

The City Newsletter

News for Loretto City Residents March 2010



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 Kathy Larkin at Loretto City Hall, 763-479-4305.

Leaf, Grass & City Wide Clean Up

Tues. May 11, 2010—City Wide Clean Up Curbside

Items that will not be taken are: Paints, Hazardous Waste, Asbestos, Propane Tanks, & Florescent Bulbs.

For bulk items such as couches, mattresses, or

Construction Debris, Please call Randy's at 763-972-3335 to make arrangements for pickup and have your credit card number ready.

Tues 5-18, 2010-Leaf & Grass Collection Curbside

NOTICE: CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE SET FOR MAY 5TH, 6TH, 7TH & 8TH

Compostable Yard Waste

Beginning Jan 1st, 2010 Compostable bags are required, if you don't use them, your yard waste will not be collected.

Why do we need this? The Law helps keep plastic out of composting facilities, which will create an organic waste stream free of black plastic. This in turn creates higher quality compost, increases demand, results in higher finished compost prices, and increases demand for organic feedback.

What is a Compostable Bag?

These bags include paper Kraft Bags or compostable plastic bags. The plastic bags are usually clear or a tinted shade of green, white, or pink, however the color is not the sure way of determining the compostability of a plastic bag. Compostable plastic bags must state that they are "compostable". Bags that are marked "biodegradable" or "degradable" do not meet the state law.

You can buy Compostable bags at most home improvement, grocery or hardware stores. If you don't see them at your local store, just ask an employee, some stores are just learning of this requirement and may appreciate the request.

Holiday Train Donations

The 2009 Holiday Train event brought in donations of 3,000 pounds of food and \$14,000.00 in cash to the Hanover Area Food Shelf. Thanks to everyone who donated! About 1,200 people attended the arrival of the train. Thank you to the Holiday Train Committee and all of the other organizations and people that helped to make it a big success.

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Holiday Lighting Contest Winners

Here are the results of the annual City of Loretto Holiday Lighting Contest for 2010. The judging was done by officers from the Medina Police Dept. Thank you to everyone who participated and congratulations to this year's winners:

1st Place: Paul & Cindy Spaulding—180 Hillview Ln

2nd Place: Joe & Barb Koch-185 Hillview Ln

3rd Place: Loren & Cecilia Vieau 180 Meadow Dr

Each of these winners received a prize of a "Free Oil Change" from West Hennepin Auto & Tire Inc. Awards were presented at the January 2010 City Council Meeting. The Best Neighborhood Display Award goes to the Ponds of Loretto. This neighborhood wins bragging rights, until the end of 2010!

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Winter Parking Reminder

Loretto residents are reminded that winter parking restrictions will end on March 31st.

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Vacation Home Checks

If you are planning a trip out of town, the Medina Police Department provides a 'House Check' to Loretto residents. Call the Medina Police Dept. at 763-473-9209, and have your house placed on their list. The police will check your home by driving up the driveway and walking around the house while you are gone. If any problems are noticed, they will notify your contact person.

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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)
e-mail: cpatnode@ci.loretto.mn.us
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

Mayor
Barry Andersen

Council Members
Clark Lohr
Jeff Tepfer
Jeff France
Brenda Daniels

City Clerk
Cindy Patnode
cpatnode@ci.loretto.mn.us

Utility Clerk
Kathy Larkin
kathylarkin11@yahoo.com

City Treasurer
Joyce Spurzem

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

Parks
Herb Koch



Hydrant Flushing

City water hydrants will be flushed on the second Wed. of each month, on the following dates: March 10th, April 14th, May 12th, June 9th, July 8th, August 11th, Sept. 8th and October 14th. Flushing will begin at 8:00 AM and finish by 11:30 PM Residents may experience low water pressure during this time. The flushing process may loosen rust sediments in the water lines, so please check your water prior to doing laundry.



