

# minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka  
April 2017

## Ron Kamps honored with Reflections Award

When dreaming of retirement, many people look forward to relaxing and retreating to a warmer climate during cold Minnesota winters. However, Minnetonka resident Ron Kamps had a different dream when he retired 12 years ago: he wanted to give back to the community he has called home for 44 years. “My philosophy is first you learn, then you earn, then you serve,” said Kamps. “If you don’t give back to the community, it will die.”

What started as volunteering a couple of days at a local food shelf has evolved into a 12-year legacy of giving back tirelessly to the community. Today, Kamps serves on the boards of several organizations and dedicates 40-60 hours a week to public service. That’s why he’s being honored with the City of Minnetonka Reflections Award, which is designed to recognize individuals, businesses and programs whose outstanding contributions reflect positively on Minnetonka.

“Our community is blessed in so many ways by having Ron among us and volunteering for so many things to benefit others,” said Dennis L. Peterson, Ph.D., Minnetonka Public Schools superintendent.

“I cannot imagine anyone being more deserving of this recognition than Ron.”

Kamps grew up in a small town in Minnesota, where he learned the values of hard work and giving back. He married his wife and moved to Minnetonka in 1973, where they raised four children. Kamps

enjoyed a successful career in the computer industry, which took him to exotic locations all over the world, traveling hundreds of thousands of miles a year. As he neared retirement, Kamps was ready to be home, but he didn’t want to stop using his business skills and talents. After a discussion with his pastor about how he could best serve the community, Kamps found himself at the Intercongregational Communities Association (ICA) Food Shelf in Minnetonka.

His first role at ICA was to pick up and deliver food in his SUV. It became immediately clear to ICA Executive Director Peg Keenan that Kamps has a rare gift of connecting ICA with people and companies that could help move the organization forward. Today, Kamps serves as ICA board vice president and helps organize special events to raise money for the food

shelf. “Volunteers like Ron are essential to our being able to serve everyone in need,” said Keenan.

Through his work with ICA, Kamps connected with other organizations that could benefit from his business know-how and ability to foster relationships.

Throughout the years, he has served on the boards of 14 organizations and is heavily involved in his congregation. He supports Minnetonka Public schools through grant writing and assistance with technology and science programs, helps coordinate the Minnetonka Community Education Tour de Tonka annual event (which supports ICA), chairs the Hopkins Public Schools Empty Bowls fundraiser, coordinates special events for the Diamond Club, and so much more.

“To know Ron Kamps is to know the true meaning of the words ‘service, humility, passion, integrity and character,’” said Tim Litfin, executive director of Community Education for Minnetonka Public Schools. “Ron is tireless.”

Though Kamps goes above and beyond daily to help others, he is extremely humble. “I’m honored to receive this award, but I didn’t do any of this for the recognition,” said Kamps. “I’m just one person in a team of people doing whatever they can to help our community.”

Kamps was nominated by Peg Keenan, ICA executive director. He was chosen for the award by a committee consisting of Minnetonka Mayor Terry Schneider and former mayors Karen Anderson, Jan Callison and Tim Bergstedt.



Ron Kamps (far right) with his wife, son and daughter-in-law

“  
**My philosophy  
is first you learn,  
then you earn,  
then you serve.**

—Ron Kamps

## Water main flushing starts Monday, April 24

**M**innnetonka Public Works is flushing water mains throughout the city from Monday, April 24 through Friday, May 12. Flushing will be done weekdays from 6:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. in most areas. See the map to determine dates in your area.

Flushing in the areas listed below will occur at these special times:

### April 24

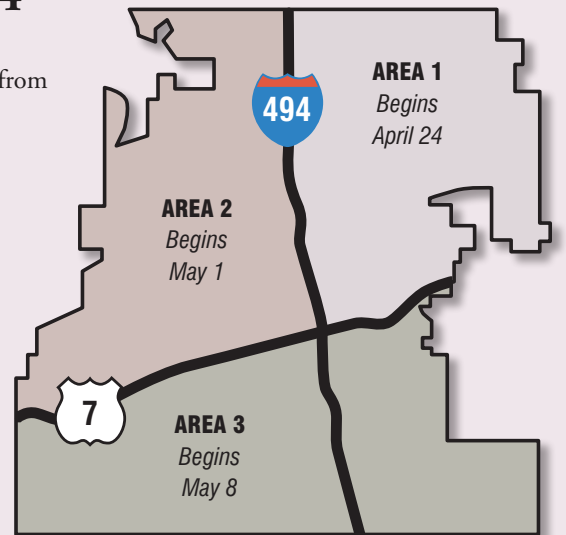
Ridgedale business area:  
5:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

### May 1

Minnnetonka Industrial Road, Twelve Oaks Center and Carlson Parkway:  
5 a.m.–5 p.m.

### May 11

Opus, Beachside, K-Tel, Clearwater Drive, White Water Drive and Culligan Way:  
3 a.m.–3 p.m.



Flushing schedules may be adjusted due to weather conditions.

During the flushing period it is normal to experience some discolored water. This water is safe to drink and can be cleared up by running **cold** water in your laundry tub. If you experience problems, please contact Public Works at 952-988-8400.

## Park Board plans revisions to park regulations

**I**ncluded in the Minnetonka Park Board's 2017 strategic plan is a goal to update the city's park regulations to better reflect current practices. While new regulations have been added over the years, the entire content of the regulations has not been revised in more than two decades.

Proposed revisions primarily include:

- Updating definitions
- Clarifying liability issues
- Citing other city policies such as athletic field use and tobacco use when appropriate

This revision does not propose changes to existing voice command regulations for dogs in the city's unmaintained natural areas.

### Offer feedback at a public meeting

The park board is holding a public meeting to review all proposed changes Wednesday, April 5 at 7 p.m. in the Minnehaha Room at Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd.

For more information, please contact Darin Ellington at [dellington@eminnetonka.com](mailto:dellington@eminnetonka.com) or 952-988-8414 or visit [eminnetonka.com/revisedparkregs](http://eminnetonka.com/revisedparkregs).

## Free radon tests available at City Hall

**R**adon is a colorless, odorless radioactive gas that seeps up from the earth and enters homes and buildings, where it can accumulate and become a health concern. When inhaled, radon gives off radioactive particles that can damage the cells that line the lungs and cause lung cancer. In fact, more than 21,000 lung cancer deaths in the U.S. are due to radon.

The Minnesota Department of Health recommends that every homeowner test their home for radon. To assist with this effort, the City of Minnetonka is offering a limited supply of free test kits, which measure radon levels for three to seven days. While these tests do not measure the annual average of radon in a home, they are a quick and simple way to screen your home for the dangerous gas.

Performing a radon test on your own is easy and takes only a few minutes of your time. The results of a properly performed radon test will help determine if you need to take further action. Please note, windows should be closed while the test is being performed.

Free radon test kits may be picked up at Minnetonka City Hall (14600 Minnetonka Blvd.) during regular business hours. Supplies are limited. For more information on radon, visit [health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/indoorair/radon/index.html](http://health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/indoorair/radon/index.html).

### Facts About Radon:

- Radon is the No. 1 cause of lung cancer in non-smokers
- High radon levels exist in every state in the U.S.
- In Minnesota, two in five homes have radon levels that pose a significant health risk, and nearly 80 percent of counties are rated high radon zones
- Any home can have high levels of radon, no matter what type of foundation it has
- Radon levels are typically higher in the lower levels of buildings, where it seeps in
- Homes typically have greater levels of radon in the winter months because they are closed to the outdoors

## Student election judges needed

The City of Minnetonka is seeking motivated high school students, ages 16 and older, to serve as election judges in the upcoming municipal primary and general elections.



Student election judges provide key support on Election Day. Tasks include opening and closing the polls, assisting voters, checking in voters with electronic poll books, and upholding the laws regarding voting. This is a paid opportunity and training is provided.

Find more information and apply online at [eminnetonka.com/elections/election-judges](http://eminnetonka.com/elections/election-judges). Contact Moranda Dammann at [mdammann@eminnetonka.com](mailto:mdammann@eminnetonka.com) or 952-939-8219 with questions.

## Protect yourself against utility scams

It begins as a phone call, email or knock on the door from someone claiming to be an electric, natural gas or water company employee. He or she tells you your utility payment is late and if you don't settle up immediately, your service will be disconnected that day. You may be given the option to pay the outstanding balance with a prepaid card, wire transfer or cash.

While it's natural to want to remedy the situation immediately, it's important to take steps to ensure you are not being targeted by a utility scam.

According to CenterPoint Energy, the most common targets of utility scams are senior citizens and non-English speakers. To help combat these scams, CenterPoint Energy is taking part in a national campaign called Utilities Against Scams and offering the following information to help you protect yourself against them.

### What to Do

Before you give money to a person claiming to be an electric, natural gas or water company representative:

- Hang up the phone or close the door and call your utility company's verified, direct phone number to verify a payment or amount due. You can find this number on your utility company's website or on your utility bill.
- Request to see identification before allowing a utility worker near you or into your residence.
- Call 911 if you feel your safety is threatened.
- After calling 911, please report the incident to the local utility provider and the Better Business Bureau.
- Do not give the caller or visitor a prepaid card, a wire transfer or any other form of payment that may be difficult for law enforcement to trace. Only use authorized methods and legitimate banking information to pay bills.
- Ignore suspicious requests from an unverified source for personal information such as bank account numbers, usernames and passwords, credit card numbers and Social Security numbers.
- Delete and block any emails from utilities that are not your service provider.

## Learn more about becoming a Burwell House tour guide

Originally built by the Burwell family in 1883 and purchased by the city in 1970, the historical Charles H. Burwell house at 13209 E. McGinty Road is a treasured city resource. Meticulously restored to its original character, regular tours are offered to give visitors of all ages a chance to experience what life was like in the late nineteenth century. In order to make these tours possible, however, the city must rely on volunteers from the community.

Find out what it takes to become a Burwell House tour guide at one of the following open house events. Attendees will meet other guides and get a tour of the house.

**Tuesday, April 25; 5:30–6:30 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, May 9; 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

Volunteering at the Burwell House is a unique way to connect with the community and learn more about Minnetonka's history. For more information, or to RSVP to an open house event, contact Moranda Dammann at 952-939-8219 or [mdammann@eminnetonka.com](mailto:mdammann@eminnetonka.com).



## Recreational fire reminders

Now that spring is here, the Minnetonka Fire Department would like to remind residents to be careful when enjoying recreational fires. Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Consider the weather before burning; a day with high winds or dry conditions may not be the best time.
- Make sure your fire is constantly attended and you have an extinguishing method readily available.



Remember that recreational campfires require a permit from the Minnetonka Fire Department, which can be obtained at [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com). Even with a permit, however, the burning of brush, trash and 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, smoke is also an irritant for those with chronic respiratory issues such as asthma, or other health problems.

Thank you for following these guidelines as you enjoy the great outdoors!

## Time to wrap up tree pruning and ash removal

April marks the time of year when most trees begin to produce leaves. That's one reason why the city's forestry staff recommends to stop pruning until fall. Leaves make it hard to see the tree's structure for effective pruning, and pruning during the growing season also removes part of the tree's live crown.



Pruning during the warm months can also promote disease. For example, new oak wilt infections are started when sap beetles (carriers of the fungus that causes oak wilt disease) are attracted to fresh pruning cuts and broken tree limbs. Infection may occur within moments after the tree is wounded.

Follow these guidelines to reduce the spread of oak wilt:

Months	Level of Oak Wilt Risk
April–June	High Risk (stop pruning)
July–Oct.	Low Risk (use caution)
Nov.–March	No Risk*

*\*Sap beetles are usually dormant during this time. But they may become active earlier in an unusually warm spring, or remain active later in the year when temperatures are high. Such unpredictable weather patterns can extend the risk period for oak wilt disease in a given year.*

There are also guidelines for when to prune and remove ash trees in order to prevent the spread of emerald ash borer (EAB).

Months	Level of EAB Risk
May–Sept.	EAB Is Active (stop pruning/removing)
Oct.–April	EAB is Inactive (okay to prune/remove)



For more information on oak wilt and EAB, visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) or call the forestry information line at 952-988-8407.



# SENIORS Expo

**Thursday, May 4, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
Minnetonka Community Center

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE SENIORS EXPO  
The expo features exhibitors, presentations, health screenings, activities, fitness demonstrations, refreshments and prizes. This event is open to the public and free of charge.

Interested in being an exhibitor?  
Email [awatts@eminnetonka.com](mailto:awatts@eminnetonka.com) for an application.

## Community Connections: Majestic Eagles–Stan Tekiela

**Monday, April 24, 10:15–11:15 a.m.**

Join us for a presentation from well known naturalist, author and wildlife photographer Stan Tekiela. Provided by Lake Minnetonka Senior Care Providers:  
Community Connections.

**Cost: \$2**  
(Course #2180410-01)



## Volunteer Social

**Tuesday, April 18, noon**

Volunteers, please let us show our appreciation and join us for a social event.  
**Menu:** Baked Potato Bar, and dessert bar.

**Cost: Free!** due Thursday, April 13  
(Course #2100104-01)



## ...to register early!

Help us give you the best programming we can! Programs can fill in advance or may be canceled due to low enrollment. Registering early is the best way to secure a spot.

## Lunch and a Movie:

### Florence Foster Jenkins

**Friday, April 28, noon**

Despite her horrid singing voice, New York City heiress Florence Foster Jenkins is certain she can become an opera star. Her partner and manager does all he can do to shield Florence from the truth, but his task may prove impossible. Starring Meryl Streep and Hugh Grant.

**Menu:** Chicken salad croissant sandwich, fruit, chips and a treat.

**Sponsored by: Nothing Bundt Cakes**

**Cost: \$5** due Tuesday, April 25  
(Course #2100204-01)

## Fitness for the Mind and Heart:

### Jackie Mielke

## How Thoughts Affect our Energy

**Wednesday, April 26, 9:30–11:30 a.m.**

Positive and negative thinking may have a major impact on our energy in ways we may not recognize. Investigation into human energy fields may clarify how we can use this information to increase our own well-being. Register by April 19.

**Cost: \$12** (Course #218403-04)

## Journeying Through Grief and Loss

**Tuesday, May 9, 9:30–11:30 a.m.**

How can we remember the deceased, and still keep balance in body, mind and heart? Class participants will examine ways of grieving successfully and staying fit in the process. Register by Tuesday, May 2.

**Cost: \$12** (Course #3180401-01)

## Wellness Series presented by Minnetonka Medical Center and North Memorial Medical Center

### Advanced Care Planning

**Tuesday, April 4, 10–11 a.m.**

Learn about advanced care planning and the importance of having conversations with your family, loved ones and health care provider. Review how to select a health care agent and directive document. A notary will be available to help you complete one that captures your goals and wishes. Presented by Maureen Tyraw.

**Cost: \$2** (Course #2180801-17)

### What is Peripheral Arterial Disease?

**Tuesday, April 18, 10–11 a.m.**

Want to learn about Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD)? Find out what all the fuss is about, how serious it is, how to test if you have it and steps to take if you do. Presented by Dr. Osama Ibrahim.

**Cost: \$2** (Course #2180801-18)

### Community Ballroom Dance

**Friday, April 21, 6:15–9 p.m.**

Enjoy an evening of dancing with lessons, a live band and light refreshments in the elegant Oakwood Room at the Eisenhower Community Center in Hopkins. Dance lessons are 6:15–7 p.m. Dance is 7–9 p.m. Registration done through Minnetonka Community Education; call 952-401-6800 to register.

**Cost: \$13 pre-registration, \$15 at the door**

### Volunteer: Adopt-a-Highway

**Thursday, April 27, 1–2:30 p.m.**

Help pick up trash along Minnetonka Boulevard between I-494 and County Road 73. Safety vests, pick up sticks and bags provided. Meet at the Minnetonka Community Center. Registration over the phone only, call 952-939-8393 to sign up!

### Chow with the Chief

**Tuesday, April 11, 5–6:30 p.m.**

Meet Minnetonka Fire Chief John Vance and other firefighters. Take a tour of the fire station and enjoy grilled hot dogs, chips and a beverage. Parking at city hall. Event is at Minnetonka Fire Station 1.

**Cost: Free!**

## Fitness Programs

For a complete listing and program descriptions please visit [eminnetonka.com/register](http://eminnetonka.com/register) or pick up a fitness flyer at the community center.

Program	Instructor	Dates	Day	Times	Fee	Course #
Over 50 and Fit	Jean McSwiggen John Nally Julie Fleischhacker	Jan. 1–Dec. 31	M, W, F	9–10 a.m.	\$12 (annually)	4090702-02
Basic Mat Pilates	Elizabeth Kelly	May 10–June 28	W	6:15–7:15 p.m.	\$48	3090904-01
Chair Yoga	Nancy Holasek	May 9–June 27	TU	9:45–10:45 a.m.	\$48	3090101-01
Chair Yoga	Elizabeth Kelly	May 10–June 28	W	5–6 p.m.	\$48	3090101-05
Chair Yoga	Nancy Holasek	May 11–June 29	TH	9:45–10:45 a.m.	\$48	3090101-02
Dance Series: Swing	Tricia Wood	April 1–22	S	10–10:50 a.m.	\$52	2091001-01
Dance Series: Ballroom and Latin	Tricia Wood	April 1–22	S	11–11:50 a.m.	\$52	2091001-02
Dance Series: Wedding	Tricia Wood	April 29–May 20	S	10–10:50 a.m.	\$52	2091001-03
Dance Series: Latin	Tricia Wood	April 29–May 20	S	10–10:50 a.m.	\$52	2091001-04
Intermediate Yoga	Nancy Holasek	May 9–June 27	TU	11 a.m.–noon	\$48	3090201-01
Intermediate Yoga	Elizabeth Kelly	May 10–June 28	W	7:30–8:30 p.m.	\$48	3090201-05
Intermediate Yoga	Nancy Holasek	May 11–June 29	TH	11 a.m.–noon	\$48	3090201-02
Line Dance: Beginner	Tricia Wood	May 4–25	TH	12:30–1:30 p.m.	\$32	2090601-04
Line Dance: Beginner	Tricia Wood	April 6–27	TH	12:30–1:30 p.m.	\$32	2090601-03
Line Dance: Intermediate	Tricia Wood	April 6–27	TH	1:45–2:45 p.m.	\$32	2090602-03
Line Dance: Intermediate	Tricia Wood	May 4–25	TH	1:45–2:45 p.m.	\$32	2090602-04
T'ai Chi Chih: Workshop	Susan Sobelson	June 12th	M	10–11:45 a.m.	\$5	3090301-01
T'ai Chi Chih: Workshop	Susan Sobelson	June 26th	M	10–11:45 a.m.	\$5	3090301-02
T'ai Chi for Health and Wellness	Ron Erdman-Luntz	April 20–May 25	TH	6–7 p.m.	\$54	2090401-03
T'ai Chi for Health and Wellness	Ron Erdman-Luntz	June 1–July 13 (no class June 15)	TH	6–7 p.m.	\$54	3090401-01
Therapeutic Pilates	Dr. Sarah Petrich	May 1–8	M	8:30–9:30 a.m.	\$20	3090901-01
Zumba Gold	Renee Rahimi	April 3–May 8	M	12:45–1:45 p.m.	\$36	2090501-02
Zumba Gold Toning	Renee Rahimi	April 5–May 10	W	12:30–1:30 p.m.	\$36	2090501-04

## Fitness Highlights

### Dance Series: Swing–Tricia Wood

Learn the difference between East Coast Swing and West Coast Swing, dance to different decades of swing music!

### Dance Series: Ballroom and Latin–Tricia Wood

Learn waltz, rumba and salsa. Variety of social dances for different music types.

### Dance Series: Wedding–Tricia Wood

Learn waltz, rumba and swing. Dances cover variety of music played at receptions and galas.

### T'ai Chi Chih Workshop–Susan Sobelson

First 30 minutes are instruction, followed by an hour of practice. All levels welcome.

### Therapeutic Pilates–Dr. Sarah Petrich

Focus on re-balancing typical asymmetries that lead to more torque, tension and compression.

**Detailed descriptions found online, in our summer brochure or by phone.**

## Minnetonka Bike Club

### Kick off Meeting

Thursday, April 6, 9:30 a.m.

Great co-ed senior group that bikes at various scenic metro locations. Ride as often as your schedule permits. More information at [www.mtkabikers.org](http://www.mtkabikers.org).

**Cost: Meeting free, yearly cost \$10**  
(Course #4120103-01)



### Bean Bags

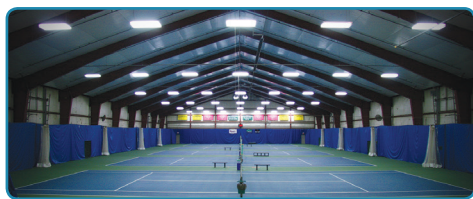
Friday, April 14,

10:15 a.m.–noon

Socialize with your peers and join in a game of bean bags.

**Free!** No reservation needed.

## Athletic Activities



### Indoor Pickleball

**October-May**

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

- Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 7:30–10 a.m.
- Thursdays and Fridays, 7:30–9:30 a.m.
- Saturdays, 1–3 p.m.
- Free for Williston, Silver Sneakers and Silver and Fit members. \$4 per day for non-members.

**Williston Fitness Center**  
14509 Minnetonka Drive

### Golf League 50+

**Mondays, May 1–Aug. 28,**  
9:30–10:30 a.m. tee times

A great way to meet new people, informal 16-week co-ed league plays at four area courses: Glen Lake, Braemar, Baker and Eagle Lake. Participants will rotate with players each week. No league play May 29 and July 3. Call 952-939-8393 to register.

**Cost: \$230** due Monday, April 10  
(Course #3120401-01)

### Softball 70+

**Mondays and Wednesdays, April–October,**  
9 a.m.–noon

Slow pitch softball is played at Big Willow Park (11522 Minnetonka Blvd). Modified rules allow for competitive play without the risk of serious injury. Registration will be accepted throughout the season and takes place at the field. Cash or check accepted.

**Cost: \$25** (Course #3120201-01)

## Education Programs

### Defensive Driving

Register through MN Highway Safety Center, 1-888-234-1294, or visit [mnsafetycenter.org](http://mnsafetycenter.org) for all classes.

**4-hour renewal sessions:**

- \$22, Thursday, April 13, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
- \$22, Thursday, April 27, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

### Navigating Medicare

**Wednesday, April 26, 6:30–9 p.m.**

Learn to navigate Medicare Parts A, B, C and D coverage, supplemental plans and Part D Plans. Presented by Senior Community Services.

**Cost: \$10** (Course #2180412-01)

## Art Programs

### Art Series: Watercolor and Abstract Realism Studies

**Gin Weidenfeller**

**Wednesdays, April 26–May 10, 1–3 p.m.**

Classroom demonstrations and examples show methods of incorporating abstract elements into realistic work. Participants are free to reduce detail. Paint studies of land/cityscapes, still life and nature subjects. Supplies provided, but you may bring your own.

**Cost: \$60** (Course #2130101-01)

## History Programs

### British History: London's East End

**Terry Kubista**

**Thursdays, April 6–27, 1–3 p.m.**

London's East end has gone through harder times and more devastation than any other area of London. We will follow this area through four decades of war, peace and recovery.

**Cost: \$28** (Course #2180101-04)

### British History: Ireland's Secret Sights

**Terry Kubista**

**Thursdays, May 4–25, 1–3 p.m.**

A different approach to Irish history using the actual sites where history was made. The Beginning, The Invaders, The Years of the Sword and The Ruthless Change make up the lessons.

**Cost: \$28** (Course #3180101-01)

## Leisure Programs

### Bridge II: Lee Solee

**Mondays, April 17–May 22, 1–3 p.m.**

Learn bidding, scoring and playing strategies for the challenging game of bridge. Bring a deck of cards, pen and notepad.

**Cost: \$36** (Course #2190301-01)

### Mahjongg

**Carole Harris**

**Wednesdays,**  
**April 12–May 24**  
**10 a.m.–noon**

Learn to play the intriguing game of Mahjongg, a game of chance and skill. Played previously? Refresh your skills.

**Cost: \$63** (Course #2190201-01)



## Day Trips\*

### Grotto of the Redemption

**Wednesday, May 17**



A young seminarian who almost died from pneumonia prayed to the Virgin Mary to help him; and if she did, he promised to build her a shrine. Father Paul Dobberstein lived and took more than 40 years to build "The Grotto of the Redemption" in West Bend, Iowa. Arrive in West Bend, take a guided tour of nine separate grottos, each portraying a scene in the life of Jesus Christ. The largest man-made grotto in the world has the largest collection of precious stones, gems and minerals found in one location. After the tour peruse museum on your own, then have a late lunch at the Wagon Wheel. The ride home includes a stop at reststop near Albert Lea.

**Menu:** Marinated chicken breast, baby red potatoes, coleslaw, corn, tea biscuits, dessert and coffee.

**Cost: \$73** includes tours, meal, transportation and guide (Course# 2110104-01)

**Estimated trip time:** 7:15 a.m.–6:30 p.m.

**Register or cancel by:** Friday, April 7

### St. Croix River Cruise

**Thursday, June 15**



Travel to the birthplace of Minnesota–Stillwater. This distinctive community has a wealth of architecture and offers a blend of history, scenery, shopping and culture. Board the climate-controlled, fully-accessible cruise and relax and enjoy the sights and sounds of the St. Croix River. Bring cards, games and bingo along for the ride. Deli luncheon served while you cruise. Boat returns to the docks and travel to Pedestrian Plaza on North Water Street where you can walk the streets to shop or relax along the waterfront.

**Menu:** Deli Luncheon has variety of meats and cheeses, salads and dessert bars, coffee and soft drinks.

**Cost: \$62** includes tours, meal, transportation and guide (Course #3110101-01)

**Estimated trip time:** 9:45 a.m.–3:45 p.m.

**Register or cancel by:** Friday, May 12

\*For a complete listing of day trips search trips on our website or pick up a flyer at the community center. Trips meet in the community center lobby

## Cub Foods Brat Stand

4801 County Rd. 101

April 28–30, 11 a.m.–7 p.m.

Senior Services Volunteers will staff the brat stand. Stop by for a brat, or sign up for one of our volunteering shifts!



11280 Wayzata Blvd.

763-591-4868

Purchase items handcrafted by Minnetonka residents ages 55 and older.

Hours: Wednesday–Saturday,

10 a.m.–4 p.m.,

Thursdays until 8 p.m.

## Interest Groups

Interest groups are coordinated and led by seniors in the community. All groups meet at the Minnetonka Community Center, unless noted otherwise. For a complete list of groups go to [eminnetonka.com/interestgroups](http://eminnetonka.com/interestgroups).

### Bird Club

1st Friday, 10 a.m.

"Bird Migration" with Jim Egge, Minnesota Wildlife Tracking Project

### Book Club

3rd Thursday, 1 p.m.

*The Children Act* by Ian McEwan

### Genealogy Club

1st Thursday, 10 a.m.

This month's topic: DNA Testing

### Literary Book Club

4th Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.

*The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde

### Poker

1st and 3rd Tuesday, 10 a.m.

Join us for a good game of poker.

### Rummikub

1st and 3rd Mondays, 1 p.m.

We'll teach you how to play!

### Shutterbugs

3rd Tuesday, 10 a.m.

New members welcome!

### Tale Spinners

Tuesdays, 1 p.m.

Story writing group. New members welcome!

## Services

### Blood Pressure Screenings

1st and 3rd Fridays; 2nd Wednesdays

9:30–11:30 a.m., Free!

Provided by volunteer nurses.

### Happy Feet

1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Friday,

9 a.m.–3 p.m., \$37

Provided by nurses specializing in foot care.

For appointment call 763-560-5136.

## Senior Community Services

### Senior Outreach Social Worker

Lisa Engdahl

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, Free!

Discuss finances, transportation, personal care, medical care, home maintenance and more. Call 952-939-8393 for an appointment.

### Medicare Counseling

1st and 3rd Mondays, Free!

Discuss Medicare, supplemental insurance, Part D coverage, billing issues, resources and more! Call 952-939-8393.

### HOME

Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly (HOME) is available for Minnetonka residents 60 and older. For information call 952-746-4046 or visit the Community Center on Fridays, 9 a.m.–noon. Some of the chores HOME can help with include the following:

- Yard mowing, and clean up
- Painting
- Housekeeping
- Handyman service



Minnetonka Senior Services

Connections. Activities. Lifelong Learning.

## Contact and Registration Information

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

✉ 14600 Minnetonka Blvd.,  
Minnetonka, MN 55345



[eminnetonka.com/register](http://eminnetonka.com/register)



952-939-8393

### Office Hours

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

### Administrative Staff

Kate Egert, [kegert@eminnetonka.com](mailto:kegert@eminnetonka.com)

Sue Svec, [ssvec@eminnetonka.com](mailto:ssvec@eminnetonka.com)

### Senior Services and Activities Manager

Steve Pieh, 952-939-8366

[spieh@eminnetonka.com](mailto:spieh@eminnetonka.com)

### Senior and General Programs Manager

Alicia Watts, 952-939-8366

[awatts@eminnetonka.com](mailto:awatts@eminnetonka.com)

### Mission

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

### Program Locations

Meet at Minnetonka Senior Services at the Minnetonka Community Center unless otherwise noted.

### Cancellation Information

#### Program Cancellations

Refunds will only be made if registration is withdrawn before the advertised deadline. If no deadline is given, registration must be withdrawn at least two business days prior to the start date of the program. Partial credit will be considered if injury or serious illness occurs. In such case, a physician's verification may be required.

#### Trip Cancellations

Refunds are assessed a \$5 administrative fee and only granted prior to the registration deadline or in the event that a replacement is found.



# What is a POLLINATOR?



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*An animal that feeds  
on nectar or pollen  
from flowers*

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*An animal that carries  
pollen from one flower  
to another*

---



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*An animal that aids  
the reproduction of  
plants we eat*

---



## HELP POLLINATORS YEAR ROUND

- Offer native plants that appeal to hummingbirds and a variety of insect pollinators.
- Plant a garden that blooms from April through October.
- Protect and plant trees and shrubs that offer food and habitat.
- Reduce the amount of turf in your yard.
- Allow low-growing flowering plants to remain in your lawn.



- Limit (or eliminate) chemical use.
- Provide water, especially in the heat of the summer.
- In fall, leave small patches of bare soil in flower beds where native bees can overwinter.
- Cut the tops from hollow-stemmed perennial plants and leave them standing through the winter as hideaways for bees.



