

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—1/8/2021

Welcome New City Council

On Monday, January 4th, 2021, the new Mayor and Councilmembers were officially sworn into office. Congratulations to Mayor Kara Ries, Councilmember Tom Watson, and Councilmember Sara Shah who will be joining Jim Hara on the Council.

Thanks to outgoing former Mayor Gregg Nelson, Councilmembers Rick Kingston and Marty Long for their years of service to the community.

City Council Vacancy - Accepting Applications

Due to Councilmember Ries being sworn in as Mayor, there is an immediate vacancy on City Council. All parties interested in applying for this appointment should submit their City Council Application by **4 p.m. on Monday, January 11th**.

The individual selected to fill this vacancy will serve until December 31, 2022. **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

Application Deadline: Monday, January 11th at 4:00 p.m.

We encourage you to submit completed materials in person by placing your materials under the City Hall office door, 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.

Contact the City office at 651-792-7750 with any questions.

Planning Commission Openings

There are three vacant seats available as of January 2021. The Planning Commission is advisory to the City Council and meets on the last Thursday of each month. Commissioners work on a variety of development applications as well as responding to land use requests for variances, conditional use permits and other planning related items.

Residents interested in serving on the Planning Commission should submit the [Boards, Committees, and Commissions Application](#) to City Administrator Kevin Kress via kkress@northoaksmn.gov or mail to North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN 55127. Applications will be considered until the openings are filled.

Keep our Septic and Plumbing Systems Healthy

To avoid problems with both private septic systems and public sewer lines, please do not flush wipes down sewer lines. All wipes, even those marketed as “flushable” can clog up pumps and lift stations. It is

also recommended that you space out your laundry, dishwasher and shower/bath water usage as to not overload frozen winter septic drain fields. A complete list of Septic system tips can be found [HERE](#).

As COVID-19 Situation Improves, Governor Walz Loosens Restrictions

Press release, January 6, 2021 Governor Walz Office

Today, COVID-19 is spreading more slowly across Minnesota than two months ago. Recognizing our progress – but understanding we need to remain cautious – the Governor is adjusting the dials and opening more activities and sectors of the economy. Starting January 11:

- Indoor dining at bars and restaurants can open at 50 percent capacity, with a maximum of 150 people. Parties of no more than six people must remain six feet from other parties; bar seating is open to parties of two; reservations are required; and establishments must close dine-in service by 10 p.m.
- Gym capacity remains capped at 25 percent but maximum capacity increases to 150 and classes can increase to 25 people, assuming distancing can be observed. Machines and people must maintain 9 feet of distance. Face coverings are required.
- Outdoor events and entertainment continue at 25 percent capacity, but maximum capacity increases to 250 people. Social distancing is required.
- Indoor events and entertainment – like bowling alleys, movie theaters, and museums – may open at 25 percent, with no more than 150 people in each area of the venue. Face coverings are required, and they may not offer food service after 10 p.m.
- Youth and adult organized sports have resumed practice as of January 4 and games resume January 14 with spectators, following the appropriate capacity limits for indoor or outdoor venues. Inter-region tournaments and out of state play are discouraged.
- Pools opened on January 4 for some activity and may now open, like gyms, at 25 percent capacity.
- Wedding receptions and other private parties may resume with limits. If food and drink are served at the event, then they are limited to two households or 10 people indoors and 3 households or 15 people outdoors. If there is no food or drink, they are covered by event venue guidelines. Any related ceremony – like a wedding or funeral ceremony – is guided by rules for ceremonies and places of worship.
- Places of worship remain open at 50% capacity but without an overall maximum capacity.

The full press release is [HERE](#).

Permit processing reminders

While outdoor work has slowed, interior home improvement has increased. Don't forget to remind your licensed contractors to contact City hall via phone or email to complete any permits needed for work to be done.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

2021 Recycling Calendar

The new [2021 Recycling calendar](#) can now be found on the City website. Note: The 2021 recycling calendar reflects the **ONLY** shifts in recycling this year is on New Year's Day, and Thanksgiving Day. Recycling will be picked up as normal all other days.

Garage It!

Let's keep North Oaks looking its best by storing boats, cars, trailers, and other equipment as per the City ordinance:

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Watch List – Snowbirds & extended travel

If you will be out of town for more than 14 days and wish to be added to the Home Watch List, Email to Officer Burrell at Michael.burrell@co.ramsey.mn.us. Please indicate the address, duration of stay, and an out of town contact number to request sheriff patrol in the area of the home. We also suggest you alert and share an emergency contact number with your neighbors. As always, call 911 to report any immediate suspicious activity.

Subscribe to City specific emails

As part of the new City Website, residents have the ability to sign up for specific types of communications they would like to receive. If you are currently subscribed to this weekly eblast, your email has been transferred to the new website and signed up to receive News and Announcements and Urgent alerts. **NEW:** You can also subscribe to receive notification of other City information such Council Agenda/Minutes, Planning Commission Agendas/Minutes, or sign up for text messaging by clicking [here](#).

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Residents wishing to make comments during the meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov to be included in the packet. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

- **City Council Meeting** - Thursday 1/14/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 1/21/21
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 1/28/21

Materials and links for meetings can be found on the City of North Oaks website 72 hours prior to each meeting at <http://www.northoaksmn.gov>. **Click on the calendar entry for each meeting to access agendas, links to view via CTV, or to participate via zoom.**

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—1/15/2021

City Hall Closed for Business on Monday, January 18, 2021

City Hall will be closed for all business on Monday, January 18th, 2021 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Welcome to New City Council

Congratulations to Rich Dujmovic who was appointed as Council Member and sworn in during the regular City Council meeting on Thursday, January 14th, 2021. He will fill Mayor Ries vacated seat and serve until the term expires on December 31, 2022.

The City Council thanks all 6 of the well qualified candidates for their interest in serving the community. We look forward to work with you in other various capacities.

Welcome to Planning Commission Members

Congratulations to Mark Azman and Joyce Yoshimura-Rank who have been reappointed to the Planning Commission and will serve until December 31, 2023. Resident Anne Conroy was also appointed as a Planning Commissioner and will fulfill the remaining term of Jim Hara's vacated seat ending December 31, 2022. Mark Azman will serve as the Planning Commission Chair until the end of the year.

These appointments complete the 7 person Planning Commission board. Thank you to all that applied for these openings. Your interest in community engagement is sincerely appreciated.

Fraud Alert

Ramsey County Sherriff's office is reporting a significant increase in fraud in the community. Please be aware of internet and phone scammers, and suggest checking your credit report to ensure there has been no fraudulent activity on your accounts.

Help Show off our Community

Our community has seen beautiful winter weather on our trails and throughout our community. If you are willing to share any photos of our natural environment, or residents and families out and about enjoying our community, we would love to see them! Email them to northoaks@northoaksmn.gov. With your approval, photos may be selected to be used on the City of North Oaks Facebook page or Website.

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Sewer and Water Bills

Quarterly sewer / water invoices have been sent out to those who receive services through Shoreview. If you are dropping it off in person, please slide it under the City office door if staff is working remote. If there are any questions, contact the City office at 651-792-7750.

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
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100 Village Center

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Highlights from January 14th City Council meeting

- Council adopted the 2021 Fee Schedule which is detailed in [Ordinance 136](#). This will also be posted in the upcoming Shoreview Press.
- Rules of setting agendas and meeting conduct have been adopted and can be viewed [here](#).
- Prior guidelines for citizen conduct during meetings have been rescinded. Citizens are invited to speak on any topic during citizen comment periods, though Council discussion / action on new items raised may be deferred to a future meeting if the topic was not already listed on the published agenda.
- Council approved [Resolution 1416](#) which outlines City Council responsibilities and appointments for the upcoming year. This includes appointing Councilmembers to committees, naming external key service providers, and includes approval of a new Building inspector, Leon Ohman, who will begin February 1, 2021. Thanks to Kevin White for his many years of service to the community and best wishes in retirement!

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- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 1/28/21 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** - Thursday 2/11/21 at 7 p.m.
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Kevin Kress
City Administrator, City of North Oaks



City of North Oaks
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North Oaks, MN 55127
651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—1/29/2021

** Due to a technical glitch – some of you may not have received last week's 1/22/2021 e-blast. If you did not - be sure to take a look at the "In case you missed it" section below for last week's topics.

Fire Hydrant Clearing

For those of you with fire hydrants in your immediate area, please ensure that all hydrants are kept clear of snow and ice so the fire department can access them in case of emergency. If a hydrant has been damaged by a plow or other means, please contact us at 651-792-7750.

Part-Time Administrative Assistant

The City of North Oaks is hiring a Part-Time Administrative Assistant who will work 20 or more hours a week plus occasional night meetings. This position is structured as a job share format where the individual selected will share responsibilities with another staff member. This position performs a wide range of duties requiring attention to detail, deadlines, and strong administrative and organizational skills. This position assists and directs visitors, processes permits, and resolves administrative problems and inquiries; composes, edits, and prepares correspondence and reports, and prepares a range of administrative documents. Desirable skills include, general office experience, Microsoft Office software experience, marketing, communication, and social media, and previous City experience. The ideal candidate will be available to work two to three days per week with flexibility to work occasional additional days. The starting hourly pay is \$20.00/hour. For additional information contact City Administrator Kevin Kress at 651-792-7750. Submit a cover letter, resume, and references to North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN, 55127, or kkress@northoaksmn.gov by 4:00 p.m. Thursday February 11th, 2021 for consideration.

Coyotes -Breeding season

As we enter the spring, Coyotes may become more active with the mating season beginning in January and lasting through February. Five to seven pups are typically born in April and may be protective of their young. Please keep a careful watch on your pets when they are outside and as always, please keep your pets leashed on City trails. If Coyotes do encroach your yard, make them feel as welcome as possible using hazing techniques such as loud noises, yelling to encourage them to move on. For further information refer to [DNR links](#) describing their habits and dealing with [Urban Coyotes](#).

Additional information on coexisting with our coyotes and a full presentation on this topic from March 2019 with featured speakers from DNR, Ramsey County Sheriff Animal control and U of M can be found [here](#).

CTV North Suburbs has rebranded

On January 4th, 2021, the North Suburban Access Corporation, doing business as CTV North Suburbs, formally announced a brand and name change to NineNorth. NineNorth will still continue to cover and distribute important North Oaks community events and public meetings. The updated website to access City meetings and events will be www.ninenorth.org. City meetings, featured videos and more content can be found in the same places as before and website links on the North Oaks website have been updated. You will soon see a new icon on the top left of the website replacing the current CTV Logo. Click here to view the [full press release](#).

Website Tip of the Week

To access information and initiatives of the Planning Commission, Natural Resources Commission, or Tick Task Force – from the [City website](#) homepage, click on City Hall, then select Commissions and Committees. You can then select the desired commissions on the blue bars on the left.

Start the North Oaks News

The North Oaks News is independent from the City of North Oaks. If you or your neighbors aren't receiving the North Oaks Newspaper, contact the circulation department at Press Publications (651-407-1234) to start and stop the paper. Newspapers cannot be forwarded, so delivery is stopped if papers are returned to the publisher. The E-Edition is available online at presspubs.com/north_oaks.

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—2/5/2021

COVID Vaccine and Testing Information

For information from the Minnesota Department of Health regarding Vaccine data, distribution and sign-ups, click [COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#). For those looking for COVID testing locations, refer to [Covid Testing Options](#).

*These links can also be found on our website under [COVID](#).

Ice Warning

There has been a report of kids playing and purposely breaking through the ice. We encourage all residents to steer clear of these surfaces, as well as the banks surrounding them. The areas near channels and moving water are especially dangerous as the ice thickness is unpredictable.

Parents, please talk to your kids about the serious dangers of thin ice. Dog owners, please keep your dog on a leash to prevent an accident. Call 911 for assistance immediately if you spot someone that has broken through.

City Building Official

Welcome to the City's new building official, Leon Ohman, as he rejoins North Oaks. He began Monday, February 1st after previous history as an inspector within North Oaks many years ago. He can be reached for building, plumbing, and mechanical inspections at 612-817-0694, or reached via email at lcps2x4@gmail.com.

Mounds View High School National Honor Society - Fundraiser

The Mounds View High School National Honor Society is raising money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society through a virtual fundraiser. The donation page for anyone wishing to support this cause is <https://events.ils.org/pages/mn/MoundsViewSeniorHighSchool-2021>

League of Women Voters Event

The League of Women voters are hosting a free online forum on February 18th, 2021 on "Advancing Inclusive Economic Growth". Refer to the complete [Event information](#) for details and how to register.

Road Restrictions – Plan ahead

We are beginning to get calls inquiring when road restrictions will take effect. Please note that the City of North Oaks follows the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation guidance. While the 3 ton per axle restriction typically has gone into effect early-March in the past, we only receive a 48 hour notice from MN DOT of the date/time when restrictions take effect. As soon as we receive notice, we will publish this on the website, Facebook page, City eblast, North Oaks News, NOHOA eblast.

The City does not authorize road restriction waivers unless it is an emergency situation such as a surfacing septic system failure. If you are anticipating large contractor deliveries within the next 8-10 weeks, plan ahead now or delivery loads will need to be split into smaller trucks.

Website Tips of the Week

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Looking for an Arborist to do tree work? You can find a list of tree companies certified by the City Forester to do tree work in the City of North Oaks, by typing in "Arborist" or "Tree Care" in the Search bar on the website. The current list is also [HERE](#).

Part-Time Administrative Assistant

The City of North Oaks is hiring a Part-Time Administrative Assistant who will work 20 or more hours a week plus occasional night meetings. This position is structured as a job share format where the individual selected will share responsibilities with another staff member. This position performs a wide range of duties requiring attention to detail, deadlines, and strong administrative and organizational skills. This position assists and directs visitors, processes permits, and resolves administrative problems and inquiries; composes, edits, and prepares correspondence and reports, and prepares a range of administrative documents. Desirable skills include, general office experience, Microsoft Office software experience, marketing, communication, and social media, and previous City experience. The ideal candidate will be available to work two to three days per week with flexibility to work occasional additional days. The starting hourly pay is \$20.00/hour. For additional information contact City Administrator Kevin Kress at 651-792-7750. Submit a cover letter, resume, and references to North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN, 55127, or kkress@northoaksmn.gov by 4:00 p.m. Thursday February 11th, 2021 for consideration.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Coyotes -Breeding season

As we enter the spring, Coyotes may become more active with the mating season beginning in January and lasting through February. Five to seven pups are typical born in April and may be protective of their young. Please keep a careful watch on your pets when they are outside and as always, please keep your pets leashed on trails. If Coyotes do encroach your yard, make them feel as unwelcome as possible using hazing techniques such as loud noises, and yelling to encourage them to move on. For further information refer to [DNR links](#) describing their habits and dealing with [Urban Coyotes](#).

Additional information on coexisting with our coyotes and a full presentation on this topic from March 2019 with featured speakers from DNR, Ramsey County Sherriff Animal control and U of M can be found [here](#).

Start the North Oaks News

The North Oaks News is independent from the City of North Oaks. If you or your neighbors aren't receiving the North Oaks Newspaper, contact the circulation department at Press Publications (651-407-1234) to start and stop the paper. Newspapers cannot be forwarded, so delivery is stopped if papers are returned to the publisher. The E-Edition is available online at presspubs.com/north_oaks.

Fire Hydrant Clearing

If you have fire hydrants in your immediate area, please help keep hydrants clear of snow and ice so the fire department can access them in case of emergency. If a hydrant has been damaged by a plow or other means, please contact us at 651-792-7750.

Past Minutes and Videos for City Meetings

Full Information on how to participate in upcoming City Meetings, access the repository of current and former agendas / minutes, and links to view meeting videos can be found on the [City Website home page](#) by clicking: City Hall in the title bar / then Agenda and Minutes.

For those that prefer to bookmark shortcuts:

[Click HERE](#) for the CTV link to live and historical meetings

[HERE](#) for the Minutes from past meetings.

CTV North Suburbs has rebranded

On January 4th, 2021, the North Suburban Access Corporation, doing business as CTV North Suburbs, formally announced a brand and name change to NineNorth. NineNorth will still continue to cover and distribute important North Oaks community events and public meetings. The updated website to access City meetings and events will be www.ninenorth.org. The website's layout is still the same. City meetings, featured videos and more content can be found in the same places as before and website links on the North Oaks website have been updated. You will soon see a new icon on the top of the website replacing the current CTV Logo. View the [full press release](#).

Recycling Pickups -Winter reminder

If your driveway is icy, this may affect whether the recycling truck can back up to reach your cart. To ensure service on icy winter days, please bring your cart curbside. If it is missed due to an icy driveway, please simply put it back out the following week. If there is overflow, please put next to recycling cart. Peterson-Waddle appreciates your understanding through winter season conditions.

City of North Oaks—Office Hours

City Hall is currently closed to the public due to health and safety guidelines regarding COVID-19. All City business is processing as usual, with City staff working remotely and phone calls forwarded. Permits will continue to be processed via email at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov and inspections continue as requested.

Contact the City at 651-792-7750 to make an appointment if your business cannot be conducted remotely or with any questions.

City Hall business hours are:

Monday–Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 - 12 p.m.

Upcoming City Meetings

All public meetings will take place via remote access until further notice. Final materials and links for meetings can be found on the City of North Oaks website 72 hours prior to each meeting at <http://www.northoaksmn.gov>. **Click on the calendar entry for each meeting to access agendas, links to view via CTV, or to participate via zoom.**

The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings.

- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday 2/11/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 2/18/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 1/25/21 7 p.m.

Residents wishing to make comments during the meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—2/12/2021

City Hall – Closed Presidents Day

The City office will be closed on Monday, February 15th in observance of Presidents Day.

COVID Vaccine and Testing Information

Currently healthcare workers, educators, childcare providers, and people over age 65 are eligible in Minnesota to sign up for the vaccine. For information from the Minnesota Department of Health regarding Vaccine data, distribution and sign-ups, click [COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#). For those looking for COVID testing locations, refer to [Covid Testing Options](#).

*These links can also be found on our website under [COVID](#).

COVID-19 Restrictions Adjusted

The office of Governor Walz today announced adjustments to loosen some of the COVID restrictions, slightly increasing capacities as Minnesota makes progress on vaccinations. These adjustments are effective February 13, 2021 at Noon. Refer to the full press release for details: [COVID-19 news updates / Office of Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan \(mn.gov\)](#)

Coyote reporting

The University of Minnesota has established a tool for reporting coyote sightings within the metro area. Nick McCann, a principle investigator in this initiative, spoke of this tracking tool during the North Oaks special presentation on Coyotes in March 2019. For more information on this project and to report coyote sightings to aid their research, click [HERE](#).

Safety Reminder

For safety of both residents and drivers, please remember to wear reflective clothing when out walking after dark. Residents may purchase reflective vests from the North Oaks Homeowner's Association at 651-792-7765.

Road Restrictions – Plan ahead

Please start planning ahead for when road restrictions take effect, as the City of North Oaks follows the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation guidelines. While the 3 ton per axle restriction typically has gone into effect early-March in the past, we only receive a 48-hour notice from MN DOT of the date/time when restrictions take effect. As soon as we receive notice, we will publish this on the City website, Facebook page, City eblast, North Oaks News, and NOHOA eblast.

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Website Tip of the Week

Are you looking for mechanical contractors to install fireplace, heater, or air conditioning? Mechanical contractors doing work in North Oaks are required to be licensed in our City. To access this list from the [City website](#) homepage, type in "2021 mechanical contractors" in the search bar.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Ice Warning

There has been a report of kids playing and purposely breaking through the ice. We encourage all residents to steer clear of these surfaces, as well as the banks surrounding them. The areas near channels and moving water are especially dangerous as the ice thickness is unpredictable.

Parents, please talk to your kids about the serious dangers of thin ice. Dog owners, please keep your dog on a leash to prevent an accident. Call 911 for assistance immediately if you spot someone that has broken through.

Part-Time Administrative Assistant

We have extended to deadline to allow for more applications to be received. Please refer to the bottom of this notice.

The City of North Oaks is hiring a Part-Time Administrative Assistant who will work 20 or more hours a week plus occasional night meetings. This position is structured as a job share format where the individual selected will share responsibilities with another staff member. This position performs a wide range of duties requiring attention to detail, deadlines, and strong administrative and organizational skills. This position assists and directs visitors, processes permits, and resolves administrative problems and inquiries; composes, edits, and prepares correspondence and reports, and prepares a range of administrative documents. Desirable skills include, general office experience, Microsoft Office software experience, marketing, communication, and social media, and previous City experience. The ideal candidate will be available to work two to three days per week with flexibility to work occasional additional days. The starting hourly pay is \$20.00/hour. For additional information contact City Administrator Kevin Kress at 651-792-7750. Submit a cover letter, resume, and references to North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN, 55127, or kkress@northoaksmn.gov by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday February 16th, 2021 for consideration.

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The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings.

- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 2/18/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 2/25/21 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday 3/11/21 at 7 p.m.

Residents wishing to make comments during a meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—2/19/2021

Special City Council Meeting

There will be a special meeting of the City Council on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 for discussion and possible action on deer management contracts and to interview engineering firms including discussion and possible action to represent the City of North Oaks. The agenda packet and links to view this meeting can be found by selecting the [calendar entry](#) on the City website.

Ramsey County Reports increase in Car Jackings

The Ramsey County Sheriff's office issued a press release last Friday, February 12, 2021 reporting an increase in car jackings in the East metro area. This includes carjackers using means of force to steal cars, and then commit other robberies. There have been **no** reports of these types of car jackings within North Oaks, however we do want to make residents aware of their tactics when you are out and about throughout the metro area. Please refer to the [full press release](#) here for details as to the different methods they are using to gain control of the vehicles, and important tips to help reduce chances of becoming a victim.

