FALCON HEIGHTS

THE CITY THAT SOARS

75 Years

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<



CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS

2077 LARPENTEUR AVENUE WEST

FALCON HEIGHTS, MN 55113

651-792-7600

CONTACT US <<<

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FIRE

Fire protection is provided by the St. Paul Fire Department.

Emergencies	911
Non-emergency	651-266-8989

POLICE

Police protection is provided by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office.

Emergencies	911
Non-emergency	651-767-0640

CITY HALL HOURS:

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

>>> CITY COUNCIL

The City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Avenue. Meetings are streamed live from NineNorth (formerly CTV) and televised on public access channel 15.



MAYOR RANDY GUSTAFSON

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COUNCIL MEMBER PAULA MIELKE

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COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC MEYER

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Wednesday, May 8 - City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
- Wednesday, May 22 - City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM

CITY COMMISSIONS <<<

The City of Falcon Heights has four City Commissions, which serve the City Council in an advisory capacity. Commissioners are volunteers including Falcon Heights residents, local business owners, and business designees who have been appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Community Engagement Commission advises the City Council on matters related to community needs and issues, crime and prevention, public awareness, community involvement, and human rights issues. The commission also helps plan and facilitate community events such as Human Rights Day and the Ice Cream Social.

The Community Engagement Commission meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks & Recreation Commission advises the Council on matters related to the operation of the City's public parks and the City recreation program.

The Parks & Recreation Commission meets on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission advises the City Council on matters related to planning, zoning, and land use. Meetings are streamed live from NineNorth and televised on public access channel 15.

The Planning Commission meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

The Environment Commission advises the City Council on matters related to environmental issues, including recycling and waste disposal, community gardens, and stormwater runoff. The Commission also develops and recommends implementation of environmentally friendly initiatives such as rain barrels and solar panels, supporting and advancing the City's participation in the GreenStep Cities program.

The Environment Commission meets the second Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

There are currently no vacancies.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES <<<

Stormwater

This summer, Public Works will rehab stormwater catch basins and vaults. They will start in the University Grove neighborhood and work east.

Storage

Public Works will be switching out winter equipment for summer equipment.

Storm Drains

With the current weather prediction, Public Works will be clearing storm drain gates and flushing any that have standing water in the vaults throughout the week.



Larpenteur Avenue Lighting Project

The Falcon Heights Larpenteur Avenue Lighting Project started last week and consists of removing and replacing 34 decorative light poles on Larpenteur Avenue from Fry Street to Arona Street. The proposed lights are decorative LED and will have a single light head and arms for decorative banners. The lights are DarkSky International-approved and will help significantly improve lighting in the corridor without unnecessary light pollution.

For more information about the project, click here.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & UPDATES

Ramsey County Master Gardeners Plant Sale

Ramsey County Master Gardeners will host their annual plant sale on May 18, from 9 AM to 2 PM at Aldrich Arena, 1850 White Bear Ave N, Maplewood, MN. This new location provides more room for more plants with more free parking!

Find your favorite plants and new varieties, including:

- Vegetables and herbs,
- Large selection of tomatoes
- More than 1,500 native perennials, pollinator-friendly plants
- Annuals and houseplants
- Garden accessories

Visit their website for updates.
Ramseymastergardeners.org/plantsale



Save the Date!

The City will host a Spring Together event on Saturday, May 18th from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Curtiss Field. Meet your neighbors, enjoy free ice cream and have fun! Remember to bring your lawn chairs and games.

Calling all musicians! This year we will be having a Musician-Only Open Mic. Showcase your talent in a supportive environment. Soloists, bands, and duos are welcome.

We hope to see you there!



COMMUNITY EVENTS & UPDATES



St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

Would you like to meet with others who enjoy writing poetry? We think of poetry as a solitary activity, but sharing our efforts in a small group can provide helpful support and encouragement. ALL ages are welcome!

If such a group appeals to you, please contact the St. Anthony Park Area Seniors Office at 651-642-9052 or sc@sapaseniors.org by Friday, May 10.
Interested individuals will be contacted to decide on meeting frequency, day, time and location to meet to share their poetry.

State Fairgrounds

Animal Humane Society Walk for Animals

The Walk for Animals comes to the Minnesota State Fairgrounds Saturday, May 4, offering plenty of room for celebrating second chances and making a difference for animals in need.

Rain or shine, gates will open at 9 a.m. at the International Bazaar on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Walk begins at 10 a.m.

Cash and credit card donations accepted

For more information, visit secure.animalhumanesociety.org.

City Jobs

Summer Program Intern

The City is currently hiring for a Summer Program Intern. The position will be responsible for planning, organizing, and coordinating summer recreational programs for children (ages 6-13) in an outdoor setting.

The position will also help hire and train other summer programming staff. The ideal candidate will be able to work with no direct supervision, excel in leading group activities, have experience working with children, and have a background in Parks and Recreation or Elementary Education.

If this sounds like you, we highly encourage you to apply! The position will close on Friday, May 31 at 4:30 PM

Please visit our website to view the entire job description and review the application requirements.

Seasonal Recreation Staff

The City of Falcon Heights is seeking candidates for the temporary/seasonal positions of Seasonal Recreation Staff. These positions will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of summer programming for children (ages 6-13) in an outdoor setting. The ideal candidates will be energetic, reliable, and have experience in coaching or working with children.

Please visit our website to view the entire job description and review the application requirements.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & UPDATES

Family Fun Night

Join the Falcon Heights Elementary Community for their annual Family Fun Night fundraiser on Friday, May 17 from 5:00 - 8:00 PM at Falcon Heights Elementary, 1393 Garden Ave West, Falcon Heights, MN 55113

100% of the proceeds from Family Fun Night go back into the school through purchasing classroom supplies and technology, providing teacher grants, helping cut costs for families on field trips and so much more.

There will be food trucks on-site and activities for all ages.

More information can be here.

Dealing with Identity Theft

Thursday, May 16, 6–7:30 PM
Online event

Knowing what to do if your identity were stolen is important because an identity thief can hijack your tax refund, alter your medical records, prevent you from getting credit or a job, and even borrow money in your child's name. This seminar covers what identity theft is, how to protect your identity to avoid theft, and clear steps to take if it happens to you.

Register here, starting Monday April 29.

COMMUNITY PARK

TIMELINE

The timeline is subject to change as the project develops.

MILESTONE NO. 1
WSB / HCM are hired
1
AUGUST 2023

SEPTEMBER 2023
2
MILESTONE NO. 2
Kickoff meeting with WSB / HCM to plan out timeline, soil testing, stormwater plans and other information gathering and discovery

MILESTONE NO. 3
WSB/HCM reviews community feedback from past City events to update draft concepts of park redesign
3
SEPT - OCT 2023

OCTOBER 2023
4
MILESTONE NO. 4
Preliminary sitework, sampling, asbestos testing of existing building

MILESTONE NO. 5
Public Engagement Session #1 – WSB/HCM presents the initial sketches to the Parks Commission for feedback and review
5
NOVEMBER 6, 2023

NOV - DEC 2023
6
MILESTONE NO. 6
WSB/HCM modifies plans based on community feedback

MILESTONE NO. 7
Semi-Final plans proposed to public for final comment
7
FEB 14, 2024 2024

FEB.- MARCH 2024
8
MILESTONE NO. 8
Final plans underway

MILESTONE NO. 9
Plan finalization, bidding, awarding project and permitting
9
MARCH - JUNE 2024

Late Summer 2024
10
MILESTONE NO. 10
Demolition of current building

MILESTONE NO. 11
Construction of building
11
Fall - Winter 2024

Spring 2025
12
MILESTONE NO. 12
Grand opening of new park building and award plans for Phase II (if applicable)

Falcon Heights and St. Anthony Village City Councils Vote to Proceed with Police Partnership Negotiations

Last week, the Falcon Heights and St. Anthony Village City Councils both voted to proceed with continued exploration of a police services partnership between the two cities beginning in 2026.

Falcon Heights has been in conversations with St. Anthony Village about renewing a police services partnership since earlier this year. In February, the two City Councils held a joint workshop and directed staff to get feedback from both communities, as well as the St. Anthony Police Department (SAPD), before deciding to proceed. That engagement, which occurred over the last six weeks, included a survey, one-on-one conversations with residents, conversations with SAPD officers through an outside consultant, and two town halls where community members provided thoughts and feedback.

Next steps

City staff will begin negotiations and develop contract language over the next several months, which will include looking into key questions from City Councilmembers. As a part of this process, Falcon Heights will also explore options for police services in 2025.
City staff anticipates having contract details ready for City Council review by late summer, in alignment with the annual budgeting process. A final vote on whether to proceed with a contract is expected sometime this fall.

We are incredibly grateful to those who shared their thoughts and feedback with us as we initially evaluated this opportunity to reengage with the St. Anthony Police Department. As we move into the next phase of this process, we will continue to provide updates and welcome your feedback.

Additional resources and information

- Initial St. Anthony Village Police Department staffing
- Q&A
- Town Hall presentation
- Falcon Heights-St. Anthony summary of survey responses

Contact City Administrator Jack Linehan with comments or questions at jack.linehan@falconheights.org or 651-792-7611.

>>> COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

75th Anniversary

On April 1, 1949, by a vote of 5 to 1, the citizens rejected petitioning either Roseville or St. Paul for annexation and chose instead to establish their own independent village government. The incorporation of the Village of Falcon Heights brought in all of the remaining unincorporated areas of Rose Township, including the State Fairgrounds, University of Minnesota Campus Golf Course, and Test Fields. In 1973, the Village of Falcon Heights became a city.

To celebrate 75 years since officially becoming "Falcon Heights", the City is working on plans to honor the occasion. If you are interested in participating in the celebration planning, please fill out a form on our website.

Compost bin sale - save $20

The Recycling Association of Minnesota is selling compost bins for $76 plus tax this year before the discount. Ramsey County residents can receive a $20 discount. Order online at RecycleMinnesota.org and enter promo code "Ramsey."



Snelling & Larpenteur CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT STUDY

In early 2023, the City of Falcon Heights applied for and received a grant from Ramsey County to review the two most critical transportation corridors within the city, Snelling Avenue and Larpenteur Avenue. The project is to evaluate the existing land uses along the two corridors and identify areas of potential future redevelopment and reinvestment to meet future housing and business needs.

The City received applications for a focus group as participants in the study and they had their first meeting on February 26, 2024

For more information and to follow the progression of the study, click here

>>> COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

State Fair Task Force 2.0

Following the tremendous work done by State Fair Task Force 1.0 in 2023, the City Council determined that the City should again create a task force to continue and finish the work started by the previous task force.

The task force will meet monthly or as needed to review the necessary policies in 2024 and 2025 with a sunset date of December 31, 2025 unless extended by the City Council.
If you are interested in participating, please fill out the interest form here.

Free Mulch

Extra mulch will be available through April at the following Ramsey County yard waste sites:

- Arden Hills
- Frank and Sims (Saint Paul)
- Midway (Saint Paul)
- White Bear Township

Ramsey County residents may take the mulch for free on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring your own shovel and collection containers.

Find locations and hours, click here

Shred & E-Waste Event

Last week, the City of Falcon Heights held its first free paper shredding and e-waste event. Proshred and Repowered were onsite to help residents with their recycling needs.

Thank you to all the residents who attended! Around 1221 lbs. of electronic waste was recycled by Repowered.





>>> COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ramsey County A to Z Green Guide

Meet the A to Z Green Guide: Ramsey County's new and improved disposal directory.

Ever wonder how to get rid of that old mattress or expired motor oil in the garage? Look it up on the A to Z Green Guide! The A to Z Green Guide (formerly A to Z Recycling & Disposal Guide), is an online disposal directory that gives disposal information specific to Ramsey County residents for hundreds of household items.

To use the guide, simply type in the item you want to dispose of in the search bar and a list of disposal options will appear, with the most environmentally-friendly options listed first.

You can now suggest a new item by scrolling to the bottom of the page and clicking the button/text "Suggest [item name] as a new item." Our staff will work to add it to the directory.
Meanwhile, you can call our recycling and disposal hotline 651-633-3279 (EASY) or send Ramsey County a message.

First Half of 2024 Property Tax Payments due May 15

The first half of 2024 property tax payments are due Wednesday, May 15. If your tax is $100 or less for real property or $50 or less for personal property, it must be paid in full by May 15.

Payment options

Payments will be accepted via U.S. mail, at secure form drop-off locations and electronically. An online payment portal for property tax is available now.

- Pay online
- Pay by mail, in person or drop box

Payments must be postmarked on or before May 15 to avoid penalty. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Ramsey County.

A one-time late payment penalty waiver program is available to taxpayers. It may used one time every ten years. It applies even if a property owner has used the one-time waiver in the past, and it will not impact the ability to use the waiver in the future.

More information on property tax payments can be found here.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Xcel Energy®

PARTNERS IN ENERGY

An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration

The City of Falcon Heights has partnered with Xcel Energy and MNCEE to join the Partners in Energy Program.

Partners in Energy is a two-year collaboration with Xcel Energy to develop and implement our community's energy plan goals. This is an opportunity to engage stakeholders, create goals and strategies, and develop a work plan to be successful.

The City needs your help! We are looking for responses from community members to help shape our Energy Action Plan.

Take our Community Energy Survey

The outcome of this plan, through your input, will guide the City in reaching its energy goals over the coming years.

More information about the partnership can be found here.

Ready to Save on Your Energy Bills?

One convenient Home Energy Squad® visit is your answer to years of energy savings. We offer two home visit options:

- For homes built after 2000, mobile homes, condos, and renters — Only $35 (normally $70)
- For older homes — Only $50 (normally $100)

To learn more and to schedule your visit call 651-328-6220,
or visit: mncee.org/hes

Free visits available to income qualified households.

HOME ENERGY SQUAD

Xcel Energy · CenterPoint Energy

cee Center for Energy and Environment

>>> PARKS AND RECREATION <<<

City Hall Programming

Tae Kwon Do <<<

Register for Tae Kwon Do sessions!

Tae Kwon Do Basic and Intermediate/Advanced sessions will be held on Tuesdays, with classes running April 9 - May 14.

Cardio Kickboxing classes will be held on Thursdays, running from April 11 - May 16.

All classes are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Classes are instructed by Joshua Jordan, a 2nd-degree black belt. These classes help develop self-defense skills, mental strength, focus, self-confidence, physical health and flexibility.

For more information and to register, click this link:
https://www.falconheights.org/residents/tkd-information

>>> Yoga



Register for yoga sessions! You can purchase as all / individual sessions!

Classes will be held on Mondays from March 11 through May 20 at 4:30 PM. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. *No class on May 6.

Classes are instructed by Shaila Cunningham, who has over 20 years of experience and was certified in 2001 in-residence at Kripalu. Appropriate for healthy beginners or for those wanting to explore "deeper practices," classes will combine classical yoga with best practices, served up with a side of humor. Shaila serves as instructor for North Oaks and Midland Hills Golf Clubs and offers additional classes at YogaHotDish locations.

For more information and to register, click this link:
https://www.falconheights.org/residents/parks-recreation/yoga

CITY RENTAL FACILITIES <<<

>>> City Hall

Full Council Chambers

Full Capacity: 150 / 75 seated
Pricing: $125 + tax for 3 hours $200 + tax for a half day $275 + tax for a full day
A $200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Partial Council Chambers

Half Capacity: 75 / 30 seated
Pricing: $60 + tax for 3 hours $115 + tax for a half day $175 + tax for a full day
A $200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Conference Room

Capacity: 8 maximum
Pricing: $35 + tax for 3 hours $70 + tax for a half day $125 + tax for a full day
A $200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

Kitchen

Capacity: 10 / 6 seated
Pricing: $30 + tax for 3 hours $60 + tax for a half day $75 + tax for a full day
A $200 refundable damage deposit is required and setup fees may also apply.

City Hall reservations are only available for PUBLIC use; no private events may be held here.
Reservation Form

Field/Court <<<

The City has various courts and fields that can be reserved at Curtiss Field and at Community Park. For details and specific pricing, please see the reservation form

>>> Picnic Areas

Community Park

- Upper Picnic Area (against building): 5 picnic tables, trash bins
- East Picnic Area (near playground): 2 picnic tables, trash bins
- Lower Picnic Area (SW corner): 2 picnic tables, 1 BBQ grill, trash bins

Each picnic area is $20 + tax for a half day or $35 + tax for a full day.
A refundable damage deposit and setup fees may also apply.
The Community Park building is unusable. A portable restroom is available in the park.

Reservation Information and Forms Found Here!

>>> RESIDENT RESOURCES

COMOCONNECTS
Resources & support for neighborhood seniors

The mission of ComoConnects is to organize community volunteers, professionals, and family members to provide care for their neighborhood seniors in ways that support choice, dignity, and independence.

With the spirit of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," ComoConnects provides a spectrum of services, bringing neighborhood health professionals, volunteers, caregivers, and community leaders together to provide high-quality, long-term care.

They provide services to residents aged 65 and better in the community of Como Park as well as areas of Falcon Heights.

To learn more about ComoConnects, visit their website here or call 651-642-1127

Northeast Youth & Family Services



Northeast Youth & Family Services (NYFS) is a nonprofit, community-based and trauma-informed mental health and community services organization that has been serving people in the northeastern suburbs since 1976.

NYFS services include clinic-based and telehealth counseling for all ages, school-based services, day treatment services for middle and high school youth, diversion programming for youth, Community Connections programming for isolated youth, and Community Advocate services.

RESIDENT <<< RESOURCES

Online BIPOC Support Groups

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has coordinated various online support groups to help BIPOC. Please click here for more information.



Energy Cents Coalition

Are you looking for help paying your Xcel bills or are you in need of a replacement furnace, water heater, or refrigerator? Call 651 - 774 - 9010 to check if you are eligible

Protection & Crisis:

There are protection & crisis resources available that are provided by Ramsey County. Click here for more information regarding protection and crisis resources.

Emergency Assistance:

Get help with shelter payments, such as past due rent, to stop evictions or foreclosure. Click here for more information that could help!

Blood Pressure Clinics

Sponsored by

COMOCONNECTS
Resources & support for neighborhood seniors



Love your heart! Take advantage of these **free/donation-based** Blood Pressure Clinics.



1st & 3rd Mondays from 2-3:30 PM at Arbor Pointe Apartments

2nd & 4th Mondays from 2-3:30 PM at Falcon Heights City Hall

1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 10-11:30 AM at Hendrickson Apartments

Food Assistance:

There are many meal and food assistance programs that are available in Ramsey County.

Visit the Ramsey County website for information regarding food resource guides, programming, emergency support and more! Use the interactive map to find resources near you, including delivery services, free dining and meal sites.

United Way

United Way 2-1-1 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to connect you with resources and information. Just call 2-1-1