

minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka
May 2010

Register now for Minnetonka Summer Festival events

BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY TO THE Minnetonka Summer Festival Saturday, June 26, 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, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. New this year, the Children's Tot Trot will take place at 4 p.m. for ages 2–8. Registration is not required.

Also on June 26, don't miss the Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social at Burwell House, complete with free tours, entertainment, arts fair, antique market and food concessions. See page 16 for information.

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, Two-Mile Fun Run and Children's Tot Trot

Starting at 7:30 a.m. June 26, this certified 8K race course travels through a beautiful wooded area that is generally flat, with some rolling hills. The Two-Mile Fun Run starts at 8:45 a.m. Races begin and end in front of the Minnetonka Ice Arena. Call (952) 939-8203 to register or for more information.

New this year, the **Children's Tot Trot will take place at 4 p.m. for ages 2–8.** Registration is not required. Check in at the Summer Festival information tent.

Softball Tournament

This one-day men's softball tournament is held Saturday, June 26, 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 request a registration form.

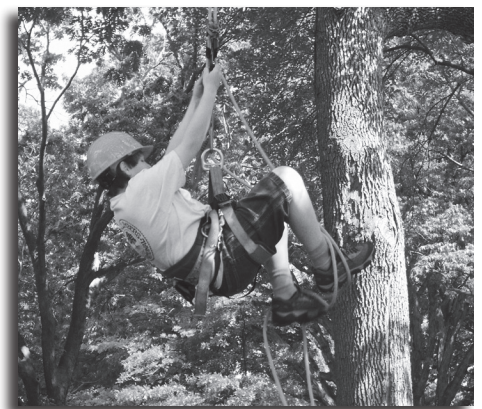


Adult/Child Golf Tournament

A family-oriented golf tournament will be held Saturday, June 26, 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 #19600. ☺

Don't miss the June Eco Fun Fest!

IF MARCH SEEMED LONG WITHOUT THE Eco Fair, plan now to attend its replacement—the Native Plant Market and Eco Fun Fest, set for Thursday, June 10, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard. Turn to page 7 to learn more about this family friendly event and see a full schedule of activities! ☺



Discover the importance of climbing a tree with proper equipment.

Join the four-week Step To It Challenge

DO YOU HAVE A COMPETITIVE spirit? Do you want a fun and easy way to get in shape again this spring? Then the four-week Step To It Challenge from May 17–June 13 is for you!

The challenge is a fun, light-hearted way to connect with family, friends and neighbors and get moving again after a long winter. Sixteen cities will compete to see which one has the most active residents. Participants from each city will have a chance to be honored by Hennepin County and the Minnesota Twins at a Twins home game during the 2010 season.

How does it work?

As a Step To It participant, keep an ongoing total of the steps you take during the challenge. Using an activity conversion chart, other activities such as biking, skateboarding, tai chi, or even



just mowing the lawn can also count toward overall steps. Record your steps online, or call or fax in your step totals. Best of all, it's free!

Challenge Cities

If you live or work in Minnetonka, you're eligible to participate. Other participating cities are Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Champlin, Crystal, Eden Prairie, Excelsior, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Maple Grove, Maple Plain, New Hope, Plymouth, Osseo, Robbinsdale and St. Louis Park.

Register now

Complete a registration form and return it by mail to the address found on the form, or register online at www.steptoit.org. Registration forms also are available at Hopkins–Minnetonka Recreation Services office and at the Minnetonka Community Center, both located at 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. ☺



News for Neighbors

From the Minnetonka Police Department

NEWSPER FOR NEIGHBORS APPEARS quarterly in the *Minnetonka Memo* with news for you about happenings in the Minnetonka Police Department. If you have questions about these items, call Nicole Nelson, crime prevention analyst, at (952) 939-8546.

Officers promoted to sergeants

Officer Shelley Petersen was promoted to the position of sergeant in March, and Officer Mike Nelson's promotion to sergeant will be effective June 1. The promotions took place in order to fill spots vacated due to retirements. Both Sergeant Petersen and Officer Nelson offer a significant amount of law enforcement experience, having served in a wide variety of challenging assignments throughout their careers. Their leadership capabilities, energy and new ideas will positively compliment the Minnetonka Police Department for many years to come.

Power outage? Don't call 911

Minnetonka police are reminding residents of when it's appropriate to call 911. When the power goes out, call Xcel Energy, not 911. During storms and power outages, dispatchers can be inundated with a high



Officer Mike Nelson



Sergeant Shelley Peterson

volume of calls that could create delays in emergency response. To report a non-life-threatening power outage to Xcel Energy call 1-800-895-1999 (residential) or 1-800-481-4700 (business)

To prepare for a power outage, have the following items on hand. For more information on preparing for emergencies, visit the city's Website at www.eminnetonka.com and click on Fire, then ReadyMinnetonka.

- Phone that does not require electricity. *(Cordless phones require electricity.)*
- Flashlights
- Batteries
- Battery-powered radio
- Bottled water and nonperishable food
- First aid kit

US Census takers visiting homes

Between April and July, US Census takers will be in Minnetonka neighborhoods to collect data from residents who have not returned their census information. While Census takers conduct legitimate business, there may be people attempting to impersonate a Census taker in an effort to steal personal information.

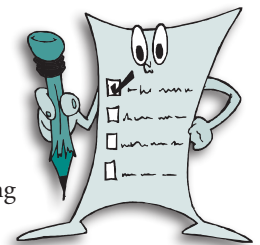
The following tips can help you identify an official US Census taker:

- Official US Census takers must present a Census Bureau photo ID badge, which displays a Department of Commerce watermark and expiration date.

- Upon request, the US Census taker will provide a letter from the director of the Census Bureau on US Census Bureau letterhead, and will provide supervisor contact information and/or the regional office phone number.
- US Census takers may be carrying a laptop computer and/or bag with a Census Bureau logo.
- US Census takers may be driving personal vehicles, which will not have any official insignias or markings.

In addition, the Census Bureau or an official US Census taker will NEVER do the following:

- Ask for your Social Security number,
- Ask for money or a donation, or request PIN codes, passwords or banking information.
- Conduct the Census via the internet or send emails asking for Census information.



