

# MAPLE PLAIN

## SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Greetings Neighbors and Business Owners,



Together we are better! As your mayor, I have the privilege of building relationships and collaborating with elected and appointed officials throughout the state of Minnesota and across all party lines, key community stakeholders, and business owners. I am grateful for the many opportunities that Maple Plain has to partner with other organizations to offer the best possible service to our community.

- Our police service, West Hennepin Public Safety, is a joint powers agreement between Independence and Maple Plain. They provide 24/7 protection and do an incredible job of “community policing” and building relationships. We are part of the West Metro Drug Task Force made of local area police departments, including our partners at the Hennepin County Sheriff's office.
- Party in the Park, hosted by the Orono Rotary and the City of Maple Plain, raises funds for various organizations and park improvements.
- The West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce is made up of an affiliation of neighboring cities working together to support businesses and encouraging people to shop local.
- The Maple Plain Fire Department is another example of a successful JPA. The partnerships they have with neighboring fire departments are invaluable.
- The association we have with the Delano Senior Center allows our senior citizens to have other opportunities with fellow senior citizens to share a meal together, go on day trips, receive medical services, and so much more. They recently purchased a van (more about that can be seen later in this newsletter!). This van will be used to pick up Maple Plain residents and bring them to the senior center a couple of times a month if transportation is a barrier. The Delano Senior Center is also a place for those that are fifty-five years old or older to take driver's safety classes and to file taxes.
- The alliance with the Orono School District allows us to have the shared playground on the east side of the Discovery Center, to host various events, and to offer community programs in our parks. It is also home to our current city hall!
- Planning Commissioners, EDA Commissioners, election judges, and elected officials are a great example of collaboration between staff, consultants, business owners, and neighbors.
- The Paul Stinson American Legion Post 514 and the American Legion Auxiliary store equipment at the Maple Plain Fire Department, meet at city hall, and serve veterans in and around our city.
- WeCAN has a mobile office in the Discovery Center. WeCAN delivers food throughout our community via the mobile market and does so much for our community and the surrounding communities.

These are just a few of the ways that I can think of that truly exemplify that together, we are better!

One of my favorite quotes is from Helen Keller; “Alone we can do little. Together we can do so much!” I encourage each of you to think of one way that together we can make a positive difference in someone's life, our community, and the world.

**Together we are better! - Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske**

## Focus on a Firefighter - Generational Community Fire Service

On Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> as we celebrated Father's Day, the city wishes to celebrate the fathers that make up Maple Plain Fire Department. These men are not only our local heroes, but they are also fathers, coaches, employees, and leaders in other organizations.

Maple Plain Fire Department has a long tradition of generational fire service since its beginning in 1930, 93 years ago. Current Firefighters Cory Schultz, Lt. Zach Christianson, and Chief Brad Couser are part of their family's multi-generational service to the Maple Plain communities. An extension to this list is two sets of father-son firefighters that are currently serving together. Our current father-son duos have over 113 years of combined service to our communities.



**Joe Doyle, Chris Doyle, Brian Doyle**

Fire Fighter Chris Doyle has two sons, Joe and Brian, serving with him on the fire department. Chris joined the fire department in 1997 and has served in many roles including Captain, Asst. Chief, and Chief. Brian joined the department in 2014 and Joe in 2020. Joe served on the Montrose Fire Department for five years before moving to Independence and joining MPFD. Chris commented "It is rewarding to serve with my sons on the fire department. Serving our communities side by side is so awesome and I am so blessed to serve and watch my sons serve."

The second father-son duo is Ray McCoy and his sons Justin and Jay. Ray joined the fire department in 1977 and has served in many roles over the years including Asst. Chief, MPFD Relief Asst. President, Trustee, and is currently serving as Fire Chief for the second time. Justin joined the department in 2009 and Jay in 2012. Ray commented "It is a privilege and honor to serve our citizens and communities with my sons. Seeing the passion that they have for service is humbling."



**Justin McCoy, Ray McCoy, Jay McCoy**

## Congratulations, Mayor Maas-Kusske!

Minnesota Women in City Government awarded Maple Plain's own Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske with the 2023 MN Women in City Government Leadership Award at the League of Minnesota Cities Conference, which was held during the week of June 19th. This award recognizes exceptional and distinguished appointed and elected officials who have made a significant impact on city government. Mayor Maas-Kusske was described in one of her nomination forms as "someone that believes in her community, whether it be the City, School District, Western Hennepin County, the State, or the Country."

The City would like to congratulate the Mayor on her amazing accomplishment!



## Delano Senior Center Receives New Van

The Delano Senior Center received their new van on June 21, 2023! This van will be used by the Delano Senior Center to provide trips for basic services (like shopping and meals) as well as for recreational trips all over the state. This van was funded by the Friends of the Delano Senior Center as they successfully raised over \$50,000 for the project! Residents can stop by the Delano Senior Center to see their full selection of day trips or contact them directly at 763-972-0574. This information may also be found on our website at the following address:

[www.mapleplain.com/DelanoSeniorCenter](http://www.mapleplain.com/DelanoSeniorCenter)



## 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 of January 1 to December 31. The purpose of the report is to advance the consumer's understanding of drinking water and to heighten awareness of the need to protect our precious water resources.

The 2022 Consumer Confidence Drinking Water Report can be seen in its entirety on the City's website at:

[www.mapleplain.com/departments/PublicWorks/water](http://www.mapleplain.com/departments/PublicWorks/water)



## Save the Date - Ice Cream Social

The Maple Plain Historical Museum Committee will be hosting an Ice Cream Social event on Friday, August 18th at the Maple Plain Historical Museum (5240 Main Street East)! This event will be held from 3:00—6:00 pm. Stop by the Historical Museum to enjoy this community event with tasty treats!



## City Administrator Update

We warmly welcomed Shirley Slater-Schulte as our interim City Administrator in late April and she has been working hard to continue assisting Maple Plain. Make sure to introduce yourself and welcome her to our great community! She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience and we are fortunate to have her leading our staff and consultants during this transition.

The City Council made a very important decision on April 10, 2023 to work with David Drown Associates (DDA) to begin the process of hiring a new city administrator. We have received twenty-one applications. DDA has narrowed that down to ten applicants that will be moving forward in the process. The council will be meeting at the end of June to review and discuss those ten applicants and decide who will be considered as finalists. Interviews will take place during the week of July 17th. The best candidate for our City will be selected on July 19th and an offer will be extended shortly after that. The new city administrator will likely begin serving in this role by mid to late August.



## SAVE THE DATE!

Free art event for the community

**Thursday, September 28**

5 - 7 pm

Veterans Memorial Park  
5050 Independence St., Maple Plain



## A Busy Summer in Maple Plain's Parks!

Veterans Memorial Park is a beacon for fantastic summer events in our community! With Party in the Park officially in the rear-view, Maple Plain residents can still look forward to Art in the Park!

Orono Rotary's



LIVE MUSIC BY  
Red Dot Garage

On behalf of the Orono Rotary Club and the City of Maple Plain, we wish to thank the generous financial support our sponsors gave to make Party in the Park 2023 possible.

### 2023 SPONSORS



# NIGHT TO UNITE 2023



The 2023 Night to Unite annual neighborhood parties will be held on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> from 6pm-9pm.

Night to Unite is sponsored by the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association and local law enforcement communities. This program is designed to provide an opportunity to meet your neighbors and to work together to build strong, safe, and united neighborhoods that are proactive in crime prevention.

If you would like to set up a party in your neighborhood, please register with the West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) Department by visiting [www.westhennepin.com/night-to-unite](http://www.westhennepin.com/night-to-unite). Please register by Tuesday, July 25th.

**For registered parties** – West Hennepin Police and your local Fire Department will make a visit to your event. Please contact Officer Ben Raskin – [braskin@westhennepin.com](mailto:braskin@westhennepin.com) or call the WHPS office with any questions at (763) 479-0500. We look forward to uniting once again!



## Rainbow Park Receives Nine New Trees!

The City of Maple Plain hosted a Volunteer Tree Planting event in Rainbow Park on May 20, 2023. This event was part of the Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Grant that the City received in 2022. The Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer grant allowed the City to remove nine diseased/dead ash trees from Rainbow Park and Veterans Memorial Park, but it also enabled the City to purchase eighteen new trees to replenish our community!

Fourteen volunteers braved the heat and came together to plant nine new trees in Rainbow Park. An additional nine trees will be planted in Veterans Memorial Park in the Summer of 2023. A community tree inventory and tree management plan were also created as a part of this grant and will assist the City with continuing to grow its tree canopy in the future.

The City would like to thank every volunteer that donated their time to help make this happen!



# Thank You, Officer Brozek

The City of Maple Plain is saying "Goodbye and Goodluck!" to one of its finest. West Hennepin Public Safety released the following statement regarding Officer Brozek's departure:

"After ten years of service to the West Hennepin Public Safety Department, Officer Josh Brozek is moving closer to home to work at a police department in his community. We are very proud and honored to have worked with Officer Brozek during his time at West Hennepin Public Safety Department. His work in patrol, investigation, and narcotics will be greatly missed."

Thank you, Officer Josh Brozek, for always going above and beyond serving the citizens of Maple Plain and Independence!



Officer Josh Brozek

## Summer 2023 CLASSES & CAMPS

Over 300 offerings for all ages!

STEM - Art & Theater - Sports & Aquatics  
Special Interest & Academics - ECFE & Preschool  
Adult Enrichment & Recreation - and more!

**REGISTER NOW!**

[oronocommunityed.com](http://oronocommunityed.com)  
952-449-8350

FALL  
is Coming!

Registration Opens  
Thursday, August 10



Scan the code to  
view the brochure!



ORONO Community  
Education  
Orono Public Schools

## 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](http://www.mapleplain.com/good-neighbor-award) or at City Hall. Nominations will be accepted until Friday, October 13th.

## MAPLE PLAIN FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023

The Maple Plain Fire Department is hosting its annual Open House from 11 AM - 5 PM on **Saturday, October 7, 2023**. Meet our local firefighters, enjoy fun games, take a ride on the Maple Plain firetruck, and enjoy tasty food! Kids in attendance can earn a badge that may be redeemed for a free ice cream treat!

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, Maple Plain).



## Citizens Police Academy 2023 - Congrats Graduates!

On May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, West Hennepin Public Safety Department (WHPS) had their 21<sup>st</sup> annual Citizen's Academy Graduation Ceremony. Citizen's Academy teaches residents the basic day-to-day functions of WHPS. The graduates attended presentations from numerous officers, Drug Task Force Agent, General Investigator, City Attorney, Hennepin County Judge, and more. They also participated in mock traffic stops, DWI enforcement, and a police K-9 presentation. The participants took field trips to Hennepin County Dispatch for a tour and went to South Metro Public Safety Training Facility to use the firearms training simulator.



Citizens Police Academy 2023 Graduating Class

This is a great opportunity to get involved with your police department and fellow residents of Maple Plain and Independence. You'll also meet and get to know multiple police officers from your local agency and learn more about why police do what they do. At the graduation ceremony, you will receive a certificate, a custom polo, and become a member of the Citizen's Academy Alumni Network, where you'll be invited to future graduation ceremonies.

If you are interested in participating or would like more information, watch for the 2024 Citizen's Academy dates on the West Hennepin Public Safety Facebook page or check the website at:

[www.westhennepin.com/citizens-police-academy](http://www.westhennepin.com/citizens-police-academy).

## Reporting Non-Emergencies - A Reminder

Summer weather can occasionally bring with it heavy storms and strong winds that may down trees, damage power lines, or cause additional nuisances within the community. It is important to remember to always report the occurrence of these instances (obstructed roads, downed powerlines, etc.). While these incidents may not seem like emergencies, they still have the potential to impact the lives of all those in our community.



We ask that residents remember to always report these problems as soon as they become aware of them. The sooner that the proper authorities are alerted, the sooner that we can assist in the cleanup and repairs! Please call City Hall during regular business hours (763-479-0515) or West Hennepin Public Safety's Non-Emergency number (763-479-0500) when these instances occur outside of regular business hours. Thank you!

## 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 the link below:

[www.mapleplain.com/Leaflet](http://www.mapleplain.com/Leaflet)



**REPORT A POTHOLE**

Call or text the  
location to  
**763-479-9250**

# Residential Best Management Practices - Lawn Care Tips from the City Engineer

Maintaining a healthy lawn provides great environmental benefits. Healthy lawns can help prevent soil erosion, protect our watershed from water runoff, and even inhibit weeds and other pests. Choose best management practices to improve the health of your lawn and protect the water!

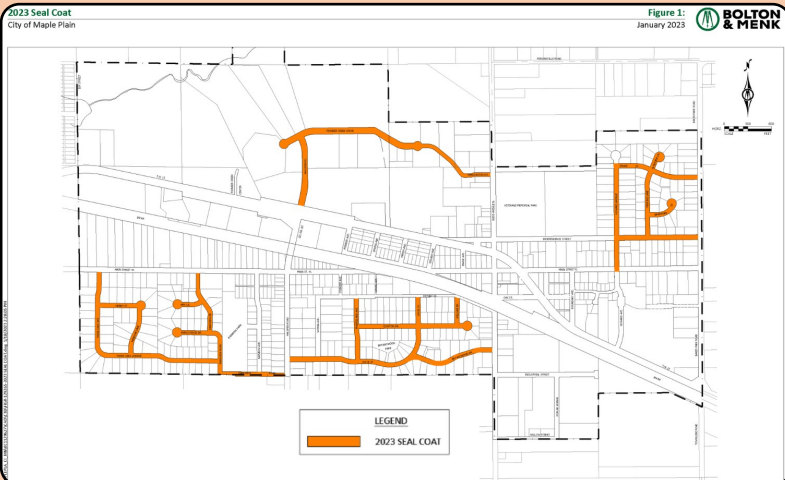
- Mow high (3-4" tall). Taller grass promotes deep roots, aids water and nutrient retention, and shades out weeds.
- Mow regularly. This will reduce the need to collect clipping. It is best to cut less than 1/3 of the grass blade at any mowing to reduce plant stress and recovery.
- Leave grass clippings on lawn. Clippings less than 1 inch long may be left on the lawn. They are a valuable source of nutrients for your lawn.
- Take a soil test to know what nutrients your lawn needs and to help select the right fertilizer for your lawn. Excess nutrients will wash off landscapes and pollute surface waters.
- Apply fertilizers and herbicides according to the label (It is the law!) and when they will be most effective.
- Sweep up grass clippings and other materials from hard surfaces to prevent stormwater pollution.
- Regularly check irrigation systems to make sure they are positioned correctly and watering according to your lawn needs. This will prevent stormwater pollution and help conserve our precious water resource.

## Street Seal Coating - 2023 Project

The City will be completing maintenance on approximately 4 miles of local streets in 2023. The Maple Plain City Council awarded the 2023 project in March and property owners in the affected neighborhoods will be receiving notice accordingly by a flyer left in their door regarding the schedule.

Seal coating protects the roadways from the deteriorating effects of the environment. The seal coat helps extend the useful life of the pavement by providing a waterproof membrane to slow down the reduction of oils in the asphalt and keeps moisture out of the street.

Residents can expect some delays during the day that the process is completed. No parking notices will be placed along affected streets the day before work begins. Specifically, do not water the boulevard (to keep the street dry) and do not drive on the black tack material until the rock chips have been placed on top. The City thanks you for your understanding and patience!



## Step To It 2023 - Maple Plain "High-Steppers"

This year, Maple Plain has 6 "Step to It" participants. Maple Plain's highest stepper was Steven Sturman with an astounding 830,139 steps! Our community participants walked a total of 2,225,339 steps between May 1 - May 28th!

Step to It continues to be a fantastic community event that promotes physical activity and team work. Thank you to all of our Maple Plain participants!



## MAPLE PLAIN RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Upcoming Recycling Weeks are on the following dates:

- July 24
- August 7
- August 21
- Sept 4
- Sept 18
- October 2

The full 2023 Recycling Schedule can be viewed online at:  
[www.mapleplain.com/recycling](http://www.mapleplain.com/recycling)

## 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 [cityadmin@mapleplain.com](mailto:cityadmin@mapleplain.com) (Shirley)  
[sspicer@mapleplain.com](mailto:sspicer@mapleplain.com) (Sharon)  
[gmacfarlane@mapleplain.com](mailto:gmacfarlane@mapleplain.com) (Grant)  
[jnorlander@mapleplain.com](mailto: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](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 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](http://www.mapleplain.com/calendar)



## City Council

### Julie Maas-Kusske, Mayor

1489 Three Oaks Avenue  
763-479-6010  
[juliemaaskusske@mapleplain.com](mailto:juliemaaskusske@mapleplain.com)

**Andrew Burak**, Councilmember  
[andrewburak@mapleplain.com](mailto:andrewburak@mapleplain.com)

**Connie Francis**, Councilmember  
1445 Halgren Road  
612-554-6193  
[conniefrancis@mapleplain.com](mailto:conniefrancis@mapleplain.com)

**Mike DeLuca**, Councilmember  
5825 Maple Ridge Drive  
763-200-6363, 612-801-5533  
[mikedeluca@mapleplain.com](mailto:mikedeluca@mapleplain.com)

**John Fay**, Councilmember  
5819 Three Oaks Avenue  
763-479-1913  
[johnfay@mapleplain.com](mailto:johnfay@mapleplain.com)

## Community Calendar

July 4 Independence Day  
Aug 1 Night to Unite  
Aug 18 Historic Museum's Ice Cream Social  
Sep 4 Labor Day  
Oct 7 Maple Plain Fire Department Open House  
Oct 31 Halloween

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

## STAY CONNECTED



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[www.facebook.com/CityofMaplePlain](http://www.facebook.com/CityofMaplePlain)



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[Check the Calendar!](#)



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