



City of
St. Francis

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2017 | VOL. 2, NO. 1

Stormwater Fee: Why am I receiving this?

The City of St. Francis is mandated by law to apply for a nationally required permit under the Federal Clean Water Act called the MS4. St. Francis must comply with this requirement due to our population and having an outstanding resource value water known as the Rum River.

What exactly is the MS4 Permit and what does it entail?

A municipal separate storm sewer system is a conveyance or system of conveyances (roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, storm drains, etc.)

The MS4 General Permit is designed to reduce the amount of sediment and pollution that enters surface and ground water from storm sewer systems to the maximum extent practicable. Stormwater discharges associated with MS4s are subject to regulation under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System (NPDES/SDS). Through the MS4 General Permit, the system owner or operator is required to develop a stormwater pollution prevention program (SWPPP) that incorporates best management practices (BMPs) applicable to their MS4.

Message from your Mayor

Well, spring is finally right around the corner, the days are getting longer, and this is all a good sign of things to come. I know the water rates are on everyone's mind, so I thought I would give some pointers on what you can do to keep your bills lower until more permanent relief is finalized through the options that myself and staff are looking into.

You can check to see if water is running by looking at the red dial indicator on your water meter, which should be located in the utility room or under the stairwell of your home. If everything is turned off, but the red dial indicator is still turning, this means water is still running somewhere in your home and could mean you have a leak, a running toilet, etc.



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How does the City achieve reducing pollution and sediment?

- Adopt regulations for illicit discharges
- Control stormwater runoff from construction sites
- Develop enforcement procedures
- Inventory storm sewers and map (storm sewer, ponds, wetlands, stormwater infrastructure).
- Prevention: implement program, facilities inventory, procedures, training, and documentation.

St. Francis has sandy soil and there isn't much runoff. What infrastructure?

Part of the MS4 Permit requires taking inventory of stormwater systems. With that, the City has the following preliminary estimates:

Storm Manholes:	91
Catch Basins:	616
Storm Ponds:	983
Storm Sewer Conduit:	15.7 miles
Storm Culverts:	528
Box culverts, ditches, creeks, natural, other	

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Visit us on social media!



Well Water Wise Week

The Anoka County Community Health and Environmental Services (CHES) Department, in cooperation with 15 municipalities and county agencies, is sponsoring the 18th annual "Well Water Wise" (3W) week promotion May 8-12, 2017, to encourage residents to check the safety of their private well water. For information on private well testing, go to the Anoka County Environmental Services Well Water Testing website at <http://www.anokacounty.us/2009/Well-Water-Testing> or call 763-422-7063.

Well water test kits are available to St. Francis residents for pick up at:

St. Francis City Hall
23340 Cree Street NW
Mon - Thurs 7:00 am - 5:30 pm

St. Francis Police & Public Works
4058 St. Francis Blvd. NW
Mon - Fri 6:00 am - 4:30 pm

www.knowtheflow.us

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

Gopher State One Call
Local: 651-454-0002
Toll Free: 1-800-252-1166
www.gopherstateonecall.org

Pay Your Utilities Online!

Now you can pay your water bill and view statements online.

No need for checks in the mail.

Visit our website to sign up!

www.stfrancismn.org

Bike Rodeo!

Bike riding offers fun, freedom and exercise and it's good for the environment! We want kids and families to ride their bikes as much as possible, and its important to be safe while doing so.

Join us for the 1st Annual Bike Rodeo at the

St. Francis Police Department

Tuesday, June 6, 2017 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Any and all ages are welcome to come.

- **Helmet checks for proper fitting (Helmets will be available for purchase)**
- **Safety skills course supervised by police personnel and volunteers.**
- **Bike trail brochures from DNR**
- **Door prizes!**
- **Hot dogs, chips and refreshments**
- **St. Francis Baptist Church Praise Pantry**

****Bring a non-perishable food donation and be entered into the door prize drawing****

Thank you to all of the volunteers!

Allina Ambulance
St. Francis Fire Department
Outdoor Edge Bike Shop

St. Francis Police Reserves
St. Francis Baptist Church



And the winner of the photo contest goes to...

Julie Heidelberg!



Thank you for your beautiful submission and to all those who entered.

Crime Prevention Tips for the Home

- Lock windows and doors, including the garage door. Unlocked doors are open invitations to intruders.
- Secure sliding glass doors with commercially available bars or locks, or put a wooden dowel or broom handle in the door track.
- Remove valuables from vehicles and lock vehicle doors.
- Use deadbolt locks on exterior doors.
- Don't hide a spare key outside such as under a bush or flowerpot.
- Remove obstructions in your yard that could conceal a burglar.
- Don't put your box for your new TV or other valuable item next to the trash can. It lets everyone know what you have inside your home.
- Leave lights on when leaving or have them on a timer to make it appear someone is home.
- When gone for an extended period of time, have a family member, close neighbor or friend pick up mail, newspapers and remove the trash can from the curb.
- Get to know your neighbors and help one another maintain a crime free neighborhood.



Neighborhood Watch

The St. Francis Police Department believes in a strong police and community partnership. We will be helping with the start-up of a neighborhood watch program in the city.

We encourage participation in the community and are looking for people who are willing to be block captains. Block captains are responsible for relaying information to the members on their block, keeping up-to-date information on residents, making special efforts to involve the elderly, working parents and young people. Block captains also serve as liaisons between the neighborhood and the police and will communicate information about meetings and crime incidents to all residents.

For those interested in being a block leader, sign up is now available by calling the Community Event Line at 763-267-6195. Online registration will be available through our city website later this spring, as well as additional information and an upcoming meeting date for the captains.



Stormwater...from page 1

Why doesn't the City know the exact numbers and locations of this infrastructure?

- Some of these are naturally occurring (wetlands, creeks)
- Most of the infrastructure has been added over the last 50 - 75 years incrementally through development.
- When a new development goes in, stormwater infrastructure is added to accommodate drainage and management.

Why is the City sending out these individual stormwater bills? Why not on property taxes or utility bills?

If the City added this to the levy, it would equate to a 6% increase in taxes if the same amount of revenue were to be generated. The whole city is not on the utility billing and in order to do that, utility customers would pay \$5 monthly and be subject to applicable late fees in conjunction with their utility bill. They would also have the charge spread out over 12 months, this would not be afforded to non-utility customers. Property taxes would also exempt non-tax paying entities.

Chlorides in Wastewater

With the new wastewater treatment facility coming on line this year, our new chloride limit set by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will go in effect. High chloride levels can have a negative effect on the ecosystem of streams, rivers and lakes. The main cause of high chlorides in wastewater is from water softeners. When a water softener goes into regeneration mode, the salt water (chlorides) used to regenerate the softener is discharged into the city's wastewater system. Public Works staff would like to remind residents to make sure their water softeners are operating efficiently. The drinking water in St. Francis is around 13 grains per gallon. Adjusting your softeners accordingly will help in keeping chloride levels down.



Wastewater Treatment Plant Progress

Over the winter, construction on the new wastewater facility has progressed as scheduled. Starting in November, city staff began using a portion of the new underground pipework and the new intermediate lift station to convey wastewater effluent to one of our discharge points. This allowed pipe crews to abandon existing pipe and structures that are no longer going to be used. No new treatment processes are currently being used, but should start to come on line in the spring with substantial completion scheduled for fall of 2017.

Work that is ongoing as of now includes:

- Pipe crews are installing storm sewer pipe. This should be completed by the end of February or early March.
- Crews continue to work on the tertiary building. Electricians are installing wire for process control. The UV disinfection system is installed. Work continues on chemical feed piping and equipment. Process pipe work is almost finished.
- Painters will start painting all process piping after installation is complete.
- The new influent lift station pipe work is complete. This lift station will be operational by the end of March.
- The aeration basins are complete. Process control has been installed with minor process electrical work remaining.
- The operations building is almost complete; some electrical work remains.

Mayor...from page 1

Ways to help reduce your water bill include:

1) Check for running toilets. This can be due to a bad flapper or an old fill valve. Replacing the flapper is easy and if the fill valve is the problem then I suggest going with a fluidmaster 400A and leave it at the factory setting which is set for the lowest water level. The price of the flapper is between \$4 to \$6 and the fluidmaster is between \$7 to \$10.

2) Watch for leaking faucets and reduce water use. If your faucets are leaking, the fix can be as easy as replacing the washers and springs depending on what brand you have and what type of faucet (kitchen, bathroom, shower or utility tub). Any home improvement center will be able to help you find the right parts. Also, outdoor spigots have rubber washers inside them that may, after time, need to be replaced. The prices vary depending on the manufacturer, ranging up to \$10 if it's a kit to lower if it is simply washers needing to be replaced. You can also purchase water saving shower heads for around \$9. When washing clothes, adjust the machine water setting for the amount of clothes you are washing (i.e. small, medium and large loads).

3) Lawn watering practices. When it comes time to water and cut your lawn, I suggest keeping your mower blade height higher. By keeping the lawn longer, it will slow down the sun burning it up. Also, if you have a sprinkler system, I recommend setting it up so that you water each zone for 15 minutes and time it so that it comes on between the hours of midnight to 4:30 am; this will allow your lawn to retain the moisture longer before the sun rises. Remember, the water restrictions odd/even and no watering between 10 am to 7 pm run from 5/1 to 9/30.

The main thing I would like to emphasize is that staff and I are working diligently behind the scenes to get these rates lowered. I realize the sooner the better, but it will take some time. One reason is that we are still waiting for the grant dollars from the State. You elected me and two others to set this right and that is what we intend to do!

FYI: One other thing I would like to mention is please signal your turn when exiting the roundabouts. By doing this, you let other drivers know that they can enter safely.

Regards,
Mayor Feldman

How your Property Tax Dollars are Spent

Did you know that a Median Homeowner (estimated market value of \$140,900) pays approximately \$630.24 in city taxes per year, equaling \$52.52 per month?

Monthly Costs to Residents	
General Government	10.00
Public Safety	21.66
Streets & Recycling	8.41
Parks & Trails	3.50
Community Development	4.42
All Other Services, includes transfers	4.53
TOTAL MONTHLY	\$52.52

St. Francis Recycling Day is April 29

Items Accepted For a Fee

Appliances (no commercial appliances)

Air Conditioner, Dehumidifier,
Dishwasher, Garbage Disposal,
Humidifier, Microwave, Stove,
Water Heater and Trash Compactor,
Refrigerator, Washer, Dryer, Freezer,
Water Softener, \$10

Gas Refrigerators (Ammonia or LP)
Minimum, \$75

Tires

Passenger Tires with Rims, \$3

Semi Tires, \$10

Electronics

Copier, Printer, VCR, DVD, Radio, Fax,
Game Console, Cable Box, Pager, Digital
Converter, Satellite Receiver, MP3, Small
Server, Toaster, Vacuum, Blender, \$5

TVs

Up to 18 inch, \$15

19 to 28 inch, \$20

>29 inch, \$35

Console TVs and Oversized TVs, \$25

All Wooden TVs add, \$5

Light Bulbs

Fluorescent 4' and Under, \$0.50

Fluorescent 5' and Over, \$0.75

U Shape and Circular, \$0.75

Compacts, \$0.50

High Density Discharge Lamps, \$2.50

Broken Fluorescent Lamps, \$1.00 per lb.

Incandescent, \$0.35

PCB Ballast, \$1.00 per lb.

Household

Batteries, \$1.25 per lb.

Mattresses, \$14

Box Springs, \$14

Saturday, April 29th

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Police and Public Works Facility
4020 St. Francis Blvd. NW**

Items Accepted at NO Charge

- Tires without rims
- Leaves and grass clippings free of debris
- Scrap metal
(Free of oil, rubber and plastic parts)
- Used bicycles
- Automotive batteries
- Large or small cardboard
- Household recyclables
- Household goods and clothing donations
(Usable, clean and free of tears)
- Paper shredding

Appliance Curbside Pick Up

Wednesday & Thursday

April 26 & 27

***\$20 per appliance**

Brush Curbside Pick Up

Monday & Tuesday

April 24 & 25

***Free brush curbside pick up is provided
by North Metro Tree Service.**

**Please sign up at Public Works by
calling 763-233-5200.**

Volunteers Reserve The Right To Refuse
Items.

No Hazardous Materials Accepted.

Don't see an item you want to recycle? Call
Public Works, 763-233-5200.

SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

April 17 - 21, 2017



Severe Weather Awareness Week is a perfect time for you and your family to practice your severe weather emergency plan. Outdoor sirens will sound on Thursday, April 20 at 1:45 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. For more information on how to stay safe during a severe weather event, go to www.ready.gov.

Upcoming Events at the Police Department

2017 is expected to be an exciting and productive year at the police department. The police department is making plans to implement programs that will provide more services to the community and meet more needs of the St. Francis citizens. Programs such as a bike rodeo, child safety seat clinic, and Night to Unite are just a few of the events the police department has for 2017. Other programs such as Eddie Eagle, the drug display and Santa at the PD are also expected to take place. Dates and times of these events will be posted on the St. Francis city website at stfrancismn.org and electronic billboard.



Chamber Currents

A publication of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce, St. Francis, Minnesota

SPRING 2017

Monthly Chamber Events

Check out the following Chamber and community events coming up. Visit stfrancischamber.org for the latest Chamber news and event calendar.

Monthly Board Meetings

Held third Wednesday of each month, 11 a.m., St. Francis Community Center (by city hall). Current and prospective Chamber members are encouraged to attend board meetings to give input and help plan events. Meetings are open to the public.

Monthly Networking Breakfasts

Held second Wednesday of each month, 8 a.m., Beef 'O' Brady's. Open to Chamber members and guests. Members are offered the opportunity to be in the Sunrise Spotlight for a chance to give a brief presentation about their business.

The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce exists to serve its members and better the community.

*To find out more or to become a member:
call: 763-438-5163
or visit us online:
www.stfrancischamber.org*

Quick Dates

Mark these dates on your calendar. Visit www.stfrancischamber.org for more details.

March 8
Networking Breakfast - Beef O'Brady's

March 14
Pioneer Days Planning Meeting
7:00pm

Anoka Hennepin Credit Union

March 15
Board Meeting - St. Francis
Community Center

April 12
Networking Breakfast - Beef O'Brady's

April 19
Board Meeting - St. Francis
Community Center

June 9-11
Pioneer Days 2017

Thank You to everyone who helped make our Annual Dinner a Great Success! We look forward to serving the needs of our community, and making 2017 a great year



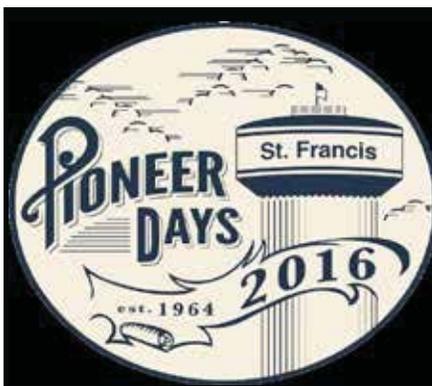
CALLING ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Looking to help in making Pioneer Days a great event? We NEED your help! Sign Up to Volunteer for many opportunities at Pioneer Days... on-line signup available at <http://www.stfrancischamber.org/pioneer-days/pioneer-days-volunteer-signup/>

Pioneer Days Button Design Contest

Entries being sought for the 2017 Button Design Contest, details at stfrancischamber.org/pioneer-days/

\$100 Cash Prize to the Winner!



Are you getting the Chamber's eNews?

Did you know the Chamber has an email newsletter? Chamber eNews is distributed one to two times per month; it is the best way to stay up to date on Chamber news and events. You are automatically signed up when you join the Chamber. If you haven't been receiving it, check your spam folder. Anyone can sign up to receive the newsletter. Let us know if you or someone you know would like to receive it.



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Members

ABC Newspapers	Custom Catering	Minnesota Star Realty	St. Francis Insurance Agency, Inc.
Ace Solid Waste, Inc.	Dairy Queen/Orange Julius	North Anoka County Emergency	St. Francis Lions
Advanced Automotive Care	Dennis Philp Construction, Inc.	Foodshelf	St. Francis Physical Therapy
Advanced Roofing & Siding Inc.	Destination Academy	North Anoka Plumbing, Inc.	St. Francis True Value Hardware
American Family Insurance - Mary Dresch	Dugout Bar and Grill	Northstar Outdoors, Inc.	St. Francis United Methodist Church
American Mortgage and Equity Consultants Inc	Dusty's Drain Cleaning, Inc.	Nowthen Plumbing	St. Francis Veterinary Clinic
Anoka Hennepin Credit Union	Edward Jones Investments	Opp Family Chiropractic, P.A.	Steve's Collision
Anoka Ramsey Community College	Elaine M. Mustari, CPA	Patriot Lanes Bar & Grill	Subway - Oak Grove
Anytime Fitness	EZ TEEZ	Pillar Signs and Graphics	Subway - St. Francis
Barna, Guzy & Steffen, LTD	Farmers Insurance - Vann Rogers Agency LLC	Premier Specialties	Super America
Beef 'O' Brady's	Gerdin Auto & Tire	Printing Unlimited	T & W Adventures
Bolton and Menk, Inc.	Goodrich Pharmacy	Reliance Electric	TC Net-Works, Inc.
BTO Signs	Goldstar Kennels	RE/MAX Results - Larry D. Anderson	That Other Thrift Store
Captain's on Long Lake	Hidden Haven Golf Club	RE/MAX Results - Michelle Anderson	The Bridge
Casey's General Store	Highland Money Management, Inc.	Revolayer Systems	The Oaks of Lake George
CellOnly	InSite Contracting, Inc.	Rum River Tree Farm	The Ponds Golf Course & Restaurant
Central Heating & Cooling, LLC	Isanti Retail Meats, LLC	Sara Sauer C.P.A., LLC	The Refuge Golf Club & Restaurant
City of St. Francis	ISD 15 - The Courier	Schroeder's Creekside Stables	Trinity Lutheran Church & School
Collision 2000	Lakeside Cabinets and Woodworking	St. Francis Bottle Shop	Tru-Cut Lawns, Inc.
Connexus Energy	Legal Shield	St. Francis Collision & Glass	Tyrone Transportation, Inc.
County Market	Mansetti's Pizza & Pasta	St. Francis Dental Care, P.A.	Village Bank
Crown Electric, Inc.	McDonald's	St. Francis Fire Department	Virtual Reality Arcade

Welcome New Members!
 Destination Academy, Goldstar Kennels, InSite Contracting, Inc., Revolayer Systems, Virtual Reality Arcade

Board of Directors

President – Eric Schmoll (through 2017) – American Mortgage & Equity Consultants, Inc. – president@stfrancischamber.org

Vice President – Lindsey Johnson (through 2019) – St. Francis Physical Therapy – vp@stfrancischamber.org

Treasurer – Brenda Jacobs (through 2018) – treasurer@stfrancischamber.org

Secretary – Tony Derkos – (through 2018) – TC Net-Works, Inc. – secretary@stfrancischamber.org

Joe Buhn (through 2017) – The Refuge Golf Club

Joe Raus (through 2017) – Premier Specialties

Kristin Ferguson (through 2019) – St. Francis Lions Club

Monaca White (through 2019) – The Bridge

Peggy Starr (through 2018) – Casey's General Store

Promote your business at monthly breakfasts

Breakfast with the Chamber is held the second Wednesday of every month, 8-9 a.m. and is open to Chamber members and guests. Held at Beef 'O'Brady's - Check the website for more details.

Would you like the opportunity to have 10 minutes to exclusively promote your business to others at an upcoming breakfast? Contact us if you would like to present information about the products and services you provide during our Sunrise Spotlight. This opportunity is ongoing, first come, first served.





23340 Cree Street NW
St. Francis, MN 55070

city@stfrancismn.org
www.stfrancismn.org

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St. Francis, MN
55070

ECRWSS POSTAL PATRON

Event Calendar

- Mar 17: **Prom Dress Sale**, Bunker Hills Activities Center 4 p.m.
- Mar 18: **Prom Dress Sale**, Bunker Hills Activities Center 9 a.m.
- Mar 20: **Spring Begins**
- Mar 25: **SFES Carnival**, St. Francis Elementary School 11 a.m.
- Mar 31: **EBCS Carnival Pizza Night**, East Bethel Community School 5:30 p.m.
- April 1: **CCCS Carnival**, Cedar Creek Community School 10 a.m.
- April 8: **Home Landscaping & Garden Fair**, Bunker Hills Activities Center 8 a.m.
- April 8: **Multicultural Festival**, St. Francis High School 11 a.m.
- April 13: **Dollars Into Sense Class**, Anoka County Human Services Center 10 a.m.
- April 16: **Easter Sunday**
- April 29: **St. Francis Recycling Day**, SF Public Works 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- April 29: **Anoka County 4-H Clover Dash Fundraiser**, Bunker Hills Regional Park
- May 6: **Pet Clinic**, SF Fire Station 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- May 10: **Property Tax and Rent Credit Refunds**, SF Community Center 1 p.m.
- May 11: **Dollars Into Sense Class**, Anoka County Human Services Center 6 p.m.
- May 29: **Memorial Day** - City Offices Closed
- June 8: **Dollars Into Sense Class**, Anoka County Human Services Center 10 a.m.
- June 9-11: **Pioneer Days!**



Hydrant Flushing

City hydrant flushing will be
the week of May 1st

City Council Meetings

1st & 3rd Monday each month
6:00 PM

Planning Commission Meetings

3rd Wednesday each month
7:00 PM

ISD #15 District Office

4115 Ambassador Blvd NW

Agendas and Minutes Online:
www.stfrancismn.org