2020 Election Information

The 2020 Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, August 11 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.   The 2020 General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Ward I residents will vote at the Waconia Ice Arena (1250 Oak Avenue) and Ward II residents will vote at Trinity Church (601 2nd Street East). If you are unsure of your ward, maps can be found on the City's website.

Eligible voters can vote early by using an absentee ballot, instead of voting in person at the polling place on Election Day. Voters can vote absentee by mail or in-person, and do not need a reason to do so. Due to COVID-19, we are encouraging as many people as possible to vote absentee. If you'd like to request an absentee ballot and vote via mail, you can do so by visiting **www.waconia.org/votebymail.** A ballot will be sent to your house and you'll receive an envelope to return the completed ballot to Carver County.

City of Waconia residents can register and vote absentee in-person at **Waconia City Hall** (201 South Vine Street) <u>or</u> at the Carver County Government Center (Taxpayer Services: 600 E. 4th Street, Chaska). Absentee voting hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning June 26 and running through August 10. In addition, City Hall will be open for voting from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 8 and until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 10. Please note that if you are issued a ballot at City Hall, you will need to vote that same day, in person, at City Hall. No ballots are being issued for take-home voting from Waconia City Hall.

Absentee voting for the **General Election** will be available at Waconia City Hall (for City of Waconia residents only) from September 18 through November 2. Regular hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., but City Hall will also be open on Saturday, October 31 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2. Additional dates may be added based on demand and will be published in the City's newsletter, website, and Facebook page.

Voting an absentee ballot is a process that requires more steps than voting on election day. Absentee voters are required to fill out and turn in an **Absentee Ballot Application**. These applications are available at **www.waconia.org/elections** and at City Hall at the time of voting. Absentee voters will also need either their MN Driver's License (or state-issued identification) number or the last four digits of their Social Security Number when filling out the application.

For voters who are not registered to vote or need to update their registration, a driver's license or state-issue identification with your current address is required. If your ID doesn't have your updated address, you can bring a photo ID such as a passport, driver's license, tribal ID, or college or high school ID, along with an approved document that shows your current address, such as a phone, TV, or internet bill, utility bill, banking or credit card information, rent or mortgage statement, or current student fee statement. Additionally, a registered voter from your precinct can go with you to the polling place and sign an oath confirming your address. More information on registering to vote can be found at **www.waconia.org/registertovote**.

More information on the 2020 Primary and General Election is available on the City's website at **www.waconia.org/elections**.

Music & Movie in the Park are Back!

Below is the July line up for Music in the Park:

July 9 — The Tuxedo Band (jazz)

July 16 — Zachary Scot Johnson (rock, pop, & country)

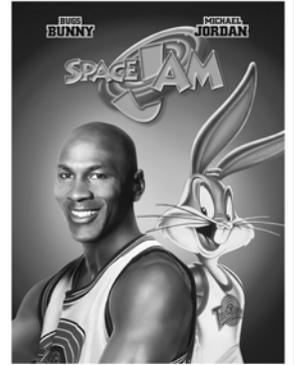**July 23** — The High 48's (modern bluegrass)

July 30 — WonderCure (70's classic rock)

Music will start at 7:00 p.m. at City Square Park (101 E. Main Street).

The July Movie in the Park will be Space Jam, and take place on July 31, 2020 at 8:30 p.m. at City Square Park.

Bring your chairs and blankets and check the City's social media sites for weather updates.

During the events, please be sure to practice social distancing by staying at least six feet away from others who are not in your household or family group.

Yard Waste Collection

Residents can bring grass clippings, garden waste, and brush (shrubs and branches no larger than 3" in diameter and 4' in length) to Public Services at 310 East 10th Street.

Thursday, July 2
3:30 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.
Friday, July 10
Thursday, July 16
Tuesday, July 21
10:00 a .m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 25
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cost is $1.00 per bag or $10.00 per pick-up or trailer. Cash and exact change is preferred, credit cards will be accepted with a $10 minimum. For questions, please contact Public Services at 952-442-2615 or **publicservices@waconia.org**. A copy of the full schedule is available at **www.waconia.org/compost**.

Stormwater Runoff

Stormwater runoff and the pollutants it carries away is a main contributor to the quality of our lakes, streams, and their ecosystems. The City of Waconia continually evaluates and maintains the stormwater conveyance infrastructure to ensure we have the best practices in place. Regardless of where you live within the community, water runoff from your residence eventually transfers into one of our many lakes, ponds, and streams & makes an impact on the water system. While we are doing our part to keep our lakes and streams clean to maintain a healthy water ecosystem for fishing and recreation, there are things you can do at home that make a big difference.

- **If you fertilize, keep it on your lawn.** Sweep up any fertilizer that lands on a hard surface. When irrigating, avoid letting water run into the street.

- **Keep storm drains clear.** Keep leaves, grass clippings and other yard waste out of the street.

- **Clean up.** Dispose of spilt items (fertilizer, motor oil, paint) properly. Spraying them down with a hose can wash them into the storm drain. Pick up pet waste and throw it in the trash.

- **Plant a rain garden**. Rain gardens collect & filter stormwater naturally.

Did you know?

- Decomposed pet waste releases harmful bacteria, parasites & nutrients.

- A 12 oz coffee mug of de-icing salt can cover 250 square feet!

- Mowing your lawn 3" or higher will help it to be resistant to weeds, retain moisture longer (less watering = lower water bill), and will assist in trapping pollutants.

- There is a statewide law *__prohibiting__* the use of fertilizers containing phosphorus on established turf. This is due to the concern of excessive amounts of phosphorus found in our lakes.

- The ponds throughout the community are not just meant to be a water feature for landscaping and aesthetics– they are part of the City's stormwater infrastructure. These basins are designed to prevent flooding and filter run off. Pollutants & nutrients entering the pond through stormwater runoff can cause large amounts of algae growth.