



SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

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@RookeryActivityCenter



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600 Town Center Parkway
Lino Lakes, MN 55014
www.linolakes.us [f](#) @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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Time for a spring thaw and sunny days that come with it.

Of course, with spring brings the season for road construction and other construction projects. This year will be no different. City Staff and Engineers have been preparing and planning these projects that will soon begin.

Roadway projects:

- Pheasant Run (north of Birch Street) - *complete re-construction*
- Woodridge Lane and Trappers Crossing Neighborhood - *sealcoat / crack seal*
- Millers Crossroads Neighborhood - *sealcoat / crack seal (City-owned roads only)*
- Black Duck Drive (from 100 ft. south of East Shadow Lake Drive to 200 ft. north of Crystal Court), Crystal Court, Mallard Lane, East Shadow Lake Drive (from Black Duck Drive to the southerly cul-de-sac), Lantern Lane, Lantern Circle, and Partridge Place – *mill and overlay*
– The balance of Black Duck Drive and Black Duck Court are proposed by 2024

As construction draws near, information will again be available at linolakes.us/roadwayimprovementprojects to keep residents current on changing construction conditions.

Park planning and preparation for modified and new improvements include:

- Brandywood Park- *replacement of playground equipment*
- Birchwood Acres Park - *replacement of playground equipment*
- City Hall Park - *repurpose bituminous pad into two pickleball courts*
- Watermark Park - *new park construction including playground equipment, park shelter, and green space*

Development continues with new construction beginning for New Horizon Academy and Tidal Wave Auto Spa on the east side of the 35E. Along Lake Drive, Kwik Trip is rising from the ground, and starting soon near Target and Kohls, is the retail center featuring a dental clinic, coffee shop, and drive-thru ATM.

Research and Planning continues as City Staff and Engineers work to secure state and federal funding for projects like the extension of Otter Lake Road and a water treatment facility.

Many moving pieces and positive things are happening in Lino Lakes. As your Mayor with Council, we will continue working together to improve life in Lino Lakes for all.



May your spring and summer be great and safe.

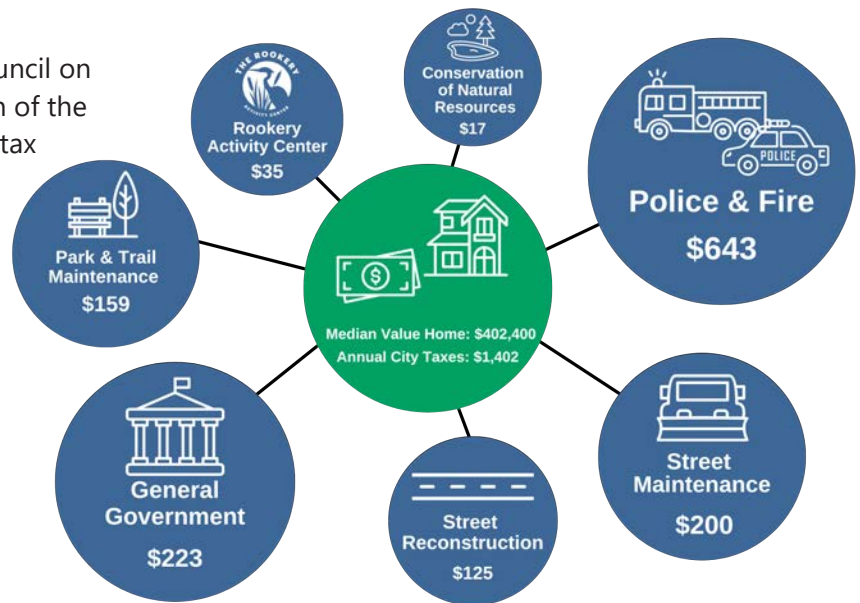
Rob Rafferty

Rob Rafferty

Mayor of Lino Lakes

WHERE DO YOUR ANNUAL CITY PROPERTY TAXES GO?

The final 2023 tax levy was adopted by the City Council on December 12, 2022. The tax levy supports a portion of the annual budget. See below for descriptions of what tax dollars are spent on in each category.



- **Police & Fire** – Daily operations, fleet replacement, and Fire Station #2 debt service repayment
- **General Government** – Mayor and Council, Administration, Elections, Finance, Legal, and Building & Facilities departments
- **Street Maintenance** – Daily operations and fleet replacement
- **Park & Trail Maintenance:** – Daily operations, fleet replacement, and playground equipment/park upgrades
- **Street Reconstruction** – Debt service repayment of street reconstruction projects
- **Rookery Activity Center** – Daily operations

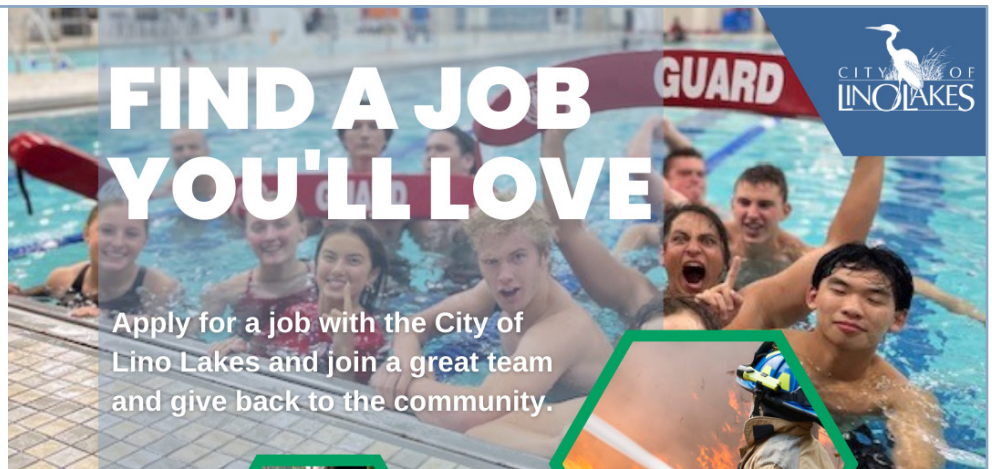
- **Conservation of Natural Resources** – Environmental and Forestry departments daily operations and fleet replacement

Visit linolakes.us/budget to learn more about the 2023 adopted budget.



The City of Lino Lakes is seeking passionate and motivated individuals who are looking to join a great team and give back to the community.

Explore all the employment opportunities with the City – including seasonal, part-time and full-time.



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



Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera for more information on current openings and to apply.

SCAN TO APPLY:



SUMMER DAY CAMPS AT THE ROOKERY ACTIVITY CENTER



The Rookery Activity Center is the best place for kids’ summer fun!

The Rookery is excited to bring NEW summer day camp opportunities to the Lino Lakes area community, and provide a unique summer experience for kids. The summer day camps allow kids to be active, strengthen their swimming skills, make new friends, and adventure out on fun field trips.

Rookery Kids Day Camp | Ages 5 – 12

Join us each week at Rookery Kids Day Camp where the fun never stops. Kids will enjoy small and large group games, crafts, swimming, presenters, field trips, and other fun weekly themed activities both inside and outside. Each week, kids will get the opportunity to swim in the Rookery Aquatic Center, and bring their own bike or scooter for Wheelie Wednesdays. Each Thursday will feature a different special activity or field trip including; the zoo, Cascade Bay Water Park, Bunker Beach Water Park, and a DJ dance party. Pick the weeks and days that work best for your schedule. Kids can attend 3, 4, or 5 days per week.

Rookery Kids Camp Dates: June 19 – August 18
Camp hours are from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.



Days Per Week	Member Price	Non-Member Price
3	\$132 per week	\$159 per week
4	\$176 per week	\$212 per week
5	\$220 per week	\$265 per week

**Swim lessons are offered each Tuesday for an additional fee.*



ENROLL NOW!



Before and After Care options are available for an additional fee:

Program	Days	Time
Rookery Kids Before Care	Monday - Friday	7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Rookery Kids After Care	Monday - Friday	3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Aquatics After Care	Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday	3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

** Aquatics Care includes a swim lesson and structured aquatic play with certified Lifeguards and Swim Instructors.*

Preschool Day Camp | Ages 4 – 5

Preschoolers can join in on all the Rookery fun, too! Kids will stay busy and have fun with games, craft projects, water activities, walks to the local park, and meeting new friends.

Dates	Hours	Member Price	Non-Member Price
July 17 – July 19	9:00 a.m. - Noon	\$54 per week	\$64 per week
August 7 – August 9	9:00 a.m. - Noon	\$54 per week	\$64 per week

Aquatics Day Camp | Ages 6 – 12

Aquatics campers will enjoy learning a variety of aquatic sports, team building exercises, group swim instruction, structured water play, pool deck fun, and outdoor activities while being led by a certified Lifeguard/ Swim Instructor. Kids can attend 3, 4, or 5 days per week.

