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Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

Public Meetings Next Week:

- Parks Commission Monday, April 15th, 6:30 p.m.
- City Council Meeting Tuesday, April 16th, 7:00 p.m.



[Visit our website](#)

[Join us on Nextdoor](#)

[Visit our Website](#)





Our Mission is to Provide Quality Public Services in a Fiscally Responsible Manner in Partnership with our Community.

NOTICE OF MEETING

**City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission
3880 Laverne Avenue North
April 15, 2024
6:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve Minutes
 - a) March 18th, 2024
5. Public Comment
6. Demontreville Playset Replacement
7. Ridge Park Review
8. Park Tree Planting
9. Communications
 - a) Future Agenda Items
10. Adjourn

****Note: Every effort will be made to accommodate person or persons that need special considerations to attend this meeting due to a health condition or disability. Please contact the Lake Elmo City Clerk if you are in need of special [accommodations](#).*



NOTICE OF MEETING

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 7:00 P.M.

City of Lake Elmo | 3880 Laverne Avenue North

AGENDA

- A. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**
- B. Approval of Agenda**
- C. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1. April 2, 2024 Regular Meeting
- D. Public Comments/Inquiries**
- E. Presentations**
- F. Consent Agenda**
 - 2. Approve Payment of Disbursements
 - 3. Approve Public Works Operator Job Posting
 - 4. Approve Resolution of Municipal Support for the Preferred Alternative for the CSAH 15 (Manning Avenue) Improvements: 10th Street to 30th Street – *Resolution 2024-046*
- G. Regular Agenda**
 - 5. Accept Bids and Award Contract for the 2024 Street and Utility Improvements – *Resolution 2024-045*
 - 6. 10997 32nd Street Variances and Lot Division; *Resolution 2024-042*
 - 7. Animal Inn Conditional Use Permit Amendment and Variance; *Resolution 2024-043 and Resolution 2024-044*
 - 8. City Administrator Contract
- H. 1st Quarter Dashboards and Financial Reports**
- I. Council Reports**
- J. Staff Reports**
- K. Adjourn**

Full meeting packets and meeting minutes can be accessed here:
[Agendas and Minutes](#)



**NOTICE
FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING
OPERATION**

The Lake Elmo Public Works will be involved in a water main and fire hydrant flushing program starting April 15, 2024 and continuing through the end of the month.

This notice is to inform our customers that the flushing and valve operation will cause some areas to be without water for short periods of time and a decrease in pressure which may affect automatic flushing and pressure sensitive equipment.

Residents may also notice mineral particles in their water that can affect laundry operations. If mineral particles are detected, cold water should be run to clear out household water lines. If the problem persists, residents should contact the Lake Elmo Public Works at (651) 747-3941.



Payment Portal

Make a Payment, enroll in Auto-Pay & e-Billing, view your payment and bill history, and more!

[Go to Payment Portal](#)



One-Time Payment

No time to login? Make a quick, one-time payment here.

[One-Time Payment](#)

Quarter 1 utility bills have been mailed out and should be in your mailbox soon.

Please sign up soon on our new payment portal at <https://lakeelmo.payacp.com/portal/signup!> The old system will be deactivated prior to the next billing cycle.

If you have an autopay set up on the old system, PSN, you can find instructions for deactivating that at www.LakeElmo.org/UB. For assistance, feel free to email RNess@LakeElmo.org or call 651-747-3906.

2024 Lake Elmo Arbor Day Celebration

Saturday April 27th, 2024

9:00am – 11:00am



Lake Elmo Public Works Building

In Celebration of Arbor Day the City of Lake Elmo's Public Works Department is sponsoring a **FREE** Tree Giveaway. Trees are available to any Lake Elmo Resident.

www.arborday.org

m DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROAD CLOSED

Metro - I-94 Oakdale to St. Croix: 2022-2024 construction

I-94 Oakdale to Lakeland lane and ramp closures

The entrance ramp from 10th St. North to northbound I-694 is now closed through the fall. Closing the ramp will allow drivers to safely navigate the detour routes for the I-94/I-494/I-694 interchange ramp closures.

You can bypass the 10th St. North to northbound I-694 ramp closure by using 10th St. North, Inwood Ave. North, Stillwater Blvd., Ideal Ave. North, 34th St. North, and northbound I-694.

Westbound I-94 lane closure begins April 14

Then, starting at 9 p.m. on Sun, April 14, westbound I-94 will be reduced to a single lane between Woodbury Dr. and Hwy 120/Century Ave., to allow construction crews to shift traffic to the east side of the interstate. When you wake up the next morning on Mon, April 15, westbound I-94 will be reduced to two lanes in this same area until the middle of July.

I-94/I-494/I-694 interchange ramps close April 14

The following I-94/I-494/I-694 interchange ramps will also close starting at 9 p.m. on Sun, April 14 until the middle of July as part of the traffic shift:

- The ramp from westbound I-94 to southbound I-494
- The ramp from northbound I-494 to westbound I-94

Bypass these ramp closures by using the 10th St. interchange.

I-94 lane closures at Hwy 95 scheduled for April 18

Plan for off peak, daytime lane closures on I-94 near the Hwy 95/St. Croix Trail interchange on Thu, April 18. Eastbound and westbound I-94 will be reduced to two lanes while crews complete maintenance work in the road shoulders.

We appreciate your patience while we make these improvements. Plan ahead by [checking 511](#), and give yourself additional time to reach your destination.

All construction activities and traffic impacts are weather and schedule permitting and subject to change.

Please drive with care in work zones:

- Slow down when approaching every work zone, then navigate with care and caution.
- Stay alert; work zones constantly change.
- Watch for workers and slow-moving equipment.
- Obey posted speed limits. The fine for a violation in a work zone is \$300.
- Minimize distractions behind the wheel.
- Be patient; expect delays, especially during peak travel times.
-

More about this project

We will be resurfacing the pavement and making other improvements to I-94 between Hwy 120/Century Ave. and the St. Croix River through fall 2024. The work will improve safety, traffic flow and ride smoothness.

For more information, including construction schedule and upcoming traffic impacts, visit the [I-94 Oakdale to St. Croix project webpage](#). If you have questions, please [contact the project team](#).



Summer Opportunity: Join our Public Works Team!

We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our seasonal team and become an integral part of our city's Public Works crew. This position will complete maintenance and repair of our city streets and parks.

Position Title: Public Works Seasonal, Part-Time
Hours: Up to 40 hours per week
Shift: Mon-Thu 7:00am – 4:30pm; Fridays 7:00am – 11:00am
Pay: \$17.50 per hour
Duration: May to August

Why choose the City of Lake Elmo?

Hands-On Learning: Receive training in various aspects of parks and street maintenance. From green spaces to bustling streets, you'll gain hands-on experience in the heart of Lake Elmo.

Team Spirit: Work alongside our dedicated full-time Public Works staff who are passionate about making our city shine. You'll be part of a supportive team where your efforts directly contribute to the community's well-being.

Summer Vibes: Enjoy the great outdoors as you soak up the summer sun while making a positive impact on the city's infrastructure.

Ready to embark on a summer journey filled with learning, growth, and new experiences? Don't miss out on this opportunity! Apply now to be part of our dynamic Public Works team. Your adventure awaits!

To apply, please visit <https://www.lakeelmo.org>



Free and Open To All
Rain or Shine

**Landscape Revival:
Lake Elmo**

ONE EVENT & NEW LOCATION

Saturday, June 1, 2024
9 AM to 1 PM + Food truck!

Rockpoint Church
5825 Kelvin Ave N, Lake Elmo, MN 55042
See reverse for map; for more info go online to
tiny.cc/LR24

Photo by Karen Eckman
American Goldfinch on Meadow Blazingstar

**Join Us For Our 13th Annual
More-Than-A-Plant Sale!**

Expo: Visit with local conservation and restoration groups to learn how to select and grow native plants to benefit pollinators, other wildlife, and water quality.

Market: Purchase Minnesota native plants from a variety of local growers. No cultivars or systemic insecticides.

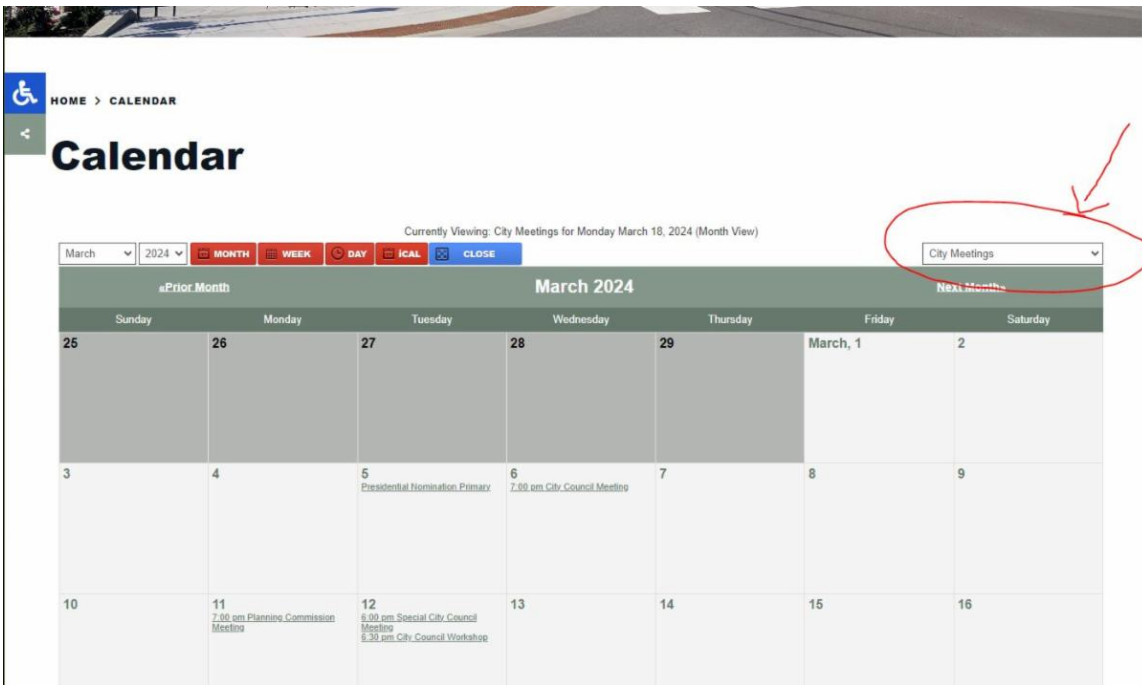
Cash or Check Preferred



City park reservations are now listed on our website

Please visit <https://www.lakeelmo.org>. City Parks that hold rentals for amenities may be found on the home page of the website. Once on the home page, click on VIEW ALL EVENTS above the calendar. City Meetings is the default calendar listed. Toggle between parks with the drop down box on the top right corner of the calendar. Please see screenshot below for details.

Lake Elmo Park Reserve is a County Park. Please contact the county at 651.430.8370 for reservation information.



HOME > CALENDAR

Calendar

Currently Viewing: City Meetings for Monday March 18, 2024 (Month View)

March 2024

City Meetings

«Prior Month			March 2024					Next Month»
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
25	26	27	28	29	March, 1	2		
3	4	5 Presidential Nomination Primary	6 7:00 am City Council Meeting	7	8	9		
10	11 7:00 am Planning Commission Meeting	12 6:00 pm Special City Council Meeting 8:30 am City Council Workshop	13	14	15	16		



Help support Lions Park for the 2024 Season

We hope you will consider helping Lions Park ball field by advertising your business and/or cause with a vintage sign.

In addition to helping create a vintage feel at the ball field, your advertising funds are used solely for improvements to the Lions Park Ballfield area. None of the funds are used for general city expenses.

We hope that you will consider a sign subscription at Lions Park for the 2024 season. Your \$500 for a 4x8 sign or \$900 for a 4x16 sign contribution will help make improvements to the field and ensure the sign stays up for another year.

To participate, all you need to do is send your contact information and a check payable to the City of Lake Elmo-Lions Park Sign 2024, 3880 Laverne Ave N, Lake Elmo, MN 55042 by May 1st, 2024. We are not able to take payment by credit card at this time. After it is received, staff will contact you and support you through the process of making the sign and getting it placed next season.

Again, thank you for your support of this community asset.

Garden Tool Swap

at the Environmental Center



Wednesday, May 1 • 4 – 7 p.m.



Scan to learn more!
WashCoRecycles.com/Reuse

- Donations accepted at the Environmental Center: March 19 - May 1. (Drop off items at front desk or drive-thru lane.)
- The swap is free and open to everyone!
- Donations are not required to get items during the event.
- Limit of 3 items can be taken per person.
- Items remaining after the event will be donated locally.

