



REFLECTIONS

APRIL | MAY | JUNE 2023

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2



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Liquor Store Notes

Vicki Jeys, Manager — (320) 983-6255

Finally, the snow is melting and Spring clean-up is on its way!

We are back to our full hours as of April 1st:

- 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday
- 11:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Sunday

On Tuesdays get 13% OFF regular priced items when you pay with CASH!!

We are fully stocked and ready for whatever Spring has to offer.



City Hall Notes

Permits for Mini-Trucks, UTVs, and Golf Carts

It's time to renew these permits! Per City ordinance, motorized golf carts, mini trucks and UTVs must have a permit from the City of Milaca to operate legally within the city limits. These permits are due each year but there is no fee. To complete your permit, go to www.cityofmilaca.org/forms and click on the Mini Truck, UTV & Golf Cart Permit. The form can be filled out online and printed, or downloaded to be filled out. Completed forms can be mailed, dropped in the city hall drop box, or e-mailed to mniedzielski@milacacity.com. Permit will be mailed to applicant once approved. Please call city hall at [\(320\) 983-3141](tel:3209833141) if you have any questions.

Welcome Elizabeth Nealley

Elizabeth Nealley started with the City of Milaca as Treasurer on February 13, 2023. We are very happy to have her here!

Spring Leaf Dumpster — May 1st!

Jim's Mille Lacs Disposal will once again be helping with the disposal of organic debris from your yard. A leaf and brush dumpster for City of Milaca residents will be available starting May 1, 2023 at 205 2nd Street NE, near the oil recycling container. Please note that only brush, small branches, and leaves are allowed, and **they MUST be removed from any plastic bags before placing in the dumpster.**

Hours are Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.



Fires

With Spring comes cleanup of all that the snow was hiding. Please remember that burning leaves or garbage is not permitted. According to City of Milaca Ordinance 93.03 Open Burning restrictions:

- A) No persons shall cause, suffer, allow, or permit open burning within the boundaries except under the following circumstance.
- B) Fires set for recreational, ceremonial, food preparation, or social purposes are permitted provided only wood, coal, or charcoal is burned.
 - 1) A person 18 years or older must be present at any fire permitted under this section. Fires permitted pursuant to this section shall not be left unattended.
 - 2) No fire permitted under this section may create or maintain a condition that violates §§ 94.15 through 94.18, regarding public nuisances.
 - 3) Fires shall be no closer than 10 feet to the base of any structure, tree, shrub, or other combustible material, and shall be no closer than 20 feet to a property line.
 - 4) All fires permitted under this section shall be in a fire pit, fire ring, or other confined space specifically designed for a fire. Burn barrels are prohibited. Burning material must be entirely within the designed fire area. Under no circumstances shall any portion of the fire be larger than two feet in diameter or two feet off the surface of the ground.

Water & Sewer Bill Reminders

Please allow 3-5 days for mailing. Payments should be postmarked by the 13th to avoid a late fee.

Alternatives to mailing your payment include signing up for Direct Payment (no fee to sign up!) or to pay with your credit/debit card (minimum \$3 convenience fee). Both can be accessed at <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/payments>. Or just drop off your payment at City Hall!

We are also exploring the capability to email your bill.

More details to come!

If you have any questions about your bill, give us a call at [\(320\) 983-3141](tel:3209833141).



DiscoverMilaca.com

**MILACA AREA
TOURISM BUREAU**



Do you want to show off everything the Milaca area has to offer?

Check out DiscoverMilaca.com for information on local events, dining, drinking, and shopping!

Parks & Public Works Notes

PARKS

Due to the late snow season, these dates are estimates based on last year's information. Actual dates will be announced on the City of Milaca Facebook page, website, and digital signs at the Museum and at Rec Park or call City Hall at [\(320\) 983-3141](tel:3209833141).

Rec Park

Pickleball The courts will be cleaned and the nets set up beginning of May.

Bathrooms The Gorecki Center restrooms will be open to the public on Monday, May 1, 2023. The portable bathrooms are also available.

Camping The camping sites will be available for use on Monday, May 1, 2023. You can reserve them online at <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/reserve>.

Splashpad As the unofficial start to summer, the Splashpad opens Friday, May 26, 2023.

Trails Follow the Milaca Trails Initiative Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/MilacaTrailsInitiative>) for up-to-date information on trail closures.

Archery Range

The archery range will be opened to the public beginning of May.

PUBLIC WORKS

Water Meter Replacement

Coming this summer all water meters will be replaced. The City has partnered with Vanguard Utility Services for installation. These new meters have an advanced meter reading system, ensuring your water usage is accurate. You will receive notifications with scheduling information in the upcoming months. Up-to-date information can also be found at cityofmilaca.org/wmr.



Please note: Participation in the meter replacement program is mandatory.

