

MAPLE PLAIN

FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER



Mayor Julie
Maas-Kusske

Greetings Neighbors and Business Owners,

I am thrilled to welcome our new City Administrator Jacob Kolander! In the Summer newsletter there was a City Administrator Update article that outlined this process that began back in April in detail. Jacobs first day was September 5. He hit the ground running with an in person staff meeting. We said good-bye and thank you to Shirley Slater-Schulte, our Interim City Administrator, on September 11th. Jacob brings seven years of municipal experience with him and multiple other areas of expertise that will make him an excellent city administrator for Maple Plain. I have asked Jacob to introduce himself to our community, so make sure to take a few minutes to read his introduction article. It was a joy to see so many of you at the meet and greet on the 18th. On behalf of the council I want to thank you for your patience as we worked through this important process.

- * It was fun to spend time with our neighbors at the Night to Unite parties. A special thank you to all who hosted gatherings.
- * A great time was had by all that attended the annual "Battle of the Badges" softball game cheering on all our first responders.
- * Watch for more information regarding street sweeping and hydrant flushing.
- * Council has been very busy working on all the budgets for 2024.

Enjoy the fall season! Together we are better!

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske



City Administrator
Jacob Kolander

Greetings to All!

I'm thrilled to introduce myself as the new City Administrator for the wonderful City of Maple Plain!

Born and raised in the small town of Vesta, Minnesota (population 319), I have deep roots in community and rural life. Growing up on our family farm instilled in me values of hard work and community service, qualities I still hold dear and apply in my professional life.

Before transitioning into public administration, I spent 16 years in the hospitality management business and served as an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) for another 16 years. This diverse background has endowed me with a unique skill set that I believe will benefit our community greatly.

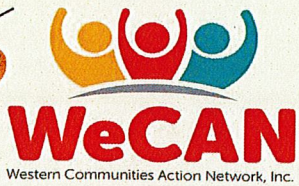
I began my career in public administration as the City Clerk/Treasurer for the City of Vesta. During my five years there, I also contributed to the communities of Morton and Echo, Minnesota. Most recently, I served as the City Administrator for Spicer, MN for over a year and a half.

What fuels my passion is my love for Minnesota's smaller cities, especially those with populations under 5,000. I currently serve as the President of the Minnesota Small Cities Association and am a board member for the League of Minnesota Cities. In these roles, I advocate for the needs of our communities, not just at the Minnesota State Capitol but also in Washington D.C.

I firmly believe in open communication and my door is always open. I'm eager to hear your goals and visions for Maple Plain. Together with the City Council, let's work towards making those goals a reality.

I couldn't be happier to be here, and I look forward to serving each and every one of you.

Best Regards, Jacob Kolander
City Administrator for the Great City of Maple Plain



Welcome Fall Open House

- *ENJOY REFRESHMENTS
- *TOUR OUR FACILITY
- *MEET OUR STAFF
- *CELEBRATE OUR WORK

October 12
4 - 6 PM

5213 Shoreline Dr.
Mound, MN

Purchase your \$60 bucket of mixed wine, beer and spirits ONLINE at wecanmn.org or by mailing a check to WeCAN, 5213 Shoreline Dr., Mound, MN 55364. Pick up at the open house on Oct. 12 or during office hours. Proceeds support programming for low-income residents of our community.



Best buckets
yet!
Order NOW &
pick up at the
open house!

Sponsored by Harbor Wine & Spirits

VIETNAM VETERAN COMMEMORATION

The City of Maple Plain hosted a Vietnam Veteran Commemoration Ceremony that took place on Friday, September 8th in Veterans Memorial Park. Thank you to Congressman Phillips for hosting this moving event in partnership with the City of Maple Plain and the Orono Rotary Club. The ceremony hits close to home for the legislator, who was just 6 months old when he lost his father during the war.



In attendance at the ceremony were 15 honored veterans along with family, friends, and community members.

The MCWD Needs You!

Are you interested in water, environment, conservation and community development? The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District is pleased to share its call for applicants to its **Citizens Advisory Committee** (CAC). Those interested in serving can learn more and apply on the website: www.minnehahacreek.org. **Applications will be accepted from residents living within our watershed through October 16, 2023.**



MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT
QUALITY OF WATER, QUALITY OF LIFE

Look Out FOR AN IMPORTANT SURVEY ABOUT YOUR WATER SYSTEM

Your local water system is required to do lead and copper testing at least every 3 years at different locations. Your assistance is needed to help compile the data required.

Please find the survey in the current utility bill or on the city website at <https://www.mapleplain.com/departments/PublicWorks/water>.

Thanks for helping to provide clean & safe water!

PeopleService INC.
Water & Wastewater Professionals

Pet Waste Management for Cleaner Water

When pet waste is improperly disposed of, it can be picked up by stormwater runoff and washed into storm drains or nearby waterbodies. Since storm drains do not always connect to treatment facilities, untreated animal feces often end up in lakes and streams, causing significant water pollution.

Decaying pet waste consumes oxygen and sometimes releases ammonia. Low oxygen levels and ammonia can damage the health of fish and other aquatic life. Pet waste carries bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can threaten the health of humans and wildlife. Pet waste also contains nutrients that promote weed and algae growth.

Anyone who takes an animal off their property should carry a bag, shovel, or scoop, and any waste left by the animal should be collected immediately. City code, Section 92.04 (D) requires pet owners to properly dispose of their pet's solid waste deposited on any property, public or private, not owned or possessed by that person.

There are three simple ways to prevent pet waste from compromising our water quality:



1. Use a bag to clean up the waste
2. Dispose of the waste in the trash
3. Tell others to do the same



And, The Winners Are.....

If you didn't already hear, the trophy is staying with WHPS!

Thank you so much to everyone who came out and supported our first responders! This is always such a fun event and wouldn't be possible without the crowd and volunteers!

Until next year!



Bring your friends and loved ones and join us in the parking lots of Iron Exchange and Forkless from **11am - 1:30 pm on Saturday, October 28th** 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. Watch for more information on the chamber website, <http://www.whcc-mn.org/>.



STAY SAFE!
Halloween Safety Tips



- ◆ Be sure costumes are bright or reflective and not a tripping hazard. Add reflective tape to costumes or treat bags.
- ◆ Trick or treat with a group of kids or with an adult.
- ◆ Carry a flashlight or use glow sticks for greater visibility.
- ◆ Eat a snack or light dinner before trick-or-treating to prevent over-indulging in Halloween treats.
- ◆ No snacking from goody bags until an adult can inspect the treats. Throw treats away that are not fully wrapped or look "suspicious".
- ◆ Only stop at homes that have outside lights on.
- ◆ When passing out candy be sure your doorway is well lit and free of tripping or slipping hazards.
- ◆ To prevent fires, use battery operated candles to light up jack-o-lanterns.
- ◆ Use extra caution when driving or crossing the street.
- ◆ Be polite and say "thank you".



Upcoming Events Orono Community Education

Art in the Park

FREE art event for the entire community!
Thursday, September 28
5 - 7 pm
Veterans Memorial Park

Support Orono Students

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY
BECOME A SPARKS MENTOR
High School-Age & Adult Volunteers Needed

INFORMATIONAL MEETING
Wednesday, September 20 | 9:30 AM
at the Orono Activities Center

Tech Buddies

September 28, October 26
November 30, December 14
8:30 - 9:30 AM
Orono Activities Center

Join us for 1:1 assistance with all your tech related questions & afterward enjoy our walking track, board games, and free coffee.

Fall Registration is Ongoing
www.oronocommunityed.com
952-449-8350

The Orono Rotary Club, in partnership with Orono High School and other community organizations, is in the process of planning a community Veterans Day ceremony on Friday, November 10th beginning at 8:30 am at Orono High School. Please watch the city website and the local newspaper for more detailed information as the date approaches.



BE A BATTERY HERO

Put batteries in their place.

RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

Take the following batteries to the Bloomington or Brooklyn Park drop-off facilities:

- * Rechargeable
- * Button
- * Vehicle batteries

NON-RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

Single-use (alkaline) batteries such as AA, AAA, C, D etc. do not have to be recycled. They can be put in the trash. You can also recycle them at the drop-off facilities.

PREPARE BATTERIES FOR THE DROP-OFF FACILITY

Place batteries in a clear plastic bag OR place clear tape on both the positive (+) and negative (-) terminals of batteries to prevent fires. If you cannot remove the battery from the device, bring the entire device to the drop-off facility.

Hennepin County Drop-Off Facilities

1400 West 96th Street, Bloomington, MN 55431
8100 Jefferson Highway, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

HENNEPIN COUNTY
MINNESOTA



Annual Coat Drive

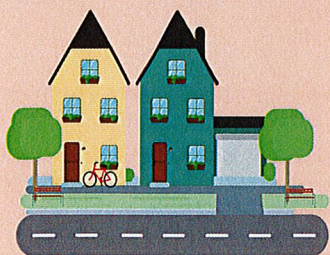
WeCAN's annual coat drive returns this with collection during the month of October and distribution for November 7th and 8th at the WeCAN office, 5213 Shoreline Drive, Mound.

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

If you need winter gear for your family, visit WeCAN November 7th and 8th. For more information visit wecanmn.org.



Seeking Good Neighbor Award Nominations



The Maple Plain City Council is accepting nominations for the 2023 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 Friday, October 13th.

Save the Date and Meet Santa! Saturday, December 2nd

The West Hennepin Public Safety Reserves are sponsoring the 43rd annual View Santa program on Saturday, December 2nd!

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 watch him on his route through town.

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



Full-Time Police Officer - Lateral or POST Eligible



Have you ever wanted to work at a small-town rural police department that is still within the metro area where the citizens support and honor their police officers? Then look no further! West Hennepin Public Safety Department is seeking to hire a full-time police officer and encourages laterals and POST eligible candidates to apply.

West Hennepin Public Safety Department is a local police department providing emergency services to the cities of Maple Plain and Independence along Highway 12. West Hennepin Public Safety is not the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office.

Our top patrol pay for 2023 is \$94,306 plus longevity, and our Patrol Officers have every other weekend off. We cover full medical premium costs and contribute \$3,000 to a Health Savings Account. Visit our website for the complete job posting, application materials, and additional benefits information.

Interviews will be conducted every Wednesday at 1 pm at West Hennepin Public Safety. Apply today at [https:// westhennepin.com/employment](https://westhennepin.com/employment)

West Hennepin Public Safety and the City of Maple Plain are proud to say West Hennepin Public Safety (providing police services to the cities of Maple Plain and Independence) is the **3rd safest city in Minnesota!!**

We want to thank our residents who are the eyes and ears of our community!

Everyone, continue to stay safe and call if you need us!

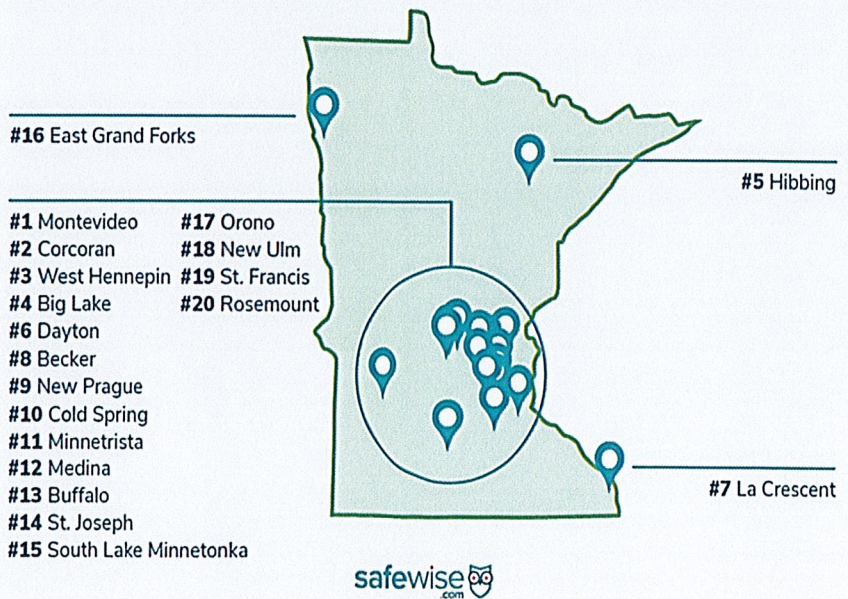
For Emergencies

call 9-1-1

WHPS Non-Emergency

763-479-0500

The safest cities in Minnesota in 2023



HELP LAW ENFORCEMENT HELP YOU!

