



Waconia Wavelength

A City of Waconia Newsletter Publication

December 2020



Shop Local!

Our local businesses are so important to the community and we want to do everything in our power to support them during this difficult time. Carver County has published an interactive Food & Drink Map so residents can view what restaurants are open for take-out during this shutdown. You can view this map by visiting the City's website at www.waconia.org/waconiarestaurants.

Ice Safety Reminder

As temperatures get colder, the Waconia Fire Department would like to issue a friendly reminder that it is important to stay off the ice until it is at least four inches thick (walking). Also, please remember that ice thickness varies depending on where you are on the lake.



2020 Election Update

The 2020 General Election took place on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. The polls were open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.. Absentee voting was also available at City Hall (for Waconia residents) from September 18 to November 2. Overall, Waconia had 7,943 residents vote in the 2020 election, which equates to 94.5% voter turnout!

Waconia also saw 2,818 residents vote early at City Hall, which was a 127% increase over 2018 early-in-person voting totals! This helped dramatically reduce the lines on the day of the election. Overall 62.4% of voters voted early – either in person or by mail.

Thank you for voting and for sharing your voice in the process. The results of the election were certified on November 13. The results were as follows:

Ward I City Council: Randall Sorensen

Ward II City Council: Carl Pierson

Ward II City Council: Peter Leo (special election)

Mayor: Kent Bloudek

Also, thank you to our Election Judges who spent Election Day working at the polls and doing everything to keep the polling places clean and safe.

Invoice Cloud



Don't forget that you can always securely pay your utility bill electronically via InvoiceCloud with no additional fees and from the comfort your own home! The site has both PC and mobile friendly platforms.

Customers are able to make one-time payments via credit card or checking accounts, set up autopay, schedule future payments, pay by text, enroll in paperless notices, and view historical invoices/payments all online. InvoiceCloud can be accessed using the scannable link or by going to www.invoicecloud.com/waconiamn.



Christmas Tree Recycling

The City of Waconia Public Services Department will be accepting live Christmas trees for recycling from **December 28 through January 8**. Trees should be free of all decorations and can be dropped off at the Public Services Facility (210 E. 10th Street). Trees will be accepted free of charge.



15th Annual Waconia Toy Drive

Friday December 4, 2020

9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Freshwater Community Church

If you need help this holiday season to provide your children with gifts, you are welcome to attend the 2020 Waconia Toy Drive. No registration is required, but you will be required to show a proof of address that you live in the Waconia area (ISD 110 or St. Boni). You can bring a driver's license or photo ID with address, an electric/water bill, a letter from school, or a voter registration card. Legal guardians of a child must bring a document stating legal custody.

Masks must be worn during this event and social distancing will be enforced.

Additionally, this year there are many winter coats that the Women of Waconia are offering to anyone in need.

For more information, contact women_of_waconia@yahoo.com or the Waconia Toy Drive Facebook Group page.

Holiday Office Closure Reminder

City offices will be closed on the following days listed below in observance of upcoming holidays:



- Thursday, December 24, 2020
- Friday, December 25, 2020
- Thursday, December 31, 2020 (starting at noon)
- Friday, January 1, 2021

We hope you all have a safe and joyful holiday season.

Americans with Disabilities Act Self Evaluation & Transition Plan

The Waconia Public Services department, along with City engineers from Bolton & Menk are initiating the federally required Americans with Disabilities Act Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan process throughout the City. While Waconia is not a large community, it does maintain 2,884 pedestrian ramps and access points and signalized intersections, sidewalk and trail approaches, any driveway with a sidewalk or trail cross, and intersections throughout the community.

Although the City knows how many access ramps we have, new requirements mandate a full condition review of each access inventory point. Due to the volume of work, a representative from Bolton & Menk will complete review of each access and linking sidewalk system. They will measure, review, and note information which will automatically be entered into the City's Asset Management System. We are hopeful this work will start in late-November and be completed by the early spring, depending upon the weather conditions.

Data collected will be analyzed and assist staff and our engineers in creating an ADA implementation plan for our annual Capital Improvement Plan process. Policies and practices will be a major focus of this plan and be available for public outreach and comment. Additional information and data will be available within the Public Services section of the City website.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Public Services Department at 952-442-2615 or email publicservices@waconia.org.