



# Hopkins Highlights

Inspire

Educate

Involve

Communicate



Before

After

## Nominate a Sparkling Property

COMMUNITY IMAGE AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE AUGUST 28

The City of Hopkins annually honors property owners and business owners who have made significant improvements to their property, including landscaping, accessibility, signs, or exterior improvements. The award also honors those who demonstrate continued, superior property maintenance.

Community Image Awards are given in three categories: Single Family Residential; Multi-Family Residential; and Commercial/Industrial/Office.

If you would like to nominate someone for this award, please complete a nomination form by Friday, August 28. Forms are available at City Hall or at [www.hopkinsmn.com/292/Community-Image-Award](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/292/Community-Image-Award). 🍷

## Be Prepared to Vote this Summer, Fall

Key election dates for 2020 include the August 11 State Primary and the November 3 General Election. At this time, the City of Hopkins is planning to hold elections under the existing laws, with some procedure changes that will allow us to keep voters and election workers as safe as possible.

If you are looking to minimize your direct contact with others and practice social distancing, you have the option to vote by mail. All Minnesota voters are eligible to vote by mail. You may apply for an absentee ballot to vote by mail online at [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org) or you can contact City Hall at 952-548-6302 for more information. Hopkins residents may vote in person at City Hall starting on June 26 for the August 11 election.

Learn how to register to vote, find your polling location, view a sample ballot and review your options to vote early on the City website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections) or at [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org). 🍷

## Reduce Your Waste - Recycle Organics

Did you know that nearly 30 percent of what we throw away is organic waste, which includes food scraps and food-soiled paper products? Organics recycling programs involve collecting fruits, vegetables, bones, meat, bread, eggshells, paper towels, tissues and more for recycling into compost, a nutrient-rich soil additive used in landscaping and road construction projects. Organics recycling is an easy way to reduce waste and create a valuable resource that improves soil, reduces soil erosion and decreases the need for chemical fertilizers.

Hopkins residents may dispose of organics at the Hopkins-Minnetonka 24/7 recycling drop-off center located at 11522 Minnetonka Boulevard. There is a well-labeled dumpster onsite strictly for organics. More information, including a list of items that are accepted in organics recycling, can be found on the City website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/863/Organics-Recycling](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/863/Organics-Recycling). 🍷

## National Night Out Moved to October 6

The Police Department invites you to be part of National Night Out on Tuesday, October 6. Build community by starting in your own back (or front) yard. Your event doesn't have to be elaborate—it can be as simple as lemonade and conversation with neighbors.



Start planning a National Night Out party on your block today by registering at [www.hopkinsmn.com/448/National-Night-Out](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/448/National-Night-Out) or by calling 952-548-6407. 🍷

## Summer Recreation Updates

To ensure the health and safety of our community, Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services has made some difficult decisions regarding summer recreation programs.

### Recreation Programs

All Hopkins-Minnetonka recreation programming set to start in May or June have either been canceled or postponed.

Updates on adult kickball, softball and soccer leagues will be announced soon. Full refunds will be issued to anyone who has already registered for a cancelled program.

Recreation staff will be reaching out to individual registrants with more information.

### Shady Oak Beach

Shady Oak Beach will not open for the 2020 summer season.

Questions about the above information can be directed to the Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services department at 952-939-8203. 🍷



## Upcoming at the City

### City Council Calendar

**Tuesday, June 2, 7:05 p.m.**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, June 9, 6:30 p.m.**  
Work Session

**Tuesday, June 16, 7 p.m.**  
Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at [www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council). Watch City Council meetings live at [www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand).

### Boards and Commissions Calendar

**Tuesday, June 2, 7 p.m.**  
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

**Monday, June 22, 6:30 p.m.**  
Park Board

**Tuesday, June 23, 6:30 p.m.**  
Planning and Zoning Commission

Find agendas and minutes at [www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions](http://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                      Rick Brausen  
Kristi Halverson              Brian Hunke

## Lawn Care FAQ

### Q. What can I do with my grass clippings?

**A.** The easiest and best way to handle grass clippings is to leave them on the lawn. Set your mower to a height of two to three inches. This may mean that you will mow more frequently, but you will save time by not bagging your grass clippings, and you will save money by not buying bags and purchasing stickers to have them picked up. You will also have healthier grass.

For yard waste and brush that needs to go, read "What can I do with my brush and yard waste?" at right.

### Q. When can I water?

**A.** To ensure there is enough water for all uses, including firefighting, the City enforces year-round watering restrictions. No watering is allowed from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and odd/even sprinkling is allowed at other times. Homes with even-numbered addresses water on even-numbered dates; homes with odd-numbered addresses water on odd-numbered dates. Please call 952-939-1382 with any questions.



### Q. How high is too high for grass?

**A.** Grass and weeds higher than 10 inches are considered a nuisance, and the City will issue a citation. If City crews have to maintain your grass and weeds, you will be charged for the service.

### Q. What can I do with my brush and yard waste?

**A.** The City provides bagged yard waste pick up on Thursdays and brush pick up on Tuesdays for additional fees. For details and how to schedule a pick up, visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/594/Brush-Yard-Waste](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/594/Brush-Yard-Waste).

A free alternative to this service is taking your yard waste and brush to the City's drop-off site at 3100 Hopkins Crossroad. The site is open Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 to 7 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The site will be closed on Labor Day. Use of this site is free for Hopkins residential garbage customers. 🍷

### Take Note: Garbage and Recycling Schedule

Garbage will be picked-up Monday through Thursday every week.

**June recycling pick-up weeks are June 8-11 and June 22-25.** ♻️



## Help Trees Beat the Heat

Please remember to soak your trees, including boulevard trees, when watering this summer. Very young trees need 10 to 15 gallons of water a week and those that have been in the ground five years or less need a weekly soaking. Watering the lawn around

trees helps keep their roots healthy. Putting a layer of mulch around them helps retain moisture.

Trees stressed by heat are more susceptible to die back, pests and diseases, so save your trees by giving them the water they need. And don't forget Hopkins watering restrictions apply (see article above). 🍷

## Stay Active and Engaged at Home

### WITH THE HOPKINS ACTIVITY CENTER

The Hopkins Activity Center is offering some fitness classes and meet-ups via ZOOM. Meetings and classes include:

- **Creative Chaos Crafting Meet-Up**  
Mondays, 1 p.m.
- **Functional Fitness Class**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.
- **Rug Artists Meet-Up**  
Wednesdays, 11 a.m.
- **Line Dance Meet-Up**  
Wednesdays, 1 p.m.
- **Yoga Fitness Class**  
Wednesdays, 3 p.m.  
Fridays, 10 a.m.
- **Men's Shed Meet-Up**  
Thursdays, 1 p.m.
- **Afternoon Squares Meet-Up**  
Thursdays, 3 p.m.

Find a calendar of class listings at <https://schedulesplus.com/hac/kiosk/>. 🍷

### PARKS OPEN FOR USE

It is the City's goal to maintain access to our parks, trails and park amenities while ensuring the community's health and safety. Residents are reminded to practice social distancing while visiting our parks and using park amenities. Equipment may be removed should problems arise.



# Hopkins Highlights EXTRA

## City Improvement Projects Abound in 2020

The City is undertaking a wide variety of improvement projects in 2020. Read on for descriptions of the most noticeable improvements and what to expect.

### 1 2020 Street and Utility Improvement Project

**Start Date:** May • **Projected End Date:** November 2021

The City's annual street and utility reconstruction project will span two years in the Interlachen Park Neighborhood. Ashley Road, Holly Road, Oakwood Road, Interlachen Road, Maple Hill Road, Homedale Road, Hawthorne Road, Meadowbrook Road, Preston Lane, Boyce Street, Goodrich Street and portions of Blake Road will be reconstructed. In addition to street work, the project includes replacement of sewer and water lines and drainage improvements.

### 2 2020 Street Surface Improvements

**Start Date:** Summer 2020 • **Projected End Date:** September 2020

9th and 11th Avenues N from Mainstreet to 1st Street N will have the entire street surface ground up and repaved. The Maetzold Field parking lot will have the top two inches of existing asphalt removed and a new driving asphalt surface will be paved. Concrete curb and gutter will be replaced as necessary, and sidewalks and curb ramps will be brought up to standard as part of this project. Minor utility work will take place and impacts are anticipated to be nominal.

### 3 Mainstreet Sealcoat

**Start Date:** Late May • **Projected End Date:** Early June

Mainstreet from 5th Avenue N to just west of 20th Avenue N will receive a sealcoat consisting of a liquid asphalt coat and small rock chips. Temporary parking restrictions will be the only impacts of this project.

### 4 Southwest Light Rail Project

**Start Date:** Spring 2019 • **Projected End Date:** 2023

Construction continues on the Southwest Light Rail Project (SWLRT), which will operate on a route from downtown Minneapolis through the communities of St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka and Eden Prairie. Heavy construction and commissioning of the line is anticipated to be completed in 2023, at which time passenger service will begin. Several key improvement projects will be in Hopkins, including three light rail stations, an underpass at Blake Road for the Cedar Lake Trail to remove the at-grade crossing, the extension of 17th Avenue between Excelsior Boulevard and 5th Street South, and a bridge for the light rail over Excelsior Boulevard. The Metropolitan Council is providing multiple ways to stay informed including a hotline, social media, and web resources. There will be roadway/traffic impacts associated with the SWLRT construction, so be sure to sign-up for construction updates via the project website and watch for message boards announcing upcoming impacts. Information on how to access these construction-related resources can be found at the project website at [swlrt.org](http://swlrt.org).



## Park System Improvements

### 5 Valley Park Picnic Shelters

**Start Date:** May

**Projected End Date:** Mid-June

Public Works are replacing the east picnic shelter and refurbishing the west picnic shelter at Valley Park.



Valley Park picnic shelter

## Hopkins In-Depth: Learn about the City's Pavement Management Program

The Pavement Management Program is part of Hopkins' overall asset management and involves monitoring the condition of City streets. Learn how the City's Engineering Department evaluates every public street in Hopkins to help determine what maintenance actions are necessary at <https://youtu.be/XoVw1mR10W8>.



# Hopkins Highlights EXTRA

## COVID-Related City Facility Information

At the time of printing the June Highlights, the governor's Stay Home executive order was set to expire May 18. Since the printing of this edition of Highlights, some of this information may have changed.

For the most up-to-date information related to COVID-19, please visit the City of Hopkins website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/covid19](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/covid19).

### City Hall

Staff at City Hall are available by appointment. To make an appointment to meet with staff, you may call the main line at 952-935-8474, or call or email the department you need assistance from directly. You can find staff contact information on our website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/Directory](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/Directory). Residents are asked to wear masks while interacting with staff in-person.



In addition, City Council and Board and Commission meetings will be held virtually until it is deemed safe to hold them in-person.

### Depot Coffee House

The Depot Coffee House has re-opened with reduced hours. More about the Depot is available at [www.thedepotcoffeehouse.com](http://www.thedepotcoffeehouse.com).

### Hopkins Activity Center

As part of the governor's Stay Home executive order, in-person services at the Hopkins Activity Center were closed in March. As both a preventative public health decision for our seniors who are more vulnerable to COVID-19 and a budgetary decision, the Hopkins Activity Center will continue with reduced online-only operations until further notice.



More information on their services and how to get involved can be found online at [www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter).

### Hopkins Center for the Arts

As part of the governor's Stay Home executive order, in-person services at the Hopkins Center for the Arts were closed in March. The facility has opened to our building partners (Stages Theatre Company and Hopkins Public Schools) in a limited capacity. Concerts at the center have been postponed and rescheduled, with the exception of the Maria Schneider concert, which was grant funded and had to be cancelled due to grant restrictions. The center is currently conducting some programming online, and is likely to reopen the gallery by appointment and for small group rentals, with restrictions, when permitted by the state.

More information about their operations is available on their website at [www.hopkinsartscenter.com](http://www.hopkinsartscenter.com).

### Hopkins Fire Department

The Hopkins Fire Department is currently closed to the public. No fire department tours are being offered at this time.

### Hopkins Pavilion

As part of the governor's Stay Home executive order, in-person services at the Hopkins Pavilion were closed in March. At this time, we are unsure how long services and activities at the Pavilion will be impacted. The facility will likely reopen, with any necessary restrictions in place, when permitted by the state.



### Hopkins Police Department

The Hopkins Police Department is currently closed to the public. Records may be requested by calling 952-938-8885.

### Hopkins Public Works

Hopkins Public Works is currently closed to the public. Residents may request leaf and yard waste stickers by calling City Hall at 952-935-8474.

### Shady Oak Beach

Shady Oak Beach will not open for the 2020 summer season.