CITY of Waconia

Out of water comes life..

A Guide to Living and doing business in Waconia

Photograph by: Lynn Laumann Photography
Welcome to Waconia

Out of water comes life...

Waconia is a progressively growing community located just west of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul in an area popular with visitors for its many lakes, parks, and other enjoyable destinations. Named a “Tree City USA” by the National Arbor Day Foundation, the City of Waconia is nestled next to scenic Lake Waconia, the third largest lake in the Metro and one of the cleanest lakes in the area. Additionally, Waconia boasts a dynamic economy, established industrial parks, first class education, and exceptional healthcare facilities. Combined, all of these amenities make Waconia a great place to live, work, learn, and play!
History

The Discovery of Waconia

The first inhabitants of the Waconia area came from New Orleans, up the Mississippi River, over the Minnesota River to Carver’s Landing at Carver, Minnesota. From there, they followed Carver’s Creek to Burandt’s lake, and found their way through heavily wooded areas to what is now Waconia. The actual settlement of the area where Waconia is now located began as soon as the Indian title to the land was extinguished and a government survey made. Ludwig Sutheimer and Michael Scheidnagel are claimed to have been the first permanent settlers.

In 1857, a group of German settlers arrived to the fertile lands of Waconia Township and many remained permanently. Additional nationalities settling in the area were Bohemians, Swedes, and Swiss.

The first church in Waconia was St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church which was organized in 1857 by Rev. Father Bruno Riss. The first services were held in private homes but in 1858 a frame church was built at a cost of $600.

While white settlers continued to move into the Waconia area, in 1862, a Dakota Indian tribe settled on a reservation along the upper shore of the Minnesota River. The settlers had to pay the Indians for the land they now lived on. With the start of the Civil War, times were tough for the settlers of this region. The harvest was bad that year, and many of the men that normally farmed the land were sent off to fight in the war. This sparked the so-called “Sioux Uprising.”

During the uprising, most settlers were forced to flee their homes and properties. Many women and children buried their belongs in the their backyards and fled to the Island (what we now know as Coney Island). They holed up there for fourteen days surviving by hunting the wild game provided by the then heavily forested island. Those settlers who had stayed behind made barricades around an old log house and fired at their attackers through holes they made in the barricades.

At the end of the fight, the Indians left the area and scarcely returned. Those that were killed during the fighting were buried in two mounds on the north shore of the lake and the settlers were able to return to the farm land they had left behind to begin to rebuild.

Paradise Island, later changed to Coney Island in 1884 by Lambert Naegele, was considered the paradise of the northwest. Development on the island started after Naegele’s purchase with the first full season at the resort in 1885. This was a successful season and sparked further growth on the island. After the ice melted on the lake, construction of another resort started along with a boarding house, several cottages, and a boathouse. Two large steamships traveled back and forth to the island. Many of the residents of Minneapolis and St. Paul were frequent visitors to the resorts.

Rich in history, Waconia’s roots are planted deep in the lake and land we call home!
The City of Waconia is located 30 minutes west of the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area by traveling on Highway 5 or by traveling County Road 10 to Highway 212. Both highways are just 20 minutes from the major Interstate Highway 494. In addition, Waconia is located only 32 minutes from the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. Waconia has the best of two worlds...small town charm with easy access to big city life!

Local Attractions

**Lake Waconia:** As spring and summer set in, people can’t stay away. Sailors, boaters, windsurfers and fisherman alike flock to Lake Waconia. You can also enjoy a swim at the beach, picnic and play at **Lake Waconia Regional Park**, dine at a gourmet restaurant or just relax on a park bench and take in the beautiful scenery. In the fall, the bountiful trees are ablaze in fall colors, and in the winter the lake becomes a winter wonderland for ice fisherman, snowmobile riders, and cross country skiers.

**Coney Island:** Now a protected habitat area, Coney Island is an island of quiet solitude in the center of the bustling lake. The island is populated only by herons, egrets, and other wildlife. More history on Coney Island can be found at the Carver County Historical Society museum at 555 1st Street West in Waconia.

**Marinas:**

- **In Towne Marina** Voted 9th Best Place to Fish in Minnesota!
  Featured on [www.exploreminnesota.com](http://www.exploreminnesota.com)
  Check it out for more details!
  8 Lake Street East
  [www.intownemarina.com](http://www.intownemarina.com)

- **Lola’s Lakehouse**
  318 Lake Street East
  [www.lolaslakehouse.com](http://www.lolaslakehouse.com)

Photo Courtesy of: Lynn Laumann Photography
Location

Downtown Waconia: A short walk from the lake is downtown Waconia. It is here that you experience first hand the charm of small town life. You can shop furniture, art, antiques, unique clothing and gifts, bowl a game or two, catch a movie at the six screen movie theater treat yourself to ice cream or lattes, or grab a bite to eat. Whether you are craving a gourmet meal and a glass of wine, or a burger and an ice cold beer, downtown offers a variety to suit everyone’s taste. Downtown Waconia is also home to Hopper’s Bar & Grill who was awarded Minnesota’s 6th Best Burger in the State!

