

# THE Ham Laker

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June 2024 ~ Volume 39, No. 6

## Annual Freedom Festival is June 29th at Lions Park

Celebrate Freedom on Saturday, June 29th with an amazing afternoon of food and fun at the annual Ham Lake Freedom Festival. Events kick off at 3:00 pm in the Ham Lake Lions Park with a flag raising ceremony and ends with the city fireworks display you won't want to miss!



Freedom Festival hosts a number a great family activities such as an obstacle course, inflatables, kiddie tractor pull and you can practice your archery skills at an archery stand hosted by the local BSA troops.

We will once again hold an artisan craft fair and business expo featuring multiple different craft vendors as well as informational booths from 3-9pm. Join our charitable gambling team for bingo in the pavilion followed by live music by the Christopher Daniel Hanson Band.

Food and beverage vendors will be available so you can enjoy delicious eats and sweet treats throughout the event. Back by popular demand: 500 FREE pork sandwiches sponsored by Upper Midwest Athletic Construction. These begin at 6:00 pm and are available first-come-first-served until we run out.

NEW this year is a hot dog eating contest in the Lions tent at 5:00 pm! Interested participants can sign up on our website.

## Ham Lake Farmers Market is Back

The 8th season of the Ham Lake Farmers and Artisan market kicks off on Wednesday, June 19th in the Mickman Brothers Parking lot (14630 Hwy 65 NE, Ham Lake).

The market is held every Wednesday from 3:00-7:00 pm through September 11. This bustling market features food trucks, local farmers, artisan food producers and small business vendors.

Each week, approximately 30 vendors set up to share their products and connect with the community. Whether you're looking for food or fun, you're sure to find plenty to please your palate.

Sample treats from sweet to savory with a variety of local food trucks also attending including White Rabbit Kitchen, Now That's Waffles, Grumpy's Mini Donuts, The Treat Truck and Minne-Scoop-ta.

For information on which vendors and food trucks to expect each week, check out our website at [www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/farmersmarket](http://www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/farmersmarket). You can follow our Facebook or Instagram page for weekly updates.

The annual Freedom Fun Run will meet for the BIG race at the ball field at 4:30! No need to be a professional runner for this one though—it's only 0.5K! (We don't want to overdo it!)

You'll find full event details plus registration information for the Freedom Fun Run and hot dog eating contest on the Chamber of Commerce website at: [www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/freedomfestival](http://www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/freedomfestival).

## Ham Lake Emergency Response Team Looking for New Members

The Ham Lake Emergency Response Team (HLERT) is looking for new members.

What is HLERT? The Ham Lake Emergency Response Team is a team of volunteers trained to help Ham Lake in case of an emergency when all other responders are either tied up or unable to respond.

The team is comprised of five major sub teams:

- Communications Team (ham radio operators)
- Shelter Management Team (operates the emergency shelters in the city)
- EOC (Emergency Operations Center) Support Team
- Search and Rescue Team
- Fire/Sheriff, who assist the Sheriff and Fire departments during emergencies.

Look for HLERT at the Freedom Festival on June 29th at Ham Lake Lions Park (1220 157th Ave NE in Ham Lake) where you can get your questions answered if you're interested in becoming a member.

Or you can email [InfoHLERT@Proton.me](mailto:InfoHLERT@Proton.me) for more information.



Over 30 vendors weekly with fresh produce, eggs, baked goods, handmade sauces, artisanal goods and food trucks!



## Mark Your Calendars

Ham Lake's Fireworks display will be on Saturday, June 29, 2024 at dusk in Lion's Park. Mark your calendars so you don't miss it!



## We Need Election Judges!

If you are interested in being an election judge for the upcoming elections and have not sent in your application, please do so right away!

The Primary Election is Tuesday, August 13 and the General Election is Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

For more information and to obtain an Election Judge Application, please visit the City's website at [www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us/services/elections](http://www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us/services/elections).

Contact Deputy City Clerk, Dawnette Shimek with any questions at 763-235-1673 or Administrative Assistant, Nicole Wheeler at 763-235-1671.

## Voice Your Concerns on City Storm Water Treatment • June 17

The City of Ham Lake obtained a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) that addresses areas to reduce or eliminate pollutants from storm water runoff.

An important component of Ham Lake's permit is public education and outreach. Citizens are invited to participate in an annual public meeting and to report concerns or illicit discharges to City staff.

