

Welcome to Hanover!



“The Little City on the Crow” as Hanover is known, may be small in stature, but is big in opportunities. Historically, Jacob Vollbrecht arrived in the area in search of opportunities for a new life. After inviting his brother, William, to join him, they named it Vollbrecht Mills. The area population continued to grow and along with it, new homes and businesses. It became known as Hanover in 1891 when it was incorporated.



The 125th Anniversary of Incorporation took place in 2016 and provided another opportunity for residents to become involved in celebrating Hanover’s history. The day-long event in October provided events for the entire family: pumpkin decorating, honoring Veterans, acknowledging citizens, demonstrations of the Jaws of Life and K-9 units, good food, and a street dance.



The Historic Bridge in Hanover was recently rehabilitated with grant monies received through the State of Minnesota. The opportunity provided new white oak to replace the old decking, the abutment tuck-pointed, and the railings painted. The Bridge was constructed in 1885 by the Morse Bridge Company of Youngstown, Ohio (Youngstown Bridge Company), to allow traffic to cross the Crow River and to connect Hennepin and Wright Counties. It is historically significant as the second oldest Pratt truss bridge in Minnesota. Traffic crossed the Bridge until late 1966. In 1979, it became part of the National Register of Historic Places as having significance in the themes of engineering and transportation and bears a plaque with this information. The Bridge was renovated in the 1980s and a rehabilitation project was completed in 2004.



A new and exciting opportunity is coming to Hanover: BridgeWater, the long awaited senior living facility modeled after the Green House project. Bradford Development, LLC, will provide a two-story senior living facility that provides the 12 elders on each floor a sense of community and the characteristics of living in a home. Twenty-four hour medical and nursing care will be available. The core values of this model of elder care involves the facility being a “real home,” elders leading a “meaningful life,” and having “empowered staff.” The facility will look and feel like a real home giving its elders opportunities for continued growth and development. The staff will provide day-to-day care as well as act as managers of the home. The complex is scheduled to open early 2017.



Hanover is located within two school districts: ISD 877 Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Schools and ISD 885 St. Michael-Albertville. The majority of Hanover is part of the Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose School District with Hanover Elementary located along CSAH 19. Hanover Elementary currently has 433 students attending classes K-5. The US Department of Education named it a National Blue Ribbon School in 2013 for its overall academic excellence and achievement.



Hanover has grown as more and more people moved to the city. In 2014, the population was 3,182 residents, a 134.8 percent increase since 2000. The City has a land area of 4.89 square miles and is located in both Hennepin and Wright Counties. The Crow River forms the border between the two counties. Hennepin County Government offices are located in Minneapolis, while the Wright County Government offices are located in Buffalo. During election years, residents from both counties vote at Hanover City Hall.

Many of Hanover's city services are contracted. Law enforcement services are divided between the Hennepin County and Wright County Sheriff Departments. City water and sewer is provided by the Joint Powers Water Board / Veolia Water Corporation located in Albertville. Building permit reviews and inspections are conducted by Metro West Inspection Services out of Loretto. Engineering and city planning services are also contracted through WSB Engineering and Collaborative Planning respectively.



Staff at City Hall consists of the city administrator, accountant, and administrative assistant in the office; and three public works employees. A new public works facility is being constructed in 2017 which will house the equipment and offices for the public works team.

The Hanover Fire Department is a volunteer unit made up of area residents. Residents wishing to serve as a firefighter are encouraged to call Chief Dave Malewicki. Burning permits are available from the Fire Chief or at City Hall.



Settlers Park encompasses City Hall, a picnic shelter, playground and ball fields. City Hall has available for use a rental hall and kitchen. The picnic shelter is also available for rent during non-winter months. Inquiries about renting either facility may be made by contacting City Hall.



Hanover's natural beauty has been a draw for many of its residents. There are five neighborhood parks which provide residents with playgrounds, ball fields, soccer fields, gazebos, basketball courts, and a sliding hill. For more specific information on each park, visit the Parks page under Public Works.

There are also county parks made available to Hanover residents. In Hennepin county, the Crow Hassan Park Reserve is part of the Three Rivers Park District and allows residents to traverse it's hiking and horse trails. In Wright County, Riverside Park is a quiet picnic area along the Crow River with canoe access. Just west of Hanover on CSAH 34, Beebe Lake Park has many amenities including a swimming beach and picnic area.



Throughout Hanover is an extensive trail system connecting Hanover to nearby communities. The majority of the trails are maintained throughout the winter so residents can take advantage of the trail system. In the future, the trails will be connected to the Crow River Regional Trail extending from Watertown to Dayton.