Island View Golf: Grab your clubs and spend the morning or afternoon golfing at one of the most acclaimed golf courses in the area. Situated on a hill looking out over the lake, you can take in a most spectacular view as you golf. Island view also offers casual dining in its restaurant, banquet, and reception facility.

Wineries: Waconia is home to several wineries, each with their own distinct flavors and unique qualities. There is something to enjoy for both the novice wine drinker or a more sophisticated palate.

Sovereign Estate Wine
9950 North Shore Road—Lake Waconia
952-446-9957 www.sovereignestatewine.com

Parley Lake Winery
8350 Parley Lake Road—Parley Lake
952-442-2290 www.parleylakewinery.com

Schram Vineyards
8785 Airport Road—Reitz Lake
952-442-5105 www.schramvineyards.com
Nearby Attractions

**Hike, Learn, Play, Shop**

- Minnesota Landscape Arboretum  
  Chanhassen, MN (15 minutes)  
  [www.arboretum.umn.edu](http://www.arboretum.umn.edu)

- Carver Park Reserve & Lowry Nature Center  
  Victoria, MN (11 minutes)  
  [www.threeriversparkdistrict.org](http://www.threeriversparkdistrict.org)

- Valley Fair Amusement Park  
  Shakopee, MN (30 minutes)  
  [www.valleyfair.com](http://www.valleyfair.com)

- Canterbury Park Race Track & Card Club  
  Shakopee, MN (30 minutes)  
  [www.canterburypark.com](http://www.canterburypark.com)

- Mall of America  
  Bloomington, MN (40 minutes)  
  [www.mallofamerica.com](http://www.mallofamerica.com)

- Minnesota Zoo  
  Apple Valley, MN (45 minutes)  
  [www.mnzoo.org](http://www.mnzoo.org)

- Science Museum of Minnesota  
  St Paul, MN (50 minutes)  
  [www.smm.org](http://www.smm.org)

- Walker Art Center  
  Minneapolis, MN (45 minutes)  
  [www.walkerart.org](http://www.walkerart.org)

**Nearest Sports and Entertainment Venues**

- Target Field  
  Minneapolis, MN (45 minutes)  
  Home to the Minnesota Twins  
  [www.Twinsbaseball.com](http://www.Twinsbaseball.com)

- Target Center  
  Minneapolis, MN (45 minutes)  
  Home to the Minnesota Timberwolves & Minnesota Lynx  
  [www.targetcenter.com](http://www.targetcenter.com)

- US Bank Stadium - COMING SOON  
  Minneapolis, MN (45 minutes)  
  Home to the Minnesota Vikings  
  [www.msfc.com](http://www.msfc.com)

- Xcel Energy Center  
  St. Paul, MN (50 minutes)  
  Home to the Minnesota Wild  
  [www.xcelenergycenter.com](http://www.xcelenergycenter.com)

- Guthrie Theater  
  Minneapolis, MN (45 minutes)  
  [www.guthrietheater.org](http://www.guthrietheater.org)

- Orpheum Theater  
  Minneapolis, MN (45 minutes)  
  [www.hennepintheatretrust.org](http://www.hennepintheatretrust.org)

- Ordway Center  
  St. Paul, MN (50 minutes)  
  [www.ordway.org](http://www.ordway.org)
We would like to thank the following organizations

for their contributions to this publication:

Waconia Heritage Association
Waconia
Paradise of the Northwest
The Lake & Its Island

Lynn Laumann Photography
36 W Main St.
Waconia, MN 55387
(952) 442-8249

Waconia Chamber of Commerce
209 S Vine St
Waconia, MN 55387
(952) 442-5812

City of Waconia
Administration & Finance Department

The following websites have also been used

for the production of this publication:

www.ridgeviewmedical.org   www.mallofamerica.com
www.good-sam.com            www.targetcenter.com
www.waconia.k12.mn.us       www.msfc.com
www.milltronics.net         www.xcelenergycenter.com
www.safariisland.net        www.trinitywaconia.org
www.waconia.org             www.stjosephwaconia.org
www.mnpro.com               www.crown.edu
www.islandviewgolfclub.com  www.deed.state.mn.us
www.arboretum.umn.edu       www.metrocouncil.org
www.threeriversparkdistrict.org  www.minnesota.com/map
www.valleyfair.com          www.explorminnesota.com
www.canterburypark.com
Business and Economic Development

Photograph by: Lynn Laumann  Photography
The City of Waconia offers many resources to those looking to develop businesses within the city limits. As we continue to grow, we want to see our downtown thrive with activity! We also encourage growth in our established industrial park and shopping centers. Lease and rental business space opportunities are available on our website at www.waconia.org.

The City of Waconia established a policy & guidelines setting forth criteria regarding the use of municipal subsidies, such as tax increment financing (TIF), tax abatement, and other business subsidies for private development projects within the City. Review the Municipal Subsidy Policy and application materials on our website at www.waconia.org.

The City offers an Economic Development Revolving Loan Program that offers business owners the opportunity to apply for up to $149,999. Review the loan program information and application materials on the city website www.waconia.org.

Repayment of your business loan is easy with direct payment. Funds maybe used for land, building, or renovation costs along with equipment and machinery purchases for qualified borrowers.

The City is a member of the Minnesota Community Capital Fund (MCCF), a non-profit economic development financing organization for metro area communities. The MCCF is a gap-financing tool for most economic development projects. For more information visit: www.mncommunitycapitalfund.org.

A complete listing of all businesses located in the City can be found on our website at www.waconia.org. Click on Explore Our City and then Business Directory. Businesses can be searched by category, address, or name.

Need to Contact City Staff about Economic Development Activities?
Please Email or Call:
City Administrator: Susan Arntz
Email: sarnts@waconia.org - Phone Number: (952) 442-3100
Waconia is a growing community of 10,697 people located just 30 minutes west of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul in an area popular with visitors for the many lakes, parks and enjoyable destinations within easy reach. The City is nestled next to scenic Lake Waconia and offers residents a healthy environment as well as growing economic development, strong schools and excellent health care facilities.

5 Major Employers in Waconia

1. Ridgeview Medical Center
   490 S Maple Street, Waconia
   Phone: (952) 442-2191
   www.ridgeviewmedical.org
   Number of Employees: 1600

2. Waconia Public Schools
   District Office: 504 Industrial Blvd, Waconia
   Phone: (952) 442-0600
   www.waconia.k12.mn.us
   Number of Employees: 450

3. Medallion Cabinetry
   180 Industrial Blvd, Waconia
   Phone: (952) 442-5171
   www.medallioncabinetry.com
   Number of Employees: 440

4. Good Samaritan Center
   333 W 5th Street, Waconia
   Phone: (952) 442-5111
   www.good-sam.com
   Number of Employees: 250

5. Milltronics CNC Machines
   1410 Mill Lane, Waconia
   Phone: (952) 442-1410
   www.milltronics.net
   Number of Employees: 200
Business and Economic Development

Demographics Snapshot

City Population: 12,775 (2015 est.)
County Population: 97,338 (2014 est.)
Median Age: 34.9 Years
Housing: 4,889 Units (2015)
Median Household Income: $84,892 (2015)

Workforce In Carver County:
Total Employment: 48,694
Available Workforce: 51,456
Unemployment Rate: 5.4%

*Metropolitan Statistical Area

For Your Financial Needs!

Local Banks:
Hometown Bank
641 Marketplace Dr, Waconia
Phone: (952) 230-3850
www.htbmn.com

Klein Bank of Waconia
53 West Main Street, Waconia
Phone: 952-442-2265
www.kleinbank.com

Security Bank of Waconia
539 South Elm Street, Waconia
Phone: 952-442-5161
www.security-banks.com

Mid-Country Bank
200 East Frontage Rd, Waconia
Phone: 952-442-2141
www.midcountrybank.com

Research Information and Useful Data:

Use the links to find information on the local, regional, and state economy.


Small Business Administration: The Small Business Administration offers business start-up, financial resources, and business management tools. www.sba.gov

Metropolitan Council: The Metropolitan Council is the Twin Cities regional planning agency that provides essential services to the 7-county region. The Council works with local communities to provide critical services. www.metrocouncil.org

Carver County: The Carver County website provides information on property taxes to business owners and residents in the City of Waconia, along many additional services provided to all citizens of Carver County. www.co.carver.mn.us
Southwest Initiative Foundation
Southwest Initiative Foundation’s Microenterprise Loan Program is designed to provide loans, education & technical assistance to entrepreneurs and those seeking self-employment opportunities.

Eligible businesses may be start-up or expansion projects including but not limited to:
- Manufacturing
- Service
- Retail
- Daycare

Loan funds may be used for start-up costs, equipment, inventory, furniture and fixtures and working capital. Loans will be collateralized. Funds may not be used for real estate purchases, but a mortgage can be given as collateral.

The maximum loan amount is $50,000. Loan term is 10 years or less (6 years for equipment), with an 7.5% interest base rate.

Potential applicants should contact the SWIF Microenterprise Loan Program at 800-594-9480, 320-587-4848 or loans@swifoundation.org for more information or to apply.

Open to Business Lending
The Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) is a 45 member association committed to increasing opportunities for development of quality, community-based projects through collaborative action on the public policy issues, loan fund development, public education efforts, and long-term strategic planning. Emerging Small Business Programs is a distinct program area for MCCD. Open to Business is a major part of their focus.

Open to Business provides the following loan products:
- Loan Packaging/Facilitation
- Loans for New and Emerging Businesses
- Loans for Second Stage & Growing Businesses
- Real Estate Participation Loans
- Real Estate Acquisition Financing
- Transactional Financing

For more information about the Open to Business program, please contact Rob Smolund at 612-789-7337 or rsmolund@mccdmn.org.
Business and Economic Development

Assistance Programs for Minnesota Business Owners

Small Business Assistance Office & Small Business Development Centers

The Department of Employment and Economic Development has established Small Business Assistance Offices (SBAO) to produce publications on business related topics and to provide counseling, and direction for business owners.

Free Publications available to business owners from SBAO

- An Employer’s Guide to Employment Issues in Minnesota
  - A Guide to Starting a Business in Minnesota
- An Employer’s Guide to Employee Handbooks in Minnesota
  - An Employer’s Guide to Employee Benefits
  - A Guide to Intellectual Property Protection
  - A Legal Guide to the Internet
- Raising Capital: Securities Law and Business Considerations

Publications can be printed and ordered at: www.positivelyminnesota.com.

Business Information

Labor Market & Salary Survey Information—
Data regarding the economy, job market, and the workforce relevant to your business.
Phone: 651-282-2714 or 1-888-234-1114

Business Costs—
Research on current market status, business costs analysis, and other economic information for those future business owners looking for the best possible site for their business.
Phone: 651-297-1291 or 1-800-657-5858

Unemployment Insurance—
Identifies businesses obligation to provide unemployment insurance and aids in recordkeeping and reporting.
Phone: 651-296-3624
www.uimn.org

Minnesota Workforce Center Systems
With business services specialists located throughout the state, this network of state and local partners provides a range of services that reflect the needs of area businesses.
Phone: 1-888-GET-JOBS www.mnwf.org

Recruitment
Post job openings at no fee and search for qualified candidates locally or statewide on Minnesota’s Job bank (mnworks.org). Link your company’s website to the Minnesota WorkForce Center website to access potential employees.

Retention
Access tools to increase employee performance including connection to reliable and cost effective job skill analysis services and training.

Downsizing
Learn about layoff alternatives, such as Dislocated Worker Program, Shared Work, and assistance with training and employment services when businesses are faced with facility closings and layoffs.
Welcome to the Waconia Chamber of Commerce

What is the Chamber of Commerce:
The Waconia Chamber of Commerce is a volunteer organization driven by its members to support and encourage a vital and prosperous business community. The chamber is a business advocate and resource as well as a community partner.

A Business Advocate...
The Waconia Chamber of Commerce is a business advocate actively involved in local, regional and state issues. The chamber supports public policy development that positively shapes the business environment of today and the future.

A Business Resource...
The Waconia Chamber of Commerce strives to be a resource to member businesses by providing professional staff, learning opportunities and a network of area business leaders and professionals.

A Community Partner...
The Waconia Chamber of Commerce understands the importance of a vital and prosperous business community and works to retain businesses and actively encourages economic growth.

What we do:
The work of the Waconia Chamber of Commerce is focused in four areas:

Economic Development
With the support of the GrowMN program and local transportation initiatives, we work to encourage continued economic development in the Waconia area.

Member Services/Programs
Networking, marketing, educational programs, business referrals, relationship building, mentoring are just the beginning of many services and programs we offer.

Public Policy
Staying active in local, regional, state, and national policy helps keep the issues important to Waconia businesses in front of local representatives.

Tourism/Destination Identity
Working to establish Waconia as a visitor destination with a unified identity and quality tourism promotion.

Who we are:
- 200 members and growing!
- Large and small businesses
- Manufacturers, retailers, restaurants, lodging providers, healthcare providers, educators, government agencies, financial institutions and planners, and service providers of all kinds.
- Leaders in Waconia business!

Become a member
Becoming a member of the Waconia Chamber of Commerce is simple. Visit the Waconia Chamber of Commerce website for more information, or call (952) 442-5812.

Waconia Chamber of Commerce
209 South Vine Street
Waconia, MN 55387
952.442.5812
www.destinationwaconia.org
E-mail:
ksites@destinationwaconia.org

Towne Center
City Hall Services
The City of Waconia is a statutory city with the mayor/city council having administrative and legislative responsibility. As the elected representatives of the community, the city council establishes city policy and long-range community goals and exercises budgetary control through the adoption of an annual budget.

City leadership consists of a mayor and four council members. The city is divided into two wards, each represented by two council members, who are elected to alternating four year terms. The mayor is elected at-large for a two year term. The mayor has one vote on the council as do council members. City elections are held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November of even-numbered years.

The city council meets regularly to consider ordinances, resolutions, and other such actions as may be required by law and circumstance. The various issues brought before the council may be initiated by council members, advisory commissions, administrative staff, or residents of the community.

Regular meetings of the city council are conducted the first and third Mondays of each month, except the month of December when only one regular meeting is typically scheduled. When a legal holiday falls on a regular meeting date, the meeting will be conducted on Tuesday following the holiday. All meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Waconia City Hall, 201 South Vine Street, Waconia. Most regular meetings of the Council are broadcast on local cable channel 8.

To place an item on the agenda, requests must be received at city hall a minimum of seven days in advance of the meeting. Persons desiring to attend a council meeting who require special accommodation are asked to contact city hall a minimum of seven days prior to the meeting.
City Hall conducts business between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday and is closed on legal holidays. This is a brief introduction to each department located within City Hall:

**Administration & Economic Development**
The office of the city administrator comprises the administrative department for the city. General administrative services for management of the city, coordination of city departments and personnel matters, are performed by the city administrator. The city administrator also serves as the Executive Director for the Economic Development Authority and the Housing & Redevelopment Authority. Along with these duties, this department facilitates the economic community and business development in Waconia consistent with the objectives and guidelines established by the city council.

The City Clerk’s office coordinates elections, processes license and permit applications, collects and certifies special assessments, and maintains all official city records and contracts and keeps the City’s official web site up to date.

**Finance**
This department is responsible for the overall fiscal management and budget administration functions of the city to include accounts payable, receivables, utility billing, investments, risk management, and payroll. Finance staff members also coordinate data for the annual audit process with the City’s contracted auditing firm HLB Tautges, Redpath Ltd. The City’s annual operating and 10-year capital budget is prepared and presented to the City Council for approval each December.

The finance department can assist residents with property tax information. Annual financial and budget reports are available at [www.waconia.org](http://www.waconia.org).

**Planning and Zoning Department**
This department oversees planning and development in the city and reviews applications and petitions to ensure compliance with zoning and land use regulations. The city’s Long Range Comprehensive Guide Plan is maintained by the planning department. It promotes orderly development in the city. This department also reviews development requests, annexation petitions, administers and enforces the zoning ordinance and subdivision code, and provides support to the planning commission.

The planning department is responsible for processing all new construction and minor building permit applications and overseeing the licensing of rental dwellings. Building inspections are currently conducted by an independent agency, Metro West Inspection Services, Inc. Building code questions should be directed to the building inspector at (763) 479-1720.
Public Services and Utilities

LIVE
The Public Services Department oversees the construction of public improvements. The department consists of streets, street lights, storm water, water and sewer.

**Information on Water and Sewer Charges**

For residential accounts, the water charge is based on actual water usage each month. The sewer charge is based on the actual water usage during November-April (winter months). For the months of May-October (summer months), the sewer charge is based on the average usage of the preceding winter months.

Commercial, industrial, institutional water and sewer charges are based on the actual water usage each month. Irrigation systems are metered separately and are billed for water only, since the water is not going in to the sanitary sewer system.

Water revenues are used to fund water production, water treatment, water storage facilities, and to maintain the city's infrastructure. Sewer revenues are used to fund wastewater treatment through the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services facilities and to maintain local infrastructure and lift stations.

Additional information regarding City of Waconia utilities can be found on our website at: [www.waconia.org](http://www.waconia.org)

### 2015 Residential Utility Rate Structure

- **Base Water Rate of $6.70** for each connected user
- **Base Sewer Rate of $10.60** for each connected user

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Usage per Gallon Breakdown</th>
<th>Sewer Usage per Gallon Breakdown</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$2.55 For usage 0-6,000 gallons</td>
<td>$4.40 For usage 0-2,000 gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2.80 For usage 6,001-12,000 gallons</td>
<td>$4.90 For usage 2,001-7,000 gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3.00 For usage of 12,001 and over</td>
<td>$5.45 For usage over 7,001 gallons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Rates are reviewed on a yearly basis and are subject to change at that time.
Water Conservation Ordinance regarding Irrigation:

The City of Waconia has adopted enforcement measures related to its Water Conservation Ordinance 410.50. Outdoor irrigation is not permitted between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on any day, all year round. In addition, odd/even watering restrictions are also in effect. For instance, if your address ends in an odd number, you may water during appropriate hours on odd numbered calendar days; whereas, if you have an address ending in an even number, you may water on even numbered calendar days.

Upon discovery of a violation, the violator shall be issued a warning letter that sets forth the violation and shall describe the remedy and fines for future violations. Upon a second violation, the violator shall be issued a citation with a fine of $75.00, and a third and any subsequent violation will result in a $250.00 fine for each occurrence. Fines will be added to the violator’s monthly water utility bill. Violations are permanently recorded on an individual’s account and carried over from year to year; they do not start over again. They remain part of a customer’s account, not the property address.

Water Conservation in the Home:

In order to preserve Waconia’s most precious water resources, it is important that we as a community practice water conservation methods throughout the year. By making simple changes in our daily routines, we can protect our water supply as well as ensure savings on our monthly water bills.

What can you do?

- Water your lawn early in the morning or at night to avoid excess evaporation caused by the heat of day and the wind. Do not over water your lawn (water every 3–5 days during summer months).
- Only use lawn chemicals if absolutely necessary.
- Only run clothes washers and dish washers when they are full.
- When washing dishes by hand, or when brushing your teeth, do not leave the water running.
- Repair dripping faucets and leaky toilets. In the average home, leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons of water per day and dripping faucets waste up to 2,000 gallons of water per year.
- How to detect a possible leak:
  - Make sure water is turned off throughout the house.
  - Locate the water meter in your home and look at the face. There is a leak detector located at the bottom of the meter. If the leak indicator is turning, that indicates that water is running somewhere in the house.
  - Check all faucets, toilets, and water softeners for possible leaks.
  (For more information regarding checking for possible leaks, please call 952-442-3107.)
- If you have a swimming pool, use a cover. A swimming pool cover can cut loss of water by evaporation by 90 percent.
- To clean sidewalks and driveways, use a broom instead of washing them down.
- Instead of running hot water over frozen food to defrost, defrost in the microwave or refrigerator.
- Do not dispose of toxic chemicals down the drain. Chemicals such as cleaning products, motor oil, weed killers, paint, etc. must be disposed of properly.
Public Services and Utilities

Other Utilities:

**Call before you dig!!**
Gopher State One: (651) 454-0002
(There is no charge for this service.)

**Electric Services**
Xcel Energy: (800) 895-4999
Minnesota Valley Electric Coop: (952) 492-2313
(MVEC serves Country Ponds, Sterling Hills, Villages of Hills Lake, Interlake & Interlaken Woods)

**Natural Gas Services**
Centerpoint-Minnegasco: (800) 245-2377

**Telephone Services**
Century Link Telephone: (855) 422-2820
Century Link Repair Line: (800) 788-3600

**Cable Services**
Mediacom: (800) 479-2082
DirecTV (Satellite) (800) 531-5000
Dish (Satellite) (888) 661-8432

**Solid Waste Management & Recycling Services**
Elite Waste Disposal: (952) 445-4301
Organic Disposal: (952) 443-2336
Randy’s Sanitation: (763) 972-3335
Republic Services: (952) 941-5174
Waste Management: (888) 661-8432
Snow Removal:
The city relies on its residents to clear their own driveways, clearing areas for trash cans, around mailboxes and/or delivery tubes, fire hydrants, and public and private sidewalks adjacent to their property. These areas must be cleared without depositing snow back into the street or alley. For safety reasons, large piles of snow, which obstruct vision of driveways, walks, or streets, must be removed. All residents along designated public sidewalks must clear snow from public sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours of its deposit. If you are uncertain if your property abuts a designated sidewalk or walkway, please contact the Public Services Department.

Hydrants
Residents abutting hydrants are asked to maintain clear access to them at all times during the year, particularly in the winter months. A clear path to a hydrant may prove critical to a prompt response in the event of fire at your home or that of your neighbor!

To accommodate routine maintenance of hydrants, or emergency repair situations, landscape planting may not be planted within a 10-foot perimeter of any hydrant. The City will not restore any landscape damage that occurs within this 10-foot perimeter.

Lawn Maintenance & Care
Lawn maintenance and care are required within the city. The city requires all new construction to have a lawn established within six months of issuance of the certificate of occupancy. Any vegetation over six inches in height is a violation of city ordinance. All grass clippings and other vegetation must not be deposited into the streets or alleys.

Gardening for Clean Water
Residents and business owners contemplating landscape projects are encouraged to consider rain gardens. A rain garden is a shallow depression that is planted with deep-rooted native plants and grasses. When planted near run-off sites like down spouts and sump pumps the rain garden will capture the run off before it makes its way to the sewer system and can filter contaminants and pollutants. Not only do the native plants make a beautiful landscape, they also enhance the natural habitat and benefits local wildlife.
For more information on rain gardens please visit www.bluethumb.com
Parks and Recreation

PLAY

Photograph by: Sarah Christian-Garceau
Brook Peterson Community Park

The largest of the city’s parks is Brook Peterson Community Park, located at 1200 Oak Avenue, near Waconia High School. This 40 acre park includes the indoor Waconia Ice Arena, 8 softball fields, a skate board park, concession stand and playground. The Waconia Baseball Association plays at this park, which is home to the amateur town team, “Waconia Lakers”. This park is accessible by walkway from downtown Waconia. The park may be used between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and midnight.

City Square Park

City Square Park is located near downtown Waconia on Main Street between Pine and Spruce Streets. This park provides play equipment, a picnic shelter, walking paths and a gazebo that may be reserved through the parks & recreation department for special events. Restroom facilities are open during the summer months. City Square Park is the site for the city’s ‘Music in the Park’ summer concerts and Chamber of Commerce events, including Nickle Dickle Day activities in September and Holiday in the Park during the Christmas season. City Square Park facilities may be used between the hours of 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. Dogs are not allowed in City Square Park.

Cedar Point Park

Cedar Point Park, located on Cedar Street at Lake Waconia, has two tennis courts, a basketball court, play equipment, picnic tables, and a fishing pier & NEW in 2015 Paddleboard Storage Racks! The walking path along the shore of Lake Waconia continues west along Waconia Parkway as part of the city trail system. Park facilities may be used between the hours of 6:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Neighborhood Parks

The City currently has eighteen parks that are designated as Neighborhood Parks consisting of 134 acres of City owned property. A brief description of neighborhood parks located in various subdivisions follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood Park</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bent Creek Park</td>
<td>4 acre park with play equipment, t-ball field, garden plots and trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearwater Mills Park</td>
<td>2 acre park with play equipment, garden plots and trail access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fountain</td>
<td>1 acre park with fountain and benches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox Run</td>
<td>2 acre park with play equipment, a ball field and trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hills Lake</td>
<td>1 acre park with playground equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlaken</td>
<td>65 acre park with playground equipment, trail access, grills, garden plots and benches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakeview Terrace Park</td>
<td>6-1/2 acre park with play equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacy Village Park</td>
<td>1 acre park with playground equipment and benches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakpointe</td>
<td>2-1/2 acre park with playground equipment, a tennis court, picnic area, basketball court, and walking paths.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Towne</td>
<td>1/4 acre downtown park with benches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pheasant Ridge Park</td>
<td>1-1/2 acre park with play equipment and trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinehill</td>
<td>1 acre park with playground equipment and benches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudheimer</td>
<td>25 acre open space park area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugarbush</td>
<td>4 acre park with play equipment, a ball field and trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vista Point</td>
<td>5 acre park with drinking fountains, benches and a gazebo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildhurst</td>
<td>1/2 acre park with play equipment and trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterford</td>
<td>12 acre park with play equipment, walking trails, covered picnic area, garden plots, grills and benches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windmill Creek</td>
<td>1/4 acre with play equipment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regional Parks

Additional outdoor recreational opportunities are available at the nearby Carver Park Reserve, Baylor Regional Park, Lake Waconia Regional Park, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, and the Knights of Columbus Park.

Carver Park Reserve, located north of Victoria on County Road II, offers nature programs, walking/biking trails and cross country ski opportunities. Call 952-443-2911 for information on programs and hours.

Baylor Regional Park, located west of Waconia, at 10775 County Road 33, provides a beautiful picnic setting next to Eagle Lake, and summer and winter recreational opportunities. Call 952-466-5250 for additional information.

Lake Waconia Regional Park, located just east of Waconia at 8170 Paradise Lane, is currently being developed. At this time there is a beach as well as picnic and volleyball area. Call 952-442-5250 for additional information.

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum is part of the University of Minnesota and the largest public garden in Minnesota, with 1,000 acres of rolling hills, 74 specialty gardens and plant collections, and more than 5,000 plant varieties. Open year round, the Arboretum offers seasonal walking and tram tours, hiking and cross country ski trails – plus, a Library, Tea Room, Gift Shop and Conservatory. It is located on Highway 5, just west of Highway 41 in Chanhassen. Call 952-443-1400 for more information.

Waconia Knights of Columbus Park is located at 9055 East County Rd. 10, is a private park available to the public through reservation. A ball field and picnic shelter are available. Contact Jim Ebert at 952-442-2261, or Dan Steinbagen at 952-442-2760.
Discover the wonders of Safari Island—a lush excursion into fitness and fun! Heart-pounding excitement and thrill-packed adventures are yours to explore. Build endurance for survival in life’s jungle or flee the ravages of civilization—do it all when you escape to Safari Island!

Located at:
1600 Community Dr
Waconia, MN 55387

HOURS OF OPERATION
Monday – Friday 5:30 am – 10:00 pm
Saturday – 5:30 am – 8:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am – 8:00 pm

SUMMER HOURS
Effective May 1 through September 30
Monday-Thursday: 5:30 am – 9:00 pm
Friday & Saturday: 5:30 am – 7:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am – 7:00 pm

CHILDCARE HOURS
Monday—Friday 8:00 am – 10:00 am
Tuesday & Thursday 5:00 pm—7:00 pm
The Waconia Ice Arena is owned and operated by the City of Waconia. The newly constructed Ice Arena opened its doors in June 2008. It offers a sheet of ice for all skating enthusiasts!

INTERESTED IN YOUTH HOCKEY?
CONTACT:
Waconia Hockey Association
952-442-4894
www.waconiahockey.com

FOR ICE RENTAL INFORMATION
CONTACT:
David Wabbe AT 952-442-7465
OR CHECK OUT
www.rinkfinder.com

FOR ICE ARENA ADVERTISING INFORMATION CONTACT:
David Wabbe AT 952-442-7465
OR EMAIL
RINK@waconia.org
Movie in the Park  
June-August  
When: One Friday each month, 8:30 p.m.  
Where: City Square Park

Music in the Park  
June & July  
When: Most Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.  
Where: City Square Park

Floatie Fridays  
One Friday a Month  
This is a program that offers supervised pool time where you can bring your own floatie or borrow one of ours! On your way out, grab a root beer float with your friends!

Fishing Friday  
Mid-June  
Parks and Recreation teams with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to bring this event to Waconia! This program provides great fishing and learning opportunities for residents and visitors.

Moonlight Swim  
One Saturday a Month  
The overhead lights are turned off and underwater lights are turned on for a “moonlit” experience at Safari Islands Pool. This a free program for members.
**Special Events and Programs Hosted by Parks and Recreation**

**Waconia Softball Tournaments**

**July**

This ASA Sanctioned tournament is an annual event held at Brook Peterson Park and is open to Men's and Women's Class C and D softball teams.

