



# CITY OF ST. CLAIR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May/June 2015



**June 22<sup>nd</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>**

Visit the City of St. Clair website for a schedule of events and for information about individual events

[www.stclair.govoffice2.com](http://www.stclair.govoffice2.com)

For more information contact  
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## Building Permits



A Building Permit is required for almost all building projects and construction in the City of St. Clair including: new construction, home or garage addition, storage building, deck, porch, re-roof, window replacement, siding, finishing basement, etc. 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](http://www.stclair.govoffice2.com) and on the City Building Inspector's website [www.buildingcodeinfo.com](http://www.buildingcodeinfo.com) (Dan Murphy, Building Official, City Building Inspection Services, LLC)

## Nuisance Properties



While most yards and properties throughout St. Clair are attractive and well kept, the City has received complaints about a number of unkempt (nuisance) properties. Properties with unkempt yards, long grass/weeds, old tires, scrap metal, lumber, brush, inoperable and unlicensed vehicles, garbage, junk/items stacked and piled around and behind garages and in yards, etc.

Residents with unkempt (nuisance) properties will be notified by the City Attorney, in accordance with the City Nuisance Ordinance. The procedure is as follows:

- Residents in violation of the Nuisance Ordinance will be notified in writing. In accordance with the City Nuisance Ordinance they will be given time to correct the violation.
- If the property is not cleaned up within the allotted time the City will take action and clean up the property (remove and dispose of items creating the nuisance).
- The cost of the clean-up (removal, disposal, labor costs, etc.) will then be assessed to the property owner.

## Pet Owners



Pet owners, please be respectful of your neighbors and follow the City Pet Ordinance:

- Keep your dog or cat on a leash or under your control at all times. Provide adequate leashing, fencing or other means to insure that your pet stays in your yard and doesn't run loose.
- Don't allow your dog to habitually bark and howl.
- When walking your dog, "pick-up" after him, don't leave the mess behind.
- Obtain a dog or cat license at City Hall.
- Dogs and cats found running at large will be impounded in Mankato. Retrieving an animal from the impound is very costly!!

# City Wide Clean-Up Day

## Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>

Items MUST be on the curb by 7 am on Clean-Up Day ... items may be set out 2 – 3 days before Clean-Up Day.

**REMEMBER:** "One man's trash is another man's treasure."

'RECYCLING' of Clean-Up Day items is encouraged! When Clean-Up Day items are recycled, it not only helps the environment by keeping items out of the landfill, it saves all of us money by reducing our disposal costs!

### ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- General NON-HAZARDOUS Household Waste ... "JUNK".
- Furniture Items (Couches, Chairs, Tables, Mattresses, Box Springs, etc.).
- Small Amounts (approx. 90 gallons) Remodeling Materials.  
(Siding, Dry Wall, Carpet, DRIED OUT Paint Cans, etc.).
- Small Electronic Equipment (small AM/FM Radios, Phones, etc.).
- All items should be bagged, boxed or contained in a manageable manner.
- If items can be recycled, please do so in the appropriate manner.
- LJP Waste and Recycle reserves the right to refuse any items they deem unacceptable.

### UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- NO Yard Waste ... Grass Clippings, Shrubs, Plants, Tree Limbs, Leaves, Branches, etc.
- NO Hazardous Waste ... Paints, Liquids, Chemicals, Batteries, etc.
- NO TIRES ... TIRES WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED ON CLEAN-UP DAY.
- NO Motor Oil or Oil Filters, Petroleum Products or Petroleum Product Containers, Fluorescent Lights, Incandescent Light Bulbs, Cement, Asphalt or Large Quantities of Remodeling Materials or Demolition Materials.

### COLLECTION TAGS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

(Purchase tags at City Hall)  
TAGS MUST BE PURCHASED BY 12 NOON ON FRI., JULY 10<sup>th</sup>

#### APPLIANCES (Residential – Non Commercial Units ONLY)

- HOUSEHOLD-TYPE APPLIANCES (without Freon): \$ 26/each  
Includes: Stoves, Ovens, Microwaves, Washing Machines, Dryers, Dish Washers, Water Heaters and Water Softeners
- HOUSEHOLD-TYPE APPLIANCES (with Freon): \$ 30/each  
Includes: Refrigerators and Freezers (doors off), Window A/C Units, Dehumidifiers

#### ELECTRONICS

- VCRs and DVD Players: \$ 6/each
- Personal Computers and Desktop Printers: \$ 10/each
- Desktop Copiers and Fax Machines: \$16/each
- Portable TVs and Monitors (regardless of size): \$ 35/each
- Console TVs and Console Stereos (Hi-Fi): \$ 35/each



## Storm Water

City storm sewers are designed to carry rain water (commonly referred to as 'storm water'); surface run-off and snow melt to the river.

Storm sewers are not designed to handle leaves, grass clippings and other yard debris. During rainstorms, grass clippings, leaves and other yard debris can plug storm drains/ grates and accumulate in the pipes, contributing to clogs and back-ups. In heavy rain events these clogs and back-ups can cause flooding.

In addition to grass clippings, leaves and debris, storm water often contains materials found on streets and parking lots such as oil, antifreeze, gasoline, soil, litter, pet wastes, fertilizers and pesticides. When even small amounts of these materials enter lakes and streams, they become pollutants that can kill fish and reduce water aesthetics.

### Grass clippings, leaves, twigs and other yard debris

When it rains, grass clippings, leaves and other yard debris can end up in storm drains, causing blockages. Preventing these blockages is easy.

- Compost grass clippings.
- Keep mowed grass off the street by mowing grass into the yard not into the street.
- Do not rake grass or leaves into the street or curb/gutter. It can plug city drainage systems.
- Do not allow soil, leaves or grass clippings to accumulate on driveways, sidewalks, or in streets.

### Other materials

Storm drains in St. Clair transport rain to the LeSueur River. Storm water often contains materials found on streets and parking lots such as grass clippings, oil, antifreeze, gasoline, soil, litter, pet wastes, fertilizers, pesticides and leaves. When even small amounts of these materials enter lakes and streams, they become pollutants that can kill fish and reduce water aesthetics.

### Help keep storm drains clean:

Do not dispose of motor oil, antifreeze, pesticides, paints, solvents, or other materials in storm drains.

- When doing vehicle maintenance and repairs, clean up spilled liquids and other materials.
- Wash vehicles on a grassy area rather than on the driveway and reduce the amount of soap used. Using biodegradable soap or low phosphate to wash vehicles is best.
- Sweep fertilizer and soil off driveways and walkways.
- Dispose of pet wastes properly.