



MAD LAKE UPDATE CITYWIDE NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2016 Issue



Do I need a permit? Contrary to popular belief, it's better to ask permission than forgiveness.

We have had many residents confused about whether or not a permit is necessary for the work they are doing to their property. To clear up this confusion, we thought we would briefly review our permits. There are two different types of permits: a zoning permit and a building permit.

A zoning permit is a free permit, it looks at how a project fits into the community and whether the intended use or change fits with the City's zoning ordinance. It regulates setbacks, types of uses, height, parking requirements, and similar concerns. Different regulations apply for different districts. Common zoning permits are required for lakeshore alterations, replacing sidewalks, replacing driveways, replacing sheds (under 200 square feet), landscaping, signs, fencing, etc.

A building permit looks at all the elements of a zoning permit but also looks at structural changes. Building permits must be authorized by the City before the construction of a new or existing building can legally occur. Common building permits include mechanical installations, re-siding, re-roofing, plumbing work, replacing windows, and any new construction work including water heaters and air conditioner installation.

How do I know if my neighbor has a permit? The City hands out a bright blue or green piece of paper for the property owner to display if they have received the proper permit. If you don't see the paper in the window or door, please give the City a call and we can verify their application.

Permit applications are available at City Hall, and any work started without the proper permit will be subject fines and in some cases removal. The purpose of these permits is to monitor that work is completed properly and for your safety and protection. If you have any further questions about permits, please feel free to contact City Hall.

Annual Performance Survey

This is the second year of the annual performance survey. We mailed out a copy of the performance survey with the new city newsletter this fall. Below is a summary of the results of the survey, a full summary can be found online or by contacting City Hall.

The overall rating of All Services remained relatively constant at 76% (77% in 2014). Total respondents were down slightly from 2014, we encourage all to participate this October when we complete the survey again!

Highlights: Fire service (93%) and Sanitary services (84%) continue to be receive the largest percentage of "Excellent" or "Good" responses. 96% of Residents rated the community as "Safe" (70%) or "Somewhat Safe" (26%). Last year, only 87% of respondents responded "Somewhat Safe" or higher. The overall feeling of safety went up 9%. Other areas that saw improved scores were the quality of: Water services, Parks, Communications and Staff.

Mad Lake Trivia (answer on page 3)

Q: Which one of the people below was not a Mayor of Madison Lake?

- A. Clell Hemphill
- B. Kenneth Reichel
- C. Jerry Groebner
- D. Jim Sheppard
- E. Denis Haefner

Answer on last page.

Contact Us!

507-243-3011 • City@ci.madison-lake.mn.us • www.ci.madison-lake.mn.us

Annual Performance Survey (Continued)

Areas for Improvement: Road Conditions continues to be the lowest rated area for the community with only 41% responding “Excellent” or “Good” this is down from last year by 10%. Council dedicated additional funds in this year’s budget and plans to continue to work towards improving road conditions in the community. Snow plowing was also down since Fall 2014 by 6%.

We also ask about communications during the annual survey, 53% of respondents said their preferred method of communication is the City’s listserv, this is up 2% from last year. Mailings came in second with 22%, followed by the Water bill at 9%. The City’s Facebook page and website both rate 6.5%. We encourage all residents to sign up for the listserv or “Like” us on Facebook.

Golf Cart Ordinance Update

The City of Madison Lake authorized motorized golf carts to be used on the streets of Madison Lake last year. We received several complaints about golf carts not following rules in our annual performance survey. Please review the information below to make sure golf carts can continue to be allowed in town. 2016 permits are now available at City Hall, please stop by and pick up your permit.

- All operators must have a valid driver’s license.
- Golf carts cannot exceed 15 miles per hour or 10 miles per hour with children under 10 on board.
- Children under 5 years old must have safety belt or child safety seat.
- All passengers must be seated while the golf cart is in motion. Lap seating is prohibited.
- Golf Carts are only allowed on street within City limits. Driving down MN State Hwy 60 is prohibited. Operators are allowed to cross at a 90-degree angle and exit off the Highway at the first available cross street.
- Golf carts are not allowed in City parks.
- Alcohol: Open bottle is prohibited in the golf cart while in operation.
- A permit may be revoked at any time if there is evidence that the permittee cannot operate a motorized golf cart safely. If the permittee loses their driving privileges in the State of Minnesota or has been convicted to two or more violations may be subject to their permit being revoked.

These regulations are intended to keep our community safe! If you have any further questions about these regulations or permits, please feel free to contact City Hall.

How to check for water leaks

The EPA estimates 10% of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day. Periodically you should:

Read the Water Meter - Use your water meter to check for leaks in your home. Start by turning off all faucets and water-using appliances and make sure no one uses water during the testing period. Take a reading on your water meter, wait for about 30 minutes, and then take a second reading. If the dial has moved, you have a leak.

Check for Leaky Toilets - The most common source of leaks is the toilet. Check toilets for leaks by placing a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If after 15 minutes the dye shows up in the bowl, the toilet has a leak.

Check for Leaky Faucets - The next place to check for leaks is your sink and bathtub faucets. Replacing the rubber O-ring or washer inside the valve can usually repair dripping faucets. Replace worn and leaking washers, gaskets, pipes or defective fixtures. Don’t forget to check all outside faucets and make sure the valve closes properly!

	Leak Size	Gallons Per Day	Gallons Per Month	Cubic Feet per Quarter
	A dripping leak consumes:	15 gallons	450 gallons	180 Cubic Feet
.	A 1/32 in. leak consumes:	264 gallons	7,920 gallons	3,168 Cubic feet
■	A 1/16 in. leak consumes:	943 gallons	28,300 gallons	11,319 Cubic Feet

Project Updates – Don't Forget to Sign up for the City's Listserv!

Comprehensive Plan

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the Planning Commission has been working hard on updating the comprehensive plan. We completed a survey last summer and a focus group in the fall. They are now working on updating the long term comprehensive plan map based on the information they received. Although the map is not set in stone, it gives the council an outlook on the type of development they would recommend in the undeveloped areas surrounding the City. We will hold the public hearing on the updated comprehensive plan later this summer.

Lindbergh Park

The City held a community input session on Lindbergh Park in January. The session had relatively low turnout but high quality input. The City has submitted a grant application for some upgrades at Lindbergh Park. Depending on the outcome of the grant the project scope could change. Plans currently include adding a bathroom facility and shelter at the park, minor playground equipment additions, adding connecting trails and resurfacing the basketball court. The City is accepting donations for the bathroom facility and park shelter at City Hall. The City's grant application is looked at more competitively the more donations it receives.



Fourth & Fifth

The City Council held the assessment hearing for the 4th & 5th Street project and will consider awarding the project on April 4th. The project scope includes 4th & 5th Streets from Lakeshore Drive to Spruce Street, Chestnut Avenue from Main Street to 5th Street and Spruce Street from Main Street to 1st Street; and alley infrastructure replacement and improvements on Block 17 and 18. Additional construction of water main loops along 1st Street from Chestnut Avenue to Walnut Avenue and along Point Avenue from Sarah Circle to Point Pleasant Road are also being considered to improve the overall water infrastructure. More information can be found online and updates will be provided on the 4th & 5th street project listserv.



Public Works & Police Facility

Last newsletter, we invited all residents to an open house on the proposed public works & police facility and provided a detailed explanation of some of the driving factors for the facility (a copy can be found on the City's website or by contacting City Hall). We had no residents show up to the open house. We receive bids on the proposed project of \$546,000 for a building without the offices or bathrooms completed and \$611,260 for a completed building (office area and bathrooms built).



The Council tied 2-2 on whether to proceed with the facility and since there was lack of a majority the bids were released. The biggest contention was whether or not the reverse referenda the City received prior to the outreach should stop the project. The needs and concerns of the last newsletter are still present. The reverse referenda will expire in June and the Council plans to attempt to build the facility again. The bidding on the project will most likely not be completed until the end of summer to avoid peak season costs (bidding projects too late in the spring or summer can result in significantly higher prices than fall or winter), this means the project would not be built until at least Spring 2017.

Mad Lake Trivia Answer: D- Jim Sheppard. Two other Sheppards have served as Mayor, can you name who they were?

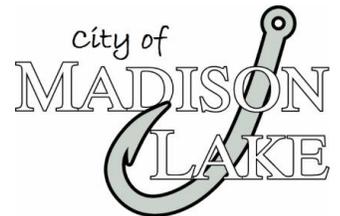
Looking for an opportunity to advertise your business? Put an ad in the Mad Lake Update, the City's semi-annual newsletter! Find out more by contacting City Hall, **hurry space is limited!**

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MAD LAKE UPDATE SPRING/SUMMER EDITION

UPCOMING EVENTS *SUBJECT TO CHANGE, CHECK WEBSITE

- March 21st 7 pm- City Council Meeting
- March 26th 10 am- Easter Egg Hunt at All Saints
- March 28th 7 pm- Planning Commission Meeting
- April 1st 5 pm to 8 pm -Paddlefish Days Steak Fry at the Fire Hall
- April 2nd 8 pm- Eagle Lake, St. Clair & Madison Lake Dance to Support at Eagle Lake American Legion
- April 4th 7 pm City Council Meeting
- April 18th 7 pm City Council Meeting
- April 23rd 10 am to 12 pm MLWLA- Earth Day Clean-up at Bray Park
- April 25th 11 am Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting
- April 25th 7 pm Planning Commission Meeting
- April 27th 5 pm EDA Meeting
- May 2nd 7 pm City Council Meeting
- May 7th 9 am to 12 pm - Farmers Market Opening Weekend at 400 Main Street
- May 6-7th – Citywide Garage Sales
- May 14th - Spring Clean-up
- May 16th 7 pm City Council Meeting
- Summer Movie Nights (TBD)
- June 1st Animal License Renewals Due
- June 4th 10 am to 12 pm Car Seat Training
- June 18th 7:30 am sign up 9 am to 3 pm- Wally Schaub Memorial Crappie Tournament
- June 18th 10 am Duck Lake Preservation Association Annual Meeting at Duck Lake County Park
- July 2nd Fireworks at Northshore Park
- July 20th 7 am Greater Mankato Growth Business Before Hours at City Hall
- July 20th-24th - Paddlefish Days & Bike Rodeo
- August 2nd 6 to 8 pm– Night to Unite, National Night Out
- August 10, 2016 Duck Lake Preservation Association Picnic Duck Lake County Park



The City of Madison Lake's vision is:
To be a thriving, engaged and supportive community with a legacy for small town character and big opportunities.

The City of Madison Lake's mission is:
To preserve and enhance the quality of life for Madison Lake Residents, Business Owners and Visitors, by providing excellent public services.