CITY INSIGHTS

FALL/WINTER 2026-27



A FRESH CHAPTER FOR MOORHEAD:

CITY HALL RETURNS HOME THIS FALL

Big changes are happening in Downtown Moorhead, and one of the most visible milestones arrives this October. After more than a year and a half at the Frederick Martin Center, Moorhead City Hall staff will return to the newly renovated City Hall in mid October. Moorhead Public Service (water and electric utilities) will also make the move back.

This renovation is a major part of the broader downtown redevelopment effort, and it brings new spaces designed to make interacting with City services easier and more welcoming.

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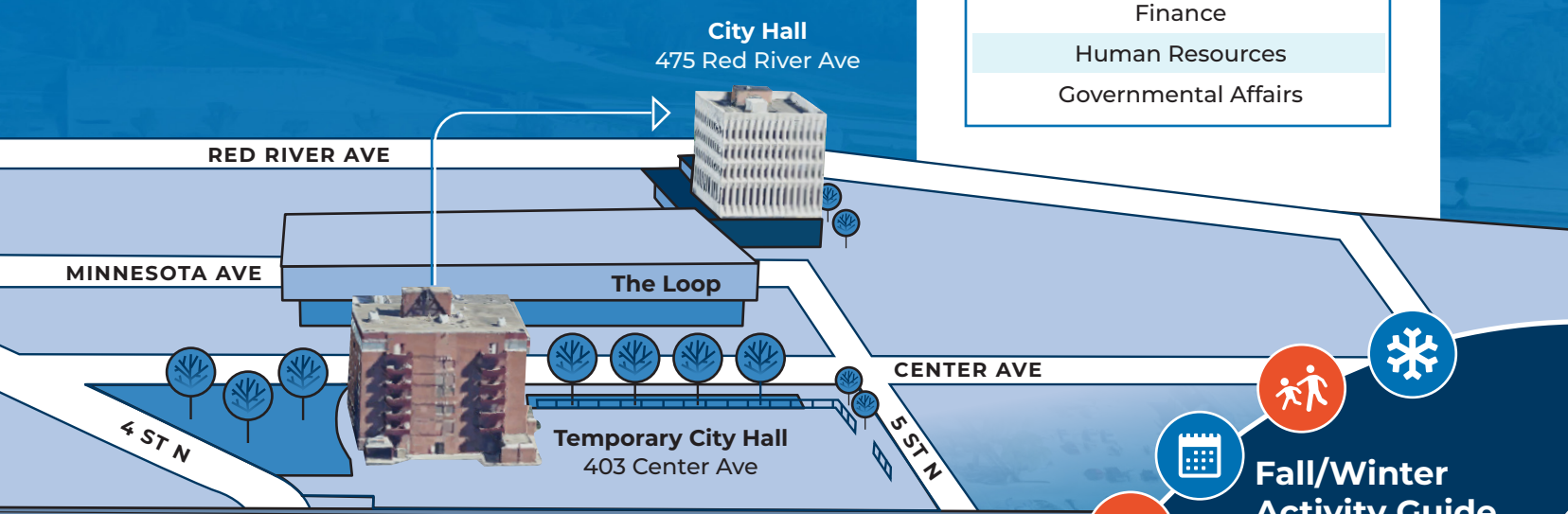
MOORHEAD CITY HALL

SAME LOCATION
NEW ADDRESS!

475 Red River Ave

SERVICES/DEPARTMENTS

- Moorhead Public Service
- Community Development
- Engineering
- City Clerk
- Information Technology
- Prosecution
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Governmental Affairs



moorheadmn.gov

Fall/Winter Activity Guide
PAGES 8-11

One of the most exciting updates is the addition of a brand new first floor lobby and customer service area. For the first time, City and Utility services will be side by side—giving residents a convenient, one stop location for the services they need, without navigating multiple floors. A secure after hours drop box for MPS will be available at City Hall for customer convenience.

Another key feature is the River Room, a flexible community meeting space that will host City Council meetings and other official gatherings. This room will also serve as a public space for community groups and events, offering a modern and accessible place to connect.

