

green talk



ATTENTION!

Drop-off Sites for Yard Waste and Organics

Due to the disposal sites not accepting commingled organic/yard waste material, Waste Management, the City's contract recycling hauler, will not be offering curbside Yard Waste and Organic collection. This was originally an option for residents to voluntarily sign up for.

The City of Mahtomedi and Washington County are currently working on a drop-off location for all Washington County residents to drop off food scraps within the City of Mahtomedi. We will let residents know when a location is established.

Currently, residents have two options to drop off food scraps in Washington County. Residents can bring food scraps to the **Northern Yard Waste Site in Hugo** located at **5527 170th Street North** or the **Washington County Environmental Center located in Woodbury** at **4039 Cottage Grove Drive**. Hours are listed below. Please visit www.co.washington.mn.us/foodscraps for information on available starter kits and accepted and not accepted items.

Washington County Environmental Center Hours Year Round

Monday: CLOSED
Tuesday: 11 a.m.–7 p.m.
Thursday: 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m.–2 p.m.
Sunday: CLOSED

Northern Yard Waste Site Winter Hours: December–March

Sunday-Friday: CLOSED
Saturday: 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Summer Hours: April–November

Wednesday: 11 a.m.–7 p.m. (or until dusk)
Friday & Saturday: 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Sunday: Noon–4:30 p.m.

Get started in 3 easy steps!

- 1. Sign up online and pick up a free starter kit!** Starter kits are available to Washington County residents only and include a 2 gallon kitchen pail and 10 certified compostable bags. Limit 1 kit per household.
- 2. Start collecting food scraps at home.** Collect food scraps in a compostable bag inside of your kitchen pail and tie off the bag when full.
- 3. Bring bagged food scraps to a drop-off site.** Place bags into the food scraps dumpster and use the self-serve dispensers to take the same number of compostable bags you dropped off.

www.co.washington.mn.us/foodscraps



Water Conservation Rebate Program

The City once again was awarded a Metropolitan Council Grant as part of the Council's 2019–2022 Water Efficiency Grant Program. The amount of the grant is \$6,300.

Mahtomedi is one of forty cities in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area that applied for and was accepted into this grant program.

Grant funds will be used for the City's ongoing water conservation program. The City is offering \$50 rebates to Mahtomedi Water Utility Households replacing washing machines or toilets. Residents can bring in their original purchase receipts and documentation of applicable required certifications (i.e. user manual) and get a \$50 check. Toilets must be labeled Water Sense Certified and use 1.28 gallons per flush.

Washing machines must be Energy Star–Qualified High Efficiency Certified. Rebates are available on a first come first serve basis. One rebate check per household.

Forms are available on the City's website at www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us. For more information, contact City Hall at 651-426-3344.



Freeze Out Winter Fires

Did you know?

- Most home fires occur in the winter and peak in January.
- Each year in the United States there is more than \$2 billion in property loss due to winter home fires.
- Last year in Minnesota, 39 percent of fire deaths occurred in October, November and December.

How to be safe!

- Keep all doors and windows that could be used for an escape route clear of snow and ice.
- Keep all vents — fireplace, dryer, furnace and oven — clear of snow, ice and debris.
- Never use a blow torch to thaw frozen pipes.
- Use flashlights, not candles, if you lose power.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from heat sources; do not use your oven to heat your home.

STAY CONNECTED

Stay up-to-date on information and news about the City of Mahtomedi.



www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us



<https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Mahtomedi-MN-Local-Government-115273550223842/>

HAVE QUESTIONS?



City Hall — 651-426-3344

Protect the Sewer — Protect the Environment — Don't FLUSH That!

Why pay attention to what goes in the sewer? Sewers are designed to take human waste and transport it to the wastewater treatment plant. When items other than human waste get flushed, problems can occur. Items that won't be able to be treated in the wastewater system or that clog the wastewater system cause your community's wastewater treatment facility to spend more money and energy. Keeping solids and other items out of the wastewater system keeps costs lower and less of a chance of sewage backups. Items that belong in the solid waste or garbage should never be flushed down the wastewater system.

Why You SHOULD Care

Sewer blockages can cause the following:

- Plugged and overflowing toilets
- Poorly draining sinks and showers
- Raw sewage backing up through your drain
- Manholes overflowing onto the ground or into nearby waters
- Health hazards and odors
- Increase in City's maintenance costs
- Increase in homeowner's repair and maintenance costs

Don't Flush That!

The following can clog the sewer:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| ■ Paper towels | ■ Dental floss | ■ Shop rags |
| ■ Wipes — even "flushable" ones | ■ Paper rags or cloth rags | ■ Cigarette butts |
| ■ Plastic | ■ Latex Gloves | ■ Needles |
| ■ Feminine hygiene products | ■ Diapers | ■ Tissues |
| ■ Mop heads | ■ Grease, fats, cooking oils | |

More Salt Isn't Always the Answer

Using salt (chloride) during our icy winters is a necessity for safe roads, sidewalks, and driveways. However, recent studies have shown that excessive salt use can pollute our local lakes and rivers. In response, we need to become smart salters and reduce the use of salt when possible. Here are some tips you can use to make a difference:

- Shovel or sweep snow prior to putting salt down, you won't need as much salt this way.
- If it's below 15 degrees (F), your typical salt loses its effectiveness. Consider other options like sand or different de-icers.
- Only apply salt where needed and leave space between granules. Your average coffee cup holds enough salt for 10 sidewalk squares or a 20-foot driveway.
- Sweep up leftover salt to reuse later.

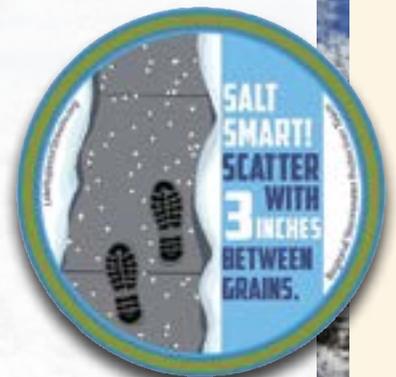


PHOTO CREDIT:
Lake Superior Streams
Regional Stormwater
Protection Team

Remember, it only takes one teaspoon of salt to pollute five gallons of water!

Help us protect our local waterways this winter by salting smart.