



# Marquette Matters

A bimonthly publication produced by the City of Marquette

## Marquette Wins Regional Community Excellence Award

A comprehensive waterfront safety initiative from Marquette won the Michigan Municipal League's (MML) Region 7 Community Excellence Award (CEA), May 27, 2011 and now Marquette has the chance to win the statewide CEA honor at the MML state convention this October. The League's Region 7 covers Michigan's Upper Peninsula in its entirety.

Assistant City Manager and CEA presenter Karl Zueger says, "As Michigan transitions largely from an industrial to recreational coastline, Marquette's goal as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community is to create a safe and enjoyable Great Lakes experience."

League Board President and Alpena Mayor Carol Shafto said, "Representing a waterfront community myself, I'm excited to see what's happening in Marquette. I feel a variety of the efforts are applicable in all of Michigan's waterfront communities, and here's a problem-solving model."



(L-R, above) Marquette Commissioner John DePetro, Marquette Assistant City Manager Karl Zueger and Marquette Commissioner Robert Niemi, receive the Region 7 Community Excellence Award from Robert Beaupry, Munising Commissioner and Region 7 Vice Chair.

The Marquette Waterfront Safety Task Force is a grassroots organization consisting of surfers, kite-boarders, City staff, Northern Michigan University, National Weather Service, Marquette Area Public Schools, a Michigan Sea Grant specialist and many others. After a heartbreaking summer with four drowning deaths and a beautiful but daunting ten miles of City coastline, the task force undertook problem solving by creating an incident breakdown reaching from 1961 until the present. Incidents were mapped, identified by affiliation such as students, locals and visitors, and by swimming ability.

The collaborative effort will create educational videos, increased effort to teach all students swimming, NMU orientation on water safety, maps on hotel pillows indicating safe areas, increased beachfront signage, instructional postings to "flip, float, follow" in strong current areas, along

with a loaner boards, buoy and flag systems. The initiative provides a model that can be adapted statewide by other Great Lakes waterfront communities.

The National Weather Service will also be collecting data in Marquette, with the intent to correlate weather and resulting currents, from which it may be able to predict dangerous currents as they are occurring.

In 2009, the City of Marquette also won the Municipal League's Community Excellence Award in Region 7 for a form-based code initiative. The League instituted the awards program in 2008 to recognize municipalities that develop innovative projects or programs that have a positive impact in their communities.

**For more information on Waterfront Safety, please reference page three.**

## Fourth of July Activity Schedule

### Monday July 4th, 2011

- 8:00 a.m.: Sunrise Dog Dash: Picnic Rocks, rain or shine
- 8:00 a.m.: Volunteer Breakfast: American Legion
- 10:00 a.m.: American Legion Baseball Game: Legion Field
- 10:00 a.m.: Decorated Bike Rodeo/Contest: Lakeview Arena
- 11:00 a.m.: Veterans' Memorial Re-Dedication: Harlow Park
- 2:00 p.m.: Parade: From McClellan Avenue down Washington Street to Third Street and Baraga Avenue
- 4:30 p.m.: Fireman's Competition: Lower Harbor
- 9:30 p.m.: Boat Parade: (Dusk) Lower Harbor
- 10:00 p.m.: Fireworks: (Dark) Lower Harbor

Rain Date for Fireworks:  
Tuesday July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011

## Blueberry Festival Takes Over Downtown

Plans are underway for the tenth Annual Blueberry Festival, scheduled for Friday, July 29, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Washington and Front Streets will be bustling with sidewalk sales, food vendors, crafters, and children's activities. Arcade jumps and pony rides will delight the kids and the Marquette City Fire Department will have a fire truck display. Local farmers and growers will be on hand to sell fresh produce including mounds of plump blueberries. A new event this year is the inaugural Northern Michigan University Blueberry Classic Golf Outing at the NMU Golf Course.

The winning artist of this year's poster contest was Alyssa Peterson. The tenth annual limited edition festival poster will be available for \$10 each at select Downtown Businesses and at the Information Booth on the day of the event. Peterson will be available to individually sign posters.

For more information about the Blueberry Festival, call the Marquette DDA at (906) 228-9475 or visit [www.downtownmarquette.org](http://www.downtownmarquette.org).

