

CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

# MAPLEWOOD LIVING

May 2024



## HOW IT WORKS



### Mobile Ultrasound

Explore the equipment, tools, systems and technology that keeps Maplewood moving.



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## Beyond the Ballot: A Year on the City Council

By Chonburi Lee, Councilmember

It has been my privilege to serve the 42,000 residents who call Maplewood home. Looking back on my first year, I am grateful for my fellow residents' trust and support.

I embarked on a journey of discovery, learning the intricacies of our city's operations, budget, and the unique history that shapes its character. Every neighborhood, every street corner tells a story, and every resident contributes to Maplewood's vibrant tapestry.

Outside the Council chamber, my passion lies in connecting with the community. Maplewood residents sincerely care about one another. It humbles me listening to their joys, concerns, experiences, and aspirations. These interactions reaffirm my belief in the power of community and strengthen my resolve to serve with empathy and compassion.

Serving on the City Council isn't just about making decisions; it's about making a difference, one pothole at a time. It's about rolling up my sleeves and serving my neighbors. I had the privilege of patrolling on a late-night shift with the police, rolling with a plow crew after a heavy snow fall, and other hands-on opportunities. These eye-opening experiences enlighten and contribute to more well-rounded decision making.

I've taken great pride in collaborating with fellow council members to ensure we're investing in Public Safety and Public Works. Ensuring our community's health, safety and well-being is paramount. And I'm overjoyed when I hear the community praise our departments for well-maintained roads and professional, compassionate police and firefighter-paramedics. They are among the best front-line professionals in Minnesota.

My public service in Maplewood isn't work; it's my passion, my calling.



[ continued page 3 ]



## Visit with the Mayor & Council

We've made it even easier to visit with Mayor Marylee Abrams or any of our City Council Members, to discuss concerns or to share ideas for Maplewood.

The Mayor and Council set their own meeting calendars. You're encouraged to reach them directly through the contacts below.

If you are unable to reach them, contact Lois Knutson at (651) 249-2051 or [Lois.Knutson@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:Lois.Knutson@maplewoodmn.gov)

# Maplewood

## 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)
- Chonburi Lee: Councilmember (651) 321-2299  
[chonburi.lee@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:chonburi.lee@maplewoodmn.gov)
- Nikki Villavicencio: Councilmember (651) 558-7662  
[nikki.villavicencio@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:nikki.villavicencio@maplewoodmn.gov)

## City Manager

Michael Sable, City Manager (651) 249-2055  
[michael.sable@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:michael.sable@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



## Find Your Way Home.

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To advertise in this newsletter please contact: Joe Sheeran (651) 249-2061  
[joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov)



[ Beyond the Ballot continued ]

Looking ahead, I'm committed to keeping our community at the forefront of my decision-making. Your voices, needs and dreams guide me as a public servant. Together, we'll continue building a stronger, more vibrant Maplewood, rooted in compassion, integrity, and a deep sense of community.

Thank you for entrusting me with the privilege of serving as your Council Member. I look forward to meeting you at your door.



## Run for Maplewood City Council

Two four-year council seats will be on the November 5, 2024 General Election ballot.

**Filing period opens:**  
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

**Filing deadline:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 5:00 pm.

Prospective candidates must pay a \$5 filing fee (or petition in place of the filing fee) with an affidavit of candidacy. Petitions in place of the filing fee must contain at least 500 signatures and may only be signed by Maplewood residents eligible to vote.

Candidates may withdraw at any time until Thursday, June 6, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Filing fees are not refundable.

State law requires that if more than four people file, the race will be on the ballot for the Primary Election on August 13, 2024.

### All filing forms are available at:

- [Maplewoodmn.gov/95](http://Maplewoodmn.gov/95)
- City Clerk's Office, 1830 County Road B East, Maplewood; 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays

Candidates must file in person at City Hall or the Ramsey County Elections office (90 Plato Blvd. W., Saint Paul). Check [rcelections.org](http://rcelections.org) or call (651) 266-2171 for details on filing at this location.

For questions, please contact Andrea Sindt, City Clerk (651) 249-2002 or [andrea.sindt@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:andrea.sindt@maplewoodmn.gov)



Carver Media Center

## Building schools for 21st century learners

In early April, we helped cut the ribbon on North High School's renovation project, which expanded capacity, modernized the media center and science labs, and created better collaborative learning space.



John Glenn Middle School

The upgrades are part of a district-wide renovation plan. In 2019, ISD 622 voters approved a \$275 million bond referendum to update facilities across the district. This major community investment has benefited every building in the district, most of which were over 50 years old and not designed for today's learning environment. Despite a pandemic and increased supply costs and shortages, the projects are on track and within budget.

The district aimed to align John Glenn Middle with North High and Skyview Middle with Tartan High. Therefore, Maplewood Middle was closed and Justice Alan Page Elementary was built on that site. Both middle and high schools underwent extensive renovations and additions, during which John Glenn gained a new aquatics center. Nine elementary schools were consolidated into seven, including two brand-new elementary schools and renovation of the remaining buildings.