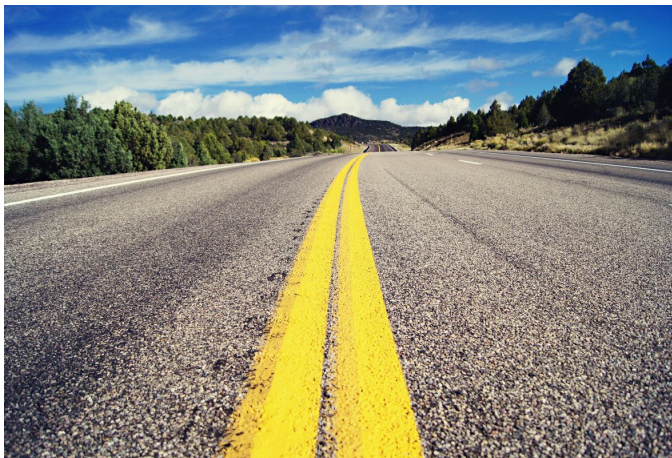


Deputy Registrar Notes

Amy Cain, Deputy Registrar — (320) 983-3143

The Deputy Registrar is open to the public Monday through Friday 8-4 pm. If you have a transaction that is going to take longer, please try to be here no later than 3:45 pm. Enhanced Driver's licenses will not be processed after 3:30pm. The knowledge test is offered here on a computer in the office. It can get a bit noisy in here, so if you need to bring ear plugs, they are allowed. The test is by appointment only and the fee is \$10. Knowledge test appointments can be made on our website cityofmilaca.org/registrar. We try very hard to help everyone, so please be patient with us!

Please be advised that if you are coming from out of state, you are required to do a written test before switching to MN. Make a new to MN appointment for this option on the website.



State offers road test appointments on Thursdays. Appointments can only be made online at <http://www.drive.mn.gov> or if you need assistance you can call State at [\(651\) 284-1234](tel:6512841234). Be aware that appointments are limited, so it may say no availability. Any questions about the road tests need to be answered by state, as we have nothing to do with them.

If you need a question answered right away, please email us at depreg@milacacity.com and we can answer your questions. If you need anything looked up that is not public information, you do have to come in to the office due to data privacy. We also welcome everyone to utilize the drop box for tab renewals, DNR transactions, and even title transfers if completed! We check the box every day and do the work in between customers. Please fill out the provided form to go with the paperwork dropped off.

We appreciate all of our customers, so thank you for trusting us to serve you! Looking forward to seeing everyone in these coming warm months!

— Amy, Audra, and Julie



Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services



Fire Department Notes

Chris Ehlen & Jesse Gerads, Fire Chief — (320) 983-3465

SPRING CLEANING FOR FIRE SAFETY: IMPORTANT FIRE PREVENTION TIPS TO FOLLOW

One of the most important things you can do to prevent a fire is to keep your home clean. Dust and dirt can quickly build up and become combustible. We've compiled a quick list of additional fire prevention and safety measures to include in your cleaning routine this year:

Spring Cleaning Fire Safety Tips – Indoor

Keeping fire prevention in mind as you go about your spring cleaning routine can help prevent a fire in the future. Check out these six indoor fire safety tips:

1. **Clear out any clutter from your home, especially in hallways and stairways**
Did you know that clutter provides fuel for a fire to spread? Make sure that all of your exits and paths to them are clear. If you have any items blocking an exit, move them immediately. This ensures your family will have good escape routes should you need to evacuate due to fire.
2. **Check Your Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Detectors**
Test your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure they are working properly. Now is an excellent time to install them if you don't have any. Replace your carbon monoxide and smoke detector batteries and look for any corrosion on the batteries or their connection points in the device. Replace the entire device if you notice any corrosion inside the battery compartment.

3. **Don't Use Electrical Appliances or Tools with Frayed Cords**

If you have any electrical appliances or tools with frayed electrical cords, replace them as soon as possible. Using damaged electrical cords could start a fire. This is also an excellent time to check your extension cords too. Too many devices plugged in can overload the outlet and cause a fire.

4. **Check for Water Around Electrical Appliances**

Check for water around electrical appliances, such as your washing machine, dryer, or dishwasher. If you notice any water, have a professional inspect your appliance to make sure it is safe to use.

5. **Check all of your appliances to make sure they are in good working condition**

This includes your stove, oven, microwave, toaster, coffee maker, and anything else you use daily. If you notice any issues with an appliance, have it repaired or replaced as soon as possible.

6. **It's a Great Time to Clean Your Clothes Dryer Vent & Lint Trap**

Regularly clean your clothes dryer lint trap. Lint is highly combustible and can easily cause a fire if it isn't removed. Clean your dryer vent and hoses at once a year to remove and prevent buildup or blockages.



Spring Cleaning Fire Safety Tips – Outdoor

While cleaning up your yard this spring, don't forget about fire safety. Here are a few outdoor spring cleaning tips to keep in mind:

1. Trim Any Trees Or Bushes That Are Close To Your Home

Trimming away any bushes or trees that are too close to your house creates a “defensible space” between your home and potential fire sources. Additionally, if you have dead or dying trees, now is an excellent time to remove them. Dead vegetation is highly flammable and can easily catch fire.

