

ANDOVER TODAY NEWSLETTER



ANDOVER FAMILY FUN FEST: ANOTHER FUN FEST IN THE BOOKS WITH A NEW CHAPTER BEGINNING



A picture-perfect weather weekend set the stage for our spectacular annual celebration! On behalf of the Committee, we want to thank everyone who came out to attend the AFFF, as well as everyone who helped support our efforts to provide a fun and safe weekend.

After 27 years of leading the Andover Family Fun Fest, Event Co-Chairs Bob DeSteno and Gary Wrobel, along with Entertainment Co-Chair Nancy DeSteno, are retiring and Angie Sedesky will continue as Event Coordinator. We are so grateful for their dedication to creating a fun and family-friendly community event we look forward to each summer!



Left to Right, Nancy and Bob DeSteno, Gary Wrobel

Congratulations also to the winners of the various events during this year's AFFF:

MEDALLION HUNT: Angie Kacures of Ham Lake – Congrats and a huge thank you to Premier Banks for sponsoring the prize money!

5K WINNERS: Overall: Calvin Fiala – 17:05 and Women's: Claire Beckman – 19:07; Thanks to Snap Fitness for your sponsorship!

BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT: 1st Place: Jason Hendrickson & Owen Engen

ANTIQUÉ CAR SHOW WINNERS: 1st Place: Garth Restad - 1957 Cadillac, 2nd Place: Chad Tingvold- 1965 Chevrolet Chevy 2, 3rd Place: Rick & Peggy Sue Fredrick - 1970 Chevrolet Monte Carlo. Thank you to Mike Orn with State Farm Insurance for sponsoring the event!

As a committee of volunteers, the success of the AFFF depends on the help of the community. We are in need of event leads next year – if interested in hearing more, please reach out on our Facebook page: Andover Family Fun Fest, or visit our site: <https://www.andovermn.gov> > Our Community > Andover Family Fun Fest.



5K Fun Run



Andover High School Marching Band



Council Member Barthel, Mayor Bukkila, Council Member Butler



On behalf of the City of Andover, thank you to the Andover Family Fun Fest Committee, the numerous volunteers and Andover City staff members, who together, make the Andover Family Fun Fest possible each year. Thank you, Bob, Nancy and Gary for the countless hours you've contributed over the years for our community. Enjoy your retirement.

ANDOVER CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR

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cm.bukkila@andovermn.gov

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1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW

COMMUNITY CENTER

Main Phone: (763) 755-3238
Email: accinfo@andovermn.gov

POLICE & FIRE

All Emergencies....911
Police....(763) 427-1212
Fire....(763) 755-9825



**CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
SEPTEMBER 4th
IN OBSERVANCE
OF LABOR DAY.**



ACCAP CHORES & MORE PROGRAM

One stop shopping for minor home repairs, housekeeping and seasonal chores for people 60 +. We utilize independent contractors and when available volunteer groups. Call (763) 783-4767.



COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

Ted Butler



SPIRIT OF SERVICE

As a Council Member, I have the opportunity to learn about a lot of the great work done in our community through volunteers and non-profit organizations. From booster clubs to youth athletic associations to the all-volunteer Andover Family Fun Fest Committee, great works of volunteerism surround us and the spirit of community is alive and well in Andover.

If you haven't found your volunteering niche yet, though, I encourage you to do so. Beyond the benefits to the community that come from your efforts, did you know you're actually improving your own health? Along with providing a sense of purpose and learning new skills, the Mayo Clinic has found that volunteering has measurable positive effects on both physical and mental health, especially in people over 60.

Want to learn more about volunteer opportunities? Local schools and churches are always looking for volunteers. The ACBC food shelf, Youth First Community of Promise and other nonprofits have volunteer opportunities. Organizations focused on youth athletics and other activities are always looking for more people to be involved and Anoka County has a web page dedicated to community volunteering. Just search the web for Anoka County volunteer opportunities.

ROADS & ROUNDABOUTS

As you've driven throughout Andover this summer you have undoubtedly seen road construction. As part of the City's ongoing commitment to infrastructure reinvestment, 16 miles of Andover roads have been (or are in the process of being) resurfaced through milling and overlaying or reconstructed. The method of road improvement is based on the road's age and engineering assessment of its condition.

You may have seen the news recently that the first roundabout on a City of Andover road will be constructed this summer on Prairie Road NW. Roundabouts are used for a variety of reasons from improving traffic flow to reducing serious accidents to slowing traffic in areas where pedestrians and bicyclists are frequently present. In the case of the roundabout at Prairie Road NW and 151st Lane NW, the roundabout is funded by the developer of the residences on either side of Prairie Road NW. It will calm traffic through this stretch of Prairie Road NW and facilitate better pedestrian and bicycle safety in the area. This has been a good example of planning a development with pedestrian and bicycle safety in mind.

The City continues to evaluate roundabouts in which construction is planned for roundabouts at the intersections of Crosstown Boulevard NW and Nightingale Street NW and Nightingale Street NW and Veterans Memorial Boulevard NW in 2025. Anoka County also has plans to construct roundabouts at Crosstown Boulevard NW and 161st Avenue NW and 7th Avenue NW and 165th Avenue NW in 2026, intersections that have presented safety concerns for some time.

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

Speaking of safety, back to school season is upon us and I encourage everyone to slow down just a little on your morning and afternoon commutes, pause an extra second at intersections to check both the street and trails for pedestrians and bicyclists, and keep our eyes on the road for the safety of our kids heading to and from school.

Lastly, fall is a great season in Minnesota. Take a moment to get out and visit one of Andover's parks or nature preserves and enjoy this time of year!

ACCAP CHORES & MORE PROGRAM



ANDOVER SENIOR CENTER HAS A NEW NUMBER

If you would like more information on our Senior Center call (763) 767-5159 and leave a message. This number is not answered, however your calls will be returned as soon as the messages have been retrieved.

PARK PLACE

Jason Baumunk, Parks and Streets Operations Manager

Hopefully everyone had a fun, safe summer and had a chance to get out and enjoy the summer weather at some of the City's many parks and trails. It has been a busy summer so far with numerous projects, playground replacements, and a few projects that will be finishing as we get closer to fall. Along with all the current projects, there has been a lot of planning for next summer and the years to come.

Parks Department Staff replaced two playgrounds this summer at Hills of Bunker Lake West Park and Hidden Creek East Park. The Hills of Bunker playground also saw ADA improvements at the request of residents in that neighborhood. Playground equipment gets inspected twice a year and staff determine which ones should be replaced or refurbished. After 15 years of age, plastics start to fade and get brittle, rubber coated metal platforms start to rust from the inside out, both of which can cause unseen safety issues. This is why we attempt to replace equipment between 15-20 years of age although on the surface they do not always appear to need replacement.

Currently the City of Andover owns and maintains forty-two playgrounds at various parks around the City. Over the last five years, we have seen a 45-60% increase in costs for equipment, wood fiber mulch and shipping costs. Due to the drastic pricing increases, the size and selection of the new equipment going back into the playgrounds has become very limited. The Park & Recreation Commission, City Council and City Staff are looking at options for maintaining the level of amenities in our playgrounds, while still maintaining our budgetary responsibilities. If you have ideas, suggestions or input you would like to provide, I encourage you to attend the Park & Recreation Commission meetings. Every meeting starts with a Residents Forum for residents to speak to the Commission and Staff about items such as this.

A new playground at Lund's North Park was added this year as well. The aging main parking lot at Sunshine Park was reconstructed in July and is back open for use. Also new this year will be a medium sized shelter



Kelsey Round Lake Park Boardwalk

at Hidden Creek North Park. This project is expected to be finished this fall. One other large project of note is the replacement of the wooden boardwalk at Kelsey Round Lake Park. The new boardwalk will be much sturdier as it will be constructed on helical piers drilled into the more stable soils underneath the wetland. Construction on this will be expected to be performed over the winter months.

Looking ahead to the future, the Park & Recreation Commission and City Staff are actively looking for ways to improve our parks and trails. Each year, the Commission, City Staff and City Council work on reviewing and amending our Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This five-year plan includes upcoming projects, improvements and additions to our parks and trails. The discussions on the CIP start in early spring at the Park & Recreation Commission meetings and are a wonderful opportunity to provide your suggestions or ideas for our parks and trails. The Commission and City Staff utilize input from the public when making decisions on improvements or changes that get added to the CIP. Residents are welcome to attend the Park & Recreation Commission meetings to provide input. They are held the 1st and 3rd Thursday of most months at City Hall starting at 6:00 p.m. See www.andovermn.gov for the schedule and agendas of upcoming meetings.

