

COMMUNITYNEWS

Location info limited for wireless 911 calls

Most 911 calls now made from wireless phones

DPS REPORT

Minnesota residents and visitors should be prepared to provide specific location information when calling 911 from a cell phone, according to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety division of Emergency Communication Networks.

Cell phones are creating ongoing challenges for 911 call takers as they wait for the carriers to implement improved location information technology.

Minnesota 911 call centers handled nearly three million calls in 2014, with 80 percent of those calls for help being made from wireless phones.

“Minnesota 911 call takers do a great job using the technology available to determine where a wireless call is coming from,” said Jackie Mines, director of Emergency Communication Networks. “All 911 call centers in Minnesota have the ability to receive location information as long as the carriers are able to provide it.”

When a 911 call is placed using a traditional land line the 911 call taker can instantly see the address connected to that phone, including the floor, apartment or suite number in a

multi-unit building. That is not the case with cell phones. DPS/ECN recommends callers using phones other than traditional land lines to:

- Immediately provide the 911 call taker with precise location information.
- Stay on the line when they are unable to verbally communicate their location. Call takers can use various tools in the 911 call center to further refine a caller’s location.

The Federal Communications Commission recently adopted an order requiring cell phone carriers to improve location information. “DPS/ECN supports this order because it will provide increased location information for 911 call takers who must act quickly to get help to those in need,” said Mines.

DPS/ECN also has important consumer information for callers using phones other than cell or landline.

■ Callers using VoIP phones that provide the option to use the phone while traveling must understand the 911 call taker will see the address registered to the phone, not the person’s current location.

■ Callers using VoIP phones should be sure to change the address connected to the phone if they move or travel to any location other than where they initially registered the phone.

ROTARY GUEST



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Beth Lowthian was the guest of Rotarian Mike Ward at a recent meeting of the International Falls Rotary Club. Lowthian is one of the coordinators for the local theatre group, Borealis Bards.

BORDERLAND BRIEF

KAO BOARD ANNUAL MEETING

The Board of Directors of Koochiching Aging Options welcomes the public to attend its annual meeting and progress review at noon Thursday at Backus Community Center boardroom, 900 Fifth St. Those planning to attend are asked to call 283-7084 by Tuesday.

CALENDAR

TODAY

- Moose Lodge events – Open, noon; Bingo, 1 p.m.; Tom’s pulled pork Supper, 6 (reservations, 283-3615).
- Guided Snowshoe Hike, 1-3 p.m., Rainy Lake Visitor Center.
- Open Gym, 3-5 p.m., free, Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Alano Club.

SUNDAY

- American Legion Post 66 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary-hosted breakfast, 8-11 a.m., VFW Club.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Open, 9 a.m., Alano Club.
- Junior Borealis Bards, “This is a Test” performance, 3 p.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- OverEaters Anonymous support group, 4 p.m., Evolve Fitness Center, 1301 Third St. (No fees/dues).
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Pineview Recovery Center, Littlefork.

MONDAY

- AARP Tax Aide preparation, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Backus Community Center, Rooms 208/209 (free, appointments, 283-5236).
- Walk-ercise group, 10-11 a.m., Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- “Solution Monday,” All Recoveries 12-Step (RA), 3 p.m., Backus Community Center, Room 103.
- Borderland Humane Society, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Holding Facility, 1990 Valley Pine Circle.
- Cribbage, 7 p.m., Elks Lodge 1599.
- Texas Hold ‘Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Women’s Step Study, 7 p.m., Coffee Landing Cafe.
- Narcotics Anonymous, “How It Works” step gathering, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

TUESDAY

- Water Testing, 8 a.m.-noon, Koochiching County Public Health Department.
- WIC Clinic, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Koochiching County Public Health Department.
- AARP Tax Aide preparation, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Backus Community Center, Rooms 208/209 (free, appointments, 283-5236).
- Bone Builders, 10-11:30 a.m., Woodland Apartments.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Alanon, 1:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church (283-3739, 283-8540).
- TOPS MN34, 5-5:30 p.m. weigh-in; 5:45, meeting, Koochiching County Senior

- Center.
- Women’s Ministries, 5-7 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Community Café, 5:30-6 p.m., sloppy joes on a bun, French fries, apple slaw, Backus Community Center.
- Women’s Support Group, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Beginner’s Tae Kwon Do, 5:45 p.m., Falls Elementary School gymnasium or cafeteria.
- Moose Lodge events — Parmesan chicken supper, 6 p.m.; Texas Hold ‘Em, 7; House, 7; Lodge, 7:30, Legion, 8.
- Borealis Bards adult script reading, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Backus Community Center, Room 201.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Pineview Recovery Center, Littlefork.
- “Celebrate Recovery,” 7-9 p.m., Evangelical Covenant Church.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church.

WEDNESDAY

- International Falls-Koochiching County Airport Commission, 8 a.m., Koochiching County Courthouse, commissioners’ boardroom.
- Recycling curbside collection, 8 a.m., areas north of 11th Street and west of Highway 53 (includes Terrace Lane).
- Retired Boise Cascade Papermakers Local 159, 9 a.m., Lenard’s.
- AARP Tax Aide preparation, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Backus Community Center, Rooms 208/209 (free, appointments, 283-5236).
- Walk-ercise group, 10-11 a.m., Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Wednesday Study Group, 10:15 a.m., Faith United Church of Christ.
- East Koochiching Sanitary Sewer District Board, 11 a.m., Sanitary District Boardroom, 1412 Highway 71.
- Girl Guards, Sunbeams and Adventure Corps, 4:30-6 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Free At Last, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Forestland Annex, lower level conference room.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 5:30-8 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., Alano Club.
- Men’s Non-Violence Group, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Members and guests Elks Lodge 1599 Wednesday Meal, 6:30 p.m., pork chops supper.
- Little Lambs (3 years to kindergarten) and King’s Kids (1st-5th grades), Youth Group (6th grade-up), 6:30-7:30 p.m., Full Gospel Fellowship Church.
- Women of the Moose, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Koochiching Masonic Lodge No. 270, A.F. & A.M., 7 p.m., 416 Third St.
- Adult Mixed Volleyball, 7 p.m., Backus Community Center.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

LOTTERY

Wednesday’s Daily 3
3, 8, 2
Wednesday’s Northstar Cash
5, 6, 11, 27, 30
Wednesday’s Gopher 5
2, 8, 14, 16, 34

Wednesday’s Hot Lotto
4, 23, 25, 35, 42
Hot Ball
16
Saturday’s Mega Millions
11, 27, 44, 45, 58

Mega Ball
3
Wednesday’s Powerball
14, 25, 30, 33, 47
Powerball
8

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OfficeMax Seeks Cooperation of International Falls Recreationalists in Preserving Private Property and Protecting Public Safety.

OfficeMax® Incorporated (NYSE: OMX), a leader in office products and services, is reminding residents of International Falls, Minnesota and surrounding areas that the Moonlight Rock landfill is a closed private industrial facility with functioning equipment and is not open to public access for recreational activities, including ATV riding, snowmobiling, hiking or cycling.

OfficeMax asks all recreationalists to avoid the Moonlight Rock landfill and use approved open public recreation areas instead. OfficeMax has posted "Private Property" signs along the property perimeter to indicate boundaries and help direct public access away from the closed landfill site.

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