



CITY OF ST. CLAIR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

August/September 2013



Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 2nd Annual Walk

(sponsored by the American Cancer Society)

Saturday, September 28th

10:00 Opening Ceremony

10:30 Walk Begins

Riverfront Park in Mankato

All funds raised go to research and supporting women with breast cancer. 1 in 2 newly diagnosed women call the American Cancer Society for help. Please join us to help finish the fight against breast cancer.

Additional information is available on the City website or by visiting Making Strides at www.MakingStridesWalk.org and search for Mankato.

Garbage and Recycling Rate Increase

There will be an increase to the garbage and recycling rates effective September 1st, you will see this change on your October utility bill.

SERVICE	CURRENT RATE	NEW RATE
GARBAGE	\$11.50 (+ tax)	\$11.75 (+ tax)
RECYCLING	\$3.00	\$4.25

... MARK YOUR CALENDAR ...

4th Annual St. Clair Fire Dept. Pizza Fundraiser



Hosted by Mitt's BP 

**Thursday, October 10th
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

during Fire Prevention Week

Additional information and an order form will be included with the next City Newsletter.



St. Clair Mini-Library Site

Stop by the St. Clair City Hall and check out our Mini-Library site. If you don't see the kinds of books you like, there's a clipboard on the library cart, leave a note on the clipboard for the Blue Earth County Library staff. The St. Clair Mini-Library functions on the 'honor system' ... no library card needed.

St. Clair residents and other small city and rural Blue Earth County residents have Blue Earth County Library services available to them through the U.S. Mail. Library patrons may go on-line or order their library materials over the phone. Library materials are mailed with an enclosed postage-paid return envelope.

Blue Earth County library patrons also have full access to the regional library system's extensive eBook and audio book collection which can be downloaded from the Blue Earth County Library System website www.becolibrary.org to their personal reading/listening devices.

For more information contact Kathy at the Blue Earth County Library (507-304-4021).

Radio Read Water Meters

After considerable research and careful consideration, the St. Clair City Council has approved the purchase of radio read water meters. All water meters in the City will be replaced. Most of our existing water meters are between 20 and 50 years old and an overall meter upgrade is due. The new meters will have an automated reading feature that utilizes radio technology. This technology will allow the Public Works Department employees to drive through each neighborhood and gather meter readings using a hand-held device. This technology will also aid in leak detection.

The City of St. Clair has contracted with *Dakota Supply Group* (DSG) to provide the new Badger water meters. *Midwest Testing LLC* has been hired to complete the installation of the new water meters. All installers have completed training and background checks, and will have photo identification, wear identifiable uniforms, and drive vehicles marked with a company decal.

Midwest Testing will begin installations in St. Clair on **Monday, September 16th**. An adult 18 years old or older must be present at the time of installation.

The majority of the residential water meters are located in the basement or lower level of the home. Midwest Testing will need to gain access to your basement to remove the old meter and install the new one. Replacement of the water meter takes about 20 minutes. During the installation process it will be necessary for the installers to shut-off your water either by using the shut-off valve in your home or at the curb. There are a few steps you can take now to ensure that the installation process goes smoothly:

1. Make sure there is a clear path to the area in your basement where the meter is located.
2. If possible, clear a 4 – 6 foot area around the water meter to allow adequate working space for the installers.
3. Check to make sure that your water shut-off valve is in working order (meaning you can turn it off and on). The shut-off valve is located before the meter and is usually below or beside the meter. If the valve is not working properly, you will need to contact a plumber and have the valve repaired or replaced.

The cost of the new water meters and the meter installation costs are being paid by the City. However, the cost of any plumbing or water valve repair/replacement that may be necessary to accomplish the meter installation is the responsibility of the property owner.

PLEASE NOTE: Water meters are the property of the City. The City Water Ordinance states that City employees or representatives of the City (in this case Midwest Testing) who are reading, servicing, or replacing water meters shall have access to buildings and premises connected to the City water system. Water service may be disconnected for failure to allow access to your water meter.

DOG OWNERS: As a safety precaution the installers may ask you to put your dog away before they install your meter.

In early September, the City will be mailing letters to all property owners and occupants detailing the water meter installation process.



Reminders for Drivers

- Slow down and be alert in School zones and residential neighborhoods.
- Take extra time to look for children at cross-walks, intersections and on curbs.
- Slow down and obey all traffic laws and speed limits.
- Back out of your driveway slowly and carefully, watch for children walking and biking to school.
- Watch for children on and near the street, especially in areas where there is no sidewalk.
- Obey school bus stop laws ... stop for a school bus with flashing red lights and an extended stop arm.
- Reduce any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
- Put down your phone and don't talk or text while driving.

Reminders for your Children

- Kids should cross the street with an adult until they are at least 10 years old.
- Cross the street at corners, using crosswalks.
- Never run out into the streets.
- Never cross in between parked cars.
- Make sure children always walk in front of the bus where the driver can see them.
- When no sidewalk is present, walk on the far left side of the street, facing traffic.
- Parents should help their children figure out the best route to school and teach the children how to estimate when there is enough time to cross a street.