



Happy 100th Heights! Find out more about summer celebrations and 100th anniversary events throughout this newsletter. Cover photo of Jamboree fireworks in Huset Park by Dave Rudolph.

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COLUMBIA HEIGHTS
REDISCOVER THE HEIGHTS

SEE FLIP SIDE FOR RECREATION PROGRAMS

Community Art & Info Fair, June 24

The Community Art & Info Fair, formerly known as the Community Picnic and Art & Craft Fair, will be held at Huset Park West on Thu, June 24, from 5 to 7:30 pm. The info fair will be held along the walking path in between the Huset Park Splash Pad and Zurek Pond. Community organizations looking to have an informational booth can register by contacting Will Rottler at 763-706-3614. The deadline to register for an info booth is Thu, June 17. The art & craft fair portion of the event will be held outside along Mill Street near John P. Murzyn Hall, where attendees will also find food trucks. There is a \$15 fee to have a booth at the event. Bring your own table and display. Vendors can register for a booth by contacting Deanna

Saefke at 763-706-3730. The deadline to register is Thu, June 17. Space is limited.

The event will feature snacks, free ice cream, entertainment, food trucks, and more than 50 booths! It will be a stone's throw from the Jamboree Carnival taking place farther east into Huset Park. Notice: The event will be canceled in the case of severe weather. Attendees are asked to follow CDC social distancing guidelines. Visit www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/events for more information.



Citywide Garage Sale, June 12

The fourth annual Columbia Heights Citywide Garage Sale will return Sat, June 12, 2021. The event was canceled last year due to COVID-19 precautions. The deadline to be added to the Citywide Garage Sale map is Tue, June 1. There is no cost to be added to the map. To register your address, visit www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/garagesale. For more information, please contact Will Rottler at 763-706-3614 or wrottler@columbiaheightsmn.gov.

A map will be made available online on Tue, June 8. To obtain a paper copy, please visit City Hall. Note: The Citywide Garage Sale is subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Columbia Heights asks attendees to stay home if they are experiencing symptoms. While taking part in the Citywide Garage Sale, please practice COVID-19 safety precautions.



Jamboree Schedule of Events

Wed, June 23

11 am & 5 pm - Tasty Pizza
Medallion Hunt (via Facebook)

Thu, June 24

5 to 11 pm - Jamboree Carnival in Huset Park
5 to 7:30 pm - Community Art & Info Fair in Huset Park West

Fri, June 25

Noon to midnight - Jamboree Carnival
6 to 8 pm - Jamboree Parade, 45th & Central, turns on 40th, ends at 5th St.

Sat, June 26

Noon to midnight - Jamboree Carnival
5 to 9 pm - Lions' Car Show in Huset Park
Dusk - Fireworks in Huset Park



Sun, June 27

10 am to 1 pm - Lions' Waffle Breakfast, Murzyn Hall
Noon to 6 pm - Jamboree Carnival - Free Family Fun Day

— 100 Years —

2021 EVENTS!

The City will be putting on a number of events to commemorate its 100th anniversary!



MUSIC IN THE PARK

The Columbia Heights Centennial Committee is excited to announce the 2021 Music in the Park lineup, which consists of current and former residents of Columbia Heights. The concerts are free, but space is limited. Please bring a folding chair or blanket. Each night will have an opening act and food trucks. Find updates at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/events.

WHERE: Huset Park East (near the Jefferson building)

TIME: 6:30-8 pm

SCHEDULE:

June 2: The Tkach Band

July 7: Wander North

Aug 4: Mama No No and the Yes Men



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Join your fellow residents at Huset Park for the City's Centennial Celebration. There will be musical acts, games, food trucks, and free cake!

WHERE: Huset Park

WHEN: July 17, 11 am—2 pm



MOVIES IN THE PARK

Movies in the Park will return this summer. Movies are yet to be determined, but we'll post a social media survey to help decide.

WHERE: Huset Park West, McKenna Park

WHEN: Aug 20, Sept 17, sunset

LIONS' BALLROOM DANCE

As part of the Columbia Heights Centennial, the Columbia Heights Lions Club is hosting a Roaring '20s themed dinner and dance event. Tickets are limited. Email jacobsktnow@gmail.com

WHERE: Murzyn Hall

WHEN: Sept 18

HEIGHTSNEXT HERITAGE FEST

As part of the Columbia Heights Centennial Celebration, HeightsNEXT is hosting this gathering celebrating the community's diversity.

