



White Bear Facts

a city of lakes and legends

Dan Jones

Fall & Winter 2022

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City Set Preliminary Tax Levy September 13

Truth-in-Taxation Hearing on December 13, 2022

On September 13, the City Council adopted a preliminary tax levy that will be included on the county property tax statements sent to property owners in November. The preliminary tax levy represents revenues raised through property taxes to support the City's General Fund operations. Final adoption of the tax levy to support the 2023 budget will be considered by the Council following its Truth-in-Taxation hearing on December 13, 2022 at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 4701 Highway 61, White Bear Lake.

The preliminary levy adopted in September can be lowered by the Council in December, but not increased.

– continued page 2

WHITE BEAR LAKE FALL CLEANUP DAY

Saturday, October 1

7 a.m.-1 p.m.

4200 Hoffman Road

See page 8



General Election page 3

Self-Driving Shuttle page 4

Fire Prevention Event page 9

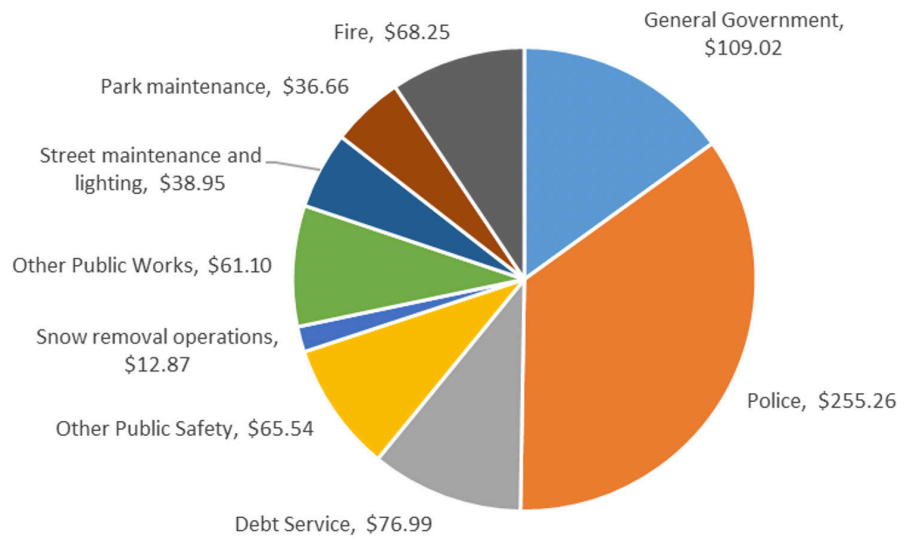


What is the impact of an increase in the City's tax levy on homeowners?

The City Council adopted the following preliminary tax levy for the 2023 budget year at its September 13 meeting. At that time, the preliminary levy can be decreased before final adoption of the 2023 Budget in December, but cannot be increased.

The following chart shows the annual City's property taxes for the median-valued home in White Bear Lake and the services the taxes support:

Median Value Home \$306,100
Annual City Taxes \$724.64



Expenditures:

- Public Safety Facility Renovation Project
- Addition of two full-time firefighters/paramedics
- Increase in utilities (gas & electric) and fuel
- Improved services for public safety responders' mental health checks
- Personnel and benefit costs

Where do my property taxes go?

Revenues raised through property taxes help support the City's General Fund and debt service payments for capital and infrastructure projects.

- The General Fund levy supports operating expenditures necessary to provide basic services, such as police, fire, snow removal, street & park maintenance and general administration.
- The Debt Service Funds levies support payments related to the issuance of bonds for annual street projects, capital equipment purchases and public facility projects.

The City's remaining funds generate revenues through utility and service fees, grants, and state aid.

Questions?

A copy of the City's preliminary 2023 budget will be available online or at City Hall by November 11. Residents are encouraged to contact the City Manager, Lindy Crawford, at 651-429-8516 or Finance Director, Kerri Kindsvater, at 651-429-8517 with any questions in advance of the Truth-in-Taxation Hearing at which time the Council will consider final adoption of a tax levy to support the 2023 Budget.

For more information about how a property tax is calculated, visit the Minnesota Department of Revenue's website at www.revenue.state.mn.us and type "property tax fact sheets" into the search box.

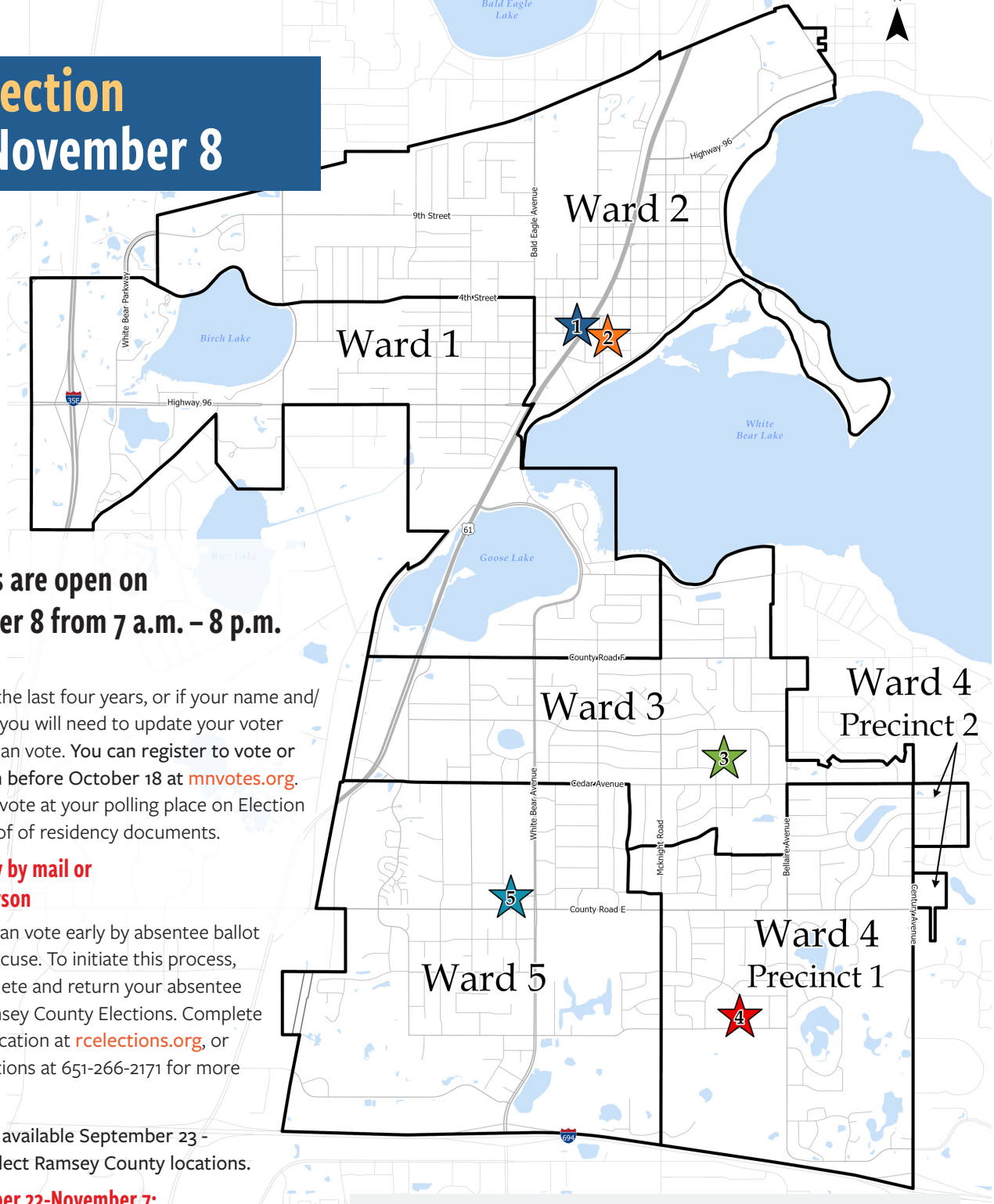
What will be in the 2023 proposed budget supported by the tax levy?

In addition to reflecting the City's continued commitment to maintaining core programs and services, the proposed 2023 budget addresses the following challenges:

Revenues:

- Unavoidable decrease of approx. \$506,350 in local government aid (LGA). LGA is a program based on a complex formula to equalize Minnesota cities' ability to provide an average level of service at a reasonable property tax rate. As a city's property values increase, the formula reduces the amount of aid distributed for assistance. White Bear Lake's property values have risen faster than other communities in the State in recent years, reducing the annual aid received.

General Election Tuesday, November 8



Election Day Polls are open on Tuesday, November 8 from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Prepare to vote

If you have not voted in the last four years, or if your name and/or address has changed, you will need to update your voter registration before you can vote. You can register to vote or update your registration before October 18 at mnvotes.org. You may also register to vote at your polling place on Election Day with the proper proof of residency documents.

Vote before Election Day by mail or return your ballot in person

In Minnesota, all voters can vote early by absentee ballot without any reason or excuse. To initiate this process, you must request, complete and return your absentee ballot application to Ramsey County Elections. Complete the absentee ballot application at rcelections.org, or call Ramsey County Elections at 651-266-2171 for more information.

In person early voting is available September 23 - November 7, 2022, at select Ramsey County locations.

Locations open September 23-November 7:

- Ramsey County Elections - Plato Building
- Ramsey County Library - Roseville

Locations open November 1-7:

- Arlington Hill Community Center
- First Tee of Twin Cities - Highland National Golf Course
- Frogtown Community Center
- Ramsey County Library - White Bear Lake

Find your polling location

Find your Election Day polling location at mnvotes.org.

Election Day Voting Locations

WARD 1	White Bear Lake City Hall 4701 Hwy 61 North
WARD 2	Ramsey County White Bear Lake Library 2150 2nd Street
WARD 3	Sunrise Middle School Gym 2399 Cedar Avenue
WARD 4	Area Learning Center 2449 Orchard Lane
WARD 5	St. Stephen Lutheran Church 1965 County Road E East

BEAR TRACKS Self-Driving Shuttle in Motion

About the Project

Community members may have noticed a new, brightly-colored shuttle driving along Willow Avenue and Orchard Lane. The White Bear Lake Bear Tracks shuttle, a driverless vehicle that transports passengers between select locations, is part of a 12-month research and demonstration pilot project being led by the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Office of Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAV). The City is one of three communities in the state hosting this type of pilot project, and the only metro-area community selected to participate. The key goals of the project include the following:

- Advancing the technology to become a realistic and reliable transportation option for communities;
- Advancing the safe operations of the technology by testing it in all seasons and a variety of weather conditions, and
- Allowing people to experience the technology firsthand and to provide feedback to ensure the technology meets a broad range of needs.

CAV technology has the potential to improve the future of Minnesota by providing many benefits to residents, businesses and visitors, including increased safety; more inclusive planning and greater access and mobility; economic development and workforce opportunities; improved environment, and more efficient movement of people and goods.



Project Partners:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| MnDOT | Ramsey County |
| City of White Bear Lake | AECOM |
| Newtrax | Navya |
| White Bear Area YMCA | University of Minnesota |
| White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce | Minnesota State Transportation Center of Excellence |
| White Bear Lake Area Schools | |

About the Shuttle

While the shuttle is typically operated in automated (self-driving) mode, there will be a safety operator on board during the project to monitor the operations of the vehicle who can take over operations manually. The 10-passenger shuttle is equipped with eight light-based radar sensors that detect what is happening around the shuttle, and if they sense an object in its path, the vehicle will stop. Because



the shuttle can make abrupt stops, it is a slow-moving vehicle that travels between 12 and 15 miles per hour. The slower speeds may impact other drivers on the road, and community members may choose alternate routes to avoid the shuttle during operations. We appreciate your patience and safety-mindedness during this project.

The shuttle will provide more equitable transportation access as the route serves a day program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, an area with senior and affordable housing and a community center. The route chosen provides multiple access and exit points to the neighborhood and offers rides at regularly-timed intervals.

Catch the Shuttle

The shuttle is free and open to the public to ride. Rides are offered 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Riding a full loop takes approximately 30-35 minutes. We hope you will check it out!



Stop 1	Stop 2	Stop 3	Stop 4
PAI	The Boulders	Willow Wood Apartments	White Bear Area YMCA

If you are in walking distance of the route, you may board at any of the four stops. If you are driving to the shuttle, please park at the west end of the YMCA parking lot located at 2100 Orchard Lane.

Before you go, visit beartrackswbl.org as there are times the shuttle will not be in service during its regularly scheduled hours due to maintenance or inclement weather. Visit the website to learn more about the project and the shuttle service. You can also follow the shuttle on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @Beartrackswbl.



W A D N A I S H E I G H T S C O R D I L L A G E

County Road E Corridor Action Plan:

Community Workshop Series Fall 2022

The County Road E Corridor Action Plan Community Workshop Series is currently underway, which will ultimately lead to the development of an action plan including near-, medium- and long-term goals and action steps to assist policymakers in planning and attract investment to the corridor. The process is an initiative of the cities of White Bear Lake, Vadnais Heights and Gem Lake, with support from Ramsey County and is being facilitated by Local Initiatives Support Corporation Twin Cities. The workshop series is a four-step process that invites community members and stakeholders to share their input to help shape the action plan.

While the process is currently underway, people who have not yet attended but are interested in being involved are invited to attend the remaining workshops.

For updates on the process visit whitebearlake.org/e.

Workshop I: Gather Information - COMPLETE

This event took place on September 14 at Century College. The group discussed: What is important and unique about County Road E Corridor? What are the concerns about future development, and what can be achieved? Presentations were provided by land use and transportation planning experts.

Workshop II (A, B, C): Exploring Development Options - The Block Exercise

Join your neighbors in an interactive workshop to create development scenarios for key sites along the County Road E Corridor. Land use and design experts will be on hand to share ideas and insights. Sites are divided among three workshops by city.

- A. Vadnais Heights sites - COMPLETE**
 Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2022 6:30-8:30 p.m.
 Vadnais Heights Fire Station
 3595 Arcade Street
 Vadnais Heights
- B. White Bear Lake sites - COMPLETE**
 Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022 6:30-8:30 p.m.
 Redeemer Lutheran Church
 3770 Bellaire Avenue
 White Bear Lake
- C. Gem Lake sites**
 Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022 6:30-8:30 p.m.
 Heritage Hall
 4200 Otter Lake Road
 Gem Lake

Workshop III: Developer Panel Discussion

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2022 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Vadnais Heights Fire Station
3595 Arcade Street
Vadnais Heights

Explore the opportunities and challenges of potential redevelopment options with a panel of developers that bring a range of expertise.

Workshop IV: Framing Recommendations

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Vadnais Heights Fire Station
3595 Arcade Street

Contribute to the creation of development of the County Road E Corridor action plan recommendations, which will be submitted to a Project Team of local government and private partners for consideration.



Restoration Projects Planned For Rotary Nature Preserve

Rotary Nature Preserve is a 40-acre city park located north of Birch Lake, between Birch Lake Boulevard North and White Bear Parkway. For the past 30 years, the City and Rotary Club of White Bear Lake have partnered to make improvements to the park for public enjoyment, including a picnic shelter, restroom facility, trails and a boardwalk across the wetland. Each year, Rotary Club hosts a park cleanup day and tree planting event.

Over the years, invasive plants have taken over areas of the park and have displaced native plants. The City and Rotary Club are partnering on a multi-year restoration project to remove the invasive plants and restore the area with native plants. The restoration will occur over numerous phases. The location of the first three phases of restoration is highlighted on the map.

Phase 1: 2022

Phase 1 of the restoration is located just south of the parking lot adjacent to the paved trail. This phase is currently underway and will be planted with a diverse mix of native prairie plant species this fall

For Phase 2, invasive Amur maples will be removed along the Rotary Nature Preserve paved trail this fall and native trees, shrubs, grasses and flowers planted in 2023. Expect this area to look very open and bare until the new native plantings have had time to grow.

that will support pollinators and other wildlife. The plantings may take two to three years to fully mature. The City and Rotary Club were awarded a cost-share grant from the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization for this phase of the project.

Phase 2: Late Fall 2022 through 2023

Phase 2 of the restoration will begin late this fall with invasive plant removal on both sides of the paved trail, followed by a native plant restoration starting in 2023. 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 in 2023 have time to grow.

Phase 3: Late Fall 2023 through 2024

Phase 3 is a continuation of Phase 2, with a tentative timeline of invasive plant removal in late fall 2023, and native plant restoration starting in 2024.

For additional information on this project, visit the City's website at whitebearlake.org.

Rotary Nature Preserve Restoration Project Map





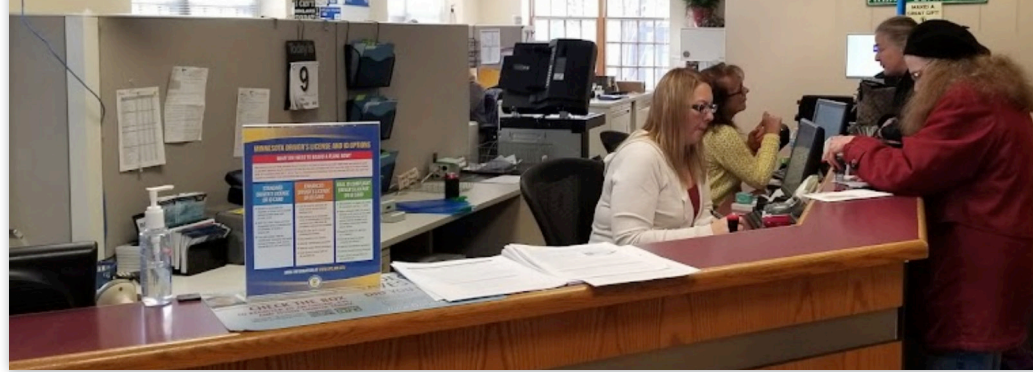
Invasive Species: Amur maple

Amur maple is native to Japan and China. It was introduced to North America in the 1860s, and is frequently sold commercially as an ornamental and windbreak plant. A prolific seed producer, Amur maple is becoming invasive in the northern United States. Amur maple displaces native shrubs and understory trees in open woods, and shades out native grasses and herbaceous plants in savanna habitats.

Why remove Amur maple and other invasive plant species?

Invasive, non-native plants displace native plants, which can reduce the ability of the plant community to support native fish and wildlife. For example, insects are often the food source for birds and reptiles. Many native insects are able to feed only on specific native plant species. If their preferred plants are crowded out by invasive plants, insect numbers can be dramatically reduced by the lack of sufficient food. This can subsequently cause a decrease in the animals that feed on them. In addition, Amur maple and other invasive species of woodland habitats can limit tree seedling establishment and regeneration of forests.

For more information about invasive species, visit the Minnesota DNR website at dnr.state.mn.us/invasives.



Apply for Your REAL ID at the White Bear Lake License Bureau

The License Bureau is open the following hours:

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Tuesdays, Thursdays: 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

The License Bureau accepts walk-ins for all services. Please be aware that REAL ID and enhanced driver's license/identification card acceptance hours begin at 8:30 a.m. and end 45 minutes before close every day.

To reduce time spent at the License Bureau or frustrations caused by not having the correct documents, complete the state's pre-application and review the identification requirements. If you have an existing Minnesota driver's license or identification card, there is an option in the pre-application to scan your documents and receive a pre-approval from the state. Although you must still bring the documents when you visit our office, it saves time at the counter and speeds up issuance of your hard-copy license from the State of Minnesota. After they are processed in office, applications with documents pre-approved by the State of Minnesota are issued within 7-10 days versus the current 4-6-week processing time if you do not scan your documents into the pre-application.

Minnesota offers three different ID options: a standard driver's license, a REAL ID and an enhanced ID. All three will be acceptable for driving purposes, but beginning May 3, 2023, every air traveler 18 years of age or older will need a REAL ID, enhanced driver's license or ID, passport or another acceptable form of ID to fly within the United States. If you do not have a REAL ID or enhanced driver's license, ensure you have all of the proper documents (no digital copies accepted) and visit us before the deadline.

The pre-application is available on the State of Minnesota's website at drive.mn.gov. The lists for identification requirements for REAL ID and enhanced driver's license are available on the City of White Bear Lake's website whitebearlake.org/lb. See the infographic below for the most commonly used documents when applying for the REAL ID.

PHOTO CREDIT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

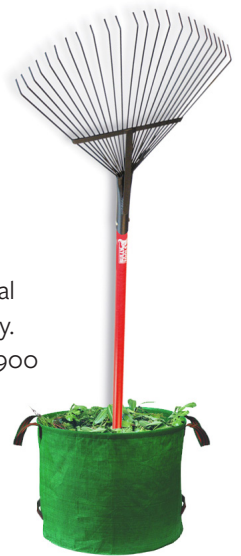


Yard Waste Disposal

Dispose of leaves and other yard waste by bringing them to a county yard waste site or signing up for curbside pickup.

Yard Waste Sites:

Ramsey County provides free yard waste disposal at seven yard waste collection sites in the county. The closest site for city residents is located at 5900 Sherwood Road in White Bear Township. Both Ramsey and Washington county residents may use the White Bear Township collection site. For more information, visit ramseyrecycles.com/yardwaste or call 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.



The Washington County Northern Yard Waste Site is located at 5527 170th Street North in Hugo is also open to both Ramsey and Washington County residents for free. For more information, visit co.washington.mn.us/yardwaste or call 651-275-7475.

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:

- Annual Service:** Unlimited service at an annual rate of \$80 per year, April 15-November 30 (weather permitting). A free yard waste container is provided by Republic Services.
- Seasonal Service:** \$50 per year for the months of August through November (weather permitting). Residents must provide their own compostable bags for this service.
- On-Call Service:** \$2.50 per 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.



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, which causes algae to bloom in the summer.

FALL CLEANUP DAY

Saturday, October 1

7 a.m.-1 p.m.

4200 Hoffman Road

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

Gather unwanted items in your house and load up your car. It's our annual Fall Cleanup Day! See below for details. This event is for city 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.

Acceptable Items

Air conditioners	Computers (PCs, monitors, laptops)	Humidifiers
Appliances	Construction materials	Lawn mowers & snow blowers (all fluids drained)
Bicycles	Electronics	Mattresses
Car batteries	Fluorescent bulbs and ballasts*	Televisions Tires
Carpeting	Furniture	Textiles

* up to 10 fluorescent bulbs will be accepted

Unacceptable Items

Brush and other yard waste	Motor oil, propane tanks paint, and other household hazardous waste
Firewood	Tree stumps
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 **Spring Cleanup Day on May 6, 2023.**

Fire Safety Reminders

As cooler months encapsulate us in White Bear Lake, festive celebrations, holiday lights and winter greens are hallmarks of the holiday season, but they also present fire risks that can quickly turn this festive time of year into a devastating one. Following a few simple tips from the White Bear Lake Fire Department will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

Cooking:

Did you know cooking is the leading cause of reported home fires and home fire injuries, and the second leading cause of home fire deaths? These simple tips can be the difference:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stove top so you can keep an eye on your food. If you have to leave the kitchen briefly, set a timer and bring a utensil with you to remind you that you have food on the stove.
- When using oil to cook, have a well-fitting lid nearby in case of a fire. Do not use water to put out a grease fire. Turn off the heat source and put the lid on the pan to smother the flame.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from cooking could cause serious burns.
- Be sure electric cords from appliances are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip.
- Monitor small kitchen appliances when operating and unplug them when not in use.

Heating:

Heating is the second leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries, and the third leading cause of home fire deaths in the United States. White Bear Lake Fire Department responded to numerous fires last heating season due to improper heating techniques. Please follow these tips to keep your home warm and safe:

- Hire a qualified professional to annually inspect your home heating system and chimney.
- 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.

- Check portable space heaters for damage prior to use. Heaters should be placed on a solid, flat surface.
- Portable space heaters should plug directly into an outlet. Do not use extension cords or power strips with a heating appliance.
- Turn portable space heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Keep a clear space and "three feet from the heat" kid-free zone whether it is a fireplace, wood stove, furnace or portable space heater.

Festive Decorations:

It is amazing how seasonal decorations can help create memories and bring joy to so many people. Let's keep those memories good ones by following these fire-safety tips:

- Candles are pretty to look at but remember they are an open flame. Keep candles at least one foot away from anything that can burn.
- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Consider the use of battery operated candles as an alternative.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for recommended number of light strands to connect.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.
- Christmas tree fires can grow very quickly. Be sure to add water daily to fresh cut trees.
- Keep doors and windows clear of holiday decorations.

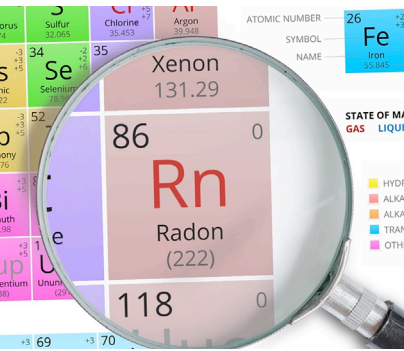
We want all of our residents to be partners in fire safety. Please test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Be sure to change the batteries and practice home fire drills. For more information, visit the National Fire Protection Association's website at nfpa.org.



FIRE PREVENTION OPEN HOUSE

Want to explore a fire truck, learn to exit a smoke-filled room and see firefighters in action? Join us for this free family-friendly event from 5-8 p.m. on **Tuesday, October 4** at our South Fire Station, 2240 County Road E. Our partners in public safety will be in attendance to support the event. We hope to see you there for fun, food and safety education!

FALL *and* WINTER



Radon Test Kits

The Minnesota Department of Health recommends every home be tested for radon. Testing is easy and inexpensive. Radon test kits can be ordered from Ramsey County for \$2.00. To order a radon test kit, visit RamseyCounty.us and search "Radon".

Food Scraps Collection

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.



Street Sweeping

The sweeper will be in your neighborhood at least once and possibly twice this fall, if weather permits. Please be patient as the City has a lot of ground to cover and just one sweeper with a two-person crew. The sweeper will be operating 16 hours per day during the fall sweeping period, so don't be surprised if you see us working early morning or late at night.

City ordinance prohibits the sweeping of leaves into the street, but the sweeper will pick up what naturally falls there. We encourage residents to collect the leaves from their yards and bring them to one of the seven available Ramsey County yard waste collection sites.

Recycling at Home

Recycle all of these items together in your curbside recycling cart



Cardboard & Delivery Pizza Boxes
must be flattened and small enough to fit in the cart



Newspaper with inserts



Milk Cartons & Juice Boxes
rinse clean, replace caps



Glass Bottles & Jars
rinse clean, remove caps and lids



Most Plastic Food & Beverage Containers
empty, rinse, put caps or lids back on when you can
#1, #2 & #5 accepted



Steel & Aluminum Cans, Aerosol Cans, Foil & Trays, Cardboard Food Tubes with metal ends
rinse clean, labels are OK



Boxboard
pop and beer boxes, too!
Please remove plastic liners or bags, flatten

Magazines, Mail, Phonebooks, Office Paper

These items do not belong in your curbside recycling cart



No Plastic Bags



No Random Metal Items



No Batteries & Cell Phones



No Tanglers (hoses, string lights, wires)



No Shredded Paper

REMINDEERS

FOR THE HOLIDAYS...

Schedule for Holiday Trash and Recycling Collection

Trash and recycling collection will be delayed one day for Thanksgiving. Households that receive regular service on Thursdays will be serviced on Friday, Nov. 25. Households that receive regular service on Fridays will be serviced on Saturday, Nov. 26. This year, Christmas Day and New Year's both fall on Sundays and will not affect collection schedules.

FREE Holiday Tree Collection

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

Preparation:

- Remove all decorations and stands.
- Place holiday trees next to your trash container by 6 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 accepted.

Holiday 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.

Winter Parking Restrictions

November 1 - April 1

Winter Snowplowing Reminders

1. During a snow event, all vehicles must be parked off the street until the streets have been completely plowed from curb to curb.
2. It is illegal to plow snow into the roadway (City Ordinance 903.010).
3. Garbage and recycling bins should be placed in your driveway, 3 feet apart, behind the curb line during the winter months.
4. Public sidewalks will be cleared by the City after the roadways have been completely cleared. This often takes place a day or two following a snow event. Residents are highly encouraged to clear sidewalks themselves.
5. Remove all temporary items from the right-of-way such as basketball hoops, hockey nets, etc. prior to the first snowfall of the year.

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

Sidewalk Snow Removal

The Public Works Department crews remove snow from trails and sidewalks throughout the winter months. The snow blowers and plows that serve our public sidewalks may not be able to clear all the snow off the ground and can leave behind up to an inch of snow after crews pass through. For weather events with less than an inch of snow, the City may not send out crews to clear trails and sidewalks. To help keep our sidewalks clear and passable throughout the winter, residents who abut to public sidewalks are asked to remove the snow after low-accumulation snowfalls, or the remaining snow that is left on the ground after city crews come through following high-accumulation snowfalls.

Shovel: Clear walkways before snow turns to ice. The more snow you clear manually, the less salt you'll need.

Select: De-icing salt doesn't melt ice when the pavement is below 15 degrees, so use sand for traction when it's too cold, or choose a different de-icer.

Scatter: Use salt only where it's critical. When you apply salt to pavement, leave plenty of space between granules. A 12 ounce coffee cup of salt is enough to cover 10 sidewalk squares (about 1,000 square feet) or a 20-foot driveway.

Sweep: Sweep up leftover salt and sand to save and reuse later.



Winter Maintenance: Smart Salting

Soon, ice and snow will be in the forecast, which means the start of deicer season. It is common to use salt to de-ice our paved surfaces, but it is often over-applied, sending too much chloride into our lakes, rivers and streams where it is toxic to fish and other aquatic life.

It takes only one teaspoon of salt in five gallons of water to exceed water quality standards for chloride and create harmful conditions for freshwater fish, insects and plants. As there is no economically feasible way to remove chloride from water, preventing chloride contamination is critical. Chloride from de-icing is one of the largest contributors to a growing salty water problem in Minnesota. We can all do our part this winter with a "less is better" strategy to salting surfaces and an age-old simple tool: the shovel.



PRSRST STD
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit #32324
 Twin Cities, MN

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

Administrative Offices

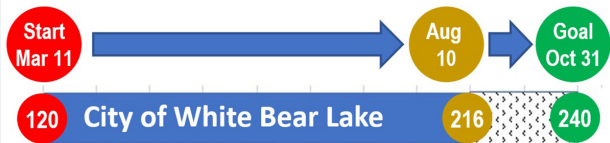
City Hall	651-429-8526
Administration	651-429-8508
Building	651-429-8518
Planning	651-429-8561
Engineering	651-429-8531
Police	651-429-8539
Fire	651-429-8568
Public Works	651-747-3650
Sports Center / Armory	651-429-8571
Utility Billing	651-429-8565
City Website	www.whitebearlake.org

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Want to pay your utility bill over the phone?

Call 855-798-1527 for our easy, automated service.



Adopt-A-Drain Challenge:

The race to double the number of adopted drains ends at the end of October!



Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties - Energy Assistance Program

Help yourself, help your friends, help your neighbors...

Nearly all Minnesota households spend a large share of their income on energy costs. For households with limited income, this can be especially stressful. Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties is offering an Energy Assistance Program, which helps thousands of families in the area pay their energy and water bills, and can improve the efficiency of their homes. Call 651-645-6470 or visit www.caprw.org for more information.

Adopt-A-Drain Challenge Update

In March 2022, the White Bear Lake Conservation District challenged the five communities around White Bear Lake to double the number of adopted drains in the statewide program by the end of October 2022.

The City of White Bear Lake started with 120 adopted drains, so our goal is to reach 240 by October 31. As of August 10, we reached 216 adopted drains. We have only 24 more to go to reach our goal! There are at least 1,820 stormwater drains in the city, so there are plenty of adoptable drains to choose from. You can see which ones are available for adoption on the interactive map at adopt-a-drain.org. When you adopt a drain, you commit just a few minutes a month to clean the debris off the surface of the drain. You also get to name your drain online! This is a family-friendly and easy outdoor activity for all ages.