

City of Motley Newsletter

Spring 2020

Phone: 218-352-6200

March 30, 2020

As a COVID-19 precaution, City Hall will be closed to the public until further notice. We encourage residents to contact the city by phone or email for assistance.

Important Dates

April: Hydrant Flushing – Check the website in April for dates.

April 17th: Local Board of Appeal & Equalization (Cass & Morrison Counties) 11:00 a.m. at City Hall. If you want the 2020 value or classification of your property reviewed, this is your chance! Contact City Hall with any questions.

May 8th & 9th: Citywide Garage Sales – If you intend to participate, contact City Hall as soon as possible. Maps will be made marking the sale locations and will be available to you the week before to hand out to shoppers.

May 16th: Citywide Cleanup from 7:45 am to 10:45 am (see enclosure for more info).

May 25th: City Hall Closed – Memorial Day

June 19th – 21st: Motley Fair – Contact a member of the Motley Fair Board for more information.

June 20th: Motley June Fest – Contact motleyjunejest@gmail.com or Sherry Frisk at 815-222-6735 for more information.

June 10, July 8, and August 12: Community Picnic Nights – Motley Free Methodist Church invites you to Community Picnics in the Park! Join them June 10, July 8, and August 12 from 5:30 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!

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 with any questions or concerns.

NOTICE:

Because of the COVID-19 recommended precautions, some of the above events may be cancelled. Please check our city website: cityofmotley.com or follow us on Facebook for updates as they become available.

Notes from the Clerk-Treasurer's Office

A lot of changes have happened in the office! Our new Clerk-Treasurer is Curt Bryniarski and the Administrative/Accounting Assistant is Karen Pogreba. Stop in and introduce yourselves, we are both excited to be here and happy to serve the community!



Citywide garage sale – City sale! The City will be selling items that haven't been in use for some time and are no longer needed. Please stop by the maintenance garage located at 196 Eldredge St. W on Friday, May 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and help us clean out the closets! CASH ONLY!

Notes from the Fire Department

REMEMBER: Burning permits are required and may be obtained thru the DNR website at dnr.state.mn.us or call Troy Davis, Fire Warden, at 218-838-2425

Friendly reminder to make sure you change the batteries in your smoke detectors at least once a year. Stay Safe!

Notes from the Police Department

During this pandemic of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) across the United States, the Motley Police Department will still be in full force and continue to patrol the city and answer calls of service to our residents. Due to the concerns of contracting this disease, our department is following all guidelines put in place and recommended by the MN Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). All calls for service will be answered, but if it is a non-emergent call, we will be attempting to handle your call by phone if possible, rather than in person, in order to keep our officer safe. We are currently asking people to also help by following the Governors Executive Order 20-04 and continue to exercise good social distancing, disinfecting of surfaces, and good handwashing practices. We also ask that you remember our local business and their struggles in these times and help them out while maintaining good social distancing practices. Together as a community we will all get through this!

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.

The City of Motley has a drop box to dispose of unwanted prescriptions located in the entry-way at City Hall. Medication must be kept in their original container and personal information should be removed or covered up with black marker. Residents can drop off their unused or expired medications so that they can be disposed of safely and properly. The box is accessible during normal business hours at City Hall.



Notes from the Public Works Department

HIGH WATER BILL??? Did you know that the most common cause for a high water bill is running water from your toilet? The average running toilet can waste up to 200 gallons a day! That can add up to an additional 6,000 gallons per month to your usage charges. If you receive your utility bill and your water usage is high, first check if your toilet has been running. *This may not be obvious!* To check if your toilet is running, take the lid off the tank, drop some food coloring in (***or stop by City Hall for toilet tank leak detecting tablets courtesy of MN Department of Natural Resources***), and wait 15 minutes. If color shows up in the toilet bowl, there is a leak. If your toilet is not the cause, try checking for other leaks. To do this, take a meter reading and turn off all water-using appliances. After 30 minutes, check the meter again. If there's a change, you may have a leak.

It's that time of year again. The Police Department and Public Works Department will be starting nuisance and weed inspections soon. A summary of possible nuisances is available on the City website or at City Hall. And remember, per City Ordinance, your grass needs to be kept under 9 inches. Let's all work together to keep our City looking nice and clean!

SAVE OUR PIPES: DON'T FLUSH THE WIPES!

Remember to be careful of what you flush down the toilet. Just because a product says that it is flushable doesn't make it so (including 'flushable' wipes!). **Human waste and toilet paper are the only things we should be flushing.**

We can all help to prevent problems with our sewers.



The 2020 Census is here!

