



# Hopkins



Inspire • Educate      Involve • Communicate

## Plan to Vote November 7

The general election will be held Tuesday, November 7. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Visit [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org) to find your polling place, request a ballot or view your sample ballot, or contact City Hall for more information.

### Register to Vote

Visit to [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org) to register to vote. You will need your Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota identification card number, or the last four digits of your Social Security number. Register to vote prior to October 17 to ensure you are registered on Election Day. Registration forms are also available at City Hall.

### Vote Early by Absentee Ballot

You do not have to wait until Election Day to vote. You can vote early by absentee ballot. Eligible voters may vote in-person at City Hall or by mail. To vote early by mail, request an absentee ballot by visiting [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org) or by contacting City Hall.

Absentee ballots will be available at City Hall starting Friday, September 22, through Monday, November 6, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. City Hall will be open extended hours for absentee voting on Saturday, November 4 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and Monday, November 6 (open until 5 p.m.)

### Questions?

City staff is available for voting questions. Please contact us at 952-548-6300 or visit our website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections) for more information. 🍷



## Ice Season Returns!

*at the Hopkins Pavilion*

Weekday Open Skates at the Hopkins Pavilion will begin Tuesday, September 5. All Open Skates are \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and students, and free for kids under 5. Learn more about activities at the Pavilion at [www.hopkinspavilion.com](http://www.hopkinspavilion.com). 🍷

## Register for Youth Basketball League

Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation's Youth Basketball League for grades 2-6, in partnership with Plymouth Parks and Recreation, is a great opportunity for new and experienced players to develop their basketball skills, character and build new friendships. Teams are formed by grade level.

Games for all ages begin in December and are on Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Grades 3-6 will have one night of practice each week and second graders will practice Saturdays for the first half of the season, with games during the second half. Volunteer coaches are needed.

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/register](http://minnetonkamn.gov/register) or call 952-939-8203 to learn more, or to register for the league and volunteer coaching. The registration deadline is October 2. 🍷

## Bulk Item Drop-Off is September 29-30

The City is holding its annual fall bulk item drop-off event for City of Hopkins residents on Friday, September 29, from 3-7 p.m., and Saturday, September 30, from 9 a.m.- noon, at Hopkins Public Works, 11100 Excelsior Boulevard.

For a \$20 fee plus taxes, you can drop off one appliance and up to three cubic yards worth of trash (the equivalent of one pick-up truckload). Shred-N-Go will also be on-site for confidential destruction of documents. Payment will be processed by card at the event. Debit cards, MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover are all accepted.

Find more information at [www.hopkinsmn.com/333/Bulk-Item-Drop-Off](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/333/Bulk-Item-Drop-Off). 🍷

## Did You Know?



The City offers a free brush and yard waste drop-off site for residential garbage customers at 3100 Hopkins Crossroad. The site will be open regular hours (Monday and Wednesday 2 to 7 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) through October 9. After October 9, Monday and Wednesday hours will change to 1 to 5 p.m. (weather permitting). Visit the City website at [www.hopkinsmn.com/599/Drop-Off-Site](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/599/Drop-Off-Site) for more information.

# City Meeting Calendar

## City Offices Closed

**Monday, September 4**  
Labor Day

## City Council Calendar

**Tuesday, September 5, 6:35 p.m.**  
Regular Meeting

**Tuesday, September 12, 6:30 p.m.**  
Regular Meeting

**Tuesday, September 19, 6:30 p.m.**  
Regular Meeting

**Tuesday, October 3, 6:35 p.m.**  
Regular Meeting

**Tuesday, October 10, 6:30 p.m.**  
Regular Meeting

**Tuesday, October 17, 6:30 p.m.**  
Regular Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at [www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council). Watch City Council meetings live at [www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand).

## Boards and Commissions Calendar

**Tuesday, September 5, 6:30 p.m.**  
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

**Monday, September 18, 6:30 p.m.**  
Park Board

**Tuesday, September 26, 6:30 p.m.**  
Planning and Zoning Commission

**Tuesday, October 3, 6:30 p.m.**  
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

**Monday, October 23, 6:30 p.m.**  
Park Board

**Tuesday, October 24, 6:30 p.m.**  
Planning and Zoning Commission

Find agendas and minutes at [www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions](http://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



CITY HALL  
1010 1ST STREET SOUTH  
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## Eight Interns Complete 2023 ACE Program

Over the summer, the City of Hopkins and the City of Minnetonka partnered on the Advancing Careers and Employment (ACE) program, which offers young people ages 16-24 a paid summer internship and professional development experience.

