

Newport News

Spring 2023

(651) 459-5677



City Of Newport
2060 1st Avenue,
Newport, MN 55055



www.ci.newport.mn.us

Upcoming Events:

City Council

March 16, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.

April 6, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

March 7, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.

April 11, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.

Mayor:

Laurie Elliott 612-403-6096
l Elliott.newport@gmail.com

Council Members:

Kevin Chapdelaine
612-508-1284
chapdelaine61@msn.com

Tom Ingemann 651-459-9695
tingemann45@gmail.com

Marvin Taylor 612-760-0756
marvinnewport@gmail.com

Bill Sumner 651-459-1717
sumner.newport@gmail.com

Sheriff's Office

As Spring approaches and the weather gets warmer, please watch for more pedestrian and bicycle traffic. As always, if you see something suspicious, give us a call 24/7 at 651-439-9381 or 911. The Washington County Sheriff-Newport Deputies are happy to respond and check it out.

Library and Community Center

Brodini Comedy Magic Show: Join in the fun on March 11, 2023, at 1pm for The One and Only Brodini Comedy Magic Show. The show engages all ages. Brodini's shows are 40 minutes of high-energy performance. This event is made possible through Washington County Library and funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, in collaboration with the Newport Library.

See our calendar for upcoming events for adults and/or youth at ci.newport.mn.us/

Volunteers Wanted.

Do you like meeting members of the community? Volunteers are needed to share 2 to 6 hour shifts one or more days/evenings a month. Openings are available Tuesday afternoons (2-5pm) or evenings (5-8pm) one week a month, Saturday, or Sunday. Training is provided. Contact the Newport Library & Community Center at 651-459-9631 or Newport City Hall at 651-459-5677 for more information or to apply.



Comedian & magician Brodini

Mayor Elliott-State of the City

Here are some highlights of Newport's many successes in 2022.

New City Hall/Public Service Building Opens. We celebrated our Grand Opening on November 16th with large attendance at our ribbon cutting and open house. This building addresses safety concerns, space needs, ADA compliance issues, and maintenance efficiencies. It will play a central role in attracting businesses and developers to invest in Newport.



New Playground at Pioneer Park

New ADA Compliant Playground. Our 2021 Park survey showed resident's number one priority was modernizing our playground equipment. It was an exciting day in September when the new Pioneer Park playground opened to many enthusiastic families and children. More playground updates will occur as funding allows.

Congressionally Directed Spending. Newport was awarded \$350,000 in Congressionally Directed Spending to address flooding and storm water issues along the Mississippi River. These funds will help us repurpose underutilized land for public good. This funding approval required support from US Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith, as well as Representatives Betty McCollum and Angie Craig.

Heritage Preservation Commission Celebrates 30 Years. Two members, Jo Bailey and Beverly Bartl, celebrated 30 years of service on the Commission as original committee members. Both were recognized at a reception and with a tree planted in their honor on the west side of City Hall.

Food Scraps Pickup Program

You'll soon have a new way to recycle food scraps from home. Ramsey and Washington counties are working together to bring a food scraps pickup service to all residents. Recycling food scraps, such as fruit and vegetable peels, eggshells and coffee grounds, reduces waste and benefits the community.

Food scraps make up about 20% of trash. This program will turn food scraps into soil rather than becoming waste. Food scraps will be collected from residents using special bags provided by the county called "food scrap bags." These bags will be collected with trash and then separated after collection.



- 1) Order your free supply of food scrap bags.
- 2) Collect your food scraps. Once a week or when the bag is full, tie a knot at the top to close the bag.
- 3) Place your bag inside your trash cart or dumpster.
- 4) Done. The food scraps will be composted.

This system requires no additional carts or trucks. Food scrap bags are thicker than compostable bags currently used at county drop-off sites or that you might purchase. They are designed to hold up on the trip in a garbage truck and eventually break down. There will be no charge to residents for bags or program participation. Bag distribution will occur through an online ordering system with a call-in option available.

PROGRAM PILOT: Starting in April, Newport is helping to test a pilot program with a small number of households. In the coming months, you may receive information in the mail from Washington County to sign up to participate in the program pilot.

For now, visit recyclingandenergy.org/food-scraps-pickup/ to learn more.

Before Selling a Home in Newport

Televise Sewer Line—Properties connected to the City's sanitary sewer shall have the sewer lateral inspected and certified to be in compliance with City standards prior to sale or title transfer.



Paving Driveways—All parking areas and driveways that are unpaved or past serviceable life that are connected to paved roads are required to be paved with asphalt, concrete or other materials approved by the City prior to sale or title transfer.

Water Meter Reading—The City of Newport will perform a final read of your water meter on the day of sale. Contact City Hall at least two days before a closing date to set up a final water meter read. Final water meter read fee is \$25 and is applied to the final bill. For any questions, call City Hall at (651) 459-5677.

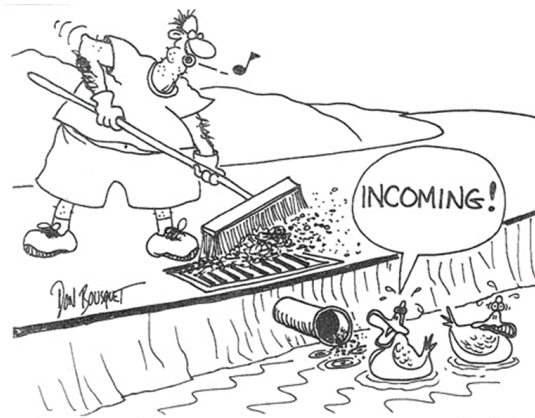
Two Simple Steps to Help Keep Rivers & Lakes Clean

Keep as much water as possible off paved surfaces and keep the water that does run off as clean as possible.

Keep water off pavement by diverting rooftop runoff to a rain barrel or directing downspouts onto the lawn instead of the driveway or sidewalk. Washing your car at a designated car wash and using a broom, instead of a hose, to clean up.

To keep the water that does run off clean, you can sweep

spilled fertilizers, grass clippings, and soil off sidewalks and driveways and back onto the lawn. Never put household chemicals down storm drains or indoor drains and keep pet waste picked up regularly.



Water Conservation Rebate Program

The City of Newport, in conjunction with Washington County, is offering rebates for residents and business owners to promote water conservation. This program includes rebates for replacing clothes washing machines with Energy Star machines, replacing toilets with WaterSense toilets and installing a WaterSense irrigation controller.

The rebate is 50% of the cost of the item, up to a maximum of \$100 for an Energy Star washer; \$50 for each WaterSense toilet (maximum of two toilets per property); and \$100 for a WaterSense irrigation controller.



REBATE PROGRAM:

To qualify for the rebate program:

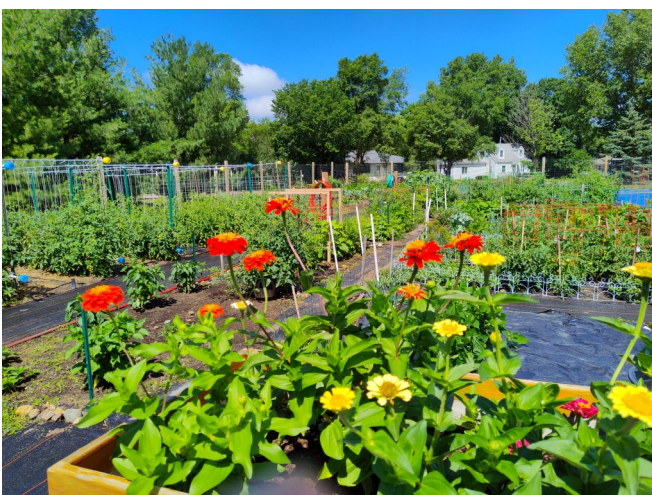
- Applicants must be Newport residents or business owners.
- Properties must be connected to City water.
- Products must be installed at the address listed on the utility account.

Property owners must complete the required application and submit a receipt and proof of the Energy Star or WaterSense program qualification. The receipt must show the model number and date of purchase. Rebates will be processed on a **first come, first served basis**. For more information, visit ci.newport.mn.us or call City Hall at (651) 459-5677.

Community Garden

The Newport Community Garden is located at the north east corner of 4th Avenue and 15th Street. Sixteen individual garden plots are available to rent. Ten foot by 13 foot plots are \$20 and 5 foot by 10 foot plots are \$10. Each plot also requires a \$20 deposit. If you are interested in reserving a plot for the 2023 season, please contact City Hall at 651-459-5677.

Volunteers Needed: Volunteers are needed for the Newport Giving Garden. All produce grown in the Giving Garden is donated to **Friends In Need Food Shelf**, which serves Newport, St Paul Park, and Cottage Grove. Amateurs are welcome. Work times are flexible and don't require an on-going commitment. Help is most needed in July and August. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Marge, at mecphi@gmail.com.



Change Batteries in Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Detectors When You "Spring" Ahead!

This year our clocks will "spring forward" on Sunday March 12th. The Newport Fire Department wants to remind everyone, this is also a good time to change the batteries in all of your home's smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors. Replacing batteries in smoke alarms and CO detectors should be done at least once a year. Changing them when changing your clocks serves as a perfect reminder. This is also a good time to check the date on your detectors. Replace smoke detectors that are 10 years old, and CO alarms that are 5 to 7 years old. Check the manufacturer's guidelines for more details.

Be sure to test your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors once a month and replace the battery anytime you hear the alarm "chirp!" The National Fire Protection Agency reports that three out of five fire related deaths occurred in structures without working smoke alarms.

Compost Site - Opens Saturday, April 8th

The Newport Compost and Brush Site will be open for the season on Saturday, April 9th. The hours are Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All brush must be less than six inches in diameter and incurs a fee of \$5 per cubic yard. Grass and leaves incur a fee of \$5 per vehicle load. Only brush and leaves in compostable bags will be accepted. Otherwise, you must remove the leaves and brush from non-compostable bags and take the bags with you.

Adopt-A-Park

Adopt-a-Park/Trail Program - The City would like to thank the multiple families, organizations and individuals who have adopted a park or trail in Newport. Currently, 17 of the 25 parks and trails are adopted! The remaining parks and trails are **Loveland Park, Pioneer Park, 12th Street & Park Place Overlook, Maxwell Avenue, Red Rock Road, the flower gardens at City Hall, Oliver Overlook, and Planters on the wall along Hastings Avenue.** If you would like more information, please contact Deb Schulz at 651-459-5677 / dschulz@newportmn.com.

Be Safe ... It's Grilling Time Again!

The snow is almost gone and nothing says Spring like grilling a meal. To keep you and your family safe, the Newport Fire Department wants you to follow these general guidelines.

Grilling Safety Tips and Reminders:

- Grills should be placed at least 10 feet from the home, deck railings and other flammable materials.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease buildup in the grill and in the catch trays below.
- Never grill in your garage or leave your grill unattended.
- Keep children and pets away from the area.
- It is against Newport city ordinance to use any grill (charcoal or gas) on a balcony or other similar area in any multi-story, multiple-family dwelling.

Propane Grills:

- Check all connection points between the tank hose, regulator and cylinder, and the connections to the burners. Tighten if loose.
- Check for leaks by applying a light soap and water solution to the connections and hose using a brush or spray bottle.
- Turn the propane tank on. If there is a gas leak, there will be bubbles in the soap solution (big enough to see).
- If there are no bubbles, your grill is safe to use.
- If there are bubbles, turn off the tank and check connections.

If the leak doesn't stop when you turn off the propane tank, call the fire department.

Charcoal Grills

- Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as fuel and is the safest method
- If you use a fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to hot coals
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- When you are done grilling, let coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container. Never throw coals in the trash.

City of Newport
2060 1st Avenue
Newport, MN 55055

City Hall:

Hours: M - Th 8 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Phone: (651) 459-5677

Fax: (651) 459-9883

www.ci.newport.mn.us

Public Works:

Phone: (651) 459-2475

Fax: (651) 459-2043

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Records: (651) 430-7600

Dispatch: (651) 439-9381

Emergency: 9-1-1

Fire Department:

Office: (651) 459-9390

Emergency: 9-1-1

Library:

Hours : Mon 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Tues 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Wed 1:00-8:00 p.m.

Thurs 1:00-8:00 p.m.

Sat 12:00-5:00 p.m.

Please email library@newportmn.com or call or call City Hall to verify hours.

Phone: (651) 459-9631

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Voucher for FREE Bulky Item Disposal

The City of Newport and Washington County are partnering to provide one voucher to each Newport household for the free disposal of one bulky item at the Recycling and Energy Center located at 100 Red Rock Road in Newport. Residents will enter the center from Red Rock Road which is located off of Maxwell Avenue, north of 494.

Electronics and other items can be disposed of for free at the Washington County Environmental Center at 4039 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury. Hours are Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Thursday and Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. For more information visit co.washington.mn.us/604/Environmental-Center.

**City of Newport Voucher - Good for the Disposal of
One Bulky Item**

**Recycling and Energy Center, 100 Red Rock Road,
Newport, MN 55055, (651) 768-6670**

**Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 6:00 am.to 8:00 pm, Fri. 6:00
am-5:00 pm, and Sat. 6:00 am to 4:00 pm**

Voucher is good for the following items: tire, tire rim,
furniture (excluding mattresses), and appliances. This
voucher is for Newport residents only.

**Please bring this coupon and a form of ID showing New-
port residence when dropping off the free item.**

Expires: December 31, 2023

Moratorium Passed

The Newport City Council passed a moratorium on March 2, 2023. The purpose of the moratorium is to allow reasonable time for the City Council to consider changes to allowed uses and performance standards for all non-residential properties along Hastings and 7th Avenue. The primary goal of the City Council is to identify the best future uses for the City.

For more information visit ci.newport.mn.us.

Meet the New City Administrator

The City of Newport hired Joe Hatch as the City Administrator at the end of 2022. Joe grew up in Minneapolis and has worked in local government for 20 years in several City's including Minneapolis, New Brighton, and St. Paul. He is excited and humbled to serve the City of Newport residents and businesses and looks forward to learning about, and getting to know, the community. Joe enjoys fishing, working out, and playing broomball during our short winters.

