

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



10/13/2021



P.A.W.S. WALK CHANGES – Regular PAWS walk participants have most likely wondered why they have heard nothing about this year's fundraising event. Hang on to your leashes folks because we have some big

news!

After the 20th annual walk last year, the Police Department has decided to change things up. While there will be an online costume contest (more on that later in this article), the new fundraiser for PAWS will be a spring PAWS Carnival at the Thompson Dog Park. The event will take place in April or May and will feature fun for the whole family and your pets with pet related vendors, demonstrations, live music, food, and even a walk to honor our PAWS Walk tradition!

The PAWS Walk was a wonderful fall tradition that often was scheduled around any number of other equally fun fall traditions. Moving the event to a new location and a new time of year will hopefully attract even more families and raise even more money to help lost, abandoned and injured animals.

Now back to that costume contest. One of the best parts about the twenty years of PAWS walks is seeing the amazing Halloween costumes for pets and people alike and so we'll be having an online costume contest. Submit a photo of your pet in costume by email to janett@saintpetermn.gov and make sure to include your pet's name. All photos will be posted on the P.A.W.S. Facebook page with the winner announced online at 12:00 noon on October 29th. The winner will also receive a prize!

Donations for PAWS are welcome any time of the year and can be dropped off at the Police Department (207 South Front Street). Thanks for your past participation in the PAWS Walk and we'll see you in the spring!

FALL LEAF COLLECTION BEGINS! – The City will be starting curbside leaf and grass collection for properties north of Broadway Avenue on Monday, October 18th. Collection will begin for properties south of Broadway Avenue on Monday, November 1st. All materials must be out by 7:00 a.m. that Monday morning to be collected.

This process takes a very long time and to help our crews collection materials more efficiently (which saves all of us money), please follow the tips below.

1. Place leaves parallel and adjacent to the curb on the lawn within six-feet (6') of the curb line.
2. Don't put leaves in the street, on a tarp, in bags or cover with tarps or branches.
3. Do not include animal waste with the leaves. If you do, the materials may not be collected.
4. Place your piles away from refuse curbies, light poles, mailboxes, signs, trees, posts, utility boxes/pedestals, etc. If crews can't get to it they may have to leave it.
5. Do not park on the street in front of the yard waste until pick-up is complete. If possible, allow fifty feet (50') on either side of the pile so the equipment, a tractor pulling a trailer with vacuum hose, has enough room to collect the materials.
6. If you live on a dead-end street, place materials on the curb in front of the house, not on the dead-end.
7. If you live on a corner lot it is possible that one side will be picked up before the other as the trucks run north to south and then east to west to be more efficient in the collection process. If

you want all of your leaves picked up at the same time, make sure your piles are on the same side of your property.

8. If you have a lawn service that rakes leaves or mows your lawn, please make them aware of the dates and these tips.

This is a great service that people take full advantage of, but the process takes several weeks (five in 2020) and that means crews must start before all trees have dropped their leaves and, depending on when the first snowfall arrives, sometimes must end prematurely. In order to be fair to all property owners, crews rotate which end of the community they begin with. This year the north end is the starting point.

If you miss the collection date in your area, yard waste can be taken to the City's yard waste drop-off site at 1128 North Swift Street, (southwest intersection of St. Julien and Swift Streets) with access off West Swift Street. Remember you must have the orange pass to utilize the site which is open all day year round. Please make sure the branches are no more than six feet in length. There is also a separate bunker for dropping off fill (rocks, dirt, etc.).

The curbside collection and the drop-off site are both funded by the Environmental Service Fee on City utility bills.

FALL STREET SWEEPING

– The semi-annual rite of street sweeping has begun.

The City's Street crews sweep the streets twice a year, in the spring and fall, to prevent sand, leaves and dirt from entering the storm sewer system.



The work has already begun in areas north of Broadway Avenue and once completed, the crews will move to streets south of Broadway.

The process works better if those parked on the street can move the car until sweeping is completed. This allows crews to sweep the entire street width including the gutter.

One final note. If you see the street sweeper ahead of you, please take extra caution. Not only will the sweeper be working, but dump trucks will also occasionally be in the area as the materials collected are transferred from the sweeper to the truck for disposal.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and if you have more questions about this process, please contact the Public Works Department at 507-934-0670.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY – In the next couple of weeks Saint Peter children will engage in one of the most treasured traditions of childhood - Trick or Treating! This wholesome family activity brings back memories of our own childhoods, but things have gotten a bit more risky for kids these days. Children need to be wiser and more aware of their surroundings to be safe on Halloween. Here are some McGruff safety tips everyone in the family should be reminded of....



- Never, ever go into a stranger's house while trick or treating.
- Only ring the door of homes with lights on.
- Only cross streets at designated intersections. Never cross from between two parked cars. Drivers can't see little ones when they dart out from between a car.
- Covid may put lots of kids in masks this year, but even if they aren't wearing protective masks, children should wear makeup instead of bigger bulkier costume masks which can obstruct a child's vision. That will make it easier for the children to cross intersections and go up and down stairs.
- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls and other bumps in the night.
- Have your child carry a flashlight or glow-stick to help prevent the little ones from tripping over unseen obstacles in lawns. It also allows drivers a chance to see everyone from further away.
- Costumes may be highly flammable. Make sure to keep dresses or capes far away from any lit jack-o-lanterns on the steps of the homes you visit.
- Teach children not to sample their treats until they are home and mom and dad can look through the candy first. Unopened candies or other treats that are in original wrappers are the best bet.



- Older children who may be going out with friends should let parents know where they are going and who they are going with.
- Homeowners can prepare for trick or treaters by turning on exterior lights, removing objects from yards that might present a hazard and making sure that pumpkins are lit with glow sticks or other non-flammable sources.

Using a little common sense on Halloween night will help make the evening fun for all.



ELECTION NEWS – If you are not registered to vote you have now missed the deadline to pre-register. But don't worry. Minnesota is one of the very few states that allow Election Day registration and you'll be able to register in person on Election Day (November 2nd).

If you have never registered, have moved or have changed your name you'll need to register to vote before casting a ballot. Election Judges will be available in each of the polling places to help with this process, but each voter will need to bring one or more of the acceptable proofs of residence in order to complete the process. There are several options available and you can see the entire list at the Secretary of State's website at <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/media/3946/election-day-registration-2020.pdf>

Anyone wishing to vote by absentee ballot who lives in School District #508, may do so until the end of the day on November 1st at the Public Service Office in the Nicollet County Government Center. If you choose to vote by absentee ballot, please don't delay. If ballots are returned by mail they must be received by the Government Center by no later than 3:00 p.m. on Election Day. Standard office hours for this department are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is also open for absentee voting the Saturday before an election from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and until 5:00 p.m. on the evening before the election.

For questions on absentee voting, please contact the County at 507-934-7806

RIVER'S EDGE HOSPITAL EDGE RECOGNITION - On September 24th, River's Edge Hospital was awarded the Performance Excellence Network PENWorks Achievement Award. The award recognizes the Hospital's work in quality improvement using the Malcom Baldrige National Quality Award Framework. The Award is based on a rigorous evaluation of an organization's management and performance system using criteria

including leadership, strategic planning, customer-related processes, measurement and knowledge management, workforce, and operations.

"It is a privilege to be recognized by PEN. Our Mission is to provide world class care to the patients that we serve. Our partnership with PEN assists us in achieving that Mission. Based on the feedback from the evaluators, we focus on our strengths, but even more so on the opportunities for improvement. We consider the feedback an opportunity to continue to raise the bar and in effect provide a higher quality of care for our patients, a great work environment for our staff, and a hospital that our community can be proud of," Paula Meskan, CEO at River's Edge Hospital said.

"I would like to recognize each member of the River's Edge team. All of our employees are vitally important to the success of the organization. I am extremely proud of the work that these people do every single day. This past year has been challenging to say the least, but they show up, they provide quality care, and they make each patient visit the best experience possible."

Congratulations to River's Edge Hospital on this prestigious award!

MORE RIVER'S EDGE HOSPITAL NEWS – City Administrator Prafke and Public Works Director Moulton presented a large rebate check to River's Edge Hospital CEO Paula Meskan and Facilities Manager Tom Rauchman last week.

Working with our partners at Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, the City continues to provide rebates for energy savings projects to residential and business customers. The energy savings from projects at River's Edge saved 451,209 kWh.

The \$51,920.50 rebate to River's Edge is the most recent in the \$252,407.81 in rebates provided to City utility customers just this year.

For more information on how you can earn rebates for energy savings projects, please visit www.saveenergyinstpeter.com.



CITY MEETING CALENDAR ***PLEASE NOTE...Until further notice, City meetings may be conducted electronically as authorized under Minnesota Statutes 13D.021. Log-in information for meetings being held either virtually or as a hybrid virtual/in-person will be included at the bottom of the agenda page. Agendas are all posted on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov.

Monday	October 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	October 18	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Friday	October 22	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	October 25	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	October 26	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	October 27	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	October 28	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Monday	November 1	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	November 2		GENERAL ELECTION DAY
Thursday	November 4	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	November 8	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	November 8	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 9	5:30 p.m.	Library Board
Thursday	November 11		VETERAN'S DAY LEGAL HOLIDAY – City offices closed
Monday	November 15	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	November 15	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday	November 24	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday-Friday	November 25- November 26		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – City offices closed
Friday	November 26	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	November 29	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 30	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission