



NEWSLETTER

Summer 2020

CityofMotley.com

June 17, 2020

City Hall is open 8:00am-4:00pm, Monday-Thursday

Important Dates

June 20th : Motley June Fest – CANCELLED

June 19th - 21st : Motley Fair – CANCELLED

July 17th & 18th: City-Wide Garage Sales - Contact City Hall to get on the map!

August 11th: Statewide Primary Election – polls open 7am to 8pm

Community Picnic Nights – Motley Free Methodist Church invites you to Community Picnics in the Park! Join them for a FREE Picnic Supper! Wednesday, July 8th and Wednesday, August 12th, 5:30 – 7:30 PM. Bring your WHOLE family for food and fun. This is a great way for the community to come together and meet your neighbors! Please call the Church at 218-352-6888 for more information.

Independence Day: July 4th

Labor Day: September 7th – 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



During this time of uncertainty with COVID-19 and the reopening of businesses, we would like to remind all residents to act accordingly to keep yourself and others safe. Please be respectful of others as many people have different or varying opinions regarding this virus, and the shutdown and reopening of businesses. Please use discretion if you feel the need to call the police regarding concerns of how others may be operating or conducting themselves in public, such as grouping in close proximity to others, the wearing of, or not wearing of masks, the number of people at a single location, or use of indoor areas at businesses. We will respond to all calls and provide compliance advice as needed, but we will also be very careful not to infringe on anyone's

Constitutional rights and freedoms. Please remember, our small-town businesses need your support to survive in these hard times, but if you do not feel that it is safe to attend or patronize these establishments, continue to stay at home and protect yourself from possible exposure.

The Motley Police Department has been receiving a number of calls regarding public nuisances at various residences throughout the city. Please be mindful to keep your yard picked up, lawn mowed, and vehicles maintained and properly licensed. A letter from the City was mailed to residents in April, prior to the City-Wide Cleanup Day, advising them of any possible items that are deemed a nuisance by city ordinance. Our department will be following up with these residences to make sure they are complying and advise them if they are not. While we strive to have residents voluntarily comply with the ordinances, failure to bring the property into compliance may result in an administrative citation. Each public nuisance offense carries a fine of \$75.00 and may be issued each day the nuisance exists. Unpaid fines can be assessed to your property taxes. If you would like a copy of the city ordinances regarding public nuisances, please contact City Hall. Let's work together, help our neighbors, and keep Motley looking clean!

Notes from the Clerk-Treasurer's Office

City Hall is back open to the public! We are still encouraging residents to follow COVID-19 precautions as restrictions are lifted and businesses reopen. Please consider paying your utility bill, licenses, permits, or citations by mail, drop-box, or by using the online debit/credit card payment options.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the annual clean-up day – it's a fantastic way to clean up the city! A special thank you to the volunteers who made it successful: Darci McGillivray, Hope Yoder, Mayor Al Yoder, Council Member Jace Carlson, and Council Member Amy Hutchison. We couldn't have done it without you!



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 this.

Licenses are \$5 and a copy of a current rabies vaccination is required.

Pet licenses expire on May 31st each year.

Notes from the Public Works Department

The 2019 Consumer Confidence Report is available! You can find a link to the report on the City website cityofmotley.com under Notices on the right side of the Homepage or find it online directly at: [https://www.cityofmotley.com/vertical/Sites/%7B72EE7511-647E-4EE1-B547-F867A5FD103C%7D/uploads/CCR_Report_PWS_1490003_2019\(1\).pdf](https://www.cityofmotley.com/vertical/Sites/%7B72EE7511-647E-4EE1-B547-F867A5FD103C%7D/uploads/CCR_Report_PWS_1490003_2019(1).pdf) You can also stop by or call City Hall to request a paper copy of the report free of charge.

We ask that you be mindful when mowing your lawns to avoid blowing your lawn clippings onto City streets. It's our 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 after 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 helps to reduce City staff time and money spent on sweeping and cleaning of catch basins. It also helps to reduce mosquito population and makes the City look nice.

REMEMBER!!



Just a reminder, there is a form on the city website to submit when the mosquitos are bad in your area. This notifies us and we can address the situation by spraying.

Spraying for mosquitos will be done right before dark or early morning when the air is heavy.

Please see the last page of this flyer for some important information regarding mosquito control.

Thank you for your help in making Motley a great place to live, work and visit!

Notes from the Fire Department

Burning restrictions have been lifted as of 5/26/20 until further notice. You may acquire a burning permit for fires within the regulation guidelines by contacting Troy Davis at 218-838-2425 or the Little Falls Forestry Office at 320-232-1061.

Please use extra caution this summer when using fireworks!

Reduce the risk of accidents by following these safety tips:

- ★ Never allow **children** to play with or ignite fireworks
- ★ **Never** try to **re-light** or **pick up** fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- ★ Keep a **bucket of water** or a **garden hose** handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- ★ Make sure fireworks are **legal** in your area before buying or using them.
- ★ Light fireworks **one at a time**, then **move back** quickly.
- ★ More Fireworks Safety Tips – www.cpsc.gov/fireworks



A Citizen's Guide to Mosquito Control

According to the Minnesota Department of Health, Historically, the primary Mosquito and tick viruses found in Minnesota have been La Crosse encephalitis, Western equine encephalitis (WEE), and more recently, West Nile virus (WNV). WNV is established throughout Minnesota, and will probably be present to some extent every year, whereas human infections of WEE occur more sporadically. Human disease risk will likely continue to be higher in central and western Minnesota where the primary mosquito vector, *Culex tarsalis*, is most abundant.

Mosquito populations in many areas can be reduced by eliminating larval development (breeding) sites. Larvae can develop anywhere water stands for at least 5 days. Vector species (a biting insect that transmits a disease or parasite from one animal or plant to another.) prefer stagnant water.

Homeowners can reduce the mosquito population developing on their property by following these guidelines:

1. Trimming vegetation near the home and keeping lawns mowed
2. Eliminate containers holding water- Get rid of old tires, tin cans, buckets, drums, bottles or any water-holding containers.
3. Avoiding over watering turf
4. Maintain drains, ditches, and culverts so water will drain properly, fill in tire ruts.
5. Keep roof gutters free of leaves and other debris.
6. Empty plastic wading pools at least once a week and store indoors when not in use.
7. Drain unused swimming pools and keep them dry during the mosquito season.
8. Change the water in birdbaths and plant pots or drip trays at least once each week.
9. Store boats covered or upside down, or remove rainwater weekly.
10. Make sure ornamental ponds are well maintained, and are stocked with fish.

Additionally, you can take steps to protect yourself from mosquito viruses by following these tips:

1. Repair window screens.
2. Use personal protection measures to prevent mosquito bites (proper use of insect repellent and appropriate clothing). A simple fan creating a breeze around outdoor seating areas will help keep mosquitoes away.
3. Encourage dragonflies and birds to locate in your yard, both are known predators of mosquitos.
4. Some mosquitoes are attracted to lights. Reduce unnecessary lighting to make yards less attractive.
5. Be aware that "Bug zappers" do not reduce mosquito landing or biting. They attract and kill many insects but few are mosquitoes that attack humans. Many of the insects killed are beneficial because they feed on Garden pests.
6. Ultrasonic devices, such as those that claim to mimic dragonflies, do not affect mosquito activity.
7. Light-colored clothing is less attractive to adult mosquitoes. Tightly woven fabrics give some protection against biting.

Everyone can participate in mosquito control by following these guidelines!

