

## 2012 utility rate changes

The utility fee schedule adopted by the City Council contains two 2012 rates that differ from 2011 rates. They are:

1. Sanitary sewer volume rate increasing from \$5.90 to \$6.45 per thousand gallons of metered water usage. This 9.3% rate increase was necessitated by a 29.8% (\$51,606) increase in 2012 wastewater treatment fees charged the City by the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) division.
2. Quarterly residential curbside recycling charges increasing from \$6.80 to \$7.50. This 10.3% increase was caused by higher "single sort" rather than "dual sort" fees, and uncertainty concerning the success of the recycling materials offset program with the hauler.

## WHY ARE MY RESIDENTIAL SANITARY SEWER CHARGES DIFFERENT FROM LAST QUARTER?

A frequent first quarter utility billing question city staff often receives from residential utility customers concerns the consumption base changing from fourth quarter for sanitary sewer charges. The answer lies in the method proscribed in City ordinance for calculating these charges. Briefly, first quarter water usage is used as a proxy for "normal" domestic sanitary sewer use (i.e. no lawn irrigation, car washing, garden watering, pool filling, etc.) for the remaining billing quarters of the year.



## Hydrant flushing

The Public Works Department will be flushing hydrants April 9 through April 13. You may notice discoloration and rust particles in your water during this process. If you notice discoloration, letting your faucet run for a short time should clear your water lines.

Wait to wash light clothing until you notice the water has cleared. Should you have any questions, please call Public Works at 952.476.2855.

## A MINUTE WITH the mayor

For a small town, Long Lake has a wonderfully diverse business community with everything from a hardware store, landscape companies, convenient lunch and dinner spots, and sporting goods stores to a wide variety of service-oriented businesses such as salons, a daycare, dentist office, veterinarian, and even a dog groomer. Please take advantage of this great variety right here in your backyard, support our community, and shop local in Long Lake and our neighbor cities whenever possible. Your support and patronage are greatly appreciated!

Wishing everyone a happy spring,  
Mayor Tim Hultmann

## Recycling news

Recycling numbers have shown that residents are making the most of the City's new recycling program. For the month of February, the City's first full month of single sort curbside recycling service, residents recycled 12.66 tons of recyclable materials. This represents a 68% increase over the 7.52 tons of recyclables collected in February 2011. It's exciting to see the positive impact single sort recycling has made!



As everyone adjusts to recycling more materials, please note that additional 64-gallon containers are available to those residences in need of one. If your household recycling volume continues to exceed the one container you received, please don't hesitate to contact the City Clerk at 952.473.6961 x1 to request an additional recycling cart. For missed recycling pickups, call Waste Management at 1.800.777.8408.

## Long Lake board of review meeting to be held Tuesday, April 17 at 6:30 pm

The Long Lake City Council will meet as the Board of Review to hear appeals from property owners who disagree with the assessed value of their property. The local Board does NOT determine taxes - *the Board's powers are limited to reviewing the property class and/or market value* as of January 2 in the year in which the Board meets.

To apply and appeal the value of your property you may show current market data on similar properties sold for a lower price; or bring an appraisal of your property prepared by a certified appraiser. If the property's income producing (residential rental, commercial, etc.) you may submit an income and expense statement or current rent roll with your application. Include any additional documents you feel are relevant to your case.

An applicant's appearance before the Board of Review will result in one of the following actions:

- A reduction in your property's value if the Board believes the Assessor's value is too high;
- No change in your property's value if the Board believes there was not enough evidence to support a change in the Assessor's value;
- An increase in the property's value if the Board believes the Assessor's value is too low; or
- Your application may be forwarded to the Hennepin County Board of Adjustments and Appeals for further review.

*If you wish to make an appeal before the Local Board of Review, or have questions about the Board of Review process, please contact the City Assessor's office at 952.470.0691. Appeal applications are available at Long Lake City Hall.*



### Spring leaf pickup dates

City refuse haulers annually provide spring curbside leaf pickup dates along their regular route at no cost to residents. Private refuse haulers will pick up leaves and yard waste on TUESDAY, APRIL 17 and TUESDAY, APRIL

24. Residents are encouraged to set out their bagged leaves (no brush) early in the morning on those days.

IMPORTANT! State law requires that leaves must be bagged in compostable bags only. No other bags may be accepted. Compostable bags include paper kraft bags (large brown paper bags) or compostable plastic bags. Compostable plastic bags should clearly state that they meet ASTM D6400 standards for composting and that they are "compostable". Bags marked "biodegradable" or "degradable" do NOT meet the state law. For more information regarding compostable bags, please visit Rethink Recycling online at [www.rethinkrecycling.com/compostable\\_bags](http://www.rethinkrecycling.com/compostable_bags).

### DISPOSE OF COMPOST AND BRUSH AT THE PLYMOUTH YARD waste dropoff

14900 23rd Avenue N, Plymouth / Phone - 763.509.5950

Long Lake residents may use the City of Plymouth's yard waste drop-off site at no charge; however, you must bring identification (MN driver's license or State ID card) showing your Long Lake address with you as you will be asked to prove your residency. Residents must be prepared to debug materials at the yard waste site themselves. Bags may not be left at the site and must be taken home with you. Free mulch and compost will be available on a "first come" basis.

Materials accepted at the site are spring/fall lawn rakings and thatch, leaves, soft vegetative garden waste, and tree waste (dirt must be removed from any roots). Unacceptable materials are lumber, sod, soil, and any other items not listed above.

The Plymouth yard waste site opens for the season on the first Saturday in April, and remains open through the last Sunday in November. The site is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays throughout the season, on major holidays, and may close for inclement weather if necessary. *For open hours, please call 763.509.5950.*

### Spring CLEANUP DAYS

LOCATION: Orono Public Works Facility, 2700 Kelley Parkway. ID with proof of residency in Orono, Long Lake or Minnetonka Beach is required. Only cash or check accepted, and item collection prices are subject to change.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28: Appliances, mattresses, furniture items, tires, power equipment/tools, bbq grills, scrap metal, e-waste, and miscellaneous junk items will be accepted. For a complete list of acceptable items and applicable disposal fees, please visit [www.longlakemn.gov](http://www.longlakemn.gov).

SATURDAY, MAY 5: Construction debris only. For a complete list of acceptable items and applicable disposal fees, please visit [www.longlakemn.gov](http://www.longlakemn.gov).

Questions, call Orono City Hall at 952.249.4600.

### Mark your summer calendars

The following events are currently scheduled for summertime weekend fun in Long Lake:

- Rowing Regatta and Log Rolling Exhibition / Sponsored by the Long Lake Rowing Club / June 15-17
- Summerfest / Sponsored by the Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce / June 19-24
- Corn Days / Sponsored by the Church of St. George / August 11-12
- 10,000 Lakes Wakesurf Open / Sponsored by Midwest Wakesurfing Association / August 17-18

More information about these events will be available on the City's website at [www.longlakemn.gov](http://www.longlakemn.gov) as events approach.

### Long Lake fire relief association pancake breakfast



Don't miss the annual "All-You-Can-Eat Pancake & French Toast Breakfast" on Sunday, April 15 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Long Lake Fire Station, 340 Willow Drive.

Admission prices are \$8 per adult, \$5 for seniors over age 55, and \$5 per child ages 3 and over. For more details about this event, please contact the Long Lake Fire Station at 952.473.9701.

### Orono Lions and Long Lake fire department blood drive

The Orono Lions Club and Long Lake Fire Department are hosting an American Red Cross blood drive on Monday, April 16 from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Long Lake Fire Station, 340 Willow Drive. For an appointment or information, please call 612.750.0789 or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

#### CITY STAFF

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#### CITY COUNCIL

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#### ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional contact information, resources, and City news, please visit the City of Long Lake website at [www.longlakemn.gov](http://www.longlakemn.gov).