Aquatics Day Camp Dates: June 12 – 16, and August 21 – 25
Camp hours are from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Days Per Week	Member Price	Non-Member Price
3	\$160 per week	\$185 per week
4	\$185 per week	\$210 per week
5	\$195 per week	\$225 per week

NEW SUMMER PROGRAMS AT THE ROOKERY

Looking for fun activities for yourself or children? The Rookery will keep you busy this summer. These activities promote staying active, learning life-long skills, going on trips, and just having overall fun!

Summer Swim Lessons | Ages 6mos. – Adult



The Rookery follows the internationally recognized *Jeff Ellis Swim Lesson program* with highly trained and certified swim instructors. The swim lesson program is geared towards teaching children and adults the swimming skills that build self-confidence in and out of the water. Registration opens April 18th.

\$89 Member | \$104 Non-Member

Endurance Elite Summer Youth Training Program | Ages 12 – 15

Certified Personal Trainers will work with you for 90-minutes to improve strength, speed, and agility and enhance their fitness level. Trainers will coach proper form and technique to maximize results while reducing the risk of injury. After working out participants can jump in the pool for 90 minutes of open swim time!

Session 1: Mondays June 12 – July 10 | 12pm – 3pm

Session 2: Mondays July 17 – August 7 | 12pm – 3pm

\$200 Member | \$240 Non-Member

Ninja Day Camp | Ages 8 – 13



Join us and Ninja Anywhere for a morning of fun! Learn how to successfully complete the course with warped wall, floating boards, climbing ropes, Ninja rings, spring boards, crawl tunnels, quad steps, balance beams and so much more.

Thursday | July 13 from 10am – 12pm

\$62 Member | \$72 Non-Member

Junior Lifeguard | Ages 11 – 14

Learn valuable rescue techniques, first aid, and emergency equipment use. Gain a sense of what it's like to be an actual lifeguard, while learning some useful information applicable to everyday life.

June 19 – June 21 from 10am – 2pm

\$95 Member | \$115 Non-Member

Bag Toss League | Ages 12+



Join us for a bean bag toss league. Satisfy that competitive side as well as your social side as you play with new and old friends in this easy and fun backyard game. Register as pairs. T-shirts for the winners!

June 13 – August 1 from 7pm – 9pm

\$120 Per pair (with Member)

\$150 Per pair (both Non-Members)

Adult Trips | Ages 18+

- Barn Quilt Tour and Lunch – June 8
- St. Croix Luncheon Cruise – June 27
- MN Twins Game – July 26
- Amazing Church's and Lunch – August 16
- Pepin Heights Apple Orchard and Nelsons Cheese Factory – September 21



THE ROOKERY
ACTIVITY CENTER



For more program details and pricing information, scan the QR code with your smart phone camera and follow the link. Or, visit **rookeryactivitycenter.com**.

Visit **rookeryactivitycenter.com** for more details or call 651-982-2468 | 7690 Village Dr. Lino Lakes, MN 55014

JOIN NOW!



THE ROOKERY
ACTIVITY CENTER

The Rookery Activity Center has something for everyone! Enroll at either the monthly or annual rates, or try us out for the day by paying the daily admission fee. The Rookery also accepts Silver Sneakers, Renew Active, One Pass, Prime, and Fitness Your Way programs.

MEMBERSHIP & DAILY ADMISSION FEE INCLUDES:

- Fitness Floor with a combination of cardio and strength equipment, and free weights
- Lap Pool and zero-depth entry and Splash Pool with water slide & water feature
- Gymnasium featuring opens times for basketball, pickleball, family time, and tot time
- 50+ group fitness classes taught by certified Endurance Fitness instructors
- Sauna
- Drop-in child watch for ages 6mos. - 11 years old
- Newly renovated locker rooms and changing rooms

PROGRAMS & SERVICES THAT ARE AVAILABLE AT AN ADDITIONAL COST:

- **NEW** - Group Cycling Classes by certified Endurance Fitness instructors
- Personal Training
- Pilates Reformer classes
- Youth and adult programs (Rookery members receive a discounted rate)
- Unlimited towel service
- Locker rental

Membership Rates*

	Monthly		Annual	
	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident
Adult	\$55	\$65	\$605	\$715
Dual	\$82	\$97	\$902	\$1076
Senior (62+)	\$40	\$47	\$440	\$517
Youth (18-)	\$30	\$36	\$330	\$396
Household	\$100	\$120	\$1100	\$1320



Monthly Membership Policies

- 3 month minimum commitment
- After 3 months, cancel any time
- Non-transferable
- Upgrade/downgrade eligible
- Billed on the 1st of each month

Annual Membership Policies

- Cancellation: 3 month penalty
- Not eligible for downgrade
- Non-transferable
- Not eligible for holds/freeses (only medical holds accepted)

*Tax not included in pricing

*One-time \$39 enrollment fee

Summer Membership Special

Looking to try out The Rookery? Enroll in our 3- month membership from June – August.

