



Mahtomedi News

MAY – JUNE 2021

MAHTOMEDI CITY HALL
600 Stillwater Road
Mahtomedi, MN 55115
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (M-F)
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www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us

2021 CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

2 Seasons...Winter and Construction Season!

Yep, after a long winter we now look forward to construction season! The good news is that this construction season will not be quite as busy as last year. The City has 2 major construction projects this year, Phase 4 East Historic District Improvements and the 2021 Street Improvement Project.

Phase 4 East Historic District Improvements

Believe it or not, this is the last phase of the ambitious Historic District Improvements that has spanned the past 9 years! Due to the number of roads in the 4th and final phase, the project was broken up into 2 projects, West of TH 244 and East of TH 244. The western portion was completed last year and now it's the eastern portions turn. Similar to other phases of the historic district, we will be reconstructing roadways, installing new watermain and new storm sewer on the following streets:

- **Spruce Street** – TH 244 to Tamarack Street
- **Rose Street** – TH 244 to Tamarack Street
- **Quail Street** – TH 244 to Briarwood Avenue
- **Tamarack Street** – Spruce Street to Quail Street
- **East Shore Avenue** – TH 244 to Juniper Street

Construction is anticipated to begin in early May and last through the end of the October.

2021 Street Improvement Project

The 2021 Street Improvement Project will rehabilitate numerous roads throughout the City that are exhibiting signs of distress. The project will remove the upper portion of pavement and install a new layer of pavement to extend the useful life of the road. By doing this type of rehabilitation now, the lifespan of the streets

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New Council Member Appointed



At the February 16, 2021 meeting, the City Council appointed **Jeff Charlesworth** to fill the vacant Council seat previously held by Steve Wolgamot

who resigned from the Council effective February 1, 2021.

Jeff has been a member of the Parks Commission since 2004 and has served as Commission Chair since 2010.

Community Survey

Recently, the City contracted with the Morris Leatherman Company to conduct a Community Survey. A random sample of 400 residents residing in the City of Mahtomedi were selected. Surveys were conducted by telephone between February 25th and March 26th. Survey topics included quality of life issues, City services and taxes, public safety, city government and staff, and communication issues. The results of the survey are projectable to all adult Mahtomedi residents within plus or minus 5% in 95 out of 100 cases.

For complete survey results, go to the City's website at www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Mahtomedi Parks and Trails

The Mahtomedi Parks and Trail Stewards are looking for anyone interested in volunteering to help maintain the parks and trails in your neighborhood. You can work on your own or partner up with others that have the same parks or trails in mind. Set your own hours. You can even select an individual flower bed and give it the needed attention throughout the growing season.

Please contact Cindy at **920-621-0295** or email her at **cindyras49@gmail.com** with any questions or to find out how you might be able to help.

Mahtomedi Beach

In cooperation with the YMCA, the City of Mahtomedi is once again providing quality aquatic programs for the community by providing lifeguard services this summer at Mahtomedi Beach. In general, **lifeguards will be present 7 days a week from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. beginning June 12, 2021, and ending August 22, 2021. Weekends only: August 28th and 29th, September 4th, 5th and 6th.** The hours are subject to change depending on the weather.



The Mahtomedi Area Farmers' Market will be back in 2021!

Saturdays, June 26th – October 2nd

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. in Veterans Memorial Park

Local Growers ★ Artisans ★ Community Resource Table

To learn more and to volunteer contact **mahtomedifarmersmarket@gmail.com**

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2021 Construction Update, *continued from page 1*

will last much longer and delay the need to reconstruct the streets which is significantly more impactful and expensive. In addition to rehabilitating the streets, we will be doing some minor upgrades to the City's water and sanitary sewer system. The majority of the curb on these streets is in good condition but there will be some areas where the existing curb and gutter will be replaced to improve drainage. The 2021 Street Improvement Project consists of the following streets:

