



CITY OF BIG LAKE

August 2026 Newsletter

Working Together to Keep Water Systems Safe

You may notice City crews working in the streets opening manholes, cleaning sewer lines, or accessing valve boxes in the roadway. These activities are part of routine maintenance that helps keep our water and wastewater systems operating reliably and prevents costly emergencies.

Sewer Cleaning Keeps Wastewater Flowing

One important maintenance activity is sewer jetting, which uses high-pressure water to clean debris, grease, roots, and sediment from sewer pipes. By regularly cleaning the sewer system, crews help reduce the risk of sewer backups and overflows that can affect homes, businesses, and the environment.

Exercising Water Valves Improves Reliability

Crews also perform routine gate valve exercising. This involves locating and operating water valves in streets to ensure they function properly when needed for emergencies, repairs, or fire protection. Regular valve maintenance helps to improve system reliability, reduce water service interruptions, allows crews to isolate water main breaks more quickly, and extends the life of critical infrastructure.

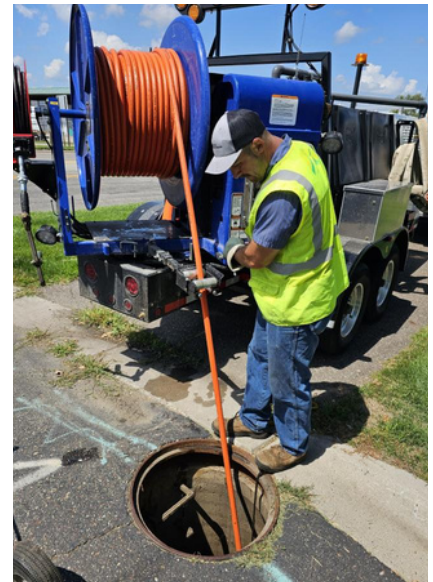
Drivers Play an Important Role

Many of these activities take place in active roadways where workers are only a few feet from moving traffic. Your attention and caution can make a significant difference in keeping everyone safe. Please remember to:

- Slow down and follow all traffic signs and directions.
- Give workers and equipment plenty of room.
- Never move cones, barricades, or warning signs.
- Stay off your phone and avoid distractions.
- Be aware that manholes may be open and hoses may extend across work areas.

Thank You for Your Patience

While maintenance activities may cause brief delays, they are essential to protecting public health and maintaining reliable water and wastewater services. We appreciate your patience as crews work to keep these critical systems operating safely and efficiently. A little extra caution in work zones helps ensure that workers, drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians get home safely!



Movie in the Park Series

Friday, September 4 | Featuring Hocus Pocus at Lakeside Park

Free Admission | First Come First Served

Drive-in Parking Begins at 7pm | Movie Starts at Dusk: Approximately 8pm

Food Trucks: Hotdog Bar and Mason's Sno and More

*If inclement weather, movie will be rescheduled to Friday, September 11

Thank you to sponsors: Sherburne Wright Cable Commission, Big Lake Spud Fest, and MN Pest Elimination.

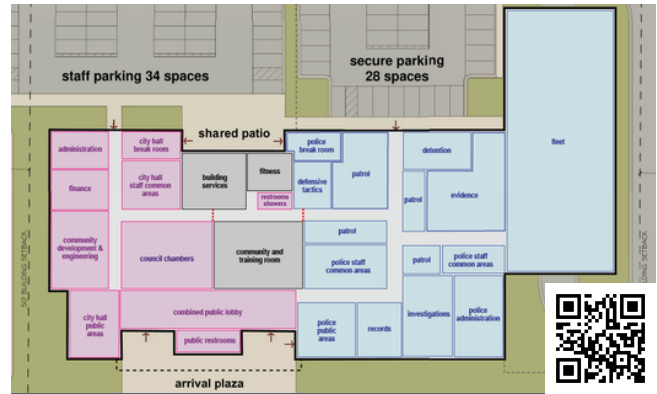




Summer Farmers Market

Don't miss the Big Lake Farmers Market at Lakeside Park! Open Wednesdays from 3-7pm from June to August and 3-6pm in September.

**Free Parking | Local Vendors | Live Music
Homegrown Produce | Food Trucks**



Public Safety Facility Project

Learn about the City's Public Safety Facility Project by scanning the QR code or visiting biglakemn.org. Subscribe for real time alerts when updates are added to the website. Note that the above visual is a concept design.

E-Bike Law and Safety Reminders

You may have seen electronic bicycles and foot scooters becoming more popular this summer. Did you know that the City of Big Lake has ordinances regarding rider safety?

Motorized Foot Scooters

- Riders under 12 years of age may not operate a motorized foot scooter on public property
- Riders under the age of 18 must wear a helmet
- Motorized foot scooters are not permitted on sidewalks and riders must follow all traffic laws

Electronically Assisted Bicycles

- Riders under 15 years of age may not operate an e-bike on public property
- E-bikes are not permitted on sidewalks and riders must follow all traffic laws

These ordinances are in place to keep the community safe. Violations to these rules may result in a misdemeanor citation. Please be mindful of your surroundings and of pedestrians this fall!

Pet Vaccination Clinic & Nitrate Testing

Saturday, August 29, 2026 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Lions Park | 21960 County Rd. 5, Big Lake

Dogs must be on a leash with secure collars or harnesses.

Cats must be in a carrier. Only cash accepted.

Canine one-year: Rabies: \$15, DHPP: \$20, Lymes: \$40

Feline: PRC \$20, Rabies \$15, FELEUK \$40.

Thank you to Barrington Oaks Veterinary Hospital!

Free Nitrate Testing for Well Water

- Allow water to run 5-10 minutes before filling a container with at least a 1/2 cup of water.
- All samples should be kept cold.
- You can bring more than one sample to compare water treatment process.

Thank you to Sherburne Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) & Minnesota Department of Agriculture! Questions? Contact Big Lake Township at 763-263-8111.

