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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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## Two-year federal project to refurbish Sandy River dam



replacing gates and solving electrical issues."

While four rivers flow into Big Sandy Lake, the Sandy River is the only one flowing out of the lake. It meets with the Mississippi River about 1.5 miles downstream.

"Sandy Lake is a natural lake that hooks up to the Mississippi River."

The Mississippi Headwaters dams were constructed to release water downstream to the Twin Cities when waterways were the main source hauling goods and

people. Waters were released from the Headwaters' reservoirs when the busy Twin Cities river area got dry.

"In the 1930s there were many navigation improvements, so the Headwaters Dams were not needed for Minneapolis-St. Paul water levels," continued Frauenshuh. "They needed feet of water not inches of water. So, the purpose of the Headwaters' dams changed."

Now, the existing dams are used for flood control, recreation areas and envi-

ronmental stewardship.

"We do control water on Big Sandy Lake for local purposes." She said that it varies by six inches in the summer months. In the winter, it is drawn down a couple feet to allow for snow melt."

The recreation area is staffed by two full-time federal employees and seasonal workers as well.

**History of the Mississippi Headwaters dams**

The Mississippi River Headwaters Project consists

**Continued on Page 7**

A huge heartfelt  
*thank you*  
to the Ironton American Legion for assisting the family in making Jim Hunter's Celebration of Life a beautiful and memorable one.

By ANN SCHWARTZ  
A big crane is visible from a distance as the dam at Big Sandy Lake in Aitkin County (north of McGregor) is completely rebuilt.  
Tami Frauenshuh, head park ranger at the Big Sandy Corps of Engineers Recreation Area, talked about the project in an interview. "The original dam in was built in 1895, and, in 1908 it was converted to concrete structure.  
"Some of the timbers we are replacing date back to 1895," Frauenshuh explained. "We are also replacing damaged concrete,

## Thoroughbred Carpets demolished



The Thoroughbred Carpets building at the intersection of Highways 210 and 6 in Deerwood was demolished by DeChantal Excavating on Thursday, August 25 to make way for a 6,500-square-foot clinic and a 700-square-foot pharmacy for Essentia Health.

## SHIFT CLINIC

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# Public comments sought on CWC short-term rental ordinance revisions

The Crow Wing County Land Services Department is requesting public comment on proposed revisions to the Crow Wing County Short-Term Rental Ordinance. The proposed ordinance revisions can be viewed on the County website at [www.crowwing.us/ordinance](http://www.crowwing.us/ordinance). Written comments on the proposed revisions will be accepted until September 29 at 5 p.m., and may be submitted to the Land Services Department at [landservices@crowwing.us](mailto:landservices@crowwing.us) or mailed to: Land Services Building, 322 Laurel Street,

Suite 15 Brainerd, MN 56401, attn.: "STR Ordinance". A public hearing for the proposed revisions to the Short-Term Rental Ordinance is set for October 11, 2022, during the Crow Wing County Board of Commissioners regular meeting.

**The proposed revisions will seek to:**

- Revise section 2.3 to state that "a property is exempt from county licensing if the municipality or local government unit does not allow, by ordinance, Short-Term rentals in the entirety of their jurisdiction. Written notice must be provided to the County by the municipality/LGU."
- Revise section 5.2 to allow for an occupancy of three (3) people per-bedroom plus one (1) overall additional persons per unit (down from 4 people per-bedroom plus 1 overall).
- Revise other section that are more minor in nature.

Crow Wing County's Short-Term Rental Ordinance was approved by County Commissioners in June of 2020, and became effective on January 1, 2021. The Ordinance requires each rental unit to apply for an annual license with the County, with annual fees varying from \$200-\$500, depending on the number of bedrooms. In 2021, over 360 licenses were issued for Short-Term rentals. From January 1 through August 29, 2022, over 440 licenses have been

issued for Short-Term rentals. Crow Wing County reminds everyone to be a good neighbor whether you are staying in one of the many Short-Term rentals in Crow Wing County or living next to one. If there are any issues with a neighboring rental, please contact Crow Wing County's 24-hour Short-Term rental concern/complaint hotline at (218) 824-1132.

The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping landowners make wise choices that protect Crow Wing County's extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Land Services Office at (218) 824-1010 or [landservices@crowwing.us](mailto:landservices@crowwing.us) to discuss land use activities. Crow Wing County information and resources can be found at [www.crowwing.us](http://www.crowwing.us).

## Crow Wing County Recycling, Pharmaceutical & Oil Drop Sites

### Recycling Drop Locations

**Pharmaceuticals**  
**Used Oil**  
**Recycling**

**218-824-1290**      **Sanitary Landfill is open Monday through Saturday, April 1st - October 31st, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

Map created by the CWC Land Services, for reference use only. Not to Scale.

## Two die in plane crash

The Crow Wing County Sheriff Scott Goddard reported on Sunday, Aug. 28 at approximately 6:44 p.m., that Crow Wing County Deputies responded to Minnie Lake Drive near Emily because a plane had taken off, but had not arrived at its destination. The Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office, Crosslake Police Department, Emily Fire Department, the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office UAS team and Lifelink III, began searching the area. At approximately 8:36 p.m., the plane was located in a wooded area

near Minne Lake Drive. The pilot, identified as 61-year-old Douglas Johnson of rural Emily and the passenger identified as a 58-year-old Lee Cemensky of Las Vegas, NV, were both located deceased. The crash is currently under investigation by the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office, the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board. The sheriff's department was assisted by the Crosslake Police Department, Emily Fire Department and Lifelink III.

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# OBITUARIES

## BRADLEY HANSEN



Bradley W. Hansen, 63, died Monday, August 15, 2022, at Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge, MA.

His funeral service will be held September 10, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster St, Worcester. Burial with military honors will be at Mount Zion Cemetery, Webster. Brad's Life Celebration will be held at Andy's Neighborhood Canteen, 9 Frederick St, Webster, MA. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main St, Webster.

He was born in Brainerd, MN, on July 11, 1959. He graduated from Brainerd Senior High School (1977) and Concordia College in Moorhead, MN (1981) with a BA degree in music. He completed an undergraduate degree in computer science from the University of Minnesota and later was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology from the Medical University of

Charlestown, SC (1996), and an MA in Science from UMass Lowell (2006). He served in the U.S. Navy (1991-1997) during the Gulf War and separated with an Honorable Discharge at the end of his Active Duty. He first worked as a behavioral analyst at Cambridge State Hospital (MN) and then as a Laboratory Technologist at Newton-Wellesley Hospital and more recently at UMass/Memorial University Campus in Worcester.

Bradley loved music, including bagpipes, was a splendid history enthusiast, and ran in the Marine Corps. Marathon.

He is survived by his three sons: Charles of Webster, MA, Timothy (Lisa) of Westminster, MA and Christopher of Webster, MA; two grandsons: Thorin & Olin Hansen; father, William R. Hansen of Brainerd; brothers: John Hansen of Minneapolis and David (Jana) of Brainerd; sister, Ann Malwitz (Clint) of Lake Elmo, MN; former wife and best friend, Susan E. Hansen of Webster, MA; many nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Rebecca E. Hansen.

## ANGELA SOLFIELD



Angela Solfield, 81, of Brainerd, died on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at Edgewood Vista in Brainerd.

Services were held at noon on Friday, September 2, 2022 at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Baxter.

Angela was born on August 17, 1941, to Victor and Mary (Cwikla) Taus in Strathcona, MN. She spent many years working in Hennepin County doing accounting and book-

keeping. Angela enjoyed cooking, gardening, coloring, and reading. She loved watching the Twins games and spending time with her cat Kitter.

Angela is survived by her daughters: Dawn (Tim) Mueller, and Allison (Dan) Drusch; significant other Neil Schmidt; four grandchildren: Nolan, Randee, Jordan, Cordell; and four great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; sister, Phyllis Blazek; son, Darcy Solfield; and great-granddaughter, Courtney Winslow.

## GENEVIEVE RUDOLPH



Genevieve (Genny) Rudolph, 99, died at her home on Saturday, August 27, 2022.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, September 1, 2022 at St. Mathias Catholic Church. Interment was in St. Mathias Cemetery. She was born on June 15, 1923.

She is survived by her brother, Paul; sisters:

Sister Dorothy Ann Rudolph, Mary Weber, Loretta Warzecha, Lorraine (Roy) Kraklau, and Joyce (Danee) Kinney; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Richard and Martha Rudolph; brothers: Peter, Roderick, Alois, Raymond, James, Francis; twin brother, Theodore Rudolph; sister, Rita Nelson; sisters-in-law, Dorothy and Betty Rudolph; brothers-in-law, Roger Weber, Bill Nelson and Aloyius "Shorty" Warzecha.

More Obituaries on Page 4

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

### September

- 1st & 2nd- Aitkin Lions are having their semi-annual garage and bake sale on 8am-5pm at the Aitkin County Fairgrounds. All proceeds will be going to Aitkin community projects. Pre-ordered Palisade Colorado peaches can be picked up on Thursday, September 1 from 7:30am-5pm.
- 3rd - Camp Knutson Open House Pancake Breakfast or a complimentary/free will donation "Thank You" breakfast 8:30am-10:30am Camp Knutson, 11169 Whitefish Ave, Crosslake,
- 3rd - Crosslake Ideal Lions Music in the Park Town Square (35770 Allen Avenue) 6-8pm. Lamont Cranston driving the boogie blues train. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and find your spot in the sun or shade!
- 3rd - North of the River Run Grand Finale at the Bridge Tavern, \$25. Registration and breakfast starts at 10 am, kickstands up at 11 am, pig roast, Russ and Jo's wedding, live music, fireworks and more! Call 218-546-5219 for more info.
- 4th - McGregor Lions Corn Feed, noon - 4pm, all-you-can-eat corn \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids, music by Ben's Hot Country Karaoke at McGregor Airport and Community Center.
- 8th - Aitkin Area Chamber of Commerce Golf Scramble Cuyuna Rolling Hills Golf Course 11am shotgun start.
- 9th - Blood Drive at Heartwood Senior Living Community in Crosby from 10am-4 pm. Call 1-800-733-2767 for an appointment or visit redcrossblood.org.
- 10th - Smoke on the Range at the Deerstand in Deerwood. Cash prizes, trophies, live music by Mudcat Melby, meat raffle, delicious ribs and more! Call 218-534-9253 to register or for more info.
- 13th - Ripple River Quilters Garage Sale at the Hazelton Town hall beginning at 12:30 pm.
- 16th - Grassroots Concerts at the Journey Church in Nisswa, \$10, featuring Claudia Schmidt at 7:30 pm. For more information, go online to GrassrootsConcerts.org or call 218-838-4266.

## Send Us Your Photos!



Got an interesting photo and story to share? Just send it to hopper@crosvyironton.net, along with your name, city and a description of the photo. We also accept news and community events. And who knows, you may see your submission next week in the NEWSHOPPER!

## Panda project reaches \$20,000 goal

The Panda Project to End Veteran Suicide reached its goal of raising \$20,000 for the Eagle's Healing Nest — a place for veterans to get

better. While Vicki Randall, event organizer, was happy that they raised \$15,000 on August 20, their goal was \$20,000.

After the event was over, the Eagle's Healing Nest received a \$5,000 donation, bringing the Panda event up to its goal.

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CLEAN TRUCK: 2001 Chevy Crew Cab 2500 HD truck with matching topper, new 6.1L gas motor w/ 15,000 miles on new motor, 1,000 miles on new transfer case body had 344,000 miles very good condition FISH HOUSE: 2010 Salem Ice Cabin 16 ft. fish house on wheels, power electric winches for up and down, tongue & groove interior with furnace, range, sleeping quarters & more BOATING PACKAGE: Lund Cadillac 14 ft. fishing boat on Spartan trailer w/ Envrude 6 HP OB motor RECREATIONAL VEHICLES: 1999 Polaris Sportsman 500 4x4 four wheeler 850 hours, 1991 Yamaha Venture Snowmobile, 1981 Honda Gold Wing Aspencado 1100 Motorcycle TRAILERS: Sport Warrior 14 ft. trailer w/ fold down ramp, Two wheel 5x8 wood hauling trailer w/ sides, Lawn utility trailer w/sides 4 ft.x4 ft. LAWN & GARDEN RELATED: Speeco 22 ton horizontal or vertical wood splitter on wheels, Sabre by John Deere riding lawn tractor, Blizzard by Murray walk behind snow blower 10 HP 29 in. Generac 3100 pressure washer powered by Briggs & Stratton, Husqvarna chainsaw w/ case, Gambles front line garden tiller, Patio table & 6 chairs w/ decorative pads, Even Embers outdoor gas grill, Various long handled lawn and garden tools, Garden hose, Pots, planters & landscape fabric GARAGE RELATED: Ridgid 13 in. thickness planer, Warrior 10 in. table saw, Delta compound miter saw, Black & Decker bench top drill press, Air powered nailers & other construction framing tools, Central Pneumatic 2 HP 8 Gallon air compressor on wheels, Cargo carrier receiver hitch style, Variety of hand powered tools both carpenter & mechanics, Duracraft dual wheel bench grinder, Keller step ladder & aluminum extension ladder SPORTING GOODS: Box deer stands on platforms, Ladder deer stand, Clam one person portable fish house, Large variety of summer and winter fishing poles, reels, tackle boxes & nets, Numerous ice fishing supplies, Large variety of duck decoys, Fish spear & ice chisel, Coolers, Whittail antlers, Campfire supplies, Cold weather sleeping bag, His & hers bicycles, Hunting jackets & other men's outdoor jackets HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS & RELATED: Frigidaire 6 ft. upright freezer, Matching leather style couch & chair, (2) Twin beds, Dressers end tables, coffee tables & night stands, Grandfather clock, Black & Decker apartment/dorm size refrigerator, Kitchen table w/leaves & 4 rolling chairs, (2) Hi back bar stools, Canning jars, Electric deep fryers, Numerous throw rugs, bed spreads & other bedding related, Christmas decorations, Large variety of normal household & kitchenware's, Humidifier ITEMS OF INTEREST: Schmidt, Stroh's & Grain Belt advertising signs & mirrors, Variety of diamond willow walking sticks, Custom built wooden snowmen, Set of kitchen cupboards & countertops great for the garage, Wildlife artwork, wildlife puzzles & other artwork, Set of two 25 cent candy machines, Collectible military garments, Walleye, smallmouth & sunfish mounts

This listing is just a scratch of the surface many unlisted items, be certain to attend and bring a friend. Thank you in advance, Janzen Auctioneers

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## Hoppers Helper's Service Directory

<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>APPLIANCE SALES &amp; SERVICE</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Jim Blakesley Appliance Service &amp; Repair 218-927-2027 • 1-888-450-8845 • Aitkin Washers, Dryers, Stoves, Refrigerators, Air Conditions, Septic Protectors, and MORE. Authorized Platinum Star Service. <small>th</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>HEATING &amp; AIR CONDITIONING</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Ken's Heating &amp; Mobile Home Supply LP &amp; Natural Gas • Nationally Certified Service Technician — over 30 Years Experience Residential &amp; Commercial • Mobile Home Heating and Air Conditioning • RV's/Supplies 218-821-6720 • Aitkin • kensheatingllc.com w47 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>INSURANCE</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">SECURITY STATE INSURANCE</p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">4 locations to serve you Aitkin 218-927-3712 • Moose Lake 218-485-8735 • Isle 320-676-3795 • Grand Marais 218-387-1540</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>PET CARE SERVICE</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Dogpatch • 218-927-4353 Expert Pet Grooming &amp; Boarding Services. West of Aitkin on Cedar Brook Rd. <small>th</small></p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES</b></p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: x-small;">5 lines for \$15.00 per week 4 lines for \$12.00 per week 3 lines for \$9.00 per week</p> </div>			



# OBITUARIES

## SUSAN RUNDE



Susan (Sue) Mary Runde, 72, died on Sunday, August 7, 2022, at the Cuyuna Regional Medical Center in Crosby.

A celebration of Sue's life will be held for friends and family at the Ironton American Legion on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Sue was born on September 1, 1949, in Moberly, SD and moved to Minnesota at a young age with her family. She basically spent her entire life in the Crosby area. She came from a large family and was the third oldest of six sisters and one brother. She worked in the dietary department at the Cuyuna Regional Medical Center for over 40 years. Sue was an avid hockey fan and often said one of her greatest memories was attending a Minnesota North Stars playoff game against the Chicago Blackhawks (North Stars lost). Even up until her passing, she would often reminisce about how she disliked the Blackhawks. Sue met her

life partner, Roy, in 1990 and, although they were never married, Roy has always been considered a member of the family. Sue's son Anthony was the joy of her life. She was proud of the father and husband he became. She absolutely cherished her time spent with her grandchildren and was so very proud of them. Sue had the uncanny ability to deliver her thoughts in a manner that was not filtered, known to many as, "Sue-ism's." However, Sue will certainly be remembered for her kindness.

Sue is survived by her life partner, Roy DeNio; son, Anthony (Stefanie) Runde; two grandchildren, Keenan and Kallen; step-grandchild, Cole; brother, Michael Runde; five sisters: Patricia Tweedy, Christine Roach, Debra Olander, Lorraine Elrod, Cheryl Bockelmann, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Sue was preceded in death by her parents, Dorrance (D.W.) and Corella Runde.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to [www.koopfuneralhome.com](http://www.koopfuneralhome.com).

## PAUL BAILEY

Paul F. Bailey, 86, of Malmo-McGrath area, died Thursday, August 18, 2022 at Aitkin Health Services.

Memorial service will be 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 22, 2022 at Holden Lutheran Church rural Isle. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Sue Lyback (S.A.M.) will officiate. Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Malmo.

He was born June 8, 1936 in a log cabin in Shevlin to Fred G. and Karen J. (Sletten) Bailey. He grew up on a small dairy farm and family logging operation. Paul attended Lakeside Country School and graduated from McGrath High School in 1954. He then attended Brainerd Junior College, Bemidji State University and Maryville State in Missouri. Paul was united in marriage to Carol E. Freer on February 18, 1961 at First Lutheran Church in Aitkin. He worked in Edina for Glacier Gravel and later Model Stone. Paul then worked for the Teamsters Union Local 221 for 26 years, retiring in 1998. While working

he lived in Bloomington and South Minneapolis near Lake Nakomis. In the late 1990's he moved back to the Bailey Homestead near McGrath. He was a member and very involved with Holden Lutheran Church and was elected Aitkin County Commissioner for two terms. In their later years, Paul and Carol traveled to Ireland and Norway to seek out their ancestors. He enjoyed hunting, especially fall deer season, and fishing. Most of all he enjoyed visiting with friends and fellow hunters and fishermen.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Carol in 2020, brother Warren, and sister Mary Helen.

Paul is survived by his sons: Russell, Randall, and Philip; two grandsons: Corey and Ted; nephew, Rob (Arlene); niece, Suzanne; and many other special relatives and friends.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at [www.srtfuneral.com](http://www.srtfuneral.com).

## PAULA BERNIER



Paula Bernier, 53, died on Sunday, August 28, 2022 from her battle with cancer, surrounded by her family and sung to sleep by her youngest son.

Paula was born the youngest child of Paul Bernier and Lynda Lou Vealey in San Mateo, CA on May 6, 1969. She attended Brainerd High School and later received her trade certi-

fication in welding and fabrication from Central Lakes College. She was presently living in Elk River and working to purchase her own land and build her dream home. She is survived by her father, Paul and stepmother, Linda Bernier; three children: Katie, Keith, and Kristian Haymaker; three grandchildren Elise, Evelyn and Paul Haymaker; two sisters: Becky LeClerc and Renee Bjordahl and brother, Jason Ritter.

She is preceded in death by her mother Lynda and her brother Jamey Ritter.

## YVONNE MEAD - SCHWARTZ



Yvonne Rea Mead - Schwartz, 72, of McGregor died Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at her home.

A celebration of Yvonne's life will be held at a later date. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery, McGregor.

She was born November 21, 1949 in Wabasha to Eddie F. and Alice L. (Hearle) Wesley. She graduated from Chisago

Lakes High School in 1967 and then attended St. Cloud State University. Yvonne was united in marriage to Edward M. Schwartz on August 6, 1980 in Fort Collins, CO. She owned and operated a computer store for a time. She enjoyed gardening, bird watching, and board games, and she loved spending time with her family. She was very spiritual and her faith was very important to her.

Yvonne is survived by her husband Ed; children: Nicole Brown and Chad Schwartz; two grandchildren: Wesley Schwartz and Payton Heinz; sisters: Sharon Thurner and Cathy Jo Ortega; and many other special relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother John "Jack" Thurner.

Arrangements were with the McGrath Funeral Home and Cremation Service in McGregor. Leave online condolences at [www.srtfuneral.com](http://www.srtfuneral.com).

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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

\* Indicates handicap accessible. NOTE: All times are Sunday morning (a.m.) unless indicated otherwise.

### ALLIANCE

Aitkin\* — New Life; Larry Burg & John Baker, pastors; Worship in the church building 10:15 am & 6:30 pm, check the website for the time of service [NewLifeAitkin.com](http://NewLifeAitkin.com); youth group for 7th-12th graders Wed 6:15 pm; 112 - 1st Ave. SW 218-927-2823.

Baxter\* — Pointway Alliance Church; Rev. Charles Bolstridge, 218-537-6505; 7756 Highland Scenic Road; Worship 10; [www.pointway.org](http://www.pointway.org)

Garrison\* — Pastor Michael H. Palkie; Worship 9; SS 10:30. Onamia — Vineland Native American Chapel, Hwy. 169 north of casino; Worship 11; Pastor Boeringa 320-532-4449

### ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Aitkin — Interim Pastor Andrew Jergenson; Sunday Morning Service 10.

Baxter — Heritage Church, Pastor Heath Beard; 9 & 10:45 Sundays, 6:30p Wednesdays, [iamheritage.org](http://iamheritage.org)

Crosby — Pastor Dustin McCaleb; Worship 10:30  
Crosslake — Crossroads Christian, Rev. Gary Espeseth; SS at 9:30; Worship at 10:45

Hill City — Interim Pastor John Koppel, Staff Pastor Lisa Jordan; Worship 10; [hilcityagchurch@gmail.com](mailto:hilcityagchurch@gmail.com); 218-697-2662

Palisade — Pastor Charlie Bell; SS 9; Worship 10; Kids Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726

### BAPTIST

Aitkin - The Journey North, Pastor Lynfield Hines, 218-824-5617, Worship 10:30, [thejourneynorth.com](http://thejourneynorth.com)

Baxter - The Journey North, Pastor Lynfield Hines, 218-824-5617, Worship Saturday 5, Sunday 9 & 10:30, [thejourneynorth.com](http://thejourneynorth.com)

Brainerd\* - Faith Baptist Church, Pastor Jim Stephens, 218-829-3191; SS 9:00, Worship 10:30 and 6 p.m., Wed. Classes and Clubs 6:30 p.m.; [fbcbrainerd.com](http://fbcbrainerd.com)

Brainerd- The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 [www.thechurchonthewiseroad.org](http://www.thechurchonthewiseroad.org)

Breezy Point — Eagles Nest, Pastor Zach Broom 218-562-5252, Worship 10:30, SS 9:30.

Crosby — Bible Baptist, Pastor G. Fisher; SS 9:45; Service 10:45 and 6 p.m., Bible Study and Our Kids for Christ Wed. 7 pm

Deerwood\* — Pastor W. Skog; SS 9:30; Worship 10:30 and 6 pm; Wed. Service, 6:30 pm.

Glory\* — Pastor Chris Meirose; 927-3678; SS 9:15; Worship 10:30 am.; Wed 6pm Glory Family night, KidMin grades kindergarten - 6, Mad4Christ grades 7-12. [aitkinchurch.com](http://aitkinchurch.com)

Hill City — Pastor Lonnie Lee; 218-697-2645; Adult SS 9; Worship 10 am; Bible Study, Fri., 7 pm.

Isle — Pastor Nick Skogen; 676-3171; SS 9:30; Service 10:30; Bible Study, Wed., 7 p.m.

Opstead — 676-8859; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Bible Study Wed., 7 p.m.

### CATHOLIC

Aitkin\* — St. James, Fr. David Forsman, 218-927-6581; Mass Sat. 5 pm, Sun. 10. Confession Sat. 10-10:45 am and 4-4:45 pm.

Brainerd — St. Andrew's, Fr. Gabriel Waweru, Sat. 4:30; Sun. 10:00 and St. Mathias Sunday 8:00.

Brainerd — St. Francis, Fr. Michael Garry, Sat. 5:00; Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 and All Saints Saturday 4:00 and Sunday 10:30.

Cromwell/Wright — Immaculate Conception, Mass: Sat. 5 p.m.

Crosby\* — St. Joseph's, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass: M, Th and F at 8:00 am; Tues at Noon, Sun. 8:30 & 10:30.

Crosslake — Immaculate Heart, 218-692-3731; [www.ihmstmilys.org](http://www.ihmstmilys.org); Mass: Sat. 4 pm; Sun. 8:30; Confession Sat. 3 pm.

Emily — St. Emily, Mass: Mon. & Wed. 8; Sun. 10:30; Confession 1st Sat. 11 or by appt. 218-763-2101.

Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass Wed. 9 & Sat. 4 pm, Confession Sat. 3:30 - 3:50 pm

Grand Rapids — St. Joseph's, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 8 & 10:30. 218-326-2483

Hillman — Holy Family; Sun. 10 to Mass Sat. 6:30 pm (only through Labor Day) w/ confession before or by appt.

McGregor — Holy Family, Fr. David Forsman, 218-927-6581; Mass Sun. 8 am. Confession 7:15-7:45 am.

Vineland — St. Therese, Mass Sun. 11; Holy Days 8:30.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

Baxter, Lakes Area — Nondenominational; 7001 Highland Scenic Road; Bible Study every Wed. 7 pm; Worship 10:30-11:30. 218-828-1362

Tamarack — Pastor Terry Banker, 608-475-1528, Worship 9:30; SS 10:45; Wed Youth 4 pm.

### CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Kevin Haffner 218-792-5684; Sacrament Mtg. 10

### COMMUNITY

Aitkin — Nondenominational; 927-2749; at 219-1st Ave. NE., Aitkin, Services Sun.10, 218-927-6959

Brainerd - Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene- Pastor Dave McGaffey Sunday worship at 10, SS 9; 16549 Johnson Rd -church phone 218-829-9005

Glen — Pastor R. F. Stauter, 218-838-1981; Worship 9 May-Oct.

Grand Rapids — Solid Rock Church of God, Pastor Robert Kimberling; 218-326-0711; Sun. BS 9:30; Worship 10:30; Wed. BS 6:30 pm

Jacobson — Jacobson Community Church, Pastor George Collins, 218-252-5938, Sun. SS (All ages) 9:30, Worship 10:30; Family Time 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 pm

Kimberly — Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30; 218-927-6256.

McGregor — Amazing Grace Christian Church; Worship 10; 99 South 1st Street (at the McGregor United Methodist church [shared] in downtown McGregor) Pastor Joel Seibel.

McGregor — Victory Mission, Pastor J. Gould, 218-768-2160; Sun. 10; Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 pm.

Merrifield — Community Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Ron Christenson; Service 11 & 6 pm. Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; 218-829-7536.

Merrifield — Ossipee Community, SS 10; Service 11; Wed. Bible Study Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Nisswa — Christ Community Church, Pastor Richie Bean; Service 10; Fellowship 9:30-10

Outing\* - Narrows Community Church, Pastor Kenny Holm, 218-792-5530 Worship 9:30; 6297 Woods Bay NE, just north of Hwy. 6 bridge

Palisade — Hilltop Chapel (Waukenabo Twp)\* - service 10 a.m.; Adult and Children's SS 9 a.m.; 49448 Osprey Avenue, Palisade.

Tamarack — Church of Christ, 218-768-3898; Service 9:30; SS 10:45.

### EPISCOPAL

Aitkin — St. John's, Holy Communion or Morning Prayer 9 Brainerd\* — St. Paul's, Rev. Joyce A. Rush. In-person worship service at 10 am Sunday. Online at 5 pm Saturday. Call the church 219-829-3834 and leave a message with email to receive a Zoom invitation.

EVANGELICAL FREE  
Baxter — Lakewood EFC, Pastor Matt Nagel; Worship at 9:00 and 10:45. Wednesday for all ages 6:30 pm.

Crosslake — Pastor Mark Holmen; Call for Service Times at 218-692-4141, email [thelochurch@crosslake.net](mailto:thelochurch@crosslake.net)

Isle — Pastor Mark Lee; Sunday School 9:00 am; Worship 10:30 am, Sun. Youth group 6:00 pm, Wed. Adult Prayer 6:30 pm and Kids Konnect 6:30 pm

Malmo — Pastor Glenn Browning; SS 9:30; Fellowship 10; Worship 10:15

Wright — Pastor Ken Mitchell, 218-426-5115; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Thu., Bible Study, 7 pm.

### HEBREW/MESSIANIC

Glen — Beth Shalom Tabernacle of Truth, Rabi Frank Dell, for information 320-684-2804

### LUTHERAN

Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Rebecca Hinz; Worship 9:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun each month.

Aitkin — First\* (ELCA) Pastor Reggie Denton; worship Sun. 99am (9am service also available via livestream on YouTube — First Lutheran Church, Aitkin and broadcast on KKIN 94.3 FM radio at 10am), take out community meal every Mon. & Thurs. 5pm and Tues. 12pm; food shelf 2nd & 4th Thurs. each month 9am- 4pm.

Aitkin — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor D. Becker; Worship Sun. 9, SS 10

Baxter — Christ Lutheran Church and Preschool (WELS).

Pastor Bill Werth. Sunday Worship 9. Sunday School/ Adult Bible Class 10:15. 13815 Cherrywood Dr. in Baxter. (Corner of Ingelwood and Cherrywood). 218-829-4105. [www.christchurch.com](http://www.christchurch.com).

Baxter — Prince of Peace (LCMS); Communion every Sunday 9, Fellowship 10:15, Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am 218-829-7092 [www.princeofpeace-lutheran.church](http://www.princeofpeace-lutheran.church)

Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sun., 10:30.

Brainerd\* — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church (AFLC), Pastor David Franz, find service info at [www.goodshepherdfree-lutheran.church](http://www.goodshepherdfree-lutheran.church), 5878 Pine Beach Road, Brainerd, 218-824-3052

Brainerd — Laestadian Lutheran Church, 1501 So. 8th St. - Sunday Worship Services 10:30 am. ([www.llchurch.org](http://www.llchurch.org))

Brainerd — Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th St. Brainerd, Worship time September through May 8:15am & 10:30am; worship (June through August) 9 am. 218-829-5147. Website: [www.trinitybrainerd.org](http://www.trinitybrainerd.org). Email: [trinity@trinitybrainerd.org](mailto:trinity@trinitybrainerd.org)

Brainerd — Truth Lutheran Church (LCMC, Pastor James Walth, Corner of 5th and Kingwood, Worship 9

Cedar Lake, Norwegian Lutheran — Third Sun 11, May - Oct. Cedarbrook — St. John's (ELCA); Worship 8:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.

Crosby — Immanuel (LCMC, NALC) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9 & 10:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:40.

Crosby — Zion (LC-MS) Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 8:30; SS 10; Bible Study Wed. 7 pm; handicap accessible. 218-546-6910

Crosslake — (ELCA) [www.crosslakelutheran.com](http://www.crosslakelutheran.com) • Kristin Oltmann, Pastor 218-692-3682, May 22 - Labor Day: Sun. Indoor 8:30am at 35960 CR 66, Outdoor 10am, at 14019 Daggett Pine Rd

Crosslake — Mission of the Cross (LCMS), Pastor Leslie Uhrinak; Worship 9:30 with every Sunday Communion, Fellowship 10:30, Adult Bible Class 11, 218-692-4228, [www.missionofthecross.org](http://www.missionofthecross.org)

Deerwood — Salem (ELCA), Pastor Michael Briggs; Worship 9; Sunday School 9:15.

Garrison — Light of the Cross (ELCA), Pastor Juli Sutton-Deem; Worship 9 SS 9; 320-692-4773 or 877-406-9101.

Garrison — Shepherd of the Lake (LCMS), Rev. Tom Petersen. Worship 10 with Communion Every Sunday. Adult Bible Study 8:30am, Sunday School Sept-May, 8:30am. Fellowship 11am. 320-692-4581. [www.shepherdofthelake.org](http://www.shepherdofthelake.org).

Giese — Immanuel, Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaa; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. of month 8:45.

Hill City — Trinity, (Missouri Synod), Pastor M. Eckert; Worship 9; Bible Study 10:15.

Hillman — Immanuel, (ELCA) Sun. Worship 9:30, SS 10. Located on the corner of Hwy. 27 and Co. Rd. 47. (Handicap accessible)

Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS), Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 10:30 am 218-534-3069

Isle — Faith (ELCA), Interim Pastor Rev. Henry French; Worship 9:30; handicapped accessible.

Isle — Holden (ELCA), SS 9:30; Worship 10:30.

Isle — Trinity (Missouri Synod), Rev. Mark Maunula; Worship 9; Fellowship follows; SS 10:30; Adult Bible 10:30.

Jacobson — Carmel, Vicar Mark Wagner; SS 1st & 3rd Sun. 10, Service 11, fellowship follows.

Lake Shore — Living Savior Lutheran Church, 8327 Interlachen Rd.; Worship 9:00 Sunday mornings, followed by fellowship and Bible study. (Located on Co. Rd. #77 N)

Malmo — Bethesda (ELCA) Rev. James Muske; Sun. Worship 9am. Fellowship following Service. Communion every Sunday.

McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 pm, Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.

McGrath — Zion (ELCA), Pastor Elliott Malm; Worship 9; SS 9.

McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (ELCA), Pastor Ericka Foss; Worship 9, Fellowship follows, SS 10.

McGregor — Our Savior's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua C. Reinke; Worship 9; SS 10; Bible Study Tue. 9, Wed. 7 pm

Outing — Our Saviors ELCA; Pastor Luke Lekander, Worship 9.

Palisade\* — Bethel (ELCA), Rev. Wm. J. Sassi; Worship 9:30. Pequot Lakes\* - Our Savior's Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Rev. Stephen Blenkush Worship 9:00 a.m., SS 9:15 a.m., Fellowship 10:15 a.m. Wed. Adult Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Rosburg — Bethesda (ELCA); Comm. 1st & 3rd Sunday each month.

Tamarack (AFLC) — Pastor Ron Staudinger; 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 10 am; 41163 Kestrel Ave 3.3 mi. South of Hwy 210

Thor — Zion, Worship 11; 1st and 3rd Sun. April through December.

Wright — Bethlehem, Worship; SS 9.

Wright — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua Reinke; Worship 10:30; Bible Study and Sunday School Sun. 9:30; Lent services Wed. 5:30 pm.\

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Brainerd—Oak Street Chapel, Pastor Todd Wooden, Worship service is Sunday at 9:30 am, 523 SE 11th Street, Brainerd, 218-454-0984

Brainerd—Remnant Ministry Center, Pastor Ben Davis, Worship service is Sunday at 10am, 512 S 8th St., Suite 2, 218-829-2989.



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Xcel Energy has asked the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) to approve an increase to natural gas rates for distribution service. The requested increase is for about 6.6 percent or \$35.6 million per year. The requested increase would add about \$5.12 to a typical residential customer's monthly bill.

The MPUC may either approve or deny the requested changes, and may approve a lesser or greater increase than was requested for any customer class or classes of service.

The MPUC will likely make its decision on our rate request in the second quarter of 2023. If final rates are lower than interim (temporary) rates, we will refund customers the difference with interest. If final rates are higher than interim rates, we will not charge customers the difference.

If you move before a refund is issued and we cannot find you, your refund may be treated as abandoned property and sent to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Unclaimed Property Unit. You can check for unclaimed property at [www.missingmoney.com](http://www.missingmoney.com). To make sure we can send you any refund owed, please provide a forwarding address when you stop service.

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

Administrative Law Judge Kimberly Middendorf will hold two in-person public hearings and two virtual public hearings so that customers have an opportunity to comment on the company's request. Any Xcel Energy customer or other person may attend or provide comments at the hearings. You are invited to comment on the adequacy and quality of Xcel Energy's service, the level of rates, or other related matters. You do not need to be represented by an attorney. The hearings will begin at their scheduled time and adjourn after everyone present has had an opportunity to comment or ask questions.

Date	Time	Location
Monday, September 19, 2022	6:30 p.m.	St. Cloud Holiday Inn & Suites 75 South 37th Avenue ROX Banquet Room St. Cloud, MN
Tuesday, September 20, 2022	1:30 p.m.	Virtual WebEx
Tuesday, September 20, 2022	6:30 p.m.	Virtual WebEx
Wednesday, September 21, 2022	6:00 p.m.	Woodbury Central Park 8595 Central Park Place Valley Creek Room B Woodbury, MN

Bad weather? Find out if a hearing is canceled – call (toll free) 855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc).

### VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public hearings have been scheduled as follows to be held via video conference.

**Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.**

#### Attend by Internet Connection (Audio and Video)

To join the virtual hearing using a computer, tablet or smart phone, where you will have audio and video capability, go to: <https://minnesota.webex.com>. In the gray box where it says, "Enter Meeting Information," type the Event Number below for the public hearing date you are attending:

September 20, 2022 1:30 p.m.	September 20, 2022 6:30 p.m.
Event Number: <b>2481 879 9949</b>	Event Number: <b>2487 449 7215</b>
Event Password, if needed: MnPUC!	Event Password, if needed: MnPUC!

#### Directions for Appearing via WebEx.

- Log on 5 to 15 minutes before the hearing begins. You will be asked to join the hearing through a Webex application or through a plug-in for your web browser.
- Enter the Event Number shown in the box above.
- Next you will be asked to enter your name, your email address, and an event password (if required). After entering this information, click "Join Now" and you will be granted access to the virtual hearing.
- When you enter the hearing, your microphone will be muted. If you would like to ask a question or make a comment during the meeting, use the chat function to send a message to the meeting moderator, who will place you in the queue to comment. When it is your turn to comment, your name will be called and your line will be unmuted. You will then be able to ask questions or make a comment.

#### To Attend by Telephone (Audio Only)

If you do not have access to a computer, tablet, or smart phone, or if you would prefer to attend the hearing via audio only, you may join using any type of telephone. You do not need internet access to call into the hearing; however, you will only be able to hear (not see) the speakers. You will still be able to comment and ask questions.

Use the information in the box below to dial into the hearing. You will be asked to enter the access code for the hearing, as set forth below:

September 20, 2022 1:30 p.m.	September 20, 2022 6:30 p.m.
Phone: 1-855-282-6330 Event Number: <b>2481 879 9949</b>	Phone: 1-855-282-6330 Event Number: <b>2487 449 7215</b>
Event Password: MnPUC! (667820 from phones)	Event Password: MnPUC! (667820 from phones)

If you would like to ask a question or make a comment during the hearing, **press \*3** on your telephone. You will then be placed into the queue to comment. When it is your turn to speak, the last few digits of your telephone number will be announced by the moderator and your line will be unmuted, allowing you to be heard.

### PUBLIC HEARING AND PROCESS INFORMATION

Administrative Law Judge Christa L. Moseng will preside over the public hearings and will provide the Commission with findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendations after the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing.

The purpose of the public hearings is to receive public input on the proposed rate increase. At the public hearings, interested persons have the opportunity to: (1) ask questions of the utility and agency staff; and (2) offer verbal and written comments on the merits of the proposed rate increase. Members of the public may participate without needing to intervene as a party. Representation by legal counsel is permitted but not required.

Please note that the public hearings will end when all attendees present have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded. You are encouraged to join the meeting at the scheduled start time to be placed on the queue to comment. Commenters will be called in the order they enter the queue. Therefore, it is advantageous to arrive at the beginning of the hearing.

Written comments may be submitted during the comment period before and after the public hearings. Follow the instructions below to provide written comment.

Please contact Charley Bruce at 651-201-2251 or [charley.bruce@state.mn.us](mailto:charley.bruce@state.mn.us) or Tera Dornfeld at 651-201-2195 or [tera.dornfeld@state.mn.us](mailto:tera.dornfeld@state.mn.us) if you have questions on how to participate or have trouble accessing the public hearing using telephone or internet.

### WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

You can still submit comments even if you do not attend a public hearing.

#### Comment Period

Comments accepted through **Friday, November 11, 2022, at 4:30 p.m.**

- Comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the close date.
- Comments received after the comment period closes may or may not be considered in the Commission's decision.

#### How to Submit a Written Comment

Written comments can be submitted via: (1) the Commission's website; (2) electronic mail; (3) U.S. Mail; or (4) facsimile. To learn how to submit a comment in any of these ways, please visit [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select "Consumers" from the dropdown menu on the top of the page, then select "Public Comments and How to Participate." This will take you to the Public Comment page, where you will find a list of ways to comment. Be sure to reference MPUC Docket No. 21-678 in the subject line of your comment.

If you do not have access to the internet, you may send or deliver your comment to:

#### Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Ste. 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101

#### How to Provide Video Comments

Public comments are encouraged as written submissions and in-person oral comments during virtual public hearings. However, if you prefer, you can record and submit a video comment using Flipgrid. Flipgrid is free; there is no cost to you. You will need a Microsoft or Google account, like a Gmail email address, to access Flipgrid. Videos can be up to 3 minutes in length and must include your name and the city and state where you live. Follow the link <https://flip.com/6e44d748> to record your video. You may also visit the Flipgrid main page at <https://info.flipgrid.com/> and type in Join Code 6e44d748.

Video comment submissions may be played during the virtual public hearings, if time permits. Recorded comments may be shown after those in attendance at the virtual public hearings have had the opportunity to comment. Depending on the number of video comments received, the Administrative Law Judge will determine if time permits to play the video comments at the virtual public hearings on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. The video comments received may be played at either the 1:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. hearing. Not all comments may be played given time constraints. Regardless of whether a video comment is played during the public hearing, all videos received by **Monday, September 12, 2022**, will be reviewed by Administrative Law Judge Middendorf. Video comments will continue to be accepted via Flipgrid until Friday, November 11, 2022; however, only those received by September 12, 2022 will potentially be played during one of the public hearings. The entire collection of received videos can be viewed using the Flipgrid link above, and a transcript of the videos will be included in the official eDockets record.

**Important:** Comments can be reviewed by the public on the MPUC's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The MPUC does not edit or delete personally identifying information or any other information from comments received.

### EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Formal evidentiary hearings on Xcel Energy's proposal will be held on **November 1, 2 and 4, 2022**, starting at 9:30 a.m. each day. The evidentiary hearing will be held in the Large Hearing Room at the Public Utilities Commission, 350 Metro Square Building, 121 Seventh Place East, St. Paul, Minnesota. Individuals who cannot attend in person may attend via Microsoft Teams (Teams), a video conferencing platform. Members of the public who wish to attend the hearing through Teams may request an electronic invitation by contacting Judge Middendorf's legal assistant at [michelle.severson@state.mn.us](mailto:michelle.severson@state.mn.us).

The purpose of the evidentiary hearing is to allow Xcel Energy, the Minnesota Department of Commerce – Division of Energy Resources, the Minnesota Office of Attorney General – Residential Utilities Division, and parties who have formally joined the contested case, to present testimony and to cross-examine each other's witnesses on the proposed rate increase.

If you wish to formally intervene in this case, as a party to the litigation, you must serve and file a Petition to Intervene, pursuant to Minn. R. 1400.6200.

### TO LEARN MORE

Xcel Energy's current and proposed rate schedules are available at:

#### Xcel Energy

414 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis MN 55401

Phone: 612-330-5500

Web: <http://www.xcelenergy.com/2022MNRates>

#### Minnesota Department of Commerce

85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101

Phone: 651-539-1534

Web: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp>

Select (21) in the year field, type (678) in the number field, select Search, and the list of documents will appear on the next page.

**If you have questions about the MPUC's review process or submitting comments, contact the Commission's Consumer Affairs Office at:**

#### Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101

Phone: 651-296-0406 or 800-657-3782

Email: [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us)

Be sure to reference Docket Number 21-678

Anyone with hearing or speech disabilities may call through their preferred Telecommunications Relay.

### PROPOSED RATE INCREASES

The table below shows the effect of both the interim and proposed rate changes on monthly bills for residential, commercial and industrial customers with average natural gas use.

Customer type	Average Monthly Usage in Ccf (or therms)	Average Monthly Bill Current Rates	Average Monthly Bill Interim Rates	Average Monthly Bill Proposed Rates
Residential	73	\$59	\$62**	\$65
Small Commercial	173	\$130	\$137	\$136
Large Commercial	1,322	\$874	\$902	\$902
Small Demand	6,573	\$3,887	\$4,025	\$3,969
Large Demand	18,854	\$11,334	\$11,733	\$11,513
Small Interruptible	6,601	\$3,208	\$3,312	\$3,325
Medium Interruptible	51,020	\$21,131	\$21,493	\$21,345
Large Interruptible	427,116	\$172,990	\$175,506	\$174,195
Large Firm Transportation*	60,508	\$8,018	\$8,949	\$9,419
Small Interruptible Transportation*	6,601	\$920	\$1,028	\$1,121
Medium Interruptible Transportation*	266,205	\$18,265	\$19,982	\$22,989
Large Interruptible Transportation*	2,224,791	\$51,078	\$56,226	\$51,078

\* Transportation bills do not include the cost of gas

\*\* Average Residential Monthly Interim bill prior to adjustment for the February 2021 extreme weather extension, which will reduce this to \$60.





Two-year federal project to refurbish Sandy River dam | Continued from Page 1



of six headwaters dams in north-central Minnesota. Cross Lake, Gull Lake, Big Sandy Lake, Lake Winnibigoshish, Pokegama Lake and Leech Lake make up the system. They were constructed or reconstructed between 1900 and 1913 (work on Pokegama started in 1884 and Winnibigoshish in 1885) to aid navigation on the Mississippi River between St. Paul, MN and Prairie du Chien, WI. Because the navigation mission of the headwater's dams declined with the creation of the upper Mississippi River nine-foot navigation channel and as recreation grew in importance to the region's

economy, the mission shifted to flood risk management, recreation and environment. **Current federal project to redo the dam at Sandy Lake and other dam sites**

A construction contract for \$7.5 million was awarded in early fiscal year 2021 for the

Sandy Lake Dam rehabilitation project. Work continues on boundary surveying and rectification of fee and flowage easement lands, and completion of a special status species inventory for the Mississippi River Headwaters Reservoirs Project. A federal highway administration-funded replacement roadway is in the project development process for the Gull Lake Dam Road. An easement for the proposed National Loon Center at the Cross Lake Recreation Area has been granted to the National Loon Center Foundation (NLCF) with construction pending availability of NLCF funds. Waterfront docks, walkways and shoreline habitat restoration were completed in fall 2021. Coronavirus Aid,

Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds were used to install hands-free fee machines throughout the project area.

**About the Sandy Lake Recreation area**

The Sandy Lake Recreation Area is situated at the outlet of Big Sandy Lake, about 120 miles north of Minneapolis in Aitkin County north of McGregor. It is located on the canoe route that linked Lake Superior and the Mississippi River, according to literature from the Army Corps of Engineers.

When the dam was built in 1895, it included a lock to pass boat traffic through. This was the farthest north a lock had been built. Today, the lock house has been renovated to display interpretive exhibits

and artifacts.

The well-maintained and clean recreation area offers boating, fishing, camping, picnicking, interpretive programs and playground areas. There are both camp and tent sites. (Sites are closed during construction in 2022).

Three boat ramps are placed around the lake to give access to the river and

lake. The fishing sites are isolated from the camp sites so that there is an increased chance of catching fish due to less noise. It also provides a beautiful view of the lake.

There is also a trail on the opposite side of the dam from the camp sites. This trail provides a bit of isolation and release from the hectic lifestyle.



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