

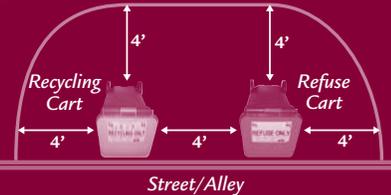
# Hopkins Highlights

March  
2008

## You're Invited To The 2008 State Of The City Presentation

The Hopkins' City Council and the Hopkins Business and Civic Association invite you to join them for the Hopkins State of the City presentation. This is your chance to find out more about what happened in Hopkins in 2007 and what's in store for 2008.

This year's event will be held on March 18, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm at the Hopkins Center for the Arts. Food will be provided. 🍷



## Garbage Pick Up Reminders

The City provides refuse containers and weekly refuse collection in the City service areas. Refuse containers must be set out by 6 am on the collection day. Containers should be large enough to contain and confine weekly refuse. **Refuse drivers cannot collect containers with overflowing refuse.** Contact City Hall if you need a larger container.

### Where To Put Your Container

Refuse containers are to be placed in the alley one to four feet behind the alley edge line with the handle positioned away from the alley and away from any building, obstacle, or other containers. In areas without an alley, containers are to be placed in the street or boulevard one to three feet behind the curb line with the handle positioned away from the street. In alley locations requiring trucks to be backed in, refuse cans must be placed on the street side of the residence.

For more information about garbage collection, go to [www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/garbage/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/garbage/) or call the Public Works Department at 952-939-1382. 🍷

## Bulk Item Drop-Off: *Time For Spring Cleaning!*

**April 10 & 11**      **April 12**  
3:00 – 7:00 pm      9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Drop-Off Site: 1414 7th St. S (old landfill site)

Available for Hopkins residential refuse customers only. **A valid Minnesota ID or current paid utility bill must be shown to prove eligibility.**

### Guidelines

- \$20 fee for each recyclable appliance. Fee will not be collected the day of drop off. Fee will be placed on your utility bill. All other bulk items are free.
- Maximum 3 cubic yards (one pick-up truck load) per household.
- Residents must separate recyclable materials into the proper areas at the site. Construction materials, appliances, and metal materials will be separated and recycled.
- Small engines and lawn mowers must have fluids removed. Caps, drain plugs, and wheels must also be removed prior to taking them to the drop-off site.
- Electronics and concrete products are accepted at the drop-off site (concrete products containing steel will not be accepted).

**Items not accepted at the bulk drop-off include**, but are not limited to:

- Tires
- Car parts
- Waste oil
- Gas refrigerators
- Treated lumber
- Hazardous waste
- Junk cars
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Paint products
- Metal barrels or drums
- Concrete containing steel
- Car batteries

Hazardous wastes must be taken to the Hennepin County Transfer Station. Call Hennepin County at 612-348-3777 for more information. 🍷

## Fire Hydrant Flushing Schedule

Public Works utility crews will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the community from April 7–May 2.

**Flushing the hydrants may cause water discoloration problems.**

Residents are cautioned against doing laundry—particularly whites—while crews are in the neighborhood. Unfortunately, it is not possible to determine where sediment or discoloration problems will occur.

**April 7–11:** Hydrants north of Co Rd 3 and west of Hwy 169

**April 21–25:** Hydrants south of Co Rd 3 and west of Hwy 169

**April 28–May 2:** Hydrants east of Hwy 169 🍷

## AutoPay Your Utility Bill With A Credit Card

Beginning in March, the City of Hopkins will begin offering recurring credit card transactions to utility customers, similar to the service offered by other utility companies. Customers can have their Visa or MasterCard credit or check card automatically billed each month for their utility service. Watch [www.hopkinsmn.com](http://www.hopkinsmn.com) for more information and to sign up or call 952-548-6332. 🍷



# Hopkins Highlights

## Refuse & Recycling

Refuse collection is March 3-6, 10-13, 17-20, 24-27, and 31-April 3.

Recycling collection is March 3-6, 17-20, and 31-April 3.



## March 2008

### City Council Calendar

March 4, 7:30 pm  
Meeting

March 11, 6:30 pm  
Work Session

March 18, 7:30 pm  
Meeting

March 25, 6:30 pm  
Work Session

April 1, 7:30 pm  
Meeting

Agendas and minutes can be found at [www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/citycouncil/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/citycouncil/).

### Boards & Commissions Calendar

March 4, 7 pm  
Housing & Redevelopment Authority

March 17, 6:30 pm  
Park Board

March 25, 6:30 pm  
Zoning & Planning Commission

April 1, 7 pm  
Housing & Redevelopment Authority

April 7, 7 pm  
Human Rights Commission

Agendas and minutes can be found at [www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/boards/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/boards/).

### Cable Channel 16

City Council and Zoning & Planning Commission meetings can be seen on cable channel 16 live and are replayed on:

Monday & Wednesday  
7:30 pm

Thursday                      Sunday  
2:00 pm                      1:00 pm

### Elected Officials

Mayor  
Gene Maxwell (952-935-5270)

City Council  
Kristi Halverson   ■   Bruce Rowan  
Rick Brausen   ■   Cheryl Youakim

## Join The CERT



### Informational Meeting

Monday, March 31, 6:30 pm  
Hopkins Fire Station, 101 17th Ave S

The City of Hopkins and the Hopkins Fire & Police Departments are looking for volunteers interested in participating in a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program.

The CERT Program consists of a group of volunteers who have been trained to assist with basic disaster response such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT participants assist family members and others in their neighborhood or work-

place following an incident when professional responders are not immediately available to help. Members also assist with community events such as Raspberry Days and Mainstreet Day, and are involved in disaster drills along with the Police and Fire Departments to maintain their skills.

To qualify, you must live in Hopkins, be at least 18 years of age, submit to a background investigation, and successfully complete the 24-hour training course. The CERT course is taught in the community by a team of first responders and includes disaster preparedness, disaster fire suppression, basic disaster medical operations, and light search and rescue operations. Classes run one night per week from 6-10 pm for six weeks. There will be a final simulation drill on a subsequent Saturday from 8 am-12 pm.

Interested? Contact Paul Odden at the Hopkins Fire Department. He can be reached at [podden@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:podden@hopkinsmn.com) or at 952-548-6466. 🍷

## Sewer Backups: What You Need To Know

**If a property owner has reason to believe that there is a problem with their sewer service, the City should be notified immediately.** The Public Works Department can be reached day or night at 952-939-1382 (weekdays 7:30 am-4 pm) or 952-938-8885 (weekends, holidays, and off-hours).

Sewer backups are a potential problem for all property owners. Prompt action by the property owner in notifying the City may prevent damages to the home or business. The City will dispatch a Public Works employee to investigate the sewer main line for problems and take action if appropriate. If the problem is found to be in the sanitary sewer service from the home or structure to the sewer main in the street, including the connection, it is the responsibility of the property owner.

### Cleaning Your Sanitary Sewer

**Please notify the Public Works Department if you contract a private contractor to clean your sanitary sewer service line.** The City will check/clear the City's main service line for/of debris that could affect you or your neighbors' sanitary sewer service.

### Damage From Sewer Backups

Claims for damages to people's homes caused by sewer backups probably lead to more misunderstanding and hard feelings than any other single kind of claim. Property owners should be aware of three basic points regarding sewer backups and the resulting damage:

1. The City is not automatically liable for resulting damages whenever a sewer backs up. The City is only liable for damages if the backup was caused by the City's negligence.
2. Many property owner insurance policies exclude damage resulting from sewer backups. Thus, property owners often end up looking to the City to pay their damages when their own insurer denies their claim.
3. Some insurance companies do provide sewer backup coverage. Therefore it is possible for property owners to protect themselves against this risk.

**If you have any questions or concerns about your sewer service, please call the Public Works Department at 952-939-1382. 🍷**

### Compost Bins For Sale

Hennepin County has partnered with Bachman's, Lakewinds Natural Foods, and The Reuse Center to sell compost bins at a reduced rate for residents this spring. Visit [www.hennepin.us/compostbinsale](http://www.hennepin.us/compostbinsale) to learn more and pre-order your compost bin by April 1.