

Snow removal reminders

Now that winter is just around the corner, it's time for a snow removal refresher. Please keep the following things in mind as you get prepared for the snow season.

- In most snowfalls, **plowing operations begin between midnight and 4 a.m.**, but the exact time depends on the predicted start and end of the snowfall and its intensity.
- Heavy or above-average **snowfalls may require a multi-day operation** to clear (in this order) streets, parking lots, sidewalks, trails and ice rinks. In an average snowfall, the goal is to clear streets within nine hours.
- The city doesn't have snow emergencies, but year-round, **parked vehicles are required to be off city streets between 2 and 6 a.m.** In addition, vehicles cannot be parked on a public street in any one place for more than six hours at a time.
- Place curb markers** to show the edge of your lawn or driveway. The city provides free markers to residents— stop by city hall or Minnetonka Public Works to pick up your markers. Installation is easier when the ground isn't frozen!
- Avoid mailbox damage** by inspecting, and if necessary, refurbishing your mailbox post and structure to ensure it can withstand winter conditions. Mailboxes damaged by direct impact from a city snowplow will be repaired, but mailboxes that break from the force of the snow coming off the snowplow will not be repaired. The city will conduct a review of each damage claim to determine whether the city has responsibility for the damage and if so to repair, replace or provide reimbursement (up to \$200). The deadline to report mailbox damage to the city is June 1.
- The city will repair turf** that was damaged on the boulevard which was the direct result of plowing beyond the road edge. All other damage within the public right-of-way is the owner's responsibility (e.g. shrubs, bushes, rocks, trees, irrigation systems, driveways, etc.). Report snowplow damage to Minnetonka Public Works at 952-988-8400. Repairs usually are made in May and June.
- Snowplowing takes place in three steps.** The first pass provides an initial access path down the streets. Within a few hours of the first pass, full-width plowing takes place. Final cleanup typically occurs the following day and includes intersection cleanup, plowing where vehicles had been parked, and any additional areas requiring salt applications.
- After snowfalls of two inches or greater, **cul de sacs** will be plowed similarly to mainline streets. Plow trucks will make a first pass to clear the center of the circle, then will return later to clear the remaining snow curb to curb in conjunction with the second pass on mainline streets. The goal is to evenly distribute the snow from cul-de-sacs on the adjacent properties. However, depending on the number of obstructions (hydrants, mailboxes, driveways, etc.) it is not always possible to do so.
- Clear snow from your property**, but don't push it into or across the street, or onto sidewalks and trails. City ordinances require snow to be placed on the boulevard adjacent to your property in a manner that doesn't interfere with traffic or city snowplowing operations. Please make contractors aware of city snow removal ordinances.
- Garbage cans and recycling** carts should be set out behind the curb line, not in the street, so they won't be knocked over by snowplows.

Apply now for boards, commissions

Do you want to be involved in your local government? Consider applying for a volunteer position on a city board or commission.



Applicants must have a desire to serve their community and be willing to contribute the number of hours necessary for the particular group to which they are applying. The city is seeking applicants for the following:

- Economic Development Advisory Commission
- Park Board
- Planning Commission
- Senior Citizen Advisory Board

High school students are also encouraged to apply – the city currently has openings for student representatives on the Park Board.

Applicants are interviewed by the city council and appointed by the mayor. Applications should be submitted no later than Dec. 16, 2016. Find an application at eminnetonka.com, or email pschutrop@eminnetonka.com.

Follow the city on Twitter (@MinnetonkaMN) to stay informed of the city's activities during winter storms!

STAY TUNED

Watch for details on how to apply to serve on the city's Comprehensive Guide Plan committee.

2017 budget summary and public hearing

In order to continue delivering the high level of service Minnetonka residents have come to expect, and to address new initiatives residents have requested – such as constructing safe trails to improve walkability – the Minnetonka City Council is considering the adoption of a property tax increase of 4.5 percent for the 2017 budget. The proposed increase is less than the preliminary levy adopted in September, so actual city property tax bills will be less than those on the Hennepin County tax notices sent to homeowners in November.



