
City Viewpoint

Publication of the City of Cold Spring

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www.coldspring.govoffice.com

ROCORI TRAIL UPDATE

The Rocori Trail has been a cooperative between the cities of Rockville, Cold Spring and Richmond since 2004. Over the last year, great strides have been made:

- Established a joint powers board, named the Rocori Trail Construction Board, comprised of two members from each city.
- Worked with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railway on abandonment of the rail corridor. This work is ongoing and is very close to becoming a reality.
- Secured more than \$1.7 million in federal and state grants and local fundraising efforts.

The Rocori Trail will connect to the Glacial Lakes State Trail in Richmond and will travel east to Cold Spring and Rockville. To make the project more manageable the trail is split into phases:

- Phase 1 – 178th Avenue, just east of Richmond to Eastern Cold Spring city limits.
- Phase 2 – Eastern Cold Spring city limits to Western Rockville city limits
- Phase 3- Western Rockville city limits to Suburban Racquetball Club

Part of Phase 3 was constructed in 2009 in downtown Rockville. Construction of a portion of Phase 1 will likely occur in 2012 and the balance of the trail will depend on additional funds secured. The estimated construction cost of the entire trail is approximately \$3.6 million.

Once built the Rocori Trail will foster economic development in the three cities, provide an alternative mode of transportation, and offer recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

PUBLIC WORKS TO FLUSH WATERMAINS

The City Public Works Department will be flushing water mains Monday, April 25th through Tuesday, April 26th. During this time you will occasionally experience a reduction in water pressure.

Groundwater contains dissolved iron (rust color) and manganese (black color) which will oxidize into a solid and settle in the water mains. These minerals do not pose a health hazard but do create a problem with discoloration and/or sediment. Hydrant flushing causes a high velocity and scouring action in the water mains to remove these materials.

We encourage homeowners to do the same flushing after we've been through your area by opening several faucets at the same time until the water clears. Opening more faucets at the same time will increase the velocity and scouring action. This should only take a few minutes. You could wait until after April 26th to be certain that we are finished flushing. You

could also flush your water heater by opening the spigot at the bottom until the water clears. Your owners manual should also recommend this process. Most of the sediment in your water heater is a gradual build-up of minerals that were oxidized during the heating process. If you have questions, please feel free to call Paul Hoeschen at 685-3524.

LIBRARY UPDATE

For the last few years, there has been a great many discussions on how to properly address the need for more library space in Cold Spring. For those that believe that technology will make libraries obsolete, the facts actually continue to point in the opposite direction. Libraries are more than just a point to access information, but have established themselves as points where communities thrive, and ours in Cold Spring is no exception. With this in mind, a variety of locations for the Library's expansion have been considered which have included, but has not been limited to, renovating the Main Street ROCORI Middle School building, the Teal's Market Building with the idea of that business' relocation, and building in the Granite Landing development (formerly the location of the Cold Spring Granite Company facility). It has come to the City's attention in the last few weeks that a DNR Legacy funds grant could help fund a library complex. Such a building would also address other needs that the City was also looking into – namely a trailhead promenade along the railroad or what will one day be the ROCORI Trail. The grant could also be used to purchase trail land linking Lion's Park to the south up to Frogtown Park to the north. It has recently been suggested that this library complex could also house a museum and natural history center which has attracted the partnership of the Cold Spring Historical Society, the Sauk River Chain of Lakes Association, the Sauk River Watershed District, the Cold Spring Granite Company, local DNR officials, and others. This unique collaboration among the private, non-profit, and public sectors has created a positive, yet realistic energy that allows the opportunity for future services to be met as well as a funding source to create it and help fund it after it's built. A \$200,000 grant application was submitted to the DNR on March 31, but the financial planning for the complex will be on-going and your interest and input is welcomed. The various needs are not new, but the idea of bringing these needs under one roof is new. It is the City's goals to meet multiple needs, to strengthen tourism, and to create lasting cooperative relationships with a variety of entities which makes good fiscal and common sense – all in a place we are proud to have in Cold Spring.

PARK RESERVATIONS FILLING UP

Although we are only in the fourth month of 2011, the City has already taken 33 reservations for park shelter rentals this year. Since dates for park rentals are filling up quickly, the City would like to remind residents to call now to make a reservation.

The benefits of hosting an event at a park shelter instead of your home are many, including a convenient location, reasonable fee, large seating area and ease of preparation and clean-up.

The shelters at Frogtown, Lions, and Pioneer Parks are available for rental by calling City Hall at 685-3653. Call today to choose your preferred park shelter for your special date. Don't delay or you may miss out on your pick of the parks.



AUTOMATIC PAYMENT WITHDRAWAL

The City continues to accept applications for customers to sign up for automatic payment withdrawal for utility accounts. There are many benefits to using this convenient pay method including never receiving late fees, saving money on postage, and always receiving the \$0.50 discount. Those interested in learning more or signing up for automatic payment withdrawal should contact City Hall.

COMMUNITY RAINGARDEN INITIATIVE

The Sauk River Watershed District has received funding to address stormwater runoff throughout the watershed. The SRWD and the City of Cold Spring are teaming up to provide residents of the city with low cost rain gardens to limit the amount of stormwater that reaches Brewery Creek and the Sauk River through the storm sewer system.

The SRWD has designed a choice of raingarden designs to suit any resident who would like to install a raingarden on their property. Each resident participating in the Raingarden Initiative will receive **75% cost-share of materials and installation**, while getting a beautiful feature for their yard and improving water quality!

Each resident will be able to choose the layout of their raingarden, as well as the plant selection. Each garden is suited to fit your taste and your property!

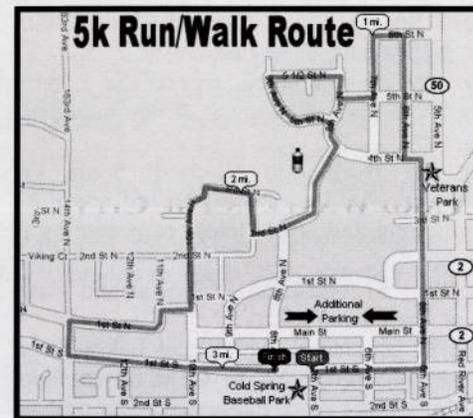
Funds for this project are provided in part from the Clean Water Fund (CWF) from the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment. Participating in the "Community Raingarden Initiative" keeps your tax dollars local and improves your water resources!

If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact the SRWD at 320-352-2231 or at 524 4th Street South, Sauk Centre, MN 56378.

FOURTH ANNUAL OLD GLORY RUN

The 4th Annual Old Glory Run 5K Run/Walk and the 1K Kids Fun Run will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2011 starting at the Cold Spring Baseball Park. The event is for everyone at all levels of running and walking.

The event raises money for the Disabled American Veterans with a goal to raise \$25,000 at the event this year to help offset the cost of a new van for the DAV. Last year's event raised \$20,000 which was donated to the Disabled Veterans Organization- St. Cloud #9. There is a host of activities planned for the day for the entire family to enjoy.



Chris Chapman from 98 Country will be providing entertainment and music, there will be tethered rides in the Freedom Flight Hot Air Balloon for a donation, inflatable bounce games for the kids, and lunch and beverages

after the award ceremony.

Show your support for your country and your community by participating, attending, volunteering and cheering at the Old Glory Run, "A Salute to Those Who Serve". For more information about the race and a complete schedule of events visit their website at www.theoldgloryrun.com.

UPCOMING VEHICLES FOR SALE

Watch the *Cold Spring Record* for forfeiture vehicles coming up for sale this Spring from the Cold Spring-Richmond Police Department. The sale will include a 1998 Chevy Monte Carlo, a 1997 Chevy Monte Carlo and a 1995 Dodge Stratus.

BUT IT SAYS, "FLUSHABLE"

There are a growing number of products out there that claim to be "flushable", such products are baby wipes, hand wipes, paper towels, etc. Tampons don't pose as much of a problem as the wipes and towels. Toilet paper breaks down and dissolves quickly while these other products do not. They flush down the toilet but these materials can wrap around wires, cables, and cause lift station pumps to plug which can be expensive for the City. The employee must resolve these problems immediately to prevent a sewer back up into your home, and this emergency work is often required before or after normal business hours.

