

# MINNETONKA MEMO

A publication from the City of Minnetonka



## More options to pay your utility bill



It's now easier than ever to view and pay your City of Minnetonka quarterly utility bill online, by phone or even by text message! Our new billing and payment service through Invoice Cloud offers greater flexibility and more options.

The new, easy-to-use online portal allows residents to view bills, check your balance, make payments and enroll in paperless billing. You can also securely store payment information, set up email reminders, link multiple accounts and choose specific days to process payments. If you'd prefer not to register, you can still view your current bill and make one-time payments.

A 24/7 automated payment line (855-945-3661) is available to check your balance or make a payment, and you can sign up to receive notifications and pay your bill via text message.

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/utilitybilling](https://minnetonkamn.gov/utilitybilling) to learn more, visit the new online portal and set up your account. Call 952-939-8255 to ask questions.

## Make a service appointment at city hall

Did you know you can make an appointment for several city services? With limited in-person staff at city hall, appointments ensure you can get the help you need, when you need it.

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/coronavirus](https://minnetonkamn.gov/coronavirus) ("Schedule a service appointment" section) to learn more and schedule an appointment for:

- Assessing
- Community development services (water meters, metal detectors, property research)
- Police services (gun permits, record requests, property room)
- Solicitor and peddler licensing
- Utility billing



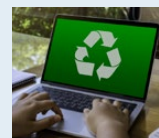
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# Meal donations offer a holiday highlight

The giving spirit was alive and well in Minnetonka during the recent holiday season.

On Dec. 24, Minnetonka police – with the support of ICA Food Shelf – provided holiday meals to local families in need. The event was made possible by an anonymous donor who gave \$5,000 to our police department to initiate the holiday meal effort and inspire other charitable gifts.



The police department and city promoted the good deed on social media and encouraged others to consider donating. The gesture worked – ICA has since received more than \$1,000 in additional donations.

The city extends heartfelt thanks to our generous anonymous donor, all who contributed, ICA Food Shelf and our police department. Your thoughtfulness brightened the holiday season for so many in Minnetonka!

## Take care of your heart



February is American Heart Month, and the Minnetonka Fire Department encourages you to focus on your heart health. Winter, especially during a pandemic, brings considerable risks. These facts and tips will help keep your heart healthy this winter.

### Watch out this winter

- Winter and cold temperatures raise the risk of heart attacks and other health risks.
- Cold makes arteries constrict, decreases blood flow and increases blood clots.
- Shoveling snow can be dangerous – your oxygen demand increases as your arteries tighten up in the cold.
- Additional winter risks include less physical activity, seasonal depression and holiday stress.

### What you can do

- Bundle up in the cold, especially if you're at-risk for heart disease.
- Stay healthy – don't smoke, eat healthy, drink more water and exercise.
- Between the weather and the pandemic's impact on fitness centers, regular exercise can be difficult. Try to exercise outdoors – running, walking, skiing, ice skating, sledding and more.
- Find ways to be more active indoors – take the stairs, walk in place, participate in virtual fitness classes and move around as much as possible.

### Learn more

Visit the American Heart Association's website – [heart.org](https://www.heart.org) – to learn more and find helpful resources.

## Sign up for adult softball

Registration for the city's many adult softball leagues begins in February. Leagues begin in April and include co-rec, men's single games, men's doubleheaders and women's league.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, our softball leagues were able to safely play a reduced season with restrictions in 2020. If needed, we'll implement safety protocols in 2021 to ensure a fun and safe experience for all.



### Registration dates

- Returning teams: **Feb. 1**
- New teams: **Feb. 8**
- Deadline: **March 19**

Learn more at [minnetonkamn.gov/softball](https://minnetonkamn.gov/softball).



## DRIVE-THRU

### the Minnetonka Winter Farmers Market



**Saturday, Feb. 13**

**9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**Minnetonka Community Center  
14600 Minnetonka Blvd.**

In 2021, the Minnetonka Winter Farmers Market is a drive-thru experience to keep shoppers safe and socially distant. Pre-order your items or shop in-person with contactless pickup from the safety of your vehicle!

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/farmersmarket](https://minnetonkamn.gov/farmersmarket) to learn more, place a pre-order and subscribe to updates.

Follow the city on social media for market highlights.

## Seeking summer farmers market vendors

The summer Minnetonka Farmers Market will run each Tuesday from June 8 to Sept. 28 on the city's civic center campus. We're accepting applications for vendors who grow food or make items, including fruit, vegetables, cheese, meat, desserts, soap, art, handmade jewelry and more.

Details and application materials are available at [minnetonkamn.gov/farmersmarket](https://minnetonkamn.gov/farmersmarket).

# Tree sale begins Feb. 8

Each year, the city offers Minnetonka residents a chance to purchase young trees at a reduced cost. The tree sale is a great opportunity to replace a recently-removed tree on your property, add shade or greenery to your yard and help the environment.

The 2021 sale includes 15 species of evergreen, ornamental, fruit and shade trees to enhance your home landscape and strengthen our community forest.

In addition to trees, plastic tree guards and tree watering bags are also available for purchase.

The sale is held exclusively online at [minnetonkamn.gov/NRevents](https://minnetonkamn.gov/NRevents) beginning Monday, Feb. 8 at 8 a.m.



## Important dates and details

### Online preview - Saturday, Jan. 29-Sunday, Feb. 7

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/NRevents](https://minnetonkamn.gov/NRevents) to:

- Learn how the sale works.
- Browse available trees, learn about each species and find pricing.
- Find resources to help with tree selection, planting and maintenance.
- Set up or update your Shopify account, which is required for purchasing.

### Sale begins - Monday, Feb. 8 at 8 a.m.

**Buy early for the best selection!** Quantities are limited and some species sell out very quickly.

### Pick-up event - Sept. 17-18

Please note pick-up will take place in September instead of April in 2021. Buyers will be mailed a reminder in late August. This is for pick-up of already-purchased trees only, none are sold at this event.

## Planting your tree this fall

This year, trees will be distributed in September instead of April, and there are real benefits to planting your new tree later in the year!

A lot of root growth happens in the fall when air temperatures are cooler but the soil retains summer's warmth. Trees planted in the fall form a deeper connection to the soil, store energy to survive the winter and prepare for next year's growth.

Spring and summer growth mostly takes place above ground to produce leaves, flowers and fruit, and then add wood to its trunk and branches. By planting in the fall, your tree will have a strong foundation established before that growth begins.

Once you've planted, ensure your young tree gets one inch of water per week - from a combination of rain and irrigation - until the soil freezes. Mulch the root zone to retain that water. As winter approaches, add wire caging around the mulched zone to prevent animals from browsing.

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/tree-planting](https://minnetonkamn.gov/tree-planting) and our forestry team will walk you through planting your new tree, step-by-step!



# 2021 Tree Sale Options

Tree	Mature Height x Width	Light			Moisture				Benefits					
		full sun	part shade	full shade	wet	moist	average	dry	ash replacement	buckthorn replacement	shoreline buffer zone	climate resilience	pollinators and wildlife	seasonal interest
Silver Maple	70' x 50'	x			x	x			x		x	x	x	x
Siouxland Poplar	70' x 40'	x			x	x			x		x	x	x	x
Swamp White Oak	60' x 50'	x				x			x		x	x	x	x
Northern Pin Oak 'Majestic Skies'	60' x 45'	x					x	x	x			x	x	x
American Basswood 'Frontyard'	60' x 40'	x	x			x			x	x	x		x	x
Honeylocust 'Sunburst'	35' x 35'	x			x	x			x		x	x	x	x
Blue Beech	30' x 30'	x	x	x	x	x				x		x	x	x
Chokecherry 'Canada Red' (tree form)	25' x 20'	x	x					x		x	x		x	x
Serviceberry 'Autumn Brilliance'	25' x 15'	x	x			x	x			x			x	x
Pagoda Dogwood (tree form)	20' x 25'	x	x			x	x			x		x	x	x
Crabapple 'Royal Raindrops' (tree form)	20' x 15'	x				x	x					x	x	x
Pair of Pears: 'Parker' + 'Summercrisp'	up to 20'	x				x	x					x	x	x
Pear of Cherries: 'Evans Bali' + 'North Star'	up to 20'	x				x	x					x	x	x
Tamarack	50' x 30'	x				x			x		x	x	x	x
Arborvitae 'Techny'	15' x 8'	x	x		x	x				x	x	x	x	x

## Online and in-person senior programs

During these challenging times, the city remains committed and connected to our valued senior residents. Our senior services team is continually developing and adapting healthy and fun programming, both online and in-person (with safety protocols).

Stay tuned to [minnetonkamn.gov/seniors2021](https://minnetonkamn.gov/seniors2021) to browse available programs, and register online or call 952-939-8393. All programming is subject to change or cancellation based on the state's response to the ongoing pandemic.

Registration is required for all programs, in-person registration is not available at this time and masks are required for any indoor programming offered.

### Virtual programs

Continue to exercise and learn from the comfort of your home! Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/virtual](https://minnetonkamn.gov/virtual) to find free virtual programs, including history, exercise and yoga classes.

## 2021 official newspaper selected

The Sun Sailor has been selected as Minnetonka's official newspaper for 2021.

It will publish the city's legal notices, ordinance titles and summaries, and other official information. Legal notices and full ordinances are also available at [minnetonkamn.gov/government/city-code](https://minnetonkamn.gov/government/city-code).

The newspaper is published weekly and free print subscriptions are available to Minnetonka residents. Visit [hometownsource.com/sun\\_sailor](https://hometownsource.com/sun_sailor) to subscribe or renew, and to read the paper online.



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Visit  
[minnetonkamn.gov/subscribe](https://minnetonkamn.gov/subscribe)

to sign up for email and text updates on city news, events, projects and much more.

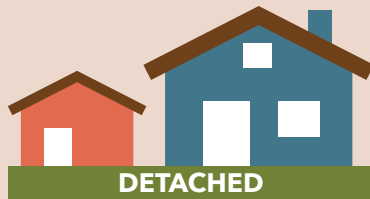
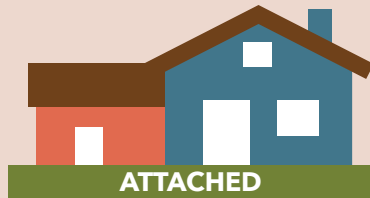
## Provide input on detached accessory dwelling units

An accessory dwelling unit (ADU) is a smaller, secondary dwelling on a residential property that includes areas for sleeping, cooking and sanitation, independent of the primary single-family home.

ADUs are generally classified as attached (within or connected to the home) or detached (a separate structure). Minnetonka allows conditional-use permits for attached ADUs.

City staff is considering an amendment to allow detached ADUs, and is conducting a study and seeking community input.

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/ADUstudy](https://minnetonkamn.gov/ADUstudy) to learn more, including standards for the proposed amendment, and provide input. Contact Assistant City Planner Susan Thomas at [stthomas@minnetonkamn.gov](mailto:stthomas@minnetonkamn.gov) or 952-939-8292 to ask questions.



## Keep active with co-rec kickball

Our adult (ages 16 and up) co-rec kickball leagues are a great way to stay active and have fun this summer!

Leagues play Wednesday or Thursday evenings at Central Park in Hopkins. The season runs from May to July with seven weeks of regular-season games, followed by playoffs for the top four teams in each league. If needed, we'll implement COVID-19 safety protocols to ensure a safe and fun experience for all.

Registration begins Feb. 1, and closes May 5 or when all spots are filled. Learn more and register online at [minnetonkamn.gov/kickball](https://minnetonkamn.gov/kickball).



Many local businesses and restaurants continue to serve our community, despite restrictions to limit the spread of coronavirus.

Please shop local to support our wonderful business community!



## Follow the City of Minnetonka on Social Media

Join the conversation and stay connected to latest news, events and updates!



## City of Minnetonka Calendar

- 1** City Council Study Session, 6:30 p.m.
- 3** Park Board, 7 p.m.
- 4** Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 8** City Council, 6:30 p.m.
- 9** Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
- 11** Economic Development Advisory Commission, 6 p.m.
- 13** Winter Farmers Market, 9 a.m.
- 15** Presidents Day, city offices closed
- 18** Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 22** City Council, 6:30 p.m.

City meeting will be held virtually until further notice. Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/virtual-meetings](http://minnetonkamn.gov/virtual-meetings) to learn how to participate remotely. Watch meetings live and on-demand at [minnetonkamn.gov/tv](http://minnetonkamn.gov/tv).

For up-to-date information, visit [minnetonkamn.gov/calendar](http://minnetonkamn.gov/calendar) or call 952-939-8200.



CITY OF  
**MINNETONKA**

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# Improve your home's energy use

**Sustainable Minnetonka Webinar Series**

**Tuesday, Feb. 2 | 6-7 p.m.**

The Home Energy Squad offers in-home and virtual consultations to help you improve your home's efficiency, and their expertise can help you improve your energy use and save money!

This webinar will help you determine next steps to put the Home Energy Squad's advice into action, and learn more about their available services, including:

- How to make a plan and determine your energy efficiency priorities.
- Financing opportunities, including rebates and discounts.
- Finding a trustworthy, certified contractor.

Visit [minnetonkamn.gov/green](http://minnetonkamn.gov/green) to learn more and register, and to subscribe to email/text updates. One Minnetonka resident who attends the webinar will receive a free Home Energy Squad visit!

The Sustainable Minnetonka Webinar Series is brought to you by Minnetonka's Energy Action Team with help from Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy program.

