



FALL-WINTER 2023

OAKDALE UPDATE



"Reflections" by Tim Kemper - 2022 Oakdale Fall Photo Contest Winner



*"Snow Angel in Our Backyard" by Alicia Liebel-Berg
2023 Oakdale Winter Photo Contest Winner*

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CITY OF OAKDALE EARNS RECOGNITION

Oakdale was honored by Minnesota GreenStep and the St. Paul Area Chamber.

The City of Oakdale earned recognition for its efforts in various ways that it serves the community. First, the City earned an award this summer for being a Steps 4 and 5 city in the Minnesota GreenStep program.

Oakdale is one of 146 participating cities and tribal nations in the 13-year-old Minnesota GreenStep program that helps cities and tribal nations achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. This free, continuous improvement program is based upon 29 best practices that are tailored to Minnesota cities and tribal nations. Oakdale first earned Step 5 status in 2018, and only 40 of Minnesota's 855 cities have earned this distinction.

"The GreenStep Award is a great achievement for the City of Oakdale," said City Administrator Christina M. Volkers. "By being part of the program, Oakdale and our peers are helping to make Minnesota more resilient for the future while also helping our cities thrive economically."

In addition to the GreenStep recognition, the City was also honored for achievement in two other areas of its work. At a luncheon on September 13, Oakdale accepted a Leaders in Local

Government Award from the St. Paul Area Chamber for the City's Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction (BREA) program in the Business Retention and Expansion category. Additionally, Oakdale Recreation was also a nominee for a Leaders in Local Government Award in the Communications and Marketing category.

The BREA program began in the fall of 2022 as a partnership with the Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce (OACC) as a means to learn how the City can better support local businesses. City staff and officials visited 18 Oakdale businesses to receive a tour, share resources and gather valuable feedback for areas of improvement. Each business was presented with a City of Oakdale commemorative statue in appreciation for being a valued business in Oakdale.

Oakdale Recreation works year-round to provide the community with quality programming, accommodate facility requests, manage the Discovery Center, create and distribute promotional materials and train seasonal staff. The department also coordinates both the Oakdale Farmers Market and Indoor Market, supports Oakdale Wellness 50+ and puts together family-favorite special events throughout the year.





upcoming events

Full calendar at:
www.oakdalemn.gov

pumpkin hunt
october 26

art discovery fair
november 18

santa firetruck visit
december 13

winter wonderland
december 16

OAKDALE FARMERS MARKET

The Farmers Market runs through October 11 on Wednesdays from 2 to 6 PM in the City Hall parking lot (1584 Hadley Avenue N).

CONTACT US

CITY HALL

1584 Hadley Avenue N
Monday to Friday

651-739-5086

8 AM to 4:30 PM

CITY OFFICES

Administration	651-730-2818
Building Inspections	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	651-730-2739
Police	651-738-1025
Public Works	651-730-2740
Recreation	651-747-3860
Utility Billing	651-730-2710

DISCOVERY CENTER

4444 Hadley Avenue N
Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri. 8 AM to 4:30 PM
Thursday 8 AM to 8 PM
Saturday 12 PM to 4 PM
Sunday 1 PM to 4 PM

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

CITY COUNCIL

CITY COUNCIL meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 PM, at Oakdale City Hall. Questions? Call 651-730-2704.

CONTACT THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Kevin Zabel
612-227-1186
kevin.zabel@oakdalemn.gov

Council Member Noah Her
651-964-9648
noah.her@oakdalemn.gov

Council Member Jake Ingebrigtsen
651-216-3343
jake.ingebrigtsen@oakdalemn.gov

Council Member Andy Morcomb
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Council Member Susan Willenbring
651-324-7078
susan.willenbring@oakdalemn.gov





2023 ACORN AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Each summer the City recognizes outstanding properties for excellence in landscaping with the Acorn Award. Nominations are submitted by Oakdale residents and businesses. The Acorn Award Committee then views and evaluates nominated properties to select winners in three categories. The City Council toured the 2023 winning properties, and the winners were recognized at the City Council meeting on August 22.

Congratulations to the 2023 winners:

- **Residential:** Schuba Family, 2783 Granada Avenue N
- **Public:** Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, St. Paul Minnesota Temple, 2150 Hadley Avenue N
- **Business:** Patio Town, 6300 Highway 36 Boulevard N



SUMMERFEST TRANSITIONS TO COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER-RUN EVENT

Oakdale's annual community celebration, Summerfest, saw a significant change in 2023 as it transitioned from a City-run to volunteer-run event. The City of Oakdale would like to thank the newly-formed Oakdale Summerfest Community Organization (OSCO), an all-volunteer nonprofit group, for its work in putting together the 2023 Summerfest celebration and working with the City to ensure a smooth transition.

Do you have ideas to help improve Summerfest? Are you interested in serving the Oakdale community? OSCO is in need of new members and volunteers to help with next year's Summerfest, set for June 24 to 29, 2024. To learn about getting involved, visit

www.oakdalesummerfest.com for more information.



CITY COUNCIL ADVISORY BODY OPENINGS

Oakdale has five advisory bodies to the City Council. Several currently have openings for commissioners or board members. For meeting schedules, more information, or to apply, visit www.oakdalemn.gov/298/Advisory-Bodies.

UTILITY BILLING CHANGES

The City of Oakdale completed its transition to a new utility billing software and payment system at the end of August. The new system allows customers to take advantage of multiple convenient payment options, an optimized online experience including secure online payments and advanced functionality, payment scheduling, online bill history and paperless billing.

This payment solution accepts a wide variety of payment methods including cash, check, credit cards and e-checks. It also meets the highest level of online payment security standards.

Customers previously enrolled in auto pay through Payment Services Network (PSN) will need to re-enroll on the new platform. To learn more about payment options and to access the new payment system, scan the code or visit www.oakdalemn.gov/579/Payments. For questions, please call **651-739-5086**.



CITY PASSES CANNABIS ORDINANCES

Beginning August 1, Minnesota legalized the adult use of cannabis, and people ages 21 and up can now possess up to two ounces of cannabis and consume it without legal penalty. In September, the City of Oakdale passed additional ordinances, as permitted by Minnesota Statutes, related to smoking cannabis in public and regulation of cannabis businesses in Oakdale.

Smoking cannabis or hemp products is now prohibited in public places in Oakdale. A “public place” is defined as any indoor or outdoor area that is used or held out for use by the public whether owned or operated by public

or private interests. This includes sidewalks, trails, parks, parking lots and any indoor space as prohibited by the Minnesota Clean Air Act. A violation of this ordinance is considered a petty misdemeanor.

Cannabis may be legally possessed and smoked in a private residence or yard, on private property unless the owner prohibits it, and on the premises of an establishment or event licensed by the state to permit on-site consumption. Low-potency hemp edibles, such as THC gummies, may still be consumed in public places.

Additionally, the City has passed an interim ordinance imposing a moratorium that prohibits the establishment and operation of all cannabis businesses within Oakdale until state regulations are finalized, which is expected in 2025. It also authorizes a study on potential municipal regulations of cannabis businesses to allow the City to review yet-to-be-published model ordinances and administrative rules from the newly-established Office of Cannabis Management prior to making any regulatory decisions, including whether to impose zoning restrictions.

Currently-operating medical cannabis businesses are exempt from the temporary ordinance. Sales of low-potency cannabinoids continue to be legal in Oakdale for eligible businesses with a City license. Exclusive liquor stores may now sell THC-infused beverages with a proper license per a City ordinance.

For more information about cannabis use and sales in Oakdale, visit our cannabis webpage at www.oakdalemn.gov/992/Cannabis-Information.

2023 STATE OF THE CITY

Mayor Kevin Zabel delivered the annual Oakdale State of the City address at the Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce (OACC) meeting on September 7. A video version of the address highlights some of the changes taking place in Oakdale, some of the challenges the City faces and how we plan to address them.

Some areas of the City’s success in 2023 as outlined by the Mayor include:

- Transitioning to a full-time career Fire department;
- Implementing body worn camera technology;
- Expanding City services to accommodate residential and commercial development;
- Strengthening programs and partnerships to support

- the local business community;
- Enhancing communications tools to engage with residents;
- Evaluating the City’s impact and efforts to improve the environment;
- Developing new recreational offerings;
- Planning for new parks and committing to the rehabilitation of old parks.

To view the entire State of the City video, watch on the City’s YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/@CityOfOakdaleMN or scan the code.



SEASONAL REMINDERS

"Frosty" by Stan Blanda
2023 Oakdale Winter
Photo Contest Winner

WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Winter parking restrictions run November 1 to 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.

