

# Woodbury City Update

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## Rediscover Carver Lake Beach June 24–25

*The Twin Cities' best suburban beach is getting even better.*

Woodbury's Carver Lake Beach, which has earned that accolade from the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for several years running, was remodeled over the winter and spring. Sand play equipment, a themed playground, sun structures and more green space are all new features in place for the 2006 season. In addition, water play equipment is scheduled to be installed on the beach later this summer.

"Carver Lake Beach has always been a great place to spend a summer day," said Jodi Sauro, Parks and Recreation supervisor, "but especially this year, because of the new play equipment and amenities."

### Grand re-opening

A "Rediscover Carver Lake Beach" weekend is planned to celebrate the new additions on Saturday, June 24, and Sunday, June 25, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day. The first 250 children ages 1 and older will receive a free sand bucket with paid admission or entrance with a family pass each day.

In addition, all participants will be eligible for raffle prizes throughout the weekend. Prizes include free passes to Lookout Ridge indoor playground, and Parks and Recreation sweatshirts.

If the beach must close due to inclement

weather, the grand re-opening will be postponed until July 1–2. For weather updates, call the beach at (651) 578-0841.

### Hours and fees

Admission is \$2 per person for ages 1 and up. The summer family beach pass costs \$48.50 for residents, \$60 for non-residents (family passes include all members living in one household). An individual season pass is \$22. Prices do not include 6.5 percent sales tax.

The beach, located in Carver Lake Park at 3175 Century Avenue South, opened for the season on June 10. Through Aug. 26, the beach will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Concessions open at 10:30 a.m. Daily hours may be adjusted due to inclement weather.

The park consists of a 150-acre natural resource based park that includes woods, steep lakeshore bluffs, prairie, stream and a 40-acre deep lake. Facilities in the park include a large group picnic shelter, picnic area, fire ring, and a sand volleyball court. In addition, a new playground structure will be added near the picnic shelter later this summer. When the beach is open, lifeguards are on duty.

For more information, call the Woodbury Parks and Recreation Department at (651) 714-3583.



The new themed playground equipment installed near the shelter at Carver Lake Beach will add to the fun for kids this summer. Other new features include sand play equipment, sun structures, and more green space. In addition, water play equipment is expected to be installed on the beach later this summer.

### Schedule of events

#### Saturday, June 24

**10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.:** *Carnival games (spin wheel, penny drop, duck pond, lollipop tree and temporary tattoos)*

#### Sunday, June 25

**10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.:** *Family sand castle building competition*

**1 to 2 p.m.:** *Watermelon relay*

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## Council Perspective *by Mayor Bill Hargis*

### City taking steps to resolve 'brown' water problem

One of the most important services the city provides to residents is a high quality, safe, reliable water supply for drinking, cooking, clothes washing, and other needs. The annual drinking water report, mailed to all municipal water customers in May, provided details about Woodbury's municipal water system and test results showing that the city meets or surpasses every federal and state requirement related to water. The report also described discolored water concerns.

#### **Brown water complaints**

Historically, the city has received intermittent reports of discolored or "brown" water from random areas of the city every year. The complaints usually occur in conjunction with hydrant flushing, which is performed twice a year. The flushing removes mineral deposits in the lines, which can temporarily discolor the water.

In the past few months, however, complaints of brown water have increased. Most have come from the eastern portions of the city, including Eagle Valley, Stonemill Farms and Dancing Waters, the Colby Lake area, and some parts of Wedgewood.

In response to the growing number of complaints, the city hired Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) to identify the source of the problem and recommend a solution. At the City Council's May workshop meeting, we received the results of the study and approved purchase and installation of equipment that we believe will resolve the problem.

#### **Cause of discolored water**

Iron and manganese are two minerals that can cause discolored water. Test results indicate a relatively low iron content at all well sites in Woodbury. However, wells 14 and 15 have manganese levels that are substantially higher than the city's other wells. While the manganese content at these wells is near or slightly higher than the amount recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency, it does not pose any threat to human health. The water, though discolored, is safe to drink.

The recommended solution is the addition of polyphosphate to the water. This is a sequestering agent that will encapsulate the small iron and manganese solids and

prevent them from accumulating into particles large enough to discolor the water. Phosphate-based additives are safe and their success is well documented. According to the Minnesota Department of Health, "Phosphates are totally safe in drinking water and do not impart any taste or odor to the treated water."

