**Mendota News**



**City of Mendota**

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Mendota, MN 55150

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Email: [cityofmendota@gmail.com](mailto:cityofmendota@gmail.com)

Kathy Krotter, City Clerk

**Council Members:**

Brian Mielke, Mayor: 651-261-2751

Joan Perron: 651-452-9359

Steve Golias: 651-452-1837

Melody Rasmussen: 651-454-6442

Clark Donnelly: 651-785-5790

**Building Permits:**

Mike Andrejka, Building Official:

612-597-9667

Mailing Address: 1011 Sibley Memorial Highway, Lilydale, MN 55118

**Police:**

Kelly McCarthy, Chief of Police:

Non-emergency: 651-452-1366

Emergency: 911

**Fire:**

Emergency: 911

**City Attorney:**

Tom Loonan, City Attorney:

715-808-8842

**The City of Mendota holds City Council Meetings at 7:30 on the second Tuesday of every month at the**

**VFW Post 6690**

**1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy.**

**Mendota, MN 55150**

**Fall 2022**

**Join your neighbors to keep food scraps out of the trash.**

**The number one item in our trash is food and it’s finding its way to the landfill. That’s why nearly 8,000 Dakota County households have registered to participate in the free organics drop-off program. Across all eight locations, more than 10,000 pounds of food scraps and other compostable products are collected each week. Bringing organics to a drop-off site is easy and can dramatically reduce waste. The typical household can divert up to one-third of trash by delivering items such as food scraps, spoiled produce, coffee grounds and bones. Instead of sitting in a landfill, this material is turned into compost — a nutrient-rich soil additive — used in gardening and landscaping. Sites are located throughout the county —**

**Mendota Heights – Mendakota Park, 2171 Dodd Road**

**West St. Paul – Dakota Lodge, Thompson County Park, 1200 Stassen Road**

**Burnsville – Civic Center Park, 260 Civic Center Parkway**

**Eagan – Holland Lake Trailhead, Lebanon Hills Regional Park, 1100 Cliff Road**

**Farmington Central Maintenance Facility, 19650 Municipal Drive**

**Hastings Transportation Shop, 900 County Road 47**

**Lakeville Water Treatment Facility, 18400 Ipava Ave.**

**Rosemount – The Mulch Store, 16454 Blaine Ave. E (Empire Township), Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Saturday hours vary seasonally. Check The Mulch Store website or call 651-423-4401. – with more sites opening this year.**

**To sign up, visit www.dakotacounty.us and search organics, email organics@co.dakota.mn.us or call 952-891-7557. All registered participants receive helpful tips and compostable bags to use at home.**

**Autumn Leaves**

Wherever leaves fall, they decompose and restock the soil with nutrients and organic matter.

But when there is no soil to land on—such as on a street or sidewalk—the leaves and all their decomposing bits wash down the street and into the storm drain. They go directly into lakes and rivers where the nutrients will feed unwanted algae growth next summer. In addition to a major "ick" factor, this algae is a problem because when it dies and decomposes at the bottom of the lake it uses up oxygen that fish and native plants need.

Don't "leaf" it up to someone else to solve this problem! Here's what to do with your autumn leaves so that they nourish the soil and not unwanted algae.

Rake the leaves that have accumulated along your curb, sidewalk, and alley. Several times during the fall, rake up the leaves that have accumulated along your curb and sidewalk. Never trash or burn your leaves:

Don't add leaves to the regular trash (its illegal!) and don't burn them. Burning leaves releases large amounts of air pollution. These pollutants can cause breathing problems for sensitive groups and lead to long-term health effects for all of us.

Put leaves in your backyard compost pile:

One of the best ways to use leaves (from the street or the yard) is to compost them in your backyard. Learn how to compost in your backyard.

Tip: If your bin isn't big enough to accommodate all your leaves, put early and late season leaves in the bin, then on your main raking weekend bring the rest to a compost or yard waste drop-site. If you have room, also bag up and store some dry leaves to use a carbon source ("browns") in your compost pile during the coming year.

Use leaves to mulch your garden and lawn

Whole or shredded leaves can be used as mulch. Mulch benefits the soil and reduces weeds. On the lawn, use a mower to break apart the leaves so that they fall between the blades of grass (consider using an electric mower, since two-cycle gas lawn mowers, especially older models, produce large amounts of air pollution). Don't let the leaf layer get too thick! In garden beds, leaves provide a protective layer of insulation for perennial gardens and shrubbery, either bagged or loose.

Drop leaves off at a compost site. Another option is to drop off your leaves and sticks at a compost site near you. Depending on where you live, these may be called “yard waste” or "brush” drop sites. Contact your county for drop-off site locations, items accepted and any fees involved. Consider curbside pick-up if you want a convenient option Your garbage hauler may separately collect yard waste--sometimes for an additional fee--and then bring it to a commercial compost site. Contact your garbage hauler to learn about your pick-up options.

**Snow Removal (Winter is right around the corner)**

The City of Mendota asks residents to be aware of city ordinances in regards to parking and snow removal. There is no parking on the street from November 15th to April 15th. Please do not park in such a manner as to obstruct or interfere with snow plowing or snow removal. Also, it is unlawful for any person to deposit snow/ice into the roadway. All snow and ice should be removed from public sidewalks 12 hours after the snow has ceased to fall.

The city thanks you for your cooperation.