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City of Inver Grove Heights

Insights

Important Information for Residents

Applies to Parking on Grass

Council Adopts Changes to Front-Yard Parking Restriction

The City Council adopted changes to the rules regarding parking of vehicles in the front yard by removing the exception to allow parking on grass on a temporary basis not to exceed seven (7) days.

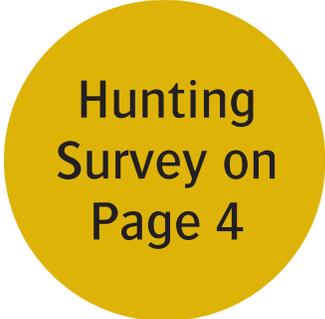
It was determined that the seven-day temporary period was difficult to enforce as it could not be accurately determined if a car was parked in the spot for more than seven days.

The Council has now removed this clause from the ordinance. Temporary parking on grass in the front yard is only allowed during the winter street parking ban from November 1 to March 30 each

year.

The current rules regulating parking of vehicles and recreational vehicles in the front yard requires that all vehicles and recreational vehicles (boats, trailers, RV's, campers, snowmobiles/trailer, ATV/trailers, etc.) must be parked on the driveway or on a hard surface connected to the driveway. Parking on grass is prohibited.

If you have any questions, you may contact Nicole Cook, Code Compliance Specialist at 651-450-2491 or ncook@invergroveheights.org or Allan Hunting, City Planner at 651-450-2554 or ahunting@invergroveheights.org.



Snow Removal

Although the City does its best to keep many of the sidewalks free of snow, please remember per City Code 7-1-2, it is the responsibility of residents to keep the walkway in front of your home free of snow and ice. The accumulation of snow and ice forces pedestrians, including children walking to and from school, out into the street which can create a dangerous situation.

If your age or a health condition does not allow for this, please contact Code Compliance at 651-450-2491, and City Staff can refer you to volunteer groups that may be able to help. Thank you for your cooperation.

Council Considers Changes to Rules for Parking of Non-Motorized Vehicles

The City Council is considering rules that would limit where non-motorized vehicles such as boats, trailers and non-motorized vehicles can be parked in the front yard.

Parking of any type of vehicle is currently allowed on the driveway or on a parking pad attached to the driveway in the front yard.

The Council is considering restricting parking of boats, trailers and non-motorized vehicles to the driveway only.

A public hearing to discuss these

parking restrictions will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

The City Council would like your feedback before any decisions are made. If you would like more information or if you would like to comment or have concerns regarding this possible requirement, please leave any comments at the following e-mail address cityhall@invergroveheights.org. Results will be tabulated and presented to council later this spring.

Economic Impact of Tourism In Inver Grove Heights

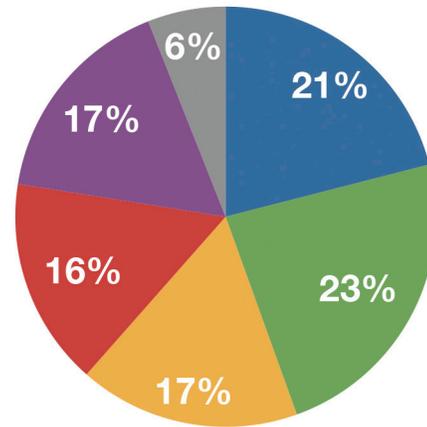
Why is Tourism Important to You?

1. More Visitors = More Economic Vitality
2. Creates and sustains jobs
3. Brings new business
4. Contributes to a vital community
5. Generates thousands of dollars in tax revenues
6. Markets and promotes our community

Minnesota Tourism Generates:

- \$13.6 billion a year in gross sales, or \$37 million per day in tourism-related economic impacts
- 254,400 full and part-time jobs, or 11% of MN's private sector employment
- \$4.7 billion in wages – dollars that are largely spent in the community
- \$878 million a year in state sales taxes, or 17% of all state sales tax revenues
- 79% of visitor dollars are spent on "Main Street" and throughout the community. This includes food and

Visitor Spending



- Lodging
- Food & Beverage
- Retail
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Other

beverage, retail, recreation, transportation and other spending. The remaining 21% of visitors' dollars are spent on lodging. (Note: Data for leisure and hospitality sector, 2014)

Metro Area Tourism Generates:

- \$9.2 billion a year in gross sales
- \$599 million in sales taxes
- 164,178 full and part-time jobs

Dakota County Tourism Generates the Third-Highest Sales and Private Sector Employment in the State

- \$817 million a year in gross sales
- \$53.7 million in sales taxes
- 17,379 full and part-time jobs

2015 Inver Grove Heights Tourism Generated:



\$106,000
annual lodging tax receipts

\$5.3 million
lodging revenues

\$19.9 million
visitor spending in the community

This is based upon 21 percent of visitors' spending on lodging and 79 percent spent in the area.



Provided by the Inver Grove Heights Convention & Visitors Bureau.
Visit us online at www.visitigh.com or on Facebook: facebook.com/visitIGH.



Become a Bluebird Volunteer; Monitoring Class Will Be Held March 30

FYI

Harmon Park Reserve, Lions Park, and Heritage Village Park contain bluebird nest boxes. From April to August bluebirds and their competitors will be nesting in these boxes. In order to keep bluebirds safe and record their nesting progress the boxes should be monitored on a weekly basis.

Join Our Monitoring Class

In the bluebird monitoring classes, we will:

- Identify where the nest boxes are in each park
- Cover the things we as volunteers need to do to keep bluebirds safe during the nesting period.
- Learn how to check the nest boxes and determine who is using the box by nest type.
- Talk about competitor bird species and predators — other birds, mammals and insects.
- Learn how to record what we find each week and report it to BBRP at

season's end.

Participation can be as simple as visiting one of the parks once a month for 20 - 30 minutes

Class Details

WHEN: March 30; 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Inver Glen Library, 8098 Blaine Ave., Inver Grove Heights

RSVP: email bluebirdsafegmail@gmail.com – your name and contact information is all we need

QUESTIONS: email questions to bluebirdsafegmail@gmail.com

INSTRUCTOR: David Schmidt, Inver Grove Heights Volunteer and Minnesota Master Naturalist

Other Volunteer Opportunities

To learn about other Inver Grove Heights volunteer opportunities contact Diane Erickson, volunteer manager, at derickson@invergroveheights.org, or 651-208-4840.

Council Seeks Citizen Input on the Possible Regulation of Rental Housing

The City Council is seeking citizen input on a draft ordinance that would regulate rental housing. The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to assure proper maintenance of structures so as to preserve neighborhood stability, protect the quality of existing rental housing stock, and maintain property values. The ordinance would also provide basic life/safety and living standards for renters.

The draft ordinance requires all owners of rental property, including apartments, townhomes, and single family residences that are being rented, to obtain a City license every two years. Rental property owners would also

have to comply with the International Property Maintenance Code. That code provides minimum standards for building maintenance, property maintenance, light, ventilation, pests, garbage collection, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, and fire safety. A license fee of \$25 per unit every two years would be required. City staff would inspect rental units upon complaint.

If you would like further information or would like to comment on the proposed ordinance, please visit the City's website at www.invergroveheights.org. If you have questions, you may contact Tom Link at tlink@invergroveheights.org or 651 450-2546.

On-Street Parking

The City Council recently adopted new regulations for parking on City streets. The regulations are in response to citizen complaints that vehicles, boats, trailers, and recreational vehicles are being stored on City streets for extended periods of time. This causes traffic safety problems and negative impacts on residential neighborhoods. Generally, the regulations state that:

- Commercial vehicles (vehicles of more than 26,000 pounds) and semi trailers cannot be parked on city streets in a residential neighborhood.
- Trailers, watercraft, and recreational trailers cannot be parked on city streets unless they are hitched to a motor vehicle.
- Vehicles, trailers, watercraft, recreational vehicles, and motor homes cannot be parked on city streets for more than 20 continuous hours.

The regulations go into effect on April 1. The full text of the regulations can be found on the City web site – www.invergroveheights.org.

It's Not Too Early!

Inver Wood's Golf Shop opens for the sale of 2016 Season Passes, Players Cards, League, and Program Registrations on Monday, March 21. March hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, go to www.inverwood.org or call the golf shop at 651-457-3667.

Upcoming Employment!

On March 1, Inver Wood Golf Course will begin taking applications for employment. Some of the positions available are: golf concessionaires, food and beverage concessionaires, starters, rangers, driving-range attendants, and golf course maintenance workers. We feature flexible work hours, quality working conditions, and competitive pay. Visit our website and use this URL for the employment application: <http://www.inverwood.org/employment-opportunities.php>



Should Hunting Be Allowed Within the City Limits?

The Inver Grove Heights City Council will be discussing the ordinances that allow hunting within City limits at an upcoming work session.

We are seeking feedback from the public on these ordinances and are asking you to consider taking a few minutes to provide your opinions about this matter.

Specifically, we want to hear your thoughts on geese, turkey, and deer hunting within Inver Grove Heights city limits.

Please go to our website under the Residents tab and look for the Hunting Survey. The survey will remain open until midnight on March 31, 2016.



Photo credits:
Deer – www.stltoday.com
Turkey – www.youtube.com
Goose – www.wildfowlmag.com

Let the Green Guide Lead You to Recycle Beyond the Curb

Just because it can't be recycled at the curb doesn't mean it belongs in the trash. If you need to get rid of your stuff, do it responsibly with help from Dakota County's online Green Guide.

The Green Guide provides information on how to recycle or safely dispose of hundreds of household items, from paint to electronics to clothes.

It provides options for reusing or donating, information on what can be recycled and how to recycle it, and lets you know about items that need

to be kept out of the trash because of their effect on our health and our environment.

Find out the many household items you can recycle at local places, from plastic bags to bed mattresses, fluorescent bulbs to microwave ovens, and water softeners to televisions.

Visit www.dakotacounty.us and search Green Guide or call 952-891-7000.

Partially funded by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Dakota County Board of Commissioners.

Wide Variety of Activities Offered in Upcoming Months

Healthy Active Aging Fair: Wednesday, April 20, 9 a.m. to noon; Veterans Memorial Community Center

This event showcases local organizations and services on healthy aging. Enjoy vendor booths, free fitness classes, and valuable information. Join the Community Center during the event and pay only a \$19 enrollment fee. Call 651-554-3426 or email acrary@invergroveheights.org for more information.

Indoor Garage & Toy Sale: Saturday, May 7, 8 a.m. to 1p.m., Veterans Memorial Community Center

Stop inside the Community Center and shop at our 7th Annual Indoor Garage and Toy Sale. The sale is free and open to the public. Do you wish you could sell your unwanted items and toys? Here's your chance! For a \$15 fee you receive a 10' x 10' space and a 6' banquet table to display your items. For more information or to download the registration form, visit www.funatthegrove.com and go to Special Events on the left side.

Egg Hunt: Saturday, March 19

Hop on over to Rich Valley Athletic Complex and join us for some egg-citing fun! Kids will enjoy scrambling for eggs. Some "special prize" eggs will be available for some lucky participants. This hunt will be held rain or shine, so dress appropriately. Register early as space is limited.

Although this event is free, pre-registration is required by Wednesday, March 16 to participate. Sponsored by Heartland Credit Union. Saturday, March 19 3-4 year olds: 1 p.m.; 5-7 year olds 1:10 p.m.; 8-10 year olds 1:20 p.m. Register online at www.invergroveheights.org/onlineregistration.

Flashlight Egg Hunt: Saturday, March 19

(Ages 10-13; youth must be accompanied by an adult)

Join us at Rich Valley Athletic

Complex for an exciting twist on an old tradition! This adventure takes place and you only have your flashlight to guide you. All participants must bring their own flashlight. This hunt will be held rain or shine, so dress appropriately. Although this event is free, pre-registration is required to participate. Sponsored by Heartland Credit Union.

Saturday, March 19, 8:30 p.m. Register online at www.invergroveheights.org/onlineregistration.

Youth Track

Participants will have the chance to try their skills in events such as the 100-yard dash, relays, long jump, high jump, baseball throw, and more! Participants will be e-mailed a welcome letter with program information.

Practices and meets will take place at the Simley High School track. Due to the layout of the program, coach/teammate requests will not be accepted.

Register by Thursday, April 7. Program meets Mondays, April 25 to June 6 (skip May 30) from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Division I: Kindergarten to Grade 2. Division 2: Grades 3 to 6. Fee \$50 includes t-shirt and awards. Register online at www.invergroveheights.org/onlineregistration.

Girls Lacrosse Leagues are Here!

Practices will begin in late May with games mid-June through late July. Travel is required for this league and transportation is the parent's responsibility. Protective equipment and attack stick is required and will be the responsibility of the participants.

All levels will compete in the Minnesota Schoolgirls Lacrosse Association.

Leagues available for girls of all ability in grades 3/4, 5/6 and 7/8. Fee: \$180. Register online at www.invergroveheights.org/onlineregistration.

Recreation and More

Youth Archery Classes

Challenge yourself with this unique sport! This program provides a safe and fun introduction to the sport of archery. Classes are taught by a highly qualified instructor. We'll finish the program with a challenge course for the participants to test their newly acquired skills.

Equipment is provided at no charge but participants may bring their own equipment if preferred.

Thursdays, April 21 to May 26. Sessions are either 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., or 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Register by Thursday, April 14. Location: Groveland Park. Fee: \$50. Register online at www.invergroveheights.org/onlineregistration.

Insights

Important Information for Residents

This newsletter is published bi-monthly and is mailed, one copy per residence, to all residential and postal customers in the City of Inver Grove Heights.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you have any comments, give us a call at (651) 450-2500.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- George Tourville, Mayor (651) 450-2507
- Tom Bartholomew (651) 450-2505
- Rosemary Piekarski Krech (651) 450-2504
- Paul Hark (651) 450-2503
- Jim Mueller (651) 450-2506

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- Joe Lynch (651) 450-2511

ON THE WEB

www.invergroveheights.org

E-MAIL

cityhall@invergroveheights.org



March/April 2016

City Council

- Monday, March 7 Study session, 6 p.m., City Hall
- Monday, March 14 Council meeting, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Monday, March 28 Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Monday, April 4 Study session, 6 p.m., City Hall
- Monday, April 11 Council meeting, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Monday, April 25 Council meeting, 7 p.m. City Hall

City Commissions

- Tuesday, March 1 Planning Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Tuesday, March 15 Planning Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Tuesday, April 5 Planning Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Tuesday, April 19 Planning Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Wednesday, March 9 Park & Recreation Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Wednesday, April 13 Park & Recreation Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Thursday, March 24 Environmental Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Thursday, April 28 Environmental Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall
- Tuesday, March 8 Housing Committee, 5 p.m.

Other

- Thursday, March 24 Convention & Visitors Bureau, 9:30 a.m. Chamber of Commerce
- Thursday, April 28 Convention & Visitors Bureau, 9:30 a.m. Chamber of Commerce