

October 2011

OCTOBER 2011

FALL ISSUE

Eyota Farmers Market Special Kids Day

Wednesday, October 5, 4 to 7 pm, at West Side Park Walkway

The Eyota Farmers Market has only two final markets in October on the 5th and 12th. This will conclude their first year of weekly markets, which started on May 25.

Kids Day on October 5 will celebrate International Walk to School Day. Kids arriving on their bikes will get a special gift bag. Other children attending will also receive gifts—a crisp apple and donated items (pencils, balloons, etc.)

Kids can participate in the sidewalk art contest—using chalk to draw on the pathway. A free fall craft will be offered, along with games.

Deputy Tracey Pagel will be there to offer safety tips and license bikes. JoAnne Judges-Dietz from Olmsted County S.H.I.P. will be on hand to talk about safe walking to school and Walking School Buses.

Thanks to many regular customers who have made it a habit to shop at the Eyota Farmers Market this season.

Thanks also to our loyal vendors, who have missed only a few markets.



Meet me at the Eyota Farmers Market!

Jem's Confections, Clark Gardens, Ron's Berry Farm, Norma's Slice of Heaven, Kathy Mundell, Fortschs and Charlie Sachs have been joined by a number of occasional vendor sellers. One regular seller, Ceropegia Farms, was sidelined by a family illness—they have been missed.

From the 22 total sellers throughout the season, a variety of homemade and homegrown goods have been offered. Items for sale included vegetables, fruits, perennials, eggs, house plants, herbs, soaps, lotion, tie-dyed & embroidered clothing, rain barrels, planters, baked goods, jams & jellies, pickles, and jewelry.

Currently, Leroy Gruhlke is offering his homegrown apples for sale. The market has also enjoyed having the Red Barn Kitchen come several times to serve ready-made food to buyers and vendors. Music at the market has been occasionally provided by Andy Fisher of Eyota. He will be playing at the last two markets, compliments of Charter Communications.

Come stock up during the last two markets on winter

Kids Day Includes:

- Free gift bag for kids arriving on their bikes.
- Apples and other gifts for all children visiting the market.
- Free fall craft to make.
- Sidewalk chalk art contest.
- Other activities.
- Free samples of melon grown at the Eyota Community Garden.
- Bike Licensing

squash, pumpkins and indoor plants. Many end of season tomatoes, beets, carrots, leeks, raspberries, peppers, beans, radishes, potatoes, and more are still available.

Final thank yous are extended to the Olmsted County Health Department who connected us with a CPPW grant for market start-up costs. Second, to our committee members who created a reality out of a dream: Geri Ihrke, Pete Stellpflug, Robin Miller Kroening, Mary Smith, Elaine Haverly, Cathy Enerson, Mary Trogstad, Laurie Whitmore, Norma Pries, Sarah Carnahan, Marlis Knowlton, Logan Clark (market manager) and Iris Neumann. Finally, to the City of Eyota Economic Development Authority for sponsoring the market.

Community Gardens Work Date: Nov. 5, 10 am

Community gardeners are encouraged to attend the annual garden cleanup date on Saturday, November 5, 10 am at Sunset Square Park.

Individual gardens should be cleared of vegeta-

tion by November 15. Use the garden's compost bins for discarded vegetation.

23 gardens were utilized by community members in 2011, within a space doubled from a year ago. A second

S.H.I.P. grant paid for excavating, topsoil, compost, tilling and boards for raised beds.

Contact City Hall if you are interested in renting a plot in 2012.

UPCOMING DATES

Council Meetings at Eyota City Hall:

7:30 pm

October 13 & 27
November 10 & 22
December 8 & 22
View on Channel 19

Farmers Market

West Side Park Pathway
October 5 & 12

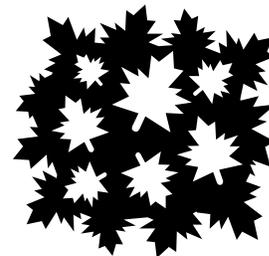
4 to 7 pm

Kids Day: October 5

Eyota Volunteer Fire Dept. Relief Association Pancake Breakfast:

October 9, Sunday
7:30 am to 12:30 pm

Eyota American Legion
Adults \$5, Kids \$4 (Age 6-13)
Under 5 Free
Pancakes, French Toast,
Scrambled Eggs, Sausage,
Juice & Coffee



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, Joe

Understanding the New Homestead Market Value Credit

New property tax statements will calculate values & taxes differently.

Your 2011 property tax statements will present your property values in a new way based on a new law.

On your Property Tax Statement you will find the following information:

1. Your Property Market Value & your Property Class—in the upper right hand corner of the statement.

Example:

Taxable	2009	2010
Market Value:	\$278,000	274,700

Property Class (both): Residential Homestead

2. Further down find a section called "Property Tax & Credits."

Line 3: 2009 2010

Property Tax Before Credits \$4231 \$4224

Line 4A: Homestead

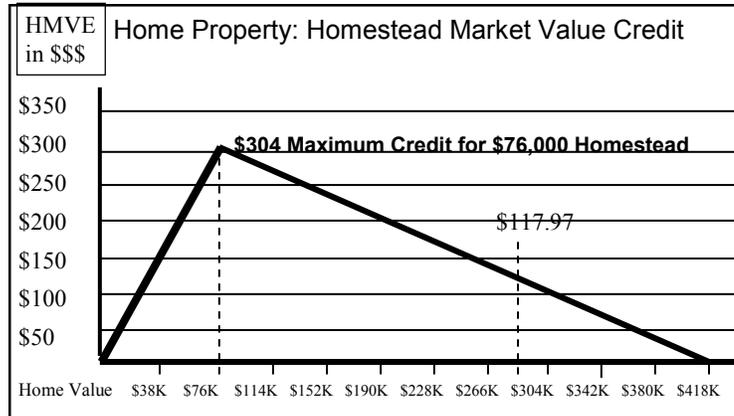
& Ag Market Value Credit -\$115 -\$117.97

Line 5: Property Tax after

Credits \$4116 \$4106

***Change For 2012:** Homestead & Agriculture Market Value credits were eliminated by the State of Minnesota. These credits represented money from the State paid to counties, schools, cities, and townships to reduce property taxes.

In 2011, approximately \$8,870,000 was slated to be credited to Olmsted County, it's schools, cities and townships. These dollars were a credit to property taxes from the State of Minnesota and have been eliminated in 2012. Dollar loss to the City of Eyota is \$50,256.



The reduction in tax base for "homestead property" only means non-homestead will pay a higher share of the levy, however a large share of the homesteads could pay more given that "Exclusion" amounts and other factors vary.

The prior tax law credit was a deduction from a gross tax while the "exclusion" will reduce the taxable value of the property. "Exclusions" apply only to "homestead" properties.

In order to continue providing homestead property tax benefits and balance the budget for the State of Minnesota, the homestead credit is being replaced by the "Homestead Market Value Exclusion" for property taxes in 2012.

The State of Minnesota will no longer pay a share of the tax on homesteads, but the homesteads will have "Less Value" number used for taxation.

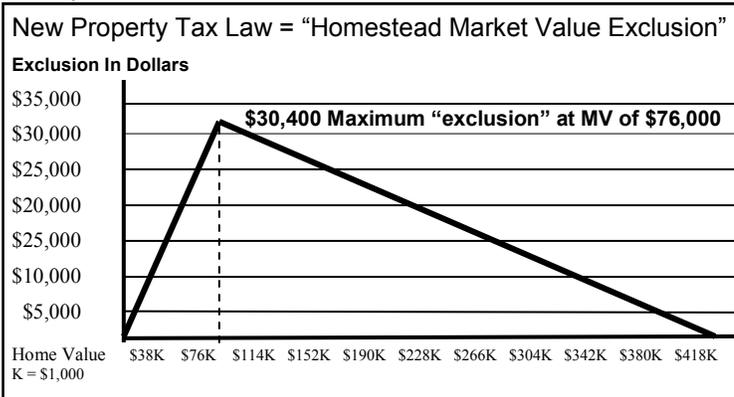
The removal of state credit dollars on homestead credits means property taxpayers as a whole will pay more taxes even if levies remain the same.

Examples of Market Value Homestead Credit Versus Market Exclusion:	"OLD" MVHC	"NEW" MVHE
Commercial Unit-Value \$150,000	\$1125	\$1552
Residential Homestead-V.\$100,000	\$1104	\$1160
Residential Homestead-V.\$200,000	\$2926	\$3290

The "homestead market value exclusion" is a decrease in a number to calculate property taxes. It is **NOT** a decrease in the value of your property value compared to a mortgage or what you would try to sell your house for.

Three important considerations that may impact the City's budgeting decisions and property taxes:

1. The City will receive the full amount they levy from the taxpayers.
2. The City does not need to plan for further cuts of state reimbursement—there is no longer a payment to cut.
3. The city needs to recognize that removing \$292 million of property tax credits from the state budget and changing the composition of the tax base will create large tax increases for some properties: commercial, residential non-homestead, apartments and agriculture.



2011 City Projects to be Completed Before Year End

Prior to the end of 2011 West Side Park will see the addition of a pathway and a remodeled play area.

The new play equipment, edging, & mulch is being paid for by park fund & gambling income. The Park Board sought a way to offer equipment for 2 to 5 year olds and truly make the handicap swing accessible. Older kids will find some new items for them too.

Sentence to Serve will be placing new edging surrounding the West Side Park play area, which will be expanding the current borders.

An asphalt pathway in West Side Park will parallel Fifth Street and curve to "complete the loop" to the existing pathway. A CPPW grant is paying for this pathway that will have extensions to the skate park & the east parking lot.

A new sidewalk we be laid along Jefferson Avenue between Fifth Street and Robert Avenue. The cost is being shared by the city & CPPW grant funds.

A bike depot is currently under construction in downtown Eyota. Landscaping and solar lights will complete this project.



