



Savage City Connection / May 2024

How to paint a 1-million-gallon water tower

This summer, the water tower at the intersection of County Road 42 and County Road 27/Dakota Ave. will get a new paint job. Water towers typically get repainted every 15-20 years to keep them in good condition. It's a big job!

- The process starts with exterior and interior sandblasting. The tower is covered with tarps to prevent paint chip debris from blowing into the surrounding area.
- After the sandblasting, workers apply a layer of specialized grey primer paint to areas where the old paint was removed. Then, a white intermediate coating is applied before the tower will be ready for the finish coats and lettering/logo.
- Painting the tower is a long process that isn't for the faint of heart. A team of specialized painters hang in power scaffolding from a secured location on the top of the tank, approximately 145' off the ground. They start at the top and work their way down. It will take approximately 1,500 gallons of specialized paint!
- The final coat is a weather-resistant fluorocarbon designed to endure ultraviolets, wind, rain, and freezing conditions in the years to come.
- The final step is adding the City of Savage logos and lettering on all tower sides.
- Once that's done, the tower must remain empty for two days to cure properly.
- The interior coating is typically done at the same time. However, the interior coating is an approved epoxy system.
- The tower must then be disinfected and chlorinated before returning to service.

Water tower facts:

- The City of Savage has three elevated water towers and two underground storage reservoirs that store up to 9 million gallons (12.9 million gallons in the system)
- Water towers store water for consumption, fire protection, and maintain water pressure.
- Water flows into the tower through pumps, and gravity forces it out to the places that need water.
- Savage has 169 miles of underground water mains connecting storage tanks to homes and businesses.

We do not anticipate any noticeable difference in water pressure or water supply while this water tower is out of service and being painted. To meet the higher summer demand, the City will modify its current operation and distribute water from the ground reservoirs, other towers, and the interconnect to meet the needs. However, we ask residents to be mindful of their water usage and conserve whenever possible to minimize the demand on our system.

City Welcomes New Finance Director

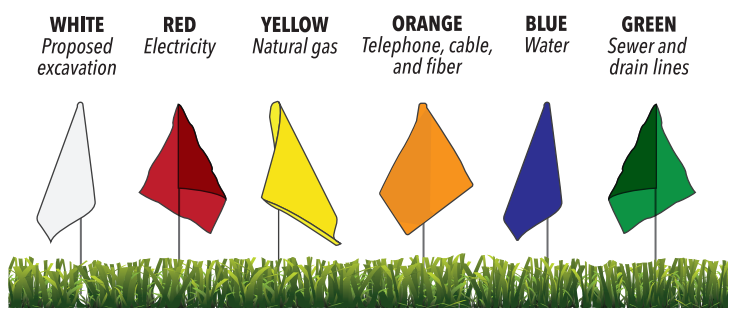
Matt Burt has joined the City of Savage as the new Finance Director. Matt comes to us from the City of Chaska, where he spent five years honing his budgeting and financial planning expertise. While at Chaska, Matt worked with every department to develop a biennial budget process. His goal was to simplify the adoption of the annual budget and allow department leaders to focus more attention on the long-term financial needs of the City. "We are excited to add another dynamic person to our City of Savage team," said City Administrator Brad Larson. "Matt has a strong background in public finance and shares our organization's commitment to sound fiscal stewardship. It took us a while to fill this position, but we are fortunate to have a leader of his caliber joining our team." An interesting fact about Matt is that he comes from a family of government employees. His father was a City Manager for over 35 years, his mother was an Assistant Finance Director, and his brother is a Police Officer for the City of Bloomington. Welcome aboard!



I want to know!

Why are there little colored flags in my yard?

Colored flags and paint in your yard usually indicate someone is planning to do some digging in your area, and they have called Gopher State One to mark the places where utilities such as electricity, water, gas, phone, or other lines are buried. It could be for anything from repairing a sewer line to your neighbor planting a tree or replacing a mailbox. Just because flags are on your lawn does not mean your lawn will be affected. Each utility has its own color, so anyone working in the area on a construction project will understand what's underground and where:



To find out who requested the locators, call 8-1-1 or go to gopherstateonecall.org. Click on "Search and Status," and under Location Information, search by county and street. Now you know!

Public Safety Updates



Officer of the Year Officer Adam Crain

In late 2022, the Savage Police Department received a grant from the MN Dept. of Public Safety for a DWI/Traffic Safety Officer. Officer Crain was appointed to this specialized position to identify drivers who were under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol and endangering the lives of others. In 2023, Officer Crain arrested

93 impaired drivers, 25% of whom were impaired by substances other than alcohol. Crain also coordinated and facilitated several department training and traffic enforcement events, improving overall efficiency. Recently, Officer Crain received recognition from the Office of Traffic Safety for his work in keeping our roadways safe. In addition to his work as a traffic safety officer, Crain is a certified Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) and has provided multiple trainings and events on DRE and distracted driving. "Every day, our officers perform selfless acts in their commitment to public service," stated Police Chief Seurer. "Thank you, Officer Crain, for your professionalism, caring attitude toward your fellow colleagues, and contributions to our community."



Employee of the Year Crime Prevention Specialist Jennifer Wells

Besides Jen's duties as Crime Prevention Specialist and all the annual events she organized, her above-and-beyond acts of kindness towards those in need in our community are what truly stand out. Jen never hesitates, never questions; she just jumps in to help when she learns of

someone in need. This has included purchasing emergency items for a domestic violence survivor, food and supplies for an abandoned kitten, diapers, food and supplies for a family in crisis, and even gas money for a victim to safely leave a dangerous situation. All this came from her own pocket. In addition, Wells also strengthens partnerships with other agencies. After hearing about a family in need from Scott County Child Protection (SCCP), she was able to get them into the Holiday Heroes program despite being after the deadline. The mother was extremely grateful, and SCCP was thrilled with the service CPS Wells provided. Jen's thoughtfulness and compassion toward someone in need have made a significant difference in many lives and embody the Savage Police Department's mission, vision, and values.



Volunteer of the Year Jan Hannah

Jan has shown unwavering dedication to the Savage Police Department over the years. Since 2017, she has assisted with community events like the Citizens Academy, Law Enforcement Torch Run, Polar Plunge, Open House, and more. But in 2023, Jan volunteered to work at the front desk on Mondays and Tuesdays,

the busiest days of the week. In 2023, she volunteered 372 hours, answered 1003 phone calls, and assisted 502 walk-in customers! "Jan is a constant, steady, calm captain at our front desk," praised Chief Seurer. "She is punctual, organized, and reliable. While we all appreciated her help up front, the Record Specialists have truly benefited from her extra time on the front line." Thank you, Jan!



Thank you for your service!

Captain Scott Gordon retired on April 26, 2024, from the Savage Police Department after almost 28 years of service. Gordon was proud to be a police officer. "Being part of a dedicated, loyal team of fellow officers, working to make a difference in people's lives was a very satisfying career," reflects Gordon. "The larger team of records staff, dispatchers, paramedics, firefighters, and officers from neighboring agencies made the team feel even bigger and more impactful. I am left with some fond memories, funny stories, sad stories, and some memories I would rather not revisit. Reflecting on a career forces a person to take inventory of their life, specifically their professional life. Working in law enforcement was an honor and a privilege. I can't think of another profession I would have been better off spending most of my working years." Of course, he will miss his co-workers, many of whom have become lifelong friends, but Scott is looking forward to spending more time with family and friends, welcoming more grandchildren, traveling, neglecting home projects, and figuring out what to do when he grows up for his "retirement job." "For nearly three decades, Captain Gordon has served to protect this community in a wide range of positions," states Police Chief Rodney Seurer. "We thank Captain Gordon for his outstanding service to our community. You have served us well! We wish you all the best!"

Meet Police Officer Kris Flaten

How long have you been a police officer? I have been a police officer for almost five years now. I was a community service officer for two years before becoming a police officer.

What made you want to become a police officer?

My father was a police officer when I was growing up, and I have always admired his work.

I had a lot of fun and learned a lot going on ride-a-longs with him, and I always enjoyed seeing his squad car in the driveway at home. I joined an explorer program in high school with a nearby police department. My experience in the program taught me countless life skills and furthered my desire to become a police officer. I am one of the advisors for our explorer program at Savage, so it has been great getting the opportunity to teach youths and young adults interested in law enforcement.

Tell us you are a police officer without telling us you're a police officer! When I'm driving off-duty and see a car clearly speeding, I instinctively reach for my radar remote, which, of course, isn't there!

What do you like to do when you are not working?

I enjoy going to car shows and sports car races, as well as working on cars at home. Ask anyone who knows me, and they'll tell you I like cars – a lot. I have also been working to improve my golf game and photography skills, and I enjoy collecting police patches. Most of all, I love spending time with my family and our dogs at home and the cabin.

What is your favorite candy?

Twix (left side).



Designated Driver Program | May 24-27

Win big by becoming the designated driver.

Did you know the 100-day stretch from Memorial Day to Labor Day is considered the most dangerous time on the roads in Minnesota? Alcohol is one of the main reasons for fatal car crashes during the summer season. This Memorial Day weekend, the Savage Police Department is teaming up with McHugh's Public House, Neisens, Whisky Inferno, Buffalo Wild Wings (*Savage location only*), and Crooked Pint (*Savage location only*) to reward designated drivers.

Here's how it works:

1. Stop by any of these establishments between Friday, May 24, and Monday, May 27, and tell your server you are the designated driver.
2. Scan the QR code and submit your information (one entry per designated driver).
3. All participating designated drivers will be entered into a drawing for Lakefront Music Festival tickets, Saints tickets, WreckIt Rage Room gift card, and more.

Thank you to the Prior Lake Lions and Burnsville-Savage Lions for sponsoring this program. Let's make it a safe Memorial Day weekend.



City's New Firefighters

Six new firefighters (left to right), Sam Phillips, Dillon Settergren, Matt Jensen, Dalton Burns, Emily Nelson, and Marc Marispini, recently graduated from the Scott County Fire Academy, demonstrating dedication and commitment. They learned fundamental fire suppression skills, hazardous materials management, and rescue techniques during their training. They will receive further training in the fire department field program to familiarize themselves with department policies and procedures. This prepares our newest firefighters to provide excellent service to the community and collaborate effectively with public safety partners during mutual aid situations. Congratulations to these firefighters on their achievement!

Good News!

Our new fire truck arrived.

Sizzle, sizzle! The Savage Fire Department has a brand-new shiny fire truck! The process of acquiring a new apparatus is quite extensive. It's been a long time coming, but it is worth the wait. The new Ladder 1 truck has a lot of new technology that increases effective operations and safety measures. One of those features is a thermal camera at the tip of the ladder. Traditionally, certain firefighting tactics involved positioning firefighters in a bucket or at the end of the ladder to direct a water stream from an elevated position, exposing the firefighters to heat, carcinogens, and other hazardous chemicals. Utilizing the technology of a thermal imaging camera improves suppression efforts as the camera can identify fires concealed underneath smoke and structures.



Name a Savage Fire Truck Contest

To officially welcome the new ladder truck to their fleet, we seek help from community members, ages 5-12, in naming our new fire truck!

- The contest will run from 8 a.m. Monday, April 8 through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, May 7. A link to the contest is on the Savage Fire Department Facebook page and at cityofsavage.com.
- Entries will be collected and narrowed down to the top 5 names by Fire Department staff.
- The top 5 names will be posted online for public voting. Public voting will begin at 8 a.m. Thursday, May 9, ends at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, May 12. A link for voting will be shared on the Savage Fire Department Facebook page.
- The top 5 names and their immediate family members will be invited to the Savage Fire Department for a pizza party and a private viewing of the new truck.
- The winning name will be announced on Tuesday, May 14, on the Savage Fire Department Facebook page.
- The winning name will also be installed on the new fire truck.

Criteria:

- Children who live in Savage, ages 5-12, can submit one name.
- Names should be creative and fun! They can reflect the fire department's culture, history, City, or region.
- Names should be appropriate. Inappropriate names will not be considered.
- If more than one person submits a winning name, a draw will be made amongst those who submitted the selected name.

Naturally Resourceful

Private tree removal information

As Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) continues to move through the City of Savage, more and more ash trees will be susceptible to the impacts of EAB if not treated and may need to be removed. Here is important information for homeowners to know before removing any tree on private property:

- Make sure the tree is on private property. It is unlawful to remove any trees from public land. If you are unsure whether the tree is on private or public property, please call the City's Natural Resource Technician Jonah Reyes at **952-882-2665**.
- Be sure to identify the tree species and EAB signs correctly. If unsure, call a certified arborist or tree inspector.
- Hire a registered tree contractor to remove the tree(s) safely. We recommend getting at least three different quotes.
- If large equipment is needed for the tree removal operation and if there is a possibility that the street will be obstructed, the contractor needs to obtain a right-of-way permit from the City.
- If your tree is still in fair, good, or excellent condition, consider treating it. The City has partnered with Rainbow Treecare to offer a discounted rate to Savage residents.

Helpful resources:

- Registered Tree Contractors: cityofsavage.com/departments/natural-and-water-resources/trees
- Rainbow Treecare: rainbowtreecare.com/cities/savage/
- MN DNR: dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/eab

Upcoming Community Events

Savage Recycle Day | May 4

8 a.m. - noon at Savage Community Park

The annual Savage Recycling Day will be Saturday, May 4, from 8 a.m. to noon at Savage Community Park, 13500 Dakota Ave. This is a drop-off event where Savage and Credit River residents can dispose of appliances, electronics, furniture, yard waste, and other unwanted items for a reasonable fee.

PLEASE NOTE: Bridging Inc. will not collect donations at Savage Recycling Day.

- Bring a valid driver's license or another form of I.D. to prove residency
- No vehicles larger than a pickup truck
- No trailers larger than 8 X 12 feet

A complete list of accepted and unaccepted items and fees is available at cityofsavage.com, or pick up a flyer at City Hall, Public Works, or Savage Public Library. For more information or questions, contact the City at **952-882-2660**.

Savage Police Open House | May 18

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Savage Police Department

In recognition of National Police Week, Savage Police invites the community to its annual Open House at the Savage Police Department, 6000 McColl Drive. Stop by to see a wide variety of public safety vehicles, meet some of our police officers, and tour the department. In addition, there will be face painting, a fingerprinting activity, and snacks for the kids. Hope to see you there! This is a free community event.

NEW! Treats 'n Tunes (Replaces Music in the Park)

Join your neighbors, family, and friends for an evening of fun and entertainment! Enjoy FREE ice cream and yard games from 6-7 p.m. and listen to a performance from a wide range of talented, kid-friendly musicians from 7-8 p.m. Each event will be hosted at a different park and feature a new musician throughout the summer. *NOTE: September 17 will be held from 5-7 p.m. Treats 'n Tunes is FREE and open to the public.

May 14 • 6-8 p.m.

McCann Park, 7125 South Park Drive
The Bazillions (Kids/Family)

June 25 • 6-8 p.m.

River Bend Park, 14347 Joppa Ave.
Teddy Bear Band (Kids/Family)

July 23 • 6-8 p.m.

Hidden Valley Park, 5000 132nd St.
Sawyer's Dream (Folk/Pop/Rock)

August 27 • 6-8 p.m.

Schroeder's Acres Park,
12320 Boone Ave.
Pan-Handlers Steel Drum Band (Caribbean)

*September 17 • 5-7 p.m.

O'Connell Park, 5165 South Park Drive
Todd 'n' Tina (Kids/Family)



KEEP IN TOUCH:



Business and Development

Business Spotlight

Community Development Director Regina Dean recently met with Mark Muller, Service Operations Manager for Carmeuse Americas at 12501 Yosemite Ave., to learn more about the Savage facility. Carmeuse Americas is located within the area known as the Ports of Savage on the Minnesota River and is a leading provider of lime and limestone-based products. Limestone product is carried on barges up the Minnesota River and then processed into granules and powders. The finished product is sold to companies that sell roofing shingles and animal feed. The location has 40 employees and is a 24-hour operation.



Do you have a new business to share or need business resources? Contact Regina Dean at **952-882-2652**.

Prepping for a Pool Permit:

5 P's to ensure the process is painless.

Thinking about building a pool in your backyard? Here are some tips to help you with the process:

Prepare - Determine if you need a permit. Most in-ground pools require a permit. Above-ground pools that are over 5,000 gallons also require a permit.

Plan - Most residential areas allow up to 35% impervious surface, meaning that on a 10,000-square-foot lot, only 3,500 square feet can be covered by a house, driveway, sidewalks, pool, sports court, and storage shed. Be sure to consider the maximum impervious surface, pool location, fence placement, and other amenities in relation to easements and zoning setbacks when designing your project.

Permit - Several items must be submitted when your contractor applies for a permit, including an up-to-date certificate of survey and construction plans. Don't forget to include the location of existing and proposed trees, retaining walls, sidewalks, patios, pool equipment, pool decking, and landscaping.

Patience - Review of the permit application and follow-up inspections takes some time, but the wait will be worth it!

Party - Once you submit an As-Built survey and final inspections take place, it's time to celebrate and enjoy a dip in your new pool.

For detailed requirements about swimming pools, contact Building Inspections at **952-882-2650** or savageinspections@cityofsavage.com.

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