

LIVING IN ST. PETER

Pertinent Laws

As students of Gustavus, you are citizens of St. Peter and, therefore, the St. Peter Police Department is your law enforcement agency. If you have been the victim of a crime, have any questions about the city or its laws, or have any reason to need the services of a law enforcement agency, please feel free to call the St. Peter Public Police Department any time, day or night, at 931-1550. Below are a few laws and regulations that are likely to affect you during the time you are attending Gustavus.

Parking—Violation of parking regulations will result in issuance of a parking ticket or towing of the illegally parked vehicle. General parking prohibitions (within ten feet of a fire hydrant, on a sidewalk, double parking, etc.) are in effect; and in addition, the city has an ordinance making on-street parking for a continuous period in excess of 24 hours unlawful.

Parking on 7th Street between Jefferson and Grace Streets is limited to the west side of the road and only for those with a St. Peter City parking permit.

Snow Emergencies—Members of the Gustavus community who live or park vehicles off-campus should also be aware that the City of St. Peter enforces a Snow Emergency ordinance. Anytime there is an accumulation of snow (2–3 inches) or ice that is likely to impede traffic, a 48-hour Snow Emergency will be declared. Once a Snow Emergency is declared, there is no parking on any of the posted Snow Emergency Routes for the entire 48-hour period. Beginning at midnight, for two days, there is no parking on residential streets midnight–7 a.m. Beginning at 2 a.m., for two days, there is no parking on downtown streets from 2 to 6 a.m. Vehicles not removed from the streets during the

enforcement period may be tagged and towed. Snow Emergencies will always be declared before 5 p.m. and announced on KRBI Radio (1310 AM, 105.5 FM) and KGAC Radio (90.5 FM).

Parties—Any party that intrudes upon the rights of other community members is in violation of city ordinances. Such ordinances are also enforced at the city's parks.

There are two ordinances that may be of particular interest to the Gustavus community. The first is an unlawful assembly ordinance. This ordinance makes excessive noise generated by groups of three or more persons from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. (and audible at the property line or an adjacent residence, or at a distance of 50 feet if outdoors) a misdemeanor and gives the police authority to order people to leave the assembly.

The second ordinance applies to possession or consumption of alcohol in city parks. A permit is required for a person or group (any group, including departmental picnics arranged by faculty) to have hard liquor, a keg, quantities of wine greater than a gallon, or quantities of beer more than one 24-unit case in any of St. Peter's parks (e.g., Minnesota Square, Levee Park, Gorman Park). A cleanup deposit of between \$40 and \$200 must accompany each permit application. Under the ordinance, the Police Department has the authority to eject any person or persons acting in violation and to confiscate and dispose of the alcoholic beverage involved. The permit may be immediately revoked upon violation of any park rule or permit condition. As with the unlawful assembly ordinance, violation is a misdemeanor and may result in arrests and/or fines.

In addition, a rental property ordinance authorizes sanctions including rental certificate revocation against rental property

owners whose tenants are repeatedly cited for unlawful assembly or disorderly house.

Bicycles—All traffic laws apply, including those requiring proper lighting for night use. St. Peter has a fairly strong and active bicycle-licensing program. It's a good idea to obtain a license here if your bicycle is not already registered.

Legal Drinking Age—The 21-year old drinking age is enforced in St. Peter. Both the State of Minnesota and the City of St. Peter have developed legislation making it unlawful: a) for minors to consume, purchase, or possess alcoholic beverages; to misrepresent their age or use false ID in order to purchase; or to enter licensed premises except to consume a meal; b) for legal-age persons to provide alcohol for minors or to induce minors to purchase or procure; or c) for any person to sell alcohol without a license. (See also the alcohol policy.) The city also regulates consumption in parks and public spaces (see above information).

Airport Shuttle Service

Students may purchase tickets and make guaranteed reservations for Mankato Land to Air Express airport shuttle at a discounted price at the Information Desk. Twenty-six round trips are made weekly between the airport and Hometown Travel, located just a few blocks from campus in downtown St. Peter. For further convenience, students may use the St. Peter Transit Service for many of the pick-up and drop-off times at Hometown Travel. Discounted transit tokens are also available for purchase at the Information Desk. The discount is only available for tickets purchased by Gustavus students/for Gustavus students at the Campus Center Information Desk. Tickets are nonrefundable, but do not expire. For more information visit: www.landtoairexpress.com and www.hometowntravel.net.

Banking

St. Peter has four financial institutions (First National Bank, Nicollet County Bank, Community Bank, and a local office of Wells Federal Bank), should you wish to establish a local account. However, as is the case in most college communities, St. Peter businesses are very good about accepting student hometown checks. In addition, three of the banks have cash card machines in their 24-hour lobbies and two have installed ATM machines specifically for the College community in the Campus Center.

Bus Transportation

St. Peter offers a local bus station for Greyhound lines, which schedules north- and southbound passenger service daily. Students may connect to other carriers at Mankato or the Twin Cities. Schedule, rate, and stop location information is available by phone (1-800-231-2222 for Greyhound's national ticket information service).

Child Care

Child care facilities are available in the community. Students with younger children may call the Adult's and Children's Alliance (1-800-433-8108) for information. The St. Peter Chamber of Commerce maintains a list of in-home child care providers; call 934-3400 for more information. More child care resources are listed at www.mnchildcare.org.

Florists

St. Peter has two full-service florists: St. Peter Greenhouse & Florist (507-934-4650) and Mary's Flowers (507-931-4806). Both can wire flowers and arrangements throughout the country.

Additionally, "Floral Expressions" at Econofoods (507-931-5541) has a floral service. All of the florists carry a wide range of cut flowers, plants, and arrangements for all occasions.

St. Peter Transit Service

City Transit/Heartland Express Dial-A-Ride provides door-to-door passenger service in St. Peter. Dial 934-6070 to arrange for pickup. Cost is \$1.75 per ride (adult, one way) for rides within the city limits of St. Peter or \$2.25 to Kasota. Tickets may be purchased in advance or on the bus. Service hours for St. Peter destinations are as follows:

Monday–Friday 7 a.m.–8 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

(The bus does not run on Sundays. Cost and times are subject to change.)

Discounted Transit tokens can be purchased by Gustavus students, for Gustavus students, at the Campus Center Information Desk. Tickets and ticket books may also be purchased from the Transit driver or at the Transit Office located at 227 S. Front Street (the Municipal Building).

Voting

Gustavus students may obtain an absentee ballot from their permanent home district or vote locally. Students who wish to vote locally and have not already registered may do so at the polls on any election day. The Gustavus campus falls into different wards and precincts; to learn which precinct your residence is in, check with the Office of Residential Life or look for notices posted prior to election days.