

## STEPPING UP RAIL SAFETY

Following the train incident in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec, City Administrator Pat Zavoral and Fire Chief Steve Dirksen reached out to Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) to talk about train safety and emergency response within the City of Fargo. Since then, an agreement has been made to store firefighting equipment owned by BNSF at Fargo Fire facilities to ensure a more rapid response.

Leaders also addressed train speed through Fargo. BNSF trains slow to a maximum speed of 35 mph when traveling through the city. This has been verified by police radar spot checks. Most of the speeds are closer to 30 mph or less.

BNSF continues to work to prevent incidents by maintaining a solid infrastructure – replacing rails and ties, and other routine maintenance work. They also work to prevent accidents through a strong inspection program. BNSF inspects their tracks more frequently than Federal Railroad Association requires and they place detectors along the tracks that alert the railroad to potential equipment issues before they become problems.

The rail industry adopted stronger tank car standards in 2011 and 2013 and are in the process of phasing out older

cars. Congress recently passed legislation that will provide oversight and mandates to complete the phase out.

BNSF is also complying with federal mandates to provide shipment information to first responders. If there is an incident, a local jurisdiction will be able to quickly determine what is being carried on the trains. They have also committed to providing specialized response training to local communities within 10 miles of a track that carries crude to ensure responders have the necessary background and experience to deal with these issues. BNSF is sponsoring a class in Fargo in October for responders from around the region that will provide more specific training.

We will continue to work together to ensure all rail shipments traveling through our community do so as safely as possible. BNSF's commitment to prevention and the Fargo Fire Department's ability to respond will help ensure that Fargo continues to be a safe community to live, work and play.

Residents are encouraged to sign up for CodeRED emergency notifications at [www.cityoffargo.com/CodeRED](http://www.cityoffargo.com/CodeRED). Learn more about CodeRED on page 3 of this newsletter.



*A Burlington Northern Santa Fe train crossing at Main & Broadway.*



Scan this code with your smart phone to visit the City of Fargo website!

[WWW.CITYOFFARGO.COM](http://WWW.CITYOFFARGO.COM)



# Getting to school safely



*Pedestrians ages 10 and younger should be accompanied by an adult or young adult on the way to and from school.*

Many children rely on walking, riding a bicycle, or catching a school bus to travel to and from school. No matter how your child gets to school, the following tips can help you teach and reinforce your children's pedestrian, bicycle and school bus safety habits.

- **Walking.** Pedestrians 10 and younger should be accompanied by an adult or young adult on their way to and from school. Show them how to cross the street by stopping at the curb and looking left-right-left for traffic before crossing.
- **Biking.** The best protections when biking to and from school are a properly fitted bicycle helmet and a good grasp of traffic safety rules. For more tips visit [www.SafeRoutesInfo.org](http://www.SafeRoutesInfo.org).
- **Riding the bus.** Your kids need to be careful around the school bus "danger zone"—10 feet in front, 10 feet behind and on each side.
- **Riding in the car.** Did you know children in the front seat are 40 percent more likely to be injured in crashes? If your kids are 12 and younger, make sure they ride in the back (NHTSA).
- **Driving.** Set a positive example and keep your children safe. Stay completely focused on the road and put your cell phone away when in traffic.

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**Find job openings at:**  
[www.cityoffargo.com/employment](http://www.cityoffargo.com/employment)  
or on Twitter @CityofFargoHR

# THE NEW FCPH!



*A rendering of the new FCPH building at 13th Avenue & 25th Street South.*

Walls are going up and the excitement is "building" as work on the new Fargo Cass Public Health (FCPH) location progresses at the corner of 13th Avenue and 25th Street South in Fargo. What once was a vast, empty space, is now taking shape with walls, skylights and new windows which will allow more natural light into the building. The parking lot is also changing with the addition of islands that will include trees and gardens. Work is expected to be completed on the building in the fall of 2015. The more centralized location, new clinic and larger parking lot will make access to FCPH services easier, especially for those who use MATBUS.

## Online: The easy way to pay

Join the movement and pay your utility bill online! Thousands are now using Fargo's free online, self managed payment system to pay their utility bills each month. By signing up you can schedule payments and set up recurring payments with your Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or E-Check. Give it a try by visiting [www.cityoffargo.com/payonline](http://www.cityoffargo.com/payonline). Be sure to have your utility bill account number ready.

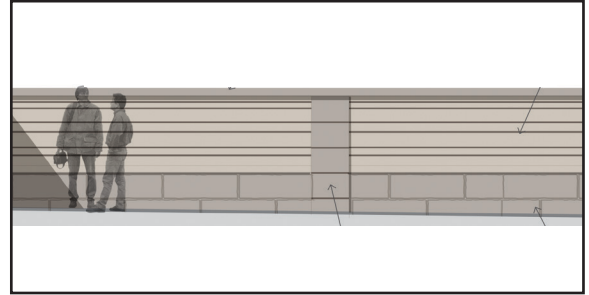
## FLASHING YELLOW LIGHTS

More flashing yellow turn signals are now up and running in Fargo. Flashing yellows are currently operating on 32nd Avenue South at the intersections of 28th and 32nd Streets, and at 45th Street and 30th Avenue South. This new type of light allows drivers to turn left at intersections where oncoming traffic is clearly visible. Drivers with flashing yellows are required to yield to oncoming traffic. Watch for more to be installed throughout Fargo over the coming months.

# GROUND BREAKING ON 2ND ST. S. FLOODWALL

The days of building emergency levees on 2nd Street from Main Avenue to 4th Street South are almost over. Ground will be broken in a matter of weeks on the installation of a new permanent floodwall as part of the 2nd Street flood control project and F-M Diversion plan. The floodwall, approximately 460 feet long, will include 90 feet of removable wall which will allow access to Dike East during times of non-flooding. To make it visually appealing, the wall will incorporate features of the Main Avenue Bridge, and landscaping and native plantings will be added. This section of the 2nd Street project will be completed before winter. In 2015, a levee will be constructed to tie the new floodwall back to the Main Avenue Bridge area where another removable closure will be installed.

The next phase of this project, which will run along 2nd Street from NP Avenue to the 6th Avenue North railroad bridge, is also slated to begin in the spring of 2015.



*The floodwall will incorporate design features of the Main Avenue Bridge.*



*The red line above represents the new floodwall.*

## *Flood insurance map takes effect Jan. 16*

The City of Fargo has received the Final Letter of Determination from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) stating the new floodplain map, also known as the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), will take effect Jan. 16, 2015. The new map expands the current 100 year floodplain in Fargo which will result in approximately 2,300 structures being affected within Fargo.

It is essential that Fargo residents become educated about the floodplain and flood insurance. The new floodplain map and information about grandfathering and the Preferred Risk Policy are available online at [www.FargoFloodInsurance.com](http://www.FargoFloodInsurance.com). Property owners are encouraged to contact their insurance agents with insurance related questions. If you need help understanding the map or have questions about your property's elevation, please contact the City of Fargo Engineering Department at 701-241-1545 or [feng@cityoffargo.com](mailto:feng@cityoffargo.com).

## *CodeRED local numbers*

CodeRED emergency/non-emergency calls to the residents of Cass and Clay Counties will now come from local phone numbers. In the past, these important calls had come from numbers with 866 and 855 area codes. The unrecognizable numbers caused some residents to disregard the calls or assume they were coming from telemarketers.

### **CodeRED local numbers:**

- CodeRED emergency: 701-364-CODE (2633)
- CodeRED non-emergency: 701-364-1277
- CodeRED weather will remain the same: 800-566-9780.

Residents are encouraged to enter these phone numbers into their mobile phones with easy to recognize IDs, such as "CodeRED emergency" and "CodeRED non-emergency," so they appear prominently when a call arrives.

Sign up for CodeRED online at [www.cityoffargo.com/codered](http://www.cityoffargo.com/codered).





# FROM THE FIREHOUSE

Oct. 5-11, 2014, is Fire Prevention Week. This year's message is "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives. Test Yours Every Month!"

According to the United States Fire Administration, more than 3,000 people die in home fires each year in the U.S. Most of these fires occur in homes without a working smoke alarm.

A properly maintained smoke alarm is the only thing in your home that can alert you and your family to a fire 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The Fargo Fire Department recommends installing smoke alarms both inside and outside of sleeping areas and on every level of your home, testing them monthly and changing alkaline batteries at least once a year.

- Fire Marshal Ryan Erickson

**Working  
Smoke  
Alarms  
Save  
Lives**

**Test  
Yours Every  
Month!  
Visit [nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org)**

● JANUARY  
● FEBRUARY  
● MARCH  
● APRIL  
● MAY  
● JUNE  
● JULY  
● AUGUST  
● SEPTEMBER  
● OCTOBER  
● NOVEMBER  
● DECEMBER



## Water Treatment Plant update



*A view of the expansion which will be built on the NW side of the Water Treatment Plant, 435 14th Ave. S., Fargo.*

You will see construction on the Water Treatment Plant expansion project begin very soon. As we first reported to you in June, the three year project will increase water treatment capacity from 30-million gallons per day (MGD) to 45 MGD and introduce membrane technology to remove sulfate and bromide from our drinking water.

Bidding on the project will take place in September and you can expect to see ground broken in the fall. There will be temporary road closures during construction in the immediate areas around the Water Treatment Plant on 4th Street and 13th Avenue. This project is expected to be completed in 2017. To see renderings and a video flyover of the project, go to [www.cityoffargo.com/water](http://www.cityoffargo.com/water).

## PLANNING FOR WINTER: SUMP PUMP PROGRAM

Cooler temperatures will soon be here. Ice buildup from sump pump discharge creates a real hazard on sidewalks and walkways. Please direct the discharge into your yard so the water will soak into the ground or evaporate as it flows to the nearest storm water inlet. Constant water on the sidewalk creates slippery conditions. Washing the sidewalk with soap and water will remove the slippery surface. Rinsing with a high pressure water hose will remove most of the water stains.

The Sump By-Pass waiver will allow you to discharge your sump pump to the sanitary sewer system from Oct. 1 to March 31 of each year. The waiver fee is \$36 per year and is added to your utility bill at \$3 per month. Relax and enjoy your winter vacation without worrying about the sump pump discharge line freezing. More information is available at [www.cityoffargo.com/sumppumpprogram](http://www.cityoffargo.com/sumppumpprogram) or call our office at 701-461-7867 for more information.

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or on Twitter @CityofFargoHR

# GARBAGE/RECYCLING

## **Veterans Day Nov. 11 - Week of Nov. 10:**

Garbage and recycling collections on schedule. The Sanitary Landfill will be open on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

## **Thanksgiving Day Nov. 27 – Week of Nov. 24:**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday on schedule. Thursday collected on Friday. The Sanitary Landfill will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 27.

## **Saturday winter hours at the Landfill:**

Saturday winter hours run from Saturday, Nov. 29, through Saturday, March 7. Hours are 7:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## **Brush collection:**

Brush is collected by the Forestry Department from May 1 through Oct. 31. For information, call 701-241-1465.

Visit [www.FargoGarbage.com](http://www.FargoGarbage.com).

## *Compost & woodchips*

### **Giveaway**

The fall giveaway dates include one Saturday which is Sept. 6 from 7:15 a.m. to noon and every Wednesday and Thursday from Sept. 10 to Oct. 2 from 3:30 - 5 p.m. Each household qualifies for one free yard of compost and one free yard of wood chips. The compost and wood chips are located west of the Household Hazardous Waste facility at 606 43 1/2 St. N.

### **For sale**

Before and after the free giveaway, you can purchase compost and wood chips from the city. Wood chips cost \$8 per yard and compost is \$10/yard. These purchases can only take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 - 5 p.m. Please call or stop at the scale house before proceeding to the compost and wood chip area. To inquire about availability of materials, please call the Landfill scale house at 701-282-2489.

# COMPOST COURTESY

Please be mindful of the yard waste items you put into city compost containers. Lately, branches, garbage and plastic bags have been put in the containers - these items cause considerable damage to the composting equipment and can pose a safety hazard for our drivers. Items that can be composted include: grass clippings, leaves, garden trimmings and excess fruit and vegetable scraps. Please put empty plastic bags in the receptacle marked "Plastic Bags Only." Branches are not accepted in the compost containers. They can be placed on your boulevard and will be collected on a weekly basis from May to October by the Forestry Department. Visit us online at [www.FargoRecycles.com](http://www.FargoRecycles.com).

\*Seniors and disabled residents who need assistance in collecting bags of yard waste this fall may call the Solid Waste Department at 701-241-1449.

## *Watch Fargo FAQs*

# FAQ

Look for this FAQs icon on department webpages at [www.cityoffargo.com](http://www.cityoffargo.com).

You have questions and our city department leaders have answers! We have compiled some of the most commonly asked questions our departments receive from residents and created short 2 - 3 minute videos called 'Fargo FAQs' to answer them. You can watch them on our YouTube page at [www.YouTube.com/FargoNDGovernment](http://www.YouTube.com/FargoNDGovernment) and on various homepages on the City of Fargo website at [www.cityoffargo.com](http://www.cityoffargo.com).

## REDUCING FARGO'S ENERGY CONSUMPTION

The City of Fargo has been selected to advance to the quarterfinalist round of the Georgetown University Energy Prize, a \$5-million incentive competition to reduce America's energy consumption. Fargo was selected for its innovative approach to saving energy. "As a growing City, we see this as a tremendous and timely opportunity to capitalize on our energy, mobilize innovative people and utilize community expertise and resources. The Georgetown University Energy Prize will trigger a spirit of cooperation as we implement Fargo's GO2030 Comprehensive Plan," said Fargo City Commissioner Mike Williams. The next rounds of selections for the award will take place over the next two years.

## *Gardens Alive! challenge*

The FM metro is participating in a 1 million square feet vegetable gardening challenge this summer. It is part of a larger effort to make Fargo the healthiest place in the U.S. to live, learn, work, play and pray. Healthy habits like vegetable gardening not only provide wholesome food and cause increased consumption by the grower, these habits are also contagious and increase the likelihood that others will consider gardening and, as a result, consume more fruits and vegetables. Plus, there is an economic benefit: young professionals prefer to settle in communities with plentiful green space and access to local foods. If you haven't yet, go to [fimgardensalive.org](http://fimgardensalive.org) to register your garden and fruit trees!

# SEPTEMBER: GYNECOLOGIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Fargo Cass Public Health

According to the American Cancer Society, 94,990 new cases of gynecologic cancers will be diagnosed in 2014, resulting in approximately 28,790 deaths. That is why it is important for women to take care of their health, not just in September, but every day of the year.

Gynecologic cancers include cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, uterine/endometrial cancer, vaginal cancer and vulvar cancer. Uterine cancer is the most common (more than 52,500 new cases per year), while ovarian cancer is the deadliest due to late stage diagnosis.

Cervical cancer is almost totally preventable given the availability of a vaccine for both boys and girls, and a wide-spread primary screening program using both the Pap test and HPV test (HPV is the cause of almost all cervical cancer). There are specific steps that women can take to reduce their risks and even prevent these cancers. More than half of all cancer deaths could be prevented by staying at a healthy weight, eating right, keeping active and getting recommended screening tests.

The Fargo Cass Public Health Clinic offers physical examinations for women including: pelvic exams, pap smears, urinalysis and blood work. Fees are based on a sliding scale. Women ages 40-64 may qualify for Women's Way which may help pay for cervical and pelvic exams. For more information or to schedule an appointment call 701-241-1383 or go to [www.FargoCassPublicHealth.com](http://www.FargoCassPublicHealth.com).

## SHINGLES VACCINATIONS

Fargo Cass Public Health has shingles vaccine available and holds shingles vaccination clinics the last Friday of each month with the exception of November and December (or if the Friday is a holiday). The shingles vaccine is recommended for individuals 60 years old plus, however the vaccine can be administered to individuals 50 years old plus. Please contact your healthcare provider to see if you should receive this vaccine.

For more information or to schedule an appointment call Fargo Cass Public Health at 701-241-1428.

*Fargo Fact:*

**As of July 31, 2014, permit values in Fargo were at \$520-million. That's more than double 2013 numbers at that time (\$204-million).**

## LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES (LFL)



Because of great communities like Fargo, the Little Free Library (LFL) movement is rapidly growing. Many libraries have been installed in our City and thousands of books shared. LFLs seek to help build a sense of community, promote literacy and a love of reading. If you see a LFL around town, it is there for you. The LFLs are stocked with a variety of good, quality books that we hope will interest our neighbors and they are simple to use:

- Stop by and take whatever catches your fancy
- Return or bring books to contribute when you can – the books are always a gift, never for sale

To find a world map of Little Free Libraries or to learn more, please contact the Fargo Department of Planning and Development at 701-241-1474 or go to [www.LittleFreeLibraries.org](http://www.LittleFreeLibraries.org). On behalf of our neighbors and community, happy reading!



# IGoECO CHALLENGE



Watch and listen for Liddy on TV, billboards, the web, and the radio!

From Sept. 8 through Nov. 2, MATBUS invites you to take part in the iGoEco Challenge! Give up your car for a more eco-friendly mode of transportation, for at least a trip once every two weeks.

A premium glass MATBUS water bottle will be given to the first 250 people who register for the Challenge.

If you meet the goal during each two-week period, you are automatically entered into a

drawing for prizes valued at over \$500 each. Complete all four Challenges and you are qualified for the grand prize of a 50" flat-screen TV and Blu-Ray player, donated by Gate City Bank. To register for the Challenge, go online to [www.iGoEcoChallenge.com](http://www.iGoEcoChallenge.com). Then, in less than one minute, update your status each two-week challenge period for a chance to win fantastic prizes!

## TRY MATBUS WEEK!

Ride the bus during Try MATBUS Week!

Nearly 2.15 million rides were given on MATBUS in Moorhead and Fargo in 2013. We invite you to ride the bus, too, especially during Try MATBUS Week held Oct. 20 to 25. Our event schedule includes:

- Half-fare rides on MATBUS fixed routes all week
  - 75 cents for adults
  - 40 cents for senior citizens, youth and persons with disabilities
- Enter to win MATBUS T-shirts on the busses and at the Ground Transportation Center (GTC) at 502 NP Ave. in Fargo
- Free popcorn and refreshments at the GTC on Tuesday, Oct. 23
- It's also a FARE-FREE DAY on Tuesday, Oct. 23 for all fixed route passengers!

## MATBUS calendar

- **Sept. 8 - Nov. 2:** MATBUS iGoEco-Challenge
- **Oct. 20 - 25:** Try MATBUS Week (Half fare rides all week on fixed route and free rides on Tuesday!)
- **Nov. 11, Veterans Day:** No Bus Service
- **Nov. 25:** Holiday Lights Parade in Downtown Fargo
- **Nov. 27, Thanksgiving Day:** No Bus Service
- **Nov. 28 - 29 and every Saturday in December:** Half-Fare Days on MATBUS

# Fargo Public Library

## PASSENGER PIGEON STORY

The last passenger pigeon passed away at the Cincinnati Zoo 100 years ago on Sept. 1, 1914 and the species is now extinct. How did this happen? Find out at a special commemoration of the passenger pigeon being held in partnership with the Fargo-Moorhead Audubon Society at the Main Library on Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 6:30 p.m. Learn the story behind the sad demise of these and other bird species, view the arts-based environmental film *The Lost Bird Project*, and fold origami pigeons to contribute to the Fold the Flock initiative. All ages are welcome to this event. Call the Cindy Mason at 701-241-1495 or visit [www.FargoLibrary.org](http://www.FargoLibrary.org) for details.

## Culture & colors of Pakistan

Join us for a special presentation by Sania Usman Khan featuring the history and culture of Pakistan. This session will include images of the country along with a display of embroidered garments and textiles used as part of cultural celebrations and festivals. Light snacks and Kashmiri tea will be served. The event is set for Tuesday, Sept. 30, starting at 7 p.m. at the Main Library. This program is in partnership with Cultural Diversity Resources. For details, contact Diane Briggs at 701-241-1492 or visit [www.FargoLibrary.org](http://www.FargoLibrary.org).

## CHECK OUT ARTS & CULTURE

This fall, local libraries and the Arts Partnership will be launching a new service for metro area residents. Library cardholders will now be able to visit their own local arts and cultural organizations at no or reduced costs through the Metro Culture Pass program. Twelve metro-area arts and cultural organizations are participating in this first-ever two-year pilot project for our region. To learn more contact the Fargo Public Library at 701-241-1492 or visit [www.FargoLibrary.org](http://www.FargoLibrary.org).

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## **ECRWSS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER**

### *What happens when we Live United?*

Local statistics show that 1 in 8 people in our Cass and Clay community are living in poverty—that's 28,000 people and 6,000 are children. What if the children living in poverty now could have the right opportunities to get the skills and experiences they need to be successful as adults? That is United Way's goal—to make specific investments in the building blocks for a good life—education, income stability, health and basic needs like food, shelter and safety.

With the help of this generous community, United Way raised more than \$5.3 million dollars locally, but reaching the campaign goal is not the end of United Way's work, it is the beginning. Raising money in itself doesn't create change. What's even more important than reaching a campaign goal is the

ability to make careful, strategic investments designed to bring about social change—that is United Way's role. With United Way, it takes just one person to change our

community. These changes and investments impact the future of every individual and family in our local community. Be the one. Volunteer to help a senior on Day of Caring on Oct. 9, contribute school supplies to help students before school starts, share with others how United Way investments are changing our community—now, and for generations to come.

Join the Live United

movement. Learn more at [www.UnitedWayCassClay.org](http://www.UnitedWayCassClay.org) or on Facebook [www.Facebook.com/UnitedWayofCassClay](http://www.Facebook.com/UnitedWayofCassClay).



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