



September, 2019

NEWSLETTER

CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS:

Mon. Tues. Thurs.
9:30 am to 1:30 pm

Wed. and Fri.
Closed, but resi-
dents can call for
an appointment.

HOLIDAY HOURS:

Sept. 2 - Labor Day
OFFICE CLOSED

CITY COUNCIL:

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Mad about cats

In most Lake St. Croix Beach Newsletters, there is information on the importance of licensing your dogs and cats. (See page 8) The reason is to protect the animals you call part of your family.

Unfortunately, there are members of the community that don't like cats and have taken it upon themselves to trap cats roaming freely; mistaking domesticated cats for feral cats.

The definition of a feral cat is one born in the wild and therefore is "unsocialized" or, as a previously domesticated cat that has been abandoned outdoors and has lost its house training.

LSCB does have a few feral cats. When they are trapped and taken to the Humane Society, the cats are spayed or neutered and let back into the community.

Recently a domesticated cat was trapped and taken to the Humane Society. Fortunately, that cat had a chip and was returned to its family.

It's easy to distinguish between the two. A domesticated cat can be caught and crated without much difficulty. A feral cat will behave aggressively or fractious just like any other type of wild animal. Feral cats are just that, wild. Would you trap a fox or raccoon and contact animal control to take it to the Humane Society? Probably not.

Kathi Pelnar is the LSCB animal control person. She has worked in this community for many years. Her advice to cat owners

is to have them licensed with the city. If they don't have a collar, then owners should have them chipped at the veterinarian's office. Additionally, she said, cat owners need to keep their cat's indoors, "they do not need to be outside. All cat's need is a sunny place to lay with an open window for fresh air."

If the population of feral cats was enormous and a threat to public health and safety, then the city would have to enact new policy.

The city does have an ordinance that addresses domesticated animals and it states that all domestic animals should be maintained under control at all times. If an animal is not under control, then the owner of the animal and/or other person responsible for controlling the animal shall be deemed in violation. The first two violations shall result in warnings to the owner. More than two violations shall result in issuance of an administrative citation for each successive violation.

Please keep this in mind: Not only do cat owners face potential fines, but also the threat of being baited and trapped by residents who don't like cats.



~Kathy Laur, Deputy City Clerk

Mayor's Message



Mayor Tom McCarthy

This time of year is full of many fun days. The kids are heading back to school, football season is starting, and the Minnesota State Fair is in full swing.

We celebrate Labor Day on Monday, September 2. Also, Patriot Day is September 11. City Hall will have its flags at half staff from sunrise to sunset on the 11th.

Just a reminder that you are responsible for trimming the trees and bushes back 5 feet from the road and 12 feet up. If you happen to see the pink tape on bushes and trees, those need to be trimmed back. Also, if your trees are hanging in front of traffic and street signs those need to be trimmed back for safety. Remember you can drop off the brush at no cost on Brush Day at Ag-

gregate Industries on Saturday, September 14, from 8am-10:50am.

September will also bring the annual Motorcycle Flood Run on Saturday, September 21. The breakfast and the raffles will start at 8:00 am at the Beach Bar this is the 54th anniversary of the Flood Run named in 1965 during the flood when motorcycle enthusiasts rode to Winona, Minnesota to sandbag. Today the Flood Run raises money for the Gillette Children's Hospital.

You do not have to be a biker to participate in this great cause. All are invited to take part in this benefit and mingle amongst the leathers.



I wanted to take a moment to thank the Heritage Day Committee and their volunteers for the successful event at Riverfront Park on August 6. I received a lot of compliments from residents. So, good job to everyone who made it happen and to all the residents who came out to take part in LSCB Heritage Day.

Another reminder that the emergency sirens go off the first Wednesday of the month around 1:00 pm.

~Mayor Tom



City meeting times and dates

If you're wondering what the times and dates are for city meetings, wonder no more.

The **Planning Commission** meets the first Wednesday of the month,

if necessary, at 7 pm.

The **Parks Commission** meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except during the months of November and December) at 6 pm.

The **City Council** meets the third Monday of each month at 6 pm.

The **EAC** meets the third Tuesday of the month, if necessary, at 6:30 pm.

More movin' and shakin' at the memorial park

Phase II has begun at the Lower St. Croix Valley Veterans Memorial Park.

The cement walkway has been extended to accommodate more stanchions with memorial bricks and a new bench. (The old bench got moved to the beach),

Twenty-five memorial bricks are ordered at one time and make up one stanchion. Memorial bricks are

for those veterans that live or lived in the 5-valley cities of Afton, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, LSCB or St. Mary's Point. The cost for a brick is \$25.

