

FALL 2021

SEASONS OF SPRING PARK

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



FROM YOUR MAYOR



Happy Fall!

The seasons are changing in our beautiful city and it appears that the cold weather is here to stay for a while! However, it was a beautiful and productive summer!

And speaking of changes, we are now part of the Orono Public Works team for any of the water and sewer issues we may have moving forward. As I have stated before, they have a huge public works staff as well as a large inventory of equipment. Additionally, our former utility superintendent of 31 years, Mr. D.J. Goman, is now the Director of Public Works for the City of Orono. Orono Public Works has backed us up for many years (if our guy was sick or on vacation etc.) so they are very familiar with our public works systems.

Another public works project in process is the West Arm West Street Project. This is part of the West Arm West Water and Sewer project from last fall - the new fire hydrants are in, and most of the engineering work has been done. They also plan on completing the curb and gutters as well as the asphalt on this street this Spring.

The Fall Brush and Leaf Clean Up is scheduled for November 13! See attached flyer for further details.

Your Mayor,

Jerome P. "Jerry" Rockvam

4349 Warren Avenue
Spring Park, MN 55384
Phone: (952) 471-9051
Web: www.ci.spring-park.mn.us



IMPORTANT DATES

Council Meetings: 7 p.m.
October 18; November 1, 15; December 6, 20

Council Work Sessions: 6 p.m.
October 18; November 15; December 20

Truth in Taxation: 7 p.m.
December 6

Planning Commission: 6 p.m.
October 13; November 10; December 8

Fall Clean-Up Day:
November 13

Utility Bills Due:
November 8

City Hall Closed: November 11, 25, 26;
December 23, 24

No Sort Recycling:
October 15, 29; November 12, 27(Sat);
December 10, 24



SHARE THE TRAIL FOR SAFETY

Proper Trail Etiquette

Fall is a beautiful time to utilize one of the area's best features—the Dakota Rail Regional Trail. With many people using this fabulous amenity, it is important to remember that it is a shared public space and safety and courtesy are necessary to make a positive trail experience for everyone. Please see the following tips for sharing the trails:

- Be Predictable - Travel in a consistent and predictable manner. Always look behind before changing position on the trail.
- Don't Block the Trail - When in a group, avoid using more than half the trail.
- Dog Walkers - Keep dogs under control on a 6' non-retractable leash. Pick up after your pet and properly dispose of poop bags.
- Keep Right - Stay to the right side of the trail as is safe, except when passing another user.
- Pass on the Left - Pass others, going in your direction, on their left. Faster traffic must yield to slower and oncoming traffic.
- Give Audible Signal - When passing, give a clear verbal warning signal such as "ON YOUR LEFT" or use a bell or horn.
- Stop Means Stop - Obey all stop signs along the trail.



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CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Jerome P. "Jerry" Rockvam
Council Members: Pamela Horton,
Gary Hughes, Jeff Hoffman,
Mark Chase

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair: Jeff Hoffman
Commissioners: Max Avalos, Bruce
Homan, Michael Mason, Open Seat

CITY STAFF

City Administrator: Dan Tolsma
City Clerk: Jamie Hoffman
Public Works: Orono Public Works
Utility/Billing Clerk: Sharon Farniok



ATTN: SNOWBIRDS & WINTER TRAVELERS

Water Shut-Off Requests

Don't forget to contact the Utility Billing Department before you leave town for the winter if you would like to schedule an appointment to have your home's water turned-off at the street. Contact Sharon at (952) 471-9051 to schedule an appointment and for more tips on winterizing your home before you leave.

Orono Police Vacation Checks

If you are going out-of-town for a week, or even the entire winter, the Orono Police Department offers a free service to check your house while you are away. Reserve officers will periodically come to your home and make sure all windows and doors are secure. If packages are left at your doorstep, or your mail is overflowing, they will call a person you have designated as your "key holder." Contact Spring Park City Hall at (952) 471-9051 to receive a "House Check Form" or visit the Orono PD website at <http://www.ci.orono.mn.us/164/Vacation-Checks>.



FROM THE CITY DESK



2022 BUDGET

2022 Proposed Tax Levy

The City Council recently met to review the first draft of the City's 2022 budget and to approve a preliminary tax levy of \$1,173,210.00 which represents a 2.5% increase from the 2021 tax levy. The Council will be hosting a truth in taxation meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, December 6th before adopting the final 2022 budget and tax levy. In the meantime, residents and business owners will be receiving their preliminary tax statements from Hennepin County.

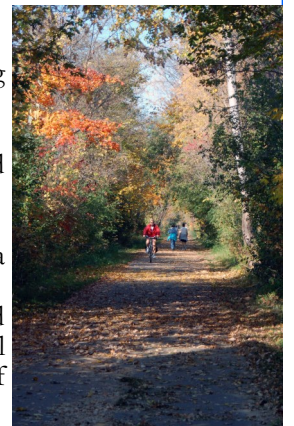
Fall Brush & Leaf Clean Up

Saturday, November 13th is the Fall brush and leaf cleanup event for Spring Park residents and apartments. (see attached flyer for details). Items must be bagged and bundled and by the curb by 7:00am Saturday morning. Please contact City Hall with any questions you may have.

Fall Lawn & Garden Care Tips

As summer comes to an end, the fall to-do list picks up to prepare for the next season. This often involves many outside home maintenance tasks as cool Minnesota weather approaches. Taking care of your lawn and garden in the fall can make a difference in healthy grass and plants when spring comes back around.

- Apply fall fertilizer to kill weeds and & nourish the soil
- Rake or mulch fallen leaves; they can block sunlight resulting in thinning grass or lead to disease
- Seed bare patches for fresh grass in Spring
- Tend to perennials; remove and clean up spent plants and debris
- Plant bulbs; Fall is the time to plant your tulips and daffodils
- Plant new trees and shrubs; they have months to develop a healthy root system before the heat of next year
- Plant a Rain Garden; rain gardens collect storm water and other runoff from roofs and driveways and act as a natural collector, filtering rainwater and allowing the recharge of groundwater aquifers



FIRE PREVENTION

Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries

When daylight savings time ends on November 7th, make a lifesaving change in your household by changing the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. This simple habit takes just a moment, but is the best defense against the devastating effects of a home fire.