

Medina Message

A Quarterly Newsletter of the City of Medina

www.ci.medina.mn.us

Summer 2007

Inside this issue:

Medina Celebration Day.....Pg. 1
 Watering Tips.....Pg. 1
 Volunteer Sprinkling Schedule.....Pg. 1
 Summer Ordinance Inspections.....Pg. 2
 Comprehensive Plan Update.....Pg. 2
 Environmental Assessment Program.....Pg. 2
 Facilities Master Plan Update.....Pg. 2
 City Septic System Monitoring Program.....Pg. 2
 Dutch Elm Disease.....Pg. 3
 Storm Water Pollution Prevention.....Pg. 3
 Broadcast & Web-Stream of Meetings.....Pg. 3
 National Night Out.....Pg. 3
 Citizen Leadership Academy.....Pg. 3
 Get to Know Your Police Department.....Pg. 4
 Safe Drive.....Pg. 4
 Hamel Road Improvements.....Pg. 5
 Solid Waste Collection.....Pg. 5
 New Businesses in Medina.....Pg. 5
 Commercial Dog Breeding.....Pg. 5
 Park/Nature Areas Named.....Pg. 5



City Calendar

- August**
- ▶ **2nd** Thurs—Recycling Day
 - ▶ **8th** Wed—City Council 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **14th** Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **15th** Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **16th** Thurs—Recycling Day
 - ▶ **21st** Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **30th** Thurs—Recycling Day

- September**
- ▶ **3rd** Mon—City Offices Closed (Holiday)
 - ▶ **4th** Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **11th** Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **13th** Thurs—Recycling Day
 - ▶ **18th** Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **19th** Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **22nd** Sat—Medina Celebration Day (Community Building)
 - ▶ **27th** Thurs—Recycling Day

- October**
- ▶ **2nd** Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **8th** Mon—City Offices Closed (Holiday)
 - ▶ **9th** Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **11th** Thurs—Recycling Day
 - ▶ **16th** Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **17th** Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm
 - ▶ **25th** Thurs—Recycling Day

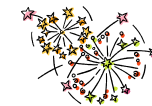
- ▶ All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise noted.
- ▶ Meeting agendas on web site when available

Volunteer Sprinkling Schedule May 1st through Sept. 30th

ODD addresses may water on ODD days only.
 EVEN addresses may water on EVEN days only.
 The day begins at midnight and ends at midnight.
 Make an effort to only sprinkle in the evening or morning.

Did You Know? Unnecessary sprinkling can cost you considerably. For example an average quarterly water bill without sprinkling is \$60 and an average quarterly water bill with sprinkling is \$244.

By voluntarily cutting back sprinkler usage, we will be heading off an emergency water situation and the need for a sprinkling ban.



Medina Celebration Day Saturday, September 22nd

The City of Medina and Volunteer Committee are once again sponsoring Medina Celebration Day, which is an annual community event to involve residents, businesses and civic groups of Medina. This event, which is dedicated to coming together as a community to celebrate Medina's past, present and future, will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2007 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Hamel Community Building and Hamel Legion Park, located at 3200 Mill Drive.

The Schedule of Events is as follows:

4:00-8:00 p.m. – a variety of activities may include: food vendors, bingo, petting zoo, lawn games, inflatable bounce toy, face painting and more activities yet to be determined.

6:00-8:00 p.m. - live music and/or talent show

7:00-8:30 p.m. - bonfire and s'mores

8:00 p.m. (or at dusk) - fireworks, provided by donations from the Medina businesses and residents, will finish out the day.

If you are interested in participating at the event or on the planning committee, donating, or have questions, contact Linda or Jodi at the City of Medina at (763) 473-4643.



Watering Tips to Save You Time AND Money

- Automatic sprinklers should have a timer and a moisture sensor.
- Have your sprinkler heads adjusted so that they don't water the sidewalks, driveway, or house.
- Water ONLY when the grass shows signs of stress (grass that is under stress doesn't spring back after you step on it.)
- Watering a little heavier and less frequently will allow roots to grow deeper, and they will be more resilient and less susceptible to dryer conditions.
- If you do not have an automatic sprinkler, you can purchase a hose timer for very little money at the local hardware store.
- PLEASE don't sprinkle in the rain.
- If you can, always water during the night hours or early morning; there is less wind, less evaporation, and better soaking down to grow deeper roots.
- Delay starting watering in the spring to allow the roots to grow deeper.
- Keep the grass longer; it will hold water better and dry out slower. Longer grass also creates more shade, making it harder for weeds to get established in the yard.
- There is nothing wrong with letting the lawn go dormant in dry weather; it will turn green when it gets wet again.
- Install a rain barrel to catch water from downspouts for watering flowers, gardens and lawns.



www.ci.medina.mn.us

City Hall Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Telephone Numbers

City Hall.....763-473-4643
 Fax.....763-473-9359
 Police emergency.....911
 non-emergency 763-473-9209

Official Newspaper

South Crow River News
 33 2nd Street NE , Box 280
 Osseo, MN 55369
 Telephone Number: 763-425-3323

Mayor

Tom Crosby612-766-8605

City Council

Carolyn Smith 763-475-1003
 Daniel Johnson..... 763-473-0744
 Elizabeth Weir 763-473-3226
 Joe Cavanaugh.....763-473-3828

City Administrator

Chad M. Adams....763-473-4643
 e-mail:
 chad.adams@ci.medina.mn.us

City Council Meetings

First & third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

Mary A. Verbick, Chair
 Jeff Pederson
 Charles Nolan
 Doug Dickerson
 Mark Bryant
 Robin Reid
 Sharon Johnson

Planning Commission Meetings

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Park Commission

Ann Thies, Chair
 Madeleine Linck
 Brian Kingsley
 Galen Bruer
 Gerald Dykoff
 Ben Benson
 Bob Pastor

Park Commission Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Newsletter Editor

City Administrator
 Chad M. Adams

Other Contributors

Jodi Wunsch

Planning and Environment



Summer Ordinance Inspections

During the summer months, City of Medina staff will be conducting general code inspections throughout the community. Staff will be looking for code violations such as:

- Inoperable or unlicensed vehicles
- Accumulation of rubbish or garbage on property
- Zoning ordinance regulations such as unauthorized commercial uses, structure location and size, and pool fence requirements
- Illegal and/or unauthorized dumping or grading activities
- Signs in the public right-of-way
- Noxious weeds on private property
- Conditions of structures that are a danger to public safety

During these inspections, staff may be walking or driving slowly through your neighborhood. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the City at (763) 473-4643. Thanks in advance to all residents for your cooperation in keeping Medina a clean and beautiful place to live!

Environmental Assessment Program Availability from Hennepin County

The City of Medina is accepting applications from property owners along the Highway 55 Corridor that are interested in conducting a Phase I and Phase II Environmental Assessment of their property. Hennepin County is awarding 100% funding of the environmental assessments along Highway 55 as long as they meet the following preliminary conditions:

1. The property should be located near or adjacent to Highway 55
2. The property is expecting to develop or re-develop in the next two to three years.

If an application is approved for a Phase I assessment, a study and report will be completed that will demonstrate if there is a need to conduct a Phase II assessment. If the Phase II assessment warrants clean-up, Hennepin County also has program funding available for such projects. Amount of funding may vary depending on scope of clean-up necessitated.

Please contact Office Assistant Jodi Wunsch at City Hall for application details.

Applications will continue to be reviewed until funding is exhausted.

City Septic System Monitoring Program Extend the life of your system and protect the environment!



The City of Medina will be beginning a Septic System Inspection program over the next year. All rural properties with individual septic systems will be responsible for having their system pumped and inspected once every three years, beginning this year. Septic system experts suggest that systems that are pumped every few years last longer before needing to be replaced and are less likely to fail.

If you have a septic system, be checking your mailbox for more information and the report which will need to be filled out and returned to City Hall! If you have any questions on the program, please contact Dusty Finke, Assistant to Planning at dusty.finke@ci.medina.mn.us or (763) 473-4643.

