

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

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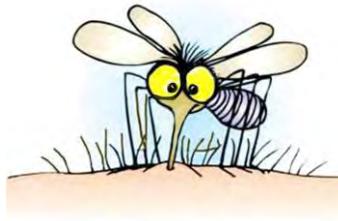
CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council on June 12, 2017 included award of the bid for reconstruction of Broadway Avenue from the Highway 99 bridge to Highway 169; authorization for additional funds for engineering related to the Broadway Avenue project; approval for the advanced metering infrastructure project; approval for Bolton and Menk, Inc. to provide construction engineering for the Jefferson Avenue/Gardner Road project; acceptance of a donation from the St. Peter Baseball Association to construct a press box above a dugout at Veteran's Field #1; award of bid for replacement of a harmonics correction unit at the water treatment plant; award of bid for the Chatham/Fourth Street storm sewer improvement project; establishing a public hearing for a request to allow Tax Increment Financing for the Solace Housing Project; adoption of updated Fire Department policies; approval of updates to the Fire Relief Association bylaws; approval of the public art piece to be installed at the Veteran's Memorial; authorization for City assistance for both the Relay for Life and Fourth of July community events; approval of a modification to the City's personnel policies; approval for execution of a petition to vacate a portion of Mason Street in the North Industrial Park Subdivision; and appointment of McGough as Construction Manager for the 2018 River's Edge Hospital and Clinic Expansion Project. The City Council also saw a presentation on the Hospital's 2016 audit.

The next City Council meeting is June 26, 2017 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.

MOSQUITO SPRAYING - Bzzzzzz, bzzzzzz bzzzzz. Can you hear it? The incessant droning of mosquitos flying around your head? Every year it seems the horde of mosquitos can't get any worse but yet it does.

Calls are starting to come in to City Hall from residents hoping the City will do a city-wide spraying to control the mosquito population. But the City doesn't do that anymore.

Long time Saint Peter residents may remember back in the 60's and 70's when the City actually "fogged" all the areas of the community to kill mosquitos. That hasn't been done for decades. Concerns from residents about the negative health impacts from the chemicals being used put a stop to that and the City



actually sold all of our city-wide spraying equipment.

Since that time, the science behind the mosquito control products, as well as the methods of applying those products, has changed dramatically and while the City won't spray city-wide, we will do limited spraying for mosquitos in public parks prior to a community event if the organizers of the event have requested spraying. For example, the Ambassadors did not request spraying before BluesFest, however the Chamber of Commerce did ask for it before the Fourth of July. Likewise, the City sponsored "Movies in the Park" events, which occur throughout the summer, will be preceded by spraying in Jefferson Fields in the area the movie is shown. The first of two "Movies in the Park" events will occur on June 30th and spraying will take place for several days in advance of this event.

The spray used in these limited instances is a contact type pesticide used to control adult mosquitoes. It is deemed safe for use around recreational and residential areas such as athletic fields, parks, and campsites.

Each time a park is sprayed, the City will provide as much advance notice of this activity as possible on our Facebook page, website, and/or in the Hot Sheet. This allows those who choose not to be around the products, to make a decision not to attend the event.

As for those of us out and about in other areas of the community, we leave the decision to each individual as to whether or not to apply mosquito control products.

PET WARM WEATHER SAFETY TIPS – Just as humans can suffer and be at risk during extreme heat and humidity, our companion animals can also suffer. Here are some tips to keep your cats and dogs safe during the extreme summer temps.

CATS

- **Provide cool, fresh air ventilation.** Use a sturdy fan, ceiling fan, open screened window(s), or an air conditioner - especially in severely hot temperatures. While cats are not particularly fond of cold air, an air conditioned room is essential during scorching weather to keep your pet cool and safe.
- **Make sure window screens are secure** – Cats love to sit in windowsills and enjoy the great outdoors from a safe perch. And as cats are prone to do, stretching on a nice screen is a perfect ending to their sunny siesta. That makes it crucial to have sturdy window screens that are securely attached and which are free of holes and tears.



- **Provide fresh, clean, cool water throughout the day.** Cats can become dehydrated and need twenty-four hour access to water.

- **Slip ice cubes in drinking water.** This will help keep the water cool and drinkable.
- **Provide multiple bowls of drinking water throughout the house.** Having multiple water bowls around the house will entice your cat to drink more, ensuring enough fluids during hot weather.
- **Stationery water bowls.** These are the spill-free bowls that will ensure the water doesn't accidentally end up on the floor.
- **Don't let wet food sit out too long.** Dry food can be left out all day, but if you feed wet food, it's good to remove it after feeding time and replace it with fresh



food during the next meal so it doesn't spoil.

- **Never leave your cat alone while you go away for a few days!** You might be asking, "Who would do that?", but we probably would be surprised at the number of pet owners who do this. If you will be away from home for a day or more, make sure that you have a responsible person in charge of your pet's care.
- **Don't let your cat outdoors during a heat wave!** Even though cats enjoy warm weather, letting your cat outside during a heat wave could be a fatal mistake. Keep kitty indoors until the heat wave passes.
- **Keep an eye out for sunburn** – Cats and dogs alike can be susceptible to sunburn on their ears and noses. Visit with your vet about what options you may have to prevent these areas from burning and if your pet has suffered a burn, seek immediate veterinary care.
- **Never leave your cat in a hot car!** Pets die every year from heatstroke because of this neglectful act.
- **Provide a shady spot in your home.** Cats seem to love sunny rooms; but, in a heat wave, they will need a place where they can comfortably retreat to when the heat becomes dangerous. If their normal sun soaked area becomes unreasonably hot, close this area off and don't let the cat in the room until it cools down.



DOGS

- **Keep Fresh Cool Water Available.** One of the most important things to remember for dogs in hot weather is to make sure their water bowl is always full. If the water bowl is outside, choose a light colored plastic or ceramic bowl rather than a metal one that can easily heat up in the sun. If possible, keep the water bowl in a shady area of the yard so that the water stays cool, and check it frequently to ensure your pup isn't being scalded by a supposed refreshment.



- **Keep Your Pets Inside** - Dogs love the yard (or in this case the beach!), but if you're going to be gone for long days this



summer, it may be safer to keep your dog in the house where they can lounge safely in the air conditioning. If you must leave your dog in hot weather in the yard, be sure there is plenty of shade and fresh water. Dogs are susceptible to heat exhaustion and sunburn, so shade can be a life-saver.

- **Take a Dip** - Swimming can be a great way to help dogs cool off in hot weather. If you don't have access to a safe lake or river for your pooch to have a swim, kiddie pools in the backyard work great. Check the water occasionally to make sure it hasn't heated up. Keep your pets away from chlorine swimming pools, as the chemicals may be harmful if swallowed. But be cautious about allowing a dog in a pool. Many pet tragedies occur because a pool is too deep or difficult for a pet to get out of. And remember that not every dog swims and as with humans, it is a learned activity.



- **Take Walks in the Early Morning and Evening** - Schedule your daily walks for times when the sun isn't in full force. Avoid hot asphalt, as this can be devastating to bare paws. Instead find a place where the dog can walk on grass. The City's dog park on Highway 99 east is a great place to let your dog burn off some energy. But keep a close eye to make sure the dog isn't overly exerting itself in the hot sun.



- **Visit the Groomer** - Dogs in hot weather are much happier when they don't have to drag all that fur around. Unless you have a double coated breed, give your pooch a shorter haircut. It's best for the fur not to be shaved below 1/4 inch, though, since then the naked pup is susceptible to sunburn.

- **Summer Treats** - While you're enjoying ice cream and watermelon pay attention to what you're feeding the dog, and make sure any barbeque guests know the rules. Supervise

the dog if you're offering him tasty bones. A couple of great summer treats for dogs are ice cubes and watermelon. Most dogs love them and it will help keep them hydrated at the same time.

- **Pets in Cars** – It can't be said often enough or loud enough.....NEVER LEAVE YOUR PET IN A CAR! In nice weather you may be tempted to take your pet with you in the car while you travel or do errands. However during warm weather, the inside of your car can reach 120 degrees in a matter of minutes, even if you're parked in the shade. This can mean real trouble for companion animals left in the car. Dogs and cats cannot perspire and can only dispel heat by panting and through the pads of their feet. Pets left in hot cars for even brief periods of time can suffer from heat exhaustion, heat stroke, brain damage, and can even die.



Even if you'll be gone "just a minute," your pet will not be safe while you're gone. To avoid any chance that your pet will succumb to the heat of a car during warm summer months, be sure to leave your pet at home while you're on the road.

This information was compiled from several different sources on the web. Using a little common sense and good pet owner etiquette, we can make this summer a safe and fun one for dogs, cats and their humans.

RECREATIONAL FIRES - As summer gets underway more residents become interested in spending time outdoors during the evening hours and for many of you that means having recreational fires on private property. But before you put match to firewood please note that fires are only allowed if they comply with the City's guidelines:

- There must be a fireproof fire ring separating the fire from the surrounding area.
- The fire ring cannot be larger than 36 inches in diameter.



