

Monthly Newsletter

City of Summerset

August 2023

Monthly Happenings

Commission Meetings:

August 3rd and August 17th at 6pm.

Planning and Zoning Meetings:

August 8th and August 22nd at 6pm.

Back to School

Stagebarn Middle School - First Day of School is Monday, August 28, 2023

Rapid City Area Schools - Regular classes begin on Tuesday, August 22, 2023

Summerset Police Department

The 83rd Sturgis Motorcycle Rally

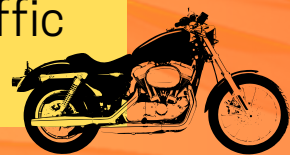
Starting August 4th and lasting until August 13th, the Sturgis Rally is upon us. Love it or hate it, the annual event draws huge crowds. While some people opt out entirely by leaving for the duration of the event, not everyone has that option. And, of course, many people love the rally and all it has to offer. Whether it's your first rally or fiftieth, it's always good to refresh ourselves on how to stay safe with the surge in traffic.

KEEP YOUR HEAD ON A SWIVEL

Watch for motorcycles in your blind spots. Folks driving cars, trucks and SUVs need to be vigilant, especially these next couple of weeks. Double check before merging or changing lanes, especially on interstate and state highways. If you're part of the motorcycle crowd, give other vehicles plenty of space and make sure you're not darting in and out of their blind spots.

GIVE YOURSELF EXTRA TIME

One of the best things about living in South Dakota is the overall light traffic. It's going to be a little different the next couple of weeks. We've heard a lot of comments about more tourist traffic than usual already this summer. That's only going to amplify the next couple weeks. There will be more motorcycles, trailers, campers, trucks, etc. Speeding is responsible for a good portion of crashes. So, slow down and give yourself extra time to account for slower-moving traffic lines, clogged intersections, and sparse parking.



Summerset PD cont.

REMEMBER SPEED LIMIT CHANGES

We're used to open roads and high-speed limits. The speed limit on Interstate 90 will change to 65 mph (instead of 75 mph) from Rapid City to Sturgis. Be sure to watch for speed limit changes in high traffic or construction areas. When in doubt, slow down! You can also follow the South Dakota Highway Patrol, South Dakota Department of Transportation, and local law enforcement agencies on social media sites like Facebook and Twitter for real time updates on traffic impacted by weather or crashes.

KNOW YOUR ROUTE

Take a little extra time planning your route before you start, as well. Navigation systems are great, but even hands-free options can be distracting when you need to focus on the road. If you're going somewhere new or unfamiliar, map it out ahead of time. And for visitors to the area, remember the Black Hills have a lot of winding, narrow roads.

WATCH THE WEATHER

With our notoriously fickle weather, it's a good idea to keep an eye on the sky. (It is still hail season, after all.) Luckily, there are myriad weather websites, apps or local storm chasers who can keep you up to date on any abrupt wind shifts.



Summerset PD cont.

And finally:

KEEP AN EYE ON THE CLOCK

It's hard to gauge "peak travel times" during the rally. There isn't really a rush hour (such as there ever is in these parts) so much as a "rush week." That said, traffic on Interstate 90 and the major highways does start to pick up at 5 p.m. People dispersed throughout the hills during the day all start to head back into Sturgis for the evening. I-90 between Sturgis and Rapid City is especially busy in the evening. Plan accordingly.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

With having increased rainy weather the WWTP would like to remind all residents that your sump pumps should be draining to the outside of your residence, and not down your household sewer plumbing.

Also, please remember that the only item that is flushable is toilet paper. All other sanitary items should be placed in a trash receptacle. Even personal wipes which state 'flushable' do not break down and should not be flushed down the toilet.



City Utility Billing

Bills for sewer and trash were mailed out 08/01/2023, and ***if you notice a difference from the amount you're used to paying, it's because there was a decrease in sales tax. Most people will notice a \$0.05 difference.***

Going forward, if your account is delinquent, please make your payment by Monday afternoon at 12:00 to ensure your trash service, for that week, will not be interrupted. We strive to pull the automated payments as close to the 20th of the month as possible. We had a slight hiccup with our new processing program in July, but we hope to work out all the bugs and have things run more efficiently this month. As usual, late fees will be charged to accounts on August 21st. Needless to say, we check the drop box, and USPS delivered mail before we process late fees.

Upcoming Events

- Food Truck Night - 08/02/2023
 - at Summerset City Offices
- Labor Day-
 - Offices closed September 4th.