Utility Rate Study

Comparison Rates	2009	2010
Water	\$26.00 for the 1st 4,000 gallons, \$6.50/each add'l - 1,000 gallons	\$26.00 for the 1st 4,000 gallons, \$6.50/each add'l - 1,000 gallons
Waste Water / Sewer Based on Dec, Jan, Feb, water usage by account	\$24.00 for the 1st 4,000 gallons, \$5.00/each add'l -1,000 gallons	\$29.00 for the 1st 4,000 gallons, \$8.00/each add'l -1,000 gallons
Storm Water	\$11.00	\$11.00
Garbage	Varies due to size of container	Varies due to size of container
Recycling & Organics	5.00 per month	5.00 per month
MN Dept of Health	\$6.56—this a <u>one-time</u> annual fee per year, required by the MN Dept of Health.	\$6.56—this a <u>one-time</u> annual fee per year, required by the MN Dept of Health.

Water Conservation Tips

- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator rather than running water from the faucet until it's cold.
- Do not let water run while washing dishes, fill the sink instead.
- Do not let water run while brushing teeth.
- Check toilet to be sure water doesn't continue to run into the tank after it has finished flushing. Check for other toilet leaks and make repairs.
- Install low-flow showerheads and sink faucets or a sink faucet aerator.
- Consider installing Demand (tankless) Water Heater to conserve water .
- Wash only full loads of laundry. If purchasing a new washer, look for the Water Sense Label.

Loretto Is a Watershed Area

What is a watershed? The surface area of yards, open land, streets, sidewalks, driveways and parking lots are all watershed areas. These areas collect water from rain, snow, as well as yard sprinkling, car washing etc. This water runs off the surface and makes its way into our local ground water, streams, lakes and marshes. What ever we put on these surfaces will eventually end up in our water. Please consider these tips to prevent further contamination of our water supply:

- Water your lawn early in the morning to minimize evaporation, and never water faster than the ground can absorb the water. Most Minnesota lawns will stay healthy if they receive 1"-1.5" of water per week, either through rain or irrigation. Infrequent, deep watering is more beneficial to lawns and plants, than light frequent watering.
- Next time you water, place 3 to 5 empty tuna cans at varied distances from the sprinkler. The time it takes to fill the cans is about how long you should water your lawn.
- 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.
- Consider installing drip-irrigation systems around trees and shrubs.
- Fertilize your lawn with care. Reduce your use of yard chemicals. Choose natural pest/disease control alternatives.
- Reduce the amount of concrete or asphalt in your yard.
- Use natural mulches around plants to conserve moisture.
- Collect rain in rain barrels for watering plants.
- Use shut-off nozzles at the end of your hoses, to prevent water from continuous running.
- Wash your cars, bikes and other items on the lawn to prevent water run off. Use a bucket of water for washing, and use the hose for quick rinses only. Leaving the water running for 20 minutes while washing a car can use up to 100 gallons of water.
- Do not dump chemicals of any kind in your driveway, yard or down the storm sewers.

Loretto is located in the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed, please visit the following website for more information: www.pioneersarahcreek.org.

Other websites to visit regarding water conservation:

www.metrocouncil.org/environment

www.epa.gov/watersense

March 15–21st is "National Fix a Leak Week"



Phone

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 Cloths or Household items
- Bridging (drop off and pickup—household items only): 952-888-1105
- Goodwill (drop off): 763-420-8013 **Maple Grove**
- Salvation Army (pickup): 612-332-5855
- Vietnam Vets (pick up): 651-778-8387

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

For Hennepin County Residents

Thursday – Saturday April 29th–May 1st, 2010

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. all three days:

Independence City Hall
1920 CR 90 in Independence

Accepted Materials:

- Adhesives (flammable or petroleum based)
- Aerosols (pressurized or containing product)
- Auto wastes (fuel additives, starter fluid, waxes, but **no** motor oil)
- Household batteries (AA, C, D, rechargeable, etc.)
- Cleaning solvents
- Consumer Electronics (computers, TVs, radios, VCRs, etc. **Limit 5 of the same type**)
- Drain cleaners
- Driveway sealers
- Fluorescent and HID lamps (**limit of 25**)
- Fuels (gasoline, kerosene, diesel)
- Mercury items (thermometers, thermostats, etc.)
- Rechargeable appliances (cordless tools, weed whips, etc.)
- Paint (latex and oil based) or paint thinners and solvents
- Pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, etc.)
- Photographic and hobby chemicals
- Vehicle lead-acid batteries (cars, boats, etc.)
- Wood preservatives
- Pool chemicals

Think Gardening

Now is the time to start planning your vegetable garden or flower garden, maybe both. Get the whole family involved, its fun, educational, and the rewards are great. Think of all the Ripe Tomatoes and flowers you can enjoy all summer long.



Mark your calendars. Tentative State Primary is set for August 10th 2010. Remember to Vote.

Recycling Dates: 2010

- March 9th & 23rd
- April 6th & 20th
- May 4th & 18th
- June 1st, 15th, & 29th
- July 13th & 27th
- Aug. 10th & 24th
- Sept. 7th & 21st
- Oct. 5th & 19th
- Nov. 2nd, 16th, & 30th
- Dec. 14th & 28th



Loretto Fire Department

Loretto is looking for volunteer Fire Fighters. Please call 763-479-3036 , stop at City Hall, or The Fire Station for an application.

Styrofoam and Packing Peanuts

Packing peanuts and other packing materials may be recycled, along with other Styrofoam products. Please visit the website for more information: www.RethinkRecycling.com and click on “Styrofoam”.

Telephone Books

By law, unwanted phone books must be recycled. You may place a maximum of 2 phones books at a time in your Randy's Recycling bin. It is possible to stop receiving delivery of unwanted telephone books. If you would like to stop receiving both White Pages and Yellow Pages books at your address, please go to the following links:

<http://www.yellowpagesgoesgreen.org>

<http://www.dexknows.com>





RETHINK RECYCLING™

Interesting Facts About Recycling

From the New Website:

www.RethinkRecycling.com

- The Twin Cities generate enough waste to fill the Metrodome 11 times each year.
- Recycling one can saves the equivalent of 6 ounces of gasoline.
- Recycle 1 can and you save enough energy to run a computer for 3 hours.
- Recycle 1 plastic bottle and you save enough power to run a 60-watt light bulb for 6 hours.
- The 36 billion aluminum cans thrown away last year are worth \$600 million as scrap.
- Minnesotans recycle over 2 million tons of cans, bottles and paper every year.
- Minnesota recycling reduces emissions equal to taking 2.3 million cars off the road.

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 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 FAQs, 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.



Senior News

The Delano Senior Center strives to provide the best possible Senior Service and to make sure you have fun and meet a lot of new friends along the way.

You can stop in for a visit, call 763-972-0574, or check them out on the web-site at www.delano.mn.us.

Delano offers many activities Listed are just a few:

AARP 55 & Alive Driving Class

Music Opportunities

Computer Fundamentals

Bridge Group

Farkle Dice Game, no cards, easy and fun to learn.

Writers group

Support Groups

Exercise & Yoga Groups

Seated Chair Massage

Wii game Challenge

Bicycle Club

Senior Dining Program

These are just a few of the programs that are offered, there are also Casino Trips, Theatre Trips, and also

Extended trips. Brochures can be picked up at the

Delano Senior Center. Dial-A-Ride 651-602-5465

offers transportation for Loretto residents, or try car pooling. The Senior Center has many fun classes and outings, many more than mentioned above.

Cable Problems

Call Mediacom Direct @ 1-800-332-0245 for help.



2010 Bike Path Construction Update

Contractors are currently in winter suspension. The 2010 Bike Path Construction will begin on May 1st and will be finished, with the final cleanup by June 15th.

We will try to keep residents informed by placing any new information on our website. You can also ask to be placed on our email listing for any city alerts we put out over the internet. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact

cpatnode@ci.loretto.mn.us.



Dial-A-Ride

Dial a Ride will be available to Loretto residents March 1st. To make arrangements for your trip please call 651-602-5465. This is a service that people usually share the ride, it can be for a short trip or if you want to go to the Mall of America, they would take you to a bus stop. The charge is reasonable.

\$2.25 for under 10 Miles

\$4.50 for 10 to 20 Miles

\$6.75 for over 20 Miles

Try it out if you need a ride or just don't feel like driving.



Easter is coming April 4th!. Enjoy your time with family and friends. You can start some new traditions if you choose and celebrate all that we have to be thankful for.

Happy Easter from all the City of Loretto Council Members & Employees!



One Way Street



Effective Thursday April 1st 2010, Railway Street East will become a one way from Medina Street (County Rd. 19) to Church Street going eastward.

Parking will be allowed on both sides of Railway Street East going eastward.

This change is being done to ease congestion at the Railway Street and Medina Street intersection along with other safety concerns. Please be patient during the transition period.

City of Loretto

Loretto Residents Get Organics Out of the Trash and Give Back to Nature

The city of Loretto is starting its 3rd year in recycling programs . Organics make up nearly 25 percent of the trash that's thrown away. Organics include all food scraps, such as meat, bones and dairy products; and food-soiled paper, such as paper towels, napkins, plates, milk and juice cartons, pizza boxes, and boxes from frozen and refrigerated foods.

Approximately 27 tons of organics were picked up in 2009 compared with 23.8 in 2008. With everyone's help 2010 will be an even better year.

The material is delivered to Resource Recovery Technologies in Empire Township, where it is composted. The finished compost is used in landscaping and road construction projects to replenish soils and reduce soil erosion.

Taking part in the residential organics recycling program benefits the community as a whole, as well.



Happy St Patrick Day, March 17th

RATE INCREASE EXPLANATION

Due to financial considerations that are needed to keep the Wastewater (Sewer) Fund from going continually deficit spending, the City Council raised the minimum rate from \$24 to \$29 per month and the additional charge for over 4,000 gallons used will increase from \$5 to \$8.

A number of projects need to be completed to keep the sewage going in the right direction and were identified by our engineers in 2007 (see listing below at 2007 rates):

- Correct backflow of sewer pipe – cost \$13,600
- Correct dip in line – cost \$28,320
- Options to meet MPCA total suspended solids on pond discharge:
 - Option 1 – Additional chemicals – cost \$23,000
 - Option 2 – recirculation with pump – cost \$13,200
 - Option 3 – remove 1,300,000 of sludge – cost \$89,700

Inflow & Infiltration issues (this is rainwater or other surface water that gets into the sewer lines that create the problem of treating clean water vs. sewage). The city did get the sewer lines televised over the past two years (cost approximately \$17,500). This enabled the public works department to locate manholes that need to be sealed (approximate cost is \$1,000 per manhole); where lines have changed to an egg shape rather than the correct circle shape; and where separation is occurring in the lines. All of these issues need to be addressed prior to the city ever hooking up to a future regulated sewer line instead of the current sewer ponds that are currently used.

The Council has attempted to put money away for these projects so they can be funded without a loan but we've experienced financial issues with the aerators (which keep the sewer ponds functioning at their required MPCA levels). The aerators approximate cost can run up to \$10,000 each and we have/need six of those. The current fund balance is \$12,730 so you can see there is not a lot of room for any type of emergency. Although it was a hard decision for the Council to raise the fee, they are also concerned about providing sound practices to keep sewer from backing up into anyone's residence or business.

The Council chose to keep the remaining utilities (water, trash/recycling, stormwater) at their 2009 levels. The minimum increase you noticed with your January utility usage was \$5 along with the one-time per year charge that the MN Dept of Health charges per hookup of \$6.56. The wastewater (sewer) rate will recalculate with your March utility bill (due April 25) based on your water usage from Dec '09-Feb '10.