SPRING MAINTENANCE

STREET SWEEPING & MAINTENANCE

Spring sweeping typically begins in early April (once curbs are exposed) and takes approximately 6 weeks to complete. Residents can help with the street sweeping process by moving their vehicles off city streets, placing trash cans behind the curb, and refraining from placing yard waste and other debris in the streets.



After street sweeping is completed, street maintenance will begin. The Streets Division, will work systematically through the city to fix repairs such as patching of roads, catch basin repairs, boulevard maintenance, curb repairs, manhole, and water main valve adjustments, seal coating projects, crack filling projects, and drainage maintenance.

ROAD RESTRICTIONS

Each spring, the City of Lino Lakes imposes a weight restriction for commercial vehicles on public streets during the spring thaw (usually early March to mid-May). Weather and traffic are the two main factors that cause asphalt streets to prematurely deteriorate. The gravel beneath the street has a high moisture content as the ground thaws in the spring, which lowers the asphalt pavement's ability to carry loads. Thus, axle weight restrictions are implemented during the spring thaw when streets are most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads in order to protect the useful life of the streets and roads. Seasonal load restrictions in Lino Lakes begin on the day that the Minnesota Department of Transportation specifies (MnDOT).



HYDRANT
April 17th – April 28th
FLUSHING

TRAIL REMINDERS

A few friendly reminders while you are out enjoying the many trails Lino Lakes has to offer:



- Unauthorized motorized vehicles and recreation equipment are not allowed on the trails.
- When walking pets, make sure to clean-up after them.
- If your property is located near a trail, take a moment to check that your outdoor landscaping is pruned and not encroaching onto the trail. Our trail maintenance equipment requires an 8ft overhead clearance and 1ft cleared area around the trail in order to properly clear and maintain the trail.

To report a problem with a street, trail, or street light, please contact the Public Services Department at PublicServices@linolakes.us or 651-982-2440.

City Watering Restrictions Take Effect May 15th – Sept 15th

Restrictions include:

- Odd-even sprinkling only
- Prohibited every day between 6:00am – 6:00pm

This is in response to the Public Water Advisory related to manganese levels in the City's water supply.

For more information, visit linolakes.us/publicwater.

Mailbox or Sod Damage

If a snow plow has caused sod damage or toppled a properly installed mailbox please contact Public Services at 651-982-2440 or email PublicServices@LinoLakes.us.

PARK UPDATES



City Hall Park – The City Council approved two new pickleball courts at City Hall Park! The construction of the pickleball courts will start this spring. For updates, follow us at linolakes.us/parkprojects.

Watermark Park – On February 13th the City Council awarded Dimke Excavating the contract for the development of Watermark Park. Construction will commence this spring, with final completion in the fall. Master Plan is shown below.



Rice Lake Elementary Basketball Court – In 2004, the Centennial School District (CSD) and the City of Lino Lakes worked together to create a full-size basketball court at Rice Lake Elementary School. The CSD provided the land and the City paid for the construction. The City will be removing and replacing the almost 20 year worn-out court.

Country Lakes Drive Trail – The City plans to mill and repave approximately 820 feet of trail from the cul-de-sac of Country Lakes Drive to the trail connection at Birch Street. The project also includes installing a pedestrian ramp at the cul-de-sac and root cutting along the trail to prevent future pavement issues.

Foxborough Boardwalk – The Parks Department will be repairing approximately 200 feet of boardwalk in the Foxborough Development.

NorthPointe Park – Patch and repaint the pickleball court and basketball court.

EMERALD ASH BORER

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a beetle that kills ash trees. Lino Lakes is heavily infested with Emerald ash borer. Ultimately, ash trees in Lino Lakes will be killed, treated with insecticide, or removed. **The time to decide if you will treat or eventually remove your tree is now.**

Common symptoms include heavy woodpecker activity on the tree, dying branches in the upper canopy, sprouts around the tree base, vertical cracks in the bark, S-shaped tunnels under the bark, and 1/8-inch D-shaped exit holes in the bark.

The active flight period for the Emerald Ash Borer is May 1st - September 30th. Avoid pruning or removing trees during this period. October 1st - April 30th is the best time to remove ash trees.

Please don't move firewood! Anoka County is in the quarantine zone. Moving ash material and all hardwood firewood from the quarantine zone is prohibited. If the outer 1" of wood/bark is properly disposed of, the rest of the wood can be utilized. Utilizing the wood near the site where the tree grew is a good option for disposal.

OUR RESPONSE

The City will be removing and replacing ash trees on boulevards. The boulevard ash trees that are removed will be replaced with new trees that will come from a variety of species. The goal is to increase species diversity in the city as a whole, in neighborhoods, and within city blocks so our urban forest is more able to resist insect pests and diseases in the future.

ASH INJECTION PROGRAM

Residents interested in injecting their privately-owned trees can now receive bulk-rate discount pricing through Rainbow Tree Care! Tree assessments and injections can be arranged by going to this link on the City webpage: rainbowtreecare.com/emerald-ash-borer/city-partnerships/lino-lakes

Treatments will need to be performed every 2 years to ensure continued protection from beetles.

**Please note that trees in the right-of-way and other public space are City-managed and will ultimately be removed and replaced.*



Heavily infested trees in Lino Lakes.
Photo by Andy Nelson



Emerald ash borer S-shaped gallery in Lino Lakes. Photo by Andy Nelson



Ash Injection in progress. Photo courtesy of Rainbow Tree Care

Contact the City of Lino Lakes Environmental Coordinator at **651-982-2465** for more information.

PICK UP YOUR PET WASTE

Pet waste isn't harmless, it contains harmful bacteria and parasites that can make people sick. There's a common misconception that pet waste is natural and will break down like wildlife waste. Unlike wildlife waste, pet waste is very nutrient dense. Cities and towns have lots of pets, and these excess nutrients harm local lakes and wetlands by producing excess algae. Excess algae poses risks for toxic algae blooms and impairs water quality for wildlife and people (fishing, recreation, etc.).

For more helpful tips and information, visit www.vlawmo.org/residents.



COMMUNITY GARDENS ARE BACK

The City of Lino Lakes has garden plots available for residents to rent for the 2023 growing season. The garden is located just south of the American Legion at the intersection of Lake Drive and 77th Street. Each plot is 10 feet x 15 feet. Plots will be tilled by the City to prepare them for residents' use by the week of May 8th, 2023. Several water spigots are located on-site. Rental fees for gardeners are \$25 per plot.

Residents can rent up to 3 plots per household. There will be an added \$50 charge for garden plots that are not weeded and do not have the fences removed at the end of the season.

For additional material including applications and rules, visit linolakes.us/gardens. Returning gardeners from last year can apply for their same 2022 garden plot(s), up to the maximum of 3 plots per household, until April 17th. Registration for new gardeners begins April 24th, 2023.

Please contact the Community Development Office Specialist at **651-982-2441** with questions.



ORGANICS RECYCLING

Organics, such as food scraps, make up 25% - 35% of what we throw away. Organic materials decomposing in landfills produce methane, a greenhouse gas that is 28 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Organic matter decomposing in landfills is a leading source of methane emissions.

Organic materials can be composted as an alternative to landfilling. The nutrient-rich compost can then be added to soil, where it reduces the need for fertilizer, improves water retention, and reduces erosion and stormwater runoff. As an additional benefit, plants grown in composted soil take up carbon dioxide. Composting organics is a great way to cut down on greenhouse gas emissions while improving the soil close to home.

Funded by the Anoka County Board of Commissioners and State SCORE (Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment) funds.

DROP-OFF PROGRAM

Offered to all Lino Lakes residents.
Sign-up is required.

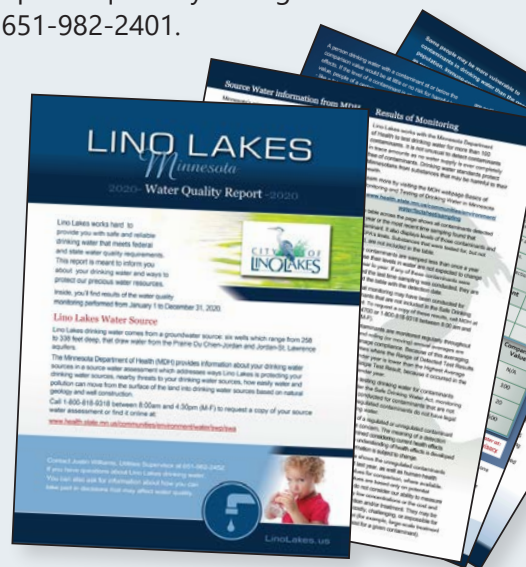
1. Sign-up for free at linolakes.us/organicsrecycling
2. Visit City Hall to get your free starter kit with compost pail and bags.
3. Fill your compost pail and bring it to one of the drop-off locations.

