

minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka
January 2017

Winter activities for all ages and interests

Kids' Fest

Jan. 22, Noon–3:30 p.m.

Enjoy live music, dog sled rides, magic shows, face painting and much more at this annual event. See page 2 for details.

State of the City

Feb. 8, 7:30–9:30 a.m.

You're invited to the 2017 State of the City Address by Mayor Terry Schneider Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7:30–9 a.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center. A continental breakfast will be served. Please RSVP by Jan. 31 to Pat Schutrop at pschutrop@eminnetonka.com or 952-939-8211.

Music Association of Minnetonka Pancake Breakfast

Feb. 11, 8–11 a.m.

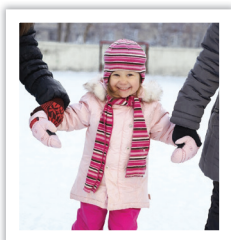
Stop by the Minnetonka Community Center (14600 Minnetonka Blvd.) and enjoy live entertainment by the youth choirs, a delicious breakfast, and a silent auction in support of the music association's scholarship fund.

Outdoor ice skating

Open through mid-February, weather dependent

Skating rinks with warming houses are available through mid-February (weather permitting) at 13 parks in Minnetonka and Hopkins.

Minnetonka rinks are at Boulder Creek, Covington, Glen Lake, Gro Tonka, McKenzie, Meadow and Spring Hill parks. Hopkins rinks are at Burnes, Central, Harley, Interlachen, Oakes and Valley parks. Visit eminnetonka.com/outdoorrinks for a complete list of hours. Call the weather hotline at 952-939-8355 for conditions, closings, holiday hours and updates.



Family Fire Day

Feb. 11, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

The Minnetonka Fire Department invites you to Family Fire Day Saturday, Feb. 11, from 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. at Minnetonka Fire Station 1, 14550 Minnetonka Boulevard. Enjoy a tour of the fire station and see a firefighter dressed in full fire gear. The 20-foot inflatable slide will be ready for fun, and Sparky the fire safety dog will be on hand for photos. Plus, enjoy a free serving of delicious firehouse chili and hot apple cider! Program is free. Call 952-939-8331 for more information.



Home Remodeling Fair

Feb. 12, 10:30 a.m.–3 p.m.

A free Home Remodeling Fair featuring more than 75 contractor exhibits, seminars and an "Ask the Pro" booth is set for Sunday, Feb. 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Eisenhower Community Center, 1001 Highway 7, Hopkins. For more information visit homeremodelingfair.com.

Enter Remodeling Contest by Feb. 6 to win \$1,000

Enter the Operation Rescue Room contest for a chance to win \$1,000 to use toward remodeling a room if it is voted most in need of a makeover by visitors to the fair. Please note, the application deadline is Monday, Feb. 6 – get the details on how to enter at homeremodelingfair.com.

Police Explorers Pancake Breakfast

Feb. 19, 8 a.m.–1 p.m.



Join friends for the annual Minnetonka Police Explorers Post 884 pancake breakfast Sunday, Feb. 19 from 8 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center. Cost is \$5 for all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausages. All proceeds will be used to fund trips to competitions throughout the year. Contact Officer Larissa Johnson at 952-939-8500 for more information.

Ski Glen Lake Golf Course Through March 12

The City of Minnetonka partners with Three Rivers Park District and Hennepin County to provide a cross-country ski trail each winter at



the Glen Lake Golf Course. Snow is not made at the location, so the planned dates for the course are weather dependent. Ski trails and the golf center will be open Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A season or daily pass is required for use of the Glen Lake trail, and all passes may be purchased on site. Three Rivers Park District season passes will be honored at the Glen Lake location. For more information, or to purchase a ski pass, call Minnetonka Recreation Services at 952-939-8203, the Glen Lake Golf Course at 763-694-7824 or visit threeriversparkdistrict.org.

Visit Minnetonka Kids' Fest Sunday, Jan. 22

Join friends and family for the annual Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services Kids' Fest from Noon–3:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22, at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd. Enjoy live music, dog sled rides, magic shows, face painting and much more!



Schedule of Events

12:30–1:15 p.m.

- Schiffelly Puppet Show

Noon–1:30 p.m.

- Dog sled rides

1:30–2:15 p.m.

- Amazing Nathan Magic Show

2:15–3:30 p.m.

- Dog sled rides

2:30–3:15 p.m.

- Bob the Beachcomber

2:30–3:30 p.m.

- Free ice skating and skate rental (Ice Arena)

Noon–3:30 p.m.

- Horse-drawn trolley rides
- Face painting
- Ice carving demonstrations
- Bonfire and s'mores
- Caricature artists
- Kiddance DJ
- Amazing Nathan Strolling Magician
- Arts and crafts with KidCreate Studio
- Early childhood sensory activities (Hopkins ECFE)
- Fire extinguisher simulator station
- Great Harvest wheatgrass gardens/bread samples
- Funtime Funktions Spin Zone
- Strolling characters
- Concession sales
- Shady Oak Beach pass sales



All events are free. The event includes both indoor and outdoor activities – please dress accordingly.

Please bring canned goods to help area families in need. Collections will be received at the Minnetonka Community Center. Call 952-939-8203 for more information.

Activities and performances are subject to change without notice. Stay tuned to eminnetonka.com for details.

City utility fees increase to maintain water, sewer infrastructure

Due to aging infrastructure, the city experiences an average of 75-100 water main breaks a year – each costing as much as \$10,000 to repair – and the number of breaks is climbing. Not only do water main breaks result in expensive repairs, they can also cause extensive damage for homeowners and businesses, not to mention inconvenient interruptions to a vital service. That’s why Minnetonka Public Works is working to proactively rehabilitate and replace this important infrastructure whenever necessary.



In an effort to ensure enough resources are available to cover the cost of rehabilitating the system without having to do special assessments, the Minnetonka City Council adjusted city utility rates at a December meeting. Recycling and storm water fees were also adjusted.

Changes in these rates are effective Jan. 1, 2017 and are as follows:

- Under the adopted rates reflected in the table, the average residential water and sewer utility customer will experience a rate increase of \$5.91 per month in 2017. Commercial meter maintenance fees will increase proportionally. Account fees and state of Minnesota testing fees remain the same.
- Storm sewer rate increases will help fund local street reconstruction projects, upgrades to county road projects and the cost of federal water quality mandates related to water runoff. The increases will also help to maintain the health of our many wetlands and ponds.
- The recycling fee was raised to \$4.10 per month from \$4. The new fee rate will allow the city to eventually recover the full costs of its recycling programs while adjusting to a significant market loss in the price of recycled materials.

The adjacent table shows the complete rate changes for 2017. Nearly 75 percent of all residential customers fall in the 0 to 18,000 gallons range of water used per quarter.

For more information regarding 2017 rates, contact Finance Director Merrill King at mking@eminnetonka.com or 952-939-8200.

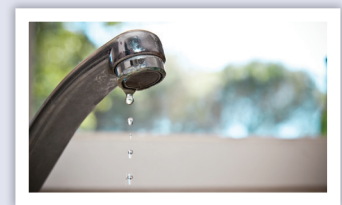
Rate Changes

	Rate per 1,000 gallons	
	Old	New
Residential Water Rate		
Tier 1 (0-18,000 gallons)	\$2.50	\$2.85
Tier 2 (18,001-40,000 gallons)	\$2.85	\$3.25
Tier 3 (40,001-70,000 gallons)	\$3.59	\$4.07
Tier 4 (70,001+ gallons)	\$4.98	\$5.65
Sewer Rate		
	\$1.99	\$2.26
Base fee - residential	\$56/quarter	\$63.56/quarter
Base fee - commercial	\$18.67/month	\$21.19/month
Special class base fee*	\$20.68/quarter	\$23.47/quarter
Commercial/Industrial Water		
Base rate	\$2.50	\$2.85
Summer surcharge (May-Sept.)	\$2.84	\$3.22
Commercial/Industrial Sprinkler Accounts		
Sprinkler I (0-75,000 gallons)	\$2.85	\$3.25
Sprinkler II (75,001-175,000 gallons)	\$3.59	\$4.07
Sprinkler III (175,001+ gallons)	\$4.98	\$5.65
Stormwater		
Open space, undeveloped (acre/month)	\$2.92	\$3.00
Single family, 2-3 family, residential (unit/month)	\$6.48	\$6.67
Churches, schools, government (acre/month)	\$17.50	\$18.02
Apartment, condos (acre/month)	\$19.44	\$20.02
Commercial, industrial (acre/month)	\$48.99	\$50.46

**Discontinued for new entrants into the program.

Reduce your water consumption

The tiered water and sewer fee structures ensures every customer benefits by their own conservation. All customers share in the fixed costs of the system through the base fee; additional charges are directly related to usage. Check out these ideas to reduce your water consumption and save on your utility bill.



- Don't let water run when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Use a dishwasher instead of handwashing dishes, and only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- Install a low-flow shower head. This can reduce up to 50 percent of water used while showering.
- Take shorter showers! Showers account for 30 percent of home water use.
- Fix leaks. A constantly dripping faucet can waste up to 20 gallons a day.
- Don't use running water to thaw foods.

Visit groundwater.org to find more ideas for conserving water.

Take the 8-week weight loss challenge at Williston Fitness Center

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to lose weight in 2017, the Williston Fitness Center is offering a special program in January that will help you reach your goal!

Participants set their own weight loss goal at the beginning of the program, then fitness professionals work with each person to guide them toward success. The challenge is to learn how to replace bad habits with healthy new ones, in an effort to feel better and live longer.



The program includes:

- Five individual personal training sessions
- Four nutrition classes with a Registered Dietician Nutritionist (pre-scheduled)
- Sixteen group fitness classes offered only to the weight loss challenge participants
- Weekly Boot Camp workout with all participants on Saturday mornings (7 a.m.)
- Pre- and post-challenge assessments

The male and female with the biggest decrease in BMI (Body Mass Index) will win a 3-month Williston Fitness Center individual membership (or three months free) and three personal training sessions!

The challenge begins Sunday, Jan. 15 and ends Sunday, March 12. The cost to participate is \$199 for Williston Fitness Center members and \$249 for non-members. Use course number 2063801-01 to register online at eminnetonka.com/register before Monday, Jan. 9.

Questions? Call Recreation Services at 952-939-8375.

Themes begin to emerge as residents imagine the Minnetonka of the future

Beginning this past summer and continuing throughout the fall, the City of Minnetonka asked residents to provide feedback for a community-wide visioning and strategic planning project, *Imagine Minnetonka*. Residents of all ages were asked to share their response to the question: "How do you want your city to look and feel in the next 20 years?"

Hundreds of ideas were submitted at local gathering places and community events, online, via social media, email and mail before the community engagement period concluded at the end of October.

The city is still analyzing the data with help from

Rebecca Ryan, the renowned economist and consultant who is spearheading the strategic planning effort. However, three strong themes have already emerged from the feedback that was received:

- **Character:** Participants stressed the importance of maintaining and preserving the features that give Minnetonka its unique character, including wetlands, parks and open spaces.
- **Connection:** Residents expressed an interest in the creation of more trails and sidewalks to safely connect the city, as well as more opportunities to connect with others and build relationships in the community.
- **Citizens:** The city received lots of feedback about the importance of protecting and preserving the outstanding quality of life currently enjoyed in Minnetonka, and the desire to ensure the same quality of life is available for all citizens in the years to come.

Once the results are completely tabulated, Ryan will compare the data to trends -- such as demographics, environmental, economic and others -- that will impact Minnetonka's future. The information will be presented at an upcoming city council meeting and eventually used to guide leaders as long-term strategic plans are developed.

Stay Tuned for Details

Stay tuned to upcoming issues of the *Minnetonka Memo* for details on when the full results of the *Imagine Minnetonka* project will be presented. Subscribe to receive email and/or text updates about the project at eminnetonka.com/Imagine.

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback during the process!





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Programs and services for those 55+
January 2017 Newsletter

Income Tax Assistance

This free tax program is designed to help moderate to low income individuals with basic taxes.

Starting Jan. 3, appointments can be made at Senior Services or by calling 952-939-8393. Appointments are required and no walk-ins are allowed.

- Mondays and Thursdays, Feb. 6–April 13
- Appointment times: 12:30 p.m., 1:45 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Community Connections: Making Your Life Stronger Through Exercise

Monday, Jan. 23, 10:15 a.m.

A physical therapist from Aegis Therapies will discuss simple ways to do strengthening exercises at home. Provided by Lake Minnetonka Senior Care Providers: Community Connections.

Free! (Course #2180407-01)

Winter Hike to Jidana: Steve Pieh

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Hike along Minnehaha Creek to Deer Island. Enjoy roasting brats and sipping coffee by the campfire. This two-mile round trip walk will begin at the Minnetonka Community Center.

Cost: \$4 (Course #2190802-01)

Reminder:

Senior Services will be closed on the following dates due to holidays:

- Monday, Jan. 2
- Monday, Jan. 16

Taxes from A-Z and Ways to Minimize Them

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 10:30 a.m. - noon

Learn the different types of federal and state taxes and ways to minimize them without having to read a lengthy tax code! Discuss new ideas on reducing your tax bill and making your investment portfolio more tax efficient.

Cost: \$2 (Course #2180401-01)

Fitness for the Mind and Heart:

Jackie Mielke

This series will explore the ways in which heart and mind can gain strength and resilience for healthy, effective living.

A Glimpse for Family and Friends into the Dying Process

Tuesday, Jan. 31, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

From the richness and variety of 23 years of experience as a hospice worker, the presenter explores, through true stories, the facets of the dying process and how we can assist during that time of life.

Cost: \$12 (Course #2180403-01)

Color Me Healthy!

Tuesday, March 7, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

This program identifies the vibrations of each color in the rainbow spectrum and how we can apply that information to improve our health and wellness in body, mind and spirit.

Cost: \$12 (Course #2180403-02)

Focusing the Mind, Calming the Self

Wednesday, March 29, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Learning and practicing the art of centering and grounding the self is the basis of this session. This helpful method can assist in managing stressful events in our lives and be an overall benefit for our physical, emotional and mental health.

Cost: \$12 (Course #2180403-03)

Monthly Party: Souper Bowl Party

Tuesday, Jan. 31, noon

Celebrate with us!

Menu: Soup, biscuits and dessert.

Sponsored by: The Glenn-Hopkins

Cost: \$7 due Thursday, Jan. 26

(Course #2100101-01)

Lunch and a Movie:

The Lady in the Van

Friday, Jan. 27, noon

The true story about a man who forms an unexpected bond with a transient woman living in her van that is parked in his driveway.

Menu: Chicken salad, bread and a treat.

Cost: \$5 due Tuesday, Jan. 24

(Course #2100201-01)



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

Dale Martell

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 10:30 a.m.

Join Dale as he shares the history of bluegrass and showtunes through great songs like "Blue Skies" and "Orange Blossom Special."

Cost: \$3 (Course #2100301-01)

Sponsored by Brookdale Minnetonka Carlson Parkway.

Welcome...

Alicia Watts, who started as the new Senior and General Programs Manager in mid-December. Please stop by and say hello to Alicia next time you are the Community Center.

Fitness Programs

For a complete listing and program descriptions please visit eminnetonka.com/register or pick up a fitness flyer at the community center.

Program	Instructor	Dates	Day	Times	Fee	Course #
Over 50 and Fit	Volunteer Instructors	Jan. 1–Dec. 31	M, W, F	9–10 a.m.	\$12 <i>(annually)</i>	4090702-02
Basic Mat Pilates	Elizabeth Kelly	Jan. 4–Feb. 22	W	6:15–7:15 p.m.	\$48	2090904-01
Chair Yoga	Elizabeth Kelly	Jan. 4–Feb. 22	W	5–6 p.m.	\$48	2090101-03
Chair Yoga	Nancy Holasek	Jan. 3–Feb. 21	T	9:45–10:45 a.m.	\$48	2090101-01
Chair Yoga	Nancy Holasek	Jan. 5–Feb. 23	TH	9:45–10:45 a.m.	\$48	2090101-02
Intermediate Yoga	Elizabeth Kelly	Jan. 4–Feb. 22	W	7:30–8:30 p.m.	\$48	2090201-03
Intermediate Yoga	Nancy Holasek	Jan. 3–Feb. 21	T	11 a.m. – noon	\$48	2090201-01
Intermediate Yoga	Nancy Holasek	Jan. 5–Feb. 23	TH	11 a.m. – noon	\$48	2090201-02
Line Dance: Beginner	Tricia Wood	Feb. 2–Feb. 23	TH	12:30–1:30 p.m.	\$32	2090601-01
Line Dance: Intermediate	Tricia Wood	Feb. 2–Feb. 23	TH	1:45–2:45 p.m.	\$32	2090602-01
T'ai Chi Chih: Beginning	Susan Sobelson	Jan. 9–March 13 <i>(No class Jan. 16 and Feb. 20)</i>	M	10–11 a.m.	\$40	2090301-01
T'ai Chi Chih: Intermediate	Susan Sobelson	Jan. 9–March 13 <i>(No class Jan. 16 and Feb. 20)</i>	M	11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	\$40	2090302-01
T'ai Chi for Health and Wellness	Ron Erdman-Luntz	Jan. 5–Feb. 9	TH	6–7 p.m.	\$54	2090401-01
Therapeutic Pilates	Dr. Sarah Petich	Jan. 23–March 6 <i>(No class Feb. 20)</i>	M	8:30–9:30 a.m.	\$54	2090901-01
Zumba Gold	Renee Rahimi	Jan. 23–March 27 <i>(No class Jan. 30, Feb. 20 and March 20)</i>	M	12:45–1:45 p.m.	\$42	2090501-01
Zumba Gold Toning	Renee Rahimi	Jan. 25–March 29 <i>(No class Feb. 1, March 1 and March 22)</i>	W	12:30–1:30 p.m.	\$42	2090501-03

Fitness Highlights

New! Zumba Gold Toning

Renee Rahimi

Zumba Gold Toning routines will be added to the class format. Combine Zumba Gold moves with the added benefit of upper body toning, utilizing light hand weights. Optional toning sticks or light hand weights will be provided.

Line Dance

New Instructor: Tricia Wood

Line Dancing is not just your Boot Scootin' Boogie anymore. Participants will Samba, Twist, Tango, Charleston and more! Taught by Tricia Wood of Dance and Entertainment Studios.

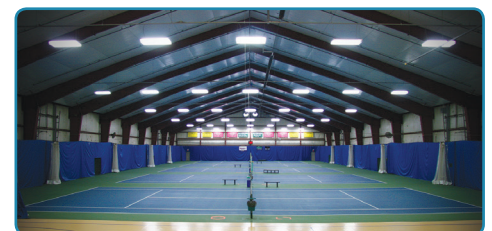
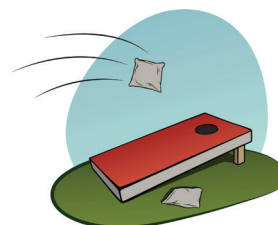
Join us for a game of

Bean Bags

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 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

History Programs

British History: Movers and Shakers

Terry Kubista

Thursdays, Jan. 12–26, 1–3 p.m.

Does Henry VIII deserve all of the credit given him? Tyndale, More and Cromwell all pulled strings from behind the scenes in the reformation attributed to him.

- \$21 (Course #2180101-01)

British History: The Tudor Dynasty

Terry Kubista

Thursdays, Feb. 2–23, 1–3 p.m.

The Tudor Dynasty is known as history's bloodiest British dynasty. Has the title been justly earned or are they not the reputed demonic influence?

- \$28 (Course #2180101-02)

The 45th President of the United States

Dan Hartman

Wednesday, Jan. 18

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

An unprecedented election. Examine the life of the newly elected President of the United States to take office on January 20th. Reflect on factors that lead to his election. Look to the future to see what could be accomplished during the next four years. Discuss the challenges and the probability of success.

- \$5 (Course # 2180201-01)

The Middle East

Dan Hartman

Wednesday, Feb. 8

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Explore the history of what is referred to as the Middle East. Review events from the defeat of the Ottoman Empire in 1918 to present day conflicts in the Arab world. Look at the creation of the individual countries the progression to present day. Identify different terrorist organizations that developed and their impact on the world today.

- \$5 (Course # 2180202-01)

Berlin Wall

Tom Troy

Tuesdays, Jan. 10–31, 1–2:30 p.m.

Built in 1961, the Berlin Wall became the symbol of Communist oppression and divided Berlin, divided Germany and divided Europe. It was arguably the ugliest manifestation of the Cold War. The opening of the wall and its later destruction symbolized the end of Communism in East Germany and Central and Eastern Europe. Learn of the political and diplomatic background to the building and razing of the wall.

- \$12 (Course #2180204-01)

Education Programs

Defensive Driving

Register through MN Highway Safety Center, 1-888-234-1294, or visit mnsafetycenter.org for all classes.

4-hour renewal sessions:

- \$22, Thursday, Jan. 12, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
- \$22, Tuesday, Jan. 24, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Computer Basics I:

Abbey Key

Tuesdays, Feb. 7 and 14, 10 a.m.

This easy and fun introduction to the world of computers will cover basic computer parts and functions and browsing the web.

Cost: \$16 (Course #2180501-01)

Computer Basics II:

Abbey Key

Tuesdays, March 14 and 21, 10 a.m.

This easy and fun introduction to the world of computers will cover electronic devices, navigating basic programs and include ample time for questions and practicing

Cost: \$16 (Course #2180501-02)

Register Early

Programs can fill well in advance or may be canceled due to low enrollment. Registering early is the best way to secure a spot.

Day Trips*



Como Conservatory and St. Paul Ice Sculptures

Friday, Jan. 27

Wonder at the largest glass-garden in the region on a guided tour of the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. After the tour, explore on your own before having lunch at the M ST. Café at the Saint Paul Hotel. Across the street, walk around Rice Park to view the the Saint Paul Winter Carnival ice carving competition. Menu: Buffet featuring hot entrees, side dishes, salad, soup and beverage.

- **Cost:** \$70 includes tours, meal, transportation and guide (Course# 2110101-01)
- **Estimated trip time:** 9 a.m.–3:45 p.m.
- **Register or cancel by:** Tuesday, Jan. 3

Progressive Irish Tasting Tour

*Thursday, March 9**

This progressive tasting tour begins at O'Gara's Irish Grill in St. Paul, established by James O'Gara in 1941 and features unique Irish décor. Next, venture to O'Malley's Irish Pub in Woodbury where furnishings were handcrafted in memory of Tim O'Malley. The tour concludes at the Lake Elmo Inn, offering a tradition of elegance for over three decades. Menu: Soup prepared by O'Gara's chef, choice of shepard's pie or fish and chips, bread pudding with Irish whiskey.

- **Cost:** \$73 includes tours, meal, transportation and guide (Course# 2110102-01)
- **Estimated trip time:** 10:30 a.m.–3:45 p.m.
- **Register or cancel by:** Tuesday, Feb. 14

*For a complete listing of day trips search for trips at eminnetonka.com/register. Flyers for day trips and extended trips through Landmark Tours are also available at the community center. Trips meet in the lobby of the community center.

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.

Bird Club

1st Friday, 10 a.m.

Speaker: Scott Sharkey, physician, naturalist and photographer, "The Marvelous Marsh."

Book Club

3rd Thursday, 1 p.m.

Brooklyn by Colm Tailbin.

Literary Book Club

4th Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.

Portuguese Irregular Verbs
by Alexander McCall Smith.

Billiards

Monday - Friday, Various times

New members welcome!

Craft Committee

1st Tuesday, 10 a.m.

Create decor for monthly parties.



11280 Wayzata Blvd.

763-591-4868

*Purchase items handcrafted
by Minnetonka residents ages 55 and older.*

Seasonal crafts and gifts have arrived!

- Winter hats, gloves and scarves
- Baby clothes and toys
- Jewelry and accessories
- Handbags and wallets
- Doll furniture and clothes
- Household items and more!

Hours: Wednesday–Saturday,
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.,
Thursdays until 8 p.m.

Email Updates

Stay up-to-date on the latest events! Receive weekly email updates on senior happenings! Send your email address to spiehb@eminnetonka.com.

Receive the script and calendar via email by subscribing to email alerts at eminnetonka.com/seniorservices.

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. For appointment call 952-939-8393.

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:

- Snow removal
- Changing light bulbs
- Housekeeping
- Changing furnace filters



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



952-939-8393

Office Hours

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Administrative Staff

Kate Egert, kegert@eminnetonka.com

Sue Svec, ssvec@eminnetonka.com

Senior Services and Activities Manager

Steve Pieh, 952-939-8366

spiehb@eminnetonka.com

Senior and General Programs Manager

Alicia Watts, 952-939-8369

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 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.

Caring Youth award nominations due Jan. 25

If you know a young person in grades 7-12 who shows an ongoing awareness of others through volunteering or other activities, consider nominating him or her for a 2017 Caring Youth Award.

Each year the cities of Minnetonka, Hopkins and Golden Valley; the Hopkins and Minnetonka school districts; and the Glen Lake Optimists host a Caring Youth Recognition event to honor the contributions of caring young people. The 2017 event is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, March 9, at the Minnetonka Community Center: 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka.

To qualify for the award, a Caring Youth must meet at least one of the following criteria: live in Minnetonka, Hopkins or Golden Valley; attend school in Hopkins or Minnetonka; and/or volunteer (unpaid and not as a requirement for a class or co-curricular program) in Minnetonka, Hopkins or Golden Valley.

Young people may only be nominated by the organization they are serving. For more information, including nomination guidelines and forms, visit <https://goo.gl/ICwOsr> or call Hopkins Schools Youth Programs Coordinator Lisa Walker at 952-988-4098. Nominations for the 2017 Caring Youth awards are due by Wednesday, Jan. 25.



2015 Caring Youth Award Recipient
Erika Schmidt

Thank you to our 2016 natural resources volunteers

The Natural Resources staff at Minnetonka Public Works would like to thank the many volunteers who contributed hundreds of hours to assist with habitat restoration, water quality monitoring, tree planting and more in 2016.

More than 90 percent of restoration volunteer hours were committed to the removal of invasive species such as buckthorn and garlic mustard. Restoration volunteers also worked to plant, maintain and protect native species.

Individuals and group volunteers worked with city staff on scheduled volunteers work days, while Adopt-a-Spot volunteers worked independently in city parks and out-lots. Water quality volunteers collected data that will help city, county, and state agencies make decisions to improve water quality.

In 2016, group volunteers included:

- NatureWorks LLC
- Geocachers
- West Metro Chapter of Master Naturalists
- Morrison Sund Attorneys
- HIS
- Minnetonka High School Senior Serve
- Holdridge Rd. neighbors
- Excelsior Boy Scout Troop 409
- Wetland Health Evaluation Project (WHEP)

Want to help?

Call 952-988-8423 if you are interested in volunteering or visit eminnetonka.com/subscribe to sign up to receive email notifications about upcoming opportunities.

Christmas tree disposal options

Minnetonka residents have a couple of options for live Christmas tree disposal.

- Check with your residential refuse hauler for pick up and recycling of your tree. Haulers have a specific time or limited days they collect trees from customers. Check the last bill you received or call your hauler. There may be an additional fee depending on the company and your level of service.
- Trees are accepted at the city's brush drop-off site, open four Saturdays in March, 7 a.m.–3 p.m. at the Public Works facility (11522 Minnetonka Blvd). Until then, plant your Christmas tree in a snowbank as a habitat for birds.

Learn how to repair small household items at Fix-it Clinic Jan. 14

Get free, guided assistance from handy volunteers on repairing small household items at a special Hennepin County Fix-it Clinic Saturday, Jan. 14. The clinic will be held at the Ridgedale Library (12601 Ridgedale Dr.) from noon to 4 p.m.

Residents are encouraged to bring in small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices and more. Volunteers will offer free assistance on how to disassemble, troubleshoot and fix the items.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteer fixers who have skills in electrical, mechanical or electronics repair, wood working, sewing or general tinkering are essential to making these clinics successful. Contact Nancy Lo at nancy.lo@hennepin.us or 612-348-9195 to volunteer or get more information.

To find a full list of Fix-It Clinics scheduled for 2017, visit hennepin.us.

Public Works continues effort to balance winter safety with reduced road salt use

Two of the three major waterways in Minnetonka – Minnehaha and Nine Mile creeks – are impaired by chloride, which is a persistent and damaging water pollutant found in the most common types of road salt. That’s why the City of Minnetonka Public Works Department continues to seek new ways to reduce the use of road salt without comprising winter road maintenance best practices.

Minnetonka is considered a leader in salt reduction practices because of incorporating strategies such as these:

Electronic monitoring

In plow trucks, a calibration system meters the salt as it is applied. This allows the city to use the right amount of salt for specific weather conditions.

Expanding anti-ice techniques

A salt brine solution is applied to the city’s highest-traffic streets before a snowfall, which helps prevent snow and ice from bonding to the pavement.

Pretreating salt

Salt is only effective at or above 15 degrees Fahrenheit, but salt that is pre-wetted with additives works down to -15 degrees F. This wet salt works faster and doesn’t bounce or scatter across the pavement, reducing the city’s annual salt use by 30 to 60 percent.

New in 2017

In addition to these strategies, the city is also testing a new precision applicator on its plow trucks this winter. This system uses long-lasting, heavy-duty equipment to improve the speed and accuracy of salt application. The applicator can apply more liquid to the salt than the current spreaders, which should increase the salt’s effectiveness.

