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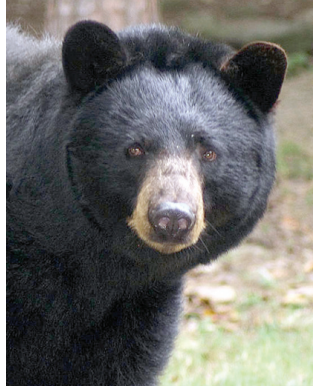
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Be aware of tips for avoiding conflicts bears this spring



Be aware of bears this spring and check property for food sources that could attract bears.

"Bears are roaming around now with the loss of snow and warmer weather, so interactions with people have started in many areas of Minnesota," said Eric Nelson, wildlife damage program supervisor for the Department of Natural

Resources.

As bears emerge from hibernation, their metabolism gradually ramps up and they will begin looking for food at a time when berries and green vegetation can be scarce. Remove attractants such as bird seed, garbage, livestock feed, or compost to reduce potential conflict. Attracting bears to yards can lead to property damage and presents dangers to bears.

Black bears are the only bear species that live in the wild in Minnesota. They usually are shy and flee when encountered. Never approach or try to pet a bear. Injury to people is rare, but bears are potentially dangerous because of their size, strength and speed.

The DNR does not relocate

problem bears. Relocated bears seldom remain where they are released. They may return to where they were caught or become a problem somewhere else.

The DNR offers some tips for avoiding bear conflicts:

Around the yard

Do not feed birds from April 1 to Nov. 15. Anytime you feed birds, you risk attracting bears.

If you must feed birds, hang birdfeeders 10 feet up and 4 feet out from the nearest trees. Use a rope and pulley system to refill birdfeeders, and clean up spilled seeds.

Do not put out feed for wildlife (like corn, oats, pellets or molasses blocks).

Replace hummingbird feeders with hanging flower baskets, which are also attrac-

tive to hummingbirds.

Do not leave food from barbecues and picnics outdoors, especially overnight. Coolers are not bear-proof.

Clean and store barbecue grills after each use. Store them in a secure shed or garage away from windows and doors.

Elevate bee hives on bear-proof platforms or erect properly designed electric fences.

Pick fruit from trees as soon as it's ripe and collect fallen fruit immediately.

Limit compost piles to grass, leaves and garden clippings, and turn piles regularly. Do not add food scraps.

Harvest garden produce as it matures. Locate gardens away from forests and shrubs that bears may use for cover. Use native plants in land-

scaping whenever possible.

Store pet food inside and feed pets inside. If pets must be fed outdoors, feed them only as much as they will eat.

Garbage

Store garbage in bear-resistant garbage cans or dumpsters. Rubber or plastic garbage cans are not bear-proof.

Keep garbage inside a secure building until the morning of pickup.

Properly rinse all recyclable containers with hot water to remove all remaining product.

Store recyclable containers, such as pop cans, inside.

People should always be cautious around bears. If bear problems persist after cleaning up food sources, contact a DNR area wildlife office for advice.



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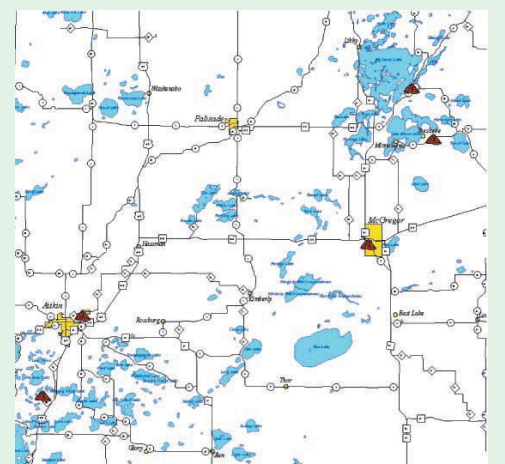
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WHERE CAN I BRING MY LEAVES AND GRASS CLIPPINGS?

Aitkin County has several places where you can bring your leaves and lawn clippings free of charge.

1. City of McGregor
2. Shamrock Township
(Sites located off of County Rd 6 and 40.)
3. Aitkin County
(Located 6 miles south of Aitkin at the Oakridge Landfill.)



In addition, you may compost your leaves and grass clippings on site. For more information on composting, contact the Aitkin County Environmental Services Department at 218-927-7342.

BACKYARD COMPOSTING

Composting is a process that allows naturally occurring microbes to convert yard waste such as leaves and grass clippings, and fruit and vegetable scraps to a useful organic soil amendment or mulch. The following information should get you started in composting the organic material found on your property.