No Feeding of Wildlife

Per ordinance 90.1, there is no feeding of wildlife such as deer and turkey within City limits. This may encourage wildlife out of their usual habitat and food sources, cause road safety issues and cause landscape damage to neighboring properties. Our City has plentiful resources for wildlife to feed naturally. Any feeding of songbirds must be placed at least 5 feet from the ground and in a manner that discourages other wildlife from feeding. Refer [HERE](#) for the full ordinance and resources from the Department of Natural Resources on this topic.

Pesticide Plan – Phase 1

A plan titled, "[Pesticide Education Plan for North Oaks Residents: Working to Change the Way People View the Use of Pesticides](#)" was approved by City Council on February 11, 2021. The plan was written by a committee consisting of City residents and several North Oaks Natural Resources Commission members, as well as representatives from NOHOA, the North Oaks Golf Club, and the North Oaks Company.

This is Phase 1 of the plan, which specifically addresses mosquito and tick control. In the future, a plan to address the use of other insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides will be drafted. This plan dovetails nicely with the City's Pollinator Resolution that was passed in July of 2019. The plan can be found on the City website under Natural Resources Commission/Pesticide Information.

Tree Work

If you plan on doing tree work this spring / summer, ensure you are using tree contractor that has been licensed to do work in North Oaks and instructed on rules and regulations unique to our City. There is a current list of tree contractors/arborists that have been vetted by the City Forester [HERE](#) or by searching "arborist" on the City website.

Website Tip of the Week

You may view the answers to the most frequently asked questions that City Hall receives, such as what is the difference between the City and NOHOA, by selecting City Hall from the website homepage, then selecting Frequently Asked questions in the right-hand column. This link is also [here](#).

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Coyote reporting

The University of Minnesota has established a tool for reporting coyote sightings within the metro area. Nick McCann, a principle investigator in this initiative, spoke of this tracking tool during the North Oaks special presentation on Coyotes in March 2019. For more information on this project and to report coyote sightings to aid their research, click [HERE](#).

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The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings.

- **Special City Council Meeting** – Wednesday, 2/24/21 5:30 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 2/25/21 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday 3/11/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 3/18/21 at 7 p.m.

Residents wishing to make comments during a meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

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651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—2/26/2021

Notice of Public Hearing

There will be a public hearing as part of the regular Planning Commission meeting on March 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to review a Conditional Use permit application for 17 Evergreen Road for garage space in excess of 1,500 square feet. The full Public Hearing notice and instructions for participation can be found [HERE](#).

Locking Mailbox

If your mailbox has become a casualty of winter snow conditions, we do have a few mail manager size locking mailboxes available for purchase. You may complete the [mailbox order form](#) and email it into the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov. Contact the City office with any questions 651-792-7750.

VLAWMO Resources

North Oaks is part of the Vadnais Lakes Area Water Management Organization which serves North Oaks and surrounding communities. North Oaks is represented by representatives from both City Council and the Natural Resources Commission in regular VLAWMO meetings and projects involving our natural resources.

VLAWMO also has a tremendous amount of informational resources as it relates to water stewardship at home, watershed history, wetlands and buffers, our North Oaks water bodies and more. We encourage you to refer to their [Resources for residents](#) for more information on these important topics.

Ramsey County Sherriff Reports increase in Car Jackings

UPDATE: Carjacking's continue to be of concern in the nearby east metro area. This is a repost of our alert and the Ramsey County Sheriff's office press release from February 12th, after another carjacking took place at 694 & Rice Street earlier this week.

Stay alert and aware of your surroundings, keep windows up and doors locked, and call 9-1-1 if you see anything suspicious or are concerned for your safety. While there have been no incidents within North Oaks City limits, we encourage you to **share this information with neighbors who may not be on social media or signed up for City of North Oaks alerts.**

Please refer to the [full press release](#) from the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office for details as to the different methods they are using to gain control of the vehicles, and important tips to help reduce chances of becoming a victim.

Road Restrictions – Plan ahead

We have not yet received the notification from the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation that spring road restrictions are in effect, however we do anticipate this coming very soon. We only receive a 48 hour notice from MN DOT of the date/time when the 3 ton per axle restrictions will take effect.

If you are anticipating large contractor deliveries, plan ahead now or delivery loads will need to be split into smaller trucks.

Website Tip of the Week – Private Wells

Many homes within North Oaks have private wells for potable water. As a private well owner, you are responsible for your own testing of the water you use for cooking and drinking to make sure it is safe. You can find information on wells from the MN Department of Health and a links to companies that test water via the City website under Services, then selecting Wells. This webpage is [Wells | City of North Oaks, MN](#).

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- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 3/25/21 7 p.m.

Residents wishing to make comments during a meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation in virtual meetings can be found [here](#).

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—4/9/2021

City Council Meeting Summary

Highlights from last night's City council meeting include:

- City offices will be reopening to the public effective Monday, May 3rd
- Approval of HR Green engineering contract
- Tabling any further decisions on Nord Parcel for 60 days, to give additional time for research by City engineer, and discussion between North Oaks Company and NOHOA
- Decision was made by City Council to call special meetings to address: Sewer/Water utility rate study to discuss financial shortages and future maintenance of systems; final changes to the Comprehensive Plan, discuss the East Oaks Final plan approval process/timeline for subdivision applications, and review the Anderson Woods Final plan application. Formal notices will be posted once dates and times are set.

Both live and past archived meetings can be viewed [HERE](#) or by clicking the Nine North Logo on the top of the City homepage (next to the Facebook logo).

Road Restrictions to be lifted Monday

We have received notice from the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation that road restrictions will be lifted for the Metro area, including North Oaks, effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, April 12, 2021.

Watch out for Turtles

Tis the season, please watch for Turtles crossing our winding roads. Be careful when handling turtles to assist them in going the direction they are traveling. Please do not attempt to handle [Snapping Turtles](#) and [Spiny Soft shells](#) (often referred to as "leatherbacks") as they are particularly aggressive and will bite with little provocation. Sticks or other tools should be used to encourage them along. Click [HERE](#) for information from the DNR on safe turtle handling.

Brush Pickup Day

The City and NOHOA are co-hosting and coordinating a brush pickup for interested residents. Brush Pickup Day is **Friday, May 14, 2020**. If all the brush is not picked up that day, work will continue over the weekend. The estimated cost for a dumpster size load of brush (14ft X 7.5ft X 3.5 ft and equals 10 cubic yards) is \$160, but rates vary depending on the amount of brush.

All brush must be piled at the edge of the street with the butt ends of the brush pointing in the same direction. Please do not pile brush directly under power lines as that limits the equipment that can be used to make the pickup. Langer 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 cost information in the homeowner letter [HERE](#), and return the waiver to the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or via mail to get on the list. Call at 651-792-7750 with any questions.

Annual Recycling Event – June 26th

The City and NOHOA will be co-hosting and coordinating the third annual recycling and paper shredding event on Saturday, June 26 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. Please click [HERE](#) for a 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. We will print a coupon in the North Oaks News that entitles drop off of one item for free; one coupon per household, please. For questions, please contact the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or call the City office at 651-792-7750.

North Oaks Guild2 – Rummage Sale Drop off Day

The North Oaks Guild 2 will again be collecting sorted, boxed, gently used items on May 15th, 2021 from 9 – 2 p.m. at West Recreation Center. Items will be collected and prepared for their annual Rummage sale weekend September 18-19, 2021 with all proceeds to benefit the Children's Hospital.

Earth Day Activities

Earth Day is Thursday, April 22, 2021. Although this year limits how groups can participate in Earth Day 2021, there are several ways to celebrate at home or your backyard using the concepts of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, RESTORE:"

- In the backyard, scope out a good location for a compost pile. Start recycling coffee grounds, egg shells, and scraps of food to decompose and to ultimately enrich your garden for the upcoming growing season. Alternatively, take your food scraps to the local compost site (5900 Sherwood Road, White Bear Township OR 3950 Hoffman Road, White Bear Lake).
- For families who quarantine together, take a weekend morning to scour the neighborhood for discarded plastics, cans, and bottles for a personal cleanup project that will help the entire community. Don't forget to wear gloves, avoid sharp objects, and take precautions against tick exposure.

For more information about Earth Day 2021, visit <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>

Ramsey County Recycling – Earth Day Action Quest

Back for its second year, [Earth Day Action Quest](#) offers Earth-friendly activities for participants over the month of April. Participants will learn how to dispose of household hazardous waste like paint or cleaners, play a recycling sorting game, find a new park, take a virtual tour of the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center and more. By completing challenges, participants get entered into a drawing for \$50 Visa gift cards. [Join in here!](#)

Earth Day Action Quest is a program of Ramsey County, Washington County, and Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy.

VLAWMO Spring Workshops

VLAWMO has a variety of spring workshops on the docket, from bee lawns to drainage control ideas to how to building a more resilient yard by starting small. Attend just to learn or to get plugged-in to VLAWMO's cost-share grant program. Either will help get a jump start on your spring or summer yard projects!

The next two upcoming programs are Raingardens and Drainage control on May 4th, and Yard Makeovers Made Easy on May 11th. Visit vlawmo.org/events for more info and registration.

Environmental Speaker Series

North Oaks residents are welcome to join Shoreview's virtual Environment Speaker series. The next program on April 21st is on the urban fox and coyote study being conducted by the University of Minnesota. Prior topics available for viewing include: Planetary Health: The path to a better future, Electric Vehicle 101, Planting for Pollinators and Clean Water.

Links to participate and recordings of past programs are available on their website

(<https://www.shoreviewmn.gov/government/committees-and-commissions/environmental-quality>).

Composters: Food Scraps Collection Program Update

For those of you that take composting to Ramsey County collection sites, there has been an update to their Compost program. They are now taking ONLY food scraps in their compost sites as food composts more easily and produces a higher quality compost. Their website has been updated with the revised list of accepted items (www.ramseyrecycles.com/foodscraps), and signage will be changed at their 24/7 collection sites.

Pesticide information resources

New resources and tips have been added to the Pesticide section of [Natural Resources Commission](#) on the City website. One of these is an article from The National Wildlife Federation is:

<https://www.nwf.org/Magazines/National-Wildlife/2021/April-May/Conservation/Mosquitoes>

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Covid-19 Vaccination Update

Per Governor Walz's recent announcement, as of April 1st those 16 years old and up are now eligible to receive a vaccine.

- Refer here to register via the State [Minnesota Vaccine Connector](#), find vaccine locations and view Frequently asked questions.
- Wondering who and how many Minnesotans have already received the vaccine? View the current [State of Minnesota Vaccine rollout data](#).
- Still looking for Vaccine? Check here for tips from [MN Vaccine Hunters website](#).

Oak Wilt High Risk Season

We have now entered the **high-risk season** for oak wilt. This means that oak trees should no longer be pruned or wounded in any way or they may become diseased. If a tree needs to be pruned or is wounded, apply a latex based paint to the wound immediately afterward. Oak tree pruning is always best to do in the winter when there is no risk of getting oak wilt. If you want to learn more about oak wilt follow the link:

https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/forest_health/oakwilt/index.html

Earth Day

Earth Day is Thursday, April 22, 2021. The theme for this year's observance is "Restore Our Earth," which focuses on natural processes, emerging green technologies, and innovative thinking that can restore the world's ecosystems. In this way, the theme rejects the notion that mitigation or adaptation are the only ways to address climate change. It is up to each and every one of us to Restore Our Earth not just because we care about the natural world, but because we live on it. We all need a healthy Earth to support our jobs, livelihoods, health & survival, and happiness. A healthy planet is not an option — it is a necessity.

Watch for more information about how you can celebrate Earth Day in future email blasts. In the meantime, visit <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>

Windy Days = Blown trash/recycling

With our recent series of high wind days this week, please be a good neighbor and help pick up items that may have blown out of bins and into our beautiful natural environment.

Website tip of the week

Save a stamp or trip to the City Hall office! You can pay online for animal licenses, permits, and

water/sewer payments. From the City homepage, simply click the [Pay Online](#) button in the middle of the homepage. Supporting documentation can be sent to the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov. (*credit card service fees apply).

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The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings.

- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 4/15/21 at 7 p.m.
 - **Includes presentation by VLAWMO on Wilkinson Water quality project**
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 4/29/21 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday 5/13/21 at 7 p.m.

Residents wishing to make comments during a meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—4/16/2021

Special City Council meeting

Mayor Ries has called a Special meeting of the City Council on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 5 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is Discussion and possible action on the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Refer to the related [City Council special meeting](#) on the website calendar, for meeting notice details, links to view the meeting live via computer or via zoom, and the agenda packet.

Special City Council meeting

Mayor Ries has called a Special meeting of the City Council on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 6 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is:

1. Review and consideration of applications for final plan/plat (subdivision) approval for the Anderson Woods development site (Development Site F of the East Oaks PDA; Tract G, RLS 633) (Applications)
 - a. Consideration of resolution deeming applications incomplete and denying approval for Applications
 - b. Discussion and other actions related to the Applications

Tick Task Force meeting

You are invited to join the North Oaks Natural Resources Commission Tick Task Force quarterly meeting on Tuesday April 20 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held by Zoom and residents may join using: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89191341642> or by calling 1-888 788 0099, Webinar ID: 891 9134 1642.

If you have questions or comments, please contact NRC Chair Dr. Andrew Hawkins at ahawkins@northoaksmn.gov or 626-394-9861.

Chippewa Campus Clean-Up Day

Submitted by Dr. Andrew C Hawkins, Chair, North Oaks Natural Resources Commission.

Earth Day is Thursday, April 22, 2021. Although this year limits how groups can participate in Earth Day 2021, there are several ways to celebrate using the concepts of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, RESTORE!"

Join the North Oaks Natural Resources Commission on Saturday April 24th from noon-2pm to help clean up the Chippewa Campus! The NRC will provide garbage bags, nitrile gloves, and hand sanitizer. Bring a mask and environmental spirit and let's help clean up North Oaks!

RSVP on this Google form to let us know you are coming.

<https://forms.gle/7Fie8J7EYSspvijv6>

Locking Mailboxes

We are once again starting a list for those who wish to purchase a locking mailbox. There are 2 size options available, Mail Manager at \$83, and the Package Master at \$167, and a newspaper box for \$42. Once we receive a minimum of 18 orders, we can place the order and receive the bulk discount rates.

Click [HERE](#) for the mailbox application form and size details.

Brush Pickup Day

The City and NOHOA will be co-hosting a brush pickup for interested residents. Brush Pickup Day is **Friday, May 14, 2021**. If all the brush is not picked up that day, work will continue over the weekend. The estimated cost for a dumpster size load of brush (14ft X 7.5ft X 3.5 ft and equals 10 cubic yards) is \$160, but rates vary depending on the amount of brush.

All brush must be piled at the edge of the street with the butt ends of the brush pointing in the same direction. Please do not pile brush directly under power lines as that limits the equipment that can be used to make the pickup. Langer 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 cost information in the homeowner letter [HERE](#), and return the waiver to the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or via mail to get on the list. Call at 651-792-7750 with any questions.

Annual Recycling Event – June 26th

The City and NOHOA will be co-hosting the third annual recycling and paper shredding event on Saturday, June 26 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. Please click [HERE](#) for a 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. We will print a coupon in the North Oaks News that entitles drop off of one item for free; one coupon per household, please. For questions, please contact the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or call the City office at 651-792-7750.

Road Restrictions have been lifted

Road restrictions have been lifted for the Metro area, including North Oaks.

Website Tip of the Week – News & Highlights

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VLAWMO has a variety of spring workshops on the docket, from bee lawns to drainage control ideas to how to building a more resilient yard by starting small. Attend just to learn or to get plugged-in to VLAWMO's cost-share grant program. Either will help get a jump start on your spring or summer yard projects!

The next two upcoming programs are Raingardens and Drainage control on May 4th, and Yard Makeovers Made Easy on May 11th. Visit vlawmo.org/events for more info and registration.

North Oaks Guild2 – Rummage Sale Drop off Day

The North Oaks Guild 2 will again be collecting sorted, boxed, gently used items on May 15th, 2021 from 9 – 2 p.m. at West Recreation Center. Items will be collected and prepared for their annual Rummage sale weekend September 18-19, 2021 with all proceeds to benefit the Children's Hospital.

Earth Day Activities

Earth Day is Thursday, April 22, 2021. Although this year limits how groups can participate in Earth Day 2021, there are several ways to celebrate at home or your backyard using the concepts

of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, RESTORE:"

- In the backyard, scope out a good location for a compost pile. Start recycling coffee grounds, egg shells, and scraps of food to decompose and to ultimately enrich your garden for the upcoming growing season. Alternatively, take your food scraps to the local compost site (5900 Sherwood Road, White Bear Township OR 3950 Hoffman Road, White Bear Lake).
- For families who quarantine together, take a weekend morning to scour the neighborhood for discarded plastics, cans, and bottles for a personal cleanup project that will help the entire community. Don't forget to wear gloves, avoid sharp objects, and take precautions against tick exposure.

For more information about Earth Day 2021, visit <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>

Ramsey County Recycling – Earth Day Action Quest

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Environmental Speaker Series

North Oaks residents are welcome to join Shoreview's virtual Environment Speaker series. The next program on April 21st is on the urban fox and coyote study being conducted by the University of Minnesota. Prior topics available for viewing include: Planetary Health: The path to a better future, Electric Vehicle 101, Planting for Pollinators and Clean Water.

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Composters: Food Scraps Collection Program Update

For those of you that take composting to Ramsey County collection sites, there has been an update to their Compost program. They are now taking ONLY food scraps in their compost sites as food composts more easily and produces a higher quality compost. Their website has been updated with the revised list of accepted items (www.ramseyrecycles.com/foodscraps), and signage will be changed at their 24/7 collection sites.

Watch out for Turtles

Tis the season, please watch for Turtles crossing our winding roads. Be careful when handling turtles to assist them in going the direction they are traveling. Please do not attempt to handle [Snapping Turtles](#) and [Spiny Softshells](#) (often referred to as "leatherbacks") as they are particularly aggressive and will bite with little provocation. Sticks or other tools should be used to encourage them along. Click [HERE](#) for information from the DNR on safe turtle handling.

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The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings.

- **Tick Task Force Meeting** – Tuesday 4/20/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Special City Council Meeting** – Wednesday 4/21/21 at 5 p.m.
- **Special City Council Meeting** – Wednesday 4/21/21 at 6 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 4/29/21 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday 5/13/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/20/21 at 7 p.m.

Residents wishing to make comments during a meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—4/23/2021

Earth Clean-up Day

Join the Natural Resources Commission at Chippewa Middle School at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 24, 2021 in a clean up the Earth initiative. Gloves and garbage will be provided. Great service opportunity for those students in need of service hours. Win-Win for the environment.

Special City Council meetings - Summary

The City Council held special meetings on Wednesday, April 21st, at which time two actions were taken. Council approved the City Administrator to update the Comprehensive Plan with minor administrative changes as requested by the Metropolitan Council. The plan will be submitted to the City Council for final approval and submission at the regular May 13th City Council meeting.

Council also approved Resolution 1421 Deeming the Anderson Woods Final plan submittal application as incomplete. Once additional information from North Oaks Company is confirmed as complete, the application will be placed on the Council agenda for review and discussion.

Tick Task Force – Lyme Disease Clinical Trial

There is a clinical trial taking place for a Lyme disease vaccine and one of the participating sites is here in Minneapolis. This provides an opportunity for the community to get directly involved in the fight against Lyme Disease. The Tick Force recommends effected residents consider participation in this important study. Refer to the [complete Lyme Disease Study information](#) for details on how to sign up.

Car-jackings

There are continued reports of car-jackings and theft from autos in the nearby areas. Please continue to be alert and talk to your newer drivers about safety precautions. View prior safety tips [HERE](#).

Drug Take Back Event

The Sheriff's Office is partnering with the Ramsey County OPUS Coalition with a Drug Take Back event this Saturday (April 24, 2021). The drive-through drop off location for easy disposal of unused and unwanted prescription medications is Faith Lutheran Church Parking lot, 499 Charles Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55102.

If you are unable to make it to that event, there are year-round collection sites which include the Patrol Station lobby in Arden Hills. A full list of take back locations can be [found here](#).

Human Rights Commission – Shoreview

The City of Shoreview, in partnership with the Ramsey County Library - Shoreview and Do Good Roseville, is hosting a series of virtual discussion around the topic of race. All sessions will be hosted virtually with the next topic on Race and Policing being held on May 6, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. North Oaks Residents are welcome to attend. [Register online](#).

Mosquito Helicopters

Hearing the low flying helicopters over our waterways? The Metropolitan Mosquito Control District will be dropping non-toxic larval mosquito control pellets, that use natural soil bacteria and a mosquito growth regulator to control mosquitoes while they are still in their larval stage. This occurs to help minimize mosquitos without harming the environment. This did not take place last year due to the pandemic.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Locking Mailboxes

We are once again starting a list for those who wish to purchase a locking mailbox. There are 2 size options available, Mail Manager at \$83, and the Package Master at \$167, and a newspaper box for \$42. Once we receive a minimum of 18 orders, we can place the order and receive the bulk discount rates. Click [HERE](#) for the mailbox application form and size details.

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—4/30/2021

City Hall office – Open to Public beginning Monday

The North Oaks City office is reopening to the public effective Monday, May 3rd. For your convenience, permit and license applications and other business can still be submitted to northoaks@northoaksmn.gov and processed remotely without the need to make a trip into the office. Contact the City at 651-792-7750 with any questions.

