

MAPLE PLAIN

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2021 Newsletter



Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

Greetings Neighbors and Business Owners,

I hope everyone has been able to find some time to be outdoors in our great city and enjoy the wonderful weather. It has been good to be back together once again and see many activities taking place throughout our community.

We kicked off summer with a successful Party in the Park in our beautiful Veterans Memorial Park. Neighbors organized a fun “school’s out” celebration in Rainbow Park. Two new trees were donated and planted at Rainbow Park, and a mural has begun to be painted on the warming house in partnership with the Orono Community Education summer school program. The new playground in the Meadows development has also been a very busy place where community members gather. Watch for the Spartan Express gathering throughout the community. For more details see the Orono Community Education website. On August 3, for Night to Unite, everyone is encouraged to get outside and get to know your neighbors, and to meet your first responders and thank them for their service to our community.

It wouldn’t be summer in Minnesota without road construction. Thank you to everyone for your patience and continued support of our businesses as work continues to make Highway 12 safer for everyone to travel on. Soon our local street reconstruction work will begin on Gladview Lane, Drake Street, Bradford Street, and Perkins Lane, where utilities will be replaced, and curb will be installed; the final layer will be laid in 2022. We will also be paving the parking lot at Veterans Memorial Park in conjunction with this street reconstruction project.

Our staff continue to work hard to keep the city running smoothly and looking good. The city council meets at least twice a month and is in the process of scheduling a strategic planning session and preparing for the 2022 budget. The Planning Commission continues to make recommendations to the council regarding zoning and amendments, they also did a lot of work with our comprehensive plan. The Economic Development Authority continues to meet on a regular basis, most recently focusing on our downtown area.

I was recently able to attend the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference. A message I kept hearing over and over is that community belongs to the community. Whatever role you play: serving on a commission, picking up trash when you are out walking, helping your neighbor, etc. I am appreciative of everything that everyone does to make our community a great one. Together we are better!

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

Please join us in supporting our local restaurants and other businesses during Highway 12 construction!



DETOUR

EAT LOCAL

Blackwater Cafe
Forkless
Iron Exchange
McGarry's Pub
Monies



Scan for Gas, Grocery, and Food within 1 Mile

Highway 12 Construction Update

On May 18, 2021, MnDOT and Park's Construction starting the much-needed safety improvements on Highway 12 at County Road 90. Due to the exceptional weather conditions, construction has moved at full speed to successfully complete the project in a timely manner. Seventy (70) hour work weeks are the norm for the construction crews as they are committed to getting the road back open to help our local businesses and our commute along Highway 12 return to normal.

With this construction project a major detour around Maple Plain was put in place through Independence. This detour is expected to last until mid-September 2021.

Over the past six weeks West Hennepin Public Safety Department has been committed to the safety of all motorists and will continue to work extremely hard to provide speed and distracted driving enforcement. An additional 60 traffic complaints were reported to our agency mainly involving speeding on local streets due to motorists avoiding the official detour. We would ask all motorists to stay on the official detour versus looking for shortcuts on side streets to save a few seconds. Remember to plan ahead for a few extra minutes of driving each day and be patient and understanding during this time. Safety improvements for Highway 12 are long overdue and we understand the inconvenience it is causing you in the moment, but a safer highway for all of us is well worth the four months of construction.

So, what is the next phase of construction of Highway 12 after 2021?

The County Road 92 safety improvement project is to begin in the fall of 2021. Hennepin County will begin its project to improve the Highway 12 and County Road 92 intersection. A virtual open house will occur in late August for people who live, work, and commute on both County Road 92 and Hwy 12 for the upcoming construction project. Hennepin County will share more information and details about the open house later this summer. To stay informed, go to the following website and sign up to receive e-mail updates www.hennepin.us/county-road-92safety. If you have any further questions about this upcoming project, contact Hennepin County at (612) 348-8448 or email transportation@hennepin.us.

Starting in July 2021, private utility companies will begin their work along County Road 92 relocating service lines in preparation for the upcoming safety improvements. This work will have little to no impact on traffic, but residents near the project site on County Road 92 can expect work to start near their properties. The utility companies should contact you if there will be any impacts to your home.

These construction projects come with delays and many months of detours. We must be patient and work together in order to improve the safety of Highway 12. **Together we will save lives along Highway 12.**



Congratulations!

Councilmember Caitlin Cahill
was awarded the Minnesota Women
in City Government (MNWCG)
Elected Official of the Year Award
at their Annual Meeting on June
24, 2021!

2021 Street & Utility Improvements

The City has awarded a contract to Kuechle Underground for the 2021 Street Improvements Project. The project includes reconstructing Perkins Lane, Gladview Lane, Drake Street, and Bradford Street. Utilities will be replaced, and concrete curb will be added to the streets.

The tentative schedule for the project includes removals and temporary water hookups starting on July 6th. Mainline utilities, starting with sanitary sewer, are scheduled to start the week after removals followed by watermain and storm sewer with service connections occurring after mainline installation. Work on the road section will occur after utilities and services. The project is tentatively scheduled to be completed by September 24th pending delays due to weather or other unforeseen events. The final lift of blacktop will be laid in 2022.

For more information related to this project and for future updates, please contact City Engineer David Martini, david.martini@bolton-menk.com or visit the City Website at: www.mapleplain.com/2021improvements

CodeRED will be utilized for emergency information during the 2021 Street Project!!



GETTING EMERGENCY INFORMATION TO YOU

The **CodeRED** system serves as the backbone of the city's emergency planning and communications outreach to both citizens and staff. The system sends telephone calls, text messages, emails and posts to social media channels to inform residents of emergency information, road closures and watermain breaks. Registering for **CodeRED** is quick, easy, and FREE! Your **CodeRED** subscription is protected data and will not be sold. **Sign-up today** by visiting the City of Maple Plain or West Hennepin Public Safety website and clicking the **CodeRED** icon or contact City Hall for assistance.

APPLY TODAY FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION!



Serve your community and share your input regarding planning and zoning by becoming a member of one of the most influential of the advisory commissions. The Planning Commission prepares and reviews the City's comprehensive plan, adopts official controls to implements the City's plan, and reviews and make recommendations on all development applications.

Applications are being accepted NOW for the Planning Commission. For more information and the application visit www.mapleplain.com/planning-commission. Feel free to contact Sharon Spicer, Assistant to the City Administrator at 763-479-0515 or sspicer@mapleplain.com with questions.

Consumer Confidence Drinking Water Report

Each year, the City of Maple Plain issues the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31. The purpose of the report is to advance consumer's understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

The 2020 Consumer Confidence Drinking Water Report can be seen in its entirety on the City's website at <https://www.mapleplain.com/departments/PublicWorks/water-sewer>. If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, contact City Hall at 763-479-0515.



Hennepin County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Hennepin County is hosting a community collection event for county residents to safely and properly dispose of unwanted garden and household hazardous wastes. The collection event will be **September 17 & 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hennepin County Public Works Orono Shop, 3880 Shoreline Dr. , Orono, MN 55391.**

Learn more by visiting <https://www.hennepin.us/collectionevents> to learn what items will be accepted at the event, review safety guidelines, and view all 2021 events.



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

NIGHT TO UNITE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 2021

6:00 to 9:00 pm



Chief Gary Kroells

Join neighbors across Maple Plain and Independence on Tuesday, August 3rd, 2021, for the 12th Annual Night to Unite in Minnesota. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 in 2020 we were not able to unite. Let's make up for lost time and come together in 2021! Sponsored by the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association, AAA of Minnesota/Iowa, and local law enforcement agencies, Night to Unite will celebrate and strengthen neighborhood and community partnerships.



Night to Unite is designed to:

1. Get to know one another in your neighborhood.
2. Build neighborhood involvement by bringing police and communities together; and
3. Bring awareness to crime prevention and local law enforcement efforts!

Chief Kroells said, "A safe community is a top priority for our department. One of the best crime prevention tools is neighbors looking out for each other. If people know their neighbors they can better identify suspicious activity and call 911 to report it. Night to Unite events are an opportunity for neighborhoods and communities to join, enjoy a summer evening, and get to know who belongs in their neighborhoods."

West Hennepin Public Safety would like to encourage neighborhoods to get together between 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. on August 3rd, 2021, to fight crime and take back our neighborhoods. The best crime prevention tool for our communities is "the eyes and the ears of citizens looking out for each other," says Director Gary Kroells.

If you or your neighbors host a neighborhood Night to Unite event, West Hennepin Police Department and the local fire department will make a visit to your event. West Hennepin will provide crime fighting tips and recent fraud trends and the fire department will provide fire safety tips for your group. Now more than ever we are asking residents to take the initiative and organize your neighborhood event. Get involved and take this opportunity to meet your neighbors.

For more information pertaining to Night to Unite or how to get involved contact West Hennepin Public Safety Department at (763) 479-0500 and speak with Night to Unite Coordinator Officer Cody Thompson. You can also visit the West Hennepin Public Safety Department website at www.westhennepin.com or visit our Facebook page for more information on Night to Unite.



Officer Cody Thompson

"Proudly Serving Maple Plain and Independence"



From Small Saplings – Giant Trees Grow!

MacDermid Alpha, located in the Pioneer Creek Industrial Park of Maple Plain, planted two American Linden trees at Rainbow Park in Maple Plain, MN. The donated trees were part of the Earth Day Celebrations, which also included demonstrations of upcycling and safer homemade bug sprays.

The MacDermid Alpha Maple Plain facility manufactures specialty chemicals and distributes globally for the fabrication of the most complex circuit board designs.

The American Linden tree is a native that was used for centuries for its fibrous inner bark and fragrant flowers. It bears unique flowers and large, heart-shaped leaves. It is a fast-growing giant, most common in urban streets and parks, with an impressively high capacity of reducing pollutants.



At the site from left to right: Clarissa Hadler (Maple Plain City Administrator), Tim Frater (MacDermid, EHS Specialist), Christopher Jay (MacDermid, Facilities Operator), Julie Maas-Kusske (Maple Plain Mayor), and Dexter Griffin (MacDermid, Plant Administrator)



GROUND BREAKING – At site, left to right Christopher Jay (MacDermid, Facilities Operator), Tim Frater (MacDermid, EHS Specialist), Dylan Hoflock (Maple Plain Public Works), and Dexter Griffin (MacDermid Plant Administrator)



Step to it is a family-friendly activity challenge that motivates people of all ages and abilities to become more physically active during the month of May. Anyone can join and participate individually or in a group. Schools, workplaces, faith communities, and neighborhoods can form a group and participate together. Find others using the hashtag #StepToIt on social media like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

In 2021, Maple Plain had 13 participants. The high stepper in the 18 and under age category was **Gavin Shafer with 624,661 steps**. In the 19-64 age category the high stepper was **Sarah Shafer with 767,412 steps**. And, in the 65 and over category the high stepper was **Ross Langhans with 407,976 steps**. Our 3 winners will receive tickets to a Minnesota Twins game later this summer. Congratulations to all of you!

www.steptoit.org

COOKIES WITH THE COUNCIL



DATE: Thursday, July 22nd 5:30 – 6:30 pm

WHERE: City Council Chambers, 5050 Independence Street

Meet the “newest” City Council Member John DeLong (since 2020) for open dialogue and guided discussion on current issues and the future of Maple Plain.

Refreshments will be served.

PARTY IN THE PARK 2021

Written by: Councilmember Fay & Mayor Maas-Kusske



After a year hiatus due to the pandemic, the Orono Rotary Party in the Park planning committee met in February to discuss the feasibility of holding the event in 2021. Early indicators did not look favorable. We met again in late March because reports were surfacing that vaccination rates were climbing and Covid cases were falling. In addition, we were hearing from people that they were feeling more comfortable with regards to the pandemic and looking for reasons to be together and enjoy one another's company. About that time, the CDC and state seemed to agree and send the same message. We spent the better part of April writing COVID Preparedness plans, seeking City approvals and dividing up

responsibilities. On April 26th, the Maple Plain City Council officially gave us the green light to proceed with Party in the Park. With less than six weeks remaining before the event, we hit the ground running and never looked back. Keep in mind in 2018 and 2019 we spent months preparing and planning for Party in the Park.

One of the biggest hurdles in hosting an event of this caliber is funding. On May 4th, the first batch of sponsorship requests hit the Post Office. Within days, our corporate and business community stepped up. Emails and phone calls were returned and financial commitments were made. We were well underway to making this year's Party in the Park a reality.

As a service organization, the Orono Rotary Club is an excellent community partner on which we are privileged to represent the City of Maple Plain. Rotary clubs form strong bonds with municipalities, local stakeholders, and the surrounding business communities they live in. Orono Rotary's involvement with the city and in particular Veterans Memorial Park became very apparent during a small ceremony to dedicate the Veterans Memorial. The American Legion Paul Stinson Post presented the colors, we recited the Pledge of Allegiance, patriotic music played, and the Veteran's memorial was dedicated. Through the combined success of our event in 2018 and 2019, \$20,000 was raised to offset the costs of the City's newly renovated Veterans Memorial Park, specifically the Veterans' Memorial. Last summer, in conjunction with four other local Rotary Clubs, a \$10,000 grant was awarded us from International and District Rotary for the purpose of purchasing 150 Flags for Heroes kits and six custom benches. The benches are represented with insignia from each of the five branches of the Military and the Orono Rotary Club. Those benches now surround the periphery of the Veterans' Memorial, are permanent fixtures to the park, and are intended for people to enjoy for years to come.

The Orono Rotary Club, in partnership with the City of Maple Plain, would like to thank all of our sponsors who made this year's Party in the Park possible. Without their generosity, this event would not happen. **Please make sure to thank our sponsors and support their business whenever possible.** Party in the Park 2021 was truly a hot summer day in which family, friends, neighbors, business owners, and community members got together for an evening of music, food, and fun.

The Orono Rotary Club is an organization comprised of many people, willing to give of their time to community causes. Our partnership with the City of Maple Plain and our commitment to our veterans, once again proved very strong. We have and will continue to do many great things for our community, our city, internationally, veterans, and veterans' causes.

If you are interested in helping to plan or in sponsoring next year's event, please contact one of us. Everyone is encouraged to save the date and join us next year on June 4th at Party in the Park 2022.

Together we are better!

SPONSORED BY:



A Big **Thank You** to Everyone Who Came to Clean-Up Day!

The day was beautiful. The clouds were exceptional. Trucks, cars, vans, and even a wheelbarrow came to drop their unwanted treasures at Maple Plain's first solo clean-up day. The event was staffed by Mayor Maas-Kusske, Councilmember DeLong, and city staff.

Among the items dropped off were mattresses, barbecue grills, fencing, landscaping blocks, appliances (big and small), lawn chairs, plant pots, lamps, stools, and much more.

Keep an eye on the city website, Facebook, and the Spring 2022 newsletter for a day next May for an opportunity to rid your home of unwanted "junk".

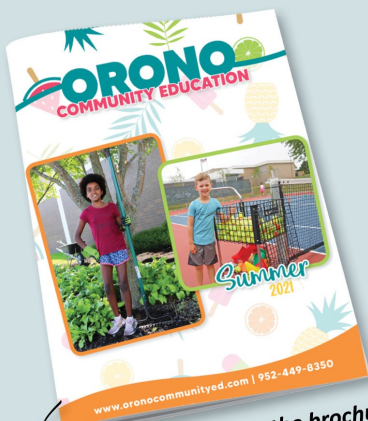


Seeking Good Neighbor Award Nominations



The Maple Plain City Council is accepting nominations for the 2021 Good Neighbor Award. This is the highest award granted by the Maple Plain City Council to an individual, organization, or business in Maple Plain. The Good Neighbor Award exhibits a lifetime of service and dedication through, volunteerism, virtue, civic engagement, and creativity to meet community needs.

If you know an individual, organization, or business that fits this description, fill out the nomination form available online at www.mapleplain.com/good-neighbor-award or at City Hall. Nominations will be accepted until October 11th.



Take a look inside the brochure!
Pick up a copy at the Discovery Center in Maple Plain.

Summer CAMPS & CLASSES

Over 300 offerings to pick from!

Science & Nature - Technology & Engineering

Sports & Aquatics - Art & Performing Arts

Academics - Preschool - and more!

REGISTER

www.oronocommunityed.com
952-449-8350

ORONO Community Education
Orono Public Schools

FALL
is Coming!

Registration Opens
Friday, August 13

City Contacts

City Hall

5050 Independence St, PO Box 97
Maple Plain, MN 55359
763-479-0515 www.mapleplain.com
Hours Mon - Fri 9 am - 4 pm or by appt
Email Chadler@mapleplain.com (Clarissa)
Sspicer@mapleplain.com (Sharon)
Jnorlander@mapleplain.com (Jill)

Public Works

PeopleService 24/7 763-479-9250

Maple Plain Fire Department

Emergency 911
Fire Station 763-479-0520

West Hennepin Public Safety

Emergency 911
Office 763-479-0500
www.westhennepin.com

Other Frequently Called Phone Numbers

Delano Senior Center 763-972-0574
Maple Plain Library 612-543-5700
Maple Plain Post Office 763-479-1514



City Council

Julie Maas-Kusske, Mayor
1489 Three Oaks Ave.
763-479-6010
juliemaaskusske@mapleplain.com

Caitlin Cahill, Councilmember
caitlincahill@mapleplain.com

John DeLong, Councilmember
1487 Meadow Lane
801-755-6892
johndelong@mapleplain.com

Mike DeLuca, Councilmember
5825 Maple Ridge Dr.
763-200-6363, 612-801-5533
mikedeluca@mapleplain.com

John Fay, Councilmember
5819 Three Oaks Ave.
763-479-1913
johnfay@mapleplain.com

City Meeting Schedule

City Council Workshops

Second and Fourth Mondays @ 5:30 pm

City Council Business Meeting

Fourth Monday at 7:00 pm

Economic Development Authority

Second Monday at 7:00 pm

Planning Commission

First Thursday at 6:00 pm

Call City Hall or visit the City's website to ensure a meeting is not cancelled or rescheduled.

For the most up-to-date meeting calendar as well as agendas, Zoom links, meeting packets, and minutes, visit: www.mapleplain.com/meetings.

Community Calendar

- July 5 Independence Day Holiday
City Offices Closed
- July 22 Cookies with the Council (see Page 5)
- Aug 3 NIGHT TO UNITE (see Page 4)
- Sept 6 Labor Day Holiday
City Offices Closed
- Sept 17/18 - Hennepin County Hazardous Waste Event in Orono (see Page 3)

Check the city website & [Facebook](#) for more information and updates.

STAY CONNECTED



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www.facebook.com/CityofMaplePlain



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www.mapleplain.com



See the News & Announcements!
www.mapleplain.com
Check the Calendar!



Sign-up for CodeRED Notifications!
www.mapleplain.com/codered