



City Contact



A Quarterly Publication from the City of Mound

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Neighbors,

Wow... what a spring! In spite of the amazing weather and somewhat early breakup of our annual fight with winter; we find ourselves in an even more vicious fight against the spread of COVID-19. By the time you read this, we will have been at it for over a month... and I'm sure much will have changed just in the time it takes to publish and send this message. So my message here is simply a heartfelt thanks!

Thanks to everyone out there in healthcare, first responders -- Fire, Police, EMS -- and our public servants. Thanks to those critical service providers across our community who have figured out how to continue their work on behalf of our most vulnerable: WeCAN, Westonka Food Shelf, Gillespie, area churches, schools, community service organizations; too many to list without leaving somebody out.

Thanks to our incredible businesses; many who have figured out how to reinvent themselves overnight during these very different times, including those determined "essential" who make sure our basic needs are met. Prayers to those who had to close their doors during all of this and face uncertain futures. All of them need your patronage once we are free to reopen doors and resume business.

Thanks to all those who have individually reached out to neighbors to figure out how to lend a hand; and creative ways to mark special occasions, and restore social connectivity; all from an appropriate distance.

Thanks to everyone who has been diligently following stay-at-home, social distancing, essential business, and the myriad of other public health guidance that has been given. These guidelines come at a tremendous cost for many in lost income and lost opportunity. This has been painful; but it has made a difference that we'll be glad to have made. Now is the time to continue to keep vigilant as we guard against a resurgence of the virus... the progress we've made will be protected by each of our continued actions.

Thanks for staying informed by connecting with CDC, MN Dept of Health, the Governor's Office, and the city website; each containing links to other relief agency information sources that will be crucial in the coming months. These sources will continue to provide a wealth of information as response activities shift, restrictions and guidelines evolve, and the various recovery and aide programs evolve.

As always, information on agendas and upcoming meetings is available at www.cityofmound.com by clicking on the "Government" tab and scrolling to the "Mayor and Council" line for Council/HRA and "Advisory Commissions" for Planning, Parks, and Docks and Commons.

Respectfully,

Ray Salazar
Mound Mayor

MAY JUN JUL
2020



Mayor
Ray Salazar

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2019 MN Dept of Health Consumer Confidence Report Published

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets safe drinking water standards. These standards limit the amounts of specific contaminants allowed in drinking water. This ensures that tap water is safe to drink. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates the amount of certain contaminants in bottled water. Bottled water must provide the same public health protection as public tap water.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

We work with the Minnesota Department of Health to test drinking water for more than 100 contaminants. It is not unusual to detect contaminants in small amounts. No water supply is ever completely free of contaminants. Drinking water standards protect Minnesotans from substances that may be harmful to their health.

Learn more by visiting the Minnesota Department of Health's webpage
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/sampling.html>

The 2019 MN Dept of Health Consumer Confidence Report for the City of Mound water system is available at www.cityofmound.com/waterreport. You may also review or request a copy from City Hall.



United States[®]
**Census
2020**

63.9% of Mound Households have responded to the 2020 Census as of April 28th! Have you?

Instructions were mailed to all households in mid-March on how to respond on-line, by phone or by mail. The Census results inform how \$800B in federal funds are allocated, congressional districting, plans for school districts and where businesses will relocate.

Thank you to those households who have already responded. For those that haven't, please do so online at <https://2020census.gov> or by calling (844) 330-2020 or by mailing back the paper questionnaire that was sent to your home. *Let's Count, Minnesota!!*

City Hall Hours

Note: Currently closed to the public, please call (952)472-0603 for assistance.

May through October

Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 5 pm
Friday 7:30 am - 11:30 am

November through April

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

City Contacts

General Information 952-472-0600
www.cityofmound.com

Planning & Building 952-472-0607

Police Department 952-249-4700
After Hours Dispatch 952-258-5321
911 Emergency

Public Works 952-472-0603
After Hours Dispatch 952-258-5321

BEST WAYS TO DISPOSE OF BULK ITEMS / CITY CODE CHANGES

Hennepin County has temporarily closed their drop off facilities, the Mound/Minnetrista Annual Spring Clean-up Day has been postponed indefinitely, organizations such as Goodwill, The Langdon and Penny Wise have had to close in order to comply with the Governor's Stay at Home order. This coupled with more people at home is putting pressure on recycle and waste streams.

People are asked to safely store their bulk waste and donations until these services are restored, but if you are moving or can't wait, the City offers the following suggestions:

1. Bulk waste curbside pick-up is offered by the following licensed garbage haulers: Republic Services (anyone), and Waste Management, Randy's Sanitation, and Aspen Waste for current curb-side customers (see www.cityofmound.com for more details or call the hauler directly).
2. Services such as 1-800-GOT JUNK and College Hunks Hauling Junk
3. Dumpster services are also an option, including Waste Management's green Bagster program where you purchase the \$30 bag on-line or at a hardware/home improvement store and call to schedule a pick-up. For more info call (1-877-789-BAGS)

Mound residents can dump leaves, weeds, garden waste, milfoil, grass/lawn clippings, at the compost site located in Minnetrista called **THE MULCH STORE** for free. The site is open **April 1 through November 30**. Call (952) 446-1056 for info on other services available for a fee.

The Council also approved several City Code amendments in January to address exterior storage and aesthetics, including, but not limited to: no exterior storage on undeveloped lots, no overnight parking of detached trailers on public right-of-way, enhanced definitions of disorderly properties and littering. See www.cityofmound.com for details.



Please help keep the City of Mound beautiful and welcoming by refraining from leaving items out on the lawn for 'free' for any extended period. If it doesn't go in the first day or so, please remove the items and properly dispose of them. The City has also had some issues with the Waste Management's Bagsters not being picked up in a timely manner. Please be considerate of your neighbors and do your part to maintain a good neighborhood image! Thank you!

***NEW* Community Notification System—Everyone Needs to Re-enroll**

Mound is changing the City's emergency planning and communications system from CodeRED to **RAVE** in May. The system sends telephone calls, text messages, emails (based on subscriber preferences) and posts to social media channels to inform residents of road closures, watermain breaks, hydrant flushing, policies under consideration by the City Council, seasonal parking reminders and more!

Registering for **RAVE** is quick, easy, and FREE! Your Rave subscription is protected data and will not be sold. The data is so protected that the City can't convert current CodeRED subscriptions to **RAVE**, so everyone needs to sign-up again by visiting the city website and clicking the **RAVE** icon or by contacting Field Officer Andy Drilling at fieldops@cityofmound.com or 952-472-0605.



STAY INFORMED AND STAY SAFE!

Infrastructure Investment Yields Public Safety Gains

Just shy of 5:00 pm on Saturday, April 11, 2020 Mound Fire and Orono Police were called to the Lakewinds condominiums. When crews arrived they observed fire already lapping out of the second and third story of one of the unit blocks and knew this was going to be a “big deal”. You can be certain that the arriving Duty Chief had a few thoughts running through his mind, including: Will I have enough people? Will I have enough water?

Thanks to the dedication, training, and effort of the Mound Fire Department and area departments that provided mutual aid; the people part of the equation was well in hand, and quickly on the scene to do their amazing work. A key enabling resource in their response was the availability of firefighting water. And just like the preparedness of our Fire Fighters is a result of a long history and culture of pride and readiness; assuring the availability of water for this response began many years ago as well.

Beginning in 2007, City engineers and utilities staff began evaluating how the city supplied water to homes on Enchanted Island. For decades, water was supplied by a single 8-inch main under the Cooks Bay bridge on Wilshire Blvd, to a pressure boost pump station at the corner of Wilshire and Brighton, and on to a storage tank at the top of the hill on Devon. While many of the hilltop residents voiced concern about flow and water pressure at faucets in their homes; our engineers, utility, and fire staff also knew the same would be true for our hydrants. Measured and modeled flows in several areas of the island fell short of current engineering standards for hydrant flow and this needed to be fixed.



To solve both issues, a long range plan that included additional network looping and pipe-size upgrades from our existing storage towers out toward The Island was incorporated into our Street and Utility Improvement Projects. Two culminating projects were completed in 2016/2017; adding a 16-inch trunk-main along Wilshire and under the Cooks Bay bridge, and a 10-inch loop-main from Avon Park to Tyrone Park under Emerald Lake. The analysis completed prior to the project indicated that hydrant flows would more than double in some of the more water-starved areas of The Island and bring all areas up to current standards.

While all involved had hoped this investment would never be called on to “pay off”; it did. The millions of dollars spent to improve our firefighting capability on the island pales in comparison to the potential for loss of life and property damage that might have occurred had we not fixed our problem. The cost of those investments is recouped through our billing structure and rates. So, when you ask yourself “where does my water bill money go?”; this is a large part of the answer.

The winter and spring of 2020 have been riddled with large and high-impact structural fires across Minnesota. We should take a moment to recognize our resolve and the sacrifices behind our recent success that have allowed us to avoid similar outcomes: Sacrifices of our fire fighters, their training, and willingness to accept personal risk and respond any time of day; sacrifices of our Public Works staff advocating for improvements and keeping our systems primed and operating at peak performance; and sacrifices of all of our customers who have supported the rates needed to pay for critical improvements. Everyone plays much more of a part in public safety than we may have realized. **THANK YOU AND WELL DONE!**



COVID-19 RESPONSE: MFD is operating in full response mode with 40 healthy firefighters serving all our communities with no current limitations and all calls for service are being responded to in a timely manner. We will continue to make the necessary adjustments to implement best practices to ensure the safest response protocols, including a comprehensive “Exposure Control Plan” updated with new personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements to keep both the firefighters and those they serve safe!

Fish Fry 2020 is Cancelled: It is with great disappointment that the Mound firefighters have decided to cancel the 69th Annual Fish Fry and Dance which was scheduled for June 6, 2020. After lengthy discussions and thoughtful consideration by the Board of Directors, the decision was made to cancel the fish fry this year. The current conditions related to the pandemic does not allow our firefighters time to plan and host the large event. Save the date for next year’s event: Saturday, June 5, 2021. Look for more information on alternative fundraising measures in 2020 and thank you for supporting MFD!

Mound Becomes A Heart Safe Community! The Mound and Long Lake Fire Departments and Orono and Minnetrista Police Departments formed the “Lakes Area Heart Safe Group” in 2015 and on July 25, 2019 after completing all the requirements, officially became Heart Safe Communities! The mission of a Heart Safe Community program is to prevent death from sudden cardiac arrest by increasing community and public awareness. A primary goal is to place Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) wherever people live, work and play. Also critical is to educate the public on how to administer basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Since 2015, the Lakes Area Heart Safe Group has trained over 2,900 individuals in CPR and AED use. Congratulations to all of these cities!

ISO RATING *UPGRADE* EFFECTIVE 4/1/20 FOR HYDRANTED AREAS: The MFD recently completed an in-depth Insurance Services Office (ISO) Audit to determine our Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating. The ISO rating/audit is not related to size or condition of your home, but rather the community you live in and the capabilities of your local fire department, the city water supply and the 911 emergency dispatching systems. The rating sorts communities into Classes 1 (best) through 10 (worst). A rating of 3 puts us in the top 13% in the USA!

City	2009	2012	2015	2020
Mound	4	4	4	3
Spring Park	6	4	4	3
Minnetrista	8	4	4	3

Social Distancing during COVID-19 is key to protecting everybody’s health, safety, and well-being. Outdoor time completing projects is great therapy for the prevailing sense of confinement, but please be considerate of others in your neighborhood at this time when many are already under tremendous stress. Whether you are outside working, enjoying a walk, or at the grocery store, please be mindful to create deliberate distance of at least 6 feet between you and others. Wearing a cloth face mask in public, washing hands frequently, and not having visitors or congregating in public spaces are all essential steps in slowing the rate of infection and buying our health system time to develop the tests and vaccines so urgently needed. The pandemic can seem overwhelming, but in truth, every person can help slow down the spread of COVID-19 and by doing our part, we can make a big difference to our health and that of others around us. *Thank you for your cooperation. Stay safe and stay well!*

**Police
Chief's
Corner**





2020 ELECTION – KEY INFO/DATES

May 13
June 26

August 11

July 28-Aug 11

September 18

November 3

On-line absentee ballot application available at MNVOTES.ORG
Vote early by mail begins (State Primary)
State Primary Election
Candidate Filing Period for Local Offices (Mayor & Council)
Vote early by mail begins (General Election)
General Election

VOTE EARLY BY MAIL ENCOURAGED

For the safety of our residents and election staff, we highly encourage voting **early** by mail. Early voting by use of an 'Absentee' ballot starts 46 days before an election.

Absentee ballots and voter registration forms can be requested at **MNVOTES.ORG** or by calling **(877) 600-VOTE**. This website is the best resource for election information and has a special ballot tracking feature to ensure your vote was counted!

CHANGE TO POLLING LOCATIONS



Election Staff is working to change our polling locations for the remaining 2020 elections in order to better facilitate social distancing and in anticipation of some of our judges needing to step down because of risks associated with COVID-19. We also anticipate less in-person voting.

St. John's Lutheran Church will cover Precincts 1 & 3

Centennial Building Council Chambers will cover Precincts 2 & 4

Polls are open 7 am to 8 pm on election day. Please note Gillespie Center, Mount Olive Lutheran and Bethel United churches will not serve as polling locations for either election and we thank them for generously hosting previous elections!

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT IN 2020?

State Primary—To be determined

General Election—U.S. President, U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative, State Senator, State Representative, Judicial Seats, County Officials, Mayor, City Council (2 seats), possible local ballot questions and/or school board seats.

Election Judges Needed

We are always looking for new election judges and ask that you consider volunteering so that we can take the pressure off our current judges that may be at risk in the current environment due to age or an underlying health condition. Please call Kevin at (952)472-0613 or see www.cityofmound.com for info.

Recycling contamination is a concern in our community.

Placing the below items in your recycling container contaminates other recyclables, causing the entire load to end up in the landfill.

Help us keep our recycling stream clean!



#1
No food, liquid or diapers in the container. All containers are to be **Empty. Clean. Dry™** before recycling.



#2
No plastic bags of any kind in the recycling container. **DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES!**



#3
No hangers in the recycling container. **NO HOSES, WIRES, CHAINS or ELECTRONICS.**



#4
No clothes (or linens) in the recycling container. Use donation programs to get rid of clothing or linens.

Visit RecyclingSimplified.com today to become a better recycler!



Harbor

Wine & Spirits

The City of Mound owns and operates Harbor Wine & Spirits liquor store. HWS opened at its current location in 2003, and this approach enables the City to use the profits generated to reduce the property tax levy and help fund essential city services like our many park amenities and major equipment. Harbor Wine & Spirits contributed \$175,000 to tax relief in 2019 and will do so again in 2020!

Your patronage is greatly appreciated and it reduces property taxes! We appreciate everyone's patience during the major store remodel completed in mid-February and now while we make adjustments to respond to COVID-19.

Temporary hours during Social Distancing/Stay at Home Executive Order are Monday—Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Sundays. This gives our dedicated store staff extra time to sanitize, re-stock and refresh!

In addition, we are now offering **curb-side pick-up**, as follows:

- Please call (952)472-0648
- Place order, provide electronic payment info, and set pick-up time
- Call when at curbside—Staff will verify ID and put items in the open rear of vehicle



Thank you for your continued patronage! It is our pleasure to serve you!

EVERY DAY LOW PRICES

The team at Harbor Wine & Spirits prides itself on providing the best value and customer service in the area! From everyday 15% off case discounts on wine & spirits (mix & match), to our 10% senior discount on Fridays, to our beer, wine and spirit specials of the month, you are sure to find a wide selection of old favorites and the latest trends. In addition, check out these everyday low prices on some of our favorites:



Stoli Vodka
1.75L \$29.99



Cupcake Wines
\$8.99



Ruffino
Prosecco \$13.99



Jameson Irish
Whiskey 1L \$26.99



Tanqueray Gin
1.75L \$34.99



White Claw 12
cans \$15.99



If you love history, there's a place in our community to put that interest to use. Westonka Historical Society preserves and shares the fascinating history of Minnetonka Beach, Navarre, Spring Park, Mound and Minnetrista. The museum is closed during the Stay at Home Order but plenty of on-line resources are available. See the WHS website at www.westonkahistoricalsociety.org or follow them on Facebook. You will be amazed at the vast collection of artifacts being maintained and you will learn the ways in which you may contribute and capture your family's history!



City of Mound
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

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City Council Members



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paulalarson@cityofmound.com

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Mound Meeting Calendar (Note: Conducted via ZOOM during Stay at Home Order)

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



May 4 City Hall Seasonal Hours Begin
May 25 Memorial Day - City Hall Closed
June 26 Absentee Voting Begins
July 3 July 4th Observance—City Hall Closed
July 15 Extended Tax Day Deadline
Jul 28—Aug 11 Candidate Filing Period—Local
Aug 11 Primary Election Day



Harbor
Wine & Spirits

2135 Commerce Blvd.
Mound, MN 55364
952-472-0648



Temporary Store Hours

Monday thru Saturday 11am - 7pm
Closed Sundays

Curbside Pick-up Now Available!

**See harborwinespirits.com for
monthly specials**

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.