# Plant for Pollinators

Each pollinator species is adapted to obtain its preferred food in a unique way or at a specific time of day and season.

To attract the widest variety of pollinators, plant native wildflowers that vary in height, with different blossom shapes, sizes and colors. Ideally, something in your garden should be in bloom throughout Minnesota's growing season—from April through October.



Late-blooming flowers are especially important for wild bees and monarch butterflies. Queen bees feed voraciously in autumn to survive hibernation during Minnesota's long, cold winters.

Monarch butterflies sip nectar to store lipids, a natural energy supply that fuels their long migration to overwintering sites in Mexico.



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## Did You Know?

Roughly one-third of all the fruits and vegetables we eat are animal-pollinated. Many of our favorite food plants—such as squash (cucumbers and melons), green peppers, lettuce, onion, celery, carrot and parsley—cannot produce fruit without the help of insect pollinators. Planting annual flowers near your garden can help to attract pollinators, making your garden more fruitful. Mexican sunflower, zinnias and blue salvia are a few pollinator-friendly annuals that pair well with food gardens.

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# Wondering what to plant?













The table below offers a list of plants that grow well in this part of Minnesota. For best success, consult your favorite book or website for details on the shade and moisture preferences of each species.



= nectar source for adult monarch butterflies



= host plant for monarch eggs and caterpillars

WOODLAND PLANTS	Bloom Time	Height (mature)	Flower Color	Key Pollinators
Bloodroot	March–April	3-6"	white	bees, flies
Rue Anemone	April–May	3-8"	white-pink	bees, flies
Virginia Waterleaf	Late April–May	6-24"	lavender	bees, beetles
False Solomon's Seal	May–June	12-24"	cream	bees, butterflies, flies
PRAIRIE PLANTS	Bloom Time	Height (mature)	Flower Color	Key Pollinators
Wild Columbine	May–June	12-36"	reddish yellow	bees, hummingbirds
Foxglove Beardtongue	May–July	24-36"	white	bees, butterflies, flies, hummingbirds
Spiderwort	May–July	24-48"	purple	bees, butterflies, moths, flies
Pale Purple Coneflower 	June–July	30-60"	pinkish-purple	bees, butterflies, beetles
Gray-Headed Coneflower	June–Aug.	36-60"	yellow	bees, butterflies
Common Milkweed  	June–Aug.	2-5 ft	pale pink to mauve	bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies
Wild Bergamot 	July–Sept.	24-60"	lavender	bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, beetles
Meadow Blazingstar 	Aug.–Sept.	36-60"	pinkish-purple	bees, butterflies, flies
Maximilian's Sunflower 	Mid. Aug.–Mid. Oct.	3-8 ft	yellow	bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies
WETLAND and RAINGARDEN PLANTS	Bloom Time	Height (mature)	Flower Color	Key Pollinators
Marsh Marigold	April–May	8-24"	yellow	bees, flies
Swamp Milkweed  	July–Aug.	36-60"	light to dark pink	bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies
Joe-pye Weed 	July–Sept.	4-10 ft	light to dark pink	bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, flies
Boneset 	July–Oct.	24-60"	white	bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies
Cardinal Flower 	July–Oct.	24-36"	red	butterflies, hummingbirds
Sky-Blue Aster 	Aug.–Oct.	12-36"	blue-purple	bees, wasps, butterflies, flies

# Make your lawn welcoming to pollinators

**M**any of us see the dandelion as nothing more than a persistent weed. Recent research, however, reveals a compelling reason to respect the dandelion: it's a great food source for pollinators.

When native bees emerge from winter hibernation, they've used up their energy stores and must quickly find food to survive. Honeybees remain active in their hives during cold weather, but in early spring they also require easy food sources to begin reproducing and making honey. Common dandelion blooms before most other flowering plants. This adaptation frustrates many gardeners—but it can be a lifesaver for pollinators. This spring, consider sparing some of the dandelions in your lawn!



*Take a look at these additional low-growing plants that can be mixed into your lawn for the benefit of bees and other pollinators.*

## ***Wild violet***

More than 20 species of violet are native to Minnesota's woodlands and prairies. You may already have some of these small plants in your lawn. The larger lower petal of each violet is marked with tiny parallel lines that point bees toward nectar and pollen inside the flower.



Photo credit: Rob Routledge

## ***Dutch white clover***

Until the 1950s, Dutch white clover was commonly seeded into grass mixes. Although it is not native to Minnesota, the small, tubular flowers appeal to long-tongued bees (like bumbles, honeybees and mason bees) as well as skipper butterflies.



Photo credit: Chris Evans

## ***Pennsylvania sedge***

This clumping, grasslike plant is native to the Minnetonka area and grows especially well in shady or dry areas. The flowers, almost too small to see, are wind-pollinated, but multiple insects visit to eat the protein-rich pollen. Among them are syrphid flies, which also eat aphids that can damage plants.

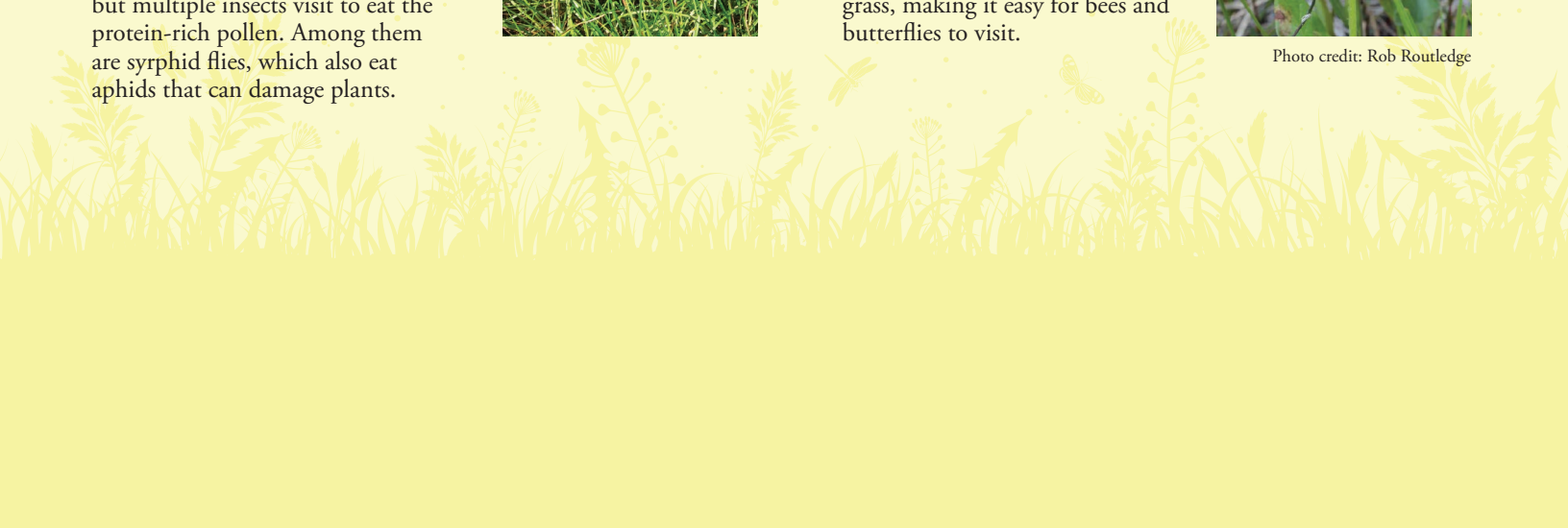


## ***Self-heal***

This member of the mint family, imported from Eurasia, snakes along the ground and sends up fragrant, colorful flowers that poke their heads just above the grass, making it easy for bees and butterflies to visit.



Photo credit: Rob Routledge



## Reuse rainwater with a rain barrel

**W**ould you buy bottled water for your house plants and garden? Probably not. But it's not much different to use tapwater or the hose—after all, you pay for that water to be treated and delivered to your house. Why pay to water your plants when a free source of water is right outside the door?

After every rainfall and during snowmelt, water runs off rooftops, driveways and sidewalks and onto the street. This runoff is not only the top source of water pollution in urban areas, it's also a waste of fresh water that can be used on plants. A rain barrel attached to a downspout captures stormwater before it becomes polluted. It's also convenient and cost effective.



### Keep this in mind as you consider purchasing a rain barrel:

- Water in the rain barrel is available when you need it.
- The barrel is perfect for filling watering cans or providing the slow, deep watering that is most beneficial to trees, shrubs and planting beds.
- Raise the barrel slightly above ground level. A little elevation creates enough water pressure to push the water through a hose.
- Don't use rain barrel water on fruit or vegetable plants. Roof shingles may have contaminants that should not be consumed.

Rain barrels are sold at many garden, hardware and home improvement stores. Check out the Recycling Association of Minnesota at [recycleminnesota.org](http://recycleminnesota.org) for metro sale events.

## Natural Resources Happenings

### Garlic Mustard Workshop #1

Wednesday, April 19

6:30–8 p.m.

Minnetonka Community Center  
Community Room  
(14600 Minnetonka Blvd.)

Learn the best methods and timing to control this invasive species before growth explodes. Stages of growth, life cycle, and several control methods will be covered. RSVP is required. Call 952-988-8400 or register online at [eminnetonka.com/NRevents](http://eminnetonka.com/NRevents).

Visit [eminnetonka.com/subscribe](http://eminnetonka.com/subscribe) to receive email and/or text updates about natural resources news and events or text "mtka nature" to 468-311.

## Music association offers options for young singers

Do you have a child who loves to sing? Check out these opportunities for young singers to get involved with the Music Association of Minnetonka (MAM)!

### Open Rehearsal, April 20

Join the Minnetonka Youth Choirs Thursday, April 20 for an open rehearsal at Minnetonka High School. Attendees will meet the choirs, sing and receive information about the 2017-18 season. Students currently in grades 1-11 are invited to attend. RSVP to [mamoffice@musicassociation.org](mailto:mamoffice@musicassociation.org).

### Choir Camp, June 12-16

Choir Camp is MAM's summer day camp for kids entering grades 3-8. Participants will sing, move and tell stories at the Arts Center on 7 at Minnetonka High School. Visit [musicassociation.org](http://musicassociation.org) to learn more and get registration information.



## Reminder: Pick up your trees April 28 or 29

**I**f you ordered a tree through the city's online tree sale, remember to pick it up at the Public Works facility (11522 Minnetonka Blvd.) during one of the following times:

**Friday, April 28: 9 a.m.–noon**

**Saturday, April 29: 9 a.m.–noon**

Trees that are not picked up will be planted in Minnetonka parks.

*Please note, Magnolia trees will not be available until May.*

Order confirmations will be sent to participants via U.S. mail approximately two weeks prior to the event as an additional reminder. Please bring this mailing as your "ticket" to the event.

Questions? Call 952-988-8407.



# Silver Skates Ice Revue is May 4, 5 and 6

**M**innetonka Ice Arena's All Season Skating School is proud to present the 43rd Annual Silver Skates Ice Revue, "ROLL THE D'ICE." More than 200 skaters from Minnetonka and surrounding communities are featured again this year.

Show times:

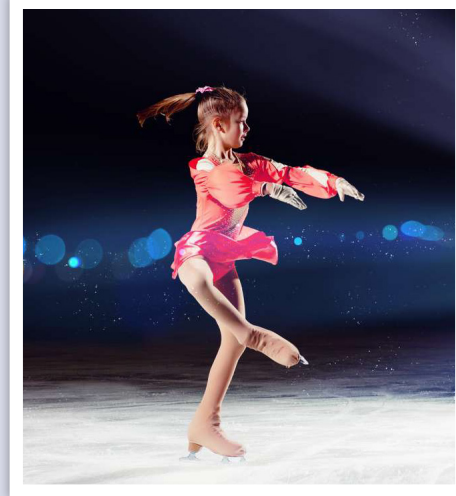
**Thursday, May 4, 6:30 p.m.**

**Friday, May 5, 6:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, May 6, 2 p.m.**

## Admission

General admission for each performance is \$6, with free admission for children under 5. Senior citizens are granted free admission to the Saturday afternoon performance. Don't forget to bring a coat or blanket, as it does get cold in the ice arena.



