



The City Minutes

News for Loretto City Residents June 2009



Emerald Ash Bore Threat

The Emerald Ash Bore has made its appearance in the Twin Cities Metro area. These pests attack and kill Ash trees. There are preventative measures that you can take to help protect your trees. They also have information on how to stop the spread of this disease. Please visit the University of Minnesota Extension Service website for detailed information on dealing with this threat to our beautiful Ash trees:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/issues/eab/>

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2009 Hydrant Flushing Dates

Beginning in June, 2009, the Loretto Public Works department will be flushing the water lines on the 2nd Wednesday of every month through October, 2009. This process will begin at approximately 8:00 a.m and finish at about 12 noon, on the dates scheduled below.

This should help to eliminate the cloudy water that some neighborhoods are experiencing. During the hydrant flushing period you may experience low water pressure. *Important: The flushing process may loosen rust sediments in the water lines, so please check your water prior to doing laundry.*

July 8th, 2009

August 12th, 2009

September 9th, 2009

October 14th, 2009

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Vacation Home Checks

If you are planning a trip out of town this summer, the Medina Police Dept. provides a 'House Check' service to Loretto residents. Call the Medina Police Dept. at 763-473-9209, and have your house put on their list. Officers will stop by to check on your house, and call you if any problems arise while you are gone.

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Bike Path Update

Construction is beginning in the City of Loretto for the new Three Rivers Bike Path segment which will run along Medina Street. During construction there will be several things happening that you should be aware of:

- X-Cel Energy has begun placing power poles along Medina Street. This will involve the closure of sidewalks in the work areas. After installing the new poles, X-Cel will begin to move the power lines from existing poles to the new poles. This will take until approximately the end of June to complete. Businesses along Medina Street will experience outages during this time. This should not affect residents.
- Frontier Communications will be boring under Medina Street to place new cable lines. Work should be completed by the end of June. Businesses along Medina Street may experience short interruptions in service during this time. This should not affect residents.
- The railroad crossing on Medina Street will be closed for approximately 10 days. The anticipated road shut down dates will be from July 20th—August 1st, 2009. During this time a section of the city water main will be replaced. The railroad will be reconstructing the railroad crossing.
- During the road closure at the railroad crossing, traffic on Medina Street (County Rd #19) will be detoured. This detour will route you from Hwy #55 going east, to County Rd #118 south, to County Rd #115 west.
- Construction on the actual bike path is scheduled to start the beginning of July, 2009.

When completed, the new Three Rivers Bike Path will provide a safe and scenic place for residents to bike, rollerblade and walk with family and pets.

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City of Loretto

259 N. Medina Street
P.O. Box 207
Loretto, MN 55357

763-479-4305 (phone)
763-479-2685 (fax)

Website: www.ci.loretto.mn.us

City Hall Office Hours:
Monday 9:00-2:00
Wednesday 9:00-2:00
Friday 9:00-2:00

Council Meetings held at
7:00 p.m. as follows:
July 14th, 2009
August 11th, 2009
September 9th, 2009,

Mayor

Barry Andersen

Council Members

Brenda Daniels
Jeff France
Clark Lohr
Jeff Tepfer

City Clerk

Cindy Patnode
cpatnode@ci.loretto.mn.us

Utility Clerk

Chris Goulet
cgoulet.loretto@yahoo.com

City Treasurer

Joyce Spurzem

Public Works

Jeff Leuer
jleuer@ci.loretto.mn.us
Rich Arens

Parks

Herb Koch



10th Annual Loretto Fun Fest

Saturday, September 19th, 2009

Beginning at 4:00 p.m.

At the Loretto Ball Fields

Planning for this year's Fun Fest is underway. The planning committee is working on some fun new events for this year; in addition to popular events from the past! New events will include a vintage car show by the Pair-A-Dice Cruisers' Club. The Oliver Club will sponsor a Tractor Show with a plowing demonstration. Games are being added such as Cow-A-Bungo Bingo. There will be the traditional Loretto Fire Department v.s. the Police Department softball game, There will also be a concession stand, rides, activities and a clown for the kids. The Fun Fest will end with a fireworks display!

