

CITY UPDATE

Fall/Winter 2019

LED Rebates

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Snow Removal

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Census 2020


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A person wearing dark pants and boots is using a shovel to clear snow from a sidewalk. The shovel is filled with a large pile of white snow. The background is a snowy surface.

WHEN SNOW IS HERE, YOU HAVE 24 HOURS TO CLEAR!

Winter can be a difficult time for pedestrians using sidewalks and paths to safely get to school, work and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Fairmont City Code requires property owners or tenants with a sidewalk next to their property to fully remove snow and ice within 24 hours after the snow and ice has stopped falling.

Fairmont City Code: Section 23-3(a): All snow and ice remaining upon public sidewalks is a public nuisance and shall be abated by the owner or tenant of the abutting private property within twenty-four (24) hours after such snow or ice has ceased to be deposited.

A close-up of a Christmas tree decorated with warm white lights, red and gold ornaments, and a small red gift box. The background is a soft, out-of-focus bokeh of warm lights.

ENERGY EFFICIENT HOLIDAYS

As you prepare for the holidays, consider making the switch to LED holiday lights. LED lighting uses up to 90% less electricity and lasts up to 10 times longer than regular lighting.

Fairmont Public Utilities is offering our electric customers rebates of up to \$12 for each plug-in string or decoration of energy-efficient LED holiday lighting purchased through the end of 2019.

fairmont.org/rebates

PLEASE HELP OUR SNOWPLOWS

During large snowfalls, crews may begin plowing as early as 3 a.m. and continue to plow throughout the day. Snowplow drivers rely on the public's help to ensure streets can be plowed safely and efficiently.

Remember:

- Stay alert to the winter weather forecasts.
- Place refuse and recycling containers in your driveway, not on the street, to prevent waste from being scattered.
- Please use off-street parking when possible to make it easier for snow to be cleared from the roadway.
- Do not dump snow into the street, in addition to being illegal, blowing snow in the street makes it difficult to see roadways. Snow should be blown onto your property, piled or removed off site.
- It is your responsibility to keep mailboxes clear to ensure postal delivery.
- Exercise caution when driving in icy and snowy conditions. Keep a safe distance back when following a snowplow and use caution when passing plowing equipment.
- Talk with children about snow and snowplow safety. Children should stay away from snow piled at the curb and avoid building forts in those piles.
- Please be aware of the snow emergency signage, implemented in 2018. Snow emergency routes, plow routes and snow removal information can be found at: fairmont.org/snowroutes and fairmont.org/snowpolicy





LESS IS MORE WHEN SALTING

Save money and protect our waters by using less salt this winter. While salt helps keep driveways and sidewalks ice-free, melting snow and ice can wash salt into nearby waters and harm aquatic wildlife.

Try these salt reducing tips.

- **Shovel.** The more snow and ice you remove manually, the less salt you'll have to use and the more effective it can be.
- **15 degrees (F) is too cold for salt.** Most salts stop working at this temperature. Use sand for traction, but remember sand does not melt ice.
- **Slow down.** Drive for the conditions and give snowplow drivers plenty of space.
- **Apply less.** More salt doesn't mean more melting. Use less than 4 lbs. of salt per 1,000 square feet. One pound of salt is approximately a heaping 12oz. coffee mug. Consider purchasing a hand-held spreader to help apply a consistent amount.
- **Sweep up extra.** If salt is visible on dry pavement, it is no longer doing any work and will be washed away. Use this salt elsewhere or throw it away.

Information acquired from MN Pollution Control Agency

IF A HYDRANT'S NEAR ... KEEP IT CLEAR!

- Clear at least 3 feet of snow all the way around the hydrant.
- Create a path from the hydrant to the street, but never shovel snow into the street.
- Use off-street parking when possible to allow access for emergency vehicles and for the roads to be cleared more efficiently.

**If there's a fire hydrant near your property,
do your part to keep it accessible this winter.**

Thank you for your cooperation.

~ The Fairmont Fire Department





It's coming in 2020 and its success is dependent on everyone's participation! By April 1, 2020, the Census Bureau plans to send a letter or door knocker to every U.S. household as part of its once-a-decade tradition of counting every living person in the United States. The massive undertaking of acquiring and compiling this data is important for states, counties, and communities.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

The data that will be collected by the 2020 Census are critical for states, counties, and communities. They will shape political representation, funding of government programs, the flow of business and commerce, and the planning and delivery of services to local communities. As the examples below show, the Census has far-reaching effects, holding relevance to many facets of our everyday life in Minnesota.



REPRESENTATION

Census data determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the size of voting districts for state and local governments.

Minnesota is at risk of losing a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.



FUNDING

Census data guides approximately \$589 billion in federal spending allocated to local communities each year, including more than \$15 billion distributed to Minnesota communities.

Even one missed person could mean forfeiting almost \$28,000 in funding for the next ten years.



PLANNING

Census data helps decision-makers plan roads, schools, hospitals, senior centers, and emergency services to best serve changing populations.

With accurate demographic data about Minnesota we can understand shifting community needs and efficiently direct resources to address them.



BUSINESS

Census data assists businesses in locating factories and stores, recruiting employees, and conducting market research.

Chambers of Commerce and other business organizations across Minnesota gain valuable insights by using census data.



Submit a request, track the progress and receive updates by email. Ask a question or find an answer to a commonly asked question. Do all this and more with the City of Fairmont Citizens Portal. With this easily accessible portal, you can be sure you are receiving complete, accurate information in a reasonable time frame. Access the 24/7/365 portal in one of two ways:

WEB PORTAL

Visit: www.fairmont.org

Click: "I Want To"

Select: "Submit A Citizen Request"

MOBILE APP

Open: the App Store or Google Play

Search: "Fairmont MN 311"

Download the App

HOLIDAY HOURS

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

CITY HALL

Thanksgiving Day:	Closed
Day after Thanksgiving:	Closed
Christmas Eve:	Closed
Christmas Day:	Closed
New Year's Eve:	Open 8 am – 4:30 pm
New Year's Day:	Closed
Martin Luther King Jr. Day:	Closed
President's Day:	Closed
Good Friday:	Closed

FAIRMONT LIQUOR STORE

Thanksgiving Day:	Closed
Day after Thanksgiving:	9 am – 10 pm
Christmas Eve:	9 am – 4:30 pm
Christmas Day:	Closed
New Year's Eve:	9 am – 9 pm
New Year's Day:	Closed
Martin Luther King Jr. Day:	9 am – 9 pm
President's Day:	9 am – 9 pm
Good Friday:	9 am – 10 pm

City Council

Meets 2nd & 4th Mondays at 5:30 pm
City Hall Council Chambers

Debbie Foster	236-8322	Mayor
Tom Hawkins	238-3678	Council Member At-Large
Bruce Peters	238-4507	Ward 1
Ruth Cyphers	236-2710	Ward 2
Randy Lubenow	236-3862	Ward 3
Wayne Hasek	399-9292	Ward 4

City Hall

Office hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont

Paul Hoye	238-3934	Finance Director
Michael Hunter	238-3178	Police Chief
Patty Monsen	238-3935	City Clerk
Troy Nemmers	238-3942	Public Works Director/City Engineer



CITY UPDATE

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MANKATO, MN
PERMIT NO.

*****ECRWSSSEDDM****

Residential Customer
Fairmont, MN 56031

SHOP WISELY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

YOUR CHOICE TO SHOP FAIRMONT LIQUOR IS
AN INVESTMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY!



FAIRMONT
LIQUOR

1755 Center Creek Drive, Fairmont, MN 56031 | 507-238-2269

Please drink responsibly.

