

STILLWATER CITY NEWS

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

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651-430-8800

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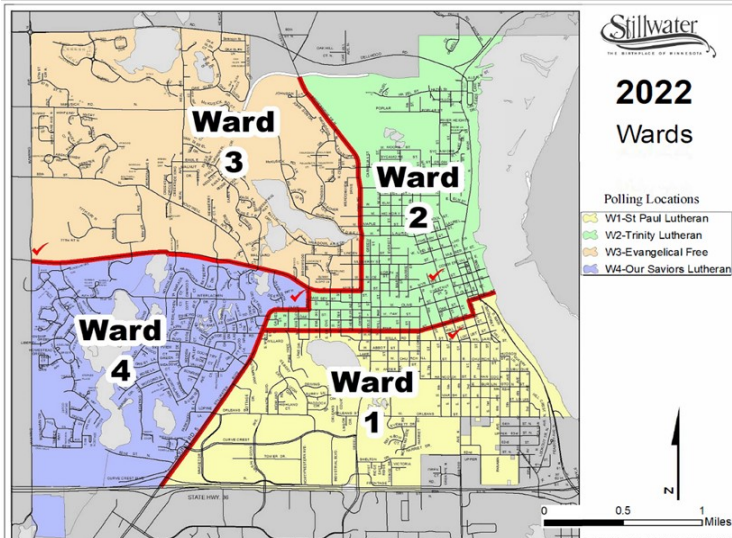
NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Stillwater's new City Administrator, Joe Kohlmann's first day was March 7th and his first City Council meeting was March 15th. Joe grew up in So. St. Paul. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Hamline University and a Master's in Urban and Regional Studies from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Joe and his wife Jill, live in Golden Valley.

ELECTION POLLING PLACES HAVE CHANGED!

As a result of redistricting that takes place every 10 years, the ward boundaries in Stillwater have changed. The City's wards are no longer split, a small portion of the northern part of Ward 1 will now be in Ward 2, and the number of polling locations have reduced from seven locations to four locations. See map for the new boundaries and polling locations. More information on redistricting is available on the City's website.

If you are interested in being an election judge for 2022, visit the city's website and submit your interests by June 1st.



RUN FOR LOCAL OFFICE

Candidate filing will open in the City of Stillwater for three seats: Mayor, Councilmember Ward 1, and Councilmember Ward 4. **The filing period opens Tuesday, May 17, 2022 and closes Tuesday, May 31, 2022.** The filing fee is \$5. A candidate for Mayor must be a resident of Stillwater, a councilmember candidate for Ward 1 or 4 must reside in the Ward in which they seek election. All candidates must be 21 years of age. All positions serve a four-year term, commencing on the 3rd day of January, 2023. A candidate filing packet will be available May 17, 2022 at City Hall or online on the City's website.

2022 Election Dates: Primary Election is August 9th
General Election is November 8th

STILLWATER HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Each year the City of Stillwater Human Rights Commission accepts nominations for the Stillwater Human Rights Award. The nominee can be an individual, business or organization that resides, works or volunteers in the City of Stillwater, and whose actions promoting respect for all people have occurred primarily in the City of Stillwater. Nominations should be submitted by May 31, 2022. You can find the nomination form on the City's website.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and has been observed in the U.S. since 1949. Each year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness. Mental health is an incredibly important part of overall health. Those with mental health issues often face social stigma and discrimination that can create burdens to accessing care. With a growing number of Americans experiencing mental health symptoms, we need to join together to advocate for improving our nation's mental health care system.



The City of Stillwater Human Rights Commission invites the public to attend a special session to learn more about mental health and the wonderful care and educational resources in our community. Come hear a presentation by HealthPartners & Lakeview Health Foundation's Make It OK campaign, which aims to change the hearts and minds about the misperceptions of mental illnesses by encouraging open conversations and education. Other local services including Canvas Health are also scheduled to appear.

Join us on **Tuesday, May 24 from 7:00-8:30 PM** in the Council Chambers at City Hall or online via Zoom. To participate online visit www.zoomgov.com or call 1-646-828-7666 and enter the meeting ID number 161 843 8759.

VOTE EARLY BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

In Minnesota, you don't have to wait until Election Day – vote early with an absentee ballot!

Vote Early In Person

You can cast an absentee ballot at the Washington County Government Center from June 24 through August 8 for the Primary Election and September 23 through November 7 for the General Election.



Ballots are available in-person at five locations across Washington County. Locations are:

- Cottage Grove Service Center, 13000 Ravine Pkwy
- Forest Lake Service Center, 19955 Forest Rd N
- Oakdale City Hall, 1584 Hadley Ave N
- **Washington County Government Center**
14949 62nd St N in Stillwater
- Woodbury Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Pl

Vote Early By Mail

You can apply to have an absentee ballot sent to you in the mail. To request an absentee ballot for 2022 elections, wait for the online absentee application to become available, or use one of the downloadable applications by visiting the MN Secretary of State Office website or Washington County website or call Washington County Elections at 651-430-6175.

For your ballot to count, remember to:

- Read the instructions that come with your ballot.
- You will need a witness to complete your ballot.
- Return ballot and forms right away after you finish.

Please Note

Ballots are not available at Stillwater City Hall. On Election Day, absentee ballots must be dropped off at the Washington County Government Center in Stillwater before 3 pm. Ballots will not be accepted at the polling locations.



TRACK YOUR BALLOT

All absentee ballots that are received on time and had the forms filled out correctly will be counted. To track the status of your ballot and confirm that it was received and counted visit:

<https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/AbsenteeBallotStatus.aspx>.

REGISTER TO VOTE

It's quick and easy! You will need your MN driver's license or identification card number or the last four numbers of your Social Security number. Either register online or register on paper.



You can also register or update your registration when you vote, whether that is at your polling place on Election Day or at an early voting location like the Washington County Government Center. Just don't forget to bring proof of residence.

Visit the MN Secretary of State website for more information

LAWN SPRINKLER WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

To conserve water, the City has adopted a watering ban/lawn sprinkler restriction. From June 1st, to October 1st.

Lawn watering, sprinkling or irrigating of lawns between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily is prohibited. Lawn odd/ even rule is in place for watering meaning that properties having an even numbered address may water, sprinkle or irrigate their lawn on even numbered calendar days and all properties having an odd numbered address may water, sprinkle or irrigate their lawns on odd numbered calendar days.



Exceptions – the water use restrictions do not apply to the following situations:

- Properties with private wells that have no access to or connection to the City's water supply.
- Recently established lawns and landscaping, if the property owner receives a watering restriction waiver from the City which allows for watering up to thirty days after installation.
- Hand watering of plants, shrubs, trees and gardens is permitted on a non-watering day if the watering device is personally attended.
- Filling pools and washing cars.

Keep in mind, lawns only need about an inch of water. Please adjust sprinklers so water is not running down the street. During high heat, water evaporates quickly. Watering in the early morning and later in the evening ensures the water soaks into the ground.

If you have in ground sprinklers set to a schedule, please set them in accordance with your address and the odd/even watering rules. Questions on this lawn water restrictions, contact City Hall at (651) 430-8830.

STILLWATER 2021 DRINKING WATER REPORT

Your drinking water comes from a groundwater source: eight wells ranging from 83 to 305 feet deep, that draw water from the Prairie Du Chien-

Jordan and Jordan aquifers. Stillwater works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets federal and state water quality requirements. The purpose of this report is to provide you with information on your drinking water and how to protect our precious water resources.



Contact Robert Benson, Utilities Superintendent, at (651) 430-8740 or rbenson@ci.stillwater.mn.us if you have questions about Stillwater's drinking water. You can also ask for information about how you can take part in decisions that may affect water quality. The full drinking water report can be found on the City's website.

WHEN IS A BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED?

Building Permits are required for both residential and commercial construction projects including new construction, additions, remodeling, structural changes or repairs, decks, finished basements, pools, garages and demolition. These types of projects require construction plans to be submitted to the City.



Plan review during construction season can take 3-4 weeks. Please factor this into your project timeline. The City requires 2 sets of detailed, scaled, dimensioned full construction plans to be submitted with your permit application.

Other types of permits that are considered "counter permits" do not require plan review and can typically be issued quickly. Counter permits include such work as roofing, siding, windows, furnace, air conditioner, water softener and water heater replacement. These types of permits can be emailed or faxed to the City.

The Building Inspections page on the City's website has tabs for Forms and Applications and Helpful Handouts. These tabs include information about hiring a contractor, inspection requirements, permit submittal requirements based on project type, etc. When looking to hire a contractor for a project, it is helpful to read through the "Hiring a Contractor" information from the MN Dept of Labor and Industry to understand the importance of hiring a licensed contractor.

Visit the City's website for instructions on how to submit and pay for all permit types.

HWY 36 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

A 12-mile stretch of Hwy 36 between Egerton Street and Greeley Street in Stillwater will undergo a road resurfacing and improvement project this summer. All traffic impacts are tentative and weather dependent. Motorists can expect weekend directional closures of Hwy 36 from Edgerton St to I-694 with detours, single lane and directional closures with head to head traffic from I-694 to Greeley Street with detours.

CITY STREET PROJECT BEGINS

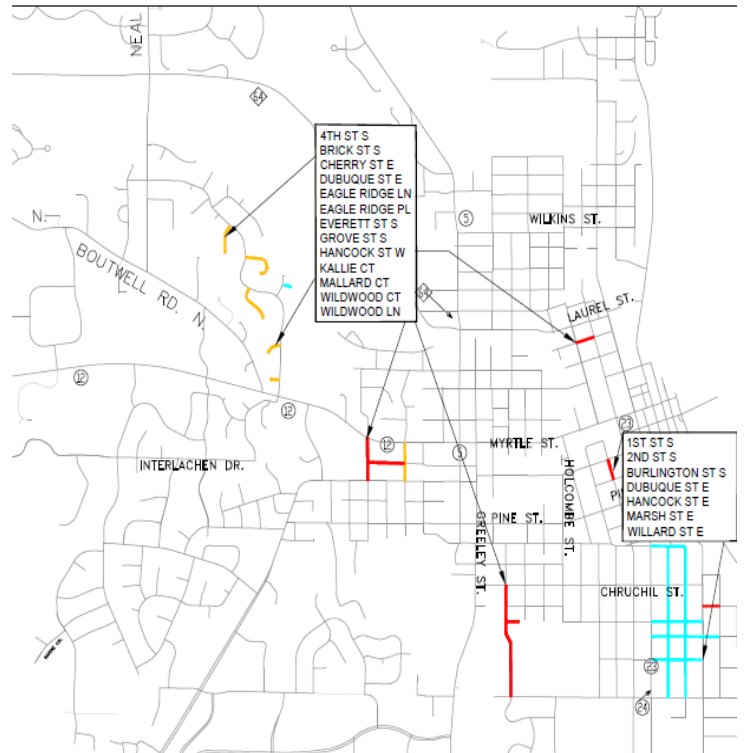
The bids for 2022 street improvement project were presented to the City Council on April 18 and Miller Excavating, Inc. was selected. The work will start mid-May after all road restriction are lifted. See Map below for the affected streets.

The work on last year's street improvement project and the Neal Avenue improvement project will resume as soon as the road restrictions are lifted.

Visit the City's website to signup to receive email updates on the improvement projects.

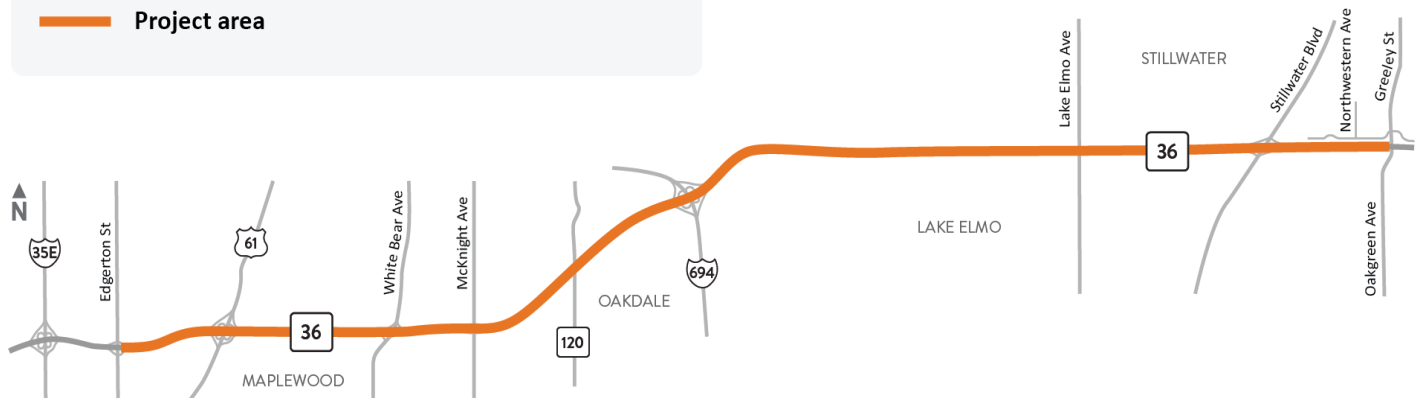
2022 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROPOSED PROJECT AREAS

LEGEND
 PROPOSED MILL AND OVERLAY
 PROPOSED PARTIAL RECONSTRUCT
 PROPOSED RECONSTRUCT



Hwy 36 Road Surfacing Little Canada to Stillwater

Project area



WASTE REDUCTION NEWS

HOME COMPOSTING BARREL

Convert yard waste to a nutrient-rich soil amendment for your garden and lawn. This is a no-cost alternative for yard waste and food waste that you can make right in your yard. Home Composters are available for Washington County residents only and proof of residency is required at the time of pick up. Please call 651-275-7475 for current availability and to place your order. Pick up is at Washington County Environmental Center located at 4039 Cottage Grove Drive in Woodbury. Compost details:

- Made of sturdy, yet lightweight, 100% recycled plastic materials
- Two-piece construction for sides allows for easy access and turning of materials
- Large capacity: 17 cu. ft.
- Holds 125 gallons of materials
- 30" tall and 33" in diameter when the pieces are fully assembled
- Wide opening at the top – easy to add and view materials
- Lockable lid to deter animals
- Sliding doors on each side to monitor status of compost



ONE-DAY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Washington County sponsors one-day household hazardous waste collections during the summer and fall in communities throughout the county. Paper shredding is offered at these events. No more than 4 boxes per customer will be accepted for shredding and capacity is limited by the size of the truck and may be reached before the end of the event.

2022 One-Day Collection Events

Stillwater: Saturday, May 21 | 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Lily Lake Ice Arena
1208 S. Greeley St.

Forest Lake: Saturday, June 4 | 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Forest Lake Transit Center
19987 Fitzgerald Trail N.

Drop It Off

At the Environmental Center

For free and convenient disposal of hazardous waste, electronics, and recyclables all year round, visit the Washington County Environmental Center located at 4039 Cottage Grove Drive in Woodbury.



Food Scraps PICKUP Program

Ramsey and Washington counties are working together to bring food scraps pickup services to all residents, with roll out beginning **late 2022 and into 2023.**

Learn more at
FoodScrapsPickup.com

Yard Waste

It is illegal to put yard, garden, or tree waste into the garbage. Bring yard waste to a designated drop-off site in Washington County.



Washington County Site

Open to all county residents.



Northern Yard Waste Site **FREE!**

5527 170th St. N. • 651-275-7475

www.co.washington.mn.us/yardwaste

Privately-Owned Sites

Open to all county residents.



Cottage Grove Rumpca Companies Inc.

9600 Glendenning Rd. • 651-459-1556



Denmark Township Gertens RES

12119 70th St. S. • 651-458-4412

City-Owned Sites

Open to **city residents only**.



Forest Lake

20001 Forest Blvd. N. • 651-464-3550



Marine on St. Croix

17201 St. Croix Trl. • 651-433-3636



Newport

1100 Bailey Rd. • 651-459-5677



Saint Paul Park

1265 1st St. • 651-459-9785

Search the Disposal Directory to find more drop-off locations: recyclesearch.com/wcdd



Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Quarantine

To prevent the spread of EAB, please dispose of all tree waste at a yard waste site in Washington County.

Visit www.mda.state.mn.us/eab to learn more.



YARD WASTE FOR STILLWATER RESIDENTS

Yard Waste is part of the City of Stillwater residents garbage fees and is collected curbside by Waste Management from April 15th thru November 30th, weather permitting. Place your yard waste curbside on your regular collection day. **Please note:** during peak season (spring or fall), collection may get delayed due to high volumes.

Use a compostable bag for grass clippings, small stems, and leaves. No dirt, sod, rocks, gravel, trash, flower pots or lawn ornaments.

Purchase paper or clear compostable bags which are compliant with Minnesota state law from retailers.

When bundling branches bundled them no larger than 4' x 2' and the branches must be less than 3" in diameter and 4' in length. The total bundle must be under 40 pounds.

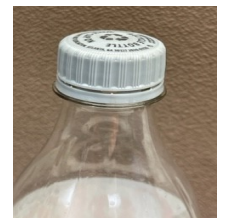
Or you can obtain a Yard Waste cart from Waste Management as an alternative to bundling or compostable bags. The cart is approximately a 90 gallon cart and there is a one time charge of \$48 or \$2/month.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you attach the bottle cap to the bottle it can be recycled.

If they are not attached they cannot be recycled.

It's a Fact!



REPAIR BROKEN ITEMS

Check out the Fix-it Clinic video series to learn valuable repair skills from Washington County Fix-it Clinic volunteers as they demonstrate simple repairs and maintenance of everyday items.

See www.co.washington.mn.us/reduce



Other options for repairing items include:

- Online tutorials: Search iFixit.com, RepairClinic.com, and YouTube.com
- Local repair and mending shops: Search online by item needing to be repaired (e.g. phone, laptops, lawn equipment, etc.)

GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES INCREASE JULY 1, 2022

Residents will see a 2.5% rate increase on July 1 for collection services. This increase will not affect the rates for recycling, yard waste, bulk pickup or the environmental fee which increase each January.

The organized collection program allow offer curbside collection of two bulk items, four consumer electronics, three appliances, and unlimited yard waste. Additional service fees are incurred for additional bulk items, and additional garbage bags placed outside of a cart.





LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday
10 AM to 8 PM

Friday & Saturday
10 AM to 5 PM

Sunday*
1 to 5 PM

*Closed Sundays in summer from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.

VISIT THE TERRACE



Stop by and visit one of Stillwater's hidden gems - the library's Johnson Terrace.

The terrace is the perfect place to soak in Stillwater's scenery. The terrace's sweeping views of the beautiful St. Croix River, stunning church spires, and historic downtown are breathtaking and change with the seasons.

Visit the terrace anytime the library is open. Relax with a book in an Adirondack chair, or gather with friends for lunch at our patio tables (you'll need to bring your own picnic). You can even hold an outdoor work session using our free wi-fi.



ADULT SUMMER READING

Explore worlds of marvel and mystery during our adult summer reading program. Discover new genres and uncover your next favorite author. Stop in or visit us online for staff book suggestions, intriguing programs, monthly take & make kits, and the chance to win weekly drawings for gift cards to local businesses.

Let's Build A Flower Tower* (Online)
Wednesday, June 1, 6:30 PM

Painting with Gold & Orange Watercolors*
Thursday, June 2, 5:30 PM

Gallery Reception—Artists Holle & Fred Brian
Tuesday, June 14, 6:00 PM

Natural Dyes: Tannin & Iron*
Monday, June 13, 5:30 PM

Serving Up Fresh Reads at the Farmer's Market (3rd St & Pine)
Saturday, June 18, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Pretty Posies in Acrylic*
Thursday, July 7, 5:30 PM

Art of Coiling*
Thursday, July 14, 6:00 PM

Serving Up Fresh Reads at the Farmer's Market (3rd St & Pine)
Saturday, July 16, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Paranormal Minnesota*
Thursday, July 21, 6:00 PM

Puppy in Oil Pastels*
Thursday, August 4, 5:30 PM

Puzzle Tournament*
Saturday, August 13, 1:30 PM

Summer Concert on Terrace with Valley Concert Winds
Thursday, August 18, 6:30 PM

* = Program requires registration.

One-on-One Tech or Genealogy Help

Sign up for an hour-long individual session with a technology assistant or genealogy specialist librarian. Sessions offered various dates and times each month.

Book Clubs

Do you enjoy talking about books or learning about what others have been reading? Join one of our book clubs: Connect Through Books, Mystery Book Club, and Romance Book Club. Each group meets monthly.



Read Bags

Grab a pre-packed 'Read' bag. Each bag contains three titles with the theme noted on the tag. From love stories to memoirs, discover a bag that's perfect for you!

SUMMER Mystery EXPLORERS

June 1 - August 6, 2022



Join us for a summer of exploration . . . and a little bit of detective work! Read, write, create, and investigate during our summer reading program for kids.

Sign up online at stillwaterlibrary.org/summer-reading or download the Beanstack app. Once you have registered, stop by the library beginning on June 1 to pick up your Summer Explorer bag and select a **free book** to jump start your summer reading adventures!

YOUTH SUMMER READING PROGRAM & EVENTS

WEDNESDAYS, 10:30 AM

June 8: **Critter Storytime** with Carpenter Nature Center

June 15: **Wendy's Wiggle, Jiggle & Jam**

June 22: **Dazzling Dave Yo-Yo Master**

June 29: **Hooperina**

July 6: **Snake, Rattle & Roll** with Snake Discovery

July 13: **Critter Storytime** with Carpenter Nature Center

July 20: **Miss Nina**, children's musician

July 27: **Tucker's Robot**, Open Eye Figure Theatre's Driveway Tour puppet show

August 10: **The Three Little Pigs Puppet Show**

CLASSES REQUIRING REGISTRATION

Art for Kids - Stripey Tigers

Monday, June 13, 2:00 PM, Ages 6-8

Get a Clue! Writing Mysteries with Trisha Speed Shaskan

Tuesday, June 21, 1:00 PM, Ages 8-12

Petite Concert with MacPhail

Tuesday, June 28, 10:30 AM, Ages 2-5

Art for Kids - Abstract Portraits

Tuesday, June 28, 2:00 PM, Ages 8-12

Art for Kids - Kente Cloth

Tuesday, July 12, 2:00 PM, Ages 6-8

Art for Kids - Koi Fish

Tuesday, July 19, 2:00 PM, Ages 8-12

LIVE VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

Thursdays, 3:00 PM, Reg. Required

June 16: **R.L. Stine**
Goosebumps series

June 23: **Ben Philippe**
Field Guide to the North American Teenager (Ages 12-18)

June 30: **Traci Chee**
The Reader Trilogy,
We Are Not Free,
A Thousand Steps
Into Night (Ages 12-18)

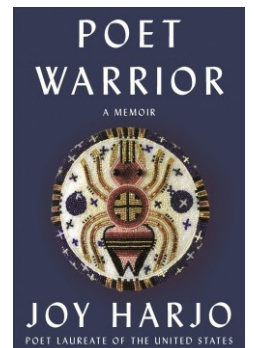
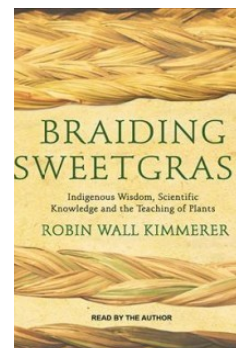
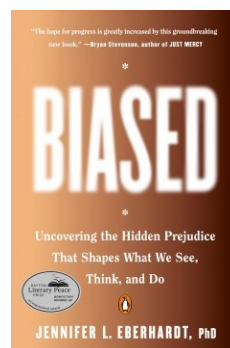
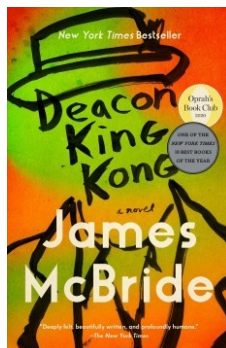
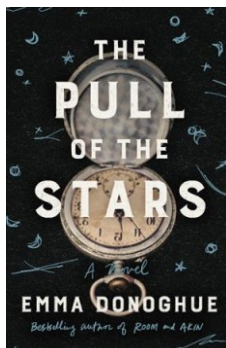
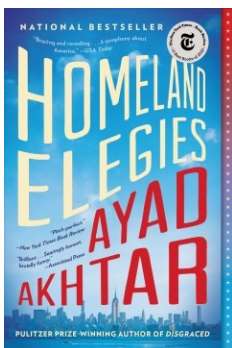
July 14: **Mary Pope Osborne**
Magic Treehouse series

July 21: **Lauren Wolk**
Beyond the Bright Sea, Wolf Hollow, Echo Mountain



MAKE YOUR BOOK CLUB A BREEZE

Have a book club? Want to start one? Check out a book club kit. Each kit, packed in a zippered canvas tote, contains 10 copies of one title along with a discussion guide. We have 79 kits to borrow, or you can place a hold on 161 additional kits through our association with Washington County libraries. The kits check out for six weeks to a single group member who is responsible for all of the materials. Titles in the kits range from classics like *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck to current best-sellers like *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. Kits for teens and kids are available as well. Here are some of the latest titles for your book club to explore:



ANOKA/WASHINGTON COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM NOW ENROLLING FOR 2022-2023

Programs are free for eligible families with children from birth to age five and pregnant women. The Head Start center-based preschool option offers students a 6.5-hour day, 4 days per week. Anoka/Washington County's Head Start-Early Head Start program provides education, nutrition, mental health, school readiness and parent engagement services to children and families from income eligible households. Their approach is to provide high-quality educational curriculum while connecting families with growth and learning opportunities. To learn more or apply, visit their website at <http://www.accap.org/head-start/enrollment-4/> or call the enrollment hotline at 763-783-4314.

SUMMER EVENTS IN STILLWATER

Stillwater Half Marathon - May 28

Memorial Day Ceremony - May 30 at the Vets Memorial

Stillwater Farmer's Market - June 11 to October 29

every Saturday in the Vets Memorial Parking Lot

Cruisin' on the Croix Car Show - June 15 to September 21

every other Wednesday in downtown Stillwater



July 4th Celebration - July 4 along the river

Summer Tuesdays - July 5 to August 9

every Tuesday in Lowell Park

Lumberjack Days - July 14 to 17 in Lowell Park

Broadway by the Bridge - July 21 to 28 in Lowell Park

St. Croix Crossing Half Marathon - July 30

Opera on the River - July 30 in Lowell Park

Night to Unite - August 2 in Washington Square

Bridge the Valley Bike Rally - August 14

Visit the City's website for more details
and more events.



KEEPING OUR PUBLIC WATERS CLEAN AND HOW YOU CAN HELP!

As the weather begins to turn for the better, we begin thinking about familiar rituals: spring yard cleanup, the weekly date with the lawnmower, projects around the house. Whatever it might be, believe it or not, it could be affecting the quality of something all Minnesotans hold dear - our natural waterbodies.

How could that be? Well, the answer lies in the unsung hero, the workhorse of any city, the storm drains. Storm drains line just about every street. They facilitate rain and melt water away from homes and then deposit it into the nearest waterbody.



There are the main sources of pollution such as lawn fertilizer or tree leaves, which cause excess nutrients to flow into water, greatly disrupting the delicate ecosystems in rivers and lakes. However, there may be others you are not aware of, such as these:

Grass clippings: Your lawnmower could be blowing clippings over the curb and into the gutter. If they're washed into the nearest storm drain, they serve as a source of excess nutrients, leading to algal blooms.

Pet waste: Any pet waste not disposed of properly could easily wash into storm drains. Not only does pet waste lead to excess nutrients in the water, it also contains harmful pathogens, such as viruses, parasites, and bacteria such as E. coli.

Home projects or waste: This could be soil, sediment, or wood chips or landscape plantings, car soaps and automotive fluids, chlorinated pool water, leaky septic systems, trash, and excessive yard fertilizer or (after winter use) sidewalk salt.

Please, be mindful this summer and help keep our public waters clean!

LIGHTS OUT FOR THE BIRDS!

The Audubon Lights Out Program is a national initiative to protect migrating birds. Twice each year, billions of birds fly between wintering and breeding grounds. The majority of birds migrate at night, using the night sky to help them navigate. Artificial lights and skyglow around buildings can cause some birds to collide with buildings. Dozens of species are affected. Some ways to prevent the bird fatalities are to shut off exterior decorative lighting, change the color of the light, or change the direction of the light. Join the effort by turning off excess lights during April 1st through May 31st and August 15th through November 15th.



NEW HIRES

Joe Kohlmann, City Administrator

Jacob England, Fire

Stephen Papke, Police

5 YEARS

Eric Cambronne, Public Works

10 YEARS

Sarah Erenberg, Finance

15 YEARS

Rich Bornt, IT

20 YEARS

Dave Fleischhacker, Public Works

Michael Hagen, Public Works

Correction: Nick Chaves was promoted to Assistant Public Works Superintendent in 2000.

INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR TEAM?

The City of Stillwater offers a "notify me" feature when a job opening is posted. To sign up for vacancy announcements or to view the City's employment opportunities visit www.ci.stillwater.mn.us/city-government/employment-opportunities