#### **ESSENTIAL DATES**

#### **Recycling Pickups**

September 12, 26 October 10, 24 November 7, 21

#### **September 2, Labor Day**

City Hall returns to regular hours

#### September 9, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting Prelim. 2020 Budget Approval

#### October 14, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting

#### November 12, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting *Public Hearing:*Assessment of delinquent accounts

#### December 9, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting Final 2020 Budget Approval *Public Hearing:* Truth in Taxation

#### **GOOD TO KNOW**

#### **City Hall Regular Hours**

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. Labor Day to Memorial Day

#### **Fall Safety**

Check smoke detector batteries. Call the chimney sweep for safe, enjoyable fires this winter.

#### **Emerald Ash Borer**

Has been discovered in southeast Minnetonka. If you suspect infection, call an arborist! More at mda.state.mn.us (keyword: ash borer).

#### **LMCD Save the Lake Fund**

Donate at lmcd.org/save the lake

**Xcel Energy** is working toward clean energy milestones: **2022** 30% of Upper Midwest energy supplied by wind. **2030** more than 50% of energy delivered from renewables, last coal plant closed, solar energy expansion complete and 80% reduction in carbon emissions. **2050** 100% carbon-free electricity.

# **Woodland News**

September-November, Fall 2019



#### Woodland's New Website

The image above is from the new website launched on July 1 by the City of Woodland. The home page welcomes you with an aerial video of our pristine peninsula, providing perspective on what really makes our community special.

These days, it's crucial for web content to be mobile-device friendly, so technically the new website is a big step forward. With dynamic design, it automatically reformats to read best on the device that is accessing it. From the smallest smart phone to the biggest TV screen – and all the tablets, laptops and desktops in between – every visitor is given an optimal viewing experience.

The navigation within the website has been greatly simplified. There are three tabs or categories of information: (plus the Contact Us page)

#### **About Us**

Woodland History News & Notices Newsletters Notification sign up

## Government

Council/Staff Contacts
Agendas and Minutes
Public Safety Services
Ordinances and Policies
Annual Financial Reports
Comprehensive Plan
Election Information
Emergency Preparedness

## Community

Resident Life
FAQs
Forms and Permits
Protecting Lake & Trees
Recycling
Utilities
Helpful links

From the home page, there are **quick links** to frequently needed items:

- Agendas & Minutes
- City Council and Staff
- Forms and Permits
- Ordinances and Policies

The home page also features a search function, weather information, upcoming events and news and notices. Everything you need is now one click away!

Many thanks to
James Aarestad of **Eagle Eye Photography**,
also known as *blimpguy.com*,
for the aerial video of our
lakeshore community!

#### **NEW!** Email Notifications

Sign up for notifications and you won't miss a thing! You'll receive an email alert whenever variance Public Hearings and City Council Meeting Agendas are posted on the website. You can also receive this newsletter by email.

#### **CITY DIRECTORY**

#### **City Hall**

(Woodland, Deephaven, Greenwood) 20225 Cottagewood Road Deephaven, MN 55331

#### **City Hall Hours**

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Mon. – Fri.

#### www.woodlandmn.org

#### **City Clerk**

Sara Skalle 952-358-9936 sara@woodlandmn.org

#### Mayor

Jim Doak

#### **Council Members**

Dave Daniels John Massie Tom Newberry Vince Suerth

## City Council Meetings 2nd Mondays, 7 p.m.

Residents always welcome! Agendas & minutes on website

#### **Emergency** 911

#### **Deephaven Police Department**

952-474-7555 Office 763-525-6210 Non-emergency

#### **Wayzata Fire Department**

952-404-5337 Non-emergency

#### **Gopher State One Call**

*Call before you dig!* 811 or 800-252-1166

#### **Zoning Administrator**

Dale Cooney 952-358-9938

#### **Building Permits**

Teresa Pendleton 952-358-9935

#### Lake Mtka Communications Commission

Mike Jilek, Commissioner

#### **Lake Mtka Conservation District**

Chris Rich, Board Member

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Sara Skalle

## Living with Wildlife: Squirrels

Minnesota squirrels can be hysterical backyard entertainment or a property nightmare. Squirrel antics may be a model for determination and single-minded resolve, but they are rodents capable of causing significant damage. Since they are so prevalent, it's best to find a way to peacefully coexist, enjoy the good and avoid the bad.

