



**June 2026**

3033 St. Croix Trail South  
P.O. Box 219  
Afton, MN 55001

**City of Afton Dashboard**

*A Summary of Current Happenings*

- ◆ The Council approved a preliminary plat for a four-lot subdivision of a 94 acre parcel at the east end of 10<sup>th</sup> street. The lots, which are all at least 20 acres in size, will be accessed by two shared driveways. A conservation easement will be placed on the property to prohibit further subdivision of the lots.
- ◆ The Council approved this summer’s road improvement projects, which include 16 miles of crack sealing and 6.6 miles of micro-surfacing. A list of roads and the construction schedules will be posted in future newsletters.
- ◆ The city is forming a Connectivity Task Force to research options and provide recommendations to improve internet and cellular connectivity. If you are interested in joining the task force, please contact City Hall at 651-436-5090.
- ◆ As part of the city’s ongoing discussion regarding deer management and the change to the State’s shotgun-only deer hunting zone to allow rifles in Afton, the Council will consider taking two actions at its June 16 meeting. The first will be to create a task force to look into the deer population issue and review the change to allow rifles for deer hunting. The second will be to hold a public hearing to consider a change to the firearms discharge ordinance to maintain the previous shotgun-only rule for deer hunting, pending the task force completing its work.  
- SAR

**CITY MEETINGS**

**June 1, 2026**

Planning Commission Meeting  
7:00 PM

**June 2, 2026**

Natural Resources & Groundwater  
Committee  
5:00 PM

**June 8, 2026**

Parks Committee  
6:00 PM

**June 10, 2026**

Heritage Preservation Commission  
6:00 PM

**June 16, 2026**

City Council Meeting  
7:00 PM

**June 29, 2026**

Planning Commission July Meeting  
7:00 PM

Livestreaming is available for City Council and Planning Commission Meetings.

Information on how to view will be posted on the City website along with the agenda and meeting packet.

**City Council**

Mayor: Bill Palmquist 651-308-0569  
Ward 1: Annie Perkins 651-592-3007  
Ward 2: Lucia Wroblewski 651-436-3982  
Ward 3: Stan Ross 612-720-6478  
Ward 4: Randy Nelson 651-436-2479

**City Hall**

651-436-5090

**City Website**

**aftonmn.gov**

**Important Numbers**

Animal Control 715-220-1332  
Building Inspector 651-436-6469  
Burning Permits 651-436-7033  
Environmental Center 651-275-7475  
Highland Sanitation 651-458-0043  
Otter Lake Animal Care 651-426-8871  
Fire Dept 651-436-7033  
Sheriff's Dept 651-439-9381

**EMERGENCY 911**



**Afton Strawberry Festival**

**Sat. June 27, 2026 – 10am – 5pm**

**Sun. June 28, 2026 – 10am – 4pm**

Fresh, locally grown strawberries!

Live music Saturday and Sunday

**Afton Town Square Park**

Visit [exploreafton.com](http://exploreafton.com) for more information

**Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday**

**July 4, 2026 - Parade 1:00 PM**

**Schooner Band**

Musicians of all ages 5th grade and up are invited to rehearse and perform Sousa type band marches while aboard the Afton Schooner Band Wagon in the annual Afton 4th of July Parade!

Attend one or more of the rehearsals on June 27, July 1 and July 3 dress rehearsal, all at 7 pm at the Afton Historical Museum.

On the 4th of July, Band members gather at the Museum at 11:00 AM for brief rehearsal and decorating the band wagon for the Semi quincentennial Celebration of the Signing of the USA’s Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Contact Dr. Lucy McAllister, Afton Schooner Band Organizer & Founder 651 436-5150.



## Meeting Highlights

### May 4, 2026 Planning Commission Meeting

#### The Commission:

- Held a public hearing for a Preliminary Plat for a 4 lot subdivision of a 94.4 acre property at the east end of 10th St. S.
- Discussed accessory building sizes on lots less than 5 acres.

### May 19, 2026 City Council Meeting

#### The Council:

- Approved a Preliminary Plat for a 4 lot subdivision of a 94.4 acre property at the east end of 10th St. S.
- Discussed accessory building sizes on lots less than 5 acres.
- Approved the 2026 crack fill and microsurfacing projects.
- Appointed Lauren Froelich to the Planning Commission.
- Directed staff to publish a notice for a public hearing regarding a change to the firearms discharge ordinance to maintain the previous shotgun-only rule for deer hunting.

MEETING PACKETS, VIDEOS AND APPROVED MEETING MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE AT:  
[aftonmn.gov](http://aftonmn.gov)

## Afton State Park Events June 2026

### SATURDAY, JUNE 6

#### 9:30-11:30 a.m. & 1-3 p.m. Archery in the Park!

Meet at the Afton State Park Upper Picnic Area.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 13

#### 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Track Tales

Meet at the Afton State Park beach.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 13

#### 2-3 p.m. Fantastic Fossils

Meet at the Afton State Park Visitor Center.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 20

#### 9-11 a.m. Osprey Watch!

Meet at the Afton State Park Visitor Center.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 20

#### 1-2 p.m. The Scales and Tales of Snakes

Meet at the Afton State Park Visitor Center

### SATURDAY, JUNE 27

#### 9:30-10:30 p.m. Pollinator Walk

Meet at the Afton State Park Visitor Center.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 27

#### 1 - 2 p.m. Off the Rails!

Meet at the start of the Brown's Creek State Trail in Stillwater.

Want to learn about the history of the Brown's Creek State Trail? Join me as we take a stroll through the past. From the biking, hiking, and horse trail we know today, to the rail line of the past, and beyond, we will learn about it all! We will meet at the trailhead in Stillwater near 401 Laurel St. E. Wearing a hat, sunscreen, and bringing water is advised.

For event details see [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/events.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/events.html)

If you need an accommodation, please contact Carolyn at [Carolyn.kocken@state.mn.us](mailto:Carolyn.kocken@state.mn.us) or 651-242-4977, two weeks prior to the event.

## Belwin Conservancy Upcoming Events

### Early Morning Bird Hike

June 03 2026 07:00am - 09:00am

795 Indian Trail S,

Cost: Sliding Scale of \$10, \$18 or \$25 / Person

### Weekend at the Wetlands

June 06 & 7 2026 08:00am - 02:00pm

1553 Stagecoach Trail S.

Cost: Free

### Book Reading with Marty Harding and Gary Noren

June 07 2026 09:30am - 11:30am

Cost: Free

Time: Readings will take place at 9:30 am and 11:00 am This program is being offered in conjunction with our Weekend at the Wetlands open hiking event at the Education Site.

### Women Walking

June 13 2026 06:00pm - 09:00pm

795 Indian Trail S,

Sliding Scale of of \$20.00, \$35.00 or \$50.00 /person

### Bison at Belwin - A Closer Look at an Iconic Animal

June 24 2026 05:30pm - 07:30pm

1555 I Division St,

Cost: Sliding Scale \$50 / \$59 / \$68

For details and registration contact:

**Belwin Conservancy**

**1553 Stagecoach Trail South**

**Afton MN 55001**

**651-436-5189**

**[www.belwin.org](http://www.belwin.org)**

## Consider Serving as an Election Judge in 2026

Afton is seeking citizens to serve as election judges. Election judges are temporary, paid employees of local election officials trained to handle all aspects of voting at the polling place. Serving as an election judge is a chance to learn about elections, and is a great service to our community.

More information and an application form are located at:

<https://aftonmn.gov/elections>



CITY OF AFTON  
3033 ST CROIX TRAIL SO  
P.O. BOX 219  
AFTON, MN 55001

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PERMIT NO. 15

## Valley Library Events & Important Dates

### **Library Closed:**

**Friday June 19, 2026** to honor Juneteenth

**Did you know:** Libraries love celebrating in the summer? Pick up and fill out a Summer Learning Program game card with all kinds of fun summer activities. Return the game card to the library or at [washcolib.org](http://washcolib.org) to claim an instant prize. The game card becomes a raffle entry for additional prizes awarded in August. Don't forget that we celebrate everyone and have separate game cards for kids, teens, and adults (with different prizes for each age group!).

### **For Adults:**

The Valley Library Book Club meets **5:00-6:00pm** on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. This book club meets in person in the Valley Library Conference Room. The title selection for the **Thursday June 25th** meeting is *Dear Jacob* by Patty Wetterling.

### **For Kids:**

**Mondays 10:30-11:00 am** Storytime

**Monday, June 15th 10:30-11:00** Music and Movement Storytime

**Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 10:30-11:30** Summer Kickoff: The Bazillions Concert

**Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> All Day (10:00-3:00)** Valley Library Summer Kickoff

**Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 4:00-6:00** Open Gaming

**Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> 11:00-1:00** Build Small with ArtStart

**Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> 1:30** Reptiles Around the World

**Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> 1:00-3:00** STEM Lab: Moon Landing

For complete information and to register for programs contact:

**Valley Library 651-436-5882**  
**[www.washcolib.org](http://www.washcolib.org)**

## **PATRON AFTON, MN 55001**

**Online payments** are now available for city permits & fees including Building Permits and Sewer Payments,  
[aftonmn.gov](http://aftonmn.gov)



*Please recycle this newsletter after use.*

### **2026 Free Well Water Testing for Nitrates and Coliforms**

If you received a test kit, remember to collect a fresh sample of well water and drop it off at City Hall on **June 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> between 7:00 and 9:30 AM.**

**There are still some test kits available if you would like to participate.** Please call City Hall (651-436-5090) to reserve a test kit and plan to pick it up before June 15th during regular office hours. (9:00—2:00 Monday—Thursday)



### **Event recycling made easy! Borrow a Recycling Container from the County**

Portable recycling containers are available to borrow for collecting mixed recycling such as bottles and cans at gatherings like graduation parties, family reunions, block parties, and similar events. Bags are included. Interested in reserving containers for your next event? Simply fill out and submit the online reservation form.

<https://www.washingtoncountymn.gov/1217/Recycling-Container-Loan>