



# In the Know in St. Joseph

CITY OF ST. JOSEPH



March 2021

## Spring Curbside Collection—**Sat. May 15th**

**NEW!!** The spring curbside collection will occur on Saturday, May 15th; beginning at 6:00 AM. *This is a change from prior years. Please have items out the night before.*

## Appliance & Electronic Dropoff—**Sat. May 15th**

The appliance & electronic drop-off will take place on Saturday, May 15th from 8:00 AM—Noon at the St. Joseph Government Center. There is a limit of two items per household.

## Facility Reservations

City facilities are available to rent. Centennial Park Shelter is available May 1st—Sept. 30th. Millstream, Wobegon and the Fire Hall Community Room are available year-round. Peak weekends are filling up fast. Call City Hall 320-363-7201 or check the city website for availability. The daily rental rate is \$100 plus a \$200 damage deposit.



## Fire Mitigation & Spring Safety Tips

- Daylight Savings Time begins March 14th. This is a great time to check smoke detector batteries and replace if necessary. There should be a smoke detector in every bedroom and at least on every level of your home.
- Check fire extinguishers and recharge if needed
- Inspect gas grills, including gas hoses & propane tanks prior to use.
- Review your family's Fire Escape Plan
- Store fuel for lawn & garden equipment, pesticides, and chemicals in a safe/approved container and out of the reach of children.

## Mark Your Calendars

April 2nd—City Offices Closes at Noon

April 16th—Tornado Drills at 1:45 PM & 6:45 PM  
*Severe Weather Awareness Week*

May 31st—Memorial Day, City Offices Closed

## Compost Permits Available Soon!

The compost site will open **May 1st**, weather permitting. Site hours are Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays 4-7 PM; Saturday 8:00 AM—Noon. Permits will be available for purchase by the end of March.

### Permit Fees:

St. Joseph Residents \$35  
 St. Joseph Township \$60  
 St. Wendel Township \$60  
 St. Cloud Residents \$45  
 2nd Permit/Replacement \$5

### Closed:

Memorial Day Weekend  
 4th of July Weekend  
 Labor Day Weekend

## Dog License Renewals

\$10/dog before May 1st  
 \$25/dog after May 1st  
 \$10/dog first time licensed

A current copy of the rabies vaccination certificate is required.



## 2021 UTILITY RATES

	2021 Rates	2020 Rates	
Water Usage	\$5.15	\$5.05	per 1,000 gallons
Water Line Charge	\$24.00	\$24.00	
Sewer Usage	\$6.10	\$6.30	per 1,000 gallons
Sewer Line Charge	\$34.00	\$34.00	
State Surcharge	\$1.62	\$1.62	
60 gal Recycling	\$15.20	\$12.00	
90 gal Recycling	\$21.20	n/a	
30 gal Refuse	\$17.80	\$15.50	
30 gal Sr. Rate	\$17.50	\$14.00	
60 gal Refuse	\$19.20	\$18.00	
90 gal Refuse	\$22.50	\$40.50	
Refuse Tax	9.75%	9.75%	
Street Light Utility	\$4.80	\$4.80	per unit
Stormwater	\$12.40	\$10.00	per unit

The City offers several options to pay utility bills: cash, check, money order, automatic withdrawal (ACH), and credit/debit cards. Payments are accepted by mail, in person from 8AM—4:30 PM, over the phone, online, or by utilizing the payment drop box on the west side of the Government Center.

## Spring Construction Reminder

As construction season approaches, we would like to remind you of the types of projects that require a permit with the city. Projects include: fences, accessory structures, parking pads, decks, roofing, windows and siding. Permit applications and additional information can be found at:

<https://www.cityofstjoseph.com/134/Building-Permits-Inspections>.

### Minnesota Housing Loan Programs

**Start Up** First-time homebuyer loans



The City of St. Joseph is partnering with Minnesota Housing to provide affordable mortgages to first-time homebuyers through the Start Up loan program. Start Up offers fixed interest rates and down payment and closing cost loans up to \$17,000 for eligible first-time homebuyers. Buyers can purchase homes in St. Joseph that cost up to \$294,600.

Minnesota Housing is a state agency that provides access to safe and affordable housing and builds stronger communities across the state. Minnesota Housing offers purchase, refinance, and home improvement loans, as well as financing for affordable rental housing throughout the state.

First-time buyers can get started by visiting [www.mnhousing.gov](http://www.mnhousing.gov) to see a list of participating lenders in the area and to find out additional information.

### Clean Water Tip: Deposit Unused Medications

Proper disposal keeps unused prescription drugs from being misused or contaminating our fragile lakes and rivers. The St. Joseph Government Center has a medication drop-off on site that is available 24/7.

### Community Education

Take advantage of the educational opportunities Community Education has to offer. You will find a variety of classes, activities, and programs for children, adults, and families designed to keep you engaged in learning, in building your social networks, wellness and self-care. To register and sign-up, visit <https://isd742.ce.eleyo.com/>.

### Parking Regulations

No parking is allowed on any City street from Nov. 1st to Apr. 1st during the hours of 2 AM and 7 AM. Any vehicle parked in violation of this ordinance is subject to a fine and immediate towing at the owner's expense.

### Excess Garbage

If you have garbage in excess of what fits into the receptacle, contact Republic Services for pickup arrangements. The City does not accept payment for excess garbage. Republic Services can be reached at 320-252-9608.

## Residents of St. Joseph...

Please welcome Kevin Kluesner as St. Joseph's newest Councilmember. Kevin was sworn in on March 1<sup>st</sup>. We are excited to have Kevin on board. He will be a great asset to the City.

It is hard to believe that it has been one year since COVID-19 became a prominent issue throughout the State. While it appears there are better times ahead, the City still has to abide by the Governor's Executive Orders for certain social gatherings. Staff is working on an ordinance addressing outdoor dining and sidewalk cafes and our Public Works Department will be making picnic tables for additional outdoor seating throughout the City.

As we look forward to warmer weather, there are a couple projects I want to highlight:

1. Minnesota Streetscape: New pavers, sidewalk, trees, benches and garbage receptacles will be installed. The plan is for the project to be completed mid-summer, weather permitting.
2. Parklet - A Parklet is a public seating area that takes curbside parking spaces and converts them into street-side seating. The Parklet will be in front of the Local Blend.

The Community Center Planning Committee has begun meeting again and is working on establishing a timeline for future activities.

As we head into severe weather season, I encourage you to register for the Stearns County Emergency Alert System. This is a free program that notifies you of any emergency in the area. The system allows users to select what notifications are received, including emergency alerts, general alerts and severe weather notifications. To register visit

<https://www.stearnscountymn.gov/254/Emergency-Alerts>. Your safety is important.

*Mayor Rick Schultz*

## **FIREFIIGHTERS WANTED**

The City of St. Joseph is accepting applications for the St. Joseph Volunteer Fire Department. Members are paid per response and training will be provided. Positions are open until filled.

Apply online at [www.cityofstjoseph.com](http://www.cityofstjoseph.com).

**St. Joseph Lions Club Annual  
FISH FRY & MEAT RAFFLE  
April 2nd, Sal's Bar & Grill  
in St Joseph  
\$12/plate, 4:30-7:30pm**

**Great Fish!**

*All Proceeds Benefit Lions Endeavors*

