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East Bethel Communication Survey

Which methods of communication from the City of East Bethel do you use to receive news and information about what is happening in the City? How can the City of East Bethel better communicate with you?



Please participate in this brief survey so we can gain information on how we share news with the community.

Through this communications survey, the City seeks to measure the community's satisfaction with communications, as well as understand communication preferences. We'll use the feedback to guide the City's communications/engagement improvement efforts and share survey results.

The survey will be open through Friday, May 26, 2023. When public input is complete and we have finished reviewing all feedback, results will be posted on the city website (www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us).

We want to better understand how you get your news and information about what is happening in East Bethel.

The City of East Bethel strives to provide timely, effective communication to the East Bethel community with a goal of increasing citizen understanding and awareness of local government.

We want to make sure that the messages we share are spot-on, and in the right place! Sharing relevant information is also the cornerstone of improving government transparency and gaining community participation in the decision-making process.

In the ever-changing communications landscape, the City recognizes that there is a multitude of ways that our residents and businesses receive information.

Residents may participate by using their phone to scan the QR code below, by visiting the survey online (<https://forms.gle/TDi1sjsRDGP9w3s2A>), or by stopping in City Hall, and requesting a paper copy. The survey is only 5 questions, and should take no longer than 2 minutes.

Thank you for your feedback!



2024 Budget Update

By Mike Jeziorski, Finance Director



The City Council's review of the proposed 2024 budget will begin in July. At a meeting in September the City Council will consider a preliminary tax levy and budget for 2024.

In addition, a City Council meeting in December will be chosen to allow for property owners to discuss and provide input for the 2024 budget and tax levy. In November, property owners will receive their preliminary property tax statements for 2024. This notice will also indicate the December 2023 City Council meeting date and time where the budget will be discussed.



City Contacts



MAYOR

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tim.harrington@ci.east-bethel.mn.us

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Jim Smith612-221-2028
jim.smith@ci.east-bethel.mn.us

CITY HALL763-367-7840
Fax763-434-9578
2241 221st Ave NE
East Bethel, MN 55011

Office Hours
Monday—Friday
8:00 AM—4:00 PM



Planning & Zoning
.....763-367-7855

Building Inspections
.....763-367-7842

Electrical Inspections
.....763-434-4853



Emergency..... 911
Anoka County Sheriff's Office
.....763-427-1212
East Bethel Fire Department
.....763-367-7885



Public Works763-367-7876



City Assessor.....651-605-5125

Spring 2023 Town Hall Meeting—April 26

Our community has a tradition of providing opportunities for our residents to interact with the City Council and City staff. Through our Public Forum at the beginning of every City Council meeting, our accessibility through email, phone and through this quarterly newsletter, we strive to be as accessible to our residents as possible. If you have questions or concerns regarding an issue within the city, please do not hesitate to contact us.



The East Bethel City Council also hosts Town Hall meetings twice each year in the spring and the fall. This year's spring Town Hall meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023. The event begins at 6:00 with an informal gathering of city elected officials, staff, and our contracted professional services in the Community Center at City Hall. This gathering provides direct access to meet our city officials, informational presentations of current events, and mingling with your neighbors. At 7:00, we move the gathering to the council chambers for a more formal presentation and allow the public to ask questions, express their concerns, and more importantly, have an open discussion with our community members. We hope to see you at the Town Hall meeting on April 26.

