

minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka
March 2008

Fifth annual Eco-Fair set for March 8

A RICH NATURAL ENVIRONMENT — including trees, wetlands and open space — is a hallmark of the city of Minnetonka, setting it apart from many of its suburban neighbors. The city and its residents are committed to protecting this rich heritage. However, knowing how to manage these various resources is not always easy.

If you want to learn more about nurturing and protecting the natural landscape that you own or live near, plan to attend Minnetonka's Eco-Fair Saturday, March 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka.

Exhibits open at 8:30 a.m., with concurrent workshops starting at 8:30 and 9 a.m. Refreshments will be available. Best of all, the Eco-Fair is a free event! Workshops start at 8:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 12 p.m. Topics and times are listed below.

Managing Woodlands: Buckthorn and Beyond (8:30 a.m.)

Back by popular demand, this workshop led by Janet Larson, city of Minnetonka natural resource specialist, gives many

ecological tips on how to restore your woodland if all the invasive species have not yet been removed. Are you worried about losing the privacy that buckthorn provides? Gradual, prioritized removal may be better for a site than an "understory clear-cut." Learn how to avoid the most common errors made during buckthorn removal. Learn about forest structure and re-forestation using native plants indigenous to the Twin Cities. This workshop will emphasize measures to save high-value remnant plant species, erosion prevention, importance of ground cover, and protection from deer. Handouts provided.

Building Greener and Smarter (9 a.m. and 12 p.m.)

Peter Lytle of Live Green Live Smart will give examples of how to make your home more energy-efficient, healthy, and sustainable as he shares some of his personal experiences in conducting an extensive remodel of his own Minnetonka home. Also, learn about future opportunities to tour his home, which recently received LEED Platinum certification — the highest rating possible — from the U.S. Green Building Council.



An Eco-Fair visitor learns about birdhouses

D'oh! A Deer (9 a.m.)

Have some concerns about deer? Steve Kniss and DeeAnn Bloom of the Minnetonka Police Department will explain the city's deer management program, offer some ideas to help you deal with any deer problems in your yard, and answer questions about other issues related to living with wildlife in Minnetonka.

Native Plants for Residential Landscaping (9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.)

Fortin Consulting presents a whirlwind one-hour class on incorporating native plants into your landscape. Each student will receive a list of native Hennepin County plants; learn how to tell which plants would be appropriate for their yard; and learn the basics of site preparation and planting of native plants. The class includes many pictures of native plants, from sun-loving coneflowers to the aquatic pickerel weed to the shade-dwelling bottle brush grass.

Eco-Fair continued on page 2

Minnetonka's Eco-Series: Academy of Walks and Talks

BECAUSE NOT EVERYONE IS ABLE TO ATTEND ECO-FAIR, THE CITY WILL OFFER eco-topics at selected times throughout the year. See below for this year's first offering in the Academy of Walks and Talks!

The Lakes and Ponds of Minnetonka: An Informational Series Part I: Shallow Lakes and Ponds

Wednesday, March 12, 2008, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 pm
Minnetonka Community Center
14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka

If you live on Lake Rose or Wing, Holiday, or Minnetoga lakes, or on a large shallow pond, this session is for you! Learn about the nature of lakes and ponds and how our behavior affects them. Join Gregg Thompson and Shawn Tracy of the Association of Metropolitan Soil and Water Conservation Districts as they discuss the interesting characteristics of shallow lakes and ponds and what we can do to protect them.

To attend please RSVP to Minnetonka Public Works at (952) 988-8400.

Watch for additional sessions that will address issues pertaining to larger lakes like Glen, Shady Oak and Minnetonka, lakes and ponds with declining water quality, and creeks. ∞

Need emergency home repairs?

IF YOUR HOME IS IN NEED OF EMERGENCY repairs and you meet program income restrictions, you may be eligible for a \$5,000 emergency deferred loan with no interest and no payments. To qualify, your household gross annual income (based on a family of four) must be less than \$39,250 and you must meet certain asset restrictions. For more information call Bill at Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin County, (952) 933-9639, ext. 210. ☺

Wanted: History Lovers

MINNETONKA'S HISTORIC Charles H. Burwell House is a treasured city resource, and tours play a critical role in bringing this site to life for visitors.

If you've thought about being a tour guide, consider volunteering at the Burwell House this year. It's a great way to get involved in the community and to share this special site with others.

Tours take place on Saturdays in May and September; on Saturdays and Tuesdays from June through August; and by special appointment. The house is air conditioned, and tour guides do not wear costumes. Training is provided.

If you enjoy people, love history, and would be available at least once a month during tour season, we'd love to talk with you! For more information, contact Laura Ronbeck, administrative projects specialist, at (952) 939-8219 or ironbeck@eminnetonka.com. ☺



Eco-Fair *continued from page 1*

Select, Prune and Mulch That Tree (9 a.m.)

Is it better to prune a tree while it's small or wait until it's large? Can you prune the top of a tree to keep it small? How do you prune a pine tree? Find the answers to your tree care questions in this session, presented by Dave Hanson, specialist in urban and community forestry at the University of Minnesota. Learn the most important tree care measures to ensure a healthy and stately landscape tree, including planting, pruning, watering, mulching, staking, and fertilizing. You'll receive research-based information that you can trust and apply on a tree near you!

The Dirt on Soils (9 a.m.)

Unlock the mysteries of the soil in your yard with Edward Plaster of Dakota County Technical College, who will share soil basics along with information about amending soils, understanding a soil test, and when fertilizers may or may not be needed. Also, learn how to prevent and resolve issues with soil compaction.

Smart Choices: Creating Non-Toxic Environments at Home (10:30 a.m.)

Every day people in Minnesota are routinely exposed to multiple toxic chemicals where they live, learn and play. Our environment is filled with invisible threats that may damage human health and development — especially vulnerable populations. Harmful chemicals may be found in many everyday items such as household cleansers, paint and personal care products. Find out the **smart choices** you can make!

Debunking Tree Care Myths (10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.)

Are you making up tree care practices as you go? Following advice passed down through the generations? Ever heard the recommendation to “plant your tree deep and proud?” Mark Stennes, board certified master arborist with S&S Tree and Horticultural Specialists, will explain why this myth is one of the most important to debunk. Find out if the things you do to care for your trees are actually harming them and making them susceptible to disease, then learn alternatives to keep them healthy.

Getting the Drop on Rain and Runoff (10:30 a.m.)

Do rainy days and runoff get you down? Shawn Tracy of the Association of Metropolitan Soil and Water Conservation Districts will discuss how to use rain gardens, pervious pavers, rain barrels, green

roofs, and other techniques in your yard to help absorb and reuse runoff as well as keep your neighborhood waters clean.

Got Shade? (10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.)

Erik James Olsen of Out Back Nursery will show how to reclaim shady areas with some of the best native wildflowers, ferns, shrubs, and trees that thrive in various shade conditions. His talk will also focus on how to use native plants in urban and suburban spaces, the benefits of mulching, and successful low-maintenance care for new plantings.

Pesky Insect Pests (10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.)

You may cringe at the sight of boxelder bugs and spray insecticides into the swarm of Asian lady beetles, but have you heard of emerald ash borer or gypsy moth? Do you spray for bees? Staff from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture will tell you about a few of the most common landscape and household insects, what to do about them, and which ones are worth eradicating.

Home Composting (12 p.m.)

Find out how to compost at home instead of throwing away or sending all those vegetable scraps down drain. A master gardener from the Hennepin County Extension Service will explain how to choose the right compost containers, how to make great compost, and what to do with the finished compost.

Invasive and Nasty Upland Plants (12 p.m.)

Are you wondering what to remove and what to keep in an area that was “let go wild?” Janet Larson, city of Minnetonka natural resource specialist, explains how to identify some of the most common invasive species and nasty plants in the Minnetonka area, like garlic mustard, leafy spurge, thistles, and burdock. Learn about the life cycles of these weed plants, the best time for removal, and smart control measures. Handouts provided.

Join city staff and other knowledgeable consultants to learn more about our environment. Remember, it's free and no reservations are necessary. Come and get ready for spring!

For more information, contact Dean Elstad, recycling and trails coordinator, at (952) 988-8430 or by email at delstad@eminnetonka.com, or Emily Barbeau, city forester, at (952) 988-8421 or by email at ebarbeau@eminnetonka.com. ☺



News for Neighbors

From the Minnetonka Police Department

NEWSPER 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.

- The Minnetonka Police Department has been awarded first place in the 2007 Safe and Sober Challenge by the Minnesota Department of

Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety. The award is presented annually to the agency that demonstrates a strong commitment to traffic safety initiatives without the benefit of Safe and Sober grant funding. The award includes a \$3,000 mini-grant that must be used for traffic safety purposes.

- The Police Department 2007 traffic unit statistics are posted on the web at www.eminnetonka.com.

- The Minnetonka Police Department is pleased to announce the hiring of its 58th sworn officer, Jake Wenmark, pictured at right. Officer Wenmark, who grew up in Deephaven, attended Minnetonka High School and was a Minnetonka Police Explorer, spent the past four-and-a-half years as a Minnetonka community service officer before beginning his new career January 25, 2008. ☺



Officer Jake Wenmark

2008 Summer and Year-round Employment Opportunities

You must be 16 years of age or older to apply. Please review job requirements at www.eminnetonka.com.

Recreation Services Summer and Year-Round Jobs (952) 939-8203

Recreation Services offers many part-time jobs throughout the year and summer-only positions. Many positions require working days, evenings, weekends and holidays.

To apply, a completed city application form must be submitted. For an application form, call Recreation Services at (952) 939-8203, or stop in Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. To apply online or download an application form, visit www.eminnetonka.com (click on Administration, Employment tab, Current Job Openings, Recreation)



Available positions include:

- Youth Programs**
FT/PT: Playground Leader (*June – Aug*)
PT: T-Ball/Instructional Baseball Instructor (*June – July*)
FT/PT: Water Safety Instructors, Aides (*Summer/Year-Round*)
- Gray's Bay Marina**
PT: Marina Coordinator (*minimum age of 18*), Attendant (*April – October*)
- Shady Oak Beach** (*May – August*)
FT/PT: Lead Lifeguard (*minimum age of 21*), Lifeguards, Coordinators (*minimum age of 18*)
PT: Membership Specialist (*minimum age of 18*), Concessions, Maintenance
- Libbs Lake Beach** (*May – August*)
FT/PT: Lifeguards
- Park Attendants**
PT: Lone Lake, Gro-Tonka (*May – Sept.*)
PT: Glen Lake Skate Park (*April – Aug.*)

Public Works Summer Jobs (952) 988-8400

All Minnetonka Public Works seasonal positions are 40 hours per week. Flexible scheduling is likely and some positions require working weekends. For more information, visit www.eminnetonka.com.

To apply, a completed city application form must be submitted. For an application form, call the JobLine at (952) 939-8212. To apply online or download an application form, visit www.eminnetonka.com (click on Administration, Employment, Current Job Openings, Public Works/Natural Resources).

- Maintenance: Parks and Trails, Building, Street, Water & Sewer Utility**
 \$10.25/hour with potential year-end bonus. *Minimum age of 18 for parks and trails maintenance and building maintenance.*
- Natural Resources Tree Inspector and Administrative Assistant:**
 \$11.35/hour with potential year-end bonus. *Minimum age of 18.*

2008 Property Taxes

Help is available for property taxpayers

Several state programs, described below, exist to assist eligible residents with the rising cost of property taxes. For additional information and links to the government agencies that run these programs, visit the city's Web site at www.eminnetonka.com or call the Minnesota Department of Revenue's tax helpline at (651) 296-3781.

Property tax refund program

The first program is the **property tax refund program**, or "circuit breaker." For taxes paid in 2008, homeowners with 2007 household incomes up to \$93,480 are eligible for a refund, and the maximum refund is \$1,750. Some renters with 2007 household incomes up to \$50,430 are also eligible for a refund. The maximum refund that may be available to a renter is \$1,430, and the amount provided also depends upon the total rent paid in 2007. Forms can be obtained from the Minnesota Department of Revenue (DOR) and must be filed with the DOR by August 15, 2009.

Special property tax refund program

A second state program is the **special property tax refund program** for homeowners whose property taxes payable in 2008 have increased by more than 12 percent and are at least \$100 over their 2007 taxes. The increase must not be attributable to new improvements, and homeowners must have owned and resided in their home on both January 2, 2007 and January 2, 2008. There is no limit on household income to be eligible under this program. The special property tax refund form is also available from the Minnesota Department of Revenue (DOR) and also must be filed with the DOR by August 15, 2009.

Senior citizens property tax deferral program

The **senior citizens property tax deferral program** allows people 65 years of age or older, whose household incomes are \$60,000 or less, to defer a portion of their property taxes on their homes. The program limits the amount of property taxes to three percent of the total household income for eligible property owners, and the amount of taxes to be paid each year will not change for as long as the homeowner participates in the program.

However, this is **not a tax forgiveness program — it is a low interest loan from the state.** The deferred tax is paid by the state to the county, and a **lien will attach to your property.** Annually adjusted interest will be charged on the loan, but will never exceed five percent. Application forms are available from the Minnesota Department of Revenue, and must be filed with the Hennepin County Auditor's Office by July 1 the year before the deferral would begin.

Tax Notices

Residents will receive two notices this month related to property taxes. One is the **market value notice** from the city, which will affect property taxes to be paid in 2009 and is explained on the facing page. The other is the property tax bill for 2008, which is mailed by Hennepin County and must be paid this year.

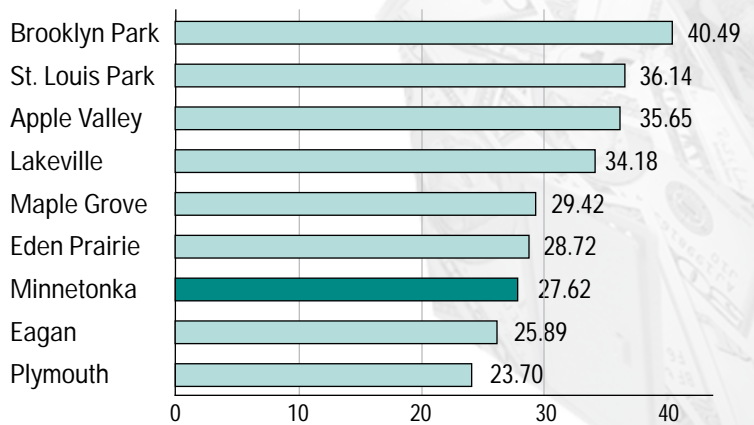
City Tax Bill

The city of Minnetonka continues to provide quality services at a reasonable price. The city provides a fuller range of municipal services than many other cities, and does not use special assessments to fund road and other improvements. Eight of every ten dollars in city property taxes paid support streets and public safety, and most of the remainder is spent on parks and natural resources. Nevertheless, the city's tax rate remains among the lowest of comparable metro cities. Our residents continue to receive the high quality of services they have come to expect.

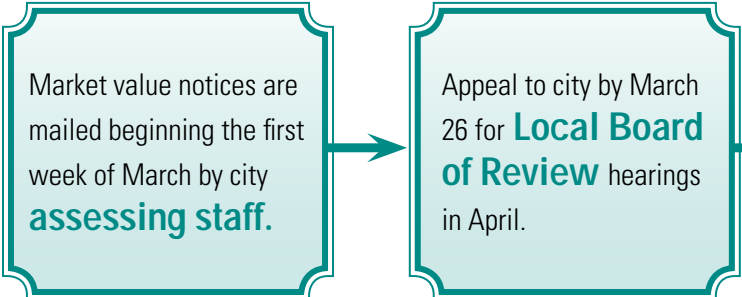
City 2008 Tax Rates*

* Includes Market Value and HRA levies

Property taxes can be approximately calculated by dividing the city tax rate (shown in the graph) by 100, then multiplying that number by the tax capacity value. In most cases, tax capacity value is 1% of a home's market value. **Please note:** Minnetonka does not use special assessments for improvements.



Market Value Appeals Process



2008 Market Value Notice

(Your market value notice applies to property taxes payable in 2009 .)


Minnetonka's homes maintain market value

Despite currently dire reports of falling home prices, Minnetonka's single-family homes as a whole maintained their market values for the value notice period. The median sales price in Minnetonka for 2006 was \$332,500 and in 2007 it was \$337,500. However, the majority of condos and townhomes experienced an overall decrease in market value for the value notice period. It's important to remember that individual properties may vary significantly, and conditions for the next value period will likely change.

Property tax assessment in Minnesota is a complicated process strictly governed by state law. Although the city of Minnetonka administers the assessment, the city's work is overseen by Hennepin County and the State Department of Revenue. The state-mandated schedule requires that the values on your property, as reflected in the market value notice that you will receive in the mail this month, are based upon an analysis of real estate market trends during 2007. The values cannot reflect changes in market conditions since the end of last year. Changes this year will be reflected in the 2009 notices.

How is market value determined?

The Minnetonka Assessing Division maintains records for every property in the city. Adjustments are made to the market values of most properties, based on actual real estate sales from the past year for comparable properties. Approximately one-fifth of the properties are physically inspected each year, and adjustments to these are made based on the results of that inspection. Market value adjustments are also made for building additions, remodeling and other improvements.

To make an appeal to the local board, you should first discuss your property's market value with the Minnetonka assessing staff. After that, you may make an appeal to the local Board of Review by March 26 simply by asking that your property be listed for appeal. However, it is important to know that the local and county boards have the authority to raise or lower an appealed market value. 


What if I don't agree with my property's market value?

If you have questions or concerns about your property's market value notice or the assessment process, please call the Minnetonka assessing staff at (952) 939-8200. The staff can review property records and sales information with you.

Based on this discussion and review, the appraiser may or may not make a change to your market value. If not, you have the right to appeal.

What do these numbers mean?

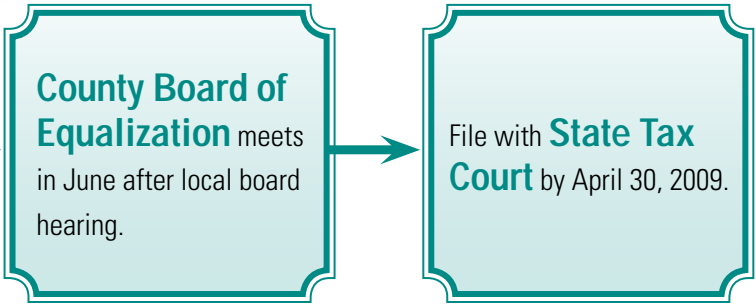
In early March, Minnetonka property owners will receive their 2008 market value notices. Four value amounts will appear on the notices:

-  **Estimated Market Value**
The assessor's estimate of the total market value of the property, or what the property would likely sell for on the open market during the year ending September 2007.
-  **Limited Market Value**
This "caps" the value on properties where the 2008 value increased significantly over 2007. State law provides for value increases to be capped at 15 percent. The value of new improvements is excluded from the cap. Four percent of residential property is still subject to the limited market value law, as it continues to be phased out.
-  **Qualifying Improvement Value**
This figure shows that portion of the value of improvements made to an older home under the former "This Old House" law. This program expired with the 2003 assessment. However, property may still be receiving the value exclusion under this program.
-  **Market Value Subject to Taxation**
This is the net taxable value of the property. For many homeowners, this amount will be the same as the limited market value, not the estimated market value.

How does the appeal process work?

The value subject to appeal is the estimated market value, not the limited market value. Two avenues of appeal are available. Property owners may appeal directly to the State Tax Court. More common, however, is an appeal through the local Board of Review, and if desired, then to the Hennepin County Board of Equalization.

The Minnetonka City Council convenes each year as the local Board of Review and has local real estate professionals serve as its advisors.



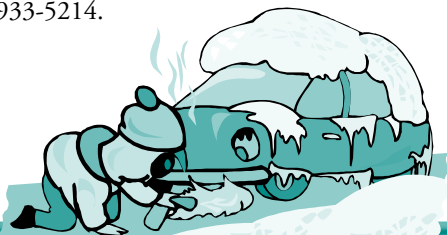
March into Minnetonka Senior Services!

IF YOU'RE A MINNETONKA RESIDENT who's 55 or older, don't miss out on the fun and friendship at Minnetonka Senior Services! 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 Senior Script, visit www.eminnetonka.com.

Call (952) 939-8393 to register for events and classes, for more information, or to learn about volunteer opportunities. All class registration and payments should be directed to Minnetonka Senior Services. VISA or MasterCard are now accepted. Payment must be submitted at the time of registration for classes, trips or programs.

Mills Landing Gift Shoppe

Bring in this article and receive 10% off one item during the month of March at the Mills Landing Gift Shoppe, 12810 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information visit the store Web site at www.millslandingshoppe.com, or call (952) 933-5214.



Warming up your vehicle? Be careful!

DID YOU KNOW THAT MINNETONKA has an ordinance against leaving vehicles running unattended? Minnetonka City Ordinance 930.070 states that a person must stop the engine and remove all ignition keys from the vehicle before leaving a motor vehicle unattended on a street, used car lot or unattended parking lot.

When police officers find a motor vehicle in violation of this ordinance, the officer may:

- Remove the keys from the ignition, then place the keys so they are not visible from the outside and lock the vehicle; or

Defensive Driving Classes

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

Four-Hour Day Course

Tuesday, March 18, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Refreshments provided but no lunch.

Four-Hour Night Course

Tuesday, March 25, 6-10 p.m.

Special Events

Call (952) 939-8393 to register.

St. Patrick's Day Party

Monday, March 17, 12 p.m.
Join the annual St. Patrick's Day party with entertainment by Leslie Mallery and a traditional Irish meal. Cost is \$8.

Nintendo Wii Session

Tuesday, March 4, 9-11 a.m.
Get active with the Nintendo Wii gaming system! Questions? Call (952) 939-8393.

Girl's Night Out

Thursday, March 20
GNO meets monthly on the third Thursday, with different activities each month. For March meeting details, call (952) 939-8393.

Income Tax Help

Income tax appointments began in February and continue into April. Call (952) 939-8393 for an appointment. ☺

Spring fun for kids is set for March 22

THIS NEW SPRING EVENT, SET FOR Saturday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, provides fun and treat-filled eggs for children ages 10 and under! Enjoy face painting, crafts, a jellybean-counting contest, games and an indoor and outdoor egg hunt. Bring a basket to collect your eggs! The spring bunny will be on hand, so parents, bring your cameras. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Fee is \$6. Registration is required—call Minnetonka Recreation Services at (952) 939-8203 or visit www.eminnetonka.com and refer to course #13253. ☺

Street sweeping starts March 31

IN A SURE SIGN OF SPRING, STREET sweeping by Minnetonka Public Works will begin Monday, March 31, weather permitting—and if the weather does not cooperate, the start date will be moved to Monday, April 7.

For three weeks, public works crews will sweep streets in two shifts, from 4:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 12:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. In addition, crews will work ten-hour shifts on two Saturdays during the sweeping period. The double shifts are necessary in order to finish sweeping in time to begin seasonal blactop work on city streets.

Although crews try to stay out of residential areas in the early morning hours, it is not always possible. In these cases, crews try to minimize the noise and time spent in the neighborhood.

While the street sweeper does a good job cleaning streets, it can't capture all the debris, so we need your help! As the snow melts, identify the catch basins in your neighborhood, then remove and dispose of the accumulated debris and litter. This will help the street sweeping process.

Once sweeping has concluded, flushing of water hydrants will take place starting in late April. Look for information on hydrant flushing in the April

Minnetonka Memo. ☺



TRAFFIC ORDER

- Lock the keys in the trunk; or
- Remove the keys from the vehicle and deliver them to the police department, where the driver may collect them.

These steps all have one goal: to prevent your vehicle from being stolen while the engine is running and keys are in the ignition. This ordinance does not apply to vehicles with remote starters, which allow the vehicle's engine to run while the ignition remains locked. ☺



2008 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE

Recyclable material can be put into one of the following two groups.
Do not mix the loose paper products and loose containers in the recycling bin.

1 Paper products, including newspaper, miscellaneous paper items and corrugated cardboard

Paper includes the following: newspaper, including all colored comics; ad inserts; glossy magazines and catalogs; direct mail advertising (junk mail); letters, bills, receipts and envelopes; school and office paper; hard- and soft-cover books; phone books; toy, gift, shoe and tissue boxes and tubes; laundry detergent boxes; beverage carriers (pop, water, beer); dry food packaging (cereal, cracker, cake, chip, pasta boxes etc. — no items that are stored in the refrigerator or freezer).

Remove all product liners and flatten boxes. Shredded paper is accepted — please place in a paper bag and seal shut with tape or staples. No shredded paper is accepted in plastic bags.

Place acceptable paper items into a paper grocery bag and place in or next to the recycling bin — please do **not** place loose papers in the recycling bin. Newspaper may be placed in a separate paper bag, bundled, or mixed with the other paper products.

Corrugated cardboard should be flattened and placed next to or under the recycling container. **No minimum size is required.** Small pieces of cardboard may be placed in the bag with the paper products.

Phone books should be placed in paper grocery bags with the other paper products. Do not use the plastic bag the phone books are delivered in — plastic bags are not accepted in the curbside recycling program.

Items Not Accepted for Recycling

Throw these materials into your garbage!

- All paper milk or juice cartons or drink boxes
- All plastic items (bags, toys, tubs, yogurt/dairy containers, trays, pots, pails, packaging peanuts, foam packaging, medicine containers, plastic bottles that contained motor oil or chemicals), **except** for bottles that come to a neck
- Waxy or food-contaminated cardboard boxes (home-delivered pizza boxes)
- All ceramics, ceramic liquor bottles, light bulbs, mirrors, window, plate or auto glass, plates, bowls or other dishes or glass cookware
- Kitchen and bathroom paper products (food wrap, paper towels, tissues, plates, cups, napkins, coffee filters, etc.)
- Gift wrap, wallpaper, photographs, slides or carbon paper
- Non-corrugated packaging such as pizza boxes, and packaging for all refrigerated or frozen foods (i.e. frozen entrees or waffles, cream cheese or butter boxes, yogurt containers, etc.)
- Other household scrap metal (pots, pans, pipes, aerosol or paint cans, etc.)

2 Containers, including glass bottles and jars, metal cans, foil and foil trays and plastic bottles with a neck

Rinse all containers clean. Discard all plastic caps, tops, lids and pumps. Place containers loose into the recycling bin (mixed together) or into paper grocery bags. Place bags in or next to the recycling bin. **Only plastic bottles with a neck are accepted.** Throw all other plastic items (trays, bags, yogurt/dairy containers, tubs, caps, covers, lids and pumps) in your garbage.

Minnetonka Recycling Drop-Off Center

11522 Minnetonka Boulevard
 Minnetonka Public Works, southeast corner

Directions: Look for the cream-colored wood sign by the east driveway at Public Works. Enter using the driveway next to the sign. Green recycling drop-off containers are to the right.

The Minnetonka/Hopkins Recycling Drop-off Center accepts the same materials as the curbside program, and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, year-round.

Curbside Collection Tips

Collection day: Recycling collection for residents **west** of I-494 is on **Mondays**. Residents **east** of I-494 have recycling collection on **Tuesdays**.

Recycling holidays: In 2008 the following holidays will delay recycling collection one day: **Memorial Day** (Monday, May 26) and **Labor Day** (Monday, September 1).

Storage of recycling and garbage containers: Your garbage and recycling container must be stored out of public view except for the evening before and the day of collection. (*City of Minnetonka Ordinance Number 835.015.7*)

Set-out time and missed pickup: Recycling materials should be at the curb by 7 a.m. the day of collection, or the night before. If recycling is set out before 7 a.m. and not collected by 6 p.m., let us know by noon the following day. Leave a message on the 24-hour recycling hotline: (952) 939-8202 or call (952) 988-8430 during business hours.

Questions: If you have questions about recycling, please contact the recycling coordinator, Dean Elstad, at (952) 988-8430 or email delstad@eminnetonka.com.

Since 1989, Minnetonka residents have recycled 104,222 tons of recyclables. Thank you for recycling, your participation does make a difference!

Calendar

City of
Minnetonka

March
2008

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 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	8 Eco Fair, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. (see page 1)
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	11 Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.; Economic Development Authority, 6 p.m.
30	31						13 Caring Youth Program, 7 p.m.
							17 City Council Study Session, 6:30 p.m. (Topic: TBD); History Commission, 6:30 p.m.
							20 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
							24 City Council, 6:30 p.m.; Community Commission, 6:30 p.m.
							26 City Council, Comprehensive Guide Plan Steering Committee and Boards and Commissions work session, 6:30 p.m.

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

Minnetonka City Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 16, and 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 Web site by the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting, and planning commission agendas are available by the Monday prior to the meeting.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

At press time, no new developments were scheduled to come before the Planning Commission in March. Please call (952) 939-8200 for updated information or visit the city Web site at www.eminnetonka.com. Meeting agendas are posted on the site the Friday prior to each commission meeting.



Hop into 2008 with these fun city events

SO, YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED KIDS' FEST, and the State of the City—but don't worry, there are still plenty of city events left to attend this year! Mark your calendars now for these exciting activities, and look for more information in upcoming Minnetonka Memos.

Eco Fair (see page 1)

March 8, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Minnetonka Community Center

Caring Youth Reception

March 13, 7–8 p.m.
Minnetonka Community Center

Silver Skates Ice Revue

May 1, 2 and 3
Minnetonka Ice Arena

Music in the Park

Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
June 10 and 17, July 8, 15, 22 and 29,
August 5 and 12
Minnetonka Civic Center Amphitheater

Theater in the Park

June 24, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.
June 26, 2 p.m.
July 1, 6 p.m.
Minnetonka Civic Center Amphitheater

Summer Festival and Ice Cream Social

Saturday, June 28
Minnetonka Civic Center &
Burwell House

National Night Out

August 5

City-Wide and Fire Department Open House

October 7, 5–8 p.m.
Minnetonka Civic Center

minnetonka
memo March 2008



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CITY OF MINNETONKA

A publication of the city of Minnetonka
14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, MN 55345 • (952) 939-8200
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday

Mayor Janis Callison (952) 939-8389 Home: (952) 935-7010 jcallison@eminnetonka.com Meetings with the mayor may be scheduled by calling (952) 939-8211.	Council <i>At Large:</i> Dick Allendorf... (952) 933-6231 dallendorf@eminnetonka.com Terry Schneider..... (952) 934-9529 tschneider@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 1:</i> Bob Ellingson (952) 931-3065 bellingson@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 2:</i> Tony Wagner..... (952) 512-1817 twagner@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 3:</i> Brad Wiersum.... (612) 817-3713 bwiersum@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 4:</i> James Hiller..... (952) 974-1003 jhiller@eminnetonka.com
City Manager John Gunyou (952) 939-8200	Minnetonka Mike (952) 939-8586 mike@eminnetonka.com
Newsletter Editor Jacque Larson (952) 939-8200	POLICE-FIRE: Emergency 9-1-1 Non-emergency (952) 939-8500 or 9-1-1
E-mail: comments@eminnetonka.com	
Internet: www.eminnetonka.com	

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON