



Good News!

Family Resource Center offers support in a warm, welcoming space.

Families living in Scott County are invited to visit the Family Resource Center (FRC) in the Savage Public Library for information about community resources, referrals to service, and support. The FRC is staffed by a combination of County staff and community organizations who come together to provide various programming, services, and support to families. Other FRCs are located in Jordan and Shakopee. All services are free and confidential.

"All families need help sometimes," states Suzanne Arntson, Scott County Health and Human Services deputy director. "But, sometimes, families are unsure where to turn for help." The FRCs aim to increase accessibility within the community and break down barriers that make it hard for families to receive the best support possible. Having the FRC located at the Savage Library not only provides a safe and welcoming space, but it is also a convenient one-stop for families to be able to access a wide variety of programs and services that include:

- Assistance completing applications and paperwork
- Parenting skills, support, and mentorship
- Early literacy and education
- Health and wellness services
- Financial literacy classes
- Peer recovery support
- Housing consultation
- Legal information
- Economic Assistance Program support
- Domestic violence education and advocacy
- Cultural-specific service navigation and language access for LatinX and Somali communities



Hours:

The Family Resource Center is in the Savage Public Library, 13090 Alabama Ave. It is open Thursdays from 1:30-4:30 p.m. So far in 2023, the FRC staff has helped support 70 local families, roughly five families per week. For more information, visit scottcountymn.gov/frc.

Upcoming community events

Fire Recruitment Open House

It's challenging, rewarding, and fast-paced. It's a job like no other.

Thursday, May 11 • 6 - 9 p.m.

Fire Station #2, 13105 Dakota Ave., Savage

The Savage Fire Department is hosting a recruitment open house where you can meet us and learn more about becoming a Savage firefighter. Stop by and:

- Take a tour of the fire station.
- Put on the fire gear.
- Ask questions about what the training is like, how long the initial training takes, and what's required of you if you're hired.
- Find out what's required after the initial training is completed.
- Learn about the pension and how the pension system works.

This is a no-obligation meet and greet to get your questions answered by current firefighters. Spouses and significant others are encouraged to attend. If you have questions, please contact Captain Gary Holler at gholler@cityofsavage.com.

Savage Police Department Open House | May 18

In recognition of National Police Week, the Savage Police Department is hosting its Annual Open House at the Police Station, 6000 McColl Drive. The community is invited to stop by between 5 - 7 p.m. to see a wide variety of public safety vehicles, meet and greet local law enforcement officers, and tour the department. In addition, there will be face painting, fingerprinting activities, and snacks for the kids. Hope to see you there! This is a free community event.

More FREE Mental Health Classes

Learn how nutrition can impact mental health

May 9 • 6 - 7 p.m. - VIRTUAL

Gain knowledge on how what we eat affects not only our mood but also our brain chemistry. Learn what makes a complete meal and how to eat that meal mindfully. Register to get the Zoom link via email at bit.ly/3ipJU53.

Physical Activity and Mindfulness: Get up and move with us!

June 6, 6 - 7 p.m.

McColl Pond ELC patio, 13550 Dakota Ave., Savage

Learn how physical activity can benefit your mental health. We will be doing breathing exercises and more. Learn tips and tricks to help you incorporate mindfulness into your work and home life. Registration is encouraged at bit.ly/3zjeUsd.

Classes are hosted by NAMI and funded through the City of Savage Coronavirus Relief Fund.



Public Safety Updates



2022 Police Officer of the Year - Dallas Stadick

Officer Dallas Stadick joined the Savage Police Department in 2018. Since then, he has taken on multiple roles and responsibilities, including Use of Force Instructor and Field Training Officer. Officer Stadick brings his positive work ethic, attitude, and attention to detail to everything he is involved with and consistently seeks creative solutions to

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problems. "Officer Stadick is highly respected by his peers for his quality of work, positive attitude, integrity, and character," praised Police Chief Seurer." He is the definition of a team player, always willing to help his partners." Throughout 2022, he received 24 written recognitions from his peers and supervisors for his actions and work product. Additionally, Officer Stadick went above and beyond his patrol officer duties this past year when he secured the first Traffic Safety Officer Grant for the City of Savage, helping the department, the City, and the community. The grant helps make the City safer from impaired or dangerous drivers, helps the City financially, and provides the department with an additional officer.

We are celebrating the big 3-0!

The City of Savage celebrates 30 years as a "Tree City USA" community. Savage is proud to be recognized as a community that makes the planting and care of trees a priority. Founded in 1976, Tree City USA is a partnership between the Arbor Day Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Association of State Foresters. The City of Savage is part of an incredible network of more than 3,600 Tree City USA communities nationwide, with a combined population of 155 million.



Sergeant Mike Heski SWAT Retirement

The Tri-City SWAT Team recognized Savage PD Sergeant Mike Heski for his passion, caring, and leadership over the past 18 years. Sergeant Heski began his specialized SWAT assignment in 2005. His leadership skills soon became apparent, and he became the Assistant Team Commander from 2016 to 2019. In 2019, the SWAT Board approved his appointment as the Team Commander, and in 2020, the SWAT Team was selected as the MN Special Operations and Training Association Tactical Team of the Year. "The Team respects Sgt. Heski for his crisis management and response knowledge," praised Chief Seurer. "During his years as Commander, the Team responded to many critical incidents. Under Sergeant Heski's leadership, the Team served their communities safely, professionally, and caringly." Congratulations to Sergeant Heski!



2022 VIP of the Year - Rachel Anderson

Whenever there was a need for a volunteer, Rachel was one of the first to respond! In 2022, Rachel assisted with the Police Open House, Service Day, all six weeks of the Citizen's Academy, and Santa Cop. "We have even had the pleasure of seeing her boys assist at events," stated Chief Seurer. "Rachel is not only a huge asset to the department, but she is teaching her young boys what community service is all about." Thank you, Rachel



2022 Firefighter of The Year - Patrick Wright

Over the past year, Firefighter Pat Wright has helped train several new firefighters and is always willing to share his knowledge. Pat is passionate about continually expanding his knowledge by completing multiple new credentials, ultimately improving himself,

"Our team members notice Pat's drive and actions bring about confidence and trust in Pat's leadership"

our team, and the community he serves. "Pat understands the foundation of Savage Fire is family and service to others," states Fire Chief Bresnahan. "Our team members notice Pat's drive and actions bring about confidence and trust in Pat's leadership."



2022 Fire Officer of The Year - Todd Stahl

In 2022, Lieutenant Stahl supported our department with the mentorship of our team members, taking the opportunity to guide our new members through their initial training, ensuring that they achieve their performance goals. Todd also created data collection and distribution processes, increasing department operations' efficiency and communication. These improvements allow the leadership team to streamline operations and explain the "WHY" our organization operates in the fashion it does.

FREE steering wheel locks

Savage Police are distributing free steering wheel locks to owners of Kia and Hyundai vehicles with steel-key and turn-to-start ignitions, which have known defects that make them vulnerable to theft. All Kia and Hyundai models from 2011 to 2021 are affected. These defects do not impact push-to-start models. If your Hyundai or Kia uses a key to start your vehicle and not a push button, Savage Police Department has collaborated with Kia and Hyundai to offer FREE steering wheel locks to Savage residents. If you would like one, please stop by the Savage Police Department, 6000 McColl Drive, during regular business hours, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

****WHILE SUPPLIES LAST****



WE WORK FOR YOU!

Welcome Jessica Koehn, Coordinated Responder

The Coordinated Response Program is officially underway! Meet Jessica Koehn, our new embedded social worker working with Savage Police. Jessica grew up in Savage and is a graduate of Burnsville High School. She is a licensed therapist and mental health professional with significant knowledge and experience working with families and the homeless population.

Jessica has hit the ground running. In just her first few weeks, she followed up on eight referrals and assisted officers with 29 interactions, providing counseling, referrals, and resources related to a variety of issues, including mental health concerns, addiction, domestic violence, homelessness assistance, and general parenting issues. "I get involved when an officer has concerns about a resident's mental health," explains Koehn. "This could be during an active call or as a follow-up to a call. Either way, I make direct personal connections with individuals and families to help them with the challenges they



"This position provides an opportunity to offer greater support and service to individuals impacted by mental health issues"

are struggling with. I ask lots of questions to understand better what is happening and why. Then I work collaboratively with that individual or family to come up with a plan on how to best support them." Sometimes that is connecting them with county services, helping them fill out paperwork, or just listening to them and letting them know they do not have to struggle alone. "This position provides an opportunity to offer greater support and service to individuals impacted by mental health issues," said Savage Police Chief Rodney Seurer. "The energy, expertise, and empathy Jessica brings to our department will significantly impact our community." The Coordinated Response Program was created using money from the 2022 Opioid Settlement.

Police invite the community to register video cameras

Do you have a video surveillance camera at your home or business? If so, Savage Police would like to work together to help keep our neighborhoods safe. Security cameras can be a great tool when solving crimes.

How SafeCam works

- Community members voluntarily share camera locations and footage, and Police create a list of these
- If a crime is committed, Police will reach out to people in the area who would be willing to share their camera footage
- Those community members can review their own footage and choose to share it with Police

What to know

- The SafeCam program is 100% voluntary.
- Any type of surveillance camera is helpful, including video doorbells, wireless video camera systems, and home security cameras.
- The police department never has direct access to community members' cameras or footage.
- Your personal information is confidential and will not be distributed except as required by law or court order.

How to register

You can register your camera online at cityofsavage.com. If you have questions, please contact Crime Prevention Specialist Jennifer Wells at 952-882-2604.

REMINDER: Savage Recycling Day is almost here.

Have you been spring cleaning? Here's your chance to get rid of any unwanted "junk." The annual Savage Recycling Day is Saturday, May 6, from 8 a.m. - noon at Savage Community Park, 13500 Dakota Ave.



Requirements

- Bring a valid driver's license or another form of I.D. to prove residency.
- No vehicles larger than a pick up truck.
- No trailers larger than 8x12 feet.
- Cash or a check only (credit cards NOT accepted)

View a full list of accepted and unaccepted items, pricing, and requirements at cityofsavage.com.

Please note:

- Bridging Inc. will not be collecting donations.
- Paper shredding is not part of this event. The annual citywide shredding event is scheduled for August 26, 2023. More details to come.

Rec Corner

FREE! BYOB & BYOPaddle Pickleball Mixer

May 18, 6-8 p.m. • Savage Community Park, 13500 Dakota Ave.

It's pickle party time! Come on out for a night of pickleball play, meeting new players, playing fun games, and receiving free instruction from a certified professional instructor. Bring your own beverage and appetizer to enjoy. This is geared for any level of friendly pickleball play.



Dan Patch Pickleball Tournament | June 17 & 18

Un-officiated tournament. Teams classify based on their own experiences (leagues / previous tournaments/years of playing/USAPA rankings / etc.). We rely on the integrity of participants to self-classify. Depending on the number of team entries, classifications may be combined. Tournament Director has the right to re-classify if necessary. Players registering for two events must play at the level of the highest-rated player on their team. The tournament ball utilized is the Franklin X-40 Outdoor ball. Registration is required. Learn more and register online at cityofsavage.com.

Gray Hobby Farm Tours | June 8

Be prepared to immerse yourself in the hobby farm experience at the Gray Hobby Farm! You will meet our chickens, our pet duck named Motorcycle, two adorable cats named Snowy and Dairy, and lots of goats! Be prepared to fall in love with our baby goats - they are adorable! The Gray Hobby Farm also has multiple organic gardening plots, and you will see the entire operation. Please wear appropriate attire for the farm setting. Registration is required. Learn more and register online at cityofsavage.com.

Aquatic Macroinvertebrates | June 11

Explore McColl Pond by getting to know the aquatic invertebrates that call it home. We will search along the shore and off the dock and use dip nets to catch and identify the critters we find. You will also learn about the connection between insects and water quality. Please wear clothing that can get wet. The program is offered in collaboration with Carpenter Nature Center. Registration required. Learn more and register online at cityofsavage.com.

We are Naturally Resourceful

Water Efficiency Rebate Program

Your in-lawn irrigation system, toilets, washing machine, or dishwasher could be wasting water and money. Thanks to a grant from the Metropolitan Council and funding through the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, Savage residents can receive a credit on their water bill for replacing existing devices with specified water-efficient appliances purchased between June 2, 2022, through June 30, 2024. Rebates will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis until the grant money is gone.

Eligible Expenses

The rebate program is only available to property owners who are customers of the City of Savage's water supply system. Expenses eligible for the rebate include the out-of-pocket cost of the replacement devices, taxes not included. Eligible devices must be US EPA WaterSense labeled or DOE Energy Star rated. This program is intended to be a current infrastructure replacement program; new construction and new development are not eligible. Eligible rebates include:

- Toilets - Must be EPA WaterSense labeled. Rebate maximum is \$100 per toilet, not to exceed 50% of the pre-tax purchase cost of each toilet.
- Washing Machines - Must be US DOE Energy Star labeled. Rebate maximum is \$175 per washing machine.
- Dishwashers - Must be US DOE Energy Star labeled. Rebate maximum is \$175 per dishwasher.
- Irrigation Controllers - Must be EPA WaterSense labeled. Rebate maximum is \$200 per controller, not to exceed 90% of the pre-tax purchase cost.

Product information:

Go to lookforwatersense.epa.gov/products for a list of WaterSense toilets and irrigation controls

Go to energystar.gov/products for a list of EnergyStar rated washers and dishwashers.

How to apply

The rebate will appear as a credit on your water bill. To apply, residents must:

- Be connected to the City's water system.
- Purchase and install eligible devices between June 2, 2022, and June 30, 2024, or before grant money is gone.
- Fill out and submit an online application at cityofsavage.com.
- Include a photo/scan of the receipt/proof of purchase.
- Include a photo showing proof the device was installed.
- New construction, commercial, and homeowner associations do not qualify.

If you have any questions, please contact Water Resource Manager Jesse Carlson at **952-882-2686** or jcarlson@cityofsavage.com.



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