



VISION: Eau Claire is a vibrant city with exceptional quality of life and services.

MISSION STATEMENT: It is our mission to assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.

Popular Website Links: [City Website](#) [City Calendar](#) [City Council Members](#) [Citizen Resource Bank Form](#)
[Contact Us](#) [E-Notifications](#) [Social Media Links](#)

Message from the City Manager



Dale Peters
City Manager

A Call to Service

A new year, 2016 is upon us, exciting and fresh. The new year presents many opportunities and challenges for the City of Eau Claire as we continue to grow and adapt to an ever-changing world. Unprecedented growth in the City Center is occurring at the same time the baby boomer generation is moving out of the work force and deciding where to spend their “golden years.” The millennial generation, ever more conscious of their impact and “foot print” in the world, has become the largest group of employees and seeks a quality-built environment with high-quality amenities combined with fun, interesting and lively activities. Retiring Baby Boomers now have more time. And, like the Baby Boomers, the Millennials have a strong interest and heart for serving their communities.

If this describes you - good news! We have opportunities for you to participate and serve your community during a time of unprecedented growth and change. Boards, Commissions, City Council, and Development Task Forces all are in need of your energy, passion and ideas to make Eau Claire a great place to live, work and play. A complete list of opportunities is available at the City’s Website <http://www.ci.eau-claire.wi.us/government/boards-commissions-committees>

And if you don’t find your opportunity to volunteer at the website, give us a call at 715-839-4902 and we will try to match your personal interest with an opportunity to serve and give back to the community.

###

Community Development

Inspections: Building Permit Activity

Residential building permits issued in December 2015 consisted of four single-family homes for a total valuation of \$895,000. Total building valuation through December 2015 is \$156,828,049.

Missing Statue Found

The bronze "Mother and Child" statue of Sculpture Tour Eau Claire has been found! The statue, valued at \$11,000, went missing from its pedestal near Stella Blues on Madison Street in 2013.

Eau Claire Police say they now have it at the Police Department. Eau Claire County Parks employees found it in the woods in the township of Fairchild when they were marking trees.



###

Elections

The Spring Primary will be held in one month. On February 16, Wisconsin voters will reduce the number of candidates for State Supreme Court Justice from three to two. In order to cast a ballot, voters must show an acceptable form of Photo ID.

There is no such thing as a "Wisconsin Voter ID Card." The new Voter Photo ID Law uses existing photo IDs for voters to prove their identity before voting.

There are certain requirements. Your ID should look like you. Even if you've colored your hair, shaved your beard or lost some weight, as long as your photo ID reasonably resembles you, it should be accepted.

The address on your ID doesn't have to be current, and the name on your ID doesn't need to be an exact match for your name in the poll book.

These first five forms are acceptable for voting purposes, and can be unexpired or expired after the date of the most-recent general election (currently, the November 4, 2014 election):

- A Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card or driver license without a photo issued under the religious exemption
- Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- A U.S. passport

These photo IDs are also acceptable for voting purposes, but must be unexpired:

- A certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented
- A driving receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT (valid for 45 days)
- An identification card receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT (valid for 45 days)
- An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin
- A photo identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university, college or technical college that contains date of issuance, signature of student, and an expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance. Also, the university, college or technical college ID must be accompanied by a separate document that proves enrollment
- A citation or notice of intent to revoke or suspend a Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license that is dated within 60 days of the date of the election

If you do not have one of these forms of identification, you can obtain a free state ID card through the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Questions on the new Photo ID law? Contact the City Elections office at 715-839-4913.



Heating Fire Safety



Follow these heating tips to help maintain a fire-safe home this winter.



Space Heater

- Keep anything that can burn, such as bedding, clothing and curtains, at least 3 feet away from the heater.
- Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off, so if it tips over, it shuts off.
- Turn heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Plug portable heaters directly into outlets and never into an extension cord or power strip.
- Only use portable heaters from a recognized testing laboratory.



