

minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka
July 2012

Minnetonka Farmers' Market returns in July

DON'T MISS THE MINNETONKA FARMERS' Market Tuesdays, July 3–Oct. 2, from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Minnetonka Ice Arena B parking lot, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka.

Visit local vendors selling a variety of items, from produce to salsa to snack mixes and crafts. Many of your favorite vendors are back this year, along with some new vendors!

Amcraft Specialty Jewelry & Greeting Cards

Beaded earrings and necklaces, greeting cards
July 3, 17, 31

Amoos Artisan Ice Cream

Handmade ice cream

Avery's Apples/Stableford Farms*

Produce

Baldwin's Farm & Market*

Produce

Beck's Greenhouse & Vegetable Farm*

Produce

Bee Happy Honey*

Honey and honey products

Boorsma Farm*

Produce

Celebration Generation/ Marie Porter*

Author
July 17

Crow's Inc.

Handcrafted body products

DeeJ's LLC-Johnson Farms*

Produce

Der's Flowers*

Cut flowers

Gracie's Pantry*

Canned goods



Hazelwood Creek Farm*

Canned goods, herbs

Heidi Peterson*

Jewelry

LC Vegetable Garden*

Produce

Leng Yang*

Produce

Levin & Chellen*

ICA Donations

Long Yang*

Produce

M&M Agate*

Agates
Aug. 21–Oct. 2

Mai Tong Vang*

Produce

Mau Family Produce*

Produce

Mean Green Hot Sauce*

Hot sauces, salsa

Minnetonka Senior Garden Club*

Member-grown plants
Dates TBD

Olive on Tap

Flavor-infused olive oils

Pao Chou's Vegetables*

Produce

Philly's Inc.*

Handmade snacks

Picha Farms*

Produce

Plum Creek Maple*

Maple syrup

Randall's Best*

Black bean salsa
July 10–Aug. 21

Ridgeroll Farms*

Frozen meats
July 3, Aug. 7, Sept. 4,
Oct. 2

Shimanski Orchard*

Apples
Aug. 14–Oct. 2

Skin Solace Skin Care*

Bath and body items

Tantalizing Tastes

Pepper jellies, marinara, salsa

Time Out Patio Furniture

Handcrafted wood patio furniture
July 3, 10, 17

Tuesday Beaders*

Jewelry
July 24



State primary election is August 14

THE U.S. SENATE, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE and three judicial offices will be on the ballot for the State Primary Election on Tuesday, August 14. No local issues are on this year's ballot. For partisan races, the purpose of the State Primary is to determine the candidate from each party who will advance to the State General Election on November 6. For nonpartisan races, the purpose is to determine the two candidates who will be placed on the November ballot.

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City staff is available to help you with election information. For more detailed or specific information than what's provided here and on pages 4 and 5 of this edition of the *Minnetonka Memo*, call Minnetonka City Hall at (952) 939-8200 or visit the city website at www.eminnetonka.com.

State primary continued on pages 4 and 5

Pay your municipal utility bills online

TIRED OF DEALING WITH PAPER UTILITY bills from the city? Now you can receive and pay your municipal utility bills (water and sewer) electronically. You can also choose to pay your bill online, either one time or on a recurring basis, using a credit card or bank account withdrawal.

It's easy to sign up and it's free! To sign up, grab your latest bill and look for this logo at www.eminnetonka.com. Click on the logo and follow the instruction. Questions? Call (952) 939-8200. ☺

online
utility billing



Generations of retirees mingle at Minnetonka's senior center

WE'VE ALL HEARD ABOUT THE generation gap at the workplace, but at the same time a more subtle generational melting pot is happening at local senior centers. Recently retired baby boomers are meeting their parents and even their grandparents at senior centers— three generations of retirees, with each group looking for different resources from their senior center. Some want relaxing, passive activities like bingo or knitting, while others want to bike 20 miles or learn the warrior pose at a yoga class. Others need resources to stay informed about health insurance or help with maintenance projects so they can stay in their homes.

Whatever you're looking for as a retiree of any age, the Minnetonka Senior Center offers it! Below is a sampling of the many classes and activities slated for July. Many, many more are listed in the monthly newsletter, the *Minnetonka Script*.

If you have suggestions or ideas about what you think the Minnetonka Senior Center should offer, contact Nicole Gorman at ngorman@eminnetonka.com or at (952) 939-8369. We are eager to help you enjoy the Minnetonka Senior Center!

Hilloway Park Hike

July 11, 9 a.m.

Hike through Hilloway Park. Bring a water bottle and meet at the designated park.

Lone Lake Picnic

July 11, 12 p.m.

Join us for an outdoor picnic at Lone Lake Park. Menu includes grilled hot dogs, potato salad, fruit and a cookie. Enjoy bocce ball, ladder golf and bean bag toss. Cost is \$5, due by July 9.

Summer Picnic

July 17, 12 p.m.

Enjoy the summer with a grill out! Menu includes hamburgers, chips, beans, fruit and dessert. Cost is \$5, due by July 13.

Bike Groups

Tues., Wed., Thurs

Bikes 12–20 miles (Tues. and Thurs) or 8–12 miles (Wed.). More than 50 routes planned. 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

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

Defensive Driving Classes

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

Four-Hour Day Course

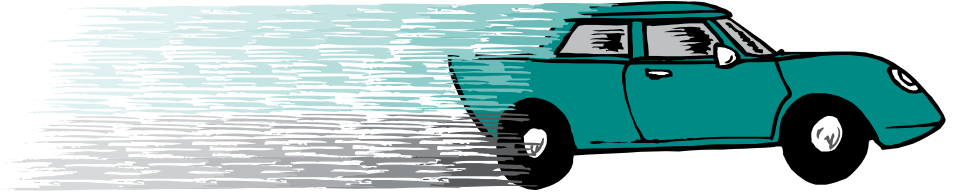
July 24, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Refreshments provided (no meal). Cost: \$20

Four-Hour Evening Course

July 12, 6–10 p.m.

Refreshments provided. Cost: \$20



Minnetonka Night for Neighbors is Aug. 7

ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, FROM 6 TO 9 P.M.,

Minnetonka residents are invited to join neighborhoods across Minnetonka in the tradition of getting to know your neighbors. Residents citywide will be asked to turn on their outside lights, lock their doors and spend an evening visiting with neighbors.

All neighborhoods are encouraged to participate, with city representatives visiting many registered events. See the city's website at www.eminnetonka.com for a registration form, or pick one up at the Minnetonka Police Department, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard. Forms must be turned in by Friday, July 13, to the Minnetonka Police Department.



**MINNETONKA
NIGHT
FOR NEIGHBORS**

Make your Fourth of July picture perfect

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SUNNY DAY AND THE deck is ready for guests. Lawn chairs are where they should be, the lawn is mowed and the yard is perfect. The meat is heaping on the platter, and the cooler is stocked. Friends arrive and the fun begins. Time flies, dinner is served and the sun goes down. Family and friends pack it up for a night of fireworks.

The What if? public educators want to remind you how quickly this day can go bad. Every year, fire departments respond to Fourth of July disasters that could have been prevented by following these safety tips:



- Keep charcoal grills at least 15 feet from structures while in use.
- Keep gas grills at least 18 inches away from combustibles.
- Never use lighter fluid directly on hot coals.
- Make sure your charcoal ashes are cool before disposal.
- When barbecuing, have a fire extinguisher handy.
- Keep water (hose or bucket) handy while enjoying fireworks.
- Don't re-light a "dud." Wait 10 minutes, then soak it with water.
- Alcohol and fireworks don't mix.
- Only use legal fireworks.

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July!

Summer youth programs still available

SPACE MAY STILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE classes listed below. Registration deadline for all classes is five days prior to the course start date. Register early, and don't wait until the last minute — classes can be cancelled due to low enrollment. To register, call Recreation Services at (952) 939-8203.

Science Explorers

Mummies, Mysteries & More

July 17–19, 12:30–2:30 p.m.

For grades 1–5. Cost is \$55. The Egyptian civilization was one of the richest cultures of the ancient world. Join Science Explorers as we uncover this fascinating time in history as we learn about mummification and dig for artifacts. Then have fun building and learning about pyramids and their mysterious curses. Come prepared to dig in and explore the past through archaeology.

Camp KinderSprouts

August 7–9, 9:30–11:30 a.m.

Exclusively for children entering kindergarten. Cost is \$55. Join Science Explorers as we discover the world around us while brushing up on the skills needed for kindergarten. Explore chemistry, dinosaurs and the ocean while learning science, math, reading, writing and geography. Students will explore these topics through experiments, projects, songs and more in this fun, hands-on camp setting.



Super Structures

August 7–9, 12:30–2:30 p.m.

For Grades 2–6. Cost is \$55. Are you up for a challenge? If so, join us for a fun, hands-on series about structural engineering where you will imagine, design and construct super structures including various bridge designs. Your design ideas will easily snap together with the use of K'Nex system or rods, bricks and connectors. Lastly, your team will demonstrate their skills in the ultimate super structure challenge.

Kindermusik

Zoo Train

Tuesdays, July 3–31, 9:30–10:15 a.m.

For ages 18 months to 3.5 years *(parents participation required). Cost is \$60, plus \$32 required materials fee payable at first class. In just five lessons, you and your child will experience a summers worth of music, stories and activities created to inspire a lifetime of musical learning!

On The Road

Tuesdays, July 3–31, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

For Ages 3.5–5 years *(parents join in the last 15 minutes of class). Cost is \$75, plus \$32 required materials fee payable at first class. Join us for a summer vacation! We'll go on a pretend road trip to the cottage, to a fair, to the beach, have a picnic and go camping! Music is incorporated into each lesson through movement, dramatic play, storytelling, instrument play, and a variety of songs. ☺

Host a summer birthday party at Williston Center

CLIMB THE LADDER TO ADVENTURE AT Williston Fitness Center's Tree House, and indoor play structure!

Reserve your child's party Monday through Thursday evening for the months of June, July and August and save money.

Package includes:

- Two-hour, non-private room, with access to the Tree House
- 10 friends
- Paper products
- Plastic cutlery
- Two table liners
- Williston Fitness Center drawstring backpack

For more information, contact Mary Jo Gardner at (952) 939-8359. ☺



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 in summer reading fun this July 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. An adult-child book discussion is set for Tuesday, July 17, at 1 p.m. at the Ridgedale Library. Visit www.hclib.org to register. ☺

Register now for adult, youth sports

Adult touch football league

Register now for this all-pass, no blocking football league! Games are fast and high-scoring, with little or no contact, and are played weekday evenings at Valley Park in Hopkins and Big Willow Park in Minnetonka. League starts the week of August 6 and continues for eight weeks, including playoffs. The league is limited to 12 teams and the deadline to register is July 20, so don't delay! \$299 per team. Call Recreation Services at (952) 939-8203 to register.

