



City of Robbinsdale Newsletter

Website: www.robbinsdalemn.com

4100 Lakeview Avenue North • Robbinsdale, Minnesota 55422-2280 • Phone: 763-537-4534 • Spring 2011

2011 EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- *April 2: NW Suburban Remodeling Fair
- *April 9: Earth/Arbor Day-location TBA
- *April 9: HORCF Annual Gala
- *April 16: Chamber Spring Egg Hunt
- *May 21: Vehicle Fair
- *July 7 thru 10: Whiz Bang Days
- *July 28: Pet & Wheel Parade
- *August 2: National Night Out
- *August 5: Wet & Wild Water Day
- *August 13: Police/Fire Open House
- *September 12: Main Street Meet & Greet
- *Sept or Oct: HORCF Oktoberfest TBD
- *October 28: Monster Mash
- *December 6: Christmas Tree Lighting

Want to be kept informed of these and other City events? Go to the City's website to sign up for Robbinsdale's e-Subscribe: www.robbinsdalemn.com.

Support Your Local Businesses

Don't forget to support your local businesses. They play an important part in our community and rely on resident patronage.

ROBBINSDALE CITY BUDGET ADOPTED

The 2011 City Budget is a decrease of \$48,513 in expenditures compared to 2010. The adopted budget assumes receiving nearly \$1.4 million in Local Government Aid and Market Value Homestead Credit from the state (about 18% of the City's budget). Our projected state funding included an anticipated cut in aid of \$620,000 due to the state fiscal shortfall. If actual state funding comes in much lower than the budget projection, it is likely that the City will need to reduce services. The table to the right shows the net cost of city services after associated fees have been subtracted.

Profits from the Deputy Registrar's Office at City Hall (vehicle tabs and licenses, hunting/fishing licenses, passports) help to pay for city services. Please consider renewing your vehicle licenses at City Hall. We do offer a drop-off service if the lines are long.

Department	\$ Amount	Percentage
City Council	115,496	1.7%
Legal	128,913	1.9%
Admin/Elections	239,439	3.5%
Assessing	160,563	2.4%
Finance	275,228	4.1%
Community Dev.	220,408	3.2%
Police	2,880,260	42.5%
Fire	642,922	9.5%
Recreation	318,568	4.7%
Eng/Inspections	195,893	2.9%
Streets/Parks/Trees	1,603,042	23.6%
Human Services	4,200	0.1%

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE AT ROBBINSDALE CITY HALL Wednesdays & Thursdays through April 14, 2011

AARP Tax-Aide is providing free tax help at City Hall for taxpayers with low and middle-income, with special attention to age 60 and older. AARP tax help at City Hall will be every **Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 12 Noon** and every **Thursday from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.** through April 14, 2011.



NEW ITEMS TO RECYCLE

Waste Management now accepts milk, juice, soup, broth and wine cartons as part of the City's recycling program. Simply place empty cartons in the recycling cart with your paper, plastic, metal and glass containers. This addition will help increase the City's recycling tonnage, divert more materials away from landfills, and provide valued fiber for new paper products. Bottle caps may also now be recycled. Just replace the cap on the plastic bottle and place in your recycling cart.

NOTES FROM THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT—763-531-1217

Thinking of Buying or Selling a Home?

It is recommended that you do some homework before selling your home. Find out what homes have sold recently in your neighborhood and for how much. Each week local newspapers print the address and sale price for recent sales. Compare those homes with your own. Helpful information is available on Robbinsdale's website (www.robbinsdalemn.com). Go to the "Property Information" tab and then click on "Assessing." Look for the "Home Buyers" or "Home Sellers" Handbook. There are other internet sites with ideas to make your home more marketable. It is a good idea to get more than one estimate on the listing price of your home. Beware of people using the real estate market as a get-rich-quick scheme. Make sure you don't sell one of your most important investments for less than it is worth!

Filing For Homestead: Homestead Office Hours are Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Homeowners who live in their own home may qualify for a homestead classification, which provides a substantial property tax savings. New Homeowners may apply for Homestead in person at the City Assessor's office at City Hall, or by printing out an application from the City's website, filling it out, and mailing it in, along with the necessary documents. Go to "Property Information," click on "filing for homestead." The following documentation must be included with the Homestead application: *social security numbers* for all of the owners living in the home, a copy of the *Certificate of Real Estate Value* (usually with the owners' closing papers), *photo ID*, and a copy of one of the following proofs of ownership: *Warranty Deed*, *Contract for Deed*, *Quit Claim Deed*, or a *Certificate of Title*. Mail application and required documents to **Robbinsdale Assessing Department, Attn: Brenna Murphy, 4100 Lakeview Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422.**

Homestead status is automatically renewed. No further action by the homeowner is necessary until the property is sold, rented, or no longer used as the owner's primary residence. (*By Law you must notify the Assessor's Office of any of these changes. A "Homeowner/Relative Notice of Move Out" form is available on the City's website to be filled out and mailed in.*) In addition, if there is a change in property ownership due to, Marriage (copy of Marriage Certificate), Separation, Divorce (copy of Decree or Quit Claim), Death (copy of Death Certificate/Affidavit of Survivorship), or a Relative Occupancy, please notify the Robbinsdale Assessing Department. These changes may affect your homestead classification and the taxes you pay.

Disabled Classification: Property owners, who are blind or have been classified as permanently and totally disabled by a government agency, may qualify for an additional tax reduction.

ATTENTION U.S. ARMED SERVICE PERSONNEL who could be called to serve for our country:

If you OWN and OCCUPY your home and **you have been called to active duty** in the Armed Forces, there are provisions that allow your homestead classification to remain intact during your absence. And **Thank You** for your service to our Country.

Foreclosure Prevention Assistance

Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin offers a Foreclosure Prevention Hotline to help homeowners who are in danger of losing their homes. The Hotline number is 952-933-1993 or visit their website at www.capsh.org.

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SPRING EGG HUNT

The Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce will be holding its Spring Egg Hunt for children 12 years and under with prizes provided by Robbinsdale local merchants and organizations. (Remember to come rain or snow—just think sunshine!) The event will be held on **Saturday, April 16, 2011, starting at 1 p.m.** at Robbinsdale City Hall, 4100 Lakeview Avenue North.

Waste Management Yard Waste Pick-up begins again in April. Reminder: Twin Cities area residents must use compostable bags for yard waste.

Enjoy Robbinsdale City Band throughout the summer months
www.robbinsdalecityband.org

