

# LAKE CRYSTAL CRYSTAL CLEAR NEWS

February 2026

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**February 16th**  
Presidents Day  
City Hall Closed  
Regular Garbage Pick-up



**February 18th**  
City Council Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

**March 2nd**  
Utility Bills Due to Avoid  
Late Fees



### City Information

Phone: 507-726-2538  
Website: [www.lakecrystalmn.org](http://www.lakecrystalmn.org)  
Hours: M-F 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
After Hours Emergency #:  
507-726-2260 wait for the answering  
service to pick up

### Library Information

Phone: 507-726-2726  
Hours: M-F 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Sat. 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

### Water Conservation During the Winter:

Winter can be a great time to think about water conservation! Be mindful of water use during extreme cold weather and always check your plumbing for any leaks that might be hard to spot in the winter months. A small drip can waste a lot of water and lead to higher bills.

### Water Conservation During the Winter:

With the cold of winter upon us, now is the perfect time to remind everyone to keep their water meters and utility access points clear of snow and ice. This helps prevent damage and ensures we can get to them quickly if needed. If you suspect frozen pipes or notice water main breaks, please report them to us right away.

### Avoid Freezing Pipes:

When temperatures dip below zero, your pipes may be at higher risk of freezing. To minimize this risk, keep your thermostat at 58 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, and consider keeping your faucets dripping overnight. This keeps water moving in the pipes.



### Energy Efficiency in Cold Weather

Winter bills can add up, but there are simple ways to keep costs down. Weatherproof your windows and doors, use a programmable thermostat to control heating, and add extra insulation to keep your home cozy and energy-efficient this winter.

Are you moving  
soon?

Do not forget to  
stop up at City Hall  
to fill out your  
Move in or Move  
Out from.



## City Code Chapter 96, Section 3: Snow & Ice Removal Reminder

Property owners and occupants are responsible for clearing snow and ice from sidewalks in front of or next to their property within 24 hours after a storm ends. If sidewalks are not cleared within that time, the city may remove the snow and ice and bill the property owner for the cost.

If you would like more information on any of the city ordinances, a full version can be found online at: [www.lakecrystalmn.org/code](http://www.lakecrystalmn.org/code) and click on 'Code of Ordinances'. If you have further questions, contact city hall.

### Winter Parking Rules

#### City Code Chapter 71: Use of Highways, Streets, and the Like

##### SECTION 12: WINTER PARKING

It is unlawful to park or leave a vehicle standing on any street or right-of-way between the hours of midnight – 10:00 a.m. after a snowfall of two (2) or more inches, or when blowing or drifting snow warrants snow plowing. The City of Lake Crystal will make an announcement via **City of Lake Crystal Facebook** when a "Snow Emergency" is declared.

**Procedure:** After a snowfall of two (2) or more inches, or when blowing or drifting snow warrants snow plowing, Lake Crystal Police Officers will carry out the following procedure in the event vehicles are still parked on municipal roadways within the City of Lake Crystal, while City Street & Maintenance Department employees have begun plowing snow. The City Street & Maintenance Department, in cooperation with the Lake Crystal Police Department, asks for Lake Crystal residents to please park vehicles off the streets when 2 inches or more snow is forecast

Any police officer is authorized to have a motor vehicle that is parked in violation of this section removed at the owner's expense. No vehicle will be released until all applicable towing charges and impound fees have been paid in full. The City of Lake Crystal does not assume any responsibility for any damage done during towing or impounding of said vehicle.

**Fees and Vehicle Retrieval:** Towing fees will vary by the towing company used. Once a vehicle has been towed, city hall will be notified of the towing company used. Those who have been towed may contact city hall for contact information. It will then be the vehicle owner's responsibility to contact the company and arrange for payment and retrieval of the vehicle.

#### **Parking Ticket: \$50.00**

Please allow 10 days from the date the citation was issued before making payment (online, phone, or regular mail).

Fine Info Only: 507-304-4666 (back of citation)

Courthouse Office: 507-304-4650 (back of citation)

Other options (Online, phone, or regular mail):

[www.mncourts.gov](http://www.mncourts.gov) 1-800-657-3611 651-281-3219 (Metro)

#### **Mail and make checks payable to:**

MN Court Payment Center, PO Box 898, Willmar, MN 56201

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Written Warning 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Ordinance Violation Citation 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Ordinance Violation Citation and Vehicle Towed.** \*\*\*Any subsequent offense will equal another citation and vehicle tow. \*\*\*

#### **APPROVED CITY LOTS TO PARK IN DURING SNOW REMOVAL**

1. Parking lot at the corner of Humphrey St. & Murphy St.
2. Robinson Park Boat Landing

If you have questions or concerns about this notice, please contact the Lake Crystal PD at 726-2056 or City Hall at 726-2538.

PLEASE HELP: If you see a fire hydrant buried in snow, please shovel 3 feet around it for the safety of you and your neighbors.

**CITY OF LAKE CRYSTAL  
COMPOST SITE**

**CLOSED  
FOR THE YEAR**

**REOPENING IN  
APRIL 2026**