The Health Department has been working closely with the city as we have studied the brown water problem, and will review and approve any changes to Woodbury's water system before they are implemented. The plan is to add the polyphosphate only at wells 14 and 15 by mid- to late July. The total cost is estimated at \$100,000, which includes engineering, equipment installation, and follow-up testing and studies.

#### **Impacts for residents**

The addition of the polyphosphate may actually increase the discolored water incidents for a short time. The substance tends to loosen mineral deposits when it is introduced into a water system. Over the long-term, however, it will act to lay down a protective film that should help limit future mineral deposits and improve the clarity of the water.

Residents also may be impacted by an aquifer study that is being required by the Department of Natural Resources. Beginning around June 13 and continuing until the end of August, the city will be running wells 15 and 16 — both in the eastern part of Woodbury — at full capacity. Changes of flow and pressure in the water distribution system, that will be created when these two pumps are started, may stir up the system and cause discolored water.

While the city works to resolve these issues, your feedback is important. If you are experiencing brown or discolored water when you turn on the tap, please report these incidents to the Public Works Department at (651) 714-3720. Please also be careful about laundering clothes if the water is discolored. If stains from the water appear on laundered clothes, do not put the clothes in the dryer, as this will set the stains. Washing the clothes again usually will remove any stains.

## Celebrate National Night Out with your neighbors

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, Aug. 1, and get ready to party! The Woodbury Public Safety Department is encouraging city neighborhoods to celebrate National Night Out that evening by holding a block party between 6 and 8 p.m.

The National Night Out Against Crime is observed annually to promote local anti-crime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and heighten crime and drug prevention awareness. This year, in addition to police, fire and emergency medical staff, the Night Out will include neighborhood visits by staff from other city departments as well.



If you would like a city staff member to bring a police, fire, or other vehicle to your event,

please submit a completed block party application to Public Safety by Friday, July 7. Block party packets may be picked up at the Public Safety Building or City Hall.

Applications also can be downloaded from the Woodbury Web site. Click on "police and fire" in the navigation bar, then select "police" from the list of menu options. On the police page, scroll down to "National Night Out" under the crime prevention heading.

City staff will make every effort to visit as many events as possible. Parties will be given priority based on the date the packet is submitted.

"National Night Out has proven to be an effective program," said Public Safety Director William Hering. "We believe the benefits the community derives from this event extend well beyond that evening."

Contact Chris Murphy at (651) 714-3688 or [cmurphy@ci.woodbury.mn.us](mailto:cmurphy@ci.woodbury.mn.us) with questions regarding National Night Out.

## Six residents receive landscaping grants

Six residents have been awarded \$500 each to assist with the cost of replacing turf grass with native plants as part of their home or neighborhood landscaping. The awards are the result of the first annual Woodbury Alternative Landscaping Grant Program. The program was initiated to encourage landscaping that helps improve water quality in city lakes.

“The city received 32 applications in this first round of grants,” said Sharon Doucette, environmental resources coordinator. “Overall, the proposals were excellent, and narrowing down to the six recipients was very difficult.”

The applications were judged on the water quality issues the project addressed as well as the ease of replication; the level of applicability to other properties in the City of Woodbury; the number of people involved in the project or the visibility of the project by the public; and the sensitivity of the watershed where the property is located.

### *The six grant recipients and their projects are:*

- Kris Tott, for Lake Place Subdivision, who will be planting native prairie plants around the neighborhood sign at the intersection of Spinaker Drive and Valley Creek Road;
- John and Laurie Gustafson, who will be planting two native prairie gardens in the front yard of their home on Timberlea Drive;
- John Hennem, for Carver Lake Meadows Homeowners Association, who submitted a plan for a rain garden to increase infiltration and decrease erosion between the homes on Devonshire Place and Devonshire Circle;
- Joel and Julie Domke, who are proposing a native buffer of both perennials and native shrubs along Bielenberg Drive between their rear yard and the Tamarack Nature Preserve;



The entry area for the Lake Place Subdivision, at Valley Creek Road and Spinaker Drive, will be transformed this summer with native prairie plants in a project submitted by Kris Tott for the city's first landscaping grant program.

- Bill Aamodt, who has removed a large amount of buckthorn from his property adjoining the west side of Wilmes Lake. He will be planting both shrubs and perennials to help stabilize the shoreline of the lake;
- Mike Olson, who has proposed a rain garden in his rear yard swale in the Fox Run neighborhood to increase infiltration and decrease storm water runoff.

The grant recipients attended a workshop given by Gregg Thompson, a landscape restoration specialist with expertise in rain gardens and native vegetation. Thompson discussed the benefits and challenges of replacing turf with

native plants and also counseled each grant recipient about his/her specific project.