WHERE: Behind Murzyn Hall

WHEN: Sept 25

And More...

Want to keep on top of upcoming events at the City of Columbia Heights? Visit www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/events for the full list!

Please Note: Due to COVID-19 uncertainty, dates and times may change.

And the 2021 Outstanding Citizen Award Winners Are...

Linda Fowler, Adult Category



Volunteerism and community engagement run in the family for Linda Fowler. Six years after her father, James Fowler, was named Columbia Heights' Humanitarian of the Year, Linda received the same honor, now known as the Outstanding Citizen Award, in

2021. James isn't alive today to see his daughter earn the same honor as he did, but he didn't miss the chance to tell her how proud of her he was before he passed away last October, Linda said.

Three years ago, Linda began volunteering regularly at SACA Food Shelf alongside her father, a veteran SACA volunteer.

"He influenced me a lot," Linda said. "I enjoyed that time we had there together."

Linda, 62, continues to donate about eight hours a week to SACA, sorting food in the warehouse. It's been a time of high demand from people in need, Linda said, and the experience has reminded her how lucky she is to not be in such a difficult position herself.

"It breaks my heart to see it," she said. "But volunteering at SACA also saved my sanity, in a way—to get out of the house and help other people."

Linda, a Columbia Heights native who recently retired from Medtronic as a pacemaker analyst and electrical technician, also volunteers her time at First Lutheran Church, gathering supplies for Sunday school teachers, tending to the community garden, and helping out at their farmers market. Last year, to contribute to the pollinator population, she learned how to raise monarch butterflies from eggs, and this summer, she'll be taking a role in the Mayors' Monarch Pledge effort. When she's not volunteering, she makes crafts and donates them.

Despite all the ways she's involved in the community, she said she did not expect to win this award. She was nominated by a fellow SACA volunteer and selected by Mayor Amáda Márquez Simula and 2019's Outstanding Citizen Award winner Cathy Miske. She received the news on a voicemail from the City.

"I had to listen to the voicemail three times before I believed it," Linda said. But perhaps her father wouldn't have been so surprised.

Drake Pham, Youth



Drake Pham got involved in community volunteering with the Loaves and Fishes program, working with Columbia Heights Recreation to distribute food to people in need. Later, he joined the Key Club, a youth volunteer organization, and was president of the local chapter during his junior year at Columbia Heights High School. Now, at 16, Drake has become the City's very first winner of the Outstanding Citizen Award in the youth category designated for youth ages 14-18.

Among all the events and programs Drake has helped organize over the years, and all the volunteer opportunities he's taken part in, a highlight has been his work with SACA Food Shelf. Drake partnered with SACA to create volunteer opportunities for Key Club members at the start of the COVID pandemic, and he later worked to rally students to pack groceries for homebound seniors at a time when SACA was short on volunteers due to health concerns.

"Without this effort, the food shelf would have been hard pressed to get food out to so many in need during this pandemic," wrote Drake's nominator. "He not only organized it, he also participated."

Drake, who plans to study sports management after graduation, said he got involved in these programs because he's admired the way people in this community look out for each other and protect one another.

"I wanted to be a part of that," he said.

Mayors' Monarch Pledge Takes Flight! Volunteers Needed

Mayors and other heads of local and tribal government are taking action to help save the monarch butterfly whose population is nearly wiped out. The National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge encourages communities to create habitat for the monarch butterfly and pollinators and educate residents about how they can make a difference. Columbia Heights has committed to the pledge, but the mayor needs your help. To get involved, email monarch@columbiaheightsmn.gov.



Get daily updates on Columbia Heights happenings by following us on Facebook @Columbiaheightsmn, Twitter @heightsmn or Instagram @columbiaheightsmn

Find our daily newsfeed at columbiaheightsmn.gov
For questions about this newsletter, call 763-706-3615

The Centennial Quilt, made by local volunteers for the City's 100th anniversary celebrations, is on display at the library!

Library Program Highlights

Below is a small sampling of upcoming activities at the library. For a full list, visit www.anokacounty.us/events. Call 763-706-3690 to register or if you have questions. For online programs, you'll need an internet-enabled device.

