

DID YOU KNOW?

Property and Taxation

Assessment, Taxpayer Services and Elections (ATSE)

- In 2005, ATSE will process 28,000 mortgages, 9,000 property deeds, 8,200 homestead applications and 170,000 property tax payments; answer over 62,000 telephone calls; mail nearly 93,000 tax statements and 93,000 valuation notices; and handle over 259,000 motor vehicle and drivers license transactions.
- In 2005, ATSE will work with the school districts within Washington County to administer the school district elections; the elections in the cities of Mahtomedi, St. Paul Park and White Bear Lake; and the elections in the townships of Baytown, Denmark, May, New Scandia and West Lakeland.

Recorder

- The County Recorder's Office records and preserves the record of over 400 different types of documents.
- The Abstract Division will record over 70,000 real estate and related documents in 2005. This division maintains the tract index for real estate transactions, maintains the Sheriff's certificate foreclosure index, keeps an index of federal and state tax liens for Washington County, and preserves a permanent record of all transactions.
- The Torrens Division will create over 1,100 new Certificates of Title and file over 11,000 real estate documents in 2005. This division examines title prior to filing each document, creates an index of filings, and creates new Certificates of Title for Torrens property plats or transfers.
- Vitals Statistics manages all functions related to birth, death, and marriage records. In 2005 this division will process 3,200 certified birth records, 6,000 certified death records, and 1,600 marriage applications.
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Health and Community Services

Community Services

- Over 4,000 persons receive some type of social service each month to resolve problems related to safety, basic needs, or independence.
- Almost 1,000 persons with developmental disabilities will receive services in 2004.
- In 2004 agency staff will respond to approximately 7,440 calls regarding services for seniors and vulnerable adults. Staff will conduct over 300 adult abuse investigations and provide home care to 350 clients.
- On any day throughout the year about 160 children are in out-of-home care at a budgeted annual cost of \$3,693,800 for 2004.
- Agency staff expects to assess 975 reports of child maltreatment/child welfare in 2004.
- The Child Support unit expects to collect \$26,000,000 in child support for families and to handle an estimated 6,600 child support cases in 2004.
- Agency staff regularly manages publicly-financed health care coverage for about 10,000 persons. The majority are children, elderly persons, and disabled individuals.
- During 2004 Adult Mental Health expects to serve 781 persons who are seriously persistently mentally ill (SPMI).
- Human Services Inc., expects to complete 2,400 chemical health assessments in 2004.
- In 2004, 760 persons are expected to be admitted to detoxification centers, receiving 1,780 days of detoxification.
- The Children's Mental Health unit expects to provide 240 children with case management services, 1,400 children with child outpatient services, and 450 children with child psychiatry services in 2004.

- During 2004, 2,200 persons are expected to receive hands on assistance from employment counselors. These individuals and many more are expected to make 20,000 visits to the Workforce Center to use its job search computers and other resources.
- There are 17,799 veterans living in Washington County. In 2004 the veterans of Washington County are expected to receive \$13 million in compensation, pension and insurance benefits, and \$9 million (1,800 patients) in Veteran's Administration medical care.

Public Health and Environment

- The Environment Division estimates that 730 food and lodging establishments will be licensed; 440 septic permits will be issued; and 800 well water tests will be conducted.
- The household hazardous waste facility will collect over 55,670 tons of waste; staff will make 13,600 contacts with students, faculty, and community organizers to collaborate on recycling and waste reduction programs.
- The Community Health Division estimates its employees will provide approximately 2,600 immunizations; investigate 900 disease inquiries; serve 2,200 women, infants and children as part of the Women Infant & Children (WIC) program; and make 5,000 nursing contacts to families and individuals.
- Through outreach and community collaborative activities, 900 organizations will receive consultations on nutrition, physical activity, and adolescent and chemical health; 3,000 consultations will be provided on chronic disease prevention; 280 personal care attendant assessments will be conducted; and 2,800 hours will be spent in case management of the elderly and disabled.
- Emergency Preparedness will collaborate to collaborate to conduct or participate in three to six emergency drills and exercises of various types and sizes. The exercises, updated training on the new National Incident Management System (NIMS) and other federal and state approved training, will provide training opportunities to approximately 900 emergency response personnel countywide. Various local public safety agencies, emergency preparedness agencies, state and federal agencies, and volunteer organizations will participate in the exercises.

Criminal Justice

County Attorney

- The Civil Division represents the County Board and all departments in civil matters including answering legal questions; drafting and reviewing contracts, bid documents and ordinances; collecting child support and establishing paternity; attending hearings in day care and foster care licensing and case management cases as well as commitment proceedings for mentally ill and chemically dependent persons.
- The Adult Criminal Division will prosecute over 800 felony cases in 2005. Several hundred gross misdemeanor, misdemeanor and petty misdemeanor cases will also be prosecuted. Prosecution includes charging, negotiating, and making court appearances, preparing for trial, trying cases and, in some cases, handling appeals.
- The Juvenile Division prosecutes all unlawful behavior committed by anyone under the age of 18 ranging from smoking and curfew violations to rape and murder. The division also represents Community Services in all child protection legal proceedings involving abuse and neglect as well as termination of parental rights and placement of children in permanent homes. In 2005 the Juvenile Division will process over 2,500 referrals from law enforcement agencies for prosecution of crimes committed by juveniles and will receive approximately 60 referrals for child protection cases.
- The Victim/Witness Assistance Division provides statutorily mandated victims rights information and support to victims of all crimes committed by juveniles and adult offenders prosecuted by the County Attorney's Office. Referrals for other services such as financial assistance, counseling and return of property are also provided. The Victim/Witness Division estimates assisting approximately 1,200 individuals and 600 companies in 2005 who are victims of crimes committed by adults and juveniles.

Sheriff

- The Jail Division provides alternative sentencing options for offenders through the Home Detention and Work Release programs. In 2004 the Home Detention program projects enrollment of 297 inmates serving 9,653 days. Work Release is expected to be used by approximately 112 inmates serving 4,047 days. These programs generate approximately \$250,000 in revenue while reducing jail housing costs by over \$1 million. The current jail capacity is 228 inmates.
- The Patrol Division will respond to approximately 31,000 calls for service and has a complement of six patrol dogs.
- Approximately 41,955 911 calls will be received by the communication center of the Special Services Division.
- The Investigations Division conducts investigations related to illegal activities including fraud and narcotics.

Community Corrections

- Probation officers will supervise over 10,000 offenders in the community, perform over 1,000 bail evaluations, and 700 pre-sentence investigations.
- Sentence to serve crews will contribute 90,000 hours back to the community, save over 10,000 days in the jail and save taxpayers about \$750,000.
- Probation staff will collect \$236,300 of restitution for victims of crime.
- Probation officers will assist over 200 families in resolving custody disputes.
- Offenders on supervision will pay \$215,600 to offset the cost of supervision.

Courts

- Caseloads by filing are estimated as follows: Civil – 5,100; Family - 1,800; Juvenile – 1,500; Probate – 420; Criminal – 2,000; and Traffic – 37,000. The total case filings are estimated to be 47,820.

Transportation and Physical Development (TPD)

- In 2005 the Transportation Division anticipates providing snow and ice control for over 575 centerline miles of road using an estimated 7,800 tons of salt.
- Over 15,000 gallons of paint will be used in 2005 for striping the county's 287 miles of county road and over 13,000 traffic signs; 15 bridges and 74 traffic signals are maintained by the department.
- The Parks Division operates eight county parks, totaling 4,291 acres, with 182 miles of trails.
- An estimated 1,200,000 visitors will use the parks including over 125,000 swimmers.
- The Facilities Division cleans and maintains twelve county buildings. This division also oversees all minor and major remodeling and new construction projects.
- Survey and Land Management provides the public and other county departments with survey and land information, land use, and zoning.

Library

- The county library system operates nine branch libraries and provides a variety of internal support services to two associate city libraries in Bayport and Stillwater.
- Washington County Library will provide a collection of over 600,000 items, including books and magazines, as well as books on tape, books on CD, and a wide range of audio visual materials.
- Hours of service in 2004 vary by library: Woodbury/Stafford - 61 hours/week; Park Grove – 58 hours/week; Forest Lake – 58 hours/week; Wildwood – 49 hours/week; Oakdale – 49 hours/week; Valley – 28 hours/week; Marine – 22.5 hours/week; Lake Elmo temporarily closed; Newport – 20 hours/week.
- The Lake Elmo branch was closed in June 2003 due to flooding in the leased space. An alternate space has not yet been identified.
- Washington County residents with library cards can access the collections of all Minnesota libraries through interlibrary loan. They also have reciprocal borrowing privileges in any library in Minnesota that is part of a regional library system.
- Library users can check the library catalog, register for a card, renew materials, place reserves, search electronic databases and ask reference questions without going into a library. These services are all available online at the library's web site: www.co.washington.mn.us/library.
- Loan projections for each of the libraries for 2004 are: Stafford – 810,727; Park-Grove 293,589; Forest Lake - 315,960; Wildwood – 207,719; Oakdale – 237,798; Valley – 48,710; Marine – 35,500; and Newport – 4,396.
- Total loans for all Washington County libraries for 2004, not including the two associated city libraries, are projected at 1,954,399.