- 1) Collect organic wastes such as leaves, grass clippings, fruit and vegetable scraps, and put them in a convenient but unobtrusive spot out of the wind and direct sunlight.
- 2) Build the compost pile in layers (a 5' X 5' X 5') compost pile is the largest you should need. You can begin with a layer of twigs 4 to 6 inches thick for good air circulation. Next add eight to ten inches of the above organic wastes. You can add equal parts of leaves and grass clippings for optimal composting.
- 3) Wet the pile to the point of being moist, but not soggy. If the pile gets to wet, you can turn it more frequently to dry it out or add more brown materials to soak up the excess moisture.
- 4) In about a week your compost will be ready for turning. Turn the pile every few days if you'd like finished compost in a month or so. Turning it less often will increase the composting time.
- 5) The compost is finished when the material is dark, crumbly and fresh smelling.

The finished compost can be used as a soil amendment by adding porosity, nutrients and water retention.

For more information on composting, contact the
Aitkin County Environmental Services Department at 218-927-7342.



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All charges against Hunter resolved by acquittal or dismissal — for now

After a two-year-old legal battle, 70-year-old former Crosby Mayor, James Hunter has been vindicated on all criminal charges that were filed against him.

On Friday, April 19, the last two pending criminal charges were dismissed in Crow Wing County District Court in Brainerd.

However, according to a *Brainerd Dispatch* article, Crow Wing County Attorney

Don Ryan is considering re-charging Hunter with a misdemeanor for falsely reporting a crime.

Ryan could not be reached for comment.

"Mr. Hunter and I are pleased to announce that the remaining charges against Mr. Hunter have been dismissed," said Hunter's Attorney Ed Shaw. "Out of a total of seven charges brought against Mr. Hunter, four were resolved by

acquittal after trial, and three were dismissed shortly before trial by the County Attorney's Office. This ends an over two year long process where Mr. Hunter was arrested without notice, and charges were filed against him based on false accusations."

For the past two years, Hunter and Shaw have worked their way through the court system. Shaw feels the charges were politically motivated.

"The arrest happened shortly after he took office as Mayor of Crosby," Shaw said. "He had been a critic of the leadership of the police department. It appears that the leadership initiated the charges to discredit him, and prevent him from implementing needed reforms at the police department. The charges were prosecuted by

the Crow Wing County Attorney's Office, even though the police department leadership was investigating and prosecuting their own mayor. They did not follow standard procedure and refer the case to an outside law enforcement agency."

Shaw said the ordeal took an emotional toll on his client and damaged Hunter's reputation.

"Despite having a clean record," Shaw said "Mr. Hunter was jailed, his mug shot was shown all over local and twin cities media. Banks and accountants stopped doing business with him based on the accusations. It will be very difficult or impossible for him to repair the damage done to his reputation."

He also spoke about the financial toll.

"The investigation and

prosecution cost Mr. Hunter tens of thousands of dollars in lost business and court costs," said Shaw. "Tens of thousands of dollars of taxpayer funds were wasted by the Crosby Police Department, and the Crow Wing County Attorney's Office investigating and prosecuting Mr. Hunter."

Shaw asks for transparency and accountability.

"It is our goal that those responsible for initiating, and prosecuting Mr. Hunter, based on false accusations, be held accountable," said Shaw. "Until the Crosby Police Department is led by individuals who respect the rule of law and treat all citizens fairly, no citizen of Crosby will be safe from false arrest. The citizens of Crow Wing County deserve a County Attorney's Office who will only prosecute citizens

when there is solid evidence that they have committed a crime. All of us deserve the equal protection of the law.

"We are asking that the files concerning the investigation and prosecution of Mr. Hunter be opened to the public. The citizens of Crosby, and Crow Wing County deserve to know how much money was spent by the Crosby Police Department, and the Crow Wing County Attorney's Office, and who was responsible for deciding to investigate and prosecute Mr. Hunter.

"It is our hope that full disclosure will prevent the legal process from being used for political purposes again. No citizen should have to go through what Mr. Hunter did, it is our goal to prevent this type of abuse of the legal system from ever happening again in this county."

Burning restrictions

Warm temperatures and dry conditions mean increased wildfire risk, so the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will restrict open burning in the following counties effective immediately: Anoka, Benton, Chisago, Douglas, Grant, Hennepin, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Pope, Ramsey, Sherburne, Stearns, Stevens, Todd, Traverse, Washington, and Wright.

The state will not issue burning permits for brush or yard waste in these counties until restrictions are lifted.

"Escaped debris burns are the number one cause

of wildfires, so that's why we issue these restrictions," said Casey McCoy, DNR fire prevention supervisor. "They really work—we've reduced wildfires by nearly a third since we started spring burning restrictions in 2001."

McCoy encourages residents to use alternatives to burning, such as composting, chipping, or taking brush to a collection site. For information on how to compost yard debris, visit the DNR's guide to composting yard debris.

People who burn debris will be held financially responsible if their fire escapes and burns other property.

DNR conservation officer dies in line of duty

Funeral services were held on Friday, April 26 at the Pine City Civic Center for a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources conservation officer who died in the line of duty following an incident Friday, April 19, on Cross Lake in Pine City.

CO Eugene Wynn, who patrolled the Pine City station, and a deputy with the Pine County Sheriff's Office were responding to a report of a possible body in the water. The two officers launched Wynn's boat and motored away from shore.

Within a minute, both were thrown from the boat into the

water. Rescuers were able to rescue the deputy, who was treated and released from the hospital, but Wynn slipped beneath the water before rescuers could get to him. Wynn's body was recovered at 1:35 a.m. on April 20.

An autopsy will be conducted. The Pine County Sheriff's Office is leading the investigation into the incident. Questions about the investigation should be directed to the sheriff's office at 320-629-8380.

Once called game wardens, conservation officers have protected Minnesota's natural resources and people

since 1887.

Wynn is the 22nd Minnesota conservation officer to die in the line of duty. He had been a conservation officer since 2001. Wynn is survived by his wife and two children.

"Words can't describe the sense of loss we feel at this time," said DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen. "Officer Wynn's service to the state of Minnesota is a debt we can never repay."

Col. Rodmen Smith, DNR Enforcement Division director, said, "Officer Wynn served the Enforcement Division, the DNR, and the people of Minnesota with

distinction. We're devastated by his loss and ask the people of Minnesota to keep Officer Wynn and his family in their thoughts during this difficult time."

"As a first responder, peace officer, and protector of Minnesota's natural resources, Officer Eugene Wynn dedicated his life to keeping Minnesotans safe and making our state a better place to live," said Governor Walz.

"Gwen and I send our deepest sympathies to his family and on behalf of the State of Minnesota, we thank him for his many years of selfless service."



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Warning of scammers posing as Social Security Administration

Clever scammers have been playing on people's fears lately with phone calls impersonating the Social Security Administration, according to the Federal Trade Commission.

According to the FTC's latest Consumer Protection Data Spotlight, the FTC has seen a major increase in reports of scammers telling people their Social Security

numbers are connected to a crime and their bank accounts may be frozen or seized.

"The callers also try to get people to reveal their Social Security numbers by falsely claiming they have been suspended," the FTC reports. "This is a scam. The Social Security Administration will not suspend your Social Security number, nor will it

direct you to withdraw money from your bank account."

The scam is running so rampant, the FTC received more than 76,000 reports of it from April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019 – and that's just the people who chose to report the calls. In the past two months alone, the FTC has received 36,000 such reports. In total, callers reported losses of \$19 million

from Social Security scams in the last year.

The Social Security Administration will never call someone and ask for their Social Security number, so if that happens, consumers should refuse to give out any personal information or confirm any information.

Here are some other tips to avoid falling victim to this convincing scam:

- Don't trust your caller ID: The internet has made it possible for scammers to use fake IDs when they call you, so it could appear to be a legitimate or local source. If you're suspicious, don't make any important decisions based on the caller ID.

- Contact the Social Security Administration: If you're concerned about a call from someone claiming to be with

the SSA, you can call the real SSA at 1-800-772-1213.

- Never give personal information to unsolicited callers: As a general rule, if someone contacts you out of the blue, refuse to confirm or provide any personal information. It's OK to get their number and verify their legitimacy before returning the call. If they're a reputable source, they will understand.

LEGAL NOTICES

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., April 27, 2019)

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BAY LAKE TOWNSHIP

The Annual Spring Road Inspection for Bay Lake Township will be held on April 29, 2019 starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Bay Lake Town Hall.

Dated: April 11, 2019
CAROL PUNDT
Bay Lake Township Clerk
3.7

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., April 27, 2019)

NOTICE OF SIREN TESTING CITY OF CUYUNA

The City of Cuyuna will test its Emergency Sirens on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Dated: April 15, 2019
William F. Bedard
Cuyuna City Clerk
1.825

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(Published in NewsHopper Sat., April 27 & May 4, 2019)

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BIDS CUYUNA TRUCK

Sealed bids for purchasing F.O.B. Cuyuna, one 1993 Ford F350 4x4 pickup, odometer reading 66,565 miles, will be received at Cuyuna City Hall, by mail at P.O. Box 536, Deerwood, MN in order to be received by the 13th day of May, 2019. Bids may also be received at 6:30 p.m. through 7:00 p.m. on the 13th day of May, 2019, at the City Hall.

At 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as is convenient, bids will be opened and considered at the City Hall.

The outside of the sealed envelope must be properly marked, "Bid on Cuyuna Truck" or similar words. The truck is on view near City Hall, 24945 Minnesota Avenue, Deerwood MN 56444 (Cuyuna).

Bids to be on the basis of cash or certified check or money order upon final delivery and acceptance in accordance with the specifications for this equipment.

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days after bid closing date without consent of the Buyer.

The buyer reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to accept the bid it feels is in the best interest of the City.

By order of the City Council of City of Cuyuna.

Dated: April 15, 2019
WILLIAM F. BEDARD
Cuyuna City Clerk
6.7

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., April 27, 2019)

AITKIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE NO.2. NOTICE OF HEARING

The Aitkin County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the adoption of amendments to the Aitkin County Zoning Ordinance and adoption of the Aitkin County Solid Waste Ordinance No.2. The hearing will be conducted on May 20, 2019, at 4:00 pm in the Aitkin County Courtroom Room No.3 of the Aitkin County Courthouse. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation on the proposed ordinance and ordinance amendments to the County Board of Commissioners for final review at a regularly scheduled board meeting on or after June 11, 2019.

A summary of the sections of the Aitkin County Zoning Ordinance proposed for amendment are: Section 3 (Definitions) - add Overnight Occupant; Section 13 (Violation and Penalties)ability to enforce solid waste violations through MN Statute 375.18, Subp.14; Section 17 (Vacation/Private Home Rental) - renewal of application through a Lodging License, nonovernight guest regulations, clarify building code and fire code requirements, requirements for a contact person, require an informational handbook, clarify seven day rental time frame, and add APPENDIX D- sample conditions; and Appendix A (Classification List)- include Fish Hatchery, Fish Farm, public/private as a Conditional Use Permit in all zoning districts except Not Permitted in the Residential zoning district.

Language that is proposed for deletion is in strikethrough and proposed new language is in red.

A summary of the Aitkin County Solid Waste Ordinance No.2 are: Article I - (Repeal Purpose, Authority, and Policy); Article II- (Definitions, Rules and Word Usage); Article III (General Provisions)- Department Powers and Duties, Boundaries of Service Area, Highest Standards Prevail, Jurisdiction, Planning and Zoning Approval, Waivers, Agency Approval, Indemnification, Financial Assurance, No Consent, False Information, Data Privacy, Severability; Article IV- (Waste Abatement, Storage, Collection, Processing and Disposal); Article V- (Hauler Licensing Provisions); Article VI- (Facility Requirements and Licenses/Permits); and Article VII -(Inspections, Violations and Enforcement).

The above is only a summary; a full text version is available for public review at the Aitkin County Planning and Zoning Office and the Aitkin County Auditor's Office in the Aitkin County Courthouse during regular business hours. A copy of the proposed ordinance amendments can also be viewed in its entirety on the Aitkin County website at www.co.aitkin.mn.us. Comments can be submitted in writing to the Aitkin County Planning and Zoning Office: 209 2nd St NW, Rm 100, Aitkin, MN 56431, by facsimile (218) 927-4372, or by e-mail to aitkinpz@co.aitkin.mn.us before 4:00pm on May 13, 2019. Please include a full name and complete mailing address with all correspondences.

14.80

(Published in NewsHopper Sat., April 27, 2019)

AITKIN COUNTY FOOD PROTECTION AND LODGING ESTABLISHMENT ORDINANCES NOTICE OF HEARING

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the adoption of amendments to the Aitkin County Food Protection and Lodging Establishment Ordinances. The hearing will be conducted on May 14, 2019 at 9:30am in the Aitkin City Hall meeting room located at 109 151 Ave NW, Aitkin, MN 56431.

The Aitkin County Board has entered into a Delegation Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health based on MN Statutes Section 145A.07. Through this delegation of authority, the Aitkin County Board has been charged with protecting the public health as outlined under MN Statutes Chapters 144, 157, and 327. The Food Protection and Lodging Establishment Ordinances are being updated to maintain consistency with Statute and Rule as required in the Scope of the Delegation Agreement.

A summary of the areas for proposed changes within the Food Protection Ordinance are:

SECTIONS 2.00 SCOPE; 4.00 DEFINITIONS; 5.00 ADOPTION OF FOOD AND BEVERAGE ESTABLISHMENT STANDARDS; 6.00 LICENSING; 7.00 INSPECTIONS; 10.00 SOLID WASTE; adding Section 11 .00 HANDWASH SINK REQUIREMENTS and SECTION 12.00 FOOD AND BEVERAGE EQUIPMENT RE-

QUIREMENTS, and renumbering in SECTIONS 13.00 thru 17.00.

Proposed changes within the Lodging Ordinance are:

SECTIONS 2.00 SCOPE; 4.00 DEFINITIONS; 5.00 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS; 14.00 FIRE PROTECTION; eliminate SECTION 20.00 PROVISION OF SPECIAL SERVICES; SECTION 21 VARIANCES and renumbering in SECTIONS 20.00 thru 23.00.

Language that is proposed for deletion is in strikethrough and proposed new language is in red.

Copies of these Ordinances with the proposed amendments are available for review and inspection at the Aitkin County Planning and Zoning Office and the Aitkin County Auditor's Office in the Aitkin County Courthouse during regular business hours. A copy with proposed amendments can also be viewed in their entirety on the Aitkin County website at www.co.aitkin.mn.us. Comments can be submitted in writing to the Aitkin County Planning and Zoning Office 209 2nd St NW, Aitkin, MN 56431, by fax# (218) 927-4372, or by e-mail to aitkinpz@co.aitkin.mn.us before 4:30pm on May 10,

2019. Please include a full name and a complete address with all correspondence.

April 24 and May 8, 2019
13.6

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2012 DODGE DURANGO RT ALL WHEEL DRIVE
\$18,972
 #390560
 EXCELLENT CONDITION, NAVIGATION, 5.7 HEMI! 3RD ROW SEAT, HEATED LEATHER SEATS, SUNROOF, REAR AIR, POWER LIFTGATE, TOW PACKAGE

2018 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT 4X4
\$44,993
 #195018
 FANTASTIC LOW MILEAGE TAHOE WITH HEATED LEATHER & QUAD SEATING! SAVE THOUSANDS!

2016 FORD ESCAPE 4X4
\$19,974
 #N280329
 LOADED INCLUDING HEATED LEATHER, POWER LIFTGATE, SATELLITE RADIO & MORE! CALL TANNER MOTORS TODAY!

2016 NISSAN MURRANO SL AWD
\$23,974
 #N185102
 EXCELLENT CONDITION, NAVIGATION, HEATED LEATHER SEATS, SATELLITE RADIO, PRICED THOUSANDS BELOW BOOK!

2017 MAZDA CX-3 AWD
\$19,982
 #285084
 ALL WHEEL DRIVE! ONLY 7,XXX ACTUAL ONE OWNER MILES! 32 MPG!

2012 FORD F150 SUPERCREW 4X4 PLATINUM
\$19,983
 #N285103
 FANTASTIC BUY ON THIS TRUCK! HEATED & COOLED LEATHER!

2013 FORD F150 SUPERCREW FX4
\$26,981
 #290382
 BEAUTIFUL SUPER CREW WITH HEATED LEATHER, MOONROOF, NAVIGATION AND MORE!

2009 FORD F150 SUPER CREW 4X4
\$16,981
 #290149
 FORD'S TOP OF THE LINE PLATINUM EDITION WITH HEATED LEATHER NAVIGATION, MOONROOF & MORE!

2018 NISSAN FRONTIER CREW CAB
\$23,991
 #N195010
 BLACK BEAUTY! STILL UNDER FULL FACTORY WARRANTY! SEVERAL FRONTIERS TO CHOOSE FROM AT TANNER'S!

2014 RAM 1500 CREW CAB LARAMIE
\$28,971
 #280614
 LOADED! SUPER CLEAN LARAMIE WITH HEATED/COOLED LEATHER, NAVIGATION PLUS MORE!

2015 DODGE CHARGER RT
\$25,971
 #290361
 5.7L HEMI LOADED WITH HEATED LEATHER, NAV, DUAL ZONE A/C PLUS MUCH MORE! GET YOUR CHARGER TODAY!