



Hopkins Highlights

Inspire

Educate

Involve

Communicate



State of the City is January 27

After a year hiatus, the 2022 State of the City/Taste of Hopkins is planned for Thursday, January 27, at the Hopkins Center for the Arts (1111 Mainstreet, Downtown Hopkins). Taste of Hopkins will run from 5 to 6 p.m. The State of the City will start at 6 p.m. and will be held in the theater.

Due to the current state of the coronavirus in Minnesota, attendees are encouraged to get a COVID vaccination/booster (or receive a negative COVID test) before attending and wear a mask at the event.

Attendees are also asked to bring a monetary donation or non-perishable food item for the local ICA food shelf.

Learn more about the State of the City/Taste of Hopkins, and find any event-related updates at www.hopkinsmn.com/stateofthecity.

Broken Lights? Don't Toss Them!

Don't throw those broken or unwanted holiday lights in the trash. Instead take them to Public Works (11100 Excelsior Boulevard). All stringed lights and electrical cords are accepted, including extension cords, phone cords and computer cables.

FREE Christmas Tree Pick-Up

The week of January 10, Public Works crews will be collecting Christmas trees free of charge from Hopkins residential garbage customers. You do not need to call to schedule this service — simply place your tree on the boulevard (no alley pick-ups) by 6 a.m. the day of your garbage service.

Only Christmas trees will be picked-up — no other brush, branches, sticks, wreaths or decorations containing metal will be accepted. Bags and stands must be removed.

Beginning the week of January 17, holiday tree disposal will be done on Tuesdays as part of the residential refuse customer brush pick-up program. A fee will be charged and residents must call before 2 p.m. on Monday to schedule a pick-up.

Trees from multi-housing, commercial or industrial properties will NOT be collected by the City.

When it Snows in Hopkins

Remember These Rules and Sail Smoothly Through Winter

1 Move Your Car: When any amount of snowfall occurs, residents should move vehicles off city streets and parking lots. If the snowfall is two inches or more, a snow emergency may be declared and vehicles must be moved immediately to avoid being towed. Call the Snow Line at 952-939-1399 for snow emergency announcements.

2 Shovel The Sidewalk: As mandated by City ordinance, Hopkins residents are responsible for removing snow and ice from public sidewalks within 12 hours of a snowfall.

3 Clear The Fire Hydrants: While the City tries to clean snow from fire hydrants as soon as possible after a snow, we could use your help. Please adopt a nearby fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow through the winter. Hydrants should be cleared five feet on each side to give the Fire Department the quickest and best access.

Apply for Hopkins Academy

Every other year, the City of Hopkins offers the Hopkins Academy as a free opportunity to find out more about how the City works. Applications for the next session open January 15. Find more information and apply online at www.hopkinsmn.com/425/Hopkins-Academy.

Take the Organics Bingo Challenge

Have you heard that curbside organics recycling is coming to Hopkins January 1? To help make this transition a fun learning experience, residents are invited to participate in an Organics Recycling Bingo Challenge, beginning January 10.

Compete with friends and family while reducing waste to see who can get a Bingo. Winners will be entered into a drawing to win three boxes of BPI bags.

The goal of the Bingo challenge is to motivate residents to reduce waste and manage organics in a way that will help encourage behavior change.

Find more information about the Bingo challenge and Hopkins' new curbside organics recycling program at www.hopkinsmn.com/863/Organics-Recycling.



Upcoming at the City

City Offices Closed

Monday, January 17

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

City Council Calendar

Tuesday, January 4, 7:05 p.m.

Meeting

Tuesday, January 11, 6:30 p.m.

Work Session

Tuesday, January 18, 7 p.m.

Meeting

Monday, January 31, 7:05 p.m.

Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council.

Watch City Council meetings live at www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand.

Boards and

Commissions Calendar

Tuesday, January 4, 7 p.m.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Monday, January 24, 6:30 p.m.

Park Board

Tuesday, January 25, 6:30 p.m.

Planning and Zoning Commission

Monday, January 31, 7 p.m.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions.

Meeting Broadcasts

Watch City Council and Zoning and Planning Commission meetings live on Cable Channel 16. Meetings are also replayed every day (except Tuesdays) at 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 p.m.; and Sundays at 1 p.m.

Elected Officials

Mayor: Patrick Hanlon

City Council:

Gerard Balan

Heidi Garrido

Alan Beck

Brian Hunke

Take Note:

Garbage and Recycling Schedule

The City will be closed on Monday, January 17, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Garbage and recycling collection will be delayed one day.

Recycling collection will be the weeks of January 3-6, 18-21 and January 31- February 3. ♻️

City Clerk's Careful Preparation Ensures Successful Election Day

In the November 2, 2021 Municipal Election, Hopkins voters headed to the polls and elected a new mayor and two new council members. Mayor Patrick Hanlon and Council Members Gerard Balan and Heidi Garrido are set to begin their terms January 4, 2022.

While voting itself takes just a few minutes, Hopkins City Clerk Amy Domeier spends months preparing to ensure that Election Day, and the weeks leading up to it, run as smoothly as possible.

Domeier begins planning for a municipal election, which are held in the odd years, six months before Election Day. This work includes securing polling locations; assembling candidate filing packets; preparing ballots with Hennepin County; recruiting, training and certifying election judges; drafting communications for voter outreach; testing voting equipment; and coordinating supplies and Election Day materials for the precincts.

Additionally, with the rise in popularity of absentee voting due to the coronavirus pandemic (500+ absentee votes in 2021 compared to just 52 in 2011), Domeier now spends many hours arranging for and administering absentee voting, which begins 46-days prior to Election Day.

On Election Day, Domeier fields questions and provides assistance to election judges, as needed. After polls close, she works with election judges to ensure all summary statements, voted, duplicated and spoiled ballots, completed voter signature certificates, and new voter registration certificates and voting equipment are in order, and sends all required Election Day materials and forms to the County Auditor's office. Domeier is also responsible for the safe security and storage of election items.

"The key to preparing for an election is being organized," said Domeier. "There are many deadlines to meet and tasks to accomplish, and the City Clerk has to be dependable and available."

Interested in running or serving as an election judge in the next municipal election in 2023? Visit the City website at www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections. 🗳️

Experience the Upside of Aging at the Activity Center

Defensive Driving: January 10, noon to 4 p.m., and February 28, 2 to 6 p.m.

Drivers age 55 and over that take a Refresher Defensive Driving course qualify for a senior auto insurance discount. Defensive Driving courses are taught by Minnesota Safety Council. Members: \$25, non-members: \$28.

Travel Show: January 27, 4 to 6 p.m.

Learn about senior day trips and excursions for the year. Free.

Registration is required by calling the Hopkins Activity Center at 952-939-1333 or visiting the program registration site at www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter. 🗳️

Rate Increases Take Effect January 1

In order to cover current operating costs and adequately fund capital projects, the City Council adopted rate increases for water, sanitary sewer, refuse and recycling. New rates were also approved for organics recycling. The new rates are effective on January 1 and will first appear on utility bills received in February. Storm sewer fees remain the same. To view the rate increases, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/493/Fees-on-Your-Utility-Bill. 🗳️

Sign-Up for Emergency Alerts

The City of Hopkins uses Rave Mobile Safety as the City's emergency notification system. Rave is a free service that allows residents to sign-up for notifications to be informed on potentially hazardous situations involving weather, traffic and other emergencies. All City of Hopkins snow emergency notifications will be sent via Rave. Learn more and sign-up at www.hopkinsmn.com/rave. 🗳️