

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

January 2025



Century Ponds



Kohlman Park Playground new park design

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To-do list for 2025

By Marylee Abrams

Maplewood's 2024 accomplishments would make any elected official proud. With that momentum, I'm eager to start 2025's to-do list, which includes:

- Continued Redevelopment
- Park makeovers
- Public safety advancements

I'm especially looking forward to working with our community to convert the Ponds at Battle Creek Golf Course into a new neighborhood.

In 2021, Ramsey County closed the course and recently sold it to a developer.

It's an exciting chance to create new home ownership opportunities at various price points. Four community meetings were held to get community input.

In early 2025, the developer, DR Horton, will present revised plans to the Planning Commission and City Council. It's important we ensure all stakeholders have a voice and this project fits our community's needs before adopting any final proposals.

Parks Progress in 2025:

- Implementing the initial phase of Harvest Park's master plan, a new playground will be installed
- Kohlman Park will also receive a new playground
- Hazelwood Park's master planning will start
- We'll start replacing the Nature Center's boardwalk

Legislative Push

Another initiative that we'll be more aggressive about in 2025 is working with our legislative delegation on projects important to Maplewood and the east metro.



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

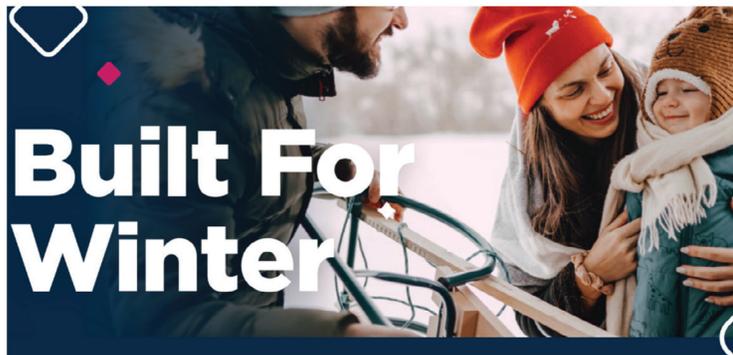


Frequently Called Numbers

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

To advertise in this newsletter please contact:

Joe Sheeran (651) 249-2061
joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov



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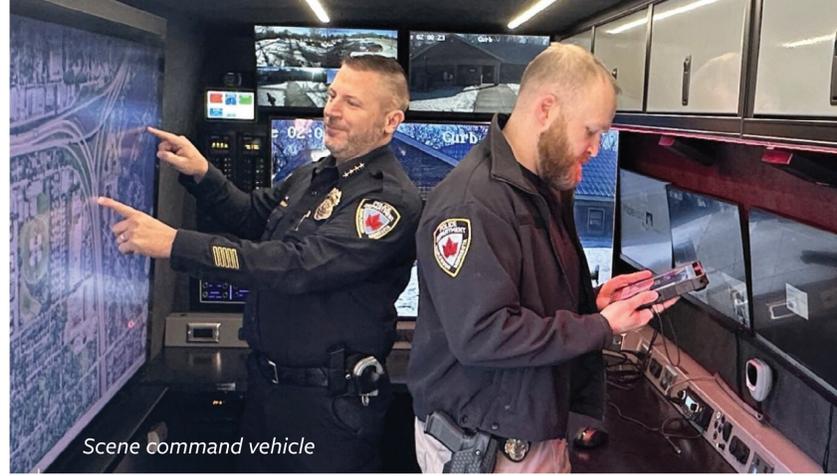
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Harvest Park



Scene command vehicle

[To-Do List 2025 continued from page 1]

That includes a bonding request to design upgrades at the East Metro Public Safety Training Facility. The plan would provide a badly needed space for joint training involving police, fire-EMS and embedded social workers.

Currently, more than 25 agencies who use the facility, including 3M and Century College, support our bonding request.

Policing

We're always examining efficiency in Maplewood operations. I'm looking forward to the results of the Police Staffing and Technology studies, due sometime in early spring.

Public safety is rolling out a new scene command vehicle for better operations management and an Emergency Response Vehicle to get police, fire-EMS professionals and victims into or out of crisis scenes more safely.



Fire-EMS Research

Our department will team up with two Big Ten universities and a local hospital on several research studies.

- **The Ohio State University** research partnership aims to keep people with cognitive disabilities safe at home.
- **Regions Hospital** study to examine the prevalence of falls at assisted living facilities to identify solutions to these issues.

- A doctoral student from the **University of Minnesota** will research firefighter fatigue.
- **Regions Hospital** is using ultrasound research to measure dehydration and potential cardiac impacts that firefighters face after participating in fire suppression duties.

As has been my theme since joining council and becoming mayor, our community's success expands exponentially through partnerships and collaboration. That will be no different in 2025.

On behalf of our council, Happy New Year and thank you to our dedicated staff for their professionalism and commitment to serving our community.



Congratulations Commissioner Reinhardt

After 28 years of distinguished public service, Ramsey County Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt has retired. She has been an influential leader with an unwavering commitment to the residents and stakeholders in Ramsey County.

Kelly Miller, who won the election to replace her, will now represent Ramsey County's 7th District, which includes Maplewood.

Kelly.miller@co.ramsey.mn.us
(651) 266-8363





Community outreach by the numbers

3,000+ hours of service

100+ events

17,000 attendees

67 pints of blood

900 pieces of candy

Outreach highlights commitment to community

By Barb Johnson, Community Outreach Specialist

Community outreach and engagement is front and center at Maplewood, especially among our public safety team. All public safety staff—sworn and civilian—must spend at least 20 hours a year engaged in the community.

It's paid off significantly in building trust and relationships to keep our community safe and more livable. 2024's highlights include:

Outreach to young people

- Reading at classrooms and lunch with students
- Back to school safety visits
- Attended Scouting meetings, gaming night at the Salvation Army
- Hosted 1st Annual Youth Safety Camp
- Big Brother's Big Sisters

Senior outreach

- Wrote and delivered 900 Valentine's Day cards to senior living residents
- Several Safe at Home and avoiding scams presentations
- Coffees with a Cop, Pancake breakfasts, and several Bingo rounds

Large-scale events

- Three summer celebrations with Parks and Natural Resources, including a Friday Night Fire works
- Filled and hide 1000 eggs for Easter Egg Hunt
- Trunk or Treat attracting more than 1500 people

Giving back

- 67 pints of blood given during Battle of the Badges Blood Drive
- Several Grill Out picnics at Multi-family housing communities
- 110+ bikes distributed with local church

- Helped pack 1500 boxes with toys and essential items
- Raised \$1420 for Special Olympics Minnesota
- Sponsored 100 students and senior living residence during the holiday giving tree
- Hosted city-wide Santa parade

Other events included

- Pickle Ball and Putt-Putt with Public Safety and Fishing with Friends
- Hosted The Women and Girls Safety Awareness Workshop
- Multi-week Citizens Academy attracted a diverse group of community members
- National Night Out
 - » 54 block parties
 - » 300 soccer ball giveaways
 - » 100s of miscellaneous Public Safety swag!





A Season of Giving

Maplewood Public Safety participated in several holiday-related events to make the season a little brighter for our community.

Santa Parade:

The annual Santa Parade covers every corner of the city, with stops for Santa to jump out and greet children one-on-one.

Giving Tree:

Staff contributed gifts that were given to more than 60 parents (to give to their children) and 40 seniors.

Public Safety gift cards:

Calvary Church's Pastor Ben Tyvoll donated gift cards so that our Public Safety Department had something to hand out to people in need this holiday season.



Cannabis Ordinance

At its December meeting, City Council passed Maplewood's Cannabis ordinance. Minnesota cannabis legislation gives local communities very narrow regulatory authority. Here's what to expect when retail operations come to Maplewood.

- Up to four cannabis retail businesses will be allowed in Maplewood. Under state law, jurisdictions are required to have at least one outlet for every 12,500 residents.
- Temporary cannabis events will be allowed on private property only. No cannabis consumption will be allowed for temporary events.
- Cannabis businesses will not be allowed as a home occupation.
- Cannabis businesses must maintain a **500-foot buffer** from schools, park features where children are likely to be, such as the playground, and residential treatment facilities.
- Cannabis businesses will be zoned to operate in specific parts of Maplewood.
- Maplewood police will conduct compliance checks to ensure cannabis not being sold to minors.

Full legalization of adult recreational cannabis went into effect throughout the state on **January 1, 2025**. While the city has the regulatory authority to ensure compliance through our ordinance, all cannabis businesses must be licensed through the State.



Help stop Chronic Wasting Disease's spread

For those with bird and other wildlife feeders, it's state law to ensure they're at least 6 feet off the ground, accounting for snow, or remove them.

Many deer eat from bird and wildlife feeders and that's partly to blame for the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease, which is 100% fatal. For this and other reasons, Maplewood has banned deer feeding.

Contact Carole Gernes, Natural Resources Coordinator, with questions: carole.gernes@maplewoodmn.gov.

Overnight winter warming spaces for people who are unsheltered

Through March 31, the following Winter Warming Spaces will be open every night from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m.:

The Holy Christian Cathedral Church
125 Stevens St. W.
For women

Phalen Activity Center
1530 Phalen Drive
For single adult males

Newell Park Building
900 Fairview Ave. N.
For single adult males

St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church
100 Oxford St. N.
For families and youth up to age 24

Lakewood Salvation Army
2080 Woodlynn Ave, Maplewood

Winter Warming Spaces will have seating, blankets, light snacks (such as coffee and cocoa) and, when available, warming supplies (such as mittens and hats) for anyone staying the night.

There will be a free shuttle service from the Maplewood Transit Center at 9 p.m. each day.

If you see someone in need, please connect them to County Resources at ramseycounty.us/WarmingSpaces

For more on Maplewood unsheltered efforts, visit: maplewoodmn.gov/unsheltered

Warming houses and ice rinks expected open through 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 visit our website: www.maplewoodmn.gov/221





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)



- Fitness Center
- Group Exercise Classes
- Water Exercise Classes
- Strength Training
- Pickleball
- Free Balance Assessment

- 1:1 Health Coaching
- Events and Activities
- Meditation Classes

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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!

**Skate with our
Police & Firefighters**
Saturday, February 15th
Noon – 3 p.m.
Wakefield Park
1590 Frost Ave E.

In partnership with

Strauss will provide skates, if needed.

NEW YEAR, NEW PROGRAMS

Tuesdays • 9-11 AM • Jan 7-May 27

TODDLER TUESDAYS. Join Danvers the bunny and tortoises Hanna and Henry for play time, crafts, snack & story time at the Farm! \$10 per toddler & their adult.

2nd & 4th Thursdays • 10 AM

COFFEE WITH THE CURATOR. Spend the morning with a cup of coffee, Curator Brett, and some of his favorite pieces in the MAHS collections! FREE!

2nd & 4th Thursdays • 6:30 PM

25 IN '25 BOOKCLUB. Partake in our reading challenge to read 25 Minnesota themed books in 2025! FREE!

www.MaplewoodMuseum.org

**MAPLEWOOD AREA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
2170 County Rd D E
Maplewood MN 55109

2nd & 4th Sundays • 6 PM

HARMONY WITH A JOURNAL.

Turn off your phone, grab a cuppa tea, and practice meditative art and writing exercises just like they did in the 19th century. FREE!



4H Winter Food *and* Drink Extravaganza

Friday, February 28, 9 a.m. - Noon

Nature Center ❄️ K - 5th ❄️ \$10/participant

Keep warm and cozy by indulging in winter food and drinks with 4-H!

Make festive, traditional drinks from many cultures, such as Ponche (Mexico), Sbiten (Russia), and Wassail Punch (UK). We'll also have decorative chocolate covered pretzels and other winter treats. Registration now open: maplewoodmn.gov/971