A great deal of work goes into the planning and execution of this event. Volunteers are greatly needed for the set up, operation of events and the take down. If a group of residents from your neighborhood, place of employment or civic group would like to volunteer to show your city pride, please call Chris Goulet, Utility Clerk at the Loretto City Hall, 763-479-4305.

As in the past, both residents and business are being asked to donate funds to cover the cost of the fireworks display. If you would like to donate, please mail or drop your donation off at the Loretto City Hall. Your donations are greatly appreciated and there will be a Donation Recognition Board at the Fun Fest.

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Loretto Lions' Club Blood Donation Drive Results

On April 30th, 2009 the Loretto Lions' Club, in partnership with the Memorial Blood Center, held their annual spring blood donation drive with the following results:

89 people registered, 14 walk-ins, 11 first time donors, 10 no-shows, and 9 deferrals. In all, 98 units were donated, of which 60 were whole blood and 19 were double red cell (which counts as double units.) A thank you to all who donated! The next Lions' Club Blood Drive will be held on October 15th, 2009 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Saints Peter & Paul Academy Gym.

Urgent Request for Volunteers to work at the Blood Drive

Someone is needed to take over the organization of this twice yearly blood drive. Assistance will be given to any person or group willing to step up to offer their service. Loretto residents Roy & Rosie Spurzem have enjoyed serving their community; organizing this blood drive for nearly 20 years. They are asking that someone or some group *please* take over for them, as they are well into their retirement years. They will be glad to be of assistance to get you started. This is a very worthwhile life-saving cause! Please call Roy or Rosie at 763-479-1153, if you have any questions.

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Loretto Is a Watershed Area

Remember, what you pour onto your yard, driveway, or parking lot, eventually ends up back in your drinking water. With this in mind please help preserve and protect our drinking water supply with the following tips:

Outdoor Watering Tips

- Step on your grass; if it springs back up when you move your foot, it doesn't need watering.
- Water your lawn early in the morning to minimize evaporation, and never water faster than the ground can absorb the
- Most Minnesota lawns will stay healthy if they receive 1"-1.5" of water per week, either through rain or irrigation. Infrequent, deep waterings are more beneficial to lawns and plants, than light frequent waterings.
- Cut grass no shorter than 2 inches to reduce evaporation and promote deep root growth.
- Keep grass clippings and leaves out of the storm sewers by sweeping your sidewalks after mowing.
- Fertilize your lawn with care. Reduce your use of yard chemicals. Choose natural pest/disease control alternatives.
- Add organic matter to your soil to help it retain moisture and nutrients. Use natural mulch around your plantings to conserve moisture and prevent run-off.
- Wash your car, bikes, and other items on your lawn to prevent run-off to storm sewers.
- For more conservation tips, please visit the Metropolitan Council's website at:

www.metrocouncil.org/environment/watersupply/conservationtoolbox_residential.htm

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Energy Saving Tips for the Home

- Now is a great time to add an old fashioned outdoor clothesline to your back yard. It saves the energy use of your dryer thus reducing your utility costs, and environmental impact. Plus your towels, sheets and clothes will smell great!
- Only run full loads of laundry in your washing machine.
- Use cold water for your laundry whenever possible.

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Recycling Dates for the City of Loretto

June 16 and 30

July 14 and 28

August 11 and 25

September 9* and 22

**Change of date due to Labor Day*

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Why Can't I Recycle My Yogurt Cups?

Flip over a plastic container, and you're likely to see a familiar symbol. Triangular in shape, the symbol looks like three arrows "chasing" one another around a number. The symbol, and the number contained within, helps identify the type of plastic that the container is made from.

In recycling programs, the symbol is also often used to show which containers can be put in the recycling bin for curbside collection. In the Twin Cities metro area, plastic bottles labeled with a #1 or #2 are collected curbside for recycling. However, plastic tubs and cups, like yogurt cups, are not recyclable - even if they are labeled with a #1 or a #2. Why is that?

The answers to the above question lie in the details. The number on the bottom of a container indicates the general category of plastic it's made from, but doesn't contain any information on the details of the plastic composition. For example, although a yogurt cup may be made from #2 plastic, (the same type of material as a recyclable milk jug or bleach bottle), it contains different dyes, plasticizers, UV inhibitors, softeners, and other chemicals required to shape it into a cup. That mix of additives changes the properties of the plastic and makes it incompatible with the plastic used to make bottles.

Currently in Minnesota, there is a market for recycled plastic used to make #1 and #2 bottles, but there is little demand for the type of plastic used to make yogurt cups. That means that bottles labeled #1 and #2 can be recycled, but cups, tubs, and pails cannot.

The Twin Cities recycled plastic market changes frequently, so the materials collected through residential curbside recycling programs are subject to change. With any luck, the list of recyclable plastic containers will soon be expanding.

For detailed information on materials currently accepted in your area, how the materials should be sorted, and when they will be picked up, call your city recycling coordinator or your recycling service provider.

Rethink Recycling. It matters more than you think. To learn more, contact your community recycling program or visit www.RethinkRecycling.com, the metro area's resource for recycling and waste disposal.

Donations of Used Goods

Residents may contact one of the following organizations for clothing, housewares and certain other household items for drop off or pickup.

- ARC (pickup): 612-866-8820
- Bridging (drop off and pickup—household items only): 952-888-1105
- Goodwill (drop off): 763-420-8013
- Salvation Army (pickup): 612-332-5855
- Vietnam Vets (drop off): 651-778-8387

Getting Rid of Old Analog Television Sets

Remember you don't have to get rid of your old television set, it will work with a new converter box. However, if you decide to update your television set with a new high-definition set please be sure to recycle your old set. For information on recycling programs for your old set, visit the website for My Green Electronics. Through this program you can learn about disposal options and locate recycling programs near you.

www.mygreenelectronics.org

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IT'S TIME TO

RETHINK RECYCLING

In the Twin Cities area, you can help the environment more than you may realize. So where can you learn about recycling, composting, reducing waste or disposing? The answer is at our new website: *RethinkRecycling.com*. (formerly GreenGuardian.com)

Rethink Recycling helps you make smart choices about recycling or disposing of just about anything you have around your home or business. You'll also learn how to become a smarter shopper, get answers to your questions, find resources and learn about upcoming events. As the "go-to guide" for waste management and recycling in the Twin Cities, there's something for everyone at:

RethinkRecycling.com.



City of Loretto

259 North Medina Street

P.O. Box 207

Loretto, MN 55357

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City of Loretto Newsletter

The City Minutes newsletter is published four times per year at the beginning of the following months: March, June, September, and December. Local civic groups hosting a city-wide event may have the event published in the newsletter, and/or placed on the city website. If your group would like to use this opportunity, please provide the event information to the city no later than 2 weeks before the publication. Contact Chris Goulet at Loretto City Hall, 479-4305.

Newsletter Volunteers Needed

If your scouting troop, church group or civic organization is looking for community service hours, here's your chance! Help is needed quarterly to prepare the Loretto *City Minutes* newsletter for mailing. Help is needed to fold, place inserts, seal and label the newsletter prior to mailing. If you can help with any one of these tasks, please contact the Loretto City Hall at 763-479-4305. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Saving Money By Updating

If you are receiving this newsletter as a non-resident of Loretto and would like to be taken off our mailing list, please contact the Loretto City Hall at 763-479-4305 to have your name removed from the mailing list. In addition, if you receive newsletters at your rental property or business as a group mailing, please update us with the correct number of newsletters that you need to distribute. We are making this request to save time and money, and to be sure that those that want to receive the newsletter do.

Thank you!