

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

October 2024



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Community Connect

Help up save you when seconds count

Create a Community Connect account today

Maplewood Fire-EMS Department's newest software allows you to enter important information that could be critical during an emergency.

It's free and your information is secure.

Scan the QR code to learn more.

Council votes for new direction on transit

Several factors, including impacts on traffic, public safety response, and business disruptions, led City Council to withdraw its support for the Purple Line BRT on White Bear Avenue and along the Bruce Vento Trail.

The fate of the Purple Line, which would take passengers from St. Paul's Union Depot to Maplewood's north end, is now in Metro Transit's hands.

The City Council wants to explore at least three options to expand transit in Maplewood:

• Arterial BRT (Letter Line)

Unlike lines named with a color, Letter Lines don't need bus-only lanes. They run mixed with traffic. These lines still make limited stops and can run up to 25% faster than normal bus routes.

• Micro Transit

An app-based, ride-share service that takes riders from point-to-point. It uses smaller vehicles than regular buses. It's like Uber Pool, that serves a much more defined geographic area, complimenting existing transit access.

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Elected Officials

- Marylee Abrams: Mayor (612) 322-1620
marylee.abrams@maplewoodmn.gov
- Rebecca Cave: Councilmember (651) 399-1779
rebecca.cave@maplewoodmn.gov
- Kathleen Juenemann: Councilmember (651) 771-3670
kathleen.juenemann@maplewoodmn.gov
- Chonburi Lee: Councilmember (651) 321-2299
chonburi.lee@maplewoodmn.gov
- Nikki Villavicencio: Councilmember (651) 558-7662
nikki.villavicencio@maplewoodmn.gov

City Manager

Michael Sable, City Manager (651) 249-2055
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



Quality of life key topic at senior safety listening session

Police and Fire-EMS staff recently met with two groups of seniors to see how safety needs might be shifting and the best ways to deliver information and deploy resources.

Some of the concerns include:

- Pedestrian safety
- Ensuring property managers provide information about area incidents
- Street parking that could slow emergency response
- Concern about costs related to calling for an ambulance
- Spotting signs of a stroke
- Resources for people with disabilities

We appreciate the valuable feedback. Please keep an eye on Maplewood Living or our social media channels for follow up information.



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 Skilled Nursing: Rehabilitation & Long-term Care



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Michele.Gorden@Cassialife.org

651-488-6658 

Enjoy our community garden and various other activities.

HarmonyGardensSenior.org

1438 County Road C East | Maplewood, MN 55109

Securing sustainable funding for region-leading emergency medical service

The Maplewood way means our Firefighter-EMS professionals put “Service Before Self.”

We deliver on this core value by hiring quality professionals and investing in resources to help serve you best. That investment is critical because our EMS needs are growing.

- Maplewood has an aging population.
- Calls are more complex.
- Mental health calls are increasing and require significant resources.

We’ve risen to these challenges:

- Modernizing our fire stations
- Reconfiguring resources and staffing to ensure our response (travel time) is eight minutes or less for 90% of calls
- Incrementally increasing staff with advanced emergency medical credentials
- Cross training police officers in basic emergency medical response to multiply our capability
- Partnering with Regions Hospital to ensure that we are delivering industry leading pre-hospital care

This has helped boost Maplewood Fire-EMS to one of the State’s leading emergency medical providers. We especially stand out in response times and overall quality of care.

Continuing this level of service requires a funding shift.

Here’s the bigger picture.

As of now, we use direct billing to off-set EMS costs. We see EMS response as a core public service. However, the old model saw EMS service as a way to drive customers to the hospital. Now, through our efforts, we respond to more calls more quickly.



However, ambulance services can only bill if they take a patient to the hospital or provide a treatment at a scene, such as giving a medication. Many Maplewood calls are for falls or minor injuries that don’t require an ambulance ride to hospital.

A significant number of patients that receive a bill are uninsured or use Medicare or Medicaid. Reimbursement rates for these programs were set in the 1990’s – when Bill Clinton was president – and have not been adjusted for inflation.

It costs the city significantly more to deploy a medic team than we’re reimbursed on average.

