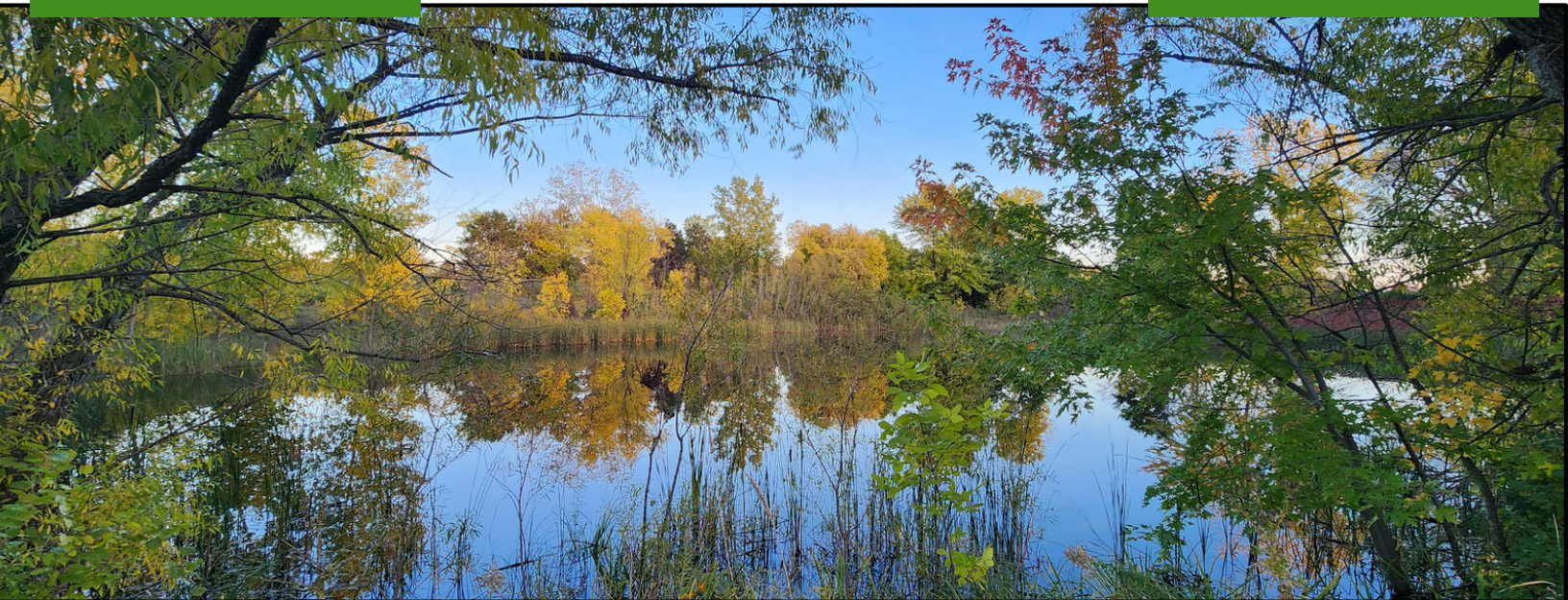




»» NEWSLETTER ««



CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
2077 LARPENTEUR AVENUE WEST
FALCON HEIGHTS, MN 55113
651-792-7600



CONTACT US

City Hall	651-792-7600
Jack Linehan City Administrator	651-792-7611
Kelly Nelson Assistant to the City Administrator	651-792-7617
Elke van der Werff Administrative & Communications Coordinator	651-792-7621
Roland Olson Finance Director	651-792-7612
Hannah Lynch Community Development Coordinator/ City Planner	651-792-7613
Colin Callahan Public Works Director	651-792-7618

FIRE

Fire protection is provided the by St. Paul Fire Department.

Emergencies	911
Non-emergency	651-266-8989

POLICE

Police protection is provided by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office.

Emergencies	911
Non-emergency	651-767-0640

CITY HALL HOURS:

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM





CITY COUNCIL

The City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Avenue. Meetings are streamed live from NineNorth (formerly CTV) and televised on public access channel 15.



MAYOR RANDY GUSTAFSON

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COUNCIL MEMBER YAKASAH WEHYEE

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COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC MEYER

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Wednesday, December 13 City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM (Truth in Taxation Hearing)
- Wednesday, December 27 City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM



➤➤➤ **CITY COUNCIL MEETING** ⬅️⬅️

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER, 13 2023
7:00 PM

AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

MINUTES

- November 15, 2023 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 2024 Truth in Taxation and Budget Presentation

CONSENT AGENDA

- General Disbursements, Payroll, Wire Payments
- City Licenses
- Appointment of City Attorney
- Appointment of City Prosecutor
- Appointment of City Auditor
- Appointment of City Engineer
- Designation of Official Newspaper
- 2024 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
- Statutory Tort Limits Liability Coverage for the City in 2024
- Northeast Youth and Family Services Cooperative Service Agreement for 2024
- Tubman Legal Services Cooperative Agreement
- Personnel Policy Updates
- Larpenteur Avenue Streetlights Bid Award
- Larpenteur Avenue Streetlights – Professional Services Award for Electrical Engineering
- Award of Printing Services Contract to Johnson Litho Graphics
- Appointment of Dean Pope as Senior Maintenance Worker

POLICY ITEMS

- I. Amber Flats PUD

CITY COMMISSIONS <<<

The City of Falcon Heights has four City Commissions, which serve the City Council in an advisory capacity. Commissioners are volunteers including Falcon Heights residents, local business owners, and business designees who have been appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Community Engagement Commission advises the City Council on matters related to community needs and issues, crime and prevention, public awareness, community involvement, and human rights issues. The commission also helps plan and facilitate community events such as Human Rights Day and the Ice Cream Social.

The Community Engagement Commission meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

There are currently THREE vacancies. To apply, [click here](#)

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks & Recreation Commission advises the Council on matters related to the operation of the City's public parks and the City recreation program.

The Parks & Recreation Commission meets on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

There is currently ONE vacancy. To apply, [click here](#)

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission advises the City Council on matters related to planning, zoning, and land use. Meetings are streamed [live from NineNorth](#) and televised on public access channel 15.

The Planning Commission meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

There are currently NO vacancies.

ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

The Environment Commission advises the City Council on matters related to environmental issues, including recycling and waste disposal, community gardens, and storm water runoff. The Commission also develops and recommends implementation of environmentally friendly initiatives such as rain barrels and solar panels, supporting and advancing the City's participation in the [GreenStep Cities](#) program.

The Environment Commission meets the second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at City Hall.

There are currently NO vacancies.

PUBLIC WORKS & <<< COMMUNITY UPDATES



Salting Tips

Winter is here, bringing with it lots of snow and ice! Follow these tips to avoid overusing salt, which can harm the environment and groundwater:

- Shovel first. Clear snow off walkways before it can turn to ice.
- Check the temperature. Use sand for traction instead of salt when it's below 15 degrees outside. Salt doesn't melt ice at that temperature.
- A little goes a long way. A 12-ounce cup of salt covers about 250 square feet, which is about the size of a 20-foot driveway or enough to cover 10 sidewalk squares.
- Sweep it up. If salt is visible on dry pavement, it is no longer doing any work and will be washed away. Sweep up the salt and either reuse or throw it away.

Public Works

This week Public Works will be organizing the garage bays and clean equipment.

Ramsey County Ski Trails

Snowmaking has begun and one trail is open now at the [Winter Recreation Area at Battle Creek](#). This easy 0.6 km trail loop around the pond is perfect for skiers of all skill levels and is lighted from sunset until 10 PM. When cooler temperatures settle in and the snow falls, 56 km of natural snow trails will open. Be sure to watch the [cross-country ski trail conditions page](#) for the latest trail opening info.

Don't forget to get your mutual Ramsey County/Saint Paul ski pass before hitting the trails. Passes may be purchased [online](#) now or in person starting Dec. 1 at the Battle Creek Recreation Center.

Friendly Reminder!

A reminder from Public Works for residents to keep garbage cans off the road when there is a snow event. Please place them within your driveway and off the road, this helps Public Works with snow plowing.



COMMUNITY PARK RENOVATION

COMMUNITY PARK RENOVATION SURVEY

The City needs your help! Falcon Heights is currently seeking the community's feedback regarding the Community Park renovation. Make your opinions known and help shape the future renovation of Community Park by taking the online survey [here](#).

The Parks and Recreation Commission will be reviewing initial feedback at their regular meeting on Monday, December 4.

You can also find a link to the survey on the Community Park Renovation page of the City's website, including links to renovation documents, which are included in a smaller scale within the survey. [Click to view](#).

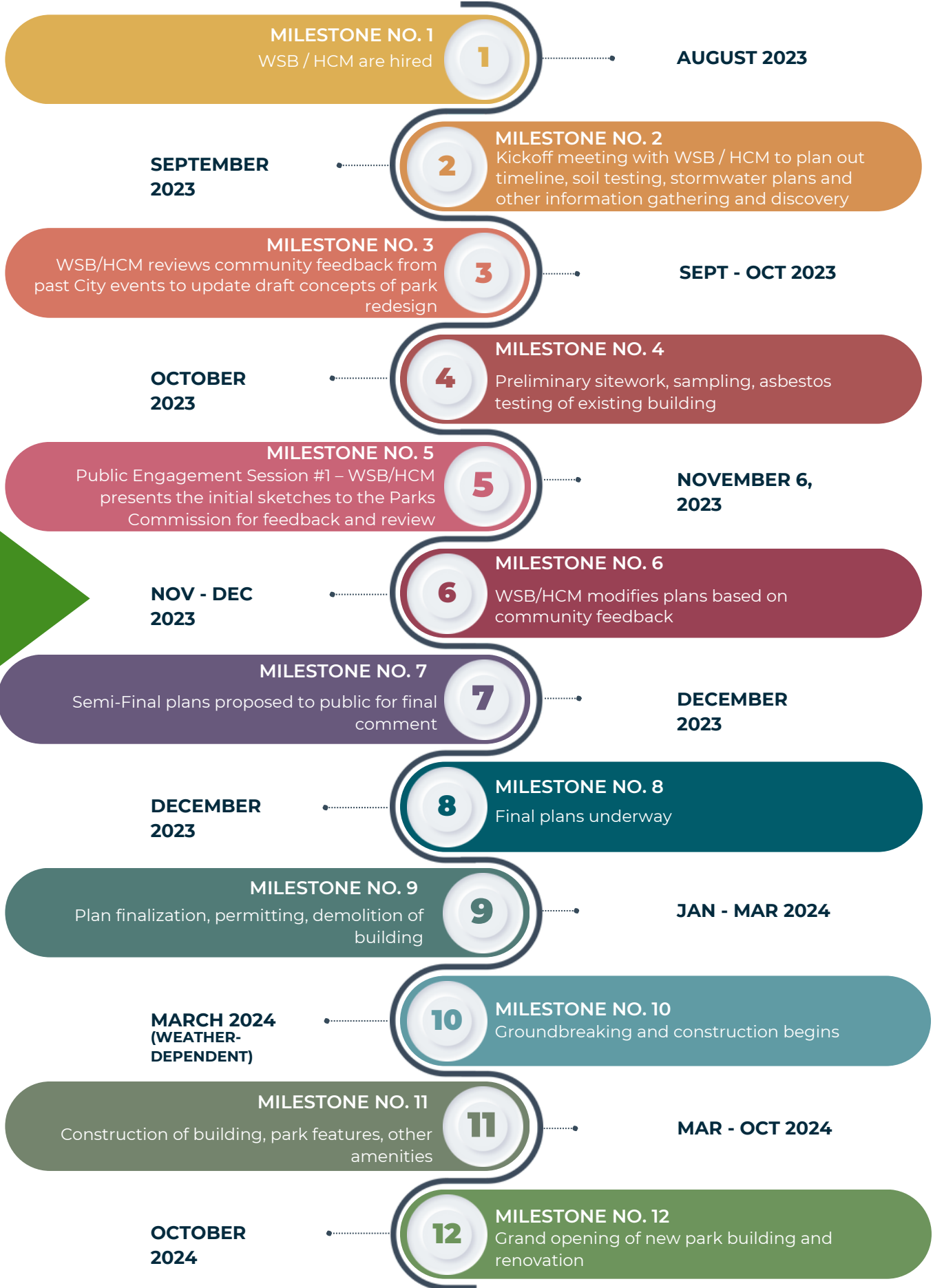


For more information regarding the Community Park Renovation, please visit the City's website [here](#).



COMMUNITY PARK TIMELINE

The timeline is subject to change as the project develops.



Snelling & Larpenteur

CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT STUDY

In early 2023, the City of Falcon Heights applied for and received a grant from Ramsey County to review the two most critical transportation corridors within the city, Snelling Avenue and Larpenteur Avenue. The project is to evaluate the existing land uses along the two corridors and identify areas of potential future redevelopment and reinvestment to meet future housing and business needs. With the outside grant funding, the City is undertaking a corridor study that will look at existing sites, note economic and market trends, and gain input from the Falcon Heights community about what type of development they would like to see in the future. The Planning Commission will serve as the steering committee providing feedback and shepherding the study throughout the process.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & <<< UPDATES

Falcon Heights is now looking for applicants for three focus groups to serve as participants in the Larpenteur & Snelling Corridor Development Study!

If you are interested, please fill out the [application](#) at the link provided below and we will be in touch with you as soon as selections are made. Thank you so much for your interest!

Community Survey

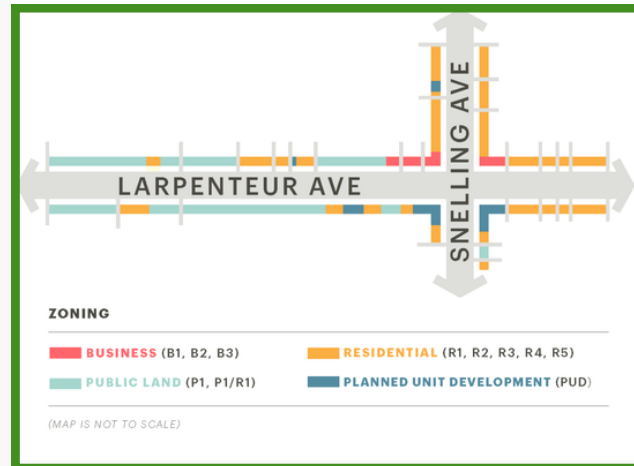
Community Input Map



Community Survey



Community Input Map



Share your input! This is your last chance to include your input for the Larpenteur & Snelling Corridor Development Study. The survey and community input map will be closing on Friday, December 15. Make sure to respond now to have your opinions heard! Scan the QR codes or click on the link above it.



Holiday Lights

Glow Festival

Stroll through CHS field and enjoy an interactive holiday-themed light display made up of over a million dazzling lights. The walk-through festival features a selection of attractions including an enchanted forest, a selfie plaza, and bike pedal-powered Christmas trees.

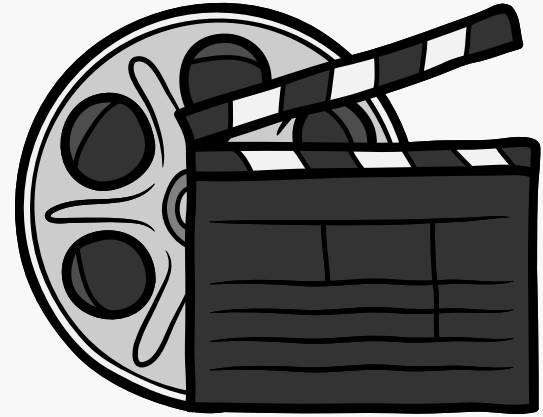
November 16 - December 31

CHS Field, 360 N. Broadway St., St. Paul, glowholiday.com

Keystone has partnered with GLOW Holiday to be one of its 30+ non-profit partners that will be celebrated throughout the festival and \$1 per ticket purchased for the event will go back to these charities at the end of the festival. You can purchase tickets by clicking this link: <https://bit.ly/2UE5d3k>. You can save money by using the code "GLOWGIVES" (in all capital letters). The discounted ticket price will be under "Charity Adult GA" or "Charity Child (3-12) GA".



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES



St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

Come and Enjoy the December Senior Cinema Series Show.

We are showing "The Lady Vanishes" on Monday, December 11. Join us at 2:00 PM at 2200 Hillside Avenue (sanctuary of Centennial United Methodist Church).

An Alfred Hitchcock film about a beautiful English tourist traveling by train in continental Europe and discovers that her elderly traveling companion seems to have disappeared from the train. Starring Margaret Lockwood and Michael Redgrave.

Duration: 97 minutes

All are welcome to attend regardless of age or residency. Snacks will be available, and there is no charge or registration required. Call 651-642-9052 to get more information.

COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

Holiday Market

European Christmas Market

Sometimes you just crave tradition—that's what Union Depot's annual European Christmas Market is all about. Set up like a classic European al fresco market, it features Santa's Village with 80 local vendors selling gifts and European style snacks while live musicians play and fuzzy holiday feelings abound.

Weekends, Nov. 24–Dec. 17
Union Depot East Plaza, 240 Kellogg Blvd. E., St. Paul
stpaulchristmasmarket.org



Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS)

Getting The Lead Out

In 2023 SPRWS launched an ambitious 10-year plan to remove all lead service lines in both private and public property. Lead Free SPRWS is offering free replacement to customers.

SPRWS is actively planning the next ten years of the program by working on obtaining funding and choosing an appropriate number of replacements to complete each year based on the funding. The SPRWS service area will be divided into project zones and they will prioritize based on several factors. Information will be shared on [SPRWS website](#) as soon as it is available. SPRWS will contact customers directly when they are coming to their area. To ensure SPRWS has the most up to date contact information, you can call customer service at [651-266-6350](tel:651-266-6350).

For more information, click [here](#)

Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

There are steps you can take to reduce exposure if you have a lead service line or lead in your interior plumbing:

- Let the water run for 3-5 minutes before using it for drinking or cooking if the water has collected in your plumbing for more than 6 hours.
- Use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Hot water absorbs more lead from pipes than cold water.
- At least once a quarter, remove your aerator from your faucet and rinse the filter out.
- Use a water pitcher or point of use filter for your drinking water/



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

WINTER CRAFT SERIES PRESSED FLOWER ORNAMENTS

Wednesday, December 13 | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Cost: \$25.00

Head down to Gibbs Farm's cozy Red Barn to create ornaments and art out of pressed flowers! Each participant will arrange and paste a variety of flowers, herbs and foliage gathered at Gibbs this summer. We will have inspiration from around the world and information on Victorian floriography (language of flowers) to help you create creative and meaningful designs. Each participant will be able to make two ornaments and several notecards or gift tags.

This is a fun and casual crafting evening, using a simple pasting technique, no experience necessary!

[Register Here!](#)

Please enter the site through the Gibbs Farm Public Parking Lot off Cleveland Avenue and follow the signs to the Red Barn.



MN FAIRGROUND EVENT



North Star Roller Derby Season 18 - Bout 3

DESCRIPTION

North Star Roller Derby is a member-run, nonprofit roller derby league based in Minneapolis. Skaters play a version of the roller derby you may have seen on TV in the 80s, but on a flat track instead of a banked track.

LOCATION

Warner Coliseum

HOURS

Saturday, December 9
Doors Open at 5:00 PM
Bout at 6:00 PM

ADMISSION

\$15

For more information, visit
www.northstarrollerderby.com



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

Roseville Dance Team Kids Clinic

Come dance with the Roseville Area High School Dance Team! Open to boys and girls ages 3 -12. Come learn new dance skills and two fun routines in which you will perform alongside RDT in our annual winter show. Participants will be provided snack/lunch during the clinic as well as a t-shirt that they can keep and will wear for the winter show performance.

Check in 10-10:30 AM at RAHS lower gym lobby. The clinic will be held from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Participants will then stay with the dance team and perform in the Roseville Dance Team Winter Show. Doors open for the Winter Show at 12:30pm and the show begins at 1:00 PM. The show should last 90-120 minutes.

Fee: \$50. Registration after 1/9 is not guaranteed a t-shirt.

To register, follow this link: [Roseville Dance Team Kids Clinic](#)

Collection Programs Switch to Winter Hours

Ramsey County's yard waste and household hazardous waste collection sites are now operating on winter hours.

Yard Waste

Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sundays, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Household Hazardous Waste

Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

These hours are in effect through March.

[Click here for locations and items accepted.](#)

Partners in Energy

The City of Falcon Heights has partnered with Xcel Energy and MNCEE to join the Partners in Energy Program.

Partners in Energy is a two-year collaboration with Xcel Energy to develop and implement our community's energy plan goals. This is an opportunity to engage stakeholders, create goals and strategies, and develop a work plan to be successful.

We are looking for Energy Action Team members to help us develop the Falcon Heights Energy Action Plan. We are very excited to work with stakeholders in our community to create a vision and plan for our energy future.

If you are interested in joining our Energy Action Team, please fill out the application at the link below and we will be in touch with you as soon as selections are made. Open houses and workshops are expected to begin in February, 2024.

Click [here](#) for the Energy Action Team application.



Truth in Taxation Hearing

On Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00 PM at Falcon Heights City Hall, the City Council will have the Truth in Taxation and Budget Presentation. This hearing provides an opportunity for the public to address the Council about the proposed budget and tax levy. City Council is required to adopt the budget and tax levy before the end of the year. The adopted levy is then provided to Ramsey County so they can produce property tax statements for each parcel in the County.

Before the Council is a proposed property tax levy of \$2,700,072 and a general fund budget of \$3,513,179. This represents an increase in the proposed levy of 9.12% and an increase in the general fund budget of 13.7%.

The impact of this proposed levy on a median valued home, which in 2024 is assessed at \$373,950 (3.3% increase over 2023), is estimated to result in an increase of \$117 in the City portion of the homeowner's taxes.

The 2024 proposed budget can be viewed online [here](#). A hard copy is available for viewing at City Hall.

Kickstart your plastic-free journey. Take the

Plastic-Free Challenge



Coming this February



Plastic Free Challenge

Kickstart your plastic-free journey with the Plastic-Free Challenge during the month of February! You can be part of the solution to reduce waste, protect water and wildlife, address climate change, and look after the health of ourselves and future generations.

Get notified when sign up is open, by clicking [here](#)

Ready to Save on Your Energy Bills?

One convenient Home Energy Squad® visit is your answer to years of energy savings. We offer two home visit options:

- For homes built after 2000, mobile homes, condos, and renters – Only \$35 (normally \$70)
- For older homes – Only \$50 (normally \$100)

To learn more and to schedule your visit call 651-328-6220, or visit: mncee.org/hes

Free visits available to income qualified households.



NATURE <<< NEWSFLASH

How to Dispose of Holiday Wrapping

Packages, boxes, bags, cards - the holidays can be filled with single-use items. Make sure you know how to properly dispose of them.

Think reuse first: What can you use again instead of throwing away? Save bows, gift bags and tissue paper that can be reused. Think of creative ways to package gifts that don't require new materials.

Holiday cards: Cards and envelopes made of only paper should be recycled. Cards with foil, glitter, ribbons or velvet are not recyclable and should be placed in the trash.

Cards that light up or play music do not belong in the trash because they contain batteries. Bring them to Ramsey County's [household hazardous waste collection site](#) for free.

Wrapping paper: Put wrapping paper in the trash. Do not put it in your recycling bin because it does not sort easily at the recycling facility and may contain materials that cannot be recycled. Do not compost because wrapping paper can contain inks/dyes, plastic, foil and tape - all of which harm the composting process.

Find disposal options for other items, including cardboard boxes, real and artificial trees and string lights on our [A to Z Recycling & Disposal Guide](#).

My Electric Ride: An EV Transportation Video Challenge

Electric vehicles (EVs) of all kinds are here. And we want to hear about your experience, from electric scooters to electric school buses. Create a short video showcasing your personal experience with EVs as part of EPA's prize competition, and you may win up to \$3,000.

The Challenge:

Help us showcase the benefits of electric transportation! Send us your short (one- to two-minute) personal videos that convey your positive experiences using electric transportation in everyday life. Choose from one of the following categories, then get creative!

1. Personal Mobility: Electric 2- and 3- wheel personal mobility devices such as e-bikes, e-trikes, e-scooters, or e-cargo bikes
2. Electric Vehicles: Electric vehicles such as cars, trucks, or SUVs
3. Electric Buses: Electric buses such as school buses, shuttle buses, or transit buses

These categories are intended to be inclusive of various forms of electric transportation.

