

# Hopkins Highlights

Inspire Educate Involve Communicate



## Step To It! Get Moving This May

*Register today for a fun, four-week challenge*

Do you want a fun and easy way to get in shape this spring? Sign up for the four-week Step To It Challenge from May 1-28 and get moving again after a cold winter.

Over 20 communities will compete to see which one has the most active residents. Participants have a chance to be honored by Hennepin County and the Minnesota Twins at a Twins home game during the 2016 season.

### How does it work?

As a Step To It participant, you keep an ongoing total of the steps you take during the challenge. You can use the activity conversion chart at [www.steptoit.org](http://www.steptoit.org) to count steps from activities such as biking, skateboarding, Tai Chi, or even just mowing the lawn. Record your steps online, or your step total can be called in or faxed. Best of all, it's FREE! Go to the Step To It Challenge website ([www.steptoit.org](http://www.steptoit.org)) to sign up. 🍓

## NEW! Pay Your Utility Bill Online

The City of Hopkins utility billing portal is now online. Access the site by going to the City's website at [www.hopkinsmn.com](http://www.hopkinsmn.com) and clicking on the "Pay Utility Bill" button.



To register on your first visit, you will need four pieces of information from your most recent utility bill: last name, house/building number of your service address, account number, and current charges.

Once you are registered, you will be able to view your account, make a payment, set up recurring credit card payments and sign up for electronic statements.

You can also make a one-time payment without registering.

Check the site out and give us your feedback by emailing [ub@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:ub@hopkinsmn.com) or clicking "Contact Us" from within the portal. 🍓

### REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CAMPS AT THE PAVILION

Don't miss out on local kids summer camps! Registration is now open.

- Robots-4-U Kids Battle Robots
- Play Well LEGO® Engineering
- Skyhawks Sport Camps
- Elite Soccer Clinics
- Twin Cities Chess Club
- Aikido



Go to [www.hopkinspavilion.com](http://www.hopkinspavilion.com) for information. 🍓

## Fire Department is Now Hiring

The Hopkins Fire Department is seeking candidates for the position of part-time firefighter.

We are looking for people who live within eight minutes of the Hopkins Fire Department and are interested in providing the community with a wide range of emergency services. No prior experience is necessary.

Personnel are paid for all classes, training, calls, drills, and duty crew shifts. Members who spend at least 10 years on the Hopkins Fire Department are eligible for a pension.

The position provides certifications and training in firefighting, EMT, and hazardous materials. Uniforms, equipment, and training are paid for by the department.

**Application deadline is May 31 at 4 pm.** Applications can be obtained at City Hall, the Fire Department, or online at [www.hopkinsmn.com](http://www.hopkinsmn.com). 🍓



## Adopt a Park or Trail

The City of Hopkins is looking for individuals or groups who will help care for our neighborhood parks and trails. These individuals or groups will commit to picking up litter in the park or trail of their choice a minimum of once a month.

The City will provide the bags and disposal services, as well as a posted sign in the park or on the trail recognizing the individual or group. Contact Public Works at 952-939-1382 for more information. 🍓



## Upcoming at City Hall

### City Council Calendar

**Tuesday, April 5, 7:05 pm**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 pm**  
Work Session

**Tuesday, April 19, 7 pm**  
Meeting

**Tuesday, May 3, 7:05 pm**  
Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at [www.hopkinsmn.com/council/meetings/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/council/meetings/). Watch City Council meetings live at [www.hopkinsmn.com/council/video/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/council/video/).

### Boards and Commissions Calendar

**Tuesday, April 5, 7 pm**  
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

**Monday, April 18, 6:30 pm**  
Park Board

**Tuesday, April 26, 6:30 pm**  
Zoning and Planning Commission

**Tuesday, May 3, 7 pm**  
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Find agendas and minutes at [www.hopkinsmn.com/boards/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/boards/).

### 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 pm; Thursdays at 2 pm; and Sundays at 1 pm.

## Elected Officials

**Mayor**  
Molly Cummings (952-933-4452)

**City Council**  
Katy Campbell      Kristi Halverson  
Jason Gadd         Aaron Kuznia

### TAKE NOTE: Refuse and Recycling Schedule

Recycling collection weeks this month are April 4-7 and April 18-21. Recycling is picked up the same day as your refuse collection. ♻️

## April Concerts Fuse the Old With the New

The Hopkins Center for the Arts presents two local bands that combine older musical forms and modern day idioms into fresh, new sounds.

### Saturday, April 16, 8 pm

**Shaun Johnson Big Band Experience**  
Suits. Edge. Energy. Big band music fused with modern day mixes. \$26.

### Tuesday, April 26, 7 pm

**The Galactic Cowboy Orchestra**  
Art-rock that draws from multiple traditions including jazz, bluegrass, Indian ragas, and more. \$20.

To purchase tickets, call 952-979-1111 or visit [www.HopkinsArtsCenter.com](http://www.HopkinsArtsCenter.com). The Hopkins Center for the Arts is located at 1111 Mainstreet. 🍷



Shaun Johnson



The Galactic Cowboy Orchestra



## Hopkins Needs You!

### BECOME AN ELECTION JUDGE

Hopkins' six polling locations are staffed by citizens appointed as election judges. Election judges are responsible for the administration of election procedures and help guarantee that the rights of voters are protected. **Become a member of this proud team working to guarantee the election process is fair and in accordance with the law.**

To serve as an election judge in the City of Hopkins, citizens must:

- be eligible to vote in an election;
- declare what party they consider themselves affiliated with; and,
- **not be** the spouse, parent, child or sibling of any election judges serving in the same precinct or any candidate of that election.

College students at least 18 years old may serve as election judges, and high school students at least 16 years old may serve as trainee election judges.

Election judges are paid an hourly wage. State law allows time off from work without loss of wages to serve as an election judge with 20 days prior notice to the employer. Judges also receive compensation for a 2-hour mandatory training before Election Day.

If you are interested, please complete an application to serve. Applications are available at City Hall or by visiting [www.hopkinsmn.com](http://www.hopkinsmn.com). Questions about serving as an election judge? Contact City Clerk Amy Domeier at [adomeier@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:adomeier@hopkinsmn.com) or 952-548-6304. 🍷

## Stay Active at the Hopkins Activity Center

Experience the UPSIDE of aging at the Activity Center, located at 33 14th Avenue N in Hopkins. Call 952-939-1333 or email [activitycenter@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:activitycenter@hopkinsmn.com) to register.

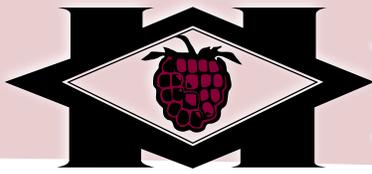
### Memoir Writing

**Mondays & Thursdays, April 18-28, 9-11 am**  
Tell the stories of your life and give a lasting legacy to your family. Accomplished journalist Margie Sloan provides simple methods for you to blend words and photos, and recall the people, places, and events that influenced your life. \$80 (members save \$4).

### Discover Mah Jongg

**Wednesdays, April 6-  
May 18, 1-3 pm**  
Learn to play Mah Jongg, an intriguing game of chance and skill. \$50 (members save \$3). 🍷





# Hopkins Highlights EXTRA



## Clean Up Your Lawn During Free Yard Waste & Brush Pick Up

Free Yard Waste Pick up  
April 25–May 5

**YARD WASTE** will be collected for free on your regular refuse day from April 25–May 5. **You do not need to call to schedule this pick up.** Place bagged yard waste at the normal refuse collection site at least 4 feet away from your refuse and recycling containers.

- You must use compostable bags.
- Items NOT accepted include: animal feces (clean up after pets before raking your lawn), branches, woody vines, long twigs, stump grindings, sod waste, and shrub clippings.
- NO garden products such as pumpkins, potatoes, and apples should be placed in yard waste bags. Place unused garden products such as these into your regular garbage container.
- Yard waste is defined as leaves with twig stems no longer than 4 inches, grass clippings, green, pliable vines, and similar garden waste.

**After May 5**, bags will be collected on Thursdays and must display yard waste stickers, available to purchase at City Hall or the Public Works building. To schedule a yard waste pick up after May 5, call 952-939-1382 before 2 pm on Wednesday.

For more information, call 952-939-1382 or visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/home/yard/waste/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/home/yard/waste/). Both free pick ups are provided only for City of Hopkins residential refuse customers and only for yard waste and brush generated on Hopkins residential properties. 🍓

Free Brush Pick up  
April 18–28

**BRUSH** will be picked up for free on your regular refuse day from April 18–28. **You do not need to call to schedule this pick up.**

- 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 poles, signs, overhead wires, guide wires, trees, fences, refuse containers, parked cars, etc.
- Do not use tarps under or on top of your brush (we use machinery to pick up the brush and the tarps hamper the pick up).
- DO NOT put brush in your refuse containers.
- Only brush which is generated on City of Hopkins' residential refuse customer properties will be picked up.
- Brush is defined as tree limbs, twigs, woody vines, and branches up to a maximum of 6 inches in diameter and 15 feet in length. No logs or lumber are accepted.

**After April 28**, brush will be collected on Tuesdays, weather permitting. To schedule a brush pick up after April 28, call 952-939-1382 before 2 pm on Monday. Fees apply.

## Yard Waste & Brush Drop Off Site Opens April 9

The free drop-off location at 3100 Hopkins Crossroad will open Saturday, April 9, weather permitting, and remain open through November.

### Drop Off Site Hours

- Mondays and Wednesdays, 2–7 pm
- Saturdays, 9 am–3 pm

### Location

One block north of the Hopkins Crossroad & Minnetonka Blvd intersection (only driveway on west side of Hopkins Crossroad).



### Cost

Free for Hopkins refuse customers in the City service area. You will need a valid driver's license, MN ID, or current paid utility bill to prove your eligibility.

### Accepted items

- Tree limbs
- Twigs, branches, and woody vines up to 6" in diameter and 15' long
- Leaves with twig stems not longer than 4"
- Grass clippings
- Similar garden waste
- Soft, pliable vines (yard waste)

Residents will need to unload and debag their materials at the site, and take used bags home with them.

### Not accepted items

- Sod waste
- Animal feces
- Garden products
- Logs or lumber
- Dirt
- Stump grindings
- Material from contractors or commercial firms 🍓



## Check Your Water Before Doing Laundry



Depending on where you live in Hopkins, hydrant flushing and sanitary sewer cleaning could affect your water color this month.

### Hydrant Flushing Schedule

Public Works utility crews will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the community in April. *Schedules may be adjusted due to weather conditions.*

- **April 11–15**  
Hydrants north of Excelsior Blvd and west of Hwy 169
- **April 18–22**  
Hydrants south of Excelsior Blvd and west of Hwy 169
- **April 25–29**  
Hydrants east of Hwy 169

During hydrant flushing it is normal to experience some discolored water. **Residents are cautioned against doing laundry—particularly whites—while crews are in the neighborhood.** This water is safe to drink and can be cleared up by running the cold water in your laundry tub. If you experience problems, please contact Public Works at 952-939-1392.

### Sanitary Sewer Cleaning Area

The City of Hopkins cleans sanitary sewers on a three-year revolving schedule. **The area to be cleaned in 2016 is located east of Shady Oak Rd to 5th Avenue N and S, between Hwy 7 and Excelsior Blvd.**

The high-pressure water used to clean the sewers may affect your home's sanitary sewer plumbing. You may experience gurgling water in your toilet bowl or smell sewer gas from your basement floor drains. If this occurs, flush your toilet and pour water into your floor drains. This does not damage your sewer system. In some instances the crew will need to draw water off of a fire hydrant which could cause discoloration of your water.

**If your home is located within the sewer cleaning area, check your water before doing laundry.** For more information, visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/services/water/cleaning.php](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/services/water/cleaning.php).



## Bulk Item Drop Off Is April 29–30

Broken grill taking up space in the garage? Old microwave in the basement you need to toss? Twice a year the City offers a bulk drop-off service for **City of Hopkins residential refuse customers only**. For a \$15 fee you can drop off one appliance and up to 3 cubic yards worth of trash (the equivalent of one pick-up truck load). Additional appliances are \$20 each.

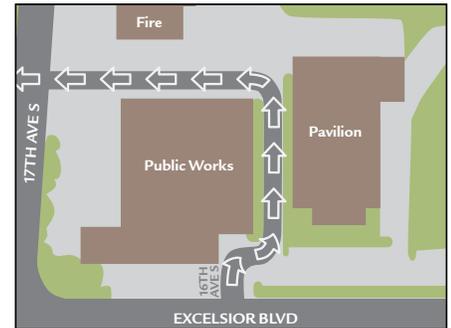
### 2016 Bulk Item Drop Off

- **Friday, April 29, 3–7 pm**
- **Saturday, April 30, 9 am–4 pm**

**Drop-Off Site:** 11100 Excelsior Blvd (Public Works)

### Guidelines

- A valid Minnesota ID or current paid utility bill must be shown for eligibility.
- Each eligible residence is allowed disposal of 3 cubic yards of material, equivalent of one pick-up truck load.
- \$15 fee per vehicle depositing material at drop-off. This includes first recyclable appliance. \$20 fee for each additional appliance. Fees will be placed on your utility bill.
- Residents must separate materials into the proper areas at the site. Construction and metal materials and appliances will be separated/recycled.
- Small engines and lawn mowers must have fluids removed. Caps, drain plugs and wheels must be removed prior to deposit at the drop-off site.
- Electronics and concrete products will be accepted. (Concrete products containing steel will not be accepted.)
- Items not accepted include tires, waste oil, car parts, fluorescent bulbs, paint products, gas refrigerators, car batteries, metal barrels/drums, and hazardous waste. (Hazardous wastes must be taken to Hennepin County Transfer Station. Call 612-348-3777.)



Traffic drop-off route for disposal

### Shred It!

**NEW!** As part of the \$15 gate fee, locked and secure carts will be on-site courtesy of Shred-It for residents to deposit their documents for confidential destruction. **Space is limited.**



## Styrofoam & Plastic Bags In Your Recycling Cart? No, no!

**Plastic bags are enemy #1** for the facilities that process curbside recycling. They wrap around machinery causing shut-downs multiple times a day.

Though you can recycle all rigid plastics marked #1-7, this does not include your **Styrofoam take-out container**. Even though these containers are clearly marked #6, they are not a "rigid plastic." Styrofoam is an "expanded polystyrene"—a completely different product. Different versions of plastics require separate recycling streams. The requirements for #6 Polystyrene are more complex than other plastics, and no regional sorting facilities accept this in single stream recycling.



Though marked #6, Styrofoam cannot be recycled.