



Improving County Road 47

This year, in cooperation with Hennepin County, Plymouth will explore improvement options to County Road 47 in northern Plymouth. Currently a two-lane road, the study will determine the best way to manage the roadway for traffic and pedestrian safety in the future. Public input will be sought throughout the process. Visit plymouthmn.gov/CoRd47 for more information.



Now hiring for 2020 Census

Earn extra income – help with the historic 2020 Census and ensure Plymouth is fully counted. The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting people to assist with the census count. Candidates must be at least 18 years old, have a valid Social Security number and be a U.S. citizen. Available temporary jobs include census takers, recruiting assistants, office staff and supervisory staff. Census takers in Hennepin County earn \$20 per hour. Learn more and complete an online application at 2020census.gov/jobs.



Watch for market value notices

Market value notices for Plymouth properties will hit mailboxes toward the end of March. The notices list the value of the property and its classification for taxes payable in 2020. Property values affect how much tax residents pay each year. Residents with questions should call 763-509-5350. Homeowners with questions or concerns about valuations can work one-on-one with a representative at the Hennepin County Open Book Meeting 4:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, April 17 at Plymouth City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Blvd.

City Sampler returns to Plymouth Maintenance Facility on April 27

This year's City Sampler features an encore venue spotlight as it returns to the Plymouth Maintenance Facility, 14900 23rd Ave. N., 9-11 a.m. Saturday, April 27. Traditionally held at City Hall, last year's sampler showcased the state-of-the-art facility that houses the city's range of maintenance vehicles and equipment.

The event was a hit, and the City Sampler will return to the facility this year.

Get to Know Your City

The City Sampler features the mayor, Plymouth City Council members and city staff who are available to answer questions about street maintenance, public safety, water quality, recreation activities and anything else residents are curious about.



The annual City Sampler returns to the Plymouth Maintenance Facility this year. The event is set for 9-11 a.m. Saturday, April 27.

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Plymouth is a statewide leader in combating inflow and infiltration

The City of Plymouth is on the leading edge of combating two forms of clear water introduction that can overload the region's sewer treatment facility.

Inflow and infiltration have been identified as main contributors to overloading the Metropolitan Waste Treatment Plant in St. Paul, which treats the area's sewer wastewater. Overburdening the system with clear stormwater and groundwater can cause sewer backups into homes and buildings, as well as lakes and streams.

It can also increase the need for larger, more expensive sewer pipes and treatment facilities.



This piece of lined PVC pipe features the same lining Plymouth uses in clay pipes to combat water infiltration.

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Fire & Ice 2019



After a week of extremely cold temperatures, the weather gave Plymouth a break for the 30th annual Fire & Ice festival, where attendees could try their hands at curling, ride a dog sled, race in recycle bins and participate in a range of other winter activities.

Picture Plymouth Photo Contest winners

Hundreds of entries were submitted to the 2018 Picture Plymouth Photo Contest. Categories included people and families, activities and events, wildlife and nature, city landmarks and pets. Keep the camera handy and start snapping for this year's contest. Entries are accepted Aug. 1-30. The contest is co-sponsored by the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Magazine.



Best in Show – "Property Dispute" by Scott Mohn



Wildlife and Nature – "The Bird of Paradise Alights Only Upon the Hand That Does not Grasp" by Raghuvveer Rao



People and Families – "Fun in the Leaves" by Anna Nguyen



Readers' Choice/Activities and Events – "Evening Ski" by Shawn Christie




Pets – "Sees Banana" by Parker Loew



City Landmarks – "Millennial Labyrinth" by Scott Anderson

HAPPENINGS



Primavera – April 12-13, Plymouth Creek Center, 14800 34th Ave. N. Free. Join the Plymouth Arts Council and the City of Plymouth in a celebration of fine art. The exhibit is open 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 12 and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 13. The public is invited to attend an award ceremony 7:30-8:30 p.m. Friday – refreshments will be served. Live entertainment will be featured throughout the event Saturday. For more information, visit plymouthartscouncil.org or plymouthmn.gov.

Walk with the Mayor – 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 1 at the Plymouth Creek Center, 14800 34th Ave. N. Kick off the Step to it Challenge with Mayor Jeff Wosje. More information about the county-wide Step to it Challenge is available at stepitoit.org.

2018 election brought high voter turnout in Plymouth

Voters in Plymouth turned out in strong numbers for the 2018 general election, earning Plymouth the second highest voter turnout in the county, behind Minneapolis.

About 80 percent of registered Plymouth voters cast ballots. Of those, approximately 32 percent voted early by absentee or direct ballot.

The average voting time for early voting at Plymouth City Hall was 8-15 minutes, including completing an application and casting a ballot.

The election brought changes to the City Council as well as Plymouth's representation in state and national office.

To view the new Plymouth City Council roster, visit plymouthmn.gov. To view representation according to location, visit sos.state.mn.us.

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Coffee and light refreshments will be served. Attendees can enter a drawing to win prizes, get advice about the best trees and shrubs to plant in their yard and meet city staff members from Police, Fire, Public Works and Engineering, Forestry, Economic Development, Administrative Services and Community Development.

Both new and long-time residents are encouraged to stop by anytime during the morning and stay as long, or short, as they'd like.

Bring the whole family and don't miss free giveaways at department tables throughout the event.

Touch-A-Truck

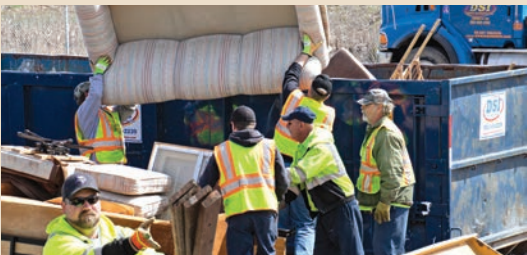
The Plymouth Maintenance facility houses all equipment, vehicles and staff needed to maintain roads, parks, trails, and the water, storm water and sanitary sewer systems, as well as the city fleet.



The annual City Sampler provides an opportunity for residents to get an inside look at what it takes to provide city services.

Residents can come and explore the machinery, trucks and earth-movers that the city uses in its regular maintenance work in the city.

SEASONAL SPOTLIGHT



Drop Off Day – Get rid of unwanted items at the annual Drop-Off Day, set for 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 4 at the Plymouth Maintenance Facility, 14900 23rd Ave. N. Pricing and accepted item info will be posted at plymouthmn.gov/dropoff in mid-March. The event is partially funded by a grant from Hennepin County and is only available to Plymouth residents – identification is required.

Yard Waste Site Opening – The Yard Waste Site, 14900 23rd Ave. N., is set to open for the season Wednesday, April 3 – weather permitting.

The Yard Waste Site is open to Plymouth residents only – identification is required. In April, the site is open 3-6 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For details, visit plymouthmn.gov/yardwaste.

Fieldhouse Walking – The last day for indoor walking at the Plymouth Creek Center Fieldhouse, 14800 34th Ave. N., is Sunday, March 31.

For available hours, call the hotline at 763-509-5292.

Water Main Flushing – The city will flush water mains this spring based on the schedule below.

- **April 8-10:** Industrial areas, both sides of I-494, south of Highway 55
- **April 8-24:** Residential areas west of I-494, except areas along both sides of County Road 47 west of I-494
- **April 29 through May 14:** Residential areas east of I-494, and areas along both sides of County Road 47 west of I-494

Your water may be discolored throughout this time, but it is more likely on the day your area is flushed. Please avoid doing laundry on that day.

If you have discolored water, let your outdoor water faucet run until the water is clear.

To find out when your area will be flushed, check the map at plymouthmn.gov or call 763-509-5950 after Monday, April 1.

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A Metropolitan Council study determined that the water treated at its St. Paul plant contained a high volume of clear water – water that does not need treatment at a sewage facility.

- Clear water enters the sewer system in two basic ways:
- **Infiltration** – Water that ‘infiltrates’ the sewer system, from sources such as cracks in pipes
 - **Inflow** – Water that directly enters the system from sources like rain runoff or sump pumps that feed into the sewer system

Infiltration

To combat infiltration, the city has invested in a pipe lining process that has two main benefits – reducing infiltration and extending the lifespan of pipes.

The process rolls out a protective lining through aging pipes. In Plymouth’s case, lining efforts focus on clay pipe infrastructure, which can be 50-60 years old.

“Plymouth has one of the most robust lining programs in the state, investing \$1 million a year to line clay piping,” said Senior Engineering Technician Andy Jordan. “This has multiple benefits – helping keep sewer rates down, extending the life of the infrastructure and combating inflow and infiltration.”

Since the program’s beginning, Plymouth has lined nearly 60 miles of clay pipe, which extends the life of pipe by an estimated 50 years. Without lining, the existing clay pipe would likely need to be replaced soon, which would involve digging up and repairing streets.

The lining process is a fraction of the cost of replacing clay pipe. By 2021, Plymouth expects to have lined all small-diameter clay pipes within the city’s system.



New manholes feature an inflow barrier (green ring).

Inflow

Inflow is more difficult to combat, as rain events can cause sudden spikes in water entering the sewer lines. However, the city has begun installing inflow barriers on sewer manholes as streets are constructed or rebuilt.

Homeowners also play an important role in inflow prevention. Sump pumps that discharge into the sewer system are a major contributor to inflow. Sump pumps should pump up and out of the house and drain into the yard. Pumps that run into a basement wash tub or drain contribute to the inflow problem.

A Sound Investment

Outside of prolonging infrastructure life, the city benefits from reducing inflow and infiltration by avoiding fines set by the Met Council for exceeding typical clear water levels. Being proactive in reducing inflow and infiltration allows the city to put money toward a better, more efficient sewer system, and not toward penalties for outdated infrastructure.

Customer sewer rates are also kept lower. The less clear water the plant has to treat, the lower the cost to consumers. To learn more, visit metro council.org/iandi.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Volunteer!

The city is seeking volunteers who are:

Friendly and love to provide good service. Assist Millennium Garden bridal couples during evening wedding rehearsals – must have previous customer service experience. Help with a senior drivers’ safety event.

Interested in serving as Police Reserve volunteers. Assist sworn officers with traffic and crowd control, transportation of prisoners, surveillance and patrol activities, special events and other education programs.

Must be 21 years or older, commit to 15 hours a month, have a clean driving record and pass a background check.

Enthusiastic about public transit. Provide customer feedback as an anonymous ghost rider on Plymouth Metrolink or Dial-A-Ride buses.

Passionate about the environment and green things. Remove invasive garlic mustard from parks in mid-May, which is a great group project.

Give Earth and Arbor Day presentations for third graders in April and May. Adopt a park, trail or storm drain to keep clean weekly.

Help maintain gardens around city buildings. Keep playgrounds free of weeds.

Weed, water and deadhead the Millennium Garden at the Plymouth Creek Center.

Provide regular watering for the children’s garden.

Participate in the following events: The Great Dome Challenge (Saturday, April 6), Drop-Off Day (Saturday, May 4), Tree and Shrub Sale (May 10–11) and CarFit (Wednesday, May 22).

Teens who want to get involved in volunteering. Build leadership skills and gain experience while assisting with a variety of summer youth recreation programs. Apply by Friday, April 26. The application fee is \$15. A mandatory training session is set for Wednesday, June 12.

To find out more about these and other opportunities, visit plymouthmn.gov/volunteer or call 763-509-5230.

Take a Closer Look



Nathan Graham

Nathan Graham
Summer Teen Volunteer

As a volunteer, my job is to help with activities for preschool children enrolled in day camp programs.

I interact with them on the playground and help supervise them during field trips.

Some of the kids can get really sad when their parents leave, so I spend extra time with them to help them feel comfortable and then get them involved in the other games and craft projects.

My favorite thing about being a city volunteer is making each day fun for the children and helping them learn new outside games.

Plus, I know that volunteering is helping me gain leadership skills and work experience.

Because Nathan and other teens volunteer during the summer, there are more helpful hands and watchful eyes available to care for children in day camps and other programs.

Additionally, potential Parks and Recreation summer staff members are developed.

New Plymouth mayor to deliver first State of the City Address

Newly elected Mayor Jeff Wosje will deliver his first State of the City Address Thursday, March 14 at Productivity Inc., 15150 25th Ave. N. in Plymouth.

Formerly Ward 2 City Council Member, Wosje was sworn into office as mayor in January.

Wosje will cover a range of city topics at the address to a crowd of business members, residents and city staff. Networking and refreshments begin at 7:30 a.m., followed by the mayor's presentation at 8 a.m. The event is open to the public and no RSVP is required.

The State of the City is held at a different business each year to highlight the diversity and strength of Plymouth's economy, which is the fourth largest in the state.

Get the Scoop

At the address, attendees can join Wosje as he recaps Plymouth's past year and looks ahead to the future.

Topics include the city's booming economy, new public safety initiatives, recreation happenings, successfully completed projects and goals for the coming year.

The event is co-sponsored by the City of Plymouth and the TwinWest Chamber of Commerce.

Productivity Inc.

For more than 50 years, Productivity Inc. has provided metal working machine tools, supplies, robots and related equipment for manufacturing in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska and western Wisconsin.

Productivity's services include, machine moving, preventative maintenance, vending systems, live tool repair, engineering services and more.

Additionally, the company provides robotics and automation systems, including pre-engineered systems, custom robotic



This year's State of the City will be held at Productivity Inc., which recently celebrated its 50th year in business.

automation packages and robotic accessories. Productivity is committed to helping companies implement innovative solutions to meet manufacturers' challenges. Headquartered in Plymouth, Productivity Inc. has had a presence in the city since the 1970s.



A project is set for the County Road 101 bridge.

Improvements to Co. Rd. 101 bridge over Hwy. 12 slated

This April, the Minnesota Department of Transportation will begin an improvement project on the County Road 101 bridge over Highway 12.

The bridge is expected to remain open this spring as crews work in the area. In early July, the bridge will close as workers replace concrete and add turn lanes. The bridge and ramps will remain closed through October. However, the westbound and eastbound on-ramps could reopen sooner. Project dates are weather dependent.

Impacts on Highway 12 are expected to be minimal and will include lane shifts and shoulder closures.

Detour and other project information can be found at mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy12andcountyroad101bridge.

Motorists are asked to be patient and follow detours closely. During the project, detour routes will impact city streets with additional traffic. Drivers are asked to be courteous of neighborhoods – paying careful attention to safety and following posted speed limits.

Those with questions may contact Dave Aeikens with MnDOT Metro Communications at 651-234-7511 or david.aeikens@state.mn.us.

City Council adopts goals with renewed vision for City Center

By Mayor Jeff Wosje

The City Council recently adopted goals to guide the city's work this year. Many of the goals emphasize values and priorities that have long been integral to Plymouth city government – managing tax dollars, maintaining infrastructure, promoting public safety, protecting the environment, creating amenities to enhance quality of life, and advocating for transportation projects to safely and efficiently move commuters, goods and services.

As we continue to make progress with those issues, we will also embark on developing a renewed vision for Plymouth City Center – City Center 2.0.

City Center is roughly bounded by Highway 55 on the south, Vicksburg Lane on the west, County Road 9 on the north and the area along Plymouth Boulevard, including Life Time Fitness/Plymouth Ice Center complex, Hilde amphitheater, Veterans Memorial, City Hall and Plymouth Creek Park. Planned as a hub of community life, City Center features a mix of office space, retail businesses, a movie theater, library, restaurants, green space, recreation facilities and city offices.

During the next year, the city will take a fresh look at the area. We plan to consider options for continued development and redevelopment of City Center in light of market trends and community needs.

City Center 2.0 will also address place-making, beautification and pedestrian safety/walkability. The effort will review City Center boundaries and revisit potential land uses, including housing. City Center is currently home to community gatherings such as Music in Plymouth, Plymouth on Parade, Bark in the Park, park concerts/movies and more. Still, we expect City Center 2.0 to include the pursuit of public-private partnerships to bring additional activities to the area.

For the complete list of council goals and legislative priorities, visit plymouthmn.gov/goals.

Plymouth News is published bimonthly by the City of Plymouth to update residents and businesses on city government news.

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Contact the City

Phone 763-509-5000

MN Relay (Hearing/Speech Impaired) 7-1-1

Hours:
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday (Community Development only)

View Meetings

Live on Channel 16, 7 p.m.
On-demand video link at city website
City Council: March 12, 26 and April 9, 23
Planning Commission: March 6, 20 and April 3, 17

Connect with Plymouth

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