



# Waconia Wavelength

A City of Waconia Newsletter Publication

August 2020



## 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](http://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. You can request absentee ballots via mail for both the August Primary and the November General Elections.

City of Waconia residents can register and vote absentee in-person at Waconia City Hall (201 South Vine Street) or 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](http://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/register tovote](http://www.waconia.org/register tovote).

More information on the 2020 Primary and General Election is available on the City's website at [www.waconia.org/elections](http://www.waconia.org/elections).

## August Music in the Park Schedule

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

**August 6** – Teddy Bear Band

**August 13** – Retro Soul & the Westside Horns

**August 20** – Tricia & The Toonies

**August 27** – Traveled Ground



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

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

During the concerts, 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 Schedule

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.



**Friday, August 7**  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
**Saturday, August 29**  
8:00 a.m. to noon



Cost is \$1.00 per bag or \$10.00 per pick-up or trailer. Cash and exact change is preferred, although credit cards will be accepted with a \$10 minimum. For questions, please contact Public Services at 952-442-2615 or [publicservices@waconia.org](mailto:publicservices@waconia.org). Please note that due to COVID-19, staff are not able to assist with the removal of items from your vehicle. A copy of the full schedule is available at [www.waconia.org/compost](http://www.waconia.org/compost).

## Running for Office

The General Election for the City of Waconia will be held on November 3, 2020 for the purpose of electing candidates to the offices listed below. The filing period for these offices began at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 and ends at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11, 2020. Candidates may withdraw until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 13, 2020. The filing fee is \$5.

The following seats are up for election in 2020:

- **Mayor** (2-year term): January 2021-December 2022
- **City Council Member Ward I** (4-year term): January 2021 – December 2024
- **City Council Member Ward II** (4-year term): January 2021 – December 2024
- **City Council Member Ward II** (special election, 2-year term): November 2020 – December 2022

To view more details and for more information on filing, go to [www.waconia.org/elections](http://www.waconia.org/elections) and click on the "Running for Office" tab. You can file via email, mail, fax, or in person at City Hall.

## Online Permitting

Residents can now send building permits and permitting questions to [permits@waconia.org](mailto:permits@waconia.org). All you need to do is fill out the permit application and submit that, along with any supporting documents to the above email address. You can visit [www.waconia.org/345/Building-Permits](http://www.waconia.org/345/Building-Permits) for all of the permit applications and details on when permits are required.

Once submitted, a member of the Planning Department will call to take payment and ask any questions they may have. You'll also receive a call when your permit is ready to be picked up.

## Coat & Snow Pant Drive

Although it's summer, we're already starting to plan for winter here in Waconia! This year, the Women of Waconia and the Waconia Fire Department are sponsoring a coat/snow pant drive to help families in our community prepare for winter. Check your closets and cubbies for new or gently used winter coats and snow pants in all sizes (infant through adult). You can drop off your donations at the Waconia Fire Station (26 S. Maple St.) and Waconia City Hall (201 South Vine Street), now through early September.

Coats and snow pants will be distributed at the Waconia Fire Station on September 24 (4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) and September 26 (9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) If you have any questions, please reach out to [women\\_of\\_waconia@yahoo.com](mailto:women_of_waconia@yahoo.com).