

City of Kasson Newsletter – March, 2016

Tree City USA

Make A Payment



You asked for it...

Online payments are here!!!

We are excited to bring you a new payment option. Making your payment on our website at www.cityofkasson.com, when it's convenient for you, is now a reality! With this new payment option you can pay with a credit card or by electronic check!

Payments will be posted the following business day. Payments made after midnight on the date due will be considered late and subject to a penalty. When making an online payment, you will need to have your account number, the service address and the payment amount along with the credit card or checking information. You will be given an opportunity to enter an email address so a receipt will be sent directly to you for your convenience. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (507) 634-7071 or (507) 634-6325.

As always, you may continue to use our other payment options. We accept cash, check and credit/debit cards for utility payments and in addition to the United States Postal Service we accept payments the following ways:

- Auto Pay
- Contact City Hall at 634-7071 or 634-6325 and pay with credit or debit card
- Two convenient drop box locations
- Erdman's (checked daily before 7:30am) -City Hall (checked multiple times daily)

KASSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Farewell to “Downton Abbey” Evening

The final season of the PBS historical drama “Downton Abbey” is in full swing. Join us in saying good-bye on Friday, March 4 at 6:30pm. There will be English treats, Downton Trivia and fun for all. Come dressed in period costume if you wish. This will be a B.Y.O.T. (bring your own teacup) event!

Recycle Your Old Clothes to Help the Library!

Kasson Public Library will be raising funds for the new library by recycling old clothes and fabrics. Please start collecting clothes or household textiles, even if they are too worn to sell at a garage sale or give to a thrift store. We can use: 1) clothes with tears, holes and stains and 2) used household items like sheets, towels and blankets. No need to remove zippers or buttons. Just bag and bring to Kasson Public Library between April 27-May 11. Questions? Call 634-7615. Many thanks!



Kasson Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 19th at Veterans Memorial (North) Park

Watch the DCI for further details.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY TAX VALUATION?

Your opportunity to question the valuation of your Kasson property is at the County's Board of Appeal and Equalization Open Book meeting. This will be held on Thursday, May 5th at 6:00PM in the Dodge County Boardroom at the Dodge County Courthouse in Mantorville.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK! <http://www.facebook.com/Kasson Minnesota>

KASSON AQUATIC CENTER SINGLE AND FAMILY PASS forms are available on line at www.cityofkasson.com. The early bird rate for both the resident and non-resident passes is good through March 1, 2016. Swim lesson forms are also available on line. The pool will be opening officially on June 8th with limited hours two weekends prior. Dates & times to follow.

Load Management Controllers

Under the City of Kasson Electric Load Management Plan, the City manages an electrical controller system which is installed on residential and commercial central air conditioning units. This controller allows the electric power provider to interrupt the central air conditioner unit (7.5 minutes every 30 minute interval) during periods of high summer peak demand; usually on hot, humid summer days in the late afternoon or early evening. When the controllers are activated, the AC unit will cycle off at brief intervals much like your thermostat; the fans will continue to circulate cooled air helping maintain your comfort. By participating in this program you can save money on your electric bill and help the City "level out" energy use during peak demand periods when the cost of electricity is the highest.

The City of Kasson has always and will continue to pay for the installation of the Load Management Controllers for residential customers and for businesses. Kasson Public Utility residential customers with load controllers will receive a 10% discount for four (4) billing periods generally designated as May 16 through September 15 on their electric usage.

If you have any questions or would like to participate in this program, contact Krista today at (507) 634-7071 or email cityhall@cityofkasson.com.

HOME ENERGY AUDITS

...another way to reduce energy and save dollars!

The City of Kasson Public Utilities, partnering with Minnesota Energy Resources can help.

You pay only \$50, which is applied to your Minnesota Energy Resources billing. The City and Minnesota Energy will cover the rest of the cost.

Sign up now by calling
1-800-376-0517

2016 CITY OF KASSON BOULEVARD TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

Ron Unger, City Forester
634-4165

City of Kasson residents can now purchase trees through the 2016 boulevard tree planting program. This is a 50%-50% cost sharing program between the City of Kasson and the homeowner.

