



# Hopkins Highlights

Inspire

Educate

Involve

Communicate



FOLD AND TAPE  
**Absent Voter Ballot Application**  
 I am a **United States citizen** and a qualified and registered elector  
 I apply for an official ballot, to be voted by me at the  
**Voter's Registration Information**

## Vote Early By Mail

ABSENTEE VOTING FOR PRIMARY ELECTION IS UNDERWAY

In Minnesota, you do not have to wait until Election Day to vote. Request an absentee ballot application at [MNVotes.org](http://MNVotes.org) or by calling Hopkins election officials at 952-548-6302.

City Clerk Amy Domeier reminds those who vote by absentee ballot to follow these steps:

- Complete your 2020 Minnesota Absentee Ballot Application. Check the box labeled "Both 8/11 and 11/3 Elections" to receive a ballot for each election. Return the completed application in the prepaid envelope.
- After your absentee ballot application is approved, Hennepin County election officials will mail your absentee ballot materials June 26. If you apply after this date, your ballot will be sent when the application is received.
- Review the instructions carefully. Any mistakes like forgetting your signature could cause your ballot to be rejected.
- You'll need a witness who must be a Minnesota Registered Voter or a Notary to help you complete your materials and make sure only you filled out your ballot. Your witness must also sign and provide their address.
- If you are not registered to vote, you'll show your witness one of many identification options to prove your name and current residence. Your witness must mark the ID you showed them on your ballot materials.
- Once you're done, package everything up in the prepaid envelope and return it right away Hennepin County. If your ballot is received after Election Day, your vote will not count.

Hennepin County election officials will check that you and your witness filled out the signature envelope correctly. If you did not fill out the signature envelope correctly, election officials will mail you replacement materials, including an explanation why your signature envelope was rejected. If it's within five days of Election Day, election officials will send you a replacement ballot and try to contact you. If this happens, you can hand deliver your completed replacement ballot to Hopkins City Hall by 3 p.m. Election Day or you can vote in person at your polling place. Your rejected ballot will be recorded as rejected.

If your signature envelope is correct, election staff will mark your ballot as accepted. Your ballot will be stored securely. Starting 14 days before Election Day, Hennepin County election officials will open your signature envelope and run your ballot in the ballot counter like you would have done on Election Day.

You can track the status of your ballot online to make sure it was received and counted at [mnavotes.sos.state.mn.us/AbsenteeBallotStatus.aspx](http://mnavotes.sos.state.mn.us/AbsenteeBallotStatus.aspx).

For more information about voting early with an absentee ballot, visit [MNVotes.org](http://MNVotes.org).

## Experience the Upside of Aging

VIRTUALLY WITH THE HOPKINS ACTIVITY CENTER!

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 online-only operations until further notice.

### ▪ Raspberry Festival Senior Zoom Bingo July 15, 6:30 p.m.

Just for those "50 years plus." Hop online and play virtual playing card bingo safely from your home for free! Register by July 13 by phone at 952-939-1333 or online at <https://schedulesplus.com/hac/kiosk/>.

### ▪ No Fee Virtual Fitness and Well-Being Classes

**Functional Fitness:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.

**Yoga:** Wednesdays, 3 p.m. and Fridays, 10 a.m.

**Balance and Chair Yoga:** Wednesdays, 9 a.m.

**Connect to Learning:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 p.m.

Find more information about the Hopkins Activity Center at [www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter).

## COVID-Related Facility Information

At the time of printing, many City facilities had yet to fully open to the public due to COVID-19. Since the printing of this edition of Highlights, some of this information may have changed.

- Activity Center: Online only
- Art Center: Open to small groups
- City Hall: Open by appointment only
- Depot: Open with reduced hours
- Pavilion: Open to small group rentals

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



## Upcoming at the City

### City Offices Closed

**Friday, July 3**  
Fourth of July observed

### City Council Calendar

**Tuesday, July 14, 7 p.m.**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, July 21, 7 p.m.**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, August 4, 7:05 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

**Monday, July 27, 6:30 p.m.**  
Park Board

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

**Tuesday, August 4, 7 p.m.**  
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

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

## Check the Date Before Watering Your Lawn

Lawn watering has a large impact on the City's ability to supply water to the community. To ensure there is enough water for all uses, including firefighting, the City enforces year-round watering restrictions.

Residents and businesses are required to water on an odd/even system. If your address ends with an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7 or 9), you can water on odd-numbered days of the month (1st, 3rd, etc.). If your address ends in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 or 8), you can water on even-numbered days of the month (2nd, 4th, etc.).

Lawn watering is also not allowed between the hours of 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. when the evaporation rate is the highest.

Activities such as playing with water, car washing and hand-watering of flowerbeds are exempt from this policy as long as the activity is attended.

Exemptions are also available for private wells and watering new sod or seed.

Please call the Public Works Department at 952-548-6373 for an exemption or with any questions. 🍷



### Take Note: Garbage and Recycling Schedule

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

Recycling collection weeks this month are **July 6-9 and 20-23**. 🌿

## Lawn Care Tips That Are Useful All Year

Did you know that you and your neighbors have waterfront property? Your yard and the nearest lake, stream or wetland are connected by the nearest storm drain or ditch. That means the actions you take on your property affect the local water bodies.

You can help reduce the amount of pollutants entering local lakes, rivers and streams (and save money at the same time) by following a few simple steps:

- **Water wisely** – If your lawn needs water, do it in the morning when it's cooler to avoid evaporation. Lawns typically only need one inch of water per week.
- **Mow three inches or higher** – Mowing grass to a height of three inches or higher will encourage thicker and healthier grass.
- **Pick up pet waste regularly** – In addition to preventing lawn burns, regular pick-up of pet waste will keep bacteria from running off into storm drains and our local waters.
- **Sharpen your mower blades** – Sharper blades will cut grass to three inches or higher more effectively. Dull blades damage grass, which can give the grass a yellow or white tint.
- **Leave grass clippings on lawn** – This puts the same amount of nutrients back into your grass as one application of fertilizer. If you don't want grass clippings on your lawn, compost them. Be sure to sweep up any clippings that blow into the street so they don't run down the storm drain.
- **Fertilize smartly (if you need it)** – If you choose to fertilize, only do it in the fall when it's most effective. Apply only the amount directed and be sure to choose a zero-phosphorus fertilizer.

### Keep Yard Waste Out of Your Refuse Cart



State law prohibits residents from placing yard waste in their refuse container. If yard waste is found in your refuse cart, the cart will not be picked up. The cart will be tagged with instructions to remove and dispose of the yard waste properly. 🍷

### VISIT THE HOPKINS FARMERS MARKET



The Hopkins Farmers Market is open Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. to noon, in the parking lot next to Downtown Park.

Following these tips will help keep your lawn healthy while keeping our waters clean and safe this summer. Learn more at [www.minnehahacreek.org/education](http://www.minnehahacreek.org/education). 🍷

(Source: Minnehaha Creek Watershed District)



CELEBRATING  
OUR  
CONNECTED  
COMMUNITY

86<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HOPKINS  
**RASPBERRY FESTIVAL<sup>®</sup>**

A TRADITION PRESERVED<sup>®</sup> SINCE 1935

**JULY 15-19, 2020 | HOPKINS, MN**

HELP US MAKE THIS YEAR'S ALMOST ENTIRELY VIRTUAL FESTIVAL MEANINGFUL AND MEMORABLE!

**RASPBERRYPARTY.COM**