



MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR

CHRIS HEIM, MAYOR

HELLO NEIGHBORS!

Okay, if it's going to be winter, then bring on the snow! I miss my walks and bike rides on the lake and seeing everyone enjoying winter lake activity. I'm still holding out hope for a bit more snow this season. That said, it's definitely nice to have the sunshine lingering past 6 PM!

KEY UPDATES

MLFD UTILITY PICKUP TRUCK

Thank you to Assistant Fire Chief Mike Fox for his detailed review of the fire department's budget and key spending categories. The department continues to excel across all metrics, with outstanding safety ratings, new crew members, and strong financial performance. With our new fire hydrants now in operation, we are retiring the tanker truck and replacing it with a used utility pickup truck to enhance operational flexibility, particularly for medical response. This purchase will be funded with \$14,572 in Minnesota Public Safety State Aid. We are truly fortunate to have such a dedicated and capable fire department—thank you all for your hard work and service!

TENNIS, PICKLEBALL COURT UPDATES

As part of the Jevne Park revitalization, the tennis, pickleball, and basketball courts will be resurfaced this spring with a two-coat acrylic finish and fresh line painting. The new layout will include one tennis court (as before) and two pickleball courts (one on each side of the tennis net with movable pickleball nets). To address sound concerns, tennis will be permitted from 7AM to 10PM, and pickleball from 8AM to 8PM. After a full season with this new setup, we will review usage patterns and noise levels to assess whether the timeframes remain appropriate and if sound barrier tarps are necessary.

THANK YOU TO ALL CITY STAFF!

As we held our second council meeting and I reflect on how smoothly the city is running in the first few months of 2025, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who serves a role in our city. Across all areas—City Council, operating departments, and committees—we are so fortunate to have incredible people doing incredible work. Thank you for sharing your time and talents to help our city thrive. We truly appreciate you!

WANTED: MEDICINE LAKE DIRECTORY UPDATES

It's time to update the ML directory! This directory is updated every four years. If you are new to the neighborhood or have any changes, additions, or deletions to your entry in the directory, please email:

medlkcommunityclub@gmail.com

We're looking for the following information:

- Homeowners' first & last names
- House address
- Homeowners' cell numbers (adults only)
- Homeowners' email addresses (adults only)
- Children's first names & year born (optional)

Deadline has been extended.

Please submit changes by **March 31st, 2025.**

DIRECTORY COVER PHOTO CONTEST

If you have any photos of the lake or lake life such as; sunrise, sunset, boats, wildlife, etc. that you'd like to submit as a possible directory cover, please email the raw or original file to:

medlkcommunityclub@gmail.com

Deadline March 31, 2025.

Hot Flashes

FROM THE
FIRE CHIEF

Over many years, The Laker has intermittently featured notes from the Fire Department. In celebration of our 75th year, we're bringing back its most popular title "Hot Flashes from the Fire Chief"!

HISTORY

In 75 years of operation, close to 150 firefighters have served within the ranks of the Medicine Lake Fire Department in some capacity. Nine (Emil Erickson, Edward Jonak, Dean Mummert, Bill Neunsinger, Leo O'Toole, Marion Roe, Joe Suk, John Svalgaard, and Al Wentworth) are listed as Charter Members.

Through the years, many MLFD firefighters were also active in other city roles including several of the city's mayors and councilmembers. Perhaps unsurprisingly, there was a story in the Plymouth Post in 1987 featuring three married couples serving at that time.

Throughout our history, the number of firefighters has generally been about 5% of the population of the City or 10% of working-age adults. Likely 1 in 4 Medicine Lake citizens live with or next to a past or present Medicine Lake Firefighter!

But it wasn't only MLFD members who contributed to the department's success over the years. All along the way, many spouses, family members, and neighbors contributed and supported the department's firefighters and mission in other ways. In 1985 when the City elected to bolster the fire department in lieu of contracting to another agency, a larger fire hall (currently Bays 4 & 5) was needed. Members of the community banded together to build the structure, saving the city over a third of the cost of the addition.

Of course [shameless plug], we are always actively recruiting for more to join our department. Several of your neighbors have recently completed the base-level training and would surely love to tell you how much fun they had!

PUBLIC SAFETY

Winter isn't done with us yet! Frostbite is a hazard we should all continue to be aware of. Frostbite effects the skin and underlying tissues when exposed to freezing temperatures for too long. It commonly impacts fingers, toes, ears, and the nose, leading to numbness, white or grayish skin, and a hard or waxy texture. If you or someone else shows signs of frostbite, seek warmth immediately and avoid rubbing the affected area, as this can worsen the injury. By staying informed and prepared, we can all enjoy the beauty of winter while keeping our community safe.

For more winter safety tips check out <https://www.ready.gov/winter-ready>.

SAVE THE DATE
CITY OF MEDICINE LAKE
2025 PROGRESSIVE DINNER
SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH, 5:00 PM
REGISTRATION INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON



RECYCLING REMINDER!

Just a friendly reminder, please don't put plastic bags in the recycling bins.

A refresher on **Recycling Best Practices** can be found on **pages 5 & 6** of this edition of the Laker.

For the recycling/trash collection schedule and more, visit our city website under the community tab.

COUNCIL VOTES



FEBRUARY 3, 2025

The following motions were approved with Mayor Heim, Councilmembers McNaughton, Hovey, Tomczik, and Zelazny in favor.

