

# Hopkins Highlights

April  
2008

## 2008 Brush & Yard Waste Pick Up

### Brush Pick Up

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 22–May 6.** After May 6, 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.



### Drop Off Site Opens May 3

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. It will be open on 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. Branches must be no longer than 15 feet in length or 6 inches in diameter.

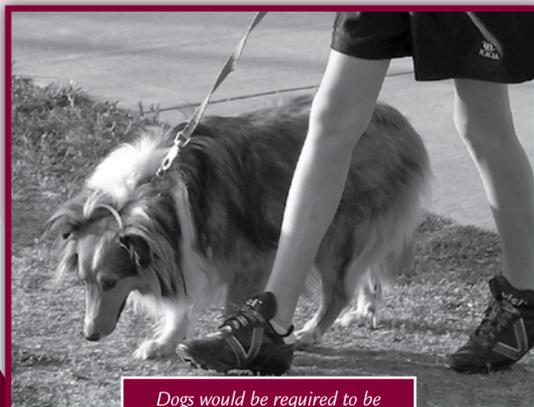
### Yard Waste Pick Up

Yard waste is collected the same day as regular refuse. **Pick up is FREE April 21–May 8.** 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.

For more information, call 952-939-1382 or visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/lgbb/brushyardpickup.html](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/lgbb/brushyardpickup.html).

## City To Consider Dogs In Parks

Many residents want to walk dogs in city parks—this was one conclusion of the Park Board's 2007 survey. Dogs are currently not allowed in city parks. The Park Board and City Council are considering changing the rules to allow leashed dogs along the trails and open spaces in the city's four largest parks: Valley, Burnes, Oakes, and Central. Open areas in these parks could accommodate leashed dogs without impacting other activities or park users. Dogs would not be allowed in picnic areas, play areas, athletic fields, or other improved park areas.



Dogs would be required to be leashed at all times.

The City Council is scheduled to consider this policy change at its May 20 meeting. If approved, the change would go into effect on June 1, 2008.

If you'd like to comment on this proposal, please contact Steve Stadler, Park Board Staff Liaison, at 952-548-6350 or email [parkboard@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:parkboard@hopkinsmn.com).

## 2008 Sanitary Sewer Cleaning

The areas to be cleaned in 2008 are Excelsior Blvd south to the Hopkins City boundary, between Meadowbrook Road and 16th Ave S. For more information on the sanitary sewer cleaning program, call the Utilities Superintendent at 952-548-6373 or visit [www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/watersewer/](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/watersewer/).



## Open Book Meeting

Each year, after property valuations notices are sent out, property owners have two opportunities to discuss their valuations with appraisers. If you have a question after receiving your valuation notice, call the phone number on the notice and discuss the value with an appraiser. Many questions and issues can be taken care of with a phone call.

You also have an opportunity to meet with the appraisers in person. Hennepin County, which handles property appraisal for the City, will be holding its Open Book meeting on May 6 from 5 to 7 pm at Hopkins City Hall. This informal meeting lets you meet with appraisers and ask questions about the value of your property.

After the Open Book process there will be additional opportunities to appeal valuations through the County Board of Appeal and Equalization and the Minnesota Tax Court.

For more information on this process or to receive information about assessments call 952-548-6310.



# Hopkins Highlights

## Refuse & Recycling

Refuse collection is April 7-10, 14-17, 21-24, and 28-May 1.

Recycling collection is April 14-17 and 28-May 1.



April 2008

## City Council Calendar

April 8, 6:30 pm  
Work Session

April 15, 7:30 pm  
Meeting

April 22, 6:30 pm  
Work Session

May 6, 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

April 22, 6:30 pm  
Zoning & Planning Commission

May 5, 7 pm  
Human Rights Commission

May 6, 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

## Recycling Calendars

2008-2009 Recycling Calendars are in the mail. If you do not receive one, please call 952-939-1382.

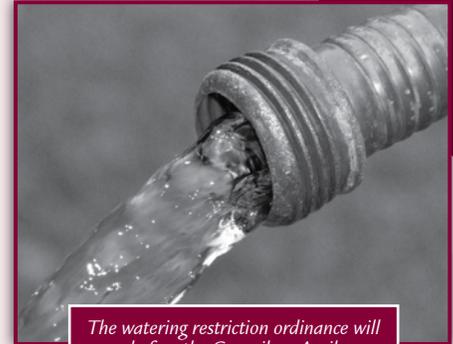
## Hopkins Considers Mandatory Watering Restrictions

Water is our most precious natural resource. It is not uncommon for Hopkins' water demand to double or triple during the summer months due to lawn watering. To help conserve water, the City is considering a new watering restriction program to begin in May. The Council is scheduled to vote on this ordinance at its April 15 meeting.

For details about the proposed ordinance go to: [www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/watersewer/waterrestrictions.html](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/publicworks/watersewer/waterrestrictions.html).

The proposed watering restrictions will be year-round and are scheduled to go into effect starting May 1, 2008.

Questions? Call the Utilities Superintendent at 952-548-6373. 🍷



The watering restriction ordinance will go before the Council on April 15.

## Join The Hopkins Police Department Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee

The Joint Community/Police Partnership is a joint project of Hennepin County and the Hopkins Police Department to address the diverse needs of Hopkins's diverse cultures and communities and enhance the safety and well-being of residents of the city.

We are seeking committed individuals to participate on the Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee. The committee will provide advice, suggestions, and assistance to the Hopkins Police Department to aid them in better serving, communicating with, and understanding the many cultures that reside in, work in, or visit the Hopkins area.

Information about the Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee and applications may be obtained online at [www.hopkinsmn.com/police](http://www.hopkinsmn.com/police) or by contacting Tsehai Wodajo at 952-548-6428 or [tsehai@hopkinsmn.com](mailto:tsehai@hopkinsmn.com) to have an application mailed to you. Applicants must be at least eighteen years old. The deadline for applying is April 30, 2008. 🍷

## Reminder: Bulk Item Drop Off

Hopkins Residential Refuse Customers Only

1414 7th St S  
April 10 & 11, 3:00-7:00 pm  
April 12, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Visit [www.hopkinsmn.com](http://www.hopkinsmn.com) or call 952-939-1382 for more information.



## Relax With Utility Bill Auto Pay

It's simple, easy, convenient, and free. Sign up for utility billing auto pay and never worry about paying your utility bill again.

You have the option of paying by credit or debit card, or directly from your checking or savings account. Your account will be charged one day prior to the due date on the utility billing statement and the automatic payment will be stated on your utility bill with "paid by credit card" or "paid by draft" so that you know your

account is paid. Simplify your life and sign up for utility bill auto pay today at [www.hopkinsmn.com](http://www.hopkinsmn.com). Call 952-548-6332 for more information. 🍷

