



CITY OF WASECA

508 South State Street • Waseca, Minnesota 56093

SUMMER 2018

2019 Improvement Project Planned

In 2017, the City of Waseca applied for a grant through MnDOT's Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP). This is a competitive program between various community projects throughout the state. The Waseca submittal was for the complete reconstruction of 3rd Street N.E. from 4th Avenue N.E. and 11th Avenue N.E. The City learned in February of this year they were successful in the grant application and were awarded \$1,000,000 for the project. Improvements include replacement of the existing sanitary sewer and water main in this corridor. Storm sewer will be replaced and upgraded to minimize localized flooding. A one-block segment along this route will be studied to determine the feasibility of eliminating a private sanitary sewer and water system. A new roadway and sidewalk system are planned as part of the improvements. The project is currently in the planning stages and construction is planned to begin in the spring of 2019 and will be completed by early summer of 2020.

Vision 2030

After extensive community input and involvement, the City Council recently adopted the Vision 2030 document. Vision 2030 identifies a coordinated community vision for the future, and provides action steps to achieve that vision. It will help entities and individuals in the community work together to make better use of existing and new resources.

The next step in the Vision 2030 process is the implementation of the action steps to achieve the vision. The Business & Entrepreneurial Support Team (B.E.S.T.) is taking the lead in the development of the implementation plan including proposed timelines, and identifying entity(ies) that will be involved in each action step. Adoption of the action steps by B.E.S.T. is expected by mid-June.

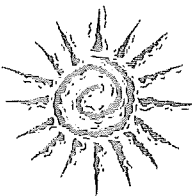
Following adoption of the implementation plan is the adoption of metrics that will measure success in achieving the goals of Vision 2030. This process will include a scorecard or similar process that will make it easy

for everyone to identify the areas of success, action steps in process, and action steps that need further attention and implementation.

Several steps have already been taken to implement Vision 2030. One example is the City of Waseca and Waseca Public Schools, through Community Education, worked together to provide canoe, kayak and stand-up paddle board rental at Clear Lake Park. Existing resources from the City and School District were coordinated to provide an exciting new service in Waseca. Dozens of people have already taken advantage of this affordable new recreational opportunity which is available at the Beach House on weekends at Clear Lake Park. This is just one small example of how Vision 2030 will help improve life in Waseca.



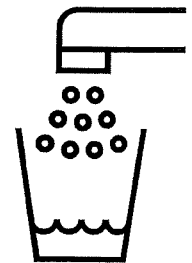
Want to learn more? Vision 2030 documents can be found at <http://ci.waseca.mn.us/2018/03/waseca-vision-2030-report/>



Are you Interested in Solar Power ?

In compliance with the City of Waseca's Solar and Small Power Generation Policy relating to electric power production as adopted by Waseca City Council on March 20, 2018, the City of Waseca is required to work with small electric power producers, such as a residential solar installation. The City of Waseca must provide information regarding rates and installation requirements free of charge to all interested customers upon request. All installations require an application, review, and approval from the City. Interested customers should contact Carl Sonnenberg, Utilities Director, at (507)835-9713 or carls@ci.waseca.mn.us.

DRINKING WATER REPORT



All community water systems must distribute a drinking water report known as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) annually to their customers before July 1, 2018.

This brochure contains information about the City of Waseca water quality, testing and other water related issues. If you did not receive a brochure, please contact our office at 835-9718 – Monday through Friday during the business hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and we will mail one to you. The report is also available on the City website at www.ci.waseca.mn.us under the Water Department.

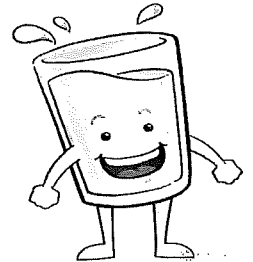
CITY UTILITIES AT WORK!

Wastewater Utility

Our Wastewater Treatment Facility treats 500 – 600 million gallons of wastewater annually. Depending on the rain event or dry weather flow, 40% - 65% of the flow is clean water that works its way into the pipes, from leaky sewers or sump pump connections, for example. In addition to ongoing maintenance of buildings and equipment, 2018 projects include the sanitary sewer project on Seventh Avenue SE, and the replacement of aging and undersized sanitary sewer lines as a part of the Highway 14 reconstruction.

Water Utility

The Water Department ensures that we continue to have safe, clean drinking water that complies with State and Federal mandates. Maintenance of the water towers, fire hydrants, wells, water mains and valves, and testing and treating our water supply are just some of the responsibilities of this department. Water main replacement projects along Elm Avenue and 7th Ave SE are primary projects for 2018. Also, we will be cleaning the exteriors of both water towers in 2018.



Electric Utility

The City of Waseca owns and operates the electric distribution system, and we purchase our wholesale power from Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA). Conversion of overhead lines to underground service continues in 2018, and the 20+ year old bucket truck is scheduled to be replaced. Also, even though we purchase wholesale power from SMMPA, the City is fortunate to have different transmission ties to serve our customers. This means that when a transmission power line fails, Xcel and SMMPA can conduct transmission switching to help improve power reliability. Sometimes this switching takes time due to travel and safety concerns, yet various options are used during transmission trouble.

Public Works

Street repairs and cleaning, snow removal, equipment and vehicle maintenance, traffic signs and markings, water main repair work with the Water Utility, and maintenance of storm and sanitary sewers are all the responsibility of the Public Works Department. Spring brush pick up and Fall leaf collection services are also provided by Public Work's staff. Sanitary sewers are routinely cleaned to keep the flow moving to the Wastewater Plant.

Utility Billing

The Utility Billing office oversees meter reading, billing, collection of utility payments, and also provide customer service at City Hall. They also process utility related work orders and provide administrative and mandatory reporting support for the utilities. Office hours are 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Contact us at (507)835-9718 during regular business hours or for after-hours emergencies.

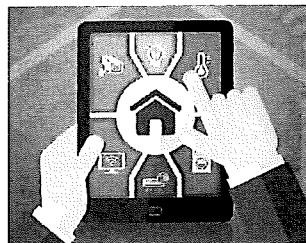
ENERGY STAR REBATES

Waseca Electric residential customers may qualify for a rebate by purchasing ENERGY STAR rated appliances, dehumidifiers, room air conditioners, light fixtures, ceiling fans with lighting and LED bulbs. Most of these items must have ENERGY STAR documentation in order to qualify. The LED bulbs and fixtures (if not Energy Star rated) can be DesignLights certified (DLC).

Also, there are rebates for air conditioners and efficient furnace fan motors available. There is a higher rebate amount on ceiling fans with lighting, clothes washers and dishwashers when they are rated "Most Efficient". The "Most Efficient" label is an extension of the ENERGY STAR program. It represents the highest efficiency products among those that qualify for the ENERGY STAR rating.

If you are unsure if an item qualifies for a rebate, please contact us and we will determine if eligible. Customers who purchase items in 2018 will need to submit their rebate applications in the same year.

An ENERGY STAR rebate application is available by contacting Waseca Utilities at 835-9718 – Monday – Friday – 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. A fillable application is also available on the City website www.ci.waseca.mn.us along with a list of rebates available under the Electric department tab.



PEAK ALERT

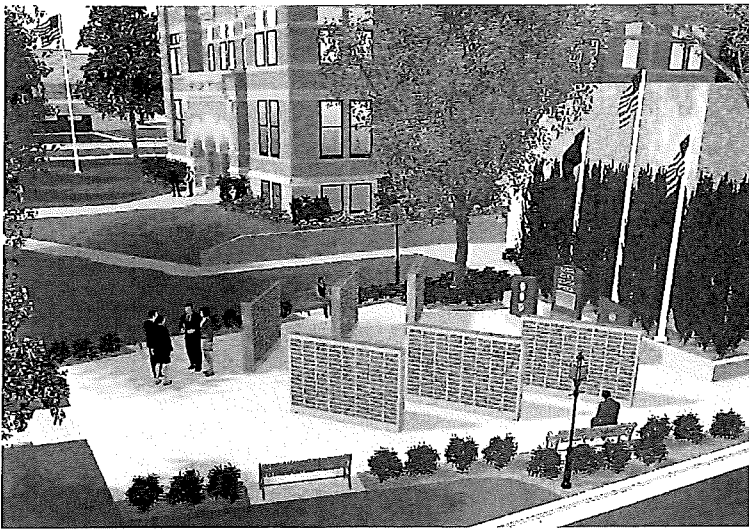
You have the power to help keep electricity costs down. A Peak Alert means Waseca Utilities is nearing our peak electrical demand for the year. Our electrical peak is the amount of power we use during the time when our power supplier, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA) experiences their annual peak. This peak usually occurs on very hot days during the months of June through September between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. – Monday – Friday. Waseca Utilities will announce a Peak Alert by radio and television announcements.

By helping to reduce our peak electrical demand, you can help keep electricity rates low. Some energy saving suggestions are: set air conditioner to 78 degrees, delay running the dishwasher and clothes washer until after 7:00 p.m., turn off excess lights and close curtains and drapes. Please conserve energy and keep your electrical usage to a minimum by using major electrical appliances before 11:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. on Peak Alert days.



Waseca Veteran's Memorial Update

Waseca Veterans Memorial - A resolution was passed on March 20, 2018 by the Waseca County Board of Commissioners finalizing placement of the memorial on the Courthouse Lawn adjacent to the Northeast Annex. Work has begun with ISG Engineers and Architects of Mankato. Line drawings have been approved and site work has started. There is still time to purchase plaque sales to be included in the initial installation of the memorial. The deadline for orders is August 15th. Order forms can be picked up at the Veterans Services Office or downloaded online at <http://www.wasecaveteransmemorial.org/>. Thank you to those that have donated and purchased plaques. This project is moving forward because of these gifts and purchases.



GRILLING FIRE SAFETY TIPS:

- ▶ Propane and charcoal BBQ grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces such as tents, they pose a fire hazard and a risk of exposing occupants to deadly carbon monoxide poisoning.
- ▶ Place the grill a safe distance from lawn games, play areas, and foot traffic. Grills should be positioned at least 10 feet away from siding, deck railing, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- ▶ Keep matches, lighters, and starter fluid out of the reach of children in a locked drawer or cabinet.
- ▶ Keep children and pets away from the grill area; declare a three-foot "kid-free zone" around the grill.
- ▶ Use long barbecue mitts and long-handled grilling tools to protect the chef from heat and flames when cooking.
- ▶ Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below the grill so it cannot be ignited by a hot grill.

Sign up for ONLINE BILL PAY today! Get secure access to view your utility bill, make a payment, schedule future or recurring payments or opt out of paper statements. You can access online bill pay through the City of Waseca's website at www.ci.waseca.mn.us, or you can contact Payment Service Network at (877)885-7968. Please be aware that online payments made after 7:00 PM (CST) may not be posted until the next business day. You can also use Payment Service Network's free mobile app on your iPhone®, iPad® and Android™ smart phones and tablets to make your utility payment each month from your mobile device. Simply download the "PSN Payments" app. NOTE: Register online to set up your login information before you use the app. It's fast, it's easy and it's free!

Planning to Build a Shed? Be Sure to Know the Guidelines!

To put up an accessory structure (shed) on your property, it will need to go through a zoning review, regardless of the size. If your shed is 120 square feet or greater it will require a building permit and shall have exterior color and roof pitch compatible with the principle building (house). Additional guidelines include; size, height, setbacks, and number of structures allowed.

Questions can be directed to Bill Green – 835-9738

Reminder!

As a courtesy to your City workers, and to streamline the work they need to do to keep the City looking beautiful, please keep these things in mind this summer:

- Try to keep your garbage cans out of the street – this will allow the street sweeper to clean the entire street.
- During City-wide leaf pick up, please do not park your cars in front of the leaf pile or the City will be unable to pick up your leaves!

Thank you!

Night to Unite – Tuesday, August 7, 2018

The Waseca Police Department is excited to announce that this year's annual community Night to Unite celebration will be returning to the Waseca Water Park on Tuesday, August 7th from 5-7 P.M. The event will include free admission to the Water Park and a food drive for the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center. Food will be provided for attendees.

