

MINNETONKA MEMO

A publication from the City of Minnetonka



Absentee voting begins Sept. 17

Starting in September, Minnetonka voters can cast their ballots for the upcoming 2021 Election. Three city council seats are up for election this year – mayor and two at-large seats.



How to vote absentee

- In-person: Stop by Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., during regular business hours, Sept. 17-Nov. 1.
 - Watch for extended hours leading up to Election Day.
- By mail: Hennepin County oversees all absentee voting by mail. Residents can request a ballot at hennepin.us/residents/elections/absentee-voting.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Two polling locations have changed from 2020:

- Ward 1: Precinct E voters will vote at Minnetonka Public Works, 11522 Minnetonka Blvd.
- Ward 3: Precinct B voters will vote in the Minnetonka Council Chambers, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd.

Learn more at minnetonkamn.gov/elections. Call 952-939-8205 or email elections@minnetonkamn.gov with questions.

Ranked choice voting

Minnetonka voters will use ranked choice voting (RCV) to identify their candidates of choice. A sample ballot and information about the RCV process will be mailed to all Minnetonka residences in early September.

Find more info at minnetonkamn.gov/rankedchoicevoting.

City and Fire Department OPEN HOUSE

Visit our brand new fire station and remodeled police department as we welcome back our city's popular open house event!

Explore the state-of-the-art public safety facilities, and enjoy fire truck rides, interactive demonstrations, refreshments and fireworks.



**Tuesday, Oct. 5
5-8 p.m.**

**Minnetonka Civic Center campus
14600 Minnetonka Blvd.**

Look for event details in next month's issue of the Minnetonka Memo!



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Senior Script
CENTER INSERT

SPECIAL COMMUNITY DROP-OFF DAY

Drop off unwanted items Sept. 11

Get rid of unwanted appliances, tires or other household items at our Special Community Drop-off Day!

Saturday, Sept. 11

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Minnetonka Public Works
11522 Minnetonka Blvd.**

Accepted items: appliances, furniture, lumber, scrap metal, tires, toilets, non-metal sinks and windows, automotive/12V batteries, used clothing and household items and much more. View our website for a complete list.

Not accepted: electronics, garbage, hazardous waste, liquids, copiers, fax machines, household batteries

• **Household batteries (AA, D, 9V, etc.) are no longer accepted.** Hennepin County's drop-off facilities accept batteries.

Payment: There is a charge for most items. Cash and checks payable to "City of Minnetonka" are accepted.

COVID-19 precaution: Please stay in your vehicle. Our staff will check you in and unload to limit contact.

Learn more: Visit minnetonkamn.gov/dropoffday for complete details, including a full list of items and prices.



Fall leaf drop-off site opens Sept. 18

Each fall, the city accepts leaves, yard waste and brush from Minnetonka residents at the Public Works Facility at 11522 Minnetonka Blvd. Residents must present a driver's license, state ID or Minnetonka utility bill. Commercial tree and lawn services must prove materials came from a Minnetonka address.

Keep leaves and yard waste separate from brush and drop off in their respective areas. Bags cannot be left at the drop-off site, including compostable bags.

LEAF DROP-OFF SITE

The leaf drop-off site is open between Sept. 18 and Nov. 20. Friday and Sunday hours aren't offered until November.

Saturdays	7 a.m.-3 p.m.	Sept. 18, 25
Mondays	11 a.m.-7 p.m.	Sept. 20, 27
Tuesdays	11 a.m.-7 p.m.	Sept. 21, 28



Shred paper Sept. 1

Get rid of unwanted documents that can't be thrown in the trash.

Wednesday, Sept. 1 | 3-6 p.m.
**Public Works Facility
11522 Minnetonka Blvd.**

Fee and payment: \$2 per full paper grocery bag (limit 6). \$6 per bankers box (limit 2). Plastic bags are not accepted.

Bring cash or checks payable to City of Minnetonka

BRUSH DROP-OFF SITE

The brush drop-off site is open Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Mondays and Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Nov. 20*.

*Closed Sept. 6 for Labor Day.

Learn more

Visit minnetonkamn.gov/yardwaste to learn more, or call 952-988-8400 with questions.

Drive safely when you see a school bus

School is back in session. And that means more school buses on the roads. Follow these rules to keep our children safe.



Always maintain a safe following distance. Keep as much space as possible between your vehicle and the bus in front of you. If you're in front of a school bus, it's important you're paying attention to traffic and situations on the road that might cause you to slam on your brakes.

In traffic, avoid "cutting" in front of a bus. Many bus drivers leave a safe following distance between the bus and the car ahead of them to ensure a safer environment for passengers. Even if your car can fit into the space, drivers should always avoid cutting in front of a bus or transit vehicle.

Watch for buses that are loading or unloading children. Be prepared to stop when the bus stops. The most dangerous area around a school bus is the space 10 feet around the vehicle since this radius falls into the driver's blind spot. Be sure to stop more than 10 feet behind a school bus to allow passengers a safe space for entering and exiting.

