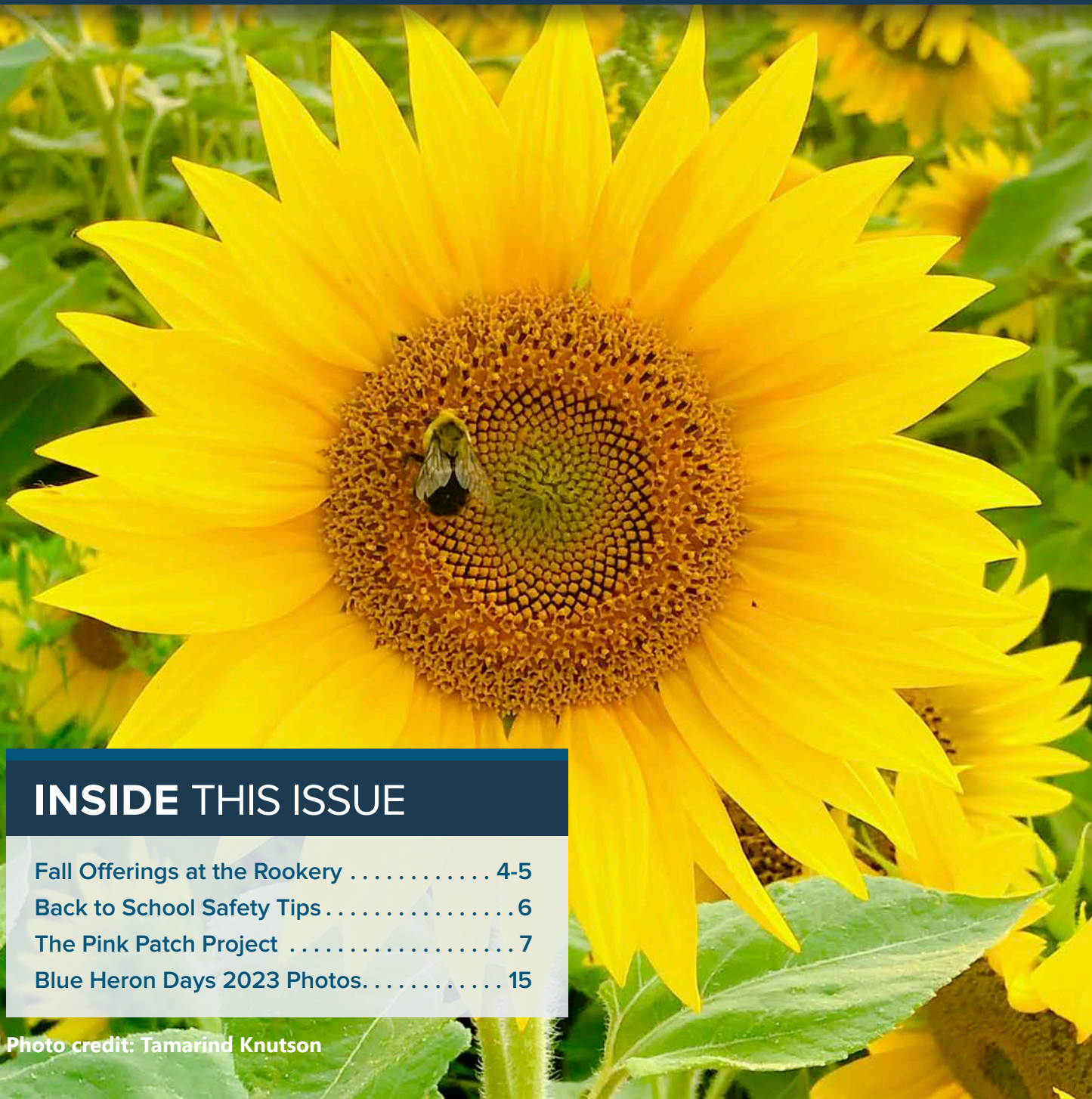




FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Fall Offerings at the Rookery	4-5
Back to School Safety Tips	6
The Pink Patch Project	7
Blue Heron Days 2023 Photos.	15

