

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

December 2024

Watch our Unmanned Ariel Vehicles in action

They're helping the police department gather better intel to keep officers, civilians and suspects safer.



2024 Year in Review

Michael Sable, City Manager

I've been Maplewood's City Manager about nine months. Each month I'm more impressed with our staff's professionalism and dedication to service. We're asking a lot of them as Maplewood adapts to numerous community changes. People are starting to see the difference and we're proud of that.

We're in an unprecedented building boom:

- Three apartment buildings are in significant states of construction.
- A new senior living center has beautified a blighted pocket off County Road C and White Bear Ave.
- Several smaller building projects are also nearing completion.

In the next year, we're expecting to:

- Start planning a new neighborhood at the Ponds of Battle Creek
- Knock down the Moose Lodge to make it a more attractive development site
- Construct more housing in the Gladstone corridor
- Facilitate St. John's Hospital expansion

These projects boost underused land values, helping spread the cost of city services.

Infrastructure:

In 2024, we reconstructed roads and infrastructure in two areas:

- Cypress-Maplewood Drive
- East Shore Drive

IN THIS ISSUE

- 3** The Year in Review continued
- 4** Shop Local
- 5** Snow Plowing: A team effort
Election News
- 6** 2025 Solid Waste Rates
Recycle your Holidays
- 7** Sport Opportunities
- 8** Community Events

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

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



Brighten
Your

Holidays

This year, turn your holiday wishes into reality with a low-rate **City & County Holiday Loan!**

NOW - DECEMBER 31, 2024

RATES AS
LOW AS

8.99% APR

APPLY ONLINE AT CCCU.COM



APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Personal loan rate effective as of 11/01/2024 and valid through 12/31/2024. Actual rate based on applicant's credit qualifications and loan terms. Additional discounts do not apply. The monthly payment per \$1,000 borrowed for 36 months for personal loans at 8.99% APR is \$31.91. Loans may not be used to refinance an existing obligation with CCCU. Offer subject to change without notice. Ask a credit union representative for complete details.

Dental care for the entire family

Awwwwwsome





That's my

P

Park Dental
Maplewood

Schedule an appointment today.

Our experienced team is dedicated to your oral health and well-being.

1600 St. Johns Blvd, Suite 100
Maplewood | 651-770-7585

parkdental.com



Independent & Assisted Living
Memory Care | Care Suites
Skilled Nursing: Rehabilitation & Long-Term Care

Celebrating two years in December



Harmony Gardens is a thriving senior living community serving Maplewood and the surrounding areas. Thank you for your support!



Learn More Today!

Michele.Gorden@Cassialife.org

651-488-6658



HarmonyGardensSenior.org
 1438 County Road C East | Maplewood, MN 55109



[Year in Review continued from page 1]

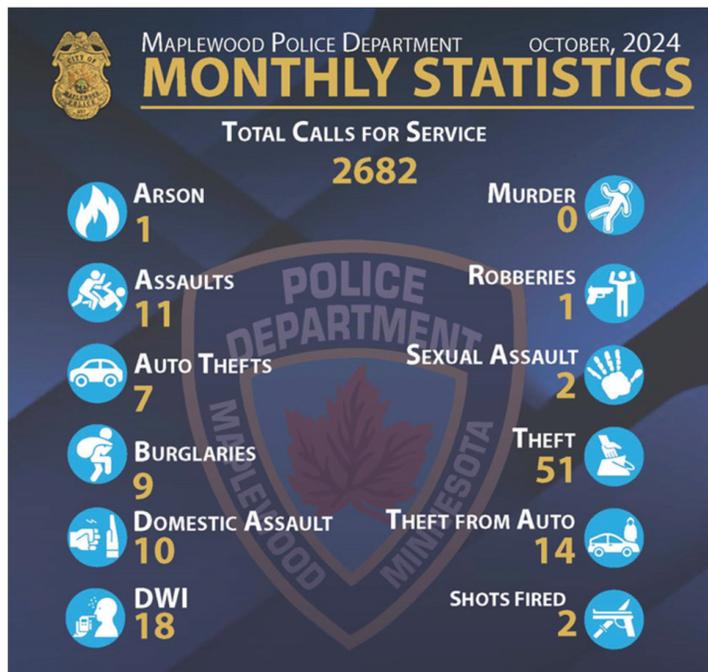
Our Parks and Natural Resources Department also made strides:

- Developing and implementing the Harvest Park master plan
- Upgrading the playground at Lower Sunset Ridge and Kohlman Parks
- Restoring six native prairies and planting a bird and pollinator garden at the Nature Center



Aggressively taking down ash trees before they became a hazard:

- \$450,000 DNR grant helped us clear more than 300 trees on public land.
- We also set up \$150,000 loan program for about 50 homeowners to remove ash trees.



Public Safety

I'd like to highlight our Public Safety Department's work in the following areas:

Recruiting and retention

- Police and fire departments operated at or near full staff the entire year. The approach also led to hiring more diverse officers and firefighters
- The Fire/EMS Cadet Program continues to build the pipeline for people from backgrounds underrepresented in the profession.

Technology and Innovation

- Region-leading Unmanned Aerial Vehicle program
 - Wider reach in locating missing people
 - Safely finding and arresting dangerous suspects
- **Community Connect** -- Software allows the community to share critical information with our fire-EMS department when seconds count
- Produced an "After the Fire Packet" to help ensure residents know we are here to support them before, during and well after significant incidents





Behind the scenes

Information Technology

- Security -- Maplewood is a partner in Minnesota's Whole-of-State Cybersecurity Plan. This helps strengthen the city's defense of critical infrastructure and sensitive data.
- Efficiency – Implemented software that streamlines collaboration and enhances productivity.

Election Integrity

- Successfully oversaw three elections, with an incredible 84% turnout in the general election.
- Trained election judges and collaborated with our county and state partners.

HR

- Developed hands-on training for all city supervisors focuses on leadership development.
- Continued to promote job opportunities within the City to a diverse audience.

Finance

- Ended the year with a surplus, which helps bolster our rainy day fund and increase infrastructure investments.
- The City was given clean audit in 2024 and maintains AA+ Bond rating.

I'm proud of the work we've accomplished this year and look forward to the opportunities of 2025. Have a safe and wonderful holiday season.

Results

- Auto theft on pace to be significantly lower than the 4-year trend
- Fire-EMS consistently exceeds response time goals

Training

- All police administration staff have successfully completed the FBI LEEDA (Law Enforcement Executive Development Association) Trilogy training. We're one of the only departments in the state to have the entire command staff complete the program.
- Fire-EMS Chief Michael Mondor completed the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program. His thesis was on outreach to the Hmong community.

Leadership

- Chief Brian Bierdeman served a two-year term as the President of the Ramsey County Chiefs of Police Association.
- Chief Mondor helped lead an east metro delegation on a fact-sharing trip to meet with Congressional Leaders in Washington D.C.



Shop local this holiday season

Maplewood Council proclaimed Saturday, November 30th as Small Business Saturday, joining thousands of communities across the country to promote local businesses.

We've made it a little easier for you to find and support a local business.

Visit our shop local guide at [Maplewoodmn.gov/shop](https://www.maplewoodmn.gov/shop) or scan the QR code.

If you think we've missed a great local shop let us know!

Help plowing go smoothly this winter



- Do not park on the streets overnight. It may block the plows.
- Do not put trash/recycling cans in the roadway.
- Clear the area in front of your mailbox after plowing to help prevent interruption of mail.
- Give snowplows room to operate.
- Watch for updates from your trash and recycling companies about service interruptions.



SCAN
Follow Us on Facebook
for snow updates

MAPLEWOOD SNOW PLOWING IS A TEAM EFFORT

- 135 MILES OF STREET
- 77 MILES OF SIDEWALK AND TRAILS
- 23 DRIVERS, 3 MECHANICS, 2 ADMIN (OVER 350 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE)
- 17 PLOW TRUCKS
- 10 SIDEWALK/TRAIL SNOW REMOVERS
- 2 LOADERS 2 TRACTORS



Maplewood election team to be commended

For nearly two months, people funneled into City Hall for early voting. Nearly half of Maplewood ballots cast came before election day.

Our voting staff, acted with courtesy and professionalism. Here are the numbers for November's General Election.

- 84% turnout in Maplewood
- 20,935 ballots cast
- 43% cast votes before Election Day

Congratulations to our returning Councilmembers Rebecca Cave and Nikki Villavicencio. With more than 7,600 votes each, they received the two highest vote totals.



Did you know?

November through the end of March is the best time to prune or cut down oaks to prevent Oak wilt's spread.

From April – July, the risk for many tree diseases is HIGH. With Oak wilt, the sap beetles that spread this fungal disease can arrive at a freshly cut oak within 15 minutes. If your oak has storm damage or cutting a branch can't wait, make sure to apply a branch sealer immediately.

For more information, visit the University of Minnesota Extension: extension.umn.edu/plant-diseases





2025 Solid Waste Rates

Maplewood extended the residential trash and recycling contracts with Republic Services and Tennis Sanitation for an additional two years, with terms ending June 30, 2027.

- Republic Services offers optional yard waste and bulky item collection.
- No increase in 2025 recycling rates.

Residential Solid Waste Rates

Service, Hauler, Cart Size & Collection Schedule	2024	2025
Trash Hauling - Republic Services		
(includes taxes and fees)		
Trash Hauling Billed Bi-Monthly		
20 gallon every other week	\$25.92	\$26.89
20 gallon every week	\$27.00	\$27.99
35 gallon every week	\$32.72	\$34.00
65 gallon every week	\$48.48	\$51.08
95 gallon every week	\$61.44	\$65.13
Yard Waste - Republic Services		
(no taxes or fees charged)		
Yard Waste Rates Billed Seasonally		
95-gallon cart with up to five compostable bags every week April through November	\$140.38	\$146.00

For more information, visit maplewoodmn.gov/solidwaste Shann Finwall, Environmental Planner, (651) 249-2304 shann.finwall@maplewoodmn.gov



Recycle your Holidays

Trees and greenery

Do not toss live trees and greenery into backyard woods or your residential compost pile. They may be carrying invasive hitch hikers.

Free tree collection

- Republic Services customers in Maplewood are eligible for one free live Christmas tree pick up during the first three weeks of January.
 - Remove ornaments. Do not place tree in plastic.
 - Contact Republic Services for more information at (651) 455-8634.
- Recycle your live tree at a select Ramsey County Yard Waste collection site for free. Visit RamseyRecycles.com/YardWaste or call (651) 633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.
- Holiday greenery is not accepted at the yard waste collection sites. Put holiday greenery in a plastic bag and place in your trash. Do not burn.

String lights and cords

- LED string lights cannot go in the trash they are considered hazardous.
- Do not put standard string lights or cords in curbside recycling.
- Recycle them for free at the Ramsey County Household Hazardous Waste site.

Visit RamseyRecycles.com/HHW or call (651) 633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.



WINTER 2025 RevSports class sessions!



Location: Edgerton Gym or Edgerton Park
Cost: \$67/Session. For details on classes, times and scholarships
Visit: maplewoodmn.gov/2068/RevSports-Classes

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



THURSDAYS

Session 1: January 9, 16, 23, 30
 Session 2: February 6, 13, 20, 27

Volleyball: Session 1, 2

5:30 PM-6:10 PM MightyStars (Ages 6-9)
 6:15 PM-6:55 PM SkillStars 1 (Ages 8-11)
 7:00 PM-7:40 PM SkillStars 2 (Ages 10-14)



SATURDAYS

Session 1: January 11, 18, 25, February 1
 Session 2: February 8, 15, 22, March 1

Basketball: Session 1, 2

9:30 AM-9:55 AM TotStars (Ages 2-3)
 10:00 AM-10:40 AM KinderStars (Ages 4-6)
 10:45 AM-11:25 AM MightyStars (Ages 6-9)



Warming houses and ice rinks expected to open December 26 – February 16

*Weather permitting

WARMING HOUSE LOCATIONS/HOURS:

PARK	ADDRESS	WEEKNIGHT	WEEKENDS
Afton Heights	63 N Sterling St	5:30-8:30pm	1-4pm
Four Seasons	1685 Gervais Ave	5:30-8:30pm	1-4pm
Gethsemane	2401 E 7th St	5:30-8:30pm	1-4pm
Wakefield	1860 Hazelwood St	5:30-8:30pm	1-7pm

Warming houses closed Dec 31 and Jan 1

PLEASURE RINK LOCATIONS

*No warming houses at these locations

PARK	ADDRESS
Edgerton	2001 Edgerton St
Kenwood	1864 Kenwood Dr W
Kohlman	1000 County Rd C
Playcrest	2390 Lydia Ave
Pleasantview	1100 Marnie St

For full skating rink information including, locations, operating dates and times, closure policy and more visit our website: www.maplewoodmn.gov/221



City of Maplewood

1830 County Road B East

Maplewood, MN 55109

Phone: (651) 249-2000

www.maplewoodmn.gov

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #32324
Twin Cities, MN

*****ECRWSS*****

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

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

Printed on 10% post consumer product.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE COMMUNITY EVENTS!



**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 14, 2024**

1-3PM

**MAPLEWOOD CORNER OF
RICE ST. & LARPEN TEUR AVE.**



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FOR OUR 2024**

SANTA PARADE

**SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 21st
9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.**



Full route map and Santa Tracker will be posted on Maplewoodmn.gov