

minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka
September 2007

Primary election is September 11 for Ward 4 voters

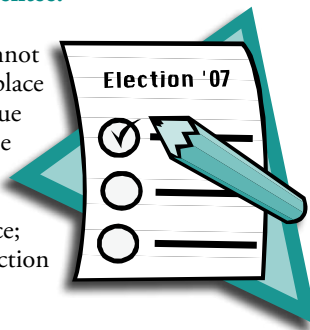
WARD 4 VOTERS WILL SEE A PRIMARY election on September 11, 2007, to select the two Minnetonka City Council candidates whose names will appear on the November 6 general election ballot. Four candidates filed for this council position, including Steve Arnold, James Hiller, Tom Sawyer, and Al Thomas (incumbent).

Because Wards 1 and 2 each had only one candidate file—incumbent Bob Ellingson in Ward 1 and incumbent Tony Wagner in Ward 2, and Ward 3 had only two candidates file—Kevin Ray Smith and Brad Wiersum (incumbent), these wards will not be included in the primary and will go directly on the general election ballot. At-large positions are not up for election this year.

Read on for answers to the questions most frequently asked by voters. For more specific or current information about these topics, call Minnetonka City Hall at (952) 939-8200 or visit the city's Web site at www.eminnetonka.com.

Who can vote absentee?

Absentee voting is available if you cannot get to the polling place on Election Day due to absence from the precinct; illness or disability; religious observance; or service as an election judge in another precinct.



How do I vote absentee?

Two options are available for voting absentee:

- **In person:** Ward 4 voters may vote absentee at the Minnetonka City Hall during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning August 10. Extended absentee voting hours also will be available Saturday, Sept. 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday, Sept. 10, until 5 p.m.
- **By mail:** Absentee voting also may be done by mail. Remember, the voted ballot must be received at city hall by Election Day for the vote to count. Please allow sufficient time for postal service delivery. Applications can be downloaded from the city Web site.

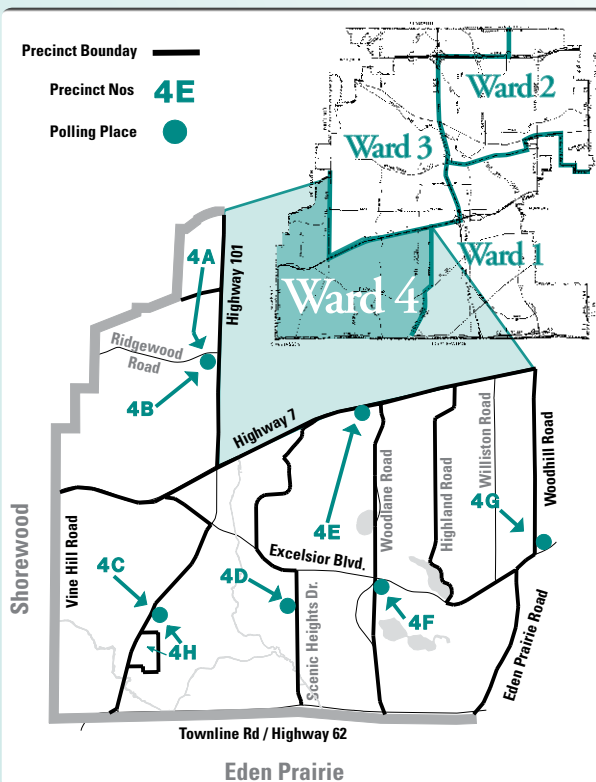
Minnetonka Wards and Precincts

The map at right shows a close-up view of Ward 4, including precinct boundaries and polling places.

To find your specific polling location, visit the Minnesota Secretary of State Web site at www.sos.state.mn.us and click on "Voter and Election Information/Where Do I Vote."

Polling Locations

- 4A/ **Ridgewood Church**
4B 4420 County Road 101
- 4C **Clear Springs Elementary School**
5701 County Road 101
- 4D **Scenic Heights Elementary School**
5650 Scenic Heights Drive
- 4E **Redeemer Bible Church**
16031 Woodland Curve
- 4F **All Saints Lutheran Church**
15915 Excelsior Boulevard
- 4G **Glen Lake Activity Center**
14350 Excelsior Boulevard
- 4H **Clear Springs Elementary School**
5701 County Road North101



What are the hours to vote, and where do I vote?

Polling places will open at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, and remain open until 8 p.m. If you are in line at 8 p.m., you will be allowed to vote.

A map is provided with this article to give you a general idea of your polling place. To find your specific polling location, visit the Minnesota Secretary of State Web site at www.sos.state.mn.us and click on "Voter and Election Information/Where Do I Vote."

Voters may only vote in person at their assigned polling place. Be sure to know your correct polling place—it will save you time.

Can I register to vote on Election Day?

Minnesota allows voters to register to vote at the polls on Election Day. You will need to register if you have never registered to vote; if you have changed your name or address (including just moving to another apartment in the same building) since you last voted; or if you have not voted in four years.

Election continued on page 2

What ID do you need to vote?

Voters registering to vote on Election Day must provide proof of residence.

You may show **one** item from Table A or **two** items from Table B (valid photo ID plus valid utility bill)

Election *continued from page 1*

What identification is needed to register?

Minnesota state law requires specific forms of identification to register at the polling place. To register at the polls on Election Day, you must provide proper identification showing your current address in the precinct. State law allows that only the following proofs of identification can be used:

- Valid Minnesota driver's license, learner's permit, or a receipt for either, showing current address in your precinct.
- Valid Minnesota identification card or receipt, showing current address in your precinct.
- Notice of late registration.
- Previous registration at a different address in the same precinct.
- College fee statement and a photo identification card showing address in precinct.
- Tribal identification cards that contain the name, address, signature and picture of the tribal member.
- Oath of registered voter in the same precinct who can vouch for the registrant's residence in the precinct.
- A Minnesota driver's license or identification card, U.S. passport, U.S. military identification card, tribal identification card or college identification card that includes the voter's name and photo AND a bill for electricity, gas, water, sewer, solid waste, telephone, cellular phone, or cable TV service that has a due date within 30 days of election day and includes the voter's name and current address in the precinct. This option is only for the person(s) specifically named on the bill.

Where will election results be available?

Results will be available on cable channel 16, and on the Minnesota Secretary of State's Web site. The city's Web site will have a link to the state's site.

What is the city's role in the election?

The city plays a key role in the election process. City staff recruits and trains elections judges; provides polling place supplies; answers questions; and ensures voter results are tabulated. This process works smoothly because Minnetonka has excellent and dedicated election judges—we salute them!

Contact city hall at (952) 939-8200 if you need assistance. ☺

On Election Day you must have one of the following: **TABLE A**

- Valid Minnesota driver's license or learner's permit (or receipt for either) showing current name and address in the precinct.
- Valid Minnesota identification card (or receipt) showing current name and address in the precinct.
- Tribal ID showing current name, picture, signature, and address in precinct.
- A voucher card signed by the person vouching for the voter and witnessed by an election judge. A voucher is the oath of a voter registered in the precinct who can verify the registrant's address in the precinct.
 - The voucher must have personal knowledge of the person for whom they are vouching.
 - A voter who is vouched for **cannot** vouch for another voter at this election.
 - Challengers **cannot** serve as vouchers.
 - A voucher may vouch for up to 15 voters.
 - Voucher **must** leave the polling place as soon as the vouching process is complete.
- Late notice sent from the Elections Office.
- Prior registration in the same precinct—voter's former address listed in the polling place roster.
- Current students
 - Student ID or dated registration or fee statement with valid address in the precinct.

OR

On Election Day voters may register by a combination of one picture ID from **Column 1** along with one type of utility bill from **Column 2**.

Column 1

Approved photo IDs must contain voter's name and photo. It may contain voter's old address or have no address.

- MN driver's license
- MN state ID
- U.S. passport
- U.S. military ID
- Student ID from MN post-secondary school
- Tribal ID

Column 2

Approved utility bills must contain name, current address in the precinct, and date due within 30 days before/after Election Day.

- Cable TV
- Electric
- Gas
- Phone
- Garbage
- Water/sewer
- Cell phone

TABLE B

Follow the city election sign rules

WITH ELECTION SEASON upon us, it's important for Minnetonka residents to be aware of the city's zoning regulations related to posting political campaign signs. Temporary political campaign signs could be posted any time after August 1, 2007, and must be removed by November 16, 2007.

Rules for signs on private land

Signs may not be posted on publicly owned land. On private land, the following rules for temporary political campaign signs apply:

- Signs must not exceed five square feet, except on collector or arterial streets where up to 32 square feet is permitted.
- Signs must have the approval of the underlying property owner.
- Signs must be at least five feet from the edge of a public street.
- Signs must not be posted on fences, trees, shrubs, or public utility poles.
- Signs must not obstruct driver visibility at intersections.
- Signs must not be painted on rocks or other natural features.
- Signs must not be located within the right-of-way of state or county roads.

Disclaimers

In accordance with state law, signs must contain the following language:

- Prepared and paid for by [insert name or organization here]
- Address

Election day rules

On primary election day, Tuesday, Sept. 11, and on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 6, the following rules apply to posting signs near polling places:

- On private property, signs must be 100 feet from the door where voters will enter.
- Signs must be 100 feet from the edge of any public property line.

Questions

If you have questions or concerns about campaign signs, please call Jeff Thomson, Minnetonka planning division, at (952) 939-8293. ☺

Vote!



News for Neighbors

From the Minnetonka Police Department

NEW 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.

- On June 21, members of the police department participated in the **Special Olympics Torch Run**, carrying the torch, running, walking and biking approximately seven miles from Plymouth to Eden Prairie. More than \$1,200 was raised and donated to the Special Olympics.
- This summer, two police officers received employee awards for their “above and beyond” actions. **Officer Darlene Ford**

developed and presented a driving course designed to help older drivers recognize physical changes that can affect driving ability. About 70 seniors and their family members attended this inaugural class.

Officer Corey Schmidt was recognized for his work with a program presented to 700 Hopkins High School seniors this spring that used video from real accident scenes and hospital emergency rooms to demonstrate the potential consequences of drinking and driving.

- In July, **Officer Ryan Piper** and his K-9 partner **Krieger** participated in the Region 12 K-9 Trials in Austin, Minn., finishing seventh out of 80 K-9 teams. They were also recognized as “Top Rookie Dog with an Experienced Handler.”

- About 7,000 residents participated in the Aug. 7 **National Night Out** event, with more than 125 registered parties visited by city staff. Mark your calendar for next year’s National Night Out event, set for August 5, 2008.
- Minnetonka Police Explorers Post 884 will host its **annual pancake breakfast** Sunday, Sept. 23, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd. Police Explorers is an exciting program for young adults ages 14 to 20 who are interested in law enforcement. Money raised from the pancake breakfast will be used to fund travel to competitions throughout the year. For more information call Officer Scott Marks, Minnetonka Police Department, at (952) 939-8500. ☺

Use these tips to help bully-proof your kids

EVERY DAY, 160,000 CHILDREN SKIP school because they fear being attacked or intimidated by other students. Talk to your children about bullying, and give them these tips:

If you are bullied

- Tell your parents. This is not tattling — your parents can help you figure out what to do.
- Tell a trusted teacher, school counselor, or principal. Your parents can also talk to the school for you. You can write down what happened, how it happened, and who is bullying you.
- Do not retaliate against the bully or get angry — this may make the bully torment you more. Respond evenly and firmly or else say nothing and walk away. A bully likes to feel powerful and see that he or she has upset you.

How to avoid being bullied

- Develop friendships with other children. A bully is more likely to leave you alone if you are with your friends. This is especially true if you stick up for each other.

- Develop interests in social and physical activities. This will help you to develop friendships with other people who share your interests.
- Act confident. Hold your head up, stand up straight, make eye contact, and walk confidently. A bully is less likely to single out those who project self-confidence.
- Do not bring expensive items or lots of money to school.

How you can help a bullying victim

- Don’t join in bullying someone else. Try to help the victim if you can, but do not place yourself at risk. Doing nothing implies you think that it is okay to bully and hurt others.
- Get a teacher, parent, or other responsible adult to come help. This is not tattling — it says you think bullying is wrong and you don’t want anyone to get hurt.
- Try to persuade the person who is being bullied to tell his or her parents or a trusted teacher. Tell the victim you will go with them.

- Tell a trusted adult yourself if the victim is unwilling to report the bullying. Do not let the bully know so that he or she does not become aggressive toward you.

Other things parents can do

Besides talking to your children, here are a few other steps parents can take to protect children from bullies.

- Praise and encourage your child. A confident child is less likely to be bullied.
- Help your child develop new friendships. New peers can provide a new chance.
- Maintain contact with your child’s school. Keep a detailed record of bullying episodes and communication with the school.
- Encourage your child to participate in social and physical activities to improve self-esteem. ☺

Open House is Oct. 9

THE CITY OF MINNETONKA WILL HOST its annual Fire Department and City-Wide Open House Tuesday, Oct. 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Minnetonka Civic Center campus, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka. This popular event offers an informal and entertaining way to meet city staff and learn more about local government. Kids four and over can ride in city fire trucks, and everyone can enjoy free hot dogs, cookies, pop and lemonade along with department tours, strolling characters and entertainment. See the October *Minnetonka Memo* for a complete schedule of events, or visit www.eminnetonka.com. ☺





2007 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).
- **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 12 inches in diameter.
- **Copier or fax machine (\$35)**
- **Electronics (\$1 for any item, including TVs up to 32"; \$5 for TVs larger than 32")**
TV, stereo console, computer, printer, monitor, radio, small appliance, vacuum, or VCR.
- **Fluorescent lamps (No charge)**
Up to ten fluorescent lamps will be accepted per vehicle. Do not tape lamps together. No lamps will be accepted from business or commercial use. Please transport lamps in a manner to avoid breakage.
- **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 or concrete.
- **Mattresses and box springs:** Single or twin size (**\$8 per piece**); double, queen or king (**\$12 per piece**)
- **Propane tanks:** Small (**\$1**); Large — over a two-pound tank (**\$6**)

Saturday, Sept. 15

8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

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

- **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, bikes with tires, 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, trailers, 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/doors (\$2 minimum, based on \$25/cubic yd.)**

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

Brush drop-off ends Nov. 17

The brush drop-off program for Minnetonka residents is open Mondays and Tuesdays from noon to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The brush drop-off site will be closed for Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3. Brush drop-off ends November 17, 2007.

The brush drop-off is located at Minnetonka Public Works, 11522 Minnetonka Blvd. Use the west entrance near the Big Willow Park ball fields.

Branches up to 12" in diameter will be accepted. Please secure your load during transport, do not drag branches on the road and do not cover the taillights. Proof of

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**
913 Mainstreet, Hopkins
(952) 939-0988
- **Goodwill Industries**
1025 Hill Street, Hopkins
(952) 935-2760
- **ARC Hennepin-Carver**
Pickup route information
(612) 866-8820
- **Salvation Army**
Pickup route information
(612) 332-5855
- **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, recycling coordinator, at (952) 988-8430 or visit www.eminnetonka.com.

Minnetonka residency (driver's license or utility bill) is required to drop off brush.

Please note: trash, metal, concrete, lumber, fences, or wood scraps are not accepted. DO NOT bring these materials with your load of brush. DO NOT put grass, weeds, loose leaves, dirt, sod or other non woody materials in with the brush pile. Find the appropriate disposal option for the unacceptable items. No brush will be accepted from commercial tree or lawn services.

For more information call Dean Elstad, recycling coordinator, at (952) 988-8430.

 **2007 MINNETONKA RECYCLING UPDATE**

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 as of March 1, 2006, 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 paint, stain, thinners, solvents, pesticides, herbicides, cleaners, gasoline, oil filters, aerosol cans, fire extinguishers, fluorescent and HID lamps, thermostats,

switches and thermometers containing mercury, rechargeable appliances and batteries.

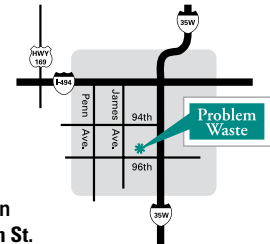
Also accepted for no charge are consumer electronics (TVs, radios, stereos, VCRs, camcorders, telephones, computers, monitors and printers).

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

Minimum charge for loads of junk (only at Brooklyn Park site) is \$16. The fee and acceptable materials are determined by Hennepin County staff.

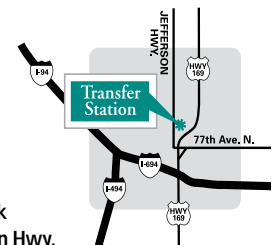
For more information call Dean Elstad, city of Minnetonka recycling coordinator, at (952) 988-8430, or Hennepin County at (612) 348-3777.

Hennepin County Problem Material and HHW Drop-Off



Bloomington
1400 W. 96th St.

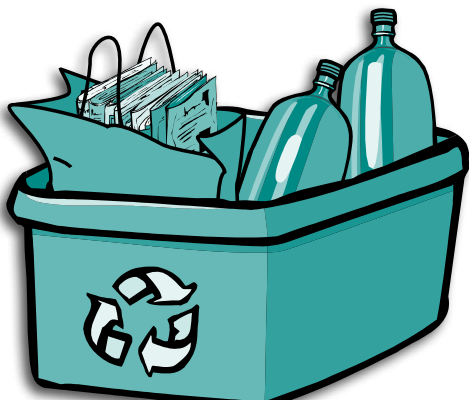
Hennepin County Transfer Station and HHW Drop-Off



Brooklyn Park
8100 Jefferson Hwy.

Labor Day delays recycling collection

The Sept. 3 Labor Day holiday will delay recycling collection in Minnetonka by one day. Residents west of I-494 will have recycling collection Tuesday, Sept. 4, while residents east of I-494 will have recycling collection Wednesday, Sept. 5.



Conserve water while you shower

CenterPoint Energy residential heating customers who live in homes constructed before 1992 may receive a free low-flow, multi-setting massage showerhead to save water and reduce natural gas water heating costs. Information and mail-in request cards

were in the August CenterPoint Energy bills, or call toll-free 1-866-418-0658 to request a showerhead. Offer is valid through Dec. 31, 2007. One free unit per customer/household on a one-time basis.

Dial-a-Ride service, destinations expand

STARTING SEPT. 1, 2007, MINNETONKA Dial-a-Ride customers will enjoy new evening and Saturday service, as well having more destinations from which to choose!

These changes are a result of combining the Minnetonka and South Shore Dial-a-Ride service areas into one large territory, the Lake Minnetonka Area Dial-a-Ride, which will offer curb-to-curb dial-a-ride service in the cities of Minnetonka, Deephaven, Greenwood, Excelsior, Mound, Navarre, Shorewood, Spring Park and Tonka Bay.

Lake Minnetonka Area Dial-a-Ride will be served by a new provider, Midwest Paratransit Services, and will expand its hours of operation to include evenings and weekends. New hours, as of Sept. 1, are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fares will decrease to \$2 per one-way trip. To schedule a ride, call (952) 401-1749. Dial-a-Ride service is provided through the Metropolitan Council, the regional planning agency for the seven-county Twin Cities area.

Minnetonka Senior Services: September events

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 or call (952) 939-8393.

Registration, payment changes

As of July 1, 2007, all class registration and payments should be directed to Minnetonka Senior Services. As a result, registrations may now be accepted by phone with a VISA or MasterCard. Payment must be submitted at the time of registration for classes, trips or programs.

Services

Services offered at the community center include blood pressure checks, health insurance counseling, legal counseling, outreach, HOME, bus trips, hearing screening, flu shots, foot care, and community resources.

Fitness Groups

Need to get fit? Consider one of these many fitness groups: exercise (M,W,F), tai chi, yoga, line dancing, biking, softball, and golf. A walking club meets Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 8 a.m. Call (952) 939-8393 for details.

Defensive Driving Classes

Please call the Minnesota Safety Council at (651) 228-7306 to register.

Four-Hour Courses

Thursday, Sept. 6, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Refreshments provided but NO lunch.

Monday, Sept. 24, 6–10 p.m.

Refreshments provided

Eight-Hour Course

Saturdays, Sept. 29 and Oct. 6, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Refreshments provided.

Featured Speakers

ReadyMinnetonka

Wednesday, Sept. 5, 10:30 a.m.

Minnetonka Fire Department firefighters present information about ReadyMinnetonka, a program designed to help the community in event of an emergency. To register for this free event, call (952) 939-8393. Register separately for the lunch following the presentation.

Escape to the Lake: Cabins of Minnesota

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 1 p.m.

Photographer Doug Ohman presents a relaxing and scenic journey to the heart of Minnesota Lake Country, with pictures of some of Minnesota's most interesting and unique cabins. Refreshments provided. Cost is \$5. Register by Sept. 5.

Behind the Scenes of the State Fair

Friday, Sept. 21, 10:30 a.m.

Brienna Schutte talks about what goes on behind the scenes each year to prepare for the Minnesota State Fair. Register by Sept. 17 for this free event. Call (952) 939-8393.

Special Events

Welcome Coffee

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 9:30 a.m.

Enjoy a welcome coffee, take a tour of the Senior Center and learn about its programs and participants.

Barbecue Dinner with Steve Pich and The Tonka Brass Quintet

Monday, Sept. 17, 5:30 p.m.

Menu includes barbecue beef sandwich, old-fashioned potato salad, three-bean salad, chips, pickle spear, and sherbet with wafer. Cost is \$7, payable to Minnetonka Senior Services. Register early, space is limited. Registration deadline is Thursday, Sept. 13, by 4:30 p.m.

Senior Center Open House

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 12:45–2:30 p.m.

Bring a friend or neighbor and explore what's available for active adults. Tour the Minnetonka Senior Center facilities and meet members of the special interest groups, including computer, chorale, writing, woodcarvers, billiards, bird club, exercise, bridge, book clubs, ham radio, Tonka Taletellers and many more! Paintings will be on exhibit and refreshments provided.

Girls' Night Out

Thursday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.

Enjoy a dessert sampler and socialize at the first Girls' Night Out at Minnetonka Senior Services. This new group will meet on the third Thursday of each month. Join us to help plan activities from a list provided and suggestions made from the group. Activities may include crafts, speakers, socials, education, outings, and more. For information call (952) 939-8393. This event is free.

River of Life Display

Throughout September, the senior center will have a display on the "River of Life" project, developed to highlight older adults who have discovered and practice the "Secrets of Aging Well." Examples include senior involvement, volunteering, helping others, exercising, and participating in creative projects.

Available Trips

Fanny Hill Theater Presents Noises Off

Wednesday, Sept. 26

Called the funniest farce ever written, a wild array of eccentric characters inhabits this tour de farce about putting on a show. Cost of trip is \$67, which includes ticket, lunch, transportation, and escort.

Tram Ride at Baker Park Reserve

Tuesday, Oct. 9

Enjoy a tour of Baker Park Reserve on a guided tram ride. After the tram ride, enjoy a lunch of soup, bread, cookies and coffee. Cost of trip is \$18, which includes ride, lunch, transportation, and escort.

Landmark Center Tour

Thursday, Oct. 25

Join us for a tour of the Landmark Center, including a broad presentation of the building's history, beautifully restored courtrooms and Cortile. Lunch at the Landmark Center Café follows the tour. After lunch, enjoy a concert in one of the Center's courtrooms. Cost of trip is \$20, which includes tour, concert, lunch, transportation and escort.

St. Paul Chamber Orchestra

Friday, Nov. 9

Be dazzled as Abado conducts Schubert and Schumann in a wonderful concert held by the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Enjoy fresh pastries and coffee before the concert. Cost of trip is \$20, which includes ticket, transportation and escort. ☺

News from the Music Association of Minnetonka

IF YOU ENJOY SINGING OR PLAYING an instrument, it's not too late to join one of the Music Association of Minnetonka's (MAM) choral or instrumental ensembles for the 2007–08 concert season. For more information, visit www.musicassociation.org or call (952) 401-5954.

Don't miss MAM's first concert of the season Thursday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m. as the concert band, under the direction of Dan Geldert, presents "Windspiration — Music to Lift Your Spirits" at the Arts Center on 7, 18285 Highway 7, Minnetonka. No admission fee, but donations will be accepted at the door. ☺

Solicitors and peddlers must be registered with the city

THE MINNETONKA POLICE DEPARTMENT asks residents to be aware of unusual or suspicious activity and to report unauthorized solicitors and peddlers to the city. For-profit sale of products or services requires a license from the city. The city does not endorse any specific product or service by the issuing of this license. Only licensed peddlers and solicitors will have a city-issued photo ID.

Charitable organizations conducting door-to-door sales or solicitations do not need a license, unless they pay their solicitors. However, the city does request that charitable organizations register. To assist police, please be aware of the following:

- Ask solicitors to show their photo ID, issued by the city of Minnetonka. According to city ordinance, the photo

ID must be prominently displayed by attaching it to the front of the outermost clothing between the waist and the neck.

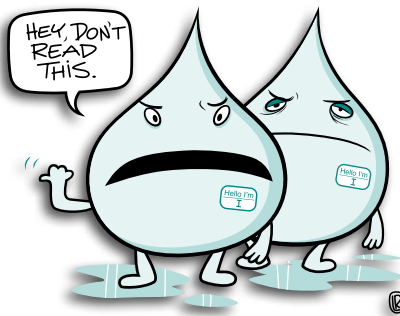
- Check the city of Minnetonka Web site at www.eminnetonka.com for an updated list of registered and licensed entities. (Click on Community Development, then Licenses, then Solicitors, Peddlers and Canvassers.)
- If you have a complaint about a door-to-door salesperson or soliciting party, immediately contact the Minnetonka Police Department at (952) 939-8500.
- Every resident and business has the right to prohibit peddlers and solicitors from their property. If you post a sign on your home or business that prohibits solicitors, they are not permitted to approach your property. ☺

Matching grants available for infiltration and inflow repairs

THE CITY OF MINNETONKA IS IN THE midst of a five-year effort to reduce the flow of clear water into the sanitary sewer system (infiltration and inflow). As part of that program, homes are being inspected to ensure sump pumps and foundation drains are not connected to the sanitary sewer system.

For those residents who may need to make corrections to remove clear flow from the sanitary sewer system, the city of Minnetonka is offering matching grants of up to \$500. For example, if the repair costs \$1,000, the city will pay \$500 and the homeowner will pay \$500. If the repair is more than \$1,000, the city will pay \$500 and the homeowner will pay the balance.

In the rare cases where the repair or replacement bill is unusually high, homeowners also have the option for a special assessment, where the cost of the repair will be added to quarterly utility bills until the balance is paid. For more information about these programs, contact Minnetonka Public Works at (952) 988-8400. ☺



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. ☺

Stay clear of construction zones!

ROAD CONSTRUCTION SEASON IS STILL IN FULL SWING, SO IT'S IMPORTANT to remember it's illegal to drive around or through areas that are specifically barricaded for the construction project.

According to Minnesota state law, it is illegal to drive over, through, or around any barricade, fence, or obstruction erected for the purpose of preventing traffic from passing over a portion of a highway closed to public travel or to remove, deface, or damage any such barricade, fence, or obstruction. Any violation of this law is a misdemeanor.

So, use patience when driving near construction projects and obey all marked lane or road closures. Keep in mind that fines increase in construction zones! ☺

TRAFFIC ORNBER

Ask Minnetonka Mike: Why do trees change color?

MINNETONKA MIKE, THE CITY OF Minnetonka's online request system, is always standing by to help you with any questions, comments or concerns you have about your city. It's been a great summer, but now Mike turns his attention to an autumn question.

Dear Mike:

I was sick the day our sixth-grade science class discussed why trees change color in the fall. I've always regretted this gap in my knowledge. Can you help me out?

Signed, Can't Leaf It Alone

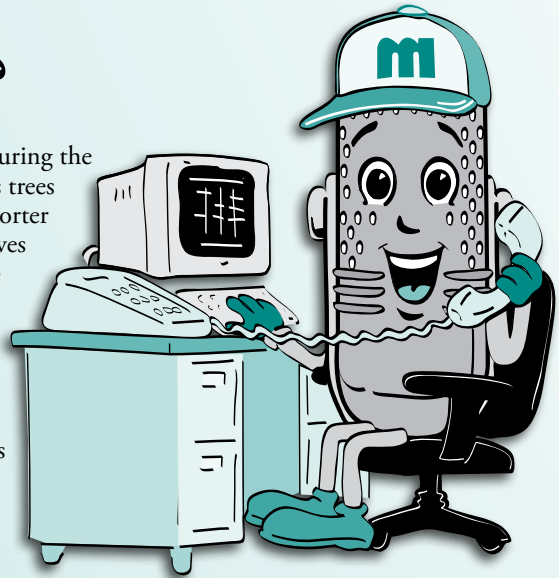
Dear Leaf:

Emily Barbeau, city of Minnetonka forester, explains, "Leaves change color due to a chemical reaction involving four pigments, the natural substances in a plant that give it color. The pigments are green chlorophylls, yellow carotenoids, red anthocyanins and brown tannins. All of these are present in the leaves throughout the year, but are visible depending on what is happening with the tree.