Residents are encouraged to immediately call 911 to report suspicious activity and violations of Minnetonka's solicitor ordinance.

For a complete list of authorized solicitors/peddlers/canvassers, visit www.eminnetonka.com and click on Community Development, then Licenses, then Solicitors, Peddlers and Canvassers.

Round up your bikes for a rodeo

THE MINNETONKA AND HOPKINS police departments will host a bike rodeo event Saturday, May 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Minnetonka Ice Arena B parking lot, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka.

Kids will test their safety skills by navigating their bikes through an obstacle course, supervised by bike patrol officers. The free event also offers helmet fittings, bike safety information and refreshments. Bicycle helmets will be available for purchase.

Please register online at www.eminnetonka.com or call Nicole Nelson, Minnetonka Police Department crime prevention analyst, at (952) 939-8546.

Attend a Southwest Transitway open house

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND A MAY OPEN HOUSE TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE Southwest Transitway light rail transit (LRT) project since the selection of the preferred route by the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority last fall. Open houses are scheduled for the following dates, time and locations.

Tuesday, May 18, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

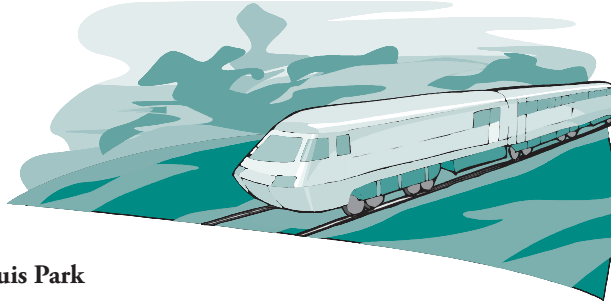
Minneapolis Central Library
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis

Wednesday, May 19, 5–7 p.m.

SouthWest Transit Station
Intersection of Prairie Center Dr.
and Hwy. 5, Eden Prairie

Thursday, May 20, 5–7 p.m.

St. Louis Park City Hall
5005 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park



For more information about the Southwest LRT project including updates, upcoming events, and announcements, visit www.southwesttransitway.org.

Women's Fire Service Expo set for May 22

WOMEN INTERESTED IN BECOMING firefighters should plan to attend the Women's Fire Service Expo Saturday, May 22, from 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the South Metro Public Safety Training Facility, 7525 Braemar Boulevard, Edina.

This free event is for women who are interested in becoming a firefighter but aren't sure they can do the job, or for women who just want to know more about the fire service before making a decision to join a department.

Participants will start in the classroom for a brief session about safety, the duties of a firefighter, and straight talk about what it's really like to be a firefighter. Then participants will go outside, split into crews, put on gear and experience five scenarios: fire suppression, auto extrication, physical agility testing, forcible entry tools and search and rescue. Everyone will also have the opportunity to climb the 100-foot aerial ladder.

This event is sponsored by the North Star Women Firefighters Association (NSWFA) along with the Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Edina, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Savage, St. Louis Park and Victoria fire departments.

For more information about the location of the event, visit www.southmetrotraining.com. For information about the NSWFA, visit www.nswfa.org.



Suiting up at the fire service expo.

A reminder about barking dogs

BARKING DOGS ARE ONE OF THE MOST common complaints expressed by Minnetonka residents about their neighbors. While this may seem like a minor issue to you, please be considerate of your neighbor's environment by complying with this city ordinance.

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 probably can. City ordinance prohibits excessive barking, which is defined as repeated noise over at least a ten-minute period with one minute or less lapse of time between each animal noise during that ten-minute period. This 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.

Burwell House tours start May 22

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET IN TOUCH with Minnesota's past this spring and summer? There's no need to travel far — make plans to visit Minnetonka's own Charles H. Burwell House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a treasure loaded with stories about Minnetonka's early history.

The Burwell House opens for Saturday tours May 22 and 29, from noon to 4 p.m. The regular tour schedule starts in June and continues through August 31: Tuesdays, 12–3 p.m.; Wednesdays, 6–8 p.m.; and Saturdays, 12–4 p.m. The house returns to Saturday-only tours in September, with the last tour on September 25.

Tours are free and no reservations are required — just stop by the house at 13209 E. McGinty Road, Minnetonka. Parking is available on the grounds, the main floor of the house is handicap accessible, and the entire house is air-conditioned.

Want to bring a group for a special tour? Arrange a time by calling Laura Ronbeck at (952) 939-8219 or email lronbeck@eminnetonka.com.

For more summer fun, don't miss the Burwell House Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social on Saturday, June 26, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Enjoy music, an art fair and antique market, and free tours of the house and the Minnetonka Historical Society museum. Ice cream, bratwursts and hot dogs are available for purchase. Look for more details in the June *Minnetonka Memo*. See page 16 for more information.

Tour guides needed

If you have an interest in history and want to volunteer, consider becoming a Burwell tour guide! Training is provided and hours are flexible. Ages 14 and up are welcome to apply. For more information, contact Laura Ronbeck at (952) 939-8219 or email lronbeck@eminnetonka.com.



The Burwell House is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Attend a May concert by MAM

THE MUSIC ASSOCIATION OF Minnetonka will present the following May concerts. All concerts are free but donations are always gratefully accepted. Visit www.musicassociation.org or call (952) 401-5954 for information.

Beethoven's Symphony No. 9

Minnetonka Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Chorus

Sunday, May 2, 7:30 p.m.
Wayzata Community Church
125 East Wayzata Blvd, Wayzata

Sunday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m.
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
7217 West Broadway, Brooklyn Park

17th Annual Varen: Voices of Spring Concert

Minnetonka Youth Chamber, Concert and Cappella Choirs

Saturday, May 15, 7:30 p.m.
Zion Lutheran Church of Hopkins
241 15th Ave N, Hopkins

Choral Reflections of Minnetonka with the Plymouth Rockers

Sunday, May 23, 2 p.m.
Oak Knoll Lutheran Church
600 Hopkins Crossroad, Minnetonka ☺

Visit the Mills Landing Shoppe

STOP BY THE MILLS LANDING GIFT Shoppe, 12810 Minnetonka Blvd., to browse a collection of homemade gifts. The Shoppe is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit the Website at www.millslandingshoppe.com or call (952) 933-5214 for more information. The Mills Landing Shoppe is a Minnetonka Senior Services program. ☺



Classes and activities for older adults

LOCATED AT THE MINNETONKA Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka, Senior Services offers a wide variety of classes, programs, and activities for active older adults. For more information, or to sign up for the free monthly newsletter, the *Minnetonka Script*, visit www.eminnetonka.com.