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

Birch Park: 6520 Pheasant Run S.
Clearwater Creek: 2200 Cedar St.
Lino Park: 7850 Lake Dr.
Marshan Park: 7204 Lake Dr.
Anoka County Rice Creek
Compost Site: 7701 Main St.

Water Quality Report

The Lino Lakes Water Quality Report can be reviewed online at linolakes.us/watersewerconcerns. Paper copies are available upon request by calling 651-982-2401.



YOUR HOME MOVIES ON DVD & DIGITAL

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northmetrotv.com/transfer

\$12
PER HOUR
FOR VIDEO
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TRAFFIC SAFETY

As spring moves in and the weather gets warmer, the Public Safety Department will begin to receive an increase in traffic safety concerns. When the Public Safety Department receives a call expressing traffic safety concerns, we bring that concern to our Traffic Safety Committee, which is comprised of representatives from various city departments. These representatives have a diverse and creative approach to traffic safety concerns, and they leverage their different insights and skills to impact these concerns. The Traffic Safety Committee will often use a radar-based unmarked data collector to gather the speed and volume of traffic when investigating traffic safety concerns. You may see this device temporarily installed throughout the city this spring and summer.



Distracted Driving

We want to remind residents to remain undistracted while driving. To keep yourself undistracted, put your phone away to remove any temptations and give yourself plenty of time to get to your destination to avoid speeding or engaging in other dangerous driving conduct. Many traffic crashes and injuries are avoidable. Let's all do our part to keep our Lino Lakes roadways safe!

2023 PROPOSED STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

This summer, the City will be completing street improvements on approximately 1.8 miles of roadway. The roadways to be improved are determined in accordance with the City's Pavement Management Plan. Pavement condition ratings, traffic volumes, and funding availability all play a part in determining the project scope. This year's project includes:



Full Depth Reclamation – Black Duck Drive (from 200 ft north of Crystal Court to the northerly cul-de-sac).

Mill and Overlay – Black Duck Drive (from 100 ft south of East Shadow Lake Drive to 200 ft north of Crystal Court), Crystal Court, Mallard Lane, East Shadow Lake Drive (from Black Duck Drive to the southerly cul-de-sac), Lantern Lane, Lantern Circle, and Partridge Place. This project will also include the replacement of storm sewer on the west end of Lantern Lane.

Street Reconstruction – Pheasant Run, north of Birch St, to the cul-de-sac. This project will also include sanitary sewer, watermain and storm sewer replacement..

The project will tentatively begin construction in May of 2023 and be completed by the end of November 2023.

Additional information for the City's Pavement Management Plan can be found at linolakes.us/pavementmanagement.

Please contact the City Engineer at dhankee@linolakes.us.

NEW ZONING ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. 08-22 amending the City's Zoning Ordinance Text and Map was adopted by City Council on November 28, 2022 and went into effect January 5, 2023. Minnesota Statutes §473.864 and §473.865 of the Metropolitan Land Planning Act requires the City to review its official controls and amend, as necessary, any that conflict with the City's Comprehensive Plan. The statutes also require that the zoning map be consistent with the land use map.

Learn more about the new zoning ordinance at linolakes.us/newzoning.

Please contact the City Planner at (651) 982-2426 or email klarsen@linolakes.us with questions.



PHOTO CONTEST

The City of Lino Lakes is looking for scenic photos, as well as photos from events, around the city. The photos submitted may be used on the City's website, social media accounts, or a future newsletter.

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 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 **win a check for \$25**. Photos must be submitted by May 5th to be eligible to win.

Submit your photos at linolakes.us/photocontest.



FREE BUSINESS ADVICE

Looking for a trusted adviser for your business?

Anoka County's Open to Business program will provide prospective and existing entrepreneurs in with free one-on-one counseling with a business adviser. The program provides assistance in the following areas:

- Financial management
- Loan packaging
- Business plan assistance
- Real estate analysis
- Marketing assistance
- Strategic planning
- Business regulations
- Professional referrals

Open to Business advisers can also assist entrepreneurs to identify borrowing needs and accessing financing options. Advisers work with clients to help them find the financing that best meets their own unique needs. Funds can be used for inventory, working capital, asset and equipment purchases, real estate acquisition, and start-up costs.

Interested entrepreneurs can schedule an appointment by contacting Carrie Mikkonen at 763-438-7315 or email cmikkonen@mccdmn.org

More information about this program can also be found online at www.opentobusinessmn.org.



