

The City Newsletter

News for Loretto City Residents

Holiday Train 2013

The Canadian Pacific Railroad will once again be bringing their Holiday Train to the City of Loretto. The train is scheduled to arrive in Loretto on **Sunday, December 15th, 2013 at 4:15pm.** During the stop there will be musical performances aboard the train by roots music sensation *The Claytones* and Nashville singer/songwriter, Willy Porter.

Beginning at 3pm that day, local area businesses and volunteers will be hosting holiday activities on West Railway Street. This will include a visit from Santa, rides on the kiddie train and hay wagon, and free hot chocolate and cookies. Adding to the festive atmosphere, KRWC radio station out of Buffalo will be broadcasting live and playing holiday music. Road closures will begin at 2:30 pm, with shuttle service and parking provided at the Loretto Softball Fields and Saints Peter and Paul Church parking lot. All activities are free - please bring food or monetary donations for the food shelves!

The annual CP Holiday Train has become part of the social fabric of many communities and an important fundraiser for their food shelves. Last year, the Holiday Train event brought in over \$17,000 and 1,850 pounds of food because of the generous community support. Donations will once again be shared with the local food shelves in Hanover, Rockford, Delano and Maple Plain.

21st Century Bank will again this year match up to \$2500 total combined collected dollars bank wide for the area food shelves they serve. Stop in the bank and make your contribution for the match.

Canadian Pacific and Feeding America are also teaming up in the fight against hunger. CP will match all on-line donations, dollar for dollar, made to Feeding America. People wishing to donate must go online to: www.feedingamerica.org/holidaytrain to be eligible for the CP dollar for dollar match.



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City Hall Office Hours:
Monday 8:00-1:30
Wednesday 8:00-1:30
3:00-6:00
Friday 8:00-1:30

Mayor
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kkoch@ci.loretto.mn.us

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Utility Clerk
Connie Scheibe
cscheibe@ci.loretto.mn.us



Recycling News

Unwanted Holiday Lights

You can recycle your unwanted holiday lights by simply putting them in your single-sort recycle carts. Randy's Sanitation allows this recycling year-round.

Christmas Tree Pick-Up

Christmas trees will be picked up by Randy's on Tuesday, January 7th and 14th. Trees must be placed at the curb by 6:00 am the day of pick-up. There will be a charge of \$3 for an "unbagged" tree and \$6 for a "bagged" tree. The charge will appear on your February utility bill.

Household Battery Recycling

Loretto City Hall is a collection site for household batteries. This is a program through Hennepin County. Bring in your household batteries and deposit them in the green collection bucket right inside the office doors. When the bucket becomes full we call Hennepin County and they come collect the batteries for recycling.



Upcoming Recycling Dates

- December 10 & 24
- January 7 & 21
- February 4 & 18
- March 4 & 18
- April 1, 15 & 29

Upcoming Meetings

City Council Meetings

Loretto City Council meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

Next Council meetings: Dec. 10, Jan.14, and Feb. 11.

On occasion these dates need to be rescheduled, please watch the City website for the most up-to-date information.

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing

The Loretto City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2013 at 7 pm to discuss and adopt the 2014 Budget for all funds. The proposed levy for the General Fund is \$337,695. This is the amount that gets certified to your taxes and divided amongst all property owners in the City. You should have received your property tax statement in the mail during the third week in November that shows what your taxes will be for 2014.

An additional monthly charge on the Loretto utility bill will be discussed. This charge of approximately \$7.50/month/account would cover the amount of depreciation of assets in the Water Fund.

Everyone is invited and welcome to attend this public hearing.

Loretto Redevelopment Committee

The Loretto Redevelopment Committee has two seats that are set to expire on 1/31/2014. The committee is open to accepting applications from those interested in serving.

The focus of the group is on redevelopment efforts fronting along County Road 19 from St. Peter Street to West Railway Street. Many accomplishments have already been achieved by this group including an award of a \$36,000 grant.

If you have an interest in serving on this committee, please contact Mary Schneider at Loretto City Hall 763-479-4305 or mschneider@ci.loretto.mn.us by Friday, December 27, 2013. The committee is open to Loretto residents and/or business owners.

Preventing Stormwater Pollution

Did you know.....

Since the early 1950's our metro area waters have become increasingly salty. Chloride levels have risen so high that many metro area creeks are now considered unhealthy.

Chlorides harm plants and animals, contaminate our drinking water, corrode vehicles, roads, buildings and bridges. Too much salt results in costly damages and serious environmental consequences.

Storm drains carry excess water from streets and homes to nearby lakes and rivers; that makes your property a water-front property. Salt that is applied to our streets in the winter will eventually flow into our lakes and rivers in the spring. It does not go to a waste treatment facility. Help keep our waters clean this winter by following these few simple steps.

Winter Tips



Before the Storm

Apply a liquid de-icer before expected snow falls to prevent snow and ice from building up. This is not a substitute for shoveling; but makes it more effective.

You can make your own liquid de-icer!
 Mix 2 cups of hot water and one cup of salt. Apply with garden sprayer or sprinkle on with a watering can.

Shovel that Snow!

Shovel, snow blow, plow and/or sweep. These are all effective measures that will remove snow, minimize ice build-up and reduce the need for salt.

Less is Better

When applying salt, if there are left-over crystals still visible, the salt has been over applied. Sweep up the left-over salt and reuse or dispose of it in the trash.

Temperature Matters

At low temperatures salt begins to become less effective; check your product for more details. When the temperature falls below 15 degrees F consider using sand as an alternative to salt.

We all live in a watershed – the area that drains to a common waterway, such as a stream, lake, river, wetland, aquifer, or even the ocean – and our individual actions can directly affect it. In Loretto, our rain and stormwater runoff flow to Lake Independence and Lake Sarah. Each newsletter will include guidelines you can follow to help make a difference in the quality of our local waters.

- ◆ Ensure that hazardous waste, including paints, stains, solvents, cleaning products, used motor oil, antifreeze, and pesticides, are disposed of properly. Participate in a County household hazardous waste collection program. The City of Independence will be holding a Spring Clean Up Day Saturday, May 3, 2014. You can also go to: <http://www.hennepin.us/collectionevents> for more locations and information.
- ◆ Properly store hazardous waste items. Look over your storage areas regularly. Be on the lookout for leaky containers, poor ventilation and the smell of fumes.
- ◆ Clean up after your pet. The best way of disposing of pet waste is to flush it down the toilet. You can also seal it in a bag and place in the trash.
- ◆ Adopt a storm drain. Keep neighborhood storm drains free of leaves, grass clippings and garbage. Storm drains are directly connected to the nearest body of water. Water running into storm drains can carry with it anything laying on the ground including leaves, grass clippings, soil, oil, paint and chemicals. Keeping drains clear will protect the water quality of nearby lakes, streams and rivers.
- ◆ Direct your downspouts onto your lawn or garden, or into a rain barrel. Use rainwater to water your lawn and garden. It is free, naturally soft and perfect for keeping green things growing. Using rainwater reduces runoff, which carries pollutants to lakes and streams.

Miscellaneous News



Winter Reminders

Winter Parking Restrictions

Loretto residents are reminded that winter parking rules are in effect from November 1st through March 31st. On-street parking is prohibited on all city streets between the hours of 2 am and 7 am, with the exception of Medina Street, where parking is prohibited between 2:30am and 6:30am year-round.

Snow Removal from Sidewalks

Loretto's city code requires that property owners clear the snow from their sidewalks within 48 hours of a snowfall.

Snow Plowing

It is unlawful to plow snow onto or across ANY city, township, county or state road. Doing so is a violation of state statute.

Fire Hydrants

If you live near a fire hydrant, please keep it clear of snow and ice.

Garbage Cans

When placing your garbage cans at the curb for pickup, please keep them at least 2 feet away from the curb to allow for snow removal.

New City Staff

At the October 8, 2013 city council meeting, Mary Schneider was appointed City Clerk Treasurer. Mary has been working for the City since 2011 and has lived in Loretto since 2000.

Also at that meeting, Connie Scheibe was hired as Utility Clerk. Connie has served as an Election Judge for the City and has been a resident since 2004.

Congratulations and welcome to both!



Loretto City Hall and 21st Century Bank of Loretto will be the local drop off sites for the KARE 11 2013 Toys for Tots Drive. Please bring new, unwrapped toys to either of the above drop sites by Thursday, December 19, 2013. Officers of the Medina Police Department will be delivering the toys to KARE 11. For more information about Toys For Tots, please visit KARE 11's website at www.kare11.com.



Public Notification System

The City has a system in place so that we can notify you of public safety information or local emergencies with a voice message, email or text. Please fill out the information below and drop off the form at City Hall or e-mail the information to: cscheibe@ci.loretto.mn.us. You have the option of receiving a voice message, email and/or text message. You may choose any or all of the options. We are able to add and update resident and business contact information at any time. This is a private listing, your information will not be shared with any other entities.

Our goal is to have 100% participation of Loretto residents - please spread the word!

Name: _____ Street Address: _____

Please list in order of importance. (Phone #1 will be the first to receive notification.)	Name (ie. "Home phone", "Jane's cell phone", etc.)	Phone number - please include area code
Phone #1 (voice message)		
Phone #2 (voice message)		
Phone #3 (voice message)		
Phone #4 (voice message)		
Phone number for text message		
Phone number for TTY (for hearing impaired residents)		

My mobile provider (i.e. Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, etc. Needed for text message function): _____

Name	Email address

Please return this form to City Hall or e-mail to: cscheibe@ci.loretto.mn.us.

Thank you!

City of Loretto

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Let's Light Up Loretto!

Do you go all out to decorate the outside of your home for the Holidays? If you do, enter a photo of your hard work and creativity into the City of Loretto's **Holiday Lighting Contest** (Loretto residents only).

This year's contestants need to take a photo of your lit up house and submit it to the City of Loretto. We'll get your photo onto our website and facebook page ([Holiday Train - Loretto MN](#)) where everyone can vote for their favorite display. (Voting details to be announced on City website.)

Submit your photo to Jeff Leuer - jleuer@ci.loretto.mn.us

You need to move fast - the final day to vote will be December 11, 2013. Winners will be notified by December 13th.

PRIZES:

Grand Prize: Millennium Hotel - Holiday Package! \$250 Value, compliments of Mary Cavanaugh/Edina Realty Package includes:

"King Club" Winter stay & play, One night stay at Millennium Hotel - Friday, December 20, 2013

- \$50 Macy's Gift Card
- Complimentary Parking at Millennium Hotel for entire stay
- Hot Chocolate prior to Holiday parade 6:30pm
- Millennium Club Lounge full access

Second Prize: Tickets to 2 MN WILD Hockey games, (2 tickets for Jan. 14 game and 2 tickets for March 3 game), center ice, Best seats in the house! Compliments of Pete Ryskamp/Bell Mortgage

Third Prize: 2 Club Level Tickets to MN WILD Hockey game (December 17th, 2013) with free parking pass, compliments of Edina Realty/Corporate Office

Fourth Prize: 2 tickets to MN Gophers Hockey game (January 3rd, 2014) compliments of Edina Realty/Corporate Office

