



CITY OF  
**NorthOaks**  
*Building on a tradition of innovation*



Eblast for the Week of 5.10.2024

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## IMPORTANT CITY NEWS

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### City Council Vacancy - Accepting Applications

The City of North Oaks is currently accepting applications for a City Council vacancy as a result of councilmember Shuman submitting his resignation effective 5-15-2024.

This is a great opportunity for individuals that have interest or are planning to run for the City Council in the November election. The individual selected to fill this vacancy will serve until a successor is elected and qualified during the November 2024 election. If you are interested in running during the November election you must file an affidavit of candidacy between July 30, 2024 and August 13, 2024 to be on the ballot.



Application Deadline: **Friday, May 24, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.**

To apply, submit completed materials:

- in person by placing your materials under the City Hall office door

To be considered for the current vacancy, you must submit the following:

- A current resume illustrating applicable skills and experience
- A letter of interest highlighting why you feel you are the best candidate to fill the vacancy
- Proof of the following qualifications:
  - Be an eligible voter
  - Be at least 21 years old when assuming office
  - Have a residence in North Oaks for at least 30 days before taking office.

- by mail to North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, #230, North Oaks MN, 55127 (must be received by application deadline);
- or via email to City Administrator – Kevin Kress:  
kkress@northoaksmn.gov.



## Highlights from the May City Council Meeting - 5.9.2024

Highlights from the Thursday, May 9, 2024 City Council Meeting at 7 p.m. include:

- Six Residents were in attendance to speak both in favor and against the proposed pilot license plate reader program.
- Consent agenda items: Summerfest fireworks permit, National Police Week proclamation, licenses for approval, April City Council meeting minutes, City financials, Gambling permit for CommonBond Communities Birdies for Hope event
- Discussed and approved License Plate Reader Pilot program. Only Ramsey County Sherriff's office and prosecuting authorities would have access to this data as tool for investigating criminal activity that has occurred. Metrics to analyze effectiveness after pilot program after 1 year include:
  - # of vehicles intercepted / stolen registered to offenders
  - # of cases solved with assistance of LPR data
  - # of property crime stats from prior year to current year

Next steps: City to work with NOHOA for review of contract before entering into agreement and finalize logistics with NOHOA and North Oaks Company.

- Approved Conditional Use Permit for home height in excess of 35 feet for property, and driveway setback variance at 8 Sherwood Trail.
- Approved Ordinance amending City Code XV, Chapter 151, regarding garage definitions and garage size standards. The maximum size garage allowed before CUP review is required has been increased from 1,500 to 2,500 square feet. Notices will be published in the paper.
- Approved Water meter pits and meter proposal along Centerville Road, which will be used to monitor water use for maintenance and billing purposes.
- Resolution accepting resignation of Councilor John

- Shuman and declaring vacancy
- Approved Resolution 1523 to allow North Oaks Company to pave in Red Forest Way Phase 1 and 2. Paving will give North Oaks Company the ability to complete the trail system and remove barriers at Catbird and Black Lake Roads.
  - Councilor Reports: Meeting to be scheduled with Ramsey County Sherriff to discuss contract renewal which expires December 2024. Contract renewal discussions will be taking place with Nine north, Comcast and Cities they provide service to. Discussions ongoing with Lake Johanna Fire Department regarding staff retention, and bonding for proposed fire station. Reminder that Summerfest takes place June 1st and there will be a City table to answer questions. Brief update on the information NOHOA/City meeting on 5/6/24 (see below) residents are reminded that long term strategy planning is just looking at sustainability options in future, no decisions were made on what best service our unique community. Council thanked John Shuman for his service to our community as City Councilor and wished him well.

View the full meeting recording [HERE](#)

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## Special City Council / NOHOA Meeting

Highlights from the Monday, May 6, 2024 Special City Council/NOHOA Meeting at 6 p.m. include:

- Bolton-Menk Engineering firm reviewed Interactive website / GIS Map that is under development. Discussion will be ongoing to determine what layers may be accessible and useful for resident viewing and where the link is displayed.
- Sambatek Engineering firm presented update on the Master Infrastructure Plan and information on value of developing Road Standards
- Discussion on importance of following Storm Water Requirements as Maintenance work is conducted on roads and culverts.
- North Oaks Company provided update on discussions with St. Paul Regional water and new developments on East side of North Oaks.
- Discussion on desire from NOHOA for City to implement a Goose Management plan in effort to improve water quality and use of recreational areas. City to follow up with USDA for potential contract options.
- Residents are encouraged to sign up to be a Ramsey County Block Captain.



