

# CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!  
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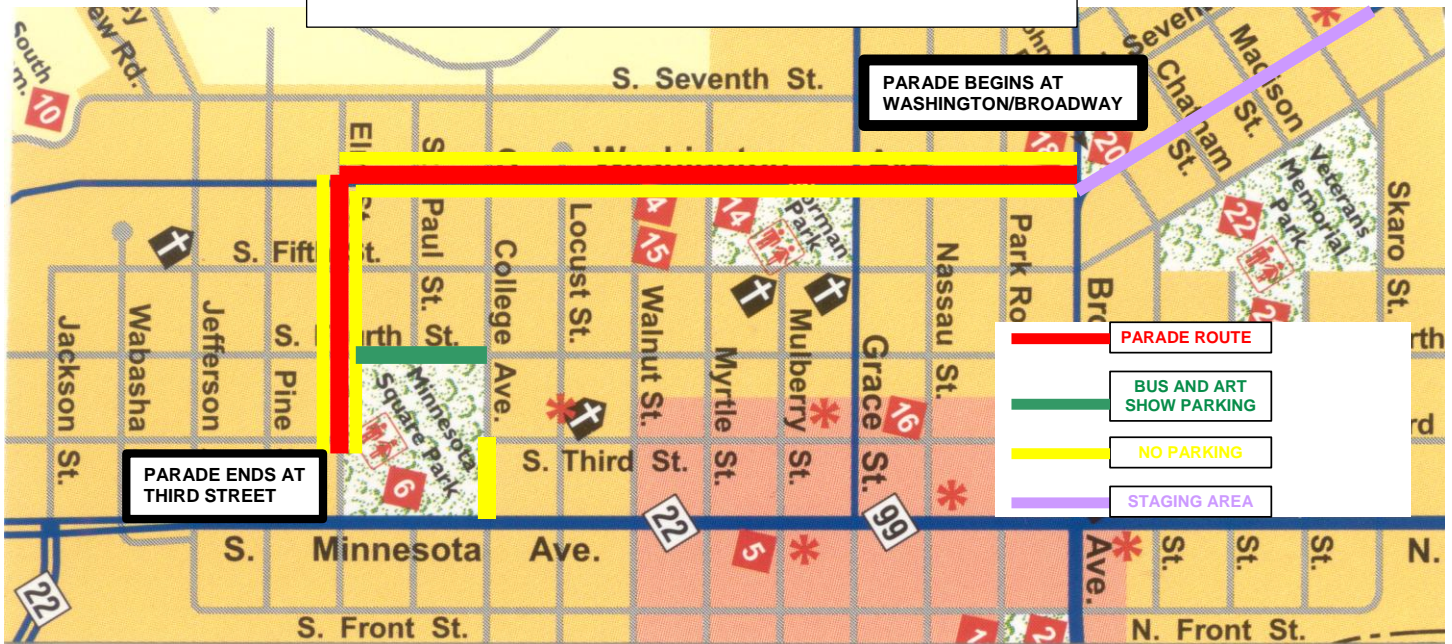


The following information is a publication of the City of Saint Peter, City Administrator's Office, 934-0663, 227 South Front Street. Please contact us at [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov) or visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter](http://www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter)



07/03/2013

## ST. PETER 4TH OF JULY PARADE



**FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVITIES – SAINT Peter's** annual Independence Day celebration, **which is organized entirely by the Chamber of Commerce (not the City)**, will take place on...you guessed it...the Fourth of July! Activities begin with a parade down South Washington Avenue at 10 a.m. followed by a picnic, water slide, entertainment and other activities in Minnesota Square Park before closing out the evening with fireworks at the Nicollet County Fairgrounds at approximately 10:00 p.m. For more information on the activities, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 507-934-3400.



**DOGS AND THE FOURTH:** Dog owners are reminded that dogs are not allowed in Minnesota Square

Park at any time and should be left at home during the Fourth of July festivities in the park. People with dogs will be asked to leave the park and/or may be cited. So please leave Fido at home where he will probably be happier anyway! (Just for future reference, the only City park that allows pets is the Mill Pond area of Riverside Park [behind City Hall] and the official dog park on Highway 99.)



**FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS** - Fireworks and celebrations seem to go together, especially during the Fourth of July. Firework celebrations can result in serious burns and eye injuries or even death. Before your family celebrates this year, make sure everyone knows about fireworks safety.

If not handled properly, fireworks can cause burns and eye injuries in children and adults. The best thing you can do to protect your child is not to use any fireworks at home - period. Attend public fireworks displays and leave the pyrotechnics to the professionals. Here are some tips that might save someone you love from injury or worse....

