

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

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BIKE SAFETY RODEO – Yee-haw! It's time for the fourth annual Bike Safety rodeo sponsored by Saint Peter Police Department and River's Edge Hospital and Clinic.

This year's event takes place Saturday, May 18th from 10:30 am. – 12:30 p.m. at the River's Edge Hospital and Clinic Hospital parking lot.



There will be free bike licensing, free bike helmets for kids 17 and younger (quantities are limited and will be provided on a first come/first serve basis), a bike safety course, lots of free fun stuff, training on bike maintenance, free lunch and fun for the entire family. Hope to see you there!

FOOD WASTE COMPOST PROGRAM - The City of Saint Peter is happy to announce the creation of a Food Waste "Green" Composting program. Starting June 3, 2019, the City will offer drop-off site Food Waste Composting to residential customers at two locations where specially signed containers will be provided:

- The current yard waste compost facility just off North Swift Street adjacent to the National Guard Armory.
- The overflow parking area of Jefferson Fields.

This great program comes at no additional cost for City residential refuse customers and has the added benefit of possibly reducing the size of your refuse curbie to save additional money too.

The program is easy....

- Send an email to sallyv@saintpetermn.gov indicating your name, property address and phone number. In return you'll receive a code that allows you to open the food waste compost dumpster at the collection site. Remember that code. We are asking for sign up and using the code so that we can

communicate with you about future changes in the system, challenges we face, and amount of use. Our hope is to get a group of great users that can then help spread the word about the environmental and financial benefits of food waste composting.

- Once you've received your code, begin dropping off allowed food waste at either site. The containers are available 24-7, but remember, the site doesn't accept food in plastic bags. If you need to put the food waste in something, local retailers have compostable bags available for purchase.
- Then, once your food waste is in the container, simply lock it back up and that's it!

By offering this program, the City hopes to reduce waste going to the incinerator for waste to energy, see the use of these materials go to better environmental purposes, and, hopefully in the future, save a few dollars on overall disposal costs; not to mention making the world a better place for gosh sakes!

The list of acceptable products for food waste is shown below and will be included in a flyer in May utility bills:

 FOOD WASTE	 PAPER PRODUCTS
Baked Goods (Pastas, Bread, Cereal) Nuts, Shells, Grounds, Filters, Tea Bags Fruits, Vegetables, Peelings, Pits, Dairy Products (Yogurt, Cheese), and Meats (Bones, Fish)	Paper Bags, Food-Soiled Products, Pizza Delivery Boxes, Cardboard, Egg Cartons, Flour, Sugar Bags, Napkins, Paper Towels, Parchment, Wax Paper, Plates, Cups, Bowls, Utensils, Straws, and Certified Compostable: bpiworld.org/products.html

But not every type of product is accepted at this time. Some of the items we aren't able to accept include the following:



For more information on food composting, please check out this link for tips and tricks on the benefits of composting and look for more information from the City on backyard food waste composters:

<https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home#home>.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) – *For those of you that may be new to the HOT SHEET, this was a post from a few years back that I think is a good tale about*

community discourse for those who either sit in or seek leadership roles in a community.

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 of 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 kind where someone calls someone stupid, or some other less than kind name, but an impassioned, civil discussion about facts, focused on goals, coming to a solution that most can agree to. That’s a “good dust up”. A meeting where feelings are stepped on, where

civility is forgotten, where nasty words are exchanged, where people leave and know nothing was accomplished but an argument, where decisions are made by the loudest voice, and where understanding and consciousness building was not part of the discussion...that was a bad dust up.

As communities govern themselves through their elected officials, it is sometimes fun to see a bad dust up, watch the crash, see the mayhem that ensues, 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 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” helped issues come to a conclusion and helped people who were passionate about their position get their ideas out on the table which 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.....

PLANNING COMMISSION TIME CHANGE – Due to a conflict in meeting times, the May 2nd Planning and Zoning Commission meeting has been rescheduled to 7:00 p.m. that evening in the Governors' Room of the Community Center. Meeting agendas are available on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov.



SPRING YARD WASTE COLLECTION

- The City will collect branches, brush, and tree trimmings at curbside the week of May 6th. Staff will begin

collection at **7:00 A.M. Monday, May 6th.**

Here are some tips to facilitate and speed up the collection process:

1. Please place materials on the boulevard, parallel and adjacent to the curb within 6’ of the curb line.
2. Please do not put any materials in the street.
3. Brush and tree trimmings should be cut to lengths less than six feet.

4. Please help us serve you better by placing brush away from curbsides, light poles, trees, posts, mailboxes, utility boxes/pedestals, etc.
5. Please refrain from parking near (within 50') or in front of the yard waste until pick-up is complete.

It does take more than one day to pick up but we only go through an area once; therefore, if your yard waste is not out by 7:00 A.M. Monday, May 6th, it will not be picked up. Should you miss the collection, brush can be taken to the City's yard waste drop-off site.

There is no curbside collection for leaves and grass clippings in the spring, but if you have these materials, they can be taken to the yard waste drop-off site at 1128 North Swift Street. If these materials are left at curbside with the brush, they will not be picked up.

The yard waste drop-off site located at 1128 North Swift Street is open year around and, as with the curbside collection, brush and tree trimmings must be cut shorter than 6 feet. A separate bunker is provided for dropping off fill (rocks, dirt, etc.).

FREE woodchips and sifted compost material, when available, will be at the site for Saint Peter residents. While the material is free, please bring your own shovels, bags or containers to load and transport.

This service is provided and funded by the Environmental Service fee on City utility customer bills. For questions about these services, please contact Public Works at 934-0670.

FLUORESCENT BULB RECYCLING 2019- As a residential or small business customer (organized for profit and less than 20 full-time employees) of City of Saint Peter Municipal Utilities, you can bring your fluorescent lamps to the City Wastewater Treatment Facility, east



entrance, located at 400 West Saint Julien Street to be recycled: Wednesday, May 8th from 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Complete information below and bring with you when dropping the bulbs off. Never tape lamps together.



SCULPTURE GARDEN DEVELOPMENT - The City, working with Ann Rosenquist Fee of the Arts Center of St. Peter, is in discussion to develop a sculpture garden within Levee Park to feature the works of Paul T. Granlund who served as the Artist in Residence at Gustavus Adolphus College from 1971 to 1996. Mr. Granlund's sculptures are

displayed worldwide and the Gustavus Adolphus campus is dotted with examples of his artwork.

Along with Mr. Granlund's work, the sculpture garden park will showcase sculptures and artwork created by Granlund's former students and protégés which have been heavily influenced by his instruction and methods. A number of these artists have expressed interest in participating in the sculpture garden development given their respect and admiration for Mr. Granlund. Jonathan Granlund, the son of the artist, is serving as a conduit between the art community and the artist working group.

Preliminary plans call for repurposing a portion of Levee Park along the 100 block of South Front Street. This park is also the location of the Chamber of Commerce and an underutilized playground structure. Given its size and proximity to the Arts Center, Mill Pond area and businesses in the central business district, the site is ideal for attracting the public while allowing an opportunity to connect to the Minnesota River with the development of a scenic overlook or perhaps a pedestrian trail.

Saint Peter Architect Matt Byers, of the Practice of Lasting Art, Architecture and Design (PLAAD) firm, is donating his time, talents and services in the development of the sculpture garden design. Mr. Byers has met with the small planning group and led them through a process to conceptualize possible sculpture garden components and design elements.

Design work and development of a preliminary budget are underway. Once the costs have been determined, fund raising efforts will begin in earnest as the sculpture garden is intended to be privately financed through donations solicited from individuals, businesses, foundations and patrons of the arts.

Watch the Hot Sheet for more information as this project progresses.

HOUSE NUMBERS

REQUIRED - The Minnesota Fire Code, which has been adopted by the City Council, requires addressing of homes and businesses. The Code requires new and existing buildings to have address numbers that are visible from the street, in contrasting colors to the house/business colors, and a minimum of four inches (4") tall. This is helps emergency services like police, fire, and



ambulance, can find a location quickly. It also helps the pizza delivery person. If your home or business doesn't meet these requirements, please take action now to rectify the situation.

And for newer residents who might be transplants from southern states, the City does NOT allow address numbers to be painted on curbs. Not only is it not allowed, but it could be dangerous in the winter months when the curbs are covered with snow and emergency responders can't see the address.

FLIP YOUR FRIDGE – Got an old fridge? It's time to flip it! Recycle that old energy wasting refrigerator and replace it with a new ENERGY STAR®



certified model. You'll save energy and can save even more with a utility rebate.

The City offers rebates of \$25 on the purchase of ENERGY

STAR refrigerators, plus an additional rebate of up to \$50 to pay for recycling your old working fridge.

Rebate forms are available from area retailers and on the City's website at www.SaveEnergyInSaintPeter.com.

Refrigerators 15 years or older use twice as much energy as a new model. Replacing that old energy-wasting fridge with a new ENERGY STAR certified

model could save you more than \$300 in energy costs over the next five years.

Learn more and get guidance on choosing the right fridge for your home at www.energystar.gov/flipyourfridge.

“BATTLE OF THE BADGES” BLOOD DRIVE – If you've ever considered donating blood or if you're an old pro at it, please consider signing up to participate in the second annual “Battle of the Badges” blood drive sponsored by the St. Peter Police Department through the American Red Cross.

The drive takes place on Wednesday, May 8th from 1-7 p.m. in the Senior Center of the Community Center. To schedule your appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter “St. Peter BotB” to schedule your appointment.

During last year's Battle of the Badges, our very own Police Department won the competition with more people donating blood on behalf of our Officers than the Nicollet County Sheriff's Department's donors. We hope to extend that streak this year. It's all in good fun of course because the real winners are the people whose lives are saved by your donations.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR – For questions on meeting dates/times, please contact the City Administrator's Office at 934-0663. Full calendar available at www.saintpetermn.gov.

Thursday	May 2	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission (Please note... this is a new time for this meeting)
Monday	May 6	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	May 6	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	May 13	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday	May 15		 POLICE OFFICER MEMORIAL DAY
Thursday	May 16	5:30 p.m.	Board of Appeals
Monday	May 20	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	May 20	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Wednesday	May 22	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	May 23	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	May 24	9:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	May 27		MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY – City offices closed
Tuesday	May 28	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Meeting (location to be determined)
Tuesday	May 28	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting