



February 2026

CARDINAL *Pride*



ADOPT A STREET PROGRAM

The City of South Sioux City would like to thank Nebraska Environmental for their continued efforts and commitment to the Adopt A Street Program. Through their work in cleaning Highway 77, they play an important role in keeping our community clean, safe, and welcoming for everyone.




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City offices will be closed on Monday February 16th in observance of Presidents Day



FEBRUARY PUBLIC MEETINGS

City Hall Council Chambers– 1615 1st Avenue

City Council Meeting*: 9th & 23rd at 5:00 p.m.
 Community Development Agency: 10th & 24th at 11:00 a.m.
 Finance Committee*: 4th & 18th at Noon
 Public Works Committee*: 2nd & 16th at 5:00p.m.
 Design Commission: 5th & 19th at 8:30 a.m.
 Planning & Zoning Commission: 11th & 25th at 4:00 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Office – 1021 E 6th Street

Parks & Recreation Board: 2nd at 5:15 p.m.

South Sioux City Library – 2121 Dakota Avenue

Library Board: 4th at 5:30 p.m.

*Meetings are Broadcast Live on Cable One Channel 57 Sparklight Channel 3 and live video streamed on city website www.southsiouxcity.org

Child Care Refundable Tax Credit Application Required Information

[Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 77-7201 to 77-7205](#) Child Care Tax Credit Act (Act)

Parents or legal guardians of children 5 years old or younger may apply to Department of Revenue to receive a refundable tax credit if their total household income is \$150,000 or less. To qualify, the child must be age 5 years or younger as of December 31 of the calendar year (i.e., under age 6) for which the tax credit is being requested and must be claimed by the parent or legal guardian as a dependent for federal income tax purposes.

Example: Your child turned 6 on December 30, 2025, and is claimed as a dependent on your return. You cannot use the child to claim the child care refundable tax credit for 2025 because the child was not under age 6 at the end of 2025.

The parent or legal guardian who is claiming the child for federal income tax purposes is eligible for the refundable tax credit if they are a resident of Nebraska and:

- If the child is enrolled in a child care program licensed pursuant to the Child Care Licensing Act *; or
- If the child receives care from an approved license-exempt provider enrolled in the child care subsidy program pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 68-1202 and 68-1206; or
- If the parent's or legal guardian's total household income is less than or equal to 100% of the [federal poverty level](#). **

**The Nebraska Department of Revenue can be reached at :
402.471.5729 or 800.742.7474 NE and IA**

REMINDER ATV/UTV/GOLF CART PERMITS IN CITY STREETS

Reminder that 2026 ATV/UTV/GOLF CART registrations are now available. New initial registrations will receive one permit year sticker and a license plate. Renewal registrations shall receive a permit year sticker only, that should be placed on the original license plate. The license plate should be affixed on the rear of the ATV/UTV/GOLF CART and the year permit sticker should be placed on the plate's top right corner. To register ATV/UTV/GOLF CART's, you will need to call the LEC (494-7555) and an officer will be sent to do the inspection. ATV/UTV/GOLF CART's must be inspected yearly and permits are not transferrable. Once the inspection is complete, the officer will direct the individual to take the completed form to City Hall and pay the \$25 annual registration fee. Police and Community Service Officers will be issuing tickets to any ATV/UTV/GOLF CART that is not displaying the current 2025 permit.

UTILITY-TYPE VEHICLE DOES NOT INCLUDE LOW-SPEED VEHICLES, RIDING LAWNMOWER OR MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIRS.

For complete policy/regulations go to https://www.southsiouxcity.org/egov/documents/1734532692_16281.pdf

ATV/UTV/GOLF CART Vehicle Inspection
South Sioux City Police Department

Plastic Bags facts! Please recycle!

50 percent of the plastic we use, we use just once and throw away. Enough plastic is thrown away each year to [circle the earth four times](#). [We currently recover only five percent](#) of the plastics we produce. Tying the bag in a **knot** will help keep it from going **airborne!**

Please remember to use your *reusable bags!*

These tips brought to you by

South Sioux City Public Works

Tree Facts:

Trees help clean our drinking water

Forested watersheds are crucial for providing quality drinking water to over 180 million Americans. In 1997, New York City invested \$1.5 billion to preserve its forested watershed by acquiring thousands of acres upstate, avoiding the need for a \$6 billion filtration plant. As a result, New Yorkers now enjoy some of the cleanest drinking water in the world, with the city winning regional water taste competitions.

Trees provide much-needed cooling

Trees significantly reduce surface and air temperatures by providing shade, with shaded surfaces being 20–45°F cooler than unshaded ones. In cities, trees can lower temperatures by up to 10°F by shading homes and streets and releasing water vapor through their leaves, which further enhances their cooling effect through evaporation.

Trees help reduce the effects of climate change

Trees play a vital role in combating climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and storing the carbon while releasing oxygen back into the air. In one year, an acre of mature trees can absorb as much CO₂ as a car produces when driven 26,000 miles. A single mature tree alone can absorb over 48 pounds of CO₂ annually, offsetting nearly 20 pounds of CO₂ generated by burning one gallon of non-ethanol gasoline.

Trees help us save energy

Properly placed trees around buildings can significantly reduce energy consumption, cutting air conditioning needs by 30% and saving 20–50% on heating costs. In Cincinnati, community trees save the average household \$56 annually in cooling costs, totaling \$4.8 million in savings across the city. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that positioning just three trees strategically can reduce a household's energy bills by \$100 to \$250 per year, lowering overall energy use by up to 25%.

Trees benefit wildlife

Trees are essential for providing vital wildlife habitat, supporting a wide range of species. In British Columbia, over 80 wildlife species rely on trees for survival. Trees and forests also define critical species ranges, with many animals, such as the North American mountain lion, needing territories that span hundreds of square miles, including nearly 400 square miles for their habitat.

Trees help reduce crime

In urban areas, trees can have a significant impact on reducing crime. In Baltimore, a 10% increase in tree canopy was linked to a 12% decrease in crime. Similarly, areas with trees experience less graffiti, vandalism, and littering compared to those without greenery. In Chicago, residents of public housing with nearby trees and natural landscapes reported 25% fewer acts of domestic aggression and violence, highlighting the role of trees in fostering safer communities.

DATING VIOLENCE

February is designated as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Dating Violence may first emerge with name calling and teasing. However, this can lead to more serious violence of physical assault and rape. 1 in 3 teens in the U.S. are victims of physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner.

DATING VIOLENCE: Is a pattern of behavior where one person uses threats of, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control his or her dating partner.

PHYSICAL ABUSE: Includes shoving, punching, slapping, pinching, kicking, hair pulling, strangulation, use of a weapon, and any other acts causing physical harm.

SEXUAL ABUSE: Includes verbal sexual abuse, unwanted sexual touching and kissing, intimidation to force the victim to engage in any kind of sexual activity, and rape.

VERBAL/EMOTIONAL ABUSE: Includes name-calling, threats, screaming, yelling, put-downs, ridiculing, criticizing, emotional blackmailing, and stalking.

Reporting dating violence among teens is a concern because of many factors. Some of the factors include, fear of any one believing them, fear of reporting crimes which happened when they were acting against their parents' wishes, and fear of retaliation or intimidation by the perpetrator or other teens. According to the National Center For Victims of Crime, both parents and teens seem to blame the victim by asking questions such as, "why did you wear that outfit? Why were you drinking? Why did you go to that place?"

Some warning signs of abuse in dating relationships are:

1. Checking your cell phone or email without permission.
2. Calling or texting you constantly to see who you are with, or what you are doing.
3. Jealousy or insecurity.
4. Explosive Temper
5. Having to be with you ALL the time
6. Isolating you from family and friends
7. Erratic mood swings
8. Threatening to hurt you, someone in your family, or himself or herself if you don't do what he or she wants.
9. Telling you what to do

Most teens begin dating without having the knowledge of what constitutes a healthy relationship or what healthy boundaries are in a relationship. Teen dating violence programs can provide education to address these problems.

Prevention/Education programs— held before violence has occurred; seek to reduce teen violence, promote healthy relationships, and teach conflict resolution, critical thinking, and communication.

Counseling/Intervention programs— Held after violence has occurred; seek to offer support to teen victims, help change behavior and understanding of violence, and their capacity to solve problems without abusing others. These programs include group and individual counseling for the victims, perpetrators, or both.

To learn more about teen dating violence several websites can be accessed:

www.ncvc.org

www.loveisrespect.org

www.breakthecycle.org

NATIONAL DATING ABUSE HOTLINE: 24 HOURS A DAY AT 1-866-331-9474 OR TEXT at loveis to 22522.

Article submitted by Dakota County Victim Assistance Program (DCVAP) can be reached at 402.494.7550, dcvap@southsiouxcity.org, Facebook page @ Dakota County Victim Assistance Program or located at City/County Law Enforcement Center, 701 West 29th St., South Sioux City, NE 68776

MARCH

SOUTH SIOUX CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY ADULT EVENT CALENDAR



2026



2121 DAKOTA AVE. 402-494-7545

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 TECH HELP MONDAYS - 5:30PM	3 TANGLED YARNS - 6PM 	4 NE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR - 10AM-2PM	5 MINI MARCH MADNESS - 1PM	6 MINI MATISSES - 6PM	7 ST. PATRICK'S GNOME PLANTERS - 1PM
8	9 COVER TO COVER 3:30PM-4:30PM TECH HELP MONDAYS - 5:30PM	10 TANGLED YARNS - 6PM 	11	12 MINI MARCH MADNESS - 1PM WATERCOLOR CATS - 6PM	13	14
15	16 TECH HELP MONDAYS - 5:30PM	17 TANGLED YARNS - 6PM 	18	19 MINI MARCH MADNESS - 1PM	20	21
22	23 COVER TO COVER 3:30PM-4:30PM TECH HELP MONDAYS - 5:30PM	24 TANGLED YARNS - 6PM 	25	26 MINI MARCH MADNESS - 1PM ENCUENTROS Y CUENTOS: BILINGUAL BOOK CLUB - 5:30PM	27 GOODWILL OF THE GREAT PLAINS JOB ASSISTANCE - 10:30AM	28
29	30 TECH HELP MONDAYS - 5:30PM	31 TANGLED YARNS - 6PM 	ALL ADULT PROGRAMS ARE 16+ UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED PLEASE REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS ON OUR WEBSITE.			



<< SCAN TO VIEW THE SSCPL EVENT CALENDAR ONLINE



PUBLICLIBRARY@SOUTHSIOUXCITY.ORG
[HTTPS://LIBRARIES.NE.GOV/SOUTHSIOUXCITY](https://libraries.ne.gov/southsiouxcity)

Sidewalks

To ensure the safety of all South Sioux City pedestrians it is required that:

All sidewalks within the business district be cleaned within 5 hours after the cessation of a storm, unless the storm, or fall of snow, has taken place during the night; in which case the sidewalk shall be cleaned before 8:30 a.m. the next morning.

Sidewalks within the residential areas MUST be cleaned within 12 hours after the cessation of any storm.

If a property owner fails to keep their sidewalks clean, the city will notify the property owner or post a sign on the property ordering the work done immediately and failure to comply with this order will constitute a misdemeanor. The city will then clean the sidewalk and the total expenses will be charged against the property as a special assessment for improvement or may be recovered by civil suit brought by the city against the owner or occupant of the property.

Helping others! Being Neighborly!

Please consider helping your elderly or disabled neighbors by bringing in their empty garbage cans!

This will help with the safety on the streets and the safety for residents susceptible to falling

This tip is brought to you by South Sioux City Public Works





SSC NEWSLETTER

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS CORNER

by Dr. Rony Ortega



Dear Community,

We are proud of the strong first semester our students and staff delivered and are excited to build on that momentum as we move into semester two. There is a great deal of positive energy across our schools, and we are focused on finishing the academic year strong!

Preschool registration for the 2026–27 school year is now open, and I strongly encourage families to consider South Sioux City Community Schools. As a parent of a preschooler myself, I get to see firsthand the incredible work our preschool staff do every day. My son has shown tremendous growth both academically and socially, and I highly recommend our preschool program to any family exploring this option.

Finally, I encourage you to nominate a deserving individual for the Cardinal Education Foundation Hall of Fame Award using the QR code below. The Cardinal Education Foundation does outstanding work supporting our schools, staff, and students, and this is a wonderful way to recognize those who have made a lasting impact on our community.

Go Cards!

Dr. Rony Ortega, Superintendent of Schools



Estimados miembros de la comunidad:

Estamos orgullosos del sólido primer semestre que lograron nuestros estudiantes y personal, y nos entusiasma seguir construyendo sobre ese impulso al comenzar el segundo semestre. Hay una gran energía positiva en todas nuestras escuelas y estamos enfocados en terminar el año académico con fuerza.

La inscripción para Preescolar del año escolar 2026–27 ya está abierta, y animo firmemente a las familias a considerar a South Sioux City Community Schools. Como padre de un niño en preescolar, tengo la oportunidad de ver de primera mano el increíble trabajo que nuestro personal de preescolar realiza todos los días. Mi hijo ha mostrado un crecimiento notable tanto académico como social, y recomiendo ampliamente nuestro programa de preescolar a cualquier familia que esté explorando esta opción.

Finalmente, los invito a nominar a una persona merecedora para el Premio del Salón de la Fama de Cardinal Education Foundation utilizando el código QR a continuación. La Fundación Educativa Cardinal realiza un trabajo extraordinario apoyando a nuestras escuelas, personal y estudiantes, y esta es una excelente manera de reconocer a quienes han tenido un impacto duradero en nuestra comunidad.

¡Vamos Cards!

Dr. Rony Ortega
Superintendente de Escuelas

South Sioux City Community Schools
www.scccardinals.org

