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# REFLECTIONS

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APRIL | MAY | JUNE 2025  
VOLUME 21, ISSUE 2

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# City Hall Notes

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT UPDATES

### When is a Building Permit Needed?

The City of Milaca Building Department would like to remind residents that building permits need to be completed for the following:

- Re-Roof
- Re-Siding
- Decks
- Window/Door Replacement
- Additions/Alterations/Remodel
- New House/Garage
- Fence

- Solar Panels
- Plumbing/Mechanical (Water Heaters, Water Softeners, Air Conditioners, Furnaces, etc)
- Signs
- Demolition of House or Garage
- Drain Tile & Sump Pump

You **do not** need a permit for Carpeting, Painting, New Flooring, or Cabinetry.

There are times when remodel projects have started, and no permit was pulled. For example, if the city discovers no permit was pulled and if insulation is covered up by sheetrock, you will need to remove portions of sheetrock so inspector can view the insulation. Also, if you were to sell your house, realtors, insurance companies, or potential buyers may ask when the permit was pulled for improvements to the house, such as a roof replacement.

We strongly encourage residents to call Deloris at City Hall at (320)983-3141 or Tad Winterfield, Building Inspector, at (763)482-0446 (email [tad@midmninspections.com](mailto:tad@midmninspections.com)) to see if a building permit is needed for a project. When in doubt, give them a call!

All Milaca residents are strongly encouraged to use only licensed contractors when considering any remodeling or new addition projects to their home or existing structures. To verify that a contractor is licensed, you may access the Department of Labor & Industry website by clicking on this link:

<https://www.dli.mn.gov/license-and-registration-lookup>



### Applications for Building Permits

Building permit applications and instructions can be found on our website at

[cityofmilaca.org/building-permits-and-inspections](http://cityofmilaca.org/building-permits-and-inspections).

Please allow 10–14 days for some permits to be reviewed by our building inspector. Typically, reroof, residing, fences, and window/door replacements can be approved in 1-2 days. Be sure to check out the brochures/information as well!

## UTILITY BILLING UPDATES

### Auto Pay Sign-Up

No more late fees and no more credit card surcharge fees. Find the form at our website <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/water-utilities> or come into City Hall.

### Utility Bill Email

If you would like to start receiving your water/sewer utility bill via email, please sign up via the link at <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/water-utilities>. Emailed bills will be received prior to the end of the month. Remember that only property owners receive utility bills.

### 2024 Water Quality Report

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets safe drinking water standards. These standards limit the amounts of specific contaminants allowed in drinking water. The City of Milaca works with the Minnesota Department of Health to test drinking water for more than 100 contaminants. The report is available at <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/water-quality-report>.



## POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

The school year is winding down! If your kids are old enough to stay home alone, it's important to ensure they have all the necessary information in case of an emergency. The National Child Safety Council offers a handy form you can fill out to give your kids easy access to crucial details. To download, click on this link: [Emergency Info](#)



## Liquor Store Notes

Vicki Jeys, Manager —  
(320) 983-6255

### Discount Days

**Military Monday:** 7% Off

**Tuesday Discount Day:** Shake Your Discount!

**Senior Wednesday:** 7% Off

**Toking Thursday:** 20% Off All THC Items

*\*Note: Discount Days may be suspended at any time.*

# Parks & Public Works Notes

## STREETS

### Street Sweeping

Once weather conditions allow, Public Works crews will begin sweeping city streets to ensure cleanliness, maintain clear storm sewer systems by removing sediment, leaves, and other debris, and safeguard our rivers and wetlands. Please note that city ordinance prohibits disposing of leaves, grass clippings, and other debris onto the streets.

### Spring Hydrant Flushing

The City's fire hydrants are flushed annually in April and May to clear sediment and confirm hydrants are in good working condition. As a result of the flushing, you may notice some temporary discoloration of your water, which is normal and safe. If you experience discoloration, you can clear your water system by running cold water until you see the water run clear. Avoid washing clothes while hydrant flushing is happening in your area, as discolored water may stain.

## PARKS

### Trails

The Milaca Trails are open! While the majority are passable, please be aware that there may still be some soggy spots. Keep an eye on the [Milaca Trails Initiative Facebook](#) page for trail conditions.



### Rec Park

The nets are up at all six pickleball courts, which are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The campsites will open on May 1, 2025. Reservations can be made at [cityofmilaca.org/reservations](https://cityofmilaca.org/reservations). The Splash Pad is scheduled to open Friday, May 23, 2025.

# Deputy Registrar Notes

Amy Cain, Deputy Registrar — (320) 983-3143

The Deputy Registrar is open to the public Monday through Thursday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm, and 7:30 am – 12:00 pm on Fridays. REAL ID and Enhanced Driver's License transactions will not be processed if requested within an hour of closing.

We appreciate all of our customers, so thank you for trusting us to serve you! Have a wonderful spring coming up!

**Are you REAL ID ready? Federal enforcement begins May 7, 2025!**



**Department of Public Safety**  
Driver and Vehicle Services

**REAL ID Document Requirements**  
April 2, 2025

## Are You REAL ID READY?

**Federal enforcement of REAL ID begins on May 7, 2025.**

Starting May 7, 2025, Minnesotans 18 years or older will need **one** of the following to board a domestic flight or enter certain federal facilities:

- A REAL ID driver's license or identification (ID) card, or
  - Enhanced driver's license or ID card, or
  - Other REAL ID-compliant document like a valid US passport, valid foreign government issued passport, unexpired permanent resident card, or unexpired employment authorization document.
- Visit [tsa.gov/real-id](https://tsa.gov/real-id) for complete list.



**To obtain a REAL ID driver's license or identification card you will need:**

**ONE document proving identity, date of birth and legal U.S. presence**

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

PASSPORT

PERMANENT RESIDENT CARD

CERTIFICATE OF CITIZENSHIP

**KNOW your Social Security number**

**TWO documents proving current Minnesota residency**

MINNESOTA DRIVER'S LICENSE

INCOME TAX RETURN

UTILITY BILL

CREDIT CARD STATEMENT

### Name Changes

The name on the document you present must match the name on your application.

If the names don't match, you'll need to bring proof of each name change from your birth to present day.

Examples of acceptable proof-of-name change include certified copies of:

- Marriage certificate
- Divorce decree or dissolution of marriage that shows name change
- Adoption decree
- Court-ordered name change

### Types of Documents

The documents you present must be original.  
DVS cannot accept:

- Photocopies
- Scanned images
- Faxed images
- Digital images on a cell phone or other electronic device
- Laminated documents



**Learn more at**  
**[drive.mn.gov](https://drive.mn.gov)**



**Pre-apply and pre-verify • Visit [drive.mn.gov](https://drive.mn.gov) • It's mobile-friendly**

Save time pre-applying and pre-verifying your REAL ID documents online at [drive.mn.gov](https://drive.mn.gov).

- Upload documents using the mobile-friendly application.
- DVS will verify that the documents you upload are sufficient to issue a REAL ID.  
  - original verified documents to a driver's license office to complete your transaction.
- Receive your REAL ID in 7-10 business days after your office visit.



**All documents are subject to verification.**

**PROOF OF IDENTITY AND DATE OF BIRTH — ONE DOCUMENT NEEDED**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REAL ID-compliant driver's license, instruction permit, or ID card that is not designated as temporary or limited term and is current or expired five years or less</li> <li>• Certified U.S. birth certificate</li> <li>• Unexpired U.S. passport (or passport card)</li> <li>• Consular report of birth abroad issued by the U.S. Department of State</li> <li>• Certificate of Naturalization (Form N-550 or N-570)</li> <li>• Certificate of Citizenship (Form N-560 or N-561)</li> <li>• Unexpired permanent resident card (Form I-551)*</li> <li>• Unexpired foreign passport with unexpired temporary I-551 stamp on Form I-94/I-94A with photograph*</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unexpired foreign passport or Unrecognized Passport or Waiver Cases (DS-232) with unexpired temporary I-551 stamp on machine-readable immigrant visa (MRIV)</li> <li>• Unexpired employment authorization document (Form I-766)*</li> <li>• Valid, unexpired foreign passport with a valid, unexpired U.S. visa (affixed), accompanied by a Form I-94 documenting the applicant's most recent admittance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ If the Form I-94 is endorsed "DS" then a Form F1, Form I-20, Form DS-2019, or Form I-551 is also needed</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|--|---|

**SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER — KNOW YOUR FULL SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**

Note: Additional documentation demonstrating non work authorized status may be needed to verify non-eligibility for a Social Security number.

**PROOF OF MINNESOTA RESIDENCE - TWO DIFFERENT DOCUMENTS NEEDED\*\***

**NAME AND ADDRESS MUST MATCH APPLICATION — NO PO BOXES**

- Valid, unexpired Minnesota driver's license, instruction permit or ID card
- Current insurance declaration page or card for health, automobile, homeowner's or renter's insurance
- Federal or state income tax return - most recent tax filing year
- Minnesota property tax statement (current or prior calendar year) OR proposed property tax statement (current year)
  - Must list same address in both property description and mailing address
- Minnesota vehicle certificate of title
- Filed property deed or title for current residence
- Mortgage documents for the applicant's principal residence
- Unexpired Minnesota professional license (e.g., nursing or cosmetology)
- Selective Service card
- Military orders that are still in effect at the time of application
  - Must include DD-2058
- Valid license issued pursuant to the game and fish laws.

The following can be no more than 90 days old:

- Affidavit of residence for those in a group home, communal living arrangement, cooperative, or religious order
- Assisted living or nursing home statement

The following can be no more than 180 days old:

- Certified transcript from a US high school
- Certified transcript from a Minnesota college or university
- Certified student summary report from a US high school

The following can be no more than 12 months old:

- Home utility bill or hook-up work order
  - Utilities include: internet, cable, phone, cell phone, electric, gas, garbage, water, delivered fuel
- U.S. bank or financial information with account numbers redacted (only one)
  - Bank account statement
  - Credit or debit card statement
  - Brokerage account statement
  - Money market account statement
  - Health savings account statement
  - Retirement account statement
- Residential lease agreement for the applicant's principal residence
  - Must show address and signatures
- Employment pay stub that lists the employer's name and address
- Minnesota unemployment insurance benefit statement
- Statement from a boarding care facility licensed under section 144.50 to 144.56
- Supplemental security income award statement

**\*\*Note:** If you are under 18, one proof of residence document may be provided by a parent/guardian if it has the same address as the document you provide. They must also be present in office to certify that they are your parent/guardian and that you live at the given address.

\*Document I-797 needed for proof of extension: if the validity period has been automatically extended by the United States Department of Homeland Security, it is deemed unexpired, regardless of the expiration date listed.



## Fire Department Notes

Chris Ehlen & Jesse Gerads, Fire Chiefs — (320) 983-3465

### Campfire Safety

**Only you can prevent wildfires.**

Whether you're in a state forest or in your backyard, campfires should be constructed and maintained with safety in mind. Use a designated fire ring or build a campfire in an area cleared of combustible materials 5 feet in all directions around the fire. Campfires must be 3 feet or less in diameter and not more than 3 feet in height.

#### Building and Putting Out a Campfire

- Think before you strike. Check the [burning restrictions](#) for your area before lighting a campfire.
- Select a level spot a safe distance away from trees, low overhead branches, shrubs, dry grass, or logs to prevent the fire from escaping, and clear all combustibles within 5 feet.
- Have a shovel and water available at the campfire site for extinguishing campfires.
- Supervise the fire at all times. Even a light breeze could cause the fire to spread.
- Extinguish the campfire with water using the "drown and stir" method.



#### If You Cause It, You Pay For It!

  
0.4 acres  
\$485

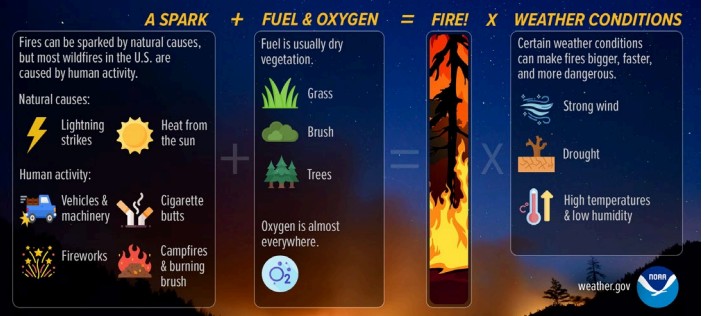
  
40 acres  
\$1,025

  
3.5 acres  
\$1,340

  
320 acres  
\$61,800

### What Causes Wildfires?

A spark, in the presence of fuel and oxygen, can cause a fire, which can further spread depending on various weather conditions.

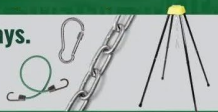


<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/index.html>

## SAFETY TIPS FOR HEAT LAMPS

### 1 Secure your light in multiple ways.

- Consider a Heat Lamp Stand.
- Ensure it is not touching anything.



### 2 Check the wattage of your bulb.

- Consider using a smaller watt bulb.
- Ensure the temperature is maintained properly.



### 3 Assess your brooder container material.

- After use, is it hot to the touch?
- Is it flammable?



### 4 Check the height of the lamp.

- How far away from the top of the brooder is the lamp?
- How close is the light to the bedding?



Remember to check your lamp often!



# Milaca Chamber of Commerce Notes

[milacachamber.com](http://milacachamber.com) — (320) 983-3140

## SUPPORTING MILACA, PEASE, BOCK, AND FORESTON

Follow the Milaca Area Chamber of Commerce on social media to stay up-to-date on their activities. Their Facebook page can be found at [facebook.com/MilacaAreaChamberOfCommerce](https://facebook.com/MilacaAreaChamberOfCommerce) and their Instagram page at [instagram.com/milacaareachamberofcommerce/](https://instagram.com/milacaareachamberofcommerce/). The latest Chamber event information can also be found on their website at [milacachamber.com/events](http://milacachamber.com/events). If you would like to host one of their events for the year and showcase your business, please contact the Chamber to learn more about this excellent promotional opportunity. Volunteers are welcome to get in touch with them to support and promote their community events.



**Milaca Area Chamber of Commerce**  
*Helping the Milaca Area Grow and Prosper all Seasons*

## CITY CALENDAR\*

*\*Please remember this schedule is subject to change or cancellation.*

### May 10, 2025

City-Wide Garage Sale 7 am – 4 pm

### May 15, 2025

City Council Meeting 6 pm\*

### May 26, 2025

City Offices Closed – Memorial Day

### June 6, 2025

3rd Lair Demo & Project 37 Music Showcase  
@ Rec Park 4 – 10 pm

### June 18, 2025

City Council Meeting 6 pm\*

### June 19, 2025

City Offices Closed – Juneteenth

### June 23, 2025

Kiddie Parade 5 pm

### June 24, 2025

Rhythm on the Rum Parade 5:30 pm

### June 26, 2025

Music in the Park – Dred I Dread 6:30 pm

### July 4, 2025

City Offices Closed – Independence Day

### July 10, 2025

Music in the Park – Walker Brothers 6:30 pm

### July 17, 2025

Music in the Park – Katia Cardenas 6:30 pm

*\*All Open City Council Meetings are live  
streamed on our Facebook page.*

*Need to let your out-of-town  
friends & family know what's  
going on in Milaca?*

DiscoverMilaca.com

MILACA AREA  
TOURISM BUREAU



[DiscoverMilaca.com](http://DiscoverMilaca.com) has all the  
info on local events, dining,  
drinking, and shopping!



**ADMINISTRATION ☐ (320)983-3141**

City Manager Tammy Pfaff [tpfaff@milacacity.com](mailto:tpfaff@milacacity.com)  
 City Treasurer Elizabeth Nealley [treasurer@milacacity.com](mailto:treasurer@milacacity.com)  
 Assistant City Clerk / Accounts Payable  
 Deloris Katke [dkatke@milacacity.com](mailto:dkatke@milacacity.com)  
 Administrative Communications Specialist  
 Mary Mickelson [mmickelson@milacacity.com](mailto:mmickelson@milacacity.com)  
 Utility Billing / Front Desk Clerk  
 Mary Beth Niedzielski [mniedzielski@milacacity.com](mailto:mniedzielski@milacacity.com)

**DEPUTY REGISTRAR ☐ (320)983-3143**

Motor Vehicle Supervisor Amy Cain [depreg@milacacity.com](mailto:depreg@milacacity.com)  
 Audra Wiener  
 Julie David  
 Myla Tolmie

**MILACA OFF SALE ☐ (320)983-6255**

Manager Vicki Jeys [liquor@frontiernet.net](mailto:liquor@frontiernet.net)

**POLICE DEPARTMENT ☐ (320)983-6166**

Chief Quinn Rasmussen [grasmussen@milacacity.com](mailto:grasmussen@milacacity.com)  
 Officer Jeff Shaw [jshaw@milacacity.com](mailto:jshaw@milacacity.com)  
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**PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS ☐ (320)983-6547**

Public Works Supervisor Gary Kirkeby [gkirkeby@milacacity.com](mailto:gkirkeby@milacacity.com)

John Oldenburg  
 Warne Johnson  
 Troy Roelofs  
 Zach Pelarski

**CITY COUNCIL DIRECTORY**

Mayor Dave Dillan	(320) 761-1301
Councilmember Norris Johnson	(320) 983-6837
Councilmember Lindsee Larsen	(763) 234-6934
Councilmember Ken Muller	(320) 630-5064
Councilmember Tim Poorker	(320) 309-6483



**Reflections** is produced every three months.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list for a pdf version of **Reflections**, email [mmickelson@milacacity.com](mailto:mmickelson@milacacity.com) with your request.

You may also go to our website to view the newsletter:

**[www.cityofmilaca.org/newsletter](http://www.cityofmilaca.org/newsletter)**

Next issue will be available in July 2025.

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**[cityofmilaca.org](http://cityofmilaca.org)**



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