



**LEXINGTON
SMALL IN SIZE BIG
ON PRIDE**

City Hall

763-784-2792
Fax-763-785-8951
Cable Channel 16
www.ci.lexington.mn.us

Mayor

Mike Murphy

Council Members

Diane Harris
Kim DeVries
John Hughes

City Administrator

Bill Petracek

Finance Director

Chris Galiov

Deputy Clerk

Mary Vinzant

Admin Asst./Permit Tech

Brenda Beaudet

Building Inspector

Scott Jensen

Public Works Department

Jim Fischer
Travis Schmid
763-784-6849

Centennial Lakes
Police Department

763-784-2501

Lexington Fire
Department

763-784-1604

Lexington Liquor

Jack Borgen
Karen Larson
Andy Lyons
763-786-0198

State Primary Election

August 11th

Polls open 7am ~ 8pm

For more information go to Anoka County's website
www.anokacounty.us/220/Elections-Voter-Registration



Your Vote Counts 



New City Sign

Last summer a new sign was installed at Lake Drive & Lexington Avenue, it replaced the smaller one that was put in place July of 2012. The city is currently working on replacing the one on the west side of town on Lake Drive. The block for the new berm has been delivered and we plan for work to be completed in the next few weeks.



LEXINGTON • CENTERVILLE • CIRCLE PINES • LINO LAKES
**Quad Area
Chamber of Commerce**
www.QuadChamber.org

We're here to help you business!
**The Quad Area Chamber of
Commerce represents four cities:
Lexington, Circle Pines, Lino Lakes, Centerville
and their surrounding communities.**

Our Mission—

**To support and promote local business communities
by providing a voice for business owners, networking
opportunities, strengthening community partnerships
and promoting the overall economic prosperity of the
Quad Area.**

**For more information on membership
Contact us at:
www.QuadChamber.org**

**City Offices will be closed
in observance of
the following Holidays**

Independence Day
July 3rd (Observed)

Labor Day
September 7th

The City of Lexington is expecting to participate in Fall Clean Up Day with the City of Circle Pines in September. Please check our web-site for date, time and location as we get closer.



FIREWORKS 101 From the CLPD

My mother used to say "it's all fun and games until someone loses an eye." Nowhere is this statement truer than when it comes to setting off fireworks.

Celebrating our country's independence with fireworks is as American as apple pie. Our legislators recognized this and legalized the sale, possession and use of a limited number of fireworks by the public. However, as is discussed below, even though some fireworks are legal, they still present a significant risk of injury. And, illegal fireworks, because of their mechanism of operation, present an even greater risk.

The Minnesota State Fire Marshal's Division provides guidance on which fireworks are legal and which are not. Legal fireworks include wire/wood sparklers and other sparkling items which are non-explosive and non-aerial such as cylindrical fountains, cone fountains, illuminating torches, wheels, ground spinners, flutter sparklers, flash/strobes and novelty items such as snakes and glow worms, smoke devices or trick noisemakers which include paper streamers, party poppers, string poppers, snappers and drop pops. The law includes for each of these items a maximum weight of operating mixture. See MN Stat. §624.20.

Legal fireworks may not be used on public property such as parks, roads, alleys, schools, government property, etc. Purchasers must be at least 18 years old and retailers are required to check photo identification of purchasers. "Sky Lanterns" or "Celebration Lanterns," those using heat from a candle to raise them skyward are not legal in Minnesota because of the fire and safety threat they present to buildings, homes, natural settings and livestock.

Illegal fireworks include those fireworks which are explosive or aerial such as firecrackers, bottle rockets, missiles, helicopters, aerial spinners, planes, UFO's, chasers, parachutes, roman candles, mortars and shells. These are illegal to sell, possess or use except with a permit from your local government, and even then, they may only be used by a state certified operator. The law directs police officers to seize illegal fireworks. See MN Stat. §624.24. Violations of the fireworks law can be, depending upon the weight of the fireworks seized, either a gross misdemeanor (imprisonment for not more than 1 year, payment of a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both) or a misdemeanor (imprisonment for not more than 90 days, payment of a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both). See MN Stat. §624.25.

Per the Consumer Product Safety Commission's Fireworks Information Center, in 2012, on average, 200 were seen each day in the emergency room for fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday. The most frequently injured body parts included the hands and fingers (41%), trunks (15%), the legs (13%), the eyes (12%) and the head, face and ears (19%). More than half these injuries were burns. 23% of fireworks injuries were caused by firecrackers. 74% of the injured were male.

Even legal fireworks, such as sparklers, present a serious risk of injury. Most people don't realize that a sparkler can burn at 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit which is as hot as a blow torch. Would you knowingly hand a small child a blow torch to wave around or run with?

Exercising good common sense is the best way to minimize your risk of injury from fireworks. Obviously, avoid all illegal fireworks. They are inherently unsafe for use by the non-expert. Ask yourself: does the momentary thrill derived from setting off an illegal firework outweigh the risk of suffering a permanent disfiguring or disabling injury? Consider attending a public fireworks display instead.

When using legal fireworks, remember that children should not be allowed to ignite or play with fireworks. Follow the instructions on the fireworks, light them one at a time and move a safe distance away from them quickly. Do not pick up or attempt to re-light a firework that failed to go off. Use fireworks in a safe location outdoors and away from animals, buildings, storage tanks, brush or other combustible materials. Do not light fireworks in your hand, pick up fireworks that have been lit, lean over a firework you are trying to light or throw a firework. Soak all fireworks in water before disposing of them. Never make your own fireworks, modify or try to enhance a firework, or use fireworks in a manner for which they were not intended.

A word about mixing alcohol and fireworks: don't! Not surprisingly, alcohol use increases your risk of being injured by fireworks.

If you have any questions you may contact the CLPD at 763-784-2501. Thank you and stay safe.

SUMMER PROJECTS AROUND TOWN

The Municipal Liquor store will be having some paving work done in the parking lot, Jackson Avenue between Woodland & Restwood is schedule for repair and overlay paving. Work has begun on the Lexington Lofts apartments owned by Norhart. The City has also approved a new roof and fascia for the warming house in Memorial Park.

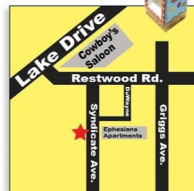


Pet Owners

With the warm summer weather bringing more walks and romps to the park...and around the neighbor, please remember - by City Ordinanceit is required to clean up after your animal and keep them on a leash.



FREE FOOD



Free community Pantry
Take what you need!
Leave what you can!

Please come and help yourself. We have peanut butter, toilet paper, rice, snacks, pasta, soups and even fresh produce, depending on when you stop. Inventory varies as many people in the community donate randomly. Everyone is welcome to take food, no questions asked. Open 24/7. Please also feel free to come pick up food for a friend or neighbor who may appreciate the gift.
-Your Neighbors in Lexington



The City of Lexington has reached **STEP 3** in our GreenStep Program. You can view everything we have completed thus far on our page at www.greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/city-detail/12210

The Farmers Market has been canceled this year, It is expected to be back in 2021. Bigger & Better



Many people like to celebrate summer by having a cookout with family and friends. With more outdoor cookouts and celebrations comes the increased risk of fires caused by grilling mishaps. Follow these tips to keep your summer cookouts fire free.

- ◆ For charcoal grills, be sure coals are completely cooled before disposing in a metal container.
- ◆ Use utensils with long handles to prevent burns and splatters.
- ◆ Keep an eye on your grill, don't walk away when it is lit.
- ◆ Make sure the space above your grill is clear of any overhanging branches & other flammable items.
- ◆ Keep your grill away from your home and other buildings or structures.
- ◆ Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away at all times.
- ◆ For gas grills, always open the lid prior to lighting to prevent gas buildup.
- ◆ Check the gas tank hose for potential leaks prior to use.

FACTS

July is the peak month for grill fires

45% of home grill fires escalate to **structure fires** that begin on either a patio, deck, open porch or exterior balcony

Roughly half of the **injuries** involving grills are thermal burns

CAMPFIRE SAFETY

Pick Your Spot Wisely: Use existing fire circles or pits if available. Do not build a fire in dry or windy conditions, especially if there are fire restrictions in place (check with local authorities). Build fires at least 15 feet away from tent walls, shrubs, or other flammable materials.

Prepare Your Pit: Choose a spot for your campfire that is downwind from your tent and gear, and protected from wind gusts. Clear a 10-foot-wide diameter area around your site, and make sure there are no limbs or branches hanging over your pit. Always circle the pit with rocks, or use an existing fire ring.

Build A Campfire: Once you have a prepared pit, you are ready to build the campfire. It is recommended to use three types of wood. Tinder, which is made of small twigs, dry leaves or grass, will get the fire started initially. Kindling, consisting of twigs smaller than one inch around, will help to light the larger pieces of wood. Fuel—the large pieces of wood—will provide the heat and sustained flames once the tinder and kindling are consumed.

This is the most important step! EXTINGUISH THE FIRE: Campers need to properly maintain and extinguish campfires when going to bed or leaving the area. If possible, let the campfire burn down to ashes. Pour water on the fire to drown all embers, not just the red ones. Once this is done, stir everything in the pit with a shovel and test for heat with the back of your hand.



City of Lexington Ordinance
Chapter 10 sect 10.40 subd 2

Recreational fires can only burn between 8:00 am and 2:00 am and no more than one recreational fire is allowed on any property at one time.

Recreational Fire Site an area of no more than a three (3) foot diameter circle (measured from the inside of the fire ring or border); completely surrounded by non-combustible and non-smoke or odor producing material, either of natural rock, cement, brick, tile or blocks or ferrous metal only and which area is depressed below ground, on the ground, or on a raised bed. Included are permanent outdoor wood burning fireplaces.



One of the best ways to keep crime from affecting you and your neighbors is to get to know one another, even if it is on a casual basis. This year Minnesota's Night to Unite will be held on October 6th instead of the 1st Tuesday in August when it is normally scheduled. Contact your local police department to invite them to stop by your party.



Recycle at City Hall

- ◆ Batteries
- ◆ Light Bulbs (Compact Fluorescent & LED)
- ◆ Ink Cartridges
- ◆ Cell Phones



City of Lexington council meetings are the 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00pm. You are encouraged to attend, they can also be viewed on Cable Channel 16 or online at www.northmetrotv.com/lexington-stream



LEXINGTON MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE

For great deals on beer, wine,
liquor, mixes and pop

9271 South Highway Drive
Lexington, MN 55014
763-786-0198

Gift Certificates available.

CLUB 50+ Discount ~ every Monday
Wine Specials ~ every Wednesday
Top Ten Beer Specials ~ every Thursday

*We're thankful for your business and
appreciate your loyalty!*

What have you been doing since the
Stay at Home order lifted? Send us your pictures
& videos. We will post some to our
SEEN AROUND TOWN page on the Cities website.
Submissions can be sent to
brenda.beaudet@cityoflexingtonmn.org

Snapshot of City Ordinances

Animal licensing/Identification. Animals that are permitted in the city are not required to obtain a license, however all dogs over the age of six months shall have an identification tag affixed to a collar which indicates the owner name, address and a contact phone number.

The outside storage of boats, unoccupied boat trailers, unoccupied trailers with a maximum gross weight of 3,000 pounds, and recreational camping vehicles as defined in Section 9.03 of this code, are permissible in the following areas:

- (a) Rear yard at least ten (10) feet from the rear property line.
- (b) Side yard at least five (5) feet from the side property line.
- (c) Front yard at least ten (10) feet from the back curb line on a driveway surface.
- (d) In no case shall boats, unoccupied boat trailers, unoccupied trailers with the maximum gross weight of 3,000 pounds or recreational camping vehicles be parked to cause a safety hazard due to poor traffic sight distance or inaccessibility to properties by emergency vehicles or persons.
- (e) All trailers stored pursuant to this section may not be used to store materials and equipment on or about the trailer, with the exception that boat trailers may store a boat intended for use with that trailer.

No person shall apply fertilizer to or deposit grass clippings, leaves, or other vegetative materials on impervious surfaces, or within storm water drainage systems, natural drainage ways, or within wetland buffer areas.

REDUCE ~ REUSE ~ RECYCLE THIS SUMMER

THROW A GREENER BBQ Summer is the perfect time to get out and grill with friends and family. But the average BBQ can produce a ton of waste if you don't plan ahead. At your next BBQ, be sure to ditch the paper and plastic goods in favor of reusable dinnerware and napkins. You can also make recycling certain products easier for your guests by using clearly labeled recycling and waste bins. Lastly, keep in mind that any leftover charcoal briquettes can't go to the recycling center, they must go in a non-combustible garbage bin.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT YOUR SUNSCREEN Keeping your family protected from harmful UV rays can be a full-time job during the summer months. But don't forget to take a look at which cans and bottles are recyclable before throwing them out. Most metal sunscreen bottles are made from aluminum, which is a highly recyclable material. Even with their plastic tops, used sunscreen bottles can be tossed in with your other recyclables.

REPURPOSE OLD BEACH ACCESSORIES While you may have many great memories attached to those old sand pails and shovels, over time they can begin to break down. The same rule applies to old lawn chairs and umbrellas. For any broken plastic items, check to see which type of plastic they are made from before taking them to the recycling center. Or get creative and try incorporating sand pails and shovels into your home garden.

DON'T TRASH THE TRAIL Road trips are a summer tradition for many families across the US. Be kind this summer by paying close attention to the amount of waste you're creating and do your best to use earth-friendly items like reusable water bottles. Additionally, keep hiking trails clean by always packing out any waste items that you brought in.

GET YOUR WORKOUT IN Enjoy the beautiful summer weather by skipping quick car rides. By walking, biking, skateboarding or rollerblading to nearby destinations you can reduce your carbon footprint this summer. And if you're interested in going the extra mile, try your hand at summer gardening by investing time at your local community garden! You'll love the extra time outdoors and your family will (hopefully) get to reap the rewards of your green thumb.

ENJOY A SAFE AND GREEN SUMMER By paying attention to a few extra details, you can help make a greener summer possible for everyone you know.