

MINNETONKA MEMO

A publication from the City of Minnetonka



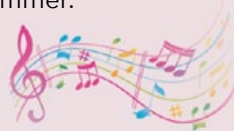
Summer Events are Back!

Music in the Park

Offering a wide variety of music for the whole family, every Tuesday evening this summer.

June 22-Aug. 24
6:30-8 p.m.

Learn more at
minnetonkamn.gov/entertainment



Movies in the Park

Bring your family and friends for a fun night of cinema under the stars! Movies take place at sunset.

Friday, Aug. 27 <i>The Goonies</i>	Thursday, Sept. 2 <i>The Sandlot</i>	Friday, Sept. 10 <i>The Karate Kid</i>
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Follow these fireworks safety tips

Celebrate safely (and legally) this July with these safety tips from the Minnetonka Fire Department.

- Fireworks that fly or explode are illegal in Minnesota - don't buy or use them!
- Legal fireworks in Minnesota include sparklers, cones and tubes that emit sparks and novelty items like snakes and party poppers.
- Always supervise children during firework use and set a good example for safe behavior.
- Only use fireworks on private property; they're illegal on public property (including parks and beaches).
- Alcohol and fireworks don't mix.
- Use a metal bucket with water to extinguish all fireworks - including sparklers - before throwing out what's left.
- Wear shoes at all times while fireworks are present.
- Homemade fireworks and explosives are not only illegal - they're extremely dangerous. Ensure your children are using safe, professionally made fireworks.
- If something goes wrong, even something small, don't hesitate - call 911 immediately!



Register your Night to Unite event by July 20

Minnetonka Night to Unite is Tuesday, Aug. 3 from 6-9 p.m. Residents are encouraged to join this national celebration and schedule block parties, cookouts or get-togethers to get to know one another and promote community safety.

Register your neighborhood's Night to Unite event so Minnetonka Police and Fire, Public Works and other city officials can visit. *Please note: Visits are not guaranteed.*

Register your party by July 20 and learn more at minnetonkamn.gov/night-to-unite, or email Karen Hendrickson at khendrickson@minnetonkamn.gov.



Apply for home improvement and purchasing loans

Are you planning a home improvement project or looking to buy your first home? The city has a pair of low-interest loan programs to help qualified applicants. Income and asset limits apply.

• Home improvements -

The Minnetonka Home Loan Enhancement program offers loans up to \$15,000 to help with qualified enhancements. Visit minnetonkamn.gov/homeloans to learn more.

- **First-time home buyers** - The Welcome to Minnetonka loan program offers loans up to \$15,000 to help with down payments and closing costs. For details visit minnetonkamn.gov/welcometominnetonka.

Contact Economic Development Coordinator Rob Hanson at rhanson@minnetonkamn.gov or 952-939-8234 to learn more or ask questions.

Don't Miss July's Sustainable Minnetonka Webinar!

Learn About Onsite Solar Tuesday, July 6 | 6-7 p.m. | Virtual

If you've got a sun-soaked roof that could transform solar energy into home energy, then be sure to sign up for the July edition of our Sustainable Minnetonka Webinar Series. Whether you're taking first steps or you're ready to install solar panels today, this excellent info session has got you covered.

Visit minnetonkamn.gov/green to register, learn more and subscribe to email/text updates on the city's ongoing sustainability initiatives.

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

Ranked-choice voting education continues

Summer is here, and Minnetonka's ranked choice voting (RCV) education and outreach efforts are officially underway, and will prepare voters to use RCV in the city's November election.

Summer is also the time for candidates to file for one of three city council seats on the November ballot.

The city is committed to providing the following resources to better serve voters and candidates.

VOTERS

- A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section and two short, informative videos have been added to the city's Ranked Choice Voting webpage: minnetonkamn.gov/rankedchoicevoting.
- There will be two mock elections at which voters can practice using the RCV method. City elections staff will also be on-hand to answer questions. We encourage you to visit us at one or both of these mock elections:
 - **Minnetonka Farmers Market**
Minnetonka Ice Arena B Parking Lot
Tuesday, July 13, 3-5 p.m.
 - **Williston Fitness Center**
Tuesday, Aug. 17, 10 a.m.-noon

City staff will also attend the following Farmers Market dates. **Please note:** We will not be holding mock elections on the following dates. Staff will be available for questions and to provide printed RCV educational materials:

- Tuesday, July 6
- Tuesday, July 20
- Tuesday, July 27

CANDIDATES

- Candidate filing for November's three city council seats - mayor, at-large councilmember A and at-large councilmember B - **will be open from Tuesday, July 27 through Tuesday, Aug. 10.**
 - Learn about how Minnetonka's city council functions at minnetonkamn.gov/candidateinfo.
 - Before filing, candidates should review the information packet and required campaign finance forms at minnetonkamn.gov/campaign-finance.

