Vol. 136 Number 37

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

$1.00

McINTOSH Times

Since 1888

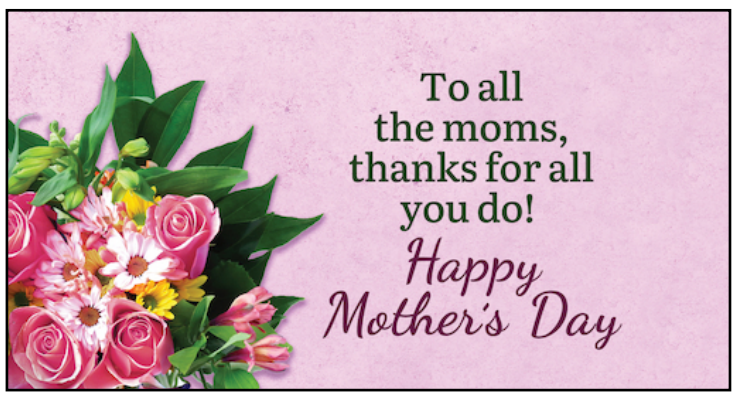
Hub of the Thirteen Townships

McIntosh, Minnesota

For One Night and One Night Only was the theme for the 2025 WEM prom

Win-E-Mac senior class prom attendees during Prom that was held on Saturday, May 3rd.

The Win-E-Mac Junior class attendees at this year's prom which was held on Saturday, May 3rd.



Mac Library will host hilarious presentation by Hot Dish Heaven author

Join your friends on Wednesday, May 21st at 5:30 pm at the McIntosh library for a hilarious presentation by Jeanne Cooney, author of the popular Hot Dish Heaven Mystery series and It's Murder, Dontcha Know.

Her book are set in the Red River Valley of northwestern Minnesota and her stories include a humorous take on life in the Midwest, complete with references to hot dish, Jell-O and bar recipes.

Her latest series kicked off with the release of It's Murder, Dontcha Know in 2022.

Jeanne Cooney is a highly sought speaker for conferences, libraries, community gatherings, and organization fundraisers, where she offers her humorous take on life in the Midwest.

She and her off-beat mystery books have been featured on television and radio as well as in newspapers and magazines throughout the region. Minnesota Public Radio named Cooney one of a handful of Minnesota-based mysteries authors to read. "What makes this book so fun is Cooney's ability to spit out phrases such as 'uff-da' and dish out recipes such as Jell-O Salad and Tater-Tot Hot Dish faster than you can say, 'Yah, ya betcha,'" said Mpls-St. Paul Magazine of Hot Dish Heaven. And Midwest Book Review said of A Potluck of Murder and Recipes, "It's another terrific and original mystery from the pen of Jeanne Cooney and once again documents her complete mastery of the genre."

Cooney's books are widely enjoyed by cooks, mystery buffs, and those who appreciate Midwest humor. She delights in participating in numerous book group discussions across the country. When asked about her success, Cooney says, "My books aren't likely to prompt discussions about the meaning of life, but they might make you laugh. And in reading them, you may discover a recipe or two that you want to try. That alone will make me pretty darn happy, don't ya know."

The program will be followed by a Q&A session, audience discussion and a book signing. Admission is free, thanks in part to funding from the Minnesota Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

Let's get reel, moms!

This Mother's Day weekend, May 10–11, grab your rod, reel, and kiddo. Moms across Minnesota can fish anywhere in the state without a license during this special weekend—making it the perfect opportunity to create unforgettable memories outdoors.

In 2025, the Minnesota Moms Fishing Challenge is back for its third year. The free virtual challenge is open to all moms in Minnesota and is co-hosted by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Student Angler Organization, and Women Anglers of Minnesota.

How to Participate

Join the Minnesota Moms Fishing Challenge 2025 Facebook group and submit a photo of each fish you catch during the weekend. Snap a pic and release your fish or keep it for dinner if it's in season.

All participants who submit at least one fish photo will be entered into a random prize drawing, with prizes provided by the Student Angler Organization.

Bonus: If you're looking for an easy and stress-free option, remember: you never need a fishing license when casting a line in a body of water located entirely within a Minnesota state park—year-round! All you need is a valid vehicle permit and to follow fishing regulations.

Courtney Lecy and her escort Steven Sather.

MN DOT program removes trash from MN highways

More than 1,000 sections available for adoption statewide

The Minnesota Department of Transportation appreciates the hard work of thousands of Adopt a Highway volunteers statewide who help keep Minnesota roadsides clean and free of litter each year and we invite more people to join this important program, and motorists are reminded to give volunteers plenty of safe space to work.

During 2024, Adopt a Highway volunteers removed nearly 29,000 bags of trash from Minnesota highways and rest areas. MnDOT currently works with more than 1,680 volunteer groups statewide, collectively those groups volunteered over 80,000 hours to pick up litter for the program.

With at least 1,000 sections currently available for adoption across Minnesota, MnDOT welcomes more groups to volunteer and visit MnDOT's Adopt a Highway website to connect with their local Adopt a Highway coordinator.

Adopt a Highway volunteers remove nearly 29,000 bags of trash in 2024 from Minnesota highways.

Volunteers are asked to commit to the program for at least two years and are encouraged to pick up litter from both sides of their roadway section at least twice a year. The average length of an adopted roadway is about two miles. MnDOT posts signs along adopted segments to recognize the name of volunteer groups cleaning that area.

There are also opportunities to pick-up litter at certain rest areas, or sign-up for a one-day Pick a Highway event.

MnDOT does provide safety information, trash bags and safety vests to every volunteer. Our maintenance crews will pick up the filled bags of trash that volunteers leave along the side of the road.

Motorists are encouraged to slow down, move over and use caution whenever they see an Adopt a Highway volunteer group or maintenance crew picking up trash along the roadway.

The Adopt a Highway program has been part of MnDOT's maintenance operations since 1990.

A quick and easy cake with a classic flavor

Simple Strawberry Shortcake Poke Cake recipe fuses a sweet, fruity pie filling with a moist, fluffy white cake. Covered with whipped cream and sliced strawberries, this delicious dessert comes together in just 10 minutes.

Strawberry
Shortcake Poke Cake

1 box white cake mix + ingredients list on packaging

3 cups strawberry pie filling about 1½ (21 ounce cans)

8 ounces whipped topping thawed

2 cups strawberries sliced

Prepare the cake in a 9×13-inch pan according to the package directions. Allow the cake to cool to room temperature.

Use a thin wooden spoon handle to poke rows of holes an inch apart over the cake.

Spread the pie filling over the surface of the cake using a rubber spatula to gently press the filling into the holes.

Spread the whipped topping over the cake and refrigerate for at least an hour.

When ready to serve, arrange the sliced strawberries on top of the cake, slice, and enjoy.

To Store: Store leftovers in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to two days.

Tips:

• It is not recommend decorating the cake with the sliced strawberries until right before serving, as the strawberries may leak juice into the whipped topping.

• Don't poke the holes too close together as it will impact the cake's structure, and it will collapse under the weight of the strawberry filling.

• A thick straw or chopstick can be used to poke holes in the cake if you don't have a thin-handled wooden spoon. I do not recommend using a fork to poke the holes; the holes will not be large enough for the pie filling to sink into.

• This cake is the perfect make-ahead dessert. Just keep it refrigerated until ready to serve

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

Notice is hereby given that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 18, 2023

MORTGAGORS: Robert Renney Sr. and Kathleen Renney, husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC D/B/A Veterans United Home Loans

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:

Recorded: October 20, 2023
Polk County Recorder
Document #: A000748999

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:

Said mortgage was assigned to SERVIS ONE, INC. DBA BSI FINANCIAL SERVICES on March 4, 2025 and said assignment was recorded on March 6, 2025 and given document number A000756040.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

THAT PART OF LOT TWO (2), BLOCK TWENTY-TWO (22), TOWNSITE OF CROOKSTON, POLK COUNTY, MINNESOTA, BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 2 AS THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTHEASTERLY ALONG THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT, A DISTANCE OF 85 FEET; THENCE AT RIGHT ANGLES IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION AND PARALLEL WITH THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT, A DISTANCE OF 150 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT; THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT, A DISTANCE OF 85 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT; THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT A DISTANCE OF 150 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING THE SOUTHERLY 85 FEET OF SAID LOT, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF POLK, STATE OF MINNESOTA

PARCEL ID #: **82.00346.00**

PROPERTY ADDRESS: **716 North Broadway, Crookston, Minnesota 56716**

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

TRANSACTION AGENT ID NO.: 1003502-9107057843-9

LENDER OR BROKER: Mortgage Research Center, LLC D/B/A Veterans United Home Loans

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: N/A

CURRENT MORTGAGE SERVICER: BSI Financial Services, Inc.

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Polk

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $297,000.00

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY PAID BY MORTGAGEE: $311,381.71

That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; that no Mortgagors have been released from financial obligation on said Mortgage; that no action or proceeding has been instituted by law to recover that debt secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof; that all conditions precedent to foreclose of the Mortgage and acceleration of the debt secures thereby have been fulfilled;

PURSUANT to the power of sale therein contained, said Mortgage will be foreclosed and the above-described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 12, 2025 at 10:00 AM

PLACE OF SALE: Polk County Sheriff's Office, 600 Bruce St., Crookston, MN 56716

to pay the debt the debt then secured by the Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of sale by the mortgagors, their personal representatives or assigns.

DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: The date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under Minnesota Statutes section 580.30 of the property redeemed under Minnesota Statutes sections 580.23 is December 12, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. If the foregoing date is Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday, then the date to vacate is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

MORTGAGORS RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Dated: April 16, 2025

SERVIS ONE, INC. DBA BSI FINANCIAL SERVICES
Mortgagee
Kenneth J. Johnson
Minnesota State Bar No. 0246074
Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC
Attorney for Mortgagee
30 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 3650
Chicago, IL 60602
Phone 312-541-9710
Fax 312-541-9711

M5-10C

NOTICE: 1st HALF PROPERTY TAXES DUE

Samuel W. Melbye, Polk County Director of Property Records, reminds Polk County property owners that the first half of the 2025 Real Estate Taxes are due by Thursday, May 15th. Personal Property taxes must also be paid in full by May 15th.

Make your payments at the Polk County Government Center in the Taxpayer Service Center from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Payments can also be placed in the Taxpayer Service Center drop box located outside the main East doors at the Polk County Government Center, paid online at www.co.polk.mn.us, or mail them along with your tax statement stub postmarked no later than May 15th.

Please make checks payable to Polk County Administrator. Thank you.

M8C

A surge in self employment in NW MN

As detailed in a recent article in Minnesota Economic Trends, census data shows that the number of self-employed workers in Northwest Minnesota surged by 5.5% from 2020 to 2022, a gain of more than 2,300 new non-employer establishments.

That was more than three times as many as the number of self-employed businesses lost during the Pandemic Recession, when Northwest dropped 754 non-employers from 2019 to 2020.

In 2022, there were now just over 44,600 non-employer establishments in the 26-county region, which was just over 10% of the state total.

In order to be considered as a non-employer establishment, the business must have no paid employees, have annual business receipts of $1,000 or more and be subject to federal income taxes.

This broad definition encompasses a diverse spectrum of self-employment activities, ranging from full-time entrepreneurs who rely on their business as their primary source of income to part-time business owners who treat it as a supplementary income stream alongside a traditional job or other revenue sources.

They include the professionals preparing taxes or creating advertising campaigns for local businesses, the independent truck drivers keeping products moving through supply chains, the skilled tradespeople building and finishing homes and the real estate agents selling them.

These solo entrepreneurs represent a small part of the region's total workforce, but they are important to long-term economic health and resilience.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a hearing has been set for May 23th, at 9:25 a.m. in the meeting room at Polk County Environmental Services, 320 Ingersoll Ave, Crookston, Minnesota, to consider the application of Abe Bontrager (ABuilt Construction), 12005 440th St SE, Fertile, MN 56540 for a Conditional Use Permit for operation of a prefabricated Shed and Cabin construction at home business out of an accessory structure on a parcel located at12005 440th St. SE, Fertile, MN 56540 and described as: The Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NW ¼ NW ¼), Section Twenty-five (25), Township One Hundred Forty-seven (147) North of Range Forty-four (44) West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, according to the United States Government Survey thereof, parcel #28.00203.01. All property owners within 1/4 mile of the proposed Conditional Use Permit are invited to appear at said hearing.

Dated: April 28, 2025
Jacob J. Snyder
Planning & Zoning Administrator
M8C

Grace Community Food Shelf

Grace Food Shelf will be open Thursday May 8th and Thursday May 15th. NAPS boxes will be available May 15th. We are located east side of Grace Church in double garage. We welcome all of our communities for your needs. foodshelf@gracechurcherskine.org or 218-687-2250. Leave name and number. We are also on Facebook

Did you know?

Arthritis is a common condition that affects millions of people.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, roughly one in five adults in the United States is affected by arthritis, with an estimated 54.5 million adults reporting they have the condition.

The Arthritis Society Canada has similar findings for Canadians suffering from arthritis. Again, one in five adults has the illness and about six million people in the country already have received an arthritis diagnosis. Arthritis causes joint pain, stiffness and inflammation.

The Cleveland Clinic reports osteoarthritis, a type of arthritis that is caused by wear and tear on the joints, is the most common type of the condition.

Osteoarthritis can occur naturally as a person ages due to a lifetime of using the joints and wearing down their cartilage cushioning.

Other types of arthritis occur from illness (gout) or the immune system can cause arthritis when it damages the joints by mistake (rheumatoid arthritis)

REAL ID goes into effect May 7

The REAL ID Act was passed by Congress in 2005 to set certain standards for states to issue driver's licenses and ID cards that will be accepted by federal agencies. The Department of Homeland Security set May 7, 2025 as the date they would begin enforcing this law across the country.

That means that starting on May 7, Minnesotans age 18 or older will no longer be able to use their standard driver's license or ID card to board domestic flights or enter certain federal facilities, unless you use a passport or other federally approved form of identification.

If you do not have your REAL ID yet, please visit the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for more information and how to apply.

Wed. May 7: McKenzie Smith, Logan Kringlen

Thur. May 8: DJ Sharp

Sat. May 10: Tim Carlin, Kayla Jore, Clara Roed, *Nick & Amber Olson

Sun. May 11: Joseph Breckel

Mon. May 12: Gina Gensburger, Elaina Kundert

Tues. May 13: Jerry Shaver, Cameo Herem

McINTOSH Times

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"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
Fosston
Fr. John Suvakeen, Pastor

Fri. May 9: 11:30am Mass at St, Mary's, Fosston

Sun. May 11: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley; 3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction, St. Mary's, Fosston

Wed. May 14: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Fri. May 16: 11:30am First Friday Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
McIntosh
Rachel Roggenbuck, SAM

Sun. May 11: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Sun. May 18: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, McIntosh will run church services on Channel 30 on Garden Valley Channel 30. They will also be available on YouTube on channel One in Spirit - The Journey. Our Saviors service will be available by 8:30 am each Sun7day until further notice.

MCINTOSH FREE LUTHERAN AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:
Pastor:
Jerry Moan

Trinity: (27262 315th St. SE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 9:30am; 10:45am Sunday School

Mt. Carmel: (305 State St. NE, McIntosh) 9:45am Sunday School; Sunday Worship: 11:00am

Wednesdays: 6:30pm Confirmation; 7:15pm Free Lutheran Youth meets at Pastor Moan's home

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Independent
Gary Johnson, Pastor
www.gosen-church.com
Face Book: Gosen Church

Sun, May 11: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosenchurch.com)

Tues, May 13: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30

Wed, May 14: 6:30pm Bible Study

Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Highways 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then 1/2 mile east on County Road 206. For information call 268-4242 or 687-3461.

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
PastorLee Laaveg

Sun. May 11 : 9:00am Worship

Sun. May 18: 9:00am Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Pastor Bruce Blocker

Sundays: 9:00am Worship; 10:00am Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

DOVRE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger, MN

Sundays: 9:00am Adult and Children's Sunday School; 10:00am Worship Service

Wednesdays: 7:00pm Bible Study

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger

Sundays: 10:30am Coffee Fellowship; 11:00am Worship

Early intervention can slow progression of symptoms and extend lives

Sundays: 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am Worship

Come early and enjoy fellowship and a good cup of coffee. It will also be available at the same time on Garden Valley Channel 30, Facebook and YouTube.

THRIVING LIFE CHURCH
Erskine, MN

Sunday service at 10:00 am

Call or visit us at: 22722 350th Street; 218-687-2343

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL GUIDE

This space for rent at $127.40 for 6 months.
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Is There A Wedding In Your Future?
We have the latest designs for wedding accessories - or, if you choose, we can assist with a design of your own.
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487-5225 Gonvick, MN
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M3-28C

Simple tips for getting started with native plant gardening

Starting a new planting project can feel overwhelming, especially when it comes to choosing the right plants. Adding native plants is an easy and rewarding way to transform your outdoor space with Minnesota's natural beauty, plus, they're easy to maintain and support pollinators!

To help you get started with confidence, four Minnesota Grown native plant growers who are passionate about guiding people through the process and providing them with high-quality, locally-grown native plants to get started. From preparing the space to choosing and caring for native plants, the experts shared their advice to simplify every step. They are Dan Schutte from Shoreview Natives in Two Harbors, Minnesota; Dawn Christensen from Prairie Restorations from Princeton, Scandia, & Esko, Minnesota; Gene Stark from Glacial Ridge Growers from Glenwood, Minnesota; and Jill Danielson from BluPrairie Native Plant Nursery in Watertown, Minnesota.

Why choose native plants?

They're uniquely Minnesotan and uniquely beautiful.

Native plants are naturally occurring plants that have evolved in an area over thousands of years.

They weren't brought in by people and have always been a part of the local landscape, developing a strong relationship with other native wildlife and plants.

If you've ever spent time in Minnesota's prairies or forests, you already know how special our native plants are. Their unique shapes, hues, and patterns make them a stunning part of the landscape.

"If you just go in a prairie, you've got the sound of the wind rustling the grass and the beauty of the flowers," Jill shares. Native plants can bring that same remarkable experience to your own backyard.

They're easy to grow and maintain.

Because native plants are adapted to Minnesota's unique environments and weather, they have an easier time growing and thriving here.

Our seasons can be harsh, from freezing winters to sweltering summers, but our native plants have evolved to handle it all! "They're pretty tough… there's a native plant that will grow just about anywhere in Minnesota," Gene says.

They also require less watering, fertilizing, and mowing than non-native plants, and naturally resist weeds, making for hassle-free yard or garden maintenance.

They support pollinators and wildlife.

Native plants are central to healthy ecosystems. They provide food and shelter that pollinators, wildlife, and other plants depend on. Native plants will support pollinator populations and draw a wide range of species to your gar-

Native plants...
Continued on next page

McIntosh 2024 Drinking Water Report

Making Safe Drinking Water

Your drinking water comes from a groundwater source: two wells ranging from 206 to 210 feet deep, that draw water from the Quaternary Buried Artesian aquifer.

McIntosh works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets federal and state water quality requirements. The purpose of this report is to provide you with information on your drinking water and how to protect our precious water resources.

Contact Peter Tranby, Public Works Supervisor, at 218-563-3747 or macmaint@gvtel.com if you have questions about McIntosh's drinking water. You can also ask for information about how you can take part in decisions that may affect water quality.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets safe drinking water standards. These standards limit the amounts of specific contaminants allowed in drinking water. This ensures that tap water is safe to drink for most people. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates the amount of certain contaminants in bottled water. Bottled water must provide the same public health protection as public tap water.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

McIntosh Monitoring Results

This report contains our monitoring results from January 1 to December 31, 2024.

We work with the Minnesota Department of Health to test drinking water for more than 100 contaminants. It is not unusual to detect contaminants in small amounts. No water supply is ever completely free of contaminants. Drinking water standards protect Minnesotans from substances that may be harmful to their health.

Learn more by visiting the Minnesota Department of Health's webpage Basics of Monitoring and testing of Drinking Water in Minnesota (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/sampling.html).

How to Read the Water Quality Data Tables

The tables below show the contaminants we found last year or the most recent time we sampled for that contaminant. They also show the levels of those contaminants and the Environmental Protection Agency's limits. Substances that we tested for but did not find are not included in the tables.

We sample for some contaminants less than once a year because their levels in water are not expected to change from year to year. If we found any of these contaminants the last time we sampled for them, we included them in the tables below with the detection date.

We may have done additional monitoring for contaminants that are not included in the Safe Drinking Water Act. To request a copy of these results, call the Minnesota Department of Health at 651-201-4700 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Some contaminants are monitored regularly throughout the year, and rolling (or moving) annual averages are used to manage compliance. Because of this averaging, there are times where the Range of Detected Test Results for the calendar year is lower than the Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result, because it occurred in the previous calendar year.

Definitions

- **AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency
- **MCL (Maximum contaminant level):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **MCLG (Maximum contaminant level goal):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **MRDL (Maximum residual disinfectant level):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG (Maximum residual disinfectant level goal):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **N/A (Not applicable):** Does not apply.
- **ppt (parts per trillion):** One part per trillion is like one drop in one trillion drops of water, or about one drop in an Olympic sized swimming pool. ppt is the same as nanograms per liter (ng/l).
- **ppb (parts per billion):** One part per billion in water is like one drop in one billion drops of water, or about one drop in a swimming pool. ppb is the same as micrograms per liter (µg/l).
- **ppm (parts per million):** One part per million is like one drop in one million drops of water, or about one cup in a swimming pool. ppm is the same as milligrams per liter (mg/l).
- **PWSID:** Public water system identification.

Monitoring Results – Unregulated Substances/ Emerging Contaminants

In addition to testing drinking water for contaminants regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, we sometimes also monitor for contaminants that are not regulated. Unregulated contaminants do not have legal limits for drinking water. MDH, EPA, and other health agencies may have developed comparison values for some of these compounds. Some of these comparison values are based solely on potential health impacts and do not consider our ability to measure contaminants at very low concentrations nor the cost and technology of prevention and/or treatment. These values may be set at levels that are costly, challenging, or impractical for a water system to meet (for example, large-scale treatment technology may not exist for a given contaminant). Sample data are listed along with comparison values in the table below; it is important to note that these comparison values are not enforceable.

Detection alone of a regulated or unregulated contaminant should not cause concern. The significance of a detection should be determined considering current health effects information. We are often still learning about the health effects, so this information can change over time.

A person drinking water with a contaminant at or below the comparison value would be at little to no risk for harmful health effects. If the level of a contaminant is above the comparison value, people of a certain age or with special health conditions-like a fetus, infants, children, elderly, and people with impaired immunity—may need to take extra precautions. We are notifying you of the unregulated/emerging contaminants we have detected as a public education opportunity.

Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future.

- More information is available on MDH's A-Z List of Contaminants in Water (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/index.html)
- Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 4) (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/ucmr4.html)
- Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule)
- EPA has developed a UCMR5 Program Overview Factsheet (https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-02/ucmr5-factsheet.pdf) describing UCMR 5 contaminants and standards.

In the past year, your drinking water may have tested for additional unregulated contaminants as part of the Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule) and results are still being processed. The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR 5) Data finder allows people to easily search for, summarize, and download the available UCMR 5 analytical results (https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule-data-finder).

Some People Are More Vulnerable to Contaminants in Drinking Water

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. The developing fetus and therefore pregnant women may also be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. These people or their caregivers should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Learn More about Your Drinking Water

Drinking Water Sources

Groundwater supplies 75 percent of Minnesota's drinking water, and found in aquifers beneath the surface of the land. Surface water supplies 25 percent of Minnesota's drinking water, and is the water in lakes, rivers, and streams above the surface of the land.

Contaminants can get in drinking water sources from the natural environment and from people's daily activities. There are five main types of contaminants in drinking water sources.

- **Microbial contaminants,** such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites. Sources include sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, pets, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants** include salts and metals from natural sources (e.g. rock and soil), oil and gas production, mining and farming operations, urban stormwater runoff, and wastewater discharges.
- Pesticides and herbicides are chemicals used to reduce or kill unwanted plants and pests. Sources include agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and commercial and residential properties.
- **Organic chemical contaminants** include synthetic and volatile organic compounds. Sources include industrial processes and petroleum production, gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants** such as radium, thorium, and uranium isotopes come from natural sources (e.g. radon gas from soils and rock), mining operations, and oil and gas production.

The Minnesota Department of Health provides information about your drinking water source(s) in a source water assessment, including:

- How McIntosh is protecting your drinking water source(s);
- Nearby threats to your drinking water sources;
- How easily water and pollution can move from the surface of the land into drinking water sources, based on natural geology and the way wells are constructed.

Find your source water assessment at Source Water Assessments (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/swa) or call 651-201-4700 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health problems, babies, children under six years, and pregnant women are at the highest risk. You may be in contact with lead through paint, water, dust, soil, food, hobbies, or your job. There is no safe level of lead.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for proving high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes from service lines but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk.

Read below to learn how you can protect yourself from lead in drinking water.

1. **Let the water run** before drinking tap water flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap. If you have a lead service line, you may need to let the water run longer. A service line is the underground pipe that brings water from the main water pipe under the street to your home.
   - Activities such as taking a shower, doing laundry or dishes help keep water moving in your home system but are not a replacement for running the tap before you drink if it has not been used for a long period of time.
   - The only way to know if lead has been reduced by letting it run is to check with a test. If letting the water run does not reduce lead, consider other options to reduce your exposure.
2. **Know your service line materials by** contacting your public water system, or you can search for your address online at the Minnesota Lead Inventory Tracking Tool (https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/).
   - Protect Your Tap: A quick check for lead (https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/protect-your-tap-quick-check-lead) is EPA's step by step guide to learn how to find lead pipes in your home.
3. **Use cold water** for drinking, making food, and making baby formula. Hot water releases more lead from pipes than cold water.
4. Test your water. In most cases, letting the water run and using cold water for drinking and cooking should keep lead levels low in your drinking water. If you are still concerned about lead, arrange with a laboratory to test your tap water. Testing your water is important if young children or pregnant women drink your tap water.
   - Contact a Minnesota Department of Health accredited laboratory to purchase a sample container and instructions on how to submit a sample:
   Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam) The Minnesota Department of Health can help you understand your test results.
5. **Treat your water** if a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run. You can use a filter certified with ANSI/NSF standards 53 and 42 for lead reduction.
   - Read about water treatment units:
   Point-of-Use Water Treatment Units for Lead Reduction (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/poulead.html)
   Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and other steps you can take to minimize exposure are available at:
   - Visit EPA Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water (http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)
   - Visit the Minnesota department of Health Lead in Drinking Water (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html)
   - To learn about how to reduce your contact with lead from sources other than your drinking water, visit Lead Poisoning Prevention: Common Sources (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/common.html)
6. **Be Aware:** Head Start Programs, Child Care Centers, Public and Charter Schools all have requirements to test for lead in drinking water. These programs can learn more about requirements and resources for testing and remediation at MDH Drinking Water in Schools and Child Cares (https://www.web.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/schools/index.html)

Service Line Material Inventory

McIntosh has completed and submitted our service line materials inventory to the Minnesota Department of Health. The service line inventory is publicly available, and you can check the materials for your service line by visiting the Lead Inventory Tracking Tool (LITT) (https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/). You may also contact us at 218-563-3043. To complete the service line inventory, our system hired Moore Engineering to conduct a city-wide audit. As of 10/07/2024, our inventory contains 2 lead, 3 galvanized requiring replacement, 308 unknown material, and 37 non-lead service lines. M8C

Monitoring Results – Regulated Substances

LEAD AND COPPER – Tested at customer taps.

Contaminant (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Action Level	90% of Results Were Less Than	Number of Homes with High Levels	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead (09/11/23)	0 ppb	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	2.71 ppb	0 out of 10	0 - 14.7 ppb	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (09/11/23)	0 ppm	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	0.92 ppm	1 out of 10	0.06 - 1.84 ppm	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.

INORGANIC & ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS – Tested in drinking water.

Contaminant (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Barium (04/17/23)	2 ppm	2 ppm	0.09 ppm	N/A	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposit.
Arsenic	0 ppb	10 ppb	5.5 ppb	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.

Potential Health Effects and Corrective Actions (If Applicable)

Arsenic: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

CONTAMINANTS RELATED TO DISINFECTION – Tested in drinking water.

Substance (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG or MRDLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL or MRDL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N/A	80 ppb	1.3 ppb	N/A	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	N/A	60 ppb	2.5 ppb	N/A	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Chlorine	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	1.26 ppm	0.49 - 1.14 ppm	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.

Total HAA refers to HAA5

OTHER SUBSTANCES – Tested in drinking water.

Substance (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.68 ppm	0.61 - 0.77 ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth.

Potential Health Effects and Corrective Actions (If Applicable)

Fluoride: Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter, with small amounts present naturally in many drinking water sources. There is an overwhelming weight of credible, peer-reviewed, scientific evidence that fluoridation reduces tooth decay and cavities in children and adults, even when there is availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste and mouth rinses. Since studies show that optimal fluoride levels in drinking water benefit public health, municipal community water systems adjust the level of fluoride in the water to an optimal concentration between 0.5 to 0.9 parts per million (ppm) to protect your teeth. Fluoride levels below 2.0 ppm are not expected to increase the risk of a cosmetic condition known as enamel fluorosis.

UNREGULATED/EMERGING CONTAMINANTS – Tested in drinking water.

Contaminant	Comparison Value	Highest Average Result or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results
Sodium* (2023)	20 ppm	51.4 ppm	N/A
Sulfate (2023)	500 ppm	78.2 ppm	N/A

*Note that home water softening can increase the level of sodium in your water.

Nevaeh Simpson escorted by Aidan Delorme.

Friends, Joy Neubert and Karlie Schow.

WEM School Announcements

Win-E-Mac Elementary school will be presenting their spring program on Friday, May 9, 2025 in the Win-E-Mac School Arts & Event Center Auditorium. Grades K-3 will present the play "Hats" beginning at 12:45.

Following that program, Grades 4-6 will present their band/choir program beginning at 2:00. Both programs will take place in the Arts & Event Center auditorium. The program is under the direction of Amanda Shultz & Charity Salmonson. Come help us celebrate Spring and another wonderful school year!

The Win-E-Mac Junior & Senior High Choirs will be presenting their Spring concert on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at the Win-E-Mac School Arts & Event Center Auditorium.

The concert will begin at 7:00 pm. and will feature both choirs as well as An Outstanding Event Junior Ensemble. A Senior High Women's group will also perform a special number. In addition, awards will be presented. Our high school singers have been working hard to present a nice variety of music for your listening enjoyment, so we hope you will join us for a night of music!

Danielle Winter escorted by Seth Hlubek.

Native plants...

Continued from last page

den – birds, butterflies, bees, and more – including some you may have never seen before.

Getting started: choosing & preparing your space

- Pick a planting spot you'll see every day for maximum enjoyment.
- Clear out weeds and grass by laying down tarps or cardboard.
- Lean on local native plant growers as you plan and prepare.

Picking the right native plants for you

- Decide what you want most from your plants.
- Start small and be patient, native plants take time to establish.
- Begin with plant starts (a.k.a. plugs) rather than seeding.
- Buy Minnesota Grown plants, grown as close by as possible.
- Start with what you love.

Planting and care

- Extend your planting window, native plants can be planted through the fall.
- Weed regularly and protect young plants from wildlife but give them space to grow on their own.
- Don't forget to appreciate the beauty of native plants.

Adding Minnesota Grown native plants to your yard or garden sets the stage for a beautiful, low-maintenance space that supports pollinators and wildlife. Whether you're choosing your first plant or transforming an entire area, local native plant experts not only have the tools and knowledge you need to get started but are also excited to help you.

The Polk County Sheriff's Department, including Sheriff Jim Tadman visited Win-E-Mac School last week to help kids with understanding the consequences of their actions and being a kind person as well as enjoying a fun game of ball with the kids. Pictured is Lukas Gensburger running to a base.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a hearing has been set for May 23, 2025 at 9:05 a.m. in the meeting room at Polk County Environmental Services, 320 Ingersoll Ave, Crookston, Minnesota, to consider the application of Dennis & Sherry Coauette, 702 Thorndale Avenue, Crookston, MN 56716 for a Conditional Use Permit to hook a septic system to an existing accessory structure on a parcel of land located on a backlot adjacent to lot described as: Lot Numbered Twelve (12), Block Two (2), MAPLEBEACH Subdivision, Government Lots 9 and 10, Section 7 Township 148 North Range 43 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, according to duly recorded plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the County Recorder in and for Polk County, Minnesota, subject to mineral and any other reservations of record, parcel #74-00736.00 and backlot described as: Beginning at the southwest corner of Lot 9, Block 2, Maple Beach Subdivision, Government Lots 9 and 10, Section 7, Township 148 North, Range 43 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian: Thence west along the south boundary line of Lot 10, a distance of 50 feet, the point of beginning of the tract to be described; thence continuing west along the south boundary line of Lots 10, 11, and 12 to the southeasterly along the extension of the boundary line between Lots 12 and 13, in Block 2, Maple Beach Subdivision a distance of 645 feet, more or less, to the east line of the Southwest Quarter a distance of 570 feet, more or less, to a point on the southeasterly boundary line of that certain tract of land conveyed by Warranty Deed recorded in Document No. A000729462; thence southwesterly along the southeasterly line of said Warranty Deed recorded as Document No. A000729462 a distance of 135 feet, more or less, to the southwesterly corner of that tract of land recorded in Warranty Deed A000729462; thence northwesterly a distance of 150 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning, parcel #74.00069.00. All property owners within ¼ mile of the proposed Conditional Use Permit are invited to appear at said hearing.

Dated: April 28, 2025
Jacob J. Snyder
Planning & Zoning Administrator
M8C

(Above and below) On Thursday, May 1st Win-E-Mac hosted their 11th Annual Cops vs. Kids event with the Polk County Sheriff's Department. Although the weather forced the event inside, it was still a huge success! The Win-E-Mac school always appreciates the sheriff's department taking time and devoting it to building relationships with our students and delivering a powerful message. This program was developed by Mrs. Heather Burd, a teacher at the school in the physical education department. Cops versus Kids is a program based on decision making, goal setting, and social skills for students. It is centered around the concept that your choices affect everyone around you, whether in school, home, or the community you live in. Your choices represent you. For the elementary students (pictured below), this program is an anti-bullying program, based off the conscious choice to be kind and represent kindness in your communities. Officers from the Sheriff's Department come and visit physical education classes, talk about kindness and good choices, and practice these social skills in game play. In the high school (pictured above), this program evolves into decision making, and social skills concepts that align with standards in physical and health education with social and emotional learning. Deputies come to our school and talk about how their decisions define and represent their communities they live in. They work on skills like teamwork, empathy, and the use of strategy and abilities, can result in successes for their teams. Applying their knowledge they have received from this program is the next step by becoming role models in this school.