

CITY CONTACT



*A Quarterly Publication
from the City of Mound*

FEB MAR APR
2015

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 Neighbors,

We have all started the New Year with great expectations for 2015. With pen in hand, and the page turned, it lay blank before us. We contemplate with excitement and perhaps even a trace of trepidation as to what we might choose to be written.

Some may be dreaming about how to fill their next page with retirement, going to school or perhaps some other life change. The opportunity a new year brings is endless, but no matter how our individual chapters read, the common bond we all share is our community. Everything we as individuals do has an effect on our community in one form or another.

As in any novel, a new chapter cannot be written without using the base of chapters prior. We must remember the accomplishments and how they were reached, as well as the pitfalls and how to avoid them to stay on a smooth road.

The pages I write on describe, in part, the new journey of Mound. As your Mayor, I will reflect on all our community is and all we do. I am very humbly honored to represent Mound and will do my best in that role.

Over a decade ago, our family chose to become a part of the Mound community and had no idea how much we would fall in love with this great town. Mound has so much to offer that it's sometimes difficult to participate in everything, but we try.

When you're thinking of what you will write in your chapter 2015, I would ask that you take a moment to think of your community. Think about the events you go to and the people you know. Think about writing a couple of pages in your chapter on how you became involved with your community. I promise what you receive back will always be greater than what you invest.

Respectfully,

Mark Wegscheid



Mayor Wegscheid

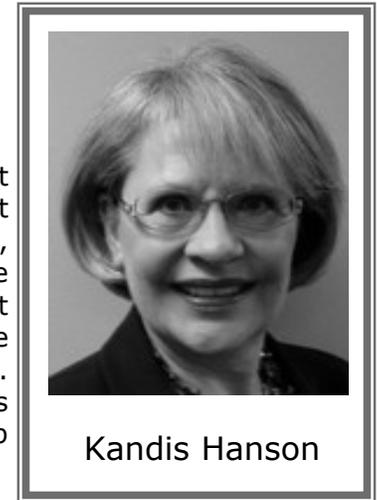
Reminder!

New Community Notification System On-line NOW!
Sign up at www.cityofmound.com.

Receive emails and/or text messages about important community events such as:

- Road closures
- Seasonal parking reminders
- Special event news
- Utility emergencies
- Severe weather notifications
- General City information

Message from the City Manager



On Thursday, December 11, the City of Mound hosted a meeting that included Mound Council Members, Met Council Representative Jennifer Munt and engineers from Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES), and Mound engineers and staff. The same group met last on July 2. The meeting in July was a direct result of the inundation of rainwater that entered our combined sewer systems--those owned by and under the care of MCES and those owned by and under the care of the City of Mound. Record rains on June 1 and 19 caused sewer systems to exceed capacities and some Mound residents were the unfortunate recipients of sewer backup in basements.

At the meeting on December 11, Mound Staff reported that since the meeting on July 2, a great deal of work has been accomplished. As City Manager, I'm very pleased to be part of the coalition that formed to address our common problems. In that time the technical experts rolled up their sleeves and went to work and, jointly, the issues were identified.

Of note from the start has been the evident willingness of staff members to work together to solve what are critical issues for residents of Mound. This joint effort of the parties has resulted in the "City of Mound and MCES Collaborative Work Plan," which categorizes what are near-term, medium-term and long-term resolutions to problems associated with the shared system.

Additionally, I'd like to add that there has been a deliberate effort to include residents of Mound at every step of the way. Staff invited by mail, those that we know were affected by the two extreme rain events. Those who could not attend may see the meeting tape at www.cityofmound.com.

Thanks go to Mound residents for your patience. These are big organizations, in particular Met Council. Things can't happen fast enough for me, but at the same time, I'm pleased about our progress and momentum. It's satisfying to see the workmanship and collaboration between parties. Thank you to Met Council staff for stepping up!

The City's 2015 Approved Budget

On Tuesday, December 9, 2014 the Mound City Council approved the final 2015 City tax levy and operating budget. The council and staff are committed to keeping expenditures in line with our revenues, believing that the financial pressures will continue into the near future. We are benefiting from many initiatives that were started in previous years, including contracting for police services, moving to a flat fee for prosecution legal services, and the many department/staff reorganizations that resulted in a reduction of 7.4 full-time employees, or 21%, since 2008, excluding the police department dissolution.

The 2015 final budget reflects a 3% increase in the General Fund revenue levy and a 1.75% increase in the overall levy. The average increase for the 7 year period from 2009 through 2015 was -0.30% for the General Fund revenue levy and 1.73% for

the overall levy. Utility rates will continue to rise steadily as we fund numerous infrastructure improvement projects. To date, 16 of 30 lift stations have been replaced, miles of sewer pipe have been relined to prevent inflow and infiltration, water main and storm sewer systems have been replaced or upgraded as part of the annual street improvement projects, well houses and pumping stations have been upgraded and a new water tower was installed. An on-going maintenance program is in place to ensure improvements remain sustainable.

Copies of the 2013 Annual Financial Report and 2015 Final Budget are available on the City's website. If you have comments or concerns, please feel free to contact your City Council or the City Manager at any time.



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Look Who Retired



Carlton Moore was hired in 2003 as the Director of Public Works. Carlton championed the street and utility reconstruction program for the past 11 years, which included replacement of the Chateau water tower, reconstruction of 16 sanitary lift stations, 2 wells and pump houses, 30 miles of city streets, rehab of over 27 miles of water main and 20 miles of sanitary sewer. He also managed the construction of the Mound Transit Center Parking Deck.



Carlton is looking forward to fishing, spending time with his grandchildren, and leaving the frozen northland for part of the winter.

Best of luck to Carlton in his new ventures!

Council Contacts

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Kandis Hanson, City Manager  
952-472-0609  
kandishanson@cityofmound.com

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Clip & Save

## City of Mound Dock Program.....

Current participants should have received their 2015 renewal applications in the mail in early January. Residents wishing to be put on the wait list *or renew their position* on the wait list must complete a Wait List Application which can be obtained via: 1) website [www.cityofmound.com](http://www.cityofmound.com), 2) email at [admin@cityofmound.com](mailto:admin@cityofmound.com), 3) phone at (952)472-0603 or 4) walk-in at City Hall. All applications must be completed and returned to City Hall on or before February 28, 2015. Incomplete applications will not be accepted and will be returned with your payment.

Immediate openings exist for the Lost Lake Slips and Mound residents receive preference for these slips. See the website for further information.



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MOUND, MN 55364  
952-472-0648

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featuring**

**YOUR COMMUNITY WINE & SPIRITS STORE!**



# Snow Removal FAQ

## **How does the City decide which streets are plowed first?**

The most heavily traveled roads are first. These roads are the main collector streets and provide access to neighborhoods. The next priority is the connecting streets within neighborhoods. Streets with steep hills are the next priority. All other streets fall into the residential classification. These streets are predominantly flat and easily negotiated during light snow storms. Streets receive de-icing treatment for virtually every snow event on an as needed basis. The residential streets are plowed when snow accumulation on the road exceeds two inches.

## **Why do the City snow plows push snow into my driveway and who should clear it?**

During normal snow plowing operations, snow may be left in your driveway. Plows are angled to the right for plowing from the centerline of the street to the curb. So, a certain amount of snow will be deposited in driveways. Snow left in driveways by the city while snow plowing is the residents' and owners' responsibility to remove.

## **I just shoveled my driveway. Why did the city snow plow push snow on it?**

When plowing, the snow may end up on the driveway you just shoveled. We apologize for the inconvenience this causes you. If your schedule permits, you may want to wait and clear your driveway after city plows have passed through your street. If it is a significant snowfall, the snowplows will probably be back. Streets are typically opened with one pass through, so that streets can be made passable for drivers as soon as practical. Snowplows may return to open the street curb-to-curb.

**SNOW REMOVAL TIP...** If your driveway is cleared before the street is completed, clear the area to the right of the driveway if you are facing the house, (the oncoming side). When the plow comes by the snow will dump in this clear area instead of your driveway approach.

## **Can snow from my driveway be blown into the street?**

Snow may not be pushed or blown into or across the street from private property. Snow left on the street from pushing or blowing across the street can create hazards. If you hire a private service to clear your driveway or parking lot, let the contractor know this is a misdemeanor under **MN Statutes 160.2715 and 169.42** and is punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 dollars.

## **What if landscaping or irrigation in the right of way is damaged?**

Remember not to landscape with rocks, bricks, timbers, shrubs and other items in the right of way. Snow plows and sidewalk plows could cause damage and the City does not repair or replace landscape materials. Some residents have irrigation in the right of way. This is done at the owner's risk and responsibility. Keep any irrigation heads away from the edges of the sidewalk and curb line. Sidewalk snow plow blades are a little wider than the sidewalk in some areas and can catch on irrigation heads.

## **Who do I contact if a City snow plow damages my lawn or mailbox?**

If a city snow plow causes lawn or mailbox damage, please contact the City of Mound Public Works Department at (952) 472-0603 on business days between 8:00am and 4:30pm.

