

City of Motley Newsletter

Summer 2019

June 14, 2019

City Hall is open 9:00am-4:00pm, Monday-Friday

Important Dates

June 22nd: Motley June Fest – Contact the Staples-Motley Area Chamber of Commerce at 218-352-3974 or staplesmotleychamber@gmail.com for more information.

Every Friday from June 28th to August 30th: Movies in the Park – The Motley United Methodist Church is having FREE Movies in the Park every Friday from June 28th to August 30th at Converse Park. Movies are kid friendly and start at dusk. There will also be free popcorn and a bouncy house before the movie.

July 10th and August 14th: Community Picnic Nights – Motley Free Methodist Church invites you to Community Picnics in the Park! Join them July 10th and August 14th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Converse Park for a FREE Picnic Supper! Bring your WHOLE family for food and fun. This is a great way for the community to come together and meet your neighbors!

Independence Day: July 4th – City Hall Closed

Labor Day: September 2nd – City Hall Closed

Regular City Council Meetings: 2nd Monday of every month, 6:30pm, City Hall

Regular Planning Commission Meetings: last Tuesday of every month, 6:30pm, City Hall

Contact City Hall at 218-352-6200 with any questions or concerns.

Notes from the Police Department

If you wish to speak with an officer or want to report a crime or suspicious activity, please call the Morrison County Sheriff's Office at 320-632-9233. They will contact a Motley Officer if they are on duty or send a deputy to assist you. You can also call the Motley PD office phone at 218-352-6370, and if an officer is not in the office, it will transfer you to the Sheriff's Office.

Notes from the Public Works Department

The 2018 Consumer Confidence Report is available! You can find a link to the report on the City website or find it online directly at: https://www.cityofmotley.com/vertical/sites/%7B72EE7511-647E-4EE1-B547-F867A5FD103C%7D/uploads/2018_Consumer_Confidence_Report.pdf. You can also stop by or call City Hall to request a paper copy of the report free of charge.

Friendly reminder to make sure you are not blowing your lawn clippings onto City streets. It's City operating procedure that we blow the first three passes with the mower away from the street whenever possible and use the mower to blow any clippings that make their way to the street back into the mowed areas when we have completed mowing. Small steps like minimizing the grass, leaves, rocks and trash that are deposited and build up in the streets, gutters, and catch basins will help reduce City staff time, money spent on sweeping and cleaning of catch basins, reduce mosquito populations, and help the City look nice. Thank you for your help in making Motley a great place to live, work, and visit!

Notes from the Clerk-Treasurer's Office

You may have noticed that your June bill looks a little different than it has in the past. At the May 13th Council Meeting, the Council approved changes to Ordinances 188 through 192 that reference sewer, water, solid waste, and their rates. In an effort to make your bill more understandable, transparent, and easier to read, we have re-structured the way water and sewer services are charged. A summary of the new rates is below. If you have any questions about your new bill, please contact City Hall.

	WATER		SEWER	
Meter Size	Monthly service charge	Volume/usage charge (per 1,000 gallons)	Monthly service charge	Volume/usage charge (per 1,000 gallons)
less than 1"	\$13	\$3.98	\$10	\$4.50
1"	\$14	\$3.98	\$10	\$4.50
1 & .625	\$27	\$3.98	\$10	\$4.50
1.5"	\$22	\$3.98	\$16	\$4.50
2"	\$24	\$3.98	\$21	\$4.50
3" & 4"	\$85	\$2.98	\$50	\$3.20
4"	\$50	\$2.98	\$50	\$3.20
Sewer service only			\$35	
MN Department of Health Connection Fee			\$0.53 per water connection, per month	
Seasonal shutoff of 2 + months			50% reduction of monthly sewer and water service charges	
Indeterminate shutoff			\$50 disconnect and \$50 reconnect fee	

On your utility bill you may have noticed that your account number has also changed. Please update your records so we are crediting the correct account. Some residents have their banks automatically issue checks, so please make sure the account number on those is correct.



Pet licenses expired on May 31st. If you have not registered your cat or dog since January of this year, please come into City Hall as soon as possible to do so. Licenses are \$5 and a copy of a current rabies vaccination is required. Going forward, all pet licenses will expire on May 31st each year. Individual reminders will not be sent out as we will be putting a general notice in the newsletters each year.

Notes from the Fire Department

FIREFIGHTERS WANTED! The Motley Fire Department is accepting applications for volunteer firefighters. Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age, have a valid Minnesota driver's license, live within an acceptable response time area and be able to pass a physical examination. Firefighters receive \$9.00 for each call/meeting/training attended. Members are also eligible to participate in the Relief Association, which provides up to \$2,000 in retirement benefits per year served on the department. Applicants will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Applications are available at City Hall and on the City website.

9 Grilling Safety Tips for Summer Barbecues

Source: <https://blog.nationwide.com/grill-safety/>

It happens every year. The weather gets warmer, more people use outdoor grills – and incidents of grill-caused fires go up. Each year, outdoor grilling causes an average of 8,900 home fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Gas grills cause more home fires than charcoal grills, the association adds. According to the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association, 64% of households own a gas grill, 44% own a charcoal grill and 9% own an electric grill. Regardless of the type of grill you own, here are 9 BBQ safety tips that will keep you and your home safe for barbecuing season:

1. Grill outside and away from any structures

Charcoal and gas grills are designed for outdoor use only. However, NFPA reports that more than one-quarter (27%) of home fires started by outdoor grills began in a courtyard, terrace or patio, and 29% started on an exterior balcony or open porch. Pay attention to overhanging tree branches when you set up your grill.

2. Make sure your grill is stable

Only set up your grill on a flat surface and make sure the grill can't be tipped over. Consider using a grill pad or splatter mat underneath your grill to protect your deck or patio.

3. Keep your grill clean

Remove grease or fat buildup from both the grill and the tray below the grill. If you are using a charcoal grill, allow the coals to completely cool off before disposing of them in a metal container.

4. Check for propane leaks on your gas grill

Before the season's first barbecue, check the gas tank hose for leaks by applying a light soap and water solution to the hose and then turning on the gas. If there is a propane leak, the solution will bubble. Other signs of a propane leak include the smell of gas near the barbecue or a flame that won't light.

5. If the flame goes out, wait to re-light

If you are using a gas grill and the flame goes out, turn the grill and the gas off, then wait at least five minutes to re-light it.

6. Take care around the grill

Never leave a lit grill unattended. Don't allow kids or pets to play near the grill. Never try to move a lit or hot grill, and remember the grill will stay hot for at least an hour after use.

7. Be careful with charcoal starter fluid

If you use a charcoal grill, only use charcoal starter fluid. If the fire starts to go out, don't add any starter fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire. Consider using a charcoal chimney starter, which uses newspaper to start the fire instead of starter fluid.

8. Wear the right clothing

Clothing can easily catch fire, so be sure your shirt tails, sleeves or apron strings don't dangle over the grill.

9. Be ready to put out the fire

Have baking soda on hand to control a grease fire and a fire extinguisher nearby for other fires. If you don't have a fire extinguisher, keep a bucket of sand next to the grill. Never use water to put out grease fire. These easy-to-follow tips will help you and your family to enjoy a safe summer barbecuing season.