Adult and Youth Summer Reading Program

Earn digital badges for minutes of reading, writing book reviews, and completing activities. Complete challenges and track your adventures using the Beanstack Tracker mobile app. Kids earn a free book with 20 badges; adults earn bragging rights and the joy of reading. June-Aug. Register at <https://anokacounty.beanstack.org>

Adult Programs

Library Book Club

10 am: Third Wednesday of Month
You'll need an internet enabled device or computer to participate via Zoom. Register online or call the library.

Poems in the Park

10 am-4 pm: June 18, Sullivan Park, July 16, Huset Park West, Aug 20, LaBelle Park
The Library and Recreation will post poems in local parks this summer using large signboards featuring nature-inspired poetry along walking trails.

**Funded by MN Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund*

Kit Based Art Classes Online*

Mon, June 21, 6 pm
Painting On Glass
Wed, July 14, 6 pm
Hand-Built Ceramic Mug
Pick up materials prior to program.

Wine and Words: 21+

Fri, July 16, 3 pm at Murzyn Hall
A wine tasting book club at the senior center. Call 763-706-3730 to register and request a copy of *You, Me, and the Sea*, by Meg Donohue. Space is limited. Call soon!

Library Landscape Features

Mon, July 26, 5:30 pm
The Columbia Heights Library incorporates a variety of landscape features that capture and treat polluted storm-water runoff. Learn more at this outdoor educational event. Meet at library's back entrance. Registration required.

Mayor's Book Discussion

July 29, 11 am OR Aug 3, 6 pm
In celebration of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, the mayor and library will host an online book discussion of the novel *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver. Registration required.

Youth Programs

Summer Lunch

Mondays, June 7-Aug 23, 10-11 am
Pick up five days' worth of lunches at the library. First come, first served.

Outdoor Family Storytime

10:30 am: June 14, 28, July 12, 26
Bring your picnic blankets to Prestemon Park, 3900 McKinley St! Designed to promote school readiness in 2 to 5 year olds. Registration required.

Story Strolls in City Parks

June 9-10: Huset; June 23-24: Sullivan; July 7-8: Ramsdell; July 21-22: Prestemon; Aug 4-5: LaBelle; Aug 18-19: Keyes Park

Classes for Kids

Of Bees and Butterflies, online
Tue, June 8, 2-3:30 pm
Science of Sound, Ramsdell Park
Tue, June 22, 2-2:30 pm
Lights and Kaleidoscopes, Sullivan Park
Thu, June 24, 10-11 am
Be an Engineer, online
Fri, July 16 or 23, 11 am-noon
Backyard Birdfeeders, online
Tue, July 27, 2-3:30 pm
Color Chemistry**, Ramsdell Park
Thu, July 29, 2-3 pm
Comics Creation**, online
Tue, Aug 3, 2-3:30 pm
Intro to Birding**, LaBelle Park
Tue, Aug 10, 10-11 am

Green Leaders Day Camp**

July 20-22, 9-11 am
EnviroSTEM for youth, Sullivan Park

Classes for Teens

Make Your Own Planter Pot, online
Tue, June 15, 2-3:30 pm
Art of Indigo Dye**, Ramsdell Park
Tue, June 29, 2-3:30 pm
Mandelas of India, online
Tue, July 13, 2-3:30 pm
Intro to Birding**, LaBelle Park
Wed, Aug 11, 10-11 am
Mini (Low-Tech) Movies**, online
Thu, Aug 12, 2-3 pm

For full details, visit anokacountylibrary.org or call 763-706-3690.

**This program is partially funded with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education using federal funding, CFDA 84.287, Every Student Succeeds Act, Title IV B-21 Century Community Learning Centers. The content of this program does not necessarily represent the policy of the federal Department of Education or the Minnesota Department of Education.

Library Hours

Mon-Wed, 11 am to 7 pm
Thu-Fri, 10 am to 4 pm
Sat, 11 am to 3 pm
Sun, closed

Library Closures

May 29-31 • July 5 • Sept 4-6

3939 Central Ave NE • (763) 706-3690
At-home Service • (763) 706-3681

www.columbiaheightsmn.gov

Cable Channel 19

Facebook: @ColumbiaHeightsPublicLibrary



Major Development Update for the Hy-Vee Property on Central

The revitalization of the site located at 4300 Central Ave NE has long been a priority for the City. This year, staff worked with the development company Alatus to negotiate a deal to purchase the 13 acres of property from Hy-Vee to build a mixed-use development project that, if approved, would be the biggest development project in Columbia Heights in 100 years. Alatus extended an opportunity to both Hy-Vee and Ace Hardware to be folded into the project, but it's too soon to say how those conversations will play out. Alatus became interested in the property and its potential after working with the City on the 40th Ave City Hall project. The company sees this as a way to build on the investment it has already made in the City, said Aaron Chirpich, community development director. The City and EDA are looking to establish a tax-increment financing district for the project.

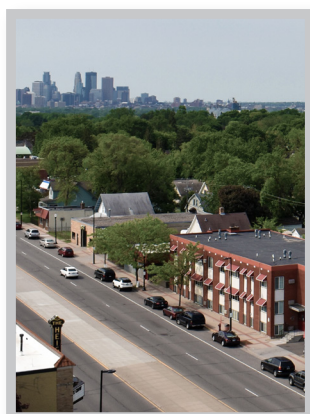
Though subject to change, the initial proposal includes:

- Between 20-60,000 square-feet of retail space anchored by a grocery store on the east side.
- 400-600 market-rate apartments on the east side above the retail space

- A substantial City park/public open space amenity roughly one third of the overall lot, at the center of the development
- Significant upgrades to area infrastructure for storm water and sanitary sewer utilities
- A low density, single family housing development on the west side of the property
- Underground parking
- Environmentally sustainable amenities, such as solar panels, rain gardens, and high efficiency heat/cooling

The City will seek public feedback on the project as plans move forward. The City is particularly interested in public input on the park portion of the project, which will constitute a new City park in an area that otherwise doesn't have one. The project has the potential to grow the City's tax base considerably, Chirpich said, and continue the City's goal of revitalizing Central Ave into a thriving business district. It could also attract future investments from other developers. Keep an eye on www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/development for updates.

Facade Improvement Grant Program Seeking Applicants



Eligible business and commercial property owners again have a chance to receive up to \$5,000 in matching grant aid for exterior storefront improvement in the fourth year of the Facade Improvement Grant Program, a collaborative effort between the Economic Development Authority, the Community Development Department, and the Columbia Heights Police Department.

Any commercial properties located along Central Ave NE, between 37th and 47th

Ave NE, and along 39th or 40th Ave NE, are eligible. In an effort to reduce crime and enhance safety in area business districts and along Central Ave, the Columbia Heights Police Department also uses the grant program to provide camera surveillance systems to participating businesses.

The City is now taking applications for the 2021 Facade Improvement Grant Program. Check columbiaheightsmn.gov for updates, or call 763-706-3670.

40th Ave Development On Schedule



Last fall, the City of Columbia Heights sold the land it owned at Central and 40th to the City's development partner Alatus. Alatus hired Doran Construction to build a mixed-use development project that includes 266 apartments, a café space, and a new City

Hall at 3989 Central Ave NE. Construction began in November shortly after the old bank building on the lot was demolished. It's on schedule and expected to be complete at the end of 2022. For updates, visit www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/newcityhall.



Volunteer Opportunities

There are dozens of ways to get more involved in Columbia Heights

The City of Columbia Heights has compiled a list of all local nonprofits and community organizations that offer volunteer and membership opportunities. Visit our volunteer page at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/volunteer to see the list of organizations, programs and events that could use your help. We will continue to add opportunities to the list as we learn about them. Right now, you'll find volunteer and membership information about Adopt-a-Drain, Anoka County Community Action, Athletic Boosters, the City Beautification Committee, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Bitty Kitty Brigade, Community Farmers Market, First Lutheran Church, Friends of the Library, Heights-NEXT, Kiwanis, Key Club, Lions Club, the City's Multicultural Advisory Committee, Neighborhood Watch, Rotary, the Sister Cities Committee, Southern Anoka Community Assistance (SACA), and Toastmasters. Find more information at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/volunteer, or stop by City Hall at 590 40th Ave., NE to pick up a paper copy of our volunteer list.



Tell Us About Your Volunteer Organization or Non-profit

Do you want your organization or non-profit to be added to the list? The City will continue to update our list of all local nonprofits and community organizations that offer volunteer and membership opportunities as new information comes in. We want to make sure we don't overlook any groups, so let us know about your volunteer group or non-profit by emailing details to bsandell@columbiaheightsmn.gov. What we're looking for: Name of group, mission statement, and most up-to-date contact info. Further data, like frequency of meetings, types of activities volunteers are likely to perform, time demands, etc., also encouraged. Email info to bsandell@columbiaheightsmn.gov.



IMPORTANT CITY CONTACTS

CITY OFFICES.....(763) 706-3600
 Administration.....(763) 706-3610

 Public Works Dept.(763) 706-3700
 Garbage/Refuse Pick-up/
 Recycling (Waste
 Management)(888) 960-0008
 Utility Billing.....(763) 706-3640

 Fire Dept. Administration & Information/
 Emergency
 Management.....(763) 706-8150
 Fire Chief.....(763) 706-8152

Police(763) 706-8100

 Library.....(763) 706-3690

 Community
 Development.....(763) 706-3670

 Bldg. Permits/
 Licenses.....(763) 706-3678

 24-Hour Info. Line-Murzyn Hall info., Weather
 Cancellations, Directions.....(763) 706-3737
 Murzyn Hall Rental.....(763) 706-3734

Mayor Márquez Simula.....(763) 706-3607
 Councilmember Buesgens.....(763) 788-5072
 Councilmember Jacobs(612) 810-0512
 Councilmember Novitsky.....(612) 760-4463
 Councilmember Murzyn(763) 781-4983

 City Newsletter editor(763) 706-3615

 Emergency.....911

MORE INFO AT:

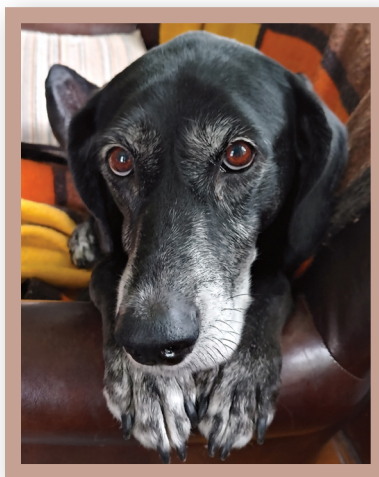
www.columbiaheightsmn.gov

Pet Care Reminders and Ordinance Requirements

Pet ownership is a rewarding experience, but if it's not taken seriously, it can create neighborly tensions and violate City Ordinance. The following are some reminders of the City's rules and expectations for pet ownership:

- **Pick-Up After Your Pets:** We know it's gross to pick up pet waste, but it's even grosser not to. In fact, it's a health risk to both pets and people, especially children. Pet waste is full of bacteria that can make humans and animals sick. This gets into water runoff untreated and pollutes nearby waterways. On top of that, it's also an eyesore and absolutely no fun to step in. **Picking up after your pets is the neighborly thing to do!**

- **Keep Pets On Leash:** City Code requires that pets remain on leash at all times while in parks and other public spaces, unless those spaces are designated off-leash. The nearest off-leash dog park is Columbia Park at 700 St. Anthony Parkway in Minneapolis. Information on purchasing a permit to use this park can be obtained by calling the Minneapolis Park Board at 612-230-6400 or by visiting their website at <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/resident-services/animals-pets/>



- **Maintain Proper ID:** Please make sure that up-to-date vaccination and owner information is available on your pet's collar.
- **Be Mindful of Pet Number Caps:** No household or dwelling unit may have more than three dogs or more than three cats, or a combination of more than five animals exceeding six months of age in the family dwelling unit or on the family premises.
- **Nuisance Prevention:** Owners or custodians of any animal in the City must prevent the animal from being a public nuisance, including habitual or frequent barking or crying to the annoyance of others. The animals must not be allowed to threaten or harass any person not on the property of the owner or custodian of the animal. The animals must not be allowed to defile or destroy any public or private property not belonging to the owner or custodian of the animal. The animals must not be allowed to chase vehicles or run at-large in the City.

The pet ordinance can be found at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/citycode.

Columbia Heights Police Department Launches New Podcast

The CHPD has launched a new monthly podcast to discuss law enforcement and public safety topics relevant to the community. Each podcast will feature a different topic and special guests. CHPD Officers Mohammed Farah and Darryl

Jones, and Columbia Heights Communications Coordinator Ben Sandell host the monthly discussions. The first two podcasts have already been published.

To listen, visit www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/podcast.

2021 National Night Out Is Tue, Aug 3

National Night Out is an annual community-wide event that promotes strong police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer places to live and work. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. The next National Night Out is Tue, Aug 3. For info on hosting/registering your own event, call 763-706-8142.

Youth Curfew Reminder

Columbia Heights City Ordinance sets summer curfew limits for youth 17 and younger. Curfew for children 15 and under is 10 pm on weekdays and 11 pm Friday and Saturday. Curfew for 16- and 17-year-olds is 11 pm on weekdays and midnight Friday and Saturday. All curfews are enforced through 5 am.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Columbia Heights Police Department office is open Mon-Fri, 8 am to 4:30 pm. The telephone number is (763) 706-8100. Call 911 in an emergency. The office is located in the Public Safety building, 825 41st Avenue NE. The police department offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

A telephone is located inside the entry doors that can be used after hours to request assistance.

For general information, activities, ordinances, and services, visit www.chpolice.com, find us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/chpolice, and follow us at twitter.com/colhgtspolice.



Having a Backyard Fire? Heed the Red Flag Warnings

On days where it's particularly dangerous to have a recreational fire, the National Weather Service will issue a Red Flag Warning. This means conditions are ripe for fires to get out of control and spread.

Strong winds, low humidity, and a recent drought are the major risk factors for recreational fires. Even if you don't see a Red Flag Warning from the NWS, pay attention to the weather conditions and make a common sense judgment before firing up your BBQ or igniting the fire pit. If you choose to have a fire, be sure to have a water source, like a garden hose, nearby. Don't allow the fire to get taller or wider than three feet. Ensure an adult is supervising the fire at all times. Burn only clean, dry firewood. NEVER burn leaves, building materials, yard waste, trash or plastics.

Fire rings must be located a minimum of 25 feet from all structures, such as houses, and garages. Enclosed freestanding fire pits must be at least 15 feet away

from all structures. Open flames are never permitted on balconies.

Police and Fire Department officers are authorized to require that a recreational fire be immediately extinguished and discontinued if it is determined that the fire is not in compliance with the above rules, the smoke is offensive to nearby neighbors, or the burning is determined to constitute a hazardous condition.

Get Your Permits

Permits may be obtained from the Fire Department located at 825 41st Ave NE, Columbia Heights between the hours of 8 AM and 4:30 pm, Mon through Fri. Residents are allowed nine (9) FREE Daily Recreational Fire Permits per year or an Annual Recreational Fire Permit can be purchased for \$25. **The permit must be on site while the fire is burning and all rules are to be strictly followed. Thank you for helping to keep our community safe!**

SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS

Two of the best and simplest precautions people can take to protect themselves from severe weather is to remain vigilant and take warnings seriously. If you're planning outdoor activities, or know you might be away from a safe shelter for a period of time, check the forecast and be as aware as you can regarding potential severe weather threats. Don't plan to be outside if the forecast predicts severe weather. And when you are outside, identify the nearest shelter in case of a sudden weather shift. Finally, if you hear sirens, don't hesitate to get to shelter. A siren is warning you of an imminent threat. You may not have more than a few minutes to reach a safe place.



COMMUNITY
NOTIFICATION
ENROLLMENT

*Sign up to receive
emergency text alerts at
[columbiaheightsmn.gov/
alerts](http://columbiaheightsmn.gov/alerts)*

FIRE DEPARTMENT

825 41st Ave NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421
fire@columbiaheightsmn.gov

Be up to date on activities and regular safety reminders of the Columbia Heights Fire Department by following us on Facebook @columbiaheightsfire.



Non-Emergency: (763) 706-8150

Emergency: Call 9-1-1

Housing Maintenance Inspections: (763) 706-8156
fireinspections@columbiaheightsmn.gov

Treat or Remove Your Ash Trees

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture confirmed an emerald ash borer (EAB) infestation in Columbia Heights in 2019. Residents are encouraged to look at their ash trees for signs of EAB. Checking for EAB, reporting possible infestations, and following quarantines can slow the spread.

Untreated ash trees in Columbia Heights will likely die within the next two to five years. Trees in the early stages of infection can still be saved with proper treatment, but homeowners cannot delay.

As the infestation progresses, ash trees can decline quickly. Dead ash trees become brittle, more expensive to remove, and more likely to lose branches during a storm.



Before It's Too Late!

For the second year, the City has contracted with Rainbow Treecare to treat public ash trees growing along streets and in parks. A citywide bulk discount will be offered through 2022 to Columbia Heights homeowners for trees on private property that are at least 10" in diameter and in good physical condition. Visit rainbowtreecare.com/columbia-heights for more info.

For a free tree inspection from the City forester, call Public Works at 763-706-3722.

Reminder: What Washes Off Your Property Ends Up in Local Waterways

Do you know where rainwater flows? If you guessed the storm water drainage system, you are correct. The storm water system is generally located along street curbs and drains above ground-water runoff. This means anything you put on your lawn, sidewalk, driveway or parking lot will end up with the storm water. The storm water system drains this runoff to ponds, lakes, streams, and rivers. Pollutants in this water hurt wildlife and our recreation areas. Special concerns include phosphorus fertilizers, petroleum products, salt, other chemicals, garbage, and sediments from erosion. Federal and State environmental laws have resulted in more stringent regulations concerning pollution from storm water systems. Local governments may incur large fines if they don't have an active program to reduce pollution.

INFO ABOUT STORM WATER WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE CITY OF COLUMBIA HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ART & INFO FAIR JUNE 24, 2021, AT Huset Park.

The Public Works Department conducts a required public informational session on our SWPPP (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program) annually.

The City of Columbia Heights has developed a SWPPP plan in response to Federal and State regulations concerning the quality of water entering streams, rivers, and lakes from storm water drainage systems. At this event the public will have the opportunity to give input and comments on the SWPPP.

Water Quality CCR 2020

A copy of the Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report is available on our website at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/ccr2020, or call 763-706-3700 to request a paper copy.

Adopt a Boulevard Tree!

Would you like a boulevard tree planted by the City in front of your home? The City is looking for volunteers to adopt boulevard trees planted by the City in 2021!

Residents are asked to provide water for the first two years after the tree is planted. A watering bag and instructions will be provided at planting time. All other care and maintenance for the tree will be provided by and paid for by the City of Columbia Heights.

And you get to name the tree!

Find a registration form at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/trees. For any questions, please call Liam Genter at 763-706-3722 or email lgenter@columbiaheightsmn.gov.



Adopt a Storm Drain!

The Community Adopt-a-Drain MN Challenge is in full gear!

Andover, Blaine, Columbia Heights, and Fridley are competing to see who can get the most drain adoptions and cleanings from now to Oct 31. Help Columbia Heights win by adopting a drain today at www.adopt-a-drain.org!



Adopt-a-Storm Drain, a program aimed to protect area lakes, rivers, and wetlands, calls on residents in the seven-county Metro Area and Rochester to adopt a storm drain by committing to keep it clear of leaves, trash, and other debris. The simple act of sweeping up around a storm drain protects local lakes and rivers by preventing pollution from entering the shared waterways.

Spring Cleaning Is A Great Recycling Opportunity

As you're cleaning out the house for summer, or if you have items left over after a garage sale, please consider your recycling options. The City of Columbia Heights and other local vendors provide many free recycling opportunities to properly dispose of most household items:



Consider donating used clothes and furniture instead of throwing away.

- Columbia Heights Recycling Center, 3801 Madison St NE, visit columbiaheightsmn.gov.
- Appliance recycling curbside pickup (one free pick up per year) and free mattress recycling, call 1-888-960-0008; electronics recycling, \$20 flat fee per pick-up, call 1-888-960-0008.
- Fix-It clinics, visit www.anokacounty.us/3432/Fix-It-Clinics
- Household items, clothing, and furniture donations, visit columbiaheightsmn.gov for listings of donation vendors.
- Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 3230 101st Ave NE., Blaine MN 55449, call 763-324-3400
- Anoka County tree waste sites 13285 Hanson Blvd NW, Coon Rapids, or 7701 Main St., Lino Lakes
- Citywide Garage Sale, June 12 (see page 2)

Spring cleaning packets are available at City Hall or online at columbiaheightsmn.gov. Or call 763-706-3700 to order a packet.

MAKE SURE TO SEPARATE OUT FILM PLASTIC

Please do not dispose of your recyclables in a plastic bag. Plastic bags and other film plastics clog the recycling system and break the machines. Plastic bags and film plastic can be recycled, but they must be brought into the Recycling Center separate from all other recycling. The same applies for Styrofoam.

Film plastic and Styrofoam should never go into your recycling cart.

Other items that should not be recycled include paper products that have gotten wet or soiled by food (like pizza boxes, which can be composted), most wrapping paper, and paper decorated with glitter.

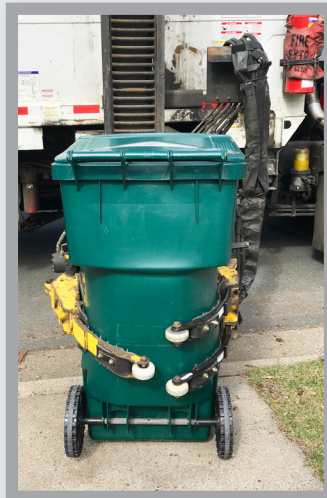
Plastic Recycling Challenge

The Columbia Heights Recycling Center, located at 3801 Madison St NE, will be accepting plastic bags and other film plastic for recycling. These products must be brought to the Recycling Center separate from other single-sort recycling (see info above), or to our bin in City Hall. If the City can recycle 500 pounds of film plastic in a six-month period, Trex Inc. will donate a park bench to the City made with recycled film plastic. The City has earned four benches so far thanks to Trex and residents' commitment to better habits!



Robotic Arms Used for Curbside Pickup

Haulers use trucks with mechanical arms to collect trash and recycling. They use these trucks in the alleys, as well. Please place your cart out where the arm can reach it and allow some space between the carts. **Refuse pads are a convenient way to accomplish this and the City will add these, by request and at-cost, to the annual concrete work schedule. Contact Publicworks@columbiaheightsmn.gov for specifications and pricing.**



Refuse Holiday Schedule

- **Memorial Day, May 31**
Service delayed all week
- **Independence Day, Sun, July 4**
No delay in services
- **Labor Day, Mon, Sept 6**
Service delayed all week

If you sign up for a compost cart, you get a free bag of processed compost.

Email publicworks@columbiaheightsmn.gov to order your cart today! Additional bags of compost are available through the High School Key Club fundraiser at the Recycling Center.

Waste Management

Customer Service Phone: 1-888-960-0008
www.wm.com/us/customer-support

City Refuse/Recycling website

www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/departments/public_works/
Public Works Department Phone: (763) 706-3700

Anoka County Recycling & Resource Solutions

(763) 324-3400
www.anokacounty.us/recycle

Refuse Service Levels and Rates

www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/refuserates



Public Works crews hung 49 centennial banners along Central Ave this spring. Each banner was sponsored by a local business or organization. Proceeds from the sponsorship program help fund our Centennial Celebration, Movie in the Park series, and Music in the Park (see page 2). Thank you to the 49 sponsors that are helping to make these summer events possible!

— TOP VALU — LIQUOR R

Top Valu Store #3 Under Renovation, Reopening This June

Top Valu III, formerly Heights Liquor, on 5225 University Ave NE, is undergoing renovation this spring. It will be the first major update to the building since construction in 1963. The pylon sign was replaced last year to rebrand the store's name.

Although Top Valu III can never look exactly like the other two Top Valu stores due to fundamental differences in construction, this update will borrow elements from the other stores, particularly in the interior. The majority of the construction will be completed by late May. The grand reopening date will be in June. Keep an eye on the City's website at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/topvalu, or Top Valu's Facebook page @topvaluliquor for updates.

The City of Columbia Heights owns and operates three liquor stores in town. Top Valu Liquor has been municipally owned since 1934, and it continues to generate strong revenue for Columbia Heights. All store profits are reinvested in the City. Visit www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/topvalu for more information.



Top Valu #1:
4950 Central Ave

Top Valu #2:
2105 37th Ave NE

Top Valu #3:
5225 University Ave NE