"Chlorophyll is most evident during the growing season because it helps trees make sugars. As the days get shorter and nights grow longer, the leaves begin to close down. Sugars are transported from the leaves to the branch tissue, allowing the tree to live off this food through the winter. Now, no longer masked by green chlorophyll, the other pigments begin to show.

"Light differences accentuate pigments in the leaves, with each pigment taking on a different job. For example, the red pigment in red maples, Northern red oaks and sumac provides a natural sunscreen.

"Due to the dry conditions this year, leaves may show their autumn colors early this year. Optimum autumn leaf colors result from warm, sunny days and cool, crisp (but not freezing) nights. For this reason, trees located in full sun may have more intense fall colors. And don't forget, you should water your trees throughout the autumn until the ground freezes!"



For more information, visit www.treesaregood.com or www.dnr.state.mn.us.

.....

If you have a question, comment or concern about the city, let Minnetonka Mike know! Just visit www.eminnetonka.com and click on "Minnetonka Mike Online Service Request System." Follow the directions to set up your account, then go ahead and submit your comment. ☺

Get fit while you get to work!

What is Bike2Benefits?

Bike2Benefits is a program to encourage individuals to get to work all or part of the way under their own power. All you have to do is bike or walk to work once a week for eight weeks. If you live too far away, consider biking or walking to the bus stop!

When does this happen?

Choose eight consecutive weeks between now and December 30, 2007. In case of inclement weather, you may make up missed activity in subsequent weeks. Let us know how you're doing at four weeks and eight weeks.

Who can participate?

Adults who live or work in Minnetonka, Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina, Plymouth or Richfield are eligible to participate. There is no fee to participate.

Why should I participate?

It's free. It's healthy. And, you'll receive free goodies when you enroll:

- A free copy of the latest Twin Cities Bike Map (\$10 value)
- CD of 66 biking tips from Penn Cycle & Fitness (\$15 value)
- Coupons to redeem at local bike shops
- Free transit and bike route planning at your request

Bike2Benefits is sponsored by 494 Commuter Services and the I-494 Corridor Commission. To learn more and to enroll, visit www.494corridor.org ☺

New ordinance regarding trees

IN ORDER TO PROTECT REMNANT woodland ecosystems and protect trees that are of higher value and important to a particular site or neighborhood character, the city plans to update its tree ordinance. The proposed ordinance will apply to properties where new construction is planned or where there is a subdivision of land. It will not apply to currently developed properties where there is no proposed construction.

A public open house to learn more about the proposed tree ordinance is scheduled for September 19, 2007, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, with a 20-minute presentation beginning at 6:30 p.m. For additional information, see www.eminnetonka.com. ☺

Picturing Minnetonka

THIS YEAR'S PHOTO CONTEST IS HOSTED by the city's newest commission, the Minnetonka Community Commission. Formed earlier this year by the Minnetonka City Council, this commission's primary charge is to foster partnerships between the city and schools, businesses, faith community and other organizations in order to encourage community engagement.

To that end, the commission would like to use this year's photo contest to learn more about what Minnetonka means to residents. Read on for this year's contest rules!

- Photographers must be residents of Minnetonka.
- This year's theme is "What Minnetonka Means to Me." Photos will be evaluated on how well they convey this theme. The commission is especially interested in photos that reveal the diversity of people, faiths, landscapes, neighborhoods and organizations within the community.
- Entries must be submitted by the original photographer. Do not submit a photo taken by someone other than you. Your submission of the photo and entry form is your guarantee that you are the author and copyright holder of the photo.
- Photos must be appropriate for posting in city government publications. Photos containing recognizable people must be accompanied by a signed model release form (available online at www.eminnetonka.com).
- Entries may be color or black-and-white prints or digital images. If you submit prints, you are encouraged to also submit a digital image, if possible. See rules regarding digital images.
- Prints must be 4x6 or 5x7 inches. Do not send negatives. Attach a label to the back of each print with your name and address. Do not write on the photo itself. If submitting multiple entries, number each print to match a corresponding entry form. Up to three entries allowed.
- Photos, regardless of the medium, will not be returned. Please do not send your only copy of a photo. All photos become the property of the city of Minnetonka and may be used on the city's Web site and in city publications.

Digital Images

Digital images should be emailed to jarson@eminnetonka.com or submitted on a CD. Please note that some photo files may be too large to be emailed. Images should be submitted in JPG (high quality) or TIFF format. Please submit digital images at the original size and resolution at which they were taken. Images must be in natural color. Sepia tone and duotone images are not eligible. Digital images will not be returned.

Image Modifications

Minor digital enhancement is allowed, but images that have been significantly modified or appear unnatural will be disqualified.

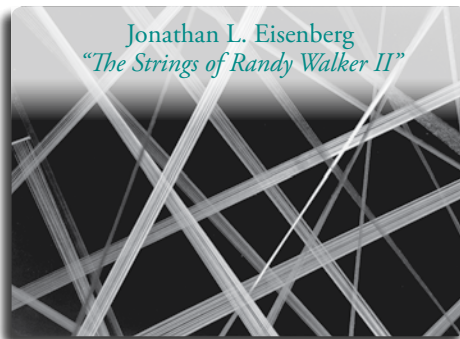
Deadline

All photos and digital images must be submitted by Wednesday, October 3, 2007, at 4:30 p.m., and will be displayed at the Fire Department and City-Wide Open House Tuesday, Oct. 9, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Awards

A first-, second-, and third-place entry will be selected. First-prize winner will receive \$75; second-prize winner will receive \$50; and third-prize winner will receive \$25. Winning photos will be published on the city Web site and in the *Minnetonka Memo*; and a certificate of appreciation will be presented to the winners at a city council meeting. ∞

A look at two of last year's entries...



Jonathan L. Eisenberg
"The Strings of Randy Walker II"



Cathy Armajani
"Green with Envy"

Photo contest entry form

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Caption (*photo location, description of event*) _____

Day phone _____ Age (if under 18) _____

Mail (or drop off) entries to:

*Minnetonka Photo Contest
 City of Minnetonka
 14600 Minnetonka Blvd.
 Minnetonka, MN 55345*

**City employees and their families are not eligible to enter.
 Questions? Call (952) 939-8207.**

Calendar

City of Minnetonka

September 2007

Call (952) 939-8200 for more information.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 3 Labor Day, <i>city offices closed</i>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 5 Park Board, 7 p.m.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 10 City Council, 6:30 p.m.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 11 Primary Election, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 13 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
30						15 Special Drop-Off (see page 6). 18 Economic Development Authority, 6 p.m. 24 City Council, 6:30 p.m.; Community Commission, 5:30 p.m. 25 History Commission, 6:30 p.m. 27 Police Advisory Committee, 5:30 p.m.; Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

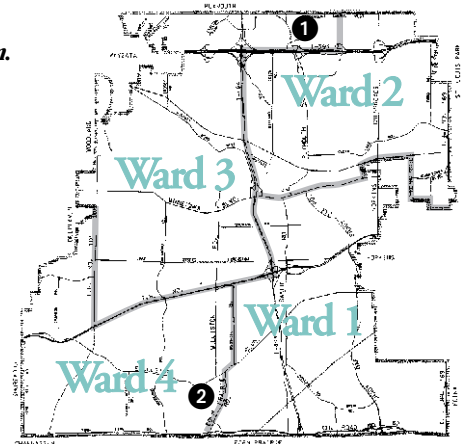
NEW DEVELOPMENTS

The following items are tentatively scheduled to come before the Planning Commission in September. 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.

- 1 Preliminary plat to divide the existing property at 506 Milbert Road into two lots, with the existing house to remain. (04034.07a)
- 2 Preliminary plat to divide the existing property at 15407 Lake Shore Avenue into two lots. (07046.07a)

Sign up for skating lessons today!

SIGN UP FOR 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 beginner and advanced skaters, for both adults and children age 3 and up. Call the Minnetonka Ice Arena at (952) 939-8310 for class information, fees, and for a lesson brochure, or download a registration form at www.eminnetonka.com. The 12-week fall session begins September 11, 2007, with registrations accepted until 4 p.m. September 10, or until classes are full. ☺



MHS meeting set for October 2

THE MINNETONKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL HOST IS SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING TUESDAY, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center. Society member Bill Jepson will give a presentation on the 19th-century history of the Minneapolis Lake District. For more information, visit www.minnetonka-history.org. ☺

Buckthorn workshop set for October 4

ABUCKTHORN WORKSHOP IS SET FOR Thursday, Oct. 4, 2007, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd. Watch for more information on the city Web site and in the October *Minnetonka Memo*. ☺

minnetonka memo

September 2007



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CITY OF MINNETONKA

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8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday

Mayor	Council
Janis Callison (952) 939-8389	<i>At Large:</i> Dick Allendorf... (952) 933-6231 dallendorf@eminnetonka.com
..... Home: (952) 935-7010	Terry Schneider..... (952) 934-9529 tschneider@eminnetonka.com
..... jcallison@eminnetonka.com	<i>Ward 1:</i> Bob Ellingson (952) 931-3065 bellingson@eminnetonka.com
Meetings with the mayor may be	<i>Ward 2:</i> Tony Wagner..... (952) 512-1817 twagner@eminnetonka.com
scheduled by calling (952) 939-8211.	<i>Ward 3:</i> Brad Wiersum.... (612) 817-3713 bwiersum@eminnetonka.com
City Manager	<i>Ward 4:</i> Al Thomas (952) 949-9027 athomas@eminnetonka.com
John Gunyou (952) 939-8200	Minnetonka Mike (952) 939-8586 mike@eminnetonka.com
Newsletter Editor	POLICE-FIRE: Emergency 9-1-1
Jacque Larson (952) 939-8200	Non-emergency (952) 939-8500 or 9-1-1
E-mail: comments@eminnetonka.com	
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