



# Hopkins Highlights

Inspire

Educate

Involve

Communicate



## State Primary Election is August 11

The 2020 Minnesota state primary election is coming up on Tuesday, August 11. City staff want to ensure that every eligible Hopkins voter can cast their ballot safely and securely. If you have not already voted by mail, plan ahead to vote in-person, whether at City Hall or your voting precinct.

Social distancing will be enforced. Be prepared for the process to take longer than normal, as staff and election judges will follow all CDC guidelines for voting. Plan for the elements, as you may be required to wait outside your voting precinct. Voters will be provided with hand sanitizer to use before and after voting, and a pen to use and keep.

For more information about voting in the primary, please visit our website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections). Questions? Contact 952-548-6302.

## Tips for Protecting Water Quality

Everything that enters the storm sewer system in Hopkins is untreated before it is discharged to surface waters, such as Minnehaha Creek and Nine Mile Creek.

Summer is prime time for maintaining cars and boats, but some activities can harm our lakes, streams and rivers. Here are some tips for protecting water quality during the summer season:

- Avoid washing your car on paved surfaces such as streets and driveways, where the dirty soapy water flows into storm drains. Wash cars on your lawn or take them to commercial car washes. Car washes are an environmentally friendly alternative, as water drains into sanitary sewers and is treated before discharge.
- When mowing your yard, avoid blowing grass clippings into the street. Leaves and lawn clippings are a major source of phosphorus, which is one of the most troublesome pollutants in storm water runoff.
- Recycle used motor oil. Never spill gasoline, motor oil, washer fluid, antifreeze or other products on hard surfaces. They will flow through storm sewers to our lakes, creeks and rivers, and are harmful to fish, plants and other aquatic life.
- Shake and wash floor mats over your lawn, not hard surfaces.
- Dispose of cigarette butts properly. Do not throw them out car windows or onto sidewalks. Thirty-two percent of litter at storm drains is tobacco products. Ninety-five percent of cigarette filters are composed of cellulose acetate, a form of plastic that does not biodegrade. 🍷



## Tree Inspections

Over the next two months, the Forestry Department will be inspecting trees in Hopkins for diseases and/or damage. If a tree on your property is marked, information will be left at your door. Call 952-548-6372 with questions. 🍷

## Registration for Fall Recreation Begins August 18

Registration for fall recreation programs begins Tuesday, August 18, at 8 a.m. Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/register](http://minnetonkamn.gov/register) to browse the program options and choose from an array of activities, including kids' programs, tennis lessons, craft opportunities and athletic leagues. There is something for everyone!

Due to the unknowns with COVID-19, a fall recreation brochure has not been published.

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/register](http://minnetonkamn.gov/register) to register online, or call 952-939-8203 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. 🍷

## Provide Input on 2021 Budget

The City will be hosting a virtual budget engagement session on Monday, August 17, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. For more details, visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/466/City-Budget-Process](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/466/City-Budget-Process). 🍷

## City Hall Update

City Hall will be offering some services curbside during the 2020 state primary election to minimize the number of people in the facility at once. Visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/covid19](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/covid19) for the latest facility information related to COVID-19. 🍷

## Don't Forget to Mow the Alleys!



City ordinance prohibits weeds and tall grass in excess of 10 inches. This includes any area of your property that borders an alley, so don't forget to mow or prune those areas, too. The ordinance requires alleyways be trimmed one foot behind the alley edge and 13 feet above the alley surface. This ordinance is enforced—please be proactive and tend to your property. 🍷



## Upcoming at the City

### City Council Calendar

**Tuesday, August 4, 7:05 p.m.**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, August 18, 7 p.m.**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, September 1, 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

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

**Monday, August 24, 6:30 p.m.**  
Park Board

**Tuesday, August 25, 6:30 p.m.**  
Planning and Zoning Commission

**Tuesday, September 1, 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

ICE SEASON RETURNS TO PAVILION SEPTEMBER 8

Book ice time now at [www.hopkinspavilion.com](http://www.hopkinspavilion.com).



## Lawn Watering Reminder

### CHECK THE DATE BEFORE WATERING YOUR LAWN

To ensure there is enough water for all uses, including firefighting, the City has year round watering restrictions.

- Homes & businesses with even-numbered addresses may water their lawns before 11 a.m. or after 5 p.m. on even-numbered dates. Those with odd-numbered addresses may water before 11 a.m. or after 5 p.m. on odd-numbered dates
- No watering is permitted between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Contact the Public Works Department at 952-548-6353 with any questions. 🍷



## August at the Hopkins Activity Center

Join the Hopkins Activity Center in a virtual discovery classroom that takes you live around the world via Connect to Learning.

August Connect to Learning classes include “Cultural Perspectives in Western American Art;” “Western Movies 101;” “Seagrass Science - Live on Location!;” “Exploring a Northern Elephant Seal Rookery-Hearst San Simeon Park;” “Online Art Class with Sherita;” “Eleanor Roosevelt: Compassion and Betrayal;” “World Wildlife Fund- Behind the Scenes!;” and “The Cabinet of Curiosities: A Fun Peek into the Unusual at Mystic Seaport Museum.”

Visit <https://schedulesplus.com/hac/kiosk/> for more information. 🍷

## 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. 🍷

## Sewer Backing Up? Act Quickly

**If you believe there is a problem with your sewer, notify the City immediately.** The Public Works Department can be reached at 952-939-1382 (weekdays, 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.) or 952-258-5321 (weekends, holidays, and off-hours).

**Prompt action in notifying the City may prevent damage to your home or business.** The City will send an employee to investigate the sewer main and take action if appropriate. If the problem is found to be in the sanitary sewer service from the home or structure to the sewer main in the street, including the connection, it is the responsibility of the property owner.

Property owners should know:

- **The City is not automatically liable for resulting damages whenever a sewer backs up.** The City is liable only for damages if the backup was caused by the City's negligence.
- Though many property owner insurance policies exclude damage resulting from sewer backup, some insurance companies do provide sewer backup coverage. Therefore, it is possible to protect yourself against this risk.

Please notify the Public Works Department if you hire a private contractor to clean your sanitary sewer service line. The City will check the City's main service line for debris that could affect you or your neighbors' sanitary sewer service.

**Questions?** Call the Public Works Department at 952-939-1382. 🍷

### Take Note: Garbage and Recycling Schedule

Recycling collection will take place **August 3–6, 17–20 and August 31.**

Garbage collection will take place Monday through Thursday every week in August as usual. 🍷