

# TONKA BAY LINK

SPRING 2020



## COVID-19

### Governor Walz Issues Stay at Home Order for Minnesotans

To slow the spread of COVID-19 across the state, Governor Tim Walz signed Executive Order 20-20 directing Minnesotans to stay at home and limit movements outside of their home beyond essential needs. This order takes effect at 11:59pm on Friday, March 27 and ends at 5:00pm on Friday, April 10. More information can be found here online: <https://mn.gov/governor/covid-19/>.

### Council Declares State of Emergency

In response to COVID-19, the City Council approved Resolution 20-20 and declared a State of Emergency at the 3-25-20 teleconferenced Special Council Meeting.

City Hall will be closed to the public and City Staff will be working remotely. Phone calls will be forwarded to City Staff and emails will be answered. All City forms can be found online if needed. City Staff hope to reconvene again in April and will keep residents informed when and if that happens.

City officials will communicate any significant City-related status updates as they happen on the City of Tonka Bay website. You can also sign up for email subscriptions on [cityoftonkabay.net](http://cityoftonkabay.net) and click E-mail Subscription Service under the Resident drop down menu. Please stay healthy.

### Important Recycling & Waste Updates

- Republic Services is working hard to keep essential services normal during COVID-19 (expecting 30% uptick in residential recycling with more people at home) and thus temporarily changing some services:
- Accept cart contents only. Drivers will not be authorized to leave their vehicle to pick up waste outside of the cart.
  - For customers who do not have carted service, accept waste placed in bags only. Bags cannot exceed 50 pounds.
  - Yard waste and bulk waste programs will be suspended.

### Information Hotline for COVID-19

The Minnesota Department of Health has a hotline for questions the general public has about COVID-19, Monday–Friday, 7 a.m.–7 p.m. at 651-201-3920. In the meantime, you can help protect yourself and others in the community by:

- Washing your hands thoroughly and often | Covering your coughs and sneezes
- Not touching your face | Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces you touch daily
- Practicing social distancing | Staying at home if you are sick
- Working from home if possible

### Census 2020

About \$15.5 billion of yearly funding is at stake for Minnesota. Take the census today to help guide funding. Everyone counts. [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov) or 844-330-2020.

### Summer Positions

The City of Tonka Bay is looking for an Administrative Summer Intern and also a Public Works Maintenance Worker beginning in May until August/September. For more information and an application, please visit [cityoftonkabay.net](http://cityoftonkabay.net).

### Dog Park

The dog park is back for year two, hooray! We hope to see you and your dog there this summer at the Manitou Park ice rink. Please remember to clean up after your dog and have a great time.

### Banner Program

You're invited to be a dog park banner supporter! The banners will be displayed May–September at the dog park. If you are interested in more information such as cost and banner dimensions, please reach out to [omaher@cityoftonkabay.net](mailto:omaher@cityoftonkabay.net).

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## Public Works Reminders

### Upcoming Projects

This spring, keep an eye out for Public Works and drive safely for your sake and theirs! They will be working on the following projects and many more:

1. City-wide street sweeping (will be posted to website and sent to email subscribers)
2. Putting out tennis and volleyball court nets in April, weather permitting
3. Flushing hydrants
4. Patching water main breaks and potholes
5. Conducting annual controlled burn of Old Orchard Shoreline

### Stormwater—What is it?

Stormwater runoff is generated from rain and snowmelt that flows over land or impervious surfaces, such as paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops, and does not soak into the ground. The runoff picks up pollutants like trash, chemicals, oils, and dirt/sediment that can harm our rivers, streams, lakes, and coastal waters.

### 10 Ways to Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution from the Environmental Protection Agency

1. Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters
2. Never dump anything down storm drains or in streams
3. Vegetate bare spots in your yard
4. Compost your yard waste
5. Use less toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems
6. Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff
7. Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway
8. Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil
9. Pick up after your pet
10. Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly

For more information, visit [www.epa.gov/nps](http://www.epa.gov/nps).

### Trees Along City Streets

Management of trees along city streets is shared between property owners and City personnel. Property owners should be aware that trees and shrubs encroaching public streets need to be maintained for traffic and pedestrian safety. Deadwood above these areas or other branches with potential for failure or large enough to pose a public safety threat must be removed. The best time to trim trees and shrubs would be early spring before leaves are present or late fall for most trees and shrubs.

### Tree Sale

Want to go out on a limb this summer? Purchase a discounted tree with Tonka Bay. Trees are less than \$100 per tree including shipping. Email [info@cityoftonkabay.net](mailto:info@cityoftonkabay.net) for the order form.