If you want to learn more information about these projects or have questions, feel free to contact Jason Baumunk or Dave Berkowitz at (763) 755-5100. Thank you.

STREET SWEEPING

Weather dependent, Fall Street Sweeping will start in September. All attempts are made to get as many of the leaves off the streets as possible with the time allowed before snow starts. To help keep this process as effective and efficient as possible, please keep vehicles and other objects off the roadway when you see the sweepers working in your area. This includes portable basketball hoops and hockey goals. Please do not blow your leaves and grass clipping into the street. Keeping leaves and grass out of storm drains is critical in preventing phosphorus and nitrogen out of our natural waters. If you need to dispose of leaves, you can take them to Bunker Hills Compost Site. 13285 Hanson Boulevard NW, Coon Rapids, (763) 767-7964. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE!

North Suburban
HOME SHOW
Saturday, March 9, 2024

www.NorthSuburbanHomeShow.Org

Andover Community Center, 15200 Hanson Blvd. NW, Andover, MN

QCTV WINS BIG AT THE HOMETOWN MEDIA AND TELLY AWARDS

Quad Cities Community Television (QCTV) was named the winner of two Hometown Media Awards and ten Telly Awards. Awards Received:

- Hometown Media Awards
 - Overall Excellence P.E. or G. Access \$650,000 - 1,000,000: Overall Excellence
 - Sports Coverage Live Competition Access Center Professional: Football Section 7AAAAA Championship
- Telly Awards
 - Three Silver Awards
 - Seven Bronze Awards

The Hometown Media Awards are presented by the Alliance for Community Media and recognize excellence in local programming distributed on Public, Educational and Government (PEG) cable access channels across the country. The Telly Awards highlight excellence in television nationally. A full list of programs awarded can be found at www.QCTV.org/Awards.

“Our Commission is extremely proud of the hard work and dedication shown by QCTV staff every day,” said QCTV Board Chair Jamie Barthel, “It is an honor to see QCTV recognized by its colleagues nation-wide for the excellent programming they provide for our communities.”



ANDOVER | ANOKA | CHAMPLIN | RAMSEY

ANDOVER COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOT RENTERS

Now that the season is close to being over, we want to remind the gardeners that all Garden Plots must be cleaned and cleared out by the end of the day on Sunday, October 15, 2023.

Please refer to your sign-up paperwork for all rules and regulations regarding clean-up.



SOLICITORS

Solicitors, peddlers and transient merchants are required to carry a permit approved by the City. If someone approaches you at your home or if someone is selling at a location (parking lot, street corner), you can ask if they have a permit from the City. If they do not, call the non-emergency police number at (763) 427-1212 to report them.



Each approved solicitor is issued a City badge with the following information on the badge: license number, expiration date, company they are representing and their name. A current list of licensed solicitors is located on the City’s website.

HOMESTEAD FILING



New homeowners are reminded that December 15, 2023 is the deadline to file for Homestead Classification. You can file at the Anoka County Government Center. A copy of your deed is needed to file. If you have any questions, contact Michelle at (763) 755-5100.

ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO PAY YOUR HEAT & ELECTRIC BILLS?

Energy Assistance may be able to help. The Energy Assistance program is available October 1, 2023-May 31, 2024. Contact ACCAP at (763) 783-4747 or visit our website at www.accap.org for more information. Program guidelines and applications will become available by September 2023.



ANDOVER COMMUNITY CENTER

15200 Hanson Blvd. NW, Andover, MN 55304
www.AndoverMN.Gov/ACC eMAIL: ACCINFO@ANDOVERMN.GOV
763-755-3238



The City of Andover and the YMCA collaborated in 2005 to provide the community the Andover YMCA Community Center. The City of Andover operates the indoor ice arena, sports complex and the fieldhouse, which requires no membership. The YMCA leases a portion of the building providing members use of the aquatics and fitness center. Listed below are Andover Community Center activities and programs. Visit www.AndoverMN.Gov/ACC for more information and to register.

ACTIVITIES

Monthly activity calendars provide specific dates, times and fees of ACC activities listed below. These activities are open to the public, no pre-registration required. Calendars available on the website. Cash, credit, ACC Punch Cards and Free Andover Resident Passes accepted for activity admission fees. **NEW admission fees go into effect September 1, 2023.**

ADULT HOCKEY - Adult Open Hockey 16+. Gloves and helmets are required. Goalies skate FREE.

BASKETBALL - All ages shoot hoops. No full court games, team practices or training equipment allowed. ½ court games allowed if space allows.

OPEN SKATE - All ages welcome. Skate rental available for \$4 per pair, sizes available youth 8 – adult 13. Skate sharpening available \$6 per pair.

PICKLEBALL - Drop-in open pickleball times include weekday, evening and weekend hours. Graphite paddle rental available \$3 ea. Lessons and Skills & Drills info on website.

VOLLEYBALL - Volleyball is for participants who are 14 years of age or older.

GROUP EVENTS, PARTY PACKAGES & FIELD TRIPS Host your next group event, field trip, birthday party or bridal/baby shower at the ACC.

WALKING TRACK - Admission is free for Andover residents, however, those utilizing the track between the hours of 6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday must check in at the information desk to show proof of residency. Create your household account at www.AndoverMN.Gov/ACC for easy check-in. Individuals using the track evenings and weekends are not required to check-in. Non-resident admission fees are \$2 per person, Monday – Friday, 6:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

ACTIVE OLDER ADULTS - FOREVERWELL -

Activities available for active older adults to participate in while at the Andover YMCA Community Center. The Foreverwell Newsletter link can be found on the Community Center's website under Older Adult Activities or contact Rochelle at the Andover YMCA (763) 317-9044. You do not need to be a member of the YMCA to participate in many of these activities.

FALL PROGRAMS & LESSONS

INDOOR SOCCER PROGRAM

The Fall Andover Community Indoor Soccer Program will be held Saturday mornings, October 7th – November 18th (6 weeks) \$85 per player. This recreational program is for youth ages 4 – 9 and focuses on individual skill development and having fun. All players will be organized into age-appropriate teams with each player receiving a team t-shirt and an award. Teams will practice skills for the first 30 minutes then scrimmage against another team for the remaining 30 minutes of the program. This program is a great start for beginners and fun for those who have already played organized soccer.



INTRODUCTION TO ICE SKATING - AGES 3 - 5

Introduces the sport of ice skating to youth ages 3 - 5 who have little to no skating experience. Classes held Sunday evenings, 30 minutes in length and features age appropriate, off and on-ice activities. Program meets for 4-weeks, and cost is \$64 per skater. Fall Session I begins September 17th and Session II begins October 15th.

ICE SKATING LESSONS - AGES 3 - ADULT

Fall Lessons for youth ages 3 - 15 will be held Sunday evenings, September 17th - November 12th (8 sessions) \$114 per skater. Lessons include 30 minutes of instruction and 30 minutes of optional on-ice practice. Adult/Teen Lessons will also be offered; 30 minute classes (8 sessions) \$84 per skater.

15200 Hanson Blvd. NW • Andover, MN 55304

Website: www.AndoverMN.Gov/ACC • Email: accinfo@andovermn.gov • Main Phone: (763) 755-3238

WEAPONS/HUNTING REQUIREMENTS

With hunting season approaching, the City wants to remind residents of the restrictions regarding the discharge of firearms and bows in Andover. The information below is a summary of City Code 5-4 Weapons. For complete regulations please refer to the City Code. Copies are available at City Hall, via email, and on the City's website at www.andovermn.gov. The map indicates the various zones within the City.

Prohibited Zone: The discharge of firearms and bows is prohibited.

Restricted Zone North: To discharge a firearm, a minimum of ten (10) acres is required. To discharge a bow, a minimum of two and one-half (2.5) acres is required. A Deer Hunting Permit is not required for this zone regardless of weapon.

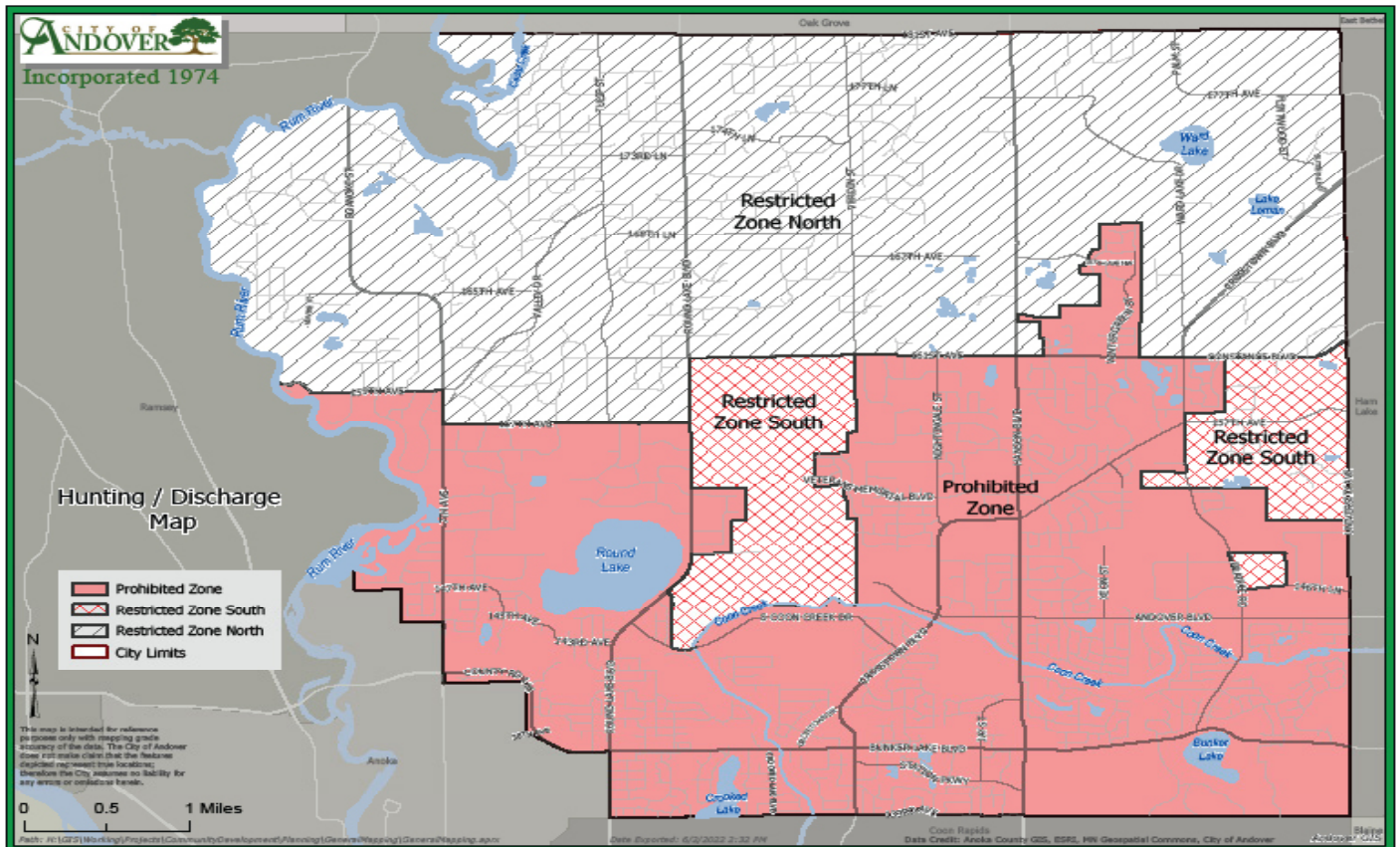
Restricted Zone South: Early Goose and Regular Waterfowl Season: To discharge a firearm, a minimum of ten (10) acres is required. Refer to the MN DNR for specific dates and regulations. No permit is required for goose/waterfowl hunting.

Deer Hunting - Bow: To discharge a bow, a minimum of two and one-half (2.5) acres is required. Bow hunting does not require a Deer Hunting Permit.

Deer Hunting - Firearm: To discharge a firearm (shotgun only), a minimum of forty (40) acres is required as well as a City-issued Deer Hunting Permit. A permit is required for each hunter and all rules/regulations established by the MN DNR apply. No discharge shall occur within one-quarter mile of any urban development, park, or institutional use.

Deer Hunting Permit: In order to receive a Deer Hunting Permit, an individual must be the landowner or an immediate family member and have written permission from at least fifty (50) percent of adjacent landowners.

If you are applying for a Deer Hunting Permit or have any additional questions, please contact Jake Griffiths at (763) 767-5142 or j.griffiths@andovermn.gov.



ANDOVER IN 2ND PLACE IN ADOPT-A-DRAIN STANDINGS!

In the first half of the 2023 Anoka County Community Adopt-a-Drain Challenge, Columbia Heights is in the lead - but Andover is not too far behind!

Adopt-a-Drain is an easy way for people to play an important role in preventing water pollution by removing debris from the top area of adopted stormdrain(s) once or twice per month. This cleaning also keeps the drains clear to prevent local street flooding from rainstorms or snowmelt. Cleanings take about 15 minutes each, and YOU get to name your drain! Find out more at <https://mn.adopt-a-drain.org/>

Be sure to report your adopted drain cleanings online to help Andover win the coveted Golden Grabber! The Challenge runs through October 2023. Let's go for Gold, Andover!



ADOPT-A-CITY STREET PROGRAM

The City of Andover has an Adopt-A-City Street Program which allows residents/groups to adopt and clean up a two-mile stretch of road on one of our City Streets. Cleanup involves a two-year commitment, and cleanup is done twice a year, spring and fall. A sign will be placed on the street with your name or group name of who is responsible for cleaning that street. If you are interested in adopting one of the available streets, please contact the Public Works Administrative Assistant at (763) 767-5175 or d.lenzmeier@andovermn.gov. Thank you for helping us keep the City of Andover looking great!



ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM

The City of Andover has an Adopt-A-Park Program which allows individuals or community groups to adopt a park and keep it litter free for a two or four-year commitment. A sign will be placed in the park recognizing your contribution to the park system. If you are interested in adopting one of the available parks, please contact the Public Works Administrative Assistant at (763) 767-5175 or d.lenzmeier@andovermn.gov.



GROUNDWATER, A GROWING CONCERN!

With three years of summer drought, conserving groundwater is important and can be helped by how you take care of your lawn. There are two basic ways: infiltrate/irrigate.

Infiltrate: Having a healthy, aerated lawn with good soil can help soak in water. This includes:

- Aerate in early September so the water can get to the roots. If you belong to a homeowners association (HOA), find out if the landscape contractor aerates the turf annually.
- Leaving the grass grow 3 inches tall before mowing, so that the roots will grow deeper taking moisture down deeper.
- Make sure your downspouts go to your yard or flower gardens.

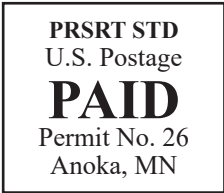
Irrigate: Efficiency is key

- 1) Use the professionals tip: limit lawn watering to 1.5 inches once per week on sandy soils.
- 2) Make sure irrigation systems are working properly.
- 3) Use soil moisture sensors instead of “setting and forgetting” timers.

Whether you have a private well or City water supply, remember that you are using drinking water on your lawn when you water it! More tips at: <https://extension.umn.edu/lawn-care/water-saving-strategies-home-lawns>.

Information by the Coon Creek Watershed District; find us at www.cooncreekwd.org.





ECRWSS
RESIDENT
Andover, MN 55304

POSTMASTER: TIME SENSITIVE MAIL



ANDOVER FALL RECYCLING DAY
Saturday, September 9th
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Andover Public Works - 1785 Crosstown Boulevard NW

MATERIALS THAT HAVE CHARGES:

- **APPLIANCES:** Most - \$10 each; Camper refrigerators - \$75; Gas/Ammonia (Servel) refrigerators - \$150 and up
- **ELECTRONICS:** Charge is determined by item/size
- **FLUORESCENT LAMPS:** First 5 free per household for Andover residents
- **MATTRESSES & BOX SPRINGS:** Dry and not moldy. \$20 each

CASH OR MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
City of Andover

For a complete list of items accepted and their charges, please visit www.andovermn.gov

- **TIRES:** Price depends on size
CASH OR MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
First State Tire

MATERIALS THAT ARE FREE:

- **BATTERIES:** Lead acid car, boat and motorcycle rechargeable batteries - The Knights of Columbus collect these batteries
- **BICYCLES:** Any condition. They are repaired and given away
- **DOCUMENT SHREDDING**
- **PROPANE TANKS**
- **SCRAP METAL:** All metals must be free from other materials
- **USED EYE GLASSES:** The Andover Lions collect these. This is an ongoing project.

We can **NOT** accept any furniture.

Do not bring Household Hazardous Waste. Anoka County HHW Facility (763) 324-3400

Call (763) 767-5114 with recycling questions.