2. Check Your Gas Grill For Rust, Worn Parts, Grease, And Other Debris Before Use

Grilling is a popular spring and summer activity, but it's essential to ensure your grill is clean and in safe operational order before firing it up for the first burger of the season. Remove any rust, grease, or debris built up over the winter. Inspect all parts to make sure they are in good working condition.

If you notice any worn parts, have them replaced. It's a great time to check your grill's propane tank for gas leaks.

3. Move The Grill At Least 10ft Away From The House Before Use.

It's essential to keep your gas grill at least ten feet away from your home when in use. This will help prevent any accidental fires from happening. Additionally, make sure that the area around the grill is clear of any debris or flammable materials.

4. Make Sure Your Home's Address Is Visible From The Street.

If your home's address is not visible from the street, it will be difficult for emergency responders to find your home in the event of a fire or other emergencies. Make sure that your house number is visible and easy to read from the street. If you need to, repaint or replace your address sign.

By following these simple tips, you can help reduce the risk of a fire happening in your home. So take some time this spring to clean and declutter – it could just save your life.

Milaca Area Chamber of Commerce Notes

Shannon Milender, Executive Director — (320) 983-3140

SUPPORTING MILACA, PEASE, BOCK, AND FORESTON

Thursday, April 13 – 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Morning Perk at Coffee Corner

Thursday, May 11 – 11:00 a.m. – Noon Lunch & Learn at the Gorecki Center

Thursday, June 15 – 5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Milaca Parade

Thursday, June 22 – 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. Golf Fundraiser

The latest Chamber event information can be found on our website at milacachamber.com/events.



Milaca Area Chamber of Commerce
Helping the Milaca Area Grow and Prosper all Seasons

EVENTS CALENDAR*

**Please remember this schedule is subject to change or cancellation.*

April 2023

City Council Meeting*

Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Rum River Community Foundation Fundraiser

Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 5:30 PM

May 2023

Runnin' in the Ruff

Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 9:00 AM

City Wide Garage Sale

Saturday, May 13, 2023 at 7:30 AM

City Council Meeting*

Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 6:30 PM

City Offices Closed - Memorial Day

Monday, May 29, 2023

June 2023

Milaca Parade

Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 5:00 PM

City Council Meeting*

Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Community Art Show & Open Mic

Saturday, June 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM

City Offices Closed – Juneteenth

Monday, June 19, 2023

Music in the Park

Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 6:30 PM

3rd Lair Skateboard Demo

Saturday, June 24, 2023 at 11:00 AM

Music in the Park

Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 6:30 PM

July 2023

City Offices Closed - Independence Day

Tuesday, July 4, 2023

Music in the Park

Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM

3rd Annual Kids Hands-On Event

Saturday, July 15, 2023 at 10:00 AM

City Council Meeting*

Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 6:30 PM

RecFest

Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 5:00 PM

August 2023

Milaca Municipal Airport Fly-In

Sunday, August 6, 2023 at 8:00 AM

City Council Meeting*

Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Movie in the Park

Friday, August 18, 2023 at 8:50 PM

Homegrown Music Fest

Saturday, August 26, 2023 at 12:00 PM

**All Open City Council Meetings are live streamed on our Facebook page*



ADMINISTRATION ☐ (320)983-3141

City Manager Tammy Pfaff tpfaff@milacacity.com
Elizabeth Nealley, City Treasurer treasurer@milacacity.com
Assistant City Clerk / Accounts Payable
Deloris Katke dkatke@milacacity.com
Administrative Communications Specialist
Mary Mickelson mmickelson@milacacity.com
Utility Billing / Front Desk Clerk
Mary Beth Niedzielski mniedzielski@milacacity.com

DEPUTY REGISTRAR ☐ (320)983-3143

Motor Vehicle Supervisor Amy Cain depreg@milacacity.com
Audra Wiener
Julie David

MILACA OFF SALE ☐ (320)983-6255

Manager Vicki Jeys liquor@frontiernet.net

POLICE DEPARTMENT ☐ (320)983-6166

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Office Administration Becky Porter rporter@milacacity.com

PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS ☐ (320)983-6547

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John Oldenburg
Mark Wubben
Warne Johnson
Troy Roelofs
Zach Pelarski

CITY COUNCIL DIRECTORY

Mayor Dave Dillan	(320)983-3204
Councilmember Norris Johnson	(320)983-6837
Councilmember Lindsee Larsen	(320)982-1088
Councilmember Ken Muller	(320)630-5064
Councilmember Laurie Gahm	(320)982-2347



Reflections is produced every three months.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list for a pdf version of **Reflections**, email mmickelson@milacacity.com with your request.

You may also go to our website to view the newsletter:

www.cityofmilaca.org/newsletter

Next issue will be available in July 2023.

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