



City of St. Francis now has a text alert/advisory system available

To sign up to receive alert and advisory text messages from the City of St. Francis, text "FRANCIS" to 888-777.

You can sign up for Community messages at www.nixle.com and manage your account settings at www.nixle.com > enter your zip code> click green Sign Up tab>

fill out informational form.

Starting September 5 you will be able to sign up through www.stfrancismn.org > subscribe on the homepage. Turn to page 6 to find out more about cell phone carrier restrictions.

Text messages may include:

Alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evacuations • Hazardous material spills • Large public building fires • Active shooter • Water use restrictions • Imminent threats to the public • Sewer backup issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildland fire • Tornadoes • Missing persons • Life threatening weather • Criminal activity that poses a threat • Drinking water health issues
Advisory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic impacts due to fire • Training operations (public safety) • Burglaries (clustered crime) • School lockdown • Planned detours/ road maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter roadway benching • Burning restrictions • Road closures • Hazardous weather • Hydrant flushing • Water tower painting • Liquor store closing
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public education • Fire fighter hiring event notification – reserve hiring • Safety reminders • Extra DWI enforcement • Other public safety announcements • Job openings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling events • Crosswalk safety • Fertilizing/spraying parks • Ice rink notifications • Citizen engagement • Community meetings • Election information

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Message from your Mayor

I want to let everyone know that I made it through my last surgery and am happy to say, as of July 6, I am cancer free. I also want to thank all of you for your support and kind words through this ordeal.

I have begun to walk about our City and talk to you on what is happening in our City and unlike the first time I ran for

office, I have a lot more to talk about. First I would like to mention the 20 percent reduction in water and sewer rates will show up on your September billing. This could be done because of the new development that is happening now and scheduled to happen in the near future.

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Visit us on social media!





At the August 6 City Council meeting, the City received an award acknowledging its participation in the GreenStep Cities program. The City of St. Francis entered the program as a Step 1 city and will continue to work toward becoming a Step 5 city. The GreenStep Cities program is a statewide initiative for cities to achieve sustainability goals through the implementation of best practices focused on cost savings, energy use reductions and innovation. This is a free and voluntary program for cities to learn and collaborate with public-private partnerships on improvements within building and lighting, land use, transportation, environmental management, economic and community development. This five-step program allows cities the flexibility to move through the steps at their own pace. If you are interested in learning more about this partnership, information is available at <https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us>.

Local offices on November 6 Ballot

Mayor

Two-Year Term

Amy Faanes
Steven Feldman

Two Council Members

Four-Year Term

Kevin Robinson
Mike Rodger
Rich Skordahl
Sarah Udvig

Vote before election day!

Absentee voting will begin September 24 in St. Francis and run through November 5, 2018. St. Francis residents are able to vote absentee by coming into City Hall during regular business hours Monday-Thursday, 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Saturday, November 3, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Polling locations have changed. Both Precinct 1 and Precinct 2 will vote at the St. Francis Area Schools District Office located at 4115 Ambassador Boulevard NW on November 6. Polls are open 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

City of St. Francis Recycle Events

LePage and Sons Recycle Day Events

Saturdays
September 15
October 20
9:00 a.m.-Noon

23602 University
Avenue NW
Bethel, MN 55055

FREE
**Paper Shredding &
Leaf Drop-Off Event**
Saturday, October 27
8:00 a.m.-Noon

St. Francis Police &
Public Works Facility
4020 St. Francis
Boulevard NW

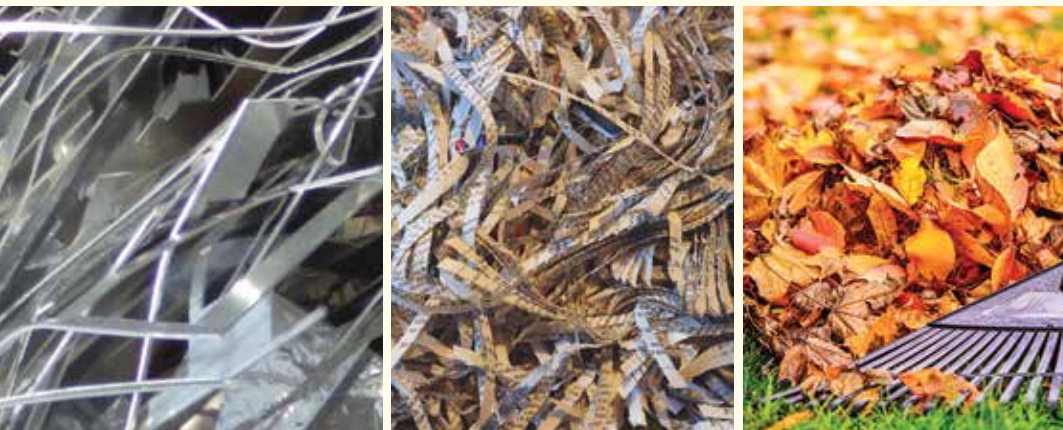
FREE
Leaf Drop-Off Event
ONLY
Saturday, November 10
8:00 a.m.-Noon

St. Francis Police &
Public Works Facility
4020 St. Francis
Boulevard NW

Chlorides in wastewater

Public Works staff would like to remind residents to make sure their water softeners are operating efficiently. As many of you know, when the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency renewed our wastewater permit in 2015, we were given a chloride limit; this is where we need your assistance. The main cause of high chlorides in wastewater is from water softeners. When a water softener goes into regeneration mode, the salt water (chlorides) used to regenerate the softener is discharged into the City's wastewater system. High chloride levels can have a negative effect on the ecosystem of streams, rivers and lakes. The drinking water in St. Francis is around 13 grains per gallon. Adjusting your softeners accordingly will help in keeping chloride levels down.

www.knowtheflow.us



Questions? Please call Public Works at 763-233-5200.

Mayor*Continued from page 1*

As you have probably heard me say:

The surest and best way for the rates to be reduced will be by expanding our user base through long-term reputable development.

Here is what is happening in our City:

Woodhaven 6th Addition

Approved for 55 mobile home lots, currently under construction (located on Hwy. 47 next to City Hall).

Kwik Trip

Coming in the spring of 2019 located at the intersection of 233rd Avenue NW and Hwy. 47.

Meridian Behavioral Center

Coming fall of 2018 to the spring of 2019 (located across from the police/public works building on Hwy. 47).

Rivers Edge Development

Two hundred single family lots. The first phase is 23 lots with the utilities currently under construction (located on Quay Street off of 235th Avenue NW and Rum River Boulevard).

Assisted Living Facility

There will be 81 to 90 units coming in the spring of 2019 (located on Bridge Street adjacent to Casey's across from the St. Francis Library).

The City through the Economic Development Authority (EDA) has been purchasing old, dilapidated properties on Bridge Street. This is being done to clear the way for future retail development with feedback from our residents in the St. Francis Forward plan.

Our City is finally headed in the right direction and with residents working with staff and city council, that forward momentum will continue.

The City has in place a program called Nixle. It's a way for you to get alerts and notifications is free and easy to sign up. Text "Francis" (not case sensitive) to 888-777. I think you are going to like it.

I want to remind everyone if you have a concern or issue, please call City Hall so that we can address it. We will look into your issue with full due diligence. You may not get the answer you want to hear but you will know that the answer we give you will have been fully researched and truthful.

Enjoy the fall weather/colors and please be careful with our children going to school.

Regards,
Mayor Feldman

Illegal dumping—stormwater information

Although grass or yard waste can seem natural and harmless, excess grass clippings and yard waste does pose a threat to the health of our waters. Once they are in the water they begin to decay and then release nutrients that contribute to the green stuff or algae (toxic algae blooms) you see on the surface of the water. An excess of algae will use up the oxygen in the water, which in turn suffocates any aquatic species living in the water. This can also be very toxic to your pets.

Refrain from dumping leaves and grass clippings, etc., into any stormwater pond near your home. Please make sure your lawn care services are also aware of this law. The City will incur costs to clean up any illegal dumping and it could potentially raise your stormwater fees and can result in a citation for illegal dumping.

