



THE CITY OF CROOKSTON

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SPRING 2025

THE CITY OF CROOKSTON

Crookston City Hall:

124 N Broadway, Crookston, MN 56716
Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm
Phone: (218) 281-1232
www.Crookston.mn.us

Elected Officials:

Mayor

Dale Stainbrook: (218) 275-3684

City Council:

Kristie Jerde: 1st Ward / (218) 280-7578
Henry Fischer: 2nd Ward / (218) 280-4093
Clayton Briggs: 3rd Ward / (218) 289-4408
Donald Cavalier: 4th Ward / (218) 289-1776
Derek Brekken: 5th Ward / (218) 289-1805
Dylane Klatt: 6th Ward / (701) 740-7009
Morgan Hibma: At Large / (763) 913-1036
Tim Menard: At Large / (206) 723-6974

City Administrator

Jeff Shoobridge: (218) 281-1232

Important Phone Numbers

Building Inspections Department: (218) 281-5713
City Clerk's Office: (218) 281-4503
Charter Commission: (218) 281-1232
Crookston Municipal Airport: (218) 281-2625
Fire Department: (218) 281-4584
Finance Department: (218) 281-4503
Parks & Recreation: (218) 281-1242
Police Department: (218) 281-3111
Polk County Museum: (218) 281-2950
Public Works: (218) 281-1232
Water Department: (218) 281-5711



City Board & Commissions Meetings:

Monthly meetings unless noted.

Dates and times are subject to change.

- City Council: 1st & 3rd Monday of each month – 5:30pm
- Park Board: 2nd Monday of each month – 4:45pm
- Planning Commission Meeting – Third Tuesday of each month – 7:00pm
- Ways & Means Committee Meeting: 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - following city council meetings unless stated otherwise
- Economic Development Association Meeting: Last Tuesday of each month – 7:00am
- Charter Commission - Annually

City Council Meeting Viewing:

All City Council meetings are available for viewing on Channel 3 as well as livestreamed on the City of Crookston YouTube page. The City of Crookston YouTube page will also post the full recording of all City Council Meetings. All meetings are open to the public.

- Truth in Taxation – December 9th

City Offices Closed:

- April 12th at 12:00 pm - Good Friday
- May 26th - Memorial Day



Crookston City Council Highlights

Below is a highlighted summary of City Council Meetings that took place from December 2024 to February 2025. City Council meetings take place on the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month at Crookston City Hall in the Council Chambers.

December 2024:

Truth in Taxation

- Truth in Taxation took place and City Administrator, Jeff Shoobridge gave a presentation to the council and public, which included information on fund balances, what types of funds the city has, and which are available for what purposes. Also discussed was tax capacity, and its effects on city taxes. It was announced that the council was working with two options for deciding the budget. One option would be a 22.2 % levy without the pool, and the other option is 27.45% with the pool. There were several in attendance who came with their Polk County assessments and spoke to the council about the increases they are seeing. The council explained to those in attendance that anything that comes from the County must be taken up with the County.

Levy Increase

- City Council sets the levy increase at 27.45% which includes keeping the Crookston Community Swimming Pool operational. The levy without the pool would be 22.2%. The council moved forward with maintaining the pool as an operating facility. What that means in the short run is, the pool will still be open for 2025, and the tax rate is going to be a 27.45% increase to balance the budget. With those operating costs, the City does have to go to the maximum preliminary levy, but it will provide the ability to keep the pool functioning and open as an amenity for Crookston residents.

In-Kind Donation of 10-acres

City Council approved a resolution to approve the in-kind donation of 10 acres of the Industrial Park to Minnesota Northern Railroad. Minnesota Northern was awarded a grant by MnDOT to add a rail spur on the SE corner of the Crookston Industrial Park owned by the City of Crookston.

Cash Farm Leases

- City Council approved two cash farm leases. First, at the Industrial Park with BTB Farms at \$11,735.50 annually for two seasons, which began with the 2024 season. Secondly, around the Crookston Sports Center with Ryan Richman at a three-year lease starting with the 2025 farm season with the annual sum of \$16,500.

Amending MnDOT Contract

- City Council approved a resolution regarding amending MnDOT contract number 1053917 to ADA retrofit and lane reduction of Truck Highway 2. This means that SRF Contracting, Engineering Firm, will go back and do a study on the traffic lights to make sure the ones they would like to remove are validated as well as the ones they would like to keep. This study is at no extra cost to the city.

Subordination for Building Vision Crookston

- City Council approved a request for subordination for Building Vision Crookston, located at 509 North Main Street. The City of Crookston had a forgivable loan in the amount of \$40,000. Opticare requested that we subordinate our loan, which means we give up our higher priority for the loan. Given that this loan was of a forgivable nature, and to show Opticare that we appreciate them coming and rehabbing that building to beautify the area, the Council decided to approve that subordination.

Small Cities Development Program Rehabilitation Loan

- City Council approved a resolution for approving a Small Cities Development Program rehabilitation loan with respect to Gold Insiders, LLC, from local income. Some funds from the SCDP still needed to be spent down so that the city could receive funds for the upcoming year. It's an older building with exterior walls that are starting to deteriorate. It's a state funded loan that is forgivable after five years. We provide a portion, while the property owner provides the balance, and it funds them being able to upgrade and rehabilitate the older building.

Updates to City Calendar

- City Council adopted the 2025 calendar of City Council and Ways and Means meetings, which includes moving to the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month.

Wendy Ault

- A presentation was given, and Council Member Wendy Ault was honored for her service at her last meeting.

2025 Levy

- The 2025 Levy and 2025 budget were both approved. The approved levy was a 27.4% increase, totaling \$4,486,171 in tax revenue for the City of Crookston.

Council Approves \$1,198,000 Small Cities Development Grant

- On September 10, 2024, the City of Crookston was awarded \$1,198,000 from the Small Cities Development Grant (SCDG) from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). The Northwest Community Action Agency (NWCAA) has agreed to administer the grant for the City. The SCDG will fund the Rehabilitation of 16 owner-occupied properties, 13 commercial properties, and 10 rental units (in mixed-use properties) and activity administration.

5-Year Capital Improvement Plan

- The City of Crookston's 5-year capital improvement plan was unanimously approved by the Crookston City Council. Crookston got a grant from the State of Minnesota to help fund infrastructure improvements in the Industrial Park so we can start bringing in businesses and industrial entities to the City with the rail spur that the railroad is putting in. Also included is the Highway 2 Corridor Project, with the City of Crookston setting aside \$5 million for the project. The State of Minnesota Department of Transportation is covering most of the project which will accomplish a lot of the tertiary roads connecting Broadway and Main. Crookston has between \$9-12 million in the next five years to replace critical roads, cast-iron piping and replacing it with plastic.

cont. on page 4

Crookston City Council Highlights - continued from page 3

2025 Water Rates Increase

- The City Council unanimously approved the 2025 Water Rate increase. In the next five years, Crookston will have \$21 million in infrastructure costs and the rise in rates will allow the City to help fund the bonds the City will have to take out to replace the aging water and sewer lines so the city can continue to offer service to our residents moving forward.

IRP Loan Approved for Vertical Malt

- The IRP Committee met multiple times and forwarded a recommendation to approve a \$100,000 loan to Adam Wagner of Vertical Malt. The loan funds will be used to refinance existing debt, with a focus on securing more favorable terms to improve cash flow and support business growth. The council unanimously approved the loan.

January

Oath of Office

- An Oath of Office was taken for the elected City Council Members, Kristie Jerde, Clayton Briggs, Derek Brekken, and Morgan Hibma.

RRVWS Redevelopment Grant

- City Council approved a resolution authorizing the acceptance of the redevelopment grant for the Red River Valley Winter Shows. On September 27, 2024, the City of Crookston was awarded \$1,487,000 from the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development to complete the Winter Shows project. Kirschbaum says there is a lot of opportunity ahead with the project. "I'm excited for the opportunity to bring new business in. I'm excited for the opportunity to see the Red River Valley Winter Shows group continue their mission. I mean, they do so many great things."

Minnesota Department of Transportation's Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program

- City Council discussed the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program to the existing Fairfax Trail West along 3rd Ave SW, then north and northeast following Old Hwy 75 toward downtown. Crookston is looking to apply for a \$200,000 grant to cover the engineering costs for this project. All grants come with strings, and this one does not cover engineering. There is another federal grant that will cover up to \$200,000 in engineering. The total engineering and acquisition costs for the project are \$391,000, leaving the city to cover the cost of \$191,000. This is a scalable project, so as the city moves forward when they get the federal money match grant, they can then rescale the project to match. This way, if the city doesn't have a source for the other \$191,000, they can scale the project down a little to meet that and still be at zero cost to the city.

February

Presentation - Retail Trade Analysis

- The Crookston Economic Development Authority asked Rani A. Bhattacharyya, Community Economics Extension Educator for the University of Minnesota Crookston, to conduct studies that concluded with reports on retail trade analysis and a local option sales tax for the City of Crookston.
- Takeaways from the retail trade analysis report were that Crookston is underperforming in expected sales, and that Polk County has seen a decline in the number of businesses since 2011, from 616 to 573.
- Takeaways from the local options sales tax report were that 39.6% of sales in Crookston are derived from non-resident spending and what it would look like if a .50% sales tax was implemented and a 1.0% sales tax. Eating & drinking stores are the most significant contributor to taxable sales in Crookston; however, between 2021 and 2022, there was a -9.3 % decrease in those sales.

Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Daycare/Licensed Childcaare Facility

- Emily Ricard has a lease agreement with property owners and wants to run her daycare out of the property at 410 Ingersoll Avenue so she has more space and the possibility of adding additional children to her daycare program. The property is in a heavy Industrial zone, so per recommendation from the Crookston Planning Commission, Ricard was asking that she be allowed a conditional use permit to run her daycare from the property.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Classification and Compensation Study

- This study will ensure the City of Crookston is in good condition so they can recruit the best talent and to make sure that everyone employed with the City is compensated appropriately for their position. The process is anticipated to take nine to twelve months, and the study will cover all City employee positions. The council approved unanimously to put out an RFP for the study.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for the City of Crookston's Official Paper

- The City is required to name an official paper yearly that runs a weekly publication. The 7th of February was Crookston Times last publication, and they were the official paper for public notice purposes. There are state requirements to be an official paper for a city, so to be equitable to all publishers in the region, the City is going out for RFP rather than just selecting one at random.





Crookston Police Department

2024 Annual Awards Banquet

The Crookston Police Department recently hosted their 2024 Annual Awards Banquet. The awards banquet provides an opportunity to honor our local heroes for the outstanding service and sacrifices they make every day to keep our community safe. For an officer to receive an award, they must be nominated by a fellow officer. The nomination is then reviewed by the awards committee and ultimately approved by the Chief of Police. The following officers received the following awards:

- Ofc. Alex Rudnik – Officer of the Year, Police Combat Cross, Honorable Service
- Ofc. Nicholas Fladland – Medal of Valor, Honorable Service
- Ofc. Corey Rich – Duty Citation, Honorable Service
- Det. Sgt. David Grabowski – Excellence in Investigations
- Ofc. Cody Bannert – Five-year service award
- Polk County Deputy Matthew Bengé – Duty Citation
- Polk County Deputy Dylan Van Der Stad – Duty Citation
- Polk County Deputy April Hansen - Honorable Service
- MN State Trooper Taylor Zhajda – Duty Citation

Safety Awareness and Prevention

As summer nears, it is a time for everyone to enjoy the warm weather and activities to follow. Spring and summer are also times we see an increase in vandalism, vehicle break-ins, burglaries, theft, etc. The following is a list of what homeowners, residents, and citizens can do to help lower their risk of being a victim of a crime:

- Utilize motion detection lights and security cameras on your property
- Place a security sign in your front yard
- Get into the habit of locking your house doors and windows at the same time each night
- Keep your valuables out of sight
- Don't let mail or newspapers pile up while you are on vacation
- Don't post anything on social media indicating you are away from home
- Take your valuables out of your vehicle, roll up your car windows and sunroof, and lock the doors
- Do not leave your keys or proximity key fob in your vehicle
- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area
- Utilize vehicle alarms
- Be a good neighbor, if you notice anything suspicious in your neighborhood, call 911 immediately

Minnesota "Hands-Free" Law

Cell phones have become indispensable tools, providing essential connectivity for communication, information access, and emergency situations in modern life. However, cell phones are also a leading factor in traffic accidents.

Minnesota's "Hands-Free" law, which went into effect on August 1st, 2019, aims to reduce distracted driving by prohibiting drivers from holding their cell phones. While calls, texts, and navigation are permitted, they must be conducted via voice commands or single-touch activation.



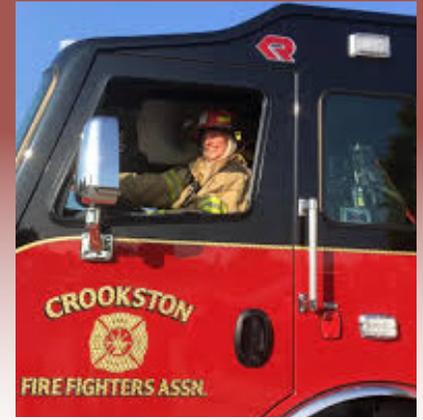
**HANDS-FREE
MINNESOTA LAW**
HandsFreeMN.org

To avoid cell phone use while driving in Minnesota, consider these tips:

- Activate your vehicle's Bluetooth
- Utilize a phone mount for navigation
- Silence notifications before driving
- Place your phone out of reach, such as in a glove compartment or back seat
- Pre-program your GPS route before setting off
- If you must make a call or send a text, pull over to a safe location

Even hands-free use can be distracting, so let's all work together to eliminate cell phone use while driving in an attempt to make our community roads as safe as possible.





Make This Spring a Safe One

Spring has sprung. Well, at least it's trying. Spring in the Midwest is lovely, but it's important to keep safety in mind as the weather warms and outdoor activities resume.

Nothing can ruin a beautiful spring day like an accident, so remember these tips as you head out:

Stinging Insects

The bugs are back, and a sting can cause an allergic reaction. If you're stung, remove the stinger with a quick scrape of a fingernail or credit card edge. Treat reactions, such as redness, swelling, itching or discomfort near the site of the sting, with cold compresses and antihistamines.



Seek immediate medical attention if you have tightness in your chest, difficulty breathing, swelling of your tongue, a hoarse voice, dizziness, nausea or a loss of consciousness.



Yardwork

Spring is the perfect time to clear your yard and landscaping of winter debris. Remember to wear gloves, goggles, sturdy shoes and long pants, especially around machinery.

Use hearing protection when operating machinery. If you have to raise your voice to talk to someone an arm's length away, the equipment noise can harm your hearing.

Sun Safety

The sun's rays in the spring can be surprisingly intense, especially if you've been indoors for most of the winter. When outside, remember to wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen, which should be SPF 30 or higher.



With the warmer weather, sun and outdoor activities, also comes the risk of dehydration leading to heat exhaustion or heatstroke. So, drink plenty of water and find shade on those warm days.

Smoke Detectors

The start of daylight-saving time is a good reminder to change the batteries in your home's smoke detectors. You should have a detector in each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on each floor of the house, including the basement. Swap out the batteries and test your smoke detectors when you move your clocks ahead one hour.



Spring Cleaning

You may feel motivated to clear some clutter or look for ways to make your house safer to navigate.



Keep these strategies in mind when cleaning to help avoid slips and falls:

Remove clutter.

Extra boxes, cords and rugs should be stored in a safe place. All of these and more are fall hazards. Keep your house — inside and out — well-lit. Dark rooms and areas pose greater risks than spaces with adequate lighting.

Use support as needed.

If you walk with a cane or walker, make sure you use it. Also use hand railings, seating and nonslip treads throughout your home. Don't forget to include your bathroom and shower area.

Household Chemicals on Shelves, Benches and Countertops are Another common, Overlooked Danger in the Home. Be Sure to:

- Store chemicals in original containers. If that's not an option, clearly label the bottle or can.
- Keep cleaners and other toxins out of the reach of children.
- Read warning labels.
- Follow safety instructions.
- Have Poison Control Centers phone number available: 1-800-222-1222.
- Properly dispose of expired, leaking or contaminated chemicals.
- Don't combine chemicals.
- Be diligent about handwashing after using cleaners and other chemicals.

Medication Safety

It's a good time to evaluate medications in your home. Always keep your medications in their original containers, except for those you place in a daily pill box. Use a pill box to help you take your medications as directed and always store medication in a safe place. Never take another person's medication, share yours, or take more or less of a medication than directed. Appropriately dispose of unused or unneeded controlled substances and all old medications.



Public Works

The City of Crookston is offering an optional Garbage and Recycling Bin Service with an anticipated start date of April 1st.

Service Details

Each household that signs up will receive:

- One 96-gallon garbage bin
- One 96-gallon recycling bin
- o Additional bins are available upon request

Garbage and recycling pickup days will be the same. This service is optional, and you may still:

- Purchase color bags for garbage collection (temporarily), or bring garbage to the transfer station
- Use blue city recycling totes (temporarily) or bring recycling to the transfer station
- o Colored garbage bags and blue recycling totes will be discontinued at a later date in 2025 after the garbage bin service is rolled out

Service Overview

- Trash Collection: Weekly
- Recycling Collection: Monthly
- Bin Type: 96-gallon carts for both trash and recycling

Cost Breakdown

- Base Fee: \$20.90/month (includes one trash & recycling bin - breakdown below)
 - o Trash: \$14.95 per cart
 - o Recycling: \$5.95 per cart

Service Acknowledgement

- The service is billed as a monthly fee that will be included on your utility bill.
- This service does not require the use of City of Crookston yellow or orange bags. Residents can use the garbage bags of their choice.
- You may cancel the service at any time.
- Bins with repairable damage (e.g., broken wheels or lids) will be repaired, not replaced.
- Only bins with unrepairable cracks, holes, or broken parts will be replaced.
- Scratched, dirty, or foul-smelling bins are not eligible for replacement.
- Bins damaged by resident negligence, vandalism, or causes not related to City operations will not qualify for free replacement, and replacement fees may apply.
- The City will replace bins damaged by City actions or its contractors at no cost to the resident.

