



# Woodland Newsletter

Fall 2009

[www.cityofwoodlandmn.org](http://www.cityofwoodlandmn.org)

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## Your Participation in the Census Counts

### What is the Census?

- The census is a count of everyone living in the United States every 10 years.
- The census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution.
- The next Census is April 1, 2010.
- Your participation in the census is required by law.
- It takes less than 10 minutes to complete.
- Federal law protects the personal information you share during the census.

Census data are used to distribute Congressional seats to states, and to distribute \$400 billion in fed-

eral funds to local, state and tribal governments each year.

### How is everyone counted?

The Census Bureau will mail a short questionnaire to every household in March 2010. A second form will be mailed to households that do not respond to the initial questionnaire. Households that still do not respond will be called or visited by a Census worker. (Census workers can be identified by a census badge and bag.) To ensure an accurate and fair count of all populations, the Census Bureau needs someone in your household

to respond to the census questionnaire.

### Do you know...

1. The U.S. population? 303,146,284 (estimated Jan. 1, 2008)
2. The largest state? California population—36,553,215  
Alaska land area—571,951,26 square miles
3. The fastest growing state? Utah—2.5% growth rate
4. The state with the highest income? New Jersey, with \$65,933, based on a three-year average

## Lake Setback Update

The City Council has examined extending the lake side structure setback and considered creating a sight line ordinance. After receiving feedback from residents and following extensive discussion, the City Council agreed to uphold the 75-foot Lake Minnetonka setback requirement for structures and not to adopt a sight line ordinance.

The City Council did modify the lake setback language to clarify how lake setback minimums are measured.

### 900.09 Location of Structures

Subd. 4 (d) The minimum distance between any portion of a structure and the shore of Lake Minnetonka is the greater of:

- a) 75 feet, measured from the Ordinary High Water Level.
- b) 75 feet, measured from the elevation of 929.4 feet above sea level.
- c) 70 feet, measured from any shoreline improvement, including but not limited to riprap, seawall, or retaining timber.

The measurement will be based on survey(s) submitted to the City of Woodland or Minnehaha Creek Watershed District on or after August 10, 2009. If such surveys show different locations for the Ordinary High Water Mark, elevation of 929.4 feet above sea level, or shoreline improvement(s), the survey resulting in the greatest setback shall be used.

# Smaller government: Hennepin County's 2010 Proposed Budget

The County 2010 proposed budget is \$1.6 billion, which is down more than 6% from the \$1.7 billion 2009 budget. However, due to the following factors, the County will have increased levy of about 3%.

- No increase for basic county operations. The county's hiring freeze will continue along with reductions in staff and reducing or eliminating contracts.
- A 3% increase is committed to Hennepin County Medical Center, which is faced with financial and liquidity risks due to the State's withdrawal of the General Assistance Medical Care, which provides medical care to low-income adults.
- The elimination of the Solid Waste Management Fee, which was \$16.1 million in 2009.

The overall effect of the tax levy increase and fee adjustments of the county, rail authority, housing authority and solid waste system combined will be a property tax increase of approximately 2%. The impact on individual properties will vary depending on changes in property values.

For more information on the County Budget, go to: [www.hennepin.us/](http://www.hennepin.us/)

## City of Woodland 2010 Proposed Budget and Levy

**The City Council will meet to adopt the final budget and levy at their regular council meeting on December 14, 2009 at 7:00PM**

The City Council approved the 2010 General Fund Budget and a Levy for 2010.

The public is invited to comment on the 2010 Budget at the annual Truth in Taxation meeting on Monday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.

The Tax Levy is the primary source of funding the budget for all services. The proposed tax levy required to fund the proposed 2010 budget is \$299,975. This is a 3.9% (\$11,176) increase over the 2009 tax levy. The 2010 revenues decreased \$3,975 from 2009 as a result of reduced State aid and lower permit fees. Many expenditure have been cut or frozen in an effort keep the levy at a modest increase.

Contact the City Offices for a detailed budget.

Revenue	2010 Budget	Change from 2009 Budget	% of Revenue
Taxes	\$299,975	3.90%	95.37%
Licenses & Permits	\$6,250	-45.00%	1.99%
Govt. Aid	\$1,500	-82.45%	0.48%
Charges for Services	\$2,200	10.00%	0.70%
Fines & Forfeits	\$1,000	-16.67%	0.32%
Interest Income & Misc	\$3,600	-45.45%	1.14%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$314,525</b>	<b>-1.25%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Expenses	2010 Budget	Change from 2009 Budget	% of Expenses
Gen. Govt. / Elections	\$3,845	254.00%	1.22%
Clerk, Treasurer, Auditor, Assessor, Zoning,	\$59,902	1.02%	19.05%
Legal Service	\$12,000	0.00%	3.82%
Police & Fire	\$134,878	0.30%	42.88%
Street Repairs, snow plowing, mowing, trees	\$81,850	-8.90%	26.02%
Recycling, Insurance, deer control	\$22,050	1.15%	7.01%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$314,525</b>	<b>-1.25%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

The Truth in Taxation statements will be mailed to each property by Hennepin County in November, outlining the impact of the levy and of taxes proposed by Hennepin County and other local units of government such as the School District, and Three Rivers Park District.

# Fire Protection Service

The City of Woodland has a contract with the City of Wayzata for fire protection services. Residents are responsible for costs related to calls from their residence whether the call is a false alarm or actual fire.

Often, the fire alarm is canceled prior to the fire trucks arriving at your residence, or even leaving the station. The Wayzata Fire Depart-

ment pays the firemen and women for responding to all calls.

Woodland adopted a Resolution to fairly allocate a portion of the fire contract costs by assessing a charge to the property where the call originated. The first call is \$250 per hour. The second call and all additional calls will be \$500 in the same year. The cost

of Woodland's Fire Protection Contract with Wayzata is based on the number of calls. The contract is adjusted annually. Most cities charge for the cost of emergency calls to the property where the call originated. Unpaid calls result in an additional fine and assessment to the property taxes.

## Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)



### What It Is

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an insect that attacks and kills ash trees. The adults are small, iridescent green beetles that live outside of trees during the summer months. The larvae are grub or worm-like and live underneath the bark of ash trees. Trees are killed by the tunneling of the larvae under the tree's bark.

### It's The Law

In May 2009, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was found in St. Paul. As a result, both Hennepin and Ramsey counties have been quarantined. These quarantines restrict movement of ash materials and all hardwood firewood

out of areas affected by EAB, and will help prevent new infestations within the state. If you transport wood out of a quarantine area, it must have federal and state certification. Violations for transport out of Hennepin or Ramsey County are subject to civil penalties up to \$7,500 per day and/or criminal penalties pursuant to MN statutes.

### You Can Help It From Spreading

Residents are urged not to transport or buy firewood, wood chips or mulch outside the area where it is being used. This includes wood used in landscaping projects, on camping trips, for backyard bonfires, and wood purchased from vendors for use in home fireplaces. It is important to know and trust the source of the wood.

### For More Information

Contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for more information on the EAB threat or to report a possible EAB-infested ash tree. "Arrest the Pest" Hotline.

Phone: 651-201-6684

Email: [Arrest.The.Pest@state.mn.us](mailto:Arrest.The.Pest@state.mn.us) Website: [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us) (keyword: ash borer)

# Recycling

Waste Management collects recycling bi-weekly in Woodland on Thursdays. Single Sort collection—use the green cart with the gold lid

### PICK-UP DAYS in 2009

Thursday- October 8 & 22

Thursday- November 5 & 19

Thursday- December 3, 17 & 31

Thursday- January 14 & 28

More information on where to recycle items like electronics, go to:

**[www.hennepin.us](http://www.hennepin.us)** key word search: environmental

Questions Call City Hall at 952-474-4755

### **Puzzle 1:**

Who invented the scissors?

### **Puzzle 2:**

The only country without a rectangular flag is which mountainous country in Asia?

### **Puzzle 3:**

The only food that will not spoil?

**Answers on the page 5**

## Snow Removal Rules

Winter brings two weather conditions, snow and ice, that affect our street safety.

### When do snowplowing operations begin?

- When two inches of snow has accumulated, if there is an accumulation of drifting snow, or if ice and/or freezing rain affect road conditions.
- plowing operations typically begin during early morning hours to facilitate the morning work traffic.

### Can I pass a snowplow?

- Never pass a snow plow by driving on the shoulder.
- Plows frequently stop and back up. The driver has a "blind zone" and may not see your vehicle if you are following too closely.
- Never drive into the "cloud" a snow plow kicks up. It can create a total "white out" and cause total loss of visibility.
- Pass only with extreme caution!

### Why does the snowplow come back and fill in my driveway after I've already cleaned it?

During heavy snowfalls, snowplowing is accomplished in phases.

- The first pass is intended to provide an initial access path.
- Full-width widening can occur several hours later after all streets have received a first pass.
- Final cleanup may occur within the next few days and provides for intersection cleanup, plowing back of snow banks and sanding.

### Can I push my excess snow into or across the street?

No, the removal of snow or ice from private property and placing it in the roadway of any street or private road is not allowed.

Plowing all streets requires several hours. Please be patient and use caution.

## Fall Lawn Care Tips

Fall is the best time to fertilize your lawn and control weeds. Healthy lawns help area lakes and streams. Thick grass prevents soil erosion and absorbs rainwater.

### keep lawn healthy in the fall:

- **Mow.** Mow your grass at a height of two to three inches.
- **Water.** Even though it is cooler in the fall, lawns still need regular watering to maintain plant health and survive winter conditions. Water until the ground begins to freeze.
- **Fertilize.** Fall is the best time of year to fertilize your lawn. Fertilizer provides grass with nutrients for spring growth. Water for one to two hours after fertilizer application.
- **Soil test.** Before phosphorus fertilizers are added to your lawn, a soil test is a good idea.
- **Sweep-up.** Sweep up and reuse lawn care products that fall on

streets, sidewalks and driveways.

- **Compost.** Composting recycles nutrients.
  - **Mulch.** You can use leaves as winter or spring mulch.
  - **Mow.** If you have less than two inches of leaves covering your lawn, you can leave them in place and make several passes over them with a power mower. By shredding them into a fine, thin layer, you will provide your grass with valuable nutrients.
- Gradually reduce mowing height to two inches to prevent winter turf damage.

For additional tips about how to protect Minnesota's waterways at home visit the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Web site at [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us) and click on the Water and Land section's Lawn Care and Water Quality pages.

## School District Election

**School Dist. Election Day  
November 3, 2009**

**Minnetonka School District  
#276**

### Election Information:

**Election Questions:** 952-401-5095

**Website:** [www.minnetonka.k12.mn.us/dsc/](http://www.minnetonka.k12.mn.us/dsc/)

### The Minnetonka School District General Election Ballot will include:

School Board Members (3 seats)

The Minnetonka School District is governed by a seven member School Board, elected at large by residents of the Minnetonka School District.

**Woodland Residents Vote in the  
Minnetonka #276 School Election  
at:**

**Groveland Elementary School  
17310 Minnetonka Blvd.**

## 2009 Elections

The City of Woodland holds its city elections in even years; therefore, there are no city offices on the election ballot in 2009.

School District absentee voting begins on October 2 at the school district offices.

Minnetonka School District  
5621 County Rd 101  
Minnetonka, MN 55345  
952-401-5000

## Woodland City Council

Mayor

**Jim Doak**

Councilmembers

**Tom Newberry**

**Mike Jilek**

**Sliv Carlson**

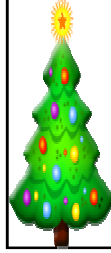
**Troon Dowds**

All contact information can be found on the website  
[www.cityofwoodlandmn.org](http://www.cityofwoodlandmn.org)

**City Hall # 952-474-4755**

**Address:**

**20225 Cottagewood Road  
Deephaven, MN 55331**



## Christmas Tree Disposal Reminder:

The City does **not** have a city-wide pick-up of Christmas trees. Please arrange with your trash hauler for the proper disposal of your Christmas tree.

## State Law Requires Drivers to Pull Over to Give Stopped Police and Emergency Vehicles Room on the Roads

State Law requires a driver of a vehicle who is passing a stopped authorized emergency vehicle next to a street or highway to:

- On a street or highway with two lanes in the same direction, the driver must safely move the vehicle to the lane farthest from the emergency vehicle; and
- On a street or highway with more than two lanes in the same direction, the driver must safely move the vehicle to leave a full lane vacant between the driver and the stopped emergency vehicle.

## Answer to puzzles

#1 Leonardo da Vinci.

#2 Nepal

#3 Honey

## Parking on City Streets

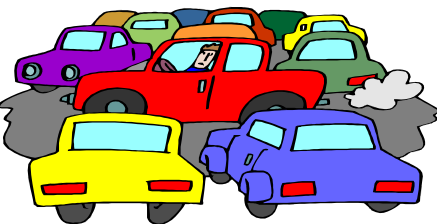
Plan ahead for Holiday parties if you need to secure parking on City Streets within the designated parking zones.

Woodland has very limited parking along several City streets that is allowed only by a permit.

Parking is prohibited along City Streets everywhere except in the designated areas.

A daily parking permit fee of \$5.00 is required to park in a designated parking area and is available through the City Hall on a first come basis.

**City Hall is open M-F 8:30AM to 4:30PM**



Call City Hall if you have questions.  
952-474-4755

## Wells

### Do you have questions about your well?

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) receives numerous questions concerning wells, and building, remodeling, or demolition projects. The state has enacted a law, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 1031. and a rule, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4725, (Minnesota Well Code), which contain several requirements that can apply to building, remodeling, or demolition. These requirements are designed to assure adequate and safe access to service or seal the well, prevent accidents or injury, and prevent contamination of the well or groundwater.

If you have any questions about wells or well water quality contact The Minnesota Department of Health and ask to speak with a well specialist or contact the Well Management Office at [health.wells@state.mn.us](mailto:health.wells@state.mn.us) or by telephone at **651-201-4600** or 800-383-9808. Deaf and hard-of-hearing: TTY 651-201-5797.



## House Checks while on vacation or gone for the winter months

The Deephaven/Woodland Police Department will provide house checks while you and your family are away on a holiday or during the winter months. First complete the **House Check Form** on the front page of the city's website or call the City Hall and we will mail, email or fax you the form.

1100.03 **Sale or Rental Signs.** Signs pertaining to the sale, lease or rental of property or buildings, are permitted if they comply with all of the following conditions and restrictions:

- (a) The sign may read "Open," "For Rent" or "For Sale," and may include the name and the telephone number of the owner or agent relative to the premises upon which the sign is located.
- (b) The face surface of the sign may not exceed 200 square inches, and neither the length nor width may exceed 25 inches.
- (c) The supporting member must be installed into the ground so that the top of the face of the sign is not more than 4 feet above the finished grade of the ground.
- (d) All such signs shall be lettered professionally.
- (e) Only one such sign is permitted on any one premises. Where the property abuts a lake, no signs may be placed or erected to be visible from such lake.
- (f) Signs may be placed parallel or perpendicular to the front property line. Signs must be placed only on the property being offered for sale or lease.
- (g) Nothing contained in this Section will be deemed to prohibit the same wording from being on both the front and back of the sign.
- (h) Where a sign is suspended from an arm of the support, the arm shall not exceed 16 inches in length.
- (i) All such signs shall be erected on a temporary basis.
- (j) Signs shall be kept in good repair, shall not be illuminated or constructed of a reflective material, and shall not contain any flags, streamers, movable items or like devices.
- (k) Any such sign shall be removed within 3 days after the date a binding agreement is entered into for the sale, lease or rental of the property or immediately upon the removal of the property from the market, whichever occurs first.

**CITY OF WOODLAND**  
**20225 Cottagewood Road**  
**Deephaven, MN 55331**