

Golden Valley

CITYNEWS

Ordinance Addresses I/I Problem

At its September 19 meeting, the Golden Valley City Council amended the City's municipal utility code to comply with Metropolitan Council directives regarding illegal discharges of clear water into the sanitary sewer system. The amended ordinance will allow the City to inspect private properties to ensure there are no illegal connections to the sanitary sewer system that contribute to excess peak flow discharges.

The goal of the inspection program is to reduce inflow and infiltration (I/I), which is the flow of clear water (rain water or groundwater) into the sanitary sewer system. Cities with excessive I/I will be subject to regional wastewater surcharges starting in January 2007. To minimize that possibility, the City will begin I/I inspections in fall 2006. It will also provide citizens with information to explain the program in detail and answer questions. Watch *CityNews*, the City Web site, and your mail for dates and times.

I/I Problem

Inflow and infiltration (I/I) comes from two major sources. Infiltration occurs when groundwater seeps into sanitary sewer pipes through cracks or joints. Inflow is usually traced to sump pumps (used by many homeowners to keep groundwater out of their basements), roof downspouts, and foundation drains connected to the City's sanitary sewer system. Sump pumps are often connected via a hose leading from the sump to a laundry tub or a floor drain.

Because the sanitary sewer system was not designed to handle this excess clear water, it becomes overloaded during times of high groundwater or heavy rainfall and can cause basement flooding or bypassing of raw wastewater to local streams and lakes. Besides being pollutants, these overloads make

(I/I Ordinance continued on page 2)

Inside:

PARKS SURVEY

Interested in the future of Golden Valley's parks? Complete the survey inside and share your opinions.

As part of the City's parks planning initiative, the City Council is focusing this year on developing a vision for Golden Valley park and recreation facilities. The City also solicited citizen input via information meetings in parks and a survey of youth athletic association leaders. A City-wide phone survey is planned for November (see page 3). Input received will help the City Council make future decisions.

The survey was developed by citizen volunteers and City staff, with input from Decision Resources, Inc, the company that created the City's last community-wide survey in 1999. Questions? Contact the Park and Recreation Department at 763-512-2345.



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I/I ORDINANCE

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the cost of treating wastewater much more expensive to all members of the community.

THE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Over the next several years, the City will inspect homes and businesses in Golden Valley to determine if sump pumps, foundation drains, roof drains, and other clean water sources are connected to the sanitary sewer system. Property owners who apply for plumbing permits, variances, subdivisions, or other actions from the City will also be subject to an inspection. All inspections will be pre-scheduled, will be performed by trained inspectors wearing photo ID badges, and should take less than an hour.

Upon arrival, inspectors will need access to the basement and the sewer clean out. If the property complies with the City ordinance, a certificate of compliance will be provided to the property owner and a copy placed on file with the City.

If a property does not comply with the City Ordinance, the inspector will provide the property owner a copy of the form delineating the problem(s). The property owner will then be responsible for making the corrections and calling for a re-inspection so a certificate of compliance can be issued. All necessary changes must be completed and re-inspected within 90 days of the first inspection or the property owner may be subject to a \$500/month surcharge.

The City will conduct I/I inspections as part of its annual Pavement Management Program (PMP). For example, properties located in the 2007 PMP area will be inspected in 2006, and properties located in the 2008 PMP area will be inspected in 2007. In addition, effective January 1, 2007, all properties in Golden Valley will also be inspected and required to be in compliance before they can be sold.

If you have questions about I/I, the municipal utility code, or the private property inspection program, contact Golden Valley Public Works at 763-593-8030.

Council Adopts Proposed Budget/Levy for 2007

Increased expenditures and a decision to use fewer City reserve funds are key factors behind the 6.26% increase in Golden Valley's proposed 2007 City tax levy. As required by state law, the City Council certified a preliminary levy of \$14,097,965 at its September 5 meeting. Before the end of the year, the Council will hold additional meetings to take public input and approve a final budget and tax levy (see Truth In Taxation information on page 9). The preliminary levy can be lowered, but not raised, when the Council adopts the actual 2007 levy in December.

Part of the \$780,000 increase in the City's proposed General Fund Levy is because the City is using less in General Fund reserves to balance the 2007 budget. This was done to maintain the City's reserve funds, which are an important factor in determining the City's bond rating and paying for services in the year they are needed.

The rest of the proposed increase in expenditures (\$631,005) includes salary and benefit increases, the mandate to update the City's Comprehensive Plan by 2008, a residential maintenance assistance program, a part-time receptionist for Public Works Maintenance, and increased hours for the assistant city forester.

For a detailed account of how your City tax dollars are spent, see pages 8 and 9. If you have questions about the City's proposed 2007 tax levy, contact Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010.

CITY TAX LEVY

	Actual 2006	Proposed 2007
General Fund Levy	\$ 9,835,000	\$ 10,615,000
Fire Relief Levy	\$ 40,745	\$ 0
Tax Abatement Levy	\$ 367,215	\$ 367,215
Sub-Total	\$ 10,242,960	\$ 10,982,215
Bonded Debt Levy:		
Street Improvement Bonds	\$ 2,325,000	\$ 2,415,750
Equipment Certificates	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000
Sub-Total	\$ 3,025,000	\$ 3,115,750
Total Levy	\$ 13,267,960	\$ 14,097,965
Percentage Increase 6.26%		



Experience "A TASTE OF THE GOLDEN TOUCH"

The Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF) invites the community to experience an evening of great food and good company to benefit human service needs in the community.

For more information or to get tickets, contact Jeanne Fackler (763-512-2340, or jfackler@ci.golden-valley.mn.us) or Brenda Foster (ebf2006@yahoo.com).

"A TASTE OF THE GOLDEN TOUCH"

Friday, November 17, 2006

6:30-10:30 pm

Golden Valley Country Club

Tickets: \$25

City To Survey Residents About Services, Goals

What do Golden Valley residents think of their city and the services their tax dollars buy? To keep track over the years, the City Council commissioned Decision Resources, Ltd, to conduct community surveys in 1995, 1999, and 2001. In November the City will conduct another survey to gauge citizen opinion on everything from satisfaction with City services to knowledge of long-range community planning.

The 1999 and 2001 surveys were components of *Envision Golden Valley*, the City's community visioning process. Each time, professional interviewers polled 400 residents by telephone on a variety of community issues. The 2006 survey will continue that work, checking in with citizens about community planning for the future, City services, and use of resources.

These statistically valid random sample surveys yield results projectable to the entire universe of Golden Valley residents within plus or minus five percentage points in 95 out of 100 cases, explains Bill Morris of Decision Resources.

Decision Resources' clients include metro area cities such as Plymouth, Maple Grove, St Louis Park, Crystal, New Hope, Bloomington, Minnetonka, Burnsville, Richfield, and Eagan, as well as school districts and corporations.

For more information about the upcoming community survey, contact Assistant City Manager Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014. 



Addition To City LISTSERVE Helps PREVENT CRIME

Golden Valley residents can now benefit from up-to-date crime trend and prevention information by joining the City's Community Crime Prevention Update, a high-tech block club that shares ongoing safety information and news about area crime through timely email messages and an online discussion group.

Community Crime Prevention Update will enhance the well-established and successful Neighborhood Watch program already in place in the City. To subscribe, go to *GV DirectConnect*, Golden Valley's email subscription service at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us. Or, contact Crime Prevention Specialist Joanne Paul at 763-593-8058. 

development Update

Construction in Golden Valley has been strong in 2006. Through August, the City issued more than 2,000 building permits totaling more than \$51 million. Some of the more visible projects are described below.

- Allianz is nearing completion on a 200,000-square-foot addition at Xenia and I-394. It links to the main facility and includes an expanded parking deck, auditorium, exercise area, and employee lunch area.
- The Golden Valley Shopping Center (west of Winnetka on Hwy 55) is adding three to six new shops in the vicinity of the former B. Dalton book store. Completion of the 9,500-square-foot building is expected by the end of the year. For leasing information, contact Ron Trach at 952-926-7621.
- The former Golden Hills Shopping Center at Turner's Crossroad and I-394 is adding a new 179-seat restaurant. The Good Day Café will open later this fall, joining the building's main tenant, the Metropolitan.
- Rudy Luther Toyota recently opened its rebuilt facility at 8805 Wayzata Blvd, and construction has begun on an adjacent 67,429-square-foot Land Rover and Jaguar dealership.



THE GOLDEN VALLEY BUSINESS CENTER IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN 2007.

Completion is anticipated next spring.

- The Golden Valley Business Center (pictured above) is under construction at 4310 Dahlberg Dr on former railroad property that was subdivided by the City's Housing and Redevelopment Authority. It includes six office/warehouse condominium buildings totaling 31,500 square feet. Units ranging from 1,500 to 6,000 square feet (21,000 square feet total) are still available for purchase. Completion is expected in 2007. For more information, contact Lisa Christianson at 952-393-1212. 

Languishing LEAVES DIMINISH WATER QUALITY

Leaves blowing into lakes, ponds, and streams may be a lovely sign of autumn, but leaves contain phosphorus which, in abundance, is not helpful to water health.

You can help keep Golden Valley's waterways clear by properly disposing of leaves and grass throughout the year (see article at right). Proper disposal means not raking leaves and grass into the street, where they can clog storm drains and enter the storm sewer system.

When leaves end up in bodies of water, they decompose and produce phosphorus. This is the same phosphorus found in fertilizer that makes lawns green, so it's not surprising it feeds the vegetation in water. It also fosters a cycle of death.

As surface weeds and algae grow, they block sunlight from the bottom. Bottom plants, which provide food for ducks, fish, and other marine life, die from lack of light. As they decompose, oxygen-consuming bacteria blossoms to help them break down. The loss of oxygen makes it very difficult for most aquatic life to live.

When you prevent leaves from settling in waterways, you ultimately help protect water quality.

For more details on phosphorus, visit the City Web site (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/environment/waterresources.htm).

Mark Your Calendar For The Fall Leaf Drop-Off

For the past 15 years, a sign of autumn in Golden Valley has been residents bagging their beautiful leaves and recycling them through the annual *Fall Leaf Drop-Off*.

The *Fall Leaf Drop-Off* provides residents a place to dispose of their leaves at no charge during the last weekend in October and the first weekend in November (see box). As in previous years, the drop-off site this year will be at Brookview Park, south of Hwy 55 at Winnetka Ave. During drop-off days, Brookview Parkway becomes a one-way road. All traffic must enter the site from Winnetka Ave S and exit on Western Ave.

City personnel will direct vehicles to drop-off points, where other personnel will help residents unload or de-bag leaves.



GUIDELINES

- Participants must provide proof of Golden Valley residency (Minnesota driver's license, ID, or proof of identity and address).
- Residents must untie leaf bags, help de-bag their leaves at the site, and take the bags home for reuse or disposal (see tips below for conserving bags). No brush will be accepted.
- Residents hauling loose leaves must help unload their leaves at the site (see tips below for loading loose leaves).

Fall Leaf Drop-Off

Four Days Only

Brookview Park (south of Hwy 55 at Winnetka Ave)

Friday, October 27, 8 am–4 pm

Saturday, October 28, 7 am–1 pm

Friday, November 3, 8 am–4 pm

Saturday, November 4, 7 am–1 pm

Golden Valley RECYCLES



The Golden Valley Recycling Program is partially funded by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners.

Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 25
Christmas	regular pick-up
New Year's '07	regular pick-up
Memorial Day '07	Sat, June 2
Fourth of July '07	Sat, July 7
Labor Day '07	Sat, Sept 8

Missed Pick-Ups

If your recycling is missed on Friday, call Waste Management at 952-890-1100 before noon on the following Monday.

If you have specific recycling questions, call 763-593-8030.

SUGGESTIONS

- For fast unloading and to conserve your bags, leave them untied. A parking area will be provided for residents to untie their bags before getting in line.
- If you're hauling loose leaves, line the trailer or truck bed with a tarp before loading the leaves. To unload, help the workers lift the corners of the tarp and dump the leaves into the drop-off area.

