



## Chairman's Corner

### Coyotes and Cougars and BEARS, Oh My!!

For the past 5-6 weeks, there have been several bear sightings in the township and east metro in general. Along with the sightings, there have been reports of bird feeders and trash bins being raided. It is not uncommon in the spring to have bears wander down into the township, but what is uncommon is for them to stay for more than a couple weeks. Evidently, there seems to be a reliable source of food available to entice them. The DNR has acknowledged the numerous reported sightings and encouraged residents to bring in their bird feeders and trash bins nightly to discourage the bears from hanging around. The DNR will not do anything with the bears unless they pose a real danger to the community. Here is link for bear sightings <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/livingwithwildlife/bears/homes.html>. FYI, there has also been one cougar sighting this spring, and packs of coyotes have frequently been heard at night yipping and yelping as they pass through peoples' backyards!



### What's happening with the Lake Elmo Airport?

West Lakeland and Baytown Board members met with MAC (Metropolitan Airports Commission) representatives to review MAC's preliminary road construction plans for the new section of 30th St between Neal Ave. and Manning Ave. If MAC gets final approval and receives funding from the Federal Government, they plan to construct the new road to loop southward around the proposed new extension of the NW to SE airport runway which will extend over the present 30th St and back up to the intersection of 30th St and Neal Ave N. Provided MAC meets our road standards and our engineer's approval, MAC is anticipating to start on road preparation later this summer, or fall. During most of construction, 30th St will remain open for travel until later next year when, at such time, the new loop will hook up to 30th St, and the old section removed. At that time, 30th St will be closed for about two weeks and detour signs will be erected to direct traffic during the reattachment. New speed limit signs for the curves will also be posted to advise travelers. Shortly thereafter, construction of the runway extension will proceed.

### Who has the BIGGEST pothole in the township?

I believe we should have a contest for who has the biggest pothole in their neighborhood. Residents have sent me pictures of large potholes that appeared this spring in front of their homes, or elsewhere in the township, and have asked

when the township will fix them. Supervisor Dave Schultz and Township Engineer Ryan Stempski were very busy this spring driving around and inspecting our roads for damage. Our roads, like many other surrounding municipalities, took a major hit from the extreme weather conditions and fluctuations we experienced this past winter. The township signed a hefty contract last month for road patching. We hope to see that patching occur either late June or sometime in July. There have also been a few sections where the road has heaved and broken up; those areas will also be repaired sometime this summer.

### What is the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization?

West Lakeland Township is one of ten member communities in the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to protect and improve water quality in Lake St. Croix. MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the West Lakeland Township to effectively manage water resources, and works in partnership with the Washington Conservation District to help private landowners install voluntary conservation projects that keep sediment and phosphorous out of the St. Croix River. In 2018, MSCWMO helped member communities to install six, new voluntary conservation projects and implement storm water management rules for 18 development and redevelopment projects. Together, these efforts will stop 73.5 lbs. of phosphorus from flowing into the St. Croix River each year, which is the equivalent of 36,750 lbs. of algae in the water!

To learn more about the MSCWMO or get help for a conservation project on your land, contact:

-Mike Isensee, MSCWMO Administrator:

[misensee@mnwcd.org](mailto:misensee@mnwcd.org); or

-Dan Kylo, Township appointed Board Manager and MSCWMO Treasurer: 612-436-1134.

Have a nice summer,

Chairman, Daniel Kylo

# Afton Lakeland Elementary

## The Afton-Lakeland Elementary School Playgrounds are Getting a Makeover!

The Afton-Lakeland PTA is excited to announce the kickoff of their playgrounds remodeling project! Over the summers of 2019 and 2020, the north and south playgrounds at the school will receive an overhaul. Your donations will allow the school to:

- Update equipment
- Leverage district funds for resurfacing
- Increase safety
- Expand kindergarten playground
- Invest in a community asset



Since a segment of West Lakeland Township residents attend Afton-Lakeland Elementary, our community has been invited to join the efforts to raise **\$170,000** to make these spaces safer, up-to-date and even more FUN! There are a couple ways you can help this community project:

1. Donate online via: [www.aftonlakelandpta.com](http://www.aftonlakelandpta.com)
2. Volunteer for demolition and/or installation

Please visit [www.aftonlakelandpta.com](http://www.aftonlakelandpta.com) for further information on the project. If you have ideas on more ways to help, please contact Kari Kull-Heng at [ptakullheng@gmail.com](mailto:ptakullheng@gmail.com).

## ROADS /BIKE PATH

### Landscape Materials

Spring has arrived and every year a number of contractors place landscaping materials consisting of large rock, boulders, and mulch on the roads, cul-de-sacs, ditches or in road right-of-ways (ROW) for work being done at the request of a homeowner. First, this is illegal by state statute. Secondly, there is a liability issue if these materials cause an accident, or impede police, fire and EMS vehicles. Lastly, in the process of depositing or removing these materials, the road surface may cause damage, as was the case a number of years ago when we had just seal coated a street. If the road surface is damaged in the process of depositing or removing these materials, the contractor and/or the homeowner are responsible for the damage. So, by placing these materials in the street or in the ROW, it may end up costing you more than just the cost of landscaping materials and the contractor's fee. If you have any questions regarding our roads, please don't hesitate to contact me.

### Bike Path

A number of residents have contacted the township asking what is happening with the bike path along I-94 east of Manning Avenue. It turns out that MnDOT is replacing all the old bike path asphalt, adding infiltration ponds and drainage pipes to promote drainage. Trees will also be trimmed along the entire route from Manning Avenue to Stagecoach Trail. Depending on the weather, this project is expected to be done some time in July. Once the project is completed, the state will turn over the bike path to Washington County.

**One final note, please slowdown, stay alert, be patient and obey the signs in construction work zones. Construction workers' lives depend on you.**

Thank you.  
Dave Schultz  
436-6816

# SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR 3RD ANNUAL CURBSIDE CLEAN-UP WEEK ON SEPT. 16-20, 2019.

A postcard with further details will be sent out in August.

## New Organic Drop-Off Program

Washington County is offering a new program for convenient composting to all County Residents. Did you know that organics are a resource, not a waste? More than one-third of our trash is organic material that can be recycled into compost. Recycling organics, such as food scraps and paper towels, is an easy way to reduce your trash and make a difference!

### How to Get Started

1. Sign up online & pick-up a free starter kit!

[www.co.washington.mn.us/organics](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/organics)

Starter kits include a 2 gallon kitchen pail and 10 compostable bags. Kits are available to Washington County residents only. When bags are full, they may be dropped off and replaced with new ones at the Washington County Environmental Center.

2. Bring bagged organics to:

Washington County Environmental Center  
4039 Cottage Grove Dr, Woodbury, 55129

3. Questions?

[www.co.washington.mn.us/organics](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/organics)

651-275-7475

### Drop-Off Hours

Tuesdays . . . . . 11 am – 7:00 pm

Thursdays . . . . . 8 am – 4:30 pm

Fridays . . . . . 8 am – 4:30 pm

Saturdays . . . . . 8 am – 2:00 pm

## ACCEPTED ITEMS



### Food

- Fruit and vegetables
- Meat, fish, and bones
- Dairy products
- Eggs and egg shells
- Bread, pasta, beans, and rice
- Nuts and shells
- Coffee grounds, filters, and tea bags

### Non-recyclable paper

- Paper towels
- Napkins and tissues
- Pizza delivery boxes

### Certified compostable products

- Certified compostable paper, plastic cups and plastic cups, plates, bowls, utensils, and containers

Look for the BPI or Cedar Grove logos to ensure it is Compostable

## NOT ACCEPTED

- Yard waste
- Animal/pet waste, litter, or bedding
- Dead animals
- Diapers
- Cleaning or baby wipes
- Dryer lint and dryer sheets
- Recyclable items (cartons, glass, metal, paper, plastic)
- Rubber
- Frozen food boxes
- Styrofoam™
- Wood



P.O. Box 447, Lake Elmo, Minnesota 55042

[www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com](http://www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com)

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#### **Interested in becoming an Election Judge?**

Contact our office at 651-436-4773. We are in need of Election Judges for 2020.

## Become a Master Water Steward!

This fall, Freshwater will offer a new, streamlined “mini-training” that will allow interested people in Washington County to become Master Water Stewards more easily. Learn about water, science, and policy and then get engaged with volunteer projects to protect water in your community.

Master Water Stewards learn through a mix of online coursework and two in-person classes:

- Mon., Sept. 16, 5:30-8:30pm; and
- Sat., Oct. 5, 9am-3pm

*Classes will be held at Washington Conservation District in Oakdale.*

They then complete a capstone project with support from their host organization. Examples include raingardens, shoreline plantings, and neighborhood outreach efforts. After the coursework and capstone projects are complete, stewards are officially certified and continue to volunteer in their communities on a wide range of water-related projects and efforts. Though the program usually costs \$2500 per person, there is currently funding available for 10 Washington County residents to participate free-of-charge during 2019.

Becoming a Master Water Steward is a fun way to make new friends, get involved in your community, and help to protect local lakes, rivers and groundwater resources.

Learn more and apply today at [masterwaterstewards.org](http://masterwaterstewards.org).

### Town Board and Staff

Dan Kylo, Chairman	651-436-1134
Dave Schultz, Supervisor	651-436-6816
Steve Ebner, Supervisor	651-436-6482
Carrie Seifert, Town Clerk	651-436-4773
Jennifer Samec, Deputy Clerk	651-436-4773
Marsha Olson, Treasurer	651-998-9178

### Building Official (building permits & inspections)

Duane Stensland — 651-436-7669

**Burning Permits** (no cost): Dan Kylo (436-1134); Steve Ebner (436- 6482); Dave Schultz (436-6816); John McPherson (439-3754). Please call between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.