



Hopkins Highlights

April
2011

Celebrate Earth Day Free & Green

The City of Hopkins Green Committee enthusiastically invites the public to celebrate Earth Day by learning more about green practices and sustainability at The Depot Coffee House on **Saturday, April 23, 10 am to 2 pm.**

This fun and FREE event features an impressive variety of giveaways, professional consultations, product displays, and information. Come to buy your morning coffee and stay to hear **live music** as you explore some of the following highlights:

- Drawings for 2 community garden plots at Valley Park
- Red Maple tree seedlings (one free to each family)
- Bring a container and take free compost for your yard & garden
- Visit with a landscape ecologist and a forester
- Meet bird house designer Dave Edwards and see his creations (specializing in bluebirds, wrens, and chickadees)
- See and have the opportunity to purchase, at low cost, rain barrels and compost containers
- Recycled greeting cards and repurposing everyday items
- Organics recycling information & outreach to businesses
- Hennepin County environmental information
- Three Rivers trail maps & safety information
- Solar panels contractor
- Bikes from Tonka Cycle & Ski
- Hybrid car from Hopkins Honda

Walk or bike on the trail to The Depot Coffee House (9451 Excelsior Blvd—at the intersection of Excelsior Blvd & Hwy 169). Additional parking is available in the gravel lot along the south side of the regional trail, east off of 5th Avenue South. 🍷

Free Brush & Yard Waste Pick Ups Start Soon

YARD WASTE is collected the same day as regular refuse. **Pick up is FREE April 18–28.** Starting May 2, bags must display yard waste stickers.

Place bagged yard waste at the normal refuse collection site at least 4 feet away from your refuse and recycling containers. Yard waste is defined as leaves with twig stems no longer than 4 inches, grass clippings, and similar garden waste. **REMINDER:** Residents must use compostable bags, either paper bags or compostable plastic bags that meet ASTM D6400 standards for composting and that are labeled “compostable.”

BRUSH is collected on **Tuesdays** weather permitting (excluding holidays). To schedule a pick-up, call before 2 pm on Monday. **Brush is collected FREE from April 19–May 3.** After May 3, fees apply.

Stack brush in a neat pile on the boulevard NOT in the street (NO alley pick-up)—butt ends all one way, parallel to the street. Keep brush at least 5 feet away from overhead wires, fences, refuse containers, parked cars, etc. **DO NOT** put brush in your refuse containers. Only brush that is generated on Hopkins’ residential properties will be picked up. Brush is defined as tree limbs, twigs, and branches up to a maximum of 6 inches in diameter and 15 feet in length. No logs or lumber are accepted.

For more information, call 952-939-1382 or visit www.hopkinsmn.com/home/yard/waste/. **Both free pick ups are only provided for residential refuse customers.** 🍷



Get a better look at www.hopkinsmn.com/places/

What's New At Shady Oak Beach?

Come early June, young visitors to Shady Oak Beach will find an exciting new feature to enjoy—the Shady Oak Beach Community Play Area.

Replacing the older water feature at the beach, the new community play area will offer multiple play areas suitable for ages 1-12. Just a few of the features include water tables, water misters, and a “fossil dig” for exploration. Unlike the previous water play area, which could be used only during the summer months, this area will be available for a longer period of time each year – from April through October. This year, the play area is slated for completion by early June.

The cities of Hopkins and Minnetonka received an \$187,500 Hennepin Youth Sports Program grant to develop the new play area. Funding for the grant came from tax dollars collected for the new Minnesota Twins stadium and designated for youth sports/recreational enrichment. 🍷

Drop Off Site Opens April 16

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, April 16. The site will be open Mondays and Wednesdays, 2–7 pm, and Saturdays, 9 am–3 pm.

Only brush and yard waste generated by Hopkins residential properties will be accepted. Driver licenses will be checked to ensure residency requirements. Residents must unload and debag their materials at the site. Residents are required to take their used bags home with them. Branches must be no longer than 15 feet in length or 6 inches in diameter. 🍷



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Refuse & Recycling

Recycling collection is April 11-14 and 25-28.

Refuse collection will take place Monday through Thursday of every week.

April 2011

City Council Calendar

April 5, 7:30 pm Meeting

April 12, 6:30 pm Work Session

April 19, 7:30 pm Meeting

April 26, 6:30 pm Work Session

May 3, 7:30 pm Meeting

Agendas and minutes can be found at www.hopkinsmn.com/council/meetings/.

Boards & Commissions Calendar

April 5, 7:25 pm Housing & Redevelopment Authority

April 18, 6:30 pm Park Board

April 26, 6:30 pm Zoning & Planning Commission

May 3, 7:25 pm Housing & Redevelopment Authority

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

Cable Channel 16

City Council and Zoning & Planning Commission meetings can be seen on cable channel 16 live and are replayed on: Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30pm; Thursdays at 2 pm; and Sundays at 1 pm.

Elected Officials

Mayor
Gene Maxwell
(952-935-5270)

City Council
Rick Brausen Bruce Rowan
Kristi Halverson Cheryl Youakim



Get Rid Of Your Bulk Items April 14-16

Twice a year the City offers a bulk item drop-off service for Hopkins **residential refuse customers only**. A valid Minnesota ID or current paid utility bill must be shown to prove eligibility.

April 14 & 15
3-7 pm

April 16
9 am-4 pm

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

Each eligible residence is allowed to dispose of a **maximum of 3 cubic yards of material**, the equivalent of one pick-up truck load.

Guidelines

- **\$10 fee per vehicle depositing material at drop-off site.** Fee will not be collected the day of drop-off, but will be placed on your utility bill.
- **\$20 fee for each recyclable appliance.** Fee will not be collected the day of drop-off, but will be placed on your utility bill.
- 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
- Gas refrigerators
- Hazardous waste
- Junk cars
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Car batteries
- Concrete containing steel
- Waste oil
- Paint products
- Metal barrels or drums

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

Have A Restless Toddler?

Come to Turf Tots at the Hopkins Pavilion, weekday mornings from 9 am-noon. Turf Tots is a drop-in freeplay program for children up to 5 years old. Kids can run and play with equipment provided by the Pavilion, including sport balls, crawl tunnels, bounce houses, hula hoops, and more!

Parents are required to stay on the field and supervise their child. \$3/session per child. Ends May 13; no session on April 22 and May 6. Find out more at www.hopkinspavilion.com. 🍷



Water Gurgling In South Hopkins?

It's Spring Cleaning Time For City's Sanitary Sewers

The City of Hopkins has a sanitary sewer cleaning program that includes cleaning the sanitary sewers on a three-year revolving schedule. **The area to be cleaned in 2011 is located south of Cty Rd 3 (Excelsior Blvd), from 16th Ave S to Meadowbrook Rd.**

If you live in the cleaning area...

A sanitary sewer jet-cleaning machine uses high-pressure water to clean the sanitary sewer. This high water pressure may affect your home's sanitary sewer plumbing. You may experience gurgling or bubbling water in the toilet bowl or you may smell sewer gas from your basement floor drains. If this does occur, flush your toilet and pour water into your floor drains. This does not damage your sewer system. The water that comes out is the water that is normally in the home's system (drain traps), not the water from the sanitary sewer in the street.

For more information on the sanitary sewer cleaning program call the Utilities Superintendent at 952-548-6373 or visit www.hopkinsmn.com/services/water/cleaning.php. 🍷

REPORT a POTHOLE

Go to www.hopkinsmn.com and click on "Report a Pothole" in the Quick Links box or call Public Works at 952-939-1382.