



“Frosted Pines” by Sofia Keerthi. This photo won the 2025 Shorewood Community Photo Contest Youth Category. View other winners on page 4.

Buzzing into Spring: The Benefits of Pollinators in Shorewood

Spring is on the horizon in Shorewood, and with it comes the excitement of blooming flowers, longer days, and the return of nature’s busiest workers — pollinators! From honeybees and native bees to butterflies, hummingbirds, and beetles, pollinators play a vital role in our local environment and community wellbeing.

Why Pollinators Matter

Pollinators are essential to the health of our ecosystem and more. Here’s how they help:

- Supporting Our Gardens and Green Spaces - Pollinators make it possible for many plants to produce flowers, fruits, and seeds. Whether it’s the tomatoes in your backyard garden or the wildflowers along a path, pollinators help ensure vibrant, thriving plant life throughout Shorewood.
- Boosting Food Production - Nearly one out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of pollinators. They assist in growing fruits, vegetables, nuts, and seeds. Without them, our diets would be far less diverse and nutritious.
- Enhancing Biodiversity - Pollinators support the reproduction of more than 85% of flowering plants, contributing to the diversity of plant species that sustain birds, mammals, and other wildlife. A healthy pollinator population means a healthier, more resilient ecosystem.
- A Sign of Environmental Health - Pollinators are sensitive to changes in the environment, making them important indicators of ecosystem health. When pollinators are thriving, it often signals that air, water, and soil quality are in good shape too.

How You Can Help Right Here in Shorewood

Residents can make a positive impact for pollinators with a few simple actions:

- Plant native flowers that bloom at different times throughout the growing season.
- Create pollinator habitats by leaving small areas of your yard undisturbed.
- Avoid pesticides that can harm bees and butterflies.
- Provide water sources like shallow dishes with rocks or marbles for landing spots.

Even small changes in your landscaping can make Shorewood a welcoming place for these essential creatures. Learn more at beecityusa.org/pollinators for practical tips, planting guides, and more information to help support pollinators in our community.

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HIGHWAY 7 UPDATES

Sign up to receive email updates at shorewoodmn.gov/SignUp

Highway 7 Corridor Study: What We Learned and What's Ahead for 2029

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) has completed its multi-year Highway 7 Corridor Study, examining safety, mobility, and community needs along the stretch from St. Bonifacius to Minnetonka. This work directly informs future improvements, including the upcoming 2029 pavement preservation project, which may include significant safety and mobility upgrades within Shorewood and surrounding communities.

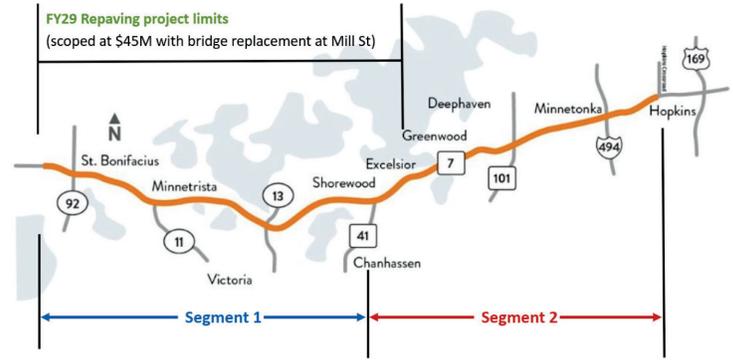
Why the Corridor Study Was Conducted

Highway 7 has long faced challenges: severe and fatal crashes, limited safe crossings for pedestrians and bicyclists, and congestion at major intersections. The study incorporated technical analysis, crash history, and thousands of public comments to identify recommended solutions. Residents highlighted concerns about safety, intersection delays, and walkability.

Key Findings and Recommended Improvements

MnDOT's corridor study was broken into two segments. Segment 1 is the portion of the segment that is a 2-lane highway and runs from the western limit in St. Bonifacius to TH 41. Segment 2 is the portion of the segment with a 4-lane divided highway and runs from TH 41 to the eastern limit in Minnetonka.

See all the details of the corridor study at talk.dot.state.mn.us/hwy7study.



The 2029 Pavement Preservation Project

Together with long range planning of the corridor study, MnDOT has a major pavement rehabilitation project in 2029. The resurfacing will occur from the Hennepin/Carver County line to just east of Mill Street in Shorewood. The 2029 scope currently includes:

- Signal replacement at CSAH 92 and TH 41
- Roundabouts at CSAH 13 and Minnewashta Parkway
- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at Eureka Road
- Trail connections between CSAH 13 and the Lake Minnetonka LRT Trail
- Mill Street Bridge replacement
- Signal replacements at TH 41 and Christmas Lake Road
- Access modifications from TH 41 to Oak Street

The 2029 project is currently scoped at approximately \$45 million, including the Mill Street bridge replacement. This is \$20-30 million less than the estimated cost for all of the corridor study recommendations. Additional funding would be needed from other funding mechanisms, such as state bonding, local funds, grants, etc.

Additional scoping discussions and decisions for the 2029 pavement preservation project will take place in early 2026. Any required funding efforts would occur in 2029, and all scope modifications must be finalized by the fall of 2026.

Residents can reach out to City staff at 952-960-7900 or cityhall@shorewoodmn.gov with questions or comments.

City Awarded Safe Routes To Schools Grant – Construction Planned for 2026

The City of Shorewood has been working for several years to create a safe pedestrian connection from Galpin Lake Road at the Chanhassen border to the signalized Oak Street/CSAH 19 intersection along Trunk Highway 7 in Excelsior. This effort has advanced through several key planning steps. In 2022, the City completed the Planning - Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Grant, and in 2025, MnDOT finished a TH 7 Safety Audit and Corridor Study. Together, these studies provide the foundation for future grant applications aimed at improving safety for both pedestrians and drivers along the corridor.

Building on this work, City staff applied for a SRTS Implementation Grant to construct a shared-use path from

Hwy 7 and Galpin Lake Road to Oak Street. In late 2025, the City was awarded \$468,000 for the project. This grant does not include a sidewalk or trail along Galpin Lake Road itself, as the City is still evaluating options to improve the pedestrian connection to the Chanhassen border.

The project includes an eight-foot shared use path that will run from Galpin Lake Road to the existing trail crossing at Oak Street/CSAH 19. The path will be located on the lakeside of the existing guardrail, and retaining walls will be required to support construction in this area. Work is planned for summer 2026, with the goal of completing the trail before the start of the school year.

Board & Commission Updates



Park Commission

The Park Commission has been hard at work to develop a master plan for our parks system to help guide the future of our parks. The plan is available for viewing at shorewoodmn.gov/parksplan. In 2026, the Commission will work to develop a formal volunteer program and memorial bench & tree program.

Planning Commission

The City of Shorewood Planning Commission serves as a volunteer advisory commission to the City Council and typically meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Shorewood City Hall. The Commission reviews private development applications, updates to the City Code, and other planning and zoning related issues, and makes a recommendation to the City Council. In 2026, the Commission will be working on continuing to update the City Code and will be working on updating the City's Comprehensive Plan. For more information on projects that are currently under review by the Commission, residents can visit the Projects Under Review web page on the City's website to see the project's review schedule and project documents.



City Council Appoints Commissioners and Board Members

Shorewood City Code allows the City Council to appoint residents to serve on established commissions and boards that are advisory to the City Council.

The Planning Commission handles official city planning tasks, including running public meetings, as allowed by state and local laws. The Park Commission helps the City Council decide how to spend money on parks so that everyone gets the most out of our outdoor spaces and recreational programs.

In addition, the City Council appoints other representatives for various boards and commissions. Appointing community board members and commissioners involves intentionally matching applicant skills, diverse perspectives, and community representation with the strategic goals and initiatives of the City. The Council looks for appointees that can contribute to the long-term vision of the City.

The City Council interviewed seven candidates at their meeting on February 9, 2026 and appointed the following residents:

- Deborah Zorn - Lake Minnetonka Conservation District
- David Garske - Shorewood Park Commission
- Eric Magstad - Shorewood Planning Commission
- Brandon Braithwaite - Shorewood Planning Commission

Sign up to receive Park and Planning Commission Updates at shorewoodmn.gov/commissions



Democracy in Action: How to Become an Election Judge

Ever wonder what happens behind the scenes on Election Day? Those friendly faces checking you in and handing out "I Voted" stickers aren't just volunteers, they are trained officials known as election judges. They are the backbone of our voting system, tasked with protecting voter rights and maintaining the integrity of every ballot cast.

Election judges handle a variety of responsibilities to keep the polling place running smoothly, including setting up the polls, assisting voters, and closing and certifying precinct totals. Election judges are paid for their time, including required training sessions, and receive guaranteed time off from their employer with sufficient notice.

The City is currently accepting applications for new and returning Election Judges to serve during the Primary Election on August 11 and Election Day on November 3. To get started, complete an application on the City's website at shorewoodmn.gov/elections.

2025 Shorewood Community Photo Contest Winners

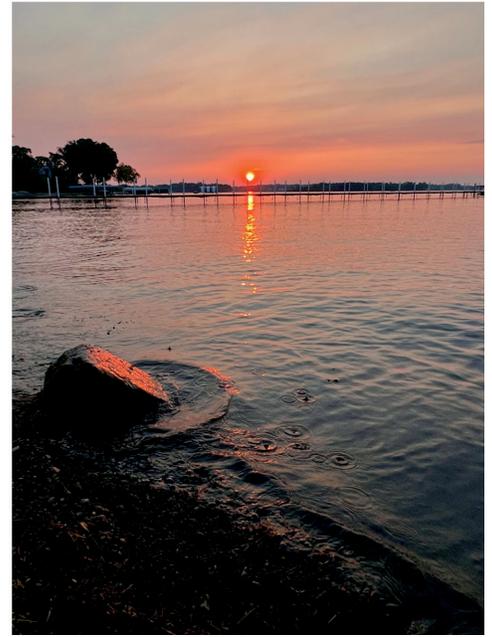
For 8 years, the City of Shorewood has hosted an annual community photo contest. The goal of the contest is to inspire individuals to explore and highlight the City of Shorewood through their creativity and talent. The 2025 photo contest deadline was December 31, 2025. The following photos were selected as the winners. Anyone who lives, works, or goes to school in Shorewood can participate in the 2026 Shorewood Community Photo Contest. Submission deadline is December 31, 2026. For official rules and to submit your photo(s), visit shorewoodmn.gov/phototcontest.



“Enchanted Deer”
Photographer: Sandie Loftsgaarden
Category: Animals



“Aurora for the Holidays”
Photographer: Judy Englund
Category: Events



“Orange Reflection”
Photographer: Judy Englund
Category: Nature



“Sunset Ray at the Docks”
Photographer: Judy Englund
Category: Showcasing Shorewood



“Waiting for Marshmallows”
Photographer: Judy Englund
Category: Recreation & Leisure



“Frosted Pines”
Photographer: Sofia Keerthi
Category: Youth

Preparing For Spring

Once warm weather is finally here, take a moment to walk around your property and pick up trash that has accumulated in the bushes, dispose of items stored outside your garage that are no longer used or in good condition, and dispose of ripped up and discarded tarps, any accumulated pet waste, and other trash. An hour of preventative clean-up improves neighbor relationships and provides a sense of a well-maintained community. Additional reminders:

- Parking vehicles or trailers is prohibited in front yards except on the driveway
- All vehicles stored outside a garage must be licensed and operable
- Canvas and vinyl storage sheds are prohibited
- Grass and weeds must be kept at a height of eight inches or less
- Trash cans may only be stored next to the street twelve hours before and after trash pick-up

Resident Tree Sales

Each year, the City of Shorewood offers a variety of trees to residents for purchase at wholesale prices. The purpose of the tree sale is to restore and improve woodland areas, increase wildlife habitat, and diversify the city forestry. Those who placed an order for trees in 2025 will have their trees delivered in May 2026. The City will begin accepting orders for Spring 2027 later this summer. To sign up for future tree sale communications, visit shorewoodmn.gov/treesale.

Leash Up, Clean Up

As spring arrives and more residents enjoy walks around Shorewood's neighborhoods, parks, and trails, it is important to keep dogs on leash and clean up after pets. These practices help ensure safety, respect for neighbors, and healthy public spaces for all.

According to Shorewood City Code, pet owners must leash and clean up pet waste after their pets at all times when off your property — including sidewalks, parks, and trails. Letting a dog roam freely not only violates city code, but can create safety concerns for other people, pets, and wildlife.

Pet waste isn't just unpleasant to look at — it's also a public health and environmental concern.

- Harmful Bacteria: Pet waste can carry bacteria (like E. coli) that pose health risks to other pets and people.
- Water Pollution: Rain washes pet waste into storm drains, which flow untreated into local lakes and waterways, contributing to nutrient pollution and harming water quality.

Dog waste bags are located at every city park and along the regional trail. Thanks for doing your part to be a thoughtful pet owner in our community!

Spring cleaning made easy with the Green Disposal Guide

Spring cleaning means it's time to declutter. But what are you going to do with all that stuff? Check out Hennepin County's Green Disposal Guide. Find information on the best way to recycle, reuse or dispose of items in your home at Hennepin.us/greendisposalguide

Some of the common items that you can get tips for on the Green Disposal Guide:

- Fluorescent bulbs contain mercury and should be brought to a hardware store that recycles them or a drop-off facility.
- Latex paint: No longer your color? Recycle unused paint at a PaintCare retail drop-off site near you, or you can bring them to a drop-off facility. Empty cans can go into the garbage.
- String and holiday lights burn out and should be brought to a drop-off facility. Do NOT put them in your curbside recycling. They're tangles that can gum up recycling machinery.
- Furniture, if it's gently used, should be donated, sold or given away. Not reusable? Then it's garbage and not recyclable. Check with your curbside waste hauler for pick up options.

Learn how to get rid of other stuff on the Green Disposal Guide. Questions? Contact environment@hennepin.us.



SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, MAY 16

SPRING CLEANUP
8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Shorewood Public Works

PAPER SHRED
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Shorewood City Hall

Price list and event details at
shorewoodmn.gov/SpringCleanup



Shorewood Community & Event Center Facility Study Survey

The City is currently evaluating the usage of the Shorewood Community & Event Center to ensure it is fulfilling the needs of our residents and community.

In October 2025, the City worked with Kraus Anderson to conduct a Facility Assessment and identify major capital investments and future improvements needed for the facility.

We are now seeking your input on the facility and what you would like to see moving forward. Whether you are a frequent user or didn't know the building exists, please complete our brief survey by scanning the QR code below or visit shorewoodcec.com.



CPR/AED Training for Adults

📅 Wednesday, March 25 ⌚ 10:00 a.m.

📍 Shorewood Community & Event Center
5735 Country Club Road

Join us for a FREE daytime CPR/AED class and learn simple, lifesaving skills that can make a big difference in your community. This class is open to adults of all experience levels and is a great way to feel more confident responding to emergencies at home, work, or around town. Advance registration is required.



Scams & Fraud Education

📅 Wednesday, April 8 ⌚ 10:00 a.m.