To learn more about the city’s effort to keep streets and sidewalks safe throughout the winter, contact the Public Works Department at 952-988-8400.

Annual tree sale just around the corner

A diverse community forest significantly reduces the spread of epidemic-level diseases including Dutch elm disease, oak wilt, and emerald ash borer (which has been found in communities near Minnetonka). That’s why the city offers a wide variety of trees at its annual sale, and varies the selection from year to year.

The U.S. National Arboretum suggests these guidelines to increase tree diversity:

- No more than 10 percent of the trees on your property should be of the same species (for example, a bur oak)
- Plant no more than 20 percent from the same genus (such as any type of oak)
- Use no more than 30 percent from the same family (such as a tree related to oaks, including beech and chestnut trees)

The sale, which is conducted entirely online, goes live Monday, Feb. 6. Here’s how to learn more:

- Attend a tree sale sneak preview Monday, Jan. 31 (see the box for details)
- Watch the mail for the February edition of the *Minnetonka Memo*, which will include a list of available tree species
- Stay tuned to eminnetonka.com – information on available tree species will be posted Feb. 1



Tree Sale Sneak Preview

Jan. 31, 2017

6:30 – 8 p.m.

Community Room

Minnetonka Community Center

Before online tree sale ordering opens Feb. 6, learn about each tree offered and figure out which would do best in your yard. This is also an opportunity to get expert tips to ensure your tree thrives. Please note: tree orders will not be accepted at the presentation. Space is limited to 50, so please RSVP at 952-988-8400 or eminnetonka.com/NRevents.



2017 official newspaper selected

The *Lakeshore Weekly News* has been selected as Minnetonka’s official newspaper for 2017. It will publish the city’s legal notices, ordinance titles and summaries, and other official information. Legal notices and full ordinances are also available at eminnetonka.com. The newspaper is published weekly on Tuesdays and is available for pickup at many public locations, including Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka.

Winter driving tips from Minnetonka Police

Winter driving brings many challenges, so it's always a good idea to prepare for the unexpected. Take this advice from the Minnetonka Police Department before setting out on a long trip.



Gather the following items to create a winter survival kit for your vehicle:

- A metal can, filled with candles and matches (which can be used to melt snow for additional drinking water)
- One metal cup
- One red bandana and a plastic whistle (to alert rescuers to your location)
- A first aid kit including any essential medications
- A plastic flashlight with spare batteries
- Two large plastic garbage bags (for insulation for your feet and shelter from the wind)
- Bottled water (will likely freeze so leave room in the container for expansion)
- High energy snack food for such as candy bars, nuts, dried fruit

Other items you should carry include: an extra set of dry clothing, a snowmobile suit, gloves or mittens, winter boots, blankets and/or sleeping bag, jumper cables, a basic toolbox, a shovel, a bag of sand or other grit for traction, tow cables or chain, road flares, paper towels and reflectors. Of course, having a completely charged cell phone is also essential.

Did you know that parts of your vehicle can save your life?

- A hubcap can be used to shovel snow
- Seat covers can be used as a blanket or for traction under your tire
- Car horns can be heard as far as a mile downwind (three long blasts, ten seconds apart, every 30 minutes, is a standard distress signal)
- A rearview mirror (removed) can be used as a signaling device



Remember, too, to keep your vehicle in good repair at all times. And whenever you're traveling in the winter, call ahead to your destination and convey when you intend to leave, what travel route you will take and your expected time of arrival. If you are stranded in a remote area, never leave your vehicle.

Follow these tips to stay safe this season!

News from the Music Association of Minnetonka

New Youth Choir Members Wanted

The Music Association of Minnetonka (MAM) is welcoming new members to its youth choirs. This is a great opportunity for kids to develop musical knowledge and skills in a respectful, supportive and enriching environment. The association is looking for girls and boys in grades 2-8 and young women in grades 9-12. Join in January to sing in 2017!



Registration for 2017 Choir Camp begins Jan. 15

Kick off the summer with songs and games from around the world at MAM's day camp for kids entering grades 3-8. The 2017 camp goes from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day, June 12-16. Before and after camp care is available. Registration begins Jan. 15 – visit musicassociation.org to sign up.

Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser Feb. 11

Join friends for the annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 11 from 8-11 a.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center. Enjoy live entertainment by the youth choirs, a delicious breakfast, and a silent auction in support of MAM's scholarship fund.



