

City of Hawley NEWSLETTER Jan 2016

City of Hawley 305 6th St 218-483-3331 www.hawley.govoffice.com
City Hall Hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Motor Vehicle Hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Happy New Year!



Christmas tree
curbside pickup:
January 7th & 21st

Hawley Sledding Hill Now OPEN

The Storm
Water
Detention
Basin - on Main Street just
south of Mickelson Body Shop,
is available for sledding. Bring
your own sled, be considerate
of smaller children, and be
careful around the orange
fenced areas.

Have Fun Sledding!



SHOVEL HAWLEY

Help us make Hawley a walkable and
safe city for everyone this winter.

Consider helping by Shoveling:

- A neighbor's sidewalk
- Sidewalks used by children to get
to school
- A fire hydrant
- Any
neglected
Sidewalk

THANK YOU!



City Hall & the Recycling Center will be
closed on January 1st - New Years Day and
January 18th in observance of
Martin Luther King day.

City Council Meetings

Broadcast live on Cable
Channel 14 @ 5:30 p.m.
January 4 & 19



Pet License Reminder \$6 per year

All dogs and cats are required to have Hawley
licenses. Be sure to bring documentation of
rabies vaccination for your pet when you come to
City Hall to apply for their license.

You can purchase 1, 2, or 3 years license based upon
the rabies vaccination duration.

Licensing helps return stray pets to their owners.

Skating Rink Opening

when conditions are favorable.

*(A warm December has pushed back opening as
sustained freezing temperatures are needed
to form the ice.)*

Westgate Park SKATING RINK/Warming
hours: Monday through Friday: 4-8:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday: 1-8:30 p.m.
School Holidays: 1-8:30 p.m.

RINK RULES:

- *Please be considerate of others
- *Ice skating and hockey are dangerous sports,
you skate at your own risk
- *Hockey inside of boards ONLY
- *No horseplay/roughhousing or throwing snow
- *Be careful when entering and exiting
- *Attendant has authority to remove any person
- *Warming house open and lights on only when
attendant is working
- *Skates must be removed or skate guards on
when entering the restroom area

Warming house will be closed if it is -15° or
the wind chill is -30° or colder or if the ice
conditions are unskatable (too warm/too much
snow)

**PLEASE park on the street and walk into
the rink area.**

If you would like to use the rink at other times,
a responsible adult may check out the key from
City Hall. That adult will open and stay at the
warming house to supervise their event, and
return the key as soon as the event is
completed.

Opening date will be on our Website!

Q: What is 9-1-1?

9-1-1 is a three digit telephone number
you can call 24 hours a day for Police,
Fire and Medical emergencies.

**Q: What happens if I call 9-1-1 and
there is a busy signal?** Please hang
up and dial 9-1-1 again. As long as your
local telephone service is operating, this
situation is highly unlikely. The
enhanced 9-1-1 network has several
back-up systems to ensure that 9-1-1
calls are answered.

**Q: Can I call 9-1-1 from my cell
phone?** Of course, but calling 9-1-1 on
a cell or wireless phone is different than
calling from a traditional "landline"
phone. Emergency calls from wireless
phones may not automatically route to
the appropriate 9-1-1 center, or provide
all the details that are necessary for
dispatching first responders - phone
number, location or recognizable
landmarks.

Q: Why 9-1-1? It saves valuable time in
an EMERGENCY. According to
nationwide statistics, it can take up to
2 1/2 minutes to find your telephone
directory and another 30 seconds to
locate the correct number. In an
EMERGENCY, 3 minutes is a long
time - time that can be saved by
remembering to call 9-1-1.

Upcoming events at the Community Center:

Lions Bingo—Jan. 16th

Pinewood Derby Cub
Scouts— Jan. 30th



Get your WALK-ON!

Community Center walking:
6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Open Monday through Friday
No walking Jan. 1st or 18th

MOTOR VEHICLE - NEW INSURANCE REQUIREMENT

Per Minnesota Statutes 2014, Section
169.798, Subd. 4, every owner applying
for a **self-propelled motor vehicle or
motorcycle/moped registration,
re-registration, or transfer of
ownership** must provide **proof of
insurance**. Required insurance
information includes the insurance
company's name, the policy number,
and the policy expiration date for the
motor vehicle or motorcycle.

Recycling Center Winter Hours

Monday & Thursday 4-7
Saturday 9-1

Recycling Tip of the month:

You can recycle your old
Christmas Lights.

Please breaking down/flatten
all cardboard boxes.

City ATV, Snowmobile, & Golf Cart License

2016 City licenses now
available for these units
operating in the City limits.
Please remember to bring
current insurance information,
vehicle serial number, and
registration information.

Thank you!

Winterize Your Vehicle - Check or have a mechanic check the following items on your car:



Antifreeze levels - ensure they are sufficient to avoid freezing.

Battery and ignition system - should be in top condition and battery terminals should be clean.

Brakes - check for wear and fluid levels.

Exhaust system - check for leaks and crimped pipes and repair or replace as necessary.

Carbon monoxide is deadly and usually gives no warning.

Fuel and air filters - replace and keep water out of the system by using additives and maintaining a full tank of gas. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing.

Heater and defroster - ensure they work properly.

Lights and flashing hazard lights - check for serviceability.

Oil - check for level and weight. Heavier oils congeal more at low temperatures and do not lubricate as well.

Thermostat - ensure it works properly.

Windshield wiper equipment - repair any problems and maintain proper washer fluid level.

Install good winter tires - Make sure the tires have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions.



HEATING TAX EXEMPTION.....

Electricity or Natural Gas sold for residential use is not taxable for the billing months of November, December, January, February, March, and April when sold to metered customers who use it as their primary source of residential heat. If more than one type of heat is used, only the *primary source* of heat is not taxable. The primary source of residential heat is the source that supplies more heat than any other source for the largest period of time during the heating season. If the primary source of residential heat is electricity or gas, and there is only one meter, then all the electricity or gas measured through that meter is not taxable during the winter heating months.

Residential Customers Include:

*Apartments *Condominiums *Intermediate Care Facilities *Garages-residential (attached or not) *Mobile Homes

Utilities supplied for residential heating *during* construction of a residence are not taxable.

Residential use does not include use in travel trailers, motor homes, or other recreational vehicles.

Commercial and Residential Use:

Some buildings have both residential quarters and commercial operations. If there is one meter for the entire building for electricity or gas, square footage is used to determine if the residential exemption applies:

*The residential exemption applies if more than 50% of the square footage of the building is residential.

*The utilities are taxable if 50% or more of the square footage of the building is used for commercial operations.

IF YOUR HEATING SOURCE HAS CHANGED SINCE LAST YEAR: Detach and return the Exemption Certificate...

HEATING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

I hereby verify that my Primary Source of heat at: _____ (address) is:
_____electric or _____natural gas

And as my primary source of residential heating I request that Hawley Public Utilities deduct the applicable sales tax from my bill.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Buffalo River Remeandering South of Hwy 10

The new channel of the Buffalo River south of Highway 10 is now opened. The contractor, Sellin Brothers, has been working to restore the river channel since the end of November.

This areal photo was taken in December. ➡

Thank you to Luther Aadland and Amanda Hillman of the DNR, Bruce Albright, Buffalo Red River Watershed District, Ted Rud and Erik Jones Engineers, and the Hawley Golf Club for all their work and cooperation on this important project.

This project is 100% funded by the MN Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment through the MNDNR Stream Habitat Program - Lessard-Sam's Outdoor Heritage Council.

This will help reconnect and restore the watershed and lessen erosion and flooding problems.



SAVE \$\$ WITH the Hawley PUC
2016 Electric Conservation Improvement Program (CIP)
Residential Incentives



Specific items that are available for rebates in 2016:

CFL Lamps (Replace incandescent bulbs with CFL)	\$2/bulb
LED Screw-In Bulbs(40-60W Equivalent to incandescent)	\$4/bulb
(65W or greater)	\$8/bulb
LED Fixture (Complete fixture or replacement kit)	\$8/install
Clothes Washers	\$50/unit
Clothes Dryer	\$50/unit
Refrigerator or freezer	\$25/unit
Need to be ENERGY STAR®	



To apply you simply need your sales receipt and to fill out the Hawley PUC rebate form within 60 days of purchase. We would be happy to assist you with the forms. All residential rebates will be applied to your utility bill as a credit to your account.

Electric Water heater (Min. 80 gal. total capacity)	\$150/unit
Programmable Thermostat	\$25/unit
Tune up for Central AC (Not valid on window units)	\$25/unit
Furnace (Air Handler) with ECM Blower	\$100/unit
Mini-split/Ductless Air Source Heat Pump (15 SEER)	\$500/unit
Air-source Heat Pump (14 or 15 SEER)	\$500/unit

Ground-Source Heat Pump rebates are also available for various Styles and sizes - please check with us at City Hall or check the City of Hawley website for additional information.

For additional information or questions on rebates available contact the City of Hawley 218-443-3331 or the City of Hawley website www.hawley.govoffice.com

**The Hawley
Deputy Registrar Office
will be celebrating our
40th Anniversary on
February 17, 2016.**

Watch for the details on our
Open House to celebrate this
40 year milestone
in the February newsletter.

Clay County Commission - Ordinance #2015-9
Regulating e-cigarettes

Excerpt: The use of any electronic delivery device is prohibited anywhere smoking is prohibited by the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act, as it may be amended from time to time.

Electronic delivery devices produce a vapor of undetermined and potentially harmful substances, which may appear similar to smoke emitted by traditional tobacco products. Their use in workplaces and public places where smoking of traditional tobacco products is prohibited creates concern and confusion and leads to difficulties in enforcing the smoking prohibitions.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 145A.05, this Ordinance applies all throughout Clay County, including the municipalities therein.

LIFE IS . . .
10% What Happens To Us &
90% How We React To It.

Business Highlight

WHO: Scott's Auto Sales
WHERE: 120 8th Street
Hawley, MN 56549
WHEN: Mon—Fri 9 a.m.—6 p.m.
Sat—9 a.m.—3 p.m.
Sun—Closed

CONTACT: Scott Christianson 218-486-5500

Scott's Auto Sales opened in December of 2008. Scott's is a family owned and operated used car business. We handle mostly GM, Ford, Dodge and Chrysler products. The vehicles generally have 80K to 150K for miles and are priced under \$10,000. Most trades are welcomed! We're also a proud corporate partner to the Hawley High School.



Please read the information below on Natural Gas Pipeline Safety!



SOUND: Volume can range from a quiet hissing to a loud roar, depending on the size of the leak and pipeline system.



SMELL: An unusual smell, petroleum odor, or gaseous odor will sometimes accompany pipeline leaks. Natural gas is colorless, tasteless, and odorless, unless commercial odorant is added. Gas transmission/gas gathering pipelines are odorless, but may have a hydrocarbon smell.



SIGHT: Liquid pools, continuous bubbling in wet or flooded areas, an oily sheet on water surfaces, vaporous fogs and/or blowing dirt around a pipeline area. Dead or discolored plants in an otherwise healthy area of vegetation or frozen ground in warm weather are all signs of a pipeline leak. Natural gas is colorless, tasteless, and odorless, but vapor and "ground frosting" may be visible at high pressures. A natural gas leak may also be indicated by dust blowing from a hole in the ground or flames, if the leak is ignited.

Gas Odor

Enclosed is an important brochure relating to the "odor" of natural gas. Hawley Public Utilities supplies natural gas to many customers within city limits. As part of our safety program, we want everyone to be aware of this odor and how to report it. If you have any indication of a gas smell, leave the building immediately and go to a neighbors house to call City Hall. We will have one of our trained utility workers check for a gas leak immediately. We provide this gas sniffer information twice a year in an effort to educate and promote safety.

The Hawley Public Utilities operates a system of underground natural gas pipelines to provide safe and economical energy to the residents and businesses of our community. Pipelines are one of the safest transportation methods available, but in the unlikely event a natural gas leak occurs it can cause a fire or explosion. We want to help you stay safe around gas facilities. This brochure is designed to assist in that effort, providing information on reacting to and reporting suspected gas leaks and on excavation safety. If you have further questions please contact us:

Hawley Public Utilities
City Hall 305 6th St (218)483-3331
After Hours Emergency: (701)238-7657
or 911

Email: info@hawley.govoffice.com



Remember, suspected gas leaks are potentially dangerous and must be reported and investigated immediately. We need your help to continue to operate a safe distribution system.

Excavation Safety

Dig-in (excavation) damage is a leading cause of gas system damage. To minimize this hazard, the most important thing you can do is **Call Before You Dig. Gopher State One Call** is a free statewide service that allows utilities to locate any buried facilities they own before you start digging. Just call 2 business days before digging and provide the requested information to the operator. GSOC can be reached at **800-252-1166** or **dial 811**.

Natural Gas Notice

The City of Hawley does not maintain the buried gas piping downstream of your meter. If you as a homeowner have buried gas piping, it needs to be maintained as it is subject to the potential hazards of corrosion and leakage. Buried gas piping should be inspected for leaks as frequently as needed, but at intervals not exceeding 5 years; periodically inspected for corrosion if the piping is metallic; and repair if any unsafe condition is discovered. **Always use a licensed contractor for your Natural Gas plumbing.**

From the desk of Chief Backlund:

Please remove vehicles from streets when we have a snowfall of 3" of snow or more—in order for the city crew to remove the snow from the streets of town. Also, watch for slick spots with temperatures near or below freezing the corners can get slick at the intersections.

Sadly, as of Monday, December 1, we have now surpassed the total number of traffic-related deaths from last year in Minnesota. According to the DPS office of Traffic safety, a total of 361 people lost their lives in 2014 crashes. As of December 1, 2015, 364 people have lost their lives on Minnesota roads. Slow down...buckle up...and never drive impaired. There are extra officers on roads during December all throughout Clay County looking for impaired drivers to try and address this deadly trend. Remember when celebrating this holiday season.... **DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER!!**

Hawley Police Chief—Joe Backlund