The city council will have a public discussion and adopt the final 2017 budget at its Dec. 5 meeting.

What does this mean for the average homeowner?

With the proposed increase, city property taxes for the median valued home in Minnetonka (\$322,600 in 2016) are estimated to increase by \$3.80 per month, or less than \$46 per year. The exact impact on specific properties can vary extensively, however, and these numbers do not include the proposed increase from other taxing jurisdictions such as the county and local school district.

Here's how the proposed increase will be put to use:

- Less than one percent for new initiatives.

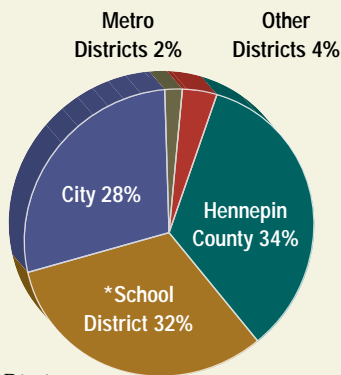
Less than one percent will support new efforts – including adding additional specialists to enhance communications and manage complex engineering projects such as road and trail construction. This increase will also make it possible for the fire department to accommodate legal requirements that have impacted vital recruitment and retention efforts.
- One percent to support the city's capital program.

A one percent increase will finance new funding for the city's rolling five-year plan to provide and maintain facilities, improve streets and trails, infrastructure and replace major equipment.
- One percent for voter-approved bond payo .

In 2001, Minnetonka voters approved a \$15 million referendum to fund renewing all of the city's parks and preserving open space. The final portion of the bonds for this program were sold in 2016, and their payoff begins next year.
- Less than two percent to maintain current services.

A 1.6 percent increase is needed to maintain current service levels. Market-rate wages, health insurance costs and inflation make this increase necessary.

Where Your Property Taxes Go



*Hopkins School District

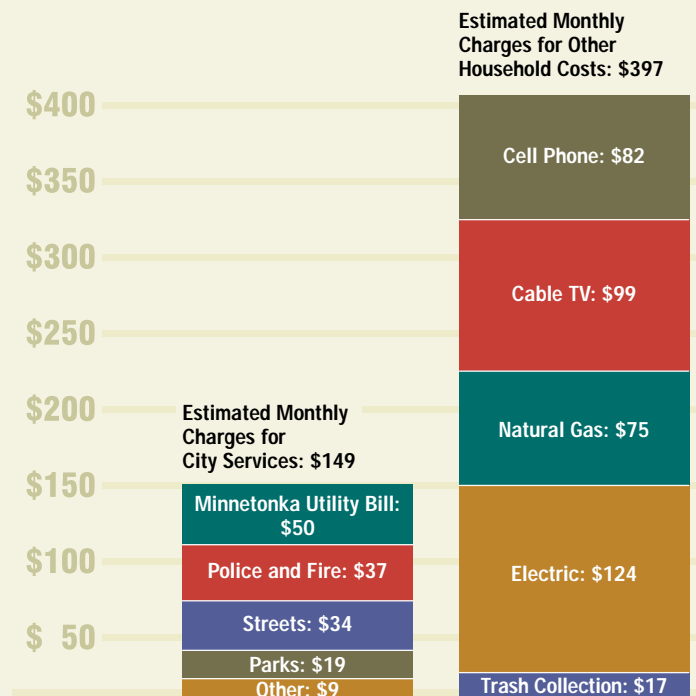
Learn More and Provide Your Input

To provide your feedback on the proposed 2017 budget, attend the public hearing Monday, Dec. 5, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers (14600 Minnetonka Blvd.) or contact Finance Director Merrill King at mking@eminnetonka.com or 952-939-8200.

For more detailed information about the proposed budget, visit eminnetonka.com/budget.

How City Services Compare

The **typical homeowner** in Minnetonka pays approximately \$149 per month for all city services. Compared with other expenses for the average household, city services remain a bargain.





Investing in Minnetonka's utility infrastructure

According to the American Society of Civil Engineering, an estimated 240,000 water main breaks occur each year in the United States – and these breaks are becoming more common as the country's utility infrastructure ages. Minnesota alone projects more than \$10 billion in drinking water and sewer infrastructure needs over the next 20 years.

Minnetonka's water and sewer infrastructure, primarily installed in the late 1960s and early 1970s, is unfortunately not exempt from this issue. The city is currently experiencing up to 100 water main breaks a year, and the number is climbing – at a cost of up to \$10,000 per repair. That's why Minnetonka Public Works is taking a proactive approach to addressing the city's aging utility infrastructure by monitoring and assessing the condition of pipes and investing in new infrastructure when necessary. Whenever possible, pipes are rehabilitated; but when beyond repair, they're replaced. This is also why the city council is discussing long-term investment strategies to account for the cost of these repairs.

As part of the investment in Minnetonka's \$500 million water and sewer infrastructure, and to ensure enough resources are available to cover the cost of rehabilitating the system without having

to do special assessments, the monthly utility cost for the average Minnetonka household is expected to increase year over year for the next few years. The city council is discussing the details of the 2017 expected rate increase at a public hearing in December – watch eminnetonka.com/budget for details regarding the discussion.

By creating a plan to proactively rehabilitate and invest in sewer and water infrastructure, the city is working to spare homeowners and businesses from the nightmare of dealing with unexpected sewer backups and water main breaks that result in costly interruptions and damage. Though the out-of-sight, out-of-mind nature of utility infrastructure makes it easy to take the system for granted, having reliable sewer and water service is critical to ensuring our city's economy, schools and public health continues to be successful far into the future.

By the numbers

Minnetonka's water and sewer system

- City utility (water and sewer) infrastructure valued at \$500 million
- 280 miles of sanitary sewer pipeline
- 320 miles of water pipeline
- Eight water treatment plants
- Water and sewer pipelines installed in the late 1960s and early 1970s
- Up to 100 water main breaks a year; each can cost up to \$10,000 to repair



Aging infrastructure results in costly repairs and inconvenient interruptions.

When it comes to road salt, less is best

Beginning in the 1940s, road salt (also known as sodium chloride) was touted as the most effective way to slow ice formation and improve safety on heavily trafficked surfaces including roads, sidewalks, and parking lots.



Today, we know better. Salt is not effective when temperatures fall below 15 degrees Fahrenheit. Unfortunately, decades of overuse has caused salt to accumulate in surface and groundwater, permanently harming aquatic ecosystems and drinking water.

It is possible to maintain safe surfaces in winter while reducing the use of road salt. This year, consider implementing at least one of these strategies:

- Apply a liquid deicer before snowstorms to reduce the build-up of ice and make shoveling easier.
- During snowstorms, shovel snow early and often.
- Use no more than four pounds of salt for every 1,000 square feet of surface. (One pound of salt fills an average-sized coffee mug.)
- On extremely cold days, instead of applying road salt that won't work, sprinkle sand on pavement to improve traction. You can sweep up the sand later and store it in an airtight container for reuse.
- Encourage snow removal contractors to learn about and adopt salt reduction strategies.

Check the thermometer, not the calendar

According to the Department of Natural Resources, more than 60 people have died after falling through thin ice on Minnesota lakes over the last 15 years.

The DNR urges people to “check the thermometer, not the calendar” when planning winter outdoor activities. That’s because ice thickness can vary—even in the frigid heart of winter. In general:

- Stay off ice that is less than 2 inches thick
- Snowmobiles need at least 5 inches of ice
- Small- to medium-sized trucks are not safe until the ice is 12 to 15 inches deep.

Visit the DNR’s website at dnr.state.mn.us/es for updates on ice safety. Also, check Minnetonka’s ordinance at eminnetonka.com to identify which city lakes are permitted for snowmobiling.