Order forms are available at
www.cityofkasson.com

Or at Kasson City Hall
401 5th St SE

Deadline for ordering is March 31, 2016

City of Kasson
Emergency
Numbers
Emergency 911
Non-Emergency
Police 634-3881
Nights &
Weekends
Water/Sewer
993-7697
And
Electric 259-6661

**Building a House?
Deck? Garage?
Remodeling?
Reroofing?
Window Replacement?**

**Building permit
applications are located
on the City of Kasson
website at
www.cityofkasson.com or
call 634-7071**

**Need help paying your
ENERGY BILLS?**



Semcac's Energy Assistance Program may be able to help you with winter energy bills.
(Eligibility is based on household income.)

Serving Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Mower, Steele & Winona Counties

**Call SEMCAC!
800-944-3281**

The Energy Assistance Program is funded by the State of Minnesota Department of Commerce through a block grant from the Federal Health and Human Services Department.

LUCK IS NOT ON YOUR SIDE.

FROM 2010 - 2014, DURING THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY HOLIDAY PERIOD,
OVER HALF OF MEN 21-34 KILLED IN CRASHES WERE
KILLED IN DRUNK DRIVING CRASHES.



Over St. Patrick's Day from 2009 to 2013, there were 276 lives lost in drunk-driving crashes. Before celebrating St. Patrick's Day this year, decide whether you'll drink or you'll drive. If you choose to drink, designate a sober, reliable driver to get you home safely from the party. If you plan to drive, commit to not drinking. The last thing you want is to ride home with a cop.



The Kasson Planning and Zoning Commission is looking for a few good opinions. There is an opening on the Commission for a Kasson resident to serve one evening a month helping to establish some of the rules by which we are able to live together.

In order for 6,000+ people to live in close quarters with each other, there need to be some mutually agreed-upon rules. In order to minimize the potentially negative impacts of one

family's life on their neighbors, the City of Kasson has instituted a Zoning Code that dictates what can and can't be done in various areas of town.

Maintaining and interpreting this Code is the responsibility of Kasson Planning and Zoning Commission. This is where seven members of the community meet together to review various requests by property owners to use their land in certain ways. Most of these requests are routine and handled by staff, but some are more "gray" and need community input and a degree of judgement that cannot be placed on paper.

This is what the Planning and Zoning Commission provides to our community. Please consider offering your views to the process.

The Commission meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30pm at City Hall. Commissioners are asked to fulfill a 3 year term. For more information and an application visit www.cityofkasson.com or call 634-7071.

3rd Annual

KASSON-MANTORVILLE EARLY CHILDHOOD 5K

WALK, RUN, OR STROLL



Featuring
Country Pleasures
Pasta!

Saturday, April 23rd, 2016, 10 am - noon
K-M Community Ed, 606-16th Street N.E., Kasson.

Includes pasta lunch and FREE t-shirt.
Register before April 8, for guaranteed t-shirt.

www.komets.k12.mn.us
(Choose Community Education under schools)

Timed 5K!



Raising funds for Early Childhood Scholarships
through K-M Early Childhood Initiative.

Come for the fun - prizes, books,
Auction/Raffle, Hill Challenge
and much more!





Clothes Dryer Safety

Doing laundry is most likely part of your every day routine. But did you know how important taking care of your clothes dryer is to the safety of your home? With a few simple safety tips you can help prevent a clothes dryer fire.

- » Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- » Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- » Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- » Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- » Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- » Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a qualified professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- » Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- » Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer.
- » Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.

AND DON'T FORGET...

Dryers should be properly **grounded**.

Check the **outdoor vent** flap to make sure it is not covered by snow.

Keep the area around your dryer **clear** of things that can burn, like boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing, etc.

Clothes that have come in contact with **flammable substances**, like gasoline, paint thinner, or similar solvents should be laid outside to dry, then can be washed and dried as usual.

FACT

- ❗ The leading cause of home clothes dryer fires is failure to clean them.



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

www.nfpa.org/education