

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Fix a Leak Week is  
March 14-20**



Fix a Leak Week is celebrated in March of each year as a time to remind Americans to check their household fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks. The average household's leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year, or the amount of water needed to wash 270 loads of laundry.

**Leak Detection** - A good method to check for leaks is to examine your winter water usage. It's likely that a family of four has a leak problem if the winter water use exceeds 12,000 gallons per month.

Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak.

**Toilets (#1 cause of leaks in Waconia as reported by residents!)** - If your toilet is leaking, the cause is often an old, faulty toilet flapper. Over time, this inexpensive rubber part decays, or minerals build up on it. It's usually best to replace the whole rubber flapper—a relatively easy, inexpensive do-it-yourself project that pays for itself in no time.

One way to find out if you have a toilet leak is to place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl within 10 minutes without flushing, you have a leak. Make sure to flush immediately after this experiment to avoid staining the tank.

**Faucets and Showerheads** - A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year. That's the amount of water needed to take more than 180 showers!

A showerhead leaking at 10 drips per minute wastes more than 500 gallons per year. That's the amount of water it takes to wash 60 loads of dishes in your dishwasher.

**Outdoors** - An irrigation system should be checked each spring before use to make sure it was not damaged by frost or freezing. An irrigation system that has a leak 1/32nd of an inch in diameter (about the thickness of a dime) can waste about 6,300 gallons of water per month. Check your garden hose for leaks at its connection to the spigot. If it leaks while you run your hose, replace the nylon or rubber hose washer and ensure a tight connection to the spigot using pipe tape and a wrench.

### Resources

[www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)  
[www.conserveh2o.org](http://www.conserveh2o.org)

## Safari Island and Ice Arena "Under New Management"

Effective April 5, 2016, the City is starting a partnership for the management of Safari Island and the Ice Arena. Rink Management Services will be the new manager of our Community Center and Ice Arena facilities. Our current employees will transition to the new management and will continue to provide exceptional service to our guests and members.

As part of this decision, customer service and great guest expectations are a main focus. Members will notice very few changes in our current day to day operations. We are excited for the new opportunities that this new structure is expected to bring to our community.

Additional information and some questions and answers about this partnership are available on our website ([www.waconia.org](http://www.waconia.org)).

For Questions Contact:

Susan Arntz  
City Administrator  
[sarntz@waconia.org](mailto:sarntz@waconia.org) or 952-442-3100

## Waconia Water Forum April 16 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Clearwater Middle School 1650 Community Dr.

Join Carver County Water Management, and City Staff in a Water Forum guided on providing information on the health of Lake Waconia, and other Lakes and Streams within the community. Action items include current threats, what has been done to protect the Lakes and streams, and how you as a resident can assist in protection and prevention.

To Register, or gain more insight please visit [www.co.carver.mn.us/water](http://www.co.carver.mn.us/water), or contact Madeline Seveland at [mseveland@co.carver.mn.us](mailto:mseveland@co.carver.mn.us). Additional information is available on the City Website at [www.waconia.org](http://www.waconia.org).

## Current Job Openings

The City is now hiring for the following position:

Seasonal Maintenance Worker (PT)

For job descriptions, qualifications and to complete an application, visit the employment section of the city's website at [www.waconia.org](http://www.waconia.org).

## Spring Break at the Ice Arena

Open Skate and Stick & Puck ice times during Waconia Schools spring break week has been extended:

### Open Skate

Monday, March 7 (12:00-2:00pm)  
Wednesday, March 9 (12:00-2:00pm)  
Friday, March 11 (12:00-2:00pm)

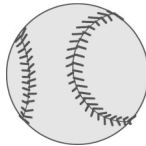
### Rock on Ice

Open skate admission & rental fees apply

### Stick & Puck Time

Tuesday, March 8 (12:00-1:30pm)  
Thursday, March 10 (12:00-1:30pm)  
\$5.50/person; helmets required for all

## 2016 Adult Men's Doubleheader Softball League



Waconia Parks & Recreation is now taking registrations for our Adult Men's Softball Doubleheader League. Doubleheader games are played on Wednesday evenings, with an anticipated start date of May 4th and runs for 12 weeks with double elimination playoff tournament following regular season play. Season champions receive bid into Minnesota State ASA Tournament. Registration fee covers cost of ASA sanctioning, team scorebook, softballs, umpires, tournament prize, field maintenance & administrative costs. Registration fee: \$570/team.

## Change Your Clock

Daylight Savings is Sunday, March 13.

Don't forget to spring your clocks forward!

## What Not To Pour or Flush Into Household Drains

**Grease and Other Common Cooking Items** - The Public Service Department, as it maintains the communities waste water collection system, continually discovers issues with Fats, Oils, and Grease; better known as (FOGs). These common source cooking items have the potential to cause major private property damage and sanitary sewer overflows, ultimately contaminating our local receiving waters and lakes.

**Common sources of FOG items include cooking grease, or fryer oils, margarine, or butter, salad dressings, marinades including ketchup and mustard.** What can you do with these items? Avoid rinsing, remove with paper towels, or place in a can to cool and discharge into the trash. Grease, if managed properly, could be utilized as alternative bird suet by adding sunflower, or other seeds, and freezing the material prior to placing out doors.

**Disposable Cleaning Rags & Flushable Wipes** - This continues to be a problem found by Public Service staff throughout the community. Although products sold over the counter say their "Flushable"; it has been discovered that these items do not react like toilet paper in the sanitary sewer collection system. Over the past couple of years staff discovered that the so-called "Flushable Wipes" are blocking major sanitary sewer collection lines and plugging pumping systems. As a result of the non-compliant wipes, we have responded to private service lines being plugged.

We would ask that residents utilizing the so-called "Flushable Wipes" avoid discharging them into the sanitary sewer via a toilet and place them into the garbage for proper disposal.

**For more information on these topics feel free to contact Public Services at 952-442-2615, or e-mail**

## St. Patrick's Day Open Skate

Sunday, March 13  
12:00-1:30pm



Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us at the Waconia Ice Arena. Anyone wearing green clothing will receive discounted admission!

*Youth/Seniors: \$2.50 and Adults: \$3.50*