ESSENTIAL DATES

Recycling Pickups
  September 12, 26
  October 10, 24
  November 7, 21

September 2, Labor Day
City Hall returns to regular hours

September 9, 7 p.m.
City Council Meeting
Prelim. 2020 Budget Approval

October 14, 7 p.m.
City Council Meeting

November 12, 7 p.m.
City Council Meeting

Public Hearing:
Assessment of delinquent accounts

December 9, 7 p.m.
City Council Meeting
Final 2020 Budget Approval
Public Hearing:
Truth in Taxation

GOOD TO KNOW

City Hall Regular Hours
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Labor Day to Memorial Day

Fall Safety
Check smoke detector batteries.
Call the chimney sweep for safe, enjoyable fires this winter.

Emerald Ash Borer
Has been discovered in southeast Minnetonka. If you suspect infection, call an arborist!
More at mda.state.mn.us (keyword: ash borer).

LMCD Save the Lake Fund
Donate at lmcd.org/save the lake

Xcel Energy is working toward clean energy milestones:
2022 30% of Upper Midwest energy supplied by wind.
2030 more than 50% of energy delivered from renewables, last coal plant closed, solar energy expansion complete and 80% reduction in carbon emissions.
2050 100% carbon-free electricity.

Woodland News
September-November, Fall 2019

Woodland’s New Website

The image above is from the new website launched on July 1 by the City of Woodland. The home page welcomes you with an aerial video of our pristine peninsula, providing perspective on what really makes our community special.

These days, it’s crucial for web content to be mobile-device friendly, so technically the new website is a big step forward. With dynamic design, it automatically reformats to read best on the device that is accessing it. From the smallest smart phone to the biggest TV screen – and all the tablets, laptops and desktops in between – every visitor is given an optimal viewing experience.

The navigation within the website has been greatly simplified. There are three tabs or categories of information: (plus the Contact Us page)

About Us
Woodland History
News & Notices
Newsletters
Notification sign up

Government
Council/Staff Contacts
Agendas and Minutes
Public Safety Services
Ordinances and Policies
Annual Financial Reports
Comprehensive Plan
Election Information
Emergency Preparedness

Community
Resident Life
FAQs
Forms and Permits
Protecting Lake & Trees
Recycling
Utilities
Helpful links

From the home page, there are quick links to frequently needed items:
- Agendas & Minutes
- City Council and Staff
- Forms and Permits
- Ordinances and Policies

The home page also features a search function, weather information, upcoming events and news and notices. Everything you need is now one click away!

NEW! Email Notifications
Sign up for notifications and you won’t miss a thing! You’ll receive an email alert whenever variance Public Hearings and City Council Meeting Agendas are posted on the website. You can also receive this newsletter by email.

Many thanks to James Aarestad of Eagle Eye Photography, also known as blimp guy.com, for the aerial video of our lakeshore community!
Minnesota squirrels can be hysterical backyard entertainment or a property nightmare. Squirrel antics may be a model for determination and single-minded resolve, but they are rodents capable of causing significant damage. Since they are so prevalent, it’s best to find a way to peacefully coexist, enjoy the good and avoid the bad.

The Good
In 2001, a wildlife rehabilitator established Squirrel Appreciation Day, hoping to raise awareness of these playful diurnal critters. (It’s January 21, in case you’d like to celebrate.)

Most squirrels in Woodland are tree dwellers (gray, red, fox and flying squirrels) able to consume up to 1.5 pounds of seeds or nuts a week. In addition to emptying birdfeeders, squirrels love to munch the swelling buds of springtime maple trees and autumn acorns, hazelnuts and other nuts. Their territories are typically 1 to 7 acres which they range at up to 19 mph skittering along branches, leaping tree to tree. Up to 20 squirrels can live in one acre.

The most common gray squirrels have two litters of 3-5 kittens each year. These kits can be seen venturing from the nest in early May and, the second litter, in August. Half the size of gray squirrels, the chattery red squirrel mates just once in late winter. Both will nest in within tree hollows or in treetop nests called dreys that look like 12- to 19-inch balls of leaves and twigs high in the branches.

The Bad
Squirrels can damage bird feeders, chew through wires and—worst—build nice, cozy nests in your attic. Hands-down, the adorable yet rascally little red squirrel is the best at finding cracks, crevices and woodpecker holes in order to enjoy a warm winter under your rafters. Squirrels can transmit diseases such as tularemia and ringworm, plus fleas, mites and other ectoparasites, to humans.

The Balance
Here’s an ounce of squirrel-proofing that could save you a pound of problems.

- Upgrade to squirrel-proof birdfeeders, knowing full-well going in that it’s probably an oxymoron since squirrels are smart, tenacious and can chew through almost anything.
- Trim all tree limbs, even small branches, more than 6 feet away from your house and retrim frequently.
- Seal all holes and any possible points of entry including cracks and especially woodpecker damage.
- Place metal mesh over air vents and chimneys.

