

# MAPLE PLAIN

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## Winter 2021 Newsletter

Dear Maple Plain Neighbors and Business Owners,

As 2020 comes to a close it is the perfect time to reflect on the year. While it has been extremely challenging for many, I am optimistic that 2021 will be better. I am also thankful and proud of our community. I saw so many acts of kindness: The Gather and Give Program, the little red wagon ministry, grants for local businesses, and the pop-up food pantry just to name a few. Over the past year, our community came together to help out when people needed it, and we supported each other through business closures, loss of loved ones, financial hardships, and so much more. Thank you to everyone who managed to create a bright spot for another person in an otherwise very trying year.



Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

As a city we have much to be thankful for this past year. Some highlights include: the health and safety of our police officers and firefighters who continue to serve and protect us 24/7; the completion of our new road, Gateway Boulevard, which is build-ready for new businesses; the opening of the new Haven Homes building, which allows neighbors to stay in the city they call home as they age and provides other valuable services such as outpatient physical rehab and adult daycare; and the completion of Veterans Memorial Park with the welcome addition of the veterans memorial, bandshell, great lawn, and new playground, where we can make memories for years to come. We also welcomed new businesses and neighbors who chose Maple Plain as their new home!

I would like to wish our community a very happy holiday season, and a healthy and prosperous new year. As always, thank you for your continued support and dedication to our great city- together we are better!

*Mayor Julie*



### Good Neighbor Award Winner Bonnie Brandt

Since 2017, the Maple Plain City Council has sponsored the Good Neighbor Award. The award is, "in recognition of lifetime service and dedication through volunteerism, virtue, civic engagement and creativity to meet community needs."

Bonnie Brandt was nominated by her neighbor, Erica Swenson.

In her nomination, Erica cites that Bonnie is the epitome of a good neighbor by being welcoming, helpful, and caring. She is the first to lend a hand when someone needs help. Bonnie shows her caring by volunteering as a babysitter for parents who have meeting obligations or just need some time alone.

Bonnie is the neighborhood social butterfly planning games and crafts for all to enjoy and never forgets a birthday or holiday to make everyone feel special.

**Congratulations to Bonnie Brandt, the 2020 Maple Plain Good Neighbor Award Recipient!**



# Happy Retirement!

Bart Kusske, badge #24, retired from the Maple Plain Fire Department on December 7, 2020.

Bart has served in various roles since joining the department in 1992; firefighter, captain, assistant chief and treasurer. Bart was also part of the truck committee for aerial 11.

**Thank You For Your Service and Best Wishes!**

## 2020 LOCAL ELECTION INFORMATION

**Mayor** 4 year term

Jerome Young	289 votes
Julie Maas-Kusske	649 votes
Write-Ins	13 votes

**2 Council Members** 4-year term

Mike DeLuca	579 votes
John Fay	534 votes
Write-Ins	73 votes

- ◆ There were 1,110 registered voters at 7 am on Election Day.
- ◆ 106 people registered to vote on Election Day.
- ◆ There were 616 absentee or mailed ballots submitted.
- ◆ In total, 1,063 people cast ballots in the General Election.

### → USE REUSABLES

Our actions help create a plastic-free world

Join the Plastic-Free Challenge  
January 20 to February 17

[hennepinplasticfree.ecochallenge.org](http://hennepinplasticfree.ecochallenge.org)



# CodeRED™

## **CodeRED: 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.

## WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT



Santa Claus on his sleigh bringing joy and collecting food shelf donations.

Saturday December 19, 2020, the West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) Volunteer Reserve Officers hosted the popular event “View Santa” in Maple Plain and Independence. They have been hosting this event for 40 years.

COVID-19 could not stop Santa from driving through our communities, bringing joy to our families, and gathering food donations for our local food shelves. “Now more than ever we need to provide for others in need,” stated Chief Gary Kroells. This year was an exceptional year with many people coming out to visit Santa and giving donations to the local food shelf. The Police Reserves collected over 1,800 pounds of food and \$720.00 in cash donations.



