

# CityNews



SUMMER 2015

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF APPLE VALLEY, MN



## YOU ARE INVITED

### WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPEN HOUSE

The Apple Valley Public Works Department will host an Open House event on Saturday, July 25, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This event includes a ribbon cutting scheduled at 11:00 a.m. to celebrate the completion of the Water Treatment Facility Expansion Project. The Open House will be held at the City's Central Maintenance Facility located at 6442 140th Street West, at the intersection of 140th Street and Flagstaff Avenue, adjacent to Eastview High School.

The Open House event will provide an exciting opportunity for children and adults to experience a behind-the-scenes look at how drinking water is supplied to the community and learn about equipment and programs used to build and operate the City's infrastructure.

### Please join us in this fun-filled community event.

- Tour the newly expanded Water Treatment Facility capable of supplying over three billion gallons of clean and safe drinking water per year.
- Get a close-up view and demonstration of public works equipment, including snow plow trucks, aerial bucket trucks, loaders, tractors, and other large equipment.
- Visit with engineering staff to learn about upcoming construction projects within the City.
- Meet with a building inspector to discuss your plans for future home improvement projects.
- Learn more about the City's forestry and natural resources programs.
- Enjoy refreshments.

#### Mayor:

Mary Hamann-Roland

#### Council Members:

John Bergman  
Thomas Goodwin  
Ruth Grendahl  
Clint Hooppaw

RESIDENTIAL  
CUSTOMER  
ECSRWS

PRRST STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #419  
TWIN CITIES, MN

## SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

Summer is the time when we all start spending more time outdoors and more time with family and friends. Apple Valley is a great place for summer fun. In addition to the athletic fields, bicycle paths, and walking trails, we have great parks, outdoor musical events, the Minnesota Zoo, and more!

As much fun as being out and about can be, residents also enjoy spending time outside at home. Sitting around a recreational fire with family and friends, cooking dinner on the grill, and walking through our own neighborhoods are the special treats we've been waiting all winter to enjoy.

The Apple Valley Fire Department wants your summer to be a safe one by reminding you of these safety measures; Recreational Fires must be no more than 3' around in diameter and have flames no more than 3' high. The fire must be at least 15' from the nearest combustible structure and 10' from the closest property line. They must use clean, dry firewood only, have an adult resident of the home present, and have an extinguishing source at hand from start to finish.

Barbeque grills at single-family homes are not covered by City ordinance, but common sense requires a safe operating distance from the home or other combustible surfaces, and the correct process of shutting down the unit once the cooking is complete.

Grills at multi-family residences are generally not allowed unless the residence has its own entrance and exit to the outdoors. Townhome associations and apartment management teams can implement stricter guidelines for their residences. Questions on this can be directed to the Fire Marshal at **952-953-2679** or your local housing/management association.

Remember also that there are often more children in the homes and neighborhoods during the summer. Make sure they know what to do in an emergency. In addition to educating them about safe cooking processes, proper candle use, identifying family evacuation locations, and not playing with matches, we encourage families to sit down together and play the online Summer Safety Challenge Game. Find the link to this game on the Fire Department page of the City of Apple Valley website ([www.cityofapplevalley.org](http://www.cityofapplevalley.org)). This fun and interactive tool, created by the Minnesota State Fire Marshal, provides information on safety information for weather awareness, campfires, brush fires, fireworks, and grilling. Adults and children alike will enjoy creating their own character and learning while they play.

## CITY CABLE TV HAS MOVED!!!

Apple Valley Government Access TV is now located on Ch. 180, Public Access is on Ch. 187, Dakota County is on Ch. 188, and ISD 196 is on Ch. 189.

### CITY INFORMATION ON CABLE CHANNEL 180

Apple Valley Government Access Community Television features useful City information on the Channel 180 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 180 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. 180

"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.

#### VALLEY BEAT

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b> .....    | 8:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. |
| <b>Monday</b> .....    | 1:00 a.m.             |
| <b>Tuesday</b> .....   | 8:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. |
| <b>Wednesday</b> ..... | 1:00 a.m.             |
| <b>Thursday</b> .....  | 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. |
| <b>Friday</b> .....    | 1:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. |
| <b>Saturday</b> .....  | 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. |

#### HOOK & LADDER

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b> .....    | 8:30 a.m. & 8:30 p.m.  |
| <b>Monday</b> .....    | 1:30 a.m.              |
| <b>Tuesday</b> .....   | 8:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> ..... | 1:30 a.m.              |
| <b>Thursday</b> .....  | 8:30 a.m., & 6:30 p.m. |
| <b>Friday</b> .....    | 1:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.  |
| <b>Saturday</b> .....  | 8:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.  |

Programs and telecast times are also listed on the Channel 180 Bulletin Board Program Guide, and the City Web site at: [www.cityofapplevalley.org](http://www.cityofapplevalley.org).

## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Conservation involves protection, upkeep, maintenance, management, and preservation of the water supply. Be aware of the amount of water you use. Using water wisely will help protect this vital resource.

### Implement these water conservation techniques in your daily routine:

- Water lawns early in the day and only when needed.
- Position sprinklers so water lands only on the lawn or garden.
- Broom off the driveway instead of washing it.
- Repair irrigation system leaks promptly.
- Repair leaking faucets and toilets. A leak can waste thousands of gallons of water.
- Install water saving devices such as low flow shower heads or faucet aerators.
- Landscape with plants that require little water.

For water conservation information check out these websites: [www.epa.gov/water/kids.html](http://www.epa.gov/water/kids.html) and <http://www.drinktap.org/>

According to the EPA, the average American uses about 100 gallons of water each day. The water footprint of an individual, community, or business also includes the amount of water used to produce the goods and services utilized daily.

### To find out more information on water footprints check out:

[www.h2oconserve.org](http://www.h2oconserve.org) and [www.waterfootprint.org](http://www.waterfootprint.org) and [www.growingblue.com](http://www.growingblue.com)

### 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.

## THINK BEFORE YOU DUMP

The storm drain on your street or in your backyard is directly connected to a neighborhood lake, pond, or wetland. Water and substances entering the drain are not cleaned or otherwise treated. If it goes down the drain, it goes into the lake. If it's left on the street, sidewalk, or driveway, it will be washed into the lake when it next rains. Help keep local lakes, wetlands, and ponds clean by sweeping spilled substances, grass



clippings, and leaves off of driveways, sidewalks, and streets. Never pour anything down the storm drain. Only rain down the drain.

## IS YOUR GREEN LAWN MAKING YOUR LAKE GREEN?

A nice green lawn can be a thing of beauty, a source of pride when judged against the neighbors. However, a healthy green lawn takes a lot of hard work, thought, and preparation. Skip a step, and you may be contributing to the summer algae bloom in the local pond.

### Take these simple steps to keep lawn maintenance materials out of the storm drain and your local pond:

1. Sweep your grass clippings and fertilizers off of driveways, sidewalks, and streets and back into your lawn.
2. Know when and how much to fertilize.
3. Water only when needed.
4. Consider planting strategically placed raingardens and native gardens in your yard to help filter fertilizers out of stormwater runoff from your lawn.

### You can learn more about water friendly lawn care here:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/lawns/fertilizing-lawns/>

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/landscaping/maint/mowing.htm>

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/turfgrass/watering/>

## NATIVE PLANTS: THE SOLUTION TO YOUR GARDENING WOES

Have you ever looked at the wilted plants in your garden in late July and thought to yourself, “But I just watered these yesterday!?” Are you getting tired of hauling the hose and sprinkler out time and again in August? Is there a spot in your yard that needs some sprucing up, but you just can’t get anything to grow there?



Well, look no further, because many of your gardening woes can be solved by using native plants.

Many of the plants for sale in gardening centers originally come from other areas of the world like Asia and Europe. These plants developed under different climatic, geologic, and ecological regimes. Too often, we are trying to make the land fit the plant by constantly irrigating and fertilizing, and we’re not picking the plant that fits the land. This often results in an unsuccessful waste of time, energy and money on our part.

The good news is there is an attractive native plant that can fit any growing niche you can think of in Minnesota. These plants evolved here to survive the cold, harsh winter and the hot, dry days in August. With careful selection based on the conditions you find in your yard, you can plant an attractive, low maintenance, native plant garden that looks uniquely Minnesotan. And the best part is native plants come with many other benefits such as increased wildlife habitat and forage, carbon sequestration, water conservation, and stormwater reduction.

Have a care when trying to purchase native plants, not all plants labeled as native are true Minnesota native plants. Oftentimes, a plant may have gone through a selective breeding process to get a bigger bloom or shorter plant, resulting in what is called a cultivar. Cultivars often result in a tradeoff. You may have a showier bloom or a bloom that is an unusual color, but

often the quality of the nectar or pollen is sacrificed. So if your ultimate goal is to attract wildlife, stay away from cultivars. Cultivars are indicated by a word or phrase inside single quotation marks on plant tags (e.g., Feather Reed Grass ‘Karl Foerster’).

**For more information on native plants, how to garden** with them, where to purchase them, and local cost-share opportunities; consult the Blue Thumb Planting for Clean Water™ website at [www.bluthumb.org](http://www.bluthumb.org), or “*The Blue Thumb Guide to Raingardens - Design and Installation for Homeowners in the Upper Midwest*”, available for purchase from Blue Thumb partners and participating booksellers.

**Here are some suggestions to get you started:**

### Full Sun Gardens – Dry to Moist Soils

Pasque Flower • Butterfly Milkweed • Northern Blazingstar  
Prairie Coneflower • Wild Onion • Spiderwort  
Sky Blue Aster • Prairie Dropseed • Big Bluestem

### Shade Gardens – Dry to Moist Soils

Columbine • Harebells • Wild Geranium • Bloodroot  
Jacob’s Ladder • Wild Ginger • Pennsylvania Sedge  
Bottlebrush Grass • Christmas Fern

**Two metro area opportunities to purchase native plants this summer:**

#### 1. The Burnsville Native Plant Market

Saturday May 30, 2015 • 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Parking lot across the street from Burnsville City Hall  
See <http://www.ci.burnsville.mn.us/> for more details.

#### 2. Landscape Revival: Native Plant Market & Expo

Saturday June 6, 2015 • 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Community Pavilion at the Roseville Cub Foods  
See <http://www.saintpaulaudubon.org/events/2015/06/native-plant-expo-and-market> for more details.

## DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

The annual Drinking Water Quality Report can be found at <http://mn-applevalley.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/967>.

The 2015 report is posted on the website in June. The Safe Drinking Water Act determines water quality tests included in the report. The City of Apple Valley meets every water quality standard. The purpose of the report is to advance consumers’ understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources. To request a paper copy, please call **952-953-2400** or contact us at [pubworks@cityofapplevalley.org](mailto:pubworks@cityofapplevalley.org).

## **SANITARY SEWER INFO**

### **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 contact 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.

### **SANITARY SEWER CLEANING**

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 website, [www.cityofapplevalley.org](http://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 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

### **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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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.

### **EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL IN YOUR YARD**

Are you planning a land-disturbing project this season? Maybe you've decided to add a garage, a pool, or a retaining wall. Depending on the amount of soil disturbed, a Natural Resources Management Permit (NRMP) may be required by the City of Apple Valley.

Any land-disturbing activity can impact our natural environment. Exposed bare soils can easily leave your yard and move into the City storm sewers. Soils have a strong bond with phosphorous that may contain pollutants which can cause excessive algal blooms and substantial weed growth in our lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

Whether or not an NRMP is needed, residents are required by City Ordinance to keep sediment within the project area and to provide adequate erosion and sediment controls. Perimeter sediment control devices include silt fence, biologs, mulch berms, and straw waddles. Erosion control devices include blankets, disc-anchored mulch, tarps, hydroseeding, and turf-reinforcement matting. Any time work has stopped for more than 14 days, exposed soils need to be temporarily or permanently covered.

#### **Without properly functioning erosion and sediment controls:**

1. Sediment-filled storm water can cause physical and biological harm to our natural habitats.
2. Polluted runoff can cause excessive growth of weeds and algae in adjacent water bodies.
3. Recreational activities like swimming and fishing are negatively impacted.
4. Cleanup and maintenance costs increase.

#### **Help do your part to protect our water resources!**

Contact Natural Resources at **952-953-2463** with questions.

## DISEASED SHADE TREE INSPECTIONS

Have you noticed any unhealthy looking ash, elm or oak trees? Each year, Public Works inspects for oak wilt, Dutch elm disease and Emerald ash borer (EAB) beginning in June and continuing through the growing season.

**Early detection** is the most effective way to manage disease. City Ordinance requires the removal of elm trees infected with Dutch elm disease, red oak trees infected with oak wilt and ash trees with EAB. Removed trees must be properly disposed of to control the spread of these diseases.

