



# City of Shelby

## September 2020 Newsletter

### Special points of interest:

- Talk to your Teens
- Safety Tips
- Safe Driver
- School Reminders
- Athletic Guidelines
- Community Blossom
- Civic Center



If you didn't know, the City of Shelby has a weekly Facebook post to keep residents up to date on city projects, programs and events. You can follow the City of Shelby on Facebook at **Shelby Montana**. Please look for **"THIS WEEK IN SHELBY"** each Monday for a list of projects the city is currently working on; infrastructure projects affecting traffic; garbage pickup routes; meetings; and Civic Center activities. If there are any changes to the schedule or notifications, please check the City's Facebook page daily for updates.

### Visibility at Intersections

The City of Shelby is working in cooperation with the Sheriff's Office to address properties that have shrubs, hedges and trees that impede the vision of motorists. Several accidents have nearly happened from motorists pulling out into streets with limited visibility from shrubs, hedges and trees. Please look at your property and boulevard. If you have vegetation that is blocking visibility, we ask that you trim it back. Distance & height requirements can be found in the Shelby Municipal Code 13-5-2 Visibility at Intersections on the Shelby website at [www.shelbymt.com](http://www.shelbymt.com). Thank you for helping make our community safer.



## Dear Shelby Residents,

We hope you have had a safe and enjoyable summer. Our community was much quieter than most summers, but we hope you were able to get out and enjoy our beautiful swimming pool, splash park, trail and fishing dock. Grant funding allowed us to replace the pool gutter system as well as install a fishing dock at Lake Shel-oole. Many children and families have been enjoying our local amenities.

The city continues work on critical infrastructure within the community. Projects at the wellfield are improving our water supply and transmission to our storage tanks. The next steps will be increasing the capacity of UV treatment. The storm water drainage project was completed and has made a remarkable difference during storm events. Work continues on the 4<sup>th</sup> sewer lagoon and work has been completed on the water line extension on the east side of our community. Paving projects are improving a few more streets each year and our parks crew have kept our parks in great shape this summer. Work continues to complete signage at the east and north entrances into Shelby as well as improvements to the front entrance of Historic Shelby Town Hall.

It is unfortunate we are not able to hold our Safe Routes to School walking program this fall, but will work on a fun program for our grade school kids for the spring. With the beginning of the school year, we hope you drive with caution as kids are walking or biking to school. Informational articles are included in this newsletter that we hope you read and share with your children as together we can continue to make Shelby a great place to live, work and raise our families!

## Use of Electronic Communications Devices While Operating a Motor Vehicle

Since the inception of the Shelby~ Toole County Transportation Safety Committee, the first priority has been addressing distracted driving. Formed in 2010, the committee is comprised of city and county officials, Marias Medical Center personnel, Shelby and North Toole County School officials, local law enforcement, Montana Highway Patrol, Toole County Ambulance, city and county attorneys, city judge, Montana Department of Transportation, area youth programs and concerned citizens who have been working diligently in finding resources and making changes in the community which serve to prevent injuries, save lives, and reduce economic costs of motor vehicle crashes.

The number one cause of distracted driving is use of a cellphone. Nationwide statistics show 11 teens die EACH DAY as a result of texting while driving. At the same time, 1 out of every 4 traffic crashes are caused by cell phone usage. Locally, crash data shows the number of crashes due to careless/inattentive/distracted driving has increased steadily for the last 10 years.

In 2017, the Toole County Health Department conducted a Community Health Assessment for Shelby and Toole County. 76% of the respondents reported distracted driving as a "problem" or "big problem" and 10% of area high school students taking the Youth Risk Behavior Survey reported distracted driving by taking cell calls or texting while driving at least 3-5 days of every month. SHS students developed and completed a survey in early 2020 with over 60% of those responding agreeing a hands-free cell phone ordinance should be implemented in Shelby.

The Transportation Safety Committee, led by Sheriff Whitt, Robyn Kimmet and Lorette Carter presented these findings to the Shelby City Council for consideration in adopting an ordinance in which to prohibit hand held electronic communications device usage within Shelby. After much council discussion and citizen input, the Shelby City Council has put the measure on the November ballot for the community to have a voice in whether or not to ban use of handheld communication devices while driving within the City of Shelby. This gives you the opportunity to let your voice be heard on this critical safety issue within our community.

**DUMPSTERS** - Many neighborhoods within Shelby share a communal dumpster as well as individual rollouts. We ask that residents please be considerate of their neighbors and garbage collector when filling the dumpster. Large items hanging out and over the edges prohibit the garbage collector from picking up the dumpster and properly dumping it. Tree branches take up so much space in the dumpster residents have a hard time putting their household garbage in. At the same time, items left near the dumpster are not able to be picked up by the driver.

The landfill has a large container at the landfill for trees branches and compostable materials. If you do not have the ability to take a large item to the landfill, please call the City Shop at 434-5564 for assistance. If your company or worksite needs a large 20 yard container, please call the City Shop for rental details.

## TALK TO YOUR TEEN ABOUT TEXTING & DRIVING . . .

As school and high school sports are set to begin, we remind parents to have daily conversations with their teens about the important rules they need to follow to stay safe behind the wheel of a passenger car, truck, or SUV. These rules should address the greatest dangers for teen drivers which number one is DISTRACTED DRIVING!

### THE PROBLEM — TOO MANY TEENS ARE DYING ON OUR ROADS

- Car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens (15 to 18 years old) in the United States – ahead of all other types of injury, disease, or violence.
- Distracted driving accounts for approximately 25% of all fatal crashes and teens are the largest age group involved in these fatalities.
- Distractions while driving are more than just risky—they can be deadly. 2017-2018 showed among teen drivers involved in fatal crashes, 58% percent were reported as distracted at the time of the crash.
- Distracted Driving has been called an American EPIDEMIC and is completely preventable.

Parents – you’ve guided your teen this far. Driving is a new chapter, a step toward independence for many teens. But your job is not done. Surveys show that teens with parents who set firm rules for driving typically engage in less risky driving behaviors and are involved in fewer crashes. But your kids can’t listen if you don’t talk.

- Get the facts about teen driving and share these statistics with your teen.
- Know Montana’s nighttime driving restrictions, passenger restrictions, and all the graduated driver licensing (GDL) restrictions, and help enforce them.
- Be a good role model for your teen driver and set an example with your own safe driving habits.
- Remind your teen that driving is a privilege, not a right, and it must always be taken seriously.
- Set the rules before they hit the road.



Start the conversation with your teen about safe driving habits now and continue the conversation every day throughout the year. Even if it seems like they’re tuning you out, keep reinforcing these rules. They’re listening—your constant reminders about these powerful messages will get through.

Get creative! Talking is just one way to discuss safe driving. You can also write your teen a letter, send e-mail or text reminders, leave sticky note reminders in the car, or use social media to get your message across.

Get it in writing. Create a parent-teen driving contract that outlines the rules and consequences for your teen driver. Hang the signed contract in a visible place as a constant reminder about the rules of the road.

If you and your teen are going somewhere together, let your teen drive. Make sure he or she is following the guidelines you’ve set.

## Back to School Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Tips

It is the beginning of the school year and now is the perfect time to review traffic safety practices. When parents are walking and biking with their children, they are encouraged to talk to them about street safety and show kids how to interact with other pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles. Young children need supervision until about age 10 or even older, depending on the child.

It is important for both bicyclists and pedestrians to pay attention and listen to their surroundings. Everyone should avoid wearing headphones that mute their surroundings and avoid cell phone use while walking and biking.

### As a pedestrian:

- Teach children to stop at the edge of the street and look for cars.
- Make eye contact with the driver before crossing the street.
- Look left, right, left and over their shoulder for traffic.
- Teach them to cross at intersections and crosswalks when possible.
- It is important to follow all signs/warnings especially at our Galena railroad crossing.
- Wear bright clothing and reflective material if possible.

### As a bicyclist:

- Helmets should always be worn no matter how slowly you are riding. Start the helmet habit early and parents should promote this by always wearing a helmet themselves.
- Be sure the helmet fits well, is adjusted to the head, and covers the forehead.
- Bicycles are vehicles. Children should not ride bikes in the road until they fully understand traffic rules and parents should show them how to follow them.
- When riding in the roadway, ride in single file on the right side of the street going the same direction as the traffic.
- Obey all traffic signs, signals and warnings.
- Parents are encouraged to practice with children by riding in a straight line, as well as stopping and speed control.
- Look left, right, left and over the shoulder before crossing, turning or entering the roadway.
- Bicyclists are encouraged to also slow down and look for traffic entering and exiting the roadway.
- Ride so others can see you, stay out of a driver’s blind spot and wear bright reflective clothing.
- Use hand turning signals so all traffic can see your intentions.



**Let’s make it a safe school year, walking and biking to school!**



**Are you a Safe Driver...?** Another school year has begun and children in our community are walking or riding their bicycles to and from bus stops and school. As we patrol this area, we see many children walking across streets without looking and bicyclists who ride through stop signs and across busy intersections. We also see many motorists not stopping for people in crosswalks waiting to cross or distracted with phones.

Many of us think that we are safe drivers. And yet, many exceed the speed limit, roll through stops signs and drive while distracted or in a hurry. These actions can turn deadly in an instant.

The cars that we drive are built for comfort and speed and drivers often forget that they are operating a piece of heavy machinery. There are more than 41,000 deaths on the road nationwide each year and 5.3 million injuries, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Please take a moment to look at your own driving habits. Most people want to do the right thing...and by making a few simple changes in our daily driving habits, we can stop a tragedy before it happens. - Toole County Sheriff’s Department



## Reminders from School District #14

**Passing School Buses** - Passing a bus when loading or unloading children is a **violation of the law**. This continues to be an issue every year and we hope that it never becomes a catastrophe. Bus drivers are legally bound to report passing violations to local law enforcement agencies. **Please, for the safety of all the children, do not pass a school bus that is stopped or preparing to stop.** Also, our buses use the stop signs mounted on the side of the bus at in-town stops. Please obey these stop signs just as you would the red flashing lights.

**Traffic Flow, Parking, Student Drop-Off Areas** - School District #14 is very concerned with student safety. One of the more dangerous times at school is in the morning and in the afternoon when children are arriving and departing from school. To insure that our students are safe, we are asking the community's cooperation in adhering to the designated student drop-off and pick up areas as well as obeying all no parking or stopping areas.

1. **RED ZONES:** Any area where the curb is painted red is considered a **no parking or stopping zone**. These red zones are fire lanes and must be kept clear at all times for emergency vehicles.
2. **YELLOW ZONES: Are no parking zones.** Please do not park anywhere the curb is painted yellow. Also, do not stop in the yellow zone that is marked as the bus loading zone near the school buildings.
3. **HANDICAPPED PARKING:** Do not park in handicapped parking spaces, unless you have the appropriate permit which allows you to do so.
4. **SENIOR CITIZEN PARKING FOR EVENTS:** The parking spaces along the Vo-Ed building on the north side of the gym are reserved for Senior Citizens.
5. **ELEMENTARY STUDENT DROP-OFF AREA:** The drop-off and pick-up area for students attending Shelby Elementary School is along Westwood Street on the east side of the school. Please use this area rather than the front of the school.
6. **MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL DROP-OFF AREA:** The drop-off area for Middle School and High School students is at the West end of the high school building near the main entrance.
7. **HIGH SCHOOL PARKING/PARKING FOR SCHOOL EVENTS:** The School District asks that you utilize the parking lot behind the high school for school activities. The back lot is paved, has very easy access and is well lighted. It is a much safer and secure location to park.
8. **SPEED ZONES:** Please remember that the speed limit around the schools is 15 mph.

