

minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka
September 2015

Fire Department and City Open House is Oct. 6

MEEET CITY STAFF AND LEARN MORE about your local government at the Minnetonka Fire Department and City Open House Tuesday, Oct. 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Minnetonka Civic Center campus, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd.

Kids four and over can ride in city fire trucks and everyone can enjoy free hot dogs, cookies, pop and lemonade along with department tours and entertainment.

Plan your evening of activities:

- Take a tour of the Minnetonka Police Department's jail and visit with members of the city's Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team. (Police Department)
- Get moving with activities sponsored by Recreation Services. (Community Center lower level)
- View this year's photo contest entries and vote for your favorite (Community Center lower level)
- Ride in a fire truck, ages 4 and over. (5-7:30 p.m., Fire Station)
- Sit inside heavy equipment from the public works department and enjoy a treat! (Community Center south entrance)
- Enjoy musical entertainment (Community Center, upper level)
- Visit the House of Germs and learn how to stay healthy! (Community Center)
- Browse displays from city departments and boards and commissions; as well as community organizations. (Community Center lower level)
- See woodcarving demonstrations (Community Center upper level)
- Snack on free refreshments, including all-beef hot dogs and pop (5-7:30 p.m., Fire Station) and cookies, popcorn, and lemonade. (5-7:30 p.m., Community Center upper level)



Bike to Open House

Avoid the parking hassles and bike to the Fire Department and City Open House! If you do bike, please remember the sun sets earlier this time of year. Be sure to wear light-colored clothing if you'll be biking in the dark, and have the proper lighting on your bicycle. For more information please visit eminnetonka.com.

Think Spring: Water Trees, Shrubs Now

IT'S IMPORTANT TO WATER THROUGHOUT the late summer and into fall, until the ground freezes, to ensure trees and shrubs don't enter the winter stressed by drought. When trees and shrubs start winter at a water deficit, the following spring may bring browning needles, branch and leader dieback, and insect or disease attacks. Sometimes winter damage just causes aesthetic damage, but it may also kill plants outright. Follow these guidelines to give your trees and shrubs their best chance of survival:

- Pay attention to rainfall. If less than one inch of rain is received in a week, supplement by watering.
- Trees and shrubs have different watering needs than a lawn. Irrigation systems do not provide the less frequent but DEEP watering that trees need.
- Instead of a sprinkler, use soaker hoses or a regular hose set to low flow.
- Water low, slow, and deep—and prevent runoff. Trees need about one gallon of water per diameter inch.
- Water trees in the mornings and evenings to conserve water. Visit eminnetonka.com to find the odd/even watering regulations, or call Public Works at 952.988.8400.
- If you have newly planted trees (installed over the past 4-5 years), save time by installing Gator watering bags. Each bag holds about 15 gallons of water that slowly infiltrates the soil. Read more at treegator.com.
- Water all the way from the trunk out to the tree's drip line, which falls directly below the tips of the outermost branches. Be sure to move the hose around so the entire area within this ring receives enough water.
- The best way to tell if your trees need water is to feel the soil. After watering, the soil should be moist to a depth of 6-8 inches throughout the drip line zone.
- Avoid getting water on open wounds, leaves or needles. Too much moisture can lead to fungal growth.

Some additional reminders:

- Wood mulch under the drip line helps retain moisture in the soil. The mulch layer should be 2-4 inches deep.
 - Mulch wide, not deep! Avoid volcano mulching, where piles are formed against the base of the trunk.
 - The city offers free mulch to residents at the Public Works facility at 11522 Minnetonka Blvd. Pull into the east driveway and look for the wooden bin outside the gate.
- A final word about watering: don't be tempted to shut off your outside water connection too early. Tree roots grow most vigorously in spring and autumn. Take advantage of the chance to ensure plant roots are in good condition for winter. In Minnesota, woody plant roots can be watered as late as November, depending on temperatures. For more tree care tips, visit eminnetonka.com and search "tree care tips."

Election Day Absentee Voting Starts Sept. 18

THIS YEAR'S MUNICIPAL GENERAL election is Tuesday, November 3. Absentee ballots for the election will be available starting September 18.

Absentee Voting

A 2014 state law change opens up absentee balloting for all voters. Under previous law absentee voting was only available for those who were unable to get to the polling place on Election Day. Under the new law, voters do not have to state a specified reason in order to receive and cast an absentee ballot.

Voters should note that the absentee ballot process differs from the Election Day process in that it requires additional steps. All absentee voters must complete an application to receive a ballot, then must complete a certificate when they cast their 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.

Absentee Voting in Person

Beginning September 18, Minnetonka voters may vote absentee at Minnetonka

City Hall and at the Hennepin County Government Center in Minneapolis during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Extended absentee voting hours will also be available at both locations Saturday, October 31, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday, November 2, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Absentee Voting by Mail

Absentee voting may also be done by mail. The voted ballot must be received at city hall by Election Day for the vote to count, so be sure to allow sufficient time for postal service delivery.

The first step to vote absentee by mail is to complete an application. You can receive an application by calling city hall at 952.939.8200, visiting eminnetonka.com, or by faxing a request to 952.939.8244. Voters may also submit an online application for an absentee ballot through the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at sos.state.mn.us.

If you have any questions about this year's elections please call 952.939.8200. ☺

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Sites

RESIDENTS MAY BRING HOUSEHOLD hazardous waste (HHW), and consumer electronics to either of Hennepin County's permanent drop-off facilities at:

- 1400 W. 96th St., Bloomington
- 8100 Jefferson Hwy., Brooklyn Park

Facilities are open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Facilities are closed Sundays, Mondays, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

There is no charge to drop off residential HHW, but there is an annual limit to the quantities of materials dropped off or picked up. For more information, visit hennepin.us/dropoffs or call Hennepin County at 612.348.3777.

Household hazardous waste includes such items as aerosol cans, auto wastes (including gasoline, used oil and oil filters), batteries, cleaners, fire extinguishers, herbicides, lamps (fluorescent, CFL and HID), paint, pesticides, stain, solvents, thermometers, thermostats and switches containing mercury, thinners, and rechargeable appliances and batteries.

Also accepted for no charge are consumer electronics (TVs, radios, stereos, VCRs, camcorders, telephones, computers, monitors and printers). Photocopiers are not accepted.

Household appliances (microwaves, water heaters, stoves, freezers, washers and dryers, etc.) may be dropped off for a \$15 fee.

The fees and list of acceptable materials are determined by Hennepin County staff (cash, check, MasterCard or Visa accepted).

For more information, call Hennepin County at 612.348.3777 visit hennepin.us/dropoffs. ☺

Featured Fall Recreation Programs

Youth Basketball League: Grades 2 – 6 Early Bird Deadline: September 18!

Join the Hopkins-Minnetonka Youth Basketball League and be a part of this local tradition. The program is an in-house recreational league for boys and girls in grades 2 – 6 living in the Hopkins and Minnetonka area. Separate boys and girls teams are formed by school and grade. Games will be played on Saturdays starting December 5 and concluding on January 30 for 2nd graders and February 13 or 20 for grades 3 – 6. Grades 3 – 6 will have one weeknight practice starting the week of November 9. For 2nd grade only, practice will be held on Saturdays before each game starting December 5. The cost is \$45 for Grade 2 and \$85 for Grades 3 – 6 through September 18. Price increases to \$55 and \$95 between September 19 and October 8. Volunteer coaches are needed for this program. Teams are formed by school and grade. Call Recreation Services at 952.939.8203 or visit us online at webtrac.hopkinsminnetonka.com to register.

Registration Adult Basketball 5-Player League deadline: October 9

A 5-Player, officiated adult basketball league will be conducted on Wednesday

evenings at 6:45, 7:45 and 8:45 p.m. starting October 28. This 11-week program offers three divisions of ability with a chance to participate in a state tournament. Games will be played using full-size courts at Hopkins High School, the Lindbergh Center and the Hopkins West Junior High Activity Structure. \$525 per team. Call Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services at 952.939.8203 to register by phone.

Parent's Night Out – October 23

Need a night away from the kids? Bring your 4 – 10 year olds to the Williston Center for a night of fun. The kids will have a pizza dinner, go swimming, play in the Williston Treehouse, play games, make arts and crafts and watch a movie! Dinner will be at 6 p.m. You can drop your kids off at 5:30 p.m. and pick them up by 10 p.m. Make sure to bring a swimsuit and towel. Children must be potty trained and 4 and 5 year old children will be restricted to the zero depth splash pad pool. Cost: \$27 for one child and \$22 per child for families with multiple children attending. Please call Recreation Services at 952.939.8203 or visit us online at webtrac.hopkinsminnetonka.com to register. ☺

Fall Leaf Drop-off Program Opens Sept. 14

Public Works Facility

11522 Minnetonka Blvd.
Enter on the west side of the building
(near the Big Willow Park ball fields)

THE PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY AT 11522 Minnetonka Blvd accepts leaves and non-woody yard waste (grass, weeds, pine cones and needles, garden trimmings, fruit, etc.) from Minnetonka residents. You must present proper identification to the site monitor to verify you are a Minnetonka resident (driver's license, state ID or Minnetonka utility bill).

If possible, use other available options for dealing with your leaves (for example, have them collected by your garbage hauler or start a backyard compost pile). All garbage haulers offer curbside collection of yard waste for a fee (either an annual, monthly, per cart or per bag fee), typically April through November. Check with your garbage hauler for details. State law requires proper compostable bags for curbside collection of bagged yard waste—**regular plastic bags are not acceptable**. To learn more about backyard composting, visit hennepin.us/composting or pick up a flyer at Minnetonka Public Works.

Truck and trailer loads of leaves are accepted at Minnetonka Public Works at the following dates and times:

Mondays Noon to 8 p.m. 9/14, 9/21, 9/28
Tuesdays Noon to 8 p.m. 9/15, 9/22, 9/29
Saturdays 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. 9/19, 9/26

The city leaf drop-off site is bag-free—loose leaves only. Residents must unload and/or unbag their leaves and yard waste onto the large bulk pile and take all empty bags home—including paper and compostable bags. Please bring proper equipment, such as a stout pitch fork, to unload your truck or trailer load of leaves.

Use a tarp to gather up and move a pile of leaves from your yard to your trailer or vehicle. Continue adding small tarp loads, placing tarps between every foot-deep layer of leaves until the vehicle is full. This makes it simpler and quicker to unload your vehicle at the site. Just flip off the tarps between layers of leaves. Sticks and branches smaller than ½ inch in diameter are acceptable with leaves—but anything larger must go to the brush pile. **Loads of leaves must be covered during transport!**

Information about composting and yard waste management is available at Public Works by calling 952.988.8400. ☺

Brush Drop-off Site Closed for Labor Day

BRANCHES UP TO 12" IN diameter are accepted. Proof of Minnetonka residency (driver's license, state ID or Minnetonka utility bill) is required each time a resident enters the site.

Please note: trash, metal, plastics, concrete, lumber, fences or wood scraps are not accepted. Do not bring these materials with your brush.

Do not put grass, loose leaves, dirt or sod in with the brush pile. Loose leaves, pine needles, straw, plant and garden materials and yard waste go in the separate leaf drop-off area, opening Sept. 14. The brush drop-off and leaf drop-off programs have different processing methods and distinct end markets for their different products, so it's important they stay separate. No brush is accepted from commercial tree or lawn services.

Annual Photo Contest Begins

THE CITY OF MINNETONKA IS AGAIN hosting the annual photo contest in conjunction with the Fire Department and City Open House. Up to three entries may be submitted. Only one entry per photographer, per category. All photos must be submitted by Friday, September 18, at 4:30 p.m.



Photo by Scott Jolstad

Submit each photo in one of three categories:

- Lifestyle Minnetonka (cityscapes, people, activities)
- Natural Minnetonka (landscapes, plants)
- Wild Minnetonka (animals, pets)

Awards

A first-, second-, and third-place entry will be selected. In addition, a People's Choice Award will be chosen by attendees at the Oct. 6 Open House. Winning photos will be published on the city website and in the Minnetonka Memo; and a certificate of appreciation will be presented to the winners at a city council meeting. For more information on the contest rules visit eminnetonka.com. ☺

Outdoor Ice Rink Discussion

THE MINNETONKA PARK BOARD will be reviewing community outdoor ice rink operations and making recommendations for the 2015-2016 season at the October 7 meeting. Topics to be discussed include recommendations for community ice rink locations, more specifically challenges that are in place with the use at the Gatewood Elementary School site. The park board will be considering maintaining ice at this location but not providing a warming house. Other items for discussion include general operating hours and use policies for all ice rink locations. The park board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Minnehaha Room located at Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, 55345. For more information, contact Jennifer Garvey, Park Services Manager, at jgarvey@eminnetonka.com, or 952.939.8374. ☺

Community Drop-off Day: Sept. 12

Saturday, Sept. 12

8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Minnetonka Public Works
11522 Minnetonka Blvd
East entrance by recycling center

MINNETONKA RESIDENTS MAY drop-off the materials listed below. Fee for drop-off depends on the item, as described below. Payment will be accepted in cash or local checks payable to the City of Minnetonka. If you have any questions about this special drop-off, please call Public Works at 952.988.8400 during business hours or visit eminnetonka.com.

Deposit these items at no charge:

Batteries

All car, truck, motorcycle, ATV, snowmobile and garden tractor batteries are accepted, as well as household batteries (D, C, AA, AAA, 6- and 9-volt cells, button batteries and rechargeable batteries).

Bicycles

Bicycles brought to the special drop-off will be given a second chance by Re-Cycle (612.876.5356).

Fluorescent lamps

Up to 10 fluorescent lamps accepted per vehicle. No lamps will be accepted from business or commercial use. Please transport lamps in a manner to avoid breakage. Don't tape bulbs!

Clean scrap metal

All plastic, rubber, wood, concrete and hazardous materials have been removed. Clean scrap metal includes pipe, gutters, swing sets, barbecues, ducting, fencing, etc.

Deposit for a fee (as marked):

Appliances (\$10 each)

Washer, dryer, dishwasher, stove, oven, cooktop, microwave, freezer, refrigerator, water heater, home furnace, trash

compact, garbage disposal, humidifier, dehumidifier, air conditioner, water softener.

Carpet & padding (\$1/yd² for carpet and \$1/ yd² for padding)

Determine the number of square yards of carpet or room size the carpet came from. Roll carpet or pad and tape or tie rolls. Rolls must not exceed six feet in length or 12 inches in diameter.

Copiers or fax machines (\$35, higher fee for larger items)

Doors (\$2 and up, depending on size)

Furniture: Chair (\$5 - small; \$10 - large); loveseat (\$15); couch/sofa (\$20); hide-a-bed (\$30); sectional, dresser, chest, table and other furniture (\$5 and up, depending on size)

Lumber (\$2 minimum, based on \$25 per cubic yard)

No railroad ties, concrete or shingles.

Mattresses and box springs (\$15 per piece for all sizes)

Mattresses are dismantled and acceptable materials recycled by the PPL Industries mattress recycling program.

Propane tanks

Small (\$1); Large – over a 2-lb. tank (\$5)

Dirty scrap metal (\$5)

Lawn chairs with webbing, barbecues or lawn mower with wheels and/or non-metal parts still attached. All engines must be drained of oil and gas. Additional charges apply for riding mowers, garden tractors, snowblowers, or other large items.

Tires

Car, trailer or light truck (\$4 each); tires on rim (\$8); tractor or truck tire on split rim (\$30)

Toilets and non-metal sinks (\$5 each)

Windows (\$2 minimum, based on \$25 per cubic yard)

Items that cannot be discarded at the special drop-off:

Clothing and household goods

No charitable organizations will be at the Special Drop-off to accept donations. Contact these organizations to find out about their pick-up options and drop-off facilities:

- ARC Hennepin Carver – pickup route info 612.866.8820
- Bethesda Thrift Shop – 4749 Cty Rd 101, Minnetonka, 952.939.0988
- Families Helping Each Other (no furniture) – fheo.org – 612.235.9336
- Goodwill Industries – 1025 Hill Street, Hopkins – 952.935.2760
- Salvation Army – pickup route info 612.332.5855
- Value Village Thrift Store – 2751 Winnetka Ave, New Hope – 763.544.0006
- Vietnam Vets – pickup route info 651.778.8387

Electronics

(including TVs, radios, stereos, speakers, CD/VCR/DVD/Blu-ray players, camcorders, cell phones, telephones, laptops and desktop computers or tablets, printers, and monitors). Drop off electronics at the Hennepin County permanent drop-off sites (see page X) or any Best Buy or Staples store (call first or check their web page for acceptable items).

Garbage

Household hazardous waste

See article on page X for details about year-round HHW drop off at Hennepin County facilities. 



minnetonka script

Programs and services for those 55+
September 2015 Newsletter

Senior Health Check ✓

Thursday, Sept. 24
9 a.m. – Noon

Join us for free educational presentations, exhibitors, health screenings and refreshments.

Health Screenings:

Appointments recommended for:

Balance Screening
Memory Screening

No appointment needed for:

Computerized nerve scans (neck region),
blood pressure and hearing

Exhibitors:

- Meals on Wheels: Food Sampling
- Minnetonka Fire: Hands Only CPR
- ClearCaptions: Phones for Hearing Loss

Presentations:

- Is This Normal Aging?, 9 a.m.
- Nutrition to Boost Your Immune System, 11 a.m.

Supported by:

Maximized Living Health Center, Live Your Life, Meals on Wheels, Lifesprk, Brookdale Health Care, Zounds Hearing, ClearCaptions and Augustana Care

Appointments can be made by phone or in person.

Dementia and Family Relationships

Join us for a three-part dinner and film series focusing on love, loss, dementia and family relationships. Each day includes a film, discussion and a light dinner. This program is designed to raise awareness and reduce the stigma of Alzheimer's and other related dementias.

Cost: \$7 due Thursday prior to session.
Register for all three sessions and save \$6!

- Sunday, Oct. 4, 4–7 p.m.
Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter (NR)
(Course #1100302-01)
- Sunday, Oct. 11, 4–7 p.m.
The Savages (R)
(Course #1100302-02)
- Sunday, Oct. 25, 4–7 p.m.
Iris (R)
(Course #1100302-03)

Supported by:

Homewatch CareGivers, Qualicare Family HomeCare, ComForCare Home Care, Elder Homestead, Augustana Care and Neptune Society

Lunch and a Movie:

Still Alice

Friday, Sept. 11, Noon

Follow the journey of Alice Howard as her and her family make radical life changes after a diagnosis of early-onset Alzheimer's.

Menu: Cheeseburger, french fries and jello salad.

Cost: \$5 due Tuesday, Sept. 8.
(Course #1100201-01)

Great Art and Architecture of Rome

Greg Pulles

Monday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m.

Greg Pulles, author of several books on Rome, will provide a guided tour of all the great art and architecture of Rome, including a presentation featuring numerous photographs.

Cost: \$2 Please RSVP by Friday, Sept. 18.
(Course #1180405-01)

Monthly Party: Italian Night

Monday, Sept. 21, 5:30 p.m.

Join us for an Italian night!
Menu: Lasagna, salad, bread and dessert.

Sponsored by: Brookdale Senior Living

Cost: \$5 due Thursday, Sept. 17.
(Course #1100101-01)



Forgetfulness

Monday, Sept. 28, 10:15 a.m.

Discover when forgetfulness is no longer normal and may be a warning sign. Provided by Lake Minnetonka Senior Care Providers: Community Connections.

Cost: Free! Please RSVP by Friday, Sept. 25.
(Course # 1180412-01)

Drain the Worry & Stress Out of Aging

Monday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m.

Join us as we join over a dozen other senior centers across the state through a joint teleconferencing effort. Listen and interact with Dr. Bruce McBeath as he discusses how to make aging stress resistant.

Cost: \$2 Please RSVP by Friday, Oct. 2.
(Course #1180410-01)

Store to Door

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 10:30 a.m.

Do transportation or mobility concerns make grocery shopping a chore? Looking for a way to give back? Store to Door, a volunteer based non-profit shopping and delivery service, gives seniors access to food and household essentials. Learn about the service and how to get involved as a client or volunteer.

Cost: \$2 Please RSVP by Tuesday, Oct. 6.
(Course #1180406-01)

Sips & Songs

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

Geoff Elvee Band

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$3 (Course #1100301-01)

James Shaw

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$3 (Course #1100301-02)

Sponsored by:
WestRidge of Minnetonka

Athletic Activities

Pickleball

Monday–Friday, 8–11 a.m.

Meadow Park

Pickleball is played on tennis courts and courts within the hockey rink. Pickleball courts within the hockey rinks can be used anytime. Season runs through October.

Minnetonka Bike Club

The goal of the club is to provide moderate exercise under safe conditions and to encourage social interaction and friendship. Three groups accommodate different levels of ability. Visit mtkabikers.org for more information.