Comprehensive Plan Update

The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Panel continues to discuss a draft land-use and staging plan, as well as infrastructure plans, parks/trails plan and open space plan. The Panel will be forwarding their recommendations to the Planning Commission for formal review. Prior to holding the formal public hearing before the Planning Commission, an Open House will be scheduled.

The Panel's meeting of Monday, July 23 was not yet held at time of print of this newsletter, but the Panel was intending to discuss the upcoming timeline of an Open House, Planning Commission public hearing, or more Advisory Panel meetings. Please contact City Hall or the City's website for more information on upcoming meetings.

An Open House is tentatively targeted for August or September. The Planning Commission public hearing is tentatively targeted for September or October.

Facilities Master Plan Update

On July 3rd, the City Council accepted a Facilities Master Plan report that was prepared by contracted consultant Kodet Architectural Group, Ltd and a Citizen's Advisory Committee consisting of Medina residents Bob Mitchell, Beth Nielsen, Marilyn Fortin, Diane Rouillard-Jubert, and Jeff Garthwait.

The Facilities Plan demonstrates the needs for a new public works facility at a new site location. Future needs for City Hall and Police Department facilities are also addressed in the plan. City Hall and Police Department facilities would remain at the existing site location.

City staff will be recommending a plan to the City Council in the next several weeks that will identify a process to search for land for the public works facility. The recommended process will also address options for financing potential land acquisition as well as a new facility.

The Facilities Master Plan Executive Summary is available for review on the City's website. A full copy of the report may be viewed at City Hall. Please contact City Administrator Chad M. Adams with any questions.

Public Works and General Info.

Hamel Road Improvements

The preparation of a feasibility study for Phase II of the Uptown Hamel public improvements was requested at the July 17 City Council meeting. The feasibility report will identify the project costs for public improvements to Hamel Road, from Brockton Lane to Hunter Drive.

Scope of the improvements for Hamel Road to be identified in the feasibility report will include: reconstruction of Hamel Road, burying of electric utilities, decorative street scaping, and sidewalks. The goal is to meet a pedestrian friendly design for the Hamel Road improvements.

Prior to the feasibility report being completed, the City will be soliciting public input from the community. No dates have been scheduled for the meetings.

The feasibility report is intended to provide the Council with more detailed information on the ability to complete the improvements. Special assessments and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) were both utilized to fund the Phase I improvements (Mill Drive, Sioux Drive and area storm sewer). Both special assessments and TIF would be considered as funding sources if the project moves forward.

The Council is expected to formally discuss the report and next steps, which could include preparation of plans and specs for the project, in November 2007.

City Welcomes New Businesses to Medina

A number of new businesses have opened their doors in Medina within the last few months. The City would like to welcome them all to Medina.

- Jackson Hewitt – 312 Clydesdale Trail
- Anytime Fitness – 5145 County Road 101
- Wells Fargo – 330 Clydesdale Trail
- Wine Styles – 314 Clydesdale Trail
- Kevin Nordby, Building Contractor - 716 Tower Drive
- JCM, Inc. – 712 Tower Drive
- Borders Tile & Stone - 735 Tower Drive
- Ultimate Karate - 145 Hamel Road
- Great Clips – 310 Clydesdale Trail
- Jimmy's Pizza – 212 Clydesdale Trail #1010 (Coming Soon!)



Park/Nature Areas Named

The City Council recently accepted the recommendations to name three park and nature areas in the City. "Medina Lake Preserve" will represent the area donated by the Bridgewater at Lake Medina subdivision. The Preserve is located on the south side of Medina Lake. "Rainwater Nature Area" includes the area just west of Uptown Hamel, at the intersection of Hamel Road and Hunter Drive. The Nature Area currently encompasses storm water ponding, a wetland and will include foot trails and native plantings in the future. "Hidden Lake Sanctuary" was named to define the area surrounding a lake just east of Camp Iduhapi in Medina (south of County Road 11 and west of County Road 19).

