

FALL 2022 Champlin Chronicle

IN THIS ISSUE

02

Shed Fest

06

Elm Creek Restoration - Final Phase

08

Mississippi Crossings

11

2023 Project Planning

14

Elections



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Event Center Rentals Now Available!

Discover your destination in the heart of Champlin! We are excited to announce that reservations are being accepted for the new Mississippi Crossings Event Center. It will feature a conference room, main hall, outdoor playground with a water feature, concessionaire, and deck overlooking the river. The facility will open this October and there are two rental options to explore:

1. The first is an all-day, 12-hour full facility rental. This gives exclusive access to the conference room, lobby, main hall, and deck. It's ideal for large events such as receptions, anniversaries, birthdays, and reunions. Full day reservations can be made up to 18 months in advance.
2. The second rental option is a single room, either the conference room OR main hall, in blocks of at least four hours. This gives exclusive use to only the room being rented. This type of reservation can be made up to six months in advance.

Residents get 10% off rentals. We invite you to rent the event center and host your next event on the river. The spectacular waterfront views will not disappoint. Rates, floor plans, and FAQs are available on our website. Book online today at www.MississippiCrossings.com.

**Learn more about Mississippi Crossings and the October Grand Opening Event on page 8.*





CITY HALL

Phone: 763-421-8100

Website: www.ci.champlin.mn.us

The City Council and staff can be reached at the following email: email@ci.champlin.mn.us

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ice Forum: 763-421-3696

Parks & Public Works: 763-421-2820

Police Administration: 763-421-2971

Utility Billing: 763-923-7135

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Ryan Karasek

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ward 1: Jessica Tesdall | Ward 2: Tom Moe

Ward 3: Nate Truesdell | Ward 4: Ryan Sabas

CITY STAFF

City Administrator: Bret Heitkamp

City Engineer: Shibani Bisson

Communications: Ashley Wagner

Community Development Director: Scott Schulte

Finance Director: Shelly Peterson

Fire Chief: Ted Massicotte

IT Director: Todd Beisang

Parks and Facilities Manager: Charlie Lehn

Police Chief: Ty Schmidt

Public Works Director: Chris Rachner

REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

City Council: 2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

EDA: 2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

ERC: 1st Monday of the Month

Park & Rec Commission: 1st Tuesday of the Month

Planning Commission: 3rd Monday of the Month

*Meeting dates are subject to change; call the City office to confirm dates and times or check website calendar for updates

EDITOR

Champlin Chronicle Editor: Ashley Wagner



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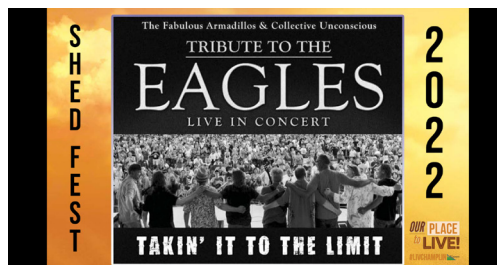
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Shed Fest

Saturday, September 24 | Gates Open 5 p.m.

Join us for our 4th Annual Shed Fest. It will feature an Eagles Tribute by the Fabulous Armadillos at 9 p.m. in the Public Works Yard located behind City Hall. Come early to enjoy dinner by food truck, adult beverages served by The Lookout, bags, and a pre-show by Ladies of the 80s at 6 p.m. Pre-purchase tickets online for \$15 through September 23 or tickets will be available on site at the entrance for \$20. Parking will be available at the Ice Forum, and shuttle buses will run from various parks around town. Watch for shuttle details online the week of the event!



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[Mayor's Corner]

Greetings, Neighbors!

By: Mayor Ryan Karasek

In true Minnesota fashion, this is the beginning sentence of my long Minnesotan good-bye. Earlier this year, I announced that after 12 years of serving Champlin, I will not be seeking re-election for a third term as mayor. Serving the residents of Champlin has been my goal since Day One and my greatest honor. Gandhi once said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in public service." I have approached my public service by giving 100% to this position.

All these years later, I have learned a lot about myself, especially that I have plenty of room for improvement. After hundreds of meetings, calls, emails, messages, texts, door knocking, and visits to residents, I found one universal theme: Everyone is struggling. Some struggle with health, finances, loss, time management, choices made, or lack of hope/optimism. Even though I wanted to help everyone, I could not. I prioritized stability in the community, safety in homes, and trust from the citizens that the council would provide strong leadership.

I could not have accomplished the work that has been done without the confidence and support of our council and staff who understand, appreciate, and embrace the struggles that residents face. They have worked tirelessly with passion and commitment to make Champlin an exceptional place to live. In the last six years, I have been blessed to work with the same four council members. We have met immense challenges and been presented with amazing opportunities, such as planning the Mississippi Crossings Riverfront Development Project. Mississippi Crossings is the crowning achievement of this council and many before us.

I would be remiss if I didn't publicly acknowledge and individually thank my colleagues. Champlin is so fortunate to have them leading this community. Together we have experienced spirited conversations, sincere disagreements, deep seated frustrations, brilliant dialogue, overwhelming consensus, and moments of



Councilmember Tom Moe, Councilmember Ryan Sabas, Councilmember Nate Truesdell, Mayor Ryan Karasek, Councilmember Jessica Tesdall

pure exhilaration. As my father used to say, "It wasn't always sunshine and roses," but we worked with mutual respect and understanding that is hard to find in modern-day politics. In my first "state of the city" address, I compared this council to lightning in a bottle. They did not disappoint.

Continued on page 11 ►



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Fall Yard Care Tips

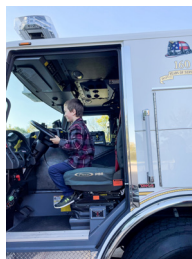
With the leaves on their way down and the temperature doing the same, it's time to consider how to take care of your lawn before it's covered in snow. After collecting fallen leaves, please bag and properly dispose of them. Letting excess leaves enter the storm sewers can harm our local waters due to their decomposition. If you are considering fertilizing your lawn, please keep in mind responsible practices such as: applying at the rates listed on the bag, keeping fertilizer off all pavement and asphalt, not applying prior to rain events, and mulching your grass as you mow for a natural nitrogen fertilizer. If you live near water bodies, please ensure your fertilizer is phosphorus free. Phosphorus can lead to unsightly and harmful algae blooms in the water. Thank you for helping keep our waters clean!



Open House

Saturday, October 15 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
11955 Champlin Drive

In honor of Fire Prevention Week, the Champlin Police Department and Fire Station 2 invite residents to come try on the gear, put out a real fire, climb in trucks, participate in safety demos, and more!



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Youth Programming

Youth Ice Skating Lessons

The Learn to Skate USA skating lesson program is designed to provide a fun and positive experience that will instill a lifelong love of skating. This program is based on a safe and solid skill progression that provides all skaters the necessary tools to reach their goal, be it recreational or competitive. The City of Champlin is offering Snow Plow Sam, Hockey, Basic Skills, and Freeskating classes ranging from ages 3-18. Lessons include a half hour of instruction and a half hour of open skating.

Upcoming sessions are available for registration at secure.rec1.com/MN/champlin-mn/catalog.

Fall Session 1: Mondays, October 10-November 14
(no 10/31 lessons)

Fall Session 2: Mondays, November 21-December 19



Skate Sharpening, Meeting Rooms, Ice Rental, Advertising, and Birthday Party Packages are available! Other programs include Open Skate, Developmental Ice, and Adult Open Hockey. Visit Champlin Ice Forum on our website to learn more!



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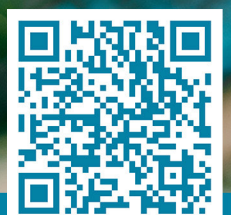
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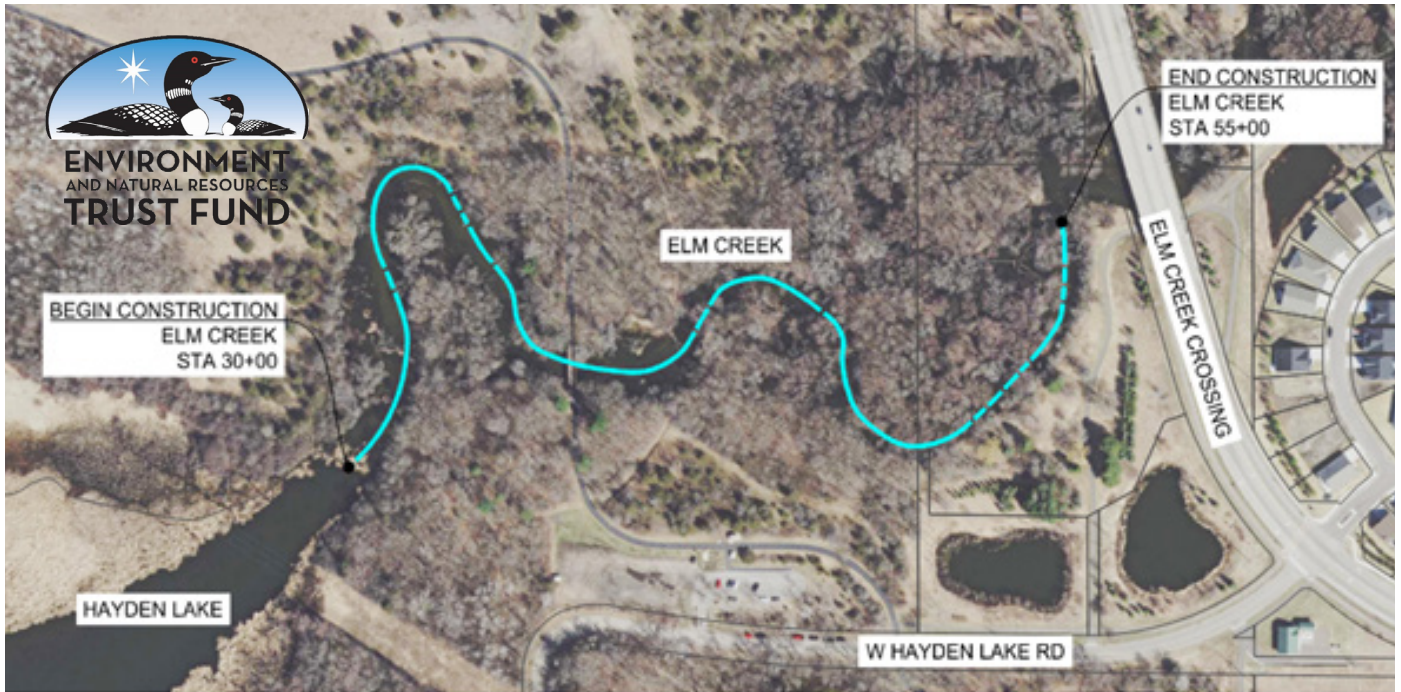


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The Elm Creek Stream Restoration Final Phase



Preparations are under way to begin phase V of the Elm Creek stream restoration project. Over the past several years, we've been working to restore the stream bank and provide native habitat

improvements. This phase of the project will include 2,500 lineal feet of stream and extend the restoration of Elm Creek from the Elm Creek Crossing bridge upstream (west) to Hayden Lake.

Stream bank improvement work will occur over the winter and include restoration of the riparian areas. Native planting buffers will be constructed to filter sediment and nutrients from running into the creek. The project will include some tree thinning to remove invasive trees, along with those trees that are at risk for disease or too close to the stream edge. The trees will be harvested and utilized on the project as toe-wood stream bank stabilization.

Elm Creek is an impaired waterway, and projects like this one, along with the previous phases of work along Elm Creek and Mill Pond, incorporate improvements to habitat, water quality, and flood control. This project allows the city to improve public recreation such as kayaking, fishing, and educational experiences.

Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). Additional funding partners include Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission, Three Rivers Park District, and Board of Water and the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). They use watershed-based implementation funding to accelerate water management outcomes and improve consistency and efficiency across the state. Upon completion of this final phase, restoration for the entire 2.7-mile segment of Elm Creek through Champlin will be complete.

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Front Row: Stephanie Stolt (Pre-Planning Specialist), Tina Schutz (Funeral Director), and Brittney Chase (Funeral Director)



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WHEN: September 28

TIME: 10:45 a.m. departure / 5 p.m. return

WHERE: Champlin Community Center / 12450 Gettysburg Ave.

FEE: \$18

JEANIE'S HOLIDAY JOURNEYS

We are excited to be partnering with Jeanie's Journeys to offer two holiday travel excursions. Call 612-229-5276 or visit jeanies-journeys.com to learn more!

BRANSON CHRISTMAS SHOWS

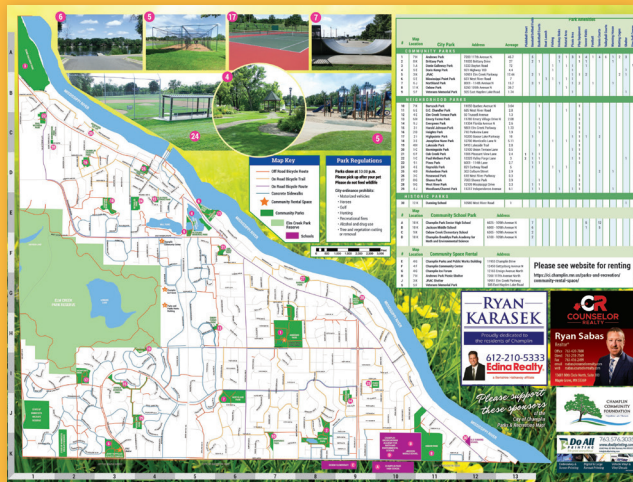
Join us to see six shows, go Christmas shopping, and experience Branson in the winter.

WHEN: November 3-8

CHRISTMASTIME IN NYC

Join us for a Christmas adventure in New York City! Stay in a historic hotel in Times Square and watch The Rockettes! Please note: lots of walking involved.

WHEN: November 28 - December 2



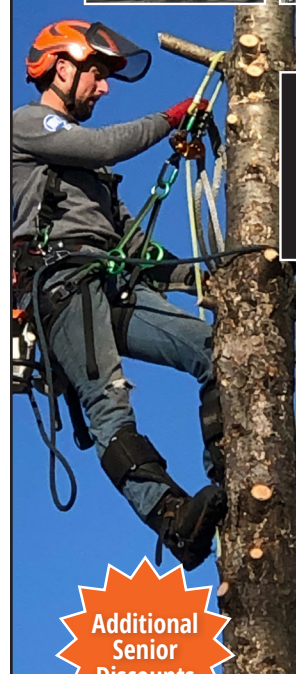
Pickle Ball

Paul Wethern Park has two dedicated pickle ball courts. There is also one at Oak Creek Park. Additionally, all tennis courts (Andrews, Richardson, and Highpointe Park) are now lined for pickle ball play. View the NEW Park & Trail Map at ci.champlin.mn.us. (PARKS & RECREATION)



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Mississippi Crossings Event Center Grand Opening

October 6 | 5-9 p.m. | Details Coming Soon!

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Indoor Trick or Treating at The Bowline Apartments

October 31 | 5-7 p.m.

We are excited to be partnering with the Bowline Apartments to bring you this safe, temperature-controlled trick or treating experience! Show off your costumes; no need to hide them under a winter coat! Participating apartments will have a themed door decoration to let you know they are participating!

WHO: Suggested for ages 3+

WHERE: Bowline Apartments-220 East River Parkway

Wedding & Event Open House

November 12 | 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Turkey Bingo

November 18 | 5:15 & 7 p.m.

This Thanksgiving event will be fun for the whole family! We will play ten games of bingo; each player will play on their own card. Each game will have one adult winner who will receive a frozen turkey and one child winner who will receive a fun prize! This low-key night is a wonderful way to spend a Friday evening.



WHO: Ages 5 & up

Adult supervision required.