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It is that time again for another awesome Mound Westonka Community Blood Drive. Help save a life today! All blood types are needed, especially Type O.

Thursday, February 19, Noon to 6:30 p.m.  
The Gillespie Center, 2590 Commerce Boulevard

Sign up online at [mbc.org/searchdrives](http://mbc.org/searchdrives) and enter sponsor code 0209  
or call Memorial Blood Centers at 651-332-7165.





# Mound Fire Department News



Every year the Mound Fire Department staff recognizes one of its own firefighters as the department "Firefighter of the Year". The Mound Fire Department Firefighter of the Year for 2014 is Jason Maas.

The recipient of this prestigious recognition award is chosen through a nomination process among Mound firefighters. Firefighters are nominated based upon predetermined criteria including: a firefighter's responses to emergency calls, attendance at training sessions, a high level of participation and involvement, positive leadership, time dedicated to public relations activities, and a positive attitude.

Jason Maas has been a volunteer with the Mound Fire Department since September 1993 and has set an example as a leader and mentor to other firefighters. Firefighter Maas was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 2012 and participates at a very high level in training, public relations events, and prompt emergency responses.



Congratulations to Jason Maas on his accomplishments and for receiving this very special 2014 Firefighter of the Year Award!



6th Annual



## Moonlight TRAIL NIGHT

Members of Westonka Community & Commerce organize and make the Moonlight Trail a fun event to get out and experience the moon, the trail and the community who gather to enjoy this wonderful event.

The 6th Annual Moonlight Trail Night along the Dakota Regional Trail is set for Saturday, March 7th, 2015, from 6 to 9 p.m. You can park and begin your trek at the Mound Transit Center or hop on along the trail. The event will unfold along the trail between Spring Park City Hall and Gale Woods Farm in Minnetrista.

Warm up by the trail side fires and enjoy local music, games, hot cocoa, treats and more! A big thank you to the great local sponsors who make it possible!

## See You On The Trail! Saturday, March 7th :: 6-9 pm

[Moonlighttrail.com](http://Moonlighttrail.com)



For more information contact:  
[info@moonlighttrail.com](mailto:info@moonlighttrail.com)



## ....Driving for You!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to volunteer? **WeCAB** (Community Area Busing) 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. Volunteer dispatchers are also needed. Please consider this heart warming community contribution.

Call **WeCAB** at 952-472-3222, extension 2, for more information. For a volunteer application, please check the website - [www.wecab.org](http://www.wecab.org).

# Are you a member of the Westonka Historical Society?



If you were, you would learn about the early 1900s hotel era when hundreds of summer tourists a day came by train to Lake Minnetonka to our community's hotels, about local residents who became renowned, from the Andrews Sisters to Kevin Sorbo, and about the little local company that became world famous, Tonka Toys. Class of 2018 will be our 100<sup>th</sup> high school graduating class!

Do you know what you're missing?

- News of the latest acquisition of the history museum, such as Governor Horace Austin's desk from his Lake Minnetonka home
- Quarterly newsletters filled with intriguing interviews of local residents, complete with family photos
- Details of the monthly history talks at the museum, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month (October-May), at 11:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber
- Opportunity to plan to attend social events with a history theme, such as the "Sisters of Swing" who will bring their Andrews Sisters show to our community, Friday, February 13, at the Gillespie Center, as a kick-off for your Valentine weekend
- First information about future events, from the next House of Moy dinner (September 2015), to the next Tonka Toy employee reunion (June 13, 2015)

WHS is a non-profit organization (501(c)3). Your donations to our history efforts are tax-deductible and your membership would be forever enriching. Contact us at P.O. Box 84, Mound MN 55364 or 952-472-9800.



## Spirit of the Lakes Festival..... (yes, summer is coming!)



Ten years in the making, the Spirit of the Lakes has evolved into a premier summer Festival. Most notably, in 2014 it came in just behind James J Hill Days as the second best festival around!

Involvement turns over and continually changes, creating openings for those with new energy. Right now, the Board is seeking additional members, including a person willing to hold office as Secretary. There are also openings on the Marketing Committee helping with Facebook, Twitter, Website, Constant Contact, Flyers & Posters Distribution, Print Media and Promo Items. If you like writing, are creative and are energetic, any of these could be a fit for you!

What can a Spirit of the Lakes position do for you? As a member of the Spirit of the Lakes Festival Board or one of its Committees, you will meet people and make friends. A business owner will gain exposure and, potentially, attract business.

