



Summer 2021

508 SOUTH STATE STREET
WASECA, MINNESOTA 56093

Night to Unite - Aug 3rd

The Waseca Police Department would like to invite the community to join the annual Night to Unite celebration at the Waseca WaterPark. The 2021 Night to Unite will take place on Tuesday, August 3rd from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. The purpose of Night to Unite is to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and to allow residents to interact with public safety providers.

We will be collecting items for the food shelf at the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center. Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate. Cash is also accepted and will be used to make bulk purchases of needed items!

Night to Unite is sponsored by the Waseca Police Department, Waseca Fire Department and City of Waseca. There will be free hotdogs and Ice Pops. Admission to the WaterPark is free during the event. Police cars and fire trucks will be on display

Would You Like to Stay in the Loop on What's Happening Within the City ?

If you would like to receive notifications from the City of Waseca on what's happening, then visit www.ci.waseca.mn.us and click on the Notify Me tab and sign up to receive a text message anytime the City of Waseca updates their website. This will help keep you in the loop on such things as Council Meetings, Leaf & Brush Pick-up, Water Park updates and more.

Coming Soon: Historic Downtown Walking Tour

Ever walk downtown and think to yourself, I wonder how old this building is? I wonder what used to be here 60, 70, 100 years ago? Then wonder no more, the Waseca Heritage Preservation Commission is working on a Historic Downtown Walking Tour that will have QR Codes in the front windows of each building in the Historic District later this year. Scan the code and learn the history of all your favorite buildings in downtown Waseca!

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 current 2021 volunteers are: Dave and Melissa Dunn, Dan and Cheryl Forrest, Linda Wilson, Vicki and Dennis Neidt, Waseca Garden Club, Don Zwach, ICAN Independent Counseling Advocacy Network, Kathy Oftedahl, Dean Pertle and Kristy Larson, Lori Pommerenke Family, Sally Takala and Bruce Boyce, and The Terrell Family. 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.

Parking in Residential Areas:

In order to maintain the City of Waseca's goal for natural, scenic beauty and attractiveness, the City would like to remind everyone of the regulations regarding the parking of passenger cars and trucks on private yards.

All exterior automobile parking shall be confined to areas paved with asphalt, concrete or approved pavers. All new or expanded parking shall meet this standard. You cannot park on grass areas of yards. Inoperable or unlicensed automobiles shall not be stored outdoors, whether on a lot or on a street. All vehicles must have current registration, be in running condition, and be street legal per the State of Minnesota regulations. **Any questions or inquiries regarding these regulations may be directed to Planning & Zoning Coordinator, Bill Green at 507-835-9738 or billg@ci.waseca.mn.us**

Construction Project Update

With construction season in full swing, here is an update on this year's projects:

State Street South Water Main Improvements – Phase 2:

Water main replacement along South State Street (Hwy 13) between 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue and between 2nd Avenue and just north of the RR tracks.

UPDATE: R.A.W Construction LLC out of Faribault began work on June 7th and completed this project on July 8th.

2nd Avenue SE and 3rd Avenue SE Reconstruction and Utility Improvements:

Street reconstruction and utility improvements along both 2nd Avenue SE and 3rd Avenue SE between 3rd Street SE and 5th Street SE.

UPDATE: R.A.W Construction LLC out of Faribault completed 96% of this project in 2020. Surface bituminous pavement and minor restoration and repairs remain and will be completed after the contractor cleans and videos the new sanitary sewer main for quality control purposes.

State Hwy 13 Safe Routes to School and Trail Improvements:

Construction of 10-foot-wide trail along the east side of North State Street (Hwy 13) from 15th Avenue to 19th Avenue AND from 2nd Street NW to North State Street at 17th Avenue (Waseca High School front entrance).

UPDATE: Ulland Brothers Inc. from Albert Lea began construction in late April and completed the new trail pavement in early June. Due to a longer lead time for materials, installation of the pedestrian flasher warning system at the 17th Avenue crossing is expected to take place in late July or August.

26th Avenue NE Reconstruction:

Reconstruction of 26th Avenue NE from State Hwy 13 to the East City Limits (approximately 250 feet east of 8th Street NE).

UPDATE: James Bros. Construction of Elysian began work on June 7th. The base bituminous layer was placed July 6th-7th, and the final surface layer is expected to be placed July 15th. Final project completion is anticipated by the end of July.

Brown Avenue and Well No. 2 Water Main Improvements:

Water main construction and replacement along Brown Avenue from about 150 feet southwest of Elm Avenue to the West City Limits (approximately 900 feet east of 110th Street) AND from the west end of 5th Avenue SW to the northeast corner of the U of MN Southern Research and Outreach Center property.

UPDATE: GM Contracting Inc. from Lake Crystal began work along Brown Avenue in early June. Work along both Brown Avenue and 5th Avenue SW will continue in July with project completion expected in August.

State Hwy 13 and 7th Avenue Drainage Improvements (MnDOT Signal Project):

A MnDOT signal and ADA sidewalk ramp improvement project at the intersection of North State Street (Hwy 13) and 7th Avenue includes City storm sewer improvements in the southwest corner of the intersection.

UPDATE: The DOT's prime contractor, River City Electric Co. of Mankato, plans to begin work in early August. The City storm sewer improvements will be completed during the first 2-3 weeks (with a 7th Avenue detour) and the entire project will be finished by early October.

2021 Water Main Improvements:

Primarily involves water main replacement along 14th Avenue NW from the Frontage Road to the dead end one block west. This project also includes two spot repair locations on 8th Street SE (near 14th Avenue SE and just south of the RR tracks).

UPDATE: This project will be out for bid from July to August with construction expected in September or October.

2021 Trunk Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation:

Sanitary sewer main pipe lining and manhole rehabilitation along 8th Avenue NE between 7th Street NE and Clear Lake Drive AND 1/2 block east and west of 10th Street NE from 8th Avenue NE to 10th Avenue NE.

UPDATE: It is anticipated that the contractor, Visu-Sewer Inc. out of Blaine, will begin work late summer or fall with final completion by December 17th.

Annual City-Wide Improvement Programs:

- Crack Seal and Seal Coat – Pearson Brothers Inc. will be crack sealing, seal coating, and fog sealing various streets and trails throughout the City later this summer.
- City Sidewalk Repairs – Primarily sidewalk replacement at various locations throughout the City. Bids were received July 15th with work to begin in August or September.
- Street Enhancements – Mill and overlay of bituminous pavement to be completed by City Streets Department staff later this summer.

UPCOMING 2022 PROJECT – 8th Street SE Reconstruction and Rehabilitation:

This project will consist of the reconstruction of 8th Street SE from Elm Avenue East to just north of the RR tracks AND rehabilitation (mill and overlay) of 8th Street SE from just south of the RR tracks to State Hwy 13. Project design will be completed this fall with bidding in the early spring of 2022 and construction expected sometime between April and November of 2022.

Additional City project information, including maps and estimated costs, can be found on the City website at: <https://www.ci.waseca.mn.us/engineering/pages/capital-improvement-projects>

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 or the installation of a load limiting device, but provides extra protection from October 15th through April 15th. During this time, a residential utility customer can prevent disconnection or the installation of a load limiting device 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 to be protected from utility disconnection or installation of a load limiting device 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 will be included with your utility bill due October 15th. 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 Waseca Utilities 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 (after October 1st), please call Waseca Utilities at 835-9718 during the office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Waseca PEG Channel 8

The local PEG (Public, Education, and Government) access television channel is operated by the City of Waseca and available to all Mediacom and Consolidated Communications cable subscribers. It is a free community resource that can be used by individuals and non-profit organizations to display both informative slides and video programming. It is also where you can view the most current City Council meetings. The channel can be seen on channel 8, as well as, other digital channels depending on your cable package. If you would like more information on Waseca PEG Channel 8, stop by City Hall or call 835-9728.

Preventing Stormwater Pollution

If you enjoy our scenic local lakes and waterways, take a few minutes to learn about the City's stormwater system and how each of us can help reduce stormwater pollution:

Waseca's stormwater system consists of ditches, curbs, gutters, pipes, tile, manholes, and catch basins. Primarily located along City streets, the purpose of the system is to capture and transport surface runoff to area wetlands, ponds, lakes, and streams.

Contrary to popular belief, water that enters the stormwater system does NOT flow to the wastewater treatment facility. Ultimately it flows untreated into local wetlands, ponds, lakes, and streams. In other words, anything other than water that makes it into the system has the potential to pollute our water resources. Examples of pollutants include leaves, grass clippings, pet waste, fertilizers, oil, and salt (deicers).

