



# In the Know in St. Joseph

January 2015

## City Contact Information

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## SKATING RINK NOW OPEN

The ice rink in Memorial Park is now ready for hockey & recreational skaters to enjoy.

Warming house hours are as follows:  
Monday— Friday 4—8 PM  
Saturdays & Sundays 12 noon—8 PM



## Recognition of Service

**THANK YOU** to Steve Frank for serving the community as a Councilmember for the past 8 years.



## CITY PARK SHELTER RESERVATIONS

Looking for a place to host a graduation party, family reunion or workplace celebration? Why not reserve one of our park shelters?

The non-refundable rental fee including tax is \$85.90. We also require a \$100 damage deposit that is completely refundable if the park is found in good condition upon your departure. To make a reservation, please contact the City Offices at 363-7201.

**MILLSTREAM PARK:** Located at the western edge of the City limits at the intersection of CSAH 75 and Co Rd 2, Millstream Park provides a variety of outdoor opportunities. The park hosts the following: softball diamonds, camping sites, fishing, nature trails, volleyball and horseshoe courts, and disc golf. Picnic areas are located throughout the park.

**CENTENNIAL PARK:** Located on Second Avenue Northwest, Centennial Park is close to downtown and adjacent to CSAH 75. The park hosts volleyball, basketball, and horseshoe courts, playground equipment and picnic areas.

*Reservations are available May—September. Please note that reserving a park shelter permits you exclusive use of the shelter only. The remainder of the parks remain open to the public.*

## Housing Rehabilitation Grant

In 2014 the City received a \$ 600,000 Block Grant to provide funding assistance to low income residents for housing rehabilitation. Funding is still available to qualified residents. To be eligible to participate residents must own property in the target area and meet the federal low income guidelines. The target area includes owner occupied homes south of County Road 75 between 1st & 5th Avenues NE/SE; up to but not including Baker Street East.



Eligible rehabilitation projects can include replacement of existing, deteriorated exterior features such as roofing, soffit/fascia, gutters, siding, windows & doors. Interior items are also eligible and include electrical, plumbing, new furnaces, insulation, health and safety items. Please note that remodeling or additions do not qualify for funding. **For more information contact the Central MN Housing Partnership, (320) 259-0393.**

## Facility Committee

The City Council hired WSB to facilitate a discussion on the current and future facility needs of the City. The Committee has been meeting regularly and all meeting material can be found on the City website: [www.cityofstjoseph.com](http://www.cityofstjoseph.com). The next meeting of the committee will be **Monday, January 12, 2015 at 6:00 PM** at City Hall. The meeting is open to the public.



## CITY MEETING SCHEDULE 2015

City Council  
1st & 3rd Mondays, 6 PM  
Planning Commission  
1st Thursday of the month, 6 PM  
Park Board  
4th Wednesday of the month, 6 PM  
Economic Development Authority  
3rd Wednesday of the month, 5 PM  
Fire Board; 6PM Fire Hall on  
Wednesday, February 5th  
Wednesday, May 7th  
Wednesday, August 6th  
Wednesday, November 5th

All meetings are open to the public unless otherwise indicated on their respective agenda. Changes in times/dates will be noted on the City website at [www.cityofstjoseph.com](http://www.cityofstjoseph.com).



## FARE FOR ALL

*Food that makes cents*

MONDAYS 3:30-5:30  
Resurrection Lutheran Church  
February 2 July 20  
March 2 August 17  
April 13 September 21  
May 11 October 19  
June 8 November 16  
December 14

## STREET LIGHT OUTAGE

During these darkened months we rely on street lights to guide us safely along streets, sidewalks & intersections. Please report street light outages or malfunctions to the City Offices at 363.7201.



## Water Line Freeze

While the City is not experiencing any frozen water lines at this time, the City Engineer would like to remind residents to be mindful of long periods of extreme cold weather and the impact to service lines. Unlike last year we have not had weeks of extreme cold temperatures. If the temperatures do become extreme residents are encouraged to run a stream of water about as thick as a pencil. The City will make every effort to notify residents via the website, cable access and local newspapers should there be a threat of service line freezing.

## UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

January 19th Martin Luther King Day  
February 16th



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 9 - SE 17th Ave.  
 St. Joseph, MN

**KEEP SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON:**

- ✳ Keep an eye on your candles
- ✳ Don't forget to water your tree
- ✳ Never announce your holiday trips on social media

**In the Know in St. Joseph**

**PLACE YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE!**

Reach 1700+ in the bi-monthly utility bill. For more information contact the City Offices at 363-7201.

**RATES PER EDITION**

- \$100 — 4X41/2
- \$250 — 4X9
- \$400 — 8X9

**ENERGY TIPS from Tri-County Action Program**

**UNPLUG**

Unplug seldom-used appliances, like an extra refrigerator in the basement or garage that contains just a few items. You may save around \$10 every month on your utility bill.

Unplug your chargers when you're not charging. Every house is full of little plastic power supplies to charge cell phones, PDA's, digital cameras, cordless tools and other personal gadgets. Keep them unplugged until you need them.

Use power strips to switch off televisions, home theater equipment, and stereos when you're not using them. Even when you think these products are off, together, their "standby" consumption can be equivalent to that of a 75 or 100 watt light bulb running continuously.

**SET COMPUTERS TO SLEEP & HIBERNATE**

Enable the "sleep mode" feature on your computer, allowing it to use less power during periods of inactivity. In Windows, the power management settings are found on your control panel. Mac users, look for energy saving settings under system preferences in the apple menu.

Configure your computer to "hibernate" automatically after 30 minutes or so of inactivity. The "hibernate mode" turns the computer off in a way that doesn't require you to reload everything when you switch it back on. Allowing your computer to hibernate saves energy and is more time-efficient than shutting down and restarting your computer from scratch. When you're done for the day, shut down.

**TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR TEMPERATURE**

Set your thermostat in winter to 68 degrees or less during the daytime, and 55 degrees before going to sleep (or when you're away for the day). During the summer, set thermostats to 78 degrees or more.

Use sunlight wisely. During the heating season, leave shades and blinds open on sunny days, but close them at night to reduce the amount of heat lost through windows. Close shades and blinds during the summer or when the air conditioner is in use or will be in use later in the day.

Set the thermostat on your water heater between 120 and 130 degrees. Lower temperatures can save more energy, but you might run out of hot water or end up using extra electricity to boost the hot water temperature in your dishwasher.

**USE APPLIANCES EFFICIENTLY**

Set your refrigerator temperature at 38 to 42 degrees Fahrenheit; your freezer should be set between 0 and 5 degrees Fahrenheit. Use the power-save switch if your fridge has one, and make sure the door seals tightly. You can check this by making sure that a dollar bill closed in between the door gaskets is difficult to pull out. If it slides easily between the gaskets, replace them.

Don't preheat or "peek" inside the oven more than necessary. Check the seal on the oven door, and use a microwave oven for cooking or reheating small items.

Wash only full loads in your dishwasher, using short cycles for all but the dirtiest dishes. This saves water and the energy used to pump and heat it. Air-drying, if you have the time, can also reduce energy use.

In your clothes washer, set the appropriate water level for the size of the load; wash in cold water when practical, and always rinse in cold.

Clean the lint filter in the dryer after each use. Dry heavy and light fabrics separately and don't add wet items to a load that's already partly dry. If available, use the moisture sensor setting. (A clothesline is the most energy-efficient clothes dryer of all!)

**TURN OUT THE LIGHTS**

Don't forget to flick the switch when you leave a room.

Remember this at the office, too. Turn out or dim the lights in unused conference rooms, and when you step out for lunch. Work by daylight when possible. A typical commercial building uses more energy for lighting than anything else.



**St. Joseph Lions Club**  
**Chicken and Ham Dinner**  
**El Paso Club**  
**January 23, 2015**  
**5—8 PM**

**\$10 adults;**  
**\$5 children under 10**

**Silent Auction**  
**Meat Raffle**

