



Newsletter

FALL/WINTER 2019/2020

What's Inside

PAGE 1

Winter Prep
Short Term Rentals

PAGE 2

Police Dept. Notes
Roads & Wastewater

PAGE 3

From the Mayor
Presidential Primary
Area Events

PREPARING *Seasonal Septic Systems and Cabins for Winter*

Closing a septic system for the winter is a vital task for seasonal homeowners to prolong the life of the system and to keep it operating at peak performance. Precautions taken in the fall can help prevent a frozen system.

Winterizing the Pipes in the Cabin

- Do not add automotive antifreeze, salts or any other additives to your plumbing.
- If you leave the water on for the winter, be very sure that there are no leaks or drips. This constant, low flow of water can cause septic system freezing. This is common with high efficiency furnaces.
- Even if the heat is left on, it is a good idea to drain water supply lines. Shut off the water where it enters the house and drain all lines. Drain the pump and then run a couple of seconds to be sure all water is out of the lines. Drain the system by opening all the faucets, leave faucets open. Completely drain the pressure tank. Flush toilets and add RV antifreeze to the tanks at the recommended dilution ratio. Check flexible hoses in sinks and bathtubs to be sure they are drained completely. Remove and drain inlet hoses for the dishwasher and clothes washer. Clear the water valve by starting the machine for a few seconds, then drain the tub. Remove the drain hoses, drain completely. Disconnect the electrical supply to the pump, water heater, softener, washer and dishwasher. Drain the water heater and water softener with a hose after power is disconnected. RV antifreeze can be added to traps in sinks, bathtub and shower drains, washtubs, floor drains and sump pumps. In the spring, re-connect all hoses and flush the lines out before using again.

Furnace

If you have a high efficiency furnace that is left on for the winter, be sure there is no water drip into

your system. Freezing can result. Re-route the drip water to a floor drain, bucket or other source that does not enter the septic system at all, or enters in larger amounts. This water does not harm the septic system, but entering in very small amounts causes a trickle of water, which can freeze more easily. If shutting off the furnace, drain all water from forced hot water and steam systems unless the system contains antifreeze. If that is the case, call a plumber for assistance. If leaving the furnace on, it is a wise idea to conserve energy by installing a low-heat thermostat that will maintain the cabin at 40 degrees.

Cleaning/Pumping The Septic Tank

Consider pumping the tank if closing the cabin for the winter, or if it will only be used a few times during the winter. If you live in an area with a high water table, you should only pump out the tank if the tank was designed for high water table conditions. If a tank is left full but the system is not used for the winter months, the sewage will get very cold, and can even freeze. If the cabin is opened before temperatures in the soil start to rise, the effluent leaving the tank will be cold. By starting with an empty tank, you can then start fresh with warm effluent, which is desirable in the soil treatment area.

Vegetative Cover

Stop cutting the grass over the soil treatment area in mid-September. The extra grass length will help capture snow, providing insulation over area. This can help prevent freezing.



Protect the Soil Treatment Area

Keep all foot and vehicle traffic off the tank, pipes and soil treatment area (drainfield or mound). The only exception is the lawn mower. Do not plow snow off the area or store plowed snow over the drainfield.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

cityoflakeshore.com

WHILE YOU'RE THERE, JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST.

CONNECT WITH US!



@CityOfLakeshore

Short Term RENTAL ORDINANCE

The City of Lake Shore recently amended its ordinance dealing with short-term rental property. The purpose of the ordinance is to allow short-term rentals where appropriate while mitigating impacts upon surrounding properties by implementing balanced regulations to protect the integrity of the area's neighborhood as well as protect the general public health, safety, and welfare.

Provisions of the current ordinance include:

- Annual permit required
- Maximum number of rentals is 6 per year
- Water test/septic compliance
- Site plan showing parking layout, floor plan of home (bedrooms with egress windows)

- Contact for complaints
- Property rules for renters

The amended ordinance became effective February 1, 2019. The City will actively enforce the ordinance with administrative fines and a misdemeanor. The most common complaint with short-term rentals results from the behavior of the guests. The guests are in "vacation and/or party mode". The short-term rental homeowners need to take steps to minimize the potential negative impact a short-term rental can have on surrounding properties to include the lake.

Questions regarding short-term rentals may be directed to Teri Hastings at City Hall.

POLICE NOTES

Beware of Gift Card Scam

Gift cards are a popular and convenient way to give someone a gift. They're also a popular way for scammers to steal money from you. That's because gift cards are like cash: if you buy a gift card and someone uses it, you probably cannot get your money back. Gift cards are for gifts, not payments. Anyone who demands payment by gift card is always a scammer.

Many different kinds of imposters ask you to pay with gift cards. Someone might call you and claim to be from the IRS, collecting back taxes or fines. The caller might say he's from tech support, asking for money to fix your computer. The caller might even say she's a family member with an emergency and needs money right now.

What they all have in common is an urgent need for you to send money right away. Imposters will sometimes ask you to wire money to them but, increasingly, they tell you to go put money on a gift card. Here's what happens: The caller will tell you to get the card at a particular store near you – often Walmart, Target, Walgreens, or CVS. They may even have you buy several cards at several stores. Sometimes, the caller will stay on the phone with you while you go to the store. Once you buy the card, the caller then will demand the gift card number and PIN on the back of the card. Those numbers let them immediately get the money you loaded onto the card. And once they've done that, the scammers and your money are gone, usually without a trace.

Other kinds of scammers, some of them also imposters, who might demand payment by gift card include:

- Callers pretending to be from a utility company, telling you to pay your bill by gift card or they'll cut off your power or water
- Sellers on online auction sites who ask for gift cards to "buy" big items like cars, motorcycles, boats, RVs, tractors and electronics
- Someone posing as a service member to get your sympathy, saying he has to sell something quickly before deployment and needs you to pay by gift card
- Callers who say you've won a so-called prize, for a sweepstakes you probably never entered – but first, you have to use a gift card to pay fees or other charges
- Someone buying something from you, probably online, who sends a check for more than the purchase price – and asks you to give them the difference on a gift card. (That check, by the way, will turn out to be fake.)

These are all scams. In fact, if anyone tells you to pay by gift card, or by wiring money – for any reason – that's a sure sign of a scam. Every time.

Reporting Suspicious Activity and Crime

The Lake Shore Police Department wants to remind residents to report suspicious activity. With your help and action, we will continue keeping this community safe from crime. When you help the police department, you are helping yourself from becoming a victim of crime.

If you see suspicious or unusual activity report it immediately by dialing 911. Even a five-minute delay in reporting can significantly reduce the likelihood of catching the criminal. Don't hesitate to call if you think something may be wrong or out of place. Think about what could happen if you delay or don't make the call. Get to know your neighbors and watch out for each other.

Snow Plowing Across Roads

Lake Shore residents are reminded that it is unlawful to plow snow from driveways onto or across city streets or country roads. Piles of snow left on or near the road can freeze into a solid mass creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Accidents and damages caused by snow piles left in the roadway may result in liability to the property owner. Piles of snow increase the chances of drifting snow onto the roadway.

Hunting

Firearm hunting is regulated within the city of Lake Shore. Because of the varying densities of homes, a map has been developed to identify where firearm hunting is allowed. Depending on density, certain areas are prohibited from firearm hunting while other areas allow for the discharge of shotguns with birdshot. State law still applies to the discharge of any firearm within the city. The city does not regulate the taking of game by bow & arrow. Bow hunting is governed by state law. Landowner permission should always be obtained for any activity including hunting. The Firearms Hunting map is available at City Hall or at www.cityoflakeshore.com.

ROADS & WASTEWATER

The Roads and Wastewater committee meets once a month on the third Tuesday at 7:00 PM. The committee is charged with advising the City Council on items related to the City's roads and also its wastewater system.

Submitted by Wayne Anderson, Council Liaison

The Roads Committee and the City Council have been researching various options to finance a much-needed reconstruction of Jacobs Road as well as other needed road projects. Last spring a grant application was submitted to the state LRIP (local road improvement program). As of this date that program has not been funded. If it should be funded there is no certainty that Lake Shore would qualify for funding, and if Lake Shore did qualify for funding there would be no certainty how much funding would be received.

Temporary patches were recently installed at Jacobs Road to keep it passable for another year. Jacobs Road was paved in the early 2000's with the experience that it was a residential road. As such the granular base for the road was not upgraded. Traffic on the road has dramatically increased over the years. In cooperation with Cass County a 10 day traffic study was completed in September of 2018. The result of that study was that an average of 469 vehicles per day travel that road. And a growing number of those 469 vehicles per day are heavy vehicles for which the road was not designed. Thus the recent rapid deterioration of the road surface. Please drive over Jacobs Road if you would like to see the deteriorated condition of the road surface.

An extensive study by the roads committee in conjunction with the City Engineer has shown that the money currently budgeted annually for roads capital improvements will be necessary for the foreseeable future, without including the "catch up" improvements/repairs we need to do at this point.

Our bonding agent, Todd Hagen, Senior Municipal Advisor with Ehlers, was recently contacted for his thoughts on bonding our current needs. As part of his response Mr. Hagen stated "The 30 year BBI index shows that we are at historic low interest rates. So I (Mr. Hagen) would say bond for as much as you can in this environment and save your cash for smaller projects and/or when rates go up." With this information and our current needs the City is recommending financing our current road improvement needs with a bond issue, probably in the \$1.5 million range. Bonding is used by most municipalities to finance improvements where the capital needs exceed current budgets.

**THE CITY OF
LAKE SHORE
MAINTAINS
28.91 MILES
OF ROADS!**



From Mayor *Kevin Egan*



It is budget time once again, when your representatives on Lake Shore's city council carefully decide what is necessary to keep the City running smoothly.

While this sounds like a simple task, it is not. The reality is that, when your representatives adopt our annual budget, they are voting to take money from all who live in Lake Shore, as no city can function without financial support from its residents.

The development and maintenance of Lake Shore's 29 miles of roads is the most controversial budget item in the 2020 draft budget. Your representatives on the City's Road and Wastewater Committee have recommended a package of road improvements designed to maintain those roads most in need of repair to the City Council. Working with the City's engineering firm,

the Committee outlined a road improvement plan designed to provide for regular repair of City streets so that we can keep up and not need to catch up with repairs.

Road maintenance is expensive, but it is also why the City of Lake Shore exists—to assure a good quality of life for our residents.

The City Council will likely go to the municipal bond market to finance a large portion of the road improvement plan. Interest rates for municipal bonds are at almost historic lows. Municipalities routinely bond to provide for infrastructure needs; all of the towns in our area have outstanding bonds used to maintain infrastructure-- all except Lake Shore. Rather than bonding, we simply defer maintenance on infrastructure.

Last year, your representatives on the City Council attempted to move forward with a bond package which would have provided for routine road maintenance; that bonding effort failed in a special election held eleven (11) months ago.

Most all of your representatives on the City Council agree with your representatives on Road and Wastewater Committee that a very real need exists for the road improvement plan. Bonding costs are low, and the use of bonds is less impactful than a major increase in the levy.

As the bonding process moves forward over the next couple of months, please attend our workshops and public hearings on the need for issuance of municipal bonds by Lake Shore. Your representatives welcome you and your questions.

Presidential Primary

(Taken from the MN Secretary of State website - <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/presidential-primary/>)

In 2016 legislation was passed establishing a presidential nomination primary. The current election law specific to the presidential primary is in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 207A and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8215. Common questions about the presidential primary are answered below.

When will the presidential nomination primary take place? March 3, 2020.

Will all parties participate in the presidential nomination primary? No, only major parties will participate.

Will all parties be on the same ballot? No, each major party will have a separate ballot.

Who decides which candidates will appear on a party's ballot? The chair of each party will submit a list of candidates for the party's ballot no later than 63 days before the date of the presidential primary (December 31, 2019).

What if a candidate drops out before the primary? Once a party's list is submitted, changes will not be made to candidates that will appear on the ballot.

Will there be a place to write in a choice or vote for "uncommitted"? Only if it is requested by the party chair. Party chairs will need to submit names of write-in candidates to be counted seven days before the primary.

Will any other offices be on the ballot? No, only presidential candidates from a major party will appear on the presidential primary ballot. Other offices with a primary will be on the primary ballot in August.

How will I be able to vote in the presidential nomination primary? Registered voters will be able to vote at their polling place on presidential primary day or by absentee ballot in the 46 days before presidential primary day (starting January 17, 2020). A voter must request the ballot of the party of their choice. If a voter refuses to select a party, they will not be able to vote in the presidential nomination primary.

Will other people know which party's ballot I request? A voter's choice of party ballot will be recorded and is private data. However, a list of who voted in a presidential nomination primary and the political party each voter selected will be provided to the chair of each major political party. How a voter voted on the ballot will be secret.

Will parties have to abide by the primary results? The presidential primary results must bind the election of delegates in each party.

Who will pay for the presidential nomination primary? County and municipalities will be reimbursed by the state for the primary costs.

How much will the primary cost? The Office of Secretary of State surveyed all 87 Minnesota Counties and, based on that survey, estimates that the cost to administer the Presidential Nomination Primary will be \$11.9 million. The Secretary of State has certified this estimate to the Commissioner of Management and Budget. Counties and municipalities will be reimbursed for their costs of administering the Presidential Nomination Primary following the election.

Will there still be precinct caucuses? Yes, precinct caucuses and local and state nominating conventions will still take place to conduct other party business.

AREA EVENTS

MN FIREARM DEER OPENER

Saturday, November 9

THANKSGIVING

Thursday, November 28

NISSWA CITY OF LIGHTS

Friday, November 29

Activities throughout the afternoon & evening including horse-drawn wagon rides, live reindeer, bonfires, carolers and more! Santa arrives at 6pm and Fireworks at 7:30pm. More information at nisswa.com

BRAINERD JAYCEES ICE FISHING EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, January 25

The Brainerd Jaycees \$150,00 Ice Fishing Extravaganza is the largest charitable ice fishing contest on Earth. Kickoff party on Friday featuring C. Willi Myles. More information at icefishing.org

GULL LAKE FROZEN FORE

February 21-23

A three-day celebration of all things winter! All proceeds benefit Confidence Learning Center and Kids Against Hunger. gulllakeevents.com

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Second Monday of every month at 9:00am at City Hall

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Third Monday of every month at 9:00am at City Hall

PARKS & REC COMMITTEE

Third Monday of every month at 1:00pm at City Hall

WASTEWATER/ROAD COMMITTEE

Third Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm at City Hall

CITY COUNCIL

Fourth Monday of every month at 7pm at City Hall

CONNECT WITH US!



@CityofLakeshore



City of Lake Shore
8583 Interlachen Road
Lake Shore, MN 56468

City Hall Business Hours
Mon – Fri 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

STD RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAKE SHORE, MN
PERMIT #53

Have something that is news worthy? We want to hear from you! Email: info@cityoflakeshore.com

**ARE YOU ON OUR
EMAIL LIST? IT IS
A GREAT WAY TO
STAY INFORMED!**

**Sign up on our
new website at**
cityoflakeshore.com

CURRENT RESIDENT OR:

CITY OF LAKE SHORE, MN

Council Members

Krista Knudsen
Doug Miller
Wayne Anderson
John Terwilliger

Mayor

Kevin Egan

City Clerk

Patti McDonald

Board of Adjustment/Planning Commission

John Terwilliger - Liaison
Glen Gustafson, Gene Hagen, Roger Smeby, Arla Johnson
Alternates: Pat Hastings, Shawn Hansen, Jim Woll

Environmental Committee

Doug Miller - Liaison
Arla Johnson - Chair
Lowell Naley, Ron Faust, Robert Eliason, Todd Amerman
Alternates: Rosemary Goff

Wastewater Committee

Wayne Anderson - Liaison
Terry Hansen, Gene Hagen, Ray Rasinski, Jim Woll
Alternates: Bill Schultz & Chuck Bergquist

Park Committee

Krista Knudsen - Liaison
Todd Peterson - Chair
Steve Sundstrom, Mary Kay Larson, Wesley Roberson
Alternate: Cindy Terwilliger

City Administrator/ Planning & Zoning Administrator

Teri Hastings

Police Chief Steve Sundstrom

Public Works/Wastewater Bob Heidelberger

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the City Council are held
the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 25, 2019 FEBRUARY 24, 2019

DECEMBER 23, 2019 MARCH 23, 2019

JANUARY 27, 2019 APRIL 27, 2019

218-963-2148 • cityoflakeshore.com
info@cityoflakeshore.com