



Bayport News

JUNE 2012, ISSUE 19

Farm to Table: Bayport Farmer's Market Returns

At last, the wait is over! The Farmer's Market is scheduled to open on July 9. Sponsored by the Bayport Community Action League, the seasonal market features fresh goods, direct from local vendors, including produce, meat, eggs, baked goods, cheeses, jellies, flowers, body products and more!

The market will be held on Mondays, 2:30 – 6:30 p.m., at Perro Park through October. More information can be found at www.bayportfarmersmarket.com. We look forward to your support in buying fresh and local at the market this year!



Volunteers Make Great Things Happen!



A big thanks to the many scouts and volunteers who helped with the Perro Creek

Cleanup on April 10-11. Participants removed grass, leaves, yard waste, and even a few buried treasures to help prevent contamination of our local water bodies. The event resulted in a collection of several dozen bags of debris, which would have produced thousands of pounds of algae and impacted the water quality of Perro Creek and the St. Croix River.

Many thanks are also in order to local Girl Scout Troop 52790 for their help



in completing an improvement project at Lakeside Park and the adjacent Camp Sagata scout building on May 5. Their hard work and muscle resulted in a newly painted picnic shelter, removal of scrub vegetation, landscaping and planting of new evergreen trees. Great job!

A Message from the Mayor *by Susan St. Ores*

We all know that recreation and tourism associated with the St. Croix River is vital to our community. But do you know that non-native fish, such as Bighead, Black and Silver Carp, commonly called Asian Carp, are causing harm and becoming a serious threat to the quality of the river?

Asian Carp are fast-growing and highly-reproductive filter-feeders, which can quickly dominate the ecosystem, negatively impacting native species and reducing commercial and recreational opportunities. Their weight can range from 40 to 100 lbs., and when disturbed, Silver Carp can jump 10 ft. out of the water, potentially injuring people and watercraft.

Beginning in the 1930's, Asian Carp species were imported to filter algae and debris in fish farms and to sell at fresh fish markets. However, in the 1980's,

these species escaped and found their way in to the Mississippi and Illinois River systems. Asian Carp continue to spread naturally through migration and reproduction, but can also be spread when used as bait.

Because Asian Carp have recently been caught in the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers near our community, I feel this is a real and imminent threat to our river valley. To help minimize the spread of Asian Carp and their impact to the St. Croix, remember to always drain your watercraft, avoid using live minnows as bait, dispose of unwanted bait in the trash, keep watercraft travel through lock systems to a minimum, and of course, catch and eat them!

For more information on Asian Carp, visit the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov/miss. To report a sighting or catch, call 1-877-STOP-ANS. Also, contact our state and federal representatives to let them know that stopping the spread of Asian Carp is important to you and our community!

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Community Programs and Events

Library Summer Programs

Be sure to contact the library for more information or to register for the programs listed below!



Open House	June 12
Bazillions Band	June 14
Book Club*	June 12, 26 and July 10, 17
Chess Club	June 19 and July 3
Lego Club	June 18, July 9, 30 and August 6
Family Movie	June 21, July 12, 26 and August 16
Como Zoo	July 19
Art Sampler*	July 23-27
Cooking Class*	August 7
Variety Show	August 9

*Denotes a \$5.00 fee per child.

Free Medication Disposal Program



Washington County has a new collection program for residents to dispose of unused medications, including pills, liquids, and creams at no charge. The purpose of the program is to collect and properly dispose of medications, to prevent drug abuse, accidental poisoning, and water pollution. Medications can be dropped off Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the collection box located in the main lobby of the Law Enforcement Center, 15015 62nd St. N., Stillwater, MN.

Youth Safety Camp

This popular day camp at Lakeside Park teaches safety tips to children entering grades 3, 4, and 5 and will be held August 6-7, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The registration fee is \$40.00 per child, which includes program activities, meals, t-shirt, and goody bag. Registration forms are available on the city's website or at City Hall. Space is limited, so early registration is strongly encouraged.



