



# JANUARY 2025

## A Message From City Hall

### A New Year and Exciting Opportunities in Norwood Young America

As we embark on 2025, the City of Norwood Young America is pleased to welcome our newly elected leaders dedicated to serving our vibrant community. At the January 13th regular council meeting, Mayor Connor Smith, Council Member Brandon Stender, and Council Member Andrew Storms were officially sworn into office. Each of these individuals brings a shared vision for the growth and prosperity of our city. Together with the rest of the City Council and staff, they are ready to join us through a transformative year filled with improvements, development, and advancement.

### Exciting Projects for 2025

This year, Norwood Young America will undertake several impactful projects that reflect our commitment to improving infrastructure, enhancing recreational opportunities, and ensuring public safety. These initiatives will contribute to the quality of life for all residents, providing long-term benefits for generations to come.

#### Infrastructure Improvements

- **4th Avenue Area Reconstruction and Mill and Overlay Projects:** These critical projects will improve road conditions, enhance safety, and ensure our infrastructure supports the needs of our growing community. Residents can look forward to smoother commutes and a revitalized streetscape.

#### Parks and Recreation Enhancements

- **NYA Sports Complex, Prairie Dawn Park Disc Golf Course & Playground Drainage Improvements, Friendship Park Trail & Park Enhancements, and a New Dog Park:** Investments in our parks and recreation facilities are key to building a connected and active community. Whether you're enjoying a walk on a trail, letting your furry friend play in the new dog park (Spring 2025), or cheering on local teams at the Sports Complex, there's something for everyone!

#### Public Safety Upgrades

- **New Tanker Truck and Encrypted Radios for the NYA Fire Department:** The safety of our residents remains a top priority. These state-of-the-art upgrades will enhance the response capabilities of our dedicated firefighters, ensuring they have the tools needed to protect and serve our community effectively. If you are interested in learning more about how to become a fire fighter, visit their Informational Session on Tuesday, March 4th at 7:00pm at Station 1 – 23 SE 3rd Ave or email Fire Chief Scott Blom, at [firechief@cityofnya.com](mailto:firechief@cityofnya.com).

#### West Carver Community Pool House Improvements

- **A Better Experience for All:** Upgrades to the pool house will provide a more welcoming and functional space for families and individuals enjoying the West Carver Community Pool. These improvements will be completed before the summer season. They will reflect our dedication to creating enjoyable recreational opportunities for everyone.

### A Shared Vision for the Future

We thank the entire community for your ongoing support and contributions. Together, we are building a brighter future for Norwood Young America. Here's to an inspiring and prosperous 2025!



2025 Norwood Young America City Council (left to right) Council Members Andrew Storms and Brooke Allen, Mayor Connor Smith, Council Members Charlie Storms and Brandon Stender



The NYA FD 2025 calendars are available at City Hall if you did not receive one. Thank you, NYA FD, for the valuable info, important dates, and coupons from local business supporters!



## Welcome from Your New City Planner, Ethan Nelson!

Hello, Norwood Young America! I'm excited to join this vibrant community and the dedicated administrative team at City Hall as your new City Planner. In this newly created position, I will be your go-to person for all things zoning, planning, and code enforcement, helping to guide the city's growth while maintaining its unique charm.

With experience in city and county government and working with private developers, I bring a well-rounded perspective to the role. I look forward to applying my expertise to support the city's continued development and as a resource for residents and businesses.

Norwood Young America is a city on the rise, and I'm thrilled to be part of this exciting time. Together, we can shape a future that benefits everyone in the community!

### NYA Fire Department **HIRING NOW!**

#### Informational Session:

Tuesday, March 4th @ 7pm

Come learn more about NYA Fire Dept.  
- bring your family too!

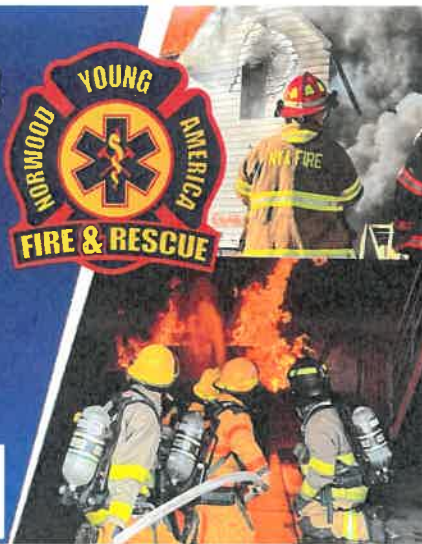
#### Tryouts:

Saturday, March 8th @ 8am

#### Location:

Station 1 - 23 SE 3rd Ave.

Questions? Contact Fire Chief  
Scott Blom at  
[firechief@cityofnya.com](mailto:firechief@cityofnya.com)



## In Case You Missed It!

The City of Norwood Young America continues to grow and welcomed many new businesses this past year. Here's a quick recap in case you missed any!

- Crown of Life — 232 Main Street E
- 212 Tobacco — 640 Railroad Drive
- D&V Nails — 640 Railroad Drive
- 212 Equipment Sales & Rentals — 17550 Hwy 212
- Carver Canines — 13950 Hwy 5
- O2B Kids — 316 W Hwy 212
- Elevate Acupuncture & Wellness — 514 Morse Street N

## Paying Your Utility Bill Made Easy



Auto Direct Payment  
Sign-Up Form

Did you know the City of NYA offers automatic direct payment for your utility bills? Sign up today to avoid service fees and never worry about being late with your utility bill again!

Other ways to pay your utility bill:

#### Online Credit Card:

- Access your online utility account through [www.cityofnya.com/pay](http://www.cityofnya.com/pay)
- 5% access fee added to transaction

#### USPS Mail

- Mail payment to: NYA City Hall, 310 Elm Street W, PO Box 59, NYA, MN 55368
- Late fees applied on the first day of the month

#### Drop off at NYA City Hall

- Stop by City Hall at 310 Elm St W or use the drive-thru drop box in the NYA City Hall north parking lot off Reform Street

The City of NYA is auditing contact information in the utility billing software. With updated information, the City can send out public notices which could include important information, such as water main breaks, snow emergencies, etc. Updating your account ensures that notices are sent to the correct email or phone number when notices are applicable to you.



Utility Account  
Update Request Form

Stop in at City Hall or scan the QR codes to access the forms. Fill out the form and return it with your utility bill, drop off at City Hall (inside or use the drop-box), or email to [accounting@cityofnya.com](mailto:accounting@cityofnya.com).





## Winter Reads at the Carver County Library

Winter Reads is in full swing for adults (18+) at the Carver County Library through the end of February. Read or listen to books, submit reviews, and enter yourself for a chance to win prizes, at no cost! To register, visit [www.carverlib.org/services/winterreads](http://www.carverlib.org/services/winterreads), or visit any branch of the Carver County Library. Participants will receive a prize for signing up (while supplies last), receive a coupon after turning in their first review, and enter to win a gift card or grand prize. Also debuting this year is an adult bookmark design contest! Using the form available at all Carver County libraries, original designs must be submitted by February 28. Members of the public will have a chance to vote and winners will be selected at each branch, receiving a \$15 gift card. Their bookmark will also be printed. A complete calendar of library programs and events can be found at [www.carverlib.org](http://www.carverlib.org), or stop in at 314 Elm Street W.



### NYA Library hours:

Monday 1pm-8pm

Tuesday 10am-5pm

Wednesday 1pm-5pm

Thursday 1pm-8pm

Friday 10am-5pm

Saturday 1pm-4pm

## A Few Reminders From City Hall

**South Park Hockey & Skating Rink:** The South Park rink is now open! Heat in the warming house is on from 8am-10pm, and lights 5pm-10pm daily. The rink will remain open as long as weather conditions allow. Thank you to the City Public Service staff for maintaining the rink for our community! Please be respectful of this community space and clean up after yourself.

**Pet Licenses for 2025:** The City of NYA requires that all dogs or cats over the age of six months within the City must be licensed. Stop in at City Hall with up-to-date vaccination records. Each license fee is \$5 and lasts through the calendar year. Always have your pet on a leash or restraint when walking around town, and please clean up after your pets.

**ATV/Golf Cart Licenses for 2025:** The 2025 ATV and golf cart licenses are available at City Hall for \$10. This license is good for the calendar year and is required for all residents using ATVs or golf carts on city streets. Stop in at City Hall with a current drivers license and insurance card for the vehicle.

**Snow Reminders:** Be prepared for winter weather conditions by knowing the parking rules and regulations during snow events.

- \* No parking of cars or trailers on streets during a snow event (2" or more) until the street is plowed curb-to-curb.
- \* Make sure your trash and recycle bins are off the street.
- \* Priority of plowing is emergency routes, business districts, residential streets, alleys and trails.
- \* During snow events, this City will continue to enforce its ticketing and towing of vehicles in violation of parking regulations.

Per City Code Chapter 7: Traffic and Vehicles, violators failing to follow City Code will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. All ticket fines must be paid with the Carver County Court Administrator's Office. Vehicles that are towed will be taken to Smith Oil and Food Mart in Norwood Young America. Before getting their vehicle back, the vehicle owner will be required to pay all towing fees and show proof of vehicle ownership, proof of vehicle insurance, and a valid driver's license. The vehicle will also need to have up-to-date license and registration.

- \* The City has two designated parking areas for residents without off-street parking available during snow emergencies. Parking in designated areas will be enforced from 2am-6am. Designated parking areas are located at the north side of Elm St Municipal Parking lot, and the north side of the Old City Hall/Food Shelf building.





more than a place. it's home.

Norwood Young America  
310 Elm Street West - PO Box 59  
Norwood Young America, MN 55368  
952-467-1800

## City Council

Mayor Connor Smith  
connor.smith@nyacouncil.com

Brooke Allen  
brooke.allen@nyacouncil.com

Charlie Storms  
charlie.storms@nyacouncil.com

Andrew Storms  
andrew.storms@nyacouncil.com

Brandon Stender  
brandon.stender@nyacouncil.com

## City Hall Staff

City Administrator  
Andrea Aukrust  
cityadmin@cityofnya.com

Clerk-Finance Director  
Mitchell Thiesfeld  
cityclerk@cityofnya.com

Community & Economic Dev Director  
Karen Hallquist  
economicdev@cityofnya.com

City Planner  
Ethan Nelson  
planner@cityofnya.com

Community & Economic Dev Admin.  
Assistant  
Kim Eggers  
office@cityofnya.com

Accounting Clerk  
Erin Schrupp  
accounting@cityofnya.com

Community Development Assistant  
Taia Good  
cityhall@cityofnya.com

After hours City emergency  
(i.e. watermain break, sewer back-  
up), call 952-769-7284.

City Hall Hours:  
Mon-Thurs 7:30am-4:30pm  
Fri 7:30am-1:30pm

For more information,  
contact City Hall at  
952-467-1800.

PRSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM Retail

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSEDDM\*\*\*\*

Postal Customer  
City, State, 5-Digit ZIP Code

# UPCOMING EVENTS IN NYA

## January

Thurs, Jan 16: Senior Advisory Commission @ City Hall 9am  
Mon, Jan 20: Martin Luther King Day—City Hall Closed  
Tues, Jan 21: Parks & Recreation Commission Mtg @ City Hall 5:30pm  
Wed, Jan 22: NYA Senior Center @ Pavilion 10am-2pm (note date change)  
Sun, Jan 26: St. John's School Chili Feed & Silent Auction  
Mon, Jan 27: City Council Work Session Mtg @ City Hall 5pm  
Mon, Jan 27: City Council Mtg @ City Hall 6pm

## February

Tues, Feb 4: Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg @ City Hall 6pm  
Wed, Feb 5: NYA Senior Center @ Pavilion 10am-2pm  
Thurs, Feb 6: Fare for All @ All Saints 3-5pm  
Mon, Feb 10: EDA Mtg @ City Hall 5pm  
Mon, Feb 10: City Council Mtg @ City Hall 6pm  
Wed, Feb 12: NYA Free Food Distribution @ City Hall 12-1pm  
Mon Feb 17: Presidents' Day—City Hall Closed  
Tues, Feb 18: Parks & Recreation Commission Mtg @ City Hall 5:30pm  
Wed, Feb 19: NYA Senior Center @ Pavilion 10am-2pm  
Thurs, Feb 20: Senior Advisory Commission Mtg @ City Hall 9am

**NYA Food Distributions**  
**NYA City Hall**  
**Parking Lot**  
**12:00pm-1:00pm**

**Upcoming Dates:**

- Wed, February 12th
- Wed, March 12th
- Wed, April 9th

Drive-thru event while  
supplies last.

Sponsored by  
CAP Agency, MiCASA,  
Carver Co Public Health,  
City of NYA



**Stay Up To Date with the latest**  
**City news & events.**

**City Website: [www.cityofnya.com](http://www.cityofnya.com)**  
**Facebook: City of Norwood Young America**



## NYA Rental Facilities



## City-Wide

# GARAGE SALE

**April 16th - April 19th**  
**Watch for announcements on**  
**NYA Area Chamber FB page!**



Interested in a community garden  
plot for the 2025 growing season?  
Call City Hall to reserve your spot!  
952-467-1800. Limited plots  
available, \$10 per plot.



# Upcoming Events & Save The Dates!

## St. John's School Chili Feed & Silent Auction

Sunday, January 26th  
10:30am-1:00pm



St. John's  
Lutheran School  
27 1st St NW  
NYA, MN 55397



To sign up for local  
blood drives, visit  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

- Tuesday, February 25
- Tuesday, April 29
- Wednesday, July 16
- Wednesday, September 3

\*All events held at the  
Willkommen Memorial  
Park Pavilion  
21 Main Street E

## Local Fish Fry Events

February 1- Hamburg Hunt & Fish Club @ Hamburg  
Hall 11am-6pm

February 21- Plato Fire Department  
@ Plato Fire Station 3-7pm

March 7- Ascension Church  
@ Social Hall 11am-7pm

April 13- NYA Lions Pancake & Omelet Breakfast  
@ Pavilion 8am-12pm

April 18- Norwood Baseball @ Pavilion

April 26- Cologne Fire Dept Steak Fry  
@ Cologne Fire Station 3pm-8pm



## Christmas Tree Disposal

Carver County Environmental Center  
116 Peavey Circle  
Chaska, MN 55318



Free of charge through the end of February!

Trees must be free of any lights, ornaments, tinsel, flocking or other decorations. Please remove trees from plastic bags before recycling. Wreaths cannot be recycled due to the metal wiring.

## UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION



## Carver County Dairy & Beef Expo 2025

Monday, February 17th  
9:00am-3:15pm

Central High School

\*\* New Location within school\*\*  
531 Morse St N

- \$15 per person (includes meal)
- No Pre-Registration Required

For more information, contact Colleen Carlson, U of M  
Extension office 507-521-3640 or email [traxl042@umn.edu](mailto:traxl042@umn.edu)



## NYA City-Wide Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 26th  
8:00am--Noon

Central Elementary Parking  
Lot-- 655 7th Street SW

NYA City Residents ONLY--  
IDs will be checked

## Carver County Special Waste Collection Dates 2025

### Spring Collection

Saturday, May 17

8:00am-12:00pm

Carver County Public Works Headquarters

11360 Hwy 212, Cologne, MN 55322



CARVER  
COUNTY

### Fall Collection

Saturday, September 13

8:00am-12:00pm

Carver County Public Works- Hollywood

3480 CR 21

Hollywood Twp, MN 55388



For more information, contact Carver County Environmental  
Services at 952-361-1800 or [environmental@co.carver.mn.us](mailto:environmental@co.carver.mn.us)

## Using Sidewalk Salt? Follow These Tips!

Carver County Water Management Organization provides information & helpful tips for you to know when things get icy.

### Salt Pollution: What Is It, And Why Is It Damaging?

Also called chloride pollution, salt pollution occurs when the de-icing salt used on sidewalks, driveways, and roads, washes into lakes and rivers where it dissolves into chloride.

Chloride is a permanent pollutant. High levels are toxic to fish, aquatic insects, and amphibians. Just one teaspoon of salt contains enough chloride to permanently pollute five gallons of water. Once in a lake or river, it's impossible to remove it safely and cost-effectively. *The only way to reduce chloride levels in water is to use less salt.*

So far, the MN Pollution Control Agency has identified 68 lakes and streams in Minnesota with chloride levels high enough to harm fish and other aquatic life, and 75 water bodies approaching unsafe levels. Additionally, salt is corrosive and damaging to our landscape, including parking lots, walkways, bridges and buildings. Chloride kills plants, trees, and lawns, and changes the soil chemistry so future plant growth is difficult.

### How To Use Less Salt, More Effectively

- Shovel that snow. Shovel early and often. Remove the snow and less gets compacted and turns to ice reducing the need for salt.
- Scatter widely. Leave 2-3" of space between grains. More salt does not equal more melting.
- Watch the temperature. Rock salt (NaCl) is NOT useful at temps below 15°F. Even at 15°F it can take an hour to melt ice. Shovel, ice chip, and use sand for traction if needed.
- Sweep up. Salt only works if dissolved. Sweep up salt on bare pavement and use it next time. Otherwise, it can blow, bounce, or wash into nearby waters.

## CARVER COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION BUNDLE UP FOR THESE WINTER ADVENTURES



CANDLELIT NIGHTS AT BAYLOR • FEBRUARY 15 & 22, 2025  
\* if there is not sufficient snow for skiing, the event will be a luminary walk.



MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL • MARCH 22, 2025



PUBLIC PROGRAMS • GROUP RECREATION

SCAN TO FIND PROGRAM AND EVENT DETAILS  
OR GO ONLINE AT: [BIT.LY/CARVERCOUNTYEVENTS](https://bit.ly/carvercountyevents)



## NYA Recycle Center & Compost Site

Located at 421 Railroad St W, the NYA recycle center is open to all residents of Carver County. Accepted materials at this site include automobile batteries, motor oil, plastic bags, cardboard, paper, plastics, aluminum cans, glass, and scrap metals. Please use the following guidelines when visiting the site:

- Break down and flatten cardboard boxes
- Bring someone with you to help lift heavy containers and materials
- Keep recycling loose, not in plastic bags
- Store motor oil in containers of 5 gallons or less and take the container back home with you
- Remove oil filters from cardboard boxes

Recycle center hours are Wednesdays from 3pm-5pm, and Saturdays from 8am-12pm.



The NYA compost site, located at 640 Tacoma Blvd, is closed for the winter. The site will re-open March 1st weather pending.