



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING & SING-A-LONG

Tuesday, December 1, 2009, 6-6:30 p.m.

Robbinsdale City Hall 4100 Lakeview Ave N



Please join us for our annual Christmas Tree Lighting on *Tuesday, December 1, 2009, 6 p.m. to approximately 6:30 p.m.* on the front steps of City Hall, 4100 Lakeview Ave N. There will be song sheets and refreshments for all, and holiday gift bags from Santa Claus for children bringing a non-perishable food item for PRISM food shelf. The City of Robbinsdale and the Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce sponsor this event. Wuollet Bakery and Rainbow in Robbinsdale as well as Cub Foods in Crystal have generously donated to the event.

ANNUAL FOOD & TOY DRIVE

The Annual Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce Food and Toy Drive takes place November 2 to December 11 and benefits PRISM Food Shelf and area battered women's shelters. Bring food or toy donations to Robbinsdale City Hall, or one of the following Chamber businesses between now and December 11: *Go Health Chiropractic, Wuollet Bakery, ACE Hardware, Broadway Pizza/Eagle's Nest Lounge, and Citizens Independent Bank.* New toys are accepted and food items of greatest need include spaghetti sauce, pancake mix & syrup, canned boneless chicken, canned vegetables, and stuffing mix. Although many types of gifts benefit food shelves (PRISM or NEAR), the gift of money may be the most beneficial. Over 50% of the food in the PRISM Food Shelf is purchased from [Second Harvest Heartland](#). Through this relationship, **PRISM is able to use \$1 to purchase \$5 worth of groceries!**

For more information about the food and toy drive, please contact the Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce at 763-531-1279 or dkiser@twelve.tv.

WATER CONSERVATION RATES

In January, the City will be implementing new tiered residential and commercial water rate structures that encourage conservation in accordance with a new Minnesota law. The following is an example of increasing block rates. The cost per unit increases as water use increases within specific blocks. The increase in cost between each block is designed to be significant enough to encourage conservation.

Block (2 months)	Ranges of Consumption	Rate per 1,000 gallon
Block 1	0 - 15,000 gallons	\$2.23/1,000 gallons
Block 2	15,001 - 30,000	\$2.79/1,000 gallons
Block 3	30,001 - 46,000	\$3.48/1,000 gallons
Block 4	46,001 – greater	\$5.23/1,000 gallons

A separate rate structure will be developed for commercial accounts. The City Council will be discussing additional details of this new rate structure at the City Council meeting on December 1. For reference, one unit of water usage on your bill is 1,000 gallons.



ROBBINSDALE'S NEWSLETTER/RECREATION BROCHURE

City of Robbinsdale's Winter Newsletter and Recreation Services Brochure will be available on the city's website by November 30. Individuals who have signed up for e-Subscribe will receive notification. So if you have internet access and haven't signed up all ready, make sure and sign up soon! It is a great way to find out more information on what is happening in Robbinsdale. Sign up at <http://www.robbinsdalemn.com/e-subscribe.shtml>. And Robbinsdale Recreation Services has a Facebook page! Become a fan and you receive all the latest information on Recreation programs! Go to www.facebook.com/robbinsdalerec to check it out.



RECYCLING INFO: "Have a Greener Holiday Season"



Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, household waste increases 25 percent because of extra food waste, wrapping paper, packaging and decorations. However, there are many things you can do during the holidays to reduce waste.

Give a gift that conserves natural resources, such as experiences, memberships, or energy-efficient household items.

Buy LED lights. They are safe, energy-efficient, have a long life span and will pay for themselves in one holiday season.

Recycle more. Recycle gift boxes, electronics boxes, paper gift tags, and holiday cards without foil.

Be creative when wrapping gifts. Wrap gifts in newspapers, old posters, maps or sheet music. Use reusable gift bags. If you need packing materials, reuse packing peanuts, bubble wrap, newspapers, or shredded paper. Save and reuse bows and ribbons.

Check online for more ideas on [greening your celebrations](#).

(This information was taken from Hennepin County's November 08 issue of its *Greennotes*.)

REMODELING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Robbinsdale Economic Development Authority funds a rehab incentive program administered by the Housing Resource Center. Up to \$3,000 is available depending on the extent of the project and family income.

The Northwest Resource Center serves as a "one-stop" approach to assist homeowners with housing rehabilitation and other needs. Free construction management is also a service offered by the Housing Resource Center. Robbinsdale residents should take advantage of these and other services offered at the Northwest Resource Center. In addition, the REDA funds a Rehab Incentive Program. Up to 15% of the project cost (maximum \$3,000) is available depending on income. Income limits: gross annual income, from all sources:

Up to \$39,250 = 15% rebate payment

\$39,251-\$62,800 = 12% rebate payment

\$62,801 -\$86,350 = 10% rebate payment

Applicant must be approved before work is started. Contractors must be licensed, permits must be obtained; and other restrictions apply. For further information, visit the Housing Resource Center at 2148 44th Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55412 or call 612-588-3033.

SNOW EMERGENCY



When a snow emergency is in effect, there is no parking on any street until the streets are cleared curb-to-curb. Call 763-531-1275 to find out if a snow emergency is in effect and to hear pre-recorded information on regulations. The snow emergency information will be updated once a decision is made on the time the snow emergency will be declared.



CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL AND PICK-UP



The City's contracted waste hauler, Waste Management, will collect Robbinsdale residents' non-artificial Christmas trees the weeks of January 4 and January 11, 2010. Each residential household is limited to **free** collection of **one** Christmas tree which must be prepared in the following manner: tree must be under five feet long (if it is not, cut the tree into lengths under five feet), metal stands must be removed, and tree is set alongside your garbage container. **DO NOT** bag the tree.