

Legals: Your Right to Know

PUBLIC NOTICE

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AND AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATING TO PEACE OFFICER LICENSES

TAKE NOTICE that the Peace Officers Standards and Training Board will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to the N.D. Admin. Code at 10:00 a.m. on 27th day, April 2026, at the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, 1720 Burlington Drive Suite B, Bismarck North Dakota.

A copy of the proposed rules may be obtained by writing the Peace Officers Standards and Training Board or calling 701-328-5504. The proposed rules are also posted at www.post.nd.gov. Written comments may be submitted to 1720 Burlington Drive, Suite B, Bismarck, ND, 58504 until May 12th, 2026. If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the Peace Officers Standards and Training Board at the above telephone number or address at least two days prior to the public hearing.

Dated this 12th day of March 2026.
Pat Helfrich, Secretary
Peace Officer Standards and Training Board

Beware of Common Seasonal Allergy Triggers This Spring and Summer

Seasonal allergies affect a significant percentage of the global population. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, as much as 30 percent of the global population is affected by seasonal allergies, which can be marked by uncomfortable and disruptive symptoms such as sneezing, itchy and/or watery eyes, a runny or stuffy nose, and irritation of the throat.

As uncomfortable and disruptive as seasonal allergies can be, they are often manageable with over-the-counter (OTC) medications like Zyrtec®. According to the Cleveland Clinic, medications like Zyrtec® work by blocking histamine, a substance the body releases during an allergic reaction. Seasonal allergy sufferers are urged to speak with their physicians and visit an allergist prior to taking any new medications, including OTC options. It also can help to identify seasonal allergy triggers. While people tend to associate seasonal allergies with spring and early summer, the makers of Zyrtec® note that seasonal allergies can affect people throughout the year. Triggers vary by season, and some overlap the seasons. Recognition of common seasonal allergy triggers can be an important step in combatting the unpleasant and often disruptive side effects of flare-ups.



Summer

Grass pollen is a significant seasonal allergy trigger in summer. Fungus spores and mold also can trigger seasonal allergies in spring, as the makers of Zyrtec® note that hot and humid weather creates an ideal environment for mold to grow. The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) notes that fungus spores tend to grow on grasses, grains, logs, and compost piles from July through early fall. To reduce the risk of a seasonal allergy attack in summer, avoid mowing the lawn on days when you plan to entertain outside or relax outdoors, as mowing spreads grass pollen around, increasing the risk of a reaction.

Spring

The makers of Zyrtec® note that tree pollen, grass pollen and weed pollen are common seasonal allergy triggers in spring. Tree pollen is the first seasonal allergy trigger to emerge in spring, but grass pollen and weed pollen are additional springtime triggers. Seasonal allergy sufferers are urged to monitor daily pollen counts, including tree pollen counts, and avoid going outside on particularly windy spring days.

Fall

Weed pollen, mold and dust are seasonal allergy triggers that emerge in fall. Ragweed can grow anywhere and the AAFA notes it can travel for miles in the windy conditions of fall. Mold also can develop on wet soil and fallen leaves, while turning on heating systems on chilly fall days can send dust mites into the air. Keeping windows and doors shut in fall can ensure seasonal allergy triggers don't get inside.

City of Mohall Public Works Maintenance Technician

The City of Mohall is accepting application for a Public Works Maintenance Technician to assist with the operation and maintenance of city infrastructure, under the direction of the Public Works Operator. Duties include general maintenance, equipment operation, seasonal work, and on-call response as needed.

Applicants must have a valid driver's license and be able to perform physical work in all weather conditions, and be willing to learn.

Certification in water and wastewater is encouraged but not required at the time of hire. Experience gained while working under a certified operator may qualify an employee to test for certification.

Wage and benefits based on experience.

Applications accepted until filled. Apply at Mohall Auditor's Office at the Mohall Plaza at 602 Main Street East.

