iFargo

information

Spring 2014

Police & Fire Go Mobile

Two new mobile apps are now available to help you stay in the know about the safety and well being of our community and it won't even cost you a penny to download them – they're free! The apps are available for both Android and iOS devices.

Mobile PD

The Fargo Police Department wants to keep you informed about the types of crimes happening in Fargo and where they're happening. This easy to use app gives you quick access to 12 functions related to police information and resources including a crime map that details the types of crimes happening in your neighborhood. Here is a complete list of functions on the mobile PD app:

- **Crime Mapping:** See what crimes are happening in your neighborhood or city.
- **Tip Submit:** Submit a confidential crime tip to our Intelligence Department.
- **My Property:** A direct link to your My Property account that makes managing your valuables that much easier!
- **Commend an Officer:** When you have a great experience with one of our officers, give them a pat on the back by submitting a commendation.
- **Felony Friday:** Receive notifications of the wanted felons in the FM Area.
- **Schools:** Access to your child's school resource officer's contact information.
- **Directory:** Access to Fargo Police personnel contact information.
- **News/Events:** Receive notifications of breaking news and press releases!
- **Social:** Access to our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube posts!
- **Web Links:** Access to frequently requested websites.
- **FAQ's:** Access to answers of your most frequently asked questions.
- **Contact us:** Quick access to our contact information.

Download our app today for FREE!

Scan to download Police app

Android iOS

PulsePoint

What if a person near you went into cardiac arrest? Could you help? If you're trained in CPR/AED use, the free PulsePoint app provided by the Fargo Fire Department is your opportunity to save a life. When 911 is called for someone who needs CPR, the PulsePoint app will notify you if you are within 1/4 mile of the incident. The app will give you the victim's location and where the nearest AED is located. If you're close by, you can administer CPR until firefighters arrive. Immediate treatment is critical to the survival of a person suffering cardiac problems. It is said that a person's chance of survival decreases by 10% every minute intervention is delayed. The PulsePoint app is being used across the country and has saved countless lives. If you'd like to use the app but aren't trained in CPR or AED use, classes are available through the Heart Safe Fargo program. Visit www.HeartSafeFargo.com for more information.

Scan to download PulsePoint

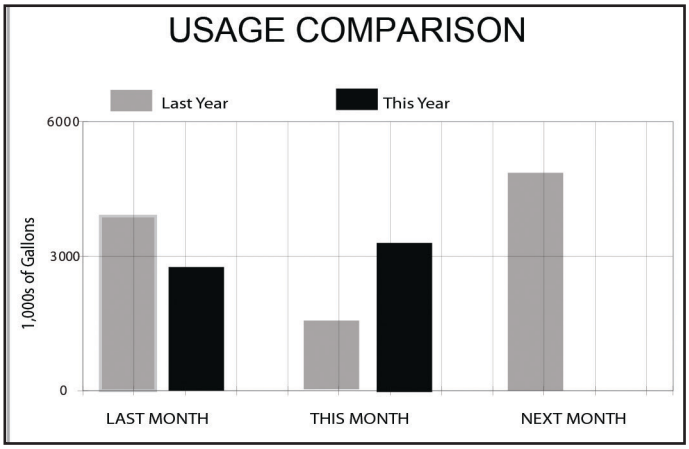
Android iOS

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

WWW.CITYOFFARGO.COM

CITY OF Fargo

New utility statements



Example of the usage comparison graph on your new utility statement.

Newly designed City of Fargo utility statements are making it easier for you to keep an eye on your water usage. In addition to listing itemized monthly charges, the statements include graphs showing usage from past months and comparisons to the previous month and year.

"It's important that residents have an opportunity to review every detail about the services they are paying for and see how their usage is measuring up to the past," stated City Auditor, Steve Sprague. If you have questions about how to read the new statements, a "How to read your new statement" guide is available online at www.cityoffargo.com/utilities.

2014 Goal: Cardboard recycling

Did you know that recycling cardboard can not only increase the life of our landfill but it can save you money too? This year the City of Fargo Recycling Department and North Dakota Department of Health are setting a goal of increasing the amount of cardboard local businesses recycle. Cardboard takes a lot of airspace in garbage containers and is much less expensive to recycle than to put it into the trash. Don's Car Wash on 52nd Ave. S. recently implemented cardboard recycling into its garbage practices, "We have been able to nearly cut our garbage costs in half since we started recycling cardboard" said Barb, General Manager.

Currently, Fargo accepts corrugated cardboard, box board, chip board and paper board. Several options are available for cardboard pickup and containers. Please call 298-6944 or visit www.FargoRecycles.com for more information about our commercial recycling program.

Ridership up in 2013

MATBUS significantly reduces traffic congestion and alleviates parking demands.

In 2013, the combined MATBUS fixed route system provided 2,134,891 rides (1,682,267 were given in Fargo and 452,624 in Moorhead). In addition, 53,403 rides were provided on the complimentary Paratransit service. Are you a MATBUS rider? If not, now is the time to hop on board and give MATBUS a try. Visit www.MATBUS.com for more information or check us out on Facebook or Twitter – keyword MATBUS.

Try Dilworth Route 6

MATBUS fixed route now serves Dilworth with the new Route 6. The 30-minute route begins and ends at the Walmart in Dilworth, and provides service to many areas including Houge Estates, Dilworth Elementary School, Red River Recovery Center, Dakota Boys Ranch and much more. Please visit www.MATBUS.com for more information on this new route!

Earth Week: 1 = 1 ride

Celebrate Earth Week by using public transit (April 21 - 26, 2014). Riding MATBUS will only cost one aluminum can! Taking MATBUS to work or school makes a big difference in conserving our natural resources. One bus carrying 80 people saves 50 gallons of gas in one day, which preserves the air we breathe and conserves fossil fuels. So remember, reduce air pollution and conserve energy during Earth Week – get your "Can" on the bus! Proceeds from the collected cans will be donated to charity. Enter the drawing on MATBUS vehicles or at the Ground Transportation Center (GTC) for iGoEco nylon performance shirts to be given away during Earth Week. This promotional fare only applies to the fixed route service.

City Hall design taking shape

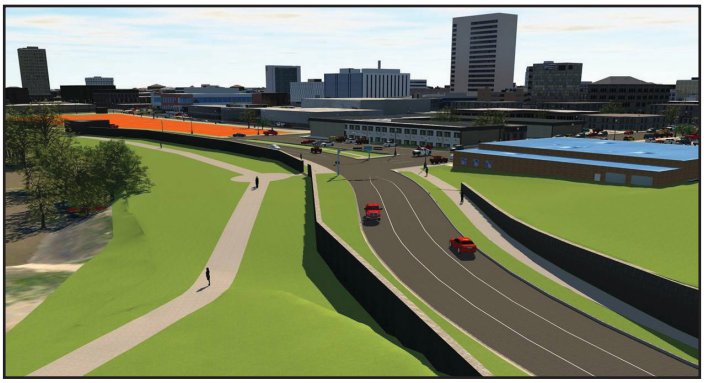
Plans for a new Fargo City Hall are no longer just a vision. A preliminary design for the structure has taken shape, boasting a public atrium, office and meeting spaces, and underground parking. The Building Committee has been working with TL Stroh and HDR to narrow down the design. In February, committee members selected this design based on cost, functionality and appearance.

The current City Hall, built in the 1950's, was designed for city staff to support a population of 60,000 people. The city population has since nearly doubled and so has the number of city staff.

Architects are now focusing their attention on the interior layout of office spaces and materials that will be used on the exterior of the structure. Follow the "Fargo City Hall Project" on FaceBook for updates.

Preferred design option for the new Fargo City Hall as of February 2014.

Downtown flood protection



A rendering of the 2nd Street North realignment and floodwall, looking south from approx. 5th Avenue North.

Construction is expected to begin this fall on permanent flood protection along 2nd Street North from approximately NP Avenue to 6th Avenue. The protection plan includes the realignment of 2nd Street and the closure of the intersection at 2nd Street North and 3rd Avenue. The $50 million project also incorporates public green space, a floodwall and a walking path along the river. The floodwall is needed to protect downtown Fargo from Red River flooding. Currently, emergency earthen levees must be built on 2nd Street during times of major flooding. Construction will run from the fall of 2014 through 2015. Visit www.cityoffargo.com/engineering to learn more about the 2nd Street floodwall and additional flood control projects in Fargo.

Parking: No perfect solution

Parking will be a key topic of discussion as plans move forward on the new City Hall and 2nd Street North floodwall. The two projects will cause a considerable reduction in the number of public parking spots available near the Civic Center quad. City leaders are actively looking for locations for new parking ramps and short term parking in the downtown area. The following are also being considered as potential options to make parking more accessible:

- Adding another level to the Civic Center (Radisson) ramp. This would require closing the ramp during construction so it would have to wait until after City Hall is built.
- Encouraging the use of the Island Park ramp which is typically under capacity.
- Converting short term parking lots to long term parking.
- Analyzing the feasibility of adding a parking ramp near the new City Hall as a long term solution for the Civic/City Hall/Library campus.

City of Fargo Planning Director Jim Gilmour says as growth and development downtown continue it will be important for travelers to start thinking about alternative forms of transportation, "We'd like to get people thinking about public transit and using park and ride." "We lost a lot of parking spots when the old US Bank ramp was demolished because of structural problems. Spaces are also being lost as construction takes root on former surface lots." Gilmour says building new ramps will require land, money and time. In the meantime, the City will continue to seek out options to make parking available until a permanent solution can be found. Information about City owned parking lots is available online at www.cityoffargo.com/parking.

FROM THE FIREHOUSE

I Googled "cigarettes deck fires" and in less than 0.33 seconds my search came back with about 6,410,000 results. Some of those results were:

- "A discarded cigarette started a fire on the deck of a double-wide mobile home…"
- "The Fargo Fire Department responded to three deck fires overnight…"
- "An apartment fire Monday, likely caused by a cigarette, was contained to the apartment's deck…"
- "The use of a garden hose by some neighbors prevented a Friday deck fire in Batavia…"
- "Approximately $75,000 to $100,000 in damage was caused by a fire that started on the back deck of a home where cigarette butts were kept in a plastic bucket…"

And, the list goes on and on. Use a proper ashtray when smoking on a deck and make sure the cigarette is out, dead out, when you have finished with it!

- Fire Marshal Norm Scott

This deck fire in Fargo caused considerable damage to the interior and exterior of the home.

"My Property" & your stuff

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of residential burglaries in Fargo. Fortunately the police department was able to arrest and link several of the burglaries to one individual. This particular burglar and others have been targeting jewelry, precious metals and high value electronics such as iPads and similar tablets. When stolen items are recovered, one of the most difficult tasks detectives face is properly identifying them because the victim does not have pictures, serial numbers or specific identifying information. We would like to remind you about the property registration program My Property that was designed for this specific reason. With this online program, you can enter information and pictures of your property. If you ever become a victim, that information will be available to give to police and your insurance company. Fargo Police are also able to search information in the system if they locate a stolen item. To access My Property and create an account, go to: http://myproperty.cityoffargo.com/. You can also access your account via the new Fargo Police mobile app. My Property can only be accessed by police personnel during an active investigation.

Yard waste/ brush collection

Yard waste will not be collected May 12 to October 20. All yard waste such as grass, leaves, garden trimmings, excess fruits and vegetables must be hauled to a recycling center or composted in your back yard. At the recycling centers, large green containers are available for the yard waste and small containers are available for bags and boxes that are used to haul the waste. If you have questions, call 241-1449.

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

City of Fargo Employment
Find job openings at:

www.cityoffargo.com/employment
or on Twitter @CityofFargoHR

Cleanup week May 4 - 9

Spring cleanup week is almost here - a time when you can dispose of your old appliances, furniture and other large items at no extra charge. Here is what you need to know:

- Collection will take place on your scheduled garbage pickup day.
- Items must be on the boulevard by 7 a.m.
- Place garbage in disposable containers, except for oversized items.
- Separate items such as furniture, household garbage, brush, etc.; items are collected with a separate truck.
- No building material or concrete.
- Limit of two (2) appliances per household.
- Electronics such as TVs and computers will not be collected. Please take them to the Household Hazardous Waste facility or take them to the Electronics Recycling Event on Saturday, May 3.
- Household hazardous waste products such as paint, varnish and other chemicals will not be collected. Please take these items to the Household Hazardous Waste facility.

Find all Cleanup Week information online at www.CleanupWeek.com.

Electronics recycling event May 3

The annual Electronics Recycling Event will be held on Saturday, May 3. It will be held at the Solid Waste Facility, 2301 8th Ave. N., Fargo from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. You may bring computers, televisions, monitors and other residential electronics and recycle them for **free**! Two items per resident will be accepted.

Garbage/ recycling calendar

Good Friday April 18 - week of April 14: Garbage and recycling collections on schedule. The Sanitary Landfill will be open on Good Friday, April 18.

Memorial Day May 26 – Week of May 26: Monday garbage and recycling collection on Tuesday; the remainder of the week on schedule. The Sanitary Landfill will be closed on Monday, May 26.

- Carts must be placed at least five feet away from other items such as parked cars, power lines, recycling bins, low hanging branches, hydrants, fences, garages, etc.
- Place containers out for collection no earlier than 6 p.m. the day prior to your collection day and no later than 8 a.m. the morning of collection.
- Bags and large items will be collected on a call-in basis. There is a fee that will be added to your utility bill.

HHW open year round

Household Hazardous Waste is located at 606 43 1/2 St. N., Fargo

Fargo residents can recycle household hazardous waste year-round at no charge at the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility. Accepted items (in household quantities) include those items labeled danger, toxic, poisonous, corrosive or flammable such as paints, thinners, stains, varnish, drain and oven cleaners, poisons, automotive fluids, weed and insect killer, fluorescent light bulbs and ballasts, etc.

The HHW facility also accepts one computer set (tower, monitor and accessories) as well as one television per resident per month.

The City of Fargo does not pick-up electronics or household hazardous waste products during Cleanup Week.

Year-round facility hours:

- Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Second Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to noon.
- From December 1 to April 14 closed from noon - 1 p.m. each day.

Businesses can call 281-8915 to schedule an appointment to drop off waste at the facility.

Compost/woodchips

When: Every Wednesday and Thursday from May 14 to June 5 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. and *one* Saturday, May 10 from 7:15 a.m. – noon.

Location: Compost facility, 7th Ave North east of 45th Street

- Residents with bags & cans must load their own
- City crews will help load pickups and trailers.
- One-yard maximum

If available, additional yards of compost may be purchased for $10/yard and woodchips for $8/yard. Proof of residency is required, i.e., utility bill, drivers license.

The compost and woodchips are located west of the Household Hazardous Waste facility, 606 43 1/2 St. N.

State park passes available at library

Enjoy ND State Parks by checking out a pass at any Fargo Public Library location.

Just in time for spring and summer travel planning, the library now has ND State Park passes to check out. These passes can be checked out using a Fargo Public Library card; a limited number are available at all three library locations. Residents interested in checking these passes out should ask at the Check Out Desk. The passes check out for one week, are subject to overdue fees, and are renewable. Provided by the North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, each pass provides daily vehicle access to any North Dakota State Park. Additional charges, such as camping, are the responsibility of the pass holder. Additional guidelines for use of these park passes are listed on each pass. For more information on North Dakota's 13 State Parks, visit **www.ParkRec.nd.gov/parks/parks.**

Potato chip science

Who knew there was so much science in a potato chip? Allen Kurzweil, that's who! The Fargo Public Library, in partnership with Valley Reading Council, will host author and self-described "snack food scientist" Allen Kurzweil at a special family event set for Wednesday, April 2, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Library. Kurzweil will conduct science experiments from his book, *Potato Chip Science*, and attendees will each receive a bag of potato chips! The author of two additional children's books, *Leon and the Spitting Image* and *Leon and the Champion Chip*, Kurzweil will sign books following his presentation. Books will also be available for purchase. No registration is required for this event. Find out more about Allen Kurzweil at **www.allenkurzweil.net** or learn about potato chip science at **http://PotatoChipScience.com/Home.html**

Fargo Public Library

Book club in a bag

The Fargo Public Library is happy to announce the addition of a new resource for area kids' book clubs. Beginning March 1, the downtown Main Library will offer Children's Book Club in a Bag kits. As with the popular Book Club in a Bag kits for adults, available since 2008, these kits will include 10 copies of a title and a list of suggested discussion questions. The kits may be checked out for six weeks and reserved by placing a hold on the kit. Though housed at the Main Library, kits may also be requested for pick-up at the Northport or the Dr. James Carlson branches. For a list of titles, check the library's Children's Services page at www.FargoLibrary.org/children and start your own book club today!

