

HELLO,
AUTUMN

508 SOUTH STATE STREET • WASECA, MINNESOTA 56093



2019 FALL LEAF PICKUP – BEGINS OCTOBER 14, 2019

The City of Waseca is proud to announce the return of the Fall Leaf Pickup program for City of Waseca residents. This program is in addition to the City's Spring Cleanup Program which focuses on tree/branch/shrub pickup. As part of our MS4 permit, the City is required to complete regular street sweeping and try to reduce the sediment and organic waste loadings into the MS4 system to protect and improve the City's surface water system.

In order for the Fall Leaf Pickup Program to be a success, the City requests residents abide by the following guidelines:

- The City has been divided into 8 sections (View the map on the City's website at www.ci.waseca.mn.us). Each section will have their leaves picked up by the City's leaf vac on a specific day. Leaf pickup is scheduled for 4 out of the 5 work days. This allows a "make-up" day each week in case of difficult weather or emergency work.
- Residents are allowed to rake their leaves into the street gutters no more than 24 hours prior to their scheduled pickup date. Leaves should be loose and not in bags. No sticks/branches/trees/etc should be placed in the street, if staff determines that there is unwanted debris in the leaf piles, the piles will be left and the property owner will be contacted and required to remove the leaves and debris from the street and either separate the debris and wait for their next scheduled pickup day or dispose of the leaves themselves. Residents are able to rake their leaves into a pile on their lawn prior to the scheduled pickup day, but the leaves should not be actually placed in the street until 24 hours prior.
- City crews will then vac the leaves as scheduled as part of our regular fall street sweeping and leaf pickup program.
- The leaf pickup program will run for 6 weeks starting the week of October 14th. It takes 2 weeks to complete the entire City, thereby over a 6 week program all properties will have 3 pickup days over the 6 week program. See the map referenced above on the City's website at www.ci.waseca.mn.us for the scheduled dates of pickup in each section of town.

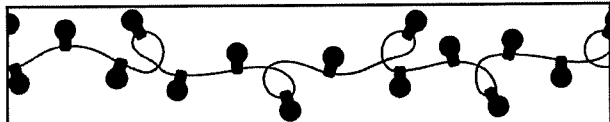
The City appreciates your participation and attention to the guidelines for this fall leaf pickup program. If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 507.835.9700.lifestyles, provide a safer, more efficient path between our existing parks, and easier access to the existing trails for both residents and visitors to enjoy. It enhances our quality of life!



"SINISTER FOREST" RETURNING TO MAPLEWOOD PARK

The scary Halloween "Sinister Forest" will be returning to Maplewood Park again in October. Please be advised that Maplewood Park will be closed to the public from October 1st to October 31st for event set up. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. **If you need access to the park, you may contact Steve Bakken, event coordinator, at 461-1677 or Brad Dushaw, City Park Director, at 835-9727. Thank you!**





2019 LED HOLIDAY LIGHTING REBATE PROGRAM

With the holidays just around the corner, it's time to start thinking about your lights and decorations!

This holiday season, Waseca Utilities is once again offering our electric customers rebates of up to \$12 for each plug-in LED string or decoration of energy-efficient LED holiday lighting they purchase through the end of the year. We are promoting LED lighting because it uses up to 90% less electricity than regular holiday lighting and lasts up to 10 times longer. A typical household could save up to \$50 during the holiday season.

While the financial savings alone are a big draw, LED Holiday Lights offer other benefits as well. The environmental benefits help make our community a little greener, and LEDs are cool to the touch - which reduces the risk of fire and personal injury. **Contact the Utility Billing office at 835-9718 for rebate coupons and additional information.**

ENERGY STAR REBATES

Waseca Electric customers must submit their Energy Star rebate applications within 3 months of the purchase date shown on the receipt/invoice. Electric appliances, dehumidifiers, window air conditioners, light fixtures and LED bulbs (DesignLights certified bulbs are also eligible) with an Energy Star logo may be eligible for a rebate.

Additional rebates are available for the purchase of an air conditioner, air & ground source heat pumps, an efficient furnace fan and an air conditioner tune-up. The rebate for most of these items requires an AHRI number and a minimum SEER rating of 14.5. The contractor that installed the unit should be able to provide that information.

Applications may be obtained at the Utility Billing Department or they are available on the City website www.ci.waseca.mn.us. An application must be completed and submitted along with the receipt and paperwork showing the Energy Star logo for the Energy Star rated items listed above.

