Join us for the 12th Annual Business Expo

The City of Ramsey is hosting its 12th Annual Business Expo on Saturday, April 4, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Adrenaline Sports Center, 8310 147th Lane NW in Ramsey.

Explore a wide range of businesses that call the City of Ramsey home. Round up the whole family for a day of giveaways and fun activities. Discover local retailers and restaurants, explore local professional services and visit the City booth to meet staff and learn about what’s happening in Ramsey.

Receive a City of Ramsey swag bag filled with samples, coupons, deals and information from all participating vendors. There is no cost to attend the expo. Discover a variety of activities for kids and adults alike! Enjoy balloon art, airbrush tattoos and so much more.

Interested in participating in the expo as a vendor? Business exhibitor registration fills up fast, so don’t wait! Visit our website at www.cityoframsey.com/372 to download an application packet and learn more. Fees for participating vendors vary. Vendors can pay via credit card or check. Checks should be mailed to City of Ramsey, Attn. EDA Business Expo, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW. Registration materials are due to the City by 4:30 pm on Friday, March 20. Contact us at econ-dev@cityoframsey.com with questions.
**Development Report**

Your Source for Development News in Ramsey

**2019 Year in Review**

2019 saw another year of strong industrial and job growth. Growth in these sectors has fueled interest in the retail development community.

**Residential Growth**

A variety of housing types were constructed in 2019 that provide a range of options for all residents regardless of their housing need. The strongest residential sector continues to be detached single-family homes. Within that housing type, a wide range of options exist from large-lot, executive-style housing to small-lot, maintenance-free housing. Construction began on one multifamily project and one townhome project that had stalled during the previous recession. Nearly 300 new house-holds to serve the community were created in 2019.

**Commercial and Industrial Growth**

Ramsey has seen strong industrial growth for decades, and that trend continued in 2019. One project brought over 225,000 square feet of new space to the community with over 100 new jobs. A multi-tenant retail facility will be completed in 2020 and ready for new shopping opportunities. Commercial and industrial growth brought nearly 300,000 square feet of new space.

**Overall Growth**

Overall growth brought over $100 Million in new construction value to our community.

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**Meeting Schedule**

All meetings are held at the Ramsey Municipal Center unless otherwise noted.

**City Council**

(2nd & 4th Tuesday)

- **7:00 pm, Council Chambers**
- **March 10, 24 & April 14, 28**

**City Council Work Session**

(2nd & 4th Tuesday)

- **5:30 pm, Lake Itasca Room**
- **March 10, 24 & April 14, 28**

**Economic Development Authority**

(2nd Thursday)

- **7:30 am, Council Chambers**
- **March 12 & April 9**

**Environmental Policy Board**

(3rd Monday)

- **6:30 pm, Council Chambers**
- **March 16 & April 20**

**Park & Rec. Commission**

(2nd Thursday)

- **6:30 pm, Council Chambers**
- **March 12 & April 9**

**Planning Commission**

(1st Thursday)

- **7:00 pm, Council Chambers**
- **March 5 & April 2**

**Public Works Committee**

(3rd Tuesday)

- **5:30 pm, Lake Itasca Room**
- **March 17 & April 21**

Additional City Council Work Sessions may be scheduled throughout the month. See the most current Upcoming Meetings calendar to confirm meeting dates, locations and times on the City’s website at www.cityoframsey.com.

*TBD - To be Determined*

**Rescheduled Date**

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**Curbside Recycling Dates**

**West Side Pick-up**

- **March 9, 23**
- **April 6, 20**

**East Side Pick-up**

- **March 2, 16, 30**
- **April 13, 27**

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**QCTV Live Broadcasts & Replays and Video Streaming**

Quad Cities Community Television (QCTV) broadcasts regular meetings on Channel 16 with periodic replays. For more information visit www.qctv.org.
My career as a public administrator included a time with the state government as a Department of Natural Resources assistant commissioner under Governor Jessie Ventura. The Governor had a unique way of voicing his principles to his administrative staff and the budget principles quoted above were no exception. The phrase, “Never forget it’s the people’s money,” has stuck with me throughout my career as a public employee. Governor Ventura’s principles for employees also include the phrase “Do the right things and do them well.”

A City collects revenue from residents, businesses, and landowners to help pay for an array of public services. These services include such things as: street construction and maintenance, providing sewer and water, storm water management, administering planning and zoning regulations, police protection, and fire services, to name a few. Municipal government’s direct connection to our taxpayers reinforces the City’s obligation to “Do the right things and to do them well.”

Recently, the City received a request from a resident for a “tax refund” because plowing of the snow on his street did not meet expectations. While we do not give tax refunds, the resident’s point is important. That is, residents expect a certain level of service for the price they pay in taxes. Most of the time we get things right, but despite our best efforts, sometimes things do not go as expected. Our employees are continuously looking at ways to provide basic services more efficiently and effectively.

As a city administrator, I get the opportunity to meet with residents that are sometimes unhappy with the service we provide and, on the other hand, sometimes extremely grateful for the service we provide. People have written to express appreciation for the way we have saved a house from fire, or helped a family in need.

The people part is the most important component of the services we provide. Additionally, tracking our performance with data and statistics also plays a role. Each department has goals and metrics that help assess our performance. For example, these measurements include: response times for police and fire, time it takes to plow our City streets, or how long it takes to process a building permit. We also obtain feedback through customer satisfaction surveys and regular feedback from our residents. With this information, our Council and staff work together to determine the highest priorities and the best places to invest our efforts.

Please check our website at www.cityoframsey.com for more information, or to provide feedback, regarding our City services.

Employee Spotlight: Engineering Department

- **Bruce Westby**, City Engineer
- **Leonard Linton**, Civil Engineer IV
- **Joe Feriancek**, Civil Engineer II
- **Aaron Madsen**, Engineering Tech IV
- **Logan Czech**, Engineering Tech II
- **Marsha Weidner**, Engineering Assistant

**Background:**

**Bruce:** Bruce has worked for the City since 2013 and is responsible for managing the Engineering Department. Bruce enjoys bowling, fishing, swimming, cross-country skiing and playing with his grandkids. A fun fact about Bruce is that he spends an entire day decorating his house and yard for Halloween.

**Leonard:** Leonard has worked for the City since 2003. He reviews plans for new developments, manages the City’s stormwater utility program, is the staff liaison to the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization and much more. Leonard enjoys cooking, especially Dutch oven cooking. His favorite things to make are yeast bread, New York Style Cheese Cake and Pineapple Upside Down Cake. A fun fact about Leonard is that he has been a scout volunteer for many years.

**Joe:** Joe has worked for the City since 2015. He designs and drafts plans and specifications for City improvement projects, primarily the street reconstruction and overlay projects. He reviews new development projects, particularly looking at grading, streets, sanitary sewers and water mains. Joe enjoys Canadian Walleye fishing and reading sci-fi novels. A fun fact about Joe is that he has plowed every road and trail in the City!

**Logan:** Logan began working for the City in 2019. He is a construction inspector for much of the year, and assists with general engineering activities. Logan has many outdoor hobbies like fishing, camping, hiking and mountain biking. He is also training for his first half-marathon in June. A fun fact about Logan is that he is a twin! “I have a fraternal twin sister named Callie.”

**Marsha:** Marsha has worked for the City since 2018. She serves as the Administrative Assistant to the department – answering resident inquiries, and assisting with the day to day operations of the department. Marsha is very active in her church and plays guitar. A fun fact about Marsha is that she sings in two gospel groups.

“Be fiscally conservative and prudent. Never forget it’s the people’s money.”

- Former Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura

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**City Administrator’s Corner**

**Do the Right Things and Do Them Well**

Kurt Ulrich, City Administrator

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**Employee Spotlight:**

- **Logan Czech**, Engineering Tech II
- **Aaron Madsen**, Engineering Tech IV
- **Joe Feriancek**, Civil Engineer II
- **Leonard Linton**, Civil Engineer IV
- **Bruce Westby**, City Engineer
- **Marsha Weidner**, Engineering Assistant
The City Council has adopted the 2020 Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. These rates represent the fees charged for city services including utility services for water, sewer, storm water management, street lighting, and recycling. The following chart outlines the new 2020 utility rates in comparison with 2019 rates. These new rates went into effect January 1, 2020. Most residents will see the rate change for applicable services on their first quarter utility statement distributed in April 2020.

### Council Adopts 2020 Utility Rates

The City of Ramsey Utilities Department has been collecting and testing water samples each month for manganese concentrations. To date, all samples have fallen below the 100 parts per billion (ppb) set by the Minnesota Department of Health for bottle-fed infants 12 months or younger. This information may be viewed at www.cityoframsey.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=180.

The City continues to utilize only City wells with the lowest concentration of manganese. If you have any questions about manganese levels or our municipal water supply, please contact Utilities Supervisor John Nelson at 763-433-9861 or jnelson@cityoframsey.com.

### Update on Manganese Levels in Municipal Water Supply

The City of Ramsey Utilities Department has been collecting and testing water samples each month for manganese concentrations. To date, all samples have fallen below the 100 parts per billion (ppb) set by the Minnesota Department of Health for bottle-fed infants 12 months or younger. This information may be viewed at www.cityoframsey.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=180.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Utility</th>
<th>2019 Rate</th>
<th>2020 Rate</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycling Fee:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>$8.85</td>
<td>$8.85</td>
<td>No Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sewer Rates:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential/Single Dwelling</td>
<td>$74.40</td>
<td>$75.14</td>
<td>+$0.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial/Multi-Family</td>
<td>$74.40</td>
<td>$75.14</td>
<td>+$0.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum up to 20,000 gallons</td>
<td>$3.13/1000 gal.</td>
<td>$3.13/1000 gal.</td>
<td>No Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>20,001 + gallons of water</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street Light Rates:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential/Apartment Priority Street Light</td>
<td>$1.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential Urban Subdivision</td>
<td>$9.01</td>
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<td>No Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential Rural Subdivision</td>
<td>$14.85</td>
<td>$14.85</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm Water Management Rates:</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>$15.95</td>
<td>$15.95</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>$63.80/REU</td>
<td>$63.80/REU</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Rates:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum Usage (up to 15,000 gallons)</td>
<td>$40.20</td>
<td>$41.10</td>
<td>+$0.90</td>
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<td>15,001-25,000 gallons</td>
<td>$2.76/1000 gal.</td>
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<td>25,001-40,000 gallons</td>
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<td>40,001-60,000 gallons</td>
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<td>$3.11/1000 gal.</td>
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<td>60,001-99,000 gallons</td>
<td>$3.26/1000 gal.</td>
<td>$3.33/1000 gal.</td>
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<td>99,001-201,000 gallons</td>
<td>$3.61/1000 gal.</td>
<td>$3.69/1000 gal.</td>
<td>+$0.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>201,001 + gallons</td>
<td>$4.31/1000 gal.</td>
<td>$4.40/1000 gal.</td>
<td>+$0.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other/Miscellaneous Utility Rates:</td>
<td>$30.00/ACCT</td>
<td>$30.00/ACCT</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Fee for Unpaid Items Assessed</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penalty/late payment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FYI:** “A smile takes but a moment, but the memories of it last forever.”

**Dr. Terry Barnett, D.D.S.**

**7962 Sunwood Dr. NW, Ste. 200**

**Ramsey, MN 55303**

**Across from Coborn’s**

**763.712.9715**

**www.barnettfamilydentistry.com**

**In House Discount Plans**

**PAYMENTS:** To pay by EFT, debit or credit card, visit www.cityoframsey.com, or call 844-428-5626.

**SAVE TIME AND MONEY:** Consider enrolling in e-Bill and/or Auto Pay on your city utility account. Setup is quick and easy. Register at www.cityoframsey.com or call 763-576-4343 for more information.
Acceptable Materials | Charge
--- | ---
Appliances | 
Standard Household Appliances | $10.00 ea
Water Softeners | $15.00 ea
Tires | 
Passenger/Light Truck (on/off rim) | $5.00 ea
Semi/Tractor (on/off rim) | $15.00 ea
Fluorescent Bulbs | 
Up to 4-ft. Tubes, Circular, CFL and Incandescent | $1.00 ea
Over 4-ft. Tubes, HID and LED Bulbs | $2.00 ea
Mattresses & Box Springs | 
Mattresses & Box Springs (any condition) | $20.00 ea
Carpet | 
Dry Residential Carpet and Carpet Padding | $20.00 per load
No rubber backed carpet, carpet tile, or wool carpet. No tack strips, nails or staples.
Electronics | 
Computer Monitors | $20.00 ea
TVs (0-20 inch) | $20.00 ea
TVs (21-30 inch) | $25.00 ea
TVs (31 inch and up and Wood Consoles) | $30.00 ea
Desktop Printers, Copiers, Scanners and Misc. Electronics | $5.00 ea
Laptops, CPUs (towers) | FREE
Batteries | 
Alkaline, Nickel Cadmium, Nickel Metal Hydride, Lithium Ion, Silver Oxide, Silver Zinc, Mercury, and Sealed Lead Acid | FREE
Textiles (USAgain), place items in bag(s). No shoes, clothes, belts, hats, purses, linens, bedding, towels, jackets and coats | FREE
Scrap Metal (ACE solid waste) | All non-metal parts and fluids must be removed | FREE
Used Oil (East Side Oil Companies) | Used Oil, Oil Filters, and Antifreeze | bring empty containers home to dispose | FREE
Standard Household Materials (ACE) | Food & Beverage Glass Containers | FREE
Aluminum, Steel & Tin Cans | FREE
Newspaper, Magazines, Cardboard | FREE
Plastic Bottles, tubs and lids (up to 1 gallon size) | FREE

FREE Document Destruction/Paper Shredding
All types of paper accepted, no need to remove staples, paper clips or rubber bands! No 3-ring binders. Limit of 3 boxes (12” x 12” x 24”) per vehicle.

Please Note:
- Certain road accesses may be temporarily closed during the event for traffic control purposes. Please visit www.cityoframsey.com to view a map for the event.
- At certain times during the recycling event, you may experience a short waiting time due to heavy traffic. Please be patient and we will serve you as quickly as possible.
- The following is the order in which materials will be unloaded at the event, please load your vehicle accordingly:
  - Used oil, oil filters and antifreeze
  - Textiles
  - Paper shredding
  - Carpet
  - Scrap metal and curbside recyclables
  - Tires
  - Fluorescent bulbs & batteries
  - Electronics
  - Mattresses & box springs
  - Appliances

Materials NOT Accepted:
- Garbage of any kind
- Yard and tree waste
- Window/door glass panes
- Plastic containers > 1 gallon
- Construction debris, paint, or other household hazardous waste materials identified by Staff.
- Furniture (except mattresses/box springs)

All fees payable to Evergreen Recycling. Fees will be collected at event entrance. Cash or check only. Funded by the Anoka County Board of Commissioners and State SCORE funds (Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment).

Spring Recycling Day Event Saturday, May 2, 2020 8:00 am to 12:00 noon Ramsey Public Works Campus, 14100 Jaspur St NW, Ramsey MN For more information call 763-433-9817

Summer Internships
The City of Ramsey is seeking multiple interns for three different departments this summer. The work schedule and duration vary depending on the department; however, most begin in April and will end by late August to early October. The 2020 wage ranges from $12.00 to $14.00 per hour. Minimum qualifications vary depending on the internship; however, all internships require candidates to meet the following requirements: 1) status as a current college student or recent graduate seeking experience, 2) demonstrate proficient Microsoft Office skills, 3) possess excellent written and verbal communications skills, and 4) hold a valid driver’s license with a good driving record.

Planning Intern – will assist Community Development staff with multiple ongoing City functions, projects and events, and variety of land use planning and zoning administration activities.
Administration Intern – will work with Administrative Services staff in facilitating and/or coordinating multiple City events, including annual Happy Days Festival on Saturday, September 12, 2020. Engineering Intern – will provide assistance to Engineering staff for the summer construction season and projects.

Visit the Employment & Volunteering tab on the City’s website: www.cityoframsey.com to view the full job description and to apply online. These positions are open until filled, however, we will begin reviewing applications as early as March 23, so if you are interested, please apply as soon as possible. Questions can be directed to Sue Hurd 763-433-9816.

Seeking Summer Seasonal Workers
The City of Ramsey is currently accepting applications for temporary seasonal maintenance workers to work full-time in the Public Works Department. The primary objectives of the position includes providing general maintenance of parks, trails, buildings, related facilities, streets and utilities through the spring, summer and fall months. Applicants must have a valid Minnesota Driver’s License, be at least 18 years of age, and be available to work Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:30 am and 3:30 pm. The starting wage for new hires is up to $12.00 per hour.