- Children should never play with fireworks. Things like firecrackers, rockets, and sparklers are just too dangerous. If you give your child a sparkler, make sure your child keeps it outside and away from their face, clothing, and hair. Sparklers can reach 1,800° Fahrenheit (982° Celsius) - hot enough to melt gold.
- Buy only legal fireworks (legal fireworks have a label with the manufacturer's name and directions; illegal ones are unlabeled), and store them in a cool, dry place. Illegal fireworks usually go by the names M-80, M100, blockbuster, or quarter pounder. These explosives were banned in 1966, but still account for many fireworks injuries.
  - LEGAL fireworks include wire or wood sparklers, cylindrical fountains, cone fountains, illuminating torches, wheels, ground spinners, flitter sparklers, flash/strobes, and novelty items such as snakes, glow worms, smoke devices, and trick noisemakers including paper streamers, party poppers, string poppers, snappers, and drop pops.
  - ILLEGAL fireworks include any fireworks that are explosive or aerial, any size of firecrackers, Ladyfingers, Skyrockets, Bottle rockets, missile type rockets, Helicopters, aerial spinners, UFO's, roman candles, mines or shelves, chasers, parachutes, 1.3G display fireworks aerial shells, M-80's, cherry bombs and theatrical pyrotechnics.
- Never try to make your own fireworks.
- Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water and a hose or a fire extinguisher nearby in case of accidents.
- Steer clear of others - fireworks have been known to backfire or shoot off in the wrong direction. Never throw or point fireworks at someone, even in jest.
- Don't hold fireworks in your hand or have any part of your body over them while lighting. Wear some sort of eye protection, and avoid carrying fireworks in your pocket - the friction could set them off.



- Point fireworks away from homes, and keep away from brush, leaves, and flammable substances. The National Fire Protection Association estimates that local fire departments respond to more than 50,000 fires caused by fireworks each year.



- Light one firework at a time (not in glass or metal containers), and **never** relight a dud.
- Don't allow your child to pick up pieces of fireworks after an event. Some may still be ignited and can explode at any time.
- Soak all fireworks in a bucket of water before throwing them in the trash can.
- Think about your pet. Animals have sensitive ears and can be extremely frightened or stressed on the Fourth of July. Keep your pet indoors to reduce the risk that the pet will run loose or get injured.

If someone is injured by fireworks, immediately go to a doctor or hospital. If an eye injury occurs, don't touch or rub it, as this may cause even more damage. Also, don't flush the eye out with water or attempt to put any ointment on it. Instead, cut out the bottom of a paper cup, place it around the eye, and immediately seek medical attention - your eyesight may depend on it.

If it's a burn, remove clothing from the burned area and run cool, not cold, water over the burn (do not use ice). Call your doctor immediately.

Even if you have legal fireworks, **NO FIREWORKS ARE ALLOWED ON PUBLIC PROPERTY** including parks, streets, alleys, government property or school property and to purchase fireworks, a person has to be at least 18 years of age. The penalty is pretty stiff for violations of fireworks regulations and could lead to imprisonment for anywhere from 90-365 days and/or payment of a fine of \$700-\$3,000, (depending on the amount of fireworks involved). For more information on the laws regarding fireworks and "what's legal, what's not", please visit the State Fire Marshal website at [www.fire.state.mn.us/fireworksinfo.html](http://www.fire.state.mn.us/fireworksinfo.html) or call the Police Department at 931-1550.

Fireworks are meant to be enjoyed, but you'll enjoy them much more knowing your family is safe. Take extra precautions this Fourth of July and your holiday will be a blast!

**CRACK SEALING BEGINS** – The annual crack sealing project will begin on Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting) and continue through Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. The map shown here indicates the areas of Saint Peter that will have crack sealing done.



During this work, traffic will be briefly disrupted so that the contractor can clean out the cracks in the roadways, apply the liquid emulsification material and lay down the covering materials. Residents may remember that the cover

material is similar to toilet paper and it is used to seal in the emulsification liquid.

As soon as the cover material is placed, the road will be open to traffic once again.

Crack sealing is one of the tools used by the City to extend the life of our asphalt roadways. Sealing of the cracks that occur in asphalt helps eliminate water penetration under the road which causes faster deterioration of the road surface and sometimes more expensive repairs.

For questions about the crack sealing process, please contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.



**MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE)** – A good “Dust Up”..... That’s what one of my older, much older friends used to say about a confrontation at a meeting.

He would say, “Now that was a good dust up.” I can still hear him say it in that deep baritone voice from the end on the table as he leaned forward ...”Now that was a good dust up”.

Before I came to Saint Peter I worked in Blooming Prairie and before that I worked as the City Administrator of four towns all at the same time. They shared my time and their duties and on occasion, as with any group, there was bound to be a disagreement about what should happen.

That friend and Councilmember I am eluding to was never one to back away from a good “dust up”.

He would talk to me afterward about the value or lack of value in the “dust up” depending on how it happened. I think it is important to point out the how it happened part.

A good dust up was a disagreement about something, not the flashy dust up where someone calls someone else stupid or some other less than kind name, but rather an impassioned, civil discussion about facts, focused on goals, and coming to a solution that most can agree to.

That’s a “good” dust up. Meetings where feelings are stepped on, where nasty words are exchanged, when people leave and know nothing was accomplished but an argument, where decisions are made by the loudest voice, and where understanding and consensus building was not part of the discussion, was a “bad” dust up.

As communities govern themselves through their elected officials, it is sometimes fun to see a bad dust up....to watch the crash and see the mayhem that ensues..... to view the argument like it is a drama or comedy on TV. But my Councilmember knew that a bad dust up was not good for the organization or for his community. He knew that arguments rarely solved things for the long term and even more rarely provided the best solutions.

