



CITY OF  
CHATFIELD

# COMMUNITY LINK

MAY 2009

**Inside this issue:**

City Budget	1
2010 Census	1
City Wide Clean Up	1
Brush & Leaf Dump	1
Ambulance Barbeque	2
Community Events	2
CPR & First Aid Training	2
Noxious Weeds	2

## THE CITY BUDGET

Naturally, there has been much talk about the poor economy and how that is affecting the budgets of all levels of government, including the City of Chatfield. The first blow to the City's finances came in December, when the Governor took action to deal with a state budget deficit that was projected for the current biennium. The result of that action was a loss of aid, and reduction of city cash on hand, of \$72,259.00.

Currently, there are three budget proposals that the Legislature is considering and each of them include further reductions in local government aid (LGA). Although the City will not know exactly what the impact will be, until the legislative session is complete, the City has taken

steps to deal with the anticipated drop in funding. Specifically, to balance the City's budget in anticipation of a \$93,000 reduction in aid, as proposed by the Governor, the City has reduced the part-time wage budget in the clerks department, the street department, the park department and the police department. The City hopes to fill in some of those positions with positions funded through two federal programs, Experience Works and Workforce Development. Without those programs, it is likely that the brush dump will have limited access and that the finer points of trimming and mowing in some areas won't be done as well as in the past. At the same time, though, the City will not experience a loss of police coverage, even though the part-time budget has been reduced. That reduction was made possible by the addition of a full-time officer, in December of last year.

It is also expected that the legislature will authorize yet a third reduction of LGA, effective in 2010. In Chatfield's case, it is currently expected to amount to another \$100,000 in cuts. If cuts of that size make it through the system, the City will be seeking the input of the residents on how to properly react to that situation.



### 2010 Census

The census is a count of everyone living in the United States every 10 years. The census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. The US Census Bureau will be in our area, going door-to-door to collect information for the 2010 Census. US Census Bureau representatives will have an identification badge on them. Questions can be addressed to the St. Paul Census Office—651-201-2474.

### Brush & Leaf Dump

**Open for the Season!!**

Wednesday: 1:00—3:00 & 5:00—7:00 p.m.

Friday: 1:00—4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Brush, leaves & grass clippings, only, please!



### City Wide Clean Up

The spring city-wide clean-up has been scheduled to begin Monday, May 4th.

- Place all unwanted items **on the curb**.
- Tires, batteries, fluorescent bulbs and other **household hazardous waste will not be picked up**.
- **Appliances, televisions and computer monitors always need a sticker**—these will be picked up on Thursday, May 7th.
- **This is open to city residents only.**

This is a valued but expensive service. It is intended to help with large, bulky, non-compactable items. Clothing and other items that can fit into the regular yellow bags should be placed in one. Please do not abuse this service. Thank you!

## CITY OF CHATFIELD

[www.ci.chatfield.mn.us](http://www.ci.chatfield.mn.us)

Phone: 507-867-3810

Fax: 507-867-9093

21 Second Street SE Chatfield, MN 55923

**In Case of Emergency: 9-1-1**

**Ambulance (Non Emergency) 507-867-4446**

**Police (Non Emergency) 507-867-3331**

**Chatfield Public Library 507-867-3480**

## CITY OFFICIALS

### **MAYOR**

Les Knutson (507) 867-1500  
[mayorknutson@ci.chatfield.mn.us](mailto:mayorknutson@ci.chatfield.mn.us)

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Paul Novotny (507) 867-3549  
[paulcti@qwestoffice.net](mailto:paulcti@qwestoffice.net)

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Chatfield Ambulance Activities Association

## Annual Barbeque Fundraiser

Saturday May 2nd, 2009

12:00 PM—7:00 PM

(or sold out)

City Hall—Ambulance Garage

Windsor Pork Chop

Baked Potato

Baked Beans

Coleslaw

Roll

Ice Cream

Beverage



**Dine In or Take Out**

Volunteer to be an EMT!! It's a great way to serve your community and neighbors!!

## MAY 2009

- Mon May 11— Planning & Zoning @6:00 pm
- Mon May 11— City Council @ 7:00 pm
- Mon May 18- Heritage Preservation @ 7:00 pm
- Tue May 26- City Council @ 7:00 pm
- Thu May 28- Economic Development @ 5:30 pm

## Critical Care Information

The Chatfield Ambulance Service is pleased to provide American Heart Association (AHA) Day Care Provider CPR and First Aid training May 18th and 20th from 6-10 PM, in Chatfield. Call 867-4446 for more information.



## NOXIOUS WEEDS

Tall grasses and noxious weeds must be controlled within the city of Chatfield.

Grasses or weeds taller than eight (8) inches in height (or that have gone to seed) are in violation.

It is also a violation to allow any noxious weeds, as defined by Minnesota Statute, to grow within the city. Noxious weeds include Field Bindweed, Hemp, Purple Loosestrife, Garlic Mustard, Poison Ivy, Leafy Spurge, Perennial Sow Thistle, Bull Thistle, Canadian Thistle, Musk Thistle and Plumeless Thistle.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**G**rower's Market—Starting in May - get fresh flowers, plants and other goodies each Thursday, in City Park!!

**C**ommunity-Wide Garage Sales—Saturday, May 2nd

**T**ourism Center to Open Soon! Join an already active team of volunteers for our Tourism Center. This is a great way to welcome visitors and promote the town! Call 867-3810 to volunteer!!

**L**ook for **Swimming Pool** Lesson and Registration Information in the Gopher Gazette.

**I**nterested in **watering the flower baskets** on Main Street??? Contact Cathy Anderson at [canderson@ci.chatfield.mn.us](mailto:canderson@ci.chatfield.mn.us) to volunteer!!

## Return top portion with Payment

**P**lease return the top portion of your utility bill with your payment. It helps ensure that your payment gets applied to the proper account.

**Y**ou don't have to bother with writing a check or paying postage. Your bill may be paid on line at [www.ci.chatfield.mn.us](http://www.ci.chatfield.mn.us) with Visa or Master credit / debit cards. Or sign up for automatic bill payment by contacting Mary at 867-3810.