

minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka
October 2014

Fire Department, City Open House is Oct. 7

M about your local government at the Minnetonka Fire Department and City Open House Tuesday, Oct. 7, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Civic Center campus, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd. Then, at 8 p.m., enjoy a fireworks show at the outdoor amphitheater!

Kids four and over can ride in city fire trucks, and everyone can enjoy free hot dogs, cookies, pop and lemonade along with department tours and entertainment.

Plan your evening of activities:

- Take a tour of the Minnetonka Police Department's jail and visit with police officers. *(Police Department)*
- Get moving with activities sponsored by Recreation Services. *(Community Center lower level)*
- View this year's photo contest entries and vote for your favorite. *(Community Center lower level)*
- Ride in a fire truck, ages 4 and over. *(5–7:30 p.m., Fire Station)* **Please note: Due to large volumes of traffic expected for the fireworks, fire truck rides will end this year at 7:30 p.m.**
- Sit inside heavy equipment from the public works department and enjoy a treat! *(Community Center south entrance)*
- Enjoy musical entertainment *(Community Center, upper level)*
- Visit the House of Germs and learn how to stay healthy! *(Community Center)*
- Browse displays from city departments and boards and commissions; as well as community organizations. *(Community Center lower level)*

An open house attendee tries out the fire extinguisher simulator. Photo courtesy of Jason Stenvold.

- See woodcarving demonstrations. *(Community Center upper level)*
- Snack on free refreshments, including all-beef hot dogs and pop *(5–7:30 p.m., Fire Station)* and cookies, popcorn, and lemonade. *(5–7:30 p.m., Community Center upper level)*
- Enjoy facepainting! *(5–7 p.m., city hall lobby)*
- Fireworks at 8 p.m. at the outdoor amphitheater on the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus. In case of inclement weather, call (952) 939-TELL (8355) for fireworks status. Fire truck rides will end at 7:30 p.m. to accommodate traffic expected for the fireworks display. **Note:** *Fireworks were rescheduled to this event after being rained out at Summer Festival in June.*

A word about parking

With the addition of the fireworks show, we are expecting large crowds at this year's Open House event. While we are doing everything we can to ensure as much parking is available as possible, please help by carpooling with friends and planning extra time for parking when you arrive at the event. Police staff will be on hand to direct traffic. Thank you for your patience.

We hope to see you at Open House!

Bike to Open House

Avoid the parking hassles and bike to the Fire Department and City Open House! If you do bike, please remember the sun sets earlier this time of

year. Be sure to wear light-colored clothing if you'll be biking in the dark, and have the proper lighting on your bicycle. ☺

Election Day is November 4

Tuesday, November 4, with federal, state, and county offices on the ballot.

Below are the answers to questions voters most frequently ask. For more specific information, call Minnetonka City Hall at (952) 939-8200 or visit www.eminnetonka.com.

What offices are on the ballot?

Offices on the ballot are:

- Governor/Lieutenant Governor
- Secretary of State
- State Auditor
- Attorney General
- U.S. Senator
- U.S. Representative (District 3)
- State Representative (Districts 44B, 48A, 49B)
- County Attorney
- County Sheriff
- Free Rivers Park Commissioner (District 4)
- Judicial races

When and where do I vote?

Polling places will be open 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. Tuesday, November 4. If you are in line at 8 p.m., you will be allowed to vote. The longest lines tend to form first thing in the morning as many people like to vote before heading off to work.

Two of the city's polling places have changed since the 2012 state election:

- **Ward 4 Precinct D:** Vote at Redeemer Bible Church, 16031 Woodland Curve, Minnetonka.
- **Ward 4 Precinct E:** Vote at All Saints Lutheran Church, 15915 Excelsior Boulevard, Minnetonka.

The simplest way to check your polling place location is to visit <http://poll.nder.sos.state.mn.us/>. No internet access? Call city hall at (952) 939-8200.

Election Day continued on page 3.

Just a minute... for our email newsletter!

T email newsletter offers a quick-to-read format that works well on mobile devices. Learn what's new and important each week: subscribe to the *Minnetonka Minute* at www.eminnetonka.com.



Spooktacular MAM concerts Oct. 19, 26

T Minnetonka (MAM) Symphony Orchestra opens its 2014 – 15 season with “Spooktacular XIX,” a concert for the whole family. Parents and children, come in costume and participate in the costume parade. One lucky child may even get to conduct! You won't be alone, as the entire orchestra will be decked out in costume for an afternoon of fun and music.

Made possible by a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, this varied program will feature patriotic music, Saint-Saens' *Dance Bacchanale*, music from the musical *Les Miserables*, and works by Mozart, Chadwick, Honegger and Holst.

Enjoy Spooktacular XIX Sunday, October 19, at 3 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, and Sunday, October 26, at 3 p.m. at MacMillan Hall, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska. The Minnetonka Senior Chorale will also perform at the October 26 concert.

Admission to MAM concerts is free, but donations support the continuing work of this community music organization. If you, your family or friends are interested in making music, the association has much to offer. Programs include three youth choirs, three adult orchestras and three adult choirs in addition to the concert band. We welcome interested musicians of all capabilities to contact us at mamoffice@musicassociation.org regarding auditions and rehearsal times. Check us out at www.musicassociation.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MusicMinnetonka.

Gray's Bay Marina talk: October 14

F to the Gray's Bay Resort to the present-day municipal marina, Gray's Bay has a long and interesting history. Paul Pederson, who owned Gray's Bay Marina and Resort from 1978 until selling the five-acre property to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in 2001, will talk about

the marina in a presentation hosted by the Minnetonka Historical Society Tuesday, October 14, at 7 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. Come learn about this community gem and share any memories or memorabilia you have from the marina.

Burwell House open Sundays in November

N will be open for tours Sundays in November. The house will be fully decked out for the holiday season in typical Victorian style. We invite you, friends and family to take a break from the bustle of the season and step back in time to 1894, when Charles and Mary Burwell lived along the banks of Minnehaha Creek with their family. Visit Sundays, November 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, between 12 and 3 p.m. No need for reservations — just stop by and volunteer tour guides will be on hand to guide you through the home. Looking for a tour for a large group (10 or more) at a time other than Sundays in November? These requests will be considered as volunteer tour guides are available. Call (952) 939-8207 as far in advance as possible of the date you'd like to visit.

Holiday tea is Dec. 7

Be sure to visit the annual Victorian Holiday Open House at the Charles H. Burwell House Sunday, December 7,

from 12 – 4 p.m. This always-popular free event is presented by the Minnetonka Historical Society. At this event, visitors may take a self-guided tour to view typical Victorian holiday decorations in the home. Refreshments will be available in the adjoining cottage. Limited parking, including handicapped spaces, is available close to the house with additional parking at St. David's Family Resource Center across Plymouth Road. The Minnetonka Historical Society offers memberships to the public and appreciates donations to promote the preservation of Minnetonka's historical artifacts and stories at the society's museum, located on the grounds of the Burwell House.

The Burwell House, located at 13209 E. McGinty Road, is owned and maintained by the city of Minnetonka. The city coordinates volunteer-led scheduled tours each summer and hosts the annual June Burwell House Festival.

Reflections Award nominations due Nov. 14

D business or program that consistently works to make Minnetonka a great community? Then consider nominating that person or organization for a 2015 Reflections Award!

The biennial Reflections Award program was created in 1997 to recognize individuals, businesses and programs whose outstanding contributions reflect positively on Minnetonka. The Minnetonka Community Commission reviews

applications and recommends awards to be presented by the Minnetonka City Council.

To be considered for the 2015 awards, to be presented at a council meeting in January 2015, the city must receive a completed application by November 14, 2014. For an application, visit the city's website at www.eminnetonka.com; pick one up at city hall; or call Jacque Larson, community relations manager, at (952) 939-8207, and one will be mailed to you.

Please note: Park restrooms, drinking fountains close for winter

In October, park staff will shut down and winterize outdoor drinking fountains and restrooms at Big Willow, Williams and Lone Lake parks in Minnetonka. Restrooms are available year-round at Meadow, GroTonka and Purgatory parks.

Election Day *continued from page 1*

Who can vote absentee?

A change in state law opens up absentee balloting for all voters, rather than only those who are unable to get to the polling place on Election Day. Now voters do not have to state a reason in order to receive and cast an absentee ballot.

However, voters should be aware the absentee ballot process requires additional steps from the Election Day voting process. All absentee voters have to complete an application to receive a ballot and must complete a certificate when they cast their absentee ballot. Election judges then compare the information on the two documents before the ballot can be accepted.

Absentee voting may be done in person or by mail.

How do I vote absentee?

Two options are available for voting absentee:

In person:

Minnetonka voters may vote absentee at Minnetonka City Hall or at the Hennepin County Government Center in Minneapolis during regular business hours, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Because of an expected heavy volume of absentee voting due to the state law change, extended absentee voting hours will also be available at both locations on the following dates and times:

Minnetonka City Hall

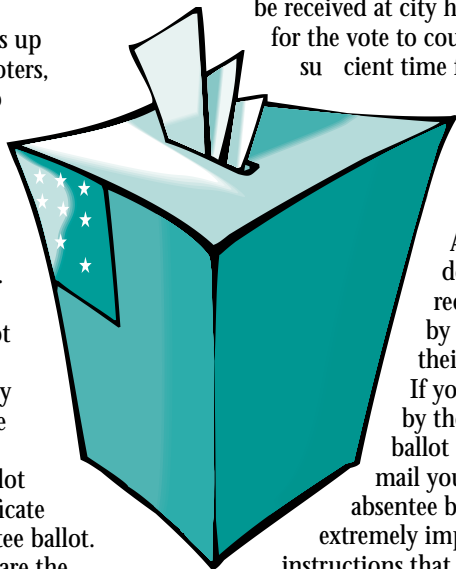
- Saturday, October 25** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 28** 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 29** 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Thursday, October 30** 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Saturday, November 1** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Monday, November 3** 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Hennepin County Government Center

- Saturday, October 25** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Monday – Friday, Oct. 27 – 31** 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Saturday, November 1** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Monday, November 3** 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

By mail:

Absentee voting also may be done by mail. Remember, the voted ballot must



be received at city hall by Election Day for the vote to count. Please allow sufficient time for postal service delivery. Be sure to follow all the directions that are included with your absentee ballot. Absentee voters who do not provide the required information, by state law, will have their ballots rejected. If your ballot is rejected by the city's absentee ballot board, the city will mail you a replacement absentee ballot, but again, it is extremely important to follow the instructions that are included.

The Minnesota Secretary of State now allows absentee voters to apply online and verify the status of their absentee ballot. Visit <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/AbsenteeBallotStatus.aspx>.

Am I registered to vote?

The Minnesota Secretary of State also allows you to register to vote online or to verify if you are currently registered. Visit <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx>. You can also call city hall at (952) 939-8200 to find out if you are registered to vote.

The last day to pre-register for the State General Election is Tuesday, October 14.

Can I register to vote on Election Day?

Minnesota allows voters to register to vote at the polls on Election Day. You will need to register if you have never registered to vote; if you have changed your name or address (including just moving to another apartment in the same building) since you last voted; or if you have not voted in four years.

What identification is needed to register?

Minnesota state law requires specific forms of identification to register at the polling place. The list of acceptable identification has been expanded. For information about these forms, visit www.eminnetonka.com and click on "Elections."

Where will election results be available?

Results will be posted on the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mn.us.

We encourage you to get out and vote on November 4. Contact city hall at (952) 939-8200 if you need assistance. ☺

Apply now for the winter Police Citizen's Academy

The Minnetonka Police Department will offer an eight-week Police Citizen's Academy that provides an in-depth look at the workings of the police department. The program includes classroom lectures and hands-on experiences, covering topics such as police recruiting and training, crime scene investigations, emergency response team, community service officers, computer forensics, drug task force, school resource officers, police canine, crime lab, crime prevention, crime analysis, traffic unit, use of force and dispatch.

The academy is provided free to anyone who is at least 21 years old and lives or works in Minnetonka. The goal is to educate residents about the police department's daily operations and the special training police officers receive to perform their duties.

An application is required. Applications are available at www.eminnetonka.com or contact Nicole Nelson, crime prevention analyst, at (952) 939-8500. ☺

Check your smoke alarms

Smoke alarms as often as they should. Smoke alarms should be checked monthly and replaced every 10 years. If your smoke alarm has yellowed with age it should be replaced immediately.

When there is a fire in your home, the smoke spreads quickly and alarms give you the time to escape safely. Smoke alarms should be located on every level of your home and in every bedroom. To ensure that your smoke alarms function properly, check them monthly and change their batteries when you change your clocks. Buy your batteries today and be ready for tomorrow!

Have questions about smoke alarms? Come to the October 7 Minnetonka Fire Department and City Open House to learn more about fire prevention. (See page 1) ☺



City Council adopts preliminary property tax levy for 2015

The Council adopted a preliminary 3.4 percent increase in the city property tax for 2015. Read on to find out how the increase will be put to work for you and how you can provide feedback on the proposed levy.

2015 city budget

Community Development. It's good news that commercial property development activities have increased substantially and this heightened activity is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. However, this means an increased demand for permitting, plan review, inspections and a host of other services related to community development. The 2015 proposed levy will help ensure staff is providing the best service possible to residents and developers, and also ensuring the safety of both commercial and residential developments.

Emerald ash borer. Like many other metro cities, Minnetonka has adopted an action plan for managing the expected arrival of the invasive emerald ash borer (EAB) and its impact on Minnetonka's ash tree population. The 2015 proposed budget will fund the second year of a previously approved EAB preparation program.

Aging public buildings. Many of the city's public buildings are aging, and the 2015 proposed budget includes funding to ensure the required renewal and maintenance

needed to preserve them for use by the community.

