



Woodland

SPRING 2010

Board of Review to Discuss Property Values Meeting Scheduled April 12, 2010 at 7:00PM

Property owners should 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 12, 2010
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.

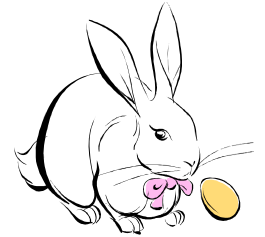
Steps to Appeal Your Property Value

What should you do if you believe your property's estimated market value is higher than what the prop-

erty 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 Appeals meeting April 12 at 7:00pm at the City Hall.



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State Primary Election moved to August 10

The 2010 State Primary will be held August 10. The date of the State General Election remains the same—November 2.

A federal law change requires that absentee ballots for military and overseas voters be available at least 45 days prior to an election. To meet this timeframe the state legislature passed a bill signed by the governor moving the State Primary up a month. Absentee ballots for the State Primary will be available to all voters on June 25, 2010.

Street Sweeping

The City of Woodland will begin sweeping the City Streets starting in April.

Be sure to give these slow moving vehicles plenty of room and pass with caution.

Election Judges Needed in 2010

The City of Woodland will hold Elections this year.

Primary: Tuesday, August 10

General Election: Tuesday, November 2

If you are interested in working as an election Judge in the City, please complete the application on the back page and return it to the City Hall as soon as possible.

Property Taxes

The owner of a \$700,000 home in Woodland will pay approximately \$7,350 in property taxes.

City of Woodland

The City would receive \$635 (8.6%) of your property tax payment, approximately \$53 per month for a property valued at \$700,000 for the following services:

- 24 hour police & fire protection
- Snow plowing city streets
- Sweeping streets and mowing right-of-ways
- Road maintenance
- Public tree maintenance
- Septic inspections
- Building code inspections
- Election administrations
- City Offices and staff support

Minnetonka School District

The School District would receive \$2,816 (38%) of your property tax payment for public education. This includes the a voter approved school levy. A property valued at \$700,000 pays about \$235 per month.

Hennepin County

Hennepin County would receive \$3,192 (43%) of your property tax payment. A property valued at \$700,000 pays about \$266 per month.

Other agencies

The Watershed District, Metropolitan Council, Mosquito Control, Hennepin County parks and museums, metro transit services. These agencies would receive \$707 (9.6%) of your property tax. A property valued at \$700,000 pays about \$59 per month.

In anticipation of expected losses in projected revenues due to state actions and the lingering economic recession, the Council made substantial budget cuts to the 2010 operating budget.

The Council will continue to prioritize direct services for residents, including police and fire services and street maintenance, while continuing cooperative service agreements with other agencies in an effort to control costs.

The property tax levy needed to balance the budget and fund anticipated expenditures for 2010, increased by 3.9 percent from 2009.

Zoning Updates

The City Council routinely reviews zoning ordinances.

Currently the city is considering amending the restrictions that dictate structure height and grade alterations.

Height of a building is the vertical distance between the highest adjoining ground level at the building or 10 feet above the lowest adjoining ground level, whichever is lower, and the highest point of any roof. Each ground level will be measured using the spot elevation existing as of April 12, 2010, or the spot elevation as of the building permit application date, whichever is lower.

Tree Trimming & Removal

Contractors trimming or removing trees in Woodland must obtain an annual license from the City.

In addition to the contractor obtaining a li-



cense, a separate permit may be required for removal of certain tree species.

Woodland has a tree replacement ordinance requiring trees to be replaced with a similar species.

For more information on the tree removal rules go to the website or call the City Hall at 952-474-4755.

www.cityofwoodlandmn.org

Chapter 9 (900.19) of the City Ordinances

Keep disposable wipes out of on-site septic and sewer systems

The past few years have seen the introduction of more and more disposable wipe products for a variety of household uses. Many of these products are labeled as flushable.

While marketed as convenience items, these products may potentially become a huge inconvenience because they may clog your on-site septic system, and for those residents with municipal sewer service may clog the outgoing sewer lines and also cause blockages and backup problems in the public sewer system and pump stations.

To understand how these wipes can become a problem, it's important to know how the sewer system works. The majority of the city has private on-site septic systems and use of disposable wipes can clog the outgoing lines and filters in the holding tanks. A portion of the City has a sewer connection that runs from the home to the public sewer system. The sewer service line is the responsibility of the homeowner to maintain so there are no backups of wastewater into the home. If you are on a municipal service, the wastewater from your property moves into larger collector lines in the streets, and pump stations help lift the wastewater across different elevations in the sewer system.

Why are household wipes a problem? Unlike toilet paper, these products don't break down once they are flushed. They can then cause blockages in your home sewer lines, especially in older pipelines that may have already existing grease, roots or other obstructions, resulting in the backup of sewage into the home.

On a larger scale, when these products make their way into the public sewer system, they collect together and cause clogs in the collector lines and get tangled in lift pumps. When pump stations are clogged, they stop working and require cleaning and repair— or even replacement—in order to get the sewage moving again.

Avoid a nasty cleanup in your home and help protect the city's sewer system by never flushing any consumer item that is not toilet paper into the sewer system, regardless of what the packaging promises. Put these items in the trash instead:

- Diapers
- Disinfecting wipes or baby wipes
- Cotton swabs
- Toilet cleaning pads
- Mop refills
- Paper towels
- Moist towelettes
- Feminine hygiene products

Not sure what should or shouldn't be flushed? Remember: if it's not toilet paper, and if you didn't eat it or drink it first, it shouldn't go in the toilet. When in doubt, don't flush!

Road Restrictions in Effect, March 1 to May 1, 2010

Weight restrictions are placed on local streets from March 1 to May 1. 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.

Energy efficiency and site improvements at the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center complete

The turbine that is used to generate electricity at the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) recently underwent an overhaul to increase efficiency in the system. At HERC, solid waste is burned to produce high pressure steam that turns a turbine to generate electricity. Some of the steam is also diverted to a steam line that is connected to the downtown Minneapolis district heating and cooling system.

Preliminary calculations from November show that the improvements to the turbine have increased the output by 8 percent or about three megawatts of electricity. Replacing seals within the system is estimated to reduce steam leakage by 3,500 to 4,000 pounds per hour.

In addition, numerous aesthetic improvements were made on the site of the HERC. Improvements include changing traffic patterns, adding more green space and reducing storm water runoff. This work resulted in the creation of 57 green jobs. The improvements were the first on the site since the facility opened 20 years ago and were made because of new development around HERC, which includes the new Twins ballpark and light rail transit lines

NEW LAW FOR YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Beginning Jan. 1, 2010, residents of Anoka, Carver, Hennepin (excluding City of Minneapolis residents), Ramsey, Scott, and Washington Counties who bag their yard waste or other compostable waste will be required to put their waste out for pick up in compostable bags – either paper bags or compostable plastic bags.

This rule will not impact customers who use yard waste or other compostable waste carts, or if customers take yard waste to a collection facility and remove the waste from the bags themselves.

What is a compostable bag?

Compostable bags include paper Kraft bags (large brown paper

bags) or compostable plastic bags. Compostable plastic bags are usually clear or tinted an opaque shade of green, white or pink.

Compostable plastic bags should clearly state that they meet standards for composting and that they are “**compostable.**”

The shelf life of compostable bags is approximately 1 to 3 years.

Waste at composting facilities must be debagged, which increases costs and the chance that plastic bags will blow around on site, causing a safety hazard. Some compost sites shred the bag and its contents and attempt to screen the torn pieces of plastics later. Unfortunately, not all plastic

shreds can be screened out, which reduces the value and quality of the finished compost.

Where can you buy compostable bags?

Most home improvement, grocery and hardware stores now carry compostable bags.



Recycling Collection

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

April: 8 & 22

May: 6 & 20

June: 3 & 17

July: 1 & 15 & 29

August 12 & 26

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.

Permits for projects

Check with the City and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

Your project may also require a permit from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

Please check out the MCWD permitting page to find out!
www.minnehahacreek.org/permits.php



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

Mayor

Jim Doak

Councilmembers

Sliv Carlson

Mike Jilek

Tom Newberry

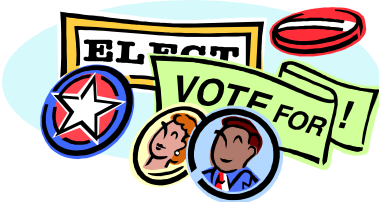
Troon Dowds

Hennepin County Medical Center starts recycling organics

The Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) started collecting organic waste for composting on December 1. Food scraps and food-soiled paper are collected from HCMC’s kitchen and recycled into compost.

HCMC will collect about 100 tons of organic waste for composting each year. The organics recycling program saves money for HCMC by reducing solid waste tipping fees and sewage costs. By diverting organic waste to composting instead of using the garbage disposal, HCMC will reduce water use by about 1 million gallons of water a year.

HCMC has also committed to helping the environment and community by purchasing more locally grown food and serving more organic and sustainably produced food.



Election Judges Needed

Woodland will need Election Judges to serve in the Primary Election and the General Election.

Election Judges will be trained prior to the elections. Election Judges will be paid for the training and for hours worked as a judge. Meals will be provided.

If you are interested in serving as an election judge , please contact the City.

- Email: shelley@cityofwoodlandmn.org
- Call: Shelley at 952-474-4755
- Mail: this application to the City Hall, 20225 Cottagewood Road, Deephaven, MN 55331

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Party Affiliation: _____

- I prefer: Mornings 6:30AM—2:00PM
 Afternoon 2:00PM—Close (about 8:30PM)

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Sites and Dates Open to Hennepin County Residents

Hennepin County organizes several collection events throughout the year to give residents more convenient, local disposal options for their household hazardous wastes.

Upcoming events

The following events are scheduled for 2010. Events will be held Thurs. - Sat. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the following dates and locations:

**April 29 - May 1, Independence City Hall
1920 County Road 90, Independence**

**May 20 - 22, Minnetonka Public Works
1522 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka**

**June 10 - 12, St. Louis Park
7250 State Highway 7, St. Louis Park
Parking lot in southwest quadrant of Hwy 7 and Louisiana Ave. S.**

Materials are accepted from households only.

Accepted

- Household, Lawn and Garden Products
- Adhesives (flammable or petroleum based)
- Aerosols (pressurized or containing product)
- Batteries
- Cleaners /Drain cleaner
- Driveway sealer
- Fire extinguishers
- Flammable products
- Gas cylinders - propane less than 40 lbs.;
- Paint (limit three 5-gallon pails)
- Paint thinners, solvents and strippers
- Pesticides, insecticides and herbicides
- Photographic and hobby chemicals
- Pool chemicals
- Rechargeable tools
- Wood preservatives
- Mercury-Containing Items
- Fluorescent bulbs and HID lamps (limit 25)
- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Electronics
- Computers
- DVD players and VCRs
- Radios
- TVs, etc.
- Auto and Fuel Wastes
- Diesel fuel
- Fuel additives
- Gasoline (containers will not be returned)
- Kerosene
- Starter fluid
- Vehicle lead-acid batteries
- Waxes
- No motor oil