



Hopkins Highlights

Inspire Educate Involve Communicate



State of the City is January 30

The 2020 State of the City/Taste of Hopkins will be held on Thursday, January 30, at the Hopkins Center for the Arts (1111 Mainstreet, Downtown Hopkins). Taste of Hopkins will run from 5 to 6 p.m. The State of the City will start at 6 p.m. and will be held in the theater.

The State of the City event offers residents and business owners the opportunity to learn more about the workings of the City in a relaxed setting.

Taste of Hopkins will feature a variety of appetizers, entrees, desserts and beverages, compliments of Hopkins restaurants, various organizations and Hopkins Farmers Market vendors. Attendees are asked to bring a monetary donation or non-perishable food item for the local ICA food shelf. 🍷

Broken Lights? Don't Toss Them!

Don't throw those broken or unwanted holiday lights in the trash. Instead take them to Public Works (11100 Excelsior Boulevard). All stringed lights and electrical cords are accepted, including extension cords, phone cords and computer cables. 🍷

Free Christmas Tree Pick-Up

The week of January 6, Public Works crews will be collecting Christmas trees free of charge from Hopkins residential garbage customers. You do not need to call to schedule this service – simply place your tree on the boulevard (no alley pick-ups) by 6 a.m. the day of your garbage service. Only Christmas trees will be picked-up – no other brush, branches, sticks, wreaths or decorations containing metal will be accepted. Bags and stands must be removed.

Beginning the week of January 13, holiday tree disposal will be done on Tuesdays as part of the residential refuse customer brush pick-up program. A fee will be charged and residents must call before 2 p.m. on Monday to schedule a pick-up.

Trees from multi-housing, commercial or industrial properties will NOT be collected by the City. 🍷

Apply for Hopkins Academy

Every other year, the City of Hopkins offers the Hopkins Academy as a free opportunity to find out more about how the City works.

Applications for the next session open January 15. Find more information and apply online at www.hopkinsmn.com/425/Hopkins-Academy. 🍷

Sign-Up for Rave Mobile Safety Alerts

Beginning January 1, the City of Hopkins will use Rave Mobile Safety as the City's new emergency notification system. Rave is a free service that allows residents to sign-up for notifications to be informed on potentially hazardous situations involving weather, traffic and other emergencies.

The new notification system replaces Code Red. **All Hopkins residents who previously registered for emergency alerts with Code Red must register again with Rave.**

Registration is available at www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/reg.action?pa=hopkinsmn. When registering, users will be able to identify when and how they want to be alerted and communicated with before, during and after emergencies.

Residents can also download the Smart911 mobile app to sign-up for Rave. The Smart911 app provides enhanced functionality by sending targeted alerts based on the user's location. Smart911 app users will receive the highest priority National Weather Service alerts, including tornado warnings, flash flood warnings and severe thunderstorm warnings based on their real-time location. Download the Smart911 App on the Apple Store or Google Play or by texting "Smart911" to 67283. 🍷

Water and Sanitary Sewer Rates Increase January 1

In order to cover current operating costs and adequately fund capital projects, the City Council adopted rate increases. The new rates are effective on January 1 and will first appear on utility bills received in February. To view the rate increases, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/493/Fees-on-Your-Utility-Bill. 🍷



Upcoming at the City

City Offices Closed

Monday, January 20
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

City Council Calendar

Tuesday, January 7, 7 p.m.
Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30 p.m.
Work Session

Tuesday, January 21, 7 p.m.
Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council. Watch City Council meetings live at www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand.

Boards and Commissions Calendar

Tuesday, January 7, after Council meeting
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Monday, January 27, 6:30 p.m.
Park Board

Tuesday, January 28, 6:30 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions.

Meeting Broadcasts

Watch City Council and Zoning and Planning Commission meetings live on Cable Channel 16. Meetings are also replayed every day (except Tuesdays) at 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 p.m.; and Sundays at 1 p.m.

Elected Officials

Mayor
Jason Gadd

City Council
Alan Beck Kristi Halverson
Rick Brausen Brian Hunke

Presidential Primary is March 3

New to Minnesota this year, the Presidential Primary Election will be held Tuesday, March 3. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. *Please note, if you live in Hopkins Precinct 3, your polling place has moved from City Hall to the Hopkins Pavilion.*

On the Ballot

Only major political parties will participate in the Presidential Primary. Each party has its own ballot, with only their candidates listed. You will be required to request only one party's ballot when you vote, whether absentee or in-person at your polling place. Your ballot will only list nominees for President for the party you requested. The results from the Presidential Primary will determine Minnesota's delegates for each major party.

Vote Early by Absentee Ballot

You do not have to wait until Election Day to vote. You can vote early by absentee ballot. Eligible voters may vote in-person at City Hall or by mail. To vote early by mail, request an absentee ballot by visiting mnvotes.org or by contacting City Hall.

Absentee ballots will be available at City Hall starting Friday, January 17, through Monday, March 2, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. City Hall will be open extended hours for absentee voting on Saturday, February 29 (10 a.m to 3 p.m.) and Monday, March 2 (open until 5 p.m.)

Need more information?

Visit mnvotes.org to register to vote, find your polling place, request a ballot be sent to you or view your sample ballot. 🗳️

When it Snows in Hopkins

Remember These Rules and Sail Smoothly Through Winter

❶ **Move Your Car:** When any amount of snowfall occurs, residents should move vehicles off city streets and parking lots. If the snowfall is two inches or more, a snow emergency may be declared and vehicles must be moved immediately to avoid being towed. Call the Snow Line at 952-939-1399 for snow emergency announcements.

❷ **Shovel The Sidewalk:** As mandated by City ordinance, Hopkins residents are responsible for removing snow and ice from public sidewalks within 12 hours of a snowfall.

❸ **Clear The Fire Hydrants:** While the City tries to clean snow from fire hydrants as soon as possible after a snow, we could use your help. Please adopt a nearby fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow through the winter. Hydrants should be cleared five feet on each side to give the Fire Department the quickest and best access. 🗳️

Take Note: Garbage and Recycling Schedule

The City of Hopkins will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, for New Year's Day. Wednesday and Thursday garbage collection will be delayed one day. The City will also be closed Monday, January 20, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Garbage and recycling collection will be delayed one day. **Recycling collection will be the weeks of January 6-9 and 21-24.** ♻️

Upcoming Fun at the Hopkins Pavilion

The Hopkins Pavilion is located at 11000 Excelsior Boulevard. For more information on any of these programs or to register, call 952-548-6390 or visit www.hopkinspavilion.com.

Aikido: Aikido is a traditional Japanese martial art, delivered in a fun and exciting class aimed specifically at kids aged between 7 and 12 years old.

Drive the Zamboni: Check it off your bucket list...The Pavilion provides two choices: learn how to make a sheet of ice from start to finish, or just take a joy ride on the Zamboni.

Play Place: Come get the wiggles out at Play Place. Toys and a warm place to play provided by the Pavilion. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., \$4/child. No registration required. Adults required to stay and supervise.

Twin Cities Chess Club: Chess school and training tournaments offered Sundays at the Pavilion for kids ages 5 to 16. The next session of classes start January 12. 🗳️

Save the Date! 🏠 🗳️ 🗳️

The 2020 West Metro Home Remodeling Fair will be held on Sunday, February 9. Check for details in the next issue of *Highlights*.