Overall, the only product that should ever go down the toilet is... you guessed it, toilet paper. So the next time you see "flushable", think about it, and most likely it should just go to the garbage instead.

POLICE DEPARTMENT SPRING REMINDERS

- Skateboard Park Rules

We encourage parents to discuss with their kids the rules of the skateboard park that are clearly posted at the park including park hours, no bicycles in the park, and no littering.

- Keep your Property Presentable

Spring cleaning isn't just for indoors, keep your property and neighborhood looking presentable by cutting your grass, removing tall weeds, and removing any junk vehicles from your property.

- Burning Restrictions

Campfires are the only type of fires that are allowed in the City, burning of leaves is not permitted. Campfires can be no more than three feet in diameter by three feet in height, and five feet from the base of the fire must be cleared of all combustible materials.

DISPOSAL OF YARD WASTE IN THE CITY

As you rake up those leftover leaves still covering the ground in your yard, you may wonder what to do with them and your other yard waste. The City requires that all City licensed refuse haulers provide composting free of charge to their customers.

There are three licensed garbage haulers in the City and each individual company has a different procedure for providing collection of yard waste. If you have further specific questions about these programs we encourage residents to directly contact their refuse hauler.

Veolia – customers need to contact office at 251-8919, yard waste must be bagged and will be picked up curbside on Mondays.

Waste Management – yard waste will be picked up weekly on Tuesdays, starting April 13 through November 13, yard waste must be put in the newly delivered designated compost container and put curbside.

West Central Sanitation – customers can drop off reasonable amounts of yard waste to Mississippi Topsoils in Cold Spring. Customers need to sign-in at the Mississippi Topsoils office.

FIREFEST TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

The Cold Spring Fire and Rescue Department will be hosting their Fourth Annual FireFest event this year on Saturday, July 30, 2011 during Hometown Pride Days.

The event headliner this year is county-recording artist Trace Adkins. Additional artists performing include Love & Theft, Locash Cowboys, Stealing Angels, and Tim Sigler. The concert event will be held at the Cold Spring Brewing Company Distribution Center, with the gates opening at 4:00 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$35 from March 29th - July 4th, \$40 from July 5th - July 29th, and \$45 at the gate, if they are not already sold out. Tickets are available at City Hall, Wild Country 99, Cold Spring Brewing Company, First National Bank of Cold Spring, Chain of Lakes Medical Clinic, Schwieters Chevrolet, State Bank of Cold Spring and Voss

Plumbing in Paynesville. Tickets are also available to purchase online at the Fire Fest website www.firefestmn.com.

Proceeds from the event go directly to the Cold Spring Fire and Rescue Department Relief Association. A raffle will also be held at the event for a chance to win many prizes.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Economists generally agree that we have hit the bottom of the Great Recession, we all hope so but the upward climb looks promising for Cold Spring. The City of Cold Spring and the Cold Spring Economic Development Authority have been doing what we can to help in these challenging times.

Our EDA continues to help with our healthy Revolving Loan Fund and have low interest monies available to assist in the growth of our local economy. The EDA also has land available in our Business Park and is willing to work with anyone to make their business dreams become reality. If you're going to grow or start a business, we want it to be in Cold Spring. Whereas the focus and attention seems to often be on new businesses, we also would like to convey our sincere appreciation to our entire business community for calling Cold Spring their home and providing the jobs they have maintained in this new economy. If you have any questions regarding our Revolving Loan Fund or land in the Business Park or any other questions to help start, retain, or grow your business, please feel free to contact Dan Steil at 685-8611 for more information.

