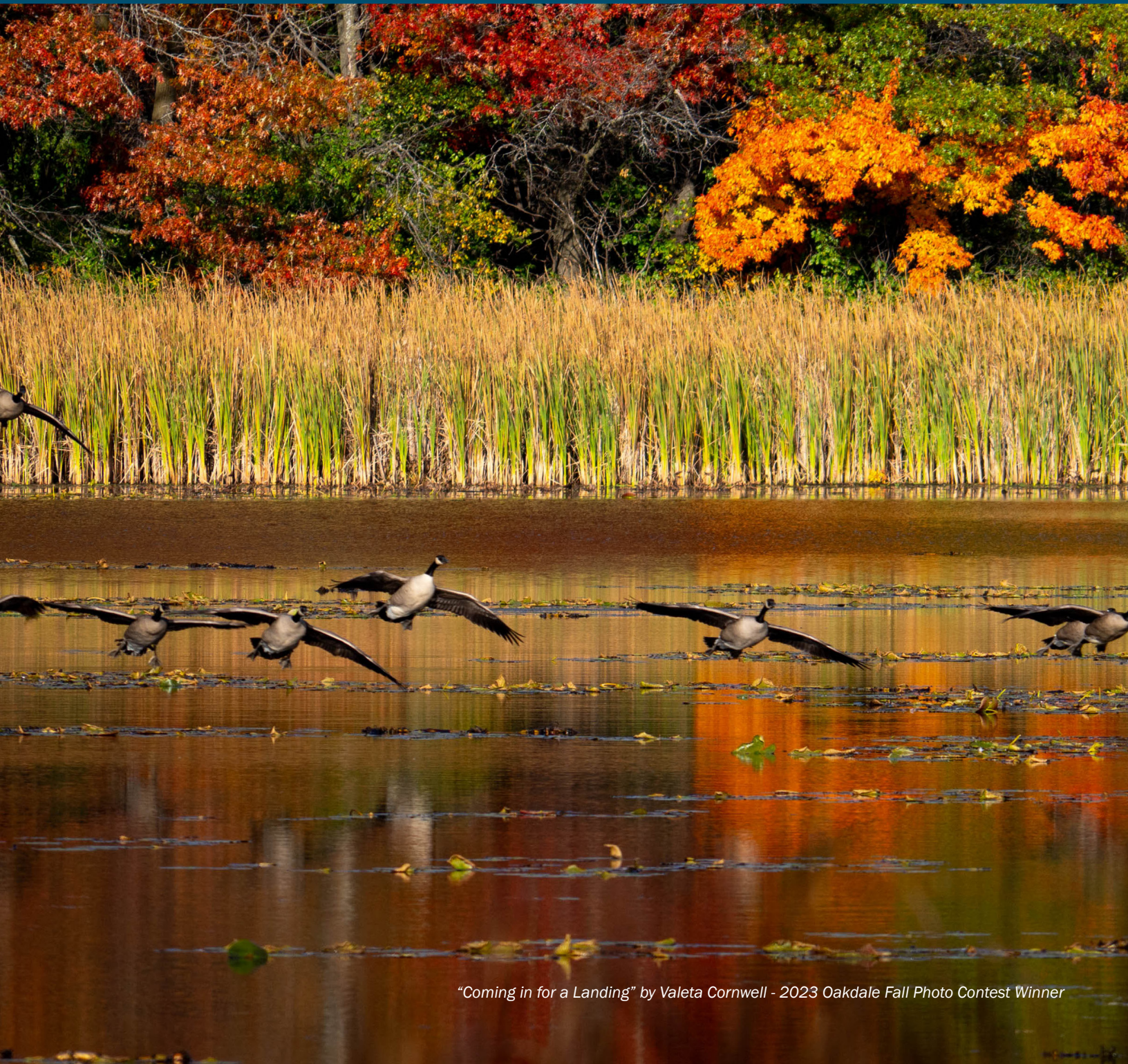




FALL-WINTER 2024

OAKDALE UPDATE



"Coming in for a Landing" by Valeta Cornwell - 2023 Oakdale Fall Photo Contest Winner



"Walking into Fall" by Andrew Stakston
2023 Oakdale Fall Photo Contest Winner

IN THIS ISSUE

Public Works facility project update	2
Upcoming events	3
2024 Acorn Award winners	4
Charging Smart Bronze designation	5
Election information	6
Local Sales Tax Extension	6
Local Sales Tax Extension FAQ	7
Seasonal reminders	8
Business and development updates	9
Recreation registration information	10
Discovery Center programs	11
Family holiday programs and events	12
Adult Recreation programs	13
Oakdale Wellness 50+	14
Park information	15
Willowbrooke Commons Grand Opening	16

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT MOVES FORWARD

Construction on the new facility is expected to begin in early October.

