

MAPLE PLAIN

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER



Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

Happy fall, neighbors! It's hard to believe that school has been in session for a few weeks already. I have noticed some leaves beginning to change colors and fall to the ground. A special thank you to all the Night to Unite hosts. It was a wonderful opportunity to gather with neighbors, and it's always fun to watch the children's faces light up when they see the fire truck and squad car arriving at their party. Thank you to everyone who came to the First Responder softball game. It was a beautiful night to cheer on all our hometown heroes. We are fortunate to live in this community where public safety (police and fire) is a priority and top notch. I am thankful that Highway 12 is open and there are no more detours around Maple Plain, as this was the third shut down our businesses had to endure.

Great news! The city was able to negotiate with Republic Services that as part of our new contract you can receive a yard waste cart at no additional cost! This cart can be used for leaves, sticks, grass clippings, etc., which means no more brown bags and bundles of sticks (though that is still an option). If you would like to order a yard waste cart, please email Deb Gatz at dgatz@republicservices.com or contact her by phone at 612-845-0979. Additionally, there will be no rate increase for their services for 2023.

Staff and council have been working diligently to prepare the **2023 budget**, including finalizing the police and fire department budgets. Once those are approved by their respective commissions, they will come back to the city council to be approved in the preliminary city budget, which will determine our maximum tax levy. This number cannot increase but has the potential to decrease in December, when we finalize the 2023 budget. Many factors are contributing to making the budget season even more challenging than years past; inflation is at an all-time high, we want to retain our talented police officers and be competitive with their salaries, and there are improvements needed to provide our firefighters with a safer working environment. Operating a city takes a great deal of resources, especially to do it well. Staff and council are working hard to be fiscally responsible while providing exceptional services and planning for the future.

I encourage you to take some time, do your research, and exercise your freedom and **vote Tuesday, November 8th** (early voting began Friday, September 23rd). Maple Plain residents can vote at city hall located inside Orono Discovery Center 7am to 8pm on Election Day. Your vote matters!

Save the date, View Santa will take place on Saturday December 3rd. Watch the local newspaper and city website for more information regarding this beloved holiday tradition.

I hope you enjoy the beautiful fall season! **Together we are better!**

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

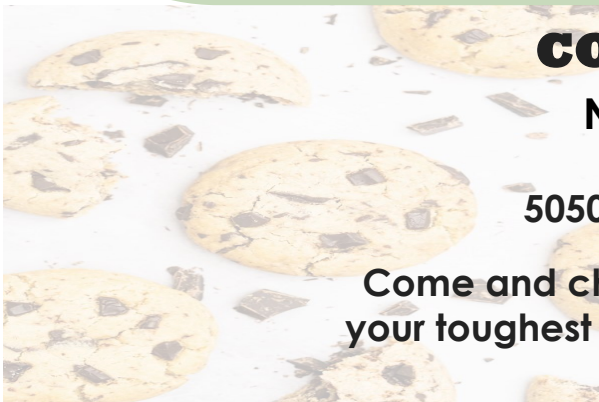
COOKIES WITH COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 21 5:30 - 7:30 pm

City Council Chambers

5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain

Come and chat with Councilmember Mike DeLuca. 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, Art in the Park, Fire Department gardening, 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>



Hennepin County's Elevate Business Program

Being an entrepreneur means having the will to learn new skills, having the courage to fail, and having the confidence to take the next step.

That's why Elevate Business offers Hennepin County entrepreneurs the opportunity to work on your business—instead of in your business. Elevate Business is a hub where business owners can come together to learn through free one-on-one services from trusted consultants and advisors. Advisors specialize in legal support, marketing, book-keeping, finance, loan and grant navigation, and more.

Elevate Business offers free services for entrepreneurs, including:

- 25 hours of free business advising
- Peer-to-peer roundtables
- Topic driven webinars and events
- Regional resources, all in one place

You can get started by searching for a business advisor, exploring lending options, or checking out upcoming events. No matter what resources you need, Elevate is here to help you plan, get organized, tell your story, and set you up for long-term success.

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



County Road 92—Overpass Update

Hennepin County crews continue their work on the County Road 92 overpass. Two weeks ago, crews finished pouring the new bridge deck. All underground work is complete and grading is underway. Following the grading work, crews will complete the remaining construction activities, including constructing curb and gutter, paving, and striping. All work is expected to be completed by late October!

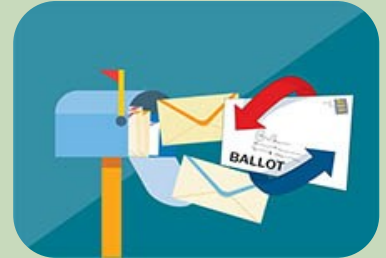


Municipal Elections

Maple Plain will have two Councilmember seats on the Tuesday, November 8th ballot. Councilmember is an “at-large” office, representing all Maple Plain residents and property owners. 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 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 September 23 for the General Election.



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

Fall 2022

CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Over 200 opportunities to choose from!

STEM - Art, Dance & Theater - Sports & Aquatics

Special Interest & Academics - ECFE & Preschool

Adult Classes - and more!

REGISTER NOW!

www.oronocommunityed.com

952-449-8350

ORONO Community
Education
Orono Public Schools

Picking Up After Pets: Why It's Important

Why:

- Improper disposal of pet waste is unsanitary and can lead to disease transmission between pets. Humans who play or work outside are at risk for contamination.
- Pet waste can affect water quality. Nutrients that are carried by stormwater can contaminate our waterways, damage the environment, and harm wildlife.
- Proper disposal of pet waste helps keep our neighborhoods and our city beautiful and clean!

What You Can Do:

- Always clean up after your dog on walks. Carry a biodegradable bag and scooper with you to remove your dog's waste.
- Dispose of pet waste in a designated pet container or trash.
- Do not dispose of pet waste in storm drains or waterways. Do not leave on the road or on sidewalks.
- Share the importance of picking up after pets with other pet owners.

Community Events

Bring your friends and loved ones and join us in the parking lots of Iron Exchange and Forkless from **11am - 2pm on Saturday, October 29th** for the **West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Truck & Treat** event! Costumes are encouraged! **Bring money and plan to stay for lunch!**

There will be something for everyone! If you would like to decorate your truck or trunk and hand out treats, please email whccmn@gmail.com or call Julie at 763-479-6010.



Veterans Day: The Orono Rotary Club, in partnership with other community organizations, is in the process of planning a Veterans Day Ceremony on Friday, November 11th. Please watch the city website and the local newspaper for more detailed information as the date approaches.

FALL HYDRANT FLUSHING

Starting October 24

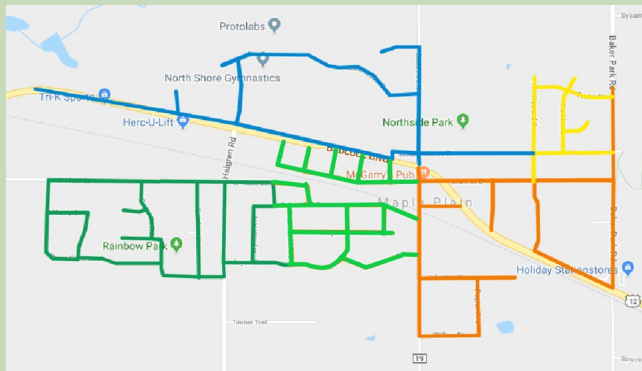
(Start date subject to change with weather conditions)

Maple Plain Public Works will be starting fall hydrant flushing on Monday, October 24. Work will continue through the City by section as shown on the map below. Each section may take a day or two.

Hydrant flushing is a controlled procedure that is vital to the general maintenance of the City's water distribution system. It ensures adequate water flow is available to fire fighters, residents, and businesses.

This process may cause discolored water, pressure changes, and/or an increased chlorine odor. Sediment present in the water is not a health issue, but it may impact your water as described above.

More information on hydrant flushing, including when to run your water and what to do in the event that your water is discolored during the hydrant flushing, may be found on our website at the following address:
www.mapleplain.com/departments/PublicWorks/hydrantflushing



- First Section
- Second Section
- Third Section
- Fourth Section

MAPLE PLAIN 2022 RECYCLE SCHEDULE

Remaining Recycling Weeks are on the following dates:

- **October 3**
- **October 17**
- **October 31**
- **November 14**
- **November 28**
- **December 12**
- **December 26**

The full 2022 Recycling Schedule can be viewed online at:
<https://www.mapleplain.com/recycling>



WeCAN - Maple Plain

WeCAN services are now available at the Orono Discovery Center on the fourth Monday of each month from 2 to 4 PM. Low-income residents can meet with a representative to apply for emergency assistance, pick up a bag of groceries and some baby diapers, and receive help with various referrals and resources.

Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments can be made by calling WeCAN at 952-472-0742. Income and other verifications are required for some services.

WeCAN - Coat Drive

WeCAN's annual coat drive returns this October with planned distribution for November 1 and 2 at the WeCAN office (5213 Shoreline Drive, Mound).

Collection boxes will be in the community for drop offs of new and clean, gently used winter coats, snow pants, and boots. New hats, mittens, and gloves will also be collected.

If you need winter gear for your family, please visit WeCAN on November 1 (9 AM - 6 PM) and November 2 (9 AM - 4:30 PM).

Save the Date and Meet Santa!

The West Hennepin Public Safety Reserves are sponsoring the 41st annual View Santa program on Saturday, December 3rd! Come to the Independence City Hall Atrium (1920 County Road 90) from 3:30 PM—4:15 PM or 4:45 PM to 5:30 PM to meet Santa! Guests are welcome to take photos of Santa and can even watch him on his route through town.

WHPS Reserves will also be collecting **nonperishable food donations** for local food shelves during this event.



2022 - 2027 Solid Waste & Recycling Contract

The City of Maple Plain has renewed solid waste and recycling contract with Republic Services for 2022 - 2027. Some highlights from the new contract that will benefit our community include:

- Zero price increase in trash service for the upcoming year
- Free yard waste carts
- Continued access to the organics/food waste collection program
- Predictable, fixed annual price increases that will not increase with inflation

A more in depth explanation of this contract, the services provided, and a thorough breakdown of new invoices starting October 1, 2022 can be found on our website at the following address:

www.mapleplain.com/2022-2027SolidWasteRecyclingContract

October Movies in the Park

Movies in the Park returns once again to Maple Plain on Friday, October 14th. The movie will be shown starting at 6:30 PM at Rainbow Park. Grab a blanket or a lawn chair and join us for a free outdoor movie screening! Popcorn and pop will be for sale at the nighttime movie event.



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

Thank You to Our 2022 City Event Sponsors

These sponsors made the City of Maple Plain's 2022 city-wide events better thanks to their contributions, **THANK YOU!**



2023 Preliminary Budgets

City staff, accountants, City Council, Fire Commission, and Police Commission have all been working diligently to prepare and review 2023 Budgets and Levies. The 2023 Budget was planned with an overall strategy of planning long term, maintaining the General Fund balance, maintaining the tax rate, budgeting accurately for known expenditures, and budgeting cautiously for unknown expenditures.

The Proposed 2023 Levy is \$1,756,732, an increase of \$188,541, or 12.02%. The Proposed Levy sets a "ceiling" for the Final Levy, which is adopted in December.

Some of the causes and impacts on the 2023 budget and levy are as follows:

Local Government Aid, revenues received from the State which account for about 15% of General Fund revenues, will be decreasing by over \$35,000,

Debt Service increased by \$31,175. The 2022 Projects bond added \$76,000 in debt service payments, but a review of debt service funds allowed us to use existing monies to decrease the amount to be levied this year.

West Hennepin Public Safety is requesting a budget of \$2,283,107. This is an increase of \$228,814, or 10.8%. Maple Plain's share of the budget, currently 31.11%, results in a \$56,725 increase to the levy. The department would like to increase wages and benefits in an effort to recruit and retain Police Officers.

The **Maple Plain Fire Department** is requesting an increase in their operations budget of \$18,955 (9%). The 2023

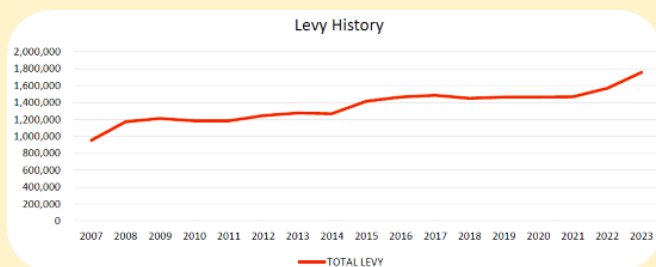
Budget works to address a number of inflationary pressures facing the department, including increases in the cost of fuel and equipment.

The **Administration Department** budget for 2023 increases by \$103,00 (27%). The majority of the increase in Administration comes from the addition of a new admin. assistant position and an increase in the Legal Services due to code enforcement and threatened litigation.

The **Public Works, Streets, and Parks** budgets will increase by \$10,531 (4.27%). The majority of the increase comes from contractual increases due to high inflation.

The **Executive** budget is proposed to increase by a total of \$12,109. Meeting schedules and Council have been planned for accordingly, resulting in a slight decrease to this line item. Additional expenses for 2023 include bi-annual strategic planning and Council Training.

The chart below show the City of Maple Plain's Levy History between 2007 to the proposed 2023 amount.



Feel free to reach out to City Administrator Clarissa Hadler, at 763-479-0516 for any information on budgets or levies!

Congratulations to Officer Jon Howes who was recently promoted to Patrol Sergeant at West Hennepin Public Safety. Sgt. Howes has been with West Hennepin Public Safety for 17 years. During his career at West Hennepin, he has served as a patrolman, a general investigator, and as an agent on the West Metro Drug Task force from 2013 to 2017. Sgt. Howes manages the evidence room and coordinates the annual citizens academy. He resides locally with his two daughters.

"I have enjoyed all 17 years working at West Hennepin Public Safety and look forward to many more. I have developed lifelong memories and friendships while working with these two communities. I am excited to continue to serve the citizens of Maple Plain and Independence in this new role."



*Congratulations
Officer Howes!!*

Welcome, Kaylen Boeddeker!

West Hennepin Public Safety is excited to introduce the newest member of our team, Kaylen Boeddeker, as our new Administrative Assistant. Kaylen comes from Maple Grove Police Department as a Records Management Technician. Kaylen graduated with a Law Enforcement degree from Minneapolis College and a certificate in Law Enforcement from Hennepin Technical College. Kaylen resides in Loretto with her two pups, Charlie and Hazel. Kaylen enjoys fishing and playing with her dogs in her free time.

"I'm very excited to begin my career with West Hennepin Public Safety. It is refreshing being close to home and having such a supportive group of people to work with. I can't wait to meet and interact the City of Maple Plain and Independence staff and residents."

Chief Kroells stated, "West Hennepin is so fortunate to hire such a qualified candidate who values our communities and the people we serve".



Seeking Good Neighbor Award Nominations

The Maple Plain City Council is accepting nominations for the Good Neighbor Award. This is the highest award granted by the Maple Plain City Council. The award is for those that have exhibited 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 at City Hall or online at www.mapleplain.com/good-neighbor-award. Nominations will be accepted until **October 14th**.

MAPLE PLAIN FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

The Maple Plain Fire Department is hosting its annual Open House on **October 8, 2022** from **11AM - 4PM**. Come 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

Nov 8	Election Day - VOTE!!
Nov 11	Veterans Day - City offices closed
Nov 21	Cookies with Council
Nov 24/25	Thanksgiving Holiday - City offices closed
Dec 23	Christmas Eve observed - City offices closed
Dec 26	Christmas Day observed - City offices closed
Jan 2	New Years Day observed - City offices closed

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

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