ReGrowing White Bear Lake

As we navigate the challenges 2020 has brought to our community, facing them with a creative and collaborative approach has been the framework city staff has used across all departments to support our local businesses and institutions. While it has always been important to work with the various organizations and businesses that make White Bear Lake a thriving city, those relationships have taken on an even greater importance today.

Early conversations with local businesses and organizations such as the White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce, Main Street, White Bear Lake Economic Development Corporation and Explore White Bear led to the creation of ReGrow White Bear Lake, a multi-layered approach to supporting local businesses and creating a renewed sense of vibrancy in the local economy.

The collaborative effort led to Picnic in the Park, with the Chamber securing a generous donation of 20 picnic tables from J.L. Schwieters of Hugo for a public plaza along Washington Square between 3rd and 4th Streets. Additionally, communication efforts have included the development of ReGrow-WBL.com, local advertising and media outreach. Events have included a “Plant Party” to beautify the temporary downtown plaza space and two Manitou Day contests: BinGrow and a Bear Hunt. Lastly, final touches are being made to a new webinar series, “Seeds of Success”, designed to support the work of local businesses.

Shop and Dine Local

Local businesses are the fabric of our community and need our support. They have taken extraordinary measures to create a safe indoor environment for their customers, and offer convenient alternatives for those who prefer curbside pick-up and/or delivery service. Learn more about what each of our restaurants have to offer by going to the ReGrow-wbl.com website. There you will find a map of restaurants, as well as links to their websites so you can access their menus, make a reservation, or place an order and schedule for pick up or delivery.

(continued on page 2)
BinGrow Sponsors and participants included:
- A Beautiful Pause
- Clean Easier with Amy
- Bear Nutrition
- Best Western Plus White Bear Country Inn
- Burger Bar
- Create Space
- Grandma’s Bakery
- Donatell’s
- Indulge Salon & Spa
- Ingredients Café
- Keith Zimmer VFW Post 1782
- Lux Family Chiropractic
- Mainstream Boutique
- Rudy’s Redeye Grill
- Summit Pilates & Training
- SweetLife Lane
- Washington Square Bar & Grill
- Zen Fitness & Wellness

What can you do to support local businesses? The most effective way to support businesses, if you are able, is to shop locally. With the holiday season around the corner, there are many great retailers and services that offer excellent gift ideas. Too tired to make dinner? Let one of our local restaurants take care of it for you, and order dinner to go. Too cold to go out? Many local restaurants, grocery stores and even retail stores are offering delivery services as well. Check out www.regrow-wbl.com for a White Bear Lake restaurant directory. Other ways to support local area to follow your favorite local businesses on social media, leave online reviews of good service, and make referrals to your friends and family. The White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce, Main Street, and Explore White Bear are helpful resources for finding local businesses.

Visit www.regrow-wbl.com for updates on efforts to Regrow White Bear.

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AT YOUR SERVICE! White Bear Lake City Hall remains open for business by appointment or ONLINE

DROPBOX available 24/7 for correspondence, permits and most License Bureau transactions

Online Services – City Hall
Reach out to staff, report a problem, or find many services online: www.whitebearlake.org

Permits and Licenses
- Secure a building, zoning or sign permit
- Look-up permits for your address
- Secure a contractor’s license
- Police and Fire related permits
- Business license applications
- Report a code enforcement issue

Parks and Facility Rentals
- Book a park and secure your park permit
- Reserve the Armory
- Reserve the Community Center
- Reserve ice time at the Sports Center
- Adopt a Park

City of White Bear Lake Webstore
- Purchase your boat launch tag
- Pay your utility bill
- Pay your ambulance bill
- Purchase “No Bear Hugs” Merchandise
- Pay for a Right-of-Way Permit

www.whitebearlake.org
651-429-8526

License Bureau Services
Dropbox Services
4701 Highway 61 – WBL City Hall
Processed 3-5 days upon receipt, then mailed to your home.
- Tab renewal
- Title transfers
- Duplicate titles
- Duplicate plates/tabs
- Special plate applications
- DNR transfers and renewals
- Disability Certificates
- CDL Self-Certifications

Appointment Services
Reservations: whitebearlake.org/lb
- Customers with special needs
- Title transfers
- Driver’s license services

E-Mail: office@whitebearlake.org
Phone: 651-429-8525

Online Self-Service
Driver & Vehicle Services: drive.dot.gov
General Election - Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Prepare to vote
Register to vote or update your registration information online before October 13 at mnvotes.org.

You may also register to vote at your polling place on Election Day with the proper documents.

Vote Early by Mail (Absentee) Process and Timeline
APPLY FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT online at mnvotes.org any time before Election Day. No internet? Call 651-266-2171.

Upon receipt, COMPLETE AND MAIL BACK YOUR BALLOT to the Ramsey County Election Office using the envelope provided.*

YOUR MAILED BALLOT MUST BE POSTMARKED BY ELECTION DAY and received in the Ramsey County Election Office by November 10, 2020.

YOU MAY ALSO HAND-DELIVER YOUR SEALED ABSENTEE BALLOT materials to the Ramsey County Elections Office up until 3:00 pm on Election Day. Ramsey County Elections Office, 90 Plato Blvd West, St. Paul

Vote Early In-Person (Absentee) September 18 – November 2
- Ramsey County Elections Office
- New Brighton Community Center
- Ramsey County Library – Roseville

Cast Early In-Person (Absentee) Ballot October 27 – November 2
- Ramsey County Library – White Bear Lake.

Election Day Polling Locations November 3, 7am – 8pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ward 1</td>
<td>White Bear Lake City Hall: 4701 Highway 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 2</td>
<td>Ramsey County Library: 2150 2nd Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 3</td>
<td>Sunrise Middle School: 2399 Cedar Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 4</td>
<td>Golfview Building: 2449 Orchard Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 5</td>
<td>St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church: 1965 County Road E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Ward 4, Precinct 2 (Washington County) ballots are processed by the Ramsey County Elections Office.

Learn more
Visit Ramsey County at rcelections.org or the Minnesota Secretary of State at mnvotes.org for more detailed election information. No internet access? Call Ramsey County Elections at 651-266-2171.

2021 Budget Proposed
The 2021 budget presented to City Council in August holds spending in check, while continuing to provide funds for maintaining critical community assets and personnel needs. The 2021 budget continues to fund existing city programs and services, with the bulk of the slight year-over-year increase due to inflationary costs for staff and contracted services. The budget also includes a new debt service payment for capital bonds issued in 2020 to help support street reconstruction projects and the purchase of a new fire engine.

Overall, the recommended budget for 2021 sees White Bear Lake’s General Fund operational expenditures rise by just $185,400 over last year’s budget, with a total proposed 2021 General Fund budget at $12,119,798. An additional $259,000 will be included on 2021 property taxes to support the new capital debt service.

Revenues raised through property taxes help support the City’s General Fund. The General Fund accounts for one-third (1/3) of the City’s total annual budget, which is approximately $37 million. It represents revenues and expenditures necessary to provide basic services, such as police, fire, public works, zoning and general administration.

The remaining 2/3 of the City’s budget supports street improvements, sewer and water operations/improvements, refuse service, capital projects, major equipment purchases, ambulance operations and other enterprise funds. Revenues for these funds outside of the General Fund are utility and service fees, grants, state aid and proceeds from the issuance of bonds, (resulting in debt service payments supported by the tax levy).

Truth in Taxation Hearing – November 24th
Each year the City Council holds a public hearing to provide opportunity for property owners to ask questions or provide comment on the proposed budget and related tax levy. This year’s hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 24 at 7:00 pm. The draft budget document will be available on-line by November 9. If you have any questions prior to the public hearing, please contact the Kerri Kindsvater, the City’s Finance Director, at 651-429-8517.
A New Bear in Town

You may have seen a new bear in town lately. Dan Jones, lifelong community member and Councilmember for Ward 3 has been volunteering his marketing skills to the city. Proudly local, Mr. Jones is the creator of “Social Distance Bears”, “Mask Bear”, “Shopping Bear”, “Recruit Bear” and more. Perhaps you saw the newly refurbished Centerville Road “Water Tower Bear”?

You can still purchase “No Bear Hugs” merchandise through the City’s on-line web store at www.whitebearlake.org (search “hugs”). Proceeds from the sale of this merchandise go toward promotional and marketing efforts to support local retail and restaurant businesses in White Bear Lake.

MANY FACES • MANY STORIES

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH CONVERSATIONS

Many Faces of the White Bear Lake Area is a collaboration between a variety of area organizations dedicated to furthering experiences that create a sense of welcoming in the community, provide the opportunity to learn more about our neighbors and spur important conversations.

As communities across the world engage in important conversations about racism and equity, Many Faces is providing a number of forums for the community to participate these conversations at a local level. All are welcome to attend these events, which include facilitated workshops, art exhibits, book discussions and more.

Many Faces partners include: Century College, City of White Bear Lake, Greater White Bear Lake Community Foundation, LakeSHore Players, Mahtomedi Public Schools, Northeast Youth & Family Services, White Bear Center for the Arts, White Bear Lake Area Historical Society, White Bear Lake Area Schools (WBLAS)

You can find more information about the collaboration on the Many Faces Facebook page: facebook.com/ManyFacesWBL

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Community Workshop: Power, Privilege and Identity
Two dates: September 29 or October 22
Hosted by White Bear Lake Area Schools (WBLAS) & Century College

Racial Definitions 101: Date TBD
Hosted by WBLAS

Book Discussion: Garden of Black Joy by Keno Evol
October 8, Hosted by White Bear Center for the Arts

The Hope Speaks Projected
Wednesdays October 7 to November 11, Hosted by Mahtomedi Public Schools and WBLAS

Find more Many Faces events listed at whitebearlake.org/calendar
2040 Comprehensive Plan – In the Final Stage

Phase 1 – Community Outreach & Public Input (2017)
The City conducted four open houses, business outreach meetings, an online survey, and pop-up meetings at Marketfest, YMCA, the downtown library, and area businesses to connect with residents as they went about their daily activities.

Phase 2 – Plan Preparation & Advisory Committee Review (2018)
Utilizing community feedback, City planning staff prepared detailed outlines of key elements of the plan for feedback and direction from the Planning, Parks, and Environmental Advisory commissions, as well as the WBL Economic Development Corporation.

KEY ELEMENTS:

- Land Use
- Economic Competitiveness
- Natural Resources & Sustainability
- Public Facilities & Services
- Housing
- Transportation
- Parks & Recreation
- Implementation

Five land use principles that were used to guide the comprehensive plan:
- Diversity
- downtown, redevelopment
- complete community
- resilience and sustainability.

The Planning Commission opened a month long public review period of the Draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan for residents, businesses, and interested parties. The draft plan was subsequently approved for distribution by the City Council to affected jurisdictions and agencies including adjacent municipal governments, Ramsey and Washington counties, school districts, watershed districts, MnDOT, and MnDNR. In accordance with state statute, affected jurisdictions had six months to submit comments, which concluded on March 3, 2020.

FINAL Phase 4 – Metropolitan Council Review (2020)
The final draft version was reviewed by the Planning Commission and approved by the City Council to be forwarded to the Metropolitan Council for review and approval. Next steps include updates to the official controls, including amending the City's Zoning Code to reflect 2040 land use designations.

Search “Comprehensive Plan” at whitebearlake.org for the full plan.

A Housing Policy in the Making
Last spring the City completed a housing market analysis to assist in the creation of an actionable housing policy, which will be used to guide the City Council in decisions regarding housing developments and programs in the community.

Community engagement is critical to the development of a meaningful housing policy. Toward this effort, the City is launching a comprehensive community engagement process this fall, which will include the creation of a housing task force, community-wide surveys, and virtual community forums.

Representatives from LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation) and the Twin Cities Center for Policy Planning and Performance will facilitate this process.

The housing task force will represent diverse perspectives from the community and create a set of recommendations for the City Council to consider as they form a comprehensive housing policy. For more information, visit whitebearlake.org/housing.

City Services for All
How can we do better?

Do City services reflect the diversity of our community? How well do we provide these services? Is City staff accessible, approachable, responsive?

Answers to these questions and more are critical to our understanding of the relationship between City government and the residents it serves. From law enforcement to road maintenance, we strive to be accessible, approachable and responsive to all. However, we must continue to challenge ourselves and constantly evaluate our work through a lens of equity and inclusion.

The City will be launching a community engagement process this fall to engage in dialogue with residents and business owners around these and other questions related to city services, and to seek opportunities to strengthen our capacity to ensure that everyone feels welcome to live, work and play in White Bear Lake. We invite you into this process.

For more information, go to the City’s website at whitebearlake.org/engage or call the City Manager, Ellen Hiniker, at 651-429-8516.

What is the Comprehensive Plan?
WBL is expected to add 1,500 residents, 500 jobs, and 1,200 additional households between 2020 and 2040. The Comprehensive Plan identifies general areas in the community where commercial, residential, and employment centers are suitable for future growth. It provides guiding principles and calculations of land use needs based upon growth projections for population, households and employment in a city.
Federal Coronavirus Relief Funds for White Bear Lake

City of White Bear Lake Programs

In August, the White Bear Lake City Council adopted community-based grant programs using funds available through the federal CARES Act. The programs are only available on a time limited basis, if you think you or your organization may qualify, visit whitebearlake.org/cares for further details and application deadlines today!

No internet access? Call Kara Country at 651-429-8508 for more information.

Mental Health Assistance

This program provides White Bear Lake eligible residents up to three paid visits with a mental health counselor through partnership with Northeast Youth and Family Services (NYFS). A $30,000 allocation of CARES funds directly to NYFS are anticipated to provide assistance to approximately 100-300 residents. Those experiencing mental health issues related to COVID-19, or experiencing income and/or health insurance disruption due to the public health emergency would be eligible to participate. Call NYFS at its White Bear Lake location to set up an appointment: (651) 429-8544.

Non-Profit Organization Grant Program

This program provides assistance to White Bear Lake based non-profit organizations with a minimum of one FTE employee and a minimum of $100,000 in annual operating expenses, and a demonstrated revenue loss of 20% due to COVID-19. Eligible uses would be consistent with the Business Relief Grant Program.

Business Relief Grant Program

This program is for White Bear Lake based businesses, including sole proprietors and home-based businesses, who have experienced a loss of revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Eligible uses include personal protective equipment, payroll, rent/mortgage, utilities, marketing effort and building modifications specifically related to COVID-19.

Places of Worship

Places of Worship are eligible for up to $1,000 for reimbursement of PPE expenses.

Additional programs funded through the City’s CRF include technology for income qualified Century College students who had to switch to distance learning due to the pandemic and an innovative meal delivery program operated by NewTrax which supports local restaurants while bringing meals to families experiencing need.

Although there is currently a moratorium for some types of evictions during the public health emergency, when the moratorium is lifted landlords will again be able to evict tenants for past due payments, even if they accrued during the pandemic. THE TIME TO SEEK ASSISTANCE IS NOW while funds are available. Many programs funded by allocations from the CARES act will expire in November or December due to federally imposed timelines.
Ramsey County Programs
Ramseycounty.us/rise

Home and help:
Ramsey County residents who have lost income due to COVID-19 and need help paying for housing costs may be eligible for Emergency Assistance. Adults with children and those who are pregnant can receive up to $5,000 in housing assistance. Single adults can receive up to $3,000 in housing assistance. Families and single adults can receive up to $3,000 in utility assistance and/or repairs for vehicles used for work transportation. Ramseycounty.us/EmergencyAssistance

If you are a Ramsey County resident and have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be eligible to have up to 21 prepared meals delivered to your home for free each week. All meals are nutritionally balanced and are prepared by licensed food providers. Some providers offer meal options that accommodate specific dietary restrictions. Ramseycounty.us/HomeMealDelivery

Employment Support:
Employment Services and Access
New Community Career Labs opened in the Saint Paul Public Library and Ramsey County Library locations, and additional community based locations to provide employment support for residents. Ramseycounty.us/CareerLabs

Ramsey County Job Connect
Job Connect is a new dynamic job board created in collaboration with Ramsey County Chambers of Commerce, local economic development organizations and municipalities. Employment seekers can use Job Connect to search for jobs on an interactive map. The job board highlights all our vibrant industries including healthcare, tech, manufacturing, construction and more. Ramseycounty.us/jobconnect

Washington County
Homeowners Assistance
Homeowners in Washington County who have experienced a reduction in income because of the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for one-time grants of up to $10,000 to help make housing payments. Washingtoncountyca.org/homeowner-relief-grant-program

Renters Assistance
Washington County has an allocation of $3 million in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding to pay current and past due rent and utilities including gas, electric, and water. Co.washington.mn.us/3279/Emergency-Rental-Assistance-Due-to-COVID

State of Minnesota
Housing Assistance
Minnesota Housing has launched an assistance program to help prevent eviction, prevent homelessness and maintain housing stability for eligible renters and homeowners. Some eligible expenses may include rent or mortgage payments, contract for deed payments, utility payments, homeowners insurance and homeowners association fees. Call 211 (Toll Free: 1-800-543-7709; Local: 651-291-0211), go to 211unitedway.org, or text “MNRENT” or “MNHOME” to 898-211.

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (MN DEED)
If you have lost your employment because of the pandemic visit MN DEED’s website to learn more about services for people seeking employment and unemployment insurance. Mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/

United Way 211
Dial 2-1-1, 651-291-0211 or 1-800-543-7709 or Text MNCOVID to 898-211 and a Certified Community Resource Specialist will help to locate available resources in your area.

Technology Drive
Sponsored by WBL Rotary Club
WHEN: Friday, September 25
WHERE: WBL South Campus Parking Lot
Here’s what we are collecting:
Computers (PCs & Macs): Desktops, Laptops, All in Ones, Flat Screen Monitors, Docking Stations.
Tablets: iPads (iCloud unlocked), Android, Microsoft Surface, Chromebooks
Accessories: Mice, Keyboards, Cables and Cords (USB, VGA and DMI, Power) SD Cards, Laptop Batteries

Why donate to PCs for People?
- Security: We are AAA NAID Certified (National Association of Information Destruction), meeting or exceeding DOD and NIST standards for data sanitization and destruction
- Environmentally Responsible: We are R2 Certified meaning 100% of the materials we receive are recycled or reused – nothing ends up in the landfill.

PCs for People is a nonprofit organization that provides computers, low cost internet and computer repair to low income families. We fund our mission by providing secure, responsible electronics recycling and use the proceeds and equipment to provide the life changing benefit of digital access.

TechPak Program
Sponsored by Ramsey County
In need of a laptop, hotspot for internet access and/or computer training? Ramsey County’s TechPak Program is available to eligible Ramsey County residents who have:
- Experienced job loss.
- Experienced reduced hours.
- Saw a change or loss of household income.
- Face future uncertainty in industry.
- Have other barriers due to COVID-19.

How to Apply:
COVID-19 impacted residents can apply during open enrollment periods at Ramseycounty.us/TechPak or by calling 651-266-6002.

Enrollment Periods: Sep. 30 – Oct. 2, Nov. 2 – Nov. 4 & Nov. 30 – Dec. 2
Spotlight on Sustainability

Seven years ago homeowners and nature lovers Harvey and Janet Bartz decided to install a buffer strip of native vegetation along their Heiner’s Pond shoreline, which soon turned into a backyard full of native grasses and flowering plants. Beyond its visually stunning array of colors, the native prairie provides a multitude of benefits that promote the health of the planet. The deep-rooted plants help prevent erosion, reduce the runoff of harmful chemicals into waterways, and require little to no watering. The prairie also provides habitat for bees, birds, butterflies and other wildlife and the Bartz garden is no exception as hummingbirds, Swallowtail butterflies, and bumblebees all continue to frequent the late summer blooms.

The Bartz’s were able to start their backyard transformation with a shoreline restoration grant from the watershed district in which they reside. There are four watershed districts in White Bear Lake and each provides a variety of resources, from reading material to cost-sharing grant opportunities, for those interested in starting their own native garden. Other resources the Bartz family has used and recommends to interested residents include Ramsey County and native plant supply companies, who can help with installation and maintenance. Inspiration can also be drawn from local prairies like that found at Tamarack Nature Center.

The Bartz family recommends that those looking to install a native prairie commit to the project to ensure its success. They used a portion of their grant funds to hire Prairie Restoration Inc. to install the vegetation along the shoreline and residents looking for lower maintenance can do the same. They expanded and have maintained the rest of the native prairie themselves and advise those looking to plant on their own to expect the work to include learning plant identification, weed control, seeding and transplanting of native species as needed, and an occasional mowing or controlled burn (if allowed) in early spring. The result of the work is more than a uniquely beautiful yard. It is as described by Harvey and Janet Bartz, “an opportunity to practice living regeneratively, in harmony with the natural world. Our grandchildren and all future generations will benefit from a healthier world in which to live.”

Resources
For information on cost share grants, native plant nurseries, and ecological restoration installation and maintenance companies, visit whitebearlake.org and search “pollinators.”

Submit your Sustainable Project
With each newsletter, the City spotlights a different business or residential sustainability project, which could include projects that conserve energy, use renewable energy, provide alternative transportation, treat stormwater, conserve drinking water, increase pollinator and wildlife habitat, or reduce waste. If you would like to see your project featured in an upcoming newsletter, please contact Ashton Miller, Planning Technician, at amiller@whitebearlake.org or 651-429-8561.
Virtual Home Energy Visits Available
City of White Bear Lake joins 14 other cities to promote home energy efficiency

White Bear Lake has joined the Home Energy Squad Intercity Challenge to promote home energy efficiency and to help residents lower their energy bills and increase home comfort by making small improvements. The Intercity Home Energy Squad Challenge was formed to challenge residents across the metro to get a home energy visit through the Home Energy Squad, a joint program offered by Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy and delivered by the nonprofit, Center for Energy and Environment. Each participating city is tracking their community’s Home Energy Squad sign-ups. At the end of 2020, the city with the highest participation per capita wins. A traveling trophy will be on display for the winning city.

Our challenge to you
Help us reduce our community’s energy use and save money by signing up for a Home Energy Squad visit to learn more about your home’s energy use and opportunities to save money. The Home Energy Squad is usually delivered as an in-person home visit, but Virtual Home Energy Squad visits are now available.

During the free virtual visit an energy consultant will guide customers on a walk-through assessment of their homes via video chat. A free virtual Home Energy Squad visit will help you learn how your home uses energy, reduce heating and cooling costs, improve comfort year-round and connect you with energy-saving resources. Residents will receive energy saving tips to start saving energy right away and recommendations for next steps that may include an in-person visit and the installation of energy saving products at a later date.

How do I sign up?
Call 651-328-6220 to schedule your visit or sign up online at mncee.org/home-energy-squad/sign-up

To qualify for a visit, you must live in a single family, duplex, triplex or fourplex home, and be a Minnesota Xcel Energy or CenterPoint Energy customer.

Adopt a storm drain near you to help protect rivers, lakes and wetlands

Ninety-nine drains have been adopted as we work toward a city-wide goal of 200! Did you know that every storm drain connects to a waterbody? Although the connection is often hidden, stormwater from a roof, parking lot, or street picks up debris and washes it into a lake, stream, or wetland. Sometimes this debris is clearly harmful to water quality, but sometimes it’s not so clear. Trash, automotive fluids, road salt, and pet waste are obvious pollutants, but leaves, sediment, and grass clippings are less obvious but still act like pollutants in water.

The City of White Bear Lake sweeps streets at least twice per year to help reduce the amount of debris going into storm drains, but your help still goes a long way:

- This fall, join us for a City-wide Lake Care Weekend. Participation is as easy as walking to your nearest storm drain, cleaning it, and disposing of the leaves and debris in a yard waste disposal, or if it’s litter, into the trash or recycling.
- Adopt a storm drain near you and commit to keeping it clean of leaves and other debris. Go to adopt-a-drain.org for more information and to sign up. Adopt-a-drain is open and available across the City, but residents who sign-up that live in the Goose Lake subwatershed will also receive a free “We protect Goose Lake” yard sign to place in your yard behind your adopted drain.

Ninety-nine drains in the City of White Bear Lake have already been adopted, but there are hundreds more available. Our goal is to adopt 200 drains in the entire City, and 100 in the Goose Lake subwatershed. Help us reach these goals!

Lake Care Weekend
Oct 22-23, 2020
Clean stormdrains, cleaner lakes

Get recycling tips from Ramsey County
Want to know more about waste, recycling, energy and other environmental health topics in Ramsey County? Sign up to receive Green Ramsey, a monthly e-newsletter produced by Ramsey County’s Environmental Health Division. Just visit RamseyCounty.us and search “Green Ramsey”. Once you’re on the Green Ramsey E-newsletter web page, click on the red envelope to sign up.
Fall and Winter Reminders

**Fall Clean-Up**
4200 Hoffman Road
Saturday, October 3 from 7 am - 1 pm
Bring non-hazardous, non-organic waste and proof of White Bear Lake residency. Wear masks and stay in your vehicle. Checks preferred over cash, payable to “City of White Bear Lake” (fees vary based on load size, size limits apply). For information, visit whitebearlake.org and search “clean-up days” or call Public Works at 651-747-3650.

**Winter Parking Restrictions**
November 1 - April 1
Nothing may be parked on a city street without being moved within a 24-hour period.

**Holiday Trash and Recycling Pickup**
Pickup is delayed one day for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day. Pickup will continue one day off the regular schedule through the end of the week.

**Report Sewer Backups**
Call the City’s Public Works Department first and foremost to report a sewer backup.
Normal hours: 651-747-3650
After hours: 651-429-8511
M-F, 7am - 3:30pm

**Trash and Recycling Containers**
Please make sure that trash and recycling containers are placed at least three (3) feet apart to allow the mechanical lift space to maneuver. Also, keep the containers behind the curb so streets are clear for City sweepers and plows.

**Public Works Prepares for Winter**
An important task of the Public Works Department is snow removal from streets, alleys, parking lots, sidewalks, cul-de-sacs and trails, with the goal of keeping these areas safe during the winter months.

**Snow Plow Reminders:**

1. Snow plowing is initiated after there are three or more inches of snow on the ground.
2. All vehicles must be parked off the streets until they have been plowed curb to curb.
3. City ordinance prohibits snow shoveling into the streets and alleys (Ord. 903.010).
4. To avoid damage to your mailbox during plow operations, address any necessary repairs and ensure your mailbox meets US Postal Service placement specifications.

For more information regarding the City’s snow removal policies and procedures, visit the City’s website at whitebearlake.org.

**FREE Christmas Tree Collection**
During the first two full weeks in January, Republic Services will collect live Christmas trees from White Bear Lake residents on the same day as regular trash service. Set live trees out for collection next to your trash container on your regularly scheduled collection day. This service is provided at no additional cost to residents.

**Preparation:**
- Remove all decorations and stands.
- Place live trees next to your trash container by 6:00 a.m. on collection day to ensure collection.
- Wait until the day before or the day of your collection to set out your tree so it doesn’t get stuck in the snow or ice.
- No artificial trees.

Ramsey County yard waste disposal sites: Live Christmas trees can also be recycled at a Ramsey County yard waste collection site. For more information, visit RamseyRecycles.com or call the Recycling and Disposal Hotline at 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

**Food Scraps Collection Site**
Drop off your food scraps at the Ramsey County collection site in White Bear Lake at 3950 Hoffman Road. Free compostable bags are located at the collection site. For a full list of accepted items, visit RamseyRecycles.com/foodscraps or call 651-633 EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

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**Test your home. Protect your health.**

2 of 5 Minnesota homes have high radon levels.

Radon is a naturally-occurring, radioactive gas. It is odorless, tasteless and invisible. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, radon is the nation’s second leading cause of lung cancer.

Radon may enter a home anywhere there is an opening between the home and the soil. These openings include cracks in the foundation, floor drains and sumps. The levels of radon that can build up indoors vary according to the amount of radon in the source material and its rate of entry into the building.

**Testing for radon**
The Minnesota Department of Health recommends every home be tested for radon. Testing is easy and inexpensive. Radon test kits are available at many retail stores, or can be ordered from Ramsey County for $2. To order a radon test kit, visit RamseyCounty.us and search “Radon.”
Yard Waste Disposal

Dispose of leaves and other yard waste by signing up for curbside pickup or bringing them to a Ramsey County yard waste site. Keep leaves and other yard waste out of the trash and never dump yard waste in wetlands or buffer areas—it’s illegal.

CURBSIDE COLLECTION:

Yard waste is picked up on the same day as trash and recycling. Residents have three choices for yard waste collection services. Please call Republic Services at 952-941-5174 to establish curbside service or arrange for a one-time pickup. Service choices are as follows:

1. Annual Service: unlimited service at an annual rate of $80/year, April 15 - November 30 (weather permitting). A yard waste container is provided by Republic Services for use, free of charge.

2. Seasonal Service: $50/year for the months of August through November (weather permitting). Residents must provide their own compostable bags for this service.

3. On-call Service: $2.50/bag of yard waste. There is a minimum charge of $20.00 (8 bags). Residents must provide their own compostable bags for this service.

Once you sign up for annual or seasonal service, the service will automatically be renewed each year unless you call Republic Services and cancel.

