

City of Marine on St. Croix
MOSC TIMES



January, February, March 2021

COUNCIL SETS TAX LEVY

The City Council has set the final levy for 2021 at \$942,299.10 , a decrease of 0.29% from 2020. To see a copy of the budget, and keep up with other important city information, visit www.marineonstcroix.org.

Important Dates

January 11	Christmas Tree Pick-Up (Last day to leave curbside)
January 14	City Council Meeting
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day — City Office Closed
January 26	Planning Commission Meeting
February 11	City Council Meeting
February 15	Presidents Day— City Office Closed
February 23	Planning Commission Meeting
March 11	City Council Meeting
March 30	Planning Commission Meeting

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Marine Says Fond Farewell to Mayor Mills and Councilman Miller

WELCOMES NYENHUIS AND WARD TO COUNCIL

Marine residents, former council members, city staff, and County Commissioner Fran Miron offered gratitude and recognition to outgoing Mayor Glen Mills and Councilman Bill Miller at the December 10, 2020, city council meeting. All council positions are volunteer and require a great deal of commitment.

Commissioner Miron presented both Mills and Miller with Commissioner’s Service Awards. “There is integrity here among this council,” he said. “Your leadership, mayor, has brought this about. There is respect for one another in differences of opinion.”

City Clerk Lynette Peterson presented Mayor Mills with a plaque recognizing 22 years of service as mayor. Councilman Miller was named 2020 Citizen of the Year (See page 2 for details).

Incoming Mayor Kevin Nyenhuis and Councilmember Wendy Ward will be sworn in at the January 14 city council meeting.

Sump Pump Inspections

If you’re on the city sewer system, keep your eyes on the mail for a letter from the city about scheduling a sump pump inspection, or visit tinyurl.com/marine-sump to set a time.



— ICE RINK —

The school ice rink will be flooded as weather permits.

Warming House Hours:
 Monday - Friday 3:30 - 8 p.m.
 Saturday-Sunday 12 - 6 p.m.

(Rink is open any time.)

The City is looking for a warming house attendant.

Applicants must be at least 16 years old to apply. Hours: M-F 3-8 pm and weekends noon-5 pm. \$8.50/hour.

Contact the City office with questions or for an application.

City Council Recap



2020 Citizen of the Year, Bill Miller, with his family. From left: Leanna, Kaleb, Jonah, and Bill.

Bill Miller Named 2020 Citizen of the Year

Outgoing Marine Councilman Bill Miller was named 2020 Citizen of the Year at the December 10, 2020, Marine City Council meeting.

Councilman Lon Pardun nominated Miller for the recognition, saying Miller had mentored him on the fire and rescue squad, and they had worked together on city efforts such as purchasing the school, road projects, economic development efforts.

Councilman Charlie Anderson seconded the nomination, saying Miller had inspired him to join the council and that his mentorship had been invaluable.

“He works hard for this community,” Anderson said. “He loves this community. And for that reason I can’t think of any better person for this award.”

The nomination was approved unanimously.

Millstream Day to End

ORGANIZERS SUGGEST MAY DAY CELEBRATION

It appears that Millstream Day will be no more, but a new May Day celebration could take its place.

In a December 8 letter to the city council, Millstream Association members Win Miller, Linda Tibbetts and Jim Shaver said they had decided to disband the organization, and donated remaining funds to the city for Millstream restoration.

The annual Millstream Day event included exhibits about local ecology, a trout lunch, May Pole, and Morris Dancers.

“Even though there will be no more Millstream Days,” Miller, Tibbetts, and Shaver wrote in their letter to council, “we ask that the City of Marine on St. Croix consider asking the Holiday Committee to observe the highlights of the event by creating a May Day celebration which would include the beloved May Pole. We would be delighted to pass on our knowledge and expertise in this regard.”



Commission Will Work with Consultant on Wireless

The Marine City Council approved a funding request December 10 enabling the Planning Commission to work with a wireless communications consultant beginning in early 2021. The funding, which is not to exceed \$5,000 will be used to draft a wireless communications ordinance for the city.

Compost Charge Sees Slight Increase

The city raised its compost charge from \$4 to \$6 per quarter to cover costs at the site, including paying attendants.

Waste Management Acquires Advanced Disposal

Marine’s garbage and recycling hauler, Advanced Disposal, has been acquired by Waste Management. The city’s account is currently still managed through Advanced Disposal, and the city will migrate to WM systems in phases over the coming year.

Meeting Replays Now Online

City council meeting replays are now available on the city website. You’ll find them under the “Governance” tab. Going forward, city staff will do their utmost to post these the day after every meeting.

Budget Will Decrease Slightly

Marine citizens are looking at a 0.29% decrease in the city’s levy for 2021, rather than the 23% increase in the original budget proposal. The city council made several cuts to the proposed 2021 budget on Tuesday, aided in large part by the downtown road project coming in at the forecasted cost. The largest cuts included \$150,000 from the Roads budget and \$24,000 earmarked for the installation of a well at the maintenance shop. That project that was covered by federal CARES funding. And smaller cuts added up:

- \$20,000 was saved by delaying a dumpster screening project
- \$11,000 was cut from the holiday and fireworks fund
- \$5,000 eliminated for road de-icing equipment
- \$2,500 for extra sheriff’s patrols
- \$2,000 for the ice rink
- \$2,000 for tree maintenance at the cemetery and parks
- \$1,000 for the urban forest.

The final budget for 2021 will be \$942,499.10, down from \$946,362.13 in 2020.

Marine Mills Folk School Update

Folk School Now Offering Robust Schedule of Online Classes

Marine Mills Folk School remains closed for in-person classes, but we have a robust schedule of online classes – [check us out!](#)

We're continuing to advance our mission of creating connections, supporting artist-instructors, and making Marine a (virtual) destination for traditional arts & craft education.

To sign up for our weekly newsletter or learn more about our online classes, please visit our [web site](#), visit our [Facebook page](#) or email us at info@marinemillsfolkschool.org.



Finally, we want to acknowledge the incredible work being done by health care professionals everywhere, including by residents of our village. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Marine Village School to Host Virtual Open House



The Board of Marine Village School invites everyone to attend a zoom meeting on Saturday, January 9th, at 10 a.m. to hear about new developments with the school.

Organizers will have a new application submitted to the school's authorizer by January 15th, and hope to be approved by the Minnesota Department of Education by April 30th. This would put the school on track to open in September 2022!

More information can be found at www.marinevillageschool.org or the Marine Village School Facebook page. Or you may contact Win Miller at winm@marinevillageschool.org.

BE A COOL NEIGHBOR THIS WINTER

Shoveling

Please clear snow and ice from public sidewalks within 12 hours of snowfall, and do not put snow or ice onto streets or alleys.

For more information, see Chapter 8, Subdivision 4 of the city code. **The City will charge for the removal of snow resulting from violation of this ordinance.**

Parking

Please do not park on streets or alleys between 2 am and 6 am, November 15 through April 1.

For more information see Chapter 24, Subdivision 1 of the city code



Trash and Recycling

Please place trash and recycling receptacles in your driveway, not the street.

When snow plow drivers are clearing roadways, any obstacle in the road poses a potential hazard to drivers and citizens alike. Snow plow drivers must plow around the obstacle, leaving snow in the roadway. Also of concern, the obstacle may be damaged by the plow or snow that is being plowed.

As always:

- **Gun owners:** It is unlawful to discharge firearms in Marine's city limits, except by written permission of the mayor during hunting season. For more information, see Chapter 9.01 of the city code.
- **Dog walkers:** Please be courteous to others in parks and other public area – pick up all dog feces.

