

CITY OF LAKEVILLE CITY NEWS



MikeLentzPhotography.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Learn about the Parks System Master Plan shaping Lakeville's parks for the next decade – page 4.
- Discover what it takes to prep 20 outdoor rinks—and the crews who do it overnight – page 4.
- Find your 2025 Environmental Guide on pages 5–6. Tear it out and keep it handy all year.
- See highlights from the proposed 2026 City budget – page 7.



Non-Emergency? Call Here

Dakota 911 now offers **non-emergency numbers** for Lakeville. For police assistance that isn't an emergency, call 24-hour dispatch at **(651) 322-2323** or **(952) 322-2323**. Always dial 911 in an emergency. dakota911mn.gov



Your Fun Season Starts Here!

The Parks & Rec, Arts **Winter/Spring 2025–26 catalog** is here—packed with programs and classes for all ages! Don't miss exciting new options with returning favorites to keep your season active and fun.



Sign up for the City's free **WaterSmart** program at LakevilleMN.WaterSmart.com to track and manage your water use. Through your personal portal, you'll get water-saving tips, leak alerts, usage comparisons and estimates of where you use the most water—all designed to help you save money on your water bill.

Annual Fundraiser Supports 360 Communities!

City of Lakeville employees participated in the annual employee charitable event, raising \$5,950 and collecting baby supplies to support **360 Communities** and their important work throughout the community. From playing bingo and bidding on creative gift baskets in a silent auction to donations

and volunteer efforts, staff came together to make a difference.

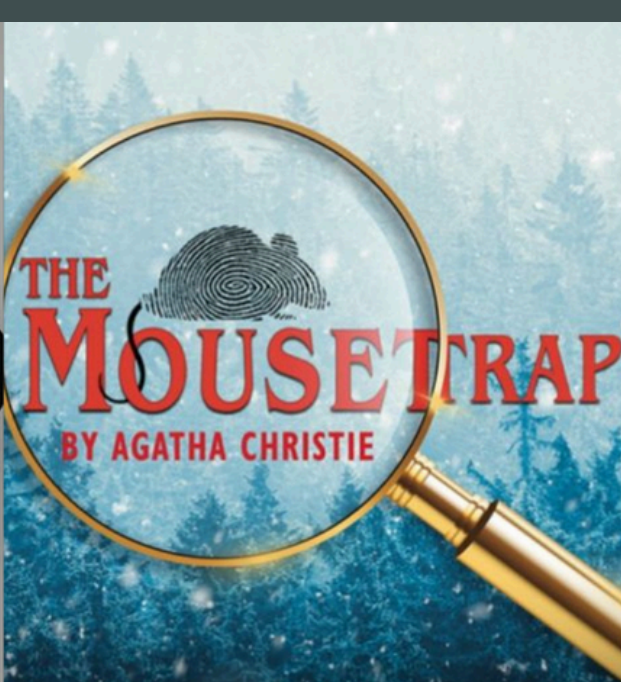
360 Communities provides programs that promote stable homes, food and housing support, financial assistance, and violence prevention services for families in need. To learn more: 360Communities.org.



ERIN MCCAWLY'S
HARRISON STREET BAND



DECEMBER 3



THE
MOUSETRAP
BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

Volume 2, Issue 4
City of Lakeville
CITY NEWS

The official newsletter for the City of Lakeville. Published quarterly to update residents and businesses on city government news.

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FIND CURRENT NEWS BY FOLLOWING US ON:

 **Facebook:**
City of Lakeville,
Minnesota-Government


 **X, Formerly Twitter:**
@CityofLakeville

 **Youtube:**
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 **Nextdoor:**
City of Lakeville

 **LinkedIn:**
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@cityoflakevillemn

 **Tiktok:**
@cityoflakevilleminnesota



A NIGHT OF COMEDY
TIM HARMSTON



FEBRUARY 21

EXPRESSIONS
COMMUNITY THEATER

THE
MOUSETRAP




JANUARY 23 - FEBRUARY 1

MICK STERLING
FEBRUARY 7



the songs of
HUEY LEWIS and THE NEWS



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20965 Holyoke Avenue, Lakeville

For more events: LakevilleAreaArtsCenter.com

Snow Worries, Just Reminders!

Clearing Sidewalks

Homeowners must remove snow from sidewalks bordering their property within 48 hours of snowfall. If not, the City may do so and charge the cost back to the property.

Winter Parking Rules

Lakeville's winter parking ordinance is in effect: no parking on streets from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. or anytime during snowfall until roads are fully cleared.

Mailbox Maintenance

Ensure your mailbox and post are sturdy, upright and can withstand snow from the plow. The City does not replace rotten or snow-damaged posts. Keep the area in front of your mailbox clear for mail delivery.

Trash & Recycling Carts

Place carts at the end of your driveway but not in the street to prevent conflicts with snowplows.

Basketball Hoops & Lawn Edges

Pull basketball hoops away from the curb and mark your lawn edge with stakes or flags to help protect sod from plow damage.

Children at Play

Remind kids not to build snow forts at the end of driveways or in cul de sacs where they may be hidden—keeping them safe and visible to snowplow operators.

For more details, review the City's Snow and Ice Control policy at LakevilleMN.gov.



Savvy Salt Talk: Safe Sidewalks, And Clean Lakes, Rivers

Did you know that just one teaspoon of salt can permanently pollute five gallons of water? When snow and ice melt, salt runs into Lakeville's lakes, wetlands, streams and groundwater—where it cannot be removed and can harm fish and plants.

Keep winter safe and protect our water with these salting practices:

- **Shovel first:** Clear snow before ice forms.
- **Scatter wisely:** Salt doesn't work below 15°F. A 12-oz coffee mug is enough for a 20-foot driveway.
- **Sweep it up:** Reuse leftover salt instead of letting it wash away.
- **Store safely:** Keep salt in a covered container to prevent spills into soil or water.

Together, we can stay safe on the sidewalks while protecting our community's waters.

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Chamber of Commerce
& Tourism

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the Chamber
Elf this holiday
season for daily
local gift ideas!
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Facebook, Instagram, TikTok icons



PARKS SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

Help Write the Next Great Chapter of Lakeville Parks

The City of Lakeville has launched the planning process for a new **Parks System Master Plan** that will guide the future of our parks and open spaces, including 70 facilities and 150 miles of trails. As Lakeville continues to grow, this plan will help ensure our park system keeps pace with community needs, recreation trends, and priorities for health, mobility and sustainability.

As a maturing but still growing city, the decisions made in the next decade will shape how generations of residents experience Lakeville's parks and trails. The Master Plan is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to build on our successes and plan for the future.

Residents will be invited to share their input at every stage of the process over the coming year. Watch for updates on the website, **LakevilleParksAndRec.com**, online engagement tools, project pop-ups at local events and open houses where you can provide feedback. Your voice will play an important role in shaping the parks system for decades to come.

Lace Up, Lakeville!

Lakeville is home to ten outdoor rink locations featuring 11 hockey rinks and nine pleasure rinks for residents to enjoy each winter. Because the rinks are not refrigerated, the ice depends on Mother Nature.

Staff typically begin preparing ice at the end of December, once the ground has frozen. It takes at least a week of below-freezing temperatures—ideally seven straight nights below 20° F—for the ground to freeze solid enough for flooding to begin. Park Maintenance crews then work overnight shifts to build 3–5 inches of ice, with daytime flooding continuing throughout the season. On average, it takes about two weeks from the start of flooding before rinks are ready to open, though weather conditions like temperature swings and sun exposure can affect timing.

Check **LakevilleParksAndRec.com** for rink updates and opening information.



Discover Winter Magic in Lakeville

✨ Illumination Walk

Enjoy a candlelit stroll or snowshoe through Ritter Farm Park's luminary trail. Advance registration required. Friday, January 9 • Timeslots start at 5:45 p.m. • Ritter Farm Park



👦 Youth Ice Fishing Contest

Head to Casperson Park for fishing, prizes and trophies! Free event—bring your own gear and bait. Ages 13 and under. Saturday, February 7 • 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. • Casperson Park

🔥 Ritter Fest

Celebrate winter with snowmobiling, snowshoeing, bonfires, marshmallows, food trucks and family fun.

Saturday, February 21 • 11 a.m.–2 p.m. • Ritter Farm Park

Go to **LakevilleParksAndRec.com** for more information.



Environmental Guide

DakotaValleyRecyclingMN.gov | 952.895.4559

Learn to fix and mend at a free Fix-It Clinic

Instead of trashing broken household items, bring them to a Dakota County Fix-It Clinic for free fixing or mending. Last year, Fix-It Clinics helped Dakota County residents saved nearly 4,000 pounds of items from the landfill. These clinics are held monthly at rotating locations and are run by skilled volunteers who love to lend a hand. You'll learn how to troubleshoot and tinker, and hopefully fix your items onsite or at home.

In addition to keeping useful items out of the landfill, these events bring people together and empower you to fix things on your own. Every event is free, and you do not need to register to participate.

Bring up to three items that need fixing or mending. The most common items people bring are lamps, vacuums and clothes. You must be able to carry items into the clinic, so no overly large items.

For future dates and more information, visit: dakotacounty.us, search fix-it clinic.



Food scraps drop-off

The No. 1 item in our trash is food. Keeping food scraps out of landfills is good for the environment. That's why over 11,500 households like yours are giving food scraps a new life by participating in Dakota County's food scraps drop-off program (formerly organics drop-off program).



In 2024, participants delivered 2.2 million pounds of food scraps across all locations. The food scraps go to an industrial compost facility and are turned into compost for gardening and landscaping.

There are 11 food scraps drop off sites located throughout the county — in Apple Valley, Burnsville, Eagan, Farmington, Hastings, Inver Grove Heights, Lakeville, Mendota Heights, Rosemount (two) and West St. Paul.

To sign up for the free program, visit www.dakotacounty.us and search *food scraps*, email foodscraps@co.dakota.mn.us or call 952-891-7557. When you sign up, you will receive more information and free compostable bags in the mail.

Drop Off Locations (Open Daily, 5:00 AM–10:00 PM unless otherwise noted)

Burnsville Civic Center Park

260 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville

Lakeville Water Treatment Facility

18400 Ipava Ave., Lakeville

Lebanon Hills Regional Park Holland Lake Trailhead

1100 Cliff Road, Eagan

Thompson County Park

1200 Stassen Lane, West St. Paul

The Mulch Store (651-423-4401)

16454 Blaine Ave. E., Rosemount

Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM–4:30 PM

Saturday, 8:00 AM–Noon (seasonal, call ahead)

This guide is partially funded by Dakota County and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Follow your Recycling

If you follow your recycling in Dakota County, you won't have to go very far. The materials are sorted by people and machines at local recycling facilities and sent to different companies that turn them into new products. Many of these companies are based right here in Minnesota, turning recyclables into new cracker and cereal boxes, durable decking and fencing, food and beverage bottles and more. To keep this process running smoothly, it is important to put the right items in your home recycling.

Make sure bottles, jars and containers are empty and dry before recycling. They don't have to be perfect — just free of most residue like food and liquids. Leave caps on containers and flatten boxes.



PUT THESE ITEMS LOOSE IN YOUR HOME RECYCLING (NO PLASTIC BAGS)

Paper

- Newspaper and inserts
- Magazines and catalogs
- Mail and office papers

Cardboard

- Corrugated cardboard
- Paperboard (e.g., cracker boxes)

Cartons

- Milk and juice cartons
- Soup, broth, and wine cartons
- Juice boxes

Metal Cans

- Aluminum, tin, and steel cans

Glass Bottles & Jars

Plastic Bottles, Containers & Jugs

- Containers numbered 1, 2 or 5
- Soda, juice and water bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Margarine, cottage cheese and other tubs and lids
- Laundry detergent bottles and jugs
- Clear berry and produce containers



Leave out plastic bags, batteries, black plastic, food and things that can tangle around moving machines. Wondering about a specific item? Use the online Recycling Guide at: dakotacounty.us, search *recycling guide*.



Cleaning is easy at The Recycling Zone

Bring cleaners, auto products, electronics and other stuff that doesn't belong in your trash to The Recycling Zone in Eagan for safe disposal. Dropping off is easy — that's why residents dropped off over 2.9 million pounds of materials last year. You stay in your car while staff unload materials from the trunk or backseat. Put smaller items in a box that you can leave behind.

The Recycling Zone

3365 Dodd Rd, Eagan, MN
952-891-7800

HOURS

Wednesday, 9am–8pm
Thursday, Noon–8pm
Friday, 9am–5pm
Saturday, 8am–5pm

MORE INFO

For a complete list of acceptable items visit: dakotacounty.us
Search: *Recycling Zone*

ACCEPTED ITEMS (free drop-off unless noted)

- Auto products like motor oil, antifreeze and gas
- Bug killers/repellents
- Cleaners
- Electronics (fee for TVs and computer monitors)
- Lightbulbs — all types
- Needles/sharps (in a closed rigid container, keep in front seat)
- Paints and stains
- Personal care products like nail polish and hair dye
- Propane tanks and aerosol sprays
- Scrap metal
- Tires (fee)
- Small household electronics like toasters and vacuums
- String lights and cords
- Vaping devices
- Weed killer
- Most products that say caution, warning, danger or poison

NOT ACCEPTED

- Appliances
- Carpet
- Humidifiers and dehumidifiers
- Lumber
- Furniture
- Mattresses
- Medical waste and medications
- Yard waste

If you have an unknown or unique household chemical, email recyclingzone@co.dakota.mn.us before dropping off to work with The Recycling Zone staff about safe handling.

Tarjumaadda Af-Soomaaliga, booqo: DakotaValleyRecyclingMN.gov // Para la traducción al español, visit: DakotaValleyRecyclingMN.gov

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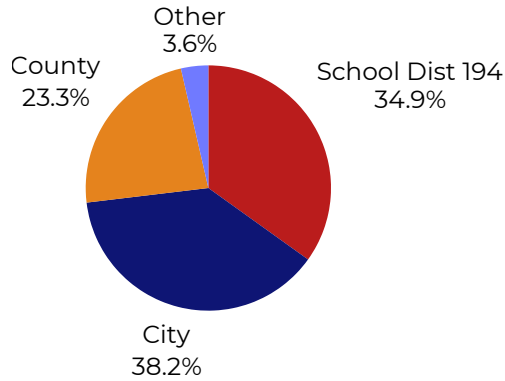
Key Highlights: 2026 Proposed City of Lakeville Budget

CONTINUED POPULATION GROWTH



2015 = 59,991 2025 ESTIMATE = 76,746
28% INCREASE IN A DECADE

2025 PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION



MEDIAN HOME VALUES



2025 Median House Value: \$450,800
City tax \$1,456

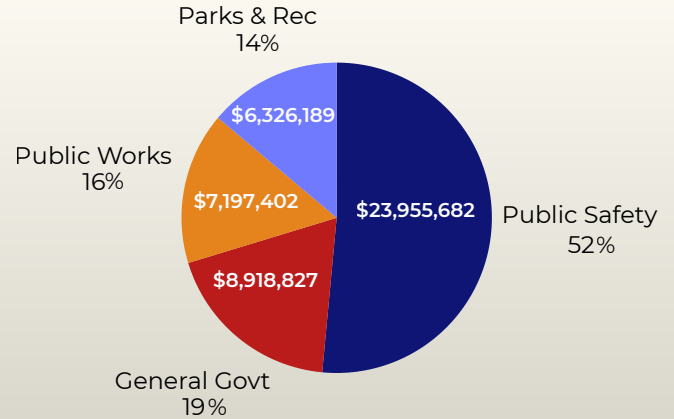


2026 Median House Value: \$468,000
City tax \$1,536



Median Home Value Increased 3.82%
Tax Change \$80

2026 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES



KEY ADDITIONS TO THE BUDGET

3 New Positions:
IT/Facilities/Parks



Building Fund



\$1M

Parks & Trail Improvements



\$550K



\$700K



Communications & Equipment

COMMUNITY GROWTH (NEW CONSTRUCTION)



Last 5 years = \$1.7B
Last 10 years = \$2.7B



MUNICIPAL LIQUOR OPERATIONS 2026 CONTRIBUTIONS: \$2.31M



Equipment
(Snowplows,
Police Cars, etc.)

\$1.5M



Debt Service
(Public Safety &
Other)

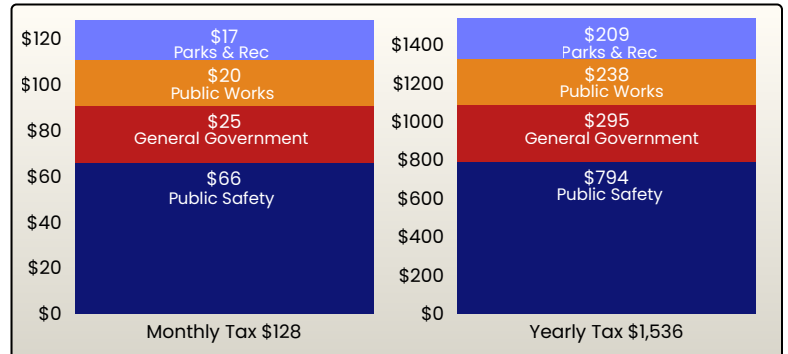
\$748K



Pan-O-Prog
Fireworks

\$30K

CITY TAX SPEND: MONTHLY & ANNUALLY



Positioned to Thrive.

For more information or if you have questions: LakevilleMN.gov | 952-985-4400

(Information from various sources)



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Postal Customer

Safeguarding Our Drinking Water: Grants To Seal Unused Wells

The City of Lakeville is actively implementing its updated **Wellhead Protection (WHP) Plan** to safeguard the source of our community's drinking water. Lakeville's water comes from 20 wells that draw from a groundwater aquifer, which can be vulnerable to contamination from land use and other activities.

A major focus of the WHP Plan is identifying and sealing unused or unsealed wells within the designated protection area.

If you have a well on your property that is no longer in use and remains unsealed, you may qualify for a **Dakota County grant** to help cover the cost of sealing it.

Another important part of protecting our water supply is maintaining septic systems. Properly functioning septic systems prevent potential contaminants from reaching the aquifer and help ensure clean, safe drinking water for our community.

To learn more about the Wellhead Protection Plan, the grant program for sealing unused wells, and tips for septic system care, visit the City's Wellhead Protection webpage: **LakevilleMN.gov, Wellhead Protection.**

2025 BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR

The Lakeville Chamber of Commerce proudly honors Jamie for over 20 years of service, leadership, and commitment to our Lakeville community.

Thank you, Jamie, for all you've done to make Lakeville a better place to live, work and play!



Jamie Dahlen

Holiday Inn & Suites
 Candlewood Suites



For Lakeville hotels, Twin Cities attractions, and area amenities

VisitLakeville.org

Questions: info@LakevilleChamber.org or 952.469.2020

200 donors needed!

Lakeville
 citywide
 mini
 blood drive



December 2-3, 2025
 10am-6pm

The Emporium Room
 @ Lakeville Liquors Keokuk



MBC.org
 Zip Code: 55044



THANK YOU from community partners: Lakeville Rotary | Lakeville Liquors
 Lakeville Area Schools | City of Lakeville | Lakeville Police & Fire | Pan-O-Prog
 Lakeville Public Safety Foundation | Lakeville Chamber of Commerce