Manga club for teens

Are you interested in Manga and Anime? If so, join the Fargo Public Library's new Manga and Anime Club! Each month we'll watch and discuss different Manga and Anime series along with new and old favorites. The club meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Dr. James Carlson Library. Upcoming dates are March 12 and April 9. No registration is required. Contact Bree at 476-5978 or teens@cityoffargo.com for more information.

Gardening series

Get your green thumb ready for spring and summer with a four part series of informational and hands-on gardening sessions at the library. These 60-minute workshops will be held at the downtown Main Library starting Tuesday, April 29. Attend any or all of the sessions. Topics include Starting Plants from Seeds, Tough Turf: Grass and Lawn Issues, Bugs in the Garden - The Good, the Bad and the Ugly, and Blossom Barter – Come with Plants to Trade. For details on these workshops, contact Drea at (701) 241-1472.

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Fargo Cass Public Health

2012 ND statistics:

- 2,914 reported cases of chlamydia
- 340 reported cases of gonorrhea
- 4 reported cases of syphilis
- 16 new cases of HIV/AIDS

STD TESTING AT FCPH

April marks STD Awareness Month, recognized by the public health and medical communities. This month-long observance provides an opportunity to address ways to prevent some of the nearly 20 million new infections of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) that occur in the United States each year. Nearly half of these infections occur in people 15-24 years of age.

Abstaining from sex, reducing the number of sexual partners, and consistently and correctly using condoms are all effective ways to lower a person's risk of acquiring a STD. There are also safe and effective vaccines available to prevent hepatitis B and some types of the human papillomavirus (HPV).

Unfortunately, many individuals who are infected do not know it, since many STDs do not have symptoms. The only way to know for sure whether or not you have an STD is to get tested. Fargo Cass Public Health provides confidential STD information, testing, and treatment. Fees are low for STD testing and treatment and are based on income and household size. Testing for HIV is free and results are available in 20 minutes.

To make an appointment, call FCPH at 241-1383. For more information, go to www.FargoCassPublicHealth.com.

Walk your way to health

Slip on your walking shoes and join "Walk This Way" March 25 through mid May. The community walking program is aimed at getting citizens out walking and exposed to the various trails and places to walk throughout the Fargo/Moorhead area.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, physical activity recommendations for adults are to engage in moderate-intensity physical activities for at least 30 minutes on five or more days of the week. Walking is a great way to be physically active and helps reduce the risk for chronic disease.

By participating in Walk This Way you are eligible to enter a prize drawing at each walking event. If you attend five or more walks you will be entered into a grand prize drawing. For more information and to register, please go to www.FMWalkThisWay.com or call Kim Lipetzky at 701-241-8195.

Fargo Fact:

Fargo Firefighters still use firefighter poles to reduce the amount of time it takes to reach the truck, suit up & respond to an emergency call. Poles are located in Fire Headquarters downtown and Station 6 in NW Fargo.

Fargo City Commission
200 North 3rd Street
Fargo, ND 58102

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What is GardensAlive!
This one-million-square-feet garden challenge is an uprising to inspire people to plant their first garden, grow more vegetables and plant more fruit trees in 2014. It is rooted in a vision for the F-M metro area to become one of the healthiest places in the U.S. to live, learn, work and play.

Just one in five people in America consume the daily five fruit and vegetable servings recommended for good health. With 210,000 people living in Cass and Clay counties, that means 170,000 people are falling short.

Gardeners are more likely to consume vegetables than non-gardeners. Children are more likely to try fruits and vegetables that they help grow. Much of what we eat is determined by habit and convenience. When apples and veggies grow in your back yard, you're more likely to eat them! Plus, growing your own food makes healthy foods more affordable.

Gardens grow social connections that bring communities together. F-M already has more than 300,000 square feet of community gardens, some designed to connect new Americans with locals and with foods and skills from their homelands. Others bring neighbors and faith communities together. Local gardens spread bounty to local food banks and decrease "food miles," the distance that food must travel to reach our tables.

By growing a garden in 2014 you also take part in our community's remembrance of World War II Victory Gardens, home gardens planted to increase food production during the war.
For more information: www.fmgardensalive.org.

Follow the City of Fargo: