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Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

Public Meetings Next Week

- Planning Commission Meeting Monday
December 28 - Cancelled

[City Agendas and Minutes](#)

*Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the State of Emergency the City will be conducting the City Council meeting and public hearings telephonically or by other means. The City Council Chambers will not be open to the public. The City will be broadcasting the meeting via our normal link on the City website.



Visit our website



City Offices Closed to the Public

City Offices will be closed to the public starting November 16th in order to reduce the risk of the Coronavirus. Staff will still be available by phone or email. A full list of staff contacts is available [here](#).

[Meeting materials can be accessed here.](#)

December 28 Planning Commission Meeting Cancelled



*Our Mission is to Provide Quality Public
Services in a Fiscally Responsible Manner
While Preserving the City's Open Space
Character*

NOTICE OF MEETING CANCELATION

**City of Lake Elmo Planning Commission
3800 Laverne Avenue North**

**Monday December 28, 2020
Meeting has been cancelled**

[Meeting Materials May Be Accessed Here](#)



City Offices Closed for the Holidays

City Offices will be closed Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Temporary Rate Discount for Small and Mid Sized Businesses from Xcel Energy

If your business has experienced a material impact from the pandemic, along with an electric load decrease of 25% or more in electric demand as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic or civil unrest, you may be eligible for a temporary 25% discount on base energy and demand charges.

[Information Available Here](#)

Winter Parking Ordinance Now In Effect

The Winter parking ordinance prohibits parking on Lake Elmo Streets from November 1 through March 31 between 2:00AM and 7:00AM. Public



Works cannot clear roadways with cars blocking the path.



Water Updates

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency announced that several metro water bodies have new protective water and fish consumption values for PFOS. The target waters include Lake Elmo, Raleigh Creek, Eagle Point Lake, Horseshoe Lake and Tartan Pond. Because of the Values of PFOS found in fish in these waters, the Minnesota Department of Health is extending "do not eat" fish consumption advice to these bodies of water. More information can be found [here](#).

Fish Consumption Advisory CATCH & RELEASE FISHING

Do not eat fish from Raleigh Creek and all bodies of water in Lake Elmo Park Reserve.

Based on updated testing, MN Department of Health (MDH) has issued a fish consumption advisory for these waters due to high levels of Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS).

Swimming and wading are NOT affected:

- MDH has determined that exposure to PFAS through swimming or wading is not a concern, though people and pets should avoid contact with visible foam on surface waters in this area.
- If you or your pets come into contact with foam, wash thoroughly with soap and water.
- If you were following previous MDH guidelines for eating fish from Lake Elmo or nearby water bodies, your risk of health effects from PFAS would be minimal.

Questions?

MN Department of Health (800) 657-3908
DNR Area Fisheries Office (651) 259-5831



Department of Natural Resources
Department of Health



3M East Metro Settlement Updates



Well sampling in the east metro area

If you live in the area that is a priority for testing, you can request that your private well water be tested.

- To see if you live in the priority sampling area, use the [interactive map](#).
- If you live in the priority sampling area, you can request to have your well tested by filling out and [submitting this online form](#).

More information about the priority testing area is available on the Well sampling in the [East Metro Area webpage](#).

Water Conservation Rebate Program

The City of Lake Elmo, in partnership with the Metropolitan Council, is offering a rebate program for purchases of eligible WaterSense toilets and Smart Irrigation Controllers. Qualifying



purchases are eligible for up to a \$200 credit on your water bill.

[Program Details Available Here](#)



Washington County Library branches are open for express service.

Washington
County
LIBRARY

- Pick up holds • Browse materials
- Use computers for 1 hour or less
- Schedule curbside pickup



Washington County Library branches are currently open for Express Service. Visit the library during reduced hours to browse materials, pick up holds, and use a computer for up to one hour.

Curbside service is also available for community members who cannot enter our buildings.

To limit personal contact and follow social distancing guidelines, meeting rooms are currently closed and seating within the library has been removed. Learn how we're keeping the library safe for everyone at WashCoLib.org/COVID19.



This year, Lake Elmo's annual gingerbread-house building party is moving to your house! Our take-home kits include all the supplies you need to craft a mini-village of four gingerbread houses, plus plates for display and some extra goodies to decorate your creations or munch on while you work. This event is sponsored by the



Washington County Library now has mobile hotspots and Chromebooks available to check out. Get internet at home or on the go (for free!). Devices can be checked out for one month at a time, and can be renewed three times if there are no other holds. You only need a library card registered in Washington County to borrow a device. More information is available at WashCoLib.org/devices.

Friends of the Lake Elmo Library.

Registration is required. Kits will be available to pick up at Lake Elmo Library beginning Tuesday, December 8. Please register online at WashCoLib.org/Events

Practice Smart Salting This Winter to Protect our Water

1. Shovel first
2. Use less - 12oz of salt melts 10 sidewalk squares, or a 20ft driveway
3. Don't use salt when it's below 15 degrees
4. Sweep up and reuse leftovers
5. Drive slow and wear boots!

PROTECT OUR WATER FROM SALT POLLUTION

WEAR BOOTS

When it is snowy and icy, wear boots or shoes with good traction to avoid falling.

Consider buying Yaktrax or winter cleats.



The City of Lake Elmo is accepting applications for multiple positions:

- Finance Director
- Building Official
- Paid-on-Call Firefighters

Job postings and application materials can be found [here](#).



Guided Bird Hikes Continue January 16

A rotating schedule of bird hikes throughout Washing County Parks will continue with a hike 9a.m. to 10:30am.a Saturday, January 16 at Lake Elmo Park Reserve.

[More Information Available Here](#)

Public Facilities Project Update

At the December 15th meeting the City Council approved agreements with Leo A Daly and H+U Construction for the design and construction of a colocated City Hall and Fire Station, as well as an addition to the Public Works facility. As progress is made we will be sending out frequent updates to residents using our website, social media, and newsletters.