### Fire Permits

Do you have your required Recreational Fire Permit for 2020? Download an application at [cityoftonkabay.net](http://cityoftonkabay.net) and email to [info@cityoftonkabay.net](mailto:info@cityoftonkabay.net).

### Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald ash borer (EAB) has been discovered in neighboring communities and is an important issue to be aware of.

Follow these tips to combat the spread of EAB:

- Remove ash trees smaller than 10-inches in diameter and those with poor structure or decaying wounds.
- Gradually replace removed trees with diverse species.
- Inspect healthy, structurally sound large ash trees to protect them over time.

Contact Public Works if your ash trees show any of the following symptoms; increase in woodpecker activity, blonde-colored patches on the bark, or dying leaves in the upper third of the tree's crown.



Emerald Ash Borers are smaller than the size of a penny.

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## Utility Rate Increase in 2020

Please note that you will see an increase in utility rates in 2020 as approved by the City Council. The fees are below.

### Water

MN Water Testing Fee	\$2.43
Residential & Commercial Standard Flat Rate	\$57.00
<b>Usage Rate (Per 1,000 Gallons)</b>	
0-15,999 gallons	\$5.50
16,000-30,999	\$6.00
31,000-45,999	\$6.50
More than 46,000	\$7.00

### Sewer

Residential & Commercial Standard Flat Rate	\$137.50
<b>Residential Usage Rate (Per 1,000 Gallons)</b>	
0-9,999 gallons	\$0.50
10,000-30,999 gallons	\$1.25
31,000-45,999 gallons	\$2.00
46,000+ gallons	\$2.75
<b>Commercial Usage Rate (Per 1,000 Gallons)</b>	
0-9,999 gallons	\$0.50
10,000+ gallons	\$5.00

### Garbage/ Recycling

Garbage rate if not participating in recycling	\$77.18
Garbage rate if participating in recycling	\$37.20
Sr. citizen garbage rate if recycling	\$34.75
Recycling rate	\$36.50

## Utility Reminder

**Tenant moving? Sold your home?** Call with your moving information and arrangements can be made for a prorated utility bill.

## Online Utility Payments

### **Receiving late fees? Never want to write another check?**

We have the program for you. For \$4 a year, never think about utility payments again with autopay online.

How does it work? There are three ways to pay:

1. Visit [www.CityofTonkaBay.net](http://www.CityofTonkaBay.net) and click Utility Payments
2. Download PSN payments from App Store™ or Google Play™
3. Call 877-885-7968 (toll free)

Once you create an online account, automatic payments can be set up and bills can be printed. You can also call 1-877-885-7968 to pay bills and hear balance due.

The convenience of online bill pay is fabulous. It may also save you money if you're already paying for a stamp, envelope and time to mail or drop it off or if you're paying late fees (why not try auto pay?). Payment convenience fees are \$1.00 for checks/savings, 2.75% for cards (+.50 cents if under \$100).



City of Tonka Bay  
4901 Manitou Road  
Tonka Bay, MN 55331

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City Council meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month and begin at 7pm. Prefer to watch a meeting after the fact? You can find the meeting videos on the city website at [cityoftonkabay.net](http://cityoftonkabay.net). Agendas and Council packets can also be found on the website the Thursday before every meeting. Sign up to receive e-mails with links to the Council packet by going to [cityoftonkabay.net](http://cityoftonkabay.net) and clicking "E-mail Subscription Service" under the "Resident" drop down menu.

For future City Council meeting dates, please check online. Additional information related to any meetings that may be televised due to COVID-19 will be posted at [cityoftonkabay.net](http://cityoftonkabay.net).

Want to keep up to date? You can also find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/CityofTonkaBay/](https://facebook.com/CityofTonkaBay/).

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## Frequently Called Numbers

CenterPoint Energy Service	612.372.4720
CenturyLink	1.800.244.1111
City Assessor (Rolf Erickson)	763.473.3978
Excelsior Fire District (non-emergency)	952.960.1650
Gopher One—Call Before you Dig	811
Lake Minnetonka Conservation District	952.745.0789
Mediacom Cable TV Service	1.800.332-0245
Metro West Inspections	763.479.1720
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District	952.471.0590
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	651.296.6157
Minnetonka School District	952.401.5000
Republic Services (garbage, recycling, and yard waste)	952.941.5174
South Lake Minnetonka Police Department (non-emergency)	952.474.5321
Xcel Energy Service	1.800.895.4999

## Contact Us:

City Hall	952.474.7994
Public Works	952.474.2947
After Hours	612.750.3600

## Website

[www.cityoftonkabay.net](http://www.cityoftonkabay.net)  
Questions?  
[ocarlier@cityoftonkabay.net](mailto:ocarlier@cityoftonkabay.net)