



City of Shelby

January 2020 Newsletter

Dear Shelby Residents,

Happy New Year from the City of Shelby! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season spending time with family and friends and 2020 will be happy and healthy!

Here we are starting a new year and with that, a great time to focus on physical activity and encourage healthy changes in all our lives. We are so fortunate to have wonderful facilities like the Shelby Civic Center in which to exercise and recreate. Included in this newsletter is information on the Civic Center hours; classes; and amenities offered. If you have ideas or input on how to further improve the facility, please let us know. We want to make the facility accessible and fun for all!

In this issue, you will also find information on a community referendum on hand-held communication devices usage which will be voted on in November 2020, assistance programs available in the community, winter driving tips, the Annual Toole County Combined Fund Drive, Census 2020 and so much more.

We thank you for your patience during the storm water drainage project. We are working hard to provide safe, efficient infrastructure, accessible facilities and a community in which we are all proud to live, work and raise our families. Here's to a great 2020!

Special points of Interest:

- Electronic Devices
- Small Conversations
- Shelby Plate
- Online Payments
- Snow Removal
- Fund Drive
- Winter Driving
- 2020 Census
- Recycle Shelby
- Civic Center

2020 DOG & CAT LICENSES

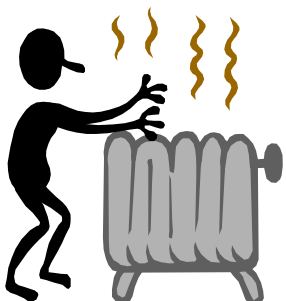
Please purchase your 2020 dog and cat licenses the month of January at City Hall

- proof of current rabies vaccination is required at time of purchase •
- Neutered or Spayed - \$10 • Not Neutered or Spayed - \$20



Assistance Programs

Winter is HERE! The City of Shelby would like to make you aware of the resources available to assist if you are in need.



- **LIEAP- Low Income Energy Assistance Program:** Applications for assistance are available from the North Central Area Agency on Aging. The office is located at 311 So. Virginia, Suite #2 in Conrad. For more information on income guidelines please contact them at (406) 271-7553 or 1-800-551-3191.
- **Opportunities Inc. Emergency Resource Services:** Emergency rental assistance is available to those who qualify. For assistance, please call (406) 216-2300 for appointments.
- **Opportunities Inc. Weatherization Services:** If you qualify for LIEAP assistance, you also qualify for weatherization services. Call (406) 216-3055 for information regarding this program.
- **Energy Share of Montana:** If you've applied for LIEAP and don't qualify or if you need further assistance with your energy costs you can apply for Energy Share. Contact Opportunities Inc. at (406) 761-0310.

Use of Electronic Communications Devices While Operating a Motor Vehicle

Since the inception of the Shelby-Toole County Transportation Safety Committee, the first priority has been addressing distracted driving. Formed in 2010, the committee is comprised of city and county officials, Marias Medical Center personnel, Shelby and North Toole County School officials, local law enforcement, Montana Highway Patrol, Toole County Ambulance, city and county attorneys, city judge, Montana Department of Transportation, area youth programs and concerned citizens who have been working diligently in finding resources and making changes in the community which serve to prevent injuries, save lives, and reduce economic costs of motor vehicle crashes.

The number one cause of distracted driving is use of a cellphone. Nationwide statistics show 11 teens die EACH DAY as a result of texting while driving. At the same time, 1 out of every 4 traffic crashes are caused by cell phone usage. Locally, 2018 crash data showed 39 crashes that occurred in Shelby were due to careless/inattentive/distracted driving. Thankfully, none resulted in serious or fatal injury, but the number of crashes has increased steadily for the last 10 years.



In 2017, the Toole County Health Department conducted a Community Health Assessment for Shelby and Toole County. 76% of the respondents reported distracted driving as a "problem" or "big problem" and 10% of area high school students taking the Youth Risk Behavior Survey reported distracted driving by taking cell calls or texting while driving at least 3-5 days of every month.

The Transportation Safety Committee, led by Sheriff Whitt, Robyn Kimmet and Lorette Carter presented these findings to the Shelby City Council for consideration in adopting an ordinance in which to prohibit hand held electronic communications device usage within Shelby. After much council discussion and citizen input, the Shelby City Council has chosen to put the measure on the November ballot for the community to have a voice in whether or not to ban use of handheld communication devices while driving within the City of Shelby. This gives you the opportunity to let your voice be heard on this critical safety issues within our community.



As we begin a new year, let's also begin a serious conversation with our teens about topics such as underage drinking. Some parents might think that battling underage drinking is a futile effort, but studies show that *parents who adopt a zero tolerance for underage drinking were the top reason that teens don't drink.*

Opportunities for underage drinking rise dramatically when students are not in school or structured activities. Underage drinking is a leading contributor to death from injuries, which are the main cause of death for people under age 21.

To help keep your kids safe and prevent alcohol and drug-related tragedies, here's some advice for parents:

- Talk to your teen ahead of time and prior to any school functions or teen gatherings and be clear in your expectations that they are prohibited from drinking and using illegal substances.
- Be a model for conscientious behavior. Your children look to you as a model for their behavior.
- If your child is going to a party at a friend's house, phone ahead and make sure there will not be any alcohol beverages available.

Short, frequent discussions can have a real impact on your child's decisions about alcohol. Lots of little talks are more effective than one "big talk."

Sitting down for the "big talk" about alcohol can be intimidating for both you and your child. Try using everyday opportunities to talk— in the car, during dinner, running errands or shopping, or while you and your child are watching TV. Having lots of little talks takes the pressure off trying to get all of the information out in one lengthy discussion, and your child will be less likely to tune you out.

Remember that the conversation goes both ways. Although talking to your child about your thoughts about alcohol is essential, it's also important to hear their point of view. Give your child the opportunity to ask you questions, and listen to what they have to say. Children who have parents who listen to their feelings and concerns are more likely to say "no" to alcohol.



**CHECK OUT THE CITY OF SHELBY LICENSE PLATE
WHEN IT'S TIME FOR YOUR PLATE RENEWAL!**



We are now happy to offer our customers the ability to pay their monthly City of Shelby utility bill online. Simply click the pay utility bill online button on our website www.shelbymt.com and you will be directed to the City of Shelby Express Payment Portal. You can also type <https://shelby.billingdoc.net/express-pay> in your browser and be taken directly to the payment portal. We hope this added feature will provide a much needed convenience for our customers!

SNOW REMOVAL

Below you will find the City of Shelby sidewalk snow removal ordinance. To date, we have experienced several slip and falls due to ice and snow accumulations on sidewalks throughout the city. We note that only approximately 30% of the sidewalks in our community are being shoveled in compliance with our ordinance. Most of the slip and falls have been senior citizens and some of the injuries have been extensive.

We ask for everyone's cooperation in shoveling their sidewalks in compliance with our ordinance.

The City of Shelby will enforce the ordinance following the enforcement provisions as follows:

9-4-1 KEEPING SIDEWALKS CLEAR:

A. It shall be the duty of the owner of any premises within the limits of the municipality to keep the sidewalk of and abutting his premises clear of more than one inch of snow, any amount of snow pack, any amount of ice, any amount of slush, any amount of mud, and all other threats to safe foot travel and to prevent the accumulation of same.

B. A property owner shall have twenty-four hours after a snow storm ends to clear the sidewalk of snow greater in depth than one inch.

C. A property owner shall have twenty-four hours after snow pack, ice, slush, mud, or other threats to safe foot travel accumulate to remove the snow pack, ice, slush, mud, or threat.

D. In the event that snow or ice cannot be reasonably removed due to possible damage to the sidewalk or it is otherwise largely impractical to remove, the owner shall put on the sidewalk sand or other abrasive material in such an amount and manner to make foot traffic reasonably safe. The owner shall maintain that condition until weather permits the removal of the snow or ice.

9-4-2 FAILURE TO COMPLY: Upon the failure of the owner of any premises to keep the sidewalk abutting his property in compliance with 9-4-1, SMC, the City of Shelby shall have the right to remove such snow, snow pack, ice, slush, mud, and other threats to safe foot travel and assess the cost thereof against the property abutting the sidewalk.

9-4-3 NO NOTICE REQUIRED: The City of Shelby is not required to provide any notice to the owner of the premises abutting a sidewalk before it exercises its rights under 9-4-2, SMC.

• • • TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE • • •

There is still time to make your commitment to the Toole County Combined Fund Drive. Each year, community volunteers give of their time and energy to organize a one-time community-wide fundraising campaign. These very deserving organizations from throughout Toole County are represented in the campaign. They include the following:

Shelby Girl Scouts • Shelby Swim Team • Toole County Youth Soccer • Shelby Baseball Association

Hi-Line Help for Abused Spouses • Multiple Sclerosis Association • North Toole County Youth Program

Sagebrush Food Pantry • Toole County Crimestoppers • Toole County Friends of the Library • Recycle Shelby

Prairie Oasis Animal Shelter • Center for Mental Health • The Carousel Rest Area of Shelby • Toole County Garden Club

Alzheimer's Association • American Cancer Society • Toole County Performing Arts & Entertainment

Last year the Toole County Combined Fund Drive only raised \$12,675.00 that was divided between these organizations. These funds are vital for sports programs, recycling efforts, construction costs of the Carousel, pet food and supplies for the animal shelter, assistance to those affected by abuse and crime, community organizations and national organizations that research and fight devastating illness that affect all of us. By combining these public appeals into one campaign, it makes for the best use of resources, time and energy and provides a simple method for all of us to give to so many worthwhile organizations.

Your generous support sustains and grows these vital community organizations. We hope you will thoughtfully consider your contribution and give generously to all or individual organizations within the campaign as... **Together we can make a difference!**

WINTER DRIVING TIPS.

If you enjoy winter travel, you already know that preparation is the key to success. Whether you are traveling for fun or for work, advance preparation is important when it comes to winter driving. You'll need to make sure your car is in good working order before you leave home. You'll also need to know how to drive it safely in snow and ice. Unfortunately, winter driving skills typically aren't part of the driver licensing exam. You have to learn them from someone else.



Prepare for Winter Driving

Check your vehicle. Your car or truck should be in good operating condition. Tires should have plenty of tread and your lights, defroster and windshield wipers should all function properly.

Check (or ask your mechanic to monitor) fluid levels, particularly oil, antifreeze, washer fluid and gasoline. Make sure your battery is in good shape; it will have more trouble starting your car in extremely cold weather. If you know you will be driving in a storm, fill your gas tank before you leave home so you don't run out of gas en route. Carry chains or put snow tires on your car if you are driving in areas known for heavy snowfalls.

Organize emergency supplies. Everyone should travel with emergency items, but this becomes even more important during the winter storm season. Be sure you have a blanket, warm clothing, sand or cat litter, a shovel, an ice scraper and a working cell phone.

Look at road conditions. Find out about driving conditions along your journey and research the weather forecast during your trip. Just because your ski resort has sunny weather now does not mean you won't have to drive in a blizzard on your way home. Check the weather report periodically during your trip, too.

Make sure you have a map and know the locations of bridges and curvy roads. Road surfaces on bridges freeze quickly, as do areas of mountain roads that are in the shade all day.

Winter Driving Techniques

You can basically break winter driving skills into three areas: braking, steering and accelerating. Rain, snow and ice all reduce the friction between your car and the road, making skids and spins more likely. If you focus on braking, steering and accelerating slowly and carefully, you'll be able to maintain control of your car.

Braking. Allow lots and lots of extra room to slow down, and always brake slowly. Don't "slam on" your brakes; if you do, you will probably skid. If possible, brake while driving in a straight line. In other words, brake before driving into a curve or onto an icy patch. If your car has an anti-lock braking system (ABS), you do not need to "pump" your brakes to slow down. Older cars without an ABS will need to have their brakes "pumped" (repeated application of your foot to the brake pedal) in order to slow down quickly.

Steering. If you are driving on snow and ice, always steer gradually. Don't jerk the wheel or make rapid changes in direction. If you feel your car losing its grip on the road (hydroplaning or skidding), resist the urge to steer sharply to get out of danger. Instead, steer slowly and gradually *into* the skid. If you are hydroplaning, steer in a straight line. It's far better to skid, even if you go off the road, than to overcorrect and flip your car.

Accelerating. Never "floor" your gas pedal in winter driving conditions. Always speed up gradually in order to keep your car in contact with the pavement. Slow down carefully, too.

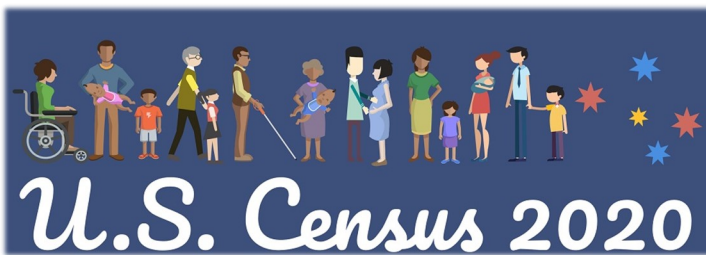
Safe Winter Driving - The Bottom Line

If you are traveling during the winter, driving may not always be your best option. You may know what to do, but you may end up on a road during a blizzard with drivers who have no idea how to drive in snow. Follow the recommendations of local authorities during ice and snow events. When in doubt, stay home. Spending an extra day in your living room or hotel is far preferable to risking your life in a winter storm.

CENSUS 2020 - EVERY PERSON COUNTS!

Beginning in March, the 2020 census count will take place across the country. The US Constitution requires a population count every 10 years. The count provides the basis in reapportionment of House of Representative seats which Montana is very close to gaining another seat. The count also provides critical information in the distribution of \$675 million federal dollars and as a guide to planning for communities' critical public services which include roads, schools, hospitals, fire, emergency response and hundreds of other programs.

The 2020 Census count will offer 4 ways to respond. You will be able to access the census through secure internet or respond by phone. You will also be able to receive a paper form through the mail or through an in-person interview.



Your personal information will be confidential and cannot be shared with law enforcement.

Shelby City Hall will have a computer available in City Hall to complete the census. It will have secure internet access and give you another option for registering.

The 2020 Census is important to us and our community. When the time comes, please do your part and be counted. EVERY PERSON COUNTS!!!

Recycle Shelby • Cardboard, Aluminum & Tin

Recycling is not a money maker, but a critical service that makes our community, our county and our world a better place now and for generations to come. Since its inception in 2011, Shelby's small recycling efforts have kept over 550,000 pounds of aluminum, tin, paper, cardboard and e-waste out of our landfill ~ saving valuable space; recovering precious metals; reducing energy waste and pollution; and making new products that save our country's valuable resources. Unfortunately, we recently lost our paper bin. World market prices no longer allowed Steel Etc. to continue in the paper recycling business.

Here's what Recycle Shelby now offers:

Aluminum Trailer: Bins are available for aluminum cans only.

- All aluminum should be crushed. Crushed cans take up less space.
- Please don't mix the aluminum and tin. A separate tin bin is on the site.
- Please no bags, sacks or boxes....**CANS ONLY!**

Cardboard Bin: Corrugated cardboard only.

- Only sturdy shipping boxes
- No food boxes, paper rolls or paper
- Please don't leave plastic bags or trash in bin.

A metal bin is on the site for those people who are unable to lift the lids to dump their aluminum and a separate bin for tin products. You can leave your aluminum and tin in bags or boxes in the separate bins on the site as it makes it easier to transfer to the aluminum trailer and load into a truck for transporting to Great Falls. No bags, sacks or boxes in the aluminum trailer or cardboard bin please!

Please don't use the containers or metal bins for garbage or plastic. There is a dumpster on site for plastic bags and trash. Please keep our recycling containers and site clean.

And PLEASE...**REDUCE-REUSE-RECYCLE**



No matter how prepared we are for it, winter always seems to hit us hard! But this year, let's hit it back with these new and amazing classes we have at the Civic Center! The office is open from 10am-6pm Monday through Friday and 1pm-6pm on Saturdays! On weekends we offer birthday party or social event rental and roller skating on Saturday's from 2:30pm-4:30pm! The civic center has so much to offer individuals as well as families. We currently offer roller skating, workout classes, racquetball, a teen room, basketball, two cardio rooms and a weight room that can help anyone achieve their target result. At the Civic Center office you will be able to purchase anything from a day pass, class passes, monthly passes to key fobs that will get you 24 hour access to our facility! Prices vary from prorated amounts to full month rates! Stop by, call or email for any questions, scheduling or pricing. We are always happy to give tours of the facility to anyone and welcome all newcomers to our community.

CIVIC CENTER CLASS SCHEDULE

Office Hours: 10am-6pm Monday – Friday • 1pm-6pm Saturday
Phone Number: (406) 434-5114 • Email: shelbyciviccenter@shelbymt.com

MONDAY

- 12PM • HIIT WORKOUT & WEIGHT ROOM CLASS WITH DARCY WHITE
- 4PM-5PM • YOUTH RACQUETBALL LESSONS WITH ED SKESLIEN
- 4PM-6PM • ROLLER SKATING

TUESDAY

- 12PM • HIIT WORKOUT & WEIGHT ROOM CLASS WITH DARCY WHITE
- 5:15PM • TAI CHI CLASS WITH BARBARA SCHIFFNER
- 5:30PM • STEP CLASS WITH TRESSA KELLER

WEDNESDAY

- 5:15AM • AEROBICS HIGH FITNESS CLASS WITH ARIEL WEISHAAR
- 10AM • TAI CHI CLASS WITH BARBARA SCHIFFNER
- 12PM • HIIT WORKOUT & WEIGHT ROOM CLASS WITH DARCY WHITE

THURSDAY

- 5:45AM STEP CLASS WITH TRESSA KELLER
- 12PM • HIIT WORKOUT & WEIGHT ROOM CLASS WITH DARCY WHITE
- 5:15PM • AEROBICS HIGH FITNESS WITH BROOKE WEISHAAR





CITY OF

SHELBY

M O N T A N A

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