## Summer Skating Lessons

Interested in skating lessons? Summer skating lessons for both children and adults are held Monday evenings beginning June 12. Call the Minnetonka Ice Arena at 952-939-8310 or visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) for more information.



# Help monitor Minnetonka's wetlands

**E**ach year, adult volunteers wade through wetlands in Minnetonka to learn more about the plants and insects that live there and provide an assessment of the wetland's overall health. All monitoring is done as a team and training is provided. A science background or any monitoring experience is not needed to participate. Training generally starts in May, with monitoring primarily taking place in June and July. It is a great opportunity to learn about and help Minnetonka's wetlands.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Minnetonka Wetland Health Evaluation Program, contact Natural Resource Specialist Aaron Schwartz at 952-988-8422 or [aschwartz@eminnetonka.com](mailto:aschwartz@eminnetonka.com). Learn more about the program at [mnwhep.org](http://mnwhep.org).



# Leaf and brush drop-off sites open April 1

Each spring and fall, the city accepts leaves, yard waste and brush from Minnetonka residents at the Public Works Facility at 11522 Minnetonka Blvd.

## REGULAR HOURS AND LOCATION

**Monday and Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

**Saturday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Public Works Facility

11522 Minnetonka Blvd.

## LEAF DROP-OFF SITE OPEN APRIL 1–MAY 20

In addition to regular hours, the leaf drop-off site is open Friday, May 5, 12 and 19 from noon to 6 p.m. and Sunday, May 7 and 14 from noon to 4 p.m.

### Leaf Drop-off Site Guidelines

- A driver's license, state ID or utility bill must be presented to verify residency.
- Leaves and yard waste such as grass, weeds, pine cones, needles, straw, plants and garden materials are accepted.
- Sticks and branches smaller than ½ inch in diameter are also accepted; larger materials must go into the separate brush pile.
- Bags of any kind cannot be left at the drop-off site. Residents must take all bags home (including compostable bags) after depositing leaves and yard waste.
- Leaves are not accepted from commercial tree or lawn services without proof of Minnetonka origin.
- Remember to bring proper equipment, like a stout pitch fork, for unloading leaves
- Loads of leaves must be covered during transport.



## BRUSH DROP-OFF SITE OPEN APRIL 1–NOV. 18

In addition to regular hours, the brush drop-off site is open Friday, May 5, 12 and 19 from noon to 6 p.m. and Sunday, May 7 and 14 from noon to 4 p.m. The brush drop-off site will be closed May 29, July 4, Sept. 4, and Nov. 10 in observance of holidays.

### Brush Drop-off Site Guidelines

- Any diameter branch or log up to eight feet in length is accepted.
- Stumps, dirt, sod, trash, metal, plastics, concrete, lumber, fences or wood scraps are not accepted.
- Brush is not accepted from commercial tree or lawn services without proof of Minnetonka origin.
- All yard waste must be disposed of in the leaf drop-off area. The brush drop-off and leaf drop-off programs have different processing methods and distinct end markets for the different materials; it is important they stay separate.

For more information, call Public Works at 952-988-8400 or visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com).

# minnetonka memo *April 2017*

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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

**Mayor**  
Terry Schneider . . . . . 952-939-8389  
Home: 952-934-9529  
tschneider@eminnetonka.com

**City Manager**  
Geraldyn Barone . . . . . 952-939-8200

**Newsletter Editor**  
Kari Spreeman . . . . . 952-939-8200

**Email:** . . . . . comments@eminnetonka.com  
**Website:** . . . . . eminnetonka.com

**Minnetonka Mike** . . . . . 952-939-8586  
mike@eminnetonka.com

**POLICE-FIRE: Emergency** . . . . . 9-1-1  
**Non-emergency** . . . . . 952-939-8500 or 9-1-1

**Council**  
*At Large:* Dick Allendorf . . . 952-933-6231  
dallendorf@eminnetonka.com

Patty Acomb . . . . . 952-807-8635  
pacomb@eminnetonka.com

*Ward 1:* Bob Ellingson . . . 952-931-3065  
bellingson@eminnetonka.com

*Ward 2:* Tony Wagner . . . 612-382-5212  
twagner@eminnetonka.com

*Ward 3:* Brad Wiersum . . . 612-723-3907  
bwiersum@eminnetonka.com

*Ward 4:* Tim Bergstedt . . . 952-934-1769  
tbergstedt@eminnetonka.com

ECRWSS  
POSTAL PATRON

## Calendar

City of  
Minnetonka

April  
2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Call 952-939-8200 for meeting locations.
						1	<b>5</b> Park Board, 7 p.m.
2	3	4	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	7	8	<b>6</b> Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
9	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	12	13	14	15	<b>10</b> Local Board of Appeal and Equalization, 6:15 p.m.
16	<b>17</b>	18	19	<b>20</b>	21	22	<b>10</b> City Council, 6:30 p.m.
23	<b>24</b>	25	26	<b>27</b>	28	29	<b>11</b> Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
30							<b>17</b> City Council Study Session, 6:30 p.m.
							<b>20</b> Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
							<b>24</b> Local Board of Appeal and Equalization, 6:15 p.m.
							<b>24</b> City Council, 6:30 p.m.
							<b>27</b> Economic Development Advisory Commission, 6 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public. Meeting dates and times are subject to change – visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) for the latest information.

Minnetonka City Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 16 and can be viewed live and on-demand at [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com). The meetings are rebroadcast on channel 16 on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays at noon.

Agendas for council meetings are available at [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) by the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting, and planning commission agendas are available by the Monday prior to the meeting.

## Pay your utility bill online

Tired of dealing with paper utility bills from the city? Sign up to receive and pay your municipal utility bills (water and sewer) electronically. You can also choose to pay your bill online, using your credit card. It's easy to register and it's free! Visit [eminnetonka.com/utilitybilling](http://eminnetonka.com/utilitybilling) to get started — be sure to have your latest bill handy. Questions? Call 952-939-8200.

## Stay informed of city projects

The city regularly receives applications for projects that require planning commission and/or city council approval. Information on these projects, as well as many other city projects, is regularly updated on the city's website.

Visit [eminnetonka.com/projects](http://eminnetonka.com/projects) to stay informed and subscribe to receive email updates about the projects that matter to you most.