Workforce expenses and legal mandates.

In 2015, state legislation requiring increased contributions by both the city and its personnel to local government employee pensions, rising health care costs, and state enactment of a minimum wage adjustment are expenses included in the increased levy.

2015 Levy

The adopted preliminary city tax increase of a modest 3.4 percent will serve as the highest possible increase for 2015 property taxes. While this increase is significantly below the forecast last year for 2015, which projected a greater than four percent increase, the city council will further analyze the proposed 2015 budget for any potential reductions before the final levy is adopted in December.

HRA Levy

Acting as the Economic Development Authority, the city council adopted no change in the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) levy for 2015, and it will remain at \$175,000.

Homeowner impacts

With the proposed levy increase of 3.4 percent, city property taxes for the median valued home in Minnetonka (\$292,600 in 2014) are estimated to increase by \$48 per year. This is an increase slightly


greater than 3.4 percent due to a shift next year in the city property tax burden away from commercial properties to residential properties. Recently, the increase in residential property values has outpaced the rise in commercial property values in Minnetonka and across the metro, which is a reversal of the trend from the last several years when the burden had been shifting the other direction. Current changes in the sale prices of homes do not affect values for taxes payable in 2015.

Summary

Minnetonka staff and city council actively seek out efficiencies to improve delivery of services while also being responsible with tax dollars. The preliminary city tax levy will be limited to an increase of 3.4 percent for 2015, which is around the middle of proposed tax increases in comparable metro cities. This increase ensures the city's standards of excellence, including the ability to provide efficient services to residents and others who use city services.

Feedback encouraged

The city always encourages feedback. Comment at www.eminnetonka.com; contact Finance Director Merrill King at mking@eminnetonka.com or (952) 939-8200; or attend a public hearing Monday, December 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka.

The city wants to hear from you! 

Keep your neighbors happy: be aware of city ordinances

Trash and recycling container storage, outside storage, and noise — these are some of the most common complaints expressed by Minnetonka residents about their neighbors. While they may seem like minor issues to you, please be considerate of your neighbor by complying with these city ordinances.

Trash and recycling bins

City ordinance requires that all trash and recycling bins be stored out of public view, either inside a garage or behind a screened enclosure, except for the evening before and the day of trash and/or recycling collection. While your bins may be out of sight for you, think about the view your neighbor has of your property, and store your bins accordingly.

Barking dogs


Sometimes pet owners will put their dogs outside while they conduct household tasks or run errands. Then, if the dog starts barking, no one is available to let it back inside. It's important to monitor your dog and be sure it isn't barking continuously while outside — even if you can't hear it, your neighbors most likely can. City ordinance prohibits excessive barking, which is defined as repeated noise over at least a five-minute period with one minute or less lapse of time between each animal noise during that five-minute period. The ordinance is enforced 24 hours a day, seven days a week, all year round. Call the police department at (952) 939-8500 to report a barking dog.

Noise

Minnetonka's "quiet hours" are 10 p.m. to 7 a.m., seven days a week, all year.

Camp fires

Recreational fires (campfires) in the city require a permit from the Minnetonka Fire Department. Even with a permit, **the burning of brush, trash or leaves is not allowed.** Please remember that smoke and the smell of smoke often carries into neighboring homes, even on calm days. In addition to the fact that not everyone likes the smell of a campfire (especially in their home), smoke is also an irritant for those who have chronic respiratory issues such as asthma. Beyond minding the conditions of the recreational fire permit, consider your neighbors as well.

If you have noticed one of these items and you are not able to discuss it with your neighbor, please consider completing an online request through Minnetonka Mike. Visit www.eminnetonka.com and click on the Minnetonka Mike icon. 

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Programs and services for those 55+
October 2014

Moonlight Walk

Monday, October 6, 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy a relaxed walk to Jidana Park from the Minnetonka Community Center. Roast hot dogs by the campfire in the light of the full moon.

Cost: \$4 due Friday, October 3.
(Course #33709)



Do I Stay or Do I Go? Senior Housing

Wednesday, October 8, 1 p.m.

Learn the best housing option for you with Cathy Matrejek, owner of Changing Lifestyle Solutions. Discover how to stay at home through the use of new products, cutting edge services and construction changes. Is moving the best option? Learn the options available and the questions to ask.

Free! (Course #35551)

Cruise the World: Senior Housing

Thursday, October 9, 9:45 a.m.

Board the "cruise line" to view five levels of senior housing each featuring food and fun from various ports of call:

- Legacy Homes: delicacies of Japan
- Golden Living Center Hillcrest of Wayzata: food and flavor of Italy
- Meridian Manor Assisted Living: traditional dishes of Spain
- Emerald Crest Memory Care: tempting treats of the Caribbean Islands
- Westridge Independent Senior Living: mouth-watering offerings from Germany

Proceeds go to Minnetonka Senior Services.

Cost: \$5 due Thursday, October 2.
(Course #34190)

Handmade Landing Shop

11280 Wayzata Boulevard

Handmade items crafted by Minnetonka residents 55 and older.

Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.,
Sundays until 8 p.m.

**Fall harvest and Halloween crafts
now in stock!**

Shred Event

**Friday, October 17
1-3 p.m.**

First Shred will be at the Minnetonka Ice Arena B shredding paper on site.

Details:

- \$5 for up to eight full paper grocery bags. Plastic bags are not accepted.
- Please bring exact cash or checks payable to Minnetonka Senior Services.
- The truck will be on site for two hours only.
- Wait in line in your car at the ice arena, we will take it from there.
- All proceeds benefit Minnetonka Senior Services Scholarship Fund.

**Minnetonka Ice Arena
3401 Williston Road**

(far north end of the city campus)

Lunch and a Movie: North by Northwest

Friday, October 10, 12 p.m.

What if everyone was suddenly convinced that you were a spy? Cary Grant starts as an advertising executive who looks a little too much like a government agent and is forced to go on the lam. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

Menu: Pizza, salad and dessert.

Cost: \$5 due Tuesday, October 7.
(Course #35588)

Oktoberfest

Thursday, October 16, 12 p.m.

Friends, fun and keg root beer are the highlights of our Oktoberfest celebration.

Menu: Brats, sauerkraut, German potato salad and dessert.

Cost: \$5 due Monday, October 13.
(Course #33724)

Sandwich Generation: Finding Balance

Wednesday, October 22, 5:30 p.m.

Find balance while providing care for your loved ones.

Senior Community Services Social Worker Mary Ann Lundberg offers resources, tips and more to emphasize the meaningful and rewarding feelings of the sandwich generation. Sandwiches will be served.

Cost: \$4 due Wednesday, October 15.
(Course #34189)



Sips and Songs offers light refreshments and socializing before taking in local entertainment. Live it up, reserve your seat today!

Sips & Songs

Synod Senior Concert Band

Thursday, October 23, 9:45 a.m.

Cost: \$3 (Course #33721)

Senior Chorus

Wednesday, December 10, 10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$3 (Course #33722)

Community Connections:

911 Talk

Monday, October 27, 10:15 a.m.

Learn what to do when making a 911 call and hear experiences from former Hennepin County Ambulance Service EMT Cliff Giese. Provided by Lake Minnetonka Senior Care Providers

Free! (Course #35589)

Chow with the Chief

Tuesday, October 28,

5:30-7 p.m.

Enjoy an evening at Minnetonka's Fire Station No. 1. Meet Fire Chief John Vance and Minnetonka firefighters. Tour the facility while savoring a grilled hot dog, chips and cider. Event will take place at the fire station within the city campus. Park in the city hall parking lot.

Free! RSVP by Friday, October 24
(Course #33727)



Fitness Programs

Zumba Gold Jan Gamble

1–2 p.m., \$28

Zumba Gold offers a complete body workout while learning the basic steps to salsa, meringue, cha-cha and other rhythms. No dance experience is necessary. Comfortable clothing and workout shoes are recommended. Bring water; you will sweat!

- Monday, November 3–December 15
(Course #33703)
- Wednesday, November 5–December 17
(Course #33704)

Tai Chi Chih Susan Sobelson

Mondays, October 20–December 15
(no class Nov 17), \$40

Practice a series of 19 easy-to-learn movements and one pose. Moving meditation can improve balance, flexibility, reduce stress, increase energy and more.

- Beginner** (Course #33695)
10–11 a.m.
- Intermediate** (Course #33697)
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Line Dance Eileen Ronning

Learn to “hitch” and “vine” and dance in a line! No partners needed. No previous dance experience for beginning level course; 50 previous lessons required for intermediate course.

- Beginner** (Course #33692)
\$25, Thursdays, Oct. 30–Dec. 4,
12:30–1:30 p.m. (no class 11/27)
- Intermediate** (Course #33694)
\$25, Thursdays, Oct. 30–Dec. 4,
1:45–2:45 p.m. (no class 11/27)

Athletic Activities

55+ Softball

Tuesdays & Thursdays, Sept. – Oct.
9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Big Willow Park.

Slow-pitch softball is played with modified rules allow for competitive play without the risk of serious injury. Registration will be accepted throughout the season.

- \$10 (Course #33705)

Over 50 & +

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9 a.m.

Join this social group and enjoy music and fitness three days a week!

- Annual Fee: \$12 (Course #32119)

Beginning & Intermediate Yoga Nancy Holasek

These gentle classes are geared toward the older adult, with lots of stretching and warm-ups. Yoga postures help increase flexibility. Guided breath-work and visualization help to release, relax and restore the body, and calm the mind.

Please bring a yoga mat or towel to class.

Chair-Supported Yoga

9:45–10:45 a.m.

Most of the class takes place while seated on a chair.

- Tuesday, November 4–December 16
\$36 (Course #33671) (No class 11/11)
- Thursday, November 6–December 18
\$36 (Course #33672) (No class 11/27)

Intermediate Yoga Class

11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

This class includes standing and balance postures. Students should have the ability to get down to and up from the floor for postures completed while on the belly or backside of the body.

- Tuesday, November 4–December 16
\$36 (Course #33679) (No class 11/11)
- Thursday, November 6–December 18
\$36 (Course #33680) (No class 11/27)

Evening Yoga

Wednesdays, November 5–December 17

- Chair Yoga, 6:15 p.m.
\$42 (Course #33685)
- Intermediate Yoga, 7:30 p.m.
\$42 (Course #33689)

Minnetonka Bike Club

The goal of the club is to provide moderate exercise under safe conditions and to encourage social interaction and friendship. Three groups accommodate different levels of ability. More than 50 trail rides are scheduled, with a majority on designated bike trails. More information at www.mtkabikers.org. To register call (952) 939-8393.

- \$11 (Course #32283)

Barre Fusion

Julie Bice Zoril

Tuesdays, October 28–December 9
(no class Nov. 11), 6 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.

Ballet inspired movements, yoga and traditional sculpting exercises to strengthen and tone the body, improve cardiovascular fitness and increase flexibility. Bring a yoga mat and water.

- \$36 (Course #33793)



Tai Chi for Health and Wellness

Ron Erdman-Luntz

Thursdays, November 6–December 11
(no class 11/27), 6–7 p.m.

Tai Chi short form movements have many health benefits and are fun to learn. The slow circular movements of Tai Chi help to improve balance and relaxation. Prerequisite: Able to walk comfortably for an hour. Wear comfortable clothes and athletic shoes.

- \$45 (Course #33700)



New! Chair Flow Yoga Mary Ann

Mondays, October 6–27
8:15–9:15 a.m.

Gentle yoga using breath connection with yoga poses in a flow format to improve core strength and flexibility. Most of the class will be seated beginning with warm-ups and ending in quiet relaxation. Standing poses with chair assistance are offered to focus on improving balance. Bring water and wear comfortable clothing.

- \$24 (Course #35590)

Indoor Pickleball

October–May

Try the fun and social game of Pickleball. Limited racquets and balls are available.

- Tuesdays & Fridays, 7–10 a.m.
- Thursdays, 7–9:30 a.m.
- Free for Williston & Silver Sneaker members. \$4 per day for non-members.

Williston Fitness Center
14509 Minnetonka Drive

Art Programs

Oil Painting

Marcella Nordseth

Fridays, October 3 – November 21

1 – 3:30 p.m.

Learn about composition, how to look at objects and mixing colors. Bring personal supplies to the first class. Supply list will be provided in class.

- \$56 (Course #33712)

Creating Color: Watercolor

Gin Weidenfeller

Wednesdays, October 15 & 22

1 – 3 p.m.

Paint autumn vignettes, nature subjects or abstract floral forms. Capture fall colors by mixing three primary hues. Learn about composition, color and value contrast, and dry brush detailing

- \$40 (Course #33710)

Watercolor Basics

Sandra Muzzy

Tuesdays, November 4 – December 16

9 – 11:30 a.m.

Learn watercolor techniques such as: washes, wet in wet, wet on dry. Experiment with pen and ink, play with textures and discuss color, composition and values. Pack your watercolor supplies or purchase after the first class. Open to beginners and experienced artists. Prerequisites: open to experimentation and ready to have fun!

- \$90 (Course #33713)

New! Holiday Treat Plates

Thursday, November 6

9:30 – 11 a.m.

Using clay slabs create a set of food safe holiday serving treat plates! Your masterpiece will be available for pick up at the Minnetonka Community Center two weeks after the program. Program held at the Eden Prairie Art Center, 7650 Equitable Drive, Eden Prairie.

- \$12 (Course #35179)

Education Programs

Navigating Medicare:

Learn to navigate Medicare Parts A, B & D. Offered in cooperation with Senior Community Services and is open to those considering retirement and to current Medicare users.

- \$10 due one week prior to program.
- Wednesday, October 1, 6:30 p.m.
(Course #33738)
- Monday, October 27, 1p.m.
(Course #33739)

Nutrition:

Avoiding Type II Diabetes

Learn a new approach to managing blood sugar with real food. Nutritional Weight and Wellness explains the biochemistry of blood sugar and identifies nutrients that control insulin levels.

- \$22 due one week prior to program.
- Wednesday, October 8, 6 – 8 p.m.
(Course #33736)
- Wednesday, October 29, 1 – 3 p.m.
(Course #33737)

Defensive Driving

Attend and save 10% on car insurance! Pay the instructor at class with a check or exact cash. Register through MN Highway Safety Center, 1-888-234-1294, or visit www.mnsafetycenter.org for all classes.

Four hour renewal sessions:

- \$20, Tuesday, October 14,
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- \$20, Thursday, October 23,
5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Leisure Programs

Mah Jongg

Carole Harris

Wednesdays, October 8 – November 19

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Learn to play the intriguing game of Mah Jongg, a game of chance and skill.

- \$49 (Course #33715)

Essential Oil Creations:

Stress Relief

Wednesday, November 19, 1 p.m.

Create a travel friendly, roll-on oil with a personalized custom blend.

- \$6 (Course #34161)

History Programs

British History: Romans to Danes

Terry Kubista

Thursdays, October 2 – 30

1 – 3 p.m.

Romans, Angles, Saxons, Jutes and Danes all left their mark on the developing British Culture. Briefly explore each peoples and effects they had on the developing culture.

- \$35 (Course #33730)

Cuban Missile Crisis

Dan Hartman

Wednesday, October 15,

10:30 a.m.

This 13-day confrontation in October 1962 is regarded as the moment the Cold War came closest to turning into a nuclear conflict.

- \$2 (Course #33733)

Interest groups

For more information on these groups and a calendar of events, please visit www.eminnetonka.com or stop by.

Bird Club

1st Friday, 10 a.m.

Bryan Wood, co-director of the Audubon Center of the North Woods.

Computer Club

Fridays, 10 a.m.

All levels of computer users invited.

Cribbage

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

New members welcome!

Duplicate Bridge

Thursdays, 6 p.m.

New members welcome!

Rummikub

1st & 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.

New members welcome!

New! Shutterbugs

3rd Tuesday, 10 a.m.

All levels of photographers welcome!

Woodcarvers

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

New members welcome!

Senior Day Trips

Robert Robinson Concert

Friday, November 7

Enjoy lunch followed by entertainment at the Medina Entertainment Center. The Star Tribune named Robert Robinson "Minnesota's Master Male Vocalist." With powerful vocals, his music speaks to the human spirit and soothes the soul. Robert Robinson has performed with Aretha Franklin, Andrae Crouch, Bobby McFerrin and Barry Manilow.

Menu: Meatloaf served on nine-grain bread with a marsala mushroom demi, garlic mashed potatoes, vegetable, coffee, water, tea and a cookie dessert.

Course #35375

- **Cost:** \$54 includes concert, lunch, transportation & escort.
- **Estimated trip time:** 11:15 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, Oct. 3

Our mission: To develop and promote programs and services in our community to meet the diverse needs of those 55+.

Contact & Registration Information

Register in person, over the phone, online or mail-in.

Minnetonka Senior Services

(952) 939-8393

14600 Minnetonka Blvd.
Minnetonka, MN 55345

www.eminnetonka.com

Office hours:

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Administrative Staff

Kate Egert and Kathy Kline

kegert@eminnetonka.com

kkline@eminnetonka.com

Senior Services & Activities Manager

Steve Pieh

(952) 939-8366

spieh@eminnetonka.com

Senior & General Programs Manager

Janelle Cross-eld

(952) 939-8369

jcross_eld@eminnetonka.com

Christmas in Duluth

* *Thursday, December 4*

Enjoy a guided tour of three floors of the Glensheen Mansion decorated trimmed for the holiday season. A video tour's provided for guests unable to climb stairs. Visit the gift shop while waiting for all group members to finish. Enjoy a meal provided by Savories in the carriage house. Arrive at the Bayfront Festival Park to experience "Bentleyville Tour of Lights." Stroll through remarkable displays with millions of lights, trees and music. Enjoy complimentary refreshments and don't miss the open air market and indoor gift shop.

Menu: Ham, salad, au gratin potatoes, vegetable, dinner roll, coffee or tea.

Course #35376

- **Cost:** \$70 includes tours, one meal, transportation & escort.
- **Estimated trip time:** 10:15 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, Nov. 7
- ***Alternate date:** Save Dec. 11 in case of extreme weather conditions.

Come Dance with Me

Friday, October 10, 7–9:30 p.m.

Enjoy a community ballroom dance featuring a dynamic Sinatra-style singer, Tim Patrick & His Blue Eyes Band. Free dance lesson at 6:15 p.m.

- Call for tickets: 952-988-4070
- \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door.

**Eisenhower Community Center,
1001 Highway 7, Hopkins.**

Services

Blood Pressure Screenings

1st & 3rd Fridays; 2nd Wednesdays

9:30–11:30 a.m. Free!

Provided by volunteer nurses.

Happy Feet

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Fridays,

9 a.m. – 3 p.m., \$35

Provided by nurses specializing in foot care. For appointment call (763) 560-5136.

Senior Community Services

Senior Outreach Social Worker

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, Free!

Discuss finances, transportation, personal care, medical care, home maintenance, and more with Mary Ann, m.lundberg@seniorcommunity.org. For appointment call (952) 939-8393.

Health Insurance Counseling

1st & 3rd Mondays, Free!

Discuss Medicare, Social Security, long-term care, resources and more! For appointment call (952)939-8393.

HOME

Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly (HOME) is available for Minnetonka residents 60+. For more information call (952) 746-4046.

CareNextion

www.carenexion.org

is online communication tool enables you to bring together the support needed to help live a vital and engaging life.

Extended Trips

For information call Senior Community Services at (952) 767-7899 or visit www.seniorcommunity.org

