

August  
2019

# In the Pipeline



A monthly news brief from the city of New Hope, Minnesota • [newhopemn.gov](http://newhopemn.gov)

## Participate in National Night Out

National Night Out, New Hope's Night to Unite is Tuesday, Aug. 6, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The annual event is a great opportunity to spend time outside with your neighbors and get to know each other better. It's also a good way to strengthen your neighborhood's commitment to work together, and with New Hope PD, to help prevent crime and keep your neighborhood safe.

With about 90 National Night Out block parties planned in New Hope, there is almost certainly going to be a gathering planned in your neighborhood. Be sure to turn on your outdoor lights and send criminals a clear message that your neighborhood is organized and that you will fight back against crime.

If you are uncertain where a National Night Out event is planned in your area, contact Officer Nichole Korth at 763.531.5140 or [nknorth@newhopemn.gov](mailto:nknorth@newhopemn.gov)

## Paying Utility Bills

With the new city hall in place, but construction remaining around the building, the places to drop off utility bills is currently in flux.

Residents best bet is to pay their utility bills online. There is no added fee for paying online, and it makes it easy to pay in just a couple clicks. You can register to pay online today at [newhopemn.gov/utilitybill](http://newhopemn.gov/utilitybill).

If you want to drop off payment in person, you can still do so at New Hope Public Works (5500 International Parkway). You can also drop payment off at the front desk of New Hope City Hall during business hours, however it will be a few weeks before the city hall outside drop-off box is open.

## New City Hall is Open for Business

After years of work, New Hope's vision of a new city hall and police station came to reality at the end of June as the city moved into the new 66,000 square foot facility.

As of now, business as usual, is being conducted at the new facility. However, residents and businesses should be aware that much construction work continues around the building.

Those visiting the city hall/police station over the next few weeks should park on the gravel lot on the north side of the building (toward the old city hall) and then follow the path outlined by orange fencing leading to the police station entrance. Once inside, visitors can access city hall to the left of the police department. Signs are in place to assist with directions.

The city continues to appreciate the patience of residents and businesses as this move is completed. Stay tuned to [newhopemn.gov](http://newhopemn.gov) and the New Hope Facebook page (@newhopeminnesota) for the latest updates.



## New Hope Safety Camp

New Hope Safety Camp is three-days of fun coming Aug. 13-15 at West Metro Fire-Rescue Station No. 3. The event is filled with great safety learning for youth entering grades 3 to 5. Topics this year will include fire safety, water safety, personal safety, animal safety, internet safety, sports safety, electrical safety, first aid and many others. Safety Camp is sponsored by the New Hope Parks and Recreation and Police departments, and West Metro Fire, with the support of many community sponsors. For more information or to register, call 763.531.5151.

## City Services Survey

New Hope's annual survey asks residents what they think about core municipal services including police, fire, streets, water, sanitary sewer, parks and recreation, communications and code enforcement. The New Hope City Council and city staff value residents' opinions about these core services.

The 2019 City Services Survey is available through Sept. 30 at [newhopemn.gov/survey](http://newhopemn.gov/survey). A paper copy was also mailed with the utility bill residents received at the beginning of June.

## August/September

**City Council regular meetings:** August 16 & 26, September 9 & 23 – 7 p.m.

**City Council work sessions:** August 19, September 16 – 6:30 p.m.

**Citizen Advisory Commission meetings:** August 13, September 10 – 7 p.m.

**Human Rights Commission meeting:** August 5, September 3 – 7 p.m.

**Planning Commission meetings:** August 7, September 3 – 7 p.m.

**Events:** Labor Day, September 2 – city offices closed

*All activities are at City Hall, 4401 Xylon Ave. N., unless otherwise indicated. Agendas and minutes for council and commission meetings are available on the city's website. Schedule is subject to change. Call 763.531.5100 for more information.*

## Road Improvements

New Hope city and engineering staff rate approximately one-third of all New Hope streets each year. This rating data is incorporated into annual budgets and project forecasting parameters to create a street infrastructure management plan.

Here's some of the latest information on this summer's road projects.

Winpark Drive Reconstruction – All utility work on this project is now complete. The contractor will work over the next few weeks to finish the roadway installation, including curb and gutter, driveways, and pavement.