Store to Door Delivery Program for Seniors



Store to Door is a non-profit organization that shops for and delivers groceries and medications to aging and homebound seniors. To learn more about their services, contact 651-642-1892 or visit www.storeto-door.org

Meet Assistant Fire Chief Mike Galowitz



Mike Galowitz was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief on May 7. Mike has been a member of the Fire Department for over 12 years and has held a variety of positions including engineer, department / relief association secretary, and rescue captain. In addition to responding to medical and fire emergencies, Mike will be responsible for day to day operations of the department, as well as fire incident reports, and serving as the department secretary.

Mike resides in Stillwater and works full-time as an analyst at Andersen Corporation. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his two daughters, camping, and keeping up with technology. We are excited to have Mike on staff and appreciate his willingness to serve in this capacity. Also, many thanks to Matt Bell for his excellent service the past 9 years as Assistant Chief and his commitment to continue to serve on the department as an engineer/firefighter!

TCE and Water Quality Update



In 2007, the city installed a treatment plant to remove the chemical trichloroethylene (TCE) from the city's water system. When the treatment plant was installed, only city well #2 contained elevated levels of TCE. However, recent water monitoring tests by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) have shown increasing levels of TCE in city wells #3 and #4.

Why is TCE now being detected in other city wells?

The source of the TCE originated in Lake Elmo and is traveling east through the aquifer. Because well #2 is located closest to the source, it was the first to show levels of TCE. According to MDH, because the TCE concentrations have now traveled further east, TCE has been increasing in wells #3 and #4.

What are the next steps?

The city has received a grant to assist in funding a study to evaluate additional treatment options and develop an action plan, should the TCE levels continue to increase. The study is anticipated to be completed by the fall of 2012.

Where can I find more information?

A summary of the city's annual water report can be found on page 4 of this newsletter and the complete report is posted on the city's website. Periodic updates on the city's water quality and water study will be included in the city newsletter. Questions can be directed to Public Works Supervisor Mel Horak at 651-275-4410.

Update on St. Croix River Crossing Bridge

The St. Croix River Crossing is a four-lane bridge that will span the St. Croix River and replace the current 80-year old lift bridge in downtown Stillwater. The new bridge will be located just south of the existing location, connecting Highway 36 in Oak Park Heights to Wisconsin.



The new bridge is intended to alleviate traffic congestion, as well as improve safety and accessibility for pedestrians. As part of the project, the existing lift

bridge will be converted to a bicycle and pedestrian crossing, and an extensive loop trail system will be added to connect Bayport and other adjacent communities with the lift bridge crossing.

Repairs to the existing lift bridge will begin September 10, which will result in a complete closure of the existing bridge to vehicles and pedestrians through December, and result in a limited lift schedule for water vessels. Construction on the new bridge is expected to begin in 2013 and take approximately three years to complete.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is the lead agency on this project and is coordinating and sharing costs with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT). For more information, residents are encouraged to attend a public open house scheduled for June 13, 4:30-6:30 p.m., at the Bayport Public Library or visit the project website at www.dot.state.mn.us/stcroix-crossing

Allied Waste Curbside Pickup and Recycling is Fast, Easy, and Just a Call Away!

The city's trash and recycling hauler, Allied Waste, offers curbside pickup of many household items and yard waste, for a nominal fee. This includes furniture, mattresses, electronics, small amounts of construction debris, and appliances, as well as leaves, grass clippings, and brush. After collection, Allied Waste takes most of these materials to be recycled, or in the case of yard waste, composted for future use.

Because the city does not offer an annual citywide cleanup day, residents are encouraged to take advantage of this program, which is offered year-round and often with as little as a 24-hour notice. Not only is curbside pickup convenient, it is also an environmentally friendly way to dispose of unwanted materials!



For a complete list of items that are accepted at your curb, fees, or to schedule pickup, contact Allied Waste at 651-455-8634. Please note that Allied Waste does not pickup hazardous waste such as paint, chemicals, gas, and oil, but these items can be dropped off at the Washington County Environmental Center in Woodbury free of charge. Contact 651-430-6655 for more information.



CITY OF BAYPORT
294 North Third Street
Bayport, MN 55003
Phone: 651-275-4404
Fax: 651-275-4411
www.ci.bayport.mn.us

CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

City offices will be closed to observe the following upcoming holidays in 2012:

July 4.....Independence Day
September 3Labor Day
November 12.....Veteran's Day
November 22.....Thanksgiving Day
December 24Christmas Eve Day
December 25Christmas Day

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. unless noted.

June 4	October 1
July 2	November 13
August 6	December 3
September 4	

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. unless noted.

June 18	October 15
July 16	November 19
August 20	December 17
September 17	

LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. unless noted.

June 28	October 25
July 26	November 29
August 30	December 27
September 27	

CITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Farmer's Market July – October
Safety Camp for Kids August 6, 7
Night to Unite August 7
Primary Election August 14
Derby Days September 15
General Election November 6

New Options to View and Pay Your City Utility Bill



Great news! You can now receive your city utility bill by email. You can also choose to pay your bill online or by telephone using a credit card, debit card, or auto pay through a bank account.

To make these new, convenient payment options available, the city has partnered with Payment Service Network, Inc. (PSN), who will administer all online and telephone transactions. For more information or to set up an online account, please visit the city's website or contact City Hall. Customers should be advised that a \$2.99 administrative fee will apply to online and telephone payments.

Citizen Representative for Cable Commission Needed

The city is seeking a resident to be a representative

GET INVOLVED

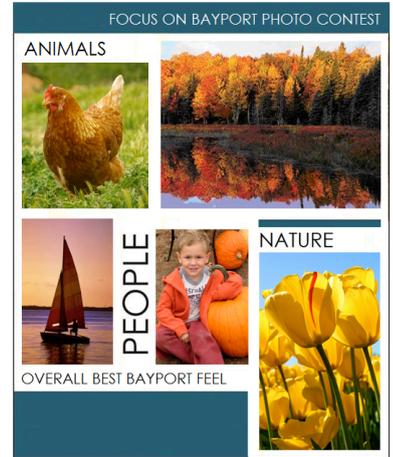
on the Central St. Croix Valley Joint Cable Commission. The commission is a joint powers entity which serves as a customer service liaison between cable customers and the local cable provider. This is a voluntary position, expected to attend meetings at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every other month. Individuals interested should submit a letter of interest to City Hall or email khuftel@ci.bayport.mn.us

Give Us Your Best Shot in the first "Focus on Bayport" Photo Contest

It's time to grab your camera and capture your favorite images of our city! We are excited to announce the first "Focus on Bayport" photo contest, open to city residents of all ages.

Complete contest rules will be posted on the city's website and at City Hall by July 1. Winners will be selected in various categories and published in the city newsletter in September.

All photos must be submitted as 5 x 7 inch prints. The entry deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 23, 2012. Happy snapping!



Spotlight on the City's Water Report for 2011

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) performs quarterly testing on the city's water and prepares an annual summary of the test results which is called a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). Like most groundwater, the contaminants found in the city's water are either due to erosion of natural deposits or additives.

The MDH classifies contaminants as having a maximum contaminant level (MCL) to be considered safe for consumption. In addition to detailing the MCL for each contaminant, the CCR also details the city's test results, the source, and the target goal for the contaminant level.

The city is pleased to report that the 2011 CCR indicated that no contaminants in

the city's water were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, one contaminant that the city continues to monitor closely is trichloroethylene (TCE). Although the 2011 average level of TCE was 2.48 parts per billion (ppb), which is well below the MCL of 5 ppb, the city considers any measurable contaminant in our water supply to be a concern (see article on page 2 for more information).

The CCR was published in the Stillwater Gazette in April. The CCR is also posted on the city's website and available at City Hall.

CITY OF BAYPORT
294 North 3rd Street
Bayport, Minnesota 55003-1027
651-275-4404 | 651-275-4411 fax
www.ci.bayport.mn.us



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