The EDA and the City have also been working with the Stearns County HRA, located right here in Cold Spring, to provide access to Small Cities Development Program grant funding for businesses and residents alike. The program would provide low-interest loans and forgivable grants to allow for building rehabilitation. It is money derived from the federal government through the State to the local level and where cooperative relationships are created with local financial institutions. To complete the construction plan, local contractors are solicited providing project opportunities to them potentially not available without the funding. The program provides a benefit to all involved and a successful one. We have not been awarded this funding yet, but the prospects look promising and we intend to apply for and offer this program funding for years to come, as long as there is sustainable interest in it. For more information on the Small Cities commercial and residential rehab grant, please feel free to contact Jim Anderson at the Stearns County HRA at 685-7771.

FOOD SHELF ACCEPTING DONATIONS

The S.E. Central Stearns Food Shelf of Cold Spring is located at 401 Main Street (in the lower level of the State Bank of Cold Spring). It is open Mondays 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM and the first and third Mondays of each month from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact 685-8785. Donations are always welcomed, but are especially needed in these challenging times. Food items may be dropped off at the Food Shelf or City Hall.

TIME TO TRIM TREES

Many property owners are extremely proud of the trees on their property. The City appreciates their efforts to keep the City looking beautiful, but they also would like to remind residents to keep their trees trimmed. Overgrown trees in the City can make it impossible for pedestrians to use sidewalks and obstruct the view of traffic and street signs. As shown in this photo, overgrown tree branches can block motorist's view of traffic signs. Please pay special attention to the trees on your property and regularly trim your trees to prevent such obstructions.



CITY AWAITS WORD ON GRANT

The City applied to the Small Cities Development Program (SCDP), a grant program administered by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), to provide assistance to income-qualified households for assessment abatement for the recent Brewery Hill Reconstruction Project. If awarded, the grant would pay for the assessments of project area, **income qualifying households**.

It has been a long process- we surveyed residents last summer, submitted the pre-application in October and the final application in February- and we were told it would just be a little bit longer.

DEED hopes to announce by April 8th who the recipients are of the SCDP grants. Heidi Peper, consultant to the City who wrote the application, said that this is slightly later than normal and it's due to budget cut discussions at the federal level. "The originator of these funds is the Community Development Block Grant program, which is targeted for deep cuts. DEED wants to be certain of its allocation before it announces SCDP grants", Peper stated.

SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE INTO SANITARY SEWER ILLEGAL

The City would like to remind residents that it is illegal to have their sump pump drain hoses discharging into the City's sanitary sewer system. Essentially those residents who

have sump pumps discharging into basement drains, utility sinks, or any other drain in the house are sending clean storm water to be treated at the City's wastewater treatment plant.

There are several measures that residents can take to ensure that they are not contributing clean water into the sewer treatment system. Sump pump drainage should be discharged into the yard, about 20 feet away from the house, preferably down the grade or into the street. Also residents should make sure that rain gutters are directing water away from the foundation which will prevent it from entering in the foundation drains and into the sump basket.

By taking these few steps residents and City staff can be confident that there is not any unnecessary treatment of clean water.

WING FEST 2011

Mark your calendars for Wing Fest 2011, on Saturday, April 9th, from 4-9 p.m. at the Cold Spring Brewing Company Distribution Center. Over 27,000 Gold'n Plump wings will be served up in a variety of sauces to sample while supplies last. Admission is free, and music will be provided by the Preston and Paulzine Band. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Cold Spring Jaycees.

CASA GUADALUPE

For over fifteen years Casa Guadalupe has been working with Latino families in providing services that empower and strengthen not only them, but the community as a whole. Last year the organization grew from an extension of Hispanic ministries at St. Boniface Church to being its own functioning non-profit renamed Casa Guadalupe Multicultural Communities. Some of the services provided are as follows: Free internet open to all, free tax preparation for low income families, computer skills development, interpretation and translations services year-round for both English to Spanish and Spanish to English, and collecting and offering donated home furnishings to families in need. They also offer job referrals and have developed a number of employment partnerships with many area businesses. For more information, contact Executive Director Mayuli Bales at 685-3949, at mayulibales@yahoo.com, or stop on by at 22 5th Avenue N in Cold Spring.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**CITY OF COLD SPRING
27 RED RIVER AVE. SO.
COLD SPRING, MN 56320**

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