2019 Seal Coat and Fog Seal – A contract for this project was awarded in June to Pearson Brothers. The contractor anticipates beginning work on the crack fill in late July, and beginning the seal coat and fog seal process in August.

## New Pool on Schedule

Now that New Hope has moved into the new city hall and police station, attention has now turned to taking down the old building to make way for more of the new pool construction.

The old city hall was turned over to the contractor on July 1, with building demolition planned for August.

Some of the other latest pool and park construction notes include:

- The form for the new 50-meter pool is now in place.
- Plumbing in the bathhouse is now complete.
- Excavation of the new skate park is now underway.
- Footings for the new theater are currently being installed.

The pool remains on schedule to open in summer 2020.

## Safety Tip of the Month

### Hands-Free Law Now in Effect

The new law allows a driver to use their cell phone to make calls, text, listen to music or podcasts and get directions, but only by voice commands or single-touch activation without holding the phone.

Here's a few things to know from the Office of Traffic Safety:

### What can't I do with my phone under the new law?

You may not hold your phone in your hand. Also, a driver may not use their phone at any time for video calling, video live-streaming, social media, gaming, looking at video or photos stored on the phone, using non-navigation apps, reading texts and scrolling or typing on the phone.

### Can I ever hold my phone?

Yes. Hand-held phone use is allowed to obtain emergency assistance, if there is an immediate threat to life and safety, or when in an authorized emergency vehicle

### Can I use a GPS navigation device?

Yes. GPS and other systems that can only be used for navigation are exempt from the Hands-Free law. In-car screens and systems are also exempt. In both cases, most of these systems lock when the vehicle is moving.

### Does the new hands-free law address smart watches?

Drivers can use them as a conventional watch to check time, but smart watches are considered an electronic communications device under the hands-free law. That means the device has the same restrictions as a cell phone. Drivers can use a smart watch the same way they use a cell phone as long as it's by one-touch or voice activation. Drivers can't type, text or do the other things.

### Are there penalties?

Yes. The first ticket is \$50 plus court fees and the second and later tickets are \$275 plus court fees.

Learn more: [handsfreemn.org](http://handsfreemn.org)

## Recreation Corner

### Wet and Wild Water Day

The cities of New Hope, Crystal and Robbinsdale, along with the West Metro Fire-Rescue District, have joined together to offer a splish-splashing fun time at Wet and Wild Water Fun Day. The event takes place Friday, Aug. 2 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Lions Valley Place Park (68222 32nd Ave. N, Crystal). The day will include three giant water slides, sloping down the large hill at the park, a kiddie slide, and sprinkler fun provided by West Metro's aerial truck. Note: This event will be cancelled if raining and will not be rescheduled. Cost is \$3 per person by Aug. 1, or \$5 at the event. Free for ages 2 and under.

### Revolutionary flag football for kids ages 4 to 8

This program will focus on individual player development as participants learn the skills and rules of football. They will also play very low key games. Each day will focus on a topic that builds on the previous lessons. No special equipment needed. This is coordinated by John Richardson and run by Revolutionary Sports staff. Participation will take place on Sundays, Aug. 11 - Sept. 15 at Robbinsdale Middle School turf, 3730 Toledo Ave. N, Robbinsdale. Ages 4-6 with a parent will play from 2:45-3:30 p.m., ages 5-7 play from 3:30-4:15, and ages 6-9 play from 4:15-5:15 p.m. Cost for residents of New Hope, Crystal, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale and St. Louis Park will be \$55. Cost for nonresidents is \$62.

### Instructional Soccer Programs

These instructional soccer programs are designed for player development, taking place at Hidden Valley Park (8800 32nd Ave.). Each day will focus on a topic building on the previous topic, including dribbling, shooting, defending, passing and more. Each day ends with a game. These classes are suitable for new and existing players. These programs are coordinated by John Richardson and run by Revolutionary Sports staff. Courses run Tuesdays, Sept. 15 - Oct. 15. Ages 4-6 play from 5-5:45 p.m. and ages 6-9 play from 5:45-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$55 for residents, and \$62 for nonresidents.

For more information about these programs or to register, call the recreation office at 763.531.5151 or go to [newhopemn.gov/rec](http://newhopemn.gov/rec).