

# Hopkins Highlights

May  
2009

## Street Improvement Work Continues This Summer

The City continues its commitment to street and utility improvements with the 2009 Improvement Project, which includes the **Park Ridge neighborhood** and **Blake Road south of Excelsior Boulevard**. Construction is anticipated to begin in early July and continue through October of 2010.

Improvements to the Park Ridge neighborhood include a complete reconstruction with new curb and gutter, new paving, water main, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer replacement. This project will be completed over the course of two construction seasons. Access will be maintained for property owners. Improvements to Blake Road include a mill and overlay of the existing pavement, curb repair, and utility repairs. Blake Road will be open during construction with some short duration closings during paving operations. The intersection of Hwy 7 and Blake Road will also be reconfigured on the south side to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety. The intersection will remain open during construction.

Other projects to be completed this summer include continuing the crack sealing and seal coat program, street striping and light pole painting, completion of the reconstruction of the tennis courts adjacent to the Pavilion, and color coating the tennis courts in Burnes Park.

Work will also begin on restoring the stream bank of Nine Mile Creek. This project is funded by the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and will include rerouting the creek through Valley Park, an additional treatment basin near Highway 169, and erosion control measures throughout the project. The goals of the project are to reduce erosion of the banks and enhance the natural habitat.

If you have any questions, please contact City Engineer John Bradford at 952-548-6356 or by e-mail at [jbradford@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:jbradford@hopkinsmn.com).



Last year's improvement project included total reconstruction of Minnetonka Mills Road.

## Southwest Light Rail Project Moves Forward

The Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority accepted the Southwest Transitway Draft Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Summary Report on January 27. This sets the scope for the environmental review process and clears the way for selecting the preferred light rail transit route.



"This is a major milestone for the Southwest light rail project, due to the success of the scoping process," said Gail Dorfman, Hennepin County Commissioner and Chair of the Southwest Policy Advisory Committee. "We are taking the next step in the project, and are well-positioned to stay on schedule for implementation right behind the Central Corridor light rail line."

## Vehicle & Garage Habits For CLEAN Water

- ◆ Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to **minimize** the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain and eventually into local bodies of water.
- ◆ Check your car, boat, motorcycle, and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs as soon as possible. Clean up **spilled fluids** with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand, and don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain. Remember to properly dispose of absorbent material.
- ◆ **Recycle** used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Don't dump these chemicals down the storm drain or dispose of them in your trash.

Source: Environmental Protection Agency

## Drop Off Your Brush & Yard Waste

The Yard Waste & Brush Drop Off location at 3100 Hopkins Crossroads (the west side of County Road 73, approximately two blocks north of County Road 5) will open **Saturday May 2**. The scheduled hours of operation will be **Wednesdays, 2-7 pm**, and **Saturdays, 9 am-3 pm** (weather permitting).

Only brush and yard waste generated by Hopkins residential properties will be accepted. Driver licenses will be checked to ensure residency requirements. Residents must unload and debag their materials at the site. Branches must be no longer than 15 feet in length or 6 inches in diameter.

### Reminder: Yard Waste Bags & Brush Pick Up

Beginning the week of May 11, yard waste bags must have a yard waste sticker on them to be picked up and fees (based upon volume) will resume for brush pick up (fee will be placed on residents' utility bill).

Yard waste stickers are \$2 each and must be affixed to each bag. Stickers may be purchased at City Hall or Public Works. Residents may also call Public Works at 952-939-1382 and request that stickers be sent in the mail; however, a minimum of ten stickers must be purchased for phone orders.

Yard waste will be picked up the same day as your refuse. Brush pick ups take place on Tuesdays and **must be scheduled** no later than 2 pm on Mondays.



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**Refuse & Recycling**  
Due to Memorial Day, Monday through Thursday refuse and recycling collection for the week of May 25 will be delayed one day.

May 2009

## City Council Calendar

May 12, 6:30 pm  
Work Session

May 19, 7:30 pm  
Meeting

May 26, 6:30 pm  
Work Session

June 2, 7:30 pm  
Meeting

Agendas and minutes can be found at [www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/citycouncil/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/citycouncil/).

## Boards & Commissions Calendar

May 18, 6:30 pm  
Park Board

May 26, 6:30 pm  
Zoning & Planning Commission

June 1, 7 pm  
Human Rights Commission

June 2, 7 pm  
Housing & Redevelopment Authority

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

## Cable Channel 16

City Council and Zoning & Planning Commission meetings can be seen on cable channel 16 live and are replayed on:

Monday & Wednesday  
7:30 pm

Thursday                      Sunday  
2:00 pm                      1:00 pm

## Elected Officials

Mayor  
Gene Maxwell (952-935-5270)

City Council  
Rick Brausen ■ Kristi Halverson  
Bruce Rowan ■ Cheryl Youakim

## City Offices Closed

Monday, May 25  
Memorial Day



## Shady Oak Beach Opens June 5

Shady Oak Beach opens June 5 for the summer season and will remain open through August 23. Hours at the beach are 10 am–9 pm through August 2, and 10 am–8 pm after August 2. Swimming in the lake ends one half hour before sunset. Amenities at Shady Oak Beach include two sand play areas, water play area, sand volleyball court, concession stand, and restroom/changing areas. All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

## 2009 Beach Fees

**Season Passes**—Shady Oak Beach season passes are sold through the City of Minnetonka Recreation Services office, Monday–Friday, 8 am–4:30 pm. Call 952-939-8203 or visit Minnetonka City Hall. (Season passes are **not** available at Hopkins City Hall.) Visa or Master Card is accepted. Season passes are also available at the beach.

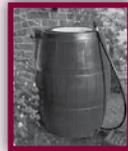
**Daily Fees**—Daily fees for entry to Shady Oak Beach can be purchased at the gate. Daily admission is \$5/person (Twilight rates of \$3/person apply after 6 pm). Ages 2 and under are free.

### Season Pass Rates

<i>purchased before June 5</i>	Residents*	Non-Residents
1-3 passes	\$12/person	\$24/person
Additional passes	\$6/person	\$12/person

<i>June 5 and after</i>	Residents*	Non-Residents
1-3 passes	\$17/person	\$29/person
Additional passes	\$8/person	\$15/person

\*Residents of Hopkins & Minnetonka



## Buy A Rain Barrel

Save money and cut down on water usage by collecting rain water. The City of Hopkins has a limited number of rain barrels available at a sale price of \$65 plus tax (regularly \$115).

Rain barrels collect rain from your gutters for use in your garden. Using this chlorine-free water is healthier for plants and the environment.

The rain barrels are 32" x 54" with a 55-gallon capacity. An aluminum mesh screen filters out leaves, sticks, or any other debris while protecting the contents from any animals or pets. The overflow spigot hooks to tubing to divert excess water.

To order a rain barrel call Public Works at 952-939-1382, limit 4 per household. Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis. For orders that exceed our inventory we will purchase additional barrels if available.

You can pay for your rain barrel at the time of pick up by cash or personal check (no credit or debit cards accepted). Rain barrels will be available for pick up at the Hopkins Public Works Facility, 11100 Excelsior Blvd, starting Tuesday, May 5, 8 am to 3:30 pm.

## Skyhawks Sports Camps

Don't miss out on Skyhawks at the Hopkins Pavilion! They offer countless ways for 3- to 15-year-olds to grow through safe, fun, and skill-focused sports camps. Register or find out more at [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com) or by calling 952-939-1410.



## Get Rid Of Household Hazardous Waste

Hennepin County has two remaining community events scheduled this spring for household hazardous waste and problem materials collection from Hopkins residents:

**May 14–16, 9 am–4 pm**

City of Minnetonka Public Works Department (11522 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka)

**June 11–13, 9 am–4 pm**

Louisiana Oaks Park - south parking lot (3500 Louisiana Ave, St. Louis Park)

For more information and a list of items that are accepted, visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/waste/hhw-events.php](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/waste/hhw-events.php).