
CITY OF ST. CLAIR NEWSLETTER

March/April 2011



June 18th - 24th

Medallion Hunt
Miss St. Clair Pageant
City Wide Garage Sales
Softball Tournament
5-K Fun Run & 1 Mile Kids Run
Kids Day
Parade
Fireworks
and lots of family fun!

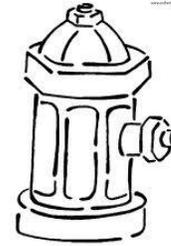
More information about St. Clair Days will be included in the next City Newsletter.



BUILDING PERMITS

A Building Permit is required for almost all building projects and construction in the City of St. Clair. Contact the City Clerk (245-3494) for a Building Permit Application or for other information before undertaking any building project.

Building and Zoning Information is also available on the City website www.stclair.govoffice2.com click on Building/ Zoning on the left menu.



SPRING WATER MAIN/HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULED FOR MID-APRIL

To protect the City's water supply, all St. Clair water mains and hydrants are flushed twice a year. The flushing is typically scheduled in April and October. The City Public Works Dept. employees flush the water mains by systematically opening each of the 59 fire hydrants in City. The sudden rush of water loosens and removes accumulated mineral deposits from the lines.

Residents may temporarily notice low water pressure while the mains are being flushed.

Flushing water mains does not change the water quality, however, flushing often stirs up iron deposits in the pipes, resulting in discolored, cloudy or rusty water in the home. There is no health risk with "rusty" water and the water is safe to drink. Rusty water conditions can be cleared easily by turning on all the cold water faucets inside the home at the same time and letting them run for a few minutes until the water clears.

Please call the City Clerk with any questions regarding water main/hydrant flushing.





SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

April 16th – 20th

Statewide Tornado Drill ... Thursday, April 19th

The following information is provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management.

SIRENS

On the first Wednesday of each month, communities test their outdoor warning sirens to assure that systems will work in the event of an emergency. When these siren tests occur, they involve two distinct signals. These two different signals warn you of possible threats to your community. The first, and most frequently used signal, indicates a tornado or other severe weather. This signal is a steady tone. The other signal is for other types of emergencies. It has a warbling sound.

If you hear your sirens sound, and the signal is a steady tone, it means that severe weather has been sighted in your area. Seek shelter immediately and turn on a battery-powered radio for more information. If you see that severe weather is approaching, don't wait for the sirens to go off before seeking shelter. In some fast-moving storms, the dangerous weather may pass through before the siren can be activated. Stay alert to severe weather!

TORNADO WATCH

A tornado or severe thunderstorm watch means that conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes or severe thunderstorms. Many tornadoes originate inside severe thunderstorm cells.

When a watch is issued for your area, pay close attention to the weather. Make sure that everyone in your family knows the correct action to take if the weather gets worse. If weather becomes more threatening, or you see an approaching storm, immediately turn on your TV or radio to monitor events.

TORNADO WARNING

A tornado or severe thunderstorm warning means a tornado or severe thunderstorm has been reported or is indicated by weather radar. Warnings are issued for counties and/or communities. Warning information includes the tornado's location, direction and speed. If the warning is for your area, *you should take shelter immediately.*

Learn the location of designated shelters at work, school, and in other public buildings you frequent. Designate a tornado shelter in your home or building. Be sure all family members know where and when to seek shelter. Make sure to take a battery-powered radio to your shelter location when a warning has been issued.

WHAT TO DO AT HOME

If you are at home when a tornado or severe thunderstorm warning is issued, take shelter immediately. Go to the basement and seek shelter under the stairs or a sturdy piece of furniture. If you do not have a basement, seek shelter in a small room at the lowest level, in the center of the building. Bathrooms and closets are good potential shelters. Avoid rooms with windows.

APARTMENTS and MANUFACTURED HOMES

Residents living in an apartment should discuss the tornado shelter location and plan with their landlord or apartment manager.

Manufactured homes are especially vulnerable to the effects of tornadoes and severe thunderstorms. Residents living in a manufactured home parks should ask the park manager for the tornado shelter location. If there is no time to get to shelter, abandon the manufactured home and lie flat in the nearest ditch or depression with your hands covering your head.

YOUR HOME SHELTER

If you live in a home with a basement, you have an excellent potential shelter. Take a few minutes to select and prepare a good spot in your basement in case a tornado strikes your community.

When you choose your basement shelter location, take these factors into consideration:

- Your shelter should be large enough to hold all family members.
- Avoid windows, doorways, and stairways. These are all entry areas for flying debris and destructive winds.
- A good shelter location is underneath the basement stairs or near any outside wall. Stairways are structurally sound and provide excellent protection against falling debris.
- When space allows, position yourself beneath a piece of sturdy furniture, such as a table or workbench.
- Pre-stock your shelter with a battery-powered radio, flashlight, blankets, and a first aid kit.
- Make sure all family members know the shelter location.
- Conduct a family tornado drill to test your plan.

