

830 Whitewater Ave
St. Charles MN 55972
Phone 507-932-3020
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Www.stcharlesmn.org

CITY OF ST. CHARLES

CITY MATTERS



SUMMER 2020

Mayor

John Schaber

Council

members

David Braun

Wayne Getz

Craig Hilmer

David Kramer

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CITY MATTERS IS
PUBLISHED BY
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Hello St. Charles Residents. It has been a very strange time all over the world with the COVID-19 pandemic for what seems like a very long time. A lot of things have changed for many of us.

Over the last several weeks with City Hall remaining closed, staff truly appreciates everyone utilizing the outside Utility Box for payments and online Payments. We ask that everyone continue this practice. Cash customers are asked to get a money order and put their payment in the utility box. If cash must be used, no change will be provided, any change due will be credited to your utility account.

Inside the vestibule area of City Hall, an informational table will be placed for paper copies of various forms and information for residents. If visiting inside City Hall, we ask everyone to use proper social distancing to keep all of our guests, residents and staff safe and healthy.

Utility bills—As requested by the MN Public Utilities Commission, the City Council decided in March (2020) to waive late fees on City utility bills. Council again discussed the matter in May and extended the time of not charging penalty on utility bills through the end of July (2020). We still ask residents to communicate their circumstances with us so that we can either work with them to suggest organizations to contact for help in paying their bills or a payment arrangement can be made. Please note: utility bill payments are still required.

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Summer Reading at the Public Library A reading war is about to commence. The class with the most minutes read will get something special once school starts. We will be keeping track of the number of books read. After you reach 1000 minutes of reading, you will receive a treat. Library bingo is being offered. Weather permitting there will be story-time offered outdoors at the library. We are offering craft projects that may be picked up and done at home. Call the library (932-3227) with any questions.



2020 Upcoming Elections

Primary Election—
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2020
(Polls open—7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

Pre-registration deadline—
Tuesday, July 21, 2020
Absentee voting is open June 26th
thru Aug. 10th

General Election –
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020
(Polls open—7 am to 8 pm)
Pre-registration deadline—
Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2020

Absentee voting is open Sept. 18th
thru Nov. 2nd

Contact the County Auditor for
absentee ballots.

Filings open for City Municipal
Elections:
July 28, 2020 thru August 11,
2020

Mayor—two year term
Councilmember (2) - four year
term
Treasurer—four year term

Mel Brownell Family Aquatic Center will open July 6! Staff are working hard in preparation for a July 6 opening of the pool. Online registration for lessons and open sessions will be required. No exceptions will be made. Please check out the Park Rec tab at the top of the City website at www.stcharlesmn.org

Park/Rec. Activities

will start on July 6th. If you have not done so, sign up your child (ren) thru CivicRec and we will get them on a team. Changes have been made to these programs also. Please check out Facebook, City website and emails thru CivicRec.

City of St. Charles Clean Up Day - July 18th

City Cleanup Day will be Saturday, July 18 for City residents from 8 a.m.-noon at the City Shop located at 200 Northwoods Drive. Please have your ID ready to show before entering. Up to 20 car/pickup/ATV/bike tire per household can be disposed of by driving through the City Shop. Appliances will NOT be accepted at this location. You need to make arrangements to take them to Timm's Auto Salvage. NO COMPUTERS, TV'S OR OTHER ELECTRONICS WILL BE ACCEPTED! Watch the Public Access Channel, Facebook, and the Press and Advertiser for more information

Residential Swimming Pools

Summer is fast approaching and for some residents, the thought of a pool may be in your future. Please keep in mind that a permit may be required. If you are planning a pool that is more than 5,000 gallons of water and taller than 24 inches tall, a permit is required. Please remember that any water used to fill the pool will be charged both water and sewer, unless you have or would like to purchase a second water meter. Please contact City Hall for specifics.

Fences

Looking to build a fence this year? Please check out the city website <https://www.stcharlesmn.org/applications-documents-permits> under "Specialized" permits. There is a one time fee of \$25.00. If you have questions, please call City Hall at 932-3020.

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City Department contact information

City Hall - via phone at 507-932-3020 or at 830 Whitewater Ave, Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Police - 830 Whitewater Ave Non-Emergency - 507-932-4500 or 932-8020 - in case of Emergency 911
Public Library - 507-932-3227 or at 125 W. 11th St. Monday – Saturday
Senior Center - 507-932-4072 or at 830 Whitewater Ave



Grass/Weeds

City ordinance states that grass/weeds cannot be over 8 inches in length. Please be a good neighbor and keep your property mowed and trimmed (including around trees, fences, sheds). It is also important that you do not blow grass clippings into City streets; the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency states that grass clippings and other debris that clog city sewer pipes shall not be allowed to be discharged to the storm sewers which pollute streams and rivers.

Tree Planting

Thinking you would like to add a tree in the city boulevard? Please contact City Hall before planting anything in city boulevards. City code requires a minimum of 75 feet between any tree within the boulevard. If permission is not received prior to planting, in some instances, you may be required to remove those items. Please give us a call and let's work together.

Pet Licenses

The City is currently updating the ordinance for dog and cat licenses. All dog and cat licenses will now be called "Pet Licenses" and will be due September 30th of even numbered years. The fee will be \$20.00 with 50% reduction if you provide proof of neutering or spay of your pet. The city will be sending out notices to residents in July.

The City would like to remind pet owners that as a responsible owner, you are required to keep your pet on a leash and under your control whether on private or public property. In several locations, pet waste bags have been provided throughout the City to allow both residents and guests of the park system to clean up after your loved one. Please be respectful to all users of our park and trail systems by using these facilities.

Chickens

We have several residents that have or want to have chickens on their property. Our online permit outline the requirements and process for maintaining chickens within City limits. Three chickens are allowed on your property with the proper permit, but sorry, no roosters. <https://www.stcharlesmn.org/applications-documents-permits>. See Specialized Permits.Fence Permit

Looking to build a fence this year? Please check out the city website under Apps/Documents/Permits for the "Specialized" fence permit. There is a one time fee of \$25.00. If you have any questions, please call City Hall.

Building Permits

Do you have a project in mind at your property? Are you thinking of changing a furnace, your central air, a water heater, or replacing your windows, exterior doors, roof, installing a pool or even building a deck? Permits are required for most work. An online building permit application is available at <https://www.stcharlesmn.org/applications-documents-permits>. For any additional questions, please call City Hall and someone will be happy to help assist in determining the proper permit.

ATV, Golf Cart, UTV's

Required a permit. Forms are available at City Hall or you can go online to www.stcharlesmn.org.

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Appliance Drop Off @ Timm's Auto Salvage - Monday thru Friday (8 am - 4:30 pm)

936 West 12th Street, appliances will be accepted at no charge;

recycling rebates will be available from the City on the following: Refrigerator (13 cu. ft. +), Chest Freezer (6 cu. ft.+), Dehumidifier & Window Air-Conditioning Units

These appliances must be in working condition to receive a rebate.



Hazardous Waste?

Winona— Hazard Waste facility
225 West 2nd St 507-457-6405

Rochester—Olmsted Co. Recycling
center plus 305 Silver Creek Rd NE
Rochester 507-328-7070

Medications

Old or unused medications may
be dropped off at St. Charles
Police Dept. 830 Whitewater Ave.
Make sure all labels are blackened
out & bottles put into bag. Please
ring police dept. doorbell for
service.

Due to COVID-19 and the safety of our workers We ask residents to stay in their vehicles at all times

All residents are required to bring a Driver's License to ensure they are a City of St. Charles - Residential Utility Customer

**Saturday, July 18th 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
No materials will be accepted after 12 p.m.
City Shop/Compost Site - 200 Northwoods Dr.**

Tire Disposal Up to 20 tires per household ONLY car/pickup/ATV/bike tires (OFF the rims) accepted. Absolutely no tractor or semi tires

Household Drop Off Advanced Disposal Services will be providing household items* disposal at the Compost Site **ONLY**

***NOTE: No building or construction material, electronics (TVs/computers), large exercise equipment (treadmills), hazardous material, regular garbage or recyclables will be accepted at the Compost Site.**

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ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

*****ECRWSEDDM****

**Residential Customer
St. Charles, MN 55972**