Kevin Lynch Half-Day Basketball Camp

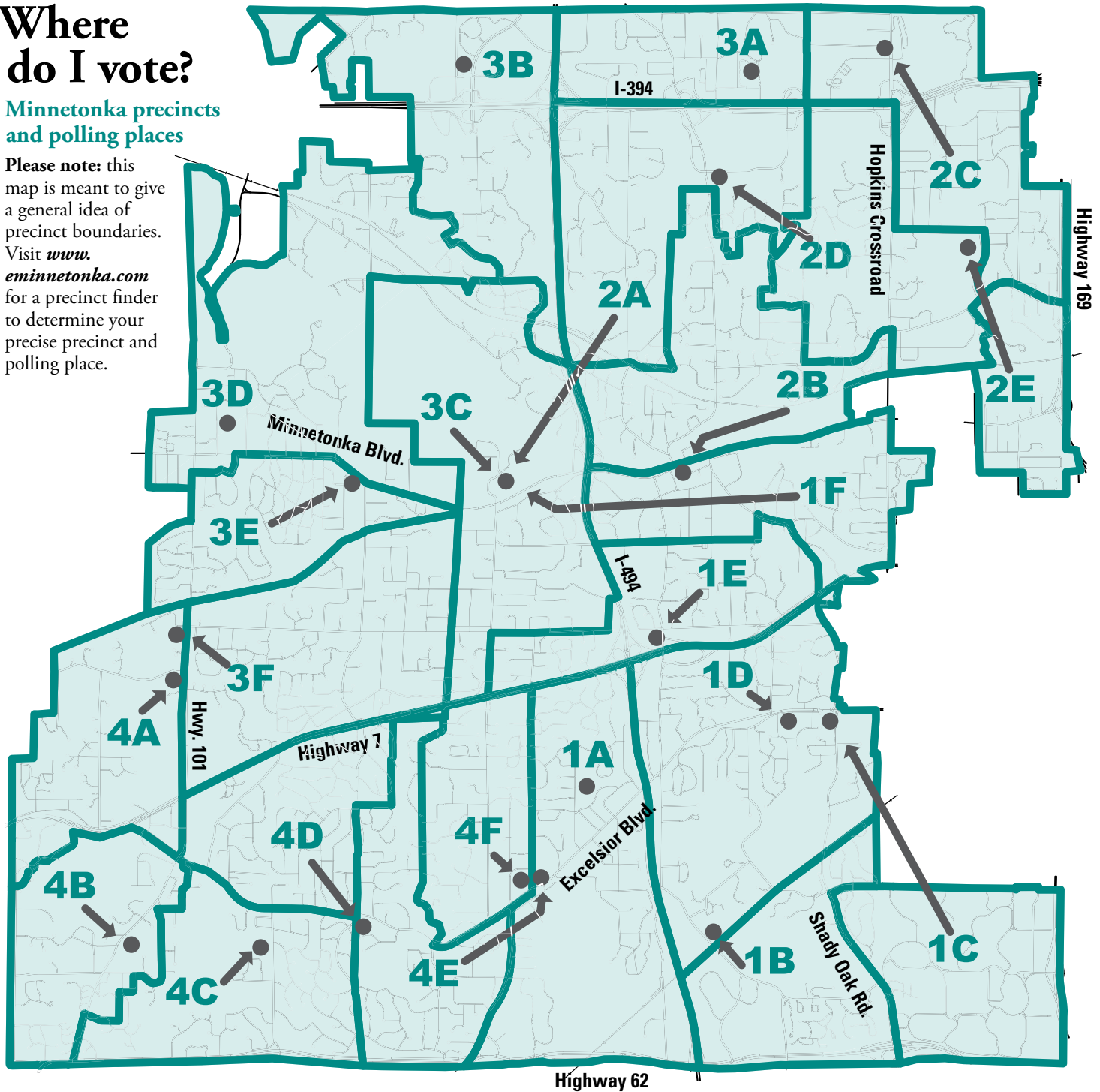
This camp for boys and girls entering grades 5–8 is run by former NBA and Gopher basketball player Kevin Lynch, who has been organizing summer camps for the

past 20 years. All skills will be focused on, including: shooting/shooting mechanics/shooting off the move, shot fakes, ball handling, offensive moves and footwork, position specific drills, defense, getting open against pressure defense, rebounding/boxing out, passing, and free throws, as well as specific game situations like executing the Pick-n-Roll, Pick-n-Pop, and Give-n-Go. The last hour of camp every day will be spent playing 5-on-5 games where each player and team will have the opportunity to use the skills that were discussed and worked on stations and team instruction. M–F, July 16, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Hopkins West Junior High, \$100. Call Recreation Services at 952-939-8203 to register (refer to course #24980). ☺

Where do I vote?

Minnetonka precincts and polling places

Please note: this map is meant to give a general idea of precinct boundaries. Visit www.eminnetonka.com for a precinct finder to determine your precise precinct and polling place.



Precinct locations in Minnetonka

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1A Glen Lake Elementary School
4801 Woodridge Road | 2A Minnetonka Comm. Center
14600 Minnetonka Boulevard | 3A Ridgpointe
12600 Marion Lane West | 4A Ridgewood Church
4420 County Road 101 |
| 1B Old Apostolic Luth. Church
5617 Rowland Road | 2B St. David's Church
13000 St. David's Road | 3B Freedom Pointe
500 Carlson Parkway | 4B Mtka. School Dist. Service
5621 County Road 101 |
| 1C Cross of Glory Baptist Church
4600 Shady Oak Road | 2C Oak Knoll Lutheran Church
600 Hopkins Crossroad | 3C Minnetonka Comm. Center
14600 Minnetonka Boulevard | 4C Scenic Heights Elementary
5650 Scenic Heights Drive |
| 1D Faith Presbyterian Church
12007 Excelsior Boulevard | 2D Ridgedale Henn. Cty. Library
12601 Ridgedale Drive | 3D St. Luke Presbyterian Church
3121 Groveland School Road | 4D All Saints Lutheran Church
15915 Excelsior Boulevard |
| 1E St Paul's Lutheran Church
13207 Lake Street Extension | 2E Lindbergh Center
24000 Lindbergh Drive | 3E Minnetonka Lutheran Church
16023 Minnetonka Boulevard | 4E Glen Lake Activity Center
14350 Excelsior Boulevard |
| 1F Minnetonka Comm. Center
14600 Minnetonka Boulevard | | 3F Mtka. United Methodist
17611 Lake Street Extension | 4F The Glenn
5300 Woodhill Road |

State primary election, *continued from page 1*

What's different in 2012?

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. As a result of the newly drawn precinct boundaries in the city, voters may find that their polling place location has changed. Hennepin County will mail a notice to all voters in mid-July informing them of their polling place location.

A map of the city's new precinct lines, along with polling locations, is available on pages 4 and 5 of this edition of the Memo, and on the city's website at www.eminnetonka.com. Maps will also be posted at the entrance of every polling location August 14. Spend a little time before voting to make sure you go to the correct polling place.

State Primary

In Minnesota, voters receive a ballot that lists candidates for all eligible major parties. Minnesota has three major parties: the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, the Independence Party, and the Republican Party.

In a primary election, **voters may vote only for candidates within one party.** If

they “cross-over” — vote for a candidate from one party for one office, and a candidate from another party for a different office — the ballot is considered defective and the votes on that ballot will not count. If this mistake happens at the polling place, an election judge will advise the voter and offer a replacement ballot. If this happens with an absentee ballot, the voter will be sent a replacement ballot, if there is time to receive it back prior to August 14.

A sample ballot will be posted on the city's website at www.eminnetonka.com and in the Minnetonka City Hall lobby as soon as one is available.

Absentee Voting

Absentee voting is available for those who are unable to get to the polling place on Election Day due to:

- Absence from the precinct,
- Illness or disability,
- Religious observance or
- Service as an election judge in another precinct.

Absentee voting may be done in person or by mail. Absentee ballots became available Friday, June 29. Absentee voting

continues through August 13, and may be done in person or via mail.

In Person

Minnetonka voters may vote absentee at the Minnetonka City Hall or at the Hennepin County Government Center in Minneapolis during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Extended absentee voting hours will also be available at both locations Saturday, August 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday, August 13, until 5 p.m.

By Mail

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

The first step to vote absentee by mail is to complete an application. Applications may be obtained by calling City Hall, through the website at www.eminnetonka.com, or by faxing a request to (952) 939-8244. Upon receipt of an application, the city will mail a ballot with instructions.

Pre-registering to Vote

Minnesota allows voters to register to vote on Election Day at the polls. However, the lines can be long, so it is to your advantage to register before Election Day. Pre-registration for the state primary closes July 24 to allow the county time to update the precinct voter lists for Election Day. Contact city hall for a voter registration application form if you would like to pre-register. You will need to register if:

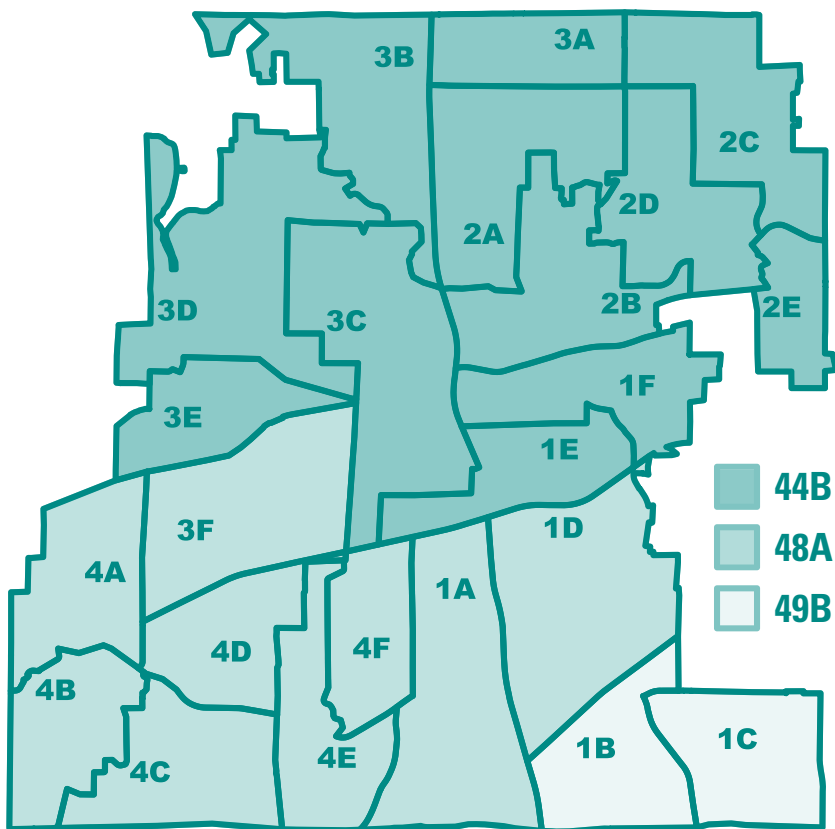
- You have never registered.
- You have changed your name or address (including just moving to another apartment in the same building) since you last voted.
- You have not voted in four years.

Upcoming Election Information

In the August *Memo*, we'll provide information about the following:

- Hours polls will be open on primary election day
- Availability of state primary results
- Absentee voting for the November 6 state general election

This promises to be a busy election season, and we encourage you to exercise your right to vote. If you have questions or need more information, please call Minnetonka City Hall at (952) 939-8200. ☺



Precincts within new legislative districts

Tips for sensible summer watering

WHEN RAINFALL IS BELOW AN INCH a week, trees and shrubs will benefit from summer watering. Drought conditions can cause mature and recently planted trees and shrubs to become stressed, predisposing them to other diseases and insect attacks. Late summer and fall of 2011 were very dry, and led many trees into winter drought stress. As a result, it is especially crucial to ensure your trees and shrubs receive adequate water during the summer months.



In most instances, water and mulch are the best ways to increase a tree's vigor. Follow these tips:

- Water to the drip-line (the ends of the branch tips). Most of the tree roots are within the first foot of soil depth. Water does not move horizontally in the soil, so move the hose around within the drip line to reach the entire root zone.

- Don't sprinkle open wounds on tree trunks, or leaves and needles, since moisture provides a breeding ground for fungal diseases. Instead of a sprinkler, try a low-flow or soaker hose.
- Less water is needed if the root zone is mulched. See below for mulch tips.
- Lawn irrigation systems don't give trees the water they need. Trees need less frequent, deep watering.
- The best way to tell if your trees need water is to feel the soil. After watering, the soil should be moist 6-8 inches deep throughout the drip line.
- Conserve water by not watering during the day when water readily evaporates. Evening and morning are best.

For more detail, visit the city's reforestation information at <http://bit.ly/Kurvxt>. You can also view the city's watering restrictions at www.eminnetonka.com. ☺

Tired of weeding and watering? Mulch!

IF YOU'RE TIRED OF WEEDING AND watering, try mulching trees and shrubs with wood-based materials like chipped or shredded wood or bark.

Why mulch?

- Trees surrounded by mulch have faster growth rates and healthier roots.
- Mulch conserves soil moisture, a crucial advantage in the summer and during droughts.
- Mulch keeps soil cooler in the summer, slowing water loss.
- As it breaks down, mulch adds organic matter to the soil.
- Mulch rings keep lawn mowers and weed whips away from easily damaged trunks and stems.

How to mulch:

- If there is no sod, remove weeds and spread mulch 3 to 4 inches deep. Weeds with established roots can grow through mulch, but seedlings can't.
- If there is sod around a tree, and you want to replace it with mulch, there's no need to



remove the sod first. Use several sheets of newspaper on top of the grass before the first layer of mulch. These layers will kill the grass, and the nutrients and organic matter will go to the tree.

- Keep mulch a couple inches from the tree trunk, not piled against the trunk. Good mulching should create a "bowl" around the tree trunk, not a "volcano."
- Wider mulch rings are better. Mulch to the tree's drip line (the outer branches) or make a wide mulch bed with several plantings.
- Keep an eye on your mulch each year. Use a rake to loosen it in the spring if it clumps, and add more as it breaks down and improves your soil.
- Use the same methods for shrubs.

About weed barriers

Weed barriers made of fabric or plastic aren't so great for plants or for long-term maintenance. While the area may remain weed-free for a couple years, ultimately the mulch breaks down into compost on top of the barrier, away from the roots of the plants. Mulch and other organic material need to break down into the soil. A weed barrier prevents valuable nutrient cycling and reduces infiltration in some situations. ☺

Battling the beetle

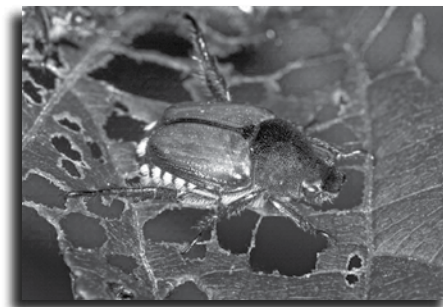
IS SOMETHING DEVOURING YOUR ROSE, crabapple, linden or grape leaves? It might be the voracious Japanese beetle, which usually appears around the fourth of July and sticks around through September. With this year's early spring, it may have appeared by late June.



The Japanese beetle is a non-native, invasive insect that was accidentally introduced from Japan. It has no native predators, and is a serious pest of turf and 400 species of ornamental plants and trees including serviceberry, grapes, roses, crabapple and basswood. The beetle feeds on the leaves, flowers and fruits of these plants and trees, causing mostly aesthetic damage. However, when beetle populations soar as they did in 2011, the damage can weaken a plant over time.

To prevent or minimize Japanese beetle damage:

- Hand pick adult beetles from the leaves or shake small plants to dislodge the beetles, then toss into a bucket of soapy water. Prioritize your highest value plants to avoid getting overwhelmed, and tolerate some damage.
- Insecticide treatments must be carefully timed between July and September to target the weakest time in the beetle's life cycle.
- Consider planting species that are not susceptible to Japanese beetles, like red and white oaks, red maple, balsam fir, Canadian hemlock, yew and others.
- For more information, visit the University of Minnesota Extension website at <http://bit.ly/LUvLlb> or <http://bit.ly/K2Csjo>. ☺



Japanese beetle consuming leaf

Tips for protecting lakes from invasives

HOWEVER THEY ARE USED, FOR FISHING, boating, swimming, or just enjoying a cool breeze and a good view, lakes are often a focal point of activity during the summer in Minnesota.

Unfortunately, lake quality can be compromised by the spread of invasive plant and animal species, as well as by pollutants that enter the lake from stormwater runoff. Follow these tips to help ensure we continue to enjoy lakes for years to come.

Invasive species

Aquatic invasive species compete with native plant and animal species, directly affect recreational uses such as boating and swimming, and can be costly and difficult to control once established. To help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, remember to clean, drain and dry:

- Remove any visible mud, plants or animals before transporting boats and equipment.
- Drain and eliminate any water from equipment, including live wells, buckets, etc.
- Clean and dry anything that came in contact with lake water.
- Never release plants or animals, including fish and bait, into the water unless they came from the same lake.

Stormwater

Substances that run off from yards, driveways and streets can enter lakes directly from the surface as well as through the stormwater system. When nutrients enter lakes, they effectively “fertilize” them,

allowing excess algae and invasive weeds to grow. Vehicle fluids, litter, lawn care nutrients and pesticides, pet feces, eroded soil, and yard debris like grass clippings, leaves and twigs can all harm the lake environment. Protect lakes from these damaging elements by following these tips.

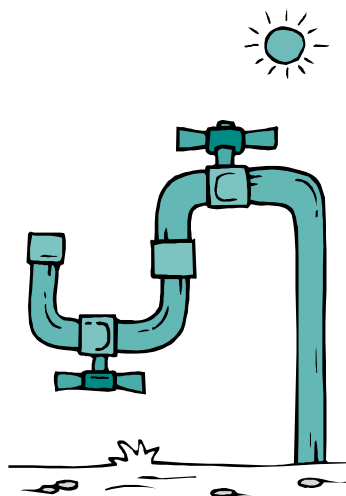
- Properly apply and minimize the use of fertilizers and pesticides, or avoid using them entirely.
- Pick up litter and pet waste.
- Wash vehicles on the grass so soapy water is absorbed by the turf, rather than the lake.
- If you own property on a lake, plant or leave intact a buffer of native vegetation upland from the water’s edge. In addition to preventing soil erosion, this vegetation helps filter sediment and other pollutants from runoff before it reaches the lake. Continuous strips of native vegetation along the shoreline can provide habitat and travel corridors for animals such as turtles and frogs, while minimizing the presence of geese.
- If you don’t live on a lake, consider other ways you can capture runoff before it leaves your property. Rain gardens and garden beds of native species including shrubs, trees or wildflowers are effective and easy ways to absorb runoff into the soil as well as attract and feed birds and butterflies.

Whether you live near a lake or are just an occasional visitor, your practices and decisions can help protect the quality of these waters for everyone. ♪

Enjoy these hot tips on going geothermal

GEOTHERMAL IS THE NEW RAGE IN home heating and cooling systems, but these systems are complicated and it’s important to do your homework before installation. If not installed properly, the system may not provide all of its promised benefits.

To assist Minnetonka homeowners in learning about geothermal systems, the city’s inspections division offers a short handout with background information that everyone should know when considering such a system. The handout is available at www.eminnetonka.com and at Minnetonka City Hall. Or, have one mailed to you by calling (952) 939-8394. ♪



Spotlight on aquatic invasives

TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND diversity of our lakes it’s essential to control the spread of invasive species like zebra mussels and Eurasian water milfoil.

- *Zebra mussels*, a fingernail-sized shelled animal, were first found in the Great Lakes around 1988 and, ironically, can improve water clarity by filtering about one gallon of lake water per day per mussel. However, their filtering behavior can remove the small animal and plant life that are an important part of the food chain for fish populations and may also promote the growth of deep aquatic vegetation by allowing sunlight to penetrate increased water depths. Their ability to attach to hard surfaces also can pose a maintenance nuisance.
- *Eurasian water milfoil*, a plant accidentally introduced from Europe, can form dense mats near and just below the water surface, posing a nuisance for swimmers and boaters as well as reducing sunlight and space for native plant species. The plant easily breaks into small fragments when disturbed and each fragment can form a new plant, making the species easily spread between lakes on boats and equipment.

See the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Invasive Species website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/index_aquatic.html or the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District’s website at www.minnehahacreek.org/education/aquatic-invasive-species to learn more about invasive species. ♪

Recycle plastic pots

DO YOU HAVE PLASTIC POTS, TRAYS, OR hanging baskets left over from planting veggies, tree, or plants?

Recycle them through the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association. Many garden center locations offer this free service from April to October. Visit www.gardenminnesota.com. ♪

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July 2012



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CITY OF MINNETONKA

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Minnetonka Mike..... (952) 939-8586 mike@eminnetonka.com

POLICE-FIRE: Emergency..... 9-1-1

Non-emergency..... (952) 939-8500 or 9-1-1

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

Calendar

City of
Minnetonka

July
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	6	7	3 Minnetonka Farmers' Market, 3–7 p.m. (see page 1)
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	4 Independence Day, city offices closed
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	10 Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.; Minnetonka Farmers' Market, 3–7 p.m.; Music in the Park, 7–8:30 p.m. (see p. 2)
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	16 City Council, 6:30 p.m.
29	30	31					17 Minnetonka Farmers' Market, 3–7 p.m.; Music in the Park, 7–8:30 p.m.
							19 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
							24 Minnetonka Farmers' Market, 3–7 p.m.; Music in the Park, 7–8:30 p.m.
							26 Economic Development Authority Commission, 6 p.m.
							31 Minnetonka Farmers' Market, 3–7 p.m.; Music in the Park, 7–8:30 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 replays are available Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays at noon, or anytime via videostream 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.

Staying informed about city projects

THE CITY REGULARLY RECEIVES applications for projects that require planning commission and/or city council approval. Information on these, as well as many other city projects, is regularly updated on the city's website. If you'd like to stay informed, visit "MyMinnetonka" at www.eminnetonka.com—click on "MyMinnetonka" under "Top Picks." Through MyMinnetonka, you can learn about new projects in the city; provide online feedback on projects during their approval process, and receive email updates on projects. Planning commission meeting agendas are posted the Monday prior to the meeting. Visit www.eminnetonka.com for information.

Residential property revaluation underway

THE CITY OF MINNETONKA ASSESSING department has begun its revaluation of the city's residential properties. Cities are required by state law to value homes for tax purposes annually, specifically looking at each home once every five years, to ensure the city has the correct information for each property in order to calculate an accurate market value each year.

A notification of inspection letter is first mailed to those in the revaluation areas. Residents who receive this letter should contact the appraiser to schedule an appointment for the review. The visits will be completed by the end of the year. For

more information, contact the city of Minnetonka assessing department at (952) 939-8200.



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