

ARDEN HILLS

notes

The Official City Newsletter for Arden Hills Residents

November 2023

2023 North Suburban Holiday Lights Map

New Brighton, Roseville, Columbia Heights, Mounds View, and Arden Hills

Looking for a fun family activity this holiday season? Participate in the annual Holiday Lights Competition! Sign up by Monday, December 4, and finish decorating by December 8. This Holiday Lights Competition is a collaboration between the cities of Arden Hills, New Brighton, Mounds View, Roseville, and Columbia Heights.

Sign up at <https://forms.gle/pzxEemGonR2v8Cv1A> or scan the code to the right using your mobile device.

Don't want to compete? Take a drive around and check out the neighborhood displays! A downloadable map will become available on the City's website in mid-December. Take the tour and vote on your favorite displays. Prizes will be awarded to the top contenders and new for this year; anyone who votes will be entered in a drawing to win prizes as well!

For more information, visit cityofardenhills.org/1034.



Scan code to sign up!

Holiday Lights Recycling

Recycle holiday lights by dropping them off at the City's collection bin in the lobby at City Hall. You can drop lights from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Holiday lights will be accepted from December 4 to January 26. Lights will not be accepted when City Hall is closed for holidays. Please remember to drop only lights in the collection bin. Bags, containers, and other storage devices used for the lights are not accepted. For more information about recycling other hazardous materials and objects, visit ramseyrecycles.com/hhw.



Holiday Season City Hall Closures

City Hall will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24, during the Thanksgiving holiday. City Hall will also be closed on Monday, December 25, in observance of the Christmas holiday, as well as New Year's Day on Monday, January 1, 2024.

Snow Plow Information

Winter is coming, and the Public Works team is already preparing the plows! Plowing will occur whenever the City gets at least two inches of snow accumulation. Plows will get as close to mailboxes as possible, but residents must clean in front of and around mailboxes and fire hydrants for access. Please ensure trash and recycle cans are placed behind the curb, as this allows operators to plow the entire roadway. Only park vehicles on the streets after they have been plowed. As a reminder, parking is not permitted on any City street between 2-6 a.m. year-round.



The Public Works team members that plow our streets all season long. We thank them for their commitment to keeping our streets clean and safe each winter!



Service Directory

City Hall

1245 West Highway 96
Arden Hills, MN 55112
cityofardenhills.org
651-792-7800

Office Hours

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Sheriff and Fire

911 - Emergency & Non-Emergency

Water and Sewer Problems
(During non-business hours)
651-767-0640

Mayor

David Grant • 651-538-0747
dgrant@cityofardenhills.org

City Councilmembers

Brenda Holden • 651-636-2987
bholden@cityofardenhills.org

Emily Rousseau • 651-792-7856
rousseau@cityofardenhills.org

Tena Monson • 612-758-0695
tmonson@cityofardenhills.org

Thomas Fabel • 651-303-3611
tfabel@cityofardenhills.org

City Administrator

Dave Perrault • 651-792-7824
dperrault@cityofardenhills.org

Sr. Communications Coordinator

Luke Cardona • 651-792-7817
lcardona@cityofardenhills.org

City Council Liaison

Thomas Fabel

Resident Resources

cityofardenhills.org/resident-resources

Council meetings are held at City Hall on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7 p.m.. Council meetings, Work Sessions, and Planning Commission meetings are televised live on Cable Channel 16. Please visit cityofardenhills.org for information about archived meeting playbacks.

Arden Hills Notes is the official newsletter of the City of Arden Hills, an equal-opportunity employer.

City News

Truth in Taxation Hearing Scheduled for December 11

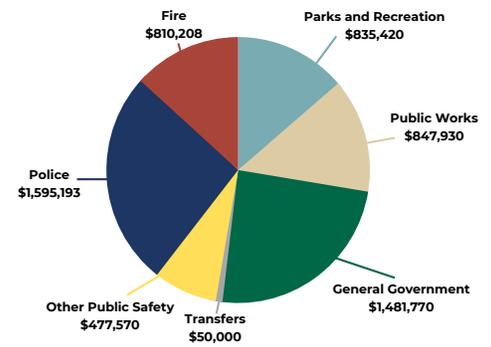
The City will hold a Truth-in-Taxation Hearing on Monday, December 11, at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The 2024 General Fund expenditure budget is proposed at \$6,098,091. The preliminary tax levy increase is set at 12.55%, which equates to a maximum tax levy of \$5,310,950.