Defensive Driving Classes

Call the Minnesota Safety Center at 1-888-234-1294 to register.

Four-Hour Courses:

*May 6, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. or
May 18, 6–10 p.m.*
Refreshments provided (no meal).
Cost: \$20.

Eight-Hour Day Course:

*May 11, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. and
May 13, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.*
Refreshments provided (no lunch).
Cost: \$24

Cinco de Mayo buffet

May 5, 12 p.m.
Enjoy a fajita bar, refried beans, cheese quesadillas, Spanish rice, tacos and dessert.
Cost: \$5, due May 3.

Liberals vs. Conservatives: Values in Conflict

May 12, 10:30 a.m.
Presenter Walter Benjamin probes the underlying differences between these two philosophical loyalties by analyzing the different perspectives on human nature, religion, history, human progress,

government and economics. This is not a political presentation — the goal is to reach a greater understanding of the fundamental differences between these two positions. Refreshments provided. **Cost: \$2, due May 7.**

Health Care Truths, Myths & Questions

May 17, 7 p.m.
Courage Center CEO Jan Malcolm and Minnesota AARP Director Michele Kimball discuss the new health care bill and its implications. RSVP by May 13 to (952) 939-8369. Cash or food donations to ICA appreciated.

Remarkable 20th Century First Ladies

May 18, 10:30 a.m.
Enjoy a live fashion show featuring the loves and courtships of five first ladies and the Presidents with whom they shared the White House. **Cost: \$10, due May 10.**

Big Willow Hike

May 24, 9 a.m.
Big Willow Park is located at 11522 Minnetonka Boulevard, near Minnetonka Public Works. Please park in the western lot on Minnetonka Boulevard. Maps are available at the senior center office for this and other hikes.

Healthy Living for 50 and Better

May 27, 1–6 p.m.
This free event features health-related speakers and demonstrations, as well as blood pressure checks, hearing screenings, balance tests and more. Call (952) 939-8393 for information. ☺

Farmers' Market returns, sponsors requested

THE MINNETONKA FARMERS' MARKET returns for its second year with more than 40 local vendors selling fresh and organic produce, frozen meats, handmade cheese, baked and canned goods, salsa, maple syrup, honey, candies, dried handmade pasta, pet treats, fresh-cut flowers, bread, sauces, handmade soaps and skin products, apples, and a variety of crafts. Mark your calendar for Tuesdays, July 6–Sept. 28, from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. Visit www.eminnetonka.com for a complete list of vendors.

Sponsors requested

If you are a business or individual who is interested in sponsoring a children's



activity at this year's farmers' market, we want to talk with you! Get the word out about your business or organization while providing education to children about healthy eating habits. Please contact Jacquie Larson, community relations manager, at (952) 939-8207 for more details of the sponsorships available.

Buy your Shady Oak Beach pass and save \$

SHADY OAK BEACH, LOCATED AT 5200 Shady Oak Road in Minnetonka, opens for the season June 11. Read on for more details about beach hours of operations and how to buy a beach pass.

Hours of operation and daily rates

Hours of operations are as follows (subject to change without notice).

- June 11 to August 1, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. **except** July 4, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- August 2 – 29, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Swimming in the lake ends 30 minutes before sunset. Closing time will be posted at the beach. Daily admission rate is \$5 per person (ages 2 and under are free). Twilight rate is \$3 after 6 p.m.

Purchasing a season pass

Save money by buying a season pass! If you already have a season pass card ID, you do not need a new card — your card is automatically reactivated with the purchase of a 2010 season pass. Don't forget to always bring your card with you to the beach.

Beach pass information is below. To purchase a beach pass:

- **By phone:** Call (952) 939-8203. Visa or MasterCard only accepted.
- **In person:** Visit Recreation Services Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka.
- **At the beach:** Buy a pass at the beach starting June 11. Cash, checks, Visa, MasterCard or Discover only.
- **By mail:** Recreation Services, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, MN 55345

Additional beach pass information

- Recreation Services reserves the right to limit the amount of passes sold to families.
- Additional passes are intended to be for family members living in the same household.
- Ages 2 and under are free.
- All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.



Enjoy Shady Oak Beach this summer!

2010 season pass rates

Purchased before June 11 or after July 31

Passes	Resident	Non-Resident
1-3 passes	\$12/pass	\$24/pass
Additional passes*	\$6/pass*	\$12/pass*

Purchased between June 11 and July 31

Passes	Resident	Non-Resident
1-3 passes	\$17/pass	\$29/pass
Additional passes*	\$8/pass*	\$15/pass*

* Additional pass purchase rate is only granted during initial purchase of season passes.

Take an express bus to Twins games

WHY DRIVE TO TARGET FIELD WHEN you can take an easy ride instead? Avoid downtown parking hassles and take an express ride to the ballpark!

Park for free at the Park & Ride Ramp at I-394 and County Road 73. From there it's a straight shot on new bus route 679 to the Ramp A/7th Street Transit Center, just steps from the new Target Field.

A roundtrip ride is \$5.25 per person on weekdays, \$4.50 on weekends. Buy an Event 6-Hour Pass at the Park & Ride lot or use your Go-To Card.

Buses leave the Park & Ride ramp roughly every 15 minutes for two hours before every game. Hop on, ride downtown and cheer the Twins on to outdoor victory! After the game, head back to Ramp A for your return trip. Buses leave every 15 minutes for an hour after the last out.

For details, visit www.metrotransit.org/twins or call (612) 373-3333.

Recreation brochure to move online in fall

THE 2010 RECREATION SERVICES FALL brochure will not be mailed to homes late this summer. Instead, it will be posted online July 30 at www.eminnetonka.com, with email notifications of its availability sent through MyMinnetonka and the *Hot Topics* weekly e-newsletter. Sign up for both at www.eminnetonka.com.

This trial of online-only publishing of the Recreation Services brochure is an effort to save tax dollars involved in printing and bulk mailing 35,000 brochures to Hopkins and Minnetonka residents.

Residents without Internet access who wish to receive a printed copy of the brochure may send a request after July 30 to recservices@eminnetonka.com. A black-and-white copy of the brochure will be printed by the recreation department and mailed to your household. Non-residents requesting a copy of the brochure will be charged \$3 to cover mailing costs.

This test trial will affect the 2010 fall brochure only — the winter and summer brochures will continue to be printed and mailed. We welcome your feedback and appreciate your patience and cooperation as we strive to enhance our services, reduce printing costs and become a more environmentally friendly organization. Please let us know what you think by emailing recservices@eminnetonka.com.

Summer ice skating lessons start June 7

SIGN UP for summer skating lessons with the Minnetonka Ice Arena's All Season Skating School.



The lesson program is endorsed by the Ice Skating Institute and offers instruction for skaters ages 5 and up, including adults. Class information and registration materials are available by calling the Minnetonka Ice Arena at (952) 939-8310, or visiting the city Website at www.eminnetonka.com. The eight-week summer session begins June 7. Space is limited, so register now!

INNOVATION

Minnetonka wins Local Government Innovation Award

IN APRIL, THE CITY OF Minnetonka was awarded a Local Government Innovation Award by the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute Public and Nonprofit Leadership Center.

The city received the award for its creation of a unique funding structure using multiple public and private resources, and based on traffic counts generated by new commercial development, to finance a \$20 million capital expansion of the interchange at Highway 169 and Bren Road into the Opus business park.

The new financing mechanism is based on the concept that businesses should fairly pay their own costs for public road transportation, while still recognizing that each business has its own individual interests and should not subsidize other businesses, thereby balancing both the public and private benefit of better roads.

"We feel we have created a long-term partnership which provides expansion opportunity to many companies," said Minnetonka Mayor Terry Schneider. "The city would have been unable to provide this equitable solution without leadership from businesses and cooperation from the state of Minnesota."

"We recognize the extra work local governments are doing to balance difficult budgets during this tough economic time," said Jay Kiedrowski, senior fellow at Humphrey Institute, "Therefore, the winners deserve the public's gratitude for real innovation to preserve local services while reducing costs."

The Public and Nonprofit Leadership Center, in collaboration with the Association of Minnesota Counties, the League of Minnesota Cities, and the Minnesota School Boards Association, hosts the annual Local Government Innovation Awards to recognize outstanding cities, counties, and public schools that have used innovative practices to improve local services. ♪

Minnetonka Music in the Park starts June 8

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2010 Music in the Park series, set for Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., starting June 8. All concerts take place at the outdoor amphitheater at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka.

Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy local performers playing a wide variety of music for the whole family. A special performance has been added to this year's Music in the Park line-up, with the Minnetonka Community Theatre performing "Free to Be You and Me" June 15. Three additional performances of "Free to Be You and Me" will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 15, 16 and 17, at 11 a.m.

Starting July 6, visit the Minnetonka Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 3 to 7 p.m., located adjacent to the outdoor amphitheatre. Come for the produce, stay for the music! See more about the farmers' market on page 4.

- **June 8:** John Kujda Quartet (40's – 60's)
- **June 15:** Minnetonka Community Theatre — "Free To Be You and Me" *
- **June 22:** Don King Blues Band and Friends (blues)
- **June 29:** Lee Engle Quartet (jazz vocal)
- **July 6:** Lehto and Wright (Celtic, folk rock)

Residential property revaluation starts

STARTING IN MAY, THE CITY OF Minnetonka assessing department will begin 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. ♪



- **July 13:** Eden Prairie Community Band (variety)
- **July 20:** Tom Hunter Quartet (blues, jazz)
- **July 27:** Brio Brass (25 piece, brassy jazz)
- **Aug 3:** Blue Feelin' (blues)

* Three additional performances of "Free to Be You and Me" will be held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, June 15, 16 and 17, at 11 a.m.

Sponsorships available

Are you interested in sponsoring a performance of Music in the Park? It's not too late! Contact Steve Pieh at (952) 939-8366 for details of how you can promote your business or organization by sponsoring an evening of music. ♪

Election judge info sessions May 12, 13

ELECTION JUDGES ARE ESSENTIAL to our democracy. Among the essential duties election judges perform are setting up and running the city's 27 polling places, registering voters, ensuring all qualified voters are permitted to vote and determining the results after the polls close. Serving as an election judge is a great service to the community.

If you'd like to learn more, attend an information session Wednesday, May 12, at 7 p.m. or Thursday, May 13, at 10 a.m. Both sessions will be held in the council chambers at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard.

If you've ever considered becoming a judge or are just curious, you are encouraged to attend. Call Laura Ronbeck at (952) 939-8219 to register for the session or to request an application. ♪

New Native Plant Market and Eco Fun Fest debuts June 10

THIS YEAR'S ECO FAIR HAS BEEN replaced by a Native Plant Market and Eco Fun Fest, set for Thursday, June 10, from 3:30–7:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Civic Center Campus, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. The event will take place in the city hall parking lot.

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 and Out Back 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 for a complete list of plants by vendor.

This is a cash-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. Play a few holes of water resources mini golf, join the herpetology society and experience different reptiles and amphibians, or participate in a bug sweep and identify little critters in a catch-and-release program.

Additional programs

See an owl and learn about its habitat during the raptor



program, 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 tree climbing. Get up close and personal with live native and exotic animals, view tree planting and care demonstrations, or take a plant walk and learn about native woody plants, wildflowers or those nasty invasive plants we are all trying to control.

Things to bring:

- Cash or check for plant purchases
- Box to carry away your new landscape treasures
- Blanket or chair to sit on during the raptor program
- Your own water bottle. Hot dogs and chips will be available for purchase.
- Rain gear if rain is predicted—this is a rain or shine event. ☁

Native Plant Market & Eco Fun Fest Schedule of Events: Join in the fun!

Native Plant Market

Multiple vendors

3:30–7:30 p.m. (ongoing)

Visit www.eminnetonka.com for a complete list of native plants by vendor

Location: City hall parking lot

Tree Planting Demonstration

3:30–7:30 p.m. (ongoing)

Learn more about tree planting and care.

