

CHECKLIST · PLYMOUTH

Moving to Plymouth Checklist: The First 90 Days (2026)

What newcomers have to do, in order, with the deadlines and where each one is done. Print it and tick it off.

SHORT ANSWER

The first ten days are federal: **if you are subject to address reporting, report to USCIS within 10 days**, and if you have a case in immigration court, to the court within **5 days**. Day one is specific to this city and is the most valuable item in this guide: **find out which company supplies electricity to your address**. The City's own page lists investor-owned **Xcel Energy** and the cooperative **Wright-Hennepin Electric**, and it even splits street-light outage reporting by neighborhood, which means **one household is under one statute and its neighbor under another**. Week one is about the City: **garbage is an open system** and you choose the hauler yourself, **there is no 311**, and **the water account is never opened in a renter's name**. And put two dates in the calendar today: **December 31** for the homestead application and **January 31** for the rent certificate from your landlord.

First 10 days

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Report your address to USCIS	As a general rule required for most noncitizens including green card holders, within 10 days ; A and G visa holders and visa waiver visitors are excluded. uscis.gov/addresschange . Moving from one neighborhood to another inside the city counts , and so does moving to another apartment in the same building
☐ Update the address on every pending case separately	Filing AR-11 does not change the address on a pending application by itself; enter each application's receipt number
☐ If you have an immigration court case	Within 5 days , on Form EOIR-33/IC: respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov . There is one court in the state, so moving within the metro does not move your case to a different court
☐ If you have an ICE reporting obligation	Report the address through portal.ice.gov as well. Confirm check-in locations on the agency's own check-in page; if you hold an appointment notice, the address on that notice governs
☐ Do not mistake mail forwarding for a report	The change of address you give the post office does not update the USCIS record, and giving an address to the licensing agency, the county or the City does not satisfy the federal obligation

THE TWO ADDRESS MISTAKES MADE MOST OFTEN HERE

- **Treating the metro as one city.** Plymouth is a separate city with its own municipal government; the neighboring suburbs are separate municipalities too, and the capital east of the river is in a different county. Moving between western suburbs is not staying in the same place, and a newcomer family that moves its rental from one suburb to another in the first year files the same report each time.
- **Not reporting because you did not cross a line. What triggers the obligation is the move itself,** not whether you crossed a county or city boundary. Moving from one neighborhood to another inside the city starts the 10-day clock too.
- **Changing neighborhoods here changes other things as well,** and two of them are money: your electric provider can change with your street and your school district can be any of four. **But AR-11 depends on none of that:** if you moved, you report.
- **Renting a mailbox is not a solution,** because the agency wants the address where you actually live.
- One thing changed in 2026: account for the federal rule that **took effect on June 29, 2026** and reorganizes alien registration and what counts as evidence of registration, readable in the [federalregister.gov](https://www.federalregister.gov) record. Check that the document you carry still counts as evidence of registration.

DAY ONE: FIND OUT WHICH PROVIDER YOU ARE ON, BECAUSE EVERYTHING HANGS ON IT

- **On earlier pages in this series the regime changed from city to city. Here, for the first time, it clearly changes inside a city.** The City's own overview page lists two electric providers and they are not in the same legal category: one is an investor-owned company, the other an electric cooperative. The same page gives two separate routes for reporting a street-light outage, so the distinction sits **in the City's own official language**, not in our inference.
- **Why it matters:** the winter shutoff ban is written in **two separate statutory sections** and which one covers you depends on what kind of provider you have. They share a great deal: the window is **October 1 to April 30**, there is **no temperature trigger**, the threshold is **50 percent of state median household income**, and if you receive **any public assistance** whose own threshold sits at or below that level you are **deemed to meet** the income test.
- **Where they diverge is procedure:** the section written for cooperatives and municipal utilities bars disconnection **on a Friday, at the weekend, on a holiday and outside business hours**, and requires **verification of occupancy** before cutting; notice periods differ too. So two neighbors on the same street may receive notices with different deadlines. The comparison is in [the utilities section of the state guide](#).
- **How to find out:** use the City page that splits street-light reporting by neighborhood; while you are viewing a place, ask the landlord **which company supplies electricity at this address**, because the answer to "is there electricity" is yes everywhere; and after you move in, **keep the first bill**, because the utility name on it is your evidence of which section covers you.
- **We do not draw the street-by-street boundary between the two here**, because it has to be confirmed per address; the City's page stays current and we cannot. **We could not confirm the deposit, prepayment and reconnection rules either**, so ask the provider and get the answer in writing.
- **On the gas side there is no split:** the gas supplier the City lists is **CenterPoint Energy**, an investor-owned company, so the regulated arm. **Water and sewer are the City's own service** and entirely outside this protection.

Renting: what exists here and what does not

ITEM	POSITION IN PLYMOUTH
Percentage cap on rent increases	Research found none. State law does not impose a flat prohibition on rent control; it attaches a condition that the measure be approved at a general election . One of the metro's big cities held that vote and set a cap, the other did not. No such vote or ordinance was found here, so the state floor applies
Ban on a landlord asking about status	Research could not confirm one. One of the metro's big cities has an explicit city provision barring a landlord from asking a tenant's immigration status or rejecting them over an ITIN; we could not find an equivalent here and we do not carry that provision over . We do not say there is none, we say we could not find one, but the practical result is the same: do not assume you have a city provision to stop it
Pre-eviction notice	State law sets a floor and expressly allows a local government to set a longer period , not a shorter one. We found no ordinance extending it here, so the floor applies. Detail in the renting section of the state guide

ITEM	POSITION IN PLYMOUTH
Source-of-income discrimination	Prohibited, under a different name: the state human rights act treats status with regard to public assistance as a protected class in housing, so paying with a voucher or assistance cannot be a ground for rejection. The exemption is narrow: only an owner-occupant renting a room in a single-family home. This protection does apply here
A landlord contacting immigration authorities	The statute lists, among a landlord's prohibited acts, contacting federal or state law enforcement related to a tenant's immigration status; but this is a retaliation provision , triggered by the tenant having done something protected . So it would be wrong to write that a landlord cannot report you; this is not a screening provision
Rental inspection	One of the metro's big cities requires a license for every rental unit , the other runs a fire certificate of occupancy instead. No rental license or similar register was found here , so we could not confirm a public record you could search for a building's inspection history before signing. See the building yourself, check the basement and the heating before winter, and always put repair requests in writing

Before you sign, ask for four things **in writing**, because all four change by address in this city: **which company supplies electricity at the address, which school district it falls in, whose responsibility the garbage hauler is**, and **the deposit amount with its return conditions**. If a landlord asks about your immigration status, note the question, the date and who said it, and show it to a lawyer.

Week one

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Find out your electric provider and write it down	The most critical item on this list. You cannot apply for the winter shutoff protection without it, because where the application goes and which section covers you both depend on it. Before October 1 , call your provider and ask how to apply
☐ Know that the water account will not be in your name	Water and sewer are the City's own service covering most of Plymouth; the number to open an account is 763-509-5333 . The City opens accounts only for residential property owners and says so in writing. The bill comes every other month and covers water, sewer, recycling, street lighting and surface water, so the first bill looks twice what you expected
☐ Choose your own garbage hauler	The City provides no garbage service ; all residents and businesses must choose and set up their own service with a licensed hauler . Licenses are renewed annually by the City Council, which is why we name no hauler here. There is no automatic enrollment ; if no cart arrives, the reason is probably that you never subscribed
☐ Keep recycling and organics separate	Recycling and weekly curbside organics are a City-contracted service paid through the utility bill , so they sit outside the open system; but you have to sign up separately for an organics cart, it does not simply arrive
☐ Tell your household about the 2 to 5 a.m. ban	It runs all year, summer included. The snow threshold is two inches and the restriction ends when the street is plowed curb to curb , not at a clock time. Sign up for the snow text alert; parking questions go to 763-509-5160

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Set up the reporting channel, do not dial 311	There is no 311 in this city and none county-wide. The channel is the City's own reporting system myPlymouth plus the report-an-issue page on its site. The switchboard is 763-509-5000 and City Hall is at 3400 Plymouth Boulevard . Water and sewer faults are 763-509-5950 on weekdays and 952-258-5321 after hours
☐ Report a street light to the right provider	Reporting goes to two different providers depending on the neighborhood ; report to the wrong one and the light stays off
☐ Get a library card	The branch is Plymouth Library , part of the Hennepin County Library system, at 15700 36th Ave. N. Cards are free and no number, citizenship or status appears in the published requirements ; what is required is county residence or property ownership plus proof of address. Call first and ask which proof of address is accepted , because a renter here has no utility bill in their name
☐ Start school enrollment for children	There are four districts and the school is set by street address. We could not confirm the document lists, so call the district and ask; make the interpreter request at enrollment and in writing
☐ Do not delay the health application	A child under 18 can enroll in the state program regardless of status and the adults' situation does not affect it; pregnancy coverage runs 12 months postpartum . The Minnesota Department of Human Services line is 1-800-657-3672 , MNsure is 1-855-366-7873
☐ Get the transit card	The Go-To Card works on buses, light rail and bus rapid transit. Inside the city Click-and-Ride is \$3 one way with a \$30 ten-ride punch card. The Transit Assistance Program brings fares to \$1 a ride and an organization's vouching replaces income documents

NO ACCOUNT IN A RENTER'S NAME: READ BOTH FACES AT ONCE

- **The upside:** because you are not opening the account, **no Social Security number is asked of you** and **you pay no opening deposit**. The two items that trouble newcomers in most cities in this series are zero here.
- **The downside, and a guide that skips it would mislead you:** no bill builds in your name, so **you have no utility bill to use as proof of address** and **you build no credit history through a regularly paid bill**. One of the easiest ways to build credit history in the U.S. is a regularly paid bill in your name; that door is closed here.
- **Consequence one: plan to build your credit history another way.** This is a genuine disadvantage in Plymouth and it should not be passed over quietly.
- **Consequence two: have the lease state in writing whether water is inside the rent or charged separately.** If the owner's bill will be passed on to you, put the method in the lease; asking whether the water has been paid is also your job.
- **Consequence three:** for every errand that asks for proof of address, from the library card to school enrollment, **call first and ask which documents are accepted**.
- **If you are an owner opening an account,** the route is an online form: you confirm that you are purchasing the property and give the closing date, the property address, your legal name, email and phone, and the platform asks you to create an account. A confirmation email follows, then a second once it is processed.

What to watch on the bills and in the mailbox

- **The first bill covers two months.** Residential customers are billed every other month, commercial monthly. For a newcomer's budget that is not a detail.
- **Water line insurance letters:** official-looking letters will arrive offering to insure your water line or your sewer line. The City makes an explicit statement about this: it has **no partnership with, and does not endorse, any private water service line protection plan**. A letter that implies it comes from the City or is arranged with the City **contradicts the City's own statement**. Whether you want such a product is your decision, but do not buy it **believing the City requires it**, and do not give bank details to a number on a letter.
- **Know which line is whose responsibility: the property owner maintains the sewer line from the building to the main.** If you rent, that line is not your item.
- **The same pattern appears a second time in transit:** the transportation department warns on its own site about **toll scam text messages**. Both have the same shape: an official-looking demand, urgent language, and a link asking for payment or information.
- **The winter shutoff ban:** the window is **October 1 to April 30**, the threshold is **50 percent of state median household income**, there is **no temperature trigger**, and **the protection is not automatic**: the household has to apply and keep up an accepted payment plan. **Water and sewer are entirely outside this regime.**