View the full meeting recording and engineer

## Locking Mailboxes - Order placed, Limited Number Still Available

The City has placed an order of locking mailboxes. The rate is \$100 for mail manager and \$210 for the larger Package Master. To reserve a mailbox, fill out the order form and complete and link to pay [HERE](#).



\*Contact information for a handyman to help install is available upon request. (to be coordinated / paid directly with handyman).

Contact City Hall with any questions 651-792-7750.

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## Two More Weeks to Sign Up for Brush Pickup Day - Thursday, May 30th

Thanks to the 23 residents that have already signed up!

The City and NOHOA are co-hosting and coordinating a brush pickup for interested residents. Brush Pickup Day is Thursday, May 30th, 2024. If all the brush is not picked up that day, work will continue the next day. The estimated cost for a dumpster size load of brush (14ft X 7.5ft X 3.5 ft and equals 10 cubic yards) is \$140, but rates vary depending on the amount of brush.

Budget Tree Service will be doing the work, with assistance of the City forester to answer resident questions. If you are interested in signing up for this service, [please review the letter for pricing detail and instructions](#), and return the waiver to the City office via email [northoaks@northoaksmn.gov](mailto:northoaks@northoaksmn.gov), mail, or stopping by the City office by **May 23rd**. Call at 651-792-7750 with any questions.

[Brush Pick up Day Information / Waiver](#)

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## Tree seedling Give Away - Success!

Thanks to the more than 100 residents who stopped by the tree seedling give away on Sunday May 5th, we have 800 new trees planted throughout our community ensuring our beautiful natural environment for years to come.

The City will host another tree seedling give away during the same time frame next year. The order for seedlings is placed through the Minnesota State Forest Nursery in the fall, with anticipation of the seedlings arriving late April of the following year.

Thanks to all who came by!



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### NORTH OAKS CELL PHONE COVERAGE QUESTIONNAIRE

North Oaks Survey (6-10 questions maximum)

## North Oaks Resident Cell Phone Survey - More feedback needed

Thanks to those of you who already completed the survey last month. More input is needed!

Spotty coverage in North Oaks has been a frequent complaint of residents in some areas. In an effort to gather information as a resource for residents, you are invited to complete the following Cell phone survey to gauge what works (or doesn't work well) in your area.

The more feedback received, the better the information available. The survey takes less than 5 minutes to complete. Thanks for your input!

[Complete the Cell Phone Survey](#)

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

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### Mother's Day - Sunday, May 12

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12th. Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers and caregivers in the North Oaks Community!

Have you ever wondered about one of the "original" mothers of North Oaks, Mary T. Hill? Mary was the wife of James J. Hill and they had 10 children

together between 1868 and 1885. This means that she was either pregnant or caring for newborns for nearly 20 years of her life!

You can learn more about Mary T. Hill, the Hill Family and their history in North Oaks from the Minnesota Historical Society.

[Mary Theresa Hill - Minnesota Historical Society](#)



Marty Hill, ca. 1879 -  
Minnesota Historical  
Society

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## Save the Date - City Recycling and Shredding Event

The City and NOHOA will be co-hosting the 6th annual Recycling and Paper Shredding event on Saturday, June 22 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Southpointe Fields, just off Hwy 96 and east of the City Offices. This event is open to North Oaks residents only.



Residents will be able to drop off a wide range of recyclable items, including lamps, light bulbs, household and automotive batteries, computers, hard drives, TV monitors and other electronics, mattresses, box springs, residential appliances, and ink/toner cartridges. See below for a link to the complete list of what items can be accepted. A paper shredder will again be available; up to four banker-sized boxes per household, please. Clean scrap metal will also be accepted this year (no attached plastic, wood, etc.)

There will be a fee for most items, although automotive batteries, cell phones, tablets, cords, cables, wires and holiday lights will be FREE. Look for the coupon in the North Oaks News or City website that entitles drop off of one item for free; one coupon per household, please. For questions, please email the City office at [northoaks@northoaksmn.gov](mailto:northoaks@northoaksmn.gov) or call the City office at 651- 792-7750. A complete list of accepted items and coupon can be found [HERE](#).



## Reinvigorating a Mature Garden - presented by Jill Livingston, Horta Culture

The North Oaks Garden Club invites you to a presentation by Jill Livingston of Horta Culture. Horta Culture is located on the site of a historic home in Afton, MN, which for the past three decades was a treasured garden and gift shop known as Squire House Gardens. Jill, and her husband Nicholas, are lovingly tending to and restoring this amazing garden and nursery. Revitalizing a mature garden

takes keen observation, careful editing, thoughtful infusion of new plantings for structure and interest. In this talk, Jill will present the process for assessing and revitalizing a mature garden.

When: Tuesday, May 21 at 6:30 pm

Where: Community Room, 100 North Oaks Village Center Drive

Please join us, meet your neighbors and enjoy some light refreshments!

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## SAFETY

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### Call for Block Captains - Neighborhood Watch Program

The City of North Oaks is in need of more Block Captains for the Neighborhood Watch Program. This is a program through the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office in which neighborhood volunteers work to implement the principles of crime deterrence and detection while encouraging the active reporting of crimes and suspicious activity.

Learn more about the program and register to be Block Captain on the following page of the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office website: [Neighborhood Watch | Ramsey County](#)

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## NATURAL RESOURCES

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### DNR Urges People to Leave Deer Fawns Alone

*From the MN DNR Daily Digest Bulletin:*  
The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources asks that people avoid disturbing or touching deer fawns, which are born around this time of year.



Most fawns are born in mid-May to mid-June, and fawns do not attempt to evade predators during their first few weeks of life. Instead, they remain still to avoid being seen. During these times, fawns are learning critical survival skills from their mothers but are often left on their own while their mothers forage watchfully nearby.

Be assured deer fawns are likely fine even if they look abandoned or

fragile. Even if the fawn is known to be wounded or abandoned due to car strike or animal attack, do not transport it without talking to a wildlife rehabilitator. Moving a fawn can be detrimental to the animal and increase the risk of disease spread. For more information about what to do when people find fawns or other species of young wild animals, visit the [Minnesota DNR website](#).

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## May is Arbor Month in Minnesota - Resources for Tree Care in North Oaks

Arbor Month is celebrated in May in Minnesota. This is a great time to focus attention on tree care, particularly in a community with as many trees as North Oaks.

City Forester Mark Rehder is contracted by the City to provide services to the community, including ensuring adherence to regulations, providing guidance to residents, and helping to identify and control invasive species. Mark also oversees the licensure process for any arborists looking to do work in the City.

You can find a variety of resources that our City Forester has provided to residents in the [Forester's Nook](#) section of the City of North Oaks website. You can also find a list of Licensed Arborists that are approved to do tree work in the City [HERE](#).

To get in touch with City Forester Mark Rehder, call 612-760-3519 or email [mark@reherforestryconsulting.com](mailto:mark@reherforestryconsulting.com).

## REMINDERS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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### North Oaks Residents - Sign up for Emergency Alerts

[Sign up for Emergency Alerts](#)

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### Upcoming City Meetings/Events

The public is encouraged to attend City meetings.

- **City Council** - Thursday, May 9th at 7:00 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** - Thursday May 30th at 7:00 p.m.

Click on the calendar for each meeting 72 hours prior to access agendas, links to view via Nine North, or to participate via zoom.

### Highlights From Last Week's News:

Did you miss last week's news? No problem! The topics were:

- Free Seedling Event - 5.5.2024
- Locking Mailboxes Available for Order
- Brush Pick-Up Day
- White Bear Lake Manitou Days and Marketfest
- E-Bikes NOT Allowed on North Oaks Trails



- MN DNR Fishing Opener Outlook

A complete list of options for participation and submitting comments can be found [here](#).

[View Last Week's E-Blast](#)

[City Calendar](#)

**North Oaks**



**Minnesota**

100 Village Center Drive, #230  
North Oaks, MN 55127  
Phone: (651) 792-7750



**HOURS**

Mon - Thurs: 9 AM to 4 PM  
Fri: 9AM to 12PM  
[Email Us](#)

City of North Oaks | 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN 55127

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