CITY OF MADISON

MADISON MATTERS 2026

FALL NEWSLETTER

404 6TH AVE., MADISON, MN 56256 | PHONE :320-598-7373 | CITYOFMADISONMN.GOV

City Hall Hours of Operation:

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**In the event of a utility emergency after-hours, please call the LqP County Dispatch at 320-598-3720.*

The City Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month at City Hall.

Liquor Store Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Ice Skating Rink Hours:

Monday-Friday: 3:30-6 p.m. & 7-9 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday & Non-School Days: 1-6 p.m. & 7-9 p.m.

Dates to Remember:

Oct. 31: Main Street Halloween Parade & Trunk-or-Treat
Nov. 1: Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov. 11: City Hall Closed to observe **Veteran's Day**
Thank a Veteran for their service to our Country!
Nov. 11-14: Norsefest
Nov. 13: Lutefisk Eating Contest & Super Raffle
Nov. 14: Norsefest Craft Show & Scandinavian Arts Fair
Nov. 26-27: City Hall Closed. Happy **Thanksgiving**!
Nov. 27: Christmas Kickoff & SantaLand Opens
Dec. 11-13: An Enchanted Bookshop Christmas at the Prairie Arts Center
Dec. TBA: Free movies, and more!
Dec. TBA: Christmas at the Museum
Dec. 25: City Hall Closed. **Merry Christmas**!
Jan. 1: City Hall Closed. **Happy New Year**!
Jan. 18: City Hall Closed in Recognition of **Martin Luther King Day**
Feb. 15: City Hall Closed in Recognition of **Presidents' Day**

Events and dates are subject to change

Access the Online Customer Portal to:

- ✔ Pay your utility bill quickly and securely 24/7
- ✔ Set up Auto Pay so you never miss a payment
- ✔ View your billing history
- ✔ Track and compare your water and electric usage
- ✔ Sign up for paperless billing and alerts

➢ Visit www.municipalonlinepayments.com/cityofmadisonmn and take control of your utility account today!

Sump Pumps:

If you have a sump pump permit, you can switch your sump pump discharge to the city sanitary sewer no sooner than November 16, 2026. Please call city hall if you would like to obtain a sump pump permit.

City Projects Update:

City crews have been busy throughout the community this year! From park improvements and street maintenance to utility upgrades and facility improvements, here's a look at some of the work happening around Madison.

Parks & Streets:

- **Slen Park Improvements:** Improvements at Slen Park are nearing completion! The basketball, tennis, and pickleball courts are ready for use, and the newly paved parking lot has been striped. New lighting has also been installed at the courts. Concrete has been poured in preparation for a monument generously donated.
- **Street Maintenance:** Crack filling, seal coating, and fog sealing the streets have been completed for the season. Streets that were not seal coated have been identified for future improvements, which may include mill and overlay or full depth reclamation.
- **Skating Rink Improvements:** Thanks to a park board member who secured an AARP grant, the warming house now features a sliding door that opens to a sheltered patio area. A storage shed is also planned for placement north of the warming house this fall.

Utilities:

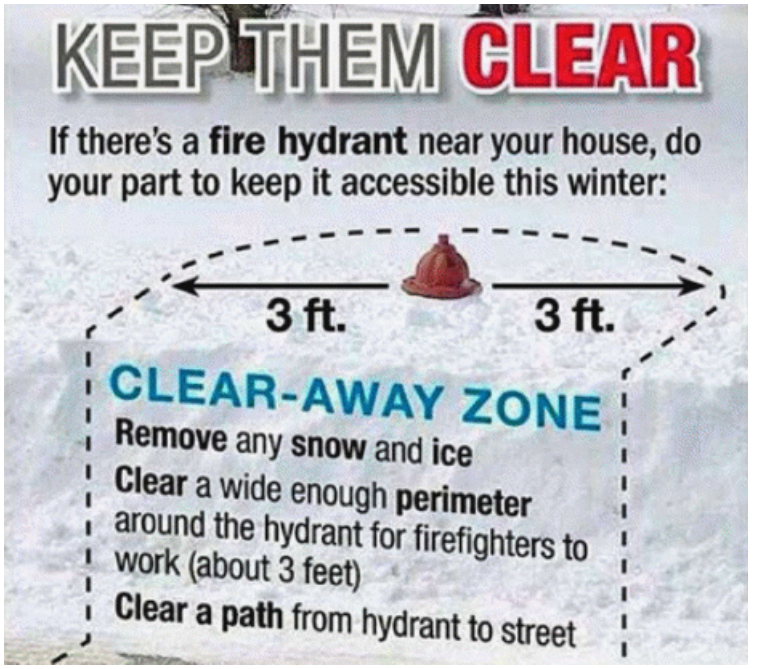
- **Water Treatment Plant Improvements:** Work continues on this project as materials and equipment are delivered.
- **Water Meter Upgrades:** If you receive communication that your water meter's ERT (encoder receiver transmitter) needs to be replaced, it's likely that this component is approximately 20 years old and has failed. The meter itself is still working properly; only the electronic reading component needs to be replaced. Please promptly contact the Water Department or City Hall to schedule a convenient day and time for the replacement. This helps the City maintain accurate and reliable water meter readings.
- **Electric Infrastructure Upgrades:** The City continued upgrading its electric infrastructure by burying overhead power lines where needed, extending underground electric service, and completing service upgrades for a few commercial properties. Crews also completed significant tree trimming and routine maintenance to help keep the electric system safe, reliable, and well-maintained.