WINTER TRAIL GUIDE

Enjoy Marine's public trails — and make sure your neighbors can too

Trail Use: General Guidelines

- No motorized traffic. Motorized wheelchairs are OK.
- Keep right so others can pass.
- If you are on the trail with a dog, keep your pet on a leash and do not leave poo on the trail.
- Obey traffic signs and rules.
- Pick up garbage and litter.
- Respect adjoining landowners' rights and privacy
- Stay on designated trails; do not take shortcuts.
- Do not disturb the plants or animals.

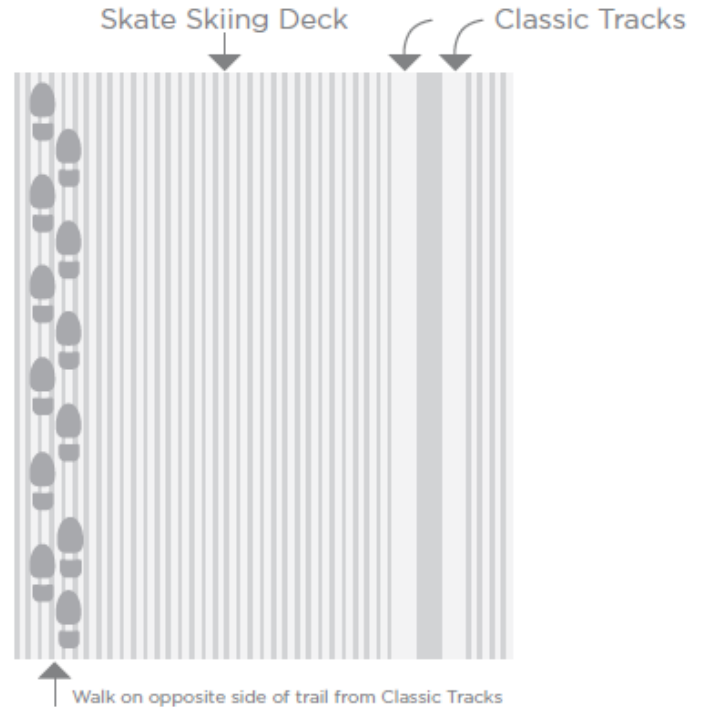
Jackson Meadow Ski Trail Etiquette

Did you know that people are allowed to walk on the Jackson Meadow ski trails? It's true, they are public trails.

However, during winter months volunteers groom many of these trails into cross-country ski lanes.

- The city encourages hikers in Jackson Meadow to stay on the multi-use trail (see map on page 5).
 - On the multi-use trail, walk on the opposite side of the classic skiing tracks (see graphic, right).
 - If you are sinking more than an inch into the ski trail, please find an ungroomed trail to hike until the snow is firm. This is most likely to occur after new snow or fresh grooming.
- Whether hiking or skiing, if temperatures are warm and the trails are soft, please stay off groomed trails altogether. When the snow refreezes boot or ski tracks freeze and make grooming difficult.

If you would like a better understanding of what goes into maintaining the ski trails, call Andy Powell at 612-743-8780 and ride along for some laps on the groomer.

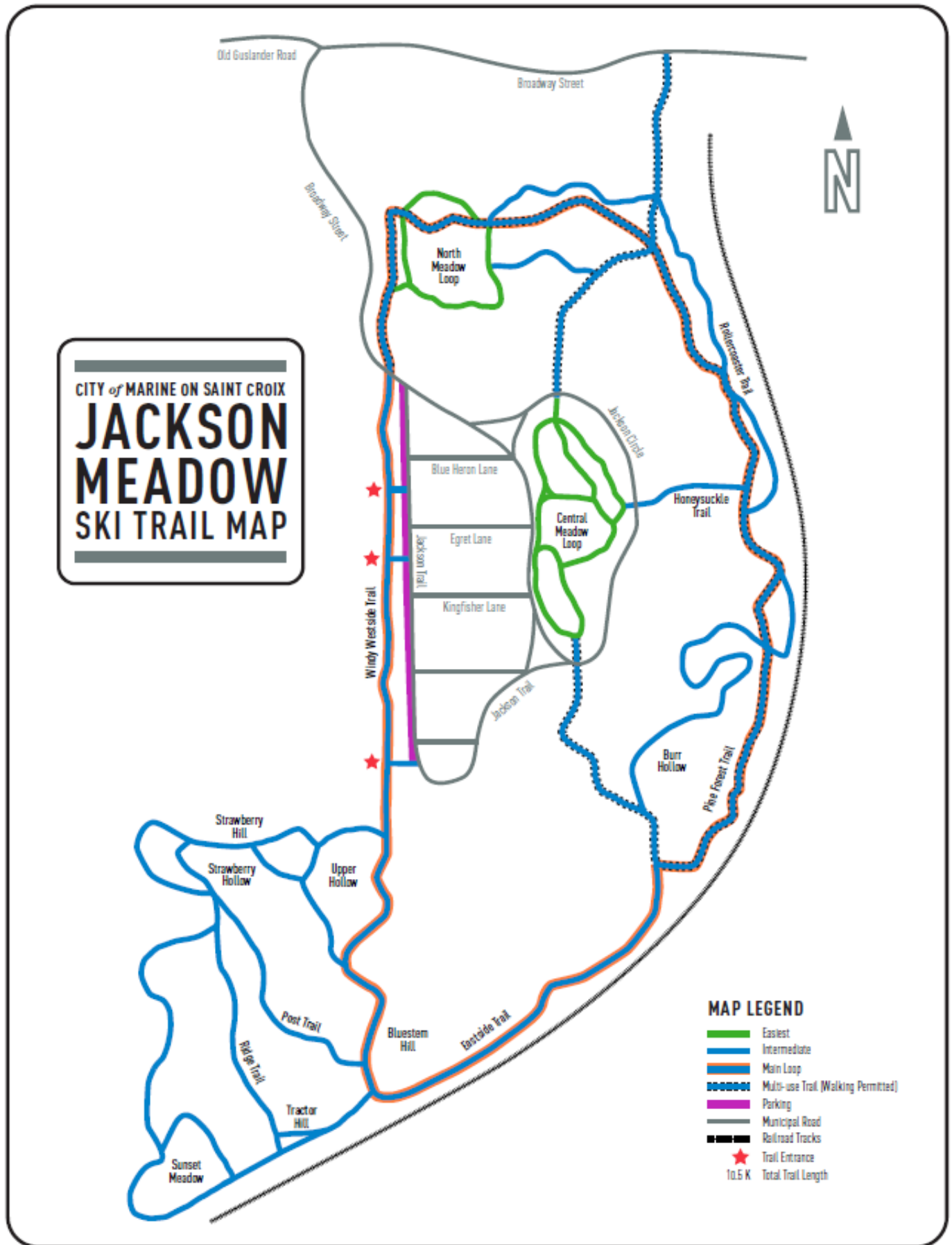


MARINE O'BRIEN SKI RACE OFF FOR 2021

There will not be a Marine O'Brien Ski Race in 2021.



Please pick up after your dog, and throw the bags in the trash. If this is not done, taxpayer resources must be used to clean up.



Marine Community Library

— Winter 2021 —

Book Checkout Available



Over 9 months into the pandemic, the Marine Community Library remains closed to in-person visits, BUT you CAN check out books.

Many wonderful new books are on the library's shelves and are available to you by request. Browse the collection

on the website (marinecommunitylibrary.org) and request by email or telephone. The complete instructions, as well as the measures taken for safety, are detailed on the website.

A few of some of the new books for adults on our shelves are listed here, with blurbs from the New York Times.

[This Time Next Year We'll be Laughing: A Memoir](#) by Jacqueline Winspear - The New York Times bestselling author of the Maisie Dobbs series offers a deeply personal memoir of her family's resilience in the face of war and privation.

[A Time for Mercy](#) by John Grisham - Jake Brigance is back! The hero of *A Time to Kill*, one of the most popular novels of our

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time, returns in a courtroom drama that is "riveting" and "suspenseful." Just published!

[Masked Prey](#) by John Sandford - ...Sandford always delivers rousing action scenes, but this time he's especially good on character, too....There's enough violence to satisfy bloodthirsty tastes, enough information on neofascism to give us a chill.

[Deacon King Kong](#) by James McBride - From the author of *The Good Lord Bird*, McBride brings to vivid life the people affected by a shooting: the victim, the African-American and Latinx residents who witnessed it, the white neighbors, the local cops assigned to investigate, the members of the shooter's church, the neighborhood's Italian mobsters, and Sportcoat, the church deacon, himself.

Library News

Thanks to our community for its continuing support. We had another successful year-end fundraising drive. That helped us in two major initiatives this year:

- A redesign of the Library's interior, including a book return slot on the Library's door inside the Village Hall that you can use now; and
- A revised look of our website, marinecommunitylibrary.org. It's more user friendly and provides more information that will be updated frequently.

In addition, we'll celebrate the **Marine Community Library's 9th birthday on Thursday, January 21st** with an event held online via Zoom. Watch for more information about our celebration.



SEASON 2 GUESTS

SHOW 2.1 – 9/12/2020

Dr. Mark Schleiss – U of M on vaccines
Steve Simon – MN Secretary of State
Paul Creager – Marine Film Society

SHOW 2.2 – 9/26/2020

Hon. John Tunheim – to talk about RBG

Charles Franklin – Dir of Marquette U Law School
Poll • Oluchi Omeoga – Black Visions Collective, Mpls • Andrea & Greg Sandager – Rustic Roots Winery

SHOW 2.3 – 10/10/2020

Gov Tim Walz
Mary Divine – Pioneer Press
Lori Sturdevant – Strib

SHOW 2.4 – 10/24/2020

Rebekah Nagler – U of M School of Journalism • Jerrod & Shanna Spice – New Marine Garage • Brian Gruis – Political Analyst

SHOW 2.5 – 11/7/2020

Pat Kessler – Longtime WCCO-TV Political Reporter • Wayne Boerner – Park Manager at Wm O'Brien • Emily Anderson – Owner of HWY North Gift Shop

SHOW 2.6 – 11/21/2020 (Authors)

Lonnie Lovness – GROWING UP WRIGHT
Bill Strusinski – CARE UNDER FIRE
Thom Rumreich – UNHOLY COMMUNION
Bob White – THE CLASSIC SPORTING ART OF BOB WHITE
Mark Odegard – ISLAND YEARS

SHOW 2.7 – 12/5/2020

Shawn Otto – Author of THE WAR ON SCIENCE • Leslie MacKenzie & Mark Kraske – Dark Ski Initiative • Tracy Maki – CEO, Valley Outreach

SHOW 2.8 – 12/19/2020

Dr. Michael Osterholm
Ross Levin – Finance
Max Smitten – Senior at Stillwater Area High School

GreenStep Cities Update

Protecting the Night with Dark-Sky Compliant Lighting



There are good reasons why you might want to have some outdoor lighting – safe paths to the front door, house number visibility, evening entertaining. What can you do to satisfy those lighting needs while protecting the darkness that pollinators, migratory birds, nocturnal animals, plants and people need for life and health?

Consider using light:

- Only when needed (would a motion detector or timer make sense?)
- Only where needed
- Only as bright as necessary, and avoid blue light
- Downward, not upward (shielded)

Nearby stores carry lighting options that can protect the dark and meet your goals. The Home Depot website provides a Dark Sky search parameter in their lighting section.

Reducing Minnesota’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions with Electric Vehicles

Transportation is the #1 source of greenhouse gas emissions in Minnesota. Our state has a goal of reducing those emissions by [increasing the number of electric vehicles](#) (EVs) on the road.

Marine on St. Croix is a perfect location for EV use for commuters into the Twin Cities. All newer EVs can handle a 90-to-120-mile round-trip commute, even in winter, and there are plenty of

EV chargers in the Cities where you can top-up.

There are dozens of models of EVs on the market but not every vehicle is available in Minnesota. The website [DriveElectricMN.org](#) provides a Buying Guide for locally available vehicles, EV savvy sales staff, as well as information to help you decide if an EV is right for you.

Carnelian Marine St. Croix Watershed District Update

Help Improve Water Quality and Pollinator Habitat of the St. Croix

A lot of work took place in 2020 to set the stage for water quality improvements in Marine on St. Croix. Take a walk north along Highway 95 and look at the work the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District (CMSCWD) did to stabilize the eroding Marine Landing Creek ravine. Who can miss the large stormwater basins on the west edge of the village center, and the top of the path down to the river behind The General Store?

It may not look so beautiful right now, but the best part of the project comes next and the Watershed District is asking for your help.

CMSCWD, along with the Washington Conservation District, the Minnesota Conservation Corp and community volunteers will be planting more than 15,000 native plants, trees, and shrubs in 2021

and 2022.

This huge planting effort will transform the clearings and basins into beautiful nature areas capable of capturing millions of gallons of stormwater and the pollutants it carries.

Deep-rooted plants will then help the water infiltrate into the soil, reducing erosion and preventing runoff from reaching the river while greatly increasing pollinator habitat.

The first 4,000 plants will be installed in June and July of 2021 in the Marine Ravine.

Volunteers are needed.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Bobbie Law at the Watershed District by calling 651-433-2150 or emailing bobbie.law@cmscwd.org

Marine Mill Site Update

Beautiful Season to Visit the Mill Site

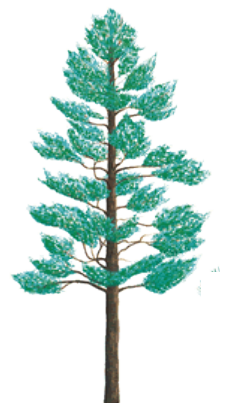
Water flows through the historic Marine Mill Site no matter the season – it slides quietly but powerfully under the river-ice of winter, cascades down the waterfall in the ravine, and seeps through the bedrock.

Water sustains all life in the St. Croix River Valley – it is why people have lived here for thousands of years.

Winter is a beautiful season to visit the Mill Site. Vistas are open to the river, where ice floes kaleidoscope into each other until they merge into a still ribbon of silver-gray in the deepest cold. The ever-splashing waterfall builds ever-changing ice sculptures on rocks and twigs.

Pause, observe, enjoy!

For information about the site, or to volunteer for its care, contact: Anne Reich (651-433-1341) or Jim Schoeller (651-433-3440), Co-chairs, Marine Mill Site Committee.



City of Marine on St Croix

121 Judd Street P.O. Box 250
Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047

We're on the web

www.marineonstcroix.org

2021 CITY COUNCIL, PLANNING COMMISSION AND STAFF OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY 8:00AM-4:30PM FRIDAY 8:00AM - 12:00PM

City Council

Mayor Kevin Nyenhuis 651-247-7399

Lon Pardun 651-433-2130

Charlie Anderson 651-592-9449

Gwen Roden 651-433-2908

Wendy Ward 651-301-0633

Council meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall and via Zoom. See marineonstcroix.org for links.

City Staff

Lynette Peterson, City Clerk/Treasurer

Suzanne Lindgren Dammann, Assistant Clerk

Jason Crotty, Public Works 651-675-6493

Tom Boesel, Public Works

Maintenance Shop 651-433-5492

Planning Commission

Chairman Gerry Mrosla

Ron Brenner

Kristina Smitten

Anna Hagstrom

Jennifer Henry

Ed Sanderson

Tim Casey

Meetings are last Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. See marineonstcroix.org for links.

**Get the newsletter
via email:**



If you are interested in receiving the newsletter electronically, email Assistant City Clerk Suzanne Dammann: asstclerk@cityofmarine.org

The newsletter is also available online:
www.marineonstcroix.org

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