

The Crystal Connection



SPRING 2024



Primary and General Election 2024 City Budget

Turn Over for Recreation Spring/Summer Brochure

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 30308
TWIN CITIES MN

City of Crystal
4141 Douglas Dr. N.
Crystal, MN 55422

CITY CONTACTS

CRYSTAL CITY HALL

4141 Douglas Dr. N.
Crystal, MN 55422
crystalmn.gov



Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closed: May 27 (Memorial Day)

Main Switchboard	763-531-1000
Animal Control	763-531-5161
Assessing	763-531-1000
Code Enforcement	763-531-1144
Communications	763-531-1136
Community Center/Recreation	763-531-0052
Crime Tip Hotline	763-531-1020
Elections/Voting	763-531-1145
Engineering	763-531-1161
Fire: West Metro Fire-Rescue District	763-230-7000
Hennepin Recycling Group	763-493-8006
Parks	763-531-1158
Police Records	763-531-1014
Police/Fire Emergencies	911
Rental Properties	763-531-1143
Streets	763-531-1164
Utilities	763-531-1166
Utility Billing	763-531-1120
Zoning	763-531-1142

Deaf and hard-of-hearing callers can contact the MN Relay Service at 711 or 1-800-627-3529 V/TTY

CITY COUNCIL



Mayor Jim Adams
612-805-5101 (Call or Text)
jim.adams@crystalmn.gov



Taji Onesirosan (Section 1)
651-434-0469
taji.onesirosan@crystalmn.gov



Forest Eidbo (Section 2)
763-290-0091
forest.eidbo@crystalmn.gov



Therese Kiser (Ward 1)
763-458-0030
therese.kiser@crystalmn.gov



Traci Kamish (Ward 2)
763-330-0670
traci.kamish@crystalmn.gov



John Budziszewski (Ward 3)
612-207-3704
john.budziszewski@crystalmn.gov



David Cummings (Ward 4)
952-479-0816
david.cummings@crystalmn.gov

Council Meetings and Work Sessions

Council meetings are the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m. Meetings are available virtually using the Zoom teleconferencing application. Visit go.crystalmn.gov/citymeetings for meeting calendar updates and links.

Upcoming council meetings: March 5 and 19 | April 2 and 16 | May 7 and 21

City council work sessions are usually the second Thursday of the month and before and/or after council meetings.

Work session audio recordings are at go.crystalmn.gov/audio.

City meetings are live on Comcast Channel 16. Rebroadcast schedule:

- Sundays, Wednesdays, Fridays at 6:30 p.m.
- Mondays, Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesdays, Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Archived and live city council and EDA meeting webstreams are available at go.crystalmn.gov/webstream.



**Are You
a New
(or not so new)
Resident?**

This QR code takes you to a webpage with the top ten useful links for new residents.



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2024 Primary and General Election Update



With the Presidential Nomination Primary complete, the 2024 Primary and General elections are scheduled for later this year.

The Primary Election is Tuesday, Aug. 13; and the General Election is Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Municipal Election

Crystal will have four council seats on the 2024 general election ballot. The term for mayor and three council seats representing Ward 3 and Ward 4 in northern Crystal, and Section I (Wards 1 and 2) in southern Crystal, expire at the end of 2024.

Election Judges Needed

Election judges play an important role in administering elections. Serving as an election judge is a great opportunity to learn about the election process while serving your community.

Application forms and information is available on the city’s website at crystalmn.gov, under “Government” and “Voting and Elections,” or contact the deputy city clerk at 763-531-1131 or email chee.yang@crystalmn.gov.

Candidate Filings

The council member filing period is open from May 21 – June 4. All candidates must be an eligible voter, at least 21 years of age when assuming office, a resident of their ward or section at the time of filing for office, and have no other affidavit on file for any office.

Those interested must file for office with the city clerk at city hall, 4141 Douglas Dr. N. Contact the city clerk at 763-531-1145 or chrisserres@crystalmn.gov.

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES	
May 21 – June 4	Early candidate filing period open (8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) and June 4 (until 5 p.m.)
June 28 – Aug. 12	Absentee voting for Primary Election. Vote by mail or at city hall, Monday - Friday (8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) City hall extended hours open for absentee voting: • Saturday, Aug. 10 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.) and • Monday, Aug. 12 (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
July 23	Voter pre-registration closes at 5 p.m.
Aug. 13	Primary Election polls open from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sept. 20 – Nov. 4	Absentee voting for General Election. Vote by mail or city hall, Monday - Friday (8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) City hall extended hours open for absentee voting: • Saturday, Oct. 26 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.) • Tuesday, Oct. 29 (8 a.m. - 7 p.m.) • Saturday, Nov. 2 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.) • Sunday, Nov. 3 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.) • Monday, Nov. 4 (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
Oct. 15	Voter pre-registration closes at 5 p.m.
Nov. 5	General Election polls open from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

More information regarding polling locations, absentee voting and voter registration is available on the city’s website at go.crystalmn.gov/vote.

Community Iftar Dinner in March

Event is free and open to the public

A Community Iftar Dinner is Thursday, March 14 from 5:45 - 7:45 p.m. at the Crystal Community Center, 4800 Douglas Dr. N.

This event is free and open to the public, registration required.



This community dinner is a learning opportunity and celebration that brings people of all faiths together during the month of Ramadan. There is a brief presentation on Ramadan and breaking of the fast. Participating community members can observe the prayer and share in the evening Iftar meal and conversation.

Learn more or register at go.crystalmn.gov/iftar.

City Budget for 2024

Fund	2023	2024 Adopted	% Increase
General Levy	\$13,540,205	\$14,818,719	9.44%
Capital Improvements	\$1,286,475	\$1,504,011	16.91%
EDA	\$316,200	\$335,172	6%
Total Levy	\$15,142,880	\$16,657,902	10%

The city council reviews service demands, the costs to meet those demands, and prioritizes them in a biennial budget cycle.

On Dec. 5, 2023, the council adopted its revised 2023-2024 budget that provides a balanced budget while meeting the service demands of the community and legislative mandates and provides a sound financial plan that is responsive to the financial concerns of Crystal taxpayers.

The budget reflects a 10% increase in the property tax levy from 2023. This increase ensures the city can provide core services and invest in the capital needs for aging community infrastructure.

The 2024 budget was the second year of the city's second biennial budget. Looking forward two years allows a first-year focus on operations and a second-year focus on long-term planning/capital.

Priorities for 2024 include:

- Meet service demands of the community and legislative mandates while striving for minimal impact to taxpayers.
- Monitor economic challenges.
- Provide sound financial planning for a two-year budget that ensures continued core services.
- Continue to fund future capital needs including parks and street improvements.
- Provide competitive wages and benefits to retain quality people to provide effective and efficient services to residents and businesses.

View Crystal's full 2023-2024 Biennial Budget document at go.crystalmn.gov/budget.

Organics Recycling Charges Are a State Requirement And Haulers Must Charge All Equally



Under Hennepin County Recycling Ordinance 13, all cities must require garbage haulers to offer curbside organic/food waste recycling or conduct organized curbside organics collection. Furthermore, according to state law, garbage haulers that have an additional charge for organics recycling must charge all its customers the same, whether or not that customer participates in organics recycling.

Local governments cannot opt out of the state requirement that haulers charge all customers for organics recycling equally, nor do cities control the amount haulers can charge.

The relevant state agency for this requirement is the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). To contact the MPCA, visit bit.ly/MPCAcontact, or call 651-296-6300 or 1-800-657-3864.

For more information on Hennepin County's organics recycling ordinance, contact the Hennepin County Environment and Energy Department at 612-348-3777 or environment@hennepin.us.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Follow your interest while giving back to our community. Volunteer on a city board or commission. It's a small commitment with a big impact.

Opportunities exist on the Inclusion and Diversity Commission and the Employee Review Board.

Learn more at bit.ly/3aWPZOD.



As our Minnesota winter comes to an end and the spring season quickly approaches, the Crystal Police Department continues to partner with, and reach out to, our citizens and community.

SHOP WITH A COP

We would like to thank several of our citizens for volunteering their time to assist us this past holiday season with our Shop with a Cop program. We assisted several children and families in need, and we appreciate everyone involved. Also, a big thank you to Target, the Crystal Crime Prevention Board, and our MAC (Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee) for donating several gift cards, food and time so the kids could have a wonderful experience shopping with our officers.

We would like to thank many of our citizens for volunteering this recent holiday season.

Crystal Police Department OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 27
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
4141 Douglas Dr. N.

- Meet your police department.
- Take a self-guided tour of the 53,300 sq. ft. of working space.
- Enjoy photo opportunities.
- Visit the K9 area, forensics lab, jail, training areas and more.
- See the SWAT truck and other vehicle displays.

For more information, contact Sgt. Brandon Dorr
Brandon.Dorr@crystalmn.gov
763-531-1047

The police department mission is to serve all residents with compassion, integrity and professionalism.

POLICE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

We are excited to continue our annual Police Department Open House. Doors are open to the public on Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

It will be a wonderful opportunity to tour the building's working spaces, see vehicles and other displays, ask questions and meet officers.

JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY

This summer we will partner with the cities of New Hope and Robbinsdale in hosting a Junior Police Academy on June 13 and 14.

The program provides students entering 6th to 8th grade an insider's look into law enforcement. Participants build an understanding of policing techniques and procedures, leadership, ethics, teamwork and effective communication. Register by June 7 at go.crystalmn.gov/jpa.

CONCLUSION

There is much to be excited about in our great city. In large part its success is directly connected to our great citizenry. Thank you for the part you play in making Crystal a great place to live, work and play.

I encourage you to find out more about the Crystal Police Department and its many programs and services at police.crystalmn.gov.

You can also connect with us on Facebook or Twitter – I bet you'll find something you didn't know about our police department. Links are available on the police website.

In closing, if you have a question or need additional information from the police department, contact me at stephanie.revering@crystalmn.gov, 763-531-1010. You can also keep in touch via Facebook or Twitter.

Police Open House in April



Meet your police department, take a self-guided tour, enjoy photo opportunities, visit the K9 area, forensics lab, jail, training areas, and the SWAT truck and other vehicles on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Crystal Police Department, 4141 Douglas Dr. N.

West Metro Fire-Rescue 13th Annual Food Drive



The West Metro Fire-Rescue District's 13th Annual Firefighters Fighting Hunger Food Drive is Saturday, March 16, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Firefighters will collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations to benefit the Food Group.

Firefighters will have vehicles at several local grocery stores including Almsted's Fresh Market, Crystal Aldi, both Cub Foods on 36th Ave. N. in Crystal and 42nd Ave. N. in Plymouth and the Hy-Vee in New Hope.

Items can also be dropped off at West Metro Fire Station No. 3, 4251 Xylon Ave. N. in New Hope, on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or all three West Metro fire stations when crews are present through March 18.

For more information, visit wmfrd.org or call 763-230-7007.

Backyard Fire Rules



With the weather warming, the West Metro Fire-Rescue District reminds residents about local recreational fires rules. Please, also, use common courtesy while adhering to these following rules:

1. Use only aged, dry firewood. Do not burn yard waste, construction materials or household trash.
2. Use approved outdoor fireplaces or pits, at grade or below, no more than 3 ft. in diameter. Ring with brick, rock, or other non-combustible material. Purchased fire pits must be 3 ft. in diameter or smaller.
3. Fire pits shall be at least 25 ft. from any structure or combustible materials. Portable fire pits shall be 15 ft. from any structure or combustible materials.
5. Recreational fires are not allowed when winds exceed 7 miles per hour.
6. Fires shall be constantly attended by the property owner or designated adult until it is completely extinguished. A garden hose or other emergency extinguishment must be within 15 feet of the fire.
7. Recreational fires may be prohibited by action of the Minnesota DNR.
8. All recreational fires shall be extinguished no later than 11 p.m.
9. Property owners are liable for any or all damages from having a recreational fire.
10. Fires shall be immediately extinguished at the discretion of the fire official for not complying with city ordinances which may result in a citation.

For more information, contact the West Metro Fire-Rescue District at 763-230-7000.



SENIOR
COMMUNITY
SERVICES

Are you age 60 years or older and having difficulty maintaining your property?

The city is partnering with Senior Community Services to help with personal technology assistance, minor home repairs, home safety checks, and lawn care/snow removal. Fees are on a sliding scale based on income.

For more information, call 952-746-4046 or visit bit.ly/44yELKO.

Creating a Separate Lot

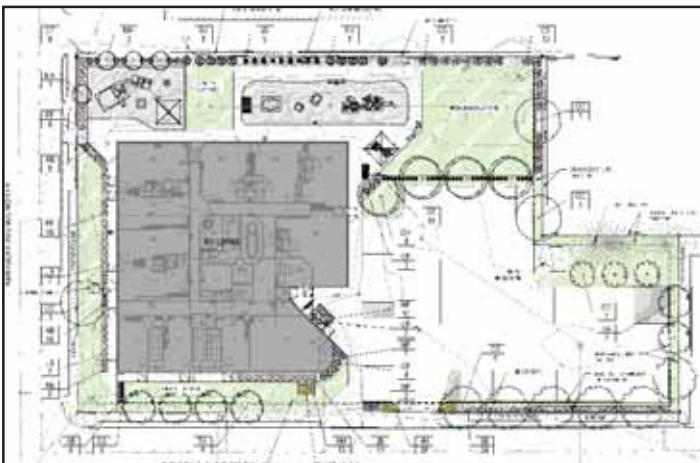
Several years ago, the city reduced its minimum lot width from 60 to 50 ft. and its minimum lot area from 7,500 to 6,000 sq. ft.

This means some properties are able to create a separate lot for new home construction.

If your lot is big enough and you are considering a separate lot, contact Dan Olson at 763-531-1142 or dan.olson@crystalmn.gov.



New Business and Development Update



New Horizon Academy: New Horizon will convert the office building 7000 57th Ave. N. into a child day care center. Opening is anticipated in fall 2024.



5240 Apts: Sand Companies is about midway through construction on a four-story 58-unit apartment building at 5240 West Broadway (next to Big Louie's). The units will range from 1BR-1BA to 4BR-2BA and will be affordable to households at or below 60% of metro area median income. Completion is anticipated in summer 2024. Sign up for future notifications from the developer at www.5240apts.com.

Wells Fargo has leased most of the former Half Price Books space at 5600 West Broadway and will move the branch later this year. The existing Wells Fargo property at 7000 56th is expected to be sold and likely redeveloped for a new use to be determined.

Blue Line Extension Update



Metro Transit and Hennepin County are planning to extend light rail transit (the Blue Line) from Minneapolis to Brooklyn Park. In Crystal, the line would run in the median of Bottineau Blvd. with a station at Bass Lake Road.

The environmental review is underway and the city council will vote on municipal consent in early fall 2024. Construction is anticipated in 2027-29.

For more information, visit go.crystalmn.gov/blueline.



Home Improvement Assistance



CITY of CRYSTAL

Home Improvement Grants

Home improvement Grants are funded by the Crystal Economic Development Authority and administered by the Center for Energy and Environment.

- The property must be **owner occupied**.
- Maximum household income:

Number of People in the Household	Maximum Household Income
1	\$78,300
2	\$99,400
3	\$111,800
4	\$124,200
5	\$134,200
6	\$144,100
7	\$154,100
8	\$164,000

- The eligible costs must total at least **\$4,000**.
- The grant is **20%*** of eligible costs. **40% for some sewer projects.*
- A property may not receive grants totaling more than **\$8,000** per year.
- The application must be submitted and approved **before** starting your project.
- The grant will be paid **after** the project is completed.

For more information, contact the Center for Energy and Environment at 612-335-5884 www.mncee.org/Crystal.

Deferred Loans

Deferred loans use federal funds and are administered by Hennepin County.

Deferred, no-interest home rehab loans to homeowners up to 80% of metro area median income:

Number of People in the Household	Maximum Household Income
1	\$66,300
2	\$75,750
3	\$85,200
4	\$94,650
5	\$102,250
6	\$109,800
7	\$117,400
8	\$124,950

- The loan term is 15 years and repayment is deferred while the recipient continues to own and occupy the property.
- If the recipient ceases to own and occupy the property at any time during the 15-year term, then the loan must be repaid in full.

For more information, contact Hennepin County housing rehabilitation at 612-543-4182 or rehab@hennepin.us.

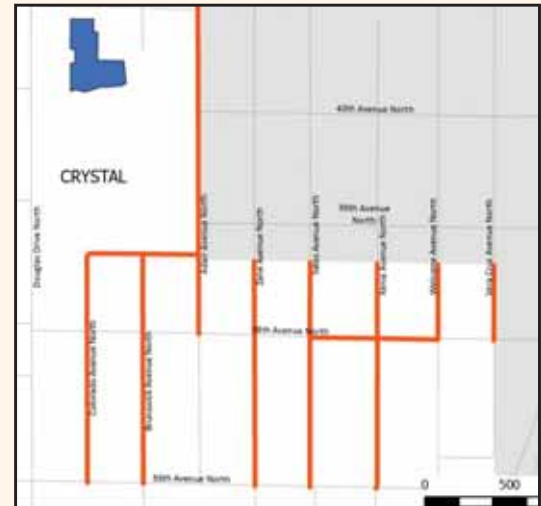
Street and Utility Projects in 2024

STREET MAINTENANCE

The City of Crystal will conduct a mill and overlay street project from May through September. For more information, visit go.crystalmn.gov/pwprojects, or email publicworks@crystalmn.gov.

