

Newport's News

Winter 2018

www.ci.newport.mn.us

(651) 459-5677



City Of Newport
596 7th Avenue,
Newport, MN 55055



Upcoming Events:

City Council

December 6, 2018, @ 5:30 p.m.

December 20, 2018, @ 5:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

December 13, 2018, @ 5:30 p.m.

City Hall Will Be Closed

- December 24/25, 2018
- January 1, 2019
- January 21, 2019
- February 18, 2019

Mayor:

Dan Lund 651-331-9324
danlund@live.com

Council Members:

Bill Sumner 651-459-1717
sumner.newport@gmail.com

Tracy Rahm 651-459-6634
councilmanrahm@gmail.com

Kevin Chapdelaine
612-508-1284
chapdelaine61@msn.com

Rozlyn Johnson 651-459-1089
rjohnson.newport@gmail.com

Message from the Sheriff's Office

With the holiday season approaching, the Washington County Sheriff's Office would like to remind you of some ways to prevent the Grinch from stealing from you.

If you participate in online shopping, you should be considering ways to avoid the porch pirates this holiday season. Here are some tips to consider.

- 1) Ask the shipping company to hold your package for customer pick-up at their local facility; some offer locker pickup locations.
- 2) Track the delivery status online so you can try to be home when the package arrives.
- 3) If you are able, have a package delivered to your workplace.
- 4) Sign up for delivery alerts from the shipper. If you are not home during delivery, message a neighbor to have them take the package back to their place until you get home.
- 5) Require a signature for all your deliveries. If there is no one home to sign for the package, it won't be left at your home.
- 6) Be neighborly. If you see a package sitting on a neighbor's doorstep, reach out and ask if they would like you to hold it until they are home.

Library and Community Center Update

Upcoming programs and events (all supplies are provided):

- **Story Time**- Come enjoy family story time with books being read aloud on Saturday, November 24, December 1, 15, and 22 at 1:00 pm.
- **Holiday Review & Sing Along**— Join the fun on Saturday, December 8 at 2:00 p.m.
- **Holiday Ornament Craft**—Come and make a one-of-a-kind holiday ornament on Monday, December 17, from 3:00-6:00 p.m.
- **New Years Noise Maker Craft**—Make your personal noise maker to ring in 2019 on Thursday, December 27, from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Serving on a Commission, Board or Committee

The Newport City Council is seeking applicants who are interested in serving on the Planning Commission and Park Board.

The Planning Commission meets on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. The purpose of the Planning Commission is to provide professional support and review for zoning regulations and make recommendations on city planning and development matters to the city council. There is one vacancies for the Planning Commission and the term is January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019.

The Park Board meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. The goal of the Park Board is to develop, preserve, and enhance parks, natural settings and outdoor spaces for recreation, education, and enjoyment of area citizens. There are three vacancies for the Park Board and the term is January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2023.

Newport residents can apply for any of these positions by submitting a Letter of Interest to the City Council expressing why you are interested in serving and include any qualifications you may have with a volunteer application. Letters can be mailed or dropped off at City Hall, 596 7th Avenue, Newport, MN. 55055, by December 5th. Contact Travis at (651) 459-5677 or email tbrierley@newportmn.com with any questions.

Fire Department's Annual Food and Toy Drive

The Newport Fire Department will be hosting their annual Food and Toy Drive again this year. The Fire Department will have drop-off barrels at Clover Leaf Bar and Grill and the North Pole Restaurant beginning mid-November.

The Fire Department will also be at the Newport Center on **Sunday, December 2, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** collecting donations. All donations will support Friends in Need Food Shelf in St. Paul Park. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make the check out to the Friends in Need Food Shelf.

6th Annual Winter Family Fun Night - January 26, 2019

The Newport Parks Board and Newport on the Move will be hosting the 6th Annual Winter Family Fun Night on Saturday, **January 26, 2019**, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Lions Park so be sure to mark your calendars now!

Enjoy an evening of family skating, fun winter games, music and refreshments. All activities can be enjoyed by skaters and non-skaters alike! More information will be available in January 2019.

Recycling during the holidays

Americans add about 25 million tons of garbage during the holiday season. Make decisions that are environmentally friendly. If you are hosting a party, encourage guests to recycle and make recycling an easy option. If you want to reduce your waste, try these ideas:

- Use recyclable wrapping paper: Foil and shiny wrapping paper cannot be recycled.
 - Get creative when wrapping presents: Old newspapers, maps, and comic books are all great ways to wrap a gift.
 - Remove bows and ribbons before recycling: Pull off all non-recyclable pieces and save them for later use.
 - Use gift bags instead.
-

Senior Citizen Utility Discount

Senior citizens who are 65 years of age and older are eligible for a discount on their quarterly utility bill. Individuals can sign up for the discount at City Hall by filling out an application and showing an ID. Individuals need to come into City Hall to renew it by the end of the year.

Winter Parking Ban

The City would like to remind residents that there is a winter parking ban from November 1, 2018, through April 1, 2019. This parking ban prohibits parking on either side of any City street between the hours of 2:00 and 6:00 a.m. Deputies will issue citations when it snows. Once there is two inches of accumulated snow or a snow emergency is declared all vehicles must be removed from City streets or may be towed. **Towing of vehicles will be performed when necessary.**

Public Works Department

House Numbers - During winter, when daylight is shorter, it is important to ensure that you have properly visible house numbers displayed on your house. The street number should be visible to the casual observer passing on the roadway. If this is not possible, a sign with proper numbers may be placed on a post in the front yard so that it is plainly visible from the street. A street number on a mailbox is not satisfactory.

Ice Skating Rink - Once it gets cold enough Lions Park's outdoor ice skating and lighted hockey rinks, as well as the supervised warming house, will be open to the public. The hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The warming house will be closed when it is in the best interest and safety of the community.

Snow Plowing - In the winter, the City will be looking to the residents of Newport for assistance in keeping snow that has been cleared from sidewalks and driveways off the public streets. Pushing and blowing snow from driveways and sidewalks onto or across public roads may be punishable as a misdemeanor under Minnesota State Statute.

Snow deposited or left on roadways creates a real hazard to passing motorists, which can cause serious accidents. Because the practice is illegal to begin with, the person depositing the snow, as the prime cause of the accident, may also find him or herself faced with civil liability lawsuits.

Christmas Trees - Residents may discard their Christmas trees at the Public Works site, located at 1100 Bailey Road, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. from January 3rd to the 6th. Please ensure that all lights, garland, and decorations are removed from the tree prior to dropping it off.

Thank You Volunteers!



The City of Newport and the Newport Park Board want to thank the 19 volunteers who assisted in the removal of buckthorn from Newport Bailey School Forest Park on October 27th. The effort put forth by the volunteers made a significant difference to the forest.

Another huge thank you goes to the individuals, families, and groups that donate time to keep Newport's parks and trails clean. The efforts of these volunteers are a great gift and helps preserve the beauty of our community. If you would like to adopt a park or trail, or would like more information, please contact Deb Schulz at (651) 459-5677 / dschulz@newportmn.com.

Emerald Ash Borer Infected Tree Infestation is in Newport

A survey confirms an emerald ash borer (EAB) infestation is in the City of Newport. Newport is asking residents to check their ash trees. Winter and spring are good times to look for woodpecker damage and other signs of EAB infection because the trees are bare. For more information on how to identify ash trees and check for EAB, visit www.mda.state.mn.us/eab or call 1-888-545-6684. The longer a resident waits to remove an infected tree, the more hazardous a tree becomes and the more expensive it will be to remove. Because of the serious threat of EAB, the state has placed counties with infestations under quarantine restrictions. The biggest risk of spreading EAB into new areas comes from people unknowingly moving firewood or other ash products that contain larvae. Washington County is a quarantined county and therefore is under restriction on the movement of ash trees, wood chips and firewood.

Canadian Pacific Holiday Train—Cottage Grove Stop on December 10th, 5:15-6:00 p.m.

The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train returns for its 16th year on December 10th, 2018. The brightly lit train will arrive with at 5:15 p.m. All cash and donations go to Friends in Need Food Shelf serving the residents of Cottage Grove, Grey Cloud Island, Newport and St. Paul Park.

The Holiday Train raised \$99,961.97 and collected 17,071 pounds of toiletries, food and toys last year. Fund raising for Friends in Need Food Shelf starts before the train arrives through selling Holiday Loaves at area churches, a spaghetti dinner and silent auction at the American Legion in St. Paul Park on Saturday, November 3rd from 2-8 p.m., "10 Days of Giving" at local schools, and the sale of "Train Cut-Outs" at local businesses. Stop location is on West Point Douglas Road, just south of the 80th St. Bridge (across from the Youth Service Bureau).

The Newport Fire Department Wants Residents to be "Fire Smart."

Home fires occur more frequently during the winter months. The Newport Fire Department wants you to follow these simple guidelines:

- Install carbon monoxide detectors and test them every month;
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year;
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it outside at least 10 feet from any buildings (Never your trash can);
- Plug only one heat producing appliance, such as space heaters, into any electrical outlet at a time;
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from any heating source or 12 inches from a candle;
- Get rid of your live Christmas tree ASAP and follow manufacturer instructions for the number of lights that can be stranded together; and
- Keep snow and ice three feet away from fire hydrants.

Open to Business Through Washington County

Have you always dreamed of starting a business, but aren't sure how to get started? Open to Business can help! Our team of business advisors can sit down with you to talk through your idea, help you refine the concept, and outline next steps to make it a reality.

Open to Business is a FREE service available to you wherever you are in the process. Whether you want to talk through an idea and get feedback or need help implementing a developed business plan. For more information visit www.opentobusinessmn.org or call the Washington County office at 612-789-8838.

2019 Dog Licenses - All dogs must be licensed with the City annually

Annual dog licenses are on sale at City Hall for \$10 through January 31, 2019. The fee will increase to \$20 after this date. **Newport residents must renew licenses for their dogs annually.** An updated rabies vaccination certificate is required at the time of purchasing. Requiring a dog license helps to ensure that all dogs in the city are vaccinated for rabies and serves as a resourceful tool to help in returning your dog, should they pick him or her up from running at large. Additionally, any household that has four or more dogs or cats must obtain a kennel license. A kennel license is approved by the City Council and expires December 31 each year. The kennel license is \$50. Please contact Deb Schulz at (651) 459-5677 / dschulz@newportmn.com for more information.

City of Newport
596 7th Avenue
Newport, MN 55055

City Hall:

Hours: M - Th 8 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Phone: (651) 459-5677
Fax: (651) 459-9883
www.ci.newport.mn.us

Public Works:

Phone: (651) 459-2475
Fax: (651) 459-2043

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Records: (651) 430-7600
Dispatch: (651) 439-9381
Emergency: 9-1-1

Fire Department:

Office: (651) 459-9390
Emergency: 9-1-1

Library:

Hours: Tues. & Wed. 1:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays and Fridays
Phone: (651) 459-9631

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2018 General Elections - City Council Results

The 2018 General Elections were held on November 6, 2018. The City of Newport had two City Council positions on the ballot. Laurie Elliott was elected to one of the council positions with 640 votes and Tom Ingemann was elected to the other council position with 495 votes.

Laurie Elliot has served on the City of Newport Planning Commission. Tom Ingemann has served on the Newport City Council from 1994-1998 and 2009-2016.



The City of Newport would like to thank Councilmember Tracy Rahm for eight years of service and Councilmember Roz Johnson for two years of service. Both Councilmember Rahm and Johnson chose not to run this year.

Voter turn out for Newport for this election was 1,508 residents. This is 71.3 percent of registered voters in this area. The overall state of Minnesota voter turn out was approximately 64 percent.

Thank you to all the election judges for taking time to facilitate the democratic process for the community of Newport. If you are interested in being an election judge in the future, contact Travis Brierley at 651-459-5677 or tbrierley@newportmn.com.