City Code/Summary: 10-93-12. – Illicit Discharge.

No person shall throw, deposit, place, leave, maintain or keep, nor permit to be thrown, placed, left, maintained or kept, any refuse, rubbish, garbage, leaves, grass or any other discarded or abandoned objects, articles, accumulations, or pollutants, in or upon any street, alley, sidewalk, storm drain, inlet, catch basin conduit or drainage structure, business place or upon any public or private plot of land in the City, so that the same might enter a public water, except in containers, recycling bags or other lawfully established waste disposal facility.

If you see anyone violating this City Code, please contact the Public Works Department at 763-233-5200 to report them.

Thank you for your cooperation. Keeping grass and yard waste out of the streets and stormwater ponds is an important act of protection for our waters.

**Did You Know?**

It is the property owner's duty to cut grass and weeds from their property line, including the boulevard of such property to the middle of the street.

City Code: 7-2-6 – Regulation of grass, weeds and trees.

C. Duty of property owners to cut grass and weeds and maintain trees and shrubs.

1. Every owner of property abutting on any street shall cause the grass and weeds to be cut from the line of such property nearest to such street to the center of such street. If the grass or weeds in such a place attain a height in excess of six (6) inches it shall be prima facie evidence of a failure to comply with this Subdivision.



Back to School Safety Tips

Summer is once again coming to an end and back-to-school time is upon us. The St. Francis Police Department would like to give everyone the following safety tips for the new school year:

- Students that are riding their bikes to school should make sure to use a bike lock.
- Parents, please have your child keep their helmet in their locker.
- When crossing Hwy. 47, please inform your child to use the crosswalk located at Pederson Drive and Hwy. 47 and to make sure traffic is stopped before crossing.
- When at the crosswalk, please encourage your child to push the button to activate the crosswalk flashing lights. This gives motorists a warning that the crosswalk is being used and to yield to all pedestrians.
- For students driving to school, please avoid keeping valuables in their vehicle.
- Allow yourself extra time when traveling before and after school to account for the increased amount of traffic that we will encounter with school being back in session.

The safety of our community and our children is very important to us. By following these tips, you will assist the police department in making sure that everyone has a safe and successful school year.



Bus stop safety... please watch for children

- With school starting soon, drivers should be aware of children walking to and from the bus stop, as well as getting on and off the school buses.
- Slow down.
- The law requires vehicles to stop at least 20 feet from a school bus that is displaying its flashing lights and the stop arm is out.
- A recent survey showed that 2,621 bus drivers counted 530 stop arm violations in one day.

The police department will have extra traffic enforcement before and after school, so please obey speed limits and yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks.

Gun Safety with Eddie Eagle

The Eddie Eagle class is returning for children who are currently in elementary school. Just as Smokey Bear teaches children not to play with matchbooks, Eddie Eagle teaches them not to play with firearms with a simple, memorable four-part plan:

- If you see a gun STOP!
- Don't touch
- Leave the area
- Tell an adult

Whether or not a particular family owns firearms, chances are neighbors, friends and



relatives do. Did you know that officials estimate there are over 200 million firearms in the United States? Studies suggest they are kept in approximately half of all households. This makes it likely that children will encounter a firearm at some point, so make sure they are informed.

The classes will be held on Thursday, November 8 at the St. Francis Police Department, 4058 St. Francis Boulevard NW, St. Francis. There are two age groups: kindergartners–2nd grade at 4:30 p.m. and 3rd–5th graders at 6:00 p.m.



St. Francis curfew laws

Juveniles must abide by city curfew laws.

- Juveniles under 12 years of age must be home by 9:00 p.m. on weekdays and 10:00 p.m. on weekends.
- Juveniles 12 to 14 years of age must be home by 10:00 p.m. on weekdays and 11:00 p.m. on weekends.
- Juveniles 15 to 17 years of age must be home by 11:00 p.m. on weekdays and midnight on weekends.

Exceptions to the curfew laws apply when the juvenile is attending, going to or returning from school, church or community sponsored athletic, musical or social activities.