The following streets are part of the projects:

- 38th Ave. N. from Yates Ave. N. and Welcome Ave. N.
- 39th Ave. N. from Colorado Ave. N. to Adair Ave. N.
- Colorado Ave. N. from 36th Ave. N. to 39th Ave. N.
- Brunswick Ave. N. from 36th Ave. N. to 39th Ave. N.
- Adair Ave. N. from 38th Ave. N. to 41st Ave. N.
- Zane Ave. N. from 36th Ave. N. to the Robbinsdale border south of 39th Ave. N.
- Yates Ave. N. from 36th Ave. N. to the Robbinsdale border south of 39th Ave. N.
- Xenia Ave. N. from 36th Ave. N. to the Robbinsdale border south of 39th Ave. N.
- Welcome Ave. N. from 36th Ave. N. to the Robbinsdale border south of 39th Ave. N.
- Vera Cruz Ave. N. from 38th Ave. N. to the Robbinsdale border south of 39th Ave. N.



UTILITY RECONSTRUCTION

Utility reconstruction will start this spring and include the replacement of sanitary sewer (including a portion of the connected services to the properties), water main (including the water services to the curb stops at each property), storm sewer as needed, and a new sidewalk along the east side of the roadway.

Once complete, the curb and gutter will be replaced and the streets paved.

The project is a joint operation with the City of New Hope.

In all, the 2024 Utility Project includes the following streets:

- Louisiana Ave. N. from Medicine Lake Rd. to 32nd Ave. N.
- 31st Ave. N. from Louisiana Ave. N. to the cul-de-sac (City of New Hope).

ARBOR DAY AND PARK CLEANUP Celebrating Trees in the Community



May 1 at 6 p.m. at Skyway Park

- Tree planting/park cleanup.
- Learn about trees and tree care.
- Refreshments and light snacks.
- Tree giveaway.
- Parks and Recreation Commission follows at 7 p.m.



Crystal Sewer and Water Rates in 2024

Adopting a more proactive approach with a focus on planning and coordination, the City of Crystal has a long-term plan for infrastructure including funding for all utility-related capital projects.

For a detailed description of each utility bill line item, frequently asked questions and other information, visit go.crystalmn.gov/rates or link using the QR code.



In general, the fixed water and sewer fee structure covers the cost of operating and maintaining the infrastructure associated with providing water (water meters, etc.) and sanitary sewer service. The consumption portion goes toward providing the actual water and treatment of waste water. The storm drainage fee is associated with storm water infrastructure throughout the city (catch basins, pipes, ponds, infiltration areas, etc.) as part of overall storm water management.

How does Crystal's utility bills compare to neighboring cities? Unfortunately, this is not a straight forward question. Cities use a number of funding methods to maintain, operate and replace infrastructure, including property taxes, utility (water, sanitary sewer, stormwater) fees, franchise fees, special assessments, State Aid Funds (gas tax) and bonding (loans).

RESIDENTIAL UTILITY RATES IN 2024		
	Tier	Charge
Water Meter Fee		\$9.24
Water Charge – Base Fee		\$18.07
Minnesota State Water Testing Fee		\$2.43
Water Consumption in 1,000-gallon units	Tier #1: 0 to 30 units	\$8.92 per unit
	Tier #2: 31 to 60 units	\$9.86 per unit
	Tier #3: over 61 units	\$10.33 per unit
Emergency Well Surcharge	All units	\$.21 per unit
Sanitary Sewer – Base Fee		\$15.32
Sanitary Sewer Consumption in 1,000-gallon units	Tier #1: 0 to 30 units	\$6.31 per unit
	Tier #2: 31 to 60 units	\$7.73 per unit
	Tier #3: over 61 units	\$9.15 per unit
Storm Drainage		\$22.15
Street Lights		\$5.72
Recycling		\$17.70

The city council desires transparency with how infrastructure projects are funded; therefore, the city only uses property taxes, utility fees and State Aid Funds for infrastructure maintenance and replacement, and not other funding sources used by many neighboring cities.

Learn more about utility rates, the city's long-term infrastructure replacement plan and related topics on the city's podcast available at go.crystalmn.gov/3DxyByX.



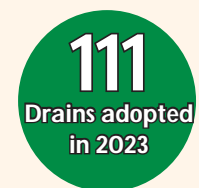
Adopt-a-Storm Drain in 2024

Residents who participate in the City of Crystal Adopt-a-Storm Drain program adopt a storm drain in their neighborhood and keep it clear of leaves, trash, and other debris to reduce pollution.

Storm drains flow directly to local lakes, rivers and wetlands, acting as a conduit for pollutants.

In 2023, 11 participants collected more than 165 lbs. of debris from storm drains in Crystal.

Learn more at go.crystalmn.gov/drains.



Crystal Bulky Waste Curbside Cleanup April 1 – 11

If it's time to get rid of unusable furniture, mattresses, carpet, appliances and more, the Hennepin Recycling Group (HRG) curbside bulky waste cleanup is April 1 – 11.

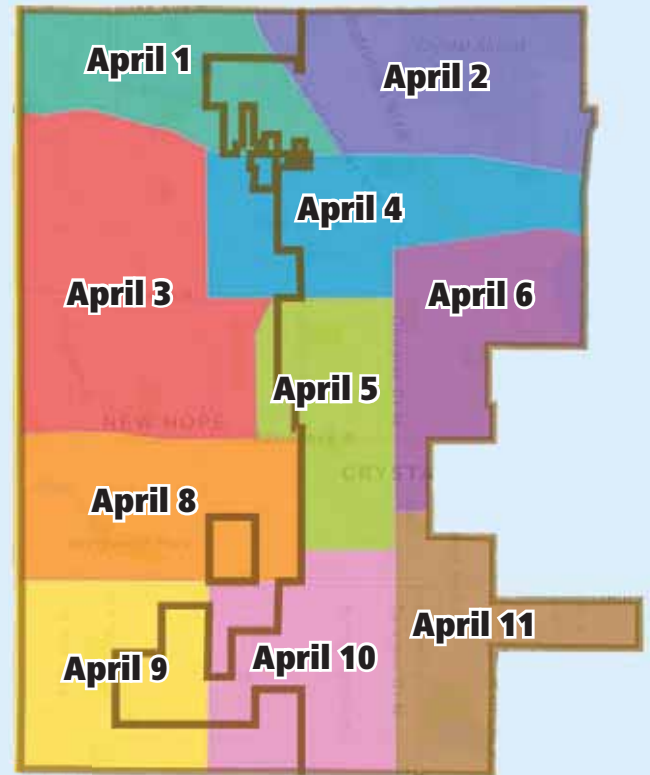
Crystal is divided into different zones, each with its own day of collection. **Find your date and get more information at bit.ly/HRGbulky.**

Place materials at the curb by 7 a.m. on your designated day. Reminder postcards are sent in March with collection dates and details regarding acceptable items. TVs, other electronics, tires, paint and chemicals are not accepted.

The cost of the bulky waste curbside cleanup program has more than doubled in the past five years. To reduce costs, the HRG set limits on the amount of material collected. Minor changes include:

- General junk and household building materials amount is limited to one level truck bed (generally 4 ft. x 8 ft. x 2 ft.).
- Unusable furniture: Limit two.
- Mattresses or box springs: Limit two.
- Appliances: Limit two.

Items exceeding limits will be left behind by the hauler. Residents will need to arrange and pay for separate disposal.



Maintaining Your Lawn

Lawns in Crystal cannot exceed 8 inches in height. If a lawn violation is reported, the city will check the property. If there is a violation, the city will post a 10-day written notice. If the lawn remains in violation after 10 days, the city will have its contractor cut the lawn and bill the property owner. Unpaid bills will be assessed against the property.



NO MOW MAY

"No Mow May" is the practice of minimizing lawn cutting during May

when dandelions, clover, etc. provide forage for pollinators early in the season before other flowering plants bloom. To accommodate Crystal residents practicing No Mow May, the city will delay long grass enforcement until June 1.

It is unlawful to throw, spill, or leave dirt, garbage, sweepings, compost, grass clippings, leaves, or brush in any street, alley, sidewalk, park or other public place in the city. When these items end up in the street or alley, they wash into our streams, wetlands and lakes and degrade water quality.

It is a violation of city code to allow your lawn to be worn down to dirt or mud which often occurs when vehicles are parked on or driven over lawns. Motor vehicles may not be parked or driven on grass or other landscape

material. If your lawn has been worn down, take steps to restore it.

REFUSE/LITTER

Keep properties free of litter. In addition to household garbage, appliances, furniture and miscellaneous junk, litter also refers to motor vehicles, trailers, recreational vehicles and equipment that are inoperable, unlicensed, partially dismantled or abandoned.

Household garbage must be stored in an approved garbage container and collected by a licensed hauler. Other litter must be stored in a building such as a garage or storage shed. Do your part to be a good neighbor.

For code enforcement questions, contact the code enforcement inspector at 763-531-1144 or efrayn.franquiz@crystalmn.gov.



Spring cleaning may leave you with a pile of stuff to get rid of. Here's your chance to recycle those items that can be recycled, but can't go in your recycling cart.

Drop off your mattresses, electronics, appliances, tires, scrap metal, bikes, batteries and more at Brooklyn Park's Operations & Maintenance facility, 8300 Noble Ave. N. on Saturday, April 27 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fees may be charged for some items. There will also be free paper shredding.

The Special Materials Drop-Off Day is open to residents of Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, Crystal and New Hope. For more information including a complete list of what is accepted visit hrg-recycling.com or call 763-493-8006.



Resilient Yards Workshops

The City of Crystal sponsors Blue Thumb workshops offering ways to make your landscape more resilient to excessive heat, drought, flooding rains and other weather-related challenges.

For more information and to register, check the Blue Thumb website at bluethumb.org/events, or call Metro Blooms at 651-699-2426.



Residents can dispose of leaves, brush and other yard waste for free at the Maple Grove Yardwaste Site beginning Monday, April 1. The site is located at 10300 Maple Grove Pkwy. in Maple Grove.

YARDWASTE SITE SCHEDULE:

Monday – Saturday: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Sunday: noon – 7 p.m.

Closed Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day and Thanksgiving.

For information, call 763-420-4886 or visit mgyardwaste.com.

Buy Compost Bin or Rain Barrel at Reduced Price

Help yourself, your wallet and the planet by purchasing a rain barrel and/or a compost bin at a reduced price through the Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM).



Starting in March, you can pre-order a bin or barrel on the RAM website at bit.ly/2MTVENp.

Crystal residents get a \$20 discount and may choose to pick up their order at the Brooklyn Park Operations & Maintenance Facility on Saturday, May 4. Use the discount code HRG20OFF when ordering.

Food scraps such as fruit and vegetable peels, stale bread, wilted lettuce, coffee grounds and egg shells, as well as weeds, faded flowers and vines are among things that go into compost instead of garbage. Compost can be used as yard mulch and plant food. Keeping organic waste out of the garbage reduces trash volume. Residents could switch to a smaller garbage cart and save money.

Capture rain in a rain barrel and have a free source of water for the garden. In addition to saving money, rain barrels keep moisture away from a home's foundation and prevent debris from washing into the city's storm sewers.

CITY CALENDAR

Learn more at go.crystalmn.gov/cityevents

MARCH 14

Community Iftar Dinner

5:45 – 7:45 p.m.
Crystal Community Center
4800 Douglas Dr. N.



MARCH 16

West Metro Food Drive

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
4251 Xylon Ave. N., New Hope



APRIL 1

Yard Waste Site Opens

8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
10300 Maple Grove Blvd.
Maple Grove



APRIL 27

Crystal Police Department Open House

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
4141 Douglas Dr. N.



APRIL 27

Special Materials Drop-off

8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
8300 Noble Ave. N.
Brooklyn Park



MAY 1

Arbor Day/Park Cleanup

6 – 7 p.m.
Skyway Park



MAY 18

Crystal Fund Plant Sale

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Becker Park



MAY 30 – JUNE 1

City-wide Garage Sale

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Register your sale by May 21
Crystal Recreation Department



JUNE 11 – SEPT. 24

Farmer's Market

Tuesdays, 3 – 7 p.m.
Becker Park