- **Branson Christmas** (November 19–23)
Cost: \$799 per person, double occupancy.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		<p>1</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Chorale 10:15 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 3:00</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Chess 12:00 Beg. Line Dance 12:30 Int. Line Dance 1:45 Billiards 3:00 Duplicate Bridge 6:00 Tai Chi 6:00</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Happy Feet 9:00 Blood Pressure 9:30 Bird Club 10:00 Computer 10:00 Billiards 1:00 Oil Painting 1:00</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Art Drop In 9:00 Health Insurance 1:00 Rummikub 1:00 Beginning Bridge 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Investment Club 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Moonlight Walk 6:30</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Chair Yoga 9:45 Craft Committee 10:00 Poker Club 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Bingo 12:45 Billiards 1:00 Tale Spinners 1:00 City Open House 5:00</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Blood Pressure 9:30 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Mah Jongg Program 10:00 Chorale 10:15 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Do I Stay or Do I Go? 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Nutrition 6:00 Evening Yoga 6:15/7:30 500 Cards 6:30</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Sr. Housing Cruise 9:45 Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Chess 12:00 Beg. Line Dance 12:30 Bunco 1:00 British History 1:00 Int. Line Dance 1:45 Billiards 3:00 Duplicate Bridge 6:00 Tai Chi 6:00</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Happy Feet 9:00 Computer 10:00 Lunch & Movie 12:00 Billiards 1:00 Community Dance 7:00</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Art Drop In 9:00 Ham Radio 10:00 Tonka Tale Tellers 10:00 Garden Club 1:00 Hand and Foot 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Beginning Bridge 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Defensive Driving 9:00 Chair Yoga 9:45 500 Cards 10:00 Advisory Board 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Bingo 12:45 Billiards 1:00 Senior Outreach 1:00 Tale Spinners 1:00 <i>New!</i> Barre Fusion 6:00</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Mah Jongg Program 10:00 Chorale 10:15 Cuban Missile Crisis 10:30 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Creating Color 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Evening Yoga 6:15/7:30</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Chess 12:00 Oktoberfest 12:00 Beg. Line Dance 12:30 Book Club 1:00 British History 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Int. Line Dance 1:45 Duplicate Bridge 6:00 Tai Chi 6:00</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Happy Feet 9:00 Blood Pressure 9:30 Computer 10:00 Oil Painting 1:00 Billiards 1:00 Shred Event 1:00</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Art Drop In 9:00 Tai Chi Chih 10:00 Rummikub 1:00 Health Insurance 1:00 Beginning Bridge 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Health Insurance 6:00</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Chair Yoga 9:45 <i>New!</i> Shutterbugs 10:00 Poker 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Bingo 12:45 Billiards 1:00 Tale Spinners 1:00 Single Mingle Club Mtg @ Tuttle's 3:30 <i>New!</i> Barre Fusion 6:00</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Mah Jongg Program 10:00 Chorale 10:15 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Creating Color 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Sandwich Generation 5:30 Evening Yoga 6:15/7:30 500 Cards 6:30</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Sips & Songs 9:45 Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Chess 12:00 Beg. Line Dance 12:30 Bunco 1:00 British History 1:00 Int. Line Dance 1:45 Billiards 3:00 Defensive Driving 5:30 Duplicate Bridge 6:00 Tai Chi 6:00</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Happy Feet 9:00 Computer 10:00 Billiards 1:00 Oil Painting 1:00 Navigating Medicare 1:00</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Art Drop In 9:00 Tai Chi Chih 10:00 911 Talk 10:15 Hand & Foot 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 3:00</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Chair Yoga 9:45 500 Cards 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Bingo 12:45 Billiards 1:00 Senior Outreach 1:00 Tale Spinners 1:00 Chow w/Chief 5:30 <i>New!</i> Barre Fusion 6:00 Literary Book Club 7:15</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Mah Jongg Program 10:00 Chorale 10:15 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Nutrition 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Evening Yoga 6:15/7:30</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Chess 12:00 Beg. Line Dance 12:30 British History 1:00 Int. Line Dance 1:45 Billiards 3:00 Duplicate Bridge 6:00</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Computer 10:00 Billiards 1:00 Oil Painting 1:00</p>

Group	Meeting day	Information
<i>New!</i> Minnetonka Shutterbugs	3rd Tuesday at 10 a.m.	All camera skill levels welcome.
Advisory Board	2nd Tuesday at 10 a.m.	Meets October 14.
AA/AI-Anon	Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.	All ages welcome. New members welcome.
Art Drop In	Mondays from 9 a.m. to Noon	Informal, drop in and create!
Billiards	Every afternoon - time varies	See calendar page for times.
Bingo	Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m.	
Bird Club	1st Friday of the month at 10 a.m.	Speaker: Bryan Wood, Autoban Center of the North Woods.
Book Club	3rd Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.	<i>The Husbands Secret</i> by Liane Moriarty.
Bulls & Bears Investment Club	1st & 3rd Monday of the month at 1 p.m.	Learn about investing!
Social Bridge	Wednesdays at 12:45 p.m.	1st, 2nd & 3rd place and grand slam prizes awarded.
Bunco	2nd & 4th Thursdays at 1 p.m.	Don't know how to play? They will teach you.
Duplicate Bridge	Thursdays at 6 p.m.	Partners needed.
Chess	Thursdays at 12 p.m.	If you have general knowledge of chess, join us.
Chorale	Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m.	<i>New singers welcome!</i>
Computer Interests	Fridays at 10 a.m. Website: mscig.wordpress.com	This group examines topics of interest. Experience ranges from beginner to expert.
Craft Committee	1st Tuesday at 10 a.m.	Create decor for monthly parties.
Cribbage	Thursdays at 10 a.m.	Bring your cribbage boards and a deck of cards.
500 Card Club	2nd & 4th Tuesday at 10 a.m.	2nd & 4th Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Games and Cards	Mondays at 1 p.m.	1st & 3rd: Rummikub, 2nd & 4th: Hand and Food, 5th (if applicable): Train Dominoes
Mtka Community Garden Club	2nd Monday at 1 p.m.	<i>New members welcome!</i>
Literary Book Club	4th Tuesday at 7:15 p.m.	<i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i> by Norton Juster.
Ham Radio	2nd Monday at 10 a.m.	<i>New members welcome!</i>
The Landing Shop	Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Extended hours on Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.	<i>Find a perfect new handbag at The Landing Shop!</i> Located at 11280 Wayzata Blvd. (763) 591-4868. Handmade items crafted by Minnetonka residents 55+.
Mah Jongg	Wednesdays at 10 a.m.	<i>New members welcome!</i>
Pickleball	Tuesday, 7 – 10 a.m. Thursday, 7 – 9:30 a.m. Friday, 7 – 10 a.m. Friday, 7 – 10 a.m.	Designated Pickleball Courts at Williston Fitness Center.
Poker	1st & 3rd Tuesday at 10 a.m.	Join us for a good game of poker.
Scribblers	Thursdays at 10 a.m.	<i>New members welcome!</i>
Single Mingle Club	3rd Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. at Tuttle's	Various events scheduled monthly. Stop by the center to pick up a listing of events. <i>New members welcome!</i>
Tonka Tale Tellers	2nd Monday at 10 a.m.	This group travels to elementary schools within the area to tell and animate stories.
Tale Spinners	Tuesdays at 1 p.m.	<i>New members welcome!</i>
Wood Carvers	Thursdays at 10 a.m.	Group members work independently but also share ideas with one another.

Keep “flushable” wipes out of the sewer

Wipes and cleaning towelettes are marketed as convenience items, they may potentially become a huge inconvenience because of their ability to clog and stop up not only the sewer on your property, but also to cause blockages and backup problems in Minnetonka’s public sewer system and pump stations.

