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Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

## Public Meetings Next Week

- Planning Commission Monday, October 24th, 7:00 p.m.

[City Agendas and Minutes](#)



**General Election Tuesday, November 8th**  
*Scroll Down for Absentee & Early Voting Info*

Visit our website



Join us on Nextdoor



**NOTICE OF MEETING**

The City of Lake Elmo  
Planning Commission will conduct a meeting on  
**Monday October 24, 2022**  
at 7:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve Minutes - October 12, 2022
4. Public Hearing  
2023-2027 Capital Improvement Plan
5. Communications/Updates - City Council Updates
  - a. Approved - Crossroads East CUP Request – Carden Equities
  - b. Approved - Crossroads East CUP Request – Delwin Transfer
  - c. Approved - Crossroads East CUP Request – Heppner’s Auto Body
  - d. 3rd Quarter Planning Dashboard
6. 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.

**Absentee and In Person Voting Available**

Absentee and in person voting for the November 8, 2022 General Election will be available at **Washington County service centers** between September 23rd and November 7th.



In-person absentee and ballot drop off is available at the Vote Centers listed below on Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Vote Centers:**

- Washington County Government Center
- Cottage Grove Service Center
- Washington County Offices at Woodbury Central Park
- Oakdale City Hall
- Headwaters Service Center

**Absentee Voting Reminders:**

Voters are encouraged to submit absentee ballot applications early. The earliest a ballot will be mailed to you is 46 days prior to Election Day for all elections except Township elections. Allow enough time to complete the application, have your ballot mailed to you, vote your ballot, and return it to Washington County via mail so it is received by Election Day. You cannot drop off your voted ballot at your precinct on Election Day. To request a paper application be mailed to you, call Washington County Elections at 651-430-6790. [Washington County Elections](#)

## I-94 Oakdale to St. Croix River

### Current Lane Closures

8 p.m. Mon, Oct. 10 through 6 a.m. Mon, Oct. 24:

- WB I-94 is reduced to two lanes between the St. Croix River Bridge and Hwy 95 5 a.m. Tue, Sept. 6 through 2 p.m. Mon, Oct. 24
- EB I-94 is reduced to two lanes between Woodbury Dr. and the St. Croix River

### Upcoming

*Information about upcoming traffic impacts will be posted as details become available.*

Lane closures:

Tue, Oct. 25 through Sat, Nov. 5; 5 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily

- EB I-94 is reduced to two lanes between Woodbury Dr. and the St. Croix River Bridge

Tue, Oct. 25 through Sat, Nov. 5; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily

- WB I-94 is reduced to two lanes between the St. Croix River Bridge and Woodbury Dr.

**The Brookfield building at 3880 Laverne Avenue is closed and under construction. All City Services are available at City Hall, 3800 Laverne Avenue**

**Please drive slowly and watch for construction activity**

### Recreational Fires

Increase your enjoyment of outdoor fires by knowing you're doing all you can to burn cleanly, safely, and responsibly for your family, neighbors and community.

Recreational fires are restricted by size and material. A recreational fire cannot exceed three feet in diameter nor shall it exceed three feet in height (height of material stacked to burn). Only clean, dry, wood can be burned. Wood means dry, clean fuels, twigs, branches, limbs, manufactured fireplace logs, charcoal, or cord wood. "Wood" does not include wood or wood based products that is green with leaves or needles, rotten, wet, oil soaked, treated or manufactured with paint, glue, preservatives or other chemicals. Burning of leaves, grass and other yard waste is not allowed.

### Be A Good Neighbor

Be a good neighbor when burning and consider your neighbors, as well as wind direction. Often times this prevents unnecessary calls to the fire department regarding smoke.

### Cleaner Alternatives

Learn about your options before burning wood in your backyard. Switching to natural gas or propane reduces harmful air pollutants.



**Don't Wait or Hesitate!**

If your recreational fire gets out of control, don't wait or

Kits that convert existing fire rings and pits to natural gas or propane burners are available from local retailers.

hesitate. Call 911 immediately.

### Brush Disposal

Burning is not intended for the purposes of clearing brush piles, disposing of green leaved branches from tree trimming, or burning of leaves. For more information regarding brush disposal, please visit: <https://www.co.washington.mn.us/628/Yard-Waste>

Feel free to call Fire Station #1 – 651-770-5006 with any questions

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## Street and Utility Project Updates

Updates on current city street and utility projects are available on the City's website: [Projects](#)



### How will Lake Elmo change in 50 years?

Part of the construction of the Lake Elmo City Center is a time capsule project. We're inviting residents to share their predictions for Lake Elmo in the next 50 years. Submission slips are available at City Hall and City events for you to tell us how you think we'll change between now and 2073, so you tell us:

- How many people will live in Lake Elmo in 2073?
- What will downtown look like?
- How are City services delivered?
- What else does the future hold?

Fill out a slip and we will put them into a time capsule in the City Center, and come back in 2073 to see how your predictions turn out!

The City of Lake Elmo is accepting artifacts from Lake Elmo History like these cool mugs staff found at a local thrift store to display in the new City Center. If you have something you'd like displayed, contact Kristina Handt,

City Administrator at 651-747-3905

[khandt@lakeelmo.org](mailto:khandt@lakeelmo.org)





## The City of Lake Elmo is on Nextdoor!

In an effort to reach as much of the community as possible we've joined Nextdoor. We will use our public agency page to post news and important updates for residents.

[Find us here!](#)



## Lake Elmo Library

3537 Lake Elmo Avenue N  
Lake Elmo MN 55042  
651-275-8515  
WashCoLib.org

## Hours:

Monday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 12-8 p.m.  
Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Washington  
County  
LIBRARY

## Business Retention and Expansion Program

The Lake Elmo Economic Development Authority (LEEDA) will be kicking off a Business Retention and Expansion Program in March. LEEDA members will be reaching out to schedule visits with members of our business community to learn more about their business, what's going well, what could be done differently and how LEEDA can help them continue to grow and prosper in Lake Elmo.

With around 300 businesses in Lake Elmo and only 6 LEEDA commissioners, this campaign will take many months and likely continue into 2023. Commissioners are now beginning to reach out to businesses south of 10th Street between Inwood Avenue and Keats Avenue. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a visit contact Kristina Handt at 651.747.3905 or [khandt@lakeelmo.org](mailto:khandt@lakeelmo.org)



# Need a Trusted **Business Advisor?**

This program provides free and confidential one-on-one assistance from MCCD's experienced staff, customized to meet the specific needs of each entrepreneur in the creation, growth, and success of their business.

## **Technical Assistance & Lending**

- Business & strategic planning
- Marketing & communications planning
- Regulatory, tax, licensing, & accounting training
- Financial assessment
- Referrals to critical professional services
- Access to capital



## **We want to help you succeed!**

To learn more about a free personalized plan for your business contact:



[info@mccdmn.org](mailto:info@mccdmn.org)  
(612) 789-7337

[www.mccdmn.org/open-to-business](http://www.mccdmn.org/open-to-business)





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!

We have started our fall series of educational programs and events. On the first and third Saturdays of the month, we have Family Nature Explorations Events. On the second and fourth Saturdays of the month, we have free drop in education activities in our building for all ages. We also have monthly adult education presentations.

**Registration for Family Nature Explorations Events at:**  
<https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/event-descriptions/>

Are you looking for something to do this coming week? Come check us out.

- **10/15 – Fall Photography Hike** from 10 AM to Noon. Join Christa Rittberg, Master Naturalist, for a fall hike and learn how to find and photograph the beautiful fall colors. Choose your best photo and add it to a group collage that will be displayed in the Nature Center. Bring your camera or smartphones for taking photographs. \$5/family or group, register at link above or pay at drop in. Ages 5 and up.
- **Weekly Tai Chi on Wednesdays** from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM - We are hosting a free Tai Chi class every Wednesday. For details contact Paul Ryberg at [pryberg@gmail.com](mailto:pryberg@gmail.com).
- **10/20 - Adult Education Series: Nature Photography** at 7:00 PM. Sue Steinwall, the Minnesota Land Trust's Conservation Stewardship Director, will share some of her nature photographs and tips she's picked up along the way. Sue's presentation will focus on photographing landscapes and wildlife. \$10/person, register at link above or pay at drop in.
- **10/22 - Annual Buckthorn Festival** from 9:30 AM to Noon. Bring your work gloves and trimmers and help us on our continued effort to remove buckthorn and other invasive species in Sunfish Lake Park. Afterwards, we will provide a lunch of hot dogs, music and other fun activities. This is a family friendly event for all ages. For questions, call George at 651-757-5610.





# Pictures From Last Year's Buckthorn Festival





# SALLY MANZARA INTERPRETIVE NATURE CENTER FALL PROGRAMS

## ANNUAL BUCKTHORN FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 22, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Bring your work gloves and trimmers and help us with our continued effort to remove buckthorn and other invasive species in Sunfish Lake Park. Afterwards, we will provide a lunch of hot dogs, music and other fun activities. This is a family friendly event for all ages.



## FAMILY NATURE EXPLORATION

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.  
\$5/family, register online or drop in

**October 1 - Bird Migration**  
with Ecologist Mary Frick

**October 15 - Fall Photography Hike**  
with Master Naturalist Christa Rittberg

**November 5 - Cryogenics**  
with 3M Wizard Jeff Payne

**November 19 - Getting Ready for Winter**  
with Ecologist Mary Frick

**December 3 - Air & Vacuum**  
with 3M Wizard Jeff Payne

**December 17 - Winter Scavenger Hunt**  
Check in for supplies, self-guided



## ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

\$10/person, register online or drop in if not filled  
Monthly presentations and workshops offered on topics related to nature, research, and science. Reserve a spot by registering online or drop ins available if our website shows there are still openings.

**October 20, 7:00 p.m. Nature Photography**  
with former journalist Sue Steinwall



**November 17, 7:00 p.m. Loggers' Tales**  
with retired Minnesota State Park Naturalist Dave Crawford



**December 8, 7:00 p.m. Preserving Ice in the Environment**  
with retired 3M Chemist Tony Manzara

## INTERPRETIVE DROP-IN EVENTS

2nd & 4th Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.  
**FREE**, drop-in education activities in the building, for all ages

**October 8 - Monarch Migration**

**October 22 - Buckthorn Festival**

**October 29 - Prairie**

**November 12 - Agates**

**November 26 - Turkeys**

**December 10 - Bees**



CHECK OUR PROGRAM SCHEDULE & REGISTER FOR FEE BASED EVENTS AT:  
[SMINC-LAKE-ELMO.ORG/EVENT-DESCRIPTIONS/](http://SMINC-LAKE-ELMO.ORG/EVENT-DESCRIPTIONS/)

Located at Sunfish Lake Park. Sunfish Lake Park is open from sunrise to sunset.

## The City of Lake Elmo is Seeking Applicants for Multiple Committees

The City of Lake Elmo is seeking interested residents to serve on two committees:

- EDA
- Planning Commission
- Parks Commission





[More Information Available Here](#)

## Public Facilities Project Update



**Demolition of the old roof has been completed and at least 90% of the roof has at least a temporary covering. Interior floor of the Fire Department addition is almost ready for the concrete slab to be poured. Work continues on the interior of the old building and the new main entrance.**

**The addition to the Public Works building is also underway with completion of**



the foundation and some of the concrete block wall.

Additional information is available on the City's [City Center](#)



## CITY OF LAKE ELMO COMBINED CITY HALL & PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

The new Lake Elmo City Hall / Public Safety Facility combines City Hall staff and functions, the entire Fire Department, and a satellite office for the Washington County Sheriff's department. This co-location involves renovating and expanding the City-owned Brookfield Office building to concentrate civic resources into a single structure at the historic core of the city. In addition, the Public Works facility will also be expanded to accommodate City growth and expanded service needs.



**TOTAL ANTICIPATED PROJECT COST:** \$14,600,000  
**DESIGN COMPLETION:** Late summer 2021  
**CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION:** Fall of 2022



City of Lake Elmo | 3800 Laverne Avenue North, Lake Elmo, MN 55042

[Unsubscribe](mailto:unsubscribe@lakeelmo.org) [jjohnson@lakeelmo.org](mailto:jjohnson@lakeelmo.org)

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