**We ask for your cooperation in making the Shelby School campuses a safe place for our children.**

## 2020 Shelby Athletic Guidelines

Shelby School District is making every effort to hold athletics events this year with the following guidelines:

1. All spectators will be required to wear a face covering to attend Shelby athletic events.
  2. All players, managers, coaches, etc. will be required to wear a face covering while not actively participating in the competition.
  3. Children 12 years of age and under are required to be with an adult at all times during athletic events.
  4. Physical distancing is encouraged at all athletic events.
    - a. Volleyball Specifics
      - i. No lower level seating will be available (exceptions made for handicap seating).
      - ii. Once seated, fans are required to remain in their seating section. Each section will have a dedicated entrance & exit tunnel.
      - iii. Section F will be for Shelby students.
      - iv. Sections H & I will be for visitors.
      - v. Sections J & K will be designated as filming and media areas.
      - vi. Sections A, B, C, D, E & G will be for Shelby fans.
    - b. Football Specifics
      - i. The field viewing area is large enough to accommodate a large group with appropriate physical distancing. As long as fans are responsible in practicing appropriate physical distancing, the School District hopes to avoid pod style assignment for football games.
  5. Concessions will not be available at the beginning of the fall sports seasons. The School District will evaluate the situation as they learn more.
  6. Restrooms will be cleaned hourly during all athletic events.
  7. Announcers will periodically remind spectators to maintain appropriate physical distancing and wear an appropriate face covering.
- School District #14 will announce exit strategies at each sporting event to avoid gathering of spectators at exits at the conclusion of athletic events.



## Thank you for making our community blossom!



The City of Shelby is very fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers who plant and care for the concrete planters that line Roosevelt Highway, Oilfield Avenue, Main Street and Central Avenue. These beautiful flowers and shrubs brighten Shelby roadways and welcome visitors and residents alike. The City would like to thank these individuals and businesses for the commitment to helping Shelby "bloom" this summer.

### Roosevelt Highway

Bear Paw Credit Union • OYO Hotel • Dash Inn • Glacier Motel • Marias River Electric • Pizza Hut  
Taylor's True Value • Dixie Inn/Clark's Restaurant

### Oilfield Ave

Audie & Clark Bancroft • First Baptist Church • Sharon & Jon Dolan • Barbara Mercer • Rosalie Manley • Melody Flesch

Special thanks to the Shelby Merchant Association for purchasing flowers; Nicki Anderson of Shelby Floral & Gift & the city crew for planting the flowers; and the wonderful volunteer waterers ~ Nicki & Kendall Anderson, Louise Aegerter, Ann, Ryan & Brendan Clark, Harold Miller, Rhett Reynolds, Tabris Correa, Kolby Lohr, Julie & Jeff Wray and Kelli & Kirby Lohr for keeping our planters looking beautiful!

Thank you again for your gift of time and making Shelby a welcoming community.



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## CIVIC CENTER

669 Park Ave • 434-5114

Monday – Thursday: 10:00 am – 3:30 pm & 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am – 3:30 pm & 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

The end of summer is approaching very fast and school has started!! As we put up our bathing suits and grab our scarfs, don't forget the Civic Center's Fall Classes are just about to begin!! If you haven't seen some of the changes that have happened at the facility, we welcome you to come on over and see the new paint job that has brightened our hallways and gym walls. The Teen Room has a new look as well with bright colors and silhouette images painted on the walls around the room by Johnna Welker, a senior at the Shelby High School! We currently offer roller skating, workout classes, racquetball, a teen room, basketball, two cardio rooms and a weight room that can help anyone achieve their target results. You can purchase anything from a day pass, class passes, monthly passes and key fobs that will give you 24 hour access to our facility in the Civic Center Office! Our current class schedule is posted below and may change at later dates.

### Class Schedule

#### Monday

8:30 am • High Fitness Aerobics  
10:00 am • Tai Chi  
3:30–5:30 pm • Roller Skating

#### Wednesday

10:00 am • Tai Chi

#### Thursday

3:30–5:30 pm • Roller Skating

#### Saturday

8:30 am • High Fitness Aerobics