

Recreational Fires

Burning Permits are NOT required for recreational fires defined as “An outdoor fire burning materials other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, BBQ grill or BBQ pit and has a total fuel area of three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.”

- ◆ Burn materials are limited to dry, clean wood.
- ◆ Prohibited burn materials are: oils, rubber, plastics, treated, painted, stained or varnished wood, garbage, or construction waste.
- ◆ Recreational fires cannot be left unattended until the fire is completely extinguished.
- ◆ Extinguishing equipment must be on-site: a fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating, or dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose, or water truck.

Recreational fires must be located a minimum of twenty-five feet from buildings or other combustible structures or materials.

Portable Outdoor Fireplaces, which are screened in, need to be located a minimum of fifteen feet from buildings or other combustible structures or materials.



Lawn Irrigation Tips

Length of grass

Keep grass at 3.5 inches in height to encourage deeper roots, shade the ground and retain more water. Aerate your lawn to help water infiltration.

How much water is needed

Established lawns require only one inch of water per week, including rainfall. Overwatering is detrimental to the lawn, as it encourages shallow, weak roots, as well as fungal diseases. Place empty tuna cans around your yard to determine how much water your system puts out in a typical watering cycle. Adjust the time for each watering cycle to avoid excessive and wasteful watering.

How often should I water

Infrequent, but deep watering cycles are best. Letting the upper layer of soil dry out between watering will help prevent weeds from sprouting and lead to a healthier lawn.

Best time to water

Water in the early morning between 4:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Afternoon evaporation requires more water to get the same amount of water into the soil. Early evening and night watering should be avoided. The lawn may remain wet longer, promoting lawn diseases and fungus.

More important tips

At least once a month, observe your sprinklers while the system is running. Redirect your sprinkler heads to make sure that the sprinklers are not spraying into the street or on your driveway.

If it's raining, turn your sprinkler system OFF!

City-wide Cleanup Day

The next City-wide cleanup day will be on Saturday, October 11th. Please refer to the Special Large Item Pick-up flyer sent out in the April billing for details.

Brush Pick-up

The Brush Pick-Up dates for the next three months will be: Jul 21 - 25, Aug 25 - 29, and Sep 22 - 26. Place your branches and brush near your regular refuse pickup site by 7:00 a.m. on Monday of these weeks and city employees will remove the brush. They will attempt to complete the pickup during the scheduled week, but the schedule may be pushed back due to their workload or weather conditions. Please keep in mind, this is not a tree removal service. Large volumes of branches, large tree limbs, tree trunks or stumps will not be picked up.

Alley Trimming

Just a reminder that residents are responsible for trimming the trees and bushes on their property along the alley ways so that they are not protruding into the alley and/or obstructing the vision of drivers.

Property Maintenance

Reminder

The City Code prohibits storage of rubbish items outside including trash, furniture, appliances, old machinery, motor vehicle parts and tires, unused building materials, yard waste, and other unsightly items. To dispose of these items, contact West Central Sanitation 800-246-7630. West Central Sanitation will bill you directly for the cost of the removal of these items.



City Newsletter 3rd Quarter 2025



(320)252-6822

www.ci.waitepark.mn.us

Meter Replacement Program

The City Public Works Utility Department has received approval to move forward with the replacement of approximately 1,100 meters that have exceeded their 20-year life span. The first portion of these old meters will be replaced this year. The initiative of this first wave of replacements is to eliminate all meters that are read with a touchpad. This will greatly reduce the amount of hours spent reading water meters, which will save on labor costs.

The city is also transitioning over to an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. This is very exciting as the AMI system enables two-way communication for real-time data exchange and more advanced functionalities.

The new system will have leak detection monitoring and will send alerts to staff so they can contact property owners within 24 hours. City staff will be able to retrieve meter readings on-demand, which will streamline the process for both final bills and quarterly billings.

The city has contracted with Midwest Testing to replace the water meters. The city will be sending out more information in the next month or so to property owners that will need their meter replaced, so watch for any correspondence from the city and make sure you open it. Meter replacements are required to maintain accuracy in our billings.



Be a Responsible Pet Owner

Be a good neighbor and pick up after your dog, even in your own yard. It is unlawful to allow pet waste to accumulate on your own property to exceed that which would ordinarily occur in two days and/or an accumulation such that the odor can be detected from adjacent properties, or is offensive to the sight or creates a public health risk.

It is also unlawful for you to allow your dog or cat to relieve itself on property that is not your own, and then to not remove it and dispose of it in your own garbage receptacle.



It is also unlawful for you to allow your dog or cat to run at large anywhere within the City, other than on your own property.

Any person violating any of the provisions of Ordinance 91 are guilty of a misdemeanor and may be issued a citation.

National Faith & Blue Weekend

National Faith & Blue Weekend will take place from October 10th - 13th. The mission of this annual event is to facilitate safer, stronger and more unified communities by connecting law enforcement officers and residents through local houses of worship. More details will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Night to Unite

Night to Unite (NTU) will be held on Tuesday, August 5th. NTU is a nation-wide effort to promote crime prevention & police-community partnerships. It is always held on the first Tuesday in August. Would you be interested in hosting a NTU event? NTU events can be simple or elaborate.

Three Simple Steps to Host a NTU event in your neighborhood:

1. Invite some neighbors, especially the ones you haven't already met!
2. Plan for food, from ice cream cones to a potluck, food always brings people together!
3. Register your party with CSO Alicia Mages ASAP (320)251-7393. If you register your event, before July 18th, the Police & Fire Departments will show up at your party, and you will also receive a free party planning kit full of supplies to host a successful event! Registration forms can be found on the City website or may be picked up at the Waite Park Police Department.

Citizens Police Academy

Experience first-hand many areas of police training!

Vehicle Stops, Crime Scenes, Use of Force, Patrol, Firearms, Specialized Units and much more!

Apply by August 15th!

Classes are held at various departments and locations throughout the academy on Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

September 4th - November 6th

Applications are available online or at the Waite Park Police Department.

Senior Cookout

The 13th Annual Waite Park Seniors and Law Enforcement Cookout will be held on Friday, August 15th at 11:00 a.m. (food served at 11:30) at the Community Park Pavilion



north of City Hall at 151 13th Avenue North. Join your local Police Officers as they serve you a free lunch! There will be a few short presentations to discuss concerns or programs affecting our senior population.

All Waite Park residents age 55 or better are welcome to attend.

RSVP's are not required, but are appreciated to help plan for enough food. RSVP on the city website or by calling Alicia Mages at 320-251-7393, or email: Alicia.Mages@ci.waiteparkpd.mn.us Provide your name, phone number and the number of people planning to attend.

Senior Center has Moved!

The Senior Center is temporarily moved to the Community Park pavilion at 151 13th Ave N. Open Mondays & Thursdays 12:30-3:30 PM. Fridays from 12:00-3:30 PM. BINGO is played on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 1:00-3:30 PM. All aged 55+ are welcome!

Come join us in a fun game of BINGO!, Tripoley, Euchre, Mah-Jongg, Bunco, "Hand, Knee, Foot" and Cribbage!

A detailed calendar of events can be found on the City website and Facebook page.