- **Dahlia Way** – Dahlia Street to Cul-de-Sac
- **Deer Oak Run** – Hickory Street to Cul-de-Sac
- **Echo Shores Court** – Woodland Drive to Cul-de-Sac
- **Elsie Inn** – Dahlia Street to Cul-de-Sac
- **Forest Avenue** – Dahlia Street to Stillwater Road
- **Glendale Alley** – Wood Street to Greenwood Street
- **Glendale Avenue** – Wood Street to Forest Avenue
- **Gosiwin Avenue** – Hickory Street to Cul-de-Sac
- **Gosiwin Court** – Gosiwin Avenue to Cul-de-Sac
- **Greenwood Street** – Forest Avenue to Warner Avenue
- **Griffin Avenue** – Maple Street to Juniper Street
- **Kale Street** – Warner Avenue to Griffin Avenue
- **Locust Street** – Warner Avenue to Griffin Avenue
- **Locust Street** – East Ave to Cul-de-Sac
- **Sterling Court** – Woodland Drive to Cul-de-Sac
- **Wedgewood Drive** – Wildwood Road to Woodland Drive
- **Wood Street** – Forest Avenue to Warner Avenue
- **Woodland Court** – Woodland Drive to Cul-de-Sac

Fret not trail users, we will also be rehabilitating the Wedgewood Trail from Wildwood Road to Woodland Drive and Streetcar Trail from Juniper Street to Maple Street.

More Information

Please see the City's website **www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us** for more specific information on each of these City construction projects.

Food Truck Friday!

Come and enjoy this community event held on most Fridays from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. The food trucks will be located at the Mahtomedi District Education Center and at the White Bear Area Senior Center. *See below for food truck schedule.*

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY!
COMMUNITY EVENT
Fridays from 4:30 - 7:00 pm

Please wear a mask and observe social distancing.

Mahtomedi District Education Center 1520 Mahtomedi Ave, Mahtomedi	White Bear Area Senior Center 2484 E. County Rd F, WBL
April 16 iPierogi	April 23 iPierogi + Droolin' Moose
May 21 KCM Egg Rolls	May 14 Pig Approved BBQ + Cookies & Cream Scoop Shop
June 18 Up in Smoke + KEO's Shave Ice	June 25 KCM Egg Rolls
July 23 Pig Approved BBQ + Maui Wowie	July 16 Up in Smoke + KEO's Shave Ice
August 13 The Big Cheese + Cookies & Cream Scoop Shop	August 20 The Big Cheese + Maui Wowie

Outdoor seating only.
Bring a lawn chair or blanket.
Rain or Shine

Indoor/Outdoor seating.
Or bring a lawn chair.
Rain or Shine

A portion of proceeds are donated back to:
White Bear Lake / Support Senior Programs
Mahtomedi / Support Community Ed Scholarships

The Early Childhood programs will provide free children's activity from 4:30 - 6 pm in June, July and August. Activities geared for children ages 0-5, but all are welcome to come and play.

green talk



Watering Restrictions

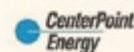
From **May 1st to September 30th** the use of the City water supply system for lawn and garden sprinkling, irrigation, or other non-potable uses is **prohibited between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.** and is **limited to an odd-even schedule corresponding to the property address.** During this time residents with even-numbered addresses may water only on even-numbered days and residents with odd-numbered addresses may water only on odd-numbered days. It should be noted that the watering restriction does not apply to activities such as washing your vehicle on a Saturday afternoon. Even so, if you can wash your car in the evening or morning, it will help conserve water. It is also wise to have a spray nozzle on the hose while washing the vehicle to minimize the water that flows into the storm sewers.

Home Energy Squad

Help us reduce our community's energy use and save money on your utility bills

The City of Mahtomedi is paying ½ the cost for a Home Energy Squad visit. Call **651-328-6220** or learn more and sign up online at <https://www.mncee.org/home-energy-squad/sign-up/>.

The first step is a free virtual visit with the Home Energy Squad (HES). During a virtual visit, an energy consultant will guide customers on a walk-through assessment of their homes via video chat. They will receive energy-saving tips to start saving energy right away and recommendations for next steps.



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**.

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REMINDER OF THE CITY ORDINANCE FOR DOGS

Chapter 3.03 Pages 5 and 6 of the City Code:

9. Removal of Animal Feces. Any person having custody or control over any dog on any property within the City, other than the property of the dog's owner, must have in his or her immediate possession a device for picking up and disposing of dog feces, and must pick up and dispose of any and all feces in a sanitary manner.

A. **Exceptions.** This subdivision does not apply to the following:

- I. Visually impaired persons using certified guide dogs;
- II. Disabled persons using service dogs;
- III. City agents or employees using dogs in connection with police activities; or
- IV. Persons using tracking dogs with the City's permission.

10. Disturbing the Peace. A person shall not keep any animal that by its barking, howling, whining, or other noises, unreasonably disturbs the peace and quiet of any person in the vicinity. The phrase "unreasonably disturbs the peace and quiet" includes, but is not limited to, the creation of any noise by the animal that can be heard by any person, including a law enforcement official or Animal Control Officer, from a location not on the property where the animal is located, and that noise occurs repeatedly over at least a five (5) minute period of time with one (1) minute or less lapse of time between each animal noise during the five (5) minute period.

Home Energy Squad, continued



If the virtual visit team thinks your home could benefit from an in-home visit they can connect you to the best visit for your needs. There are two types of in-home visits:

Energy Saver Visit

Intended for newer houses (built from 2000 on), condos and renters.

A two-person team will come to your home and:

- Install energy saving materials such as: LED lightbulbs, door and attic hatch weather stripping, programmable thermostat, and high efficient water fixtures.
- Water heater temperature assessment and adjustment.
- Help with next steps.

Energy Planner Visit

Recommended for homes built before 2000.

A two-person team will come to your home and:

- Install energy saving materials such as: LED lightbulbs, door and attic hatch weather stripping, programmable thermostat, and high efficient water fixtures.
- Perform a blower door test to measure your home for air leaks.
- Complete an insulation inspection of your attic and walls using an infrared camera.
- Perform a safety test on your home's heating system and water heater.
- Help with next steps.

Energy Advisors

Some of you will go right from our virtual visit and be connected to a team of energy advisors. Others will be connected to the advisors after your in-home visit.

If your home has an opportunity for significant savings through larger home improvement projects such as additional insulation, attic air sealing, or replacing old heating equipment, the energy advisors make these larger steps easy by connecting you with a vetted list of qualified contractors, specialized financing and utility rebates.

Have questions after your visit? Contact the energy advisors at 612-244-2484 or energyadvisor@mncee.org.



City of Mahtomedi 2020 Drinking Water Report

Making Safe Drinking Water

Your drinking water comes from a groundwater source: four wells ranging from 392 to 470 feet deep, that draw water from the Prairie Du Chien-Jordan and Jordan aquifers.

Mahtomedi works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets federal and state water quality requirements. The purpose of this report is to provide you with information on your drinking water and how to protect our precious water resources.

Contact Bob Goebel, Public Works Director, at **651-773-9730** or **bgoebel@ci.mahtomedi.mn.us** if you have questions about Mahtomedi's drinking water. You can also ask for information about how you can take part in decisions that may affect water quality.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets safe drinking water standards. These standards limit the amounts of specific contaminants allowed in drinking water. This ensures that tap water is safe to drink for most people. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates the amount of certain contaminants in bottled water. Bottled water must provide the same public health protection as public tap water.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**.

Mahtomedi Monitoring Results

This report contains our monitoring results from January 1 to December 31, 2020.

We work with the Minnesota Department of Health to test drinking water for more than 100 contaminants. It is not unusual to detect contaminants in small amounts. No water supply is ever completely free of contaminants. Drinking water standards protect Minnesotans from substances that may be harmful to their health.

Learn more by visiting the Minnesota Department of Health's webpage Basics of Monitoring and testing of Drinking Water in Minnesota (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/sampling.html>).

HOW TO READ THE WATER QUALITY DATA TABLES

The tables below show the contaminants we found last year or the most recent time we sampled for that contaminant. They also show the levels of those contaminants and the Environmental Protection Agency's limits. Substances that we tested for but did not find are not included in the tables.

We sample for some contaminants less than once a year because their levels in water are not expected to change from year to year. If we found any of these contaminants the last time we sampled for them, we included them in the tables below with the detection date.

We may have done additional monitoring for contaminants that are not included in the Safe Drinking Water Act. To request a copy of these results, call the Minnesota Department of Health at **651-201-4700** or **1-800-818-9318** between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Some contaminants are monitored regularly throughout the year, and rolling (or moving) annual averages are used to manage compliance. Because of this averaging, there are times where the Range of Detected Test Results for the calendar year is lower than the Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result, because it occurred in the previous calendar year.

MONITORING RESULTS — UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

In addition to testing drinking water for contaminants regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, we sometimes also monitor for contaminants that are not regulated. Unregulated contaminants do not have legal limits for drinking water.

Detection alone of a regulated or unregulated contaminant should not cause concern. The meaning of a detection should be determined considering current health effects information. We are often still learning about the health effects, so this information can change over time.

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MONITORING RESULTS — REGULATED SUBSTANCES

LEAD AND COPPER — Tested at customer taps						
Contaminant (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Action Level	90% of Results Were Less Than	Number of Homes with High Levels	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead (09/11/19)	0 ppb	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	0.66 ppb	0 out of 20	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (09/11/19)	0 ppm	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	0.53 ppm	0 out of 20	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.

INORGANIC & ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS — Tested in drinking water						
Contaminant (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Gross Alpha (2018)	0 pCi/l	15.4 pCi/l	3.1 pCi/l	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.

CONTAMINANTS RELATED TO DISINFECTION — Tested in drinking water						
Substance (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG or MRDLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL or MRDL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N/A	80 ppb	5.2 ppb	N/A	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Chlorine	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.26 ppm	0.14 - 0.44 ppm	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.

OTHER SUBSTANCES — Tested in drinking water						
Substance (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MC)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.68 ppm	0.51 - 0.61 ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth.

Potential Health Effects and Corrective Actions (If Applicable)

Fluoride: Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter, with small amounts present naturally in many drinking water sources. There is an overwhelming weight of credible, peer-reviewed, scientific evidence that fluoridation reduces tooth decay and cavities in children and adults, even when there is availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste and mouth rinses. Since studies show that optimal fluoride levels in drinking water benefit public health, municipal community water systems adjust the level of fluoride in the water to an optimal concentration between 0.5 to 0.9 parts per million (ppm) to protect your teeth. Fluoride levels below 2.0 ppm are not expected to increase the risk of a cosmetic condition known as enamel fluorosis.

2020 Drinking Water Report, *continued*

The table below shows the unregulated contaminants we detected last year, as well as human-health based guidance values for comparison, where available. The comparison values are based only on potential health impacts and do not consider our ability to measure contaminants at very low concentrations or the cost and technology of prevention and/or treatment. They may be set at levels that are costly, challenging, or impossible for water systems to meet (for example, large-scale treatment technology may not exist for a given contaminant).

A person drinking water with a contaminant at or below the comparison value would be at little or no risk for harmful health effects. If the level of a contaminant is above the comparison value, people of a certain age or with special health conditions — like a fetus, infants, children, elderly, and people with impaired immunity — may need to take extra precautions. Because these contaminants are unregulated, EPA and MDH require no particular action based on detection of an unregulated contaminant. We are notifying you of the unregulated contaminants we have detected as a public education opportunity.

