

CITY INSIGHTS

MOORHEAD MINNESOTA



CONSIDERING A HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECT?

Loan and Grant Resources for Eligible Moorhead Residents

Making improvements to your home is an important and valuable investment. The City of Moorhead encourages the preservation of existing homes to benefit our neighborhoods. The following loan programs may help to make your next home improvement project a reality!

Property Tax Rebate: When you make improvements that add at least \$25,000 of taxable value to your home, you can apply for the Make Moorhead Home Remodeling Rebate. Property taxes attributable to the value increase are rebated to you for the first two years following project completion. For more details, visit www.cityofmoorhead.com and search "home remodeling."

Minnesota Housing Finance Agency's Minnesota Fix Up Fund: Borrow up to \$50,000 with 5.99% interest on a secured loan, 10-20 year term; up to \$15,000 with 6.99% interest on an unsecured loan, 10 year term. Income limits apply; maximum household income is \$96,500 (waived on accessibility improvements for a disabled family member). No income limits on energy or accessibility loans, borrow up to \$15,000! For more details, visit www.mnhousing.gov.

City of Moorhead Neighborhood Impact Program (NIP): Gate City Bank offers loan resources for this program. Borrow up to \$40,000, 4.9% interest, and 10 year-term. NIP serves households with income at or below area median income (\$72,100); however, for owners of homes built prior to 1970 the income restriction is waived. Code deficiencies and major improvements must be addressed in order for the property to qualify and borrowers must meet the credit criteria of Gate City Bank. For



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SUMMER 2014

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CITY OFFICIALS

www.cityofmoorhead.com

DEL RAE WILLIAMS

Mayor
218.299.5307

FIRST WARD

Nancy Otto
218.233.2834

Mari Dailey
218.299.5549

SECOND WARD

Heidi Durand
218.443.5742

Jim Haney
218.299.5547

THIRD WARD

Brenda Elmer
218.299.5548

Mike Hulett
218.299.5544

FOURTH WARD

Steve Gehrtz
218.299.5542

Chuck Hendrickson
218.299.5545

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ...continued from page 1

more details, visit www.cityofmoorhead.com and search "Neighborhood Impact" or call **218.299.5434**.

City of Moorhead Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program: Borrow up to \$20,000 with no monthly payments, 0% interest, and repayable upon selling or vacating. Incomes limits apply (e.g., max. income for a two person household is \$46,200). There is a waiting list for this program, but exceptions are made for certain emergency repairs. For more details, visit www.cityofmoorhead.com and search "CDBG loan" or call **218.299.5424**.

Clay County Housing & Redevelopment Authority Rehabilitation Loans: Borrow up to \$27,000, no monthly payments, 0% interest, and forgivable after 15 years. Income limits apply (e.g., max. income for two person household is \$19,800). Visit www.claycohra.com or call **218.233.8883**.

Accessibility Ramps: Temporary and permanent ramps are available to households that have a household member with mobility impairment. Incomes limits apply (e.g., max. income for a two person household is \$46,200), but there is no cost to eligible households. Volunteer carpenters from the Home Builders Association of Fargo-Moorhead Remodeler's Council, in partnership with Freedom Resource Center (FRC) and the City of Moorhead's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, will construct permanent ramps. Temporary aluminum ramps are also available for use up to three months, during which time FRC will work with eligible households to develop a permanent ramp if needed. The property must be the primary residence of the applicant and a rental unit can be improved with written consent obtained from the property owner. Call **701.478.0459**.



HAVING A GARAGE SALE THIS SUMMER?

Garage sales don't require a city permit, but please note that sales can be conducted no more than four days out of a 180 day period.

Signs must be 16 square feet or less, located on private property only, and NOT placed on street corners or utility poles (they will be removed if the City gets complaints). Refer to [City Ordinance 10-18-2-H13](#) for more details.

Good luck with your spring and summer cleaning!

LET'S MAKE THE SUMMER AN ENJOYABLE ONE FOR EVERYONE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

Summer is here, and many of us like spending more time outside, having our windows open, and enjoying the long anticipated warmer days and nights. With the increase in outdoor activity, we should all become more aware of how our actions affect those around us. Here are a couple things to remember:

1. Dogs enjoy time outdoors as much as you do in the summertime. Without owner supervision, however, dogs may become restless, agitated, or hungry, and they may bark. Please review [City Ordinance 3-7-9-C on Animals Disturbing The Peace](#). Remember that it's not easy for a neighbor to tell you that your barking dog is disruptive, be aware. Some tips on helping a dog become balanced and calm are: Walk your dog and practice positive discipline activities every day.

