

FALL-WINTER 2022

# OAKDALE UPDATE





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## OAKDALE RECEIVES UPGRADED CREDIT RATING

### ***Moody's Investor Service elevates the City of Oakdale from Aa2 to Aa1 rating***

In June, Moody's Investor Service upgraded the City of Oakdale's general obligation unlimited tax (GOULT) and credit rating from Aa2 to Aa1. According to Moody's, the upgrade reflects the City's very strong financial position, growing tax base with above-average resident wealth and income, and moderate debt burden.

The City of Oakdale was able to secure its first upgrade since 2010, when it went from Aa3 to Aa2, despite a turbulent financial environment due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This historic upgrade should find the City better positioned to leverage future debt obligations, reduce borrowing costs and interest rates, and provide greater benefits to Oakdale residents, business owners and visitors.

Oakdale is among the upper echelon of Minnesota cities that enjoy and benefit from this outstanding credit rating. The Aa1 credit rating is the second-highest available from Moody's, a leading global provider of credit ratings, research and risk analysis.

"Being elevated to an Aa1 credit rating has been a goal of ours for many years," said Oakdale City Administrator Christina Volkers. "We have worked diligently to strengthen the

financial condition of the City of Oakdale, and we reached this milestone in June."

"This success should be credited to our extremely hard-working City finance staff, along with the unwavering support of our elected leaders – the Mayor and City Council," Volkers said. "We are so proud to share our success and the benefits of this rating upgrade with the residents of Oakdale."

Moody's provides international fiscal research on bonds issued by commercial and government agencies. A borrower's creditworthiness is measured by Moody's standardized rating scale which assesses expected investor loss in the event of default. Securities are assigned a rating from Aaa to C, with Aaa being the highest quality and C the lowest quality.

Moody's Rating	Description of Rating
Aaa	Highest quality, lowest credit risk
Aa1, Aa2, Aa3	High quality, very low credit risk
A1, A2, A3	Upper-medium quality, low credit risk
Baa1, Baa2, Baa3	Medium quality, medium credit risk





# upcoming events

Full calendar at:  
[www.ci.oakdale.mn.us](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us)

**pumpkin hunt  
october 27**

**art discovery fair  
november 19**

**santa's firetruck visit  
december 8**

**winter wonderland  
december 17**

Our website is changing! Our redesigned website was launched in September. Later this fall, the City of Oakdale website will become [www.oakdalemn.gov](http://www.oakdalemn.gov)!

## CONTACT US

**CITY HALL** 651-739-5086  
1584 Hadley Avenue North  
Monday through Friday 8 AM to 4:30 PM

**CITY OFFICES**  
Administration 651-730-2818  
Building Inspection 651-739-5150  
Code Enforcement 651-702-5225  
Community Development 651-730-2806  
Engineering 651-730-2734  
Fire 651-731-8886  
Human Resources 651-730-2714  
Licensing 651-730-2704  
Police 651-738-1025  
Public Works 651-730-2740  
Recreation 651-747-3860

**DISCOVERY CENTER** 651-747-3860  
4444 Hadley Avenue North  
Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri. 8 AM to 4:30 PM  
Thursday 8 AM to 8 PM  
Saturday 12 to 4 PM  
Sunday 1 to 4 PM

**DIAL 911 FOR ANY SITUATION NEEDING POLICE, FIRE OR EMERGENCY PERSONNEL**

## CITY COUNCIL

**CITY COUNCIL** meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 PM, at Oakdale City Hall. Questions? Call 651-730-2704

**CONTACT THE CITY COUNCIL**  
Mayor Paul Reinke  
651-773-1104  
[preinke@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:preinke@ci.oakdale.mn.us)

Council Member Jake Ingebrigtsen  
651-216-3343  
[jake.ingebrigtsen@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:jake.ingebrigtsen@ci.oakdale.mn.us)

Council Member Susan Olson  
651-324-7078  
[susan.olson@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:susan.olson@ci.oakdale.mn.us)

Council Member Colleen Swedberg  
651-779-4373  
[colleen.swedberg@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:colleen.swedberg@ci.oakdale.mn.us)

Council Member Kevin Zabel  
612-227-1186  
[kevin.zabel@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:kevin.zabel@ci.oakdale.mn.us)



## CITY NEWS



# Acorn Award

CITY OF OAKDALE

## 2022 ACORN AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Each summer, the Oakdale Acorn Awards recognize outstanding properties in the City for excellence in landscaping. Nominations are submitted by Oakdale residents and businesses which are then viewed and evaluated by the Acorn Award Committee members. Winners were selected in three categories and received a visit from the City Council. They were also honored at the September 13 City Council meeting.

Congratulations to the 2022 winners:

**Residential:** Gomez Family, 7789 18th Street North

**Public:** Guardian Angels Church, 8260 4th Street North

**Business:** Lake Elmo Bank, 600 Inwood Avenue North



**Oakdale City Council members toured the Acorn Award winning properties on September 6.**

## STATE OF THE CITY

Oakdale Mayor Paul Reinke will deliver a "State of the City" address highlighting recent City accomplishments and future endeavors. It will be delivered at the Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce (OACC) regular business meeting on Thursday, October 6.

The address will be archived and made available at a later date to view on the City's YouTube page.

## REIMAGINED SUMMERFEST RETURNS WITH A BANG!

Summerfest has long been the much-anticipated event of the summer in the City of Oakdale. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the ability to host the event in a manner residents were used to for the last two years. However, Summerfest was back in full-force in 2022 with new entertainment and the return of classic family favorite events that drew huge crowds and brought neighbors and friends back together to celebrate our community.

The week started out with the annual Medallion Hunt that was themed with clues about long-time, retired City Clerk Sue Barry. The medallion was found following the third clue in Golfview Park by the Barnard family who also found the medallion in 2010.

After two years away, the Ted Bearch Grande Parade moved to Friday evening to kick off the festivities despite above-average temperatures. The night continued with a rocking evening of music from Stuck in the Middle.

A jam-packed Saturday began with 85 brave runners participating in the Summerfest 5K at the Oakdale Nature Preserve. The Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce hosted the first-ever Summerfest charity pancake breakfast at Guardian Angels Church. Walton Park welcomed 28 food and business vendors and the Maplewood-Oakdale Lions Club beer garden. Many activities for kids were provided and highlighted by a bubble party and music from the entertaining Jolly Pops. The first-annual Tartan Boys Traveling Basketball Summer Jam and the 3rd Lair Skateboard Contest kept people entertained throughout the day. The successful weekend concluded with a dazzling display of fireworks and classic tunes from the Rockin' Hollywoods under the bandshell.

# save the date

## 2023 SUMMERFEST - JUNE 22-24

Planning for 2023 Summerfest is underway. Have ideas to share? Want to serve on the planning committee or help on event day? Contact us: [info@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:info@ci.oakdale.mn.us)

## CITY COUNCIL ADVISORY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

The City of Oakdale has five advisory bodies to City Council that are comprised of City residents and advise the Council on various projects and make recommendations for its consideration. Residents and businesses are welcome to attend meetings and provide feedback during open forum opportunities.

All City Council advisory commission meetings are held at **Oakdale City Hall, 1584 Hadley Avenue North**.

For more information about advisory bodies or to apply, visit: [www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/298/Advisory-Bodies](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/298/Advisory-Bodies)



### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month (except January, April, July and October) at 5:15 PM

### ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 PM

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except January and December) at 7 PM

### PLANNING COMMISSION

Meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 7 PM

### TREE BOARD

Meets the 3rd Tuesday in January, March, June and September at 5 PM





# 2022 election

**ABSENTEE VOTING OPENS SEPTEMBER 23**

**PRE-REGISTER BY OCTOBER 18**

**ABSENTEE VOTING CLOSES NOVEMBER 7**

**ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 8**

## PRECINCT INFO

Oakdale has eight voting precincts. Below are the polling locations by precinct number:

- 1** Apostolic Bible Institute  
6944 Hudson Boulevard North
- 2** Oakdale City Hall  
1584 Hadley Avenue North
- 3** Redeemer Baptist Church  
2479 Geneva Avenue North
- 4** House of Prayer Church  
6039 40th Street North
- 5** Sanctuary Church  
5399 Geneva Avenue North
- 6** Oakdale Discovery Center  
4444 Hadley Avenue North
- 7** Hope Evangelical Free Church  
7910 15th Street North
- 8** Guardian Angels Church  
8260 4th Street North

Don't know your precinct number? Use your address to find it on the poll finder through the Minnesota Secretary of State website:  
[www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org)

## RESOURCES

Helpful election information can be found on the Oakdale website including links to candidate filings, registration information and other resources. Visit:

[www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/355/Elections-Voting](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/355/Elections-Voting)



### THREE CITY COUNCIL POSITIONS ON 2022 BALLOT

Oakdale voters will elect a Mayor and two Council Members in the general election on November 8, 2022. City Council candidates are listed at:  
[www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/822/2022-Oakdale-Candidate-Filings](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/822/2022-Oakdale-Candidate-Filings)

### LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX SET FOR VOTE

On August 8, the Oakdale City Council voted unanimously to put a local option sales tax on the November 8, 2022 ballot to fund a new Public Works facility and to expand and remodel the Police facility. The proposed projects will help Oakdale better serve its growing community by providing facilities that meet today's standards and staffing needs.

Since Oakdale became a city in 1974, its population has nearly tripled to over 28,000 residents and is expected to increase to over 35,000 upon completion of planned projects. City services have continued to evolve but facilities have not. Changes to staffing models, space constraints and inefficiencies created by the building layouts of both the Public Works and Police facilities present major operational challenges.

After exploring several options to address these issues, the City Council determined a local option sales tax would be the fairest way to fund the proposed capital projects. With a sales tax, the burden is shared equally by residents and non-residents who also benefit from the services of Oakdale's Police and Public Works departments.

Oakdale residents will be presented with two ballot questions asking if the City should fund the facilities with a one-half of one percent increase. The current tax rate is 7.375 percent, and the new tax rate, if approved, would increase to 7.875 percent and would go into effect in 2023.

### VOTERS WILL SEE TWO BALLOT QUESTIONS ON THE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

### LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX OPEN HOUSE

*Monday, October 3 from 5 to 7:30 PM at Oakdale City Hall  
(1584 Hadley Avenue North)*

Join City officials and staff for an informational open house event to learn more about how the local option sales tax could impact you.

## LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is a local option sales tax?**

A local option sales tax (L.O.S.T.) is simply a sales tax that is collected within the geographic boundaries of a city or county. Local option sales taxes apply to the same items and services as the general state sales tax.

### **What can L.O.S.T. funds collected be used for?**

Local governments in Minnesota use the local option sales tax to fund capital projects such as public buildings, libraries, parks, and other amenities.

### **Can any city create a L.O.S.T.?**

Yes and no. Cities can explore creating and collecting a L.O.S.T. but the process to do so is defined by state law. Before a L.O.S.T. can be collected, it must receive approval from the state legislature, the local governing body (i.e. the City Council or County Board of Commissioners), **AND** the voters via a ballot referendum.

### **What does Oakdale want to fund using a sales tax?**

Oakdale's City Council has identified two large-scale building projects and identified the local option sales tax as the preferred funding source. Oakdale's Police and Public Works facilities – built in 1992 and 1985, respectively – were constructed when Oakdale had a

smaller population and the need for services was vastly different. These facilities need to be updated and/or replaced to meet the needs of a growing community.

### **Were other funding sources considered?**

Yes, the City Council considered several options, including property taxes, and concluded the L.O.S.T. made the most sense for Oakdale residents. The benefit of the new Police Department and Public Works facilities and the services these departments provide would be felt by not only Oakdale residents but by anyone that works, shops, or visits Oakdale. In an independent study conducted by the University of Minnesota Extension office, analyzing general state sales tax collected in Oakdale, the data showed that **50 percent** of all sales tax collected comes from non-Oakdale residents.

### **How much would the L.O.S.T. be and how long would it be in effect?**

The proposed L.O.S.T. would be one-half of one percent (0.5%), or \$.50 on every \$100 of taxable purchases. State law requires the tax to automatically sunset once funds required for the projects are collected, or 25 years, whichever occurs first.

***The total sales tax, if approved by voters – to finance one or both projects – will not exceed one-half of one percent (0.5%).***

More information can be found at [www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/885/Local-Option-Sales-Tax](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/885/Local-Option-Sales-Tax)



## WHAT WILL THIS LOOK LIKE ON THE BALLOT?

### **Question 1: Considering Sales Tax for Construction of New Public Works Facility**

Shall the City of Oakdale be authorized to impose a temporary sales and use tax to finance all or a portion of the cost of constructing a new Public Works Facility, in an amount equal to one-half of one percent (0.5%) for a period of twenty-five (25) years or until \$22,000,000 plus the costs of collecting and administering the tax and the costs of issuing any bonds including interest is collected, provided that such tax shall terminate sooner if the City Council determines that all such costs have been paid?

The total sales and use tax approved by voters at this election to finance this project and any other project will not exceed one-half of one percent (0.5%).

### **Question 2: Considering Sales Tax for Expansion and Remodel of Police Facility**

Shall the City of Oakdale be authorized to impose a temporary sales and use tax to finance all or a portion of the cost of construction and rehabilitation and associated building costs of the Oakdale Police Department Facility, in an amount equal to one-half of one percent (0.5%) for a period of twenty-five (25) years or until \$15,000,000 plus the costs of collecting and administering the tax and the costs of issuing any bonds including interest is collected, provided that such tax shall terminate sooner if the City Council determines that all such costs have been paid?

The total sales and use tax approved by voters at this election to finance this project and any other project will not exceed one-half of one percent (0.5%).



# SEASONAL REMINDERS



## MAILBOXES

To ensure mail delivery, clear snow away from mailbox fronts. Properly installed mailboxes accidentally toppled by the blade of a snow plow will be replaced by City crews as soon as time allows. A new mailbox can also be provided for property owners to install if preferred. Residents should check and repair mailboxes prior to winter to ensure they are in good condition.

## WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Winter parking restrictions run November 1 through April 1. During this time, no vehicles may park on City streets between the hours of 12 to 5 AM, or anytime snow accumulation equals or exceeds two inches until the street is cleared of snow.

## FROZEN PIPES

Prolonged low temperatures and increased depth of frost in the ground increases the likelihood of water pipes freezing. Frozen pipes are at risk of expanding, rupturing and causing interruption of water service.

By monitoring water service, residents and businesses can determine if the service is experiencing difficulties. One sign is discolored water when a faucet is turned on. Another sign is water temperature below 40 degrees. To lessen the chance of frozen pipes, run a faucet at a slow trickle to keep water flowing through the pipes.

**Contact Public Works: 651-730-2740**



## PLOWING AND SNOW REMOVAL

Oakdale is divided into defined plowing routes with priorities based on topography, traffic volumes and usage. The City uses de-icers and salt on a limited basis for hazardous ice and slippery conditions. To ensure an efficient and timely snow removal process, residents can help:

- Follow Oakdale winter parking restrictions.
- Be patient! Plowing the entire City takes time.
- Be prepared for winter driving delays.
- Keep children away from curbs and boulevards when plows are out.
- Keep fire hydrants clear of snow.
- Don't push, shovel, blow, sweep or plow snow onto a City street at any time.
- When sharing the road with snowplows, give them room to work and don't pass a snowplow.
- Place your garbage and recycling containers behind the curb on collection day prior to 7 AM. Keep containers out of the path of traffic and snow plows.

**Snow Removal FAQ: [www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/FAQ](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/FAQ)**

## TURKEY FRYER SAFETY

Make sure there is two feet of space between the tank and burner. Never use a propane fryer near a structure that can catch fire. Cover skin when adding or removing food from the fryer. Completely thaw and dry the turkey before placing in the fryer. Check oil temps frequently. Do not extinguish fires with water.

**CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY IN CASE OF FIRE!**

## OAKDALE CELEBRATES NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. This year, Oakdale residents came together with City officials, Police and Fire personnel on Tuesday, August 2, for a night of fun and education.

Prior to the event, neighborhoods could register with the City to host a National Night Out block party. This year, there were 19 registered parties that welcomed Oakdale Police and Fire department representatives. These gatherings allowed positive interactions between residents of all ages with public safety officials and included cookouts, educational discussions and photo opportunities with officers and Police and Fire vehicles.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR 2023:  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1**

## PUBLIC SAFETY



## POLICE DEPARTMENT PREPARES TO IMPLEMENT BODY WORN CAMERA SYSTEM

Law enforcement use of body worn cameras (BWCs) has become an expectation for many Minnesota residents. The City of Oakdale has been preparing to join many neighboring cities by implementing this technology. Earlier this year, a committee of Oakdale officers tested several body worn camera systems and presented potential options to the City Council for review.

Per Minnesota statutes, the City will provide a public feedback period where residents can respond to a survey and attend an open house at City Hall on Thursday, October 13 from 5 to 7 PM. Additionally, the City must have a BWC policy in place to guide the use of the system. Once feedback has been reviewed from the comment period, the draft policy will be finalized. The City Council will then vote on approval of the policy and purchase of the equipment later this year. Implementation of the body worn camera system is planned for early 2023.

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 9-15, 2022

The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) will recognize the 100th Fire Prevention Week October 9-15, 2022. This year's campaign, "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape," works to educate people about simple and important action they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires.

Today's homes burn faster than ever. People may have as little as two minutes or less to escape from the time an alarm sounds. Advance planning is critical to get out safely.

To find additional resources on fire escape planning and other prevention information, visit: [www.fpw.org](http://www.fpw.org)

The City of Oakdale Fire Department Facebook page will also share important tips throughout Fire Prevention Week. Follow on Facebook: **OakdaleFD**

**Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.™**

[firepreventionweek.org](http://firepreventionweek.org)

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# ENVIRONMENT

## BUCKTHORN CURBSIDE COLLECTION DATES SET

Buckthorn is an invasive, non-native plant species that threatens natural resources and spreads very quickly. The City of Oakdale encourages residents to help remove buckthorn from their property. This year's dates for free curbside pickup of buckthorn have been set for the following Tuesdays:

- September 20
- October 4
- October 18



Guidelines for curbside pickup are:

- Pickup is restricted to only buckthorn.
- Piles should be no larger than 3.5 feet high, 3.5 feet wide and up to 20 feet in length.
- Piles need to be stacked with cut ends aligned and to the curb.
- Piles must be accessible by a log loader truck and must be off paved driveways.
- The City Forester has the right to inspect and reject piles that don't comply with guidelines.

To receive curbside pickup services, residents must complete a waiver by the Friday before the scheduled collection date. Piles will be inspected the Monday before the scheduled collection to ensure piles meet the requirements. Any piles that do not meet the requirements will be rejected.

Residents desiring curbside pickup can complete and submit a waiver form online using the QR code above. There is also a printable PDF waiver available on the Oakdale website that can be dropped off at Public Works or mailed to: City Forester, 1900 Hadley Avenue North

Buckthorn can also be dropped off on weekdays at Public Works (1900 Hadley Avenue North) from 7:30 AM to 3 PM, from April 15 to October 15. For more information about buckthorn removal, call: **Public Works 651-730-2740**



## AMERICA RECYCLES DAY IS NOVEMBER 15

Each year on America Recycles Day, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) encourages Americans to recycle the right way. This means knowing what is accepted by local recycling providers and taking advantage of recycling resources in the community. Oakdale benefits from outstanding resources in Washington County. For more information on county recycling, visit:

[www.co.washington.mn.us/  
1315/Recyclables](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/1315/Recyclables)



## Recycling at Home

Empty and rinse all containers

### Glass

Bottles & Jars



### Metal

Food & Beverage Cans



### Plastic

Bottles & Containers



### Cartons

Empty



### Paper & Cardboard



When in doubt, keep it out. Putting these items in your recycling cart does more harm than good.

**NO!**



**No Plastic Bags or Wrap**



**No Shredded Paper**

[WashCoRecycles.com](http://WashCoRecycles.com) | 651-275-7475

Washington County



# DEVELOPMENT

## CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON IMPACT APARTMENTS

Norhart began construction on the 328-unit Impact apartment building in September. The complex, located conveniently near the future METRO Gold Line Helmo station, will also include luxury amenities such as a rooftop pool as well as 6,500 square feet of retail space. Pre-leasing begins in early 2023.

## METRO GOLD LINE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS THIS FALL

Construction on the METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is set to begin this fall with service expected in 2025. Planning for this 10-mile transit route with bus-only lanes will connect the East metro with jobs, housing and other regional transit along the Interstate 94 corridor. The Helmo station in Oakdale already has approved plans for business and housing development that will continue to help the city grow. The Greenway station serving Oakdale and Landfall also has significant potential for future development opportunities.

In April, the Federal Transit Administration approved project plans to begin the engineering work. Utility updates along the planned route followed. Planned future METRO Gold Line BRT construction – some beginning in September – includes:

- Construction of bus-only lanes.
- Repavement of existing lanes.
- Building of bus stations and Park & Ride facilities.
- Bridge and underpass construction.
- Upgrading of traffic signals and intersections.
- Adding trails, utilities, lighting and landscaping.

More info: [www.metrotransit.org/gold-line-project](http://www.metrotransit.org/gold-line-project)



**Helmo Avenue Station Final Site Plan (top)**

**Greenway Avenue Station Final Site Plan (bottom)**

## OAKDALE BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN LAUNCHES

The City of Oakdale will launch the process to update its bike and pedestrian plan this fall with several opportunities for public feedback. The new plan will guide improvements to make trails and roadways in Oakdale safer and more functional for bicyclists and pedestrians. For more information on the project and public feedback opportunities, scan the code or visit [www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/740/Bike-Pedestrian-Plan](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/740/Bike-Pedestrian-Plan)



# RECREATION



## PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Please register at least one week prior to programs. To register online for Oakdale Recreation programs, follow these steps:

- Visit [www.oakdalefun.com](http://www.oakdalefun.com)
- Click “Online Registration” on the left side of the page.
- Select “Enroll Now” for desired program or activity to begin registration process.
- Sign in with account information OR click “Join” to create a new account.
- Complete enrollment information by following the prompts.
- Accept program waivers.
- Select “Check Out” to complete registration.

A paper registration form is available on page 18.



## CONTACT US

For questions about recreation programs, registration and policies, facility and shelter reservations, call:

**651-747-3860**

The Discovery Center is available for rentals throughout the year. Call 651-747-3860 for a tour, rates and more information.

Find more details: [www.oakdalefun.com](http://www.oakdalefun.com)  
Click “Stay Connected” to sign up for recreation department updates.



## PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

**Drop off October 23 to 26 at Discovery Center**

This carving contest is open to people of all ages with prizes in three categories: Best, Spookiest, and Bumpkin Pumpkin (12-and-under). Flashlight Pumpkin Hunt attendees will vote for winners.

## FLASHLIGHT PUMPKIN HUNT

**Thursday, October 27 | 7 to 8:30 PM**

**Up to age 12 | \$12 per child (includes glow necklace)**

Search for pumpkins under the stars, and enjoy spooky entertainment, refreshments and games after the search. Wear a costume and bring a flashlight! Registration deadline is October 20.

## FIRETRUCK VISIT WITH SANTA

**Thursday, December 8**

Santa will visit the children of Oakdale on a decorated firetruck with twinkling lights. Bundle up and get those cameras ready! Santa's stops include:

- 6 to 6:15 PM - North Fire Station
- 6:20 to 6:35 PM - Oakdale Discovery Center
- 6:40 to 6:55 PM - Hadley Ave and Eberle Park
- 7 to 7:15 PM - Hadley Ave and Stillwater Blvd
- 7:20 to 7:35 PM - Oakdale City Hall

## GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST

**Drop off December 15 to 16 at Discovery Center**

Submissions will be voted on by Winter Wonderland attendees. Prizes will be awarded.

# discovery center

## INDOOR MARKET

### Select Saturdays | 9 AM to 1 PM

Shop local with over 20 vendors offering a unique variety of items including baked goods, meats, canned goods, artisan foods, jewelry, essential oils and more.

- November 12 and 26
- December 10
- January 7 and 21
- February 4 and 18
- March 4 and 18

To become a vendor, email: [nathan@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:nathan@ci.oakdale.mn.us)



## SNOWSHOE

### RENTAL

Rentals begin December 18, pending snow conditions, and are available daily on a first-come, first-served basis. Rate is \$5 for two hours with child and adult sizes available. Call 651-747-3860 for group reservations. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM; Saturday, 12 to 3:30 PM; Sunday, 1 to 3:30 PM.

## POLES, BACKPACKS AND BINOCULARS

Walking poles resemble ski poles to turn a walk into a total-body workout. Binoculars and backpacks are also available. Rent these items for free with photo ID.

## ART GALLERY

The Discovery Center art gallery features local artists throughout the year with a new collection each month. Upcoming featured artists include:

- September - Joe Hilyar, Abstract Painting
- October - Nicole Love, Nature Photography
- November - Jeanne Dziuk, Nature Photography
- December - Christine Moore, Alcohol Ink and Acrylic
- January - Lori Lafontaine, Alcohol Ink

To be featured, contact: [laura@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:laura@ci.oakdale.mn.us)

## WEDNESDAY CARDS

### Wednesdays | 1 to 3 PM

Adults of all skill levels are invited to join an afternoon of coffee and card games. No sign up required.

## INDOOR GARAGE SALE

### Saturday, March 25 | 9 AM to 1 PM | \$23 (2 tables)

In-person registration is now open for this community event. Limit of two tables per person (no additional racks allowed). Set up times are Friday, March 24 (4 to 8 PM) or Saturday, March 25 (8 to 9 AM). This event is free to attend and browse.

# adult yoga

Oakdale partners with registered yoga teacher and certified yoga therapist Jennifer Brandt of Body and Mind Yoga Therapy to offer all-levels yoga classes and workshops. Classes include movement and guided breathing with modifications for all bodies.

## YOGA WORKSHOPS

### Select Sundays | 6:30 to 8 PM | \$25 per workshop

Yoga therapy provides movement and breathing techniques for various focus areas for people of all levels and experience.

- October 16 or January 8 - Healthy Joints
- November 13 - Neck and Shoulders
- December 11 - Anxiety

## YOGA CLASSES

### Tuesdays | 9 to 10 AM

#### 7-week series (\$110)

October 11, 18 and 25; November 1, 15, 22 and 29

#### 8-week series (\$125)

December 13 and 20; January 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31; February 7



### Thursdays | 9 to 10 AM

#### 7-week series (\$110)

October 6, 13 and 27; November 3, 10 and 17; December 1

#### 8-week series (\$125)

December 15 and 22; January 5, 12, 19 and 26; February 2 and 9



## SANTA'S MAILBOXES

**November 28 to December 18**

Santa will have mailboxes at the Discovery Center and City Hall for letter drop off. Include child's name, age and address with any letters submitted.

## SNOW SCULPTURE CONTEST

**Submissions accepted until March 31**

Head outside and create a snow masterpiece! This year's theme is Upside Down Snowman. Winner gets a \$100

Target gift card. Email photos: [nathan@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:nathan@ci.oakdale.mn.us)

## CURIOS CRITTERS CLUB

**Select Fridays | 9:30 to 11 AM | \$8 per child, per session | Ages 3 to 6 (must be potty trained)**

These educational nature programs allow children to creatively interact with nature based on each program theme. Participants should dress for the weather.

- October 7 - Nature's Recyclers
- October 14 - Can't we all just get along?
- November 4 - Everything from A to Z
- November 18 - Bison
- December 2 - Baby, It's Cold Outside!
- December 9 - Winter Birds: Blue Jays
- January 6 - Glaciers
- January 27 - Whose Poop Is That?

## MEA KIDCREATE STUDIO CLASSES

**Thursday, October 20 | 9 AM to 12:30 PM**

**Ages 5 to 12 | \$25 per child**

**"Squishy Squishmallows"**

Participants will create and paint a clay version of their favorite Squishmallow. Deadline is one week prior to program.

Sponsored by Heartwood Church



## LIBRARY STORYTIME

**Select Wednesdays | 10:30 to 11:30 AM**

Join us for a story, craft and activities with a librarian from Washington County. This free program is recommended for ages 0 to 5. Call 651-747-3860 to reserve a spot.

- October 26 - Fall
- November 30 - Family
- December 28 - Winter
- January 25 - Numbers

## SUNDAE BINGO

**Sunday, November 13 or February 5 | 1 to 3 PM**

**\$10 per person**

Join us for bingo and ice cream sundaes. Prizes are awarded for every game, and there is a grand prize raffle. All ages are welcome to participate.

## CHEERFUL HEARTS PAINTING CLASSES

**Select Fridays | 11 AM to 2 PM | \$30 per class**

All supplies are provided with step-by-step instructions from Sandy Danus to create a finished canvas painting.

- October 28 - Owl and Pumpkin
- November 18 - Harvest Wreath
- December 9 - Quiet Lighthouse
- January 20 - Charming Snowman

## FAMILY FUN FLATABLES SPONSORS

Thank you to our sponsors for this year's Oakdale Family Fun Flatables event.

- **Gold:** Oakdale Athletic Association
- **Silver:** CCF Bank
- **Bronze:** Parkview Chiropractic, Northstar Skate School/East Metro Stars, TruStone Financial Credit Union and American Legion Post 39

## WINTER WONDERLAND SET FOR DECEMBER 17

In partnership with the Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce and First Resource Bank, the Oakdale Recreation department will sponsor the annual Winter Wonderland with a variety of winter activities for people of all ages at the Oakdale Nature Preserve and Discovery Center. This beloved City event is free to attend, and donations of non-perishable food items for the local food shelf are encouraged. Be sure to join for a community-building celebration of winter!

**Date:** Saturday, December 17

**Time:** 9 AM to 1 PM | **Cost:** FREE

Activities and events include:

- Horsedrawn hayrides
- Petting zoo
- Dogs of winter
- Bonfire with s'mores
- Holiday craft station
- Visit with Santa
- Candy cane hunt
- Holiday face painting
- Gingerbread house contest
- Breakfast and lunch



# WAHOO!

Wahoo! Adventures provides two different programs for families to enjoy the beauty of the fall and winter seasons in the Oakdale Nature Preserve!

## FOLIAGE FROLIC

**Thursday, October 6 (Adults only) OR Saturday, October 8 (Family-friendly, 12 years or older) | \$29 per person  
10 AM to 1 PM | Check-in begins at 9:30 AM**

This autumn adventure includes a two-mile hike on the paved and mowed trails of the Preserve before an 11-mile bike loop on the Gateway Trail. Lunch follows at the picnic shelter along with an educational discussion on outdoor hacks and safety. Registration deadline is one week prior to program. No refunds after September 29.

## MOONLIGHT SNOWSHOE AND BONFIRE

**Saturday, January 28 | \$25 per person**

Enjoy a leisurely snowshoe walk along a luminary-lit trail through the Preserve followed by a bonfire and campfire food. Snowshoes are included. Bring a headlamp if desired and dress in layers with sturdy boots. Registration deadline is Friday, January 20.

- Select a check-in time at registration:  
6 PM, 6:20 PM, 6:40 PM, 7 PM
- Trail closes at 8:30 PM.
- Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

## KEEPING CHICKENS IN FRIGID CLIMATES

**Thursday, October 20 | 6:30 to 8 PM | FREE**

Les Larson discusses the pros and cons of keeping chickens in cold, Minnesota winters. Learn tips, tricks and techniques to make a safe, efficient and cost-effective coop that stays above freezing temperatures.

## PIGEONS AS PETS

**Thursday, November 17 | 6:30 to 8 PM | FREE**

Come learn from Les Larson how pigeons can be loving, affectionate and inexpensive companions.

## FOREST THERAPY WALKS

**Select Saturdays | 10 AM to 12 PM | \$30 per class**

Forest therapy walks are slow-paced and led by a certified forest therapy guide.

Contact Christine Shoemaker: 612-708-3449

[skymeetswaterforesttherapy@gmail.com](mailto:skymeetswaterforesttherapy@gmail.com)

**All programs on pages 12 to 15 are located at the Oakdale Discovery Center or Nature Preserve.**

MOONLIGHT FAMILY SNOWSHOE





## OAKDALE WELLNESS 50+

Wellness 50+ is a volunteer organization with free activities for people ages 50 and up in Oakdale and Washington County. All activities are at the Oakdale Discovery Center unless noted. Join the email list: [oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com](mailto:oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com)

### WELLNESS BOOK CLUB

**Select Tuesdays at 6:30 PM | Oakdale Library**

- September 27: *Aging Backwards*
- November 22: *The Telomere Effect*

Register: [oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com](mailto:oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com)

### CARD MAKING BY LOLITA

**Thursday, October 20 | 6 to 8 PM**

Make cards using different folds and techniques.

Register: [www.oakdalefun.com](http://www.oakdalefun.com) or 651-747-3860

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

**Friday, October 21 | 9 AM to 3 PM**

Sponsored by Oakdale 50+, Maplewood-Oakdale Lions Club and the City of Oakdale at the Discovery Center.

Sign up at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or 1-800-733-2767

### WELLNESS 50+ PRESENTS: DEMENTIA

**Select Saturdays at 11 AM**

Session 1 will focus on memory loss and early signs of dementia. Session 2 offers tips to understand and communicate with someone affected by dementia.

- Session 1: October 29
- Session 2: November 5

Register: [www.oakdalefun.com](http://www.oakdalefun.com) or 651-747-3860

### WELLNESS MOVIE CLUB

**Wednesday, December 28 | Oakdale Library**

**2 PM | Little Miss Sunshine**

Register: [oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com](mailto:oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com)

### JOURNALING TO BOOST YOUR MEMORY

**Saturday, January 14 | 1 to 3 PM**

Learn about journaling as an activity to aid memory and enhance creativity.

Register: [www.oakdalefun.com](http://www.oakdalefun.com) or 651-747-3860

### WEDNESDAY WALKS AT NATURE PRESERVE

**Wednesdays at 9 AM (through November)**

**10 AM (beginning December)**

No registration is necessary to join these weekly walks.

### COMMUNITY-WIDE EVENTS

**Events in Washington County Parks via "Wellness 50+ Twin Cities" Meetup Group**

- Monday, September 26 - Biking Cannon Falls Trail
- Monday, October 10 - Scandia Bike Ride

### SIDEKICK THEATRE SHOWS

**Select Wednesdays | 10:15 AM to 4 PM |**

**\$85 per tour per person**

Sidekick Theatre in Bloomington presents two adult trips that depart from Gladstone Center (Maplewood), and each includes a luncheon, show and school bus transportation.

#### **November 2 | "Dancing Lessons" Play**

This romantic comedy follows a professional dancer who suffers a career-ending injury and teaches a geoscientist dance lessons. Registration deadline is October 18.

#### **December 7 | "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree" Concert**

Get in the holiday groove with a rocking selection of the season's best music and classic favorites that will leave you merry and bright! Registration deadline is November 22.

### WORK FOR OAKDALE RECREATION!

Do you have hobbies, interests or knowledge to share with others? We're looking for enthusiastic individuals to serve as instructors. Proposals are accepted throughout the year.

For more information, contact Julie Williams at 651-747-3867.





## SKATING RINKS AND WARMING HOUSES

The City of Oakdale outdoor rinks offer both general skating and hockey facilities. Rinks are scheduled to open in late December, weather permitting, and will remain open through late February.

Rink rentals are available for \$40 an hour; Monday through Friday, 8 to 10 PM; Weekends, 8 AM to 12 PM | Contact: [nathan@ci.oakdale.mn.us](mailto:nathan@ci.oakdale.mn.us)

Rinks will be closed when temperatures soften ice enough for unsafe conditions, when actual temps reach -10 degrees or -25 degrees windchill, or more than three inches of snow accumulates on the ice.

Winter break schedule and more information:  
[www.oakdalefun.com](http://www.oakdalefun.com)

Apply to become a rink attendant for \$13 an hour:  
[www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/employment](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/employment)

### LOCATIONS

- Northdale Park, 5099 Granada Ave (supervised with warming house)
- Walton Park, 1584 Hadley Ave (supervised with warming house, hockey and pleasure rinks available)
- Eastside Park, 1744 Helmo Ave (unsupervised, no warming house available)

### HOURS

- Monday through Friday, 4 to 8 PM
- Saturday, 12 to 8 PM
- Sunday, 12 to 7 PM

# park information

## PICNIC SHELTER RENTALS

**Reservations for 2023 begin on January 3, 2023!**

Rentals for picnic shelters can be made in person at the Discovery Center, or call 651-747-3860. Permits give exclusive use of the shelter for date and time reserved. Locations available at [www.oakdalefun.com](http://www.oakdalefun.com).

Shelter Type	Resident	Non-Resident
Small Shelter	\$50	\$65
Large Shelter	\$100	\$150
Shelter/Kitchen	\$225/\$300 deposit	\$250/\$300 deposit
Walton Package	\$400	\$550

## ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS

Associations operate independently from the City and oversee their registrations, tryouts, fees and scheduling.

### OAKDALE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

[www.aaonline.com](http://www.aaonline.com) | [wrestling@aaonline.org](mailto:wrestling@aaonline.org)

### OAKDALE ADULT SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

651-731-6850 | [www.oasa.us](http://www.oasa.us)

### OMNI OTTERS SWIM TEAM

[www.omniotters.com](http://www.omniotters.com) | [omniotters@gmail.com](mailto:omniotters@gmail.com)

### ST. PAUL-RAMSEY HORSESHOE CLUB

651-808-3812

### TARTAN AREA YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

[www.tayha.org](http://www.tayha.org)

## OAKDALE BARK PARK

### 4957 Helena Road North

The Bark Park is open year-round for free without a license or permit required. It is fenced with a separate area for small dogs. It offers parking, benches, a pet waste dispenser and trash cans. Pick up after your pup!

### PARK RULES

- Dogs must be properly leashed, vaccinated, not in heat, and not designated as a dangerous dog.
- Dogs must be leashed prior to entering and prior to leaving the off-leash area and in transition corridors.
- Dogs must stay within fenced area when off leash.
- Pet parents are liable for damage or injury inflicted by their dogs.
- Pet parents must be in verbal control of their dogs at all times to prevent aggressive behavior, biting, fighting and excessive barking.
- Pet parents must be 16 years or older and not handling more than two dogs.
- Pet parents must clean up and dispose of waste.



# CITY NEWS

## MAY HAIL STORM CAUSES WIDESPREAD DAMAGE

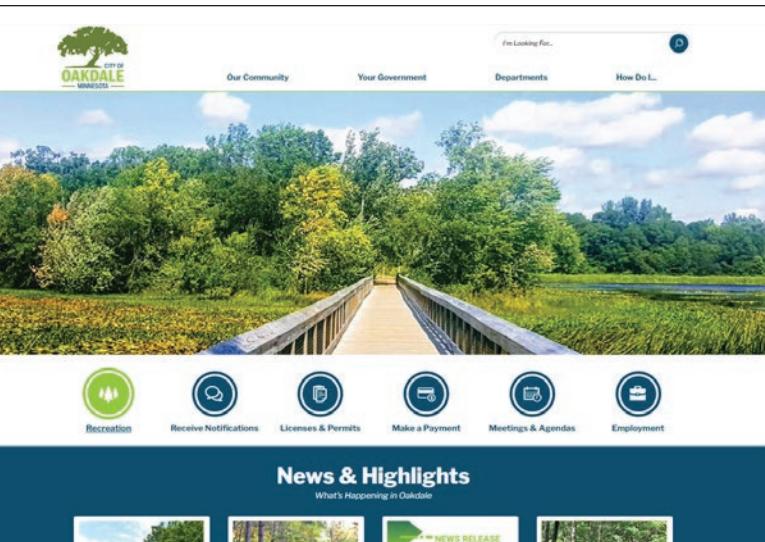
On May 19, a hail storm quickly moved through Oakdale dropping various sizes of hail pellets. The City Building Official and the City of Oakdale inspections staff conducted a damage assessment following the storm. Since June 1, the City of Oakdale has issued over 1,700 re-roof, re-side or combination roofing and siding permits. This has caused a backlog that the City inspections team is working hard to address in a timely manner.

**For questions on roofing and siding permits, contact Building Inspections: 651-739-5150**

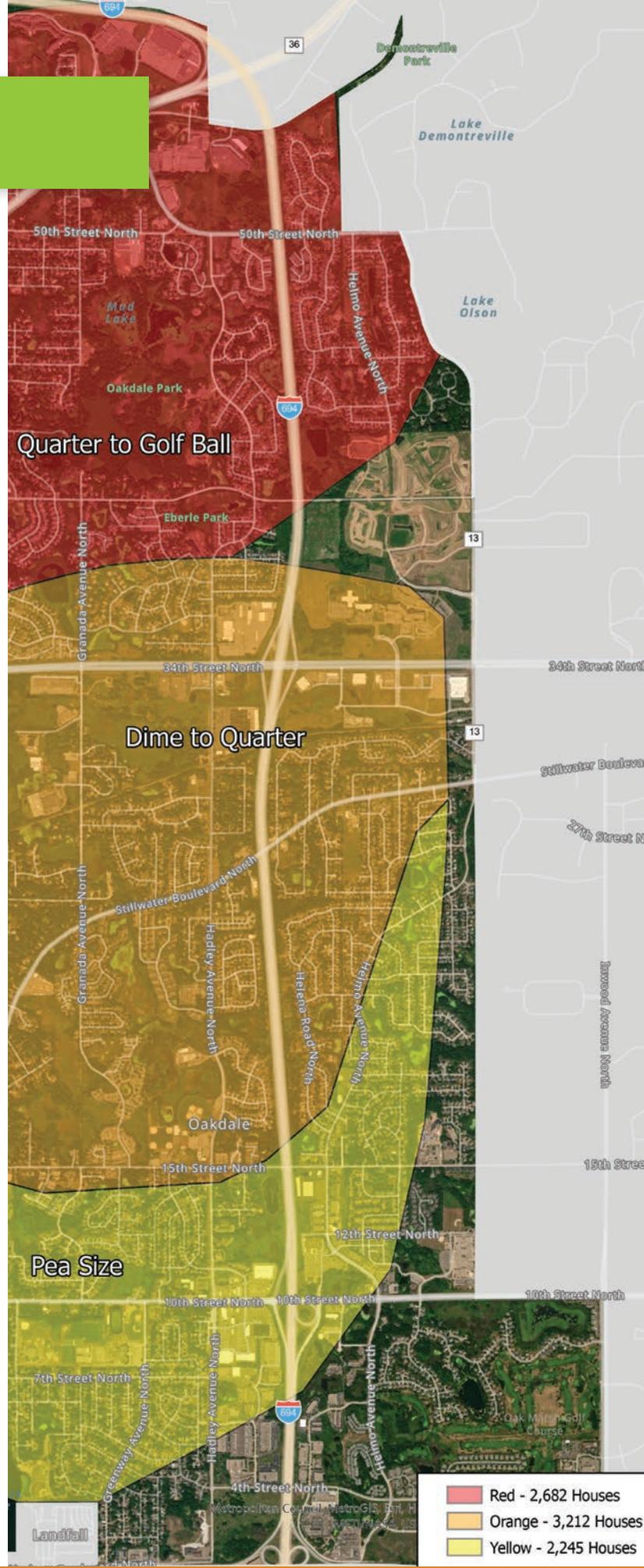
## OAKDALE WEBSITE GETS NEW LOOK

The City of Oakdale launched a new design for its website in September. The website now has a fresh, modern feel and provides easier access to some of its most-used features. The design also incorporates the City's brand colors and logos, as well as images of some of Oakdale's most recognizable locations.

Later this fall, the City website address will change to [www.oakdalemn.gov](http://www.oakdalemn.gov). All email addresses for City employees will also change to reflect the new, simplified URL. An official announcement will be made on the City website and social media platforms when this process is complete with additional details.



*The new design of the City of Oakdale website launched in September.*





# ACTIVITY Registration Form

**SEND COMPLETED FORMS BY MAIL,  
DEPOSIT IN DROP BOX, OR FAX**

Mail (or Drop Box): Oakdale Recreation  
4444 Hadley Ave. N.  
Oakdale, MN 55128

Fax: 651-747-3861

**PERSON MAKING PAYMENT**

Name:
Address:
Phone Number: (        ) -
Second Number: (        ) -
Email:

Receipt sent by email. Receipt is also available by mail if requested.

Please mail my receipt to me.

## PERMISSION AND WAIVER

In consideration of your accepting this registration, I hereby, for myself and my heirs, waive any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the City of Oakdale and its representatives, for any and all injuries from whatever cause suffered by the participant(s) listed in the indicated activities. I understand that the information that I have provided will be distributed to individuals involved with each recreation program.

Oakdale Recreation often takes pictures and video of participants for program promotion. The completion of your registration signifies your acceptance of this consent.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT (IF APPLICABLE)**

Name:	
Phone Number:	(      )      -
Relationship:	

## REGISTER PARTICIPANTS

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

<b>PAYMENT</b>	<input type="radio"/> Check payable to "City of Oakdale" # _____	<input type="radio"/> Cash
<input type="radio"/> VISA <input type="radio"/> MC <input type="radio"/> DISC <input type="radio"/> AMX # _____	Exp _____	Code _____



City of Oakdale  
1584 Hadley Avenue North  
Oakdale, MN 55128  
[www.ci.oakdale.mn.us](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us)

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
TWIN CITIES MN  
PERMIT NO. 4077

## ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

### OAKDALE LAUNCHES PHOTO CONTEST

The City of Oakdale is excited to announce the first-ever Oakdale Seasonal Photo Contest. Residents are encouraged to submit their best photos of each season for a chance to be recognized and featured in a future edition of the Oakdale Update and City promotions. The contest kicks off with fall photos following this timeline:

- Nominations accepted – November 1 to 30
- Finalists announced – December 10
- Voting and judging period – December 10 to 31
- Winners announced – January 7

Photographers of all skill levels are encouraged to submit photos in the following three categories:

- Nature and Wildlife
- Places and Activities
- People and Families

For more information on contest details, entry rules, voting and judging, and how to submit photos, go to:  
[www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/905/Photo-Contest](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/905/Photo-Contest)



## CONNECT

[www.ci.oakdale.mn.us](http://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us)

Watch City Council and advisory body meetings  
LIVE on the City of Oakdale YouTube Channel!

Subscribe to meeting materials online:

- Click on “How Do I”
- Navigate to “Sign Up For”
- Select “Meeting Materials”

Like and follow Oakdale on Facebook

- **City:** cityoakdalemn
- **Fire:** oakdaleFD
- **Recreation:** oakdalefun

Follow Oakdale on Twitter

- **City:** @oakdalemn
- **Police:** @oakdaleMN\_PD

Follow on these other social platforms

- **Instagram:** oakdaleminnesota
- **Youtube:** CityOfOakdaleMN
- **LinkedIn:** oakdalemn