

CityNews



SUMMER 2012

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF APPLE VALLEY, MN

Campaign Sign Regulations

In an effort to treat all political candidates consistently and fairly, the City of Apple Valley administers a process to enforce State regulations related to the placement of signs in city right-of-way and city property. The rules apply to political campaign signs for all candidates, regardless of whether they are seeking school, city, county, state or federal offices.

Consistent with the laws of the State of Minnesota, campaign, private and commercial signs are not allowed in the following locations:

- Public right-of-way for State Highways, including Trunk Highway 77
- County property and public right-of-way for County Roads
- Public right-of-way for City Municipal State Aid Streets
- Property owned by the City of Apple Valley

A map showing all of the affected streets can be found at www.cityofapplevalley.org

If the city finds a violation on city property or the right-of-way of city Municipal State Aid Streets, the signs will be moved to the Apple Valley Central Maintenance Facility located at 6442 140th Street. Signs may be reclaimed Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm. Unclaimed signs will be disposed of 60 days after removal.

Questions concerning campaign sign rules should be directed to the City Code Enforcement Division at (952) 953-2570. Additional information about this topic can be found on the Elections page of the City's website at www.cityofapplevalley.org

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

ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMER



Help Prevent Flooding!

With the rainy season upon us, the Public Works Department seeks your help to prevent flooding of streets and ponds which can cause damage to homes and property. Clogged catch basins and pond outlet grates prevent the City's storm water system from operating properly. Your assistance in removing or eliminating debris from street gutters and back yards can make a big difference.

Removing debris from the street gutter along your property will prevent it from washing down the street and clogging a catch basin grate. During a rainstorm, debris can be washed a long way. If you notice debris at a catch basin, please remove it as soon as possible. Flooded streets are often the result of a blocked storm water catch basin grate.

- If you live on or near a pond or a drainage swale, it is important to keep woodpiles and other items above the potential high water line. Debris carried from backyards is a major contributor to clogged pond outlet grates. A clogged outlet can cause water levels to rise which may result in damage to yards and homes.
- If we all strive to keep the storm water flowing, perhaps we can minimize the occurrence of flooded streets and ponds, and help prevent property damage.
- If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Public Works at 952-953-2400. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Mayor:

Mary Hamann-Roland

Councilmembers:

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

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Remember to call Gopher State One Call (GSOC) before you do any digging. State law requires anyone doing any excavating to call GSOC at least 48 hours in advance (excluding weekends and holidays). When you call GSOC, they notify companies with underground utilities in the area. If the companies determine an underground utility could be affected by your digging, they will mark the area with paint or flags. Call 651-454-0002, or 811 and press 1 for GSOC.

DIAL 8-1-1

Free Disposal of Expired and Unwanted Medicine

It is estimated that 40 percent of prescription drugs go unused. Unused medications left in drawers or cabinets can be easily taken by others and people can mistake one drug for another – causing inadvertent overdose or poisoning. Proper disposal of medication helps prevent crime, accidental poisoning and drug abuse. It also protects the environment.

Dakota County residents are now able to drop off their expired and unwanted medicines for free at the Apple Valley Police Department (7100 147th Street W, Apple Valley), Burnsville Police Station (100 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville), West St. Paul Police Station (1616 Humboldt Avenue, W. St. Paul), and Hastings Sheriff's Office (1580 Highway 55, Hastings).

Medicines accepted:

Medicine from households is accepted in any form, including prescription, over-the-counter and pet medicines. Examples include: blister packs, capsules, pills, creams, gels, vials, inhalers, IV bags, liquids, patches, powders, sprays and tablets.

Not accepted:

- NO needles, sharps and fever thermometers. Instead, bring these items to The Recycling Zone in Eagan for free, environmentally-safe disposal.
- NO medicines from businesses, including health care facilities, long-term-care facilities, pharmacies, doctor's offices and veterinary clinics.

Preparation guidelines:

- Drop-off is safe and anonymous. No ID is required and no questions will be asked.
- Keep medicines in their original container and place them in a sealed, clear plastic bag (pills can remain in their blister packs).
- Use a marker to cross out your name on medicine containers.
- Place medicine that is no longer in its original container in a clear plastic bag and write the name of the medicine on the bag.

Do NOT pour or flush medicine down the sink or toilet. Research shows this can pollute the groundwater and be harmful to fish and wildlife. For more information, contact the Dakota County Sheriff's Office at 651-438-4710 or visit www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org and search medication.



Sanitary Sewer Program

Routine sanitary sewer cleaning and maintenance is done on approximately 60 miles of sewer lines annually. A map of areas to be cleaned is posted on the City web site, www.cityofapplevalley.org. Remember to keep the toilet lid down when cleaning operations are being done in your neighborhood. During cleaning operations, air can vent into a home through the sanitary sewer service line and ventilation system. A blockage in the sanitary sewer ventilation system can cause water in the toilet to bubble or splash out of the bowl.

Sewer and Water Emergency Contact Numbers

952-953-2400 (Public Works)
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

952-322-2323 (Police Department)
After hours, weekends and holidays.

Sewer Backups

If you have a sewer backup and do not know the cause of the blockage, you should consider calling the Public Works Department before you call a drain cleaning company. You may be able to avoid an unnecessary charge if the problem is in the City's sewer line rather than yours. A Public Works employee will determine if the problem is in the City's line.

Sanitary sewer line blockages can be caused by grease and improper disposal of items as well as tree roots. FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease) can solidify in the sewer lines and restrict other waste from flowing through. Lines can be blocked by disposable diapers, towelettes, feminine hygiene products, washing machine lint, or any items flushed down the drain or toilet.

Some homeowner insurance policies exclude damage resulting from sewer backups. Many insurers have riders that can be purchased to insure loss due to sewer backups.

How did that pond get so green?

The simple answer to the question: phosphorus. Phosphorus is a plant nutrient that spurs the growth of algae in freshwater systems; the extra growth of algae makes the water appear green in color. So where did all the phosphorus come from? This question is a bit more complex to answer. There aren't people clandestinely running out in the middle of the night to dump phosphorus in the lake, so to get to the answer you have to know a little bit more about how the stormwater system operates.

On your street there are storm drains. They are there to allow a place for water runoff to go, which reduces the chance that your street or home will flood when it rains. Treating stormwater to remove phosphorus and other chemicals would require construction of an expensive treatment plant, so stormwater is piped directly to the nearest lake, pond, stream, or wetland. If something containing high phosphorus is left in the street, curb, sidewalk, or driveway, it will be washed into the storm drain and, subsequently, your neighborhood pond during the next rain.

Items that contain high amounts of phosphorus can be surprising because they are mostly everyday, seemingly harmless things: leaves, grass clippings, bare ground (eroded soil), soaps, pet waste, and fertilizers. Most people will jump on fertilizers as the culprit, but it is easy to get zero phosphorus fertilizer (the middle number on the bag is 0), and many people don't fertilize at all. Soaps have lots of phosphorus, but how many people wash their own car anymore? (Commercial carwash wastewater gets treated.) The remaining items are natural so they seem like they should not be so bad. The problem is that the system is not natural. There are no prairie grasses or forest understory in the underground stormwater pipe to catch and filter out chemicals from the water as it passes on down the line.

To demonstrate the effect of these "harmless" substances, let's take a closer look at grass clippings. About one bushel (9.3 one-gallon milk jugs) of grass clippings contains 0.1 pounds of phosphorus which produces 30 to 50 pounds of algae in local ponds. If you mow your lawn every other week from May 15 to October 15 (about 11 times) and leave one-half gallon of grass clippings in the curb, you are dumping roughly 0.06 pounds of phosphorus into the stormwater system each year, which will produce 1.8 to 3 pounds of algae in your local lake. If every one of the 15,000 residential properties in Apple Valley does the same thing, we are looking at the growth of 27,000 to 45,000 pounds of algae each year.

So why does this really matter? Studies of Long and Farquar Lakes have determined that the amount of phosphorus in runoff entering these lakes needs to be 298 pounds less each year to clear up the water. If 5-1/2 gallons of grass clippings (11 x 1/2) comes from each property in the area that drains to the lakes, about 186 pounds of phosphorus is entering the lakes each year just from grass clippings. This is 62 percent of the needed reduction and does not take into account the other common sources of phosphorus coming from our yards. Changing some of our yard care habits can make a big difference!

To learn more about what you can do to keep our local lakes clean, visit the Natural Resources section of the City web site, www.cityofapplevalley.org, or call 952-953-2462.



City Information on Cable 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 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. In addition the meeting is replayed on Thursdays & Saturdays at 2:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., & 7:00 p.m.

The Planning Commission meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month. Replays are on Wednesdays at 2:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., & 7:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

APPLE VALLEY 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. & 6:00 p.m.; Friday - 1:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.; and Saturday - 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

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., & 6:30 p.m.; Friday - 1:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.; and Saturday - 8:30 a.m. & 6:30 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.

2012 Street Maintenance

The City of Apple Valley performs street maintenance work on an annual basis to preserve the condition of streets throughout our community. This work is not specially assessed to residents and property owners as the costs of the program are incorporated into the property tax levy. Apple Valley primarily uses three methods for maintaining the condition of streets:

- Micro-surfacing - sealing the pavement surface
- Overlay - placement of a new 1-inch to 2-inch thick asphalt surface on the street
- Full depth pavement replacement

Micro-surfacing consists of applying a thin (0.25 inches) layer of oil and rock mixture over the existing street surface. The resulting product is similar to a street overlay and has a life expectancy of approximately seven years. Because the application process is not conducive to use in cul-de-sacs, they will receive a seal coat consisting of an oil-based sealant. These methods are preventative maintenance techniques.

Overlays generally consist of patching failed pavement, repairing failed or damaged concrete curb and gutter, milling each edge of the street, and applying a new 1-inch to 2-inch thick layer of pavement over the entire surface. The procedure is generally applied to middle-aged streets and acts to provide a new wearing surface and revitalization of the pavement structure.

Full-depth pavement replacement of a street is utilized as pavement nears the end of its useful life cycle. This process consists of replacing failed or damaged concrete curb and gutter, and removal and reconstruction of the existing pavement, gravel base, and subgrade materials.

For 2012 the City of Apple Valley has identified approximately 13 centerline miles of streets to receive one of the three forms of maintenance.

The work will include park trail maintenance and spot repair of concrete along the ring route. It is anticipated that park, ring route, and overlay work will begin by early May; micro-surfacing work will begin in July; and all work will be complete no later than mid-September. Areas of full-depth pavement replacement will begin in June and July and are anticipated to be complete by the end of August.

The following list identifies the areas tentatively scheduled for work in 2012. The list may be adjusted based on bid prices received and available funding for the project. If you have questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 952-953-2400.

Micro-Surfacing/Seal Coating

Street	From	To
137th Street West	Flagstaff Avenue	Findlay Avenue
147th Street West	Galaxie Avenue	Flagstaff Avenue
153rd Street West	Galaxie Avenue	Flagstaff Avenue
157th Street West	Cedar Avenue (CSAH 23)	Flagstaff Avenue
158th Street West	Foliage Avenue	Flagstaff Avenue
Eland Court	-	-
Ellsworth Court	-	-
Embry Way	Pilot Knob Road	Cul-de-sac
Empress Court	-	-
Fair Oak Court	-	-
Fair Oak Lane	Fernando Avenue	Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Fallbrook Court	-	-
Fallbrook Way	Fawn Ridge Way	Cul-de-sac
Fawn Ridge Court	-	-
Fawn Ridge Way	140th Street West	Fernando Avenue
Feldspar Lane	Findlay Avenue	Fawn Ridge Way
Fernando Avenue	140th Street West	134th Street West
Fernwood Lane	Fallbrook Way	Fernando Avenue
Findlay Court	-	-
Firelight Court	-	-
Firelight Way	Fleetwood Avenue	Findlay Avenue
Flagstaff Avenue	150th Street (CSAH 42)	147th Street West
Flagstaff Avenue	Flair Court	Fleetwood Avenue
Flagstaff Court	-	-
Flair Court	-	-
Flanders Path	150th Street (CSAH 42)	Florence Trail
Fleetwood Avenue	140th Street	Cul-de-sac
Flight Lane	157th Street West	Flagstaff Avenue
Flint Lane	135th Street West	Flagstaff Avenue
Florence Trail	147th Street West	Flagstaff Avenue
Foliage Avenue	145th Street West	160th Street (CSAH 46)
Forum Path	150th Street (CSAH 42)	Florence Trail

Overlay

Street	From	To
151st Street West Cul-de-sac	Garrett Avenue	Cul-de-sac
157th Street West	Hannover Path	Granada Avenue
Garrett Avenue	150th Street (CSAH 42)	151st Street West
Garrett Avenue	Galaxie Park	Upper 136th Street West
Upper 136th Street West	Garrett Avenue	Galaxie Avenue

Full Depth Pavement Replacement

Street	From	To
Garrett Avenue	151st Street West	Gateway Path
Johnny Cake Ridge Road	Falcon Ridge Trail	Eagan Border

CAUTION: Work Crew Ahead

Please be aware of City crews this summer and drive carefully near their work sites. Summer work includes street repairs, litter picking, sewer cleaning, sign replacement, crosswalk striping, and hydrant flushing and repairs.

Street Light Maintenance

Is there a burned out street light in your neighborhood? If so, contact Dakota Electric at 651-463-6287. If possible, note the identification number found at eye level on the pole. With this number, Dakota Electric knows the pole's exact location. If you do not know the pole number, please provide the closest address or cross streets. In addition to replacing burned out bulbs, Dakota Electric repairs broken globes and adjusts the sensitivity of the light sensors.

Drinking Water Report

The annual Drinking Water Report will be posted on the City's web site in June. The report is a requirement of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Visit cityofapplevalley.org or call 952-953-2400 for more information.

Water Restrictions

From May 1 to September 30, no lawn watering is permitted between 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. These restrictions do not apply to hand watering of plants (hose must be attended), children's water toys when in use by children, and non-irrigation water use such as vehicle washing. New sod laid and trees planted in the calendar year are exempt.

Water Conservation

Conservation involves protection, upkeep, maintenance, management, and preservation of the water supply. Using water wisely will help protect this vital resource. Implement water conservation techniques in your daily routine.

Some outdoor watering tips:

- Check for leaks at outside fixtures. Leaks will needlessly cause your water bill to increase.
- Water in the early morning; it is the best time to water for all plants.
- Avoid watering during the afternoon, which is the hottest period of the day and when evaporation is greatest.
- Water only when your lawn needs it. If you step on the grass and it springs back, it doesn't need watering. An established lawn needs only one inch of water per week.
- Deep-soak your lawn. When you do water, do it long enough for the moisture to soak to the roots where it will be most beneficial. A light sprinkling can evaporate quickly and tends to encourage shallow root systems.
- Position your sprinklers so the water lands on the lawn or garden, not on paved areas.
- Plant drought resistant trees and plants. Add mulch around them to slow evaporation of moisture and discourage weak growth.

For additional information about water conservation, use the following links to the Metropolitan Council and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources:

- www.metrocouncil.org/environment/WaterSupply/conservationtoolbox_residential.htm
- www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/appropriations/conservation.html
- If you have questions, contact the Public Works Department at 952-953-2400.



LEBANON CEMETERY

Are you preplanning your cemetery arrangements? Do you and a loved one want to be buried near each other but one wants a traditional burial and the other wants cremation? At Lebanon Cemetery, a traditional lot can have two and even three burials. One burial can be a traditional casket burial, and the others cremation burials; or all three could be cremations. The Right of Second/Third Burial Fee would apply, which is 50 percent of the current lot cost. For example, if the lot cost is \$1,000; the fee for the second and third burials would be \$500 each for a total of \$2,000 for three burial sites. One to three flat markers would be allowed on the lot. If this option could meet your needs, please contact Public Works at 952-953-2400 or pubworks@ci.apple-valley.mn.us for information.



Volunteers Needed

Help is always needed to keep Lebanon Cemetery of Apple Valley looking its best for family members and friends visiting loved ones' graves. Your efforts picking litter and weeding the flower beds would be appreciated. This could be done once a week, once a month, once a season, or whatever fits your schedule. For more information about the Cemetery Volunteer Service Program, to request a volunteer packet, or for general cemetery information, please contact Public Works at (952) 953-2400.

Diseased Shade Trees

Do you ever notice unhealthy looking elm or oak trees? Each year, Public Works inspects for oak wilt and Dutch elm disease beginning in June and continuing through the growing season.

Early detection is the most effective way to manage disease. Both diseases are caused by a fungus and can be transmitted from tree to tree by insects or root grafting. City Ordinance requires that elm trees infected with Dutch elm disease, and red oak trees infected with oak wilt must be removed and properly disposed to control the spread of these two diseases. The City will again offer cost sharing in 2012 to residential property owners who follow the Cost Share Program Policies.

If you suspect a tree is diseased, want information on the Cost Share Program, or have any tree-related questions; please call the Natural Resources Division at (952) 953-2460 or visit cityofapplevalley.org

Dutch Elm Disease



Buckthorn

Buckthorn is an invasive, non-native small tree infesting many forested areas. Left unmanaged, buckthorn overtakes native species and becomes the dominant plant in many understories and woodland edges. It is nearly impossible to walk through buckthorn-infested areas, and buckthorn provides little wildlife value. Buckthorn is native to Europe and arrived in the United States as a landscape plant in the late 1800s.

For the average do-it-yourself project, buckthorn is generally removed in one of two ways: pulled or dug out of the ground, or cut off at ground level. Plants less than 2.5" in diameter are the most feasible to pull or dig out, which removes the majority of the root system and eliminates the need for stump treatment. Plants greater than 2.5" in diameter are best tackled by cutting at ground level and applying a chemical stump treatment to kill the root system. Products such as Brush Be Gone (active ingredient triclopyr) or Roundup (active ingredient glyphosate) are effective for treating buckthorn stumps, and available at most retail stores selling yard and garden supplies. Herbicides for killing grass and weeds are not effective for killing buckthorn root systems. **ALWAYS READ THE PRODUCT LABEL AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS WHEN USING CHEMICALS.**

Apple Valley residents can use, free of charge, a City-owned weed wrench for pulling buckthorn plants from the ground. These mechanical levers are designed for pulling buckthorn plants up to 2.5" in diameter. A \$200 deposit is required at the time of tool pickup, and is returned when the tool is brought back.

The following options are recommended for buckthorn disposal:

- Refuse haulers provide convenient and affordable yard waste service for residents. Most haulers can provide both a weekly yard waste collection service throughout the growing season and an on-call service to collect yard waste materials. Contact your hauler for specifics relating to brush disposal.
- Removed buckthorn plants pose no threat of spreading or impacting the environment. Buckthorn is about the same density as hickory so it makes good firewood.
- Buckthorn trunks and branches can be chipped on site and the chips used safely for mulch. The City maintains a list of tree work contractors licensed in Apple Valley, many of which provide wood chipping services.
- Buckthorn materials, including stumps, can be disposed of at most compost sites. The Wood Mulch Store located in Empire Township accepts buckthorn materials. Details can be found on their website, <http://www.mulchstoremn.com/empire.html>.

For additional information or assistance identifying buckthorn, call the Natural Resources Division at 952-953-2460, or search for buckthorn at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us>.

Summer Fire Safety

RECREATIONAL FIRE, FIRE PIT, BARBEQUE, BACKYARD FIRE

No matter what you call them, small fires in residential backyards are a popular way to relax and spend time with friends and family in Apple Valley. With such a mild winter and an early spring, it won't be long before many residents get the urge to pull out their lawn chairs and gather around the flickering flames of an evening outdoor fire.

For safety's sake, the Apple Valley Fire Department is taking this opportunity to remind everyone of the state fire codes and local ordinances that govern recreational fires in the City of Apple Valley. Recreational fires are allowed in the City when the following provisions are followed:

- The fire is contained to a three-by-three-by-three-foot area. The base of the fire cannot be more than three feet across in any direction and flames are to be no more than three feet high. This is true for in-ground, on-ground, or free-standing pre-manufactured fireplaces.
- Fire extinguishing equipment (an extinguisher, a garden hose, or sand) must be readily available at the fire from start to finish.
- Only dry, clean burning fire wood may be used. You may not burn shrub trimmings, treated lumber, leaves, or grass.
- The fire must be at least 25 feet from the nearest combustible structure.
- The fire must be at least 15 feet from the property line.
- An adult resident of the property must be in attendance at the fire from start until finish.
- All fires are subject to discontinuance by the Fire or Police Departments.

The above provisions are applicable at single family homes in the City of Apple Valley. Multi-family homes must also comply with them but can be, and usually are much more restrictive. Apartment, condominium, and townhome residents should check with their association before making or using a fire pit.

Additionally, Fire Chief Nealon Thompson was recently quoted in

a local newspaper with his concerns about residents that burn leaves and paper (neither is allowed) without realizing the danger that their light weights cause. "...because they are a lightweight fuel, they have the potential to become airborne and travel. With the heat the fire is generating, something else could easily catch on fire and burn very rapidly." Thompson stated.

Fire Marshal Roy Kingsley maintains consistent contact with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) throughout the year and is always aware of the current burning restrictions put in place by the DNR. Any burning restrictions in effect for the City of Apple Valley are posted on the City website as well as the DNR's website (http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating_restrictions.html). Recreational fires, as allowed by City Ordinance, are impacted by any City imposed and/or DNR imposed burn restrictions. For DNR purposes, recreational fires are classified as campfires.

Due to the dry conditions of a mild winter, the Apple Valley Fire Department highly recommends that residents pay close attention to all circumstances and use common sense when determining whether or not to have a recreational fire in their yard. **IF IN DOUBT, PUT IT OUT!**

BUTT OUT!

Nationwide, careless smoking is the leading cause of fatal fires. Over the past few years, Apple Valley has seen an increase in fires caused by careless disposal of smoking materials. Cigarettes that are carelessly flicked off decks or out of windows and those that are just pushed into garden pots and planters have smoldered for as long as two days before bursting into flames that have spread onto the nearby home.

The Apple Valley Fire Department urges smokers to be cautious when they put out their smoking materials. They are providing special "Get your Butt Outside" self-extinguishing ashtrays, available at the main desk of the Municipal Center, to promote this important fire safety message.

The City of Apple Valley celebrates its 4th Annual Night to Unite on August 7, 2012

Mark your calendars for the 4th Annual Night to Unite Tuesday, August 7, 2012. This is your chance to get out, meet your neighbors and support crime prevention efforts in Apple Valley. Participation is easy. Contact Crime Prevention Specialist Pam Walter for a pre-event packet and register your neighborhood for a gathering. Or, simply visit the City's website at www.cityofapplevalley.org to obtain registration materials or register online! Materials will be available in late May 2012.

Then, on August 7th, lock your front doors, turn on your outside lights and spend the evening outdoors with your neighbors! Acting Police Chief Jon Rechtzigel, Mayor Mary Hamann-Roland, McGruff the Crime Dog and many other representatives from the Police Department, City Council and Apple Valley Fire Department will be part of the official entourage attending parties held in neighborhoods throughout Apple Valley.

Night to Unite is designed to increase awareness of and generate support for local crime prevention efforts. While achieving that goal, neighborhood and police-community relationships are strengthened. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be part of this event. Take an active role in protecting your neighborhood from criminals!





2012 Environmental Guide

An environmental guide for the cities of Apple Valley, Burnsville and Eagan



www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org

What Minnesotans Are Recycling

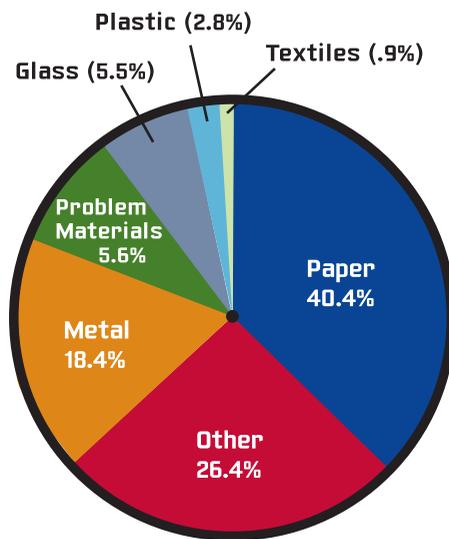


Chart provided by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

In 2010, Minnesotans recycled 2.43 million tons of materials, which was 43.2% of waste generated. The state goal is to reach a recycling rate of 50%.

Get LESS! Reducing & Reusing For Less Waste

Have you ever considered that having LESS would actually help you to have MORE? In the Twin Cities metropolitan area, we produce six pounds of waste per person each day. That is enough waste to fill Target Field more than 25 times every year! When we reduce the amount of stuff we buy, have, and eventually throw away, we end up with more time, more space and more money.



REDUCE WASTE WHEN YOU SHOP

Skip stuff that's over-packaged or disposable and keep your hard-earned cash out of the trash. Buying in bulk is often more cost-effective than individually wrapped and single-serve items.

REDUCE WASTE AT HOME

De-clutter by cutting down on junk mail. Go to DMAchoice.org, optoutprescreen.com and yellowpagesoptout.com to opt out of direct mailings, credit card offers and phone books.

REUSE 101

Take simple steps to keep things you can use again out of the trash. Look into repairing items when they break rather than replacing them. Donate useful goods you no longer need to charities to help them raise funds for their causes.

BEFORE YOU BUY

Buy once and buy well. Well-designed and constructed products will last longer and can be reused more. Do some research before you buy and avoid impulse purchases.

Getting LESS means donating, borrowing, sharing, selling and being smarter about what we buy. Do what you can to get LESS and have more! Learn more at www.getLEStoday.com.



Know How to Throw—Properly Dispose of Household Items

Responsible disposal of household items is necessary for a healthy environment. Dakota County offers The Recycling & Disposal Guide, an online tool that helps you determine the best way to get rid of your stuff. It provides options for reusing or donating, information on what can be recycled and how to recycle it, and lets you know about items that need to be kept out of the garbage because of their effect on our health and our environment.

The **Recycling & Disposal Guide** can be found on the Dakota County website at www.dakotacounty.us, search *Recycling & Disposal Guide*.

What Can Go in my Recycling Bin at Home?

These guidelines apply to residents in Dakota County.

Plastic

YES:

- Plastics bottles and jugs
- Water, soda and juice bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Ketchup and salad dressing bottles
- Dishwashing and detergent bottles
- Shampoo, soap and lotion bottles

NO:

- Plastic tableware (plates, utensils)
- Styrofoam plates, cups or packaging
- Plastic packaging from toys, office supplies or electronics accessories
- Hoses or PVC pipes
- Toys or school/office supplies
- Containers that held hazardous products, such as automotive fluids or pesticides

Glass

YES:

- Glass food and beverage bottles and jars

NO:

- Drinking glasses, mugs, dishes, cookware, pottery or vases
- Window or mirror glass
- Containers that held hazardous products, such as nail polish or hobby paint

Call your hauler:

Some recycling haulers are now collecting more types of recyclables. Call your hauler for information on whether or not the following items are accepted in your curbside bin:

- Margarine, cottage cheese, cream cheese or other tubs
- Yogurt, pudding or fruit cups
- Bottle caps or lids
- Deli or take-out containers
- Plastic wrap or bags
- Plastic cups
- Pizza delivery boxes
- Milk cartons, juice boxes or soup/broth cartons

Go to www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org and click on "Licensed Residential Haulers" for hauler information.

Metal

YES:

- Metal food and beverage cans

NO:

- Paint cans
- Aerosol cans
- Containers that held hazardous products, such as paint thinner or automotive fluids

Paper

YES:

- Mail, office and school papers
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone books
- Shredded paper (in closed paper bag)
- Cardboard boxes
- Boxes from toothpaste, medications and other toiletries
- Boxes from cereal, crackers, pasta and other dry foods
- Cardboard from empty paper towel and toilet paper rolls

NO:

- Egg cartons or boxes soiled with food
- Boxes from refrigerated or frozen foods (exception: cartons are accepted by some haulers)
- Paper towels, napkins, cups or plates
- Gift wrap

Not A Problem!

Solutions for Disposing of Problem Materials

In Minnesota, there are a number of items that cannot be thrown in the garbage. These types of items are often called “problem materials.” Items in this category don’t belong in the garbage because their disposal poses an environmental or health threat: they may contaminate our water and soils. Fortunately, there are a number of opportunities available to residents looking to dispose of these items, making “problem materials” a problem solved.



The examples to the right are common items that require special disposal.

The Problem: **Electronics and Household Chemicals**

Automotive Items: auto batteries, antifreeze, motor oil/filters, tires.

Home Improvement: driveway sealer, paints, stains, paint remover/stripper/thinner, solvents.

Household Items: aerosol cans, batteries (non-alkaline), cleaners, cooking oil, fluorescent bulbs/tubes, needles/syringes/ lancets, propane tanks, thermostats.

Electronics: cell phones, computer equipment (keyboard, speakers, modem, etc.), DVD players, gaming systems (Wii™, PlayStation™, Xbox®, Nintendo DS™, etc.), portable music players (iPods®, MP3 players), laptops, monitors, printers, stereo equipment, televisions, VCR players.

The Solution: **Recycling & Hazardous Waste Facility**

The Recycling Zone • 651-905-4520 • Eagan
www.dakotacounty.us search *Recycling Zone*
See details on next page.

The Problem: **Major Appliances**

Washers, dryers, ovens, microwaves, refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, dehumidifiers, trash compactors, water heaters, air conditioners, water softeners.

The Solution: **Your Local Appliance Recyclers**

(call for hours, directions and fees)

Advanced Recyclers • 651-454-9215 • Inver Grove Heights
www.advancedrecyclers.com

Certified Recycling • 952-894-1448 • Burnsville
www.certifiedappliance.com

Plaza TV and Appliance • 651-457-1196 • West Saint Paul
www.plazatv.com

The Recycling Zone



651-905-4520

3365 Dodd Road
Eagan, MN

www.dakotacounty.us
Search: *The Recycling Zone*



Drop-off Hours:	Recyclables	Household Chemicals & HHW
Wednesday:	9 a.m. – 8 p.m.	3 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Thursday:	Noon – 8 p.m.	Noon – 5 p.m.
Friday:	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Not Accepted
Saturday:	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Services Offered at The Recycling Zone

The Recycling Zone is the place for residents to get rid of the stuff you can't throw in the trash. For a full list of items that can be disposed of at The Recycling Zone, go to www.dakotacounty.us and search *materials accepted*. A valid driver's license is required to use these services.

Recyclables Drop-off

Bring in items such as glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, metal cans, paper, cardboard, plastic bags, packing peanuts, scrap metal and cooking oil to be recycled for free.

Electronics Drop-off

Items such as computers, laptops, monitors, computer accessories, TVs, VCRs, DVD players and game systems are accepted for free from households ONLY. *Business electronics are collected separately; contact The Recycling Zone for more information.*

Compost Bin & Rain Barrel Sales

Buy backyard compost bins and rain barrels for your home. Call for availability and pricing.

Household Chemicals and HHW Drop-off

Items like paint, cleaners, chemicals, batteries, gasoline, automotive fluids and fluorescent bulbs are accepted for free from households ONLY. *Businesses with hazardous waste should contact Dakota County at 952-891-7020 for more information.*

Free Stuff Area

Usable household chemicals such as paint and cleaners are free for the taking.

Lead Sinker Exchange

Exchange your lead tackle for a free sample of a non-lead alternative.

Mercury Thermometer Exchange

Exchange your mercury medical thermometer for a digital alternative.

Aluminum Can Redemption

Bring in your aluminum cans and The Recycling Zone will pay you for them. Call for redemption prices.

Thank You for Your Recycling Efforts

In 2011, residents had opportunities to recycle old shoes, unwanted holiday lights, compact fluorescent light bulbs and more. Recycling programs like these help the environment, and create jobs for Minnesotans via the collection, sorting, processing and remanufacturing of recycled materials. For example, for America Recycles Day, residents dropped off a total of 2.4 tons of shoes in one week! The shoes were collected by the Adult Training & Habilitation Center and were either sold for reuse or sent to be recycled, taking the materials like leather, nylon, and rubber for new products.

Thank you to everyone that participated in any of these programs, making 2011's recycling efforts a major success!