This amount may be lowered before the end of the year, but may not be increased.

The proposed levy increase goes to support the following:

- General inflation
- Increased cost for typical City operations, such as street maintenance and election services
- Increased Public Safety costs:
 - Increased charges for policing services from the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office
 - Increased costs for fire protection from the Lake Johanna Fire Department
- Increases for employee costs, such as wage and cost of living adjustments, health insurance costs, and other benefits

General Fund Expenditure (\$6,068,091)



Based on the preliminary values, the City's share of property taxes would increase by approximately \$100 annually on a median-valued home, which is projected to be valued at \$469,000 in 2024.

State of the City to be held on Saturday, February 10

Join Arden Hills City Council and Staff on Saturday, February 10 for the 2024 State of the City meeting. The exact location and start time are yet to be determined.

The State of the City Address is an opportunity for the City Council to present goals and projects from the past year. Topics to be covered include development projects, road and construction improvements, Rice Creek Commons (TCAAP), plans for parks and trails, public works responsibilities, and the City's financial outlook.

Stay tuned to the City's website for updates.

Rice Creek Commons (TCAAP) Updates

On November 1, a community open house was held for interested community members to learn more about the current project and provide a recap of the overall vision for the redevelopment site. Brief presentations were given at the top of the hour, and JDA Representatives, City Staff, County Staff, the developer, and consultants manned informational stations set up with visuals and related materials for attendees to explore, and learn and ask questions about the different components of Rice Creek Commons.

Up-to-date information regarding the Rice Creek Commons (TCAAP) project can be found at ricecreekcommons.com.

City Council Benchmarks

All votes 5-0 unless otherwise noted.

October 9, 2023 City Council Meeting

- Acknowledged the Application of Catholic United Financial for an Exempt Permit to Conduct a Raffle with the Drawing being 3-7-24 with No Waiting Period
- Approved Agreement for Civil Legal Services with Campbell Knutson
- Approved Ideal Services, Inc., Invoice for Booster Station Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) Replacements (\$14,918)
- Approved Services Agreement with GoodPointe Technology, LLC for Pavement Condition

Data Collection (not to exceed \$12,000)

- Approved Estoppel Certificate on Stormwater Facilities Operation and Maintenance Agreement for Scannell Properties #486, LLC – 4200 Round Lake Rd
- Approved Appointment of New Public Works Maintenance Employee

October 23, 2023 City Council Meeting

- Approved Resolution 2023-050 Establishing the 2024 Curbside and Non-Curbside Recycling Fees one (\$60 annually for curbside residential recycling)
- Approved Recycling Contract

Extension with Republic Services

- Approved Olson Engineering Proposal for Geophysical Subsurface Investigation at 3245 New Brighton Road – Hazelnut Parking Lot Project (\$12,852)
- Tabled Resolution 2023-051 Designating City-Owned Property as Triangle Park for further consideration by the PTRC
- Approved Resolution 2023-052 – Planning Case 23-017 for a Conditional Use Permit for a home-based tax business located at 4504 Hamline Avenue North

For a complete listing of recent City Council actions, visit cityofardenhills.org and click on "View Agendas and Minutes."

Food Donations Accepted at City Hall



City Hall is now accepting food donations to support those in need. Donations can be dropped off Monday-Friday during City Hall operating hours. A specially marked bin is located in the lobby of City Hall. City staff will deliver donated food to the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf in Mounds View.

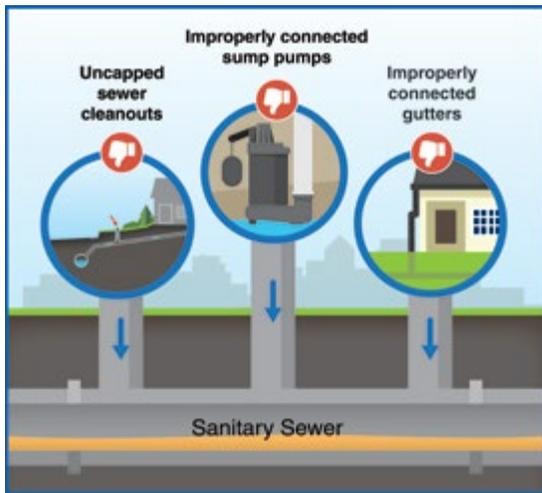
Your contributions can help feed local families and individuals facing challenging times. Thank you for helping to make a positive impact on our community! Learn more at ralphreederfoodshelf.org.

Most Wanted List

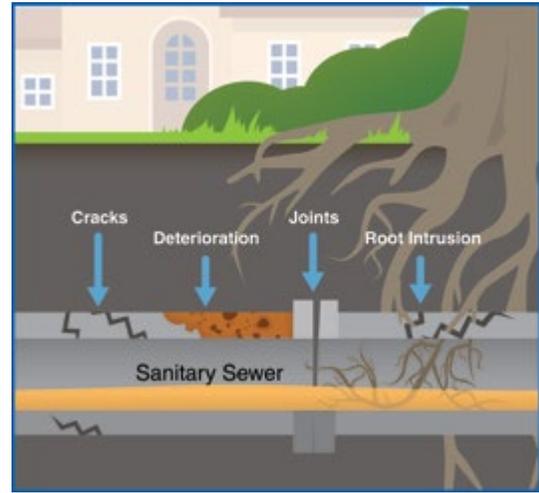


Inflow and Infiltration – What you need to know and what you can do

Inflow and infiltration (I/I) is clear water – such as groundwater and surface water - that enters the wastewater system from sources such as defective sewer service laterals, poor pipe connections, sump pumps, gutters/downspouts, building drains, and aged or broken sewer main and maintenance hole covers. When clear water enters the wastewater system it needs to be treated at a wastewater treatment plant. During rain events, I/I adds significant amounts of clear water to the wastewater system that it was not intended to accommodate or treat.



Inflow



Infiltration

The clear water in the sewer system reduces the capacity of City sewer pipes, regional interceptors, and treatment facilities. In the end, this requires additional funding to enlarge existing facilities or construct new facilities at the local and regional level. Reducing I/I will lessen future costs for additional infrastructure and keep utility rates and fees at some of the lowest rates in the nation.

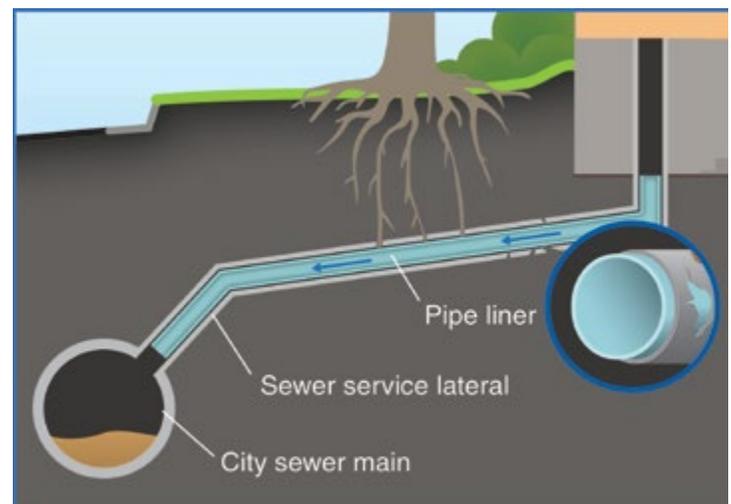
Excessive I/I in the wastewater system can impact your health and decrease the value of your property. A wastewater system that is over capacity due to I/I can lead to sewage backups into basements and sewage overflows into lakes, streams, wetlands or other environmentally sensitive areas. Additionally, the resale value of a property can be reduced if problems exist.

Property owners can reduce I/I to the sewer system by:

- Properly connecting sump pumps and gutters/downspouts
- Having a plumber inspect the sewer service lateral from your building to the City sewer main for cracks, deterioration, or tree root intrusions
- Making repairs to your sewer service lateral

In 2024, the City is planning a Cured in-Place Pipe (CIPP) lining project within the Arden View Drive neighborhood. Through the Public Works' sanitary sewer maintenance program, inspections identified the proposed segments of sewer needing repairs due to significant cracks or voids, root intrusion and also aging clay pipe (VCP) that indicated a need for rehabilitation.

Through the CIPP process, I/I is eliminated at the joints and cracks of the existing pipe and the new lining is known to extend the life of the pipe by at least 50 years. This project will be eligible for partial reimbursement of construction costs through the Metropolitan Council's Inflow & Infiltration (I/I) grant program.



Cured in Place Pipe Illustration

To learn more about reducing inflow and infiltration (I/I), visit metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Planning/Wastewater/Inflow-and-Infiltration.aspx.

Register for Recreation Programming

To register for classes and activities, visit cityofardenhills.org/recreation, stop by City Hall, or call at 651-792-7800. Programs like dance, yoga, after school programs, and special holiday-themed are just among of the few options you can choose from!

Interested in signing up for an Arden Hills Parks and Recreation Program but limited by finances? The City of Arden Hills and the Arden Hills Foundation have developed a scholarship program for families who may need financial assistance to participate in City programs. To learn more about the scholarships offered, please contact Matt Johnson, Recreation Supervisor, at mjohnson@cityofardenhills.org or 651-792-7848.



Hiring Ice Rink and Warming House Attendants

Are you looking for a fun, seasonal job? Consider being an ice rink/warming house attendant in Arden Hills!

Duties include maintaining the warming house building and outdoor ice rinks safely and orderly and providing an enjoyable atmosphere for people to skate. This position will report to the Recreation Supervisor.

Learn more and apply online at cityofardenhills.org/425/Employment-Opportunities.



Ice Rinks Hours and Locations

Four City parks have seasonal ice rinks and warming houses. Outdoor rinks are projected to be open from December 9 through February 20, dependent on weather conditions. Rinks will be closed if the temperature is -20 degrees Fahrenheit and/or the wind chill is -20 degrees Fahrenheit.

ICE RINK LOCATIONS

Cummings Park* **Hazelnut Park**
1219 Cummings Park 3301 New Brighton Rd
Dr *Pleasure Rink Only*

Freeway Park **Perry Park**
1370 West County Rd E 3700 New Brighton Rd

WARMING HOUSE HOURS

Monday-Friday 4:30-8:30PM
Saturday 12:00-8:30PM
Sunday 1:00-7:00PM

**Cummings Park will be open Friday-Sunday ONLY, in addition to the listed Holiday Hours. Use the push-light system to turn on the rink lights.*

Warming House hours are tentative and subject to staffing availability and weather conditions.

WARMING HOUSE HOLIDAY HOURS

Dec 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29	12-8:30 P.M.
Christmas Eve	Closed
Christmas Day	Closed
New Year's Eve	12-5 P.M.
New Year's Day	12-5 P.M.
Martin Luther King Day (Jan 15)	12-8:30 P.M.
President's Day (Feb 19)	12-8:30 P.M.



**Please note that during the winter months, only Perry Park has a dedicated off leash dog area.*





Inside

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Garbage and Recycling Cans

As we all strive to continually make our community a safe and beautiful place, we must work together to keep our streets clean and organized. We can do this by properly storing our trash and recycling bins and retrieving them promptly after your garbage and recycling collection day.

Trash and Recycling Bin Guidelines:

- 1. Keep bins in approved designated areas:** Within an enclosed building or in the side or rear yard adjacent to a structure. Containers should not be stored in the front yard forward of the structure. For properties adjacent to more than one public street, the side of the property with driveway access to the public street shall be deemed the front yard.
- 2. Day to put out bins:** Trash collection is on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, depending on your property location. Properties located south of Interstate 694 will receive collection services on Tuesdays, and properties located north of Interstate 694 will receive collection services on Wednesdays.
- 3. Time to put out bins:** Containers from single-family dwellings can be placed at the end of your drive-way after 6 p.m. the night before or anytime on the collection day. Waste containers should not be placed in the street, and they must be removed after pickup on the scheduled collection day. Bins left out for extended periods can create obstacles for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles and may be damaged or stolen.
- 4. Secure lids:** Ensure that the covers on your bins are securely closed to prevent animals from getting into them. This also helps to avoid litter blowing around the neighborhood on windy days.



More information on garbage collection, including a full list of City licensed waste haulers can be found at cityofardenhills.org/1144/Garbage-Collection. For Recycling, the City uses Republic Services (republicservices.com). To learn more about garbage and recycling containers and placement, please visit https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/ardenhills/latest/ardenhills_mn/0-0-0-1613.



Garbage Collection Info



Republic Services



City Code

Planning Commission to Hear Increased Density Proposal at Rice Creek Commons (TCAAP) on December 6

The Planning Commission is set to hear a proposal to increase the density at Rice Creek Commons (TCAAP) at their December 6, 2023 Planning Commission meeting. The proposal follows a presentation to the Joint Development Authority (JDA) by Alatus and a public open house hosted by the JDA. The proposal amends the City's Zoning Code and Comprehensive Plan allowing for an increase in the density from 1,460 units to 1,960 units.

The below rendering on the left shows the 2016 approved plan, and the rendering on the right shows the 2023 proposed plan. The red boxes indicate where the proposed additional density would be placed.

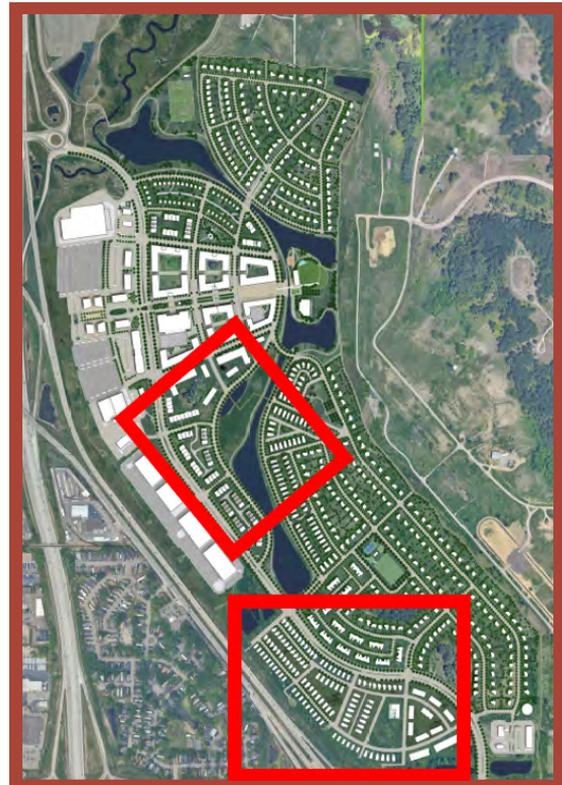
Prior to the Planning Commission meeting, informational packets will be posted on the City's website the Friday before the meeting at cityofardenhills.org/agendacenter. The public is encouraged to attend the meeting either in person or virtually to provide their feedback on the changes. The meeting will be held at City Hall (1245 Highway 96 West, Arden Hills, MN 55112) at 6:30 p.m. The meeting can also be viewed in the following ways:

- Online at cityofardenhills.org/320/Watch-City-Meetings
- Zoom (instructions and link can be found on the meeting agenda once it is posted online)
- Broadcast on Cable Channel 16

Written comments can also be mailed to City Hall or emailed to planning@cityofardenhills.org and must be received by 4 p.m. on December 6 to be presented as part of the public hearing.



**2016 Approved Plan Rendering
(1,460 Units)**



**2023 Developer Proposed Plan Rendering
(1,960 Units)**