



FALCON HEIGHTS

THE CITY THAT SOARS

75 Years

>>> 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 Administrative Services Director / Deputy Clerk	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 by the 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 PM 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

RANDY.GUSTAFSON@FALCONHEIGHTS.ORG



COUNCIL MEMBER PAULA MIELKE

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COUNCIL MEMBER MELANIE LEEHY

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COUNCIL MEMBER JIM WASSENBERG

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COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC MEYER

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Wednesday, April 17 - Townhall on potential police partnership with St. Anthony Village - 6:30 PM at Falcon Heights City Hall
- Thursday, April 18 - Townhall on potential police partnership with St. Anthony Village - 6:30 PM at St. Anthony Village City Hall





CITY COUNCIL MEETING UNOFFICIAL RECAP



CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 10, 2024
7:00 PM

AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

MINUTES

1. March 13, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
2. March 27, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
3. April 3, 2024 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes – Joint Meeting
(Mielke; approved 3-0)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CONSENT AGENDA

1. General Disbursements, Payroll, Wire Payments
2. Approval of City License(s)
3. Climate Action Grant Application
4. University of Minnesota Good Neighbor Fund Grant Application
5. Appointment of Denise King to the Community Engagement Commission
(Meyer; approved 4-0)

POLICY ITEMS

1. Accept Project Bids for the 2024 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project
(Wassenberg; approved 4-0)
2. Accept Project Bid for the 2024 Pavement Management Project
(Meyer; approved 4-0)
3. 2024-2025 State Fair Task Force Appointments (Mielke; approved 4-0)
4. Support of Application for Livable Communities Pre-Development Grant for Amber Flats
(Wassenberg; approved 4-0)



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 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

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 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

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 on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM 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 stormwater 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 at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

PUBLIC WORKS & <<< COMMUNITY UPDATES



Storm Water

This summer, Public Works will rehab storm water catch basins and vaults. They will start in the University Grove Neighborhood and work east.

Street Sweeping

Public Works will be street sweeping this week. They will start in the Northome Neighborhood and work their way through the City to touch up areas.

New Truck

The City purchased a F-450. This week it will be outfitted with necessary equipment.

Falcon Heights Neighborhoods



Neal Kwong Award

Neal Kwong was a Falcon Heights resident who tragically passed away at the age of fifteen. He was an outstanding member of our community. In his memory, the City established the Neal Kwong Award to recognize young people, ages 12 to 19, who display leadership and volunteerism in Falcon Heights. Nominees must live in or volunteer in Falcon Heights. Parents are encouraged to support their youth by nominating them or by helping neighbors and friends willing to nominate them.

Nominations for the 2024 Award are due no later than Friday, April 26th at 4:30 PM.

The award recipient(s) will be recognized at a Falcon Heights City Council meeting, in this newsletter, and on a plaque in the lobby of City Hall.

For more information on the award and for a link to the application, please visit the website [here](#)



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

Save the Date!

The City will host a Spring Together event on Saturday, May 18th from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Curtiss Field. Meet your neighbors, enjoy free ice cream and have fun! Remember to bring your lawn chairs and games.

Calling all musicians! This year we will be having a Musician-Only Open Mic. Showcase your talent in a supportive environment. Soloists, bands, and duos are welcome.

We hope to see you there!

Spring Together

FREE ICE CREAM!
OPEN MIC!
GAMES!
FAMILY FUN!

The City of Falcon Heights Welcomes All!

SATURDAY, MAY 18
3:00 - 5:00 PM

CURTISS FIELD - 1551 IOWA AVE. W.

Enjoy free ice cream, meet your neighbors and have fun!
Attention musicians: Open mic night is calling for you!

FALCON HEIGHTS

COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

EARTH DAY

Monday, April 22

Free Paper Shredding and E-Waste Event!

Spring cleaning is a time-honored tradition that involves deep cleaning and decluttering your home after the long winter months.

Not sure how to get rid of those credit card offers or your old cellphone? Falcon Heights is hosting a free paper shredding and electronic waste event!

Monday, April 22 - 9:00 - 11:00 AM, Falcon Heights City Hall - 2077 Larpentour Ave W, Falcon Heights, MN 55113

Paper Shredding

All paper that needs shredding is accepted! Examples include:

- Sensitive documents
- Credit card offers
- Receipts
- Bills

Please limit to five boxes/grocery bags per household.

Electronic Waste

All data from electronics is destroyed physically or electronically wiped by Repowered. Please visit [this website](#) to learn about items accepted and not accepted during the event.

Protect Pollinators and Your Precious Time

75% of the worlds plants and 30% of human food crops depend on bees and other pollinators to reproduce.



Learn about bee lawns



Meet our presenter:

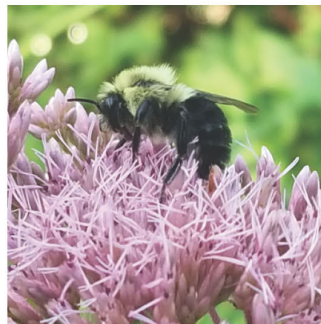
Russ Henry is a landscaper, naturalist, gardener, educator, and owner of Minnehaha Falls Landscaping. His passion for pollinators led him to become an early adopter of bee lawns. For over a decade, Russ has guided his company in bee lawn installation and maintenance and is a bee lawn leader in the landscape industry. He is the founder of Bee Safe Minneapolis, a community initiative to protect pollinators. He's a writer and presenter for the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and speaks across the Twin Cities, including the Minnesota State Fair and the Minneapolis Home & Garden Show. Russ's work has been featured in the Star Tribune and publications around the country.

More information can be found on the City's website.
If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by April 15th

Are you tired of mowing?

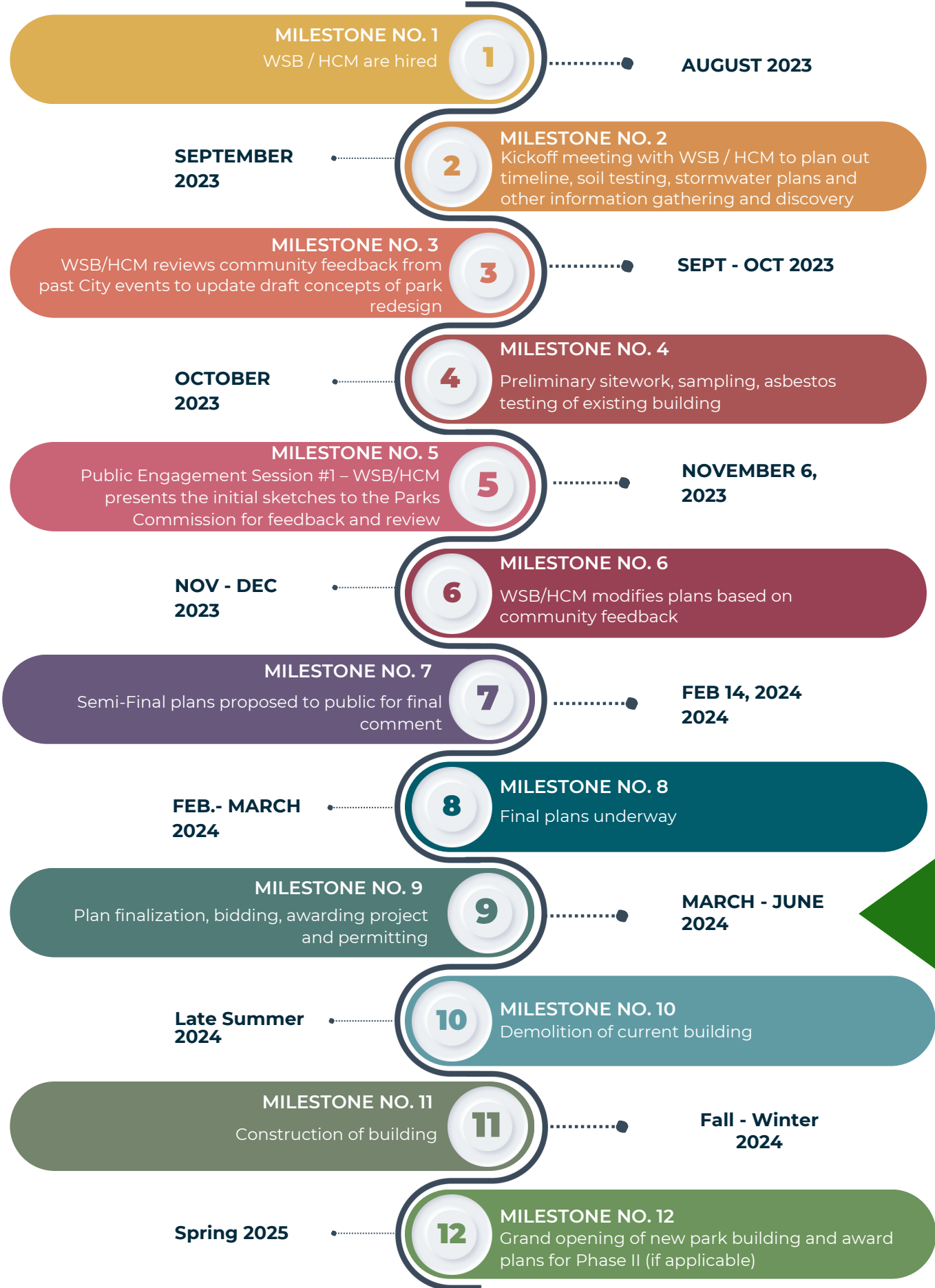
You'll want to attend this presentation!

Monday, April 22nd
6:30-7:30pm
Falcon Heights City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Ave. W.



COMMUNITY PARK TIMELINE

The timeline is subject to change as the project develops.



Community Park

At the recent workshop on Wednesday, April 3, the City Council invited the Parks and Recreation Commission to review a presentation of interior and exterior finish samples proposed by HCM Architects for the new building at Community Park.

Below are pictures of both the Council and the Commission reviewing the proposed samples.



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

Get Pressed

The City of Falcon Heights received a grant for brownfield investigation from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for environmental investigation at the former Get Pressed laundromat site. A brownfield is an abandoned, blighted, or underused property where reuse is complicated by potential or actual contamination. This grant funds investigation of previous uses of the property to support redevelopment and reuse, and the work is performed by MPCA contractors at no cost to the grant recipient.

MPCA did more sampling on site. They are working on gathering lab results and writing an action plan. If you have any questions about the process or work taking place, please feel free to contact Hannah Lynch, Community Development Coordinator, at hannah.b.lynch@falconheights.org.



COMMUNITY <<< EVENTS & UPDATES

Ramsey County Master Gardeners Plant Sale

Ramsey County Master Gardeners will host their annual plant sale on May 18, from 9 AM to 2 PM at Aldrich Arena, 1850 White Bear Ave N, Maplewood, MN. This new location provides more room for more plants with more free parking!

Find your favorite plants and new varieties, including:

- Vegetables and herbs,
- Large selection of tomatoes
- More than 1,500 native perennials, pollinator-friendly plants
- Annuals and houseplants
- Garden accessories

Visit their website for updates.

Ramseymastergardeners.org/plantsale



St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

Walk With Ease

We are offering an in-person "Walk With Ease" course this spring!

There is a limit of 12 participants. The class is filling up quickly, but we do have some spots remaining.

Class Title: "Walk With Ease"

Instructor: Niza Hanany, St. Anthony Park Area Seniors staff

Class time: Wednesdays and Fridays in May and June from 9:30 to 10:30 AM

Start date: Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Location: Como Lake Pavilion

Charge/Registration: Registration is required. This class is offered at no charge. Participants are encouraged to contribute by cost sharing or voluntary contributions, but no one is turned away from the inability or desire to do so. The class receives funding under an Award with Trellis as part of the Older Americans Act.