Anoka County
MINNESOTA

SMART IRRIGATION CONTROLLER PROGRAM & WATER CONSERVATION

Pollutants, such as fertilizer and pet waste, during its journey back to the groundwater supply. Locally, up to 60% of water usage for a typical home is used for outdoor irrigation during the growing season. Of that water use, roughly 50% is wasted on overwatering, evaporation, and non-target watering. One of the most effective and easiest solutions to improve our water conservation efforts is to increase the efficiency of outdoor irrigation.

EPA-certified WaterSense smart irrigation controllers greatly reduce overwatering by tailoring irrigation system operation to local weather, plant type, soil type, slopes, and other factors.

In an effort to enhance water conservation efforts in the City by helping residents conserve water (while saving money), the City of Lino Lakes will again be implementing the Smart Irrigation Controller Program in spring of 2023. This program is available due to a Clean Water Fund Grant that aims to reduce water demand and to ensure the reliability and protection of drinking water supplies.



About the Program

WHAT IS BEING OFFERED?

8-Zone Rachio 3 irrigation controllers are being offered to homeowners for a discounted price of **\$45.00 + tax**. A limited number of **16-zone Rachio 3 irrigation controllers** will also be available for **\$50.00 + tax**. Controllers will be provided on a first-come first-served basis while supplies last.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

Any residence in Lino Lakes that is connected to municipal water and has an irrigation system with **16 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 linolakes.us/smartirrigation for more information about the program and application process.

SMART IRRIGATION TIPS FOR CONSERVING WATER

Help conserve Lino Lake's freshwater resources by practicing smart watering this summer!

City lawn watering regulations allow odd-numbered property addresses to water on odd numbered days and even-numbered property addresses to water on even-numbered days and only before 6am or after 6pm.

Be aware that rain sensors are required for all newly installed sprinkler systems, per state law.

For more information about protecting water, visit linolakes.us/waterresources.

Your lawn only needs 1 inch of water per week (including rainfall) to remain healthy.

Use these tips to prevent over-watering:

1. Try scaling back to a twice-per-week schedule.
2. Minimize water lost to evaporation by using low-volume, low-angle heads. Adjust them so the water is delivered as close to the turf as possible.
3. Observe your sprinklers in action. Make sure water is not sprinkling impervious surfaces such as sidewalks, roads or driveways.
4. When installing a new irrigation system, look for water saving technology to reduce water usage and save money on your water or electric bill.

LAWNCARE PRACTICES CAN AFFECT OUR WATER SUPPLY

HELP PROTECT WATER QUALITY

In addition to **conserving** our drinking water quantity, we also want to **protect** our drinking water quality. Fertilizers and chemicals used in lawn care are a potential drinking water contaminant. Here are some ways we can collectively minimize the risk of contamination:

- Learn how much fertilizer your lawn or garden needs. Most lawns don't require more than one pound of nitrogen (N) per one thousand square feet. Over-fertilization can result in the excess nitrogen leaching into the groundwater and causing increased concentrations of nitrate, which at high levels is especially harmful to infants.
- Learn the recommended time to apply fertilizers. Only apply fertilizers once your grass is actively growing, and don't apply to frozen ground or just before forecasted rain. This ensures the grass will take up the nutrients and reduces the risk of runoff.
- Work with chemicals and clean up spills away from streets and storm sewers where they can runoff and more easily work their way into the groundwater.

DO YOU HAVE A PRIVATE WELL?

Private wells can be contaminated from surface water runoff and other surface contaminants. The following landscaping techniques can help protect the quality and safety of your well water:

- Inspect your well for cracks in the casing or a loose cover on a regular basis.
- Make sure that the top of your well extends at least one foot above the ground and slope the surrounding soil away from the well casing.
- Never pile brush, leaves, snow, or other debris on top of your well.
- Never use hazardous or toxic chemicals near your well. This includes paints, solvents, fertilizers, pesticides, etc.
- Keep your well location in mind when designing landscaping or renovations and obey all Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) setback distances.



By implementing the lawn care and watering practices recommended above, we can help safeguard the sustainability and quality of our drinking water supply.

PROTECTING STORMWATER PONDS

As the snow begins to melt and April showers are sitting on the horizon, our stormwater ponds and wetlands will be hard at work taking care of the extra water. If not managed properly, stormwater can contaminate streams, rivers, and lakes. It can destroy aquatic habitats and kill aquatic plants, fish, and animals. Here are a few tips about these systems and what you can do to help protect them.

