



Waconia Wavelength

A City of Waconia Newsletter Publication

November 2020



Just Around the Corner — It's Winter!

It is hard to believe we have already had eight inches of snow before the end of October – before we know it, it will truly be winter in Waconia! City staff are hard at work preparing for the change of seasons and have checked their plow routes for obstacles. Additionally, we are working on assigning snow removal routes and training staff on new service areas. To assist our staff in providing consistent service this winter, we ask you to:

- Keep trash receptacles off the street and on trash day place them at the end of your driveway
- Make sure your mailbox can withstand the discharge of snow from plows
- Keep your mailbox area accessible for the mail carrier
- Do not blow or plow snow from your property across or into the street (violation of City ordinance)

While the City's goal is to have all maintenance activities complete within 24 hours of a snow event, sometimes the weather conditions are beyond our control and take extra time. Our **Winter Maintenance Policy** provides details on how winter maintenance operations are provided to the public and the City's goals for snow removal following snow events. You can find this policy on the City's website under "Public Services".

Winter parking restrictions also go into effect on November 1, 2020 and continue through April 1, 2021 from 12:00 a.m. (midnight) to 8:00 a.m. Information on parking restrictions are available on the City's website at www.waconia.org and located in Ordinance Section 634.01. It is also available in the Winter Maintenance Policy. If you have questions regarding winter maintenance, please contact the Public Services Department at 952-442-2615.

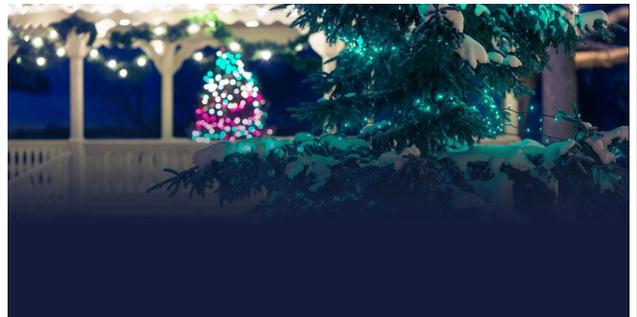
Light Up Waconia!

You better watch out, you better not cry – Santa Claus is coming to Waconia! Because we cannot gather for the annual Community Tree Lighting Ceremony, we will gain a new Waconia experience this year. Santa and his good buddies at the Waconia Fire Station are going to Light Up Waconia!

Late afternoon on Friday, November 27th, the Waconia Fire Department will be escorting Santa throughout Waconia neighborhoods. While Santa won't be able to visit every street, he wants to be able to see as many Waconia children as possible – so his route and the approximate time he will be visiting each neighborhood will be publicized in advance by the Chamber of Commerce and City of Waconia. We ask that people maintain their distance during this event, so that Santa and all Waconia families can stay healthy for the busy holiday season ahead.

The idea of Light Up Waconia and building of the Spirit of the Season asks for families to not light their holiday lights that evening until Santa drives by. The hope is to document this so everyone can enjoy seeing the magic happen.

Later that evening, Santa will be featured LIVE on the Waconia Events Facebook page, where he will count down and light up Waconia's City Square Park. Due to a generous donation from the Waconia Lions Club, there will be new dazzling snowflake lights on display to help illuminate the park. Our goal is for everyone to enjoy this new event that we hope will become a Waconia tradition. Watch for details and updates at www.DestinationWaconia.org, the Waconia Events Facebook page, and the City of Waconia Facebook page.



Water Bill and Winter Months

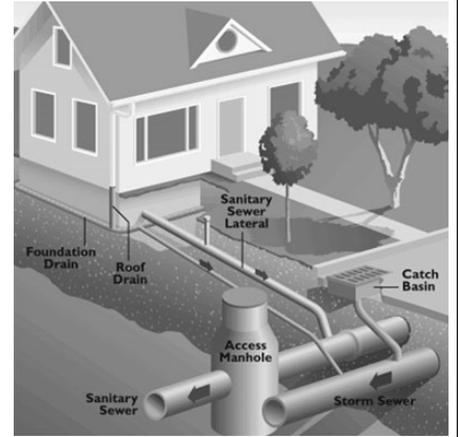
During November–April (winter months), the sewer line item on your water bill will match your water consumption, because the winter months are based on actual water use. This is because during the winter months, all the water consumed is usually being used indoors, therefore going down the sewer drain.

- The water meters were read on October 23rd.
- All water use after October 23rd will be reflected on the November bill.
- The November bill will not have the sewer override.
- Any outdoor use after the October 23rd meter read date will effect your summer 2021 sewer override amount.

Sewer vs. Storm Water Drains

When water leaves your home by going down a toilet, sink or other drain it goes into the sanitary sewer system and flows all the way to the treatment plant where it is treated and turned back into clean water. Outdoor water use and rain flows into catch basins and through the storm water pipe system which leads to holding ponds, lakes and streams.

The City currently has storm water reuse systems in place where water run off is harvested in holding ponds and pumped to irrigate common areas and fields around town.



2020 Election Update

The 2020 General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Ward I residents will vote at the Waconia Ice Arena (1250 Oak Avenue) and Ward II residents will vote at Trinity Church (601 2nd Street East). If you are unsure of your ward, maps can be found on the City's website.

If you haven't already registered to vote, Minnesota allows individuals to register at the time of voting or on election day. If you need to register to vote, we will need to see a valid ID with your name and current address. If your ID does not have your current address, you will still need to bring your ID, along with a bill of some sort that has your name and current address on it. Finally, if you do not have anything with your name or current address on it, someone in your ward is eligible to "vouch" for you. Details on this process and what documents are accepted can be found on the "[Register to Vote](#)" section of the City's website.

For more information on the 2020 General Election, please visit the Elections section of the City's website at www.waconia.org/elections. Here you can find a detailed election calendar, additional information regarding absentee voting, and details on how to register to vote.



Commission Appointments

Are you interested in being more involved in the City? There are current openings on the Planning Commission and Commission on Aging for 2021 – visit www.waconia.org/jobs for more information and to apply by November 4!

Upcoming Holidays

City offices will be closed on Wednesday, November 11 in observance of the Veteran's Day holiday. Offices will reopen for regular business hours on Thursday, November 12. Thank you to all who have served our Country!



City offices will also be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Offices will reopen for regular business hours on Monday, November 30. We wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving!

