



4646 Dakota St. SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372

A message from our Mayor:

Prior Lake Warming To a New Spring Season

Now that this year's cold and lengthy winter is coming to a close, signs of spring are appearing in Prior Lake. The ice will soon be off lakes, chased by residents with docks and boats and plans for water-related fun. The City's inviting parks and trails will beckon the community to enjoy the City's natural beauty and amenities; and the rest of our many warmer-weather activities will kick into high gear.

Our community is a wonderful place to call home because there are more outdoor areas and activities to enjoy here than any community I know. The City of Prior Lake offers a tremendous array of activities for youth and families through its park and recreation department, and through its partnerships with countless groups and organizations dedicated to offering a host of spring and summer opportunities to residents. So much so, that I can only scratch the surface here. So with your permission, let me provide you with your April and May social calendar:

April 10 – Ladies Night Out (5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) – There is no better way for women to “step into spring” than by spending an evening in downtown Prior Lake at the *Ladies Night Out* event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Get acquainted with our downtown businesses – new and old – while having fun and getting exercise with your co-workers, friends or family members. Plenty of prizes and refreshments will be available. Remember to register soon for this event which attracts 500+ participants.

April 11 / 12 – Electronics Recycling – Waste Management is sponsoring a first time residential electronics recycling drop off from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Canterbury Downs. Bring your old printers, monitors, keyboards, CPUs, televisions, radios and other electronic devices to dispose of them at no cost to you or the environment. Be sure to check the list of allowable products at www.cityofpriorlake.com.

April 16 – Ice Out / Boats and Docks In – Historically this has been the day that we transition as a community from winter to summer.

April 16 – Summer Recreation Program Registration Begins – Another example of partnerships, the registration of our recreation programs, is now a cooperative effort with School Dist. 719. No more waiting in line. You can register online at www.priorlakesavagece.com using your credit card. Activities include summer tot and playground programs at our parks, youth trips and family events. All summer lakers of all ages can use the beaches, skate park, or attend any of eight free Thursday evening concerts at Lakefront Park (7 p.m. in June, July and August). Bring your lawn chairs and refreshments and we provide the entertainment!

April 19 – City Clean Up Day (8 a.m. - noon) – Working cooperatively with refuse haulers, the Prior Lake Lions, Prior Lake Rotary, and the City brings you Spring Clean Up Day at Twin Oaks Middle School. For a \$5 drop fee Prior Lake, Credit River and Spring Lake Township residents can recycle tires, appliances and numerous other recyclables. For details, contact www.cityofpriorlake.com. The Prior Lake Lions and Rotary also staff a Bridging truck so you can drop off useable home items such as beds, dresser drawers, tables, chairs, sofas, dishes and the like. Just remember anything donated must be clean, free of stains and useable without making repairs. If you wish to donate but have no means of getting to Twin Oaks, call (952) 447-1330. For more information on Bridging, visit www.bridging.org.

May 2 – Light Up the Night Ceremony (6:30 p.m.) – Prior Lake Athletics for Youth (PLAY) offers opportunities for kids throughout Prior Lake to play popular sports year round. Softball and baseball swing into action at Thomas Ryan Memorial Park with the traveling team tournament. Thanks to a \$150,000 PLAY contribution, together with \$450,000 from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux

Community (SMSC), the baseball/softball complex at Thomas Ryan is now lit and has new bleachers, dugouts and a shelter. The tournaments begin at 6:30 p.m. We will “Light up the Night” for the first time with a small ceremony at 8 p.m., including representatives of PLAY, SMSC and the City. A commemorative foam baseball will be available to our first 500 guests and ballpark refreshments will be offered, as well.

May 3 – Prior Lake Rotary D.A.R.E. Day (beginning 9 a.m.) – The City of Prior Lake, School District 719 and Prior Lake Rotary continue to support Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) in both elementary and high school. Students raise money to support DARE by collecting donations. At the DARE Day celebration at Lakefront Park, students and their parents participate in the Bike-a-thon and one-mile fun run. Following, pizza and pop is served and prizes are given away. Stop in for the fun and support our DARE activities.

May 5 – Community Senior Luncheon (11:30 a.m.) – The Chamber of Commerce, City and other community groups will sponsor a luncheon commencing at the VFW free for Prior Lake seniors. A full meal will be served and the event is capped off with naming senior royalty for 2008 and a prize drawing for attendees. Space is limited to the first 300. To get tickets, visit Club Prior, Prior Lake State Bank or the Chamber of Commerce offices.

May 10 – Prior Lake Farmer’s Market Begins (8 a.m. - noon) – Every Saturday beginning May 10, the Prior Lake Farmer’s Market will once again occupy Pleasant Ave. between Hwy. 13 and Main Ave. Featuring unique wares, fresh foods, refreshments and music, the Farmer’s Market is a great place to enjoy a Saturday morning in downtown Prior Lake. On-street parking is available on Main Ave, and parking lots adjacent to the VFW.

May 15 – Club Prior Grand Opening (4 p.m. - 7 p.m.) – It’s a party! The newest member of the City recreation system is “Club Prior” located in the Prior Lake Library Resource Center in downtown Prior Lake. Adults 55 and older are welcome to participate Tuesday – Thursday in a wide variety of activities from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. On May 15, we will host a Grand Opening celebration. Senior Center Task Force volunteers will greet participants, a magician/juggler will perform, and plenty of food, beverages and music will be provided.

May 16 – Prior Lake Roll-In Begins (5 p.m. - 9 p.m.) – Every Friday night, classic cars occupy Main Avenue from County Road 21 to Dakota Street. If you like classic cars (over 25 years old), or people who like classic cars, stop by and enjoy this no cost family oriented event.

May 26 – Memorial Day Parade and Program (9 a.m.) – The parade begins at the Prior Lake VFW and proceeds north on Main Ave., along County Rd. 44, and concludes at Memorial Park with a program recognizing those who have given the ultimate measure for our nation.

These are but a few of the events offered in our Prior Lake area. So rather than leave the City for your recreation or shopping needs, I invite you to visit downtown Prior Lake, our parks and our businesses. You’ll save gas, get some exercise and you might just run into a friend or neighbor. Supporting our local community will keep Prior Lake a wonderful place to call home.

Mayor Jack Haugen