

Spring

2018



THE CITY OF ORONOCO

THE GOLDEN EXPLORER

A Message from the Mayor

Well, did anyone notice that we had a 9-day, at best, spring season and it will be summer in a few days! Cheeeze! Was that a long winter or what? Anyway, better weather times are ahead of us except for heavy rains, winds, 95 degree days, but we will take it and enjoy the outdoors!

Oronoco activities will pick up with t-ball starting soon, July 4th fireworks, National Night Out and Downtown Gold Rush Days in August. If you haven't heard, there will be a Downtown Gold Rush Days 5K Walk/Run event on Sunday, August 19... check out their Facebook page and register for a tee-shirt and an opportunity to say you participated in the 1st one! Enjoy the parks, walking in the neighborhoods, even give a try at canoeing on the river down to Lake Zumbro....enjoy the summer!

Wastewater Project update – On April 10, the Water & Sewer committee had Stantec give a presentation on the update of the study of the Oronoco Wastewater Regionalization project. It was an opportunity for citizens to hear the latest information and ask questions regarding the project. It was attended by about 40 people and a lot of great questions and comments were shared by the group. Please check out the title of the presentation on the City web site... "Public Oronoco Area Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Meeting", if you were not able to attend the meeting.

The study is still on going and there are now three options that are still being considered. A conveyance to Rochester's Wastewater Treatment System, a smaller regional wastewater treatment facility for Oronoco and Oronoco Estates Mobile Home Park or a single wastewater treatment plant for Oronoco. Pine Island has responded by saying that they will not participate in a regional project, at this time.

Cont.

There are a lot of pro's and con's, as well as cost to build and maintain that need, to be considered for each of these options, as well as working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

The city is still planning on requesting \$3.1 million dollars in the 2018 session bonding bill to continue the study in order to make a final decision and start the process for preparing pre-bid documents and other design/costs, so we can be shovel ready should there be a bonding bill in 2019 or 2020, at the latest. Shovel ready means that the design is complete and is then reviewed by the MPCA and Public Funding Authority (PFA). The city can then start the process to have contractors respond with bids for construction. A lot of work still needs to be done.

Enjoy the summer and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or comments! Thank you!

A message from Councilor Trish Shields

Bring on summer! I'm excited to get outside and enjoy our city parks! There are so many things to do. Enjoy camping and recreation at Oronoco Park, put in a garden at Garden Park, t-ball at Memorial Field, enjoy the playgrounds, tennis court, soccer, and walking trails in Riverwood Hills and River Park. I could go on and on. Please take the opportunity to explore all the great things that Oronoco has to offer. There is so much to look forward to!

The Parks Committee could always use more members. If you are interested in what happens to our parks, trails, and equipment, please consider joining. For more information contact City Hall.

Enjoy the great weather we are finally having!

**Oronoco Household
Hazardous Waste
Collection Day**

**Tuesday, May 1st, 2018
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

At the Community Center

Sponsored by: Olmsted County Public Works

Collections may be canceled in the case of rain or threatening storms.

ATTENTION BUSINESSES & FARMERS:

We cannot accept business or ag generated hazardous wastes at mobile collections. These wastes may be accepted at our facility in Rochester. Pre-approval is required before delivery of these wastes.

For more information visit our web site at www.olmstedwaste.com for additional hazardous waste, recycling and solid waste info.

**Household Hazardous
Waste Collection**

Oronoco Community Center
Tuesday, May 1, 2018 | 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
(115 2nd St. NW, Oronoco, MN 55960)

Collections Are **FREE** For Households

Bring		Don't Bring	
 Corrosive	Adhesives Aerosols Antifreeze (4 gallon limit) Drain Openers Floor Polish Furniture Polish Gas/Diesel Household Cleaners Mercury Products Paints Pesticides Pool Chemicals Solvents Transmission Fluid		Appliances Electronics Empty Containers Explosives Fluorescent Tubes Medical Wastes Soaps & Detergents Unknown Products Used Motor Oil Used Oil Filters
 Flammable			
 Poisonous			

**NO Agricultural Hazardous Waste
NO Business Hazardous Waste**

Collections may be canceled in the event of rain or threatening storms.



507-328-7070

[olmstedwaste.com](http://www.olmstedwaste.com)

**THERE'S A PROPER PLACE
FOR YOUR WASTE
IN OLMTED COUNTY**

Happy Spring from the Oronoco Fire Department.

Welcome to Laife Denning who recently joined our department. We could always use a few more people who are willing to volunteer a few hours each month to help keep our community safe. Download and fill out the application from our web site, or just give us a call.

Now that it has finally warmed up, let's talk about grilling safety since there's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food, but a hot grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard and can also cause burn injuries. Here are a few simple safety tips:

Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.

The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.

Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.

Never leave your grill unattended.

Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

CHARCOAL GRILLS

There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.

If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.

Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.

There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.

When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

PROPANE GRILLS

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose since a propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill. If the flame goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least 5 minutes before re-lighting it.

Call the firehall at 367-4440 if you would like to contact us with any questions, and check out our website <http://www.oronocofire.com> and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/oronocofire> for more information.

Oronoco Area History Center
oronocoareahistory.org
Facebook

From the past:

1925 – When a motorist saw an old man and woman walking, he was surprised that they refused a lift. He learned that they were Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Ottman, 87 and 83, married 63 years, and that they are noted for walking several miles at a stretch to make an evening call on friends in Oronoco.

1926 – Harold H. Crawford, architect of Rochester, Minn., has prepared plans for a new school building to be constructed at Oronoco. Bids will be opened on August 30.

1932 – Minnesota trunk highways are reported in a generally good condition. Trunk highway No. 20 [changed to Hwy 52 in 1934] is now paved between Pine Island and Oronoco and open to traffic.

1938 – Barber shop for sale. 1 chair. Write R.J. Ramsey, Oronoco Minn.

The first time the History Center was supposed to be open this year was snowed out, so if you had thought about coming that day, we are going to be open on Saturday, May 12. Please stop in!

Notices for membership renewal have been mailed. Thank you for your part in keeping the history of the Oronoco area alive. If you are interested in becoming a member, but are not on our mailing list, please stop in to pick up a form, or contact Mary Fuller at 367-4320. You can also send a check for \$15 for a family membership or \$10 for an individual to Oronoco Area History Center, 640 2nd Ave SE, Oronoco MN 55960.

Young at Heart Exercise Group

Spring doesn't want to make its appearance, but you can put some spring into your step. Join the Young at Heart Exercise Group on Wednesdays, 9 a.m. at the Oronoco Community Center. It's never too late to start improving your mobility, flexibility, strength, and balance.

Stay healthy and keep moving.

Rosemary Van Houten

Oronoco Seniors

(and seniors from the surrounding areas)

Enrichment Programs 2018

(Open to the public at: 1:15pm Oronoco Community Center)

May 9th: "Bee Good" "Be Honey"

present by: John Shonyo, from the Beeshed (a local business.)

Everything you need to know about bee's and honey's health benefits. (From the hive to your table.)

- ◆ All desserts will be made with honey
- ◆ Local honey available for sale at the meeting
(Regular and Whipped.)

June 13th: Maple Syrup

(right in our Oronoco backyard)

Everything you need to know about maple syrup and production.

Present by: Shim Weaver (a Local Guy!)

- ◆ All desserts made with maple syrup.
- ◆ Oronoco maple syrup available for sale at the meeting.

July 11th: Oom-PaPa Polka

Musical Surprise Guest

Public Works

2018 Consumer Confidence Report

Please see the full report on the website. This report is also posted at City Hall and the Oronoco Post Office.

The City of Oronoco Wellhead Protection Plan is progressing in part 2. Updates will be posted on the City of Oronoco website as we continue to move towards completion. The services of Stantec Engineering have been secured to assist in the Wellhead Protection Plan.

Wellhead protection is a means of protecting public water supply wells by preventing contaminants from entering the area that contributes water to the well over a period of time.

A management plan is developed for the wellhead protection area that includes inventorying potential sources of groundwater contamination, monitoring for the presence of specific contaminants, and managing existing and future land and water uses that pose a threat to groundwater quality.

Road restrictions

Please visit MnDot's website for updated information on the road restriction lift and frost levels.

Public Works will be flushing water mains, and exercising fire hydrant and water main valves during the month of May. Please stay tuned to the Oronoco City website for dates and areas.

We will also be locating and mapping water curb stops throughout the city.

If you are interested in holding an event at the Community Center, please contact Oronoco City Hall for arrangements at oronococityhall@yahoo.com or at 507-367-4405.



DOWNTOWN ORONOCO GOLD RUSH DAYS

August 17-19, 2018

By the time you are reading this we are hoping the snow will really be gone and you will be seeing the signs of Spring that we anticipate in April and May. Because the Gold Rush Committee works year- round we have some updates to share. The vendors letters were mailed out at the end of March and we are already getting contracts for the 2018 show. Because each year is unique, and vendors come and go, we are very excited when our regular vendors do return. We have advertised in the trade publications and are looking forward to the new vendors who will come as well. With a mix of new and returning vendors the maps will be updated on the website come July and you will be able to find your favorite vendors.

Speaking of the website: If you go to GoldRushMN.com you will find that we have been working on adding new tabs with more photos and information regarding the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days. Each month we attempt to bring more improvements to better serve the vendors, the shoppers, and the residents of Oronoco. You can also find the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days on Facebook. Please share what you like so more of your friends or family will find us. Another fun and new way to follow our show is on Instagram! Check out pictures of past shows and Gold Rush Days inspired home decor by following us @downtownoronocogoldrushdays.

We are excited to announce that we have a brand new event taking place in Oronoco during the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days. On Sunday, August 19th at 8am, you will have the opportunity to Run/Walk in our very first Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days 5k.

Cont.

The race will start and end in Downtown Oronoco and will take you along the Zumbro River to places you may have never been before! Visit the website or our Facebook page to learn more and register to participate. Proceeds raised above the 5k fees will return to the Oronoco community. This is perfect timing for this race as bargains are to be had on Sunday before the vendors have to pack up and leave by 2pm!

Gold Rush is made possible by the hard work of dedicated volunteers from our community. We welcome those who share a passion for our show and would love to help! You can sign up to help during National Night Out in August or visit our website GoldRushMN.com where you will find a form you can fill out to volunteer. Positions could fill quickly so sign up early to get the job, the day and the time you prefer!

For more information:

Please email at goldrush@bevcomm.net

or call 507-267-2111

Oronoco Cemetery Association
2018 Season Watering Program
Memorial Day – Labor Day

For \$50.00 we will water your (1) plant during the summer

Name on Marker _____

Number of Planters _____

If interested please contacted Mary Fuller at 507-367-4320 or
Mail payment along with name on marker to Oronoco Cemetery,
PO Box 61, Oronoco MN 55960



Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

20 -3rd Street S.W., P.O. 118
Phone 507-367-4711
website: www.oronocochurch.org
Pastor: Lisa Johnson
Email: pastorlisaj@gmail.com
Phone: 507-995-7310



Sunday Worship 10:00a.m.

Coffee & Conversation 9:00 – 9:45

**Communion is offered the first Sunday of each month
and all are welcome to participate.**

The Food Shelf is housed at and sponsored by
our church together with Channel One.

**The food shelf is open the second
and fourth Wednesday of each month.**

**During the summer months the food shelf will be
open from 5-7:00 p.m.**



Coffee

&

Conversation



Every Sunday morning we have what we call “Coffee & Conversation” 9:00-9:45 on Sunday mornings – a time of discussion on faith, life, and everything in between. This is a time to come together with coffee and snacks (or breakfast ... depending on how early you get up) and have some discussions around a variety of faith topics – some Bible study, some prayer, some faith formation, some topical studies. No pre-reading or prior knowledge required.

Cont.

All Around the Campfire

We had so much fun with our campfire gatherings last summer that we're at it again this summer! One Sunday a month, we'll be gathering in the evening on the church lawn. There will be a campfire. There will be lawn games. There will be s'mores. This is a chance for us to spend some fun, relaxed, un-structured time together, and to invite people who may not be as comfortable coming through the church doors for the first time. Bring your neighbors and friends. Bring kids. Let's have fun!

- June 24: 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- July 22: 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- Aug. 26: 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- Sept. 23: 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Vacation Bible School

We're getting an early jump on things this year! We had so much fun with our vacation Bible school last year that this year, we're going to try 5 evenings right here in Oronoco. This year's theme will be "Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God."

Here are the details:

Where: Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

When: July 16-20, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Ages: 4-12

Cost: \$15/person or \$30/family



We will be serving the kids dinner from 6:00-6:30 p.m., then enjoying some really fun programming after that. Registration is required, so check out www.oronocochurch.org/vbs for the registration link as well as more information.



1st Responder's

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



CITY OF ORONOCO MEETINGS

City Council:

3rd Tuesday each month @ 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning:

2nd Thursday each month @ 7:00 pm

1st Responders:

1st Monday each month @ 6:30pm

Fire Department:

2nd Monday of each month @ 6:30pm

4th Monday of each month @ 6:30pm

Parks & Trail Committee:

1st Monday of each month @ 6:30 pm

Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush:

2nd Monday each month @ 6:00 pm

Water & Sewer Committee :

2nd Tuesday each month @ 6:30 pm

CITY CONTACTS

2017 Mayor:

Ryland Eichhorst (993-9045)

2017 Council Members:

Trish Shields (367-2525)

Beau Hanenberger (367-2223)

Carl Krause (358-5330)

Nancy Quimby (319-4328)

City Clerk / Treasurer:

Sandy Jessen (367-4405)

Assistant Clerk:

Rebecca McGuire (367-4405)

Maintenance:

Dan Howard (367-2281)

Jim Ackman (367-2281)

Fire Department:

Dan Sundt (367-4440)

Emergency Medical Responders:

Jeff Allhiser (367-4440)

Emergency Operations Center:

Pat McGovern (367-2277)

Planning & Zoning:

Adam Brase

Gold Rush Committee:

Carol Olson (367-2111)

Park Committee:

Katie Dudley (367-2744)

Cemetery Association:

John Tilford (507)273-1661

CITY HALL INFORMATION

Monday - Thursday

9AM-3:30PM

Friday

9-1pm

(507) 367-4405

oronococityhall@yahoo.com

www.oronoco.com

**Please remember that
all dogs and cats
must be current on shots
and licensed with Oronoco
per City Ordinance. License
are \$5.00 a year per pet.
Please renew your license
every December at City Hall
with a copy of your animals
vaccination record.**

Thank you!



SPRING



Need A Document Notarized?

If you need a document notarized, contact City Hall. Your City Clerk, is a Notary of the Public. This is a service provided **FREE** by the City.



WATER TEST KITS

Available at City Hall. It tests for coli form, bacteria, nitrate, chloride, sulfate, nitrite and fluoride.

Please visit our website for notices, events, applications, permits, meeting minutes, and more.

WWW.ORONOCO.COM



LIKE us on Facebook!



COMMUNITY CENTER AND CITY PARK RENTALS

CC Room Rental:	\$75 - \$150
Meeting Room Rental:	\$25
Chairs:	\$35
Picnic Tables:	\$50
Camp Sites:	\$10
City Shelter:	\$30





Camping
open
Memorial
Weekend

Notice:

If you have not
done so, Please
come into City Hall
to get your 2018 pet
tags.

Notice:

Please remember that
it is against City
Ordinance to have
motorized vehicles
(Golf Carts, ATVs,
etc..) in the parks or
on the trails.

The Ordinance is
on-line for you to
review on our website
at www.oronoco.com
or at City Hall under
Ordinance #709

***Book Exchange
at
Oronoco City
Hall***

We now have
MORE
BOOK
SHELVES!

Please feel free to
bring books in
or
take books
out!

We have great
reads for all!

There is something
for everyone!

Pine Island Area Home Services

A Living at Home/Block Nurse Program

Web site: www.pineislandareahomeservices.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/pineislandareahomeservices

Pine Island Area Home Services provides volunteer services to promote independent, home-based living for adults 65 and older in the Pine Island and Oronoco area.

Current and Upcoming Services are as follows:

Transportation



Transportation services are provided by our volunteer drivers. Please call the PIAHS office (356-2229) to request transportation. If you are interested in volunteering as a driver, we would welcome your help. We are always in need of more volunteer drivers!

Exercise Classes

One-hour classes are held at the Pine Island Senior Citizen Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30a.m. Oronoco holds an exercise class at 9:00 on Wednesdays at the City Hall. The exercise classes incorporate weights into the regular exercise program to improve strength and balance. This class is designated to prevent or reverse bone loss. This class is recommended especially to those concerned about osteoporosis prevention or reversal.



Blood Pressure Clinics (open to anyone)

You are welcome to have a blood pressure check at 11:00 a.m. on the following dates and locations:

2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month at the City Center.

1st Wednesday each month at the Pine Island Senior Citizen Center

4th Wednesday each month at the Oronoco Community Center (Not held January thru March)

In-home blood pressure monitoring is available for elders having difficulty leaving home.

Shopping Trips

Twice a month you may take our bus to Walmart for your shopping needs. Call for dates and time.



Cont.

Foot Care Clinic

A foot care clinic is provided on the 3rd Thursday each month. An \$18 fee is paid directly to the nurse. Call Pine Island Area Home Services at 356-2999 for appointments. In-home appointments are available for elders having difficulty leaving home.

Senior Forums

The next Senior Forum held on May 24th at 12 noon. Dr. McBeath will lead a discussion regarding the effects of loneliness in relation to heart disease, dementia and depression. Forums are about 1 hr. long and are held at the Senior Center.

Fundraiser Dinner

July 20th, a fundraiser dinner will be held at the Pine Island Legion. Join us for a great meal and good conversation while supporting our program! Visit us on Facebook for further information.

Volunteers

We are always looking for new volunteers to assist our seniors. We especially need volunteer drivers. Please contact us if you are interested.

Senior Fitness Day: May 30th

Join us for Senior Fitness Day events at the Pine Island Senior Center building. Watch for the Pine Island Area Home Services Newsletter arriving in your mail for more details.

TASTE OF PINE ISLAND: August 23rd

Join us for our 7th Annual Taste of Pine Island held at the Pine Haven Care Center. Dinner is served from 5:00 - 7:30. A silent auction is held also from 5:00-7:30, and the raffle drawing is held at 7:30. The dinner will include, chicken, ribs and pulled pork. Enjoy the live entertainment of "Becky Schlegal". Join us for a great time!

Taste of Pine Island

Supporting Pine Island Area Home Services &

Pine Haven Care Center

Water & Sewer Committee

The Water & Sewer Committee has three updates to share with you. First of all, the Water & Sewer Committee recently met with Steven Oscarson, MN Pollution Control (MPCA) and Don VanKeulen, Olmsted County Planning Department. This is an annual meeting during the five-year length of the MOU. Just what is an MOU? It is a Memorandum of Understanding between parties: in this case between the City of Oronoco, MPCA, and Olmsted County. The purpose is to allow the City of Oronoco time to work on finding a solution for treating the wastewater generated within the City.

The MOU is currently in effect for areas that have been classified as B, C, and F so that options can be considered for solving the wastewater issues. For properties within that area if you need to upgrade your septic system or you are selling your property, only the minimal fix is needed. Contact Olmsted County with questions for your particular property.

The Riverwood Hills water looping project is moving along. The City is currently working on acquiring easements for installing the underground pipes.

The overall sewer project is also moving along. Please refer to Mayor Eichhorst's article in this newsletter.

Happy Father's Day!





Grace Lutheran Church

45 1ST Ave. NE
Oronoco, MN 55960
See us on Facebook
www.gracelutheranoronoco.com

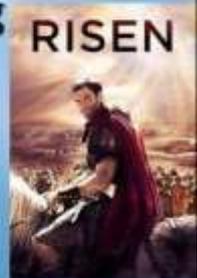
Sundays:
8:45 a.m. – Sunday School, Adult Bible Study, and
Catechism
10:00 a.m. – Worship

Movie Night--

Come watch a faith confirming
movie on Grace's big screen!
Adults and kids welcome.
Popcorn provided!

Friday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Note: This movie is rated PG-13.



~ Planning & Zoning ~

*A big Thank You to Paul Jannetto and Scott Sorensen
for joining the P&Z commission!*

And Thank You Doug Gillard for your many years of service,!

2018 T-BALL

T-Ball registration is now open!!
Thank you to the new coordinator,
Amber Caron.

Registration information is now on the
city website, with an application
deadline of May 10th.

City Hall
will be
closed
May 28th

City Hall
will be
closed for
4th of July

Celebrate
4th of July
with Oronoco!

Oronoco Park.

Fireworks start at 10pm.

Hope to see you all there!

A special thank you, all of you, who make this event possible
and a big Thank You to Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush!

ORONOCO SENIORS GROUP

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

CALL Carole at 367-4717 or Evelyn at 367-4462

Join the Senior Citizens of Oronoco Seniors Group at the Oronoco Community Center . They meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month. They play Bingo, cards, and have a great social gathering. They have an occasional speaker on important topics to keep you informed. A catered noon meal is offered for only \$4.00 on the 4th Wednesday.



**ORONOCO
GOLD RUSH**

EVERY THIRD WEEKEND
IN AUGUST.

August 17th, 18th, and 19th

For more information please visit the Gold Rush website at www.goldrushmn.com.

Gathering Permits available at City Hall for \$25.



POLICE • COMMUNITY • PARTNERSHIPS

**National Night Out
August 7th, 2018
5 PM
Oronoco Park**

**Please watch the city website for
updated information.**

Parks and Trails

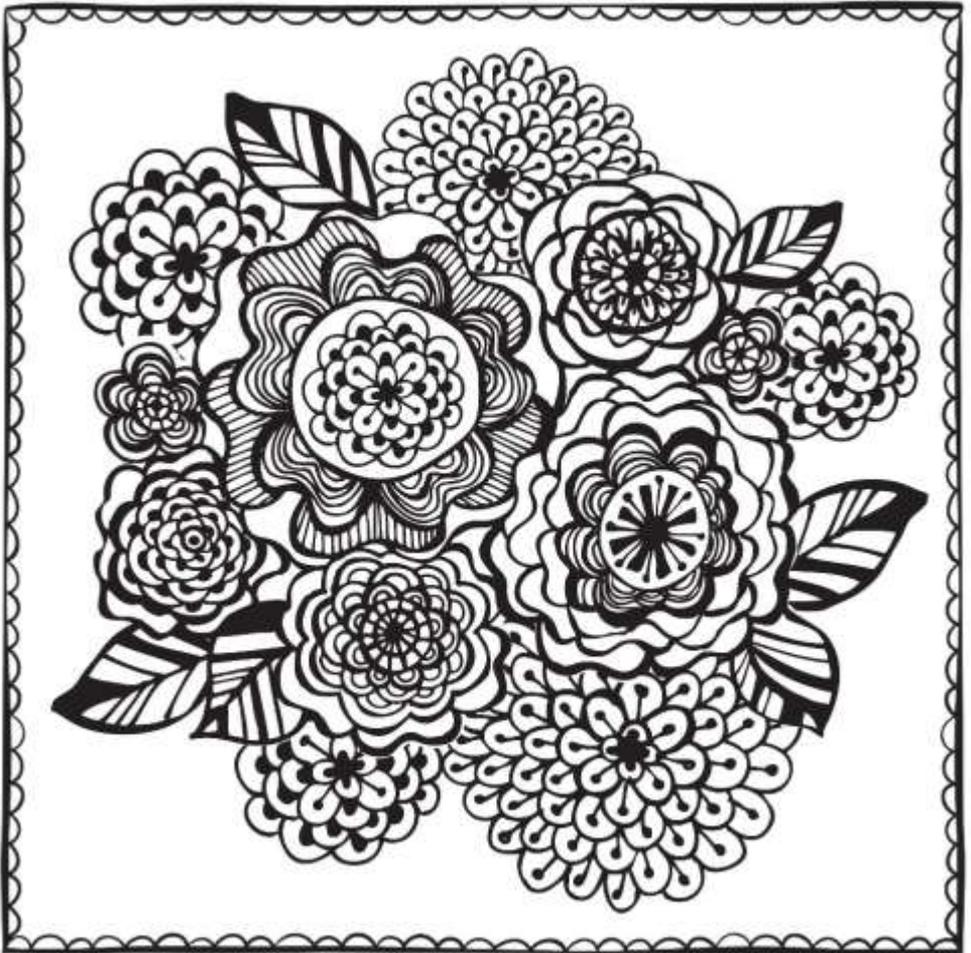
Garden Park:

Garden plots are available for rent this spring/summer.

10x10 - \$15 (for the season)

20x20 - \$20 (for the season)

If you are interested, please contact City Hall.



Coloring Corner



City of Oronoco ~ May 2018 Calendar

May 1 - 4 to 6pm - Hazardous Waste Day

May 7 - 6:30pm - 1st Responders

May 7- 6:30pm - Parks & Trails

May 7 - 7pm - Township

May 8 - 6:30pm - Water & Sewer

May 9 - Noon - Seniors

May 10 - 7pm- Planning & Zoning

May 13 - **Mother's Day**

May 14 - 6pm - DOGR

May 14 - 6:30pm - Fire Department

May 15 - 7pm - Reg. City Meeting

May 23 - Noon - Seniors

May ? - 6:30pm - FD training

May 28 - City Hall Closed for Memorial Day

May 28 - 11am - Water Bills Due

June 17 - **Father's Day**

June 21 - First Day of Summer

July 4 - City hall closed for the 4th

August 7 - National Night Out

*Seniors Exercise Class - Every Wednesday Morning, 9am at Oronoco City Hall

*More than 2 City Council Members may attend committee meetings creating a quorum.

Thank you to everyone who makes this newsletter possible!