



FALL
2026

CITY OF BIRCHWOOD VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Birchwood Village Connections Committee Fall Event!

Join your Birchwood neighbors for **Flannel Fest** on **Sunday, October 25 from 4-6 p.m. at Village Hall!**

We are planning a cozy fall afternoon with **fun for all ages!** Activities, food, and plenty of time to gather with neighbors.

Beverages are **BYOB**, so bring your favorite fall drink and come enjoy the festivities.

More details to come — for now, mark your calendars and get those flannels ready!

Parks Committee Updates and Reminders

The Parks and Natural Resources Committee hopes everyone has had a fantastic summer. As we transition to cooler months, we wanted to provide a few updates and reminders for everyone.

First, the **stormwater improvements at Tighe-Schmitz Park are scheduled to begin in early September.** This project is years in the making and we are very excited to finally see shovels in the ground!

We are also pleased to announce that **Artrio will perform on September 13th** as a rescheduled **Music in the Park** performance that was cancelled earlier this summer due to weather. We look forward to enjoying Artrio's performance!

Finally, please note **the city requests all bikes, including e-bikes, be walked on city trails.** There are signs posted on Ash Path to please walk your bike to keep everyone on the trail safe. Please be mindful of other users on our roads and trails while riding.

Recycling Reminders

- Avoid "wish-cycling": Don't put an item in the recycling just because you hope it can be recycled. Items that don't belong can contaminate recyclable materials or damage recycling equipment.
- Keep recyclables loose: Never put recyclables in plastic bags before placing them in your recycling cart.
- Empty and rinse containers: Food and liquid residue can contaminate other recyclable materials.

Birchwood Through Your Lens!

Do you have a **great photo of Birchwood Village?** We would love to see it! The City is looking for photos taken around Birchwood to feature in newsletters, social media, the City website, and other communications.

Submit your favorite Birchwood photos for a chance to be featured! Photos can capture anything that makes Birchwood special—from parks and trails to wildlife, sunsets, community events, or everyday moments around town.

Submit your photos to:
citysupport@cityofbirchwood.com

Photos submitted to the City constitute permission to use and publish in City-created media.

Condolences

We are saddened to share that Birchwood resident Gene Ruehle passed away on June 29. We extend our sincere condolences to Gene's family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time.

Welcome New Residents:

- Samuel Miller, 184 Cedar Street
- Mike Henry, 211 Birch Street
- Matt & Cathy Nipper, 523 Wildwood Avenue
- Hans & Ashley Gorowasky, 707 Hall Avenue

Check out our new website!

You may have noticed that the City website has a fresh new look! We are excited to officially share our redesigned website with everyone. The updated site features **improved navigation, a modern design, and easier access to the information and services you use most.** If you have not had a chance to explore it yet, we invite you to take another look and discover what is new at cityofbirchwood.com

Mayor's Corner

Dear Birchwood Residents,

As we head into Fall, I'd like to thank those who spend many hours making Birchwood a wonderful place to call home.

Thank you to:

- Al Mitchell for organizing Music In the Park. The audiences this summer were larger than ever. What a great way for community to gather!
- Bridget Sperl for spearheading the construction of the City's new website and garden at City Hall.
- Our City staff for coordinating the many contractors it takes to maintain the City.
- The City Clerk for scheduling a City audit, coordinating the Lake Links equipment purchases, organizing the storage and garage cleanout, along with many other important tasks that keep the City running.
- The Community Club for organizing the 4th of July parade.
- The Connections Committee for kicking off Music In the Park with an ice cream social and rock painting event.
- For the many residents who volunteer behind the scenes: The Parks Committee, the Planning Commission, Danny Werra, Dana Klimp, Barton Winter, Michael Lein, John Lund, Julie McKenzie, Chris Sorenson and any others who inadvertently have not been named.

As we look forward to Fall, your City Council will be preparing the 2027 budget and working with the Road Focus Group to adapt the road plan to include the many needed repairs to the stormwater and sanitary sewer systems. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Arsenault, Mayor of Birchwood Village

jennifer.arsenault@cityofbirchwood.com



Remove Canoes and Kayaks 10/31

Please remember to remove your canoes and kayaks from the rentable city racks on public easements by October 31st.

Fall Leaf Pick Up

If you are interested in leaf and yard waste pickup, please reach out to Tennis Sanitation at 651-459-1887 for pricing and information.

Election Day is November 3rd

Birchwood Village Hall, located at 207 Birchwood Avenue, serves as the City's polling place for the November 3, 2026 election. The polls will be open on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Yoga at City Hall Update

We are sorry but Yoga will not be offered at this time. The city hopes to initiate this again and will keep you posted with updates.

Northeast Youth & Family Services

NYFS offers a variety of programs and services designed to support holistic well-being, including clinic-based therapy, psychological evaluations, and medication management. Visit NYFS.org for more information.

Meet Our New City Planner: Scott Saehr

Beginning September 1, Scott Saehr and Saehr Consulting (SaehrCo) will begin providing planning and zoning services for the City of Birchwood Village.

Scott's background includes municipal administration, community development, and planning and zoning, with experience supporting cities and townships throughout Minnesota. Through SaehrCo, Scott and his team work as an extension of staff, helping with projects, priorities, and day-to-day community needs.

Scott and the SaehrCo team look forward to working with Birchwood Village and providing practical, solution-focused support to City staff and residents as they navigate planning, zoning, and community development needs.

Join Our Email List

If you don't currently receive email notices from the city, please reach out to info@cityofbirchwood.com or visit cityofbirchwood.com and click 'Sign Up for City Announcements' to be added to the list. Weekly announcements, emergency notices and other important updates are sent through that list!