

MAPLE PLAIN

SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER



Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

Greetings Neighbors and Business Owners,

It's hard to believe that it is summer and newsletter time again. I recently was asked, "why would anyone want to live in Maple Plain? What does it have to offer?" Without hesitation, I responded that it is an incredible community that has beautiful parks, wonderful restaurants, a great school district, stellar public safety, and has close proximity to the cities. Here's a glimpse of what has been going on in our wonderful community.

I hope you were all able to see the Flags for Heroes flying proudly in Veterans Memorial Park, from the end of May through Flag Day. If you've been to the park in the evening, you may have noticed the new lightning in the pavilion. Thank you to the Orono Rotary Club for their partnership with the city and financial contributions for park improvements. We hosted another successful Party in the Park thanks to all the generous sponsors and volunteers.

Stop by Rainbow Park or Veterans Memorial Park and take a seat on the newly refinished picnic tables. Thank you to Eagle Scout candidate Denny from Troop 206 leading this project.

I am sure many of you have noticed the banners throughout the area encouraging people to patronize our restaurants in Maple Plain during Highway 12 construction and the flier inserted in the June 17 edition of our local newspaper. These were done in conjunction with the West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce, the city, and the Highway 12 Construction Task Force. We are hopeful Highway 12 will be reopened come mid-September. The collaboration between multiple agencies and cities making up the Highway 12 Safety Coalition is why we have seen improvements to Highway 12.

Congratulations to all the recent graduates. We are fortunate to be part of one of the best school districts, which is made up of six different cities.

Wishing you all a safe, happy, and healthy summer.

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

Together we are better!



COOKIES WITH COUNCIL

AUGUST 15TH

4:00 - 6:00 pm

City Council Chambers

5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain

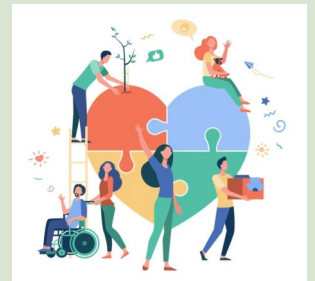
Come and chat with Councilmembers Caitlin Cahill and Connie Francis. Bring your toughest questions and your best ideas! Refreshments will be served.

Maple Plain is Introducing a New Volunteer Program!

Small acts spread across many hands can make a big difference! That is why Maple Plain is creating a program to connect people and groups with opportunities to improve our community. The newly designed program was created for the purpose of maintaining and improving high quality recreation and community vitalization opportunities and improving the livability of the Maple Plain community.

Those that are interested in becoming involved can do so in few ways; through planning via the Advisory Panel, Project Leadership, or event-based volunteering! This program welcomes those with their own city improvement ideas and the aspiration to lead a community improvement project.

Current volunteer opportunities include Advisory Panel (4 meetings in 2022), Art in the Park, the August Park Clean-Up, and the Fall Tree Planting. If you are interested in one of these volunteer events, would like to lead a volunteer project of your own, or want to hear about future opportunities, please visit the Maple Plain website to register online.



More information may be found at: <https://www.mapleplain.com/volunteering>

Refurbished Picnic Tables at Veterans Memorial Park and Rainbow Park

Veterans Memorial Park and Rainbow Park are now home to freshly refurbished picnic tables! This was achieved thanks to the hard work of Eagle Scout candidate Denny Dzubay, along with some help from his friends and family. Dzubay decided to dedicate his time to providing the Maple Plain community with this gift as a part of his Eagle Scout Service Project.

The project was approved by the Maple Plain City Council at its May 23, 2022 Council meeting. Dzubay waited little time before getting to work on a difficult job that involved cutting, sanding, and painting the wooden picnic tables.

The contribution of Dzubay and friends has resulted in our community's parks becoming more appealing and accessible to all. The Maple Plain community extends its biggest "Thank you!" to Denny and all those who helped with this project.



Meet Grant MacFarlane - Maple Plain's New Administrative Assistant

Maple Plain has a new Administrative Assistant! MacFarlane graduated from Minnesota State University, Mankato with his masters in Public Administration and Community Management in 2022. His work will be focused largely on communications, strategic initiatives, grant applications, and code enforcement. Maple Plain has already applied for one grant in his first 2 weeks to improve the community's walking trails. Stop by Maple Plain City Hall to say hello and meet Grant!



Municipal Elections - Filing for Local Office

The next municipal election will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Maple Plain will have two Councilmember seats on the ballot. Councilmember is an “at-large” office, representing all Maple Plain residents and property owners. Persons interested in running for Councilmember may file at City Hall from Tuesday, August 2, 2022 until Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 4:00 pm. More information can be found on the City website at mapleplain.com/elections.