This meeting allows Ham Lake citizens an opportunity to give written or oral input on the program. The City must consider these suggestions and make appropriate adjustments to the program when submitting its annual report to the MPCA.

The meeting will be held at 6:01 pm on June 17, 2024 at the Ham Lake City Council meeting. The public is encouraged to submit written comments or concerns on the Storm Water Pollution Plan by June 20, 2024 to City Hall (15544 Central Avenue NE, Ham Lake MN 55304).

A copy of the SWPPP will be available for review at City Hall. It's also found on the City website: [www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us](http://www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us) under *Services and Water/Stormwater*. For more information, contact the City at (763) 434-9555.

Articles and photos that appear in *The Ham Laker*, along with other useful information about the City, can be found on the City's website: [www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us](http://www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us)



# HAM LAKE CITY COUNCIL NEWS

## At its April 15, 2024 meeting the City Council took the following actions:

Approved items on the Consent Agenda

- Approval of a lot line adjustment for Jesse Osborne located at Pin #08-32-23-23-0002 and 16759 Polk Street NE in Section 8
- Approval of accepting the Catchers Creek of Ham Lake Development project and releasing the maintenance security
- Approve the request of Wesam Alkubaisy of Ewaz LLC, dba Pioneer Auto Tronics, for a Conditional Use Permit to operate an automobile repair shop at 15903 Central Ave NE (PID# 17-32-23-34-0019) and adoption of Resolution No. 24-16, subject to several requirements and restrictions.

## At its May 6, 2024 meeting the City Council took the following actions:

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Appointing Andrea Murff as the Finance and Human Resource Director
- Resolution No. 24-17 to appoint signers and authorized traders for bank and investment accounts

- Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for the Ham Lake Lion's at Lion's Park, 1220 157th Avenue NE, for the Freedom Festival
- Exempt Permit for Special Olympics Minnesota to hold a raffle on July 22 at Majestic Oaks Golf Club
- Ordinance No. 24-01 rezoning portions of land from R-M (Residential-Manufactured Mobile Home) to R-A (Rural Single Family Residential) and portions of land from CD-2 (Commercial Development II) to R-A (Rural Single Family Residential) in Section 8
- Hiring summer season employees in Public Works
- Resolution No. 24-18 accepting a \$2,500 donation from the Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce
- Change Order for the 2024 Bituminous Overlay Project
- Resolution No. 24-19 accepting the low bid for the Meadow Park North of Constance Blvd NE (163rd Lane NE from Hasting Street NE to Isanti Street NE and Isanti Street NE from 163rd Lane NE to 164th Lane NE) Street Reconstruction Project

Visit the City's website to view Council and Planning meeting videos on-demand and agenda minutes of City Council and Planning Commission: [www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us](http://www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us).

## SHERIFF'S REPORT

### Thefts & Damage to Property

- 04.04 139xx Lexington Ave NE—theft of a vehicle from the driveway; keys were in it
- 04.12 35xx 149 Lane NE—mailbox damaged by vehicle
- 04.13 415x 155 Lane NE – vehicle parked on street unsecured was tampered with; nothing stolen
- 04.21 151xx Lever St NE—a turkey blind was stolen off the property
- 04.29 149 Ave/Lever St NE—illegal dumping of a boat and trailer
- 04.29 5xx 173 Lane NE—a motor stolen off the back of the boat; unsecured
- 04.30 178xx Hwy 65 NE—overnight theft of a trailer from a business; GPS puts it in Mpls
- 05.01 5xx 177 Ave NE—theft from an unlocked vehicle; garage door opener stolen

### Burglaries

- 04.11 16xx Crosstown Blvd NW—shed was entered; lockbox and ATV starter stolen

### Arrests

- 04.07 14200 Block Hwy 65 NE—No DL; driver stopped for not having lights on in the rain. The driver did not have a license and he was arrested.
- 04.09 134xx Hwy 65 NE—Domestic Assault; fight between brothers after they had gotten back to the hotel from the bar. One male was arrested.
- 04.09 14xx 147 Ave NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy learned a male was inside the business who had a warrant. The male was arrested.
- 04.12 9xx 154 Ave NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy learned a male was at the location who had a warrant. He was located sleeping inside and arrested.
- 04.13 14xx Constance Blvd NE—DWI 3rd degree; employees called because a male in the store appeared impaired. He drove away, was located and stopped. Field sobriety tests were failed and he was arrested.
- 04.16 134xx Hwy 65 NE—No Contact Order Violation; there was a male staying with a female and she had a no-contact order against him. The male was located and arrested.

- 04.17 151xx Lexington Ave NE—Drugs; driver had meth on his lap and face. He was arrested. 17 grams of meth were found in his car and the Drug Task Force notified.
- 04.22 22xx 165 Lane NE—Domestic Assault; physical altercation between roommates. One male was arrested.
- 04.23 133 Lane/Radisson Rd NE—Drugs; deputy observed a possible drug sale from a vehicle and he stopped the vehicle when it pulled away. It was searched and multiple THC cartridges and weed were located. The parents were contacted and the juveniles will be charged via paper.
- 04.23 18xx 162 Lane NE—Warrant Arrest; Juvenile Department of Corrections requested a deputy go to the location to arrest a male who just had a warrant issued. He was located and taken into custody.
- 04.27 Hwy 65/Andover Blvd NE—Warrant Arrest; an off-duty officer saw a male driving who had warrants. A deputy was able to locate the vehicle and identify the driver. He was arrested.
- 04.30 17xx 143 Lane NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy learned a male was heading to the location and he had two felony warrants. The deputy waited for the male to arrive. He was located and arrested.

### April Building Permits

The City of Ham Lake issued 117 permits in April with a valuation of \$2,212,409.

The issued permits are as follows: one commercial new construction, one commercial temp. tent/building, one commercial miscellaneous, six residential new construction, three residential remodel, one residential basement finish, one residential addition, five residential deck, one residential garage addition, one residential in-ground pool, two residential solar panel, two residential window, two residential demolition, and 37 roofing/siding.

Other permits include 25 mechanical, 18 plumbing and 10 septic installations.

## Highway 65 Project

The multi-year Highway 65 project is in full swing. Information about upcoming traffic impacts will be posted by MNDOT as details become available. Motorists can expect head-to-head traffic during the installation of box culverts at Coon Creek bridges and in areas of full-depth pavement reconstruction. Also expect single lane traffic on the side of the road not under construction and lane closures along the project area.

### Please drive with care in work zones!

- Slow down when approaching every work zone, then navigate with care and caution.
- Stay alert—work zones constantly change.
- Watch for workers and slow-moving equipment.
- Obey posted speed limits. The fine for a violation in a work zone is \$300.
- Minimize distractions behind the wheel.
- Be patient and expect delays, especially during peak travel times.

### About this Project

MNDOT will repair, resurface and replace bridges on more than 19 miles of Highway 65 from County 10 in Spring Lake Park to 237th Ave in East Bethel.

The work will include resurfacing nearly 16.5 miles of highway. Additionally, they will replace bridges over Coon Creek in Ham Lake and culverts south of Viking Blvd/north of Constance Blvd. They will also make full-depth pavement repairs to correct areas of settlement and install high-tension cable median guardrail from Bunker Lake Blvd to 237th Ave.

All construction activities and traffic impacts are weather and schedule permitting and subject to change.

For more information, including upcoming traffic impacts and a map of the project, or to sign up for project updates, visit the MnDOT website at: [www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy65slp-east-bethel](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy65slp-east-bethel)

The best way to find up-to-date information and changes is by following MNDOT's Facebook or X (Twitter) pages.

### July 2024 Issue Deadline: Wednesday, June 12 @ noon

Please send all Ham Laker correspondence, articles and ideas to:

City of Ham Lake  
15544 Central Ave NE  
Ham Lake, MN 55304

Email: [HamLaker@ci.ham-lake.mn.us](mailto:HamLaker@ci.ham-lake.mn.us)

For advertising information please contact City Hall at 763-434-9555

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### Ham Lake Contacts

City Hall: 763-434-9555  
*To report emergencies after office hours call 911.*  
City Hall Hours: Monday-Thursday: 7:00-4:30  
Friday: 7:00-11:00  
Brian Kirkham (Mayor)  
612-978-2764  
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Jim Doyle (Council)  
612-850-1698  
[jdoyle@ci.ham-lake.mn.us](mailto:jdoyle@ci.ham-lake.mn.us)  
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Jesse Wilken (Council)  
763-458-4608  
[jwilken@ci.ham-lake.mn.us](mailto:jwilken@ci.ham-lake.mn.us)



## DaVinci Academy Students at State History Day

On Saturday, April 20, 19 students from DaVinci Academy competed at the Minnesota State Contest of National History Day held at the Minneapolis Convention Center. This year more than 17,000 students participated in History Day throughout Minnesota. Approximately 400 junior projects were selected to compete at State.



At the History Day Metro Junior East Regional Contest in March, 11 DaVinci projects were selected to compete at State, more than any other school.

### Exhibit:

- Josh I.—*The Gandhi March*
- Kayla D.—*The Mother of Modern Chemistry*
- Sophia E.—*The Bombings that “Saved” America*
- Femi A., Lincoln D., Denver M.—*Turning Points: Rwandan Genocide*
- Violet Jacob, Yarezi Garcia Altamirano—*Thriller: Music For All*

### Website:

- Aashirya N.—*The British Raj*
- Eli N.—*The Russian Revolution: The Beginning of the USSR*
- Isaac H.—*Daniel Ellsberg’s Fight For The Truth*
- Mikey M., Will G., Kai D.—*Soviet Space Dogs*
- Noah Nguyen, Ian Nguyen-Beyer, Levi Steinberg—*Operation Desert Storm*

### Performance:

Layla Qassem, Riley Munion—*The Glowing Killer*

Five DaVinci projects advanced to the final round at State. *Turning Points: Rwandan Genocide* received 5th place. Honorable Mentions were awarded to *The British Raj*, *The Russian Revolution: The Beginning of the USSR*, *Soviet Space Dogs* and *Operation Desert Storm*.

All projects related to the theme *Turning Points in History*. Congratulations to the students for competing at State!

## Community Dinner

Glen Cary Lutheran Church’s monthly dinner is Friday June 21st at 6:00 pm.

On the menu this month is breakfast for dinner: Scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, muffins and dessert.

This is free for everyone! Come meet your neighbors and community.

## Fire Department Calls

The Ham Lake Fire Department responded to 26 calls during the month of April: 12 during the day and 14 at night. The department spent 244.5 personnel hours responding to calls for the month.

Year-to-date, the department has answered 109 calls compared with 127 calls at the same time last year.

## No Oak Tree Cutting Until After July 15

Our “no-cut” period for oak trees is effective through July 15th (Article 11.1400.4 of the City Code).

If you need to cut an oak tree or trees during the no-cut period, you must get a permit from the City prior to cutting. Please contact a City tree inspector with questions at 763-235-1662.

## HAPPENINGS AT THE SENIOR CENTER

**Open Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm**  
**15544 Central Ave NE in Ham Lake**  
**763-434-0455**

(Located in the lower west parking lot of City Hall)

### City Hall collection box for flexible plastics.

Everything must be clean. Grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes, re-closable food storage bags, cereal bags, water bottle case overwrap, salt bags, pallet wrap and stretch film, wood pellet bags and produce bags are all accepted.

**Senior Dining** on Mondays and Wednesdays each week at noon. **Reservations needed!** Meals are \$7 for those 55+ and \$10 for those younger than 55.

### Senior Center Activities starting Monday, April 1st:

- Hand-Foot-Toe Cards—1:00 pm on Mondays
- Bingo—2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 12:45 pm (following lunch)
- Jam Sessions—2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm following lunch (open to the public)
- Wii Bowling—9:30 am Wednesdays
- Wood Carvers—10:00 am Wednesdays
- Dominoes—10:00 am Thursdays
- 500 Cards—12:30 pm Thursdays

**Watch for upcoming trips** to the Casino (not open to the public), health insurance counseling, scheduled shopping trips for those who need transportation, and a birthday lunch on the last Wednesday of the month.

**Call the Senior Center** to find out about the dates, times and details of these and other special events.

**DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSES** for 2024 are held by MHSRC (Minnesota Highway Safety Research Center) for those 55 and older. Registration is required. Call 1-888-234-1294 for information and to register. Or go online: [www.stcloudstate.edu/continuingstudies/mhsrc/55-plus](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/continuingstudies/mhsrc/55-plus)

**4-Hour Refresher Course:** You need to take this every three years. The fee is \$24 for the 4-hour class:

- Friday, August 9 • 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Friday, October 25 • 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

### 8-Hour Course for “First Timers”

None scheduled at this time.

**Did you know?** If you are 55 years or older, state law requires your insurance company to give you a 10% discount after taking an 8-hour Defensive Driving Course and attending a 4-hour refresher course every three years.