- \$11 (Course #4120101-01)

55+ Softball

Tuesdays and Thursdays,

Sept. – Oct., 9 a.m.

Big Willow Park

Slow-pitch softball played with modified rules to allow for competitive play with a reduced risk of injury. Registration accepted throughout the season.

- \$10 (Course #1120301-01)

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 #4090701-01)

Tai Chi Chih

Susan Sobelson

Mondays, Sept. 14–Nov. 2

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

- Beginning, \$35, 10–11 a.m.
(Course #1090301-01)
- Intermediate, \$35, 11:30–12:30 p.m.
(Course #1090302-01)

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.

- Sept. 22–Oct. 27
\$36 (Course #1090101-01)
- Nov. 3–Dec. 15
\$36 (Course #1090101-03)

Thursdays, 9:45–10:45 a.m.

- Sept. 24–Oct. 29
\$36 (Course #1090101-02)
- Nov. 5–Dec. 17
\$36 (Course #1090101-04)
(No Class 11/26)

Elizabeth Kelly

Wednesdays, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

- Sept. 23–Oct. 28
\$36 (Course #1090101-05)

Intermediate Yoga

Intermediate yoga includes standing and balance 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 down and up 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

- Sept. 22–Oct. 27
\$36 (Course #1090201-01)
- Nov. 3–Dec. 15
\$36 (Course #1090201-03)

Thursdays, 11 a.m. – Noon

- Sept. 24–Oct. 29
\$36 (Course #1090201-02)
- Nov. 5–Dec. 17
\$36 (Course #1090201-04)
(No Class 11/26)

Elizabeth Kelly

Wednesdays, 7:30–8:30 p.m.

- Sept. 23–Oct. 28
\$36 (Course #1090201-05)

Zumba Gold

Renee Rahimi

Mondays, Sept. 14–Oct. 26

12:45–1:45 p.m.

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!

- \$35 (Course #1090501-01)

Tai Chi for Health and Wellness

Ron Erdman-Luntz

Thursdays, Sept. 10–Oct. 15, 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 #1090401-01)



Line Dance

Eileen Ronning

Thursdays, Oct. 8–29

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

- Cont. Beginner, \$24, 12:30–1:30 p.m.
(Course #1090601-01)
- Intermediate, \$24, 1:45–2:45 p.m.
(Course #1090601-01)

Register Early

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

Art Programs

The Art of Color in Watercolor *Gin Weidenfeller*

Wednesdays, Sept. 16–30
1–3:15 p.m.

Hands on exercises mix, blend, and glaze color to explore color wheel studies and schemes. Learn to use the color wheel as a tool to identify and apply color combinations, harmony, contrast, warm and cool hues, and tint/shade tones. Paint or draw nature subjects, landscapes and vignettes in fall color.

- \$60 (Course #3130104-01)

Leisure Programs

Mahjongg *Carole Harris*

Wednesdays, Sept. 9–Oct. 21
10 a.m. – Noon

Learn to play the intriguing game of Mahjongg, a game of chance and skill.

- \$54 (Course #1190201-01)

Beginning Bridge *Lee Solee*

Mondays, Sept. 14–Oct. 19
1–3 p.m.

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

- \$35 (Course #1190301-01)

Essential Oil Creations: *Scented Sachet*

Wednesday, Sept. 23
1–3 p.m.

Discover the benefits of essential oils while creating a scented sachet for your linen closet or dresser, plus create a refresher to keep it scented. Provided by Wyndmere Naturals.

- \$6 Please RSVP by Monday, Sept. 21.
(Course #1190101-01)

Email Updates

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

Education Programs

Going Gluten Free the Healthy Way

Wednesday, Sept. 23
1–3 p.m.

A gluten sensitivity can cause muscle pain, bloating, eczema, ADD and other digestive problems. Provided by Nutritional Weight and Wellness.

- \$22 Please RSVP by Friday, Sept. 18.
(Course #1180301-01)

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 for all classes.

Four-hour renewal sessions:

- \$20, Thursday, Sept. 10,
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- \$20, Thursday, Sept. 17,
5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Eight-hour session:

- \$24, Sept. 28 and 30
5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

History Programs

April 1865

Dan Hartman

Wednesday, Sept. 16
10:30 a.m. – Noon

Learn about the Battle of Five Forks (also known as “Waterloo of the Confederacy”), the Battle of Appomattox Court House, the assassination of United States President Abraham Lincoln and more.

- \$3 Please RSVP by Monday, Sept. 14.
(Course #1180202-01)

British History: The Georgians

Terry Kubista

Thursdays, Sept. 10–24
1–3 p.m.

Learn how the powerful Victorian Empire as built and what led to its downfall. The build up of wealth, opulence and power which seemed so attractive to many today but the cost of world dominance could not be maintained.

- \$21 (Course #1180101-01)

Interest Groups

For more information on interest groups and a calendar of events, visit eminnetonka.com or stop by the Community Center.

Book Club

3rd Thursday, 1 p.m.

The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd.

Garden Club

2nd Monday, 1 p.m.

Noerenberg Gardens tour.

Literary Book Club

4th Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.

Jamaica Inn by Daphne du Maurier.

Wood Carvers

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Wood Carving Lessons during September!

Visit the group in September to learn from other members.



11280 Wayzata Boulevard
763-591-4868

Handcrafted items by
Minnetonka residents 55
and older.

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



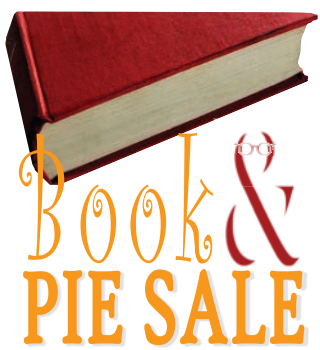
Volunteer

Bird Garden Weeding

Wednesday, Sept. 2 and 16
9–11 a.m.

Meet at the Minnetonka Community Center and help weed the new bird garden. Please RSVP to the office in person or by calling 952-939-8393.





Tuesday, October 13
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The annual Book and Pie Sale is provided by Minnetonka Senior Services in conjunction with the Senior Advisory Board.

Most Books are \$1.00
 Pie by the slice, sloppy joes, ice cream and coffee will be available for purchase.

BLOW-OUT SALE
 4 - 5 p.m.
\$2.50

For all you can fit into a bag!

Book donation drop-off times
 Friday, October 9, and
 Monday, October 12,
 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Senior Day Trip

Fall Color in Cranberry Country

Tuesday, Oct. 20

Enjoy a stop at Eau Galle Cheese on the way to the Cranberry Discovery Center in Warrens, WI. Tour the museum and enjoy a special cranberry lunch before going on the Berry Best Tour to hear about the cranberry marsh operation up close and personal. Bring pocket money to purchase fresh cranberries at the end and a snack during a rest stop on the way home.

Menu: Cranberry meatball sandwich basket, cranberry juice or cranberry tea and hand crafted ice cream for dessert.

(Course# 1110103-01)

- **Cost:** \$69 includes tours, lunch, transportation and escort
- **Estimated trip time:** 7:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, Sept. 25.



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

Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Administrative Staff

Kaylee Wallin

kwallin@eminnetonka.com

Kate Egert

kegert@eminnetonka.com

Senior Services and Activities Manager

Steve Pieh

952-939-8366

spieh@eminnetonka.com

Senior and General Programs Manager

Janelle Crossfield

952-939-8369

jcrossfield@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 cancelling 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.

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., \$35

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. *2nd and 4th Mondays during Sept. due to holiday.

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.

CareNextion

carenextion.org

This 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.

- **Branson Christmas** (Nov. 11 - 15)
 Cost: \$799 per person, double occupancy.
- **Nashville Christmas** (Nov. 28 - Dec. 3)
 Cost: \$1150 per person, double occupancy.

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

Free Buckthorn Workshops Sept. 23, Oct. 8

HAVE YOU BEEN KEEPING YOUR buckthorn for the privacy it provides? Buckthorn doesn't need to be removed all at once. Learn how you can remove this very invasive species gradually and other control measures that can improve the quality of your landscape. Choose one of two free fall workshops scheduled to allow you time to select first-priority buckthorn for removal.



Wednesday, Sept. 23 or Thursday, Oct. 8
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Minnetonka Community Center,
Community Room
14600 Minnetonka Blvd.

Here's what else you will learn:

- How to mark native species for protection
- How forest/woodland structure and diversity is affected by invasive species.
- Top two priorities for buckthorn removal
- Why gradual removal is best when garlic mustard is present
- How to avoid the most common errors made during buckthorn control
- How to reduce erosion on slopes
- Recommended native species for understory reforestation or privacy planting

Workshops are presented by Janet Van Sloun, natural resource restoration specialist, with handouts provided. Register by calling Public Works at 952.988.8400. ☺



Fire Safety Reminders

FIRE SAFETY HAS NOT CHANGED MUCH over the years, but one thing that has changed, dramatically, is the amount of time you have to escape from your home safely if it does catch on fire. Up until the evolution of synthetics, you had an average of 17 minutes to safely escape from your home from the time a fire began. That time has now dropped, drastically, down to 3 minutes to safely escape a burning home. Decades ago we had mostly natural fibers and materials in our homes. Take a look around your home at your carpet, furniture, beds, appliances, etc. and you will see many synthetic materials including plastics, nylons and others. These materials burn much hotter, much faster and produce more toxins than ever before.

Follow these reminders to help keep your family safe from fire:

- Have working smoke alarms that are less than 10 years old on every level and in every sleeping room.
- Make sure your family has a fire escape plan in place. Practice it!
- Make sure everyone knows where the family meeting place is.
- Know two exits from every room.
- Maintain windows that open and have easily removable screens.
- Encourage your children to know how and when to call 9-1-1.
- Have a fire extinguisher and know how to use it.

Facts About Transporting Firewood

IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT TAKING firewood from your yard in Minnetonka to a cabin up north or another location outside Hennepin, Ramsey or Dakota counties, you should be aware of the state firewood quarantine. When emerald ash borer (a non-native and invasive insect) was discovered in St. Paul, the state enacted a quarantine that restricts all firewood from leaving Hennepin, Ramsey or Dakota counties. Firewood that was cut up in Minnetonka can be moved within this three-county area—but it cannot leave that zone without violating the state quarantine.

While emerald ash borer lives only in ash trees, the quarantine extends to all hardwood firewood. Making it easier to enforce the quarantine. According to the quarantine's language, firewood is defined as wood cut to lengths of less than four feet, including firewood cut for personal use. A rule of thumb, even if no quarantine were in place, is to avoid transporting firewood farther than 100 miles from where it was obtained because many insects and diseases may come along for the ride.

To learn more about the state firewood quarantine, visit mda.state.mn.us and

search "quarantine" or "firewood." You can also call the city forester at 952.988.8421. If you plan to burn firewood in Minnetonka, be sure to obtain a free one-time recreational permit from the Fire Department by visiting eminnetonka.com. ☺



Little Bug: Big Problem: Emerald Ash Borer Field Day Sept. 30

Wednesday, September 30
 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 Purgatory Park
 17315 Excelsior Blvd.



IF YOU ARE LIKE MANY HOMEOWNERS, you have ash trees in your yard. Are you ready to act on a plan in your yard if emerald ash borer is found in Minnetonka? If you have questions about your options on how to handle EAB in your yard, please join us for an interactive event with concurrent presentations in the park on four main topics.

Start by visiting the welcome table near the picnic shelter, accessible from the Excelsior Road entrance parking lot. We will provide a map showing the start locations of each station within the park, or reference the schedule and show up for the time and topic that works best for your schedule.

STATION A: EAB CRASH COURSE – THE “CLIFFSNOTES” VERSION

- Learn why you should care about preparing for EAB
- Get resources to learn more about ash tree ID, treatment options, tree species you could start planting now, and the basics on tree planting and care
 - This is a good session for someone who wants to get a broad overview of the issue in a short amount of time and follow up with self-directed learning

STATION B: WHAT IS EAB AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PREPARE?

- How EAB was introduced, history of spread in MN
- Description of how it kills an ash tree
 - A very broad overview of management options, and factors to consider depending on your situation

STATION C: HOW TO IDENTIFY ASH TREES IN YOUR YARD

- Learn how to ID ash trees and common “look-alikes”
- Get tips on what to look for to determine their health and condition

STATION D: WHAT ARE MY TREATMENT OPTIONS TO PREVENT OR TREAT EAB?

- Find out what factors should be considered before treatment
- Watch the steps for the two most common insecticide treatments by local tree contractors
- Learn which treatment is right for your trees based on several factors
- Find out how often to treat and what you can expect from the treatments

STATION E: WHAT SHOULD I PLANT TO DIVERSIFY MY YARD?

- Take a walking tour of the park to learn about tree planting options
- Get your questions answered about different types of trees
- Participants will be provided with a list to take home

STATION F: HOW CAN I PROPERLY PLANT, PRUNE, WATER AND STAKE MY NEW TREES?

- Learn the crucial process to perform before planting to ensure your new trees will establish healthy root systems
- Find out when it is appropriate to stake and prune
- Get tips on how to keep up with tree watering in times of drought

RSVP is required to ensure we have enough staff at each station. Call Public Works at 952.988.8400.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Time	Topics	
4:30-4:45	EAB Crash Course	ID Ash
4:45-5:00	What is EAB?	Treatments
5:00-5:15	ID Ash	Plant to Diversify
5:15-5:30	Treatments	Proper planting & care
5:30-5:45	Q& A Session (any topic)	
5:45-6:00	EAB Crash Course	Plant to Diversify
6:00-6:15	What is EAB?	Proper planting & care
6:15-6:30	Q& A Session (any topic)	

Give a Gift to the Parks for Tomorrow Program

THE GIFT OF A TREE PLANTED TODAY can last for generations, providing beauty, wildlife habitat and environmental benefit. The Parks for Tomorrow program is an excellent way to honor someone close to you or to remember a special occasion such as the birth of a child, graduation, wedding, anniversary or other achievement. A gift to Parks for Tomorrow is also a worthy fundraising cause for school classes, youth and civic organizations.

Parks for Tomorrow offers three gift categories:

- Plant a Young Sapling
- Plant a Recognition Tree
- Special Projects (such as a park bench)

For more information, visit eminnetonka.com and search "Parks for Tomorrow." Your participation in Parks for Tomorrow is a positive step for the environment and a lasting example for others. 🌱

Share Your Musical Talents with the Community

THE MUSIC ASSOCIATION OF Minnetonka (MAM) provides several choral, band and orchestra opportunities for residents who are interested in performing throughout the community. MAM is "The community destination for all who love music." With 10 active ensembles for musicians ages 10- 80+, performing over 100 concerts annually, MAM is sure to have something that fits your availability and talent level. Ensembles include choirs for all ages; and a band and two orchestras for adults. The City of Minnetonka has maintained an ongoing partnership with MAM for over 40 years. For more information, visit the MAM website at musicassociation.org; or contact the MAM office at 952.401.5954. 🌱

Labor Day Holiday Delays Blue Week Recycling

THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY ON MONDAY, September 7, will delay the blue week recycling collection areas by one day. Residents west of I-494 (north of Highway 7 and north of the LRT Trail west of County Rd 101) will have recycling collection on Tuesday, September 8. Residents east of I-494 (north of Minnetonka Blvd.) will have collection on Wednesday, September 9.

Recycling Reminders

- Recycling carts should be placed at the end of the driveway before 7 a.m. on collection days, or the night before if that's more convenient.

- City ordinance requires recycling, garbage, yard waste and organics carts to be stored out of public view, except for the evening before and day of collection.
- Cartons are recyclable. Used as packaging for food and beverages, cartons are available in two types: shelf stable and refrigerated. Products packaged in shelf-stable cartons and found on store shelves include juice, milk, soy beverage, soup, broth and wine. Products in refrigerated packages and found in the chilled section of grocery stores include milk, juice, cream, liquid egg and soy beverage. Drink pouches (bags) are not accepted for recycling. 🌱

Grow Fruit from Shrubby Plants in Your Own Backyard

Minnetonka Community Center
Community Room
14600 Minnetonka Blvd
Thursday September 24
6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

GROWING FRUITS IN A SUBURBAN environment is as much fun as it is nutritious – but your success is all dependent on the little winged insects we call bees. Learn about fruits that are favorites for bees and take a look at some Minnesota hardy selections beyond apples and blueberries. Some of the plants are small so that you don't need a ladder to harvest the fruit, can produce fruit in partial sun or shade environments or are so

new they may not even be at your farmer's market yet!

Rebecca Koetter works with various edible trees and shrubs throughout the Metro area. She has experience designing, selecting, implementing, harvesting and processing several fruits from woody plants growing in Minnesota. Rebecca has an undergraduate degree from the Department of Forest Resources and a Master's degree from College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources Science, University of Minnesota.

Registration is required and limited to 80. Please RSVP by calling Minnetonka Public Works at 952.988.8400 or at eminnetonka.com. 🌱

Visit the Farmers Market Tuesdays, 3-7 p.m.

VISIT THE MINNETONKA FARMERS Market Tuesdays, 3-7 p.m., through September 29 at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus, Ice Arena B parking lot, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka.

Nearly 30 vendors offer a wide variety of products including produce, honey, meats, herbs, breads, pretzels, apples, spices, sauces, salsa, fresh-cut flowers, canned goods, cupcakes, and an assortment of unique crafts. Also, stop by the refreshment stand for a hot dog and beverage. The days of September go by fast – don't miss out! 🌱

Saturday Bus Service Expansion

IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE INCREASED ridership, Metro Transit has upgraded the frequency of some of their bus routes, including route 615 in Minnetonka. Saturday service on route 615 is now hourly. The increased frequency will make it easier for riders to reach destinations such as Ridgedale Mall, Knollwood Mall, Excelsior and Grand, Hopkins Center for the Arts and Eisenhower Community Center. For more information about route 615 and other bus service in Minnetonka visit metrotransit.org. 🌱

minnetonka memo

September 2015

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
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

Mayor Terry Schneider.....(952) 939-8389 Home: (952) 934-9529tschneider@eminnetonka.com	Council <i>At Large:</i> Dick Allendorf... (952) 933-6231 dallendorf@eminnetonka.com Patty Acomb... (952) 807-8635 pacomb@eminnetonka.com
City Manager Geraldyn Barone.....(952) 939-8200	Ward 1: Bob Ellingson... (952) 931-3065 bellingson@eminnetonka.com
Newsletter Editor Kari Spreeman.....(952) 939-8207	Ward 2: Tony Wagner... (612) 382-5212 twagner@eminnetonka.com
E-mail: comments@eminnetonka.com Internet: www.eminnetonka.com	Ward 3: Brad Wiersum... (612) 723-3907 bwiersum@eminnetonka.com
Minnetonka Mike(952) 939-8586mike@eminnetonka.com	Ward 4: Tim Bergstedt... (952) 934-1769 tbergstedt@eminnetonka.com
POLICE-FIRE: Emergency 9-1-1 Non-emergency(952) 939-8500 or 9-1-1	

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

Calendar

City of
Minnetonka

September
2015

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	1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Farmers' Market, 3-7 p.m. (see page 11)
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3 Park Board, 7 p.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	7 Labor Day, city offices closed (see page 11 for recycling collection delays)
20	21	22	23	24	25		8 Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
26	27	28	29	30			10 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

All meetings listed above are open to the public. Meeting dates and times are subject to change – please check www.eminnetonka.com for the latest information.

Minnetonka City Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 16 and via live videostreaming on www.eminnetonka.com. Cable channel replays are available Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays at noon, or any time at www.eminnetonka.com. Agendas for council meetings are available on the city's website by the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting, and planning commission agendas are available by the Monday prior to the meeting.

City Developing its 2016 Budget

THE CITY'S BUDGET PROCESS BEGAN in late August at a Minnetonka City Council study session and will culminate in December when the final 2016 budget and property tax levy are approved by the council. Throughout the process, city residents and property owners are encouraged and welcomed to provide feedback by attending a meeting, commenting online or calling. Please be sure to watch upcoming editions of the Minnetonka Memo for details on the deliberations and the proposed 2016 budget and levy, and for more information on how you can provide input. ☺

Meetings of Interest

Ridgedale Area

The Cartway Lane area (near Lunds/Byerlys and Target) is under review for realignment and traffic flow changes (anticipated to be scheduled for future construction seasons.) An area improvement study for pedestrian and trail mobility, as well as streetscaping is currently underway for the entire Ridgedale area. For updates or information about upcoming meetings please visit eminnetonka.com and search for "street projects."

Glen Lake Neighborhood

Over the summer and into the fall, there are a number of meetings being held regarding the Glen Lake neighborhood and future planning. In August, there were exercises at meetings envisioning future scenarios regarding trail connections, potential development and other land use related planning. For information about upcoming meetings visit eminnetonka.com and search for "Glen Lake Neighborhood Study." ☺

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