- Only dry kindling wood can be burned in the fire ring. This prohibits the use of wood cut or designed for construction or from construction, including furniture, wood with any finish or foreign substance on it, twigs, leaves, green (wet) wood and anything other than wood cut from trees. And to prevent the spread of Emerald Ash borer, please only use wood from this area. Transporting wood from other areas could spread the bug and harm our trees.
- The wood must be entirely within the fire ring.
- Flames cannot be allowed to reach higher than three (3) feet.
- There must be a garden hose connected to a water source within reach of the fire.
- The fire must be tended at all times.
- The fire must be for recreation only.
- The fire cannot be deemed careless in any manner due to strong winds or other circumstances and if the fire is found to be careless in nature, violators will be prosecuted.

By following these guidelines, you and your guests should be able to safely enjoy a recreational fire. This information is also available on the City's website (<http://www.saintpetermn.gov/recreational-fire-standards>) should you need it at a later date. And remember.....in the event of a fire emergency, please dial 911.

STUDENT ELECTION JUDGES – The City will soon begin the process of recruiting Trainee (student) Election Judges for the November 7th general election. 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 they are paid for their service. Trainee judges will begin work at 6:00 a.m. and be done at approximately 8:30 p.m. It's a long day, but many students who have worked in

these positions in the past have found it very rewarding.

To serve as a Trainee Judge, the student must also attend a mandatory training session before the election.

If you have a student who would like to be considered for appointment as an election judge, or for more information on how you can serve your community in this way, please contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663 or send an e-mail to barbaral@saintpetermn.gov.

SEAT BELT ENFORCEMENT – Between May 22nd and June 4th the Police Department participated in a Toward Zero Death seat belt enforcement wave. During this wave, for both on-duty and grant-funded Officers, the Saint Peter Police Department conducted 352 traffic stops and wrote 38 citations for no seat belt use. Buckle up! Click it or Ticket!

The Police Department participates in the Toward Zero Death Program, (which is grant-funded), which focuses on reducing traffic injuries and fatalities through the four E's: **E**ducation; **E**mergency and Medical Trauma; **E**nforcement; and **E**ngineering.

The enforcement tier of the program includes funding overtime shifts for the Officers with a goal of changing poor behavior related to violations of seat belt, child seats, impaired driving, distracted driving, and speed.

The next "wave" will take place from July 7th – July 23rd focusing on speeders and aggressive drivers. In 2013-2015 in Minnesota, illegal or unsafe speed was a contributing factor in 188 fatal crashes resulting in 201 deaths.

That wave will be followed by an Impaired Driving Wave from August 18th – September 3rd. Did you know that in 2015 there were 25,027 arrests for DWI? Plan ahead and have a sober driver.

The Officers of the Saint Peter Police Department thank you for doing your part and helping us strive towards our ultimate goal of zero deaths on our roadways.

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FILING – Have you ever wished you could have a say in issues brought before the City Council? Your chance will be coming up this August when filing for City Council positions opens.

The filing period for seats on the City Council begins at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 and continues until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 15, 2017. The Election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 to elect a Mayor, two Councilmembers from Ward I (North Ward) and

one Councilmember from Ward II (South Ward).
The terms of:

NAME	POSITION	TERM
Charles Zieman	Mayor	2 yrs.
Susan Carlin	Council Ward I	4 yrs.
Roger Parras	Council Ward I	4 yrs.
Stephan Grams	Council Ward II	4 yrs.

expire on December 31, 2017.

Any person wishing to file for City offices may do so at the City Administrator's office in the Municipal Building, 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. The filing process takes less than 30 minutes and the filing fee is \$5.00.

Persons with questions regarding the election or filing for office are encouraged to call the City Administrator's office at 934-0663.

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

- **Part-time CIRCULATION CLERK** in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department at the Library. Minimum qualifications: Experience working with the public in a 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. Daytime hours with occasional Saturdays. Approximately 10-15 hours per week. Wage \$9.79/hour. Applicants are required to complete a City application form. Applications are 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., by calling (507)934-0663 or sending a request for an application to barbaral@saintpetermn.gov. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 pm June 16, 2017. 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.

Thursday	June 15	5:30 p.m.	Board of Zoning Adjustments
Monday	June 19	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	June 19	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Thursday	June 22	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	June 23	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	June 26	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	June 27	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	June 28	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Monday	July 3	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	July 3	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session (Governors' Room)
Tuesday	July 4		FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY – City offices closed
Thursday	July 6	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	July 10	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	July 11	5:30 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	July 17	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop



Monday	July 17	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	July 24	7:00 p.m.	City Council meeting
Tuesday	July 25	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	July 26	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	July 27	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	July 28	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	July 31	3:00 p.m.	City Council Goal Session

*** Please contact the City Administrator's office (507-934-0663) for up-to-date meeting information.***