

MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR

CHRIS HEIM, MAYOR

HELLO NEIGHBORS!

It's early March — the ice is melting and the sun is shining. While it feels a bit like “shorts weather,” I'm keeping my snow shovel nearby — just in case — for a few more weeks 😊.

For this month's letter, I simply want to express gratitude to the many people who dedicate their time and talents to our city. To everyone who contributes — in ways both big and small — thank you. Here are a few recent activities and people I would like to recognize.

- **Fire Department:** MLFD is running as smoothly as I can ever recall. I especially appreciate the focused effort on financial management and tracking the many metrics that highlight the department's progress. If anyone in the community is interested, the department is always happy to welcome new members. Thank you to this team for keeping our community safe.

- **City Operations:** Thank you to our elected officials and Commission members - your work over the past several years has helped keep city operations running smoothly and the city in a strong financial position. As noted in my January Mayor's letter, the Mayor's seat and two City Council seats will be up for new elections this November. We encourage residents interested in serving our community to consider running for office.

- **Community Club:** The annual Progressive Dinner (May 2nd this year) is one of Medicine Lake's most special traditions. Thank you to the Community Club and Event Committee for making this event possible. I'm excited to see everyone there.

- **Seasonal Transition Team:** As winter fades, thank you to Gary Anderson for organizing a transition team that helps ready the park area between seasons. I'm excited to see our new pavilion and playground active this summer.

- **Tree Stewardship:** Thank you to our city forester, Derek Chappell, for sharing your passion and expertise in tree care, recent tree trimming and removal, and identifying areas that need treatment to keep our trees vibrant for decades to come.

This is just a small subset of the many people who help keep our city functioning. Thank you to everyone for your continued involvement in our community. 2026 is shaping up to be a great year.

Warm Regards,

Chris Heim, Mayor



IN THIS ISSUE...

Catch the safety tips from our fire department in this month's "Hot Flashes" on page 2.

Speed Monitoring results summarized on page 3-4.

Looking for this month's "City Council Votes" or monthly Meeting Dates? Find them on page 5.

Valuation Notice Appeals Process & Meeting Dates handout on page 6.

Find the full-page **Progressive Dinner Registration Form** on page 7.

Planting for Clean Water resources on page 8.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2

City Council Meeting, 6p

April 10

Laker Submissions Deadline

March 17

MLFD Relief Assoc. Meeting

May 2

2026 Progressive Dinner

MARCH PREPAREDNESS AND SPRING ICE SAFETY (*Emergency Manager, Brian Malecha*)

As winter transitions to spring in Medicine Lake, it's the perfect time to focus on preparedness and safety. March is Severe Weather Preparedness Month, a reminder to review emergency plans and ensure you're ready for unpredictable weather. Take simple steps like assembling an emergency kit with flashlights, batteries, bottled water, and non-perishable food, and signing up for local weather alerts via NOAA Weather Radio or smartphone apps. Families should practice a severe weather drill, identifying a safe shelter location in case of high winds or tornadoes. Additionally, homeowners can prepare by trimming weak tree branches, securing outdoor furniture, and checking sump pumps to prevent flooding during heavy spring rains.

Along with severe weather awareness, residents should exercise caution regarding spring ice conditions on Medicine Lake. Warmer temperatures, increasing sunlight, and runoff weaken ice, creating hidden dangers even when it looks solid. Avoid ice fishing, snowmobiling, or walking on the ice as it begins to thaw, and watch for signs of instability like dark patches, slush, or pooling water. If someone falls through, call 911 immediately.

By staying prepared for severe weather and being mindful of unsafe ice conditions, our community can ensure a safer transition into spring. A little preparation now—whether securing your home, having a weather radio on hand, or staying off thinning ice—can prevent accidents and keep everyone safe as we welcome the warmer months ahead.

For more spring safety tips check out www.ready.gov

MEDICINE LAKE Community Club

2026 Progressive Dinner Registration Form

First & Last Name(s) of attendees _____

Phone number and/or email _____

Check here if you'd like to be contacted about hosting! _____

Fill out above and return form to Nina Zelazny at 228 Peninsula Rd

SCAN THIS CODE to complete an
online registration form.



2026 Progressive Dinner
Registration Form

Event Date: May 2nd

RSVP deadline: April 12th

Cost: \$35/person, \$70/couple

Pay cash or check (checks payable to Medicine Lake Community Club)

Forms & payment can be delivered to Nina Zelazny at 228 Peninsula Road.

Questions: medlkcommunityclub@gmail.com



Medicine Lake Community Club

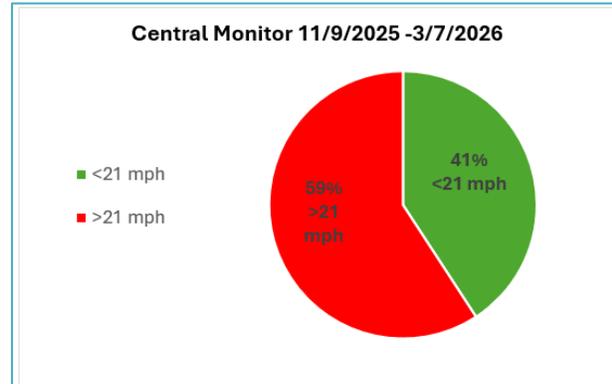
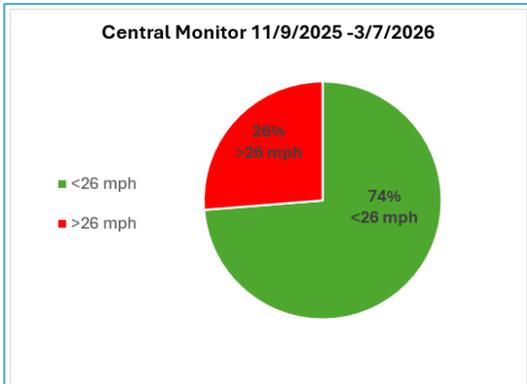
SPEED MONITORING RESULTS

By Councilmember Ruth Hovey

We have obtained some of the data from the speed monitor located at the entrance to the peninsula (Entrance Monitor) and the centrally located monitor (Central Monitor). Please note that the entrance monitor collects speeds for nearly all vehicles entering the peninsula, while the central monitor only shows a portion of the vehicles leaving the peninsula as there are many cars leaving the peninsula from south of that monitor.

Central Monitor results are from 11/9/2025-3/7/2026.

- 26% of the vehicles passing this monitor are travelling over 26mph and 59% are travelling over 21 mph.
- The largest number of cars travelling at 26mph and more are during the 7am hour.

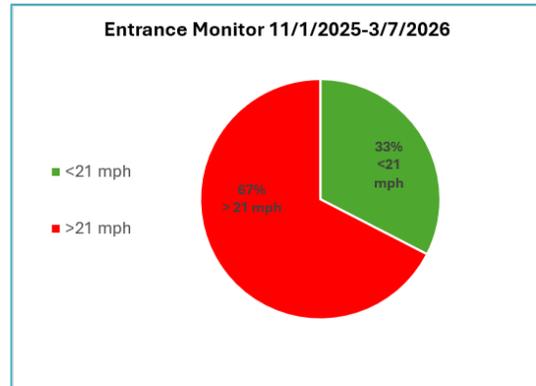
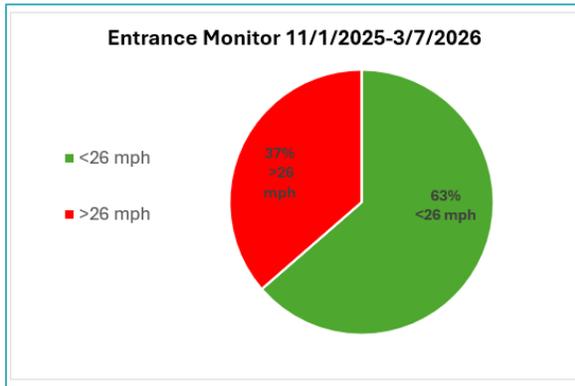


Central Monitor 11/9/25-3/7/26										
	Under 6 MPH	6-10 MPH	11-15 MPH	16-20 MPH	21-25 MPH	26-30 MPH	31-35 MPH	36-40 MPH	41-45 MPH	Over 45 MPH
12 AM	21	27	6	4	6	8	6	0	0	0
1 AM	14	2	0	0	4	2	3	2	6	0
2 AM	20	7	0	8	2	4	0	0	0	0
3 AM	20	13	2	1	9	3	1	0	0	0
4 AM	15	6	3	8	4	4	0	0	0	0
5 AM	32	5	6	25	55	21	2	1	0	0
6 AM	8	1	7	24	64	43	6	7	1	2
7 AM	2	4	36	151	278	215	72	11	9	5
8 AM	21	31	57	178	270	105	60	10	9	0
9 AM	4	12	39	138	213	106	42	13	3	0
10 AM	12	12	38	145	283	122	37	16	3	4
11 AM	14	30	73	205	227	105	42	9	8	0
12 PM	22	16	68	152	197	90	27	7	7	1
1 PM	13	17	87	215	208	95	45	8	0	0
2 PM	12	38	74	211	186	89	33	4	7	0
3 PM	36	27	104	204	225	119	35	6	1	0
4 PM	15	9	63	173	171	116	28	18	2	0
5 PM	24	24	52	186	295	118	45	6	0	0
6 PM	24	9	29	106	163	79	33	6	3	0
7 PM	29	11	25	93	123	60	25	7	5	0
8 PM	19	9	13	22	75	36	25	0	0	0
9 PM	15	19	15	24	38	36	16	0	0	0
10 PM	3	1	2	4	25	21	8	0	0	0
11 PM	16	20	11	2	10	20	23	7	10	0
Grand Total	411	350	810	2279	3131	1617	614	138	74	12

SPEED MONITORING RESULTS (continued from page 3)

Entrance Monitor results are from 11/1/2025-3/7/2026.

- 37% of the vehicles passing this monitor are travelling over 26mph and 63% are traveling over 21 mph.
- The largest number of cars traveling at 26mph and more are during the 3-4pm time frame.



Entrance Monitor 11/1/2025-3/7/2026										
	Under 6 MPH	6 MPH to 10 MPH	11 MPH to 15 MPH	16 MPH to 20 MPH	21 MPH to 25 MPH	26 MPH to 30 MPH	31 MPH to 35 MPH	36 MPH to 40 MPH	41 MPH to 45 MPH	Over 45 MPH
12 AM	70	72	21	37	90	47	25	7	2	0
1 AM	71	101	10	13	46	29	13	7	0	0
2 AM	87	146	9	4	22	14	10	2	0	3
3 AM	103	107	4	3	21	11	1	1	0	0
4 AM	147	133	2	3	19	16	10	3	0	0
5 AM	89	77	5	9	24	26	11	3	0	0
6 AM	58	71	19	36	64	29	23	13	4	2
7 AM	76	84	60	91	162	96	65	13	4	5
8 AM	80	100	60	109	290	232	103	47	10	5
9 AM	86	99	47	194	416	295	141	43	8	1
10 AM	80	67	54	176	399	306	140	54	7	0
11 AM	69	82	69	202	503	355	168	52	8	6
12 PM	61	64	99	230	580	455	239	64	14	7
1 PM	72	58	88	191	606	426	205	75	8	6
2 PM	88	95	86	302	579	416	206	66	9	0
3 PM	97	99	123	330	693	525	192	61	6	1
4 PM	77	110	89	299	641	464	160	64	19	2
5 PM	76	117	124	349	684	430	198	60	12	13
6 PM	44	70	79	279	667	473	203	49	15	2
7 PM	53	36	61	187	550	398	163	45	15	6
8 PM	49	58	46	177	454	306	144	58	17	7
9 PM	57	72	61	146	404	282	110	32	8	2
10 PM	65	104	32	110	285	235	90	41	5	0
11 PM	52	96	47	43	135	99	49	12	8	5
Grand Total	1807	2118	1295	3520	8334	5965	2669	872	179	73

COUNCIL VOTES & NOTICES



March 2, 2026 Council Votes

The following motions were approved with Mayor Heim, Councilmembers McNaughton, Tomczik, Hovey, Zelazny in favor.

- Agenda
- February 2, 2025 City Council Meeting minutes with additions
- Summary spending, receipts and cash balances through February 28, 2026
- The treasurer report will no longer be included in the packet posted to the website. A paper printout will be provided at each meeting and included with city records.
- Adjourn

Property Value Notices & Appeal Process

If the property information on your valuation notice is not correct, you disagree with the values, or have other questions about the notice, you may appeal. Review the process and find Open Book meeting dates in the 2026 Value Notice Insert included on page 5.



GOT NEWS?

We hope you're enjoying the all-digital edition of The Medicine Laker! Thank you for your patience as we converted to this new format. We'll continue to publish monthly.

Submit your articles by the **10th of each month to be included in that month's issue.** (If you're including images, please submit as separate files and indicate the order they are to appear.)

Watch for the latest edition on or about the 20th of each month.

Send your news to:

news@cityofmedicinelake.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 6 at 6p

MLFD

Tuesday, April 7 at 7p

Tuesday, April 21 at 7p

PLANNING COMMISSION

Thursday, April 16 at 7p

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Saturday, May 2

How to appeal your value and classification

If the property information on your valuation notice is not correct, you disagree with the values, or have other questions about this notice, you may appeal.

Start with your assessor

Often issues can be resolved by reaching out directly to your assessor. Their number is listed on the valuation notice.

Do you still have concerns? Attend a local meeting

If your issues weren't resolved by talking to your assessor, you can either attend a local board of appeal and equalization meeting or continue having an "open book" conversation with assessing staff. Each city chooses which meeting format they prefer (the front of your valuation notice will tell you which option your city has chosen).

Local board of appeal and equalization meetings

Property owners may appear in front of the local board of appeal and equalization to dispute their valuation or classification. The date and time of the meeting is located on your valuation notice.

Open book meetings

During an open book meeting, property owners can address questions about their property valuation and classification directly with assessing staff. If your city has opted for an open book meeting, the in-person meeting will be held at one of seven locations. Choose the location that best fits your schedule.

Monday, April 20, 4 to 7 p.m. — Richfield City Hall, 6700 Portland Ave S, Richfield

Wednesday, April 22, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. — Plymouth City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Blvd, Plymouth

Thursday, April 23, noon to 7 p.m. — Maple Grove City Hall, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway N, Maple Grove

Monday, April 27, 4 to 7 p.m. — Mound Centennial Building, 5341 Maywood Rd, Mound

Tuesday, April 28, noon to 7 p.m. — Edina Fire Station 2, 4401 W. 76th Street, Edina

Wednesday, April 29, 4 to 7 p.m. — 21st Century Bank Event Center, 12716 Main St, Rogers

Thursday, April 30, noon to 7 p.m. — Crystal Community Center, 4800 Douglas Dr N, Crystal

If you prefer a virtual meeting, please call the number on the valuation notice to schedule a virtual appointment with an appraiser in advance of the following meeting date:

Wednesday, April 29, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

If you still need help, attend the county meeting

If after attending your local meeting you are still not satisfied, you can attend the county board of appeal and equalization meeting. If your city offers a local board of appeal and equalization meeting, you must attend that meeting before attending the county board of appeal and equalization. This requirement does not apply if your city holds an open book meeting.

Questions

Please call the number on the front of your valuation notice.

Hennepin County Assessor's Office
A-600 Government Center
300 S. Sixth Street, MC 213, Minneapolis

hennepin.us/assessment



2026 PROGRESSIVE DINNER

CITY OF MEDICINE LAKE

Registration Form



EVENT DATE: Saturday, May 2nd 2026

Registration & Payment DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH 2026

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN, FOOD AND DRINK!

EVENT INFORMATION

TIME	EVENT	HOSTS NEEDED	APP & DESSERT ASSIGNMENTS
5:00 pm	Appetizers	1 Host home needed	All guests bring app to share. Dessert will be provided.
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Break Out Dinners	Many host homes needed	
8:30 pm - ???	Dessert	1 Host home needed	

TWO WAYS TO REGISTER

REGISTER VIA PEN & PAPER

Fill out and return the form below.

- Deliver completed forms to Nina Zelazny - 228 Peninsula Rd

OR

- Email completed form to Nina Zelazny - ninazelazny3@gmail.com

OR

REGISTER ONLINE

Use the below QR code to complete the online registration form.



2026 Progressive Dinner Registration Form

PAYMENT OPTIONS

CASH OR CHECK

Checks payable to: *Medicine Lake Community Club.*

Deliver to Nina Zelazny - 228 Peninsula Rd.

OR

VENMO

Pay with Venmo!
Venmo @MLCC-1 or use QR Code below.



venmo

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY - RETURN BOTTOM PORTION

2026 MEDICINE LAKE PROGRESSIVE DINNER

REGISTRATION FORM

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Attendee(s) Name(s):

Address:

Email:

Single \$35.00

Couple \$70.00

SIGN UP TO HOST

YES, I'LL HOST!

Check any that you would be comfortable hosting. The committee will be in touch.

Appetizers

Dinner

Dessert

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH 2026

Registration forms & cash/check payments can be submitted to Nina Zelazny - 228 Peninsula Rd.



OTHER NEWS & NOTICES

From the West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) & Blue Thumb Partnership: Plant your spring gardens to support a resilient, pollinator friendly yard that is clean water friendly!

As you prepare your yard, plan your gardens, and get new plants this spring, don't forget to plant for clean water and pollinators! By using proper yard design and planting pollinator-friendly plants, our yards can help filter rainwater where it falls, rather than flowing straight to our water bodies and picking up pollutants along the way. Native plants in yards have many benefits like supporting pollinators and native ecosystems, being resilient during flooding and drought, enhancing soil health, providing food for wildlife, and stabilizing land to reduce erosion... just to name a few!

While planning native gardens may sound daunting at first, there are a lot of resources to help you along the way. [Blue Thumb](#) is one organization that provides [resources](#) and workshops to help people plant for clean water.

Check out these resources from Blue Thumb:

- **Where can I buy native plants?** Read Blue Thumb's [article](#) on native plant sales coming up this spring.
- **Can I get financial support for creating pollinator habitats?** Yes! All Minnesota residents are eligible to apply for [Lawns to Legumes](#) cost-share funding of up to \$400.
- **Where can I learn more about planting for clean water?** Blue Thumb has [workshops and online learning events](#) coming up this spring!
- **What kind of plants should I use?** Look at Blue Thumb's [plant finder](#) to find plants that fit your aesthetic and are suited to the environmental conditions of your yard.



Photo credit: Clean Water MN. Native rain garden.