



GREETINGS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Happy Holidays and to all good cheer from the City of Brooklyn Center! The Winter City News Newsletter marks the ending of another great year of opportunities to serve all residents, businesses, non-profits, partner organizations, and visitors of Brooklyn Center. In the unfolding pages of this newsletter you will find many stories of COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT. In March of 2015, the City Council established six strategic priorities including:

1. Resident Economic Stability
2. Targeted Redevelopment
3. Enhanced Community Image
4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
5. Strengthen and Empower Youth
6. Key Investments in Infrastructure

Over the past year the City has taken action in each of these strategic priority areas. In 2016, the City initiated a collaborative effort working with businesses, non-profits, educational institutions, governments and community organizations to address economic disparities among Brooklyn Center residents. The City continued with the development of Shingle Creek Crossing and accepted proposals for the redevelopment of the South Opportunity Site area. The City recognized, as spotlighted on page 8, residents for their beautiful landscaping masterpieces and their efforts to help enhance the City's community image. In 2016, the City introduced the new "Rec On The Go" van, which brings recreation programs to 4 local parks and City special events. In the past 12 months, the City also, hosted 20 citizen volunteers as part of the Brooklyn Center Citizens Leadership Academy.

The Brooklyn Citizens Leadership Academy is one great example of many efforts by the City to engage residents. Applications for the 2017 Brooklyn Citizens Leadership Academy Class should be submitted by February 14, 2017.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT is the corner stone of any successful and vibrant city. Strong resident engagement



not only provides the City with a treasure of insights and wisdom from its residents, but it also provides a sense of ownership and community for citizens. The City is proud to have residents who actively live out the spirit of community in Brooklyn Center, whether it be volunteering with the police department or fashioning a landscaping masterpiece. The City thanks each and every resident and business for choosing Brooklyn Center to thrive in and we bid you a Very Merry Holiday Season!

Wishing All Kindness and Care,
Cornelius Boganey, City Manager

THANK YOU!

The City of Brooklyn Center says thank you to the 2016 Class of the Brooklyn Center Citizens Leadership Academy, also known as BCU. In 2016, eight citizen volunteers participated in an in depth introduction to the Brooklyn Center local government. The 2016 BCU Class, learned about city finances, business development, elections, city council, public safety and other services of the City. Their experience included "hands-on" learning of the various city departments, while at the same time engaging in a unique opportunity to meet other citizens and share their skills. Thank you:

- Janet Parrish
- Sheilah Miller
- Janet Arntsen
- Chris Haroldson
- Jack MacMillan
- Barbara Wacek
- Timothy Haroldson
- Mawuli Blabuh

If you are interested in the Academy, the City welcomes you to submit your application by February 14, 2017. The Brooklyn Citizens Leadership Academy is a great example of many efforts by the City to engage residents.

NOTICE TO BROOKLYN CENTER WATER CUSTOMERS

THE CITY'S WATER TREATMENT PLANT IS UP AND RUNNING...

The construction of the City's new water treatment plant was completed and running as of January 2016. The water treatment plant was constructed to remove iron and manganese from the City's public drinking water supply by filtering the water through sand gravity filters and can produce seven million gallons of clean, safe drinking water per day.

WHY DID THE CITY BUILD A WATER TREATMENT PLANT?

In 2012, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) issued a health advisory for a health risk pertaining to the naturally occurring manganese in drinking water supplies.

Manganese occurs naturally and can be found in rock, soil, air, food and in drinking water across Minnesota. Humans require small amounts of manganese to maintain health. In the past, manganese was considered mostly an aesthetic issue in drinking water where high concentrations could cause staining or taste issues. However, recent research indicates that too much manganese may negatively affect human learning and behavior. While there are no federal or state regulations pertaining to concentrations of manganese in drinking water, the MDH issued maximum guidance values for manganese in drinking water of for formula-fed infants and infants that regularly drink tap water (including nursing mothers), and for children and adults – Brooklyn Center exceeded these values in the past.

In light of this potential health risk warning by the MDH, the City Council took action and commissioned a project to construct a new gravity filter water treatment plant.

