

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 or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



05/22/2013



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE – Lot lines and other stuff.....

The other day one of my long time neighbors and friends stopped by my office

as he was headed to the Building Department to get things going for a new garage. He had done his research about what setbacks he needed to meet and he had found his property pins so he had much of the basic info he needed to get the garage rolling. He had done a great job of being ready to go.

It reminded me of a question I get on a regular basis. That question is "Why should I find the lot pins and lot lines and why doesn't the City do it?"

That is one of those things that need to be done by a surveyor to demonstrate in the future that you built where you were supposed to. Even if you and your neighbor are best friends and never worry about things like lot lines, a mistake in finding those lines can come back to haunt you when your house is sold or if you have a falling out with the neighbor.

Among other things if your new garage is built on property you do not own, your mortgage company and any future buyer's mortgage company are going to have a problem with that. There are many other reasons that it is important to get that information correct - like setbacks for fire safety. When houses are built too close together, the intense heat or fire can more readily affect the neighboring property by not just causing property damage, but also injury or fatalities. We also need green space for water drainage, utilities, and other purposes.

Therefore, when you look to make an improvement which is likely costing you money, make sure you have done your research so you

can make good decisions not just for today, but for the future.

If you have questions or need more information on setbacks, lot lines, and why this information is needed before you build, please feel free to give the Building Department (934-0662) or Community Development Department (934-0661) a call.

Whew, lots of planning is needed. It makes me wonder....

CLICK IT OR TICKET ENFORCEMENT – The Saint Peter Police Department is joining with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) for a Click It or Ticket campaign. In Saint Peter, additional officers will be out May 22nd and May 29-30, 2013 to provide extra enforcement of the State's seat belt laws. (Statewide, extra officers will be out now through June 3rd.)

Many people can't imagine what it is like to be in an accident. The DPS has created a great commercial which is available on their website that gives a little better insight....

<http://rockthebelt.org/clickit/>



Memorial Day starts the busy summer travel season in Minnesota and between road construction, weary travelers, distracted drivers, deer crossing the road, and all sorts of other obstacles, it's more important than ever to buckle up. And don't forget your passengers....everyone in the vehicle is required to be buckled up or in a secured child safety seat.

According to the Department of Public Safety website, spring months have the highest percentage of unbelted teen deaths. There were 30 teen motor vehicle occupant deaths in April, May and June during the past three years and 63%

of those killed were not buckled up. Parents are encouraged to reinforce safe driving habits for their children during prom season and the end of the school year.

Keep your family safe, teach everyone to buckle up and remember the phrase....Click it.....or ticket!

CITY OFFICES CLOSED – All non-emergency City offices, the Community Center and the Public Library will be closed on Monday, May 27th for the Memorial Day holiday. (The Community Center and Library will also be closed Saturday May 25th through Memorial Day.)



Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, May 28th.

The City Council meeting scheduled for Monday evening will take place on Tuesday, May 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center.

FINE FREE FRIDAYS – A new program will give Saint Peter library patrons a chance to have fines forgiven and return late books and other materials without penalty. Designed to encourage those with overdue material to make returns, Fine Free Fridays will kick-off on Friday, May 31st.

Those with overdue library materials will be eligible to have their fines waived if the items are returned on the last Friday of the month following the item's due date. However, these items need to be brought into the Library, not put into the book drop.

Although Fine Free Friday is an "amnesty" program that encourages library patrons to bring back overdue items without penalty, patrons will be responsible for fines on materials previously returned. Patrons will also be required to pay fines on any materials checked out from any other community in the Traverse des Sioux Library System.

So, if you have overdue materials, mark the following Fine Free Fridays on your calendar: Friday, May 31st, Friday, June 28th, July 26th, August 30th, September 27th, October 25th, and December 27th.

PEDDLERS NEED LICENSES - Summer is the season for door to door peddlers. Those who choose to pursue this profession are required to be licensed by the City of Saint Peter if they go door to door in residential areas. Each person going to a private residence must have a City permit in his/or her own name and they must carry the permit with them at all times. Residents are encouraged to ask to see

the permit before inviting the individual into their home or placing an order. And don't let them fool you.....some folks will try and claim that they don't need a City license because they have a permit from the State of Minnesota or the USDA or anyone else. Even if that is the case, they still need a City license!

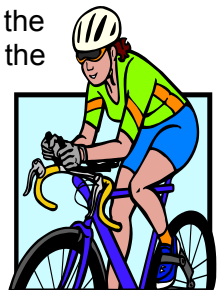
City licenses or permits are required to protect the citizens of our community from unscrupulous sales persons. To receive the permit, the individual has to go through a background investigation and must provide a \$1,000 bond which can be used by residents who may sustain individual loss by means of fraud, artifice, trick or other means of theft practiced by the vendor.