Visit the Employment & Volunteering tab on the City’s website: www.cityoframsey.com to view the full job description and to apply online. These positions are open until filled, however, we will begin reviewing applications as early as March 23, so if you are interested, please apply as soon as possible. Questions can be directed to Sue Hurd 763-433-9816.

Summer Jobs!
Happy Days Festival is September 12

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 12, for the 22nd Annual Happy Days Festival.

The Happy Days Festival would not be the celebration that it is today without the support of our sponsors and the dedication of the Happy Days Committee Volunteers. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to get involved; many rewarding sponsorship and volunteer opportunities are available for the 2020 Festival. The Happy Days Committee welcomes all interested individuals or groups who want to play a role in planning this exciting community event.

Registration to be a Happy Days Food or Expo Vendor opens in April. These events have a maximum capacity cap and vendors will be selected by the Happy Days Committee. Parade and Dog Show applications will also open in April; we take an unlimited number of applications for these events.

For more information, visit www.cityoframsey.com/343 or contact Event Coordinator Megan Thorstad at mthorstad@cityoframsey.com or by calling 763-433-9831.

Business Spotlight: Life Fitness

Life Fitness has been a staple of the Ramsey community for more than 15 years. “Ramsey is vital to our global production,” said Ramsey Life Fitness President Chris Clawson. “It is where we produce more products than anywhere else in the world and we’re excited to continue our commitment to the growth of the community as we expand.”

In 2016, the company expanded its Ramsey facility increasing the size of its factory to a total of more than 333,000 square feet. Currently, the Life Fitness Ramsey factory employs 460 people and produces more than 140 different commercial strength products for Life Fitness as well as Hammer Strength products. Additionally, Ramsey produces welded components for Life Fitness cardiovascular fitness equipment that are shipped for full assembly at other company locations.

For more than 45 years, Life Fitness has been dedicated to creating fitness solutions that benefit both facilities and exercisers. Their mission is to keep people active started with the Lifecycle exercise bike and continues with the widest range of cardio, strength and group training products in the fitness industry.

Life Fitness is the global leader in commercial fitness equipment, game tables and furnishings. The company manufactures and sells its strength and cardiovascular equipment, productive well-being equipment, billiards tables and accessories, and game room furniture under the brand names Life Fitness, Hammer Strength, Cybex, SCIFIT, InMovement and Brunswick Billiards.

The Public Right-of-Way

The road Right of Way (ROW) is the strip of land between the center line on the road and private property line. Depending on the road, this area can be anywhere from 60 to 120 feet. The narrower distance being on residential streets and the larger area is retained for collector streets, county roads and state highways.

Almost all small utilities run in this easement, such as natural gas, electricity, cable TV, internet and phone lines. Depending on the area of town you live in, you may also have sanitary sewer and water lines buried in ROW, as well as storm water pipes or ditches. This area also contains power poles, traffic signage, street lights, etc.

The City of Ramsey Public Works Department is responsible for most ROW maintenance, though private utilities are allowed to work on their equipment in the ROW as well. The areas of maintenance that the City normally takes care of are as follows:

Tree Pruning/Removal:

This area is probably the most common ROW maintenance activity. This type of work is normally conducted in the late fall or winter months. The most common complaints we receive are when tree branches start growing into the roadway and begin to hit large vehicles, such as school buses, garbage trucks, RV’s, etc.

The other area of vegetation removal has to do with sight lines at intersections. This is when brush, tall grass or trees are obstructing a motorist’s view of oncoming traffic, making it difficult to pull in to traffic safely.

Storm Water Drainage:

As time passes, vegetation starts to build up in our ditch system, causing minor backups. This vegetation and debris must be excavated to ensure the free flow of storm water. The cleaning of cross culverts and culverts running under the roadway are another area of storm water maintenance.

Sign Installation:

Traffic signs are installed in the ROW to inform motorists of potential changes in speed, alignment, pedestrians, etc. When possible, signs are installed on the property line between adjoining properties.

