NEWS AND INFORMATION

McLeod County Newsletter

MᶜLEOD COUNTY

In This Issue

McLEOD COUNTY

McLeod County Government Center

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Glencoe, Minnesota 55336

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mcleodcountymn.gov

County Launches Updated Website

The McLeod County website has an updated look and a new address. After several months of preparation, the County launched the www.mcleodcountymn.gov website on December 14, 2021.
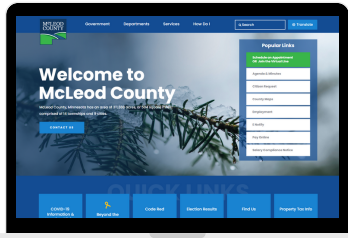
Many familiar features are still available on the updated site. Users will enjoy changes that enhance accessibility and provide uniformity between all areas of the site for a better user experience. Throughout the process of migrating content from the previous page to the new page, many links, forms and contact information were also updated.

In 2020, McLeod County solicited for photo submissions that depicted life in McLeod County; many of these great photo submissions can be seen on our new page.

COUNTY WEBSITE

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VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE:

WWW.MCLEODCOUNTYMN.GOV

Enhanced Accessibility

Look for the Accessibility Icon on our site to open the Accessibility Menu.

New Accessible Features Include:

- Contrast
- Text Size
- Pause Animations
- Highlight Links
- Text Spacing
- Dyslexia Friendly
- Curser
- Tools and Tips

New ".gov" Address

Updated website address: www.McLeodCountyMN.gov

The website can still be accessed from the previous website address. Save this new address in your browser favorites!

Translation Feature

The Translation Feature allows users to view the website content in many different languages. Check it out by clicking on the button at the top of our website homepage.

Q Search   ⊕ Translate

Morningside Avenue

With construction completed in December of 2021, this project is located in the City of Glencoe and included construction of 0.5 miles of new urban roadway, 700 feet of reconstructed roadway, a new railroad crossing and a roundabout servicing businesses, residential homes and the Glencoe Silver Lake School.

HISTORY

- A three-phase project that began in 2005 to provide Glencoe with an important second river crossing and a vital local and regional connection through the community of Glencoe between US 212 and Trunk Highway (TH) 7.
- The Connection had been identified in various comprehensive planning documents and transportation studies over the past several decades.

KEY ELEMENTS

The project included the following elements:
- New regional highway corridor connection
- Roundabout
- Improved drainage and storm water ponding for local flood mitigation
- Trail connection to public school campus and regional trail system
- Improved rail crossing with gates and signals for both pedestrians and vehicles

DESIGN

- Design considerations included: design of roadway adjacent to 9 existing homes, a Coborn's grocery store, pharmacy and coffee drive-thru.
- Adjacent to existing high voltage transmission lines, a public park, HRA housing, wetlands and a former city landfill.
- The final product is the only roadway in the community that provides access across Buffalo Creek to US Highway 212 while also providing direct access to the community and other regional transportation corridors.
- A roundabout promotes traffic calming as high speed vehicles enter the city from the north and also reduced the footprint of the intersection which minimized the overall impact to existing wetlands in the area.

FUNDING

Project funding came from multiple sources, including MnDOT Rail Safety Funding, Twin Cities and Western (TCW) Railroad, Local Road Improvement Plan (LRIP) earmarks (two separate bonding years), County State Aid, Municipal State Aid and local City and County funds.

PARKS

McLeod County's six parks continue to operate on winter hours: 8:00 a.m. until Sunset
All parks have hiking trails available; cross-country skiing and snowshoeing is encouraged. The County's Park and Recreation workers keep trails at Stahl's Lake Park groomed throughout winter months; ideal for cross-country skiing!
Be sure to get out and stay active during the winter season!

VACCINATION CLINICS

McLeod County Health and Human services continues to offer weekly COVID-19 vaccination clinics at its Government Center location (Glencoe, Minnesota).
Visit our COVID-19 page on the McLeod County website for more information on vaccination efforts or to register for one of our upcoming vaccination clinics.

WINTER WEATHER

McLeod County's website and social media pages provide current information on winter road conditions and severe weather preparedness. To learn more, visit the McLeod County Sheriff's Office and McLeod County Public Works Facebook pages, or our website at: www.McLeodCountyMN.gov

WINTER UPDATES

Administrator's Message
Cheers

TO THE NEW YEAR

McLeod County Administration would like to take a moment to recognize the individuals who provide services to our communities every day. Our team of Employees and Elected Officials have continued to deliver support to McLeod County citizens throughout the pandemic; we are looking forward to 2022 and beyond.

Our facility changes over the past year have been well-received by our Staff and the Public. Thank you for your cooperation and support while we adjust to our location changes. We have now closed on the sale of both the former Health and Human Services building (Ford Avenue, Glencoe) and the North Complex (Hennepin Avenue, Glencoe). Please continue to visit us at the Government Center at 520 Chandler Avenue, Glencoe, for any services previously located in our former facilities.

Happy New Year!
Sheila Murphy, County Administrator

THE TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE:
Washington D.C. Fly-In

McLeod County continues to be an active partner in supporting improvements in transportation throughout the State that support routes of commerce, accessibility, sustainability and growth of our communities and businesses.

Commissioners Joe Nagel and Nathan Schmalz, along with Public Works Director and County Engineer John Brunkhorst, recently attended the 2021 Transportation Alliance fly-in located in Washington, D.C. This is an important event that connects McLeod County representatives with State and Federal representatives; the McLeod County representatives each meet with these representatives and share our County's current and future needs, while learning about plans throughout the State that impact our directive.

The Transportation Alliance provides an opportunity to learn about available resources and accessible funding to assist us planning improvements and future projects.

Sheila Murphy, McLeod County Administrator
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McLEOD COUNTY SPOTLIGHT:

Christy Christensen, McLeod GIS Manager, elected as Minnesota County GIS Association (MCGISA) President

The Minnesota County Geographic Information Systems Association (MCGISA) has recently elected McLeod County GIS Manager Christy Christensen as its new president. The organization, originally founded in 2007, represents county-level geographic information systems professionals who create and maintain the digital data that supports mapping, web applications and location analysis for a variety of county functions. These functions range widely from public works asset management, law enforcement, preparing data for emergency and police response systems, property tax collection, property management, environmental protection to managing the collection and maintenance of aerial imagery repositories.

Christensen was unanimously elected as President by MCGISA's ten regional representatives.

"Christensen is heralded for his extensive technical experience and long-standing leadership in county-level geographic information systems development and management. During his 30+year tenure in county government, McLeod County has been widely acknowledged as a leader in developing and maintaining high-quality address data, road network data, public land survey and parcel data."

The organization has recently been working to both reinvent and reinvigorate itself to meet new upcoming challenges which involve GIS technology including preparing for NextGen9-1-1, improving inter-governmental data interoperability with data standards development and adoption, supporting the professional survey community in the re-monumentation of the statewide public land survey system infrastructure as well as aligning themselves with other groups in finding ways to maximize public investment in geospatial technology. Under Christensen's leadership, the organization has already identified goals of prioritizing technology issues common to all counties in Minnesota and establishing a modest scholarship fund for up-and-coming individuals in the profession.

Other officers newly elected in to the MCGISA Executive Team with Christensen include Treasurer Mark Sloan (Clay County), Secretary Justin Lutterman (LeSueur County) and Vice President Geoff Maas (Ramsey County).

Health and Human Services:
COVID-19 CORNER

MCLEOD COUNTY STATISTICS

453
NEW Cases November 29 through December 12, 2021

215
ACTIVE cases (still in isolation) as of December 12, 2021

57.4%
Total percent of population vaccination (McLeod County)

TESTING REMAINS IMPORTANT
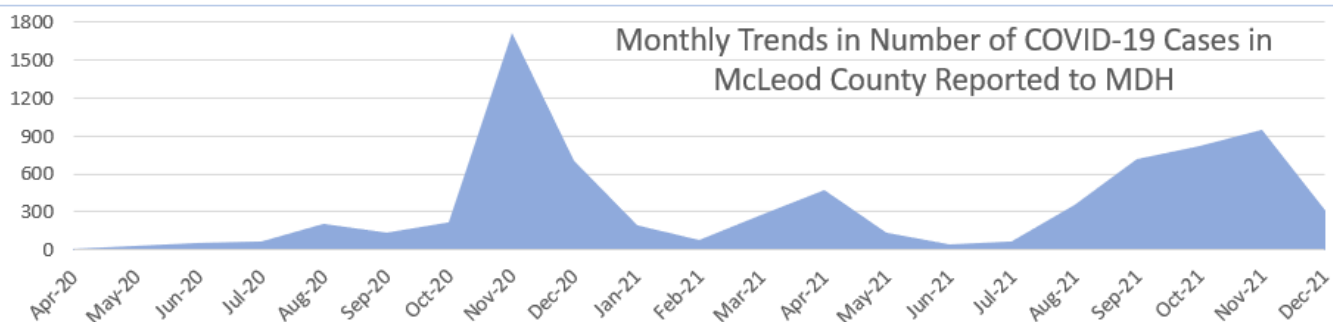
✓ For Everyone

✓ Vaccinated and Unvaccinated

To find a testing site near you, visit the COVID-19 page of the McLeod County Website.

GATHERING TOGETHER TIPS

✓ Get vaccinated

✓ Stay home if you have symptoms

✓ Wear a mask

✓ Consider outdoor or socially distanced activities.

✓ Get tested a few days prior to gatherings.

Who Should Get A Booster?

- Some Pfizer and Moderna recipients, at least six months after their second dose:
  - Age 65 and older
  - Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings
  - Age 18+ who have under-lying medical conditions
  - Age 18+ who live or work in high-risk settings
- All Johnson & Johnson recipients age 18+, at least two months after their initial shot.

Monthly Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in McLeod County Reported to MDH

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McLEOD COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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UPCOMING MEETING DATES

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | JANUARY 04, 2022 | 9:00AM
McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | JANUARY 18, 2022 | 9:00AM
McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | FEBRUARY 01, 2022 | 9:00 AM
McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | FEBRUARY 15, 2022 | 9:00 AM
McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | MARCH 01, 2022 | 9:00 AM
McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | MARCH 15, 2022 | 9:00 AM
McLeod County Government Center

MCLEOD COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

520 CHANDLER AVENUE N
GLENCOE, MINNESOTA 55350