We are asking for the public's help! Please lock your vehicles and remove any items of value from your vehicles. Also remove your garage door openers from your vehicles which provide easy access into your home. These are crimes of opportunity. Do not give criminals the opportunity to take advantage of you.

FALL HYDRANT FLUSHING

Starting October 16

(Start date subject to change with weather conditions)

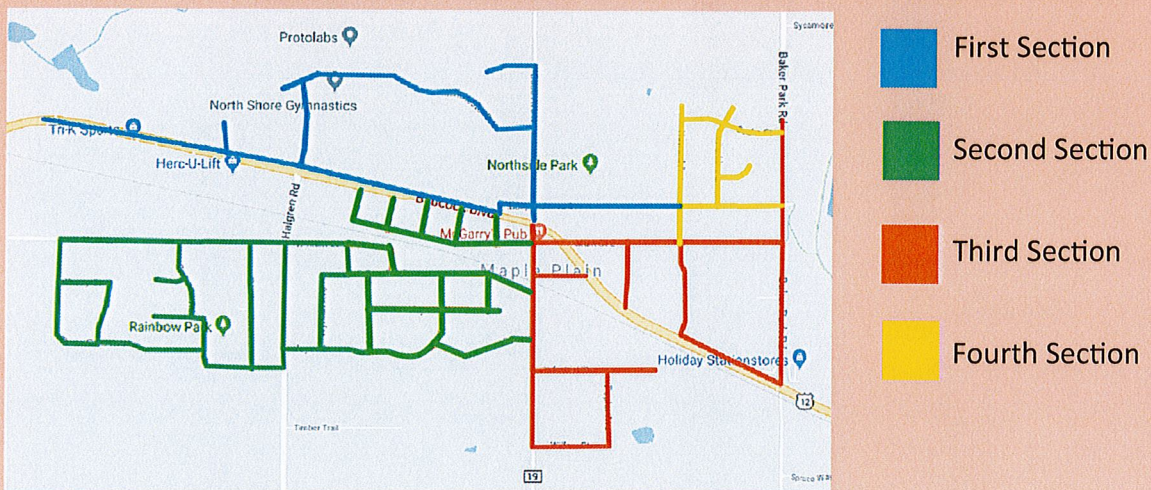
Maple Plain Public Works will be starting fall hydrant flushing on **Monday, October 16**. Work will continue through the City by section as shown on the map below. Each section may take a day or two.

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/hydrant flushing](http://www.mapleplain.com/departments/PublicWorks/hydrant%20flushing)



Sign-Up for the Leaflet!

The Leaflet is Maple Plain's bi-weekly newsletter covering City news, events, Council decisions, and more! To sign-up for The Leaflet, as well as to see all previously published Leaflets, use this link: www.mapleplain.com/Leaflet



MAPLE PLAIN RECYCLING SCHEDULE

- **October 16**
- **October 30**
- **November 13**
- **November 27**
- **December 11**
- **December 26 (Tuesday)**

The full 2023 Recycling Schedule can be viewed online at: www.mapleplain.com/recycling

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 cityadmin@mapleplain.com (Jacob)
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 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

Andrew Burak, Councilmember

andrewburak@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

Oct 31	Halloween
Nov 10	Veterans' Day Observed (city offices closed)
Nov 23/24	Thanksgiving (city offices closed)
Dec 2	View Santa
Dec 22/25	Christmas (city offices closed)
Jan 1	New Year's Day (city offices closed)

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

STAY CONNECTED



"Like" us on facebook.com
www.facebook.com/CityofMaplePlain



Sign-up for Email Updates!
www.mapleplain.com



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



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