



Hopkins Highlights

Inspire

Educate

Involve

Communicate



Hilltop Park

When It Snows in Hopkins

REMEMBER THESE RULES AND SAIL SMOOTHLY THROUGH WINTER

1 Move Your Car

To avoid being towed, remove your vehicle from City streets and parking lots as soon as a snow emergency is declared.

Snow emergencies may be declared upon a two-inch snowfall.

Call the Snow Line at 952-939-1399 for snow emergency announcements. To receive a message when a snow emergency is declared, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/255/Emergency-Notification-System to register your phone number for the Rave Emergency Notification System.

During a snow emergency, parking restrictions remain in effect until streets are plowed curb to curb, and the parking lots and parking ramp are completely plowed.

If your vehicle is towed during a snow emergency, call Midwest Recovery and Transport at 612-986-4339 for instructions on where to pick up your vehicle. Vehicles are released only to the registered owners. Owners need to bring proof of ownership (current title or registration card), proof of insurance and driver's license. Payment is accepted by cash (exact change) only. **No credit cards are accepted.** Vehicle pick-up continuously until after day two of the snow emergency. *Note: The City receives no money when cars are towed — all fees go to the towing company.*



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. This is necessary for the safety of all who use the sidewalks. Remember, it is against the law for individuals

to plow, shovel, blow or place snow onto streets, alleys and boulevards.

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. 🍷

CALL THE SNOW LINE:
952-939-1399

DID YOU KNOW?

The City of Hopkins has 85 miles of streets and alleys, nine parking lots, eight municipal buildings with parking lots and sidewalks, and many more miles of public sidewalks and trails to maintain. It takes a minimum of seven hours to plow the city after a snowfall, and much more if the snowfall is six inches or greater. The day after a snowfall, efforts are largely dedicated to heavy snow removal from the Central Business District and Blake Road Corridor.

HOW IS A SNOW EMERGENCY CALLED?

The City determines when to call snow emergencies based on a combination of the amount of snow falling and the time of day it falls.

Newsletter Changes Coming in 2023

Beginning in 2023, the City will be changing the way we communicate with residents via our Hopkins Highlights newsletter.

Currently, Hopkins Highlights is mailed to property owners monthly with their utility bills. Some rental properties may also receive hand-delivered copies, dependent upon the property manager. This leaves out a significant portion of the Hopkins community, as 65 percent of our residents live in rental properties.

To make our communications more equitable and to reach a wider audience in a cost-effective way, the City will be moving from a monthly, one-page newsletter mailed with utility bills to a bi-monthly, four-page booklet-style newsletter mailed to all Hopkins residents.

Hopkins Highlights is one of our primary communication tools on all City business, and we look forward to widening its reach so that all community members are up-to-date and informed on what is happening in Hopkins.

For more timely updates, residents are encouraged to subscribe to Connections, the City's weekly e-newsletter, at www.hopkinsmn.com/Connections. 🍷

Outdoor Ice Rinks Open December 17

Weather permitting, skating rinks will be open December 17 and will remain open until February 20. Rinks with warming houses are available for your enjoyment at six Hopkins park locations.

Regular Open Hours

- Monday–Friday: 4:30–9 p.m.
- Saturday: Noon–9 p.m.
- Sunday: Noon–7 p.m.

Call the weather hotline at 952-939-8355 for conditions, closings and updates. For extended holiday and winter break hours, please visit www.hopkinsmn.com/400/Ice-Skating-Rinks. 🍷



Upcoming at the City

City Offices Closed

Monday, December 26
Christmas Day (observed)

Monday, January 2
New Year's Day (observed)

City Council Calendar

Tuesday, December 6, 6:35 p.m.
Meeting

Tuesday, December 16, 6:30 p.m.
Work Session

Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 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, December 6, 6:30 p.m.
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Tuesday, December 27, 6:30 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission

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 Alan Beck
Heidi Garrido Brian Hunke

Now Available:

2023 Parking Passes

2023 parking permits are now available for purchase online at www.hopkinsmn.com/485/Downtown-Parking.

Holiday Tree Pick-Up is January 9-12

Holiday trees will be picked up curbside, free of charge for Hopkins residential garbage customers the week of January 9. Trees will be picked up on your garbage day, subject to change due to the weather. Lay trees in the boulevard, parallel with the street, and at least five feet from overhead wires, trees, fences, garbage carts and parked cars. Trees must be free of all ornaments, plastic bags and metal. You do not need to call to schedule this service.

Take Note: Garbage and Recycling Schedule

Garbage and organics will be delayed one day the week of December 26.

Recycling collection will be the weeks of December 5-8 and December 19-22.

Winter-Spring Recreation Registration

Registration for general winter-spring recreation programs begins Tuesday, December 13, at 8 a.m., with registration for senior programs beginning Thursday, December 15, at 8 a.m.

Visit minnetonkamn.gov/register to browse the program options and to register. Choose from an array of activities including kids' programs, tennis lessons, craft opportunities and athletic leagues. There is something for everyone!

Register online or over the phone between 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday by calling 952-939-8203 (General Programs) or 952-939-8393 (Senior Programs).

Smart Salting, Snow Removal Reminders

As a reminder, if you are a property owner in Hopkins, you are responsible for clearing a reasonable amount of snow and ice off your sidewalk within 12 hours of a snowfall. This reduces the hazards of slippery surfaces in the winter and promotes the safety of the City and all its community members.

While salting is effective in melting the snow, it does more harm than good if used in excess. Salt used throughout winter does not disappear once the snow melts. It finds its way into our soil and water resources via runoff, harming plants and animals. The best way to reduce salt usage is to use physical snow removal means when possible and only apply the recommended amount of salt (about a 12 ounce coffee cup per 10 foot sidewalk squares or one 20 foot driveway). This amount is plenty to melt the snow while helping to alleviate the burden of excess salt on the local environment.

More information on smart salting for residents and the measures the city is taking to reduce its salt use can be found at www.hopkinsmn.com/1131/Smart-Salting.

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, recycling and organics recycling. The new recycling and organic recycling rates will first appear on the utility bills received in January. Water and sanitary sewer rates will first appear on the bill received in February. Storm sewer and refuse fees remain the same. To view the rate increases, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/493/Fees-on-Your-Utility-Bill.

This Winter at the Hopkins Activity Center

Pickleball Lessons, Tuesdays, December 6-27 (Beginner), 2-3:30 p.m.

For those new to the sport of Pickleball, who want to learn in a non-intimidating environment. Gain confidence in this four-week session. Activity fee: \$30, Members \$27.

Noon Year's Party, Thursday, December 29, 11 a.m.

Play trivia, win prizes, dine on an appetizer lunch and enjoy socializing. A toast to the new year will be celebrated at noon. Activity fee: \$10, Members \$9. RSVP to attend.

Register by calling the Activity Center at 952-939-1333 or visiting the program registration site at www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter.