of Minnesota native Abbey Taylor. The six-year-old girl died from injuries suffered in a horrible swimming pool accident in 2007. The Foundation now works to promote water safety both here in Minnesota and around the world.)

Pool Hours – School is out, and the Roy T. Lindenberg Memorial Outdoor Pool is the place to be for the summer. The pool offers a variety of amenities and programs throughout the summer including a lap pool with wibit, high and low diving boards, drop slide, wading pool, daily open swims, swim lessons, tot time, lap swimming, and more. Make sure to check the City of Saint Peter website, www.saintpetermn.gov/368/Outdoor-Pool, or the Recreation and Leisure Services Facebook page for the latest information on the pool. Also don’t forget to get our family pool pass for the summer, which is available for only $45!

There are all kinds of fun options for fun at the pool including Open Swim which is available Mondays-Thursdays from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. or 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and Fridays-Sundays from noon - 7:00 p.m.

Do you have younger kids in the family? Check out the wading pool which is open from 12:00 - 7:00 p.m. each day.

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CITY MEETING CALENDAR – ***PLEASE NOTE…Meeting dates and times may change due to unforeseen circumstances. For up-to-date information on meetings please visit the City’s website at www.saintpetermn.gov or call the City at 507-934-0663.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Meeting Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Parks and Recreation Advisory Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospital Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>June 23</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Economic Development Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>June 27</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Heritage Preservation Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 4</td>
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<td>FOURTH OF JULY LEGAL HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>July 5</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Planning and Zoning Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Housing and Redevelopment Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 25</td>
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<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Heritage Preservation Commission</td>
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<tr>
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<td>July 27</td>
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