

Spring & Summer 2023

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Public Safety Building Renovation Project

The City has kicked off renovation and expansion of its Public Safety Building. The project includes construction of a police squad garage, replacement of its fire apparatus bay constructed in 1961, incorporation of space to meet federal health and safety standards that prescribe separate zones for contaminated fire gear, and the addition of dorm room capacity to accommodate the City's full-time, combination fire/ambulance response model. The final bids for the project came in at \$17.5 million.

- continued page 6

WHITE BEAR LAKE SPRING CLEANUP DAY

Saturday, May 6 4200 Hoffman Road See page 6



License Bureau New Hours

Effective May 1, 2023 Monday, Wednesday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday

8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Upcoming Projects by Ward page 3-5

Community Events page 7





2023 Elections

Municipal and school district elections occur in odd years. This year for City Councilmembers, Ward 1, Ward 3 and Ward 5 will be on the ballot. Affidavit of candidacy packets will be available at City Hall mid-May. Filings will be accepted from May 16 until May 30 at 5 p.m., with the last day to withdraw on June 1.

A Primary Election will be held only if more than two people file for any one position. The Primary Election date is Tuesday, August 8, 2023, if applicable, and the General Election is on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

Register to Vote: Pre-register to vote up to 21 days before an Election Day. Register online, or update your registration at mnvotes.org. Your registration remains current until you move, change your name or do not vote for four consecutive years. You may also register to vote at your polling place on Election Day with the proper documents.

Early Voting: Beat the crowds by voting early! Registered voters can cast their vote before Election Day throughout designated locations in Ramsey County. Visit ramseycounty.us and search 'elections' for hours of service and voting locations.

Voting on Election Day: On Election Day, you can only vote in your designated polling location. Below is a list of White Bear Lake polling locations. Unsure about where to vote? Search your address online at mnvotes.org to find your polling place, or visit the City's webpage Elections & Voting, located at whitebearlake. org under the menu tab Your Government, for an interactive Ward Map.

For more elections information, visit ramseycounty.us/residents/ elections-voting.

Election Day Voting Locations

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WARD	White Bear Lake City Hall 4701 Highway 61 North	
ward 2	Ramsey County White Bear Lake Library 2150 2nd Street	
WARD 3	Sunrise Middle School Gym 2399 Cedar Avenue	
ward 4	White Bear Lake Area Learning Center 2449 Orchard Lane	
ward 5	St. Stephen Lutheran Church 1965 County Road E East	



County Road E Corridor Action Plan Update



In fall 2022, the City engaged in a County Road E Corridor Action Plan initiative in partnership with the cities of Vadnais Heights and Gem Lake and with support from Ramsey County. The initiative was structured as a four-part series that invited community members to share their insights and input to help inform an action plan. The action plan contains a series of recommendations for policymakers to consider as they look at future development and improvements in the County Road E Corridor.

The report identifies an objective of creating a cohesive theme and overall sense of place for the corridor, to be met through three goals:

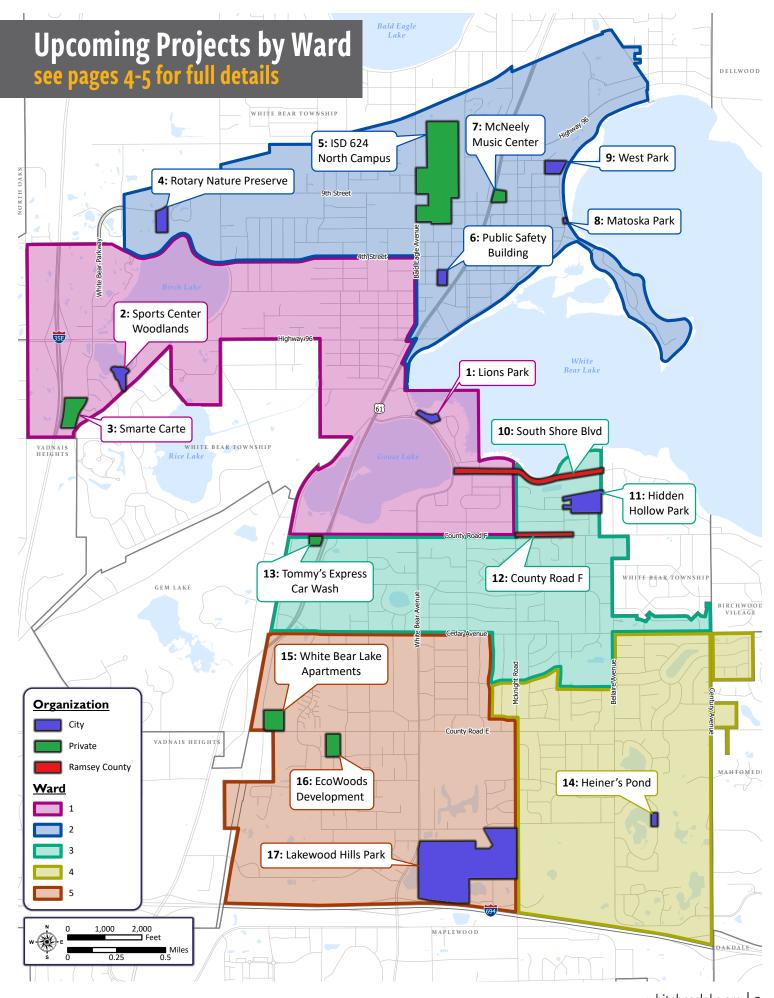
- Pursue corridor improvements that meet multiple objectives, including slowing traffic, improving safety, supporting bike and pedestrian movement, building a cohesive and attractive corridor identity, and improving the area to attract high-quality housing and business development.
- Attract high-quality development to the identified opportunity sites, which enhance the community by providing additional housing and local business options, and special places and amenities.
- Address the east/west divide of Highway 61 by reconfiguring the intersection of County Road E and Highway 61 to transform the barrier into an asset and community gateway that enhances safety, connectivity and placemaking at the County Road E node.

The action plan identifies potential strategies to achieve these goals that are divided into near-, medium- and long-term efforts. These recommendations generally fall into the following categories:

- Fostering a sense of place and purpose
- Safety
- Connectivity
- Development site considerations

To read the full Summary Report and Final Recommendations, which include specific strategy recommendations, visit whitebearlake.org/e.

City officials and staff would like to thank everyone who shared their time by participating in the process. This involvement is essential to creating plans that reflect the wide variety of experiences and viewpoints of community members.



Upcoming Projects by Ward

- 1. Lions Park Renovations: Restoration and remodeling of the restroom will be wrapping up. The park is projected to open spring 2023.
- 2. Sports Center Woodland Invasive Species Control: In 2022, the City began removing garlic mustard in the woodland to the west of the Sports Center. Garlic mustard is an invasive flowering plant that spreads in woodland areas and outcompetes native plants. Additional removal will continue this spring.
- 3. Smarte Carte: Smarte Carte has been approved to construct a one-story addition to their building located at 4455 White Bear Parkway. The addition, totaling approximately 35,125 sq. ft., will serve mainly as additional warehouse space with a three-door loading dock.



Ward 2

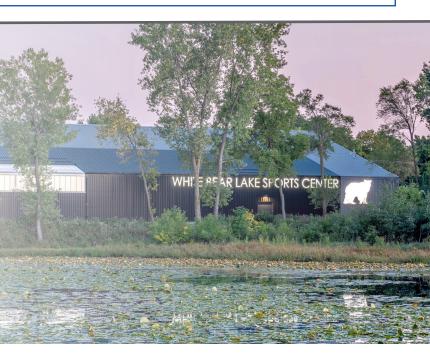
- 4. Rotary Nature Preserve Restoration Phase 2: The City and Rotary Club are partnering on a multi-year restoration project to remove invasive species and restore the park with native plants. Phase 2 of the restoration will begin as soon as the snow melts with invasive plant removal on both sides of the paved trail from the north parking lot to the wetland boardwalk, followed by a native plant restoration this summer. The City will be removing the invasive Amur maple along the trail, which will make this area look open and bare until the native grasses, flowers, trees and shrubs that will be planted have time to grow. Funding partners for Phase 2 include Rotary Club, Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization, Greater White Bear Lake Community Foundation, Birch Lake Improvement District and the City. For more information, visit whitebearlake.org/rotaryresto.
- 5. ISD 624 White Bear Lake Area High School North Campus: Construction on the White Bear Lake Area High School North Campus addition and renovation continues. The 375,000 sq. ft., three-story addition and new fieldhouse at the North Campus were completed this winter and students have been welcomed into the new space. Now that much of the expansion is complete, renovation of the existing building at North Campus has begun. Public access to the facility has shifted to Bald Eagle Avenue during this phase of construction. In the spring, renovations to the existing fields and construction of new athletic fields will continue. For more information, visit isd624.org/about/building-our-future.
- 6. Public Safety Building Renovation: Renovation and expansion of the Public Safety facility began in March. See page 6 for details.
- 7. McNeely Music Center: The Re/Max real-estate building has been demolished to allow for the construction of a new two-story, non-profit music education facility. There will be professional recording studios in the basement and youth music lessons in the upper two floors. The facility will have fiber connectivity to both the White Bear Center for the Arts and the Hanifl Performing Arts Center.
- 8. Matoska Park Improvements: At the dog beach, permanent fencing and gates will be installed at the top of the two staircases, as well as a new buoy system to prevent dogs from accessing the swimming area. Dogs must remain on a leash at the beach.
- West Park Trail: A new trail through the park will extend from the restroom near Johnson Ave. to the stairs at Memorial Beach.

Sports Center Rooftop Solar

The City has made a commitment to renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements to make a positive impact in our community. A new rooftop solar array was installed on the Sports Center late last summer. The 331.4 kilowatt solar array will directly power the entire operation and is expected to generate \$36,000 per year in energy savings for the City.

The Sports Center rooftop solar installation was part of a larger project designed for energy savings, which included a new flat roof over the dryland hockey training building, two new energy efficient furnaces, weather stripping around doors, additional wall insulation, and an automation system that controls the building's mechanical systems.

To further the City's commitment to energy efficiency, non-LED lights in City facilities, park buildings and along the Lake Avenue Trail were converted to LED in 2022.



Upcoming Projects by Ward

10. South Shore Boulevard Reconstruction/Trail: The City is working in cooperation with Ramsey County to complete the segment of the trail along the south side of the lake on South Shore Boulevard from White Bear Avenue to Bellaire Avenue. This project also includes a full roadway reconstruction and turning South Shore Boulevard into an eastbound one-way roadway from McKnight Road to East County Line Road.

- 11. Hidden Hollow Park Trail: An existing gravel trail segment around the south end of the park is expected to be paved this summer.
- 12. County Road F Sidewalk: Ramsey County is constructing a sidewalk along County Road F between McKnight Road and Jay Lane in anticipation of increased traffic due to South Shore Boulevard becoming a one-way road.
- 13. Tommy's Express Car Wash: Tommy's Car Wash has started construction on a new, automated car wash facility at the former Marathon Gas Station and Deli located at 4061 Highway 61. The car wash will also feature 13 vacuum bays available for customers.

14. Heiner's Pond Invasive Species Control: The City continues to manage invasive species on City-owned property along the east side of Heiner's Pond, including Japanese knotweed, purple loosestrife, buckthorn, honeysuckle and others.



15. White Bear Lake Apartments Phase II: Construction is underway for two new apartment buildings connected by a Ward 5 single-story common area located next to the Barnum Apartments at 3600 Hoffman Road. The two new buildings will have 244 apartments including studios, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units, underground parking, and indoor and outdoor amenities.

- 16. EcoWoods Development: The 4.6-acre parcel on the south side of County Road E has been subdivided into nine lots. Green Halo Builds has developed a cul-de-sac neighborhood for new single-family homes with net-zero ready designs. A model home has been constructed on the first lot and plans for the remaining lots are underway.
- 17. Lakewood Hills Park Improvements: Thanks to significant donations from the Lions Club, the All-Abilities Playground is anticipated to break ground this year! Additionally, the City is working in collaboration with Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District to construct a large rain garden to treat runoff from the south parking lot.

Downtown Mobility and Parking Study

White Bear Lake's historic downtown area is an important part of the City's identity and home to many local businesses and events. A mobility and parking study will review the vehicular, transit, bicycle and pedestrian movements leading to, and traveling through, the downtown area along with the parking needs and availability for the area. In addition, landscaping, public spaces, lighting and wayfinding concepts will also be reviewed.

A steering committee consisting of elected officials, downtown property and business owners, City commission members, civic organization representatives, residents and City staff will provide input and guidance in its preparation. The process will also include public engagement and outreach to collect input to help shape outcomes of the study.

The final product will be a plan to guide future projects in the downtown area. The first project is anticipated to be a long-awaited one consisting of the area south of 4th Street and various municipal parking lots. The study kicked off in March 2023 and is anticipated to be complete in early 2024 followed by a 2024-25 construction project. For more information, contact Public Works Director/City Engineer Paul Kauppi at 651-429-8563 or pkauppi@whitebearlake.org.





Public Safety Building Renovation Project

Construction Phase

Services will remain uninterrupted during construction, but the existing Police and Fire department lobby will be closed for walk-in service during a portion of the project for remodeling. During that time, administrative services for Police and Fire will be available at the Police Training entrance off of 3rd Street. Emergency response, phone and email service will not be affected by the project. The construction phase of the project has begun and is expected to be completed by the end of summer 2024.

Background

Police - The construction of a police garage was initially contemplated as a second phase to the Public Safety Building expansion in 1993. The City even purchased the homes across from the station in preparation for the project. Decades later, the Public Safety Building is now getting its longawaited renovation. The police squad fleet of 19 vehicles will no longer be parked outside in the harsh elements and the new garage will keep the squads' equipped technology and tools protected from the summer's heat and the winter's frigid temperatures. There have only been four indoor parking spots, with two being reserved and secured for suspect booking. With no indoor parking, squad cars have had to be left idling and rotated in and out of the limited indoor spots to maintain proper temperature of equipment. In addition to indoor parking of squad vehicles, the Police Department has a general need for secure, indoor storage for evidence and equipment.

Fire - The existing fire apparatus bay at the north station near City Hall was constructed in 1961. There have been significant changes in the industry over the past several decades including, but not limited to, health and safety standards that prescribe separate zones for contaminated gear and areas where personnel train, rest and do reports. Proper air exchange and handling within the station is an industry standard, which did not exist when the building was constructed. The equipment used today has also changed and is, in most cases, much larger. For example, the type of ladder truck the City ordered was limited in size due to the height of the doors on the station. The space issues have grown over the last 60 years due to the increased needs of equipment required to provide adequate service and the overall size of that equipment.

The Fire Department itself has changed significantly since this building was constructed, most notably call volumes have grown from a few hundred each year in the 1960's to approximately 4,400 annually, having increased 25% over the last five years alone. In 2019, the City hired 12 full-time firefighter/ paramedics transitioning from a mostly paid-on-call model to a combinationstaffing model. In response to continued increases in calls for service, two more full-time positions were added in 2022 and 2023. Replacement of the existing fire apparatus bay will also include added dorm room capacity to accommodate the City's combination response model and account for future growth.

SPRING CLEANUP DAY

Gather unwanted items in your house and load up your car. It's our annual spring cleanup day! This event is for White Bear Lake residents only. You will be asked to provide proof of residency (i.e. utility bill or driver's license) and payment. Yard waste and household hazardous waste will not be accepted at this event.

Saturday, May 6

7 a.m.-1 p.m.

4200 Hoffman Road (Former Public Works site)

The former Public Works site is located on the west side of the intersection of Highway 61 and White Bear Avenue.

Acceptable Items

Air conditioners Fluorescent bulbs and

ballasts*

Televisions

Appliances Furniture Humidifiers **Bicycles** Car batteries Mattresses

Snow blowers & lawn Carpeting

mowers (fluids drained)

Computers (PCs,

monitors, laptops)

Construction materials **Textiles** Electronics Tires

Unacceptable Items

Brush and yard waste Tree stumps Firewood

For these natural materials, go to page 8 for disposal options.

paint, and household hazardous waste (HHW)

Motor oil, propane tanks, Go to page 9 for HHW disposal options.

Items larger than appliances (fish houses, boats, sheds)

A fee will be charged based on the size and type of load to help pay disposal costs. Pay at the gate with cash or check payable to "City of White Bear Lake". You can bring a load of general trash and be charged by the size of your vehicle. If you have bulky items that require special handling you will only be charged for those items. If you have a mixed load, you will be charged for both. For more information on fees, visit whitebearlake.org/cleanup or call Public Works at 651-747-3650.

Save the date for the Fall Cleanup Day on October 7, 2023.

^{*} up to 10 fluorescent bulbs will be accepted

Community Events

Trash to Treasure Day Saturday, April 29 · 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Place unwanted items at your curb with a "Free" sign on them and wait for new owners to pick them up. Consider donating unwanted items to a local thrift store, or bring May 6, 2023.

Spring Cleanup Day Saturday, May 6 · 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

4200 Hoffman Road - See page 6 or visit whitebearlake.org/cleanup for more details.



Touch a Truck - FREE Thursday, May 18 · 5-7 p.m.

Podvin Park - 1700 9th Street

Hey kids - this event is a great opportunity to see and tour cool vehicles. Police squads,



WaterFest 2023 - FREE Saturday, June 3 · 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Lake Phalen Park, St. Paul

This free, family festival celebrating our clean lakes provides an opportunity for outdoor hands-on learning about clean water, wildlife, and land and water conservation. Visit rwmwd.org/waterfest for information.



Kids Bike Rodeo – FREE Saturday, June 24 · 1-3 p.m.

White Bear Lake Public Works Facility -3950 Hoffman Road

Kids and their parents are invited to get bikes tuned up, helmets fitted, rider safety ride through fun courses for kids. Register at whitebearlake.org/publicsafety/webform/ kids-bike-rodeo.

Marketfest

Thursdays, June 15 – July 27 · 6-9 p.m.

Shop 130+ merchandise and food vendors in downtown White Bear Lake. Meet Police, Fire and EMS on July 13 and attend the Enviing goods and services for purchase. Visit

Fridays with Firefighters - FREE Fridays, June 23, July 21, August 18. 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

2240 County Road E

Want to get outside and have some fun with your Fire Department? There will be three opportunities this summer to join us at the cation! This is a great event for parents and

Manitou Days June 15 – July 4

This year's theme is "A Century of Community". Find a listing of this year's events at manitoudays.com, including the Grande Parade, the Beach Dance, and the Medallion Hunt, amongst 50+ other community events! Manitou Days ends with a bang on July 4 with live music and fireworks at Memorial Beach.



Farmers' Market Every Friday between June 30-Oct 27 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Located at Clark Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets in downtown White Bear Lake. Be sure to attend the first Farmers' Market for a treat with our Police Department. There is no cost to attend. Vendors will be providing goods and services for purchase.

Donuts & Coffee with Cops – FREE Friday, June 30 · 8:30-10 a.m.

Kick off the first Friday of the Farmers' Mar-

Night to Unite (National Night Out) -Tuesday, August 1 · Evening - FREE

Get to know your neighbors and City Public Safety officials. Register via the City of White Bear Lake website on July 1st - whitebearlake.org/publicsafety/page/night-unite.



Safety Camp

Tuesday, August 8 · 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Safety Camp will be held for kids entering 3rd, 4th and 5th grade. Topics may include bicycle safety, fire safety, CPR/First Aid, boating safety, internet safety, bullying awareness, and more. \$25 fee includes a day of fun, lunch and a t-shirt. Check whitebearlake.org and our Facebook page for

Hydrant Flushing

Every spring, the City flushes all the water hydrants in the system. Flushing removes all the remaining "hard" water from the system, and any sediment that has accumulated in the watermains. It also allows Public Works to verify operation of all the fire hydrants in the City. If you experience any discoloration of water during the flushing operation, a process that takes 2-4 days to complete, flush your water lines by running cold water until the discoloration disappears. While this discolored water is safe to consume, you should avoid washing light-colored and white clothes until the water runs clear.



Street Sweeping

As soon as weather permits, Public Works crews will be sweeping city streets for general cleaning, for keeping our storm sewer systems clear of sediment, leaves and other debris, and protecting our lakes and wetlands. As a reminder, City ordinance prohibits the disposal of leaves, lawn clippings and other debris into streets.



Report Sewer Backups

Call the Public Works Department to report a sewer backup at 651-747-3650. Business hours are from 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For after-hours emergencies, the voicemail recording will provide additional instructions to redirect your call.



Any discharge into a storm sewer system, ditch, river, stream, or waterbody that is not composed entirely of stormwater (rain or melting snow) is called an illicit discharge. Illicit discharges may be the result of dumping gas, oil, paints, cleaners, concrete wastewater, and sediment from construction sites into the storm sewer system or allowing fertilizer, grass, leaves, pesticides, or pet waste to wash into storm drains. Report any suspicious discharges to the City by calling the Engineering Department at 651-429-8531 or go online to whitebearlake.org, click on Services, then 'Report a Problem' (anonymity will be respected).



Dogs must be leashed at all times. This includes the Matoska Park dog beach, even if your dog is swimming in the lake. With high water levels and diminishing beachfront at Matoska Beach, leashes at the beach continue to be enforced to keep dogs from interfering with other activities at the busy location and wandering onto residential properties. Remember to protect human health, the health of other animals, and water quality by always cleaning up your dog's waste.



Watering Restrictions Begin May 1

Water your lawn early in the morning or late at night. In an effort to conserve groundwater resources, the City prohibits irrigation between the hours of 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



Yard Waste Disposal Options

Did you know state law prohibits mixing leaves, grass and other brush material with your trash? Dispose of yard waste by subscribing to curbside yard waste pickup or visit a free yard waste disposal site.



Subscription curbside yard waste pick-up service runs April 15 - November 30 (weather permitting). To subscribe to this paid service, call Republic Services at

952-941-5174 anytime between 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday. This service is not part of the City's utility billing for weekly trash and recycling collection, and is billed separately by Republic Services.

Republic Services Collection Rates for 2023 Curbside Yard **Waste Pickup**

Annual Service

Unlimited service at an annual rate of \$80/year, April 15 through November 30 (weather permitting). The yard waste container is provided at no additional cost.

Seasonal Service

Seasonal service for \$50/year, for the months of August, September, October and November (weather permitting). Residents must provide their own compostable bags.

On-Call Service

On-call service at a rate of \$2.50 per bag of yard waste. There is a minimum charge of \$20 (eight bags). Residents must provide their own compostable bags.



Free yard waste disposal is available for White Bear Lake residents at county yard waste sites. Keep trees and shrubs separate from leaves and grass clippings

and place them in the appropriate pile.

Closest sites:

Ramsey County Yard Waste Site

5900 Sherwood Road, White Bear Township For more information and site hours, visit ramseyrecycles.com/yardwaste or call 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

Washington County Northern Yard Waste Site

5527 170th Street North, Hugo For more information and site hours, visit co.washington.mn.us/yardwaste or call 651-275-7475.



Declutter Chemicals for a Fresh Start

Sprucing up your home should include properly cleaning out of unwanted chemicals. Check for potentially hazardous items from under the sink, storage closets and garage. Keep what you would use in the next year and put everything else in a box to bring to a Ramsey County or Washington County household hazardous waste (HHW) collection site.

The HHW collection sites are your one-stop drop-off for most products labeled caution, warning, danger or poison. Residents can bring automotive fluids, batteries (all types), cell phones, cleaners, fluorescent lights, paint, pesticides, propane tanks and more for free.

Ramsey County has a year-round HHW collection site in Saint Paul and a mobile collection that moves to a different community each month from April through October. Find hours, directions and the full list of items accepted at ramseyrecycles.com/hhw. Or call the Ramsey County Recycling & Disposal hotline at 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7. Ramsey County HHW sites are open to all White Bear Lake residents.

Washington County offers a year-round HHW collection site at the Environmental Center (4039 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury). For details, visit co.washington.mn.us/envirocenter or call 651-275-7475. The Washington County Environmental Center is open to all White Bear Lake residents.

Free Medicine Disposal

Safely dispose of unwanted, expired and unused medicines for free at one of five public drop boxes in Ramsey County. For information on collection site locations, hours, accepted items and preparing medicine for disposal, visit ramseyrecycles.com/medicine or call 651-

633 EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

Please note: The medicine drop box location at the White Bear Lake Public Safety Building is temporarily closed until the Public Safety renovation project is complete mid-year 2024.



Recreational Fires

As warmer weather approaches, homeowners will host friends and family for fun outdoor gatherings. A great way to spice up your backyard festivities is with a recreational fire. When the sun sets, nothing's better than roasting marshmallows over an open flame.

Although this is a fun summer event, there's a certain level of precaution you need to take with fire pits. Increase your enjoyment of recreational fires by knowing you're doing all you can to burn cleanly, safely and responsibly for your friends, family and neighbors.

- A recreational fire has a maximum diameter of three feet and a height of two feet. Only clean, natural wood can be burned.
- Recreational fires must be at least 25 feet away from any structure and anything that can burn.
- Avoid burning on windy, dry days. Wind speeds over 10 miles per hour can be hazardous. Any person planning to have a recreational fire must be aware of any local burning bans. To check burning conditions within Minnesota please explore the DNR's website at dnr.state.mn.us and search for 'statewide fire danger & burning restrictions'.
- The fire should be constantly attended and supervised by an adult. A recreational fire left alone for only a few minutes can grow into a damaging fire.
- Watch children while the fire is burning. Never let children or pets play or stand too close to the fire.
- The use of flammable or combustible liquid accelerants is not permitted, and can be extremely dangerous.
- A connected garden hose or other means to extinguish the fire must be readily available.
- Wait to dispose of any fire debris until it is fully cooled.
- If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop and roll. Stop, drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over, or back and forth, until the fire is out.
- Treat a burn right away. Cool the burn with cool water for 3 to 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth. Get medical help if needed.

A full list of recreational fire rules can be found at whitebearlake.org by searching 'recreational fires'. Any fire that does not fit the description of a recreational fire is required to have a burning permit. Apply for a burn permit on the City's website by searching 'burning permits'.

If smoke emissions are offensive to surrounding occupants, or if the fire is deemed a hazardous condition, the White Bear Lake Fire Department is authorized to require recreational fires be extinguished immediately.

Spotlight on Sustainability

Local church composts to reduce waste and saves money

Several years ago, parishioners at White Bear Lake United Methodist Church were exploring opportunities to become more environmentally friendly when they learned about a program called BizRecycling. BizRecycling provides technical and financial support for recycling initiatives. One of the members, Margie Grilley, shared how the group researched the program and prepared application materials. Utilizing this program, the group decided to focus efforts on an organics collection program to generate compost and reduce the amount of waste sent to a landfill or incinerator. A visit by BizRecycling experts revealed ways the church could start a composting program and the infrastructure needed to make it a success. As part of the application process, the group submitted data on the current garbage and recycling practices, what the future program would look like and how it would be sustained long term. What would happen to the organic material that was collected on site? The group partnered with Republic Services to pick up the compost along with their garbage and recycling, saving trips to the local compost drop-off site.

After the details were finalized, the hard work of research and planning paid off and the church was awarded a grant totaling \$10,000 from BizRecycling to cover the cost of compost bins, small bins to use in offices and classrooms, signs for waste sorting and three months of hauling services. The grant also covered the largest expense in implementing the project, which was securing the outside bins with a wooden enclosure. In addition, the church

What is BizRecycling? BizRecycling is a program run by Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy, a joint effort by the two counties to reduce waste and promote recycling. The program started in 2013 and offers grants and expert advice to businesses for their efforts to reduce waste. Grants for waste reduction and innovation, food recovery, and recycling are available, along with reimbursements to businesses that improve their food scraps collection. The program has grown over the years and these grant opportunities are now available to residential apartment buildings. Interested businesses and multi-unit apartments should visit www.bizrecycling.com for more information and to start the application process.

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 email amiller@whitebearlake.org or call 651-429-8534.





was able to procure three portable compost bins, called slim jims, that can be placed at indoor and outdoor events. Grilley stated this is important because placing the bins front and center increases the likelihood that they are used.

Grilley explained that education is important because people are not always aware of what can be composted, especially when the church switched to plant-based cutlery and compostable cups, items that people are used to throwing away in the trash. The group made a concerted effort to educate with signage and images of items on the bins. At events, volunteers stationed near the bins help direct items to the compost. The outreach efforts have been a success. Parishioners' habits are changing and waste reduction awareness is increasing. The amount of garbage collected has reduced enough to downsize their garbage bin, saving the organization about \$800 a year.

BizRecycling estimates that of the 400,000 pounds of waste generated every year by businesses in Ramsey and Washington counties, 30% is food waste. Programs like the one established at White Bear Lake United Methodist Church divert that waste from methane-producing landfills to sites that turn the material into nutrient-rich compost used for farming and gardening.

Since the organics collection program has been running, the church has reduced their waste so they only need trash service every other week. Grilley hopes that with continued education, the program will become even more successful.

Free Electronics Recycling Available for Ramsey County Residents

Ramsey County residents looking to get rid of laptops, televisions, cell phones or other electronics (e-waste) now have a free and easy way to recycle them. Used and old electronics are the fastest-growing waste in the country and often contain toxic metals like lead, mercury and cadmium. Ramsey County Environmental Health is partnering with Repowered to reuse or refurbish unwanted electronics, and to keep toxic metals out of the

environment. All data from electronics dropped off at the e-waste site will be destroyed physically or electronically wiped.

The electronics collection site is located at:

Repowered

860 Vandalia Street, Saint Paul, MN 55114

Learn more at ramseycounty.us/electronics or call Ramsey County's Recycling and Disposal hotline at 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

This program is available to Ramsey County residents only.



Start Collecting Food Scraps for Compost

Looking to do something good for the environment? Participate in Ramsey County's free food scraps collection program. You'll reduce your trash and put wasted food to better use. Just drop them off at one of 17 collection sites located throughout the county. The closest food scraps collection site is located at the Public Works facility (3950 Hoffman Road). The food scraps are processed into compost at an industrial compost facility and used as a soil amendment in gardening and landscaping projects. All types of food waste are accepted, including meat, bones and dairy.

Collecting food scraps is easy! Just follow these three steps:

- Get equipped: Find a container to collect food scraps. Pick up a free compostable bag at the collection site.
- Collect food scraps: Line your container with the compostable bag and fill it with food scraps.

No Plastic Bags

No Random

Metal Items

No Batteries &

Cell Phones

No Tanglers (hoses,

string lights, wires)

Drop them off: When your compostable bag is full, drop it off at the collection site. Pick up a new bag at the site.

To learn more, visit ramseyrecycles.com/foodscraps. Or call the Ramsey County Recycling & Disposal hotline at 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.



Recycling and Food Scraps Containers Available for Your Next Event

Whether you're hosting a block party, graduation, family reunion or other gathering, consider using recycling and food scraps containers to reduce waste. Place a recycling and food scraps container next to each trash can to make recycling and trash disposal easier for your guests.

The City provides portable recycling and food scraps containers that collapse for easy transport and come with signage and bags that attach to the assembled frame. Containers are loaned at no cost to White Bear Lake residents and organizations for any temporary gathering. Reserve one for your next event! Contact Connie Taillon, Environmental Specialist, at 651-429-8587 or fill out the online order form on the City's website at whitebearlake.org by searching 'event recycling' to reserve a container.

The food scrap material collected can be brought to any one of the 17 free collection sites located throughout the county. The closest collection site is located at the Public Works facility (3950 Hoffman Road). For other locations, visit ramseyrecycles.com/foodscraps or call the Ramsey County Recycling & Disposal hotline at 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

No Clothing or

Diapers

No Shredded

Paper





Thanksgiving · Christmas Day

When a holiday falls on a weekday, trash and recycling for that day and remaining days of the week will be delayed one day. Holidays that fall on weekends do not affect the pickup schedule.





City of White Bear Lake 4701 Highway 61 White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110

Administrative Offices

City Hall	651-429-8526
Administration	651-429-8508
Building	651-429-8518
Planning	651-429-8561
Engineering	651-429-8531
Police	651-429-8539
Fire	651-429-8568
Public Works	651-747-3650
Sports Center	651-429-8571
Utility Billing	651-429-8565
City Website	www.whitebearlake.org

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Want to pay your utility bill over the phone? Call 855-798-1527 for easy, automated service. There is a service fee to process transactions





adopt-a-drain.org



Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program Public Hearing · April 25

A public hearing will be held to discuss the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) at the regular City Council meeting on April 25. The SWPPP guides the City's water quality efforts and is updated yearly. Interested residents are encouraged to attend and comment on the SWPPP. To review the City's SWPPP and provide comments online, visit whitebearlake.org/stormwater. For questions or to request a paper copy of the SWPPP, contact Connie Taillon, Environmental Specialist, at ctaillon@whitebearlake.org or call 651-429-8587.

Annual Water Quality Report

The City reports annually on the quality of its drinking water provided by its water distribution system. The report, known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), describes the source of City water and includes information on any contaminants detected through a regular testing program, which is monitored by the Minnesota Department of Health. Customers may find the current CCR online at whitebearlake.org/ccr. To speak with someone about the report, please contact the Public Works Water Division at 651-779-5106. A paper copy of the most recent report can also be obtained at City Hall at no cost.