To learn more and/or sign up, visit www.crookston.mn.us or call City Hall at (218) 281-1232 and ask for Public Works.

Building Department

The City of Crookston is proud to announce the launch of the construction portion of our new online permit and licensing solution powered by GOGov. This innovative platform is designed to simplify the process for citizens and businesses to apply for and receive permits and licenses from the convenience of their own homes.

Traditionally, applying for permits and licenses could be a lengthy and complicated process. With the launch of our new online platform, residents and businesses can now submit applications for various construction permits, and more, in just a few simple steps. This digital solution also ensures faster processing times, meaning applicants can receive their approvals in a more timely and efficient manner.

The City of Crookston is excited to add the Permit Application process through this new GoGov platform, with an anticipated start-up date of March 3, 2025. The startup of the construction permit applications is in conjunction with the GoGov Rental Registration Application process initiated earlier in 2025 by the Crookston Fire Department. Property owners, business owners, contractors and other interested parties can now submit building permit applications online. This application process ensures compliance with City ordinances and state of Minnesota Building Codes wherein reviews are completed in a more efficient and user-friendly way. Residential Building Permits (New or existing), Commercial Building Permits (New or existing), Plumbing Permits and Mechanical Permits will be typical form application requests, but Sign, Curbcut, Moving and other options are available via selections within the type of permit selected when filling out the application. By offering this online permit application option, we aim to make it easier for permit applicants to manage their responsibilities while contributing to the safety and quality of new construction built within the City of Crookston.

The link is here-

[//app.govoutreach.com/crookstoncitymn/public/permits](https://app.govoutreach.com/crookstoncitymn/public/permits)

The link can also be found on the City of Crookston website.



"The City of Crookston's employees are dedicated to modernizing our services provided to the residents of this city." said Greg Hefta, Building Official of the City of Crookston. He continued "Our general Construction Permit application process will help us work collaboratively with property owners, business owners, contractors and other parties to help ease both the construction review process and simplify the communications between city and applicants as construction initiates and progresses."

The City of Crookston invites all residents, businesses, property owners and other interested parties to utilize this new tool when needed by visiting our website. Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our city office.



Crookston Housing & Economic Development Authority

Exciting Developments in Crookston!

Childcare: Building a Brighter Future for Families

We're thrilled to announce that First Children's Finance (FCF) has partnered with Crookston to develop a Child Care Strategic Supply Plan (SSP)! This is a major win for families and businesses alike as we work to expand and sustain childcare options in our community. In January, EDA staff met with FCF to kick off the process. In March, a powerhouse Core Team—including childcare and early education professionals, community leaders, City Council members, and EDA board members—will launch nine months of focused work to create a strategic plan for increasing childcare capacity in Crookston.

This plan isn't just about solving today's challenges but building a stronger future for our community. We are so grateful for the incredible work of the Early Childhood Initiative, the Early Childhood Family Education group, and all our dedicated partners who make Crookston a great place to raise a family. We're committed to supporting their efforts however we can.

Active Transportation Plan:

A Healthier, More Connected Crookston

Big news! MnDOT has selected Crookston to receive state-funded planning assistance to develop an Active Transportation Plan—at no cost to the city. This is a fantastic opportunity to enhance our town's sidewalks, trails, and pedestrian-friendly connections.

Starting this spring, a state consultant will work alongside our Active Transportation Team to engage the community and develop a vision for improving walkability, accessibility, and safety. This plan will also be a valuable tool for securing future grants to make these improvements happen.

Want to contribute to shaping Crookston's future? We'd love your input. Contact Taylor Wyum, Project Coordinator, at twyum@crookston.mn.us or 218-280-6368 to get involved.



Golden Link Before

Storefront Revitalization: Grant Funding Still Available!

Attention business owners: Now is the perfect time to spruce up your storefront with our Storefront Revitalization Program funding.

Up to \$5,000 for exterior storefront improvements (25% match required)

Up to \$1,000 for paint and signage (no match required)

Make your business stand out and help create a vibrant, welcoming downtown. Contact Jennifer Hecht at (218) 470-2000 or jhecht@crookstonheda.com to apply today.



Golden Link After

Join the Conversation at Jolt & Jive

Want to be in the know about all things Crookston? Join us every Thursday from 8 to 9 AM at The Cove Youth Center for Jolt & Jive. Bring your coffee and share your thoughts on Crookston's assets, upcoming events, and what YOU want to see in our city's future. This is a fantastic way to connect, brainstorm, and participate in exciting changes in our community.



Jolt & Jive

- Crookston's Weekly Power-Up Coffee Conversations
- What? Informal coffee conversations.
- Why? To continue the momentum our community started at the library during the "I Love Crookston" event where over 100 folks came to tell their story and express what they wanted in Crookston's future.
- Every Thursday at 8am at The Cove Youth Center.

Get Ready for Wednesday Nigh Fun

Prepare for even more community fun as the weather warms up and the days get longer. Keep an eye out for the return of Wednesday on the Water, a summer hit that brought people together for evenings of outdoor fun and connection. We can't wait to see you out and about enjoying all Crookston has to offer.

There's so much happening in Crookston, and we're just getting started. Stay tuned for more updates, and thank you for being part of this amazing community.



Prairie Skyline Foundation

Prairie Skyline Foundation had their annual Meeting January 25, 2025, and elected two new Board Members: Erik Ellingson and Barry Altepeter. Meetings are quarterly and all are invited to attend. March 18th is the next meeting.

We are planning two rummage sales this year, so get your donations to us any time before May 1st. We are making a booklet of all the stained glass in color, and you will be able to order one soon, and pick one up at Ox Cart Days and Night to Unite where we will offer the huge bubble making to the kids again.

Last, don't be surprised if Kay comes knocking at your door this summer to answer any questions about the Old Cathedral and the former Methodist Church. Check out our improved website: prairieskyline.org complete with testimonials from our residents.



Get Kids Outdoors

Building on Adam Parnow's passion for outdoor recreation, we create his legacy, through opportunities for children of all ages to experience and enjoy outdoor activities.

Mission Statement:

Providing outdoor recreational activities for youth. When exposed to the thrill and excitement of these events, kids will be inspired and share these lifelong learning experiences with others. Outdoor experiences play a crucial role in a child's development, offering opportunities for exploration, creativity, and connection with nature that many may not otherwise have. Our programs facilitate access to outdoor activities—such as fishing, snowshoeing, golfing, skiing, or environmental education—allowing children from diverse backgrounds to engage with their surroundings meaningfully. These experiences foster teamwork, resilience, and a sense of adventure while promoting physical health and emotional well-being. Providing these unique opportunities empowers children

to discover their interests, build lasting memories, and develop a lifelong appreciation for the outdoors.

2nd Annual Adam's Memorial Scramble & Shootout

June 21, 2025





Parks & Recreation

Parks & Rec Sprint Information:

Crookston Parks & Recreation FunFinder will be available April 1st to view all your fun summer family activities. Please visit our website: <https://www.crookston.mn.us/258/Parks-Recreation>

Rental/Amenity Fees

- Walking Track Membership - \$30/year
\$25/year for 65 and older
- Special Events - \$300/4 hours and more
\$150/under 4 hours
- In-Season Ice Rental (Fall & Winter) - \$150/hour
- Community Room Rental - \$50/hour
- Turf Rental - \$50/hour
- Sports Floor - \$50/hour
- Skate Sharpening - \$5.00

*Tax will be added to rentals

Community Garden

Located on Riverside Street are available for community members that would like to plant a garden. Cost is free. To call and reserve your garden, contact Andrea with Crookston Parks & Recreation at 218-281-1242.

Park Shelter Rentals

- Lions Shelter: \$40
- Carman Park Shelter: \$30
- Schuster Park Shelter: \$30
- Wildwood Park Shelter: \$30
- Castle Park Shelter: \$30
- Downtown Square: \$100
- Picnic Table-\$10/table

Portable Patio rental is available for businesses in town. Contact Parks & Rec office to reserve 218-281-1242

Crookston Central Park Campground

Central Park has 19 campsites with water & sewer hookups including 20, 30, & 50 amp.

Each site has a picnic table and fire ring for the family to enjoy along with a boat launch and fishing pier right on the Red Lake River with on site bathhouse available.

No reservations are needed, but it is on a first come, first serve basis. The cost is \$35 & \$40/night depending on site, and \$20/night for tent sites. Rangers will be on duty nightly from 6pm-10pm for check-in. We are located at North Ash Street and Central Park Drive, Crookston, MN 56716. Please call Crookston Parks & Rec for questions at 218-281-1242.



Crookston Community Pool

Pool Hours

Monday-Friday

- 6am-9am: Lap Swim
- 9am-10am: Aqua Aerobics
- 3:30pm - 4:45pm: After School Open Swim
- 6pm-8pm: Open Swim

Saturdays

- 1:00pm - 4:30pm: Open Swim
- 5:30pm - 8:00pm: Family Swim (children must attend with a parent/guardian)

Sundays

- 5:30pm - 8:00pm: Family Swim (children must attend with a parent/guardian)

***Should there be no patrons at the pool half an hour before the scheduled end time, the pool will close early.**

Amenities

- 8-lane swimming pool
- 25-yard lap pool
- Pool depth: 3ft - 7.5ft
- Diving Well: 14ft depth w/ 1 & 3 meter diving boards
- Showers, locker rooms / bathrooms / changing tables available
- Basketball hoop, aquatic toys, and swim training aids available

Resident Cost

Individual Admission

- Ages 4 & Under: \$2
- Ages 5-18: \$5
- Ages 19 & Older: \$6

Family Swim Admission

- Family of 5: \$20 + additional
- Family Members: \$2

One Person Membership

- 1 Month: \$40
- 3 Month: \$110
- 6 Month: \$200
- Year: \$360

Family Up To 5 Membership

- 1 Month: \$75
- 3 Month: \$200
- 6 Month: \$360
- Year: \$650

Non-Resident Cost

Individual Admission

- Ages 4 & Under: \$4
- Ages 5-18: \$7
- Ages 19 & Older: \$8

Family Swim Admission

- Family of 5: \$25 + additional
- Family Membership: \$2

One Person Membership

- 1 Month: \$45
- 3 Month: \$120
- 6 Month: \$220
- Year: \$400

Family Up To 5 Membership

- 1 Month: \$80
- 3 Month: \$220
- 6 Month: \$400
- Year: \$720

Swim Lessons (Winter/Spring)

Session 3a: March 3rd - 13th (5:00pm-5:30pm)

Session 3b: March 3rd - 13th (5:30pm-6:00pm)

Session 4a: March 31st - April 10th (5:00pm-5:30pm)

Session 4b: March 31st - April 10th (5:30pm-6:00pm)



Crookston Public Library / A Branch of Lake Agassiz Regional Library

Crookston Public Library / A Branch of Lake Agassiz Regional Library.

Find endless entertainment options at the Crookston Public Library! The library offers access to a collection of over one million books, movies and other educational and entertainment items, including magazines and research tools. Library cards are free to Polk County residents and an online signup form can be found at larl.org/applyonline.

Family Resource Center

The Crookston Public Library also serves as host to the Crookston Family Resource Center, which is the result of a partnership between Polk County Family Resources and the Crookston Public Library bringing community resources together to meet needs related to mental health, social services, career opportunities, early childhood development and more, all in one location. Partnering organizations include Career Force, Alluma, Polk County Social Services, School District ISD 593, Polk County Public Health, Tri-Valley Opportunity Council and more.



Events for Everyone

The library offers a number of free events, including weekly Storytimes, which are held Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and Baby Bounce, which is held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. The library also offers a monthly book club and a regular calendar of author visits, musical performances, informational presentations and more. A full list of events can be found at larl.org/events.

Storytime

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Help your child develop exceptional reading skills by bringing them to Storytime. Each week, we explore different themes with stories, songs, rhymes, flannel boards, special guests and more! Storytime typically lasts for 45 minutes and is geared for children ages 3-6, although children of all ages are welcome to join the fun.

Baby Bounce

Join us on Tuesday mornings for songs, stories, and action poems for infants through preschoolers and their caregivers. Don't miss this weekly family literacy event! This program runs 30-45 minutes including community with other caregivers and playtime.

Visit larl.org/crookston for more information!





Polk County Public Health SPRING INTO WELLNESS

As the seasons change and warmer days approach, Polk County Public Health (PCPH) remains dedicated to keeping our community healthy, informed, and prepared. Spring is a great time to refresh safety habits, take advantage of health resources, and get involved in wellness initiatives.

Here's What's Happening This Season:

Nasal Narcan Kits Available

Opioid overdoses continue to be a concern in communities across the nation, but there are life-saving measures available. Polk County Public Health is providing free nasal Narcan kits to community members at our offices in Crookston, East Grand Forks, and McIntosh.

Narcan is an easy-to-use nasal spray that can rapidly reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. By equipping residents with Narcan and the knowledge of its use, community members will be better prepared to save the life of an individual experiencing an opioid overdose.

Pick up your free Narcan Kit at PCPH offices:

- Crookston Office: 816 Marin Ave Suite #125, Crookston
- East Grand Forks Office: 1424 Central Ave, NW, East Grand Forks
- McIntosh Office: 250 Cleveland Ave, McIntosh

Each person is eligible to receive one free nasal Narcan kit. No appointments are necessary. Workplace training on proper use is available upon request. For questions about the training, please contact Sarah Shimek at 218-773-4987.

Suicide Prevention | Changing the Narrative Training

Mental health is something that affects us all. Suicide prevention trainings are available to help individuals recognize the warning signs of suicide and learn how to respond appropriately. Whether you're a concerned friend, family member, teacher, or employer, these trainings provide valuable tools to support those in crisis.

Changing the Narrative Training- Talking about mental health and suicide can be an uncomfortable and uncertain topic that brings up different feelings, beliefs, and attitudes for everyone. Changing the Narrative is an interactive conversation that empowers participants to change perceptions of mental health towards hope and resilience.

Throughout the session, participants will engage in dialog about being intentional in the words we are using. Certain ways of talking about mental health and suicide can alienate members of any community, sensationalize the issue, contribute to a decrease in help-seeking behavior, or even present suicide as a glamorous, preferred way of dealing with problems. Having healthy conversations about mental health and suicide avoids harmful messages that might increase suicide risk in individuals or undermine suicide prevention goals. By doing this safely, it reduces stigma, mitigates risks, promotes help-seeking, and respects all individuals.



- Who can be trained: Designed for individuals who are wanting to understand and talk about mental health and suicide. Ages 13+.
- Training Format and Cost: Training is free and provided by trained facilitators. The session can be in person or virtual and can be customized, with an average duration of between 1.5 hours to 3 hours.

For more information, contact the NW Regional Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Brenna Olson, at 218-281-3385.

Bike & Roll to School Day - May 7

Spring is the perfect time to get outside and be active! Bike & Roll to School Day on May 7 encourages students to ride their bikes, walk, or roll to school, promoting healthy habits and safe routes to school. Schools across the county are participating, and families are encouraged to join in the fun! Remember to wear helmets and follow traffic safety rules.

Family Home Visiting Program - Enrolling New Families

Expecting a baby or recently had a newborn? Our Family Home Visiting programs are enrolling new families. This free program connects parents with registered nurses who provide guidance, resources, and support during pregnancy and the child's early years. If you or someone you know could benefit from Family Home Visiting, contact PCPH at 218-281-3385.

Connect With Us- Spring brings new opportunities to focus on your health and well-being. Whether you're seeking resources, safety information, or community programs, PCPH is here to support you.

For more details on any of the programs mentioned above, call 218-281-3385 or visit our website.

Wishing you a healthy and active spring season!





Happy Spring!

The United Way of Crookston is looking forward to longer days, warmer weather and giving away a whole lot of money this spring! We will be holding hearings with our applicant agencies and learning about their needs and goals for this year, working together to help them meet those goals and making sure the Crookston community has the help they need. We are so close to our goal and are so grateful to this community that knows how to step up and help each other, year after year. We have some plans for the summer, we'll be at Eat United Summer Food Program in June, we'll have our golf tournament again in August and we're working on something new so watch this space!




Riverview Health

RiverView Clinic—Crookston is a comprehensive medical facility offering the community a wide range of healthcare services. It is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM and on weekends from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Services Offered:

- **Specialty Services:** The clinic provides specialized care in dermatology, general surgery, gynecology, internal medicine, obstetrics, orthopaedics, pain management, podiatry, and sleep medicine.
- **Primary Care:** Family practice and internal medicine services are available to address general health needs.
- **Laboratory Services:** On-site laboratory services are offered for various diagnostic tests.

For appointments or more information, you can contact the clinic at 218.281.9595



Community Voice Mobile App

- Community Voice is an innovative mobile app that serves as a communication tool for communities. It has recently launched in Crookston and is paid for by the Crookston Visitor's Bureau so there is no cost to the end-users or businesses. It did not come out of City tax dollars. The City of Crookston will be using the app in a variety of ways including using the text feature to text residents regarding essential communication for the community.
- App users can set their preferences to see what events are happening up to 100 miles around the community and set preferences for types of events shown. End-users can search services, businesses, facilities, events, and resources for Crookston to find what they need, and they can 'opt in for notifications' from area businesses and organizations.
- Community Voice also provides a user-friendly web application for community administrators and business owners to edit content, photos, and more. Business owners should download the app, use the search feature to find their business and verify the content is listed and accurate. They are also encouraged to 'claim their business' in the app to be able to control their listing. Businesses can add their events into the app by 'claiming their business'.
- If you want to know what is going on in Crookston and neighboring communities, download the Community Voice mobile app on iOS and Android. Search "Community Voice" in your phone's app store. It is completely free to download, and they don't ask for any payment information.
- Download today on iOS and Android



**To download:
Scan the QR code with
your phone camera**



[HTTPS://COMMUNITYVOICE.APP](https://communityvoice.app)



Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc

Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid Partners with Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. to Highlight the Importance of Community Action

“Viewpoint,” the educational program hosted by Dennis Quaid, is excited to announce a collaboration with Tri-Valley Opportunity Council for an upcoming episode that will emphasize the critical role of Community Action. This important segment will highlight Tri-Valley’s dedication to local volunteer work, advocacy, and support for groups, families, and individuals in need. Filming is set to take place later in 2024, featuring key members of Tri-Valley’s team.

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. is a Community Action agency committed to reducing poverty, strengthening families, and building stronger communities in the areas served by Tri-Valley. Through various programs and initiatives, Tri-Valley provides essential services that empower individuals and families to achieve greater self-sufficiency and improve their quality of life.

The piece will guide viewers through an in-depth look at how Tri-Valley mobilizes state, federal, and local resources and volunteers to create meaningful change and support those in need.

In this upcoming episode, “Viewpoint” will explore the impactful work of Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, showcasing the organization’s efforts in community development, education, housing, and health services. The piece will guide viewers through an in-depth look at how Tri-Valley mobilizes state, federal, and local resources and volunteers to create meaningful change and support those in need.

Key members of Tri-Valley Opportunity Council’s team, along with volunteers and beneficiaries of their programs, will share their experiences and perspectives on the positive impact of Community Action. The episode will delve into various initiatives, including early childhood programming, housing, programs for



seniors, community services, and transportation, demonstrating Tri-Valley’s comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of the community.

Tri-Valley CEO Jason Carlson stated, “We couldn’t be more excited to have the opportunity to work with Viewpoint and shine a light on the needs of our communities along with the dedicated people who help meet those needs.”

The segment will also highlight the importance of advocacy in ensuring that the voices of underserved populations are heard and their needs are met. By showcasing Tri-Valley’s advocacy efforts, the episode aims to inspire viewers to get involved in their communities and support initiatives that promote social justice and equity.

This episode of “Viewpoint” seeks to educate and inspire audiences by highlighting the power of Community Action and volunteerism. By featuring the exemplary work of Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, the program aims to raise awareness about the importance of local support systems and the positive ripple effects they create within communities.

About Viewpoint: “Viewpoint” is an educational television series hosted by Dennis Quaid, dedicated to exploring a wide range of topics that impact our world. Through compelling storytelling and expert insights, the program aims to educate and inspire audiences by delving into important issues and innovative solutions.

About Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.: Tri-Valley Opportunity Council is a Community Action agency that works to reduce poverty, strengthen families, and build stronger communities in the areas served by Tri-Valley. Through a variety of programs and services, Tri-Valley provides essential support to individuals and families, helping them achieve greater self-sufficiency and improve their quality of life.




**Downtown Crookston
 Development Partnership**

**DCDP Presents: Music & Movies
 at the Grand**



- Free Movie Showings at The Grand Theatre
- March 6th – A Hard Day's Night ~ The Beatles
 - March 20th – Mary Poppins
 - April 3rd – Music Man
 - April 24th – School of Rock
 -

Do something extraordinary for your community. Support the Crookston Area Community Fund!

Your donation supports and sustains activities and organizations in the Crookston area that serve our community in a variety of ways. We can only do it with help from people like you and your generous support.

Make a difference today at:
<https://secure.ggiv.com/.../Crookston+Area+Community+Fund>
 Or mail a donation to: PO Box 543 Crookston, MN 56716



Care and Share Crookston

**2025 Open House & Open Door Freezer Fundraiser -
 A Success!**

We are beyond grateful to everyone who played a role in making the 2025 Open House & Open Door Freezer Fundraiser a tremendous success. First and foremost, a huge thank you to The Crookston Inn for graciously hosting our event and creating such a welcoming and vibrant environment for all. Their support was truly instrumental in bringing our community together for a cause that means so much.

A heartfelt thank you also goes out to our Board of Directors, whose tireless commitment and dedication make this event possible every year. Your time, energy, and passion for this mission are invaluable, and we couldn't do it without you.

To the volunteers and the incredible staff I have the honor of working alongside every day, your contributions are the backbone of everything we do. You all show up with heart and determination, and I am grateful for each one of you.

This fundraiser was a powerful reminder of the incredible support from the community, who consistently shows up in such meaningful ways. To our donors, thank you for your generosity. Your contributions directly impact the lives of so many in our surrounding communities, and we appreciate you making this event such a success.

One of the major highlights of this fundraiser was raising close to \$28,000 toward our goal of replacing the freezer for

the New Hope Food Shelf. This freezer is crucial in continuing to provide food to eight surrounding communities. Without it, we risk being unable to meet the growing need for food in our area, which would only worsen the already concerning issue of food insecurity. The importance of this replacement cannot be overstated. If we cannot replace this vital piece of equipment, we face a future where feeding those in need becomes even more challenging.

The total cost for the freezer replacement is around \$45,000, and we are thrilled to share that we have several grants out, which will bring us even closer to reaching our full goal. We are confident that, with continued support, we will be able to meet this need and continue our important work of providing nourishment to those who rely on us.

Thank you again to everyone who made this fundraiser a success, and we are excited to keep you updated on our progress as we work toward our goal. Together, we are making a lasting impact in our community!

*With great appreciation-
 Carolina Diaz-Executive Director*



CROOKSTON EVENTS

All these events and more can be found on the **Community Voice Mobile App**. Be sure to download today on iOS and Android.

UMC Baseball & Softball – Be sure to visit the University of Minnesota Crookston Sports website to view all upcoming dates!



With Her Hands - Women's History Month Art Kick-Off Event

Monday, March 3rd • 5:00pm – 6:30pm

- Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society, and through a fiber art event we, U of M Crookston, would like to further educate and generate engagement focusing on fiber art in the Red Lake River area community. This Women's History Month event is intended to bring awareness of the strong tradition and knowledge of women and the fiber arts.
- "With Her Hands" fiber artwork will be on display March 3-14, 2025 in the Northern Lights Lounge and International Lounge (first floor of Sargeant Student Center).



U of M Crookston International Dinner Series March 3, 17, 24 & 31

Bede Ballroom | 6:00 pm

- Join us for a culinary and cultural journey celebrating flavors from India, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Kenya, Ukraine, and Ecuador. Each dinner features authentic cuisine, storytelling, and a special Multicultural Show with student performances and live jazz by Thomasina.
- Tickets & Info: z.umn.edu/2025-UMC-MIC-Dinners



Crookston Eagles Club St. Patrick's Day Escape Room Fundraiser March 4th - March 8th | 5:00 - 9:00 pm

- On behalf of the Crookston Eagles Auxiliary, we would like to invite you to our St. Jude St. Patrick's Day escape room. A maximum of 8 people will venture together each time slot to see if they can escape in 45 minutes. To see available time, visit our Facebook page. To RSVP, please text or call Ellie Fee at (763) 913-4473 or message the Crookston Eagles on Facebook. \$20 per person. 100% of money collected will be donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

- The Story: Welcome to Jake's Irish pub. It's closing time and you've been here a wee bit too long. Jake, the giant leprechaun and owner, claims you stole money out of the till while he was closing up. You know you didn't, but you can't change his mind, so he called the police and locked you in. While you wait for the peelers to arrive, he gives you a riddle and challenge: if you can find his hidden pot o' gold before they arrive in 45 minutes, he will gladly take your place in the clink.

- Information: Please arrive 10 minutes before your scheduled time slot. The game will end at the 45 minute mark of every hour to ensure we can set up for the next group.

DCDP Presents: Music & Movies at the Grand! Free Movie Showings at The Grand Theatre

- March 6th – A Hard Day's Night ~ The Beatles
- March 20th – Mary Poppins
- April 3rd – Music Man
- April 24th – School of Rock



Dreams On Ice 2025 - Gliding Into The Galaxy

Saturday, March 8th & Sunday, March 9th 6:00pm & 2:00pm

- Presented by the Crookston Figure Skating Club in Cooperation with the Crookston Parks & Recreation Department
- Admission: Adult \$10, Students & Seniors \$5, Preschool and under Free



Paolo Schianchi - Crookston Civic Music League

Friday, March 21st | 6:00 & 2:00 pm

- Crookston Civic Music League Entertainment Series 2024-2025. All performances in Crookston High School Auditorium. Concert admission by season ticket only.
- PAOLO SCHIANCHI is an out-of-the-ordinary musician and performer, able to master all existing variations of the guitar, from the Renaissance lute to electric guitars, to unique instruments which he has created—among them a 49-string guitar he personally designed. A native of Parma, Italy with four degrees in music and communications, he was the first artist in Residence in the history of Saint Francis University in Pennsylvania. His performance will include selections from classical to rock.



32nd Annual Crookston Youth Basketball Tournament

Friday, March 21st & Saturday, March 22nd

- Registration Deadline: March 13th
- Games played at UMC Lysaker Gymnasium, UMC wellness center, Crookston High School, and Crookston Sports Center.
- Registration Online



Northwest Minnesota Arts Council Annual Gallery

Exhibit April 7th - 27th | University of MN Crookston

- The Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibit is held annually at locations throughout our region. Artists from our 7 county- service region can enter into this art exhibit and compete for \$2,300.00 in cash awards. Artists must reside in Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Polk, Pennington, Roseau, or Red Lake counties to be eligible. Both adult and student artists are encouraged to enter. You can enter up to two pieces of artwork. To be eligible a work must have been completed within the last five years and not have been accepted into a previous Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibit. Exhibit cash award winners are chosen while the exhibit is on display by a qualified juror. They are recognized and receive their check at the Artist Reception held at the end of the exhibition.



- A juror or committee will determine which pieces will be part of the exhibit from the slides or photographs you submit with your entry form. Selected work must be delivered to the exhibition site and framed correctly.

Pickleball Tournament

Saturday, April 12th & Sunday, April 13th

- March 15th – 16th, 2025
- The Crookston Gun & Sport Show will be held next on Mar 15th-16th, 2025 with additional shows on Nov 1st-2nd, 2025, in Crookston, MN.

- This Crookston gun show is held at Crookston National Guard Army and hosted by Crookston Gun & Sport Show & F 'n' A Gun & Sports Show.



Ernie Haase & Signature Sound

Crookston Civic Music League

Friday, May 9th | 7:00 p,

- Crookston Civic Music League Entertainment Series 2024-2025. All performances in Crookston High School Auditorium. Concert admission by season ticket only.
- Ernie Haase is a veteran of the Gaithers and leads an exceptionally strong quartet of songs in Signature Sound, accompanied by live pianist, bassist, and drummer. Ernie knows how to create and present a polished show from beginning to end. The land of Hopes and dreams will feature a blend of patriotic and gospel music.



Ox Cart Stampede - Wojo's Rodeo Fri. Sept. 5th - Sat. Sept. 6th

- Wojo's Rodeo is a great event where families can experience a little of the Old West!
- At Wojo's Rodeo you can get a taste of the West with events like saddle bronc riding, barrels, calf roping and more!
- Be sure to keep your eye out for updates!





THE CITY OF
CROOKSTON

GARBAGE & RECYCLING BIN SERVICES

The City of Crookston is offering an optional garbage and recycling bin service with an anticipated start date of April 1st.



96-gallon bins



\$20.90/month
+ additional bins



Trash - Weekly
Recycling - Monthly



Call Number
218-281-1232



Sign Up / Learn More
crookston.mn.us

Contact Us!