The rebate for LED Holiday strings/decorations does not need to have an Energy Star logo on the package. Submit the packaging, receipt and completed coupon for processing. The coupon is available for holiday lights at the Utility Billing office and on the City website www.ci.waseca.mn.us. There will also be totes available in the City Hall foyer for customers to bring in holiday lights for recycling during the month of December.

If you need more information or have questions, please contact the Utility Billing office at (507)835-9718.



CARBON MONOXIDE DANGER

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, poisonous gas produced by burning gasoline, wood, propane, charcoal or other fuel. Its invisible nature makes it all the more deadly. Common household appliances, which can produce CO include hot water heaters, fireplaces, gas ranges, space heaters, wood burning stoves, refrigerators, grills, gas or oil furnaces, and clothes dryers. Your gas furnace should be tested periodically for CO emissions by a heating contractor.

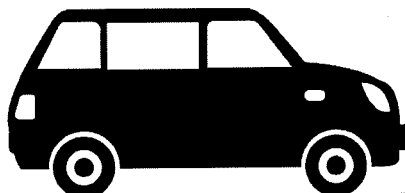
Signs and symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning may include a dull headache, weakness, nausea or vomiting, dizziness, shortness of breath, confusion, blurred vision, or loss of consciousness. In addition to properly maintaining, using, and venting household appliances, carbon monoxide detectors should be installed in all homes to prevent poisonings and deaths. At least one CO detector should be installed on every level of the home, near the sleeping areas.

If a CO detector sounds its alarm, alert everyone in the house to the danger. If anyone is experiencing symptoms of CO poisoning, leave the house immediately and call 9-1-1. **If you're not experiencing any symptoms but your CO detector sounds its alarm, turn off all fuel burning appliances, open windows to ventilate the house, and call an experienced technician before restarting the appliances.**

WINTER PARKING

Parking on City Streets is not allowed after any part of the City of Waseca receives 3" or more of snow. The snow emergency can start at any time of the day or night; there will be no public announcement and your vehicle will be ticketed if left on the street after 3" of snow has fallen. The vehicle owner is responsible for monitoring weather conditions and moving their vehicle off the street. Your vehicle does not need to be plowed around to be considered blocking snow removal. If your vehicle is still not moved 24 hours

after being ticketed, it will be ticketed again and towed. The cost of a ticket is \$30.00. Vehicles may be parked on the street once it has been plowed from curb to curb. Vehicles parked overnight in the downtown No Parking from 1 -5 AM zones, will be ticketed and towed immediately if a snow emergency is in effect. **For more information, please contact the Waseca Police Department, at 507-835-9720.**



COLD WEATHER RULE & DISCONNECTION OF UTILITY SERVICE

Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule (MN Statute 216B.097) was established to help customers who cannot pay their utility bill in full. It does not completely stop winter disconnections, but provides extra protection from October 15th through April 15th. During this time, a residential utility customer can prevent disconnection for nonpayment if the disconnection would affect their primary heat source AND if the customer enters into and keeps a mutually agreed upon payment schedule with the utility. You must exercise your rights under the Cold Weather Rule in order to be protected from utility disconnection if you are delinquent on your utility bill and receive a disconnection notice.

Information about the Cold Weather Rule and an application for disconnect protection was included with your October utility bill. There is no requirement to return the completed application; however, residential customers wishing to be covered by Cold Weather Protection should return the application, with a proposed payment plan, to the Utility Billing office as soon as possible after October 1st. Please be aware that submittal of a cold weather protection application does not automatically protect a customer from disconnection, but only initiates the process for review and approval of the application.

If you have any questions regarding your utility bill or need to obtain an application, please call the Waseca Utility Billing office at 835-9718 during the office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.



THANK YOU ADOPT-A-PARK VOLUNTEERS!