If you hear the scratching of squirrels in your eaves, contact a pest control company or invest in live traps. It is permissible to destroy or relocate squirrels (at least 10 miles away) that have been live-trapped on your property. However, to shoot or poison squirrels in your yard is illegal. A better idea is to take the precautions above and keep your sense of humor!

“In the summer we lay up a stock of experiences for winter, as the squirrel of nuts—something for conversation in winter evenings.” Henry David Thoreau (journal entry, Sept. 4, 1851)
Woodland City Streets

There are 23 City streets in Woodland. Can you name them? (They’re listed below.) Extra points if you know which are the private roads within Groveland.

Woodland streets are undeniably a large part of the City’s charm. Narrow, shoulder-less, with no curbs or sidewalks by design, they create a rural, far-from-the-city feel and keep costs (read: taxes) low.

While there are not many, and they may be small, roads are the City’s largest public asset and a priority in every regard. Repair and maintenance expenses are second only to Public Safety in the annual budget. This article spotlights how the City manages Woodland streets and how residents help.

Annual Repairs

Early each spring, Mayor Jim Doak, Council Member John Massie, and City Engineer Dave Martini visit all 23 streets, checking road wear and tear to set priorities for repairs needed before the next snowfall. Martini, principal engineer with Bolton & Menk, has been working with Woodland since 2003 and knows the challenges of maintaining roads in a lakeshore community where the water table is not far below ground level.

Martini has helped the City install drainage solutions to low areas and stabilize spots where the ground is soft and doesn’t offer a strong road foundation. He admits that our charming narrow roads have some inherent fragility. Without the reinforcement, the blacktop edges are vulnerable to cracking and crumbling when vehicles park along the shoulder.

Unlike a land-locked subdivision that is built all at once, Woodland is an evolving community. When planning annual road repairs, the City Council needs to factor in construction projects that are pending or currently active. For instance, if multiple building projects are happening on one street, it may be best to hold off on street repairs until projects are complete.

Long-Range Planning

In 2020, Bolton & Menk Engineering will work with the City Council to develop a 10-year road improvement plan to document past work and lay out future projects on a year-by-year basis. This will provide a one-page, color-coded (forgive the pun) road map for road work that will reinforce the City’s ability to forecast street expenditures and maintain a balance between annual patching and more intensive resurfacing projects.

Residents’ Role

Woodland residents make a big difference in protecting City streets. Here are some examples:

• Have all service contractors (repair people, landscape crews) pull into your driveway. It is illegal for them to park on the street and by far they cause the most damage to road edges.

• Shuttle event guests from the Deephaven parking lot on the southwest quadrant of Chowen’s Corner, behind 18300 Minnetonka Blvd.

• When street parking is necessary, purchase a permit for one of Woodland’s ten zones, where it is safe to park. We provide an info/instruction sheet that can be passed on to a valet service.

• Call City Hall before starting any project valued at more than $20,000 (building, landscaping or well/septic work). Bolton & Menk provides a pre-work and post-work inspection for all road escrow deposits.

• Respect road weight limit restrictions: 9 tons/axle May-February; 4 tons/axle March-April. Talk to your contractors, encourage them to call City Hall before starting a project.

In our tiny town, we all have a stake in the conditions of our streets. Your forethought and planning with regular contractors, building projects, or large social events will save significant repair expense and tax impact on everyone.

Can you name them all?

| Blaine Avenue | Front Street* | Marshland Road |
| Breezy Heights Road | Gale Road | Robinsons Bay Road |
| Breezy Point Road | Inner Road* | Shavers Lane |
| Cedar Point Drive | Maple Hill Road | Spirit Knob Road |
| Cedar Ridge Road | Maple Ridge Road | Stone Arch Road |
| Center Road* | Maplewood Circle E | West Road* |
| County Road 101 S. East Road* | Maplewood Circle W | Woolsey Lane |
| * Groveland | Maplewood Road | |

* Groveland
Safety Reminder
Golf carts are not legal nor safe on public streets. The only places they are acceptable in Woodland are on private property and driveways, and on the private roads within Groveland Assembly Ground.

Street Signs for Sale
Shiny new street signs have been installed! If you would like to purchase one of the now-collectible, classic black Woodland signs, send an email to sara@woodlandmn.org. Each sign is $20, first-come-first-served.

2020 Preliminary Budget
Approval of the 2020 preliminary budget and 2020 tax levy for the City of Woodland will take place at the September 9 Council Meeting. You are welcome to attend this or any City Council Meeting! Always on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

2020 Elections
Woodland prides itself on high voter turnout. Mark your calendars! 2020 has three election days:

- March 3, 2020 (Presidential Primary)
- August 11, 2020 (Primary Election)
- November 3, 2020 (General Election)

Daylight Savings Time ends November 3
Keep pedestrians safe! Drive slowly, pay attention. And dress brightly and carry a light if walking after dark.