

# CITY OF OAKDALE, MINNESOTA

## BUSINESS RESOURCE GUIDE



**City of Oakdale**  
1584 Hadley Avenue North  
Oakdale, MN 55128  
[www.oakdalemn.gov](http://www.oakdalemn.gov)

2025





## CITY OVERVIEW

The City of Oakdale is a vibrant and growing suburban community within the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. Oakdale is conveniently located along Interstates 94 and 694 which makes it attractive to businesses and new development. The City prides itself on its neighborhoods, community parks and business-friendly environment.

### QUICK FACTS

Oakdale, located in Washington County, became a city in 1974 and is currently home to over 625 businesses providing commercial, industrial, retail, dining, entertainment and professional services.

**Population:** 30,491 (2025 census estimate)

**Square miles:** 10.94

**Median home value:** \$337,800

**Median household income:** \$90,379

### DEMOGRAPHICS

The City of Oakdale continues to grow in both population and diversity. According to the 2020 census, Oakdale saw a 13-percent increase from the prior census in the number of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) residents who make up 33.9 percent of the population.

### TRANSPORTATION

Oakdale's location provides convenient highway access to Interstates 94 and 694 as well as State Highways 36 and 120. This network allows for travel to important destinations including: Downtown St. Paul (15 minutes), Downtown Minneapolis (25 minutes) and MSP International Airport (20 minutes). The new METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) provides frequent, fast, all-day transit service to Downtown St. Paul. Additionally, Oakdale has more than 52 miles of sidewalks and trails for walking and biking.

### CITY GOVERNMENT

Oakdale operates under a Council-Administrator form of government. The mayor and four council members are non-partisan, elected at-large for four-year staggered terms. The Council is responsible for establishing policy, adopting the annual budget, and establishing the tax levy. The City Council appoints the City Administrator who oversees day-to-day operations and staff.

The City has an annual budget of approximately \$28.5 million which includes all funds, special revenues and debt service. The City has an Aa1 credit rating. Oakdale employs 132 full-time staff and four regular part-time staff.

## RECREATION NOTABLES

Oakdale has 29 parks, including the Oakdale Nature Preserve where the Discovery Center is located. The Discovery Center offers year-round exhibits and activities for all ages and interests. The center includes meeting and reception facilities, and the park includes an outdoor amphitheater within its 200 acres. It also offers a 28-acre lake, hiking and biking trails, tennis courts, a playground and picnic areas.

Adjacent to City Hall, Walton Park hosts numerous community events including free concerts, a farmers market, and the City's community celebration, Summerfest, each year in June.

The City features a 4.6-acre dog park that is free to use and includes a pond, walking trail, wooded areas and fencing.

## CITY OF OAKDALE CONTACTS

### CITY OF OAKDALE DEPARTMENTS

City Hall: 651-739-5086

Police Department: 651-738-1025

Fire Department: 651-731-8886

Building Inspections: 651-739-5150

Planning: 651-730-2720

Business Licensing: 651-730-2739

Public Works: 651-730-2740

Code Enforcement: 651-702-5225

### OAKDALE CITY COUNCIL

Kari Moore | 931-220-6821 | kari.moore@oakdalemn.gov

Andy Morcomb | 952-381-1606 | andy.morcomb@oakdalemn.gov

Gary Severson | 651-243-0996 | gary.severson@oakdalemn.gov

Mayor: Kevin Zabel | 612-227-1186 | kevin.zabel@oakdalemn.gov

### CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Christina Volkers | 651-730-2705 | chris.volkers@oakdalemn.gov

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Department is responsible for the City's economic development activities, environmental services, neighborhood and housing services, building inspections, land planning activities and zoning.

### BUSINESS RETENTION, EXPANSION AND ATTRACTION PROGRAM

The Oakdale Community Development Department fosters a pro-business and development climate with a focus on building and maintaining relationships with city businesses. As part of the City's Comprehensive Plan, the department launched a Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction program (BREA) in partnership with the Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce to better understand the needs of businesses in Oakdale and connect them to resources at the city, county and state levels.

After the first two years of the BREA program, participants have indicated strong satisfaction and connectedness with the Oakdale community as well as positive sentiment about the City's location. Participants appreciate being located in Oakdale for the following reasons:

- Oakdale is centrally located in the East Metro with easy access to St. Paul and Woodbury.
- The City is convenient for employees, customers, and clients alike.
- Oakdale is close to major employers like 3M.
- The community is large but still has the sense of a small community.
- Community members are supportive of each other and businesses.
- The City has been responsive to the needs of the business community.
- City staff are easy to work with. The City inspector has helped catch improper construction from developers.
- The City has done a great job of cleaning public spaces, especially during winter.
- The Police and Fire departments are responsive and active.
- Local amenities like parks are well-kept and welcoming.
- The City has done a great job of keeping taxes low.



### DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

As of 2025, Oakdale anticipates significant residential and commercial growth. This growth is due to several projects projected to increase the population by approximately 20 percent over the next five years, along with increasing retail and commercial development opportunities.

**Metro Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System:** The Metro Gold Line is a 10-mile bus rapid transit line along Interstate 94 that connects St. Paul, Maplewood, Landfall, Oakdale and Woodbury.

**Willowbrooke:** A 208-acre site north of 34th Street N between Interstate 694 and Ideal Avenue N that will add 1,400 mixed housing units along with parks, open space and a pedestrian network.

**Helmo Station:** Current and upcoming development along the Gold Line BRT includes 30,000 square feet of retail and services, a 150-space park-and-ride and over 700 housing units.

**4Front Technology and Office:** Over 65 acres of developable land with commercial, warehouse and retail development underway or recently open for business.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STAFF CONTACTS

**Community Development Director:** Andrew Gitzlaff | 651-730-2806 | [andrew.gitzlaff@oakdalemn.gov](mailto:andrew.gitzlaff@oakdalemn.gov)

**City Planner:** Luke McClanahan | 651-730-2720 | [luke.mcclanahan@oakdalemn.gov](mailto:luke.mcclanahan@oakdalemn.gov)

**Chief Building Official:** Greg Brady | 651-730-2725 | [greg.brady@oakdalemn.gov](mailto:greg.brady@oakdalemn.gov)

**Community Development Specialists:**

Hannah Dunn (Environmental) | 651-730-2723 | [hannah.dunn@oakdalemn.gov](mailto:hannah.dunn@oakdalemn.gov)

Max Lohse (Economic Development) | 651-730-2721 | [maxwell.lohse@oakdalemn.gov](mailto:maxwell.lohse@oakdalemn.gov)

## BUSINESS RESOURCES

The City of Oakdale partners with a variety of organizations that provide resources and funding opportunities for businesses to grow and develop. Additionally, Community Development encourages Oakdale businesses to take advantage of local, state and federal resources and programs to help businesses reach their goals.

### OPEN TO BUSINESS PROGRAM

Oakdale has partnered with Washington County to offer the Open to Business Program through the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) which provides free assistance from MCCD staff, customized to meet the specific needs of each entrepreneur or business. Advisers can also identify borrowing needs and access financing options. Visit the Open to Business website at: [www.mccdmn.org/open-to-business](http://www.mccdmn.org/open-to-business)

### MN DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DEED)

MN DEED is the state's principal economic development agency. DEED programs promote business recruitment, expansion and retention; international trade; workforce development; and community development. Tools for starting and growing a business are available at: [www.mn.gov/deed/business](http://www.mn.gov/deed/business)

### US SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

The SBA was created as an independent agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect interests of small business concerns, preserve free competitive enterprise and maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation. The SBA helps Americans start, build and grow businesses. Resources for business planning, management, growth and financing tools can be found at: [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)

## SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

The City of Oakdale encourages sustainable business practices that help conserve energy and natural resources in the community. There are a variety of programs available to Oakdale businesses to assist with sustainable improvements and solutions.

### BIZRECYCLING

BizRecycling is a public program of Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy that helps businesses and multi-family properties start or improve recycling services through free on-site consultations and grant funding for recycling infrastructure. For more information, visit: [www.bizrecycling.com/Oakdale](http://www.bizrecycling.com/Oakdale)

### ENERGY SMART

Energy Smart is a Minnesota Chamber of Commerce program with energy consulting to help businesses and organizations find energy and cost-saving opportunities. Find more information at: [www.mnchamber.com/your-opportunity/energy-smart](http://www.mnchamber.com/your-opportunity/energy-smart)

### WASTE WISE

Waste Wise is a Minnesota Chamber of Commerce program with environmental consulting to help businesses and organizations find ways to control waste costs and connect with grants to fund recycling program improvements. For more information or to schedule a visit, go to: [www.mnchamber.com/your-opportunity/waste-wise](http://www.mnchamber.com/your-opportunity/waste-wise)

### TRILLION BTU PROGRAM

In partnership with the Saint Paul Port Authority, businesses can access Trillion BTU loans for qualifying energy improvements. Loans are structured to be cash flow positive with up to 100-percent financing available. To learn more or apply for a loan, visit: [www.sppa.com/portfinancing/trillion-btu](http://www.sppa.com/portfinancing/trillion-btu)

## OAKDALE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (OACC)

The Oakdale Area Chamber of Commerce is an influential and community-focused organization in Oakdale comprised of business leaders, educators, civic leaders and community-minded individuals with a common goal of positive influence in the community. The OACC sponsors community events each year including the Oakdale city-wide garage sale, a community picnic, Summerfest pancake breakfast and the Winter Wonderland celebration.

The OACC provides opportunities for members to get connected through a variety of networking events including luncheons, volunteering, fundraising and ribbon cuttings. Member benefits include:

- Representation in local government
- Business referrals and networking
- Communication regarding OACC meetings, events and membership promotions
- Web site listing, advertising and social media

Membership applications and details are available at [www.oakdaleareachamber.org](http://www.oakdaleareachamber.org)

Additional resources and information about Community Development can be found at: [www.oakdalemn.gov/159/Community-Development](http://www.oakdalemn.gov/159/Community-Development)