

# CITY OF WELLS

## 2014 FALL NEWSLETTER



### Residential Curbside Recycling Coming Soon...

The City Council approved residential curbside recycling at the September 22nd meeting. It is expected to start in January. The drop site will continue for business and township use only.

### Safe Routes to School

We are sure you have noticed by now that there are newly painted lines on 7th Street SW and 6th Ave SW. These are new bike & pedestrian lanes as part of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project. The Wells Active Living Coalition, City of Wells and USC Schools are partnering with SRTS to help in this effort by improving the sidewalks leading to the new school site.

The City of Wells received a \$327,609 grant to install/reconstruct SRTS sidewalks and a flashing beacon for Hwy 22 for 2015. Because we have to wait until 2015 for the grant, and with the new school year already in session, the SRTS Committee wanted to provide safe ways to walk and bike to school this year. We would like to encourage our community to promote walking and biking on recommended routes. The City will be holding informational meetings this winter and affected property owners will be invited. If you have any questions, please call City Hall 507-553-6371 ext 1 or email [cityhall@cityofwells.net](mailto:cityhall@cityofwells.net).

### General Election

The General Election is on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. Voting is held at the Community Center, 189 2nd Street SE, from 7 am to 8 pm.

Additional voter information is available at: <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/>

### Wells Public Library– Fall Story Time

October 21st at 10:30 am

November 18th at 10:30 am

“Read for the Record” will be held on October 21st in conjunction with Story Time. This national campaign brings together millions of children and adults to celebrate literacy by participating in the largest shared reading experience.



### Lego Club

October 25th from 10-11 am

October 27th from 6-7 pm

Open to anyone 4 years or older. Parents are encouraged to come and create with their children. Legos will be provided by the library.

### LEAF BURNING

Burning of leaves is permitted between October 1 and December 1 under the following rules:

1. Noon to 8 pm only
2. Adult supervision required
3. No more than 3 feet in height or diameter
4. No closer than 25 feet to any structures
5. No more than one fire per property
6. No burning in streets or alleys
7. Not permitted during state burn bans



It is recommended that a water hose be readily available.

### HYDRANT FLUSHING



Wells Public Utilities will begin flushing water mains & hydrants the week of September 29th during daytime hours. This will take about five (5) days to complete, depending upon the weather.

They will begin in the southwest part of town west of Hwy. 22 and work north. After that side is complete, they will begin on the east side of Hwy. 22 and work north.



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### EDA- Commercial Building Enhancement Program

The following grants are available through the EDA Commercial Building Enhancement Program. Stop at City Hall for more information or visit [www.cityofwells.net](http://www.cityofwells.net).

**Fix-up Grant:** amount is 50% of the project cost with a max of \$1000.00.

**Building Demo Grant:** amount is 50% of the project cost with a max of \$2000.00.

### Wells HRA– Blighted Residential Property Demolition Program

This blighted property demolition grant program supports the demolition of blighted single-family homes within the city of Wells. The grant amount is 50% of the project costs with a maximum of \$5000.00. Please feel free to email [cityhall@cityofwells.net](mailto:cityhall@cityofwells.net) for more information. Primary consideration will be given to vacant single-family dwellings.

### 2015 Budget Information

Public comments on the 2015 budget may be heard at the following meetings:

- ◆ October 13th
- ◆ October 27th
- ◆ November 10th
- ◆ November 24th
- ◆ December 8th



The final Truth and Taxation Hearing will be held Monday, December 8, 2014 at 6 pm.

All of the above mentioned meetings/hearings will be held at the Community Center, 189 2nd Street SE. The public is encouraged to attend.

### Reminder- Junk Vehicles

No person shall park, keep, place, store or abandon any junk vehicle or motor vehicle not currently operable or registered, on a public street, alley or parking lot.

No person in charge or control of any property within the city, whether as owner, tenant, occupant, lessee, or otherwise, shall allow any partially dismantled, nonoperating, wrecker, junked, unregistered or discarded vehicle or motor vehicle on property within the city for longer than 15 days. Unless in a fully enclosed building.

### New Fencing/Landscaping Ordinance

Effective September 11, 2014

The following information highlights the changes. Please see the September 11, 2014 issue of the Wells Mirror for the official publication and complete ordinance or stop in at City Hall.

#### Residential Districts

Fences may be erected to the following height and opacity:

- ◆ Front yard, max of 4 feet and no more than 50% solid
- ◆ Side and rear yard, maximum of 6 feet.
- ◆ Building permit not required– only zoning approval/land use permit.

#### Commercial and Industrial Districts

- ◆ Maximum height of 8 feet.
- ◆ Fences in these areas require zoning approval and a building permit.

#### All Zoning Districts

- ◆ Hedges, trees or shrubs adjacent to lot lines along front yard areas shall not exceed 4 feet in height.
- ◆ Fences, hedges, trees and shrubs placed on a rear yard abutting an alley shall be placed at least 10 feet from the alley.
- ◆ Fences, hedges, trees and shrubs shall not be placed in easements.

### Winter Reminders...

Effective November 1 to April 1



When an emergency weather condition is declared, it is unlawful to park or leave stand any vehicle on ANY street or alley in the city of Wells until the roadway has been completely cleaned, curb to curb.

Snow must be removed from public sidewalks within 24 hours of snowfall.

As a reminder when removing snow from residential and commercial properties, it is unlawful to deposit snow on a public street or alley.