Please "like" our St. Francis Police Department Facebook page. We provide information regarding local events, safety tips and press releases for major incidents. You can also send us your questions through private messages and tips on any recent crimes that have taken place.





Winning with Cops aids developmentally disabled children and adults in overcoming life's obstacles through exercise, team sports and positive interaction. Follow the St. Francis Police Department on Facebook to see what and when our next event will be this fall!

Consumer tips to avoid internet scams

Despite the upside of technology, cyber crime is a potential pitfall of all that time spent online. The internet provides instant access, and that can put users at risk.

- Consider your safety first when buying product on line.
- Beware of internet payment services that you are asked to access through a link or in the body of an email. Links can be masked and logos and trademarks can be fake.
- Don't be rushed. If someone really wants to do business with you, they will wait.



- Be wary of wiring money to a party that you do not know.
- Cashier's checks are NOT the same as cash. Just because the money appears to be available in your account does not mean that the check has cleared and is legitimate.
- Always be wary of someone who wants to pay more than you are asking or who wants to sell you an item at an unbelievably low price.



During National Fire Prevention Week October 7-13, St. Francis Fire Department firefighters will visit area elementary schools to teach students about fire safety and prevention.

For more tips about fire prevention and what to do in case of a fire, visit the National Fire Protection Association at www.nfpa.org.

Remember to check your smoke alarms when you change your clocks on November 4.

St. Francis Fire Department's French Toast Breakfast and Open House

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13
8:00 a.m. to Noon
St. Francis Fire Department

3740 Bridge Street, across from Subway
Free-will donations accepted

**Contact the
St. Francis Fire Department
at 763-753-2334 for
more information.**



CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!
Gopher State One Call
Local: 651-454-0002
Toll Free: 1-800-252-1166
www.gopherstateonecall.org

Family fire safety tips

Teach your kids how to respond in the event of a fire.

- Make sure young children know how to dial 911.
- Establish and practice a fire escape plan with your family that includes a designated meeting area outside the home.
- Practice stop, drop and roll with your children so they learn how to escape beneath a fire.
- Teach everyone in your family multiple ways to escape from every room in the event of a fire.
- Make sure that there is a sufficient quantity of smoke detectors in your home.
- Verify each month that smoke detectors are in working order.
- Make sure everyone in your family knows how to use a fire extinguisher.

- Do not place lit candles where they can be reached by children.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- Do not leave candles burning when you go to sleep.
- Don't leave cooking food unattended on the stove.
- Keep everything that might be flammable away from your stove.
- Make sure all flammable substances are properly stored in safe containers and out of reach of youngsters.

Outdoor Fall Fire Safety Tips

- Clear your roof and gutters of unnecessary build up of debris, such as pine needles and leaves.
- Learn the outdoor burning regulations in your area, and do not engage in illegal burning of leaves and other outdoor debris.

Safety Matters

There is nothing more important than the safety of your family. Everyone in your home needs to know how to behave responsibly to reduce the likelihood of experiencing a fire. However, because fires can start at any time without warning, it is also very important that the members of your household know how to react in the event of a fire. It's a good idea to review fire prevention and safety tips with your family every fall, and several other times throughout the year.

Nixle

Continued from page 1

Sprint

I am a SPRINT user and get a "Message Failed" response when I register using the 888777 shortcode. Why is that?

Sprint often disables access to all shortcodes (5 and 6 digit phone numbers) from their handsets. If you are a Sprint customer, and you receive a message such as "Message Failed. Shortcode may have expired or shortcode texting may be disabled," you may need to contact Sprint to enable your phone to send and receive messages from shortcodes. Nixle uses the 888777 shortcode to send you timely messages. Nixle does not charge for this service, but carrier message and data rates may apply. You may contact Sprint by dialing *2 on your cell phone or visiting www.sprint.com

T-Mobile

I am a T-MOBILE user and get a "Access Denied" response when I register using the 888777 shortcode. Why is that?

T-Mobile often disables access to all shortcodes (5 and 6 digit phone numbers) from their handsets. If you are a T-Mobile customer, and you receive a message such as "Message Failed. Shortcode may have expired or shortcode texting may be disabled," you may need to contact T-Mobile to enable your phone to send and receive messages from shortcodes.

