



Dog License Renewals Due

City of Milaca Ordinance #95.02(B)(1) states the following:

All dogs over the age of four months kept, harbored, or maintained by their owners in the city, shall be licensed and registered with the city. Dog licenses shall be for a period of two years, and shall be issued by the City Manager-Clerk upon payment of the license fee as established by Chapter 34 of this code, as it may be amended from time to time. The owner shall state, at the time application is made for the license and upon forms provided, his or her name and address and the name, breed, color, and sex of each dog owned or

kept by him or her. No license shall be granted for a dog that has not been vaccinated against distemper and rabies, as evidenced by a certificate by a veterinarian qualified to practice in the state in which the dog is vaccinated.

If you have previously registered your dog and we have that on record, you will receive a renewal reminder in the mail mid-November.

Please check with your veterinarian to see if your dog needs to have their rabies PRIOR to obtaining their new license. License will not be issued if rabies are expired. You must bring in proof of rabies to receive li-

cense. Just bringing in the rabies tag from the vet is not enough proof as it does not show an expiration date.

The fee remains at \$10.00 for a two year license and must be paid at the time the license is issued. This new license will be effective January 2016 to December 2017.

If you have any questions, please call Deloris at city hall at 320-983-3141.



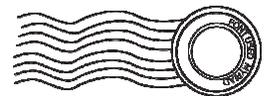
WATER/SEWER BILLING

Mail brought to the Milaca Post Office no longer is sent to St. Cloud. It is now sent to Minneapolis for distribution and sorting. What does this mean? Typically mail now

takes two days to get delivered.

To avoid late fees on your water/sewer bill, we strongly urge residents to have their payments in the mail by **the 13th of each**

month so it can be postmarked and received at city hall by the 15th.



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**DEPUTY REGISTRAR
OFFICE CLOSED
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5
FOR TRAINING**

In September each year, the city must approve a preliminary budget and levy for the upcoming year. The final levy cannot be higher than the preliminary level when the final budget and levy is approved in December. The City has several operating funds – General, Water, Sewer, Liquor, and Deputy Registrar. The General fund is the only fund that is supported by your tax dollars – all the other funds are supported by the various charges or fees paid by those who are customers of those funds.

The proposed 2016 budget increases the levy by 1.9%. There are several variables that affect the amount of property that you pay, so the city is not able to know the effect on individual properties. We continue to be very mindful of the economic situation of the nation as a whole, and of Milaca in particular. The city council tries to balance the desire to keep taxes as low as possible, but yet continue to provide services that residents and businesses expect.

The entire 2016 preliminary budget is on the city’s website, www.cityofmilaca.org. Click *City Departments*, then *Administration*. If you have any questions about the budget, please call me at 983-3141.

Greg Lerud
City Manager

RECREATION PARK BUILDING REPORT

Work continues on the park building and shelter. The roof has been shingled and work has begun on framing interior walls. Sidewalks, parking lot, and the concrete for the splash pad should be done by October 9. The building will be open for this year’s skating season and the splash pad will be ready for next summer.



Winter is on its way, here are a few things you need to think about to save energy and to save you money.

Ice Dams

It's the first big snowfall of the season and you have knots in your stomach. You're not alone! In Minnesota, this is the start of ice dam season. Some years ice dams are small and easy to ignore. But other times dangerous icicles form, water seeps through ceilings and walls, mold grows and structures are damaged. Then you might lay awake during a long winter night wondering what to do.

What's the Problem?

Ice dams appear when heat from inside the home escapes through ceilings, walls, and other materials. It warms the roof and melts snow which then runs down to the colder eaves and freezes into ice. Over time the ice dam grows bigger forcing melted snow backwards up the roof, under roofing material, and into the house. Ice dams will often form dangerous icicles and add excess weight to the roof.

Solving the Problem

Any of these underlying issues may contribute to ice dam formation:

- Poor attic insulation and/or ventilation
- Air leaks around wires, pipes, recessed lights and wall/ceiling vents
- Air leaks in attic doors, hatches or storage drawers in knee-walls
- Warm exhaust from kitchen/bath fans and clothes dryers improperly vented into the attic
- Uninsulated and/or leaky ductwork in the attic



The right time to prevent ice dams is when you don't have them. If you start work on the solution anytime spring through early fall, you can make informed, unrushed decisions. The first step is to invest in home performance assessment (energy audit) by a Certified Energy Professional who will use diagnostic testing to find what's causing your ice dams. Without this proper diagnosis you might spend time and money on the wrong solution.

The Energy Pro should do 3 assessments resulting in a prioritized solution plan:

1. A thorough visual inspection inside and out – Identifies the source of air leaks and insulation/ventilation problems. Provides visual aids for contractors.
2. Infrared thermal imaging – Same as number 1.
3. A blower door test – measures how leaky the home is overall

The cost for solving your ice dam problem will vary. The least expensive work may be done inside the attic when there is not a vaulted ceiling, flat roof or finished attic space. When those features are present, the challenges and expenses increase. Builders or remodelers may sometimes ignore ventilation problems in these more complex situations.

Continued on Page 4

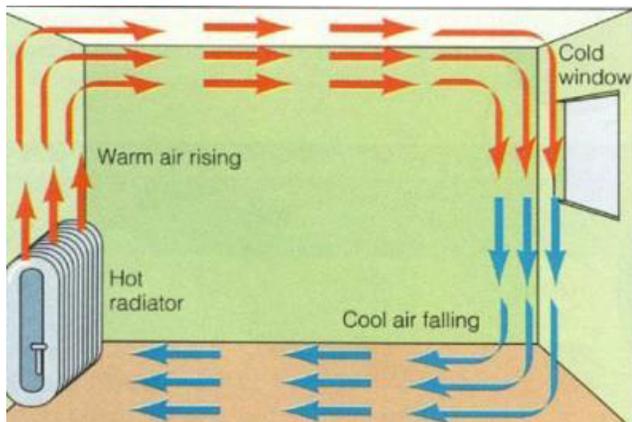
Another option is to air seal, insulate and ventilate from the outside. While more expensive, it can all be done without disruption to the inside of your home. This may be worth the investment if your problems are severe.

After the work is complete be sure to bring back the Energy Pro to assess the results and do a test for 'combustion spillage' that checks for toxic gases like carbon monoxide and other pollutants possibly coming from furnaces, water heaters, and fireplaces.



Windows

Have you ever tried to relax in your favorite comfy chair only to experience freezing feet and chilly shoulders? All you can think about are those cold, drafty windows! Before you decide the only solution is to either wrap up in another afghan or spend serious money replacing your windows, keep reading.



The surface temperature of a window – even the best windows money can buy, will be colder than the surrounding insulated wall. The draft you feel may not be a draft from leaky windows but from convection currents inside the house. Additionally heat moves from hot to cold. You are hot! (Relatively speaking). And the window is cold. The window is actually sucking the heat out of you. Convection currents and heat sucking windows are main two reasons you feel cold. Good insulated window treatments, like cellular shades, can make a huge difference in your comfort.

But there could be other issues with your windows:

- Any window will naturally feel colder than a well-insulated wall. However, a single pane window has the worst insulating value compared to double and triple panes. Double or triple pane windows can lose their seal (looking cloudy) thus losing insulation value.
- Just like glass in a picture frame, a window needs to be slightly smaller than the wall opening in order to fit. There is always a small gap between the wall and the window. Cold air comes right in if the installer did not seal the gap before covering it with the casing.
- Drafts can come through around warped window sashes that don't fit snug when closed.
- If you have older double-hung windows, the channel containing the weight mechanism in the frame can be a pathway for cold outside air.

Solving the Problem

Before you spend your kid's college fund or your retirement savings on new windows, consider more cost effective options first. Generally if your windows are not rotting, falling apart or inoperable there are many things that can be done to fix your current windows or address the real cause of the comfort issues in your home. Remember, the window sales person will always recommend windows.