Autopay for Water/Sewer Payments is the BEST WAY TO PAY!

AUTOPAY IS A WORRY FREE WAY TO PAY YOUR WATER & SEWER UTILITY BILL!

To set up automatic payments:

- Go the City website (eyota.govoffice.com)
- Click on Notices to Citizens, Water /Sewer bill can be paid automatically.
- Download form from bottom of web-page.
- Complete form, attach a voided check.
- Return form to City Hall.

- Currently 19 percent of city residents' Water/Sewer payments are paid automatically. This is an increase of 5% since January 2011.
- ACH automatic payments save the city employee time and bank fees.
- Payments made by internet bill pay with your bank may be only a mouse click for you—But when your check arrives at the City, it involves more processing time than a personally mailed or dropped off payment with a payment stub included.
- Automatic payments are taken from your checking account on about the 12th of each month.
- Save the city time and fees by choosing to pay your W/S payments with automatic payments. Follow steps on the left.



City Announcements:

License pets for 2012 available beginning November 1. Fee is \$5 for spayed/neutered pets or \$10 if not. Bring proof of current rabies shots.

Paper leaf bags available for sale, \$1 each at City Hall. Filled bags may be set curbside for pickup. Leaves in plastic bags will not be picked up.

REMINDER: No overnight (2 to 6 am) parking on streets starting November 1 to April 1. During the winter months this allows for street snow plowing.

Mobile Home Owners: Reminder to make sure your heat tape is plugged in and working for your water meter before the temperatures drop.

Snow on Sidewalks: Homeowners please be aware you need to remove the snow from sidewalks located along your property within 24 hours.

Basketball Hoops: Please remove from street right of ways for winter plowing.

Dover Brush Pile: Open Saturdays only, 8 am to noon. Closed in November.

Deputy Pagel says:
TAKE THE SURVEY!

Your input on our community's needs for crime prevention is requested.

Link is located on the Eyota City Website home page.

Go to eyota.govoffice.com

Click on the link and take the survey. Thanks.

EDA News from Cathy Enerson, Eyota's Economic Development Director

The Economic Development Authority (EDA) announces that Arbor Gardens recently received a national award as the **2011 Recipients of Bronze--Commitment to Quality Services Award, this award was presented by the American Health Care Association & National Center for Assisted Living, Congratulations!**

In addition, Arbor Gardens recently completed the second phase of its window improvement project which provides energy efficiency for the residential facility. Don Rademacher commented that he has seen a reduction in energy usage since the implementation of the project last year. He said his residents are enjoying and commenting on the many benefits of the project.

The EDA thanks all of you who have participated in the HBC survey. Your in-

volvement shapes your community. You will soon be enjoying the option of HBC fiber optics for your home.

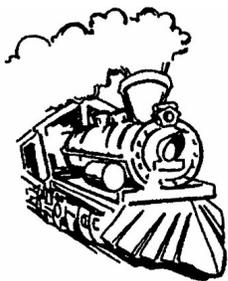
Eyota permits are up for the year, unlike many cities that surround us and have seen no growth. Attractive home sites, an excellent school district and permit incentives combine to create a friendly environment for building a home for your family. A few lots are for sale, plus several more will become available thru a state forfeiture auction. Details are pending on the lots available thru the state, for updates contact City Hall. The permit incentive is in effect through 2011.

The EDA has assisted with the Safe Routes to School grant and just recently submitted the Aid to Firefighters Grant. Improvements will be seen and felt

throughout the community for the next several years through the use of these funds.

The 2007 Flood can not easily be forgotten, however the funds received by local businesses as loans are coming back into the city with interest for the purpose of re-lending to aid business development. Recently, the City adopted a re-lending policy to use these funds. If you plan to start or expand a business within the City of Eyota, EDA has business tools and financing to assist you with the development and success of your business. Contact the EDA Director at City Hall for assistance.

The Eyota Farmers Market saw great success for 2011. If you are interested in the market, and like to help next year, please contact City Hall to be a guest at the next board meeting.



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

November 1 is time to register your pet for 2012. Beat Jan. 1 deadline.

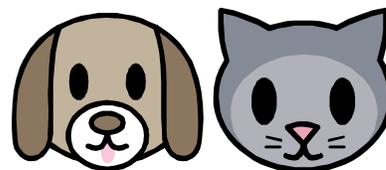
**Don't miss the last two
Eyota Farmers Markets:
October 5 & 12.
KIDS DAY is October 5.**

New Businesses: Welcome to Eyota

- ◆ **Jem's Confections:** Open Saturdays in Hometown Pizza building.
- ◆ **THE SHOP:** 315 Center Ave. S, Automotive & Powersports Repair. Phone: 507-545-1248.
- ◆ **HBC:** Opening office at Hometown Pizza building, starting October 3.



**Remember!
Overnight street
parking not allowed
from November 1
to April 1.**



Show you care about Fido & Jasmine by picking up 2012 pet license tags.



Your house will have happy pets!