

ACSO Notes	2
Notice for Utility Customers	2
Fire Department Notes	3
Septic System Repair & Replacement Grants	3
Stormwater Pollution	4
New Business: Bright Beginnings	4
Building Permits	5
2023 Well Water Testing	6
Summer Public Works Update	7
Community Events	8

East Bethel Community Vision

In the last issue of the East Bethel Bulletin we addressed the topic of City communications and asked residents to respond to a brief survey to indicate their preferred means of communicating with, and getting news from the city. The results of that survey are posted on the city website and included in this issue of the Bulletin and the topic of improving Communication will be revisited on an ongoing basis.

The next topic we would like to address is our Community Vision, this being the consensus among East Bethel's approximately 12,000 residents about how we would like to see our city develop into the future. As a starting point, we can use an excerpt from the Introduction section of our city's 2040 Comprehensive Plan, the full text of which can be found from the East Bethel website home page. As you read the following excerpt, consider whether these Vision Statements match your own desires for this city we all call home.

"On January 12, 2017, the city of East Bethel held a public visioning session in two parts at the Senior Center. The afternoon session was focused towards the Chamber of Commerce and the evening session was focused towards the general public, but both sessions were open to the public and anyone could attend and participate. A number of interactive exercises were conducted and the results of these exercises were discussed with the City Council and the Planning Commission. From those discussions, the following Vision Statements were established to guide the development of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

East Bethel 2040 Comprehensive Plan Guiding Vision Statements:

1. East Bethel is uniquely distinguished by its vast and diverse natural spaces.
2. East Bethel is committed to the preservation of its open spaces, wildlife, and rural character. The community considers these qualities to be an integral part of the character of East Bethel.
3. East Bethel prioritizes improving access to civic, retail and medical services that serve the basic needs of the community.
4. East Bethel supports increasing development along its Highway 65 corridor, focusing on key locations and intersections that are feasible for development.
5. East Bethel values citizen engagement and is committed to fostering a culture of involvement.
6. East Bethel must be an attractive and viable community for all stages of an individual's life.
7. East Bethel is in favor of residential development that will support commercial development."

It is likely that most of us still regard these Vision Statements as valid, subject to the usual differences of opinion as to the density of residential development and extent of commercial development. So, our task here is not so much about replacing these Vision Statements as it is expanding on them, adding detail to these broad statements.

For example, Statements 1 and 2 above speak to the importance of preserving the rural nature of East Bethel that is integral to the quality of life we enjoy. There is widespread agreement about the

Continued on page 2

Mark Your Calendar!

**Aircraft Viewing Area Open House
at Anoka County Blaine Airport**

**Wednesday, September 27th
4 PM to 6PM**

Note: Any group can schedule a tour any time! Contact Brian Orr 763-780-2802

Check it out! [Macnoms.com](https://www.macnoms.com) has a Flight Tracker.



City Contacts



MAYOR

Kevin Lewis 651-357-6208
kevin.lewis@ci.east-bethel.mn.us

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bob DeRoche 612-327-6631
bob.deroche@ci.east-bethel.mn.us

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timothy.miller@ci.east-bethel.mn.us

Brian Mundle 763-227-0120
brian.mundle@ci.east-bethel.mn.us

Jim Smith 612-221-2028
jim.smith@ci.east-bethel.mn.us

CITY HALL 763-367-7840
Fax 763-434-9578
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 Works 763-367-7876



City Assessor 651-605-5125

Continued from page 1

need to balance development, residential and commercial, with the preservation of that natural, rural character. Another thing that needs to be preserved is the ability of residents to experience what is called "Quiet Enjoyment" of their properties. This refers to the legal right of a property owner to have a certain freedom with their own property, so long as it does not encroach on the Quiet Enjoyment and other rights of their neighbors. This is a balance that must be maintained, especially as regards our local government's role in the matter.

Another example is Statement 5 above. How do we increase citizen engagement and foster a culture of involvement? This question prompted the Communication Survey in the last edition of this East Bethel Bulletin. Based on the responses to that survey, we've learned that this publication is the primary avenue for residents to receive information about our city, followed by the City website and social media sites. The East Bethel Bulletin is currently published 4 times per year, corresponding to Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter, but we have discussed increasing the frequency to 6 times per year and keeping the content focused on East Bethel. The Communication Survey results support this plan. We have also discussed building up our already good City website (www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us) to make it even more informative and a better tool for residents to communicate with City staff. The survey results suggest this is also a solid idea.

While we get to work on making the East Bethel Bulletin and the City website even more informative and resident-friendly, please feel free to share your thoughts on Communications and our Community Vision with fellow residents on the City Council and advisory groups like the Planning Commission, the Park Commission, and the Economic Development Authority. Contact information is available from the City website. Additionally, attend a regular City Council meeting and share your thoughts during our Public Forum. Thank you!

Notes from the Sheriff's Office

By Anoka County Sheriff's Office

Pedestrian Safety

Bikes, skateboards, and scooters are all great ways for kids and adults to enjoy the warm weather and get some exercise. For some younger children, it may be beneficial for them to be accompanied by an adult or older sibling. Use sidewalks and marked crosswalks, wear appropriate gear (helmets, protective clothing, etc.), and always stay focused on the road and not electronic devices.



Animal Safety

One of the biggest threats to animal safety include leaving animals in vehicles. Did you know animals should never be kept in a vehicle, even with the car running and air conditioner on? For example. On an 85-degree day, the temperature inside a car with the windows slightly open can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes and 120 degrees after 20 minutes. If you see an animal in a car unintended, please notify Anoka County Dispatch at 763-427-1212 or 911.

Save the Date! Anoka County Sheriff's Office Open House • Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023, from 4-7 P.M.
13301 Hanson Blvd NW, Andover, MN 55304

Utility Customers—Sign Up for Automatic Payments!

Recurring Payments Will Make Your Life Easier

- It's convenient, saving you time and postage.
- Your payment is always on time (even if you're out of town), eliminating late charges.



Here's How Recurring Payments Work:

You authorize regularly-scheduled charges to your checking/savings account. You will be charged the amount due indicated on each monthly billing invoice. The charge will appear on your bank statement as an ACH debit to be drafted on the due date listed on your monthly billing statement.

To get enrolled:

The Auto Payment Authorization form can be found on our website, at City Hall, or can be sent by mail/email upon request. The completed and signed form can be mailed or emailed back to City Hall.

Questions, Comments, Concerns about your utility billing?

Contact Desiree Stanford – Email: desiree.stanford@ci.east-bethel.mn.us or Phone: (763) 367-7862

News from East Bethel Fire Department

Campfire Safety

- Recreational Fires (campfires) To be classified as a recreational fire, the total fuel area must not exceed three feet in diameter with a height of not more than two feet.
- Check with the fire department to make sure there is not a burning ban before starting your fire.
- Avoid burning on dry, windy days.
- Make sure the fire pit is at least 25 feet from any structure or anything that can burn.
- Burn only cut firewood. The burning of lumber of any kind is not permitted.
- Never use gasoline or other flammable or combustible liquids to get your fire started.
- Never leave your fire unattended. A campfire left alone can grow into a damaging fire in a matter of minutes.
- Always have a hose or bucket of water, or shovel and dirt or sand nearby to put out the fire.
- Make sure to completely put out your fire before leaving.
- If your fire gets out of control do not wait to call 911.



East Bethel Fire Department Has a Boat for Water Rescue

The EBFD has recently acquired a boat specifically for water and ice rescue. We are very excited to be able to provide this service on the lakes in East Bethel. We will be doing training with the new boat on Coon Lake on June 12th. If you see us out on the lake we are working hard to keep our residents and visitors safe on the water.



Septic system repair & replacement grants

- ✓ Homesteaded single family homes or duplexes in Anoka Co.
- ✓ Must have been inspected and issued a certificate of non-compliance.
- ✓ May NOT be used for tank pumping or other maintenance.
- ✓ Household must meet low income thresholds. Grant covers up to 90% depending on income.
- ✓ Funding is limited and may vary by location. Shoreland areas or projects providing the greatest health and environmental benefits may be preferentially funded.
- ✓ See all program requirements at www.AnokaSWCD.org under "financial assistance."

Contact Kris Larson at the Anoka Conservation District.
763-434-2030 ext 210 or kris.larson@anokaswcd.org



Anoka/Washington County Head Start-Early Head Start Program Now Enrolling



The Anoka/Washington County Head Start-Early Head Start program is accepting applications for the 2023-2024 program year. Programs are free for eligible families with children from birth to age five and pregnant women. Our Head Start center-based preschool option offers students a 6.5-hour day, 4 days per week.

Anoka/Washington County's Head Start-Early Head Start program provides education, nutrition, mental health, school readiness and parent engagement services to children and families from income eligible households. Our approach is to provide high-quality educational curriculum while connecting families with growth and learning opportunities. To learn more or apply, visit our website at www.accap.org/head-start/enrollment-4/ or call our enrollment hotline at 763-783-4314.

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.



Bright Beginnings Childcare and Learning Center

Bright Beginnings Childcare & Learning Center opened its 2nd location in East Bethel, MN on March 6, 2023. We have our 1st location in Chisago City, MN which has been open since 2017. I was a daycare provider for 20+ years in East Bethel and had aspirations of starting a childcare center. After closing my daycare, I worked at a childcare center for a year to see if this is what I wanted to move forward with. After 6 months, my husband and I decided to start looking for a building and area to open our first Center. We found a location in Chisago City and started the process. After a successful 5 years, we decided to expand and found a great location in East Bethel. We are excited to be back in this community to offer a wonderful service for families. We offer care for 6 weeks – Pre-K (Infant, Toddler, Younger Preschool and Older Preschool). Our hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 6:00am – 6:00pm. Bright Beginnings philosophy is to ensure that the children's educational goals are met by providing a program that incorporates cognitive, social/emotional and physical development so we can get them prepared and ready for kindergarten. Our staff are experienced to help guide children to learn and grow, create an interactive program based on children's interests and to promote independence in child-initiated activities. We are here to nurture children to reach their growth potential by providing a stimulating and loving environment.

Becky Carr
4817 Viking Boulevard
East Bethel, Mn 55092
612-309-4134



Come Clean Leave Clean

**Protect our lakes.
Clean your gear.**

**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**
Be A Good Steward. Clean Drain Dry.
StopAquaticHitchhikers.org

**UPPER
RUM RIVER**
Watershed Management
Organization
www.URRWMO.org

Sunrise River
Watershed Management Organization
www.SRWMO.org

When Do I Need a Building Permit?

By Nick Schmitz, Building Official

Why do I need a permit?

Some people may think that obtaining a permit means extra costs, time delays, and unwarranted regulations. However, a permit ensures that proper services are provided to safeguard life, health, property and public welfare. For most people, their home is their most important investment. If work is done improperly, such work can become unsafe for the homeowners and their families, as well as devalue their home.

Realtors and lenders are aware that the law requires homeowners to have the proper permits when doing home construction. When it comes to selling a house, realtors and lenders often require that any construction work is done with permits to ensure that the house is safe for future occupants. If work was completed without a permit, this may mean that you find yourself scrambling to catch up with permits, inspections, and additional repair work to meet minimum code standards.

When do I need a permit? Below are some examples when a permit is required.

Building permits are required to construct, add to, alter, remove, demolish, or repair a structure. Permits are required for any alterations, additions, or remodeling to your home, garage or any other structure, including manufactured homes. Permits are also required for basement finishes, re-roofing, re-siding, window and door replacement, swimming pools, driveways, fences over 6 feet tall, garages, sheds over 200 square feet, decks, gazebos, porches, septic systems, etc. A permit is required before you begin construction.

Electrical, fireplace, mechanical, fire suppression systems and plumbing permits are required for new or existing structures whenever work is done. Mechanical permits are required for the installation or replacement of mechanical equipment; this includes central air conditioners, air to air exchangers, and duct work; also furnaces and boilers. Plumbing permits are also required for water heater replacement and lawn irrigation/sprinkler systems.

Septic pumping permits are required to pump a septic tank. The licensed septic pumper will obtain the permit. The cost of the pumping permit is \$5.00. If you need a list of licensed septic system pumping contractor please contact the building department.

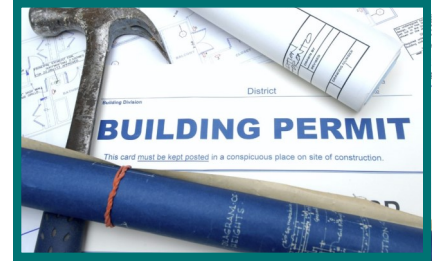
Septic installation permits are required to install or repair septic systems. A septic system shall be designed by a Minnesota certified septic system designer and submitted to our office by a licensed septic installer. After the septic system design has been approved and the permit fee is paid, a permit is issued to the licensed installer. The licensed installer is responsible for scheduling the required inspections.

How do I get a permit and arrange for inspection?

A homeowner, when doing a project, needs to obtain the necessary permits. The permit application can be obtained online or at City Hall.

The homeowner must call City hall to arrange for the required inspections, and the work must not be covered before the building inspector has inspected and approved the work. If a contractor is hired, the contractor is required to obtain the permit, and work with City staff to make sure the work is completed according to code. Plans need to be submitted for any structural (and some nonstructural work). For example; decks, porches, additions, basement finishes, garages, sheds over 200 square feet, etc. will require a construction plan to be reviewed by the building inspector.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Building Department at (763)367-7844.



For nine consecutive years
the City of East Bethel has been
successfully recognized
as a Tree City USA!

The City celebrated Arbor Day on
April 28, 2023 by planting a
serviceberry tree in Booster Park.

The Anoka County Public Health and Environmental Services Department helps Anoka County residents protect their drinking water. One way to assure safe, quality drinking water is by having it tested.

Operations of Well Water Testing

Anoka County Environmental Services has expanded the well water testing program's capacity by increasing the collection hours and offering more analyses. Our collection dates will be every Monday (9:00am - 4:00pm) and Tuesday (9:00am - 11:30am) excluding holidays. Additionally, we will now accept tests for the following contaminants:

Contaminant	Cost
Coliform Bacteria	\$17
Nitrates	\$17
Arsenic	\$17
Chloride	\$17
Copper	\$17
Fluoride	\$17
Total Hardness	\$35
Iron	\$17
Iron Bacteria	\$60
Lead	\$18
Manganese	\$17
Mercury	\$45
Conductivity	\$17
Sulfate	\$18
Phosphorus	\$17

Criteria for Dropping Off a Sample:

- Water test kits must be obtained ahead of time, and are available for pick-up during regular business hours, Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm (excluding holidays).
- The coliform bacteria, nitrates and metals' analysis kits are currently available for pick-up at the 6th floor of the Anoka County Government Center in the Public Health and Environmental Services Office. Additionally, coliform bacteria and nitrates test kits can be picked up at your local city hall (locations are listed on the back of this page).
- We will now only be accepting drop-offs and payment in person at the Anoka County Environmental Services Front Desk every Monday (9:00am - 4:00pm) and Tuesday (9:00am - 11:30am) excluding holidays.
- If other contaminant testing is desired, please call (763) 324-4207 to see if those tests can be offered through Anoka County, or a private laboratory can be recommended.
- Samples for coliform bacteria and nitrates must be collected as close to the drop-off time as possible to avoid exceeding the holding time of the sample, which can result in inaccurate results.
- Specific water-related questions can be directed ahead of time to Michael Wagner at (763)324-4207.

Test Kit Pick-Up Locations:

Water test kits for metals testing are currently available at the 6th floor of Anoka County Government Center in the Public Health and Environmental Services Office.

Water test kits for coliform bacteria and nitrates are currently available at the East Bethel City Hall during their regular business hours.

Other Well Water Testing Options:

If test results are needed quickly (turnaround time for samples submitted through the Anoka County program is approximately 3-4 weeks at this time), or if you need analyses done on a contaminant that we do not offer testing for, a list of private, state-accredited water testing laboratories is available at www.anokacounty.us/water under the Related Documents section on the righthand side of the webpage.

Resources :

The most up to date information, along with other water-related information and resources can be found on the Anoka County Water Website (www.anokacounty.us/water).

Know the Flow (www.knowtheflow.us)

Water Testing (www.anokacounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/24239/Water-Water_Testing_FAQs)



BEAVERBROOK TRI-COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB



Beaverbrook has job openings for part time employment for the position of

Range Assistant Level 1

Primary Job Activities

- Assist Range Safety Officer
- Pull - Score Trap Rounds
- Set-Up and Take-Down trap field equipment
- Clean up trap fields, rifle ranges and pistol ranges
- Empty garbage and recycle cardboard

Compensation

\$15.00 per hour to start

If you have questions, contact Doug at 612-961-2080

Visit our website to submit a job application.



BEAVERBROOK Tri-County Sportsmen



20500 Palisade St NE • P.O. Box 60 • Cedar, MN 55011
763-434-4514 • www.beaverbrook.us • info@beaverbrook.us

Summer 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).
- Reconstructing 183rd Ave east of Greenbrook Drive
- 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.

Stormwater 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:

1. Refrain from blowing grass clippings into the roadway while mowing grass
2. Use phosphorus free fertilizer
3. Clean excess fertilizer off of hard surfaces after application to prevent runoff into the storm water system
4. 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

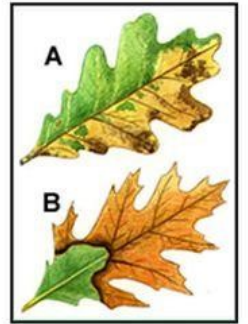


Control Agency's MS4 permit requirements. The inspection and maintenance activities occur throughout the calendar year and include checking and cleaning drain swales and catch basins, cleaning stormwater pipes and pipe outlets, grading and digging stormwater ponds and ditches and the removal of woody 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.



Symptoms of oak wilt in
A. white oak and
B. red oak.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture has confirmed the presence of emerald ash borer (EAB) in East Bethel. EAB is responsible for killing millions of ash trees in the United States and has been spreading westward over the past 20 years. Left unchecked, the insect will kill almost every infected ash tree. Current control measures included chemically treating high value landscape trees or tree removal and replacement with diverse tree species. Anoka County is under a quarantine for the movement of ash firewood, live ash trees, or any ash material out of the county.

The links below provide lots of useful information about the insect, how it spreads, and ways to protect your ash trees.

www.mda.state.mn.us/eab

www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/eab/index.html

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.



Events



PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 30308
TWIN CITIES MN

City Hall will be closed for
the following holidays:

LABOR DAY
Monday, September 4

SEPTEMBER:

- 1 • **Senior Dance**, East Bethel Senior Center 1—4 pm
- 5 • **URRWMO Mtg**, Oak Grove City Hall 6:30 pm
- 8 • **East Bethel Chamber Golf Tournament**,
Hidden Haven Golf Course. Shotgun start at 10 am
- 21 • **ACSO Open House**, Anoka County Sheriff's Office 4—7 pm
- 27 • **Aircraft Viewing Area Open House**, Anoka County-Blaine Airport, 4 pm
- 30 • **Drop-Off Saturday**, East Bethel Recycling Center 9 am—Noon

OCTOBER:

- 6 • **Senior Dance**, East Bethel Senior Center 1—4 pm
- 7 • **Fix-It Clinic**, East Bethel Senior Center 10 am—1 pm
- 12 • **Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Mtg**, Route 65 Pub & Grub 8 am
- 27 • **Senior Halloween Dance**, East Bethel Senior Center 1—4 pm
- 28 • **Drop-Off Saturday**, East Bethel Recycling Center 9 am—Noon

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...

LINWOOD FAMILY FUN DAY
Saturday, Sept. 9

SHERIFF'S DEPT OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, Sept. 21

Anoka Co. Blaine Airport OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, Sept. 27

FIRE DEPT OPEN HOUSE
Oct: Date to be determined

FREE FIX-IT CLINIC
Saturday, Oct. 7

FALL TOWN HALL MEETING
Wednesday, Nov. 15



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