City of Lakeville Weekly Newsletter

MEETINGS

Monday, May 30

City offices closed for the Memorial Day holiday

Wednesday, June 1

Parks, Recreation & Natural Resources Committee - canceled

Thursday, June 2

Planning Commission - canceled

Meetings take place at City Hall or virtually. Check each agenda for details. The public is invited to participate in meetings in person and/ or by phone. Agendas are available online at *lakevillemn.gov*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Become a Community Forestry Member in Lakeville

Help the Lakeville Forestry staff maximize their impact in managing the City's community forest. In your role as a Community Forestry Member, you will keep our tree inventory updated, help with tree planting projects, assist with the City's tree sale program, and provide ongoing tree inspections and outreach for City and private property related to emerald ash borer, oak wilt and Dutch elm disease. Members will be serving with an ISA-certified arborist who can help give them a jump start on their career. For more information about the position, go to climatecorps-ampact.icims.com/jobs.

Utility Billing and WaterSmart

Quarterly water meter reading occurred for the first time last week using the remote collection equipment recently installed on water towers and using our new meter reading software. As expected, utility staff still had to manually read some areas of the community not covered by collection equipment. Staff is looking at potential locations to install additional collector equipment to fill in the coverage gaps. Go to lakevillemn.gov for more information about the WaterSmart system that will launch soon and will allow residents to monitor and set up alerts for their water usage.

Are You Familiar With Lakeville City Codes?

The Lakeville City Code is a key resource for residents to find the necessary information to stay in compliance with local regulations. This code applies to all Lakeville residents, but not everyone is aware of the details of the City Code. Here are a few reminders of common City regulations to keep in mind this upcoming summer season.

City Code 4-1-3: Length of Weeds and Grass

Weeds or grass in excess of eight inches in length, on any lot less than one acre in size that has a building constructed on it, is a public nuisance and is prohibited.

After giving the owner or occupant of a lot not-in-compliance with the length limitation for grass and weeds seven days advance written notice of the noncompliance, the City may cut the grass and weeds and may assess the cost against the property owner in accordance with state law.

City Code 7-1-4-5: Beverages and Containers in City Parks

No person may possess or consume alcoholic beverages within City parks, except for beer and wine. Glass containers are prohibited in all City parks.

City Code 8-4-3: Open Burning/ Recreational Fire Requirements

A recreational fire is subject to the following requirements:

 A recreational fire cannot be more than three feet in diameter and is not permitted when a burning ban or air quality alert is in effect.

- The recreational fire site shall have appropriate communication and fire suppression equipment available.
- The recreational fire shall be attended to at all times by an adult. No fire may ever be allowed to smolder.
- The recreational fire must be a minimum of 10 feet from property lines and no closer than 25 feet to any structure or combustible material (house, deck, fence, shed).
- A recreational fire is not allowed if winds exceed 15 miles per hour.
- Smoke from a recreational fire may not unreasonably impact neighboring property owners

City Code Chapter 22: Outdoor Storage

No more than two licensed and operable recreational vehicles and equipment may be parked or stored on property outside a building. "Recreational vehicle" includes, but is not limited to, operable and licensed travel trailers, chassis mounted campers, motor homes, tent trailers, slide-in campers, airplanes, converted buses, snowmobiles and trailers, boats/watercraft and trailers, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles and utility trailers. Recreational vehicles stored or kept on a trailer are considered as one recreational vehicle. The area on which the recreational vehicle and equipment are stored must be surfaced with asphalt, concrete or paving brick if parked in the front or side yard. If parked in the rear yard, it must meet the minimum setback requirements.

You can find the entire City Code on our website at *lakevillemn.gov*. Click on the green City Code icon.

Mosquito Control Begins Locally for the Season

Warmer weather means that mosquito season is quickly approaching, and the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (MMCD) will be out conducting surveillance and treatment activities to reduce the risk of disease and annoyance in an environmentally-sensitive manner.

Each year the field staff at MMCD monitors and treats wetlands that breed mosquitoes with a fleet of trucks and helicopters. Many of their seasonal staff began working in April, and residents of the seven county metro area may notice the green or white trucks with

the MMCD logo or staff on bikes or on foot wearing brightly colored "Mosquito Control" shirts.

At times MMCD employees may need to cross private property for access to check and treat areas for mosquito larvae. MMCD management asks the community to stay several feet away from field staff and ensure children and pets are kept at a distance.

If you have questions about mosquito control activities, call the MMCD front desk at 651-645-9149 or visit MMCD's website at *mmcd.org*.

STAFF UPDATE

Environmental Resources

Educational signage was installed at the new Valley Lake pollinator garden at the former beach. A student from the School of Environmental Studies in Apple Valley worked with staff to install an environmentally-oriented Little Free Library in the garden. The plants there should start to bloom in mid- to late lune.

Watercraft inspectors began aquatic invasive species inspections on Lake Marion and Orchard Lake during the Minnesota fishing opener on May 14. Inspectors will be stationed at public boat launches each week on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Parks & Recreation

Site work on the Casperson
Performance Stage project is expected
to begin in the next week, with the
installation of concrete footings for
the new structure to follow. Delivery
of building materials is tentatively
scheduled for the first week in June,
with the project planned to be
complete in mid-September.

Don't Risk Losing Your Ash Trees to EAB—Act Now

The emerald ash borer (EAB) population has exploded in the south metro in 2022. Lakeville Forestry staff has marked more than 500 dying ash trees for removal already this year. Our City Forester wants you to understand this may be your last summer to save your ash tree(s) from EAB. No choice is a choice for tree death.

A citywide bulk discount will be offered by Rainbow Treecare to Lakeville homeowners through 2022 to treat trees on private property that are at least 10" in diamerter and in good physical condition. Go to rainbowtreecare.com/lakeville for more information and to request an estimate online.

City of Lakeville lakevillemn.gov 952-985-4400