



June 2019

3033 St. Croix Trail South
P.O. Box 219
Afton, MN 55001

AFTON'S ROADS

Did you know that Afton has over 50 miles of local roads and the maintenance and improvement of which is the single largest city expense?

In 2016: The Council created a long term, comprehensive road improvement/maintenance funding plan. The Public Works Committee and Council identified 24 of the 50 miles of roads that were most in need of replacement or repair.

In 2017: The City moved ahead with the renovation of 17 miles of the worst condition roads, leaving 7 miles to be scheduled for renovation in the near future.

In 2019: The Public Works Committee identified 30th Street, among others, totaling four of the last seven miles of roads to be renovated in the summer of 2020. We always strive to maximize the number of roads per project to get the best pricing. To renovate a single road would be very expensive.

In the meantime: In order to best manage road funds, the preference is to hold off spending on temporarily patching roads planned for reconstruction in the next construction season. This means there will be some potholes to navigate until these roads are renovated.

In the future: This plan has built-in funding for future maintenance of roads creating a system to extend their life and minimize the high costs of major renovation work. Please be aware we do our best to stay up to date with the conditions of our roads, but if you see any recent degradation of a road let us know.

Roads identified for reconstruction, preliminarily planned for 2020.
This list is subject to change.

Street Name	From	To
30th Street	300' West of Nybeck	Neal Avenue
42nd Street	Pasture Ridge Road	Cul-De-Sac
8th Court	8th Street	Cul-De-Sac
8th Street	Manning Ave.	8th Court
8th Street	8th Court	10th Street
11th Street	Stagecoach Trail	east end
Division Street	Stagecoach Trail	Croixview Ave.
Oakgreen Avenue	15th Street	South Cul-De-Sac
Paradox Avenue	42nd Street	Cul-De-Sac
Pasture Ridge Road	42nd Street	North Cul-De-Sac

2019 ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP

Afton Roadside Clean Up is done by residents along their road frontages. Trash finds should be bagged and placed at the **nearest road intersection** for pickup by Highland Sanitation on your regular Tuesday, June 4 and Thursday, June 8 trash pickup days.

Recyclable items can be brought back to your home and placed out with your residential recycling can— there is no limit on residential recycling.

Bags are available at City Hall for use in the clean-up.

Any large items found along the roadsides or in the ditches should be reported to the City Hall at 436-5090.



All participation and efforts in protecting Afton's appearance and environment are greatly appreciated. Thank you!



CITY MEETINGS

June 3, 2019

Planning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.

June 11, 2019

Natural Resources & Groundwater
5:30 P.M.

June 18, 2019

City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M.

June 19, 2019

Heritage Preservation Commission
5:00 P.M.

June 26, 2019

Parks Committee
6:00 P.M.

All meetings are held at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor: Bill Palmquist 651-436-2238
- Ward 1: Annie Perkins 651-592-3007
- Ward 2: Lucia Wroblewski 651-436-3982
- Ward 3: Stan Ross 651-436-1346
- Ward 4: Randy Nelson 651-436-2479

CITY HALL

Monday — Friday
9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
651-436-5090

CITY WEBSITE

www.ci.afton.mn.us

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- Animal Control 715-386-7789
- Building Inspector 651-436-6469
- Burning Permits 651-248-5103
- Environmental Center 651-275-7475
- Highland Sanitation 651-458-0043
- Mally's Sunshine Kennel 715-246-2467
- LSCV Fire Dept 651-436-7033
- Sheriff's Dept 651-439-9381

EMERGENCY 911

Notes from the Mayor

We had a rainy and cool day May 18 to celebrate completion of the downtown project with Washington County. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate and helped us thank all the people and agencies that made the project a success. It has been a long process (9 years), but in the end there are many things we can be proud of, most notably the reduction of nutrient loading to the St. Croix River. With the completion of the storm water treatment and wastewater treatment components of the project the organic loading rate has been reduced by 2,500 pounds of BODs (biochemical oxygen demand) every year. The terms are a bit wonky, but that is a big deal, and demonstrates our continued stewardship of our waters.

With the project complete, the long-term future of our commercial district and the long-term preservation of the historic district are much more secure. Many cities around the state are struggling to create the sense of place that older city centers like our Old Village provide. That sense of place brings value to our entire community and I am thrilled with how it turned out. But it is not the only thing we as a community do to protect our history and environment, and to create a sense of place. Although this might be the most visible effort, our city works every day on these issues. We work to preserve the open spaces that have been here long before the Old Village was platted. We work to preserve agriculture as a valued and viable land use. We work hard to protect our water. All of these are historic preservation efforts. They extend well beyond the boundaries of our historic district and we need to keep focused on those efforts.

At our May meeting we appointed Grant Jensen to the Park Committee. We also reappointed Jim Cox and Peter Vujovich to the Design Review/Heritage Preservation Committee. Thank you for volunteering to serve!

Summer appears to be here for good. It has been an interesting spring that I am happy to put in the rearview mirror. It is time to enjoy these long, warm days. The Ojibwe name for June is ode'imini-giizis which means Strawberry Moon. That is fitting as our own celebrations of this month include Strawberry Fest on June 22-23. There are events at Town Square Park both days and at Memorial Lutheran Church June 22. Check the AABA website or Facebook page for details. Hope to see you there.

~Bill

Community Events



AFTON STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL 2019

Sat. June 22, 2019 – 10am – 5pm
Sun. June 23, 2019 – 11am – 4pm
Fresh, locally grown strawberries!
Live music Saturday and Sunday

80+ Vendors: Local artisans bringing their handmade goods, business expo, food & live music.

Activities: kids arts & crafts, inflatables, raptor demos, dessert bake-off w/ cash prizes & strawberry shortcake eating contest w/ cash prizes!

Explore Your Parks Day in Washington County June 1

All Washington County Parks are free to enter on Explore Your Parks Day June 1, and a number of activities are planned. See the Washington County website for park locations. Follow Washington County Parks on social media at @WashCountyParks.

May Meeting Highlights

May 6, 2019 Planning Commission Meeting

The Commission:

- Reviewed the City of Lake St Croix Beach Draft 2040 Comprehensive plan.
- Reviewed elements of the PLCD Ordinance language.
- Held discussion on pervious pavers.

May 21, 2019 City Council Meeting

The Council:

- Held a public hearing and approved an ordinance amending Section 14.1 Use and Discharge of Weapons – Ordinance 01-2019.
- Provided comments regarding the Lake St. Croix Beach Draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan.
- Approved the Michael Orth and Cynthia Kovisto Application for a Simple Subdivision at 16226 53rd Street.
- Selected Tom Niedzwiecki to provide accounting services on a two year contract.
- Reappointed Jim Cox and Peter Vujovich to the Design Review/Heritage Preservation Commission.
- Appointed Grant Jensen to the Parks Committee.
- Approved connection of the Afton Historical Museum to the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System.

MEETING PACKETS, VIDEOS AND APPROVED MEETING MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE AT:

www.ci.afton.mn.us

Belwin Conservancy Upcoming Events

Saturday, June 1st, 2019

Red Pine Management Talk

Free and open to everyone! Join Belwin staff for a tour of a recently cut red pine grove. Learn about our project to manage a pine bark beetle infestation and re-establish a sustainable habitat.

Saturday, June 8th, 2019

Kinji Akagawa: Integrating Nature and Art Workshop

Open to everyone. \$100 due upon registration. Photo by Nancy Gible. Let nature inspire your creativity! Open to everyone interested in creating, no matter the form: visual arts, crafts, design, music, cooking. Bring your creative love along with your ideas.

Saturday, June 15th, 2019

Bison Buggy Rides for Members

Members Only. Non-members may join at this event. All Belwin members can enjoy free rides on the Bison Buggy on Open Third Saturdays. This is your best chance to see the amazing creatures — watch and photograph them from the comfort and safety of our custom vehicle.

Family Day

Free for members, \$10/family for non-members. Announcing new programming for families on Third Saturdays in the summer. Families, please join us for a special day of programming at Belwin! Naturalists, scientists, educators and others will lead kid-friendly excursions departing from the Belwin Education Center.