The construction phase of the new Public Works facility is ready to begin. Following site work by 3M this spring and early summer, the land for the future facility at 3200 Granada Avenue N was officially donated to the City of Oakdale in August.

This summer, the City opened bids for construction management services. Kraus-Anderson Construction Company was awarded the project bid by the City Council on August 14.

Construction is expected to begin October 7, 2024 with earthwork to grade the site. Building erection will begin in late-fall 2024 and continue through the winter. Project completion is anticipated in October 2025.

To learn more about the Public Works facility project, view architectural renderings and receive project updates, visit the project site at www.oakdalemn.gov/975/New-Public-Works-Facility or scan the code.



*Top: Aerial rendering of new Public Works facility from the north.
Bottom: Rendering of new Public Works facility public entrance.*





upcoming events

Full calendar at:
www.oakdalemn.gov

city-wide clean up september 21

pumpkin hunt october 24

santa firetruck visit december 11

winter wonderland december 21

OAKDALE FARMERS MARKET

The Farmers Market runs through October 9 on Wednesdays from 2 to 6 PM in the City Hall parking lot (1584 Hadley Avenue N).

CONTACT US

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

CITY OFFICES
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 651-747-3860
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
(Through September 30, 2024)
651-964-9648
noah.her@oakdalemn.gov

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

Council Member Andy Morcomb
952-381-1606
andy.morcomb@oakdalemn.gov

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



CITY NEWS

2024 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 2024 winning properties, and the winners were recognized at the City Council meeting on August 27.

Congratulations to the 2024 Acorn Award winners for their outstanding achievement and commitment to making Oakdale a beautiful community:

- **Residential:** Afonso Family, 7546 Upper 17th Street N
- **Public:** Transfiguration Church, 6133 15th Street N
- **Business/Commercial:** Platinum Bank, 7667 10th Street N

CITY-WIDE CLEAN UP EVENT

The City will host a City-Wide Clean Up Event on Saturday, September 21 from 9 AM to 1 PM at Oakdale Public Works (1900 Hadley Avenue N) for residents to conveniently dispose of furniture, electronics and hard-to-recycle items. Proof of residency is required at drop-off.

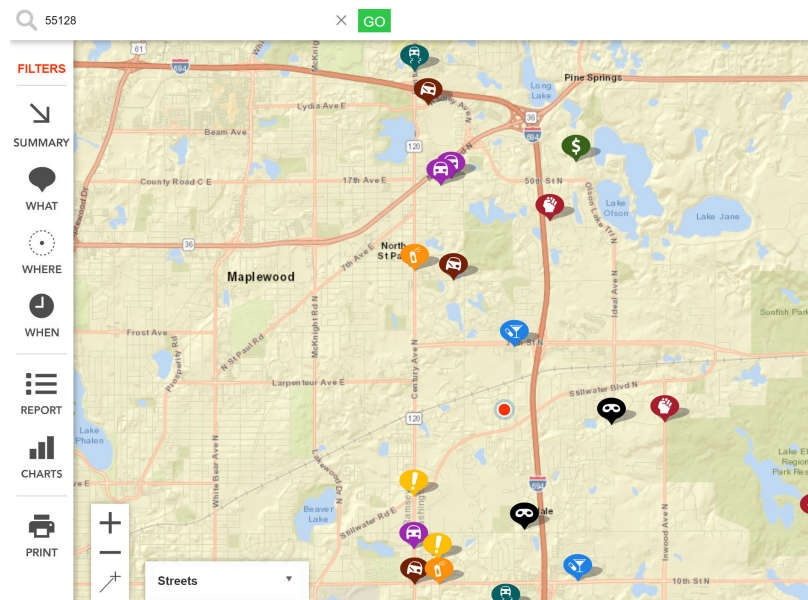
A fee will be charged based on the size and type of load. You can bring a load of general trash and be charged by the size of your vehicle. If there are bulky items that require special handling, you will only be charged for those items. If you have a mixed load, you will be charged for both. **Please be prepared with payment at the gate; Only cash or check (payable to "City of Oakdale") will be accepted.**

While the City and its contractors will exercise caution when unloading items, participants assume all risk of damage to vehicles that may occur while items are being removed. By participating in the event, participants waive any claim against the City for such damages.

The City will not accept, and reserves the right to refuse, any hazardous waste or other items that may contaminate the waste stream, that may be unsafe to handle, or that may harm the environment.

For a complete list of items accepted and not accepted and pricing, please visit www.oakdalemn.gov/1009/City-Wide-Clean-Up-Event or scan the code.





Crime Mapping allows community members to access crime incident data from the last 180 days via an interactive map.

INTERACTIVE CRIME MAPPING TOOL

Washington County, in partnership with local law enforcement agencies including the Oakdale Police Department, launched a new crime mapping tool that provides community members access to crime incidents from the past 180 days via an interactive map feature.

To use the tool, visit www.crimemapping.com or scan



the code and enter location information or select a state and law enforcement agency. Users can filter data by date, location and type of crime, as well as view various reports and charts and print information.

OAKDALE EARNS CHARGING SMART BRONZE DESIGNATION

The City of Oakdale received a Bronze designation from the national Charging Smart program for achieving policies that facilitate the equitable expansion of electric vehicles (EVs) and EV charging infrastructure.

As a Charging Smart Bronze designee, Oakdale has adopted nationally recognized best practices to accelerate the deployment of EVs in the community, including a focus on equity to ensure that all residents can access the benefits of electrified transportation.

Oakdale is one of just nine local government agencies in the state of Minnesota to earn this designation.

Charging Smart is led by partners including the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) and Great Plains Institute and funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Vehicle Technologies Office.

COUNTY PUMPKIN RECYCLING PROGRAM

Oakdale City Hall will serve as a disposal site for the Washington County free pumpkin recycling program for select dates in November. More information will be available later in October from Washington County at

www.washingtoncountymn.gov/3575/Pumpkin-Recycling.

HOME ENERGY SQUAD DISCOUNT

The City of Oakdale is now offering discounted Home Energy Squad visits to a limited number of Oakdale CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy customers. Home Energy Squad, delivered by the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE), offers two types of visits: the Energy Saver visit for newer homes (\$35 with discount) and the Energy Planner visit for older homes (\$50 with discount). Free visits are also available to income-qualified households.

During an in-home visit, a Home Energy Squad crew will:

- Install energy-saving materials;
- Adjust water heater temperature;
- Perform a blower door test to measure your home for air leaks (Energy Planner visit only);
- Inspect attic and wall insulation using an infrared camera (Energy Planner visit only); and
- Offer support from energy experts who will guide you through next steps for larger energy-saving projects.

To schedule an appointment for a Home Energy Squad visit, call **651-328-6220** or scan the code.



SAVE THE DATE: 2025 OAKDALE SUMMERFEST IS JUNE 26 TO 28!

Oakdale's annual Summerfest celebration was a huge success in 2024 in its second year under the supervision and organization of the Oakdale Summerfest Community Organization (OSCO). The City is grateful for its partnership with OSCO to provide the community with an event that has been part of Oakdale tradition for over 40 years.

The **2025 Oakdale Summerfest weekend is slated for June 26 to 28, 2025**. Interested in volunteering or joining the planning efforts? Contact OSCO member Paul Reinke at preinke@silveroakdev.com for more information.





2024 election

ABSENTEE VOTING OPENS SEPTEMBER 20

PRE-REGISTER BY OCTOBER 15

ABSENTEE VOTING CLOSES NOVEMBER 4

ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 5

VOTING INFO

Oakdale has eight voting precincts. Voters must go to their assigned precinct on Election Day. Voting hours are 7 AM to 8 PM. Find your precinct at www.mnvotes.org.

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

Other election information can be found at www.oakdalemn.gov/355/Elections-Voting.

CITY ELECTION

Oakdale voters will elect two Council Members in the general election on November 5, 2024. City Council candidates are listed at:

www.oakdalemn.gov/822/2024-Oakdale-Candidate-Filings



LOCAL SALES TAX EXTENSION

In 2022, Oakdale voters approved a half-percent (0.5%) local sales tax to fund \$15 million for the expansion and remodel of the current Police facility and \$22 million for a new Public Works facility. The sales tax was implemented on April 1, 2023 and is currently slated to remain in place until 2048 or until the funds have been collected, whichever is sooner.

Since these construction projects were proposed back in 2021, construction costs have risen significantly due to inflation.

In 2023, the City asked the Minnesota Legislature for the authority to go back to voters with ballot questions to extend the collection of sales tax to close the funding gap caused by inflation, which the Legislature approved.

The increased costs due to inflation total \$9 million more than the original cost estimate and amount approved by voters in 2022. If both questions are approved, the total funds raised would increase from \$37 million to \$46 million. The extension, if approved, would allow the City to collect the 0.5% sales tax for an additional five years, which would extend the sales tax through 2053.

	\$ Approved by Voters in 2022	\$ Increase Requested of Voters in 2024	\$ Total if Approved by Voters in 2024
Police Facility	\$15 million	\$3 million	\$18 million
Public Works Facility	\$22 million	\$6 million	\$28 million
Total Cost of Projects	\$37 million	\$9 million	\$46 million



NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Scan the code or visit www.oakdalemn.gov/885/Local-Sales-Tax to find additional information about the local sales tax proposal including more frequently asked questions and answers.

LOCAL SALES TAX FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why is the City proposing an extension?

Construction costs have risen significantly due to inflation since the approved Police and Public Works facility projects were first proposed. If approved by voters, the extension would allow the City to collect funds to cover the projects' funding gaps caused by inflation.

If the extension is approved, how much would the local sales tax be, and how long would it be in effect?

The local sales tax rate would remain 0.5%, or \$.50 on every \$100 of taxable purchases. The period to collect the approved funds would extend an additional five years, a total of 30 years, to collect funds for the approved projects. The tax would remain in place until 2053 instead of 2048, or until funds are raised, whichever is sooner.

Why is the City able to go back to voters?

In 2023, the Minnesota Legislature reviewed Oakdale's request and granted the City authority to request additional funds for increased costs through 2023 Minnesota Laws Chapter 64, Article 10, Sections 20-24.

What happens if the local sales tax extension is not approved by voters?

The City would have to look to other funding sources to fill the funding gap, including but not limited to property tax increases. Approval of the local sales tax extension would mean approximately 50% of the funds raised will come from people outside of Oakdale who shop in our community.

Why can't the City make cuts to save money on the projects?

City staff, the City Council, and the project design teams have made numerous cost-saving adjustments to the projects. Further changes would impact the functionality and efficiency of the projects, such as eliminating an on-site fuel island at the Public Works facility, which is used daily by Police, Fire and other City employees for City work.

VOTERS WILL SEE TWO QUESTIONS ON THE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT IN NOVEMBER.

LOCAL SALES TAX QUICK FACTS

- If both questions are approved, the 0.5% local sales tax rate will not change, but the sunset date will change from 2048 to 2053 to raise an additional \$9 million.
- Approximately 50% of the local sales tax collected in Oakdale comes from people outside of Oakdale who shop in our community.
- The local sales tax mirrors the state sales tax, meaning it does not apply to specific purchases like groceries, clothing and medications.

WHAT WILL THIS LOOK LIKE ON THE BALLOT?

Question 1: Extend Police Facility Expansion Sales Tax Without Rate Increase

Shall the City of Oakdale be authorized to extend the existing sales and use tax for inflationary costs of expanding and remodeling the Police Facility for an additional period of 5 years from 2048 to 2053 or until an additional \$3 million plus the costs of collecting and administering the tax and the costs of issuing bonds including interest is collected?

If this question is approved, the rate of the sales tax will remain unchanged at 0.5% and will remain in place until 2053 or until enough sales tax revenue has been collected to pay for the costs of the project, administration, and financing.

Question 2: Extend New Public Works Facility Sales Tax Without Rate Increase

Shall the City of Oakdale be authorized to extend the existing sales and use tax for inflationary costs of constructing a new Public Works Facility for an additional period of 5 years from 2048 to 2053 or until an additional \$6 million plus the costs of collecting and administering the tax and the costs of issuing bonds including interest is collected?

If this question is approved, the rate of the sales tax will remain unchanged at 0.5% and will remain in place until 2053 or until enough sales tax revenue has been collected to pay for the costs of the project, administration, and financing.



SEASONAL REMINDERS



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.

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:

- 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.

For more information on plowing and snow removal, visit www.oakdalemn.gov/911/Snow-Removal-and-Plowing.

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.



BUCKTHORN DISPOSAL

The City will offer free, curbside pickup of buckthorn. Advanced registration is required for pickup of buckthorn on the following dates:

- Tuesday, September 24
- Tuesday, October 8
- Tuesday, October 22

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 18.

Volunteers are also needed for the annual Scott Carver Buckthorn Removal Project on Saturday, October 12.

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

LEAVES AND YARD WASTE

It is against City Code to throw, place, deposit or burn leaves, trash, lawn clippings, weeds, grass or other materials in public streets, alleys, gutters, ponds, parks or open space areas. No grass clippings or bagged leaves are allowed for drop-off at Public Works.

Free yard disposal is available at the Washington County Northern Yard Waste Site, located at 5527 170th Street N in Hugo. For hours and more information, visit www.washingtoncountymn.gov/3261/Northern-Yard-Waste-Site.

There are also four locations in Ramsey County that residents of Washington County may use for free with a photo ID. Scan the code for more information.



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

BUSINESS & DEVELOPMENT

WILLOWBROOKE COMMONS

On May 28, the City hosted an official groundbreaking for Willowbrooke Commons, a new City park in the Willowbrooke neighborhood. Construction for this new community gathering space began in the spring and is expected to be complete in October.

Willowbrooke Commons will be Oakdale's premier park and is the first of several parks planned for the Willowbrooke development. Amenities include inclusive and accessible playground equipment, teen challenge course, adult fitness equipment, a community gathering and performance shelter, picnic shelter, hammock area, misters, restroom facilities, walking paths and natural landscape areas.

4FRONT RETAIL

City staff and officials joined representatives from 4Front Technology and Office Campus and United Properties for a groundbreaking for Aldi and Starbucks on June 10. The new retailers will be located on the south side of the 4Front property located north of 34th Street N (CSAH 14) and east of Interstate 694. Aldi and Starbucks are expected to open in early 2025.

BUSINESS RETENTION, EXPANSION AND ATTRACTION PROGRAM

Following great success in 2023, the Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction (BREA) program was launched for a second year in February. In partnership with the Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce (OACC) and the St. Paul Area Chamber, City of Oakdale staff and officials visit local businesses to help build and strengthen relationships, to connect businesses with resources to support growth and success, and to develop an understanding of how to create and maintain a business-friendly environment in Oakdale.



City Council Members celebrate the groundbreaking of Willowbrooke Commons on May 28.



Above: City staff and officials attended a groundbreaking for Aldi and Starbucks on June 10.

Below: City officials visit with local businesses as part of the Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction (BREA) program.



CITY COUNCIL ADVISORY BODY MEETINGS AND OPENINGS

Oakdale has five advisory bodies to the City Council. Several currently have openings for commissioners or board members. Meetings are also open to the public to attend or watch online. For more information on advisory body meetings, schedules or to apply for a vacancy, visit www.oakdalemn.gov/298/Advisory-Bodies.



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.
- Click "Online Registration" on the left side the of page.
- Log in with account information OR click "create account" or "sign up" to create a new account.
- Select an activity from the catalog.
- Select account members to enroll in the activity and click "add to cart."
- Complete enrollment information by following the prompts.
- Click "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, rentals and policies, call **651-747-3860**. Find more details, including Discovery Center and picnic shelter rentals, 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.

GOT BUCKTHORN?

Saturday, September 28 | 10 AM to 12 PM | FREE

Buckthorn is an invasive species harming native habitats. Learn how to identify common types of buckthorn and removal techniques including chemical and chemical-free methods. Washington County Master Gardeners will lead and provide a hands-on demo. Dress for the weather. Call **651-747-3860** to register.

PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

Drop off October 20 to 23 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). Pumpkins will be displayed at the Flashlight Pumpkin Hunt, and attendees will vote for the winners.

FLASHLIGHT PUMPKIN HUNT

Thursday, October 24 | 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! Please register prior to October 17.

discovery center

LIBRARY STORY TIME

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 required.

- October 30 - Fall
- November 27 - Vehicles
- January 29 - Colors

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 16 and 30
- December 14
- January 11 and 25
- February 8 and 22
- March 8 and 22

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

ART DISCOVERY FAIR

Saturday, November 23 | 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.

SUNDAE BINGO

Sunday, December 8 or February 23 | 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.

WEDNESDAY CARDS

Wednesdays | 1 to 3 PM | FREE

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

Pick up the guide to find items in the Nature Preserve and return it for a fun prize!

PLASTER PAWS

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

SNOWSHOE RENTALS

Rate is \$6 (tax included) for two hours, cash or check only on weekends, with child and adult sizes available.

Call **651-747-3860** for group reservations. Rentals available first-come, first-served daily pending snow conditions. Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM; Saturday, 12 to 3:30 PM; Sunday, 1 to 3:30 PM.

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.

ART GALLERY

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

- October - Susan Solomon and Mandy Madsen; Painting
- November and December - Joseph Shoemaker; Photography
- January and February - Jordan Mae; Mixed Media

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.

WINTER WALKING

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

AMPED UP FALL SERIES

Friday, October 11 | 7 PM | FREE

Join us inside the Discovery Center for a fall edition of Amped Up Entertainment with a kids and family musical show from The Bazillions!





WALKING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND!

In partnership with the Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce and other sponsoring organizations, Oakdale Recreation will host 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. Parking at the Discovery Center is limited, so please plan ahead for parking on neighboring streets. Join us for a community-building celebration of winter!

Date: Saturday, December 21
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



RECYCLING NEW FOOD SCRAPS AT HOME

Wednesday, October 9
6 to 7 PM | FREE

Join Washington County staff to learn tips for success and how to get started with the accessible Food Scraps Pickup Program that allows Oakdale households to collect food scraps in free bags and put them in their regular trash bin.

JUNIOR GARDENERS TEDDY AND ME NEW

Sunday, October 20 | 2 to 3 PM | FREE

Bring a favorite stuffed animal to create matching autumn leaf headbands with leaves participants can collect on the Nature Preserve trail. All supplies provided. Class taught by Washington County Master Gardeners.

FIRETRUCK VISIT FROM SANTA

Wednesday, December 11 | FREE

Santa will visit the children of Oakdale on a decorated firetruck with twinkling lights. Bundle up and get those cameras ready! Santa stops along Hadley Avenue N:

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

SANTA'S MAILBOXES

December 2 to 15

Drop off letters for Santa at the Discovery Center and City Hall! Include child's name, age and address with any letters submitted.



GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST

Drop off submissions Thursday, December 19 (8 AM to 8 PM) or Friday, December 20 (8 AM to 4 PM).

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 and create a snow masterpiece! This year's theme is "Favorite Sport." The winner receives a special reward gift basket. Contest limited to Oakdale residents only. Email photo entries, name and address to nathan.timmons@oakdalemn.gov.

HOLIDAY COOKIE CLASS

Monday, December 2 | 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.

FAMILY JIGSAW PUZZLE CONTEST

Sunday, January 26 | 9 to 11 AM (Check in 8:30 AM)
\$35 per family

Join us for an exciting morning of competitive puzzling! Teams of up to four people will receive the same 500 piece puzzle and race to see which team can finish the puzzle first. All ages are welcome. Each team must have one member under age 18. Prizes awarded for first and second place, as well as prizes for every team under the two-hour limit. Registration required by January 17.

CHEERFUL HEARTS PAINTING CLASSES

Select Fridays | Price varies. | Ages 18 and up

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

- **October 4 | 11 AM to 2 PM | \$35**
Charming Scarecrow (10-by-20 canvas)
- **November 1 | 11 AM to 2 PM | \$30**
Pumpkin and Roses (12-by-12 canvas)
- **December 6 | 11 AM to 2 PM | \$35**
Pine Cone Still Life (10-by-20 canvas)
- **January 17 | 11 AM to 2 PM | \$30**
Winter Wonderland (12-by-12 canvas)

ADULT DAY TRIP

Cranberry Country Tour (Limited Spots Remaining)

Wednesday, October 9 | 8 AM to 6:30 PM

\$119 per person, includes transportation

Explore the enchanting world of cranberries on a trip to Warrens, Wisconsin. Indulge in lunch at Discovery Cranberries and Cranberry Country Cafe followed by a historical guided tour of cranberry cultivation at the museum. Visit Wetherby Cranberry Marsh for the Berry Best Tour to purchase fresh cranberries from the packing facility. Day concludes at the Menomonie Creamery for cheese and snacks for purchase. This trip meets at the Gladstone Community Education Center (2520 12th Avenue E, North St. Paul; 7:45 AM boarding). A \$5 processing fee deducted from refund if canceled on or before September 16. No refunds given after this date.

DOT-A-DOODLE ART MANDALA ROCK PAINTING

Select Dates | Ages 18 and up | \$30 per person

Come find peace and relaxation while creating an intricate and original Mandala Rock with Dot-a-Doodle Art. Your choice of a rock or holiday ornament. Registration deadline is one week prior to class. Check website for design examples.

- **Wednesday, November 13 | 6 to 8 PM**
- **Thursday, December 12 | 1 to 3 PM**

FAMILY FUN FLATABLES SPONSORS

Thanks to our sponsors for this year's Family Fun Flatables event held on September 14.

- **Gold:** Oakdale Athletic Association
- **Silver:** Juan Esquivel and Kari Moore
- **Bronze:** Marcus Oakdale Cinema, North Stars Skate School/East Metro Stars Youth Hockey Association, Parkview Chiropractic

WAHOO! ADVENTURES

Enjoy these winter-themed holiday snowshoe excursions in the Oakdale Nature Preserve from Wahoo! Adventures.

Snowshoe, Sip and Sample

Friday, February 14 | 6 to 9 PM | Ages 21 and up
\$50 per person

Celebrate Valentine's Day with an evening of 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 15 | \$25 per person

Celebrate Valentine's Day with friends and family for a fun winter workout! 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 an arrival/check-in time upon 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.



DISCOVERY CENTER RENTALS

Choose the Discovery Center to host your next event! The community rooms offer great views of the Nature Preserve with the ability to accommodate up to 120 guests. Discounted rates are available to Oakdale residents.

- Schedule a tour during regular hours by calling **651-747-3860**.
- Reservations are first-come, first-served for events within the next six months.
- The City of Oakdale has first priority. Only one reservation is accepted per day.
- A non-refundable deposit of half the rental fee is due at booking to reserve the date.



Scan the code for rental rates and more information.



OAKDALE WELLNESS 50+

Wellness 50+ is a volunteer organization with FREE activities for people ages 50 and up. All activities take place at the Oakdale Discovery Center unless noted. Join us for the following upcoming Tuesday meetings at the Discovery Center at 3 PM to learn more: October 8, November 12 and December 10. Join the email list: oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY WALKS IN THE NATURE PRESERVE

**Wednesdays at 9 AM (through November)
10 AM (beginning December)**

Meet in front of Discovery Center. No sign up needed.

TREE TREK IN THE NATURE PRESERVE

Thursday, October 10 | 2 PM

Take a guided walk with Oakdale Tree Board members. Meet in front of Discovery Center. No sign up needed.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Friday, October 18 and December 27 | 9 AM to 3 PM

Sponsored by Oakdale Wellness 50+ and the Maplewood Oakdale Lions Club. Sign up at www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.

WELLNESS MOVIE CLUB

Select Tuesdays | 1 PM | Oakdale Library

- October 22 - *Up In The Air*
- December 17 - *Chef*

Register: oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com

WELLNESS BOOK CLUB

Select Tuesdays | 6:30 PM | Oakdale Library

- November 26 - *Gulp: Adventures on the Alimentary Canal*, Mary Roach
- January 28 - *The Whole Body Reset*, Stephen Perrine

Register: oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com

PLAY MAHJONGG

Mondays | 1 PM

Join us to play Mahjongg. No sign up needed. (No gatherings November 4 and 11, or January 20) If you are interested in learning Mahjongg, email us at oakdalewellness50new@gmail.com. Free training will be scheduled based on interest.

COMMUNITY-WIDE EVENTS

Come join us for events through the Wellness 50+ Twin Cities Meetup group at www.meetup.com/wellness50-twincities. Some programs may have a fee. Join the group to receive notifications. Fun events include Zumba, hiking, bowling, bird watching, corn hole, kayaking and more!



ADULT YOGA

Join registered yoga teacher, trainer and Pilates instructor Jen Vail for all-levels yoga.

Registration deadline is one week prior to start of program. Drop-in for single class is \$20 if space is available.

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

Experience a yoga practice designed to build strength, mindfulness, mobility, flexibility and balance. This all-levels class encourages participants to sustainably move at their own pace for a fulfilling experience.

- **Five-week series, Session 1 (\$85)**
October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29
- **Six-week series, Session 2 (\$99)**
November 12, 19 and 26; December 3, 10 and 17
- **Six-week series, Session 3 (\$99)**
January 7, 14, 21 and 28; February 4 and 11

Twilight Yoga | Thursdays | 6 to 7 PM

This gentle flow aims to melt away stress in the glow of twinkling lights. Illuminate your intention and calm the nervous system with movements designed to improve balance, strength and flexibility in a sustainable way.

- **Four-week series, Session 1 (\$69)**
September 26; October 3, 10 and 17
- **Five-week series, Session 2 (\$85)**
November 7, 14 and 21; December 5 and 12
- **Six-week series, Session 3 (\$99)**
January 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30; February 6

Yoga, Meditation and Journaling Mini Retreats

Select Thursdays | 6:30 to 8 PM | \$35 per class

Honor seasonal shifts by exploring yoga, meditation/ yoga nidra and journaling to cultivate a deeper sense of harmony and well-being. These retreats are for participants of all levels to deepen their practice, reconnect with nature or unwind and recharge. Registration includes hatha yoga, guided nidra/ meditation and journaling (with a seasonal journal to keep). Space is limited. Pre-registration is required.

- **September 19 | Fall Equinox Mini Retreat**
- **December 19 | Winter Solstice Mini Retreat**

Full-Body Foam Rolling: A Self-Healing Workshop Sunday, November 17 | 10:45 to 11:45 AM | \$30

Learn foam rolling to alleviate tension, reduce pain, promote recovery and improve mobility. This all-levels class uses self-myofascial techniques and a foam roller to melt away stress and reduce muscle soreness. Space is limited. Pre-registration is required. Bring a mat. Foam rollers provided to use during class.



park information

PICNIC SHELTER RENTALS

Reservations for 2025 begin on January 2, 2025!

Rentals can be made in person at the Discovery Center, online, 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.

SKATING RINKS AND WARMING HOUSES

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

LOCATIONS

- 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

Winter break schedule: www.oakdalefun.com.

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.

Rink rentals available for \$40 an hour, plus tax: Monday to Friday, 8 to 10 PM; Weekends, 8 AM to 12 PM. Contact: nathan.timmons@oakdalemn.gov.

PICKLEBALL COURTS

Locations include:

- Tanners Lake Park, 5th Street N to Tanners Park Road
- Eastside Park (lined courts), 1744 Helmo Road N
- Oakdale Nature Preserve (lined courts), 4609 Granada Avenue N

"Winter Sunset in the Park"
by Tim Kemper
2024 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 and additional information can be found at www.oakdalemn.gov/701/Oakdale-Bark-Park.

OUTDOOR SKATE PARK

Walton Park, 1584 Hadley Avenue N

Open daily, 8 AM to Dusk

Skateboarders and in-line skaters may use this facility at no cost. Park includes a half pipe, roll-ins, spine ramp, sub-box, elevator, volcano, driveways and canyon.

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
- **OAKDALE PICKLEBALL CLUB**
651-439-5307
- **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

Looking for a fun winter job? Apply to work as rink attendant! Find more information and apply at www.oakdalemn.gov/employment.

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





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

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WILLOWBROOKE COMMONS GRAND OPENING

Saturday, October 12 | 1 to 3 PM | 3800 Henna Avenue N

City of Oakdale staff and officials will host a celebration-to-remember for the grand opening of our newest City park, Willowbrooke Commons! The event will include an official ceremony and ribbon cutting beginning at 1 PM. Stay to play, explore and enjoy family activities, treats and more. Come be part of Oakdale history!

celebrate with us



REPORT ISSUES AND CONCERNS WITH THE SEECLICKFIX APP!

The City of Oakdale has launched SeeClickFix, an app-based tool that allows citizens to report non-emergency concerns and issues throughout the community. SeeClickFix allows users to report issues as they happen, add photos, receive feedback from staff and monitor status of reported issues.

To get started, download the app, create an account and select a location. Requests receive feedback from City staff via the app and email. To learn more and download the app, scan the code or visit www.oakdalemn.gov/402/Comment-or-Issue.



CONNECT

www.oakdalemn.gov

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

Watch City meetings LIVE on our YouTube Channel!