COVID Vaccine Appointment Opportunity

The State Fair Community Vaccination Site is NOW OPEN for [direct appointment scheduling online](#) **AND walk ins through end of day Tuesday, May 4th**. Schedule your COVID-19 Vaccine at the State Fair Community Vaccination Site: https://www.primarybio.com/r/mnvax-sfg?registration_type=general_public Or call **(833) 431-2053**.

2020 Census Results

The results are in as of July 1, 2019. With 87.3% of North Oaks Residents responding to the survey, data shows a 19.7% increase in the number of residents within the City since the 2010 census report. Our City population has increased from 4,469 in 2010 to 5,351 in July 2019. The [United States census](#) can be found here.

Renting your Property

Just a reminder that any single-family home that is being rented within the City of North Oaks must have a rental license per [Ordinance 121](#) regulating rental properties. This license is renewed annually, within a safety inspection being conducted every 3 years. Click [HERE](#) for the rental application/renewal form. Call the City office with any questions.

Earth Clean-up Day

Thank you to the 20 people that joined the Natural Resources Commission at Chippewa Middle School last Saturday for a clean up the Earth initiative. Mother Nature thanks you!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection in May

Take note! Ramsey County's mobile household hazardous waste collection will not be in Arden Hills in May. It has been moved to the Shoreview Arena in Shoreview. See Ramsey County's [website](#) for details. The collection starts on Saturday, May 1.

No Mow May

This spring the University of Minnesota Bee Squad is promoting [#NoMowMay](#). No Mow May is a campaign to preserve and protect our pollinators during this critical spring season by waiting to clean and mow our lawns to give them more time to emerge from winter hibernation.

Brush Pickup Day – Friday, May 14th

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All brush must be piled at the edge of the street with the butt ends of the brush pointing in the same direction. Langer Tree service will be doing the work, with assistance of the City forester to answer

resident questions. **PLEASE NOTE: Please do not include cut firewood in brush piles as it is difficult to handle.**

If you are interested in signing up for this service, please review the cost information in the homeowner letter [HERE](#), and return the waiver to the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or via mail to get on the list. Call at 651-792-7750 with any questions.

Rummage Sale Drop off Day – Sat. May 15th

North Oaks Children’s Hospital Association (CHA) Guild II annual rummage sale is September 18 and 19 at the Shoreview Ice Arena. Proceeds from the rummage sale help support many important programs at Children’s Minnesota. The spring donation drop-off is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 15 at the West Rec Center in North Oaks. Please help the guild by only donating gently used items as disposal costs are expensive.

To reduce the number of volunteers needed, please help by sorting, wrapping, boxing, and labeling donations as follows: **Women’s Clothing, Men’s Clothing, Children’s clothing, Housewares, Games/Toys, Books, Holiday/Craft, Miscellaneous.** Full boxes are easier and safer to load on the trucks. Wrap fragile or breakable items to keep them safe. It’s not necessary to wrap large miscellaneous items, but any protective materials are welcome.

Furniture donations can be picked up on Saturday, May 15 by calling Ellen Johnson at 612-554-5768 no later than Saturday, May 8. Pickups are for furniture items only in North Oaks.

For more information and items not accepted, visit the guild website. www.northoaksummagesale.org. Email questions to northoaksummagesale@gmail.com.

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The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings.

- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday 5/13/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/20/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/27/21 7 p.m.

Residents wishing to make comments during a meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

Have a great week!

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—3/5/2021

Road Restrictions are in effect

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Tick Awareness

With the quick approach of spring weather, a reminder that ticks become more active once the temperature reaches 38 degrees. Tick season peaks between mid-May and mid-July in Minnesota. Be sure to apply tick prevention to your pets, and check your clothing after coming in from outdoor activity. Refer to the [Tick Task Force Resources](#) for key areas they hide, and recommended prevention tips. There is also an article in the March issue of the North Oaks news on this topic.

Recycling Bin

Did you know that not all types of glass are recyclable? Some types of glass have a different melting point than others and cannot be mixed together. Keep in mind the following [recycling glass tips](#) from Ramsey County.

Ramsey County Community Newsletter

In this month's March 2021 issue of the Ramsey County [Sheriff's Office Crime prevention newsletter](#) you will find current topics such as:

- Consumer Protection Week
- Civil unrest awareness
- Carjacking warning
- Urban coyotes
- Disaster preparedness
- Scams, frauds, swindles
- Traffic enforcement

Building Inspection Days/Hours

North Oaks building official Leon Ohman is currently conducting inspections Monday – Thursday's. Inspections may be requested for Morning, 9am–12pm or Afternoon, 1–3pm. Leave a message with your preferred date and time at 612-817-0694.

Website Tip of the Week – Meeting Zoom codes

Anyone wishing to view or attend any Public meeting such as City Council, Natural Resources or Planning Commission is encouraged to do so. To find links to participate and meeting agenda documentation, click on the [Calendar entry](#) for the respective meeting. Links and materials will be posted 1 week prior to each meeting.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Notice of Public Hearing

There will be a public hearing as part of the regular Planning Commission meeting on March 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to review a Conditional Use permit application for 17 Evergreen

Road for garage space in excess of 1,500 square feet. The full Public Hearing notice and instructions for participation can be found [HERE](#).

Locking Mailbox

If your mailbox has become a casualty of winter snow conditions, we do have a few mail manager size locking mailboxes available for purchase. You may complete the [mailbox order form](#) and email it into the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov. Contact the City office with any questions 651-792-7750.

VLAWMO Resources

North Oaks is part of the Vadnais Lakes Area Water Management Organization which serves North Oaks and surrounding communities. North Oaks is represented by representatives from both City council and the Natural Resources Commission in regular VLAWMO meetings and projects involving our natural resources.

VLAWMO also has a tremendous amount of informational resources as it relates to water stewardship at home, watershed history, wetlands and buffers, our North Oaks water bodies and more. We encourage you to refer to their [Resources for residents](#) for more information on these important topics.

Website Tip of the Week – Private Wells

Many homes within North Oaks have private wells for potable water. As a private well owner, you are responsible for your own testing the water you use for cooking and drinking to make sure it is safe. You can find information on wells from the MN Department of Health and a links to companies that test water via the City website under Services, then selecting Wells. This webpage is [Wells | City of North Oaks, MN](#).

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- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 3/18/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 3/25/21 7 p.m.

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



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651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—3/12/2021

Welcome New City Engineer

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Spring Ahead – Sunday, March 14th

Daylight saving time officially starts this weekend, meaning you'll soon be able to soak in an extra hour of sun and much needed Vitamin D each afternoon. Daylight saving time officially starts Sunday, March 14 at 2 a.m., so that means moving clocks ahead 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 13.

Ice deteriorating quickly with recent warm weather

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources urges people to be extremely cautious on and around the ice, as recent warm weather has deteriorated ice conditions across the state. Some lakes already have large areas of open water and there have been reports of vehicles breaking through. Refer to the [full DNR news release](#) for recommended safety tips.

Community Forum – End Human Trafficking

Residents, parents, students and teachers are invited to join the local Rotary Clubs for a free, virtual forum. Learn about human trafficking in our community, how our students are most vulnerable, online safety, and how to spot the signs. The virtual event will take place Thursday, April 15, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Road Restrictions are in effect

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Spring Break

With Spring Break for Mounds View School District approaching next week, we encourage all to continue to be vigilant, wear masks, wash hands frequently and take safety precautions if any travel is planned. Help keep our local communities safe as the vaccine efforts continue to roll out. The current [State of Minnesota vaccine roll-out plan](#) estimates it could be summer when vaccines are available to the general public for all who want them.

Ramsey County Sheriff's Office - Tidbits

The most recent Ramsey County Sheriff newsletter reflected that the year 2021 has continued some 2020 trends. In the Ramsey County community, deputies dealt with thefts from vehicles, phone scams, catalytic converter thefts, garage burglaries and motor vehicle thefts where the vehicle is left running, unlocked and unattended. There were two incidents of carjacking (vehicle taken via threat to driver) in our contract communities in February.

Four suggestions were listed for community based solutions:

First – report crimes. Call 9-1-1 as soon as possible so that deputies can respond in a timely manner.

Second – stay aware and vigilant. You know what the normal patterns are for neighborhood activity, when something appears out of place or suspicious call 9-1-1 and have deputies come and check it out. Don't risk your safety.

Third – adopt practices to prevent crime – don't make it easy for criminals to find victims.

- a. Hide It – don't leave valuables in vehicles or in plain sight
- b. Close It – close vehicle windows, garage doors, etc.
- c. Lock It – lock vehicle doors, house doors, service doors, sheds, etc.
- d. Light It – park in well-lit areas, house lights, use motion detector lights, etc.

Fourth – stay involved. Get to know your neighbors and keep engaged with the community. We're all in this together."

St. Patrick's Day- Wednesday, March 17th

Did you know that the tradition of corned beef and cabbage, and St. Patrick's Day parades both originated in America? Check out [7 Surprising Facts About St. Patrick's Day](#)" from the History channel.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Tick Awareness

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- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 3/25/21 7 p.m.
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City of North Oaks
City Administrator



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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—3/19/2021

Brush Fire / Brush Pick up day

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Information regarding an optional brush pick up day program will be coming within the next few weeks for those with larger amounts of trees/brush to get rid of.

Ramsey County Sheriff's office – Chauvin Trial Civil Unrest and Preparations

In preparation for the trial of Derek Chauvin, the Ramsey County Sheriff's department has been making plans for precautionary measures within the communities they support. They are also currently visiting our local businesses to make connections and provide them with helpful safety tips. An excerpt from the recent neighborhood watch newsletter:

“On Monday, March 8, the high-profile court proceedings involving former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin are scheduled to begin in Minneapolis. They are expected to draw people from across the country to the Twin Cities for protests, marches and demonstrations. The Sheriff's Office has been an active participant of the multi-organizational effort to coordinate public safety activities throughout the metro area. The goal is to protect people, property and free speech during the trial—and prevent the type of destruction that occurred last year when some used the cloak of protest to burglarize and burn businesses. The Sheriff's Office continues to work with our local businesses on plans, preparations and prevention efforts for community safety. During these times of political instability, social turmoil, and the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to not overreact. Peaceful protests and marches are lawful First Amendment activities, whether scheduled or spontaneous, and the vast majority of protests are peaceful.”

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Leave Fawns alone

As we enter wildlife birthing season, keep in mind that **Fawns**, born from May through July, are purposely **left alone** by their mothers. Female deer, called does, may stay away from the fawns for up to three days, to avoid leading predators to their location. The white spotted coat camouflages a fawn as it lies motionless in vegetation. Please keep pets and kids away during this time and admire this circle of life from afar. For more information, click [information on Orphaned Wildlife](#) and [Fawn's First Days of life](#). If you find a baby deer trapped in a manmade area such as a window well, contact 911 and they will send the animal control officer to assist.

Check Smoke Alarms

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non-replaceable 10-year batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away.

Website Tip of the Week – Covid-19 Testing / Vaccine Locations

Click [here](#) to find links to assist in the search for Covid Testing and Vaccine locations via the Minnesota Department of Health.

The Mounds View School District is recommending testing every 2 weeks for those students returning back to school full time, their families, and youth involved in extracurricular activities.

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****Cancelled.**

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—3/26/2021

Welcome New City Staff

We are pleased to welcome resident Lauren Kavan to the City as part-time Administrative Assistant. She began cross-training with City staff on Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021. Welcome Lauren!

Covid-19 Vaccination Update

Per Governor Walz's recent announcement, as of March 30th those 16 years old and up will now be eligible to receive a vaccine. Refer [HERE](#) for the full press release, and click here to find [vaccine locations](#) via the Minnesota Covid-19 response website.

Public Hearing – 17 Evergreen Road Rescheduled for April 29th

The public hearing regarding CUP request and septic variance at 17 Evergreen Road originally scheduled for the March 25, 2021, has been postponed to the April 29, 2020 Planning Commission meeting. This is at the applicants request to allow additional time for document preparation.

Ramsey County Healing Circle

Ramsey County, in partnership with the City of St. Paul, is offering virtual and in-person community healing circles that are welcoming, safe and supportive spaces for participatory dialogue, building connections, and addressing trauma caused by the killing of George Floyd last summer, the civil unrest that followed in our neighborhoods and the ongoing trial. Ensuring the health and wellbeing of community is at the center of our response plan during these difficult times and we're working with several cultural healers who use their lived experiences, expertise and training to facilitate conversations that get at shared healing.

Additional information on location, times and additional resources can be found on Ramsey County's [healing spaces webpage](#).

Pruning of Oak Trees

Per the U of M Extension Service, the status for oak tree pruning is safe but this will most likely change in the next week so check back often on the status. While it may be tempting to start pruning oaks when the weather warms up your tree can become diseased as a result and if you have other oaks nearby they will also most likely become diseased. If you absolutely need to prune an oak during the growing season apply a latex based paint to the wound to prevent infection. Oak wilt is responsible for killing hundreds of mature oak trees in North Oaks every year and it is preventable. Oak tree pruning is best done when the trees are dormant.

For the current status and prevention/control measures click <https://extension.umn.edu/plant-diseases/oak-wilt-minnesota>

Pesticide Awareness

The Natural Resources Commission has shared two wonderful resources to guide residents on the best practices and tips for providing a healthy host pollinator environment on your property. This includes descriptions and pictures of different types of bees, plants and pesticides important to our ecosystem.

[Backyard landscape best practices for pollinators](#)
[Conservation guide: pollinators, plants, pesticides](#)

Compost Bins

For those interested in composting, the Recycling Association of Minnesota is once again selling backyard compost bins. They are offering a \$20 discount to Ramsey County residents. They are on display at Ramsey County yard waste sites. [Visit here](#) for complete details.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Spring Clean up

Planning on cleaning up your yard and garden? Wait! In early spring, many insects (and some frog species) are still "sleeping." Lots of beneficial insects, including pollinators like tiny native bees, spend the winter hunkered down in hollow plant stems either as adults or pupae. Cutting down the dead plant stems too early in the spring will disturb them before they have a chance to emerge. Additionally, some frog species overwinter in the leaf litter. Please wait as long as you can to do your spring garden clean up. Ideally, you should wait until the daytime temperatures are consistently above 50 degrees F for at least 7 consecutive days. For more information about leaving plant stems for pollinators, please visit the following publication: [Xerces Nesting and Overwintering Guide](#)

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—5/7/2021

Special City Council Meeting

Mayor Kara Ries has called a special meeting of the City Council for Thursday May 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct interviews, discussion, and possible action on proposals for Municipal Attorney Services.

Refer to the related meeting entry on the [website calendar](#) for meeting notices, agenda and links to view the meeting live via computer or via zoom. The meeting documentation has been published. Following this meeting will be the regular monthly 7 p.m. City Council meeting.

COVID Vaccine Appointment Opportunity

Ramsey county vaccine clinics are now open to the public. [COVID-19 Vaccine | Ramsey County](#) Clinics are as follows:

- **Wednesdays** at [New Brighton Community Center](#) at 11:30-5:30: May 12 and 19
- **Saturdays** at [Oxford Community Center](#) at 12-6: May 8 and 22
- **Mondays** at [Wellstone Community Center](#) at 10-4: May 10, 17 and 24

Bear Sightings in North Oaks

Please be advised that there were some bear sightings on the east side of North Oaks this past week. As this is a natural part of wildlife this time of year, we ask that residents take down bird feeders that may attract bears. Removing this easy food source naturally encourages bears to safely continue on their path.

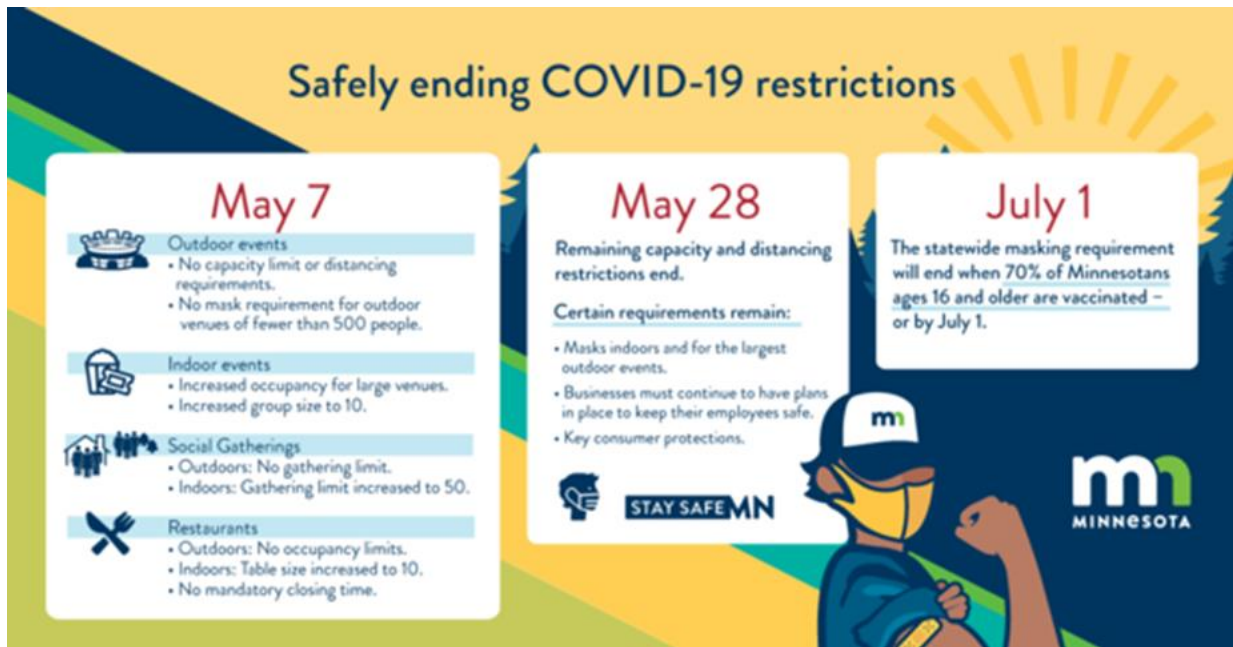
The following are [tips for dealing with Bears in the suburbs from Ramsey County](#). Please report any additional sightings to 911 and the City so we can track the general area of travel.

State Easing of Covid Restrictions

On Thursday, May 6th, Governor Walz announced a 3-step timeline to end most of Minnesota's COVID-19 restrictions, including the statewide masking requirement.

Starting today Friday May 7th, capacity limits for outdoor dining, events, and other get-togethers and mandatory closing times for bars and restaurants will be eliminated. Individuals will also no longer be required to wear masks outdoors, unless they are at a venue with more than 500 people. On May 28th, remaining capacity and distancing limits – including those for indoor events and gatherings will expire.

The mask requirement will end once 70% of Minnesotans who are 16 or older get at least one dose of the vaccine, or on July 1. (Local governments and businesses may still require masks and other precautions after that date.) You can find more information about the governor's plan to end COVID-19 restrictions [HERE](#) and the full executive order [HERE](#).



Conservation Awards

The goal of the North Oaks Conservation Award program is to acknowledge extraordinary achievement in land management, showcase examples of and encourage sound natural resource management best practices, promote ecosystem awareness, and illustrate the important role of private landowners in the future of our natural resources.

Awards will be given to residents and organizations that recognize excellence in habitat management and wildlife conservation on their property. You may nominate yourself or others.

Let us know about your projects and activities that demonstrate use of best conservation practices in North Oaks. Refer [HERE](#) for the eight award categories and application form.

Applications are accepted year-round. All entries are reviewed by a Natural Resources committee, with finalists are evaluated and selected by the North Oaks City Council.

From the Ramsey County Sherriff's May Update

Night to Unite 2021: The Sheriff's Office is hoping that by August 3 we'll be able to have public gatherings and that deputies and public safety agencies will be able to visit neighborhood gatherings. Register your event at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NTU2021> and we'll get planning to make it happen!

Curfew ordinances for all Ramsey Counties: The curfew ordinance requires juveniles age 15 and younger to be home by 10 pm every night of the week, and those age 16-17 to be home by midnight. Curfew applies to any public space, such as streets, parks, highways, and schools. Curfew also applies to public establishments, such as movie theatres, restaurants, and bowling alleys. Juveniles and teens may be out after these deadlines under the following exceptions:

- With a parent, guardian or other responsible adult
- At work or in the process of going to or coming from home or work
- Involved in an emergency
- Going to, attending, or coming home from a supervised school, church, or recreational activity

- In front of his/her own residence

Encouraging Pollinator Habitat

Want to know more about how you can help pollinators and attract them to your yard? Tune in to this LIVE Zoom event! Erin O’Leary, an Installation Services Coordinator for Landbridge Ecological, is presenting. This event takes place on Wednesday May 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM (CDT) and is hosted by: Northeast Metro Climate Action.

Type this link in your browser to join the meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/Nature4Bees>

Brush Pickup Day – Friday, May 14th: Final week for signups

The City and NOHOA will be co-hosting a brush pickup for interested residents. Brush Pickup Day is **Friday, May 14, 2021**. If you are interested in signing up for this service, please review the cost estimate information in the homeowner letter [HERE](#), and return the waiver to the City office by Tuesday May 11th to northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or via mail to get on the list. Call at 651-792-7750 with any questions.

Locking Mailboxes – Order by May 30th

We are once again starting a list for those who wish to purchase a locking mailbox. There are 2 size options available, Mail Manager at \$83, and the Package Master at \$167, and a newspaper box for \$42. Once we receive a minimum of 18 orders, we can place the order and receive the bulk discount rates. We hope to place an order the first week in June – get on the list now!

Click [HERE](#) for the mailbox application form and size details.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Rummage Sale Drop off Day – Sat. May 15th

North Oaks Children’s Hospital Association (CHA) Guild II annual rummage sale spring donation drop-off is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 15 at the West Rec Center in North Oaks. Items donated will be part of the annual Rummage Sale being held September 18 and 19 at the Shoreview Ice Arena. Proceeds from the rummage sale help support many important programs at Children’s Minnesota. The Please help the guild by only donating gently used items as disposal costs are expensive.

