



## THANKS FOR HELPING!

Thanks to everyone who has picked up a spray can of red paint to help us paint fire hydrants. The before and after pictures speak for themselves! We have more paint at City Hall and more unpainted hydrants - anyone who wants to pick some up certainly may do so.

I sincerely appreciate the effort and look forward to other activities that can use the potential of the great people that reside in the community. Be on the look out on other projects and activities that will be forthcoming.



## Cyber Crimes Presentation

On Tuesday, August 15, the City of Eagle Lake Police Department will host a presentation focused on cyber crimes. The presentation will be held at City Hall and start at 6:30 pm; the presenter is Detective Jason Bennett from the Mankato Department of Public Safety.

Detective Bennett is a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task

Force. The presentation is geared for parents and guardians of children ages 5 - 17 touching on:

- Facts of online risk
- Statistics, videos, and other resources
- Tips for keeping children safer online

## YMCA SURVEY OPPORTUNITY

The Mankato Family YMCA is researching the idea of adding a YMCA to the east side of Mankato. For them to make an educated decision, they need your help. [This link](#) will take you to a survey that should take about 5 minutes to complete. ***Complete the survey to enter a drawing to win 1 of 10 \$100 Scheels gift certificates.***

Thank you for your time.

## America's Number One Crop? Lawns!!

While visiting the Blue Blue Earth County Fair this past weekend, I came across a display created by a young person that outlined America's number one crop. I was surprised! I know people like the clean, orderly look and the smell of a fresh cut lawn. I know that we, as City government, are in charge of enforcing an ordinance if your lawn is too tall; if you have weeds we will let you know.

The fact is, the City is violating it's own ordinance. Yes, the City is violating its own rules right out the backdoor of City Hall. We have "let go" about 2 acres of area owned by the city behind City Hall. After mowing it continuously the decision was made to let it go. This recent article by Dan Malouff and posted on the Strong Towns website - "[Grassy Lawns Should Not Be Mandatory](#)" - also caught my attention.

Am I encouraging everyone to stop mowing?? No, but I find it ironic that we live in a part of the world that has some of the best soil to be found and we choose to grow grass on a fair share of it. Furthermore, we dump tons of water on our lawns. In the months of June and July, city residents consumed 3,600,000 gallons from outside water meters alone at a cost of \$24,000 in city water bills.

So what do we do? If one wishes to have a huge lawn, they can certainly do so, but there are other options. Plant ground covers that grow to a low,

maintainable height and can be sustainable. Or Garden-Garden-Garden; fresh vegetables are great any time of year!

#### FOUND - SCOOTER

A scooter was recently found in Lake Eagle Park and turned in at City Hall. If you think this might be yours, please stop in or call City Hall at 507.257.3218 to identify it.

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