Exceptions to this rule are newsboys, sale of farm or garden products, sales of admissions by local school students to a school function, solicitations for philanthropic, religious, educational charitable causes, and mobile sales within the public right-of-way of ice cream or frozen confections. Peddlers are restricted to selling only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Each year the Police get quite a few calls about unlicensed people selling everything from magazines, uninspected meats, insurance, jewelry, carpet cleaners, educational books and other items. If you are approached by a peddler/solicitor who is unable to produce a City permit, please feel free to contact the Police Department at 931-1550 and provide a description of the person....type of car they are driving, license plate, what they are wearing, male/female, young/old, etc.... Even if you can't provide a good description, knowing the area they are operating in may be enough to put a stop to their peddling without a license.

If you remember nothing else about the Peddler regulations, please remember this....if you don't want a peddler in your home (whether they have a permit or not), you are under no obligation to let them in!

BICYCLE SAFETY - Summer's here and that means an increased number of bicycles on the roads and sidewalks. This year, the price of gas has also pushed more people towards their bikes and for many of us who haven't been on a bike in a while, a few safety tips might be helpful. These tips are provided by McGruff.org.....



Riding a bike can be fun, if you know how to stay safe. But if you don't follow the rules, it can be dangerous. To be safe on your bike, follow these tips:

- Always wear a helmet and fasten it. Helmets protect your head, and in many states it's illegal not to wear one!
- Wear bright clothing so drivers and other bikers can see you.
- If you want to ride after dark, ask an adult for permission (or to ride with you) and remember to put reflectors on your clothes, helmet, and bike. Adults should wear the reflectors also!
- Obey the rules of the road. Bikers must stop at all stop signs and traffic lights and use turning signals, just like cars.
- Ride on the right hand side of the road, in the same direction as traffic.
- Look both ways. Most crashes happen at intersections or driveways so be on the lookout for people who may not see you.
- Ride on bike trails, roads with little traffic or in parks. If you do come to a busy road, walk your bike across intersections at a crosswalk.
- Keep your bike tuned up. You don't want to get a flat tire far away from your house!
- Protect your bike. Lock it up or keep it in a safe place when you're not using it. Don't leave your bike out in your yard because someone just might come along and ride away with it. Also, don't leave your bike in an unlocked garage.
- Ride with friends. It's more fun and you have someone to help you if you need it.

And don't forget to register your bike at the Police Department. The cost is only \$1.00 and it may help get your bike back if lost or stolen. The information from the bike is entered into a nation-wide database and if your bike is stolen and recovered somewhere else, the Saint Peter Police Department will be contacted for information on the owner. What a deal for only \$1!

GARBAGE COLLECTION - Memorial Day is one of the



holidays that will impact the City's garbage collection. Everything will be delayed by one day the week of May 27th. If your normal collection day is Monday your collection will be Tuesday...if Tuesday is your collection day pickup will be Wednesday and

so on.

And just for future reference, the other holidays that may impact garbage collection are the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

A side note for City refuse customers..... Garbage must fit in the curbie with the lid closed. If the lid doesn't close or if you have excess garbage sitting next to the container, the Waste Management driver will not collect it. Residential refuse customers with excess garbage, may purchase pink collection bags from the Finance Department at City Hall or Arrow Ace Hardware.

If you consistently have large amounts of recycling that don't fit in the recycling curbie, the City is happy to provide a bigger (90 gallon) curbie or an additional recycling container at no extra cost.

For more information on residential garbage or recycling collection in Saint Peter, please contact the Finance Department at 934-0664.

ADOPT A PARK - Did you know the City has an "Adopt-A-Park" program? With the 768.88 acres of parkland owned by the City, it is tough for the Parks crew to keep up with all the debris that sometimes accumulates in the City's parks.

Through this program, individuals, families, groups, or organizations "adopt" a specific park, and twice a year, they gather to pick up trash and litter in the park.

Groups/individuals adopting parks are asked to pick up all litter within the park a minimum of twice a year (Earth Day and during the second or third week of August). They are also asked to clean park buildings, structures, signs and or playgrounds, including washing, raking sand, pea rock or wood chips. Groups also take note of any broken or loose park items such as picnic tables, benches, loose fencing, playground equipment, broken tree branches, or other problems and notify Public Works of the location of these problems. (Public Works makes the repairs!)



As part of the program, the City provides the group with gloves, garbage bags, rakes and other necessary hand equipment or materials. The City funds and provides one sign for placement in the park that is installed by the City staff to identify the group that adopted the park.

Most of the City's parks have already been adopted, but two of the largest parks remain unclaimed...the Mill Pond area of Riverside Park, and the Riverside Park extension.

If you are part of a group that would like to help out our community by putting in just a few hours of work a couple of times a year, please contact the Public Works Department (934-0670) to sign up to adopt one of these parks. It's a two year

commitment, but a wonderful opportunity to do something helpful for the Saint Peter community.

