



# Mahtomedi News

SEPTEMBER — OCTOBER 2020

[www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us](http://www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us)

MAHTOMEDI CITY HALL  
600 Stillwater Road  
Mahtomedi, MN 55115  
8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m. (M-F)  
EDITORS CITY STAFF

MAYOR  
Jud Marshall  
COUNCIL MEMBERS  
Richard Brainerd, Jeff Ledermann,  
Jane Schneeweis, Steve Wolgamot

CITY HALL 651-426-3344  
FIRE DEPARTMENT 651-426-1080  
PUBLIC WORKS 651-773-9730  
WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF  
911 OR 651-439-9381

## 2020 Construction Projects Update

### Birchwood Road, Lost Lake Court

Lost Lake Court has been paved and the installation of storm sewer along Birchwood Road has been completed. Next steps involve paving Birchwood Road and paving the Lake Links Trail. Both are expected to be completed in September. For construction related issues on this project contact Dylan Casey at **612-283-7466**.

### Dahlia Street — Mahtomedi Avenue to Warner Avenue

The roadway has been paved and only punch list items remain to be completed. For construction related issues on this project contact Lydia Ener at **763-270-3464**.

### Historic District Phase 4 — West

All underground utility work has been completed. Concrete curb has been installed along Neptune Street, Oak Street, and Pine Street. Both Neptune Street and Oak Street have the first layer of asphalt installed. Concrete curb is scheduled to be installed on remaining streets in September or the first part of October with paving to follow shortly thereafter. For construction related issues on this project contact James Collingsworth at **612-219-8082**.

### Bevins Lane/Bichner Lane/Talahi Drive Utility Project

Underground utility work has begun and is mostly completed throughout the project. All roadways are expected to be paved by mid-October. For construction related issues on this project contact Dylan Casey at **612-283-7466**.

### 2020 Storm Sewer Projects — Harmony Drive and Park Avenue

These smaller-scale projects were completed in late July and August.

### Aaron's Playground and Hallam Park Playground

The pavers for Aaron's Playground are in the process of being installed and the community build for the playground was scheduled for August 29th. The dragon structure is planned for installation sometime in September. The benches and trash receptacles will be installed by the City. The Hallam Park Playground has been completed with just punch list work remaining.



CITY OF MAHTOMEDI  
**FACEBOOK PAGE IS LIVE!**

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/City-of-Mahtomedi-MN-Local-Government-115273550223842/about/>



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### The CARES Act *An Update for Our Community*

Washington County received money from the federal government through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, or CARES Act, to assist small businesses, homeowners, and renters.

**Financial relief available for Washington County homeowners**  
Homeowners in Washington County who have experienced a reduction in income because of the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for one-time grants of up to \$10,000 to help make housing payments. More information can be found on the following website:  
<https://washingtoncountycda.org/homeowner-relief-grant-program/>

**Financial relief available for Washington County renters**  
A separate program providing rental assistance will be administered by Washington County's Community Services Department. Please call Economic Support intake line: **651-430-6459** or HOST Housing line **651-430-6488**. More information can be found on the following website:  
<https://www.co.washington.mn.us/3279/Emergency-Rental-Assistance-Due-to-COVID>



### Masks and Face Coverings Required

Wearing a Face Mask is Required in All City Facilities!

For more information visit the websites below:

<https://mn.gov/governor/news/executiveorders.jsp>

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>

<https://www.co.washington.mn.us/3168/COVID-19>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

## PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

**NOTICE: Mahtomedi Water Meter Replacement Program has been temporarily suspended until further notice due to COVID-19.**



## Public Works Activities

The Public Works Department has a busy fall coming up with the following necessary maintenance activities:

- **Hydrant flushing** is tentatively scheduled to begin late September/early October. The flushing can cause turbulence in the water mains and discoloration may result. The water is of good quality, but if discoloration occurs, run the water at an outside faucet until it is clean, usually 10-15 minutes.
- **Street sweeping** will begin early October weather permitting and may take several weeks to complete. Try to avoid parking on the street between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

## Mahtomedi Winter Parking Rules Begin November 1st

Mahtomedi's winter parking regulations go into effect each year from November 1st through April 1st. The parking restrictions are designed to facilitate effective plowing during the snow season and prohibit parking of motor vehicles on public streets and alleys from 1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.

City Ordinance also prohibits on-street parking anytime three or more inches of snow has accumulated until after the street has been plowed to full width. The three inch guideline applies to any hour of the day and any time of the year. Vehicles parked on the street present a hazard because they can be difficult for plow operators to see and they also prevent clearing the street to full width. With the narrow width of some of the streets in the City, parked vehicles can delay snowplowing operations because the plow truck cannot get by the parked vehicle.

Residents who violate the ordinance may be ticketed and/or have their vehicle towed. Be sure to inform relatives or guests who may visit your home about the winter parking restrictions so they can avoid being cited or towed. Questions about the winter parking regulations or snow and ice control procedures may be directed to the Public Works Department at **651-773-9730**.



# Election Day | November 3, 2020

The City has two polling locations. **Precinct 1** is located at the District Education Center, 1520 Mahtomedi Avenue, and for those of you that vote at **Precinct 2**, you will be voting **upstairs** in the **Sanctuary**, at St. Andrews's Church. To get to the Sanctuary, go east on Stillwater Road and go left at the stoplight at Stillwater Road and Hilton Trail and follow the road to the right of the Great Hall. The Sanctuary is behind the Great Hall. Directional signs will be posted showing where to vote. In general, if you live north of Stillwater Road you will vote in Precinct 1 and if you live south of Stillwater Road you will vote in Precinct 2. The polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Absentee ballots can be obtained from Washington County Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Their phone number is **651-430-6790**. If you have any questions please call City Hall at **651-426-3344**.

*\* Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic the City of Mahtomedi will be following CDC guidelines at our polling locations. Social distancing and face coverings are required in the polling locations. Follow the directional signage at the polling locations and please be patient.*



## Aaron's Playground Opening Soon in Southwest Park

A year and a half ago, local Mahtomedi couple Craig and Becky Markovitz set out to build a playground in memory of their beloved son Aaron. With an outpouring of support from friends, family, and the local community, their dream has become a reality. Aaron's Playground is opening soon to the public at Southwest Park on Long Lake Road.

**Watch for updates on the City's website and Facebook page.** Come and enjoy the castle-themed play space equipped with slides, swings, and even a zip line! The Markovitz family hopes this playground will bring joy in Aaron's memory for all who visit.

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### City Council Meetings

In accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. Section 13D.021, Mayor Jud Marshall has determined that an in-person meetings are not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under Chapter 12 of the Minnesota Statutes.

Because of the health pandemic and emergency declaration adopted by the City Council on March 17, 2020, it has been determined that attendance at the regular meeting location by members of the public is not feasible.

Members of the public may monitor, participate in and appear at meetings by telephone by calling into the Zoom meeting as indicated on the City Council or Commission agendas or by following the link provided on the City Council or Commission agenda to join the video meetings. The agendas can be found on the City webpage at [www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us](http://www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us).

### Deer Feeding Prohibited

City Ordinance prohibits the feeding of deer. It has been found that the feeding of deer contributes to a high deer density in the City which in turn causes a threat to the public health, safety and welfare. The high deer density has resulted in damage to landscapes and damage to the understory of wooded areas. The high deer density also causes an increased potential for accidents between vehicles and deer, and the increased potential for contact with deer ticks that could result in contracting Lyme disease.



## Chimney Cleaning

It is that time of the year again when we start gearing up for the winter months. In addition to the usual yard raking and cleaning of the gutters, you need to remember to have your chimney for your fireplace or woodstove cleaned and inspected. All too often we respond to chimney fires resulting from the lack of a maintenance program. Please take the time to have them professionally inspected.

The City of Mahtomedi has chimney brushes available for use by residents. The equipment is available at City Hall. A \$35 deposit is required. The equipment can be used for up to 7 days. To check on the availability of the equipment, please call City Hall at **651-426-3344**.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Now Hiring

Are you looking for a side job that benefits your local community with flexible hours? Well if you live within seven minutes of the Mahtomedi fire station, the fire department is now accepting applications for paid on call firefighter/EMT positions. No experience is necessary, we send you to specialized training programs. If you are curious about learning more, please contact Fire Chief Terry Fischer at **651-747-3751**.



## Halloween Safety

**Did you know?** Only 1/3 of parents talk to their kids each year about Halloween safety. Twice as many kids are killed as pedestrians by cars on Halloween than on any other day of the year. Suspicious fires and arson fires skyrocket around Halloween.

- Avoid costumes with long or billowing fabric — it can be a fire hazard. Use battery operated candles or glow sticks inside jack-o-lanterns.
- Teach children to stay away from open flames and to stop, drop and roll if their clothes catch fire.
- Keep decorations like hay and corn stalks away from any ignition source.

# City of Mahtomedi

600 STILLWATER ROAD  
MAHTOMEDI, MN 55115

### Mahtomedi: A "Small Town" City

**...Close knit small town atmosphere.** Residents have strong connections with each other and take pride in the community. By working together to maintain the small town atmosphere, residents, business and community leaders have created a safe environment in which to live, work and learn.

**...Natural Resources.** The abundance of bodies of water, vegetation and nature areas create a natural setting for City parks for residents to enjoy.

**...Excellent Education.** The educational system and educational opportunities provided in cooperation with the Mahtomedi School District and Community Education creates an informed community.

**...Location.** Located on the east shore of White Bear Lake, within twenty minutes of Minneapolis and St. Paul with direct access to Interstate 694 provide residents and businesses with a place to call home.

**...History.** The history of the Chautauqua Association, Wildwood Amusement Park, cottages, street cars and summer resorts have contributed to the historical significance of the community.

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## Water Conservation Rebate Program

The City once again was awarded a Metropolitan Council Grant as part of the Council's 2019-2022 Water Efficiency Grant Program. The amount of the grant is \$6,300.

Mahtomedi is one of forty cities in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area that applied for and was accepted into this grant program.

Grant funds will be used for the City's ongoing water conservation program. The City is offering \$50 rebates to Mahtomedi Water Utility Households replacing washing machines or toilets. Residents can bring in their original purchase receipts and documentation of applicable required certifications (i.e. user manual) and get a \$50 check. Toilets must be labeled Water Sense Certified and use 1.28 gallons per flush.

Washing machines must be Energy Star-Qualified High Efficiency Certified. Rebates are available on a first come first serve basis. One rebate check per household.

Forms are available on the City's website at [www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us](http://www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us). For more information, contact City Hall at 651-426-3344.



## A BIG Thank You for Extra Efforts in Recycling!

The City would like to send a special thank you to the **Felton Family on 72nd St.** and the **Murphy Family on Summit Avenue** for their extra efforts in recycling. Keep up the good work! For their extra effort, these families may stop in at City Hall and pick up a free *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle* water bottle. Each quarter we will pick two families to acknowledge.

## Northern Yard Waste Site

### REMINDER:

### Northern Yard Waste Disposal Site Is Open

Bring leaves, grass clippings, brush, and other plant materials to the Northern Yard Waste Collection Site, 5527 170th St. N., Hugo, MN 55038, 651-275-7475.

**The site is free and open to Washington County residents.**

State law prohibits the disposal of yard waste in the trash. Search the Disposal Directory to find more drop-off locations: <https://recyclesearch.com/profile/wcdd> or visit <https://www.co.washington.mn.us/yardwaste>.

## ATTENTION MAHTOMEDI UTILITY CUSTOMERS

### FREE Payment and Billing Services

To view or pay utility bills, go to [www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us](http://www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us) or call 877-885-7968. Pay now, schedule a payment or set up Auto-Pay. An email will be sent to you when your bill is ready. You may pay by credit card (MasterCard, Visa or Discover) or eCheck (payment from your checking or savings account). Please opt out of paper bills to help save money and be **GREEN**.



## 2020 ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

### Fall One-Day Collection Events

One-day collection events for household hazardous waste and electronics are offered during the spring and fall. Paper shredding is offered at these events as well.

No more than 4 boxes per customer will be accepted. Shredding capacity is limited by the size of the truck and may be reached before the end of the event.

**These events are free and open to residents.** No recyclables or business waste.

#### Forest Lake

Forest Lake Transit Center  
19987 Fitzgerald Trail N  
(enter at Headwaters Pkwy)  
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 12 &  
Saturday, Sept. 19

#### Hugo

Public Works Building  
6900 137th St. N  
8 a.m. - Noon  
Saturday, Oct. 3

### Shredding Events at the Environmental Center

Bring your personal and confidential papers to the Environmental Center during a scheduled event. Documents will be shredded on-site by Shred Right and recycled. CDs, floppy disks, and other media will be accepted for off-site destruction.

**Limit:** 6 boxes weighing no more than 30 lbs. each.

**These events are free and open to residents and businesses.**

#### Woodbury

Environmental Center  
4039 Cottage Grove Dr.  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, Sept. 23 &  
Wednesday, Nov. 4

For more information, visit  
<https://www.co.washington.mn.us/604/Environmental-Center>

## FALL LAWN CARE:

### 3 Steps to Take Right Now

Did you know that fall is the best time for lawn care? With its cooler temperatures and occasional rainfall, fall is the ideal time to prepare your lawn for next spring.

**Keep on Mowing.** Continue to water and mow your lawn, as needed. As the season draws to a close, drop the mower's blade to the lowest setting for the last two cuttings of the year. This allows sunlight to reach the crown of the grass and will encourage faster growth once spring returns.

**Aerate the Soil.** Aerating your lawn has many benefits. It helps to reduce compaction so that oxygen, water, and fertilizer can reach your lawn's roots. This is especially important to help your lawn soak in rainwater and nutrients while deepening turfgrass roots.

**Rake the Leaves.** It's important to remove fallen leaves from your lawn as soon as possible. Leaves left on the lawn can suffocate the grass and encourage fungal growth. Also, take a moment to sweep or rake leaves and grass clippings out of the street in front of your house. Left in the street, they can clog storm drains and become a major source of algae food in our local lakes and wetlands. Dispose of leaves and grass clippings by composting them in your yard or bring them to a designated drop-off site in Washington County.

## What's the Deal with Oak Wilt and Dutch Elm Disease?

Dutch Elm Disease and Oak Wilt are both wilt diseases that affect their prospective tree species. They are both deadly and both can be found in Mahtomedi. Trees that have these diseases are classified as infectious trees and are regulated by ordinance in the City of Mahtomedi. During the peak summer months June thru August a City tree inspector is looking at public and private trees within the city. Elm trees that are exhibiting the symptoms of Dutch Elm Disease are marked and notices are sent to the landowner detailing the necessary steps to be taken. When oaks are being inspected, care is taken to identify what species of oak the trees are and what family (white oak or red oak family) they belong to.

Red oaks exhibiting the symptoms of oak wilt are marked and notices are mailed to the property owners. White oaks that are showing the symptoms are not marked as they develop no oak wilt fruiting bodies, so they are not contagious and are not regulated by ordinance.

Dutch Elm Disease and Oak Wilt are fungal in nature and are classified as wilts due to their mode of action in trees. Wilt diseases typically start in a portion of the tree (in the roots or in the canopy of the tree) then spread over time thru the vascular system of the tree. An infected tree will begin wilting at the top of the tree and spread downward as the effects of the disease become wide spread. This wilting is due to the tree's own efforts to stop the spread of the disease within the vascular system. The "plumbing" of the tree becomes plugged by the tree's production of defensive compounds. Oak Wilt in red oaks and Dutch Elm Disease in elms causes a very rapid decline in the tree usually causing death of the trees in a matter of weeks. Both diseases can be spread overland by insect vectors and by root grafting by trees of the same species. These diseases can be spread fairly quickly over large areas and threaten all of the oaks and elms within our forest community.

Infected elms that are marked are required to be removed within 20 days' notice, while marked red oaks are to be removed October thru March with a deadline of February 1st of the following year. Diseased wood from the removals of either type of tree may not be stored in Mahtomedi unless specific measures are taken to prevent the spread of the disease. These measures are outlined in the article "**Disposal and Storage of Wood from Diseased Elms and Red/Pin Oaks.**" This document is available at City Hall and on the City's website. Also available on the website is the USDA pamphlet "**How to Identify, Prevent and Control Oak Wilt.**"

Property owners that are concerned about protecting their oaks and elms are encouraged to engage professional help from an arborist to discuss options for injecting, root severing by vibratory plowing and targeted removals of trees. Please contact the City Forester at **651-747-3736** with any other questions.