



NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 2022 cityofmotley.com *October 3, 2022*

Important Dates

October 15th: Fall Fest: Motley Fair Grounds - 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

October 31st: Trunk or Treat – Motley United Methodist Church Parking Lot - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Trick or Treat – Motley businesses will be handing out treats. Watch for the orange pumpkins in participating business windows.

October 31st: Delinquent utility accounts must be paid in full to avoid certification to the county.

November 8th: Election Day: Motley City Hall – polls open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

November 11th: Veteran's Day: City Hall closed

November 24th & 25th: Thanksgiving: City Hall closed

November 29th: Last day to payoff special assessments without interest for 2022

December 10th: Christmas in Motley – Motley United Methodist Church

December 12th: Truth in Taxation Meeting – 6:30 p.m. at City Hall

December 26th: in observance of Christmas: City Hall closed

January 2nd: in observance of New Year's Day: City Hall closed

January 16th: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: City Hall closed

February 20st: President's Day: 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.

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

A Message from the Mayor:

Greetings Motley! I've enjoyed getting to know more about our community, businesses and our operations in my short time as Mayor. I'm looking forward to the continued opportunities that come with serving you. Feel free to connect with me regarding any concerns...or perhaps a conversation regarding an area we may be able to improve. (My contact information is available on the city website). I'm pleased to share you've got a roster of leaders working through City Hall to ensure we simply can be...the best we can be. We are a "city team" striving to improve our community.

We've got a prideful group of volunteers that have delivered with "JUNEFEST" and expanded their talents into this year's "FALLFEST"! Be sure and check out the day's events on October 15th, as they've truly planned a great day for you and our community's guests. It's going to be a great day! And be sure and support our businesses and parks when out and about. It's both noticed and appreciated!

By the way, if you've not visited the City of Motley Website or Facebook page, please do. It's a great way to stay informed with upcoming dates, schedules and City Council happenings.

Take care of you and yours...and appreciate the little moments,

Mike Schmidt, Motley Mayor

From the Administration Office

HEAT

OR

FOOD

A graphic showing a white energy bill on the left and a green grocery bag filled with various vegetables on the right. The bill has a red circle around the amount due, which is \$86.60. The grocery bag is green and has a white handle.

You don't have to choose.

Too many low-income Minnesotans have to choose between paying their energy bill and other necessities – food, medicine and healthcare. Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program offers eligible residents help to pay their energy bills so they do not have to choose between life's necessities. Spread the word to your friends and family.

APPLY FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE
www.tricap.org
1-888-765-5597

The logo for the Minnesota Commerce Department, featuring a stylized 'm' and the text 'COMMERCE DEPARTMENT' and '#MNNiceandWarm'.

The logo for Tri-CAP, featuring the text 'Tri-CAP' and 'TRI-COUNTY ACTION PROGRAM' with the tagline 'Helping People. Changing Lives.'

Energy and Water Assistance Programs

MN's Energy/Water Assistance Program is again assisting eligible households in paying their past due water/wastewater bills. For more information visit mn.gov/energyassistance or scan this QR code.

 **1-800-657-3710**



SIGN UP FOR AUTOPAY!

Now is the perfect time to sign up for autopay. Utility bill autopay is easy and convenient because your bank automatically makes the scheduled payment. The City of Motley still sends your bill as usual. Your bank will deduct your payment from your checking or savings account on the 20th of each month, unless it falls on a weekend or holiday, in that case it is the next business day. You don't have to do a thing!

Simply complete a form at City Hall and enclose a voided check or savings withdrawal slip.



From the Motley Police Department

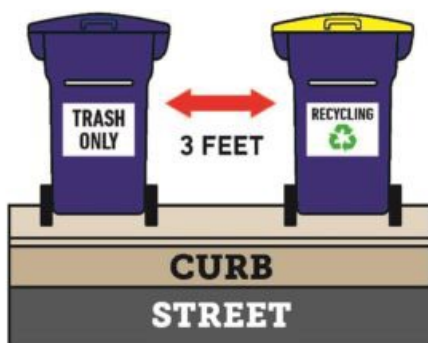
Halloween Safety Tips

- The Motley Police Department looks forward to Halloween and seeing all of the local kids dressing up and having a good time. We want to make sure that kids enjoy going from house to house and everyone stays safe, so here are some safety tips for everyone to remember:
- 1. Cross streets at the corners and never dart out between parked vehicles along a street, making sure to look both ways before crossing.
 2. Always walk on a sidewalk when you can, but if there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.
 3. Put electronic devices down such as your phone and keep your head up.
 4. Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. They may have a hard time seeing you.
 5. Carry glow sticks or flashlights to help you see and help drivers see you better.
 6. Select a correctly sized costume to prevent trips and falls
 7. Wear face paint or makeup, when possible, rather than a mask which may obstruct vision.
 8. Drivers, slow down and watch carefully for younger children who may unexpectedly run out in front of you and always drive with your headlights on.

Garbage/Recycling Containers

Every Wednesday (may differ during a Holiday week) is garbage pickup day, and every other week includes recycling. The City has been having some issues with residents and their garbage containers where residents are not placing them out to the curb correctly, or not removing them from the curb in a timely manner. With winter fast approaching, it causes even more issues for the City crew plowing snow if everyone doesn't follow the City ordinance which states, that all garbage and recycling containers must be placed behind the curb line, cannot be placed out until after 6pm the day before pickup, and have to be removed and stored in or by a building by 6am the day following pickup. This helps us prevent the snow removal trucks from having to plow around containers or hitting them with their trucks which causes damage. Please help the drivers out by following these rules.

Place carts behind the curb, with the lid opening facing the street.



Incorrect placement



Correct placement

Winter Travel Safety

Winter will soon be upon us and with that comes snow- and ice-covered roads. Below are a few tips to make your winter traveling a little safer for everyone.

1. Make sure that your vehicle is ready for the season. Have it serviced by a reputable company and make sure to have the battery tested. Check to make sure all of the lights work, the windshield wipers are in good condition, the cooling system is full and never let your gas tank get below $\frac{1}{4}$ tank ($\frac{1}{2}$ tank minimum is suggested).
2. Make sure that your tires have good tread on them. It is very important for all 4 tires to have good tread to assist with proper steering and stopping, and make sure they are properly filled with air. Snow and ice tires work the best, but a good set of all-season tires will work well if properly taken care of.
3. Make sure to keep winter survival items in the vehicle. You should carry a small snow shovel, broom and ice scraper, kitty litter for traction in case you get stuck in the snow, warning devices or flares, jumper cables, blankets, flashlight, water and food, and a fully charged cell phone.
4. Give yourself plenty of EXTRA TIME. The worst thing you can do on roads with poor conditions is rush. SLOW DOWN and watch out for emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and snow removal trucks. Give them plenty of space to keep everyone safe. NEVER use cruise control if the roads may be wet, slippery, or covered with ice, as it will cause you to lose control of the vehicle.
5. If you are involved in an accident, move your vehicle to a safe location out of the traffic lane, onto a shoulder, a nearby cross street, or into a nearby parking lot if mechanically possible. Do not remain in the roadway as you become a safety hazard to everyone else on the roadway, and pose a danger of being struck by another passing vehicle. Moving a short distance to a safe location is not fleeing the scene of an accident. After moving to a safe location, call 911 and report the accident and tell them where you are.
6. Call 511 or visit www.511mn.org before leaving on a trip to get current road conditions.

Hunting Safety Tips

Hunting seasons are here, and deer hunting is fast approaching. The police department wants to remind everyone to be safe while hunting and transporting weapons with these tips:

1. Treat every firearm (gun, bow, crossbow, etc.) as it is loaded at all times and ALWAYS point it in a safe direction.
2. Make sure all guns and bows are unloaded and properly cased while transporting in a vehicle.
3. Always know what you are shooting at and what is behind your target as well.
4. Wear blaze orange clothing, including a hat.
5. Follow all State and Federal hunting rules.

****Also, just a reminder, it is illegal to hunt or fire any kind of weapon in the city limits of Motley even for target practice. This includes all archery (bow and arrow, crossbows, etc.), and all firearms including BB and pellet guns. Violators will be cited and possibly arrested.**

From the Public Works Department

Compost Site

Just a reminder to all residents using the compost site. Please be respectful of the site, this is not to be used as a dump for garbage, only compostable items. Please make note of the signage at the site directing you to the correct spots. The finished compost is available for anyone in the city limits free of charge but there is a lot of garbage ending up in it that makes it undesirable. Remember, concrete and tar are **not** acceptable items -these items are accepted at Hengel's in Pillager for free. There are also piles for larger trees & branches over 4" and branches and brush, these items are available for city residents to take if they wish so, please separate those items into the correct piles, your friends or neighbor may be the person needing that wood to help stay warm this winter.

Winter Parking

As the winter season is arriving, the Public Works Department would like to remind all residents to be mindful of garbage cans and parked vehicles on the street whenever significant snowfall is expected. If you have no alternative parking, please coordinate with your neighbors by all parking on the same side of the street. It becomes very difficult for the plow truck to zig-zag through areas where cars are parked on both sides of the street.



Winter Activities

Once the weather gets below freezing, we will again be flooding the tennis court to be used as a skating rink *and* don't forget the sledding hill west of the water tower! There is a warming house with donated skates and a music player at the skating rink, but please be respectful and don't crank the volume too loud. Each of the last two years the speakers have been blown out and had to be replaced.



Depending on the weather, fall hydrant flushing will likely begin later on in October, so you may notice reduced water pressure and colored water while that is being done.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

**DO YOU LIVE, WORK,
PLAY OR VISIT
IN MOTLEY?**

The City of Motley is undertaking Energy and Environment planning with the help of Region Five Development Commission and will implement a \$10,000 or more grant-funded project(s) in 2023. Your input will help create community-developed energy and environment-related goals and aspirations to guide future planning efforts and these projects.

Please share your good ideas with us! This survey should take less than 10 minutes and is anonymous. Survey open September 30, 2022 through October 31, 2022 at regionfive.org/motley or with paper copies at Motley City Hall. We appreciate your feedback!

take the survey!
REGIONFIVE.ORG/MOTLEY



A copy of the survey is included with the newsletter. If you would like to participate, please fill out the survey and return it to City Hall by October 31st. We greatly appreciate any input from the residents of Motley!

From the Motley Fire Department

As the leaves turn from green to orange, the weather cools, and you start preparing for the cold season ahead. You're excited for Halloween and can't wait to start decorating your home. But have you thought about the fire safety risks that arise during the fall? Here are a few important fire safety tips to keep in mind:

Change smoke/carbon detector batteries and test the alarms. When Daylight Savings Time begins and ends, it's a good idea to change your smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries. This ensures the alarms don't fail when you turn the heat on in your home. Don't forget to also test the smoke alarms after changing the batteries. Check that all fire extinguishers are in working order when you adjust the clocks each season.

Fully check and service your heating devices before cranking up the heat:

- Have your HVAC system inspected, cleaned, and serviced by a certified HVAC contractor. Check and replace furnace filters with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters.
- If you use space heaters, ensure there's at least three feet of space around them. Don't place fabrics on space heaters to dry, and turn heaters off when going to bed.

If you've got a fireplace, hire a professional chimney sweep to inspect and clean your chimney. Keep flammable objects at least three feet away from the fireplace and install a mesh metal screen around it.

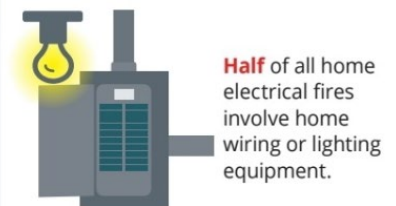
Halloween safety – Can't wait to decorate your home and mastermind scary costumes for Halloween? Remember that Halloween safety comes first. Keep decorations away from open flames and other heat sources, and use battery-operated lights instead of candles in jack-o-lanterns. We strongly advise you not to use real candles for decorating your home.

Outdoor fire risks – As leaves and other flammable debris build up around your home, make it a habit to remove them periodically. Prune trees and rake up leaves and twigs. Don't store fuel in your home or garage. Keep your roof, gutters, and downspouts clear of debris and remove fuel from lawn mowers before storing them for winter.

Create a fire escape plan and practice it regularly. Say a fire breaks out at 2 AM and your smoke alarms wake you and your family up – what do you do? This is when the fire escape plan comes into play. Designate an escape route for each area of your home and establish a meeting place outside. Practice escaping your home while staying low to avoid breathing in smoke. Also practice escaping through windows using emergency ladders.



Follow these tips, and don't let a fire ruin your fall!



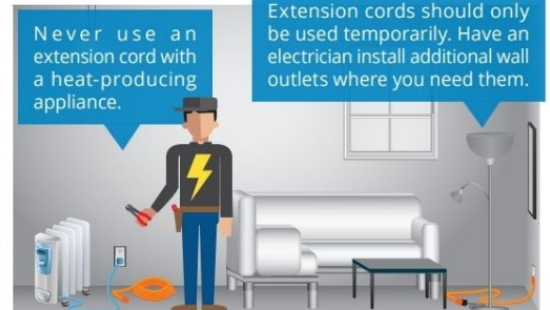
Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (like a coffee maker, space heater or microwave) directly into a wall outlet at a time.

Never use an extension cord with a heat-producing appliance.

Extension cords should only be used temporarily. Have an electrician install additional wall outlets where you need them.



For more information about electrical fire safety, visit usfa.fema.gov and nfa.org/public-education.



Community Events



October 31st, 2022

Trunk or Treat event will be located at
Motley Methodist Church 4 – 6 p.m.
All residents are invited to set up in the parking lot
to hand out treats.

Businesses that are participating in handing out candy on
Halloween will have an orange pumpkin in their window.
Stop at participating businesses for a treat from 4 – 6 p.m.



That famous “Cackling Witch”
will again be present!



FALL FEST
MOTLEY, MN

October 15, 2022

At the Motley Fair Grounds
Please see insert for more details.



WE
SERVE



BAR BINGO AT TEN HI
IN MOTLEY STARTING
OCTOBER 2TH AT 1PM SUNDAY
EVERY SUNDAY FROM OCT-APRIL
STARTING AT \$1000.00 FOR 46 # OR LESS
COME JOIN US



Motley United Methodist Church at 847 3rd Ave. South
is hosting Community Pancake Breakfasts
on the last Saturday of each month from 8-10 AM.

There is no charge, and this is a wonderful opportunity for members
of the community to come together and share a meal!

There will be a donation basket to support other good works.



Stop by Motley United Methodist
Church for Santa's Workshop. This
is a great opportunity for kids to
pick out gifts for their family!

December 10, 2022
10am – 1pm



Don't miss "*Lunch with Santa!*"
This event will be held at the
Motley City Hall, 11am-2pm
Hosted by the Motley Lion's Club