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**

Winter 2020

Annual Tree Lighting!

This year would have been our 10th Annual Tree Lighting. But due to COVID 19 the annual tree lighting was cancelled.

FOOD WASTE

The best thing that can happen to food is that it makes it to our plates and is enjoyed. Avoiding throwing out food that could have been eaten will save you money and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However some food waste is inevitable - egg shells, banana skins and tea bags are never going to be on the menu.

Home composting is a great way to stop this sort of waste ending up in landfills, and our gardens will really thank us for it. And home composting is pretty easy to do. We also live in an area that has food waste or organic recycling. We have two collection spots one in West St Paul and the other in Eagan.

Did you know?

Around 7 million tons of food is thrown away by households and most of it could have been eaten.

Some of the waste is made up of things like peelings, cores and bones, but the majority is, or once was, perfectly good food.

Most of it ends up in landfill sites where it rots and releases methane, a damaging green house gas. Throwing away food is also a huge waste of the energy, water and packaging used in its production, transportation and storage. If we all stopped wasting the food which could have been eaten, it would have the same CO2 impact as taking 1 in 4 cars off the roads.

The amount of food we throw away is a waste of resources. Just think about all the energy, water and packaging used in food production, transportation and storage. This all goes to waste when we throw away perfectly good food.

Cheese is a good example – feeding and milking the cows, cooling and transporting the milk, processing it in to cheese, packing it, getting it to the grocery stores, keeping it at the right temperature all the time. If it then gets thrown away it will most likely end up in a landfill site, where, rather than harmlessly decomposing as many people think, it rots and actually releases methane, a powerful greenhouse gas.

Issues and solutions

Don't forget to make the most of your food and drink and try to avoid wasting food in the first place. For ideas, recipes and simple tips visit Love Food Hate Waste. You could also try to compost at home.

A food waste container in your kitchen can help you to separate out your food waste for recycling and composting. (I use an old coffee container.) This can be emptied into your compost bin or organic recycling centers every couple of days. Where possible keep your bins out of direct sunlight and keep the bin lid closed. Adding leaves to the compost helps break down the food and make the best soil for planting.

Find out more and watch some top food recycling tips videos

RECYCLING KNOWLEDGE: Check out the web for these great ideas.

Getting started

How is it recycled?

Recycling around the home

Recycling collections

Recycling centers

Food waste

Garden waste

Food recycling

**When your stuff doesn’t spark joy**

Have you been inspired to purge your stuff by watching shows like Tidying Up with Marie Kondo on Netflix? Instead of throwing away all the books and clothes that don’t spark joy, get rid of them in a way that is good for the environment — donate, sell, borrow and repair.

Donate: Drop-off your items at a secondhand store, non-profit organization, such as Bridging Inc. or Goodwill, or scheduled a pick up from your home. Use the Reuse in Dakota County Guide to find outlets for your unwanted clothes, furniture and more - www.dakotacounty.us, search donate.

Sell: Use Craigslist, NextDoor or Facebook Marketplace to sell your excess goods or an app like Decluttr or Thredup. Exchange money and good at safe spot like your city police station or a Dakota County Swap Spots.

Borrow: The next time you feel you need a new kitchen gadget, book or tool see if you can borrow it. Ask your neighbors for items through NextDoor or Facebook.

Repair: Get your broken items fixed, so they will be useful again. Attend a Fix-It Clinic to get free repair help or bring them to one of many local repair businesses. Check upcoming dates at www.dakotacounty.us.

Get rid of: If you aren’t sure where to take cleaning products, furniture or confidential documents, ask the Green Guide at [www.dakotacounty.us](http://www.dakotacounty.us).

MS4 Permit: Things that residents can know.

o MCM1: Public Education and Outreach

o MCM2: Public Participation/Involvement

o MCM3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

o MCM4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

o MCM6: Post Construction Stormwater Management

o MCM6: Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations