

OSAKIS INSIDER



Osakis City Office

14 Nokomis Street East, PO Box 486, Osakis, MN 56360

Hours – 8 am to 4:30 pm

Phone – 320.859.2150

Angela Jacobson– City Clerk– cityhall@cityofosakis.com

Lynnette Swenstad– Deputy Clerk – osakiscityls@arvig.net

Ila Anderson– Admin Assistant – osakiscityia@arvig.net

Website – www.cityofosakis.com

 Like us on Facebook – **City of Osakis MN**

(for updates on city announcements, notices and information)

City Council Meetings / 2nd Monday of the Month / 7:00 pm

Economic Development Authority Meetings / 4th Monday of the Month / 4:00 pm

Planning & Zoning Meetings / 3rd Thursday of the Month / 7:00 pm

Park Board Meetings / Last Tuesday of the Month / 9:00 am

All meetings are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall unless posted





PARK OSAGI IMPROVEMENTS

The City of Osakis is working with WSB Engineering on a DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant application to obtain funding to begin implementing the master plan that was approved in 2024. If the City is awarded the grant, the proposed improvements will include an open-air shelter, with a concession space, parking lot, splash pad, and an overlook area of Lake Osakis.

To watch for progress reports, please visit the city website under "About" and then Park Improvements - Park Osagi

If you are interested in making a donation to this project, there are easy ways to contribute!

Visit www.wcif.org/fund/ocf or Scan this QR Code



Or visit www.cityofosakis.com Go to "about" and then to Park Improvements - Park Osagi

LOOKING FOR A REWARDING SUMMER JOB?

The City of Osakis is currently hiring lifeguards for the 2025 summer swimming season at the public beach. Flexible hours & a friendly working environment. Wages are from \$14.50-\$16.50/hr depending on experience. Applications can be picked up at City Hall or found on the city website www.cityofosakis.com under resources/forms & applications.

APPLY SOON

The city will pay for training. For a full job description, stop by City Hall, 14 Nokomis St E.



2025 SPRING CLEAN UP DAY & HAZARDOUS WASTE PICK-UP

SATURDAY MAY 17TH, 9-11:00 AM - Osakis Liquor Store Parking Lot

If you are physically challenged **AND** are a resident of the City of Osakis and are unable to deliver items, please call the City Office at 895-2150 a week before the event to make arrangements.

Accepted items by West Central Sanitation

- \$25 per yard of general garbage (\$40 per pickup box)
- Appliances \$25.00 Electronics (TV - \$35.00)
- Computer/DVD/VCR \$15.00
- Microwave \$15.00 Mattress \$35.00
- Couches/Recliners \$25.00
- Tires (Car \$15.00 Truck \$20.00 Rims \$15.00)

Accepted items by Pope Douglas Solid Waste

FREE OF CHARGE

- Paints, auto chemicals, adhesives, cleaners, sealers, aerosols, poisons, garden chemicals, mothballs, fuels, mercury items, fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries & more!!

Proceeds go towards



4th of July Fireworks



WATER SAVING TIPS THIS SUMMER

For Your Lawn -

- Water your lawn or garden before 10:00 am to avoid water evaporation.
- A lush green lawn required 1 to 1 1/2 inches of water a week. Keep in mind to adjust water based on rainfall.
- Let your grass grow to about 2 inches in the summer, water loss will be reduced because the blades of grass will provide shade for the roots.
- Avoid watering when windy or in the heat of the day.
- Do not allow sprinklers to run unattended. Use a time as a reminder when it's time to move or turn off the sprinkler.
- Lawns that are frequently aerated absorb water better.
- High nitrogen fertilizers stimulate lawn growth and increase water requirements.
- Thatch build-up in a lawn can create a rapid run off situation. Every spring the lawn should be raked and dead grass removed.
- Mulch shrubs and other plantings so the soil holds moisture longer.
- Sprinklers throwing large drops in a flat pattern are more effective than those with fine high sprays.
- When possible, flood irrigated vegetables and flower gardens rather than using sprinklers. Irrigation allows deeper soaking with less water. Sprinklers result in high evaporation and loss of water.