A large graphic with the words "NOISE NOTE" in a light blue, sans-serif font. To the right of the text are three stylized roses: two red and one yellow, with green stems and leaves. The graphic is set against a dark blue background that also contains some faint, larger-scale floral patterns.

2. Another positive aspect of summertime is the ability to spend more time outside at night. However, late night gatherings or parties in the yard may be disruptive. [City Ordinance 4-4-2: Noise Control Regulations](#) is a helpful reference for noise limitations, but overall, be courteous to your neighbors. Keep the noise down after 10:00 pm. This includes loudspeakers and amplifiers for advertising, yelling and shouting, animal noise, blowers, and more.

Please visit www.cityofmoorhead.com for more information.

Thank you for your diligence.
Enjoy your summer!

RECREATIONAL FIRES AND BURNING PERMITS



The Moorhead Fire Department receives numerous calls from citizens regarding burning permits in the City of Moorhead. We hope the following information will be helpful to determine what type of burning is allowed and when a burning permit is required.

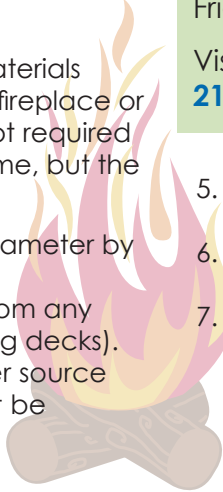
Bonfires—a large outdoor fire used for ceremonial purposes. A burning permit must be obtained from the Fire Department Annex.

Open Burning—the outdoor burning of natural vegetation to dispose of leaves, branches, and natural vegetative material. This is allowed under certain circumstances along river lots. Burning Permits are free and available at the Fire Department Annex.

TO OBTAIN A PERMIT: Please visit the Moorhead Fire Department Annex at 111 12th St S or call **218.299.5248** for more information.

Recreational Fires—the outdoor burning of materials (other than rubbish) contained in an outdoor fireplace or fire pit for recreational purposes. A permit is not required under the Minnesota State Fire Code at this time, but the following conditions must be met:

1. The fire must never exceed three feet in diameter by two feet in height.
2. The fire must be at least twenty-five feet from any structure or combustible material (including decks).
3. A garden hose hooked to a reliable water source or a fire extinguisher with a 4A rating must be immediately accessible.
4. The fire must be constantly attended.



MOORHEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY CHECK OUT THE NEW WEBSITE AT WWW.LARL.ORG

Here are just some of our website features; you'll have to go online to see the rest for yourself!

- LARL Digital Library
 - eBooks (and kids eBooks, too!)
 - eAudiobooks
 - eMagazines
 - eNewspapers
- Language learning software
- Ancestry and genealogy tools

...and more!

Contact Information

118 5th St S, Moorhead

Monday – Thursday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Friday and Saturday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Visit www.larl.org/events for event details or call **218.233.7594** for more information.

5. Only natural vegetative material may be used, (no treated lumber or rubbish).
6. The Fire Department may order extinguishment for any reason it determines is necessary.
7. We recommend a screen over the fire to help contain sparks and embers. These can be found your local department and hardware stores such as Menards, Target, Kmart, Walmart, and Home Depot.

SAVE ENERGY. SAVE MONEY.

Saving energy doesn't always cost money. Check out these easy tips:

- Clean or replace your air filters every month.
- Use a ceiling and other fans to help cool rooms.
- Adjust your thermostat. Keep your house warmer than normal when you are away.
- Close curtains and shades during the day.
- Use energy-efficient appliances and equipment.



LOOKING FOR MORE ENERGY SAVING ANSWERS?

"**Bright Ideas!**" is a FREE e-newsletter brought to you by your community-owned electric and water utility—Moorhead Public Service. You'll get energy-saving tips and tools to help you choose appliances and equipment, as well as great information about energy efficiency and the Bright Energy Solutions[®] appliance rebate program.

Go to www.MPSUtility.com and click on "Sign Up for Bright Ideas!"

You can also receive energy-saving tips, news, and updates at www.facebook.com/MPSUtility.

FLOOD INFORMATION

LIVING IN A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA (SFHA)

Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act

On March 21, 2014 President Obama signed the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 into law. This law repeals and modifies certain provisions of the Biggert-Waters Act. For an overview of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act visit the City's website at www.cityofmoorhead.com

Floodplain Website

The City's website is a valuable resource for floodplain information, floodplain maps, flood insurance information, and floodplain development permits. Visit www.cityofmoorhead.com.

Lenders, insurance agents, realtors and citizens can call **218.299.5387** and speak with the City's Floodplain Manager or use the interactive GIS mapping tool available on the City's website to determine if a property is within the SFHA.

The City maintains on file Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), elevation certificates, FEMA Letters of Map Amendment, and other flood related information.

Elevation Certificates

Elevation certificates are available for some properties within the City. If the City does not have an elevation certificate on file, the services of an engineering consultant will be needed.

Floodplain Development Permit

All development within the SFHA (100-year floodplain) requires a Floodplain Development Permit. Permits must be issued prior to performing any work. Please contact the City's Floodplain Manager at **218.299.5387** or visit our website.

Home Improvements

If the proposed improvement equals or exceeds 50% of the building's market value before the start of construction, the existing building and any proposed addition must comply with current floodplain standards.

If the proposed improvements are the result of damage and the cost of improvements equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the building, the building must comply with current floodplain standards. This includes damage from any origin and from multiple events. There is no time limitation for substantial damage, so the cumulative cost accrues indefinitely. Building improvements or repairs must include all costs, including but not limited to cost for construction materials and labor.

Natural & Beneficial Functions

Floodplains provide natural and beneficial functions including acting as an erosion control buffer and open space so further flood damage does not occur. Native plants are best suited for floodplains—they have deep root systems that resist erosion and stabilize the shoreline, whereas turf grass has a shallow root system and commonly erodes.

Drainage System Maintenance

Keeping the storm sewer system free of debris can dramatically improve run-off capacity, as well as reduce the possibility of blockage that contributes to flooding. Dumping debris or other materials such as grass clippings, tree branches, earth fill, or other materials within the system is prohibited. If you see someone dumping prohibited materials into the storm sewer system, contact the 24-hour stormwater hotline at **218.299.5386**.

Additional Contact Information

www.cityofmoorhead.com
Floodplain Information 218.299.5387
www.floodsmart.gov



NEW MATBUS ROUTE TO SOUTHEAST MOORHEAD

Starting May 1, MATBUS's fixed route services expanded into southeast Moorhead with the new Route 9. The 30-minute route begins and ends at the Walmart in Dilworth, and provides hourly service to areas including Cashwise Foods, Horizon Middle School, Sanford Medical Center, Globe University, Menard's, Sam's Club, and much more. With a transfer point at Walmart, passengers can easily connect with other routes to reach the rest of the FM metro area.

Visit www.MATBUS.com for more information or check us out on Facebook or Twitter – keyword MATBUS.

MATBUS SUMMER YOUTH PASS

Are you and your children planning summer activities? With MATBUS, you won't have to worry about getting them to places in the area.

WHAT: For \$26, this pass is a great way to teach young adults to become more independent.

WHO: Kids in kindergarten-12th grade

WHEN: June 1 through August 31

WHERE: Beginning May 19, 2014, passes are sold at the Ground Transportation Center, 502 N.P. Ave, Fargo.

NOTES: If the nearest bus stop is beyond walking distance, you can bike to the stop and load your bike on one of the racks on the front of each bus. Instructions for use are printed on the bike rack. You can also watch our "How to Ride" video or get a demonstration from a MATBUS team member at the Ground Transportation Center.

CARWASH RUNOFF

When washing your car on your driveway, do you stop to think about **what** is being washed off and **where** it is going? Dirt, oil, automotive fluids, and soap are carried into the storm drain and to the Red River, and these actions can have a significant impact on water quality.

Apply these helpful tips when washing your car:

- Wash your car on your lawn—the lawn will soak in the water.
- Use soap sparingly—look for soap that is phosphorous free.
- Use a hose nozzle with a trigger to save water.
- Dump the bucket of soapy water on your lawn or pour it down the sink or toilet when you are done, not on the driveway, sidewalk or street.
- Avoid using engine and wheel cleaners or degreasers.
- Take your car to a commercial car wash, especially if you plan to clean the engine or the bottom of your car.

Be a part of the solution not the pollution – only rain in the storm drain!

METRO AREA TRANSIT



The Summer Youth Pass also features MATBUS' new mascot, Mattie the red panda! You can visit him and other interesting animals by taking the bus to the Red River Zoo.

FREE RIDES TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MATBUS will be providing free rides from June 1 to August 31 to youth (kindergarten through 12th grade) going to and from the Fargo, Moorhead, or West Fargo public libraries. Youth simply need to show the driver their library card and they will ride for free!

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

July 4: Independence Day – NO BUS SERVICE

MATBUS TO DOWNTOWN STREET FAIR

Avoid the traffic downtown! MATBUS offers park and ride locations for the 2014 Downtown Street Fair. Park your car at one of the designated park and ride lots for free and ride to the Street Fair for a discounted rate during this event. The buses will take passengers to MATBUS's Ground Transportation Center (GTC), right next to the heart of the street fair.