Photo credit: Tamarind Knutson



@linolakesmn



@linolakesmn



@RookeryActivityCenter



@RookeryActivityCenter



600 Town Center Parkway

Lino Lakes, MN 55014

www.linolakes.us  [@linolakesmn](https://www.facebook.com/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

MAYOR

Rob Rafferty:

651-982-2492 RRafferty@linolakes.us

COUNCILMEMBERS

Tony Cavegn:

651-982-2491 TCavegn@linolakes.us

Chris Lyden:

651-982-2490 CLyden@linolakes.us

Mike Ruhland:

651-982-2493 MRuhland@linolakes.us

Dale Stoesz:

612-581-2047 DStoesz@linolakes.us

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Sarah Cotton:

651-982-2410 SCotton@linolakes.us

Fall is Here...

Summer is wrapping up, with fall starting to settle in. While the approaching colder temperatures are not always welcomed by many, you must admit there is something special about the fall colors this time of year. Here in Lino Lakes, we are fortunate to have many acres of great parks and nature reserves where we can witness the leaves change to crisp yellows and bold reds. Along with the seasonal change comes new progress to the City.

New businesses have been popping up throughout Lino Lakes. Now along Hodgson, is the retirement community campus of Lyngblomsten. Also, Thrivent Financial and Kwik Trip, just off Hodgson and Lake Drive have recently opened for business. On the east side of town, the Otter Lake Crossing shops include Caribou Coffee, Hotworx Health Club, iNails Salon, Soha's Tea House, and Lino Lakes Tobacco Inc. There are also a few businesses in the City that are under construction and will be opening soon. There will be a Starbucks Coffee and Heartland Dental opening off Lake Drive and Apollo Drive over by the Kohls and Target. The east side of the City will soon see the opening of Tidal Wave Auto Spa and New Horizons Academy.

Development construction on the east side of the city will create new business opportunities by using what is more of a shovel-ready approach and extend Otter Lake Road and the city sewer and water services that will connect back up to Elmcrest. Back on the west side at County Rd J and Hodgson, will be the newly designed roundabout as an entrance to Lino Lakes on the south end.

One of the most significant changes Lino Lakes will see at the Hodgson roundabout is the retirement of Humberto Sadler of Sadler's Automotive. Humberto and Sadler's Automotive has been a staple at that corner for over 30 years. Throughout the years, he has gotten to know many families and even created generations of followings by those families thanks to his dependable service and genuine, personal touch. Thank you from Lino Lakes to you, Humberto, and the family of Sadler's Automotive.

As your Mayor with the Council, we'll continue working together to improve life in Lino Lakes for all.

May your fall be fun and safe.



Rob Rafferty

Rob Rafferty

Mayor of Lino Lakes



What's on the Ballot?

In 2023, Lino Lakes voters will be electing a mayor (2 year term) and 2 city councilmembers (4 year terms).

Preparing to Vote

If you have an address change, a name change, or have not voted in the last 4 years, you are required to complete a new registration application before voting. Voter registration applications are available at Lino Lakes City Hall or online at www.mnvotes.org. The deadline for pre-registration is Tuesday, October 12. After the deadline, voters may register at their polling place on Election Day with proper identification.

Where to Vote

Your polling location determined by your address. If you are unsure of your polling place, please check online at www.mnvotes.org or call Lino Lakes City Hall at 651-982-2400. On November 7th, polls will open at 7:00 AM and close promptly at 8:00 PM.

Absentee Voting

Absentee voting is available at Lino Lakes City Hall Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, September 22, 2023 – November 3, 2023, and from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Monday November, 6, 2023. Absentee Voting will also be available the Saturday before Election Day on November 4, 2023 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

During odd-year elections, online absentee ballot applications are not available and voters must complete the paper applications. Voters may access the paper application at the Anoka County Election website.

Election Judge Opportunities

Serving as an election judge is an important role and a great way to be involved in the election process. Visit the City website for more information and our online application. Note that students who are 16 or 17 years of age are eligible to serve as student election judges.

If you have any questions about this year's election, contact City Clerk Jolleen Chaika, at **651-982-2406** or **email jchaika@linolakes.us**.



FREE BUSINESS ADVICE Looking for a trusted adviser for your business?

Anoka County's Open to Business program will provide prospective and existing entrepreneurs 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

2024 Budget Process in Full Swing

The City Council held work sessions on the proposed 2024 budget and tax levy beginning in August and will adopt a preliminary tax levy on September 25, 2023. The preliminary tax levy represents revenues raised through property taxes to support general operations of the City. Final adoption of the tax levy will be considered by the Council following a public hearing on December 11, 2023.

To learn more about the budget process and the 2024 Proposed Budget and Tax Levy visit linolakes.us/budget.

Know Your City

The City of Lino Lakes covers 33.2 sq. miles or 21,912 acres (about ½ the area of Minneapolis). Of this, approximately 1/3 of the area is covered by lake, streams and wetlands. These water features come in many shapes and sizes. A careful look at an aerial map on any internet browser might reveal a couple uniquely shaped ponds. *Can you find the tooth (Molar) and a child bobsledding?*



BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

The Rookery Activity Center has something for everyone! Residents and non-residents are welcome to sign up for either monthly or annual memberships. Those who aren't ready to join can try it 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 and Daily Admission Fee Includes:

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



ANNIVERSARY MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL

Join today to get your \$39 enrollment fee waived and receive a 10% discount for the remainder of 2023 when you register for any regularly priced Monthly or Annual Membership by **September 30, 2023**. Promotion valid for new members only.

Have FUN this FALL with our great activities and special offerings:

- Swim lessons
- Bag toss league
- Weekly cards
- Holiday events
- Cycling
- Free weights
- Adult day trips
- Pickleball classes
- Kid's day camps
- Open swim & waterslide
- Fitness classes
- Preschool sports sampler
- Rookery hang-out nights
- AARP driver safety classes
- Sip & Learn with the Quad Chamber of Commerce
- Extended travel information classes



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 anytime
- 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/freezes (only medical holds accepted)

*One-time \$39 enrollment fee. Tax not included in pricing.



For more program details and pricing information, scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.rookeryactivitycenter.com

Fall Swim Lessons

The Rookery offers swim lessons with highly trained 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.

Classes are taught in small groups with 4-6 participants per class, and each lesson is 30 minutes in length. The pool in the Rookery is kept at an average of 87°F in the splash pool, and 82°F in the lap pool. The warm water temperatures promote happier swimming for young swimmers.



Fall Swim Registration is open now and session 2 starts the week of October 23.

Group Lessons: Six, 30-minute sessions. Our swim lesson program is divided by age starting at 6 months and swim ability.
Members \$89 | Non-Members \$104

Private Lessons: Ages 2 years – Adult
Private lessons provide 1-on-1 teaching experience for children and adults. Private lessons are offered for all ages and ability levels.

Scheduled Private Lessons: Six, 30-minute sessions in pre-determined time slots.
Member \$175 | Non-Members \$220

Package Private Lessons: Six, 30-minute sessions that can be scheduled at your convenience, and time/day preference.
Member \$230 | Non-Members \$270

Adult Lessons: Ages 14+, Six, 40-minute sessions. Basic swimming and self-rescue skills are taught in an environment that is within the comfort zone for each adult.
Member \$99 | Non-member \$114.



Scan the QR code to register today or visit
www.rookeryactivitycenter.com



THE ROOKERY
ACTIVITY CENTER



Now offering Premium Fitness Classes

Each week, Endurance Fitness offers more than 50 group fitness classes taught by certified instructors. New Premium Classes have now been added to the schedule which include Group Cycle, Les Mills RPM® (choreographed cycle classes) and Pilates Reformer Classes.

Cycling Classes offer participants a low-impact cardio workout that the participant can gear to their own fitness level. By adjusting the resistance, speed, and intensity on our brand-new Stages Bikes, you are sure to get a great workout! Participants can create a personal profile within the app to track workout progress and reserve their bike for a class. After each class your assigned bike will send you detailed information about your ride. As you add workouts to your profile, you will be able to see how you progress with each workout and get the information you want to reach your fitness goals!

Pilates Reformer Classes are designed for participants to work in a group setting (maximum of 4) once per week. Pilates Reformer training is done using the Pilates Reformer machine in our private studio space. Resistance is added to create a more dynamic workout based on your needs and goals using Pilates movements. These classes offer 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. Private lessons are also available.

