

# The Arlington Report

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Rich Nagel -- Mayor  
Michelle Batcher -- Council Member  
Jim Heiland -- Council Member  
Ben Jaszewski -- Council Member  
Jennifer Nuesse -- Council Member  
Galen Wills -- Council Member

## APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Liza Donabauer -- Administrator  
Lisa Tesch -- Deputy Clerk  
Vicki Pomplun -- Admin. Asst.  
Annie Shottliff -- Community Center Coordinator

Tony Voigt -- Main Supervisor  
Kirby Weckworth -- Main Worker  
Cory Danner -- Police Chief  
Bruce Rovinsky -- Police Officer  
Jordan Voigt -- Police Officer

## CONTRACTED SERVICES

Ross Arneson -- City Attorney  
Cynthia Smith-Strack -- EDA, Planning & Zoning Consultant  
Darin Haslip -- Building Inspector  
PeopleService -- Water/Wastewater  
Jason Femrite (Bolton & Menk) -- City Engineer

## PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall: 964-2378  
Fax Line: 964-5973  
After-Hours On-Call: 507-327-6601  
Fire Garage: 964-2279  
Police Dept.: 964-5200  
Library: 964-2490  
Hospital: 964-2271  
S.E. School: 964-2292  
Post Office: 964-5503

## OTHER SERVICES

*Water/Sewer/Electric Services*  
City of Arlington (964-2378)  
*Gas Service*  
CenterPoint Energy (800-245-2377)  
*Cable Service*  
Mediacom (800-332-0245)  
*Internet/Phone Service*  
Frontier (800-435-1504)  
*Garbage Services*  
Waste Management (800-422-5785)  
Renville-Sibley Sanitation (866-800-6244)  
Gaylord Sanitation (507-237-2274)



## PRAIRIE LINE TRAIL GRAND OPENING

The Prairie Line Trail Committee will be hosting a Grand Opening for phase two of the Prairie Line Trail, from Arlington to Sportsman's Park, sometime in August. The trail is open and ready to be used as a biking, walking, running or rollerblading path for all ages! Please watch the newspaper and the City's Facebook page for further information on the Grand Opening.

## ADOPT-A-PARK



Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer to take care of our parks and new trail. Here is a full list of our adopters:

Four Seasons Park– Warzecha Family in memory of Mr. Tom Noack.  
Sportsman's Park– Arlington Sportsmen's Club.  
Frenzel Park– St. Paul's Lutheran School.  
Fairview Park– Good Samaritan Society.  
Memorial Park– Tom & Diane Hatlestad.  
Prairie Line Walking Trail– Buzz Matz.

If you would like to be an alternate or to be put on the list for any potential parks/trail openings, contact the City Office (507) 964-2378.

## GOPHER STATE ONE CALL



It's the law! Before digging, contact Gopher State One Call at 811, (651) 454-0002, toll-free (800) 252-1166 or visit [www.Call811.com](http://www.Call811.com) at least two working days prior to digging in your yard. Gopher State will contact all utilities to mark underground lines for free. Be aware though that "private" lines may exist on a property, which are the owner's responsibility to know their location and avoid when digging.

**City Office Closed Friday, July 3rd for the Independence Day Holiday.**

## NEW STOP SIGN COMING

There is a new stop sign coming to the corner of Henderson Road and 1st Ave. There currently are stop signs on two sides of this intersection. At the recommendation of multiple City Departments, a third stop sign is being added for safety, making it an all-way stop. Please be aware of this new change!



## NEW UTILITY BILLING & COLLECTION POLICY

In May, the City Council adopted Ordinance 299, which is to regulate the utility billing and collection policy. This new ordinance further defines the utility billing process as well as the consequences for delinquent utility accounts. The City Council Finance Committee was heavily involved in the drafting of this new ordinance. The Committee recommended several action steps to streamline the utility billing and collection process that includes an upgrade to the utility billing software, enlisting the Police Department's help in delivering shut-off notices, and utilizing a collection service to collect on unpaid accounts. In June the City Council authorized agreements with the Department of Revenue and RCB Collections as new ways to collect on old unpaid utility accounts. For any questions regarding this new policy please contact the City Office at (507) 964-2378.

## DID YOU MOVE OR GET MARRIED THIS YEAR?



City Staff would like to remind all utility account holders to update their account information. When you change your personal information (name, phone number etc.) and/or move/change addresses the City needs to be notified. This includes the changing of a PO Box number or the conversion of a PO Box to/from a street address. The City is also encouraging utility account holders to provide the City with a phone number, including a cell phone, which you may be reached at in the case of a planned outage or any other emergencies at your property. You can update your information by calling the City Office at (507) 964-2378 or by emailing [cityhall@arlingtonmn.com](mailto:cityhall@arlingtonmn.com).



## OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS

### City of Arlington, Sibley County

Contact us at:  
204 Shamrock Drive  
Arlington, MN 55307

Phone: 507-964-2378  
Fax: 507-964-5973  
E-mail: [cityhall@arlingtonmn.com](mailto:cityhall@arlingtonmn.com)  
Website: [www.arlingtonmn.com](http://www.arlingtonmn.com)



*A Beautiful City Growing in Unity*



Residents should become more aware of how to protect their families from deadly natural disasters. Awareness of warning sirens and what they mean is a critical piece to gaining knowledge of an emergency incident. So what do the outdoor warning sirens mean? There are a couple of misconceptions when it comes to outdoor sirens.

**Misconception #1:** Sirens are meant to notify residents both in their homes and outside of their homes. The truth is that outdoor warning sirens are only meant to alert persons outside of potential danger where people may not have access to media outlets such as TV, radio and NOAA weather radios. Sirens can penetrate buildings close to the siren units, but this is not the goal. DO NOT rely on the outdoor warning sirens while inside your home. Newer structures are insulated better and are more likely to keep sound out. The sirens cannot be made louder to penetrate buildings because doing so would pose a danger to the hearing of people who are outdoors. Upon hearing the siren, citizens should immediately seek shelter and tune in to a local radio or television station for information concerning the siren activation. The City's outdoor warning system is not intended to be the only means of emergency warning. For a well balanced system, the use of indoor systems are also necessary. Weather radios are the best warning system for residents indoors and for storms occurring late at night when most people are in their homes sleeping. NOAA weather radios can be purchased at most electronics stores. For more information on weather radios go to: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/index.php>.

**Misconception #2:** The outdoor warning sirens are meant to notify residents of severe storms only. Residents should not assume that sirens are only for weather events. They may be sounded for hazardous material or chemical spills and other non-weather incidents (like a nuclear power plant incident) where the public needs rapid notification. Listen to local radio and television stations for more details.

**Misconception #3:** The sirens are sounded for an "All Clear" signal. Arlington does not sound an "All Clear" signal. This announcement is made only over radio or TV. If you hear a siren sound again, it means that it is not safe and you should not leave your home.

**Misconception #4:** The City of Arlington sets off the sirens in Arlington. The Sibley County Sheriff's Department has the responsibility to sound all sirens in the City of Arlington, with the Arlington Fire Department being a back up to set the sirens off. In Arlington, sirens are not sounded for all severe weather warnings that are issued. Sirens are generally sounded for storms that have rotation, tornadoes, or straight line winds that may have a history of producing damage. Testing of these sirens are done the first Wednesday of the month. The City has three emergency warning sirens within the City located at 7th Ave. NW & Main St., behind the Fire Department, and Baker Street & 4th Ave. SE. When it comes to warning systems, residents should remember that outdoor warning sirens are a one way medium; they can only tell you something is wrong, not what is wrong or what action you need to take; you must obtain that information from other sources.

### SUMMER HOMEOWNER TIPS

As its getting warmer outside its easy to skip those extra house projects and head to the cabin or the lake, but here are a few quick tips to make your home more efficient.

- \* **Clean your dryer vent:** Without some maintenance, your dryer could cause a house fire. You can avoid any unnecessary dryer-caused danger with a few simple steps. First, you'll need a vent-cleaning brush kit, which can clean your dryer vent tubing more thoroughly than a vacuum cleaner can. Begin by cleaning the dryer's lint trap housing with a smaller brush to remove as much lint and dust as possible. Then disconnect the dryer duct from the dryer and the wall for a thorough cleaning. Also use a brush to clean the vent on the outside of the house to keep both ends clean and free of lint.
- \* **Clean your gutters:** Water and debris can accumulate in your gutters over the fall and winter, which can lead to water damage in your house and you don't want that. So get a ladder that can reach your gutters, but be sure not to overextend yourself. If the gutter is too high, you might want to call in an expert to do the job. If you're doing the work yourself, don't lean the ladder against the gutter or near electrical wires. Scoop out the gutter's wet leaves and debris, and wet down caked-on dirt so you can scoop out the mud with a towel.
- \* **Tune up the AC:** The number one priority for your summer home maintenance checklist is to have your air conditioning (AC) unit tuned up. As important as getting your car tuned, your AC needs to be tuned to inspect and prevent unwanted emergencies. The tune up is used to inspect refrigerant levels, which is important for your AC to keep running cool and keep your summer electric bills low, as well as to ensure your fan is functioning well, your coils are thoroughly cleaned and there are no potential fire hazards with faulty wiring. Check the filters often!
- \* **Fix those leaky faucets:** Indoors and outdoors. A small leak can waste thousands of gallons of water a year.



### COMMUNITY SIGNS

Does your business or organization have an event going on that you would like to promote?

You can advertise on the City's LED sign for as little as \$50/week. You can have as many slides as you would like, add digital photos and its runs 24/7!

Want to catch the downtown traffic on Main Street, you can also advertise on the Main Street sign for as little as \$12.50/week for one side. Contact the City Office at (507) 964-2378 for all inquires.

### COMMUNITY CENTER ATTENDANT

The City of Arlington is accepting applications for Community Center Attendants. The City is looking to establish a "pool" of eligible employees who are willing to work weekend afternoons/evenings. The position is primarily responsible for monitoring a variety of activities at the Arlington Community Center including weddings, dances and other events. Shifts are generally 4-6 hours in length. No guaranteed or set hours. Starting salary is \$10.00/hour; no benefits. For required application and job description, contact Arlington City Office, 204 Shamrock Drive, Arlington, MN 55307, (507) 964-2378. Positions open until filled. The City of Arlington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.