The City has programs in place, such as street sweeping and fall leaf clean-up, to help keep the gutters and drains clean, but the practice of pollution prevention by residents will always be more effective than any clean-up effort. As a user of the stormwater system, you can make a big difference in keeping Waseca's water resources healthy and beautiful.

Listed to the right are some steps that everyone can take to help keep our waterways clean:

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- Keep grass clippings, leaves, and trash out of the street, curb and gutter, and storm drains (can block/plug drains and pipes, depletes oxygen, and promotes weed and algae growth)
 - Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste (contains bacteria and parasites, depletes oxygen, releases ammonia, and promotes weed and algae growth)
 - Do not over-apply salt or deicing chemicals (kills plants and can create a saline dead zone at the bottom of lakes and ponds)
 - Use ZERO-Phosphorus fertilizers on your lawn (phosphorus encourages weed and algae growth)
 - Use a commercial car wash to minimize the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the stormwater system
 - Recycle paint, oil, and other industrial liquids at participating service centers – **DO NOT DUMP DOWN THE STORM DRAIN!!**

Additional information about the City's stormwater system and program is available on the City website at: <https://www.ci.waseca.mn.us/engineering/pages/swtormwater-management>

If you have any stormwater related questions or concerns, please call the Stormwater Hotline – (507) 835-9730.



Waseca Utilities



SAVE TIME AND MONEY WITH AUTOMATIC BANK PAYMENTS!

- Q. What are automatic bank payments?**
A. Automatic bank payments are an automatic transfer program that allows you to pay your utility bill without writing a check.
- Q. What are the advantages of automatic bank payments?**
A. It saves you time! It simplifies your life! You will never have a late fee. It ends the hassle of remembering to pay your utility bill, saves postage, and eliminates check writing or purchasing a money order.
- Q. How is my automatic bank payment automatically deducted from my account?**
A. Once you authorize the transfer, your payment is electronically transferred directly from your checking or savings account to the City of Waseca's Utility account.
- Q. When will my utility payment be deducted from my account?**
A. Your payment will be deducted from your account on the due date of your utility bill. If the due date falls on a weekend or holiday, your payment will be deducted from your account the following business day.
- Q. If I don't write checks, how do I keep my checkbook balance straight?**
A. Since your payment is made on the due date, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date. You will still receive a copy of your bill at the beginning of each month with the amount to be withdrawn from your account. This payment is detailed on your monthly bank statement.
- Q. Without a canceled check, how can I prove I made my payment?**
A. Your bank statement gives you an itemized list of electronic payments. It's your proof of payment and is detailed on your monthly bank statement.
- Q. Are automatic payments risky?**
A. Automatic payments are less risky than check payments. It can't be lost, stolen or destroyed in the mail, and it has an extremely high rate of accuracy.
- Q. What if I change bank accounts?**
A. The City of Waseca Utility Billing Department will provide you with a new authorization form to complete. Please allow up to 30 days for the processing of your request after it has been submitted.
- Q. How much does an automatic bank payment cost me?**
A. It costs you **nothing** and saves you time and postage. It simplifies your life!
- Q. What if I try automatic bank payments and don't like it?**
A. You can cancel your authorization for electronic bank payments. Please allow up to 30 days for the processing of your request after it has been submitted. But, once you've enjoyed the convenience, time and money savings of automatic bank payments, we doubt you'll want to go back to making payments the way you did before.
- Q. How do I sign up for automatic bank payments?**
A. Complete and sign the authorization form below. Then detach the form at the perforated edge and return it to Waseca Utilities with a voided check for a checking account or savings deposit slip for a savings account.

Please call Waseca Utilities at (507)835-9718 with any questions.

Waseca Utilities Automatic Bank Payment Plan Form

Checking Account No. _____ OR Savings Account No. _____

Full Name on Account _____

Financial Institution's Name/Address _____

Financial Institution's Routing Number _____

I hereby authorize Waseca Utilities to initiate transactions to debit the above-referenced account on a monthly basis for payment of my utility bill. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until Waseca Utilities has received from me notification of its termination in such a time and manner as to allow a reasonable opportunity to act upon it.

Service Address _____ Utility Account No. _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Telephone Number (H) _____ (W) _____

Attach a voided check for checking accounts or a savings deposit slip for savings accounts
or an ACH authorization form from your bank or financial institution.