Location: City hall parking lot, NE corner

Bug & Raptor Booth

Three Rivers Park District

5–7:30 p.m. (ongoing)

Location: City hall parking lot (north side)

Bug Sweep

Two 30-minute activities: 5 & 6 p.m.

Catch, identify and release a variety of little critters.

Location: Meet at Bug & Raptor Booth.

Raptor Program

Two 30-minute shows: 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

Learn about owls and other raptors.

Location: Outdoor amphitheater

Creature Encounters Exhibit

4–7 p.m. (ongoing)

See native and exotic animals.

Location: City hall parking lot

Tree Climbing Demo

30-minute demos:

3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 p.m.

Location: City hall parking lot, east hill

Tree Climbing Activity*

3:30–7 p.m. (ongoing)

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

Location: Line up at hill east of city hall parking lot.

* Guardian signature on liability waiver required for participation.

Plant Walks

All plant walks leave from the intersection near amphitheater. Look for posted sign.

Wildflowers

Two 60-minute walks
3:30 & 5:30 p.m.

Woody Plants

Two 60-minute walks
3:30 & 5:30 p.m.

Invasives (aka "Nasties")

Two 60-minute walks
4:30 & 6:30 p.m. ☁



Like birds? Take a guided walk May 22

CELEBRATE SPRING WITH A MORNING bird walk along the trails of Lone Lake Park Saturday, May 22, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Anne Hanley and George Skinner, Minnetonka residents and Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter members, will lead participants through the park while identifying species encountered along the way.

This free walk is open to all skills and age levels. If you have them, bring your binoculars and field guide — some binoculars will be available to borrow. Dress appropriately for the weather.

Please register by calling (952) 988-8400 or online at www.eminnetonka.com.



Directions: Lone Lake Park is located along the west side of Shady Oak Road between Excelsior Boulevard and Hwy 62. Turn in just north of the cemetery. Meet at the parking lot north of the soccer field. ☺

Got garlic mustard?

MAY IS THE best time to pull the invasive garlic mustard. However, there are specific pulling and disposal methods to use so the plant doesn't produce or disperse seed while it is in its early flowering stage.



- Attend a workshop May 5 at 6:30 p.m., and you'll learn how to reduce the need to bag or use herbicide during early May.
- The last garlic mustard workshop is June 3 at 6:30 p.m. June is not too late for control, but will require a little more work.

Handouts provided. Registration is required — call (952) 988-8400 or register online at www.eminnetonka.com. Workshops will be held at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard. ☺

Celebrate Arbor Month & Earth Day May 12

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN YOUR neighbors and city natural resources staff in celebrating Arbor Month and Earth Day Wednesday, May 12, 5:30–7:30 p.m. in Covington Park, 18920 Manchester Street.

Volunteers will plant trees to replace some that have recently died and mulch and protect existing trees from deer and rodent damage to ensure they stay healthy in future years. You'll learn about tree planting and care and pruning tips you can apply in your own yard. In the process, you'll have fun digging in the soil while enhancing the environment of a community park.

Water, snacks and the supplies needed for planting and mulching will be provided. Participants will receive a Tree City USA t-shirt, tree seedlings and tree care information packets. Dress for the weather, and bring your own gardening gloves and fresh spring air enthusiasm! This event is free of charge and all ages are welcome.



We hope to see you there! Questions? Call Emily Ball, city forester, at (952) 988-8421.

Directions to Covington Park: take Vine Hill Road to Manchester Street. Follow Manchester to parking lot at dead end. Meet at the north end of parking lot and follow signs to planting site. ☺

Take a May or June spring plant walk

TAKE A GUIDED PLANT WALK IN A Minnetonka park where significant habitat restoration is underway. At Lake Rose Park, see how the forest floor is responding after last autumn's controlled burn. Visit special areas in Kinsel and Lone Lake parks where volunteers have been planting trees and shrubs. At Jidana and Civic Center parks, find out what grows after the buckthorn has been cut.

Observe city restoration practices, find wildflowers, identify invasive species and learn about wildlife benefits of new plantings.

Registration is required and limited to 15 people per walk. Call (952) 988-8400 or register online at www.eminnetonka.com.

- Rain or shine. Wear appropriate outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear.
- Recommended: water bottle and notebook.
- Children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult
- Meet on-site at location specified in table. ☺



Park	Date (Thursdays)	Time (p.m.)	Meeting location
Lone Lake	May 6	5:30–7:30	Lower parking lot by new rain gardens: 5624 Shady Oak Road
Jidana	May 13	5:30–7:30	Parking lot: 3333 Jidana Lane
Lake Rose	May 20	5:30–7:30	Park entrance is a city strip of land between 5724 and 5732 Lake Rose Drive. Park on the street and meet between the houses.
Kinsel	May 27	5:30–7:30	Main parking lot: 14017 Kinsel Road
Civic Center	June 10	3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30	Native Plant Market & Eco Fun Fest (see page 7 for schedule of events): 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard

Minnetonka named a Tree City USA City

FOR THE 16TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR, the city of Minnetonka has been recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for its commitment to urban forestry.

Minnetonka has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA Community, including having a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service. ♻️



Show your green thumb: adopt a sign

MINNETONKA'S ADOPT-A-SIGN program has been a great way for individuals, families and community organizations to share their gardening talents with others by planting flowers around city park signs.

The city of Minnetonka provides participants with a credit at a local greenhouse for purchasing plantings for the 2010 growing season. If you are interested in adopting a park sign or would like more information, please contact Kathy Kline, facilities and senior services secretary, at (952) 939-8393, or by email at kkline@eminnetonka.com. Last year's volunteers will be given first priority to adopt the sign they cared for in 2009. ♻️

Plant your landscapes to attract pollinators

DO YOU KNOW THAT ONE-THIRD of human food crops rely on pollination, or that bumblebees are important to the pollination of potatoes?

Many plants depend on insect pollinators such as ants, butterflies, beetles and bees to transfer pollen from the male to the female plant parts in order to form seeds, which lead to fruit production. They often do this inadvertently as they are feeding on plant nectar. Other pollinators include birds, bats, wind and animals.

Abundant populations of pollinators improve the quality and size of fruits and increase crop production, and also help maintain healthy native ecosystems. Many of these pollinators need native plant species for reproduction, shelter, and a stable food source.

Give pollinators a hand by protecting the native species in your yard and by adding a few new ones, listed below. Planting for diversity in bloom periods, fragrance, flower types and plant heights will help ensure a diversity of pollinators as well as availability of nectar and pollen sources (not to mention beauty) throughout the growing season.

In addition to planting natives, try these tricks to attract pollinators: create a watering hole for insect pollinators by placing a shallow dish of water in your garden or place discarded fruit in the dish for butterflies, leave large branches that fall in your yard to attract bees, and avoid pesticides whenever possible — they are toxic to most pollinators. ♻️



Native Trees and Shrubs for Pollinators

Common Name	Species Name	Pollinators	Bloom Season
Basswood †	<i>Tilia americana</i>	Bees, flies, moths	May–June
Pin cherry †	<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	Bees	May–June
Pagoda dogwood †	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Bees, beetles, flies, butterflies	May–June
Red elderberry †	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	Bees, beetles, flies	April–May
Serviceberry †	<i>Amelanchier spp.</i>	Bees, flies	April–May

Native Flowers for Pollinators

Common Name	Species Name	Pollinators	Bloom Season
Wild columbine †	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Hummingbirds, bees	May–June
Cardinal flower †	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Hummingbirds, bees	August–September
Spotted beebalm ‡	<i>Monarda punctata</i>	Bees, butterflies	June–August
Blazing star ‡	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds	July–August
Showy goldenrod	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Bees, butterflies, beetles, wasps	August–September

† also serves as a host plant for pollinator larvae

‡ prefers moist soils

Lists above adapted from “Selecting Plants for Pollinators — Eastern Broadleaf Forest” by the Pollinator Partnership (www.pollinators.org) and the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (www.nappc.org).

Understanding what's "bugging" your trees

NOTICE AN INSECT IN YOUR HOUSE, and you're likely to get rid of it. At the same time, perhaps you're curious about the creepy crawly creatures on your tree, and wonder if you should be doing something about them.

Insect CSI

After spotting an insect, do you launch a full-scale attack or watch and wait? By knowing the broad categories of insect damage on trees, you can better understand the risk to the plant and whether it is worth your time and effort to act.

Keep in mind that most insects are specialists and only eat one or two specific plants, which is why tree species diversity is so important. For example, emerald ash borer only inhabits ash trees.

In order to manage plant-damaging insects, many arborists, horticulturists, and farmers follow principles of integrated pest management (IPM) to guide treatment decisions. IPM requires attention to factors like growing conditions, insect life cycles, and all of the mechanical, cultural, chemical, and biological pest control options available.

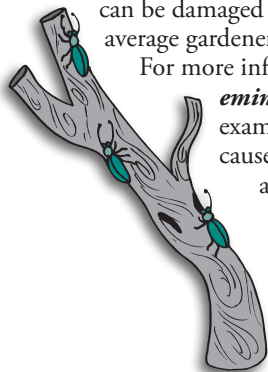
Practice IPM in your own yard to help save money and minimize toxic chemical use. The mere presence of an insect doesn't justify treatment. Instead, engage in careful monitoring and treat only when damage reaches a negative economic or aesthetic threshold.

Two of the most noticeable and prevalent types of insect damage to trees are leaf damage and branch, trunk, and root damage.

Leaves are a tree's food factories, and they naturally repel certain insects with chemical compounds unique to each plant. A tree's energy budget can handle some leaf damage by native insects. As long as the tree is established and healthy it can usually recover, even if it doesn't look exactly as you think it should.

Insects that feed on branches, trunks and roots can cause the most long-term damage to a tree. As much as 10 percent of a plant can be damaged by insects before the average gardener even notices.

For more information, visit www.eminnetonka.com for examples of insects that cause leaf, branch, trunk and root damage, and for resources that can help you identify damaging insects or disease. ♪



Identifying insects that are a human nuisance

A FEW INSECTS BUG US BECAUSE THEY REGULARLY INFILTRATE OUR HOMES. THEY don't cause damage to plants, but they sure get in the way. Some examples include boxelder bugs and Asian lady beetles. Read on for more information.

Boxelder bug (adults and nymphs)



- Native insect that does not damage trees or plants.
- Population spikes and dips. Populations were high in 2009.
- Feed primarily on female boxelder trees, maple and ash trees.
- Attracted to warm areas and often found on buildings with southern or western exposures.
- Removing female boxelders is not a practical solution since bugs fly up to a couple of miles for food.
- Keep boxelder bugs out by sealing cracks in windows and foundations and installing door sweeps/thresholds on exterior doors. Once they're in, vacuum up beetles into a stocking, seal and discard.

Asian lady beetle



- Does not damage trees or plants but is a non-native insect.
- Related to native lady beetles (ladybugs) but is more troublesome due to habits.
- Clusters around buildings near doors and windows in an attempt to survive winter.
- Feeds on aphids in trees and on crops.
- Keep Asian lady beetles out by sealing cracks in windows and foundations and installing door sweeps/thresholds on exterior doors. Once they're in, vacuum up beetles into a stocking, seal and discard. ♪

More facts about insects

- Insects are the most diverse group of organisms on earth, representing about 80% of all animal species.
- Insects keep other insect populations in check. When you use insecticides to kill off insects, you also risk killing other insects beneficial to your landscape.
- Insects are an important source of protein and fat for birds, especially young birds.
- Insects do not emerge at the exact same time every year. Unlike humans, insects are cold blooded and will develop rapidly in warm temperatures and slower in colder temperatures.
- Many native insect pests have a check and balance where the population builds and then crashes or is kept at lower levels by other insect predators. Exceptions to this rule happen in landscapes that lacks in native plant diversity so that certain bugs only inhabit specific plants, or where pesticides are frequently used, thus killing off beneficial and damaging bugs. ♪



2010 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE

Spring Leaf Drop-off Program

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)

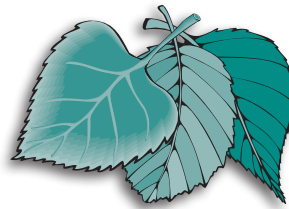
The Public Works facility at 11522 Minnetonka Blvd will be **the only** site accepting leaves and yard waste. During the busiest times there will be expanded drop-off days. In addition to the normal operating schedule, the site will be open Friday, May 7 and 14, from 12 to 6 p.m. and Sunday, May 9 and 16, from 12 to 4 p.m. You must present proper identification to verify you are a Minnetonka resident (driver's license, state I.D., or Minnetonka utility bill).

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 on the same day as your garbage collection for a reasonable fee (either an annual, monthly, per cart or per bag fee).

The garbage hauler yard waste collection programs typically run mid-April through mid-November. Check with your garbage hauler for details and see the information on proper bags required for curbside collection of bagged yard waste at www.eminnetonka.com or in the April *Memo*.

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 3, 10
- **Tuesdays:** 12 to 8 p.m. May 4, 11
- **Fridays:** 12 to 6 p.m. May 7, 14
- **Saturdays:** 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 1, 8, 15
- **Sundays:** 12 to 4 p.m. May 2, 9, 16



Spring leaf drop-off ends Sunday, May 16.

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, like a stout pitch fork, to unload your truck or trailer load of leaves.

The suggested method is to use many layers of tarps between a foot or less of leaves. Use the tarp to gather up and move a small pile of leaves from your yard to your trailer or vehicle, continue using lots of small 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 one at a time. 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 20, 2010.

The brush drop-off site will be closed on the following three holidays: Memorial Day, May 31; Independence Day (observed), July 5; and Labor Day, September 6.

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

Please note: trash, grass, loose leaves, dirt, sod, lumber, fencing, or wood scraps are not accepted. No brush will be accepted from commercial tree or lawn services.

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

Memorial Day holiday delays recycling by one day

The Memorial Day holiday Monday, May 31, will delay recycling collection by one day. Residents west of I-494 will have recycling collection on Tuesday, June 1. Residents east of I-494 will have collection on Wednesday, June 2.

Independence Day (Sunday, July 4) does **not** change recycling collection. The regular Monday and Tuesday recycling collection schedule will be followed the week of July 5. Garbage also is not delayed. ♻️

Keep streets and storm drains free from debris

Minnetonka City Ordinances prohibit blowing and/or leaving grass clippings or other organic materials in the street. Please mention this to your lawn service.

845.010 Public Nuisances Affecting Peace, Safety and General Welfare.17.

Prohibits the intentional discharge of items such as leaves, grass clippings, solvents, antifreeze, oil, fireplace ashes, paint, and cement rinsings into a street, storm sewer system, or water resource such as a wetland, creek, pond or lake. ♻️



2010 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE

Hennepin County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Community Collection

Thursday, May 20

Friday, May 21

Saturday, May 22

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 22, 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, 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, copiers, motor oil and motor oil filters, some compressed gas cylinders (see above), explosives, radioactive materials, infectious waste or household garbage.

For more information, call Dean Elstad at (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 or call Hennepin County at (612) 348-3777.

Household hazardous waste includes such items as adhesives, aerosols, auto wastes (including gasoline, oil and oil filters, antifreeze, brake fluid, transmission fluid, diesel fuel), batteries, cleaners, fire extinguishers, herbicides, fluorescent and HID lamps, paint, pesticides,

photo and hobby chemicals, stain, solvents, thermometers, thermostats, thinners and rechargeable tools and electronics.

Also accepted for no charge are consumer electronics (TVs, radios, stereos, VCRs, camcorders, telephones, computers, monitors and printers).

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

Trash is accepted at the Brooklyn Park drop-off facility at a fee of \$19 per cubic yard (minimum \$19 fee). Mattresses and box springs are \$15 per piece.

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

A word about wetlands

Wetlands are Mother Nature's sponge, preventing flooding and soil erosion by soaking up rainwater from roofs, driveways and streets. Once in the wetland, rainwater is scrubbed of harmful chemicals, sediment and excess nutrients. The wetland then slowly releases the clean water into nearby lakes, streams and groundwater sources.

Help protect the function of wetlands by maintaining a buffer of unmowed, natural vegetation around your wetland. Avoid filling or altering wetlands. If you don't own a wetland, you probably live upstream of one. Use lawn care chemicals sparingly — or not at all — and consider planting a rain garden or composting yard waste in order to avoid sending pollution downstream. ☞



2010 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE

Special one-day drop-off

Minnetonka 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 (\$1 for each item, including TVs up to 32"; \$5 for TVs larger than 32")**
TV, stereos, computer, printer, monitor, radio, speakers, CD, VCR, and DVD players.
- **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.

**Saturday, June 5,
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

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

- **Propane tanks:** Small — up to 2 lbs.; **(\$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, snow blowers, or other large items.
- **Tires:** Car, trailer or light truck **(\$3 each)**; tires on rim **(\$5)**; tractor or truck tire on split rim **(\$20)**
- **Toilets and non-metal sinks (\$5 each)**
- **Windows (\$2 and up, depending on size)**

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

NO GARBAGE OR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Please note: There will **not** be a charitable organization at the Special Drop-off accepting clothing and household goods.

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

- **Bethesda Thrift Shop**
4749 Cty. Rd. 101, Minnetonka *(new address!)*
(952) 939-0988
- **Goodwill Industries**
1025 Hill Street, Hopkins
(952) 935-2760
- **ARC Hennepin-Carver**
Pickup route information: (612) 866-8820
- **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. Fall special drop-off will be Saturday, September 25. ♻️

Shredded paper: secure & recyclable

In the Minnetonka recycling program, shredded paper is gladly accepted. Please place it in a paper bag, then tape or staple the bag closed. Do not place shredded paper in plastic bags.

Identity theft is a growing concern. Whether from the garbage can or the recycling bin, someone intent on stealing personal information can come up with documents that help them create havoc for the victim.

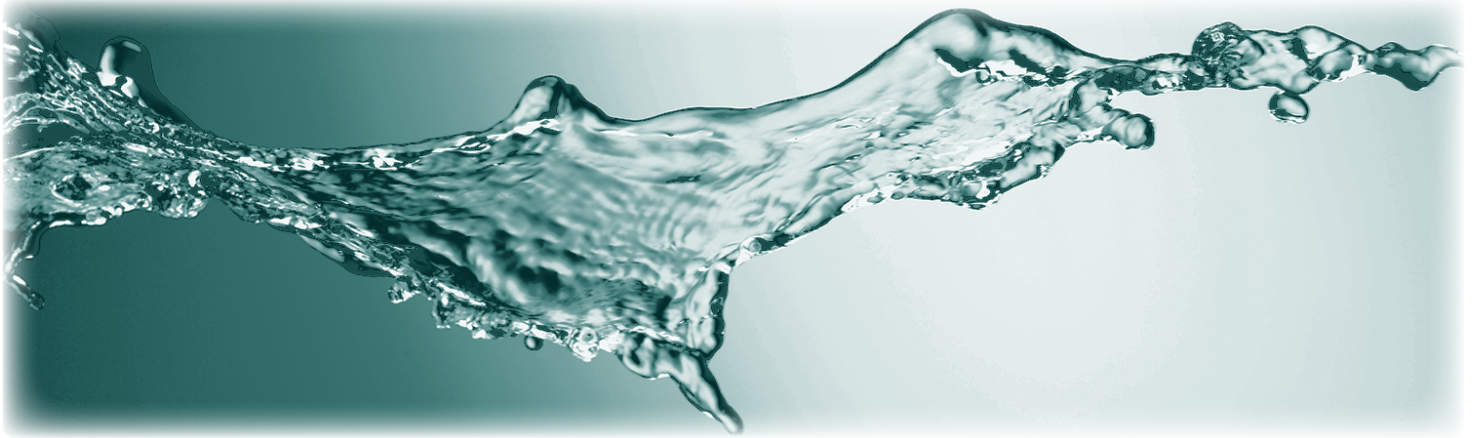
Here are some ways you can protect yourself:

- Use a cross-cut paper shredder to shred all discarded financial documents, including pre-approved credit card applications, insurance forms, bank checks and statements.

- Put the shredded paper in a paper bag and staple or tape it shut before putting it into your recycling container. This prevents the paper from littering your neighborhood.
- For more information about protecting yourself from identity theft, call Nicole Nelson, Minnetonka Police crime prevention specialist, at (952) 939-9546. Information is also available on the city Website at www.eminnetonka.com/police/crime_prevention/identity_theft.cfm.

Or, contact the Identity Theft Resource Center at 1-858-693-7935 or online at idtheftcenter.org. ♻️

2009 Minnetonka Drinking Water Report



THE CITY OF MINNETONKA IS ISSUING the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2009. Each of the past 12 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 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.

Other possible 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 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.

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: 2009

The results contained in the following table indicate an exceedance of a federal standard, while some other 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 2009. 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 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 (2009)	Average/result	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha Emitters	pCi/l	0	15.4	7.1–8.9	8.9	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	ppm	2	2	N/A	0.15	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	pCi/l	0	5.4	3.7–4.3	4.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	.99–1.1	1.13	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
Haloacetic acids (HAA5)	ppb	0	60	N/A	3	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (as nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	nd–0.71	0.71	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (total trihalomethanes)	ppb	0	80	N/A	4.2	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Radon	pCi/l	--	--	N/A	26	Erosion of natural deposits

Radon is a radioactive gas which is naturally occurring in some groundwater. It poses a lung cancer risk when gas is released from water into air (as occurs during showering, bathing, or washing dishes or clothes) and a stomach cancer risk when it is ingested. Because radon in indoor air poses a much greater health risk than radon in drinking water, an Alternative Maximum Contaminant Level (AMCL) of 4,000 picoCuries per liter may apply in states that have adopted an Indoor Air Program, which compels citizens, homeowners, schools, and communities to reduce the radon threat from indoor air. For states without such a program, the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 300 pCi/l may apply. Minnesota plans to adopt an Indoor Air Program once the Radon Rule is finalized.

Contaminant (units)	Units of Measure	MRDL	MRDLG	Monthly Average	Highest Quarterly Avg.	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	0.2 (Lowest)–0.5 (Highest)	0.55	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	N/A	1.35 *	4 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	15	N/A	2	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

* Sampled water is in exceedance of the action level for copper. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short period of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor. In response to this issue, we performed a corrosion control study and/or have taken actions to make the water less likely to absorb materials such as copper from your plumbing.

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 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 (2009)	Average/result	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium	ppm	N/A	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	ppm	N/A	2.98	Erosion of natural deposits

Monitoring for unregulated contaminants as required by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules (40 CFR 141.40) was conducted in 2009. Results of the unregulated contaminant monitoring are available upon request from Cindy Swanson, Minnesota Department of Health, at 651/201-4656.

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May 2010



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CITY OF MINNETONKA

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

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Calendar

City of
Minnetonka

May
2010

Call (952) 939-8200
for meeting
locations.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Call (952) 939-8200 for meeting locations.
						1	3 City Council, 6:30 p.m.
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	5 Park Board, 7 p.m.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	6 Police Advisory Committee, 5:30 p.m.; Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	10 City Council study session, 6:30 p.m. (<i>Topic: Capital Improvements Program</i>)
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	11 Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
30	31						19 Park Board, 5:15 p.m.
							20 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
							24 City Council, 6:30 p.m.; Community Commission, 6:30 p.m.
							31 Memorial Day — city offices closed

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, Planning Commission and Economic Development Advisory Commission meetings, as well as some Park Board meetings, are broadcast live via online videostreaming at www.eminnetonka.com and on cable channel 16. Replays are available anytime via videostream at www.eminnetonka.com, or on cable channel 16 on certain days and times (City Council: Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 12 p.m.). Check the cable schedule at www.eminnetonka.com for further information on cable replay schedules for various meetings.

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.

Ice cream social, art fair and antique market are June 26

THE BURWELL HOUSE OLD-FASHIONED Ice Cream Social is Saturday, June 26, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Participate in a mini-parade, take a house tour, stroll the art fair and antique market, and enjoy live musical performances while snacking on a bratwurst or ice cream cone. Event takes place at the Charles H. Burwell House, 13209 E. McGinty Road. Look for a full schedule of events in the June *Minnetonka Memo*.

Volunteers are always needed to service ice cream. Volunteer shifts are two to three hours each. Call (952) 939-8219 for information.



Listen to live music at the Ice Cream Social, like the Medicine Show.

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

