

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

SEPTEMBER 2019

Moving forward to meet City's growing Fire/EMS needs

By Steve Lukin, Fire Chief and Mike Mondor, Chief of EMS

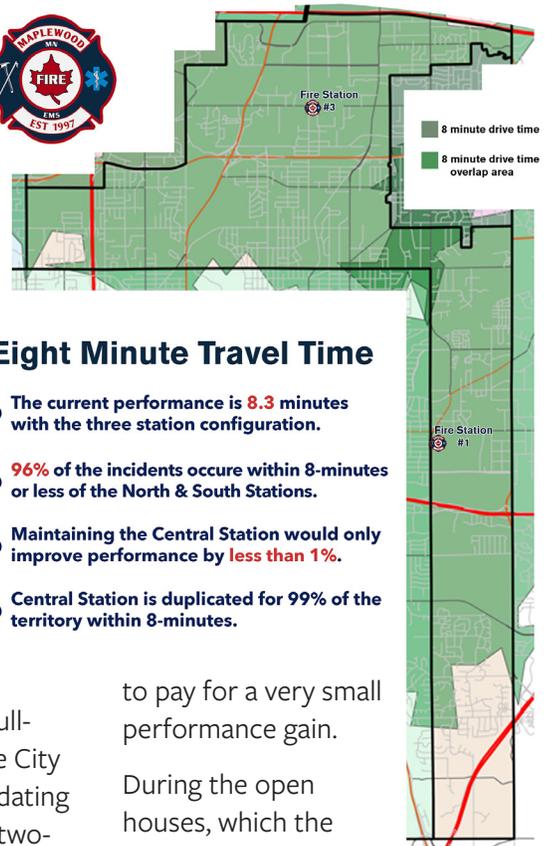
Earlier this summer, Maplewood Fire/EMS took another step toward positioning the department to meet the City's growing emergency response needs by moving forward on a plan to realign our stations.

Through June and July, we held two open houses and conducted a community survey, along with a major announcement of the realignment plan in Maplewood Living and via our social media pages.

The reconfiguration is part of a multi-year plan to prepare for an increase in EMS calls, maximize coverage and address extensive renovation needs at the Central and North stations.

Anticipating these issues, the Maplewood Fire Department commissioned a Fire Station Location and Operational Review in 2017. Independent consultant Fitch and Associates conducted this year-long review, making several efficiency recommendations, including transitioning to an all full-time fire department—which the City completed in 2018—and consolidating from a three-station model to a two-station model.

According to the Fitch and Associates analysis, a two-station system can respond to 96.4 percent of calls within eight minutes, travel time, the standard set by Maplewood for emergency responses. Continuing to operate a third station improves that performance to just 96.8 percent. With an initial cost of \$6.7 million for needed improvements in the Central station and operating costs of at least \$45,000 each year, that is a high price



Eight Minute Travel Time

- The current performance is **8.3 minutes** with the three station configuration.
- **96%** of the incidents occur within 8-minutes or less of the North & South Stations.
- Maintaining the Central Station would only improve performance by **less than 1%**.
- Central Station is duplicated for **99%** of the territory within 8-minutes.

to pay for a very small performance gain.

During the open houses, which the city administration, mayor and council members attended, we invited residents to provide feedback on the department's current services and the proposed realignment. Comments were generally positive, with roughly 80 percent of respondents that utilized Maplewood Fire/EMS feeling the department provided high quality service. We listened carefully to the comments of residents and we are confident that our plan addresses all of their questions.



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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
- 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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We are committed to helping you achieve excellent oral health and a radiant smile. The doctors and staff at our dental office work hard to provide personalized, thorough treatment for you and your family's well-being.



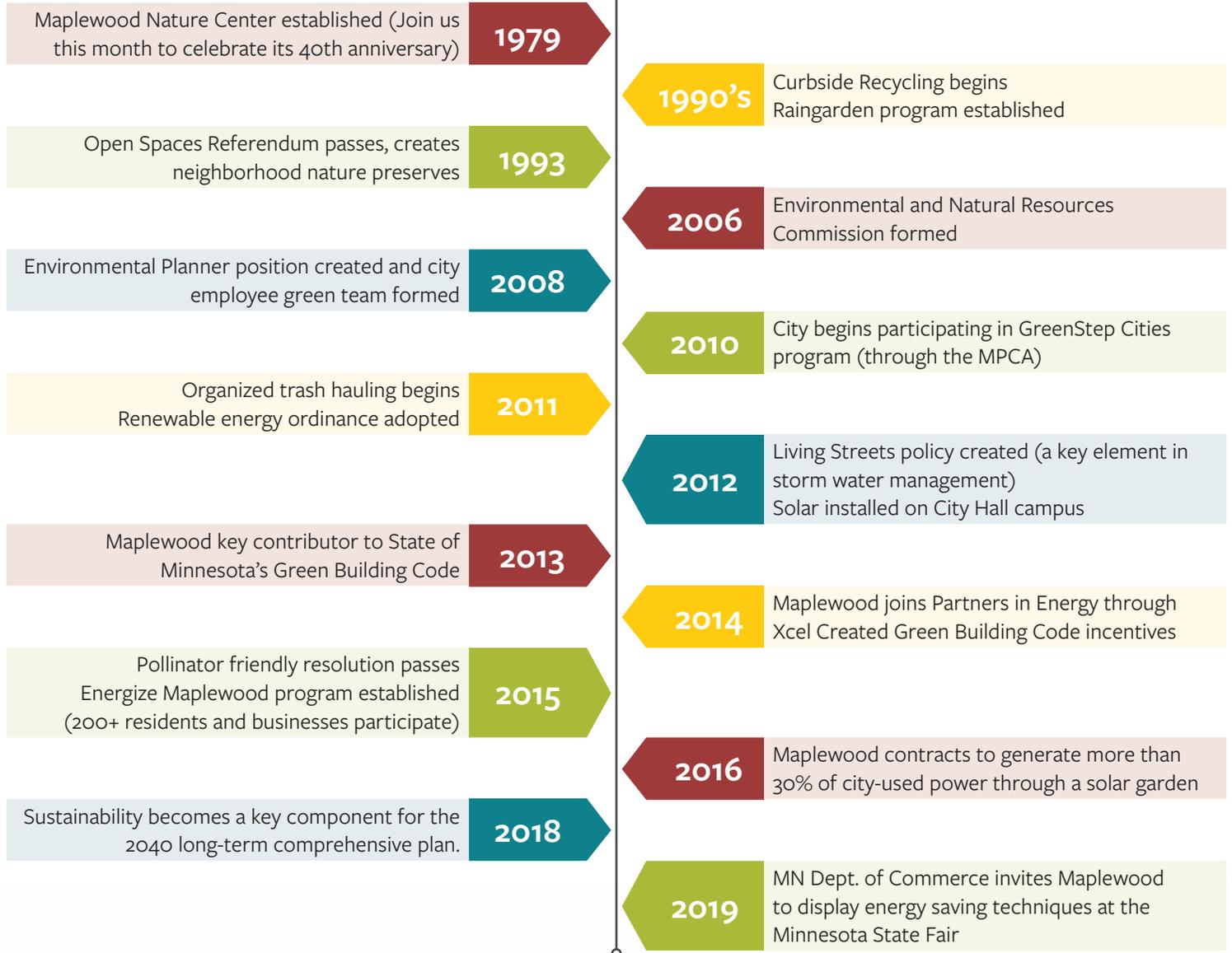
Council Corner: Sustainability is Key

by Kathleen Juenemann, Maplewood Councilmember

Q: How has Maplewood become a leader in environmental sustainability?

A: Here's the short answer: Interested, well-informed citizens and a highly professional dedicated staff. Here's the more detailed answer: Maplewood has had a long history of natural resource preservation, energy conservation, improving water quality and much more.

Check out this brief timeline:



Here are a few things we all can do to help the city carry out its commitment to environmental and natural resource protection:

- Be more conscious of what you're recycling. Throwing the wrong items in the recycling bin can wind up undermining all of your recycling efforts.
- Compost your food waste, napkins, and frozen food cardboard (A drop off site is coming to Maplewood this fall. Visit Ramseyrecycles.com for more)
- Be more conscious of your mowing/raking habits. Don't mow too short and don't blow clippings/leaves into the street (they created problems for waterways)
- Get a home Energy Squad visit to tune up for winter; get your furnace/chimney checked or cleaned. Consider planting a tree (Maplewood offers deep discounts on spring trees)

Environmental sustainability is a driving force behind many city operations. Not only does it benefit our natural resources, but done consistently and with purpose it helps improve economic sustainability. The city has achieved a number of milestones. Residents and businesses have been critical in our success. This is my plea: Keep it up! If we all get involved in some way, we'll ensure Maplewood continues to be an environmental leader.



Fire/EMS needs| continued

Some of the most important issues raised by residents include:

- Average response time. (Will likely improve slightly to 8 minutes thanks to full-time staffing)
- Longest response time to reach an incident in far north or far south Maplewood. (The new station will help improve north end coverage, we have mutual aid with Woodbury and St. Paul to ensure rapid response in the far south end.)
- Ability to cover multiple incidents during peaks in service. (Adequate staff and equipment are in place to respond to more than one incident at a time. There are also mutual aid agreements with surrounding cities)
- Growth in service calls expected over the next 10 years. (We currently have a new station in the South end of town with room to accommodate staff and equipment growth. A newly constructed station at the current North location will allow us to build for future growth).

Give the data, combined with the results of the survey and community meetings, department administration will recommend to council transitioning from a three-station to a two-station model to best serve the needs of the community in the future at the **September 23rd Council Meeting.**

If the proposal is adopted, we'll be working with consultants on design and construction of a new fire station at the current North station site. Thank you to our staff and community for their hard work over the past two years. We'd especially like to thank our City's emergency responders, without whom a plan like this could never succeed.

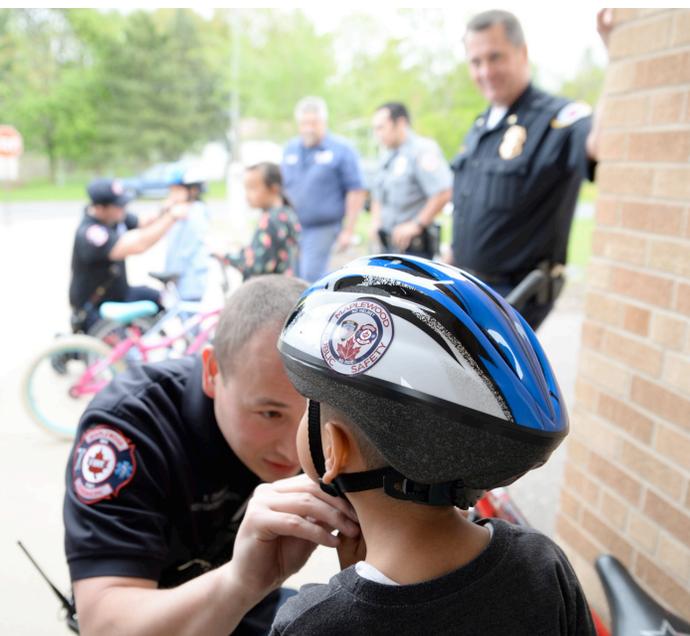
Maplewood Business Council Meeting

Entrepreneurial approach to Public Safety

September 26, 7:30am
Maplewood YMCA Community Center
2100 White Bear Ave

The Maplewood Public Safety Department is bringing an entrepreneurial approach to delivering efficient, cost-effective solutions to their community's biggest needs, especially in the areas of mental health, emergency medicine, senior care, and community outreach and education.

Please join us for this opportunity to meet with and hear from our Public Safety leaders. The event is free, but please register at: <https://bit.ly/2zcOVDC>





Finance Department receives budgeting award

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has awarded its Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to the City of Maplewood for its 2019 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan. The award was presented to the Finance Department at an August Council meeting.

The award reflects our commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

To receive the budget award, Maplewood had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.

Now accepting Charitable Gambling Funds applications

To qualify, an organization must be a nonprofit, with an IRS 501(c)(3) designation serving the citizens

of Maplewood. Maplewood-based organizations will be given priority, followed by regional organizations proposing to meet Maplewood residents' needs. Generally, requests from organized athletic groups are not funded.

The City Council awarded a total of \$30,000 in Charitable Gambling Funds for 2019. Funds went to a wide variety of groups.

Funds are awarded by a vote of the Maplewood City Council. Applications are available at maplewoodmn.gov or by calling Lois Knutson at (651) 249-2051. The application deadline is **September 16, 2019**.

Maplewood's e-waste helping those in need

by Mychal Fowlds, IT Director

Getting rid of old or outdated computers is an expensive undertaking for businesses and cities like Maplewood. You can't throw them in the garbage. First their hard-drives have to be scrubbed—which is about a 6-hour process per computer. They also have to be properly recycled.

Maplewood avoids the time and costs by donating City computers and other e-waste to St. Paul-based nonprofit PCs for People. When it comes to computers, their certified technicians clear hard drives, test each part of the computer, load new operating systems, then resell (or sometimes donate) computers at an affordable price for low-income individuals and nonprofits. PCs for People also accepts and recycles a wide variety of other e-waste, including speakers, power chords, printers and other technology accessories.

Since 1998, PCs for People has been a driving force behind digital inclusion efforts across the US with locations in St. Paul, Denver and Cleveland. Their mission is to "provide the opportunity for low-income individuals and nonprofits to benefit from the life changing impact of computers, mobile internet, and digital literacy."



Because of partnerships like ours PCs for People has successfully distributed over 250,000 computers, 128,000 homes have internet access, and millions of pounds of electronics have been responsibly recycled.

So far, Maplewood donations have provided more than 350 people with computer access, including 200 children. The average income of these households was less than \$13,000.

As fall cleaning approaches, consider PCs for People to get rid of your old computer or other e-waste. Check out their website for what's accepted: pcsforpeople.org/individual-donations. There is a \$40 charge for CRT monitors and CRT all-in-one computers and rear projection and tube TVs.



Council eliminates dog licenses

Maplewood City Council approved a change to the Dog Ordinance which eliminated both dog licenses and small kennel licenses.

Good Pet ownership is important to the City of Maplewood and its residents. While the city no longer requires owners to license their dogs, there are some important things to remember about owning a dog in Maplewood:

- Your dog must have current rabies vaccinations, with proof available upon demand by an Officer.
- Your dog must be micro-chipped, or outfitted with an identifying tag, listing owner's information. There are several online pet registration options; many of which are free.
- Dogs are not allowed to run at large, and must be restrained by a leash no more than eight feet long, with the exception of designated off-leash dog areas.
- Owners are responsible for cleaning up all feces and disposing in a sanitary manner.
- No more than three resident dogs are allowed on any property zoned Single-family (R-1); two dogs on any residential site zoned Double-dwelling (R-2); and one dog in any residential unit zoned Multiple-Dwelling (R-3).

ANNUAL

Johnny Appleseed Day



Hosted by the Maplewood Area Historical Society
At the Bruentrup Heritage Farm

Sunday, September 8

11:00am - 4:00pm

Experience an old-fashioned day of fun at the Farm!

Lunch and apple-themed desserts
will be available for purchase.

Admission is FREE

For more information,
call Raydelle at (651) 426-4718

Visit us online at
www.maplewoodhistoricalsociety.org
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Maplewood offering FREE Buckthorn pick up and removal demonstrations

By Carole Gernes, Naturalist

Maplewood will pick up Buckthorn at select curbsides the week of October 28th. This free curbside service is available to only those residents who've removed enough buckthorn to fill more than a large pickup truck.

Don't have enough buckthorn to qualify? Recruit your neighbors and we'll include your block. (No other trees or shrubs will be picked up.)

Register by 3:00 pm, Thursday, October 24 at maplewoodnaturecenter.com or call 651-249-2170

You will receive a confirmation with stacking and other instructions. No early or late pick-ups.

If you don't have enough Buckthorn to qualify or remove it after the deadline, bring it to a Ramsey County Compost site that accepts brush.

Buckthorn is an aggressive, invasive shrub that prevents native plant species from growing. We encourage residents to remove it. Unlike native shrubs, it retains green leaves late into the fall, long after other leaves have turned color or fallen. This is the easiest way to identify buckthorn and the best time for removal to ensure you don't take out beneficial shrubs.



MAPLEWOOD BUCKTHORN HERBICIDE COUPON

These businesses are offering Maplewood residents a discount on buckthorn herbicide products. Use water-safe formulations for use within 10 feet of water, wet areas or storm drains.

BACHMAN'S 25% OFF!

Bonide® Stump-Out Vine and Stump Killer (8.8% Triclopyr)
2600 White Bear Avenue • Maplewood, MN • 651-770-0531

GERTENS 25% OFF! Promo Code: MW

Bonide® Brush and Stump Killer (8% Triclopyr)
Ferti-lome® Brush Killer and Stump Killer (8% Triclopyr)
Hi Yield KillZAll® (41% Glyphosate)

5500 Blaine Avenue • Inver Grove Heights, MN • (651) 450-1501

Coupon good 9/1/18 - 10/15/18

FREE Buckthorn identification and removal demo

Saturday, September 7
10am - noon

Registration is required by
Wednesday, September 5

maplewoodnaturecenter.com
or call 651-249-2170.

Emerald Ash Borer Open House
Tuesday, October 1
6:30PM-8:00PM
Maplewood Mature Center

Boo Bash

AT THE BRUENTRUP HERITAGE FARM
2170 COUNTY ROAD D EAST

Saturday • October 26 • 1:00PM - 3:00PM

Spooktacular Petting Zoo
Storyteller • Wagon Rides • Crafts
Scavenger Hunt • Prizes
Concessions available for purchase

Join us at the farm for a FREE family friendly event for all ages!
We'll have activities, crafts, and games.
Costumes are encouraged but not required.
This event will be held outdoors, please dress for the weather.



City of Maplewood

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Upcoming Events

September 7	Free Buckthorn Demo 10:00 - Noon Maplewood Mature Center
September 21	Nature Center 40th Anniversary Celebration 1:00 - 3:30pm
September 28	Maplewood Rec Run 3K/5K MCC/YMCA
October 1	Emerald Ash Borer Open House Tuesday, October 1 6:30PM-8:00PM Maplewood Mature Center
October 26	Boo Bash Bruentrup Farm

Benefiting Maplewood Parks & Recreation Youth Scholarship Fund

Maplewood Rec Run 3K/5K

At the Maplewood Community Center/YMCA Upper Lot
Come run the Gateway Trail!

Saturday, September 28

Register by **Sept. 18** to guarantee a shirt and child's award!

9:00AM-9:45AM: Check-In & Pre-Race Activities
Fire Truck & Police Car Tours
Temporary Tattoos • Crazy Hair
Games and Kid Activities

9:45AM-10:00AM: Pre-Race Stretch

10:00AM: Race Starts

11:00AM: Race Awards (approx)

Race Fee: \$30.00
 One Adult & One Child (under 16 yrs.)

Family: \$75.00
 (max of 4 children)
 *Children under 3 run free

Kids encouraged to come as their favorite cartoon character or superhero!

Thank You Sponsors



Go to **MaplewoodMN.gov**. Our home page calendar has details on upcoming events.

How to Register:
Online: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/maplewoodmn/Home>
By Phone: 651.249.2111 • In Person (8a-4:30p): 1902 County Rd B East