

Woodland News

Spring 2013



Mother's Day

May 12

Father's Day

June 16

Inside this issue:

MCWD Grant Available for Water-friendly landscape	2
LMCD News	3
Recycle Schedule	5
Coyotes in the City	6

Tax Notices

Residents will receive two notices this month related to property taxes.

- 1) 2013 Market Value Notice, which will affect property taxes to be paid in 2014.
- 2) The property tax bill for 2013 will be mailed from Hennepin County and must be paid this year.

Board of Appeals & Equalization to Discuss Property Values Meeting Scheduled April 8, 2013 at 7:00PM

Property owners are currently receiving their proposed property valuations for 2013 in the mail.

The state mandated schedule requires that the value of each property for 2013 be based on an analysis of real estate market trends (sales) during 2012. The 2013 valuations will be used to calculate 2014 property taxes.

The Minnesota law requires that all property be appraised at estimated market value for tax purposes.

Woodland's Assessor Dan Distel's job is to estimate, as accurately as possible, the market value of your property.

His work is overseen by Hennepin County and the Department of Revenue.

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 as evidenced by 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 8, 2013
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 either higher or lower than what the property would likely sell for?

Step 1 You should first collect information about similar properties that have recently sold. If you believe this information indicates that your valuation 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.

Homestead Market Value Exclusion: The homestead exclusion is based on a number of factors. First, the homestead exclusion decreases as the property's market value increases. Second, not all properties are eligible for a full (100%) homestead exclusion. Third, there are other factors that can contribute to a tax reduction, such as blind or disabled status that may also affect the amount of the homestead exclusion received.

2013 City Operating Budget

Police and fire protection remains our top priority. Approximately 37% of the budget is allocated to the public safety services provided by Deephaven Police and Wayzata Fire Department.

Public works accounts for 31% of the budget pays for road maintenance, snow and ice removal, tree trimming, street sweeping and rehabilitating City streets.

General government accounts for 32% of the budget and consist of administrative expenses, assessing, legal and auditing services, city planning and zoning administration, elections, recycling, insurance and day-to-day business.

Property taxes represent approximately 95% of the General Fund revenues. The City also provides limited water and sanitary sewer service. These services are supported by the direct users of the municipal system.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARD WASTE

May 16-18, City of Minnetonka
Public Works Lot

Thursday through Saturday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

11522 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka

Accepted Materials are accepted from households only.

Household, Lawn & Garden Products & Pesticides, insecticides & herbicides Adhesives (flammable or petroleum based) Aerosols, Batteries & Mercury-Containing Items & Thermometers, PCB ballasts (removed from fixtures) Cleaners & Drain cleaner & Pool chemicals & Driveway sealers. Fire extinguishers, Paint (limit three 5-gallon pails) Paint thinners & solvents. Rechargeable tools, Wood preservatives, Fluorescent bulbs and HID lamps (limit 25). Electronics (limit 5 of each) Computers & DVD players and VCRs, Radios, TVs, etc. Diesel fuel, Fuel additives, Gasoline (containers will not be returned), Kerosene, & Starter fluid.

Not accepted Appliances, Tires, Motor oil & filters, Photocopiers, Asbestos, & Explosives.

Garbage (food waste, furniture, carpet, lumber, empty paint cans, etc.) Medical or infectious wastes.



Grants available for water-friendly landscaping

Want to help protect clean water as you plan to beautify your yard this spring? The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) can help. The MCWD offers grants for projects that protect water resources in a variety of ways, whether or not you live on a lake or stream.

Polluted stormwater runoff is the biggest water quality problem in Minnesota and across the country. In a natural environment, most rainwater soaks into the ground or is captured by trees or other plants. But in developed areas, rainwater runs off roads, parking lots and rooftops, carrying dirt, fertilizer, pesticides and other harmful material into lakes, streams and wetlands. Eroded shorelines and streambanks also contribute sediments and excess nutrients to waterways. The poor water quality that results affects recreation, fish and wildlife, and reduces property values near affected lakes and streams.

The MCWD encourages using stormwater best management practices (BMPs) that catch polluted stormwater before it enters sewers or water bodies. The District is also ready to pay for up to half of the cost and help you plan what's best for you.

Eligible projects for the Stormwater BMP Cost Share grant funding include raingardens (planted depressions that filter stormwater), pervious pavers (hard surfaces which allow water to pass through), and other innovative BMPs that capture and filter stormwater.

Eligible projects for the Shoreline and Streambank Stabilization Cost Share grant funding use native plants to reduce erosion along lakes and streams. The roots of native plants anchor the soil, filter and absorb polluted runoff, and beautify the shoreline or streambank. Their natural height and density also discourage geese, which are attracted to turf adjacent to water.

"There are many options people can take to enhance their property and help the environment at the same time," Joe Barten, MCWD's Cost Share Specialist, said. "Cost Share grants can cover up to 50 percent of a project's cost and we encourage property owners to take advantage of the program."

Grants are available for improvements to private property including residential, business and private schools. Shoreline and Streambank Cost Share grants also are available to public entities.

For more information, contact Joe Barten, MCWD Cost Share Specialist, at (952) 641-4523 or jbarten@minnehahacreek.org or visit <http://minnehahacreek.org/CostShare>

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

The safest and only legal way to dig is to know what's below the ground before your shovel or equipment moves any dirt. Even small project like planting a shrub require you to make advance arrangements before digging.

Call MN Gopher One Call 800-252-1166 or 651-454-0002 helps you learn which buried utility-owned facilities are nearby before you turn the earth.

More information:
www.gopherstateonecall.org

POTHOLES

We know potholes are showing up on our streets. We are making temporary patches.

Potholes will be permanently filled as soon as possible in the spring.



Recycling Schedule

Waste Management collects recycling bi-weekly in Woodland on Thursdays.

Please be sure to have your cart out and available for the driver by 7:00 AM on the pick-up day.

PICK-UP DATES **SPRING 2013**

Thursday March 21

Thursday April 4

Thursday April 18

Thursday May 2

Thursday May 16

***Friday May 31**

Thursday June 13

Thursday June 27

*** Holiday Week**

No need to separate products—all of your recycling materials go into the green & gold cart on wheels.



Time to Spring Clean

Appliances the County Drop-off Centers accepts:

Call before you go to confirm fees: #952-348-3777

- Air conditioners (wall or window units)
- Appliance compressors & Bilge pumps
- Dehumidifiers
- Dishwashers & Garbage disposals
- Dryers & Washers
- Freezers & Refrigerators
- Furnaces
- Heat pumps & Hot water heaters
- Microwaves
- Pool heaters (natural gas)
- Plug-in coolers
- Portable/space heaters
- Ranges & Stoves
- Stackable washers and dryers (treated as one unit)
- Sump pumps
- Trash compactors
- Water coolers

Cost of Most Appliances: \$15 Air conditioners: \$30
Refrigerators: \$15 for half sizes & \$30 for full sizes

Hennepin County Drop-off Locations

- **Brooklyn Park**
Hennepin County Recycling Center and Transfer Station
8100 Jefferson Highway, Brooklyn Park
- **Bloomington**
South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Waste Drop-Off Center
1400 West 96th Street, Bloomington

Hours of operation:

Day	Hours
Monday	Closed
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Wednesday	10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (No organics on Saturday)
Sunday	Closed
Holidays	The facilities are closed: Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day

What to bring:

- **Proof of residency**, such as a driver's license, is required.
- **Payment** (if applicable): Cash, check or credit card accepted.

What to do:

- **Drive up and check in.** Drive up to booth outside of building. An attendant will greet you and check you in. Please have a list of the items you have for disposal. Pay for any items that have fees at this time.



Street Sweeping

Weather Permitting, the street sweeping will begin in early April.

Drive with caution when passing these slow moving vehicles.

Woodland City Directory

City Council

Mayor

Jim Doak

Council Members

Tom Newberry Chris Rich

Sliv Carlson John Massie

All contact information can be found on
the City website:

www.cityofwoodlandmn.org

City Hall: 952-474-4755

Police: 952-474-7555

**SPEED
LIMIT
30**

The City monitors and strictly enforces traffic speeds throughout Woodland

The Speed Limit on Breezy Point Road and Maplewood Road is 30 MPH

Many children live in close proximity to these main roadways. Pedestrian and bike riders are often present. Drivers should exercise caution at all times when driving on City streets.

Construction Hours

Building construction is permitted in Woodland M-F from 7:00AM to 6:00PM and Saturday from 9:00AM- 6:00PM.

All construction noise, commercial yard maintenance, tree removal, commercial deliveries of construction or landscape materials are **not** permitted on Sunday or before or after the hours listed above, unless there is an emergency. Woodland Code: 900.24, Subd, 1.

A Reminder About Fire Alarm Fees

The City of Woodland has long assessed a fee for fire calls to the property where the incident occurred. The first call in a calendar year is \$250. The second call and all additional calls in a calendar year are \$500. These fees cover only part of the cost of the City's fire protection. Woodland contracts with the Wayzata Fire Department for fire protection services. Woodland pays a portion of the Department's budget, based on the volume of our calls relative to total fire calls from all communities served.

Woodland residents are responsible for fire service fees, whether the call is a false alarm or a real fire. If your home is monitored by a private alarm company and that company initiates a fire alarm call, be prepared to pay the City's fire service fee. Please understand the Fire Department has a duty to respond even though the fire alarm is canceled immediately and prior to the fire trucks arriving at your residence or even leaving the station. Wayzata volunteer fire fighters are paged instantaneously and respond, leaving their homes or jobs at all hours of the day or night. The fire fighters are paid for responding even if the call is cancelled. Wayzata firefighters are well trained and equipped and are strongly committed to excellent community service.

Coyotes in the City

Coyotes are wild members of the dog family, intermediate in size between red foxes and wolves. In Minnesota, coyotes average 30 lbs., and stand about 18" high at the shoulders. However, they may appear much larger due to their heavy fur coat, especially in winter. They are gray/brown in color, and somewhat resemble a small German Shepherd dog in appearance. Coyotes in Minnesota are loners, except when families are raising pups. Their primary foods are rabbits and mice, but they are very opportunistic, and will feed on other small mammals, deer, and birds.

Consider the following do's and don'ts:

DO:

- secure all garbage containers, wildlife feeders, and other food sources to prevent coyote access
- confine small dogs and cats in kennels, or supervise them when outside
- vaccinate all pets for rabies, distemper, parvo, and other diseases, as recommended by a veterinarian
- consider installing coyote-proof fencing
- harass (by chasing, shouting, etc.) any coyotes that do not immediately run from people

DON'T:

- do not feed coyotes or leave pet food outside
- do not allow cats and small dogs outside, unattended.

If you see a Coyote—you can notify the Police Department during business hours at 952-474-7555