

# Woodbury City Update

April/May 2017 • Volume 18, No. 4



## Properties will reduce water use by at least 20 percent through new program

As rain showers bring out rain boots and umbrellas this spring, select commercial properties and homeowner associations will be reducing water used by their large irrigation systems with efficiency improvements.

Through its Water Efficiency Incentive Program the city has approved a 50 percent cost share funding to projects that improve water efficiency of sprinkler systems. These irrigation improvements are expected to result in an annual water use reduction of 20 percent or more per property. In addition, property owners conducting irrigation audits will learn how they can move forward with substantial financial and water savings for years to come.

Over the last two summers, the city partnered with School District 833 to improve irrigation systems on school properties, with funding provided from the Metropolitan Council and Washington County. These publicly-owned, aging and inefficient irrigation systems were upgraded with state-of-the-art options that constantly monitor water use. The new technology automatically makes adjustments when there's a break in the system; helps disperse water uniformly on vegetated surfaces; and considers current

weather data when operating, including wind speed.

"Through these upgrades, the City of Woodbury and School District 833 can expect a 30 percent increase in annual irrigation water savings," said Anthony Dabruzzi, water conservation manager at Rain Bird Corporation, who worked with city and district staff on these projects. "Water savings like this can be achieved by nearly every business and homeowner in the area if they follow suit and use appropriate high efficiency products on their properties."

This is the first year of a multi-year water conservation funding opportunity. Residents who have connections with Woodbury commercial properties or homeowner associations with irrigation meters should watch for future cost share opportunities. Requests for cost share funding will be announced in the first quarter of each year.

More information is available at [smartwateruse.org](http://smartwateruse.org). Questions should be directed to Kristin Seaman, environmental resources specialist, at [kristin.seaman@woodburymn.gov](mailto:kristin.seaman@woodburymn.gov) or (651) 714-3593.

## Join your neighbors in preserving Woodbury's water source

### Use water wisely this summer

Residents are strongly encouraged to conserve water when irrigating their lawns this summer. Woodbury city code restricts both the day and time that you can water your lawn. Remember that:

- Lawn watering is prohibited between noon and 5 p.m. every day of the week.
- Watering is allowed before noon and after 5 p.m. on an odd/even schedule. This means that residents with addresses ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, etc.) may water their lawn on even-numbered calendar days. Likewise, those with addresses ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, etc.) may only sprinkle lawns on odd-numbered calendar days.

However, just because you can water your lawn every other day, doesn't mean you should. Water only if needed. For older irrigation systems that cannot be programmed to meet the restrictions or consider rain patterns, use the system's manual operation to turn the system on and off, as needed. Consider replacing your clock-based timer with a WaterSense certified controller. These controllers are certified to reduce water waste by at least 20 percent without drying out your landscape and can cost as low as \$99. Visit [epa.gov/watersense](http://epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

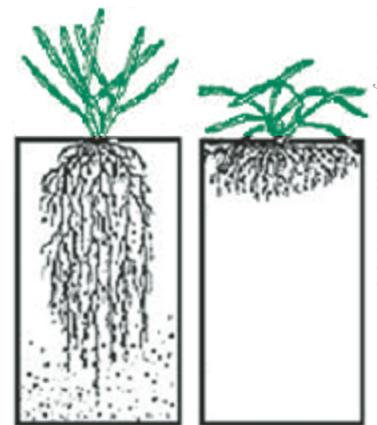
The city's lawn watering policy is in effect year-round and citations are issued for violations; first-time offenders are not exempt.

Special watering permits can be obtained for newly-placed sod and seed. Contact Public Works at (651) 714-3720 or [publicworks@woodburymn.gov](mailto:publicworks@woodburymn.gov) for information.

### Program saves 3 million gallons of water

The city conducted a residential irrigation controller pilot program in 2016 in partnership with the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program. Through the program the city provided 100 residents with a new programmable irrigation controller for their existing irrigation system. After one summer, the program reduced outdoor water use on these 100 properties by an estimated 49 percent. The projected annual water savings for these properties is approximately 3 million gallons. That's about same amount of water in 4½ Olympic-sized swimming pools!

Sign up for the city's InTouch email notification system (Eco-Interest list) for information about future conservation opportunities for your property.



*Deep and infrequent irrigation tends to cause grass roots to grow deeper into the soil, making plants more drought tolerant. Shallow and frequent waterings lead to shallow-rooted plants with less drought tolerance.*

University of Minnesota Extension

# Council Perspective

By Mayor Mary Giuliani Stephens

## Exciting changes coming to Ojibway Park

Did you know the city established its first Parks and Trails Plan almost 45 years ago? This blueprint led the way for the extensive parks and trails system we enjoy today. A few years later, voters in the community approved the city's first parks referendum, dedicating funds to purchase land for and to develop Ojibway Park and Shawnee Park.

Back then, the population of our community was somewhere between 6,000 and 10,000 people. As we grew from a quiet farming community into a full-service suburb of nearly 70,000 people, the ways in which we use our parks changed.

Ojibway Park was constructed in conjunction with Woodbury High School. It included the park building, some trails and a few athletic fields to be co-used by the high school. In the years following its initial construction, we expanded the park through land acquisition that occurred with adjacent housing development. The Woodbury Jaycees built the original bandshell before the Woodbury Lions Club replaced it years later. Additional athletic fields were added and ice skating opportunities evolved.

The park building received a minor facelift or two over the years. This well-used park amenity has now reached the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced. Instead of simply replacing the building and playground structure, we thought it was an appropriate time to take a step back and study the future needs of the park space, conduct a master planning process, obtain public input, and develop a proposal for improving Ojibway Park.

### Project goals

A key component of any master planning process is gathering input from stakeholders. So last summer, staff hosted several park visits and meetings with the City Council, Parks and Natural Resources Commission, athletic groups and

event planners for Woodbury Days. We also held a neighborhood meeting to gather public input, especially from those living near the park. Ideas also were collected from the community through an online survey, social media and at Woodbury Days.

We thank you for taking the time to provide feedback. Here are some of the common goals we created from what we heard from you.

- Ensure Ojibway Park remains a community asset, focusing on family-friendly, nature-oriented activities
- Retain and enhance the natural qualities of the park
- Support Woodbury Days as a key event in the park
- Improve access and visibility of the park
- Increase facilities and programming for recreation, fitness and play
- Improve existing structures and parking lots
- Enhance circulation within the park with wayfinding signage and additional trails
- Prioritize the bandshell and associated programming

Staff presented the concept plan for the Ojibway Park improvements at our March 15 workshop. The concept plan outlines some "base" improvements and a number of additional options to consider for the project.

The base options proposed in the plan include constructing a new park building; updating the bandshell; improving access to the bandshell from Woodbury High School; improving the existing picnic shel-

ter; expanding the playground area and adding new play features; repaving the main parking lot; expanding the skate park, adding new signs, kiosks, and benches; restoring the wetland east of the bandshell; and adding a new boardwalk through wetland area connecting to the existing paved trails.

### Outdoor skating and hockey

Two options in the concept plan we want to investigate further are the potential refrigeration of the hockey rink and adding an open air canopy over the rink. These elements could extend the skating season at the site. It also could provide more ice time in the community that our athletic groups are seeking. We continue to explore if this is the appropriate location for hockey or if we should strive to keep hockey activities at Bielenberg Sports Center.

### Next steps

Staff obtained public feedback on the concept plan at the March 7 Parks and Natural Resources Commission meeting and April 1 Community Expo. We also plan to present the concept design to our local athletic groups, key stakeholders, at future Parks and Natural Resources Commission meetings and at another neighborhood meeting at a date to be determined this spring. We'll use the feedback to refine the concept plans and develop a cost estimate for us to consider this summer.

You can view the concept plan at [woodburymn.gov/OjibwayPark](http://woodburymn.gov/OjibwayPark). You can always share your ideas by contacting Parks and Recreation at [parks@woodburymn.gov](mailto:parks@woodburymn.gov) or (651) 714-3583.

## Score great savings! Eagle Valley Golf Course open for the season

Golf season is officially here! Dust off your clubs and book your tee time at Eagle Valley! The municipal golf course opened for its milestone 20th season in March and is offering great values all summer long.

Eagle Valley is a well-maintained, full-service 18-hole public golf course that offers a quality, first-class golf experience for players of all abilities. Last year, the course hosted 36,000 rounds of golf - the third-most in a season in the course's history.

"We truly strive to give our golfers an excellent experience, which means having great conditions and friendly staff every day of the week," said Dan Moris, director of golf at Eagle Valley Golf Course.

### Join the 'Royal Club'

Eagle Valley offers a great value and experience for golfers of all levels and abilities.

Eagle Valley's best value is available through the "Royal Club," which offers several benefits including: green fee discounts, advance reservations, practice range benefit, free golf for juniors (with each paid adult after 4 p.m. on weekends) and much more!

The cost to join the Royal Club is \$95 per person for Woodbury residents and \$115 for non-residents. Play as few as three rounds this season to cover the cost of the membership!

Golfers also could opt for the season pass, which is valid seven days per week, including holidays. The cost of this unlimited walking membership is \$1,500, plus tax.

### Lessons

Just learning to play? Golf lessons, provided by Eagle Valley's own PGA professionals, are available for youth and adults. Spring session starts April 24.

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](mailto: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.

# Be patient, use alternate routes during construction season

Summer is almost here and that means road construction season will soon be in full swing. Below is a summary of the major projects this summer.

## **Woodbury Drive (County Road 19) from Tamarack Road to Park Crossing – Washington County project**

Woodbury Drive between Park Crossing and Tamarack Road, including the Hudson Road intersection, will be repaved this summer. Construction is expected to begin in September and be completed by the end of October. More details will be posted on the county's website prior to construction.

## **Weir Drive/Tamarack Road – private developer and city project**

Adjacent developments are funding improvements in the area of Tamarack Road, Weir Drive and I-494. A new traffic signal will be installed at the intersection of Weir Drive and Tamarack Road. In addition, Weir Drive from south of Tamarack Road north to the Crosswinds Arts and Science School entrance will be reconstructed and widened to add turn lanes to accommodate access to the Costco site. Improvements also will be made to the I-494 northbound off-ramp at Tamarack Road, including the construction of an additional right-turn lane onto Tamarack Road. Work is expected to begin in April and continue through September, weather permitting. The roadways will remain open to motorists during construction; the impact to traffic is expected to be minimal.

## **Hudson Road west of Radio Drive and Radio Drive lane signage improvements – Washington County and city project**

The existing overhead lane signage along northbound Radio Drive near I-94 and eastbound Hudson Road west of Radio Drive will be replaced with larger signs in April. The improvements are needed to more clearly indicate the exclusive lanes for the eastbound and westbound I-94 entrance ramps and help motorists find their desired lane faster. Drivers should

expect intermittent lane closures while the new signs are installed.

## **Manning Avenue at Valley Creek Road – Minnesota Department of Transportation project**

Manning Avenue (Highway 95) between Valley Creek Road and Highway 61 will undergo a series of safety improvements from 2017 through 2019. The first phase of the project will take place at the Manning Avenue/Valley Creek Road intersection this summer. Work in 2017 will include the construction of northbound turn lanes on Manning Avenue; installation of mumble shoulder strips; and construction of a stormwater filtration basin southwest of the intersection. The improvements are needed to reduce crashes and congestion in the area; enhance safety and traffic flow; and improve stormwater drainage. Construction is expected to begin this spring and continue through the fall. Traffic on southbound Manning Avenue will be detoured Woodbury Drive to Bailey Road for approximately three months. Traffic on northbound Manning Avenue is expected to remain open to motorists during construction. For more information, or to sign up to receive email updates from the Minnesota Department of Transportation, visit [dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy95safetyimprovements](http://dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy95safetyimprovements).

## **2017 Neighborhood Roadway Rehabilitation – city project**

Approximately 1,600 property owners and 17 miles of roadway – will be impacted by the 2017 Roadway Rehabilitation Project. The property owners impacted by the neighborhood projects were first notified last summer and several neighborhood meetings about the project have taken place since last August. All roadways within the project area will be resurfaced. Improvements also include spot curb and gutter repairs; sanitary sewer, storm sewer and water system repairs; spot trail repairs; and storm water quality improvements.

The roadways will remain open during

construction. Updates will be posted on the city's website at [woodburymn.gov/RoadRehab2017](http://woodburymn.gov/RoadRehab2017) and sent via the city's InTouch email notification system.

Work will start as early as weather permits, likely in May, and continue through October.

## **Reduce speed in work zones**

As construction proceeds, motorists should expect delays, especially during rush hours, and use the posted detours when applicable. Whenever possible, drivers should use an alternate route. Please always be patient and cautious when passing through work zones.

## **Road closure notices**

If you'd like to receive email notices of city road closures, sign up for the "road closure advisory" list in the city's InTouch email notification system. Visit [woodburymn.gov](http://woodburymn.gov) and select the InTouch logo at the top of the home page.

Project information, including construction phasing maps, also are available on the city's at [woodburymn.gov/RoadConstruction](http://woodburymn.gov/RoadConstruction).

If you have questions about road projects, contact the Engineering Division at [engineering@woodburymn.gov](mailto:engineering@woodburymn.gov) or (651) 714-3593.

# Spring cleaning: inside and out

April is a popular time for residents to conduct "spring cleaning" activities inside their homes. But it is also a great time to pick up debris outside the home that may have previously been hidden. Please take the time to clean up the exterior of your property and look for some of these most common city code violations found within our community:

- **Waste/recycling container storage** – Except for the day of pick-up and after 6 p.m. the day prior to pick-up, waste and recycling containers must be located indoors or be fully hidden behind a solid fence or wall no less than 5 feet in height so as not to be visible from adjoining properties.
- **Weeds and tall grass** – Lawns must be maintained so as not to exceed 8 inches in height. Landscaped areas must be maintained. Noxious weeds, as defined by state statute, must be controlled or eradicated. An example of a common noxious weed is Canada thistle.
- **Exterior storage** – Materials and equipment must be located indoors or be fully hidden behind a solid fence or wall no less than 5 feet in height so as not to be visible from adjoining properties. There are some items that are exempt from this provision such as outdoor furniture and grills.
- **Recreational equipment** – One piece of recreational equipment not exceeding 24 feet in length may be located outdoors as follows: at least 15 feet from the curb, at least 5 feet from side and rear property lines, and on concrete or blacktop. Recreational equipment includes items such as trailers, boats, recreational vehicles, campers, snowmobiles, etc.
- **Property maintenance** – The adopted property maintenance code requires the maintenance of structures and grounds. Common violations found include damaged siding, windows, doors, roofing and peeling paint.

If you find violations on your property, please correct them. In many instances, violations occur because people are simply unaware that a requirement exists.

If you have questions or concerns, contact code enforcement at (651) 714-3543 or code enforcement officer Matt Novak at [matt.novak@woodburymn.gov](mailto:matt.novak@woodburymn.gov).



**Water wisely this summer**

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**Eagle Valley Golf Course open**

Page 2



**Changes coming to Ojibway Park**

Page 2, Mayor's column

## Parks and trails map available now!

Parks and trails maps are now available at City Hall, Bielenberg Sports Center, Central Park, Eagle Valley Golf Course and Public Works. The printed map details locations of all parks, and paved and unpaved trails in the community.

An interactive online version of the map launched on the city's new website in January. Check it out at [woodburyparksmap.com](http://woodburyparksmap.com).

Questions related to the parks and trails map should be directed to Parks and Recreation at [parks@woodburymn.gov](mailto:parks@woodburymn.gov) or (651) 714-3583.

Postal Patron  
Woodbury, MN

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## May 29 Memorial Day service will feature Civil War reenactors and WWII vehicles

Woodbury VFW Post 9024 and the Woodbury American Legion Post 501 are hosting a Memorial Day Ceremony Monday, May 29. The special service, held annually to honor service men and women, will begin at 11 a.m. at the Woodbury Veterans Memorial on the City Hall campus.

Mayor Mary Giuliani Stephens will present the welcoming remarks. Lieutenant Colonel Gary Diamond, a member of the Minnesota Army National Guard and teacher at Woodbury High School, will give the Memorial Day address.

Color guards from the Woodbury High School Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, the Patriotic Heritage Allegiant Honor Guard and Woodbury Boy Scout Troop 559 will lead reenactors from the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Regiment to the Veterans Memorial.

The "First Minnesota" reenactors also will render a three-volley salute with their Civil War muskets.

The First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Regiment was one of the first units organized in the North's Civil War effort. It participated in several key battles; however, the group is best known for its significant contribution in the battle of Gettysburg in 1863.

Patrons at the Memorial Day event also will get an up-close look at two vehicles from WWII. WWII reenactor Harold Bottolfson will have his M3A1 scout car and WWII staff car on display.

### Recognize service members with paver

Engraved pavers are available for purchase from the Veterans Memorial Council. The pavers cost \$300 each and help fund the initial construction and ongoing maintenance of the

Woodbury Veterans Memorial site. Additional options for engraving include benches (\$1,500), flag pole bases (\$5,000 for the U.S. flag and \$3,500 for other flags) and planters (\$2,500). If you can't pay the full amount now, installment options are available. Donations and paver purchases are tax deductible.

Paver orders placed by May 14 will be installed and engraved in time for the Memorial Day Ceremony May 29.

If you would like to purchase a paver or would like more information, visit [woodburylionsvetmem.org](http://woodburylionsvetmem.org) or call Bruce Nettleton at (651) 325-5643.

### Parking

The Veterans Memorial is located just east of the Woodbury City Hall, 8301 Valley Creek Road. Parking is available at Woodbury City Hall and additional parking is available at the



Woodbury Public Safety Building, 2100 Radio Drive, and the Washington County License Center, 2150 Radio Drive.

In case of inclement weather, the Memorial Day observance will be relocated to the nearby Woodbury Fire Department Building at the north end of the Woodbury Public Safety Building.