Furniture donations can be picked up on Saturday, May 15 by calling Ellen Johnson at 612-554-5768 no later than Saturday, May 8. Pickups are for furniture items only in North Oaks.

For more information and items not accepted, visit the guild website. www.northoaksrummagesale.org. Email questions to northoaksrummagesale@gmail.com.

2020 Census Results

The results are in as of July 1, 2019. With 87.3% of North Oaks Residents responding to the survey, data shows a 19.7% increase in the number of residents within the City since the 2010 census report. Our City population has increased from 4,469 in 2010 to 5,351 in July 2019. The [United States census](#) can be found here.

Renting your Property

Just a reminder that any single-family home that is being rented within the City of North Oaks must have a rental license per [Ordinance 121](#) regulating rental properties. This license is renewed annually, within

a safety inspection being conducted every 3 years. Click [HERE](#) for the rental application/renewal form. Call the City office with any questions.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection in May

Take note! Ramsey County's mobile household hazardous waste collection will not be in Arden Hills in May. It has been moved to the Shoreview Arena in Shoreview. See Ramsey County's [website](#) for details. The collection starts on Saturday, May 1.

No Mow May

This spring the University of Minnesota Bee Squad is promoting [#NoMowMay](#).

No Mow May is a campaign to preserve and protect our pollinators during this critical spring season by waiting to clean and mow our lawns to give them more time to emerge from winter hibernation.

Annual Recycling Event – Save the Date: June 26th

The City and NOHOA will be co-hosting the third annual recycling and paper shredding event on Saturday, June 26 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. Click [HERE](#) for full information, and look for the coupon in the next issue of the North Oaks News. For questions, please contact the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or call the City office at 651-792-7750.

City of North Oaks—Office Hours

Monday–Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 - 12 p.m.

Email: northoaks@northoaksmn.gov

Phone: 651-792-7750

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Upcoming City Meetings

All public meetings will take place via remote access until further notice. Final materials and links for meetings can be found on the City of North Oaks website no later than 72 hours prior to each meeting at <http://www.northoaksmn.gov>. **Click on the calendar entry for each meeting to access agendas, links to view via CTV, or to participate via zoom.**

The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings.

- **Special City Council Meeting** – Thursday 5/13/21 at 5:00 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday 5/13/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/20/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/27/21 7 p.m.

Residents wishing to make comments during a meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

Have a great week!

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center
North Oaks, MN 55127
651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—5/14/2021

City Council Meeting Summary

There were two City Council meetings last night. Highlights include:

- Council interviewed several attorney firms, and unanimously approved Jim Thomson of Kennedy and Graven as our new Municipal City attorney.
- After 3 years of work and analysis by both Planning Commission and City Council, the 2040 Comprehensive Plan was approved and will be submitted to the Met Council. This master plan is updated every 10 years.
- Approval for Mounds View Irondale Hockey Foundation to conduct fundraising in conjunction with Panino's via pull tabs.
- Councilmember Dujmovic to work with Officer Burrell and NOHOA on speed enforcement along the main roads of North Oaks.
- Next week is National Law enforcement officer week. Thanks to Ramsey County Sherriff's Department for providing excellent service to our community and surrounding areas.
- CUP for garage space in excess of 1,500 square feet approved for 17 Evergreen Road.
- Excellent presentation from Northeast Youth and Family Services. Any youth or adults in need of mental health counseling or community service programs, refer to their [website](#) for a complete list of services and to make an appointment.
- Effective immediately, decision made to change minutes for Council and Planning commission meetings from Verbatim style to a summarized version for cost and reference purposes. Complete videos of meetings will remain available for historical viewing online. There is no change to NRC minutes.

Speed Enforcement Crackdown

Out of an abundance of caution, given the warmer weather, increased pedestrians and children out and about, the City of North Oaks through Ramsey County, will be performing additional speed enforcement throughout North Oaks. Thank you for keeping our community safe!

"Those with Experience Issue a Warning: Be Lyme Aware"

Spring weather means the return of ticks. The May issue of the White Bear Press included an article discussing ticks and Tips for Lyme Disease prevention. To read the article, visit [Those with experience issue warning: Be Lyme aware | News | presspubs.com](#)

Brush Pick Up Currently In Progress

Brush pickup is underway today for the 22 homes signed up. Langer's will continue pickups into the weekend until all brush is picked up. If there are any questions, contact the City Forester Mark Rehder at 612-760-3519.

Tick Task Force meeting

You are invited to join the North Oaks Natural Resources Commission Tick Task Force meeting on Tuesday, May 18th at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held by Zoom and residents may join using: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88453803560?pwd=Vm1rSzk4bnV6MDVuQ3JER09hSXFUZZ09> or by calling 1-888 788 0099, Meeting ID: 884 5380 3560, Passcode: 849668.

Meetings will be held the 3rd Tuesday of each month during May, June and July. If you have questions or comments, please contact NRC Chair Dr. Andrew Hawkins at ahawkins@northoaksmn.gov or 626-394-9861.

City Hall – Notary Services

For the convenience of residents, there are currently 3 notaries on staff at City Hall. If you need documents notarized, stop in between regular business hours. There is no charge for this service.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Locking Mailboxes – Order by May 30th

We are once again starting a list for those who wish to purchase a locking mailbox. There are 2 size options available, Mail Manager at \$83, and the Package Master at \$167, and a newspaper box for \$42. Once we receive a minimum of 18 orders, we can place the order and receive the bulk discount rates. We hope to place an order the first week in June – get on the list now!

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COVID Vaccine Appointment Opportunity

Ramsey county vaccine clinics are now open to the public. [COVID-19 Vaccine | Ramsey County](#) Clinics are as follows:

- **Wednesdays** at [New Brighton Community Center](#) at 11:30-5:30: May 19
- **Saturdays** at [Oxford Community Center](#) at 12-6: May 22
- **Mondays** at [Wellstone Community Center](#) at 10-4: May 17 and 24

Bear Sightings in North Oaks

Please be advised that there were some bear sightings on the east side of North Oaks in recent weeks. As this is a natural part of wildlife this time of year, we ask that residents take down bird feeders that may attract bears. Removing this easy food source naturally encourages bears to safely continue on their path.

The following are [tips for dealing with Bears in the suburbs from Ramsey County](#). Please report any additional sightings to 911 and the City so we can track the general area of travel.

Conservation Awards

The goal of the North Oaks Conservation Award program is to acknowledge extraordinary achievement in land management, showcase examples of and encourage sound natural resource management best

practices, promote ecosystem awareness, and illustrate the important role of private landowners in the future of our natural resources.

Awards will be given to residents and organizations that recognize excellence in habitat management and wildlife conservation on their property. You may nominate yourself or others.

Let us know about your projects and activities that demonstrate use of best conservation practices in North Oaks. Refer [HERE](#) for the eight award categories and application form.

Applications are accepted year-round. All entries are reviewed by a Natural Resources committee, with finalists are evaluated and selected by the North Oaks City Council.

State Easing of Covid Restrictions

On Thursday, May 6th, Governor Walz announced a 3-step timeline to end most of Minnesota's COVID-19 restrictions, including the statewide masking requirement.

Starting Friday May 7th, capacity limits for outdoor dining, events, and other get-togethers and mandatory closing times for bars and restaurants were eliminated. Individuals are also no longer be required to wear masks outdoors, unless they are at a venue with more than 500 people. On May 28th, remaining capacity and distancing limits – including those for indoor events and gatherings will expire.

The mask requirement will end once 70% of Minnesotans who are 16 or older get at least one dose of the vaccine, or on July 1. (Local governments and businesses may still require masks and other precautions after that date.) You can find more information about the governor's plan to end COVID-19 restrictions [HERE](#) and the full executive order [HERE](#).

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Phone: 651-792-7750

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Upcoming City Meetings

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- **Tick Task Force** – Tuesday, 5/18/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/20/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/27/21 7 p.m.
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Residents wishing to make comments during a meeting are requested to log-on via the zoom link, or send comments to the City Administrator at kkress@northoaksmn.gov and they will be forwarded to the Council/Commission. A complete list of options for participation can be found [here](#).

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center
North Oaks, MN 55127
651-702-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—5/21/2021

Goose Deterrent Techniques

Tis the season for Canadian Geese to make their presence known. Refer to the information from the [DNR on Living with Geese, as well as Non-Lethal techniques](#) that homeowners can try in order to deter geese from an area. Implementing these techniques prior to the flightless period in June-July is recommended. Not every technique works in every situation and it may be necessary to implement a few different things in order to have success.

Locking Mailboxes – Order by May 30th for receipt this summer!

Order now to order to receipt bulk discount rates and ensure receipt for mail this summer. There are 2 size options available, Mail Manager at \$83, and the Package Master at \$167, and a newspaper box for \$42. Once we receive a minimum of 18 orders, we can place the order and receive the bulk discount rates. We hope to place an order the first week in June – get on the list now!

Click [HERE](#) for the mailbox application form and size details.

Brush Pick up

Thanks to the 22 homes that participated in the brush pick up program. All brush was picked up on Friday May 14th and went very smoothly. We appreciate you helping keep our natural environment so beautiful.

COVID Vaccine Appointment Opportunities

Ramsey County vaccine clinics are now open to the public. [COVID-19 Vaccine | Ramsey County Clinics](#) are as follows:

- **Saturdays** at Oxford Community Center from 12-6 pm: May 22
- **Wednesdays** at New Brighton Community Center from 10:30 – 5:30 p.m.: May 26, June 2
- **Mondays** at Wellstone Community Center from 10-4 pm: May 24
- Minnesota State Fairgrounds – May 26 through June 8th

* State Fair Appointments are for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine (a single dose) and are available to all Minnesotans ages 18 and older. Walk-ups are welcome daily from noon to 8 p.m. To sign-up for a vaccine appointment: Call 833-431-2053 during open hours -- Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. -- to schedule your appointment.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Speed Enforcement Crackdown

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- **Natural Resource Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/20/21 at 7 p.m.
- *****Cancelled Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 5/27/21 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 6/10/21 7 p.m.
- **Tick Task Force** – Tuesday, 6/15/21 at 7 p.m.

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

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



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651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—5/28/2021

City Hall Memorial Day Closure

Did you know that each Memorial Day weekend 180,000 flags are placed at [Ft. Snelling National Cemetery](#)? Consider making a visit to honor those that have made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our Country. City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 31 in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday. Thank you to all Veterans!

Well Water Testing

As a private well owner, residents are responsible for regularly testing the water you use for cooking and drinking to make sure it is safe. See the following [information on private wells](#), links to companies that conduct well water testing, as well as the MN State well index that provides details on each individual well.

Septic Pumping Tips

Fun Fact: North Oaks is the largest community of private septic systems in the twin cities with 1,271 septic systems! In order to protect the integrity of our lakes and groundwater, City Ordinance requires residents with septic to pump their system every two years. These next 5 months are prime time for these pumping's to occur. You will receive a reminder notice from the City if your system is due for pumping this year. If you have any question about your due dates or who last serviced your system, please contact the City office at 651-792-7750.

Water Quality and Conservation - Lakeshore Connection

For information regarding how our lakes are affected by our human activities and how residents can work together to create a healthy lake environment – watch this brief video on how to be great lakeshore stewards. [Water Quality and Conservation | City of North Oaks, MN \(northoaksmn.gov\)](#)

Coyote Awareness

April through June is the period when coyotes are having their pups and may be seen more in the daytime. With the guidance of the DNR, Ramsey County animal control, surrounding communities, and Coyote experts at the University of Minnesota, City Council approved a North Oaks Coyote Management Plan at their May 14, 2020, meeting. The goal of this Management Plan is to support coexistence with urban coyotes using education, behavior modification, and development of a tiered response to aggressive coyote behavior. To read the document in full, click [HERE](#).

Schools are out soon!

With the end of school brings kids on bikes, more walkers, bikers and activity on our streets throughout every day of the week. Please slow down and watch for unanticipated activity on our narrow and winding roads.

Summertime Pet Safety

As the summer temperatures rise, be aware of precautions to keep your pets safe. Pets can get dehydrated quickly and paws can burn on hot asphalt. Be sure they have plenty of shade and water and watch for signs of overheating. Do not leave a pet in a car as temperatures can rise more than 20 degrees than outside temperatures in a short amount of time (even with a window cracked). Refer to: [Hot Weather Safety Tips | ASPCA](#)

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- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 6/10/21 7 p.m.
- **Tick Task Force** – Tuesday, 6/15/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission** – Thursday, 6/17/21 at 7 p.m.

- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 6/24/21 at 7 p.m.

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

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—7/2/2021

City Hall Closed Monday, July 5

In observance of the Fourth of July Holiday, City Hall will be closed on Monday, July 5. Happy Independence Day North Oaks!

North Oaks Recycling Event a Success

The City and NOHOA's third annual recycling and paper shredding event on Saturday, June 26th was a great success. Over 215 households participated in the event and kept over **18,000+** pounds of items out of the landfill. Thanks to our residents and volunteers for their participation!

Still looking to recycle or dispose of other household items? Visit [Recycling & Waste | Ramsey County](#) for details on where to dispose of yard waste, household hazardous waste, organics, etc.

Recycling Schedule – NO changes

There is NO impact to the recycling schedule next week due to the 4th of July Holiday. Please put your items out by 7:30 a.m. on your normal day.

Public Hearing – Planning Commission

The July 29, 2021 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting will include Public Hearings on applications for conditional use permits related to new construction for the properties located at 2 Lost Rock Lane and 12 Cherrywood Circle. The CUP for 2 Lost Rock Lane is related to soil filling activities, and the CUP at 12 Cherrywood Circle is for filling activities and garage space in excess of 1,500 square feet.

The full public hearing notice will be posted in the Shoreview press, with meeting materials available on the City website a week prior to the meeting.

Fireworks Safety

Due to the dry weather many areas have restricted firework displays. We encourage you to attend one of the nearby town sponsored events. Click [HERE](#) for a list of fireworks throughout the state. Be careful and safe travels for those heading to cabin country. **Happy 4th of July!!**

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Locking Mailboxes have arrived

Those that have pre-ordered locking mailboxes can stop by the City office to pick up your mailbox Monday -Thursday 9 – 4 p.m. We do have a few extras available for purchase. There are 2 size options available, Mail Manager at \$83, and the Package Master at \$167. Call the City office if you are interested in purchasing 651-792-7750. Handyman contact information is available if you need assistance in installation.

National Night Out – Sign up Now with Ramsey County Sherriff Department

Summer is here! If you're interested in being a host for the Neighborhood National night out on Tuesday August 2th, [register with the Ramsey County Sherriff's](#) office to subscribe to updates regarding the event, get suggestions for activities, print a sample flyer to send to neighbors and register online. It is a great opportunity to reconnect with your local neighbors and bring the community together.

Tis the season for Minnesota Mosquito's

Often mosquito problems come from water-filled containers that residents can help to eliminate. All mosquitoes require water in which to breed, so be sure to drain any standing water around your house including:

- Recycling containers, roof gutters, pet dishes, bird baths, children's toys, canoes, boats, pool covers, tires, buckets, bottles, barrels, and tarps.

Even the smallest of containers that can collect water can breed hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes. They don't need much water to lay their eggs. Check out the pesticide section of the [Natural Resources Commission webpage](#) for additional tips and resource links.

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- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 7/8/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 7/15/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 7/29/21 at 7 p.m.

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

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—7/9/2021

City Council Meeting Summary

- Approval of Meeting minutes from June 10th, and June 18th. Minutes are available for viewing on [City website](#).
- Approval of Peterson Waddle Recycling 5-year contract
- Approval of gambling permit for Birdies for Hope Golf Event
- City Council issued a [Proclamation](#) to declare Tuesday, August 3rd as National Night to Unite.
- Approval of Conditional Use permit for 16 Cherrywood Circle for home height in excess of 35 feet.

- After extensive discussion, no motions were seconded to either approve or deny the Island Field Final plan application condominium development. Project is approved by default as deadline to make decision expired at midnight. The link to watch the meeting discussion can be found [HERE](#).

Recreational Vehicle guidelines

Per City Ordinance 151.028, all recreational vehicles, disabled or stored motor vehicles, boats and trailers of all types, must be garaged or completely screened year-round from all roads or adjacent dwellings, but may be parked or exhibited in view for a temporary period not exceeding 30 days in a calendar year. Contact the City if there are questions at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov.

No Overnight Street Parking / Paving

Reminder that there is no overnight parking on North Oaks City streets between the hours of 2 a.m. – 6 a.m., and you may park no more than 10 hours consecutively on any street at any time. If you are scheduling re-paving of your driveway that requires parking overnight or extended periods on the street, please contact the City to let us know so Officer Burrell can be advised.

National Night Out – Sign up by Friday, July 16th

If you're interested in being a host for the Neighborhood National night out on Tuesday August 3rd, [register with the Ramsey County Sherriff's](#) office by Friday July 16th to subscribe to updates, get on their list for police and fire department to visit your event, get suggestions for activities, and print a sample flyer to send to neighbors. It is a great opportunity to reconnect with your local neighbors and bring the community and public services together.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Locking Mailboxes Available for purchase

Those that have pre-ordered locking mailboxes can stop by the City office to pick up your mailbox Monday -Thursday 9 – 4 p.m. We do have a few extras available for purchase. There are 2 size options available, Mail Manager at \$83, and the Package Master at \$167. Call the City office if you are interested in purchasing 651-792-7750. Handyman contact information is available if you need assistance in installation.

North Oaks Recycling Event -Summary

The City and NOHOA's third annual recycling and paper shredding event on Saturday, June 26th was a great success. Over 215 households participated in the event and kept over **18,000+** pounds of items out of the landfill. Thanks to our residents and volunteers for their participation!

Still looking to recycle or dispose of other household items? Visit [Recycling & Waste | Ramsey County](#) for details on where to dispose of yard waste, household hazardous waste, organics, etc.

Public Hearing – Planning Commission

The July 29, 2021 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting will include Public Hearings on applications for conditional use permits related to new construction for the properties located at 2 Lost Rock Lane and 12 Cherrywood Circle. The CUP for 2 Lost Rock Lane is related to soil filling activities, and the CUP at 12 Cherrywood Circle is for filling activities and garage space in excess of 1,500 square feet.

The full public hearing notice will be posted in the Shoreview press, with meeting materials available on the City website a week prior to the meeting.

City of North Oaks—Office Hours

Monday–Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 - 12 p.m.

City Email: northoaks@northoaksmn.gov, Phone: 651-792-7750

For your convenience, permit and license applications and other business can still be submitted to northoaks@northoaksmn.gov and processed remotely without the need to make a trip into the office. Contact the City with any questions.

Upcoming City Meetings

All public meetings will take place via remote access until further notice. Final materials and links for meetings can be found on the City of North Oaks website no later than 72 hours prior to each meeting at <http://www.northoaksmn.gov>. **Click on the calendar entry for each meeting to access agendas, links to view via CTV, or to participate via zoom.**

The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 7/15/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 7/29/21 at 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 8/12//21 at 7 p.m.

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

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—7/23/2021

No Solicitors

Solicitors have been reported in our community, as well as surrounding communities this week. Just a reminder that solicitors are not allowed in North Oaks and there are NO solicitation permits granted by the City. This includes contractor services, advertisement drops in mailboxes, or vehicles in our community mapping our roads or trails.

Solicitors and uninvited vehicles are considered trespassing and you are welcome to call the Ramsey County Sherriff's non-emergency number 651-291-1111 or 911 to report it. If possible, report the vehicle license plate number and color/make/model of car. Legitimate businesses are encouraged to contact the North Oaks News to place an advertisement to reach our residents.

Dry Weather Conditions

For those on private well water, please consider conservation of water by watering lawns during the cooler parts of the day, in the early morning or evening hours. Please also pay attention to fire conditions to preserve air quality, with no bonfires allowed if wind speeds are above 10 mph. Refer [HERE](#) for complete set of burning regulations from Lake Johanna Fire Department.

Lock Vehicles

With the addition of people coming through our community for typical summer scheduled outdoor activities and contractor work – we encourage you to keep the doors of vehicles locked in driveways and garage doors shut even while you are home.

National Night Out – Coming soon!

There are currently 9 National night hosts registered in North Oaks, with 126 events in the 7 local cities that Ramsey County Sheriff's department supports. If you're interested in being a host for the Neighborhood National night out on **Tuesday August 3rd**, [register with the Ramsey County Sherriff's office](#) so they are aware of your event. This also has suggestions for activities and a sample flyer to send to neighbors. It is a great opportunity to reconnect with your local neighbors and bring the community and public services together.

*There are currently no hosts listed for Rapp Farm or Charley Lake Preserve – consider registering one!

Septic Pumping Reminders

With 1,271 septic systems in North Oaks, it's a busy season for those bi-annual septic pumpings. Reminder letters from the City have been sent out to those residents with pumpings due by August 2021. If you have already had your system pumped this summer, but received a reminder notice – you can disregard the letter. The septic pumpers send the City reports in large batches, and it is likely the City is just waiting to receive it. If there are any questions regarding your due date, or who pumped your system last, contact the City at 651-792-7750.

Public Hearing – Planning Commission Thursday 7/29/2021

The July 29, 2021 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting will include Public Hearings on applications for conditional use permits related to new construction for the properties located at 2 Lost Rock Lane and 12 Cherrywood Circle. The CUP for 2 Lost Rock Lane is related to soil filling activities, and the CUP at 12 Cherrywood Circle is for filling activities and garage space in excess of 1,500 square feet. The planning commission will also consider a septic variance for 12 Swallow Lane.

The full public hearing notice will be posted in the Shoreview press. The meeting materials and links to participate can be found on the City website [HERE](#).

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Upcoming City Meetings

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at <http://www.northoaksmn.gov>. Click on the calendar entry for each meeting to access agendas, links to view via CTV, or to participate via zoom.

The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 7/29/21 at 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 8/12/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Tick Task Force** – Tuesday, 8/17/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 8/19/21 at 7 p.m.

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

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—7/30/2021

Planning Commission Meeting rescheduled for Thursday, August 5th

Due to lack of quorum, the public hearing and Planning Commission meeting scheduled for last night was adjourned until Thursday, August 5th at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will take place via zoom ONLY. The meeting materials can be found by clicking on the calendar entry [HERE](#).

What's in the water?

Via VLAWMO website: Have you ever passed by a shallow lake or wetland and wondered what was growing out there in the water? Is it bad, or should we be worried?

Late summer is the time of year when heat, algae and plant life peak. For a guide to what you may be seeing in the water, click on this [helpful resource from VLAWMO](#) (Vadnais Lake Area water management organization).

Beware of Scams

We have had reports of money scams in which residents have given the fraudsters money. In these cases the victims are contacted via phone or email in what is referred to as a “phishing” attempt. They will pretend to be from a company (Amazon, pay pal, eBay etc.). In these types of scams, it's is best to not communicate with these people. Never send any money over the phone and do not ever give someone access to your bank account. Often times money cannot be recovered or refunded. Be cautious and never give away account numbers and passwords.

Air Quality Alert

Due to the Canadian wildfire smoke, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has issued an air quality alert for nearly all of Minnesota, which includes the Twin Cities. The alert is expected to expire Friday at 3 p.m. For those with sensitivity, keep track of the current air quality from the Minnesota pollution control [HERE](#).

National Night Out – Tuesday, August 3rd! Send us your photos!

Neighborhood National night out is coming up this **Tuesday August 3rd**. If you are hosting a neighborhood gathering, [register with the Ramsey County Sherriff's](#) office so they are aware of your event. **Take photos** and send them to the City at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov to share our community spirit via our Facebook page.

Many of the events are also participating as a school donation drop off location. Call the City office for local event locations if you'd like to drop off school supplies for the Ramsey County Sherriff's office to distribute to those in need. Enjoy this great chance to reconnect with your local neighbors and bring the community and public services together!

Save the Date – Rummage sale drop off 9/11

Start gathering your items! The donation drop-off date for the annual North Oaks Women's Guild II Rummage Sale is Saturday September 11, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Shoreview Ice Arena. Click [HERE](#) for a guide to what items they can accept and which items sell well. Proceeds from the annual Rummage sale taking place on September 18/19th go to support the Children's Hospital Association.

Volunteer information can be found [here](#).

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Septic Pumping Reminders

With 1,271 septic systems in North Oaks, it's a busy season for those bi-annual septic pumpings. Reminder letters from the City have been sent out to those residents with pumpings due by August 2021. If you have already had your system pumped this summer, but received a reminder notice – you can disregard the letter. The septic pumpers send the City reports in large batches, and it is likely the City is just waiting to receive it. If there are any questions regarding your due date, or who pumped your system last, contact the City at 651-792-7750.

No Solicitors

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The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **NEW: Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 8/5/21 at 7 p.m. ZOOM ONLY
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 8/12/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Tick Task Force** – Tuesday, 8/17/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 8/19/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 8/26/21 at 7 p.m.

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

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—6/11/2021

City Council Meeting Summary – June 10, 2021

There were two City Council Meetings last night. Highlights include:

- Discussion regarding the pending final application for 9 homes in Anderson Woods. City staff and consultants will follow up on additional questions brought forth for review this week. No decisions were made at this time.
- Discussion on engineering report on Nord Parcel and update on communications between NOHOA and North Oaks Company. City Engineers to meet with North Oaks Company next week to review and discuss open items.
- City auditor Abdo, Eick and Meyers provided annual 2020 report to the City. (report is available in Agenda packet for viewing). Council discussed working with NOHOA to provide a collective summary for residents as NOHOA owns the expense associated with public works.
- Authorized City Administrator and City Engineer to obtain and grant necessary approvals for Golf Club connection to City sewer system.
- At 10:00 p.m., the City Council meeting was adjourned until next Friday, June 18th at 4:00 p.m. to address the remaining Council items. Meeting items will be posted on the City website 72 hours prior to the meeting.

City Recycling Event – Start gathering your items!

The City and NOHOA will be co-hosting the third annual recycling and paper shredding event on **Saturday, June 26 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. Visit [City Recycling Event - Residents Only | City of North Oaks, MN \(northoaksmn.gov\)](#) for a complete list of what items can be accepted and prices. There will be a fee for most items, although automotive batteries, cell phones, tablets, cords, cables, wires and holiday lights will be FREE. A coupon for 1 free item per household is available on the website.

For questions, please contact the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or call the City office at 651-792-7750.

Recycling Tours with Eureka Recycling

Eureka Recycling is now offering virtual tours for residents to get a behind-the-scenes look into the world of recycling. Tours take place on Tuesdays at 12 p.m. Visit the following website to learn more and sign up: [Recycling Facility Tours - Eureka Recycling](#)

School is Out – Safety reminders

This week marks the end of schools for the summer. Please drive slow and watch out for kids on bikes who may be walking to friends' homes and recreational facilities throughout our community.

Summer Watering

There are several sources of water service that is provided to those in our community. If your home is on Shoreview or White Bear Lake water, please abide by any watering restrictions that are in place for

watering lawns. For those on private wells, for most efficient watering we encourage you to water your lawn during the overnight hours to limit evaporation of water during the hot summer season.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Well Water Testing

As a private well owner, residents are responsible for regularly testing the water you use for cooking and drinking to make sure it is safe. See the following [information on private wells](#), links to companies that conduct well water testing, as well as the MN State well index that provides details on each individual well.

Septic Pumping Tips

Fun Fact: North Oaks is the largest community of private septic systems in the twin cities with 1,271 septic systems! In order to protect the integrity of our lakes and groundwater, City Ordinance requires residents with septic to pump their system every two years. These next 5 months are prime time for these pumping's to occur. You will receive a reminder notice from the City if your system is due for pumping this year. If you have any question about your due dates or who last serviced your system, please contact the City office at 651-792-7750.

Water Quality and Conservation - Lakeshore Connection

For information regarding how our lakes are affected by our human activities and how residents can work together to create a healthy lake environment – watch this brief video on how to be great lakeshore stewards. [Water Quality and Conservation | City of North Oaks, MN \(northoaksmn.gov\)](#)

Coyote Awareness

April through June is the period when coyotes are having their pups and may be seen more in the daytime. With the guidance of the DNR, Ramsey County animal control, surrounding communities, and Coyote experts at the University of Minnesota, City Council approved a North Oaks Coyote Management Plan at their May 14, 2020, meeting. The goal of this Management Plan is to support coexistence with urban coyotes using education, behavior modification, and development of a tiered response to aggressive coyote behavior. To read the document in full, click [HERE](#).

Summertime Pet Safety

As the summer temperatures rise, be aware of precautions to keep your pets safe. Pets can get dehydrated quickly and paws can burn on hot asphalt. Be sure they have plenty of shade and water and watch for signs of overheating. Do not leave a pet in a car as temperatures can rise more than 20 degrees than outside temperatures in a short amount of time (even with a window cracked). Refer to: [Hot Weather Safety Tips | ASPCA](#)

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Upcoming City Meetings

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The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Tick Task Force** – Tuesday, 6/15/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission** – Thursday, 6/17/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Continued City Council Meeting** -- Friday, 6/18/21 at 4 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 6/24/21 at 7 p.m.

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

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—6/18/2021

National Pollinator Week – June 21-27, 2021

National Pollinator Week is an annual event celebrated internationally in support of pollinator health. It's a time to celebrate pollinators and spread the word about what we can do to protect them.

What you can do for pollinators?

- Create a pollinator-friendly garden habitat in just a few simple steps.
- Design your garden so that there is a continuous succession of plants flowering from spring through fall. Check for the species or cultivars best suited to this area and gradually replace lawn grass with flower beds.
- Plant native to the Twin Cities region using plants that provide nectar for adults plus food for insect larvae, such as milkweed for monarchs. If you do use non-native plants, choose ones that don't spread easily, since these could become invasive.
- Select old-fashioned varieties of flowers whenever possible because breeding has caused some modern blooms to lose their fragrance and/or the nectar/pollen needed to attract and feed pollinators.
- Install 'houses' for bats and native bees. For example, use wood blocks with holes or small open patches of mud. As little as 12" across is sufficient for some bees.

Additional tips will be sent next week.

Fishing is prohibited

Reminder that fishing is not permitted by residents or guests of residents of the City of North Oaks, as per Minnesota Natural Resources Department Statute 6262.0500. Those caught fishing will be ticketed and are subject to paying a fine. <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/6262.0500/>

Good news - there's 10,000 other lakes in Minnesota you can fish!

Summer Water Restrictions

There are several sources of water service that is provided to those in our community. If your home receives water through the City of Shoreview or White Bear Township, you must adhere to any lawn watering restrictions that are in place.

Shoreview / White Bear Township Water restrictions include:

- Odd numbered addresses may water lawns on odd numbered calendar days
- Even numbered addresses may water lawns on even numbered calendar days
- Time of day:
 - Shoreview– NO watering during daytime hours between 11:00 am and 5:00 pm ([refer to Shoreview Summer Water restrictions for the full detail](#))
 - White Bear Township - water ONLY between 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on your respective day.
- Fines may be imposed by Shoreview and White Bear for residents found to be in violation.

For those on private wells, we encourage you to water your lawn during the overnight hours to limit evaporation of water during the hot summer season. Thanks for helping to preserve our natural resources!

Reminders—In case you missed it:

City Council Meeting Summary – June 10, 2021

There were two City Council Meetings last night. Highlights include:

- Discussion regarding the pending final application for 9 homes in Anderson Woods. City staff and consultants will follow up on additional questions brought forth for review this week. No decisions were made at this time.
- Discussion on engineering report on Nord Parcel and update on communications between NOHOA and North Oaks Company. City Engineers to meet with North Oaks Company next week to review and discuss open items.
- City auditor Abdo, Eick and Meyers provided annual 2020 report to the City. (report is available in Agenda packet for viewing). Council discussed working with NOHOA to provide a collective summary for residents as NOHOA owns the expense associated with public works.
- Authorized City Administrator and City Engineer to obtain and grant necessary approvals for Golf Club connection to City sewer system.
- At 10:00 p.m., the City Council meeting was adjourned until next Friday, June 18th at 4:00 p.m. to address the remaining Council items. Meeting items will be posted on the City website 72 hours prior to the meeting.

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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. Visit [City Recycling Event - Residents Only | City of North Oaks, MN \(northoaksmn.gov\)](#) for a complete list of what items can be accepted and prices. There will be a fee for most items, although automotive batteries, cell phones, tablets, cords, cables, wires and holiday lights will be FREE. A coupon for 1 free item per household is available on the website.

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The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 6/24/21 at 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 7/8/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resource Commission** – Thursday, 7/15/21 at 7 p.m.

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

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—6/25/2021

Special City Council Meeting

Mayor Kara Ries has called a special meeting of the City Council for Monday, June 28th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The purpose is:

- Discussion on East Oaks PDA Housing Counts
- Discussion on applications for final plan/plat (subdivision) approval for the Island Field development site (Site H of the 1999 East Oaks PDA).

The full meeting notice and information on how to participate, as well as links to the full meeting packet and to watch or join the meeting at the time of the event, can be found on the [meeting calendar entry](#) on the City website.

North Oaks Recycling Event – Tomorrow is the Day to clear out those items!

The City and NOHOA are co-hosting the third annual recycling and paper shredding event on **Saturday, June 26 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 and is CASH only.**

Residents can 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, rugs, scrap metal, grills, residential appliances, ink/toner cartridges and more. Visit [City Recycling Event - Residents Only | City of North Oaks, MN \(northoaksmn.gov\)](http://City Recycling Event - Residents Only | City of North Oaks, MN (northoaksmn.gov)) for a complete list of what items can be accepted and prices -and the coupon for 1 free item per household. There will be a fee for most items, although automotive batteries, cell phones, tablets, cords, cables, wires, holiday lights, and **up to 4 banker sized boxes** of shredding will be FREE. There will also be a **scrap metal** drop off. (clean metal only – no attached plastic or wood.)

For questions, please contact the City office at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov or call the City office at 651-792-7750.

Locking Mailboxes have arrived

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National Night Out - Ramsey County Sherriff / Lake Johanna Fire Department

Summer is here! If you're interested in being a host for the Neighborhood National night out on Tuesday August 2th, [register with the Ramsey County Sherriff's](#) office to subscribe to updates regarding the event, get suggestions for activities, print a sample flyer to send to neighbors and register online. It is a great opportunity to reconnect with your local neighbors and bring the community together.

Tis the season for Minnesota Mosquito's

Often mosquito problems come from water-filled containers that residents can help to eliminate. All mosquitoes require water in which to breed, so be sure to drain any standing water around your house. Suggestions include:

- Dispose of any tires. Tires can breed thousands of mosquitoes.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers.
- Clear roof gutters of debris, repair leaky outdoor faucets.
- Clean pet water dishes regularly.
- Check and empty children's toys.
- Change the water in bird baths at least once a week.
- Canoes and other boats should be turned over.
- Avoid water collecting on pool covers.
- Empty water collected in tarps around the yard or on woodpiles.
- Even the smallest of containers that can collect water can breed hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes. They don't need much water to lay their eggs. (bottles, barrels, buckets, overturned garbage can lids, etc.)

Check out the pesticide section of the [Natural Resources Commission webpage](#) for additional tips and resource links.

National Pollinator Week – June 21-27th, 2021 Part Two

National Pollinator Week is an annual event celebrated internationally in support of pollinator health. It's a time to celebrate pollinators and spread the word about what we can do to protect them.

Additional tips to help pollinators:

- Avoid pesticides, even so-called "natural" ones such as Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt). If you must use them, use the most selective and least toxic ones and apply them at night when most pollinators aren't active.
- Supply water for all wildlife. A suspended milk carton with a pinhole in the bottom is sufficient for some insects.
- Provide water for butterflies without letting it become a mosquito breeding area. Refill containers daily or bury a shallow plant saucer to its rim in a sunny area, fill it with coarse pine bark or stones and fill to overflowing with water.
- Did you know that: A tiny fly (a "midge") no bigger than a pinhead is responsible for the world's supply of chocolate; and that one out of every three mouthfuls of food we eat is delivered to us by pollinators?

Website Tip of the week

Do you need to find information from a past eblast topic? You can view past weekly City Eblast content on the City website by selecting City Hall, then "[Weekly Town News from City Hall.](#) "

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Summer Water Restrictions

There are several sources of water service that is provided to those in our community. If your home receives water through the City of Shoreview or White Bear Township, you must adhere to any lawn watering restrictions that are in place.

Shoreview / White Bear Township Water restrictions include:

- Odd numbered addresses may water lawns on odd numbered calendar days
- Even numbered addresses may water lawns on even numbered calendar days
- Time of day:
 - Shoreview– NO watering during daytime hours between 11:00 am and 5:00 pm ([refer to Shoreview Summer Water restrictions for the full detail](#))
 - White Bear Township - water ONLY between 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on your respective day.
- Fines may be imposed by Shoreview and White Bear for residents found to be in violation.

For those on private wells, we encourage you to water your lawn during the overnight hours to limit evaporation of water during the hot summer season. Thanks for helping to preserve our natural resources!

City of North Oaks—Office Hours

Monday–Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 - 12 p.m.

City Email: northoaks@northoaksmn.gov, Phone: 651-792-7750

For your convenience, permit and license applications and other business can still be submitted to northoaks@northoaksmn.gov and processed remotely without the need to make a trip into the office. Contact the City with any questions.

Upcoming City Meetings

All public meetings will take place via remote access until further notice. Final materials and links for meetings can be found on the City of North Oaks website no later than 72 hours prior to each meeting at <http://www.northoaksmn.gov>. **Click on the calendar entry for each meeting to access agendas, links to view via CTV, or to participate via zoom.**

The community may also watch via Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Special City Council meeting** – Monday, 6/28/21 at 6 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 7/8/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 7/15/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 7/29/21 at 7 p.m.

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

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—8/6/2021

Tick Task Force Survey



The North Oaks Natural Resources Commission and the Tick Task Force have launched a **NEW** survey to track the incidence of tick-borne illness in the community. This is an ongoing survey that can be completed whenever a new incident of a deer tick encounter or diagnosis of tick-borne illness occurs.

The survey takes less than 5 minutes to complete, and answers are anonymous. Please take a minute to complete the survey, and update it in the future whenever a new incident occurs.

To take the survey, visit the following community page of the City of North Oaks website: [Tick Task Force Survey | City of North Oaks, MN \(northoaksmn.gov\)](#)

Planning Commission Meeting Recap – Thursday, August 5, 2021

The Planning Commission reviewed two CUP applications, and 1 Septic Variance application at last night's Planning Commission meeting. The Commission recommended approval of:

- CUP for fill in excess of 100 cubic yards at 2 Lost Rock
- CUP for excess garage space and move of fill at 12 Cherrywood Circle
- Septic Variance at 12 Swallow Lane

The City Council will make the final decision on these applications at the upcoming August 12th 7:00 p.m. meeting. If there are additional comments on these projects, please forward them to KKress@northoaksmn.gov.

Regional Water Conditions

Curious how this summer's drought compares with prior years? Check this [VLAWMO Resources for Minnesota's Current Drought conditions](#) for historical information and tips for water conservation.

National Night Out – Send us your photos!

We hope you enjoyed connecting with neighbors on Neighborhood National night this past Tuesday August 3rd. If you have any photos to share from your gathering, please send them to the City at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov to share our community spirit via our Facebook page.

Save the Date – Rummage sale drop off 9/11

Start gathering your items! The donation drop-off date for the annual North Oaks Women's Guild II Rummage Sale is Saturday September 11, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Shoreview Ice Arena. Click [HERE](#)

for a guide to what items they can accept and which items sell well. Proceeds from the annual Rummage sale taking place on September 18/19th go to support the Children's Hospital Association.

Volunteer information can be found [here](#).

Locking Mailboxes – Still available for purchase!

There are a few remaining locking mailboxes in stock and available for purchase! Two size options are available: **Mail Manager at \$83** (2 left in stock), and the **Package Master at \$167** (3 left in stock). Call the City office if you are interested in purchasing: 651-792-7750. The mailbox order form and dimensions can be found [HERE](#). Handyman contact information is available if you need assistance in installation. If there is additional interest, we will take names for a future bulk order.

Reminders—In case you missed it:

What's in the water?

Via VLAWMO website: Have you ever passed by a shallow lake or wetland and wondered what was growing out there in the water? Is it bad, or should we be worried?

Late summer is the time of year when heat, algae and plant life peak. For a guide to what you may be seeing in the water, click on this [helpful resource from VLAWMO](#) (Vadnais Lake Area water management organization).

Beware of Scams

We have had reports of money scams in which residents have given the fraudsters money. In these cases the victims are contacted via phone or email in what is referred to as a "phishing" attempt. They will pretend to be from a company (Amazon, pay pal, eBay etc.). In these types of scams, it's best to not communicate with these people. Never send any money over the phone and do not ever give someone access to your bank account. Often times money cannot be recovered or refunded. Be cautious and never give away account numbers and passwords.

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- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 8/12/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Tick Task Force** – Tuesday, 8/17/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 8/19/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 8/26/21 at 7 p.m.

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—8/13/2021

City Council Meeting Summary

At last night's City Council meeting, the following actions were approved:

- Approval of 1-day liquor license for Hill Farm Historical Society Farm fest event, and resolution #1427 of support for bond funding for construction of Lake Johanna Fire Department station. Tobacco license request for e-commerce Founders Cigar Company tabled until next meeting.
- Officer Burrell reported on recent scams (see details below), incidents with stop sign and trash can damage, as well as a reminder there are NO solicitors allowed in North Oaks.
- Council agreed to use Ramsey County Natural resources to do an aerial count of deer in the area, then look at getting proposals for Deer Management if needed. Council to make decision in September / October on whether to move forward for 2021-2022 season.
- Update on 319 Wilkinson Project presented by Councilor Watson. This involves a joint project by VLAWMO, North Oaks Company, and EPA to improve water quality of Wilkinson Lake. The long-term maintenance is under discussion.
- Council approved Resolution #1428 Septic variance at 12 Swallow Lane, Resolution #1429 CUP for 12 Cherrywood and Resolution #1430 CUP for 2 Lost Rock Lane.
- 2022 Budget was distributed for Council review and input over the next few weeks. Council agreed for Mayor Ries and Councilor Hara to look into the 2022 budget and bring recommendations back to Council to assist in planning the 2022 budget / levy.
- City and NOHOA are reviewing the parking ordinances to see if better way to prosecute trespassers and discourage repeat offenders.
- Councilmembers Shah and Dujmovic will review City communications and bring ideas back to Council in September / October.
- Council confirmed leaving the current North Oaks Emergency order resolution in place which allows City Council members to meet remotely if need be since the pandemic is still in effect. All Public City meetings will be held in person going forward until further notice.

The complete video playback can be found [HERE](#).

Invasive Species Alert

Natural Resource Chair Andrew Hawkins has created a short 5-minute video to help you identify potentially damaging invasive species that plague our local vegetations and what you can do to combat them. Click [HERE](#) for that information.

