

CITY INSIGHTS

Spring 2016



Published by the City of Moorhead

Moorhead is Booming

New schools on the horizon

The last time new schools were built in Moorhead (2004), neighborhoods quickly developed around the new schools and there were record housing starts. The increase in the property tax base, workforce, and consumers for businesses, led to economic growth for the community as a whole. In the past five years, nearly 1,700 housing units have been constructed -- 505 in 2015 alone. Today, there are 6,000+ students enrolled in Moorhead Area Public Schools, which is an increase of more than 300 students from the previous year. The largest class is kindergarten, with 570 students.

School bonds sold at a lower interest rate than estimated, reducing the cost by \$18 million over the life of the bonds. This reduction will not be reflected in 2016 tax statements, which have been certified, but it will affect taxes paid in 2017 and beyond.

New schools to boost growth once again: Last November, voters overwhelmingly approved a \$78 million bond referendum for Moorhead Area Public Schools' capital improvements, including:

- Building a new K-4 elementary school
- Constructing a new addition to Horizon Middle School for grades 5 and 6
- Upgrading all school buildings, including security improvements

Land has been purchased for the K-4 elementary school on the east side of Moorhead, south of Horizon Middle School near the Moorhead Sanford Clinic. Both the elementary and middle school projects will break ground this spring and are proposed to open for the start of the 2017/2018 school year.

Rendering of new K-4 elementary school



Neighborhood focus: Great care is taken in the design of schools in the Moorhead School District to create a personal learning environment for each student. School buildings are divided into grade-level neighborhoods to provide students a smaller setting with a team of teachers. Neighborhoods (or houses) allow for partnership and collaboration between classes.

When the school population outgrew the existing classrooms, kindergarten classes were moved to Probstfield Center for Education to maintain class sizes. Building the new K-4 elementary school

will allow kindergarten to return to the elementary schools. Probstfield will return to an early childhood and community education center once the new schools are built.

Moorhead is the "Best Small City" in America: It is expected the City of Moorhead will grow and develop even more as prospective residents take a look at what Moorhead offers -- quality educational programs and facilities, and well-planned neighborhoods with recreation opportunities and convenient transportation access. Homeownership information for prospective residents is available at MakeMoorheadHome.com.

Parks and Recreation

Program guide and events calendar
moorheadparks.com or 218.299.5340

Celtic Festival

March 12, 10 am – 4 pm
Hjemkomst Center, 202 1 Ave N
Celtic entertainment, activity booths, shopping, Celtic food, and special presentations – free admission.



Moorhead Ice Show

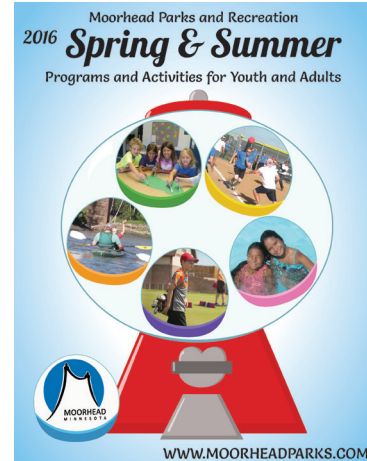
March 18, 7pm | March 19, 7pm
March 20, 1pm
Moorhead Sports Center, 324 24 St S
"Working 9 to 5" showcases popular career tunes performed by area skaters and a nationally ranked guest skater.
Tickets: \$5 (ages 4-12), \$7 (ages 13+)

One Enchanted Evening

April 23, 6 – 9 pm
Hjemkomst Center, 202 1 Ave N
Special evening for youth ages 4-12 and a family member featuring a grand march, refreshments, dancing, photos, and memories to last a lifetime.
Tickets available April 4, \$10/person.

Register now

There are numerous youth sports programs available -- baseball, flag football, Tae Kwon Do, tennis, golf lessons, and more. Explore your creative side at the Spring Art Classes or Summer Art Camps. Join the Adult Kickball League or take a Water Exercise Class. Take your walking or jogging routine to the pool and try the new Deep Water Fitness class.



The Spring & Summer Program Guide is available and registration is open. All Moorhead residents receive a copy in the mail – electronic copy available at moorheadparks.com.

Calling all volunteers

Volunteers needed in April to help with spring projects. Volunteer as a small or large group, individual, or family. Consider adopting a park, flower bed, street right-of-way, or an area along the Red River. Help keep our city free of litter and looking beautiful. Contact Kim Wangler at kim.wangler@cityofmoorhead.com or 218.299.5296 to learn more.

Dive into Summer at the Moorhead Municipal Pool

June 9 | 6:30 - 8:30 pm

RiverArts at Memorial Park

June 21, July 12 & 26, August 9 & 23 | 5:30 – 8:00 pm

Scandinavian Hjemkomst & Midwest Viking Festival

June 24 & 25 | Hjemkomst Center

Movie Matinee at the Moorhead Sports Center

July 14, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Summer Splash at the Moorhead Municipal Pool

July 21, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Farmers Market Tuesdays at Moorhead Center Mall

July 12 – August 30, 3:00 – 7:00 pm

September 6 – 27, 3:00 – 6:00 pm

Greater Moorhead Days

September 8 – 16

Save the Date



Spring Reminders

Cleanup Week: May 2-6 *Oakport Neighborhood Cleanup Day, May 10*

Furniture, household goods, and appliances will be collected at your curb on your scheduled garbage day beginning at 5 am at no additional cost. Excess garbage set out before Cleanup Week will be collected for a fee. More information at cleanupweek.com/moorhead.htm.

Cleanup Week guidelines

- Separate tires, appliances, furniture, brush, household garbage, metal, etc. into piles -- separate trucks collect specific items
- Use disposable containers such as cardboard boxes
- Do not set items out more than one day early
- Crews will not return to pick up garbage set out after your garbage day
- Remove refrigerator and freezer doors for safety
- Do not place food or waste inside appliances
- No commercial waste will be accepted
- Keep your garbage tote at least 4 feet away from other Cleanup Week items

Specialty items collected at no additional charge

- Two appliances per household
- Tires (no rims)
- Empty propane tanks (valves do not need to be removed)

Get a jump on clean up!

- Bring furniture, household goods, and excess garbage to the Moorhead Transfer Station the week before Clean Up Week, free of charge
- Fees apply to demolition/construction materials
- Proof of Moorhead residency required (i.e. driver's licence)

Options for noncollectible items: Crews will not collect the following items curbside -- disposal info below

TVs/computers/electronics (no fee)

1300 15 Ave N, Moorhead (behind the DMV)

- Saturday, April 30, 8:00 am – noon
- Cleanup Week, May 2 – 6, 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- Tuesdays (year round), 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- Collection for Clay County residents only
- Questions? cleanupweek.com/claycounty.htm or **218.299.5077**

Demolition/construction materials (fee applies)

Clay Demolition Debris Landfill, 4 miles east of Glyndon on Hwy 10

Moorhead Transfer Station, 2727 Hwy 10 E, Moorhead

- Lumber, concrete, sheet rock, fencing material, windows, doors, asphalt shingles, etc.
- Clay Demolition Debris Landfill at **218.498.2430** or claycountymn.gov
- Moorhead Transfer Station at **218.299.5465** or cityofmoorhead.com

Hazardous household material waste (no fee)

Clay County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 2729 Hwy 10 E, Moorhead

- Questions? **218.299.5077** or cleanupweek.com/ClayCounty.htm

Service dates

Compost Site opens April 11, Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:15 pm; Saturday, 8:00 am – 11:45 am

Weekly Curbside Yard Waste Pick-up begins April 11 on your regularly scheduled garbage day

Weekly Curbside Branch Pick-up begins May 2 on your regularly scheduled garbage day

Solid Waste Transfer Station Spring Operating Hours

April 1 – May 31 | Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:15 pm | Saturday, 8:00 am – 11:45 am

Grass and weed control policy

City Code requires grass control and weed removal to prevent the spread of noxious weeds, reduce mosquito breeding grounds, and maintain an attractive community. Property owners are responsible to insure grass does not exceed 8 inches in length and weeds are cut or destroyed.

If you notice a property that is not in compliance

- Contact us with the property address at **218.299.5434** or neighborhood.services@cityofmoorhead.com and an inspector will provide a notice to the property owner
- Property owner will have 5 days to cut the weeds or grass, or the City will hire it done and bill the property owner the cost of the service plus a \$100 administrative penalty -- multiple offenses within a 12 month period may incur fees without a grace period

Library

Need a library card?

Visit the Moorhead Public Library and bring proof of your current address. With a library card, you have access to thousands upon thousands of items in the library's collection – online and in print.

Access eBooks anywhere

Downloadable eBooks and eAudiobooks available from the digital library with your Lake Agassiz Regional Library card. Get your favorite titles today!

Use your LARL library card to get

eBooks anywhere!



www.larl.org/ebooks

Food for Fines in March

One food item = \$2 fine waived

In March, bring your overdue library materials back to the library with unexpired, non-perishable food items and we'll erase your late fee! The food donations will be given to local food pantries. All library customers are welcome to bring donations to the library, even if they don't have a fine to pay. Opportunity not valid for replacement charges incurred due to lost items.

Events at the Library with Booker

Meet Booker the owl, LARL's new mascot. He loves to visit the Library and share his love of books with friends and family.



Storytime is one of Booker's favorite events. Children of all ages are invited to enjoy stories, songs, and activities at the Library.

Visit the events calendar at larl.org to learn more about Storytime and other events such as computer classes, craft groups, and book discussions.

The Library also offers free meeting rooms for groups to gather. Call today to book your event!



Monday – Thursday

9 am – 9 pm

Friday & Saturday

10 am – 6 pm

Sunday

closed

Moorhead Public Library | 118 5 St S | 218.233.7594 | larl.org

Historical & Cultural Society

Manifestation

Now through April 3, 2016.

Works by Laura Youngbird that respond in part to the concept of Manifest Destiny as represented in the traveling exhibit on display.

Wet and Dry: Alcohol in Clay County, 1871-1937

February 15, 2016 – January 8, 2018

This exhibit tells the stories of the colorful battle over alcohol from the Wild West Days through national Prohibition repeal that took place throughout Clay County, MN.

Aprons Galore!

March 29 – June 19, 2016

Selections from a private collection of more than 500 vintage and contemporary aprons worn by men, women, and children.

FMVA BIG Art Show

April 15 – June 10, 2016

Regional members of Fargo-Moorhead Visual Artists exhibit their latest works in this large multimedia exhibition.

Monday – Saturday, 9 am – 5 pm | Sunday, Noon – 5 pm | Tuesday evenings, 5 – 8 pm (April – December)

Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County | 202 1 Ave N | Moorhead, MN | 218.299.5511 | hscconline.org

2016 Major Construction Projects

Hwy 10/Hwy 75 safety and operations improvement

Transportation project in downtown Moorhead



A major transportation project led by the City of Moorhead, in conjunction with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), will affect traffic on 8 St, 11 St, Center Ave, and Main Ave during the 2016 construction season. The project is designed to improve traffic safety and operations in the downtown area, improve pavement condition, and enhance pedestrian facilities.

Project Highlights

- Addition of turn lanes and modification of traffic signals at key intersections
- Pavement resurfacing on specific segments of 8 St, 11 St, Center Ave, and Main Ave
- Sidewalk improvements along Main Ave, Center Ave, 8 St, and 11 St
- Watermain replacement at various locations

cityofmoorhead.com/departments/engineering/current-projects

Click "e-Notification" at the top of the page for project email alerts from the City of Moorhead

I-94 and Hwy 75/8 St interchange

Major interchange reconstruction project

A major interchange reconstruction project led by the MnDOT will affect traffic on I-94 and Hwy 75/8 St during the 2016 construction season. The project is designed to reduce delays and move traffic more safely and efficiently.

Project Highlights

- Reconstructing the I-94 and Hwy 75/8 St interchange to a Diverging Diamond Interchange
- Adding one lane in each direction to I-94 between Hwy 75/8 St and 20 St S
- Resurfacing Hwy 75/8 St between 22 Ave S and 35 Ave S -- widening select areas



Photo courtesy of MnDOT

mndot.gov/d4/projects/moorhead

Click "sign up for project email updates" on the right side of the page for email alerts from MnDOT



Visit www.mpsutility.com for more information about the 2016 Community Solar Garden Project

Scholarships available

Moorhead Public Service (MPS) has scholarships available for Moorhead's high school seniors and college students.

- Submit an essay by March 31 and you could earn up to \$3,000 for college
- Submit a video by April 15 and you could earn up to \$1,000 for college

Details and entry forms at www.mpsutility.com, Moorhead City Hall (2nd Floor), or from your school's guidance counselor.

iGoEco CHALLENGE



Take the MATBUS iGoEco Challenge

April 4 through May 8, MATBUS invites you to take part in the iGoEco Challenge

Learn a Lesson from your new friend, Liddy. Substitute your car for a more eco-friendly mode of transportation for at least one trip a week, and you could win! It's all about carpooling, MATBUSing, walking, biking, skateboarding or rollerblading. Mix and match your eco-friendly options – walk one day and take MATBUS the next.

If you meet the goal each week, your name goes into a drawing for prizes valued at over \$400 each. Complete all five Challenges and you are qualified for a grand prize valued at \$1,000. Register for the Challenge at iGoEcoChallenge.com starting March 28. Log your trips on the website each week for a chance to win prizes. Save money, save time, reduce traffic, save the environment... Listen to Liddy and Go Eco!

Get your "can" on MATBUS during Earth Week

Celebrate Earth Week by using public transit. Riding MATBUS fixed routes will only cost one aluminum can, April 18 - 23! Taking MATBUS to work or school makes a difference in conserving our natural resources. One bus carrying 50 people saves 32 gallons of gas in one day, which preserves the air we breathe and conserves fossil fuels. All proceeds from the collected cans will be donated to charity. Passengers can enter the Earth Week prize drawing on MATBUS vehicles or at the Ground Transportation Center (GTC).

For earth-friendly events happening in the Fargo-Moorhead community, check out valleyearthresource.org.



Summer Youth Passes on sale May 16

With MATBUS, you won't have to worry about getting the kids to the pool, movies, summer school, or practice. Kids in kindergarten-12th grade can take MATBUS all summer long for only \$26 with the Summer Youth Pass – three months of transportation for the price of one! The Summer Youth Pass is good for unlimited rides on MATBUS fixed route vehicles, June 1 through August 31. Passes are sold at the Ground Transportation Center, 502 NP Ave in Fargo, beginning May 16. More information at matbus.com.

Meet the EDA Director



A new Executive Director has joined the Moorhead Economic Development Authority. Cindy Graffeo started in the role on January 11. Cindy comes to Moorhead with experience in the field, having worked for the Economic Development Division of the City of Eau Claire, WI and Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. She also has years of experience in marketing, most recently for Sanford Health in Fargo.

"As a Moorhead community member, I am so very excited to have the opportunity to help make our community the best that it can be. I am looking forward to getting to know our current business owners and working to help new businesses find their home here in Moorhead, as well."

Cindy can be reached at Cindy.Graffeo@cityofmoorhead.com or **218.299.5302**.

City on the Red River

Only rain down the storm drain

Stormwater runoff from rain and snow flows over rooftops, streets, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, and yards to storm drains. As it flows it picks up pollutants such as pet waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizer, oil and grease, and trash. The water drains directly into ditches, stormwater ponds, and the Red River without treatment.

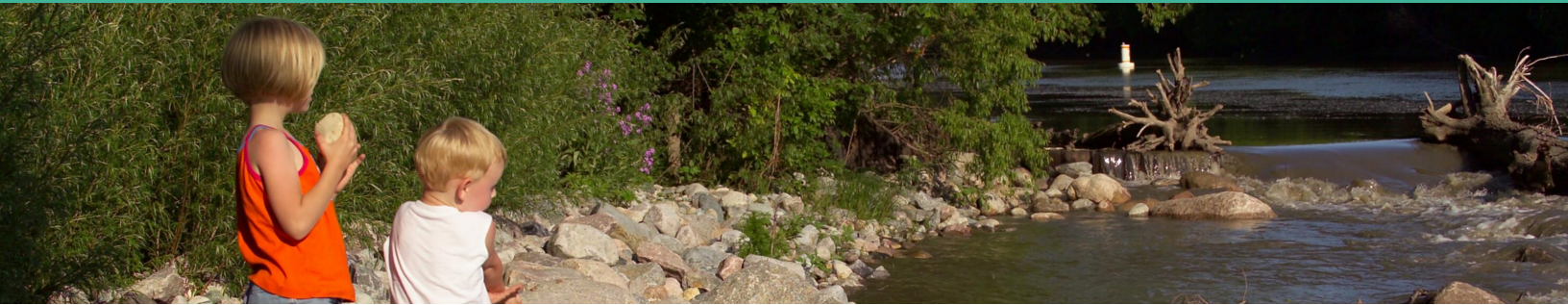
If you see something that doesn't look natural -- report it to the Stormwater Division. Note the location, size, type of material, color, and take pictures of the discharge. Exceptions for illicit discharges include car washing, fire fighting, dechlorinated swimming pool water, sump pump discharge, irrigation water, and water line flushing.

Check for leaks and responsibly dispose of all pollutants to help keep our City and river clean!



Tips

- Dispose of chemicals, motor oil, etc. at the Clay County Hazardous Waste Facility – claycountymn.gov
- Never hose down pollutants or illicit discharge (non-stormwater discharge) into a storm drain, street, or gutter
- Report illicit discharge at **218.299.5886** or stormwater@cityofmoorhead.com
- If a hazardous spill has occurred, call **911**



Sump pumps to the street, not the sewer

The sanitary sewer system is designed to handle wastewater only, not clear water from sump pump discharges and precipitation. The storm sewer system (street and yard drains, ditches, etc.) has a much greater capacity and is intended to handle water from sump pumps.



Sump pump discharges must be directed into the yard or plumbed to the curb.

- Sanitary sewers are designed assuming each home, on average, will use 250 gallons of water per day
- After a heavy rain, a typical sump pump running every five minutes discharges 1,400+ gallons of clear water per day
- In addition, extra water can seep and run into the sanitary sewer system during wet periods

Increasingly, sump pump discharges have compromised sewer capacity and contributed to, or nearly resulted in, sanitary sewer backup into homes and businesses. Handling the extra water at the treatment plant reduces plant capacity, equipment life, and increases costs that get passed on to residents.

Seasonal waivers allowing sump pump discharge to the sanitary sewer during winter months are available for a fee. By April 1, the discharge must be moved to drain outside. For more information, contact the Wastewater Division at **218.299.5386** or at cityofmoorhead.com.

eNotifications: Sign up today

Sign up to receive emails when news and events are posted to the City's website.

Visit cityofmoorhead.com and click the eNotification link at the top of the homepage. Share your name and email address, then select your categories – City services, City Council, boards and commissions, Fire, Police, Parks and Recreation, and more.

The eNotification system is the best way to hear what is happening in Moorhead, your hometown.



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City Auction

Moorhead, Barnesville, and Clay County will hold a public sale of impounded vehicles at 10 am on Saturday, April 30 at the Moorhead Impound Lot, 2206 15 Ave N. Vehicles, bicycles, and recovered property being sold in this sale are court ordered forfeitures and unclaimed property.



Coffee with the Mayor

Join Mayor Williams for coffee each month and visit about your city

Mayor Williams invites citizens of Moorhead to join her for coffee at the Moorhead Center Mall. Coffee with Mayor Del Rae Williams is held on the third Wednesday of each month from 10 am – noon and 7 – 9 pm in the Moorhead Center Mall Atrium, 500 Center Ave. Free and open to the public. Coffee provided. Questions encouraged.

March

- 12 Celtic Festival
- 13 Daylight Saving Time begins
- 16 Cancelled: Coffee with the Mayor
- 18-20 Moorhead Ice Show

April

- 4 MATBUS iGoEco Challenge (to May 8)
- 11 Curbside Yard Waste Pick-up begins / Compost Site opens
- 15 Parks & Recreation baseball registration due
- 18-23 Earth Week - Free MATBUS ride with aluminum can donation
- 20 Coffee with the Mayor
- 23 One Enchanted Evening
- 27 Administrative Professionals Day
- 30 City Auction

May

- 2 Curbside Branch Pick-up begins
- 2-6 Cleanup Week -- *more information on page 3 or cleanupweek.com/moorhead.htm*
- 8 Mother's Day
- 10 Cleanup Day for Oakport Neighborhood
- 18 Coffee with the Mayor
- 30 Memorial Day / City offices closed / no garbage collection (collected May 31)
- 31 Garbage collection begins, 4 am

City Calendar

City Council

FIRST WARD SECOND WARD THIRD WARD FOURTH WARD

Del Rae Williams
Mayor
218.299.5307

Nancy Otto
218.233.2834
Mari Dailey
218.299.5549

Jim Haney
218.299.5547
Heidi Durand
218.299.5543

Brenda Elmer
218.299.5548
Mike Hulett
218.299.5544

Steve Gehrtz
218.299.5542
Chuck Hendrickson
218.299.5545