

Eyota City News

MARCH 2014

SPRING ISSUE

Have you checked your water temperature?

Residents may need to run water to keep water lines from freezing.

Frost depth with our harsh 2013-14 winter is extending to depths of water lines. Because of continued severe cold forecasts—freezing water pipes is a reality in Eyota.

Residents are asked to regularly monitor the temperature of the water coming into their homes. If they find a temperature of 38 degrees F. or below, they are asked to begin running a 1/4 inch stream of water from one of their taps.

This may prevent one's water line from freezing. It also prevents high expenses relating to repairing a frozen water line, a homeowner expense—water lines, except for water mains, are a homeowner's responsibility.

After beginning to run water, please contact City Hall. **ONLY if one contacts City Hall will a water bill be adjusted.** Adjustments will reflect an average of water usage for

the prior 4 months. (Only the water portion of the bill will be adjusted, not the sewer.)

TIPS on what to do:

- ◆ Obtain a thermometer that reads temps in the 30 to 60 degree F. range.
- ◆ Run cold water from tap for 5 minutes.
- ◆ Hold thermometer in the stream of running water or set it in a glass under the stream of water.
- ◆ If water temperature is 38 degrees F. or lower, begin running a small water stream from one household tap.
- ◆ Contact City Hall, 545-2135. Give name, address, water temperature & the day you began running water. Leave a message on weekends or after hours. Then continue monitoring water temperature and notify us when no longer running water.



ROUNDABOUT in 2015 on Highway 14/42 Intersection

A recent meeting with MnDOT verified their intent to build a roundabout at the intersection of US Highways 14 and 42 in 2015. Recent deadly and severe accidents led to local concerns and requests for a better solution for this intersection.

Although traffic lights were suggested by a few, this is not considered a good option. MnDOT stated this would not slow traffic. The traffic level at this intersection does not merit traffic lights, nor does it allow addition of turn lanes outside a roundabout.

Some interim measures were taken to help motorists become more aware of an impending intersection. Many of the accidents were caused by motorists on US 42, heading north. On 42, flashing lights were added to outline the large stop signs. Rumble strips were added and larger "Stop Ahead" signs were put in place.

However, visibility is still limited to north-traveling vehicles by a curve (to the east), a change in road elevation (to the

west) and cars in the turning lane off US 14 (turning south).

MnDOT says a roundabout will force all traffic to slow down at the intersection. It will improve the mobility of US 42, while reducing the number and severity of crashes. (Crashes, at less than 90 degree angles, generally result in less injury and fewer property damages.)

The process for implementing the roundabout will include a public meeting, which will be announced via the D-E Eagle, city website, Channel 19, the city's Facebook page and city newsletters.

The roundabout design will include pathways for bikes and walkers. It is projected to join two state bike trails—Great River Ridge (from Plainview) and Chester Woods (Rochester to Eyota). Previously, it was anticipated connection of these trails would require two expensive bridges over the highways (est. \$7 million). The estimated cost for the roundabout is \$3.98 million, bids will be let near the end of 2014.

See diagram of roundabout on page 4.

UPCOMING DATES

Council Meetings at Eyota City Hall: 7 pm

March 13 & 27

April 10 & 24

May 8 & 22

View on Charter & HBC Channel 19

Board of Appeals:

Monday, April 21

5:00 to 5:30 pm

Planning Commission Meetings, 7 pm at City Hall:

March—May 2014 dates not set. (*Will be either the 3rd Wednesday or Thursday of each month.*)

Park Board Meetings, 7 pm at City Hall:

March 12

April 9

May 14

2014 City Wide Garage Sales: May 16 & 17

Dover-Eyota Schools Referendum Vote:

May 7, 7 am to 8 pm

Polling: D-E HS

KEEP IN TOUCH:

- Phone: 507-545-2135
- Fax: 507-545-2235
- Email: eyota@cityofeyota.com
- Facebook: [Eyota.MN](https://www.facebook.com/Eyota.MN)
- Website: eyota.govoffice.com
- Marlis, Nancy, Iris, Brad, Ben

SNOW, SNOW, SNOW & more snow!



City crews have done their best to keep up with sanding and plowing streets during a series of snow events.

Because the city does not haul snow from the streets—the snow has to be piled near the streets. Thus, many homeowners find they have very large piles of snow along their boulevards.

Please be appreciative of our crew's early am and long hours spent on the job—through weekends and national holidays.

Fire Hydrants

Residents are asked to make sure fire hydrants in your neighborhood are accessible. Please remove any snow covering them.



NO snowmobiles allowed on city walking/biking trails!

Don't forget to keep shoveling your sidewalk.



NOTICE: The south portion of the circle pathway in West Side Park will be closed until spring. The epic snowstorm in February created extremely deep drifts. Other city pathways are still being maintained and are open.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL —Bids were let in February!

Although the project was delayed in 2013, construction is coming in 2014.

