

# ANOKA COUNTY NEWS

Volume 1-2022



Redrawing  
**the**  
Districts



## Reapportionment Comes First

Anoka County, like many other governmental bodies across the nation, is currently in the process of redistricting. This procedure is multilayered, and counties take on this task after reapportionment has been accomplished at the congressional level, and after state-level redistricting. According to the Minnesota Legislature Reference Library, reapportionment is the process of reassigning a given number of seats in a legislative body to established districts, usually in accordance with an established plan or formula.

The U.S. Census, which is conducted every 10 years to count the nation's population, plays an integral role in reapportionment and redistricting. For reapportionment, it's to ensure each state is allocated representation fairly in the 435-member U.S. House of Representatives. The apportionment population counts for each state are delivered to the President within nine months of the Census date.

State-level population data was released last year and showed that Minnesota kept its eight congressional seats by the thinnest of margins. If just 26 fewer Minnesotans had completed the Census, the state would have lost one of its seats. Instead, New York was the unlucky state that lost a seat.

# State Redistricting is next

Before Anoka County can begin its commissioner redistricting process, the state must finish redrawing its own boundaries.

In Minnesota, the Legislature is tasked with redrawing congressional and legislative districts. District boundaries are drawn so that approximately the same number of persons are contained within each congressional district.

However, over the last five redistricting periods, totaling 50 years, Minnesota courts have stepped in to establish redistricting plans when legislatures and governors couldn't agree.

The deadline for the Minnesota Legislature to complete redistricting was Feb. 15, 2022.

As in past redistricting cycles, the courts stepped in after the deadline passed, and a special five-judge panel released new congressional and legislative maps. Visit [gis.lcc.mn.gov/](https://gis.lcc.mn.gov/) to access the maps.



## Municipal Redistricting Follows

After new congressional and legislative maps are established, cities and townships will begin the process of redrawing their ward and precinct boundaries. Cities and townships may need to adjust their precincts due to changing district boundaries, population shifts, or other considerations. The deadline for municipal redistricting is March 29, 2022.



## Then Counties Redistrict

For more information on the county's  
redistricting process, visit  
[anokacounty.us/4160/Redistricting](https://anokacounty.us/4160/Redistricting)

Once new ward and precinct lines are established, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners will undertake the process of redrawing its county commissioner districts.

County commissioner redistricting must be completed by April 26, 2022. Commissioners will be up for reelection in 2022 if their regular 4-year term is expiring or if the population in their district is shifted more than 5 percent of the average district size in the county. This threshold is 2,599 for 2022 redistricting, meaning if more than 2,599 people are moved in or out of a district, then the commissioner must run for reelection. In 2012, six of the seven Anoka County Commissioner seats were on the ballot (only District 4 did not need to run for reelection).

If an incumbent county commissioner is shifted into another commissioner district as a result of redistricting, the commissioner can complete the end of their term as long as they remain a resident of the county.

Other districts, including school districts and soil and water conservation districts that elect their members/supervisors by district, may also need to redraw their lines following the completion of municipal redistricting. Their deadline is the same as the county commissioner redistricting (April 26, 2022).

"The Anoka County Board is working in step with county staff to complete a redistricting map that adheres to all parameters and is fair to each commissioner," said Scott Schulte, chair, Anoka County Board of Commissioners. "This process has been transparent throughout, and I'm confident the new boundaries will work well for our elected officials and residents."

The board will have a special meeting to consider the redistricting plan at 1 p.m. April 26 in room 705 of the Anoka County Government Center.

Following redistricting, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners will determine which commissioners will be elected for two-year terms and which will be elected for four-year terms. County commissioners must have staggered terms. After 2022, all commissioners will once again be elected for four years.

A qualified voter can apply to district court to either (a) require a county to redistrict that has not already done so; or (b) require a county to revise the redistricting plan on the grounds that it has violated statutory requirements. If a county has not fulfilled its requirements, the court may offer additional time for the county board to correct errors in the redistricting plan or it may appoint a redistricting commission to redistrict the county in accordance with the statutory requirements.

The early candidate filing period (for offices with a possible primary election) will take place May 17 to May 31, 2022. Candidates will file for office at that time based on the newly established district lines.

Anoka County registered voters will receive a postcard in July confirming their election districts and polling place location in advance of the Aug. 9, 2022, primary election.



## Steps After Redistricting

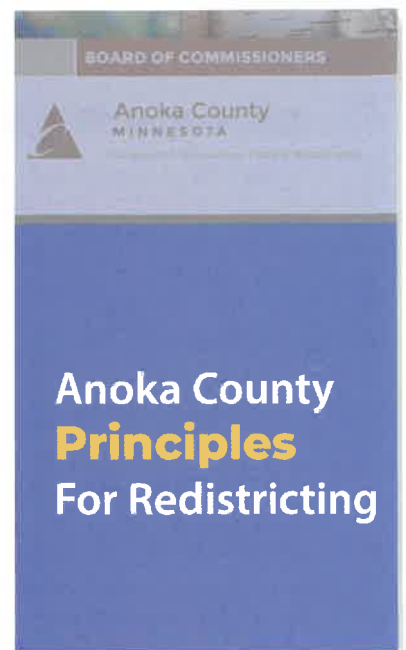


## Requirements by MN State Statute

- County is divided into as many districts as there are members of the county board.
- Districts are bounded by town, municipal, ward or precinct lines.
- Districts are composed of contiguous territory as regular and compact in form as practicable.
- Districts as nearly equal in population as possible (no more than 10 percent variation from average).
- A majority of the least populous districts cannot contain less than a majority of the county population.

## Other considerations

- No city represented by a majority of commissioners.
- Preserve communities of interest, including citizens with similar social, geographic, political, cultural, ethnic, economic or other interests.
- Districts drawn without the purpose of either protecting or defeating incumbents.
- Anticipating future growth.



## Anoka County Researching Options for New Jail



The Anoka County Jail, located in downtown Anoka, was built in 1983 and was originally designed for 140 inmates.

The county population at that time: 205,362.

As of the 2020 Census, Anoka County's population was 363,887 — an increase of nearly 160,000 residents from

1983. And that figure is projected to keep growing, up another 40,000-plus by 2040.

The jail currently has a functional capacity of 180, which is not enough to handle the volume of inmates who are processed through the county's justice system. The county spends a substantial amount of money each year boarding inmates at other facilities. For about three years, from 2018 to 2021, Anoka County spent nearly \$2.6 million to board inmates at Sherburne and Wright County facilities. And due to COVID-19, many county jails are now refusing to take inmates from other counties — there are just a handful that are willing to at this point.

Due to the capacity challenges, which are exacerbated by classifications that prevent jails from housing certain types of inmates together, and deterioration issues that frequently arise at the jail, Anoka County has been researching options for a new jail. A criminal justice workgroup was formed, consisting of representatives from county administration, social services, corrections, 10th Judicial District, public defenders, Sheriff's Office, jail administration, and the County Board of Commissioners. This group met over several years to identify short-term process improvements and long-term needs. There have been two different jail assessments completed — one in 2017 and another in 2020.

Several scenarios and locations were discussed, with the preferred option being a two-story, 540-bed facility adjacent to the Anoka County Government Center, where the building's parking ramp is currently located. A new facility would solve the overcrowding and boarding-out problems Anoka County continues to face; safety would increase for both jail staff and inmates; and the county would be able to better handle complex mental health needs of inmates in a facility that has areas designed for that function.

Expanding the current jail has been discussed, but this option would be logistically difficult, and costly. The only option with an expansion would be to go up, not out, and structurally, the facility can't be expanded vertically without significant foundation support. Inmates would also have to be boarded out at other jails during construction, which is another challenge to an expansion rather than construction of a new facility.

Anoka County is currently researching several options for funding a new jail, including bonding and grant opportunities.

The Anoka County Board of Commissioners in October of 2021 approved an amendment to a contract with Wold Architects and Engineers for site plan and design services related to the construction of various public safety and correctional facilities, including a new jail, new parking ramp and new emergency communications facility.

"There are more steps in the process before any construction could take place, and there will be more opportunities for discussion among commissioners and the public about the jail and other public safety projects in the coming months," said District 2 Anoka County Commissioner Julie Braastad.

# Alert Systems Allows County to Send Messages to Phones, Broadcasters

Anyone who has a smart phone has probably received a warning message on it at some point, whether that's an AMBER Alert or another type of emergency message sent by a local jurisdiction.

Not every county or municipality has the technology in place to send these messages — which can be delivered when there's extreme weather, active shooters, or other emerging threats — but the Anoka County Emergency Communications Center has this ability via the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS). This system allows the county to send Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) and Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages to geographical areas within the county. WEAs, which are the result of a partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), are short emergency messages that can be sent to enabled mobile devices via cell towers. EAS messages are delivered to radio and TV broadcasters. Anoka County rarely sends out EAS messages.

WEAs, which are sent free of charge, are no more than 360 characters and will contain the name of the authorizing agency, instructions, a description of the emergency, the area of the emergency, further instruction if necessary, and instruction on how to keep updated on the emergency.

Some top questions about WEAs include:

## Why didn't I get the WEA alert but someone near me did?

Not receiving an alert may be due to inadequate cell reception, or some mobile phones will not show an alert when a person is on a call — this varies by make and model.

Not receiving an alert may also be because a mobile phone is:

- On Wi-Fi and doesn't have a wireless connection.
- Set to "off" or "airplane mode."
- Not connected to a cell site broadcasting the alert.
- Connected to a cell site that is not broadcasting the alert, undergoing maintenance or is out of service.
- The device is opted out of receiving alerts. The location of the alerts opt-in/opt-out menu typically is in the notifications settings menu.

## Why did I receive the alert outside of the geographical area?

A WEA can be received miles outside the geographical area because the signal can bounce off different towers. As technology improves, the accuracy of delivery will improve.



## More Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Can I call 911 with questions about a WEA?

**A:** No. Residents should only call 911 if they have pertinent information regarding an emergency that can help the public safety responders.

**Q:** What are the types of Wireless Emergency Alerts that Anoka County 911 might send?

**A:** Imminent Threat Alerts include natural or human-made disasters, extreme weather, active shooters, and other threatening emergencies that are current or emerging.

Public Safety Alerts contain information about a threat that may not be imminent or after an imminent threat has occurred. Public safety alerts are less severe than imminent threat alerts.

**Q:** Can I opt out of these alerts?

**A:** Yes, mobile device owners can opt out of alerts with the exception of a Presidential Alert.

**Q:** Who gets these messages?

**A:** A message is drafted upon a geographical area that is selected based on the situation. A WEA message is sent to the selected geographical area. It's estimated that only 35 percent of cell phones within the alert area will accurately receive the alert at this time — this may lead to some over alerting. As technology improves, the accuracy of delivery will improve.

"The technology Anoka County uses to send alerts is emerging, and currently has some limitations, but it's an important tool for enhancing public safety in our communities," said District 5 Anoka County Commissioner Mike Gamache.

**For additional information, visit [fema.gov](http://fema.gov) and search "integrated public alert and warning system."**



[anokacounty.us/4081/Careers](http://anokacounty.us/4081/Careers)

**Become a 911 dispatcher – it's not just a career, it's a calling!**

# Commissioner Schulte Receives AMC President's Award



Schulte, left, is presented the President's Award.

Anoka County Commissioner Scott Schulte received the 2021 Association of Minnesota Counties' (AMC) President's Award for years of dedicated service and exemplary leadership in county government. The 2020-21 AMC President Rich Sve (Lake County commissioner) selected Commissioner Schulte to receive this honor.

The prestigious President's Award is presented to an individual who has a deep history of public service to their community and county.

Commissioner Schulte, a lifelong Rotarian, was first elected to the Anoka County Board in 2012, after serving 13 years on the Coon Rapids City Council. He has served as board chair for the past 2 ½ years. He is a current member of the AMC Board of Directors and an AMC past president. Commissioner Schulte believes a good county commissioner is versatile, passionate, and can make decisions that benefit the most citizens possible.



In addition to his roles with AMC, Commissioner Schulte serves on many committees for the County Board; he leads the Preferred Business Partners program, which brings together the public and private sectors in a mutually beneficial relationship; he serves on the Greater MSP Board of Directors; and he was recently elected as chair of the Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards.

"I'm honored and humbled to receive this award," said Commissioner Schulte. "What made this recognition possible is the support of my fellow commissioners and the hard work of our county staff. When I've been busy at AMC, they've always been back in Anoka County, making sure everything runs as it should. Their professionalism and dedication to our residents is unwavering and admirable."

AMC is a voluntary statewide organization that assists the state's 87 counties in providing effective county governance to the people of Minnesota. The association works closely with the legislative and administrative branches of government in seeing that legislation and policies favorable to counties are enacted. In addition, the association provides educational programs, training, research and communications for county officials.

## Anoka County Human Services Manager Wins AMC Outstanding Service Award



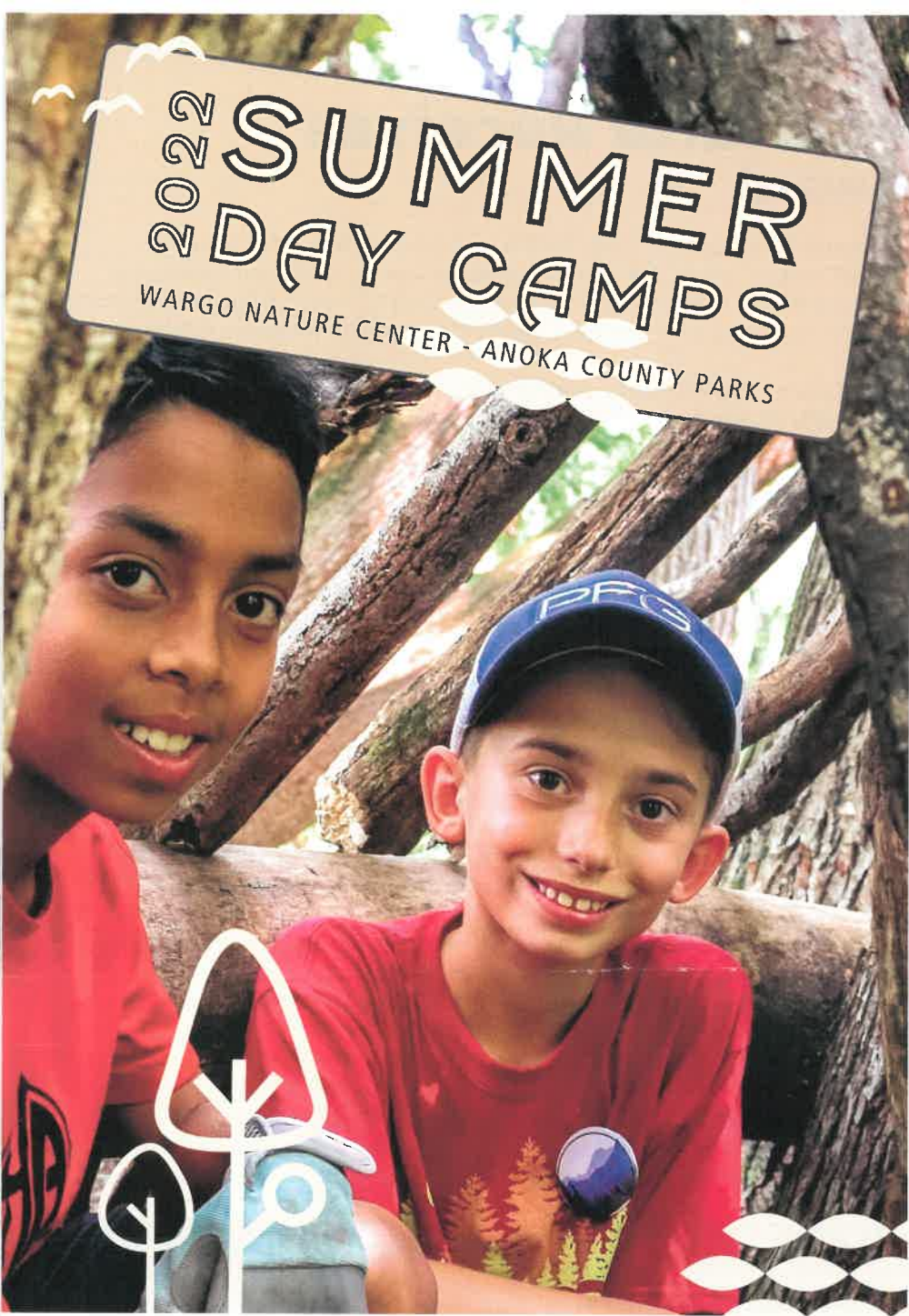
Cindy Cesare, Anoka County Human Services Division manager, recently won a 2021 Association of Minnesota Counties' (AMC) Outstanding Service Award for exhibiting excellence, innovation and dedication to her work in county government.

in other areas as well, always communicating with all stakeholders. She has overseen the work of Public Health and their response to the pandemic, keeping a pulse on what her staff needs. Cesare works hard, is dedicated, and stands her ground on the tough issues. She is analytical, knowledgeable, compassionate and is a team player.

"Anoka County has been fortunate to have Cindy Cesare working here for three decades — her expertise, professional demeanor and dedication to our citizens is invaluable," said District 6 Anoka County Commissioner Jeff Reinert. "There are thousands of people who could have probably been selected for this award, but Cindy rose to the top, and she deserves the accolade. She does a fantastic job in Anoka County, and anyone who works with her knows she's among the best at what she does."

Under her leadership, the AMC and Local Government Innovation award-winning mentorship program was developed — this program provides support and leadership opportunities to county staff. She has been an active member of the Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators and has developed the trust of key legislators. Cesare has worked to modernize the service delivery model in Economic Assistance and





**2ND SUMMER  
2ND DAY CAMPS**  
WARGO NATURE CENTER - ANOKA COUNTY PARKS

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

We are excited to be offering in-person camps this summer which will provide a safe, healthy, and fun experience.



**REGISTRATION  
NOW  
OPEN**

Camp topics for ages preschool through grade 8 include: Survival Adventures, Art of Nature, Wildlife Tracking Camp, and more!

**REGISTER EARLY  
AND SAVE**

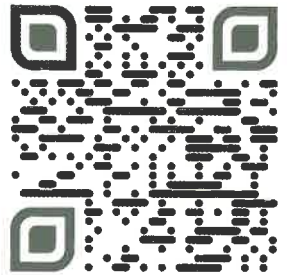
Register by May 6, 2022, and save \$5 per participant on preschool and grandparent camps and \$10 on school-aged camps.

**TO REGISTER  
ANOKACOUNTYPARKS.COM  
763-324-3350**



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IN THE  
PARKS**

**NOW HIRING**  
PARK MAINTENANCE  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
PARK SERVICES  
CHOMONIX GOLF COURSE  
BUNKER BEACH WATER PARK  
WARGO NATURE CENTER



APPLY ONLINE AT [ANOKACOUNTYPARKS.COM/PARKJOBS](https://www.anokacountyparks.com/parkjobs)





## FAMILY EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

APRIL 23

12:30-3PM AT WARGO NATURE CENTER

Celebrate the Earth and explore the  
NEW SOUND GARDEN!

EARTH DAY SERVICE PROJECT  
Before the Celebration, 10am - 12pm  
Call 763-324-3350 to sign up.

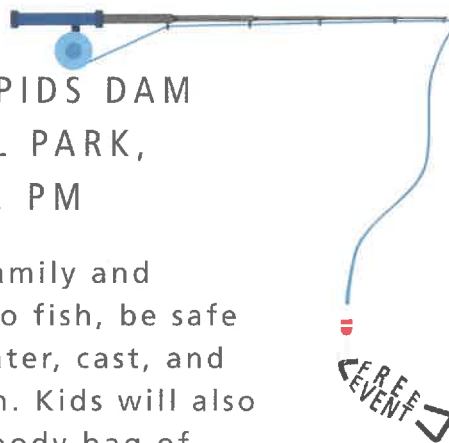


## KIDS FISHING CLINIC

MAY 7

COON RAPIDS DAM  
REGIONAL PARK,  
9 AM - 12 PM

Bring the family and learn how to fish, be safe near the water, cast, and identify fish. Kids will also receive a goody bag of fishing-related gear. All equipment is provided.



NEW SCOUT BSA MERIT BADGE PROGRAMS AT WARGO NATURE CENTER  
VISIT ANOKACOUNTYPARKS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION



2022  
SEASON  
DATES

JUNE 10  
THROUGH  
SEPTEMBER 5

JOIN OUR TEAM!  
BUNKERBEACH.COM

Volume 1-2022



# ANOKA COUNTY LIBRARY



## READ LOCAL

### Featured Local Authors

Each year we highlight authors in our community. Learn more about our featured authors and check out their books from the library at [tinyurl.com/ReadLocalMN](http://tinyurl.com/ReadLocalMN)

Want to be a featured author?  
Look for applications to open each fall.

### YOUTH FICTION



**Minda Gomez**  
*The Secret Door*



**El Holly**  
*Finding Fae*



**Kyle Rawleigh**  
*Chronicles of the Unicorn Kingdom*



**Genevieve Vickers**  
*Amethyst*

### YOUTH NONFICTION



**Matt Lilley**  
*Good Eating: The Short Life of Krill*

### ADULT FICTION



**Chad Corrie**  
*The Wizard King Trilogy*



**Dennis Dorgan**  
*The Narcissism of Small Differences:  
A Noir Detective Novel*



**Janet Graber**  
*The Sting of Love*



**Loretta Ellsworth**  
*Stars Over Clear Lake*



**Brenda Lyne**  
*Sister Lost*

### ADULT NONFICTION



**James Bauer**  
*The Runaway Learning Machine:  
Growing Up Dyslexic*



**Christopher Gehrz**  
*Charles Lindbergh: A Religious Biography  
of America's Most Famous Pilot*



**Eric Nehring**  
*Beyond Theory: The Making of a  
Music Teacher*



**Mary Jo Pehl**  
*Dumb Dumb Dumb:  
My Mother's Book Reviews*



**Nancy Poland**  
*Remarkable Caregiving:  
The Care of Family and Friends*

Visit the online event calendar for information on upcoming events & programs  
[anokacountylibrary.org](http://anokacountylibrary.org)

**Unclutter your email inbox!  
Receive text notifications from  
the library on your mobile phone.**  
Get convenient notices when  
your holds are ready and due dates  
are approaching.

### How to Opt-in for Text Notices

- Log in to My Account with your library card and pin #.
- In the “Personal Information” tab, click “SMS Notifications” then “Add SMS Notification.”
- Type in a label, like “mobile” or “cell” for your device, and enter your phone number.
- Check the boxes for which notices you want to receive via text.
- Save your changes!

Change your preferences at any time to add or remove text notifications.

## SUMMER ADVENTURES

**Begins June 1, 2022**

Complete challenges, track reading minutes online, and share reviews. For all ages.

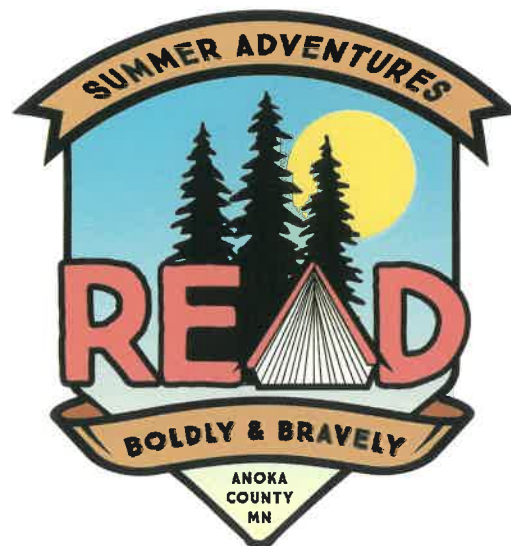
Register online

[anokacounty.beanstack.org](http://anokacounty.beanstack.org)

Kids get a free book for registering,

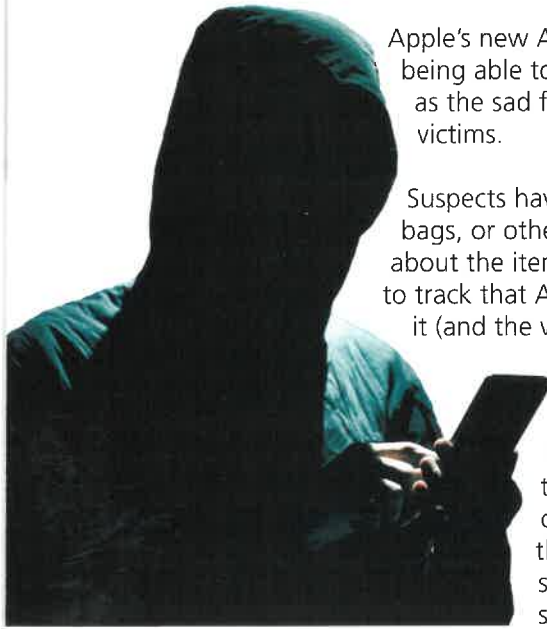
Digital badges & weekly prize drawings.

Youth can read down fines through Aug. 14.





## Popular Device Could be Used for Harassment, Unwanted Tracking



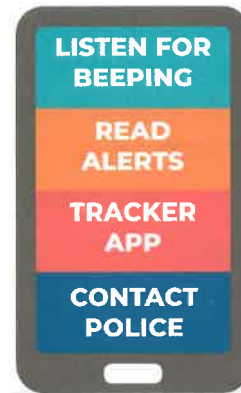
Apple's new AirTag device has been receiving a lot of press lately for both the convenience of being able to track items you own such as a purse, wallet or keys from your phone, as well as the sad fact that some people are using this technology to track and harass unsuspecting victims.

Suspects have been able to do this by hiding the small coin-sized AirTag in or on vehicles, bags, or other items without their victim knowing about the item or the tracking. The suspect is then able to track that AirTag on their phone, seeing all the places it (and the victim) has traveled to.

Anoka County has seen an increase in the number of reports of victims who have located a miscellaneous AirTag on their property without their knowledge or suspect someone has placed one on their property. While this technology is still new, there are ways to keep yourself safe from an unwelcomed AirTag being used to victimize you. If you own an Apple

device running iOS 14.5 or later and have an AirTag that is near you, but it has been separated from the device used to register the accessory, an alert should automatically pop up on your iOS device. Your device should give you the option to then disable the accessory and stop sharing your location.

### TIPS TO AVOID UNWANTED TRACKING



Additionally, AirTags are programmed to make a sound when moved and separated from the device used to register them. If you locate a suspicious AirTag that is beeping, call to report it immediately. If you locate an AirTag that may be lost, Apple's website has a way for you to see if the owner has marked it lost and help return it. Finally, if you do not have an iOS device, but do have an Android device, you can download the Tracker Detect app from the Google Play Store. This app looks for item trackers within Bluetooth range that are both separated from their owner and are compatible with Apple's Find My network.

As technology continues to evolve, it is important to stay informed of the new ways you or your loved ones could become victims. If you locate an unwelcome AirTag on you or an item you own, please reach out to your local law enforcement agency by calling 911 or the non-emergency line at 763-427-1212 to make a report. The Anoka County Sheriff's Office remains committed to keeping all residents of Anoka County safe from the changing ways individuals commit crimes.

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Tax-Aide Program will offer limited in-person income tax assistance (by appointment only) basis Feb. 1 to April 15. Call 763-324-1480 to learn more about locations and additional resources.

**ASSISTANCE**  
Feb. 1-April 15

**AARP**<sup>®</sup>  
Tax Aide

For appointment times/locations, visit:

<https://bit.ly/3KWxY48>

# Major Construction Starting on U.S. Highway 10/169 This Spring



- Fairoak Avenue will become an underpass with no on/off access to Highway 10/169.
- The West Main Street intersection will feature roundabouts to the north and south of the highway with ramps for on/off access. West Main Street will be extended along the south side of Highway 10/169 and will provide direct connections to Fairoak and Thurston avenues.
- The Ferry Street interchange will be replaced with a single-point urban interchange (similar to Hanson Boulevard at Highway 10).
- The 4th Avenue bridge and adjacent trail bridge over Highway 10 will be replaced by one new bridge.
- The Highway 10 bridge over the Rum River will be replaced with a new bridge.
- New auxiliary lanes will be constructed between Ferry Street and 7th Avenue to improve traffic merging/safety.

U.S. Highway 10/169 in Anoka is undergoing a major two-year reconstruction project beginning this spring and continuing through fall 2023.

This will be a challenging time on Highway 10/169 and alternate routes in the area — traffic will be significantly impacted between east of 7th Avenue to west of Thurston Avenue.

## The Projects

The Anoka Solution and Rum River Bridge/Ferry Street Interchange Improvement projects include the following major changes:

- Highway 10/169 will be elevated over Thurston Avenue with an interchange replacing the stoplight.

For more on these projects visit [mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy10-anoka](https://mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy10-anoka).

## Ramsey Gateway Project

Following the Anoka Solution, the Ramsey Gateway Project is scheduled to run 2023-2025. This construction will remove the stoplights and create full interchanges at Sunfish Lake and Ramsey boulevards to improve traffic flow, safety and connectivity on Highway 10/169.

For information about these improvements, visit <https://bit.ly/3GtMWv0>.

# Recycle Smart

Keep household hazardous waste out of your recycling cart.

763-324-3400  
[AnokaCounty.us/RecycleSmart](https://AnokaCounty.us/RecycleSmart)



No Hazardous Waste

# Valuations Are Just One Factor that Determine Property Taxes

Anyone who owns a house or business is likely aware property values have increased over the past year-plus, and that trend is likely to continue further into 2022.

