

Hopkins Highlights

May
2008

2008 Photo Contest Announced

Get your camera in gear and capture the community of Hopkins in pictures during the 2008 City of Hopkins Photo Contest. Enter your best shots in any of eight categories, including education, outdoor/recreation, historic Hopkins, and Raspberry Rapture. Entries will be accepted through October 31, 2008. There is no limit to the number of entries that can be submitted per photographer.

Prizes will be awarded in up to eight categories, and each winner will receive \$100. Winning photographs will be framed and displayed at The Depot Coffee House in early 2009.

For official rules and to download entry forms, visit thinkhopkins.com or pick up a Photo Contest brochure. Brochures are available at City Hall and the Hopkins Center for the Arts, as well as local businesses including Frame Design and The Depot Coffee House.

If you would like more information, contact Tara Beard at 952-548-6343 or tbeard@hopkinsmn.com. The photo contest is a part of the Think Hopkins campaign. 🍷

2008 City of Hopkins
PHOTO
contest



Recycling Opportunities

at the Hopkins Activity Center

The following items are being collected at the Hopkins Activity Center. These items are passed onto area organizations so that they might benefit from their value.

Used Cell Phones are being collected as part of a Hopkins Activity Center fundraising program organized by the National Council on Aging. This program helps the environment at the same time by keeping phones out of our nation's landfills.

Eye Glasses & Hearing Aids are collected for the Lions Club, which helps children and adults throughout the world by providing them with usable eyeglasses and hearing aids. 🕶️

Used Greeting Cards are recycled by volunteers into new greeting cards. All kinds of greeting cards are accepted. Please include the entire card.

Canceled postage stamps are collected for the Lake Minnetonka Stamp Club, which utilizes new & canceled stamps to teach school children about the stamp collecting hobby. 📧

Acrylic Yarn is used by the Helping Hands to knit and crochet hats, mittens, scarves, finger puppets and blankets for local organizations.

Kemps Milk Caps, Campbell's Labels for Education and Box Tops for Education are distributed to area schools. 🍏

Items may be dropped off at or mailed to: Hopkins Activity Center, 33 14th Avenue North, Hopkins, MN 55343. 🍷

Improvement Work Continues In 2008

The City continues its commitment to street and utility improvements with the 2008 Improvement Project, which includes Minnetonka Mills Road and Second Street NE from Fifth Avenue N to Blake Road. Construction is anticipated to begin in early July and continue through October.

Improvements to Minnetonka Mills Rd include a complete reconstruction with new curb and gutter, new paving, storm sewer improvements, and utility repairs. Minnetonka Mills will be closed to through traffic during construction, but access will be maintained for property owners. Improvements to Second Street NE include a mill and overlay of the existing pavement, curb repair, and utility repairs. Second Street will be open during construction with some short duration closings during paving operations.

Other projects to be completed this summer include continuing the crack sealing and seal coat program, street striping and light pole painting, and reconstruction of the tennis courts adjacent to the Pavilion.

In the fall, work will begin on restoring the stream bank of Nine Mile Creek. This project is funded by the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and will include rerouting the creek through Valley Park, an additional treatment basin near Highway 169, and erosion control measures throughout the project. The goals of the project are to reduce erosion of the banks and enhance the natural habitat.

One Bench Left For Dedication

The Park Bench Dedication Program has only one park bench left in Downtown Park. For \$700 individuals, families, or businesses can dedicate a park bench in honor of a family name, business, or in memory of a loved one. The 6-foot bench will proudly display your dedication on a 4" x 6" cast aluminum plaque. If you are interested in dedicating a bench, please contact Ray Vogtman at 952-548-6372. 🍷



If you have any questions, please contact City Engineer John Bradford at 952-548-6356 or by email at jbradford@hopkinsmn.com. 🍷



Hopkins Highlights



Refuse & Recycling
Due to Memorial Day, Monday through Thursday refuse and recycling collection for the week of May 26 will be delayed one day.

May 2008

City Council Calendar

May 6, 7:30 pm
Meeting

May 13, 6:30 pm
Work Session

May 20, 7:30 pm
Meeting

May 27, 6:30 pm
Work Session

June 3, 7:30 pm
Meeting

Agendas and minutes can be found at www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/citycouncil/.

Boards & Commissions Calendar

May 5, 7 pm
Human Rights Commission

May 6, 7 pm
Housing & Redevelopment Authority

May 19, 6:30 pm
Park Board

May 27, 6:30 pm
Zoning & Planning Commission

June 2, 7 pm
Human Rights Commission

Agendas and minutes can be found at 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
Rick Brausen ■ Kristi Halverson
Bruce Rowan ■ Cheryl Youakim

City Offices Closed

Monday, May 26
Memorial Day

National Night Out Is August 5



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 5, 2008 and celebrate the 25th annual National Night Out against crime and drugs.

From 5:30 to 9:00 pm, residents in neighborhoods throughout Hopkins and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights, and spend the evening outside with neighbors. Many neighborhoods throughout Hopkins will be hosting a variety of special events such as block parties, cookouts, ice cream socials, potlucks, and games. Last year, 45 neighborhoods in Hopkins registered and took part in NNO.

Register your party early and enjoy a visit from McGruff, Sparky, the Police Department, or the Fire Department! A registration form can be obtained from the City of Hopkins Web site, or by contacting Anne Marie Buck of the Hopkins Police Department at 952-548-6407 or abuck@hopkinsmn.com before July 15, 2008. 🍷

Drop Off Your Brush & Yard Waste

The Yard Waste & Brush Drop Off location at 3100 Hopkins Crossroads (the west side of County Road 73, approximately two blocks north of County Road 5) will open **Saturday May 3**. The scheduled hours of operation will be **Wednesdays, 2-7 pm**, and **Saturdays, 9 am-3 pm** (weather permitting).

Yard Waste Bags & Brush Pick Up

Beginning the week of May 12, yard waste bags must have a yard waste sticker on them to be picked up and a fee (based upon volume) will be charged for brush pick up (fee will be placed on residents' utility bill).

Yard waste stickers are \$2 each and must be affixed to each bag as payment for pick up. Stickers may be purchased at City Hall or Public Works. Residents may also call Public Works at 952-939-1382 and request that stickers be sent in the mail; however, a minimum of ten stickers must be purchased for phone orders.

Yard waste will be picked up the same day as your refuse. Brush pick ups take place on Tuesdays and **must be scheduled** no later than 2 pm on Mondays. 🍷



Gain Valuable Advice At Free Foreclosure Workshops

What happens during foreclosure and what do homeowners need to know? What rights do homeowners have? What options are there? Local non-profit foreclosure counselors will provide free advice at upcoming foreclosure workshops at Hennepin County libraries:

- ◆ Thurs, May 8, 6:30 pm, Brookdale
- ◆ Tues, May 27, 6:30 pm, Hosmer
- ◆ Mon, June 2, 6:30 pm, Rockford Road
- ◆ Wed, June 25, 6:30 pm, Augsburg Park
- ◆ Mon, July 14, 6:30 pm, Brooklyn Park
- ◆ Tues, July 29, 6:30 pm, North Regional 🍷

Get Rid Of Household Hazardous Waste

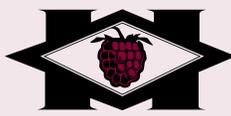
Hennepin County has three community events scheduled this spring for household hazardous waste and problem materials collection from Hopkins residents:

May 1-3, 9 am - 4 pm
Independence City Hall parking lot (1920 County Road 90, Independence)

May 15-17, 9 am - 4 pm
City of Minnetonka Public Works Department (11522 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka)

June 12-14, 9 am - 4 pm
Louisiana Oaks Park - south parking lot (3500 Louisiana Ave, St. Louis Park)

For more information and a list of items that are accepted, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/recycling/hhw-events.html. 🍷



Hopkins Highlights Extra

2007 Drinking Water Report

The City of Hopkins is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2007. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

Source of Water

The City of Hopkins provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source: three wells ranging from 495 to 548 feet deep, that draw water from the Prairie Du Chien-Jordan aquifer.

The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards, but the Minnesota Department of Health has determined that one or more of the sources of water is potentially susceptible to contamination. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4670 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours, or view it online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa/.

Call 952-548-6373 if you have questions about the City of Hopkins drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

Results of Monitoring

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2006. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.

Key to Table Abbreviations

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)—The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)—The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level)

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)

AL (Action Level)—The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

90th Percentile Level—This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples. Note: In situations in which only 5 samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile.

pCi/l (PicoCuries per liter)—A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion)—Can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (ug/l).

ppm (parts per million)—Can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

nd—No detection.

N/A (Not applicable)—Does not apply.

Contaminants (units)	Level Found				Typical Source of Contaminant
	MCLG	MCL	Range 2007	Average/Result*	
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	nd-1.7	1.13	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories, and the State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	0	60.0	N/A	.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10.0	10.0	nd-0.34	0.34	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks (sewage), and erosion of natural deposits.
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80.0	N/A	1.5	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
cis-1, 2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	70	N/A	.3	Discharge from industrial chemical factories.

*This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes is an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.



2006 Drinking Water Report continued

Radon is a radioactive gas which is naturally occurring in some groundwater. It poses a lung cancer risk when gas is released from water into air (as occurs during showering, bathing, or washing dishes or clothes) and a stomach cancer risk when it is ingested. Because radon in indoor air poses a much greater health risk than radon in drinking water, an Alternative Maximum Contaminant Level (AMCL) of 4,000 picoCuries per liter may apply in states that have adopted an Indoor Air Program, which compels citizens, homeowners, schools, and communities to reduce the radon threat from indoor air. For states without such a program, the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 300 pCi/l may apply. Minnesota plans to adopt an Indoor Air Program once the Radon Rule is finalized.

Contaminants (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	Highest and Lowest Monthly Average	Highest Quarterly Average	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4.0	4.0	0.4-1.0	0.61	Water additive used to control microbes.

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# Sites Over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	N/A	1.3	1.33	3 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (ppb)	N/A	15.0	nd	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits.

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels established for them. These "unregulated contaminants" are assessed using state standards known as health risk limits to determine if they pose a threat to human health. If unacceptable levels of an unregulated contaminant are found, the response is the same as if an MCL has been exceeded; the water system must inform its customers and take other corrective actions. Unregulated contaminants were detected as shown in the table at the right.

Contaminants (units)	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
	Range 2007	Average/Result	
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	15.0	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm)	N/A	13.6	Erosion of natural deposits.

Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800 426 4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.