

City VIEW

WINTER 2025



- 04 2025 Approved Budget
- 06 Winter Recreation
- 10 Community Happenings
- 12 Water Department Notice
- 14 Public Safety



City General Election Results

Anoka voters went to the polls on Nov. 5, 2024 to vote for the City's mayoral seat and two 4-year council seats.

Vying for the position of Anoka Mayor:

- Erik Skogquist received 5,400 votes
- Joelle Alvord received 2,935 votes

Erik Skogquist will vacate his councilmember seat and be sworn in for a 2-year term as Anoka's mayor at the January 6, 2025 council meeting.

In the City Council race:

- Jeff Weaver (incumbent) received 4,186 votes
- Heather Rostad received 3,919 votes
- Brent Campbell received 3,470 votes
- Jesse Hauf received 1,594 votes

Current Councilmember Jeff Weaver will return to his council seat and serve another 4-year term. Heather Rostad will begin a 4-year term in the seat vacated by Councilmember Brian Wesp. With Erik Skogquist elected as mayor, the City Council will appoint a new councilmember to fill that vacancy.

City Ballot Question Results:

Should Anoka Implement an Organized Garbage, Recycling, Yardwaste Collection System?

- No = 4,686
- Yes = 4,329

With the majority of voters opposing the proposed organized collection system, residents will continue to manage their own solid waste and yard waste services.

A huge "THANK YOU" to the hard working Anoka Election Judges. Many of these judges have served in this capacity for decades, plus we had many new judges, as well. Their dedication to uphold the integrity of our electoral process is outstanding and greatly appreciated.

Please contact the Administration Department at 763-576-2740 with questions.





Anoka City Hall

2015 1st Ave., Anoka, MN 55303
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Phone: 763-576-2700 | Toll Free: 1-866-576-2701
anokaminnesota.com

Elected Officials

Mayor

Erik Skogquist 763-576-9219

City Council

Heather Rostad 612-849-0202
Sam Scott 612-695-5896
Jeff Weaver 763-421-5522
Vacancy - to be filled

City Manager

Greg Lee 763-576-2711

Important Phone Numbers

Administration 763-576-2740
Animal Containment Center 763-576-2850
Anoka Municipal Utility (AMU) 763-576-2903
 Power Outage (during business hours) 763-576-2903
 After 3 p.m. 763-576-2860
 Utility Bill Inquiries 763-576-2750
Anoka Senior Center 763-576-4661
Aquatic Center 763-421-7730
Assessing/Special Assessments 763-576-2730
Better Values Liquor East 763-421-3070
Community Development 763-576-2720
Code Enforcement/Property Maintenance 763-576-2716
Planning, Zoning & Building Permits 763-576-2720
Finance 763-576-2770
Fire Non-Emergency 763-576-2900
Green Haven Golf Course & Event Center 763-576-2970
Housing & Redevelopment 763-576-2724
Parks & Recreation, Cemeteries 763-576-2980
Police Non-Emergency 763-427-1212
Public Services (streets, water, sewer) 763-576-2980
 After Hours 763-576-2860
Residential Recycling 763-576-2725

Editor

Pam Bowman 763-576-2725

City View is partially funded by the Anoka County Board of Commissioners and State Score Funds (SCORE-Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment).



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City Boards & Commissions Meetings

Monthly meetings unless noted; dates and times are subject to change.

City Council: 1st & 3rd Mondays – 7 p.m.

Economic Development Commission: 2nd Thursday – 8 a.m.

Heritage Preservation Commission: 2nd Tuesday – 5 p.m.

Home Rule Charter Commission: Annually

Housing and Redevelopment Authority: 2nd Monday – 5 p.m.

Human Rights Commission: Bi-monthly or as needed – 5 p.m.

Parking Advisory Board: 3rd Wednesday – 7:15 a.m.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board: 3rd Tuesday – 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission: 1st Tuesday – 7 p.m.

Utility Advisory Board: 3rd Thursday of even months (bi-monthly) – 4 p.m.

Waste Reduction & Recycling Board: 2nd Wednesday – 5 p.m.

Lower Rum River Water Management Organization: 3rd Thursday – 8 a.m.

QCTV Live Broadcasts & Replays

Quad Cities Community Television (QCTV) broadcasts regular City Council, Housing & Redevelopment Authority, and Planning Commission meetings on Channel 16 with periodic replays. Visit qctv.org for complete schedule and for video streaming.

City Offices Closed

Wednesday, January 1 New Year's Day
Monday, January 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, February 17 Presidents' Day

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Dick Mussell Agency
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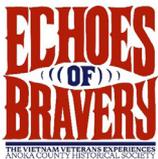


Blue Cross offers PPO, Cost and PDP plans with Medicare contracts. Enrollment in these plans depends on contract renewal. Plans are available to residents of the service area. You can also contact Blue Cross for plan information or to enroll: 1-877-662-2583, TTY 711, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Central Time, daily.



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Anoka County Historical Society



The Anoka County Historical Society has launched a new story-gathering initiative called Echoes of Bravery. This project will focus on the experiences of Vietnam-era service members and their families, striving to fill a void in the History Center's collection.

Growing a body of research collected in the early 2000s, Echoes of Bravery seeks stories from Anoka County residents about their experiences in the military and reintegration, employment, and the ongoing challenges of living with the effects of deployment. Of particular interest are the children who grew up with veterans as parents, the grandchildren who may have had the benefit of a vet healed enough to play and banter, but also for those whose Grandparent couldn't find the ability to engage, the spouses who stayed to explain why they did, and for us to offer compassion for those who left.

Documenting the veteran story and the family perspective provides a complete picture of what war costs a community from the microcosm of a family revolving around the emotional and physical needs of a wounded vet to the echoes of that rippling out to extended family, employers, schools, and even the person at the till in the grocery store.

Visit anokacountyhistory.org for more information, to donate your story or artifacts, or to contribute financially. Reach us at 763-421-0600.

Anoka Employees Club Gives Back

We thank the members of the Anoka Employees Club who choose to give back to the community in which they work. Since its inception, the Anoka Employees Club has donated close to \$155,000 to local programs including Chores & More, Anoka High School's Caring and Sharing Fund, Toys for Joy, Salvation Army Heat Share, ACBC Food Shelf, Alexandra House, and has also donated funds to local schools to assist students in need with supplies and registration costs. Plus, congratulations to Anoka High School students Veronica Moran and Kaylee Auspos who each were awarded \$500 scholarships.

Employee members make a one-time donation or specify a donated amount to be taken out of each paycheck during their membership. Many also volunteer time in various ways. Thank you, members!

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QCTV Surveys Cable Subscribers



In June 2024, QCTV, in partnership with the Morris and Leatherman Company, completed a survey of cable subscribers, which showed strong growth in brand awareness and viewer engagement.

We at QCTV know that there is a demand for city information in video form and our survey shows this demand has increased substantially in recent years. It has been our privilege to produce this video content for residents of Andover, Anoka, Champlin, and Ramsey for over forty years and we are pleased to see an increased awareness of our work in these great communities!

We would like to thank all of our viewers for their continued support of QCTV and local media! We are excited to bring you great new stories in 2025!

Source: Cable Subscriber Survey, 400 resp., Morris Leatherman Co., June 2024, paid for by QCTV. Learn more at QCTV.org.

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2025 City Budget

The City of Anoka provides a full range of services, including police and fire protection, construction and maintenance of highways, streets, and other infrastructure, electric, water and sewer services, recreational activities, and cultural events. The municipal budget is intended to reflect the goals, objectives, and priorities established by the City Council with input from the residents and taxpayers of Anoka. It fairly represents the revenues and expenditures necessary to provide the services and programs desired by the community. The budget adoption is a significant way in which the City Council expresses their leadership. The established budget goals are accurately reflected in this budget.

2025 Budget Objectives

- Maintain a balanced city budget and continue to identify and eliminate excessive taxing and spending.
- Sell city property held for resale and redevelop Tax Increment Finance districts to maximize use of tax increment revenues and improve tax base.
- Continue code enforcement and property inspections to ensure properties are held to high standards established by the City.
- Enhance public infrastructure and amenities, with appropriate funding levels for maintenance and replacement.
- Increase and enhance communications with citizens.

The City Council, through recommendations of city staff, is increasing the general fund operating expenditures by 8.72 percent or \$1,371,488 in 2025. The primary increases to expenditures are in professional services and maintenance. This is a result of inflationary increases to goods and services, and also additional care and maintenance of city assets. Increased professional services includes building inspection services which are contracted out, rather than done in-house by an employee. Significant increases to cost allocations for IT services and increased costs associated with fleet management are also included in the 2025 budget.

The General Fund operating expenditure increases are primarily a result of:

- Wages and Benefits \$259,262
- Professional Services \$644,878
- Maintenance \$420,808

The General Fund budget includes total expenditures in the amount of **\$17,098,494**.

The City Council adopted the **final levy**, including debt levy, on December 16, 2024, in the amount of **\$11,178,783**, which is \$1,031,476 or 10.17 percent higher than the 2024 levy. Estimated residential increases, based on 2025 market valuation, range from 6 percent to 18 percent depending on changes to property values. Estimated market value and taxable market values for

homes in Anoka decreased 1.6 percent on average for 2025. The median home could anticipate increases of approximately 12.8 percent, rather than the 9.6 percent increase to the levy, due to decreased tax capacity within the city.

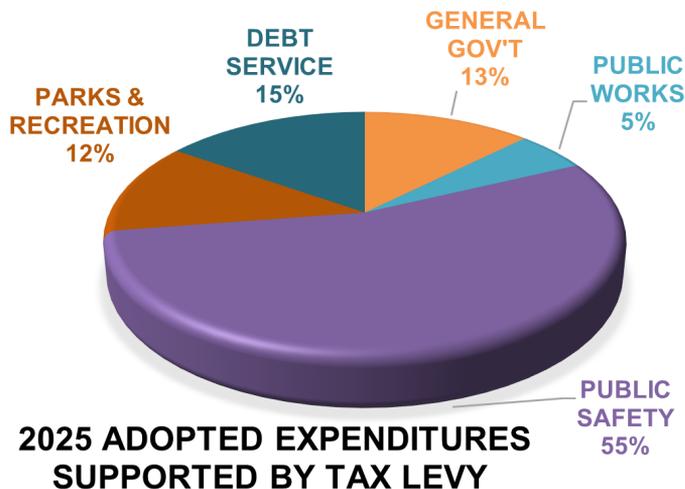
Below is a comparison of three homes and city taxes for 2024 and 2025:

2023 Value	2024 City Tax	2024 Value	2025 City Tax
\$215,400	\$ 723	\$207,900	\$ 769
\$306,000	\$1,084	\$305,200	\$1,222
\$433,600	\$1,586	\$419,500	\$1,755

My monthly taxes pay for:

General government <i>(City Council, Administration, Finance, Legal)</i>	\$10.59
Streets and building maintenance	\$5.49
Police and security services	\$49.75
Fire services	\$6.12
Recreation <i>(Aquatic Center, Event Center, Senior Center, Playgrounds)</i>	\$4.46
Park maintenance	\$7.97
Planning and community development	\$2.08
Debt service	\$15.41
Total per month	\$101.87

In the 2025 Budget, a new department was added to the Storm Water Fund. This new department, River Restoration, will be used to track revenues and expenditures related to projects that keep the river water safe and river ways active. The City will transfer funds to this department annually to build balances for future projects. Future dock rental revenue will be used to fund projects, as well.



The City has begun work on an updated financial management plan, which includes cost of service and rate studies for

utility services. Rate recommendations will be reviewed for implementation in 2025. Budgets reflect estimated changes; however public hearings will be held prior to any rate increase.

The emphasis in 2025 includes development and redevelopment throughout the city. City staff is working with interested development groups for sites located at 2nd & Van Buren, 2nd & Harrison, 4th & Johnson, as well as others. Staff is having concept drawings created for a new Liquor store on the corner of 7th and Main with room for 7,000 sq. ft. in additional commercial development. Development and redevelopment continue to increase the tax base for the City of Anoka, thereby keeping tax rates lower for all property owners.

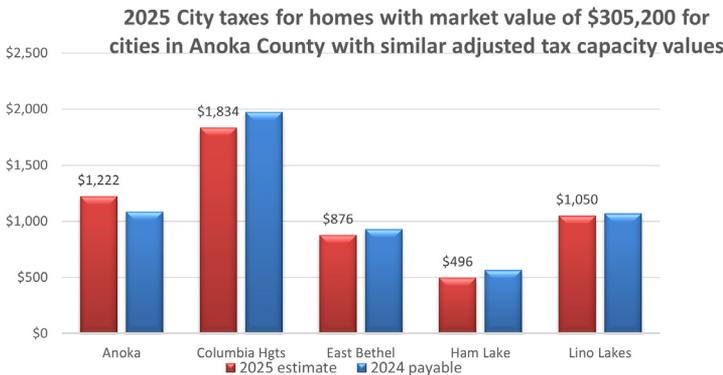
2025 Monthly Service Costs for Average Residential Property of \$305,200

\$ 101.87	Taxes (includes debt service)
3.00	Gas franchise fees
22.09	Water distribution, average use
26.93	Sewer collection, average use
5.75	Storm sewer drainage
5.15	Recycling
\$ 164.79	Total

How does the City of Anoka compare with other suburban cities across the Metro Area with populations around 18,200?



How does the City of Anoka compare with cities in Anoka County with similar adjusted tax capacity values of around \$29 million?



Explore program and degree options.



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Winter Recreation

Public Ice Skating

City rinks are open through mid-February (weather permitting). Rink locations have a warming house, restroom (indoor or portables), lights, and an attendant when open. They also have either a general skating area, a hockey rink, or both. Not all hockey rinks are regulation size. Please park in the designated, plowed parking areas only and do not drive on the ice.



- Public Services employees work hard to provide the best skating facilities possible.
- Rinks are typically flooded Monday-Friday when temperatures are below 30 degrees.
- Rinks will not be cleared of snow until city roadways and sidewalks have first been cleared.

Seeking Skate Donations

Please consider donating gently used ice skates for shared use at Lincoln Elementary School's warming house. Skates may be dropped off at Anoka City Hall during business hours or at the warming house when open. Thank you.

Warming House Facilities

Warming houses are equipped with first aid kits and benches. They are supervised by an attendant with authority to enforce rules and regulations posted in the facilities. Rink attendants are responsible for overseeing rink scheduling, safety, and general

operation during open hours. Facilities with free use equipment must be checked out by the rink attendants during open hours.

Warming House Hours

Monday - Friday	4-8 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday	Noon-8 p.m.
All School Release Days	Noon-8 p.m.

Additional Winter Activities

Anoka Ice Arena	763-427-8163
Anoka-Hennepin Community Ed	763-506-1260
Anoka Area Hockey Association	763-427-9919
Anoka County Parks Dept.	763-757-2820



Winter Disc Golf at Green Haven

The Cedars at Green Haven disc golf course is a full 18-hole course utilizing the elevated portion of the property on the north and west side. While the course offers a challenging

layout for the advanced level player, it is still

enjoyable for the intermediate and novice players. Leagues will be available on Tuesdays and every other Saturday. Tournaments will occur throughout the season. A youth disc golf class will occur on February 17 (Presidents Day). Participants can enjoy delicious food and beverages at The Tavern at Green Haven during restaurant hours. The course is free to the public. The course can be found on the UDisc App (for Apple and Android) for scoring and a map. A course map can also be found near the practice basket near the first tee.

Visit Parks & Recreation at anokaminnesota.com.