STORMWATER PONDS VS. WETLANDS

Both stormwater ponds and wetlands capture and treat stormwater runoff, thus improving the water quality in our lakes, streams, and rivers. Stormwater ponds are human-made ponds designed to collect water runoff in developed areas. Wetlands are distinct ecosystems that are permanently or seasonally full of water. Lino Lakes is home to over 400 wetlands so chances are good that you have a wetland in your neighborhood.

Pollutants or nutrients entering a pond through stormwater runoff can lead to large algae blooms, excess plant growth or even hurt wildlife. **It is normal to see some algae growth in stormwater ponds; this means the pond is doing its job and protecting lakes, streams, and wetlands!**



Photo of Stormwater Pond



Photo of Wetland

Common Pollutants that are washed into stormwater ponds and wetlands include:

- Fertilizers and pesticides from lawn care
- Animal waste and debris
- Lawn clippings or leaves
- Oil or grease from vehicles
- Road salt

What you can do to protect stormwater ponds and wetlands:

- Seal your trash bags and keep litter out of the street
- Use pesticides and herbicides sparingly
- Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste
- Wash your vehicle on your lawn instead of on the driveway so that the water infiltrates into the ground
- Keep your car maintained so it does not leak fluids onto the streets
- Maintain a native plant buffer between the turf grass and the water.

WHAT IS THE CITY'S RESPONSIBILITY?

The City does not treat stormwater ponds or wetlands for algae, weeds, odors or other aesthetic problems; however, the City is responsible for the following tasks:

- Maintenance of the "hydraulic and treatment function" of water resources that are located within City-owned property, drainage or utility easements.
- Removal of sediment accumulation, obstructions and debris that impede the flow of water, and clearing clogged stormwater pipes.

For drainage concerns, contact the City Engineer at **651-982-2430**.

PELTIER ISLAND HERON VOLUNTEERS

In March of 2023, 8 volunteers headed out to Peltier Island to survey heron nests and inspect the condition of the nesting trees. A long-term partnership, which includes a group of dedicated volunteers, the City of Lino Lakes, and Anoka County, has greatly improved the chance that these birds will persist on the island for years to come. **Thanks to all of the volunteers for contributing to this important project!**



Back row from left: Sam Kinzel, Tere O'Connell, Kimberly Sullivan, John Sullivan, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Julia Nelson Front row from left: Andy Nelson, Heidi Schleicher

A NEW UTV FOR THE LINO LAKES FIRE DIVISION

Last spring, the Lino Lakes Public Safety Fire Division received a very generous donation from an anonymous donor. The donor's conditions for the donation was that it was to be used for wildland fire protection. It was determined that a UTV (Utility Task Vehicle) would be an incredible asset to the community and area wetlands, which provide a very unique challenge when it comes to wildland fire protection.

The UTV was ordered to be outfitted with tracks to help it move through the trails and wetland terrain, along with all the necessary tools for wildland fire protection. The UTV will be able to access areas of the city that standard grass trucks cannot reach.

After the UTV was delivered, the fire division staff received training and the UTV was placed into service. Within weeks of being placed into service, the UTV proved itself extremely useful by reaching and extinguishing a snowmobile fire in an area that could not have been accessed by other equipment.

The Fire Department would like to extend their deepest gratitude to the generous donor, the UTV will be a great asset for firefighters and the community.





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SAVE THE DATES: UPCOMING 2023 SUMMER EVENTS



HOST A NIGHT TO UNITE PARTY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Join neighbors across Lino Lakes on **Tuesday, August 1st, 2023** for the annual Night to Unite Celebration, which is sponsored by the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association along with AAA of Minnesota/Iowa, and local law enforcement agencies.

Night to Unite celebrates and strengthens neighborhood and community partnerships by:

1. Building relationships with your neighbors, which allows you to get to know one another and determine who belongs in your neighborhood;
2. Encouraging and fostering neighborhood involvement by bringing police and communities together.
3. Bringing awareness to crime prevention and local law enforcement efforts by giving you the opportunity to meet and speak with officers from your police department.



Lino Lakes Public Safety Department Firefighters and Police Officers (including K9 Officer Argos) will be partnering with others as they attend dozens of parties throughout the community. Last year we attended 45 parties and we are looking forward to adding even more this year!

With the addition of many new residents and neighborhoods in the past year, **we are looking for somebody from your neighborhood to host a party.** For more information visit linolakes.us/nighttounite or email llpsdntu@linolakes.us



BLUE HERON DAYS:
August 17-20, 2023
linolakes.us/blueherondays



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