



Waconia Wavelength

A City of Waconia Newsletter Publication

April 2018



What Not to Pour or Flush into Household Drains!

The Public Services Department continually discovers issues with fats, oils, and grease (better known as FOGs) being poured into household drains. These common cooking items have the potential to cause major private property damage and sanitary sewer overflows, ultimately contaminating our local receiving waters and lakes.

Common sources of FOG items include cooking grease, fryer oils, margarine or butter, salad dressings, and marinades like ketchup and mustard. Instead of rinsing, try to remove these items with paper towels or place in a can to cool and discharge into the trash. Grease can be utilized as alternative bird suet by adding sunflower or other seeds and freezing the material prior to placing outside.

Disposable cleaning rags and wipes also continue to be a problem. Although products may say "flushable" it has been discovered that these items do not react like toilet paper in the sanitary sewer collection system. Staff has discovered that "flushable" wipes are blocking major sanitary sewer collection lines and plugging pumping systems. As a result, we have responded to private service lines being plugged. We would ask that residents using "flushable" wipes avoid discharging them into the sanitary sewer via a toilet and instead place them in the garbage for proper disposal.

Water Week

On May 10, 2018 the Public Services Department will be hosting a Water Week event at Fountain Park located at 200 2nd Street West during the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. During the event, Public Services will provide information on its potable drinking water. In addition, Public Services will provide information on our award-winning storm water improvements including "Best Management Practices" elements installed within Fountain Park. We will discuss the benefits of these practices, as well as other projects the City of Waconia has completed to improve water quality and reduce consumer demands on our potable drinking water.

Community Gardens

The City of Waconia maintains six community garden locations for Waconia residents to provide gardeners the opportunity to grow their own fresh, organic produce. Plots are available at **Bent Creek Park, Brook Peterson Park, Clearwater Mills Park, Ice Arena** (raised beds), **Interlaken Park**, and **Waterford Park**.

Standard plots are 150 square feet and cost \$25 and raised beds are 120 square feet and cost \$15. Returning gardeners can submit an application beginning on April 9. Remaining gardens will be available on May 19. For more information and to access an application, please visit www.waconia.org, or contact Marnie Lucas, Public Services Office Assistant at mlucas@waconia.org or 952-442-2615.

Carver County Board of Appeals

Each spring, property owners that wish to review their market value have an opportunity to do so with Carver County. There are several steps available.

The first step when you disagree with your estimated market value is to call the Carver County Property Assessment Office at 952-361-1960 to discuss your concerns with an appraiser.

Step two involves making an official appeal regarding your property valuations between April 23 and April 27, 2018. Again, you can call and discuss your concerns and ask for an appointment for a physical review of your property. You can make your appeal in person, through a designated representative, or by sending a letter. If your appeal is unsuccessful at this point, you can proceed to Step 3, which is appearing at the County Board of Equalization.

More information about further steps, including tax court, is available on the County's website at www.co.carver.mn.us.

2040 Comprehensive Plan Update

The City of Waconia is in the process of updating its 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which is a document that outlines how Waconia plans to grow and develop over the next 20 years.

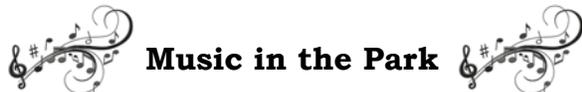


The City has held two open houses to gather input from residents on the Comprehensive Plan. If you could not make one of the open houses, a virtual open house is offered on our website at www.waconia.org and will be available until April 6. Here, you can view draft maps and provide your input either on the maps directly or via a survey.

Additionally, please stay tuned for details on upcoming Planning Commission and City Council discussions regarding the draft document.

Summer Sewer Rates

Green grass, flowers, and tree buds are officially on the horizon. Summer sewer use pro-ration will go into effect **May 1, 2018**. Any April sewer charges will be based on actual water usage. For more information on City conservation efforts and tiered rates please call 952-442-3107 or visit the City website at www.waconia.org.



Music in the Park

The popular Music in the Park series is back for the summer of 2018. Music in the Park takes place at City Square Park on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. View the schedule below and save the dates to your calendar. We hope to see you all there!

June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
Sidewalk Cafe	Traveled Ground	Tricia & The Toonies	Everett Smithson Band
July 12	July 19	July 26	August 2
The Brueskes	Retro Soul & the Westside Horns	Vinnie Rose	Wondercure

Hot Topics!

Did you know...the average Waconia household uses 5,000 gallons of water per month? This month's hot topic is all about ways to cut back on water use.



Follow the code for more information on this month's (or previous months') hot topic, or visit the utility billing section of www.waconia.org.

Arbor Day Celebration



Thursday, April 19
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Pheasant Ridge Park



All Waconia community members are invited to participate in this Arbor Day celebration by joining us to help plant trees. At the conclusion of the celebration, the community is invited to join Waconia staff and Park Board members in conducting a spring cleaning of the department's Adopt-a-Trail section of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail.

Waconia Fire Relief Association Spring Pancake Breakfast



Sunday, April 22nd
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Waconia Fire Station



\$7 if purchased prior to the event
\$8 at the door

Children 5 & under are free!

Movies in the Park

Movie in the Park is back for summer, 2018! Please join us at City Square Park at 8:30 p.m. for the following movies:

June 29 – Annie

July 20 – Honey I Shrunk the Kids

August 17 – The Wizard of Oz



Popcorn will be available for purchase for \$1. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the show!

Public Services Open House

Saturday, May 19
310 10th Street East
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



Be sure to mark your calendar for our 6th annual Public Services Open House event. During the event, guests will have the opportunity to rub elbows with our Public Services team. Children of all ages are invited to see, touch, honk, and explore the city trucks with the guidance from the respective professionals who explain the equipment and discuss the work they accomplish with such machinery. You will also be able to visit the Water Treatment Facility and learn about how Waconia's water is managed. Returning this year will be the paint the snow plow activity in addition to information on projects, a pancake and sausage breakfast, prizes and demonstrations. We hope to see you all there!