Plans for the installation of a new fence along the back of the park and on the south side is expected by the end of September.

In addition to those changes, new landscaping is also part of the Phase II plan. The ground has been leveled out

and new sod will go in.

The Veterans Memorial Advisory Committee got together on August 12, to install the new bench.

If you have questions, would like to make a donation, or order a brick, contact LSCB City Hall at 651-436-7031.

Members of the VMAC include: Dave Anderson, Stan Mueller, Terry Hirte, Tom McCarthy, Pete Geare and Richard Thron. Councilmember JP Armstrong was on hand to help.



Be a part of the Flood Run

You don't have to have a motorcycle to participate in the days festivities. A breakfast and raffle begins at 8 am at the Beach Bar. The event raises money for Gillette Children's Hospital.

Everyone is welcome!

If you do want to participate - all makes and models of motorcycles are welcome. Wristbands are \$10. Preregister for the run at www.floodrun.com.



The official start and end is at the Beach Bar, in Lake St. Croix Beach.

The "Crew" on the job

The Helping Hands Crew was on the job in August. As several volunteers got together to help out a resident in the community that needed some help

with brush trimming, etc. This is why the "Crew" was formed; to help residents in need.

hand too? The Crew is here for you! Just contact City Hall at 651-436-7031 and city staff will have a member of the Crew call you.

Could you use a helping

"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much."

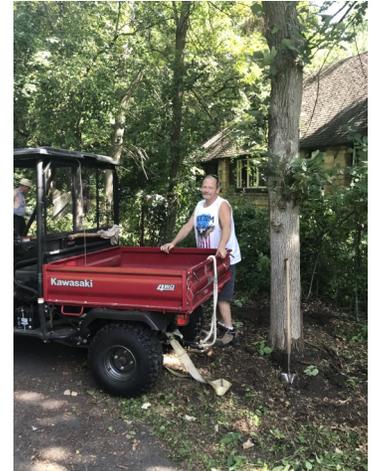
~ Helen Keller



Volunteer Joe Sandom, lends a hand pulling Buckthorn.



Jim Goergen & Noah Bluesky



Jeanne, Jake and Jeff Paulson made volunteering a family affair.



The property before the Crew really got started



After the Crew was through

Food distribution in Lakeland

Fresh produce, fruits, breads, dairy and other nutritious foods are provided for everyone, regardless of income. A \$15 cash donation allows you to go through the line to gather a carload of food.

Food Harvest of the St. Croix Valley is held at Afton-Lakeland School. Doors open at 7am. Food is available at 8am. This event takes place the 3rd Saturday of each month. Bring your own bags or boxes. The Food Harvest is for anyone on a tight budget...and who isn't?

Heritage Day happenings

Heritage Day was held on August 6. If you missed it, here are some photos from the day's events. Many thanks to all who made the day a success!



Ice cream from 9-Yum-Yum
Boy Scout's Taco in a Bag



Hydraulic Woman and the
Regulators performed



The Girl Scouts provided face
painting this year



Sherry Hillman with two of Wash-
ington County's finest



Josh Campbell was a first time vendor



The Lower
St. Croix
Valley Fire
Depart-
ment



Ashley with Washington County
Non-toxic cleaner

~Heritage Day Chair Dawn Bulera

Building permits are required

Just a reminder that building permits are needed when making improvements to your home. If you are residing, reroofing, replac-

ing your furnace, water heater, wood burning stove, or windows, a permit is required. If you are putting in a fence or

planning an addition to your house, you need a permit. Permit applications can be found on the city website or at City Hall.

Protect the St. Croix River

Adopt a Storm Drain!



“Be the solution
to water
pollution.”

This spring, a new Adopt-a-Drain program debuted across the Twin Cities metro area, with a goal of engaging local residents to help prevent water pollution. Storm drains in Lake St. Croix Beach help to protect neighborhoods against flooding, but they also flow to the St. Croix River, carrying debris off the streets and into our water.

You can make a difference by volunteering just 15-minutes, twice a month, to keep your nearest storm drain clear of litter, leaves, grass clippings and dirt. Go to Adopt-a-Drain.org and use the map to find your neighborhood storm drains – then click and sign-up to adopt. Spend a few minutes each month picking up the garbage and debris near your drain and then go online to report your work so that we can measure our collective impact.

To dispose of the waste

you collect, separate it into three categories and place it in the appropriate receptacle: trash, recyclables (glass and plastic bottles, cans) and compostables (leaves and grass clippings). Sediment collected in the spring contains winter road salt and should be put in the trash.

Adopt a storm drain today to help protect our water and keep our neighborhoods clean: www.Adopt-a-Drain.org.

Reprinted from the July, 2019 newsletter.

How to adopt a storm drain

1. Sign up online

to adopt a drain in your neighborhood



www.adopt-a-drain.org GO

2. Keep your storm drain clear

Sweep leaves, grass clippings and trash away from the storm drain year-round



3. Post a small sign in your yard

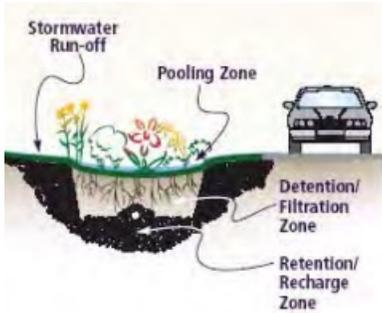
to let your neighbors know you're protecting clean water.



4. Tell us how much debris you collect from your drain each season.



Rain gardens



A simple diagram of how rain gardens work.

Rain gardens are designed to capture rain water and prevent the rapid release of excess stormwater into water systems. A well placed rain garden reduces runoff and flooding, and filters pollutants carried in stormwater runoff.

Rain gardens are shallow, constructed depressions that are planted with deep-

rooted native plants and grasses. They are strategically located to capture runoff from hard surfaces such as a driveway, parking area, sidewalk or streets.

Rain gardens fill with a few inches of water after a storm and then water filters into the surrounding soil, rather than running off to the street or storm culvert.

Rain gardens also conserve water, reducing the need for irrigation. Rain gardens are a beautiful and colorful way for homeowners, businesses and

municipalities to help ease storm water problems. There is a growing national trend by municipalities and homeowners to incorporate natural processes such as rain gardens to help relieve flooding and pollution.

LSCB City Hall has two rain gardens and there are several throughout around the city.

Rain gardens for single-family homes will typically range from 150 to 400 square feet. But remember; any size rain garden, even a small one, will contribute to solving local water pollution problems. It can also be a beautiful addition to your landscape.

Rain gardens are an inexpensive, simple and environmentally sound solution to residential storm water runoff.

Clean drains are good for the environment

This is what a storm drain should look like.



About half the drains in Lake St. Croix Beach have been adopted by residents. If you are one of those people, now is the time to clear the drain of debris. If your drain looks like the drain in the middle photo, it needs to look like the drain on the left. If you have questions please call City Hall.

This drain needs to be cleaned.



It doesn't take much to keep debris away.



License your dogs and cats!



License your dogs AND cats with the City

Licensing is one of the most important things you can do to keep your pet safe. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most overlooked ordinances by city residents.

Please know that all cats and dogs over 4 months of age are required to be li-

censed, display a city issued collar tag, and have a valid rabies vaccination.

Lifetime license fees are only \$10.00 for spayed/neutered pets and \$25.00 for pets that are not.

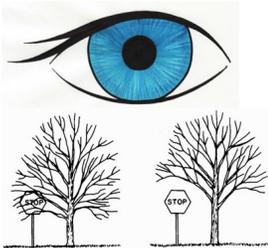
As a reminder, pet owners are also required to have a method to pick up and

properly dispose of pet waste when they are out and about. Pets are also not allowed to roam freely throughout the city. Keep an eye on your pets.

Thanks in advance for being a responsible pet owner!

Brush day is September 14

OPERATION - CLEAR VIEW



Trim back 5 feet from the road

September is the sixth month now that residents can drop off their brush at Aggregate Industries, located at 16164 Hudson Blvd. in Lakeland.

Once a month until October residents of LSCB can take advantage of this opportunity.

The schedule for the rest of the year is as follows:

**Saturday, October 12.
8:00 - 10:50 am.**

If you haven't done so already, trim your bushes and trees back 5 feet and up 12 feet.



Blocked street signs are not ok. Trim back your foliage.

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Become a Newsletter Sponsor and place a business card sized ad here!
Contact LSCB City Hall at 651-436-7031

Beach BAR

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Website: www.lscb.govoffice.com

LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH
POSTAL PATRON
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Labor Day grilling safety

There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. But, a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. Follow these simple tips and you will be on the way to safe grilling.

SAFETY TIPS

Propane and charcoal grills should only be used outdoors.

The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.

Never leave your grill unattended.

Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

CHARCOAL GRILLS

There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal

chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as fuel. If you use starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.

Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.

There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.

When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

PROPANE GRILLS

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a

leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately step away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill. If the flame goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least 5 minutes before relighting it.

FACTS

Roughly half of the injuries involving grills are thermal grills.

~Jim Stanley
Chief LSCVFD