ORDINANCE #55 CLEAR WATER REDUCTION

This Ordinance will be enforced.

1. All sump pumps must discharge outside, not into the sanitary sewer.
2. City inspections for compliance are required during property sales, new construction, and other specified conditions. Inspections are free until December 31, 2025, and certificates are valid for 5 years.
3. Property owners are responsible for necessary repairs and inspection costs. Non-compliance must be corrected within 30-90 days.
4. Sellers must disclose and correct violations before a sale unless the buyer assumes responsibility in writing.
5. Violations may result in monthly surcharges added to utility bills until corrected.
6. Temporary waivers can be requested, but additional fees will apply.
7. Failure to comply may result in penalties, public nuisance declarations, and abatement.
8. Appeals must be submitted in writing within 30 days of determination.
9. The City Council enforces and administers the ordinance to maintain public health and infrastructure.

NEW UTILITY BILLING LOOK

CITY OF OSAKIS UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
14 NOKOMIS STREET EAST - PO BOX 488
OSAKIS, MN 56360
PHONE (320) 859-2150

SERVE AT	DATE	METER READING		USAGE	AMOUNT	
		PREVIOUS	PRESENT			
AFTER	PAY				AMOUNT DUE NOW	ACCT. NO. AMT.

RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT

You will notice that your utility billing card looks different. We have upgraded our utility billing software. All the information will be the same. **Please note that you will pay the amount that is in the "Amount Due Now" section.** This will include current charges, past due amounts and late fees. When making your payment, please **return with your payment, the right side of card to ensure proper credit to your account.** If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 320-859-2150.



OSAKIS MUNICIPAL LIQUOR ON & OFF SALE



803 Nokomis Street East, Osakis, MN
Manager: Troy Benning

ON SALE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 10 AM - 10 PM
Friday & Saturday: 10 AM - 1 AM
Sunday: 11 AM - 6 PM

OFF SALE HOURS

Monday - Saturday: 10 AM - 10 PM
Sunday: 11 AM - 6 PM

*Come in and check out
your favorite beers,
wines, liquors and
liqueurs, all at
competitive prices.*

New Happy Hour! ½ price drinks - 7 days a week from 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Meat Raffles: Fridays starting at 6:00 PM
Bargo: Saturdays starting at 7:00 PM

LOOK FOR SALE ITEMS ON OUR BEER AND WINE!

OSAKIS FIRST RESPONDERS & OSAKIS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

BE A PART OF SOMETHING GREAT!!!



The City of Osakis is very lucky to have such an amazing group of volunteers to be the first to arrive at your medical emergency, fire, or rescue. They are all extremely devoted to the well-being of the residents of Osakis. If you would like to become a First Responder, please contact City Hall for an application.



The Osakis Fire Department will be having a Pancake Feed on **May 4th from 8 am to 1 pm** at the Community Center. Come join us to show appreciation for all they do!

BUILDING & ZONING PERMIT

If you are planning on doing any building or remodeling of your property, **remember** Building & Zoning permits are **REQUIRED** in the City of Osakis.

- Contact city hall for information regarding our zoning ordinances, site plans, forms and permits.
- This information may also be found on our city website at www.cityofosakis.com.



No construction may begin without first securing a building permit from the city. If a permit is not received prior to starting the project, the permit fee will double and \$1,000.00 fine may be charged. It is always a good idea to check with City Hall prior to any work being done to make sure a permit is not required.

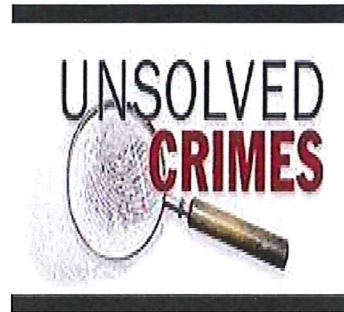
This includes approval of the building permit and payment to the city.



OSAKIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

**** HELP US HELP YOU! ****

We need the public's assistance in keeping this amazing town safe.
 If you see something suspicious or dangerous DIAL 911!
 If you have information that can help solve a crime please contact
 the Osakis Police Department at 320.859.2550. You can
 also report discreetly via email at: osakispd@midwestinfo.net
 or Osakis Police Department Facebook Messenger



DOG LICENSE & ORDINANCE

All dogs are required to be licensed annually by **May 1ST** (*Ordinance 93.21*)
 Dogs must have current rabies vaccination date on file with the City of Osakis.
 License fees: Male \$15.00 Female Spayed \$15.00 Non-Spayed \$20.00
 Dog owners are asked to keep their dogs from running at large & barking
 habitually day or night. (*Ordinance #93.20 & 93.22*)
 If violated, there is **\$100.00** fine for no dog license or if the dog is running at large.

VACCINATION CLINIC - DOGS ONLY

April 16th from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Ed Pollard Community Center
 Rabies \$24.00; Distemper/Parvo/Lepto \$24.00; Lyme \$44.00; Bordetella \$24.00



CITY OF OSAKIS ORDINANCES & RULES



BUILDING MAINTENANCE & APPEARANCE: It is the intention of the Osakis Police Dept to maintain the appearance of the City of Osakis for all the residents to enjoy. After the City-Wide Cleanup Day, properties that remain in violation of *Ordinance #90.21* will be reviewed and subject to a citation.

(for improvements see the enclosed **Community Housing Assistance Grant Program** for information)

INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLES: Motor vehicles that are not in running order or are not legally licensed are considered an inoperable motor vehicle according to the city ordinance. Violators will be prosecuted (*Ordinance #90.20*)

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PERMITS: Permits are issued by the Osakis Police Department.

- One time permit fee of \$20.00 and a copy of your insurance policy will be required.

Recreational vehicles can be driven on designated streets by permit only (*Ordinance #73.12*)

NUISANCE PARKING & STORAGE: The outside parking & storage on residentially-zoned property of a large number of vehicles, materials, supplies or equipment not customarily used for residential purposes is in violation. (*Ordinance #90.19*).

- Obstructs views on streets & private property
- Decreases adjoining landowners' and occupant's enjoyment of their property
- Creates cluttered and otherwise unsightly areas
- Prevents the full use of residential streets for residential parking

OSAKIS ZONING ORDINANCE: All Zoning Ordinances must be followed. Once a zoning violation has been reported, it will be investigated and if found to be a valid violation, a letter will be sent out. If the violation has not been rectified a citation may be issued. (*Chapter 153 of the Osakis Ordinances*)

CAMPFIRES: Over 3 ft x 3 ft needs to have a fire permit issued by the local Fire Warden.

LAWN MAINTENANCE: It is the responsibility of any owner or occupant of any lot or parcel of land to maintain any grass growing thereon at a height of not more than 6 inches. If any owner or occupant fails to assume this responsibility and after notice given by the city has not, within 7 days of the notice complied, the city may cause the work to be done and the expense thus incurred shall be lien upon the real estate. (Ord #90.39)

PERMIT TO PURCHASE: This form can be obtained at the Osakis Police Department or on the city website at www.cityofosakis.com



2025 MINNESOTA HOUSING CITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

The City of Osakis is excited to partner with Minnesota Housing to make homeownership affordable to more people in Osakis!

Check the City of Osakis website at www.cityofosakis.com to check out all the different housing programs available: Affordable Homebuyer Loan programs, Downpayment & Closing Cost loans, Energy Efficiency Upgrades Affordable with Fix Up programs, Improve Your Home with Fix Up programs. Also, check out the Start Smart with Homebuyer Education or visit www.mnhousing.gov



**Make Home
A Reality**

Learn more:

📞 800.657.3769

🌐 mnhousing.gov

 MINNESOTA HOUSING

 Minnesota Housing is not a creditor and does not originate loans.

HOUSING FUND GRANT

This is available to qualified citizens of Osakis who live in the portion of town in Douglas County to rehabilitate existing homes that need exterior remodel/improvements, demolition or acquisition or even to help build a **BRAND-NEW** Home!

GRANT MATCHING PROJECT MAXIMUMS
\$5,000 TOWARDS TEAR DOWN ON A LOT
\$10,000 TOWARDS REMODELING COSTS
\$25,000 TO BUILD A NEW HOME IN OSAKIS

INCOME LIMITS FOR 2025 (will be updated April 1, 2025)

family size: **1-2** /household income to qualify: **\$111,800**
 family size: **3+** /household income to qualify: **\$128,570**

For more information or to pick up an application stop at
 City Hall - 14 Nokomis St. East, Osakis, MN.

Or fill out an application on-line at www.cityofosakis.com. Click on Economic Development, then Incentive programs and Grants, then scroll down to Community Housing Program.



The City of Osakis
 encourages residents
 of Osakis in Douglas
 County to participate.

COMMUNITY HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The City of Osakis and the Osakis Economic Development Authority will be partnering with Habitat for Humanity to build a home in Osakis. Please contact Denise at Douglas County Homeowner Services Coordinator with **Habitat for Humanity** with any questions at **320-762-4255**.



Habitat homes are a hand-up not a hand out. Habitat homebuyers help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. People partner with Habitat to build or improve a place they can call home. Homeowners achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and their family. To apply or see the criteria, visit their website at: www.hfhdouglascounty.org

Mayor's Insider Message

Stephanie Finnegan, Laura Backes, Mayor Judy Dvorsak, Tim Thornbloom, Randy Anderson



Happy Spring, isn't it amazing as the trees bud and grass turns green our spirits are all lifted?

The Council and I are happy to announce our March meeting was our first livestream. We did run into a minor glitch, but it was fixed pretty quickly. Technology today is so amazing. You will be able to access the meeting on multiple devices: smart phone, iPad, laptop, computer or even TV (if it has that capability). The meetings and recordings are being broadcast on YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/@cityofOsakis-x2n>. There is also a link to the meeting on the City of Osakis website. We have also expanded with the agenda to include a cover sheet for any items under new and old business on the city website.

The Park Osagi renovation is gaining traction with a significant donation from the Olson Family. Next step, submission of the grant application for the MN DNR Recreation Grant. Barring any obstacles, construction is slated to start the spring of 2026. The new pavilion and amenities will be a great venue to be utilized for any type of event. It will be a beautiful addition for Osakis residents, visitors and surrounding communities.

Spring clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, May 17, 2025. There is additional information on page 2 of this newsletter. It is an excellent opportunity for us to dispose of all those items cluttering up our garages or basements. We are happy to accept a request from Osakis Lakes Area Association to partner with us on this project.

Thank you to all the people that volunteer! Fire Fighters and First Responders that unselfishly are there to help us in an emergency. Multiple organizations and people that work together to plan, promote and execute the many events hosted annually. If you are interested in learning more about an organization or wanting to volunteer, please reach out to City Hall 320-859-2150.

On a personal note, I would like to express my appreciation to the council for helping me navigate through the process as your new Mayor. Also, thank you to the council and community members who have graciously answered my questions for a deeper understanding.

Have a wonderful summer! Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Fire Department Pancake Breakfast feed on May 4th. Watch the Osakis Chamber of Commerce Facebook page for more information on this year's events including the Osakis Festival and Taste of Osakis.

Thank you,
Judy Dvorsak
Mayor of Osakis

"TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY WHERE WE LIVE AND WORK"

Check out the city website at www.cityofosakis.com for information on everything from the City Council, EDA Minutes, construction, demolition permits, housing grants, upcoming events and much more.





February 2025 - January 2026

Every-Other-Week

Commingled Recycling

Guidelines

Your recycling is single sort; you can place all items together in your container. They do not need to be sorted. Recycling cart may include the items listed below. Please set your cart out by 6:30 a.m. on collection day following these placement guidelines:

**** Wheels should point toward your house, away from the street. Cart should be 1 foot from curb, not the street. Cart should be 3 feet from any other obstructions such as mailboxes, trees, poles, etc. No bungee cords on the lid. IF IN DOUBT, NOTICE THE CART'S POSITION AFTER SERVICE AND PLACE IT THE SAME WAY EACH WEEK.**

ALUMINUM AND TIN CANS – Includes small scrap pieces of clean aluminum. Labels may remain on cans.

GLASS – Please rinse. All colors of glass are accepted. Labels may remain on glass. **NO BROKEN GLASS!**

PLASTIC– Please rinse. Labels may remain on containers. Items with #1, #2 and #5 in the recycling triangles are acceptable.

PAPER PRODUCTS/PAPERBOARD –

This includes newspaper, ad inserts, magazines, catalogs, mixed residential mail and paperboard. (Paperboard includes items such as cereal, snack and tissue boxes as well as paper grocery bags.)

CARDBOARD– Can accept small amounts of cardboard. No pizza boxes. Please break down cardboard to prevent it from getting stuck in your container.

Please discard items not recyclable as trash.

**** These items are not recyclable! ****

Styrofoam containers, waxed or food contaminated paper, drinking glasses, windowpanes, light bulbs, broken glass, paper towels and aerosol cans.

Feb 2025						
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**WEST CENTRAL
SANITATION
1-800-246-7630**



OPTIONS ARE GOOD!!!!

YOU HAVE OPTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR MONTHLY UTILITY BILL WITH THE CITY OF OSAKIS

- 1ST OPTION** – Pay with check or cash. Either mail, drop off during business hours or put in the after-hours drop box
- 2nd OPTION** – Pay on line at www.cityofosakis.com (no extra fee to pay this way)
- 3rd OPTION** – Fill out the form below and turn into City Hall to have the payment taken directly out of your account.

AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize the City of Osakis (the City) to make recurring charges for the amount due on the utility billing account(s) referenced below on the billing due date each month. Authorization is given for recurring charges to the checking or savings account listed below, and, if necessary, the City may initiate adjustments for any transactions credited/debited in error. Applications must be received by the 15th of the month, for the automatic payment draft to process as a prenote the next billing cycle and the following month automatic payments will be begin.

I agree not to dispute the City's recurring billing with my financial institution as long as the amount in question was for services rendered prior to cancellation of this agreement. I understand that if I have any problems or questions regarding my utility billing account(s), I should contact city hall for assistance. I agree to not dispute any charges form the City unless I have already made an effort, in good faith, to rectify the situation directly with the City and those efforts have failed.

I authorize this agreement to remain in effect until I provide written notice to the City of my intent to terminate this agreement. To ensure timely cancellation, I recognize that such notification shall be provided at least 30 days prior to the next scheduled transaction(s). Upon termination of this agreement, I will make alternative payment agreements.

I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of the U.S. law. I ask that the data provided in this agreement be handled by the City in accordance with Minnesota Data Practices Act.

I, hereby, guarantee and warrant that I am legal owner of this checking or savings account, and that I am legally authorized to enter into this recurring billing agreement with the City of Osakis.

I AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF OSAKIS TO INITIATE ELECTRONIC DEBIT ENTRIES TO	
<input type="checkbox"/> CHECKING ACCOUNT (or)	<input type="checkbox"/> SAVINGS ACCOUNT
For the payment of my utility bill(s)	
CUSTOMER NAME	UTILITY ACCOUNT NUMBER
ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER
SIGNATURE	DATE
FINANCIAL INSTITUTION ROUTING NUMBER	FINANCIAL INSTITUTION ACCOUNT NUMBER
FINANCIAL INSTITUTION AND PHONE NUMBER	FINANCIAL INSTITUTION CITY AND STATE

I understand I will receive a monthly statement indicating the payment amount that will be *drafted* from my account on the *10th of the month*.

PLEASE check here if you would like a copy of this document for your records.

Tennessean Warning: Under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (Minn.Stat. 13.548), your name, address, telephone number and e-mail are private data. You may choose not to provide some or all of this private data, but it may limit your ability to participate in this program. By signing, you are consenting to allow registration information to be shared with the City Clerk/Treasurer and other registered program participants in order to administer this activity. This consent expires upon completion of this activity.

www.cityofosakis.com

"A Friendly Place to Play and Stay"

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer