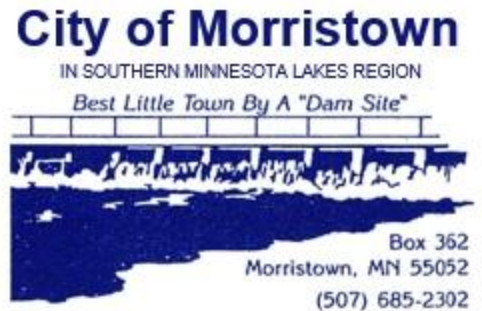


New Resident Information Packet



Morristown City Government

COUNCIL AND MAYOR

The Mayor and the City Councilmembers are elected leaders. The mayor is elected every two years. The Councilmembers are elected to four-year terms with two members elected in November of even number years.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Council meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. The agenda is posted in the Post Office, City Hall at 402 S. Division Street, and the Morristown website (www.ci.morristown.mn.us), the Friday before the meeting. The council minutes are also posted at the Post Office, City Hall, and on the Morristown website.

CITY CLERK

The City Clerk's office is located at City Hall at 402 S. Division Street. Office hours are Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The telephone number is 507-685-2302.

Voting/Elections

REGISTRATION

You may register to vote by mail, or you can vote early in-person, starting 46 days before each Election Day at your County Election Office located at Rice County Administration Building, 218 N.W. 3rd Street. In order to qualify to register you must be:

- At least 18 years old on election day;
- A citizen of the United States;
- Will have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding election day; and
- Have a valid Minnesota driver's license, a MN identification card or have a registered voter who will vouch for you.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots can be obtained before Election Day by contacting the Rice County Auditor. The telephone number is 507-332-6104. The fax number is 507-333-3754. The email is: rcelections@co.rice.mn.us.

MAILING AND DROP-OFF ADDRESS

Rice County Elections
320 3rd St NW
Faribault, MN 55021

ABSENTEE VOTING CONTACT

Rice County Elections
Phone: 507-332-6104
Fax: 507-333-3754
Email: rcelections@co.rice.mn.us Election official: Fran Windschitl
General phone: 507-332-6104
Fax: 507-333-3754
Website: <http://www.co.rice.mn.us/>
Email: rcelections@co.rice.mn.us

ELECTIONS

Elections are held the first Tuesday in November of even-number years. Elections are held at the Community Center Great Hall, located at 402 Division Street S.

Public Safety

MORRISTOWN FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Emergency dial 911
506 S. Division Street
Twenty-six volunteer fire fighters staff the Morristown Fire/Rescue Department.

OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS

Outdoor warning sirens are used for national weather service warnings as well as for other emergencies. Residents are urged to seek shelter when they hear the sirens and turn on the radio for emergency information. The outdoor sirens will also be used for other emergencies such as a hazardous chemical spill that requires residents to evacuate their homes. The sirens are tested for several minutes on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

POLICE PROTECTION

Emergency Call 911.

The City of Morristown contracts police services through the Rice County Sheriff's Department. For non-emergency calls, contact the Rice County Sheriff's Dispatch at 507-334-4391.

Parks and Recreation

MORRISTOWN CENTENNIAL PARK

We encourage residents to use the city park for picnics and family fun. There are a few regulations which must be followed to ensure the safety of all those who use the park. They are:

- No person(s) shall consume intoxicating liquor, or non-intoxicating malt beverage in or on any bridge, catwalk, or historical building.
- You cannot have in possession any container larger than 32 ounces containing intoxicating or non-intoxicating malt liquor without a permit. A special permit for keg beer may be applied for at least one week in advance with the City Clerk or his/her designee.
- It is unlawful to clean fish except in designated areas.
- Fires are permitted only in the fireplaces or fire rings provided for that purpose.
- All pets must be kept on a leash.
- No glass beverage containers are allowed.
- You can also rent the pavilion at the park. Please call City Hall for more information.

Community Center

GREAT HALL

For rental information for the Great Hall, please call 507-491-2720 and/or email morristowncommunitycenter@gmail.com

You can also find information on our website under Community-Community Center.

GOVERNMENT ROOM

We also rent out the Government Room at City Hall. If you are looking for a place to host a birthday party, get-together, etc., please contact City Hall.

Public Works

TREES

Boulevards belong to the city, but the care and removal of the trees are the responsibility of the property owners.

UTILITIES

See the Master Fee Schedule online for prices of all City Services.

Electricity

Xcel Energy provides electricity. For customer service call 1-800-672-4300.

Gas Service

CenterPoint provides Natural Gas. For customer service call 1-800-245-2377.

Water Service

Water is provided by the City of Morristown, phone 507-685-2302. All water used in the distribution system is well water. The water is pumped from the Jordan Aquifers located under our community.

After the water is pumped from the city well, it is stored for distribution in an above ground storage reservoir that has a capacity of 80,000 gallons.

The water operator flushes water mains the first Monday of each month from April through November. This helps to remove iron deposits from mains and decreases the chance of problems with rusty-colored water or stained clothes. It is better not to wash clothes during these times since flushing can cause water to turn rusty in the middle of the cycle.

A second meter may be purchased at cost for outdoor watering purposes to avoid the sewer charge. The meter measures only the water used for outside gardening, filling of wading pools and running sprinklers, which is water that does not enter the city's wastewater treatment system.

The City does not fill swimming pools, and does provide a discount on the water bill.

Sump Pumps

Sump pumps, foundation drains, or other sources of surface or ground water cannot be connected to the Sanitary Sewer system.

Sanitary Sewer Service

Sanitary services are the homeowner's responsibility from the house, to the sewer main. Please refer to § 50.001 of the city code for more information.

Garbage Service

A private hauler who is licensed to do business in the city provides garbage service. The current hauler is Archambault Brothers Disposal 507-334-8910. Collection is Friday morning and includes 96, 64, or 48 gallon garbage container be placed on the streets/ boulevard by 7:00 a.m. Currently garbage rates are listed on the Master Fee Schedule, which can be found on the city's website.

Recycling

Materials accepted for recycling includes dry newspaper, aluminum cans, glass containers and #1 and #2 plastic containers. All containers must be rinsed clean with caps removed. It is not necessary to remove labels. All residents received a green recycling bin that is picked up bi-weekly. To ensure pickup, the bins should be on the boulevard by 7:00 a.m. on Friday.

BRUSH SITE/COMPOST

The Morristown yard waste compost site is located one and one-half miles east of Morristown. Take County Road 15, turn on Hamel Trail. The City Council leases land to accept grass, leaves and tree trimming. No other items are allowed. Only citizens of the City of Morristown are allowed access to the Brush Site. You will need to visit City Hall during business hours to obtain a temporary key to enter the Brush Site and after hours and weekends email morristowncompostsite@gmail.com

According to the Morristown City Code, lawn clippings are not allowed on sidewalks or streets.

OPEN BURNING

City ordinance forbids open burning except at times designated by the City Council. Usually, the Council allows burning of leaves and garden refuse during the spring and fall. All other material is prohibited from being burned. If open burning is allowed, the dates will be stated on the City's website at www.ci.morristown.mn.us. Recreational fires are allowed without a permit; however, such fires must not be larger than three feet in diameter and must be contained in a fireplace, fire ring, charcoal grill, portable gas or liquid fuel camp stove, or other similar container.

OTHER REGULATIONS

GOPHER STATE ONE-CALL

The State of Minnesota requires that all persons call Gopher State One Call before digging on public or private property at least 48 hours before digging. The number is 1-800-252-1166.

SNOW PLOWING

Streets and alleys are usually plowed within six hours after snowfall. Residents are encouraged to move their vehicle off the streets during times when plowing is required. Vehicles cannot be parked on Rice County Highways numbered 15, 16 and 44 within the City limits between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. from November 1 through April 30 as they are designated as snow emergency routes.

A snowfall of greater than 3 inches, also constitutes a snow emergency.

SIDEWALK SNOW/ICE REMOVAL

The owner or occupant of any property adjacent to a public sidewalk must remove the snow and ice within twenty-four hours after a snowfall or freezing rain. Residents are reminded that snow should not be thrown into a street. Residents are encouraged to adopt a fire hydrant and remove the snow around it.

ZONING REGULATIONS

The City of Morristown has adopted a Zoning Ordinance that creates various zoning districts. Within these districts the ordinance regulates the placement, spacing and size of buildings and the uses permitted in a specific zone. All property in Morristown has been placed in a specific zone and is subject to these various regulations. If you have any questions regarding zoning regulations including specific issues such as a building setback, on-site parking, fences, businesses conducted out of a home and permitted uses in a particular zone. Please contact City Hall for an application or for more information. A zoning permit is required before you start building.

It is not necessary to get a permit for:

- Inside remodeling
- Building a doghouse or playhouse

- Gazebos
- Trellises
- Hot tubs
- Swing sets
- Arbors
- Inflatable swimming pools

CURFEW

Children under 15 years of age cannot be on or present in any public street, park, or other public place, places of amusement and entertainment, vacant lots or other unsupervised places in the city between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. For children aged 15, 16 or 17, the curfew hours are from 12:00 Midnight to 5:00 a.m.

FIREARMS AND HUNTING

No person shall fire or discharge any cannon, gun, pistol, air gun, B-B gun, or firearm of any description or bow including crossbow, hunting bow, compound bow, or any other type or description of bow having a draw or pull twenty pounds or more within the city limits without first receiving written permission from the mayor and the county deputy to do so.

PARKING

A vehicle cannot remain parked for more than 18 hours on a street or alley.

UNLICENSED VEHICLES

No inoperable or unlicensed vehicle may be stored outside a building in any residential district.

SNOWMOBILES

Snowmobiles may not be operated between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and sunrise unless they are coming into, passing through or leaving the city. Such operation may be only on the most direct route using the marked trail or designated city streets. The maximum speed is 15 miles per hour.

BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, ROLLER SKATES OR ROLLER BLADES

Bicycles, skateboards, roller skates or roller blades are not allowed to be ridden upon a sidewalk within the business district. Persons must yield the right of way to pedestrians and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrians.

CLUB AND ORGANIZATIONS

There are a variety of clubs and organizations available in Morristown. They are:

- American Legion Post 149
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts of America
- Commercial Club
- Gun Club
- Historical Society
- Coffee Club

Education

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Morristown is served by Independent School District 2413. The Morristown Middel School is located in Morristown at 100 Washington Street E, phone 685-4222.

Community Activities

ANNUAL DAM DAYS CELEBRATION

Held the first weekend after Memorial Day.

ALL CITY GARAGE SALE

Held the first Saturday in August.