Examples of items to donate:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ✓ Hand tools | ✗ No powered tools (electric, gasoline, or battery) |
| ✓ Shovels | |
| ✓ Rakes | ✗ No broken items |
| ✓ Birdfeeders | ✗ No plastic planters |
| ✓ Ceramic pots | ✗ No potting soil/dirt |
| ✓ Clean gloves and more! | ✗ No oversized items |

Environmental Center
4039 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury
651-275-7475



Paper Shredding Events

Washington County offers free paper shredding events for confidential papers at the Environmental Center. Documents will be shredded on-site by Shred Right and recycled.

These events are free and open to residents and businesses. Limit: 6 boxes (weighing no more than 30lbs each) per person.

Events are on Wednesdays at the Washington County Environmental Center from 8am-4:30pm



2024 Dates:

- April 17
- May 22
- June 26
- August 14
- September 25
- November 13

Exterior storage, parking and maintenance

As part of our ongoing efforts to maintain the appeal and safety of the City of Lake Elmo, city staff would like to remind residents about regulations pertaining to exterior storage, parking, and upkeep of properties. The way we manage our spaces is important for maintaining our city's quintessential character.



Exterior Storage: All refuse, rubbish, or garbage (as defined in LEC 1.08) shall be kept in an enclosed building or properly contained in a closed container designed for the purposes. The accumulation, storing, or keeping of old machinery, wrecked or inoperable vehicles or household appliances, and unlicensed vehicles and other junk or debris is prohibited.

Parking: Unlicensed passenger vehicles and trucks shall not be parked in residential districts for a period exceeding seven days.

Parking Design and Maintenance: Surfacing and drainage. All off-street parking areas shall be surfaced as follows: Single-family and two-family dwellings shall provide a durable surface with suitable drainage. In all residential, commercial, and mixed-use districts, all areas intended to be utilized for parking space for five or more vehicles and associated driveways shall be paved with a durable surface, including, but not limited to, hot asphalt, bituminous or concrete.



Do you love fresh, organic veggies? Do you want to support your local food system? [Cimarron Community Farm's](#) 2024 Summer CSA program is open now and a perfect way for your family to eat fresh all season long!

- 16 weeks of fresh, local, organic produce (mid-June to September)
- \$530 for a summer share with flexible payment options
- On-farm pick-up, Wednesdays 4pm-7pm
- A typical box may include fresh herbs, tomatoes, zucchini, carrots, broccoli, lettuce, kale, eggplant, onions, and more

Sign up now to access the best produce in town!

cimarroncommunityfarm.com |

cimarroncommunityfarmMN@gmail.com | 952-607-0157

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

With Emerald Ash Borer moving heavily into the Lake Elmo area, Public Works is starting to remove dead and dying ash trees from public properties and road right of ways.



Public Works will be prioritizing the removal of trees that are determined to be higher hazards on city property. Pink paint will mark dead and dying Ash trees that will be removed by Public Works Staff. With the number of infected ash trees in the city, we are not able to give a schedule of when we may be in your neighborhood to remove ash trees in the road right of way. Public Works staff will return to grind the stumps below grade, black dirt and seed the areas of the removed ash trees. The city will not be replacing trees that are removed. Property owners are welcome to replace trees but should follow the landscape plan for their development and choose trees that are approved. New planted trees should stay out of the road right of way (15 feet from the curb) as not to obstruct traffic lanes and create road way damage. Staff will start removing ash trees around public buildings, well houses, pavilions, near park amenities and trails. Next they will then start removing ash trees along the road ways and neighborhood streets. Typically the city's road right of way extends roughly 15 feet behind the curb or road edge. Ash trees in this area will be investigated and measured before marked for removal.

Ash tree removal on public property will likely extend over the next couple of years. The City is not responsible for removing trees on private property.

Two links below are good sources to learn more about EAB:

<https://mntca.umn.edu/resources>

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/.../terrestria.../eab/index.html>



Emerald Ash Borer

Washington County will remove ash trees from Lake Elmo Park Reserve

Washington County is continuing ash tree removal within Lake Elmo Park Reserve in response to the emerald ash borer. Starting Nov. 15 through March 31, 2024, ash trees will be removed near trails and in natural areas of the park. These removals will help minimize risk to the public from falling trees and will also reduce fuel loads that can increase fire risk within the park.

To complete the work, a contractor will be using equipment to cut and haul the trees to staging areas, before chipping and removing debris from the site. Once work commences, ski trails on the south side of Lake Elmo and the snowmobile trail will be closed. Only ash trees will be removed, and new bareroot trees will be planted in suitable areas in the spring of 2024.

See the county website at <https://www.washingtoncountymn.gov/> to view a map of ash trees. Green dots are trees to be removed, and purple dots are ash trees surveyed in summer of 2023. If time and weather conditions allow, staff will also remove dead or dying ash trees along the property boundaries.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture website has more information about the emerald ash borer at www.mda.state.mn.us/eab

The Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center is open every day
Visit <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/> for details.



The Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center in Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park is operated by a non-profit organization for the benefit of the entire community. We offer programs and events for people of all ages and have "adopted" the Park in the City's program. This work is all funded by donations. Thank you for your support!

Here are some things happening at the SMINC:

- On Saturday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. we will be having our John Neitge Earth Day Celebration at the center. This is a free event. The theme for this year's Earth Day is "Planet vs. Plastics." This is an opportunity to learn about ways that plastics affect our ecosystem, as well as our health, and what we can do about it. We'll have information about products and services, including textile recycling, that can help individuals reduce their reliance on plastics!
- Ever wonder where those beautiful walking sticks in Sunfish Lake Park come from? On April 27, from 1-3 pm, come and meet Tim Hugley, a local resident who will chat about why and how he creates those beautiful walking sticks that he provides for our park. Best of all, you get to paint your own walking stick and take it home with you! The cost of this event is \$30, which includes supplies.
- We are extremely happy to announce that tickets are now available for our spring fundraiser! This year's event will be at the Lake Elmo Inn Event Center on May 7th at 6 p.m., and will feature New York Times Bestselling author, and Minnesota favorite, William Kent Krueger. The event will also feature a live and silent auction. Individual tickets are \$125, or you can purchase tickets for a table of 8 for \$1,200, which includes two bottles of wine and a special gift from the SMINC. To purchase tickets, you can visit our website, or go directly to <https://square.link/u/z1jdpkoC>



John Neitge
Earth Day
Celebration

Saturday, April 20th
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature
Center, located at Lake Elmo's
Sunfish Lake Park**

**The theme of this year's Earth Day is
"Planet vs. Plastics". Come learn all about how
you can play a part in reducing plastics
pollution in our community!**

Every day we are learning more about the negative effects of plastics use. The plastics in our everyday products contain a range of chemicals, many of which we are just learning about, and many of which go unregulated. Unlike natural

products and fibers, plastics do not break down, they only get smaller and smaller. Microplastics have been found everywhere, including here at Sunfish Lake. Come in and get some useful information about recycling and reusing plastics, and

learn about programs and products that will help you break away from your reliance on plastics-based products. We will have information about textile recycling, natural cleaning products, plastics-free storage solutions, and more!



Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center is operated by Friends of Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

651-408-2838 | e-mail: Info@sminc-lake-elmo.org | sminc-lake-elmo.org



SALLY MANZARA INTERPRETIVE NATURE CENTER 2024 FUNDRAISER

KEEP US GROWING

A PLACE IN NATURE FOR ALL

TUESDAY, MAY 7 AT 6:00 P.M.

LAKE ELMO INN EVENT CENTER

Special guest
WILLIAM KENT KRUEGER
AWARD WINNING MINNESOTA AUTHOR

\$125 per plate or a table of eight includes two bottles of wine, and a special gift from the SMINC for **\$1,200**.

Evening includes dinner from the **Lake Elmo Inn** and **Silent & Live Auctions**.

Purchase tickets online using Square at sminc-lake-elmo.org or call 651-408-2838



Recycling at Home

Empty and rinse all containers

Glass
Bottles & Jars



Metal
Food & Beverage Cans



Plastic
Bottles & Containers



Cartons



Paper & Cardboard



When in doubt, keep it out. Putting these items in your recycling cart does more harm than good.

NO!

**Do Not Bag
Recyclables**



**No Plastic
Bags or Wrap**



No Tangles
(No hoses, wires,
or string lights)



**No Shredded
Paper**



www.co.washington.mn.us/publichealth | 651-430-6655

Washington
County

City of Lake Elmo | 3880 Laverne Avenue North, Lake Elmo, MN 55042

[Unsubscribe_jjohnson@lakeelmo.org](mailto:unsubscribe_jjohnson@lakeelmo.org)

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