NEVER pass a stopped school bus! No matter what state you live in, it's illegal to pass a school bus that has stopped to load or unload children. This rule includes passing a bus from either direction.

Remember: Slow Down. Stay Alert!

Review your fire safety plan this fall

The start of a new school year is the perfect time to review your family's fire safety plan. In an average fire, you have only three minutes to safely escape, so it's important for everyone in the house to know the plan.



Follow these reminders to keep your family safe from fire:

- Have working smoke alarms on every level and in every bedroom.
- Make sure your family has a fire escape plan in place and practice it.
- Know two exits from every room.
- Ensure windows can open and screens can be easily removed.
- Establish a safe family meeting place outside the home.
- Encourage children to know how and when to call 911.
- Have a fire extinguisher and ensure everyone knows how to use it.

For more information or tips, call the Minnetonka Fire Department at 952-939-8598.

Join the Minnetonka Police Explorers

Are you a young adult (age 14-21) interested in law enforcement and serving our community? The Minnetonka Police Explorers are recruiting new members for 2021-22!

Visit minnetonkamn.gov/police-explorers for more information.

Or, contact Officer Heather Olson at 952-939-8500 or holson@minnetonkamn.gov to learn more.

Congratulations to the Minnetonka Police Explorers on their two first-place trophies at the national Public Safety Cadets competition this past July. The explorers won trophies in crisis intervention and burglary response, and we couldn't be prouder.





Pick up fresh produce, meats, breads, treats, flowers and more through Sept. 28.

Tuesdays, Now-Sept. 28
3-7 p.m.

Minnetonka Civic Center Campus
Ice Arena B Parking Lot

For more information and to receive weekly farmers market updates visit: minnetonkamn.gov/farmersmarket.



MOVIES in the Park

Bring your family and friends for a FREE night of cinema under the stars!

NOW SHOWING

Thursday, Sept. 2, 7:45 p.m.

The Sandlot

Friday, Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m.

The Karate Kid

Outdoor amphitheater
on the civic center campus,
14600 Minnetonka Blvd.!



Please call the weather hotline at 952-939-8355, or visit minnetonkamn.gov for weather-related updates.

Register now for youth and adult basketball leagues!

Hit the court this winter to develop your skills, get some exercise, make friends and have fun! Hopkins-Minnetonka Recreation Services offers an outstanding selection of youth and adult basketball leagues for players of all skill levels.

Visit minnetonkamn.gov/register or call 952-939-8203 to learn more and register for one of these great leagues.

Youth Basketball

Grades 2-6

Registration Deadline: Monday, Oct. 4

Boys and girls teams are formed by grade level. Games are on Saturdays at Hopkins West Junior High. Grades 3-6 will have one practice each week, and second graders will practice Saturdays before each game.

Each course number represents one team. If you would like to register with a friend, you must register for the same course number.

- Grade 2: Register for any course number
- Grades 3-6: Select a course number based on desired practice night/location

Volunteer coaches needed!

Call 952-939-8203 to learn more.

Adult Basketball

Registration begins:

- Returning teams: Aug. 30
- New teams: Sept. 6

This 10-week winter league plays on Wednesday evenings. Space is limited. Visit minnetonkamn.gov/adultbasketball to learn more.



Make a difference in the life of a child

We need your support to ensure that our recreation programs remain inclusive and available to all youth. Please consider donating to the Richard Wilson Recreation Scholarship Fund, which gives local youth the chance to participate in important activities like swimming lessons, organized team sports, arts and crafts programs and so much more.



Give online at minnetonkamn.gov/register, or call 952-939-8203.

Thank you for supporting our youngest residents!

Get fit at the Williston Fitness Center

Become a member at the city-owned fitness center and enjoy our fabulous amenities at a rate that can't be beat!

- Indoor tennis courts
- Fitness center
- 25-yard swimming pool
- Group fitness classes
- Whirlpool and sauna
- Splash pad
- Baseball and softball cages
- Treehouse indoor playground
- Basketball court
- Childcare



Visit minnetonkamn.gov/williston for details and membership rates.

Don't miss our last Music
in the Park of the season!

MUSIC IN THE PARK

Presenting ...
Hornacopia! They're
an 11-piece, easy
rock, horn-based
band. And they're
real good.



Tuesday, Sept. 21
6-7:30 p.m.

14600 Minnetonka Blvd. - the outdoor
amphitheater

Enjoy great music with the Minnetonka Concert Band



Free for
all ages!

Sunday, Sept. 26
3 p.m.

Arts Center on 7 at Minnetonka High School
18285 Highway 7, Minnetonka

BURWELL Spooktacular

Wear your best costume and have a spooktacularly
good time at this FREE fall event!



Friday, Oct. 29
5-8 p.m.

Burwell House grounds
13209 E. McGinty Road*

- Spooky scavenger hunt
- Live performers
- Crafts
- Fire department inflatable slide
- Fire pits
- Burwell House tours
- Food vendors

*Free parking is available at St. David's Family Center
(3395 Plymouth Road) and Mills Church (13215 Minnetonka Drive).

NATURAL RESOURCES HAPPENINGS

September
2021

Join Miles for Monarchs to celebrate and increase awareness of monarch migration

Set a personal goal to run, walk, hike, bike, swim, paddle, roll or stroll as many miles as you can from Sept. 8-22. Track and report your progress to help Minnetonka complete at least 2,100 activity miles! Why? Because that's the distance a single monarch must travel from Minnetonka to its overwintering site in Mexico. Impressive, right?



Learn more and register at donate.monarchjointventure.org/MinnetonkaMonarchs2021

Plant for pollinators

Minnetonka's online native plant sale runs through Sept. 10. Visit minnetonkamatters.com/pollinator-month to check available stock and learn about the pick-up event.

Buckthorn Workshop

Thursday, Sept. 16
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Minnetonka Community Center
Community Room

Learn best practices to tackle buckthorn and improve the ecological health of your property, all while saving time and money. Space is limited and registration is required - call 952-988-8400, or visit minnetonkamn.gov/NRsignup.

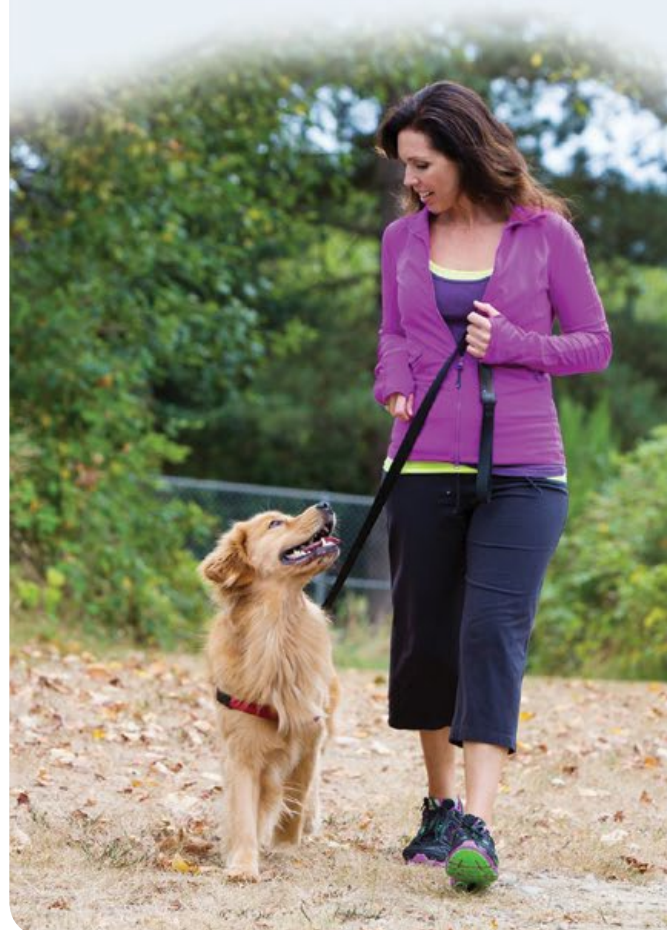


Pick up after your pets

Dogs may be our best friends, but their waste is a serious enemy of the environment, particularly surface waters. Pet owners should always pick up after their pets and properly dispose of the waste in a trash can.

Pet waste left behind doesn't disappear. Instead, runoff (rain, snow melt, etc.) carries it to storm sewers and into our lakes, streams and wetlands. Bacteria and parasites in pet waste pose a health threat to people, pets and wildlife, and the waste feeds algae and aquatic plants to reduce water quality and appearance.

Please pick up after your pets! Your neighbors and the environment will thank you.



City of Minnetonka Calendar

- 1 Park Board, 7 p.m.
- 2 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 6 Labor Day observed, city offices closed
- 9 Economic Development Advisory Commission, 6 p.m.
- 13 City Council, 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Senior Advisory Board, 10 a.m.
- 14 Sustainability Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 28 DEI Task Force, 6:30 p.m.
- 30 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

City meetings will be held in person with the option to participate virtually. 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.



CITY OF
MINNETONKA

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952-939-8200 | minnetonkamn.gov

Mayor

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Council

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Ward 1: Brian Kirk 952-451-6251
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Ward 3: Bradley Schaeppi 612-770-7447
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Ward 4: Kissy Coakley 952-486-9670
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CITY OF MINNETONKA

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON



Photo contest coming soon

There's still time to take a great Minnetonka photo before the city's annual photo contest!



Check out the next issue of the Minnetonka Memo, and stay tuned to minnetonkamatters.com and our social media accounts for the timeline and details.

Winning photos will be featured on the city's website, social media accounts and in the Minnetonka Memo. We can't wait to see the amazing images you've captured in 2021!