So when valuation notices are sent out by Anoka County in early spring this year, it's very likely, in many cases, property owners will notice an increase in both their estimated market value and taxable market value. After seeing this increase, the logical reaction is "My property taxes are going to go up significantly." This may not actually be the case, because there are several factors that impact how much a home or business owner pays in property taxes.

"While property value does play a part in the share of taxes an individual pays, it's less of a factor than one might assume," said District 1 Anoka County Commissioner Matt Look. "How your tax amount changes from year to year is influenced more by the revenues needed to fund local government, including cities and school districts."

For example, if Anoka County increased all values by 50 percent, the resulting tax amounts would not increase by 50 percent; the tax rates would be adjusted to generate the same amount of tax revenue.

The following example illustrates that same basic concept:

2020 Assessment Tax Payable 2021		2021 Assessment Tax Payable 2022		Overall Change in EMV	
Property	EMV	Property	EMV		
A	\$375,000	A	\$562,50	+\$187,500	
B	\$120,000	B	\$180,000	+\$60,000	
C	\$150,000	C	\$225,00	+\$75,000	
D	\$400,000	D	\$600,00	+\$200,000	
E	\$250,000	E	\$375,00	+\$125,000	
Total Tax Base		\$1,295,500	Total Tax Base	\$1,942,500	\$647,500

Increasing values increase the total tax base

2021 Tax Rate Calculation		2022 Tax Rate Calculation	
Revenue Needed	\$10,000	Revenue Needed	\$10,000
Divided by Total Tax Base	\$1,295,000	Divided by Total Tax Base	\$1,942,500
	0.0077	Equals Tax Rate	0.0051

An increased total tax base requires a lower tax rate to generate the same revenue

Resulting 2021 Tax Calculations		Resulting 2022 Tax Calculations	
Property	Tax Amount	Property	Tax Amount
A	\$2,896	A	\$2,896
B	\$927	B	\$927
C	\$1,158	C	\$1,158
D	\$3,089	D	\$3,089
E	\$1,931	E	\$1,931
Total Tax Generated		Total Tax Generated	
\$10,000		\$10,000	

Individual tax amounts remain unchanged

## How to challenge valuations

Overall, the work of assessors, which is completed annually before the assessment date of Jan. 2, is very accurate and reflects market value as of Jan. 2 each year. If you feel your valuation is inaccurate there are options to challenge an assessment:

1. Informal appeal: call phone number on value notice to speak to an assessor.
2. Local Board of Appeal or Open Book (depends on city, see website).
3. County Board of Appeal (Appointments encouraged, but not required).

For information on dates, times and locations for both Board of Equalization and Open Book meetings, visit [anokacounty.us/273/Records-Taxation-Assessment](http://anokacounty.us/273/Records-Taxation-Assessment).



# Homeowners May be Eligible for Property Tax Refunds

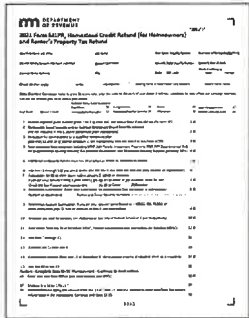
Minnesota residents may be eligible for both regular and special property tax refunds, depending on several qualifications.

The regular property tax refund has income requirements for:

**Renters:** 2021 total household income less than \$64,920.

**Homeowners:** 2021 total household income less than \$119,790.

This year, renters may qualify for a refund of up to \$2,280, and homeowners could receive a refund of up to \$2,930.



For more information, including a link to the M1PR form to file for a refund, visit [anokacounty.us/303/Homeowners](http://anokacounty.us/303/Homeowners). Those interested in this program can also call the Minnesota Department of Revenue 24-hour automated help line at 651-296-3781 or 800-652-9094 to have a form sent to them.

## Special Property Tax Refund Requirements

Homeowners may also be eligible for a special property tax refund. This refund has no income limit, and the maximum refund is \$1,000. A homeowner may qualify if all of these are true:

- You owned and occupied your home on Jan. 2, 2021, and Jan. 2, 2022.
- Your net property tax on your homestead increased by more than 12 percent from 2021 to 2022.
- The increase was at least \$100.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue allows filing for refunds electronically, postmarked or dropped off by Aug. 15. The final deadline to claim the 2021 tax refunds is Aug. 15, 2023.

"Many homeowners and renters are eligible for property tax refunds, and we encourage residents to apply for these refunds," said District 4 Anoka County Commissioner Mandy Meisner. "Anoka County works to get the word out about these programs each year, so our residents can access the money that's available to them."

A banner for CareerForce. On the left, the CareerForce logo is displayed with the tagline "It's your state of success". The background features a smiling man in a white shirt. On the right, the text "Opportunities for Career Seekers" is written in white on a dark blue background. Below this, the address "CareerForce in Blaine 1201 89th Ave. NE" is listed.

