

MAPLE PLAIN

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021 Newsletter



Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

Greetings Neighbors and Business Owners,

It is an exciting and hopeful time to share with you a few things happening in Maple Plain and around us! We welcomed our new City Administrator, Clarissa Hadler, to her role on February 8th. We are thrilled to have her! For more information, see the article introducing her to the community. Make sure to give her a warm Maple Plain welcome and introduce yourself to her.

Congratulations to McGarry's Pub, who heard the pleas from the community for a local place to shop and opened The Market, located across the street from the pub. The Market is open, 11am-7pm, Tuesday - Saturday and carries a variety of fresh products from the pub, local vendors and Misneach Farms. Make sure to stop by and check out the local products at The Market. With upcoming construction directly affecting access to Maple Plain (see article from Director of Public Safety Gary Kroells for details) this year and next year, it is vitally important that we support all of our local businesses. Watch for communication from the West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Hwy 12 Task Force informing you about construction, promoting our local businesses, and offering incentives for patronizing businesses during construction. While the construction will be an inconvenience it is necessary to make Highway 12 safer for everyone.

With Covid vaccinations underway and state guidelines opening a bit this week, I am hopeful and looking forward to being together again soon. Plans are underway to potentially and safely host Party in the Park, Night to Unite, and other events to bring our community together this year. While it has been a year like no other, we are resilient and together we are better!

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

Please join us in supporting our local restaurants and other businesses during Highway 12 construction!

DETOUR



EAT LOCAL

**Blackwater Cafe
Forkless
Iron Exchange
McGarry's Pub
Monies**



MEET CLARISSA HADLER -- MAPLE PLAIN'S NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Maple Plain has a new City Administrator effective February 8, 2021. Ms. Hadler has had considerable municipal experience at the administrative level having served 3 ½ years as City Clerk in Rosemount, a metropolitan city of 24,000 people. More recently Hadler has 2 1/2 years of City Administrator experience in the cities of Plainview and Clarkfield, Minnesota. She obtained her Bachelor of Business Administration from Washington University in St. Louis, and her Master of Public Administration from Hamline University. Prior to her career in Public Administration, Hadler was a small business owner for 15 years as a children's portrait photographer and graphic designer.

Hadler and her husband Kurt will be splitting their time between Minnetonka and their home outside of Zumbrota, a 100+ year Hadler family farm. They have one son, Joe, a senior in high school, and four "fur-babies".

Hadler stated "I'm very much looking forward to serving the community of Maple Plain. I like to encourage anyone to come to me with concerns, ideas, or questions, so call or stop by anytime!"



Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske stated she is thrilled to be welcoming Administrator Hadler to the great City of Maple Plain. "Hadler brings a wealth of varied experiences, is a strong leader, personable, and a good communicator. As elected officials, hiring a city administrator is one of the most important decisions we make. It's only been a short time, but I think we made a great choice in hiring Hadler to lead our city!"



Springtime Hydrant Flushing & Potholes

Each year, Public Works flushes the fire hydrants to ensure their reliability and to remove any mineral buildup in the system. Though flushing may occasionally discolor the water for a few minutes, it is safe to drink. Residents may notice discolored water for a short period after nearby hydrants have been flushed. Although the water is safe for consumption, you may want to reschedule laundry or other work that may be affected by the discolored water. If the water is discolored, run your **COLD** water until it is clear. This may take a few minutes. For more questions, call Public Works at 763-479-9250.

Springtime is also the season of potholes. If you notice potholes that need to be fixed, please call Public Works at 763-479-9250.

Property Valuation & Tax Timeline

January	Assessments Complete
March	Property Valuations Mailed by Hennepin County Assessor
March - April	Property Owners should contact Hennepin County Assessor with questions/concerns regarding your valuation
April 20, 2021	7 pm - Maple Plain Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting
June 15, 2021	County Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting
September	Preliminary Levy set by City Council
November	Truth in Taxation Statements mailed
December	Truth in Taxation Public Hearing / Final Budget & Levy set by City Council

WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT



Chief Gary Kroells

West Hennepin Public Safety Announces the 2021 Citizens Police Academy Delayed Until the Fall Due to COVID-19



West Hennepin Public Safety has proudly taught a Citizens Police Academy since 2009. Due to COVID-19 our spring academy was cancelled in 2020. West Hennepin Public Safety Department is optimistic we can host this course in the fall of 2021. Please keep an eye out for updated information in the city newsletters, on West Hennepin's Facebook page and in media outlets for a course coming in the fall of 2021.

WHAT IS CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY?

The Citizens Police Academy is a FREE 24-hour block of instruction designed to give citizens knowledge about how your police department operates, our policies, procedures, programs, and challenges in modern day law enforcement.

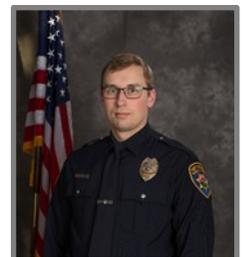
The Citizens Police Academy was designed to create a better understanding of law enforcement through education. Participants are presented with realistic, hands-on information, which will help each participant better understand the police department functions. The classroom and hands-on information covers **DWI and Traffic Enforcement, home security, personal security, use of force, including deadly force and a demonstration of the Taser Gun and FATS training (firearms simulation), Hennepin County Dispatch Center, Court procedures including testifying before a Judge** and many other areas related to law enforcement. An informational video explaining our Citizens Police Academy can be found on our website at: <https://westhennepin.com/citizens-police-academy>.



This is a great opportunity to meet your police officers, fellow citizens, and other members of government to learn why we do what we do. At graduation you will receive a certificate and become a member of the Citizens Academy Network Alumni.



After 5 years of dedicated service to the West Hennepin Public Safety Department, Officer Aaron Geddes left our organization to pursue his passion as an aviation instructor.



Officer Geddes

Officer Geddes was a valued asset to West Hennepin Public Safety Department. During his time, he always had a friendly smile and took pride in his work by providing exceptional service to the citizens of Maple Plain and Independence. **He will be missed.**

Can I Have Chickens?

Every year about this time questions come up about the keeping of chickens. Section 92.09 of the Maple Plain City Code addresses the requirements for keeping chickens, ducks, and geese. This includes specifications for feeding and feed storage, coop/run size and location, sanitation requirements, use of eggs, and other details. There is a limit of 5 chickens, ducks or geese in any combination and no roosters are allowed. A permit is also required.



You can view the City Code on the city website as well as find the permit application.

2021 Street & Utility Improvements

The City's consulting engineer, Bolton & Menk is currently preparing the plans and specifications for this year's street & utility improvement project. The project, which consists of Drake Street, Perkins Lane, Bradford Street, and Gladview Lane is scheduled for an April 13th bid opening. The scope of the project includes replacement of the water and sanitary sewer pipes, new curb and gutter, the addition of storm sewer, and new pavement.

Once bids are opened, the City Council will consider awarding the project to a qualified contractor to complete the improvements. It is anticipated that construction will begin in June and will be completed by Labor Day. A more detailed project schedule will be available once a contractor is selected for the project.

For more information related to this project and future updates, contact City Engineer David Martini, david.martini@bolton-menk.com or visit the City Website at: mapleplain.com/2021improvements

Storm Water Management

As the snow melts and we look forward to May showers, it is important to remember that we all have a role in protecting our natural resources. Polluted storm water can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals, and people. Pollution can lead to cloudy water, algae blooms, and debris. Debris such as plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, and cigarette butts can be washed into waterbodies and can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds. Polluted stormwater can also affect drinking water sources, which can affect human health. To help reduce storm water pollution, please consider the following tips from Environmental Pollution Control Agency:

- * Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly.
- * Compost or mulch leaves and grass – do not leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains.
- * Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.
- * Pick up and flush pet waste.
- * Collect and reuse rainwater and be sure your sump pump discharge hose is located at least 5 feet back from the curb edge (as city code requires) to allow water to seep naturally into the ground.
- * Pick up litter.

For more information on how you can help keep our waters clean visit: www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater

STAY CONNECTED



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www.facebook.com/CityofMaplePlain



Sign-up for Email Updates!
www.mapleplain.com



See the News & Announcements!
www.mapleplain.com
Check the Calendar!
www.mapleplain.com/calendar



Sign-up for CodeRED Notifications!
www.mapleplain.com/codered



GETTING EMERGENCY INFORMATION TO YOU

The **CodeRED** system serves as the backbone of the city's emergency planning and communications outreach to both citizens and staff. The system sends telephone calls, text messages, emails and posts to social media channels to inform residents of emergency information, road closures and watermain breaks. Registering for **CodeRED** is quick, easy, and FREE! Your **CodeRED** subscription is protected data and will not be sold. **Sign-up today** by visiting the City of Maple Plain or West Hennepin Public Safety website and clicking the **CodeRED** icon or contact City Hall for assistance.

2021/2022 Highway 12 Safety Projects

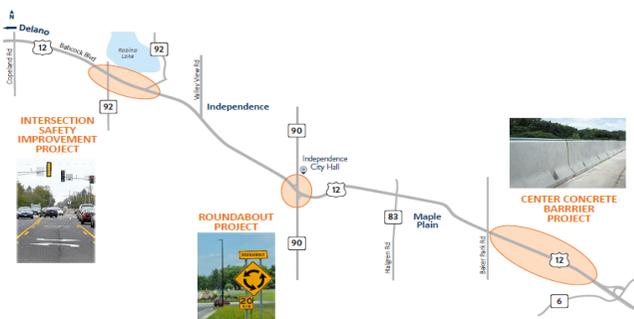
In 2021 and 2022, MnDOT, in conjunction with Hennepin County, will construct three projects aimed at improving safety and reducing crashes along Hwy 12.

On Hwy 12 from Co. Rd. 6 to Baker Park Rd. in Maple Plain, MnDOT will reconstruct Hwy 12 to install a center concrete barrier. This project will eliminate head-on crashes within this section of Hwy 12. MnDOT will construct this project in 2021.

At Hwy 12 and Co. Rd. 90 in Independence, MnDOT will construct a roundabout. The current intersection has challenging sight lines for entering cars, which contributes to the higher-than-average crash rate. The roundabout will greatly reduce severe crashes and make it easier for traffic to turn onto and from Co. Rd. 90. MnDOT will construct this project in 2021. The improvements include:

- ◆ A reconfigured Co. Rd. 90 to better connect the lanes north and south of Hwy 12
- ◆ Access for walkers and bicyclists crossing Hwy 12
- ◆ Drainage ponds to protect the environment
- ◆ A wider road with improved sightlines for motorists entering Hwy 12
- ◆ 15-foot-wide raised concrete median
- ◆ Westbound roundabout designed to accommodate expansion

At Hwy 12 and Co. Rd. 92 in Independence, Hennepin County will lead a project in partnership with MnDOT to address the safety issues seen at this location. The project will realign Co. Rd. 92 with a bridge over Hwy 12 and the railroad tracks and construct a roundabout on Hwy 12 for traffic entering and exiting Hwy 12 from Co. Rd 92. Hennepin County will construct this project starting in 2021 and continuing into 2022.



More info on the city website and at: www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy12-orono-independence



2021 SPRING CLEAN UP EVENT

DETAILS PENDING

Watch the city website and Facebook
for information.

Help Determine the Future of MAPLE PLAIN!!

Two Planning Commissioners needed to
assist in planning future development.

APPLY TODAY!

See mapleplain.com/planning-commission for
details and application.

Hennepin County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Hennepin County is hosting a community collection event for county residents to safely and properly dispose of unwanted garden and household hazardous wastes. The collection event will be **September 17 & 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hennepin County Public Works Orono Shop, 3880 Shoreline Dr., Orono, MN 55391.**

Learn more by visiting <https://www.hennepin.us/collectionevents> to learn what items will be accepted at the event, review safety guidelines, and view all 2021 events.



Grass & Weeds & Brush (oh, my!)

Through Randy's Environmental Services, yard waste and brush is collected free of charge on collection day (Monday) from April 12, 2021 through November 15, 2021, weather permitting. Like refuse, yard waste must be placed out for collection by 6:00 am. An on-call service option for yard waste collection is also available. Please call Randy's for more information and to schedule (763-972-3335).



Acceptable yard waste includes:

- Grass clippings, straw, or hay
- Tree waste (including leaves, pine needles, pinecones, spruce tips, acorns, apples, etc.)
- Weeds (all common lawn weeds; lake weeds are not acceptable)
- Brush, shrubs, and branches less than 2-inch diameter and no longer than 4 feet (includes buckthorn)
- Wood chips or mulch (uncolored and colored)
- Garden waste (including fruits, vegetables, pumpkins, cornhusks, etc.)

Bundling & Bagging - Compostable bags include kraft paper bags or compostable plastic bags that are usually clear or a tinted shade of green, white, or pink; however, the color is not the sure way of determining the compostability of a plastic bag. Compostable plastic bags must state they meet ASTM D6400 standards for composting and that they are "compostable". Not all bags marked "biodegradable" or "degradable" work. Individual yard bags should not weigh over 40 lbs.

See the city Garbage and Recycling webpage under Public Works for complete information.



Get active with your community!

Do you have a competitive spirit? Do you want a fun and easy way to kick start a springtime exercise program? Then the four-week Step To It Challenge is for you!

Step To It is an activity challenge that motivates people of all ages and abilities to become more physically active during the month of **May**. This fun, free, four-week challenge encourages all residents to be physically active as local communities engage in a friendly competition to determine which is the most active.

How does it work? The challenge is **May 1 – May 28, 2021** and everyone can join.

- Participate as an individual or with a group.
- It's not just about walking. Almost any activity will be converted to steps when you enter it in your activity account.
- Log your activity daily or weekly in your online Step To It account or by keeping track manually.

Best of all, it's **FREE!**

Registration begins April 1, 2021 at www.steptoit.org



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Discovery Center on Independence Street in Maple Plain is starting a *"Friends of the Backyard"* volunteer group to tend plantings, collect nature play materials, plant flowers and find other creative ways to support the new nature play area that is loved by the preschool children at the Discovery Center! There is no specific time commitment – just help when it works in your schedule. We'll plan a half day in April. Meet other gardeners and nature lovers. To learn more, contact Melanie DeLuca at melanie.deluca@oronok12.mn.us.

Early Learning Summer Opportunities

Ages 1 ½ - 5

- Music Monkeys
- Little Chef
- Summer Sports Fanatic
- Nuts for Nature
- ECFE in the Backyard
- Fun in the Sun Preschool

Register www.oronocommunityed.com | 952-449-8350



The summer brochure is here!
Pick up a copy outside the Maple Plain city office.

Summer CAMPS & CLASSES

Over 300 offerings to pick from!
Science & Nature - Technology & Engineering
Sports & Aquatics - Art & Performing Art
Academics - Preschool - and more!

REGISTER

www.oronocommunityed.com
952-449-8350





City Contacts

City Hall

5050 Independence St, PO Box 97
Maple Plain, MN 55359
763-479-0515 www.mapleplain.com
Hours Mon - Fri 9 am - 4 pm or by appt
Email Chadler@mapleplain.com (Clarissa)
Sspicer@mapleplain.com (Sharon)
Jnorlander@mapleplain.com (Jill)

Public Works

PeopleService 24/7 763-479-9250

Maple Plain Fire Department

Emergency 911
Fire Station 763-479-0520

West Hennepin Public Safety

Emergency 911
Office 763-479-0500
www.westhennepin.com

Other Frequently Called Phone Numbers

Delano Senior Center 763-972-0574
Maple Plain Library 612-543-5700
Maple Plain Post Office 763-479-1514



City Council

Julie Maas-Kusske, Mayor
1489 Three Oaks Ave.
763-479-6010
juliemaaskusske@mapleplain.com

Caitlin Cahill, Councilmember
caitlincahill@mapleplain.com

John DeLong, Councilmember
1487 Meadow Lane
801-755-6892
johndelong@mapleplain.com

Mike DeLuca, Councilmember
5825 Maple Ridge Dr.
763-200-6363, 612-801-5533
mikedeluca@mapleplain.com

John Fay, Councilmember
5819 Three Oaks Ave.
763-479-1913
johnfay@mapleplain.com

City Meeting Schedule

City Council Workshops

Second and Fourth Mondays @ 5:00 pm

City Council Business Meeting

Fourth Monday at 7:00 pm

Economic Development Authority

Second Monday at 7:00 pm

Planning Commission

First Thursday at 6:00 pm

Call City Hall or visit the City's website to ensure a meeting is not cancelled or rescheduled.

For the most up-to-date meeting calendar as well as agendas, Zoom links, meeting packets, and minutes, visit
www.mapleplain.com/meetings

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- April 1-30 Step To It Registration Open
- April 20 Board of Appeal & Equalization
7 pm
- April 22 Earth Day - Plant a Tree!
- May 9 Mother's Day
- May 31 Memorial Day

Check the city website and Facebook for more information and updates.