



WINTER 2024 NEWSLETTER

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Photo Credit: Mike Thoenke



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@RookeryActivityCenter



@RookeryActivityCenter



600 Town Center Parkway
Lino Lakes, MN 55014
www.linolakes.us  @linolakesmn
Monday – Friday | 8:00am – 4:30pm

CONTACT US

Emergency Police/Fire	911
Non-Emergency Police/Fire.	651-982-2323
City Hall.	651-982-2400
Building Permits.	651-982-2420
Code Enforce./Prop. Complaints ..	651-982-2463
Human Resources	651-982-2413
Planning & Zoning	651-982-2426
Recycling.	651-982-2423
Public Services/Public Works.	651-982-2440
Utility Billing.	651-982-2412
Forestry.	651-982-2465
Elections	651-982-2406
The Rookery Activity Center	651-982-2468
After Hour Sewer Backups.	763-427-1212
Electrical Inspector/Brian Trende ..	763-232-7569

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New Beginnings

As the summer and fall projects wrap up, we can take pride in the significant progress made in our city of 33 sq miles. With plenty more planned for 2025, we are on a path of continuous development and improvement.

This year's focus was on tree removals, park installations, storm damage cleanup, water system upgrades, and pavement projects. Despite the challenges of storm damage and saturated soil, City staff did an excellent job addressing the situations at hand and implementing lessons learned for future occurrences. Additionally, the Rice Lake Elementary School tunnel has fresh paint. Sunrise Park's ball field bench area has a face-lift, and both Brandywood Park and Birchwood Acres Park have undergone entire transformations from old to new.

5 Years in the Making – Water Treatment Plant

Starting with a testing procedure, to the creation of the full design and construction details, it took almost five years to plan and prepare for the development of a Water Treatment Facility. Located at Birch Street and 12th Avenue, this facility is a testament to our commitment to providing clean and safe water for our residents.

A New Public Works Facility - Beginning 2025

The Request for Proposal process will begin in 2025 to hire an architectural team to address the long-overdue design and construction plans for a new Public Works Facility. Construction is slated to start in 2026.

2025 Planned Street Project

Our city budget continues to respectfully increase to address the ongoing infrastructural needs of the city and neighborhood streets. These projects are planned for 2025:

- Diane Street - overlay project
- Evergreen Trail - overlay project
- Annual Street - rehabilitation project
- Pine Haven Neighborhood - reconstruction project
- Colonial Woods Neighborhood - reconstruction project
- Realignment of 77th Street - to a controlled intersection at Lake Drive & Market Place Drive

Along with these projects, Lino Lakes will continue to complete documentation for the extension of Otter Lake Road (identified 2026 project).

Special Note of Appreciation

Our City Administrator, Sarah Cotton, has resigned from her position for a new opportunity. Sarah came to Lino Lakes in August 2015 as the Director of Finance, a position she held in another city. During her time in this role, she proved to be an excellent leader. Upon the retirement of the City Administrator Jeff Karlson in the summer of 2020, Sarah was hired to fill the role. She has done a remarkable job serving the City of Lino Lakes, and we are grateful and share our best for everything in her future.

Interim City Administrator

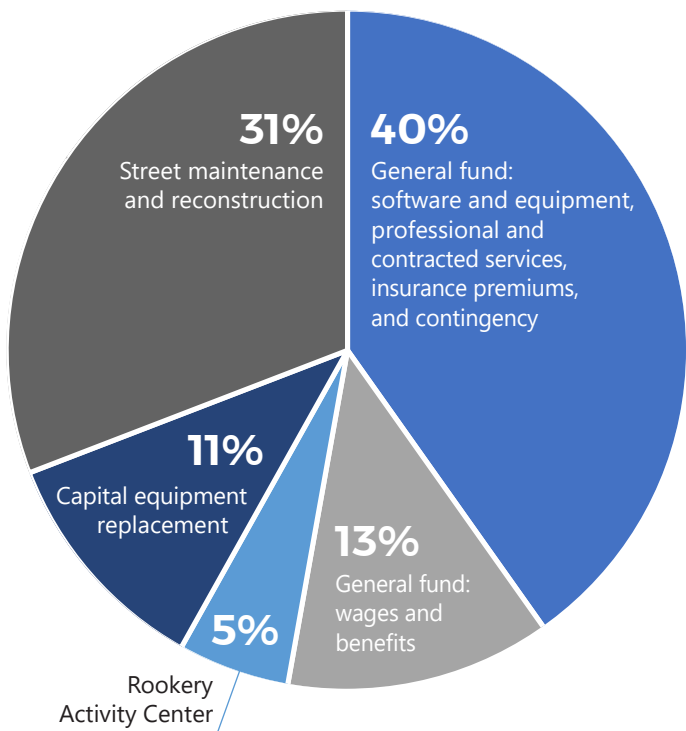
During this time of transition, the council has determined the need for an interim City Administrator and has interviewed and selected David Pecchia for the position. David served the City of Lino Lakes as an Interim City Administrator in 1998 and was the Police Chief from 1993 to 2010. He will lead administratively and help guide the council through the hiring process of a new permanent City Administrator.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season,
Rob Rafferty – Mayor

2025 Annual Budget

At the September 23, 2024 meeting, the City Council adopted a 2025 preliminary tax levy of \$16,006,535, an increase of \$1,885,607 or 13.35% over the 2024 levy. The preliminary levy maintains essential services and programs while the city continues to experience rising costs in the current inflationary environment. Highlights of the levy increase are depicted in the graph below.

2025 Preliminary Tax Levy Increase



The preliminary levy is the maximum levy the City can adopt for 2025. The City Council continues to meet and consider changes before final adoption on December 9, 2024.

To learn more about the budget process and proposed 2025 annual budget visit www.linolakes.us/budget.

2025 Budget Public Hearing

Monday, December 9 - 6:30pm
Lino Lakes City Hall
600 Town Center Parkway



Are you decorating your home for the season?

If yes, we invite you to add it to the 2024 Holiday Lights Tour by filling out the entry form with your name and address. Starting December 10th, a list of participating homes will be available at www.linolakes.us/holidaylights for all to drive around town to enjoy the festive lights.



To register your residence as part of our tour list, scan the QR code with your smartphone.

New City Software What Residents Should Know

The City will be converting to new software in December. Residents will see changes to utility billing and building permit processes as a result. Electronic payments will no longer be accepted over the phone and the portals for online payment of both utility bills and building permits will be changing. Check for updates at www.linolakes.us/utilitybilling and www.linolakes.us/permitforms.

BEAT THE WINTER BLUES AT THE ROOKERY



The Rookery Activity Center is gearing up for the winter with some great programming opportunities. As the weather turns colder and the days get shorter, stay active and beat the winter blues by joining the Rookery Activity Center.

Thrive in 2025!

NEW Membership Benefits Starting January 1st, 2025

We're pleased to announce that all memberships will now include:

Live Group Cycle Classes:

Join our certified instructors from Endurance Fitness for engaging cycle classes. Use the Stages Studio+ Boost app to personalize your experience.

Virtual Immersive Studio Workouts:

Enjoy Les Mills fitness classes at your convenience, with options for cycling, strength, and cardio workouts. Equipment is provided, and reservations can be made through our Guest Services Desk.

Guest Passes:

Each membership will receive a set number of guest passes each year, (4 for Youth and Adult memberships, 8 for Dual memberships, and 12 for Household memberships). Each pass is good for an individual or family for a single visit. The allotted guest passes should appear in all accounts by January 15 of each year.

Refer-a-Friend Program:

Invite friends to try The Rookery! Fill out a referral form at Guest Services, and we will mail them a free 5-day pass. For each referral who joins within 30 days, you'll get a free month added to your membership!

Upcoming Adult/Senior Trip and Programs:

- AARP Smart Driver Classes
- *Divas Through The Decades* At The Paramount Theater
- *Just the Way You Are* At The Sidekick Theater
- *Grease* At Chanhassen Dinner Theater
- Winery Trip
- Nashville Overnight Trip
- Spring Festival Art And Craft Fair At Canterbury Park Trip
- Extended Travel Information Classes
- Beginner And Intermediate Pickleball Classes

Upcoming Youth Programs:

- Tot Time
- Kids Kraze (4th Friday Night Of Each Month)
- Winter Break Non-school Days
- School's Out Kids Kraze – Day Time!
- Mermaids And Mermen Academy
- Babysitting Class
- Lifeguarding Class
- Lego Classes
- Cheerleading Classes
- Aquatics Camp
- Sports Camps
- Lightsaber Fencing Class



Upcoming Special Events:

- Royal Ball | Friday, February 7th | 6:00pm – 8:00pm
- Eggstravaganza Hunt | Friday April 11th | 6:00pm – 8:00pm



Scan the QR code to
check out other programs!

All programs are open to the public and do not require a Rookery membership.

End of Year Membership Special:

Lock in your 2025 rates by signing up for an annual membership in December

Monthly Memberships:

Promotions: November 28th – January 12th

- Waived enrollment fees
- November 28th through December 31st is free with a NEW membership
- 25% off monthly membership fees for January, February, and March

ROOKERY KIDS AND MINI ROOKERY KIDS SUMMER DAY CAMP

Plan ahead for summer break!

Join us each week at Rookery Kids Day Camp, where the fun never stops. Rookery Kids will enjoy time outside doing small and large group games, arts and crafts, and other fun weekly-themed activities. Each week they will go swimming at the Rookery, take part in swimming lessons and go on special activities/field trips. Join for all 8 weeks of camp (June 16th –August 15th) or pick the weeks that work best for you. Day Camp will run Monday–Friday from 9:00am – 3:30pm. You will be able to choose which days you will be attending camp, with a minimum of at least 3 days a week. Camp is for children ages 4 – 12 yr. old.

- **Registration for 5 days a week for all 8 weeks opens January 7th.**
- **Registration for individual weeks opens February 11th.**

There will be no camp the week of June 30th. Before and after care is available for an additional fee.

WINTER AQUATICS PROGRAMMING

Swim Lessons

The Rookery Activity Center provides comprehensive water safety education and swimming instruction throughout the year. Our swim programs cater to both children and adults, aiming to build important aquatic skills that enhance confidence in and out of the water. Our facilities feature a splash pool maintained at a cozy 87°F and a lap pool at 82°F, ensuring a comfortable environment that encourages positive swimming experiences, especially for our younger participants. We offer the following:

- Homeschool Programming
- Group Swimming Instruction
- Private Lessons

NEW Adaptive Swim Lessons

Looking for personalized instruction tailored to your unique needs? Our adaptive swim lessons provide a 1-on-1 teaching experience for children and adults with physical, cognitive, or sensory disabilities. These specialized lessons are offered for all ages and ability levels. Our certified adaptive swim instructors work closely with each individual, focusing on appropriate swimming skills and water safety techniques that align with the student's specific goals and capabilities. Our adaptive swim program aims to enhance water safety and confidence, develop swimming skills at a comfortable pace, promote physical fitness and motor skill development, and foster independence and self-esteem in the water. Each lesson is 30 minutes long and scheduled at a time that works best for you. Our pool is equipped with adaptive equipment to ensure a safe and supportive learning environment.



THE ROOKERY
ACTIVITY CENTER

ENDURANCE
FITNESS OF MN

ENDURANCE FITNESS

Pilates Reformer offers a low-impact full-body workout with a variety of moves that will challenge your balance, range of motion strength, and flexibility while engaging your core muscles the entire time. Classes begin at the beginning of each month and run for 4 sessions. Small class sizes, limited to 4 participants, ensure individual attention while also maintaining the motivation of a group setting. Private sessions may also be scheduled and held one-on-one or with a partner. Sessions are 45 minutes in length.

Small Group Training classes are formed each month and run for 4-week sessions. Participants will work on the fitness floor, with a Certified Personal Trainer to improve strength, cardio, and overall fitness. A new session will begin each month.



Scan the QR code to check out our classes, view the current schedule and learn more about aquatics programming.

MAIN STREET CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN

Guided by the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, the City of Lino Lakes is developing a master plan to guide responsible growth and sustainability for the Main Street Corridor from 4th Avenue to Sunset Avenue.

Moratorium on New Development

In July 2024, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 11-24. This interim ordinance created a one-year moratorium on new lots within the city's northwest quadrant. This area covers a 1,000-acre area, bounded by 4th Avenue on the east, Sunset Avenue on the west, Pine Street on the north, and Century Trail/Carl Street on the south.

The moratorium allows the City to complete the master plan and Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) before considering any development projects in the area. An AUAR is an environmental review tool used to guide development needs and assess potential environmental impacts. The moratorium expires on August 15, 2025.

The Planning Process

On September 23, 2024, the City Council hired Kimley-Horn to assist in developing the master plan and AUAR. Kimley-Horn is a national planning and design consulting firm with proven experience in both master planning and environmental studies.

The goal of the process is to develop a master plan for the study area that will provide a more detailed guide for development over the next 20 years and beyond.

The planning process will include an analysis of various land uses and densities to understand the impacts on infrastructure, transportation, the environment, local economy, and community life.

It will also include preparing an AUAR to address the overall impacts of development within the area and creating a specific mitigation plan outlining requirements for development.

Community Input is Welcomed

In response to public and City Council feedback, the City is prioritizing community engagement to ensure that the residents, advisory boards and stakeholders are involved in developing the master plan. The City will use a variety of communication channels and engagement opportunities to share information and seek feedback in the near future.

These opportunities will include workshops with stakeholders, residents, City departments and advisory boards. The City will create a dedicated website with feedback tools, including an online interactive map

of the master plan area. It will also share information through its newsletter, emails, website, social media channels and local media.

Plan Development

The City will use information gathered through planning studies and community engagement to establish development principles and preliminary goals. The principles and goals will be applied to initial development scenarios, including one based on the existing comprehensive plan for the area.

A preferred development plan will be prepared based on the input received, and development scenarios will be incorporated into the AUAR planning process. The AUAR will follow processes required by the state and city ordinances.

Next Steps

The City will kick off the planning process in November. More information on how to stay informed about the planning process and participate in community engagement opportunities will be shared in the weeks ahead. Residents with questions or comments should contact Community Development Director, Michael Grochala at MGrochala@linolakes.us.

Visit www.mappingnwmain.com for updates.

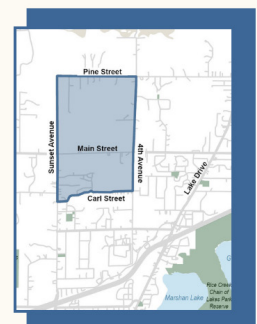
You're invited!

Join us at our first community meeting!

Come learn about upcoming development planning efforts for the northwest corner of Lino Lakes!

Wednesday, Dec. 4
from 6-8 p.m.

Rookery Activity Center
7690 Village Drive



Safely Enjoying Winter Activities in Lino Lakes

As some winter sports enthusiasts are itching to get out and put their finely-tuned equipment through the paces, we recognize there are others in our community who aren't nearly as excited about the next few months of cold and snow. The Lino Lakes Public Safety Department is geared up and prepared for outdoor winter activities as well. Because of unpredictable ice conditions, our agency is always prepared for cold water rescues, both in the police and fire divisions. The Lino Lakes Public Safety



Department has a remote area rescue vehicle and our staff trains for rescues in those hard-to-reach areas of the city where winter activities can result in a rescue need.

One of the most common winter activity concerns the Lino Lakes Police Division hears about from residents in the winter months involves snowmobiles. Thanks to the Rice Creek Snowmobile Trail Association, in partnership with Anoka County Parks, Lino Lakes has roughly 17 miles of maintained snowmobile trails which afford snowmobile operators an incredible opportunity to enjoy the outdoors very close to home. The many area lakes offer additional riding opportunities, but respect and care needs to be shown to those who are fishing, skiing or enjoying the winter resources in ways other than by snowmobile.

In addition to meeting the snowmobile operator certification requirements set by the Minnesota DNR, the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department asks all snowmobile operators to be very familiar with the snowmobile ordinances for the City of Lino Lakes, the Anoka County Parks, and surrounding communities before operating. The responsibility of knowing the rules is on the operator. Please drive responsibly, stay on designated trails, follow safe operation and speed laws, respect property owners and respect those who use the same incredible resources in multiple ways.

Our agency plans to deploy more snowmobile patrols this year in an effort to hold accountable those few operators who violate laws and ordinances, negatively impact trail safety, and who disrespect the opportunities they've been provided. Please help us by monitoring activity and reporting as you see problems by calling 911. Our agency highly values our partnerships with those who are willing to help protect the Lino Lakes Community and we look forward to another great Minnesota winter.



Holiday Hosting Safety

- Use flameless candles when decorating for the holidays.
- Make sure exit paths and exits are clear of holiday decorations and clutter.
- Never leave food cooking on the stove unattended.
- Keep a timer with you when baking in the oven so you don't lose track of time; check on items in the oven frequently.

Christmas Tree Safety

- Never block an exit with a Christmas tree.
- Only use non-flammable decorations.
- Keep trees away from heat sources and vents.
- Remove the tree from your home when the needles are brittle or begin to fall off.
- Pick a tree stand that can hold the tree securely. The stand should hold enough water for two days.

Winter Safety

- 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 three feet from heat sources. Do not use your oven to heat your home.

For more information about fire safety in Lino Lakes, please visit www.linolakes.us or call the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department at **651-982-2323**.



Lead Services Line Inventory

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has new requirements aimed at addressing lead in drinking water by identifying all public and private service pipe materials and replacing any lead and certain galvanized pipes found. A service line is a pipe that connects buildings to the City-owned water main located below the street. The City of Lino Lakes has completed and submitted the service line materials inventory to the Minnesota Department of Health for an analysis.

Results: As of 10/18/2024, our service line inventory contains 0 lead, 0 galvanized materials requiring replacement, 0 unknown material, and 6,035 non-lead service lines.

View this information on our website at www.linolakes.us/publicwater. Additionally, the results are publicly available, and you can check the materials for your service line by visiting the Lead Inventory Tracking Tool (LITT) at <https://maps.umn.edu/LSL>. You may also contact us by email, LLPublicservices@linolakes.us or by phone 651-982-2440.



Birchwood Acres



Brandywood Park

City Park Updates

Brandywood Park and Birchwood Acres: New Playground Equipment in 2024

The City Council approved the replacement of the aged playground equipment at Brandywood Park and Birchwood Acres Park. The park bench at Birchwood Acres Park will be installed in the spring of 2025, while the park bench at Brandywood playground will be installed this fall. The new playground equipment has been installed by the Parks Department and is now available for use.

Ice Rink Warming Houses

Outdoor Ice Skating

Warming houses are back for the 2024-2025 Winter season! Tentative opening of the warming houses and skating rinks is December 18th.

For up-to-date information follow the City on Facebook. Check the website for Holiday and School vacation special hours.

RINK LOCATIONS:

Sunrise Park - 6918 Sunrise Drive

Birch Park - 6520 Pheasant Run South

City Hall Park - 1189 Main Street

Warming House Hours:

Saturdays: Noon - 8PM

Sundays: Noon - 6PM



Now Hiring Ice Rink Attendants

Looking for a weekend part-time job this winter? How about supervising warming houses. Flexible hours and a great way to earn extra cash (starting wages at \$15/per hour)! Additional information and application can be found in the QR code link.



Snowmobile Safety Course

Officers with the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department will be conducting a DNR Youth Snowmobile Certification course again this year. This course is being offered to youth, ages 11-15 (certification becomes valid at age 12). This training course is at an introductory level, designed to help the snowmobile rider become familiar with laws and safety information related to snowmobile operation. Participants who successfully complete this course will be eligible for certification through the Minnesota DNR.



There is a \$30.00 course fee for online materials, along with a \$5.00 processing fee, required by the Minnesota DNR for the official certification. All payments are made electronically to the DNR after successfully completing the course.

The certification course takes place in two sessions. One introductory, in-person, classroom session with a requirement to complete online training at home, then one additional in-person session for the driving test. During the introductory session, the instructors will distribute the course materials, discuss the course outline, and answer related questions. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend.

Dates for these sessions will be posted to our website no later than December 5, 2024. For additional information regarding the class, or to sign-up, please contact the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department at **651-982-2323** or Officer Paulson at **MPaulson@linolakes.us**.



Photo Contest

The City of Lino Lakes is looking for scenic City photos, as well as photos from events. Photos must be submitted in a high-quality JPG format; scanned images will not be accepted. All photos submitted become the property of the City. The City will identify the top photos and the finalists will be posted on the City's Facebook page. The winner will be determined by a people's choice voting system - the image with the most likes will be selected as the winner. If your photo is chosen, you will receive a check for \$25. Photos must be submitted by December 8th to be eligible to win. The photos submitted may be used on the City's website, social media accounts, or a future newsletter.

Submit your photos at www.linolakes.us/photocontest

FIND A JOB YOU'LL LOVE

Apply for a job with the City of Lino Lakes and join a great team and give back to the community.

Visit www.linolakes.us/employment to learn more about current job opportunities.



PREPARE FOR WINTER

City Plowing Schedule:

Snow plowing operations generally commence with accumulations of two inches of snow or more. Accumulations of less than two inches may also trigger operations if they are combined with icy or drifting conditions in which salt and/or sand will be applied following guidelines within the Minnesota Manual Snow & Ice Management.

To keep traffic moving, crews first plow streets that connect neighborhoods to State and County roads. Plowing operations stop if strong winds and drifting result in unsafe conditions; plowing resumes when conditions improve. For evening or overnight accumulations, all available workers normally begin plowing streets at 3:00am. For typical snow falls, it generally takes 7 to 9 hours for our Public Works Department to clear the 200+ lane miles of City streets. For plowing updates, follow us at www.facebook.com/linolakesmn

Winter Parking Restrictions

Beginning November 1st through April 1st of each year in Lino Lakes, parking restrictions are in effect. Parking vehicles on any public street within the City is prohibited



between the hours of 2:00am – 6:00am in the above time frame. In addition, parking is not allowed on any public street when two inches or more of snow has fallen until the street has been plowed. Vehicles in violation of the Winter Parking Restrictions may be towed at the owner's expense and the vehicle owner could be charged a petty misdemeanor (See Lino Lakes City Code Chapter 802 Section 6).

Mailboxes:

To ensure the mail carrier can deliver your mail, please clear snow away from the front of your mailbox. Properly installed mailboxes accidentally struck and damaged by snow plow will be replaced by City crews as soon as time and conditions allow. Boxes damaged by heavy snow discharged off the plow will not be repaired or replaced.



Protect Your Lawn and Sprinkler Heads:

It's not too early to start planning for the winter plowing season. To help prevent plow damage to your sod and irrigation heads, mark the edge of the road prior to the first snowfall with reflective, or brightly colored stakes, at about 20-foot intervals. If your sod is damaged by a plow, report the damage to the City as soon as you become aware of it. The stakes available by the City are 48" non-reflective wood lath.

Plowing Trails:

The City of Lino Lakes staff do their best to clear trails and sidewalks across the city. Trails and sidewalks in close proximity to schools receive higher priority and are plowed quickly after a snow event. Other trails are cleared as time allows in the days following a snow event. Please note there are a few trails throughout the city that are left unplowed. If you have any questions or concerns regarding snow removal on sidewalks and trails, please contact the Public Services Department at **651-982-2440**.

Garbage Cans and Recycle Containers:

Keep garbage cans and recycling containers behind the curb line and off roadways and sidewalks. Containers placed in the street or at the end of the driveway may be damaged or knocked over.



How Residents Can Assist with the Snow Removal Process

Effective snow removal involves citizen collaboration. Follow the reminders below to help stay safe this winter.

- Keep kids' toys, sleds, and basketball hoops away from the street.
- Do not build snow forts along the street and in piles in cul-de-sacs. Plow drivers cannot see inside the forts and do not want to injure anyone.
- Keep a minimum distance of 100 feet when encountering snowplows and sand trucks.
- Do not drive into a snow cloud or pass snow plow vehicles while they're plowing.
- Keep snow off the road when shoveling, pushing, or blowing snow. Putting snow in the street can cause snow and ice buildup on the road making conditions hazardous.
- Keep fire hydrants clear and accessible during the winter. If you have a fire hydrant located near your house, please work with your neighbors to keep a cleared path from the street to the fire hydrants and a cleared 6-foot area around the fire hydrant. By doing this firefighters will be able to easily locate and access the fire hydrant in case of an emergency.
- Report issues, such as slippery intersections, potholes, snow plow damage, etc., to the Public Works at: **651-982-2440**.

Halt the Salt

For those of us that live in the colder climates, like Minnesota, winter time and ice can prove to be anything from a nuisance to a hazard. Between snowstorms and deep freezes, we often seek relief from salt to reduce the dangers of ice and snow on our driveways and sidewalks.

While it's essential to keep safe in the wintertime, it's important to note that salt doesn't just disappear when the snow and ice eventually melts. Instead, it can cause irreversible damage as it washes into our lakes and streams and seeps into our groundwater supply. It only takes one teaspoon of salt to pollute 5 gallons of fresh water!

Fortunately, you can help prevent salt pollution by limiting the amount of deicers you use on your driveways and sidewalks. Try to avoid using salt altogether, if possible. However, if safety concerns require you to control ice, consider the following simple tips to limit salt use:

- 1. Shovel.** In order to limit the amount of deicer needed, try to keep your driveway and walkways free from snow when it first falls.
- 2. Skip the salt if the pavement temperature is below 15 degrees.** Most salts are not effective below 15 degrees, instead, use sand for traction.
- 3. Use salt sparingly.** Did you know that 12 ounces of salt, about the size of a coffee mug, is enough to treat a 20 ft. long driveway?
- 4. Adding extra salt does not mean more melting.** If salt or sand is visible on dry pavement, it is no longer working and will be washed away. Sweep it up, use it somewhere else, or throw it away.



FREE SALT CUPS
available at City Hall

Looking for a trusted adviser for your business?

Need a trusted advisor for your business or financing to expand your business? A partnership between Anoka County and the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) allows business owners or those looking to start a business access to a free program called Open to Business.



Don't hesitate to contact Anoka County's Business Advisor Maria Thor at mthor@mccdmn.org or call/text **612-699-4928** to schedule a one-on-one meeting or to learn more.



For a list of services, scan the QR code link.



PLAN IT, FUND IT, BUILD IT!

Concerned about growing traffic congestion on a street near you? Wondering when that certain intersection will get signals or possibly a roundabout? The answer to these questions depends on the agency responsible for the road. The good news is that there is a lot of transportation related projects going on in the City and plenty of opportunity for input once you get pointed in the right direction.

The City of Lino Lake's transportation system includes a local and collector street system managed by the City. A network of connecting arterial roads managed by Anoka and Ramsey Counties and an interstate system managed by the Minnesota Department of Transportation. City staff works with each of these agencies to develop and deliver roadway improvements. The projects themselves follow a pretty standard formula. Each project starts with a planning process to collect input, identify issues and constraints, and develop a preferred alternative. Once completed, funding options need to be identified which can vary based on the type and function of roadway. Finally, projects move into the build stage where final design is completed and construction begins. There are projects currently underway in each phase.

View current projects at www.linolakes.us/roadwayimprovementprojects.

My Street Needs to be Fixed too!

The City annually inspects its' streets as part of its Pavement Management Program. The Pavement Management Program evaluates the condition of the roadways and provides recommendations for maintenance for the City's entire network of roadways. For more information please visit www.linolakes.us/pavementmanagement.

These recommendations are incorporated into the City's 5 year Capital Improvement Plan and programmed for construction. In 2024, the City completed approximately 1.7 miles of mill and overlay as part of our rehabilitation work.

Learn more about the 2025 Street Rehabilitation Project at www.linolakes.us/2025streetproject.

2023 Water Quality Report

The Water Quality Report is posted on the City of Lino Lakes website. To view the report online visit www.LinoLakes.us/WaterReport. Paper copies are available upon request at City Hall, 600 Town Center Parkway.



Water Treatment Plant Construction

Construction of the Water Treatment Plant has begun! The Water Treatment Plant site is on the corner of Birch Street and 12th Avenue. Please take special caution when traveling through these work zones. Updates can be found on the City's Facebook page as they become available. Completion is expected in the fall of 2026.



City Water & Forever Chemicals

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are a family of man-made chemical compounds that persist in the environment for long periods of time. They are often called “forever chemicals.” For decades, PFAS chemicals have been used in industry and consumer products such as nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, and stain resistant furniture. These chemicals have been important for certain industries and uses. And the latest science shows that these chemicals are harmful to our health.

In Minnesota, PFAS contamination was first measured in the eastern Twin Cities in the early 2000s. Since then, PFAS have been detected in water, sediment, soil, and fish across Minnesota. PFAS are in air emissions from industrial facilities, wastewater from industrial and municipal sources, soil and water surrounding firefighting training sites, groundwater surrounding landfills, and are sometimes found with no obvious source at all.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for six particular PFAS compounds on April 10, 2024, including Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for PFOA and PFOS. In addition, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has established health-based guidance values for six particular PFAS compounds that are used to calculate a health risk index (HRI).

The City of Lino Lakes’ water supply system includes six groundwater production wells. The City annually tests wells for a number of potential contaminants in accordance with MDH requirements. Recent PFAS results for one of the City wells, Well No. 2, exceeded new regulatory limits set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency EPA in April 2024. The PFOA concentration measured in Well No. 2 exceeds the new EPA MCL for PFOA. Results received from other wells indicated that, where present, PFAS levels are well below regulatory guidelines.

Well No. 2 has not been used since 2019 due to its poor water quality. It has the highest manganese concentrations of the six wells, exceeding MDH health guidelines, and in addition, its iron and manganese concentrations are an aesthetic concern because they can cause staining and a metallic taste. The recent PFAS results are further reason to restrict the use of this well.

Private well owners should also be aware of the possibility of PFAS in your water supply. Resources and guidance are available through MDH and the attached FAQ sheet.

The City and MDH will continue to monitor PFAS concentrations and adjust well pumping accordingly. This information is ever evolving, and the city is continuously monitoring the EPA’s and MDH’s guidance on PFAS Maximum Containment Levels and are always considering the health and safety of the residents.

For more information, visit www.linolakes.us/pfas.



A goal of the Lino Lakes water supply plan is to bring residential water demand to less than **75 gallons** per person per day.

A very wet summer and conservation efforts by residents sent water use numbers heading in the right direction during the summer of 2024. Water pumped dropped by nearly 177 million gallons compared to the same three-month period in 2023 – a 50% reduction! This is equivalent to approximately 268 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

While we can’t always expect to have the rain like this year, we can continue to make good choices when it comes to our lawns and watering habits. As you start planning for next year’s projects here are a couple helpful recommendations to keep your lawn looking good and your water bill low:

1. Consider installing a new “Smart Irrigation Controller.”
2. Are you installing new sod? Consider fine fescues and tall fescues. Fine fescues need less water, and tall fescue has a deep root system able to access more moisture.
3. To encourage rooting and drought tolerance, you should irrigate infrequently (one time or less per week) with a sufficient volume of water to wet soils to a depth of six inches.
4. Improve your soils by aerating your lawn followed by top-dressing with quality compost. This will lessen compaction and add organic matter to soil. This will improve water infiltration in heavy soils and increase the moisture holding capacity of sandy soils.

MAKES A GOOD HOLIDAY GIFT!



8-Zone Rachio 3 irrigation controllers are being offered to homeowners for **\$45.00 +tax (MSRP \$199.99)**. Any residence in

Lino Lakes that is connected to municipal water and has an irrigation system with 8 zones or less is eligible to participate. Participation is limited to one per residence for the life of the program. Please see the guidelines and eligibility criteria on the application form to see if you qualify to participate.

Visit the www.linolakes.us/smartirrigation for more information about the program and application process.



Organics Recycling

Food is the most common material in our trash. In the United States, we waste 92 billion pounds of food each year. Food waste in landfills is responsible for about 58% of methane emissions according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). You can help reduce the amount of waste going to landfills or incinerators by composting your food scraps.

- Sign-up for the drop-off program: www.linolakes.us/organicsdropoff.
- Or register for curbside pickup with Walters Recycling and Refuse www.waltersrecycling.com/organics or call **763-780-8464**.

Plastic Recycling

Please remember to keep plastic bags out of your recycling bins. These get easily tangled in sorting machines at recycling facilities. Stores like Target or Cub Foods have bins to drop-off plastic bags to be recycled.

Accepted plastic items in your curbside bin are hard plastics labeled #1, #2, or #5. Examples of these products include milk jugs, plastic water bottles, laundry containers, shampoo bottles, yogurt cups, etc. Always empty and rinse containers, ensure they are dry, and leave caps/lids on containers.

Black plastic such as takeout containers are not recyclable, please throw in your trash and consider bringing a reusable container to your next dining visit.

Holiday Lights Recycling

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Americans generate around 25% more waste during the holiday season. String lights are a very popular item sold during this time, and while they can be reused for years, they might eventually break, or you find a more desirable product. So, instead of throwing those old lights in the trash, consider bringing them to a Recycling Saturday event. These lights are made from a variety of materials including copper wire, plastic, glass, metal, and when taken to a recycling facility, the lights are stripped of their parts and the materials are reused. Please note that while string lights can be recycled, do not throw them in your recycling bin! They get tangled in sorting machines at recycling facilities.

Another drop-off option for holiday lights is at

Recycle Technologies - 10040 Davenport St NE, Blaine, MN 55449

www.recycletechnologies.com/blaine.



Upcoming Recycling Saturdays 2024-2025

Do you have appliances or electronics collecting dust? Bring it to a Recycling Saturday event at Lino Park. Appliances, electronics, furniture, scrap metal, and paper for shredding are just a few of the items that are accepted at this monthly event.

Visit www.linolakes.us/recyclesaturdays for a complete list of acceptable items.

If you have any questions, please reach out to recyclingintern@linolakes.us.

December 21, 2024 | January 18, 2025 | February 15, 2025



Christmas Tree Recycling

Approximately 25-30 million real Christmas trees are sold in the United States each year; they are a renewable and recyclable resource. Each tree has a carbon footprint which is the measure of the total amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere. When a Christmas tree is composted, it has a carbon footprint of 0-3.5 kilograms of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) which is the equivalent of driving an average gas-powered passenger vehicle **9 miles**. If it is sent to a landfill, that footprint increases to 16kg of CO₂ which is the equivalent of driving an average gas-powered passenger vehicle **41 miles**.

It is estimated that 10 million trees end up in a landfill each year. To help reduce carbon emissions and space taken up in landfills, remember to compost your Christmas tree.

Christmas trees are accepted for **FREE** at the Rice Creek compost site. Decorations must be removed.

Rice Creek Compost Site
7701 Main Street
Lino Lakes, MN

December through March, weather permitting:

- Saturday: 9AM – 1PM ONLY
- Closed New Years Day

Artificial trees should be reused, given away, or thrown away.

2025 TREE SALE

To participate in the City Tree Sale, complete the order form below and return with payment to:
City of Lino Lakes, 600 Town Center Parkway, Lino Lakes, MN 55014.

- **Order period ends: Friday, February 28, 2025**
- **Trees can be picked up Friday, May 9, 2025 from Noon to 4 PM at the Public Works Facility at 1189 Main Street, Lino Lakes.**

Quantities are limited, so reserve your trees now! Please note that all orders must be pre-paid, are nonrefundable and have no warranty.

2025 City Tree Order Form

CUSTOMER NAME:	PHONE:		
ADDRESS:	CITY:	ZIP CODE:	
E-MAIL ADDRESS:			
Tree type: purchase size, mature size, tree description (trees are bare root).	Price @	Quantity	Total
Crabapple-Purple Prince: 1" diameter. 20'H x 20'W. Purple foliage, red flower. Disease resistant.	\$39.95		
Kentucky coffee tree 'Espresso': 1" lightly branched. 60'H x 50'W. A stately shade tree with no significant issues (also no seedpods). Grows well in a variety of conditions.	\$79.95		
Honey locust-Shademaster: 1" diameter. 60'H x 35'W. Rapid growing, thornless, dark green foliage.	\$62.95		
Linden-Redmond: 1.25" diameter. Pyramidal shape with large leaves. Fast growing. Reddish bark in winter.	\$64.95		
Oak-Heritage: 6" diameter. 60'H x 40'W. Dark green, glossy foliage. A beautiful specimen tree.	\$55.95		
Oak-Red: 1" diameter. 80'H x 50'W. Fast growing oak with dark green leaves that hang on into winter. A stately landscape tree.	\$60.95		
Oak-Bur: 6" diameter. 80'H x 50'W Rounded shape, corky branches.	\$49.95		
River Birch-'Cully' Heritage: 6" diameter. 50'H x 35'W. Tolerates wet soil but does well in upland soil. Good heat tolerance.	\$37.95		
Sugar maple-Green Mountain: 1" diameter. 50-75'H x 40-50'W. Heat resistant and drought tolerant.	\$69.95		
Serviceberry-Autumn Brilliance: 5' tall. 20'H x 15'W. White spring blooms. Red fall color. Purple-black fruit. Small tree.	\$51.95		
Subtotal			
Add Sales Tax 8.125%			
Grand Total			

*Tree seedlings can also be purchased from the Anoka County Conservation District at www.anokaswcd.org. They are offering many varieties of tree and shrub seedlings. If you order from the Conservation District, please note that they use a different order form, pick up dates, and location.



600 Town Center Parkway
Lino Lakes, MN 55014

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 32324
Twin Cities, MN

JOIN US FOR SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENTS!

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH
8:30AM - 10:30AM

Lino Lakes Fire Station #1
7741 Lake Drive
Lino Lakes, MN 55014

SCAN to register

Suggested donation: \$5 per person

Secret Holiday Shop

SCAN to register

MEET SANTA AND MRS CLAUS!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
4:15pm - 7:15pm

 **THE ROOKERY**
ACTIVITY CENTER

SCAN to register

LETTERS FROM
Santa

 **THE ROOKERY**
ACTIVITY CENTER



 **THE ROOKERY**
ACTIVITY CENTER

ROYAL BALL

Calling all princes and princesses! Join us for dancing, crafts, and refreshments.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

SCAN to register