**Mendota News**



**City of Mendota**

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Mendota, MN 55150

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Kathy Krotter, City Clerk

**Council Members:**

Brian Mielke, Mayor: 651-261-2751

Joan Perron: 651-452-9359

Steve Golias: 651-452-1837

Melody Rasmussen: 651-454-6442

Clark Donnelly: 651-785-5790

**Building Permits:**

Mike Andrejka, Building Official:

612-597-9667

Mailing Address: 1011 Sibley Memorial Highway, Lilydale, MN 55118

**Police:**

Kelly McCarthy, Chief of Police:

Non-emergency: 651-452-1366

Emergency: 911

**Fire:**

Emergency: 911

**City Attorney:**

Tom Loonan, City Attorney:

715-808-8842

**The City of Mendota holds City Council Meetings at 7:30 on the second Tuesday of every month at the**

**VFW Post 6690**

**1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy.**

**Mendota, MN 55150**

**Fall 2019**

**Mendota Picnic:**

Thanks to everyone coming out to the Mendota Picnic this year. I would like to thank Bobby Blaschka and his company for supplying all the meat and buns for this year’s picnic again. Which allowed the city to supply the ice cream truck, for everyone to enjoy their favorite ice cream treat. It is always great to see everyone and get caught up on what is going on. THANKS AGAIN!!!!!!

**Autumn Leaves**

Wherever leaves fall, they decompose and restock the soil with nutrients and organic matter.

But when there is no soil to land on—such as on a street or sidewalk—the leaves and all their decomposing bits wash down the street and into the storm drain. They go directly into lakes and rivers where the nutrients will feed unwanted algae growth next summer. In addition to a major "ick" factor, this algae is a problem because when it dies and decomposes at the bottom of the lake it uses up oxygen that fish and native plants need.

Don't "leaf" it up to someone else to solve this problem! Here's what to do with your autumn leaves so that they nourish the soil and not unwanted algae.

Rake the leaves that have accumulated along your curb, sidewalk, and alley:

Several times during the fall, rake up the leaves that have accumulated along your curb and sidewalk.

Never trash or burn your leaves:

Don't add leaves to the regular trash (its illegal!) and don't burn them. Burning leaves releases large amounts of air pollution. These pollutants can cause breathing problems for sensitive groups and lead to long-term health effects for all of us.

Put leaves in your backyard compost pile:

One of the best ways to use leaves (from the street or the yard) is to compost them in your backyard. Learn how to compost in your backyard.

Tip: If your bin isn't big enough to accommodate all your leaves, put early and late season leaves in the bin, then on your main raking weekend bring the rest to a compost or yard waste drop-site. If you have room, also bag up and store some dry leaves to use a carbon source ("browns") in your compost pile during the coming year.

Use leaves to mulch your garden and lawn

Whole or shredded leaves can be used as mulch. Mulch benefits the soil and reduces weeds. On the lawn, use a mower to break apart the leaves so that they fall between the blades of grass (consider using an electric mower, since two-cycle gas lawn mowers, especially older models, produce large amounts of air pollution). Don't let the leaf layer get too thick! In garden beds, leaves provide a protective layer of insulation for perennial gardens and shrubbery, either bagged or loose.

Drop leaves off at a compost site

Another option is to drop off your leaves and sticks at a compost site near you. Depending on where you live, these may be called “yard waste” or "brush” drop sites. Contact your county for drop-off site locations, items accepted and any fees involved.

Consider curbside pick-up if you want a convenient option

Your garbage hauler may separately collect yard waste--sometimes for an additional fee--and then bring it to a commercial compost site. Contact your garbage hauler to learn about your pick-up options.

**Snow Removal**

The City of Mendota asks residents to be aware of city ordinances in regards to parking and snow removal. There is no parking on the street from November 15th to April 15th. Please do not park in such a manner as to obstruct or interfere with snow plowing or snow removal. Also, it is unlawful for any person to deposit snow/ice into the roadway. All snow and ice should be removed from public sidewalks 12 hours after the snow has ceased to fall.

The city thanks you for your cooperation.

**Minnesota Markets for Recyclables – 5/23/19**

* **Glass:**
* **Mixed paper and cardboard**: new paper products (Westrock in Minneapolis or Liberty Paper in Becker)
* **Office paper:** commercial ceiling tiles (USG in Cloquet)
* **Water bottles:** new packaging (Advanced Extrusion in Rogers)
* **Milk jugs and detergent bottles:** plastic lumber (Bedford Technology in Worthington), decking, fencing, plastic tiles, garden edging (Avon Plastics in Paynesville), outdoor furniture (By the Yard in Jordan)
* **Aluminum cans:**
* **Tin cans and steel cans:** rebar (Gerdau Ameristeel, South St. Paul)

Source: Wayne Gjerde (MPCA) and Kare11 - [Recycling: How much of what's in the bin actually gets recycled?](https://www.kare11.com/article/news/recycling-how-much-of-whats-in-the-bin-actually-gets-recycled/89-0960e004-6581-492c-a903-11f3a701b0e3)

“We have good market for glass. We have a good market for mixed paper,” he says. “Cardboard? Your box? Amazon box goes to WestRock or Liberty Paper up in Becker, Minnesota,” Gjerde explains.

They turn it back into boxes. Office paper? That goes to USG up in Cloquet. They turn it into commercial ceiling tiles. Number one plastic? Your pop bottles and water bottles, some of those reinvented into other packaging at Advanced Extrusion in Rogers. Number two plastic, your milk jugs and detergent jugs, are a big one. Bedford Technology in Worthington, Minnesota makes plastic lumber out of them. Avon plastics in Paynesville makes everything from decking and fencing to plastic tiles and garden edging. And, for 25 years in Jordan, they've been making outdoor furniture from recycled plastic lumber. By the Yard makes over 400 products built to last for generations. The less often you have to replace it the better it is for the environment and at the end of its life, the product itself is 100% recyclable.

“Not only do we use recycled material in our products, we also are a zero waste company, so every scrape down to the smallest shaving is recycled and made into poly lumber again,” says Nina Ribar with By the Yard.

Aluminum Cans? We do that here too. And tin? More important in its second life for sure.

"Gerdau Ameristeel, here in South St. Paul, takes steel cans off your curbside and auto hulks from your junkyards, shreds them all up, and makes rebar. So, the 35W bridge had about 3500 tons of rebar that came from Minnesota material or regionally,” says Gjerde.

So, we are making a difference by keeping things out of the landfill, but here in Minnesota more than 60% of what we toss in the trash could be recycled or composted.  We definitely have room for improvement.

REMEMBER:

REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE