

# Hopkins Highlights

February  
2009

## Are You Ready For Digital TV?

Beginning on February 17, 2009, all broadcast TV signals (e.g. ABC, NBC, CBS, PBS, Univision, etc.) will be broadcast in digital format.

The switch from analog to digital has been mandated by the Federal government. The government is reclaiming the analog broadcast signals. Some of the signals will be used to enhance communications for emergency services.



If your television is hooked up to a pay-service such as cable or satellite, you will NOT be affected by this transition.

If you use an antenna but you have a new digital television set, you will NOT be affected. Many digital television sets have labels that say "Integrated Digital Tuner," "Digital Tuner Built-In," "Digital Receiver," or "Digital Tuner," "DTV," "ATSC," or "HDTV" (High-Definition Television).

If you have an old television and you use a rooftop antenna or rabbit ears to get your TV signals, you will need to do one of the following:

- Buy a digital converter box to use with your current TV(s) and antenna; or
- Buy a new digital TV (still requires an antenna); or
- Subscribe to a pay television service provider such as cable or satellite.

If you need a digital converter box, you can get a \$40 coupon from the Federal government by going to [www.DTV2009.gov](http://www.DTV2009.gov) or by calling 1-888-388-2009.

## Home Remodeling Fair Is March 1

Sunday, March 1, 2009, 10:30 am–3:30 pm  
Eisenhower Community Center, 1001 Highway 7, Hopkins

The 17th annual Home Remodeling Fair will again feature a tremendous line-up of seminars and mini-demonstrations for the do-it-yourselfer, with the added consideration of environmentally-friendly remodeling. While all the workshops will touch on the benefits of remodeling green relative to their respective topics, several workshops will make it their focus (see box for more).

You will also have the opportunity to talk to a variety of professionals, including architects, landscape architects, Hennepin County Master Gardeners, and interior designers, who will provide free, no obligation advice. Talk to a representative from the Center for Energy and Environment about lowering energy costs, or a representative from Community Action Partnership for Suburban Hennepin County about foreclosure prevention, reverse mortgage counseling, energy assistance programs, home ownership services, and financial counseling.

The Home Remodeling Fair is a free event sponsored by the Cities of Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minnetonka, and St. Louis Park, as well as Hopkins, Minnetonka, and St. Louis Park Community Education.



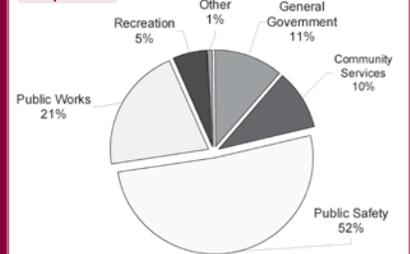
### Seminars & Demonstrations

- Kitchen Design Workshop
- Refinishing Wood Floors
- Restore Your Old Windows
- New Trends in Interior Design
- Spring Into Landscaping
- Kitchen Remodeling 2009
- Adding Value To Your Property Through Home Improvements
- A Beginner's Guide to Remodeling Green
- Rain Gardens and Barrels
- More...(visit [www.homeremodelingfair.com](http://www.homeremodelingfair.com))

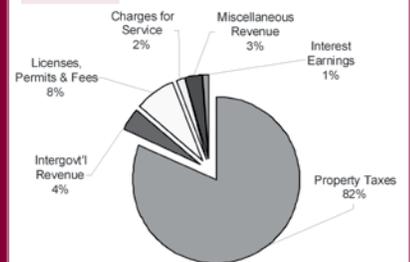
## 2009 Budget

The City Council approved a balanced 2009 General Fund Budget of \$10,075,492—a 5.26% increase over 2008. The 2009 tax levy was set at \$9,553,114—a 3.9% increase over 2008. The tax impact of the increase in the City levy on a median valued home is approximately \$4 a month. The graphs below show the breakdown of budgeted General Fund revenues and expenses.

### Expenses



### Revenues



## Kids' Fest Is February 8

The Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services Department is hosting the 12th annual Kids' Fest on Sunday, February 8, from 1 to 5 pm at the Minnetonka Community Center, Ice Arena, and Williston Fitness Center. Activities include dog sled rides, bingo with prizes, magic shows, face painting, ice sculpture demonstrations, s'mores by the fire, crafts, entertainment, open swimming, open batting cages, open skating, and more! All activities are FREE! For a complete schedule of events, please visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).



# Hopkins Highlights

## Refuse & Recycling

Public Works will be closed Monday, February 16 in observance of Presidents' Day. Refuse and recycling collection for this week will take place Tuesday through Friday.



February 2009

### City Council Calendar

February 10, 6:30 pm  
Work Session

February 17, 7:30 pm  
Meeting

February 24, 6:30 pm  
Work Session

March 3, 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

February 24, 6:30 pm  
Park Board

February 24, 6:30 pm  
Zoning & Planning Commission

March 2, 7 pm  
Human Rights Commission

March 3, 7 pm  
Housing & Redevelopment Authority

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

### City Offices Closed

City offices will be closed on Monday, February 16, for Presidents' Day.

## Renew Alarms For 2009

The City of Hopkins requires homeowners and businesses to register all fire and police alarm systems annually.

The purpose of this requirement is to encourage alarm users to maintain their alarm systems and to provide the City with proper documentation. In doing so, it is believed that there will be a reduction of false alarms, which are a drain on our public safety resources. In 2007 there were 488 police calls for service from alarms—480 of these calls were false alarms.

To download a registration form, visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/publicsafety/alarms.html](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/publicsafety/alarms.html). The annual registration fee is \$10 per system. There are fines for not registering your alarm system and for false alarms.

If you have questions, please contact Police Services Liaison Anne Marie Buck at 952-548-6407 or by e-mail at [abuck@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:abuck@hopkinsmn.com).

## Lease A Garden Plot In Hopkins



The City of Hopkins provides a garden site area in Hopkins Valley Park in the Westbrooke/Nine Mile Creek area where residents can lease a 20' x 20' garden plot.

The 2009 rate is \$12 for each plot. Residents can register for a plot at Hopkins City Hall (1010 1st Street S).

Registration begins March 2, 2009, for residents and are on a first come, first served basis. Non-residents may purchase plots starting March 16, 2009. A maximum of five garden plots per person may be purchased. Plots are ready to plant in mid-May.

## Mixed Municipal Solid Waste Deposit Disclosure

Pursuant to Minnesota Statue 115A.9302, which requires that a person who collects mixed municipal solid waste for transportation to a waste facility shall disclose to each waste generator from whom waste is collected the name, location, type of facility, and the number of the permit issued by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, or its counterpart in another state, for the processing or disposal facility or facilities at which the waste will be deposited. The City of Hopkins (hauler), hereby discloses that the mixed municipal solid waste collected from January 1–December 31, 2009 will be delivered to the following facilities during that time period. If an additional facility becomes either a primary facility or an alternative facility during this time period, the City of Hopkins will provide you with updated information within 30 days.

**Primary Facility Name:** Hennepin Energy Resource Company (HERC)

**Location:** 505 6<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55405

**Type of Facility:** Mass Burn Waste-to-Energy

**MPCA Permit Number:** SW-396

**Primary Facility Name:** NRG Elk River (NSP) Resource Recovery

**Location:** 10700 165<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, Elk River, MN 55330

**Type of Facility:** Refuse Derived Fuel Waste-to-Energy

**MPCA Permit Number:** SW-305

The following facility is used for disposal of construction and demolition material collected through our twice-yearly Bulk Item Drop-off and weekly Bulk Item Collection.

**Alternative Facility Name:** Dem Con Landfill, Inc.

**Location:** 331 Akers Lane, Jordan, MN 55352

**Type of Facility:** Construction Demolition Landfill

**MPCA Permit Number:** SW-290

You may be responsible for any liability that results from contamination at a facility where your waste has been deposited. Minnesota believes that its waste management system provides substantially more financial and environmental protection than depositing waste in landfills in other states. Managing your waste in Minnesota may minimize your potential liability.

### Mark Your Calendar

Hopkins State of the City  
March 16, 2009  
Hopkins Center for the Arts