Planting must be completed by Oct. 1 and projects will be accessible for public viewing. Photos of the six projects also will be available on the Woodbury Web site later this year.

Assisting city staff with selection of grant recipients were Environmental Education Commission members Jacqueline Hoffsten and Karen Sauro and Parks and Recreation commissioner Lynne Markus.



This policy is in effect year-round and first-time offenders are not exempt. Automatic sprinkling systems must be set to comply with both the odd/even schedule and the time of day regulations.

Special watering permits can be obtained for newly-placed sod and seed. Call Public Works at (651) 714-3720 for information.

## Lawn watering restrictions enforced

Getting ready to water the lawn? Don't turn on the faucet unless you've checked the clock and the calendar first!

To encourage conservation, maintain adequate water pressure, and ensure fire-fighting reserves, Woodbury city code restricts both the day and time that you can sprinkle your lawn. Complying with the watering regulations not only will conserve water but also may prevent you from receiving a citation for watering on the wrong day or at the wrong time of day.

### *Remember that:*

1. Lawn watering is prohibited between noon and 5 p.m. every day of the week.
2. Watering is allowed before noon and after 5 p.m. on an odd/even schedule. This means that residents and businesses with addresses ending in an even number (2, 4, etc.) may water their lawn on even-numbered calendar days. Likewise, those with addresses ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, etc.) may only sprinkle lawns on odd-numbered calendar days.

## Annual photo contest puts 'Focus on Woodbury'

It's time again to grab your cameras and capture your favorite images of Woodbury. Select your three best photos and enter them in the eighth annual "Focus on Woodbury" photo contest.

In addition to the usual categories — nature, people and personalities, and digitally-modified images — the event/feature category has been changed to "city scenes" for this year's contest. City scenes include photos taken at events in Woodbury, Woodbury architecture/buildings and cityscapes.



All photos — digital or standard — will be judged together and should be entered in the category that best fits their subject matter. Photos that are modified using digital techniques (e.g., adding new objects to an original photo or using Photoshop effects) will form a separate category — digitally-modified images.

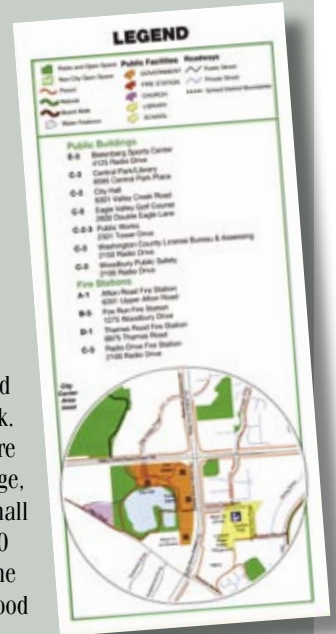
"Contestants should pay very close attention to the contest rules regarding the size and presentation of photos," said Julie Lehr, communications coordinator. "The judges have disqualified some excellent photographs in the past because they did not meet the requirements."

The deadline for submitting entries is 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15. The contest is open to Woodbury residents and employees of Woodbury businesses. Winners will be announced and displayed at Central Park in October. Last year's contest attracted 125 entries.

Complete contest rules and entry blanks will be published in the July edition of the City Update and posted on the Woodbury Web site at [www.ci.woodbury.mn.us](http://www.ci.woodbury.mn.us) by mid-July. Entry forms also will be available at Central Park and City Hall beginning in July. For more information, call Jason Egerstrom, communications specialist, at (651) 714-3523.

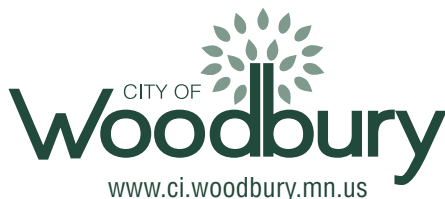
## New city maps available

Just in time for summer hiking and biking season, the city has published a new map of Woodbury, which is available at City Hall and Central Park. The maps are free of charge, though a small donation (50 cents) for the Woodbury food shelf is suggested.



In addition to updated street listings, the full color map features trails, parks and open space properties, and other public facilities in the city. The map also provides information about the various amenities, such as tennis courts and play structures, in Woodbury parks.

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Mayor: William Hargis. Council Members: Cheryl Hurst, Michael Madigan, Paul Rebholz, Amy Scoggins. City Administrator: Clinton Gridley. Communications Coordinator: Julie Lehr.

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