



City of Willernie Mayor's Letter



April 2024

Dear Residents,

I am sure you are as anxious for warm weather and the world turning green as I am. Here are a few notes to keep in mind in the coming months.

LEAF VACCUM

Once the ground dries up, the leaf vacuum will be out and collecting leaves about mid-April to mowing season if, of course, the weather cooperates. Please be considerate and just put leaves at the edge of the road. Please try to make sure that the piles just contain leaves and not sticks, tree branches, rocks, or dirt. Dirt clogs the vacuum up and branches and other brushy material create problems. Rocks punch holes in the machine and create costly repairs.



RITE OF SPRING



The 18th Annual RITE (Really into the Earth) of Spring event will be held on **Saturday, April 20th, 2024 between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at the Wildwood Elementary School located at 8698 75th Street North.**

This free family friendly event is sponsored by the City of Mahtomedi, Mahtomedi Community Education, and community volunteers. The event will feature various organizations with information tables from Electric Bikes to Native Plants.

Washington County will be on hand from 8 AM to 2 PM collecting the following at no cost: • Household items: Mercury thermometers & thermostats, fluorescent bulbs, household cleaners, sharps, syringes and used epi-pens, computers and monitors, keyboards, mice, speakers, printers fax machines, TVs, DVD and VCR players and cell phones. • Home improvement: latex/oil paint and stain, paint remover/thinner. • Automotive and recreation: anti-freeze, used motor oil and filters, propane tanks, rechargeable batteries. • Yard and Garden: insect/roach/ant killer, fertilizers/herbicides.

Document shredding Limit of 4 boxes weighing no more than 30 lbs. each. (Limit will be strictly enforced.) Staples, paper clips, and rubber bands do not have to be removed. However, 3-ring binders, large binder clips, plastics, or metals must be removed.

In addition: **Washington County Drug "Take Back" Event Saturday, April 20th - 10 AM - 1 PM.** The Washington County Sheriff's Office and Washington County Public Health & Environment proudly partner in a drug collection program. Over 40 tons of prescription medication have been collected since the program's conception in 2013. As part of this effort, Washington County is holding a Drug "Take Back" event on April 20th at the Wildwood Elementary School. For more information, including acceptable items and year-round disposal locations, call 651-275-7475 or visit our website at www.co.washington.mn.us/meds.

WASHINGTON COUNTY NEW FOOD SCRAP RECYCLE PROGRAM



20% of our trash is food waste. When you participate in the food scraps drop-off program, your food waste and non-recyclable paper products are turned into finished compost in just six months at an industrial compost facility. Compost is a valuable resource that improves soil, reduces erosion, and decreases the need for fertilizers. **Step 1 – Sign up online** (www.co.washington.mn.us/2969/Food-Scraps) and pick up a free starter kit! Starter kits include a 2-gallon kitchen pail and 10 compostable bags. Kits are available to Washington County residents only. Limit 1 kit per household. Must be picked up at the Environmental Center, Northern Yard Waste Site or Mahtomedi City Hall. **Step 2 – Start collecting food scraps at home.** **Step 3 – Bring bagged food scraps to a drop-off site.** For our area, the self-serve drop-off site is behind the fire station. Replacement bags are available. To ensure there are enough bags for everyone, please only take the number of bags you drop off.

HELP CLEAN UP YOUR TOWN

Have you just been hoping for an opportunity to serve your community? Now is your chance. Grab a large garbage bag and help pick up the creek bed, and/or the city's green spaces or the parks/beach. After the thaw, they look (pardon the pun) just plain trashy. If you need directions to any of these city spaces, give Vickie at City Hall a call (651-429-2977). Please help us look after for our green spaces by picking up after yourself and treating the equipment with care. **A BIG THANKS** goes out to the people who have already started doing this.



SPEAKING OF CLEANING UP OUR TOWN...

City council members will be out and about now that it is spring checking out yards and vehicles. Please be aware of a few of the following ordinances:



1. Considered a nuisance are any discarded or disused machinery, household appliances or parts thereof, automobile bodies, or parts thereof, trailers that contain refuse and discarded materials, discarded building materials, or other materials in a manor conducive to harboring rats, mice, snakes, or vermin, or rank growth of vegetation among items so accumulated or in a manner creating fire, health, or safety hazards from accumulating. In other words, all this material laying around your yard or stacked along your fences, garages, or sheds should be in your garages or sheds. Check the Willernie Website for where in Washington County you can dispose of unwanted items.
2. Vehicles need to have current tabs, be insured, and running.
3. Buildings, fences, landscaping, retaining walls, driveways, and other structures that have been so poorly maintained that their physical condition and appearance detract from the surrounding neighborhood are declared to be public nuisances because the (a) are unsightly, (b) decrease adjoining landowners and occupants' enjoyment of their property and neighborhood, and (c) adversely affect property values and neighborhood patterns.
4. KUDOS and a big thank you to those of you who have cleaned up your yards during this last year. It makes our city look better.

BUILDING AND DIY PROJECTS



Please note that you need a building permit for anything which has to do with structural building either by yourself or by someone you hire to do the work. To be safe, please check with the city clerk as to what you need to do so you do not get a stop order on your project because you have not gone through the right process to get a permit.

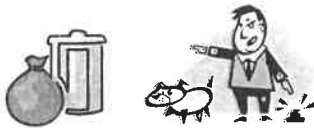
RECYCLE

Just a reminder that recycling is a good way to try to keep our environment healthy and to try to keep the cost of waste management down. The more you can recycle, the smaller garbage container you need, and that saves you money. When you recycle, **do not put your recycle in plastic bags. Just put the recycle uncontained in your recycle container.** Please keep recycle and trash cans off the road. It makes it difficult street cleaning and leaf pick up to have to navigate around your trash and recycle cans.



PET WASTE

As you begin to clean up your yards, please know that the pet waste left behind by dogs and other critters needs to be disposed of in the trash, and not let to disintegrate and run off into the streets which eventually enters the streams and lakes of the area.



POLLUTION

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency wants us to make sure that the residents become aware of the pollution in water runoff and try to prevent pollution in Lake Washington. They express concern of pet waste not being picked up and disposed in the trash and using low phosphorus fertilizers which need to soak into the ground and not run off.



RECREATIONAL FIRES

Recreational fires are allowed in Willernie. A reminder of some of the rules and safety reminders governing recreational fires:



- Fires must be attended at all times.
- Fires must be put out when it is no longer being used.
- Smoke from a fire must not create a problem for your neighbors.
- Must have a fire pit. Pit cannot exceed 3 feet in diameter.
- Fire should be no higher than 3 feet.

MOSQUITOES

Mosquito season is right around the corner. In order to keep the annoying bug population down, please make sure any buckets, planters, etc. are not left with standing water in them for that provides a great breeding ground for the mosquitoes.



Please take care of yourselves and stay safe.

Sincerely,
Barbara Parent, Mayor

Dear Residents,



We are certainly having a wet spring and early summer. Your lawns, flowers, and gardens look beautiful. I hope you all have a nice 4th of July. Hopefully once the 4th is over, we will not have to listen to the booming of fireworks.

Information About Fall Elections for City Offices

Every two years the mayor's position and 2 city council member positions are on the November ballot. If you are interested in serving your city, you must apply. Candidate filing dates are between July 30th and August 13th. You can file at city hall from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday. If you cannot get to city hall during those hours, please contact the city clerk, Vickie, to make arrangements.

Primary Election

A reminder that the primary election is on August 13. Every single vote counts in choosing who you want to represent you on the federal and state level.



City Hall New Doorbell



For the continued safety of those who work in city hall, we have installed a camera/doorbell. This allows Vickie to see who wants to enter and for what purpose. Besides being a safety factor, it also means Vickie does not have to jump up every time visitors for the other two cities who share space in our city hall knock on the door.

Our city clerk is available and can be reached by email, fax, or phone (651 429-2977) Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If you need to transact business with the city inside the city hall for any reason, call Vickie for an appointment. Remember, you can drop off payments or important papers through the mail slot on the front door 24/7.

Trash and Recycle Pick-up

Sometimes we receive notice after hours that trash and recycle will not be picked up on Thursday and have no way of notifying you. Just leave your trash and/recycle cans out and hopefully they will be picked up on Friday.



Willernie Golf Tournament



While it has been grand fun having the Willernie golf tournament each year, due to the increase in cost and the decrease in attendance, there will be no city sponsored tournament this year.

Trimming Greenery That Creates Driving Hazards

Please trim your bushes and tree branches that hang in/on the road, over the roadway, or are blocking any street signs or stop signs. Our streets are narrow and often times the flora growing out of your yard creates a vision or driving hazard. Ken, Maintenance Superintendent, will be cutting back any branches and bushes that have been trimmed and the resulting brush will be left in your yard to clean up.



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A Big Thanks To Those Who Have Cleaned Up Their Yards

THANK
YOU

Letters went out earlier this spring requesting local residents to please clean up their property where they were in violation of city ordinances. So many of you did and your yards look really nice, so GREAT JOB and THANK YOU. Let's continue to work together to make sure our city looks junk and clutter free.

Watch out for children playing:

Please watch out for children playing in the streets. Drive slowly through the town. When you have the chance, please talk to your children about playing in the streets. Several near accidents have happened in the past due to children playing in the streets not watching for cars and cars going too fast and not watching for children.



Building Permits



Summer is a time of fix it projects and building projects. Prior to any building, fixing, or repairing, please inquire as to whether you may need a permit. Building permits are required for all work that is structural in nature. Included in what needs permits are roof replacements, decks, fences, etc. (most everything that needs work requires a permit). It is much easier to call and find out if one is required than have the project red tagged because one was not issued. Fill permits are also required. Please check with the City Clerk.

Recreational Fires

Recreational fires are allowed in Willernie. A reminder of some of the rules and safety reminders governing recreational fires:

- Fires must be attended at all times.
- Fires must be put out when it is not longer being used.
- Smoke from a fire must not create a problem for your neighbors.
- Must have a fire pit. Pit cannot exceed 3 feet in diameter.
- Fire should be no higher than 3 feet.
- Only natural wood should be burned in the fire pit.
 - Do not burn garbage, junk, old furniture, treated lumber, paper, etc.



Enjoy Willernie Beach, Millner Park, and Willernie Park



Our beach is a great place on a hot summer day. Making a day's outing at one or more of our parks would be fun. Our beach provides a place for our residents to swim. It does not allow for boats to dock. If you see boats within our swimming area or tied up to our dock, please call the police. Please also enjoy our other city parks this summer. Both Millner Park and Willernie Park have nice picnic tables, swings and slides.

Attention Pet Owners



Please be a responsible dog owner and clean up after your dog when out walking. There is nothing quite so nasty as being out in one's yard mowing and stepping in dog droppings, especially when one does not have a dog. All dogs must be leashed when out of their yard. They must be confined to their yard when not out for a walk with owners.

Lots of complaints have been coming in concerning free roaming cats. Of particular concern are the cats spraying on houses which creates several issues. First is the smell which is especially odoriferous and less than pleasant. Second, cats spray to mark their territory which can cause conflict for those of us who have indoor cats. The City of Willernie has an ordinance which requires cats to be leashed or confined to your own yard when out-of-doors. They are not allowed to just wander free within the city.



Just another reminder that both cats and dogs need to be licensed in the City of Willernie. Licenses are for two years and cost \$3.00.

Please Support our Local Businesses



Our local businesses have hung on through two years of the COVID virus, the reconstruction of downtown Stillwater Road, and 244. Now they face another roadblock to recovery because of reduced traffic due to the Stillwater Road construction. Let's support them this summer.



Have a great rest of the summer,
Please stay safe,
Barb Parent, Mayor



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Fall 2024
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Dear Residents,

Remember to Vote on November 5th

I have always been proud of the fact that the vast majority of registered voters in the City of Willernie vote at each election. This is a very important election year. I would encourage you to find out what the candidates stand for and make informed choices not only for local government, but also for your county, state, and national leaders. As we learned in the past several Presidential elections, every vote is important.

Willernie voters vote at the Willernie City Hall. If you are not yet a registered voter and live in Willernie, you can register on voting day. You must have a picture ID and proof of residence such as a bill, which has your physical address on it. An envelope with just your P.O. Box number does not count. You can save time on election day by registering to vote in advance by October 15th at Washington County Government Center.

We are blessed to live in a country where we can, as citizens, vote and make our voices heard, so please vote November 5th.

Options for voting:

1. Early voting starts September 20, 2024
2. You can call Washington County Elections at 651 430-6790 and request an absentee ballot application.
3. In person early voting (absentee) at the Washington County Government Center in Stillwater from September 20 to November 4, 2024.
 - a. Washington County Government Center hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
 - b. In addition, Washington County Government Center will be open Saturday October 26th, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Tuesday October 29th 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday November 2nd 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sunday November 3rd 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday November 4th 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
4. Willernie City Hall on General Election Day on November 5th between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
5. For additional information go to WashingtonCountyMN.gov.

your
VOTE
counts



A HUGE THANKS!
A huge thanks to City Councilwomen Kate Sivers, Diane Baglio, and Tammy Soderlund for all the time and effort they put in for the residents of Willernie to have an ice cream social in Millner Park on this year's National Night Out on August 6th. The gathering was a great success.

Leaf Vacuum

As it is now officially fall, it is time for the leaf vacuum to appear. Ken will have the leaf vacuum out from mid-October to mid-November, weather pending. Do not put leaves on the edge of the road once it snows, or we have freezing rain.

In order to continue to have a leaf vacuum, it is important to only put leaves on the edge of the road for pick up. Please do not put yard waste, dirt, rocks, branches, and other objects in the raked-up leaves, for they can damage the leaf vacuum. Also, if you have hard landscape, please make sure it does not flow onto the street.



Yard Waste

Another place to get rid of yard waste: Washington County has a county-sponsored yard waste collection site in Hugo. This site is at 5527 170th St. N. in Hugo, near the intersection of 170th Street North and Fenway Ave. North. The Northern County Yard Waste site will accept leaves, grass, and brush from residents at no charge. Open Wednesday 11 am-7 pm, Friday & Saturday 8 am-4:30 pm, Sunday 12-4:30 pm.



Parking

Parking in town:

- You need to park your motor vehicles on your driveway and not in your yard.
- There is no parking on the grass in any city park.

There is no parking on the streets when the snow falls. Makes it too difficult for proper snow removal.



Trying to Keep the City Cleaned up



Most folks in town take great pride in our community and keep their yards well-kept and cleaned up. Now that fall has arrived, it is time to pick up those items that have been left out during the summer months and store them away for the winter. Check around your yard and house, put things away, or move on to recycle or disposal. Huge thanks to all of you who keep the city looking nice.

More Animal Issues

I appreciate that I sound like a broken record concerning cat and dog licenses, but \$3.00 for two years is not a huge amount to pay considering what getting your animal back from the "Pound" costs without a license.



The City of Willernie ordinances state that all dogs and cats need to be contained in their own yard and are not allowed to run free in the city. Please be a courteous pet owner and contain your pet. Also, if you walk your dog, please clean up after them.

Winter Guidelines

All too soon, winter will be upon us, so it is important to remember:

- All vehicles cannot be parked on the roads when it snows to allow the roads to be plowed
- **When you shovel or snow blow your driveways, snow cannot be put back on the road or in your neighbor's yard.**
- If you park on city property such as beside a park, the cars need to be removed if it snows.



Reflective Poles Available

Reflective poles to mark your yard along the edge of the road for the snowplow to see are available free at City Hall,



Keep Fire Hydrants Clear of Snow



If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please make sure it is shoveled out so it can be located quickly in case of fire. Remember, the house you save from fire could be your own.

Have a safe fall and winter. Please look out for your neighbors as we head into the colder months.

Sincerely,
Barb Parent, Mayor

City of Willernie

Mayor's Letter

January 2025

Dear Residents,

This is my 95th and last mayor letter. It has been an honor serving as your mayor for the last 24 years, and I appreciate all of the help and feedback along the way. Willernie is a remarkable little city with a long history in this area. I have appreciated how neighbors help neighbors, how we have worked to improve our community, how we have grown, yet kept the village feel of our city. As I leave office, I am confident that your new mayor, Diane Baglio, and the city council will continue to work on your behalf.

Actions Needed during the Snowy Months



1. **Please keep your garbage and recycle cans off the street.** The garbage and recycle trucks have an arm that can reach into the beginning of your driveway. Garbage and recycle cans on the street create a problem should it snow, and the streets need to be plowed.

2. **Remember that your motor vehicles need to be off the street if it snows.** It creates a hazard for the snowplow if the cars need to be plowed around. Also, the snow left on the street because a vehicle needs to be plowed around creates a hazard on our narrow streets for emergency vehicles. If you notice a vehicle parked on the street during a snowfall, please call the sheriff to alert them to cars left on the street overnight when it is snowing.

3. **Do not shovel or blow snow onto the street.** That means piling it onto the edge of the road because it can freeze there and cause a hazard for the snowplow.

4. **Do not shovel snow onto your neighbor's property.**

5. **If you have a fire hydrant on your property,** please be kind enough to make sure it is shoveled out after a snowstorm. The house you save in case of fire may be yours.

6. **If you have a problem with plowing,** please call the City Hall (651 429-2977) and leave a message. The city will try to fix the issue.



7. It would eliminate a few plowing problems if next year you all would take advantage of the orange reflective poles offered free by the city to mark the edge of your lawn on the street side. Without curbs, during a heavy snowfall, it is hard to tell where the street ends and your lawn begins.



Snowmobiling

Snowmobiling is permitted on Willernie roads provided the driver follows the rules of the road. (Rules of the road for snowmobiling are the same rules you follow when driving your car through town including speed limits, stopping at stop signs, yielding to pedestrians, etc.) Snowmobiling is not allowed in the city parks or green spaces, or on property not your own.



Paying your Water, Sewer, Trash and Recycle Bill



We get our water from Mahtomedi. They require us to pay within 30 days. For us to meet our obligation, you folks need to pay your water, trash, recycling, sewer bill on time. Your bill is due in 30 days. After 30 days, if the bill is not paid, there is a 10% fine. So, if your bill is \$170 and it is not paid in 30 days, you now owe \$17 more. The city is aware that times can be hard for some, and we are willing to work with you. You can make arrangements to pay your bill in three installments per quarter. Please note, you can now pay online through your bank and the money will be sent to the Willernie City Office. The city does not take credit or debit cards due to the added expense.

Dog and Cat Licenses

License your dog or cat. A reminder to those of you who have dogs or cats, they need to be licensed. The cost is \$3.00 per animal and the license is good for two years.



Some ideas for the coming year to reduce expenses:

1. Recycle to reduce the amount of garbage you put out each week and then possibly you can go to the next size down on your garbage can and save some money. (Contact Vickie at City Hall if you want a smaller garbage can.)
2. Take advantage of the food scraps program for Washington County. (<https://foodscrapspickup.com>). You can order bags to use for food scraps and put them in your garbage bags. The food scraps are then recycled into compost.
3. Reduce the amount of water you use for showers and baths. Turn off your water when you are brushing your teeth. Do not have the water running while you are washing dishes. Rinse the dishes when you have finished washing.
4. Wash larger loads of wash rather than a number of smaller loads.
5. Become conscious of how often you leave a room and do not turn the lights off. Only have lights on in the room you are in.
6. If you are not using all that high tech gear, we all seem to need and rely on, when not in use, unplug it so it does not continue to draw electricity. (Or turn off the power strip.)



Why is City Hall still locked?



Folks have asked why we have continued to keep City Hall locked. We have done this for the safety of our City Clerk and the other city clerks who share our building. We want to keep them safe, especially when they are working there alone. City hall will continue to be closed except by appointment. If you need anything, our city clerk is available by phone (651) 429-2977. If you do need to pick something up from city hall (9:00 to noon, Monday through Thursday), ring the doorbell on the front door or call ahead. City Council meetings will be held at City Hall and council meetings will continue to be held on zoom. Meeting information can be found on the city website.

Looking out for each other

One of the reasons I like living in Willernie is the fact that though we are a suburb of St. Paul and part of the greater metro area, we still maintain many of the good qualities of a small village where neighbors know each other and look after each other. That has become especially important in this very cold, damp, and sometimes snowy weather. Please make an extra effort to check on your neighbor and give a helping hand if needed.



Kudos to Lakeside Floral and its owner, Elishia Robson, for creating events that are bringing folks into Willernie.

Sincerely,
Barbara Parent, Outgoing Mayor



Willernie website: Enter www.willernie.org for information, meeting minutes, ordinances, licenses, permits, and how to contact us.



City of Willernie

Mayor's Letter

April 2025

Dear Residents,

Thank you for electing me as your mayor, I am truly honored. I am committed to working diligently to ensure our city is productive and safe. We are fortunate to have such dedicated council members and knowledgeable staff working together to keep our city running smoothly. Let's continue to work together to make our city one that we can all be proud of. Please reach out to me if you have any concerns, questions or suggestions regarding our community.

LEAF VACCUUM

Ken will be out with the leaf vacuum collecting leaves about **Mid-April to mowing season**- weather permitting! We are so fortunate to have this **FREE** leaf pick-up service, so please be considerate.

- Rake leaves to the edge of the road. Make sure the piles contain just leaves and **NOT** sticks, tree branches, rocks, or dirt. Dirt clogs the vacuum, branches and other brushy material create problems and rocks punch holes in the machine and create costly repairs.



STREET MAINTENANCE

The street sweeper has been fixed! Let's hope it stays that way so we can get our streets cleaned up. Please report any potholes or road cracks that need to be filled and also report any city storm drains that are clogged with debris.

RITE OF SPRING EVENT

The 19th Annual RITE (Really into the Earth) event.

- **Saturday, April 26th, 2025, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**
- **Wildwood Elementary School, 8698 75th Street North, Mahtomedi**

This **free** family friendly event is sponsored by the City of Mahtomedi, Mahtomedi Community Education and community volunteers. The event will feature various organizations with information tables. Organizations will consist of representation from local non-profits, Washington County agencies, as well as private vendors. Also, the Mahtomedi Public School Passages Transition Program is planning to collect and give away Zephyr gear.

- **RECYCLING COLLECTION DROP OFF**

Washington County will be on hand from **8 AM - 2PM** collecting the following at **no cost**:

Household items: Mercury thermometers and thermostats, fluorescent bulbs, cleaners, sharps, syringes and used epipens

Electronics: Computers, monitors, keyboards, mice, speakers, printers, fax machines, TVs, DVD, VCR players and cell phones

Home Improvements: Latex/Oil paint and stains, paint remover/thinner

Automotive and Recreational: Anti-freeze, used motor oil and filters, propane tanks, rechargeable batteries

Yard and Garden: insect, roach and ant killer, fertilizers and herbicides

- **DOCUMENT SHREDDING**

Limit of 4 boxes weighing no more than 30 lbs. each. The limit will be strictly enforced!

Staples, paper clips and rubber bands **DO NOT** have to be removed.

However, 3-ring binders, large binder clips, plastics or metals must be removed.

- **WASHINGTON COUNTY DRUG "Take Back" EVENT 10 AM - 1 PM**

Washington County Sheriff's Office and Washington County Public Health & Environment have partnered in this drug collection program. For more information, including acceptable items and year-round disposal locations, call 651-275-7475 or visit their website at www.co.washington.mn.us/meds.

WASHINGTON COUNTY FOOD SCRAP RECYCLE PROGRAM

When you participate in the food scraps drop-off program, your food waste and non-recyclable paper products are turned into finished compost in just six months at an industrial compost facility. Simply order your annual supply of food scrap bags. Collect your food

bags in the food scrap bags. Once a week or when the food scrap bag is full, tie a knot at the top to close the bag. Place your food scrap bag inside your trash cart for collection. **DONE!** Your trash is collected as usual, and the food scrap bags are sorted from the trash and composted.

Sign up and order your free annual supply of bags at FoodsScrapsPickup.com or call 651-661-9393.

POLLUTION

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency wants us to make sure that the residents become aware of the pollution in water runoff and try to prevent pollution in Lake Washington. They express concern about pet waste not being picked up and disposed of in the trash and using low phosphorus fertilizers which need to soak into the ground and not run off.

YARD MAINTAINANCE

Maintaining our city is essential for creating a clean, safe and aesthetically pleasing environment for residents and visitors. The process includes regular tasks such as mowing, racking lawns, trimming trees and shrubs and cutting down overgrown weeds. Please maintain your property on a regular basis.

CITY CODE VIOLATIONS

Every spring, members of the city council are out inspecting properties that are in violation of the city code.

Here are a few of the most frequently violated ordinances.

1. Abandoned and disabled vehicles that do not run, vehicles that have flat tires or are missing parts. These vehicles don't move, they are parked in the same spot for a long period of time.
2. Vehicles with expired tabs.
3. Vehicles not parked on approved surfaces such as concrete, asphalt or class 5 gravel.
4. Over the 4-vehicle limit- Combination of cars, trucks, trailers, boats, campers, RV's, snowmobiles, ATV's.
5. Junky unsightly yards- Building materials, tools, broken unused furniture, appliances and parts, discarded materials, tires, basically an accumulation of "stuff" that is within the public's view.
If you want to keep these articles store them in a garage or shed.
6. Poorly maintained structures, fences, landscaping, retaining walls, and driveways.

SPRING REMINDER

With the nice weather comes an increase of people out walking and riding bikes on our streets. Please drive carefully through our town. For the dog walkers out there be responsible and clean up after your dog! It is a city ordinance that your dog be leashed at all times when out of their yard. Dogs and cats must be licensed through the city. The cost is \$5.00 for 2 years. Contact the city clerk.

RECYCLE, RECYCLE, RECYCLE

Just a reminder that recycling is a good way to keep our environment healthy and keep the cost of waste management down. The more you can recycle, the smaller the garbage container you will need, and this will save you money. **Please keep recycling and trash cans off the road.** Vehicles have difficulty when trying to navigate around the trash and recycle cans on our already narrow streets.

911 NON-EMERGENCY

Washington County Sheriffs encourage you to call in when witnessing suspicious activity or to report a disturbance. You can report an incident and remain anonymous.

Sincerely,
Diane Baglio, Mayor



City of Willernie

Mayor's Letter

July 2025

Hello Willernie Residents,

It sure has been a welcome spring and summer, starting at least 3 weeks earlier than in previous years. With the accommodating weather that we have had, it brought many of you out to work in your yards and gardens. It is a delight to see all the flowering shrubs, flower beds and flower baskets. Thank you for making our city beautiful! Let's continue to enjoy a summer filled with activities and safe celebrations. With more people (especially children) out and about on our roads please be mindful to keep our community safe.

WATER, SEWER, GARBAGE, RECYCLE BILL

We get our water from the City of Mahtomedi and need to pay them quarterly. Likewise, we need to pay Waste Management for garbage and recycle pick up and we also need to pay for sewer. Please pay your bill promptly so the city can pay its bills. If your bill is not paid within 30 days, there will be a 10% charge added. In addition to late fees, if your bill is not paid by years end, the city's recourse is to certify the bill or bills to your property tax. The county then takes over and charges penalties and interest on the money owed. To avoid this scenario please pay your bill on time.

NEW BUSINESSES IN WILLERNIE

Lakeside Floral (109 Wildwood Rd) is under new ownership. Stop in and check it out.

Warped Records (313 Stillwater Rd) is also new to our town. If you are a music enthusiast stop in and look at the new and slightly used record selections that are for sale.

For Thai Cuisine and Sushi, check out "Queens" (106 Wildwood Rd) this restaurant is under new ownership.

POLLUTION

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency wants us to make sure that the residents become aware of the pollution in water runoff and try to prevent pollution in Lake Washington. They express concern about pet waste not being picked up and disposed of in the trash and using low phosphorus fertilizers which need to soak into the ground and not run off.

UPDATED CITY ORDINANCES

The recodification of our city ordinances has been adopted. Some of the changes you will notice- corrected grammatical and typographical errors, added page numbers, table of contents, a revision history section, city zooming maps and a complete fee schedule all in one section that is clearly labeled. You can go on our city website at Willernie.org for easy access.

BUILDING PERMITS

Summer is a time for building and fix it projects. Prior to any building, fixing or repairing please contact our City Clerk to inquire as to whether you will need a permit or not.

YARD MAINTENANCE

Please maintain your property on a **regular basis**- keep it mowed, trees and shrubs trimmed, and your yard picked up. Cut overgrown weeds and vegetation around structures, fences and driveways. It is the property owner's responsibility to mow their property right up to the city street. Be mindful of what your neighbors must look at.

WILLERNIE BEACH

We are fortunate to have a beach on White Bear Lake that Willernie residents can call their own. Enjoy our beach and follow a few simple rules.

- Pick up after yourself
- Throw your trash into the garbage container
- Docking boats is NOT allowed at our beach
- Wildwood Beach is NOT a dog park, so you need to have your dog leashed and under owner control
- Dog owners are responsible for the pickup and disposal of their dog's waste
- Abide by the beaches closing time - half hour after sunset.

Work done thus far at the beach -

The invasive Buckthorn and Black Locust trees have been cleared from the property. A new fence is replacing the old, dilapidated fencing that was removed.

We will be working on improving our sand beach area and are looking for volunteers to help out. Please contact me or the city clerk if you are interested.

"FREE" WOOD CHIPS TO WILLERNIE RESIDENTS

Help yourself to the wood chip pile located at Millner Park (300 block of Charing Ln) in the parking lot. This is a great opportunity to spruce up your landscaping and garden areas.

WOOD CHIPPER IN MILLNER PARK

This free service being offered by the city will help you get rid of your branches and limbs that are piled in your yard. All you have to do is get your branch piles to the parking lot of Millner Park

Between 10am and 1pm

SATURDAY October 4, 2025

Our Maintenance Supervisor Ken will be operating the chipper and overseeing this project. If there are any volunteers willing to help other residents with the transport of their piles, please contact the city clerk at 651-429-2977.

Enjoy the rest of your summer,
Diane Baglio, Mayor



City of Willernie

Mayor's Letter

October 2025

Dear Residents,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer and enjoyed the beautiful area that we live in. We had some community bonding in August at our annual get-together in Willernie Park. We met with fellow residents, had some free ice cream, watched our Washington County K9 perform and met with our officers, paramedics and fireman that serve and protect us. Let's continue to work together as a community to make our city one that we can all be proud of. Please reach out to me if you have any concerns, questions or suggestions.

IMPROVEMENTS

We have been busy making some much needed improvements to our city hall. The front brick that was cracking and broken off, has been totally removed and replaced with an updated brick front that looks so much better. The step coming into city hall has been replaced and now evenly slopes into the sidewalk. We will keep improving our city "one step at a time". Our weed garden that was on the side of city hall has turned into a beautiful colorful flower garden. Thank you, council members Tammy Soderlund and Kate Siver, for keeping it watered and weeded all summer long. Special thanks to the Mahtomedi Garden Club for donating the money to get this project off the ground or should I say "IN" the ground.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

A new position was created for the enforcement of our ordinances. The city has hired Ken Johnson to take on the role of "Enforcement Officer". Ken will be overseeing residents that are not in compliance with our city codes. He will be inspecting properties that are in possible violation, fielding complaints and preparing all necessary paperwork that is required. **A FEE WILL BE CHARGED TO ALL CODE VIOLATORS THAT HAVE NOT CORRECTED THE VIOLATION WITHIN THE ALLOTTED TIME AND PROCESS.** To see the "City Compliance Courtesy Letter" and the "Notice of Administrative Citation" you may request a copy from our city clerk at (651)429-2977.

LEAF VACCUUM

Ken will have the leaf vacuum out from **October - November 24th on Mondays & Fridays.** Please only put leaves into the piles, **NO** rocks, dirt, sticks or branches. This **end date** will apply only if the snow/freezing rain has not already begun! If you happen to miss the last pickup date and you still rake your leaves onto the road, it will be **your responsibility** to get the piles removed promptly. By leaving the piles on the roadside all winter into spring, the leaf debris can find its way into the catch basins and cause water to back up on our streets.

YARD CLEANUP

Now that summer has ended it is time to consider putting away all your seasonal items before the snow flies. Items such as mowers, yard tools, toys, lawn furniture, left over bags of mulch, planting pots not being used and garden tools need to be stored properly.

WOOD CHIPPER AT MILLNER PARK

(Charing Ln in parking lot)

Saturday, October 4th (10 - 1)

This service is FREE for Willernie residents, and it is a good way to get rid of your accumulated branch piles that have been in your yard for months and even years. All you need to do is get your branches to the park location and Ken will do the rest! Branches should be no larger than 6" in diameter and unloaded branches should all be facing the same way. This makes it easier to load the chipper. **Woodchips are free for the taking!** My apologies if you don't get this letter on time, I know it's going to be close!

FREE REFLECTIVE MARKER POLES

Mark your yard along the edge of the road to assist the snowplow driver. These poles are located for pickup at City Hall, Monday - Thursday 9 to Noon. (651)429-2977

WINTER PARKING

Vehicles cannot be parked on the roads when snow is predicted or already falling. This allows the clearing of our roads to be done correctly and efficiently. With our narrow roads we need all the width we can get! The city prefers you to NOT park at all along the **side** of the road but if you must park parallel to the road then you must make sure your vehicle is pulled far enough over onto your own property so that no tires are on or touching the street pavement at all.

WATER, SEWER, GARBAGE BILL

If your utility bill is not paid to the city within 30 days, there will be a 10% charge added. In addition to late fees, if your bill is not paid **by year end**, the city will certify the bill or bills to your property tax. The county will then take over and charge more penalties and interest to the money owed. Please pay on time to avoid this scenario.

Sincerely,
Diane Baglio, Mayor