

August 31, 2017

CITY OF RUSHMORE PROJECTS

Your City Council and Staff

Mayor—Gregg Harberts

Councilmember—Bruce Boltjes

Councilmember—Carol Hieronimus

Councilmember—Mark Schutte

Councilmember—Shirley Vis

City Clerk—Coleen Gruis

Maintenance—Jason Harberts

Maintenance—Larry Lupkes

*City of Rushmore
136 N Thompson Ave
PO Box 227
Rushmore, MN 56168
478-4338*

*Email Address
rushmore@inv.net*

Hot Water Heater Maintenance Tips

PFPEW! What is that smell? If you are having a rotten egg smell traceable to your hot water heater, the City of Rushmore understands and wants to explain why the smell might exist, and how it may be corrected. Lets talk about the reasons first. Inside your water heater is an anode rod made of magnesium and it is meant to dissolve over time. It is sometimes called the sacrificial rod, as the hope is that the chemicals found naturally in your water will attack the rod and not eat holes in your water heater tank. Some water, however, has sulfates which react badly with that rod.

Because of the warm environment, the bacteria produced by that nasty reaction grows and begins to smell. Removing the anode rod is one fix. It can be left out entirely (which will void the warranty) or be replaced by an electric powered anode rod. This replacement is best handled by a plumber. A second idea which may clear up the smell involves turning your water heater to high for several hours to kill the bacteria. The actual temperature should be 140 degrees F. Do remember this caution, this setting will make the water scalding hot. Be Cautious. Consult your manufacturer regarding use of the pressure release valve during this process. After running the heater

at 140 degrees for several hours, reduce to normal temperature, flush the tank and refill. Still a third plan to attack the smell involves flushing the water heater with 2–3 pints of hydrogen peroxide. This is safer than using bleach, although using 1 cup bleach to a 30–40 gallon tank will also work. This involves a few tools and some plumbing parts. City Hall has some DIY information from the Internet to help with this type of project. You can also consult these sources (which we used) that are found on the internet for more information. MN Rural Water Association, Ohio State University Extension, Paul from Handy Pro Handyman Service

RUSHMORE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT CITY HALL AT 7:00 P.M.

Maintenance would like you to know that the City has two branch wagons available to Rushmore citizens. Call City Hall and they will deliver a wagon to your property When you have filled it, they will pick it up and empty the wagon at our yard waste dumpsite.

The new school year starts in the next few days. Busses from multiple school districts will be picking up and dropping off their students. Please be sure to practice safe driving skills and watch out for excited kids darting here and there.

Do You Have A Household Water Leak?

Did you know that the average American uses about 100 gallons of water per day. An average family uses 4,000 to 8,000 gallons of water each month. Only a small amount of that is used for cooking and drinking.

On average 10 gallons per day are lost on leaks. Here are ways to look out for leaks. Dripping faucets and whistling or hissing toilets waste water

even if they are not being used.

Here is a handy way to tell if you have a leaky toilet:

1. Carefully take off the top of the toilet tank.
2. Put 12 drops of red food coloring into the tank.
3. Wait 15 minutes. If any red dye appears in the toilet bowl, water is leaking from the tank.

Please make sure that your mower is not discharging the grass clippings to the road. With each rain the grass clippings work their way toward the storm sewer system and can plug intakes. This can cause temporary flooding or slow drainage of our storm sewer system.