Utility Work:

Small utilities such as gas, electric, cable, etc. have the right to work in the ROW to repair their infrastructure. Before they can perform the repair, they must obtain a permit from the City granting them permission to work in our ROW. City services may also need to be excavated and repaired in the case of a water main break, sanitary sewer back up, storm water infrastructure, etc.
Help Report Blocked Rail Crossings

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is requesting the public’s help in collecting specific data regarding the date, time, location and duration of blocked traffic crossings due to railcars. The FRA will use the information collected to gain a more complete picture of where, when and how long such obstructions occur and what impacts result from these blocked crossings. The FRA will share the information with stakeholders, using it to help facilitate local solutions to blocked crossing issues.

Blocked crossings occur when stopped trains impede the flow of motor vehicle or pedestrian traffic at railroad tracks for extended periods of time. Communities have long dealt with the issue of blocked crossings, and FRA is now seeking broad public input to better understand the scope of the problem and engage with affected parties to identify potential solutions.

Blocked crossings pose potential safety risks, specifically in locations where trains routinely hinder roadway and pedestrian movement for extended periods. Frustrated drivers may attempt to clear the crossing before a train arrives. Likewise, pedestrians may be tempted to crawl between stopped railcars. Further, blocked crossings make people late for work, school and appointments, and contribute to roadway congestion.

The agency expects it will take an average of three minutes to clear the crossing before a train arrives. Likewise, pedestrians may be tempted to crawl between stopped railcars. Further, blocked crossings make people late for work, school and appointments, and contribute to roadway congestion.

The agency expects it will take an average of three minutes for users to complete the report. Residents can record blocked crossing issues directly at www.fra.dot.gov/blockedcrossings.

Snow Information

Information on the City policy for snow removal, ice control and boulevard staking can be found on the City website at www.cityoframsey.com/253. Ramsey also has an after-hours snowplow information line at 763-433-9852, which is updated and monitored during the snowplow season. During regular business hours you can contact the Public Works Department directly at 763-433-9820.

Planning a Construction Project - Apply for a Permit Today!

Starting a construction project and want to get started as soon as spring arrives? Now is the time to get building permit applications and plans submitted for review to beat the spring rush! Building permits for projects such as decks, porches and accessory buildings can be issued well before the summer weather is upon us. Once issued, MN Building Code allows the applicant 180 days to begin the project. It is not required to be completed within that time frame. Building Code also allows a 180 day extension each time an inspection is recorded.

Applying for a building permit has never been easier. The City has an electronic permit application process. To learn more, visit our website at www.cityoframsey.com/permits and look for the ePermits button. Avoid the wait - apply for your summer construction permit today!
Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a small green insect that attacks and kills all Minnesota native species of ash trees (Green Ash, White Ash, and Black Ash). The adult beetles feed on the leaves of ash trees, which causes no real harm to the tree. The real damage to ash trees comes from the EAB larvae that feed on the tissues underneath the bark and, unfortunately, by the time the damage is done, it is usually too late to save the tree(s).

Winter and early spring, before the leaves bud out, is a great time to inspect your ash trees for possible signs of EAB. Woodpecker damage is one of the best potential early indicators of EAB as they feed on EAB larvae underneath the bark. Keep an eye out for ‘blonding’ of the bark, where the grayish bark has blonde or cream colored patches as a result of woodpecker activity. Vertical cracks may also appear on the surface of the tree. EAB larvae form galleries under the bark as they feed, which can cause splits in the bark. Peeling back the bark may reveal their distinct S-shaped galleries.

The adult EAB flight season is considered to be May through September. Within this time, avoid transporting infested ash wood to different locations. Like some other pests/diseases, EAB is easily spread by transporting infested firewood. So, unless the firewood is Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) certified, do not transport it across or within Minnesota’s borders.

If you detect or think you detect EAB; note the location, take a digital photo, and contact the City of Ramsey at 763-433-9817 or by email at canderson@cityoframsey.com or visit: http://www.cityoframsey.com/EAB.

It’s Safety Camp Time

It’s time to start thinking about summer fun and making plans for your kids! The Ramsey Kids’ Safety Camp is a great place to start the summer out safely. The focus is on preventing unintentional injuries and deaths to children.

The 19th Annual Ramsey Kids Safety Camp will be on June 16-17, at Elmcrest Park in Ramsey. Camp is limited to 144 second and third grade (2019-2020 school year) children and will be filled on a first-come basis. A registration fee of $30 includes activities, supplies, snacks and lunches, bike helmet and t-shirt. Limited scholarships are available. Register online at www.ci.ramsey.mn.us/193/Kids-Safety-Camp. For more information, call 763-433-9890 or mschantzen@cityoframsey.com.

Spring Starwatch Party

Make the stars your old friends as we watch the great celestial show in the skies over Ramsey. We’ll also use large reflecting telescopes to view the moon, Saturn, star clusters, galaxies and other celestial wonders in our Spring skies.

Instructor Mike Lynch will also bring a telescope-astrophotography system for really distant targets such as galaxies millions of light years away. Mike Lynch is a meteorologist at WCCO Radio and has been hosting star parties and teaching astronomy classes for over 48 years.

Even if it’s cloudy you’ll learn a lot, have a great time and get a Mike Lynch “Cloud Check” for a future Minnesota Starwatch Class. This event will be held at Elmcrest Park on Friday, March 27, from 7:45 – 9:45 pm. Registration is required. Fee is $10 per person. To register or for more information, please visit: www.cityoframsey.com/ParkEvents.

Assistant Professor, Lucie Eisenreich

The Ramsey Seniors Club meets regularly on the fourth Thursday of each month, at 12:00 noon, at Ramsey Fire Station #1, 15050 Armstrong Boulevard NW.

Meetings feature a variety of interesting programs, as well as a potluck lunch.

The Ramsey Seniors Club would like to thank everyone who helps make their meetings a success and to remind all seniors that everyone is welcome to attend; you do not have to be a resident of Ramsey. Please call 763-421-5793 for more information.

President, Lucie Eisenreich

Driver Improvement Classes for 55+

The Ramsey Lions are offering to Ramsey and Nowthen residents a chance to take Driver Improvement Classes.

Classes will be held at the Ramsey Municipal Center, Alexander Ramsey Room, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey. For more information and to sign up for classes, please call 1-320-308-1400 or visit www.mnsafetycenter.org.

4 Hour Refresher Class (Repeat Student)

Thursday, April 9, 2020
4:30 – 8:30 pm

2020 Bike Helmet - Sale and Fitting Clinics

Helmet use is the most effective way to reduce bicycle-related fatalities. About 567,000 people go to the hospital emergency department with bicycle-related injuries each year; 350,000 of them are children under 15. Of those children, about 130,000 sustain brain injuries. Safe Kids Anoka County wants to make sure your family has bike helmets. In March, April and May, they will be traveling around the county distributing and properly fitting bike helmets. There will be stylish brand new “True-Fit” Bell helmet for sale - while supplies last. They are also happy to fit helmets you already own. No appointments necessary.

To view upcoming clinics and cost of helmets, visit www.safekidsanoka.org.

President, Lucie Eisenreich
Pet Clinic

The Ramsey Police Department is hosting its annual Pet Clinic on Sunday, May 17, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at Elmcrest Park, 16303 Quicksilver Street NW.

At the clinic, a licensed veterinarian will be on site to provide free exams and discounted vaccines for your dog or cat. City of Ramsey staff will also be on hand to provide free dog licenses. All animals must be leashed or in a pet carrier.

Lab tests, microchip registration and prescription products are also available for purchase (prices and vaccinations subject to change based on availability). Cash, check and credit cards accepted.

Ramsey City Code requires all dogs to be licensed with the City, and vaccinated against rabies. If your dog has been vaccinated recently, but you do not have a current license, licenses can be obtained at the clinic by bringing in your pet’s current rabies vaccination certificate.

This is a great opportunity to protect you, your pet and your community through low-cost pet vaccinations. For more information, contact the Ramsey Police Department at 763-427-6812. For vaccination pricing, please visit our website: www.cityoframsey.com/183.

Free Car Seat Inspections for Anoka County Residents

Safe Kids Anoka County offers several car seat clinics throughout the year for Anoka County residents to have their children evaluated and car seats inspected by trained technicians. Four out of five car seats are installed wrong! Get yours checked. Appointments are required and take approximately 30-45 minutes. To register for an upcoming car seat clinic visit www.safekidsanoka.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>4:00 - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Anoka PD</td>
<td>763-576-2800</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>4:00 - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Centennial Fire #3</td>
<td>763-784-2501</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>4:00 - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Ramsey Fire #2</td>
<td>763-433-9890</td>
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