RAMSEY COUNTY YARD WASTE SITES:

Yard waste can be brought to a Ramsey County yard waste site free of charge. The closest yard waste site is located in White Bear Township at 5900 Sherwood Road. Their hours of operation are:

**April - November**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday | 11 AM – 7 PM
Saturday | 9 AM – 5 PM
Sunday | 11 AM – 5 PM

**December - March**

Saturday | 9 AM – 5 PM
Sunday | 11 AM – 5 PM

For more information on yard waste disposal, visit RamseyRecycles.com or call 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

While you are tending to your yard this fall, take a moment to sweep leaves, grass clippings, and branches out of the street. When left in the street, they can clog storm drains and get washed into lakes. Leaves and grass clippings become a major source of phosphorus in lakes, the nutrient that allows algae to bloom in the summer.

Heating Safety

There is something to be said about curling up by a fireplace or thawing your toes in the comfort of your home after an activity-filled day around White Bear Lake. In the interest of keeping you toasty and safe as lower temperatures approach, the White Bear Lake Fire Department would like to share a few safety tips when it comes to heating your home.

Did you know that most home fires occur in the winter, peaking in January? On average, fire departments across the country respond to 52,000 fires involving heating equipment annually. Most of these fires occur in fireplaces and chimneys. Below are safety tips to prevent heating fires;

- Have your home heating system and chimney cleaned and inspected annually by a qualified professional.
- Make sure fireplaces have a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them outside in metal container with a lid.
- Keep vents clear of ice and snow.
- Keep a clear space and kid-free zone “3 feet from the heat” whether it is a fireplace, wood stove, furnace, or portable space heater.
- Turn portable space heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.
City of White Bear Lake
4701 Highway 61
White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110

Administrative Offices
City Hall
651-429-8526
Administration
651-429-8508
License Bureau
651-429-8525
Building
651-429-8518
Planning
651-429-8561
Engineering
651-429-8531
Police
651-429-8550
Fire
651-429-8568
Public Works
651-747-3650
Sports Center / Armory
651-429-8571
Utility Billing
651-429-8565
City Website
www.whitebearlake.org

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Improved Utility Bill Payment System
Coming November 2020!
The City has partnered with Invoice Cloud to provide a simple, secure web-based electronic payment system that allows customers to easily view and pay utility bills online.

Features
- Opt-in to receive paperless billing
- Expanded options for easy and secure electronic payments
- Customer access to 24 months of billing and payment history online
- Payment reminders available to prevent overdue payments

Look for more information in future utility bills, or online at whitebearlake.org

Adopt-A-Hydrant
Winters in White Bear Lake can be cold and snowy, with an average of 52 inches of snow annually. If there was an emergency in your neighborhood, could firefighters locate the closest fire hydrant? Chances are you know where they are located and can help maintain access to them.

What does it mean to Adopt-A-Hydrant?
Organized by the White Bear Lake Fire Department, the Adopt-A-Hydrant program asks community members to clear snow and ice 3 feet around fire hydrants and clear a pathway to the street. This will allow firefighters to focus on fire department operations during emergencies when every second is critical.

How do I sign-up?
First, locate a hydrant or hydrants you would like to “adopt”. Then visit the White Bear Lake Fire Department web page at whitebearlake.org and sign up to Adopt-A-Hydrant. During the winter, Firefighters will confirm the hydrants are clear taking note of those that did exceptional work. Each spring a drawing will be held to pick a winner for a special recognition by the White Bear Lake Fire Department.

Who can participate?
Individuals/families, Community groups, Neighborhood groups, Classrooms. Anyone!

Be responsible with backyard fires
Do you enjoy your evenings sitting around a backyard fire, roasting hotdogs and marshmallows? If you are burning wood, follow these tips to protect your health and the health of others:
- Do not have backyard fires when air pollution health advisories have been issued in your area. Wood smoke can make bad air days worse.
- Be considerate of your neighbors. Backyard fires may cause health issues for them. Let your neighbors know you are going to have a fire so they can close their windows.
- Never burn wet wood. It creates more smoke.
- Do not burn any garbage. It can produce toxic fumes.
- When cleaning out the ashes, let them completely cool, then double-bag the ashes and place them in the trash. Ashes are not accepted at Ramsey County yard waste collection sites.

To learn more, visit the American Lung Association’s website at lung.org and search “learn before you burn.”