

* * * Peru City Newsletter * * *

March 2026 Edition

Spotlight:

SPRING AND SUMMER SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS

Excerpt from NEMA's Severe Weather Preparedness Article:
<https://nema.nebraska.gov/severe-weather-preparedness.php>

Thunderstorms:

Severe Thunderstorm Watch: Be Prepared! Severe thunderstorms are possible in and near the watch area. Stay informed and be ready to act if a severe thunderstorm warning is issued. Watches are issued by the Storm Prediction Center for counties where severe thunderstorms may occur. The watch area is typically large, covering numerous counties or even states.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning: Take Action! Severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property. Take shelter in a substantial building. Get out of mobile homes that can blow over in high winds.

Lightning:

During thunderstorms, stay inside. If you are outdoors, an automobile is a safe place to be. Indoors, keep away from doors, windows, stoves, sinks, metal pipes or other conductors. Don't use the telephone. Disconnect electrical appliances such as TVs and radios. Outdoors, minimize your height but don't lie flat. Do not take shelter under a tree. Stay away from wire fences or other metallic conductors. Avoid standing in small sheds in open areas.

Hail:

Hailstorms don't last long, but they can create a lot of damage in a short time. Every year, hail causes nearly \$1 billion in damages, mostly to roofs and cars. If you haven't taken a look at your roof in a while, now's the time. Roof repairs today can help you avoid extensive, time-consuming cleanup later. Repair or replace worn, curled or missing shingles.

In severe storms, a hail stone can be as big as a softball and fall at 50 to 100 miles per hour. Stay away from skylights and glass doors to avoid broken glass. If it is safe, close drapes, blinds or shades to prevent debris from blowing inside. If you can, park your car in the garage or other covered area. If you have experienced damage from a hailstorm, report it to your insurance company as soon as possible.

Mayor's Note:

February gave me so many reminders of who we are as a community, and I wanted to start by sharing that gratitude with you. Over the past few weeks, I've had conversations with residents, college partners, community groups, and other local leaders that left me feeling encouraged and excited about where we're heading. There's a steadiness in the way people are showing up and asking thoughtful questions, and it's been a privilege to be part of that momentum.

A lot of what we worked on this month isn't the kind of thing you notice in a single moment. It's the slow, steady work that makes everything else possible: cleaning up processes, improving how we communicate, attending trainings that will help us be stronger in service, building relationships that will carry us into the future. It's not flashy, but it matters, and I'm grateful for the people who bring clarity and good faith to that work.

As we enter March and the promise of Spring, I look forward to building on what we have begun. Peru is shaped by the people who show up, and it's such an honor to be part of that with you. If you're looking for a place to plug in or a way to contribute, reach out. There's room for you here.

Sincerely,

Katy Novak
Mayor, City of Peru

CITY NOTICES:

(SEE NOTICES ON BACKSIDE)

- Please make sure that city personnel are able to easily read your water meter!
- Change in regular meeting time for city council.
- The City of Peru is requesting bids for the lease of pasture land east of Neal Park.
- Please ensure that your dog or cat is registered with City Hall.

City Hall Notices:

- The Peru Parks and Recreation Commission will meet on March 4th in City Hall for a regular meeting.
- The Board of Health will meet on March 11th in City Hall for a regular meeting.
- The Peru City Council will meet on **Tuesday, March 17th** at 6pm CT in City Hall for a regular meeting.

Other Notices:

- Remember to fill out your request for a free NOAA radio from NPPD!
- Consider following the City on Facebook for the most current information.

Mini Minutes:

From 02/17 City Council

The City Council met on 2/17/2026 at 6pm CT at City Hall.

At This Meeting Council:

APPROVED: Setting a Date for a Recall Election for Councilmember T. Westfall.

APPROVED: Donations from Silent Auction for the Parks and Recreation Commission.

DISCUSSED: A proposal upgrading technology in City Hall.

REJECTED: A proposal purchasing on-call phones for the Maintenance Department.

DISCUSSED: PSC Water Billing Issues

REJECTED: Purchase of a Sewer Camera for the Maintenance Department.

APPROVED: Seeking Bids for Pasture Land.

DISCUSSED: Status of Water Operator's License.

APPROVED: Seeking Bids for Sewer Line Repair in front of Plum Crazy.

APPROVED: Ordinance Changing Meeting Date to the Third (3rd) Tuesday of the Month.

The full version of these minutes are available 10 business days after the meeting, at City Hall during business hours. Previous meeting minutes are available on our website!