WHEN: July 17 - 19, daytime buses run from 6:15 am to 6:45 pm and night buses run from 6:45 pm to 11:15 pm

WHERE: These collaborating businesses have graciously allowed parking spots for this service:

Moorhead Center Mall: From the shelter on the north side of Center Avenue, take Route 4 at :29 or :59 after the hour. Return from the downtown GTC to US Bank (across from the Mall) on Route 4 at :18 or :48 after the hour.

K-Mart (Highway 10): From the K-Mart entrance, take Route 4 at :14 or :44 after each hour. Return to K-Mart on Route 4 from the downtown GTC at :15 or :45 after each hour.

For route information from other locations in the F-M area or during evening hours, call the MATBUS Helpline at **218.232.7500** or visit www.matbus.com.



SUMMER RECREATION

PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS



THE SOUND OF MUSIC | July 15 - 19 at 7:00 pm, and July 20 at 1:00 pm. | Concordia College Theater
BY GOOSEBERRY PARK PLAYERS
218.299.3314



RIVERARTS

WHEN: June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22, August 12 from 5:30 to 8:00 pm
WHERE: Memorial Park (210 8th St N)
WHAT: a free concert, horse drawn wagon rides, arts and craft vendors, food, and hands-on activities

FARMERS MARKET

WHEN: Tuesdays, July 8 – September 30 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm
WHERE: Moorhead Center Mall Parking Lot (NE corner)
NOTE: Vendors are needed—call 218.299.5296 if you have items to sell or can provide entertainment during the market

WATERMELON FESTIVAL

WHEN: June 26, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm
WHERE: Gooseberry Park (100 22nd Ave S)
WHAT: Games Galore inflatable games, face painting, fresh watermelon, and much more!

SUMMER SPLASH

WHEN: July 24, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm
WHERE: Municipal Pool (800 19th St S)
WHAT: open swim, Games Galore inflatable games, and a diving contest

DOG SWIM

WHEN: August 18, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm
WHERE: Northeast Park Wading Pool (1817 8th Ave N) or South Park Wading Pool (2102 14th St S)
WHAT: \$2.50 per dog



GREATER MOORHEAD DAYS

Get out and celebrate Moorhead with a wide variety of events and activities available for the whole family. Visit www.moorheadparks.com to keep up-to-date with event details. *(Note: Events are subject to change.)*

THUR. SEPTEMBER 4

- CCRI 5K Run & Walk 'n' Roll-a-Thon

Fri. September 5

- M | State Greater Moorhead Days Parade

SAT. SEPTEMBER 6

- Roots on the Red Music Festival
- Moorhead Sings Competition
- Taste of Moorhead
- Miss Moorhead Pageant

SUN. SEPTEMBER 7

- Taste of Moorhead
- Bocce Challenge

MON. SEPTEMBER 8

- Kids Fest

TUES. SEPTEMBER 9

- Farmers Market

SAT. SEPTEMBER 13

- Wings and Wheels

WHAT CAN I DO THIS SUMMER?

Moorhead has something for everyone!

RECREATION PROGRAMMING

Beat summer boredom with a variety of recreation programming options. Check out the Parks and Recreation program guide for details on programs!

SWIMMING POOLS

Free wading pools are found in various neighborhoods and are open between 1:00 and 7:00 pm. The Municipal Pool is open between 12:30 and 4:30 pm and again between 6:30 and 8:30 pm. Daily admission is \$2.50 or purchase a season pass. The swimming pools will open for the season on June 6 and will close August 17.

GOLF COURSES

The Meadows is a classic links style course that plays differently depending on the wind. Village Green features two distinct sets of holes for golfers of all abilities. Tee times can be made online or by calling 218.299.PUTT.

Summer Golf Special: Tee off before 11:00 am and get 18 holes of golf and a cart for just \$30! Valid Monday through Friday only. No exceptions.

VOLUNTEER!

There are various volunteer opportunities available this summer. If you are interested, please call the Volunteer Coordinator at 218.299.5340 or email moorheadparkandrec@cityofmoorhead.com.

CONTACT INFORMATION



www.moorheadparks.com



218.299.5340



324 24th Street South



LOOKING FOR MOORHEAD PROPERTY INFORMATION?

