



LA CRESCENT CITY NEWS

Visit our Website www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov

Fall/Winter 2023

Wieser Park Pavilion and Pickleball Courts Officially Open



The Wieser Park Pavilion, located at 1811 County 6, La Crescent, officially opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, September 12th. The pavilion and pickleball courts were funded entirely by donations. The Wieser Park Pavilion is available year-round for rental. If you are interested in reserving space at the Wieser Park Pavilion or any of our other city park shelters please fill out the "Facility Use Form" on our city website: www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov/parks-recreation/ or contact Chris Fortsch at City Hall 507-895-2595 or via email: cfortsch@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov

Walnut Street Corridor Plan Wrapping Up



The city received funding from the La Crosse Area Planning Committee (LAPC) Local Studies Program to create a corridor plan for Walnut Street. The LAPC is the regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the La Crescent/La Crosse Bi-state transportation planning area. The purpose of the planning effort was to re-imagine the corridor into a walkable/bikeable complete street that meets the needs of downtown businesses, community residents, and visitors. The city identified in its 2017 Downtown Plan, a vision of the downtown as a trailhead to a regional system of interconnected walking, biking, hiking trails in the community including the bluffslands, streets, and waterways.

The city's Economic Development commission served as the project planning committee. The planning process has involved extensive input from the downtown businesses, residential property owners along the corridor, the hotel, tavern, and the event center. The project includes water, sewer, stormwater management, pavement replacement, streetscaping, and wayfinding elements. The city is working with MSA Professional Services on the planning study. The plan will assist the city in the final engineering design for the reconstruction of Walnut Street from South 3rd Street to North 4th Street and to Veterans Park. The Economic Development Commission, City Planning Commission, and City Council will review and finalize the plan in October and November.

A copy of the draft plan is available on the City Website: www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov/city-government/planning-commission/

For more information contact Larry Kirch, Community Development Director at: lkirch@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov

New Apple Express

The City of La Crescent will soon have a new Apple Express bus. The bus is owned by the City of La Crescent and leased by La Crosse MTU. Bus schedules can be picked up at City Hall or by visiting the La Crosse MTU website: www.cityoflacrosse.org/MTU

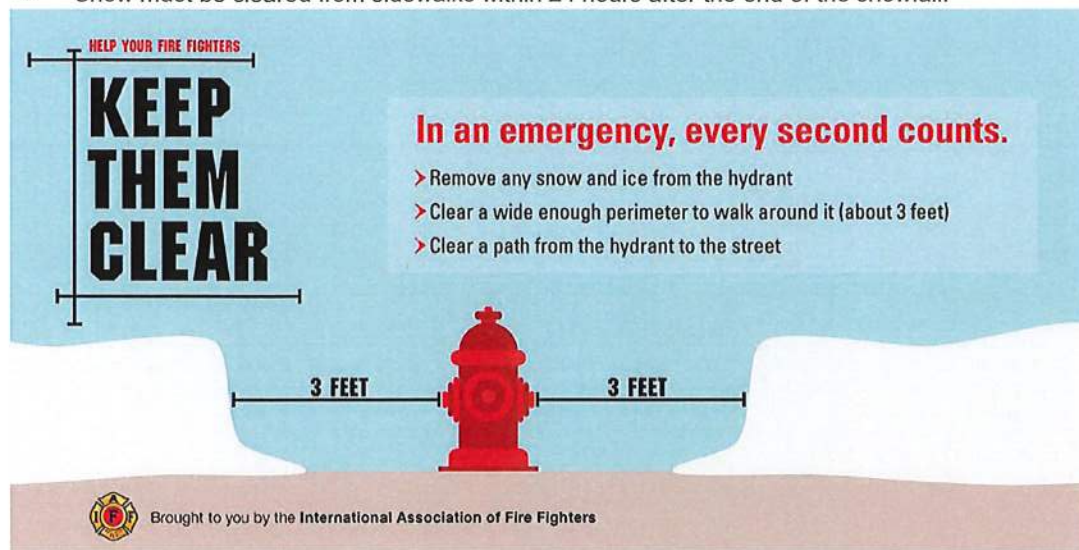


CONGRATULATIONS
LA CRESCENT
ON
CELEBRATING
75 YEARS OF
APPLEFEST!!

