



Newsletter

FALL/WINTER 2019

108 E MAIN
PO BOX 386
BATTLE LAKE, MN 56515
218-864-0424
E-mail: blcity@eot.com

BATTLE LAKE CITY COUNCIL:

- Gene Kelm, Mayor
- Marjorie Quammen, Council Member
- Donald Maslow, Council Member
- John Salvevold, Council Member
- Ryan Christensen, Council Member



BATTLE LAKE CITY STAFF:

- Kent Kortlever, Police Chief
- Tim Sweazy, Police Officer
- Val Martin, City Clerk-Treasurer, Zoning Official, EDA Director
- Karalee Brandner, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
- Tami Olson, Admin. Assistant
- Steve Seufert, Public Works Director
- Chris Johnson, Public Works Technician
- Trevor Meece, Public Works Technician
- Adam Schwartz, Public Works Technician
- Brad Grewe Public Works Employee
- Adam Freyholtz, Liquor Store Manager
- Jack Uselman, Assistant Liquor Store Manager

We are excited to announce that the Blandin Community Leadership Program (BCLP) will be offered to the Battle Lake, Henning, and Ottertail area. The leadership retreat is scheduled for March 9-13, 2020 at Sugar Lake Lodge south of Grand Rapids, Minnesota and the workshops will be held on May 12, 2020, July 7, 2020, and August 25, 2020 in the Battle Lake, Henning, and Ottertail area.

Potential applicants would be those that are engaged or hope to be engaged in the Battle Lake, Henning, and Ottertail area whether that is through work, volunteering opportunities, etc. If you are interested in applying, go to the Blandin web-site: <https://blandinfoundation.org/news-room/events/battle-lake-henning-and-ottertail-area/>

Lake Shore and North Shore Drive Construction The City has been working on a construction project to replace water and sewer main on North Shore and Lake Shore Drive along with street, sidewalk and trail reconstruction; a watermain loop from the school to Lion's Park; main lift station replacement and a small utility project along Highway 78. Construction bids were received at City Hall on July 31st and the lowest bid was awarded to Sellin Brothers, Inc. of Hawley. Their bid was approximately \$500,000 below the engineering estimate. The total bid was \$5,859,874 and of this, \$2.5 million will be the County's portion. Of the remaining contract, the City has received preliminary numbers from the Public Facilities Authority with a possible funding package to include a 20-year loan at 1% interest in the amount of \$2.615 million dollars and a grant in the amount of \$2.168 million dollars. The Contractor has until the fall of 2020 to complete the project and weather will be a factor on when they can get started. Full updates can be found on the City's web-site: www.ci.Battle-Lake.mn.us

Happy Halloween!



The Battle Lake City Council and Staff will be serving up hot dogs and Halloween treats for all the little Trick-or-Treaters roaming the streets of Battle Lake. Join us between 5 and 7 p.m. in Council Chambers for a fun time!



HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSINGS

- November 11, 2019 Veterans Day
- November 28, 2019 Thanksgiving Day
- November 29, 2019 Day after Thanksgiving
- December 24, 2019 Christmas Eve
- December 25, 2019 Christmas Day

Check out the City of Battle Lake's website for council minutes and agendas, fillable forms, meeting dates, and more!

www.ci.battle-lake.mn.us

WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS—

Parking prohibitions will be in place from November 1 to March 31. Parking vehicles on streets and avenues within Battle Lake City limits from 1 am to 7 am is prohibited.

www.Ci.Battle-Lake.mn.us





ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The Energy Assistance Program helps low-income households pay their home heating bills. Payments are made directly to the household's fuel dealer. To receive assistance, household income for the last three months must be below the following guidelines:

❁ **Deadline to apply for assistance is May 31, 2020.**

❁ **There are no deductions from income.**

❁ **Households must provide proof of income when they apply.**

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Gross Income for the Last 3 Months</u>
1	\$ 6,761
2	\$ 8,842
3	\$10,923
4	\$13,003
5	\$15,084
6	\$17,164

To request an application call

Mahube-Otwa at:

847-1385 Detroit Lakes

739-3011 Fergus Falls

935-5022 Mahnommen

732-7204 Park Rapids

632-3600 Wadena

Toll Free at 1-888-458-1385

Energy Assistance is administered in Mahnommen, Hubbard, Becker, Otter Tail and Wadena Counties by Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership, Inc., PO

Box 747, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502. Mahube-Otwa offices are located in Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Mahnommen, Park Rapids, and Wadena.

Program funding provided by the US Dept. of Health and Human Services.



KEEP HYDRANTS CLEAR!

IN AN EMERGENCY, EVERY SECOND COUNTS

Clear a path from the street to the hydrant

Clear a perimeter to move around the hydrant (about 3 feet)

Remove snow and ice from the hydrant



ATV LICENSING—If you operate motorized golf carts and all terrain vehicles within the City of Battle Lake you **MUST** license them annually.

Additional requirements include:

- All vehicles must carry liability insurance at all times while operating on public streets or roadways.
- Motorized golf carts must display slow vehicle emblem provided for in MN Statutes 169.522, when operated on a public street or roadway.
- Hours of operation are from sunrise to sunset. Operation of a golf cart shall not be permitted during inclement weather or when visibility is reduced.



ALL DOGS AND CATS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A LIFETIME ANIMAL LICENSES — FEE OF \$25 PER ANIMAL

- Dogs and cats over 6 months of age must be licensed.
- A copy of the current rabies certificate must be submitted with the application and updated on file as necessary.
- All dogs and cats must have a collar with the City's pet license and rabies tag.
- **Pet owners are reminded to please clean up after your pets and dispose of the waste properly. This includes all public road right of ways within city limits.**
- All dogs and cats are required to be on a leash when off of the owner's property.
- Lifetime animal licenses are not transferrable.
- **Licenses will be available at City Hall during regular office hours.**

To City Residents in the Shoreland Management Area (within 1000 feet of a lake), the following zoning regulations apply:

Storage and use of fish houses and Recreation Camping Units (RCU) The storage and use of fish houses and RCU's are allowed with the following provisions:

- It meets set back requirements.
- Cannot be connected to water or sewer.
- The lot is compliant with all area, water frontage and width of the requirements of this ordinance.
- **Use of an RCU, that meets the above provisions, will be allowed on a temporary basis, not to exceed 10 days.**

Definition of an RCU **RECREATIONAL CAMPING UNIT (RCU)**. A relocatable single-family dwelling unit, less than 40 ft. in length, which in the traveling mode, is less than 8 ½ body ft. in width, and is less than 399 square feet when erected onsite, including, but not limited to tents, motor homes and travel trailers.

During winter months, snow and ice can damage your natural gas meter and appliance vents, or cause them to malfunction. Follow these simple tips and stay safe all winter long:

- * Gently brush away any ice or snow that has accumulated around the meter, regulator vent and other outdoor piping
- * Clear the snow or ice using a broom or by hand—not with a shovel.
- * When plowing, blowing snow or shoveling, do not push or pile snow around your meter.
- * Clear a path to your meter so Battle Lake Natural Gas employees and emergency responders can access it in an emergency.

Keep appliance vents clear of snow and ice:

- * All outdoor appliance vents should be cleared of snow, ice and foliage—the best time to locate your vents is before the first winter storm hits.
- * A clogged vent may cause your appliance to shut down or malfunction and create a hazardous buildup of carbon monoxide.

Watch for falling snow or ice near your natural gas meter:

- * Falling snow and ice can seriously damage natural gas meters and regulators.
- * Be aware of the locations of utility meters when removing snow and ice from your roof or contact a qualified contractor to perform this work for you.

Anytime you smell a natural gas odor **leave the area immediately** and call 911 or Battle Lake Natural Gas at (218) 862-5550.

\$ BATTLE LAKE BUCKS

Make great gifts for that “hard to buy for” individual. They can also be used for door prizes, employee incentives, birthdays or Christmas gifts and more!

Battle Lake Economic Development Authority in conjunction with First National Bank have established the Battle Lake Bucks program. Battle Lake Bucks are pre-paid checks that are available in any denomination and can be used at any establishment in Battle Lake.

Stop in to First National Bank to purchase yours today!



SNOWMOBILES

Riders please stay on marked trails as you ride.



CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

Phone 1-800-252-1166 or 811

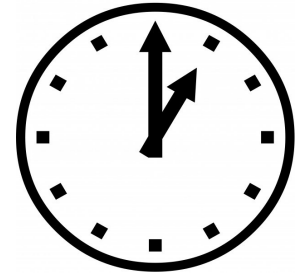
or go to Gopherstateonecall.org/submit

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

TIME ENDS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

FALL BACK 1 HOUR



SCHOOL BUS

SAFETY RULES

Never pass a bus from behind or from either direction if the bus is stopped to load or unload children.

If the red lights are flashing and the Stop arm is extended, traffic must stop leaving a **MINIMUM OF 20 FEET—FRONT AND REAR.**

The 10 foot area around the school bus is the most dangerous for children, stop back far enough to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus.

Be alert; children are often unaware of hazards and take risks.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

COLD WEATHER RULE INFORMATION - During the period from October 15 through April 15, a utility cannot disconnect a residential utility customer for nonpayment if the disconnection would affect their primary heat source for the residential unit and all the following conditions are met:

The household income of the customer is at or below 50 percent of the state median household income. A municipal utility may verify income on forms it provides or obtain verification or income from the local energy assistance provider. A customer is deemed to meet the income requirements of this clause if the customer receives any form of public assistance, including energy assistance, that uses an income eligibility threshold set at or below 50 percent of the state median household income.

A customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a plan agreement that considers the financial resources of the household. A customer receives referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation, and other programs likely to reduce the customer's energy bills.

This notice is to tell you about your rights and responsibilities under the Cold Weather Rule. These rights and responsibilities are designed to help you with winter utility bills. You must act **promptly!** If you choose not to assert your rights or choose not to enter into mutually acceptable payment schedule **your service may be disconnected.**

If you need help paying your natural gas bills, you may qualify for state or federal fuel assistance. Weatherization or conservation programs to reduce your energy bills may also be available. To find out if you qualify and how to apply, contact the following : **MAHUBE-OTWA Community Action Partnership, Inc., 128 W. Cavour Avenue—Fergus Falls, MN 56537—Phone 218-739-3011 or 1-888-458-1385**

What's Happening with Hatchery Row? With the approval of the City Council, the Battle Lake Economic Development Authority (EDA) has recently purchased four properties for redevelopment on Henning Street, known as Hatchery Row. The EDA has been working with the owners for the purchase of this property over the last three years. The EDA plans to clear and clean-up the property, getting it ready for development. Over the next several months, the EDA will be working with a local developer as they put together a plan for the construction of a multi-use facility, yet to be determined. If you are interested in more information or how to lease space, contact Ted Christianson at 701-361-3734 or Rob Thompson at 612-812-1563.

BATTLE LAKE NATURAL GAS REMINDS YOU:

Please check your private natural gas lines for damage and we recommend **PAINTING** your exposed line to lessen corrosion issues.

Safely remove foliage and snow around your natural gas meter to

**KEEP YOUR
METER CLEAR**



Have you filled out a SMALL CITIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SURVEY?

The Small Cities Development Program assists qualified homeowners in repairs to furnaces, wiring, plumbing, roofing, windows, doors, siding, accessibility, etc. This survey will assist us in identifying if there is enough need demonstrated to be competitive for the funding.

Call or stop in to City Hall for questions or to get an application.



Battle Lake Natural Gas—Private Line Notice

Battle Lake Natural Gas maintains the natural gas service lines up to and including each meter. Battle Lake Natural Gas **does not** maintain the customer's PRIVATE natural gas lines. Private lines include service lines that branch off the main meter to garages, guest houses, and other customer owned structures.

For customer safety, it is very important that private lines be maintained properly. A natural gas service line that is not properly maintained may be subject to potential hazards from corrosion and leakage.

Private metallic natural gas service lines should be inspected periodically for leaks and corrosion. Any unsafe conditions should be repaired immediately.

Service lines should be located in advance if excavating near the customer's buried natural gas service line. To avoid accidental nicking or puncturing of the lines all excavating near these lines must be done by hand!

Local plumbing and heating contractors may be able to assist you in locating, inspecting, and if necessary repairing your service line.