- Agenda
- January 13, 2025 City Council Meeting minutes
- Approval of Veit pay application No. 10
- Resolution 25-06 accepting a monetary gift from Travis Carter for \$100,000 to support the Jevne Park playground project
- Resolution 25-07 approving courtesy rules and striping for one tennis and two pickleball courts at the existing tennis court
- Resolution 25-08 approving expenditures for purchase of utility truck for the Fire Department
- Resolution 25-09 accepting \$200 from Louis Bujold to support the fire department
- Resolution 25-10 accepting \$200 from Samuel and Virginia Ng to support the Jevne Park project
- Summary spending, receipts and cash balances through January 31, 2025
- Adjourn

GOT NEWS?

We to hope you're enjoying the all-digital edition of The Medicine Laker! We (the editors) appreciate your patience as we convert to this new format and add new features. We'll still be publishing monthly. Beginning in February the **submission deadline moved to the 10th of each month**. Watch for the edition to get posted to the website on or about the 20th of each month.

Send your news to:

news@cityofmedicinlake.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



WINTER FESTIVAL

February 22 & 23

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 3 at 6p

MLFD

Tuesday, March 4 at 7p

Tuesday, March 18 at 7p

PLANNING COMMISSION

Thursday, March 20 at 6p

3rd Annual Medicine Lake **WINTER FESTIVAL**

February 22nd & 23rd, 2025

Saturday February 22nd, 2025

- TBD - *Tentative* **Group Ski**
- 3:00 PM **Ice Carousel & Ice Golf**
- 7:00 PM **Bonfire, chili and hot drinks**

Sunday February 23rd, 2025

- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM **Kids *OF ALL AGES* Fishing Contest**
- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM **Boot/Ice Hockey & bonfire (kids & adults of all talents)**
- 6:00 PM - **Kids movie & pizza party (ML Fire Station)**

SKI & HOCKEY EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE DUE TO SNOW & ICE CONDITIONS AT TIME OF EVENT. Updates will be communicated via Facebook & MLCC email. Email medlkcommunityclub@gmail.com to received MLCC notifications.

A more detailed schedule will be sent out prior to event. Any event changes will be communicated via Facebook & MLCC email.

Please join us if you can!



What's Recyclable?



Acceptable Items



Plastics

Recycle plastics #1, #2 and #5. Look on the bottom of containers for the number inside the recycling arrows.



Metal Cans

Recycle all food and beverage metal cans—steel, tin, bi-metal and aluminum.



Cardboard, Newspaper & Magazines

Recycle newspaper inserts, catalogs, paperback books, phone books and brochures.



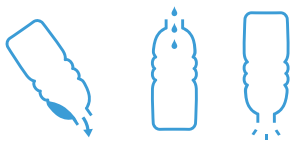
Paper Food Containers & Cartons

Recycle juice boxes, egg, ice cream and milk cartons, and cereal and pasta boxes.



Paper

Recycle envelopes, office paper, junk mail, greeting cards and file folders. Shredded paper should be put in a paper bag.



Empty. Clean. Dry.

Please make sure your recyclables are **empty, clean and dry** before placing them in your recycling cart.



Unacceptable Items

Batteries
Bio-hazardous waste
Cables
Ceramics
Clothes
Construction debris
Diapers
Dishes or mirrors
Egg cartons
Electronics
Food or liquid waste
Glass
Greasy food containers
Hardback books
Hazardous waste
Holiday decorations
Hoses
Ice cream cartons (wax-coated)
Light bulbs
Plastic bags
Plastic food wrappers
Plastic straws
Plastic without numbers
Polystyrene foam
Scrap metal
Shoes
Tissue
To-go lids
Tools
Toys
Yard waste

Visit [RecyclingSimplified.com](https://www.RecyclingSimplified.com)
for more information.

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Recycling *Simplified*



Sustainability in Action

Be a Recycling Super Star!

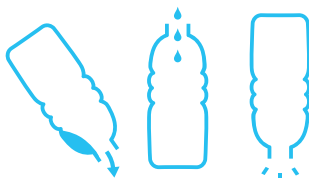
Recycling Simplified

When it comes to recycling, everyone has a part to play. Let's work together!



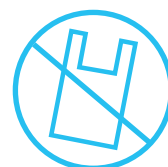
Know what to throw.

Make sure your recycling container only contains cardboard, paper, metal cans, plastic bottles and jugs.



Empty. Clean. Dry.

Keep recyclables free from food and liquid. A ketchupy ketchup bottle can contaminate a whole truck of recyclables!



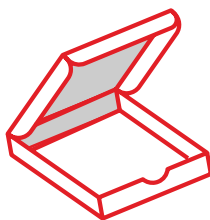
Don't bag it.

Plastic bags get tangled in the recycling machines. Dump your recyclables directly into your outdoor bin rather than containing them in a bag.

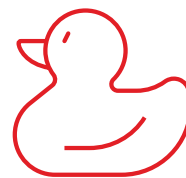
These items aren't recyclable



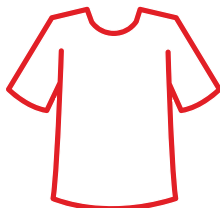
Food



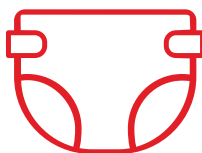
Dirty paper & cardboard



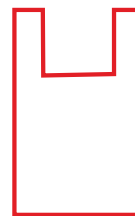
Toys



Clothes & shoes



Diapers



Plastic grocery & sandwich bags