



Sunfish Lake Quarterly

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Dear Friends & Neighbors,

Greeting and Happy New Year! The traditional holiday season has become busier and busier with each passing year. It has become more difficult to schedule a holiday party that all residents have an opportunity to attend. There are school and church programs, office parties, and other holiday events all competing for the limited time spots during the traditional holiday season. Sunfish Lake has determined that in lieu of a holiday party, a “*Spring Fling*” will be held. This event is anticipated to be held after Easter, near the end of April, 2018. The final arrangements are currently being made for a venue. Once finalized, please look for an invitation in the mail.

Winter is upon us, and with the cold weather bring the challenges of driving in Sunfish Lake. Residents and visitors can be faced with accumulations of ice and snow on the roads. Ice accumulations increase the difficulty in clearing the roadways. This year, there have been further complications on all roads as a result of the weather pattern we have experienced. Prior to the initial snowfall, there was a rain incident which resulted in an ice coating on all of the roads. Sunfish Lake uses a sand-salt combination for treating the roads. The combination of an ice surface on the roads and the high winds resulted in this combination treatment being ineffective. The wind blew the mixture off the roads. The City then switched to an all salt treatment. However, salt is not very effective below 20°F. We faced bitter below zero temperatures which diminished the benefit of the salt. Additionally, salt is more effective on packed snow than it is on ice. These problems are not unique to Sunfish Lake, this has also affected highways, streets, and other localities. In an effort to minimize the impact of icing this year, the City Engineer is coordinating with the snow plowing contractor to put salt on the roads prior to anticipated rain.

This winter season has also brought warmer weather which has helped eliminate some of the accumulated ice. However, daylight melting as a result of sunshine and higher temperatures create its own set of problems. When snow and ice melt during the day, the water re-freezes when temperatures drop during the evening. Because the path of the water changes daily, different areas of a road may have patches of ice on a day-to-day basis. When the City becomes aware of a dangerous condition, we attempt to respond promptly. However, there is no way to predict on a daily basis where snowmelt will refreeze. There will be winter driving challenges which may change on a day-to-day basis. I urge all citizens to drive at reduced speed and with extra caution.

Best,
Mayor Richard A. Williams, Jr.

2018 Great Neighbors’ Food Fight Contest

Once again, local restaurants will compete for the “best burger” in town, and YOU can help decide the winner! Proceeds from the sales of the Great Neighbors’ Food Fight punch cards will benefit the local non-profit, Neighbors, Inc., a social-agency providing emergency assistance and supportive programs to low-income community members in northern Dakota County. Purchase a \$35 Great Neighbors’ Food Fight punch card and redeem it for the selected burger at each location. More information can be found at neighborsmn.org.

- **B-52 Burgers & Brew:** Santa Fe Burger
- **BLVD Bar + Grille:** Swiss on Sourdough
- **Cherokee Tavern:** Saint Joe’s Burger
- **Concord Lanes Bar & Grill:** Jalapeno Popper Burger
- **Jersey’s Bar & Grill:** Jersey Burger
- **Mississippi Pub:** Bacon Mac and Cheeseburger
- **Perkins West St. Paul:** Classic Cheeseburger

Shoe and Clothing Recycling Drop-Off

Any condition of shoes or clothing will be accepted!

**Saturday April 21st
through Sunday April 29th**

Bethel Baptist Church
2100 Delaware Avenue
There will be an outdoor metal drop box where you can place your items.

City Council

Richard Williams, Mayor
Steven Bulach
Mike Hovey
Dan O’Leary
Joanne Wahlstrom

Planning Commission

Tom Hendrickson, Chair
Ginny Beckett
Shari Hansen
Shannon Nelson
Alan Spaulding

City Clerk Administrator

Cathy Iago

Editor

Holly Divine

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sunfishlake.org

Neighborhood Watch Program

by *Shari Hansen, Master Recycler*

This past fall, neighbors on Windy Hill Road and Windy Hill Court came together to share contact information in an effort to create an “informal” neighborhood watch program. In addition to creating this informal program, people shared information about the various vendors that we use – including garbage haulers.

By talking to one another and sharing information, we learned that Republic Services recently started to offer weekly recycling pick-up and their prices are lower than Waste Management. A call was made to Republic, and we were offered a “Block Rate” depending on how many neighbors switched services. In an effort to have fewer trucks on our roads, the majority of Windy Hill Road and the Windy Hill Court neighbors switched to Republic. This was not only for less wear and tear on the roads, but for the safety of those who like to walk on our roads and help make it easier for each of us to recycle more and to save money. Some neighbors are tied to contracts with other vendors, but may be able to switch at a later date.

If you would like more information about having your neighbors take advantage of the cost savings and convenience that Republic offers, please contact Francis Estrella at festrella@republicservices.com.

Is your neighborhood interested in starting a neighborhood watch program? Please attend the upcoming Crime Prevention Event to learn more!

Home Recycling, What to Recycle and What Not

Did you know that Minnesota has the one of the highest recycling rates in the nation? A recent study of all the waste in Minnesota found that a lot of paper, plastic, glass and metal is still put in the trash. In fact, nearly half of what was tossed could have been recycled.

Recent changes in technology and markets mean we can recycle more than ever before, but knowing what can and cannot be recycled in your home cart improves how much actually gets recycled. Automated machines used at recycling facilities are built to accommodate certain materials – they cannot process others. Putting the wrong materials in your cart can cause facility shutdowns which increases recycling costs.

Top 10 items we should recycle but forget about

- ✓ Envelopes with plastic windows
- ✓ Notebooks with the metal spiral
- ✓ Construction paper from school art projects
- ✓ Milk, juice, soup, broth and wine cartons
- ✓ Yogurt cups, tubs and containers
- ✓ Shampoo, soap, lotion, laundry bottles
- ✓ Magazines with glossy pages
- ✓ Paperback books
- ✓ Papers with staples
- ✓ Clear berry and produce containers

Upcoming Crime Prevention Event

Late last year, neighbors around Horseshoe Lake listened to a presentation by Crime Prevention Specialist, Laura Vaughan, of the West Saint Paul Police Department. She talked about how to start a Neighborhood Watch Program. Laura has offered to give the presentation again to anyone in Sunfish Lake that is interested. Crime Prevention Specialist Vaughan will be speaking at the West Saint Paul City Hall on **Thursday, February 15th at 7:00 p.m.**, located at 1616 Humboldt Avenue. ***We hope you can attend!***

Reporting Suspicious Activity

The West St. Paul Police Department encourages citizens to be aware of their surroundings and to report all suspicious activity by calling **911**, or the West Saint Paul non-emergency phone line at **651-322-2323**.

What is suspicious behavior?

- Unauthorized people in restricted areas
- Unusual noise, including screaming, sounds of fighting, breaking glass.
- People peering into parked vehicles or homes that are not their own, and people who change their behavior when they are notice they have been seen.

When reporting suspicious behavior, remember

- More details, the better. Give the location of suspicious behavior and a description of the individual or vehicle.
- If the person is leaving the location, give the locations they are going.

Remember, these items don't belong in your home recycling cart

Paper to-go cups, Styrofoam™ or foam, Tissue paper, Garden hoses, Drink pouches, and Ceramics.
Batteries and Plastic bags can be taken to a drop-off.

Please note The Recycling Zone in Eagan no longer accepts plastic bags/wrap or packing peanuts. They will also no longer pay for aluminum cans, but will still accept them for free recycling.

More information can be found at recyclingzone.com.