MINNETONKA PROTECTS POLLINATORS

Most of the flowering plants on Earth need the help of animal pollinators to reproduce. Unfortunately, pollinator species - from bees, butterflies and moths to flies, beetles and hummingbirds - are declining globally due to pressure from habitat loss, chemical use and climate change. And they need our help.



In 2017, the City of Minnetonka answered the call by signing the Mayors' Monarch Pledge. This National Wildlife Federation program provides a framework to guide cities in pollinator protection efforts.

In 2021, the National Wildlife Federation declared the City of Minnetonka a Monarch Champion. Only a handful of the program's 900 participating cities have reached that goal, which requires extensive public outreach, ongoing restoration work and updated city ordinances that increase habitat on private property.

July in Minnetonka is Monarch and Pollinator Awareness Month. Watch our social media accounts and website to learn how you can celebrate pollinators, learn about their importance, and take action to help them thrive.

Plant for pollinators!

Diverse native plants support many different pollinators, which in turn feed birds and other wildlife. Stay tuned for info on the city's online plant sale.



Appreciate pollinators and the plants they support!

There are hundreds of pollinator species in Minnesota, and each is a valuable part of our natural environment. Some even pollinate our food!

Reduce chemical use!

Pesticides are intended to control pests and weeds - but they can harm pollinators and other beneficial creatures.



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City of Minnetonka Calendar

- 1** Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 5** Fourth of July observed, city offices closed
- 6** Sustainable Minnetonka Webinar, 6 p.m.
- 12** City Council, 6:30 p.m.
- 13** Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
- 13** Sustainability Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 15** Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 26** City Council, 6:30 p.m.

Some city meetings will be held virtually until further notice. Visit minnetonkamn.gov/virtual-meetings to learn how to participate remotely. Watch meetings live and on-demand at minnetonkamn.gov/tv.

For up-to-date information, visit minnetonkamn.gov/calendar or call 952-939-8200.



14600 Minnetonka Blvd.
Minnetonka, MN 55345
952-939-8200 | minnetonkamn.gov

Mayor
Brad Wiersum 612-723-3907
bwiersum@minnetonkamn.gov

Council
At Large: Deb Calvert 612-205-5399
dcalvert@minnetonkamn.gov

Susan Carter 952-381-4477
scarter@minnetonkamn.gov

Ward 1: Brian Kirk 952-451-6251
bkirk@minnetonkamn.gov

Ward 2: Rebecca Schack 612-590-3735
rschack@minnetonkamn.gov

Ward 3: Bradley Schaeppi 612-770-7447
bschaeppi@minnetonkamn.gov

Ward 4: Kissy Coakley 952-486-9670
kcoakley@minnetonkamn.gov

City Manager
Geraldyn Barone 952-939-8200
gbarone@minnetonkamn.gov

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Tour Burwell House starting in July

13209 E. McGinty Road | Free (donations accepted)

The Charles H. Burwell House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is open for tours July through September. The house is air-conditioned and the main floor is handicapped-accessible. View our tour schedule at minnetonkamn.gov/burwell.

Get fit at Williston Fitness Center

Become a member of the city-owned fitness center and enjoy our fabulous amenities at a rate that can't be beat! **No joining fee in July!** Visit minnetonkamn.gov/williston for details and membership rates.

Register for youth soccer by July 9

The Hopkins-Minnetonka Fall Youth Soccer League is a great opportunity for kids entering grades K-8 to learn the sport, make friends and have fun!

Separate boys and girls teams are formed by age and desired practice day and location. All teams play games on Saturdays, and grades 3-8 play an additional game each Tuesday or Thursday. Practices begin the week of Aug. 16, and the season will conclude by Oct. 16.

To register, visit minnetonkamn.gov/register, or call 952-939-8203 by July 9.

Volunteer coaches needed

If you have soccer experience and enjoy working with children, call 952-939-8203 for more information.