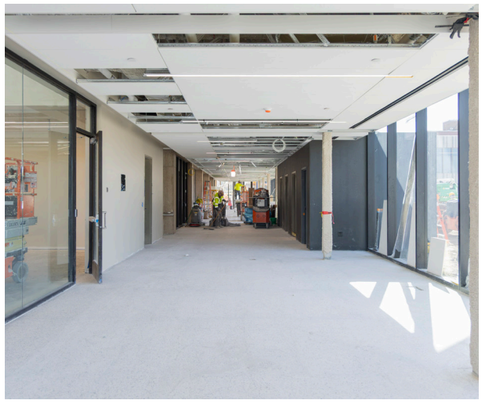
And the transformation doesn't stop there. In 2027, the west side of City Hall will come to life with a new plaza and green space. This will be an outdoor hub built for concerts, family friendly programs, seasonal activities, and everyday gathering. It will be a vibrant, all ages space where the community can celebrate, meet, and enjoy Moorhead's growing downtown.

With these moves, the FM Center will soon begin its own renovation journey, opening the door for future exciting opportunities in the Downtown Moorhead scene.

This relocation marks much more than a change of address - it's a major step forward for a downtown area that's becoming more accessible, more connected, and full of life. We can't wait to welcome you back into the renewed City Hall and continue building a downtown that reflects Moorhead's energy, creativity, and community spirit.



First floor customer service area *Photo from early October*



New lobby and entrance to River Room *Photo from early October*



Make a Year-end Donation to The Loop

Did you know that 1 in 2 Moorhead residents now have a library card? Be **in** the Loop and donate **to** the Loop. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Add your name to the donor wall, playground, Spark Center, and more.

moorheadmn.gov/loop

THE LOOP
Moorhead Public Library

Lake Agassiz Regional Library











Onward Moorhead!

Comprehensive Plan

The City of Moorhead's Comprehensive Plan is a 10-year roadmap that helps the City implement the community's vision. Community members, businesses, and others worked with the City to create the Plan.

PROJECTS IN 2026 INCLUDED:



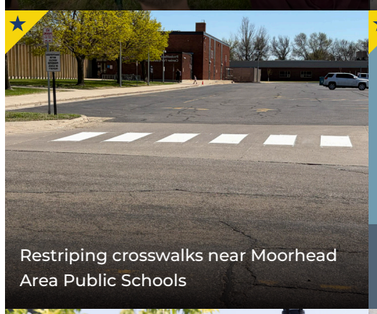
★ Planting over 100 trees in Woodlawn Park with the help of local students



★ Adding new benches and a bike repair station along the Moorhead River Trail



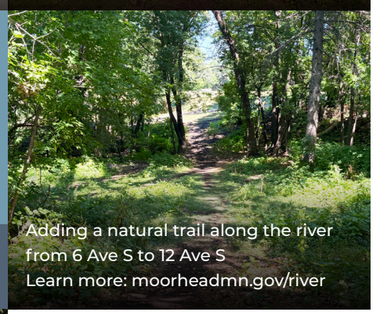
★ Enhancing existing prairie sites along the River Corridor



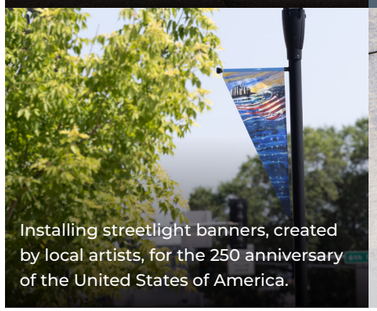
★ Restriping crosswalks near Moorhead Area Public Schools



★ Purchasing lights in preparation for the Bluestem Bridge construction



★ Adding a natural trail along the river from 6 Ave S to 12 Ave S
Learn more: moorheadmn.gov/river



★ Installing streetlight banners, created by local artists, for the 250 anniversary of the United States of America.



★ Expanding the sidewalk art and poetry project by 42 new stamps, created by residents for the new 11 St Underpass

★ Starred projects were completed in partnership with Clay County Public Health, PartnerSHIP 4Health, and Moorhead Public Schools. These projects were funded by a settlement between the MN Pollution Control Agency and the former Anheuser-Busch Agricultural plant. **Thank you to all project partners and community members who helped provide ideas and feedback on these projects..**

VIEW THE 5 BIG IDEAS
of the Onward Moorhead! comprehensive plan
moorheadmn.gov/onwardmoorhead

Moorhead's New Home for Stray Animals

This past summer, Moorhead reached an important milestone: the opening of the new Moorhead Animal Pound. The project follows major changes in how stray animals are housed in the region and marks a fresh start in the City's approach to animal care.

When challenges forced an end to the previous agreement, the City shifted to a temporary month-to-month arrangement.

With approximately 300 to 400 animals coming through the City each year, it was determined that a building owned by the City and operated through the Police Department would best serve residents and neighboring communities. The new pound is located at 2150 15 Ave N, in a renovated building in north Moorhead near Centennial Dog Park, and provides increased space, stability, and improved control over animal care.

Renovation work was completed in spring 2026. The facility is now open and staffed by the Moorhead Police Community Service Officers with support from the Moorhead Police Cadet Program and members of the Moorhead Police Volunteer Program, whose involvement has quickly become an important part of daily operations.

The Moorhead Animal Pound also accepts animals impounded by the City of Dilworth and Clay County, as both were in need of this service after FM Animal Hospital stopped this function. This continues the region's strong tradition of collaboration.





The pound will hold animals for five days while efforts are made to contact owners. If no one comes forward, every effort will be made to transfer the animals to local shelters that can assist with adoption and long-term placement.



LOST A PET?

Contact the Moorhead Animal Pound at **218.299.5120** (MPD non-emergency line)

Visit **moorheadmn.gov/animalservices** for information about reclaiming an animal and arranging pickup.

WANT TO HELP? Volunteer to support the care of impounded animals. Learn more at **moorheadmn.gov/policevolunteer**

Protect Your Home from Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odorless gas that can be deadly. Each year in the US, more than 400 people die from unintentional CO poisoning not related to fires, over 100,000 visit emergency rooms, and more than 14,000 are hospitalized.

Carbon monoxide is produced by burning fuel in vehicles, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, or furnaces. Because it's undetectable without a device, it can build up indoors and poison people and pets without warning.

Know the Symptoms: CO poisoning often mimics the flu. Common symptoms include headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea or vomiting, chest pain and confusion.

How You Can Protect Yourself: Install CO detectors, maintain fuel-burning appliances, and use fuel-burning devices safely.



If You Suspect CO Poisoning: Leave the area immediately and get fresh air, then call 911 and seek medical attention

Winter Maintenance, Let's Talk Salt

Each winter we rely on salt to clear snow and ice from sidewalks, driveways and parking lots. Salt helps keep surfaces free from ice but can damage infrastructure, vehicles, plants and water supplies.

You can do your part to reduce salt pollution by following these simple tips:

Shovel. The more snow and ice removed manually, the less salt you will have to use.

Sand. 15 degrees F is too cold for salt. Most salts stop working at this temperature. While sand does not melt ice, it provides traction.

Apply less. More salt does not equal faster melting. Be patient; these products take time to work. Use less than four pounds of salt per 1,000 square feet. One pound of salt is approximately a 12-ounce coffee cup.

Sweep up extra salt and sand if visible on dry pavement. It is no longer doing any work and will be washed away. Use it somewhere else or throw it away.

For more tips and training about smart salting or to find a certified Smart Salting contractor, visit the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) website.



Be Part of Something Bigger

WORK FOR MOORHEAD!

moorheadmn.gov/jobs



Border City Workers Comp Credit

As a designated Minnesota border city, **Moorhead offers a fully refundable income tax credit** to help businesses offset a portion of their **Minnesota workers' compensation insurance cost.**

This program is available to all **eligible Moorhead businesses** that:

- File Minnesota income taxes
- Pay workers' compensation insurance

Program year runs from October 15 through April 1. Apply easily online using your phone or laptop. Just scan the QR code to get started!

Receive a 30% tax credit—up to $40,000 per business.
moorheadmn.gov/taxcredit

Minnesota State Law on Micromobility Devices

Under **MN Statute § 169.011, subd. 40b,** a micromobility device means a vehicle that...

1.) Is capable of being propelled solely by **human power**

2.) Is capable of being powered solely by an **electric motor** drawing current from rechargeable storage batteries, fuel cells, or other portable sources of electric current

3.) Or is capable of **both 1 & 2**

	 **ELECTRIC SCOOTER** (e-scooter)	 **ELECTRIC BIKE** (e-bike)	 **MOTOR BIKE** (e-moto)
MINIMUM AGE	**12+**	**15+**	**15+**
HELMET	**Required** under age 18	**Recommended**	**Required** under age 18
LICENSE & REGISTRATION	NO	NO	YES
ALLOWED ON SIDEWALKS	NO	YES	NO
ALLOWED ON BIKE PATHS	YES	YES	NO
ALLOWED IN BIKE LANES	YES	YES	NO
POWER SOURCE	**750 Watts Or Less**	**750 Watts Or Less**	**Over 750 Watts**
MAX SPEED	**15 mph***	**28 mph***	**Greater than 28 mph***
LIGHT SOURCE	**Required At Night**	**Required At Night**	**Required At Night**
MN STATE STATUTE	**§169.225**	**§169.222**	**§169.223 / §84.787.7**

*No person shall operate a bicycle, electric-assist bicycle, motorized foot scooter or wheeled recreational device at a speed greater than **15 mph** on any **multi-use trail** within the city (City Ordinance: Title 5, Chapter, 6, Section 3).



Recreational Fire Safety

When is it safe to have a recreational fire? Below are recommendations and rules to follow for your next bonfire:

How far away from combustibles does my fire pit need to be? (combustibles include a house, wooden fence, shed, etc)

- **Screened Fire Pit:** 15 Feet Away
- **Open Fire Pit:** 25 Feet Away
- **Permanent Fire Pit:** Building Permit Required

Call 911 in an emergency. The Fire Dept. may order extinguishment any time a fire presents a nuisance.

Only natural vegetative materials may be used. No lumber (construction materials), leaves, or rubbish. Never put gasoline on a fire.

Any recreational fire must never exceed three (3) feet in diameter by two (2) feet in height.

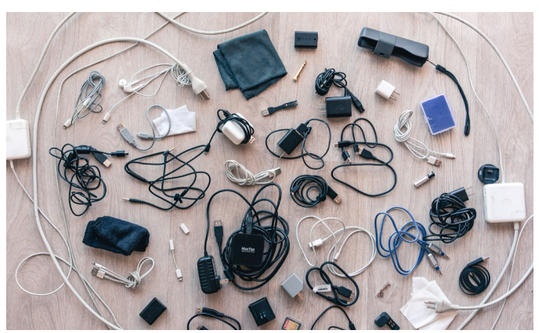
You must have immediate access to a garden hose hooked to a reliable water source or a fire extinguisher with a 4A rating. The fire must be constantly attended.

Wind must not affect nearby occupied buildings.

Be Aware of What You Charge

Many of the devices in our daily lives—phones, tablets, laptops, tools, toys, e-bikes, and scooters, to name a few—run on rechargeable lithium-ion batteries, which store high amounts of energy in a small space. If the batteries are damaged or charged incorrectly, they can overheat, start a fire, or even explode.

Properly charging devices can significantly reduce the risk of fires and associated hazards. Making informed choices and practicing simple habits are critical to these efforts.



Tips for Safe Charging

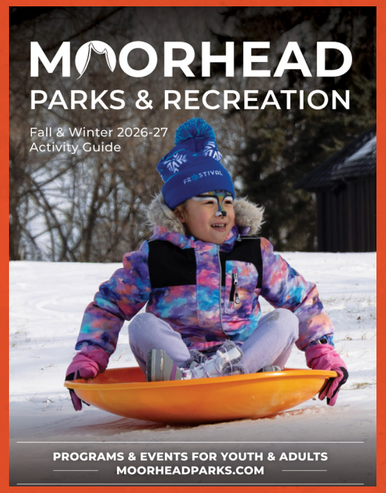
Use the cord and charger that came with your device or ones approved by the manufacturer. Using the wrong charger can damage the battery and increase the risk of fire.

Charge devices on a table, desk, or other hard, flat surface. Do not charge them on beds, couches, or under pillows. Devices and chargers produce heat during normal charging. Soft surfaces can trap heat and block airflow, which can cause the battery to overheat.

Stop using your device if it feels very hot, starts to swell, is smoking, or has a strange smell. These are warning signs that the battery may be damaged or failing.

Unplug your device when it is fully charged. Do not leave it plugged in longer than needed. Leaving a device plugged in too long can increase heat and stress on the battery.

Charge larger items like e-bikes, scooters, and power tools outside and away from exits. These batteries are larger and store more energy. If they fail, fires can grow quickly and spread.



MOORHEAD PARKS AND RECREATION // FALL & WINTER

ACTIVITY GUIDE

Moorhead Parks & Recreation offers a wide range of seasonal programs, events, and beautiful outdoor spaces. With more than 45 parks and miles of trails for walking, biking, and cross country skiing, there's always a fresh way to enjoy the changing seasons.

From athletics and arts to community recreation, our parks provide inviting places to gather, play, and connect. This Fall and Winter, discover all Moorhead has to offer!

View the Full Activity Guide: moorheadmn.gov/parks

ART PROGRAMS

Register: moorheadparks.activityreg.com



Penguin Pals

Create a chilly-cute penguin in the step-by-step painting class designed just for kids! Artists will build creativity while learning painting techniques.

Ages 9-12

Thursday, Dec. 3
6-7:30 pm

Fee: $15

Alm Park
1300 Elm St S
Moorhead



Haunted House

Adult & Child Paint Together Class

Both you and your child will create a spooky scene. Learn how to blend acrylic paints, layer colors, and add glowing details. Please register by the child's name.

Adults 18+ with Children Age 7-10

Tuesday, Oct. 13
6-7:30 pm

Fee: $20

Alm Park
1300 Elm St S
Moorhead



Rustic Barn

Adult Art Class

Bring a rustic barn to life under a cool winter sky. This adult painting class is perfect for relaxing and learning layering techniques to create depth in winter landscapes.

Adults 18+

Thursday, Jan. 21
6-7:30 pm

Fee: $15

Alm Park
1300 Elm St S
Moorhead



Friendly Fox

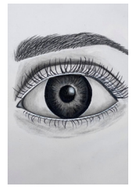
Join us for a fun winter painting adventure! Artists will create an adorable fox in a snowy scene and explore simple techniques to create soft snow and warm fur tones.

Ages 7-10

Tuesday, Nov. 3
6-7 pm

Fee: $10

Alm Park
1300 Elm St S
Moorhead



Seeing in Charcoal

Artists will learn how to draw a realistic eye using charcoal, focusing on shading, contrast and blending techniques to create depth and detail.

Ages 10-14

Thursday, Feb. 11
6-7:30 pm

Fee: $15

Alm Park
1300 Elm St S
Moorhead

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Register: moorheadparks.activityreg.com



Game Zone

Join us for a fun place to relax, connect, and play! Participants can drop in and rotate between playing pool, ping pong, air hockey and hoops. There will be music, and plenty of fun social time.

Ages 10-14

Nov. 3-Dec. 17
Jan. 12-Feb. 25

Tues. & Thurs.
4-6 pm

Fee: $60

Oasis Room, Romkey Park
800 19 St S
Moorhead

No program:
Oct. 15 and Nov. 26



Adaptive Basketball

The Adaptive Basketball Program is designed to provide individuals with special needs a supportive, engaging, and inclusive opportunity to learn and enjoy the game of basketball. The program focuses on developing skills such as dribbling, passing, shooting, and teamwork in a structured, encouraging environment!

Jan. 4-Feb. 1

Ages 7-12
Monday
5:30-6:15 pm

Ages 13+
Monday
6:30-7:15 pm

Ellen Hopkins Elementary
2020 11 St S
Moorhead

Fee: $30



Mini + Youth Basketball

This six-week coed basketball program introduces young players to the fundamentals of the game. Players build core skills through drills and stations. Both groups spend the first three weeks on skill development and the last three on skill review and scrimmages. Teamwork is emphasized throughout, and participants receive a program shirt.

Mondays
Jan. 5-Feb. 11

Grades 1-2
5-6 pm

Grades 3-4
6:15-7:15 pm

Ellen Hopkins Elementary
2020 11 St S
Moorhead

Fee: $65



Youth Open Gym

Basketball & Volleyball

Get active this winter at Youth Open Gym! Regular and junior basketball and volleyball equipment will be available. These days are free and open to the public.

Ages 17 & Under

Oct. 3-March 20

Saturdays
10 am-2 pm

Ellen Hopkins Elementary
2020 11 St S
Moorhead

No program:
Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Jan. 2



Adult Open Pickleball

Get active and compete against friends and others at adult open pickleball! This program is for adults of all skill levels. Equipment is available for use, games will be played to 7, to allow players to rotate in and out. For game play rules, visit pickleball.com.

ADULTS 18+

Oct. 20-April 10

Tues. & Thurs.
6:30-8:30 pm

Saturday
9am-Noon

Fee: $5/day or $40/punch card

Community Life Center
4000 28 St S
Moorhead

No program:
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 24, 26, 31, March 4, 18, 20, 27

ADULTS 55+

Oct. 19-April 10

Mon. & Thurs.
12:30-2:30 pm

Fee: $5/day or $40/punch card

Community Life Center
4000 28 St S
Moorhead

No program:
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 24, 31, March 4, 18



Decades in Motion

Join a 55+ walking club sponsored by D&M Industries. Enjoy a lap or more around the indoor 1/8 mile Essentia Health Walking Loop.

Adults 55+

1st Thurs. each month at 9:30 am

The Loop
450 Center Ave
Moorhead

SPECIAL EVENTS

moorheadmn.gov/specialevents



Trunk-or-Treat

Enjoy an evening of trick-or-treating! All ghouls, witches, and zombies welcome!

Saturday, Oct. 31
4-6 pm

MSUM G-3 Lot
6 Ave S & 10 St S
Moorhead



Fun at Frozen Fortress

Embrace the cool of winter with a day of outdoor activities including free cross-country ski and snowshoe rentals, games, hot chocolate station, the light tunnel and more!

Saturday, Jan. 30
11 am-3 pm

Viking Ship Park
202 1 Ave S
Moorhead



Holiday Kickoff

Welcome the festive season as we light the City of Moorhead's holiday trees! Enjoy music and free refreshments; program starts at 5:30.

Tuesday, Dec. 1
5 pm

Hjemkomst Center
202 1 Ave S
Moorhead



Celtic Festival

Take in the sights, sounds and tastes of Celtic heritage with dancing, music and authentic Celtic food. People of all ages can learn Celtic traditions through hands-on activities and table displays.

Saturday, Mar. 13
10 am-4 pm

Hjemkomst Center
202 1 Ave S
Moorhead



Skate with Santa

Lace up your skates and enjoy an afternoon of free open skating with Santa and Mrs. Claus! Free hot chocolate and cookies will be served. Skate rental will be available in limited sizes.

Sunday, Dec. 6
2:15-4:15 pm

Moorhead Sports Center
2400 4 Ave S
Moorhead



Moorhead Ice Show

Take in the popular event that's run for more than 40 years. Learn to Skate and Advanced Skaters ages 3-adult will perform as well as a national/world-class guest skater.

Mar. 19 & 20, 7 pm
Mar. 21, 1 pm

Moorhead Sports Center
2400 4 Ave S
Moorhead

Photo credit:
Kelsey Shackle







Sponsor

FIND COMMUNITY IN MOORHEAD!
moorheadmn.gov/eventsponsor

Moorhead is a City on the rise. Fueled by innovation, creativity, and a deep sense of community pride. Moorhead Parks & Recreation brings people together with 20+ free events each year, from winter festivals and summer concerts to cultural celebrations and the weekly Farmers Market. Partner with us and help shape a welcoming, vibrant community where families connect, traditions grow, and local creators thrive.

WINTER ACTIVITIES

moorheadmn.gov/winter

Embrace the season & explore the best of Moorhead's winter! From groomed ski and snowshoe trails to outdoor ice rinks, warming houses, sledding hills, indoor open gyms, and signature community events - there's something fun for everyone!



Cross-Country Skiing & Snowshoe Rentals

Dec. 12, 2026-Feb. 28, 2027

Saturday
10 am-4:30 pm

Sunday
Noon-4:30 pm

Hjemkomst Center
202 1 Ave S
Moorhead

Closed on Holidays



Outdoor Skating Rinks

Dec. 18, 2026-Feb. 28, 2027

Monday-Friday
4-8 pm

Saturday-Sunday
1-8 pm

Closed Dec. 24, 25, and January 1

With Warming House
- Hansmann
- Lamb
- Morningside
- Ridgewood
- Riverview Estates
- South
- Village Green

No Warming House:
- Alm
- Voll (non-lit rink)
- Trails at Stonemill
- Davy-Memorial (warming house for events only)



Sledding Hills

- Riverview Estates Park
- Village Green Sixth Park
- Horn Park
- Romkey Park
- Viking Ship Park
  (built for Frostival events)



Indoor Playground & Essentia Health Walking Loop

Monday-Friday
9 am-9 pm

Saturday
10 am-6 pm

Sunday
1-5 pm

The Loop | Moorhead Public Library
450 Center Ave
Moorhead



Parks, Tracks and Trails Finder

A mobile-friendly map showing the locations and uses of Moorhead's trail systems. Buttons in the upper right toggle the map between a winter and summer view to showcase the different recreation opportunities in each season.

Volunteer

Help our community shine by volunteering! Whether you're interested in one-time events or ongoing roles, there's something for everyone.

Learn more and get involved today:
moorheadmn.gov/volunteer | 218.299.5078



Snow Removal Reminders

Sidewalks are required to be cleared of snow and ice by 9 pm after it stops snowing. Here are some other important tips:

- If you live on a corner, all sidewalks must be cleared, including the crosswalk approaches.
- Do not shovel or blow snow onto neighboring properties or into the street.
- Make arrangements with a neighbor or a snow removal service to care for your property if you are going to be on vacation or are otherwise unable to shovel your sidewalk.
- Consider helping your neighbors with snow removal when they are out of town or when health issues become obstacles.

To report a sidewalk that is not being shoveled, contact Neighborhood Services at 218.299.5434.

NOVEMBER

3 Election Day
(Visit moorheadmn.gov/elections for information and polling locations)

11 Veterans Day
(City Offices closed | no garbage*)

26 Thanksgiving (City Offices closed | no garbage*)

DECEMBER

1 Holiday Kick Off

6 Skate with Santa

24 Christmas Eve
(City Offices closed | no garbage*)

25 Christmas Day
(City Offices closed | no garbage*)

JANUARY

1 New Year's Day
(City Offices closed | no garbage*)

5-16 Christmas Tree pick-up

18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
(City Offices closed | no garbage*)

30 Fun at Frozen Fortress

FEBRUARY

15 President's Day (City Offices closed | no garbage*)

MARCH

13 Celtic Festival

*Please check News at **moorheadmn.gov** for holiday garbage collection changes.

City of Moorhead
475 Red River Ave
PO Box 779
Moorhead, MN 56560

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U.S. POSTAGE
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MOORHEAD, MN 56560

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

facebook.com/cityofmoorhead

Moorhead City Council



Mayor
Shelly Carlson
218.299.5307

Ward 1



Nicole Mattson
218.299.5541



Ryan Nelson
218.299.5549

Ward 2



Emily Moore
218.299.5543



Heather Nesemeier
218.299.5547

Ward 3



Lisa Borgen
218.299.5544



Deb White
218.299.5548

Ward 4



Chuck Hendrickson
218.299.5545



Sebastian McDougall
218.299.5542

City Council meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 5:30 pm at City Hall. Visit our website for agendas and materials.

City Services

Administration (general information)	218.299.5166
Engineering	218.299.5390
Community Development	218.299.5434
Moorhead Public Library	218.233.7594
Police (non-emergency)	218.299.5120
Fire (non-emergency)	218.299.5298
Parks and Recreation	218.299.5340
Public Works	218.299.5422
Moorhead Public Service (MPS)	218.477.8000
Emergency	**911**