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## City Committee Boot Camp

The City has instituted a new training session for the members of our volunteer authorities, boards and committees called "Committee Boot Camp." The City Manager and City Attorney will be presenting a number of topics during the one-hour session: an overview of City operations; ethics; parliamentary procedures; rules of procedure; filing minutes; and finally, questions and answers. The City is asking these individuals to attend at least one of these sessions during their tenure. The dates/times for the summer include:

Thursday, July 21st: 11:00 a.m.-Noon Additional session dates/times will be announced for fall and summer.  
 Wednesday, Aug. 31st: 8:00-9:00 a.m.

All sessions will be held in Commission Chambers and are limited to 20 people per session. To reserve your spot (available on a first-come, first-served basis), please contact Wendy Larson in the City Manager's office via email ([wlarson@mqctcy.org](mailto:wlarson@mqctcy.org)) or call her at (906) 225-8104.

## City Tax Information

### Summer Taxes Collected

Summer Property Tax statements were mailed to City residents on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Tax collection begins July 1<sup>st</sup> and payments are accepted without penalty through August 4<sup>th</sup>. The summer property tax bill includes taxes for the School, Marquette-Alger Regional Education Service Agency, State Education, Library, City, Senior Millage, County Operating, and the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.

### Summer Tax Deferment

Eligible taxpayers may defer their summer taxes by submitting an application for deferment to the City Treasurer before September 15<sup>th</sup>. To qualify, the gross annual household income cannot exceed \$40,000 and the applicant is either:

- 1) age 62 years or older,
- 2) paraplegic or quadriplegic,
- 3) eligible service person who served in the active military forces during a period of "war,"
- 4) blind or
- 5) totally and permanently disabled

A deferment defers the due date of the summer taxes from August 4<sup>th</sup> to February 14<sup>th</sup> without penalty or interest.

### Summer and Holiday Hours in Effect

Summer hours will be in effect for City Hall offices through September 5, 2011. The offices will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Winter office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. will resume on Tuesday, September 6, 2011. There will be no change in hours for the Police or Fire Departments.

The City of Marquette Compost Drop-off Site will be closed July 2 and 4, 2011. The site will reopen at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 6, 2011.

**There is no change in garbage pick-up schedule for the July 4th holiday weekend.**

### Wristbands Sold to Fund Fireworks

Wristbands to support Marquette's Fourth of July fireworks are available at the City Manager's office at City Hall, 300 West Baraga Avenue. The fireworks are funded entirely by private donations; the red, white and blue wristbands are priced at \$3.00 each or two for \$5.00. The office is open Monday-Friday, from 7:30 a.m. - noon and 1:15 - 4:30 p.m.

### Marquette Matters Volume 1, Number 5

Marquette Matters, published bimonthly by the City of Marquette, is available to all residents and businesses online at [www.mqctcy.org](http://www.mqctcy.org). To sign up for our e-mail list or for story ideas please email [marquettematters@mqctcy.org](mailto:marquettematters@mqctcy.org) or call Nikke at (906) 228-0472.

Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the Marquette Matters newsletter at [marquettematters@mqctcy.org](mailto:marquettematters@mqctcy.org), or the Arts and Culture Center at (906) 228-0472.

## City Election Update

The City Clerk's office did not receive the minimum required number of candidates for either the City Commission, or the Board of Light and Power (BLP) to hold an August primary election this year. Therefore all candidates who filed will automatically appear on the ballot for the November 8, 2011 General Election. Four candidates have been approved by the City Election Board, for three City Commission seats that are up for election this year. Two candidate filings have been approved for the two open BLP seats. Candidates that will appear on the November ballot are as follows:

City Commission	Board of Light and Power
Robert Niemi	Edward Angeli
Michael Plourde	John Sonderegger
Don Ryan	
Fred Stonehouse	

## City Committee Openings

Current open city committee positions are listed below. If interested in becoming involved and filling a position, an application form can be found at [www.mqctcy.org/communitynetwork.html](http://www.mqctcy.org/communitynetwork.html). More information can be obtained by contacting Wendy Larson in the City Manager's office via email ([wlarson@mqctcy.org](mailto:wlarson@mqctcy.org)) or by phone (906) 225-8104.

Committee Name	Openings
Arts & Culture Advisory Committee	Two Vacancies
City of Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	Three Vacancies
Investment Advisory Board	One Vacancy
Local Officers Compensation Commission	Two Vacancies
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Marquette Schools)	One Vacancy
Peter White Public Library	One Vacancy
Planning Commission	One Vacancy
Police-Fire Pension Board	One Vacancy
Presque Isle Advisory Committee	Three Vacancies
Sister City Advisory Committee	Two Vacancies

## Marquette City Commission



**Mayor John Kivela**  
(h) 228-3761  
[jkivela@mqctcy.org](mailto:jkivela@mqctcy.org)

**Mayor Pro-Tem John DePetro**  
(h) 228-6581  
[jdepetro@mqctcy.org](mailto:jdepetro@mqctcy.org)



**Commissioner Robert Niemi**  
(h) 226-6208  
[niemi@mqctcy.org](mailto:niemi@mqctcy.org)



**Commissioner Don Ryan**  
(h) 228-2091  
[dryan@mqctcy.org](mailto:dryan@mqctcy.org)



**Commissioner David Saint-Onge**  
(c) 360-5076  
[dsaint-onge@mqctcy.org](mailto:dsaint-onge@mqctcy.org)



**Commissioner Jason Schneider**  
(c) 361-0857  
[jaschneider@mqctcy.org](mailto:jaschneider@mqctcy.org)



**Commissioner Frederick Stonehouse**  
(h) 226-6014  
[fstonehouse@mqctcy.org](mailto:fstonehouse@mqctcy.org)

## City Commission Meetings

The Commission usually meets the second and last Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, unless noted otherwise. Citizens are invited to attend.

**July 11, 2011, 7:00 p.m., Commission Chambers**

**July 25, 2011 7:00 p.m., Commission Chambers**

**August 8, 2011, 7:00 p.m., Commission Chambers**

**August 29, 2011, 7:00 p.m. Commission Chambers**

Meetings are televised on City of Marquette Channel 21, and are available on streaming video at [www.mqctcy.org](http://www.mqctcy.org).



# Waterfront Safety is Top Priority for Summer Months

## Proactive Police Department Prepares for Citizen Safety

The safety of our citizens and our officers is of the utmost importance to the City of Marquette Police Department. As a result, in late May and early June our department conducted Water Training for our officers. This training was taught by Sgt. Ryan Grim and Fireman Ben Wilder.

Officers first watched lifeguard training videos on reaching assists, throwing assists, self rescue, and inflating clothing. Officers then participated in a practical exercise in the PEIF pool. In an attempt to mimic a realistic water rescue incident, officers wore their uniform pants and t-shirt and entered the water using our department-issued lifejackets and rescue tubes (lifejackets and rescue tubes are carried in the trunk of all of our patrol vehicles). Officers swam a lap in the pool to familiarize themselves with the equipment, then paired up and practiced using the rescue tube to pull their partner to safety. Officers also practiced throwing assists using the tubes and a throw bag.

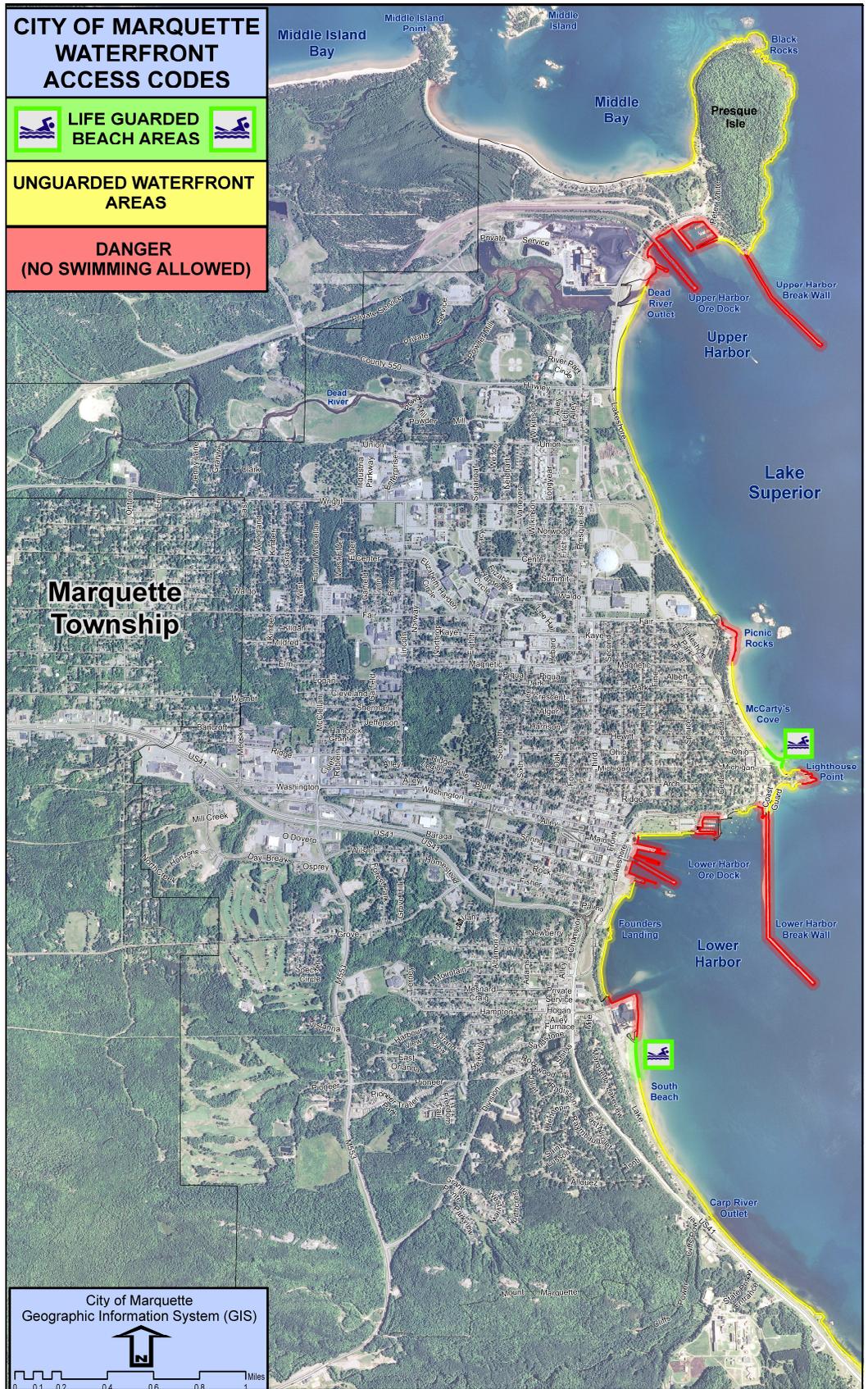
## Park Patrol in Operation

Park Patrol, which is operated through the Police Department, has also begun and will be monitoring the waterfront as an added safety measure. The Park Patrol officers are all certified lifeguards and carry basic lifesaving equipment in their patrol vehicle.

## No Dogs Allowed on Bathing Beaches

With the warmer weather, the public is reminded that no dogs are allowed on Marquette's two bathing beaches: McCarty's Cove and South Beach. Dogs are permitted on other stretches of shoreline provided they are on leashes. All pet owners are responsible for picking up their pets' excrement.

This is a matter of public safety and failure to comply may result in a ticket by Marquette Beach Patrol and/or Police Officers.



This map, created by the City of Marquette in collaboration with the Marquette County Convention and Visitors Bureau, shows citizens and visitors where designated swimming areas are and where no swimming is allowed. The map will be distributed throughout the City, including Northern Michigan University's campus, local hotels and at the Convention and Visitors Bureau.



McCarty's Cove, pictured above, is one of two designated swimming beaches within the City of Marquette. The other approved beach is South Beach, located on Lake Street. Both of these beaches are highlighted in green on the City of Marquette Waterfront Access Codes Map, above.

## Tourist Park Dam Update: Future Swimming Area

The Marquette Board of Light and Power is currently in the process of making repairs to the Tourist Park Dam. The following is an update of their progress:

- Seven fish cribs have been constructed and are spread out in the basin.
- The restoration of the existing core wall from the intake structure to the north spillway is complete.
- Concrete pouring will begin in July and is scheduled for completion the middle of October.
- The grading plan is complete for the 13 acres of new wetlands that will be created once the lake has been restored.
- Full pool elevation will be reached after the wetland planting and restoration of the swimming beach in June 2012.

For more information please call the MBLP at (906) 228-0300.

For detailed information, and for an up-to-date rip current forecast, please visit: [www.mqtcty.org/beachfront](http://www.mqtcty.org/beachfront)

# Project Updates within the City of Marquette

Busy with projects as the heart of summer approaches, the Engineering Department is encouraging anyone who sees activity in the City right of way and there is not an orange permit posted, to contact Greg Borzick or Keith Whittington from the Engineering Department at (906) 228-0440 to report. Listed below are updates on several current projects within the City of Marquette. For more information, please contact the Engineering Department at (906) 228-0440 or visit [www.mqtcty.org/eng.html](http://www.mqtcty.org/eng.html).

## Paving Project

The package project of Brule Road (Joliet to Schoolcraft), Adams Street (Mesnard to Hampton), Fair Avenue (Lincoln to Northrop), and Garfield Avenue (Jefferson to Sherman) was awarded to Smith Paving, Inc. at the April 25<sup>th</sup> City Commission meeting. Construction on Brule Road and Adams Street began in June. The Fair Avenue project between Northrop and Lincoln Avenue is scheduled to start July 18<sup>th</sup>. The Garfield Avenue project between Jefferson and Sherman Street is scheduled to start construction on August 15<sup>th</sup>. These dates may change pending field conditions and the progress of the other projects.

## Lakeshore Boulevard Project

The Lakeshore Boulevard project (a.k.a. Island Beach Road) was awarded to Hebert Construction at the April 25<sup>th</sup> City Commission meeting. First phase construction began in late June. The first phase began at the Peter White Drive and Lakeshore Boulevard intersection and continues to proceed westerly.

## Sanitary Sewer Slip Lining Project

The Sanitary Sewer Slip Lining project was awarded to Insituform Technologies USA, Inc. at the May 9<sup>th</sup> City Commission meeting. This trenchless technology process will rehabilitate over 10,000 feet of sanitary sewer piping throughout the City of Marquette and when completed leave a pipe that is in the same condition as a new sewer pipe. It is anticipated the contractor will be starting this process in the next few weeks. Residents in these areas will receive notification concerning how to avoid odor issues by checking that their sewer traps are functioning properly.

## Lake Street Multi-Use Path Project

The Lake Street Multi-Use Path project was tentatively awarded to A. Lindberg & Sons, Inc. at the May 23<sup>rd</sup> City Commission meeting. This project is partially funded by a Transportation Enhancement grant from the State of Michigan. We are in the process of finalizing the contracts with the State of Michigan and are anticipating a start in the next few weeks with completion in August.

## Ask the Engineers...

*Will my sanitary sewer lateral be replaced under the sanitary sewer lateral replacement program?*

This program has been combined with our street improvement and maintenance program to provide an efficient way of replacing these laterals before we mill and overlay the street. Under this program all orangeburg laterals will be replaced up to the right-of-way line. The lateral located between the right-of-way line and the home is the responsibility of the property owner to replace. A list of areas that will have streets milled and overlaid and those laterals that may require replacement are located in the "Capital Improvement Plan" on the City of Marquette website.

Laterals in these areas that may be milled and overlaid will be televised a year prior to the construction activities. Every effort is made by the City of Marquette Department of Public Works to make contact with the home owner to televise these laterals.

## New City Utility Rates as of July 1<sup>st</sup>

New City utility rates will take effect with the July 2011 billing cycle. The new rates were approved by the City Commission as part of the annual budget process in May. Water and sewer rates will continue to consist of a base rate and a variable rate. The base rates for both water and sewer will not change. However, the variable rates for both will increase slightly, as shown in the table below. There will be a slight overall increase in the stormwater base rate. There will be no change to garbage rates.

### Residential Customers Utility Rates (some exceptions apply)

	Base Rate (no change)		1 unit = 100 CF = 748 gals		Average Percent Increase
			Previous Variable Rate	Variable Rate, as of July 1 <sup>st</sup>	
Water	\$5.76	+	\$3.61	\$3.87	per unit \$0.26 7%
Sewer	\$5.00	+	\$4.95	\$5.70	per unit \$0.75 15%
Storm-water	\$5.32	+	n/a	\$5.59	base \$0.27 5%
Garbage	\$13.55	+	n/a	n/a	\$ - \$ - 0%

## Founders Landing Boardwalk and Sea Wall in Place

The Founders Landing Boardwalk and Sea Wall project is in progress and starting to take on the characteristics of the final product. The boardwalk is expected to be complete and open to the public in August. Part of the project is detailed below.



*The storm water treatment unit is pictured above. This structure will treat the storm water before entering Lake Superior by the use of vortex technology and sediment deposition. The Vortex system removes finer sediment, particles, free oil, and debris (such as trash) from urban runoff.*



*A view of the boardwalk looking toward the Ore Dock is pictured above. The pedestrian railing, park benches, and elevated block planters are in place.*

## Landfill Regulations

Authorized haulers are reminded that all loads, including those of furniture, papers, roofing, household trash and construction debris, hauled to the Marquette County Landfill **must** be tarped or the load will be turned away at the scale. Bungee cords or ropes are not acceptable. Netting that covers the whole load is acceptable.

Authorized haulers are also reminded that no yard waste is allowed at the landfill. Fines will be given if organics are dumped. Tires are also not allowed in the landfill. There is a separate collection area for both organics and tires. There is no smoking allowed within the landfill.

To become an authorized hauler within the City of Marquette, residents may visit the Treasurer's Office at 300 West Baraga Avenue, Marquette to obtain a permit (either individual or commercial). Only authorized haulers are allowed access to the Landfill. Scavenging is not allowed.

The landfill is located at 600 County Road NP, Marquette and its hours are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. For more information, please contact the Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority at (906) 249-4125.

## Citizens Invited to Assist with Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The City of Marquette is known for its quality of life. It could be said that one of the leading factors in the community's economic development model centers around the attractive recreation, cultural and open spaces that are abundant in our City. These qualities are not just happenstance but carefully planned decisions that community leaders have made in the past years. Many decisions are the result of good planning and planning tools. One such tool is the Five-Year Recreation Master Plan. The existing plan, which can be reviewed in its entirety on the City's website [www.mqtcty.org](http://www.mqtcty.org), was approved by the City Commission in November 2006. A new plan will be required to be completed and approved by January 2012.

The plan ideally forms the road map for the decisions made in the next five years regarding provision of parks and recreation land and other open spaces in the City. As with all planning efforts, the community must try and determine not only its current but also its future needs. The coordination of recreation planning with broader community and regional planning allows City leaders to better understand how recreation and open space planning relates to other planning decisions and how better coordination will improve the City's ability to factor population growth, population demographics, planned transportation systems and land uses, among other variables, into the plan.

The plan, not only a community public policy guide, is used as a resource when pursuing public grant funding. To be eligible to apply for several state and federal grants, the City must have an approved five-year recreation plan on file with the State.

The City is asking for your help through a public forum. Please plan on attending the forum on **July 14, 2011** from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Citizens Forum Room at Lakeview Arena. Your input is critical in determining quality of life priorities. Once the community has approved the direction, it will be submitted to the State for their record.

## Community Garden Continues to Grow

The Marquette Community Gardens (MCG) provides garden space for Marquette City residents to grow annual vegetables and flowers. Operating since 2003, the MCG got its start when a few residents started a discussion about the lack of vegetable growing space in their yards. Eight years later, the MCG consists of two sites and 71 members.

The original site is located between the Marquette City Park Cemetery and the Fit Strip. The second site was built in 2009 and is located behind the Shiras Pool building at Presque Isle Park. Members



*Presque Isle Pavilion, pictured above, located at Presque Isle Park, is a popular rental facility.*

pay a small fee to rent a garden bed for the growing season and commit to four hours of volunteer time to maintain the sites. The MCG grows and donates food to local food pantries and provides space for youth-based organizations. MCG membership runs from retirees to college students and everyone in between. The gardens are a showcase for veggie diversity and community spirit. If you would like to become a member please email your request to [marquettcommunitygardens@gmail.com](mailto:marquettcommunitygardens@gmail.com) or call the City of Marquette City Parks and Recreation Office at 228-0460.



*Left, a community garden member tends to her garden plot at the Presque Isle Community Garden space. In its eighth year of operation, the Community Garden is planting strong roots within the City of Marquette!*

## Points of Interest

### City Manager Holds Community Hours

Marquette residents, business owners and community partners are invited to meet with City Manager Bill Vajda, as well as other administration leaders on July 13 and August 10 from 10:00 a.m. - noon in the main floor conference room of the Peter White Public Library. The meetings are intended to provide an informal opportunity to discuss issues within the community, and to give citizens the opportunity for direct dialogue with City staff about interests and concerns.

### Local Musicians Perform at PWPL

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center is welcoming, in their debut performance on the First Thursday stage, "Sunset Machine." Sunset Machine is a band from Marquette, Michigan. With core members Tony Parlato on electric lead and slide guitar and Joe Seceast on acoustic guitar, the group focuses on original music in a variety of genres and styles, including folk, rock, blues, country and jazz. This new group's music is bound to be a delight for the whole family. A \$5.00 donation is requested at the door.

### Mixed Medias Featured at MACC

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center Gallery is proud to present 'What's in a Name?,' an exhibition of new work by Joe Sobel and Sean Michael Stimac, both NMU Art and Design graduates.

'What's in a Name?' will be on display at the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center's Lower Level Gallery from July 6 - July 30, with a public reception held for the artists in the gallery on Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. The Lower Level Gallery is located in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library, at 217 North Front Street.



*"Environments," by Joe Sobel*

### Finnish Sister City Delegation to Visit Marquette in July

The 2011 Sister City Delegation from Kajaani, Finland is scheduled to visit Marquette from July 17 - 31. The group consists of ten delegates. While visiting the Upper Peninsula, the delegation will meet with community leaders, educators, industry representatives and recreation hosts to compare and contrast Kajaani, Finland (highlighted on the map below in red) to Marquette. Kajaani and Marquette have registered as Sister Cities since 1997.

If you are interested in the Sister Cities Program, or would like more information about the Kajaani Delegation visit, please visit [www.mqtcty.org/arts\\_sister\\_cities.html](http://www.mqtcty.org/arts_sister_cities.html) or call the Arts and Culture Center at (906) 228-0472.



*Kajaani, Finland (in red)*

## Fourth Annual Blueberry Dance Festival Features Dancers of All Styles

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center and Second Skin Shop are holding their fourth annual Blueberry Dance Festival from July 29 - July 31, 2011. The Festival will offer intensive workshops, many free workshops by local instructors and guest dance performances by professional artists! Jazz and Tap intensive workshops with Cassie Freeborn, a musical theatre dance instructor based in San Francisco, California, will be held on Friday, July 29. Traditional Southern Indian dance workshops will be taught by Tamara Nadel, a Ragamala Troupe member on Sunday, July 31.

The increasingly popular dance competition will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 30, at Kaufman Auditorium. Interested dancers must register by July 22 to be included. Registration forms may be found at Second Skin Shop, 122 North Third Street, at the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center, located in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library at 217 North Front Street, or on the web at [www.mqtcty.org](http://www.mqtcty.org).

A dance performance will complete Saturday's events and feature the competition category

winners, the weekend's guest artists and several local dance professionals. The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Kaufman Auditorium and the public is welcomed to attend and view the impressive dance talent within the Marquette area.

The schedule of free workshops will be released on July 1. Please check [www.mqtcty.org](http://www.mqtcty.org) for a complete listing. For more information, please call Second Skin Shop at (906) 226-2263 or 1-800-906-7564, or the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center at (906) 228-0472.

# Marquette Water Resources

## Rain Barrel Cost - Share Program to Begin in July

Starting in July, the City of Marquette, in cooperation with the Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP), will coordinate a new rain barrel cost-share program for city residents. Rain barrels are an easy way to limit the amount of stormwater leaving one's property. By re-using the stormwater, fresh water is saved and residents can significantly reduce their summer water bill. Plus, rain barrels are easy to install on most rain gutter down spouts. Starting in July simply visit the SWP website (<http://www.superiorwatersheds.org>) for information on how to order your rain barrel on-line directly from the manufacturer.

City residents will receive a bulk discount price and have it shipped directly to their home address.

Once the rain barrel has been installed, residents can provide a photo (or set up a site visit to verify installation) with SWP and receive \$50.00 towards the purchase price. If you do not have access to a computer, simply contact the SWP for more information on how to participate (SWP 228-6095). Rebate funding is limited so cost-sharing is available on a first come first served basis. Funding provided through the EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

## Ask the Water Department...

### *Why is the beach closed today?*

Millions of people in the Great Lakes region are hitting the beach each year-but red flags and "no swimming" signs often crush hopes for a leisurely day spent at the water's edge. While there are a number of reasons to shut down beaches for the public, a cause for beach closings and advisories is water pollution caused by elevated levels of bacteria. The presence of certain bacteria such as *E. coli* indicates the presence of human or animal wastes in the water. If bacteria counts are high enough that there is a risk of illness, a beach closing or advisory is issued.

### *How is the Beach Water Tested?*

The most basic test for microbial contamination is the test for total coliform bacteria. Total coliforms include bacteria found in human and animal waste (fecal coliforms) as well as bacteria that occur naturally in water and soil. Total coliform (TC) counts give a general indication of the sanitary condition of the water.

### *What is E. Coli?*

*Escherichia coli* (or *E. coli* for short) is a common bacterium that lives in human and animal intestines, where it is present in large numbers. There are hundreds of *E. coli* strains and most are relatively harmless, causing illnesses such as traveler's diarrhea only when consumed in exceedingly high numbers. A notorious exception is *E. coli* strain 0157:H7, an emerging pathogen that produces a powerful toxin and can cause severe illness.

### *How does bacteria get into the water?*

Any transport that helps to carry sewage and wastes to lakes

contributes to pollution problems with pathogens. Sewage treatment plant effluent, for example, is often directly disposed of in rivers or streams. Storm sewers carry dog and cat feces off sidewalks and city streets and into streams. Improperly sited or maintained septic systems may discharge pathogens to underlying groundwater. In numerous locations, pipes dispose raw sewage into the lakes. Cattle and other domesticated animals can void feces directly in streams or lakes, as do wild animals and birds. Manure can contribute pathogens to surface water via runoff and erosion.

### *How can we keep our beaches clean?*

#### 1. Identify Pollution Sources

An important part of curbing beach and water pollution is to find out where it's coming from. Then people can start doing some thing about it. Communities or citizen groups can draft appropriate policies and take necessary action.

#### 2. Stopping Sewage Overflows

Smart and controlled development ensures that sewer systems have enough capacity to handle the wastes of new households and businesses.

#### 3. Curbing Pollution at home

During storms, delay activities that require a lot of water, such as doing laundry, washing dishes, or sprinkling the lawn.

#### 4. Being a Responsible Beachgoer

Plan ahead and bring a trash bag with you on your next trip. Many beaches now require that all visitors take home everything they bring, including their trash.

#### 5. Eliminating Boating Waste

When you go boating, don't empty your waste into the water.



*Coaster II*



*Lynx America's Privateer*



*Pride of Baltimore II*

## Marquette Hosts Tall Ships Visit

Three tall ships will be making their way to Marquette's Lower Harbor between July 22 - 24, 2011.

The first ship, *Pride of Baltimore II*, is 157 feet and is the world's most traveled schooner. It was built as a reproduction 1812 era Baltimore Clipper Privateer. The original "Pride" defended America's freedom during the War of 1812.

The second ship, *Lynx America's Privateer*, is 122 feet and is an interpretation of a Privateer or Naval Schooner from the War of 1812. Movie buffs may recognize the vessel, as it was utilized to train the cast and crew of the hit movie "Pirates of the Caribbean."

The third ship is Marquette's own *Superior Odyssey Coaster II*, at 58 feet. It is classified as a National Historic Schooner; it was built in 1933. The *Coaster II* is a wooden hulled, gaff-rigged schooner with topsails. It was originally designed by Murry Peterson as his personal yacht. More information can be found about the Coaster II at its website, [www.superiorodyssey.com](http://www.superiorodyssey.com).

The ships are tentatively scheduled to arrive at Lower Harbor at 6:00 p.m. on July 22. The public is invited to welcome the ships at Mattson Lower Harbor Park. Tours are available on all three ships. The ships will be open for touring on Saturday, July 23 and Sunday, July 24 from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. For more information about the visit, please visit [www.mqtmaritimemuseum.com](http://www.mqtmaritimemuseum.com).