SNOW PLOWING QUESTIONS ANSWERED

During the winter, the City receives many questions related to snow plowing procedures. Here are some answers to the most frequently asked questions.

It's been snowing for awhile. When will plowing begin?

The exact start time depends on the predicted start of the snowstorm, intensity of snowfall, and when it is expected to end. In most cases, operations begin between 12 and 4 AM when two or more inches of snow have accumulated.

Why hasn't my street been plowed yet?

The City is divided into seven individual plowing routes, each of which are arterial collector streets that are most often traveled. Those roads are plowed first. Residential streets and cul-de-sacs are usually last to get plowed.

I just shoveled out my driveway. Why did the plow come back and block my driveway with more snow?

During heavy snowfalls, snowplowing is accomplished in three separate operations: a first pass to provide an initial access path; a second pass for width-widening that occurs several hours after a first pass; and a final clean up usually a day after to allow for intersection cleanup, salting and plowing where vehicles parked. Homeowners are responsible for clearing out their own driveways.

It has been more than a day since it stopped snowing. Why have sidewalks, trails and rinks not been plowed?

The first priority is to remove snow from streets. As a result, a majority of the City's resources are committed to this activity. At the same time, remaining resources are directed to the removal of snow from sidewalks, trails and ice rinks. Since there are fewer personnel and equipment working on this, it takes longer to complete the process especially after a significant snowfall.

Why is the City asking me to shovel out hydrants?

With more than 1,900 hydrants in the City of Oakdale, it's impossible for staff to remove snow from around all of them. Residents are asked to "adopt" a hydrant to clear snow away to assure accessibility in case of a fire.

Will the City replace my mailbox hit by a snowplow?

Mailboxes will only be repaired or replaced by the City if toppled by a snowplow blade and not snow. Before the winter season begins, the City encourages residents to make sure mailboxes are properly installed with a solid post and box that is tightly secured to the post.

How can residents help with the plowing process?

Residents can contribute to an efficient and timely snow removal process by following parking restrictions, being patient with plows and the plowing process, preparing for winter driving and delays, keeping children away while plows work, putting garbage and recycling containers behind the curb, clearing fire hydrants of snow and making sure not to put snow into City streets.

For more fall and winter reminders, scan the code or visit www.oakdalemn.gov/353/Fall-Winter-Reminders.



LADDERS AND SQUADS

The City of Oakdale Fire and Police departments teamed up to host the first-ever Ladders and Squads on July 13. This interactive event allowed kids to touch, explore and learn about vehicles and equipment used by public safety agencies including several fire trucks and ambulances, fire hoses, police cruisers, safety vests and helmets, and a Washington County SWAT vehicle. The overwhelming reception and success of this engaging inaugural event has guaranteed Ladders and Squads will become an annual activity for the community to enjoy each summer.



Above: Families wait to explore an Oakdale Fire vehicle.
Right: Two children try on Washington County police gear.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 8 TO 14, 2023

The 2023 National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) Fire Prevention Week theme is "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention." The campaign focuses on simple actions to keep people safe while cooking. To find resources on cooking safety and other fire prevention information, visit www.fpw.org.

Did you know that cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries?
Cooking safety starts with YOU.

Pay attention to fire prevention.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

fpw.org

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RECOVER PROPERTY WITH FOUNDROP

The City of Oakdale Police department recently started a partnership with Foundrop, a free service that helps owners recover lost and stolen property and focuses on reuniting community members with items that are most important to them. Foundrop allows Oakdale Police to upload its inventory of unclaimed property to a nationwide, searchable database. The Foundrop database is free for residents to view and search.

In addition to a searchable database, Foundrop allows Oakdale residents and businesses to upload an inventory of their valuables before they go missing. Only trusted groups can see contact information that is submitted, and no one can view inventoried property. Users control their privacy. The Oakdale Police department encourages the community to utilize this tool before a crime is committed.



For more information and to view unclaimed property, scan the code or visit www.oakdalemn.gov/988/Lost-and-Stolen-Property.





LEAVES AND YARD WASTE DISPOSAL OPTIONS

While many residents in Oakdale look forward to the beauty of leaves changing colors throughout the City in the fall, yard waste disposal is less enjoyable for most. There are plenty of locations near Oakdale where residents can dispose of leaves and other yard waste for free to help make the cleanup process a little easier this fall.

The Washington County Northern Yard Waste Site, located at 5527 170th Street N in Hugo, is free. Accepted items include leaves, grass, brush and tree waste. For hours and more information, visit www.co.washington.mn.us/3261/Northern-Yard-Waste-Site.

Can't make it to Hugo? There are four other locations that Washington County residents may use for free. A photo ID is required. Scan the code for location hours and more information about these sites:



- Arden Hills (1881 Hudson Road, Arden Hills)
- Battle Creek (389 Winthrop Street S, St. Paul)
- Frank and Sims (1150 Sims Avenue, St. Paul)
- White Bear Township (5900 Sherwood Road, White Bear Township)

Oakdale Public Works does not accept grass clippings or bagged leaves. Residents may drop off branches and brush for a nominal fee during regular business hours until October 20 at Public Works (1900 Hadley Avenue N).

To find other yard waste disposal sites or recycling options, visit the Washington County Disposal Directory at www.co.washington.mn.us/630/Disposal-Directory.



ALL THINGS BUCKTHORN

The City of Oakdale continues to encourage residents to help remove buckthorn, an invasive and non-native species that continues to threaten natural resources. There is a lot to know about this plant, so here are answers to common questions and how you can help.

What is so bad about buckthorn?

Buckthorn spreads very quickly and out-competes native plants for nutrients, light and moisture. It also can degrade wildlife habitat, serve as a host for pests and contribute to erosion.

What does buckthorn look like?

Buckthorn has dark green and glossy leaves, stout thorns, gray outer-bark and bright yellow inner-bark. Small, yellow-green flowers present in the spring, and female trees produce black fruit in the fall with seeds like grapes. Do not confuse these plants with choke cherry plants that include black fruit with a single pit.

How can I remove buckthorn on my property?

Small seedlings can be removed by hand or using garden tools. For larger shrubs, a weed wrench is available for use through the City. Call Public Works at **651-730-2740** to reserve a wrench.

Where can I dispose of buckthorn?

Advanced registration is required for this fall's curbside collection program on the following dates:

- September 26
- October 10
- October 24

Buckthorn can also be dropped off for free on weekdays at Public Works (1900 Hadley Avenue N) from 7:30 AM to 3 PM through October 20.

For more information on buckthorn identification and removal, or to register for curbside pickup, visit www.oakdalemn.gov/722/Buckthorn-Management.

BUSINESS & DEVELOPMENT

WILLOWBROOKE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Springs at Willowbrooke Apartments hosted a ribbon cutting on August 22 which marked the completion of the Second Addition of the housing development located north of 34th Street N and east of Interstate 694. Half of the planned 1,400 units in the Willowbrooke neighborhood have either been built or are under construction, and the City Council approved plans for the Ninth Addition in June. The Willowbrooke development is expected to spur population growth in Oakdale over the next three to five years.

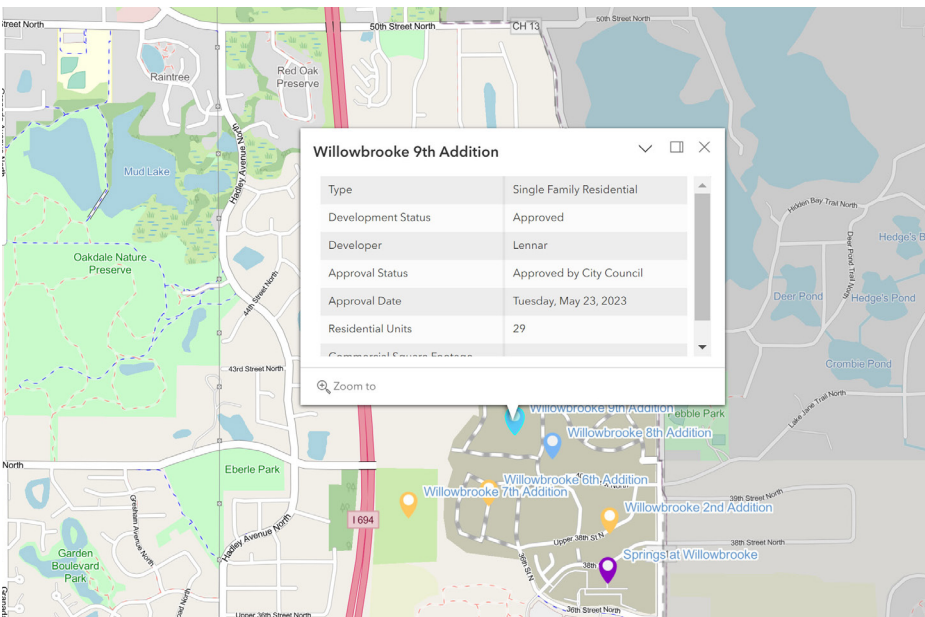
In addition to mixed residential housing units, Willowbrooke will feature open space, City parks and a network of pedestrian trails and sidewalks. Trail construction began early this fall, and the City expects to break ground on the largest City park in the spring. Over 200 new trees were also planted in the neighborhood in August.

The City's reconstruction of 40th Street N concluded at the end of June following delays due to weather in the



Over 200 new trees were planted in Willowbrooke in mid-August.

fall of 2022. The stretch of road between Interstate 694 and Ideal Avenue N has been transformed with a new route, pavement with concrete curb and gutter, improved storm water management, pedestrian facilities and a roundabout. This roadway will provide access to the Willowbrooke neighborhood.



DEVELOPMENT MAP

Development is taking place at a rapid pace in Oakdale, and it can be hard to keep up with everything going on. The City wants to make it easier for the community to remain informed and keep track of projects going on. Therefore, the City has launched an interactive map that includes development projects that are either under review, approved, under construction or recently completed. Users can click on a project point to view information about project type, status, developer, approval status and date, and number of units or square footage. To access the map, scan the code.



ONLINE BUSINESS LICENSE PLATFORM LAUNCHES

The City of Oakdale has transitioned business license applications to its online services platform to help improve communication with City businesses and create a more efficient internal process. Any new business licenses or renewals will now be done through the online system. To access applications, scan the code. Questions? Email licensing@oakdalemn.gov or call 651-730-2739.



RECREATION



PROGRAM REGISTRATION

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

- Visit 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.



Registration fees for programs canceled by Oakdale Recreation will be fully refunded. Other than adult trips, participants may cancel one week before the start of the program and receive a refund, less a \$5 administration fee.

CONTACT US

For questions about recreation programs, registration and policies, and Discovery Center facility and picnic shelter reservations, call **651-747-3860**.

Find more at www.oakdalefun.com. Click "Stay Connected" to sign up for Oakdale Recreation updates.



Programs on pages 10 to 14 take place at the Discovery Center or Oakdale Nature Preserve unless otherwise noted.

PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

Drop off October 22 to 25 at Discovery Center

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

FLASHLIGHT PUMPKIN HUNT

Thursday, October 26 | 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

Wednesday, December 13

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

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, seasonal items and more.

- November 11 and 25
- December 9
- January 13 and 27
- February 10 and 24
- March 9 and 23

If you would like to apply to become a vendor, contact Nathan Timmons at nathan.timmons@oakdalemn.gov.

ART DISCOVERY FAIR

Saturday, November 18 | 10 AM to 3 PM

Discover the perfect holiday gifts and engage with local artists and crafters at this free-to-attend event featuring paintings, photography, woodworking, jewelry and more.

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 is required.

WINTER SCAVENGER HUNT

November through February

An all new winter scavenger hunt will be available this fall. Pick up the guide to find items in the Nature Preserve and return it for a fun prize!

POLES, BACKPACKS AND BINOCULARS

Walking poles turn a walk into a total-body workout. Binoculars and youth exploration backpacks are also available. Use these items for free with photo ID.

WINTER WALKING

During the winter season, the paved trails throughout the Nature Preserve are cleared after each snowfall for winter walking. Accumulating snow on the boardwalk will not be cleared.

SNOWSHOE RENTALS

Bring friends and family for daily snowshoeing in the Nature Preserve. Rate is \$6 (tax included) for two hours, cash or check only on weekends, with child and adult sizes available. Reservations are recommended for groups of six or more. Please call **651-747-3860**. Rentals begin December 17 pending snow conditions. Hours are Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM; Saturday, 12 to 3:30 PM; Sunday, 1 to 3:30 PM.

ART GALLERY

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

- October and November - Susan Solomon and Mandy Madsen; Painting
 - December - Jeffrey D. Voss; Animal Paintings
 - January - Amber Dooley; Nature Photography
- Artist requests: laura.linzmeyer@oakdalemn.gov

TANDEM BIKES

Two tandem bikes are available for use during regular hours through October, weather permitting. Rent a bike for free with photo ID.

PLASTER PAWS

Pick out an animal track mold and use it to make your own plaster paw to take home.

COMMUNITY BOOK AND MOVIE SWAP

Bring gently used books and movies to swap for an even exchange of something "new." Books must be in good, readable condition with the cover intact. Movies must be fully operable in the original case. No VHS tapes will be accepted.



MEA BREAK AMPED UP ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, October 19 | 10 to 11 AM

Join us for a special fall edition of Amped Up Entertainment as The RAD Zoo bring the Radical Reptile Adventure Program to the Discovery Center amphitheater. Join us for a fun, interactive experience with turtles, lizards, snakes and an alligator. Program will be held indoors in the event of inclement weather.



SANTA'S MAILBOXES

November 27 to December 17

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.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST

Drop off December 14 to 15 at Discovery Center

Submissions will be voted on by Winter Wonderland attendees. Prizes will be awarded for top youth (ages 12 and under) and adult (ages 13 and older) entries.

SNOW SCULPTURE OF OAKDALE CONTEST

Submissions accepted until March 31

Head outside in Oakdale and create a snow masterpiece! This year's theme is "Snow Animals." Winner receives a themed winter prize basket. Email photo entries, name and address to nathan.timmons@oakdalemn.gov.

HOLIDAY COOKIE CLASS

Wednesday, December 6 | 6 to 8 PM

Ages 12 and up | \$58 per person

Learn the art of holiday cookie decorating with Love and Butter Bakery just in time for the season. Design and decorate six cookies. All supplies and cookies provided. Registration deadline is one week prior to class.

SUNDAE BINGO

Sunday, November 12 or January 14 | 1 to 3 PM

All ages | \$10 per person

Join us for bingo and ice cream sundaes.

Prizes are awarded for every game with a grand prize raffle to follow. Must be present to win. Registration deadline is one week prior to start of program.



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. No sign up is required.

- October 25 - Spooky
- November 29 - Hats
- December 27 - Weather
- January 31 - Shapes

CHEERFUL HEARTS PAINTING CLASSES

\$30 per class | Ages 18 and up

All supplies are provided with step-by-step instructions from Sandy Danus to create a finished 12-by-12 canvas painting. Registration deadline is one week prior to class.

- **Friday, October 27 | 6 to 8:30 PM**
Fall Path
- **Thursday, November 16 | 11 AM to 2 PM**
Collage Cardinal (\$35)
- **Wednesday, December 20 | 6 to 8:30 PM**
Pine Bough
- **Friday, December 22 | 11 AM to 2 PM**
Wood Snowman (7-by-12 wood board)
- **Friday, January 19 | 6 to 8:30 PM**
Snowman and Moon
- **Friday, January 26 | 11 AM to 2 PM**
Winter Birch

WORK FOR OAKDALE RECREATION!

Do you have hobbies, interests or knowledge to share with others? Instructor proposals are accepted throughout the year.

Contact Julie Williams at **651-747-3867**.

JOIN THE FAMILY FUN AT WINTER WONDERLAND

In partnership with the Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce and First Resource Bank,

Oakdale Recreation 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 City event is free to attend. Join us for a community-building celebration of winter!

Date: Saturday, December 16

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

Activities and events include:

- Horse-drawn hayrides (10 AM to 1 PM)
- Petting zoo
- Dogs of winter
- Bonfire with s'mores
- Holiday crafts
- Visit with Santa
- Candy cane hunt
- Holiday face painting
- Breakfast and lunch



WAHOO!

Wahoo! Adventures provides programs for families to enjoy the beauty of winter in the Oakdale Nature Preserve!

SNOWSHOE, SIP AND SAMPLE

Friday, February 2 | 6 to 9 PM | \$50 per person

Ages 21 and up

Join us for snowshoeing, beer, wine and food samples! Snowshoe along a luminary-lit trail before heading indoors for the vintage game room, music and prize drawings every 30 minutes. Snowshoes provided or bring your own.

FAMILY MOONLIGHT SNOWSHOE AND BONFIRE

Saturday, February 3 | \$25 per person

Enjoy two luminary-lit trails, one short and one longer, through the Nature Preserve. Afterwards, enjoy hot dogs, chips, s'mores and hot chocolate while watching a movie. Snowshoes provided or bring your own. Bring a headlamp if desired and dress in layers with sturdy boots.

- Select a check-in time at registration:
6 PM, 6:20 PM, 6:40 PM or 7 PM
- Trail closes at 8:30 PM.
- Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Registration deadline is one week prior to the event.



ADULT YOGA

Oakdale welcomes Jen Vail, registered yoga teacher and trainer and certified Pilates instructor, who will bring three brand new yoga classes to the Discovery Center! Jen was most recently the director and founder of YogaFresh in Woodbury. Her unique offerings have different focus areas and are accessible for all experience levels. She strives to create a non-judgmental, fun and safe environment to explore the benefits of yoga, barre and Pilates. Registration deadline is one week prior to start of program. Drop-in for a single class is \$20, if space is available.

Morning Yoga | Tuesdays | 9:30 to 10:30 AM

Rise and shine with intention. Experience a customizable yoga practice designed to build strength and mindfulness to help increase mobility, flexibility and balance. This all-levels class encourages participants to move at their own pace to explore postures in a safe and sustainable way for a more fulfilling practice.

- **Six-week series, Session 1 (\$99)**
September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31
- **Five-week series, Session 2 (\$83)**
November 14, 21 and 28; December 5 and 12

Twilight Yoga | Thursdays | 6 to 7 PM

Wind down your day with a gentle flow to melt away stress in the glow of twinkling lights. This all-levels class will illuminate your intention and calm the nervous system with flowing movements designed to improve balance, strength and flexibility in a sustainable way.

- **Five-week series (\$83)**
November 2, 9, 16 and 30; December 7

Roll and Release: Foam Rolling and Yoga Fridays | Dates and Times Vary

Melt away tightness and stress using self-myofascial techniques, yoga shapes and a foam roller to improve overall health and wellness. This all-levels class is the perfect addition to any fitness routine and can help alleviate muscle soreness, support healthy joints and speed up recovery with a focus on deep-tissue massage. Space is limited.

- **Four-week series (\$67) | 10:30 to 11:30 AM**
September 22 and 29; October 6 and 13
- **Pop Up Class (\$20) | 3 to 4 PM**
November 3 or December 1



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 take place at the Oakdale Discovery Center unless noted. Join the email list: oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY WALKS AT OAKDALE NATURE PRESERVE

Wednesdays at 9 AM (through November)

10 AM (beginning December)

No registration is necessary to join these weekly walks. Meet in front of the Discovery Center.

FLU SHOT CLINIC

Saturday, September 30 | 11 AM to 2 PM

Clinic provided by Walgreens. Shots are \$0 with most insurance. Bring photo ID and insurance card. No registration necessary.

FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Saturday, October 7 | 10 AM to 12 PM

Learn about fire prevention and public safety in one engaging class. Topics covered include different fire classifications, extinguishing agents, kitchen fire safety, CPR and AED discussion, identity theft and forms of theft protection.

WELLNESS MOVIE CLUB

Select Tuesdays | 1 PM | Oakdale Library

- October 24 - *Book Club*
- December 19 - *Hope Springs*

Register: oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com

WELLNESS BOOK CLUB

Select Tuesdays | 6:30 PM | Oakdale Library

- November 28 - *What to Eat When*, Michael Poizen and Michael Crupain
- January 23 - *The End of Alzheimer's*, Dale Bredeisen

Register: oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN MAHJONGG

Saturday, October 14 | 12:30 to 3:30 PM

Learn the basics of American Mahjongg from Mary Boss, a professional trainer, coach and Mahjongg enthusiast.

Register: oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com

AMERICAN MAHJONGG REFRESH AND PRACTICE

Saturday, October 21 | 12:30 to 3:30 PM

Refresh and practice what you learned by playing a game.

Register: oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com

TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOPS

Age-Friendly Oakdale invites you to learn about transportation options in Oakdale including options such as Metro Transit, Transit Link and ride-hail companies like Lyft and Uber. There will be a brief presentation and time for questions and engagement about local efforts to understand future transportation needs and options.

- **Tuesday, October 17 | 1 PM**

Oakdale Discovery Center | Call **651-747-3860** or visit www.oakdalefun.com to register.

- **Thursday, October 19 | 4:30 PM**

Oakdale Library | Call **651-730-0504** or visit <https://bit.ly/47zB75b> to register.

ESSENTRICS CLASSICAL STRETCH

Tuesdays, January 2 to March 26 | 11 AM to 12 PM

Join us for this free, weekly drop-in stretch and strength class. Watch two 22-minute Essentrics Classical Stretch DVD programs designed to increase flexibility, loosen joints, strengthen and stretch with relaxing, gentle movement. No registration necessary.

COMMUNITY-WIDE EVENTS

Community-wide events are posted on the Vital Aging Network calendar at www.vital-aging-network.org/events. Registration is through the Wellness 50+ Twin Cities Meetup group at www.meetup.com/wellness50-twincities. Some of these programs may have a fee. Join the Meetup group to receive event notifications.

ADULT TRIP

American Swedish Institute's Holiday Exhibition

Wednesday, December 6 | 9 AM to 3 PM |

\$75 per person, includes school bus transportation

Visit the American Swedish Institute's Holiday Rooms, a celebratory exploration of Nordic holiday traditions and customs in the Institute and the 33-room Turnblad Mansion. This guided tour provides a close-up look at the art and architecture of the mansion and also provides

facts and history on the Turnblad family and early Minneapolis. Fee includes traditional Swedish lunch. There will be time for

optional purchases after lunch. This trip meets at the Gladstone Center in Maplewood. Registration deadline is November 22. No refunds given after the deadline.

FAMILY FUN FLATABLES SPONSORS

Thanks to our sponsors for this year's Family Fun Flatables.

- **Gold:** Oakdale Athletic Association and American Legion Post 39
- **Silver:** New Horizon Academy
- **Bronze:** Marcus Theatres, North Star Skate School/ East Metro Stars Hockey, Parkview Chiropractic and Tartan Boys Traveling Basketball



park information

PICNIC SHELTER RENTALS

Reservations for 2024 begin on January 2, 2024!

Rentals 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. Shelter rental locations, rates and park amenities are available at www.oakdalefun.com.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS

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

- **OAKDALE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**
www.oaaonline.com
- **OAKDALE ADULT SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**
www.oasa.us
- **OMNI OTTERS SWIM TEAM**
www.omniotters.com
omniotters@gmail.com
- **ST. PAUL-RAMSEY HORSESHOE CLUB**
651-808-3812
- **TARTAN AREA YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**
www.tayha.org

Dogs must be leashed in all parks except the Bark Park. Please clean up after your pet!

*"Walkin' In A Winter Wonderland" by
Becka Kwiatkowski
2023 Oakdale Winter
Photo Contest Winner*



OAKDALE BARK PARK

4957 Helena Road N

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.

SKATING RINKS AND WARMING HOUSES

The City of Oakdale outdoor rinks offer both general skating and hockey facilities. All rinks are regularly-maintained, supervised by attendants and include heated warming houses. 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 plus tax; Monday to Friday, 8 to 10 PM; Weekends, 8 AM to 12 PM.

Contact Nathan Timmons at nathan.timmons@oakdalemn.gov for more information or to make a reservation.

LOCATIONS

- Northdale Park, 5099 Granada Avenue N
- Walton Park (Hockey and Pleasure Rinks), 1584 Hadley Avenue N
- Eastside Park, 1744 Helmo Avenue N

HOURS

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

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

A full winter break schedule and more information about outdoor rinks can be found at www.oakdalefun.com.

Join the Recreation team as a rink attendant! Find more information and apply at www.oakdalemn.gov/employment.





City of Oakdale
1584 Hadley Avenue N
Oakdale, MN 55128
www.oakdalemn.gov

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SPRING PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to the Oakdale Spring Photo Contest winners recognized on this page! Fans voted on Facebook for their favorite images in June, and the top three photos with the most “likes” were declared the winners.

Summer contest voting ends September 30. Nominations for the fall contest will be open November 1 to 30, and voting begins December 11. For more information on contest details, entry rules, voting and how to submit photos, visit www.oakdalemn.gov/905/Photo-Contest.



“Spring Has Sprung” by Stan Blanda



Above:
“Deer” by Andrew Stakston



Left:
“Woo You Looking At?!” by Tedd Ronning

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Subscribe to meeting materials online:

- Click on “How Do I”
- Navigate to “Sign Up For”
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- **Fire:** oakdaleFD
- **Recreation:** oakdalefun

Follow Oakdale on Twitter

- **City:** @oakdalemn
- **Police:** @oakdaleMN_PD

Follow on these other social platforms

- **LinkedIn:** oakdalemn
- **YouTube:** CityOfOakdaleMN

Watch City Council and advisory body meetings LIVE on our YouTube Channel!