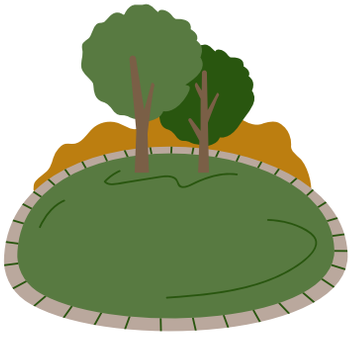
The City of Columbus, Vol. I

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Thirteen New Trees Planted in Columbus City Park

Columbus' crown has added more jewels - Maple Scarlett Jewells, to be exact.

Ten maple trees were planted along Kettle River Boulevard, alternating between Northwood Maples and the aforementioned Scarlett Jewells. All were planted on the northwestern side of the road, providing much-needed shade to the park's walking path in the future and a beautiful pattern of color in autumn.



Additionally, three Hackberry trees were installed as shade trees behind the ballfield home plates along Notre Dame Street.

Community Center Welcoming Back Pancakes

For the safety of all, even things as dear as beloved community-building get-togethers were forced to take hiatuses over the last two years.

Let's get back to the way things should be. Let's get back to pancakes.

When the Lions Club returns from its regular summer break, its pancake breakfasts will make their first return to the Columbus Community Center since being interrupted in March 2020.

The 2022-23 Lions Club Pancake Breakfast dates are as follows:

2022: September 18, October 16, November 20 & December 18.

2023: January 22, February 19, March 19, April 16 & May 21.

2022 is an Election Year

This year, Columbus will be hosting two elections - the Primary Election on August 9 and the General Election on November 8. In-person voting on both Election Days will take place in the Public Works Building.

However, in-person voting on Election Day is not your only option!

Columbus citizens can cast their votes early in-person or by mailing or dropping off their absentee ballots at City Hall. Additionally, early voting is available seven days in advance of Election Day, allowing citizens to personally feed their ballot into the voting machine.

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2021 Review

- Ecofun Motorsports (*9269 Lake Drive NE*) and Viking Industrial Center (*9205 Lake Drive NE*) celebrated ribbon cuttings in May. Ecofun specializes in economically-priced small-motor vehicles, while Viking supplies fastener, safety and unistrut equipment. Both are open for business.
- Hornsby Street NE, which had been in need of repair, was paved to a 10-ton standard to facilitate increased traffic from future projects.

- Running Aces Casino & Racetrack (*15201 Zurich St.*) and Muddy Paws Play + Stay doggy daycare (*15120 W. Freeway Drive*) completed refurbishment projects and are ready for summer.
- Zurich Street NE was extended north of Lake Drive NE, facilitating safe access to Viking Industrial Center and the St. Clair Lakes neighborhood.

2022 Preview

- Blake Drilling (*13528 Lake Drive NE*) has been approved to build a second building on their property. Construction should complete this year.
- A drive-thru Caribou Cabin has been approved for construction on Hornsby Street north of MN-97. Building will start this summer.
- Construction is wrapping up on Love's Travel Stop and Country Store (*15402 Hornsby St.*). Designed to service 80,000 vehicles, the station should open this summer, complete with Godfather's Pizza and Hardee's restaurants.
- St. Clair Lakes (Zurich Street north of Lake Drive) development has been approved and construction of the planned 21 detached single-family homes has commenced.
- Construction for Street Smart (137th Avenue), a business specialized in renting traffic safety equipment, has commenced, complete with a Lake Drive refurbishment.
- The project to extend West Freeway Drive North to Lamprey Pass Wildlife Management Area and nearby developable properties begins this fall with excavation and filling under the future roadway. Lamprey Pass visitors should follow access instructions from the DNR.

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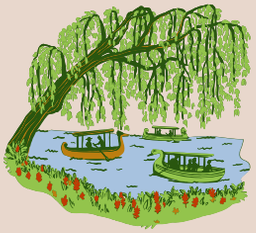
Volunteer Opportunities

Park Board

Have ideas for the next best thing at the City's parks? The Park Board is the perfect opportunity to make those aspirations a reality and has an open position with 2.5 years remaining on its term.



Events Subcommittee

Interested in helping plan next year's Fall Fest? Or maybe you have an idea for a new get-together to promote community pride or educational seminars for living the rural life? Join the Events Subcommittee to plan Columbus' next great event!

Planning Commission

Help chart Columbus' future as a Planning Commissioner! The Planning Commission evaluates applications through zoning and subdivision ordinances to makes recommendations to City Council.

Economic Development Authority

Business is booming in Columbus, and it's often a product of the EDA's work. The EDA's charge is promoting business districts to create local jobs and develop commerce. If you have a tie to Columbus' business community, consider applying to serve the remaining 1.5 years of a six-year term.

How to Apply

More information about the EDA, Events Subcommittee, Park Board and Planning Commission, including how to apply for nomination, is available on the City's website (ci.columbus.mn.us/jobs), by phone (651-464-3120) or visiting City Hall (16319 Kettle River Blvd.).

Scan me to be taken straight to the Volunteering Page!

Wanna stay in the loop?

Many of these stories and more have already been featured on the City's website and social media platforms! Sign up for email blasts on ci.columbus.mn.us/email-updates!

Scan to sign up for Columbus email lists!

City of Columbus Government

City of Columbus, MN

Register for City Correspondence

We hear from residents that they don't often know what is happening in Columbus. If you'd like the City to use your contact information to inform you of other City business that you may be interested in, please indicate that here and select which items you are interested in (choose all that apply) and the method you wish to receive the information (circle email or US mail). Your contact information is considered private data and will only be used by the City for the purposes you specify. You may opt out of the notification at any time.

If interested in enrolling in alerts, please return this portion in-person or by mail (16319 Kettle River Blvd NE, Columbus, MN, 55025) or by emailing publiccommco@ci.columbus.mn.us.

- Public Notices (including, but not limited to, all meeting notices, public hearings, calendar and ordinance amendments) **EMAIL / US MAIL**
- City Council Minutes **EMAIL / US MAIL**
- Planning Commission Minutes **EMAIL / US MAIL**
- Employment Opportunities **EMAIL / US MAIL**
- Volunteer Opportunities **EMAIL / US MAIL**
- Community Events **EMAIL / US MAIL**
- Opinion Surveys **EMAIL / US MAIL**
- Newsletter **EMAIL / US MAIL**
- Council Corner/Mayor's Message Updates **EMAIL / USPS**
- Committee/Board Opportunities **EMAIL / US MAIL**

Name: _____

Street: _____

Zip code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____