If you are affiliated with a civic organization or church, you can potentially attract members through your involvement. These are just a few of the ways in which you can benefit as you serve on the Spirit of the Lakes.

Disclaimer: Whereas, as City Manager for Mound, I hold a position on the Spirit Board, the Spirit of the Lakes Festival is not a function of the City of Mound. The involvement of the City Manager is to retain oversight of the City staff that are traditionally involved by way of in-kind support from the departments of the City.

If YOU would like to get involved in the Spirit of the Lakes, **applications are being taken from individuals living in Mound and all our neighbor cities.** If you have questions or wish to receive an application, contact me at [kandishanson@cityofmound.com](mailto:kandishanson@cityofmound.com) or 952-472-0609.



**Dock and Commons Commissioner** applications are being accepted for one opening. Current non-abutting dock holders are invited to apply. Application deadline is February 28th. Interviews are March 19th at 7 pm. See the city website or call 952-472-0607 for an application.

**Dakota Trail** Public Restrooms located by the Mound Transit Center will reopen May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Republic Services** sent the 2015 Single Sort Recycling Schedule to all residents in December. Additional copies are available at City Hall or on our website.

**The Compost Site** will be open again beginning on April 1, 2015. City of Mound residents can bring grass clippings, milfoil and leaves to the compost site located at 4275 Creekview Circle in Minnetrista. This is a free service if you show your driver's license. Additional services are available for a fee. Hours are Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm & Saturday 9 am to 1 pm. Call (952)446-1056 for more information.

**Spring Clean Up/Recycling Day** has been scheduled for May 9, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Look for more information in the May newsletter or on our website.

**Utility Billing** Automatic Payment Plan or E-Bill information can be found on the city website. Visit [www.cityofmound.com](http://www.cityofmound.com) for application information.

**Lost Lake Slips** are currently available. Lost Lake Slips are \$1,950 per season for Mound residents and \$2,050 per season for non-Mound residents. Check out the website for more information and an application. Be sure to tell your friends!

**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.



## ***Are You Having a Special Event?***

A special event which involves a large gathering of people on public or private property (i.e., wedding, etc.) may require approvals and/or permitting from the City of Mound in addition to coordination with involved departments including, but not limited to, Public Works, Fire and Police.

Additionally, depending upon the type of event and involved activities (i.e., bike or road race, street or park use, etc.), a permit or licensing from other agencies may also be required. This list may include the Three Rivers Park District, Hennepin County and the Hennepin County Sheriff's Patrol, the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District or others.

The City has a Special Event Checklist available on our website to assist you with the planning for your upcoming event and to help determine what permits could be required. You are also welcome and encouraged to contact Community Development Director Sarah Smith at 952-472-0604 or at [Sarahsmith@cityofmound.com](mailto:Sarahsmith@cityofmound.com), to discuss your special event. If possible, it is recommended that you contact City Hall a minimum of two months in advance of your event to allow for adequate time for review of the applications, which may involve approval by the City Council.

## **BUY A BRICK – 2015**

You can be a part of the next phase of Mound history by buying an engraved brick which will become an addition to the Lost Lake Greenway promenade located along Auditors Road. This beautiful public pier is connected to a decorative paved plaza and walkway in downtown Mound.

Order deadline for this **Phase** will be August 31, 2015 for Fall 2015 installation. Prices range from \$75 to \$225. See the city website for an order form or call Collette Roberts at 952-472-0606.

City of Mound  
2415 Wilshire Boulevard  
Mound, MN 55364  
(952) 472-0600  
www.cityofmound.com

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**City Council Members**

Mark Wegscheid, Mayor (612) 581-6710  
Heidi Gesch (952) 472-5508  
Kelli Gillispie (507) 382-2191  
Jennifer Peterson (612) 518-4003  
Ray Salazar (952) 472-7383  
  
Kandis Hanson, (952) 472-0609  
City Manager

**City Hall  
Hours**

November through April  
Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

**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

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**MOUND DOCKS AND
COMMONS COMMISSION
VACANCY**

**CURRENT
NON-ABUTTING DOCK HOLDERS
INVITED TO APPLY**

APPLICATION DEADLINE 2/28/15

INTERVIEWS 3/19/15 7:00PM

**SEE CITY WEBSITE FOR
APPLICATION OR
CALL 952-472-0607**

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**Dates To Remember**

Feb 9 Joint City Council and Planning  
Commission meeting  
Feb 16 Presidents' Day  
Mar 7 Moonlight Trail Night  
Apr 5 Easter  
Apr 16 Statewide Tornado Drill  
May 4 City Hall Seasonal Hours begin  
May 9 City Clean Up/Recycle Day