Tuesday, June 18th, 2019

Twilight Hike at Belwin Creative Center

Open to everyone! Free for member; \$10 for non-members. Come and experience the magic of Belwin's Oak Savanna restoration, one of the largest in the state. Space is limited to 12 participants.

Belwin Conservancy

651-436-5189 www.belwin.org

Washington Conservation District Programs & Resources

Adopt-a-Drain: www.adopt-a-drain.org

Sign up online to “adopt” a storm drain near your house & tell your friends and family to do it too! It’s one of the easiest things people can do to help protect lakes and rivers from stormwater pollution. Sweep up litter, sediment, leaves and debris near your storm drain 1-2 times per month and log-on to report your good deed. This program was developed by Watershed Partners with Hamline University and includes the whole seven-county metro area. We’ve got 4000+ adopters so far, but only 95 in Washington County. Let’s bump that number up!

Maintenance support for raingardens and native plantings

- ◆ Need help remembering what to do when? Download our new maintenance calendar to your google or outlook account to get monthly reminders for basic raingarden maintenance: <http://www.mnwcd.org/maintenance-guide>
- ◆ The following print and on-line resources are available at www.mnwcd.org.
 - Raingarden maintenance check-list
 - Maintenance guide book - detailed
 - Raingarden maintenance brochure
 - Most common raingarden weeds
 - MN Extension - Is this plant a weed?
 - Prairie restoration guides
- ◆ Where to buy plants
 - Landscape Revival Native Plant Expo & Market
 - Sat., June 1, 9am-1pm in Shoreview (3920 Victoria St. N)
 - Sat., June 8, 9am-1pm in Oakdale (1584 Hadley Ave N)
 - Native plant nurseries and landscapers



CITY OF AFTON
3033 ST CROIX TRAIL SO
P.O. BOX 219
AFTON, MN 55001



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Valley Library Featured Events for June 2019

Summer Adventure Kickoff with Imagination Playground

Saturday, June 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Build and play with our Imagination Playground (think giant, soft, blue Legos). No registration required.

Teen Metal Stamping

Wednesday, June 12 from 5 to 6 p.m.

Create your own keychains, bracelets, and more with metal jewelry stamping! For ages 11 and up. Registration required.

Minnesota Percussion Trio

Thursday, June 13 from 4 to 5 p.m.

Minnesota Percussion Trio is comprised of percussionists Bob Adney, Paul Hill and Erik Barsness. These three creative classical percussionists specialize in traditional Western percussion instruments, along with more unconventional instruments. No registration required.

Let's Make Stuff: Suncatchers

Saturday, June 15 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Join us for Let's Make Stuff at the Valley Library. Registration required.

Service Dog Demonstration from Paw Pads

Wednesday, June 19 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Pawsitive Perspectives Assistance Dogs (PawPADs) is a nonprofit service dog training organization out of Lakeville that dual trains dogs to work with individuals with physical disabilities or Type 1 Diabetes. PawPADs also focuses on utilizing the training process as an educational, therapeutic, and healing tool. No registration required.

RAD Zoo

Thursday, June 20 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

RAD Zoo is coming to Valley Library! No registration required.

Super Hero Button Making

Monday, June 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cut up comics, use stickers or draw anything you want and turn it into a button at Valley Library. Ages 5 and up. No registration required.

Frogs, Volts, and Vinegar

Saturday, June 29 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Alessandro Volta may have invented the battery over 200 years ago, but his invention is just as useful to us today and can still provide for some very entertaining experiments. Through his story, students will experiment with building batteries to power simple devices. Grades 3-8. No registration required.

Full Calendar of Events:

www.washcolib.org
Valley Branch Library
380 St. Croix Trail South
Lakeland, MN 55043
651-436-5882

**PATRON
AFTON, MN 55001**

You may view this newsletter

IN COLOR
on the city website.



*Please recycle this
newsletter after use.*

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 rain gardens, 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.

City of Afton
Find us on Facebook!



Washington County will have confidential paper shredding at Environmental Center June 5

Washington County will conduct confidential document shredding at the county's Environmental Center 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 5.

The Environmental Center is at 4039 Cottage Grove Drive in Woodbury and provides residents with a free and convenient disposal option for household hazardous waste, electronics, and recyclables all year round.