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City of Inver Grove Heights

Insights

Important Information for Residents

Get rid of your unwanted items...

Fall Clean-Up Day: Sept. 19 at the IGH Public Works Facility

Each year the City of Inver Grove Heights provides residents the opportunity to get rid of unwanted items for a minimal fee. The annual Clean-Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

There will be no household hazardous waste (HHW) disposal at this year's event. For HHW disposal, visit the Recycling Zone at 3365 South Highway 149, located in Eagan. Call 651-905-4520 for specific hours of operation.

Household Appliances

\$5 per unit plus a \$5 surcharge on air conditioners and water softeners. Commercial and RV appliances are extra.

Document Shredding

Secure document shredding will be offered FREE of charge. Suggested items to shred include credit card offers, receipts, check stubs, old bills, banking and loan information, medical records, and tax records. PLEASE REMEMBER TO PREPARE YOUR ITEMS FOR SHREDDING BY REMOVING ALL 3-ring binders, binder clips, or metal tabs on file folders.

Electronics

- Computers, \$5
- Computer monitors, \$15-\$25
- Keyboards, mice, etc., FREE
- Printers, \$5
- TVs (depending on size), \$10 - \$45

- DVD and VCR players, \$5
- Fax machines \$10
- Cell phones, FREE

Tires

- Lawn and garden, \$2
- Car, \$5
- Light truck, \$7
- Truck, \$10
- With rim, add \$2 per tire

Construction and Household Items

- Carpet, \$2 per square yard (dry)
- Furniture, \$3 per item
- Mattresses, \$15 each (includes box spring)
- Bicycles, \$3
- LP tank, \$5 (small), \$10 (large)
- Construction debris, \$6 per cubic yard
- Scrap metal, \$1.00 per item
- Lead acid battery, \$5
- Cell phone battery, \$1
- Laptop battery, \$2
- All lightbulbs, \$1

Additional Notes

- Cash or checks only. Please bring small bills.
- A proof of residency, such as a driver's license, is required.
- The clean-up is held at the Inver Grove Heights Public Works Maintenance Facility, located behind City Hall. For additional information, please email Allan Hunting at ahunting@invergroveheights.org or call (651) 450-2554.



Welcome Our New City Clerk

Michelle Tesser was hired for the City Clerk position in July. Michelle has a Master's degree from Hamline University in Public Administration and has served on several professional Boards. She came to us from the City of Landfall, where she was the City Clerk, Treasurer and HRA secretary. Her prior experience includes 5 years as the assistant to the city administrator for the City of Falcon Heights, and internships with the cities of Hugo and Northfield.

City Code: Outdoor Storage

Please be mindful that firewood and woodpiles can only be stored in a back or side yard (behind the front line of the home) and must be set-back 5 feet from neighboring properties. A wood pile cannot exceed a height of 6 feet.

Also, as you prepare your home and yard for the winter ahead, please remember that all outdoor storage must be contained to a back or side yard (behind the front line of the home) and must be screened by a solid fence at least 6 feet in height. Storage cannot include junk vehicles or refuse.



Congratulations to new Fire Fighters! Presented to City Council during the July 27 Council Meeting. Pictured with Fire Chief Judy Thill (far right), from left to right: Joshua Kedrowski, Christopher Anderson, Nelson Skoglund, Timothy Beres, Anthony Mickelson. Back row: Council Members Tom Bartholomew, Paul Hark, Mayor George Tourville, Council Members Jim Mueller and Rosemary Piekarski Krech.



Congratulations to new Police Officers! Presented to City Council during the July 27 Council Meeting. Pictured with Police Chief Larry Stanger, from left to right: Katie Wagoner, Ben Bidon, Ryan Rose. Back row: Council Members Tom Bartholomew, Paul Hark, Mayor George Tourville, Council Members Jim Mueller and Rosemary Piekarski Krech.

Winter Parking Rules Go Into Effect on November 1

Effective 3 a.m. on November 1, 2015, and continuing through 6 a.m. April 1, 2016, vehicles are prohibited from parking on any street and/or highway, within the city limits of Inver Grove Heights, between the hours of 3 a.m. and 6 a.m. (City Ordinance - Title 6, Chapter 3, Section 6).

Any vehicle found in violation of City Ordinance 6-3-6, will be cited and/or towed to the impound lot. If you have questions, contact the Inver Grove Heights Police Department from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday at (651) 450-2525.

Mulching Mowers, Composting Can Lighten Your Fall Workload

FYI

If you listen carefully, you will soon hear the first golden aspen and crimson maple leaves rustle in the wind and fall to the ground. Not long after, you'll find your entire yard covered in a mosaic of colorful leaves and wonder where the summer went.

As beautiful as the fall leaves are, they can mean lots of yard work for homeowners, but there are ways to cut back on that workload.

A great way to reduce your workload is to **use a mulching lawn mower blade** to mulch leaves into the lawn.

It is much easier than raking and the shredded leaves act as a natural fertilizer and protective mulch. Any excess mulch can be picked up and put it on your flower or vegetable gardens, or around your shrubs and trees. It will make a nutrient-rich, long-lasting, organic fertilizer.

Leaves should be raked or blown **out of the street and away from storm drains**. Leaves clog storm sewers, contributing to localized flooding.

When washed into nearby lakes, rivers and streams via storm drains, the leaves become a major source of phosphorus. Phosphorus causes algae blooms, which turn the water green and suffocates fish



Composting is easy, and the finished compost can be used as a safe, organic fertilizer.

by using up the oxygen.

The best and easiest way to dispose of raked leaves is by composting them in your yard. **Composting** is easy to do, and the finished compost can be used a safe organic fertilizer for your lawn, gardens, and trees. You won't see any signs posted in yards treated with compost warning children and pets to stay off the lawn.

If you don't compost, bring the leaves to a compost facility. Two local ones are:

Gertens: 5500 Blaine Ave., Inver Grove Heights, (651) 450-1501 (call before dropping off).

South St. Paul Compost Site: 681 Verderosa Ave., South St. Paul, (651) 554-3204.

ISD 199 School Board Elections

The Inver Grove Heights Community Schools, ISD 199, will be holding a school board election on Nov. 3. There will be four school board member seats up for election on the ballot.

Polling places will open at 7 a.m. on Nov. 3 and will close at 8 p.m. There will be two polling places. Those living in Inver Grove Heights precincts 1, 5, 8, 9 and 10 will vote at Emanuel Lutheran

Church, 2075 70th Street East.

Those living in Inver Grove Heights precincts 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 will vote at Good Shepherd Church, 7600 Cahill Avenue.

Visit www.isd199.org for more information as well as the final list of candidates and dates for candidate forums.

Insights Online!

In an effort to reduce paper waste and mailing costs, Inver Grove Heights has begun offering the Insights newsletter on the website. You can find it at www.invergroveheights.org.

Bow-Hunting Ordinance is Amended

The bow-hunting ordinance has been amended slightly to include instructions for those who wish to hunt on someone else's property within Inver Grove Heights. In addition, the map for allowable bow hunting has been altered to accommodate for new and existing housing and commercial development, where previously there was none. Please visit our website for complete and up-to-date information regarding the Bow Hunting ordinance, at www.invergroveheights.org.

Did You Know? More Plastics Than Ever Before Can Be Recycled

Make a Difference. Volunteer!

The City is excited to offer a variety of volunteer opportunities that support our dynamic Inver Grove Heights community. We may have just the right fit for you! Please visit our website at www.invergroveheights.org to find out more!

Hydrant Flushing

Don't forget we'll be flushing city hydrants in the fall. Visit our website at www.invergroveheights.org for more information about Public Works.

We create a lot of trash. The Twin Cities Metropolitan area generates enough trash to fill the former Metrodome 11 times each year. Reducing the amount of trash we produce and recycling all the items that we can are important ways we can help care for the place that we live.

Recycling haulers collect more types of plastic than in the past, so contact your recycling hauler for a detailed list on which types are accepted in your curbside recycling container.

Recyclable Plastics

Place the following plastics in your curbside recycling container or bring them to The Recycling Zone.

- Plastic bottles and jugs
- Yogurt, pudding and fruit cups
- Margarine, cottage cheese and other plastic tubs
- Produce, deli and take-out containers
- Dishwashing liquid bottles and detergent jugs
- Ketchup and salad dressing bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Shampoo, soap and lotion bottles
- Water, soda and juice bottles

Recycling Preparation Tips

- Give it a quick rinse.
- It's O.K. to leave labels and lids on.
- Do not place recyclables in plastic bags.

Plastic Bags

Call your recycling service provider and check if they accept plastic bags for recycling, or bring plastic bags to The Recycling Zone. Or, participate in the It's in the Bag™ program to recycle plastic bags at local grocery stores and retailers.

Landscaping Plastics

The following haulers accept black plastic garden pots with curbside recycling:

- Nitti Sanitation
- Highland Sanitation
- GarbageMan of Burnsville
- Waste Management
- Dick's Sanitation/Lakeville Sanitary
- Aspen Waste Systems

Clean the pots of dirt before putting them with your recycling. The Minnesota Nursery and Landscaping Association has more information about plastic pot recycling in the Twin Cities.

Items Not Accepted

- Styrofoam
- Microwavable food trays
- Non-recyclable plastics, such as toys and containers that held automotive and yard products, should be placed in the garbage. Call your recycling service provider for a complete list of non-recyclable plastics.

For more information regarding recycling in Dakota County, visit their website at www.co.dakota.mn.us.

Street Sweeping Serves Important Purposes

Streets, highways and parking lots accumulate pollutants such as sediment, debris, trash and road salt, which can be minimized by sweeping streets.

Street sweeping also improves the aesthetics of municipal roadways, helps to control dust and decrease the accumulation of pollutants in storm water catch basins, rain gardens, sediment basins, ponds and rivers.

Streets are swept at least twice a year with spring sweeping normally in April and May and fall sweeping in October and November.

Summer sweeping is performed, as the work schedule allows, on many streets throughout the community. Sweeping also takes place before and after seal coating operations to prepare for seal coat, pick up loose rock

after the seal coat is applied and to prepare the streets for the application of traffic paint.

Sweeping streets in the fall removes leaves that fall on the pavement and helps to minimize what enters the storm drain. Raking leaves into the gutter is a violation of City Code. Proper disposal of yard waste, including fallen leaves, is the responsibility of the property owner.

Celebrating 50 Years of Inver Grove Heights History: The First City Council



City of Inver Grove Heights is celebrating its 50-year anniversary in 2015. Here is the first City Council, 1965 to 1967. Left to right: Council Member Gunnar Kronholm, Council Member E. Leland Lindberg, Council Member Robert Anderson, Mayor Vance Grannis, Jr., Council Member Robert Morgan, City Clerk Ed Kurth, and Council Member Emil Jandric. Not pictured, Council Member Robert Beard.

Attend the Women's Expo and Arts & Crafts Fair

Enjoy two free fun events all at the same time! The Women's Expo and the Arts & Crafts Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 10 and will include exhibits, demonstrations, speakers, handmade gifts, jewelry, quilts, candles, and much more! For more information about being a vendor at the event or general questions, visit www.funatthegrove.com.

Fall Preschool Sports

Have a little one who needs to burn off some energy?! We have a variety of preschool sports offerings this fall: Register at www.funatthegrove.com.

- Mini Soccer Shots: Ages 2-3; starts Sept. 8 or 12
- Mini-Spikers Volleyball Camp: Ages 4-6; starts Sept. 14
- Pre-Soccer: Ages 4-6; starts Sept. 14 or 19
- Pee-Wee Flag Football: Ages 4-6; starts Sept. 19
- Preschool Basketball: Ages 4-6; starts Oct. 19
- Floor Hockey and Lacrosse: Ages 4-6; starts Oct. 19

Boo! Join us for Family Halloween Fun

Join the Parks and Recreation Department for Halloween family fun! We have our annual Boo Bash and Trick-or-Treating on Friday, October 30, our Black Light Dodgeball Party on November 13, and our Halloween House Decorating Contest the week of October 26. For more information and to register, visit www.funatthegrove.com.

Hoedown in the Valley

The animals are coming out to play at South Valley Park! Come in your best farm clothes to enjoy a fun barnyard-themed evening with family and friends. Kids ages 2 to 8 are invited to participate in themed games, crafts, and a petting zoo! Thursday, September 17 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; fee is \$9 per child. Register at www.funatthegrove.com.

Free Touch-A-Truck Event

Beep, beep! Touch-a-Truck is pulling into Inver Grove Heights! It's a day for kids to climb inside, touch and explore the trucks you

see every day (plus other cool vehicles). There will be a variety of vehicles on hand so parents get your cameras ready for some great photo opportunities! Join us for a fun and exciting day on Saturday, September 19 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Community Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Non-School-Day Fun!

We'll keep your kids entertained and active all day with all the amenities VMCC has to offer including the water park, ice skating, group games, crafts, crazy projects, field trips, and featured activities. Snacks are provided each day; participants will need to bring a bag lunch. More info will be emailed to participants one week prior to each activity day. Register by Wednesday, October 7. Register at www.funatthegrove.com.

- Wednesday, October 14: Dodgeball Mania
- Thursday, October 15: Bowling at Drkula's

Insights

Important Information for Residents

This newsletter is published bi-monthly and is mailed, one copy per residence, to all residential and postal customers in the City of Inver Grove Heights.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you have any comments, give us a call at (651) 450-2500.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- George Tourville, Mayor (651) 450-2507
- Tom Bartholomew (651) 450-2505
- Rosemary Piekarski Krech (651) 450-2504
- Paul Hark (651) 450-2503
- Jim Mueller (651) 450-2506

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- Joe Lynch (651) 450-2511

ON THE WEB

www.invergroveheights.org

E-MAIL

cityhall@invergroveheights.org



September/October 2015

City Council

- Monday, Sept. 7 Closed in observance of Labor Day
- Tuesday, Sept. 8 Study session, 6 p.m., City Hall
- Monday, Sept. 14 Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Monday, Sept. 28 Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Monday, Oct. 5 Study session, 6 p.m., City Hall
- Monday, Oct. 12 Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Monday, Oct. 26 Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall

City Commissions

- Tuesday, Sept. 1 Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Tuesday, Sept. 15 Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Tuesday, Oct. 6 Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Tuesday, Oct. 20 Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Tuesday, Sept. 8 Housing Committee meeting, 5 p.m., City Hall
- Wednesday, Sept. 9 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Wednesday, Oct. 14 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Thursday, Sept. 24 Environmental Commission meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Thursday, Oct. 22 Environmental Commission meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall

Other

- Thursday, Sept. 24 Convention/Visitors Bureau Meeting, 9:30 a.m., River Heights Chamber of Commerce
- Thursday, Oct. 22 Convention/Visitors Bureau Meeting, 9:30 a.m., River Heights Chamber of Commerce