

CITY CONTACT



*A Quarterly Publication
from the City of Mound*

**AUG SEPT OCT
2014**

The City of Mound, through teamwork and cooperation, provides, at a reasonable cost, quality services that respond to the needs of all citizens, fostering a safe, attractive and flourishing community.

Mayor's Message

Dear Fellow Citizens of Mound,

The deadline for this article is one month prior to publication which can make it a bit outdated if it is about a time sensitive issue. None the less, I am going to try.

I trust that our high water and sewer issues will be lessened by now since that would be consistent with normal expected weather activity. I sincerely empathize with people that have experienced sewer backups or restrictions on lake use due to this record weather year. The city continues to work on improvements to the system as it has for the last 10 years. We are also considering more aggressive measures to begin the next step of protection. I know we will face some pushback from citizens that are not interested in participation, but we will all have to deal with that as it occurs. More challenges remain but we are dedicated to take what we have learned and apply this toward further improvements.



Mark Hanus

I want to say a few words about the city staff during these very challenging events. Most people cannot see what was going on behind the scenes. I want to commend all the city workers on all levels from top to bottom for the extreme efforts, 24/7, to deal with the unexpected weather events earlier this summer. I cannot express to you how much these people devoted themselves to the well being of our residents during these difficult times. In turn, I can't say enough about how thankful I am that these people are willing to do what ever is required in an emergency. In each case they reacted quickly and appropriately and we all owe them a big thank you.

After the first major event, contingency plans were developed by management and standby equipment was arranged and staged in case heavy rains came again. Every reasonable action possible to relieve the burden on citizens was employed. If you are one who experienced one or more backups you may not consider yourself lucky. But for the most part we are fortunate that it worked as well as it did and hundreds of homes averted sewer in basements.

Please take a moment to think about and recognize the seriousness of the challenges faced and met by these city employees.

Respectfully,

Mayor Mark Hanus

Message from the City Manager



Kandis Hanson

Community Notification System.....Sign Up Now

Construction of the community notification system is complete! Sign up to receive informational updates and/or emergency notifications, by going to www.cityofmound.com and opt in. Please forward this essential information to others who would also want to be notified. If you need assistance, please call Amy at 952-472-0603 or send your email address, phone numbers and street address to AmyStark@cityofmound.com, to be added to the new notification system.

Disconnection of Roof Drains.....

City staff has become aware that buildings in Mound have roof drains that are plumbed directly to the waste water system. This pattern is becoming evident in homes and commercial buildings that were built before water tables were at their current high levels, making it an acceptable practice at the time. This practice overloads the sanitary sewer system and contributes to the potential for sewer backups in your neighborhood.

Public Works staff has the capability of examining drain systems to determine how they are routed. Residents are asked to determine if their roofs are draining directly into the sewer system and voluntarily disconnect them. Residents may contact Amy at AmyStark@cityofmound.com or 952-472-0603 for Public Works assistance with this determination.

Residents with Flood Damage.....

Many individuals and households across the county have been hit by flooding and severe weather in recent weeks. You may call **211** (or **1-800-543-7709**) if you need recovery resources due to the recent flood/storms. **Special focus is directed toward those who may be underinsured and/or have functional needs.**



.....Driving for You!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to volunteer? Do you work from home, have lots of flexibility and would like to give back to your community? WeCAB can use your help!

WeCAB (Community Area Busing) has over 250 riders who have registered since the program began in October 2011. WeCAB volunteer drivers provide rides for the elderly or those who are otherwise unable to drive to medical appointments, the grocery store, the beauty shop and church. Please consider becoming a volunteer driver. As a **WeCAB DRIVER**, you can choose how often and where you drive. You drive your own car, pick up riders at their home, take them to their destination, and then bring them home again.

Consider this volunteer opportunity as a way for you to give back to your community. Please call **WeCAB** at 952-472-3222, extension 2, for more information about being a **DRIVER** for **WeCAB**. For a volunteer application please check the website - **www.wecab.org**.

NIGHT to UNITE

On Tuesday, August 5th, residents throughout Mound are invited to join your neighbors for the annual NIGHT to UNITE celebration.

NIGHT to UNITE is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships
- Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.



From 6pm to 8pm on August 5th, communities throughout Mound and across the state are asked to lock their doors, turn on their outside lights, and spend the evening outside with neighbors and public safety officers. Many neighborhoods throughout Mound will be hosting a variety of special events such as parties, cookouts, games, and food drives.

HOST A NIGHT TO UNITE PARTY

Register your block party and receive a visit from the Orono Police Department and the Mound Fire Department. Please call the Orono Police Department at 952-249-4700 as soon as possible to register.

ONE LUCKY BOY AND GIRL will win a gift card to buy a new bicycle at the Mound True Value Hardware Store. The winner will also receive a new bicycle helmet. Other prizes may be available as well. Call the Orono Police Department at 952-249-4700 for more information.

Planning and Zoning Corner

Bees and Backyard Chickens

Earlier this year, the City Council reviewed a study and determined that amendments to the City Code should not be undertaken to allow beekeeping and backyard chickens in Mound. Amendments to the City Code to clarify the regulations are being prepared and will be considered by the City Council in the near future.

How do I Report a Nuisance-Type Concern or Complaint?

If you wish to report a condition you feel may be a violation of Mound's City Code, please contact the City of Mound at 952-472-0604. The matter will be handled confidentially. While Staff does their best to resolve complaint issues in a timely manner, they may take some time to achieve compliance. Feel free to call our office for a status update.

Banners and Pennants

Temporary banners and pennants employed for special events are allowed for 30 days with a paid permit. They may only be placed upon decorative fencing if used in conjunction with a government, quasi-public function or similar event. Permits can be issued up to four times per calendar year.

Portable Signs

Portable signs are only allowed following issuance of a permit, to promote civic, government and quasi-governmental special events (see City Code Section 119-4). Portable signs are allowed up to 30 days, four times per calendar year. There is no fee for a temporary sign permit for a portable sign.

Residential Construction Hours

For construction activity on any residentially zoned property, no person shall engage in or allow construction activities involving the use of manual tools, movement of equipment or power equipment, (electric, diesel, or gas-powered) other than between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on weekdays, and 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on public holidays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Be a Good Neighbor While Using the Trails

By County Commissioner Penny Steele



Regional trails are much like a road system because both contain a great variety of users who are all counting on each other for their safety. Trail safety involves basic elements like defensive driving for bikers and walkers being aware of others using the trail and not walking two or three abreast.

It's sharing the trail, staying to the right, being courteous, wearing a helmet and stopping at stop signs. Young trail riders should be given some extra room, and dogs must always be on a 6 foot leash not blocking the trail.

Trail users are reminded that many of Three Rivers' 125 miles of regional trails travel through residential areas, so it's important to be a good neighbor as you use the trails. Again, these are basic steps like staying on the trail right of way and not venturing onto neighboring property, depositing waste into the proper containers and refraining from talking in a loud voice to your trail companions.

With more than a dozen trails to choose from, it's easy to find one that travels where you'd like to explore using this link on the District's website <http://www.threeriversparks.org/parks.aspx> and click on the Trails tab.

Get to Know Your City Code

by City Clerk Catherine Pausche

CHAPTER 50 PARKS AND RECREATION



In May, the Council approved an amendment to Chapter 50 of the Mound City Code dealing with the prohibition of conducting private business on public lands or waters within the municipal boundaries of Mound.

The City of Mound is entrusted by the public with the responsibility of managing the public lands, public parks, public commons, public infrastructure, and public property located in the City for the use and enjoyment of all persons. The City parks, green spaces, beaches, waters, piers, trails, parking lots and other public facilities offer opportunities for a broad range of public uses including gatherings, personal and group recreational activities, concerts, picnics and peaceful meditation.

