



Savage City Connection / March 2024



## Public Notice: Important information about your drinking water

Testing shows levels of combined radium 226 and 228 are above drinking water standards.

Radium 226 and 228 occur naturally within the groundwater. Some people who drink water containing radium above the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The City of Savage, in coordination with the Minnesota Department of Health, routinely monitors our public water system for drinking water contaminants. Recent testing results from 10/4/23 show that the average level of combined radium 226 and 228 were above the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5.4 pCi/L.

The City of Savage has a unique blended water system with three sources. The following are the latest test results for the different sources:

- Burnsville Interconnect = 4.33 pCi/L (lower than MCL)
- Water Treatment Plant 2 = 3.36 pCi/L (lower than MCL)
- Water Treatment Plant 3 = 6.8 pCi/L (higher than MCL)

In general, between October and March, we meet our entire water demand using water purchased from Burnsville. This water comes to us finished, meaning it has been treated and tested to ensure it meets drinking water standards. When water demand peaks, April - September, the City must supplement the water purchased from Burnsville with water produced at Water Treatment Plant 2 and/or Water Treatment Plant 3, depending on water demand. The last time water from WTP 3 was used was in November 2023.

### Our Commitment

The City takes this matter seriously and is working diligently to mitigate this issue. We are committed to providing safe, plentiful drinking water. We will not reintroduce water produced at WTP 3 back into our drinking water system until it meets or exceeds all drinking water standards.

### What you need to know

**This is not an emergency.** You do not need an alternative water source, such as bottled water, nor do you need to boil water before use. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

### How the City ensures our drinking water is safe

The City takes great pride in and is deeply committed to providing our residents with the highest quality drinking water. City Utility staff has determined high levels of radium are not a systemwide issue and are isolated to Water Treatment Plant 3. To further mitigate this situation, the City has taken the following steps:

1. The City is working with a consultant for technical assistance and guidance in operational modifications to lower radium levels at WTP 3.
2. WTP 3 has been taken offline, and further evaluation will be completed. Residents will not see any changes in water service due to this change. Water produced at WTP 3 will not be added to our drinking water system until it meets or exceeds all drinking water standards.
3. City Utility staff will continue to perform independent and quarterly state testing for radium throughout the public water system.
4. The City will continue to inform residents of the combined radium levels on a quarterly basis.

### Home water treatment information

Certain home water treatment units help to reduce radium 226 and radium 228, which include water softening, reverse osmosis, and distillation. It is recommended that residents consult with the system manufacturer or installation company regarding the effectiveness of the treatment units in filtering radium. Carbon filters are not recommended to remove radium, as radium may accumulate in the filter over time.

### Learn more

Residents are invited to attend a Public Hearing on March 4, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers to learn about the City's water operation, what the City is doing to achieve compliance, and ask questions. More information and FAQs are also available at [cityofsavage.com/departments/public-works/utilities/public-notice](http://cityofsavage.com/departments/public-works/utilities/public-notice) or contact City Engineer/Utilities Director Seng Thongvanh at **952-224-3419** or [sthongvanh@cityofsavage.com](mailto:sthongvanh@cityofsavage.com).

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.



## Savage is recognized for excellence in financial reporting

For 26 consecutive years, the City of Savage has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This award is the highest form of recognition in government accounting and financial reporting and represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

# We are Naturally Resourceful

## Arbor Day Online Tree Sale | March 18 - April 14

The annual Arbor Day Tree Sale is a great opportunity to purchase quality trees from a local source. Choose from a variety of shade, ornamental, and evergreen trees. This sale is open to all Savage, Prior Lake, Credit River, and Spring Lake Park residents.

**Species Available:** Blue Beech, River Birch, Buckeye Autumn Splendor (new), Espresso Coffeetree, Prairifire Crabapple, Purple Prince Crabapple, Spring Snow Crabapple (new), Valley Forge Elm, Ginkgo Autumn Gold (new), Lilac Ivory Silk Tree, Linden Boulevard, Green Mountain Sugar Maple, Sienna Glen Maple (new), Heritage Oak, Swamp White Oak, Plane Tree (new), White Pine, and Black Hills Spruce. *Limited quantities; maximum of 5 per household.*

**Price:** \$36 - \$76 each

**NEW!** Tree protectors and slow-release watering bags will also be available for sale to protect trees from winter damage and effectively water newly planted trees.

**How to Order:** Trees, tree protectors, and watering bags can be ordered online at [cityofsavage.com](http://cityofsavage.com) from March 18 to April 14.

**Please Note:** Trees are only available to purchase online. No trees will be available for purchase on pick-up day.

**Pick-up Day:** April 27, 10 a.m. - noon

**Pick-up Location:** Savage Public Works • 13770 Dakota Ave., Savage

## Save the Date! Arbor Day Celebration

April 27, 10-11:30 a.m.

McCull Pond ELC, 13550 Dakota Ave., Savage

10 a.m. - Arbor Day Proclamation

10-11:15 a.m. - Carver/Scott County Master Gardeners

10:20-11 a.m. - Wheel of Trees Family Scavenger Tree ID Hunt

11-11:30 a.m. - Free Tree Seed Give Away and 1 lucky door prize winner of our "Plant a Tree Basket"

## Let's Talk Trees: Educational Series

You loved him in the "I'm a Savage Employee" video; now join our "Tree Guy" Natural Resources Technician Jonah Reyes as he shares his knowledge of trees in this two-part series.



### April 9: Buds, Bark & Branching 6 - 8 p.m. at the McColl Pond ELC

Do you know what types of trees are in your yard? Join us for a fun, hands-on experience to learn how to identify common tree species using their unique characteristics, such as buds and bark. We'll also discuss what tree species are prevalent in Savage and native to MN and tips on what to look for when purchasing a quality tree.

### May 7: Seasonal Tree Care Tips 6 - 8 p.m. at the McColl Pond ELC

Distraught about the drought? Enraged about Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)? Puzzled about pruning? Learn about seasonal tree care and maintenance relevant to the urban forest's current environment. We'll also discuss the current status of EAB and other pest challenges and ways to identify and treat these problems.

Register online at [cityofsavage.com](http://cityofsavage.com). The cost is \$10 per person for both classes.

## Water efficiency rebates are still available.

Savage residents can receive a credit on their water bill for replacing existing devices with specified water-efficient appliances. The following items are eligible for the rebate if they have a WaterSense or Energy Star logo on the packaging:

- **Toilets:** Rebate maximum is \$100 per toilet, not to exceed 50% of the pre-tax purchase cost of each toilet.
- **Washing Machines:** Rebate maximum is \$75 per washing machine.
- **Dishwashers:** Rebate maximum is \$75 per dishwasher.
- **Irrigation Controllers:** Rebate maximum is \$175 per controller, not to exceed 90% of the pre-tax purchase cost.

## Terms and conditions of the program:

- The rebate program is only available to property owners who are customers of the City of Savage's water supply system.
- Eligible devices must be replacing old, less efficient devices.
- New construction and commercial and homeowner associations do not qualify.
- Rebates will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis until the grant money is gone.
- Receipts must be dated between June 2, 2022, and June 30, 2024.

## How to apply

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

- Fill out and submit an application online at [cityofsavage.com](http://cityofsavage.com).
- Include a photo/scan of the receipt/proof of purchase.
- Include a photo showing proof the device was installed.

If you have any questions, please contact Water Resource Manager Jesse Carlson at **952-882-2686** or [jcarlson@cityofsavage.com](mailto:jcarlson@cityofsavage.com). Funding for Water Efficiency Rebates is provided by the Metropolitan Council Clean Water Land and Legacy Fund.

# 2024 Resident Advisory Commissioners

Nearly every Monday night, the Savage City Council makes decisions about various issues. One of the things that council members use to help inform these decisions is recommendations from Savage residents who serve on our resident advisory commissions. The City of Savage has four commissions made up of residents who volunteer their time and expertise. Positions regularly open on these commissions, and the City invites all interested residents to apply. Congratulations to the following residents appointed to share their perspectives, opinions, and recommendations on important issues with our City Council members. We appreciate your service to our community!

### Community Equity Commission (CEC)

Amenah Agunwamba  
Sheriff Ahmed  
Abhradeep Chatterjee - *NEW*  
Ryan Johngrass - Reappointed  
Juan Macias - *NEW*  
Gail Lewis-Miller  
Michael Nelson  
Victoria Schultz  
Cyril Mukalel

### Economic Development Commission (EDC)

Shailee Chowdhary  
Fred Corrigan  
Alan Erickson  
Carrie Linde  
Katherine McIntosh  
Brian Rasmussen  
Jill Sims - *NEW*  
Mark Zastrow

### Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Commission (PRNRC)

Kevin Chau - *NEW*  
Tim Heinemann  
Scott Lund  
Joshua Mason  
Kathy Peterson  
Brenda Shearer  
Andrea Sjogren - *Reappointed*  
Jackie Sorenson  
Brian Strayer

### Planning Commission (PC)

Robert Brown  
Drew Christensen - *Reappointed*  
Corey Eidem  
Christopher Fonseca  
Shayne Stewart  
Steve Thompson  
John Wallace - *NEW*  
Andrew Wolf

# Public Safety

## Where you can and can't smoke marijuana in Savage

Effective immediately, smoking, vaping, or using THC edibles in public spaces in the City of Savage is prohibited. The Savage City Council adopted this new ordinance prohibiting the use of cannabis within public property and spaces based on input from Savage Police and both the Community Equity Commission (CEC) and Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission (PRNRC). Here is a summary of where it's allowed and where it is not allowed:

### Allowed:

- In a private residence or on private property, if allowed by the owner.
- Places licensed by the State to permit on-site consumption.

### Not Allowed:

- Sidewalks and trails
- City buildings
- Park parking lots
- Park bleachers
- Area surrounding playgrounds
- Savage Public Library
- In vehicles in public places
- Smoking/vaping is also not allowed where a minor may inhale smoke

Additionally, the Minnesota Clean Air Act prohibits indoor smoking of any substance, including cannabis. This means if it is illegal to smoke cigarettes at a location, it's also illegal to smoke cannabis.

## Responsibility is rewarded. Be a designated driver.

This St. Patrick's Day, your designated driver is your lucky charm! Three local bars and restaurants - McHugh's, Neisen's, and Whiskey Inferno - are joining Savage Police in a new designated driver program that rewards designated drivers. This new program kicks off on St. Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 17, but it is also planned for holidays like the Fourth of July, the day before Thanksgiving, and New Year's Eve. Here's how it works:



1. Tell your server you're the designated driver
2. Scan a QR code and add your information
3. All participating DDs will be entered in a drawing for prizes worth up to \$200.

## NEW! Savage Community Connect

### For residents and businesses

Seconds matter to first responders. Providing critical information about your property, your people, your needs, and even your pets before an emergency happens can help Savage Fire assist you more effectively if there is an emergency. It's free, easy, and secure.

#### 1. Create an account.

All it takes is your email, phone number, and address. Your information is never used for any other purpose. If you're comfortable logging in to your online bank, you'll be comfortable logging into Community Connect.

#### 2. Enter the info that matters most.

Enter valuable information on your home or business that can help first responders assist more effectively during an emergency.

#### 3. Help Savage Fire first responders when seconds count.

That's it! Just keep us updated when things change over time so we can always be prepared.

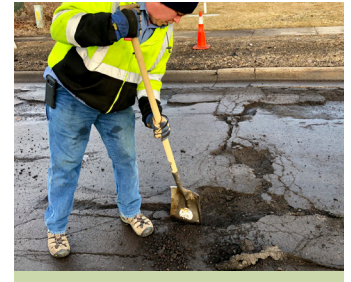


Scan the QR Code to create your profile or visit [community-connect.io/info/mn-savage](https://community-connect.io/info/mn-savage).

# Public Works

## The science of pothole patching

Minnesota's most common cause of potholes is the winter freeze and thaw cycle. Every time water gets into cracks and freezes, the crack will expand by almost 10%. Pothole patching on city streets is done year-round. During the winter months, Public Works crews fill the worst potholes with a temporary type of asphalt called "cold mix."



The winter cold mix uses a softer, stickier asphalt that can be compacted into a hole even in below-freezing temperatures. As temperatures warm, the temporary cold mix becomes soft and must be replaced. Spring is the time of year when most potholes appear. When the asphalt plants open in spring, crews patch potholes with "hot mix" asphalt. This is the same asphalt used to build new roads. Hot mix patches last anywhere from a year to several years.

## Report a pothole

Within Savage, there are streets owned by the City, County, and State. If you have a concern about potholes or other road conditions, it's important to contact the appropriate maintenance agency.

### City streets

Potholes on city streets can be reported to the Public Works Department at **952-224-3400** or online at [cityofsavage.com/i-want-to/report/a-problem](https://cityofsavage.com/i-want-to/report/a-problem).

**County roads** include County Road 42 (Egan Drive), County Road 16 (McColl Drive), and County Road 27 (Dakota Ave.) Potholes on these streets can be reported to Scott County at **952-496-8063** or [scottcountymn.gov/612/Road-Maintenance](https://scottcountymn.gov/612/Road-Maintenance).

**State highways** in Savage include Highway 13. Potholes on this roadway can be reported to the Minnesota Department of Transportation online at [dot.state.mn.us/information/potholes/reporting](https://dot.state.mn.us/information/potholes/reporting).

When contacting these agencies, please be ready to report the location by listing the street and closest intersection where the problem pothole exists, a house number, or some other way of identifying the location. If you are unsure which office to contact, call the Public Works Department at **952-224-3400**.

# Business and Development

## Business Resources

Did you know that the Scott County Community Development Agency (CDA) offers many free and confidential resources to residents who are interested in starting or building a business and for existing businesses? Business advisors from NextStage, in partnership with the Scott County CDA, will help with everything from creating a business plan to accessing funding sources. To learn more, visit [nextstagemn.org/scott-county](https://nextstagemn.org/scott-county).

## Welcome to the community.

### Wingstop, 14103 Hwy 13, Suite 103

Casual counter-serve chain serving a variety of chicken wings and sides.

Do you have a new business to share, need business resources, or are interested in new development or redevelopment? We'd love to connect with you. Contact Community Development Director Regina Dean at **952-882-2652** or [rdean@cityofsavage.com](mailto:rdean@cityofsavage.com).



# Rec Corner

## Spring/Summer Registration opens March 5

Get ready for summer! Savage Parks and Recreation has been busy planning all the programs kids love, like Playground Pals, Tiny Tots, Fabulous Fridays, and action-packed Adventure and Sports Camps. But we've also added fun new youth and family programs and plenty of leagues for adults as well. Learn more and register at [cityofsavage.com](http://cityofsavage.com).

## Flashlight Egg Scramble | March 22

Scramble across the field at the Savage Sports Center with the lights off! Bring your flashlight and basket to scoop up as many eggs as possible. Several golden eggs will be on the field for a chance to win a special basket. Eggs will not be filled and will be recycled at the end of the scramble, where every pre-registered participant will receive a good bag full of prizes. Pre-registration is required. No walk-ins are accepted. Goodie bags for Everyone!



**Registration deadline:** March 10.

**Ages:** 3-9

**Price:** \$6 per child

**Time:** Doors open for activity at 7 p.m.

Ages 3 - 6 Scramble: 8 p.m. (with one adult)

Ages 6 - 9 Scramble: 8:30 p.m. (no adult)

**Location:** Savage Sports Center, 13450 Dakota Ave., Savage

## Adult Leagues | Register now!

### Adult Softball League

Register early for the 2024 spring/summer men's and co-rec softball leagues. League will play at the end of April (weather permitting). More information and registration materials can be found online at [cityofsavage.com](http://cityofsavage.com) or call 952-224-3420.

**Ages:** 18+

**Price:** \$760 (+tax)

**Time:** 6:15-10:15 p.m.

**Location:** Savage Community Park, 13500 Dakota Ave., Savage

### Bean Bag Toss League

Grab some friends, family or co-workers and play in this fun summer league. Games will be played at Community Park on Thursday evenings. This is a double-header league in which games are self-officiated. Teams can be made up of any combination of gender. Boards and bags are supplied.

**Ages:** 18+

**Price:** \$50 per team (+tax)

**Time:** 6:15 p.m.

**Location:** Savage Community Park, 13500 Dakota Ave., Savage

### Bocce Ball League

Summer Bocce is right around the corner! Teams of 2 to 4 will play double-headers for 8 to 10 weeks with an end-of-the-season tournament. This league will be offered on Wednesday evenings.

**Ages:** 18+

**Price:** \$50 per team (+tax)

**Time:** Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

**Location:** Schroeder's Acres Park, 12320 Boone Ave., Savage

## KEEP IN TOUCH:



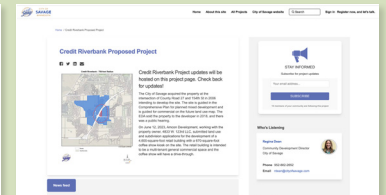
## Let's Talk Savage

Are you curious about construction projects in your neighborhood or proposed and approved development projects happening in Savage? Let's Talk Savage ([letstalksavage.com](http://letstalksavage.com)) is the City's online engagement platform and is a great way to keep you updated about what is happening in your community. It's all at [letstalksavage.com](http://letstalksavage.com):

- Get important project details
- Sign up for project updates
- Share your ideas and opinions.

Current city-led construction projects to follow:

- Credit Riverbank proposed Project
- 2024 Neighborhood Street Project
- Police Chief Recruitment



## We're Hiring!

We are looking for motivated people to fill a variety of seasonal jobs in Parks and Recreation. Come work with us!

- Recreation Assistant
- Recreation Instructor
- McColl Pond ELC Attendant
- Recreation Lead
- Event and Field Supervisor

Learn more and apply online at [cityofsavage.com](http://cityofsavage.com).

## Good News!

**Savage Library is expanding its hours.**

Book lovers, computer users, and others who use the Savage Public Library will now have more access to library services beginning March 4. The expanded schedule of staffed open hours means additional access most evenings and now on Sundays. It will also start Extended Access (EA), Scott County Library's self-service program that gives access to the library from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. This can benefit early risers, technology users with limited or no home internet, families looking for a safe place to spend time with young children, homeschooling, or accommodating busy family schedules. To participate in the EA program, users must visit the library in person to complete an orientation and sign an agreement. For more information, go to [scottcountymn.gov](http://scottcountymn.gov).

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