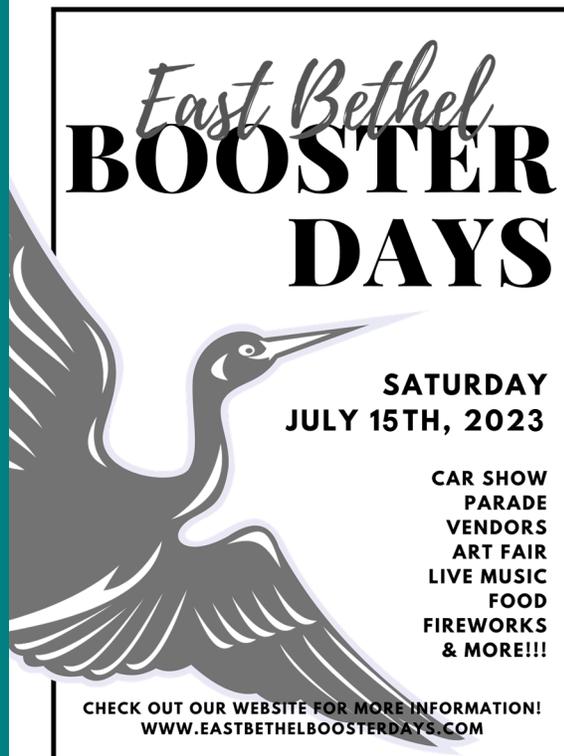
Local Board of Appeals and Equalization (LBAE) Meeting – April 24



One of the more overlooked events that occurs each spring is the mailing of homeowner Property Tax Valuations from Anoka County. This is the only opportunity that residents have to appeal their property tax assessment to City Council. If you are concerned about your personal property taxes, this mailing will present the proposed valuation of your property, which along with the tax rate, determines the actual property taxes that you will pay in 2024.

The LBAE meeting will be conducted at 5:30 PM on Monday, April 24, 2023 prior to the regular City Council meeting. This will be your only opportunity to appeal your proposed property valuation for 2024. If you do intend to appeal your property valuation, we encourage you to contact our City Assessor, Ken Tolzmann, at 651-605-5125 prior to the meeting. This will allow for both you and the tax assessor to be better prepared for the meeting to hear your appeal.

You can also provide public comment to the City Council in December when Council considers passage of the city budget and levy. Remember that you will not be able to appeal your property valuation at the December meeting. This needs to be conducted at the April 24, 2023 meeting.



East Bethel
BOOSTER DAYS

**SATURDAY
JULY 15TH, 2023**

**CAR SHOW
PARADE
VENDORS
ART FAIR
LIVE MUSIC
FOOD
FIREWORKS
& MORE!!!**

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION!
WWW.EASTBETHELBOOSTERDAYS.COM

Volunteers Needed for Booster Day Activities

The Booster Day Committee is already hard at work on planning our annual East Bethel Booster Day activities!

We are in need of one person to serve as Board Treasurer to help out with bank statements and financial records. We are also looking for a few extra hands to help us with lining up our parade participants (no meeting attendance required)!

All meetings are open to the public and are typically on the second Wednesday of every month at East Bethel City Hall.

July 15, 2023 is the big day! We look forward to seeing all of you in the park!

VOLUNTEER



Local Waters Offer Opportunities By Jamie Schurbon, Watershed Projects Manager

Our community has an abundance of local waters offering recreational opportunities. Within a few minutes' drive you'll find a state designated scenic and recreational river, recreational lakes, small hidden waters only reachable with a canoe, and more. Each offers something a little different: quiet paddling, water sports, a public beach, waterfowl hunting, or fishing. The trick is finding the spot that matches your dream "day off."

There are 30+ lakes and streams in the vicinity. Some top picks sorted by activity are:

Fishing- Coon, Linwood, the Rum River & more!

Bow fishing- Martin, Typo, and Linwood lakes where carp are most abundant.

Swimming- Island Lake has a small beach on the East side. Coon Lake has a larger public beach.

For the biggest beach in the area,

head toward Lake George in the City of Oak Grove.

Water sports- Bigger, deeper lakes, with Coon Lake being amongst the most popular.

Hunting - The managed pools in the Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area. Or, find a spot away from homes on the other lakes.

Quiet paddling - Island Lake, which has no homes and rustic roadside boat access on the south side. See the Rum River State water

trails maps on the DNR website.

Bird Watching - Wetlands and open water in/around Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area and the Fish Lake Nature Trails are

hotspots for a diversity of migratory and resident birds.

Winter fun- Linwood Lake Improvement Association's Ice Bocce tournament each February.

Before leaving home, you can learn more about a lake online. A favorite information source is the MN DNR's LakeFinder website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind. Here, you'll find public accesses, fisheries data, lake depth maps, water clarity, and more.



Local waters are managed partly by the state and partly by locals. The City of East Bethel participates in two watershed management organizations (WMOs): the Upper Rum River WMO covers the western half of the city and the Sunrise River WMO covers the east. Each WMO is a collaboration with neighboring cities, built on the understanding that no one community can manage the water that freely flows amongst communities. Projects include shoreline stabilizations, rain gardens, stormwater ponds, rough fish management, and more. They work extensively with residents who would like to take actions on their own property that will benefit area public waters. Information is at www.urrwmo.org and www.srwmo.org, or contact Jamie Schurbon at 763-434-2030 ext. 210.

Fire Department Updates

By Jill King, East Bethel Fire Department Training Officer

Firefighter Retirement

Congratulations on the retirement of firefighter Doug Doebbert. Doug was a member of the EBFD for 24 years, and during his time on the department he was not only an excellent role model but he was also a teacher, mentor and a fine example of what it truly means to be dedicated to the fire service. Thank you Doug for all you did, you left big shoes to fill and will be greatly missed.



Ice Water Rescue Training

East Bethel Fire Department had a special Ice Water Rescue training on January 23rd on Coon Lake. A large hole was cut into the ice to simulate someone falling through the ice. All firefighters got the opportunity don special "mustang water rescue suits" and they learned how to "self-rescue", along with rescuing a victim. This is all part of the FD mission to make sure they are prepared for any situation that may arise in our community. EBFD is highly trained firefighters who participate in ongoing training and are dedicated to keeping our community safe.

IT'S TIME FOR

SPRING CLEANING!

Begin with the Bin™
BE SMART WITH YOUR RECYCLING & GARBAGE



By Emily Jabs, Recycling Coordinator

Recycle Smart – Keep Batteries and Other Hazardous Materials Out of Your Curbside Carts!

Batteries and Battery Enclosed Electronics (household and rechargeable) are recyclable at drop-offs but should not be included in your curbside trash or recycling carts. Cell phones are the most common.

Why: Batteries and electronics, with non-removable batteries, can explode and start fires if crushed or punctured. As batteries get stronger, this is occurring more and more. Every month garbage trucks and recycling facilities experience fires when batteries are improperly thrown away.



No Batteries
or Electronics

Batteries and Battery Enclosed Electronics can be Recycled at Drop-off Locations

Batteries and some battery enclosed electronics can be taken to the Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste facility or select recycling centers and drop-off events. Go to AnokaCountyMN.gov/HHW for location, hours and a list of accepted items. In addition, some recycling centers, drop-off events and local businesses accept them. Go to: www.AnokaCountyMn.gov/RecyclingDirectory for more information.

Recycle Smart – Keep Hazardous Materials Out of Your Curbside Carts!

Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility

3230 101st Avenue NE, Blaine, MN 55449

The Household Hazardous Waste Facility accepts many materials that should not be put in your recycling or trash carts. Besides pesticides, painting and refinishing products, you may not realize that the following materials are also accepted:

Automotive Products (antifreeze, gasoline, used motor oil and used oil filters)

Fluorescent Bulbs (including HID and CFL's)

Household Batteries (alkaline, lithium ion, cell phone, power tool, button and rechargeable batteries)

Lead tackle

Sharps (syringes, lancets, used EpiPens®, hypodermic needles, pen needles and IV needles) Sharps must be placed in a rigid, puncture-resistant plastic container.

Go to AnokaCountyMN.gov/HHW for hours, the complete list of materials accepted and transportation guidelines.

Anoka County Sheriff's Office

13301 Hanson Blvd NW, Andover, MN 55304

Prescription Medication – prescription and over-the-counter medication (pills, powder, liquids, creams and sprays), pet medications, IV bags, inhalers and vials can be disposed of in a drop box at the Anoka County Sheriff's Office. Keep medications in their original containers and black out your name on any prescriptions. Go to www.AnokaCountyMN.gov/RecyclingDirectory and search for Prescription Medications.

2023 Spring Public Works Update

By Nate Ayshford, Public Works Manager

2023 Road Construction and Maintenance Projects

The following road construction and maintenance activities will take place during the 2023 construction season:

- Reconstructing University Ave from Sims Road to 221st Ave (Joint project with the City of Oak Grove).
- Bituminous overlays in the Northern Oaks/ Cooper Lake, and Pine Oak Crossing developments .
- Restriping 200,000 linear feet of road markings and crack sealing 100,000 linear feet of asphalt cracks.
- Gravel road maintenance consisting of reshaping and resurfacing the road with new class 5 will take place on 241st Ave and London St, Durant St, and Palisade St.



2023 Park Projects



Proposed park projects for 2023 include completion of the walking trails in John Anderson Park, a new piece of playground equipment and tennis court resurfacing in Whispering Oaks Park, a new bituminous trail segment along the Bataan St trail project, and tree planting throughout various parks.

Road Restrictions

Spring road restrictions will go into effect in March of 2023. Please call the Public Works Department at 763-367-7876 for more information on the date these restrictions may be posted. All City Streets will be posted at 5 tons per axle during the restriction timeframe.



Storm Water Protection

When mowing grass and fertilizing lawns, please keep in mind that any material left on hard surfaces (roads, driveways, sidewalks) can end up contaminating local waters and eventually accumulating and concentrating in the St. Croix and Rum Rivers. The high phosphorus levels can cause excessive algal blooms and other problems to the quality of our waters.

Some tips to keep in mind:

- Refrain from blowing grass clippings into the roadway while mowing grass.
- Use phosphorus free fertilizer.
- Clean excess fertilizer off of hard surfaces after application to prevent runoff into the storm water system.
- Keep grass clippings, leaves and other organic material away from wetlands and shoreline areas.



Stormwater Maintenance

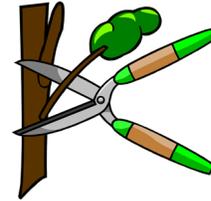
The City of East Bethel is responsible for inspecting and maintaining the municipal storm water system as part of the MN Pollution Control Agency's MS4 permit requirements. The inspection and maintenance activities occur throughout the calendar year and

include checking and cleaning drain swales and catch basins, cleaning stormwater pipes and pipe outlets, grading and digging stormwater ponds and ditches and the removal of woody brush and trees growing in stormwater ponds and ditches. The work crews will remain within the drainage and utility easements, some of which may be on or adjacent to your property. Please contact the Public Works Department with any questions.



Oak Wilt

Oak wilt is a common fungus in East Bethel that kills hundreds of mature oak trees annually. New infection sites occur when oaks are damaged, cut, or pruned during the months of April, May, June and July. Once a new infection site is established, the fungus will spread to neighboring trees through their root systems. It is important to remember not to cut or prune any oak trees during these months and limit activities around these trees that could result in damage to the tree. Trees that are infected with oak wilt should be removed the following winter and chipped, burned, or sealed with plastic to limit the number of fungal spores available during the spring months. Infected wood should not be moved offsite which could potentially create new infection centers.



If you have any issues or need to report a public works related problem, please call Nate Ayshford at 763-367-7876. We depend on and encourage your assistance in reporting any safety or maintenance matters and will respond to any of your comments or concerns in a timely manner. Thanks for all your help.

2023 Tree and Shrub Sale

Spring is just around the corner so get your tree order in today for the end of April pick up at the Anoka Conservation District. The District offers a wide variety of native stock, including black cherry trees, mixed oak trees, maple trees, and pine trees. The trees and shrubs are sold in bare root seedlings or transplants range from 12" to 24" in height. They may be purchased in bundles of ten for \$20, or twenty-five for \$40 not including tax. Native prairie seed and tree aides are also available. You do not need to be an Anoka County Resident to order.

(<https://anokaswcd.org/tree-sale-order-forms/instructions.html>)



Septic System Pumping By Nick Schmitz, Building Official

Septic system pumping is not high on anyone's list, but it is necessary. Virtually the entire City of East Bethel relies on septic systems to treat waste water generated by the occupants. A septic system is an on-site waste water treatment system that relies on microbes in the septic tank and soil to effectively treat waste water before it is discharged to the groundwater.

There are basically two parts to a septic system: the septic tank and the soil treatment area. The septic tank is the collector for waste water discharged from a building. The septic tank's function is to allow the waste water to separate into three layers. Heavier solids will settle to the bottom of the tank creating the sludge layer, lighter solids will float to the surface creating the scum layer, between the sludge and the scum layers is a layer of waste water that is generally free of solids; this is the water that is discharged to the soil treatment area.

Replacing a septic system is expensive. Proper maintenance is essential to prevent premature failure of the system. A septic system can fail when the soil treatment area becomes plugged with solids that were supposed to remain in the tank.

Maintaining or pumping a septic tank is not difficult. A couple of preventive steps that can and should be taken are:

1. Only toilet, tub, clothes washer and sink wastes should be discharged to the septic system. Harsh chemicals, cleaners, disinfectants, and paints can have an effect on microbes. Solids can migrate to the soil treatment area, reducing the infiltration capability of the soil. It is also a good idea to have a lint filter on the washing machine discharge.
2. Have your septic tank pumped by a certified professional on a regular basis to remove solids from the septic tank. Minnesota Rules Chapter 7080 and the City of East Bethel require that the septic tank contents be measured or pumped at a minimum of every three years. This work must be done by a MN certified septic system pumper or maintainer.

Proper maintenance and a little common sense will help ensure your septic system will last as long as possible.

For additional information regarding septic systems, visit these internet sites:

- www.septic.umn.edu
- www.septicprotector.com

Stormwater Pollution: Illicit Discharge

What is Stormwater? Stormwater is water from rain or snow that flows across our yards, driveways, and streets and into the storm drains and ditches. These drains and ditches then direct the water directly into our waterways. Anything besides stormwater in these drains is considered an illicit discharge.

What is Illicit Discharge? An Illicit Discharge is any contaminant that enters the City of East Bethel's storm sewer system. Examples of Illicit Discharge include: yard waste, pet waste, trash, sediment from construction sites, chlorinated pool water, paint, commercial car wash wastewater, gasoline or oil, and sewage.

Why is Illicit Discharge harmful? Stormwater is not treated before entering our lakes, rivers, and streams. All the contaminants in stormwater affect aquatic life. For example, yard waste is a source of phosphorus, which contributes to algal blooms. Sediment clouds our waters, making it difficult for sunlight to reach native aquatic plants. Pet waste contributes to harmful bacteria, and chlorinated pool water can be lethal to some aquatic species.



How do I know an Illicit Discharge is occurring? Possible indicators of an occurring illicit discharge include: unusual color or cloudiness, strong pungent or musty odor, floating debris, surface scum or foam, oil sheen, and dead fish.

What Should I do if I see Illicit Discharge? Please call the East Bethel City Hall at 763-367-7840, and describe what, where, and when you saw the illicit discharge.



SEPTIC SERVICES

CASPER'S EXCAVATING INC.
EXCAVATING & SEWER WORK
SINCE 1976

- Compliance
- Design
- Installation
- Pumping Service & Repair

763-434-3618

www.CaspersServices.com
caspersservices76@gmail.com

RESIDENT AD

House Cleaning

We seek someone to do house cleaning at our East Bethel home. One day, every other week. \$35/hour. 612-554-1160. If no answer, please leave a message.



City Parks

Anderson Lake Park
4348 Wild Rice Dr NE



Bonde Park
23040 Jackson St NE



Booster East Park
22281 Palisade St NE



Booster West Park
22266 Palisade St NE



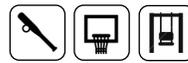
Carlisle Park
23162 Kissel St NE



Coon Lake Beach Park
206 Forest Rd NE



Deer Haven Park
22600 Jewell St NE



Eveleth Park
21331 Eveleth St NE



Fish Lake Trail
Durant St NE



Hidden Haven Neighborhood Park
750 203rd Ln NE



John E. Anderson Memorial Park
1131 233rd Ave NE



Maynard Peterson Memorial Park
Laurel Rd NE



Norseland Manor Community Park
19521 5th St NE



Northern Boundaries - 7th Street Park
22191 7th St NE



Rod & Norma Smith Park
3241 183rd Ave NE



Whispering Oaks Neighborhood Park
20911 Okinawa St NE



Other Facilities in the Community

East Bethel Ice Arena
20675 Highway 65 NE

For information on renting ice at the arena, or dry floor activities, contact Todd at 763-434-0397 or gibsonmanagement@gmail.com

East Bethel Community/Senior Center
2241 221st Ave NE

Available to rent for parties, banquets, receptions, etc. The facility can accommodate up to 200 persons. For more information, contact Dennis Swen at 763-434-9244

Whispering Aspen Community Center
24225 Pierce Path NE

Contact East Bethel City Hall at 763-367-7840 to make a reservation.

Coon Lake Beach Community Center
182 Forest Rd NE

For information on renting the Community Center, contact Kelli Rabold at krabold.clcsc@gmail.com or text 952-261-7518

East Bethel residents have access to several recreational and open space resources within the city.

The City of East Bethel features many beautiful parks and amenities. Our Public Works Department maintains the City of East Bethel's parks. A map of all the city parks is available at City Hall, or on the City of East Bethel website on the Parks & Facilities page.

If you have questions about reserving a City park facility, or want to check availability for a specific date, call City Hall at 763-367-7840. Interested parties can then complete a Facilities Request Form and return it to East Bethel City Hall.

Information for other facilities may be obtained by calling the contacts as listed.

Key:



Ball Field



Basketball



Electricity



Grill



Hiking Trail



Horseshoe Pit



Pavilion



Picnic Area



Playset



Restroom



Skate Park



Sledding Hill



Soccer



Swings



Tennis

Events



PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 30308
TWIN CITIES MN

City Hall will be closed for
the following holidays:



MEMORIAL DAY
Monday, May 29

Minnesota Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 17-21

Two of the most important events during Severe Weather Awareness Week are the annual statewide tornado drills when sirens across the state will sound off.



The next drills
are scheduled for
Thursday, April 20
at **1:45**
and **6:45 p.m.**

Outdoor warning sirens and NOAA Weather Radios will sound in a simulated tornado warning. The first drill is intended for institutions and businesses. The evening drill is intended for second shift workers and families. This is a great opportunity to review emergency plans and procedures, and conduct emergency drills at work and at home.

City Meeting Schedule

City Council, *Second & Fourth Monday each month,*
7:00 pm at East Bethel City Hall

City Council Work Meeting, *First Monday,*
7:00 pm at East Bethel City Hall

EDA, *Third Monday each month,*
7:00 pm at East Bethel City Hall

Park Commission, *Second Tuesday each month,*
6:30 pm at East Bethel City Hall

Planning Commission, *Fourth Tuesday each month,*
7:00 pm at East Bethel City Hall

To confirm meeting details, call City Hall
at 763-367-7840 or visit the City's website at
www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us

A sneak peek at Community Events in 2023...

JULY

BOOSTER DAY
Saturday, July 15

AUGUST

NIGHT to UNITE
Tuesday, August 1

SEPTEMBER

National SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK
September 10—September 16

OCTOBER

Fire Department OPEN HOUSE
Date/Time To Be Determined



CITY OF EAST BETHEL

📍 2241 221st Avenue NE • East Bethel, MN 55011

☎ 763-367-7840 • 📠 763-434-9578 • 🌐 www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us

NEWSLETTER COMMENTS & INFORMATION:

Carrie Frost, Administrative Coordinator • 763-367-7853 • carrie.frost@ci.east-bethel.mn.us