City staff is proposing to council a modest levy increase to ensure we maintain our region-leading emergency medical response.

For about \$7.00/month, we can all have peace of mind that when there’s an emergency, a highly trained medical responder will arrive quickly, with the equipment needed to provide lifesaving care.



[New Direction on Transit continued from page 1]

• Autonomous vehicles

A self-driving shuttle recently debuted in White Bear Lake as part of a research and demonstration pilot for Minnesota Department of Transportation. The electric, multi-passenger vehicle ran about 1.5 miles through a residential strip. It connected the YMCA, affordable housing and other amenities.

We appreciate our ongoing collaboration with Metro Transit and Ramsey County and thank them for their partnerships as we build a better-connected east metro transit network that broadens economic development opportunities. We are committed to ensuring people who use transit have reliable, convenient options.



Maplewood’s 2025 budget prioritizes:

- **Fire-EMS:** Maintaining eight-minute travel times and overall quality of care
- **Roads:** Delivering on the promise that more than 70 percent of City roads are in good or excellent condition
- **Safety:** Maintaining an efficient, data-driven approach to crime prevention and mitigation
- **Professional development:** Ensuring the City retains and attracts a talented professional workforce to best serve our community

To deliver on these investments, the owner of a median priced home (about \$340,000) would see their monthly city property taxes rise from about \$115 to \$130.

For full transparency, below is a break down of each spending area per month.

MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX	
POLICE	\$ 44.57
FIRE/EMS	\$ 21.63
PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 13.02
ADMIN/COUNCIL/CITY CLERK	\$ 8.62
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.....	\$ 6.81
PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES	\$ 6.37
FINANCE	\$ 3.38
<hr/>	
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$ 20.59
CAPITAL PROJECTS.....	\$ 5.26
<hr/>	
MONTHLY RECEIPT	\$130.25



For more on the history of Maplewood’s budgets scan the QR



Fall Clean Up Campaign

Visit maplewoodmn.gov/cleanups for more information

20% off bulky item collection in October

Contact Republic Services (651) 455-8634 to schedule the pickup.

Free Mattress Collection in November

- About 95% of your mattress can be recycled.
- Don’t throw it in the trash!

Collections every Tuesday and Thursday.

Sign ups start October 28 at secondchancerecyclingmn.com.

- Click the “Curbside Collection Program” button.

Thanks to Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy for creating this opportunity with Second Chance Recycling.

Household Hazardous Waste October collection site

Aldrich Arena, 1850 White Bear Avenue

Fridays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturdays 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Visit ramseycounty.us/HHW or call (651) 633-3279 for questions 24/7.

Starting in April 2025, Ramsey County is moving this program to the new Environmental Service Center in Roseville. Learn more at ramseycounty.us/ESC.

Free Shredding

Wednesday, November 13th; 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Washington County Environmental Center

4039 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury

In case you didn’t know...

The Environmental Center is open to Ramsey County residents, offering a wide range of drop off opportunities for household hazardous waste, electronics, and more. Visit Washingtoncountymn.gov/604 for days and hours of operation.

General Election – November 5, 2024

While the presidential race is getting a lot of attention, Maplewood has two City Council seats on the ballot.

Voters may select two candidates. The top two will be elected four-year terms.

Maplewood Living has provided each City Council candidate an opportunity to introduce themselves:

Rebecca Cave

As a council member, my ongoing mission is to make a lasting impact on Maplewood, benefiting both our present and future generations.



- Preservation of Natural Spaces: I remain steadfast in my commitment to protecting Bruce Vento and other cherished trails, parks, and open spaces in our community.
- Support for Housing Development: I have consistently supported redevelopment projects throughout Maplewood, advocating for a balanced mix of affordable, senior, and market-rate housing options.
- Economic Growth and Business Support: I have actively encouraged business retention and development, working to foster a thriving local economy.
- Commitment to Public Safety: I am a proud supporter of Maplewood's Public Safety services, dedicated to ensuring our community has access to the best tools and resources available.



Stephen Fitze

As Council Member, I hope to view development and transit on a 50-year timeline. Let's look at the Maplewood we want our children and grandchildren to live in, then work backwards to determine what we should be working on today. In particular, our children will need strong mass transit, and it is our obligation to lay that foundation. More immediately, I hope to build connections between our Parks and Natural Resources Department and community partners to help ensure all Maplewood children have access to enriching and engaging activities, regardless of their parent's income.

Alex Kline

I'm nonpartisan and not an incumbent. I've lived in Maplewood all my life and own a home by Goodrich Park.

Our city government should be more transparent and accessible. When elected, I would:

- Require better use of our Maplewood Living, i.e., provide updates on council actions at the previous month's meetings; the monthly statistics on police/fire/ambulance calls; and detailed progress reports on housing development projects.
- Retain/expand the City's diseased tree removal program to pay for tree removal – I've used the program - it's important for our community to manage the spread of the emerald ash borer. Many people cannot afford to remove infected trees on their own.
- Install permanent, accessible restrooms in our parks..



Nikki Villavicencio

As council member, I hope to accomplish equitable resident participation in our government. Local government has an obligation to inform residents how it makes decisions. Equitable engagement requires our city to meet people where they are.

I am asking for your support for re-election because more voices need to be at the table. I will fiercely fight for residents. Development of our city needs to meet the demands of our future. I will continue to work with all stakeholders to chart a new direction for the Maplewood Mall area and our southern area of Maplewood. As a union member, I know to have a good quality of life, we must continuously support our city workers. I joyfully and humbly ask for your support in my re-election!

VOTING OPTIONS

BEFORE ELECTION DAY

In person: until November 4th

Direct Balloting: feeding your ballot into the machine as on Election Day—begins October 18th

Maplewood City Hall
1830 County Road B East
(Must be a Maplewood resident).

Weekdays, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Extended hours:

Saturday, October 26, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tuesday, October 29, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday, November 2, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Sunday, November 3, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Monday, November 4, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

By Mail: Submit absentee ballot application to Ramsey County Elections by mail, email or in-person.

ELECTION DAY VOTING

You must vote at your assigned polling place. Check your polling place at mnvotes.org. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

November General Election information is available on the City's website, Ramsey County's website, and the Secretary of State's website.

Buckthorn Herbicide Coupon



**25%
off**

Gertens

Ferti-lome® Brush Killer and Stump Killer (8% Triclopyr)
Hi Yield KillZAll® (41% Glyphosate)
In-store only • Promo Code: MW
5500 Blaine Ave, Inver Grove Heights (651) 450-1501

**20%
off**

Bachman's

Bonide® Stump-Out Vine and Stump Killer (8% Triclopyr)
Promotion available at all Bachman's locations
2600 White Bear Ave, Maplewood (651) 770-0531
All Bachman's locations. 2600 White Bear Ave.

VALID THROUGH 10/15/24



Buckthorn curbside pickup week of October 28th.

- Register by 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 22nd
- carole.gernes@maplewoodmn.gov; or call (651) 249-2111.
- Confirmation email includes stacking instructions and other info
- Only buckthorn will be picked up; must have enough to fill a pickup
- No early or late pick-ups



Photo Contest Winner”

Congratulations **Jill Bemis** her Sandhill Crane photo at the Maplewood Nature Center captured the most votes in our summer nature photo contest.

Also, a big thanks to **Ryan Schuster** for his submission in the Under 12 category.

Fall outings at the Maplewood Nature Center

Register at Maplewoodmn.gov/971

4-H Pumpkin Party! (Grades K-5)

Friday, October 11th 9:00 a.m. - Noon

\$10/person

This half-day camp explores the pumpkin life cycle through engaging stories, crafts, and snacks.

We will taste pumpkins and learn how they are low in calories but high in essential vitamins.

This involves an outside adventuring, please dress in layers.

Fun fact: Minnesota proudly produces about \$7 million of pumpkins and squash yearly!

Fun Facts about Common Birds (NEW!)

Sunday, October 20th 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Many of us overlook the birds we see daily in our yards and parks, but this class will reveal the fascinating behaviors and lives of these common birds. You might never see them the same way again!

Owl Walk

Sunday, November 24th 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

A dusk walk can increase your chances of hearing or seeing elusive owls. Remember to wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather, as the class is held outdoors. If you have binoculars, bring them along!

