

CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

# MAPLEWOOD LIVING

February 2022



## Declaring a Climate Emergency

By Kathleen Juenemann, City Councilmember

Maplewood recently joined 15 other Minnesota Cities in declaring a Climate Emergency. The declaration recognizes a number of recent climate-change related impacts suffered in the east metro and across the state, including last June's heatwave, extreme drought, and an increase in air quality alerts.

We are recognizing that the climate crisis not only has an environmental impact, but threatens the economy's sustainability as well.

The State of Minnesota passed the bi-partisan Next Generation Energy Act in 2007, which committed our State to achieving an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050. The declaration points out that the state has failed to meet many short-term goals and is not yet on track to reach future targets.

This is very disappointing, especially considering all the hard work Maplewood has done to reduce emissions with various partners that include Green Step Cities, the Center for Energy and Environment, Metro Clean Energy Resource Teams, Ramsey County, Xcel Energy and residents and businesses who participated in various energy programs and challenges over the years.

Just for background, the City of Maplewood has succeeded year after year in surpassing emission reduction goals, promoting solar use, and greening our buildings and fleet vehicles.

Collectively missing statewide targets isn't for lack of trying from other entities. To their credit, the State of Minnesota, counties, cities and many good corporate citizens have made efforts to reduce GHG emissions.

But as we're finding out, it hasn't been enough to get ahead of a global climate crisis. Much more needs to be done. Do we have the courage to challenge those standing in the way?

That's why, in addition to our own efforts, Maplewood has recently become part of an emerging non-partisan coalition of Minnesota cities (varying in size and geography), focused on climate change's economic and quality of life impacts. The coalition is facilitated by the Great Plains Institute ([Betterenergy.org](https://www.betterenergy.org)).



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## Elected Officials

- Marylee Abrams: Mayor (612) 322-1620  
[marylee.abrams@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:marylee.abrams@maplewoodmn.gov)
- Rebecca Cave: Councilmember (651) 399-1779  
[rebecca.cave@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:rebecca.cave@maplewoodmn.gov)
- Kathleen Juenemann: Councilmember (651) 771-3670  
[kathleen.juenemann@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:kathleen.juenemann@maplewoodmn.gov)
- Bill Knutson: Councilmember (612) 290-9778  
[bill.knutson@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:bill.knutson@maplewoodmn.gov)
- Nikki Villavicencio: Councilmember (651) 558-7662  
[nikki.villavicencio@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:nikki.villavicencio@maplewoodmn.gov)

## City Manager

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

## Frequently Called Numbers

- City Hall (651) 249-2000
- Maplewood Community Center (651) 747-0922
- Parks and Natural Resources (651) 249-2111
- Public Works (651) 249-2400
- Police Non-Emergency (651) 767-0640

Visit the City website at [www.maplewoodmn.gov](http://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](mailto:joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov).

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[ CLIMATE EMERGENCY continued ]

As of now, the coalition is urging stakeholders and policymakers to see the urgency of this problem and approach budgeting and policymaking with a climate lens. Timing is especially critical considering recent federal infrastructure funding and state budget surpluses that can help cities with their climate action plans and goals.

In addition to being a voice and resource with the wider coalition, in 2022, Maplewood will continue working on our climate mitigation and resilience efforts. As frequent Maplewood Living readers are already aware, the city adopted a climate adaptation plan in 2021 to prepare for future extreme climate events. Council will incorporate key goals into the City's Strategic Plan to ensure the work and priorities are spread across all departments. Recently Maplewood submitted an MPCA community resilience grant to help with implementation..

Another exciting grant opportunity that will help with our climate adaptation goals is with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. The urban agriculture grant will help us expand the Edgerton Community Garden, a key asset in helping protect families from price spikes and fresh food shortages caused by extreme weather events. The grant also helps create urban agricultural learning opportunities for Edgerton Elementary School, which serves a large BIPOC community.

I'm proud of Maplewood's environmental sustainability work and the role we've played in helping Minnesota meet its ambitious GHG reduction goals. We still have a long way to go, but with the help of the state and other Minnesota cities we are up for the challenge.



## Winter Gnome Challenge February 12 - 27

At Maplewood Nature Center  
2659 East 7th Street, Maplewood

Nature Center trails open daily from dawn to dusk

Look for gnomes while enjoying a FREE, self-guided walk on the Nature Center trails.

- Take a picture of your favorite gnome and submit it for a prize drawing!
- Prizes include: Tickets for two to Snake Discovery, free Nature Center snowshoe rental for up to six, and \$5 Dairy Queen gift cards.
- Humans do not need to be in the photos. By submitting a photo, you give permission for its publication, including the people pictured.
- Photos may be submitted to [maplewoodnature@gmail.com](mailto:maplewoodnature@gmail.com) or posted on the Friends of Maplewood Nature Facebook page or Maplewood Nature Camera Club Facebook page.
- Winners will be contacted via email or Facebook Messenger in early March.

All gnomes are visible from the trail. You do not need to go off trail to find the gnomes.

Gnomes are happiest in their natural setting. Please leave them so other visitors can meet them.



Visit the Friends Facebook page or website for additional details.  
[friendsofmaplewoodnature.wordpress.com](http://friendsofmaplewoodnature.wordpress.com)

## Urban Roots paid youth internships

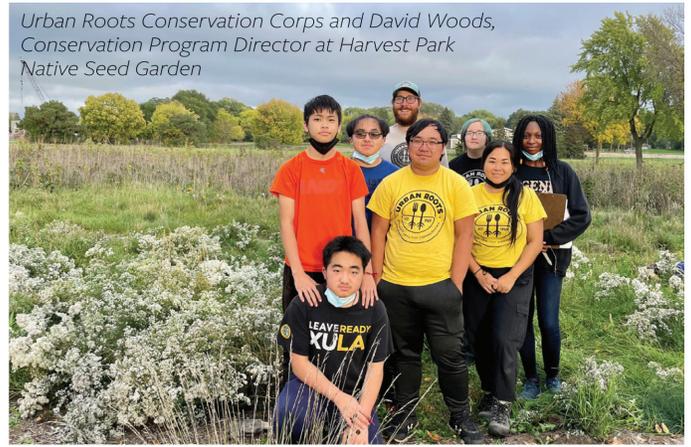
Maplewood is continuing its partnership with Urban Roots, a youth conservation group whose mission is to cultivate and empower young people through nature, healthy food, and community. The heart of Urban Roots is its paid youth internship program.

This summer, interns in the Conservation Corps will work on the Harvest Park Native Seed Garden and other natural resources projects. The native seed garden incorporates a mix of native forbs and grasses to facilitate the harvesting of seed from plants to use in future restoration projects. The native seed garden is also a site for service learning and educational programming opportunities.

If you are a Maplewood resident age 14 to 18 and looking for a fun and engaging job experience working outside and in the community, apply for an internship with Urban Roots. For more details visit [urbanrootsmn.org/workforus](https://urbanrootsmn.org/workforus). To apply send an e-mail request to David Woods, Conservation Program Director, [dwoods@urbanrootsmn.org](mailto:dwoods@urbanrootsmn.org).

### Harvest Park Native Seed Garden 2022 programs available to the Maplewood community

- Pollinator Planting – May 24, 2022, 6 to 7 p.m.
- Plant Identification/Bird Watching – Saturday, July 23, 2022, 10 to 11 a.m.
- Seed Harvesting – Tuesday, September 27, 2021, 6 to 7 p.m.



Urban Roots Conservation Corps and city staff harvesting seed at the Harvest Park Native Seed Garden



## Edgerton Community Garden registration opening

### 2022 Registration:

- Returning gardeners - Wednesday, March 2, 8 a.m.
- New gardeners - Wednesday, March 16, 8 a.m.
- \$25 for the garden season
- Garden plots include 12' x 15' in ground, 4' x 8' raised beds, 3' x 5' ADA raised beds
- Garden season runs April 29 to October 17

For more information and to register visit: [maplewoodmn.gov/communitygarden](https://maplewoodmn.gov/communitygarden)

For garden questions contact Shann Finwall, Environmental Planner, 651-249-2304, [shann.finwall@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:shann.finwall@maplewoodmn.gov)

Edgerton Community Garden supports local growth of healthy, organic food. It is located at Edgerton Park, 2100 Edgerton Street North.



## Big discounts at Maplewood's Arbor Day tree sale!

### Online ordering starts March 7, at 8:00 am

Maplewood is teaming up with Tree Trust, a local non-profit, to offer trees for City residents to purchase at a discount. With Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) gaining a foothold in Maplewood, City Council is encouraging and incentivizing tree planting on residential property to retain their aesthetic, environmental, and health benefits.

While the City replaces diseased or dying boulevard trees, residential property trees make up a considerable portion of our urban forest and hold the greatest potential to maintain our tree canopy.

To help protect our community's long-term forest health, the City is subsidizing the cost of trees for residents to plant on their Maplewood property.

### Sale details:

- \$40/tree (Normally retail for \$120-\$140)
- A variety of species, including a pair of fruit trees
- At least 4'-6' tall, will fit in most vehicles
- Residents may order up to 2 trees

**Order on-line:** Available trees may be viewed online early, starting February 28. Online ordering will start 8:00 am March 7 and continue through May 4, or until sold out. Some species sold out in the first hours last year; order early for best selection.

**Order via mail:** Beginning February 25, pick up a form at City Hall or call 651-249-2111 to request a form by mail. Forms must

be returned to Tree Trust by 4:00 pm March 11

### Tree pick up:

Saturday, May 21 (9:00 am - noon) or Monday, May 23 (5:00-7:00 pm) at the Public Works Building. No special pickups. Trees not picked up at scheduled times will be forfeited.

For details or to order a tree, visit: [Maplewoodmn.gov/treesale](http://Maplewoodmn.gov/treesale)



Second annual  
**SNOWSHOE SCRAMBLE!**

Bruentrup Heritage Farm. Sunday, Feb 13. Noon - 4PM



Adults \$15  
 17 & under \$10

For more info & to register:  
 Info@MaplewoodHistoricalSociety.org





- No overnight parking on Maplewood streets
- Don't place garbage/recycling containers in the street
- Don't throw or plow snow onto the street
- Don't dig or tunnel into boulevard snow piles
- Stay back from plow truck, as they need to back up at intersections



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**INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS (or schedule a PRIVATE MEETING)**

10:00am: February 3, March 3 & 31 | 4:00pm: February 17 & March 17  
 RSVP REQUIRED

Keller Golf Course Club House | 2168 Maplewood Dr, Maplewood, MN 55109

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## Recreational opportunities

The City partners with the Maplewood YMCA Community Center, area associations and other local governments to provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities and arts programming.

Visit [maplewoodmn.gov/programs](http://maplewoodmn.gov/programs)



## Snowshoeing opportunities with the City of Maplewood

Looking for ways to stay active and get outdoors this winter? Give snowshoeing a try!

### SNOWSHOE RENTALS:

- \$5/pair for a 2-hour rental
- For use on Nature Center Preserve grounds
- Available Monday - Friday, 9 am-3 pm

Call 651-249-2111 for reservation questions or to check on snow conditions. Or go to [Facebook/MaplewoodParksandNaturalResources](#) to find a free pop up event near you.

## YMCA ForeverWell

Designed for ages 55+, the program includes a monthly calendar of social events and variety of exercise classes available on the Group Exercise schedule.

Register at [YMCANorth.org](http://YMCANorth.org) (Search for ForeverWell)

## Youth scholarships available for RevSports programs

The City has funding available to Maplewood residents who demonstrate the need for financial assistance. Upon approval, the scholarship will cover 2/3rds of the program fee. Contact [recreationonline@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:recreationonline@maplewoodmn.gov) for an application.

Edgerton Community Gym | \$59/session

Register at [Maplewood.Revsports.org](http://Maplewood.Revsports.org) (don't use www)

### THURSDAY Sessions Court #1

S2: Volleyball	Feb 24, Mar 3, 17, 24
S3: Basketball	Mar 31, Apr 7, 14, 21
S4: Basketball	Apr 28, May 5, 12, 19
Times/Ages:	Ages 4-6 5:30-6:10 pm
	Ages 6-9 6:15-6:55 pm
	Ages 9-11 7:00-7:40 pm
	Ages 10-14 7:45-8:25 pm

### SATURDAY Sessions Court #1

S2: Basketball	Feb 19, 26, Mar 19, 26
S3: Lacrosse	Apr 2, 9, 16, 23
S4: Soccer	Apr 30, May 7, 14, 21
Times/Ages:	Ages 3-5 * 9:00-9:40
	Ages 4-6 9:45-10:25
	Ages 5-7 10:30-11:10
	Ages 6-9 11:15-11:55

### SATURDAYS Sessions Court #2

S2: Ninja Warrior Fitness	Feb 19, 26, Mar 19, 26
S3: Floor Hockey	Apr 2, 9, 16, 23
S4: Baseball	Apr 30, May 7, 14, 21
Times/Ages:	Ages 2-3 * 9:00-9:25 am
	Ages 3-5 * 9:45-10:25 am
	Ages 4-6 10:30-11:10 am
	Ages 5-8 11:15-11:55 am

\* Parent participation required



## City of Maplewood

1830 County Road B East

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[www.maplewoodmn.gov](http://www.maplewoodmn.gov)

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- Basic Cleaning Supplies
- Warming Room

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reservations!**

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