WHERE: Mississippi Crossings Event Center

FEE: Residents \$6 | Non-Residents \$10

TIME: Session #1 - 5:15 p.m.

Session #2 - 7 p.m.

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Holiday Artisan Market

November 19 | 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

If you are an artisan crafter, we would love to have you participate in our first ever Holiday Artisan Market. Vendor registration information can be found on the Parks & Recreation page of our website.

If you're a shopper, mark your calendar for an opportunity to find special one-of-a-kind holiday gifts.

WHERE: Mississippi Crossings Event Center | 307 East River Parkway



2022 Holiday Light Tour Registration

We are encouraging homeowners with holiday spirit to participate in our annual Holiday Light Tour this December. It's FREE and easy; simply decorate your home and sign up by December 4. Add your home to the tour list by emailing your name and address to recreation@ci.champlin.mn.us. Watch for a list of participating homes and interactive map on our website by December 9. Then plan an evening to drive around and enjoy the holiday spirit on display in Champlin.



Hometown Holiday December 3 | 3-10 p.m.

Join us at Mississippi Crossings for a free family event that will include lighting up the Champlin tree for the first time at 6 p.m., carolers, Santa, walk-through light displays, and more! Festivities will take place

between 3 and 6 p.m. The Champlin tree and walk-through light displays will be illuminated nightly until 10 p.m. through the month of December. Watch our website and City of Champlin Facebook for more details as we get closer to the event.

Watch the replay of LIVE & LOCAL Champlin for a first look inside Mississippi Crossings!



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◀ **Continued from page 3**

For many years, Ward 1 council member Jessica Tesdall has been my sounding board and more importantly, my dear friend. She is the most brilliant, compassionate, and strong-willed colleague. Countless times I have reached out to her for guidance, advice, and support. She has an uncanny ability to temper my frustrations with calm and measured responses. She speaks from a place of thoughtfulness, intellect, and sheer dedication to Ward 1 and all of Champlin.

Council member of Ward 2, Tom Moe, is a pure leader. There is an age-old adage that says, “Hire people that are better than you are.” Six years ago, when Tom was appointed to this position, that is how I felt, and it still rings true today. Countless times I look to Tom for that one piece of knowledge, moment of inspiration, or one sentence that can encapsulate what we are all thinking. With the snap of a finger, Tom speaks, and everything makes sense. I have found myself saying, “Yes. Do what Tom said, and don’t change a thing.” Tom is as successful in the public sector as in the private, and I am incredibly grateful to have served with him. His talent, skill, and kindness have made me a better person, and his example of leadership made me a stronger mayor.

After innumerable hours of conversation on every topic under the sun, it is a wonder that Ward 3 council member Nate Truesdell and I haven’t solved all the world’s problems. He is a pragmatic problem solver who does not beat around the bush to give you an answer. His “sometimes blunt” nature is refreshing and admirable in a time when many elected officials tend to waffle on issues. As the most fiscally conservative council member I know, I appointed Nate as Vice President of our Economic Development Authority. He watches dollars and cents like a hawk, while appreciating the value of doing something great. Appointing Nate to the Anoka-Champlin Fire Board led to his becoming Chairman there. He has led them through a complex transition of Fire Chiefs, ultimately hiring our new Fire Chief and changing organizational structure for the better.

No one loves Champlin more than Ward 4 council member Ryan Sabas. Period. Born and raised in the heart of our community, Mr. Sabas relentlessly defends the interests of Champlin with extraordinary passion and conviction. Ryan has knocked on more doors than anyone else in Champlin’s history to learn about our citizens’ concerns. He continues to foster and grow relationships between the business community and City Hall. I appointed Ryan as our “Acting Mayor” in the event that I couldn’t act on an issue or attend a meeting. Ryan and I share something special in that we both dream big, and that rather than asking, “Why can’t we do something?” we ask, “How can we do this?” We work toward a solution and push the envelope to make Champlin great.

Over the years, Champlin has been blessed with strong leaders who genuinely care about our residents. Through it all, we continue to stand as a united front to make Champlin the best it can be!

2023 Project Planning



New Rental Density Ordinance

The City of Champlin has a rental licensing and inspections program to ensure that rental property is safe and sanitary and doesn't become a nuisance or blight on neighborhoods. Owning and operating rental housing is a business enterprise that requires owners to secure a license to operate that business.

Responding to an increase in single family home rental conversions, on June 27, 2022, the City of Champlin adopted

a rental density ordinance that limits the number of rental licenses for single family residential lots. The cap establishes a 10 percent limit on single family lots on any block. The ordinance became effective July 5, 2022.

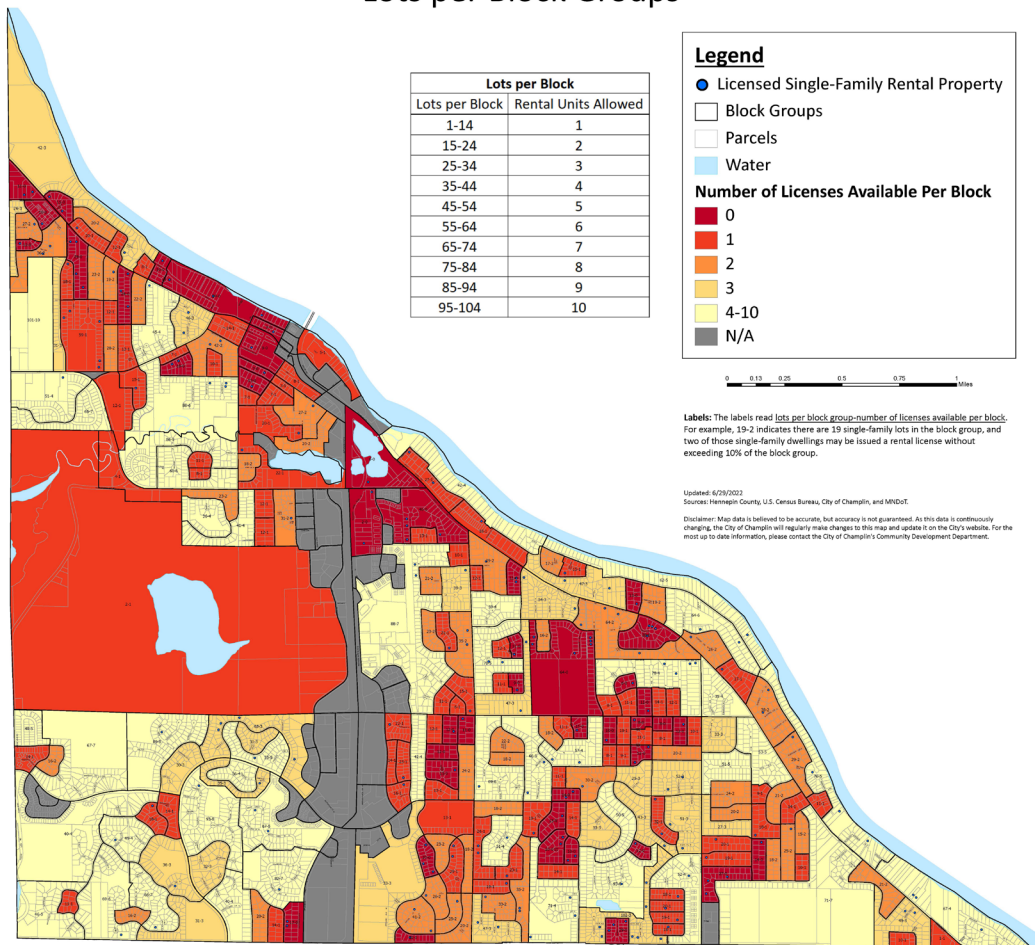
Before applying for a rental license, applicants must review the new rental density ordinance map to ensure the block is eligible. If the number of rental properties exceeds the

permitted number of rental properties per a defined block on the effective date of the ordinance, no additional rental licenses shall be approved for the subject block unless a temporary license is granted by the City Council. Existing rental licenses may be renewed; however, should a rental license not be renewed, terminated due to the sale of a property by the current license holder, transfer of property ownership occurs, or if the rental license is revoked or lapses, a new rental license shall not be issued. The rental density map is frequently updated and can be found on the city's website under the "Rental Licensing Program."

If you have questions, please contact our rental licensing department at 763-923-7196.



Rental Density for Single-Family Lots per Block Groups



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Night to Unite 2022

Thank you, Champlin! We had fun connecting with the community, and it was a delight trying the fantastic dishes that were shared when we stopped by registered gatherings! Thank you to those who hosted. It was good to see neighbors laughing as hordes of children chased down fire trucks and police cars for stickers and mini footballs. It speaks to the social fabric that has been woven through this city over many years,

and we are always happy to share in it. Representatives from the city included police, fire, council, and staff. This annual community-building campaign promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Night to Unite is held on the first Tuesday in August every year. Look for next year's registration details on the city's website in June 2023. Next year's event will be held on August 1, 2023.

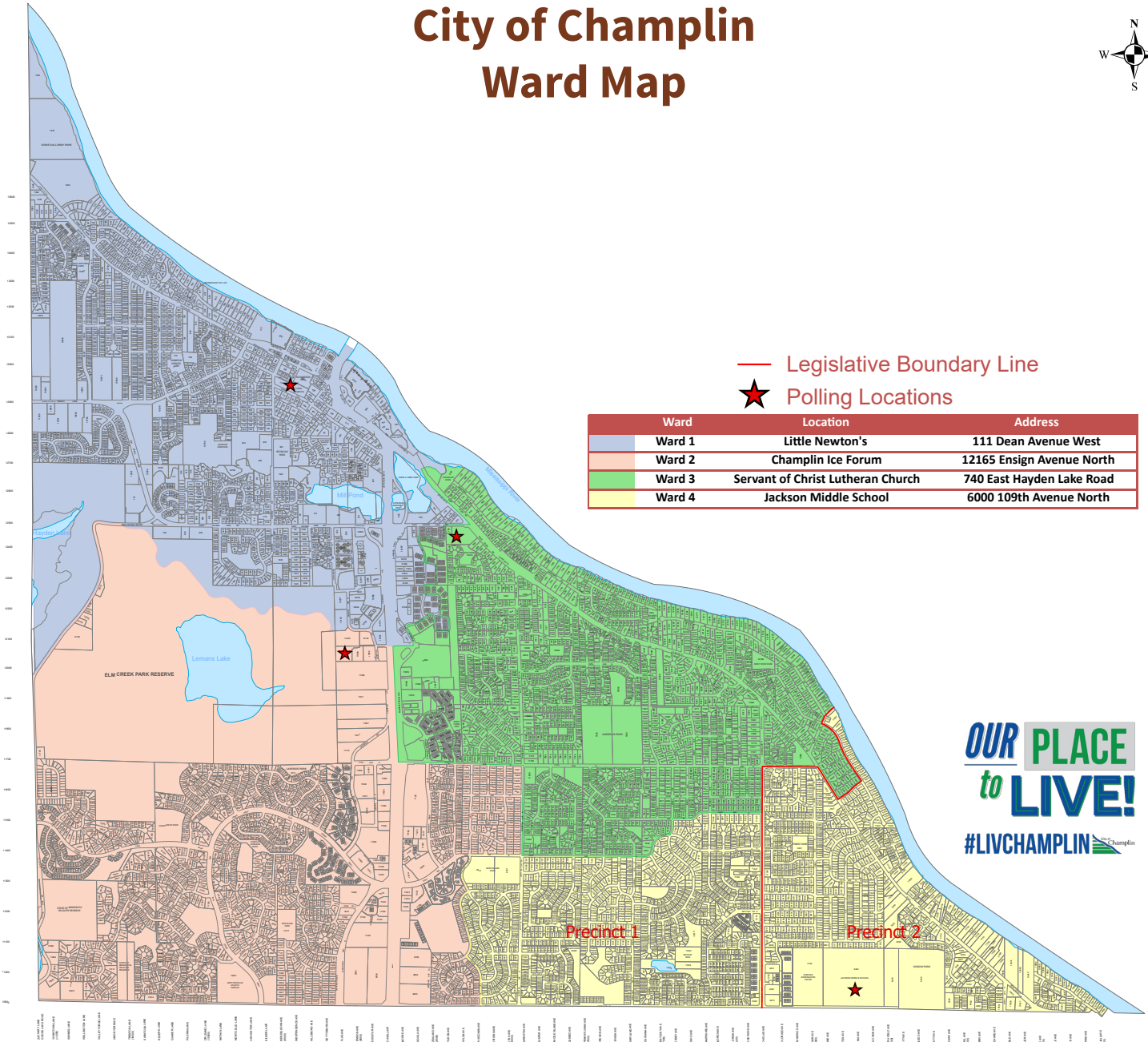


Sunday, September 18th at | Champlin Park High School

Come for tons of giant inflatables,
a rock climbing wall, power bungees, an obstacle course,
balloon artists, face painting, food, cotton candy,
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City of Champlin Ward Map



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Election Day 2022

General Election

November 8, 2022 | Polls will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Offices of Champlin Mayor, City Councilmember Ward 1, and City Councilmember Ward 2 will be on the ballot.

Register To Vote

- Check your status or register to vote on the Secretary of State's website at sos.state.mn.us.
- You can register at your polling place on election day. Bring a photo ID with current name and address or bring a photo ID and a document with current name and address.

Polling Locations

- Based on the address where you maintain residence, your polling location may have changed. Please check poll finder (pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us) before you vote.
- **Ward 1 - Precinct 1:** Little Newtons, 111 Dean Avenue W.
- **Ward 2 - Precinct 1:** Champlin Ice Forum, 12165 Ensign Avenue N.
- **Ward 3 - Precinct 1:** Servant of Christ Lutheran Church, 740 East Hayden Lake Rd.