Nixle uses the 888777 shortcode to send you timely messages. Nixle does not charge for this service, but carrier message and data rates may apply. You may contact T-Mobile by dialing 611 on your cell phone or visiting www.tmobile.com.



Fire Department training opportunities

The St. Francis Fire Department is hosting an Emergency Medical Technician Basic (EMT-B) course starting Monday, October 15. Classes run 5:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays through January. If you are interested in obtaining your EMT-B, contact Assistant Chief Lawrence at JLawrence@stfrancismn.org.





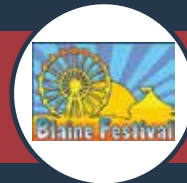
Thank You

Sponsors, Volunteers & Participants!

St. Francis Pioneer Days



On behalf of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, thank you to all the volunteers, sponsors & participants who made the 2018 Pioneer Days a fun & successful celebration.



Barna, Guzy & Steffen, Ltd.
Northstar Outdoors, Inc.
The Ponds Golf Course
TJ Associates
Rum River Tree Farm
St. Francis Subway
Skyline Graphics
Highland Money Management, Inc.
Schroeder's Creekside Stables
Northland Screw Products
Temperature Specialists, Inc.
Goodrich Pharmacy



Super America
St. Francis American Legion
American Family Insurance
Virtual Reality Arcade
Mansetti's Pizza & Pasta
St. Francis Dairy Queen
Elaine M. Mustari CPA, LLC
St. Francis True Value Hardware
St. Francis Bottle Shop
St. Francis Subway
Troy Ferguson
Patriot Lanes

Save The Date

2019 Pioneer Days - June 7th, 8th & 9th

Opportunities

Coupon Book - Parade Entries - Vendor Booths - Entertainment
Info at www.stfrancischamber.org/pioneer-days
Looking forward to seeing you next year!!





23340 Cree Street NW
St. Francis, MN 55070

PRESORTED
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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 8
St. Francis, MN
55070

ECRWSS POSTAL PATRON

Events Calendar

- September 3:** Labor Day – City Offices Closed
 - September 4:** School begins for St. Francis Area Schools
 - September 7:** Friday Nite Rally Car Show begins at 5:00 p.m., St. Francis City Centre Mall, last one of the year
 - September 8:** City-Wide Garage Sale begins at 8:00 a.m.
 - September 15:** Recycling Event, LePage and Sons, 9:00 a.m.-noon
 - October 8:** Columbus Day – City Offices Closed
 - October 13:** French Toast Breakfast & Open House at St. Francis Fire Department, 8:00 a.m.-noon
 - October 20:** Recycling Event, LePage and Sons, 9:00 a.m.-noon
 - October 27:** FREE Paper Shredding & Leaf Drop-Off at Public Works Facility, 8:00 a.m.-noon
 - October 31:** St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Business to Business Trick or Treat
 - November 6:** General Election – Polls Open 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
 - November 8:** Gun Safety with Eddie Eagle at St. Francis Police Department (See article on page 4 for more info)
 - November 10:** Leaf Drop-Off ONLY at Public Works Facility 8:00 a.m.-noon
 - November 12:** Veterans Day – City Offices Closed
 - November 22:** Thanksgiving Day – City Offices Closed
- For a full list of events—visit the city's website www.stfrancismn.org*

City Council Meetings

First and third Monday each month at 6:00 p.m.
(If a holiday, the meeting will be Tuesday.)

Planning Commission Meetings

Third Wednesday each month at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are held at
St. Francis Area Schools District Office
4115 Ambassador Boulevard NW

Agendas and minutes online:www.stfrancismn.org

City Hall Location

23340 Cree Street NW
St. Francis, MN 55070

Hours Monday-Thursday 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Contact Us city@stfrancismn.org 763-753-2630

Website www.stfrancismn.org

City Council

Mayor Steve Feldman	763-235-2310
Council Member Rich Skordahl	763-235-2311
Council Member Robert Bauer	763-235-2312
Council Member Jerry Tveit	763-235-2313
Council Member Joe Muehlbauer	763-235-2314