**NOTE: The Ham Lake Senior Center is NOT available for rent**

## Fireworks Safety Tips

If you plan to use fireworks, follow these safety tips by the Fire Department.

The Fourth of July is nearly here, and fireworks are a traditional part of the celebration for many. Before you go out and purchase fireworks yourself, let’s take a look at some numbers.

In 2017, eight people died and over 12,000 were injured badly enough to require medical treatment after fireworks-related incidents. Of these, 50% of the injuries were to children and young adults under age 20. Over two-thirds (67%) of injuries took place from June 16 to July 16.

And while most of these incidents were due to amateurs attempting to use professional-grade, homemade or other illegal fireworks or explosives, an estimated 1,200 injuries were from less powerful devices like small firecrackers and sparklers.

Additionally, fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires each year, including 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires and nearly 17,000 other fires.

Fireworks should never be considered safe and must be treated with respect. Even a simple sparkler can reach temperatures over 1,200 degrees! And remember, not all fireworks are legal in Minnesota. The best thing to do is leave fireworks to the professionals!



If you do choose to use them, here are a few tips:

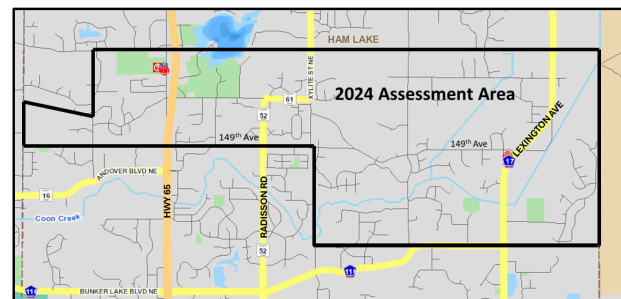
- Use fireworks outdoors only
- Obey all laws regarding the type and use of fireworks
- Read and follow instructions on the package
- Closely supervise children with fireworks
- Have a hose or bucket of water nearby
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix

The Ham Lake Fire Department wishes you a safe and enjoyable holiday and summer!

## Assessor’s Update: 2024 Property Visits

State law requires property assessors to visit and review each property within the city once every five years to ensure that the assessment record data that is currently on file is accurate.

Accuracy of the data is important because it is used to set estimated market values for tax allocation purposes. This year, May through Sept, the Ham Lake Assessors will be visiting and reviewing all properties in the area outlined below, as part of the 5 year review:



If your property is in the review area, here’s what you can expect:

- The assessor will come to the property and knock or ring the doorbell. If an adult is present, an inside review may be requested depending on the last time a full review was done. The assessor will also walk around the outside of all buildings (if accessible) to verify exterior characteristics.
- If no one is there when the assessor stops by, they will leave an Appraisal Notice with instructions if they have questions.
- Characteristics of the property that affect market value are age, square footage, quality of construction, condition, basement finish, recent remodeling, location, etc.
- The assessor will be wearing an official identification badge and carries business cards.

In addition to the 5-year review area outlined above, the Assessors will visit new construction, permit, and remodeling work of all property types in all areas of the city through the end of the year.

THANK YOU in advance for your cooperation during this year’s assessment review. If you have any questions, call Mary Wells at 763-412-1966 Ext. 1 or email her at [mnassessormary@gmail.com](mailto:mnassessormary@gmail.com).



## Falcon National Bank: Outstanding CRA Rating

Falcon National Bank has received an “Outstanding” CRA rating by the Office of Comptroller of Currency (OCC), the highest rating possible, for adhering to the standards of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA).

Falcon National is a community bank with six central Minnesota locations, including Ham Lake (on the corner of Highway 65 and Bunker Lake Blvd).

“Our dedication to meeting the credit needs of our entire community, including low and moderate-income neighborhoods, is something we keep in the forefront of our decision making,” said John Herges, CEO. “This rating is a well-deserved and prestigious honor that is undoubtedly reflective of our commitment to our role as a community bank.”

CRA evaluation is based on various items including:

- Loan-to-deposit ratio
- Dispersion of loans across different income levels
- Dispersion of loans to businesses of various sizes
- The bank’s community development performance

It speaks to Falcon National Bank’s commitment to meeting the credit needs across all segments of our community.

The bank’s CMO Rebecca Kempenich said, “We know that when our communities are strong, it creates an amazing ripple effect. Strong communities provide local businesses with a richer foundation to deepen their roots and grow, and a more vibrant place to live. This rating is very difficult to achieve and one that reflects the impact we have on the local community.”

