



fresh

Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

Public Meetings Next Week:

- Planning Commission Monday, July 22nd, 6:30 p.m.

[Join us on Nextdoor](#)

[Visit our website](#)





NOTICE OF MEETING

The City of Lake Elmo
Planning Commission will conduct a meeting on
Monday July 22nd, 2024
at 6:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve Minutes of June 10th, 2024
4. Public Hearing
 - a) **Highpointe Crossing Preliminary Plat and Open Space PUD.** Rachel Development has submitted a preliminary plat and planned unit development applications for a 65-unit single family open space subdivision located at 2298 Inwood Ave (PID 21.029.21.32.0001).
 - b) **Zoning Text Amendment.** The City has initiated a zoning text amendment to City Code Section 105.12.430 *Sign Regulations* to update regulations, create signage subdistricts, and correct conflicting or outdated references.
5. New/Unfinished Business
 - a) **Old Village Vision Study.** Bolton and Menk will provide an update on the progress of the Old Village Vision community engagement and timeline.
6. Communications/Updates
 - a) GreenStep Cities - Step 5 Award
 - b) National Night to Unite - August 6th, 2024
 - c) City Council Updates 7/2/2024
 - i. 8286 Hidden Bay Ct Variance - Approved
 - d) Upcoming Meetings
 - i. August 12th 2024
 - ii. August 26th 2024


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



Please join us for an informational session with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Minnesota Dept. of Health, and the City of Lake Elmo, regarding PFAS, safe drinking water, and private wells.

PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 25
6:00 PM
OAK-LAND
MIDDLE SCHOOL
820 MANNING AVE N.

The background of the lower section features a light blue background with scattered red, white, and blue stars. At the bottom, there is a graphic of a red, white, and blue striped ribbon.

**City of Lake Elmo candidate
filing will be open July 30 -
August 13, 2024 for the
following offices:**

Mayor - 4 year term
Councilmember (2 seats) - 4 year term
Councilmember - 2 year term

More information on candidate filings, including links to filing forms, is available on the City's website: [Elections](#)

IRRIGATION REMINDERS

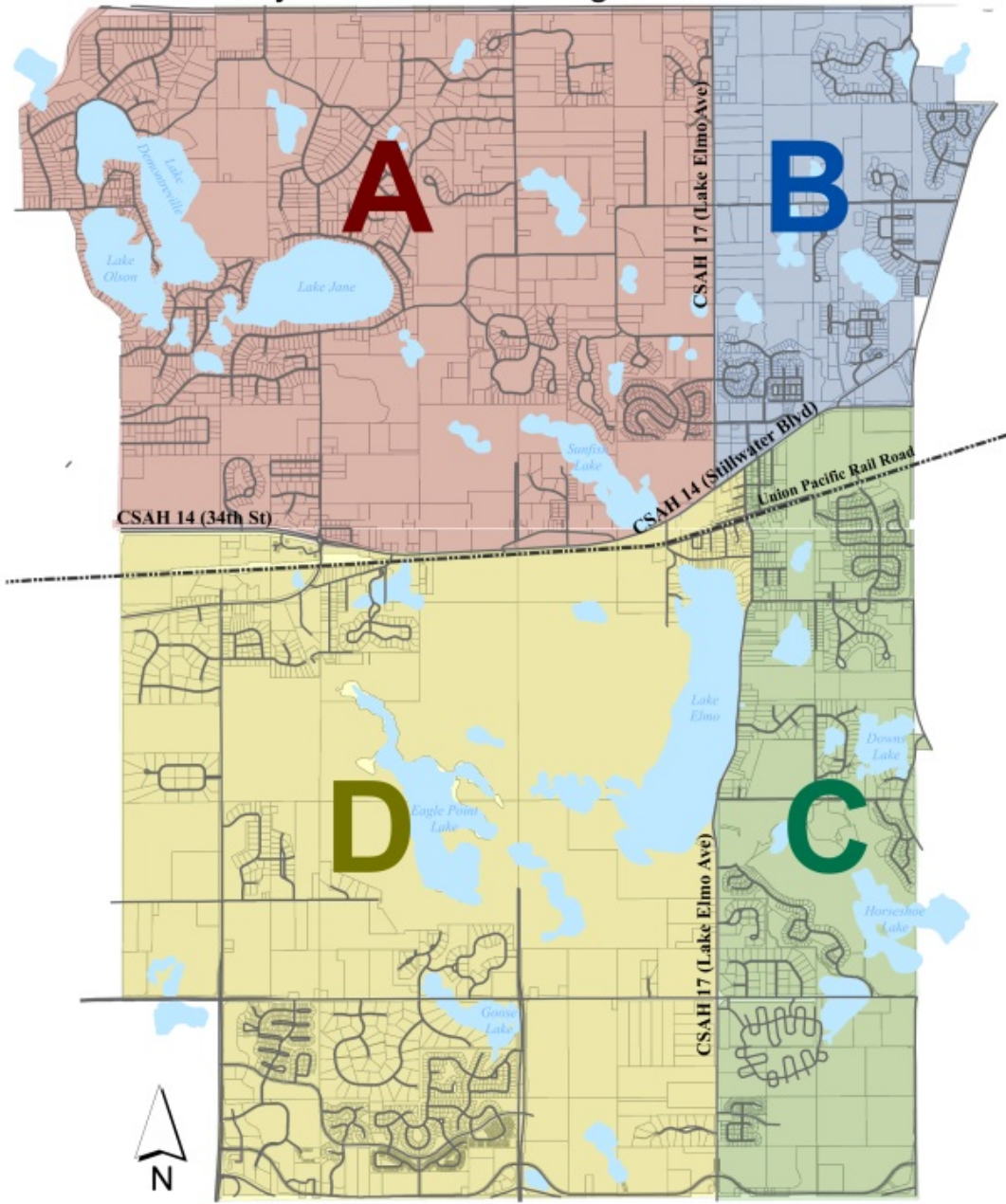
As we head into the irrigation season, please remember the city ordinance allows properties connected to the city water system to irrigate 2 days per week (according to the city irrigation zone map). Irrigation is restricted from the hours of 5am-5pm. Hand watering is allowed at any time and new sod waivers are available if needed.

You can further reduce your water usage by using a smart irrigation controller device. For more information on how to obtain a smart controller or more information on watering restrictions, please visit the city website. [Irrigation](#).

Irrigation enforcement has begun.

Thank you for doing your part to insure we all have sufficient drinking water and fire protection!

City of Lake Elmo Irrigation Zones



- | | |
|--|---|
|  Zone A - Monday & Friday |  Zone B - Tuesday & Friday |
|  Zone D - Thursday & Sunday |  Zone C - Wednesday & Saturday |



City of Lake Elmo

NIGHT OUT

FIRST TUESDAY OF AUG.
6-8PM, LION'S PARK



HUDSON BLVD CONSTRUCTION

A portion of Hudson Boulevard (east of Eagle Point Boulevard) will be reduced to one total lane of traffic starting early the week of July 8, 2024. The work is being done to improve this section of Hudson Boulevard and install a bituminous trail as a part of the Amira development adjacent to the site which is under construction. Please refer to the map above.

Traffic will remain open in both directions but will be controlled by a portable traffic signal system. The signal system will operate 24 hours a day and will alternate traffic moving east or west on a timer. The work is expected to last 45-days (weather dependent). It is recommended you consider alternative routes to avoid potential delays associated with this work if you are able.

Private Wells and PFAS



If you have questions about your private well water quality, please reach out to the MPCA.

- You can request your well be tested here: <https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/gw-sampling-req/>

- PFAS well sampling FAQs: [PFAS Well Sampling Frequently Asked Questions \(state.mn.us\)](#)
- Water filtration FAQs: [PFAS Water Filtration Frequently Asked Questions \(state.mn.us\)](#)
- MDH website about PFAS filtration [PFAS and Home Treatment of Water - MN Dept. of Health \(state.mn.us\)](#)
- Private well sampling interactive map: [Private Well Sampling in the East Metro Area \(arcgis.com\)](#)
- If you have questions about private well testing in the East Metro, call 651-757-2903, or email east_metro_pfas_private_well_sampling_inquiries.mpca@state.mn.us
- Information about PFAS from the department of health can be found [Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\) - MN Dept. of Health \(state.mn.us\)](#)
- MPCA blueprint for Minnesota and PFAS. [Minnesota's PFAS Blueprint | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency \(state.mn.us\)](#)
- Good information to reduce your exposure to PFAS can be found Reducing Exposures: [Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\)-MN Dept. of Health](#) and [PFAS - SixClasses.org](#)

Please visit the City of Lake Elmo's water resources webpage to learn more at lakeelmo.gov/residents/index.php

If you know someone who has concerns about their water, please forward this newsletter to them and encourage them to sign up for the FRESH [HERE](#)



LAKE ELMO FARMER'S MARKET

Market runs 9am to 1 pm on Saturdays.