Youth Sport Classes with RevSports



Location: Edgerton Gym or Edgerton Park
\$67/Session;
\$79/Ninja Warrior For details on classes, times and scholarships
Visit: maplewoodmn.gov/2068

To Register: Maplewood.Revsports.org
RevSports Contact: Info@Revsports.org or
(612) 234-7782

Thursday Sessions

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

Dates

Session 10: October 10, 24, November 7, 14 (Skip 10/17, 10/31)

Session 11: November 21, December 5, 12, 19

Saturday Sessions

Soccer: 9 Available for ages 2-9

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

Dates

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

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

Ashland PRODUCTIONS
Disney's
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
OCT 11 - NOV 3
TICKETS ON SALE NOW
ashlandproductions.org
2100 WHITE BEAR AVE,
MAPLEWOOD, MN 55109

BIRTHDAY PARTY PACKAGE

BIRTHDAY PARTIES ARE BACK!

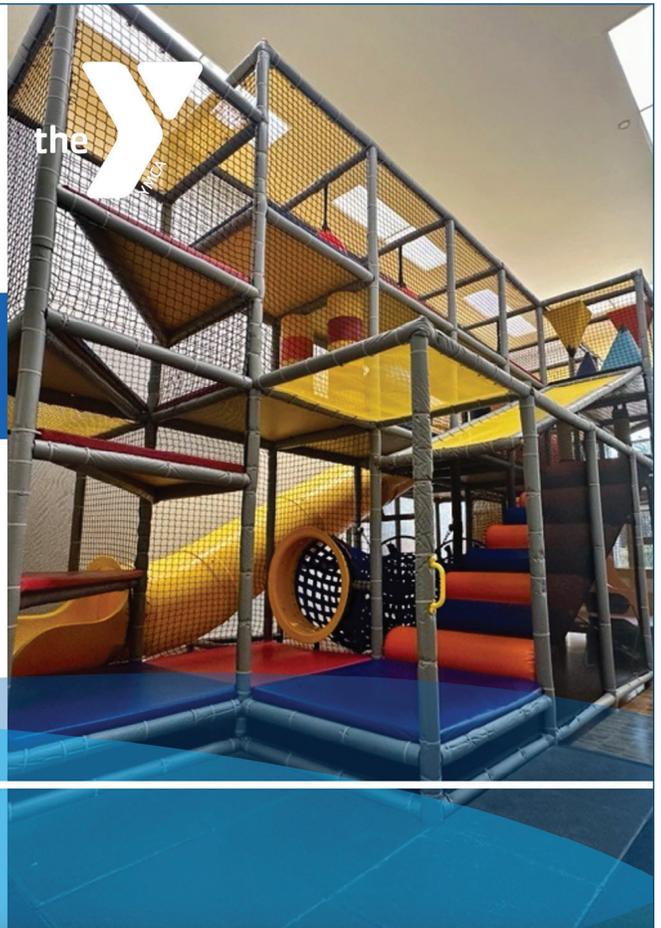
MONDAY-FRIDAY 1PM-4PM

SATURDAY 1PM-5PM

SUNDAY 7AM-5PM

- 3 Hour Party Rental
- Gladstone Hallway (Max 40 people)
- Access to Indoor Playground for 90 min
- Allowed to bring in outside food (No crockpots!)
- Starting at \$500

Location: Maplewood YMCA 2100 White Bear Ave
Phone: 651-739-6594
Email: Alex.Schmitz@ymcanorth.org





City of Maplewood

1830 County Road B East

Maplewood, MN 55109

Phone: (651) 249-2000

www.maplewoodmn.gov

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Upon request, this newsletter will be made available in an alternate format.

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SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE COMMUNITY EVENTS!



OCTOBER	Red Barn Folk Arts Fair
12	10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Bruentrup Heritage Farm 2170 County Road D East.

OCTOBER	Trunk or Treat
27	City Hall Parking Lot 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

DECEMBER	Rice Larpenteur Winter Warm Up
10	Location: TBD 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

DECEMBER	Santa Parade
21	Citywide, Parade Route available soon