Various Waseca organizations will be present to provide information about services they provide to the Waseca community. Squad cars and fire trucks will be on display.

We encourage the community to bring a non-perishable food item or monetary donation to benefit the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center food shelf. Money donated can be used to make bulk purchases of needed items!

BULLETIN BOARD

Waseca Opportunity Zone

Waseca has an Opportunity Zone designated by the US Treasury as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to encourage investment in financially stressed census tracts.

- Opportunity Funds can be used for a wide variety of investments.
- No minimum qualifications for investors have been announced.

The IRS is expected to have the governing regulations out later this summer. See www.irs.gov/newsroom/opportunity-zones-frequently-asked-questions. There are investment opportunities for projects in Waseca. Contact Gary Sandholm for more information at 507-833-9281 or garys@ci.waseca.mn.us.

Mosquito Spraying Schedule

The City of Waseca would like to try to keep your summer nights a little more enjoyable with fewer mosquitos! The City will be spraying for mosquitos on all City streets, trails and parks beginning at 9:00 p.m. until finished on the following dates, weather permitting:

May 23, 30 • June 13, 20, 27

July 11, 25 • August 8, 22 • September 5

In case of inclement weather, the spraying will take place the next available evening. If you have any questions, please call City Hall at 835-9700.

Recreation on Clear Lake and at the Waseca Water Park!

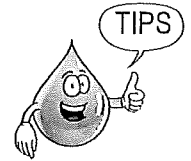


The City of Waseca has partnered with Waseca Community Education to provide kayaks, paddleboards, a canoe and bikes at Clear Lake Park for rental to the public. Come and experience the great outdoors, learn something new, and see the shoreline like you haven't seen it before! We are open from Memorial weekend through Labor day weekend. Rentals will be on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays from noon to 6 pm and prices start at just \$5 per hour.

Since the Waseca school swimming pool is closed during the renovation process, Waseca Community Education is holding swimming lessons in the mornings at the Waseca Water Park starting on June 18th.

Other Water Park activities include - Lap swim and water exercise Mondays through Fridays from 10 am to 11:45 am for just \$3.50. On Fridays, is our ever popular Itty Bitty Beach Parties geared towards younger children, just the zero depth play features are turned on for their enjoyment. Also new this summer is Aqua Zumba on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 8 pm and evening lap swim Mondays through Thursdays from 7 to 8 pm for just \$3.50.

SUMMER WATER SAVING TIPS



- Water at the right time. Water early in the morning, when air is still and evaporation loss is minimal.
- Collect rain. Create your own water supply by collecting rain runoff. Rain barrels offer fast and easy installation.
- Sweep debris. Grab a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks, driveways, porches or decks.
- Add mulch to flower/vegetable areas. Apply a 2-inch layer of mulch to planting beds to slow water evaporation from soil.

SEVERE WEATHER

Residents need to pay attention to the weather, watch the television reports, check computer weather reports and/or listen to the radio for weather updates. The National Weather Service will issue severe weather watches and warnings.



In the event of severe weather, activation of the emergency siren system means that Waseca County is in a TORNADO WARNING and a tornado has been observed by Law Enforcement, Skywarn Watchers and/or the National Weather Service.

Please be aware that the Waseca City Fire Department and Police Department buildings are not storm shelters as they don't have basements.

Save Money This Summer on Energy Costs

Volunteer your central air conditioner for the load management program. Waseca Utilities will have a licensed electrician install a controller unit on your central air conditioner, at no cost to you the customer. The controller unit cycles your air conditioner compressor off for short periods of time during peak electrical usage. Residential participants in the load management program will receive an \$8.00 monthly credit on the June, July, August and September electric bills or a total savings of \$32.00 for the year. Commercial participants will receive a \$20.00 monthly credit for the same months or a total savings of \$80.00 for the year.

If you participated in the program last year, you do not need to contact us unless you have moved since last summer. If you have not moved, you will automatically receive the credit each year unless otherwise notified.

For additional information, please contact the Utility Billing Department at 835-9718. Business hours are Monday – Friday - 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.