More information is available on MDH's A-Z List of Contaminants in Water (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/index.html>) and Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 4) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/ucmr4.html>).

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS — Tested in drinking water			
Contaminant	Comparison Value	Highest Average Result or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results
Sodium*	20 ppm	3.92 ppm	N/A
Sulfate	500 ppm	3.91 ppm	N/A

*Note that home water softening can increase the level of sodium in your water.

SOME PEOPLE ARE MORE VULNERABLE TO CONTAMINANTS IN DRINKING WATER

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. The developing fetus and therefore pregnant women may also be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. These people or their caregivers should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**.

Learn More about Your Drinking Water

DRINKING WATER SOURCES

Minnesota's primary drinking water sources are groundwater and surface water. Groundwater is the water found in aquifers beneath the surface of the land. Groundwater supplies 75 percent of Minnesota's drinking water. Surface water is the water in lakes, rivers, and streams above the surface of the land. Surface water supplies 25 percent of Minnesota's drinking water.

Contaminants can get in drinking water sources from the natural environment and from people's daily activities. There are five main types of contaminants in drinking water sources.

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites. Sources include sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, pets, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants** include salts and metals from natural sources (e.g. rock and soil), oil and gas production, mining and farming operations, urban stormwater runoff, and wastewater discharges.
- **Pesticides and herbicides** are chemicals used to reduce or kill unwanted plants and pests. Sources include agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and commercial and residential properties.
- **Organic chemical contaminants** include synthetic and volatile organic compounds. Sources include industrial processes and petroleum production, gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

DEFINITIONS

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

MCL (Maximum contaminant level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum contaminant level goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum residual disinfectant level):

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum residual disinfectant level goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

N/A (Not applicable): Does not apply.

pCi/l (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part per billion in water is like one drop in one billion drops of water, or about one drop in a swimming pool. ppb is the same as micrograms per liter (µg/l).

ppm (parts per million): One part per million is like one drop in one million drops of water, or about one cup in a swimming pool. ppm is the same as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

PWSID: Public water system identification.

- **Radioactive contaminants** such as radium, thorium, and uranium isotopes come from natural sources (e.g. radon gas from soils and rock), mining operations, and oil and gas production.

The Minnesota Department of Health provides information about your drinking water source(s) in a source water assessment, including:

- How Mahtomedi is protecting your drinking water source(s);
- Nearby threats to your drinking water sources;
- How easily water and pollution can move from the surface of the land into drinking water sources, based on natural geology and the way wells are constructed.

Find your source water assessment at Source Water Assessments (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/swa>) or call **651-201-4700** or **1-800-818-9318** between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

You may be in contact with lead through paint, water, dust, soil, food, hobbies, or your job. Coming in contact with lead can cause serious health problems for everyone. There is no safe level of lead. Babies, children under six years, and pregnant women are at the highest risk.

Lead is rarely in a drinking water source, but it can get in your drinking water as it passes through lead service lines and your household plumbing system. Mahtomedi is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but it cannot control the plumbing materials used in private buildings.

Read below to learn how you can protect yourself from lead in drinking water.

1. **Let the water run** for 30-60 seconds before using it for drinking or cooking if the water has not been turned on in over six hours. If you have a lead service line, you may need to let the water run longer. A service line is the underground pipe that brings water from the main water pipe under the street to your home.
 - You can find out if you have a lead service line by contacting your public water system, or you can check by following the steps at: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/06/24/npr-find-lead-pipes-in-your-home>.
 - The only way to know if lead has been reduced by letting it run is to check with a test. If letting the water run does not reduce lead, consider other options to reduce your exposure.
2. **Use cold water** for drinking, making food, and making baby formula. Hot water releases more lead from pipes than cold water.
3. **Test your water.** In most cases, letting the water run and using cold water for drinking and cooking should keep lead levels low in your drinking water. If you are still concerned about lead, arrange with a laboratory to test your tap water. Testing your water is important if young children or pregnant women drink your tap water.
 - Contact a Minnesota Department of Health accredited laboratory to get a sample container and instructions on how to submit a sample: Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (<https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam>). The Minnesota Department of Health can help you understand your test results.
4. **Treat your water** if a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run.
 - Read about water treatment units: Point-of-Use Water Treatment Units for Lead Reduction (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/poulead.html>).