Visit www.moorheadproperty.org for more information:

- Parcel information: building and land information, sales history, permit history, and special assessments
- Link to the tax statement on the Clay County website at www.co.clay.mn.us
- Link to a GIS Map
- Property tax estimator (residential)
- Applications for: Homestead Classification, Cosign Addendum, and Disability
- FAQs, Understanding property taxes, Market value estimation, and Assessment and appeals process



DUTCH ELM DISEASE (DED) FACTS

Dutch elm disease is a vascular fungus that kills elm trees. The fungus gets into the xylem (the vessels that move water) of the tree. Symptoms of an infection include wilting branches and leaves, and falling leaves in summer. The symptoms are most noticeable starting in late June and infections are found throughout the summer into September.

The DED fungus is moved from elm tree to elm tree by an elm bark beetle. The beetle carries the DED fungus on its body and introduces the fungus into uninfected elm trees when they feed in the crowns of healthy elm trees. The DED fungus is also transmitted between elm trees when roots are grafted together between closely spaced elms.

The Moorhead Forestry Department removes DED infected elm trees from the boulevard area and from city parks. Property owners must remove any DED-infected or dead elm trees from their private property. Infected elm trees not removed by the property owner are abated by the City. Elm wood cannot be stored or used as firewood in Moorhead from April 1 to October 31. Any elm wood stored as firewood over the winter must be discarded by April 1.

For questions concerning Dutch elm disease, please call Moorhead Forestry at **218.299.5430**.



A REMINDER

Please place garbage totes on the right side of your driveway, as if entering your driveway from the street (do not place it in the street). Make sure there is two feet of clearance around the tote. Place composting and recycling totes on the left side of the driveway, as if entering from the street.

Thank you for your diligence.

37TH SCANDINAVIAN HJEMKOMST AND ANNUAL MIDWEST VIKING FESTIVALS

WHEN: June 27 – June 28

TIME: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

WHERE: Hjemkomst Center



The Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival celebrates Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish, and Danish cultures with food, dancing, and shopping.

The Midwest Viking Festival is a gathering of Viking Age craftsmen, musicians, and living history enthusiasts from all over. Kids also get to experience Viking life by felting wool, coin striking, and rune writing.

For more information, contact the Historical and Cultural Society at **218.299.5511** or www.hscconline.org.

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ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED

The City of Moorhead is looking for election judges in to assist citizens during the August and November elections.

Qualifications

- You must be eligible to vote in MN, be able to read, write, and speak English, and be available during August and November
- You cannot be a candidate or the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of any election judge serving or a candidate on the ballot in the same precinct at the same time
- College students at least 18 years old may serve as judges

How to Apply!

Complete and mail the *Election Judge Application* on page 8 to:

City of Moorhead
Attn: City Clerk
500 Center Avenue, Box 779
Moorhead, MN 56561

Or email a scanned application to:

cityclerk@cityofmoorhead.com.

*If you are a college student, please provide your address at school and phone number

CALENDAR - SUMMER

JUNE

14 – Flag Day
15 – Father’s Day
21 – First Day of Summer
28 – Ramadan

JULY

4 – Independence Day
CITY HALL CLOSED
28 – Eid Al-Fitr

AUGUST

5 – Night to Unite
12 – Primary Election

SEPTEMBER

1 – Labor Day
CITY HALL CLOSED
8 – Nov. 2 – MATBUS
iGoEco Challenge
23 – First Day of Autumn
25 – Rosh Hashanah
27 – City Auction
218.299.5422

City of Moorhead
500 Center Avenue
P.O. Box 779
Moorhead, MN 56560

PRSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 478
Moorhead, MN 56560

ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

MINNESOTA’S NIGHT TO UNITE

WHEN: Tuesday, August 5, 2014
Mark your calendars for this important and fun-filled night to celebrate your commitment to a safe, healthy community. Close-knit neighborhoods are safe neighborhoods. Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect with your neighbors!

The Moorhead Police Department will promote and be actively involved in this event. Please look for more information and how to register for Minnesota's Night to Unite on the police department website at www.moorheadpolice.com in the "Citizen Resources" section under "Campaigns and Programs."

Let's join together as neighbors to fight crime and violence in our community!



Streets **alive!**

Sundays July 13 and August 24
 Fargo/Moorhead Noon—5pm

A walking, biking, blading, running, we-don't-always-need-to-be-driving event in downtown Fargo/Moorhead and West Fargo.

 fmstreetsalive.org

ELECTION JUDGE APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Email: _____

Party Affiliation:

- Democrat Party
- Independence Party
- Republican Party
- No Party
- Other

Please list top polling sites:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

For more information about polling sites, please visit: www.cityofmoorhead.com/government/elections or call City Clerk at **218.299.5352**.