📍 Shorewood Community & Event Center
5735 Country Club Road

Scams and fraud are becoming more common, and more convincing. Join the South Lake Minnetonka Police Department for an informative presentation on how to recognize, avoid, and report the most frequent scams affecting our community. Attendees will learn about real-life examples of current fraud schemes, common warning signs, and simple steps to protect personal information and finances. The presentation will also explain how and when to report suspected scams to the police, even if no money was lost. This session is designed to be educational, practical, and easy to understand. Registration is not required but strongly encouraged.

[Register at shorewoodmn.gov/register](https://shorewoodmn.gov/register)





2026 Coloring Contest Winner

Arctic Fever

2026 RECAP

An estimated 221 people attended the Friday portion of our annual Arctic Fever event. This year's event was presented by Lucky's Station, and attendees enjoyed face painting, balloon art, curling, music, pizza, and even got to walk a llama! Due to frigid temperatures and a lack of snow cover, Saturday activities at Freeman Park were canceled. Thanks to all of the incredible sponsors, event partners, volunteers, and attendees that made the event a success. Check out the recap video at arcticfever.net.



South Lake Safety Camp

 Tuesday, August 25  8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

 South Lake Safety Building, 24100 Smithtown Road

Safety Camp is back! This year we have partnered with Minnetonka Community Education to bring you a fun, engaging, and revitalized camp. Register through Minnetonka Community Education at minnetonka.ce.eleyo.com.

LUCKY'S POTS O' GOLD

Lucky's Pots O' Gold returns this Spring! Starting March 1, 2026, Lucky the Leprechaun will be on the move hiding pots of gold throughout Shorewood parks. Be sure to explore ALL of our wonderful Shorewood parks to find the pots of gold. When you find one, take a selfie with it and submit your photo to parksandrec@shorewoodmn.gov by Monday, March 16. After submitting, you can collect your share of the "gold" (one per participant) at the Shorewood Community & Event Center. Remember, the luck is believing you're lucky!

Learn more shorewoodmn.gov/LuckysGold

Shorewood City Hall
5755 Country Club Rd
Shorewood, MN 55331
952-960-7900

Community & Event Center
5735 Country Club Rd
Shorewood, MN 55331
952-960-7902

Shorewood City Council

Reach your City Councilmembers via email or call 952-960-7900

Jennifer Labadie, Mayor
jlabadie@shorewoodmn.gov

Michelle DiGruttolo, Councilmember
mdigruttolo@shorewoodmn.gov

Nat Gorham, Councilmember
ngorham@shorewoodmn.gov

Dustin Maddy, Councilmember
dmaddy@shorewoodmn.gov

Guy Sanschagrín, Councilmember
gsanschagrín@shorewoodmn.gov

To report road, park, and other non-emergency city concerns online, visit shorewoodmn.gov/report

The ShoreReport is the City of Shorewood's bimonthly newsletter. For more information on city events, activities, and news, visit our website at shorewoodmn.gov

Like, share, and follow the City of Shorewood across social media!



March

Planning Commission Meeting
March 3, 7 p.m., City Hall

City Council Work Session
March 9, 5:30 p.m., City Hall

City Council Meeting
March 9, 7 p.m., City Hall/Virtual

City Council Work Session
March 23, 5:30 p.m., City Hall

City Council Meeting
March 23, 7 p.m., City Hall/Virtual

Park Commission Meeting
March 24, 7 p.m., City Hall

April

Planning Commission Meeting
April 7, 7 p.m., City Hall

City Council Work Session
April 13, 5:30 p.m., City Hall

City Council Meeting
April 13, 7 p.m., City Hall/Virtual

City Council Work Session
April 27, 5:30 p.m., City Hall

City Council Meeting
April 27, 7 p.m., City Hall/Virtual

Park Commission Meeting
April 28, 7 p.m., City Hall

2026 Every-Other-Week Recycling Collection Schedule

Your Recycling will be picked up on the Green Weeks

Green Recycling Collection

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

To report a missed pick-up or report other concerns, call WM at 888-960-0008