A good dust up helps issues come to a conclusion, helps people who are passionate about their position get their ideas out on the table and ultimately leads to better governance. Better governance is what he was after, not entertainment value. He knew that he wanted a better community and so did the people who elected him. They didn’t want a sideshow.

As we all try to do what we can to make our little corner of the world better, a good dust up might be just what is needed from time to time.

It makes me wonder.....

**DRUMMER CORPORATION DONATION** – Thanks to the generosity of the Drummer Corporation and its employees, two efforts in Saint Peter will receive a funding boost.

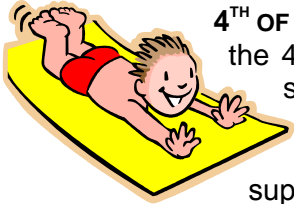
At the June 24, 2013 City Council meeting, Christa Wolner of the Drummer Corporation presented Mayor Strand with a \$10,000 donation to help fund delivery of the old fire truck to Petatlan, Mexico (\$5,000) and to help



with ongoing maintenance costs for the TREEmendous playground (\$5,000).

Drummer Corporation is located in Mankato and the company is currently constructing rental housing units in the Orchard Ridge Subdivision.

On behalf of the City Council, thank you to the Drummer Corporation for this very generous donation!



**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY WATER FUN** - Cool off after the 4th of July parade at the slip 'n' slide at Minnesota Square Park and/or at the City's outdoor pool! Pool staff will be supervising the slip 'n' slide from 1 – 4 p.m. at the park. Cost is \$3 per person for a wristband. The outdoor pool will be open from 1 – 6 p.m. with free admission for all ages.

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING CANCELLED –** The July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Human Rights Commission has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, August 12, 2013 beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room. For information on the Human Rights Commission please contact the City Administrator's Office at 934-0663.

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS –** Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of June 24, 2013 included a public hearing and subsequent action on a request to vacate a portion of Ewing Street; a public hearing and subsequent action to approve rezoning of property owned by Nicollet County to Central Business District; a presentation by the City's Auditors on the 2012 audit and acceptance of the audit; approval for execution of a development agreement for the Park Row Crossing housing units; authorization to receive competitive bids for the sale of \$890,000 in general obligation tax increment bonds to finance public improvements along North Third Street; approval for modification

of the job description for Part-time Housekeeper; and acceptance of a \$10,000 donation from Drummer Corporation and its' employees to help finance delivery of the donated fire truck to Petatlan, Mexico and for ongoing maintenance costs associated with the TREEmendous playground.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, July 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. A copy of the City Council packet is also available each week on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city-council-minutes-agendas-packets>.

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

- **PART-TIME HOUSEKEEPER** in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** High school diploma or equivalent; knowledge of cleaning methods and procedures; knowledge of the materials, supplies and equipment utilized in cleaning activities; experience working with the public. **DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:** One or more years of housekeeping experience; knowledge of OSHA safety regulations; and experience operating restroom cleaning machines. Beginning wage \$9.37 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City application form which is available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon and 1-5 p.m. or by calling (507) 934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 pm July 24, 20123. Faxed, emailed, and/or late 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](http://www.saintpetermn.gov).

Thursday July 4



CITY OFFICES CLOSED – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday

Monday July 8

7:00 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Tuesday July 9

6:00 p.m.

Library Board

Monday July 15

5:30 p.m.

City Council Workshop

Monday July 15

7:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

|                     |                       |            |                                      |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Monday              | July 22               | 7:00 p.m.  | City Council Meeting                 |
| Thursday            | July 25               | 12:00 noon | Economic Development Authority       |
| Friday              | July 26               | 8:00 a.m.  | Tourism and Visitors Bureau          |
| Monday              | July 29               | 5:30 p.m.  | City Council Workshop                |
| Tuesday-<br>Tuesday | July 30-<br>August 13 |            | CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD |
| Tuesday             | July 30               | 5:30 p.m.  | Heritage Preservation Commission     |
| Wednesday           | July 31               | 12:00 noon | Hospital Commission                  |
| Monday              | August 5              | 3:30 p.m.  | Housing and Redevelopment Authority  |
| Monday              | August 5              | 5:30 p.m.  | City Council Workshop                |
| Tuesday             | August 6              | 5:30 p.m.  | Planning and Zoning Commission       |
| Monday              | August 12             | 5:00 p.m.  | Human Rights Commission              |
| Monday              | August 12             | 7:00 p.m.  | City Council Meeting                 |
| Monday              | August 19             | 5:30 p.m.  | City Council Workshop                |
| Thursday            | August 22             | 12:00 noon | Economic Development Authority       |
| Friday              | August 23             | 8:00 p.m.  | Tourism and Visitors Bureau          |
| Monday              | August 26             | 7:00 p.m.  | City Council Meeting                 |
| Tuesday             | August 27             | 5:30 p.m.  | Heritage Preservation Commission     |
| Wednesday           | August 28             | 12:00 noon | Hospital Commission                  |