

HOLDINGFORD



*"Gateway to the
Lake Wobegon Trail"*



From City Hall August 2018

Kids will be kids... we have all heard this phrase and probably have said it. Feelings change when the things kids do are destructive and costly. The recent rash of spray painting of city, business and residential buildings... again, have made the council look at our ordinances on graffiti and move forward with enforcing them. Graffiti feeds itself, "The more kids see it, the more they get the idea to do it."

The city's ordinance requires graffiti to be removed within 30 days. Letters will be sent to those that were hit with graffiti to let them know what the ordinance says and the time frame. The city will work with the building owner to clean up the graffiti, ultimately, it may require hiring a contractor to take care of the removal, but it needs to be gone.

When vandalism happens, the responsible party is usually a small group or a single individual. But a much larger group will feel the impact. Business owners pay -- directly and indirectly -- for vandalism, which consists of the defacing or damaging of property. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, a single incident of vandalism costs on average \$3,370. Businesses shift the costs of vandalism and security to customers through higher prices. The costs the city has seen, involves purchasing cleaning solvents, repainting buildings, replacing street signs, buying security cameras and extra labor of city employees. All, at costs to the taxpayers of Holdingford.

"You would hope that people would have more respect for other people's property." That's a comment I heard since the spray painting. I am hoping there is an answer for that respect to come back. Parents, families, communities, teachers, business owners, city officials and sheriff deputies working with kids to get the respect back into their lives.

Respectfully Sue Marstein Mayor of Holdingford

Looking Ahead – Important Dates

- August 17-18 – Holdingford City-wide Garage Sale
- September 3 – Labor Day – City Offices Closed
- September 10 – Next City Council Meeting

For more community events, please see the Community Calendar at www.holdingfordmn.us/calendar



Holdingford City Clerk's Office Hours:

Monday	8 AM – 4 PM
Tuesday	8 AM – 4 PM
Wednesday	8 AM – 6 PM
Thursday	8 AM – 4 PM
Friday	8 AM – Noon

Mayor's Hours:

Mondays	5:30-7 PM
1 st Saturday of the month	8 – 10 AM

City Ordinance Spotlight

' 92.21 BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND APPEARANCE.

(A) *Declaration of nuisance.* Buildings, fences and other structures that have been so poorly maintained that their physical condition and appearance detract from the surrounding neighborhood are declared to be public nuisances because they (a) are unsightly, (b) decrease adjoining landowners and occupants' enjoyment of their property and neighborhood, and (c) adversely affect property values and neighborhood patterns.

(B) *Standards.* A building, fence or other structure is a public nuisance if it does not comply with the following requirements:

(1) No part of any exterior surface may have deterioration, holes, breaks, gaps or loose or rotting boards or timbers.

(2) Every exterior surface that has had a surface finish such as paint applied must be maintained to avoid noticeable deterioration of the finish. No wall or other exterior surface may have peeling, cracked, chipped or otherwise deteriorated surface finish on more than 20% of:

(a) Any one wall or other flat surface; or

(b) All door and window moldings, eaves, gutters, and similar projections on any one side or surface.

(3) No glass, including windows and exterior light fixtures, may be broken or cracked, and no screens may be torn or separated from moldings.

(4) Exterior doors and shutters must be hung properly and have an operable mechanism to keep them securely shut or in place.

(5) Cornices, moldings, lintels, sills, bay or dormer windows and similar projections must be kept in good repair and free from cracks and defects that make them hazardous or unsightly.

(6) Roof surfaces must be tight and have no defects that admit water. All roof drainage systems must be secured and hung properly.

(7) Chimneys, antennae, air vents, and other similar projections must be structurally sound and in good repair. These projections must be secured properly, where applicable, to an exterior wall or exterior roof.

(8) Foundations must be structurally sound and in good repair.

Penalty, see ' 92.99



-To read Ordinance 92 in its entirety, go to <https://holdingfordmn.us>, click on the "Government" Tab, select "Ordinances" then click on "Chapter 9".

The Holdingford Chamber of Commerce Ranger Raffle drawing will be held at the Holdingford Municipal Liquor Store on Friday, August 24 at 9pm.



School Starts
September 4th!

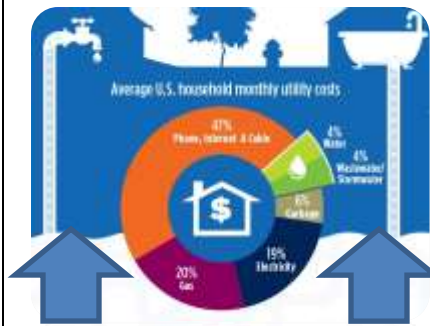
Your Elected Officials

Mayor

Sue Marstein
smarstein@holdingfordmn.us

City Council

Eric Berscheid
eberscheid.council@holdingfordmn.us
Mike Odden
mike.council@holdingfordmn.us
Alan Walz
awalz.council@holdingfordmn.us
Bob Sanchez
bsanchez.council@holdingfordmn.us



Which Could You Live *Without*?

HAZARDOUS WASTE PICK UP DATES AND LOCATIONS

August 22: New Munich, Immaculate Conception, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

August 25: St. Stephen, City/Fire Hall, 8:00am - 11:00am

For details and a list of acceptable waste materials, check the County Website at: <https://co.stearns.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingandWasteDisposal/HHWMobileUnit>

Veteran's Park Bathroom Facility



Special thanks go out to Ernie Schmit for spearheading and coordinating the work on the new bathroom and shower facility at the Veteran's Park Campground. The facility is nearly complete, looks wonderful and is ready to be used. Look for an announcement on its upcoming dedication ceremony. Thanks to Ernie and all who were involved in its construction!

Pools Pack a Punch on the Environment

For many across the U.S., respite from the hot days of summer means a dip in the pool. Whether it's a large, bustling community pool or your own backyard pool, either inground or above ground, the environmental impact of your refreshing swim might surprise you. A modest, above ground pool requires **8,000-15,000** gallons of water to fill. Expect to triple that amount if you opt for an inground backyard oasis. The average community pool requires more than 200,000 gallons of water to keep swimmers afloat. To put that in perspective, your 8-minute shower uses about 17 gallons of water. The environmental cost of one of our favorite summer pastimes goes beyond the sheer volume of water required. The chemicals, most notably chlorine, needed to maintain the pool also can also wreak havoc. Chlorine is often used to treat drinking water, making it safe for consumption, but the amount used in swimming pools, mixed with the amount of exposure time can have adverse effects. Too much pool time can cause asthma, lung irritation and even skin and eye irritation. When draining chlorinated pools, special care must be taken to ensure waterways are not polluted with chemicals. The biggest danger is when chlorine mixes with sweat, lotions and yes, even urine. This is what causes the irritated skin and red eyes in pool goers. So how can you enjoy the pool and limit the impact on the environment? 1. Start by covering your pool when it's not in use to minimize evaporation. This will reduce the need to replenish water throughout the season. Even leaving the pool covered a couple extra weeks each year can have a significant water savings. 2. Limit your pool water exposure or frequency of pool use and always shower before and after swimming. The shower before swimming can reduce the chemical interactions that cause skin and eye irritation. And also, don't pee in the pool. 3. Be sure you know and follow your local requirements for draining your pool. The lakes, rivers and wildlife will thank you.

