



fresh

Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

City Offices will be **closed Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th** for the Christmas holiday. There are no public meetings next week.



[Visit our website](#)

[Join us on Nextdoor](#)



Get out and enjoy the freshly groomed trails!

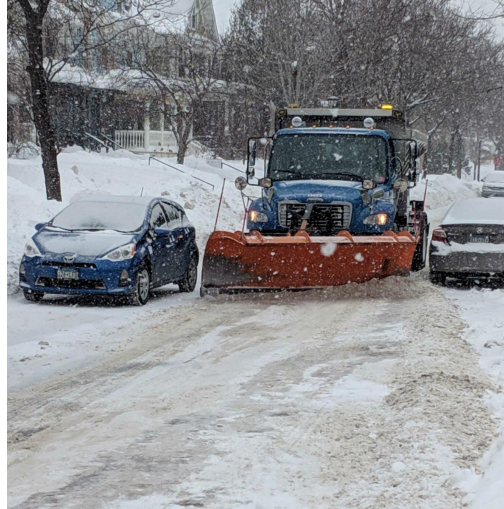
Public Works staff has recently groomed all multiuse trails within the Sunfish Lake, Reid, Pebble and Demontreville Wildlife Park.

Sunfish Lake Park is the largest park in the city and offers 248 acres of nature and fresh white snow. Walk/run/bike or ski the 5.5 miles of groomed trails within the park. Gates to the park open at 7 a.m. and close at 9 p.m.

Winter Parking

Please remember that the City of

Lake Elmo has a winter parking ordinance that **prohibits parking on city streets from November 1st through March 31st between 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.** This gives crews a window of time for clearing streets curb to curb more efficiently. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!



Report Streetlight Outage

Xcel Energy maintains streetlights on public streets in Lake Elmo. If you notice a streetlight that is burned out or malfunctioning, please use the link below to report the issue. It's helpful to note the location with nearest cross streets and the pole number if you are on foot and able to make note of it.

[Click Here to Report Streetlight Outage](#)

MPCA Utilizing New Technology to Clean Water in Lake Elmo

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has placed equipment at Tablyn Park that utilizes a new technology to remove contamination from groundwater. Click below to view a KSTP news story that aired this week featuring an interview with Councilmember Jeff Holtz.

[KSTP Story](#)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2022

[Hannah Sabroski](#), 651-757-2178

MPCA brings cutting-edge technology to Minnesota to remove PFAS from water

Minnesota is the first state government in U.S. to use this combination of innovative technologies to address "forever chemicals"

(St. Paul, MN) – The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) today announced the purchase of new state-of-the-art emerging technology to remove and destroy bulk concentrations of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from contaminated water in the environment. This fall, the state will deploy the technology in the East Metro as part of the ongoing work to address PFAS contamination affecting the drinking water for roughly 174,000 residents. The system is paid for with funds from the 3M settlement.

The process works in two parts. The first technology, surface activated foam fractionation (SAFF), injects outdoor air into contaminated water, turning PFAS into foam that can be separated from the water. The foam is then removed, PFAS levels are significantly reduced, and the water is returned to the environment — both cleaner and safer. The PFAS concentrate then goes to the DEFLUORO unit, a second technology where the carbon-fluorine bonds (the backbone of PFAS chemicals) are broken through electrochemical oxidation. Both technologies are mobile and work without adding any chemicals back into the surface or groundwater.

"This pilot project marks the beginning of a new era for PFAS clean-up in Minnesota," said MPCA Commissioner Katrina Kessler. "This study will help us address PFAS contamination at the source and develop long-term solutions for cleaner water — ensuring safe drinking water for Minnesotans. We hope to eventually employ this technology around the state including in Greater Minnesota, where PFAS is a growing concern."

With fewer than 20 systems in existence, the SAFF technology is in high demand across the globe for its innovative ability to separate PFAS from water safely and quickly. Minnesota is the first state government in the country to purchase and implement it. The SAFF unit will deploy at Tablyn Park in Lake Elmo for the first round of testing on groundwater and surface water. It will likely move to other testing locations over the next one to two years. The DEFLUORO unit will be staged at the former Washington County landfill location.

Australian-based OPEC Systems, Ltd. designed the SAFF technology. U.S.-based AECOM designed the DEFLUORO unit. The SAFF unit is in route to Minnesota from Australia and is scheduled to arrive next month.

State agencies are working with city and county representatives to ensure safe handling practices under applicable regulations. None of the water used in this temporary test is connected to the city's drinking water, which remains safe and well within Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) drinking water guidelines for PFAS impacts.

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!](#)



is closed and under construction. All City Services are available at City Hall, 3800 Laverne Avenue

Please drive slowly and watch for construction activity

The Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center is open every day
Visit <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/> for details.
(Please note that we will be closed 12/24, 12/25, 12/31, and 1/1)



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!

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

- **Our winter programs** will be starting soon. Visit <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/event-descriptions/> for more information.
- **Weekly Tai Chi on Wednesdays** from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Tai Chi will be meeting in the upper mezzanine level. Learn to improve your balance and coordination with this low-impact exercise program. Free coffee, hot chocolate or tea and camaraderie afterwards. Email Paul at pryberg@gmail.com for more information. No need to register, just come.
- **Snowshoeing** - have you ever tried snowshoeing? The snow is deep so bring your own or borrow a pair of snowshoes from us. We have two adult pairs, and several children sets. See the receptionist for more information.





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.



Public Facilities Project Update



Garage doors for the fire department apparatus bays arrived this week and crews began installing them. Progress was also made on window installation and interior work on the main building.

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

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