A successful video might answer questions such as:

- How do you use this electric car, scooter, bus, in everyday life?
- Why do you like it?
- How did you overcome any challenges you may have faced?
- Is there a myth around electrified transportation that you can dispel?
- What would you say to your friends and family to encourage them to give electric vehicles a try?
- Were there any welcome surprises that you wish other people knew about driving/riding in electric vehicles?



>>> PARKS AND RECREATION <<<

City Hall Programming

Tae Kwon Do <<<

Register for Tae Kwon Do sessions!

Tae Kwon Do Basic and Intermediate/Advanced sessions will be held on Tuesdays, with classes running November 14. - December 19. No class will be held on November 21.

Cardio Kickboxing classes will be held on Thursdays, running November 9- December 21. All classes are held in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. No class will be held on November 23.

Classes are instructed by Joshua Jordan, a 2nd-degree black belt. These classes help develop self-defense skills, mental strength, focus, self-confidence, physical health and flexibility.

For more information and to register, click this link:
<https://www.falconheights.org/residents/tkd-information>

>>> Yoga

Register for upcoming yoga sessions!

Classes will be held on Mondays from November 27- March 4 at 4:30 PM. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

*No classes held on December 25, January 1 or February 5.

Classes are instructed by Shaila Cunningham, who has over 20 years of experience and was certified in 2001 in-residence at Kripalu. Appropriate for healthy beginners or for those wanting to explore "deeper practices," classes will combine classical yoga with best practices, served up with a side of humor.

Shaila serves as instructor for North Oaks and Midland Hills Golf Clubs and offers additional classes at YogaHotDish locations.

For more information and to register, click this link:
<https://www.falconheights.org/residents/parks-recreation/yoga>



CITY RENTAL FACILITIES <<<

>>> City Hall

Full Council Chambers

Full Capacity: 150 / 75 seated

Pricing: \$125 + tax for 3 hours \$200 + tax for a half day \$275 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Partial Council Chambers

Half Capacity: 75 / 30 seated

Pricing: \$60 + tax for 3 hours \$115 + tax for a half day \$175 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Conference Room

Capacity: 8 maximum

Pricing: \$35 + tax for 3 hours \$70 + tax for a half day \$125 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Kitchen

Capacity: 10 / 6 seated

Pricing: \$30 + tax for 3 hours \$60 + tax for a half day \$75 + tax for a full day

A \$200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

City Hall reservations are only available for PUBLIC use; no private events may be held here.

Reservation Form

Field/Court <<<

The City has various courts and fields that can be reserved at Curtiss Field and at Community Park. For details and specific pricing, please see the [reservation form](#)

>>> Picnic Areas

Community Park

- Upper Picnic Area (against building): 5 picnic tables, trash bins
- East Picnic Area (near playground): 2 picnic tables, trash bins
- Lower Picnic Area (SW corner): 2 picnic tables, 1 BBQ grill, trash bins

Each picnic area is \$20 + tax for a half day or \$35 + tax for a full day.

A refundable damage deposit and setup fees may also apply.

The Community Park building is unusable. A portable restroom is available in the park.

Reservation Information and Forms Found Here!



RESIDENT <<< RESOURCES

Online BIPOC Support Groups

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has coordinated various online support groups to help BIPOC. Please click [here](#) for more information.



Energy Cents Coalition

Are you looking for help paying your Xcel bills or are you in need of a replacement furnace, water heater or refrigerator. Call 651 - 774 - 9010 to check if you are eligible

Protection & Crisis:

There are protection & crisis resources available that are provided by Ramsey County. Click [here](#) for more information regarding protection and crisis resources.

Emergency Assistance:

Get help with shelter payments, such as past due rent, to stop evictions or foreclosure. Click [here](#) for more information that could help!

Blood Pressure Clinics

Sponsored by



Love your heart! Take advantage of these **free/donation-based** Blood Pressure Clinics.



1st & 3rd Mondays from 2-3:30 PM at Arbor Pointe Apartments

2nd & 4th Mondays from 2-3:30 PM at Falcon Heights City Hall

Food Assistance:

There are many meal and food assistance programs that are available in Ramsey County.

Visit the Ramsey County website for information regarding food resource guides, programming, emergency support and more! Use the interactive map to find resources near you, including delivery services, free dining and meal sites.

United Way

United Way 2-1-1 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to connect you with resources and information. Just call 2-1-1