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of May 13, 2013 included award of the bid for the air pollution control equipment project for the electric generation plant; approval for purchase of a new in-car video system for the Police Department; award of the bid for the 2013 North Third Street Improvement Project; approval for City assistance for the Relay For Life and the Ambassador's Bluesfest events; approval for modification to the Fire Relief Association bylaws; approval for execution of a memorandum of understanding with School District #508 for provision of services for youth development; approval for execution of a statement of understanding between the City and School District #508 for a joint committee; and approval of business license applications.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Tuesday, May 28th 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.

SURPLUS PROPERTY AUCTION - The City has once again listed surplus property on the Minnesota Department of Administration online auction website for sale to the public. (<http://www.fss.state.mn.us/SurplusServices.html>)

This auction includes radios for which the City no longer has any need as well as seized and found items that no longer have to be kept for court purposes. Bidding is open to anyone who has registered through the site. Bidding on these items will close on May 24th.

GARAGE SALE SIGNS - With the weather finally warming up, garage sale season has officially begun in Saint Peter. To stay in compliance with the City's sign regulations, there are a few things to keep in mind when placing garage sale signs to advertise the event.

The City Council has allowed garage sale signs to be placed in the City owned boulevard along the public streets without the need for a sign permit. However, the sign cannot be located in a manner that creates a traffic hazard or impedes intersection

visibility. Signs which create such hazards will be removed by City crews.

Also, State Statute is very clear that no signage may be attached, hung or placed on any of the City's stop signs, light poles, utility boxes or other similar structures. Signs placed on the municipal infrastructure will be removed by City crews and will be disposed of.

Finally, please be a good steward of the community and retrieve your sign at the conclusion of the garage sale.



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT -

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under the Consumer Confidence Rule, requires public water suppliers to send out information about the

City's water quality to the public.

The City of Saint Peter does this through issuance of an annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The CCR summarizes information regarding sources used (i.e., rivers, or aquifers) and any detected contaminants, compliance and educational material.

The City's 2012 CCR report is available online at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/WaterReport>. For those without internet access, paper copies of the report will be provided upon submission of a request to the Public Works Department at 934-0670.

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

- **HOSPITAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER** - River's Edge Hospital and Clinic in Saint Peter, Minnesota. River's Edge Hospital and Clinic is a 17 acute care bed facility with two clinic locations in St. Peter and Le Center. Successful candidates will have leadership, long range strategic planning skills and have experience in managing a budget process, planning net revenue and cash flow to ensure financial viability. Interested candidates are asked to visit the Hospital's website at www.riversedgehealth.org and click on the career tab, CEO Position Profile to submit an online application. Applicants must **also** submit a resume to barbaral@saintpetermn.gov. Applications and resumes will be accepted through May 31, 2013. For more information contact Jackie Kimmet, Rivers Edge Director of Human Resources at 507-934-7604 or City Administrator Todd Prafke at 507-934-0663.
- **WASTEWATER FOREMAN** in the Department of Public Works. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

High school diploma or equivalent and six years of responsible experience in the operation of a Class A, B, or C system or facility, or a similar industrial facility or 64 semester credits in college courses related to chemical, civil, environmental, mechanical, or sanitary engineering or in business or public administration and four years' experience in the operation of a Class A, B, or C system or facility, or similar industrial facility; Possession of a State of Minnesota Class A Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certificate, or a combination of experience and education to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; Possession of a State of Minnesota Type IV Waste Disposal Certificate or experience and education to obtain 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 six months 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 of the date of employment with the City. DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS: Knowledge of the principles, practices, equipment, and chemicals used in wastewater treatment, pumping, and biosolids operations; Demonstrated experience in performing a wide variety of tests on wastewater and biosolids operations; Demonstrated knowledge of the principles of plumbing and hydraulics; Demonstrated knowledge of and experience in

operation of computerized Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system; experience in supervising the work of others; Knowledge of water utility principles, practices, and equipment; Knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of the trade; Demonstrated experience in operation of a variety of wastewater plant pumping, treatment, and control equipment; Demonstrated ability to diagnose problems under emergency conditions and take corrective action; Demonstrated knowledge and experience in the operation of equipment including but not limited to backhoes, trenchers, dump trucks, jet rodder machine, tanker trucks, sewer line TV camera, and line locators. 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 \$27.33 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 Thursday, May 30, 2013. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted Thursday, June 6, 2013 and/or Friday June 7, 2013. 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.

Thursday	May 23	12:00 noon		Economic Development Authority
Friday	May 24	8:00 a.m.		Tourism and Visitor's Bureau
Monday	May 27			MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed
Tuesday	May 28	7:00 p.m.		City Council Meeting
Wednesday	May 29	12:00 noon		Hospital Commission
Wednesday	May 29	5:30 p.m.		Heritage Preservation Commission
Monday	June 3	3:30 p.m.		Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	June 3	5:30 p.m.		City Council Workshop Session
Tuesday	June 4	5:30 p.m.		Planning and Zoning Commission

Monday	June 10	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission
Monday	June 10	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	June 11	5:30 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	June 17	5:30 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	June 17	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	June 24	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	June 24	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	June 25	12:00 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	June 26	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	June 27	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau