

City of Marine on St. Croix  
**MOSC TIMES**



January, February, March 2022

## COUNCIL SETS TAX LEVY

The City Council has set the final levy for 2022 at \$982,063.71, a decrease of 4.22% from 2021. More information on page 2. To see a copy of the budget, and keep up with other important city information, visit [www.marineonstcroix.org](http://www.marineonstcroix.org).

### Important Dates

January 10	Christmas Tree Pick-Up (Last day to leave curbside)
January 13	City Council Meeting
January 17	Martin Luther King Jr. Day — City Office Closed
January 25	Planning Commission Meeting
February 10	City Council Meeting
February 21	Presidents Day— City Office Closed
February 22	Planning Commission Meeting
March 10	City Council Meeting
March 29	Planning Commission Meeting

### In This Issue

Regional Crime Increase	2
Note From the Mayor	2
Folk School News	3
Village School Update	3
Winter Reminders	3
Winter Trail Guide	4-5
Marine Library News	6
City Council Recap	6
Green Step Cities	7
Mill Site Update	7

## URGENT Call for Volunteer Fire/EMS

**THIS IS NOT A DRILL!** The City is in desperate need of volunteer firefighters and EMS first responders. All adults who are residents of Marine or live within an eight (8) minute response time to the fire hall are encouraged to consider applying.

If we are unable to fully staff our volunteer public safety department the practical consequences could result in loss of local control, loss of local government aid, closure of the fire hall, reduction in response time, reduction in quality-of-service, outsourcing to private entities, increase in city expense, and increase in taxpayer expense.

No experience is necessary. Applicants can follow an EMS (medical first responder) track, Firefighter track, or combined track (Fire/EMS). Initial and ongoing training is paid for by the City. Distance/online learning is available for some content. Requirements include attendance of monthly training nights, and response to 20% of calls for a 12-month period (which equals less than 20 calls per year).

Benefits include a fire relief association pension for vested members, worker's compensation, and 24/7 gym access with quality equipment.

SEE FIRE & RESCUE: Page 4

## Winter Parking: Don't Get Towed

No parking is allowed on streets or alleys from 2 am - 6 am, November 15 through April 1. **This includes downtown businesses and apartment residents.** Clear streets allow public works to plow and keep roads safe and drivable. Between 2 am and 6 am the city has authority to tow your vehicle at your expense, per Chapter 24 of the city code.

## — ICE RINK —

The school ice rink will be flooded as weather permits.

### WARMING HOUSE HOURS

— Rink is open any time —

**Monday - Friday** 3:30 - 8 pm

**Saturday - Sunday** 12 - 6 pm

### ATTENDANTS NEEDED

Warming house attendants needed. 16 years old + to apply • \$10/hour

**Hours:** Monday-Friday 3-8 pm  
Weekends noon-5 pm

To apply, contact the city office.

## STATE OF THE CITY: IT TAKES A VILLAGE

**H**aving taken a seat at the council table this year I am continually reminded what a treasure of a city we have. Rooted in a strong history of thoughtful leadership, robust volunteerism, and capable staff; the state of Marine is excellent.

2021 marked the completion of the downtown infrastructure project, approval of a new school charter, completion of the tower ordinance, the third anniversary of Marine Mills Folk School, and numerous

new housing starts — better yet new residents.

In December I met a new resident who jumped in to help on a project after having lived here just a few weeks. That coupled with those that have served for years makes Marine a special place. Two specific volunteers worth noting; Diane Mills, who has served on the Marine EMS for 20 years, has retired from the squad. Diane's service to Marine required countless hours of training and a log full of call responses. Additionally, Anne

Reich, has stepped down from over a decade of leadership on the Mill Site Committee and Library Board. Please thank them both when you see them, and consider filling their well-worn shoes. Look for the second annual Volunteer Fair in early spring or visit the city website to find local organizations that can use your help.

This year also marked the beginning of a journey for Jody and I as grandparents. (Harvey John Grow, 1/5/21) Having had the chance to raise our three kids in Marine — it is



wonderful to know that we will be able to share this community with the next generation.

To you and yours — all the best in the year ahead,  
Mayor Kevin Nyenhuis

### Public Safety Message

## Tips for Staying Safe as Crime Increases in Region

**By Councilman Charlie Anderson**

Marine on St Croix enjoys a largely peaceful existence. Occasionally, however, crime trends from other parts of the metropolitan area reach our quaint and sometimes complacent village.

I'm not talking about "minor" crimes or "quality-of-life" concerns like loud motorcycles, speeding vehicles, airboats on the river, dog poop in the parks, downtown parking congestion, or live music concerns or fireworks complaints. Those are important, but that's not the focus here.

Most of the criminal activity we experience falls under "property crimes", or crimes that focus on people who want to take things that don't belong to them in order to re-sell or pawn those things to support a substance dependency or other deviance.

Less frequent, but more devastating crimes "against persons" also affect our community: Extrinsic events like robbery, occupied burglaries or home invasions (meaning someone is in the home when it happens), and carjackings.

The Twin Cities and eastern suburbs, to include Stillwater, have experienced an increase in these more serious crimes. The following recommendations for personal and property safety may help residents protect and prevent some crimes from happening.

We live in a VERY safe community, but being situationally aware is something



we should all do anyway, both for ourselves, our family, and our neighbors. Some of these tips might be best put to use when Mariners travel outside our little Mayberry town on errands, work, or for recreation. Prudence, attentiveness, and common sense are your first, and almost always, best defense:

- Be aware of surroundings, including being aware of the people nearby.
- Be a good witness. Call 911 if you see signs that someone is being threatened or assaulted. Take note of any vehicle information or suspect descriptions so responding officers know what or who to look for.
- Keep distance between you and

anyone you don't know who approaches you and be alert.

- Do not give your cellphone to anyone who approaches you asking if they can use it to make a call.
- Don't carry additional documents, payment cards, or valuables other than what you absolutely need. Don't leave items that may appear valuable or contain personal identifying information in plain view in your vehicle.
- Do not leave your vehicle running while unattended and never leave a key inside a parked vehicle.

### Robbery/Carjacking-specific:

- Pay attention to your surroundings in parking lots, ramps, and at gas stations.
- Be smart when conducting transactions from online marketplaces at physical locations (Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace, etc.).
- Memorize your license plate in case you should ever need to reference it.
- Be aware of your surroundings and avoid being alone in your vehicle in certain areas, including isolated roads and parking lots.
- Don't sit in your vehicle with the windows down and the doors

**SEE SAFETY TIPS:** Page 7



## LOCAL, FUN, IN-PERSON AND ONLINE CLASSES

Beat the Winter Blues together – with your friends at Marine Mills Folk School. Our terrific artisan-instructors offer classes in-person and online. Join us at a class or volunteer – either way you’ll become part of our supportive, fun community.

### What’s coming up?

- Flour As Flavor Baking Class
- Scandinavian Spoon Carving – Start to Finish Weekend
- Traditional Somali Finger Weaving
- Make Your Own Soap
- Rigid Heddle Beginning Weaving
- Make an Heirloom Bear

Fabulous Fermentation and lots more! Got an idea for a class – we’re always looking for ideas and for instructors.

### Plus join us for our Free Community Building Events:

- Community Project Night with Liz and Molly: Knitting and Mending (most Tuesdays)
- Blue Grass Jam Sessions – no experience required (3rd Saturdays)
- Community Carving Sessions – 2nd Saturdays, novice to experienced
- Family Open Gym: Monday afternoons through February 28

Information and registration a [www.marinemillsfolkschool.org](http://www.marinemillsfolkschool.org)

## MARINE VILLAGE SCHOOL

As this goes to press, Marine Village School is patiently waiting to hear about our Charter School Program Grant. We hope to hear any day that we have been selected, after which we will negotiate a budget for the funds with the Minnesota Department of Education.

In the meantime we are fundraising—please give generously if you have not already done so. You can give online at [www.marinevillageschool.org](http://www.marinevillageschool.org) or mail a check to PO Box 247, Marine on St Croix MN 55047. We are very grateful for the gifts we receive, for they help us pay our startup expenses, like legal fees, marketing, postage, consulting and others. Thank you!

We are proceeding to hire a financial advisor and other professionals who will help us start the school. We will open in Fall 2022.

More information can be found at [www.marinevillageschool.org](http://www.marinevillageschool.org) or the Marine Village School Facebook page. Or you may contact Win Miller at [winm@marinevillageschool.org](mailto:winm@marinevillageschool.org).



## COOL WINTER NEIGHBORS

### Shovel the Sidewalk

Clear snow and ice from public sidewalks within 12 hours of snowfall, and do not put snow or ice onto streets or alleys. The City will charge for the removal of snow resulting from violation of this ordinance. See Chapter 8, Subdivision 4 of the city code.

### Park Off Street

Don't park on streets or alleys between 2 am and 6 am, November 15 through April 1. This allows public works to plow the streets. The city has authority to tow your vehicle at your expense during these hours. See Chapter 24, Subdivision 1 of the city code.



**Cool Neighbor Tip:** Pick up your dog's poo and throw the bags in the trash.



### Set Trash Bins in the Driveway

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 passersby. 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.

### Year Round

It is unlawful to discharge firearms in Marine's city limits, except by written permission of the mayor during hunting season. See Chapter 9.01 of the city code.

# WINTER TRAIL GUIDE

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

## Trail Use: General Guidelines

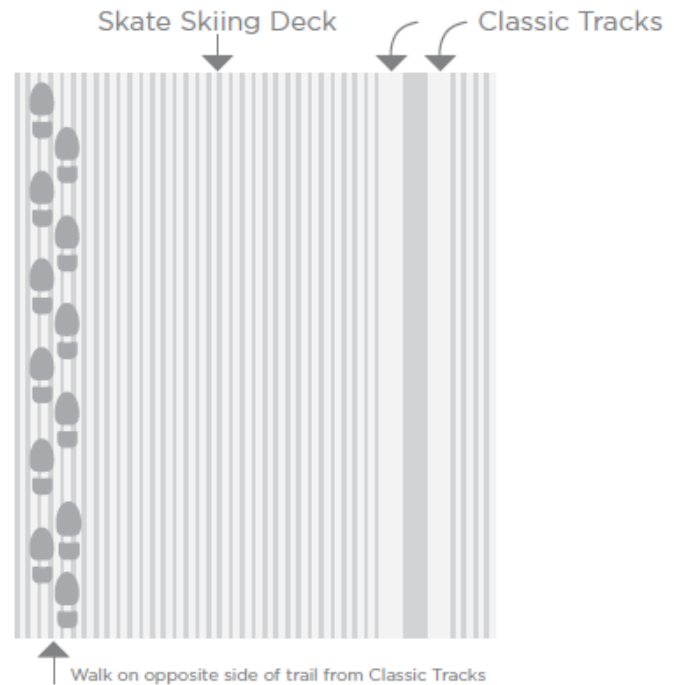
- No motorized traffic. Motorized wheelchairs are OK.
- Keep right so others can pass.
- If you are on the trail with a dog, keep your pet on a leash and do not leave poo on the trail.
- Obey traffic signs and rules.
- Pick up garbage and litter.
- Respect adjoining landowners' rights and privacy
- Stay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



## MARINE O'BRIEN SKI RACE SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022

**50th year!** Proceeds from the race benefit the St. Croix Valley Ski club youth skiing program. Race times, distances and registration at [marineobrien.com](http://marineobrien.com).



## Fire & Rescue: Service levels could decline and expenses increase without more volunteers

FROM PAGE 1

Members also enjoy a shared sense of service to the community and to their neighbors, teamwork and unit cohesion, lifelong friendships, and a strong tradition of excellence and professionalism.

Join the ranks of Marine's Fire and Rescue Team and get the satisfaction of giving back and helping your neighbors. Saving lives and protecting property with dignity and respect is something we should be able to do for each other – not outsource it to other agencies or private contracts!

Please visit [www.marineonstcroix.org/firerescue](http://www.marineonstcroix.org/firerescue) for more information. Better yet, talk to neighbors that are current members or have retired from the squad.

Have questions? Want to learn more? Contact Chief Dan Malmgren at [firechief@marineonstcroix.org](mailto:firechief@marineonstcroix.org), 651-433-3682. We can set up a personal tour of the fire hall if interested.

We need YOU! Ready to apply? Contact City Clerk Lynette Peterson at [mosc@cityofmarine.org](mailto:mosc@cityofmarine.org), 651-433-3636 for application materials.

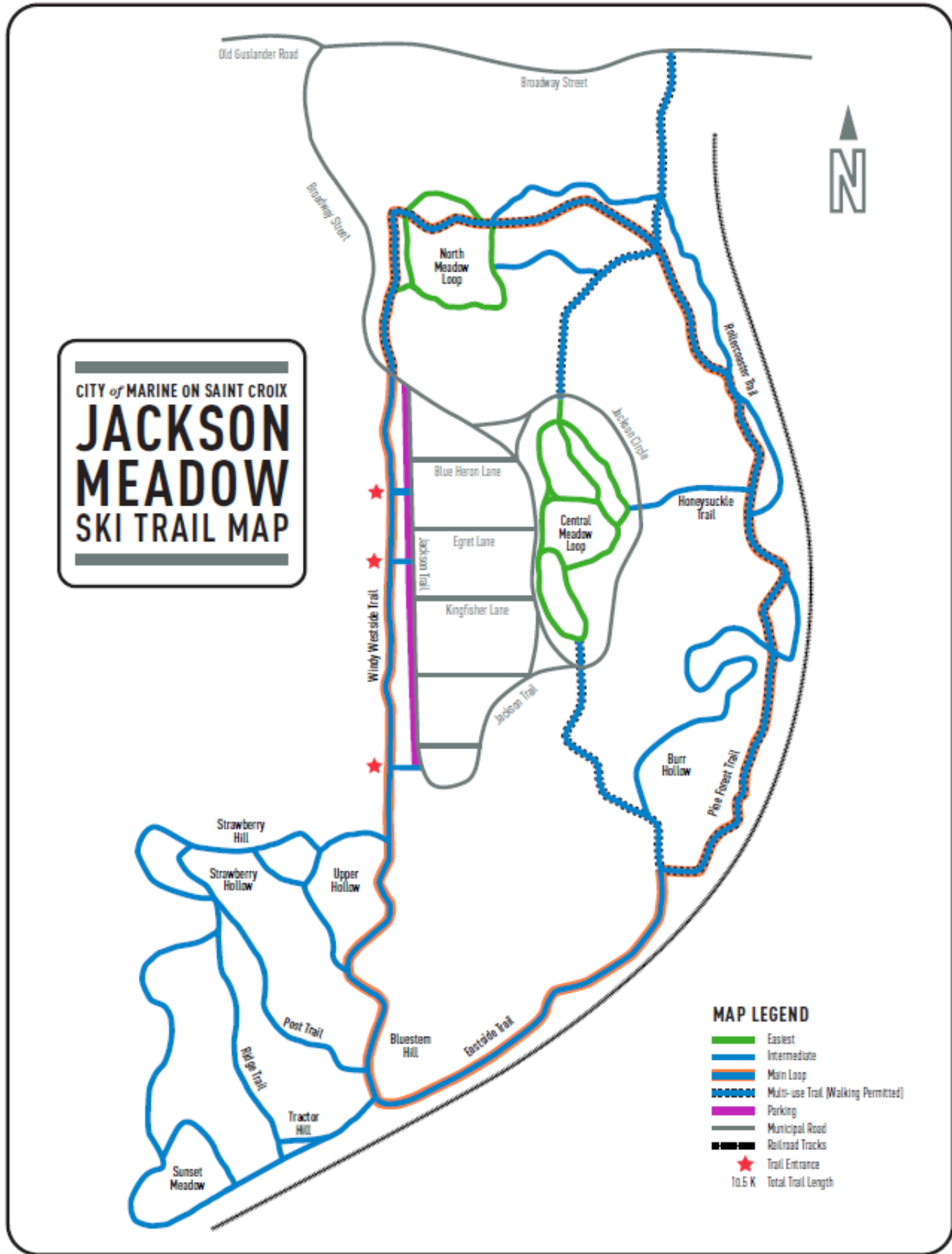
The POC for this message is Councilman

Charlie Anderson, Public Safety Chair, at [Charlie.Anderson@cityofmarine.org](mailto:Charlie.Anderson@cityofmarine.org), 651-592-9449.



Marine Fire & Rescue Auto Extrication Training





# Marine Community Library

## — Winter 2022 —

### MARINE COMMUNITY LIBRARY CONTINUES PROGRAMMING THROUGHOUT THE WINTER

#### Children's Programs

**Story Time** — every Thursday at 10 am. Different readers will delight children with special books for preschool - aged children; all ages are welcome.

**Craft Saturday** — February 5 at 10 a.m. Create collage cards for Valentine's Day and other greeting cards. Kindergarten through fourth grade.

**Family Fun Nights** — every second Friday of the month, starting February 11. Join your neighbors and meet new friends for a night of games and pizza at the Marine Village Hall. Time: 5:30 to 7 p.m. Bring your favorite game, and, if you wish teach others. The library will have games as well. Suggested donation is \$5.00.

**Summer Science/Art Camp registration day** February 5. Go to the library website for more information on our popular summer camps, scheduled for the end of June.

Other children's programs are in the planning stage so check the library's web site for more information.



#### Adult Programs

**Jonathan Slaght**, author of the nationally-acclaimed book, "Owls of the Eastern Ice," will talk to the Marine Community Library audience about his book in a virtual event held over Zoom. Jan. 20, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

**Ryan Rodgers**, author of "Winter's Children," the new definitive history of Nordic skiing, will present a talk on Feb. 24, 2022. Stand by for details on whether this will be a live or virtual event.

**Documentary film** on February 3, 2022. Film is still to be chosen. Watch for information on sign-ups.

#### Regular Library Hours

Visit the library to check out our ever evolving book collection.

**Monday** 10 am – 1 pm,

**Tuesday** 4 - 7 pm,

**Thursday** 10 am – 1 pm,

**Friday** 4 – 7 pm,

**Saturday** 9 – 12.

We are still asking patrons to wear masks given the small space and poor air circulation in our beloved old village hall.



[marinecommunitylibrary.org](http://marinecommunitylibrary.org)

## CITY COUNCIL RECAP

#### Levy Will Increase 4.2%

Marine will see a 4.2% increase in the city's 2022 levy, down from 13% in the original budget proposal. The Marine City Council cut proposed budget items December 2. The largest of those:

- trimming the Holidays & Events fund from \$15,000 to \$5,000, with the city leaning away from fireworks over the 4th of July holiday.
- cutting \$10,000 in proposed funding for an electric vehicle charger
- reducing \$30,000 earmarked for resurfacing the tennis court to \$5,000 for future recreational infrastructure

- \$10,000 was cut from hall restoration
- and another \$10,000 that was earmarked for replacement vehicles for Marine Fire & Rescue

#### Future of Fireworks is In The Air

At the budget meeting, there was some discussion of moving the annual fireworks from the 3rd of July to the 4th in an effort to draw a more manageable crowd. City staff and elected officials are gathering information on costs and feasibility of the event, as many fireworks display operators are experiencing inventory and staffing difficulties.

#### City Will Negotiate with Vinco on Cell Tower

Marine received two proposals from cell tower vendors: one from Vinco and one from TowerCo. Clarifying questions were sent to each vendor, and the committee and council have chosen to begin negotiations with Vinco.



#### New Year's Eve Gala Canceled

The New Year's Eve fireworks fundraising gala has been canceled due to uncertainty around the pandemic and its impacts on attendance.

GreenStep Cities Update

# Hold the Salt to Protect MN Water

This winter, use de-icing salt wisely. One teaspoon of salt will permanently pollute 5 gallons of water. One coffee mug of salt is enough to clear a 20-foot driveway, or 250 square feet of sidewalk. Shovel first, then apply salt. Don't use sodium chloride below 15 degrees. Try sand or grit instead.



# GreenStep Cities Seeks Volunteers

GreenStep Cities Marine is gearing up to work on a new Clean, Safe Water project for 2022. If you are passionate about water, email Leslie.mackenzie@gmail.com. The Dark Sky team is also seeking new members. Everyone is welcome to join GreenStep bimonthly meetings, 3rd Monday at 6:30 pm. The next meeting is Jan. 17, via Zoom.



## Winter at 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.

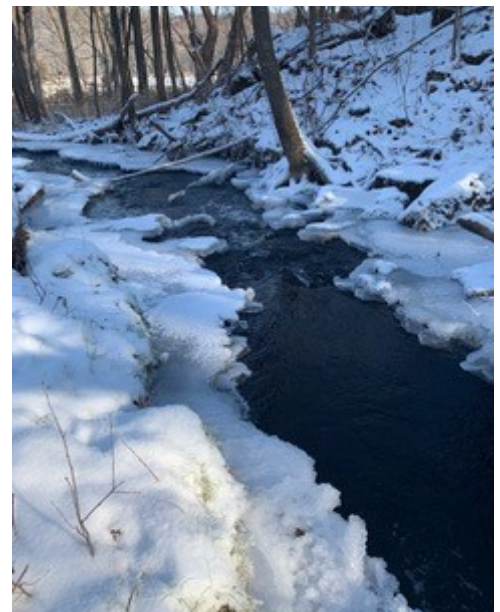
Winter is a beautiful season to visit the Mill Site. Vistas are open to the river, where ice floes kaleidoscope into each other until they merge into a still ribbon of silver-gray in the deepest cold. The ever-splashing waterfall builds ever-changing ice sculptures on rocks and twigs.

Pause, observe, enjoy!

*Thanks to the volunteers who have helped us this season, John Goodfellow, Tom Omdahl, Larry Whitaker, David Stephens, Linda Tibbetts, Bob Benishek, Bob Downs, Fitzie Heimdahl, Wendy Paulson, Anne Reich, Jim Schoeller, Wendy Ward and Kevin Nyenhuis.*

*And to town staff Tommy Boesel and Rob Powell for helping spread the new gravel on the trails.*

*For information about the site, or to volunteer for its care, contact Curt Moe: moe.curt@gmail.com.*



## Safety Tips: Prudence, attentiveness, and common sense are your first, and often, best defense

FROM PAGE 2

- unlocked.
- Park in well-lit areas and if concerned, find a security guard to accompany you to your parked vehicle.
- Make sure your cellphone is charged and accessible.
- Be aware of tactics carjackers use, including bumping into your vehicle, pretending to be stranded, and flashing their vehicle's lights at you. If you feel a threat, drive to the nearest police or fire station.
- Keep distance between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of yours if you need to drive around it and make a quick escape.

### Things you can do at home:

- Lock your doors and windows when not at home.
- Keep your garage door locked.
- Leave a couple interior lights on when not at home if you know it will get dark while you are away.
- Let a trusted neighbor or family member know when you will be gone for an extended period of time (e.g. vacation).
- Consider whether a home alarm or monitoring system is right for you.
- Consider whether or not exterior lighting near an entrance to your home is needed.
- Keep an updated inventory of high

value items (include serial numbers). Not only might this help in locating stolen property, but will also be useful if there is an insurance claim.

Anyone with questions or concerns about crime prevention as well as home and business security can contact Washington County crime prevention specialists at 651-439-9381.

Visit <https://www.co.washington.mn.us/3208/Crime-Prevention> for more information.

POC for this message is Councilman Charles Anderson, Public Safety Chair, Charlie.Anderson@cityofmarine.org or 651-592-9449.

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## 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](http://www.marineonstcroix.org)

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## 2022 CITY COUNCIL, PLANNING COMMISSION AND STAFF

### 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](http://marineonstcroix.org) for links.*

### City Staff

Lynette Peterson, City Clerk/Treasurer

Suzanne Dammann, Assistant Clerk

Tom Boesel, Public Works 651-755-2197

Rob Powell, Public Works

Maintenance Shop 651-433-5492

### Planning Commission

Chairman Gerry Mrosla

Scott Spisak

Kristina Smitten

Anna Hagstrom

Jennifer Henry

Ed Sanderson

Tim Casey

*Meetings are last Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall and via Zoom. See [marineonstcroix.org](http://marineonstcroix.org) for links.*

### Get the newsletter via email:



If you're interested in receiving the newsletter electronically, email Assistant City Clerk Suzanne Dammann: [asstclerk@cityofmarine.org](mailto:asstclerk@cityofmarine.org)

The newsletter is also available online: [www.marineonstcroix.org](http://www.marineonstcroix.org)

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