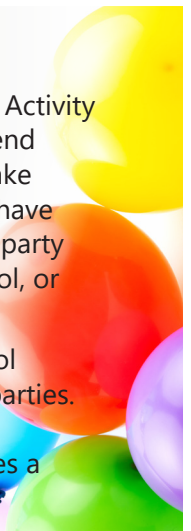


For more information on these Premium Classes and other offerings, scan the QR code or visit
www.rookeryactivitycenter.com

Birthday Parties

Make your big day a blast at The Rookery Activity Center! No matter how you choose to spend your birthday with us, the Rookery will make sure you have an unforgettable time. We have fantastic package options that allow your party goers to play in the gym, splash in the pool, or book both for the ultimate experience.

We offer themed parties like mermaid pool parties, car gym parties, and sports gym parties. Themed parties include an activity, paper products, and more! Birthday child receives a special goodie bag.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY REMINDERS

The Lino Lakes Public Safety Department looks forward to another great school year and we understand the increased demands a new school year puts on families throughout our community. If you're new to Lino Lakes, welcome! At this busy time of year, we'd like to offer a few reminders related to school zone and school bus safety:



- Please remember to watch for pedestrians, especially at intersections and crosswalks. As drivers, we all need to be intentional in our efforts to see pedestrians and to stop for them. Remember that our round-about intersections incorporate crosswalks and they come up fast. Drive slowly and keep your eyes and your attention on what's ahead. Don't be distracted and keep your hands on the wheel.
- Please be aware of school zone speed limits and adjust your speed accordingly. Give yourself 5 extra minutes to get where you need to be.
- Please pay close attention to school buses. School bus drivers have a very tough job, give them the space they need and the grace they deserve. Early in the school year, bus drivers are adjusting to new kids, new routes, new stops, and new equipment. A greater following distance will give them the space they need to do their jobs well and keep our kids safe. When the amber lights on a school bus flash, prepare to stop. Remember that state law requires all vehicles, in both directions, to stop at least 20 feet away from a bus with red lights flashing and stop arm extended. Our agency investigates all stop arm violations with the help of school bus video technology. This is the only warning anyone will see for stop arm violations.



We wish you all the best as we get into this busy time of year, and hope to see you out in the community. Don't hesitate to call 911 to report emergencies or dangerous situations. If you have a non-emergency concern or tip, please reach out to us by phone or email, or stop by our office. Our contact information can be found at www.LinoLakes.us/Police. We appreciate your tips and suggestions.

CAMPFIRE SAFETY



Did you know... Approximately 98% of wildfires in Minnesota are caused by humans. More than 50 wildfires are started each year in Minnesota by campfires that are not completely extinguished, too large or unattended.

Some helpful tips to keep your campfire safe:

- Use a fire ring and build your fire at least five feet away from any combustible material.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to put out the fire.
- Include a kid-free zone of 3-feet around the campfire.
- Never leave your campfire unattended.
- Check the burning restrictions for your area with the DNR before starting your campfire.

THE PINK PATCH PROJECT

This October, the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department will once again be participating in the Pink Patch Project to raise awareness for breast cancer. This year, we are going retro! Officers will be donating and donning a retro police patch that, of course, is **PINK!**

The retro patch, as well as the original LLPSD patch, will be available for purchase to the public for a **\$10** donation. All patch proceeds collected will be donated to Minnesota's own – Hope Chest for Breast Cancer.

GO PINK! Together as a community, we can make a difference!

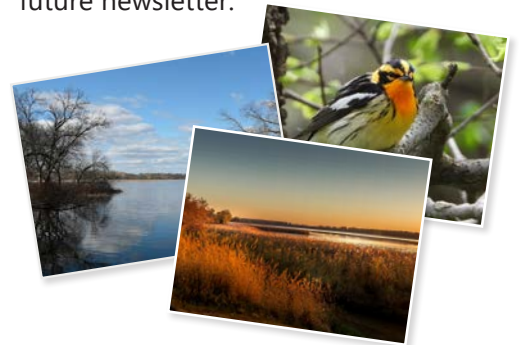


To purchase your very own patch, please stop by the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department (640 Town Center Parkway) or scan the QR Code.



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 **October 20th** to be eligible to win.

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.



SCAN TO APPLY:



The City of Lino Lakes is looking for passionate and motivated individuals who are looking to join a great team and give back to the community. Explore the wonderful employment opportunities with the City – including seasonal, part-time and full-time.

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

FALL MAINTENANCE

Street Sweeping

Lino Lakes conducts a Street Sweeping Program twice a year that involves the removal of residual sand and debris accumulated on our city streets. Fall sweeping typically begins Mid-October until the snow starts to fall. 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. The City Ordinance 405.03 states no person shall intentionally dispose of grass, leaves, dirt, or other landscape debris into a water resource buffer, street, road, alley, catch basin, culvert, curb, gutter, inlet, ditch, natural watercourse, wetland, flood control channel, canal, storm drain or any fabricated natural conveyance.

There are several ways residents can dispose of yard waste:

- Mulching in your yard
- Contact your local trash collector for yard waste disposal options
- Backyard composting
- Utilize the Rice Creek Compost Site located at 7701 Main Street, Lino Lakes (managed by Anoka County)



Hydrant Flushing

Each fall the City flushes hydrants to ensure that all hydrants are operating properly, and to clear sediment build-up. This causes turbulence of water in the water mains and may cause dark-colored water. Although the water is safe for human consumption, please check for discolored water before laundering clothes as it may stain certain fabrics. If clothes develop stains, do not dry, but rewash immediately to remove stains. In the case of discolored water, run the **cold** water for a few minutes.



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 your pet please make sure to clean-up after them.
- If your property is located near a trail, please 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 the city maintains the overgrowth on the trails as needed.
- If you have a concern about a trail, please report the problem to the Public Services Department.

Follow us on www.facebook.com/linolakes.mn for updates and to report a problem/repair please contact the Public Services Department at **651-982-2440** or email PublicServices@LinoLakes.us.

Fall Water Yard Care Practices to Keep Our Water Clean

Stormwater can carry pollution and chemicals directly into ditches and storm drains which connect to lakes, streams, and wetlands. It is up to all of us to protect water.



Photo credit: vlawmo.org/residents/water-stewardship

Fertilizer Application

- Use Phosphorus-free fertilizers, or leave grass clippings as a natural and FREE fertilizer.
- When spreading fertilizer near paved surfaces, adjust your route to ensure fertilizer is not being applied to the pavement.
- Sweep or blow grass clippings or spilled fertilizer back onto lawns to prevent it from entering storm drains, ditches and then lakes and rivers.
- Keep fertilizer applications at least 15-20 feet away from the edges of wetlands, lakes, and streams.
- Store fertilizer in well-marked containers in closed areas to avoid spills.

Thank you for helping to keep our water clean!

For more information about how you can help protect water at home visit: www.vlawmo.org/residents

POOL DRAINING GUIDE

Careful Pool Water Disposal Matters

Improper release of swimming pool water can harm local waterbodies, degrading water quality and wildlife while harming vegetation. Local waterbodies depend on responsible actions from everyone to remain healthy and functional for the community.

Pool Draining Steps:

1. A week prior to draining the pool stop adding chlorine.
2. Test the water before draining: pH should be 6.5-7.8 and chlorine levels not detectable.
3. Pump pool water over an open vegetated area such as a lawn before letting it drain into a stormdrain. Look for natural drainage paths or alter the drainage path to keep water away from adjacent property and buildings.
4. Never drain pool water directly into a body of water such as a lake, stream, or wetland.
5. Used pool filters can be thrown into the trash.

Pool draining tips:

- Careful use of pool chemicals can save money and help simplify the pool draining process.
- If pool drainage is a regular or semi-regular occurrence, it will be worth taking the time to make a permanent plan that includes hoses, pumps, and potentially landscaping strategies.
- Consider a backyard raingarden with an overflow feature as a strategy to capture pool water and rooftop runoff.
- Filter out any paint chips before draining.
- If using an acid product to clean the pool, make sure pH levels have adjusted to normal before draining. Always follow instructions on chemical labels for disposal and usage. Never mix two or more chemicals.
- Remember that stormdrains connect directly to waterbodies.