**If you suspect a tree is diseased, or have tree-related questions;** please call the Natural Resources Division at **952-953-2400** or visit [www.cityofapplevalley.org](http://www.cityofapplevalley.org).

## 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 forest understories and along woodland edges. It is nearly impossible to walk through buckthorn-infested areas, and buckthorn provides little wildlife value. Buckthorn was brought from Europe to the United States as a landscape plant in the late 1800s.

For the average do-it-your-selfer, buckthorn is generally removed in two ways: pulled or dug out of the ground, or cut off at ground level. Plants less than 2" 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" 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 are 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 a City-owned weed wrench for pulling buckthorn plants. These mechanical levers are designed for pulling buckthorn plants up to 2.5" in diameter. The \$200 deposit required at the time of tool pickup, is returned when the tool is brought back. The deposit is check or cash only.

### **The following options are recommended for buckthorn disposal:**

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Buckthorn trunks and branches can be chipped and used safely for mulch. The City maintains a list of tree work contractors licensed in Apple Valley, many of which provide wood chipping services.
4. 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> or call **651-423-4401**.

For additional information or assistance identifying buckthorn, call Public Works at **952-953-2400**, or search for buckthorn at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us>.

## BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR EMERALD ASH BORER

In response to the recent Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation in Lebanon Hills Park, the City encourages residents to watch ash trees for symptoms. EAB is one of America's most destructive tree pests. Its larvae kill ash trees by tunneling into the wood and disrupting the flow of the tree's water and nutrients. Since the accidental introduction of EAB into North America,



it has killed millions of ash trees. The metallic-green adult beetles are a half-inch long, and are active from May to September. Infestation signs include winding tunnels under the bark, heavy woodpecker activity, bark cracking, and an overall thinning canopy year after year. One or two dead branches is not a sign of EAB.

Determining the health of a tree and level of potential EAB infestation is difficult in the early stages. It is likely that without treatment, all of the ash trees in Apple Valley and surrounding communities will ultimately become victims of EAB. The City has adopted an Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan to help mitigate the impact of the EAB disruption to the urban forest. The Plan incorporates a proactive approach to managing the impacts of EAB by utilizing education, tree removal and reforestation strategies, and some treatment by trunk injection for significant trees. Residents who wish to treat significant or valued ash trees with a chemical injection by a licensed tree contractor should consider doing so this summer. The City will contract with a tree company to perform the injections at a reduced price on behalf of Apple Valley residents.

The biggest risk for spreading EAB comes from people moving firewood or other ash wood products harboring EAB larvae. Dakota County is currently under both a State and Federal quarantine which prohibits the transportation of ash wood outside of the County. Please do not move firewood.

Again, residents are encouraged to watch for signs of infestation in all ash trees, public or private. If you suspect your ash tree could be infested by EAB, visit [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us) and use the "Do I Have Emerald Ash Borer?" checklist.

To report concerns, contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Hotline at **888-545-6684** or [arrest.the.pest@state.mn.us](mailto:arrest.the.pest@state.mn.us), or the City's Natural Resources staff at **952-953-2400** or [natresource@ci.apple-valley.mn.us](mailto:natresource@ci.apple-valley.mn.us).

## CALL BEFORE YOU DIG DIAL 8-1-1

Remember to call Gopher State One Call (GSOC) before you do any digging. State law requires anyone doing 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** for GSOC.

## 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, mowing boulevards, hydrant flushing and repairs.

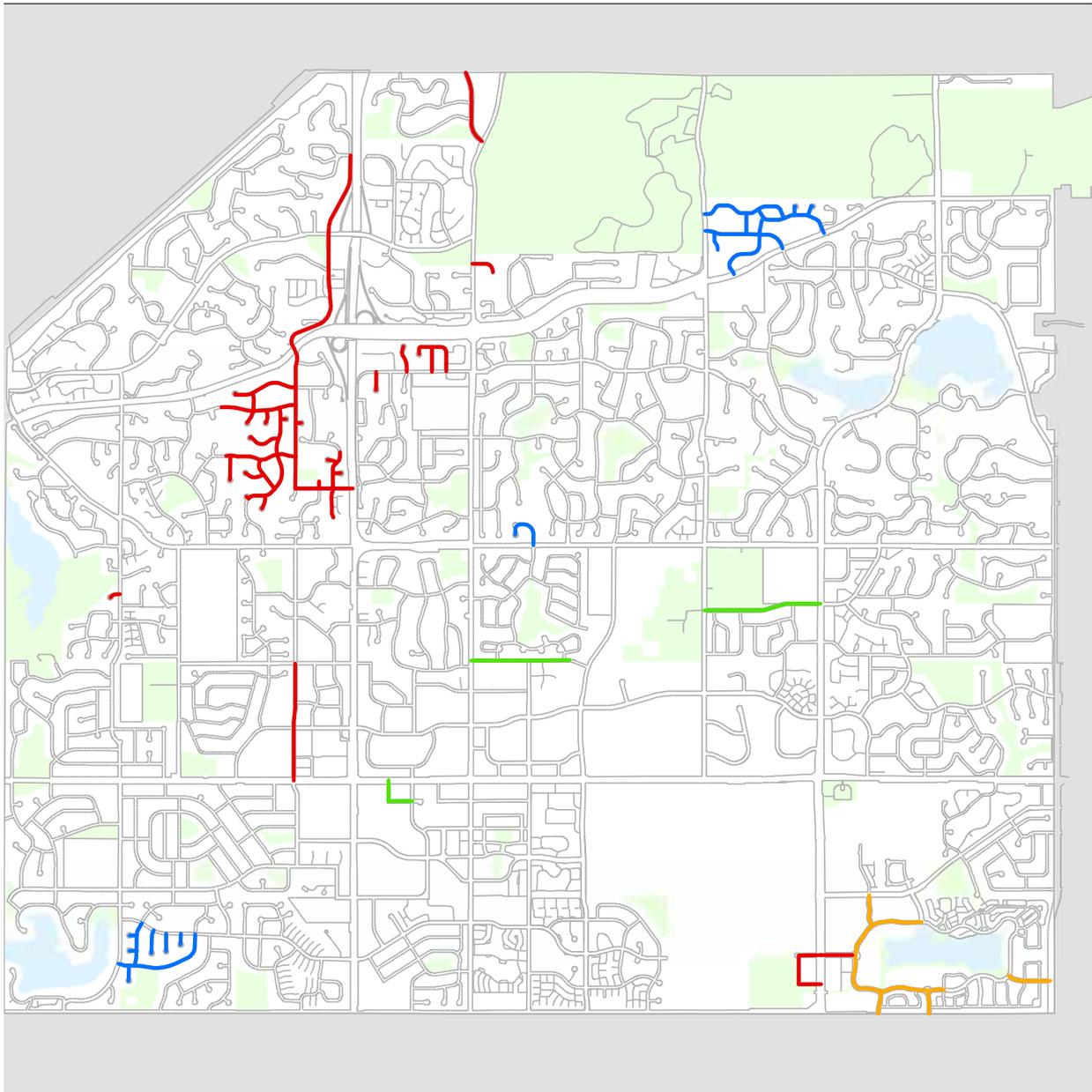


## LEBANON CEMETERY

Lebanon Cemetery has two columbaria, which are above-ground structures designed for interring cremated remains. The columbaria have single and double niches for one or two cremation urns. A bronze plaque with the name and years of birth and death is placed on the front of the niche. Flower gardens and benches near the columbaria provide a peaceful setting. Do drive through the cemetery sometime to observe this lovely feature. Lebanon Cemetery of Apple Valley is located on the southeast corner of County Road 42 and Pilot Knob Road and is accessible from eastbound County Road 42 and northbound Pilot Knob Road.

For more information or to schedule an individual appointment to meet with a cemetery representative, please contact [pubworks@cityofapplevalley.org](mailto:pubworks@cityofapplevalley.org) or **952-953-2400**.

## 2015 CITY STREET IMPROVEMENTS



### Improvement Type

- RECONSTRUCTION
- MILL/OVERLAY
- MICRO SURFACE
- CHIP SEAL



## 2015 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 four methods for maintaining the condition of streets:

- **Full depth pavement replacement/Reconstruction**
- **Overlay** - placement of a new 1-inch to 2-inch thick asphalt surface on the street
- **Micro surfacing** - sealing the pavement surface
- **Chip seal** – sealing the pavement surface

**Full-depth pavement replacement or reconstruction** 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.

**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.

**Micro surfacing** consists of applying a thin (0.25 inch) 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.

**Chip seal** consists of an oil-based sealant and crushed aggregate applied primarily on cul-de-sacs and streets with tight curvature and multiple median openings that are not conducive to the micro-surfacing application process. Micro surfacing and chip seal are preventative maintenance techniques.

For 2015 the City of Apple Valley has identified approximately 12 centerline miles of streets to receive one of the four forms of maintenance. For specific locations and type of work, see the 2015 City Street Improvements map on the adjacent page.

It is anticipated that overlay work will begin by early June; micro-surfacing and chip seal work will begin in July; and all work will be complete no later than mid-September.

Areas of full-depth pavement replacement are anticipated to occur between the months of April and August.

If you have questions, please contact the Public Works Department at **952-953-2400** or [pubworks@cityofapplevalley.org](mailto:pubworks@cityofapplevalley.org).

## 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 can find 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.

## GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM

The City of Apple Valley has been recognized for several years for continued involvement in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program. Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a challenge, assistance, and recognition program. As one of approximately 80 participating cities, Apple Valley continues to move forward to achieve the highest level attainable in the program. The City of Apple Valley has worked hard to implement best practices in order to fulfill its sustainability goals. Actions that are taken within the program focus on cost savings, energy use reduction, and the encouragement of civic innovation. Details on the best practices the city has completed can be seen by visiting [www.MnGreenStep.org](http://www.MnGreenStep.org), clicking on "See all cities" next to the map, and then clicking on the city's name.

## DAKOTA VALLEY RECYCLING Environmental Guide <sup>2015</sup>



Environmental guide for the cities of Apple Valley, Burnsville and Eagan

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Ways to Reduce Waste

Re-Use Info

Recycling Guide

Household Hazardous Waste Info

### CONTACT US:

[www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org](http://www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org)

[twitter.com/DVRcycling](https://twitter.com/DVRcycling)

Apple Valley or Burnsville:  
952.895.4559

Eagan:  
651.675.5011

This guide is partially funded by the City of Burnsville, Dakota County and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.



## Great Ways to Reduce Waste

It takes time and money to handle all the waste we throw away. When we reduce the amount of stuff we buy and eventually throw away, we end up with more time, space and money.

- **Hydrate Intelligently:** Invest in a reusable water bottle. In 2012, Americans purchased about 222 disposable water bottles each—that equals about \$100 per person. Plastic bottles are recyclable, but fewer than one in four make it to the recycling bin.
- **Opt Out:** Tired of receiving a new YellowPages every year? Opt-Out of receiving the YellowPages at [www.yellowpagesoptout.com](http://www.yellowpagesoptout.com) or call 1-800-929-3556
- **Bring a Bag:** The average American acquires about 500 shopping bags a year. Bring reusable bags and containers when shopping, traveling, or packing lunches and leftovers.
- **Make Smart Choices:** Choose products that are returnable, reusable, or refillable over single-use items.
- **Buy in Bulk:** Avoid individually wrapped items, snack packs, and single-serve containers. Instead, buy large containers of items or from bulk bins whenever practical. Eliminating disposable packaging and single-serving items in lunches can save families \$250 a year.
- **Compost:** Compost food scraps and yard waste. Food and yard waste accounts for about 11 percent of the garbage thrown away in the Twin Cities metro area. Many types of food scraps, along with leaves and yard trimmings, can be combined in your backyard compost bin.

For more information: [www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org/backyard-composting](http://www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org/backyard-composting)

- **Decrease your Junk Mail:** Reduce the amount of unwanted mail you receive. The average American receives more than 40 pounds of junk mail every year. Find ways to reduce catalog delivery, credit card offers and more at [RethinkRecycling.com](http://RethinkRecycling.com).



## The Recycling Zone

**651-905-4520**

3365 S. Hwy 149 (Dodd Road)  
Eagan, MN 55121

[www.dakotacounty.us](http://www.dakotacounty.us)

Search: *The Recycling Zone*

### Hours:

Wednesday:  
9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Thursday:  
Noon – 8 p.m.

Friday:  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday:  
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Services Offered at The Recycling Zone

The Recycling Zone, run by Dakota County, is your place 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](http://www.dakotacounty.us) and search "materials accepted." A valid driver's license is required to bring items to The Recycling Zone.

#### Household Chemicals & Hazardous Waste Area

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.

#### Recycling

Bring in items such as glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles/jugs/tubs, metal cans, paper, cardboard, plastic bags, packing peanuts, scrap metal and cooking oil to be recycled for free. Separate recyclables by material type.

#### Home Sharps

Bring home sharps (needles, syringes, lancets) in a rigid, sealed container with the label "Do not recycle: household sharps." Accepted from residents only.

#### Electronics Recycling

Items such as computers, laptops, monitors, computer accessories, TVs, VCRs, DVD players and game systems are accepted for free from households ONLY. Small household electronics such as toasters, blenders, coffee makers, hair dryers and vacuum cleaners are also accepted. Remove batteries. Business electronics are collected separately; contact The Recycling Zone for more information.

Not accepted: major appliances, microwaves, humidifiers, dehumidifiers, water heaters, medical waste.

#### Reuse Area

Products brought in for disposal—such as paint, cleaners, fertilizers and solvents—are available for free to visitors if they are still useable.



#### Checkout these other services:

- Compost Bin Sales
- Aluminum Can Redemption
- Lead Sinker Exchange
- Mercury Thermometer Exchange



## DONATIONS HELPS LOCAL BUSINESSES →

### Re-Use

#### Why Should I Donate Unwanted Items?

- Keeps items out of the trash
- Supports local businesses
- Reduces the resources needed to make new products
- Helps many charities raise funds

#### How About Borrowing and Sharing Items?

Is the storage space in your home overflowing? Many of us wish our basement or garage was less cluttered, more spacious, and more efficient. But when it's time for a new project, sport, or read, we tend to run out and buy tools, sports equipment, and books when we could borrow or share instead.

- Rent tools from your local hardware store or even share tools with your neighbors.
- Ask friends or try a second hand store for used sports equipment.
- When hosting a party, ask guests to bring tables and chairs (even dishes and glasses), or rent from a party rental shop.
- Use your local library for books, movies and more!

#### Where can I donate and buy used?

When it comes time to clean out your household storage, remember the old adage: one man's trash is another man's treasure. Consider donating what you no longer use to charities:

- Check with your local library; many accept donations of books.
- Charitable organizations take clothing, household goods, and some furniture.
- Some shelters accept used work clothes for clients going on job interviews.
- Unwanted non-perishable food can be donated to a local food shelf.
- Usable cell phones, electronics, and old CDs, DVDs and even VHS tapes can be donated for soldiers or shelters.

For more information on Reuse: [www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org/for-residents/reuse-for-residents](http://www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org/for-residents/reuse-for-residents)

# What Can Go in my Recycling Bin at Home?

These guidelines apply to residents in Apple Valley.

## Paper



### YES:

- Office and school paper
- Mail and envelopes
- Newspapers, inserts, magazines and catalogs
- Phone books
- Shredded paper (in closed paper bag)
- Boxes from cereal, crackers, pasta and other dry foods
- Boxes from toothpaste, medications and other toiletries
- Cardboard from empty paper towel and toilet paper rolls
- Boxes from refrigerated food and beverage, including beer and pop cases
- Cardboard boxes (flattened)

### NO:

- Paper or boxes soiled with food
- Paper towels, napkins or facial tissues
- Paper cups or plates
- Gift wrap or tissue paper

## Metal



### YES:

- Metal food and beverage cans

### NO:

- Containers that held hazardous products, such as paint thinner or automotive fluids
- Batteries

## Cartons



### YES:

- Milk and juice cartons
- Juice boxes
- Soup, broth and wine cartons

## Glass



### YES:

- Glass beverage bottles and food 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
- Light bulbs

## Plastic



*Leave caps & lids on for recycling*

### YES:

- ALL plastic bottles
- ALL gallon and ½ gallon milk, juice and water jugs
- Margarine, cream cheese and other tubs
- Yogurt, pudding and fruit cups
- Disposable plastic cups
- Plastic deli, fruit and take-out containers
- Clear plastic packaging from toys and electronics

### NO:

- Styrofoam™ plates, cups or packaging
- PVC pipes
- Toys or school/office supplies
- Containers that held hazardous products, such as automotive fluids or pesticides
- Plastic bags and wrap

### Maybe: Depends on your Hauler

Some recycling haulers are collecting more materials. Visit [www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org/curbside](http://www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org/curbside) for an up-to-date list of what items are accepted in your curbside bin. Click on your hauler's logo to see if you can recycle:

**Paper:** Pizza boxes (NO food residue or grease) • Boxes from frozen food

**Metal:** Aluminum foil • Aluminum trays or pie tins • Empty aerosol cans • Scrap metal items