To understand how these wipes can become a problem, it’s important to understand a little about how the sewer system works. Every home has a sewer connection, which runs from the home to the public sewer system. This sewer service line is the responsibility of the homeowner to maintain so there are no backups of wastewater into the home. The sewage then moves into larger collector lines, and pump stations help lift the wastewater across different elevations in the sewer system, an especially important component in a hilly city such as Minnetonka.

Why are household wipes a problem? Unlike toilet paper, these disposable or “flushable” products don’t break down once they are flushed. They can then cause blockages in your on-site sewer lines, especially in older pipelines that may have already existing grease, roots or other obstructions, resulting in the backup of sewage into the home. A repair of the service line can leave the homeowner with a nasty repair bill — often not covered by homeowners’ insurance — and an even nastier cleanup. (See article below.

On a larger scale, when these products make their way into the public sewer system, they clump together, causing clogs in the collector lines and getting tangled in lift pumps. When pump stations are clogged, they stop working and require cleaning and repair, or even replacement, in order to get the sewage moving again.

Avoid a nasty cleanup in your home and help protect the city’s sewer system by never flushing the following into the sewer system, regardless of what the packaging promises. Put these items in the trash:

- Any consumer item that is not toilet paper
- Diapers
- Disinfecting wipes or baby wipes
- Cotton swabs
- Toilet cleaning pads
- Mop refills
- Paper towels
- Moist towelettes
- Feminine hygiene products

Not sure what should or shouldn’t be flushed? Remember this easy reminder: if it’s not toilet paper, and if you didn’t eat it or drink it first, it shouldn’t go in the toilet. When in doubt, don’t flush! For more information, contact Minnetonka Public Works at (952) 988-8400. ☺

Sewer backups: a homeowner’s nightmare

Sbest of maintenance programs. If the city is negligent, the city’s insurance will reimburse for your clean-up costs. However, almost all sewer back-ups occur from circumstances beyond the control of the city or the property owner. Here’s what you can do:

- **Talk to the agent who writes your homeowner’s policy.** Ask if you have coverage for sewer back-up occurrences. This coverage is automatic in some policies, but in other cases you need to get special or additional coverage. The premium is usually not too significant, and the coverage may be just what you need to clean up the mess.
- **If you have your private sewer mainline cleaned, please call the city.** Sometimes a sewer cleaning will release a tree root

or other item that may cause a back-up down the line. If you let the city know, we can take steps to prevent blockages for others.

- **Investigate as soon as you can** if you notice floor drains backing up or slow drains. If the problem is not in your private line, it may be in the city line. **Please call the city first if you notice a problem.** Fast attention to these problems may prevent or lessen the severity of a back-up. It’s more likely the city can help the sooner we hear about the problem — don’t hesitate to call!

For questions or concerns about sewer backups, call Minnetonka Public Works at (952) 988-8400. This is definitely a case where preparation on your part can save you time and expense later. ☺

Save money with a home energy audit

Outility bills have led many people to reevaluate their use of energy in the home.

A home energy audit is a great place to start. You can hire a private contractor to do the audit or contact a local utility, such as Xcel Energy. This assessment takes just a couple of hours and quickly highlights how much energy is being used and wasted in your home.

Like a doctor conducting a physical, the energy auditor determines the health and wellness of every major system in your house.

- Is there sufficient insulation in the walls and attic? Insulation helps to regulate the temperature of your home, retaining heat in winter and preventing its entry to the building in summer.
- Are doors and windows sealed well? An airtight home prevents energy loss, reducing heating and air conditioning bills.
- How are mechanical systems — like water heaters, furnaces, and air conditioning — performing? Old or damaged mechanical systems may lead to poorly distributed energy.
- Are the furnace and ductwork clean? Poor ventilation not only reduces the efficiency of your heating and cooling systems; it also increases the risk of airborne particles, mold, and mildew that worsen allergies and asthma.

Using this information, the auditor identifies specific actions you can take to increase the energy efficiency of your home. You will receive a report outlining steps to make your home more comfortable and healthy. These may include changing air filters, sealing windows and doors or heating ducts, installing an insulated water heater or installing a blanket around the existing one, or replacing old appliances with those that have an Energy Star rating. Your short-term expenditure for upgrades will be a long-term investment in energy savings. Call (800) 599-5795 or visit www.responsibleynature.com to schedule an energy audit through Xcel Energy.

This message provided by Xcel Energy as a service to Minnetonka residents. ☺

Know the rules about election signs

W it's important for Minnetonka residents to be aware of the city's zoning regulations for posting political campaign signs. Temporary political campaign signs could be posted any time after June 27, and must be removed by November 14, 2014.

Signs may not be posted on publicly owned land. On private land, the following rules for temporary political signs apply:

- Signs must be at least five feet from the edge of a public street.
- Signs must not obstruct driver visibility at intersections.
- Signs must have the approval of the underlying property owner.
- Signs must not be posted on fences, trees, shrubs, or public utility poles.
- Signs must not be painted on rocks or other natural features.
- Signs must not be located within the right-of-way of state or county roads.

On election days, the following rules apply to posting signs near polling places:

- On private property, signs must be 100 feet from the door where voters will enter.
- For public property, signs must not be within 100 feet of the building in which a polling place is situated, or anywhere on the public property.

If you have questions or complaints about campaign signs, please call the planning division at (952) 939-8290. ☺



Oopsy. Poopsy.



Dog poop. It's a serious health problem. Why? Because it contains disease-carrying bacteria that can make people sick and pollute our waters. And because there are more than 50,000 people in Minnetonka, many of them dog owners. Do the math. Then do this. Pick up after your pooch. Remind your neighbors to pick up after theirs. Good manners, great health policy. Your dog can't help it. But you can. ☺

Ad text courtesy of the California State Water Resources Control Board.

Sign up now for winter youth basketball

Youth basketball league (register by Oct. 10)

Join the Hopkins–Minnetonka Youth Basketball League, an in-house recreational league for boys and girls in grades 2 – 6 living in the Hopkins–Minnetonka area. Separate boys and girls teams are formed by school and grade. Games will be played on Saturdays starting December 6 and concluding on January 31 for second graders and February 14 or 21 for grades 3 – 6. Grades 3 – 6 will have one weekday evening practice starting the week of November 12. For second grade only, practice will be held on Saturday before each game starting December 6. The cost is \$55 for Grade 2 and \$95 for Grades 3 – 6. Registration closes October 10. Teams are formed by school and grade. Call (952) 939-8203 or visit www.eminnetonka.com to register.

First Grade Little Dribblers

This program introduces boys and girls to the game of basketball through activities and group games that focus on skill development and fun! Development of skills and introduction to the rules of the

game will prepare the young player for the youth basketball league starting in second grade. The sessions will be led by instructors from Minnesota Developmental Basketball. Fee includes a Little Dribblers t-shirt. Saturdays: December 13, 20, January 10, 17, 24 & 31, Hopkins West Junior High, 9 a.m. or 10 a.m., \$45. Call (952) 939-8203 or visit www.eminnetonka.com to register.

Little Shooter's Basketball Clinic

This clinic is led by experienced basketball camp organizer Kevin Lynch, a former Mr. Basketball of Minnesota, All-Big Ten guard at the University of Minnesota and NBA player with the Charlotte Hornets. Participants will learn basic skills and techniques and cultivate self-esteem, teamwork and fair play — all in a fun and challenging environment. Each participant receives a camp t-shirt. The Little Shooter's Clinic is a great way to prepare for the upcoming Youth Basketball League! Saturdays, November 1 – 22, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Grades 2 – 5, Hopkins West Junior High, \$85. Call (952) 939-8203 or visit www.eminnetonka.com to register. ☺



2014 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE

Fall leaf drop-off closes Nov. 22

Public Works Facility

11522 Minnetonka Blvd., ¼ mi. west of Cty. Rd. 73
Enter on the west side of the building (near the Big Willow ball fields)

The Public Works facility at 11522 Minnetonka Blvd accepts leaves and non-woody yard waste (grass, weeds, pine cones & needles, garden trimmings, fruit, etc.) from Minnetonka residents. You must present proper identification to the site monitor to verify you are a Minnetonka resident (driver's license, state ID, or Minnetonka utility bill).

If you have other means of handling your leaves such as collection by your garbage hauler or backyard composting, please use that option! All garbage haulers offer curbside collection of yard waste for a fee (either an annual, monthly, per cart or per bag fee), typically April through November. Check with your garbage hauler for details. State law requires proper compostable bags for curbside collection of bagged yardwaste — **regular plastic bags are not acceptable.**

LEAVES — Truck and trailer loads of leaves will be accepted only at Minnetonka Public Works and only during brush drop-off hours on the following dates:

- **Mondays:** 12 to 8 p.m. Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17
- **Tuesdays:** 12 to 8 p.m. Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18
- **Saturdays:** 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22

The city leaf drop-off site is bag-free — loose leaves only. Residents will unload and/or unbag their leaves and yardwaste onto the large bulk pile and take all empty bags home for reuse or disposal — including paper and compostable bags. Please bring proper equipment, such as a stout pitch fork, to unload your truck or trailer load of leaves.

The suggested method is to use many layers of tarps between layers of about a foot of leaves. Use a tarp to gather up and move a pile of leaves from your yard to your trailer or vehicle. Continue using lots of small tarp loads, layering the leaves and tarps until the vehicle is full. This makes unloading your leaves easier and faster at the site. All you need to do is flip off the tarps between the layers of leaves. Sticks and branches smaller than ½ inch in diameter are acceptable with leaves; anything larger goes to the brush pile. (See the brush drop-off article at top right.) **Loads of leaves must be covered during transport!**

Information about composting and yard waste management is available from Dean Elstad at (952) 988-8430. ☞

Brush drop-off ends Nov. 22

The brush drop-off program for Minnetonka residents is open Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Mondays and Tuesdays from noon to 8 p.m. Brush drop-off ends November 22.

Branches up to 12" in diameter are accepted. Proof of Minnetonka residency (driver's license or utility bill) is required each time a resident enters the site.

Please note: trash, metal, plastics, concrete, lumber, fences or wood scraps are not



accepted. Do not bring these materials with your brush.

Do not put grass, loose leaves, dirt or sod in with the brush pile. Loose leaves, pine needles, straw, plant and garden materials, and yard waste go in the separate leaf drop-off area, opening Sept. 15. The brush drop-off and leaf drop-off programs have different processing methods and distinct end markets for the different materials, so it's important they stay separate.

No brush is accepted from commercial tree or lawn services.

Call (952) 988-8430 during business hours or leave a message any time. ☞

Can't "leave" it alone? Dispose of leaves naturally this fall

If you have some leaves to dispose of this fall, please don't dispose of them on public lands or in wetlands, lakes, creeks, or other drainage or ponding areas and definitely don't blow them into the street or burn them. These options aren't legal, aren't good for water or air quality, and are unsightly.

It's best to dispose of leaves properly as it helps prevent harm to natural resources

and keeps yard waste where it may do some good. Leaves disposed of properly at drop sites or through your hauling service generally don't go to waste. They are often converted to compost and can be used to help grow new trees. Proper leaf disposal options include:

- Using your curbside waste hauler. Contact them directly for service options.

- Using the city leaf drop-off at Public Works when available. (see above)
- Composting in a suitable area away from a water resource.
- Mulching with your lawn mower. The pulverized leaves will decompose and add nutrients to the soil. It's like free fertilizer for your lawn and you don't even need to rake the leaves! ☞

minnetonka memo

October 2014

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
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CITY OF MINNETONKA

A publication of the city of Minnetonka
14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, MN 55345 • (952) 939-8200
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday

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ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

Calendar

City of
Minnetonka

October
2014

Call (952) 939-8200
for meeting
locations.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Call (952) 939-8200 for meeting locations.
			1	2	3	4	1 Park Board, 7 p.m. 13 City Council, 6:30 p.m.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	6 Joint meeting of City Council, Economic Development Advisory Commission, Park Board & Planning Commission, 6 p.m. 14 Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	16 Economic Development Advisory Commission, 6 p.m.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	7 Fire Department & City Open House, 5–7:30 p.m.; fireworks, 8 p.m. (see page 1) 23 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m. 27 City Council, 6:30 p.m.
26	27	28	29	30	31		9 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

All meetings listed above are open to the public. Meeting dates and times are subject to change — please check www.eminnetonka.com for the latest information.

Minnetonka City Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 16, and replays are available Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays at noon, or anytime via videostream at www.eminnetonka.com. Agendas for council meetings are available on the city's website by the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting, and planning commission agendas are available by the Monday prior to the meeting.

Buckthorn workshop: October 8

Do you have a property you want to move? Don't post a for-sale sign just yet — buckthorn removal might be easier than you think. Remember, buckthorn doesn't have to be removed all at once. If your woods are degraded, it's actually better to control it gradually. Learn how to gradually remove buckthorn at a free workshop Wednesday, October 8, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center Community Room, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka.

Handouts will be provided. Please register at www.eminnetonka.com or call (952) 988-8400. ☺

Fall Fun Fest October 26

Enjoy Fall Fun Fest 1 – 2:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka outdoor amphitheater, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. Activities include musical entertainment by the AlphaBits, storytellers, hayrides, face painting, pumpkin painting, hot apple cider by the fire, games, treats and more! Costumes are encouraged, but not required. Registration is required for this event. All pre-registered participants will receive a treat bag. Children must be accompanied by an adult and adults are **free!** In the case of rain, the event will be moved into the Minnetonka Community Center. 1 – 10 year olds, \$8 per child. Call (952) 939-8203 or **visit** www.eminnetonka.com to register. Following this event, catch a 3 p.m. Spooktacular concert by the Music Association of Minnetonka — see page 2 for details! ☺

The paper in this newsletter was manufactured with electricity in the form of renewable energy (wind, hydro, and biogas).

