

City of Marine on St. Croix MOSC TIMES

April, May, June 2026



IMPORTANT DATES

April 9	City Council Meeting
April 10	Fire Dept. 140 th
April 16	Statewide Tornado Drill; 1:45 & 6:45 pm
April 28	Planning Commission Meeting
May 2	Heavy Metal Day
May 2	Shred Day – Security State Bank
May 14	City Council Meeting
May 25	Memorial Day – Office Closed
May 25	Memorial Day Program
May 26	Planning Commission Meeting
June 11	City Council Meeting
June 20	Street Dance
June 30	Planning Commission Meeting

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2026 ELECTION

City Candidate Filing Opens July 14

Residents interested in serving the community are encouraged to consider running for local office in the 2026 City Election. Candidate filing will be open from July 14 - July 28.

A \$5 filing fee is required, and candidate affidavits will be available at City Hall during regular business hours.

This year, the following offices will

be on the ballot:

- Mayor (2-year term)
- Two Council seats (4-year terms)

The General Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, **August 11**, followed by the General Election on Tuesday, **November 3**.

If you're interested in running, contact the City office.



Summer 2026 Roadwork

WHAT TO EXPECT

The City of Marine on St. Croix will complete a targeted street improvement project in 2026, with construction expected from late spring through summer.

Full Reconstruction: Portions of Fifth Street and Chestnut Street

- Rebuilding the southern 315 feet of Fifth Street, to a width of 12 feet with new base material
- Rebuilding Chestnut Street from Fifth Street to Minnesota State Highway 95, to a width of 12 feet with new base material
- Resurfacing the Fifth Street trail

connection to Chestnut (8 feet wide)

- An additional segment of Chestnut Street with new pavement (westward to the top of the hill), included as an alternate improvement
- A potential decommissioning of the gravel connection between Sixth Street and Pratt Street through the School Forest has been tabled and will be reviewed further.

SEE ROADWORK: Page 7

POP UP OR PERMANENT? MARINE MULLS DOG PARK.

Following a popular “pop-up” dog park in Burriss Park last summer, Marine residents and officials are exploring options for a second run in 2026 or a permanent dog park in the future. The pop-up event, held August-September 2025, provided off-leash space, fencing, and water access, and confirmed community interest in a dedicated dog park. Residents, planning commissioners, and council members have pointed out

that finding a location compatible with surrounding areas would be key to the success of a permanent dog park. Top priorities include ample parking, walking access, and maintaining harmony with nearby residential areas.

Residents are encouraged to share feedback on preferred locations, design features, and amenities. The Council is planning a listening session to gather resident input. Details to come.



City Council Gives Support for River Management Plan, with Caveats

The Marine City Council in February approved a letter of support for a Comprehensive River Management Plan put forward by the National Park Service (NPS). The letter also highlights several priorities for refinement.

The plan itself was shaped by public workshops hosted by NPS in 2025, during which several Marine residents shared input and perspectives on the future of the river.

The City’s letter reflects that input, expressing overall support while raising six key concerns:

- increasing visitor pressure and congestion
- wake-related impacts
- excessive noise
- high-intensity lighting from nighttime fishing
- environmental damage from mud motors
- ongoing challenges with rule compliance and enforcement

Foremost is the potential for increased visitor use, with projections suggesting significant growth in river traffic. The City urges a more comprehensive approach to monitoring and managing congestion, particularly in light of expanded access at nearby landings,

including William O’Brien State Park and Osceola Landing.

The letter also addresses environmental and quality-of-life impacts. Concerns include wake-related shoreline erosion, excessive noise—particularly from high-speed boats and mud motors—and the use of high-intensity lighting during nighttime fishing, which can disrupt residents and wildlife. The environmental effects of mud motors in sensitive backwater areas are also noted.

In addition, the City emphasizes the importance of maintaining the river’s designated “Quiet” and “Natural” character, which reflects expectations of low noise, minimal disturbance, and a high-quality recreational experience.

A central theme of the letter is the need for improved compliance and enforcement. The City encourages increased National Park Service presence, clearer standards, and stronger coordination with local agencies to ensure existing regulations are effective.

Overall, Marine affirms its commitment to preserving the unique ecological and recreational value of the St. Croix River while working in partnership with the National Park Service.

Marine Supports Trail Plan: Letter Backed for Glacial Hills Corridor

The City Council in January approved a letter of support for the Glacial Hills Regional Trail long-range plan, led by Washington County. The Glacial Hills Regional Trail is a planned multi-use, paved regional trail that would run east-west through northern Washington County, connecting key destinations including the Hardwood Creek Regional Trail, Big Marine Park Reserve, William O’Brien State Park, and potentially Marine on St. Croix as part of the regional system.

By endorsing the County’s planning process, Marine signaled its interest in being part of the regional trail, while noting that the City expects to be involved as the planning process becomes more detailed. This ensures that the City can weigh in on issues such as safety and visitor traffic that could impact the planned pathway. The trail is currently in the long-range planning phase, with alignment options and design standards still being refined.

Council members noted that being part of the Glacial Hills corridor plan will improve connectivity with existing trails and regional destinations for residents and visitors alike. Further updates on the trail planning process will be shared as the County advances its draft recommendations and opportunities for public engagement become available.

FIRE & RESCUE TURNS 140

Join Marine Fire & Rescue for an open house to celebrate 140 years of service to our community.

Friday, April 10, 6-8 pm
Fire Hall • 160 Judd St.
• Cake • Refreshments •



★★★ MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

Oakland Cemetery
• Monday, May 25 •
• 10:30 am •

STREET DANCE JUNE 20

• 5:30 PM • DOWNTOWN •

• Food • Beer •
• Kyle Tennis and The Riverside Hitmen •
All proceeds benefit Marine Fire & Rescue

Shaping Marine's Future: 2050 Pre-Plan Survey

The City of Marine on St. Croix recently surveyed the community to gauge interest in helping guide long-term planning through the City's 2050 comprehensive plan.

Often shortened to "comp plan," this document serves as a roadmap for Marine's future and is typically updated every decade with a 20- to 25-year outlook. It helps guide decisions related to land use, housing, transportation, natural resource protection, and community services. While not regulatory on its own, the comprehensive plan informs policies, investments, and zoning decisions over time. The process includes data analysis, community engagement, and input from local boards and commissions, with multiple opportunities for residents to participate.

Survey responses reflected a desire to share input from time to time through online surveys, community meetings, and reviewing draft ideas. A small group expressed a desire to serve on a subcommittee.

Of the 67 who responded, land use was the topic of most interest, followed by parks and trails, housing, and natural systems (ecosystem services such as forests and wetlands). For keeping residents informed, email emerged as the preferred mode of communication.

The survey will serve as an early foundation for the City's 2050 planning process, helping align expectations for levels of participation and communication. Additional opportunities for public input will be available as the process continues.



Answers to, "What parts of Marine's future are you most interested in sharing your thoughts on?" Land use was the topic of most interest, followed by parks and trails, housing, and natural systems.

Mayor's Column

A CHORUS OF VOICES

One of the defining strengths of our community is the willingness of our residents to engage, share, and shape the future together. **In a place like Marine on St. Croix, every perspective adds depth and meaning to the story we are writing as a city.**

Recently, many of you participated in the 2050 Pre-Plan Survey. Thank you for taking the time to share your insights and priorities. The results, summarized in this newsletter, reflect a thoughtful and engaged community, and they will help guide the early stages of our long-term planning. There will be additional opportunities ahead to stay involved as this work continues to take shape.

We also invite you to lend your voice to the Watershed Community Survey (see story, page 5). This effort focuses on the health and stewardship of one of our most important shared resources, and your input will help inform decisions that impact our environment and quality of life.

Whether you have lived in Marine for one month, one year, a decade, or a lifetime, your input is valuable. Newer residents bring fresh perspectives, while long-time community members carry deep knowledge and history. Together, these voices create a more complete and balanced vision.

Marine has always thrived because of its strong sense of community. When we come together as a chorus of voices—listening, sharing, and contributing—we ensure that Marine remains not just a place we live, but a community we actively build together.

Thank you for being part of it.

Mayor, Kevin Nyenhuis

FIRE & RESCUE SPOTLIGHT: BRENDA APP



Tell me a little bit about yourself.

I'm a mother of four and currently serve as the Camp Ranger at Kiwanis Scout Camp. I enjoy staying active and take pride in hands-on work. I love being outdoors and working hard to keep things running smoothly.

What motivated you to join Marine Fire and Rescue?

Growing up, my mother was an EMT, which inspired me from a young age to help others. I've always felt that giving back is one of the most meaningful things we can do, and volunteering in fire and rescue allows me to make a direct impact in my community.

How do you fit volunteering into your life schedule?

I'm fortunate to have a flexible work schedule, which helps a lot. That said, even if someone is only available on nights or weekends, there are always ways to contribute—every bit of time helps.

What have you learned on the department that has helped in your everyday life?

I've learned that it's not always about having the answers. Sometimes, being a calm and steady presence in chaotic situations makes the biggest difference. There have been calls where simply talking with and supporting a family member was the most important thing I could do.

What advice would you give someone who is interested?

Come join us for a few months and see if it's something you enjoy. It's a great way to learn, grow, and give back to your community.

Marine Fire & Rescue: 2025 Year in Review

The Marine on St. Croix Fire & Rescue Department remained busy in 2025, responding to 102 calls for service across the City of Marine and portions of May Township. Calls ranged from emergency medical assistance and vehicle accidents to fire calls, gas leaks, and downed power lines—many related to the severe weather event in July. Overall call volume and response patterns remained consistent with previous years.

The department also strengthened its capabilities this year with the addition of a new mini-pumper (Engine 2) designed to better navigate rural roads and long driveways while still delivering powerful firefighting capability. Firefighters and first responders completed more than 950 hours of training to maintain readiness for a wide range of emergency situations.

Beyond emergency response, the department stayed deeply involved in the community—hosting an open house for National Night Out, teaching fire prevention at local schools, supporting community events like the Street Dance, and participating in regional events such as the 343 Tribute Run honoring firefighters lost on September 11.

Interested in serving your community?

Marine Fire & Rescue is actively recruiting new volunteer firefighters and first responders for 2026. If you're looking for a meaningful way to give back, learn valuable emergency skills, and be part of a dedicated team, consider joining the department. Training is provided, and volunteers make a real difference in keeping our community safe.

Marine Community Library Spring 2026 Events

Registration for Marine Community Library's summer Science and Art Camp for elementary-age children will remain open until full.



Two one-week Camp Sessions in June, 9:00 a.m. to noon daily at the Marine Village School. Many of the activities will take place outdoors. Each day of camp, kids will experience different activities, with art and science instructors leading the campers.

Register: marinecommunitylibrary.org/event/2026-camp-registration/

Tune In: River Radio

- April 4, April 25, May 9
- 9:00 am - 11:30 pm



Save These Dates

- Author Talk: May 7
- Arrow Broken: May 28, June 12



Check marinecommunitylibrary.org/events for details.

Forest Advisory Committee Promoting Marine's Urban Forest

The Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) is gearing up for a new year of promoting Marine's urban forest.

April 24 is Arbor Day, created in 1872 to encourage people to plant trees. We will celebrate with the Marine Village School by handing out trees to students, hoisting the Arbor Day flag, and supporting other activities. Contact Kitsi Vadheim: klvadheim@hotmail.com or the City to volunteer.

We will populate our two gravel beds with a variety of trees so they can develop strong root systems before being re-homed as street trees in the fall. Chosen species are native and climate-adaptive trees likely to thrive in Marine.

Buckthorn control projects will continue in the hillside between Highway 95 and the Stone House Museum and other areas, providing opportunities for native species to replace invasive threats. Look for posted volunteer options.

We will also renew our Adopt-A-Tree program to care for trees planted in downtown areas. Volunteers care for one or a few trees in public spaces, helping ensure a healthy future for Marine's urban forest. Training provided. To join, contact Charlie Borden at mww00000@gmail.com.

New FAC members and tree enthusiasts are always welcome—contact Kitsi at klvadheim@hotmail.com.

Your Voice Matters: Watch for the Watershed Community Survey

We will soon be sending surveys to all residents in the watershed, and we want to hear from you! Your input truly matters. Past survey responses showed that most residents care deeply about the health of local waters, with many expressing strong concern about pollution and the long-

term condition of lakes and streams in our area. By participating in this new survey, you can help ensure that future decisions reflect the values and priorities of the community.

When your survey arrives, please take a few minutes to complete and return it. Every

response helps provide a clearer picture of what matters most to the people who live, work, and enjoy the natural resources in our community.

Thank you for your partnership in protecting and improving the quality of our water resources.

LET'S CONNECT AT MARINE MILLS FOLK SCHOOL



Spring is here, and we have 90+ classes to choose from!

That's 90+ invitations to step outside,

try something new, and experience the power of creating and connecting with others here in the beauty of the St Croix River Valley.

In April we are excited to kick-off our monthly Foraging Walks with Heather Mashuga, explore the outdoors with the new series, Kids in Nature led by Megan Connors, and welcome back renown artisan Linda Conroy to lead workshops in Cheesemaking and Goat Milk Soap Making. In May we introduce Spring Birding with Michael Karns who will also teach Therapeutic Mushrooms + Functional Fungi, and Carl Wegener's popular Beginning Photography for Kids where each student leaves with new skills and their very own refurbished digital camera! In June we are thrilled to offer our Paddle Making workshop with Mayor Kevin Nyenhuis! There is something for all ages and all skill levels at MMFS! Visit www.marinemillsfolkschool.org for the complete class schedule and to register.

A sampling of spring classes:

- Botanical Illustration – April 11, 11am - 2pm
- Grow Your Own Shitake Mushroom Log – April 11, 12 - 3pm
- From the Garden: Herbs and Goat Milk Soap Making – April 12, 9:30am - 3:30pm
- Kids in Nature (ages 3-8) – April 25, 9:30 - 11am
- Foraging Walk (all-ages) – April 25, 11am - 1pm
- Beginning Photography for Kids (ages 9-14) – May 9, 12 - 4pm
- Foraging Dandelions: Identification, Remedies & Recipes – May 9, 11am - 2pm
- Spring Birding – May 16, 9:30am - 2:30pm
- Song Circle (all-ages)– May 16, 11am - 2:30pm
- Paddle Making 3-Day Workshop – June 5, 6, 7

Let's connect and celebrate the return of plants, migrating birds, the joy of gardening, mushrooming, building with our hands, and paddling the lakes and rivers!

See you at the Folk School!

MARINE RESTORATION SOCIETY PROGRESSIVE DINNER

JUNE 6

If you are a Marine resident (you probably are if you get this newsletter) you will receive an invitation to the annual Marine Restoration Society Progressive Dinner, to be held on June 6, 2026. This is a popular event to gather and socialize with Marine friends and neighbors. The key to its success is the willingness of folks to host courses! It can work well to collaborate with another household to share the experience. The emphasis is on the socializing, so don't feel you must prepare a gourmet meal. Anything is acceptable. Please consider this key role, especially if you haven't hosted in the past.

Also, please consider attending even if you haven't attended in the past or for a while. We want to see you! Watch for your invitation around mid-April.

STEWARDS OF MARINE MILLS HISTORY

Minnesota Spring is upon us! Over the winter, the Stewards of Marine Mills History dug into the Twin Cities Art Care Grant Project Report and are prepping a five-year course for maintenance and enhancement of the museum spaces and collection.

With the work ahead of us, we are searching for intrigued community members who show interest in filling one of the open positions on our Board.

Since our first season hosting the Stonehouse in 2023, the Stewards of Marine Mills history are once again in a perennial push for volunteers and would love to see multi-generational family groups as hosts. We are certain you will have an enjoyable three hours whether you host at the Stonehouse of Old Settler's Cabin.



Scan the QR code to sign up for a shift!

SPRING CLEANING FOR HOME AND YARD

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 2

Heavy Metal Day

9 am—noon, Saturday, May 2

Collection will be behind Security State Bank at the Wayside Park. You can find the list of items that will be collected, along with their prices, posted on the bulletin board in front of the Village Hall and on the City's website.

Shred Day

9 am—noon, Saturday, May 2

Security State Bank will be sponsoring a "Shred It" day. There will be a truck available for paper shredding in front of the Bank.

PLANNING A BONFIRE OR PRAIRIE BURN?

You must obtain a permit before burning any pile larger than 3x3, the size of a typical campfire.

Spring burning restrictions are in effect, so check the DNR burning permit page (dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/questions.html) or call the city office for the latest.

When spring burning restrictions are on, no burn permits will be issued without a variance from the DNR. However, 3x3 campfire-size recreational fires are still permitted.

Once restrictions are lifted, you must obtain a permit from the city office before burning any pile larger than 3x3.

Getting a Permit

The City Administrator issues burn permits 8am-3pm Monday through Thursday.

The cost per permit is \$8 for piles or \$40 for a prescribed burn permit. Each permit is good for up to 3 consecutive days. Burning must take place between 6pm — 8am.

Before burning, check the DNR's website for current restrictions. You must also notify the Washington County Sheriff's Office when you are going to burn.



COMPOST SITE

The city is planning to open the compost site in mid April.

Keep an eye out for postings, should the date change due to circumstances such as weather.

- **OK to bring:** leaves, grass, and sticks under four inches.
- No limbs or trunks in leaf pile.
- **No garbage bags.** Please take paper and plastic bags home with you.
- **No trash.** Please keep all glass, metals and plastics out of the compost.
- The compost site closes during inclement weather.



HOURS

Wednesdays

Noon to 7pm

Saturdays

9am to 4pm



CITY TRAILS: LET'S TAKE CARE

City trails are **motor free** year round with an exception for ADA mobility devices.

Look for temporary signs stating specific modes of transport not allowed, such as bicycles or horses. These are typically out when the ground is soft.

Dog walkers: Remember to bring a bag to clean up after your pooch. Then, throw the bag away in a trash bin.

DNR shares reconstruction plan for Lake Alice at William O'Brien State Park

Replacing water control structure and dredging public water access planned for 2026 and 2027

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will move forward with a plan to replace Lake Alice's 1960s-era water control structure at William O'Brien State Park.

A damaged valve caused a lake draw-down in August 2025, prompting the DNR to evaluate options and develop a replacement plan.

"A total replacement is the most cost-

effective, sustainable and long-term solution," said Laurel Quill, DNR Central Region Parks and Trails manager.

Recreation on Lake Alice will not be available until the project is finished. The park's river access is expected to remain open, as conditions allow, through 2026.

The estimated \$325,000 project includes dredging at the public water access to remove sediment from the drawdown.

- Winter 2026: Design
- Summer 2026: Permitting, surveys, and field work
- Spring 2027: Construction and dredging begin
- Fall 2027: Completion

The DNR will continue to share updates at www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/lake-alice-construction.html

ROADWORK: Crack Filling, Seal Coating in Rose's Addition, Jackson Meadow

FROM PAGE 1

2026 Maintenance Project (Crack Filling and Seal Coating): Wilke, Rosabelle, Rose, Holmes, Berkey St., and in Jackson Meadow.

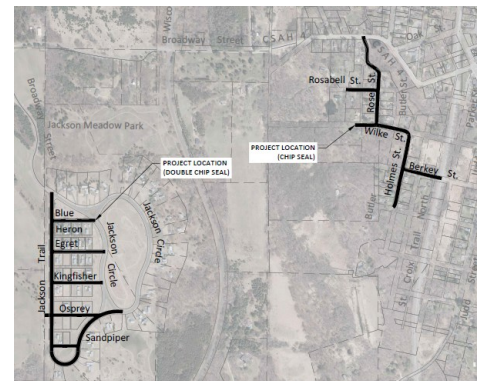
Jackson Meadow was scheduled for full pavement replacement in 2032. In February, council members and city staff discussed options for addressing poor road conditions, ranging from low cost "band-aid" projects to larger scale paving projects. After weighing the impact of increased roadwork this year on future timelines, they settled on double chip sealing Jackson Trail, Blue Heron, Egret, Kingfisher, Osprey, and Sandpiper lanes this year, and moving full pavement replacement up two years, to 2030.

What residents should expect

Residents near the project areas should expect temporary disruptions during construction, including limited access and increased truck and equipment traffic. As the work schedule solidifies, neighborhood residents will receive notices with dates and details.

Budget

In March, City Council awarded the 2026 Street Improvement Project to R.E. Peterson Inc. for a total of \$159,099.50. This includes the base bid and an additional segment of Chestnut Street. The budget for the 2026 Maintenance Project is \$130,000; the project will be brought to Council in April to request approval to solicit quotes from contractors.



Double chip sealing roads in Jackson Meadow was added to the 2026 project. Full pavement replacement has also been moved from 2032 to 2030.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR DOG LICENSE

Stop by City Hall or mail this form with your dog's rabies certificate (not the rabies tag) and \$10 to renew. The City Code on pets is available on our website: www.marineonstcroix.org. See chapter 5.

City of Marine on St. Croix—APPLICATION FOR DOG LICENSE (\$10)

Name of Owner: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Name of Dog: _____

Male ___ Female ___ Color: _____ Breed: _____

Date of last rabies vaccination: _____ (enclose a copy of certificate from veterinarian)

Name of Vet Clinic: _____

Note: Dogs under 6 months of age are not required to be licensed.



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

2026 CITY COUNCIL, PLANNING COMMISSION AND STAFF

City Council

Mayor Kevin Nyenhuis 651-247-7399
Bill Miller 651-433-5354
Wendy Ward 651-301-0633
John Goodfellow 651-433-1494
Dan Willenbring 612-599-1219

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, Administrator
Suzanne Lindgren, Treasurer / Assistant Clerk
Tom Boesel, Public Works 651-755-2197
Rob Powell, Public Works
Maintenance Shop 651-433-5492

Planning Commission

Anna Hagstrom Kristina Smitten
Tim Casey Lisa White
Julie Warren

*Meetings are last Tuesday of each month
7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall and via Zoom.*

See marineonstcroix.org for links.

Get the newsletter via email:



If you're interested in receiving the newsletter electronically, email Treasurer / Assistant Clerk Suzanne Lindgren: asstclerk@cityofmarine.org

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

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