WHAT WE DIDN'T EXPECT...

While the City disinfected the water both pre- and post-water treatment plant project in order to meet recommended water quality guidelines set by the MDH, we did not expect some residents to experience aesthetic nuisances such as taste and smell of the drinking water. Understanding this to be an issue for some, the City will continue monitoring the drinking water, adjusting the water system and exploring new ways to improve the quality of the water.



WHAT YOU CAN DO...

Continue to Soften Your Water: The upgraded water treatment plant removes manganese and iron from your water, but does NOT soften it. Please continue to use your home softening system as in the past, possibly reducing the rate due to the absence of iron and manganese.

Water Filter: Water filters can minimize aesthetic issues in drinking water. There are many styles of filters on the market. If you chose to purchase one, please ensure you follow manufacturer recommendations and properly maintain the filter.

Take Precautions: The best thing you can do is pay close attention to your water quality. Check the water at the tap and at the washer for discoloration or other issues. If you notice any issues, please contact public works immediately to evaluate.

Thank you for your patience: We are hoping that in the coming years that water quality will meet the expectations of residents. Thank you for the opportunity to server you and for your valuable feedback.

If you have questions or concerns, please call Brooklyn Center Public Works at 763.585.7100, or publicworks@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us or www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org (keyword search: "water treatment plant")



NOVEMBER CITY COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Marquita Butler	4382
Kris Lawrence-Anderson	3897
Phillip e. Gray	3717
Alexander Koenig	3711

'AA' CREDIT RATING RESULTS IN SAVINGS

The Brooklyn Center City Council was informed in September that the City will maintain its 'AA' General Obligation credit rating! The rating was issued by Standard & Poor's (S&P) Rating Services. The assigned rating was in conjunction with the sale of \$5,425,000 General Obligation Improvement and Utility Revenue Bonds. Debt was issued to provide the funding for the City's neighborhood reconstruction project and will be repaid over a ten year period at 1.4%. That interest rate is the lowest achieved on any comparable debt issue in the City's existence, resulting in interest savings and less property taxes needed for the debt repayments.

The 'AA' rating is considered a very high credit rating, defined by S&P as follows: "An issuer rated 'AA' has very strong capacity to meet its financial commitments. It differs from the highest-rated issues only to a small degree." S&P identified very strong management, strong budgetary performance, very strong budgetary flexibility and very strong liquidity as part of the rationale for the rating.

This rating ensures the City will continue to have the ability to borrow money to support key infrastructure investments and redevelopment initiatives at the lowest possible cost to the taxpayers.

S&P is an independent, global company that provides corporate and municipal ratings for communities around the world. The bond markets rely upon their ratings, and S&P uses measurable, unbiased criteria for the basis of the rating.

CREDIT RATINGS		MOODY'S	STANDARD & POOR'S	FITCH
INVESTMENT GRADE ↓ STRONGEST	Aaa	AAA	AAA	
	Aa	AA	AA	
	A	A	A	
	Baa	BBB	BBB	
NON-INVESTMENT GRADE ↑ WEAKEST	Ba	BB	BB	
	B	B	B	
	Caa	CCC	CCC	
	Ca	CC	CC	
	C	C	C	
	C	D	D	

These credit ratings are reflective of obligations with long-term maturities

	Moody's	Standard & Poors	
Highest Quality	Aaa	AAA	Investment Grade
High Quality	Aa	AA	
Upper Medium	A-1, A	A	
Medium	Baa-1, Baa	BBB	
Speculative	Ba	BB	Not Investment Grade
Highly Speculative	B, Caa	B, CCC, CC	
Default	Ca, C	D	

STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM

Please join City staff to learn about the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Commission Conference Room at City Hall, 6301 Shingle Creek Parkway.

In accordance with the General Permit for the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System Permit Program, City staff will present an overview of the City's program and report on the status of implementing storm water best management practices. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity to ask questions and provide public comment. The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program documents are available for public review in the Engineering Division at City Hall between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



Community News

CITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZES RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

On October 24, 2016, the Brooklyn Center City Council recognized persons who were nominated for a Random Acts of Kindness award during 2016. This year there were 26 nominations received.

Random Acts submitted included: donate homemade and homegrown items to the needy; lend a helping hand to neighbors; provide transportation to neighbors; pick up trash in the neighborhood; provide neighborly services such as snow blow a driveway and mow a lawn; perform a mini concert to a homebound resident; donate to a food shelf and local schools; volunteer countless hours at community events and activities; cook meals for a sick or needy neighbor; provide excellent health care to the community; host forums on topics of understanding abuse and domestic violence; host forums for seniors on awareness of scamming and how to protect themselves from fraud; volunteer in the school to help classmates; mentor students; offer space for community gardens; provide free meals to students during summer break; open a free clothing closet; offer food donations; donate to school students; support the Little Free Library; volunteer at church; visit an elderly neighbor

The City Council extended its appreciation to all who participated in this year's Random Acts of Kindness recognition, to those making nominations, and especially to those who have contributed to the quality of life here in Brooklyn Center.

Random Acts of Kindness Nominees

- | | |
|--|---|
| Mark Anderson | Jon Haughey |
| Berisso Bekuto | Pastor Ben Lane, Northbrook Alliance Church |
| Mark Block and Staff, Caribou Coffee & Einstein Bros. Bagels | Keilah Lopez-Pantoja |
| Mr. Branch and Sally Mays, Garden City Elementary School | Michelle Mares |
| Bill Byrnes | Bonnie Nelson, All Nations Fellowship |
| Betty Byrnes | Allan Pierskalla |
| Lisa Cole-Harris | Sharon Pierskalla |
| The Crossings at Brookwood Residents | Courtney Poja, Cornerstone |
| Dr. Robert Drouillard | Joe Schumacher |
| Lisa Fuglie | Renee Schumacher |
| DaraLynn, Tom, and Staff, Georgetown Park Townhouses | Christine Twait, Partners in Nutrition |
| Phillip Gray | Michael Wilkinson and Staff, McDonald's |
| Jay Haapala, AARP | Kristin Wolf, Walmart Manager |

Pictures of award recipients can be found on the City's website at www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org.



Courtney Poja



Keilah Lopez-Pantoja



FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Nearly 29.5% of Brooklyn Center's population reported as Black or African American in the U.S. Census Bureau 2010-2014 American Community Survey. Black History Month has been celebrated since 1976, thanks to the efforts of African-American historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson. The President of the United States of America annually proclaims February as National African American History Month and encourages all citizens to gain awareness of and appreciation for African-American history.

Our Community

COFFEE WITH A COP

On September 9th, the Brooklyn Center Police Department held their fourth Coffee with a Cop event. This event is held every three months and has been held at Caribou Coffee and McDonald's. The focus of this event was to get the community out and to meet with officers. Everyone from the Chief of Police to the Community Service Officers participate in this event. This most recent event had a slightly different focus and was called Cone with a Cop and was held at McDonalds. The previous events had been to get adults from the community out to meet with officers over a cup of coffee. This event was held to focus on kids. This was the most attended event so far, by both the community and the department. Nearly 20 police department employees attended and approximately 100 citizens met with officers and shared stories over ice cream cones. These events have resulted in some great conversations and building strong relationships with the citizens of the city. These events will continue and are advertised on the city website and Facebook page.

In the first week of August the Brooklyn Center Police Department, along with elected officials and city staff went out and visited the 56 registered block parties for National Night Out. This was a good opportunity to positively interact with residents and provide updates on crime statistics and department initiatives. This event was preceded by the National Night Out Kick-off Party at Centennial Park. This event featured several police and fire emergency vehicles, bike safety and several other community resources.

In support of National Night out the Brooklyn Center Police Department hosted a Neighborhood Watch Captains Training earlier in the year. This training focused on identifying ways to increase diversity attendance at neighborhood meetings, block parties and amongst our watch captains. We will be hosting an appreciation dinner for the Watch Captains on December 6th at 6pm in Constitution Hall.

The Police Department has continued its involvement with the Joint Community Police Partnership (JCPP). In conjunction with the JCPP the department has formed a



Multi-cultural Advisory Committee (MAC). The MAC is comprised of local residents who meet with the police department every fourth Tuesday of the month to discuss police-community relations and other topics impacting the community. Along with assisting in planning community dialogue sessions the MAC also weighed in and gave input on the police department's body camera policy.

Through the JCPP the police department has also been able to fund two Cadet officers and during the past year the Brooklyn Center PD has hired former Cadet Houa Moua as a police officer.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

As summer comes to an end and the fall season begins, we would like to remind the community of a few goals we have been working on this year. We've been working hard to combat many crimes, including: burglaries, automobile thefts, thefts from automobiles, and various juvenile issues. History has shown that in order to most efficiently and effectively combat the crimes, we need your help! You are the important eyes and ears of Brooklyn Center. You are the experts of your neighborhoods. We have received many important calls and tips from you which have helped us in the fight against crime. Please remember to call 911 to report suspicious activities that you observe...no matter how minor or petty you feel it is. Many times it's the small details that will lead to the resolution of bigger problems. Please believe us when we say that your phone call and information is not a burden on the Police Department or a waste of time.

Also, as the weather continues to turn colder, it is important to not leave your vehicles running unattended with the keys in the ignition. It is a common crime of opportunity for motor vehicle thieves that can be avoided. Although it is convenient, "open ignition" is a city ordinance violation and can lead to a high cost and burden to the owner. We welcome your cooperation.

Have a safe rest of the year!

Winter Safety

FIRE HYDRANTS

With the Winter Season almost upon us, the Brooklyn Center Fire Department would like to ask residents to assist in keeping Fire Hydrants clear of snow and ice. Snow and Ice can impact access to and possibly hide Fire Hydrants from firefighters. If possible please keep a 3ft path around all fire hydrants so that they are visible and firefighters can easily connect hoses to it.



HEATING SAFETY

Keep portable heaters three feet from anything flammable. Turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep. Never use your oven to heat your home. Have your home heating system and chimney cleaned and inspected annually.



WINTER FIRES

Most home fires occur in the winter and peak in January. Please keep all doors and windows that could be used for an escape route clear of snow and ice. Keep all vents – fireplace, dryer, furnace and oven – clear of snow, ice and debris. Use flashlights, not candles, if you lose power



CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed within 10 feet of each sleeping room or has to be outside of each sleeping room. You should test your CO alarm monthly along with your smoke detectors. If your CO alarm sounds and you feel ill, call 911 immediately. If your alarm goes off.



SAFE WINTER DRIVING – TIPS TO KEEP YOU SAFE

If you must drive in snowy and icy road conditions, be sure to allow extra time for travel. The following safe driving techniques will help you safely arrive at your destination:

- Check local news for weather and traffic reports and watch electronic highway signs for up-to-date information. Watch for icy surfaces on bridges, even when the rest of the road seems to be in good condition. Bridge decks tend to ice up first.
- Clear snow and ice from all windows, lights and even the hood and roof before driving.
- Drive with your headlights on.
- Drive slower than the posted speed limits, which are speeds intended for dry pavement. Maintain control of your vehicle and don't use cruise control which automatically accelerates at times.
- Look farther ahead in traffic. Leave plenty of room between you and the vehicle in front of you, including snow plows. Stay back at least 10 car lengths (200-feet) and don't pass on the right.
- Don't pump anti-lock brakes if your car is equipped with anti-lock brakes. The right way is to "stomp and steer."
- Use your blinkers and do not cut in front of vehicles and trucks, which take longer to stop.
- Don't get overconfident with four-wheel drive. Four-wheel drive helps you get going quicker but it won't help you stop any faster.
- Concentrate on driving and your surroundings. Put your phone down.

Many drivers are nervous about driving in winter weather conditions. Being patient with other drivers will promote safer driving habits, as well as improve your mental health while driving.



LET IT SNOW – BUT HELP US KEEP THE STREETS CLEAR AND SAFE

The City of Brooklyn Center typically receives high marks from residents for snow clearing activities. Cooperation of residents and businesses is key to the timely and safe clearing of streets and sidewalks.

Street snow removal operations typically begin when there is more than 2.5 inches of snowfall or if other conditions warrant plowing. Sidewalk snow removal begins with one-inch or more of snowfall. Crews begin plowing as soon as the storm subsides.

The City streets are divided into ten districts with plows assigned to each district. The arterial streets will be cleared first followed by the residential streets. The snow plow must make several passes up and down the street to remove the snow: two to clear the center and two or more to widen the street from gutter to gutter. Because plowing routes are long, it may be one hour or more between the clearing pass and the final widening pass. Please keep all cars out of the street until the plow has finished plowing both sides of the roadway.

We apologize in advance for plugged driveways, which are unavoidable side effects of well-plowed streets and sidewalks. To reduce the frustration of shoveling out the end of your driveway twice, we suggest you wait until the street is plowed to its full width. Please do not place the snow from the end of your driveway back into the street.

Please help keep fire hydrants clear of snow. In the event of a fire, valuable time may be lost if the Fire Department has to locate or remove snow from a hydrant. (See more on page 6).

Please remind your children not to build snow forts or play in the snow piles made by the plows. The plow operators often cannot see children in the snow banks and they could be buried in the snow or seriously hurt.

The City will repair or replace properly installed mailboxes that are damaged by direct contact with snow removal equipment. The City will not assume responsibility for damage simply caused from snow pressure or improper installation or maintenance. Also, in the spring City crews will repair any snow plow damage to your lawn that occurred by City plows over the winter.

The boulevard area, generally 10-15 feet from the edge of the street, is reserved for snow storage and utilities. The City will not repair or replace items damaged in the boulevard during snowplowing operations.

To report an unsafe icy road condition, please call the Public Works Maintenance Facility at 763-585-7100 Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For after-hour emergencies, please call 911.



CURBSIDE CLEANUP COMING

In 2017 you'll be able to do some heavy duty spring cleaning. That's because the city will be holding a special curbside collection day for bulky items and other trash.



You will be able to get rid of up to two appliances, unusable furniture, mattresses, carpet, material from your home improvement project and general junk.

Place the material at the curb on your pickup day and our crews will take it away. This program is available to all residents in single-family homes, townhomes and multiunit buildings up to 8 units that participate in the curbside recycling program.

We'll have more information in the spring newsletter. We'll also mail a postcard in March with dates and a complete list of what's accepted. Or check out our recycling website www.hrg-recycling.com and click on Bulky Waste Curbside Clean Up.

Farewell Summer

2016 LANDSCAPE AND GARDEN SPOTLIGHTS

Thank you to owners of the following three properties who participated in this year's Landscape and Garden Spotlight. On October 10, 2016, the City Council recognized these property owners, commending them for their dedication to beautifying their yard. These properties clearly signify the time and care that went into creating and maintaining these beautiful masterpieces.



Going Environmental

IMPORTANT NEWS REGARDING THE CITY'S SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

The Brooklyn Center Public Utilities Division responds to many after hour emergency calls indicating pump failures at various lift stations. Some of these alarms were late at night and in each response, the alarm was activated due to rags, disinfecting wipes, dust wipes or disposable diapers that were tangled or stuck in pumps. Grease was also a major culprit in clogging the pumps. When a pump failure occurs there is a chance of a sewer backup that could affect numerous properties. Sewer backups are very costly and pose a serious threat to the health and safety of residents.

Citizens play an important role in preventing these type of occurrences. Please do not flush anything down the toilet that could clog the sewer collection system or anything that could damage the wastewater pumping or treatment facility. These prohibited items include:

- Disinfecting wipes, dust wipes, disposable diapers, paper towels, feminine products and other bulky so called "disposable" products or similar substances
- Fats, oils or greases
- Flammable or explosive liquids, solids or gases
- Garbage, sand, metals, wood, straw or grass, wastepaper, plastics, glass and cat litter (including so called "flushable" cat litter)
- Corrosive substances that are either acidic or caustic
- Any substance that is toxic to the treatment facilities or workers in the facilities
- Dye wastes or tanning solutions
- Anything radioactive

These items cause many problems in the property owner's line in addition to the sanitary sewer main. These products do not deteriorate quickly; as does bathroom tissue. They can become lodged in portions of the lateral/main, causing a sewer backup. These products must be disposed of properly in your household garbage, recycling, or by other approved waste gathering means.

If you experience a sewer backup problem, please call the



City Public Utility Division immediately at the phone number listed below. City Public Utility personnel will respond and determine if the blockage is in the City sewer line or your private sewer line at no charge.

If you hire a private sewer cleaning service and they remove tree roots, please notify the City to prevent a possible secondary backup from occurring. A secondary backup can occur when roots cleaned from private house sewer lines get lodged in the main City sewer line. If unchecked, this could result in a sewer backup in your basement as well as your neighbor's basement.

Please use care and dispose of products responsibly. Proper waste disposal and care of our sanitary sewer system leads to higher efficiency, causes fewer backups, costs us all less money and prevents a lot of misery. If you experience a sewer back up, please contact the City Public Utility Division at 763-585-7100 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. After hours, weekends and holidays, please call 911 and they will dispatch Public Utility personnel.

FROZEN WATER LINES

When the weather is cold, as experienced in the winter of 2015, there is a potential for your water service to freeze out in the street and prevent your home from getting water.

The following are guidelines to follow if you suspect that your waterline may be frozen:

1. If you have had a frozen water service in the past, you will receive a letter from the Utility Department to get on the waterline freeze prevention program in early January.
2. If you experience no or reduced water pressure, please call the City immediately.
3. If the waterline is frozen, you will receive a Frozen Water Service Line Repair Agreement and Waiver. Once this is signed, the City will make every effort to assist the homeowner with thawing of the water service.
4. Once the water service is thawed, you will need to get on the freeze prevention program immediately.

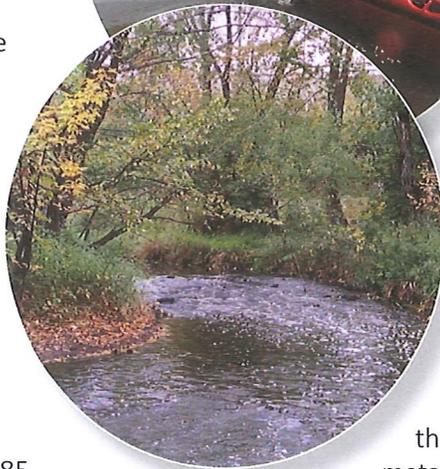
If your pipes are frozen or you have questions, please contact the Utility Billing Division at (763) 569-3390, Monday- Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm. After hours, contact 911 (Hennepin County Dispatch) and City Public Works staff will be notified.

Going Environmental

A LOW SALT DIET FOR SHINGLE CREEK

Most of us who live and work in Brooklyn Center are familiar with Shingle Creek. It is an 11 mile long creek that winds through our City and many others throughout the area. It collects drainage from 43 square-miles in nine cities throughout Hennepin County. Shingle Creek has been designated as an Impaired Water by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Environmental Protection Agency because of high levels of chloride contamination. Most of the contamination comes from winter de-icing salt.

Winter de-icing salt is used throughout the winter months to control ice buildup on roads, parking lots, sidewalks and driveways. About 85 percent of the chloride in Shingle Creek is estimated to come from the salt used to keep roads clear. The remaining amount of chloride comes from the salt used to keep parking lots, walkways, driveways and private roads



clear. All this adds up to a lot of salt being used, which ends up in our lakes, streams and wetlands.

Municipalities are required to reduce the amount of salt used for snow and ice removal activities. Many organizations are also researching and investing in new technology and materials that allow less salt to be used without compromising public safety.

