



Ottertail News

New Billing System

The *Water Department* introduced a new billing system. The redesigned statements have a fresh, cleaner look! The city appreciates your patience during this transition.



Street Improvements & Fire Hall Expansion

The City of Ottertail will be making street improvements to *Ottertail Avenue* and *China Street* as part of ongoing efforts to maintain and improve city infrastructure. Planning and engineering work is currently underway. As the project progresses, residents may experience temporary traffic disruptions, lane closures, or construction-related noise. The City appreciates the patience and cooperations of residents and businesses during construction. These improvements will result in safer, more reliable streets that benefit the entire community. For further information, you can contact City Hall at otcity@arvig.net.

The City of Ottertail is also excited to share that planning is underway for the expansion of the *Ottertail Fire Hall*. Built in 1992, the current facility no longer meets the space and safety needs of modern equipment and operations.

This important project will help ensure our fire department has the space and resources needed to continue providing reliable and efficient emergency services to our community. We look forward to sharing more details as plans are finalized.

New Habitat Home Completed with a Second Project Planned for 2026

Fergus Falls Area Habitat for Humanity (FFAHFH) leads the charge along with community partners, volunteers, and donors, in strengthening communities



through helping families achieve their goal of stable affordable housing. The construction of a 3 bed/two bath home in Ottertail City located at *101 Arvilla Dr* has been completed and is now ready for a new family with FFAHFH assisting throughout the process.

A second Habitat home will be coming to Ottertail City in 2026, and Habitat will be looking for volunteers to help build an attached garage and finish the interior of the home. If you are interested in learning more about the completed home or volunteering for upcoming projects. Go to fabitat.org/volunteer or call (218) 736-2905.



Submitted by Adele Butenas

Mayor: Ron Grobeck • Council: Jill Carlson, Michael Windey, Jerry Martin, and Elizabeth Augustus
 Clerk-Treasurer: Amanda Thorson • Deputy Clerk: Patty Hensel • Maintenance Coordinator: Justin Lohse • Fire Chief: Joe Ahlfs
 Economic Development Consultant: Traci Nelson, Ryan Consulting • City Engineer: Bob Schlieman, Apex



Tri-City Junk Hop Shop

Treasure hunters and bargain seekers—mark your calendars! The 2nd Annual Tri-City Junk Jaunt returns Saturday, June 13th, 2026.

From Ottertail to neighboring communities, you'll find garages, yards, and sidewalks filled with antiques, collectibles, and unique treasures. Whether you're searching for something special or just love a good deal, there's something for everyone.

Watch for more details on the city website and Facebook. Want to be included? Contact City Hall at otcity@arvig.net or (218) 367-2250.

2025 CCR Available

You may request a copy or review of the CCR (Consumer Confidence Report) on the city website. The CCR is a report on the quality of the water you purchase from the city, which the city buys from Henning. The report comes from the regular testing that is done and sent to the MN Department of Health.

Yard Waste Disposal

Reminder to residents: leaves and other yard waste are banned from landfill disposal.

DO NOT PUT IN YOUR GARBAGE BIN.

You can drop yard waste off at the following locations (including brush up to 3" in diameter):

Pelican Rapids: 1101 9th St NW

Northeast NYM: 50356 Landfill Rd

Henning: 51122 Rocky Ridge Rd

Battle Lake: 36005 MN Hwy 210



Message from Fire Chief, Joe Ahlfs

As we head into the spring and summer months, the Ottertail Fire Department would like to remind residents to stay safe and prepared during this busy season. Warmer weather brings outdoor activities, grilling, campfires, and increased travel-while also raising the risk of fires and medical emergencies.

Please remember to:

- *Keep grills a safe distance from buildings and decks*
- *Never leave campfires unattended and fully extinguish them*
- *Test smoke detectors and replace batteries if needed*
- *Know your address location, especially at seasonal or lake properties*
- *Severe weather preparation*



We are proud to serve our community and appreciate the continued support of our residents!

Stay safe and enjoy everything summer has to offer in Ottertail.

Thank you, Ottertail Fire and Rescue



Trail and Park Etiquette: Let's Keep Ottertail Beautiful

The snow is finally gone, and warmer weather invites us outdoors, we ask everyone to help keep our trails and parks safe, clean, and enjoyable for all.

- *Keep pets on a leash and clean up after them*
- *Share the trail – be mindful of walkers, bikers, and families*
- *Stay on marked trails to protect both yourself and natural areas*
- *Dispose of trash properly or take it with you*
- *Respect posted signage*

Our trails and parks in Ottertail are a great asset, and a little courtesy goes a long way. Go out, enjoy the sunshine, fresh air, and all the beauty our community has to offer and thank you for doing your part to help keep these spaces welcoming for everyone to enjoy all season long.



I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE

Otters Around Town

If you've wondered though out town, you might have noticed a playful otter statue adorning the entrance of some of the city's business. The otter statues offer a fun photo stop and reflect on the whimsical spirit of our wonderful city. It is a delightful reminder of how art can brighten everyday life.

2026 Music in the Park

6:00-8:00 p.m. (note new time)

June 9th // Castaways

June 23rd // Todd Anderson/Elvis

July 7th // Blue English

July 21st // Rick Adams

August 4th // Kate Baker & Sam Babler

August 18th // Lucky Penny



Spring City Reminders

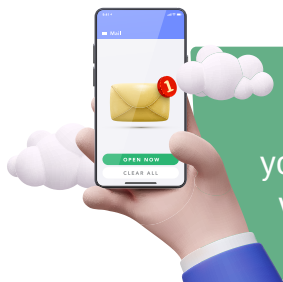
Golf Carts Need Annual Permits

As spring arrives, please remember that golf carts operated on city streets require a valid annual permit. Drivers must have a valid license, proof of insurance, and a \$25 fee. Stop by City Hall to obtain your permit before using public roadways.



RV Permits Required

In addition, RVs parked or used within city limits for more than 22 days per calendar year require a permit. This applies to all campers, trailers, and motorhomes. A \$100 fee, proof of insurance, and RV details are required. Contact City Hall or visit the city website for more information.



Would you like to receive this newsletter digitally to your email? Let us know and we'll set you up! Email us otcity@arvig.net!

Check the City's website for forms, ordinance changes, agendas, council minutes, public notices, and other city information. A copy of the approved minutes from city council meetings can also be requested by emailing otcity@arvig.net

City Hall (218) 367-2250 Community Center (218) 367-2252 Fire & Rescue (218) 367-2250 Sheriff's Department (218) 998-8555 Emergencies 911

The City of Otertail is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.

2026 CALENDAR

City Council Meetings

May 21	August 20
June 18	September 17
July 16	October 15

City Council Meetings generally take place at 5:30 p.m. on 3rd Thursday of every month at City Office unless otherwise posted. If you would like to be placed on the agenda, please contact City Hall prior to the Monday before the meeting and provide your topic or concerns.

Email: info@cityofottertail.com

City Events

City Wide Clean Up // June 6th
Household Hazard // June 11th
Tri-City Rummage-Sale // June 13th
3rd Annual Memorial Cheryl Romann Tractor Pull // June 27th
Annual Community Auction // July 18th
Demo Derby // August 7th
Otterfest // August 8th
 3:30-6 p.m. Kevin Klimek & the Sideliners
Otterdazzle // December 5th

Holidays Observed

Memorial Day
 May 25th
Juneteenth
 June 19th
Independence Day
 Observed July 3rd
Labor Day
 September 7th
Indigenous People's Day
 October 12th

THE CITY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED.

Bookmobile Schedule

Stops at **Marge's Diner** from 3:15 p.m. -3:45 p.m. For more information, visit viking.lib.mn.us/bookmobile.



April 14th
 April 28th
 May 12th
 May 26th
 June 9th
 June 23rd

Bridge Mobile Pantry

Comes from 11 a.m.–noon on the following dates at **Ottertail Community Center** (103 Lake Ave, Ottertail).

April 16th
 May 14th
 June 11th
 July 16th
 August 13th
 Sept 10th



www.thebridgepantry.org