Congratulations to the team of Falcon National Bank!



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## Ham Lake Business Spotlight: Outdoor Chores

Outdoor Chores is a Ham Lake-based company that helps customers with a variety of lawn, landscaping and yard care projects.

Founder and owner Charles Speckman and his team specialize in small and medium-sized projects like lawn mowing, aeration, fertilizing and weed control, delivering bulk landscape materials, light landscaping, stump grinding, brush clearing and removal, firewood sales and snow removal.

Charles founded Outdoor Chores during the 2020 pandemic. He works full-time in cyber security but has always had a side gig. When COVID shut his side gig down, Charles quickly got bored. “I’m not the kind of guy that’s going to sit at my house and do nothing!” he said.



Outdoor Chores owner Charles Speckman with his wife Brandee and daughter Ellie

He had a John Deere tractor so he started to till gardens for his neighbors. As you remember, that spring and summer saw a huge boost in home and yard projects because so many people were home far more than normal.

“People were asking me, ‘Hey, can you do this? Can you move this dirt? Can you bring mulch? What can you do?’ and it just blossomed,” said Charles. “I was just the guy down the street with a tractor and a tiller. About halfway through the summer, my wife suggested we sell the other business allowing more

family time, while still helping the community.” So they did, and Outdoor Chores was born.

Because Charles still works full-time in his “day job” he intends to keep his business small and focus on local customers. He’s hired a college student for his lawn mowing contracts and hires family members to help with other projects as they arise.

As his customer base has grown, he’s expanded his arsenal of vehicles and machinery but continues to stick with smaller jobs. Outdoor Chores’ niche is small projects the bigger companies don’t want. He said, “I usually partner with other local businesses for bigger landscaping and tree work. I’ve really tried to leverage the other people in the industry in their specialties.”

A key part of their business model is customizing projects with the homeowners. For example, Outdoor Chores will deliver a load of mulch and haul it to the garden beds, then the homeowner may choose to handle the raking or work with the team. Or for debris haul-away, a team member will drop off a trailer for the homeowner to fill, then haul the debris away and dispose of it.

This has enabled Charles to keep his rates low while giving his customers options for price points and involvement. “Some homeowners enjoy much of the process but don’t want to do the heavy work anymore—the shovels and wheelbarrows. We’ve found a medium that works.”

Charles keeps Outdoor Chores’ customer list to the local area. “We’re a family-run business that tries to be cost-effective for community members,” he said. “I’ve lived here since 1992. In fact, I bought the house I grew up in from my parents. It’s fun to get out and help the neighbors while balancing time with my wife Brandee and daughter Ellie.”

You can learn more about Outdoor Chores on their website: [outdoorchores.com](http://outdoorchores.com). Contact them by email at [charles@outdoorchores.com](mailto:charles@outdoorchores.com) or phone/text at 612-741-9758.

## Illegal Dumping in Streets

A major source of water pollution is stormwater runoff from properties. To reduce water pollution, state standards require that cities have ordinances stating that anything other than water going into the street or storm drains is illegal. For example, perhaps you spill fertilizer or paint and wash it into the street so it goes down the drain. Or you blow grass clippings or leaves to the curb. These actions cause pollution in our water and are considered illegal dumping. They are called Illicit Discharges: “any discharge to a storm drain system that is not composed entirely of stormwater, with some exceptions.” (Source: US EPA) Exceptions include firefighting and other permitted discharges.

If you see anyone spilling, dumping or disposing materials into a storm drain or the street between 7:00 am and 3:30 pm it should be reported immediately to the Public Works department: 763-235-1662. Call 911 if you think it’s a hazardous material emergency. The fire department handles emergency responses for contamination and spills. The County compost site accepts clippings and leaves, or leave them on the lawn to add natural fertilizer to the soil.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### JUNE 2024

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 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

June 3: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

June 10: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

June 12: *The Ham Laker* ads and articles deadline for the July issue @ noon

June 17: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

June 19: City Offices closed in observance of Juneteenth

June 24: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

June 29: Freedom Festival & Fireworks



**Tim Ross**  
Owner

612-961-0906  
MyTrustedCarpetCleaners@gmail.com  
www.MyTrustedCarpetCleaners.com



**Bill Lee** BBB  
Operating under Frontier Concrete & Masonry, Inc.  
7129 20th Avenue N, Centerville, MN 55038  
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