If you have any questions or would like more details regarding the above, please call City Hall at 763-479-4305 and ask for Cindy or Jeff or you can email either of us at cpatnode@ci.loretto.mn.us or jleu-er@ci.loretto.mn.us.



Solid Waste Disclosure Form

The Waste Management Act, as amended in 1993, requires that a person who collects construction debris, industrial waste, or mixed municipal solid waste for transportation to a waste facility shall disclose annually to each waste generator from whom waste is collected the name, location, type of, and the number of the permit issued by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, or its counterpart in another state, for the processing or disposal facility or facilities at which the waste will be deposited. The collector shall note both the primary facility at which the collector most often deposits waste and any alternative facilities regularly used by the collector. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 115A.9302, Randy's Sanitation, Inc. hereby discloses that mixed municipal solid waste collected will be delivered to one of the following facilities during the time period January through December. If an additional facility becomes either a primary facility or an alternate facility during this period, the hauler is required to provide you with updated information within 30 days. In addition, the Minnesota Legislature requires Minnesota waste haulers make the following disclosure to their customers:

"You may be responsible for any liability that results from contamination at the facility where your waste has been deposited.

Minnesota believes that its waste management system provides substantially more financial and environmental protection than depositing waste in landfills in other states. Managing your waste in Minnesota may minimize your potential liability."

Primary: Hennepin Energy Resource Recovery,
505 6th Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55405
Sanitary Landfill #SW-396

Secondary: RRT Elk River Resource Recovery,
10700 165th Ave. NW, Elk River, MN 55330
Sanitary Landfill #SW-305

City of Loretto

259 North Medina Street

P.O. Box 207

Loretto, MN 55357

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LORETTO, MN

Late Baseball/Softball Registration

If you missed the sign-up dates for youth T-Ball, softball and baseball registration, late registration is available at Koch's Korner or you can download a registration form at www.lorettoathletic.org. Summer ball is open to boys and girls ages 5 through 16. The Loretto Community Athletic



Association offers T-Ball and Near Ball (coach pitched), baseball and softball. Please check website for upcoming events.

www.lorettoathletic.org

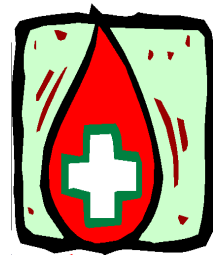
2010 Census is coming to Loretto

Every 10 years a census of our population is taken. The census count is used to determine our community and state's representation in Congress, state legislatures, and local government—it's also used in distributing about \$300 billion annually in federal funding of public programs in: education, community healthcare, public transportation, housing and community development.

Workers Wanted: People are needed for temporary work to conduct this census in our communities. The pay is competitive and expenses are reimbursed. Please call 1-866-861-2010 or visit the website at: www.2010censusjobs.gov.

Memorial Blood Center Drive Planned

The annual Loretto Lions Club Blood Drive is scheduled for Thursday, April 15th 2010 from 2:00-8:00 p.m. at Sts. Peter & Paul Academy in Loretto. Any person 17 and up, in good health and weighing at least 110 lbs (16 yrs old with parents' permission and weighing at least 130 lbs) is eligible to donate. If you would like further info to determine your eligibility to donate, please call the Memorial Blood Center in St. Paul at 888-448-3253. ***Donors are urgently needed!***



Please call Roy or Rosie Spurzem of Loretto (763-479-1153) to make an appointment to donate at this blood drive. You should eat a good meal within the 6 hours before donating, and have had adequate sleep in the past 24 hours.

Note: Roy & Rosie have been organizing the annual Lions Blood Drive for more than 20 years. They would like someone to volunteer their time and take over the annual duty. If interested, please call Roy or Rosie at the number above. Thank you to the Spurzems for all their years of wonderful service to this event!

(We need people to volunteer for this or we will no longer be able to offer this service, as Roy and Rosie will be retiring from this duty.)