**Rock on Ice**

**Select Fridays**

Catch up with friends and listen to your favorite tunes at the Waconia Ice Arena. A community favorite. Skate rentals are available.

**Swim, Kayak, Golf, Archery Lessons and More!**

Waconia Parks & Recreation offers a extensive variety of sports lessons. From children to adult there is something for all ages or enroll in our parent child classes for something fun to learn together! Check out our current Parks & Rec Guide for a list of current lessons offered.
Waconia has a strong commitment to quality education for all ages. From early childhood development programs to local K-12 schools, community education programs and a four year college, Waconia offers lifetime learning for everyone.

**Waconia Public School District 110**
Serving the communities of Waconia, St. Bonifacius, and New Germany

**District Office:**
512 Industrial Blvd
Waconia, MN 55387
Website: [www.waconia.k12.mn.us](http://www.waconia.k12.mn.us)

**Southview Elementary**
225 West 4th Street
Waconia, MN 55387

**Bayview Elementary**
24 S Walnut
Waconia, MN 55387

**Waconia High School**
1400 Community Drive
Waconia, MN 55387

**Clearwater Middle School**
1650 Community Drive
Waconia, MN 55387
Schools

Private & Parochial Schools

Trinity Lutheran Church & School
601 East 2nd Street
Waconia, MN 55387
Email: www.trinitywaconia.org

St. Joseph School

St. Joseph Catholic Church & School
41 East 1st Street
Waconia, MN 55387
Email: www.stjosephwaconia.org

Higher Education

Crown College
8700 College View Drive
St. Bonifacius, MN 55375
Email: www.crown.edu

Community Education & Recreation

“A Commitment to Community and Lifelong Learning”

Community Education is a lifelong education and community program serving the citizens of Waconia Public School District 110.

The list of programs and services include youth and adult enrichment classes, youth recreation and sports teams, behind the wheel training, early child-hood screening, Rainbow Preschool, and Kids’ Company school age daycare.

District 110 Community Education & Recreation
516 Industrial Blvd
Waconia, MN 55387
www.waconiaces.new.rschooltoday.com
Churches and Schools

Churches

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church ELCA
800 Waconia Parkway North
Waconia, MN  55387

Trinity Lutheran Church and School
601 East 2nd Street
Waconia, MN 55387

St. Joseph Church

St. Joseph Catholic Church and School
41 East First Street
Waconia, MN 55387

Oakwood Community Church
Worship at Waconia High School
1400 Community Drive
Waconia, MN  55387

Parkside Church
9560 Paradise Lane
Waconia, MN  55387

Church of Latter Day Saints
1350 Peitz Ave
Waconia, MN 55387

Waconia Moravian Church
209 E 2nd Street
Waconia, MN 55387

Promise Community Church
141 Depot Drive
Waconia, MN 55387

Freshwater Community Church
138 W 1st Street
Waconia, MN 55387

Church of Latter Day Saints
1350 Peitz Ave
Waconia, MN 55387
Calendar of Events

PLAY

Photograph by: Lynn Laumann Photography
Calendar of Events

Special Events Held in Waconia

Vintage & Antique Snowmobile Event
Last weekend in January

Come see the world’s largest vintage snowmobile show; plus swap meet, trail ride, races and banquet. The event is held on the southeast shore of Lake Waconia and is presented by MWVSS.
www.mwvss.com

Lake Waconia Band Festival
Third weekend in June

Up to 20 of Minnesota’s greatest high school marching bands are on parade, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Best viewing is along Main Street.
www.waconiabands.com

Special Weekend Sales Events

The unique shops of Waconia extend their hours and invite you to Waconia’s famous sidewalk sales throughout the year. Then stay in town and dine at one of our terrific restaurants.
www.destinationwaconia.org

Lake Waconia Triathlon
Last Sunday in June

This grueling race consists of a half mile swim, 20 mile bike ride, and 4 mile run. It attracts hundreds of top athletes and fans!
www.lakewaconiatriathlon.net
Calendar of Events

Special Events Held in Waconia

4th of July Fireworks
July 4th at Dusk
The annual fireworks show lights up the sky over Lake Waconia for all American fun!

Carver County Fair
Second week in August
Waconia hosts one of Minnesota’s top county fairs. Along with the carnival rides and entertainment, there are truck and tractor pulls on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings in the grand stand. Also, a wide selection of food from local businesses and from around the county. Animals fill the sheds and Carver County businesses set up booths to promote their services to the community. Fun for all ages!
www.carvercountyfair.com

Nickle Dickle Day
Second Saturday after Labor Day
This great American town festival includes an arts and craft show, classic car show, live entertainment, 3 on 3 basketball tournament, 10K and 5K runs and children’s fun run.
www.destinationwaconia.org

Homespun Holidays
First Saturday in December
The shops of Waconia open their doors and reduce prices on unique holiday gifts. In the evening, enjoy a tree lighting, live entertainment, hot cocoa and a visit from Santa in City Square Park.
www.destinationwaconia.org