#### The Good

celebrate.)

In 2001, a wildlife rehabilitator established evenings." Henry David Thoreau (journal entry, Sept. Squirrel Appreciation Day, hoping to raise awareness of these playful diurnal critters. (It's January 21, in case you'd like to



"In the summer we lay up a stock of experiences for winter, as the squirrel of nuts—something for conversation in winter evenings." Henry David Thoreau (journal entry, Sept. 4, 1851)

Most squirrels in Woodland are tree dwellers (gray, red, fox and flying squirrels) able to consume up to 1.5 pounds of seeds or nuts a week. In addition to emptying birdfeeders, squirrels love to munch the swelling buds of springtime maple trees and autumn acorns, hazelnuts and other nuts. Their territories are typically 1 to 7 acres



which they range at up to 19 mph skittering along branches, leaping tree to tree. Up to 20 squirrels can live in one acre.

The most common gray squirrels have two litters of 3-5 kittens each year. These kits can be seen venturing from the nest in early May and, the second litter, in August. Half the size of gray squirrels, the chattery red squirrel mates just once in late winter. Both will nest in within tree hollows or in treetop nests called *dreys* that look like 12- to 19-inch balls of leaves and twigs high in the branches.

#### The Bac

Squirrels can damage bird feeders, chew through wires and—worst—build nice, cozy nests in your attic. Hands-down, the adorable yet rascally little red squirrel is the best at finding cracks, crevices and woodpecker holes in order to enjoy a warm winter under your rafters. Squirrels can transmit diseases such as tularemia and ringworm, plus fleas, mites and other ectoparasites, to humans.

#### The Balance

Here's an ounce of squirrel-proofing that could save you a pound of problems.

- Upgrade to squirrel-proof birdfeeders, knowing full-well going in that it's
  probably an oxymoron since squirrels are smart, tenacious and can chew
  through almost anything.
- Trim all tree limbs, even small branches, **more than 6 feet** (a squirrel's jumping distance) away from your house and retrim frequently.
- Seal all holes and any possible points of entry including cracks and especially woodpecker damage.
- Place metal mesh over air vents and chimneys.

If you hear the scratching of squirrels in your eaves, contact a pest control company or invest in live traps. It is permissible to destroy or relocate squirrels (at least 10 miles away) that have been live-trapped on your property. However, to shoot or poison squirrels in your yard is illegal. A better idea is to take the precautions above and keep your sense of humor!

With most wildlife, leave them alone and they'll leave you alone. Remove any food source to discourage visitation and shoo unwanted animals away with loud noises. If you do have an issue or feel threatened, contact the Deephaven Police Department at (952) 474-7555. If you find an injured or abandoned animal, call the Minnesota DNR at (651) 296-6157.

## **Woodland City Streets**

There are 23 City streets in Woodland. Can you name them? (They're listed below.) Extra points if you know which are the private roads within Groveland.

Woodland streets are undeniably a large part of the City's charm. Narrow, shoulder-less, with no curbs or sidewalks by design, they create a rural, far-from-the-city feel and keep costs (read: taxes) low.

While there are not many, and they may be small, roads are the City's largest public asset and a priority in every regard. Repair and maintenance expenses are second only to Public Safety in the annual budget. This article spotlights how the City manages Woodland streets and how residents help.

#### **Annual Repairs**

Early each spring, Mayor Jim Doak, Council Member John Massie, and City Engineer Dave Martini visit all 23 streets, checking road wear and tear to set priorities for repairs needed before the next snowfall. Martini, principal engineer with Bolton & Menk, has been working with Woodland since 2003 and knows the challenges of maintaining roads in a lakeshore community where the water table is not far below ground level.

Martini has helped the City install drainage solutions to low areas and stabilize spots where the ground is soft and doesn't offer a strong road foundation. He admits that our charming narrow roads have some inherent fragility. Without the reinforcement, the blacktop edges are vulnerable to cracking and crumbling when vehicles park along the shoulder.

Unlike a land-locked subdivision that is built all at once, Woodland is an evolving community. When planning annual road repairs, the City Council needs to factor in construction projects that are pending or currently active. For instance, if multiple building projects are happening on one street, it may be best to hold off on street repairs until projects are complete.

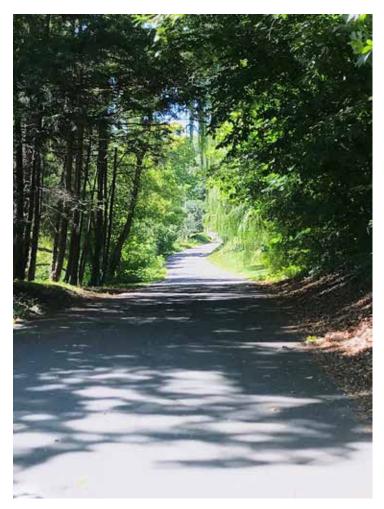
#### **Long-Range Planning**

In 2020, Bolton & Menk Engineering will work with the City Council to develop a 10-year road improvement plan to document past work and lay out future projects on a year-by-year basis. This will provide a one-page, color-coded (forgive the pun) road map for road work that will reinforce the City's ability to forecast street expenditures and maintain a balance between annual patching and more intensive resurfacing projects.

#### Residents' Role

Woodland residents make a big difference in protecting City streets. Here are some examples:

 Have all service contractors (repair people, landscape crews) pull into your driveway. It is illegal for them to park on the street and by far they cause the most damage to road edges.



- Shuttle event guests from the Deephaven parking lot on the southwest quadrant of Chowen's Corner, behind 18300 Minnetonka Blvd.
- When street parking is necessary, purchase a permit for one of Woodland's ten zones, where it is safe to park. We provide an info/instruction sheet that can be passed on to a valet service.
- Call City Hall before starting any project valued at more than \$20,000 (building, landscaping or well/ septic work). Bolton & Menk provides a pre-work and post-work inspection for all road escrow deposits.
- Respect road weight limit restrictions: 9 tons/axle
  May-February; 4 tons/axle March-April. Talk to your
  contractors, encourage them to call City Hall before
  starting a project.

In our tiny town, we all have a stake in the conditions of our streets. Your forethought and planning with regular contractors, building projects, or large social events will save significant repair expense and tax impact on everyone.

## Can you name them all?

Blaine Avenue Breezy Heights Road Breezy Point Road Cedar Point Drive Cedar Ridge Road Center Road\* County Road 101 S. East Road\* Front Street\*
Gale Road
Inner Road\*
Maple Hill Road
Maple Ridge Road
Maplewood Circle E
Maplewood Circle W
Maplewood Road

Marshland Road Robinsons Bay Road Shavers Lane Spirit Knob Road Stone Arch Road West Road\* Woolsey Lane \* Groveland



<<OWNER>> <<NUM>> <<STREET>> <<CITY>>

MeWi

Get news alerts and news alerts by email!

Go to woodlandmn.org and sign up for notifications



If the address information on the front is incorrect, please call 952-358-9936 or email sara@woodlandmn.org.

#### **Safety Reminder**

Golf carts are not legal nor safe on public streets. The only places they are acceptable in Woodland are on private property and driveways, and on the private roads within Groveland

Assembly Ground.

#### **Street Signs for Sale**

Shiny new street signs have been installed! If you would like to purchase one of the *now-collectible*, classic black Woodland signs, send an email to sara@woodlandmn.org. Each sign is \$20, first-come-first-served.



#### 2020 Preliminary Budget

Approval of the 2020 preliminary budget and 2020 tax levy for the City of Woodland will take place at the September 9 Council Meeting. You are welcome to attend this or any City Council Meeting! Always on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

#### 2020 Elections

Woodland prides itself on high voter turnout. Mark your calendars! 2020 has three election days:

March 3, 2020 (Presidential Primary) August 11, 2020 (Primary Election) November 3, 2020 (General Election)

#### **Daylight Savings Time ends November 3**

Keep pedestrians safe! Drive slowly, pay attention. And dress brightly and carry a light if walking after dark.