



# Circle Pines City News

[circlepinesmn.gov](http://circlepinesmn.gov)

February 2026

## New!! Garbage & Recycling Curbside Sticker Program will be Discontinued beginning March 1

**WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?** You will no longer need stickers to get rid of items at the curb.



### Bulk Item & Appliance Curbside Pickup

If you have a bulk item or an appliance that you need to have picked up at the curb, you will now call Republic Services at 320-252-

9608 to schedule and pay for this service, select prompt 1 for Residential/Home Services, and then Prompt 3 for Bulk/Large Item Collection. Bulk Pickup is on Tuesday and Appliance Pickup is on Wednesday. You will need to call to schedule and prepay by Thursday the week prior to the pickup.

### Extra Garbage Bags

If you have extra garbage bags to get rid of on Friday "garbage day", please call Republic Services by Tuesday to pay for and notify Republic of your extra bags. Use the same number and prompts as the Bulk Large Item Collection.

### Yard Waste Bags

Due to the infrequency of use, yard waste bags at the curb will no longer be picked up. Leaf Pickup Days will continue and are scheduled for April 25, October 17 & November 14. Yard Waste Carts are an option for curbside pickup, the cost is \$95 for the season.

*Just a reminder...* Recycle/Cleanup Days are another opportunity to get rid of items. Recycled items are free and garbage is taken for a fee. Be on the look out for the Recycler Newsletter for more information this spring.



### City Council Opening

The City Council is accepting applications to fill a vacancy on the City Council. The council term will end December 31, 2027. The City Council typically meets at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Interested individuals should fill out an application and return it to City Hall by 4 p.m. February 27, 2026. Applications can be found on the city website at [circlepinesmn.gov](http://circlepinesmn.gov) or at City Hall.

### Full Time Park Maintenance Employment Opportunity

The City of Circle Pines is seeking a full time Park Maintenance Worker. This position performs a broad range of park-related maintenance, construction and safety operations within the park and trail system. Minimum requirements are a high school diploma, ability to operate heavy machinery, one year of experience in parks and/or public works maintenance. Salary Range is \$31.36-36.99 per hour. Additional compensation is available for obtaining a Pesticide License. Working hours are Monday through Friday 6:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

City applications are available by downloading the application on the city website at [circlepinesmn.gov](http://circlepinesmn.gov) or by stopping by city hall located at 200 Civic Heights Circle. Application must be returned to City Hall by 4 p.m., February 13, 2026. If you have questions email [cpeterson@circlepinesmn.gov](mailto:cpeterson@circlepinesmn.gov).

# CITY COUNCIL

## Mayor Matt Percy

mpercy@circlepinesmn.gov  
651-276-6994

## Steve McChesney

smchesney@circlepinesmn.gov  
651-604-7678

## Nici Dorner

ndorner@circlepinesmn.gov  
651-329-5192

## Meagan Bachmayer

mbachmayer@circlepinesmn.gov  
612-875-0686

*email all council members at  
citycouncil@circlepinesmn.gov*

## City Administrator

Patrick Antonen  
pantonen@circlepinesmn.gov  
763-784-5898

## City Hall

200 Civic Heights Circle  
Circle Pines, MN 55014  
763-784-5898  
TDD:763-231-2617  
circlepinesmn.gov  
cityhall@circlepinesmn.gov

## City Hall Hours

M-F: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## February Public Meetings

**City Council**  
02/10 & 02/24 7 p.m.

**Park Board**  
02/03 6:30 p.m.

**Utilities Commission**  
02/24 5 p.m.

**Planning Commission**  
02/23 7 p.m.

You can also view the latest Council meeting at any time on the Website at [circlepinesmn.gov](http://circlepinesmn.gov). Click on Government and then City Council meeting video on demand.

## Missed Garbage/Recycle Pickup

Call Republic Services at  
763-259-5535

## SBM Fire Department: Strengthening Fire & Emergency Services in Circle Pines

Article by Dan Retka, SBM Fire Chief

My name is Dan Retka, and I am honored to serve as the Fire Chief of SBM (Spring Lake Park, Blaine, Mounds View) Fire Department. I'd like to share an update on what recent changes mean for Circle Pines.

Over the past four years, local fire services have undergone a major transition, with the Centennial Fire District merging into SBM Fire. This merger marks an exciting new chapter and strengthens the level of fire and emergency service available to your community.

A key part of this transition has been the Centennial firefighters who chose to continue serving Circle Pines as members of SBM Fire. Their experience, local knowledge, and dedication have been invaluable and remain a strong asset to the community.

One of the most noticeable improvements is that Circle Pines is now served by a fully staffed fire station 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Firefighters are on duty around the clock and ready to respond immediately to medical emergencies, fires, vehicle crashes, and other urgent situations—ensuring fast, dependable service when it matters most.

This partnership also positions us well for the future. By working together, we are creating a sustainable, cost-effective model that allows us to maintain high-quality emergency services while managing rising costs.

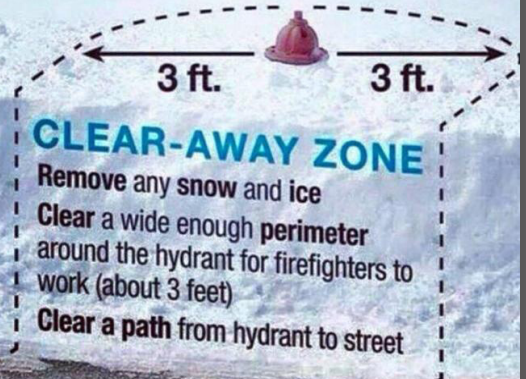
Thank you for your support during this transition. The SBM Fire Department is proud to serve Circle Pines and remains committed to keeping our communities safe now and into the future.



**City Hall will be closed on Monday, February 16 for Presidents' Day**

## KEEP THEM CLEAR

If there's a fire hydrant near your house, do your part to keep it accessible this winter:



## Library News Centennial Library

February is a short, but jam packed with activity this winter. This month we celebrate the start of the Winter Olympics, the continuation of our Winter Reads program, the Centennial Area Chamber's Winterfest, plus our usual calendar of programs and events. Plus, you're always welcome to just join us and sit by the fire. With all that in mind, here's some of what's happening this February at Centennial Library.

### Storytimes

Storytimes are back! We will start the week of February 2 and will run through the week of April 25. Please call or ask at the desk for more information. We have three options for you:

*Baby Storytimes* are Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.; this session is designed for children under 2. Registration IS required for this session; Register by phone, online, or by asking at the desk.

*Toddler Storytimes* are Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m.; this session is designed for children between ages 2-3.

*Family Storytimes* are Thursdays at 11:15 a.m.; any age is welcome to these sessions.

### Families

*Winterfest Storytime*. Thursday, February 19, 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Come join us at the library for a special Winterfest Storytime! We'll be sharing stories and songs for kids and their families, followed by a special winter-themed craft.

We're looking forward to being a participant in Winterfest, the Centennial area's second annual community-wide celebration of winter. Running February 13-21, there will be a wide range of activities that will get residents out to enjoy the winter season and support local businesses. See the Centennial Area Chamber for more information: <https://shorturl.at/0JUDI>

### Adults

Centennial Bookclub for Adults. Monday, February 23, 6:45 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Interested in trying out a new book group? Join us for the Centennial Book Club! Drop in for a favorite book discussion or become a regular member. This month's book is *Loch Ness Uncovered: Media, Misinformation, and the Greatest Monster Hoax of All Time* by Rebecca Siegel.

### Everyone

Remember, Winter Reads continues through the end of the month. Check our website or stop by for more information.

The library will be CLOSED Monday, February 16th for President's Day.

**Centennial's hours of operation are:**  
**Monday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.**  
**Tuesday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.**  
**Wednesday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.**  
**Thursday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.**  
**Friday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**Sunday: Closed**

## Reduce Salt, Reduce Pollution – Tips for a Cleaner Winter

Minnesota winters can be unpredictable, sometimes abnormally warm with little snow, other times bitterly cold with heavy snowfall. No matter the conditions, winter brings the chore of clearing sidewalks and driveways. Snow and ice often lead us to reach for salt, but using too much can do more harm than good.

When snow melts or rain falls, salt doesn't disappear. It washes into storm drains, flows into lakes and rivers, and seeps into groundwater. This chloride pollution harms fish, aquatic life, and even soil health. The good news? We can stay safe and protect our waters by using salt wisely:

- Shovel and scrape first. The more snow and ice you remove manually, the less salt you'll need.
  - Check the temperature. Salt stops working below 15°F. Use sand for traction instead, but remember, sand doesn't melt ice.
  - Use the right amount. More salt doesn't mean more safety. About 12 ounces (a coffee mug) treats a 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares. Apply evenly and only where needed.
  - Sweep up leftovers. Salt on dry pavement isn't working, reuse it later and save money.
  - Store salt properly. Keep it covered on impervious surfaces to prevent runoff.
- With these tips, we can not only reduce pollution by reducing salt, but we can ensure we have a cleaner winter. Reducing salt use means cleaner water, healthier ecosystems, and safer communities. Let's salt the sidewalks, not our rivers.



### Now Accepting Applications for Seasonal Summer Jobs

#### **Park Maintenance Worker**

The individuals will perform various types of manual labor, groundskeeping, operate light equipment, such as lawn mowers,

and work on various projects in the park system. Position pays \$17/hr. Work hours are Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Applicant must be 16 years or older.

#### **Public Works Maintenance Worker**

Centennial Utilities/City of Circle Pines is currently looking for summer seasonal employees for the Public Works Department to perform various types of manual labor and operate light equipment. Applicant must be 18 years or older. Work hours are Monday-Friday 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Position pays \$17/hr.

#### **Applications for Positions**

Please fill out a city application and return to City Hall or email application to [cpeterson@circlepinesmn.gov](mailto:cpeterson@circlepinesmn.gov). Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.

### Winter Fire Safety Tip: Give Your Space Heater Some Space

During Minnesota's long winter stretch, space heaters are a common way to warm up chilly rooms – but they're also one of the leading causes of home heating fires. A simple habit can make a big difference: keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from your space heater. That includes blankets, furniture, clothing, and décor. Always turn the heater off when you leave the room or head to bed and plug it directly into a wall outlet (never a power strip).

These small precautions are one of the most effective ways to prevent winter heating fires and keep your home safe all season long.

If you have questions about home fire safety, the Spring Lake Park-Blaine-Mounds View (SBM) Fire Department is here to help! Give us a call today at 763-767-4003.