Location	Address	Hockey Rink	Pond Hockey	General Rink	Snowshoes (free)	Skates (free)
George Enloe Park	631 Lund Blvd.	✓		✓	✓	
Lincoln Elementary School	540 South St.		✓			✓
Rick Sorenson Park	2015 State St.	✓		✓		
Rudy Johnson Park	611 Polk St.			✓		
Wilson Elementary School	1025 Sunny Ln.	✓		✓		

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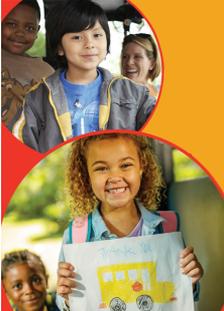
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Cross Country Ski Trails

Whether you cross country ski for sport, exercise, or fun, the groomed trails at Green Haven Golf Course and the Anoka Nature Preserve are sure to meet your needs. City crews will begin grooming these trails when weather permits. A minimum of six inches of snow is needed to start preparing the trails. Trails will be groomed based on snow fall amounts and use.

Green Haven Golf Course (2800 Green Haven Road): Provides approximately two and a half kilometers of trail winding around the north and east side of the course loop. Classic and skate skiing trails provide flat and hilly terrain challenges for beginner and intermediate skiers. To protect the greens and fairways, skiers must stay on the groomed trails and only use the cutbacks provided to get back to the parking lot. Please keep all dogs leashed, off the classic ski tracks, and clean up after them.

Anoka Nature Preserve (4299 Parkview Lane): Provides nearly five kilometers of partially wooded trails with moderately flat terrain for skiers. Trails will be groomed for multi-use to be shared for skiing, snowshoeing, and walking/hiking. A groomer will be used to smooth trail surfaces, but will not be setting classic ski tracks. Classic skiers wanting to ski in groomed tracks are encouraged to use the trail at Green Haven. Please keep all dogs leashed and clean up after them.

Visit Parks and Recreation at anokaminnesota.com.

Community Gives Back

Thank you to the organizations and individuals who participated in our Adopt-a-Park and Pick-a-Park programs, and the many people who have donated benches for the city parks and trails. Adopt-a-Park participants are recognized with signage at their adopted park. For information about these programs, call Public Services at 763-576-2980.

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Insurance Solutions



Dan Pfeifer
Independent
Licensed Agent

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.



Waterfowl for Warriors

Anoka held its 11th annual Waterfowl for Warriors hunting program in the Anoka Nature Preserve last fall. Annually, the program provides five waterfowl hunts, one of which includes a hunting experience for youth who are the children of veterans and active service members.

Anoka is proud to offer these hunts as a way to say thank you to our nation's heroes by providing them the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful outdoors. This program provides a quality hunting experience for approximately 60 veterans and active service members each year.

Thank you to Waterfowl for Warriors organizers, the more than 30 volunteers, and to Federal Premium Ammunition, The Weaver Brothers Company, Big Dog Duck Calls, Mike Haste LLC, and Polaris/Kolpin for their ongoing support of the hunts.

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Resource Document

The Anoka Human Rights Commission (HRC) has developed a comprehensive resource document to support community members in times of crisis, while also offering valuable information for long-term well-being.

The document is accessible online at anokaminnesota.com/322/Human-Rights-Commission and is available in paper form at Anoka City Hall.

The following categories are included:

- Domestic Violence
- Drug & Substance Abuse Prevention
- Educational Opportunities
- Energy, Financial & Phone Internet Assistance
- Food Shelves & Community Meals
- Housing Assistance
- Medical or Mental Health Services
- Senior Services
- Veteran Services
- Volunteering & Giving
- Voting Resources
- Youth Services, Resources & Opportunities

Anoka's Human Rights Commission is dedicated to promoting the well-being of all residents and this resource document serves as an important tool in achieving that goal. The HRC aims to create a supportive environment where everyone in the community has access to the resources they need.

Questions? Contact Amy Oehlers, staff liaison to the HRC at aehlers@ci.anoka.mn.us or 763-576-2712.

In case of an emergency, please call 911.



City-Owned Liquor Store

Better Value Liquors is proudly owned and operated by the City of Anoka.

One-hundred percent (100%) of the profits that are generated benefit the community of Anoka.

Our goal is to offer you a safe, pleasant, and convenient shopping experience. We appreciate our loyal customers and look forward to serving you.

Events and Promotions

- **Spring Wine Sale** – Thursday, March 27, 2025 – Saturday, April 12, 2025, every regular-priced wine item will be on sale for 22 percent off. Look for in-store tastings during the sale.
- **THC Gummies, Seltzers, and Cocktails** – In June 2023, the State of Minnesota legalized the sale of THC gummies, seltzers, and cocktails in liquor stores. We have several doses, flavors, mocktails, and gummies. Also, effective Oct. 1, 2024, we can accept credit/debit cards for low dose THC purchases.
- **Dual Pricing** – We offer dual pricing on all our products. This means we have a credit card price and a less expensive cash price on all items in the store. This allows us to retain profits rather than paying rising credit card bank processing fees and leads to passing the savings on to you, our valued customers.
- **Senior Discount Day** – Seniors 55 and over, Tuesday is your day to save 10 percent off your entire purchase of regular priced liquor, beer, and wine items.
- **Military Discount Day** – Current military and veterans, Wednesday is your day to save 10 percent off your entire purchase of regular priced liquor, beer, and wine items.
- **Wednesday Wine Day** – All non-sale wine is discounted 10 percent off every Wednesday.

Please visit our Facebook page, Better Values Liquor Stores, for new product updates, tastings, and store information.

Better Values Liquor
847 East River Road
763-421-3070

Regular Store Hours:
Monday- Saturday: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sundays: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Enjoy the products we sell in moderation and please don't drink and drive.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

To learn more about donating online, volunteer opportunities, or to schedule an appointment to shop for food, visit acbcfoodshelf.org or call 763-422-0046.

ACBC is accepting donations of: Nonperishable Food
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Green Haven Golf Course & Event Center



Stay in the Swing with Golf Simulators

Keep your golf game sharp no matter the season with our two state-of-the-art HD golf simulators.

Whether you're

a seasoned pro or a casual player, our simulators offer an immersive experience that brings the world's most famous courses right to your fingertips.

Step onto the tee and choose from 35 iconic courses, including legendary destinations like Pebble Beach. The high-definition imagery – captured, not computer-generated – brings each course to life with incredible realism. Experience the serene beauty of courses around the globe.

Looking to host an event? Rent a private room for your company outing, bachelor party, or birthday celebration and enjoy delicious food delivered straight from the Tavern at Green Haven.

Ski Trails

Our cross country ski trails are groomed and ready for skiers as weather permits. See Parks & Recreation (page 7) for full details.

Golf Leagues

We offer the following leagues:

- **Men's Club** – Whether it is a club championship, season long match play, 18-hole or 9-hole league, there is an option to fit every golfer.
- **Women's Leagues** – Tuesdays with an 18-hole league in the morning and a 9-hole league in the afternoon. Both are seeking golfers.
- **Senior League** – Wednesday mornings; open to male golfers over the age of 50. Formats vary weekly.
- **Business Leagues** – There are a few limited openings for evening corporate or group golf leagues.

To learn more or to book the simulators, visit greenhavengolfcourse.com or call 763-576-2972.

Winter Dining at Green Haven

The Tavern at Green Haven will be open for dining this winter, offering a cozy atmosphere and a menu full of your favorite dishes. Whether you're finishing up a round of disc golf or just in the mood for a great meal, we have you covered. Visit greenhavengolfcourse.com for hours and updates. We look forward to serving you this winter!

Round Up for Change Program



Anoka Municipal Utilities program, Round Up for Change, began in January 2012. Voluntary "round up" contributions provide financial assistance to organizations that provide basic human needs to help improve the lives of families, children and seniors right here in our community.

Since inception, AMU utility customers participating in the program have given back approximately \$462,000 to local charitable organizations including ACBC Food Shelf, Alexandra House, Anoka Community Mission, CEAP, and CROSS Services.

To take part in this community giving program, please call 763-576-2750 and ask to add Round Up for Change to your utility bill. The total cost will never exceed \$.99 a month, or \$11.98 a year. The average Round Up participant donates \$5.93 per year.

Together we are making real change with a little spare change in our community. Thank you.



GREEN HAVEN

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763.576.2972
2800 Greenhaven Road, Anoka

Tavern
at
Green Haven
763.576.2970

Community Happenings



Anoka Winterfest – 6 Days of Winter Fun

January 13 - January 18, 2025

Join us for a flurry of activities at Anoka Winterfest; our multi-day event will appeal to all age groups!

Experience a variety of outdoor (and

indoor) activities. Enjoy the great outdoors and all that Anoka's parks system has to offer. Some fees apply.

January 13 – Wolf Moon (Full Moon) – FREE

- 5:30-7 p.m. – Luminary ski, snowshoe, fat tire bike, or walk groomed trails at Green Haven Golf Course, 2800 Green Haven Rd.
- 5:30-7 p.m. – Cocoa with the Cops and s'mores with the Fire Department at Green Haven Golf Course, 2800 Green Haven Rd.

January 14 – Bingo & Speed Puzzle (Preregistration required)

- 1 p.m. – Bingo at the Anoka Senior Center, 1500 6th Ave.
- 5:30 p.m. – Speed Puzzle Competition at Anoka City Hall, 2015 First Ave.*

January 15 – Rumriver Art Center Winterfest Craft (Preregistration required)

- 6-7:30 p.m. – Rumriver Art Center, 2665 4th Ave. #103*

January 16 – Glow Disc Golf at the Cedars at Green Haven (Register at the course)

- 6 p.m. – The Cedars at Green Haven Disc Golf Course, 2800 Green Haven Rd.*

January 17 – Glow Skate/Sled All Ice Rink Locations

- 4-8 p.m. – All ice rink locations

January 18 – Get Out and SKATE with Anoka Area Hockey Association (Preregistration requested)

- 10:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. – Open Skate (pre-registration requested; bring your own skates and helmet)

*For information on fees and registration for these events, visit anokaminnesota.com/683/Anoka-Winterfest.

North Suburban HOME SHOW

All Things Home Improvement

25th Annual North Suburban Home Show – March 8, 2025

The highly anticipated 25th Annual North Suburban Home Show will take place on Saturday, March 8, 2025, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Andover Community Center, located at 15200 Hanson Boulevard NW. This year's event promises something for everyone, with over 100 exhibitors showcasing the latest in home improvement and design.

