



HOLDINGFORD

"Gateway to the Lake Wobegon Trail"



From City Hall December 2019

December snowfalls have already started. The city maintenance crew works very hard during snowfalls to be sure streets are cleared as quickly as possible. Plowing is done in a safe and cost-effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel, and the environmental concerns. Decisions of when to begin snow or ice removal are based on: how much snow accumulation we have, will the drifting of snow cause travel problems, will ice conditions seriously affect travel, and time of snowfall in relationship to heavy use of streets. Residents need to use caution when driving on streets when snowplowing is in progress. Main Street is normally cleared first, avoiding this area until that is taken care of is important. The more snow we get, the larger the snow piles. We will be moving the piles when there are safety concerns on visibility and maneuverability. Please understand, there is just so much we can do with the snow mother nature throws at us. Be understanding as to what we can do, if there are any issues, please contact city hall.

The ice rink will be ready shortly, the rink is located inside the softball park and will have lighting for those evenings when gliding over the ice is a must. It's exciting that skating is back in Holdingford and will be ready soon!

May your family have peace and joy, happy memories, and be safe through the Christmas and New Year holiday season.

Respectfully,

Sue Marstein - Holdingford Mayor

Looking Ahead – Important Dates

- December 24 City Hall Closing at noon
- December 25 City Hall Closed for Christmas
- December 31 Deadline for Purchasing Dog Licenses
- January 1 Closed for New Year's Day
- January 13 City Council Meeting
- January 19 Lion's Breakfast

For more community events, please see the Community Calendar at www.holdingfordmn.us/calendar



Holdingford City Clerk's Office Hours:

Monday	8 AM – 4 PM
Tuesday	8 AM – 4 PM
Wednesday	8 AM – 6 PM
Thursday	8 AM – 4 PM
Friday	8 AM – Noon

Mayor's Hours:

Mondays	5:30 – 7 PM
1 st Saturday of the month	8 – 10 AM

Dog License Renewal for 2020 - 2021

Deadline Dec. 31, 2019



Dog licenses are required for all dogs over six months old. Please come to City Hall at 420 Main Street to get your two-year license for 2020 – 2021. The cost for spade/neutered dogs is \$20 for two years; \$40 for dogs not spayed/neutered. A late fee of \$10 is applied after January 1, 2020. The penalty for not having a dog licensed is \$100.

Local Skating Rink Opening Soon

The public skating rink will be placed in the softball field this year as weather permits. This area will allow the rink to be lit up in the evenings. This rink is free and open to all residents. Come enjoy the brisk weather and have fun!!



Help your community this holiday season!
Eat, Shop, Buy Local!

No Ashes Allowed

A reminder to residents, ashes cannot be placed in trash cans or dumpsters. Even if you believe they are completely cooled off, they are not allowed. Tom's Refuse has been instructed by the County to implement a \$200 fine if they find ashes of any kind in their trash cans or dumpsters. It is forbidden by the MN Pollution Control Agency as they cannot identify what was burnt.



Splash Pad in Holdingford?

After January 1, 2020, we hope to get plans moving for a splash pad water park in Holdingford. We need you to help bring this project to our city, please contact City Hall at (320) 746-2966, and leave a message for Sue Marstein.



Watch for future updates.

NO DUMPING HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ALLOWED!! The city is having issues with people dumping furniture, small appliances, junk, etc. at the maintenance facility in or next to Tom's Refuse containers. This is illegal and not allowed! These containers are for Tom's Refuse use only. Area is under surveillance and will be monitored to prevent dumping. Please be respectful and get rid of garbage properly.

Winter Safety Tips: Home Maintenance to Prepare for Snow and Ice

Snow is a beautiful part of the winter season, but it can also pose potential dangers for homeowners. Winter safety concerns caused by snow, ice and other conditions arise around the home's interior and exterior

Eliminate Outdoor Electrical Problems

Prevent electrical problems by inspecting the outside of your home, specifically looking for damaged or frayed wires vulnerable to harm from snow and ice. Check for any bird nests near electrical fixtures, as these nests should also be removed before they cause a fire. On the inside, make sure any electronic decorations have tight-fitting connections: three-prong outlets are optimal. These cords should be stored away from main walkways, and never beneath a carpet or rug, as this creates a fire hazard.

Watch for Water Issues on the Roof

Large accumulations of heavy, wet snow can put tremendous pressure on the roofs of homes and buildings. Signs that the weight of the snow is compromising your roof may include visible sagging in the snow buildup, ceiling leaks in your upper floor, cracks developing in interior drywall or masonry, and creaking or popping sounds coming from the roof. In extreme scenarios, snow accumulation can lead to roof collapse.

Removing snow yourself can be extremely dangerous, especially on multi-story homes or where there are already signs of roof damage, call a service if you are not able to remove it yourself. The earlier you can get the snow cleared after a major snowfall, the more likely you are to prevent serious damage.

Icy Gutters

Gutters should be cleaned out before the snow falls as well, to help prevent water and ice buildup that could eventually find its way into your home.

Keep Your Walkways Clear

It's important to keep walking paths near your house clear of snow and ice both for your own mobility and for the safety of others who might need to use those areas. Some local municipalities mandate that snow be shoveled from public walkways and sidewalks shortly after it falls, but even if this is not required, removing snow is essential to prevent slips and falls. Once the snow is out of the way, cover icy patches with salt, sand or other type of commercial solution to deplete the ice and provide better traction. If you put a layer of salt down in advance of the storm you can give yourself a head start on keeping things clear.

(To Be Continued Next Month)

Your Elected Officials

Mayor

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