

# Hopkins Highlights

March  
2013

## Buy A Brick Before March 31

The "Buy A Brick" program gives you an opportunity to be a special part of Hopkins history. Individuals, families, groups, businesses, and organizations can purchase bricks with their names imprinted that will be placed in the Clock Tower Plaza at the southwest corner of 9th and Mainstreet. Bricks are a great way to commemorate something or someone. Practical inscriptions to consider when choosing what to write include, "Dedicated to, In memory of, or, To honor" but are limited only by your imagination (as long as it fits within 13 characters on 3 lines).

Brick pricing starts at \$68 for individuals. For more information on ordering, visit [www.hopkinsmn.com](http://www.hopkinsmn.com), call 952-939-1333, or stop by the Hopkins Activity Center, Hopkins City Hall, or Hopkins Public Works. **Deadline to order is March 31.**



## Experience the Upside of AGING

### Stay Active & Engaged At The Hopkins Activity Center

Located at 33 14<sup>th</sup> Ave N in Hopkins.  
Call 952-939-1333 or email [activitycenter@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:activitycenter@hopkinsmn.com) with questions or to register.

#### HOPKINS ACTIVITY CENTER PROGRAM

##### Pickleball

*Mondays, 1:30pm, Tuesdays, 11:30am, Wednesdays, 3pm, Thursdays, 5-7:30pm*  
**Members free; Others \$2/time**  
Players age 50+ are welcome to join in on the fastest growing sport in America. No experience necessary to play this exciting, easy to learn paddle game on two indoor courts. Players rotate in and out of games. Some equipment is available. Try your first time free.

##### Know Before You Throw

*Wednesday, March 13, 9:30am*  
Do you have any treasures in your attic? Bring your collectibles and Cheryl of Hopkins Antique Mall will help you discover information about your special treasure. Call 952-939-1333 to register.

##### Healthy Living Group: Saving your Body While Crafting

*Monday, March 25, 10:30am*  
Learn about problems that can develop from improper ergonomics while crafting and ways to correct and strengthen your posture so you can continue to do the projects that you love. Facilitated by Dr. Ashley Elmer, Avalon Chiropractic. Call to register.

##### Mah Jongg Class

*Wednesdays, April 10-May 15, 1-3pm*  
**Members \$41; Others \$44**  
Learn to play the intriguing game of Mah Jongg, a game of chance and skill. Instructor: Carole Harris. Call to register.

## Location Change for Spring Bulk Drop-Off Event

The location of the popular spring bulk drop-off event for residential refuse customers has changed for the upcoming April 19 & 20, 2013 event. The new location is the west parking lot of the Public Works site at 11100 Excelsior Boulevard. The location is changed due to the ongoing construction work at the Hopkins Landfill site. The spring drop-off this year will be held only on Friday, 3-7pm and Saturday, 9-4pm, April 19-20, 2013. Visit the Hopkins website at [hopkinsmn.com](http://hopkinsmn.com) for information on what's accepted at the drop-off or wait for the April edition of the Highlights which will have more detailed information.

## Storm Water Meeting Is April 17

The City of Hopkins will hold its annual Storm Water Informational Meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, at 6pm.

Staff will make a brief presentation outlining the City of Hopkins Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, followed by a question and answer period. Public input will be taken on the content of the SWPPP, and public participation is encouraged.

The goals of the meeting are to inform the public on the current SWPPP, receive public comment on the SWPPP, and raise awareness of the importance of good storm water management. You can view a copy of the SWPPP at City Hall. Contact the City's Engineering Department for more information at 952-548-6357.



## Fire Hydrant Flushing Schedule

Public Works utility crews will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the community from April 8-27. **Flushing the hydrants may cause water discoloration problems.** Residents are cautioned against doing laundry—particularly whites—while crews are in the neighborhood. Unfortunately, it is not possible to determine where sediment or discoloration problems will occur.

**April 8-12:** Hydrants north of Excelsior Blvd and West of Hwy 169

**April 15-19:** Hydrants south of Excelsior Blvd and west of Hwy 169

**April 23-27:** Hydrants east of Hwy 169



## Report a Pothole

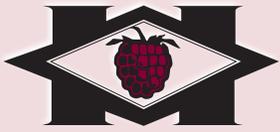
Keeping City streets in good repair is especially challenging this time of year due to the freeze-thaw cycles that occur during winter and early spring.

If you would like to report any street repairs that need attention please visit the City website at [www.hopkinsmn.com](http://www.hopkinsmn.com) and click on "Report a Pothole" in the Quick Links box on the right. You may also contact Public Works at 952-939-1382.

## Hopkins Calendar

The City of Hopkins now has a way to share photo entries from past photo contests. **An 18-month calendar (Jan 2013-Jun 2014)** has been created to showcase Hopkins (\$5). Available at City Hall or online at [www.hopkinsmn.com/shop/index.php](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/shop/index.php).





# Hopkins Highlights

## Refuse & Recycling

Recycling collection is March 11-14 and March 25-28, and takes place the same day as your refuse collection.



## March 2013

### City Council Calendar

**Tuesday, March 5, 7:05pm**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, March 12, 6:30pm**  
Work Session

**Tuesday, March 19, 7pm**  
Meeting

Agendas and minutes can be found at [www.hopkinsmn.com/council/meetings/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/council/meetings/). Watch City Council meetings live at [www.hopkinsmn.com/council/video/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/council/video/).

### Boards & Commissions Calendar

**March 5, 7pm**  
Housing & Redevelopment Authority

**March 18, 6:30pm**  
Park Board

**March 26, 6:30pm**  
Zoning & Planning Commission

Agendas and minutes found at [www.hopkinsmn.com/boards/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/boards/).

### Cable Channel 16

City Council and Zoning & Planning Commission meetings can be seen on cable channel 16 **live**. Meetings are replayed on Channel 16 at the following days and times:

Every day, except Tues - 7pm  
Thurs - 2pm & Sun - 1pm

### Elected Officials

**Mayor**  
Eugene Maxwell  
(952-935-5270)

**City Council**  
Molly Cummings  
Jason Gadd  
Kristi Halverson  
Cheryl Youakim

### Upcoming Events

#### Citizen's Academy

Begins Thursday, April 4

The Citizens Academy is a five-week course designed to give you an in-depth look into City departments and programs.

#### Step To It!

Begins Wednesday, May 1

The challenge is a fun, light-hearted way to connect with family, friends, and neighbors and get moving again after a long winter.

## Fight Hunger at Empty Bowls Fundraiser



EMPTY BOWLS

Join us for the 15th annual Empty Bowls fundraiser for local foodshelves, taking place on Tuesday, March 12 from 11am-7pm at the Hopkins Center for the Arts. Eat a simple meal of donated soup and bread, enjoy a variety of musical entertainment, and make a generous free will donation. Proceeds will assist our local families through the services of ICA Food Shelf and ResourceWest.

## Sewer Backups: What You Need To Know

**If a property owner has reason to believe that there is a problem with their sewer service, the City should be notified immediately.** The Public Works Department can be reached day or night at 952-939-1382 (weekdays 7:30am-4pm) or 952-938-8885 (weekends, holidays, and off-hours).

Sewer backups are a potential problem for all property owners. Prompt action by the property owner in notifying the City may prevent damages to the home or business. The City will dispatch a Public Works employee to investigate the sewer main line for problems and take action if appropriate. **If the problem is found to be in the sanitary sewer service from the home or structure to the sewer main in the street, including the connection, it is the responsibility of the property owner.**

### Damage From Sewer Backups

Claims for damages to people's homes caused by sewer backups probably lead to more misunderstanding and hard feelings than any other single kind of claim. Property owners should be aware of three basic points regarding sewer backups and the resulting damage:

- **The City is not automatically liable for resulting damages whenever a sewer backs up.** The City is only liable for damages if the backup was caused by the City's negligence.
- **Many property owner insurance policies exclude damage resulting from sewer backups.** Thus, property owners often end up looking to the City to pay their damages when their own insurer denies their claim.
- Some insurance companies *do* provide sewer backup coverage. Therefore it is possible for property owners to protect themselves against this risk.

### Cleaning Your Sanitary Sewer

**Please notify the Public Works Department if you hire a private contractor to clean your sanitary sewer service line.** The City will check/clear the City's main service line for/of debris that could affect you or your neighbors' sanitary sewer service.

### Questions?

If you have any questions or concerns about your sewer service, please call the Public Works Department at 952-939-1382.



hopkins center  
for the  
arts

**The McCoy Tyner Trio with special guest Gary Bartz\***  
Saturday, March 9 | 7pm Social Hour | 8pm Concert

**The Pines**  
Tuesday, March 26 | 6pm Social Hour | 7pm Concert

Tickets on sale now, call 952-979-1111 or visit [www.HopkinsArtsCenter.com](http://www.HopkinsArtsCenter.com).

\*McCoy Tyner's appearance is made possible in part by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



## Free Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarms Through Home Fire Safety Program

The Hopkins Fire Department is offering free services for your home:

- Free Home Survey
- Free 2GB personalized flash drive
- Free smoke/carbon monoxide alarms
- Free surge protector

For more information or to schedule



your fire safety visit, email [gggniet@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:gggniet@hopkinsmn.com) or call 952-548-6454.