COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESOURCE PAGE

In this current time, it is impossible to ignore the gravity of the moment. Everyone has been impacted by this pandemic; some more dramatically than others. Physical health, mental health and/or financial stress is a reality for many who are trying to navigate the shifting landscape. Many people are foregoing important traditions or bypassing significant milestones, such as prom or graduation. Others are mourning the loss of a loved one while being physically isolated. And clearly, many of our treasured local businesses are having to make heart wrenching decisions.

The landscape of operating in this time shifts almost daily. By the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox some of this information may be outdated. In fact, we struggled with what to include, as many of the topics were determined prior to the outbreak of COVID-19. Our hope is that you find useful information within this newsletter as we enter a season of warmth and sunshine.

On the back of this newsletter is information about ways to connect with your local government. We invite you to use these and others channels to reach out to us. Visit our website for detailed contact information, or call 651-429-8526 to be directed to a staff person.

While it may feel at times we are having to navigate this storm without a compass, this community has the spirit and resilience to continue to thrive once this storm has passed. Be well Bears!
LIVING WITH THE STAY AT HOME ORDER

Careful What You Flush
More people at home means more waste and increased chance for backups. Help prevent sewer backups in your home. NEVER flush anything down the toilet except for water, toilet paper, and human waste.

DO NOT flush these items down the toilet:
- Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, or ‘flushable’ wipes
- Feminine products or diapers
- Napkins or paper towels
- Rags or shop towels
- Toys or plastic of any kind
- Sand or soil
- Fats, oils, or grease
- Food - try to reduce your garbage disposal use; consider composting food waste at home or dropping off food waste at the White Bear Lake food scraps collection site. (See page 8)

A word about flushable wipes: While some wipes are marketed as flushable, they do not dissolve like toilet paper and can cause sewer blockages. Please avoid flushing any type of wipe, “flushable” or otherwise, down the toilet.

Hazardous waste such as paint, gasoline, oil, antifreeze, poisons and solvents should NEVER be poured down the drain. Instead, take them to the Ramsey County Household Hazardous Waste mobile collection site in White Bear Lake (see page 10).

For more information visit RamseyRecycles.com/HHW or call Ramsey County’s hotline at 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

Support Local Businesses And Non-Profits
Tired of cooking? Change it up! Place a carryout order and support a local restaurant.

The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting measures to slow the spread have resulted in significant challenges to businesses and non-profits large and small. Much uncertainty remains with when and how businesses and non-profits will be able to resume normal operations, or what “normal” will even look like. We encourage those who are able, to support our White Bear Lake business owners by using their services, and our local non-profits with financial contributions and volunteerism.

In many federal and state COVID-19 relief measures, funds have been allocated to help businesses and non-profits weather these challenging times. Find a list of resources on the COVID-19 Community Resource page whitebearlake.org/covid on the City’s website.

Go to downtownwhitebearlake.org for updated information on service and hours.

The White Bear Area Chamber provides a list of area restaurants providing delivery or pickup services at whitebearchamber.com/open-for-business
2020 ELECTIONS & COVID-19

Prepare today so you can vote by mail for the August Primary and November General Elections. Residents may vote early, up to 46 days before each Election Day. Request your absentee ballot today by visiting RamseyCounty.us/elections and prepare to vote before Election Day. No internet? Call 651-266-2171 to request your absentee ballot.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELECTION</th>
<th>EARLY VOTING BEGINS</th>
<th>ELECTION DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Primary</td>
<td>Friday, June 26</td>
<td>Tuesday, August 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Election</td>
<td>Friday, September 18</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Register to Vote: Pre-register to vote up to 21 days before an Election Day. Register, verify or update your registration at mnvotes.org. Registration remains current until you move, change your name or do not vote for four consecutive years.

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. Visit mnvotes.org to find your polling location.

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

Become a student or election judge: Apply and train online, RamseyCounty.us/elections

Support Our Local Businesses

Support our local businesses by purchasing “No Bear Hugs” merchandise through the City’s online web store at www.whitebearlake.org.

- T-shirts $20
- Sweatshirts $35
- Bear Hugs signs $35

(pictured on front cover)

Shipping costs not included.

Proceeds from the sale of this merchandise will go toward promotional and marketing efforts to support our local retail and restaurant businesses as they navigate their way through a shifting retail environment.

We Count White Bear Lake!

Looking for something to do? Complete the 2020 Census, there’s still time! The Census can be filled out online at 2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020 or by a paper form mailed to your home.

Why should I care? Making sure to account for every person living in White Bear Lake is critically important to ensure our city and state receive proper funding and fair Congressional representation.

Who should be counted? EVERY PERSON living in your household on April 1, 2020. Your response to the census is confidential, secure and protected by law. It cannot be used against you in any way, not by your landlord, law enforcement, DHS or ICE.

Leaving money on the table?

One person left uncounted could amount to almost $28,000 in forfeited federal funding over the next 10 years. If you do not self-report now, more money will have to be spent to send Census takers to your home.
Native Plants Close to Home - Online workshop

Wednesday, May 13 • 7 PM – 8:30 PM

Free event. Learn how to plant and maintain native plants in your own yard, and see examples of local success stories. Adapted to online webinar. For more information visit vlawmo.org/events or call 651-204-6070.

Resilient Yards - Online workshop

Thursday, June 11 • 6 PM - 8 PM

Learn what a resilient yard means and how to plan and implement one. Speak with landscape designers about their yards and ideas. Adapted to online webinar. For more information, visit vlawmo.org/events or call 651-204-6070.

Free Yard Waste Disposal

Ramsey County provides FREE yard waste disposal at seven yard waste sites. The closest site is located at 5900 Sherwood Road in White Bear Township. Keep trees and shrubs separate from leaves and grass clippings and place them in the appropriate pile. For more information, visit RamseyRecycles.com or call 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

Creating Pollinator Pathways

Over the years, the White Bear Lake Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) has been increasingly concerned over a decrease in native pollinator bees and butterflies, leading to the City Council adopting a Pollinator Friendly Resolution in 2016. The resolution endorses pollinator safe policies and practices such as using safer alternatives to pollinator-harming pesticides and creating pollinator friendly habitat. To combat pollinator loss, the EAC is working towards 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.

Submit your pollinator garden

The EAC plans to identify and map existing pollinator friendly gardens in the city as a first step in developing these pollinator pathway corridors. The EAC encourages residents and businesses with existing pollinator friendly gardens to submit information about their garden as we prepare an interactive map of these locations. You can submit your pollinator garden on the City’s website at whitebearlake.org, search ‘pollinators’.

Interested in creating a pollinator friendly garden?

The article on page 5 highlights a few examples of the many pollinator friendly Minnesota native plants that work well in a landscape setting.

Grant money may be available from your local watershed management organization to help cover the cost of a native planting. For information on grants and other planting for pollinator resources, visit whitebearlake.org and search ‘pollinators’, or contact Connie Taillon, Environmental Specialist, at ctaillon@whitebearlake.org or 651-429-8587.

Outdoor Watering Restrictions

No watering from 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. every day from May 1 through September 30.
Planting for Water and Pollinators

Replacing little used lawn areas with drought tolerant native plants is a great way to conserve drinking water while beautifying your yard and also providing food for birds, bees, and butterflies. Native plants are adapted to our local climate and, once established, will thrive with minimal care. Native plants can be incorporated easily into formal gardens as well as a more natural prairie planting. If you are considering a natural prairie, please see information below about front yard setback requirements.

What to Plant: When designing your landscape for water-efficiency, choose native plants that are appropriate for your site conditions. Below are just a few examples of the many drought tolerant Minnesota native plants that work well in a landscape setting and won't require supplemental water once established.

**Butterfly Milkweed (Asclepias tuberosa)**

This is a great milkweed species for sunny locations and dry, well drained soils. Mature plants average 2 feet in height and produce vivid orange flowers in June and July. Its low mounded shape and ability to attract butterflies and Monarch caterpillars makes this plant an excellent choice for the garden.

**Prairie Smoke (Geum triflorum)**

Prairie Smoke has unique nodding pink flowers in the spring, followed by upright clusters of seed heads. The fernlike leaves can persist through winter, turning shades of red. The plant grows 6 to 8 inches tall and spreads slowly by rhizomes to form a large clump. This low growing plant thrives in full sun and moist to dry soils.

**White Wild Indigo (Baptisia alba)**

This showy plant has striking blue-green leaves and white blossoms forming on long spikes in the spring. The flowers attract bumblebees and other pollinators, and the leaves are food for many butterfly and moth caterpillar species. White Wild Indigo prefers full sun to part sun and moist to dry soils. It grows in a large mound of up to 4 feet tall and 3 feet wide.

**Rough Blazing Star (Liatris aspera)**

There is a native Blazing Star species for almost any soil type and they all are pollinator magnets. Rough Blazing Star is a perfect choice for dry, well drained soils and full sun. It is the lowest growing of the Blazing Star species at only 2 to 3 feet tall. The purple button-like flowers bloom for many weeks starting in July and attract butterflies, bees and hummingbirds.

**New Jersey Tea (Ceanothus americanus)**

This compact, mounding shrub has beautiful leaves and numerous white flowers in early summer that attract pollinators. It grows up to 3 feet tall and 3 feet wide, and prefers full to part sun and moist to dry soils.

**Prairie Dropseed (Sporobolus heterolepis)**

This showy, clump forming grass has fine textured emerald green leaves that turn to a golden color in the fall. Seed heads form in August and September and are a food source for birds. Prairie Dropseed grows 2 to 3 feet tall and 2 feet wide and prefers full sun and moist to dry soils. This grass is beautiful when planted in masses at least two feet apart.

**Purple Prairie Clover (Dalea purpurea)**

This clump forming plant has elegant foliage on multiple upright stems. The unusual purple flowers bloom in a ring around the flower head starting in July and attract bees and butterflies. It grows 1 to 2 feet tall and 1 foot wide in full sun and dry soils.

Sources for Native Plants

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources keeps a list of nurseries that specialize in native plants. Visit [www.dnr.state.mn.us/gardens/nativeplants/suppliers.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gardens/nativeplants/suppliers.html) for more information.

Front Yard Setback

If you plan to plant a more natural, native prairie in your yard, please be aware that City Code §705.010 WEEDS; REMOVAL, DUTY OF OWNER, LESSEE OR OCCUPANT requires a minimum setback of twenty (20’) feet from the front property line. This code does not apply to formal gardens or landscape treatments.
WHITE BEAR LAKE COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING MARKET STUDY

- Households: 10,678 (2019)
- 69% owner household / 31% renter households
- 3.7% (950) projected population growth by 2030
- 10.5% (1,120) projected household growth by 2030

In the next 10 years WBL is expected to experience population & household growth, but with a decreasing average household size, household growth is expected to be exponentially higher.

**HOUSEHOLD ("HH") COMPOSITION**

From 1990 to 2017:
- # of persons living alone increased 97% from 1990 to 2017 & portion of HHs that are single persons increased 74%
- # of HH that were married w/o children decreased 7% & portion of married w/o children HH decreased 21%
- # of HH that were married with children decreased 25% & portion of married w/children HH decreased 33%
- # of other types of family households increased 95% & portion of other types of family HH increased 63%
- # of roommate households increased 15% & portion of roommate HH did not measurably change

**POPULATION CHANGE BY AGE GROUP**

- 11,079 Approximate # of housing units (includes vacant/unoccupied units)
- 1969 = Median year WBL home built
- $254,566 2019 median home sales price (thru Sept.)
- 1.4 month supply of homes for sale in Oct. 2019 (6 months is generally considered market equilibrium)
- $949 Median 2019 contract rent
- 2.1% Vacancy in 2019 (5% is generally considered market equilibrium)
- 53% of renters and 19% of homeowners are cost burdened (spend > 30% of gross income on housing)

**HOUSING UNITS BY STRUCTURE**

- A lack of supply and robust demand in White Bear Lake (and the Twin Cities in general) is causing both owner and renter occupied housing cost increases that outpace wage growth. Since a post-recession low in 2011, the median home sale price has increased 72% as of September 2019. From the 2nd Quarter of 2018 to the 2nd quarter of 2019 contract rent prices increased 7%.
A healthy and diverse housing stock ensures a vibrant community by providing options for people at a variety of life stages and circumstances. An adequate supply of housing supports local businesses by providing a local labor pool and customer base and ensures our most vulnerable residents have a safe and stable place to call home. There are a number of ways a municipality can impact housing including zoning regulations, minimum housing standard ordinances, financing programs to encourage housing maintenance, first time homebuyer programs and more.

To better understand the challenges, opportunities and demographic trends impacting housing needs, the City invested in a comprehensive market assessment. We’ve summarized a few key points in this infographic and the full report can be viewed at whitebearlake.org/housing.

### Challenges & Opportunities

- As housing ages it requires additional maintenance and modernization
- Decreasing housing affordability
- Limited land available for additional housing
- Naturally occurring affordable housing—housing that is affordable without subsidy—is at risk of being redeveloped by investors, reducing availability of affordable housing
- Unknown long-term economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Meeting the needs of seniors aging in place and those who’s housing needs have changed
- High cost of new construction
- Diversifying the type of housing available

### Key Industry Sector Jobs

- Education & Health Services (29%)
- Trade, Transportation & Utilities (18%)
- Professional & Business Services (14%)

### Estimated Demand for Additional Housing Units by Type Through 2030

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>Demand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Housing*</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental</td>
<td>706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For-Sale Multi-Family</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For-Sale Single-Family</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Senior demand estimate through 2024 Numbers are for estimated total demand, due to being a fully developed community with limited land available for redevelopment and infill development, this is not representative of what can be developed in WBL

### What’s Next?

As a shortage of housing leads to decreased affordability and negatively impacts economic growth, elected officials are increasingly confronted with the question of what role should they play in housing matters, including: What housing options do we need now and in the future, and where should it go? What challenges does our current housing stock face? How do we productively allocate limited resources?

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak the plan had been to bring the data to the community through presentations to various interested groups and a community conversation to gather additional input. As the impacts of the pandemic and related physical distancing protocols continue to evolve, planning has been put on pause. When the threat of COVID-19 has passed, and the lasting impacts are better understood, the intention is to proceed with community presentations and conversations, although this may evolve as the situation warrants.

If you would like to be notified of future public presentations of this data or any community conversations regarding housing in White Bear Lake, please reach out to Tracy Shimek at tshimek@whitebearlake.org or 651-762-4838.
Forgivable Financing for Home Improvement Projects

For many homeowners, expensive utility bills and heating system repairs can be a difficult financial burden. To help ease that burden, the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) has partnered with Ramsey County to offer an Energy Conservation Deferred Loan. The loan is 0% interest, has no monthly payments, and is forgiven if the homeowner stays in their home for 10 years. Income limits apply.

Eligible projects include:
- Furnace/boiler replacement
- Water heater replacement
- Attic and/or wall insulation

To learn more or to get started call 651-789-5706 or visit mncee.org/ramsey

The Center for Energy and Environment is a Minnesota nonprofit that has been helping homeowners for over 40 years.

Ramsey County’s Open To Business

In 2019, Open to Business was launched by Ramsey County in partnership with the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD). Through this free and confidential service, business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs can access technical assistance on several topics ranging from business plan development to licensing and regulatory assistance.

Noah Her, the Ramsey County Open to Business Advisor, offers drop-in hours at White Bear Lake City Hall on the first Tuesday of each month from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. While those hours are currently on pause due to social distancing protocols, they will resume when City Hall is reopened to the public and MCCD advisors have resumed in-person meetings.

“I look forward to getting to know you and your business and seeing how I can come along side you, regardless of where you are in the process, and overcome your challenges or growth opportunities. I’m here to help you succeed,” Noah Her, Ramsey County Open to Business advisor.

At this time, Noah remains available for advising services through email nher@mccdmn.org and phone 612-294-1911. For more information visit: bit.ly/RamseyOtB

Rebates for WaterSense Toilets

Now is the time to replace your high-flow toilet. The Metropolitan Council, through funding from the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, has awarded the City of White Bear Lake another water efficiency grant with the goal of improving municipal water conservation.

Receive up to $200 rebate when you replace your high-flow toilet with a US EPA WaterSense certified toilet that flushes 1.28 gallons per flush or less. The WaterSense label certifies that the product retains performance while using less water. Please note dual flush 1.6 models do not qualify.

Visit whitebearlake.org/rebate for details about the program and the application. Don’t have internet access? Contact Kara for more information: 651-429-8508.

Food Scraps Collection Site Now Open in White Bear Lake

The City of White Bear Lake’s new food scraps (organics recycling) collection site is now open! The site is located at the Public Works facility (3950 Hoffman Road). Drop off food scraps and other organic waste in four easy steps:

1. Pick up a free compostable bag inside the enclosure.
2. Place food scraps from the accepted items list into the compostable bag inside a bin. Any leak-proof bin will do.
3. Bring your compostable bag to the White Bear Lake drop-off collection site, open 24/7.
4. Grab more bags from the dispenser inside the enclosure (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 (3275), answered 24/7.

Free starter kits are available at any Ramsey County yard waste site. Find locations at RamseyRecycles.com/yardwaste.

This program is open to Ramsey County residents only. No businesses or institutions.
Spotlight on Sustainability

Solar panels are becoming an increasingly popular method of generating power in White Bear Lake. The number of permits issued for solar panels has increased tremendously in recent years, and you may have noticed them popping up on the rooftops of schools, residences, and commercial properties within the community. One company that recently installed solar panels on three of their buildings is Ancona Title & Escrow. The experience was shared with the City by the company’s staff member, Ryan Brown.

When asked why the company chose to install the panels, Brown explained the company values reducing its environmental impact on the planet. Ancona Title & Escrow strives to be a leader in sustainability initiatives using its resources as a private sector entity to advance the clean energy economy. In addition to its solar energy system, it has also purchased an electric car and invested in heating and cooling upgrades.

Brown reports the panels make financial sense too. They are generating around 70% of the buildings’ energy needs and even produce an overabundance of electricity in summer months, which Xcel Energy reimburses back to the company. The panels on Ancona Title & Escrow will pay for themselves in five to seven years, while continuing to mitigate the company’s carbon footprint for their 30-year lifespan. The City is excited organizations such as Ancona Title & Escrow are embracing renewable energy production!

With each newsletter, the City would like to spotlight 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 a project featured in an upcoming newsletter, please email your suggestions to Ashton Miller, Planning Technician, at amiller@whitebearlake.org or 651-429-8561.

Time is Running Out for Unprotected Ash Trees

First spotted in White Bear Lake in 2017, the larvae of an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle feed on the inner bark or of ash trees. The only proven and reliable method of saving an ash tree is through proactive treatment. Since 2018, the City has and will continue to treat or remove ash trees on City property as they are identified.

The year 2020 marks the last year that residents have to treat ash trees for Emerald Ash Borer. Residents are encouraged to treat large, well placed, healthy ash trees on private property. The best way to preserve an ash tree is to begin protection before EAB damage is visible in the canopy. EAB will continue to spread to unprotected trees. If you have an unprotected ash tree, 2020 may be the last year that it remains in good enough condition to protect.

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.

Find more information on EAB and treatment options on the City’s home page www.whitebearlake.org under “Public Notices.”

Dog Leash Still Required

Dogs must be leashed at all times! This includes the Matoska Park waterfront. Even if your dog is swimming in the lake, he or she must be on a leash.

Owners must clean up after their animals. These messes are not only unsightly, they are unsanitary and harmful to waterways. It is your responsibility as a pet owner to take care of your pet.
Adopt a Storm Drain to Help Protect Lakes, Streams, and Wetlands

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.

Sign up today to adopt a storm drain:

1. **Sign up online at adopt-a-drain.org.** Choose a storm drain near your home, work, or organization.

2. **Keep your storm drain clear.** Rain washes anything that’s on streets and other paved surfaces down the storm drains and into lakes, streams, and wetlands. So sweep leaves, grass clippings and trash away from the drain surface year-round.

3. **Report your work.** Keep track of how much stuff you remove from around the storm drain and report online at adopt-a-drain.org. It takes less than five minutes, and helps us monitor the impact we’re having!

Trash and Recycling Holiday Schedule

Trash and recycling will not be picked up on the following days:

- New Year’s Day
- Labor Day
- Memorial Day
- Thanksgiving
- Independence Day
- Christmas Day

Pick up service will resume the day following a holiday and continue one day off the regular schedule through the end of the week. For example, Memorial Day falls on a Monday. Monday’s pick up will move to Tuesday, Tuesday’s pick up will move to Wednesday, etc.

**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, paint, 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, labeled “sharps.” You will be asked to place the container in the collection bin yourself.

**WHITE BEAR LAKE**

Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Ramsey County to provide free household hazardous waste collection in the City of White Bear Lake

Open to residents of Ramsey County, as well as residents of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Scott and Washington counties.

**Where:** White Bear Lake Area High School – North Campus (Bald Eagle Ave. and 12th St., White Bear Lake)

**When:**

- Friday, July 10  10am – 6pm  Saturday, July 11  9am – 4pm
- Friday, July 17  10am – 6pm  Saturday, July 18  9am – 4pm
- Friday, July 24  10am – 6pm  Saturday, July 25  9am – 4pm
- Friday, July 31  10am – 6pm

Bring items in your vehicle to the mobile collection site at the dates and times listed above. To practice safe social distancing, load items into your trunk or cargo bed. At the site, please stay in your vehicle while staff unloads the items for you.

Ramsey County offers a year-round collection site and several mobile sites in various locations throughout the season. For information on Ramsey County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection sites and a detailed list of acceptable items, please visit RamseyRecycles.com/HHW or call 651-633 EASY (3279), answered 24/7.
Here is the design concept for the Centerville Road Water Tower Restoration Project. Constructed in 1985, this one-million gallon water reservoir needs to be painted both inside and out. Restoration begins in spring with completion in roughly three months and a price of $854,350.

Annual Water Quality Report

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 City Hall.

Street Sweeping

The City’s street sweeping program removes leaves, sediment, and other debris off the streets and keeps this material out of the local waterbodies. The city owns and operates a regenerative air street sweeper, which vacuums up fine soil particles as well as the larger debris, such as leaves. Public Works sweeps city streets to make them look clean, but also to preserve water quality by keeping sediments out of the storm sewer system. As a reminder, City ordinance prohibits the sweeping of leaves, lawn clippings, and other debris into streets.

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

The City of White Bear Lake invites the public to view and provide comments on the City’s Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) activities. The SWPPP guides the City’s water quality efforts in the following categories:

☑️ Public education and outreach
☑️ Public participation/involvement
☑️ Illicit discharge detection and elimination
☑️ Construction site stormwater runoff control
☑️ Post-construction stormwater management
☑️ Pollution prevention/good housekeeping
☑️ Impaired waters

To review the City’s SWPPP and provide comments, visit the City’s website at whitebearlake.org and search ‘stormwater’. For questions or to request a paper copy of the SWPPP, contact Connie Taillon, Environmental Specialist, at ctaillon@whitebearlake.org or 651-429-8587.
COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESOURCE PAGE

The City created a comprehensive webpage that provides information and links to a wide variety of important resources. To access these resources and stay current on information related to City services, community events and/or access to parks and facilities, go to www.whitebearlake.org/covid. For general information, call the City at (651) 429-8526. City staff are available and eager to help!

STAY ENGAGED!

In addition to visiting the City’s website, there are a variety of ways that residents and businesses can stay engaged with the City. More now than ever, it is important that we all stay connected.

- **VOLGISTICS**: Volunteer! The City is launching an on-line volunteer database to be shared with local organizations seeking volunteers.
- **POLCO**: Weigh in on current ideas, initiatives and issues facing the City using Polco, a civic participation technology platform. Comments remain anonymous while your ideas are shared.
- **Emergency Alerts**: Sign up to receive Ramsey County’s local emergency alerts via landline, text message, e-mail and/or cell phone.
- **Notify Me**: Receive a weekly email when certain website pages, such as the City Newsletter, Public Notices and Job Opportunities are updated.
- **Economic Development Communications**: In an effort to stay connected with businesses, the city has an e-newsletter sign up to receive periodic communications regarding economic development efforts.

For access to these opportunities and more, visit the City’s website at www.whitebearlake.org/engage. For more contact our City Clerk at (651) 429-8508.

Important Changes at the White Bear Area Emergency Food Shelf

As many around the country and the world grapple with the concern of COVID-19, we want to ensure the well-being of our neighbors, volunteers, and our community while still providing healthy food to our neighbors in need. We will be implementing the following changes to our programs until further notice:

- **ANYONE from ANYWHERE** can come get prepackaged To-Go bags from our location at a drive-up style pick up. These can be picked up weekly or as needed (no appointment needed) at 1884 Whitaker Street. Check whitebearfoodshelf.org for times.
- **Donations** – DONATE ONLINE or mail to 1884 Whitaker Street, WBL. For every $1 donated the Food Shelf is able to purchase $8 in healthy groceries for families.
- **Volunteering** – All volunteer activities have been suspended, both offsite and onsite.

Xcel Power Pole Replacement

Residents may see their power pole being replaced this construction season. Xcel Energy is undertaking a utility pole replacement project this year, with plans to replace approximately 426 existing poles in the White Bear Lake, White Bear Township, Dellwood, and Mahtomedi area.

Any questions feel free to contact Xcel Energy, or the City’s Engineering Department.

**COVID-19 Community Recovery Fund**

Contributions may be made online at greaterwblfoundation.org or by mail: PO Box 10626, White Bear Lake, MN 55110.