

# minnetonka memo

*A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka  
May 2012*

## Register now for June 23 Minnetonka Summer Festival events



Register now for June 23 softball tournaments.

**B**RING THE ENTIRE FAMILY TO THE Minnetonka Summer Festival Saturday, June 23, for children's rides, a petting zoo, ice skating, musical entertainment and much more! It all takes place on the grounds of the Minnetonka Civic Center campus.

Also on June 23, don't miss the Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social at Burwell House, complete with free tours, entertainment, antique market, fine arts fair and food concessions.

The day will conclude with the annual fireworks display — a grand finale to the day's events. A detailed schedule of events will be published in the June *Minnetonka Memo*.

Registrations are being accepted now for the following athletic events held in conjunction with the Summer Festival:

### 8K Race and Children's Tot Trot

Starting at 7:30 a.m. June 23, this certified 8K race course travels through a beautiful wooded area that is generally flat, with some rolling hills. The 8k race begins and ends in front of the Minnetonka Ice Arena. Call

(952) 939-8203 to register or for more information. The Children's Tot Trot will take place at 4 p.m. for ages 2–8. Registration is not required for the Tot Trot — check in at the Summer Festival Information Tent.

### Softball Tournament

This one-day men's softball tournament is held Saturday, June 23, at Big Willow Park in Minnetonka and Central Park in Hopkins. The tournament is limited to 12 teams with each team guaranteed at least three games. Entry fee is \$100 per team. Call (952) 939-8203 to register.

### Adult/Child Golf Tournament

A family-oriented golf tournament will be held Saturday, June 23, at the Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center in Minnetonka. The entry fee of \$30 per team includes golfing and many contests and prizes throughout the tournament. Children must be 8 and older to participate. Call (952) 939-8203 to register and refer to Course #25625. ☺

## Your questions about Minnetonka redistricting, answered

**R**EDISTRICTING OF U.S. CONGRESSIONAL and state legislative boundaries has been in the news frequently over the past few months. Do you have questions about redistricting? Read on for some answers.

### Why did Minnetonka redistrict?

Redistricting was required after the 2010 United States Census to make election districts equal in population. The city remains in three state legislative districts, although the boundaries of the districts have changed.

### How does this change the wards for the city's councilmembers?

The four wards are required to be approximately equal in population. Adjustments were made to reduce Ward 3's population and add population to Ward 1. A minor adjustment was also

made to the boundary between Ward 3 and Ward 4. Voters who were moved into a different ward will receive a letter notifying them of the change and informing them which ward councilmember now represents them.

### How will redistricting affect where I vote?

Many Minnetonka residents will have new polling places. Minor adjustments were made to the ward boundaries between Wards 1 and 3, and Wards 3 and 4. Most of the precinct boundaries have changed to create precincts that were as equal in size as possible. Precincts may not cross over legislative or ward lines. The city reduced the number of its precincts from 27 to 23, which combined a few precincts that had relatively few registered voters.

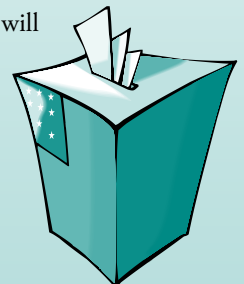
Voters will be able to look up their polling place information on the city's

website ([www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com)) once the Secretary of State's polling place finder is updated.

### Will I be notified of my new polling place?

Hennepin County will mail a notice of polling places to every registered voter, regardless of whether or not the polling place changed. Save this card so you'll know where to vote in the fall.

Still have questions? Call David Maeda, Minnetonka city clerk, at (952) 939-8218, or Laura Ronbeck at (952) 939-8219. ☺



## Music, Theater in the Park debut in June

THIS YEAR'S MUSIC IN THE PARK SERIES starts in June, with performances June 5, 19 and 26, at the outdoor amphitheater at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka.

June performances include the following. For a complete list of summer performances visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).

- **June 5:** BZ Girls Band (*light jazzy pop*)
- **June 12, 13, 14:** Theater in the Park (*see below*)
- **June 19:** Jumpin Jehosaphats (*Dixieland, gospel, jazz*)
- **June 26:** Salsa del Soul (*Cuban, salsa, presented in conjunction with Minnetonka Reads—see below*)

Also in June at the outdoor amphitheater, enjoy Theater in the Park with performances of the "101 Dalmatians Musical," set for June 12, 7 p.m.; June 13, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and June 14, 11 a.m. ☺

## Minnetonka Reads: "The Red Umbrella"

THE MINNETONKA READS COMMUNITY reading initiative, a partnership of the Minnetonka Community Commission and Hennepin County Library, invites Minnetonka families to join in summer reading fun with "The Red Umbrella" by Christina Diaz Gonzalez. This moving fiction book tells the story of a teenage girl's journey from Cuba to America as part of Operation Pedro Pan. Appropriate for grades 5 and up, families are encouraged to read the story together.

As part of the Minnetonka Reads experience, this year's Music in the Park series features Salsa del Soul playing Cuban and salsa music Tuesday, June 26, from 7–8:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus outdoor amphitheater, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard (see above). An adult-child book discussion is set for Tuesday, July 17, at 1 p.m. at the Ridgedale Library. Visit [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org) after June 1 to register. ☺



## Williston Fitness Center hosts open house May 20

WILLISTON FITNESS CENTER WILL host an open house Sunday, May 20, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come enjoy the new 25-yard swimming pool, climb the three-story play structure, shoot some hoops or try out the new cardio machines!

Local organizations will be attending. Bring your family and friends to this free event, and please donate a canned good to help area families in need.

Williston Fitness Center is located at 14509 Minnetonka Drive, Minnetonka. ☺

## Attend these exciting May activities

PLAN TO ATTEND ONE OF THESE activities offered each month for adults, all of which are advertised in a weekly email as well as a free monthly publication, the *Minnetonka Script*. Subscribe to one or both of these publications by visiting [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com), or contact Nicole Gorman at [ngorman@eminnetonka.com](mailto:ngorman@eminnetonka.com) or (952) 939-8369.

To register, or for general information about any of the activities listed below, call (952) 939-8393.

### Kenya & Tanzania Travelogue

May 3, 1 p.m.  
Course #25945

### Cinco de Mayo Party

May 4, 12 p.m.  
Cost is \$6. Course #25944

### Garden Club

May 14, 1 p.m.  
Ken Vogel presents "Growing Vegetables in Small Spaces" and Richard Koenig will discuss the city flower planting.

### Golden Years Gala

May 22, 12 p.m.  
Course #25949

### Senior Housing Tour

May 24, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Tour six local senior housing facilities, with food included. Cost is \$5. Course #25950

### Bike Club

Tuesdays, Thursdays  
The bike club rides twice a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays), for distances of 10 to 20 miles at moderate speed. Annual fee is \$5. Call (952) 939-8203 to register. New members welcome.

### 70+ Softball League

Plays Monday and Wednesday mornings at Big Willow Park. \$15 for season.

### Pickleball

Played Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30–10 a.m. at Meadow Park.

### Golf League

Twelve-week Monday morning league, played on three courses. May 14–August 6. \$168. Call (952) 939-8203 to register; course #24773.

### Defensive Driving Classes

To register, call the Minnesota Safety Center at 1-888-234-1294 or visit [www.mnsafetycenter.org](http://www.mnsafetycenter.org). AAA members receive \$3 off class registration by providing member number and expiration date.

### Four-Hour Night Course

May 22, 6–10 p.m.  
Refreshments provided (no meal).  
Cost: \$20

### Eight-Hour Night Course

May 15 & 27, 6–10 p.m. ☺

## A history of horses in Minnetonka

THE MINNETONKA HISTORICAL Society hosts its annual spring meeting Tuesday, May 8, at 7 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center. This year's presentation focuses on the history of horses in Minnetonka, from working farms to hobby farms. Come hear stories of the time when riders packed a sandwich and rode all day over what is now the city of Minnetonka, and meet the few remaining residents who still keep horses on their property and ride in Minnetonka. ☺



*A horse and rider travel the path of I-494 in Minnetonka, prior to opening.*

## The basics of being a good neighbor

**B**ARKING DOGS, PICKING UP AFTER YOUR pet, smoky campfires, possible hazard trees, trash or recycling containers left in public view, outside storage, and noise — these are some of the most common complaints expressed by Minnetonka residents about their neighbors. While they may seem like minor issues to you, please be considerate of your neighbor by complying with these city ordinances.

### Trees

If you are concerned that your neighbor has a **tree that is a hazard to your property**, first talk to your neighbor and explain what you can see from your property. Their sightline view may not be the same, or it might be in a part of their yard they do not use frequently. For more information about hazard trees visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) and click on “Public Works,” then “Natural Resources,” then “Forestry,” then “Identify Hazard Trees.”

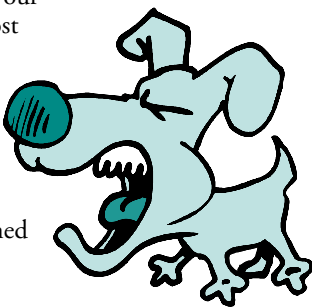
### Trash and recycling bins

City ordinance requires that all trash and recycling bins be stored out of public view, either inside a garage or behind a screened enclosure, except for the evening before and the day of trash and/or recycling collection.

### Barking dogs

Sometimes pet owners will put their dogs outside while they conduct household tasks or run errands. It's important to monitor your dog and be sure it isn't barking continuously while outside — even if you can't hear it, your neighbors most likely can.

City ordinance prohibits excessive barking, which is defined as repeated noise over at least a five-minute period with one minute or less lapse of time between each animal noise during that five-minute period. *(Please note: This ordinance was changed in December 2011 to reduce the time period from ten minutes to five minutes.)* The ordinance is enforced 24 hours a day, seven days a week, all year round. Call the police department at (952) 939-8500 to report a barking dog.



### Pick up after your pet

Pet owners are required to pick up animal waste and also, at all times, to have a means to pick up the waste, such as a plastic bag.

### Outside storage

According to city ordinance, outside storage of personal property is **not** allowed. Exceptions include items to be used in conjunction with normal outdoor residential activities such as outdoor furniture, cooking equipment and recreational equipment. Exceptions also include construction and landscaping material and equipment that is used or intended to be used on the property in a period no longer than three months or in connection with a building permit on the property.

### Noise

Minnetonka's “quiet hours” are 10 p.m. to 7 a.m., seven days a week, all year. Please be considerate of your neighbors, especially during the summer months.

### Campfires

Recreational fires (campfires) in the city require a permit from the Minnetonka Fire Department.

Even with a permit, **the burning of brush, trash or leaves is not allowed.**


Visit the city website to stay updated on the current conditions of use for a recreational fire permit.

Smoke and the smell of smoke often carries into neighboring homes, even on calm days. In addition to the fact that not everyone likes the smell of a campfire, smoke is also an irritant for those who have chronic respiratory issues such as asthma, or other health problems. Beyond minding the conditions of the recreational fire permit, consider your neighbors as well.



### You and your neighbors

If you recognize yourself in any of these items, but think your neighbor hasn't noticed or isn't bothered, you may want to reconsider. Take a few minutes to think about what kind of neighbor you'd like to be so that Minnetonka's neighborhoods can be pleasant for everyone.

If you have noticed one of these items and you are not able to discuss it with your neighbor, please consider completing an online request through Minnetonka Mike. The request can be found by simply visiting [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) and clicking on the friendly Minnetonka Mike icon. 

## Get active with rec summer programs

**R**ESIDENTS OF ALL AGES ARE INVITED to get active with recreation services this summer. Read on to learn more about the activities available. For more information visit the summer recreation brochure at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). Register by calling (952) 939-8203

### Adult yard games league

Teams of two compete in a different yard game for four weeks, followed by a three-week playoff tournament. Session 1 is June 14–July 26; Session 2 is August 9–September 20. Games start at 6:30 p.m. with three games/opponents per night. Session 1 registration begins May 7 for new teams. Session 2 registrations begins July 2 for returning teams and July 9 for new teams. \$50/team

### T-Ball and Instructional Baseball

Register today for t-ball (5 & 6 year olds) or Instructional Baseball (7 & 8 year olds). See the Recreation Services Activities Brochure at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) for specific locations and times. June 11–July 18, World Series July 19. \$48.

### Volleyball Camp

Join Minnesota Volleyball Headquarters for experienced coaching on how to pass, serve, set and hit. Monday–Thursday, June 25–28. \$90.

#### Ages 7–9

9–11 a.m.

Course #24967

#### Ages 10–11

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Course #24968

### School Prep Volleyball Camp

Minnesota Volleyball Headquarters camp prepares young student athletes for their upcoming school season with challenging drills and an emphasis on team dynamics and communication. Bring plenty of water. Monday–Thursday, August 6–9. \$145.


#### Ages 12–13

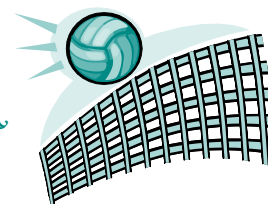
8:30–11:30 a.m.

Course #24969

#### Ages 14–15

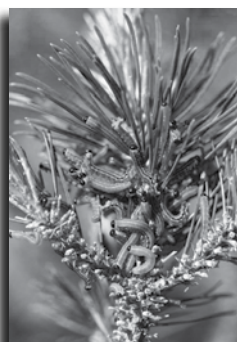
1–4 p.m.

Course #24970 



## Controlling pesky pine sawflies

**I**F YOU HAVE PINE TREES IN YOUR YARD, on the lookout for the pine sawfly. The larvae of this non-native insect feeds on living (green) pine needles from the previous year's growth. New needles will grow each year at the branch tips; however, the older needles that were eaten will not grow back. Continued feeding can slow tree growth and cause the tree to appear thin if the number of feeding larvae is high, but tree loss from sawflies is uncommon.



*Pine sawfly larvae*

What to do:

- Look for pine sawflies now. The larvae should be easy to see around areas where damage from feeding has occurred.
- Handpick and dispose of the larvae by placing them in a bucket of soapy water.
- Dislodge pine sawfly larvae from the tree with water spray from a garden hose.

To learn more about sawflies, visit [www.extension.umn.edu](http://www.extension.umn.edu) and search "pine sawfly." ∞

## Eco Walks and Talks for all ages in May

**A** VARIETY OF WORKSHOPS AND PLANTS walks will be offered this spring by the city, along with some new offerings for families!

Walks and workshops are held rain or shine. Wear appropriate outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear. Recommended equipment is a water bottle, binoculars and notebook. Meet on-site at the location specified.

RSVP is required for all workshops and walks. Call Minnetonka Public Works at (952) 988-8400 or register online at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). Don't miss out on these great learning opportunities!

### Garlic Mustard

*Thursday, May 31, 6:30–8 p.m.*  
Minnetonka Community Center,  
14600 Minnetonka Blvd.

If garlic mustard is still a problem on your property, plan to attend this workshop that will help you get the upper hand with this very invasive plant. RSVP required; handouts provided.

### Spring Nature Hike for Families

*Saturday, May 5, 8:30–10:30 a.m.*  
Lone Lake Park, 5624 Shady Oak Road  
(meet in lower parking lot by restrooms)

Activities for adults and kids include learning common spring sounds (bring your smartphone and record them!); bird watching for all ages; and using

a dip net to discover creatures in Lone Lake. Led by Larry Wade, naturalist and elementary school teacher. RSVP required. Limit 20.

### Nature Photography for Families

*Saturday, May 12, 8:30–10:30 a.m.*  
Big Willow Park, 11522 Minnetonka Blvd.  
(meet in small parking lot across from 12201 Mtka. Blvd.)

Bring your camera and tune into nature through a lens. Document what you see as you hike. Explore patches of spring wildflowers and look for special critters or tracks along Minnehaha Creek. Bring your smartphone to record the natural sounds you hear. Led by Larry Wade, naturalist and elementary school teacher. RSVP required. Limit 20.



*Enjoy learning about nature photography May 12.*

### Guided Plant Walks

Walks are held rain or shine. Wear appropriate outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear. Recommended equipment is a water bottle, binoculars and notebook. Meet on-site at the location specified.

#### Big Willow Park

*Thursday, May 3, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.*  
Meet at small parking lot on Minnetonka Blvd, across from 12201 Mtka Blvd. Overflow parking is across the street to the east at Williams Park.

#### Lake Rose Park

*Thursday, May 17, 5:30–7 p.m.*  
Park entrance is a city strip of land between homes at 5724 and 5732 Lake Rose Drive. Please be considerate of the neighbors: park on the east side of the street and meet between the houses.

#### Lone Lake Park

*Thursday, May 24, 5:30–7 p.m.*  
5624 Shady Oak Rd. Meet in the lower parking lot by the restrooms. ∞

## News from the “What If?” public educators

**T**HE “WHAT IF?” PUBLIC EDUCATORS AT the Minnetonka Fire Department recommend the following to help prevent brush, grass and forest fires:

- Place cigarette butts in metal containers. Don't throw them on the ground or into vegetation.
- Keep at least 18 inches of space between mulch beds and building materials that can burn.
- When enjoying a recreational fire, follow the rules before, during and after your fire. Visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) more information.

### Look for new ideas from “What If?”

What If? Public Educators Jim Lundeen and Sara Ahlquist of the Minnetonka Fire Department recently attended a FEMA Community Education Leadership workshop, which focused on education as a way to reduce the risk for death and injury in the community. Firefighters Jim Lundeen and Sara Ahlquist gained many new ideas from the workshop, and look forward to sharing them with you in the upcoming months! If you have questions about the public education program, or would like a presentation for your neighborhood or organization, call the What If? public educators at (952) 939-8331. ∞

# Visit the Native Plant Market and Eco Fun Fest June 7

**J**OIN US FOR THE THIRD YEAR OF THE Native Plant Market and Eco Fun Fest June 7, 3–7 p.m., at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka. The event will take place in the city hall parking lot, rain or shine.

## Native plant market

Many residents have asked for an opportunity to buy native plants, and now's your chance! Prairie Restorations, Dragonfly Gardens, Natural Shore Technologies, Minnesota Native Landscapes, Naturally Wild and Outback Nursery will be at the native plant market to sell a variety of native plants ranging from woody plants to grasses and wildflowers. Visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) for a complete list of plants by vendor.

This is a cash/check-and-carry event so bring a box to make it easier to carry your plants home. Remember, native plants may be a bit more expensive than common horticultural varieties, but the benefit to the natural environment is worth every penny.

## Eco Fun Fest

After buying plants, spend some time with your family at the Eco Fun Fest. Visit the Zoo Mobile and view live animals, join the herpetology society for an up close look at reptiles, watch the honeybee hive, participate in a plant walk or watch your kids as they learn how to climb a tree with a rope and saddle. (Guardians will need to sign a liability waiver for their child to participate in the tree climbing.)

Master gardeners, tree care advisors, the Audubon Society and watershed district representatives will be available to answer all your plant, tree, bird and surface water questions. Hot dogs and chips will be available for purchase.

## What to bring:

- Cash or checks for plant purchases.
- A box to carry away your new landscape treasures.



Explore the Native Plant Market June 7!

- Your own water bottle, so you remember to hydrate.
- Rain gear if rain is predicted. This is a rain-or-shine event, although it may be cancelled if there is severe weather. ☁

## Native Plant Market & Eco Fun Fest Schedule of Events

### Native Plant Market

3–7 p.m.

See above for vendor names. Visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) for a complete list of native plants by vendor.

### Zoo Mobile

Minnesota Zoo

4–6 p.m.

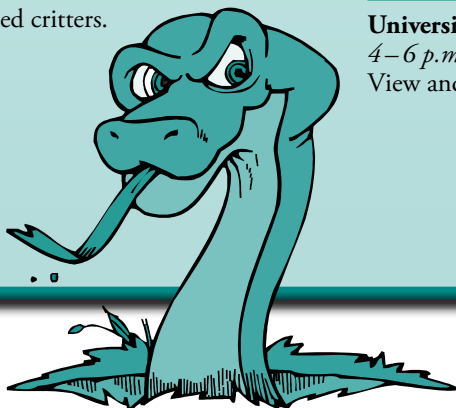
See native and exotic animals.

### Reptiles and Amphibians

Minnesota Herpetological Society

3–7 p.m.

Visit and touch some cold-blooded critters.



### Information Tent

3–7 p.m.

- Audubon Society
- Blue Thumb display
- Master Naturalists
- Master Gardeners
- Tree Care Advisors
- Tree House of Horrors
- Nine Mile Creek Watershed District
- Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

### Honeybee Pollinator Display

University of Minnesota Bell Museum

4–6 p.m.

View and learn about honeybees.

### Tree Climbing Activity\*

Minnesota Society of Arboriculture

3:30–7 p.m.

Kids can learn to climb a tree with a rope and saddle.

\* Guardian signature on liability waiver required for participation.

### Native Plant Walk

5–6 p.m.

Learn about plants and restoration in progress in two habitats on the Civic Center Campus: oak woodland and creek floodplain forest. Led by Cheryl Culbreth, master naturalist.

### Free Native Plants to the first 150 visitors

Plant a plug in a pot

3–7 p.m.

Black eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) plugs will be available to “upgrade” into a larger pot. Limit one per person. Bring a 4” pot or we will provide one. ☁

## Planning ahead for your mature tree

**I**T'S HARD TO VISUALIZE WHAT A SAPLING will look like when it turns into a mighty tree, but try to keep these guidelines in mind to ensure you don't become the owner of a one-sided or V-shaped tree.

- Plant **evergreen trees** 20 feet or more from the road edge.
- Plant **deciduous trees** 15 feet or more from the road edge. Deciduous trees that overhang roads should provide 14 to 18 feet of clearance from the road surface to allow for passing traffic.
- Plant **hedges and shrubs** at least six feet from the road edge. Formal shrubs and hedges planted near the road should be trimmed regularly.
- **Do you live on a corner?** A corner is defined as 25 feet on each street side, then everything inside the enclosed triangle. Keep vegetation in the corner of your property at a maximum of 36 inches high to ensure safety and visibility.

Other than roads, here are a few other items to consider when planting trees:

- Your yard contains many **underground utilities that should always be marked before planting.** Contact Gopher State One Call at (651) 454-0002 or [www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org) at least two business days before you plan to dig. Each utility type is marked with a

different color paint on the ground surface.

- Want to know **how far to plant from utilities?** Here are some general rules of thumb. Call the city or utility company if you have specific concerns.
  - **Water lines and fire hydrants** (blue paint): Plant at least 10–15 feet away, depending on mature size of tree.
  - **Gas** (yellow paint): Plant 5–10 feet away.
  - **Overhead electrical wires and transformers** (red paint): Specific criteria apply. Call Xcel Energy or visit their website for diagrams: [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com)
- Plant at least 20–25 feet from **street lights.**
- Plant at least 20–25 feet from **stop signs.** Don't block the sign, but the tree may be offset from the sign.
- Avoid potential conflicts with your neighbors: be sure to give the tree room to grow so that its **mature canopy** will be entirely on your property and won't overhang the property line. ♪

## Yard care tips for clean water

**F**OLLOW THESE TIPS TO MAINTAIN YOUR yard and protect water resources.

1. Keep the storm drain clear of leaves, twigs and debris.
2. Don't fertilize brown grass, only actively growing grass. Misapplied fertilizer is wasted and it washes into bodies of water where it fosters algae and weed growth.
3. Cover exposed soil to prevent erosion.
4. Pull and smother weeds. Use a few sheets of newspapers and mulch to smother weeds, instead of herbicides. Avoid plastic weed barriers.
5. Tolerate some insect damage. Use caution if you apply soil drench insecticides. They must be used appropriately to be effective and to avoid contaminating water resources. For more information visit <http://bit.ly/HwYLLX>.

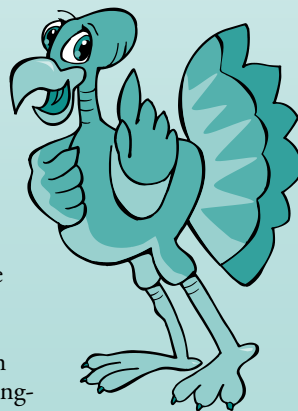
Choose the right plant. Check the plant tag or other resources to determine the ideal conditions for the plant before you buy it. ♪

## Tips for handling spring animal concerns

**S**PRING OFTEN BRINGS AN INCREASE in animal complaints to the Minnetonka Police Department. The most often-cited concern: turkeys and dogs at large.

### Wild turkeys

The number of wild turkeys in the city varies throughout the year due to new hatchings, predators and the migration of the birds. Follow these tips to help discourage turkeys from taking up long-term residency in your neighborhood:



- Don't feed birds or other wildlife.
- Use loud noises to scare off turkeys.
- Opening and closing an umbrella as you walk toward turkeys is often seen as a threatening display and will chase them from your "territory."

### Dogs at large

Dogs must be maintained on a leash when on the trails and in the maintained parts of the parks. In neighborhoods, a dog may be off-leash, but only directly at heel beside their handler.

Most Minnetonka parks contain off-leash (unmaintained) areas, but these areas are not fenced so verbal control must be maintained at all time. A dog that is not within eyesight of its owner/handler is not considered under control and could be subject to a citation. And, as always, please be sure to pick up after your dog. ♪



## Farmers' Market returns July 3

**T**HE MINNETONKA FARMERS' MARKET starts Tuesday, July 3, and continues every Tuesday through October 2, 3–7 p.m., at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus Ice Arena B parking lot, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard. Enjoy many of your favorite produce and specialty vendors from past years, as well as some new offerings! A complete list of vendors will be available in late June at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). ♪

 **2012 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE**

# Spring Leaf Drop-off Ends May 15

## Public Works Facility

11522 Minnetonka Blvd., ¼ mi. west of Cty. Rd. 73  
Enter on the west side of the building (near the Big Willow ball fields)

The Public Works facility at 11522 Minnetonka Blvd accepts leaves and yard waste from Minnetonka residents. You must present proper identification to the site monitor to verify you are a Minnetonka resident (driver's license, state I.D., or Minnetonka utility bill). No loads of leaves will be accepted from commercial lawn services without proof of residency of the address the leaves are from.

If you have other means of handling your leaves such as collection by your garbage hauler or backyard composting, please use that option! All garbage haulers offer curbside collection of yard waste for a fee (either an annual, monthly, per cart or per bag fee). Check with your garbage hauler for details. State law requires proper compostable bags for curbside collection of bagged yardwaste — **regular plastic bags are not allowed**. Some companies offer yardwaste carts, eliminating the need for using bags.

**LEAVES** — Truck and trailer loads of leaves will be accepted only at Minnetonka Public Works and only during brush drop-off hours on the following dates:

- **Mondays:** 12 to 8 p.m. May 7, 14
- **Tuesdays:** 12 to 8 p.m. May 1, 8, 15
- **Saturdays:** 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 5, 12

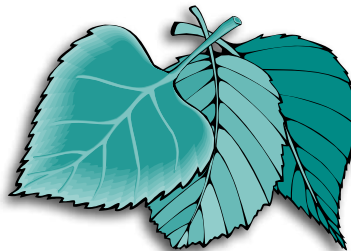
**Expanded Friday and Sunday hours:**

- **Fridays:** 12 to 6 p.m. May 4, 11
- **Sundays:** 12 to 4 p.m. May 6, 13

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

The suggested method is to use many layers of tarps between layers of about a foot of leaves. Use a tarp to gather up and move a pile of leaves from your yard to your trailer or vehicle. Continue using lots of small tarp loads, layering the leaves and tarps until the vehicle is full. This makes unloading your leaves easier and faster at the site. All you need to do is flip off the tarps between the layers of leaves. Sticks and branches smaller than ½ inch in diameter are acceptable with leaves; anything larger goes to the brush pile. (See the brush drop-off article at top right.) **Loads of leaves must be covered during transport!**

Information about composting and yard waste management is available from Dean Elstad at (952) 988-8430. ♻️



## Brush drop-off now open

The brush drop-off program for Minnetonka residents is open Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Mondays and Tuesdays from noon to 8 p.m. Brush drop-off ends November 18, 2012.

**The brush drop-off site will be closed on the following two holidays: Memorial Day, May 28; and Labor Day, September 3.**

Branches up to 12" in diameter are accepted. Proof of Minnetonka residency is required to drop-off brush (driver's license or utility bill).



Secure your load during transport: don't drag branches on the road or cover taillights.

**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, when available. The brush drop-off and leaf drop-off programs have different processing methods and distinct end markets for the different materials, so it's important they stay separate.

No brush is accepted from commercial tree or lawn services.

Call (952) 988-8430 during business hours or leave a message any time. ♻️

## Memorial Day delays recycling for some residents

For Minnetonka residents who have recycling scheduled for the week of May 28 (grey Monday and grey Tuesday), the Memorial Day holiday will delay recycling collection by one day. Monday's area will be collected Tuesday, May 29, and Tuesday's area will be collected Wednesday, May 30. This **does not** affect those in the blue collection area. ♻️

 **2012 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE**

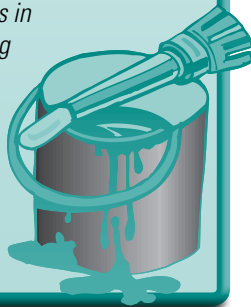
# Hennepin County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Community Collection

**Thursday, May 17**  
**Friday, May 18**  
**Saturday, May 19**

**9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Minnetonka Public Works  
 11522 Minnetonka Blvd  
 East entrance by recycling center

*Can't wait until May? Tired of waiting in lines? Saturday, May 19, is the busiest day, with longer waits in line. Consider bringing your household hazardous waste to one of the permanent facilities during the week (see article below).*



The HHW drop-off is open to any Hennepin County resident and only accepts items from households. No hazardous waste or problem materials can be accepted from businesses, including home businesses or non-profit organizations.

**The following HHW and problem materials are accepted free of charge:**

**Household, lawn and garden products:** Adhesives, aerosols, batteries, cleaners, drain cleaner, driveway sealer, fire extinguishers, flammable products, paint (limit three 5-gallon pails), paint thinners, solvents and strippers, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, photographic and hobby chemicals, poisons, pool chemicals, rechargeable tools and electronics, stains, wood preservatives.

**Mercury-containing items:** Fluorescent and high-intensity discharge (HID) lamps and ballasts (maximum 25), thermometers, thermostats.

**Electronics:** Computers, laptops, DVD players, VCRs, radios, TVs, etc.


**Auto and fuel wastes:** Diesel fuel, fuel additives, gasoline (containers will not be returned), kerosene, starter fluid, vehicle lead-acid batteries, waxes. No motor oil or oil filters.

**Gas Cylinders**

- **Acceptable:** Propane tanks less than 40 lbs., specialty gases on a case-by-case basis if less than 59 lbs.
- **Unacceptable:** Propane tanks greater than 40 lbs.; gases requiring special management; all greater than 59 lbs., and all gas cylinders from a business.

**There is no charge for dropping off HHW or the above listed items.**

The following items are **not accepted** at the community HHW collection: appliances, asbestos, photocopiers, motor oil and motor oil filters, tires, some compressed gas cylinders (see above), explosives, radioactive materials, infectious waste or household garbage.

For more information, call (952) 988-8430 or Hennepin County at (612) 348-3777. 

## Year-round HHW drop-off sites

Residents may bring household hazardous waste (HHW) to either of Hennepin County's permanent drop-off facilities:



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

*There is no charge to drop off residential HHW.*



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 a limit to the annual quantities of materials dropped off or picked up. For more information visit [www.hennepin.us](http://www.hennepin.us) 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, fluorescent, CFL and HID lamps, 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). No photocopiers or fax machines are accepted.

Household appliances (microwaves, water heater, stove, freezer, washer, dryer, etc.) may be dropped off for a \$15 fee.

Mattresses and box springs are only accepted at the Brooklyn Park drop-off facility for a fee of \$15 each. 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 or visit the website at [www.hennepin.us/dropoffs](http://www.hennepin.us/dropoffs). 





## 2012 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE

# Special one-day drop-off

**Saturday, June 2,  
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Minnnetonka Public Works  
**11522 Minnetonka Blvd.**  
East entrance by recycling center

Minnnetonka residents may drop off the materials listed below. The charge for dropping off each item, if any, is listed in parentheses.

- **Air conditioner or water softener (\$20)**

- **Appliances (\$12 each)**

Washer, dryer, dishwasher, stove, oven, cooktop, microwave, freezer, refrigerator, water heater, home furnace, trash compactor, garbage disposer, humidifier, dehumidifier.

- **Batteries (No charge)**

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**

- **(No charge)**

Bicycles brought to the special drop-off will be given a second chance by Re-Cycle (612-209-6669).

- **Carpet & padding (\$1/sq. yd. for carpet and \$1/sq. yd. 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 and/or up to 12 inches in diameter.

- **Copier or fax machine (\$35)**

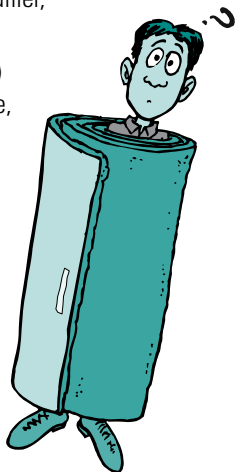
- **Doors (\$2 and up, depending on size)**

- **Electronics**

(no longer accepted, see box at top right)

- **Fluorescent lamps (No charge)**

Up to ten fluorescent bulbs will be 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!

- **Furniture: Chairs (\$5 – small, \$10 – large); loveseat (\$15); couch/sofa (\$20); hide-a-bed (\$30); sectionals, dressers, chests, tables 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)**

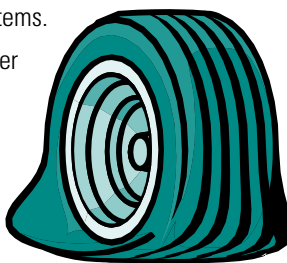
- **Scrap metal — clean (no charge)**

Clean scrap metal means all plastic, rubber, wood, concrete and hazardous materials must be removed. Clean scrap metal includes pipe, gutters, swing sets, barbecues, ducting, fencing, etc.

- **Scrap metal — dirty (\$5)**

For example, 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)**

Payment will be accepted in cash or local checks payable to the city of Minnetonka.

**NO GARBAGE OR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

### Electronic items no longer accepted at the special drop-off

Electronic items will no longer be accepted at the special drop-off events. This includes TVs, radios, speakers, CDs, VCRs and DVD players, camcorders, cell phones, telephones, laptops, computers, printers and monitors. Drop-off options for electronics include the Hennepin County Household Hazardous Waste Community Collection May 17, 18 & 19; the Hennepin County permanent drop-off sites (page 8); or any Best Buy store. ♪

**Please note:** Charitable organizations will **not** be at the special drop-off accepting clothing and household goods.

Local charitable organizations that accept clothing and household goods include the following:

- **ARC Hennepin Carver**

Pickup route info: (612) 866-8820

- **Bethesda Thrift Shop**

4749 Cty. Rd. 101, Minnetonka  
(952) 939-0988

- **Families Helping Each Other**

[www.fheo.org](http://www.fheo.org)  
(612) 235-9336

- **Goodwill Industries**

1025 Hill Street, Hopkins  
(952) 935-2760

- **Salvation Army**

Pickup route info: (612) 332-5585

- **Value Village Thrift Store**

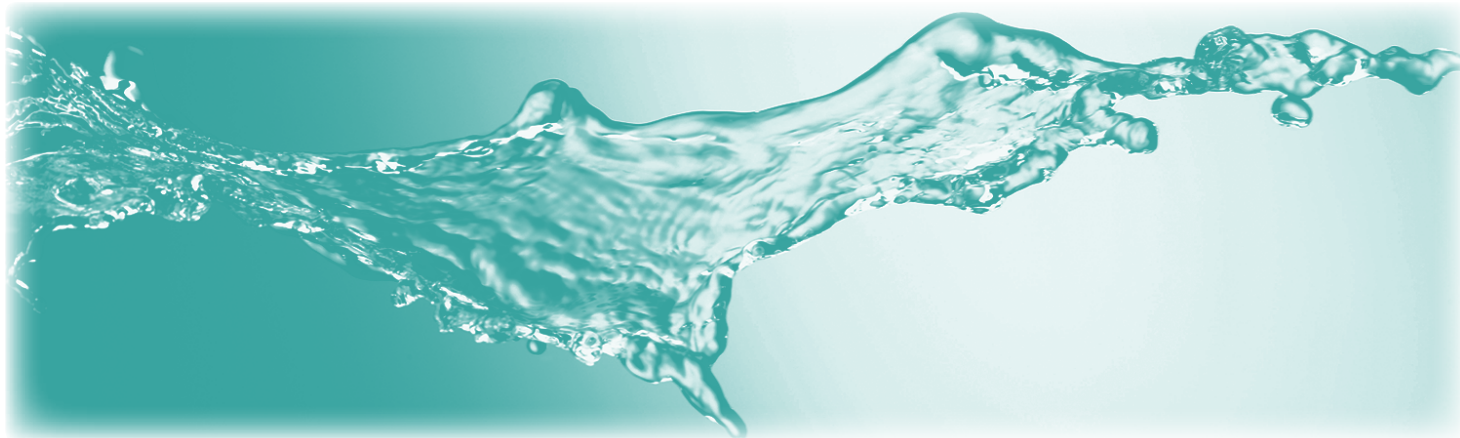
2751 Winnetka Ave, New Hope  
(763) 544-0006

- **Vietnam Vets**

Pickup route information: (651) 778-8387

For more information, call Dean Elstad at (952) 988-8430 or visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). Fall special drop-off will be Saturday, September 15. ♪

# 2011 Minnetonka Drinking Water Report



**T**HE CITY OF MINNETONKA IS ISSUING the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2011. Each of the past 14 years, Minnetonka Public Works has distributed this annual report to summarize drinking water quality for the previous year; advance residents' understanding of drinking water; and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

This report fulfills an obligation the city's water utility has to provide accurate and timely information about your drinking water and the city's water system. If you have questions about your drinking water, please contact Jim Malone at [jmalone@eminnetonka.com](mailto:jmalone@eminnetonka.com) or call (952) 988-8400. For information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of water, please contact Minnetonka Public Works at (952) 988-8400.

## Water source

The city of Minnetonka provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source: 18 wells, ranging in depth from 405 to 575 feet, that draw water from the Prairie du Chien-Jordan aquifer.

Generally, sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Before a water source is used for a supply, it is tested for contaminants and other water quality parameters. Test results for the city of Minnetonka water supply are listed on the next page. The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards but the Minnesota Department of Health has also made a determination as to how vulnerable

the source of water may be to future contamination incidents.

If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call (651) 201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (press 5) during normal business hours. The report may also be viewed online at [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa).

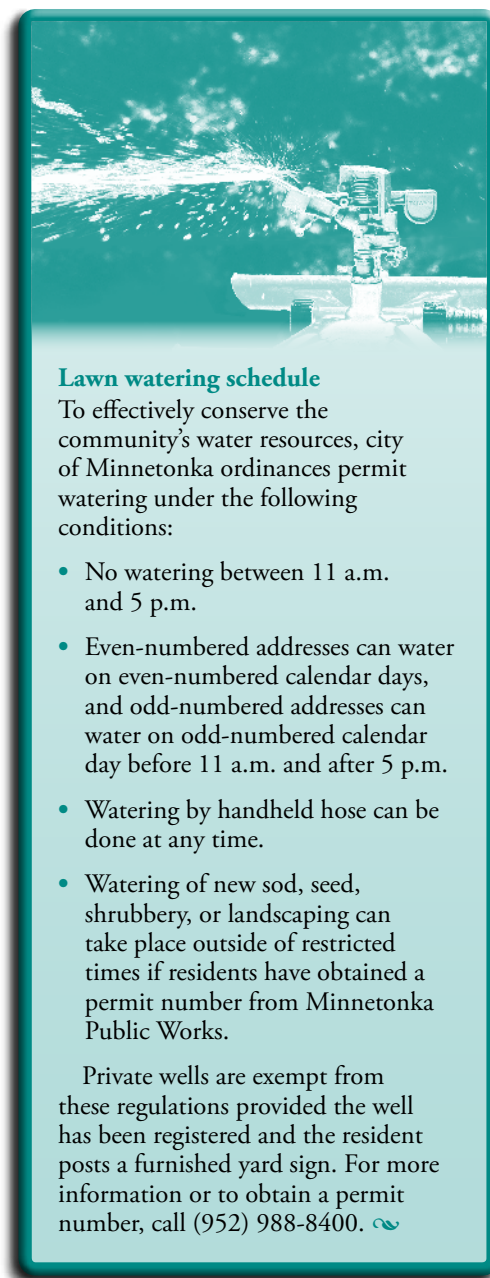
## Are contaminants a concern?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## Drinking water regulations

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. ☺



## Lawn watering schedule

To effectively conserve the community's water resources, city of Minnetonka ordinances permit watering under the following conditions:

- No watering between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Even-numbered addresses can water on even-numbered calendar days, and odd-numbered addresses can water on odd-numbered calendar day before 11 a.m. and after 5 p.m.
- Watering by handheld hose can be done at any time.
- Watering of new sod, seed, shrubbery, or landscaping can take place outside of restricted times if residents have obtained a permit number from Minnetonka Public Works.

Private wells are exempt from these regulations provided the well has been registered and the resident posts a furnished yard sign. For more information or to obtain a permit number, call (952) 988-8400. ☺

# Laboratory Results for Minnetonka Tap Water: 2011

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2011. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date the detection occurred.)

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Water Testing Terms and Definitions

### MCLG — Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

### MCL — Maximum Contaminant Level

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

### MRDLG — Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

### MRDL — Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

### AL — Action Level

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

### 90th Percentile Level

This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, in a situation in which ten samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest

result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.) *Note:* In situations in which only five samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

### pCi/l — PicoCuries per liter

A measure of radioactivity.

### ppb — Parts per billion

This can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (µg/l).

### ppm — Parts per million

This can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

### nd — No Detection

### N/A — Not Applicable

Does not apply.

### Average/result

This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes is an average of all detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.

Contaminant (units)	Units of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range (2011)	Average/result	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha Emitters (6/22/2010)	pCi/l	0	15.4	N/A	5.4	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	ppm	2	2	.109–.17	.17	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (6/22/2010)	pCi/l	0	5.4	N/A	2.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	1.2–1.4	1.23	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as nitrogen)	ppm	10.4	10.4	nd–.11	.11	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
THM (total trihalomethanes)	ppb	0	80	N/A	1.2	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Contaminant (units)	Units of Measure	MRDL	MRDLG	Monthly Average	Highest Quarterly Avg.	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	.3 (Lowest) – .7 (Highest)	.53	Water additive used to control microbes

Contaminant (units)	Units of Measure	AL	MCLG	90% Level	# sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	1.21	1 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	15	0	1.2	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The city of Minnetonka is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When water has been sitting for several hours, minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing the tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If there are concerns about lead in the water, consider having the water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Unregulated contaminants

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels established for them. These unregulated contaminants are assessed using state standards known as health risk limits to determine if they pose a threat to human health. If unacceptable levels of an unregulated contaminant are found, the response is the same as if an MCL has been exceeded; the water system must inform its customers and take other corrective actions. In the table that follows are the unregulated contaminants that were detected:

Contaminant (units)	Units of Measure	Range (2011)	Result	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium	ppm	4.85–12.7	12.7	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	ppm	1.91–26	26	Erosion of natural deposits

# minnetonka memo

May 2012



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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

<b>Mayor</b> Terry Schneider.....(952) 939-8389 ..... Home: (952) 934-9529 .....tschneider@eminnetonka.com Meetings with the mayor may be scheduled by calling (952) 939-8211.	<b>Council</b> <i>At Large:</i> Dick Allendorf... (952) 933-6231 dallendorf@eminnetonka.com ..... Patty Acomb... (952) 807-8635 pacomb@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 1:</i> Bob Ellingson .... (952) 931-3065 bellingson@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 2:</i> Tony Wagner..... (952) 512-1817 twagner@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 3:</i> Brad Wiersum.... (612) 723-3907 bwiersum@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 4:</i> James Hiller ..... (952) 974-1003 jhiller@eminnetonka.com
<b>City Manager</b> John Gunyou.....(952) 939-8200	<b>Minnetonka Mike</b> ..... (952) 939-8586 mike@eminnetonka.com
<b>Newsletter Editor</b> Jacque Larson.....(952) 939-8200	<b>POLICE-FIRE: Emergency</b> ..... 9-1-1
<b>E-mail:</b> ..... comments@eminnetonka.com	<b>Non-emergency</b> .....(952) 939-8500 or 9-1-1
<b>Internet:</b> ..... www.eminnetonka.com	

ECRWSS  
POSTAL PATRON

## Calendar

City of  
Minnetonka

May  
2012

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	2 Park Board, 7 p.m. <b>14</b> City Council, 6:30 p.m.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.; Silver Skates Ice Revue, 6:30 p.m. <b>17</b> Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	4 Silver Skates Ice Revue, 6:30 p.m. <b>21</b> City Council Study Session, 6:30 p.m.; Community Commission, 6:30 p.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	5 Silver Skates Ice Revue, 2:00 p.m. <b>24</b> Economic Development Authority Commission, 6 p.m.
27	28	29	30	31			8 Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m. <b>28</b> Memorial Day, <i>city offices closed</i>

All meetings listed above are open to the public. Meeting dates and times are subject to change—please check [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) for the latest information.

Minnetonka City Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 16, and replays are available Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays at noon, or anytime via videostream at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://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.

## Be an election judge!

ARE YOU CONSIDERING SERVING AS AN election judge, but aren't sure what's involved? Learn about the requirements and duties of election judges by attending an information session:

**Tuesday, May 22**, at 7 p.m. in the Boards and Commissions Room, Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard.

**Wednesday, May 23**, at 10 a.m. in the Council Chambers, Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard.

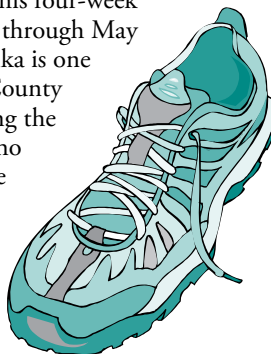
Election judges provide an essential service to our community. If you've ever considered becoming a judge or are just curious, you're encouraged to attend! To request an application or register for a session, contact Laura Ronbeck at [lronbeck@eminnetonka.com](mailto:lronbeck@eminnetonka.com) or (952) 939-8219.

## Join the annual Step To It Challenge

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN THE STEP TO It Challenge! This four-week free program runs through May 20, and Minnetonka is one of 22 Hennepin County communities taking the challenge to see who has the most active residents!

Keep an ongoing total of the steps you take during the challenge by registering online at [www.steptoit.org](http://www.steptoit.org).

Visit [www.steptoit.org](http://www.steptoit.org) for more information.



## Bus service open house is May 23

METRO TRANSIT, IN COOPERATION with the city of Minnetonka, is studying potential bus service changes in the city. Review and comment on these potential changes Wednesday, May 23, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Ridgedale Service Center, 12601 Ridgedale Drive (served by bus routes 671, 675 and TransitLink). Short presentations will take place at 5 and 6 p.m.

Final plan implementation is scheduled to take place in 2013. To receive regular updates on this process, visit [www.metrotransit.org/minnetonka-study](http://www.metrotransit.org/minnetonka-study).

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