Within 30 days

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Insurance and vehicle registration	Minnesota is a no-fault state; compare quotes by the coverage list and confirm the interpreter coverage tied to medical care. There is no inspection or emissions test, registration is value-based , and studded tires are illegal. Whether a number is required to register could not be confirmed , so call first
☐ Read the winter regime and write it down	Two separate bans: after a snowfall of two inches or more, no on-street parking until the street is plowed curb to curb , and no on-street parking from 2 to 5 a.m. every night of the year . Shoveling snow into the street is illegal too
☐ If your car is towed	Parking enforcement is 763-509-5160 . We could not find an official list of the lot address, the fee schedule or who may collect the vehicle ; ask the three questions on the phone. An equivalent of the fee waiver for a vehicle left behind during a detention could not be confirmed here
☐ Apply for energy assistance early	The shutoff window is October 1 to April 30 , the threshold is 50 percent of state median household income , and there is no temperature trigger . Which section covers you depends on what kind of provider you have
☐ Register with a sliding-fee health center	Before something goes wrong. Sliding fee does not mean free . We name no clinic and print no address, because we could not confirm a single center in this area from an official source; enter your address in the federal locator and ask for an interpreter when you book
☐ Set up the tax side	No city tax comes out of your wages and the City could not impose one by itself; state income tax has four brackets with a top rate of 9.85% . If you need an ITIN, apply on Form W-7; processing normally takes about seven weeks. We publish no IRS office address ; confirm the office and the appointment through the IRS office locator

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ If you are forming a company, budget the notice	You file with the Minnesota Secretary of State : LLC articles of organization are \$135 by mail and \$155 in person or online, and annual renewal is free. If you register an assumed name it must be published in a qualified legal newspaper for two consecutive issues in the county of your principal place of business ; the publisher sets the cost and we do not print it. Counter service is by appointment and the counter is not in Plymouth
☐ Ask about the city license separately	A restaurant, a salon, child care and similar activities may need the City's or the county's own license, entirely outside the state filing. We could not verify which activity requires which license ; call the City switchboard at 763-509-5000

NO LOCAL INCOME TAX AND NONE IS POSSIBLE, BUT THERE IS A LOCAL SALES TAX

- **The right sentence:** the relevant statute allows no county, city or town to **impose a new tax on sales or income, or to increase an existing one**, and the text contains **no exception**. Your pay stub shows federal and state withholding only; you do not file a separate city return.
- **The wrong sentence:** there is no local tax in this city. The prohibition is about a city acting **on its own**, and the legislature **grants individual cities sales tax authority by special law**; that other law sits outside the section. The House Research Department's tax note lists the exceptions as **local sales taxes** and **local lodging taxes**, and they do not extend to income or payroll taxes.
- **What that means for a suburban reader:** because the authority is granted city by city, **the metro is not one single rate area**. Living here and shopping in the municipality next door, or the other way round, can change the sales tax rate you pay. On a weekly grocery run that is small; on furniture, a remodeling invoice or a vehicle purchase it is real money.
- **We print no local sales tax rate in this guide**, because research could not confirm it this round. We give you the mechanism and you read the figure from the **Minnesota Department of Revenue's rate lookup and the City's own tax page**. The reason to check both: the legal basis sits with the state and the rate charged sits with the city. If you do not see a rate here, that is a deliberate decision rather than an omission.
- **State income tax is a salary negotiation fact:** there are four brackets and the top rate is **9.85%**. Compare an offer here with an offer in another state on **net** rather than gross. The dollar amounts marking the bracket boundaries are reindexed every year; we set out the table in the tax section of the state guide.

If you bought a home, and if you rent: two dates, two money items

DECEMBER 31 AND JANUARY 31

- **An ITIN is enough for the homestead reduction**, and both the Minnesota Department of Revenue and the county say so outright. There are three conditions: own the property, occupy it as your **sole or primary residence**, and be a Minnesota resident. The rule is the state's, **the application is the county's**: if your property is in Plymouth the application goes to the **Hennepin County** assessor's office, and once accepted no annual renewal is required.
- **The first trap: the number of a spouse who does not live there**. The statute asks for the number of every owner whose name is on the title and who occupies the property, **and the number of each owner's spouse, even if that spouse does not live at the address**; if it is not provided, the household is treated as having elected **partial homestead treatment**, meaning less than the full reduction. In a newcomer family that spouse is often still in Türkiye; call the county before you apply, ask which declaration they want, and ask for the answer **in writing**.
- **The second trap: December 31 is a hard date**. Even if your closing was in October, if the application is not in by that day the property is classified as non-homestead for the year and the reduction is **lost for a year**. The **December 15** date in older sources is obsolete. If you change the property or your occupancy you have to report it again.
- **If you rent, the renter credit** is no longer a separate form; the state asks for it **inside your income tax return** as a refundable credit, and one condition is **a valid number or ITIN**. Your landlord **must give you the certificate showing rent paid by January 31**. **If they do not, your route is not closed: from February 1** you can ask the Minnesota Department of Revenue for a **rent paid affidavit**, and you attach that affidavit with your evidence of rent even if the certificate turns up later.
- **A wrinkle specific to Plymouth**: because the water account is not in a renter's name, you have to build your proof of rent payment from **bank records and rent receipts**. If you pay cash each month, **ask for a receipt** and keep it; at the end of the year that is what this credit rests on. The maximum and the income threshold change annually; the figures are in [the property tax section of the state guide](#).
- **We write no county property tax rate in this guide**, because research could not confirm a single rate. Before you make an offer, ask the county assessor for that parcel's current valuation; two parcels on the same street can carry different tax.

Within 90 days

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Plan the Türkiye errands	Minnesota falls under the Consulate General in Chicago and there is no Turkish mission anywhere in the state. In-person visits by appointment run only in the morning window ; from here, getting to the airport is a leg in itself, and the detail is in our consulate guide
☐ If you need an apostille, keep the order	Obtain the document, have it notarized if required, apostille last . The desk is at the far end of the metro, the fee is \$5 per apostille , in-person service is by appointment and appointments open 14 days ahead . For most readers here mailing is the more sensible route

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Voter registration and jury duty	Registering and voting belong only to U.S. citizens, municipal elections included ; do not tick a citizenship box on any form and do not fill in registration forms handed to you at the door or at an event. If a jury summons arrives, call the court named at the top of the letter and do not throw it away. We could not confirm which records the state builds its jury master list from, so we do not tell you a summons will never come
☐ Talk to an attorney before applying for benefits	The federal rule that took effect on September 18, 2026 widened the officer's discretion. Put two dates in the calendar: January 1, 2026 (the state program closed to undocumented adults) and January 1, 2027 (marketplace premium credits narrow to three statuses). We could not confirm whether the state's own marketplace applies that restriction in the same way
☐ The right door for refugee cash assistance	Hennepin County is on the list of counties where this is run by the Resettlement Programs Office , so you go not to the county but to the Resettlement Programs Office of the Minnesota Department of Human Services . The line is 1-800-814-4806 ; this item needs confirming, and eligibility is described as open to people who currently hold a qualified status and have held it for five years or less
☐ Keep your tax records	Copies of federal and state returns are frequently requested in green card and citizenship applications

Numbers to know in Plymouth

ITEM	FIGURE
How many electricity regimes	Two. An investor-owned company and a cooperative; which shutoff rule covers you depends on your street address
Snow threshold	2 inches. The restriction ends when the street is plowed curb to curb , not at a clock time. The 2.5 inches in older notices is obsolete
Overnight parking ban	2 to 5 a.m. , every night of the year, with no snow at all
Number of school districts	Four. 63.8% · 20.6% · 12.8% · 2.8%
On-demand shuttle inside the city	\$3 one way · \$30 ten-ride punch card · seven days a week
Fare assistance	\$1 a ride, with organizational vouching in place of income documents; the discount expires 365 days after first use
Billing frequency	Residential every other month ; the first bill covers two months
City phone numbers	Switchboard 763-509-5000 · water and sewer 763-509-5950 , after hours 952-258-5321 · parking 763-509-5160 · water account 763-509-5333 . No 311
Top state income tax rate	9.85% , four brackets
Two dates	December 31 homestead application · January 31 rent certificate

WEEKEND PLANNING: WHAT IS IN THIS CITY AND WHAT IS NOT

- **The one big item inside the city is Clifton E. French Regional Park: 12605 Rockford Road**, telephone **763-694-7750**, open **5 a.m. to 10 p.m.** daily. On the north shore of Medicine Lake there is a swimming beach, a fishing pier, lighted trails, a visitor center, **4.6 miles of paved walking and biking trail** and **5.8 miles of lighted cross-country ski trail, groomed daily**. Opening at five in the morning is an option most places in the metro do not offer to someone who wants to walk or ride before work.
- **But do not assume what is free:** walking, biking and the beach are one thing; **skiing and launching a boat need a separate pass. We print no fee in this guide**, because we could not verify one; the phrase "regional park" does not mean everything inside it is free.
- **The metro's famous free places are not in this city**, and they are a full-day plan rather than an afternoon: the art institute and the sculpture garden are in the big city west of the river, while the zoo and conservatory, the free capitol tour and the science museum are in the state capital. Squeezing both into one day is tiring for a family.
- **Two park names will drive you to the wrong town:** the regional park whose name echoes a neighboring suburb is in **Minnetrista**, and the lakeside garden is in **Wayzata**. Go by address, not by name. And that garden allows **no food, no drink and no pets**, with swimming and boats prohibited too; these are not house rules that can be changed, they are conditions of the deed of gift.
- **A state park vehicle permit can be borrowed from a library:** the Minnesota DNR lends them through public libraries, reportedly at more than 200 of them; each permit expires after **seven days**, must be **displayed visibly** on the dashboard, is **limited** in number and is **collected in person**, and **covers the vehicle entrance fee only. We could not confirm that the library system here takes part in that program**, so ring the branch and ask. The DNR declares four free entrance days a year and the remaining 2026 date is **November 27, 2026**.
- **What we did not write:** any address, hours, fee or amenity for the City's own parks, community center, pool and ice arena; whether residents and non-residents are charged different rates; admission prices for the science museum and the history center; and any state park fee. The City's site was closed to automated access this round and the DNR site did not open either. **That is a gap and we are not hiding it from you**; call the City at **763-509-5000** before you sign up for anything.
- **On national park free entrance days we take no side:** the agency's own pages carry **three different formulations** of who these days cover, and **"resident" is not defined on any official page**. If you are not a citizen, call the park you are going to before you set off.
- **And do not forget the car in a winter plan:** the overnight street parking ban runs all year and two inches of snow is enough for an emergency declaration, so a weekend trip can end with the car towed. Statewide things to do are in [the state guide](#).

IF YOU ARE NOT A CITIZEN, REMEMBER

- Do not tick a citizenship box on any form and do not register to vote. **Do not treat the municipal election as an exception:** we did not verify that a separate door exists here for local elections and we do not claim one. Do not fill in or accept voter registration forms handed to you at the door, at neighborhood events or at shopping center entrances. If a jury summons arrives, do not leave it unanswered; notify the court named in the letter.
- Talk to an immigration attorney before applying for a public benefit, dropping one you have, or switching from one program to another.
- Check your entry record at i94.cbp.dhs.gov. Your work permit, your license expiry and some application eligibilities depend on it; a license issued to a person with temporary lawful status expires **on the last day of their stay**.
- If your green card application is pending, do not travel abroad without advance parole.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN PLYMOUTH

Have a question about your immigration status?

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