Scam Alert

Ramsey County Officer Burrell communicated warnings on scams that have been reported recently in our community:

- A person was contacted by phone about owing money for anti-virus software. The victim was convinced to download a program to their computer which allowed the suspects to view the victim's computer remotely. While talking to the victim, the suspects convinced the victim to log into their online banking, which gave the scammers access to the victim's bank account to drain his account.

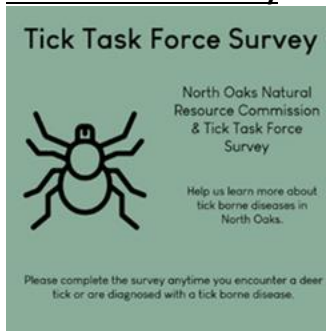
- Another victim was contacted via Snapchat about a money-making opportunity. After communicating with these people online and via text message, the scammers convinced the victim to send approximately \$5000 via Apple Pay.
- In another scam a person was contacted by someone who claimed to work for the DEA and convinced the victim that her identity was stolen by drug traffickers and she needed to drain her bank accounts and purchase gift cards with the money and send the gift cards numbers and pin to the scammers. The victim was convinced the scammers were real since they knew several private things about her.

In each of the scams, the scammers were not local and likely were out of the country. Based on this it may be extremely difficult to recover the funds.

It is important that people **never send money or gift cards to unknown people**. There is a list of common scams on the AARP website. <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/>

Reminders—In case you missed it:

Tick Task Force Survey



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The survey takes less than 5 minutes to complete, and answers are anonymous. Please take a minute to complete the survey, and update it in the future whenever a new incident occurs.

To take the survey, visit the following community page of the City of North Oaks website: [Tick Task Force Survey | City of North Oaks, MN \(northoaksmn.gov\)](https://www.northoaksmn.gov/tick-task-force-survey)

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—8/20/2021

Planning Commission Meeting - Cancelled

Due to lack of agenda items, the Planning Commission meeting schedule for next Thursday August 26th, has been cancelled. The next meeting will take on Thursday, September 30th at 7:00 p.m.

Bear Sightings / Awareness

Please note that Bear sightings have been reported near Catbird/Pine Road/Black Lake Road on the east side of North Oaks, as well as Rapp Farm on the North side bordering the open space. During these times of year, typically late spring and early fall, we encourage you to please take down bird feeders that may be a source of food for Bears. We also ask that you consider putting out garbage by 7:00 a.m. on the morning of pick up day instead of the night prior.

These two steps will remove easy food sources and encourage any bear to safely and naturally move along its path. The following are also great sources for tips on this topic:

- Ramsey County Sherriff Information about [Bears in Ramsey County](#)
- [DNR on how we can do our part to minimize bear problems.](#)
- This [LINK](#) to Bear Wise also has some useful tidbits and informative facts for living responsibility with black bears.

Historical Society Farm Fest – Volunteers needed

Volunteers Needed! This resident only event takes place on Sunday September 12th from 3 – 6 p.m. If you or your older child would like to sign up to help make Farm Fest 2021 a great experience, please click on the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ADA62EA1FD0-farm>

Tree Work – Licensed Arborists

Are you looking for someone to do tree work on your property? Each of these [licensed arborists](#) have been certified by the City as licensed by the state, insured, approved by City Council, and either has met with the North Oaks City Forester or has a certified arborist on staff familiar with regulations.

All companies doing tree work in North Oaks need to be licensed with the City. If they are not, they may call the City at 651-792-7750 to receive the application to begin this process.

Covid-19 Vaccine Finder

For those looking to get your children 12 and up vaccinated before school starts – now is the time to make that happen. Click on the [Vaccine Finder](#) to locate and book an appointment nearby. Many timeslots available.

August 21st is National Honey Bee Day! Did you know...

- Honey bees pollinate approximately 80% of all vegetables, fruit, and seed crops in the USA.
- Honey bees are the ONLY insect that produces food for humans to eat.
- Honey bees have 5 eyes- 2 large compound eyes and 3 small simple eyes.
- Honey bee queens lay 1,500 eggs A DAY.
- A single bee makes 1/12 teaspoon of honey in its entire lifetime. A typical little 12-ounce honey bear squeeze bottle takes 864 bees to make all the honey that goes inside it.
- Bees flap their wings 190 times a second. (That's over double the 70 times a second the hummingbird flaps its wings.)

- A honey bee flies 15 miles per hour.
- Honey bees keep the inside of their hives at 93 degrees Fahrenheit. (If it's cold outside, all the bees vibrate their bodies and create body heat to warm up their hive to 93°, and when it's hot outside, they flap their wings like fans to create a breeze and cool it off.)
- Honey bees never sleep!

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- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 9/9/21 at 7 p.m.
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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—9/10/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

City Council Meeting Summary

The monthly meeting of the North Oaks City council took place Thursday, September 9, 2021. Summary of actions include:

- After extensive discussion, the Gate Hill subdivision final plan application was denied. The resolution detailing findings for denial is being drafted by legal counsel.
- Resolution 1434 setting the 2022 Preliminary Budget and Tax Levy was approved. The Truth in Taxation public hearing will be held on Thursday, December 9th at 6:45 p.m. If approved, this would be a decrease in tax rate. The proposed 2022 City budget can be found [HERE](#).
- A motion was approved to pass the Joint Powers Agreement for the Lake Johanna Fire Department services, pending attorney review of final contract language.
- An update regarding current City communication took place. Follow up discussions will continue on how best to deliver information from the City and receive information back from the community.
- A joint listening session will be planned with NOHOA Board and the City Council in early October.

The full City Council meeting can be viewed [HERE](#).

CivicReady Emergency Alert

The City emergency alert “CivicReady” system has changed to a different host partner on the backend. Those signed up for emergency alerts were automatically migrated over, and you may have received text /email message when the rollover occurred last week. You do not need to take any additional action at this time, however if you do wish to update your preferences (or sign up), you can do so [HERE](#).

Online payments

Running short on time in paying your water/sewer bill, or do you need to pay for an animal license or building permit? You can pay online via the City website [HERE](#).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

North Oaks Rummage Sale Next weekend!

Next weekend is the annual North Oaks Women’s Guild II Rummage sale. Hours are Saturday, September 18th from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, September 19th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The rummage takes place at the Shoreview Arena located at 877 Highway 96, Shoreview, MN. Proceeds go to the Children’s Hospital Association. Click [HERE](#) for complete information.

Historical Society Farm Fest – Sunday, September 12th

This annual community event to support the Hill Farm historical society takes place on Sunday September 12th from 3 – 7 p.m. at the Hill Farm. If you or your older child would like to sign up to help make Farm Fest 2021 a great experience, please click on the link below. This is a great service opportunity for high schoolers needing service hours this semester, with 1-hour timeslots available.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ADA62EA1FD0-farm>

Full information on the Hill Farm Historical Society Farm Fest 2021 can be found [HERE](#).

SAFETY

School Bus Safety

With the start of school this week, please keep in mind these safety tips for motorists and children from Ramsey County Sheriff's office:

School bus safety for motorists

- In Minnesota, motorists must stop at least 20 feet from a school bus that is displaying red flashing lights or a stop arm when approaching from the rear and from the opposite direction on undivided roads.
- Drivers who violate the law face a \$500 fine. Criminal charges are also possible.
- Motorists should slow down, pay attention and anticipate school children and buses, especially in neighborhoods and school zones.
- The best way to be aware of your surroundings is to put the distractions away.
- School bus safety requires participation from students as well as drivers. Parents, it is important to educate your children about proper school bus safety.

Tips for children

- When getting off a bus, look to be sure no cars are passing on the shoulder.
- Wait for the bus driver to signal that it's safe to cross.
- When crossing the street to get on the bus or to go home, make eye contact with motorists before proceeding.

Special Instruction Labels – Assist First responders

The Sheriff's Office Patrol Unit has a program to help residents that may have special needs and want to provide advance notice to first responders.

Some medical conditions impact a person's behavior and their responses to others, especially authority figures. While all patrol deputies have received crisis intervention training, when they respond to a call for assistance often there is not advance information about special needs they may encounter. To remedy this problem police agencies across the country have offered this voluntary program, where people place a sticker on their door to alert responders. Examples include: Autism, deaf/hearing impaired, brain injury/PTSD, Dementia/Alzheimer's, and diabetic.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Crime Prevention Deputy Mike Servatka at the Patrol Station in Arden Hills: 651-266-7339.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Drought Conditions and Water Restrictions

Curious about the drought conditions in Minnesota? At a statewide level, Minnesota observed its 2nd driest July and May-July on record. While there has been improvement with the latest rainfall, water restrictions are still in effect and water suppliers are encouraged to reduce water use to 25% above normal January levels. The U.S. Drought monitor provides up-to-date information on drought conditions in Minnesota: [Minnesota | U.S. Drought Monitor \(unl.edu\)](#)

Otters in the Watershed

Interested in the activity and habitat of the otters as part of our Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed. Check out what our friends at VLAWMO have been monitoring over the past year [HERE](#).

Lawns to Legumes Program

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is now accepting applications for the Lawns to Legumes program, which aims to increase residential habitat for at-risk pollinators across the state. Lawns to Legumes offers a combination of workshops, coaching, planting guides and cost-share funding for installing pollinator-friendly native plantings in residential lawns.

Minnesota residents can now apply for individual support grants, which offer up to \$300 in reimbursement funding to cover costs associated with establishing pollinator habitats in residential yards. Applicants who qualify for reimbursement are expected to attend a [workshop](#) to better ensure project success.

How to apply: Apply online at [Blue Thumb's website](#). Applications will be accepted through February 15, 2022. Funding decisions and all notifications will be emailed in March 2022. Grant recipients have until December 15, 2022 to install their projects.

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Bear Sightings / Awareness

Please note that Bear sightings have been reported near Catbird/Pine Road/Black Lake Road on the east side of North Oaks, as well as Rapp Farm on the North side bordering the open space. During these times of year, typically late spring and early fall, we encourage you to please take down bird feeders that may be a source of food for Bears. We also ask that you consider putting out garbage by 7:00 a.m. on the morning of pick up day instead of the night prior.

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Historical City Eblast Communications

Just a reminder that all former City of North Oaks Eblasts can be accessed at any time on the City Website under City Hall [Weekly Town News](#).

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

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- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 9/30/21 at 7 p.m.
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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

SPECIAL E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—9/20/2021

IMPORTANT SAFETY AND SECURITY REMINDER

This past weekend there was a vehicle theft in the Rapp Farm area. City Hall would like to remind North Oaks residents of the following safety and security tips:

- Close all garage doors when not in use.
- Lock all exterior doors.
- Do not leave garage door openers in vehicles.

- Do not leave valuables in your vehicles.
- Always lock your car and park in well-lit and well-traveled areas.
- Look out for your neighbors; if you see an open garage door with nobody around, call them. If you see something suspicious, call them.
- If you are going out of town, let neighbors know.
- If you must leave personal property in your vehicle, make sure it is out of view. When running errands, shopping or traveling, consider making an extra stop before arriving at your destination to lock valuables in your trunk. This can prevent thieves from viewing you and targeting your vehicle for theft.
- Be aware in parking lots. Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle, ready to unlock the door.
- Car jackings and catalytic converter theft is still prevalent. Report all suspicious activity to Ramsey County Sheriff's Department: 651-291-1111.
- Be proactive in protecting your deliveries. Bring inside any packages and mail as soon as possible. While there are many types of vehicles making deliveries, keep an eye out for anything suspicious and call 911 to report any unusual activity.
- Per City Ordinance 151.028, all recreational vehicles, disabled or stored motor vehicles, boats and trailers of all types, must be garaged or completely screened year-round from all roads or adjacent dwellings, but may be parked or exhibited in view for a temporary period not exceeding 30 days in a calendar year. Contact the City if there are questions at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov. City staff will be issuing citations for residents not in compliance with this ordinance over the next few months.

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—9/24/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Notice of Public Hearing – October 14, 2021

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be conducted before the North Oaks City Council on Thursday, October 14th, 2021 at 7 p.m. at the North Oaks Community Meeting Room, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 150, North Oaks. The purpose of said hearing is to review and consider possible adoption of a Wetlands Protection Ordinance and consider and possible adoption of an amendment to the Rental

Ordinance. The City Council meeting agenda packet will be published on the [City website](#) 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Writ of Mandamus Against the City

The North Oaks Company filed a Writ of Mandamus requesting the developer's agreement and signed plat for the Anderson Woods subdivision. The action against the City has already been resolved and the North Oaks Company cancelled the hearing.

At the request of the company, the City had prioritized the Island Field Condominium project developer's agreement in lieu of other projects. The Anderson Woods developer's agreement is based on the same negotiated document as Island Field and was being amended to include the name and site features specific to Anderson Woods. Instead of waiting for the document to be finalized, the company filed the Writ of Mandamus to force the City to give them the developers agreement. This was filed even before it was due by the City. The City was able to timely finalize the document and send it to the company prior to the court hearing. This matter of administrative proceedings has been resolved without issue.

Meet the Candidates – School Board Elections

The ballot is set for the upcoming November 2, 2021 election. To view your complete sample ballot, click [HERE](#) for the Secretary of State website. For North Oaks residents, the election ballot includes selection of three candidates for the Mounds View School Board for Precinct 1, and selection of four candidates for the White Bear Lake Area schools for Precinct 2.

The Candidate forum for Mounds View Public Schoolboard is available to view via the [NineNorth](#) website. Candidate forum for White Bear Lake Schoolboard can be found on the [League of Women's voters' website](#) LWVWBLA YouTube channel. Residents in both Precinct 1 and 2 will be voting at City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 150, North Oaks, MN 55127.

SAFETY AND SECURITY REMINDER

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- Do not leave valuables in your vehicles.
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- Look out for your neighbors; if you see an open garage door with nobody around, call them. If you see something suspicious, call them.
- If you are going out of town, let neighbors know.
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- Be aware in parking lots. Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle, ready to unlock the door.

- Car jackings and catalytic converter theft is still prevalent. Report all suspicious activity to Ramsey County Sheriff's Department: 651-291-1111.
- Be proactive in protecting your deliveries. Bring inside any packages and mail as soon as possible. While there are many types of vehicles making deliveries, keep an eye out for anything suspicious and call 911 to report any unusual activity.
- Per City Ordinance 151.028, all recreational vehicles, disabled or stored motor vehicles, boats and trailers of all types, must be garaged or completely screened year-round from all roads or adjacent dwellings, but may be parked or exhibited in view for a temporary period not exceeding 30 days in a calendar year. Contact the City if there are questions at northoaks@northoaksmn.gov. City staff will be issuing citations for residents not in compliance with this ordinance over the next few months.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Fall Yard Waste

As leaves start to fall and pile up in your yard, a reminder that leaves and branches should never be put in our wetlands. Bring your leaves, branches and other yard waste to a Ramsey County yard waste site. It's free! A list of locations, hours and what they accept can be found [HERE](#).

If you need assistance by a lawn care company, many of the North Oaks licensed [certified tree care companies](#) also do fall yard cleanups.

Be Responsible with Backyard Bonfires

Do you enjoy fall evenings sitting around a backyard fire, roasting hotdogs and marshmallows? All recreational fires can be no larger than 3 feet by 3 feet, and no higher than 3 feet with wind speeds under 10 miles per hour. Follow these tips to protect your health and the health of others:

- Do not have backyard fires when air pollution health advisories have been issued in your area. Wood smoke can make bad air days worse.
- Be considerate of your neighbors. Backyard fires may cause health issues for them. Let your neighbors know you are going to have a fire so they can close their windows.
- Never burn wet wood. It creates more smoke.
- Do not burn any garbage. It can create more smoke and produce toxic fumes.
- When cleaning out the ashes, let them completely cool, then double-bag the ashes and place them in the trash. Ashes are not accepted at Ramsey County yard waste collection sites.

If you need to burn brush or large branches, contact the Lake Johanna Fire Department to obtain a [burn permit](#).

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Historical City Eblast Communications

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Blue-green algae- Pleasant Lake: Keep Out

VLAWMO reported on Tuesday September 13th that blue-green algae blooms were recently observed on Pleasant Lake in North Oaks. The public should avoid contact with the water in lakes that have active blue-green algae blooms, also known as harmful algal blooms (HABs).

During these bloom events, the water contains blue-green algae at levels that may cause short-term and long-term harm including skin irritation, gastrointestinal problems, and/or liver damage. People and pets should avoid all contact with the water, scum, or algae. Always remember, **when in doubt, best keep out**. The full news release and additional information can be found in the [VLAWMO news](#).

North Oaks Social Club - Newcomers

North Oaks Social Club will be hosting a Newcomers event on Saturday, September 25th at 6 pm. The event will take place outdoors. The cost is \$20 per person and food and beverages will be provided. This is an adult only event and you do not need to be a member to attend. Please contact Sarah Henry at skobbermann03@gmail.com for more information. We hope to meet you!

Tick Task Force Survey

The Tick Task force would like to remind residents to complete the tick survey any time you have a deer tick encounter or diagnosis of a tick-borne illness. The survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete and can be found [HERE](#).

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

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The community may also watch via the City website or Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 9/30/21 at 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting / Public Hearing** – Thursday, 10/14/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 10/21/21 at 7 p.m.

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

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—10/1/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Absentee Ballots available

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*See Reminder Section below for links to view candidate forums.

Notice of Public Hearing – October 14, 2021

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be conducted before the North Oaks City Council on Thursday, October 14th, 2021 at 7 p.m. at the North Oaks Community Meeting Room, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 150, North Oaks. The purpose of said hearing is to review and consider possible adoption of a Wetlands Protection Ordinance and consider and possible adoption of an amendment to the rental Ordinance. The City Council meeting agenda packet will be published on the [City website](#) 72 hours prior to the meeting.

The proposed ordinances for discussion can be found [HERE](#). If you would like to provide feedback prior to the meeting, email kkress@northoaksmn.gov. Any comments will be shared with City Council prior to the meeting.

Bear Sightings

Note there are still reports of bear damage to bird feeders in the East Oaks/Mallard Road area. Please take in bird feeders to encourage them to move along their way, in search of other natural food sources.

For those on Shoreview Sewer /Water Bills

For those on Shoreview Sewer/Water, the 3rdnd quarter invoices have been mailed. If you will be [paying your bill online](#), please select the water/sewer payment option to ensure it gets posted to the correct account. (*2.75% credit card surcharge will apply).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Lake Johanna Fire Prevention Week Open House

The Lake Johanna Fire Department's Fire Prevention Week Open House will be held on Tuesday, October 5th from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Fire Station #3 (Lexington and CR- I). Swing by to have some fun, learn a little about what they do, climb around on some equipment and get yourself a ride in a real Fire Truck! Pending other emergencies, they are also hoping to have representatives from Allina Health Emergency Medical Services, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office and Life Link III at the event. For more information, visit the Facebook event page here: [Fire Prevention Open House | Facebook](#)

Fire Prevention Tips!

October 3-9 is National Fire Prevention week! This is a great opportunity to walk around your home and ensure proper safety measures are in place and fire hazards are removed. Click [Here](#) for a great educational resource listed by Fire Safety topics such as: smoke and carbon

monoxide detectors, cooking, heating systems, electrical, candles, outdoor burning, clothes dryers, combustible liquids, medical oxygen, pet fire safety, safety when away from home and more. As a family – be sure to: plan your escape route, test your smoke alarms, choose an outside meeting place, and practice home fire drills.

State announces booster vaccinations at Mall of America COVID-19

The State of Minnesota Department of Health announced the state's COVID-19 community vaccination site at Mall of America is accepting appointments and walk-ins for booster doses, in addition to first and second doses.

As of September 22, the state increased the Bloomington site's capacity to administer 500 doses per day and expanded its hours to the following: Wednesday-Friday from 1 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The site is located on Level 2, Southeast Court inside Mall of America. Although not required, appointments can be made at: [Community Vaccination for COVID-19](#). *View full Press release [here](#).*

SAFETY

Trailheads

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- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 10/28/21 at 7 p.m.

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—10/15/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

City Council Meeting Summary

Highlights from last night's City council meeting include:

- Council approved CUP's for excess garage space at 3 Eastview Lane, and home height at 20 Evergreen Road.
- The next City Council meeting has been shifted to Wednesday, November 10th due to the Veteran's Day holiday occurring on the usual Thursday meeting day.
- Officer Burrell gave an update on local happenings over the last 2 months. *See Safety section.
- There was discussion on proposed changes to the Rental ordinance to incorporate reference to NOHOA. The Public Hearing will remain to remain open on this topic until next the November 10th City Council meeting. A discussion will take place to ensure City and NOHOA rental regulation are separate, but work together. Public are encouraged to submit comments to kkress@northoaksmn.gov.
- City staff to work with NOHOA to align the internal office space agreement with Lease dates.
- A resident requested Council discuss a formal reduction in speed limit in Rapp Farm. City staff confirmed that per State statute 169.14, any proposed changes under 25 mph must have a speed study. Council to meet with community and NOHOA prior to the next meeting to determine what studies have already been done and gain additional input on this topic.
- There will be a general joint public listening session on October 27th with City Council and NOHOA in Council Chambers. A notice with details of time and ways to participate will be posted once confirmed. Council welcomes public input on any areas of concern and questions for them.
- The draft Wetland Protection ordinance was removed from the agenda. The Natural Resource Commission raised concern that the proposed guidelines might be in violation with standards. The NRC will review and vet this document further before it comes back council for discussion.

The full Council meeting can be viewed [HERE](#).

Heartfelt Sympathies

The City wishes to express our heartfelt condolences for our community member who passed away tragically this past weekend. This loss has impacted many of us deeply. We express our deepest sympathies and send thoughts and support to family and friends.

“Our joys will be greater, our love will be deeper, our life will be fuller because we shared your moment.” – Author Unknown

For grief counseling and support during this difficult time, please see the following community resources:

<https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/health-medical/clinics-services/mental-health>

<https://www.nyfs.org/>

<https://childrengrieve.org/find-support/9-find-support/29-programs-in-minnesota>

<https://www.griefloss.org/community-resources.html>

<https://childrengrieve.org/find-support/9-find-support/29-programs-in-minnesota>

<https://www.cityofroseville.com/2730/Grief-Support>

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Covid Testing

There is a free community saliva Covid testing site located at 7690 Village Center Drive, Lino Lakes. (at the former YWCA location). Hours are Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Test results will be returned via email within 48-72 hours. No appointment necessary, however if you wish to schedule an appointment go to: mncovidtestingappt.as.me.

SAFETY

Hydrant Flushing

On Monday, October 18th, fire hydrant flushing will take place in Charlie Lake Preserve and the Village Center retail area. Please use caution when driving in these areas.

Officer Burrell Fraud/Safety Report

During Officer Burrell's report at the City council meeting, he noted several issues to be aware of over the last few months:

- Car Theft in Rapp Farm. The juvenile thief was identified and arrested.
- A safety / security meeting in the Rapp Farm community with Mayor and Law enforcement will take place next week. Further details will be available on the City's website.
- Thefts & crime have increased throughout both Twin Cities. This includes a recent armed theft at the Rice Street / 694 development. He urges continued caution.
- Fraud is still being report. Tactics include: Email's from perpetrators posing as Paypal or Ebay stating someone had placed an order in their name and asking them to call, and eventually gaining access to their computer. There was also a fake Paypal bill in which perpetrator convinced resident to purchase \$6,000 in gift cards. Never give access to anyone to computer or account information.
- There is a Tic Toc challenge that encourages destroying public property. He noted that damage to property will be prosecuted under appropriate laws and asks residents speak to their children.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Watershed Steward Award

VLAWMO is accepting nominations for residents, volunteers, business, neighborhood and community groups who have worked to improve water resources or community awareness in water topics such as wetlands, climate change, yard care practices, and more. Refer to the following [nomination criteria and form](#).

Late-season boat safety

The DNR has reported that 2021 has been the deadliest boat season in 16 years. For those out in kayaks enjoying these last weeks of open water, it is especially important to wear life jackets. During this cold-water season, even the strongest swimmers can be incapacitated within a matter of minutes. 30% of boating-related fatalities happen during the cold-water period of spring and fall. Be safe while enjoying our community from the water. Click [HERE](#) for additional DNR water safety tips.

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Absentee Ballots available

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*See Reminder Section below for links to view candidate forums.

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- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 10/21/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 10/28/21 at 7 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting / Public Hearing** – Wednesday, 11/10/21 at 7 p.m. *revised date

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—10/22/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Special Joint City Council / NOHOA Listening session

Please join us for a joint City Council/NOHOA Board Listening Session next **Wednesday October 27th from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** We welcome resident input on current issues, questions and suggestions. The session will take place via zoom to safely allow residents to participate remotely. Pre-registration is not required and there will be no decisions made at this meeting. The [Special meeting notice](#) has been posted.

If you need instructions on how to “raise your hand” using zoom during the Public comment section of the meeting – refer to the [How to Watch and Comment instructions](#) on the city website.

[CLICK HERE to Join the Zoom Listening Session](#) on 10/27th at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting

The Thursday, October 28th Planning Commission meeting has been cancelled due to lack of agenda items for review.

Absentee Ballots available

Ramsey County is now accepting absentee ballots in person or mail in. Click [HERE](#) to view instructions, request an absentee ballot, and find ballot drop locations.

You may also vote in person at select locations. Details and locations for voting in early person (utilizing absentee ballot) can be found [HERE](#). You do NOT need to request an absentee ballot prior to arriving at the Vote in person location.

**** There is no early voting or absentee ballots available at North Oaks City Hall. ****

Get to know your Candidates – View Candidate Forums

The upcoming November 2nd election includes school board elections for North Oaks Precinct 1 and 2.

- **For Precinct 1:** Click [HERE](#) To view the League of Women’s Voters panelist style forum for Mounds View school district 621 candidates. It may also be helpful to view the [candidates speak out](#) presentations put together by NineNorth.
- **For Precinct 2:** Click [HERE](#) to view the League of Women’s Voters candidate forum for the White Bear School District school board candidates.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Halloween Safety

Just a reminder to prepare for a safe Halloween on Sunday, October 31st. While there are no “official” City treat or treat hours, children may be out walking neighborhoods between 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. Please dress your children in reflective items (glow sticks, etc), and use extra caution if you are driving our City streets during these hours.

SAFETY

There will be a Rapp Farm Community neighborhood watch meeting on Thursday, October 28 at 6 p.m., followed by a traffic safety meeting at 7:30 p.m. Both meetings will take place at the Rapp Farm Pool House, located at 1 Rapp Farm Blvd. Rapp Farm residents are encouraged to attend.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Highlights from last night's Natural Resources Commission Meeting include:

- The Commission plans to reach out to Ramsey County to inquire about any existing aerial surveys of the area as a resource for community tree counts and other related projects.
- The Commission agreed to recommend to City Council that they: a. Apply to the DNR for deer removal tags in the event that they should be needed for the coming year, b. Begin identifying and vetting potential contractors for deer management, and c. Work with the DNR and other experts to make an evidenced-based determination on what, if any, deer management activities are necessary for the coming winter season.
- The Commission also plans to develop a proposal for an internship or fellowship program for high school or college age students. This program will be environmentally-focused and will consist of research, field work, presentations and publications on topics relevant to the natural resources of the North Oaks community.
- City Forester Mark Rehder gave an overview on infected and diseased trees in the area. He noted that it has been a busy season with more Oak Wilt than previous years and an uptick in Emerald Ash Borer. It was noted that many residents have questions about tree markings and what their meanings are. The NRC is willing to field questions from residents on the meanings of any tree markings they notice in the community.

Pumpkin Composting

When you have completed enjoying your pumpkins, take them to a free Ramsey County yard waste site for composting. They ask you put them in the leaf pile – not the food scraps dumpster. For hours and locations of yard waste sites, click [HERE](#).

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

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“Our joys will be greater, our love will be deeper, our life will be fuller because we shared your moment.” – Author Unknown

For grief counseling and support during this difficult time, please see the following community resources:

<https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/health-medical/clinics-services/mental-health>

<https://www.nyfs.org/>

<https://childrengrieve.org/find-support/9-find-support/29-programs-in-minnesota>

<https://www.griefloss.org/community-resources.html>

<https://childrengrieve.org/find-support/9-find-support/29-programs-in-minnesota>

<https://www.cityofroseville.com/2730/Grief-Support>

Covid Testing

There is a free community saliva Covid testing site located at 7690 Village Center Drive, Lino Lakes. (at the former YWCA location). Hours are Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Test results will be returned

via email within 48-72 hours. No appointment necessary, however if you wish to schedule an appointment go to: mncovidtestingappt.as.me.

Officer Burrell Fraud/Safety Report

During Officer Burrell's report at the City council meeting, he noted several issues to be aware of over the last few months:

- Car Theft in Rapp Farm. The juvenile thief was identified and arrested.
- A safety / security meeting in the Rapp Farm community with Mayor and Law enforcement will take place next week. Further details will be available on the City's website.
- Thefts & crime have increased throughout both Twin Cities. This includes a recent armed theft at the Rice Street / 694 development. He urges continued caution.
- Fraud is still being report. Tactics include: Email's from perpetrators posing as Paypal or Ebay stating someone had placed an order in their name and asking them to call, and eventually gaining access to their computer. There was also a fake Paypal bill in which perpetrator convinced resident to purchase \$6,000 in gift cards. Never give access to anyone your computer or account information.
- There is a Tic Toc challenge that encourages destroying public property. He noted that damage to property will be prosecuted under appropriate laws and asks residents speak to their children.

Watershed Steward Award

VLAWMO is accepting nominations for residents, volunteers, business, neighborhood and community groups who have worked to improve water resources or community awareness in water topics such as wetlands, climate change, yard care practices, and more. Refer to the following [nomination criteria and form](#).

Late-season boat safety

The DNR has reported that 2021 has been the deadliest boat season in 16 years. For those out in kayaks enjoying these last weeks of open water, it is especially important to wear life jackets. During this cold-water season, even the strongest swimmers can be incapacitated within a matter of minutes. 30% of boating-related fatalities happen during the cold-water period of spring and fall. Be safe while enjoying our community from the water. Click [HERE](#) for additional DNR water safety tips.

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UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

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The community may also watch via the City website or Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 10/28/21 at 7 p.m. **CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF ITEMS**
- **City Council Meeting / Public Hearing** – Wednesday, 11/10/21 at 7 p.m. *revised date
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 11/17/21 at 7 p.m.

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Kevin Kress
 City of North Oaks
 City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—10/29/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Special Joint City Council / NOHOA Listening session

Highlights from Wednesday’s Special Joint City Council / NOHOA Listening Session:

- Five City Council members and seven NOHOA Board members were in attendance to hear comments / questions from residents.
- There were 30+ residents logged in to participate in the meeting, with comments made by 14 residents.
- Topics included: budgeting, traffic studies, speed limits, Wilkinson Lake buckthorn, trail extension near Catbird Lane, Yoga at East Rec Center, Gate Hill development, NOHOA/City forestry responsibilities, wetland protection, easements, and entrances.

- City Council and NOHOA Board will take the respective issues raised and discuss best method to respond to the questions brought forth. They hope to schedule another session at least semi-annually.
- The link to re-watch the meeting can found on the meeting [calendar entry](#) on the City website. Thanks for being an active engaged community!

Election Day Voting

- **Election day details:** The Election polling place for **ALL** North Oaks residents on Tuesday, November 2nd is City Hall. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., in the Community Room just inside the building doors at 100 Village Center Drive, North Oaks, MN 55127. Bring proof of identification and residency.
- **Still need to drop off your absentee ballot?** Absentee Ballots will only be accepted at drop off locations through Monday, Nov. 1st. On Tuesday, election day – your absentee ballot would need to be delivered directly to the Main Ramsey County Election headquarters on Plato Boulevard in Saint Paul. Click [HERE](#) if you need to find ballot drop locations.
- **Unable to vote on Tuesday?** You may also vote in person at select locations on 10/29, 10/30 and 11/1. Complete details & locations for voting in early person (utilizing absentee ballot) can be found [HERE](#). You do NOT need to request an absentee ballot prior to arriving at the Vote in person location. On Election day – you **must** vote at your assigned polling location.
- **Get to know your Candidates**

For Precinct 1: Click [HERE](#) To view the League of Women’s Voters panelist style forum for Mounds View school district 621 candidates. It may also be helpful to view the [candidates speak out](#) presentations put together by NineNorth.

For Precinct 2: Click [HERE](#) to view the League of Women’s Voters candidate forum for the White Bear School District school board candidates.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Halloween Safety

Halloween is Sunday, October 31st. Please use extra caution when traveling our narrow, winding, dark streets, keeping an eye out for children trick-or-treating between the hours of 5 – 8:30 p.m. Parent’s – please send flashlights or other reflective items with your children.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Marking / Ribbons in Trees

Trees throughout our community need regular maintenance to preserve a healthy thriving tree population. You may have noticed some trees throughout North Oaks have been marked with either paint or ribbons.

Trees may be marked by several entities: The City Forester, NOHOA, homeowner/private landscaper or North Oaks company (on their land). The City Forester often places a mark of paint on diseased trees,

and may hang a ribbon to identify the best spot to enter into the conservation area for tree work that needs to be done. NOHOA has marked trees on Pheasant Lane and North Oaks Road with ribbons for road safety purposes. Orange is recommended for removal, green for pruning, both colors together mean the homeowner can decide. If there are questions about the marking of trees on your property, contact the City Forester Mark Rehder at 612-760-3519.

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Pumpkin Composting

When you have finished enjoying your pumpkins, take them to a free Ramsey County yard waste site for composting. They ask you put them in the leaf pile – not the food scraps dumpster. For hours and locations of yard waste sites, click [HERE](#).

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- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 11/18/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Date TBD. (the regular meeting date falls on Thanksgiving)

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—11/5/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Veteran's Day Closure and City Council Meeting Shift

City Hall will be closed on Thursday, November 11th in honor of Veteran's Day.

City Council Meeting – Shift to Wednesday 11/10

Due to the Veteran's Day holiday, the City Council meeting will take place next Wednesday, November 10th at 7 p.m. Click to view the [City Council meeting agenda packet](#) and links for participating.

Turn Back the Clocks

Just a reminder to turn the clocks back this weekend on Sunday, November 7th. With the associated early onset of nightfall, please drive safely and wear bright clothing if you will be out walking our community streets.

Election Day Results

Congratulations to the following who were elected to represent our school communities.

For Precinct 1: Elected to the Mounds View District 621 school board: Yolanda Magee (23.70%), Diane Glasheen (19.34%), and Shauna Bock (17.24%)

For Precinct 2: Elected to the White Bear School District 624 school board: Deb Beloyed (11.58%), Jessica Ellison (11.75%), Kathleen Daniels (11.42%), Chris Streiff Oji (10.55%)

Thanks to everyone for exercising their right to vote! Full election results for the State of Minnesota can be found [HERE](#).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Hill Farm Historical Society – Give to the Max Day

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Toys for Tots – Drop Off Location

For those looking for a Toy Drop off location, the Property Management Company for City Hall is proud to be a designated **Toys for Tots** drop off location. They are accepting toys for boys and girls, age's infant-16 years old, **now through Wednesday, December 15th, 2021**. If you'd like to donate, you can either bring your **new, unwrapped toys** to the City Hall office, or directly to the Property Management headquarters below. If you're unable to drop off in person but would like to participate by donating a toy you can follow the link below to Amazon and have the toys shipped directly to their office. (Please confirm it will arrive by Dec. 15th.)

Amazon at: https://www.amazon.com/toys/b/ref=nav_shopall_tg?ie=UTF8&node=165793011

Office Address: Guardian Property Management, 708 Cleveland Ave SW, Suite 160, New Brighton, MN 55112

You can also donate gift cards; however, they must be from a major retail store such as Wal-Mart or Target in order to be accepted. The Marines will use them to purchase more toys. Let the holiday season begin!

SAFETY

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- Winter driving & vehicle theft reminders
- Seasonal safety / theft prevention reminders
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If it lights up, makes noise or moves without a plug, it has a battery! Batteries make our daily lives more convenient. Once they are used, though, they must be disposed of properly.

If thrown in the trash or recycling, batteries may catch fire and pose a threat to people and property. Some batteries also contain toxic metals, such as cadmium, lead or mercury, which can pose a threat our health and the environment.

Be a battery hero! Put batteries in their place by dropping them off at a Ramsey County household hazardous waste collection site for safe disposal. Find locations and hours at RamseyRecycles.com/HHW.

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Highlights from Wednesday's Special Joint City Council / NOHOA Listening Session:

- City Council members and NOHOA Board were in attendance to hear comments / questions from residents from 7 – 8 p.m.
- There were 30+ residents logged in to participate in the meeting, with comments made by 14 residents.
- Topics included: budgeting, traffic studies and speed, buckthorn around Wilkinson Lake, trail near Catbird Lane, Yoga at East Rec Center, Gate Hill development, NOHOA/City forestry responsibilities, wetland protection, easements, and entrances.
- City Council and NOHOA Board will take the respective issues raised and discuss best method to respond to the questions brought forth.
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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—11/12/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

City Council Meeting Highlights

Highlights from Wednesday's City Council meeting include:

- Council reviewed a 3-year service agreement with Nine North for communication services with the City. They will review an updated contract that incorporates inflation adjustments in December.
- Deputy Mike Burrell shared that he has attended various community meetings around safety and security, including one in Rapp Farm and one with NOHOA. In the month of October, he increased traffic enforcement based off of citizen complaints. There were 32 tickets issued in October versus 7 in September. He also noted that there has been a recent wave of crime across the metro area, however North Oaks has not seen as much of an uptick as other local communities.
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- Council asked the city attorney and engineer to research and report back by the December council meeting on what needs to be done by the City to support NOHOA in reducing the speed limit in Rapp Farm to 20 mph, should it choose to do so.

The full meeting video can be found [HERE](#).

Openings: Planning Commission

The City of North Oaks Planning Commission has 3 openings beginning January 1, 2022.

The Planning Commission is an advisory body to the City Council and is responsible for reviewing the City's Comprehensive Plan, conditional use permits (CUP), and variances and development related submissions. After review of items brought forth, the commission makes recommendations to the City Council. The North Oaks Planning Commission meets the fourth Thursday of each month.

Residents interested in serving on the Planning Commission should review the [appointment policy](#) and submit the [Board Application form](#) to City Administrator Kevin Kress at North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN 55127, or email it to kkress@northoaksmn.gov. These postings can also be found on the [City website](#).

The deadline for applications is November 30th at 4 p.m.

NATURAL RESOURCES

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- Be aware in parking lots. Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle, ready to unlock the door.

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Election Day Results

Congratulations to the following who were elected to represent our school communities.

For Precinct 1: Elected to the Mounds View District 621 school board: Yolanda Magee (23.70%), Diane Glasheen (19.34%), and Shauna Bock (17.24%)

For Precinct 2: Elected to the White Bear School District 624 school board: Deb Beloyed (11.58%), Jessica Ellison (11.75%), Kathleen Daniels (11.42%), Chris Streiff Oji (10.55%)

Thanks to everyone for exercising their right to vote! Full election results for the State of Minnesota can be found [HERE](#).

Hill Farm Historical Society – Give to the Max Day

Minnesota “Give to the Max” day is Thursday, November 18, 2021. This is the day where thousands of donors across Minnesota rally around nonprofits, charities, and schools by making gifts to their favorite nonprofits through GiveMN. Consider supporting our own North Oaks Hill Farm Historical Society whose mission is to preserve the rich history of James J. Hill’s North Oaks. To learn more or donate, click [HERE](#).

Toys for Tots – Drop Off Location

For those looking for a Toy Drop off location, the Property Management Company for City Hall is proud to be a designated **Toys for Tots** drop off location. They are accepting toys for boys and girls, age's infant-16 years old, **now through Wednesday, December 15th, 2021**. If you'd like to donate, you can either bring your **new, unwrapped toys** to the City Hall office, or directly to the Property Management headquarters at Guardian Property Management, 708 Cleveland Ave SW, Suite 160, New Brighton, MN 55112. If you're unable to drop off in person but would like to participate by donating a toy you can follow the link below to Amazon and have the toys shipped directly to their office. (Please confirm it will arrive by Dec. 15th.)

Amazon at: https://www.amazon.com/toys/b/ref=nav_shopall_tg?ie=UTF8&node=165793011

You can also donate gift cards; however, they must be from a major retail store such as Wal-Mart or Target in order to be accepted. The Marines will use them to purchase more toys. Let the holiday season begin!

Ramsey County Crime Prevention Newsletter

Please review the [November 2021 Crime Prevention Newsletter](#) from Ramsey County Sherriff’s office for important information on topics such as:

- Winter pedestrian safety
- Winter driving & vehicle theft reminders
- Seasonal safety / theft prevention reminders
- What is “Suspicious” Activity & how to report (It’s about behaviors, NOT about looks)
- Computer Chip shortage considerations with online shopping

Ramsey County Recycling Initiative - Be a battery hero!

If it lights up, makes noise or moves without a plug, it has a battery! Once they are used, though, they must be disposed of properly. If thrown in the trash or recycling, batteries may catch fire and pose a threat to people and property. Some batteries also contain toxic metals, such as cadmium, lead or mercury, which can pose a threat our health and the environment.

Please put batteries in their place by dropping them off at a Ramsey County household hazardous waste collection site for safe disposal. Find locations and hours at [RamseyRecycles.com/HHW](https://www.ramseyrecycles.com/HHW).

Historical City Eblast Communications

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UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

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The community may also watch via the City website or Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Tick Task Force Committee Meeting** – Tuesday, 11/16/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 11/18/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – date tbd 7 p.m. (due to Thanksgiving holiday)

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

City of North Oaks—Office Hours

Monday–Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 - 12 p.m.

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750

SPECIAL E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—11/29/2021

DEADLINES EXTENDED:

Natural Resources Commission and Planning Commission Openings

Planning Commission Openings

The City of North Oaks Planning Commission has 3 openings beginning January 1, 2022.

The Planning Commission is an advisory body to the City Council and is responsible for reviewing the City’s Comprehensive Plan, conditional use permits (CUP), and variances and development related

submissions. After review of items brought forth, the commission makes recommendations to the City Council. The North Oaks Planning Commission meets the fourth Thursday of each month.

Residents interested in serving on the Planning Commission should review the [appointment policy](#) and submit the [Board Application form](#) to City Administrator Kevin Kress at North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN 55127, or email it to kkress@northoaksmn.gov. These postings can also be found on the [City website](#).

The deadline for applications has been extended to FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3rd at 4 p.m.

Natural Resources Commission Openings

The North Oaks Natural Resources Commission is a group of like-minded community members that believe in protecting the environment for current and future North Oaks residents. Commissioners serve as advisors to the City Council, and work closely with North Oaks Homeowners' Association, and other partners on issues such as wetland conservation, invasive species, pesticide use, pollinator protection, and tree health. The Commission is actively seeking additional volunteers. No specific expertise in environmental issues is required - simply a love of North Oaks, the environment, and the desire to help other residents learn about natural resources. The Commission holds monthly meetings (on the third Thursday) and participates in community events.

If you are interested in joining the Commission, please complete and submit the "[Boards, Committees, and Commissions Application](#)" to City Administrator Kevin Kress at North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, North Oaks, MN 55127 or email to kkress@northoaksmn.gov. The application can also be found on the City's website at www.northoaksmn.gov. Click on the "City Hall" tab, followed by the blue tab labeled "Commissions and Committees."