The Adopt-A-Park program provides organizations, groups, families, and individuals an opportunity to volunteer their services in assisting Park Department staff keep parks and trails clean, safe, and aesthetically pleasing. The minimum volunteer commitment is to clean their chosen site of litter, debris, and downed tree limbs once per month from April to October. The City of Waseca & Waseca Park Board extends their sincere appreciation to the Adopt a Park volunteers. The 2019 volunteers are: Tim & Robin Terrell Family, Birds Eye, Boy Scouts Troop 85, Gary and Jill Tobin, Frisk Family, Faith United Methodist Church, Lori Pommerenke Family, Waseca Garden Club, Kathy Oftedahl, Dave & Melissa Dunn, Don Zwach, Bruce Boyce and Sally Takala, Gyles and Carol Randall, Dean Pertle, Kristy Larson, Stella Ewert, Vicki and Dennis Neidt, Debbie Carlson, and James Christiansen. These volunteers are to be commended for their community servitude. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

For more information on the Adopt-A-Park program, please contact Brad Dushaw, at 507-835-9727

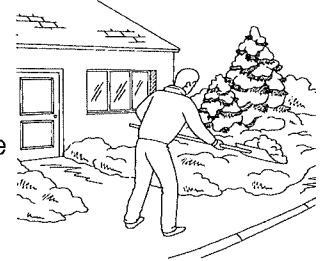
FALL CLEANUP TIME!

With colder weather and snow approaching, now is the time to ready your property for winter! It's a good time to keep the grass mowed, cut down those tall weeds and trim the overgrowth that can harbor unwanted pests during the winter months. Take a few moments to haul unwanted rubbish away and dispose of hazardous materials appropriately. **Come springtime you'll be glad you did!**



SHOVELING YOUR SIDEWALK • IT'S THE LAW (IT'S ALSO THE NEIGHBORLY THING TO DO)

Please make Waseca safe for everyone by clearing snow and ice from the public sidewalks around your property. We are all pedestrians at some point in the day, whether walking to a car, to school, to neighbors, or to the local store. Without a wide, clear path, snow and ice on the sidewalk can make it difficult to walk safely.



CITY OF WASECA POLICY – ICE AND SNOW A NUISANCE



All snow and ice remaining upon public sidewalks hereby declared to constitute a public nuisance and shall be abated by the owner or tenant of the abutting private property within twenty-four (24) hours after such snow or ice has ceased to be deposited.

If you have questions relating to this matter please call 507-835-9738.

BULLETIN BOARD

ADOPT A FIRE HYDRANT

The City of Waseca is asking customers to assist in keeping snow cleared away from fire hydrants. Please take a moment to locate the fire hydrant nearest your home and/or business and ensure that it is totally clear of snow. This will allow the Fire Department quick access in case of a fire. It also assists snowplow drivers in identifying where hydrants are located. If you are not able to clear snow away from your neighborhood hydrant, please call Waseca Utilities at 835-9718 or the Fire Dept. at 835-3210 and city personnel will clear the hydrant. We greatly appreciate your help in identifying and clearing away snow from the hydrants.



GIVE THE GIFT OF HEAT WITH SALVATION ARMY'S HEATSHARE PROGRAM

HeatShare is a voluntary program administered by the Salvation Army that helps those in need in our community by providing funds for heating bills and heating-related repairs.

For more information, you can visit the Salvation Army's website at heatshare.org or contact them at 800-842-7279. If you would like to make a tax deductible online contribution to this program, you can do so on their website. You can also enclose a check made payable to HeatShare along with your utility payment, and Waseca Utilities will forward your contribution directly to the Salvation Army.

REMINDER

Garbage cans are to be placed behind the curb line so the City street crew can clear the street all the way back to the curb. This reminder has year-round implications. It's not only important for snow removal, it's also important for street sweeping, leaf and brush pick up. Please be kind and keep your

City Street Workers in mind!

Thank you!



UTILITIES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

If you need help paying your utility bills, you may qualify for assistance. Please contact any of the following agencies for more information:

Minnesota Valley Action Council
108 10th Ave NE,
Waseca
(507)835-8240

Neighborhood Service Center
203 3rd Ave NW,
Waseca
(507)833-4119

MN Prairie County Alliance
299 Johnson Ave, Suite 160,
Waseca
(507)837-6600

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
111 4th St NW
(507)201-7075

Salvation Army Heat Share
(800)842-7279

WASECA PEG CHANNEL 8

The City of Waseca operates the local PEG (public, education, government) access channel. This channel can be viewed locally by all Mediacom and Consolidated Communication subscribers on Channel 8 (or digitally at 107.1 if you are a Mediacom subscriber). This channel is a community-based resource that can be used by both individuals and organizations to display announcement slides and video programming. The City also plays back all City Council meetings on this channel. **If you would like more information on Waseca Peg Channel 8, stop by City Hall or call 835-9700.**

