



Hopkins Highlights

Inspire

Educate

Involve

Communicate



Step To It! Get Moving This May

REGISTER TODAY FOR A FUN, FOUR-WEEK CHALLENGE

Build healthy habits by tracking your activity through the Step to it Challenge, a fun, free program that encourages people of all ages and abilities to become more active.

Join the Challenge this May on behalf of your community, school, workplace or organization. The Challenge is not just about walking; almost any activity counts, including running, cycling, dancing, manual wheelchair use and many others.

Participants will also have a chance to win fun prizes!

As a Step to it Challenge participant, you keep an ongoing total of the steps you take during the challenge. You can use the activity conversion chart at www.steptoit.org to count steps from your activities. Record your steps online, or your step total can be called in or faxed. Best of all, it's FREE! Go to the **Step To It Challenge website** (www.steptoit.org) to sign-up. 🍓

Sign-Up For Rave Mobile Safety Emergency Notifications

In order to ensure that residents can be contacted quickly and effectively, the City of Hopkins uses Rave Mobile Safety, which gives municipalities the ability to email, text and call thousands of residents, staff members, and volunteers within minutes.

Whether residents need to be informed of a water main break, snow emergency, evacuation, or other crisis, the Rave Mobile Safety emergency notification system will allow the City of Hopkins to send a message to every directory listing within a matter of minutes.

To add or update your contact information and ensure you will be included when a message is sent, fill out the Rave Mobile Safety enrollment form which is available by visiting www.hopkinsmn.com/255/Emergency-Notification-System.

Residents can also download the Smart911 mobile app to sign-up for Rave. The Smart911 app provides enhanced functionality by sending targeted alerts based on the user's location. Smart911 app users will receive the highest priority National Weather Service alerts, including tornado warnings, flash flood warnings and severe thunderstorm warnings based on their real-time location. Download the Smart911 App on the Apple Store or Google Play or by texting "Smart911" to 67283. 🍓

City of Hopkins AA+ Bond Rating Reaffirmed

Standard & Poor's (S&P) Financial Services LLC reaffirmed the City of Hopkins' AA+ bond rating, citing the City's very strong economy, very strong management, very strong budgetary flexibility and very strong liquidity. This rating was used to issue \$8.425 million bonds on March 16. The bond proceeds will be used to finance street improvements, utility improvements and mill and overlay projects in the City. For more information and further details on the rating report, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/251/Finance. 🍓

Hopkins Fire Department Hiring

The Hopkins Fire Department is a dedicated, paid on-call fire department that responds to a wide variety of emergency fire and medical calls in Hopkins. They are looking for people to help make a difference in the community and join their team. Find more information on the city website, by going directly to www.hopkinsmn.com/252/fire or by calling 952-300-0626. 🍓

Boards and Commissions Recruitment

Apply today!

The City of Hopkins is still accepting applicants for Boards & Commissions. Boards and Commissions perform a vital role in the life of our community. Opportunities include Park Board, Planning Commission and Charter Commission. Two additional spots to the Park Board have been added, as well as the option to have a youth member serve (age 14-18). Deadline to apply is April 19. Interested? Learn more here and apply by visiting www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions. 🍓



Upcoming at the City

City Council Calendar

Tuesday, April 6, 7:05 p.m.
City Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 13, 6:30 p.m.
Work Session

Tuesday, April 20, 7:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council. Watch City Council meetings live at www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand.

Boards and Commissions Calendar

Monday, April 26, 6:30 p.m.
Park Board

Tuesday, April 27
Planning and Zoning Commission

Find agendas and minutes at 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 Rick Brausen
Kristi Halverson Brian Hunke

Republic Services is Hopkins' New Recycling Service Provider

Beginning May 10th, Republic Services will be providing recycling service for Hopkins' customers. Your pickup day will not change and collection will continue to be every other week. The cost is still \$5 per month, regardless of what size or how many carts you have. You should see their blue carts delivered at the end of April. A welcome letter, calendar, and information on accepted materials will be attached to each cart.



Please continue to use your green Waste Management cart until after your pick-up the week of April 26th. The City is working with Republic Services to deliver the same quantity and size of carts as each property previously had, however mistakes will undoubtedly happen. Please continue to contact Public Works at (952) 939-1382 or www.hopkinsmn.com/861/RefuseRecycling-Container-Request with all recycling requests, concerns, and questions.

Make Your Next Event Zero Waste

Without thoughtful planning, a considerable amount of waste can be generated at events, no matter the size of event. Courtesy of Hennepin County, the City of Hopkins has portable recycling and organics containers available for your next event! Containers are free to use with a refundable damage deposit. Disposal of materials collected is not included in the rental.