LEARN MORE:

- Visit Lead in Drinking Water (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html>).
- Visit Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water (<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>).
- Call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**. To learn about how to reduce your contact with lead from sources other than your drinking water, visit Lead Poisoning Prevention: Common Sources (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/sources.html>).



FORESTRY NEWS

Looking for Bugs in All the Right Places

Spring is an excellent time to survey your trees and shrubs for insect problems. The appearance of many insects that are damaging to trees coincides with the emergence of leaves on our trees and shrubs. It's a good idea to be familiar with the species of trees and shrubs you have on your landscape. There are many good reference books and numerous information sources available on the web that can help you identify your plants even with no leaves on the tree or shrub. It is important to know the species as most of our problem pests are "species specific." This means that they only feed on, attack or lay eggs on a particular species of plant. For example, emerald ash borers only attack the species *Fraxinus* (ash trees).

If you cannot identify the species of tree, you can get assistance from an arborist, horticulturist or nurserymen familiar with tree identification. Once you know the species you can examine your plant and look for any unusual symptoms. These might be things like yellow-colored leaves (chlorosis) or sections of leaves missing (evidence of chewing insects) or dead branches.

Look at all parts of the tree including the root zone/root collar, the trunk, branches and twigs and leaves or needles. You should be looking for anything unusual like extra growths, split bark or emergence holes in the bark. Often you will actually see insects; some being beneficial and some being detrimental to your trees. Sometimes you will see the left-over evidence of insects such as dead bodies, the excrement (frass) left over from insect feeding or eggs on twigs or the bark of the tree. These are called signs and can be important clues to identifying the problem pest.

Observing the symptoms and the signs on your trees are important steps in the process of identifying problem pests. Keep in mind that finding insects (even detrimental ones) in and on your trees does not always mean there is a problem that needs to be treated. Trees have wonderful defense mechanisms that have evolved along with the attacking insects. When trees are healthy they can fight off many attacks and can survive the loss of leaves and needles without any long-term effects. It's only when the attacks cross certain thresholds that they can cause long term effects to the trees. Professionals familiar with integrated pest management can help determine these survivable thresholds of damage on your trees.

Common things to see on your trees in the spring can include scale insects, gall structures on previous years' growth, leaf-feeding insects, tunneling insects inside leaves (leaf miners) and inside shoot tips of evergreens (tip borers). If you notice insects that are causing wide-spread damage to your trees it may be time to call in help from a trusted source such as a certified arborist, forester or extension agent that can help you determine what pest you are dealing with, if important thresholds are being crossed, and if treatments are called for.

DID YOU KNOW that utility bills, permits, license forms, etc. can be placed in the drop box that is located in the brick wall near the front door at City Hall? This box is emptied every weekday morning.



COMMUNITY NEWS,

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2021 Wedgewood Park Improvements

In 2018 the Mahtomedi City Council approved a 5 year Capital Improvement Plan to start improving our city parks. The time has arrived to update Wedgewood Park. This year the City plans on removing and replacing the playground and the woodchips underneath it. A bituminous trail will be added between the parking lot and the basketball court; and the basketball court and the trail to make it more ADA compliant. We are also going to replace a couple benches, picnic tables and trash receptacles. Construction will take place in mid-summer. Look for more updates as work begins.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

Who do I call to report a pothole, street sign down, or other maintenance issue?