City Facilities:

City hall, swimming pool house office, and public works have received maintenance and repair related to water damage and improved lighting, storage, and work areas.

Need to dispose of leaves and yard waste this fall?

The City does not offer curbside pickup for leaves, branches or brush; however, a brush disposal site is available to City of Madison residents. You can drop off yard waste at the site located off Highway 40, just east of Madison Auto Parts. Call City Hall if you have any questions!



Ordinances:

Snow Emergency Parking Reminder: To help our plows clear streets safely and completely, **no parking is allowed on city streets during and after snowfall until full plowing is complete.** Exceptions are made for emergency vehicles only. Violators may be ticketed and towed.

Keep Sidewalks Safe This Winter: Property owners and occupants are responsible for keeping sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Snow must be removed **within 24 hours of falling.**

- **First offense:** You'll receive a warning and have an **extra 24 hours** to clear it.
- **If not cleared**, the city will take care of it—and you'll be **billed for labor and fined.**
- **Second offense:** No warning—**you'll be cited and charged immediately.**

Let's keep our sidewalks safe and walkable for everyone this winter!

Snowmobile Use in City Limits: Riding snowmobiles in town is **only allowed on designated trails or the most direct route out of town**, and only between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. Snowmobiles aren't permitted for general transportation or recreation within city limits.

Golf Cart/ATV Permits - ORDINANCE UPDATE - Effective Aug. 11, 2026

Before taking your golf cart out on City streets, remember:

1. Annual permit: A valid City permit is required. The annual fee is $25.

2. Drive requirements: Drivers must be at least 16 years old and have a valid driver's license.

3. Insurance: Golf carts must have liability insurance, and proof must be provided if requested by City officials or law enforcement.

4. Required equipment: Golf carts must have a rearview mirror and display a slow-moving vehicle emblem on the rear.

5. Passenger safety: All passengers must be seated in designated manufacturer-installed seats. Standing, hanging off the back, and lap seating are prohibited.

6. Nighttime operation: Between sunset and sunrise, golf carts must have factory-installed headlights, taillights, and rear-facing brake lights.

7. Safe operation: Golf carts must be in good working condition and may not be operated when visitbility is reduced or when there is insufficient light to see a person or vehicle 500 feet away.

8. Roadway restrictions: Golf carts are prohibited on Highways 40, 75, 19, and Municipal Highway 204 unless otherwise allowed.

Violating these rules may result in your golf cart permit being revoked. Please review the City's golf cart ordinance for all requirements and restrictions. Contact City Hall with questions or to obtain a permit.

Fall & Winter Energy-Saving Tips for Minnesota:

1. Check windows, doors, and attic for drafts. Use weather stripping or caulk to seal leaks.

2. Use a Programmable Thermostat: Lower your thermostat when you're asleep or away—by 7-10°F for 8 hours can save up to 10% on heating.

3. Maintain Your Heating System: Change furnace filters regularly and schedule a professional furnace tune-up before winter hits.

4. Use Window Treatments Wisely: Open curtains during sunny days to naturally warm your home. Close them at night to keep heat inside.

5. Lower Water Heating Costs: Set your water heater to 120°F and Use low-flow showerheads and fix leaks to reduce hot water use.

6. Use Energy-Efficient Lighting

7. Unplug devices not in use—many electronics draw power even when off.

8. Consider Energy-Efficient Upgrades. If possible, upgrade to ENERGY STAR rated furnaces, boilers, or windows. Consider adding storm windows or insulated doors.

9. Use Ceiling Fans to Circulate Warm Air: Run ceiling fans clockwise on low to push warm air down.

SAVE ENERGY & MONEY WITH ELECTRIC REBATES!

Did you know Madison Municipal Electric customers may qualify for rebates on energy-efficient home improvements and applicances? Through Bright Energy Solutions, rebates are available for qualifying items such as heating and cooling equipment, smart thermostats, heat-pump water heaters, and more.

See what you could save! Visit brightenergysolutions.com, select:

Get Rebates >> Minnesota >> Madison Municipal Utilities >> Home or Business Rebates

And explore the residential rebates available to Madison customers.

Rebate amounts, eligibility requirements, and deadlines may vary. Check the program for details before purchasing equipment to make sure your project qualifies.

HeatShare

What is HeatShare?

HeatShare is a voluntary nongovernmental program of The Salvation Army that has been in existence since 1982. When you give to HeatShare, you are helping warm the lives of the elderly, people with disabilities, and others who have nowhere else to turn. HeatShare provides financial assistance on a year-round basis and is used for natural gas, oil, propane, wood, and electricity.

Who does HeatShare help?

- Seniors with low income and no alternate source of help
- People with disabilities who are limited in their ability to maintain income to adequately cover energy costs
- People who have an unexpected crisis and as a result cannot pay for household energy bills

How can I support my neighbor?

You can give the gift of heat by sending a tax-deductible donation to:

The Salvation Army
HeatShare Program
2445 Prior Ave
Roseville, MN 55113
*Please make checks payable to HeatShare
www.heatshare.org
1-800-842-7279