



City of Robbinsdale Newsletter

Website: www.robbinsdalemn.com

4100 Lakeview Avenue North • Robbinsdale, Minnesota 55422-2280 • Phone: 763-537-4534 Spring/Summer 2018

2018 EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ◆ March 24: *Spring Eggstravaganza (for children 9 years & under)*
 - ◆ April 1-28: Quasquicentennial
 - ◆ April 21: Rockin' Robins Dance
 - ◆ April 28: *Earth/Arbor Day*
 - ◆ May 12: *Vehicle Fair*
 - ◆ May 1-28: *Hennepin County "Step To It"*
 - ◆ May 19: *Birdtown Half Marathon*
 - ◆ July 12-15: *Whiz Bang Days*
 - ◆ July 26: *Pet & Wheel Parade*
 - ◆ July 28-July 29: Summer at Sohacki Park Expo
 - ◆ August 3: *Wet & Wild Water Day*
 - ◆ August 7: National Night Out
 - ◆ August 11: *Police/Fire Open House*
 - ◆ August 17: Family Movie in the Park
 - ◆ TBD: *Main Street Meet & Greet, Downtown Robbinsdale*
 - ◆ September 29: *Kids Garage Sale*
 - ◆ December 4: *Christmas Tree Lighting*
- Want to be kept informed of these and other City events? Sign-up for Robbinsdale's e-Subscribe. Go to www.robbinsdalemn.com.**

Heart Safe Communities Program

The City of Robbinsdale is striving to become a MN designated Heart Safe Community. The goal is to make the community a safer place to live, work and play by being prepared to resuscitate Sudden Cardiac Arrests (SCA) through better access to Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) and people trained in chest compression only CPR and AED use. Statistically, for every 100 patients that arrive in the emergency rooms in cardiac arrest who have been treated just with CPR, only 1-2 have a chance of full recovery. Yet, with early lay rescuer use of an (AED) in the first minute, the success rate of full recovery is 90%. We are looking for individuals in the community who are interested and willing to become Heart Safe Champions. Champions would help the City in the efforts to educate the community on SCA, hands-only CPR, AED use and their protection under Good Samaritan laws. Champions would also help the City's Senior Commission members conduct an inventory of where and how accessible AEDs are within the City along with assisting in offering training programs on AED use and hands only chest compression CPR. It is very easy to learn! If interested in learning how to use an AED and hands only CPR, please email recreationsservices@robbinsdalemn.com or call 763-531-1278. If you are interested in becoming a Champion, please contact us at the same email or phone number. We will then contact you as trainings become available.

Spring Eggstravaganza, Saturday, March 24, 2018, 1:00 pm

Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce sponsors this event for ages **9 years & under**. Prizes provided by Robbinsdale local merchants and organizations. (Remember to come rain or snow!) Event held at **Robbinsdale City Hall, 4100 Lakeview Ave. N.** (The line forms on the Lake Road side of the building.)

Robbinsdale Quasquicentennial

Beginning in February, the city will celebrate its 125th Anniversary of incorporation. The Robbinsdale Historical Society will have a large and detailed display honoring Robbinsdale's history and accomplishments at the Robbin Gallery during the month of February. Other events are scheduled to take place in the month of April. Those events include but are not limited to, a medallion hunt, beard growing contest, a fiddle contest, carriage rides and a City Band concert. Check out www.robbinsdalemn.com/125 or 'Robbinsdale 125' on Facebook for more information and hours.

2018 Robbinsdale City Budget Adopted

On December 19, 2017, the Robbinsdale City Council approved the 2018 General Fund Budget. To view the budget and supporting financial documents, go to www.robbinsdalemn.com/finance. Copies are also available to view in-person at Robbinsdale City Hall, 4100 Lakeview Avenue North.

City Council Election Filing

May 22-June 5 is the time range to file for office for city elections. City Council Ward's 3 and 4 are up for election this year. A ward map can be found by going to www.robbinsdalemn.com/council. A City Council term is four years. If there are more than 2 candidates, there will be a primary election in August to determine the top two candidates. Those candidates would be on the general election ballot in November. Filing for Office requires completion of a simple form at city hall and payment of a small filing fee. Robbinsdale City Hall is located at 4100 Lakeview Avenue North, Robbinsdale, MN 55422.

4th Annual Birdtown Half Marathon, May 19, 2018

This years race will take place on Saturday, May 19 and will include the Half Marathon, 8k, 4k and Lil' Birdie Fun Run. The race starts and stops at Lakeview Terrace Park, 3769 Crystal Lake Blvd. in Robbinsdale. To register or for more information go to www.thebirdtown.com. Ever wonder what's the key to a successful race? A slew of amazing volunteers! Our volunteers embody the spirit of Birdtown (a great attitude, positive vibe and endless smiles) and ensure that our event is a success – from start to finish. Our volunteers are runners and non-runners alike with a shared passion for helping us execute a flawless event! If you have questions about what volunteer opportunities are available, what's required, and time commitment, make sure to check out the website at www.thebirdtown.com or contact birdtownracevolunteer@gmail.com.

Parks and Recreation Photo Contest

What's your favorite park or trail for recreational activities in Robbinsdale? Let's show everyone all the great parks in Robbinsdale by submitting photos of your favorite park/recreation activities to recreationsservices@robbinsdalemn.com now through July 30. Along with the photo, please include your name, contact information and park location. After a committee review, the Top 10 photos will be posted on the Robbinsdale Recreation Facebook page by August 10. The photos with the most likes through August 15 will be featured on the City's website, plus be eligible for a drawing for a gift certificate. Watch for more details on the City website and Facebook pages.

Metro Paint-A-Thon

Metro Paint-A-Thon is a program which assists low-income seniors with home exterior maintenance. The program and its' volunteers typically do 50-60 projects each year. If you or a team are interested in volunteering, or if you qualify for assistance, you can find information for both volunteers and applicants on the website at www.metropaintathon.org.

Attention: Entrepreneurs & Small Business Owners

Hennepin County and Robbinsdale Economic Development Authority have funded *Open to Business* for Robbinsdale. This is a free service that can help you with Business Plan Development, Feasibility Studies, Cash Flow and Financing Projections, Marketing, Loan Preparations and more! The first Wednesday of even number months walk-in hours are 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Robbinsdale City Hall. For more information go to www.opentobusinessmn.org.

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FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Robbinsdale's Facebook Pages are a great place to watch for updates. Links to the Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce and other Robbinsdale businesses are available so you can follow their information too. Remember—you do not need to have a Facebook Account to view these pages.

www.facebook.com/CityOfRobbinsdale
www.facebook.com/Robbinsdalerec
www.facebook.com/RobbinsdaleWineSpirits
www.facebook.com/Robbinsdale.Chamber



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

WASTE MANAGEMENT YARD WASTE PICKUP
BEGINS MID APRIL (weather permitting)

FORESTRY/NATURAL RESOURCES UPDATE

Emerald Ash Borer Update & Treatment of Public and Private Ash Trees

Beginning in 2016 public ash trees growing in parks and along streets (boulevards) have been undergoing treatments as a preventative shield against the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). EAB is an exotic insect from China that has killed millions of ash trees across the United States and Canada. It is rapidly spreading throughout parts of the Twin Cities Metro Area but has not yet been confirmed in Robbinsdale (the nearest infestation is about 1 mile east of the City's border). Ash trees with a full canopy, no significant dieback, room to grow and a healthy branching structure are injected with an insecticide called TREE-äge. A single treatment is guaranteed to provide protection for 2-3 years. Because ash trees are wind pollinated, injected TREE-äge poses no threat to bees or other pollinators. Treated city ash trees are marked with a round aluminum tag stamped with the letters EAB and the last treatment year. Tree injections are performed in-house by the City Forester.

The cost of a single TREE-äge injection every 2-3 years is a fraction of the cost for a full tree removal. The elimination of a healthy mature ash removes all future benefits the tree could have provided such as shade, aesthetics, stormwater sequestration and wildlife habitat. Treatment of ash trees prior to known EAB infestation is critical since dying ash trees deteriorate rapidly and pose significant risk to life and property. If you have an ash tree in your yard it is important to consider either treating the tree or having it removed and replaced. From the City's perspective, preservation of **healthy** private ash trees is important and highly recommended due to their frequent occurrence across Robbinsdale and the benefits these trees provide to the community as a whole. Cost of a preventative TREE-äge injection performed by a reputable company has decreased in recent years and may be as low as \$5.00 per diameter inch depending on the tree service contractor.

By the time EAB-caused decline symptoms become visible from the ground, it is often too late to save the tree. There is a 100% chance an untreated ash tree will be killed once it is infested by EAB. Robbinsdale licenses tree service contractors, many of whom can provide treatment services for private ash trees. A list of licensed tree contractors can be found on the city's forestry webpage. If you have any questions about ash trees or Emerald Ash Borer treatment options, please feel free to contact City Forester/Natural Resources Specialist, Stephan Papiz at 763-531-1273, or at spapiz@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us.

2018 Public Right of Way Tree Planting

Even though it is still late winter it is not too early to start thinking about tree planting! If you recently had a public tree adjacent to the street removed, or if you happen to have an empty spot and would like a tree to provide shade and green space, please feel free to make a request by contacting the City Forester. Keep in mind that **you do not need to have a sidewalk to qualify** since most rights of ways along public streets generally extend 12-15 feet in from the back of the curb, sidewalk or no sidewalk.

Many public trees have been lost in recent years due to storm damage, Dutch elm disease, drought stress and stem girdling roots. The city plants trees in the fall after a 4-6 month stay in a gravel bed nursery. This method makes use of bare root trees that cost a fraction of container or balled-in-burlapped tree stock. The only requirement is that residents agree to regularly water any new trees the first few years after planting. The city provides mulch and a TreeGator watering bag for every newly planted tree which makes watering easier and improves the ability for the tree to uptake water. Over 130 street trees were planted last year by the City Forester and we will have plenty of trees available again this year, so all tree planting requests will be followed up on. Requests will be inspected for existing canopy conditions and planned near-future street reconstruction projects prior to being approved. Actual tree placement will depend on the location of underground utilities such as gas and water along with any surrounding trees. Planting a good distance away from buried utilities reduces the potential for damage to the tree's root system should a future excavation be required. To submit a request contact the City Forester/Natural Resources Specialist, Stephan Papiz at 763-531-1273 or at spapiz@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us.

2018 QUASQUICENTENNIAL ARBOR DAY

This year's Arbor Day Event and Park Cleanup will be held at *Robbinsdale City Hall, 4100 Lakeview Avenue North*, on **Saturday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m.** Robbinsdale combines its Arbor Day Celebration and Adopt-A-Park annual park clean-up with the annual watershed clean-up. Come help us plant the Quasquicentennial Tree, learn about Robbinsdale's community forest and grab a free tree seedling for planting in your yard.



CLEAN WATER UPDATE

Green Up Your Lawn, Not Your Lakes and Rivers

Remember that the choices you make when caring for your lawn directly affects water quality in our lakes and rivers.

With the passing of another winter, many residents like to give their lawns a 'kick start' to the growing season by adding fertilizer. After rains, some of the fertilizer you apply to your lawn can wash into the storm sewer system and end up in our lakes and rivers. Many commercially available fertilizers contain Phosphorous, an element that stimulates algae growth in our lakes and rivers and can turn these waterways green.

Bags of fertilizer typically display an N-P-K ratio. This is a ratio of Nitrogen (N) Phosphorous (P) and Potassium (K) contained within the fertilizer. When selecting a fertilizer for your lawn, make sure that the N-P-K ratio displays a 0 value for the P, eg. 22-0-12.

To further protect our waterways, the City has in place, a Phosphorous Free Fertilizer Ordinance. This ordinance helps the City manage and protect our natural water resources that are enjoyed by residents of our City and the surrounding area. The ordinance requires home owners and commercial lawn services to use fertilizer with no phosphorous. The only exceptions are for newly established lawn areas during the first growing season, or for lawns that have been confirmed as being below phosphorous levels established by the University of Minnesota Extension Services. Most Robbinsdale lawns are naturally high in phosphorous and can be maintained with phosphorous free fertilizer.

Please make the right choice for our natural environment when selecting your fertilizers.

Annual Meeting to Review Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

Each year, as part of our compliance with State stormwater regulations, City staff brings forward a report to a Council meeting that provides an update of the City's actions relating to maintaining clean water in our waterways. During the Council meeting, residents are given the opportunity to address the City Council with any issues or comments.

The date of the meeting for 2018 has not been set; however, it is normally held within the first four months of the new year. We will place a notice in the local newspaper at least 30 days prior to the proposed meeting date. Our City is required to implement certain actions that help to keep our stormwater and our waterways clean.

We encourage our residents to take an interest in clean water in our lakes, creeks and rivers. We are always happy to hear from residents about issues, ideas and comments you may have.

Crystal Lake Water Quality Improvements

During calendar year 2017, the Crystal Lake Flocculation Treatment Plant operated for 164 days and processed 95 million gallons of water, removing 84 pounds of phosphorus. This amount of phosphorus, if not removed from the lake, would create at least 42,000 pounds of algae.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

City staff relies on the vigilance of residents to help control illegal dumping and poor construction site control that can cause undesirable material finding its way into our stormwater system and eventually into our lakes, creeks and waterways. If you observe illegal dumping, see and/or smell conditions that seem out of place, or see tracking of dirt from a building site, contact Richard McCoy immediately at 763-531-1260 or rmccoy@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us to report the problem. We appreciate your help.

If you have any comments, would like further information on these articles or would like to find out more about stormwater in general, please contact our Public Works Director/City Engineer. Richard McCoy at 763-531-1260. or at rmccoy@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us.

NOTES ON BUYING OR SELLING HOMES

Thinking of Buying or Selling a Home?

It is recommended that you do some homework before selling your home. Find out what homes sold recently in your neighborhood and for how much. Each week local newspapers print the address and sale price for recent sales. Another good resource is the "Home Sellers" and "Home Buyers" Handbooks available on the Minnesota Attorney General's website: <https://www.ag.state.mn.us/Consumer/Handbooks/HmSellers/default.asp> and <http://www.ag.state.mn.us/Consumer/Handbooks/HmBuyers/default.asp>.

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!

Robbinsdale Point of Sale Program

Robbinsdale's Point of Sale (POS) ordinance requires a disclosure report prepared by independent certified evaluators (hired by the seller). Under this code, licensed evaluators walk through homes **prior to being placed on the market and shown for sale**. The evaluator would file an inspection report with the City and leave a copy for viewing in the home. This applies to all single family homes, twin homes, townhouses, and condominiums (except new construction). Reports would indicate items which are acceptable, below standards, and required repairs. Required repairs include imminent structural failures, unsafe electrical and plumbing systems, hazardous or unsanitary conditions, and lack of basic items (sinks in kitchens, toilet facilities, etc.). For more information contact Rick Pearson at 763-531-1266. The POS inspection must be performed by a certified evaluator. A link to more information regarding POS requirements, as well as a list of evaluators currently certified in Robbinsdale, can be found on the City's website www.robbinsdalemn.com/pos.

ROBBINSDALE MOTOR VEHICLE OFFICE

Robbinsdale Deputy Registrar/Motor Vehicle Office services include *Title Transfers, Registration Renewals, Variety of Specialty License Plates, Boat and Snowmobile Renewals, Hunting and Fishing Licenses, Driver's Licenses (change of address, or lost license only), and Passport Services**. **Hours:** Monday-Friday 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. and 1st & 2nd Saturday of the month from 9 a.m.-12 Noon (except some holiday weekends). The Motor Vehicle Office is located in Robbinsdale City Hall, 4100 Lakeview Avenue North. Call us at 763-535-8133 for more information. **Remember: state law requires insurance information be provided at the time of registration renewal (tabs), title transfer or application for new Minnesota title/registration.**

***Passports:** Monday thru Friday drop-ins are welcome, but sufficient time is needed for processing applications and will only be accepted at the counter **between 8 a.m-3:30 p.m.** during the week, and Saturdays by appointment. A Saturday appointment must be scheduled by calling 763-535-8133, pressing 1 and then pressing 3. Payment for passport applications MUST be personal check or money-order. *Passport renewals must be made by mail. If it's been over 15 years since your passport was issued, your passport has been damaged, or it was issued at age 16 or younger, you will need to apply for a new passport in person.* For more information on passport requirements, visit www.travel.state.gov. NOTE: When there are school release days, we often have longer wait times due to demand for passport services.

ROBBINSDALE WINE & SPIRITS

Robbinsdale Wine and Spirits has adopted new hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-10pm; Friday-Saturday 8am-10pm; Sunday 11am-6pm. The city-owned liquor store located in Robin Center near the Post Office offers over 300 domestic, import, craft beer and hard cider packages, including micro brews and seasonal crafts. We proudly focus on "made in Minnesota" products from local breweries, cideries and distilleries. We encourage requests for new products—just stop in or make your request on Facebook. Find monthly specials at Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits website at www.robbinsdalemn.com/wineandspirits. Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/RobbinsdaleWineSpirits to check out new arrivals, specials and upcoming events. Profits from the store help to pay for park improvements.

CITY OF ROBBINSDALE

4100 Lakeview Avenue North
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

CITY COUNCIL

Phone & e-mail

Regan Murphy, Mayor763-257-0368, rmurphy@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us
Bill Blonigan, Ward 1..763-537-7776, wablonigan@ci.robbinsdalemn.us
Dan Rogan, Ward 2.....763-533-6874, dprogan@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us
George Selman, Ward 3 .763-533-2661, gbselman@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us
Pat Backen, Ward 4763-439-6454, pbacken@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us
Marcia Glick, City Mgr763-531-1258, mglick@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

ROBBINSDALE SERVICE DIRECTORY

Police and Fire Response 911
Police Administration 763-531-1220
City Hall..... 763-537-4534
Motor Vehicle Office..... 763-535-8133
Recreation..... 763-531-1278
Building Inspections 763-531-1268

The City newsletter is published twice per year to keep residents informed about the City. E-mail comments and questions about the publication to: webmaster@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us.

COUNCIL & COMMISSIONS

MEETING SCHEDULE & LOCATIONS

CITY COUNCIL	MONTHLY MEETINGS	LOCATION
Regular Meetings	1st & 3rd Tuesday*	7 pm City Hall
Economic Development Authority (REDA)	2nd Tuesday**	7 pm City Hall
Charter	Subject to call	Time TBD City Hall
Advisory Commissions:		
Human Rights	4th Thursday (every other month beginning January)	7 pm City Hall
Parks, Recreation & Forestry	4th Tuesday (Except July, Dec)	7 pm Meets at City Hall Oct-March and Sanborn April-Sept
Planning	3rd Thursday	7 pm City Hall
Senior	1st Monday (No meeting July, August and September)	6 pm City Hall
Crime Prevention	1st Wednesday (Feb, April, Oct, Dec)	7 pm Police/Fire Building

*The 1st meeting in August has been changed to Monday, August 6th due to National Night Out on the 7th; the 1st meeting in November has been moved to Wednesday the 7th due to the general election on the 6th.

**The August meeting has been moved to the 21st due to the primary election on the 14th.

City Council Update In an effort to better inform the citizens of Robbinsdale, this section contains information on ordinances passed by the City Council. For questions or more information call the City Clerk's Office at 763-531-1253.

17-06. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 850 OF THE CITY CODE, SMALL CELL WIRELESS.

17-07. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 505.09, 510.25 SUBD. 2(e) AND 515.01, SUBD. 4(I) ALLOWING WIRELESS SUPPORT STRUCTURES IN PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY IN THE R-1, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

17-08. AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR THE REMOVAL AND STORAGE OF TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES.

17-09. AN ORDINANCE ELIMINATING THE LICENSE REQUIREMENT FOR DRY CLEANING AND LAUNDERING.

17-10. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTAURANTS SEEKING INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSES.

17-11. AN ORDINANCE REZONING 4930 42nd AVENUE NORTH FROM R-1, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO R-B RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS.

17-12. AN ORDINANCE ADDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE TO CITY CODE.

17-13. AN ORDINANCE ADDING CITY CODE SECTION 704 REGULATING NONESSENTIAL WATER USAGE UPON CRITICAL WATER DEFICIENCY AS AUTHORIZED BY MINN. STAT. 103G.291, SUBD. 1 AND 2.

17-14. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ROBBINSDALE CITY CODE SECTION 1132 TOBACCO AND RELATED PRODUCTS.

17-15. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 425 OF THE CITY CODE TO UPDATE YARD COVER.

17-16. AN ORDINANCE ADDING PRO-RATED REFUND OF LIQUOR LICENSE FEE.

Support Your Local Businesses

Our local businesses play an important part in our community and rely on resident patronage. Whenever possible, if an item you are shopping for can be found here, rather than going elsewhere consider buying in Robbinsdale.