You can help reduce chloride pollution by:

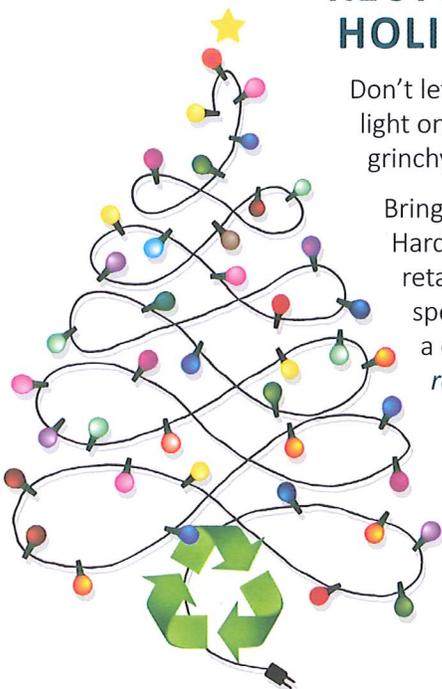
- Shovel or plow first- Less snow build up means less ice.
- Only use salt when necessary and where needed- Such as on slopes or high traffic areas.
- Use alternative products- Such as calcium magnesium acetate (CMA).
- Read labels- Know what you are applying and the effects of exposure. Some chemicals damage metal and concrete, kill lawns and harm pets.
- Temperature matters- Salt is less effective in low temperatures. When the temperature falls below 15°F consider using sand as an alternative to salt.

RECYCLE YOUR HOLIDAYS

Don't let holiday lights that won't light on one side make you feel grinchy.

Bring your used lights to Ace Hardware or other participating retailers and place them in their special recycling bins. To find a drop-off location visit www.recycleyourholidays.org

Don't put lights in your curbside recycling cart. Strings, chains, hoses, etc. get wrapped around the machinery at the sorting facility and end up in the trash.



CREWS TRIMMING BOULEVARD TREES THIS WINTER

Throughout this winter, City crews will be trimming boulevard trees in parts of the City. The purpose of this trimming is to remove tree branches that are obstructing City streets, sidewalks, street signs or lights. Crews may also prune dead or dangerous limbs.

The primary objective of City tree trimming is to trim the street side of the tree to allow movement of the tallest pieces of street maintenance equipment on the streets. Property owners are responsible for aesthetic trimming, which they may do at any time.

City Ordinances Sections 20 and 25 explain the City's tree trimming policies and are available for viewing on the City Website. If you have questions about the City's boulevard tree maintenance program or procedures please contact:

Public Works Department at 763-585-7100, Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation

REC ON THE GO

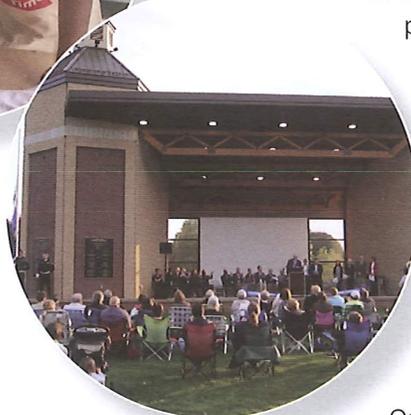
You may have noticed the new Rec On The Go van in the Community Center parking lot or around the City this summer. 2016 was the first year bringing recreation programs out to 4 local parks and City special events with the Rec On The Go van.

In the spring of 2016 the Cities of Brooklyn Center and Brooklyn Park with the Brooklyn Bridge Alliance for Youth were awarded a Hennepin County Youth Sports Program Facility Grant. This grant allowed each City to purchase a new vehicle to implement a new service program to bring recreation programs out to our neighborhoods. Through dedicated funding in each city the Rec On The Go program is offered at no cost to youth.

For 10 weeks this summer the Rec On The Go van and staff visited 4 parks in the City (Grandview, Kylawn, Garden City and Evergreen Parks) two times a week for 90 minutes each visit. Youth could walk, bike or get a ride to the program where they played group games, made craft projects, socialized, danced, hunted for frogs and bugs, and made new friends. Partnerships with Three Rivers Park District to bring in nature programming and Partners In Nutrition to bring in free meals daily to the youth enhanced this program. Over the 10 weeks of the program there were 2,147 youth visits!

Through this new program offering we broke down the participation barriers of transportation and fees, brought youth outside to the parks and introduced youth to recreational programming provided by the Community Activities, Recreation and Services Department.

Watch for Rec On The Go program to come to a park near you in summer 2017!



ENTERTAINMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

In October of 2015 the City dedicated the Brooklyn Center Centennial Civic and Veterans Memorial Amphitheater. The Amphitheater is the product of years of fundraising by a dedicated committee and numerous donations by generous contributors.

For the inaugural season of Entertainment In The Park, a community committee volunteered their time, talents and ideas. The committee made up of Michelle Auld, Sharon Kephart, Jack MacMillan, Kaysone Syonesa, Judy Thorbus and staff liaison Sue LaCrosse, met several times to review potential entertainers, bands, theater groups and movies. Working with a budget, the committee planned an amazing season of entertainment, which included a variety of groups performing jazz, rock & roll, African, Irish Pipe, bluegrass, children's and community band music. Adding to the fun, the Brooklyn Center Lions Club sold refreshments.

One of the highlights of the summer was the addition of Movies In The Park.

The Entertainment Planning Committee selected three family friendly movies for 2016. The movies were well attended with families coming with their blankets, sleeping bags, chairs, and snacks. The Amphitheater is the perfect venue for Movies In The Park and the recreation department looks forwarding to expanding the number of movies next year.

The 2017 planning committee will be meeting soon to start planning for next year's Entertainment In The Park program. If you are interested in joining this fun committee, please call (763) 569-3400. Time commitment would be approximately four to five meetings.

City Information

City of Brooklyn Center

6301 Shingle Creek Parkway
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430-2199

www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org

e-mail: info@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us

City Hall (763) 569-3300

Job Information Line (763) 569-3307

City CONTACTS

City Manager

Curt Boganey (763) 569-3300

Council Members

Mayor Tim Willson

Voicemail: (763) 569-3450

mayorwillson@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us

Councilmember April Graves

Voicemail: (763) 569-3448

councilmembergraves@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us

Councilmember Kris Lawrence-Anderson

Voicemail: (763) 569-3444

councilmemberlawrence-anderson@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us

Councilmember Lin Myszkowski

Voicemail: (763) 569-3447 (through 12.31.16)

councilmembermyszkowski@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us

Councilmember Dan Ryan

Voicemail: (763) 569-3445

councilmemberryan@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us

Councilmember Elect Marquita Butler (beginning 1.1.17)

Voicemail: (763) 569-3446 (activated 1.1.17)

councilmemberbutler@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us

City COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Council Regular Session meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 7 pm.

Informal Open Forum is held at 6:45 pm before Council meetings for persons who wish to address the City Council about issues not scheduled on the agenda.

City Council Work Sessions are held immediately following the Regular Session City Council meetings.

City Council Meetings are broadcast live on cable Channel 16. Replays shown Tuesdays at 6:30 pm and Wednesdays at 2:30 am and 10:30 am. You may also watch City Council meetings on-line, on demand at your convenience through a link on the City website. Call City Hall to verify meeting dates or visit the City's website at www.cityofbrooklyncenter.org.



City PHONE NUMBERS

Administration	(763) 569-3300
Building/Community Standards	(763) 569-3330
Inspection Scheduling	(763) 569-3344
Code Enforcement	(763) 569-3473
Ownership Services	(763) 569-3310
Business & Development	(763) 569-3335
Public Works/Engineering	(763) 569-3340
Finance.....	(763) 569-3320
Utility Billing	(763) 569-3390
Community Center	(763) 569-3400
Activity Weather Line	(763) 569-3442
Earle Brown Heritage Center	(763) 569-6300
Centerbrook Golf Course	(763) 549-3750
Fire	(763) 549-3600
Police (General Info)	(763) 569-3333
Emergency & Non-Emergency Officer Assistance.....	911



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