



# Hopkins Highlights

Inspire

Educate

Involve

Communicate



## Practice Smart Salting This Winter

Winter is here to stay and we all know that salt can be a good tool to melt ice on our driveways and sidewalks. While salt can help prevent accidents on the road and around buildings, it comes at an environmental cost. When the snow melts, the de-icing salt, which contains chloride, runs into nearby lakes and can harm fish, ducks, and other aquatic wildlife.

How can you make a difference? Here are a few ideas to reduce your salt use this winter:

**❶ Check the temperature:** Is it too cold for salt? Most salts stop working around 15 degrees (F). When the temperatures drop, use sand for traction, but remember that sand doesn't melt ice.

**❷ Apply less than you think:** Adding more salt does not equal more melting. Try to use less than four pounds of salt per 1,000 square feet. Keep in mind, one pound of salt is about the same as one 12-ounce coffee mug.

**❸ Clean-up any extra salt:** If you can see sand or salt on dry pavement, it means that it is no longer working and could be washed away. Try to reuse salt or sand somewhere else or sweep it up and throw it away. 🍷

Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Broken Lights?  
Don't Toss Them!

Don't throw those broken or unwanted holiday lights in the trash. Instead take them to Public Works (11100 Excelsior Boulevard). All stringed lights and electrical cords are accepted, including extension cords, phone cords and computer cables. 🍷

## FREE Christmas Tree Pick-Up

The week of January 11, Public Works crews will be collecting Christmas trees free of charge from Hopkins residential garbage customers. You do not need to call to schedule this service – simply place your tree on the boulevard (no alley pick-ups) by 6 a.m. the day of your garbage service. Only Christmas trees will be picked-up – no other brush, branches, sticks, wreaths or decorations containing metal will be accepted. Bags and stands must be removed.

Beginning the week of January 18, holiday tree disposal will be done on Tuesdays as part of the residential refuse customer brush pick-up program. A fee will be charged and residents must call before 2 p.m. on Monday to schedule a pick-up.

Trees from multi-housing, commercial or industrial properties will NOT be collected by the City. 🍷

## Water and Sanitary Sewer Rates

### Increase January 1

In order to cover current operating costs and adequately fund capital projects, the City Council adopted rate increases. The new rates are effective on January 1 and will first appear on utility bills received in February. To view the rate increases, visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/493/Fees-on-Your-Utility-Bill](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/493/Fees-on-Your-Utility-Bill). 🍷

## Art Center and Activity Center Updates

### Hopkins Center for the Arts

**Arts North 26: International Juried Art Exhibition.** The exhibition will be on view January 9 through February 13, and showcases work by artists from throughout United States and abroad. There were a total of 740 entries from 33 states ranging from Hawaii to Florida, and six countries including Indonesia, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Uruguay and Canada. A virtual gallery tour of accepted works will also be available on the Art Center website at [www.hopkinsartscenter.com/223/Exhibitions](http://www.hopkinsartscenter.com/223/Exhibitions).

### Hopkins Activity Center

A main goal at the Hopkins Activity Center is to support the health of older adults through recreational programming and relationships. Activity Center recreational programming, including fitness classes, learning opportunities and social groups, will continue to be offered virtually. Find the activities calendar, as well as helpful senior community resources, listed online at [www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter). Community members in need of help during this time of isolation can call the Activity Center office at 952-939-1333. 🍷

## State of the City Postponed

Due to the current status of the coronavirus pandemic, the City has made the decision to postpone the annual State of the City event originally scheduled for Thursday, January 28.

Keep an eye on the City website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/stateofthecity](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/stateofthecity) for further information. 🍷



## Upcoming at the City

### City Offices Closed

**Monday, January 18**  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

### City Council Calendar

**Tuesday, January 5, 7:05 p.m.**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, January 12, 6:30 p.m.**  
Work Session

**Tuesday, January 19, 7 p.m.**  
Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at [www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council). Watch City Council meetings live at [www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand).

### Boards and Commissions Calendar

**Tuesday, January 5, 7 p.m.**  
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

**Monday, January 25, 6:30 p.m.**  
Park Board

**Tuesday, January 26, 6:30 p.m.**  
Planning and Zoning Commission

Find agendas and minutes at [www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions).

### Meeting Broadcasts

Watch City Council and Zoning and Planning Commission meetings live on Cable Channel 16. Meetings are also replayed every day (except Tuesdays) at 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 p.m.; and Sundays at 1 p.m.

## Elected Officials

**Mayor**  
Jason Gadd

**City Council**  
Alan Beck                      Kristi Halverson  
Rick Brausen                 Brian Hunke

Home Remodeling Fair  
Cancelled     
The West Metro Home Remodeling Fair has been cancelled for 2021. See you next year!

## Sign-Up for Rave Mobile Safety Alerts

The City of Hopkins uses Rave Mobile Safety as the City's emergency notification system. Rave is a free service that allows residents to sign-up for notifications to be informed on potentially hazardous situations involving weather, traffic and other emergencies. All City of Hopkins snow emergency notifications will be sent via Rave.

Registration is available at [www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/reg.action?pa=hopkinsmn](http://www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/reg.action?pa=hopkinsmn) or on the Smart911 mobile app available on both Android and Apple. After registering, users will be able to choose which types of alerts they would like to receive:

- **Emergency:** These will be issued by public safety departments and indicate a life safety issue within the city.
- **General Alert Notifications:** These will be issued when the City has important information to relay to residents that does not pose a threat to life safety or property (i.e. snow emergency notifications)
- **Sever Weather Alert Notifications:** These alerts are issued by Rave/Smart911 and are tied to the National Weather Service. The City does not control or issue these alerts.

When you are completing your profile, you will see questions related to household members and other personal information. These questions are used to provide information to emergency responders for 911 dispatch centers. This information is only available should you need to call 911. *Please note: Currently, Hennepin County 911 Dispatch does not have the capability of receiving this information, but may in the future. No member of the City of Hopkins is able to view or access this information, and you do not need to provide any information that you do not wish to provide to receive alerts from the City of Hopkins.* 🍷

## When it Snows in Hopkins

Remember These Rules and Sail Smoothly Through Winter

**1 Move Your Car:** When any amount of snowfall occurs, residents should move vehicles off city streets and parking lots. If the snowfall is two inches or more, a snow emergency may be declared and vehicles must be moved immediately to avoid being towed. Call the Snow Line at 952-939-1399 for snow emergency announcements.

**2 Shovel The Sidewalk:** As mandated by City ordinance, Hopkins residents are responsible for removing snow and ice from public sidewalks within 12 hours of a snowfall.

**3 Clear The Fire Hydrants:** While the City tries to clean snow from fire hydrants as soon as possible after a snow, we could use your help. Please adopt a nearby fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow through the winter. Hydrants should be cleared five feet on each side to give the Fire Department the quickest and best access. 🍷

### Take Note: Garbage and Recycling Schedule

The City will be closed on Monday, January 18, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Garbage and recycling collection will be delayed one day.

**Recycling collection will be the weeks of January 4-7 and 19-22.** ♻️

## Register Burglar and Fire Alarms

Did you know that individuals and businesses are required to register their burglar and fire alarm systems? This annual registration allows the police and fire departments to keep more up-to-date records on alarm holders and important keyholder information. The fee is \$20 for fire alarm systems and \$20 for police alarm systems (panic, burglary, duress, medical, holdup).

New to Hopkins? Need to renew your alarm system registration? Find more information and complete the online registration application at [www.hopkinsmn.com/669/Alarm-Registration](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/669/Alarm-Registration). Paper copies are available by calling City Hall at 952-548-6302, however, due to the pandemic, online registration is preferred. 🍷