The City is committed to providing access and use of parks, green spaces, beaches, waters, piers, trails, parking lots, and other public facilities in order to sustain the quality, accessibility, and vitality of these spaces and facilities now and in the future. The City recognizes that the commercial use of these public resources by private parties can be inconsistent and against the interest of the public, deplete public resources, and jeopardize the sustainability of these public resources.

In furtherance of this recognition, the City desires to prohibit the sale or rental of goods, products, or services by private parties on property owned or operated by the City when such goods, products, or services are delivered upon sale or rental by the private party selling or renting the good, product, or service except when otherwise permitted by the City Code or the laws and regulations of the State. Any person found in violation will be guilty of a misdemeanor.



Mound Fire Department News



2014 Fish Fry and Dance

On Saturday June 7th the Mound firefighters and their families hosted the 63rd Annual Fish Fry and Dance. The temperature during the event was below average, staying in the low 60's; however, our area residents turned out in large numbers and supported the event as they always do. We served 2,541 fish dinners, which made the event a huge success.

The Mound firefighters would like to say thank you to all of our friends, neighbors, and Lake Minnetonka area residents that attended. We would also like to thank the many local businesses that contributed to our event with ticket purchases, and also those that donated prizes to our silent auction and raffle. Your continued support of the fire department is greatly appreciated!

Again, thank you for supporting the Mound Fire Department and Relief Association!

Andy Drilling
Fish Fry Chairman

Greg Pederson
Mound Fire Chief

Outdoor Cooking

Every year Americans look forward to summer vacations, camping, family reunions, and picnics. Summertime, however, also brings fires and injuries due to outdoor cooking. Knowing a few fire safety tips and following instructions will help everyone have a safe summer.

- Before using a grill, check the connection between the propane tank and the fuel line. Make sure the connection is secure and not leaking; then light the grill.
- Never overfill the propane tank.
- When cooking with a charcoal grill, be careful when using lighter fluid. Do not add fluid to an already lit fire because the flames can flashback up into the container and explode.
- Keep all matches and lighters away from children.
- Supervise and closely watch children around outdoor grills to avoid serious burns.
- Dispose of hot coals properly: douse them with plenty of water, and stir them to ensure that the fire is out. Never place them in plastic, paper or wooden containers. DO NOT place hot coals in a trash container next to a house or in a garage.
- Never grill/barbecue in enclosed areas as carbon monoxide could be produced.
- Grills or deep fryers that are being used should always be a safe distance from any structure; a good "Rule of Thumb" is 15 feet.
- Have an ABC Class Fire Extinguisher close and accessible when cooking with any type of outdoor grill or deep fryer.



Every year, Hennepin County partners with reuse retailers to offer discounts in the "Choose to Reuse" coupon books. Coupons are valid from August 1 through October 31. These booklets will be available to pick up at City Hall beginning August 1. Choose to Reuse coupons will also be available on smart phones through the Chinook Book app. To download the free Chinook Book app, go to the app store and create an account in the Twin Cities Market. Coupons will automatically be sent to the app on August 1.

They also have a Choose to Reuse Directory, which is an online searchable directory of reuse businesses and non-profits in and around Hennepin County. Search the directory for retailers that accept donations, sell used items, offer repair or rental services and more. You may see more information at <http://hennepinchoosetoreuse.org>.



At Hennepin County libraries, summer learning takes many forms, from joining a book club to building kaleidoscopes, catapults and super circuits.

Summer reading programs offer great ways for children to continue their learning through the summer. Youth who participate in summer learning activities are better prepared for school in the fall. For a complete list of summer events at Hennepin County libraries, go to www.hclib.org/events or pick up the events guide at any library location.

SPRINKLER RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

Just a reminder that, per Mound City Code 610.50, Subd 12, sprinkling restrictions are in effect May 15 to September 1 each year. Properties with even numbered addresses may sprinkle only on days with even numbered dates. Properties with odd numbered addresses may sprinkle only on days with odd numbered dates. A one (1) month exception from the odd/even sprinkling restriction may be granted for newly planted sod, grass or landscaping upon registering for exemption and approval by the Public Works Superintendent. Other exemptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Questions? Call Amy at 952-472-0603.



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☞ **Recycling** - Republic Services (formerly Allied Waste) sent the 2014 Biweekly Single Sort Recycling Schedule to all residents in December. Additional copies are available at City Hall or at www.cityofmound.com.

☞ **Indian Knoll Manor - Affordable Housing in the Heart of Mound...**

Indian Knoll Manor Apartments, located at 2020 Commerce Boulevard, are subsidized by HUD and rents are based on income for qualified applicants. There are one bedroom and studio apartments and rent includes heat, water, electric and trash. Please call the Property Manager at (952) 472-5078 for an application or to take a tour.

☞ **Utility Billing** Automatic Payment plan, E-bill and other valuable information available on the Finance Utility Billing page at www.cityofmound.com.

☞ **Need to register to vote or interested in being an election judge?** The Primary Election is August 12 and the General Election is November 4. If you are a new Mound resident or have not voted in the last four years, you can pre-register to vote until July 22 for the Primary and October 14 for the General Election. Voter registration and/or election judge applications are available at City Hall or on the City website.

Tuxedo Boulevard Upgrades Slated

The City of Mound is in year 11 of a 15 year Street and Utility Replacement Program. Annually, streets, water lines, sewer lines and storm water run-off are addressed, along with retaining walls. This comprehensive approach includes a schedule for improvements that was the result of a study in 2002 that categorized and prioritized the streets and utilities across the entire community. At that time, Tuxedo Boulevard was among those in the best condition, so was prioritized among the last to be addressed.

Here is the three-phase schedule for Tuxedo Boulevard. It is planned in three phases to ensure ingress and egress from all points on the Island while work is in progress, not only for those who live there and do business there, but for public safety access.

2015 – Sulgrove Road to Brighton Boulevard

2016 – Wilshire Boulevard to Clyde Road

2017 – Brighton Boulevard to Clyde Road

In the meantime, potholes will be addressed annually, as they are on other remaining portions of the Street and Utility Replacement Program.

If you have further questions, do not hesitate to call Amy Stark (952-472-0603) who supports the Public Works Department at the city offices. She's more readily reached over those who work in the field.

Orono Police Department.....Child Safety Seat Clinics

The Orono Police Department, in conjunction with Colin Charlson's State Farm Agency, is hosting two child safety seat clinics. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death for children in the United States. Child car seats significantly reduce the risk of injury to children in motor vehicle crashes. The first clinic will be held Saturday August 23rd from 10-3 at Charlson's State Farm office at 5560 Three Points Boulevard in Mound. The second clinic will be held on Saturday September 13th, 10-3 at the Long Lake Fire Department Station #2, at 3770 Shoreline Drive in Orono.

City of Mound
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www.cityofmound.com

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City Council Members

Mark Hanus, Mayor	(952) 472-5480
Heidi Gesch	(952) 472-5508
Kelli Gillispie	(507) 382-2191
Ray Salazar	(952) 472-7383
Mark Wegscheid	(612) 581-6710

Kandis Hanson, City Manager	(952) 472-0609
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Dates To Remember

Jul 29-Aug 12	Local Election Filing Open
Aug 12	Primary Election
Sep 1	Labor Day
Sep 6	Running of the Bays SOTL Fundraiser
Oct 11	Mound Farmers' Market Last Day

**City Hall
Seasonal Hours**

May through October
M - Th 7:30 am to 5:00 pm
Fri 7:30 am to 11:30 am

Mound Meeting Calendar

- City Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7pm
- HRA meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30pm
- Planning Commission meets the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7pm
- Parks and Open Space Commission meets the second Thursday of the month beginning at 7pm on an as-needed basis
- Docks and Commons Commission meets the third Thursday of the month beginning at 7pm on an as-needed basis

