



Waconia Wavelength

A City of Waconia Newsletter Publication

October 2018



City of Waconia Photography Contest

The City of Waconia is sponsoring a Citywide photography contest during the fall of 2018. Throughout the contest period, residents will have the opportunity to submit photos taken within the last year to City Hall. Winning photos will be featured on the City's website, as well as social media!



The photo contest is open to both amateur and professional photographers who live in Waconia and three entries are allowed per individual. All entries are due no later than October 19, 2018. We are looking for all types of photos, including landscapes, downtown, trails, parks, City events, businesses, as well as photos showing residents engaging in the community! Drone pictures will also be accepted.

Entries can be submitted online, via a photo submit portal on the City's website. From there, you will be able to upload your photos, along with the required Photographer Consent Form and the Photo Contest Model Release Form (if your photo contains recognizable individuals). Photos can also be submitted via email or in-person. All contest rules, forms, and instructions on submitting your photos can be found on the [City of Waconia website](#).

2040 Comprehensive Plan

The City of Waconia plans to hold public hearings regarding the 2040 Comprehensive Plan in November of 2018. We are currently looking for feedback on the proposed draft 2040 Plan, and would appreciate any feedback in time for it to be included in the public hearing. The draft plan can be viewed on the [City of Waconia website](#) and any feedback can be provided to Community Development Director Lane Braaten at lbraaten@waconia.org.

Absentee Voting for the General Election

The General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 6, however, the City of Waconia will continue to offer Absentee/Early Voting to Waconia residents at Waconia City Hall.

Any eligible voter can vote early (with no excuse) by using an absentee ballot, instead of voting in person at the polling place on Election Day. Absentee voting begins on September 21 at 8:00 a.m. and will go through 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5.

Waconia residents who wish to vote an absentee ballot in person can do so at Waconia City Hall (201 South Vine Street) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (regular business hours) Monday through Friday. City Hall will also be open on Saturday, November 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for those who are interested in voting absentee.

For those who do vote absentee, please remember that this does require more steps than voting on election day, and does require you to fill out and turn in an Absentee Ballot Application. These applications are available at the City's website or at City Hall. Absentee voters will also need either the last four digits of their social security number or their MN Driver's License or State Issued Identification number.

For more information on the 2018 General Election, please visit the City's website at www.waconia.org. Here you can find a detailed election calendar, additional information regarding absentee voting, and details on how to register to vote.



Compost Collection Schedule

Residents can bring grass clippings, garden waste, shrubs and branches no larger than 3" in diameter and 4' in length to Public Services at 310 East 10th Street.



Saturday, October 6
Saturday, October 20
Saturday, October 27
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



Thursday, October 11
Thursday, October 18
3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Cost is \$1.00 per bag or \$10.00 per pick-up or trailer. A copy of the full schedule is available at www.waconia.org.

The Waconia Heritage Association Needs Your Help!

After publishing two volumes on the history of Waconia, the Waconia Heritage Association is ready to continue its mission to discover, memorialize, and preserve the heritage and history of the Waconia area.

The Heritage Association needs your ideas, your information, your enthusiasm or your financial support, as they continue to explore ways to honor Waconia's past. If you are interested in Waconia's history, please consider joining. Membership brochures are available in the lobby of City Hall (on the display case) or contact via email at waconiaheritage@gmail.com.

Inclusive Playground Update

Everything begins with one person and one idea. In early 2017, the City of Waconia received a \$5,000 donation from Quinn Larson and his family to kick start the fundraising for an Inclusive Playground for the



community. Over the last year, the passion and interest in this playground, providing space for people of all abilities, has grown. Donations have continued to be received at the City, totaling approximately \$12,000 as of late August.

The initial concept of the playground includes an inclusive play system and accessible surfacing, however specific design work for the playground will commence in the next few months with a 21-member task force leading the way.

The goal is to fundraise \$400,000 to \$500,000 for the playground, with total costs estimated around at least \$600,000. The project is currently anticipated in 2023, unless funds can be raised quicker—then the project would start sooner. The City has earmarked some funds for this project, and is working on the concept design for an additional park building with restrooms adjacent to this playground.

The City of Waconia has recently set up a GoFundMe page to assist with fundraising efforts. Please visit the website at <https://www.gofundme.com/waconia-inclusive-playground>. Project updates will continue to be posted to the [GoFundMe page](#), as well as the [City of Waconia website](#).

Hot Topic:

Residential Sewer Override!

October is the last month for the sewer override! Any water use after October 22nd will be reflected on the November bill and will impact your summer 2019 sewer override amount.

Follow the code for more information on Residential Sewer Override and to find information on Hot Topics from previous months. You can also visit the Utility Billing section of www.waconia.org.



Waconia Fire Relief Association Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, October 7
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Waconia Fire Station
26 S. Maple Street

\$7 if purchased in advance and \$8 at the door.
Children 5 and under are free!



The Waconia Fire Relief Association invites you to the fall pancake, sausage, and French toast breakfast at the Fire Station. Tickets are available from firefighters or at the door.