



Upcoming Community Events



Night to Unite | August 5 • 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Who's ready for Night to Unite? Our police officers, firefighters, staff, and elected officials are! We're shining up our vehicles, gathering goodies to hand out, and getting excited to meet everyone at parties large and small all around the community.

Reminder: We will collect donations for school supplies, diapers, and non-perishable food items during the event, which will be distributed locally. Donations can also be dropped off at the Savage Police Department through August 5. For more details, contact Crime Prevention Specialist Jennifer Wells at jwells@savagemn.gov or 952-882-2604.

Treats and Tunes | August 19 • 6-8 p.m.

Trost Park, 5455 137th St.

Free family fun all summer long!

6 - 7 p.m.: Enjoy FREE ice cream and yard games
7 - 8 p.m.: Brian Miller and Danny Diamond (Irish)



Shredding Event | August 23 • 9-11 a.m.

Savage Sports Center, 13450 Dakota Ave.

Savage residents can bring up to two banker boxes or grocery bags of documents to shred for FREE. Crews will unload them into a secure cart where Veteran Shredding will shred the paper on-site. Examples of documents to shred include papers with identifying information such as your birth date, signature, account numbers, passwords, PINs, social security numbers, deposit slips, credit card receipts, banking statements, and credit card offers. Learn more at savagemn.gov.

Food Truck Fest

August 24 • 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Savage Community Park, 13500 Dakota Ave.

This is a free event hosted by NW Food Truck Fest. Scan the QR code for a list of food truck vendors.



CPR/First Aid Class | September 13 • 8 a.m. - noon

Savage Fire is hosting an American Heart Association (AHA) Heartsaver First Aid -CPR-AED class designed for anyone with little to no medical training who needs a course completion card, regulator (i.e, OSHA) and other requirements, or for anyone who wants to be prepared for an emergency in any setting. The registration deadline is September 7. Register online at savagemn.gov.

Ages: 15+

Cost: \$75 per person

Location: Savage City Hall, 6000 McColl Drive

Community Development

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Eight new businesses open their doors.

Our community continues to grow and thrive with an exciting wave of new businesses opening their doors in our area. From fresh dining options to specialty retail stores, these entrepreneurs are bringing something special to our community.

Chi Hair Salon - 4735 123rd Street

Haircuts, color, and styling.

Apricot Lane - 7709 Egan Drive

Locally owned boutique clothing store.

Enjoy Shawarma - 4046 Egan Drive

Kebabs, falafel, gyros, wings, and sandwiches.

Variedades Victoria - 4554 Egan Drive

Clothing, accessories, toys, skin care, and more.

StoryArc Comics & Collectibles - 5753 Egan Drive

Comic books, graphic novels, board games, etc.

Tierra Encantada - 15033 Hwy 13 S.

Spanish-immersion school

Ross Dress for Less - 14375 Hwy 13 S.

Apparel, accessories, footwear, and home decor

Coming Soon

GS Granite World - 12640 Creek View Ave

Natural stone products for kitchens and bathrooms

Go Behind the Badges Police and Fire Citizens' Academy

Thursdays, September 11 - October 30

5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Savage Police Department, 6000 McColl Drive

FREE for ages 18+

Ever wonder what really happens when officers respond to a call? Curious about how firefighters make split-second decisions that save lives? Here's your chance to step into their world. The Savage Police and Fire Department Citizens' Academy is a 8-week journey that takes you behind the scenes of public safety. Whether you're a longtime resident or new to the community, this hands-on experience will give you a whole new perspective on the people who protect and serve Savage every day.

What you'll experience

This isn't your typical classroom setting. You'll receive real, interactive training that mirrors the challenges our first responders face.



Police Operations:

- SWAT Operations
- Investigations and Crime Scene Processing
- Traffic stops and LIDAR
- Drunk goggles demonstration
- Use of Force/ Shoot/Don't Shoot Simulator
- Scott County Sheriff's Office K9 demo



Fire Department Operations:

- Station tour
- Fire gear demo
- Medical assessment and treatments
- CPR/First Aid Certification

Ready to join?

Space fills up quickly—these interactive sessions are limited to ensure everyone gets hands-on experience. Register now at savagemn.gov.



Open to all adults 18 and older. Previous academy participants are welcome to join again for new perspectives on fire service operations.

Thank you for your service



The Savage Police Department proudly celebrates the retirement of Officer George Luskey, who concludes an exemplary 24-year career in law enforcement this month. Officer Luskey began his law enforcement journey in 2001 with the Battle Lake Police Department before joining the Savage Police Department in 2003. Throughout his career, he excelled in numerous specialized roles, including Crime Scene Technician, Field Training Officer, Evidence Room Technician, School Resource Officer, Drug Task Force Agent, and Awards Committee

member. Thank you, Officer Luskey, for your years of exceptional service. You've made a difference, and you'll be missed!

Meet Savage Fire's newest team members

The Savage Fire Department welcomes seven new team members who bring diverse skills and unwavering commitment to our community.

New Full-Time Firefighters



Riley Brunner returns to Minnesota after three years in North Carolina, bringing his wife, Kaitlyn, and their six-month-old daughter, Charlee, back to be closer to family. Originally from St. Cloud, Riley previously served as a paid-on-call firefighter with the Savage Fire Department. When off duty, he enjoys camping, hunting, fishing, and his annual trip to the Boundary Waters.

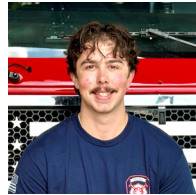


Marc Marispini (promoted from part-time) served as a Navy missile technician before spending 20 years in IT. He joined Savage Fire in August 2023 and recently completed his Paramedic Fire Science degree at Century College, earning his NREMT-P and Minnesota Paramedic license. Marc enjoys grilling, baking, gardening, and beekeeping with his fiancée Angie and their four children.

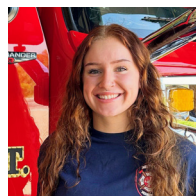


Emily Nelson (promoted from part-time) has served with Savage Fire for nearly two years and is inspired by the department's strong culture and community connections. She stays active outdoors and enjoys boating with friends.

New Part-Time Firefighters



Mark Olson brings medical experience from his role as an EKG Technician at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. With public service running in his family, he was drawn to Savage Fire's reputation for training and professionalism. Mark stays active through weightlifting, sports, and outdoor activities.



Evalynn Ablor recently moved to Savage and lives with her red lab, Lou, and cat Colonel Nubbins. She brings a strong desire to help her community and enjoys working out, cooking, fishing, hunting, and riding her motorcycle.



Matthew Otto was born and raised in Savage and has admired the fire department since childhood. He brings mechanical expertise from his career at a Ford dealership and currently maintains ambulances at Allina Health EMS. Matt enjoys mountain biking, downhill skiing, and softball.



Jesse Brassard moved from Massachusetts and now lives in Burnsville. As Maintenance Supervisor at H&B Elevators, he was inspired to pursue firefighting by conversations with his firefighter cousin. A ride-along with Savage Fire was his turning point. Jesse enjoys hiking with his wife, Courtney, and their two dogs, as well as fishing, hunting, and working on home projects.

Savage honored with City of Excellence Award

Our city has recently earned the 2025 City of Excellence Award from the League of Minnesota Cities in the category for populations of 30,000 or more. The recognition, presented at the League's Annual Conference in Duluth in June, honors our community engagement work around River Bend Park.

What led to this recognition

In spring 2023, safety concerns prompted the temporary removal of basketball hoops at River Bend Park. Rather than making decisions behind closed doors, city leadership chose a different path—one that put community voices at the center of finding solutions.

The city partnered with School District 191, the Community Equity Commission, and the Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Commission to create a comprehensive engagement process. We held community forums, conducted targeted interviews, and reached out to neighbors, youth, and local businesses in the Savage area.

Real engagement, real results

This wasn't just about checking boxes or holding token meetings. Every conversation was documented, with resident experiences and safety concerns carefully organized into clear themes. These findings provided the City Council with concrete, community-driven solutions to work with, such as improved lighting and enhanced visibility throughout the park.

The process concluded with a celebration at River Bend Park, bringing the community together to see the results of their collective input in action. We thank the countless community members who participated in these conversations.

It's Time to Unveil What We Created Together



**Community Mural
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Join us as we officially unveil the community mosaic mural at the Savage Public Library.

When: Tuesday, September 2, 2025

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Where: Savage Public Library, 13090 Alabama Ave.

Our community mural at the Savage Public Library is nearly complete and will be installed this August, which means it's time to celebrate what we've accomplished together. This beautiful piece of artwork is more than just a decoration - it's a true reflection of our community. Over the past six months, our talented mural artist team worked hand-in-hand with residents of all ages to design and create something that brings us together and makes everyone feel they belong here in Savage. Whether you joined us at the mosaic-making workshops, shared your ideas during the planning process, or followed our progress on letstalksavagemn.com, this celebration is for you! Your involvement helped bring this vision to life. Let's gather together to celebrate not just the artwork, but the amazing community spirit that made it possible. Questions? Contact Communications Director Emily Gunderson at egunderson@savagemn.gov or 952-882-2655. *Light refreshments will be provided.*



Good News!

Savage Awarded Solar Energy Grant for Water Treatment Plant

The City of Savage applied for and was awarded a \$63,310 grant through the Minnesota Solar on Public Buildings Program. The funding, awarded by the Minnesota Department of Commerce, will support the installation of solar panels at Water Treatment Plant 2. This project aligns with the City's sustainability goals and commitment to renewable energy. Further updates will be shared as the project progresses.

Juneteenth Recap

By Emily Boland, Management Fellow

On June 19th, the City of Savage's Community Equity Commission (CEC) hosted a community Juneteenth Celebration at McColl Pond ELC. The event honored Black history and culture with a reading of Glenda Armand's "The Night Before Freedom: A Juneteenth Story" by Mayor Kelly. Featured speaker Ed Jenkins, a creative artist, actor, and storyteller who created the children's podcast Keyshawn Solves It, shared a powerful message centered on the story of Juneteenth, freedom, resilience, and self-worth. The Scott County Library also participated in the event with a curated collection of books that highlighted Juneteenth and African American history. Community members enjoyed interactive activities, music, and refreshments while learning about the significance of Juneteenth in American history. Thank you to the CEC, Ed Jenkins, Scott County Library, and everyone who joined us for this meaningful celebration.



Rec Corner

3rd Lair Skateboard Camp | August 11-14

Join 3rd Lair instructors for a fun-filled 4-day camp working on developing your skateboarding skills. Instruction is tailored to individual ability levels, and instructors cater to each student's needs. All ages six and above and all skill levels are welcome. Register at savagemn.gov.

Registration Deadline: August 3

Time: 9 a.m. – noon

Location: Savage Skate Park, 13500 Dakota Ave.

Ages: 6+

Price: \$200

Fall/Winter Programs Coming Soon!

Savage Parks and Recreation has been busy planning fall and winter programs! Watch your mailbox for the Fall/Winter Discover Savage Program Brochure or view online at savagemn.gov.



**5th ANNUAL
SAVAGE FALL
PICKLEBALL
TOURNAMENT**

October 3, 4 & 5
Savage Community Park
13500 Dakota Ave., Savage



Learn more and register now by scanning the QR code or visiting savagemn.gov.
Register on or before September 28

Code Corner | Vehicle Parking Requirements

Here is a quick maintenance reminder!

Residents are reminded that all vehicles parked on your driveway must be:

- Currently licensed and registered
- In working condition
- In good repair

If your vehicle doesn't meet these requirements, you have two options:

- Store it inside your garage, or
- Remove it from your property entirely

Parking anywhere on your lawn or yard is not allowed. Thank you for following these guidelines to keep our neighborhoods safe, clean, and attractive for all residents.

KEEP IN TOUCH:



Breaking news: The Poop Fairy doesn't exist!

Picture this perfect summer day: you're strolling through one of Savage's beautiful parks, birds chirping overhead, sunshine filtering through the trees. Until—squish!—your peaceful walk turns into an unpleasant surprise. Sound familiar? You're not alone.

The City of Savage is launching a new public awareness "Scoop the Poop" campaign to remind our dog-loving residents that there is no Poop Fairy and it's your responsibility as a dog owner to clean up after your four-legged family members—every single time!

More than just an inconvenience.

While stepping in pet waste is undoubtedly unpleasant, the problem runs much deeper than dirty shoes and unpleasant odors. Pet waste poses genuine public health and environmental concerns for our entire community. "Your dog's poop doesn't magically disappear or fertilize the ground," explains Jesse Carlson, Savage's Water Resource Manager. "When it rains, pet waste left on trails, sidewalks, and grassy areas gets washed down our storm drains and into our creeks, streams, and rivers." This contamination creates a ripple effect throughout our local ecosystem. The waste doesn't just pollute our waterways—it fuels the growth of harmful algae and aquatic weeds that can seriously impact our overall water quality.

Poop happens, so be prepared.

Public Works and Parks & Recreation Director Greg Boatman emphasizes that the responsibility extends beyond public spaces. "Whether you walk your dog in a public park or let it roam in your backyard, you should always scoop the poop," he reminds residents. To make it easy, the City is offering free doggie waste bag dispensers that conveniently attach to your leash. These handy dispensers ensure you're always prepared for cleanup duty, no matter where your adventures take you.

Pick up your free dispenser at any of these locations during regular business hours:

- City Hall
- Savage Police Department
- Public Works

Available while supplies last

The bottom line is, there is no fairy coming to help. It's up to you to bring bags, pick up the poop, throw it away...every single time. Together, we can keep Savage's shoes clean, trails pristine, and waterways healthy. Thank you for doing your part!

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