Absentee Ballots and Voting by Mail

Any eligible Minnesota voter can request an absentee ballot by mail for the Primary and General Elections by visiting <https://mnvotes.org> and selecting “other ways to vote”. Hennepin County will mail ballots starting June 24 for the Primary Election and September 23 for the General Election. The ballot comes with instructions and a return envelope. Voters can then track the status of their mailed ballot at <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/AbsenteeBallotStatus.aspx>. Voters may also vote absentee in person at City Hall, Monday through Friday, 9am - 4pm, beginning June 24 for the Primary and September 23 for the General.



Election questions can be directed to City Hall at 763-479-0515.



Summer 2022

CAMPS & CLASSES

Over **300** camps & classes to
choose from for all ages!

*Science & Nature - Technology & Engineering
Art, Dance & Theater - Sports & Aquatics
Mind Motivators - Field Trips - Preschool
Adult Classes - and more!*

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



SCAN ME

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER!

www.oronocommunityed.com
952-449-8350

ORONO Community
Education
Orono Public Schools

FALL
is Coming!

Registration Opens
Tuesday, August 16

Step to It “High Steppers” for 2022

This year Maple Plain had 14 “Step to It” participants. The high stepper in the 18 and under age category was **Natasha Shafer with 229,124 steps**. In the 19-64 age category the high stepper (again this year) was **Sarah Shafer with 596,864 steps**. Our winners will receive tickets to a Minnesota Twins game later this summer. Congratulations to all of you!

For more information on the Step to It program visit www.steptoit.org.








Recycle Schedule

 Recycle Week

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

 Holiday

Holidays that fall on Sat/Sun do not cause any delays.

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

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

OCTOBER						
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			

DELANO SENIOR CENTER

The Delano Senior Center and Senior Dining Program is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am- 4:30 pm and Fridays 8:00 am-2:00 pm. All seniors are invited to participate in the Senior Center's programs, special events, and nutritious, tasty, dinners served at noon every day! (Bus service for MP is available.) Come visit us today! www.delano.mn.us/services/senior-center

234 2nd Street N
Delano, MN 55328
763-972-0574



Art in the Park

SAVE THE DATE!

Free art event for the community

Thursday, September 22

5 - 7 pm

Veterans Memorial Park
5050 Independence St., Maple Plain



Seeking Good Neighbor Award Nominations

The Maple Plain City Council is accepting nominations for the 2022 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 14th.



Welcome, Connie Francis!

Here's a personal introduction to our newest Councilmember, Connie Francis, who was officially installed at the May 23 City Council meeting. Connie will finish the term vacated by Councilmember DeLong through the end of 2022.

I grew up in Medina and got my first taste of city government when I spent part of my junior year working for the City of Medina. I helped to implement computer-generated water and sewer billing. I graduated from Orono and went on to attend Normandale College and Augsburg College. Upon graduation I worked for the Federal government as an auditor. I went back to Augsburg College and earned my Master of Arts in Leadership degree. I have worked for several family-owned businesses over the years – from floral wholesaler to apparel wholesaler to accounting services. I currently work for a jewelry wholesaler based in New York City as the Controller. When not traveling for work, I spent time with my family. I have a daughter that graduated from Orono, and a granddaughter. My husband works security for Mystic Lake Casino. In my free time I have earned my 5th Degree Black Belt in karate. I recently retired after 20 years of assisting, teaching, competing, and studying karate. I am involved at my church, Trinity in Long Lake, with a variety of volunteer opportunities. I have been involved in the past with Girl Scouts as a leader, service unit member and cookie manager. When time allows, I spend time with my extended family. I have lived in Maple Plain for over 20 years and hope to meet more of my neighbors and to bring your concerns and dreams to the City Council.



As a reminder to current residents and new residents that have moved to Maple Plain or Independence, West Hennepin Public Safety Department, City of Maple Plain and City of Independence, officials issue emergency alerts through CodeRED, a high-speed notification solution. The CodeRED system allows messages to be quickly delivered to targeted areas of Maple Plain and Independence or both cities as a whole. Emergency alerts can be sent as an email, text message and a voice message or all three. You as the user decide how you want to receive the information and your information is kept private.

"No one should automatically assume that West Hennepin Public Safety emergency officials have your contact information for an emergency," Chief Gary Kroells said, urging all residents and business owners in Maple Plain and Independence to visit www.westhennepin.com and click on the CodeRED link to join.

Those without Internet access may stop in at West Hennepin Public Safety Department, the City of Maple Plain Office or City of Independence Office Monday through Friday, (8AM-4PM) and staff will help you enter in your emergency contact data. Required information includes first and last name, street address (physical address, no P.O. boxes), city, state, zip code, and primary phone number, additional phone numbers can be entered as well.

CodeRED gives those who want to be included an easy and secure method for inputting information. The data collected will only be used for emergency notification purposes such as in the case of missing children, road closures, boil water advisories and shelter-in-place alerts.

Any questions should be directed to West Hennepin Public Safety Department (763) 479-0500, City of Maple Plain (763) 479-0515 or City of Independence (763) 479-0527.

REPORT A POTHOLE - Call or text the location to 763-479-9250.



NIGHT to UNITE!



West Hennepin Public Safety Department NIGHT TO UNITE!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 2022, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Join neighbors across Maple Plain and Independence on Tuesday, August 2nd, 2022, for the 13th Annual Night to Unite in Minnesota. 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, “Our community safety is the top priority for our department and 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 is 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 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on August 2nd, 2022, 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 and provide crime fighting tips, 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.

“ Proudly Serving Maple Plain and Independence ”



Managing Stormwater on your Property

With spring and summer weather comes an increase in stormwater runoff and an opportunity to improve your lawn and garden's health for the summer months ahead. Here are some tips to consider:

- * Install a rain garden: Rain Gardens capture and filter stormwater runoff using native flowers, grasses, and shrubs. They make an attractive landscaping feature and provide benefits to the environment.
- * Plant a native tree or shrub: Native plants have deep root systems that help to absorb stormwater. As an added bonus, native plants require less water to stay healthy during the hot summer months while being cold hardy as well.
- * Install a rain barrel: Rain barrels store rainwater until you want it later. This reduces runoff from your property and conserves drinking water. Also, rainwater is healthier for your plants than tap water. It is highly oxygenated, free of the salts, inorganic ions, and fluoride compounds contained in tap water that can accumulate in the soil over time. And, rain barrels are not subject to the City's lawn watering restrictions if one is implemented.
- * Let your lawn get a little longer: Grass has about the same depth of roots as shows above the ground. By using a higher setting on your lawn mower, you are encouraging your lawn to have deeper roots. These roots take up rainwater and store it in your lawn. This decreases the amount of stormwater runoff. Your lawn will also be healthier and stand the wet/dry cycles of Minnesota weather with less lawn watering and chemicals.
- * Compost your lawn clippings and leaves: Yard waste that gets into our lakes and streams can lead to fish kills and algae blooms. If you do not have a location on your property to compost, consider taking your lawn clippings and leaves to a compost site or separating your yard waste for Randy's pick-up. Through Randy's Environmental Services, yard waste and brush is collected free of charge on garbage collection day through November 14, 2022, weather permitting.



FOCUS ON A FIREFIGHTER - HOLDEN MOHS



Holden Mohs is the newest member of Maple Plain's Fire Department! Holden joined the Maple Plain Fire Department on June 27, 2021. Holden grew up in the West Hennepin area and graduated from Orono High School in 2012.

When Holden was younger he envisioned himself joining the military or working with the police department, but he eventually found himself called upon to serve with the Fire Department instead!

When not working his full-time job or responding to calls for service, Holden enjoys spending time with his wife (Lauren) and two and a half year old daughter (Elise). He also enjoys hunting, snowmobiling, and skiing.

Maple Plain is thrilled to have Holden serving its community!

MAPLE PLAIN FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE OCTOBER 8, 2022

The Maple Plain Fire Department is hosting its annual Open House on **October 8, 2022**. Meet our local firefighters, enjoy fun games, take a ride on the Maple Plain firetruck, and enjoy tasty food!

All Maple Plain residents are invited to participate in one of the most entertaining events of the year! Our local public safety staff would love to see you there!

The open house event will be held at the Maple Plain Fire Department, 1645 Pioneer Ave.



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)
 gmacfarlane@mapleplain.com (Grant)
 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 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, meeting packets, and minutes, visit:
www.mapleplain.com/calendar



City Council

Julie Maas-Kusske, Mayor

1489 Three Oaks Avenue
763-479-6010
juliemaaskusske@mapleplain.com

Caitlin Cahill, Councilmember

caitlincahill@mapleplain.com

Connie Francis, Councilmember

1445 Halgren Road
612-554-6193
conniefrancis@mapleplain.com

Mike DeLuca, Councilmember

5825 Maple Ridge Drive
763-200-6363, 612-801-5533
mikedeluca@mapleplain.com

John Fay, Councilmember

5819 Three Oaks Avenue
763-479-1913
johnfay@mapleplain.com

Community Calendar

July 4	Independence Day - City offices closed
Aug 2	Night to Unite
Aug 9	Primary Election Day
Aug 15	Cookies with Council
Sept 5	Labor Day - City offices closed

Check the city website & Facebook for more information and updates.

STAY CONNECTED



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www.facebook.com/Cityof Maple Plain



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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