The deadline for applications has been extended to FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3rd at 4 p.m.

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—12/3/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Special City Council Meeting – Performance Review

On Monday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m., there will be a special meeting of the City Council to conduct a Performance Review of the City Administrator. Pursuant to Minnesota Statue Chapter 13D.05, subd.3, this meeting will be closed to the public. The meeting notice and agenda have been posted on the [City website](#).

Special Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing

The public hearing for the proposed 2022 tax levy and budget will be at 6:45 pm on December 9, 2021. The public is welcome to attend via zoom or in person at City Council Chambers located at 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 150, North Oaks. Meeting agenda materials can be found on the homepage of the [City website](#).

Deadline Extended: Accepting Applications for Planning and Natural Resource Commissions

Due to the busy holiday season, City Hall has extended the deadline for accepting applications from interested residents until **Tuesday, December 28th at 4:00 p.m.** Residents interested in serving on one of these Commissions should review the [appointment policy and submit the Board Application form](#) to City Administrator Kevin Kress at North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN 55127, or email it to kkress@northoaksmn.gov.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Santa Claus is Coming to Town – On a Lake Johanna Fire-Truck!

Mark your calendars - Santa Claus is coming to town! On Sunday, December 19 from 3-5 p.m., Santa will be riding around North Oaks spreading good cheer on a Lake Johanna fire truck. A map with estimated times will be shared by the Homeowner's Association closer to the event. To subscribe to their members only e-newsletter for updates, visit: <https://www.nohoa.org/home/>
Thanks to NOHOA for partnering with the City on this 2nd annual event!

Lake Johanna Fire Department – Toys for Tots

The Lake Johanna Fire Department has put out [Toys For Tots](#) boxes they would love your help to fill them up! Unwrapped toys can be donated between now and December 15th. Drop-off locations are available at the following stations:

Station 120 - 4676 Hodgson Rd, North Oaks 55127 (south entrance)

Station 130 - 5545 Lexington Ave. N, Shoreview 55126 (both entrances)

Station 140 - 3615 Victoria St. N, Shoreview 55126 (south entrance)

In addition, they have moved their food donation area for [Ralph Reeder](#) into the vestibules at Station 130.

Ramsey County Deputies Federation Donation Drive Benefiting Women of Nations

First responders are teaming up to help collect wish list items for those in need this holiday season.

Women of Nations (WON) is a safe and confidential emergency shelter for women, their children, and

their pets, who have experienced trauma from domestic violence, sexual assault and dating violence.

Now through December 17th, 2021, donate gently used children's snow pants/snowsuits and any size winter boots. Also accepting: cozy winter socks & pajamas, women's bathrobes, twin sheets, underwear and socks (women & children), slippers, make-up, body lotion/cream, body scrub, facewash, shampoo & conditioner, other toiletry items, journals & planners, coloring books, holiday-themed items, gift cards, dog and cat food. *Can only accept items in NEW and UNOPENED condition unless otherwise noted.

Drop Off Locations:

- 1411 Paul Kirkwood Dr., Arden Hills (contactless & Mon. - Sat., 8am to 7pm)
- 5 South Owasso Blvd., Little Canada (contactless & Mon. – Sat., 8am to 7pm)
- 831 Como Ave, Saint Paul (Mon. – Thur., 9am to 2pm)

Sponsored by the [Ramsey County Sheriff's Office](#), [Saint Paul Police Federation](#), Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, [Corporate Mark Inc.](#)

SAFETY

DNR Urges Caution on Ice

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone that lakes and ponds throughout the state have started to freeze – and where ice hasn't formed, the water is dangerously cold. It's up to everyone to choose to stay safe around the water or ice, according to the DNR.

Where there is ice, its thickness this time of year is highly variable and subject to the whims of Mother Nature. And where ice hasn't formed – or where it freezes at night and opens during the day – the water temperature is so low that an unexpected fall in can be deadly.

As the winter holidays approach, it's vital that parents talk with their kids about staying safe. When kids are off of school, it's natural for them to want to be outside, and water and ice tends to be a natural draw.

Visit [the DNR website for more information on ice safety](#).

Recycling Packaging Reminder

As we enter the shipping and packaging season, just a reminder that Styrofoam, plastic bags and plastic wrapping is NOT recyclable. This includes shipping peanuts and packing materials. Card board MUST be totally flattened to no larger than 4-foot x 4-foot in order to be taken, as to not jam up the mechanisms in the trucks and recycling plant. Make sure to have your cart curbside to ensure recycling each week, as trucks can't back up icy or unplowed driveways.

Please refer to the pictures on your recycling cart lid for what can be recycled. You may also call Ramsey County's recycling hotline at 651-633-3279, or check their website for a complete guide on how to dispose of a variety of items.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Minnesota Outdoor Skills and Stewardship Webinars

Learn about or sharpen your outdoor winter skills with these upcoming online webinars in the DNR's Minnesota outdoor skills and stewardship series. Topics include: Ice safety for outdoors sports, fly tying, learning to hunt, high school clay target program, ice angling for panfish and more.

Each webinar begins at noon on Wednesdays and last less than an hour. These offerings are shorter than in-person opportunities, require no travel and fit into busy schedules.

Contact Benji Kohn for additional information at benjamin.kohn@state.mn.us or 651-259-5178. The webinars are free, but participants must pre-register on the [DNR website](#).

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Unraveling the Mystery of Home Improvement Projects

Confused by the City and NOHOA requirements for when and how to submit for approvals and Building permits? You're not alone! The City permit process is guided by State Statutes, building code, and City ordinances and zoning regulations. NOHOA regulations are based on NOHOA Warranty Deeds and Declarations, Bylaws and ASC rules and procedures. Check out this [summary for residents to help clarify the process](#).

DNR seeking applicants to serve on Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources invites Minnesotans interested in serving on the department's Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee to apply by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15. Click [HERE](#) for complete information on responsibilities, timing and how to apply.

Natural Resources Commission Meeting Highlights

Highlights from Thursday's Natural Resources Commission meeting include:

- The October 21st, Natural Resource Commission meeting minutes have been approved and posted to the City website.
- There was discussion on: plan for 2021-2022 deer management season, lake quality in North Oaks, Wetland Ordinance, Tick Task Force survey, illicit dumping of leaves in wetlands, water level on Pleasant Lake and carp harvest, and report from the City Forester. Refer to the 11/19/2021 [weekly town news](#) on the website for the summary of each discussion point.
- The next NRC meeting will take place Thursday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Historical City Eblast Communications

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UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

Access to participate in public meetings via remote zoom is still available at this time. Final materials and links for meetings can be found on the City of North Oaks website no later than 72 hours prior to each meeting at <http://www.northoaksmn.gov>. **Click on the calendar entry for each meeting to access agendas, links to view via CTV, or to participate via zoom.**

The community may also watch via the City website or Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Special City Council – Performance Review of City Administrator** - Monday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m.
- **Truth in Taxation Public Hearing** – Thursday, 12/9/21 at 6:45 p.m.
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 12/9/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 12/16/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – date tbd 7 p.m. (shift due to holiday scheduling)

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

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



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E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—12/10/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

City Hall Holiday Schedule

The City office will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 23rd and 24th, and Friday, December 31st. Business will be conducted remotely on Monday – Wednesday December 20-22 and December 27-29th, please email any requests to noaks@northoaksmn.gov during that time, and City staff will get back to you to process your request.

Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing and City Council Meeting Highlights

Highlights from Thursday’s Truth-in-Taxation and City Council meeting include:

- Council held a public hearing on the proposed 2022 budget and tax levy. Budget was passed unanimously. View the [full City Budget](#).
- Under the advisement of the City Attorney, it was determined that the North Oaks City Council has the authority to regulate traffic on the streets in the City. Council approved a resolution establishing a maximum speed limit of 20 miles per hour on all private roads in the Rapp Farm Development. The speed limit will not go into effect until the City posts new speed signs in the area. This is expected February 1st.

- Council approved a 3-year service contract with NineNorth to continue to provide broadcast of City meetings.
- Council approved the 2022 Ramsey County Sherriff's contract.
- Council approved renewal of the contract for Northeast Youth and Family Services.
- Council will schedule a special meeting in January to tour Red Forest Way and other new subdivision sites in the East Oaks development areas.
- There was discussion on the NOHOA and North Oaks Company letters regarding the status of outstanding issues between the two parties in the East Oaks development area.
- Council authorized the Natural Resource Commission to initiate the aerial survey count of deer in the community. This will inform Council decision on whether a deer management program is to take place this season.
- There was discussion of scheduling a work session with NOHOA in the next few months to discuss items that cross over between the City and NOHOA.
- Discussion took place on how to support a possible winter trail in the Nord development area. Communication to continue with NOHOA on how the City can support these efforts with North Oaks Company.
- Council will schedule a strategy session in January or February to discuss Council priorities for 2022.

For details, view the full meeting [HERE](#).

Northeast Youth Family Services

Need extra mental and emotional support during this holiday season? The City of North Oaks has a long-standing relationship supporting the nonprofit organization Northeast Youth and Family Services, whose mission is to provide mental health and community support through the following:

- Clinic-based and telehealth counseling for all ages
- School-based Services
- Day treatment services for middle and high school youth
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Go to <https://www.nyfs.org/> to learn more about the full range of services they provide, and how to reach out for assistance.

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Lake Johanna Fire Department will also be accepting donations for Toys for Tots as it passes through the community, as well as at any of their fire stations.

The map with the route and estimated times has been shared by the Homeowner's Association. To subscribe to their members only e-newsletter: visit: <https://www.nohoa.org/home/>. Thanks to NOHOA for partnering with the City on this 2nd annual event! Tell your neighbors!

SAFETY

Protecting packages – Be proactive

While there have been no reports of package theft in our community, please continue to be proactive in protecting your valuables this time of year. Be sure to lock your vehicles both in your driveway and while out shopping, keeping valuables out of sight, and pulling in boxes from porches as soon as they arrive. If a package has been accidentally mis-delivered, be a good neighbor and get it to the intended home if known.

Caution around Thin Ice – North Oaks Lakes

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone that as lakes and ponds throughout the state freeze – and the water temperature is so low that an unexpected fall in can be deadly.

Ice thickness this time of year is highly variable and subject to the whims of Mother Nature. Especially dangerous are the **channels of Pleasant Lake, Charley Lake, Deep Lake, Wilkinson Lake and Lake Gilfillan** which are all part of the St. Paul water authority chain of lakes, and have a constant flow of moving water underneath, which can make ice thickness very unpredictable and very dangerous. Please steer clear of these surfaces, as well as the banks surrounding them.

As the winter holidays approach, it's vital that parents talk with their kids about staying safe. When kids are off of school, it's natural for them to want to be outside, and water and ice tends to be a natural draw.

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Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—12/17/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Planning Commission Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of North Oaks will hold a Planning Commission Meeting on Thursday, December 30, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., which will include a public hearing on the applications for conditional use permit (CUP) for the properties located at 6 Sherwood Trail and 3 Eastview Lane. Both CUP's are requests for new construction height over 35 feet, pursuant to City Code Section 151.050 (D)(7). The meeting will be conducted via zoom. The full meeting notice has been published in the Shoreview press, [City website](#), and Facebook.

City Hall Holiday Schedule

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Santa Claus is Coming to Town – This Sunday!

On Sunday, December 19 from 3-5 p.m., Santa will be riding around North Oaks spreading good cheer on a Lake Johanna fire truck. Santa will start in the Charley Lake Preserve area, travel through North Oaks and finish in the Rapp Farm Community.

The route map and estimated arrival times in each area has been shared by the Homeowner's Association. To subscribe to their members only e-newsletter: visit: <https://www.nohoa.org/home/>. Check the route and come to the end of the designated street corners to wave as he goes by. Tell your neighbors!

Toys for Tots Donation:

For those with last minute gifts to donate, the Lake Johanna Fire Department will also be accepting donations for Toys for Tots as it passes through the community with Santa, as well as the lobby of their fire station on Hodgson Road through Sunday December 19th.

Looking for Festive Holiday Lights?

Thanks to our neighboring Shoreview Community for publishing their 2021 Holiday Light Map! Tour the biggest and brightest local displays: <https://bit.ly/3maffas>

For links to light shows throughout the greater Twin Cities area, this helpful [website](#) has links to the larger shows, as well as an interactive holiday map (towards the bottom of their home page) showing holiday lights noted by "number of lights", location and address.

A special shout out those in our own North Oaks community showing holiday spirit brightening these early dark winter days.

SAFETY

Christmas Tree Safety

In the midst of holiday traditions, don't forget to practice essential safety tips for a safe and festive holiday:

- Keep trees at least 3 feet away from heat sources and water regularly
- Double-check lights and cords for frayed wires and missing bulbs
- Use heavy-duty extension cords
- Turn off holiday lights when leaving the house or going to bed.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Looking for an easy way to dispose of your Christmas Tree? Consider having the local Boy Scout Troop 639 pick up your tree curbside for disposal. For a small donation to their troop, they will pick up your tree on either January 8th or 15th. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to sign up.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural Resource Commission Meeting Highlights

Highlights from Thursday's NRC meeting include:

- NRC members met and heard from two candidates interested in joining the Commission in 2022.
- Commissioners heard an update on the proposed wetland ordinance. This project is currently in the research phase where Council members and City Staff are reviewing what North Oaks

currently has in its ordinances and what other neighboring cities have in their ordinances. Commissioners will be reviewing these findings in the coming month.

- There was an update on deer management plans. The City has obtained permits from the DNR, and will be conducting an aerial count of deer as soon as there is snow cover for clearer views.
- NRC members had a discussion on pesticides and herbicides being used by utility services in North Oaks. Discussion will be continued in future meetings, and in the Pesticide Committee.

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing and City Council Meeting Highlights

Highlights from Thursday's Truth-in-Taxation and City Council meeting include discussion on:

- Proposed 2022 budget and tax levy, speed limit reduction to 20 miles an hour in Rapp Farm, NineNorth cable contract, Ramsey County Sherriff contract, support of Northwest Youth and Family services, Red Forest Way and East Oaks discussion, deer management program, and future discussions with NOHOA and North Oaks Company. View [last week's Eblast](#) for the full highlights.

Residents can replay the full council meeting [HERE](#).

Northeast Youth Family Services

Need extra mental and emotional support during this holiday season? The City of North Oaks has a long-standing relationship supporting nonprofit organization Northeast Youth and Family Services, whose mission is to provide mental health and community support through the following:

- Clinic-based and telehealth counseling for all ages, School-based Services, Day treatment services for middle and high school youth, Diversion programming for youth, Community Advocate services, Senior chore services

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Due to the holiday season, City Hall has extended the deadline for accepting applications from interested residents until **Tuesday, December 28th at 4:00 p.m.** Residents interested in serving on one of these Commissions should review the [appointment policy and submit the Board Application form](#) to City Administrator Kevin Kress at North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN 55127, or email it to kkress@northoaksmn.gov.

Protecting packages – Be proactive

While there have been no reports of package theft in our community, please continue to be proactive in protecting your valuables this time of year. Be sure to lock your vehicles both in your driveway and while out shopping, keeping valuables out of sight, and pulling in boxes from porches as soon as they arrive. If a package has been accidentally mis-delivered, be a good neighbor and get it to the intended home if known.

Caution around Thin Ice – North Oaks Lakes

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone that as lakes and ponds throughout the state freeze – and the water temperature is so low that an unexpected fall in can be deadly.

Ice thickness this time of year is highly variable and subject to the whims of Mother Nature. Especially dangerous are the **channels of Pleasant Lake, Charley Lake, Deep Lake, Wilkinson Lake and Lake Gilfillan** which are all part of the St. Paul water authority chain of lakes, and have a constant flow of moving water underneath, which can make ice thickness very unpredictable and very dangerous. Please steer clear of these surfaces, as well as the banks surrounding them.

As the winter holidays approach, it's vital that parents talk with their kids about staying safe. When kids are off of school, it's natural for them to want to be outside, and water and ice tends to be a natural draw.

Visit [the DNR website for more information on ice safety](#).

Historical City Eblast Communications

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UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

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The community may also watch via the City website or Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **Planning Commission Meeting** – Thursday, December 30th at 7 p.m. (shift due to holiday scheduling)
- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, January 13th at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, January 20th at 7 p.m.

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

City of North Oaks—Office Hours

Monday–Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 - 12 p.m.

City Email: northoaks@northoaksmn.gov, Phone: 651-792-7750

For your convenience, permit and license applications and other business can still be submitted to northoaks@northoaksmn.gov and processed remotely without the need to make a trip into the office. Contact the City with any questions.

*** Connect with us! "Follow" the [City of North Oaks Facebook page](#) for the most current City updates.*

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center
North Oaks, MN 55127
651-792-7750

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—12/24/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

City Hall Holiday Schedule

The City office will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 23rd and 24th, and Friday, December 31st. Business will be conducted remotely on Monday – Thursday December 27th- 30th, please email any requests to noaks@northoaksmn.gov during that time, and City staff will get back to you to process your request. Happy holidays!

No Holiday change to Recycling

With the Christmas and New Year's falling on Saturday's this year, there will be **NO impact** to the recycling schedule. Please put your items out curbside on your normal recycling day.

Package Theft Reports– Be proactive

Unfortunately, there have been several reports of package theft from porches this week. Please continue to be proactive in protecting your valuables as we wrap up the holiday season. Be sure to lock your vehicles both in your driveway and while out shopping, keeping valuables out of sight, and pulling in boxes from porches as soon as they arrive. If a package has been accidentally mis-delivered, be a good neighbor and get it to the intended home if known.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Thanks to all residents who came out last Sunday afternoon to greet Santa, as he rode on top a Lake Johanna Fire department truck delivering holiday cheer to North Oaks residents. It was a chilly, but beautiful ride through North Oaks! Happy Holidays!

SAFETY

Testing Locations

We know many residents may be looking for testing opportunities to prepare for family gatherings throughout the holiday season. You can locate testing opportunities below:

- Walk in or schedule an appointment for a test at one of the state's free [community testing sites across Minnesota](#).
- Find a testing option near you through the state's [testing location map](#).
- [Order a test](#) through the state's free at-home COVID-19 testing program.

If you are looking for boosters - click [HERE](#).

Stay safe and healthy!

General ice safety / Ice Fishing prohibited in North Oaks

Just a reminder that fishing is prohibited on North Oaks lakes. For those of you who will ice fishing on neighboring lakes, consider the following tips from the DNR. No ice can ever be considered “safe ice,” but following [these guidelines](#) can help minimize the risk:

- Always wear a life jacket or float coat on the ice (except when in a vehicle).
- Carry ice picks, rope, an ice chisel and tape measure.
- Check ice thickness at regular intervals; conditions can change quickly.
- Bring a cell phone or personal locator beacon.
- Don’t go out alone; let someone know about trip plans and expected return time.
- Before heading out, inquire about conditions and known hazards with local experts.

The minimum ice thickness guidelines for new, clear ice are:

- 4 inches for ice fishing or other activities on foot.
- 5-7 inches for a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle.
- 8-12 inches for a car or small pickup.
- 12-15 inches for a medium truck.
- Double these minimums for white or snow-covered ice.

For more information, visit mndnr.gov/icesafety and mndnr.gov/boatingsafety.

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Looking for Festive Holiday Lights?

Thanks to our neighboring Shoreview Community for publishing their 2021 Holiday Light Map! Tour the biggest and brightest local displays: <https://bit.ly/3maffas>

For links to light shows throughout the greater Twin Cities area, this helpful [website](#) has links to the larger shows, as well as an interactive holiday map (towards the bottom of their home page) showing holiday lights noted by “number of lights”, location and address.

A special shout out those in our own North Oaks community showing holiday spirit brightening these early dark winter days.

Christmas Tree Safety

In the midst of holiday traditions, don’t forget to practice essential safety tips for a safe and festive holiday:

- Keep trees at least 3 feet away from heat sources and water regularly
- Double-check lights and cords for frayed wires and missing bulbs
- Use heavy-duty extension cords
- Turn off holiday lights when leaving the house or going to bed.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Looking for an easy way to dispose of your Christmas Tree? Consider having the local Boy Scout Troop 639 pick up your tree curbside for disposal. For a small donation to their troop, they will pick up your tree on either January 8th or 15th. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to sign up.

Natural Resource Commission Meeting Highlights

Highlights from last Thursday’s include:

- NRC members met and heard from two candidates interested in joining the Commission in 2022.
- Commissioners heard an update on the proposed wetland ordinance. This project is currently in the research phase where Council members and City Staff are reviewing what North Oaks currently has in its ordinances and what other neighboring cities have in their ordinances. Commissioners will be reviewing these findings in the coming month.
- There was an update on deer management plans. The city has obtained permits from the DNR, and will be conducting an aerial count of deer as soon as there is snow cover for clearer views.
- NRC members had a discussion on pesticides and herbicides being used by utility services in North Oaks. Discussion will be continued in future meetings, and in the Pesticide Committee.

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SPECIAL E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—12/27/2021

I want your car... But I don't want to pay for it!

Auto theft is on the rise across the country, in Minnesota and even in North Oaks. Perpetrators are on the lookout for easy targets. These are cars left open, especially cars left running. Recent attempts have been made at all hours of the day. When a car is left running, particularly in the winter, would-be thieves can notice this easily via the exhaust signature. One look to see if there is anyone in the vehicle, and within seconds they can be headed toward Highway 35... in your car! In addition, your home can be at risk too if perpetrators gain access to garage door openers left in an open vehicle.

Often times, perpetrators look for running cars to steal by driving slowly through the neighborhood with other would-be offenders in the same vehicle. Let's avoid being easy targets and look out for our neighbors. Please call 911 to report any suspicious activity in timely manner.

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



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