The Public Works Department appreciates the assistance of its residents in letting them know about potholes, malfunctioning traffic signals, down street or stop signs or debris in the roadways. Call **651-773-9730** to report these items.

Who do I call to report dead/sick wild animals in the road?

Public Works only removes dead deer from roadways or city right-of-ways. Call **651-773-9730** to report dead deer only. For all other dead or sick animals call the Washington County Sheriffs Dispatch at **651-439-9381**.

Does Public Works pick up buckthorn?

The Public Works Department will pick up buckthorn that has been cut and put at the end of your driveway or near the street. Call **651-773-9730** when ready for pick-up. Public Works crews typically pick-up within the same week you call.



Recreational Fire Safety

Every spring as the snow melts; we venture outside and thus begin our outdoor recreational fire season. It's a good time to reconnect with neighbors and friends, sitting around and enjoying a nice back yard fire, roasting S'mores or hotdogs. Along with this also comes all the yard waste which has accumulated over the winter. Some things to remember while we burn this spring,

- Recreational fires must be at least 25 feet from all buildings or combustible materials. Combustible materials are things such as wood, paper, and plastics.
- Keep a water source nearby to put the fire out.
- Keep a kid-free zone of three feet around the fire.
- The only materials permitted in a recreational fire are wood from trees, small branches, brush, or charcoal. Leaves, treated lumber materials, construction debris, garbage, plastic materials, or waste materials are not allowed to be burned in recreational fires.

Check burning restrictions with DNR before burning at https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating_restrictions.html.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

FREE Car Seat Clinic

We are proud to offer this car seat clinic where Certified child passenger safety technicians can help make sure your car seats are installed the best way possible. Each seat check takes about 30 minutes. **Appointments are required.**

PLEASE BRING:

- Your car seat(s) and/or booster(s) *(already installed)*
- Your car's manual *(if available)*
- Your child restraint device manual *(if available)*
- Your vehicle(s)

FOR YOUR SAFETY:

- Everyone 2 and over must wear a mask, per Children's Minnesota policy.
- If you or anyone in your family have any symptoms of any illness, please reschedule your appointment for another day or request a virtual education session.
- All staff will wear a mask and eye protection.
- Staff will sanitize and/or clean hands prior to each family interaction.
- Sanitization wipes will be available to wipe down any surfaces (if approved by manufacturer). All staff will wear gloves that will be changed between interactions with families.

To schedule a car seat check, please contact Esther at 651-796-8142 or Cpsassociates.delacruz@gmail.com.



Smoking on Balconies and Patios

With more people smoking outside of their homes comes another fire danger for both single family homes and multi-family buildings. There have been a number of large home and apartment fires caused by the improper disposal of smoking materials. If you are smoking on a balcony or patio dispose of your smoking materials in an approved ash tray. Do not extinguish the butt into a plastic coffee can or into a flower pot. Potting soil in flower pots is not just dirt, but contains filler items that can easily be ignited by smoldering smoking materials. The fire is not immediate, but can occur hours later when the burning soil ignites the plastic flower pot and spreads across the wood deck to the building.

City of Mahtomedi

600 STILLWATER ROAD
MAHTOMEDI, MN 55115

Mahtomedi: A "Small Town" City

...Close knit small town atmosphere. Residents have strong connections with each other and take pride in the community. By working together to maintain the small town atmosphere, residents, business and community leaders have created a safe environment in which to live, work and learn.

...Natural Resources. The abundance of bodies of water, vegetation and nature areas create a natural setting for City parks for residents to enjoy.

...Excellent Education. The educational system and educational opportunities provided in cooperation with the Mahtomedi School District and Community Education creates an informed community.

...Location. Located on the east shore of White Bear Lake, within twenty minutes of Minneapolis and St. Paul with direct access to Interstate 694 provide residents and businesses with a place to call home.

...History. The history of the Chautauqua Association, Wildwood Amusement Park, cottages, street cars and summer resorts have contributed to the historical significance of the community.

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