Fall Leaves and Winter Snow

As summer comes to a close and we slide into fall please keep in mind the following when it comes to leaves and snow:

- Please do not rake your leaves into the street this leads to clogging of the storm drains.
- Trees must be kept trimmed at an 8' clearance above any sidewalk and a 13'6" minimum height clearance from the edge of the road.
- Snow must be cleared from sidewalks within 24 hours after the end of the snowfall.



La Crescent Becoming a Heart Safe Community

Over the past six months, the City of La Crescent has created a team to focus on making La Crescent a Heart Safe Community. Heart Safe designation is awarded by the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Department of Health and indicates a team is working to improve education and access to emergency care which needs to be provided as soon as possible when witnessing an event. This means that we not only need prepared and equipped police, first responders, fire fighters, and EMS teams, but also that we all need to be ready to respond quickly in the event of a cardiac arrest. Did you know that for every one minute of cardiac arrest, a person's chance of survival decreases by 10%? Depending on where an event happens in a more rural setting like La Crescent, it could take 4 minutes or more until arrival of emergency responders, so getting started immediately by prepared and trained police and bystanders is vital!

The Heart Safe team has representatives from the city of La Crescent, Fire and Police Departments, the La Crescent Community Foundation, the Rotary, the Lions, the Chamber of Commerce, La Crescent-Hokah Schools, Gundersen-Tristate and 7R Cardiac Arrest Preparedness and Education team.

Some things the team has accomplished to date are:

- Applied for and received a state grant to obtain six AED's for our police officers vehicles
- Completed and submitted a pending application for Heart Safe status to the MN Department of Health.
- Located multiple AED's within the city and township of La Crescent and registered them on the free "Pulse Point" app.
- Collaborated to develop a "loaner" AED program through the police department, supported by 7 Rivers CAPE and the Community Foundation.
- Provided private trainings at local non-profits and businesses
- Developed a work plan for the next two years

The team has great plans and ideas for the coming years, and could use your help! If you are interested in volunteering, have questions, or are interested in receiving certified or non-certified training in CPR, please contact Cheri Olson: olson.cheri57@gmail.com or 608-406-0208.

Building Permits

All permits for the City are done online. Visit our website at: www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov/building-zoning/ If you are unsure if a permit is required, please call the Building Department 507-895-4409.

Prescription Drug Drop-off Box

The Prescription Drug Drop-off box is located in City Hall and may be accessed during regular business hours 7:30 am - 4:00 pm M-F. Meds can remain in their original containers. No need to remove or mark-out the labels. This is a confidential disposal unit. *No liquids or needles accepted.*

La Crescent Public Library



Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
(10:00 am - 6:00 pm)

Tuesday and Thursday
(10:00 am - 6:00 pm)

Saturday
(10:00 am - 2:00 pm)

For more information visit the La Crescent Library Website at: www.lacrescent.lib.mn.us



Pay Your Water Bill With Online Pay

The City of La Crescent partners with PSN which is a national payment that residents can use to pay their water and sewer bill online. Visit our website:

www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov, menu item 'Pay My Bill.' You can also call 877-885-7968 for assistance.

Pay now, schedule a payment or set up Auto-Pay. Please opt out of paper bills to help save money and be GREEN. An email is sent when your bill is ready. If you choose to use this service we recommend setting your payment date no later than the 10th or 12th of the month.

City Hall Closings

November 10th, 2023
November 23rd and 24th, 2023
December 22nd, 2023 at 11:30 am
December 25th, 2023
December 29th, 2023 at 11:30 am
January 1st, 2024



Keeping our Storm Sewers Clean: What is an Illicit Discharge?

Anything that goes into the storm sewer system that is not storm water is

considered an illicit discharge including but not limited to: paint, grass clippings and leaves, pet waste, motor oils, lawn chemicals, and sidewalk deicers.

How do I Report an illicit discharge?

Step 1. Observe from a safe distance. DO NOT touch or smell the substance.

Step 2. Notify the Non-Emergency Police Dispatch 507-895-4414 (Available 24/7). In case of an emergency, call 911.