You'll find inspiration and expert advice on topics, including:

- Kitchen and bathroom remodeling
- Backyard and landscaping ideas
- Custom DIY projects
- Flooring, fixtures, and windows
- Roofing, gutters, siding, and more

Whether you're looking to remodel your kitchen, upgrade your landscaping, or simply get inspired by the latest trends, you'll find the resources and expertise to help bring your vision to life.

Giving Back to the Community

Admission to the Home Show is completely FREE, but attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items or make a monetary donation to benefit ACBC Food Shelf. Donations will be collected by the Boy Scouts of America, making this a great opportunity to support the community while enjoying the event.

The North Suburban Home Show is sponsored by the cities of Andover, Anoka, Coon Rapids, and the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce.

Learn more at northsuburbanhomeshow.com or call 763-767-5168.

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Anoka Housing & Redevelopment Authority

Loans Designed for You and Your Home



Anoka partners with Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) to offer financing designed to help residents make improvements to their homes in the city. Transform your home this winter with our

affordable home improvement loans – perfect for upgrading your space while staying warm and cozy all season long!

Available Loan Programs:

- Anoka Home Improvement Loan
- Anoka Deferred Home Improvement Loan
- Anoka Senior Deferred Loan

To learn more about the specific program rates, terms, and eligible improvements, visit mncee.org/anoka.

If you have questions, call 612-335-5884 and get support from one of CEE's loan officers.

Not sure where to start? Schedule a **FREE** Remodeling Advisor Visit. This free visit can help you identify and prioritize your improvements. To schedule your visit, call 612-335-5856.

Curb Appeal Residential Enhancement Grant Program

The City of Anoka Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) is offering a grant program aimed at curb appeal enhancements to homes. Curb Appeal Residential Enhancement (CARE) Grant Program provides grant money for exterior enhancements made by homeowners to the street side of their home to increase curb appeal. There are no income limits to participate.

Program details:

- Grant amounts of \$1,000 to \$5,000 are available. Homeowners must pay at least \$4,000 of their own funds to receive the minimum grant of \$1,000 from the city.
- 15 percent grant for basic improvements (siding, roof, windows, soffit/fascia, etc.)
- 25 percent grant for beautification improvements (brick, stone, shakes, covered front porches, exterior lighting, landscaping, new front doors/garage doors, driveways, etc.)
- Each application must have **at least one beautification project** to be eligible. See website for further details.

If you meet the eligibility requirements, please visit anokaminnesota.com/710/CARE-Grant-Program and complete the online application. Online applications open January 1, 2025 and the HRA will accept them through February 28, 2025, with a lottery drawing to be held at 3 p.m. on March 3, 2025.



HOPE 4 YOUTH

Our mission is to provide pathways to end youth homelessness.



If you or someone you know is experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless and are 16 - 24 years old, we are here for you! Our Drop-In Center provides services such as, basic need items like food and hygiene, clothing, laundry facilities, one-on-one support, hot meals, and so much more.

Youth homelessness is unacceptable.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

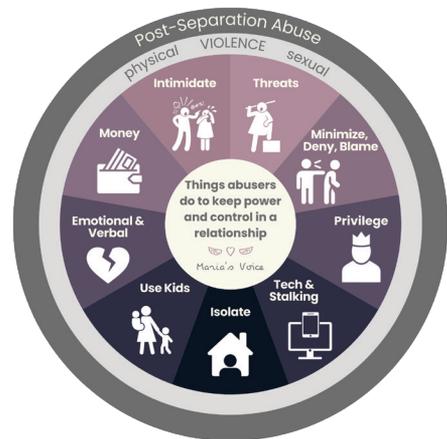


For more information on the services we provide or to get involved, scan the QR code or visit hope4youthmn.org:



Maria's Voice

Domestic Abuse Prevention is Our Business
It's Your Business Too



Domestic Abuse Prevention Education

Contact us to educate your business, organization, or faith community

www.MariasVoice.org Angie@MariasVoice.org

The City of Anoka Joined Maria's Voice to Prevent Domestic Abuse in 2024

City Water Department



The City of Anoka Water Department has worked to complete the initial inventory of all water service lines. This is a federal mandate administered at the state level by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). Public water systems are required to notify all customers with service lines that have been classified as lead, galvanized, or unknown.

Anoka has completed and submitted its water service line materials inventory to the Minnesota Department of Health. The service line inventory is publicly available, and you can check the materials for your service line by visiting the Lead Inventory Tracking Tool (LITT) at maps.umn.edu/LSL or scan the first QR code below.



Water Service Line Mapping Tool

If you have questions, please contact Bill Bendiske in the City Water Department at 763-576-2924 or email: Anoka.lslr@ci.anoka.mn.us.

To complete the service line inventory, our system performed records review, community outreach, and visual inspections.

As of October 30, 2024, our inventory contains 0 lead, 119 galvanized requiring replacement, 94 unknown material, and 5,045 non-lead service lines.

If you would like to submit information regarding your water service line, access the City of Anoka water service line survey at the second QR code below.



