



White Bear Facts

a city of lakes and legends



Spring and Summer 2021

White Bear Lake License Bureau	2
Real ID	3
Special Events	4
Election 2021	5
Community Initiatives and City Projects	6
Water Updates	8
Sustainable White Bear Lake	10
Recycling	11
Emerald Ash Borer	12

A Year of Pandemic

It has now been over a year since the COVID-19 pandemic upended our daily lives. Many have faced incredible hardship through loss of a loved one, business losses, family income loss and more. In the midst of these losses, we have witnessed neighbors, businesses, schools, non-profits and civic organizations step up to support the community. It is heart-warming to reflect on our community's response to the unprecedented challenges of the past year.

Below is just a sampling of tremendous responses from our community:

- A local family generously donated funds to create More than Meals, a program that brought warm restaurant meals to families experiencing need, while supporting local restaurants
- The Greater White Bear Area Community Foundation raised funds for a Community Recovery Fund to support community organizations serving the White Bear Lake area
- The White Bear Area Food Shelf shifted to drive-through and curbside models to support a significant increase in demand
- White Bear Area Senior Program staff created a holiday “Gifts for Seniors” program, reaching out to seniors with gifts and warm holiday meals
- Area teachers raised spirits through parades visiting student neighborhoods
- White Bear Area YMCA provided food support to families experiencing need

Passing Federal CARES Funding on to the Community

Using federal CARES act funding, the City Council established local grant programs aimed at distributing Coronavirus Relief Funds to White Bear Lake residents, businesses, and non-profit organizations with demonstrated economic impact from COVID-19.

[continued page 2]

REAL ID p. 3



CITY PROJECTS p. 7



SUSTAINABILITY p. 10





Supporting the Community

- \$125,000 in Emergency Assistance for residents
- \$50,000 in relief grants to support six local non-profits
- More than \$8,000 in grants to offset the cost of personal protective equipment for nine places of worship
- Sponsorship of Century College technology packs to support students from low-income households as they transitioned to distance learning
- Collaboration with Northeast Youth and Family Services to provide mental health support to residents and people who work in White Bear Lake
- Sponsorship of NewTrax Restaurant Meal Delivery Service, which provided warm restaurant meals to local seniors and families experiencing need, while supporting local restaurants

Supporting Local Businesses

The City collaborated with White Bear Lake Economic Development Corporation, White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce, Downtown White Bear Lake and Explore White Bear Lake to support the community through “ReGrow White Bear Lake.” “ReGrow” is a collaborative effort to promote and support local businesses.

- Over \$300,000 in local relief grants to the hardest hit businesses
- Temporary relaxation of sign ordinances
- Refunding of 2020 On-sale liquor license fees and waivers on 2021 On-sale liquor license fees (restaurants/bars)
- Financial sponsorship of ReGrow White Bear Lake efforts including advertising, and administrative costs; encouraged people to visit local businesses and provide safe social distancing, such as “Picnic in the Park” at Railroad Park and Boatworks Commons, enhanced holiday décor in downtown, and fire pits at Railroad Park during the Ice Sculpture Exploration event.
- Created an information hub on the website for COVID-19 business related resources and programs
- Bear Wear sales to fund some of the efforts to support local businesses

AT YOUR SERVICE! White Bear Lake License Bureau is Open for Business

DRIVER'S LICENSE TRANSACTIONS BY APPOINTMENT

Online Services – City Hall

Reach out to staff, report a problem, or find many services online, 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



License Bureau Services

4701 Highway 61 – WBL City Hall

DROPBOX SERVICES (Strongly encouraged! Processed 3-5 days upon receipt, then mailed to your home.)

WALK-IN SERVICES (NO DRIVER'S LICENSES)

- Tab renewal
- Title transfers
- Duplicate titles
- Duplicate plates/tabs
- Special plate applications
- DNR transfers and renewals
- Game & Fish licenses
- Disability certificates
- CDL Self-certifications

ONLINE SELF-SERVICE (Highly encouraged)

DRIVER & VEHICLE SERVICES: drive.mn.gov

DRIVER'S LICENSE APPOINTMENT SERVICES Please make reservations

www.whitebearlake.org

651-429-8526

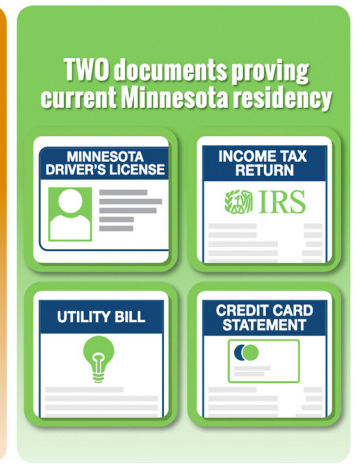
Do You Need the REAL ID? You have options!

Beginning October 1st, 2021, Minnesotans will not be able to use their standard driver's license or identification card to board a domestic flight or enter a federal facility. The following are the three most common types of identification Minnesotans may be familiar with and can use to comply with the REAL ID requirement:

1. Unexpired passport book or card
2. REAL ID/DL
3. Enhanced ID/DL

However, did you know that you could also use one of these types of identification?

1. U.S. Passport
2. DHS Trusted Traveler Cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST)
3. Permanent Resident Card
4. Federally recognized, tribal-issued photo ID
5. U.S. Department of Defense ID, including IDs issued to dependents



There are several other types of identifications that can be used. The full list is on the Transportation Security Administration's website: [tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification](https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification).

Minnesotans who have the option to use other forms of identification other than the REAL ID or Enhanced licenses are strongly urged not to rush to their local license center to obtain one. In other words, if you have a valid, unexpired passport, one of the other approved forms of identification from the TSA's list, or will not be boarding a flight anytime soon, you are encouraged to wait.

Upgrading at the time of renewal is ideal, even if it is after the REAL ID deadline. Applying for a REAL or enhanced ID/DL can often be a time-consuming and frustrating process due to the extensive amount of documentation required and long wait times at many license centers. There are several forms of identification required. Above is a diagram showing the minimum requirements and most common documents used to apply for the REAL ID.



All Driver's License Transactions Require An Appointment – Why?

The License Bureau is open to all walk-in services except Driver's Licenses transactions. At times, the wait may be longer than usual as many nearby license bureaus are only offering services by appointment. You are encouraged to use the outside Dropbox in front of City Hall for all non-driver license transactions. Dropbox transactions are processed and mailed to your home within a week's time.

Unfortunately, appointments are still required for all driver's license transactions due to the immense backlog following statewide closures. REAL ID, Enhanced Driver's License and Identification Card transactions take much more time than other DMV transactions due to the extensive amount of documentation required. The combination of the backlog and time required to process driver's license transactions requires use of appointments so wait lines for all other DMV transactions can continue to move.

For those seeking Driver's License Services: The deadline for Real ID-compliant licenses is October

1, 2021. If you have no changes to name or address, you may renew a standard (non-Real nor Enhanced) license or identification card online on the State of Minnesota's website drive.mn.gov and select the "Apply for A Driver's License or State ID" link. Do not select "Pre-Apply for a Driver's License or ID", unless you have an office appointment.

The White Bear Lake License Bureau books out its calendar 90-days, which continues to fill. Please use the scheduling link on our website whitebearlake.org/lb to check for cancellations or future openings if there are no appointments available.

Knowledge and road exams are not provided at the WBL License Bureau, nor do we accept reinstatement fees. Visit the State's website drive.mn.gov for more information on those services.

Staff at the White Bear Lake License Bureau can be reached Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. by telephone 651-429-8525 and email office@whitebearlake.org. Please visit our website at whitebearlake.org/lb for more information or to schedule an appointment for a driver's license.



Special Events 2021

Spring Clean Up Day

Saturday, May 1 • 7 AM – 1 PM

Bring non-hazardous, non-yard waste and proof of White Bear Lake residency to the former Public Works site at 4200 Hoffman Road. Please wear a mask and stay in your vehicle. Checks preferred over cash, payable to “City of White Bear Lake” (fees vary based on load, size limits apply). Find more information on the News and Events feed at whitebearlake.org, or call Public Works 651-747-3650.

Raingardens and Drainage Control 101 - Online workshop

Tuesday, May 4 • 5 PM – 6 PM

FREE event. Explore how raingardens and other infiltration and conveyance techniques can be part of an effective drainage control strategy. For more information visit vlawmo.org/events or call 651-204-6070.

Native Plants and Pollinators: How to start small and build - online workshop

Tuesday, May 11 • 5 PM – 6 PM

FREE event. Look at how small steps towards pollinator-friendly lawns and gardens can grow at your pace and comfort. Learn about the wildlife that’s been documented at local restoration sites. For more information visit vlawmo.org/events or call 651-204-6070.

WaterFest 2021

June 19 - 27

Phalen Regional Park, 1600 Phalen Dr, St. Paul

FREE event. Due to COVID safety measures, this year the event will showcase numerous self-directed learning opportunities and activities throughout the week. Visit rwmwd.org/waterfest for more information.

Environmental Resource Expo

Thursday, Aug 5 • 6 - 9 PM

Part of Marketfest in Downtown White Bear Lake, 4th St

Talk to experts about various environmental topics. There will be giveaways and activities for kids of all ages.

Community Events

Visit explorewhitebear.org and subscribe to the Explore White Bear Newsletter to receive updates on the events and other happenings in the White Bear area such as:

Manitou Days: July 1 – July 11

Events include the Grande Parade, Beach Dance, Marketfest, the 4th of July Fireworks, Medallion Hunt, Children’s Fishing Contest, and more!

Marketfest: Each Thursday, July 1 - August 5

Find unique vendors, music and fun, Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.



MANY FACES • MANY STORIES

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH CONVERSATIONS

April & May 2021 Events

Community Events

Jim Crow of the North: A White Bear Lake Area Viewing & Panel Discussion

A Many Faces Collaborative Event / Thursday, April 29 / 6:30-8:30pm / Free / To register: bit.ly/manyfaceswbl3

Racial Definitions 201

Hosted by WBLAS / Monday, May 10 / 7-8:30pm / \$20 To register: bit.ly/manyfaceswbl4

Questions?

White Bear Lake Area Schools Community Services:
www.lsd624.org/CommunityServices | 651-407-7501



2021 Elections

Municipal and School District elections occur in odd years. This year, Mayor, Ward 2 and Ward 4 will be on the ballot. Affidavit of candidacy packets will be available in City Hall mid-May. Filings will be accepted May 18 – June 1, 2021, with the last day to withdraw on June 3, 2021.

A Primary Election will be held only if more than two people file for any one position. The Primary Election date is Tuesday, August 10, 2021, if applicable, and the General Election is on Tuesday, November 2, 2021.

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! Now 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.

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

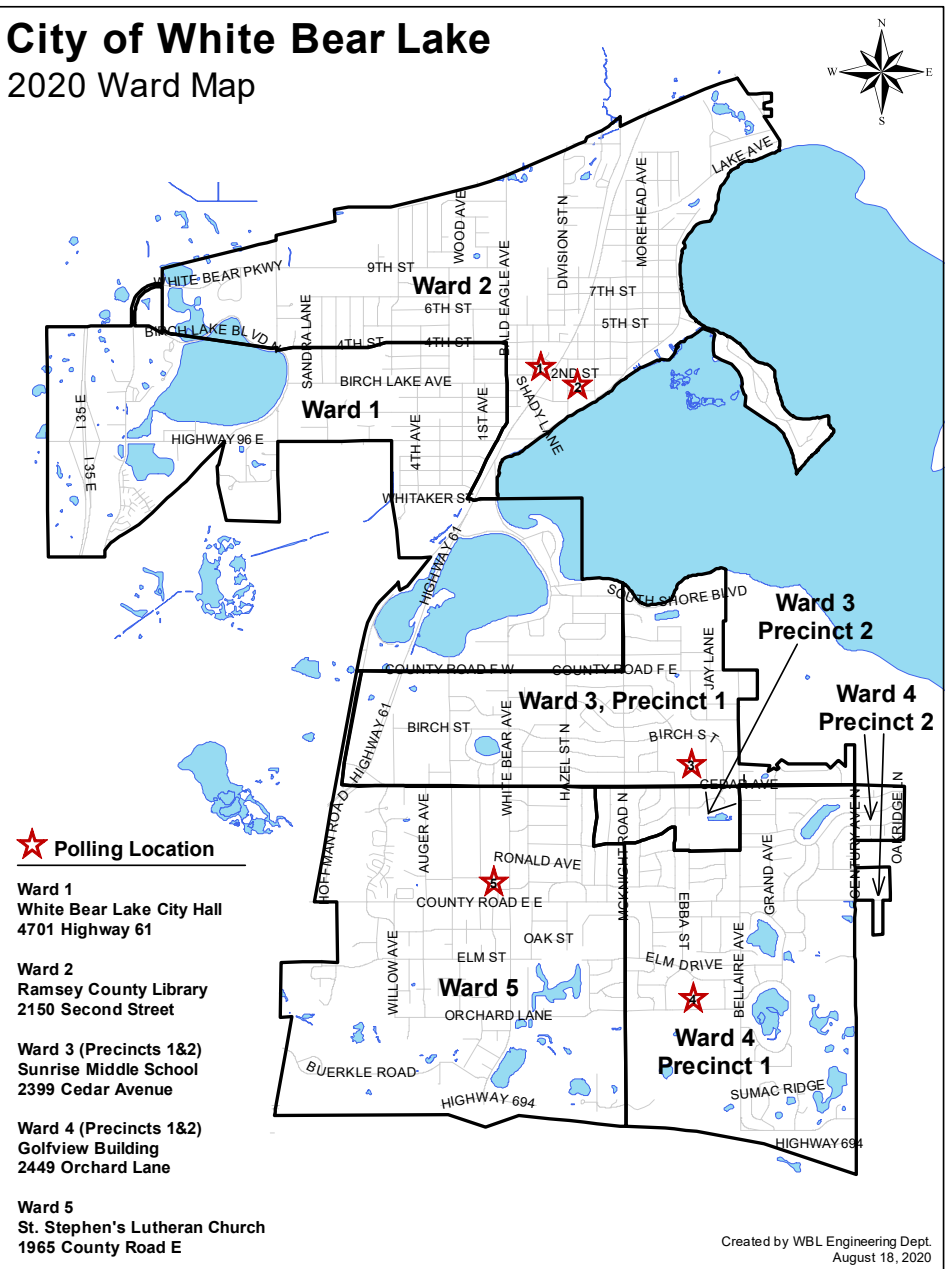
Your Mayor and Council


White Bear Lake is represented geographically by five Wards, each with their own elected Ward representative. The Mayor is elected at-large and presides over City Council meetings, which are generally held at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month (except on Election Days, or in December when only the first meeting is held). All elected positions in the City hold four-year terms.

The Mayor ensures the laws of the State and the City Charter and Ordinances, rules and regulations of the City are duly enforced and strictly observed. While the Mayor does not vote on Resolutions and Ordinances of the City, the Mayor does have veto power to overrule the City Council's vote. The City Council, at its next meeting may, by 4/5th vote, overrule the Mayor's objection. The Mayor is also responsible for appointing members to advisory boards and commission and performs other specific responsibilities assigned by the City Charter.

Stay connected! All City Council meetings are broadcast live on Public Access Channel 16, and are streamed live on Ramsey Washington Suburban Cable Channels. Find the live stream link and more information online at whitebearlake.org/mayorandcitycouncil

City of White Bear Lake 2020 Ward Map



-  **Polling Location**
- Ward 1**
White Bear Lake City Hall
4701 Highway 61
- Ward 2**
Ramsey County Library
2150 Second Street
- Ward 3 (Precincts 1&2)**
Sunrise Middle School
2399 Cedar Avenue
- Ward 4 (Precincts 1&2)**
Golfview Building
2449 Orchard Lane
- Ward 5**
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
1965 County Road E

Created by WBL Engineering Dept.
August 18, 2020



Community Initiatives and City Projects



Welcoming & Inclusive Community Initiative

Participate in the Community Conversations

The City of White Bear Lake launched its Welcoming & Inclusive Community initiative with the first meeting of its task force in March. The task force was appointed by the Mayor to guide the City through this process, which will include a series of virtual and in-person conversations with residents and other community members to learn from their experiences and perspectives around topics of inclusion. Later this fall, the task force will present the City Council with a report that summarizes emergent themes, includes results from a community-wide survey, and offers recommendations for actions, policies and/or further initiatives.

White Bear Lake is committed to supporting an inclusive community where all residents feel welcome and share a sense of belonging. To offer your perspectives and experiences living and working in White Bear Lake, please join in one of many hour-long “virtual conversations” scheduled throughout the spring and early summer. You can register through the City’s website. Also, please take a few minutes to participate in the community survey, also found online at whitebearlake.org/WE



Housing Initiative

In March, the City Council appointed 20 community stakeholders to the City’s housing task force that is being asked to consider policies, programs and development priorities for the City of White Bear Lake. To inform its work, the task force will review information including the results from the community housing survey, a comprehensive housing market analysis and the 2040 comprehensive plan. Additionally, members will participate in community housing conversations and hear from housing industry experts as they craft recommendations.



Community Forums:

June 10 and August 5, public forums will be held to engage the broader community in this process. Visit whitebearlake.com/housing to learn more about the community forums and read the housing market analysis.

Join in community forums on housing **Thursday, June 10** and **Thursday, August 5**.



DISCUSS SUGGEST ANSWER

Take the housing survey, open through **May 7, 2021** at whitebearlake.org/surveys.

Caboose Renovation Committee

Mayor Emerson has called upon a committee made up of representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, the White Bear Lake Historical Society, Rotary, the City of White Bear Lake and residents to review the existing condition of the downtown caboose and lead the effort to restore it. Because of the exposure to the elements, this effort is needed every 15 years or so. Creation of a budget and fundraising efforts will follow once the Caboose Committee determines the necessary scope of work. Stay tuned to see how you could help keep this important part of downtown White Bear Lake for years to come!

Design Phase of the Police Garage and Fire Apparatus Bay

In 2019, the City engaged in a space needs study and developed a site master plan for the expansion of the public safety building located next to City Hall. The project would include replacement of the 1961 fire bay, construction of a police garage, facility roof replacement, HVAC improvements and building foundation work. Preliminary cost estimates of \$10.5 million will be fine-tuned as Wold Architect works through the initial project design phase this spring. Council will then revisit the project timeline later this summer.



Police Garage

Construction of a garage for the police department was first contemplated during the public safety building expansion project in 1993. The need has become even more apparent as integrated computer technology makes police squads more sensitive to Minnesota's hot and cold temperatures. Currently, vehicles are left idling 24/7 when outside temperatures are not mild. Additionally, the existing open parking area abuts a public roadway and lacks basic security, leaving officers and squad vehicles exposed. The preliminary site plan calls for the closure of Miller St. between 2nd Street and 3rd Street to accommodate construction of the garage and additional outdoor parking to serve the City Hall/Public Safety campus.

Replacement of Existing Fire Apparatus Bay

The White Bear Lake Fire Department, first established in 1888, provides fire suppression and prevention services, special rescue operations and an ambulance service to White Bear Lake and neighboring communities. The north fire station, located behind City Hall, was constructed in 1961. At that time, the department received a few hundred calls per year. Today, the Fire Department is staffed 24/7 by both full-time and part-time members who respond to a nearly 4,400 calls per year. In keeping with the growth on the south side of town in the 1960s-70s, a second station was constructed at the corner of Co Rd E and McKnight in 1973.

Since 1973, calls have more than tripled, requiring incremental increases to the number of fire/rescue engines and ambulances needed to service the community. There have also been significant changes in the health and safety standards for the industry over the past several decades including, but not limited to, standards that prescribe separate zones for contaminated gear and areas where personnel train, rest and do reports. Robust air exchange systems to handle the diesel fumes have also since become standard.

Erd-Geist Gazebo Renovation Project

In large part due to a very generous donation of \$150,000 from a member of the community, the Erd-Geist Gazebo at Matoska Park will be undergoing a significant renovation this year. Mayor Emerson appointed a task force comprised of six community members, including the Executive Director for the White Bear Lake Area Historical Society and a Council liaison. The group has been charged with determining the best way to retain the historic nature of the structure while utilizing strong and durable materials that will stand the test of time and retain the overall look.

Expected to cost \$180,000 in total, the gazebo renovation project will require complete reconstruction of the upper floor, railings, decorative panels, and lower columns, as well as complete rehabilitation of the stairway. The materials will generally consist of aluminum, stainless steel and synthetic materials that will be strong and durable and require minimal maintenance. The existing roof and upper columns will be saved and reused to preserve the final remaining components of the original structure. Construction is expected to wrap up mid-summer, 2021.





Drinking Water Quality

The City of White Bear Lake reports annually on the quality of its drinking water provided by the City's water distribution system. The report, known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), describes the source of City water (deep wells) 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 may also be obtained at White Bear Lake City Hall at no cost.

Water Treatment Plant Maintenance

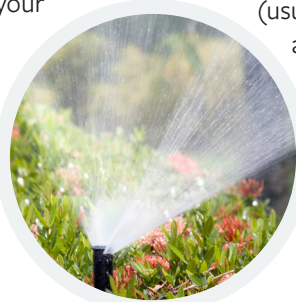
April is the month for annual spring cleaning and routine maintenance inspection of the Water Treatment Plant. During this time the plant will not be "softening" water. Customers will notice increased levels of calcium and iron in the water supply. The water is safe to drink but will just not be as "soft" as residents are accustomed. As soon as the maintenance work is completed (usually in 1 to 2 weeks), the Water Plant will be put back into service and "soft" water will be distributed to customers.

WATER-WISE IN WHITE BEAR LAKE

Perhaps you heard? The newly painted Centerville Road water tower was one of nearly 300 water tanks nominated for the annual Tnemec "Tank of Year" calendar. Thanks to your votes, White Bear Lake's water tower made the month of December 2021!

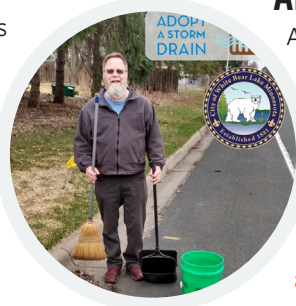
Hydrant Flushing

After the annual Water Plant maintenance is complete, the City then flushes all the hydrants in the system. Flushing removes all the remaining "hard" water from the system, and any sediment that has accumulated in the water mains. 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 (which usually takes 2-4 days to complete), flush your lines by running cold water until the discoloration disappears. While this discolored water is safe to consume, you should avoid washing clothes until the water runs clear.



Watering Restrictions Begin May 1

In an effort to conserve groundwater resources, the City of White Bear Lake prohibits irrigation between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. every day from May 1 through September 30.



ADOPT A STORM DRAIN

Adopt-a-Drain is a program that asks residents to protect nearby lakes, streams, and wetlands by "adopting" a storm drain near their home. Volunteers sweep leaves, trash, and other debris off their adopted drain and nearby paved surfaces to keep this material from washing down storm drains and into nearby waterbodies. In the past two years, a total of 111 drains have been adopted within the City. Sign up to adopt a storm drain at: adopt-a-drain.org.

Pictured: Environmental Advisory Commission member Bob Winkler sweeping up debris around his adopted storm drain.

Annual Nationwide Water Challenge – April Only

Take the plunge and make the pledge today! Visit mywaterpledge.com any time in April to fill out a no cost, online pledge. Cities with the highest percentage of residents who take the challenge are entered into drawings for eco-friendly prizes!

Examples: I pledge to make the following choices in my yard:

- Beautify with climate-appropriate plants
- Turn off sprinklers when it rains
- Sweep instead of hose

White Bear Lake took 2nd place for our population category last year. Let's be #1 in 2021!

mywaterpledge.com





Water Meter Replacement Project

The City is embarking on a yearlong water meter replacement project this spring to replace approximately 6,100 residential water meters. Those in line for replacement were installed over 20 years ago; water meters lose accuracy as they age, resulting in water loss that exceeds industry and regulatory standards.

Following selection of a contractor through the public bidding process, the city and selected contractor will notify property owners by mail with instructions on how to schedule an appointment for the meter installation. If you are among the 1,600 or so that have had a meter replaced in the last 6-7 years, you are already covered.

Last fall the City adopted a water infrastructure fee to support the residential meter replacement program. The infrastructure fee will be reviewed each year as the City continues to plan for future water infrastructure improvements. The water usage fee accounts for the bulk of a customer's water bill. The usage fee is a function of an established rate multiplied by water consumption. Usage fee revenues go toward operational and maintenance costs associated with water treatment and delivery. The infrastructure fee is intended for more significant improvements such as the upcoming meter replacement program and last year's water tower painting project.

Report an Illicit Discharge

What is an illicit discharge? 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. Examples include:

- Gas, oil, paints
- Cleaners, concrete wastewater, and sediment from construction sites
- Fertilizer, grass, leaves, pesticides
- Pet waste

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). In case of an emergency, dial 911.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program

Public Meeting · April 27

A public meeting will be held to discuss the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) at the regular City Council meeting on April 27th. 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 the City's website at whitebearlake.org and search 'stormwater program'. For questions or to request a paper copy of the SWPPP, contact Connie Taillon, Environmental Specialist, at ctaillon@whitebearlake.org or (651) 429-8587.

Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection Sites in Ramsey and Washington Counties

Ramsey County offers a year-round collection site for household hazardous waste (HHW) at Bay West (5 Empire Drive, Saint Paul) and at mobile collection sites. For more information and a detailed list of accepted items, visit RamseyRecycles.com/HHW or call 651-633 EASY (3279), answered 24/7. Electronics are not accepted at Ramsey County HHW collection sites.



Washington County offers a year-round HHW collection site at the Environmental Center (4039 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury) and at one-day collection events. Household electronics are accepted at the Environmental Center and one-day collection events. For more information, visit co.washington.mn.us/EnviroCenter or call 651-275-7475.

White Bear Lake residents may use either county collection site.

Commonly Accepted HHW Items

- Automotive products, such as antifreeze, batteries, brake and transmission fluid, degreasers, fuel, motor oil, and used oil filters.
- Household products, including adhesives, aerosols, cleaners, fire extinguishers, fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries, pool chemicals, propane tanks, mercury thermometers, paint and paint thinners.
- Lawn care products, such as fertilizers, pesticides, poisons.
- Needles, lancets and empty syringes. Transport these items in a hard-sided plastic container with a screw on cap (like a laundry detergent bottle), labeled "sharps". You will be asked to place the container in the collection bin yourself.
- Vaping devices (disposable and rechargeable).

Happy Days are here again!

Don't "Sit on It" too long...

Rebates up to \$200 available to White Bear Lake residents who replace high flow toilets with WaterSense toilets that flush 1.28 gallons or less



For more information or to apply visit whitebearlake.org/rebate



SPOTLIGHT ON SUSTAINABILITY

Spanning thousands of miles and four generations, monarch butterflies have one of the most incredible migration patterns in the insect world. For many monarchs, that journey starts in White Bear Lake thanks to pollinator-friendly gardens like the one planted at St. John in the Wilderness Church. Helen Gehrenbeck and Bob Djupstrom planted the sanctuary last spring, which Gehrenbeck explains, provides sustenance and refuge to a variety of critters, including bees, butterflies, and other insects. The plants used in the garden at St. John's are native perennials, which generally require less water, grow better in the soil, and, once established, require less maintenance. While the pollinator sanctuary has a variety of flowers blooming throughout the season, the most important plant for the monarch is the garden's abundance of milkweed.

In an effort to help a declining population, Gehrenbeck has hatched and released many monarchs over the years. Found on the back of milkweed leaves in August, she transfers the eggs to the "monarch condo" where fresh milkweed is provided until the metamorphosis is complete and the butterfly is ready to be released. The emergence

of the monarch from its chrysalis has been an opportunity for people from all walks of life, from the first graders Gehrenbeck began hatching monarchs with to the residents at Cerenity Senior Care where last year's butterflies were released, to revel in the "miracle of the monarch".

Engaging with the public and bringing awareness to the importance of protecting pollinators is one of the main objectives of the pollinator sanctuary at St. John's. Located in the English Garden along First Street, the garden is open to the public and curious passersby are encouraged to meander through. Each plant is labeled to help prospective planters identify desired flowers for their own gardens. The hope for the future is to expand the pollinator sanctuary to encompass the whole garden – to create a community gathering space where people can connect to the natural world and be inspired to plant their own pollinator sanctuaries.

Resources

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



Pollinator Map

The City's Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) is working toward increasing pollinator friendly natural habitat in the City by creating "pollinator pathways" where pollinators have pesticide-free corridors of habitat spanning both public and private properties. The EAC is in the process of mapping existing pollinator friendly gardens as a first step in developing these pollinator pathway corridors. The EAC invites residents and businesses with existing pollinator friendly gardens to add their garden to the pollinator map. The map can be found on the City's website at whitebearlake.org, search 'pollinators'.

Submit Your Sustainable Project

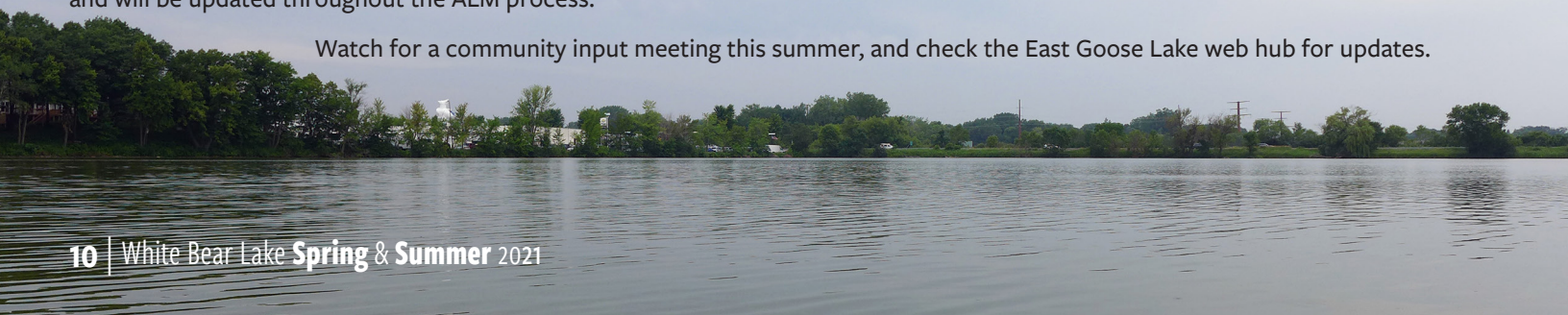
With each newsletter, the City spotlights a different business or residential sustainability project, which could include projects that conserve energy, use renewable energy, provide alternative transportation, treat stormwater, conserve drinking water, increase pollinator and wildlife habitat, or reduce waste. If you would like to see your project featured in an upcoming newsletter, please email Ashton Miller, Planning Technician, at amiller@whitebearlake.org or call 651-429-8561.



EAST GOOSE LAKE WEB HUB

The City and Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization are collaborating in the development of an East Goose Adaptive Lake Management (ALM) process to improve the health of East Goose Lake. A web hub was created to provide a 'one stop shop' for information on the ALM process. The web hub includes information on the challenges of managing urban shallow lakes such as East Goose Lake, potential solutions to improve the lake, information on Adaptive Lake Management, summaries of projects completed within the East Goose Lake watershed, and frequently asked questions. The web hub can be found at vlawmo.org/eastgooselakeAM, and will be updated throughout the ALM process.

Watch for a community input meeting this summer, and check the East Goose Lake web hub for updates.





Free Yard Waste Disposal at County Collection Sites In White Bear Township and Hugo

Ramsey County provides free yard waste disposal at seven yard waste collection sites in the county. The closest site for White Bear Lake residents is located at 5900 Sherwood Road in White Bear Township. Both Ramsey County 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 at 5527 170th St. N. in Hugo is open to both Ramsey County and Washington County residents for free. For more information, visit co.washington.mn.us/yardwaste or call 651-275-7475.

Keep branches and shrubs separate from leaves and grass clippings and place them in the appropriate pile. Only residential yard waste is accepted. No business waste. A photo ID is required to prove Ramsey County or Washington County residency.



Rain Barrel and Compost Bins Available for Purchase

The Recycling Association of Minnesota and Ramsey County are co-hosting a rain barrel and compost bin sale this spring.

Pre-order your rain barrel or compost bin online or by phone and pick them up at the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department (2015 Van Dyke St, Maplewood, MN 55109) on Saturday, May 1, 2021 from 9am - 1pm. There are other metro locations as well if this date does not work.

For more information and to pre-order your rain barrel or compost bin* go to recycleminnesota.org or call 651-641-4589.

*Ramsey County residents can get an additional \$20 off on compost bins! To receive your discount, enter promo code "Ramsey" when ordering online, or mention that you are a Ramsey County resident when ordering by phone.

Recycle Smart
These items don't belong in your curbside recycling cart.

No plastic bags **No batteries** **No random metal items***

* Metal food and beverage cans are okay to go in your recycling cart.

Recycle Smart

Plastic bags, any type of battery (or items that contain them), and random metal items such as pots, pans, clothes hangers and car parts do not belong in your curbside recycling cart. They can cause hazards for workers at the sorting facility and increase the cost of recycling.

To learn how to properly dispose of these items and more, visit RamseyRecycles.com/AtoZ or call 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

Local Recycling Resources

Plastic Bags: Some local grocery stores accept plastic bags for recycling. Bags must be clean and dry.

To find participating stores, look for plastic bag recycling bins inside store entrances, or visit: plasticfilmrecycling.org

Batteries and household electronics:

Washington County Environmental Center
4039 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury, MN 55129
651-275-7475
Email: EnvironmentalCenter@co.washington.mn.us
Website: co.washington.mn.us/EnviroCenter

Random metal items and car batteries:

NRI Metals
15717 Forest Blvd. (Hwy 61), Hugo, MN 55038
651-407-0092
Email: info@nrimn.com
Website: nrimn.com



Food for Thought

Recycle your food scraps at the collection site located at the City of White Bear Lake Public Works facility, 3950 Hoffman Road. Compostable bags are available at the collection site (two-bag limit per week).

Accepted items include all food scraps, like meat, bones, dairy, fruit/vegetable peels, egg shells, coffee grounds and more. For a full list of accepted items, visit RamseyRecycles.com/FoodScraps or call 651-633 EASY (3279), answered 24/7. This program is for household waste only. No waste from businesses or institutions.



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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
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

www.whitebearlake.org

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Bill Pay & Webstore

License Bureau & Passports

Improved Utility Bill Payment System Now Live!

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 up to 24 months of billing and payment history online!
- Payment reminders available to prevent overdue payments!

Please visit whitebearlake.org and click “Bill Pay & Webstore” to sign up today! You’ll need your customer and account numbers handy.



Ash Trees and Emerald Ash Borer

The larvae of an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle feed on the inner bark of ash trees. The only proven and reliable method of saving an ash tree from EAB is through timely and proactive treatment. Since 2018, the City has been, and continues to treat and remove affected ash trees on public property in order to mitigate the damage.

Residents have also been encouraged to treat large, well placed, healthy ash trees on private property. The best way to preserve an ash trees is to begin protection before EAB damage is visible in the canopy. Unfortunately unprotected ash trees will continue to die at an accelerating rate and the chances of saving your ash tree diminish significantly each year your tree is not treated.

If you have an unprotected ash tree, this may be the last year that it remains in good enough condition to protect. If you haven’t already, now is the time to have your ash tree evaluated and decide what to do.

The City partnered with Rainbow Treecare to provide discounted tree care services to homeowners in White Bear Lake, however, residents may utilize the services of any City licensed tree care provider. Learn more about EAB, treatment and alternative planting options on the City’s website whitebearlake.org, search ‘Emerald Ash Borer’.