Fireplace

- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace to prevent embers or sparks jumping out.
- Do not burn paper in your fireplace.
- Put the fire out **before** you go to sleep or leave your home.
- Put ashes in a metal container with a lid, outside, at least 3 feet from your home.



Wood Stove

- Make sure your wood stove is 3 feet from anything that can burn.
- Do not burn paper in your wood stove.
- Put the fire out **before** you go to sleep or leave your home.
- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned each year by a professional.



Furnace

- Have your furnace inspected each year.
- Keep anything that can burn away from the furnace.



Kerosene Heater

- Only use kerosene heaters from a recognized testing laboratory.
- Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off, so if it tips over, it shuts off.
- Refuel your **cooled** heater outside.

For more information and free resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach.

Health



Radon

You can't see it, smell it or taste it, but it puts your family at risk.

1 in every 15 U.S. homes has elevated radon levels



6 in every 15 Eau Claire County homes have elevated radon levels



Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.

Approximately 21,000 deaths a year are due to Radon.



[Click here for a coupon](#)
[\(\\$2 off a \\$10 short term test\)](#)

Visit the Eau Claire City-County Health Department to purchase your kit today!

720 Second Ave Eau Claire, WI 54703

Phone: 715-839-4718

Website: www.ehealthdept.org

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Library



DIY Dabble

Wednesday, February 10 • 6-7 p.m. • Eau Claire Room

Crafts aren't just for kids! Participants will create a design with string art. For ages 18 and older.

Register online at www.ecpubliclibrary.info/events.

ARTmobile

Saturday, January 16 • 1-3 p.m. • Youth Services Program Room

Work on art projects with staff from Eau Claire Regional Arts Center Artmobile. Suitable for all ages.



The Young and the Restless

Tuesdays, January 19 & 26 • 11 a.m to 12 p.m. • Eau Claire Room Room

Got cabin fever? Our Young and the Restless open indoor play time is an opportunity for kids to be active, develop motor skills, and make new friends. The program is designed for ages 0-5 and their caregivers.

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

Literature series led by Jan Stirm

Tuesdays, February 2, 9, 16 & 23 • 6-7 p.m. • Chippewa Room

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight is one of the most famous Arthurian romances, a tale of derring-do, of testing courage, and of courtly love. If you enjoyed the book or film versions of *The Lord of the Rings* or *Game of Thrones*, then you're sure to enjoy *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*!

Participants will read the poem in a modern verse translation of the 14th century poem, focusing on one of the four sections each week, and digging into the complex beauty of the poem to talk about the verse, the tale, and the culture it seeks to represent. Registration is required.

Register online at www.ecpubliclibrary.info/events.

For information about library services, programs and events, visit the library online at www.ecpubliclibrary.info, stop at Information & Reference on your next visit to the library, call 715-839-5004, or e-mail the library at librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.us.

###

Parks, Recreation & Forestry

Drop Pounds, Stay Fit with Drop-in Recreation Programs

Let Eau Claire Parks and Recreation help you keep your New Year's resolutions for a stronger and healthier you. Residents can choose from a number of [drop-in programs](#) to fit almost any interest or ability:

- Basketball
- Broomball
- Hockey
- Ice Skating
- Pickleball
- Swimming
- Volleyball
- Water Fitness

The City also grooms four [cross country ski trails](#), supervises six [outdoor skating rinks](#), and offers free helmets that the public can borrow while sledding, skiing or snowboarding at Pinehurst Hill. For more information or to inquire about a [City Pass](#), a more affordable way to pay for drop-in activities, call 715-839-5032.

Embrace the Season with 'Winter After Hours'



Don't be left out in the cold. Join your neighbors and celebrate all things winter every Thursday through February 25 in Boyd Park. ["Winter After Hours"](#) meets from 6-8 p.m. and features ice skating, snow shoeing, winter kubb, an outdoor fire pit, music, warm drinks and snow sculpting. Ice skate and snowshoe rentals are available on site.

"Winter After Hours" is sponsored by Eau Claire Parks and Recreation and Volume One. For more information, call 715-839-5032.

'School's Out' Open Skating, Rink Rat Hockey on January 25

School's out and skating is in during Eau Claire Parks and Recreation's ["School's Out Open Skating and Rink Rat Hockey"](#) Monday, January 25, at Hobbs Ice Center, 915 Menomonie Street.

- Open skating:
 - Session 1: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
 - Session 2: 1:15-3:15 p.m.
- Rink Rat hockey: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Mites/Squirts) and 12:45-1:45 p.m. (Pewee/Bantam).

Cost is \$3 a session or a single punch on a City Pass. Skate rental included with admission. For more information, contact Hobbs Ice Center at 715-839-5040

Early Registration Deadline for Daddy-Daughter '80s Dance Party on January 27

Calling rad dads (or other favorite guys: grandpas, uncles)! Save the date for a special date. Eau Claire Parks and Recreation is hosting a Me and My Guy '80s Dance Party from 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, February 12, in the Hobbs Ice Center Viewing Room, 915 Menomonie Street. Dress in your coolest '80s styles and colors for a fun night of music, crafts and dancing.

A light dinner will be served, so pre-registration is mandatory. Cost is \$15 per person by January 27; \$25 per person thereafter. Registration deadline is February 3. Participants must be at least 3 years old. Register online at www.eauclairewi.gov/reg.

Discounted Fairfax Pool Pass Sale Ends on January 31

Get your 2016 Fairfax Pool Pass at the lowest price of the season! Purchase your pass through January 31 for a 20-percent discount.

- Youth Resident...\$42 Youth Non-Resident...\$60
 - Adult Resident...\$52 Adult Non-Resident...\$70
 - Family of 3 Resident*...\$98 Family of 3 Non-Resident*...\$144
- *Add \$5 more for each additional family member



###



Travel during the winter months is not always easy. Current highway road conditions can always be found on the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's [website](#) or by dialing 5-1-1.

With winter now in full swing, the Eau Claire Police Department would like to issue the following safety reminders:

- Keep all windows, headlights and taillights completely clear of ice and snow.
- Turn on your headlights: Be seen, be safe.
- Allow for extra time while traveling on icy and snow-covered roads.
- Be alert.
- Carry a winter emergency car kit, which can include the following items:
 - Survival blanket
 - Hand warmers
 - Emergency candles
 - Folding shovel

The Eau Claire Police Department asks that citizens use extra caution while traveling through school zones and crosswalks. The changing weather can make crosswalks dangerous for both area school children and other members of the community.

###

Public Works

Community Asked to Adopt Fire Hydrants

When battling a blaze, every second counts. Most homeowners are likely to agree that those seconds should be devoted to extinguishing the fire...not digging in the snow searching for a fire hydrant. Public Works and Fire Department staff members are reminding residents to keep fire hydrants clear of snow to aid firefighters responding to a call. Remember: every second counts.



###

Eau Claire City Council



City Council Meeting Summary – January 11 & 12, 2016

The City Council

- Held a public hearing and approved a proposed site plan in a P-Public District for pickleball courts and other improvements at McDonough Park;
- Heard a presentation related to the planned implementation of the Downtown Parking Study;
- Recognized, with a proclamation, January 21, as Thank Your Mentor Day;
- Granted temporary licenses to Eau Claire Morning Rotary for a Super Beans event and to Perpetual Benefit for Punisher Promotions for a Victory One Championship event;
- Declared the city's intent to have the Clerk give notice of a hearing for improvements on 22 alleys;
- Approved bids/proposals for the purchase of four cab and chassis for dump trucks;
- Granted licenses to Monk's Bar & Grill on Oakwood Mall Drive;
- Authorized the City Manager to execute the FTA Section 5307 Agreement with the City of Chippewa Falls;
- Approved a Use Agreement with the Downtown Farmers Market;
- Approved a CSM and a development agreement for Hester Street;
- Held a special work session to discuss Public Works Projects Updates and Reviews.

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