

# News from your city

February 2014

**Estimated meter reads.** Please note that the monthly January water usage for this billing cycle was estimated based on past usage. The weather during December and January created icy and unsafe conditions for reading meters.

**Drinking Water Public Notice:** Important information about your drinking water—Tests show levels of Combined Radium (-226 & -228) above drinking water standards. The City of Lewiston public water supply routinely monitors for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Results show that the average level was 6.5 pCi/L for Combined Radium (-226 & -228). This is above the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5.4 pCi/L. Combined Radium (-226 & -228) which occur naturally within the ground water. Some people who drink water containing Combined Radium (-226 & -228) in excess of the MCLs over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. This is not an emergency. You do not need an alternative source of water, such as bottled water. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. Home water treatment units are available to reduce Combined Radium (-226 & -228), which include water softening, reverse osmosis, and distillation. It is recommended that these home water treatment units be certified to ensure Combined Radium (-226 & -228) removal. The use of carbon filters is not recommended for removal of Combined Radium (-226 & -228), as Combined Radium (-226 & -228) may accumulate in the filter over time. Your public water supply is considering methods to reduce the levels of Combined Radium (-226 & -228), which may include an alternative water source or water treatment. You will be informed when the public water supply has reduced the level and meets the standard.

*For a fact sheet on Combined Radium, visit:*

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/factsheet/com/radium.pdf>

**Planning & Zoning Commission Vacancies.** The City of Lewiston is seeking volunteers for vacancies on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Candidates may complete a 1-page *Application for City Boards, Commissions and Committees* at City Hall or at [www.lewistonmn.org/CityDepartments/FormsApplications.aspx](http://www.lewistonmn.org/CityDepartments/FormsApplications.aspx). Commissioners serve 4-year terms. Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., unless a lack of agenda items renders a meeting unnecessary.

**Heartland Days Button Contest.** The Heartland Days Event Committee is now accepting entries for the 2014 Button Contest. The winning design will appear on the official event button and may appear on select advertising. For more information, go to the City of Lewiston's website ([www.lewistonmn.org](http://www.lewistonmn.org)) and see the information on the home page or click on Events.

**Convenience Fee Changes beginning January 1 for Online Payments.** The city was charging a \$1.00 convenience fee for eCheck or credit/debit card payments through Payment Services Network (PSN). The following fees will take effect with payments made on or after January 1, 2014:

- No fee for eCheck payments (withdrawal directly for a checking or savings account)
- 2.75% fee applied for credit/debit card payments greater than \$100.00
- A flat fee of \$2.75 applied for credit/debit card payments under \$100.00

We encourage customers to take advantage of this easy-to-use method of paying water/sewer utility bills. Save an envelope and stamp and pay online at [www.lewistonmn.org](http://www.lewistonmn.org). If you use the eCheck method (automatic check from your bank or paying with a checking or savings account online through PSN), there will be no cost to you beginning January 1.