Other improvements include secure building entrances, updated furnishings to accommodate independent, small-group, and large-group learning, separate bus and parent drop-off areas, and enhanced air quality systems.

Maplewood is the home to Carver, Justice Alan Page, and Weaver elementary schools, and John Glenn Middle School. Visit the district website at [www.isd622.org](http://www.isd622.org) more information.

# Miss the Spring Clean Up?

Here are some alternatives:

- Curbside Collection via Republic Services  
[maplewoodmn.gov/trash](http://maplewoodmn.gov/trash)
- [RamseyCounty.us/AtoZ](http://RamseyCounty.us/AtoZ)
- Shredding Events

Learn more at:

[co.washington.mn.us/3031](http://co.washington.mn.us/3031)

Free to Ramsey County Residents

## 2024 SPRING CLEANUP BY THE NUMBERS



331 Vehicles



141 Appliances



58 Bicycles



105 Mattresses



42 Small Engines



96 Used Tires



623 lbs of clothing

Maplewood works with contractors that recycle or reuse as much of the materials collected at this event as possible. All materials that cannot be processed for energy.

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

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



## We need you on the climate mitigation team

*No experience necessary*

Maplewood is creating a Climate Mitigation Plan (CMP) to reduce citywide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and transition to renewable energy sources.

**Mission:** We need community members to weigh in on how changes in our climate and our approach to mitigating those changes would impact you. We'll do this in a series of collaborative workshops from June 2024 to January 2025

**Task:** By the end, we'll have community-tailored goals and actions the city, residents, and businesses can take to mitigate climate change effects.

**Team members:** YOU, city staff, representatives from public agencies. Green energy consultant PaleBLUEdot will facilitate the discussion.

### Qualifications:

- Be a member of, or someone closely connected to, our community
- Be at least 15 years old (parental or guardian approval is required for applicants under 18)
- No background in climate science needed

Apply by May 17th at [maplewoodmn.gov/climate](http://maplewoodmn.gov/climate) or contact Shann Finwall (651) 249-2304 or [Shann.Finwall@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:Shann.Finwall@maplewoodmn.gov)

## Prioritizing our infrastructure is paying off

Thanks to our public works crews' focused effort over the last several years, about 73% of Maplewood's roads are rated good to excellent. That's up from 58% in 2017. New construction and our ongoing maintenance plan also ensure our infrastructure lasts longer.

In addition to smoother streets, highlights of most new roads include:

- Improved traffic safety
- Broader bike and pedestrian access
- Better flood prevention
- Fewer pollutants running into waterways

East Shore Drive Area



## HERE'S A LOOK AT 2024 AREA ROAD PROJECTS



Cypress-Maplewood Drive Area

### Cypress-Maplewood Drive Area

Repaving, curb and gutter repairs, boulevard restoration

### East Shore Drive Area

This is full reconstruction of area streets. Improvements include:

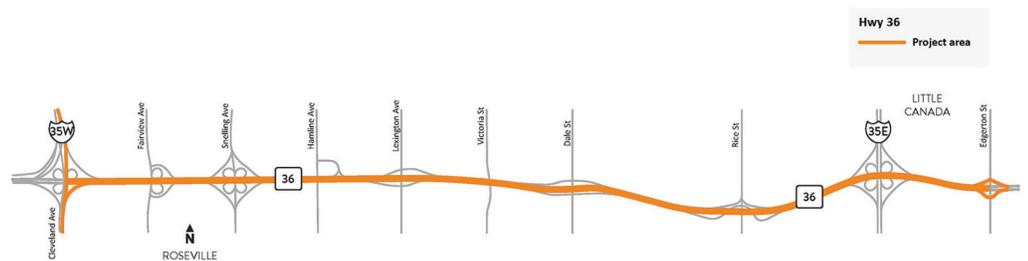
- Replacing older cast-iron watermain piping
- Repairing the sanitary sewer system
- Installing additional storm sewer piping, catch-basins and other water-quality features
- Installing concrete curb and gutter on all streets
- Installing new asphalt

### An improved Highway 36 is coming

Slow down and use caution this summer on Highway 36 from Edgerton to 35W as crews work on a smoother ride while extending the roadway's life.

Highlights include:

- Repair road and replace aging drainage
- Install new traffic signs
- Replace guardrail
- Reconstruct on and off ramps



### Weigh in on the longer-term vision for the Highway 36 corridor

While this summer's work will extend Highway 36's pavement life, planners are looking well into the future to re-design the entire corridor to accommodate multi-modal transportation.

They want your input.

In the next several months, MnDOT will hold community meetings, events and surveys evaluating the eight-mile strip and its crossings through Maplewood, Little Canada and Roseville.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the project and share your input.





**DID YOU KNOW?**



We have entered the season where oak trees should not be cut or pruned to prevent the spread of oak wilt. Spreading risks are HIGHEST from April through July.

During these months, sap beetles that spread this fungal disease can arrive at a freshly cut oak within 15 minutes of cutting. If your oak has storm damage or cutting a branch can't wait, apply a branch sealer immediately. Infected trees can spread the disease to nearby oaks through their root systems.

Risk is lower from August through October, but the best time to prune or cut down oaks is from November until the end of March.

For more information, visit the University of Minnesota Extension Oak wilt page by scanning the QR code.

**SATURDAY, MAY 18 • 10 AM - 4 PM**  
**BIG RED BARN**  
**FOLK ART & CRAFTERS FAIR**  
ART & CRAFT VENDORS • FOOD TRUCKS



At the Maplewood Area Historical Society's Bruentrup Heritage Farm.

Parking & Shuttle at Maplewood Mall, Door 4.

Questions? Email us at [events@MaplewoodMuseum.org](mailto:events@MaplewoodMuseum.org).



Photo: Myra Simsek

**Have a Green Thumb?**  
Volunteer to help plant bird and pollinator-supporting native plants at Maplewood Nature Center!  
**Friday, June 21, 4:30 – 6:00 pm.**  
Bring your favorite gardening gloves, we will supply tools. Plants supplied by the Friends of Maplewood Nature through a St. Paul Audubon grant!  
**Questions?** Contact natural resources Coordinator Carole Gernes: [carole.gernes@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:carole.gernes@maplewoodmn.gov) or (651) 249-2416.

*RAMSEY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS*  
**PLANT SALE**



**SATURDAY**  
**MAY 18, 2024**  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**MAPLEWOOD**  
**ALDRICH ARENA**



# Youth Sport Classes with RevSports



Location: Edgerton Gym or Edgerton Park  
\$67/Session; \$79/Ninja Warrior



To Register: [Maplewood.Revsports.org](http://Maplewood.Revsports.org)  
RevSports Contact: [Info@Revsports.org](mailto:Info@Revsports.org)  
or (612) 234-7782



## Summer Camps 2024!



**Basketball: Jun 24-27**

Ages 4-11 \$119

**Flag Football: Jul 29-Aug 1**

Ages 4-11 \$119

**Archery: Aug 5-8**

Ages 4-11 \$149

## Thursday Sessions

**Baseball:** Sessions 6, 7, 8  
Available for ages 2 - 9

**Flag Football:** Sessions 8, 9  
Available for ages 4 - 11

**Ninja Warrior Fitness:** Session 9  
Available for ages 2-9

**Volleyball:** Session 10, 11  
Available for ages 6-14

### Dates:

**Session 6:** June 13, 20, 27, July 11  
(Skip July 4)

**Session 7:** July 18, 25, August 1, 8

**Session 8:** August 15, 22, 29, September 5

## Saturday Sessions

**Soccer:** 6, 7, 8, 9  
Available for ages 2-9

**Basketball:** Session 8, 9, 10  
Available for ages 2-9

### Dates

**Session 6:** June 15, 22, 29, July 13  
(Skip July 6)

**Session 7:** July 27, August 3, 10, 17

**Session 8:** September 7, 14, 21, 28

**Session 9:** October 12, 26, November 2, 9  
(Skip October 19)

**Session 10:** November 16, 23, December 7, 14  
(Skip November 30)

For details on classes, times and scholarships  
visit: [maplewoodmn.gov/2068](http://maplewoodmn.gov/2068)

## Maplewood YMCA Summer programming

Soccer Basketball  
Flag football Aquatics Week camps

To see the full list of offerings, visit:  
[ymcanorth.org](http://ymcanorth.org)



*Ashland* PRODUCTIONS  
25TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISER:  
**A BIG BAND TRIBUTE TO Frank Asenbrenner**

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SUNDAY MAY 19TH AT 2:00PM

A SPECIAL FUNDRAISER TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF  
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PERFORMERS OF THE PAST AND PRESENT.

Just keep swimming!

Disney's **FINDING NEMO JR**

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**MAY 3 - 12, 2024**

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# Save the date for these community events!



<b>JULY</b>	<b>Putt-Putt with Public Safety</b>
<b>11</b>	Goodrich Golf Dome 1 – 4 p.m.

<b>JULY</b>	<b>Celebrate Summer</b>
<b>24</b>	Upper Afton Park 6 – 7:30 p.m.

<b>MAY</b>	<b>Big Red Barn Folk Art and Crafters Fair</b>
<b>18</b>	Bruentrup Heritage Farm 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Treasure Hunt</b>
<b>8</b>	Follow Maplewood Parks & Natural Resources Facebook for location/time

<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Touch-a-Truck</b>
<b>12</b>	YMCA lot (2100 White Bear Ave) 6 – 7:30 p.m.

<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>National Night Out</b>
<b>6</b>	Various locations/times Block party sign-ups start in June

<b>JULY</b>	<b>Fourth of July Celebration</b>
<b>4</b>	Hazelwood Park Festivities start 4 p.m., fireworks 10p.m.

<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>Celebrate Summer</b>
<b>21</b>	Edgerton Park 6 – 7:30 p.m.