

# City of New Germany

### **DECEMBER 2019**

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

#### New Germany Minnesota

City Staff



Mayor Steve VanLith
Council Members Shirley Jaeger
Nick Hartwig
Thomas Mielke
Ty Turnquist
City Clerk Treasurer Twyla Menth
Office AssistantConnie Stahlke
Water/Sewer—
People Service
Public WorksSteve VanLith

## CITY OFFICE CLOSED

December 24-25, January 1. January 20, 2020 is observed Martin Luther King Day. Office is closed on all the dates listed above, check the office door for any additional information.



#### Safe sidewalks, clean lake

Many Minnesota lakes and rivers are contaminated with too much salt. It's often referred to as chloride pollution because from the sodium chloride compound it's the chloride that is sticks around and causes problems. Significant chloride pollution occurs this time of year from the salt used to remove ice from pavement and walkways.

#### Impossible and corrosive

Once in a lake, chloride is virtually impossible to remove. And it doesn't take much. Just one teaspoon a salt contains enough chloride to permanently pollute five gallons of water. Beyond our lakes and river chlorides is causing additional problems.

Salt has contaminated groundwater in areas of Minnesota. Twenty-seven percent of monitoring wells in the metro area's shallow aquifers had chloride concentrations exceeding drinking water guidelines. Thirty percent of Twin Cities wells had chloride concentrations that exceeded the water quality standard.

High chloride concentrations are toxic to fish, aquatic bugs, amphibians, and birds who might mistakenly ingest the pieces. It can also harm our pets who may lick it off their paws or drink salty snowmelt. In the landscape it kills plants, trees and lawns, and changes soil so future

growth is difficult. It corrodes metal in vehicles, roads and bridges. It damages pavement on

It corrodes metal in vehicles, roads and bridges. It damages pavement or roads, bridges, garages, sidewalks and building facades and entrances.

#### Reduce use and keep it safe

The best way to prevent ice and ice-related slip and falls is to shovel. Shovel early and shovel often. That way the snow doesn't have time to become compacted and turn to ice. Remove the snow and there is less there to turn to ice, reducing the need for salt.

If you have tricky areas where ice tends to build up, apply a liquid de-icer before the storm. This prevents the ice from bonding to the pavement and makes it easier to remove. Make your own liquid de-icer by mixing two cups of hot water with one cup of salt.

Salt only works once it is dissolved. If you can see salt on your driveway hours after it's been applied, it isn't doing any work. Sweep it up and use it again next time. Otherwise, it will just blow away or wash into storm drains with the next melt.

#### Drive like its winter

Snow plow operators and equipment have gotten exceptionally good at getting us clear pavement. So good that no matter what mother nature brings, the expectation is dry pavement. The country of Sweden, another snowy area, doesn't have chloride problems. A University of Wisconsin study looked at 114 lakes in Sweden, and even the lakes close to roads have low chloride levels. There is almost no salt used there. Drivers just go slower.

Plan extra time for your travels and if you don't have to, don't drive during poor road conditions.

# Christmas Tree Recycling NOT in New Germany.

Christmas Tree Recycling will be at the Mayer recycling center located on Cty Rd 30 by Mayer. Take Cty Rd 30 to the east, over the bridge and it is the waste water facility on the left side, 2nd gate. Winter hours are Saturday 8 AM—12 PM. You can drop them off starting January 4, <u>Saturdays 8am-noon</u>. Be sure to remove all ornaments and lights and bags. This is a free service from Carver County.

### **SNOW PARKING RULES**

NO Parking on city streets following a snowfall of 1" or more.

NO Parking on city streets between 2am and 7am beginning Nov. 1 thru March 31

PENALTY—If your car is parked illegally during snow plowing, the Sheriff Dept. will be called and you will receive a ticket.

# YOUR MAILBOX IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

Please be sure to shovel out around your own mailbox, or your shared mailbox station. The delivery person cannot get to your mailbox if the snow is piled high from the snow plow and it is not the responsibility of the City to shovel out around the mailbox posts.



### Garbage & Recycling Updates

Reminder garbage is delayed by one day if a Holiday is before Thursday pick up.

<u>Recycling</u>—there has been some changes in the recycling industry. Remember during the holiday season bubble wrap, cellophane, holiday ribbons, bows, batteries, food waste, clothing, shoes, holiday lights, electronics, foam packaging are not recyclable and belong int the waste container.

Recyclable items - Make sure you are washing your plastic water, soda, juice, dish soap, lotion, detergent jugs before placing in recycle bin (lids can be on). Plastic cups, pudding, fruit cups, clear disposable cups (no straws) margarine/whip cream tubs, cottage cheese & similar containers, clear produce, deli & take out containers (empty& rinse; lids on). All cardboard boxes, cereal, cracker, pasta, tissue, shoe, gift, electronic boxes, toothpaste & other toiletry boxes, flatten all boxes. Milk cartons, juice cartons, juice boxes, soup, broth & wine cartons (empty& clean/rinse and dry; caps on). Mail, office & school papers, magazines, catalogs, newspaper, inserts, phone books (clean; staples ok). Food cans, beverage cans (empty; labels ok). Brown, green, clear bottles, jars (empty/rinse; no lids).

### Non Recyclable items—

Foil pouches, bags, wrappers, dishes, vases, mirrors, plastic straws, utensils, refrigerator, freezer boxes, polystyrene foam (Styrofoam), pizza boxes.

<u>Damage or entangle equipment list</u>—plastic bags, ropes, hoses, chains, scrap metal, bulky items, shredded paper. <u>Harm workers</u>— medical sharps, diapers, batteries, hazardous products.

### New Germany Minnesota

300 Broadway Street East PO Box 177 New Germany, MN 55367

952-353-2488 Office 952-353-8021 Fax ngcityhall@gmail.com Building Insp. - 763-479-1720 Hall Rental 952-353-1781

### **OFFICE HOURS**

MON thru THURS 8:30-4:30 Closed on Fridays www.cityofnewgermany.com

Meeting Schedules: Council - 7:00 pm 1st & 3rd Tuesday

Commercial Club 7:00 pm 4th Monday

Fire Department 7:00 pm 1st Monday

Planning Commission is the 4th Tuesday at 6



### 2020 MEETING SCHEDULES

Council Meetings	Fire Department Mtg				
January 7	January 6				
January 21	February 3				
February 4	March 2				
February 14	April 6				
March 4 (Wednesday)	May 4				
March 17	June 1				
April 7	July 6				
April 21	August 3				
May 5	September 8				
May 19	October 7				
June 2	November 2				
June 16	December 7				
July 7	Commercial Club Meetings				
July 21	January 27 September 28				
August 4 @ 8 PM	March 23 October 26				
August 21	April 27 November 30				
September 1	City Events				
September 15	April 4—Easter Egg Hunt				
October 6	April 17—Fire Dept. Dance				
October 20	May 16—Spring Clean up				
November 4 (Wednesday)	July 31, Aug 1-2 Softball Tournament				
November 17	August 4—National Night Out				
December 1	October 24—Halloween Party				
December 15	November 24—Turkey Bingo				
	December 5—Breakfast with Santa				
Planning Commission meets PM.	as needed on the 4th Tuesday @ 6				

#### QUARUM OF COUNCIL MAY BE PRESENT

In Election Year—2020, Presidential Primary is March 3, Primary is August 11, November 3 is General Election. The first meeting in March must be Wednesday due to Presidential Primary.

### Winter Safety Rules

SIDEWALKS—As a property or business owner, it is your responsibility to keep the sidewalk in front of your home or business shoveled & free from ice and snow. Please take care of any snow or ice within 24 hours of a snowfall or ice storm.

GAS METERS—Keep the screen on your outside meter clear of snow to keep it working properly.

ADOPT A FIRE HYDRANT—Please adopt the fire hydrant closest to your home. Keep it clear of snow. In case of a fire, this protects both you and your neighbors.

### ICE SKATING RINK

If there is any interest for an Ice Skating Rink please call and voice your opinion. Also, volunteers would be needed to help with the maintenance of the ice skating rink, if willing to volunteer time please call the City Office.

# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's	2	<b>3</b> Garbage Day	4
5	6 Fire	7 Council Mtg	8	<b>9</b> Recy	10	11
12	13	14	15 Old- ies but Goodies	16	17	18
19	20 Martin Luther King/ closed	21 Council Mtg	22	23 Recy	24	25
26	27 Commer- cial Club	28 PC if need- ed	29	30	31	