The City of Waconia Public Services Department provides many services to its residents. This includes providing reliable drinking water, waste and storm water collection systems, maintaining and updating City parks, and our roadway, sidewalk, and trail system.

Snow removal (winter maintenance) is a vital service that allows residents the ability to travel safely to work, school, and our local businesses. As we perform winter maintenance, our staff work to provide similar service levels across the community. The City has three roadway and parking lot classification levels (residential streets, alley service areas, and parking lots) and establishes different goals for snow removal time for each classification. For example, for residential streets, it is the City’s goal to have snow removed within two to six hours, whereas for parking lots, the range is nine to 36 hours. While residents may not see all snow removed, the City’s goal is to achieve driving lanes that are as free of snow and ice as reasonably possible in a northern climate.

Waconia’s sidewalk and trail snow removal goals are set as days instead of hours. For high volume sidewalks and trails, including those in school zones, as well as commercial and industrial areas, the goal is to have snow removed on day one. Medium volume sidewalks and trails (park sidewalks and non-linking trails) should see snow removed on day two and low volume sidewalks and trails (dead-end sidewalks and trails of extremely limited use) will see snow removed on day three.

If you want more information on winter maintenance service levels, please visit the City’s website, www.waconia.org, and search for our Winter Maintenance Policy. Our Policy includes language on service levels in Section B: Snow and Ice Management Priorities. In addition, you will find updated maps depicting roadway responsibilities (township, city, county, and state), as well as the goal snow removal times for City streets, sidewalks, and trails.

Please note that while our staff make every effort to meet targeted snow removal goals, in certain major storms or blizzards, it is difficult to do so. In extreme circumstances there are times when the roads are unsafe for our staff and the snowplows.

I Have Guests Coming...Where Can They Park with the Winter Parking Regulations in Place?

From November 1 to April 1, no parking is allowed between 12:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on any residential district street. We do understand that over the winter, people have friends and family over for celebrations. If you need a special consideration for guests, call the Carver County Dispatch at 952-361-1231 to inform of your special needs. Dispatch will inform the Waconia Deputies of the situation.

Handicapped Vehicles - A vehicle displaying a valid temporary or permanent handicapped identification certificate or insignia issued by the MN Department of Public Safety is exempt from the winter parking restrictions. Vehicles displaying valid handicapped identification must abide by all other parking regulations.
**Ice Safety Reminder**

As temperatures get colder, the Waconia Fire Department would like to issue a friendly reminder that it is important to stay off the ice until it is at least 4 inches thick (walking)! Also, please remember that ice thickness varies depending on where you are on the lake.

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**Christmas Tree Recycling**

December 26, 2018 to January 10, 2019  
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
City of Waconia Public Services Department  
310 10th Street East

All live Christmas trees will be accepted. Trees must be brought to the Waconia Public Services building. All decorations, lights, stands, etc. must be removed prior to recycling. The trees will be taken at no charge.

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**15th Annual Waconia Toy Drive**

December 7, 2018  
9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Waconia Fire Station  
26 S. Maple Street

If you need help this holiday season to provide your children with gifts, you are welcome to attend the 2018 Waconia Toy Drive. No registration is required, but you will be required to show a proof of address that you live in the Waconia area (ISD 110 or St. Boni). You can bring a driver’s license or photo ID with address, an electric/water bill, a letter from school, or a voter registration card. Legal guardians of a child must bring a document stating legal custody.

Interested on donating a gift for the toy drive? All gifts should be delivered to Waconia City Hall by Monday, December 3.

For more information, contact women_of_waconia@yahoo.com or the Waconia Toy Drive Facebook Group page.

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**Give a Gift of Historical Proportions**

*Waconia: Paradise of the Northwest*  
$49.00 Including Tax

Books are available at the Carver County Historical Society, City Hall, Mackenthun’s, and Melchert Hubert Sjodin.

Don't have the First Book? Stop by City Hall to buy both books for a special discount.

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**Holiday Office Closure Reminder**

City offices will be closed on the following days listed below in observance of upcoming holidays:

- Monday, December 24
- Tuesday, December 25
- Monday, December 31
- Tuesday, January 1, 2019

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**2018 Election Update**

The 2018 General Election took place on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. The polls were open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Absentee voting was also available at City Hall (for Waconia residents) from September 21 to November 5. Overall, Waconia had 4,354 individuals vote on election day. Another 1,239 individuals voted in-person absentee at City Hall during the six-week period. An additional 558 Waconia residents voted in-person at the County or via mail. In total, Waconia saw 6,151 voters in this election!

Thank you for voting and for sharing your voice in the process.

Also, thank you to our Election Judges who spent Election Day working at the polls!

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**Hot Topic—Flushable Wipes**

These “so-called” flushable wipes are wreaking havoc on sanitary sewer systems. They are not designed to break down like toilet paper and can cause blockages that result in costly repairs. Learn more about why flushable wipes need to be thrown in the trash can and not flushed down the toilet by following the code or going to the Utility Billing section of www.waconia.org. You can also view Hot Topics from previous months via this code.

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**Thanks for Voting!**