

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN

WEST ST. PAUL

Winter 2022



CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL

Municipal Center
1616 Humboldt Avenue
West St. Paul, MN 55118

Office Hours M-F - 8:00am - 4:30pm

MAYOR

David Napier [612-562-9773](tel:612-562-9773)
dnapier@wspmn.gov

CITY COUNCIL

Ward I | Julie Eastman [651-270-3392](tel:651-270-3392)
jeastman@wspmn.gov

Ward I | Dick Vitelli [651-460-0419](tel:651-460-0419)
dvitelli@wspmn.gov

Ward II | Robyn Gulley [612-558-6019](tel:612-558-6019)
rgulley@wspmn.gov

Ward II | John Justen [763-442-1107](tel:763-442-1107)
jjusten@wspmn.gov

Ward III | Wendy Berry [612-414-2749](tel:612-414-2749)
wberry@wspmn.gov

Ward III | Lisa Eng-Sarne [651-757-7090](tel:651-757-7090)
lengsarne@wspmn.gov

CITY MANAGER

Nate Burkett [651-552-4101](tel:651-552-4101)
nburkett@wspmn.gov

PHONE

Main Line - Reception [651-552-4100](tel:651-552-4100)

Emergency Police or Fire [911](tel:911)

Non-Emergency Police [651-322-2323](tel:651-322-2323)

South Metro Fire Dept. [651-552-4176](tel:651-552-4176)

Parks & Recreation [651-552-4150](tel:651-552-4150)

Building Inspections [651-552-4116](tel:651-552-4116)

Code Enforcement [651-552-4114](tel:651-552-4114)

Police Admin/Records [651-552-4200](tel:651-552-4200)

Elections [651-552-4102](tel:651-552-4102)

Ice Arena [651-552-4155](tel:651-552-4155)

Sports Dome/WSPRAC [651-552-4158](tel:651-552-4158)

Street Maintenance/Trees [651-552-4160](tel:651-552-4160)

Street Projects [651-552-4131](tel:651-552-4131)

Inflow & Infiltration [651-552-4137](tel:651-552-4137)

Business Licensing [651-552-4102](tel:651-552-4102)

WEB

www.wspmn.gov

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Held the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month
6:30pm - City Hall Council Chambers

[facebook.com/CityofWSP](https://www.facebook.com/CityofWSP)
[facebook.com/WestStPaulPD](https://www.facebook.com/WestStPaulPD)

[@WestStPaul](https://twitter.com/WestStPaul)
[@WestStPaulPD](https://twitter.com/WestStPaulPD)



from the MAYOR'S DESK



Thank you, Councilmember Dick Vitelli

If you ever want to know what it means to give back to your community, please look at what councilmember Dick Vitelli has accomplished during his time serving the City of West St. Paul.

Dick has served the City of West St. Paul as a councilmember at two different times. He was first elected to the City Council in 1989 and served until 2002. His second stint didn't begin with a campaign, rather a request to fill an empty seat until the next election. In 2013, during my first term as a councilmember, I recall a vacancy needing to be filled by appointment. Another councilmember and I reached out to Dick Vitelli (knowing that he had previously served on the council) to gauge his interest in filling out the term. Without hesitation, he agreed to represent Ward 1 and has continued serving the people ever since.

I have known Dick for many years as we both volunteered in youth baseball and hockey. It did not take long for me to see what drove him to serve the City. He is passionate about his community and wants to make it the best it can be. Additionally, his career in the trades proved to be valuable when working through large community projects.

Dick has a tremendous understanding of the role of an elected official and has always remained grounded in solid principles. Perhaps his greatest strength is expressing his opinion in a very straight-forward and non-filtered way. If he believes it is in the best interest of the City, councilmember Vitelli will share his rationale.

Dick is one of the most unselfish and giving people I have ever met. Through his actions, Dick has shown me how to be a good parent, grandparent, friend, coach, and city leader.

On behalf of myself and the 20,000+ residents of the City of West St. Paul, I want to say 'Thank You' to Dick Vitelli, and his wonderful wife, Sheila, for his outstanding service. Enjoy your retirement from public service.

*Forever grateful,
Mayor Dave Napier*



WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

DO YOU HAVE HIGH ENERGY BILLS?
IS YOUR HOME DRAFTY?
COULD YOUR FURNACE USE A TUNE-UP?



Income eligible residents in Dakota County may qualify for the Weatherization Assistance Grant to help make homes more energy efficient. Improvements include:

- Insulate walls and attic spaces
- Replace inefficient water heaters
- Upgrade furnaces and lighting
- Reduce air leakage or infiltration

PROGRAM INCOME LIMITS*

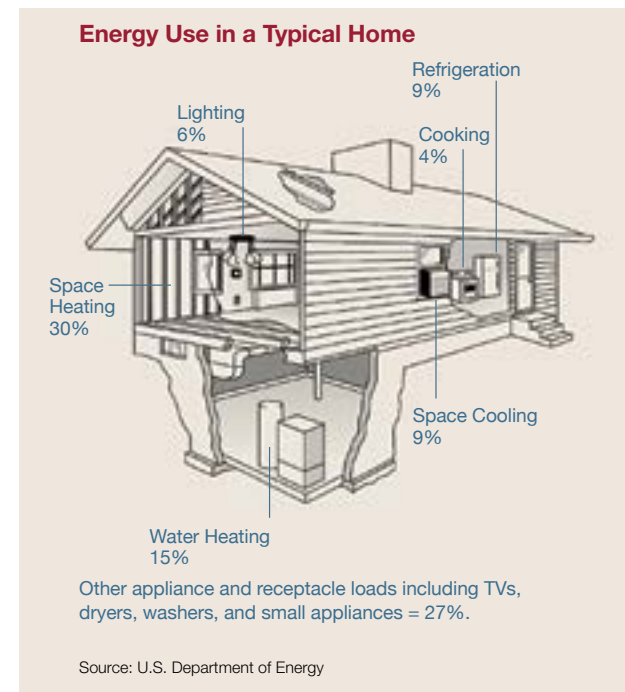
Household Size	Maximum Income
1	\$33,916
2	\$44,362
3	\$44,362
4	\$65,228
5	\$65,228
6	\$86,100
7	\$88,056
8	\$88,056

*Limits as of July 2021 and are subject to change.

If you qualify for the Weatherization Assistance Program, the CDA's Energy Specialist will conduct an energy audit on your home to determine solutions to improve your home's energy efficiency.

The CDA will assist you in selecting a qualified contractor to complete the work. Payment is made directly to the contractor on your behalf when the work is completed and after the CDA has inspected the work.

For more information about the Weatherization Assistance Program
Contact the Weatherization Program Support Assistant at 651-675-4465.

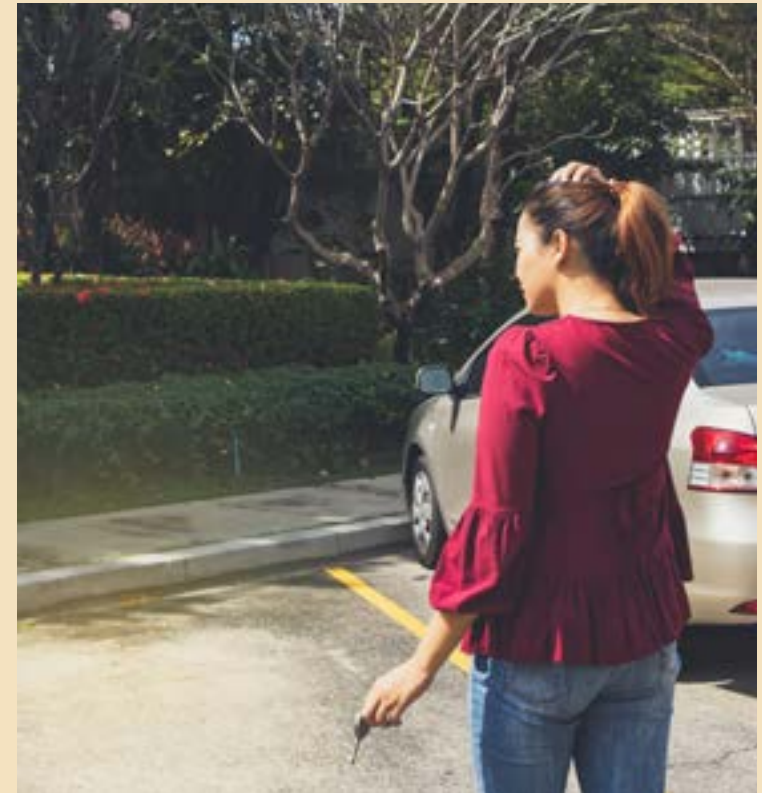


THE LOW DOWN ON AUTO SECURITY

Did you know that across the country car thefts are on the rise? They're up 17 percent from 2019 to 2021, according to the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB). Six out of the ten cars stolen in the Twin Cities are done so with the vehicle's keys inside. About half of those stolen vehicles are then used to commit another crime. Some vehicles are stolen for parts by experienced thieves, while inexperienced thieves are looking to take a joy ride in someone else's vehicle. The Insurance Institute of Highway Safety (IIHS) reported that many 2015-2019 Hyundai and Kia vehicles lack certain security features, making them the hottest vehicles for thieves to steal.

Auto thefts can be preventable; here are a few tips from the West St. Paul Police Department.

- Always lock your vehicles, even in a garage
- Do not leave your car running unattended
- Do not leave valuables in your vehicle
- Park your vehicles in well-lit areas
- A visible steering wheel lock, such as The Club or Disklok can be a deterrent to thieves
- Track your car: Aftermarket tracking systems will not prevent theft, but they can help you find your car after the fact. Do your research on aftermarket tracking systems, some are free and some are subscription-based services



Drop off your used yard signs

NOV. 7-20

Look for collection boxes outside these locations:

- Farmington Maintenance Facility
- Hastings City Hall
- Lakeville Maintenance Facility
- Mendota Heights City Hall (starts Nov. 9)
- Rosemount City Hall
- South St. Paul City Hall

Other items?
Know where it goes.
www.dakotacounty.us, search recycling guide

VOTE FOR RECYCLING

All signs will be sent to a special recycler.

ACCEPTED

- Rigid plastic signs
- Cardboard signs
- Metal stakes

NOT ACCEPTED

- Flags or fabric signs
- Stretchy plastic signs

Recycling Guide



Santa's Holiday Hero Express

December 1, 2022 | 5:30-7:30pm

Santa is coming through the streets of West St. Paul escorted by your very own West St. Paul Police and South Metro Fire safety vehicles. The route will be published on the City website in November! If your house is on the route, you can wave to Santa from your yard or balcony. Not on the route? Make your way over to Harmon Park, find a parking spot and wave from there.

Look for updates on the **West St. Paul Police** and **South Metro Fire Department** Facebook page



REPAIRING INFLOW AND INFILTRATION



Since 2008, over 3,500 West St. Paul residents have had their private sewer lines inspected, and in some cases, they have had to make a costly investment in getting those lines repaired. Understanding the inflow and infiltration compliance process can be difficult, specifically when it comes to choosing the best contractor for your needs, as well as the repair method that fits your budget.

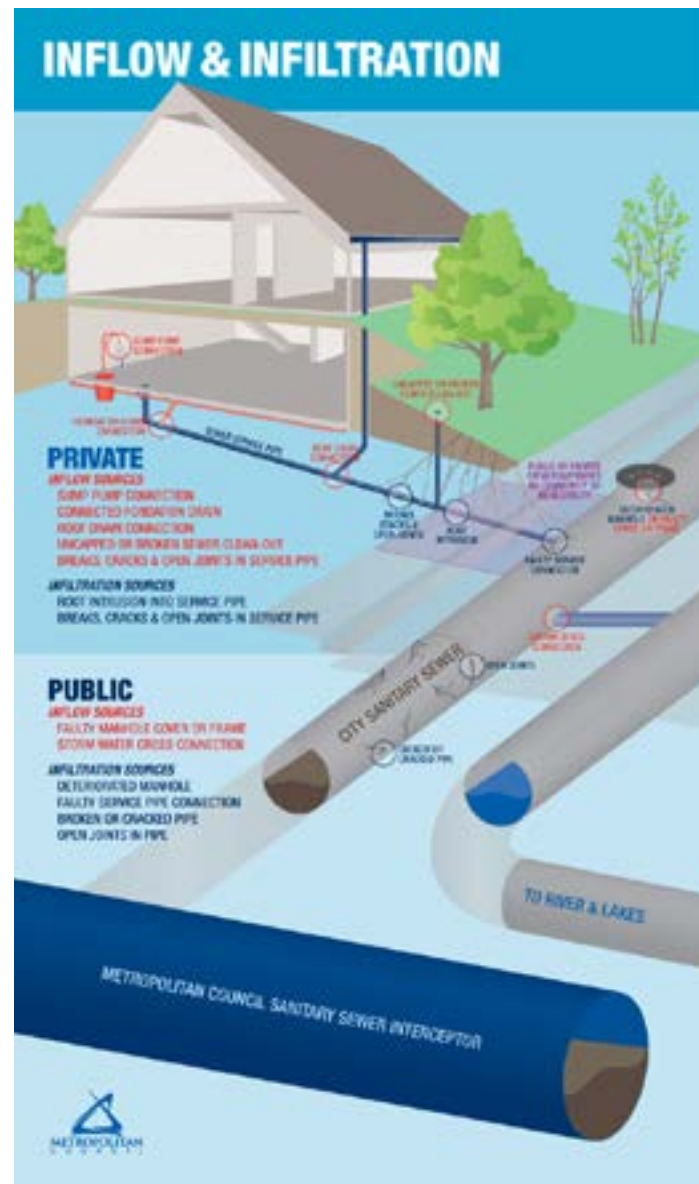
The two most common repair methods are the trenchless “Cured in Place Pipe”, (more commonly known as sewer lining) and pipe replacement. A liner can cost anywhere from \$6,000 to \$8,000. The installation of the liner carries a 10-year manufacturers warranty, and it should last for at least 50 years. This method does not typically require any digging, and can usually be completed in one day.

Pipe replacement requires excavating in your yard and/or in the street and physically replacing the old clay pipe with more durable plastic pipe. Pipe replacement is usually necessary when the old pipe has suffered structural damage, such as multiple fractures or a collapse. Excavating will cost at least \$10,000, but the newer material should last for 100 years.

When choosing a contractor and a repair method, an abundant amount of caution should be exercised, and getting more than one estimate is crucial.

In general, sewer contractors charge about the same amount for their services. Of course, some contractors will need to charge more than the average in order to cover rising material costs, higher wages and operating overhead. Be aware, however, that there are contractors who are providing estimates that are easily double the costs of many of their peers, and are not doing anything with better quality or different materials.

During the 14 years of the inflow and infiltration program, some 20 different contractors have completed sewer repair work on 1,300 residences in the city. In all but three cases, the repair was done so correctly and remains in perfect operating condition to this day - without groundwater infiltration.



If you should have any questions or concerns regarding the inspection process, or the validity of any repair estimate please call Eldon Rameaux at 651-552-4137.

QR CODE SCAMS ON THE RISE

Like all technology, those square barcodes that consumers scan with their cell phone and are then directed to a website or document are being exploited by scammers. QR codes have been showing up everywhere; to register for programs, in real estate listings, at restaurants, etc. Cybercriminals are increasingly using QR codes to trick consumers by creating their own malicious codes which mislead consumers into giving out personal or banking information in a spin on the age-old email phishing scam.

The act of scanning the bogus QR code generally won't do anything to a consumer's cell phone, however it can take you to a fictitious website designed to get personal or financial information. Although phony QR codes represent a small percentage of overall phishing scams it is beneficial to be aware of the potential risk.

Scam prevention information has made people aware to be on the lookout for questionable links or attachments in emails but many people don't think twice about scanning a QR code. Recently a fake QR code was found on parking meters in Texas that directed the user to a fake website that collected their credit card information instead of to the cities authorized websites. Scam QR codes are also starting to show up in phishing emails and online ads as well.

Prevention tips

- Think before you scan - be wary of QR codes posted in public places. Make sure they are actually part of the advertising. If the QR code doesn't look like it fits in with the background, it is probably fake.
- When you scan a QR code, take a good look at the website. Does it look legit? If it asks for login or banking information that doesn't seem to be needed, do not give that information out.
- QR codes embedded in emails are almost always a bad idea. Why would an email you are looking at on your computer or smart device ask you to scan a code, rather than click on a link? The same goes for QR codes you receive in junk mail.
- Preview the QR code's URL. Most cell phones will give you a preview of the URL as you start to scan it. If the URL looks suspicious, that's a red flag that the site may be fictitious
- Consider using a secure scanner app which is designed to spot malicious links before your phone opens them. Beware there are some malicious QR scanning apps designed to obtain user information out there as well. Stick to well-known security companies' apps.
- Use a password manager. If a QR code takes you to an especially convincing fake website, a password manager will know the difference and won't autofill your passwords.



Thank you, 2022 Explore West St. Paul Days Sponsors!



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\$20,000



Platinum Sponsors
\$1,000+



Gold Sponsors
\$750-\$999



Save the Dates: June 8-10, 2023



WEST ST. PAUL PLOWING AND SNOW TIPS

West St. Paul's Public Works Department takes great pride in snow removal, please give them room to work and stay back at least 150 feet from plows.

A fully loaded snowplow weighs around 28,000 pounds so it also takes longer for them to come to a complete stop.

Make sure snow stays on your property, pushing it into the street is illegal.

Keep your garbage can on your driveway, behind the curb, to avoid the snow from the plow pushing it over.

For the safety of our pedestrians and compliance with City Ordinance, remember to clear your sidewalk within 12 hours of a snowfall.

Help the environment by shoveling early and often and avoiding the use of salt.

Stay connected and sign up for Snow Emergencies at www.wspmn.gov/list.aspx to know when you need to have your car off the street.



2023 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Total Preliminary \$43,893,601
Levy Breakdown: \$19,795,031

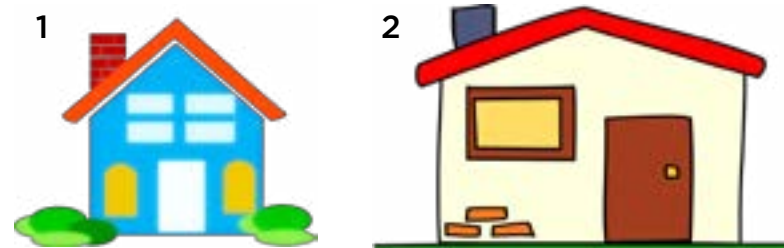
Fund	Amount
General Operating & Community Events	\$14,346,397
Debt	\$3,525,002
Capital	\$1,008,722
Parks Capital	\$516,147
EDA	\$398,763
Total Levy	\$19,795,031

DEBT BUDGET

Governmental Debt Service- Decrease in D.S. levy of \$378,228

Continual reduction in Debt Service Levy as bonds are paid off and no additional governmental bonds are being issued in 23' or 24'.

CITY TAX LEVY AFFECTS ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES



House 1	2022	2023	2024
Taxable MV	\$180,760	\$209,100	\$228,807
City Tax	\$1,278	\$1,410	\$1,566
Annual Incr.	22.78	131.80	155.97

House 2	2022	2023	2024
Taxable MV	\$241,037	\$277,213	\$302,369
City Tax	\$1,704	\$1,869	\$2,069
Annual Incr.	154.33	165.22	200.14

UPCOMING REGISTRATION DATES

Winter 2022-2023: Nov. 15, 9 am
Spring & Summer 2023: Feb. 28, 9 am

Register online at www.wspmn.gov

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER

Online: www.wspmn.gov/rec

Phone: 651-552-4150

In-Person: 1616 Humboldt Ave, West St. Paul, MN 55118

Summer Hours: (Memorial Day-Labor Day):
Monday-Thursday 7:00am-4:30pm and
Fridays 7:00-11:00am.

Standard Hours:
Monday-Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm.

Refund Policy: Cancellations made by Parks and Recreation due to lack of enrollment is 100% refund back.

Cancellations made by participant:

- Within one week of program – NO Refund.
- With at least one week notice – FULL Refund (Less \$5 processing fee).

Scholarships: Financial aid is available to residents 18 and under who qualify.

- Scholarships are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Not all programs are eligible.
- Funding awarded at 50% of program cost, for up to two programs per year.
- Application completion and supporting financial document required.
- Contact 651-552-4150 or recreation @ wspmn.gov for an application.
- Application and documents remain confidential.

OUTDOOR ICE RINKS AND WARMING HOUSES



The outdoor ice rink season will run December 16-February 26, weather dependent. For closure information, please call our hotline at 651-259-2671 before visiting.

Staffed warming house hours and locations are posted at www.wspmn.gov > City Services > Outdoor Rinks and Warming Houses.

Flooded Rink Locations

- Harmon Park – 230 Bernard St. W. – General Pleasure Skating and Hockey
- Haskell Park – 975 Sperl St. – General Pleasure Skating and Hockey
- Orme Park – 370 Orme St. W – General Pleasure Skating and Hockey
- Southview Park – 275 Westview Dr. – General Pleasure Skating
- Weschcke Park – 360 Runge Ln. – General Pleasure Skating

TOUR DE REC



Free – No registration required

Join us this school year for the City's traveling program that brings recreation to local neighborhood parks and facilities. Staff will set up activities and equipment for youth to enjoy. There will be games, sports, arts, crafts and more! Supervision is only provided during the below listed times. In partnership with Mendota Heights Parks and Recreation and Tri-District Community Education.

Remaining Dates:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	AGES	FEE
12/1 1/5 2/2 3/2 4/6 5/4	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Thompson Park Garlough Gym Southview Park Harmon Park Marie Park Mendota Elem.	Youth	Free

WREATH MAKING WITH A PRECIOUS PETALS FLORIST



Join us for an evening out as we decorate a fresh wreath for the winter. We will all start with the same product which will include a fresh winter greens wreath, ribbon, pinecones and additional trimmings. Reba Berge, owner of A Precious Petals Florist, will lead you through the creative design process allowing you to think creatively and personalize your wreath along the way.

Tools will be provided.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	AGES	FEE
12/2	6:00 - 8:00 pm	TPAC	18+	\$50

SECRET HOLIDAY SHOP



Kids of all ages shop for gifts with personal shoppers who assist with gift planning, budgeting, and wrapping. Gifts range from .50 cents to \$14 and include items such as home accents, toys & games, jewelry, and more. No registration required.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
12/11	9:00 - 11:00 am	Dakota Lodge	Youth	Varies, ticket costs

NON-SCHOOL DAY WINTER BREAK FIELD TRIPS



The Fun Lab and Swimming

Spend the morning at The Fun Lab playing laser tag, driving bumper cars, bowling, and more. Lunch, swimming, and other afternoon activities will take place at Veterans Memorial Community Center.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
12/27	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	VMCC	6-12	\$42



Snow Tubing and Ice Skating

Spend the morning having supervised gym time before leaving to snow tube at Green Acres. We will be back at Veterans Memorial Community Center for lunch and ice skating in the afternoon.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
12/28	9:00 am - 4:30 pm	VMCC	8-14	\$47

EVENING REJUVENATION YOGA



Let go of the stress of the day with cleansing yoga movements and deep breathing guided by Carrie Your Yogi. This class will focus on strengthening the body inside and out by using strong yoga postures and breath to create resilience.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Tue, 1/3-1/24	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Harmon Park Neighborhood Center	18+	\$15/class \$55 for all 4 weeks

SKATING LESSONS



This is a joint program with West St. Paul and Mendota Heights Parks and Recreation. Join us outside for our 6-week program to improve your skating skills while having fun.

Adult and Tot: Adults participate with first time skaters. Learn tips on how best to teach your youngster how to skate.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Sat. 1/7-2/11	9:15 - 10:00 am	Marie Park Rink	3-5	\$35
Sat. 1/7-2/11	10:10 - 10:55 am	Marie Park Rink	3-5	\$35



Beginner Class: For skaters with little to no previous experience, basic skills will be emphasized.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Sat. 1/7-2/11	11:05 - 11:50	Marie Park Rink	6-12	\$35
Sat. 1/7-2/11	12:00 - 12:45 pm	Marie Park Rink	6-12	\$35

Music Together Mindful Music and Arts



Weekly, 45-minute classes include songs, rhythmic rhymes, movement, and instrument play. These activities are presented as informal, non-performance-oriented musical experiences, developmentally appropriate for children and easy for parents and caregivers, regardless of their own musical ability.

Rhythm Kids:

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Sun, 1/8-3/19 No 2/19	4:30 - 5:15 pm	Harmon Park Neighborhood Center	5-8	\$188, second registration in household \$95

Mixed Age, Family:

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Sun, 1/8-3/19 No 2/19	5:30 - 6:15 pm	Harmon Park Neighborhood Center	1 mo. - 5 yrs	\$188, second registration in household \$95
Tue, 1/10-3/14	10:30 - 11:15 am	Harmon Park Neighborhood Center	1 mo. - 5 yrs	\$188, second registration in household \$95

GYMNASTICS



Tiny Tumblers: This program will stress the importance of respecting rules, learning gymnastics vocabulary, and the overall skill development that is needed as a gymnast, including balance, strength, and coordination.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Sat, 1/14-3/4	2:30 - 3:15 pm	Harmon Park Neighborhood Center	3 & 4	\$80



Beginners: This program is tailored to the gymnast who has little to no experience. Participants will develop basic gymnastics skills within all four events while utilizing age appropriate equipment.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Sat, 1/14-3/4	3:30 - 4:30 pm	Harmon Park Neighborhood Center	5 & 6	\$106

ADAPTIVE BOWLING



Join us for a fun, non-competitive bowling league that runs for eight weeks, with a pizza party on the last day! Each week consists of two games and shoe rentals. All ages and abilities welcome.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Sat, 1/21-3/11	12:00 - 2:00 pm	Concord Lanes, SSP	All ages	\$20 registration fee. \$10/week paid at bowling alley.

SNOWGA



What is yoga for Minnesnowtans called? It's called SNOWGA! Come join the fun-filled, hardy bunch of people who rise to the invigorating opportunity to do yoga in the snow. Snowga is for everyone. Come dressed for the weather in clothing that you can move in and be prepared to laugh, play, and breathe together while Carrie Your Yogi leads you through postures that will strengthen the body and relax the mind.

DATE	TIME	Location	Ages	Fee
Sat, 2/4	10:00 - 11:00 am	Marthaler Park	All ages	\$15/adult, 18 and under are free with an adult

City of West St. Paul
1616 Humboldt Ave
West St. Paul, MN 55118

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ICE ARENA SKATING SCHEDULE

60 W. EMERSON AVE | 651-552-4155

OPEN PUBLIC SKATING SCHEDULE:

Monday	11:30am - 1:00pm
Tuesday	9:30am - 11:00am
Wednesday	11:30am - 1:00pm
Thursday	9:30am - 11:00am
Friday	11:30am - 1:00pm

Cost: \$3.00 per person.

Open public skating is open to anyone of any age.



OPEN HOCKEY SCHEDULE:

Tuesday	11:30am - 1:00pm
Thursday	11:30am - 1:00pm

Cost: \$5.00 per person.

Open hockey is open to anyone that is 15 years of age and older.

**Please note that all schedules are subject to change without notice, please call the arena for updates (651)552-4155 or check the City website.*

WSP REGIONAL ATHLETIC CENTER (DOME)

WSPRAC.COM | 651-552-4158

OPEN WALKING & JOGGING:

Are you one of those people who like to go walking or jogging alone or with a group of friends? Come inside the West St. Paul Dome where the weather is always nice and comfortable. Open walking and jogging time is open to everyone and anyone. So grab those little ones, the stroller and come on in.

Monday – Friday 7:00am – 10:00am

Cost: Free

Note: Please sign in at the front desk

**Please note that all schedules are subject to change without notice, please check the website for up to date hours.*

OPEN DOME:

Open Dome time is an awesome time to let some steam off while having some fun. Our soccer and lacrosse goals are out and ready for you. Come play, practice and even make some new friends. Open Dome time is open to all ages. Ball and other equipment (other than goals) are not provided. All participants are required to wear tennis shoes. ** Please note that all schedules are subject to change without notice, please check the website for up to date hours. No pre-registration is required.

Tuesday – Friday 10:00am – 3:00pm

Cost: \$5 per person