Chief Gary Kroells

---

### CITY COUNCIL NEARS DECISION ON NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR

The Maple Plain city council has had a busy 2020 for many reasons. One very important reason is the vacancy in the city administrator position. Entering August, the city council’s top shared priority was to hire a city administrator who could facilitate accomplishment of the community’s strategic objectives.

So important was the priority, the city council retained the services of Baker Tilly, a professional recruitment firm with a specialty in public sector executive searches. The council acknowledged going it alone was an option, but the coronavirus and the market justified the assistance of a professional.

A total of 54 applications were received, reviewed, and reduced to 14. The 14 received two questionnaires each to garner additional information unique to Maple Plain. There are five finalists remaining who will go through a three step interview process. Each finalist will receive an extensive set of checks including credit, reference, and criminal. Various stakeholders will be asked to participate in the selection process. A final decision is expected in February with the new administrator’s start date soon thereafter.

---

### MAPLE PLAIN CITY COUNCIL APPOINTS NEW 2021 FIRE CHIEF

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske announced that the city council appointed firefighter Ray McCoy as fire chief for the period January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023. McCoy succeeds Chris Doyle who was appointed in early 2020 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of 43½ year veteran David Eisinger.

McCoy has amassed more than 42 years of experience in public safety, 13 years of which as Director of Public Safety of West Hennepin Public Safety. McCoy and his wife, Bobbi, reside in Independence.

Fire Chief McCoy stated that he is proud of the 23-member department he has been called upon to lead. “Firefighters are the heroes of our community who serve day and night under extreme conditions at minimum cost to each of us as taxpayers.”

Mayor Maas-Kusske stated that, “The city council has great confidence in Fire Chief McCoy and his command corps. The entire city council looks forward to working with them.”

Appointed assistant chiefs were Cory Schultz who has been with the department since 2008 and Brad Couser, a veteran since 1988.

Captains are to be selected shortly to round out the command corps for the Maple Plain department for the next three years. The Maple Plain Fire Department serves Three Rivers Parks, Independence, a portion of Medina, and all of Maple Plain.



2 0 2 1



2 0 2 1

763-972-3335

## Maple Plain Recycle Schedule



Recycle Week



Holiday



Pickups that fall on or after a holiday will be serviced one day late.

*Holidays that fall on Saturday or Sunday do not cause any delays*

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



(COMMERCIAL)

# Cease the Release of Harmful Grease!

## BE AWARE

of what you're dumping  
down your drain

## LEARN

what should and shouldn't  
be put down the drain

## CHANGE

your old habits and  
keep your drains clean

### The Don'ts

- **DO NOT** dump cooking oil, poultry fat or grease into sinks or down drains.
- **DO NOT** put food scraps or animal fats into the garbage disposal.
- **DO NOT** ignore leaks and spills of harmful liquids – address them immediately.
- **DO NOT** wash floor mats where water will run off directly into storm inlets.

### The Do's

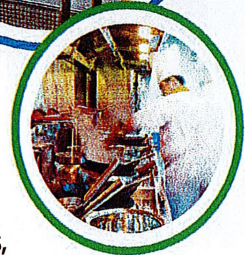
- **DO** install grease traps to separate grease, oils and fats from wastewater.
- **DO** put cooked oil and grease in collection containers.
- **DO** place food scraps into collection containers.
- **DO** wash floor mats inside over the utility sink.

Liquid Fats, Oils and Grease are the leading cause of sewer blockages. Proper disposal methods are essential to protect your local wastewater system.

Liquid wastes that contain grease, liquefied fats and oil pose a serious problem for wastewater collection and treatment systems if they are discarded directly into the sewer. These liquids can build up in pipes and can cause backups and costly infrastructure repairs.

It is your company's responsibility to properly dispose of all Liquid Fats, Oils and Grease.

This message is brought to you by PeopleService your trusted community partner for the operation and maintenance of municipal water and wastewater utility systems



**CITY OF  
MAPLE PLAIN**

**PeopleService** INC.  
Water & Wastewater Professionals



(RESIDENTIAL)

# Campaign For Clean Drains...

## Remember, Your Toilet is NOT a Trash Can!

### BE AWARE

Of what you're flushing

### LEARN

What should and shouldn't be flushed

### CHANGE

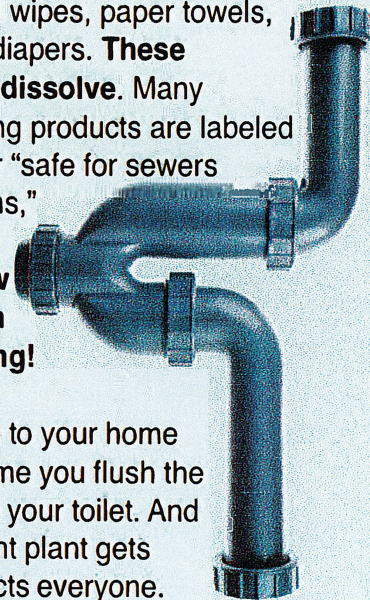
Your old habits and keep your drains clean

The following items should **NEVER** be flushed down the toilet:

- Cleaning wipes, paper towels
- Dental floss and teeth whitening strips
- Baby wipes, disposable diapers
- Needles, syringes and other medical waste
- Feminine hygiene products
- Coffee grounds
- Kitty litter
- Toilet seat covers
- Rags, towels, washcloths, mop/cleaning brush refills
- Cotton balls and cotton swabs

Many things that should go in the trash are being flushed down our toilets. This includes baby wipes, facial wipes, paper towels, even disposable diapers. **These products do not dissolve.** Many household cleaning products are labeled as "disposable" or "safe for sewers and septic systems," but the truth is, they're not. **Throw them in the trash where they belong!**

**You risk damage** to your home plumbing every time you flush the wrong thing down your toilet. And if the city treatment plant gets backed up, it affects everyone. Toilets, sewer pipes, and wastewater treatment facilities were originally designed to transport and handle toilet paper and human waste only.



**CITY OF  
MAPLE PLAIN**

**Don't flush trouble.**  
Trash goes in the trash can - even if the product is labeled flushable.

**Throw it, don't flush it!**

**PeopleService** INC.  
Water & Wastewater Professionals



## Winter Snow Reminders



Winter is here with the wonders(?) of a couple of good winter snowfalls. Here are some things to remember:

- Parking is not allowed on any street November 1 to April 15 from 1 am to 7 am. This policy is in effect even when there is no snow. After a 3 inch (or more) snowfall **parking is not allowed** on any city street until that street has been plowed full width.
- It is unlawful to plow snow onto or across any city, township, county, or state road. Doing so is a violation of State Statutes 160.2715 and 169.42.
- If you live near a fire hydrant, please keep it clear of snow and ice. It could save your life or the life of one of your neighbors.
- Occasionally, snow plowing will result in damage to mailboxes and sod. If you have snowplow damage, snap a picture of the damage and contact City Hall. You can bring it in to City Hall, mail it or email it with an explanation to [sspicer@mapleplain.com](mailto:sspicer@mapleplain.com).

**Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!**

---

## Our Continuing Street Improvement Efforts

Some cities ignore street replacement. Not in Maple Plain.

As part of the City's continuing public improvement efforts in 2021, the City has authorized its consulting engineer, Bolton & Menk, to prepare a feasibility study for the 2021 Street Reconstruction Project, which consists of Drake Street, Perkins Lane, Bradford Street, and Gladview Lane. The proposed scope of the project includes replacement of the water and sanitary sewer mains and services; curb and gutter; storm sewer; and new pavement.

Consistent with past projects, a portion of the costs associated with this work is proposed to be assessed to the benefiting properties. Once the feasibility study is complete, the City will hold a Public Improvement Hearing, at which time residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the project and provide feedback to the City Council. The preliminary schedule for the project is as follows:

- Complete Feasibility Study – January 2021
- Public Hearing – January 2021
- Prepare Plans and Specifications – January to April 2021
- Award Construction Contract – May 2021
- Construction – June to October 2021

As we proceed through the process, additional project updates that more specifically address the schedule, construction methods, access during construction, and contact information for project personnel will be provided. If you have questions or comments at this time, please contact the City Engineer David Martini at 952-448-8838 or [david.martini@bolton-menk.com](mailto:david.martini@bolton-menk.com).



### Christmas Tree Pickup

Non-artificial (real) Christmas trees are collected free of charge during the first two weeks of January. Trees must be set out curbside without bags and free of all ornaments, tinsel, garland,

and lights. Trees longer than 8 feet must be cut into sections .

First recycle pickup day in 2021 is Monday, January 11th. The 2021 recycling calendar is also on the city website as well as in this issue of the newsletter.

## Hennepin County Maple Plain Library:

### IN-PERSON Grab & Go

- Make short library visits
- Use a library computer
- Obtain a library card
- Browse collections
- Pick up holds
- Check out and return materials

*Meeting rooms and study spaces remain closed.*

Sunday & Monday:	Closed
Tuesday:	12-8
Wednesday:	9-5
Thursday:	9-5
Friday:	9-5
Saturday:	9-5

VISIT [HCLIB.ORG/LOCATIONS](http://HCLIB.ORG/LOCATIONS) FOR DETAILS





## City Contacts



### City Hall

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

### Public Works

PeopleService 763-479-9250 (24/7)

### Maple Plain Fire Department

Emergency 911  
Fire Station 763-479-0520

### West Hennepin Public Safety

Emergency 911  
Office 763-479-0500  
[www.westhennepin.com](http://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](mailto:juliemaaskusske@mapleplain.com)

### Mike DeLuca, Councilmember

5825 Maple Ridge Dr.  
763-200-6363, 612-801-5533  
[mikedeluca@mapleplain.com](mailto:mikedeluca@mapleplain.com)

### John Fay, Councilmember

5819 Three Oaks Ave.  
763-479-1913  
[johnfay@mapleplain.com](mailto:johnfay@mapleplain.com)

### John DeLong, Councilmember

1487 Meadow Lane  
801-755-6892  
[johndelong@mapleplain.com](mailto:johndelong@mapleplain.com)

### Caitlin Cahill, Councilmember

[caitlincahill@mapleplain.com](mailto:caitlincahill@mapleplain.com)

## City Meeting Schedule

### City Council Workshops

Second and Fourth Mondays at 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, meeting packets, and minutes, visit [www.mapleplain.com/meetings](http://www.mapleplain.com/meetings)

## Calendar

**Jan 11** Non-artificial Christmas tree pickup  
(see page 7 for details)

**Jan 18** Martin Luther King Jr. Day - City Offices Closed

**Feb 2** Groundhog's Day

**Feb 14** Valentine's Day

**Feb 15** Presidents' Day - City Offices Closed

**Mar 14** Daylight Savings Time Begins

**Mar 17** St. Patrick's Day

## STAY CONNECTED



"Like" us on [facebook.com](http://facebook.com)  
[www.facebook.com/CityofMaplePlain](http://www.facebook.com/CityofMaplePlain)



Sign-up for Email Updates!  
[www.mapleplain.com](http://www.mapleplain.com)



See the News & Announcements!  
[www.mapleplain.com](http://www.mapleplain.com)  
Check the Calendar!



Sign-up for CodeRED  
Notifications!  
[www.mapleplain.com/codered](http://www.mapleplain.com/codered)