Solid Waste Collection



Request for Proposals (RFP's) will soon be sent out to area haulers to receive competitive bids for solid waste collection in the City. The City currently has three districts in the City, two of which are served by Randy's Sanitation and the third district being served by Veolia Environmental Services. The agreements with both haulers expire at the end of this year.

In addition to considering new services for solid waste collection, the City will be seeking optional bids from the haulers to provide recycling services and organics collection services. The City is seeking grant funding from Hennepin County to implement the organics program.

The City will be reviewing proposals this fall and will be making a decision on the haulers to serve the three districts of the community. The City's website includes a geographic tool that identifies the three districts.



Commercial Dog Breeding & Kennel License Regulations

Section 330.07 of the Medina City Code declares it a public nuisance to harbor "three or more dogs, four months old, unless a Private Kennel license is obtained. A private kennel is defined as "a dwelling or parcel of land in or upon which three or more dogs, four months old, are kept as pets and not for selling, boarding, breeding, showing, treating, grooming or commercial purposes."

As explained in the definition above, under no circumstances can commercial dog breeding be allowed in the City of Medina. In the event dogs are bred in the City, they have to be given away within four months and can not be sold.

Public Safety

Get to Know Your Police Department

The Police Department is responsible for the Public Safety of the community with its motto being to Serve & Protect. The department can be broken down into three general divisions which are Administration, Investigation, and Patrol.

Administration

This department oversees all daily operations including preparing reports, processing information for court, records management, responding to the public, administering hunting & burning permits, and various other office support functions.

Investigation

This department has recently expanded into a full time position. Its main functions are to investigate cases and conduct background checks for hiring processes.

Patrol

This is the largest division with seven full time patrol officers and two part time community service officers. The patrol officers respond to numerous calls related to emergencies and traffic accidents; they also direct traffic, enforce traffic, and educate. Another one of their major roles is crime prevention through neighborhood watch programs, house checks, and operation identification. The community service officers are responsible for animal control, ordinance enforcement, assisting patrol officers in directing traffic, facilitating equipment repairs and restock, and community events such as the Annual Bike Rodeo and National Night Out.



Police Staff

Police Chief Edgar Belland
Sergeant Jason Nelson
Investigator David Hall
Police Assistant Cec Vieau
Officer Chris McGill
Officer Kevin Boecker
Officer Keith Converse
Officer Tom Gregory
Officer John Vinck
Officer Charmane Domino
Officer Jeremiah Jessen
CSO Nick Marohnic
CSO Jameson Ritter
Transcriptionist Anne Klaers Grothe

City Welcomes Three New Employees to the Police Department

The City of Medina is pleased to welcome Jeremiah Jessen as a new Patrol Officer, Jameson Ritter as the new Community Service Officer, and Anne Klaers Grothe in a newly created role as the Transcriptionist. Jeremiah and Jameson both began their duties on July 9th. Anne will be starting on August 6th.



Safe Drive - Is Your Vehicle Ready for Summer Heat? By: Wausau

Have you ever noticed during the summer months how many vehicles are broken down on the side of the road? Whether you drive a passenger car, van, pickup truck or sport utility vehicle, the intense summer heat can take a toll on your vehicle. When the outside temperature is 82 degrees, the road surface can reach 120 degrees. As the outside temperature rises, so does the road surface temperature, which can have an increasingly adverse effect on your vehicle and lead to a roadside breakdown.