A spotlight on Minnetonka’s Shade Tree Disease Control Program

In an ongoing effort to protect Minnetonka’s community forest, the city’s Shade Tree Disease Control program seeks to limit the spread of Dutch elm disease and oak wilt. Private property owners, businesses and public agencies are notified and required to remove diseased trees within a specified period of time. The city also marks diseased elms and oaks on its properties, using a designated crew or contractor to perform timely removal of those trees. While more elms with Dutch elm disease were identified in 2016 than last year, the number of red oaks with oak wilt declined slightly.

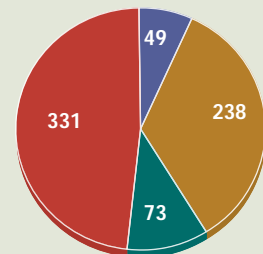


Emerald ash borer has not yet been found in Minnetonka, but staff conducts selective inspections for early detection in order to keep a watchful eye on its spread.

For more information on the Shade Tree Disease Control program (including EAB prevention and response), visit eminnetonka.com/naturalresources.

Diseased elm removals

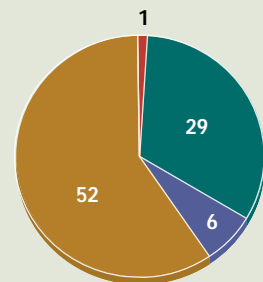
2016



- City property
- Right-of-way
- Private property
- Other

Diseased red oak removals

2016



- City property
- Right-of-way
- Private property
- Other



minnetonka script

Programs and services for those 55+
December 2016 Newsletter

Winter/Spring Registration

(January–March)

Tuesday, Dec. 6

Registrations for programs beginning January through March will be accepted starting Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 8 a.m. The *Script* highlights upcoming programs. Please refer to the Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services Brochure or visit eminnetonka.com/register for a more complete listing of senior services offerings. The brochure can be picked up at the community center, viewed online or mailed to your home. Non-residents who wish to receive a copy of the brochure will be charged \$3 to cover mailing costs. To request a copy call 952-939-8203 or email recservices@eminnetonka.com.

Scholarships Available

Limited scholarships are available for Minnetonka residents age 55+. Scholarships are kept confidential and no questions are asked regarding details of finances.

- Up to three scholarships per brochure totaling nine per year
- Up to 50 percent for programs
- Up to 50 percent on one day trip per year

Monthly Party: Holiday Gala

Wednesday, Dec. 14, noon

Celebrate with us!

Menu: Ham, scalloped potatoes, vegetable, roll and dessert.

Sponsored by: *Sunrise of Minnetonka*

Cost: \$7 due Friday, Dec. 9

(Course #1100107-01)

Lunch and a Movie: Joy

Friday, Dec. 9, noon

After 10 years of trying to mass-market the revolutionary floor mop she invented, housewife Joy Mangano strikes gold with a personal pitch on QVC that turns her Miracle Mop into an overnight marketing miracle.

Menu: Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup and a treat.

Cost: \$5 due Tuesday, Dec. 6

(Course #1100204-01)

Travel Presentation:

River Cruising 101

Monday, Dec. 5, 10:30 a.m.

Discover river cruising! Learn the different types of river cruises offered in the United States, Europe and Asia. Topics include ships, destinations, duration and "what to expect."

Provided by Peterson Travel Pros.

Cost: \$2 (Course #1180410-01)

Balance and Fall Prevention

Dr. Eva Norman

Monday, Dec. 12, 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Eva Norman, president and founder of Live Your Life Physical Therapy, discusses balance and fall prevention. Learn ways to maintain, improve and restore ease of movement, activity levels and health. Limited appointments available for balance screenings following the presentation. Appointments are required and can be made online, over the phone or in person.

Cost: \$2 (Course #1180419-01)

Taxes from A-Z and Ways to Minimize em

Wednesday, Jan. 9, 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)



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.

Reminders:

- The following programs have annual fees that you can pay for starting Dec. 6:

Bird Club, \$20
(Course # 4190502-02)

Over 50 and Fit, \$12
(Course #4090702-02)

- Beginning Jan. 3, tax appointments can be made in-person or by calling Minnetonka Senior Services. More details to come in the January Script.

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.

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
T'ai Chi Chih: Beginning	Susan Sobelson	Jan. 9–Mar. 13 <i>(No class Jan. 16 & Feb. 20)</i>	M	10–11 a.m.	\$40	2090301-01
T'ai Chi Chih: Intermediate	Susan Sobelson	Jan. 9–Mar. 13 <i>(No class Jan. 16 & 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–Mar. 6 <i>(No class Feb. 20)</i>	M	8:30–9:30 a.m.	\$54	2090901-01
Zumba Gold	Renee Rahimi	Jan. 23–Mar. 27 <i>(No class Jan. 30, Feb. 20 and Mar. 20)</i>	M	12:45–1:45 p.m.	\$42	2090501-01
Zumba Gold Toning	Renee Rahimi	Jan. 25–Mar. 29 <i>(No class Feb. 1, Mar. 1 and Mar. 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.

Over 50 and Fit

Volunteer Instructors

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

T'ai Chi for Health and Wellness

Ron Erdman-Luntz

Tai Chi short-form movements have many health benefits and are fun to learn. Slow circular movements help to improve balance and relaxation. Must be able to walk comfortably for an hour.

Join us for a game of

Bean Bag

Friday, Dec. 16, 10:15 a.m.–noon

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

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.
- Free for Williston, Silver Sneaker and Silver and Fit members. \$4 per day for non-members.

Williston Fitness Center
14509 Minnetonka Drive

History Programs

British History: Winston Churchill Terry Kubista

ursdays, Dec. 1-8, 1-3 p.m.

Statesman, politician, Knight of the Garter and near royalty - Sir Winston was all of these. How did his story start and what did he do in order to become one of Great Britain's most famous statesmen?

- \$14 (Course #1180101-04)

British History: Sacred Wonders of Britain

Terry Kubista

ursdays, Dec. 15-22, 1-3 p.m.

Britain's sacred places are not all ancient. Some are quite new. Yet they all share roots in the religions of the original peoples of the Islands. From the north of Scotland to Glastonbury Tore, explore sites that were holy to the first missionaries.

- \$14 (Course #1180101-05)

American Presidents

Dan Hartman

*Wednesdays, Dec. 14-28,
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*

Explore each president and discuss what occurred while they were in office from a historical point of view. Presidents will be presented in order, with highlighted accomplishments and factors surrounding their terms in office. The final seminar will look at the newly elected president and what the future may hold for their term in office.

- \$15 (Course #1180202-04)

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 of 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 #1180201-01)

Day Trips*

Como Conservatory and St. Paul Ice Sculptures

*Friday, Jan. 27**



Wonder at the largest glass-domed 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

*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.

Email Updates

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

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

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, Dec. 8, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.



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.

Holiday Hours: Monday-Saturday, Nov. 28-Dec. 23.

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/seniorservices.

Bird Club

1st Friday, 10 a.m.

Speaker: Stan Tekiela, Naturalist, "Something Interesting".

Book Club

3rd ursday, 1 p.m.

I Saw A Man by Owen Sheers.

Garden Club

2nd Monday, 1 p.m.

Holiday Party.

Literary Book Club

4th Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.

Daisy Miller by Henry James.

Billiards

Monday - Friday, Time Varies

New members welcome!

Ham Radio

2nd Monday, 10 a.m.

New members welcome!

Cribbage

ursdays, 10 a.m.

Bring your cribbage board and cards.

New members welcome!

Dominos

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

New members welcome!

Genealogy Club

1st ursdays, 10 a.m.

Sharing resources for researching family history.

Crafting for a Cause

2nd Friday, 9 a.m.

Knit, crochet, quilt, sew and craft for a cause! Items will be donated to local non-profits. Crafted items can include baby hats, quilted items, lap blankets, mittens, scarves and more! Enjoy socializing while making a difference in the community.

Caregiver Conversations

A Caregiver Support Group

2nd ursday, 10 a.m.

Are you caring for a spouse, parent, friend or neighbor with health issues? Would you like to connect with others in similar situations? This support group is a place to be encouraged and offer encouragement to others. Please join as we explore the challenges, rewards and resources in navigating the caregiving journey. Lead by Lisa Engdal, Senior Outreach Social Worker for Senior Community Services.

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
- Change light bulbs
- Housekeeping
- Change 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 Sta

Kate Egert, kegert@eminnetonka.com

Sue Svec, ssvec@eminnetonka.com

Senior Services and Activities Manager

Steve Pieh, 952-939-8366

spieh@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.

Highway 169 improvement project scheduled to begin in January

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is planning to rebuild and repair the infrastructure on Highway 169, between Highway 55 and Highway 62, beginning in January 2017. The project will include:

- Closing the southbound exit and entrance ramps on Highway 169 at 16th Street and installing a visual barrier
- Improving the safety of entrance and exit ramps at Cedar Lake Road by lengthening the ramps
- Replacing the bridge over Nine Mile Creek, located between Bren Road and 7th Street (also known as 5th Street-Lincoln Drive)
- Repairing pavement between Highway 55 and Highway 62
- Repairing noise walls, replacing the concrete barrier and improving pedestrian accessibility at intersections throughout the corridor

These projects will improve driver safety and accessibility, and provide a smoother road surface and longer lasting bridge once completed.

Traffic Impacts

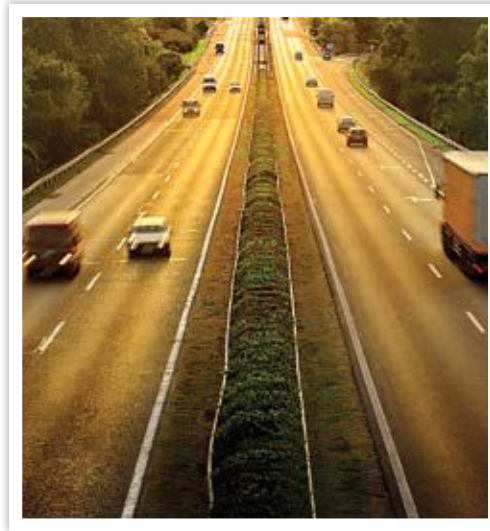
Starting in January, both directions of Highway 169 between Bren Road and 7th Street (5th Street-Lincoln Drive) will be closed for the duration of the project to allow for the removal and replacement of the bridge. Motorists will be directed to Highway 62 to Highway 100 for northbound trips and I-394 to I-494 for southbound trips.

From spring to fall of 2017, Highway 169 will be reduced to one lane in each direction with non-concurrent ramp closures from Highway 55 to Highway 62 due to road/ramp resurfacing and interchange improvements. Additionally, southbound Highway 169 ramps to and from 16th Street will close permanently in summer 2017.

Stay Informed

Visit mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy169hopkins to find more information about the project and to subscribe to receive regular email updates. You may also receive alerts by following MnDOT on Twitter and Facebook at twitter.com/mndotnews and [Facebook.com/MnDOT](https://facebook.com/MnDOT).

All lanes are scheduled to be opened to traffic in late September 2017, weather permitting.



The aggravating chirp that could save your life

Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors are lifesavers and a must-have for all homeowners, but when they chirp or beep in the middle of the night, it can be disarming and frustrating. Here's a quick guide to help you decode these lifesaving—yet aggravating—noises.

Continuous alarm: When smoke and CO alarms go into alarm mode from detecting smoke or CO, they will continue to sound until the air is clear. When you hear the alarm sound, you need to exit the building quickly and call 911. False alarms can be triggered by loose or improperly installed batteries, dirt in the chamber, humidity or steam in the area, end of life, or an interruption in power to the unit due to an electrical condition.

Repetitive chirp: Low battery, malfunction of the alarm, activation of the hush feature, or end of life of the alarm are a few of the reasons why your device could be chirping every 30-60 seconds. With wireless alarms, interference from a nearby similar system may cause chirping as well.

Intermittent chirp: If your alarms chirp intermittently, or not regularly, the battery may not be installed properly, the sensing chamber may need to be cleaned, other environmental factors such as steam may be confusing the alarm, or the alarm may have reached the end of its life.

If you hear any noise from your smoke alarm, it's important to fully inspect the unit and remedy the situation immediately. Smoke alarms expire after 10 years and carbon monoxide alarms after five years because the sensors go bad. Read all of your alarm owner's manuals so you know how they work and how to troubleshoot them.

Remember – an alarm's purpose is to alarm you into taking action during what could be a dangerous situation. Proper maintenance and attending to those annoying sounds will ensure your alarms are working when you need them the most.

Enjoy a free holiday concert with the Minnetonka Music Association

On Saturday, Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. the Music Association of Minnetonka (MAM) invites you to the Minnetonka Community Center to kick off the holiday season with appetizers, a toast, and music performed by the Holiday 2016 Chorus à la Carte. Tickets are \$25 and can be reserved by contacting 952-401-5954 or mamoffice@musicassociation.org.

MAM is offering a variety of free concerts this holiday season, including Messiah at the Arboretum, A Child's Christmas with the Minnetonka Youth Choirs, and Juletide with the Minnetonka Symphony Orchestra. Visit musicassociation.org for a complete calendar.



Ski Glen Lake Golf Course this season

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. Using the golf course's natural landscape, the 2.5-kilometer cross-country trail provides skiers of all levels and abilities a dedicated trail groomed exclusively for both ski skating and traditional cross-country skiing.

Snow is not made at the location, so the planned dates for the course – Dec. 17 through March 12 – are weather dependent. Ski trails are not lit. The golf center will be open for ski rental, concession sales and restrooms. 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. Season ski passes may be purchased for \$30 for the first family member and \$15 for each additional family member. Daily ski passes may be purchased on site for \$4. All passes may be purchased on-site. In addition, Three Rivers Park District season passes will be honored at the Glen Lake location. Visit threeriversparkdistrict.org for more information.

For more information, or to purchase a ski pass, call Minnetonka Recreation Services at 952-939-8203 or the Glen Lake Golf Course at 763-694-7824.

Making Minnetonka dementia-friendly: Tips for the holidays

The holidays should be a time of joyful celebrations, but for families who have a loved one with Alzheimer's or other dementias, it can be filled with stress and frustration. Fortunately, with some planning and adjusted expectations, celebrations can easily become happy, memorable occasions again.



The National Alzheimer's Association offers these tips for dealing with the complications of the disease during the holiday season:

Familiarize others with the situation – Make sure visitors understand that changes in behavior and memory are caused by the disease and not the person.

Adjust family expectations – Educate your family about your caregiving situation and set realistic expectations about what you can do.

Involve the person with dementia – Build on past traditions and involve the person in holiday preparation.

Adapt gift giving – Encourage safe and useful gifts for the person with dementia.

Visit alz.org/care/alzheimers-dementia-holidays.asp for specific actions you can take to make your holidays dementia-friendly for your family and neighbors.

Register for free training

In an effort to make Minnetonka a dementia-friendly community, the city is offering free one-hour training sessions to residents, businesses or organizations interested in learning more about the disease. Contact Steve Pieh at 952-939-8366 or spieh@eminnetonka.com for more information on how to register.

To learn more about this effort, visit eminnetonka.com/dementiafriendly.

Outdoor ice rink volunteers needed

Each winter, adult volunteers allow the City of Minnetonka to expand the operating hours at city warming houses beyond the regular operation schedule. More volunteers are needed for this season at Meadow, Covington, Spring Hill, Boulder Creek, Gro Tonka and McKenzie Parks.

Volunteers must be at least 25 years of age and are responsible for opening and securing their assigned building, operating the rink lighting and building heating systems, completing required forms and regularly communicating with the Recreation Services Department. Volunteers are allowed to open their assigned warming house for extended use until 10 p.m. during days and times when the employee attendant is not scheduled. Because the warming houses are associated with outdoor ice rinks, the availability of ice and therefore volunteer hours is entirely weather dependent.



The 2016-2017 skating season is scheduled to start in mid-December and run through mid-February.

If interested in volunteering, or for more information, please contact the Recreation Services office at 952-939-8203, or email Dave Johnson at djohnson@eminnetonka.com.

Application materials can be found on the city's website at eminnetonka.com.

Winter recreation program registration starts Dec. 6

Registration for winter/spring recreation programs begins at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6! Visit eminnetonka.com/recreationbrochure to check out the program options and choose from hundreds of activities. Whether you're looking for fitness classes, kids programs, craft opportunities or athletic leagues, there is something for everyone.

Visit eminnetonka.com/register to register online, or call 952-939-8203 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Minnetonka and Hopkins residents who wish to request a hard copy of the Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services Winter-Spring Brochure may call 952-939-8203 or email recservices@eminnetonka.com. Non-residents who request a hard copy will be charged \$3.

Outdoor skating rinks scheduled to open Dec. 17

Outdoor skating rinks with warming houses are available at seven Minnetonka park locations. Weather permitting, rinks will be open Saturday, Dec. 17 through Monday, Feb. 20, 2017. Call the weather hotline at 952-939-8355 for conditions, closings and updates. For a complete list of holiday and winter break hours, visit eminnetonka.com/outdoorrinks.

For weather related updates regarding the rink conditions, please call the weather hotline at 952-939-8355.



Minnetonka Rink Hours

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Boulder Creek	Noon-7 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9:45 p.m.	Noon-5 p.m.
Covington	Noon-7 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9:45 p.m.	Noon-5 p.m.
Glen Lake	Noon-7 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9:45 p.m.	Noon-9:45 p.m.
Gro Tonka	Noon-7 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9:45 p.m.	Noon-9:45 p.m.
McKenzie	Noon-7 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9:45 p.m.	Noon-9:45 p.m.
Meadow	Noon-7 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9:45 p.m.	Noon-9:45 p.m.
Spring Hill	Noon-7 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9 p.m.	4:30-9:45 p.m.	Noon-5 p.m.

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Calendar

City of
Minnetonka

December
2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Call 952-939-8200 for meeting locations.
				1	2	3	1 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m. 19 City Council, 6:30 p.m.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5 City Council, 6:30 p.m. 26 City offices closed
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	7 Park Board, 7 p.m.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	13 Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	15 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public. Meeting dates and times are subject to change – visit 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. 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 by the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting, and planning commission agendas are available by the Monday prior to the meeting.

Burwell holiday open house Dec. 4

Visit the annual holiday open house at the Charles H. Burwell House Sunday, Dec. 4, from 1–4 p.m. Enjoy refreshments and take a self-guided tour to check out the Victorian holiday decorations. This free event is presented by the Minnetonka Historical Society.

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 Burwell House, located at 13209 E. McGinty Rd., is owned and maintained by the City of Minnetonka.

Winter parking reminders

As winter arrives, please remember the following city ordinances designed to control parking on Minnetonka's streets and allow for efficient snowplowing.

- Vehicles can't be parked on a public street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m., and a vehicle must not be parked on a public street in any one place for a longer continuous period than six hours.
- Vehicles and trailers can't remain on a street, road or highway in a manner that interferes with the removal of snow, sleet, slush or ice from the street, road or highway. In addition to any other penalties imposed for the violation of this section, the police department may order that the motor vehicle or trailer be towed from the right-of-way at the owner's expense.

The Minnetonka Police and Public Works Departments appreciate your cooperation in following these ordinances.

