

# minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka  
June 2016

## Imagine Minnetonka: Share your vision for the future

The city of Minnetonka has experienced dramatic growth and change over the past 40 years. From development of new housing, parks, and retail and commercial centers, to preservation of open spaces and wetland areas, the evolution of Minnetonka has been extraordinary – but it hasn't happened by chance. Successful planning and a strong vision for the future have helped to make this the special community it is today.

To ensure the city remains vibrant and successful for many years to come, this summer the City of Minnetonka will begin a community visioning process – *Imagine Minnetonka*. The information gathered throughout the process will guide city leaders as long-term plans are developed.

### The visioning process will invite residents to explore questions such as:

- What sets Minnetonka apart from other communities?
- Where is there an opportunity or need for the city to evolve or change?
- How can Minnetonka remain appealing to current and future residents?



Residents will have the opportunity to share their wishes and goals for the city's future in a variety of ways – at community events, through social media, online at [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com), and at various meetings around town. The city has partnered with Rebecca Ryan from Next Generation Consulting to spearhead the effort.

The *Imagine Minnetonka* visioning project will kick off at Summer Fest on June 25. Subscribe to receive email updates about other opportunities to participate at [eminnetonka.com/imagine](http://eminnetonka.com/imagine) – additional information will also be shared in upcoming issues of the *Minnetonka Memo*.

## Dispose of unwanted items at the drop-off event June 4

Minnetonka's special one-day drop-off event is Saturday, June 4, from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Minnetonka Public Works, 11522 Minnetonka Boulevard. Visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) for a list of accepted items and costs. Electronics are not accepted at this event. *Please note, the date listed in the May 2016 issue of the Minnetonka Memo was incorrect.*



# Summer Theater, Music, Movie Events Begin June 17

Mark your calendar for a chance to enjoy theater, music and movies in the picturesque setting of the outdoor amphitheater on the civic center campus at 14600 Minnetonka Blvd.  
It's a perfect way to spend a summer evening with the family!

## Theater in the Park Wizard of Oz

Like so many children her age, young Dorothy of Kansas dreams of what lies beyond her family farm. One day, a twister strikes and carries her over the rainbow to another world. Join Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tinman and the Cowardly Lion as they discover there truly is no place like home.



Fourth and fifth graders from Minnetonka Public Schools will present their 45-minute musical rendition of the timeless classic.

**Friday, June 17,  
10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.**

**Saturday, June 18,  
10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

## Movies in the Park

Bring your family, friends and a blanket or lawn chair for a fun night out. Movies take place at dusk.

**Wednesday, Aug. 17  
*Minions***

**Wednesday, Aug. 24  
*Inside Out***

**Wednesday, Aug. 31  
*Jurassic World***

Call the weather hotline at 952-939-8355 or visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) for weather-related updates.

## Music in the Park

The 2016 Music in the Park is set for Tuesday evenings June 21 to Aug. 23 from 7-8:30 p.m. Bring a blanket or folding chair and enjoy a wide variety of music for the whole family. Concessions are available at each concert.

### June 21

Calhoun Isles Community Band  
(60-piece concert band)

### June 28

Hopkins Westwind Concert Band  
(65-piece concert band)

### July 5

Geo Elvee Quintet  
(Country)

### July 12

Salsabrosa  
(Cuban salsa band)

### July 19

Je Dayton and Friends  
(Nashville country artist and long-time  
Glen Campbell band leader)

### July 26

Minnetonka Sings Vocal Contest  
(Solo performers with  
background music)

### Aug. 2

Eden Prairie Community Band  
(45-piece community band)

### Aug. 9\*

Salsa del Soul  
(9-piece latin, salsa band)

Thank You to Our Sponsor



### Aug. 16\*

Minneapolis Commodores  
(60-member barbershop harmony choir)  
*Please bring a food donation  
for the ICA Food Shelf*

### Aug. 23\*

Bend in the River Big Band  
(18-piece big band)

*\*Concert time 6:30-8 p.m.  
due to earlier sunset*

## Register to participate in the Minnetonka Sings Contest

The Glen Lake Optimist Club is searching for one voice to represent Minnetonka in the Minnesota Sings statewide amateur vocal competition. Minnesota Sings is seeking the top voices from 100 Minnesota cities.

The contest to find a singer to represent Minnetonka in the statewide competition will be held Tuesday, July 26, from 7-8:30 p.m. at the outdoor amphitheater on the civic center campus (14600 Minnetonka Blvd.).

Each solo singer must bring their favorite song track to sing one song to – groups and other instruments are not allowed. Contestants must be 15-25 years old on Sept. 25, 2016 (the night of the Minnesota Sings championships) and live, work or go to school in Minnetonka, including Hopkins Jr. High and Hopkins High School.

For more information and to register, contact Rey Lindquist with the Glen Lake Optimists at [reylind@aol.com](mailto:reylind@aol.com).

## Absentee voting starts Friday, June 24 for August primary election

This year's state primary election is Tuesday, Aug. 9, and the state general election is Tuesday, Nov. 8. Absentee ballots for the state primary will be available starting June 24.

### Absentee Voting

Voters should note that the absentee ballot process requires additional steps that are different from the Election Day voting process. All absentee voters must complete an application to receive a ballot and a certificate when casting the absentee ballot. Election judges compare the information on the two documents before the ballot can be accepted. Absentee voting may be done in person or by mail.



### In Person

Beginning June 24, Minnetonka voters may vote absentee at Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., or at the Hennepin County Government Center, 300 S. 6th St., Minneapolis, during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Extended absentee voting hours will be available at both locations Saturday, Aug. 6, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Monday, Aug. 8, until 5 p.m.

### By Mail

*Remember; the voted ballot must be received by Election Day for the vote to count. Please allow sufficient time for postal service delivery. Hennepin County administers the mail absentee process countywide.*

The first step to vote absentee by mail is to complete an application. The quickest method is to apply online through the Minnesota Office of Secretary of State's website at [mnvotesinfo.sos.state.mn.us](http://mnvotesinfo.sos.state.mn.us).

Applications can also be downloaded from the city's website at [eminnetonka.com/elections](http://eminnetonka.com/elections), or Hennepin County's website at [hennepin.us/residents/elections/absentee-voting](http://hennepin.us/residents/elections/absentee-voting). Upon receipt of an application, Hennepin County will mail the ballot materials.

Applications may also be obtained by calling City Hall at 952-939-8200, or by emailing [elections@eminnetonka.com](mailto:elections@eminnetonka.com).

### Polling Places

Please note, the location of two of the city's polling places has changed since the last election.

- **Precinct A (Ward 1) voters will vote at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 13505 Excelsior Blvd.** If your polling location was Glen Lake Elementary School, 4801 Woodridge Rd, you will now be voting at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.
- **Precinct D (Ward 1) voters will vote at Grace Apostolic Church, 4215 Fairview Ave.** If your polling place was Faith Presbyterian Church, 12007 Excelsior Blvd, you will now be voting at Grace Apostolic Church.

City staff is available to answer any questions at 952-939-8200 or [elections@eminnetonka.com](mailto:elections@eminnetonka.com).

## Burwell House opens for season June 4

The Charles H. Burwell House, located at 13209 E. McGinty Road, opens for the 2016 tour season Saturday, June 4, and remains open through August 28. Tours are available Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon-3 p.m. In September, the house is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon-3 p.m. The Burwell House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Tours are free, but donations are accepted. The main floor of the house is handicap accessible, and the entire house is air-conditioned. To schedule special tours for groups of seven or more, or for more information about the Burwell site, visit [eminnetonka.com/burwellhouse](http://eminnetonka.com/burwellhouse), call 952-939-8219 or email [mzimmer@eminnetonka.com](mailto:mzimmer@eminnetonka.com).

## Enjoy a Music Association of Minnetonka performance this summer

Join the Minnetonka Symphony Orchestra for the final performance of its 41st season at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska, on Sunday, June 19 at 1 p.m. The performance will include pieces by Strauss, Sousa and Joplin, and is free with Arboretum admission.

The Music Association of Minnetonka youth choirs will kick off Minnetonka Summer Fest's first-ever youth triathlon on Saturday, June 25 by singing the national anthem at the Williston Fitness Center pool. The choirs will also sing the national anthem at home games for FC Minneapolis, a local semi-pro soccer team, at Einer Anderson Stadium at Minnetonka High School.

For more information about the music association's fall programs, stop by the popcorn stand at Minnetonka Summer Festival or visit [musicassociation.org](http://musicassociation.org).

## Grants available for shoreline plantings

There is a growing movement among lakeshore owners across the state to go natural with their shoreline, using deep-rooted native plants to anchor the soil and catch rainwater before it enters the lake. These natural shorelines – sometimes called “vegetated shorelines” or “shoreline gardens” – add color and beauty to the shoreline, improve water quality, provide critical habitat and even help keep geese out of your yard.

### Understanding Your Shoreline

#### Wild Shoreline

*an ecological crossroads*



#### Average Shoreline

*a missed opportunity*



#### Vegetated Average Shoreline

*a novel approach*



The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District is offering grants to help Lake Minnetonka residents join this movement. The District’s Cost Share grant program can pay for up to 75 percent of a project. Applications are accepted year-round. Learn more at [minnehahacreek.org/cost-share](http://minnehahacreek.org/cost-share).

You can also learn more about planning a native shoreline in the recently-published “Lake Minnetonka Guide to Shoreline Gardens,” which shows how shoreline gardens can be adapted to meet different aesthetic sensibilities, maintenance capacities and site conditions. Learn more at [urbanecosystemsinc.com/our-book.html](http://urbanecosystemsinc.com/our-book.html).

## Natural Resources Happenings

### Native Plant Market and Eco Fun Fest

**Wednesday, June 8  
3–7 p.m.**

**City Hall parking lot, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd.**

Purchase native plants, talk with experts from local organizations, and enjoy fun family activities. Registration is not necessary.

### Spring Bird Walk\*

**Saturday, June 11  
8:30–11 a.m.**

**City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd.**  
(starts at flag pole by the main entrance)

Enjoy a morning bird walk around the civic center campus guided by Anne Hanley and George Skinner of the Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter. Open to all skill and age levels. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them (some binoculars will be available).

### Garlic Mustard Control Opportunities\*

Assist with garlic mustard removal along trails and in restoration areas. Volunteers will be asked to sign a release form. Wear work clothes and sturdy footwear; bring hand trowel, garden gloves and water.

**Wednesday, June 15  
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Victoria Evergreen Park,  
3801 Victoria St.**  
(meet at parking lot)

**Wednesday, June 22  
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Tower Hill Park, 14601 State Hwy 7**  
(meet at south end of Famous Dave’s parking lot)

**Wednesday, June 29  
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Kinsel Park, 14017 Kinsel Rd.**  
(meet at parking lot)

**\*Registration is required. RSVP online at [eminnetonka.com/NRevents](http://eminnetonka.com/NRevents) or call 952-988-8400.**

## Minnetonka named Tree City USA for 22<sup>nd</sup> year

The City of Minnetonka has been named a Tree City USA community for its commitment to forestry in 2015. This is the 22nd year Minnetonka has received this national designation. The program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.



**TREE CITY USA®**

Minnetonka has exceeded the four standards required to become a Tree City USA community, which include having a tree board or staff, a tree ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day proclamation and observance. The city also received a Growth Award in 2015 due to its proactive approach to preparing for emerald ash borer through new programs such as the tree injection program, which offers bulk pricing to homeowners.

More information about Tree City USA can be found at [arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).



# minnetonka script

Programs and services for those 55+  
June 2016 Newsletter

## Local History Talk

*Earl Jensen and John DeVeau*

**Monday, June 13, 10:30 a.m.**

Join longtime Minnetonka residents, Earl Jensen and John DeVeau, as they share memories and early maps of the Civic Center Campus area. Discover what existed in the space that now consists of the city hall, ice arena, fire station, Williston Center, Jidana Park, police station and the community center. Participants will receive copies of maps to take home.

**Cost: \$2** (Course #3180408-01)

## Lunch and a Movie: *Brooklyn*

**Friday, June 17, noon**

After emigrating from Ireland, Eilis Lacey readily adapts to the vastly different New York City. When tragedy pulls her back to her hometown, she finds her loyalties divided between two nations.

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

**Cost: \$5** due Tuesday, July 14

(Course #3100202-01)

## Monthly Party: Summer Solstice

**Wednesday, June 22, noon**

Join us for fun and games at the Summer Solstice Party!

**Menu:** Brats, oats, beans and chips.

**Sponsored by: Lifesprk**

**Cost: \$5** due Friday, June 17

(Course #3100103-01)

## Community Connections: Farm to Table Nutrition

*Jill Holter*

**Monday, June 27, 10:15 a.m.**

Remember milk from glass bottles? Eggs from chickens that run around the yard? Eating vegetables picked from the garden? What was old is new again! Come experience what it means to eat "Farm to Table." Lakewinds Natural Foods Co-op will be presenting practical and seasonal ideas to eat fresh and local foods for good health, hydration and taste. Samples will be served. Provided by Lake Minnetonka Senior Care Providers: Community Connections.

**Cost: Free!** (Course #3180417-01)

## Pollinate Minnesota

*Erin Rupp*

**Monday, June 20, 11 a.m.**

View a hive of live honeybees and learn about pollinators, who they are, what's going on with them and what we can do to help. Program will meet outdoors if the weather is nice.

**Cost: \$2** (Course #3180402-01)

## Lunch and a Movie: *e 33*

**Friday, July 15, noon**

One of the most compelling true-life tales of survival in the modern age, this drama chronicles the massive 69-day effort to rescue 33 Chilean miners who were trapped more than 2,000 feet underground.

**Menu:** Chilean empanada, chicken and rice.

**Cost: \$5** due Tuesday, July 12

(Course #3100203-01)

## Statue of Liberty: Two Decades of Effort, Almost Impossible Odds

*David Jones*

**Monday, July 18, 10:30 a.m.**

The Statue of Liberty stands proudly in New York Harbor, but how did the statue come to be? What does it symbolize? Join us for a compelling look at the idea, the construction and the meaning behind one of the most recognizable symbols in the world.

**Cost: \$2** (Course #3180403-04)

## Monthly Party: Burger Bar

**Wednesday, July 20, noon**

Join us for a burger bar!

**Menu:** Burger, potato salad, bean salad and dessert.

**Sponsored by: Legacy Care Home**

**Cost: \$5** due Friday, July 15

(Course #3100104-01)

## Healthy Living:

The Healthy Living education series is provided monthly by North Memorial Health Care.

### Diabetes

**Thursday, June 9, 1 p.m.**

Learn about type 2 diabetes prevention including weight loss solutions. View a demonstration for insulin delivery systems and pumps.

**Cost: \$2** (Course #3180409-01)

### Dry Eyes, Dry Mouth

**Monday, July 25, 1 p.m.**

Learn awareness and symptoms of Sjogren's, a common undiagnosed condition of the immune system. The two most common symptoms are dry eyes and dry mouth. Discuss treatment options and risks, including a connection with lymphoma cancer.

**Cost: \$2** (Course #3180409-02)

### Comprehensive Treatment for Obstructive Sleep Apnea

**Wednesday, Aug 31, 1 p.m.**

Learn about new surgical solutions, technology advances and other solutions for sleep apnea.

**Cost: \$2** (Course #3180409-03)

## Community Connections:

### Dialect Conversations

*Jean McGill, CSA, CPC*

**Monday, July 25, 10:15 a.m.**

Discover what stands between you and your responsibilities in planning for the future. Providing guidance in the gift of planning is Jean McGill's strength and life purpose. Join her as she reveals ways to start dialect conversations. Provided by Lake Minnetonka Senior Care Providers: Community Connections.

**Cost: Free!** (Course #3180416-01)

## 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)

### New! Ballroom Dancing for Couples

#### Tricia Wood

Learn a variety of ballroom, Latin, swing and country dances to dance at any venue.

**Wednesdays, 10- 10:50 a.m.**

- June 1-22  
\$52 (Course #3091004-01)
- June 29-July 27 (no class July 6)  
\$52 (Course #3091004-02)

### New! Ballroom Bootcamp Workout

#### Tricia Wood

Have fun working out to fun music, while learning the rhythms and movements of ballroom dancing. No partners needed!

**Wednesdays, 11- 11:50 a.m.**

- June 1-22  
\$52 (Course #3091005-01)
- June 29-July 27 (no class July 6)  
\$52 (Course #3091005-02)

### Tai Chi for Health and Wellness

#### Ron Erdman-Luntz

**ursdays, July 14-Aug. 18, 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 #3090401-01)



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

## Senior Yoga

	Instructor	Dates	Day	Times	Fee	Course #
Chair	Nancy Holasek	July 12-Aug. 16	T	9:45-10:45 a.m.	\$36	3090101-03
	Nancy Holasek	July 14-Aug.18	TH	9:45-10:45 a.m.	\$36	3090101-04
	Elizabeth Kelly	July 13-Aug.17	W	6:15-7:15 p.m.	\$36	3090101-06
Intermediate	Nancy Holasek	July 12-Aug. 16	T	11 a.m. - noon	\$36	3090201-03
	Nancy Holasek	July 14-Aug. 18	TH	11 a.m. - noon	\$36	3090201-04
	Elizabeth Kelly	July 13-Aug. 17	W	7:30 - 8:30 p.m.	\$36	3090201-06

### Line Dance

#### Eileen Ronning

**ursdays, June 2- 30**

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

- Beginner, \$35, 12:30-1:30 p.m.  
(Course #3090601-01)
- Intermediate, \$35, 1:45-2:45 p.m.  
(Course #3090602-01)

### Therapeutic Pilates

#### Dr. Sarah Petich

**Mondays, June 6-July 18 (no class July 4)  
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.

- \$54 (Course #3090901-01)

### 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, 1- 2 p.m.**

- June 6-July 25 (No Class 7/4)  
\$35 (Course #3090501-01)

**Wednesdays, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**

- June 8-July 27  
\$40 (Course #3090501-02)

### Tai Chi Chih Workshops

#### Susan Sobelson

Workshops offer a 30-minute instruction followed by a hour practice. All levels of Tai Chi Chih students are welcome. Attend the instruction, the practice or both. No admittance after practice has started.

**Mondays, 10-11 a.m.**

- June 13, \$4 (Course #3090301-01)
- June 27, \$4 (Course #3090301-02)

## Athletic Activities

### 70+ Softball

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

Slow pitch softball is played at Big Willow Fields #5-6, 11522 Minnetonka Blvd. Modified rules allow for competitive play without the risk of serious injury. Registration is accepted throughout the season.

- \$25 (Course #3120201-01)

### Minnetonka Bike Club

The goal of the club is to provide moderate exercise under safe conditions and encourage social interaction and friendship. Three groups accommodate different levels of ability. More information at [mtkabikers.org](http://mtkabikers.org)

- \$8 (Course #4120102-01)

### Pickleball

**Monday-Friday, 8- 11 a.m.**

#### Meadow Park

Pickleball is played on tennis courts and pickleball courts within hockey rinks during league time. Four permanent pickleball courts within the hockey rinks can be used anytime outside of this designated league time. Season runs through October.

## Education Programs

### Photo Editing with Picasa

#### Abbey Key

**Tuesdays, July 26–Aug. 16, 9–10 a.m.**

Learn how to upload, retouch and print your summer photos with an easy to use program called Picasa.

- \$16 (Course #3180407-01)

### Defensive Driving

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

#### 4-hour renewal sessions:

- \$22, Tuesday, June 7, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
- \$22, Tuesday, June 21, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

## 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

### Great Depression and Dust Bowl in Minnesota

#### Dan Hartman

**Wednesday, July 13, 10:30 a.m. – noon**

Discover the varying impacts of the Great Depression and Dust Bowl in Minnesota and how Minnesota became stronger afterwards.

- \$3 (Course #3180202-01)

### British History Summer School

#### Terry Kubista

Enjoy presentations on British History. Minnetonka Senior Services History Instructor, Terry Kubista, will highlight a special topic each month!

**Wednesdays, 1–3 p.m.**

#### Lord Horatio Nelson

Follow the footsteps Lord Horatio Nelson in his native Britain, to explore the influences which shaped his character and formed his genius.

- June 23, \$3 (Course #3180101-01)

## Leisure Programs

### Minnehaha Creek Canoe Trip



Enjoy a relaxing two-mile canoe paddle between Grays Bay Dam and I-494, with a picnic stop at Jidana Park. Relax in front of a campfire at Jidana and roast hot dogs. The trip is intended for people who have canoeing experience and can enter and exit the canoe safely on their own. Meet at the community center.

- \$10, Wednesday, June 15, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (Course #3190101-01)
- \$10, Thursday, June 16, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (Course #3190101-02)

## Art Programs

### Spring Painting with Color and Value

#### Gin Weidenfeller

**Wednesdays, June 8–15**

**1–3 p.m.**

Focus on value to paint light, shadow and contrasting color value changes to capture the essence of spring. Mix and blend color to paint the subtlety of new growth, intensity of florals and spring landscapes.

- \$40 (Course #3130102-01)

#### Sir Walter Raleigh

Discover the navigator, poet and favorite of Queen Elizabeth I, Raleigh's meteoric rise was followed by a slow and tragic fall from grace which would eventually end with the farce of the Orinoco disaster and his death.

- July 28, \$3 (Course #3180102-01)

#### Sir Francis Drake

Learn the story of the sea-faring privateer and adventurer whose name has become synonymous with one of English history's most celebrated episodes, the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588.

- August 25, \$3 (Course #3180103-01)

## Senior Day Trips\*

### Afton House and Cruise

**Wednesday, July 20**

Soak in the views of the St. Croix River Valley from the historic Afton House Inn. Enjoy lunch, nearby shops and relaxation before walking a few blocks to the Afton Cruise Lines. The cruise is a hour and a half and is beautiful in every season.

Menu: Chicken crepes served with rice pilaf, vegetable, dinner roll, beverage, and pound cake with blueberries and whipped cream.

(Course# 3110103-01)

- **Cost:** \$66 includes tours, meal, transportation and guide
- **Estimated trip time:** 11 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, June 10

### Spam Museum

**Wednesday, August 17**

Visit downtown Austin, MN and visit the new SPAM®Museum, reopening in the spring of 2016. The museum features audios, videos and displays depicting the rich history of Hormel Food. The self-guided tour is interactive, educational and fun for all ages.

The gift store has collectible memorabilia and SPAM®products. After lunch at the Old Mill Restaurant tour the Artworks Center and Rydjour Bike Museum.

Menu: Grilled chicken breast, wild rice and a house salad.

(Course# 3110104-01)

- **Cost:** \$57 includes tours, meal, transportation and guide
- **Estimated trip time:** 8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, July 15

\*For a complete listing of trips and extended trips offered by Landmark Tours visit the Minnetonka Community Center.



## Interest Groups

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

### Art Drop In

**Mondays, 9 a.m. – noon**  
Informal, drop in and create!

### Bingo

**Tuesdays, 12:40 p.m.**  
Join in the fun!

### Book Club

**3rd ursday, 1 p.m.**  
*e Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

### Bulls & Bears Investment Club

**1st and 3rd Mondays, 1 p.m.**  
Learn about investing.

### Craft Committee

**1st Tuesdays, 10 a.m.**  
Create decor for monthly parties.

### Garden Club

**2nd Monday, 1 p.m.**  
Arneson Gardens, meet at MCC at noon.

### Genealogy Club

**1st ursdays, 10 a.m.**  
Sharing resources for researching family history

### Mahjogg

**Wednesdays, 10 a.m.**  
New members welcome!

### Poker

**1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10 a.m.**  
New members welcome!

### Shutterbugs

**3rd Tuesday, 10 a.m.**  
All levels of photographers welcome!

### Social Bridge

**Wednesdays, 12:45 p.m.**  
Prizes awarded!

### Wood Carvers

**ursdays, 10 a.m.**  
Group members share ideas and work independently.

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

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

### Senior Services and Activities Manager

**Steve Pieh**  
952-939-8366  
[spieh@eminnetonka.com](mailto:spieh@eminnetonka.com)

### Senior and General Programs Manager

**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.



Purchase items handcrafted by Minnetonka residents ages 55 and older.



Wednesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.,  
ursdays until 8 p.m.  
**11280 Wayzata Blvd. 763-591-4868**

## 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.

### 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 and older. For information call 952-746-4046 or visit the Community Center on Fridays, 9 a.m. – noon.



## Get the latest city news delivered to your inbox and phone

The City of Minnetonka recently launched a new email and text subscription service to help you stay informed about city news, events and projects.

New features include:

- New topics: Subscribe to receive notifications about community events, street construction projects, public safety information and more.
- Text message notifications: In addition to staying informed via email, now you can subscribe to receive information via text.
- Subscription management: Create a user profile to determine when and how you receive notifications.

Visit [eminnetonka.com/subscribe](http://eminnetonka.com/subscribe) to sign up today!

## 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, 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.

# What's in the water?

You might notice some colorful changes to the wetlands, lakes, creeks and other areas of water around the city during the warmer months of the year. Fortunately, these changes are not necessarily harmful, but it's good to know what they mean.



## Duckweed

In spite of its small size, duckweed is one of the most-noticed plants in wetland and stormwater ponds during the summer. Often mistaken for algae, duckweed is capable of reproducing rapidly by dividing itself, and it can easily form a bright green layer over the surface of smaller areas of open water. Here are few things to keep in mind about duckweed:

- It is a native species and is not necessarily a sign of poor water quality.
- It can reproduce rapidly, allowing it to absorb large amounts of phosphorus and other nutrients. It helps to clean the water by making less nutrients available to promote algae and weed growth.
- It can be easily distinguished from algae because each duckweed plant floats individually (or in very small, "lobed" clusters) on the surface, while algae have noticeable filaments or stems that form larger masses.
- Duckweed and water meal (a similar species) provide food for waterfowl and other wildlife.

Although not everyone enjoys the appearance of duckweed, it does play a role in keeping both natural and human-made waters clean, along with the other plants that help form a healthy aquatic system.

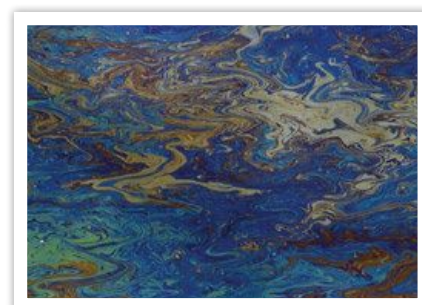
## Oily Sheens

If you see a rainbow of colors or oily sheen on the water's surface—especially near culvert ends, around vegetation, or other areas with little water movement—it is not necessarily a cause for alarm. Although the sheen could result from disposed oil or a leaky engine, some naturally occurring compounds have an oily appearance and are very common in wetlands and other surface waters.

These may be produced by microorganisms breaking down decaying plant and animal matter, or they may simply be naturally occurring oils from within the plant or animal itself. There are two relatively easy ways to tell the difference:

- Naturally occurring compounds are more likely to break up into small sections if you disturb them with the end of a stick. Most petroleum products, such as motor oil, usually recombine quickly on the surface of the water when disturbed.
- Most petroleum products have a noticeable odor similar to gasoline, diesel oil, or solvent. Natural oils are more likely to smell like the decomposing plant or animal material from which they originated, or they may have no odor at all.

Sheens from petroleum products may also be visible after rainstorms, when residue is washed from streets, driveways, and parking lots. Cleaning up any leaks and spills when they happen helps prevent these materials from reaching the water.



# Help control invasive garlic mustard with proper disposal

A prohibited noxious weed, garlic mustard is the most invasive species in the ground layer of Minnetonka woodlands and openings.

An early season biennial herb that germinates from seed, garlic mustard forms a rosette the first year, bolts into a mature flowering stem the second year, sets seed and dies. During the second year of this biennial plant, when the white flowers start to fall, the seed-pod stage begins. In June and July, the seed pods at the top of the plant elongate and look like mini green beans (see photo).



Garlic mustard should be bagged or composted on-site when seedpods are present. Since bagged plants will spread seed to the compost facility, piling and composting on your own property is best.

## Follow these steps to effectively compost garlic mustard:

- Find an isolated place that is not on a slope or in a drainage area to quarantine the garlic mustard pile away from other plants.
- Place the garlic mustard plants in a pile with the seed pod ends toward the center.
- When you are done removing and stacking garlic mustard, the pile should be covered with landscape fabric and anchored down with rocks, logs or landscape staples. The fabric will prevent animals from dispersing seed and allow water to permeate for the decomposition process.
- Because home compost temperatures are not typically high enough to kill seeds, you should plan to keep the compost for years and mark the location with a sign such as: *Garlic Mustard compost. Do not spread.*
- Lift the fabric each year to add more plants to the pile, then re-cover. Each year there will be seedlings in the vicinity, but they can easily be removed.

Control of mature garlic mustard requires removal of the whole plant. To learn more about this noxious weed and how to effectively remove it, search "garlic mustard" at [dnr.state.mn.us](http://dnr.state.mn.us).



## Minnetonka Police Explorers win awards at state conference

In April, Minnetonka Police Explorers Post #884 took home seven awards at the 41st annual Minnesota Law Enforcement Explorer Association (MLEEA) State



Conference. The group of 16 young men and women competed against more than 800 Explorers from 40 police departments across the state in a variety of competitive events, including domestic crisis, traffic crash investigation and report writing.

The Police Explorer program, which is part of the Boy Scouts of America Learning for Life division, offers youth ages 15-20 the opportunity to learn about and experience the field of law enforcement. Explorers meet every Wednesday evening during the school year and are given hands-on training in all basic areas of law enforcement. After a three-month trial period, Explorers receive a uniform and are able to ride along with an experienced officer. Explorers are invited to attend the state conference each year, and a national conference every other year.



While the program is a natural fit for youth who plan to pursue a career in law enforcement, it also offers benefits to students pursuing other fields. There are many opportunities for leadership, volunteering, socialization and fun – and it looks great on college applications and résumés.

The Minnetonka Police Department is currently accepting Explorer applications for the 2016-2017 school year. For more information on the program and qualifications, visit [eminnetonka.com/explorers](http://eminnetonka.com/explorers) or call Officer Heather Olson at 952-939-8500.

## Adopt a city park sign this summer

**D**o you enjoy planting and caring for flowers? Minnetonka's Adopt-a-Park-Sign program is a great way to share your gardening talents with others by planting flowers around city park signs. Volunteers are needed to plant, water and weed flowerbeds throughout the growing season.

The city collaborates with a local greenhouse to provide annuals/perennials of the volunteer's choice to plant and maintain.

To see which park signs still need volunteers, visit [eminnetonka.com/adoptaparksign](http://eminnetonka.com/adoptaparksign). To volunteer or learn more about the program, contact Kate Egert at 952-939-8354 or [kegert@eminnetonka.com](mailto:kegert@eminnetonka.com).

## Hennepin County Year-Round Drop-off Sites

**R**esidents may bring household hazardous waste to either of Hennepin County's permanent drop-off facilities at 1400 W. 96<sup>th</sup> St. in Bloomington or 8100 Jefferson Hwy. in Brooklyn Park.