Water Service Line Survey

Hot Water Heater Problems

Many water complaints are due to problems that originate in the home. If you detect an odor in your hot water, it could be due to your water heater. A harmless type of bacteria can contaminate a water heater and convert natural sulfate to hydrogen sulfide gas, which has a pungent odor. This problem is made worse when away from home for long periods of time and the water heater stands idle. Flushing the water heater can help; consult your owner's manual for instructions. Other remedies include replacing the magnesium anode with an aluminum one or increasing the temperature setting to 160 degrees (high setting) for a few hours. **CAUTION: Make sure the water tank has an operable pressure relief valve before attempting this remedy and remember to lower the setting after about three hours.**

If you notice small white particles in your faucet aerators, check to see if they float. If they do, your water heater dip tube may have disintegrated into small pieces. The dip tube is an extension of the cold water, extending nearly to the bottom of the tank. This prevents the incoming cold water from diluting the temperature of the hot water. Few homeowners have the tools to know how to replace a dip tube; it is best to have a plumber perform this repair.

Winterizing Your Home's Water System:

- Fill in foundation cracks
- Wrap exposed pipes with insulation
- Keep basement or crawl space warm enough to prevent freeze-ups
- Detach hoses from outside faucets
- Store lawn furniture more than three feet from utility meters
- Clear snow away from nearby fire hydrants

Please call the Anoka Water Department at 763-576-2923 with any questions.

**Feed kids.
Feed spirits.
Empower
communities.**

**Join the cause.
Fund and pack
lifechanging
meals today.**



fmsc.org



Street Surface Improvement Program

2025 Street Surface Improvement Project – Lund Blvd. & McKinley St.



The Street Surface Improvement Program (SSIP) began in 2009 for city streets showing accelerated deterioration in order to create longer term benefits than just with roadway maintenance.

Since this program began, over 2,300 properties have benefitted and 24.1 miles of city roads have been resurfaced or 34% of the 70.8 miles of city roads. The main construction component of the Street Surface Improvement Program is the reconditioning/resurfacing of city roads. Reconditioning of a road comprises of a full depth reclamation of existing bituminous pavement and paving a new bituminous asphalt surface.

The 2025 project is proposed to be approximately 1.3 miles of street resurfacing for the neighborhoods of McKinley Park, Mineral Ponds, and the Anoka Enterprise Park. The roads that are proposed to be resurfaced include McKinley Street from Thurston Avenue to St. Francis Boulevard (TH 47) and Lund Boulevard from Thurston Avenue to McKinley Street. The estimated cost of this project is \$2,000,000.

This project is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2025, with final completion in late summer of 2025.

Lower Rum River Water Management Organization

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 8 a.m. in the worksession room at Anoka City Hall.

Storm and surface water issues are discussed and meetings are open to the public. Contact Ben Nelson at 763-576-2980 with any questions.



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Public Safety

Anoka-Champlin Fire Department

Winter Safety Tips

As winter approaches, the Anoka-Champlin Fire Department is reminding residents to stay vigilant about fire safety. With colder temperatures come increased risks associated with heating, cooking, and holiday decorations. Here are some important fire safety reminders:

- **Heating Safety** – Wood-burning stoves, space heaters, and fireplaces while effective in staying warm, can also pose serious fire risks if not used properly. Always ensure space heaters are placed away from flammable materials and never leave them unattended. When using a fireplace, make sure the chimney is clean and in good condition.
- **Cooking Safety** – The kitchen is the most common place for home fires to start. Always stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop or using the oven, and avoid distractions while preparing meals. Keep flammable items, like oven mitts or towels, away from heat sources.
- **Holiday Decor Safety** – Decorating for the holidays can bring warmth and cheer, but it's also a time when fire risks increase. Each year, there are hundreds of fires caused by Christmas trees, holiday lights, and candles. To minimize the danger, check lights for damage before use, never leave candles unattended, and water your fresh tree regularly to prevent it from drying out.

For more winter fire safety tips, visit the Minnesota State Fire Marshal's website at dps.mn.gov/divisions/sfm/fire-safety/fire-safety-tips.

Fire Hydrant Access

Please also help ensure fire safety this winter by clearing snow around nearby fire hydrants – a four-foot path is helpful. This can greatly assist firefighters in responding quickly during an emergency.



We also encourage residents to check their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. If these alarms are more than 10-years-old, they should be replaced.

In partnership with the American Red Cross, we offer free battery-operated smoke alarms to residents in need. We also provide free radon testing kits to help keep homes safe from radon exposure. For more information please contact the Anoka-Champlin Fire Department at 763-576-2900.

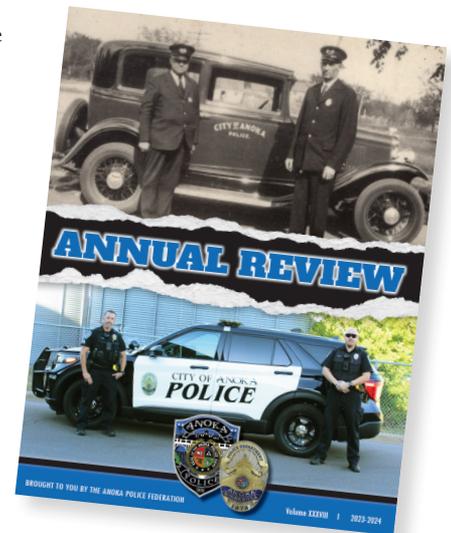
Anoka Police Department

Anoka Police Annual Review

The 2024-2025 edition of the Anoka Police Annual Review will be published in spring of 2025. For 38 years, the Anoka Police Department and the Anoka Police Federation have teamed up to create this informative magazine. Funds raised by ads sold in the magazine stay in the community and are focused on youth activities and scholarships.

The 2023-2024 Anoka Police Annual Review is available now. The Review includes crime statistics and articles about the Anoka Police Department.

If your company is interested in placing an ad in the next edition or if you would like a copy of the current publication, please call Julie Spletstoesser at 763-576-2830.



Overnight Parking

The City of Anoka's parking ordinance prohibits parking on any city street from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. every day. Short-term exceptions can be made by calling the Police Department at 763-576-2800. No exceptions are granted during city snowplowing or within 24-hours of a predicted snowfall.

Coffee with a Cop

Building relationships one cup at a time! Coffee with a Cop brings police officers and the community members they serve together to discuss issues and learn more about one another, while enjoying a warm cup of coffee. Watch our social media pages for upcoming dates and times.



Anoka Senior Center

Enjoy a Delicious Lunch and Fun Activities

Join us at the Anoka Senior Center for a nutritious and delicious lunch, available Tuesday through Friday, with a suggested donation of just \$5.00. Your meal includes milk, coffee, and dessert! To ensure your spot, be sure to reserve your meal at least one week in advance by calling 763-427-6646.

The Anoka Senior Center isn't just about great food! We offer a variety of fun and engaging activities to keep you active and entertained. Enjoy trips and events, games, writing club, exercise classes, educational presentations, driver improvement courses, foot care services, and more. You're also welcome to stop by for coffee and friendly conversation!

Exciting Upcoming Trip: Chicago!

Looking for your next adventure? Join us for a fantastic trip to Chicago, presented by the Anoka Senior Center and Diamond Tours. From May 19-23, 2025, you can explore the Windy City for just \$689 per person (based on double occupancy). This price includes motor coach transportation, four nights in Chicago, eight meals (four breakfast and four dinners), a visit to the 360 Chicago Observation Deck, Navy Pier, the Field Museum of Natural History, a guided tour of the city, a Lake Michigan cruise, and much more!

For more information on this trip or to learn about other activities and trips, call Melissa at 763-576-4661 or stop by the Anoka Senior Center located at 1500 6th Avenue in Anoka. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

📞 763.493.7048

🌐 sainthterese.org/communities/brooklyn-park



Residential Recycling

Anoka's Waste Reduction & Recycling Board (WRRB) members coordinate and offer the following information, programs and events to help reduce waste, encourage reuse, and increase recycling efforts.

Recycle Holiday Lights at City Hall

Recycle your old, unwanted holiday string lights at Anoka City Hall, 2015 First Ave., through Jan. 31, 2025, M-F, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (excluding holidays).

Please only bring string lights, no rope lights or any holiday decorations.

Collection boxes are in the lower level of City Hall. Place your clean bag/box of string lights in the collection boxes and we will properly recycle them. Remember, do not put the lights in your curbside recycling cart.

FREE Organics Drop-off Program



Have you signed up for Anoka's Organics Drop-off Program yet? If not, now's the time to get started – and the best part is, it is free! Once you sign up, you will receive a FREE starter kit, including compostable bags, instructions, and a storage bucket. The kit can be picked up at Anoka City Hall.

The program makes it easy for residents to recycle organic waste, such as food scraps and other compostable materials. Simply drop off your organics at the collection site and help reduce landfill waste while contributing to a more sustainable community.

Where Is the Collection Site?

It is conveniently located at the surface lot at 7th Ave. & Garfield St. It's easily accessible and you can drop off your compostable materials any time during daylight hours.

How Do I Sign Up?

Signing up is simple and quick. You can:

- Sign up online at anokaminnesota.com
- Call 763-576-2725
- Email Pam at pbowman@ci.anoka.mn.us

Anoka's Citywide Garage Sale May 16 & 17 – Save the Dates

Get ready to clean out your closets, declutter your home, and find great deals at Anoka's Citywide Garage Sale! Hosted by the Waste Reduction & Recycling Board, this annual event will take place on Friday and Saturday, May 16 & 17, 2025.

Interested in hosting a sale? If you'd like to host a garage sale at your property during the event, save the dates! Details for the sale, including registration and guidelines, will be available this spring. Stay tuned!

Support Waterfowl for Warriors Program – Recycle Aluminum Cans!

Anoka is proud to support our veterans through the Waterfowl for Warriors Program, and you can help make a difference by recycling your aluminum cans!

There are two aluminum can collection trailers placed in convenient locations in Anoka. All proceeds from the recycling of these cans go directly toward the Waterfowl for Warriors Program, which provides local veterans the opportunity to hunt each fall in the beautiful Anoka Nature Preserve.



Collection Locations:

- Better Values Liquor Store at 847 East River Road
- Parking lot west of Gray Ghost Field (east of the Anoka Ice Arena) off Castle Field Boulevard

Simply deposit your aluminum cans into the recycling containers – no bags, please. For more information, please contact Pam at 763-576-2725.

Anoka's recycling and reuse opportunities are funded by the Anoka County Board of Commissioners & State SCORE funds (Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment).



WASTE REDUCTION
— & RECYCLING BOARD —