It's Easy – Respond online, by phone, or by mail

Safe – Your responses are kept confidential by federal law

Importance – determines local federal funding and political representation

Count every person in your household on April 1, 2020

The Census Bureau is hiring! This opportunity only comes around once a decade! Reasons to work for the Census Bureau:

- 1) Earn Extra Money! Jobs for the 2020 Census offer competitive wages that are paid weekly. Authorized expenses, such as mileage, are reimbursed for employees doing fieldwork. The minimum wage currently offered in Minnesota is **\$19.00/hour!**
- 2) Support Your Community! Census data is used to determine your representation in Congress, as well as how funds are spent for roads, schools, hospitals, and more. Help ensure that everyone in your community is counted in the next census!
- 3) Fit Your Schedule! Temporary positions for the 2020 Census feature flexible hours—a perfect fit if you are looking to earn a little extra money, even if you already have other commitments.

INTERESTED?!?!? Apply online: <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs>

Senior Nutrition

Diner's Club (a program of Lutheran Social Service) meal tickets are available for purchase at City Hall for adults 60+ and their spouses. *Program registration is required; the form is available at City Hall.* Suggested donation is now **\$5.00** per ticket, and you may purchase more than one ticket at a time. If you would like more information about this program, including additional locations that accept Club tickets, please call 1-800-488-4146 or visit

<https://www.lssmn.org/services/older-adults/nutrition-and-health/diners-clubs>.

REMINDER

Pet licenses now expire each year on June 1st. If you registered your pet after January 1, 2020 your license is good until May 31, 2021. All other residents need to have their pets licensed on or before May 31st of this year. The cost of registration is \$5 per pet per year, and a copy of your pet's current rabies vaccination is required. If your pet's license isn't renewed on or before May 31st, there will be a \$5 late fee in addition to the \$5 license fee. Licensing your cats and dogs annually with the City is not only required by City Ordinance, but it will help us return your pet to you safely and avoid impound fees should they get away from you. Applications are available at City Hall or online at www.cityofmotley.com.

Please note: no household within the City shall have more than three adult dogs or four adult cats, or more than five total adult dogs and cats.



June Fest 2020

Mark your calendars! (*Barring any cancellations due to the COVID-19 restrictions*) June Fest will be held on Saturday, June 20th. Bring your family and friends and come to enjoy the festivities! Returning events are scheduled to include the kids run, a 4-mile run, parade, wing contest, water wars, tractor pull, kids games, kickball tournament, Average Joe car show, fireworks and a street dance. This year's lumberjack show will have many new events and will be better than ever! We will also have many vendors to visit! If you are interested in participating or becoming a vendor, please contact us at motleyjunepest@gmail.com or call Sherry Frisk at 815-222-6735 to obtain copies of the registration forms. The June Fest Committee is also selling raffle tickets again this year to help support the cost of the event. The tickets can be purchased from any of our committee members and at many local businesses including City Hall. Prizes for the raffle will be 25%, 15%, and 10% of the money made from selling the tickets. We hope to see everyone there and enjoy a wonderful day together as a community! Be sure to check the Motley June Fest Facebook page and the City of Motley website cityofmotley.com for updates and more information.

Community Garden



Community garden space is available! If you are interested in a space for gardening, serving on the committee, or if you have the time or talents to donate, please call Sherry Frisk at 218-352-6137 or 815-222-6735. You can also contact the Motley Food Shelf at 218-352-6344 and leave a message.

City-Wide Cleanup Day is May 16th, 2020

Please haul your items on May 16th to the City maintenance garage at 196 Eledredge St W. from 7:45-10:45 a.m. Please only drop off items that are listed as acceptable below. **Items on the Not Accepted list will be turned away.**

If you would like to arrange pickup, please contact City Hall at 218-352-6200 or stop in. Cost for pickup is \$15 (or \$5 for senior citizens and disabled residents). Charges include *one load only* – additional trips will require an additional charge. Pickup charges must be paid in advance at City Hall.

ACCEPTED FREE:

- Small appliances
- Home appliances (stoves, fridges/freezers, dishwashers, microwaves, washers/dryers, air conditioners, etc.)
- Scrap iron, rubbish, chairs, storm doors & box springs
- 3 car tires (without rims) per household

ACCEPTED WITH CHARGE:

Televisions & computer monitors	\$20
Printers, copiers, fax, scanners, VCR	\$10
Fluorescent bulbs	\$1
Car tires (up to 20"), additional	\$3
Car tires (up to 20"), on rims	\$5
Tires (over 20")	\$6
Semi-truck tires	\$13
Tractor tires	Varies, depends on size/weight
Couches, loveseats, mattresses, toilets, recliners	\$2
Sulfur dioxide or ammonia gas (RV) refrigerators	\$75

NOT ACCEPTED: paint, construction/demolition materials (including carpet), hazardous waste.

ACCEPTED FREE ANYTIME (at compost site, located at end of Main Street East):

Leaves (leaves being picked up must be bagged), branches less than 4" in diameter, branches larger than 4" in diameter must be de-limbed and cut in 4' – 6' lengths. Must be separated as follows: Pile 1 – grass, leaves & garden waste, Pile 2 – brush and branches with diameter of 4" or less, and Pile 3 – branches larger than 4" in diameter.

Volunteers are needed with trucks, pickups, and/or trailers. For more information call City Hall at 352-6200 or the Public Works Department at 352-6649.