To learn more and reserve containers for your event, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/1042/Event-Recycling-Containers.

Take Note: Garbage and Recycling Schedule

Garbage collection will take place every week on normal pick-up days.

Recycling collection weeks this month are April 12-15 and April 26-29.

Rain Barrels Now Available for Purchase

The City of Hopkins, in cooperation with the Recycling Association of Minnesota, is holding a rain barrel sale. The cost for a single rain barrel is \$79, but Hopkins residents can receive a \$20 discount by using the coupon code HOPKINS20.

To purchase a rain barrel, you must pre-order online at <https://recycleminnesota.payscapecommerce.com/>. Quantities are limited.

Rain barrels must be picked up on Monday, May 10, or Tuesday, May 11, between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.



Stay Active at the Hopkins Activity Center

Earth Day Adopt a Park Event is April 22

Celebrate Earth Day by joining the Activity Center for our first Adopt a Park clean up day of the season. Volunteer to give back to the community and help protect and restore our planet as we clean up Downtown Park at 40 - 9th Avenue South and the Clocktower Plaza. Please register on the Activity Center website if you will be attending this Adopt a Park event in April or future monthly park clean up dates.

Check-Out New Events

Many new outdoor and in person activities for active older adults are being added to the program calendar. To view upcoming senior events, visit the Activity Center website at www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter.





Hopkins Highlights

EXTRA



Clean Up Your Lawn During Free Yard Waste & Brush Pick Up

Yard Waste & Brush Drop Off Site Opens April 3

The free drop-off site will open Saturday, April 3, weather permitting. Only brush and yard waste generated by Hopkins residential garbage customers will be accepted. Driver's licenses will be checked to verify eligibility.

Drop Off Site Hours

- Mondays and Wednesdays, 2-7 p.m.
- Saturdays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.



Location

3100 Hopkins Crossroad, one block north of the Hopkins Crossroad & Minnetonka Blvd. intersection (only driveway on west side of Hopkins Crossroad).

Accepted items

- Tree limbs
- Twigs, branches, and woody vines up to six inches in diameter and 15 feet long
- Leaves with twig stems not longer than four inches
- Grass clippings
- Similar garden waste
- Soft, pliable vines (yard waste)

Residents will need to unload and debag their materials at the site, and take used bags home with them.

Not accepted items

- Sod waste
- Animal feces
- Garden products
- Logs or lumber
- Dirt
- Stump grindings
- Material from contractors or commercial firms. 🍷

Free Yard Waste Pickup

April 19-29

YARD WASTE will be collected for free on your regular garbage day from April 19-29. **You do not need to call to schedule this pickup.** Place bagged yard waste at the normal refuse collection site at least four feet away from your refuse and recycling containers.

- You must use compostable bags.
- Items NOT accepted include: animal feces (clean up after pets before raking your lawn), branches, woody vines, long twigs, stump grindings, sod waste, and shrub clippings.
- NO garden products such as pumpkins, potatoes, and apples should be placed in yard waste bags. Place unused garden products such as these into your regular garbage container.
- Yard waste is defined as leaves with twig stems no longer than four inches, grass clippings, green, pliable vines, and similar garden waste.

After April 29, bags will be collected on Thursdays and must display yard waste stickers, available for purchase at City Hall or Public Works. To schedule a yard waste pick up after April 29, call 952-939-1382 before 2 p.m. on Wednesday.

Free Brush Pickup

April 5-15

BRUSH will be picked up for free on your regular garbage day from April 5-15. **You do not need to call to schedule this pickup.**

- Stack brush in a neat pile on the boulevard, NOT in the street (NO alley pick up)—butt ends all one way, laid parallel with the street.
- Keep brush at least five feet away from poles, signs, overhead wires, guide wires, trees, fences, garbage containers, parked cars, etc.
- Do not use tarps under or on top of your brush (we use machinery to pick up the brush and the tarps hamper the pick up).
- DO NOT put brush in your refuse containers.
- Only brush which is generated on City of Hopkins' residential refuse customer properties will be picked up.
- Brush is defined as tree limbs, twigs, woody vines, and branches up to a maximum of six inches in diameter and 15 feet in length. No logs or lumber are accepted.

After April 15, brush will be collected on Tuesdays, weather permitting. To schedule a brush pick up after April 15, call 952-939-1382 before 2 p.m. on Monday. Fees apply.

For more information, call 952-939-1382 or visit www.hopkinsmn.com/594/Brush-Yard-Waste. Both free pickups are provided only for City of Hopkins residential refuse customers and only for yard waste and brush generated on Hopkins residential properties. 🍷



Check Water Before Doing Laundry

Depending on where you live in Hopkins, hydrant flushing and sanitary sewer cleaning could affect your water color this month.

Hydrant Flushing Schedule

Public Works utility crews will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the community in April. *Schedules may be adjusted due to weather conditions.*

If you own or manage a business or townhome/apartment complex, please arrange for your private hydrants to be flushed by a contractor during the same time frame that the City is flushing in your area.

- **April 5–9:** Hydrants north of Excelsior Boulevard and west of Highway 169
- **April 12–16:** Hydrants south of Excelsior Boulevard and west of Highway 169
- **April 19–23:** Hydrants east of Highway 169

During hydrant flushing it is normal to experience some discolored water. **Residents are cautioned against doing laundry—particularly whites—while crews are in the neighborhood.** This water is safe to drink and can be cleared up by running the cold water in your laundry tub. If you experience problems, please contact Public Works at 952-939-1382.

Sanitary Sewer Cleaning Area

The City of Hopkins cleans sanitary sewers on a three-year revolving schedule. **The 2021 cleaning area is located north of Highway 7 and east of 5th Avenue North. It will also include the area north of Excelsior Boulevard to the St. Louis Park border.**

The high-pressure water used to clean the sewers may affect your home's sanitary sewer plumbing. You may experience gurgling water in your toilet bowl or smell sewer gas from your basement floor drains. If this occurs, flush your toilet and pour water into your floor drains. This does not damage your sewer system. In some instances the crew will need to draw water off of a fire hydrant which could cause discoloration of your water.

If your home is located within the sewer cleaning area, check your water before doing laundry. For more information, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/445/Sewer-Cleaning-Program.

Bulk Item Drop-Off Is April 23–24

Broken grill taking up space in the garage? Old microwave in the basement you need to toss? Twice a year the City holds a bulk drop-off event for **City of Hopkins residential garbage customers only**. For a \$20 fee plus taxes, you can drop off one appliance and up to 3 cubic yards worth of trash (the equivalent of one pick-up truck load). Additional appliances are \$20 each plus taxes. **New this year – Payment will be processed by card at the event. Debit cards, MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover are all accepted.**

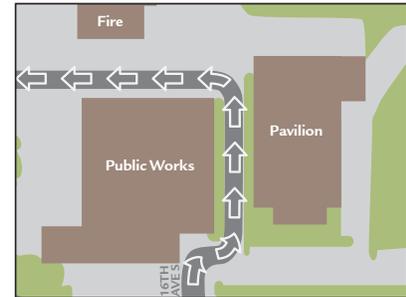
2021 Bulk Item Drop Off

- **Friday, April 23, 3–7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, April 24, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.**

Location: 11100 Excelsior Boulevard (Public Works)

Guidelines

- A valid Minnesota ID or current paid utility bill must be shown for eligibility.
- Each eligible residence is allowed disposal of 3 cubic yards of material, equivalent of one pick-up truck load.
- \$20 gate fee (plus taxes) per vehicle includes one appliance. Additional appliances will be \$20 each (plus taxes). **Payment will be processed by card at the event. Debit cards, MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover are all accepted.**
- Residents must separate materials into the proper areas at the site. Construction and metal materials and appliances will be separated/recycled.
- Small engines and lawn mowers must have fluids removed. Caps, drain plugs and wheels must be removed prior to deposit at the drop-off site.
- Electronics and concrete products will be accepted. (Concrete products containing steel will not be accepted.)
- Items not accepted include tires, waste oil, car parts, fluorescent bulbs, paint products, gas refrigerators, car batteries, metal barrels/drums, and hazardous waste. (Hazardous wastes must be taken to Hennepin County Transfer Station. Call 612-348-3777.)



Traffic route for drop-off disposal

Shred-N-Go

As part of the \$20 (plus taxes) gate fee, a truck and operator will be on-site courtesy of Shred-N-Go for confidential destruction of documents.



SHRED-N-GO, Inc.
Secure - Mobile - Document Destruction

Help Keep Hopkins Clean

Remember To Pick-up After Your Pets

Spring has sprung, which means you may be taking your pet for more walks as the warmer weather approaches. Let's face it, picking up after your dog probably isn't your favorite chore. However, it is an important task that should not be skipped. Picking up after your dog is not only good for our environment, but also our public health. Let's work together to pick up after our pets and keep Hopkins a clean and healthy community for all.

