



City Newswire

Prior Lake Farmer's Market Begins May 9

The Prior Lake Farmer's Market starts Saturday May 9, from 8 a.m. to noon between Hastings and Dakota St. on Main Ave. The market will continue each Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon until the middle of October. Live music is provided almost every weekend as is breakfast cooked on site. There are many vendors, crafts and projects for kids. For information, email [Karla Haugen](mailto:Karla.Haugen@priorlake.gov) or call (952)447-0263.

The Farmer's Market will sponsor and provide summer food products to a family in need in 2009. To nominate a family, contact Karla by Saturday, April 25.

Community Garden Registration Opens

The City of Prior Lake will host a new yet-to-be-named community garden on the Kop Farm property at Lakefront Park in Prior Lake. Registration for plots is now open through the Prior Lake Recreation Department at city hall at (952) 447-9820. The rental fee for a plot is \$35 for residents (more for non residents) this first season. The garden was created thanks to the efforts of private residents, various civic organizations, the Prior Lake Parks Advisory Committee, the Prior Lake City Council and community gardener Jane Keough. The community garden is sponsored through significant donations by the Prior Lake Rotary, the Prior Lake Lions Club, Prior Lake Optimists and private businesses. For more information, download the [Community Garden News Release](#).

Council Amends Speed Limit/ No Wake Zones on Prior Lake

The Prior Lake City Council approved refinements to the city's Public Waters Ordinance that governs no wake zones and speeds limits on Prior Lake on Monday, May 4. The amendments place a 40-miles-per-hour speed limit on the lake at all times, not just on weekends and holidays, and establishes specific no wake zones. An ordinance provision relating to towing flotation items will continue to be studied. These provisions should enhance enforcement on the lakes. For more information, click on the [Public Water Ordinance Changes news release](#).

City Implements More Cost-Reductions

Your city staff is examining a series of expenditure reduction or deferral measures to save taxpayer dollars. One measure being implemented is that no overtime hours are allowed for city staff except for police or public works emergencies. A second measure is the implementation of a revised four-day, 10-hour work week for the majority of the city's park maintenance staff during the summer season. The new schedule will provide seven-day-per-week coverage. These measures will reduce the cost of overtime, give park maintenance employees a four-day work week and provide the city more actual work hours in the field.

Council Examines 'Green' Options

The Prior Lake City Council is studying more ecological-friendly (green) options related to the city's zoning code that includes renewable energy options like solar, wind and geothermal strategies. A group of University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute graduate students recently made a presentation to the council that included sustainable practices like water conservation measures, street design options like vegetative screening and pedestrian-friendly streets, promoting alternative transportation, tree replacement formulas and green development practices that will "green" the zoning code. The city staff will incorporate certain of these proposals in the city's zoning ordinance to encourage future development in the community in an environmentally-friendly way.

H1N1 Flu and What You Should Know

As part of an ongoing investigation into an outbreak of swine influenza A (H1N1) in the United States and Mexico, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) announced additional human cases of infection with swine flu in the U.S. Currently the CDC is trying to reduce transmission and illness severity, and provide information. Keep yourself informed by clicking on this [CDC website regarding swine flu](#). Click [here for a flu planning checklist for individuals and families](#). You can also get more information about swine flu and how to prevent transmission by clicking this [City of Prior Lake news release](#). Scott County also has this [Emergency Preparedness Kit](#).

Members of the public with questions about the current international outbreak of H1N1 influenza can call the MDH hotline between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 1-800-657-3903.

Yard Waste Site Opens on May 23

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Compost Site is jointly shared by the City of Prior Lake the second and fourth Saturdays of each month from May 23 through October from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The site is about a quarter mile west of the intersection of County Rd. 42 and County Rd. 83 ([click on map](#)). Residents can drop off leaves, grass clippings, brush and branches less than 8 inches in width. Waste containers or bags can not be left on site. For more information, contact [Danette Parr](#) at (952) 447-9813 or [Al Friedges](#) at (952) 447-9892.

Water Restrictions Now in Affect

Lawn or garden sprinkling, irrigation and other non-essential outdoor uses are prohibited from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for all properties from May 1 through Oct. 1. Residents may water on odd or even days corresponding with the date of the month for other non-essential uses before and after the daily restrictions. Some exemptions apply. For a permit for new lawns, private wells and pumping from the lake, call (952) 447-9830. Click on our [Sprinkling Restrictions webpage](#) for more information.

Motorized Golf Carts Allowed on City Roads With Permit

Permits are now available authorizing the use of golf carts on designated roadways within Prior Lake. The permit, which can be applied for at the Police Department, is \$25, valid until Dec. 31 and must be renewed each year. Only persons with a valid driver's license may operate golf carts on city streets with a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less. Check the ordinance requirements and download the permit from the [Licensing and Permits webpage](#).

Quick Links:

[Learn about Zebra Mussels in Prior Lake: Watch the Lake's Advisory Committee Meeting](#)

[Prior Lake's Parks and Trails](#)

[Thinking about Lakefront Days Yet?](#)

[Webcamera at Watzl's Beach](#)

[Video Webstreaming](#)

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