### Facilities are open:

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays  
10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Wednesdays  
10 a.m.–8 p.m.

Saturdays  
8 a.m.–5 p.m.



Most consumer electronics are accepted at no charge, but there is a \$10 fee for TVs, computer monitors and laptops. Household appliances may be dropped off for a \$15 fee.

Get the details and find a complete list of acceptable materials by searching "drop-off" at [hennepin.us](http://hennepin.us). Call Hennepin County at 612-348-3777 with questions. Please note, the May 2016 issue of the Minnetonka Memo incorrectly stated that all consumer electronics are accepted at no charge.

## Cities create joint development strategy for Shady Oak LRT station area



**T**he cities of Minnetonka and Hopkins have been planning for the addition of the Southwest Light Rail (SWLRT) METRO Green Line Extension for over two decades. Recent planning efforts, however, have focused on the development strategy surrounding the area where the Shady Oak LRT station will be constructed. In April 2016, both the Hopkins and Minnetonka City Councils endorsed a joint development strategy for the station area in an effort to prepare for possible future redevelopment requests.

### SWLRT Background

The SWLRT project, which is a 14.5-mile Green Line Extension that will connect downtown St. Paul and Minneapolis to the southwest suburbs, is being planned and designed by Metro Transit. Opening day of passenger service is anticipated in 2020. Heavy construction of the line is scheduled to begin in 2017.

### Shady Oak LRT Station Details

The Shady Oak LRT station will be located southwest of downtown Hopkins, near Shady Oak Lake, at the border of Hopkins and Minnetonka.

The project will purchase the 15-acre Hopkins Tech Center parcel near the site of the Shady Oak station platform to construct a new north-south roadway extension of 17th Avenue South to make it possible to access the light rail train as well as to accommodate a 700-space park and ride facility. To provide access from the south, a roadway extension of 17th Avenue South from the platform across the Minnesota River Blues Trail to K-Tel Drive will be constructed. Included in the project design is a 20-acre operation and maintenance facility south of 5th Street South.

The station area includes the region roughly bound by Excelsior Boulevard on the north, Shady Oak Road on the west, the Minnesota River Blues Regional Trail on the south and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the east.

### Shady Oak Station Development Strategy

The main components of the joint development strategy established by Minnetonka and Hopkins include:

- A focus on employment opportunities and the creation of an eclectic "Innovation District" that features a variety of different types of businesses
- A commitment to sustainable, transit-oriented development
- A dedication to creating public spaces such as business parks or plazas
- Project phasing to ensure coordination across city boundaries

The process to establish this joint development strategy was guided by joint city council/planning commission work sessions and public engagement meetings during the summer and fall of 2015. Summaries of the work can be found at [eminnetonka.com/shadyoakstation](http://eminnetonka.com/shadyoakstation).

If you have questions about the Shady Oak Station Area Development Strategy, please visit [eminnetonka.com/shadyoakstation](http://eminnetonka.com/shadyoakstation) or contact City Planner Loren Gordon at 952-939-8296 or [lgordon@eminnetonka.com](mailto:lgordon@eminnetonka.com). To learn more about the SWLRT, visit [metro council.org/SWLRT](http://metro council.org/SWLRT).

# minnetonka memo

June 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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ECRWSS  
POSTAL PATRON

## Calendar

City of  
Minnetonka

June  
2016

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

All meetings are open to the public. Meeting dates and times are subject to change – visit [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com) for the latest information. Minnetonka City Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 16 and can be viewed live and on-demand at [eminnetonka.com](http://eminnetonka.com). 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.

## Enjoy food, music, and fun at the 2016 Farmers Market starting June 28

Every Tuesday this summer from 3-7 p.m., beginning on June 28, residents have an important shopping destination: the Minnetonka Farmers Market. Located at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus at 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., the weekly market not only offers locally grown fruits and vegetables – you can also find fresh flowers, eggs, salsa, jam, maple syrup, bread, olive oils, and a variety of other local products. In addition to shopping, you'll enjoy live music, face painting and prepared food items. After the market, head over to the amphitheater for the weekly "Music in the Park" events, starting at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, June 21 to Aug. 23.

Not only is the market a great opportunity to support local farmers and artisans, it's also a fun way to meet your neighbors and enjoy beautiful summer weather. It's fun for the whole family!

The 2016 Farmers Market runs until September 27. For more information, and to subscribe to receive weekly email updates about the market, visit [eminnetonka.com/farmersmarket](http://eminnetonka.com/farmersmarket).

