

CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

DECEMBER 2019



City Manager Year in Review

Maplewood saw real progress in 2019 on several projects that have been years in the making. We:

- welcomed new dental and medical facilities,
- cut the ribbon on several distinctive restaurants and eateries,
- opened a new accessible playground and community building at Wakefield Park,
- re-constructed several miles of streets,
- now have a vision for the North End
- and hosted more than 100 community gatherings and outreach events.

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Elected Officials

- Marylee Abrams: Mayor (612) 322-1620
marylee.abrams@maplewoodmn.gov
- Kathleen Juenemann: Councilmember (651) 771-3670
kathleen.juenemann@maplewoodmn.gov
- Bryan Smith: Councilmember (651) 888-0085
bryan.smith@maplewoodmn.gov
- Bill Knutson: Councilmember (612) 290-9778
bill.knutson@maplewoodmn.gov
- Sylvia Neblett: Councilmember (651) 766-3851
sylvia.neblett@maplewoodmn.gov

City Manager

- Melinda Coleman: City Manager (651) 249-2055
melinda.coleman@maplewoodmn.gov

Frequently Called Numbers

- City Hall (651) 249-2000
- Maplewood Community Center (651) 747-0922
- Parks and Recreation (651) 249-2120
- Public Works (651) 249-2400
- Police Non-Emergency (651) 767-0640

Visit the City website at www.maplewoodmn.gov for the meeting schedule of the City Council, Commissions and Boards.



To advertise in this newsletter call Joe Sheeran at (651) 249-2061 or email joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov.

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TO BUSINESS

Ramsey County 

Is Open to Business!

Have you always dreamed of starting a business, but aren't sure how to get started? Open to Business can help! Our team of business advisors can sit down with you to talk through your idea, help you refine the concept, and outline next steps to make it a reality.

Open to Business is a **FREE**, confidential nonprofit service available to you wherever you are in the process. Whether you want to talk through an idea, need help implementing a developed business plan, or want to discuss financing options, call us to schedule an appointment today!

www.opentobusinessmn.org
612-843-2770

from the City Manager | continued

Here's a more detailed look at what we've accomplish to make Maplewood a more livable, welcoming, inclusive community:

Community Development:

Maplewood continues to see strong development growth, with 2019 projects that include the Trails Edge Apartments, Mercedes Benz dealership, a new senior living facility at County Rd C and Hazelwood Street, and a new north end medical building.

To continue attracting and retain businesses, the City Council also re-examined a number of regulations, and wound decided to eliminate or revise several unnecessary permits, including those related to dog licenses and security alarms.

Working with community stakeholders, including residents and business leaders, we adopted a North End Vision Plan for the future of Maplewood Mall, St. John's hospital, and surrounding area. This area is key for the city to achieve its housing, commercial, and economic development goals, while planning for the future Rush Line bus rapid transit.

Public Safety:

In addition to engaging businesses on the North End vision planning, our Public Safety team continues to forge and leverage community connections. With parks and recreation and public works, our police and Fire/EMS team, hosted more than 100 community outreach events, including six block parties in high density housing communities. Other outreach highlights led by the Parks and Recreation department include the Touch a Truck and Boo Bash which, drew more than 2,000 visitors from diverse communities combined

Public safety also continues to strengthen the bond between Police and Fire/EMS to deliver efficient, cost-effective solutions, such as mental health outreach and senior safety seminars, to quality of life issues.

Parks and Recreation:

One of the assets that makes Maplewood unique is our treasured open space, natural



resources and parks and recreation system. Wakefield Park underwent significant restoration, which includes a modern community building and event space, with a new warming house and upgraded accessible playground. We replaced the Sherwood Park tennis courts. More than 2,500 young people participated in our sports leagues.

Our Nature Center celebrated its 40th anniversary and completed its Master Plan, a guide for its future. The department also helped with a number of projects aimed at proactively addressing Emerald Ash Borer, including staging the City's first annual tree sale for residents.

Public Works:

Our crews helped lead reconstruction of more than five miles of new roadway in various parts of Maplewood. Frost Avenue from White Bear Ave to Highway 61 is now completely repaved with more bike and pedestrian-friendly sidewalks and trails and a safer street configuration. The grass buffer strips will help improve water quality from storm runoff heading into Wakefield Lake.

Finance

To continue providing the amenities mentioned in this article takes investment in City service. It seems our community's needs and demands grow annually. As a City, we are constantly striving to be good stewards of the taxpayers' money. Our finance department has developed a forward-looking strategy, that puts us on a steady fiscal path, anticipates economic problems and crafts a thorough budget to help us weather fiscal surprises.

To help the community, businesses and media better understand our City's fiscal operations, we're launching a more user-friendly, interactive web tool called ClearGov. It should be on our website at the beginning of 2020.



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Information Technology:

One of the council's fiscal priorities was reducing the city fees associated with resident's Comcast bills. After two years, the City and the cable provider engaged in a more entrepreneurial arrangement that should lower the city fees on resident's monthly cable bills by nearly \$2.00. Staff is proud to have done a significant was able to do most of this work in-house saving several thousand dollars on outside consultants.



Staff Development:

Through a proactive approach to employee health and wellness, the City has cut health insurance by nearly 20%, saving the city roughly \$350,000 in health insurance premiums. Maplewood continues to be one of the metro area's premiere public sector employers, attracting skilled, experienced professionals to serve the community.

Most of what we accomplished this year could not have been done with the hard work of our staff, the active engagement from our community and the vision of our City Council. I'd like to thank all of you for your dedication to making Maplewood a great place to live, work and visit.



Metcalf Moving and Storage celebrates a century of service, with nearly 60 of those years here in Maplewood.

Luminary Workshop

Adults, Children (8+ with an adult)

Saturday, January 11

10:30am - 3:00pm

\$10 per person

Craft a variety of luminaries to light up the dark winter evenings!

Make an extra for our Luminary Hike and waive your hike registration fee!

Luminary Hike

Friday, January 17

6:30pm - 8:00pm

\$5 per person

Prepay by 1/16/20

Win an Ice Globe luminary kit to take home!



Maplewood Nature Center - 2659 East Seventh Street
Register by Thursday January 16 at maplewoodnaturecenter.com
or call (651) 249-2170 (activity #16629)



Conversations with Constituents

Thursday, January 16, 2020

6:30-8:30 pm

Roseville City Hall

2660 City Center Drive, Roseville, MN

This is an opportunity for citizens to find out how east metro cities are dealing with issues such as affordable housing, local budgets, policing, and the environment.

Elected officials from several cities, including Maplewood, will be on hand.

*Meet and greet with refreshments begins at 6:30, program at 7:00. Free and open to the public.

SANTA'S WORKSHOP PARTY

AT THE MAPLEWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER/YMCA

FRIDAY · DECEMBER 13 · 6:00PM - 7:30PM

Join us for our annual holiday party!
Santa will be stopping by so make sure to bring your wish list and your camera!

Activities will include:

COST · \$5/CHILD

- Holiday Treats • Arts & Crafts • Games
 - Visit From Santa • Holiday Stories
- And MORE!**

Each child must be accompanied by an adult. Adults are free, but in the interest of space, please limit adults to 2 per family. Pre-registration is required.

BRING AN UNWRAPPED GIFT FOR TOYS FOR TOTS & RECEIVE A SPECIAL PRIZE

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR A MAPLEWOOD PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAM?

· BY PHONE: 651.249.2111

· IN PERSON: MAPLEWOOD PARKS & REC, 1902 COUNTY ROAD B EAST

· ONLINE: [HTTPS://APM.ACTIVECOMMUNITIES.COM/MAPLEWOODMN/HOME](https://apm.activecommunities.com/maplewoodmn/home)



Thin ice on Markham Pond

An aeration system being installed at Markham Pond to help gamefish survive winter will cause thin ice. We are warning people to keep away from all marked areas on the north and east side of the pond, near Hazelwood Park.

Thanks to our project partners at Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District. If you have any questions please feel free to call them at (651) 792-7962.

Holiday Tea

at the Bruentrup Heritage Farm



Hosted by the Maplewood Area Historical Society
At the Bruentrup Heritage Farm
2170 East County Road D
Maplewood, MN

Saturday, January 11, 2020

Seatings at 11:30 am & 2:30 pm

Tickets \$35.00

(Service fees and taxes not included)

The theme is:

Celebrating Your Ancestry



Bring a photo of yourself when you were age 5-21



For reservations visit:
MaplewoodHistoricalSociety.org
For more information call Raydelle at 651-426-4718

MAPLEWOOD

Now Open!

Food Scraps Collection

Food Scraps in Compostable Bags Only
No Yard Waste

Community Center Lot
2100 White Bear Ave

RamseyRecycles.com
651-633-EASY (3279)
answered 24/7 (interpretive services available)

RAMSEY COUNTY



Have Your Holiday Lights Lost Their Twinkle? Don't Throw Them Away, Recycle Them.

Maplewood will be collecting broken and unwanted holiday lights and extension cords for recycling this holiday season.

Collection Location: Maplewood City Hall (1830 County Road B East)

Collection Dates: December 2, 2019 to January 31, 2020

The lights and extension chords are brought to a recycling center where the strings and bulbs are shred into small pieces. Those pieces are then separated into raw materials (plastic, glass, copper) and reused to make new products.

Organics recycling in Maplewood

1. Visit RamseyRecycles.com/OR and find out what items are accepted.
2. Place organics recycling items into a compostable bag inside your bin.
3. Bring compostable bag to the Maplewood drop-off site.



Winter is coming.

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Snowflake Wonders

All ages - \$5 per person
Prepay by Jan 2nd.

Cut and create beautiful snowflakes and other crafts from simple to complex.

Learn to identify snowflakes by shape and size. Peer at preserved snowflake crystals on the microcam.



Saturday, January 4th
1:30pm - 3:00pm

Maplewood Nature Center - 2659 East 7th Street
Register by January 2nd at maplewoodnaturecenter.com
or call (651) 249-2170 (activity #16627)



Ballroom Dance

WAKEFIELD PARK COMMUNITY BUILDING • 1860 HAZELWOOD ST

Dance the night away with instructors from Dance and Entertainment Studios during our 6 week dance sessions. All ages and levels are welcome in these beginner level classes. Those without partners will rotate with each other and the instructor. Meet new friends and practice leading and following your new dance patterns-that's what social dancing is all about!



THURSDAYS, JAN 2 - FEB 6
SESSION 1: Night Club 2-Step & Foxtrot • 6:00PM - 6:50PM
SESSION 2: Swing & Salsa • 7:00PM - 7:50PM

THURSDAYS, FEB 27 - APR 2
SESSION 1: Tango & Swing • 6:00PM - 6:50PM
SESSION 2: Waltz & Rumba • 7:00PM - 7:50PM

THURSDAYS, APR 9 - MAY 14
SESSION 1: West Coast Swing & Salsa • 6:00PM - 6:50PM
SESSION 2: Foxtrot & Cha-Cha • 7:00PM - 7:50PM

COST: \$75.00/Person/Session

HOW DO I REGISTER?

- In Person: Maplewood Parks & Rec: 1902 County Road B East (8am-4:30pm)
- By Phone: 651.249.2111
- Online: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/Maplewoodmn/Home>



Winter/Spring Dance Classes With Mayer Arts

Wakefield Park Community Building • 1860 Hazelwood St.

Wish Upon A Ballet (Ages 3-5)

Mondays, February 3 - June 1
5:15PM - 6:00PM (No Classes Feb. 17, Mar. 9, & May 25)
Cost is \$160.00

Hip Hop and Tap (Ages 5-8)

Mondays, February 3 - June 1
6:00PM - 7:00PM (No Classes Feb. 17, Mar. 9, & May 25)
Cost is \$170.00

Ballet and Tap (Ages 9-14)

Mondays, February 3 - June 1
7:00PM - 8:00PM (No Classes Feb. 17, Mar. 9, & May 25)
Cost is \$170.00

NEW Dance with Me (Ages 18 months-4 Years)

Tuesdays, February 11 - May 26
5:15PM - 5:45PM (No Class Mar. 10)
Cost is \$160.00

Pre-Ballet and Tap (Ages 3-5)

Tuesdays, February 11 - May 26
5:45PM - 6:30PM (No Class Mar. 10)
Cost is \$160.00

Ballet and Tap (Ages 6-9)

Tuesdays, February 11 - May 26
6:30PM - 7:30PM (No Class Mar. 10)
Cost is \$170.00

Hip Hop (Ages 7-12)

Tuesdays, February 11 - May 26
7:30PM - 8:15PM (No Class Mar. 10)
Cost is \$160.00

***Scholarships available to qualifying
Maplewood Residents***

How do I register for a Maplewood Parks & Recreation program?
In Person: Maplewood Parks & Rec • 1902 County Road B East
By Phone: 651.249.2111
Online: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/Maplewoodmn/Home>





City of Maplewood

1830 County Road B East

Maplewood, MN 55109

Phone: (651) 249-2000

www.maplewoodmn.gov

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Upcoming Events

December 13	Santa's Workshop Party MCC/YMCA 6 – 7:30 pm
December 14	Bird Count, Nature Center 9am – noon.
January 4	Snowflake Wonders Nature Center 1:30-3pm
January 11	Luminary Workshop, Nature Center 10:30am-3pm
January 16	Conversation with Constituents, Roseville City Hall 6:30-8:30
January 17	Luminary Hike, Nature Center 6:30-8:00pm

Go to **MaplewoodMN.gov**.

Our home page calendar has details
on upcoming events.