



Woodland Newsletter

Spring 2009



The Local Board of Appeal set for Monday, April 13, 2009

Property owners should have received their proposed new property valuations in the mail in late winter.

The Assessor's job is to estimate, as accurately as possible, the market value of your property. Market value is defined as the most probable price that a well informed buyer would pay a seller without either party being unduly forced to buy or sell. The best indicator of market value is market activity. The best evidence of market values is sale price—the sale price of the subject property or of similar properties.

The Board of Appeals, which is composed of the City Council members, will meet on Monday, April 13, 2009 at 7:00PM to hear from Woodland residents who feel their property valuation should be adjusted. The Board's powers are limited to correcting the property class and/or the market value.

Steps to Appeal Your Property Value

What should you do if you believe your

property's estimated market value is higher than what the property would likely sell for?

Step 1 You should first collect information about similar properties that have recently sold. If this information indicates that your value is incorrect, you should contact the **City Assessor, Dan Distel at the City Hall 952-474-4755** to discuss this information.

Step 2 If, after discussing this information with the assessor, you still feel you have good comparable sales and information to support an appeal, you should complete and return a Board of Review application to the City Hall. Plan to attend the Board of Review meeting on Monday, April 13 at 7:00pm at the City Hall.

The owner is responsible for presenting evidence to the Board as to why the market value determined by the assessor is not fair and equitable.

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Council Adds Public Comments Section to Meeting Agenda

Council wants to encourage residents to participate in the Council meetings.

The monthly Council agenda will now dedicate time for **Public Comments**.

We invite any resident to address the Council on any matter that is not specifically listed on the agenda. During the public comments section, each resident will be asked to limit their comments to a maximum of 5 minutes.

The Public Comments section of the meeting will

not be used as a time for problem solving or reacting to comments. Instead, it is a time for hearing the concerns of our citizens for informational purposes. The Council will not engage in discussion other than to ask questions for clarification. Matters raised may be directed to staff for action or be placed on a future meeting agenda.

Agendas are posted on the City website, prior to each meeting. Residents may also call the City to receive agendas via the mail.

www.cityofwoodlandmn.org or call 952-474-4755.

Electronics Recycling

Best Buy Co., Inc. now offers electronics recycling at all stores nationwide. The program is the latest addition to the comprehensive programs offered by Best Buy to help consumers find easy ways to recycle, reuse, or trade in products at the end of their life.

Consumers can bring up to two (2) units per day, per household, for recycling at any U.S. Best Buy store. Best Buy will accept most consumer electronics, including televisions and monitors up to 32", computer CPUs and notebooks, small electronics, VCR and DVD players, and phones, as well as accessories such as keyboards, mice, and remotes.

A \$10 recycling fee per unit will be charged for items with screens, such as televisions, laptop computers, and monitors. The consumer will instantly receive a \$10 Best Buy gift card in exchange for the recycling fee. (This fee does not apply for any of Best Buy's Exclusive-Branded products, such as Insignia, Dynex, and VPR Matrix).

The following items cannot be accepted through this program:

- TV's or monitor screens greater than 32" & console televisions
- Items containing Freon, including air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and mini refrigerators (consumers are encouraged to contact their state/county solid waste department for recycling options)
- Microwaves & Appliances

For these items, and other electronics not listed, please go online to www.hennepin.us, keyword search: *A to Z Guide*, or contact Hennepin County Environmental Services at 612.348.3447.

REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE

In February, the University of Minnesota decided to see how well recycling was working and dumped their collected garbage at Coffman Union for volunteers to sift through. They found that only about 1/3 of the recyclables were making it to the recycling bin.

One hundred percent of the households in Woodland have the opportunity to recycle all of their mixed paper and boxboard, corrugated cardboard, glass, cans and plastic bottles.

Recycling opportunities are all around us!

Scrap metal can be dropped off, for no fee, at the Hennepin County transfer stations in Bloomington or Brooklyn Park. Go to www.hennepin.us and put in keywords A to Z Guide, for a complete list of items that can be recycled, and the guidelines for drop-off. Residents may also call Hennepin County Environmental Services at 612.348.3447.

Other items accepted at the drop off center include: fluorescent light bulbs, household hazardous waste items, used motor oil, and household electronics. These items are collected at no charge to Hennepin County residents. Some limits may apply.

Cub Foods collects used household batteries. Cub Foods, Byerlys and Lakewinds Natural Foods take plastic bags, including clean frozen food bags and bread bags, and Menards and Home Depot stores collect fluorescent bulbs.

Help Eradicate Garlic Mustard

Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria Petiolata*) invades woodlands and is considered prohibited noxious weed in Minnesota. A cool season biennial herb, its characteristic garlic odor (when crushed), sets it apart. Plants produce flowering stalks one to four-feet long with small, white flowers in the early spring. The garlic plant has small black seeds. The seed dispersal usually occurs in late spring or early summer.

Three options for control:

Hand Pulling -effective for small populations in most forested habitats.

Cutting -cut flowering plants at ground level by hand or mechanical cutter.

Glyphosate herbicide (2% solution) - apply when native plants are dormant in early spring or late fall.

Recycling

Recycling is collected every-other Thursday (Bi-weekly)

April: 9 & 23

May: 7 & 21

June: 4 & 18

July: 2 & 16 & 30

August 13 & 27

No need to separate products. You may co-mingle products in the green cart.

Have your cart out and available by 7:00A.M.

Fire Protection Service

The City of Woodland has a contract with the City of Wayzata for fire protection services. Woodland pays a portion of the Fire Department budget based on the volume of calls. The City believes the most fair and equitable way to cover the cost of fire protection service is to charge back the residence where the fire call originated. Residents are responsible for all costs related to fire calls to their residence whether the call is a false alarm or a real fire.

Often, the fire alarm is canceled immediately and prior to the fire trucks arriving at the residence, or even leaving the station. The Wayzata Fire Firefighters are paged instantaneously and they respond, leaving their homes or jobs. The volunteers are paid for responding, even if the call is canceled. Woodland is charged for this response.

The City of Woodland adopted a fee to assess fire calls to the property where the call originated. The first call is \$250. The second call and all additional calls in a calendar year, will be \$500.

Make it Minnesotan!

Minnesota Sesquicentennial Cookbook

The Minnesota Sesquicentennial cookbook is available now at many bookstores or online at www.mn150years.org

150 years of recipes and stories from Minnesota Kitchens.

Recipes from all 87 Counties



Underage drinking on the rise—Know the law

Underage drinking is not just about kids. Most underage drinking happens at residences.

Parents have the greatest influence on teens decision-making.

Lake area communities are working together to reduce underage substance use through education.

Resources that offer confidential help can be found at: www.tonkacares.org or call Tonkacares at 952-402-5042

More information can also be found on the City website. www.cityofwoodlandmn.org

Street Sweeping

The City has a contract for street sweeping service in April. We anticipate the streets to be swept the during the **week of April 20th, weather permitting.**

We appreciate your patience while the slow moving vehicles are completing their work.

Time to Spring Clean - Open to All County Residents

Hennepin County and Minnetonka are sponsoring a community collection event for Hennepin County residents to safely and properly dispose of their unwanted garden and household hazardous wastes.

The county will accept many household hazardous wastes, including mercury items (fluorescent bulbs and HID lamps, thermostats and thermometers); pesticides; electronics (computers, televisions, VCRs, stereos, etc.); automotive wastes (fuels, fuel additives, starter fluid, waxes); aerosol cans, paint, lead-based paint chips, solvents and thinners; pool, photographic and hobby chemicals; rechargeable tools, household batteries and lead-acid batteries. Items are accepted from households only, business waste cannot be accepted.

The collection events will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Saturday:

May 14-16

City of Minnetonka-Public Works Department, 11522 Minnetonka Blvd.

For a complete list of acceptable and non-acceptable items or more information on drop-off facilities, call Hennepin County Environmental Services at 612-348-3777, or visit www.hennepin.us/collectionevents.

PUZZLE

What am I ?

I move incessant
to and fro, Obedient
to Moon and Sun,
But though I serve both
high and low,
All wait on me,
I wait on none.

Answer to Puzzle on
last page





Are You Fertilizing More Than Your Grass

Getting a green lawn without getting a green lake!

The choices we make in caring for our lawns directly affect water quality.

The common cause of lake and river pollution is phosphorus runoff. Phosphorous turns lakes and rivers green by stimulating the growth of algae in the lakes and rivers. This crowds out the other water plants and reduces oxygen for fish. The result is unattractive, foul-smelling water that is bad for fish, wildlife and humans.

Woodland is part of the Minnehaha Watershed District which covers 181 square miles in Hennepin and Carver County. The natural drainage system eventually flows to the Mississippi River. The watershed district contains 40 lakes including Lake Minnetonka.

Whatever washes off your yard or the streets and impervious surfaces runs directly or indirectly into several water bodies. That includes lawn fertilizers, grass clippings, pet waste, tree leaves and seeds—all sources of phosphorous, the plant and nutrient turns lakes and rivers

green with algae.

- Keep soils from washing into the street or lake.
- Choose zero-phosphorous fertilizers. The majority of area lawns are naturally high in phosphorous and will remain healthy without adding more.
- If you think your lawn needs phosphorous, test your soil first. For information call INFO-U at 612-624-2200 message 468 or visit www.extension.umn.edu
- Clean up after pets

Economic Stimulus proposals

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners has been studying more than 150 proposals that might be eligible for more than \$300 million in federal economic stimulus funding to the county.



In March, the Hennepin County Board approved another round of projects to be submitted for federal economic stimulus funding.

Projects approved this cycle were:

- \$9.7 million to replace Hennepin County Medical Center’s aging hyperbaric oxygen chamber.
- \$4.1 million for safety and security improvements at the Public Safety Facility in downtown Minneapolis, including an additional 18 detention deputies.
- \$3.5 million for a wind turbine at the Public Works Facility in Medina.
- \$2.5 million in gap funding to renovate the Minnesota Shubert Theatre in downtown Minneapolis (construction estimated to generate 140 new jobs).
- \$2.5 million for new “energy wheels” to increase energy efficiency at the downtown Minneapolis City Hall/Courthouse.
- \$2.1 million to increase Crime Lab staff to address the rapidly growing caseload of DNA evidence processing to solve crimes.
- \$2 million to convert health records to electronic format at two county mental health and homeless clinics.
- \$1.9 million to enhance the work of the Violent Offender Task Force, including additional detectives and legal staff for investigations leading to prosecution and incarceration of the most violent and dangerous offenders.
- \$600,000 to continue A-GRAD, a 20-year collaborative effort to ensure that all county youth graduate from high school.
- \$570,000 to connect City Hall to Hennepin County Energy Center heating and cooling systems.
- \$561,700 to replace 16 county vehicles with American-made hybrids.
- \$200,000 for county census 2010 promotion.

More detail on these www.co.hennepin.mn.us

Tree Trimmers License

Planning on Landscaping or removing any trees?

Tree Contractors trimming and removing trees in Woodland are required to have an annual license with the City.

Tree License can be obtained at the City Hall by completing a license, providing proof of insurance and paying a filing fee of \$50.

Woodland has rules regarding tree removal and land alterations. If you are considering tree removal or landscaping this spring, be sure to check the rules. In addition to a license to remove trees, a separate permit will also be required. Chapter 9 of the City Ordinances dictates tree removal. Questions Call City Hall: 952-474-4755

Twins Base Ball Park

Q: Will the grass be real?

A: Yes, the playing field in Target Field will be natural grass and is currently being grown on a sod farm in Colorado.





Dutch Elm Disease

The City of Woodland will be working with a tree inspector this year to identify diseased elm trees and oak wilt.

The goal is to slow the spread of the disease of Dutch elm disease and oak wilt through removal of infected trees.

If left standing, an infected elm of average size—10 to 20 inches in diameter—will become a breeding site capable of producing tens of thousands of

new beetles. Each beetle carries the Dutch elm disease fungus on its body and can fly more than a mile to feed on another elm, thereby transmitting the fungus.

The City of Woodland's "urban forest" exists as a single system regardless of property lines. Protecting the health of our "forest" requires cooperation between residents who manage their private property. Residents are not expected to be experts on tree disease, which is why the City will have a tree inspector assess the trees throughout Woodland this year.

If diseases trees are found, property owners will be notified by the City and homeowners will be required to remove the diseased trees.

It is important to remove diseased trees promptly because delays increase the chance of beetle production and disease spread. Many of the Lake Minnetonka communities are well underway with a Dutch elm program of detection and removal.

Woodland's tree inspector will survey neighborhoods for disease trees later this year. We will keep you posted on when this inspection will start.

Opting Out of Phone Books

Say 'no' to unsolicited phone books. More than 500 million phone books are printed every year, which amounts to nearly two books for every person in the country. To avoid receiving telephone books, visit www.yellowpagesGoesGreen.org, click on "Opt Out" at the top of the page or <http://dexknows.whitepages.com>, click on "Directory Options" at the bottom of the page, type in your information and select "O" for number of phone books.

Time to Update Batteries

The Firefighters want to remind everyone it is time to change the batteries in their Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors.

A working smoke detector can more than double a person's chances of surviving a home fire. More than 90 percent of homes in the United States have smoke detectors, but one-third are estimated to have dead or missing batteries.

Take this time to replace your smoke detectors if they are more than 8 years old. Write the date you installed your new batteries on the inside of the cover or somewhere the date can be easily seen.

Parking on City Streets

Woodland has limited designated parking zones, which require a permit from the City before use.



The permit may be obtained through the Clerk's Department at City Hall. The parking permit is \$5 per day. The Police Department will ticket vehicles that are improperly parked or parked without a permit.

Please check with the City for parking restrictions. Don't forget to remind your lawn service providers, tree trimmers, or construction/service trucks of the parking restrictions. Reserving designated parking locations is done on a first-come basis.

Additional Detectors

It may also be time to add smoke detectors to your home. There should be a smoke detector on every level of your home outside every sleeping area, in every bedroom, in hallways, in the laundry room, and any room with a door that can be closed. The more working smoke detectors you have in your home the more time your family will have to escape.

As of August 2008, all single family homes also need to have a Carbon Monoxide Alarm

- Recycle old batteries. Never throw them in the trash.
- Many hardware stores accept expired household batteries

Road Restrictions in Effect

March 1 – April 30

Weight restrictions are placed on local streets from March 1 through April 30.

This measure is taken each year in order to preserve the condition of City streets from serious damage. All roads in Woodland are restricted to 4 tons per axle. Plan your move, remodel and construction work accordingly.

No Load Limit waivers will be issued during this time. The City strongly enforces weight restrictions.

Residents are responsible for informing their service providers of the weight restrictions in the area. This is important when contracting with moving vans, delivery trucks or construction vehicles and garbage dumpsters. Questions call City Hall 952-474-4755.

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Minnetonka High School Presents 2 weekends only

All Shook Up: All singing, All Dancing, All Elvis

April 24 & 25, & May 1 & 2 at 7:30PM

April 26 & May 1 at 1:00PM

952-401-5898 or www.minnetonkatheater.com

Como Zoo and Marjorie McNeely Conservatory

Spring Flower Show March 21 - April 26

A sea of tulips, hydrangeas, peonies, daffodils and lilies are used to create this spring escape. www.comozooconservatory.org

Classic Auto Show www.msra.com

June 19 to June 21

The annual car show boasts more than 10,000 street rods, customs, classics and restored vehicles, all dating from 1964 and earlier. State Fairgrounds 952-278-3140

Wayzata Historical Society Program

Thursday, April 16, 2009 at 7:00PM

www.wayzatahistoricalsociety.org or 952-473-3631

Wayzata Community Room located in the City Hall Council Chambers

The program will highlight the history of the well known Meyers family and the local dairy that operated on the west end of Wayzata's Lake Street. *The program is free to the public*

Answer to the
Puzzle:

The Tide

Mother's Day– May 10

Father's Day– June 21

Woodland City Hall Directory

20225 Cottagewood Road
Deephaven, MN 55331

City Hall # 952-474-4755

Police Department # 952-474-7555

24 hour Police Dispatch # 763-525-6210

Chief of Police—Cory Johnson

Website: www.cityofwoodlandmn.org

City Council Directory

Mayor Jim Doak952-473-1308
jdoak.woodland@hotmail.com

Councilmember Mike Jilek.....952-239-4776
mjilek@gmail.com

Councilmember Tom Newberry.....651-642-4242
tnewberry@hbi.com

Councilmember Sliv Carlson952-475-0586
slivcarlson@usinternet.com

Councilmember Troon Dowds.....952-473-0642
troonndowds@gmail.com

City Council meetings are held the second
Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Local Talent: Woodland resident Norah Long is an accomplished actor-singer who just completed a tour with Lorie Line. She has had leading roles in Chanhassen Dinner Theatres productions including Camelot (Guenevere), My Fair Lady (Eliza) and The Sound of Music (Maria). She is currently playing the leading role of Milly in Seven Brides for Seven Brothers at the Chanhassen Theatres. Long has also recently recorded two CD projects.

Chanhassen Dinner Theatres: 952-934-1525

Frequently called numbers

DNR	651-296-6157
Lake Mtka Conservation Dist.	952-475-0789
Minnehaha Creek Watershed Dist.	952-471-0590
Water Patrol	612-596-9880
Ridgedale Govt. Service Center	612-348-8240
US Post Office	800-ASK-USPS
Center Point Energy - Gas	612-372-4727
Xcel - Electric	800-895-4999
Gopher One-Call - before you dig	651-454-0002
Mediacom	800-332-0245
License Center & Passports—Wayzata	952-404-5320
Waste Management	952-890-1100
Yard Waste & Brush - NRG Compost site	952-446-1056
Hazardous Waste – Hennepin Cnty	612-348-3777