- **Ward 4 - Precincts 1 and 2:** Jackson Middle School, 6000 109th Avenue N.

Absentee Ballots Available September 23

CONTACT INFORMATION

Secretary of State: sos.state.mn.us

Hennepin County: hennepin.us/residents#elections

Champlin: ci.champlin.mn.us
(ELECTIONS)

View sample ballots and learn more about Election Day 2022 online.



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Sign Up for Direct Payment of Your Utility Bill



Did you know you can have your City of Champlin utility bill paid automatically with our free Autopay program?

- Save money (no stamps, no processing fees).
- Save time (no checks to write).
- No late fees, no worries!

Autopay is a free service and enrollment is easy!

Simply complete the form and return to us with your current City of Champlin utility payment or mail anytime.

Once you are enrolled, you will continue to receive your monthly statement, which will state **PAID BY DRAFT**. It's that simple!

Questions? Call us! 763-923-7135

Bills are paid automatically from your checking or savings account on the due date. Our Autopay program is a free service and you can withdraw anytime by contacting us at least 10 days prior to your due date.

Champlin Round Up Program

The Champlin Parks and Recreation Department is reaching out to utility customers to request your participation in a community-based program in which your utility Bill is rounded up to the next dollar. The most a customer could contribute in one year's time would be \$11.88, yet that money will make a difference by offsetting youth and senior activity costs. If you would like to sign up to participate in this voluntary program, send your name, address, and a note indicating your interest to roundup@ci.champlin.mn.us or call the Utility Billing Department at 763-923-7135.



City of Champlin Application for Direct Pay Plan Utility Bill

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Utility Account #: _____

Financial Institution: _____

Checking ☐ Savings ☐

Bank Account #: _____

Routing #: _____

By signing below, I am authorizing the City of Champlin utility department to automatically withdraw my utility payment from my checking/savings account.

Signature _____

Date _____

Mail completed forms to:

City of Champlin
Attn: Utility Billing
11955 Champlin Drive
Champlin, MN 55316

Questions? Contact:

Utility Billing Department at 763-923-7135 or
UtilityBilling@ci.champlin.mn.us