Lake Waconia Determined Not to Be Impaired

The City recently learned that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has determined that Lake Waconia will not be included on a list of impaired lakes in 2018. Efforts by residents, developers, and the City to protect our greatest natural resource have paid off.

Earlier this year, the City and the Carver County Water Management Organization were informed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency that Lake Waconia was proposed to be listed for impairments of nutrients in 2018. This designation would require both bodies to identify and implement increased maintenance practices, new policies, and costs to reduce additional nutrient loading into the lake.

Recently re-evaluated data show moderate improvements have been made allowing Lake Waconia to “NOT” be listed for impairments in 2018 outlined by improved trends in water clarity from the previous information. Efforts recently taken by the City include the installation of storm separator structures, pervious pavement installations, rain gardens, pond/outlet improvements, targeted street sweeping, and intense recording of data.

Lake Waconia continues to be listed in a “vulnerable” state meaning the City, County, and individuals within the watershed must continue to work on improved practices to protect the lake. We will continue to work with our partners on maintenance and improvements to the stormwater system. Residents can assist in maintaining this designation by reducing fertilizer use, not putting grass clippings and leaves in the street, and taking up composting efforts. Together, we can maintain these improvements.

We are proud of this recent designation and are encouraged to continue working with the community to maintain it.

Just Around the Corner, It’s Winter!

It is hard to believe winter is right around the corner. Many people enjoy the snow fall and activities that come with the change of season. City Staff have completed some preparations for winter by checking their plow routes for obstacles that may damage the plow equipment. Snow removal routes will soon be assigned and staff training of new service areas and Winter Policy updates will be completed. To assist our staff in providing consistent service this winter, we ask you to:

- Keep trash receptacles off the street, on trash day place them at the end of your driveway.
- Make sure your mailbox can withstand the discharge of snow from plows.
- Keep your mailbox area accessible for the mail carrier.
- Do not blow or plow snow from your property across or into the street. This is a violation of City Ordinances.

Winter Parking Reminder

Parking restrictions start on November 1st and continue until April 1st, 2017 between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Information on Parking Restrictions are provided on the City Website at www.waconia.org located in the Ordinance Section 634.01 or on the Public Services page within the Winter Maintenance Policy.

Our staff are not always able to complete all of the maintenance activities within 24 hours. Sometimes the weather conditions are beyond our control and require extra time. Our Winter Maintenance Policy will soon be updated and placed on our website. The Policy provides details on how Winter Maintenance Operations are provided to the public. If you have questions regarding these items, please contact our Public Services Department at 952-442-2615.
City Recruits Advisory Board Members
The City is recruiting members for the Park Board and the Commission on Aging. These boards are advisory to the City Council. Board members are appointed to three year terms and generally meet once per month.

Applications can be found at www.waconia.org, in the News Section. Applications are due by the end of business on November 10th. Questions and applications can be submitted to Susan Arntz, 952-442-3100 or careers@waconia.org.

Winter Usage Effective in November
Residential utility customers are reminded that you may see changes in your City water bill starting in November. Water Charges continue to be based on actual water usage each month. In the winter months (November-April), sewer charges will be based on the actual water usage during these months. The change in calculation is done to account for the use of water outside of the home during the summer months. For information on this or other utility billing topics, please visit www.waconia.org. If you have questions on your utility bill please contact us at utilitybill@waconia.org or 952-442-3107.

Rink Fills—If you plan to fill a rink in your yard for ice skating and hockey this winter, please contact the City’s utility department at 952-442-2615 or billing department at 952-442-3107 for assistance prior to the fill. The City has several options available to ensure this type of water use in the winter months is billed to you correctly.

Paperless Notifications—Residents signed up to receive emailed utility bills will now receive utility account arrears notices via email as well. In the past, only letters were sent in the mail. System upgrades now allow for an emailed version of the arrears letter to be sent in the same manner your utility bill is received.

If you are heading south this winter, please contact utility billing at 952-442-3107. We will notate your account and expect zero water use.

Give a Gift of Historical Proportions
$49.00 Including Tax
Available at:
Carver County Historical Society
City of Waconia
Mackenthun’s
Melchert Hubert Sjodin
Wild Bird Store
Don’t have the First Book? Stop by City Hall to buy both books for a discount.

Gazebo Holiday Tree Lighting
Friday, November 25, 2016
City Square Park
6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

Thank You for Your Service!
On Friday, November 11, all veterans or active duty military personnel are invited to Safari Island for FREE admission! Please bring your military ID or other proof of service.

Please note that City Hall and Public Services will be closed in honor of Veteran’s Day.

Thankskating for Thanksgiving
Waconia Ice Arena
Sunday, November 13
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

$3.50 for Adults,
$2.50 for Kids & Seniors
$2.50 Skate Rental
*Bring a food shelf item and receive $1.00 off the entrance fee