- The **Career Pathways Program** has no-cost training opportunities for certified nursing assistants, CDL class B drivers, and for justice-impacted individuals: manufacturing training in OSHA 10, forklift and welding. Call 763-324-2300 or visit [anokacounty.us/jtccapply](http://anokacounty.us/jtccapply) for more information and to check eligibility.
- The **Empowers: Youth/Young Adults Program** (ages 14-24) has paid internship and work experience openings in a variety of industries and jobs. Interested in learning new skills and free training? Contact Darcy Hokkanen at [darcy.hokkanen@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:darcy.hokkanen@co.anoka.mn.us) or call 763-324-2306.
- Visit the **Anoka County Job Training Center career booth** at the following free events: Career Spotlights: Explore IT – 4 to 7 p.m. April 19 at the Anoka-Ramsey Cambridge Campus, 300 Spirit River Dr. S. Cambridge; and Explore Health Care – 4 to 7 p.m. April 26 at the Anoka-Ramsey Coon Rapids Campus, 11200 Mississippi Blvd., Coon Rapids. Pre-registration is encouraged. Walk-ins are welcome. Register and learn more about Anoka-Ramsey at: [AnokaRamsey.edu/careerspotlight](http://AnokaRamsey.edu/careerspotlight).
- For those who have lost employment or had their hours reduced, the JTC has resources and support in the **Dislocated Worker Program** to train for in-demand jobs.
- Need access to a computer to look for work? Visit the **Career Lab** 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. Get advice on resume development and job search.

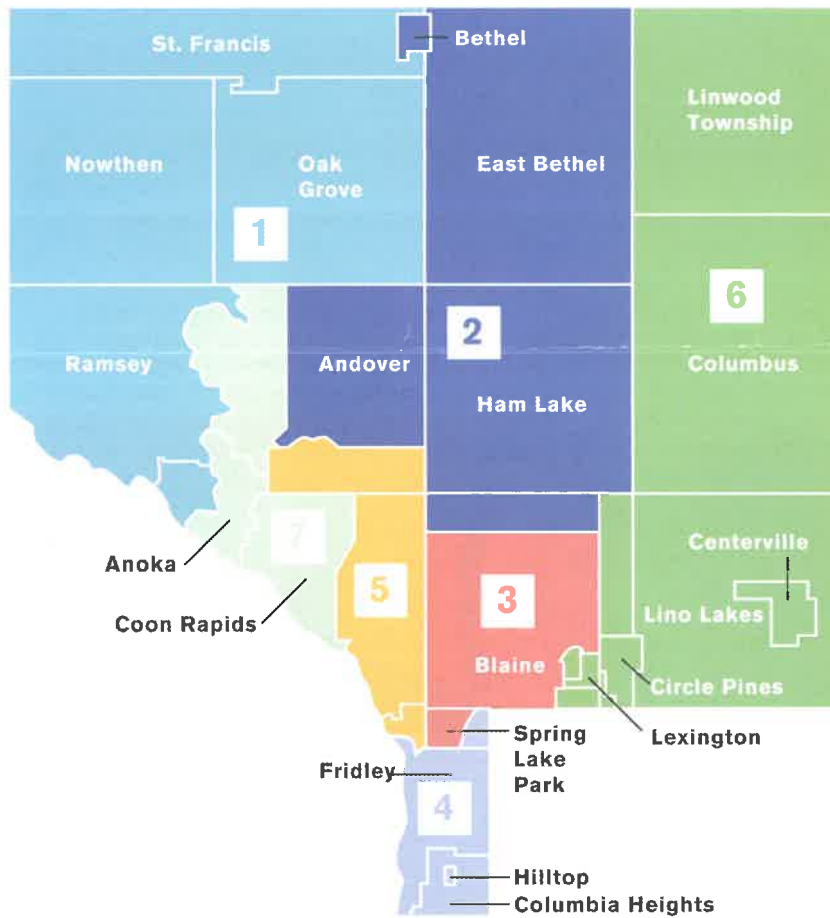
Anoka County  
 2100 3rd Ave.  
 Anoka MN 55303-5024



*Visit our website!*

## ANOKA COUNTY LEADERSHIP

763-324-4700



**Matt Look**  
 DISTRICT 1  
 COMMISSIONER



**Julie Braastad**  
 DISTRICT 2  
 COMMISSIONER



**Robyn West**  
 DISTRICT 3  
 COMMISSIONER



**Mandy Meisner**  
 DISTRICT 4  
 COMMISSIONER



**Mike Gamache**  
 DISTRICT 5  
 COMMISSIONER



**Jeff Reinert**  
 DISTRICT 6  
 COMMISSIONER



**Scott Schulte**  
 DISTRICT 7  
 COMMISSIONER



**James Stuart**  
 COUNTY  
 SHERIFF



**Tony Palumbo**  
 COUNTY  
 ATTORNEY

County board meetings are generally held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. in Room 705 of the Anoka County Government Center in Anoka. Watch board meetings live at [anokacounty.us](http://anokacounty.us). "Anoka County News" is produced by Anoka County Communications, Erik Thorsen, Director, 763-324-4612 [publicinfo@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:publicinfo@co.anoka.mn.us) • [anokacounty.us/newsletter](http://anokacounty.us/newsletter)  
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