Our Safe Routes to School project was delayed last year because only one bid was received for the project. With an earlier start this year—seven bids were received.

Pember Co. of Menomonie, WI had the lowest bid of \$386,647.75. The entire cost for this will be covered by a MnDOT grant. Pember Co. worked for the city in 2013 on the South Avenue project.

Funding will pay for several new sidewalks, two new trail segments and updated accessibility ramps on existing city sidewalks.

Help us determine need for local bus service—provided to all ages: Complete & return enclosed survey or take survey online.

Enclosed in this newsletter, is a survey we hope all our residents will complete—either using this form or visiting our website (eyota.govoffice.com, scroll down to “Transportation Survey” on home page). For a low fare, an area bus service would provide rides both within and outside communities of St. Charles, Dover and Eyota. The bus service could:

- ◆ Transport to a local grocery store or a senior meal program.
- ◆ Appointments in Rochester
- ◆ Pick up kids & take them home from school activities;
- ◆ Take one to medical appointments, shopping or social events;
- ◆ Take kids to daycare, summer rec. or pool in St. Charles

2014 D-E Summer Rec Program

**Register: Tuesday, March 18 or 25, 6—8 pm
or Saturday, April 5, 9 pm to Noon**

At Eyota City Hall, 38 South Front St. SW

**—Register on these dates, late fee (after April 5) is \$15—
Most activities held at West Side Park**

General Program Dates: June 9 – July 31, No Activities June 30 -July 4

Swim Bus to St. Charles Aquatic Center: Thurs. June 19 - Aug. 7

Choose: M/W or T/TH and 9:30-10:30 am or 5:30-6:30 pm

Activities

Everyone: Family Fun Night for boys & girls Pre K & Under (Wed. Nights Only), Golf for boys & girls 2nd-6th gr. (in St. Charles)

Girls: T-Ball (Pre K- 1st), Soccer (Pre K – 6th grade), Volleyball (3rd-6th grade), Softball (2nd-6th grade)

Boys: T-Ball (Pre K – 1st grade), Soccer (Pre K – 6th grade)

FEES (no refunds unless activity canceled)

Family Fun Night: \$10 for all participants

T-ball, Softball, Volleyball, & Soccer Fees: \$30 for Eyota or Dover city residents (\$40 for non-residents)

Golf: \$40 for city residents (\$50 for non-residents)

DON'T Flush it!

“Flushable” wipes are NOT flushable. Popular bathroom wipes (not toilet paper) or items like baby wipes create clogs and backups in the sewer system. They include fibers that do not break down.

The City of Eyota had a sewer main on Madison Ave. that was 90% clogged with fibers from non-disposable items.

PLEASE DO NOT flush wipes! Dispose of them in a wastebasket instead. Other items NOT to flush: Fats, oils, grease, rags, & paper.

Sewer clean-ups from these items are carrying a big cost to cities across the U.S. From Orange County, CA—*“Only flush pee, poop, and toilet paper.”*



HELP WANTED

Dover-Eyota Summer Rec Program is looking for responsible, fun, and energetic people wanting to work with children ages 4 – 12 in a sports setting. The main focus of the job is supervising and coaching children on the fundamentals of sports in a safe positive environment.

Applications will be accepted from March 17th – April 11th. Applications can be picked up at City Hall or downloaded off the city website. Completed applications must be submitted at City Hall. (38 South Front St., Eyota). **Pay: \$10/hr.**

**Board of Appeal & Equalization:
Monday, April 21, 5 - 5:30 pm**

Your Property Value listed on your 2015 tax statement—

Please call Olmsted County Assessor's Office 507-328-7670 prior to the Eyota Board of Appeal & Equalization meeting held at City Hall.

Call the county office if you have questions or concerns on the valuation or classification of your property.

**EBT Market Bucks—
2nd Year at Farmers Market**

Blue Cross Blue Shield Center for Prevention will again offer \$5 Market Bucks coupons for weekly EBT transactions at the 2014 Eyota Farmers Market.

SNAP/EBT card holders receive \$5 in Market Bucks coupons for \$5 swiped on their card. Weekly visits to the market would give EBT card holders up to \$110 in free fresh vegetables.

With drought affecting CA vegetable crops, access to locally grown produce will be even more important in 2014!



City Announcements:

Reminder—No PARKING on city streets overnight from Nov. 1 to April 1, 2 to 6 am.

Snowplowing season: Place trash containers in your driveway during a plowing event.

Contact info for Eyota Mayor Tyrel Clark: EyotaMayor@cityofeyota.com

LOST & FOUND: Skate helmet and backpack are at City Hall.

No Transient Merchants Allowed: Door-to-door sales prohibited in Eyota. If anyone comes knocking at your door selling, please alert law enforcement—non-emergency number: 328-6800. Exempt: school kids selling for fundraisers.

LIKE us on Facebook—Get up-to-date city announcements and emergency info: <https://www.facebook.com/Eyota.MN> or City of Eyota, MN Government.

NOTICE: There is an opening on our EDA board. Thanks to David Higgins to his many years of service!

2014 Eyota Farmers Market Season, May 20 to October 14 on Tuesdays in West Side Park. Contact Iris Neumann (ineumann@cityofeyota.com), if interested in selling.

**License ATVs,
UTVs, & golf carts
before summer arrives.**

\$25 for annual license.

Additional requirements:

A DNR permit, proof of insurance & a drivers license.

**Without a license,
recreational vehicles &
golf carts driven on city
streets will be ticketed.**

Maximum: 15 MPH

**Community Garden
Plots available again
in 2014.**



The 2014 gardening season is almost here. Community garden plots at Sunset Square Park in Eyota will be available for rental soon. Watch for an ad in the D-E Eagle for 2014 rental info.

A garden committee will be meeting to finalize recommendations for plot pricing, rules for plots and ideas for expansion. A waiting list of those wishing to rent in 2013 will be given priority for plot rental in 2014.

Starting in 2013, gardeners agreed (when signing rental agreement) to volunteering two hours to help with set-up, mulching pathways, tilling and/or end-of-season takedown. This is a project that can only be sustained with gardeners working together.

Invitations sent to returning gardeners will take into account if plots were not tended (excessive weeds).

**Eyota Economic Development Authority
(EDA) receives 2 grants**

Alliant Energy Foundation gave the City of Eyota \$2,000 for the purchase of new audio/video equipment. This was through their community grants 2013 program. This gift, with a donation from HBC (Hiawatha Broadband Communications), has underwritten a large portion of the cost for the new video and broadcasting equipment at City Hall.

An Alliant Energy representative, Rebecca Gisel, attended the January, 2014 EDA meeting to present the \$2,000 check

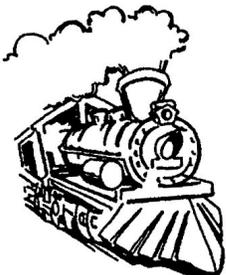
Eastwood Bank donated \$250 to assist in costs for advertising the 2014 building incentive. Since 2008, the City has been waiving sewer and water permit fees totaling \$2,250.

**FOR QUESTIONS ON STARTING OR EXPANDING A
BUSINESS, PLEASE CONTACT EDA DIRECTOR:**

Cathy Enerson at City Hall 507-545-2135, or

cathy.enerson@cedausa.com

Free SBA services are available, including help with social media.



City of Eyota
 38 South Front St. SW
 P.O. Box 328
 Eyota, MN 55934

Permit No. 12
 Eyota, MN 55934
 Presort Standard

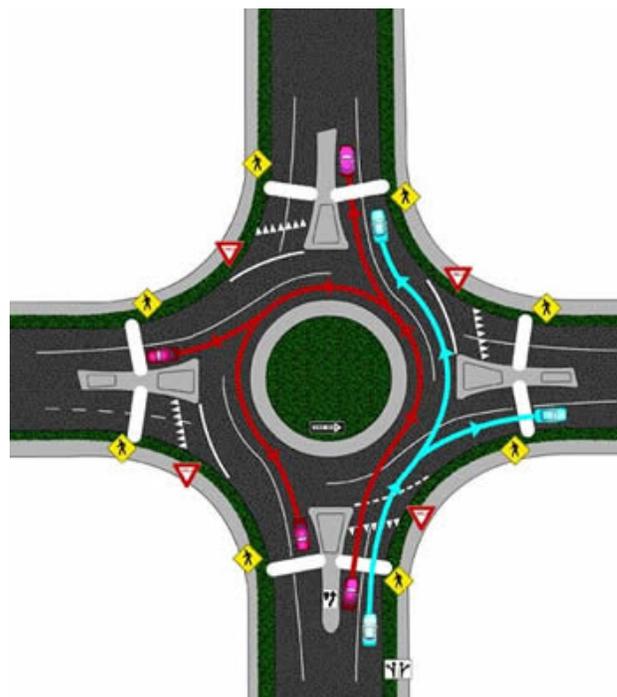
Postal Patron
 Eyota, MN 55934

Enclosed—Transportation survey...your input is needed!

**Coming in 2014—2 public meetings
 —ROUNDAABOUT on US 14/42 —
 Construction: 2015**

General Roundabout Design

Color brochure is available at Eyota City Hall.



Navigating a Roundabout (MnDOT website):

- Slow down as you approach the roundabout.
- Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists crossing the roadway.
- Watch for signs or pavement markings that require or prohibit certain movements.
- **When entering a roundabout, yield to vehicles already in the roundabout. Do not cross into the roundabout until all traffic from the left has cleared.**
- After entering the roundabout, drive in a counter-clockwise direction until you reach your exit.
- Do not stop, pass or change lanes within a roundabout.
- If an emergency vehicle approaches, exit the roundabout immediately and then pull over.