Use an independent third party to assess the situation. Hire a Certified Energy Professional to find air leaks, assess window glass, and look at the larger system of the home to identify the items that are the best value for your money. They will provide a prioritized 'scope of work' plan. In a single visit, the Energy Pro will assess the home and the windows to determine what's needed – sealing air gaps, replacing panes/sashes or replacing the whole unit. There's quite a cost difference between these options!

If the solution is new windows and you hire a contractor to repair or replace your windows, be sure to have the Energy Pro return for independent review and testing. This ensures that your investment has been properly installed or repaired.

DEPUTY REGISTRAR NOTES

320-983-3143

Effective July 1, 2015, all drivers renewing their Commercial Drivers License (CDL) will be required to provide a document from the following list that meets the proof of citizenship requirement:

- ◆ Valid, unexpired U.S. passport or passport card
- ◆ Certified copy of birth certificate from any U.S. state
- ◆ Consular report of birth abroad issued by the U.S. Department or state
- ◆ Certificate of Naturalization or Certificate of Citizenship issued by U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- ◆ Valid unexpired Permanent Resident Card

OR



- ◆ Unexpired employment authorization document issued by USCIS or an unexpired foreign passport accompanied by an approved I-94 form.

If the name on the above document is different from the current name on the CDL, the customer must also present proof of the legal name change(s). Acceptable proof consists of certified marriage certificates, certified divorce decrees or other certified court orders. Divorce decrees or other court orders must specify the name change. Identity and name change documents need to show a clear link between the citizenship or permanent residency document and the current name.

This federally mandated requirement for DVS to record this information to the record is a **one-time occurrence**.

MN GOLF PLATE NOW AVAILABLE

The Minnesota Golf Plate became available for issuance to registered owners of a passenger vehicle, one-ton pickup truck, motorcycle, or recreational vehicle as of July 1, 2015. Plates for one-ton pickups and recreational vehicles are made to order and shipped to you directly within 60 days of applying for the

MN Golf plate.

In addition to the \$10.00 plate fee, a minimum annual contribution of \$30.00 to the Minnesota Section PGA Foundation is required.



DEPUTY REGISTRAR HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY
8:00 AM TO 4:30 PM

CLOSED FOR LUNCH
12:45 PM TO 1:15 PM

PROOF OF INSURANCE NEEDED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2016

Effective January 1, 2016, every owner applying for a motor vehicle or motorcycle registration, re-registration, or transfer of ownership must provide proof of insurance. Required insurance information includes the insurance company's name, the policy number and the policy expiration date for the motor vehicle or motorcycle.

SNOW IS COMING!!

A Couple Quick Reminders for the approaching Winter Season:

Reminder # 1: Snowmobiles

Every year I hear concerns about the riding of snowmobiles within the City of Milaca. I decided to take a few moments this year and explain how our city ordinances and MN DNR regulations have an impact on the riding of snowmobiles within the City of Milaca. I want to begin by stating that it is the responsibility of every rider to understand the rules of riding in the different jurisdiction that they choose to ride snowmobile. When a snowmobile is operated within the City of Milaca it is permissible for the operator to travel the most direct route to or from the nearest trail or their destination. The route that snowmobile takes through Milaca will have an impact on how and where it is to be operated. When an ATV/Snowmobile is operated within the City and on a city street it should be to the extreme right side of the street near the curb or shoulder. When an ATV/Snowmobile is operated within the City and along a State or County road the snowmobile should be operated in the right of way and off the road surface. Also, when traveling along a State and Country road the snowmobile must be operated in the same direction as traffic from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise. Please ride safely.

Reminder #2: Sidewalks and snow

I know some winters seem longer than others and at times it seems as though the snow never stops coming, but that is part of living in this beautiful winter wonderland. I have noticed over the years that some land owners/tenants remove the snow from the driveway and sidewalks during or before the snow has even stopped, but I also have noticed that some owner/tenants will allow the snow to pile up on the sidewalk until the warm days of spring to allow Mother Nature to remove the snow. I wanted to point out that the City of Milaca has an ordinance that requires the removal of snow, rubbish, debris from sidewalks within 24 hrs of deposit. Every year complaints are received about property owner/tenants not clearing sidewalks for safe passage. Please clear those sidewalks within that time allowed. Thanks.