Homeowners Reminded to File Applications for Property Tax Credit

The North Dakota Tax Commissioner reminds Homeowners about the Upcoming Primary Residence Credit Application Deadline

North Dakota Tax Commissioner Brian Kroshus reminds eligible homeowners that the annual Primary Residence Credit (PRC) application window is open January 1, 2026, through April 1, 2026. The PRC offers a property tax credit of up to \$1,600 to help reduce property taxes for qualifying North Dakota homeowners.

The Primary Residence Credit was established during the 2023 Legislative Session under House Bill 1158 and allows eligible homeowners to apply each year through the North Dakota Office of State Tax Commissioner. During the 2025 Legislative Session, the passage of House Bill 1176 approved a landmark property tax relief measure with part of the bill increasing the PRC from \$500 to \$1,600 annually.

"As the cost of living rises, so does the importance of programs like the primary residence property tax credit," stated Tax Commissioner Kroshus. "Increasing the credit amount from \$500 to \$1,600 this past legislative session provides additional relief to eligible homeowners in communities across our state."

To qualify for the Primary Residence Credit:

The home must serve as the applicant's primary residence and meet qualifying criteria

There are no age or income restrictions

Only one credit is allowed per household

Applications must be submitted by April 1, 2026

"Housing-related expenses represent, on average, one third of living costs for a typical North Dakota family, significantly impacting citizens and especially those on fixed incomes, including seniors and young families," Commissioner Kroshus emphasized. "This year's increased credit amount of \$1,600 is both timely and meaningful."

Homeowners may also qualify for additional property tax relief programs, including the Homestead Property Tax Credit and the Disabled Veterans Property Tax Credit, if eligibility requirements are met.

The Commissioner encourages all North Dakota homeowners to review the specific eligibility requirements and complete the annual application process before the April 1st deadline at www.tax.nd.gov/prc.

For more information regarding North Dakota tax-related programs, please visit the Office of State Tax Commissioner's website at www.tax.nd.gov or connect with us on social media.

Tax Deadline is Fast Approaching

In 2025, the North Dakota Office of State Tax Commissioner processed just over 480,000 North Dakota individual income tax returns. The due date to file and pay 2025 individual income tax returns this year is Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

"As in past years, North Dakota will once again align its filing season with the IRS schedule," said Kroshus. "If filers haven't already done so, I encourage them to begin gathering and organizing their necessary documents well in advance of the deadline to ensure a smooth filing process."

Filers should also be aware of recent changes in U.S. Postal Service (USPS) postmark date processes. Effective January 1, 2026, the postmark date is now the day the mail was processed by USPS, rather than when it was dropped off in the mailbox.

To minimize delays in receipt of paper returns, filing electronically is recommended.

"We encourage taxpayers to e-file as it is the fastest, most secure method and improves accuracy and efficiency, and helps counter potential delays related to new postal procedures," said Kroshus. "This past year, almost 94 percent of North Dakota income tax filers chose to submit their returns electronically, a number that continues to grow."

For additional details please visit the Office of State Tax Commissioner's website at www.tax.nd.gov.

Dakota Datebook

A radio series from Prairie Public in partnership with the State Historical Society of ND and with funding from the North Dakota Humanities Council. See all the Dakota Datebooks at prerepublican.org

Snow Geese at Tewaukon written by Jack Dura

March 23, 2026 – North Dakota is a popular stopover for migrating waterfowl. Even endangered whooping cranes make a pit stop here, but the migrating snow geese at Lake Tewaukon are one of the most impressive sights. They'd give Alfred Hitchcock's movie "The Birds" a run for its money. The little lake and the sky above it become a cloud of white as hundreds of thousands of snow geese swirl and swim. The geese flock to Lake Tewaukon in March, usually around this time of year, at times totaling over seven hundred thousand birds.

The snow geese migration also marks the start of movement for other waterfowl. Ducks, Giant Canada geese, and teal show up at Tewaukon in early April, with shorebirds like sandpipers and plovers arriving in May. Bald eagles and great horned owls also nest in the area.

The snow geese's journey from wintering in southern Texas to their breeding grounds in Nunavut Territory, Canada is over 3,000 miles. Stops along the way might include cornfields near Urbana, Illinois, sloughs near Cleveland, and the ditches along I-94 – small wetlands that are some of the first bodies of water to warm up in spring. In North Dakota, they enjoy a paradise provided by the state's prairie potholes.

Lake Tewaukon is part of the Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge. This hotspot for naturalists offers another spectacle in May and June, when it features a chorus of wildflowers.

Cold War Education written by Lane Sunwall

March 24, 2026 – To some, the Cold War carried the specter of nuclear Armageddon, the end of life as we know it. While humanity dodged that particular bullet, efforts to build more effective bombs spurred both American and Russian intellectual curiosity and scientific prowess. The "space race," the other epic mid-century contest between the US and the USSR, was intimately tied to nuclear arms development. Indeed, the first rockets to send men into space were converted warfare missiles.

Even before 1957, when the launch of Sputnik caught the United States off-guard, the US government knew that if it were to retain the edge in military technology, it needed to improve American science. Towards that end, the government made massive investments in scientific research and education. The result put America on the moon, but perhaps of greater importance was the modern scientific revolution that the investment in scientific study made possible.

Not everyone who was involved with the government's "space-race" education initiative became rocket-scientists. Many branched off into other sciences and provided America with a myriad of inventions we now take for granted. North Dakota was intimately tied to this renaissance in American ingenuity. As funding to the universities increased, citizens across the state took up the challenge to advance American technological innovation.

In the Fall of 1956, a young Bill Isaacson enrolled in the pre-engineering program at Minot State University. The program, part of the government's scientific initiative, propelled Mr. Isaacson to Montana State University and to a doctorate of engineering in 1963. Isaacson launched his career at 3M. Combining his expertise with his inborn business acumen, Isaacson played an important role in the invention of multi-focal permanent contact lenses, a new generation of Olympic diving boards, and even 3M's most ubiquitous product, the "Post-it" note.

Bill Isaacson has neither forgotten his home state, nor the difference his education played in his life. This week in 2011, Isaacson travelled back to his alma mater, Minot State University, to speak to aspiring inventors, scientists, and entrepreneurs. His purpose: inspire a new generation of North Dakotans to push the boundaries of science to bring the newest technologies to market, applying their knowledge towards a better tomorrow.

Weather History written by Sarah Walker

March 25, 2026 – Avid fans of weather history may recall that in mid-March of 1941, a blizzard swept across the upper Midwest, reaping death in its wake. Out of more than 70 victims, at least 35 fell in North Dakota.

Reports of the dead and the close calls flew everywhere. The Northwestern Bell Telephone Company in Fargo reported that 2500 long-distance calls were placed following the blizzard—the greatest number of long distance calls placed in a single day in the history of the office.

On this date, only ten days after the storm, North Dakotans were trying to deal with what had occurred.

In Devils Lake, hundreds of motorists were marooned in their cars overnight. In Grand Forks, at least eleven people were still listed as missing two days after the storm. Near Fort Ransom, a father and son froze to death while out walking. Two cousins near Hannah died while walking home from a 4H Club meeting.

The Weiner family, from near Langdon, had just arrived at their farm home when the storm broke. Their driveway was blocked, so they parked along the highway, but upon opening the car door, the oldest daughter was swept away by the wind. By the time her parents caught up with her, they were all lost. They did eventually bump into a fence post that Mr. Weiner recognized as his own. He left his family behind and followed the fence to his sheep shed. He returned, but his wife was unable to move, so he took his daughter and young son to the shed, then returned once more and half-dragged, half-carried his wife to safety.

Four brothers from near Dazey, aged seventeen and younger, had been out roller skating, and on the way home were caught in the storm. Donald, Lee and Dickie perished. Only "Bobbie" Taylor survived—and only because his twin brother Dickie had been holding him in the snowdrift in which they had sought shelter.

Bobbie was in the hospital for a while. He lost his left foot and the toes and heel of his right foot. However, he kept a good attitude, telling his nurse, "I don't think I will be able to play football because of my feet, but I think I will make it alright in basketball."

The reports of the Taylor family tragedy spread far and wide, and Bobbie unexpectedly received an autographed photo from movie star Robert Taylor—written on the photo was "To Robert Taylor from Robert Taylor. Best wishes."

Spuds' Day of Firsts written by Merry Helm

March 26, 2026 – It was a day of firsts across the river in Moorhead, Minnesota. As reported on this date in 1928, Moorhead High had won its first major sports title by taking the 16th Annual Minnesota high school basketball championship. They beat a Minneapolis team, the Edison Inventors, before a record-breaking crowd of 7,200 spectators in the U of M Fieldhouse.

A reporter wrote, "In the championship game, Edison's vaunted passing play, which baffled Northfield Friday, was no puzzle to the Moorhead Spudders after they got going in the second quarter.

"Moorhead, which has made frequent appearances in the state tournament as representatives of their section, used a cautious slow approach in invading the Edison's territory, but once past the middle of the floor, they uncocked clever passes and some accurate shooting that brought them into favor with a majority of the rooters that were from outside the home city of the Inventors."

Moorhead fans showed up in droves to welcome home their young heroes. Newspapers reported, "From the moment Clifford Halmrast, doughty captain and all-state forward, alighted from the train bearing the championship trophy, until a monster mass meeting was called to order in the high school auditorium, the cheers of the rooters, the blare of the bands, and the shrill cries of the [factory] whistles and [fire] sirens predominated. The victorious players and their coach, Glenn Hanna, were loaded on a fire truck with prominent city officials and were paraded through the main streets

Pig Lady of Hollywood written by Sarah Walker

March 27, 2026 – Edith Hughes was a big city, little city girl. She was born as Edith Wakeman in New York state, but she was raised in Bismarck. When she was older, in 1930, she took her parents to California, and they made their home in Los Angeles. Until 1941, she made it her custom to visit her home city at least once a year.

In the early 1940s, however, Edith began to lose her sight. One Easter Sunday before World War II began, she described her worsening vision as the way the stage looks "when they lower a gauze curtain between the scene and the audience." Her condition grew worse, and all the doctors she went to disagreed on a solution.

But she was a go-getter, and after Pearl Harbor, she reported to a volunteer agency to offer her services. Sightless or not, she was determined to help as best she could. She proposed collecting small donations from people. The director of the agency did not go for the idea, but Edith persisted on her own. Her charitable efforts focused on the issue of blindness, in hopes that the war would improve medical knowledge in that area. Later, she said, "I humiliated everybody by starting a penny a day campaign." She chose the slogan, "A penny a day drives the darkness away."

Her vision continued to worsen, but she turned her energy to other worthwhile causes. Soon, she began circulating Mexican piggy banks to collect funds for the Braille Institute. But she wanted a better design, so she bought a live pig (for ten dollars) and commissioned a sculpture of a life-size pig seated on a pedestal, its front hooves folded in a porcelain plea for funds. She christened this statue "Aurora, goddess of dawn and foe of darkness." This new, large piggy bank was placed in the Los Angeles Farmers' Market, to make its plea to the thousands of people who passed through the gates daily.

She was known as "the pig lady of Hollywood," and for good reason; she pushed people to donate their pennies to her piggy banks.

On this date in 1950, it was reported that Edith Wakeman Hughes was blind no longer. She had undergone surgery by a San Francisco surgeon who restored her sight. She could now see!

Nonetheless, even in its absence, her blindness inspired her, and she continued to push forward and even increase her efforts. This "pig lady" was a business woman and a humanitarian, a go-getter and an inspiration.

"Dakota Datebook" is a radio series from Prairie Public in partnership with the State Historical Society of North Dakota and with funding from the North Dakota Humanities Council. See all the Dakota Datebooks at prairiepublic.org, subscribe to the "Dakota Datebook" podcast, or buy the Dakota Datebook book at shop-prairiepublic.org.

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