**Article produced in partnership with Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization.*

WINTER IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

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 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 typical snowfalls, it generally takes 7 to 9 hours for our Public Works Department to clear the 200+ lane miles of City streets. For an up-to-date plowing schedule, follow us on Facebook.



Important Snow Removal Reminders

- Keep garbage and recycling 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.
- 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 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., by calling the Public Service Department at **651-982-2440**.



Many people have to deal with the frustration of a frozen septic systems here in Minnesota where the temperature can drop below freezing. Fresh snow is an excellent insulator, while lack of snow and very cold air temperatures can be a real headache. With a little effort now, many potential freezing problems can be eliminated by taking the time to examine your system.

How can you prevent this from happening?

- In the fall, add loose, fluffy hay or straw mulch (8-12 inches) over the pipes, tank and soil treatment area.
- Keep all types of vehicles—including ATV's and snowmobiles—and high-traffic people activities off the system. This is a good rule to follow year-round.
- If the system is new, add a thick insulating layer over the bare soil to prevent a system from freezing.
- Use normal amounts of water. If freezing is a concern, increase water use (normal is 50 to 75 gallons per person per day). Schedule laundry to include one warm/hot load per day, use your dishwasher and take a hot bath daily. **DO NOT** leave water running all the time, as this will hydraulically overload the system. Also, **DO NOT** add antifreeze to the system.
- Daily use septic tanks rarely freeze, even in cold weather. If you know you are going to be gone for more than a couple of days, have someone use quantities of water in the home regularly. If you are going to be gone for an extended period, pump the tank before leaving.
- Keep an eye on your system. If any seeping or ponding occurs, contact an onsite professional to help determine the cause and remedy.

It is not necessary to do all of these, the more precautions you take the safer your system will be, but pick and choose based on your home.

PARK UPDATES

Pickleball Courts

There are now seven dedicated pickleball courts and three tennis/pickleball courts throughout our parks in Lino Lakes. The courts are located at City Hall Park, Tower Park, Arena Acres Park, and NorthPointe Park. We look forward to seeing everyone enjoying the pickleball courts!



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 court was replaced this past summer and is ready to be enjoyed for another 20 years!

Watermark Park

On February 13th, the City Council awarded Dimke Excavating the contract for the development of Watermark Park. Construction continues with final completion expected by October 31st, 2023. The playground equipment will be installed next spring 2024. The master plan is shown below.



DON'T FEED WILD ANIMALS

The City would like to remind residents that while it might be well intentioned, feeding wild animals has significant consequences for both the wildlife and residents.

As animals are drawn away from their natural feeding and bedding areas by feeding them they move into areas where they can come into contact with traffic, resulting in accidents with motor vehicles. With additional feeding, animals can also congregate more closely and a higher concentration of animals increases the odds that deadly diseases will spread amongst them, rather than if they were feeding farther apart on their natural foods. These higher concentrations of larger plant-eating animals also can result in damage to privately owned crops and plants, slow forest regeneration, and change plant species composition.



Additionally, feeding alters behavior and makes animals less wild. They can become less fearful of humans, aggressive at feeding sites, and delay their winter migration, which can mean starvation if animals do not migrate to winter feeding areas and the feeding ceases. In turn, some animals eat themselves sick or to death in winter off of food provided for them from enterotoxaemia, a fatal disease often called "grain overload."

Though Lino Lakes does not currently prohibit the feeding of wild animals, it strongly urges residents to consider the negative effects and use discretion if they do choose to do so.

For more information, visit the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website:
www.dnr.state.mn.us/wildlife/research/health/feeding

Water Conservation

Lino Lakes is a community so rich with natural water resources that it can be easy to forget that water is a finite resource. This year's drought has highlighted how crucial water is to the functioning of our community and everyday lives, and the importance of taking steps to decrease water usage. Conserving water starts at home where small changes can have large effects. Shaving just 1 minute off your daily shower can save more than 900 gallons a year. That is over 6,547,500 gallons of water that could be saved every year if one person in every household in Lino Lakes took this step.