We start with some stretches, continue with a short talking point, and then go on a walk. The walk can be as long or as short as you choose, with the hope that gradually the length of the walk increases. Towards the end of the hour, we meet again at the pavilion for some final stretches. Each person will walk according to their ability and fitness level.

If you would like to sign up for this class, please call our office at 651-642-9052 or email us at sc@sapaseniors.org. We will keep a waiting list after the class fills up.



Summer Program Intern

The City is currently hiring for a Summer Program Intern. The position will be responsible for planning, organizing, and coordinating summer recreational programs for children (ages 6-13) in an outdoor setting.

The position will also help hire and train other summer programming staff. The ideal candidate will be able to work with no direct supervision, excel in leading group activities, have experience working with children, and have a background in Parks and Recreation or Elementary Education.

If this sounds like you, we highly encourage you to apply! The position will close on Friday, May 31 at 4:30 PM

Please visit [our website](#) to view the entire job description and review the application requirements.

Seasonal Recreation Staff

The City of Falcon Heights is seeking candidates for the temporary/seasonal positions of Seasonal Recreation Staff. These positions will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of summer programming for children (ages 6-13) in an outdoor setting. The ideal candidates will be energetic, reliable, and have experience in coaching or working with children.

Please visit [our website](#) to view the entire job description and review the application requirements.

CITY JOBS <<<

Administrative & Inclusion Intern

The City of Falcon Heights and the City of Lauderdale are seeking candidates for the position of Administrative & Inclusion Intern. This will be a unique opportunity to intern with two small cities within the Twin Cities. This position will assist in completing duties and projects across a variety of departments. The goal of the position is to offer a comprehensive perspective of local government management through both active experience and mentorship. The position provides valuable hands-on experience and training in many aspects of city government.

This is a great opportunity for someone who wants experience and the ability to try out different roles within two different cities to see what they like! The position will close on Friday, April 26 at 4:30 PM

Please visit [our website](#) to view the entire job description and review the application requirements.



Share Your Input on a Potential Police Services Partnership With St. Anthony Village

City Council Wants Your Feedback

As the Falcon Heights City Council considers a potential partnership with St. Anthony Village's police department, City Councilmembers are looking to hear from residents.

The City of Falcon Heights has been looking for a long-term partner for police services since 2022. In 2022 and 2023, Falcon Heights conducted a study through the Center for Values-Based Initiatives to analyze the City's law enforcement services contract and needs. A series of three focus groups and a randomized resident survey were conducted to gather input on residents' priorities, building upon the extensive community feedback that informed Falcon Heights' Inclusion and Policing Task Force recommendations in 2017.

After carefully analyzing our needs and the available options, a potential renewed relationship with St. Anthony Village could be a good fit that aligns with the values of Falcon Heights residents identified in our previous engagement.

[Read more about the potential partnership.](#)

Community Engagement Opportunities

Over the next several weeks, the Falcon Heights City Council will provide several in-person and virtual opportunities to hear feedback, questions and concerns from residents.

- Falcon Heights and St. Anthony Village will also host two joint town halls at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, April 17, at Falcon Heights City Hall (2077 Larpenteur Ave. W.) and Thursday, April 18, at St. Anthony Village City Hall (3301 Silver Lake Rd. NE). This will be an opportunity to learn the results of the community engagement process and provide additional feedback to the two councils as they consider a potential partnership.

We are eager to hear from our residents about this important issue, and we encourage you to participate in as many community engagement opportunities as you would like.

Contact City Administrator Jack Linehan with comments or questions at jack.linehan@falconheights.org or 651-792-7611.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

75th Anniversary

On April 1, 1949, by a vote of 5 to 1, the citizens rejected petitioning either Roseville or St. Paul for annexation and chose instead to establish their own independent village government. The incorporation of the Village of Falcon Heights brought in all of the remaining unincorporated areas of Rose Township, including the State Fairgrounds, University of Minnesota Campus Golf Course, and Test Fields. In 1973, the Village of Falcon Heights became a city.

To celebrate 75 years since officially becoming "Falcon Heights", the City is working on plans to honor the occasion. If you are interested in participating in the celebration planning, please fill out a form on our [website](#).

Compost bin sale - save \$20

The Recycling Association of Minnesota is selling compost bins for \$76 plus tax this year before the discount. Ramsey County residents can receive a \$20 discount. Order online at RecycleMinnesota.org and enter promo code "Ramsey."



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.

The City received applications for a focus group as participants in the study and they had their first meeting on February 26, 2024

For more information and to follow the progression of the study, click [here](#)



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

State Fair Task Force 2.0

Following the tremendous work done by State Fair Task Force 1.0 in 2023, the City Council determined that the City should again create a task force to continue and finish the work started by the previous task force.

The task force will meet monthly or as needed to review the necessary policies in 2024 and 2025 with a sunset date of December 31, 2025 unless extended by the City Council.

If you are interested in participating, please fill out the interest form [here](#).

Household Hazardous Waste

This April, the free mobile household hazardous waste collection site will be at Aldrich Arena every Friday and Saturday. Drop off used motor oil, batteries, unwanted cleaning products and more.

1850 White Bear Ave. N., Maplewood

Fridays: 10 AM - 6 PM

Saturdays: 9 AM - 4 PM

Learn more at RamseyRecycles.com/HHW.

Free Mulch

Extra mulch will be available through April at the following Ramsey County yard waste sites:

- Arden Hills
- Frank and Sims (Saint Paul)
- Midway (Saint Paul)
- White Bear Township

Ramsey County residents may take the mulch for free on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring your own shovel and collection containers.

Find locations and hours

Free State Park Day

Enjoy free entrance to all Minnesota state parks and recreation areas on Saturday, April 27. The entrance fee waiver for fee-free days does not cover amenity or user fees for activities like camping, rentals, or special tours.

Plan your adventure today:
mndnr.gov/parkfinder

Coming to the park? Know the "Key 3:"

1. Plan to be flexible, and consider exploring new destinations. Parks are busy on these free days, so we encourage you to discover a new favorite!
2. Arrive prepared. Check visitor alerts and download maps before your trip.
3. Recreate responsibly. Help conserve these special places for the future by staying on trails and leaving no trace.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



PARTNERS IN ENERGY

An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration

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.

The City needs your help! We are looking for responses from community members to help shape our Energy Action Plan.

Take our Community Energy Survey

The outcome of this plan, through your input, will guide the City in reaching its energy goals over the coming years.

More information about the partnership can be found [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.



>>> 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 April 9 - May 14.

Cardio Kickboxing classes will be held on Thursdays, running from April 11 - May 16.

All classes are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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 yoga sessions! You can purchase as all / individual sessions!

Classes will be held on Mondays from March 11 through May 20 at 4:30 PM. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. *No class on May 6.

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



The mission of ComoConnects is to organize community volunteers, professionals, and family members to provide care for their neighborhood seniors in ways that support choice, dignity, and independence.

With the spirit of “Neighbors Helping Neighbors,” ComoConnects provides a spectrum of services, bringing neighborhood health professionals, volunteers, caregivers, and community leaders together to provide high-quality, long-term care.

They provide services to residents aged 65 and better in the community of Como Park as well as areas of Falcon Heights.

To learn more about ComoConnects, visit their website [here](#) or call 651-642-1127

Northeast Youth & Family Services



NYFS is here for you!

Immediate openings are available for mental health clients age 4 and over

Call us at 651-486-3808 or [request an appointment online today!](#)



Northeast Youth & Family Services (NYFS) is a nonprofit, community-based and trauma-informed mental health and community services organization that has been serving people in the northeastern suburbs since 1976.

NYFS services include 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 Connections programming for isolated youth, and Community Advocate services.



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

1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 10-11:30 AM at Hendrickson Apartments



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

