



CITY OF
SAVAGE
MINNESOTA

CITY CONNECTION

FEBRUARY 2026

STATE OF THE CITY



Thursday, February 19
4 - 5:30 p.m.

You're Invited: State of the City

The Savage Tap
12925 Eagle Creek Parkway

Whether you live here, work here, or do business here, this one's for you! Join Mayor Kelly at The Savage Tap on February 19 for the annual State of the City address, co-hosted with the Savage Chamber of Commerce. This isn't just a presentation. It's a chance to connect with city leaders, hear what's happening in Savage, and have real conversations about what matters to you.

Mayor Kelly will share highlights from 2025 and what's ahead for 2026, including the key budget drivers and what they mean for residents and businesses. But the real value is in the conversation. Staff and council members will be there to answer your questions, hear your concerns, and listen to what you love about living and working in Savage. This is your city. We want to hear from you.

Schedule:

- 4 p.m.: Doors open, visit city and chamber info tables, light snacks available
- 4:30 p.m.: State of the City program by Mayor Kelly
- 5 p.m.: Q & A with Mayor Kelly, council members, and staff

This is a FREE event. No registration required. Families are welcome. Join us, ask questions, and help shape our community's future. Whether you've lived here for decades or just moved in, we'd love to see you there.



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Upcoming Community Events

Tip-A-Cop

Tuesday, February 3
5 - 7 p.m. | McHugh's Public House
5715 Egan Drive

Protect and serve. That's what Savage PD will be doing on Tuesday, February 3, at McHugh's. Bring the family and head over to enjoy a great meal, support Special Olympics Minnesota, and be "served" by members of the Savage Police Department. Your support and donations enable athletes with intellectual disabilities to celebrate their abilities, not their disabilities, through Special Olympics.



Polar Plunge

Saturday, February 21 | 11 a.m.
Sand Point Beach
14349 Crest Ave. NE, Prior Lake

Come cheer on and support our brrrrr-ave "Savage Copsicles" team as they turn into human popsicles to help support Special Olympics Minnesota. Their mission is to raise \$310,000 to support athletes with intellectual disabilities across the state. The Plunge begins at 11 a.m. at Sand Point Beach, 14349 Crest Ave. NE, Prior Lake. For more information and to register, go to plungemn.org/events/prior-lake.

New Businesses Coming to Savage

Opening a new business involves a lot of moving parts, and our city team works together to make it happen smoothly. The Building Department leads the charge, managing everything from plan review to permits to inspections. But they're not doing it alone. Fire handles life safety reviews; Engineering reviews infrastructure plans; Planning checks zoning and land use; Finance coordinates fees; Utilities sets up service connections; and the City Clerk processes licenses. It's genuinely a team effort, and when it all comes together, businesses can open their doors ready to go. The work matters. Every review, inspection, and approval helps these businesses start strong and serve our community safely. Speaking of which, here's who's new in town and who's getting ready to open in 2026:

NEW IN TOWN	
Arise Medical and Wellness	7447 Egan Drive, Suite 207
Atek Access Technologies	7447 Egan Drive, Suite 301
The Vital Stretch	7737 Egan Drive
Eye Care Lounge	14043 Hwy 13 S.
COMING IN EARLY 2026	
Crisp & Green	14166 Hwy 13 S.
D1 Training	12220 Zinran Ave.
Savage Chiropractic	7447 Egan Drive, Suite 120
Opaline Estate Jewelry	4735 123rd St., Suite 200

Public Safety



One Officer, 106 Impaired Drivers Off Our Roads.

If you've ever wondered whether traffic enforcement makes a difference, here's your answer: Officer Adam Crain just wrapped up a year that will go down in Savage Police Department history.

As our dedicated Traffic Safety Officer (a position funded by the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety), Officer Crain made 106 DWI arrests in 2025. That's 106 impaired drivers who didn't make it to their destination, which means potentially 106 crashes that never happened.

To put that in perspective, no one in our department has ever hit those numbers before.

What Makes This Work So Tough

Officer Crain isn't just pulling people over. He's a certified Drug Recognition Expert, which means he's trained to identify when someone's impaired by alcohol, marijuana, illegal drugs, or prescription medications. Each DWI arrest requires extensive documentation, specialized testing, and hours of follow-up work. It's meticulous, time-consuming, and absolutely critical.

He even pulled off what's known in law enforcement as a "hat trick" this year: three DWI arrests in a single shift. That's not luck. That's vigilance.

Education First

Here's something that might surprise you: Officer Crain conducted 2,593 traffic stops in 2025. Out of those, he issued 211 citations for violations other than DWI. The rest? More than 2,200 stops ended with verbal warnings.

That's intentional. Our Traffic Safety program focuses on education and helping people make better choices. Sometimes a conversation is more effective than a ticket.

A Team Effort

Chief Brady Juell was quick to point out that Officer Crain's success doesn't happen in a vacuum. Our Records Specialists provide crucial support behind the scenes, handling the volume of documentation required for each arrest.

"This level of achievement reflects extensive training, certification, and dedication," Chief Juell said. "It's proof of our commitment to keeping our roads safe."

Officer Crain is now in his fourth year as our Traffic Safety Officer, and if this year is any indication, he's just getting started.

Yearly Reminder: Register your alarm systems

If you have a home or business alarm system, it's time to renew your registration.

Every year, the Savage Police respond to hundreds of false alarms. Each call pulls officers away from real emergencies and other work in the community. Annual registration ensures that your contact information is up to date, which helps us reach you quickly in an emergency.

Registration is free and can be done online at savagemn.gov. Questions? Contact Savage PD at 952-882-2600.

Code Corner | Snow Removal Reminder



Residents and business owners are reminded that snow from private property may not be plowed, blown, or shoveled into the street. This includes pushing snow across the street and piling it along the curb. Keeping snow off the roadway prevents icy conditions, allows snowplows to operate safely, and protects equipment. If you hire a contractor for snow removal, please be sure they're aware of these requirements, as property owners may be responsible for snow that is placed in the street.

Reminders:

Please pick up after your pets, even when it's cold.

When it's cold and the ground is covered with snow, leaving your pet's waste behind can be tempting, but this bad habit leads to an unsightly environmental hazard come spring. Despite what you might have heard, pet waste isn't a fertilizer. It's actually pretty harmful to the environment. When the snow melts, bacteria from the waste washes into storm sewers and ends up in our local ponds, creeks, lakes, and wetlands. As it breaks down, it messes with water quality and can make people and wildlife sick. One of the simplest things you can do to keep local waterways healthy is to pick up after your pet. It also shows courtesy to your community, and it's the law! #scoopthepoop

Just because it's labeled "flushable" doesn't mean you should.

Just because you CAN flush wipes, band-aids, Q-tips, dental floss, makeup wipes, tissues, and cotton balls down the toilet doesn't mean you SHOULD flush them. The term "flushable" doesn't mean it's biodegradable. None of these items break down in the water and can tangle with other items, resulting in a clogged sewer line. Defend your drain. Toss these products in the trash.

Marshall Gets Wrapped in Love (Literally)

You know you've made it when you get your own custom quilt. At the January 5 City Council Meeting, K9 Marshall and his handler, Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal John Burrow, received a beautiful K9 Quilt of Honor, celebrating their service to our community. Pepper, our retired CIRT K9, also received a quilt for his service. The quilts come from K9 Quilts of Honor, an organization that recognizes police dogs and their handlers across the country. A huge thank you to K9 Quilts of Honor for these thoughtful tributes to our four-legged heroes!



Good News! Students Bring Dr. King's Words to Life

We love seeing young people in our community connect with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s powerful message, and this year's essay and poetry contest delivered. The Community Equity Commission held its second annual MLK Jr. Essay/Poetry Contest, inviting students in grades 5-12 (whether they live in Savage, attend school here, or homeschool) to select one of Dr. King's quotes and explore its meaning in their own lives. The results were thoughtful, moving, and really well done. A huge thank you to the Savage Rotary and Rotary of Prior Lake for helping with this initiative.

This year's winners:

Grades 5-8

First Place: Saharsha Sanish

Second Place: Mary Conley

Grades 9-12

First Place: Anne Marie Cline

All three winners were invited to read their work at the January 20 City Council meeting. You can read all the submissions at savagemn.gov.



1st Place Grades 5 – 8:

"Only in the darkness can you see the stars"

By: Saharsha Sanish

Our world is consumed by gloom and darkness, The path is just a void of darkness and sorrows that fill you. Every step feels lost and stray.

Your heavy heart remembers the light,

The good, happy things in life.

And trust me, it's known the storm,

It knows how it feels to lose hope and not find its way

But at the end of the day, you look up,

Gaze at the stars in the sky.

They represent the good things are there too

They are there for you, even in your darkest times.

"Only in the darkness can you see the stars,"

A powerful, true voice reminds you, healing your sorrowful mind

For when the sun surrenders, bringing out the stray,

You remember, "I can keep this at bay."

During the dreadful times, we mustn't forget,

We will always have the stars in the sky for us

Waiting to gleam for us to see,

Waiting to bring us joy,

Waiting for the darkness to arrive.

You don't need day to shine; you are the light, You are

the spark you need through the absolute of night. They

gleam only for those who dare to look above, Who find

their strength in faith, and hope, and love. So let the

darkness hold you, just a while,

To see the starlight up above

You are strong, you've made it through

Now, just let it shine too.

1st Place Grades 9 - 12:

Letter from Birmingham Jail Reflection

By: Anne Marie Cline

The "Letter from Birmingham Jail," written by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1963, has had a huge impact on American society, especially when it comes to civil rights, justice, and activism. Dr. King wrote the letter while he was in jail for protesting segregation and racial injustice in Birmingham, Alabama. He was responding to a group of white clergymen who criticized his actions, saying that his protests were too extreme and untimely. Dr. King explained that waiting for the "right time" to demand equality was not an option because African Americans had been suffering for far too long. He made it clear that direct action and nonviolent resistance were necessary to create change. His powerful message continues to shape how Americans think about justice and equality today.

In the letter, Dr. King argued that the fight for civil rights could not be postponed. He said that African Americans had already been denied basic rights for so long that immediate action was needed. This idea of urgency inspired people to take action and pushed forward future movements for racial equality. His call for direct action made it clear that protests could be a powerful way to bring attention to issues that were being ignored. Dr. King showed that nonviolent protests, like sit-ins and marches, could be a strong tool for social change. This has shaped how people view activism today and has helped people see that peaceful protests can be just as effective as other methods of making a change.

The "Letter from Birmingham Jail" also had a long-lasting effect on how Americans confront issues of racial inequality. Dr. King's letter teaches us that justice often isn't achieved quickly or easily. Sometimes, it takes challenging unfair systems and standing up against the status quo. His message about standing up for what's right has inspired many leaders and regular citizens to keep fighting for a fairer society. Today, his letter continues to be a source of inspiration for anyone working toward equality.

The "Letter from Birmingham Jail" still impacts how Americans address racial inequality today. Dr. King's message about the need for urgent action, the power of nonviolent protest, and the importance of challenging unfair systems has shaped how people respond to injustice now. His letter shows us that the fight for equality is ongoing and that we have to keep standing up for what is right. Savage is a great example of a city that engages in inclusive activities for the people who live here. Savage provides lots of community events, parks and rec facilities, and lots of outreach programs. The "Letter from Birmingham Jail" will remain an important guide for anyone who wants to help create a more just and fair world.

Rec Corner

Think Spring and Summer!

Watch your mailboxes for the 2026 Spring/Summer Parks and Recreation Brochure. Program registration opens March 3 (residents) and March 5 (non-residents).

Candlelit Snowshoe Hike | DATE CHANGE: March 6

Tea lights will glow along the trail at Savage Community Park. Enjoy snowshoeing or hiking outside and hot chocolate and cookies inside the McColl Pond ELC. Snowshoes are provided, but if you have your own, bring them! No snow, no worries! A hike will take its place. Register at savagemn.gov by March 4.

Ages: 5+

Price: \$5 per person

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: McColl Pond ELC, 13550 Dakota Ave., Savage

Mark Your Calendars: Flashlight Egg Scramble is Back!

March 27

Scramble across the field at the Savage Sports Center with the lights off! Bring your flashlight and a basket to scoop up as many eggs as you can. Several golden eggs will be on the field for a chance to win a special basket. Eggs will not be filled and will be recycled at the end of the scramble where every pre-registered participant will receive a goodie bag full of prizes. **No walk-ins accepted; pre-registration is required at savagemn.gov.**

Ages: 3-9

- 3 - 6 Scramble: 8 p.m. (with one adult)
- 6 - 9 Scramble: 8:30 p.m. (no adults)

Price: \$7 per child

Time: Doors open for activities at 7 p.m.

Registration Deadline: March 18

Location: Savage Sports Center, 13450 Dakota Ave., Savage

Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities available at savagemn.gov.



See Me Play meetups | March 29 and April 25

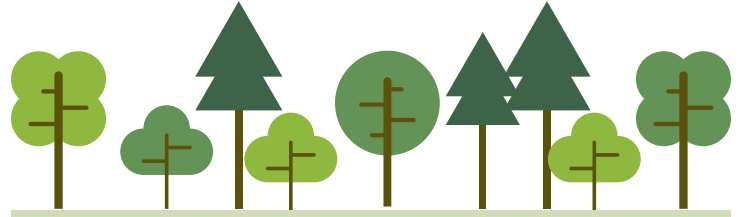
These playtimes are specifically for families with neurodiverse children. The goal is to create a safe and inclusive space where families can connect, share experiences, and most importantly, have a blast!

- Sunday, February 1, 2026: 10 a.m. - noon
- Sunday, March 29, 2026: 10 a.m. - noon
- Saturday, April 25, 2026: 1 - 3 p.m.

Location: Savage Sports Center, 13450 Dakota Ave., Savage

All sessions are free and open to families with neurodiverse children. To learn more about See Me Neurodiverse and RSVP for the meetups, visit <https://www.seemeneurodiverse.org/events>.

KEEP IN TOUCH:



Arbor Day Online Tree Sale

March 16 - April 12

Celebrate Arbor Day by planting a tree and contributing to a greener future! The City of Savage online tree sale offers residents an opportunity to purchase high-quality trees from a local source at affordable prices. Take advantage of this chance to enhance your yard while helping to reduce the impact of recent pest and environmental challenges. This sale is open to all Savage, Prior Lake, Credit River and Spring Lake Township residents.

2026 Available Species:

• Blue Beech	• Plane Tree-London Exclamation
• Coffeetree-Espresso	• Redbud
• Crabapple-Purple Prince	• River Birch-Heritage
• Crabapple-Spring Snow	• Serviceberry-Autumn Brilliance
• Ginkgo-Autumn Gold	• Spruce-Black Hills
• Honey Locust-Skyline	• Sugar Maple-Green Mountain
• Ironwood	• Swamp White Oak
• Lilac-Ivory Silk	• Tamarack
• Linden-Boulevard	• White Pine
• Northern Pin Oak	

Limited quantities available. A maximum of 5 trees per household.

- Trees are bare root, about 1-1.5" in diameter, and may reach 6' -10' or taller.
- Black Hills and White Pine are in #5 containers and up to 2' tall.
- Tamarack is in a #7 container and up to 3' tall.

Note: There is no warranty on these trees. Please do not plant in the right-of-way.

Price: \$41-\$88 each

How to Order: Scan the QR Code or visit savagemn.gov. Trees are available for purchase from March 16 to April 12.

Note: *Trees are only available for purchase online. No trees will be sold on pick-up day.*

Pick-Up Day: Saturday, April 25, from 9 - 11 a.m.

Pick-Up Location: Savage Public Works, 13770 Dakota Ave., Savage



City of Savage

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