Step 3. Provide the following information: your name, phone number, discovery/incident time, date, and location, description of material, and source if known, estimated extent of the problem, take photographs of the scene and send them to:

www.lacrescentwwtp@gmail.com

For more information on Storm Water Pollution and what you can do to prevent it, please visit our website:

www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov and select the 'Administration' menu title and then from the drop-down menu select 'Storm Water & Erosion Control'

La Crescent Food Shelf

The La Crescent Food Shelf is grateful for the support of community members, schools, churches, and the Scouts Food Drive. They have seen an increase in visits and are glad to be able to meet needs, thanks to their generous donors and volunteers. Your financial contributions have helped purchase food from their food banks and local stores to stock shelves. To learn more about how you can shop, support, or volunteer call 507-895-1115 or email:

www.lacrescentfoodshelf@gmail.com.

Hours

Wednesday 1-5 pm,
Thursday 2-6 pm
2nd Saturday each month 9 am—Noon



City Prairie Plantings

You may have noticed several areas of prairie plantings around La Crescent. City of La Crescent Sustainability Coordinator Jason Ludwigson explains that the City has been looking at areas within the city that are not frequently used by the public for the plantings such as storm water drainage areas and steep hillsides. The plantings enhance habitat for birds, bees, and butterflies as well as help to capture storm water, thus reducing runoff. Also, with the reduction in mowing, the city captures cost savings and improves safety for city work crews since the slopes are both difficult and dangerous to mow. Prairie plantings take several years to fully establish. In 2016, Vetsch Park became the first site to be planted, which was completed by the City in partnership with Pheasants Forever, who



contributed the funds to purchase the seed. In 2022 a prairie planting was established behind the Kwik Trip on North 4th Street as well as at the trailhead to Eagles Bluff Park located on Red Apple Street. By 2024, there will be approximately 14 acres converted from turf grass to prairie planting in the City of La Crescent.

Pictured: prairie planting at Vetsch Park

Seasonal Employment

Are you retired, a student, or someone looking for seasonal work? Pine Creek Golf Course and the La Crescent Aquatic Center are looking to fill seasonal positions for the 2024 season. Pine Creek Golf Course is looking for a Lead Worker position in the clubhouse and the Aquatic Center is looking for WSI certified evening swimming instructors. Applications can be found at www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov/employment/

RECYCLING & COMPOST SITE HOURS

RECYCLING CENTER (160 S. 3rd St) operated by Houston County. For questions please call: 507-725-5800.

THURSDAYS 10 am – 6 pm (YEAR AROUND)

SATURDAYS 8 am - 3 pm (YEAR AROUND)

COMPOST SITE (JUST PAST CLASSIC ROCK) operated by the City of La Crescent.

SUMMER HOURS - (Beginning the first Monday in April)

MONDAY 2 – 7 pm

SATURDAY 8 – 3 pm

FALL HOURS - (Beginning the first Thursday in October thru last Thursday in November)

MONDAY 2 – 7 pm

THURSDAY 2 – 7 pm

SATURDAY 8 – 3 pm

WINTER HOURS - (Beginning the first Saturday in December)

SATURDAY 8 – 3 pm

Sign Up For Weekly City Updates

Did you know you can sign up to receive weekly updates from the City? Updates may include City Council Agenda's, notices of special meetings, police reports, events sponsored by the La Crescent Library, and other information. If you would like to receive these updates please visit the City of La Crescent's website: www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov and at the bottom of the home



page enter your email address and select "Subscribe" Updates are sent out at 4:00 p.m. on Friday's.

The City is currently accepting applications for City Boards/Commissions/Committees. If you or someone you know are interested, please visit the City Government link on our website. The application is available on any of the Commission/Committee links. Applications can also be picked up at the front desk of City Hall.

Are you new to La Crescent? View the 'Welcome to La Crescent' guide on our website or pick up a copy at City Hall, 315 Main Street.

City Council Meetings Change in Time and Location

The La Crescent City Council Meetings are now being held in the Fire Department Community Room, accessed from the Oak Street entrance and begin at 5:00 p.m. the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Agenda's are published on the City Website the Friday before each meeting as well as being posted on the door of the Community Room. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

*** The December meetings will be held on Monday, December 11th and Monday, December 18th due to Christmas Day falling on the fourth Monday of the month.***

City Council

The City Council meets at 5:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays every month in the Fire Department Community Room. Meetings are open to the public.

Council Members:

Mayor - Mikel Poellinger

Ryan Hutchinson
Cherryl Jostad
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner
Dale Williams

Council Agenda's, Meeting minutes, and Meeting packets can be found on the City website:

www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov
'City Government' tab.

La Crescent
Newsletter

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