

# minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka  
February 2016

## New organics recycling customers get first year free in 2016

Have you already given up on your 2016 New Year's resolution? If so, the City of Minnetonka is offering you a chance to commit to a new resolution in 2016 – a year of curbside organics recycling – for free!

Thanks to a \$16,000 grant from Hennepin County, the first 150 Minnetonka residents who sign up for organics recycling in 2016 will receive one free year of service, paid for by the city.



There are many benefits to recycling organic waste. Not only is it more cost-effective and environmentally friendly than using the trash or a garbage disposal, it also plays an important part in diverting waste from landfills. Approximately 30 percent of items thrown into the trash is organic waste that can be recycled.

Both food and food-soiled paper products can be recycled as organic waste, including fruits, vegetables, meat, bread, pasta, egg shells, paper towels and plates, paper cups, pizza boxes, coffee filters and more.

### Recycling organics is easy

- Use an ice cream bucket or kitchen scrap bucket to collect food scraps in your kitchen.
- Line collection containers with a paper bag or compostable bag (available at local retailers) to help keep it clean.
- Empty bagged organics into the organics cart or bag provided by the waste hauler.
- Set the organics cart on the curb on trash collection day.

### Follow these steps to get a free year of service

1. Contact one of the following refuse haulers that provide organics collection in Minnetonka to initiate service:
  - Randy's Sanitation at 763-972-3335
  - Vintage Waste Systems, Inc. at 952-472-0401
2. The hauler will invoice the City of Minnetonka for the organics collection service.
  - The city pays the hauler directly. Residents will not be billed for the first year.

Please note, a free year of service is only available to first-time organics customers, and is only available for residents with curbside garbage collection. To qualify for the offer, service must begin before the end of 2016.

Don't wait to take advantage of this offer – its first come, first served!

### More Information

To learn more about the benefits of organics recycling and to find a full list of recyclable items, visit Hennepin County's website at [hennepin.us](http://hennepin.us) and search "organics recycling." Call Public Works at 952-988-8400 with questions about the program.

## State of the City is February 10

You're invited to the 2016 State of the City Address by Mayor Terry Schneider Wednesday, Feb. 10, from 7:30–9 a.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard. A continental breakfast will be served. Please RSVP by Feb. 2 to Pat Schutrop at [pschutrop@eminnetonka.com](mailto:pschutrop@eminnetonka.com) or 952-939-8211.



## Free Compostable Bags and Containers Available

Existing organics customers, don't feel left out! As part of the grant program, the city is providing a limited supply of compostable bags and kitchen containers to both new and existing organics customers for no charge. Stop by the Public Works Facility at 11522 Minnetonka Boulevard to get a container and 25 bags.



# Visit the Home Remodeling Fair Feb. 21

**M**innetonka residents are invited to the West Metro Home Remodeling Fair Sunday, Feb. 21, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Eisenhower Community Center, 1001 Highway 7, Hopkins. Admission is free.

Sponsored by the cities of Minnetonka, Golden Valley, Hopkins and St. Louis Park, and Hopkins, St. Louis Park and Minnetonka community education, the Home Remodeling Fair is designed to provide residents with ideas, information and resources to promote improvements to housing in each community.

Fairgoers can visit more than 75 exhibitors, including remodeling contractors, architects, landscapers and financial lenders. Get ideas for your kitchen, bathroom, landscaping, windows and siding. Minnetonka planning department staff and city inspectors will also be at the fair.

Visit the Idea Center or "Ask the Pro" booth for free, no-obligation consultations from volunteer architects, interior designers, landscape designers, arborists, master gardeners and more. Bring your photos, sketches and questions. Attend a free seminar or demonstration to learn about the latest trends in home décor, kitchens and bathrooms, flooring, plumbing, landscaping and much more.

Plus, check out the Operation Rescue Room contest, where you could 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 contest application deadline is Tuesday, Feb. 16 – get the details at [homeremodelingfair.com](http://homeremodelingfair.com).

Also, a children's activity center is available for parent/child crafts and activities for ages three and up, including face painting.



For more information, visit [homeremodelingfair.com](http://homeremodelingfair.com) or call 952-939-8200.

# Burwell House tour guides needed

**M**innetonka's historic Charles H. Burwell House at 13209 E. McGinty Road is a treasured city resource, and tours led by volunteers play a critical role in bringing this site to life for visitors of all ages.

Volunteers are needed to conduct tours during regular season hours, which are as follows:

- Noon–3 p.m. Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from June 4 through Aug. 28
- Noon–3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays in September
- Noon–3 p.m. Sundays in November

Volunteers are also needed to give tours to elementary school students each spring, and to guide large groups through the house at special times throughout the year.

Training is provided. The house is air conditioned and tour guides do not wear costumes. High school students are welcome to volunteer.

## Learn more at a Tour Guide Open House

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a tour guide, please attend a tour guide open house event Tuesday, April 26 from 5:30–6:30 p.m. or Tuesday, May 3 from 10:30–11:30 a.m. at the Burwell House.

Volunteering at the Burwell House is a great way to connect with the community and to share this special site with others. To volunteer as a tour guide, or to RSVP to the open house event, please contact Moranda Zimmer at 952-939-8219 or [mzimmer@eminnetonka.com](mailto:mzimmer@eminnetonka.com). To learn more about the Burwell House, visit [eminnetonka.com/history/burwell-house](http://eminnetonka.com/history/burwell-house).



# Apply now to be an election judge in 2016

**N**ot only is serving as an election judge a great way to meet your neighbors, it is also one of the highest forms of civic duty, as election judges are responsible for protecting the integrity of one of our most cherished freedoms—the right to vote. Judges are needed for both the state primary Monday, Aug. 9 and the presidential general election Tuesday, Nov. 8.



## New in 2016

For the first time this year, all Minnetonka precincts will be using electronic poll-books, which is iPad technology that replaces the current paper voter check-in process. The technology will help to speed up lines, assist election judges through registration, reduce registration errors and capture accurate polling place activity data. Also for the first time this year, 16- and 17-year-old high school students are invited to serve as student election judges.

This is a paid opportunity and training is provided. Visit the elections page at [eminnetonka.com/elections](http://eminnetonka.com/elections) to learn more about eligibility requirements and to find an application. Call Moranda Zimmer at 952-939-8219 for more information.



## Buckthorn volunteers needed at Jidana Park Feb. 20

The City of Minnetonka is looking for assistance with the removal and on-site recycling of second-growth buckthorn on a Jidana Park island adjacent to Minnehaha Creek.

Saturday, Feb. 20  
10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Meet at the Jidana Park parking lot  
3333 Jidana Lane



Activities include cutting young buckthorn with loppers or bow saws (some may be pre-cut), gathering slash for neat re-use and treating stumps if temperature and snow depth permits.

Volunteers should dress in winter layers; wear winter boots, snow pants or long underwear; and bring winter work gloves. The city will provide tools, direction, snacks and warm drinks. Volunteers may bring their own hand saw or lopper, but it must be clearly labeled with the owner's name.

Please RSVP to 952-988-8400. The work date will be re-scheduled if weather conditions are unfavorable. Call Restoration Specialist Janet Van Sloun at 952-988-8423 for more information.

## Learn to prune trees and shrubs, grow fruit

Check out these upcoming natural resources seminars to learn how to best care for your shrubs and small trees, and learn what it takes to grow fruit in your own backyard.



### Intro to Shrub and Small Tree Pruning: Feb. 17

Join friends Wednesday, Feb. 17 from 6:30–8:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center (14600 Minnetonka Boulevard) and get the ins and outs on shrub and small tree pruning.

Participants will learn the basics of pruning: why it's done and what happens if it isn't, what are some helpful techniques, how to make the proper cut, which tools are necessary, when this work can be done, and who can be called if you can't do the work.

The first hour will cover shrub pruning and the second hour will review small tree pruning.

### How to Grow Fruit from Shrubby Plants in Your Own Backyard: March 9

Growing fruits in a suburban environment is as much fun as it is nutritious – but where do you start? Attend this seminar Wednesday, March 9 from 6:30–8 p.m. at the Community Center (14600 Minnetonka Blvd) to find out what it takes to successfully grow fruit in Minnesota.

Get the facts about fruits that are favorites for bees and take a look at hardy varieties – beyond the usual apples and blueberries – that will grow in this climate. Learn about plants that are so small you won't need a ladder to harvest the fruit, others that can produce fruit in partial-sun or shade environments, and some plants that are so new to the market you may never have heard of them.

### More Information

Registration for each seminar is required and limited to 35. Please RSVP by calling Public Works at 952-988-8400.

Both seminars are led by Rebecca Koetter, a local expert and landscaper who has several years of experience pruning shrubs and working with a variety of edible trees. Rebecca has an undergraduate degree from the Department of Forest Resources at the University of Minnesota, Master of Agriculture degree from the University of Minnesota and worked with the Department of Forest Resources for five years.

## Winter tree pruning is best

The city forester recommends November through March as the ideal time to prune oak trees, when they are least susceptible to oak wilt. This is also a great time to prune other trees, since insects and diseases are not active.

Consider hiring a certified arborist to help. For tips on how to hire the best tree care professional for your situation, visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) and search "hiring tree care professionals."

To assist residents who conduct winter pruning, the brush drop-off site at Minnetonka Public Works (11522 Minnetonka Boulevard) will be open every Saturday in March, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, call Minnetonka Public Works at 952-988-8400.



# Music Association of Minnetonka Introduces New Choral Program

Did you enjoy singing in high school or college choir but are feeling a bit rusty? The Music Association of Minnetonka (MAM) is introducing a new choral program just for you! Flexible and less intimidating than a traditional auditioned ensemble, the program is called Chorus à la Carte™ and its inaugural season begins April 2016.

Chorus à la Carte is a six-week rehearsal and performance event that will feature an exciting theme such as Broadway musicals, Gospel or classical choral works. The program will focus on the members as much as the music, providing a welcoming atmosphere and emphasizing the enjoyment of singing with other people. The short timeframe makes it easier for busy adults to commit and members can join for one or more performance cycle with no audition and little cost. It's the perfect opportunity to test out your vocal cords and meet new people.

Register and learn more about the program by visiting [musicassociation.org](http://musicassociation.org) or calling 952-401-5954.

## New bus route provides suburb-to-suburb service

The Suburban Transit Association (STA) launched a new suburb-to-suburb bus service route in January that offers riders a quick way to get from Shakopee to Maple Grove and areas in between. The first route of its kind in the metro area, Route 494 follows the 494 and 169 corridors and connects riders to many businesses, including: Boston Scientific, United Health Group, Optum Campus, Datacard and many more. Minnetonka riders can take advantage of the new service at the Hopkins Crossroads Transit Station or in the Opus area.



The bus runs approximately every 30 minutes during the morning and afternoon peak periods.

Local peak fares (\$2.25 per trip) apply to each trip. Transfers to other routes may include an additional fee.

Visit [S2S494.com](http://S2S494.com) for complete details.

## Take action against distracted driving

Each year in Minnesota, distracted or inattentive driving is a factor in one in four crashes, resulting in at least 70 deaths and 350 serious injuries. Share these tips to avoid distracted driving with family and friends and take action to avoid becoming another statistic:



- Turn off cell phones, or place them out of reach to avoid the urge to dial or answer. If a passenger is present, ask them to handle calls/texts.
- Preprogram favorite radio stations for easy access and arrange music in an easy-to-access spot.
- Adjust mirrors and temperature before traveling, or ask a passenger to assist.
- Designate a passenger to serve as a copilot to help with directions. If driving alone, map out destinations in advance, and pull over to study a map.
- Avoid eating or drinking while driving, and be sure food and drinks are secured.
- Teach children the importance of good behavior in a vehicle; do not underestimate how distracting it can be to tend to children while driving.
- When riding as a passenger, speak up to stop drivers from distracted driving behavior.

Did you know? According to Minnesota's "No Texting while Driving" Law:

- It is illegal for drivers to read, compose and/or send text messages and emails, or access the Internet using a wireless device while the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic. This includes while stopped in traffic or at a traffic light.
- Cell phone use is not allowed for teen drivers during their permit and provisional license stages.

Visit the Minnesota Department of Public Safety website at [dps.mn.gov](http://dps.mn.gov) to learn more.

## Police Explorers annual pancake breakfast is March 6

Join the Minnetonka Police Explorers Post 884 for their annual all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast Sunday, March 6 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center (14600 Minnetonka Boulevard). Enjoy pancakes, sausages and beverages in support of the explorers. Breakfast is \$5.

Police Explorers is a youth organization developed to give young adults ages 14-20 the chance to experience the

field of law enforcement. Members are given training in all basic areas of law enforcement, including first aid, radio communications, traffic stops, crime scene search and much more. Proceeds from the breakfast will be used to fund travel expenses throughout the year.

To learn more about the program, contact Minnetonka Police Officer Larissa Johnson at 952-939-8500.







# minnetonka script

Programs and services for those 55+  
February 2016 Newsletter

## Valentine Card Making

**Monday, Feb. 8, 10:30 a.m.**

Join us for refreshments, socializing and card making! Create cards to give to your loved ones this Valentine's Day.

Provided by: Brookdale Senior Living

**Cost: \$4**

(Course #2191001-01)

## Monthly Party: Valentine's Day

**Thursday, Feb. 11, Noon**

Love is in the air! Join us for a Valentine's Day party.

**Menu:** Swedish meatballs, salad, bread and dessert.

**Sponsored by:**

**Brookdale Living**

**Cost:** \$7 due Monday, Feb. 8

(Course #2100102-01)



## Conversations with Hopkins High School Students

**Thursday, Feb. 11, 9 a.m.**

Visit one-on-one with high school students. Compare what school was like then and now, learn about current school activities and more. Meet at Hopkins High School, 2400 Lindbergh Dr.: please park in visitor lot.

**Free!** (Course #2180406-01)

## Sips & Songs

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

### BandanAhh!

**Wednesday, Feb. 17, 10:30 a.m.**

It's all about LOVE and BandanAhh! loves to play your kind of music! Join us for your favorites from Sinatra, golden oldies, sing-a-longs and more.

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

**Sponsored by:**

**Brookdale Senior Living**

## Lunch and a Movie:

### Cinderella

**Friday, Feb. 19, Noon**

"Have courage and be kind" was the advice of Ella's mother before she passed away. Discover how living by these words made dreams come true in a retold fairytale.

**Menu:** Chicken salad, bread and a treat.

**Cost:** \$5 due Tuesday, Feb. 16

(Course #2100202-01)

## Community Connections:

### e Search for Senior Housing

**Monday, Feb. 22, 10:15 a.m.**

Join us for a popular presentation that covers the many types of senior housing and various payment options. Provided by Lake Minnetonka Senior Care Providers: Community Connections.

**Free!** (Course #2180408-01)

## e Author's Tale of Coco's Diary

### Peg Meier

**Monday, Feb. 29, 10:30 a.m.**

In 1927 13-year-old Coco Irvine kept a diary of her many antics living in what is now the governor's residence on St. Paul's Summit Avenue. Meier, award-winning reporter and popular Minnesota history author, will discuss her discovery of Coco's diary and its publication as the book *Through No Fault of My Own*.

**Cost:** \$2 (Course #2180403-01)



## Reactions on Aging

### Dr. Bruce McBeath

**Wednesday, March 2, 11 a.m.**

Leaving adulthood to enter elderhood brings major changes: saying goodbye to professional identifications, structured time and routines. It can bring new struggles with loneliness, feelings of insignificance, identifying new meaning in our lives and more. Join other senior centers across the state in listening and interacting with Dr. Bruce McBeath in a joint teleconference effort.

**Cost:** \$2 (Course #2180411-01)

## Summer Registration

(April–July)

*Residents: Tuesday, March 8*

*Non-Residents: Thursday, March 10*

- Register online, over the phone, by mail or in person.
- Online: [eminnetonka.com/register](http://eminnetonka.com/register); first-time users can call for username and password.
- Phone: 952-939-8393; payments can be made with Visa, MasterCard or Discover.
- Mail: 14600 Minnetonka Blvd  
Minnetonka, MN 55345
- In person: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

## Scholarships

- Limited scholarships are available for Minnetonka residents age 55+.
- Scholarships are kept confidential.
- No questions are asked regarding details of finances.
- Up to three scholarships per brochure totalling nine per year.
- Up to 50 percent for programs.
- Up to 50 percent on one day trip per year.

## Income Tax Assistance

This free tax program is designed to assist low income individuals with basic taxes. Please call senior services at 952-939-8393 to schedule an appointment.

- Mondays and Thursdays, Feb. 8 – April 14.
- Appointment times available include: 12:30, 1:45 and 3 p.m.
- Bring a photo ID, last years taxes and social security card.

## Fitness Programs

### Over 50 and Fit

#### Volunteer Instructors

**Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9 a.m.**

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

- Annual Fee: \$12  
(Course #4090702-01)

### Therapeutic Pilates

#### Dr. Sarah Petich

**Mondays, Feb. 22–March 21**

**8:30–9:30 a.m.**

Pilates is a great low-impact, gentle, but challenging full-body workout that focuses on improving posture, flexibility and core strength. Work on posture alignment techniques, core-strengthening exercises, flexibility, balance and breathing techniques. Taught by a physical therapist certified in Pilates and Postural Restoration. Please bring a yoga or Pilates mat to class.

- \$45 (Course #2090901-02)

### Tai Chi Chih

#### Susan Sobelson

**Mondays, April 4–May 23**

Experience a form of “moving meditation” with benefits for body, mind and spirit. This series of 19 easy-to-learn movements creates a sense of calm and can improve balance, mental clarity and energy levels. Permission of instructor required for intermediate level.

- Beginner, \$40, 10–11 a.m.  
(Course #2090301-02)
- Intermediate, \$40, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
(Course #2090302-02)

### Tai Chi for Health and Wellness

#### Ron Erdman-Luntz

**Thursdays, Feb. 25–March 31, 6–7 p.m.**

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

- \$54 (Course #2090401-02)



Evening Program

## Yoga

### Chair-Supported Yoga

Most of chair-supported yoga takes place while seated on a chair and includes plenty of stretching and warm-ups. Guided breath work and visualization help to release, relax and restore the body and calm the mind. Please bring a yoga mat or towel to class.

#### Nancy Holasek

**Tuesdays, 9:45–10:45 a.m.**

- March 8–April 26  
\$48 (Course #2090101-04)

**Thursdays, 9:45–10:45 a.m.**

- March 10–April 28  
\$48 (Course #2090101-05)

#### Elizabeth Kelly

**Wednesdays, 6:15–7:15 p.m.**

- March 9–April 27  
\$48 (Course #2090101-06)

### Intermediate Yoga

Intermediate yoga includes standing and balancing postures. Guided breath work and visualization help to release, relax and restore the body and calm the mind. Participants should have the ability to get up and down from the floor to complete postures while on the belly or backside of the body. Please bring a yoga mat or towel to class.

#### Nancy Holasek

**Tuesdays, 11 a.m.–noon**

- March 8–April 26  
\$48 (Course #2090201-04)

**Thursdays, 11 a.m.–noon**

- March 10–April 28  
\$48 (Course #2090201-05)

#### Elizabeth Kelly

**Wednesdays, 7:30–8:30 p.m.**

- March 9–April 27  
\$48 (Course #2090201-06)

### Zumba Gold

#### Renee Rahimi

Ditch the workout and join the party! Zumba Gold is a Latin-inspired dance-fitness program featuring easy-to-follow rhythms and a variety of upbeat music. It is a low-impact, less intense form of Zumba designed for beginners and active older adults. Working out has never been so much fun!

**Mondays, 12:45–1:45 p.m.**

- Feb. 1–March 28 (No class 2/15 & 3/21)  
\$35 (Course #2090501-01)

**Wednesdays, 12:30–1:30 p.m.**

- Feb. 3–March 30 (No class 3/23)  
\$40 (Course #2090501-03)

### Line Dance

#### New Instructor: Tricia Wood

**Thursdays, Feb. 25–March 24**

Get a great workout and learn to hitch, vine and dance in a line! No partners needed.

- Beginner, \$35, 12:30–1:30 p.m.  
(Course #2090601-02)
- Intermediate, \$35, 1:45–2:45 p.m.  
(Course #2090602-02)

## 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, SilverSneakers and Silver and Fit members. \$4 per day for non-members.

#### Williston Fitness Center

**14509 Minnetonka Drive**

## PARKING

If the Community Center parking lot is full, please remember you may park at City Hall. The turnaround is for drop-off and pick up only.

Parking spaces behind the Community Center are reserved for city vehicles. Please do not park in the turnaround or behind the Community Center.



## Education Programs

### Matter of Balance

*Tuesdays, Feb. 2 – March 22*  
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Learn to manage falls and increase activity levels during award-winning series by the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging. Learn to view falls as controllable, set goals for increasing activity, reduce fall risks at home and increase strength and balance.

- \$58 (Course #2090801-01)

### Defensive Driving

Attend and save 10 percent on car insurance! Pay the instructor at class with a check or exact cash. Register through MN Highway Safety Center, 1-888-234-1294, or visit [mnsafetycenter.org](http://mnsafetycenter.org) for all classes.

*4-hour renewal sessions:*

- \$22, Tuesday, Feb. 16, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

## Leisure Programs

### Full Moon Hike to Jidana Park

*Steve Pieh*

*Monday, Feb. 22*  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Enjoy a relaxed walk to Jidana Park. Enjoy refreshments and roasting hot dogs by campfire underneath the full moon. Meet at the main entrance of the Minnetonka Community Center.

- \$4 (Course #2190801-01)

### Mahjongg

*Carole Harris*

*Wednesdays, April 6 – May 18*  
10 a.m. – Noon

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

- \$56 (Course #2190201-01)



## 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.

## History Programs

### British History: Edwardian England

*Terry Kubista*

*ursdays, Feb. 4–25*  
1 – 3 p.m.

The Edwardian Manor house is the basis for this series. The economic and social pressures are a driving force of the nation in a downward spiral ending just short of bankruptcy.

- \$28 (Course #2180101-02)

### British History: Short Tales

*Terry Kubista*

*ursdays, March 3–24*  
1 – 3 p.m.

Join us for a few short and fun tales: Victoria's grandchildren at war with each other, the true story of St. Patrick, and some strange stories of the royals make up part of this month's content.

- \$28 (Course #2180101-03)

### e Crusades and Warrior Monks

*Dan Hartman*

*Wednesday, Feb. 10*  
10:30 a.m. – noon

Examine the Crusades, a call to take back the Holy Land during the Middle Ages. Discover what happened and focus on certain groups of religious knights, who together are called Warrior Monks. We will explore the Knights Templar, the Knights Hospitaller and the Teutonic Knights.

- \$3 (Course #2180202-01)

## Art Programs

### Watercolor with Pen and Ink

*Sandra Muzzy*

*Tuesdays, March 1 – 15*  
1 – 4 p.m.

Watercolor and ink work well together with their versatile and unique properties. Work with inks, assorted pens and water soluble materials to create various effects, expand your painting repertoire and experiment with fun, versatile and accessible painting techniques.

- \$84 (Course #2130301-01)

## Interest Groups

Interest groups are coordinated and led by seniors in the community. All groups meet at the Minnetonka Community Center unless noted otherwise.

### 500

*2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 10 a.m.*

*2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.*

Join in the fun! We'll teach you.

### Bird Club

*1st Friday, 10 a.m.*

Speaker: *Raptor Vision* by Mike Billington.

### Book Club

*3rd ursday, 1 p.m.*

*Once We Were Brothers* by Ronald Balson.

### Bulls and Bears Investment Club

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

Learn about investing.

### Bunco

*2nd and 4th ursdays, 1 p.m.*

Join in the fun! We'll teach you!

### Dominoes

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

New members welcome!

### Cribbage

*ursdays, 10 a.m.*

Bring your cribbage board and cards.

### Garden Club

*2nd Monday, 1 p.m.*

Tour Como Conservatory. Meet at Community Center at noon.

### Ham Radio

*2nd Monday, 10 a.m.*

New members welcome!

### Mahjongg

*Wednesdays, 10 a.m.*

New members welcome!

### Literary Book Club

*4th Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.*

*e Hare with the Amber Eyes* by Edmund Woal.

### New! Oil Painting Drop-In

*Fridays, 1 p.m.*

New members welcome!

### Single Mingle

*1st Monday, 9:30 a.m.*

*New time and location!* Meet local singles over coffee at the Community Center.



## Senior Day Trips

### Asian Art and Cuisine

Tuesday, April 12

Enjoy lunch at Ping's Szechuan Restaurant featuring award-winning Asian cuisine. After lunch tour the Minneapolis Institute of Art featuring the Gifts of Japanese and Korean Art exhibit from the Mary Griggs Burke Collection. This collection of St. Paul native Mary Griggs Burke is long considered the finest private collection of its kind outside of Japan. Bring pocket money for the store and coffee shop.

**Menu:** All-you-can-eat buffet with water, hot tea and Hawaiian donuts.

(Course# 2110104-01)

- **Cost:** \$67 includes tours, meal, transportation and escort
- **Estimated trip time:** 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, March 18



## Services

### Blood Pressure Screenings

1st and 3rd Fridays; 2nd Wednesdays

9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Free!

Provided by volunteer nurses.

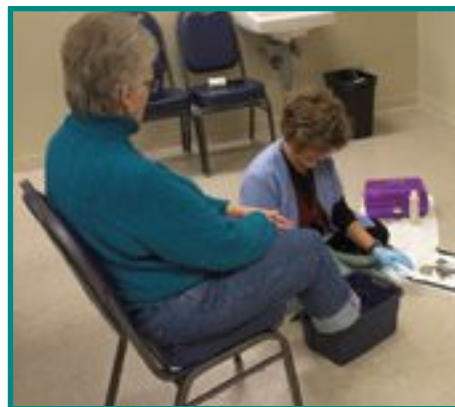
### Happy Feet

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

9 a.m. – 3 p.m., \$36

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.

### Health Insurance Counseling

1st and 3rd Mondays, Free!

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

### HOME

Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly (HOME) is available for Minnetonka residents 60+. For 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
- Check carbon monoxide and smoke detectors
- Change furnace filters



## Contact and Registration Information

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

### Minnetonka Senior Services

952-939-8393

14600 Minnetonka Blvd.

Minnetonka, MN 55345

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

### Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### Administrative Staff

Kate Egert

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

### Senior Services and Activities Manager

Steve Pieh

952-939-8366

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

### Senior and General Programs Manager

Janelle Cross Eld

952-939-8369

[jcross\\_eld@eminnetonka.com](mailto:jcross_eld@eminnetonka.com)

### Program Locations

Meet at Minnetonka Senior Services unless otherwise noted.

### Registration 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**  
Full refund requires canceling prior to advertised deadline. Cancellations after deadline are refunded after a \$5 fee per registration, only in the event a participant is found to fill the space.

### CareNextion

[carenextion.org](http://carenextion.org)

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

### Extended Trips

For information call Senior Community Services at 952-767-7899 or visit

[seniorcommunity.org](http://seniorcommunity.org)

- **Florida Fly In** (March 1–10)  
Cost: \$2790 per person, double occupancy.
- **California** (March 11–25)  
Cost: \$2829 per person, double occupancy

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

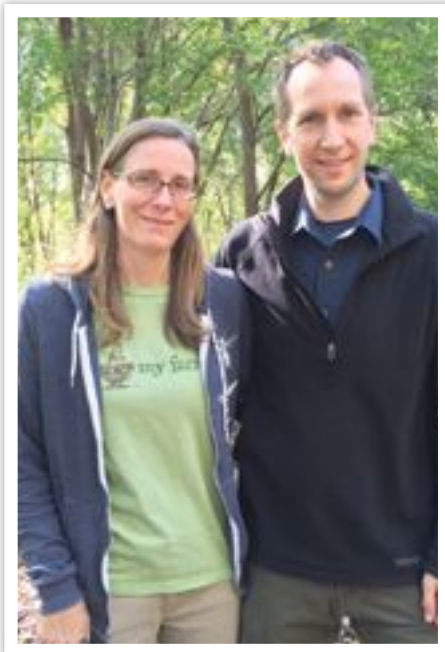


## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

# Heather and Brent Holm restore habitat at Lake Rose Park

It wasn't long after moving to Minnetonka from Maryland in 2004 that Heather and Brent Holm began to use city parks on a daily basis, mostly walking their dog on trails and footpaths through natural areas.

Their volunteer work started in 2006, removing the invasive buckthorn, bit by bit, with a few neighbors, in and around Lake Rose Park. The small 10-acre park is a community preserve in the southwest quadrant of Minnetonka, between Glen Lake and Purgatory Park. It is undeveloped, surrounded by homes and not known or visited by many other than those who live nearby.



Heather and Brent volunteered 70 hours in 2015

In 2008, neighbors contacted the city and cooperatively began habitat restoration with an organized buckthorn cut with resident volunteers. Heather played an important preparatory role by tagging native species so they wouldn't be damaged by eager cutters. Soon after, Heather and Brent became "Adopt-a-Spot" volunteers working to restore portions of a five-acre oak woodland remnant on a knoll overlooking the lake and a wetland. They call it "The Point."

Heather is a horticulturist, consultant and author of a book on pollinators of native plants. Her interests in the natural world stem from her love of observation and learning which has led her to work and volunteer in many areas of conservation and design. Her husband Brent is an electrical

engineer and an enthusiastic co-conspirator in their volunteer ventures.

Heather says that she's a habitat restoration volunteer because it is gratifying to watch the woods improve over the long-term process. She likes making a connection with neighbors and building community. Both Brent and Heather agree their goal is to leave the park in better condition for the next generation.

Heather and Brent now lead restoration in Lake Rose Park by mentoring and working with neighbors and coordinating assistance from the city. They know that working with invasive species requires a long-term commitment and are relentlessly dedicated to making a difference.

### The following is an incomplete list of their contributions over the past ten years:

- Annual work on buckthorn control and the release of native plants
- Heather discovered a new invasive species in the park: narrowleaf bittercress
- Scouting the park each spring, removing bittercress and the very invasive garlic mustard
- Heather proposed and co-wrote a cost-share grant with the city restoration specialist for Nine Mile Creek Watershed District funds to continue restoration and plant native trees and shrubs on a steep hillside near the east shore of the lake
- Worked with the city, contractors and volunteers on the 2011 grant-planting, maintenance and project report
- Work throughout the seasons to protect native plants from deer and rodent damage by installing wire plant cages and tree guard spirals
- Plant and maintain native trees, shrubs and wildflowers on their own and with neighbors
- Donate native trees, plants, seeds and fencing materials
- Spread wood mulch that was ground and recycled at the city brush drop
- Monitor the park--reporting remnant native plants, new invasive outbreaks, ideas and challenges
- The Lake Rose Park woodlands were classified as D-grade in a 2004 report, but are now A-grade in most areas. This is a full one to two grades better than the park would be without volunteers. Residents and city staff have Brent and Heather to thank for this; and we can all be happy that the volunteer duo has no plans of letting up.

JOIN US

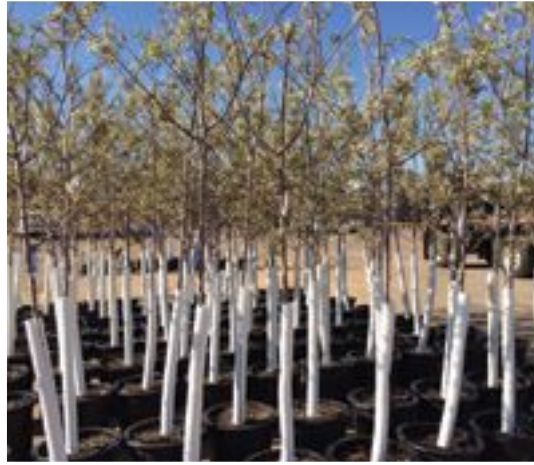
If you're interested in helping to restore a park in your neighborhood, call Public Works at 952-988-8400 to find out how you can help. Volunteers are always needed!

# 2016 city tree sale opens online Feb. 8 at 9 a.m.

The annual tree sale is back, with a few new twists this year: exclusive online ordering and a new woodland trio and conifer duo.

Once again, the city is partnering with Tree Trust, a local nonprofit organization, to offer online ordering via [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com). For the first time this year, however, all orders must be made online. The sale begins promptly at 9 a.m. Monday, Feb. 8 and will continue until Monday, March 7 at 4:30 p.m.

Please note, in order to protect data privacy, absolutely no orders will be accepted over the phone with a credit card. If you need assistance placing your order, city staff will be available in person to assist you at the Minnetonka Public Works Facility (11522 Minnetonka Boulevard) from 7:45–9 a.m. and from 1–2 p.m. Monday through Friday until the sale closes in March.



## Ordering Trees

Check out the table on page 11 to get the details on the types of trees for sale. To place your order, visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com).

Quantities are limited and trees can sell out before the deadline, so place your order as soon as possible. The earlier you order, the better the chance you have to secure a tree.

Please note:

- This offer is open to Minnetonka residents only. The city is offsetting the cost of the trees for residents; the intent of the sale is to reforest the city of Minnetonka. Please refrain from buying trees for cabins or others who do not live in the city.
- You may order up to two trees per property or one tree and one trio and duo per property. A trio and a duo are considered one tree “unit,” and each will be limited to one per property owner due to limited availability.
- Orders will be processed for single family homeowners. If you represent a townhome or condo association, you must contact the city forester prior to placing your order. Orders will not be accepted from apartment building residences. The city reserves the right to limit tree species selections and quantities for associations and residents who own multiple properties.
- **Unlike a retail nursery, these trees do not have a warranty.**

## Tree Pick Up

**Friday, April 29, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
**Saturday, April 30, 9 a.m.– noon**

**Public Works, East Driveway**  
11522 Minnetonka Blvd.  
Minnetonka, MN 55305  
**952-988-8400**

All trees must be picked up on the designated pick-up dates. Trees which are not picked up will be planted in Minnetonka parks. No refunds will be given.



## City offers online utility billing

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, either one time or on a recurring basis, using your credit card or bank account. It's easy to register and it's free! Visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) and look for the online utility billing logo. Click on the logo and follow the instructions — be sure to have your latest bill handy. Questions? Call 952-939-8200.

## Streetlight or electricity out?

If your streetlight is out, it should be reported to Xcel Energy. Call 1-800-960-6235 or visit [xcelenergy.com](http://xcelenergy.com) for an online reporting form.

If your power is out, or you have an electrical emergency, report it by calling the Xcel Energy Electric Outage number at 1-800-895-1999.

Contact information for outages at the various utilities is available at [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com).





# 2016 Tree Sale Options

Order online at [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) beginning February 8.

Species	Initial Height	Fall color	Sun or shade?	Significant features	Mature Height	Mature Spread
<b>Large shade trees</b>						
American Basswood (Frontyard Linden)	6-8'	Yellow	☉ ☌ ●	Fragrant pale yellow flowers, attracts pollinators, needs pruning regularly for first 15 years	60-75'	40'
Ginkgo (Autumn Gold)	6-8'	Yellow	☉	Unique fan-shaped leaves, male fruitless version, can tolerate road salt, compacted soil and drought once established	50'	30'
Hackberry	6-8'	Yellow	☉ ☌	Berries for birds, can tolerate seasonally wet areas and drought once established	50-75'	50'
Honeylocust (Sunburst)	6-8'	Yellow	☉	Leaves emerge bright golden-bronze, then fade to green, dappled shade can sustain flowers or grass under the mature canopy, seedless	35'	30-35'
Kentucky Coffeetree	6-8'	Yellow	☉	Pods provide winter interest, architectural bark, white flowers in May/June, leaves produce dappled shade, a unique tree	50-60'	40-50'
White Oak	6-8'	Purple-Red	☉ ☌	Strong branch structure, good tree for woods, prefers moist well drained soil, excellent wildlife tree	60-80'	60-80'
<b>Small ornamental or understory woodland trees /shrubs</b>						
Hawthorn (Toba)	4-6'	Insignificant	☉ ☌	A hybrid of two Hawthorn species, thornless with large white-pink flowers, glossy leaves and red fruit	12-15'	12'
Ironwood	6-8'	Yellow	☉ ☌ ●	Best planted in woods or edges, excellent replacement for buckthorn in woods, retains leaves after autumn, hop like fruit offers winter interest, slower growing	30-50'	25'
Japanese Tree Lilac (single stem)	6-8'	Insignificant	☉	Fragrant white flowers, glossy golden bark, tolerant of tough sites	25'	25'
Woodland Trio	1-2'	Burgundy/Purple and Purple-red	☉ ☌	One of each species to form a trio: A #5 gallon Purpleleaf American hazelnut, a #2 gallon gray dogwood, and a #5 gallon nannyberry. This is an ideal package for buckthorn replacement in a woodland with canopy openings providing sun, or on a woodland edge. You must protect young plants with chicken or welded wire caging to avoid animal damage until they are established. Read more about each species via <a href="http://eminnetonka.com">eminnetonka.com</a>	6-20'	5-10'
<b>Conifers</b>						
Norway Spruce Duo	2'	Green	☉	The duo will include two spruce trees. A tough, fairly fast growing European spruce species that develops pendulous branches, plan for the mature size when planting.	40-80'	25-30'
<b>Supplies</b>						
Plastic Tree Guard	4'	Protect young tree stems from deer and more! Use on trees up to 3" diameter, not suitable for conifers or clump multi-stem trees (use welded wire/hardware cloth instead). You may combine several guards for larger diameter trees to protect larger thin barked trees, use white duct tape or zip ties to attach to tree inconspicuously.				
Tree Watering Bag (Gator Bag)	N/A	Zip a plastic bag around your young tree and fill it once every 5-7 days to ensure your new tree gets properly watered. The bag holds about 20 gallons of water at a time and slowly percolates into the soil over 5-9 hours.				

# minnetonka memo

February 2016

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CITY OF MINNETONKA

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

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<b>Newsletter Editor</b> Kari Spreeman . . . . . 952-939-8200	<i>Ward 2:</i> Tony Wagner . . . 952-382-5212 twagner@eminnetonka.com
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<b>Website:</b> . . . . . eminnetonka.com	<i>Ward 4:</i> Tim Bergstedt . . . 952-934-1769 tbergstedt@eminnetonka.com
<b>Minnetonka Mike</b> . . . . . 952-939-8586 . . . . . mike@eminnetonka.com	
<b>POLICE-FIRE: Emergency</b> . . . . . 9-1-1	
<b>Non-emergency</b> . . . . . 952-939-8500 or 9-1-1	

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POSTAL PATRON

## Calendar

City of  
Minnetonka

February  
2016

Call 952-939-8200  
for meeting  
locations.

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

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). e 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.

## HWY 169 Open House: Feb. 10

Representatives from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) are hosting an open house about improvements planned for Highway 169, between Highway 55 and Highway 62, from 4–6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10 at Hopkins High School (2400 Lindbergh Drive, Minnetonka).

This project is expected to result in major traffic impacts and delays. Highway 169 will be closed for up to one year, between Bren Road and 7th Street, and remaining project areas will be reduced to one lane in each direction for road resurfacing work. The project will also require periodic ramp closures.

Attendees will have the opportunity to get the latest on the construction staging timeline and project schedule. Representatives from MnDOT and project staff will be available to answer questions.

Visit the project website at [mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy169hopkins](http://mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy169hopkins) for more details.

## Staying informed about 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 at [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com). You can learn about new projects in the city; provide online feedback on projects during the approval process; and receive email updates. Planning commission meeting agendas are posted the Monday prior to the meeting. Visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) to get started.

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

