

CityNews



FALL 2011

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF APPLE VALLEY, MN

FALL CLEAN-UP

Residential Fall Clean-Up Day is Saturday, September 24, 2011 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Central Maintenance Facility

6442 140th St. W, Apple Valley, (Enter from Flagstaff Ave)
Proof of Apple Valley residency required!
For more information, call 952-953-2702

Here is your opportunity to clean out your house or garage and properly dispose of unwanted materials. The following article breaks down what can and cannot be accepted and the fees associated with dropping off materials.

Materials Accepted:

- Car tires: \$5.00 ea., semi tires \$10.00 ea., tractor tires \$25.00 ea.
- Furniture: Recliners \$10.00 ea., couch \$15.00 ea., Hide-a-bed \$20.00 ea., wooden chairs \$5.00 ea.
- Scrap metal: \$7.00 minimum (small items, bikes, propane tanks), \$10.00 minimum (lg. items, lawnmowers, grills, snow blowers)
- Home remodeling debris: Volume based (\$45.00/avg pickup load)*
- Carpet and padding: \$1.00/sq. yd. each (provide approx. dimensions)
- Mattresses and boxsprings: \$10.00 each; Baby mattresses: \$5.00 each
- Miscellaneous: Volume based (\$45.00/ average pickup load)*
- Home Electronics: an independent vendor will be on site to accept home electronics.

* Price may vary depending on volume/weight

Call 952-953-2702 for more information.

Materials NOT Accepted:

- Appliances (see below)*
- Leaves or grass
- Brush or tree trimmings
- Household hazardous wastes
- Regular home recyclables
- Business waste
- Railroad ties
- Car batteries
- Motor oil & filters

Special Pick-Up Day for Appliances

Monday, September 26, 2011
Call J.R.'s Appliance at 651-454-9215 or Certified Appliance Recycling at 952-894-1448 to schedule a pick-up and obtain fee information.

You must call before noon on Thursday, September 22. Acceptable appliances include: freezers, dryers, refrigerators, washers, furnaces, garbage disposals, dishwashers, water heaters, stoves, trash comp., air conditioners, microwaves, dehumidifiers, heat pumps. Do not bring appliances to clean-up site.



PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #419
St. Paul MN 55124

ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMER

Mayor:

Mary Hamann-Roland

Councilmembers:

John M. Bergman
Thomas C. Goodwin
Ruth A. Grendahl
Clint Hooppaw





Governor's Fire Prevention Day at the State Fair

The thirteen annual "Governor's Fire Prevention Day" will take place on Friday, August 26, once again bringing the fire safety message to more than 100,000 people in a single day.

It is a fun-filled, action-packed event, offering opportunities for families to learn about fire-safe behavior, fire prevention, safe escape from a fire, as well as technological improvements in burn treatment and firefighting equipment. Get details on Governor's Fire Prevention Day at www.governorsfirepreventionday.com

Heading Off to College

September is Campus Fire Safety Month

Colleges and universities across the country are conducting events to raise students' awareness of campus fire and life safety issues.

More than 10 million students between the ages of 18 and 24 will head to college in a few weeks. Are they prepared for an emergency situation such as a residence hall or apartment fire?

Courtesy of the nonprofit Center for Campus Fire Safety (CCFS), a website that includes media, student and parent resources is available at www.campusfire.org.

College and Fire Sprinkler Systems

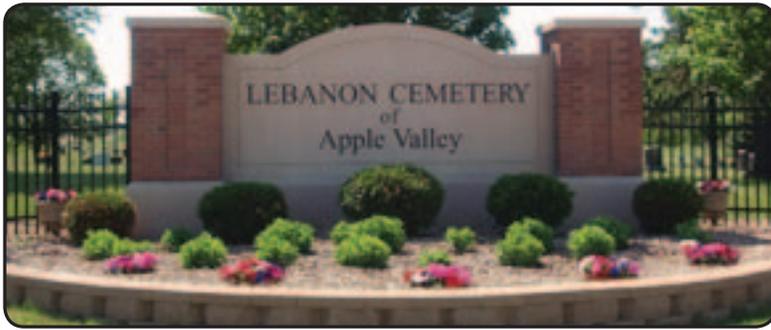
As students return to universities and colleges across the country this month, it is important to ensure that those living in off-campus housing are protected by working smoke alarms and residential sprinklers.

Fire sprinklers, in combination with smoke alarms, can reduce the risk of dying in a fire by 82 percent!

According to the U.S. Department of Education, there are approximately 18,000,000 students enrolled in 4,100 colleges and universities across the country. Approximately two-thirds of students live in off-campus housing, where 85 percent of university housing fire fatalities occurred from January 2000–July 2010.



"It's Fire Prevention Week. Protect your Family from Fire!" This year, our campaign is all about keeping you, your family, and your community safer from fire. You'll find educational material and tip sheets on the leading causes of home fires, information about protecting your home and families with life-saving technologies, and the importance of home escape planning.



LEBANON CEMETERY of Apple Valley

Preplanning your cemetery arrangements is a loving gift to your family at a time of tremendous grief. If you are considering Lebanon Cemetery, staff is ready to assist you. There are a number of ways you can begin. An information packet can be mailed to you, or the information can be found at the City website, www.cityofapplevalley.org. (Go to City Services and then Cemetery.) You are welcome to visit the cemetery, which is located on the southeast corner of County Road 42 and Pilot Knob Road. Lebanon Cemetery is owned by the City of Apple Valley and is open all year from sunrise to sunset. Entrance is from eastbound County Road 42 or northbound Pilot Knob Road. Another way to get started is to meet with Cemetery staff who can explain the choices for traditional and cremation burials. Please contact Public Works at 952-953-2400 or pubworks@ci.apple-valley.mn.us for information or to meet with Cemetery staff.

Cemetery Volunteers

Thank You! The City of Apple Valley sincerely thanks the dedicated volunteers who have given time and energy this year to Lebanon Cemetery of Apple Valley. Their efforts help provide a comforting place for families and friends visiting the graves of loved ones.

- ◆ Appleseeds 4-H Club
- ◆ Patty and John Kerlin
- ◆ Dale and Marla Danielson
- ◆ Boy Scout Troop 204
- ◆ Dana Gadiant, Phoebe and Simone
- ◆ Jim Wick
- ◆ Jack Wallace
- ◆ Michael Wiklund
- ◆ Carol Paulus



Do You Have a Blue Thumb?

We all know that someone with a green thumb has a special gift for gardening and beautifying their yard through plants. Having a blue thumb takes that same talent one step further. Someone with a blue thumb uses gardening and management practices in their yard that reduce the impact on local water quality. A person with a blue thumb helps keep water in the local lake clean.

The connection of our yards to local lakes and ponds is surprisingly close. The storm drain in the street in front of your house connects directly to local ponds or lakes. Water entering storm drains does not receive treatment before dumping into neighborhood ponds, turning the curb into a virtual lakeshore.



Some surprisingly simple measures can be taken to cultivate your blue thumb: sweeping grass clippings, leaves, and excess fertilizer from sidewalks and streets; directing downspouts from driveways onto lawns; watering only when necessary; recycling rainwater with rainbarrels and choosing plantings that need less water; and fertilizing the right amount at the right time of year. Planting for water quality is best accomplished by installing a native garden, raingarden, or native plant shoreline stabilization. All three are specialized plantings that protect from erosion, filter pollutants out of runoff, or reduce runoff volumes through infiltration.

You can learn more about planting for clean water at the BlueThumb.org website where you can also view the Blue Thumb Year-Round Guide to Yard Care on the "Why" page of the website. For more information on Apple Valley natural resources, call 952-953-2462.

Buckthorn Management

Buckthorn is an invasive plant species introduced into the United States from Europe many years ago, and today is commonly found in most natural and wooded areas. If left unmanaged, buckthorn will eventually out-compete with native understory plants, and become the dominant plant species. Property owners are encouraged to remove buckthorn and promote native plant species.



The Apple Valley Public Works Department will assist residents with buckthorn by providing on-site consultation and use of City-owned weed wrenches and extractors. Residents can make arrangements with their private waste hauler to dispose of buckthorn material. It can also be disposed at Resource Recovery Technologies, 16454 Blaine Avenue, Empire (651-423-4401).

Residents can reserve and use a City-owned weed wrench or extractor to pull buckthorn out of the ground during the frost-free period of the year. These tools are specially designed levers used to pull buckthorn plants with relative ease. (A small deposit is required.) Pulling buckthorn eliminates the need for chemical stump treatment.

Additional buckthorn information can be found on the City website or by calling the Public Works Department at 952-953-2460.

Avoid Damage During Snow Plowing

Take a moment to imagine driving a 45,000-pound snow plow truck in the dark during a snow storm while attempting to accurately judge the location of the street curb. The Public Works Department trains for these conditions as part of routine snow plowing operations for approximately 175 miles of the City street system. However, plow drivers would appreciate your help to avoid damage to lawn sod, mail boxes, and other property.

The installation of reflective markers along the curb during the winter season has been a great solution. Thanks to the many residents who have put them out! Markers can be purchased at hardware stores or home improvement centers. Residents can also obtain wood lathe markers from the Public Works Department free of charge. If you are concerned that the plow may damage your property and want to mark it, please place markers as close as possible to the curb line to help guide the plow driver. Placing them along curves will reduce the chances of property damage. The lathe markers can be picked up beginning October 1 at the Central Maintenance Facility, 6442 - 140th Street, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Basketball hoops and poles within the public right-of-way should be removed to prevent damage to them and City equipment. Basketball hoops should not be installed within the public road right of way, which extends approximately 13 feet behind the curb.



Mailboxes that hang over the curb or are installed too low are in danger of being hit and damaged by a snowplow. City and Postal standards require the bottom of the mailbox be a minimum height of 48 inches from the street with the face and support post slightly behind the curb. Media (paper) boxes are typically placed beneath the mailbox, and should be offset behind the face of the mailbox six inches or more. Inspect ground posts for rotting wood as even small amounts of plowed snow can break off a rotted post.

If you do experience damage to your property during snow plowing, please report it as soon as you notice it so it can be inspected, if necessary. For further information, call the Public Works Department at (952) 953-2400.

Sewer & Water Emergencies

In the event of a sewer or water emergency, please use the following contact numbers.

952-953-2400 (Public Works)

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

952-322-2323 (Dakota Communication Center)

After hours, weekends and holidays

Fall Prep for Winter Composting



While many Minnesotans have discovered the benefits of backyard composting and have worked to convert their kitchen scraps, grass, leaves and other yard wastes into a highly desirable, organic, soil-like material, some are still stumped on what to do for the winter. Read on for the how-to on winter composting prep:

- In the fall, empty your bin as much as you can, so that you have space for the food waste you will generate in the winter.
- Before the first freeze, remove all of the “finished” compost and put an 8-10” layer of leaves on the bottom of your bin.
- Turn the unfinished materials back in on top.
- Try to have the bin no more than ½ full. This will allow enough space to add your kitchen scraps into the compost bin all winter. Kitchen scraps that freeze in winter deteriorate and shrink down quickly in the spring, leaving you with room to mix in some spring-raked leaves.

To use up your finished compost in the fall, you can mix grass seed in with the finished compost and top dress it into areas of the lawn that burned out over the summer, or where the grass is a bit thin and you want to thicken it up. You could also simply leave your finished compost in a pile beside the bin and use it in the spring when you start planting.

If you’re starting a compost pile for the first time, you should contact your city recycling coordinator with Dakota Valley Recycling at 952-895-4559 with questions on composting requirements before getting started.

Compost bins can be purchased at The Recycling Zone, Dakota County’s recycling facility in Eagan located at 3365 S. Hwy 149 (651-905-4520).

Visit RethinkRecycling.com/residents/compost for information on how to properly and successfully maintain your compost pile.

End of Season To-Do List

As summer winds down, here are some items to add to your list of things to do.

- Make sure to drain all outside garden hose connections and your lawn irrigation system including opening the ports on the backflow protection device to prevent costly damage to your plumbing system.
- Remember to call for a final inspection if you have finished your home improvement project. This may include new roofing or siding, or replacing your furnace, air conditioner, or water heater. All of these projects require permits and inspections by Building Inspections. If you hired a contractor to do the work, make sure the inspection has passed before paying them to help protect your interests.

City Information on Channel 16

Apple Valley Government Access Community Television features useful City information on the Channel 16 Bulletin Board as part of its regular program day. The Bulletin Board lists a variety of City Meeting Schedules and Agendas, Hotline Numbers and gateway information for City Services, special announcements and events, and daily program guides.

Live, Gavel-To-Gavel, Televised Meeting Coverage

Apple Valley Government Access Channel 16 telecasts all of the City Council and Planning Commission meetings live. Meeting coverage is also replayed on a variety of days and times to provide more opportunities for citizen involvement in their local government. The City Council meets at 8 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. In addition the meeting is replayed on Thursday & Saturday at 2 a.m., 11 a.m., & 8 p.m. The Planning Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month. Replays are on Wednesday at 2 a.m., 11 a.m., & 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

AV Programs On CH. 16:

“Valley Beat” and “Hook & Ladder” share information about, give a look inside, and highlight the excellent work and members of the Police and Fire Departments in Apple Valley. Six new episodes of each program are produced annually.

Valley Beat:

Sunday.....	8:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m.
Monday.....	1:00 a.m.
Tuesday.....	8:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....	1:00 a.m.
Thursday.....	8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Friday.....	1:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Saturday.....	8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Apple Valley Hook & Ladder:

Sunday.....	8:30 a.m. & 8:30 p.m.
Monday.....	1:30 a.m.
Tuesday.....	8:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday.....	1:30 a.m.
Thursday.....	8:30 a.m., & 7:30 p.m.
Friday.....	1:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Saturday.....	8:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Programs and telecast times are also listed on the Channel 16 Bulletin Board Program Guide, and the City Web site at: www.cityofapplevalley.org.