Hear are a few tips to help you ensure your vehicle is prepared for those long, hot summer days:

- Many dealerships and local auto repair facilities offer a summer tune up special. Take your vehicle in, and have it inspected and serviced by a professional.
- Check your engine oil on a regular basis. We suggest checking the oil each time you fill the gas tank.
- Have the oil changed regularly. Most people change the oil every 3,000 to 5,000 miles during the summer months. Check your vehicle operator's manual for the recommended oil change mileage.
- Check the tire pressure at least monthly with a quality tire pressure gauge. Check your operator's manual for the correct air pressure; do not always rely on the numbers on the tire sidewall. For best results, check the pressure when the tires are cold.
- Visually inspect the tires periodically, and if you notice any abnormal wear or vehicle vibration while driving, take the vehicle to a qualified maintenance facility.
- Have the tires rotated every 5,000 miles to ensure you get the best wear from the tires.
- Check all fluid levels on a regular basis. This includes automatic transmission, power steering, brake and coolant/antifreeze.
- Inspect belts and hoses for cracks, leaks or deterioration. Have them replaced at the first sign of problems.
- Watch for leaks under the vehicle; water dripping from air conditioner after use is normal.

These are just a few tips to help keep your vehicle in good operating condition so it can handle the summer heat. Always remember to be on the lookout for any changes in the vehicle's usual performance. It may be telling you something that should be checked out as soon as possible. You don't want to be one of those drivers whose vehicle is stalled on the side of the road.

Community Events and Education

Dutch Elm Disease

Dutch Elm has once again reared its ugly head. The City of Medina is asking residents to voluntarily clean up any diseased Dutch Elm trees on their property. The City brush pile is available to all Medina residents as a dump site for the diseased trees; and if you are going to have a commercial hauler, call and let the City know.

The first evidence of the disease generally is wilting in one or more of the upper branches. Leaves on affected branches turn dull green to yellow and curl, then become dry and brittle, and turn brown. Some trees die several weeks after becoming infected; others wilt slowly and survive for a year or longer. Peeling bark from wilted branches reveals light to dark brown streaks or solid blue to gray discoloration of the wood beneath the bark.

If you are unsure whether your trees have the Dutch Elm Disease, feel free to call 763-473-4643 and someone from Public Works will be sent to inspect the trees.



Give Neighborhood Crime and Drugs a Going Away Party Tuesday, August 7, 2007



The Medina Police Department is looking for neighborhood volunteers to host National Night Out parties in their neighborhoods this August 7th. Hosting a party is easy; invite your neighbors and get to know one another. A party can consist of ice cream and beverages, to neighborhood BBQ pot lucks. If you are interested or would like to learn more, please call Officer Tom Gregory, 763-473-9209, or e-mail tom@ci.medina.mn.us. Neighborhoods that register their parties will receive a visit from a Medina Police Officer as well as a visit from the fire department. Register early to receive these visits.

Apply Now for the Citizens Leadership Academy This October

The City is hosting a Citizens Leadership Academy in October that will offer residents and business owners with an opportunity to learn more about the inter-workings of the City and the services we provide to the community. Four sessions will be conducted on the following dates and times at the Hamel Community Building:

Monday, October 8, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Monday, October 22, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Monday, October 15, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Monday, October 29, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Each session will focus on various topics and functions of City Government, including:

- **General Government (Overview of City organization, day-to-day administrative affairs, taxes, budgeting and finance)**
- **Public Works (Parks, Water, Sewer, Storm Water, Road).** A tour of a few facilities/locations will be included with this session.
- **Public Safety (Police, Fire, Emergency Preparedness)**
- **Planning, Zoning, Land-Use, Code Enforcement**

To register, simply complete an application and return to City Hall by August 31, 2007. There is no fee to register. Applications will be available at City Hall or on the City's website beginning August 1, 2007. The Academy will be limited to 30 persons.

Attendees who complete all four sessions will receive a Certificate of Completion and will be recognized by the City Council and local media.



REMEMBER Storm Water Pollution Prevention

Please take care of hazardous waste properly; what you dump down the storm drain ends up in our lakes and rivers. Remember also, when doing a private project, especially large projects, seed and use erosion control when top soil is being exposed.

Broadcast & Web-Stream of City Council Meetings

Since January 2007, regular meetings of the City Council have been and will continue to be broadcast on your Mediacom local government access channel. The meetings will be taped and aired according to a set schedule, and will not be aired via a live feed. The meetings are also available to web-stream at www.lmcc-tv.org.