Follow the tips below to start making an impact:

- Do not flush items that can easily be thrown out
- Load the dishwasher and laundry machine full
- Use cold water for laundry loads
- Keep a container of cold water in the fridge instead of running water for a cool drink
- Check for and fix all leaks
- Buy products with the WaterSense label

Calculate your water usage, find products with the WaterSense label and calculate savings by scanning the QR codes below.



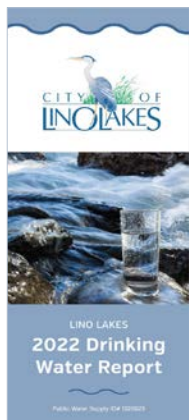
Calculate Water Usage



Calculate Water Savings



WaterSense Products



WATER QUALITY REPORT

The 2022 Water Quality Report is posted on the City of Lino Lakes website. To view the report online visit www.LinoLakes.us/WaterReport or Sewer Concerns. Paper copies are available upon request at City Hall, 600 Town Center Parkway.

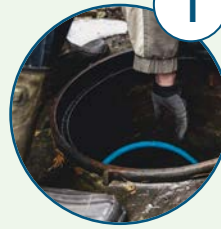
Abandoned & Unsealed Wells

Wells are no longer used for a variety of reasons such as change in land use, contamination, corrected to a public water system, not enough water or needed repairs. Wells that are not being used for irrigation or consumption purposes are considered abandoned. An abandoned well can be a potential threat to health, safety and the environment by contaminating the groundwater.

1

Well Inspections

It is important to get your well inspected. Common defects observed during inspections are a loose or damaged well cap, cracks in the casing, settlement or soil around the casing, and an open space around the casing.



Prevent Water Runoff

Soil that slopes away from the well prevents surface water runoff to enter it.

2



3

Make Sure Covers Are Secure

Once secure, hire a licensed contractor to seal all unused, unsealed wells. Minnesota law (statutes 1031.301) requires the sealing of all abandoned wells.



Contamination Prevention

Prevent contamination by not using household chemicals or hazardous materials within 100 feet of the well, using pesticides and fertilizers sparingly and picking up pet waste off your property to name a few.

4



5

Health & Environment

An unused well can act like a drain, allowing surface water runoff, contaminated water, or improperly disposed waste a direct pathway into drinking water sources. When this occurs, the quality of everyone's water is threatened - city water wells, neighbor's wells, even your current well. Therefore, it is recommended that homeowners test their water annually.





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

Guidelines for Recycling Plastics

No Bulky Plastic Items

Items like plastic toys, chairs, or baskets, should not be placed in curbside recycling. They often are made of multiple types of materials making them difficult to recycle.



Only #1,2,5 Plastic Can Be Recycled



Items marked with a #1, #2, or #5 can be repurposed into something else.

Plastic items that can be recycled are food and beverage bottles, milk and juice jugs, laundry containers, shampoo and soap bottles, and clear cups and produce containers. Make sure these are cleaned out as best you can and keep the caps on so they don't get lost in recycling facilities.

Please DO NOT recycle:

- *Black plastic such as takeout containers:* The technology at recycling facilities cannot detect this material.
- *Plastic straws and utensils:* Small items get lost in recycling facilities. Try to use reusable utensils instead.
- *Plastic bags such as grocery bags:* although these are sometimes labeled as #2, these should not be put in curbside recycling. These can get tangled in the machinery used to sort items and need to be manually cut off. Many stores have plastic bag drop off programs you can bring them to instead.

PERMITS

A reminder to residents that the following permits are required prior to work commencing:

Building Permit

Accessory structure over 200 sq ft, additions, basement finish, chimney, deck, demolition, fence 7+ ft high, fire suppression/fire alarm, manufactured home, move in building, new construction, new foundations, porch, remodel, replacement door and/or window, retaining wall 48 inches or greater in height, including buried portion, roofing, siding, solar panels, swimming pool.

Zoning Permit

Accessory structures 200 sq ft or less, driveways, fences 6 ft or less in height, grading, irrigation (lawn sprinkler system), retaining walls 48 inches or less (including buried portion).

Plumbing Permit

Backflow prevention, drain piping, drain tile systems, septic systems, sewer and/or water hookup, waste or vent piping, water heater, water supply lines.

Mechanical Permit

Air conditioner, fireplace (gas or wood), furnace or boiler, garage furnace/heater, gas line, in-floor heating, and mechanical alterations.

Sign Permit

Sign permits are required for commercial and business properties in the city. Please contact the City Planner at **651-982-2426** regarding signage in residential areas.

Electrical Permit

Electrical permits are required for all electrical work. Electrical permits are issued by the State of Minnesota. Please contact www.dli.mn.gov/business/get-licenses-and-permits/permits or call Lino Lakes Building Department for information.

Permit applications are available on the City website at www.LinoLakes.us or at City Hall. The Building Department is open from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

For more information on building permits, contact the Building Department at **651-982-2420**.

Gopher State One Call: Protect yourselves and your property against underground utility damage. Anyone working in Minnesota must call before excavating. This is a free service provided by www.gopherstateonecall.org.



Infested ash tree



Ash leaves

Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a beetle that kills ash trees. Lino Lakes, along with the rest of the Metro, is in an area considered heavily infested by this beetle. 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. October 1st through April 30th is the best time to remove ash trees because the beetles and larvae are dormant.

The City has partnered with Rainbow Treecare to offer discount ash injections for private trees that homeowners would like to preserve. More information can be found by following the link: www.rainbowtreecare.com/cities/lino-lakes

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

What You Need to Know About EAB

It is important to be able to recognize the signs of an EAB-infested tree. 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.

Please DO NOT move firewood! Anoka County is in the quarantine zone. Moving ash material and all hardwood firewood from the quarantine zone is prohibited. Utilizing the wood near the site where the tree grew is a good option for disposal.

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



PUBLIC SAFETY ACCOLADES

Here in the City of Lino Lakes, we are blessed to have many great men and women who are dedicated to making our community a better place. Recently, a few of them have been recognized for their service to keep our City a vibrant and safe place.

Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year

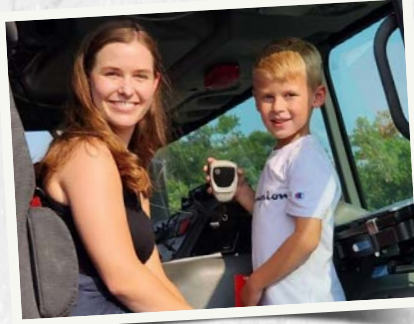
The Lino Lakes American Legion Post 566 recently visited a City Council meeting to honor two individuals who are making a difference in the community through police work and firefighting. The Legion awarded **Sam Bergeron as the Outstanding Police Officer of the Year** and **Luke Evens as the Outstanding Firefighter of the Year**. Each year the American Legion recognizes local police officers and firefighters. The candidates then have the chance to compete at the state and, potentially, at the national level.



Police Officer Sam Bergeron



Firefighter Luke Evans



THANK YOU for a Fun and Successful Blue Heron Days 2023

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the 2023 Blue Heron Days festival. From the parade to the activities, it was a blast and so great to get the community together. We hope you had as much fun as we did!

Thank you to our sponsor



See you next year!





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!



THE ROOKERY
ACTIVITY CENTER

SCARECROW CRAWL

October 12 - 19, 2023

Participants will make a scarecrow and place it along the path at The Rookery where members and visitors can vote on their favorite scarecrow.

SCAN to register



THE ROOKERY
ACTIVITY CENTER

SCAN to register



BOBBING for PUMPKINS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH
4:00PM - 8:00PM

Go pumpkin picking at the Rookery! Wade in the splash pool, or swim some laps and pick your pumpkin. This is a fun family event, and perfect for children of all ages.

Be sure to pre-register to guarantee your spot and a pumpkin.

www.RookeryActivityCenter.com



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Join the Lino Lakes Public Safety team, partnering with the Lino Lakes Volunteers in Public Safety (LLVIPS) for Breakfast with Santa fundraiser. Proceeds benefit the LLVIPS, a non-profit organization established to aid in funding the volunteer programs of the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department.

Saturday, November 25 / 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM
Lino Lakes Fire Station #1 / 7741 Lake Dr., Lino Lakes
Suggested donation: \$5/person



THE ROOKERY
ACTIVITY CENTER

SECRET HOLIDAY SHOP

SCAN to register



Friday, December 8th, 2023
3:30pm - 7:30pm