



*City of Mountain Lake &
Mountain Lake Municipal
Utilities Newsletter
September 2020*



City Hall Hours

9AM — 4PM
Monday — Friday
24 Hour Drop Box

City of Mountain Lake

or
Mountain Lake Municipal Utilities
930 Third Ave – Drawer C
Mountain Lake, Minnesota 56159



Phone (507) 427-2999
Fax (507) 427-3327

www.mountainlakemn.com



Facebook:
City of Mountain Lake, MN



**City Hall will be closed on Labor Day,
Monday, September 7.**

**Mountain Lake Trail Public
Hunting Awareness**

- The trail passes through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources property on the west end of the lake.
- The area is roughly between the boat landing on the southwest corner of the lake and the Schmidt bench on the northwest corner of the lake.
- This portion of the trail is open to public hunting from September 1 through December 31.
- Trail users should be aware of hunters and are **STRONGLY** encouraged to wear blaze orange or other brightly colored clothing.



Open Burning of Leaves

The open burning of leaves in the City of Mountain Lake is permitted between September 15 and December 1. The following rules apply:

- Only in residential areas.
- Only between the hours of 8 AM and 8 PM.
- Fires must be extinguished by 8 PM.
- Fires must be more than 25 feet from any structure, wood fence, hedge or bush.
- Fires must be more than 5 feet from any property line.
- The burning of leaves is prohibited on city streets, boulevards, lake shore, or any other public property by private citizens.
- Fires must be attended at all times.



Tips on Saving Money and Energy in Your Home — Air Sealing

Air leaks are among the greatest sources of energy loss in a home. One of the quickest energy- and money-saving tasks you can do is caulk, seal, and weatherstrip all seams, cracks, and openings to the outside. By sealing uncontrolled air leaks, you can save 10%–20% on your heating and cooling bills.

To identify air leaks, check around your walls, ceilings, windows, doors, lighting and plumbing fixtures, switches, and electrical outlets.

Look for gaps, improperly applied caulk and weatherstripping, and doors and windows that don't close tightly.

On a windy day, carefully hold a lit incense stick or a smoke pen next to your windows, doors, electrical boxes, plumbing fixtures, electrical outlets, ceiling fixtures, attic hatches, and other places where air may leak.

If the smoke stream travels horizontally, you have located an air leak. After you identify all air leaks, do the following:

- Weatherstrip doors and windows.
- Caulk and seal air leaks where plumbing, ducting, or electrical wiring comes through walls, floors, ceilings, and soffits over cabinets.
- Install foam gaskets behind outlet and switch plates on walls.
- Use foam sealant on larger gaps around window trims, baseboards, and other places where air may leak out.
- Check for open fireplace dampers and make sure they properly close.
- Consider an inflatable chimney balloon to seal your fireplace flue when not in use. Fireplace flues are made from metal, and repeated heating and cooling can cause the metal to warp or break over time, creating a channel for air loss. Inflatable chimney balloons are made from durable plastic and can be removed easily and reused hundreds of times. If you forget to remove the balloon before making a fire, the balloon will automatically deflate within seconds of coming into contact with heat.
- Seal air leaks around fireplace chimneys, furnaces, and gas-fired water heater vents with fire-resistant materials such as sheet metal or sheetrock and furnace cement caulk.

Where to Air Seal in a Home



Information and Graphic from U.S. Department of Energy