

# The Arlington Report

**May's Recycling Dates: May 11th & 25th 8:00 am -11:00 am**

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Rich Nagel -- Mayor  
 Michelle Battcher -- Council Member  
 Adam Cowell -- Council Member  
 Tom Hatlestad -- Council Member  
 Jim Heiland -- Council Member  
 Ben Jaszewski -- Council Member

## APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Pat Melvin -- City Administrator  
 Lisa Tesch -- Deputy Clerk  
 Annie Willmsen -- Asst. Deputy Clerk  
 Laura Dykhoff -- Admin. Asst.  
 Kirby Weckworth -- Maint. Supervisor  
 Michael Willmsen -- Maint. Worker  
 John Petterson -- Police Chief  
 Sara Jancoski -- Police Officer  
 James Noxon -- Police Officer  
 Bailey Holasek -- Police Officer  
 Vicki Pomplun -- PD Admin Asst.

## CONTRACTED SERVICES

Ross Arneson -- City Attorney  
 Amy Newsom -- EDA Consultant  
 Cynthia Smith-Strack -- 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  
 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 Sanit. (507- 834-6168)  
 Gaylord Sanitation (507-237-2274)

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY

 The Arlington Public Library will be closed from May 6th-18th for interior re-painting and new carpet installation. Be sure to stop in after to check out the new look! On Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00 pm, the Pitagorsky Foundation from NYC featuring Evan Drachman on cello and Doris Stevenson as piano accompanist will be at the United Methodist Church. This is an event hosted by APL & APLL. The planning of the 2019 Summer reading program is underway. This year's theme is "A Universe of Stories". More information will be available in the coming month.

## ADOPT-A-PLANTER ON MAIN STREET

Would you or your business like to sponsor a city planter in the downtown business district? The City has seven (7) large round planters and we are looking for volunteers and green thumbs that would be interested in planting and caring for one on Main Street this summer. The planter would be located adjacent to your business or nearest corner. For any inquires please call the City Office at (507) 964-2378.



## CITY-WIDE CLEAN-UP DAY PLANNED

 The City Council again approved partnering with Sibley County's Clean-up Day. Mark your calendars, this year's event is on Thursday, June 20th at the Sibley County Fairgrounds, from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. For a fee, the County will be accepting tires, appliances, mattresses and electronics (anything with a cord including computers, TVs & treadmills).

The City will be providing dumpsters to its residents only (Driver's license/ID required), for the disposal of non-hazardous items and large furniture. More information will be available in the coming month.

## BLOODMOBILE

The Bloodmobile will be at the Arlington Community Center on Tuesday, May 21st from 12:30-6:30pm. Please give!



**The City Office will be closed Monday, May 27th for the Memorial Day holiday.**

## DON'T FORGET WHEN MOWING GRASS



Residents should remember that the discharging of lawn clippings/debris onto City streets is NOT allowed. Clippings/debris that are discharged onto City streets eventually wash into the storm sewers and cause them to clog. Along with being an inconvenience to residents, clogged sewers are costly and time consuming for City Staff to clean and unclog. The City is asking all residents to take their grass clippings/debris to the compost site. The compost site is open seven days a week during daylight hours.

## DO YOU NEED A LAWN METER?

With the summer months almost upon us and potential dryer weather, watering of lawns and gardens become more of a priority for some residents. Residents should remember that your sewer charge is based on your water usage. To avoid having to pay higher sewer costs for summer water usage, residents should inquire with City Staff on purchasing a lawn meter. Residents save money with a lawn meter, because the water that runs through the lawn meter is not charged the sewer rate.

## RECREATIONAL FIRES



City residents should remember that recreational (outdoor) fires are permitted within City limits as long as they are contained in an outdoor fireplace, barbecue equipment, or a concrete-lined fire pit, sufficient to provide physical limitation to the spread of the fire. *Recreational purposes* shall include only the cooking of food, or the providing of heat and light for outdoor social gatherings. Only propane, charcoal bricks, or wood products may be used to fuel fires (**absolutely no garbage!**). Outdoor fires must be supervised at all times by at least one adult person or extinguished if unsupervised. Outdoor fires shall be created or maintained at a distance of at least 15 feet from all structures and property lines.

## CEMETERY NOTICE

The City of Arlington would like to remind everyone that decorations in the Public Cemetery must be affixed to the headstones or part of the wash area, so as not to interfere with the path of the mowers. Special decorations are allowed one week prior to Memorial Day, but must be removed from the grass area within two weeks following the holiday. Please be aware that non-conforming and weathered decorations may be removed by City Staff.



## IS YOUR WATER SOFTNER HURTING THE CITY?

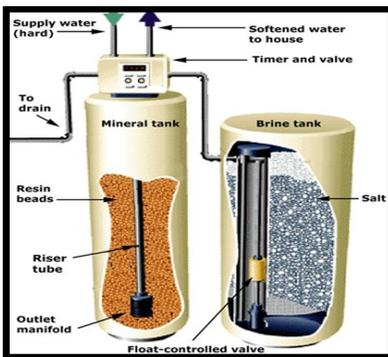
### City of Arlington, Sibley County

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*



The MPCA (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) is proposing new limits to the amount of allowable chlorides discharged by Cities. When the new limit goes into effect, the City of Arlington will not be in compliance. Chlorides are not something we can treat at the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP); therefore, we must concentrate on reducing chlorides at their source. One of the main factors that influence the amount of chlorides in the wastewater coming into the WWTP is in-home water softeners. The City has already applied for a 5 year variance from the proposed chloride limits. The variance will give the City time to find source reduction measures. Source reduction methods are anticipated to include an inventory on household ion-exchange water softeners and public education to reduce salt usage and associated brine discharge.

### What are Chlorides?

Chloride is one of two components of sodium, also known as table salt or rock salt. When salt dissolves in water, it separates into sodium (Na+) ions and chloride (Cl-) ions.

### Where does Chloride come from?

Chloride is found in drinking water and is a vital part of cellular structure. Small amounts of chloride come from soaps, detergents, and other cleaning products. Some also come from industrial processes. A significant amount of chloride, however, comes from self-regenerating water softeners.

### How is water softened?

Home water softeners have two tanks: a mineral tank that contains resin (-) in the form of small beads, and a brine tank which holds the sodium salt chloride (salt) solution. As water flows through the mineral tank, the hard minerals, magnesium (Mg++) and calcium (Ca++) ions are replaced with sodium (Na+) ions. This process is called ion exchange. The water that flows out is considered "soft" because sodium ions do not build up on pipes as lime or interfere with detergents and soaps.

### What is the Regeneration Cycle?

Eventually, the resin reaches its limit as to how much calcium and magnesium it can hold. At this point, the resin is flushed with a strong brine solution from the brine tank. Because of its high salt concentration, the brine washes off the calcium and magnesium and replaces them with sodium. The minerals and brine wash go down the drain and into the sewer system. New salt must be added regularly to the brine tank to replace the salt that is used to regenerate the resin. The regeneration cycle can be initiated by a timer or by demand. A timer regulated softener regenerates the resin after a fixed amount of time regardless of how much water is used. A demand initiated regeneration (DIR) softener either tracks the amount of water used or utilizes a hardness sensor to indicate when the resin is near capacity and needs to be regenerated. A DIR softener is the more efficient softener in terms of salt and water usage.

1. The back wash phase removes dirt from the mineral tank.
2. Recharging the mineral tank with sodium from the brine solution displaces calcium and magnesium, which is washed down the drain.
3. The final phase rinses the mineral tank with fresh water and loads the brine tank so it is ready for the next cycle.

### What Can I Do?

1. Check to see how your softener is calibrated. Some softeners are preset for the highest hardness setting at the factory. Soften only water used inside the home. Do not treat the water going to outside faucets.
2. Check the timer. When was it last adjusted? Many of us move into a house or purchase a water softener and never check it again. Children move out or other factors come into play that affects the amount of water we use. If your softener is regulated by a timer, you may be able to increase the interval between regeneration cycles without affecting the water quality. Increase the time by one day and see if there is any effect on dish washing or laundry during the next month. Doing this will reduce water and salt usage, and in turn reduce money spent on both.
3. If your softener can be set to demand initiated regeneration (DIR), please make this adjustment as it is the most efficient.
4. If you are replacing your old softener, replace it with a softener that regenerates based on a meter or a sensor. The benefits to you are a substantial cost savings on your salt and water usage reduction, with the added benefit that you are helping to protect our environment and helping the City meet the MPCA permit limits.



COMMUNITY CENTER

COMMERCIAL KITCHEN RENTAL

Do you have a need for a commercial kitchen? You can now rent the Arlington Community Center kitchen from 8:00 am – 12 midnight for only \$100.00 (willing to negotiate price for continued use). The amenities include a commercial stove (six burners), griddle, two ovens, commercial coffee pot, stainless steel work space, commercial dishwasher, and serving window. Our commercial kitchen is a facility where entrepreneurs, caterers, and instructors can prepare and process their food products for the consumer market or hold cooking classes and demonstrations. For more information contact the City Office at 507-964-2378.

## ARLINGTON FARMERS MARKET

Sponsored by Arlington Area Chamber of Commerce

### Participate in HOP & Taste Buds!

Registration starts June 17<sup>th</sup> at the Arlington Farmers Market

HOP and Taste Buds empowers children to make healthy food choices through exploring the farmers market. Children will have the opportunity to meet local growers while learning about how different varieties of fruits and vegetables grow.

#### HOP-Hands on Produce

Kids are given \$2 tokens to spend on fruits and veggies at the market.

Upon signing up for the program each child will receive:

- ★ \$2 market tokens to purchase fresh produce.
- ★ A reusable shopping bag.
- ★ Resources on eating healthy.

The \$2 tokens will be given out to participants on each of the scheduled HOP dates. A complete schedule of HOP and Taste Buds events can be found on Facebook @arlingtonmnfarmersmarket.

#### Taste Buds!

Hands-on tasting activities for young children to learn about fresh produce.

If you have questions contact  
Julianne Shaw-Market Manager  
[richsoil@icloud.com](mailto:richsoil@icloud.com) or call 507-380-1047

Educational resources provided by:  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**EXTENSION**  
Driven to Discover™  
Program Sponsor:  
**Ridgeway**  
SIBLEY MEDICAL CENTER