- Market will be open rain or shine unless inclement weather of high winds or lightning.
- Staff will be present on all Market days at 7:30 to 1pm. Any concerns or questions please seek staff out. We will be in center of Market.
- We will be selling our Lake Elmo Farmer's Market Cook Book that has Hand written recipes from vendors and visitors.

We would like to thank the community for your support of the first ten years of our Market. As a reminder the Market is an entirely volunteer 501 C3 organization and we are presently seeking a Facebook/media board member to keep communications ongoing.

We are also looking for additional volunteers, to ensure the continual success of the Market well into the future. Thank you for your consideration.

For the Market to continue into the future we need volunteers.

Please give us a call at 651-261-4493.

Business and Community Working Together/ Lake Elmo Farmer's Market is a 501c3



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

Traffic impacts

I-94 Oakdale to Lakeland project area map: [View full-size map](#)

All traffic impacts are tentative and weather-dependent.

Current

Lane closures

Through October

- I-94 is reduced to two lanes in both directions between Century Ave. and Woodbury Dr.

Ramp closures

Through October

- The ramp from Tamarack Rd. to SB I-494 is closed
 - Detour: [Tamarack Rd., Weir Dr., Valley Creek Rd. and SB I-494 \(PNG\)](#)
- The ramp from NB I-494 to Tamarack Rd. is closed
 - Detour: [Valley Creek Rd., Bielenberg Dr. and Tamarack Rd. \(PNG\)](#)
- The ramp from 10th St. N. to NB I-694 is closed
 - Detour: [10th St. N., Inwood Ave. N., Stillwater Blvd., Ideal Ave. N., 34th St. N. and NB I-694 \(PNG\)](#)
- The ramp from Century Ave. to EB I-94 is closed
 - Detour: [Century Ave., Hudson Rd., McKnight Rd., Burns Ave. and EB I-94 \(PNG\)](#)
 -

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 - Detour: [10th St. N., Inwood Ave. N., Stillwater Blvd., Ideal Ave. N., 34th St. N. and NB I-694 \(PNG\)](#)
- The ramp from Century Ave. to EB I-94 is closed
 - Detour: [Century Ave., Hudson Rd., McKnight Rd., Burns Ave. and EB I-94 \(PNG\)](#)

Traffic stops

Thu, June 27 through mid-August; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, Monday through Saturday

- Hudson Rd. S. traffic will be stopped intermittently for 5-10 minutes at a time between Manning Ave./Hwy 95 South and St. Croix Trail

Upcoming

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

Lane closures

7 p.m. Mon, July 8 through 5 a.m. Tue, July 9

- WB I-94 is reduced to one lane between Woodbury Dr. and Century Ave.

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](#).



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](#)

Attention – NEW Utility Billing Payment Portal

We have moved to an intuitive new Utility Billing Portal called Paya. Grab your City of Lake Elmo utility account number and proceed to Paya at the link below to register, manage your account, set up autopay, or make payments.

<https://lakeelmo.payacp.com/home>

If you need assistance, reach out to us at RNess@LakeElmo.org or call 651-747-3906.

Note: The former platform, PSN, will be deactivated prior to the next bills in July 2024. Make the change now to avoid late payments and penalties.

A huge thank you to all the Volunteers from River Valley Church (Woodbury) who helped spread mulch in Firefly Park last weekend. Thank you for your help and support of our parks!



Pebble Park Upgrades are Underway!

Out with the old! The Public works department had began removal of the old playground set at Pebble Park. Construction of a new playground set will begin in September, which will consist of a new tower structure and slides. Over the next several weeks PW staff will be preparing the site for construction. Please



stay clear of the site during construction.

UMN EXTENSION WASHINGTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



Garden Tour

July 20 | 9-4 | 7 gardens
Oakdale, Lake Elmo, Stillwater, White Bear Lake
Tix: \$15 in advance, \$20 that day
order: z.umn.edu/WCMGTour
more info at: washingtoncountymg.org

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!

July is really busy! Here are some things happening at the SMINC:

- Our next buckthorn removal day is coming up on Saturday, July 13th! Work starts at 9:30 and goes till noon. We have loppers and gloves, bring your energy. Free fresh air and exercise. The first phase of the Restoration of Sunfish Lake Park project has done the initial clearing of 40 acres of buckthorn, replanted oaks, and native grasses, and forbs. For more details <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/buckthorn/>
- The SMINC's good friend, Angie Hong, has a book coming out on July 9th. One of her first book events will be at Sunfish Lake Park on July 13th (busy day!) at 10 a.m. It'll start with a guided hike, followed by a Q & A and book signing. To register, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/908406477227?aff=oddtcreator>



- Thursday, July 18 at 7 p.m. dragonfly expert Jeff Fischer will be here to talk about dragon and damselflies. He'll have tips for beginners for identifying these beautiful creatures!
- Summer is here! We had our first summer camp this week, a Little Explorers camp for pre-K kiddos and their families. Our first Wonder Wednesday camp, "Earth's

Elementals," is coming up on June 26, from 9 a.m. to 2. We've got lots of other options for camps, from single-day camps to 4-day camps, for age ranges from pre-K to 10 year olds. Check out our summer camp offerings here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/sminc-summer-camps-3007279?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center

SUMMER CAMPS 2024



Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center is located next to Sunfish Lake Park in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. The park offers 284 acres of natural area and over 8 miles of trails through forest, wetlands, and prairie.

GET YOUR KIDS OUTDOORS EXPLORING NATURE THIS SUMMER!

Little Explorers

Mondays from 9:30am-11:00am (Newborns to 5-year-olds)
Where families can come together and give the little ones their first experiences in nature. The first hour is structured activity based on the day's theme. The last 30 minutes we encourage open play, to give families an opportunity to explore on their own. **Adults must stay with their children at all times.**

Camp Out – June 10
Flower Power – June 24
Into the Woods – July 1
Pollinators – July 15
Bird Mania – July 29
Bugs! – August 12

Sunfish Explorers

Monday - Thursday from 9am-12 noon
Our four-day camps will encourage and educate the youth of tomorrow about the beauty and importance of a healthy outdoors. Activities include hikes, crafts, games and of course a little education about the outdoors!

Outdoor Adventures - June 17-20
Bees & Butterflies – July 8-11
Birds! - July 22-25
Bugs! – August 5-8
Nature's Kaleidoscope– Aug. 19-22

Wonder Wednesdays

Wednesdays from 9am-2pm
Our one-day, fun-filled, Wonder Wednesdays let kids explore the beautiful outdoor setting and learn about their surrounding environment. It is run by experienced instructors and the days include interpretive education, games, crafts to bring home, free play and hikes.

Earth Elements – June 26
Nature Appreciation – July 17
Nature Theater & Puppetry– Aug. 1
Prairie Explorers – August 14

Camp information and registration: <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/summer-camp-registration/>
For more information email camps@sminc-lake-elmo.org



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



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



What are Stormwater Ponds?

Is there a pond in your HOA community? Chances are it was built to help manage stormwater instead of being naturally occurring. **Stormwater ponds are large constructed basins designed collect, store, and treat large amounts of stormwater runoff.** They help to reduce downstream flooding and remove pollutants by capturing and slowly releasing water. **There are two types: wet and dry.**

Function of Wet Ponds

Wet ponds have a permanent pool of water and are typically surrounded by vegetative buffers to help collect pollutants. There is often a visible outflow structure in the pond, called a riser. In most wet ponds:

- Runoff flows into the pond through an inlet.
- A smaller pool, called a forebay, slows the runoff and lets sediment and other pollutants to settle to the bottom.
- Water then flows to a second pool, the primary pool, for additional settling.
- If the water level exceeds the outlet elevation, like after heavy rainfall, the outlet structure slowly releases it.
- During extreme rain events, water may flow over the highest part of the pond, called the emergency spillway or overflow.



Function of Dry Ponds

Dry ponds are a large grassy basin, sometimes with rock, other vegetation, and an outflow structure that are dry except for after storms. In most dry ponds:

- Runoff flows into the pond.
- The basin slows the incoming water and allows sediment and other pollutants to settle out.
- The water infiltrates into the ground to replenish groundwater or is released slowly through an underdrain or outlet structure to nearby waterways within a few days.

SCHOOL SUPPLY SWAP

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7
4 - 6 P.M.

ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER
WOODBURY



DONATIONS NEEDED!

Washington County is collecting gently used school supplies for a school supply swap in August. Donate gently used items at the Environmental Center, Washington County Libraries, and Public Health & Environment office locations through August 2.



Scan to find a donation site!
WashCoRecycles.com/Reuse

ACCEPTED ITEMS

Donations should be gently used items that students would normally discard at the end of the school year.

- Pencils/pens/markers/crayons
- Notebooks
- Lined or graphing paper
- Calculators (working)
- Rulers/protractors/compasses
- Scissors
- Erasers
- Glue sticks
- Watercolor paints
- Pencil cases
- Pencil sharpeners
- Backpacks (working zippers, no rips/tears/stains)
- 3-ring binders (1-inch only)
- Pocket folders

WashCoRecycles.com/Reuse
651-275-7475

Washington
County

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 US

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