For eight weeks, eight interns worked across several City departments including Community Development, Administration and Finance, Police, Fire, Public Works, the Hopkins Center for the Arts, and the Hopkins Activity Center.

Each week, students spent time with speakers and trainers on professional development topics like personal finance, conflict resolution and career development, experience different departments and jobs within the City, and completed projects and tasks within their assigned department.

The ACE program focuses on meeting the needs of youth traditionally under-represented in the workforce, in addition to exposing young adults to careers in local government.

Learn more at [www.hopkinsmn.com/ACE](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/ACE). 🍓

## City Awards Building Safer Communities Microgrants

In spring 2023, the City of Hopkins allocated \$10,000 of money awarded to the City from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to provide funding opportunities for programs, communication, advocacy, and organizing led by community-based organizations and community members that promote community safety and connectivity.

The City received applications for over \$38,000 worth of projects and ultimately selected 10 organizations to receive funding.

The projects selected were inclusive, collaborative, resourceful and innovative while working to increase safety and reduce crime in the community.

More information about this one-time grant program and the projects selected can be found at [www.hopkinsmn.com/1134/Building-Safer-Communities-Micro-Grants](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/1134/Building-Safer-Communities-Micro-Grants). 🍓



Ladybug street painting funded by a microgrant (Photo by Bob Metoxen)

# Equity Strategic Action Plan Update

As part of our ongoing commitment to racial equity, the City embarked on its first Equity Strategic Action Plan (ESAP) to advance systemic change related to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) efforts across the organization. The ESAP is a highly detailed one-year strategy to define the strategic improvements and required resources (including staff time, funding and other necessary items) to advance racial equity within the City.

Using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds set aside for DEI work by the City Council in summer 2022, the City entered into a contract with CultureBrokers, LLC to evaluate and assess where the City was at in regard to DEI across the organization, and to then work to create a plan moving forward.

Work with CultureBrokers began in November 2022, with the launch of their proprietary Diamond Inclusiveness Assessment (DIA), which evaluates the City's level of inclusiveness across eight areas. 120 stakeholders, including staff, board and commission members, consultants, and residents took the assessment, which then provided leadership with insight into areas of strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for improvement.

In 2023, the City completed the ESAP and is now working to make progress on the two focus areas: Financial Investment and Human Development.

Residents interested in learning more about the ESAP and other initiatives related to racial equity can visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/581/Race-Equity](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/581/Race-Equity). 🍷

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## Free Fall Brush and Leaf/Yard Waste Pick-Up

### *Free Brush Pick-Up Begins September 18*

The City will be picking up brush free of charge for residential garbage customers the same day as your garbage day the week of September 18. No call-in is required for the free pick-up.

Brush may be no longer than 15 feet and no larger than six inches in diameter. One large pile is preferred, but if you must make multiple piles, make sure they are clearly separated. Piles can NOT touch. Piles must be stacked in the boulevard, lying parallel with the street with a minimum of five feet around and above them for accessibility—do not stack near trees, poles, vehicles, fences, etc.

Find more information at [www.hopkinsmn.com/596/Brush-Pick-Up](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/596/Brush-Pick-Up).

### *Free Leaf and Yard Waste Pick-Up Begins October 23*

Free fall leaf/yard waste bag pick-up will be on your regular garbage day October 23 through November 16. You do not need to schedule this pick-up. Yard waste must be bagged in compostable bags. No plastic bags or loose leaves on tarps.

If you live in the Bellgrove, Hobby Acres, Park Ridge and Interlachen Park neighborhoods, there will not be free leaf and yard waste bag pick-up in these areas. The City will provide free street leaf and yard waste pick-up in these areas using front-end loaders and dump trucks the week of November 6 through 9. View the schedule at [www.hopkinsmn.com/651/Leaf-Yard-Waste-Pick-Up](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/651/Leaf-Yard-Waste-Pick-Up).

For Hopkins Crossroad, Minnetonka Boulevard, Oakridge Road, 5th Avenue North, Minnetonka Mills Road and Blake Road residents: Due to county restrictions and high traffic levels, residents will have free leaf and yard waste bag pick-up October 23 through November 16. 🍷

## Upcoming Events

### Coffee with a Cop

**Wednesday, October 4 • 9-11 a.m.**

Join officers from the Hopkins Police Department on National Coffee with a Cop Day for free coffee and conversation at Amy's Cupcake Shoppe, 701 Mainstreet.

### Hopkins Fire Department Open House

**Saturday, October 14 • 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Stop by the Hopkins Fire Department, 101 17th Avenue S, for their annual open house event featuring fire truck bucket rides, free hot dogs and popcorn, and lots of hands-on fun. Watch live fire demonstrations, including an auto extrication and car fire, and learn valuable health and life safety tips. Plenty of parking is available adjacent to the station.

### Hopkins Race and Equity Initiative Community Conversation

**Wednesday, October 25 • 6:30-8 p.m.**

Learn about restorative practices and restorative justice, and see how they work to build healthy equitable communities at this community conversation at the Eisenhower Community Center Cafeteria.

### Halloween in Hopkins

**Saturday, October 28 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Mark your calendar for fun-filled Halloween events in Downtown Hopkins! From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., make your way down mainstreet for trick-or-treating at various businesses, and don't miss the Hopkins Police Department's Haunted Jail tours from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Trick-or-Treat at HPD

**Tuesday, October 31 • 5-8 p.m.**

Stop by the police department lobby for a treat and meet the officers patrolling your neighborhood. 🍷

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## Garbage, Organics & Recycling Schedule

### September 2023

City offices will be closed Monday, September 4, for Labor Day. Garbage and organics collection will be delayed one day. Recycling collection will be the weeks of September 11-14 and September 25-28.

### October 2023

Garbage and organics collection will take place every week on normal pick-up days. Recycling collection will be the weeks of October 9-12 and October 23-26.



City of Hopkins

CITY HALL  
1010 1ST STREET SOUTH  
HOPKINS, MN 55343

## Changes to Emergency Alerting System Coming

The City of Hopkins is changing how we alert citizens for snow emergencies, road closures and other public safety matters in the community.

In the past, alerts have been sent out via phone calls to numbers associated within the City of Hopkins. On September 1, 2023, this old system will be removed and replaced with Smart911.

To continue (or begin) receiving emergency alerts, you have two options:

1. Create a free Smart911 profile at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com).

[www.smart911.com/ref/reg.action?pa=hopkinsmn](http://www.smart911.com/ref/reg.action?pa=hopkinsmn). Once signed up, you can update your contact preferences (email, phone call, text) and opt in/out of the types of notifications you wish to receive.

2. Text HOPKINS to 78015 to opt-in to text/SMS-only alerts. This option is not configurable like the Smart911 profile is. You will receive all alerts via text message only. Opt-out at any time. Standard messaging rates may apply. 🍷

## Discover West Metro Art on Fall Art Tour

The Friends of the Hopkins Center for the Arts are excited to present Studio West Art Tour, an early autumn ramble through the art studios and creative spaces of Minneapolis' western metropolitan communities in Hopkins, Minnetonka, St. Louis Park, Deephaven, Tonka Bay and Excelsior on September 16 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and September 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tour-goers will enjoy a self-guided experience exploring new territories of art-making, discovering both fresh talent and the latest work by established favorites. More information about Studio West Art Tour can be found at [www.hopkinsartscenter.com/300/Studio-West-Art-Tour](http://www.hopkinsartscenter.com/300/Studio-West-Art-Tour). 🍷



# Hopkins Activity Center

*Fitness • Recreation • Social Opportunities • Rentals*

Focus on a healthy mind and body this fall with the support of educational, fitness, social and recreational programming offered at the Hopkins Activity Center.

The Activity Center is located at 33 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue N. Register by calling the Activity Center at 952-939-1333 or visiting the program registration site at [www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter).

### Celebrate Active Aging Week

October 2-6

Take your health to the next level and stop in to sample a fitness class for free during Active Aging Week, October 2-6. Throughout the week there will be opportunities for social, emotional, educational and physical wellness engagement.

### Senior Health Fair

Friday, October 6 • 10 a.m.-Noon

Continue taking care of your health and wellness by attending the Senior Health Fair and Flu Shot Clinic. Explore informational booths with vendor information on nutrition, finances, housing and many more resources, enjoy a healthy snack and sample fitness challenges. Registration not required.

### Storytelling Your Life's Legacy

Wednesdays, October 11-November 1 • 10:30 a.m.-Noon

Learn how to tell the story of your life. Each of us have stories that we love, whether sweet, funny or sad of growing up, high school, work, family, or the challenges we have faced. This four-session workshop with Professional Storyteller, Loren Niemi, will help you identify, craft and comfortably tell the legacy stories you want to share with family and friends. Activity fee: \$67, Members: \$62. 🍷