LIQUOR STORE NOTES

Vicki Jeys, Manager

320-983-6255

Fall is here! Winter is coming and cold air will be replacing our hot summer nights.

Stop by your city liquor store and check out our great selection of fine wines, spirits and specialty beers. Of course we have all of the regular good stuff too.

Gift sets will be arriving over the next few weeks. When you buy a gift set, you pay regular price for the liquor and the

gift is, well, "a gift"!

Wine tastings will start up again in October and in November, the once a year Beaujolais will arrive the day before Thanksgiving.

We have some great give-aways for Christmas this year so stop by after Thanksgiving and start signing up!

Don't forget, we also have gift cards available for those hard to buy people!



**As always,
please don't
drink and drive
and we all stay
alive!**

Take A Moment To License Your Dog!

“Why does the City require me to license and vaccinate my pet?”

Many people living in countries without rabies control die each year from contracting this disease. Untreated rabies is almost always fatal. It is our responsibility to protect our citizens, which includes ensuring our public doesn't contract rabies from domestic animals. The only way for Cities, Counties and States to ensure the animals within their jurisdiction are vaccinated is to mandate that every animal be vaccinated. Cities have no way of obtaining proof that their residents have complied with the law unless we have a record. In order to obtain a record, cities must require residents to license their pets with the caveat being they cannot license their pet without first supplying proof of rabies vaccination. The City of Milaca can then ensure that all dogs licensed in our jurisdiction have proof of rabies and are in compliance with city ordinance.

What You Need To License Your Animal

In order to license your pet, you must have proof of current rabies vaccination. You can get the rabies vaccine from your local veterinarian.

A rabies tag is separate from a license tag. The issuer of the rabies tag will not license your pet. It is the owner's responsibility to license their pet with the City.

Your pet's license will expire January of every even year. Licenses must be purchased for the remaining term of the licensing period. Refunds cannot be issued once a license is processed.

Has Anything Changed For Your Current License?

Updating Your Pet's Record When You Move

It is important that we have your most current address and phone number in our database. If you move or change phone numbers, please call the City office and we will update the information in your pet(s) records. It is important especially if you move outside the city limits, to notify us immediately. If you move outside the limits of the City it is still recommended that you maintain your pet's license if you plan to bring the pet into town.

Lost, Stolen, Given Away, or Deceased Pets

If your pet becomes lost, stolen, given away, or is now deceased, please let us know as soon as possible. We will update the pet record immediately.

Transferring Ownership of a Pet

If you relinquish ownership of your pet to someone else who resides within our licensing jurisdiction, the City will need to transfer the pet to the new owner. The license cannot be transferred from person to person. The new owner will be required to obtain a new license for the pet for the remainder of the license period.

REMEMBER:

If you witness a crime or strongly suspect one is about to occur:

Without putting yourself in danger, carefully note any details which might be helpful to police.

These include:

- * type of crime: *automobile theft, burglary, theft from an automobile, etc.*
- * location: *the street address or nearest cross street.*
- * description of the suspect(s): *note height, build, color of skin, eyes, and hair, clothing description.*
- * disguises, or special marks, such as: *unusual features, scars or tattoos, and any weapons, tools, or vehicles being used.*
- * description of property of person(s) being subjected to criminal activity.
- * Don't try to deal with the situation yourself. Call the police - *the sooner the better.* But even if some time has passed, it's not too late to call the police.

See it. Hear it. Report it!

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 4-10



Keep your family safe with a working smoke alarm in every bedroom.

Did you know that roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep?

Smoke alarms save lives. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. In fact, having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half!

When it comes to smoke alarms, it's about "location, location, location".

The **key message** of this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, October 4-10, is to install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.

NFPA is excited to share this important information so everyone better understands the life-saving value of home smoke

Smoke Alarms

- Three out of five home fire deaths in 2007-2011 were caused by fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.
- Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half.
- In fires considered large enough to activate the smoke alarm, hardwired alarms operated 93% of the time, while battery powered alarms operated only 79% of the time.
- When smoke alarms fail to operate, it is usually because batteries are missing, disconnected, or dead.
- An ionization smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires and a photoelectric smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. For the best protection, or where extra time is needed, to awaken or assist others, both types of alarms, or combination ionization and photoelectric alarms are recommended.



Mille Lacs County

10th Annual

Operation Community Connect

Free Event and Open to the Public

Milaca, Princeton, Pease, Foreston, Bock, Onamia, Isle, Wahkon and Mille Lacs Residents

Thursday, October 15

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Milaca Public School

High School Gym & Cafeteria

500 Hwy 23 Milaca

Door prizes - children activities - free meal

People to People Connecting Together

RESOURCES

- Domestic Abuse Advocacy
- Employment/Staffing
- Childcare Resources
- Area Legal Services
- Veteran Services
- Social Security
- Housing Information
- Energy Assistance
- Chemical Dependency Treatment
- Public Health
- Mental Health Services
- Food Pantries
- Stretch your Grocery Budget
- And Much More!!

FREE SERVICES

- Lunch
- Flu Shots
- Haircuts
- Blood Lead Testing
- His Givers (used clothing & household items)
- Dental Services (26 years & under)
- MNsure Navigators
- Children's Winter Boots
- AAA Vehicle Diagnostic
- Car Seat Clinic

Need a Free Ride?

Contact Timber Trails
888-217-5222

Questions?

Contact 888-270-8208



Helping to provide an opportunity for our community to meet neighbors, learn their stories and help lighten the burden of their struggles by offering hope for a better future.



CITY OF MILACA
255 1ST ST E
MILACA MN 56353
(320) 983-3141
(320) 983-3142 FAX
WEBSITE:
www.cityofmilaca.org

“Reflections” is printed every 3 months. Stop in at city hall to pick up a copy.

If you have an e-mail address and would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please contact city hall and we will include your address and send you a COLORED copy of “Reflections”.

You may also go to our website to view the newsletter:
www.cityofmilaca.org

Next issue will be available in January, 2016

ADMINISTRATION 983-3141
City Manager Greg Lerud glerud@milacacity.com
City Treasurer Tracy Gann-Olehy tgann@milacacity.com
Assistant City Clerk Deloris Katke dkatke@milacacity.com
Building & Zoning Official Marshall Lind mlind@milacacity.com
Building & Zoning Assistant Patti Miller pmiller@milacacity.com

DEPUTY REGISTRAR 983-3143
Pam Hartman depreg@milacacity.com
Dionne Haberman
Caryn Maalis
Donita Goodwin

MILACA OFF SALE 983-6255
Vicki Jeys, Manager liquor@frontiernet.net

PARKS & RECREATION 983-5729
Greg Moyer, Director gmoyer@milacacity.com
Gregg Weller

POLICE DEPARTMENT 983-6166
Chief Todd Quaintance tquintance@milacacity.com
School Liaison Officer Jeff Shaw jshaw@milacacity.com
Officer Jackie Minks jminks@milacacity.com
Officer Brandon Armstrong barmstrong@milacacity.com
Officer Michael Boser mboser@milacacity.com
Officer Quinn Rasmussen qrasmussen@milacacity.com
Karen Aguilera, Secretary kaguilera@milacacity.com

PUBLIC WORKS 983-6547
Steve Burklund, Director steveburklund@aol.com
Darryl Stimmler
John Archibald

CITY COUNCIL DIRECTORY	
Mayor Harold "Pete" Pedersen	982-2340
Councilmember Dave Dillan	983-3204
Councilmember Laurie Gahm	982-2347
Councilmember Norris Johnson	983-6837
Councilmember Ken Muller	982-1808