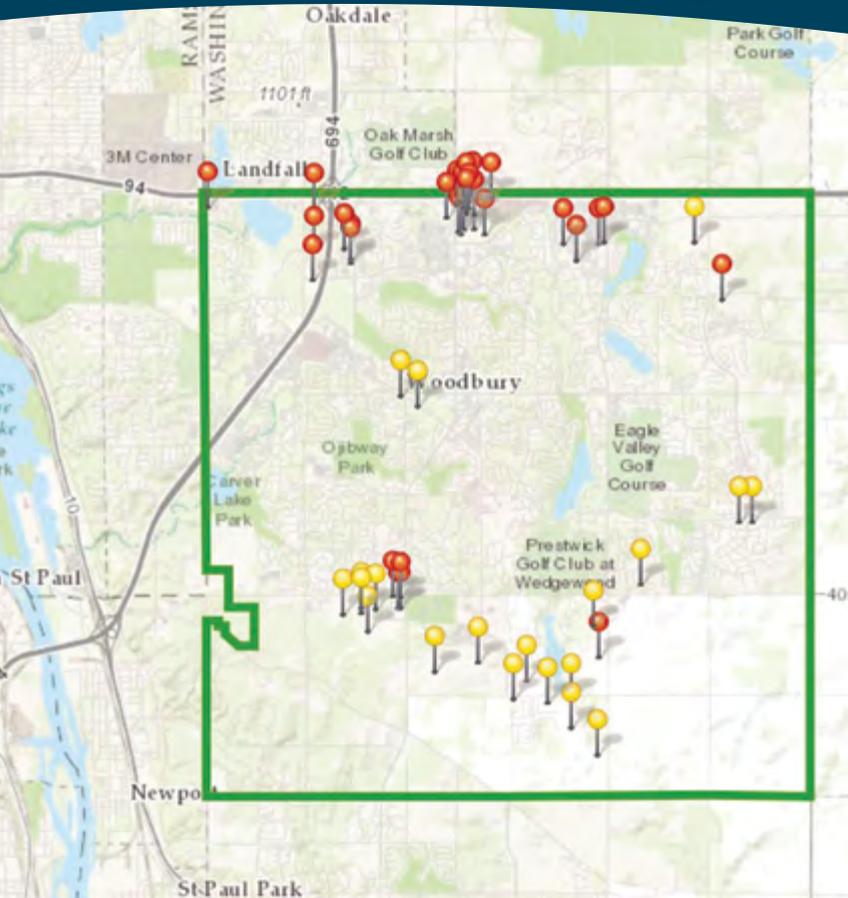


Woodbury City Update

July 2017 • Volume 18, No. 6



Website showcases development activity in Woodbury

Have you driven past a construction site in Woodbury recently and found yourself wondering, “What are they building over there?”

Do you know...:

- What’s happening next at the CityPlace development at I-94 and Radio Drive?
- Where the new movie theater will be located at Woodbury Lakes?
- What is under construction behind Jerry’s Foods in southern Woodbury?
- What new residential subdivisions are planned south of Bailey Road?

The answers to these questions – and more development related information – can be found on the city’s online development map at woodburymn.gov/developmentmap.

Additionally, you may opt to receive an InTouch email notification when new projects are added to the development

map. To sign up, visit woodburymn.gov/InTouch and select the “New residential and commercial developments” list.

Items are placed on the development map once a development application is made to the city. Later, more specific information about a project is added following the City Council approval process.

A variety of developments were approved by the City Council in recent years, including many new residential subdivisions in the southern third of the community, as well as commercial projects surrounding the I-494/Tamarack Road interchange and in the CityPlace redevelopment.

For more information about development in the city, view the online development map or contact the Planning Division at (651) 714-3533 or planning@woodburymn.gov.

Celebrate ‘Night to Unite’ Aug. 1

Woodbury neighborhoods are invited to join cities throughout the state on Tuesday, Aug. 1, in observing Minnesota’s “Night to Unite.”

“Potlucks and get-togethers are a great way of connecting with other residents,” said Public Safety Director Lee Vague. “Woodbury Public Safety believes that effective crime prevention begins with strong neighborhood and Public Safety partnerships.”

Vague encourages residents to get to know their neighbors and engage with them regularly.

“Neighborhood gatherings are particularly important for welcoming new residents to our community and helping them feel safe and connected,” he added.

There are many ways to celebrate as a neighborhood. Get together for a potluck dinner, ice cream social, barbecue, bike parade, or children’s games. If you are a regular participant at the yearly block parties, invite a new neighbor to the celebration or challenge yourself to meet someone new at this year’s event.

Registering your event with the Public Safety Department is not necessary. However, if you would like Public Safety staff and vehicles to visit your party, you must complete the “Special Events Request” form on the city’s website at woodburymn.gov/NightToUnite.

Due to the increase in requests for Police/Fire/EMS visits at this time of year, applications must be submitted at least two weeks in advance of the party. If you do not have access to the internet, call the Woodbury Public Safety Department at (651) 714-3600.

Visits from public safety personnel will occur on Night to Unite between 6 and 8:30 p.m., as time allows.

Planning tips and other event information can be accessed on the Woodbury website at woodburymn.gov/NightToUnite. Questions regarding Night to Unite can be directed to Michelle Okada, public information officer at Public Safety, at michelle.okada@woodburymn.gov or by calling the phone number listed above.

Back to school supply drive

This year, the Woodbury Public Safety Department is working with local schools to collect back to school necessities. Staff will be collecting school supplies and toiletry items, as well as gift cards for haircuts and school clothes. Specific needs will be posted on the city’s website by July 14. All supplies will be donated to local schools. Supplies will be collected from block parties visited by Public Safety personnel on Night to Unite. They also can be dropped off at the Woodbury Public Safety Building at 2100 Radio Drive.



Woodbury Public Safety Director/Police Chief Lee Vague (right) talks with residents at a block party in 2015.

Council Perspective

By Mayor Mary Giuliani Stephens

Residents give high marks to quality of life

Ninety-two percent of Woodbury residents say the quality of life in our community is “excellent” or “good,” and 95 percent rate overall feeling of safety in Woodbury as excellent or good. Those are two of the conclusions coming out of the 2017 community survey.

The survey results were presented to the City Council on April 19 by Ashly Perez de Tejada of National Research Center Inc., the Boulder, Colo., polling firm that conducted the survey in March.

The survey, which has been taken every two years since 1993, also revealed high marks to the overall quality of city services, with 89 percent awarding “excellent” or “good” ratings. As an example, 96 percent rated fire services favorably, and 94 percent said police services are “excellent” or “good.”

Meanwhile, residents listed affordable housing (22 percent), traffic congestion (16 percent), taxes (15 percent) and growth (10 percent) as the most serious issues facing Woodbury. Most of these concerns were gleaned from previous surveys, as well.

Sense of community

For the second straight survey, we also asked about residents’ ties to the community. About four in 10 residents indicated that they had strong ties to their neighborhood and the City of Woodbury and a similar proportion felt they had neither strong ties to their neighborhood or the community as a whole. About two in 10 felt they had strong ties to their neighborhood, but weak ties to the rest of Woodbury. These ratings were similar to 2015.

When considering the sense of community in Woodbury, about two-thirds of residents awarded “excellent” or “good” ratings in 2017 and in 2015. This rating was similar to

ratings given in communities across the nation, in Minnesota, as well as cities with populations between 55,000 and 75,000.

In 2015, we began paying more attention to our sense of community rating. We established “fostering an inclusive and welcoming community” as one of our strategic priorities for the 2015-2017 period. A critical component of this initial work was engaging with you, our residents, listening to your thoughts about sense of community, diversity, inclusiveness, and health and wellness.

These discussions were hosted by Woodbury THRIVES, a community grassroots effort backed by the city, Washington County, the Woodbury Area Chamber of Commerce, the Woodbury Community Foundation, HealthEast and more than 30 additional community organizations. Woodbury THRIVES aims to improve the health of residents in the broadest of ways: physical health, spiritual and emotional well-being, financial, environmental, intellectual, occupational and social wellness.

We learned a lot from these discussions. Specifically, we discovered opportunities for growth, including increasing collaboration among community organizations, youth development and volunteerism. We also confirmed what we already suspected: that our facilities such as Central Park, HealthEast Sports Center and our parks play a critical role in building community. So we became more diligent in attracting community-building opportunities to our facilities.

Our work with the Feed My Starving Children mobile pack event at the sports center in October 2015 and opening Madison’s Place playground with the Madison Claire Foundation in June 2016 were

recognized in April 2016 when the city was named a finalist for the National Civic League’s 2016 All-America Award. The award, given to 10 communities across the country each year, celebrates and recognizes neighborhoods, villages, towns, cities, counties, tribes and regions that engage residents in innovative, inclusive and effective efforts to tackle critical challenges. It is one of the most prestigious awards that can be earned by a community. And while we didn’t win, we learned a lot from other communities doing similar work all over the country.

Thank you, respondents

The City Council and staff will continue to analyze the survey data to determine where improvements can be made. We discussed the survey results in greater detail during our June 21 workshop. We will continue to make our community-building work a priority for the next two years, taking action on some of the themes that came out of our community conversations the last two years.

We are grateful to the 467 randomly-selected Woodbury residents who took the time to complete and return the five-page mailed questionnaire. Their feedback on how we are doing as a city is very valuable.

The complete survey results are available on the city’s website at woodburymn.gov. For more information about the survey results, call the Administration Department at (651) 714-3500 or send an email to woodbury@woodburymn.gov.

Keep streets free from obstructions

As you proceed with summer maintenance projects and recreation activities, make sure that rocks, topsoil, and any other materials you are using are kept out of the street. City ordinance (No. 1750) prohibits residents and contractors from depositing landscaping materials, dumpsters, basketball hoops, portable storage containers, and other obstructions on city streets.

Materials listed in the ordinance that are considered debris or hazards when left on city streets include, but are not limited to, grass clippings, leaves, garbage, dirt, landscaping products, construction materials, driveway sealer, paint and concrete truck washout.

“The ordinance complies with federally mandated stormwater program requirements designed to prevent materials from washing into the storm sewer system,” said Tim Thurmes, streets supervisor. “It also preserves streets from undesirable equipment wear and ensure the safety of pedestrians and motorists, who may not notice unmarked obstructions.”

The ordinance also applies to contractors. Property owners should inform their contractors about this ordinance.

Citations, which include a fine, will be issued to anyone violating the ordinance by placing materials in the streets. The city also may remove the material and charge the removal costs, which can include labor, equipment and disposal of the material, to the responsible party.

Questions about street obstructions should be directed to Public Works at (651) 714-3720 or publicworks@woodburymn.gov.

The Woodbury newsletter is published 10 times per year by the City of Woodbury and mailed to all residents and businesses. Send comments to: Woodbury City Hall, 8301 Valley Creek Road, Woodbury, MN 55125-3330. Phone: (651) 714-3500. Email: jason.egerstrom@woodburymn.gov.

Mayor: Mary Giuliani Stephens. **Council Members:** Christopher Burns, Andrea Date, Julie Ohs, Amy Scoggins. **City Administrator:** Clinton Gridley. **Communications Coordinator:** Jason Egerstrom.

The City of Woodbury is subject to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. In accordance with the act, the Woodbury newsletter is available in other formats. Call Jason Egerstrom, (651) 714-3500; TDD: (651) 714-3568.

Enter the 19th annual photo contest sponsored by *Woodbury Magazine*

'Historical' category added to celebrate city's 50th anniversary

Grab your cameras and start snapping photos! The annual "Focus on Woodbury" photo contest is back! To help commemorate the city's 50th anniversary, a new "Historical" category has been added for this year's contest.



The competition, sponsored by *Woodbury Magazine*, drew 271 entries last year. It is open to all residents and employees of Woodbury businesses to submit their favorite photos.

Contest entries must be submitted online at woodburymag.com between Aug. 1 and Aug. 31.

Contest categories

Images can be placed into one of five categories:

- People - people living, working and enjoying themselves in the community
- Events - community gatherings, sporting events, etc.
- Landmarks - businesses, buildings and cityscapes
- Nature - plants, parks, animals in nature, natural landscapes
- Pets - domestic animals
- Historical - historical photos of life in Woodbury prior to 1967, the year the community became a city

Photos in these categories may include events in Woodbury, Woodbury architecture and buildings, natural scenes in Woodbury, and close-ups of Woodbury people and their domestic pets. The nature category includes photos of wildlife and/or nature scenes in Woodbury. The historical category includes photos taken in Woodbury prior to 1967, the year the community became a city.

Woodbury Magazine readers will have the opportunity to vote in September

*"Morning Light" by Chris Drummer
First place, Pets category, 2017
"Focus on Woodbury" photo contest*

for the Readers' Choice winner at woodburymag.com.

Woodbury Magazine reserves the right to move a photo into a different category than specified on the entry form, if the judges deem it appropriate, or disqualify an image.

How to enter

To enter, visit woodburymag.com between Aug. 1 and Aug. 31, select the "Focus on Woodbury" photo contest tab, and complete the short form with required fields. Each individual may submit a maximum of five entries, but no more than three in any one category.

Winners of the "Focus on Woodbury" photo contest will be announced in early October and photos displayed on woodburymag.com in September.

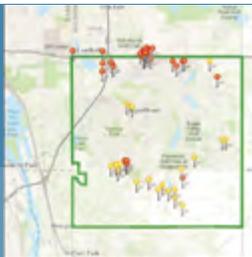
First place winners and runners-up will be announced for each category. First place entries will be published in the city newsletter. Selected photos also will be published in *Woodbury Magazine*.

Contestants must follow all rules or their entry will be disqualified. Questions should be directed to Caitlin Crees, digital content editor of *Woodbury Magazine*, at caitlin.crees@tigeroak.com or (612) 548-3882.

2017 Focus on Woodbury Photo Contest rules and guidelines

- Entrants must live, work or attend school in Woodbury.
- Photos must be taken in Woodbury between Sept. 1, 2016, and Aug. 31, 2017 (with the exception of entries in the "Historical" category).
- Each photo entry must include an online submission including the photographer's name, address, phone number and email address; age (if under 18); intended category for the photo and title of the photo.
- Photo submissions that do not include the required contact information will not be considered.
- Photo submissions with professional logos or watermarks will not be considered.
- Photos must be submitted through woodburymag.com/node/add/photo-entry. Files must be less than 2 MB in size to be considered.
- Participants must have permission from any persons pictured in the photo to use that photo and permission of a parent in the case of minors. *Woodbury Magazine* is not responsible for obtaining subject permissions. Subject permissions must be obtained before submitting photos to the Focus on Woodbury photo contest.
- Photos may be reproduced by the magazine and the City of Woodbury.
- Once submitted, the entrant grants publishing rights (both print and digital) to *Woodbury Magazine* as well as the City of Woodbury.
- Each individual may submit a total of five photos.
- Each photo must be submitted in one of the following categories: Events, Landmarks, Nature, Pets, People, Historical (photos taken in Woodbury prior to 1967, the year the community became a city)
- Contest organizers reserve the right to disqualify or re-categorize any photo.
- Contest winners will be selected by an anonymous panel of judges assembled by *Woodbury Magazine*.
- The contest Readers' Choice winner will be selected separately by voters on *Woodbury Magazine's* website (woodburymag.com).
- Winners will be notified around Oct. 1. First place winners also will be published in the City Update newsletter.
- All decisions will be final; judges reserve the right to award a winner in any category.
- *Woodbury Magazine* will not be responsible for lost entries.
- Depending on the number of entrants, a winner may be chosen for each category as well as an overall winner. A "Readers' Choice" award may also be given based on votes received on the *Woodbury Magazine* website between Sept. 10 and Sept. 30.
- Select photographs may also be featured in future print *Woodbury Magazine* articles and promotions, as well as on *Woodbury Magazine's* website and social media pages. Photos also may be featured in City of Woodbury publications, on the city's website, and on its social media accounts.
- For more information or questions about the contest, email web editor Caitlin Crees at Crees@tigeroak.com. Please specify the magazine or community associated with your questions, and provide as much detail as possible.

NOTE: Contestants must follow all rules or their entry could be disqualified.



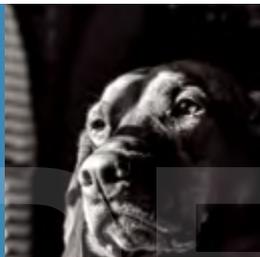
Development activity map online

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Celebrate Night to Unite Aug. 1

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19th annual photo contest

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Join us at youth Safety Camp July 18-19!

Youth entering grades 3-5 are invited to Carver Lake Park for the 24th annual Safety Camp. This two-day program features fun, hands-on activities and presentations conducted by Woodbury police officers, firefighters, camp leaders and other safety experts. Topics include archery, fire, science, Internet, water front/canoe, animal, power line, mouth guard/teeth and personal safety.

Safety Camp will take place from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 18, and Wednesday, July 19, at Carver Lake Park, 3175 Century Avenue South. Cost is \$43 for residents and includes snacks, lunches and a T-shirt. Register online at woodburyrecreation.com or call Woodbury Parks and Recreation at (651) 714-3583.

Postal Patron
Woodbury, MN

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Be a good neighbor: maintain appropriate noise levels

Summer is the season for fun backyard barbecues and other get-togethers with friends and family.

At your next gathering, please keep in mind that noise can carry long distances. Keeping music and noise at appropriate volume levels are small things you can do to be a good neighbor.

Noise ordinance

Woodbury has a noise ordinance to protect the overall quality of life in our community. Chapter 13 of the City Code protects and promotes “public health, safety and general welfare by restricting activities which emit noise that unreasonably annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace, safety or welfare of any person or persons, or pre-

cludes their enjoyment of property, or adversely affects their property’s value.”

Barking dogs

Barking dogs also can negatively impact a neighborhood’s quality of life. Chapter 5 of the City Code prohibits “the owning, keeping, or harboring of any animal which shall by any noise, unreasonably and/or excessively disturb the peace and quiet of any person in the vicinity.”

Talk to your neighbor

If you experience a noise or nuisance issue, talk to your neighbors about it and show them this article. They may not even realize their activity is bothersome or may be unaware of what is allowed.

If you can’t work it out directly with your neighbor, call the non-emergency dispatch number at (651) 439-9381. This will allow a police officer to observe the behavior, and make direct and timely contact with the potential offender.

The Woodbury Public Safety Department can help eliminate this behavior when residents are aware they are disturbing others’ peace at the time the action is occurring.

Additional noise and nuisance ordinance details are available in the City Code, which is accessible via the city’s website at woodburymn.gov.

Questions about the noise ordinance should be directed to the Woodbury Public Safety Department at police@woodburymn.gov or (651) 714-3600.

Volunteers needed for Woodbury Days

The Woodbury Days Council is seeking volunteers for this year’s annual community celebration Aug. 25-26 at Ojibway Park.

Volunteers are needed to greet guests, assist vendors, support the Grande Parade and answer questions at the information booth.

Individuals, families and groups are welcome to volunteer. Individual volunteers must be 15 years of age or older.

All volunteers will receive a Woodbury Days T-shirt and a packet of gift certificates and goodies from several area businesses. Visit WoodburyDays.com and select the Volunteering tab to learn more and sign up. Questions should be directed to volunteer@woodburydays.com.