If you miss the *Leaf Drop-Off*, contact your garbage hauler for its policies and rates or check the *Yellow Pages* for names of commercial yard waste processing sites. The Maple Grove Yard Waste Site (14796 101st Ave N) accepts leaves and brush up to 10 inches in diameter for \$7/cubic yard April through November. Grass is accepted for \$13/cubic yard June through September and \$7/cubic yard other months. Open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 7 pm, and Sunday, noon to 7 pm. Site closes November 30 and re-opens April 1 each year. For more information, contact the Yard Waste Site directly at 763-420-8971 or visit www.mgyardwaste.com.

If you have questions about the Leaf Drop-Off or yard waste in general, call Public Works at 763-593-8030.

Unload Unwants At Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day

Golden Valley's third annual *Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day* offers an opportunity to clean out unwanted household items in a cost-friendly, environmentally safe way.

This year's *Mighty Tidy Day* is Saturday, October 14, 8 am to 1 pm, at Brookview Park. Residents can dispose of mattresses, sofas, broken bicycles, tires, old appliances, computers, and televisions (see box below for list of items and fees). Textiles such as clothes, footwear, purses, and belts are accepted at no charge. Items must be dry and somewhat clean.

Why PARTICIPATE?

According to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MnPCA), Minnesota leads the country in diverting solid waste away from landfills to resource recovery facilities. Still, the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (MOEA) reports solid waste generation in the Metro region will increase from 3.3 million total tons in 2000 to 4.5 million tons by 2010 and 6 million tons by 2020. MOEA also reports that much of the discarded materials contain toxins that threaten public health and the environment.

Thanks to the 2005 *Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day*, the City collected 18 tons of bulk waste, more than two-and-a-half tons of steel, 88 appliances, 7,200 lbs of electronics, 659 lbs of batteries, 284 fluorescent bulbs, and 75 tires.

How To PARTICIPATE

Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day is open only to Golden Valley residents. Proof of residency will be required at the entrance.

Enter Brookview Parkway (it will be a one-way road for the event) from the north along Winnetka Ave. Workers will collect the appropriate fee (see list below) and direct you to one of three lots: Lot 1—electronics, tires, batteries, light bulbs, and textiles; Lot 2—scrap metal and appliances; Lot 3—sofas, chairs, mattresses, and miscellaneous items (construction debris, lumber, swing sets, bricks, etc).

No hazardous waste (motor oil, asbestos, cleaning solvents, pool chemicals, etc) is accepted. See sidebar for disposal information.

For more information on *Mighty Tidy Day*, call Golden Valley's Environmental Coordinator at 763-593-8046.

Mighty Tidy Day Disposal Costs

LOT 1

ELECTRONICS

TV monitor \$15
 Console TV \$25
 Small electronics \$ 8

TIRES/BATTERIES/BULBS

Car tire \$ 5
 Truck tire \$ 7
 Tire rims \$ 2
 Batteries \$ 3
 Bulbs \$ 2

TEXTILES no charge

LOT 2

SCRAP METAL

Clean metal no charge
 Other (bikes, etc) ... \$ 5

APPLIANCES

Non-refrigeration \$20
 Freon units \$24

LOT 3

Bulk ITEMS

Mattress/Box Spring (any size) \$15
 Couch \$20
 Hide-A-Bed \$25
 Chair (small) \$ 5
 Chair (large) \$10

MISC ITEMS \$18/yard

Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day

Saturday, October 14

8 am–1 pm

Brookview Park
 (south of Hwy 55 at
 Winnetka Ave)

More Recycling Options



Use the following resources to keep unwanted items out of area landfills.

Recycling CENTERS

The Hennepin County Transfer Stations accept many electronics and some household hazardous waste at no charge. For details, look for the environment link at www.co.hennepin.mn.us, or call 612-348-3777, Monday–Friday, 8 am–4:30 pm.

- Hennepin County Recycling Center and Transfer Station (8100 Jefferson Hwy, Brooklyn Park), 612-348-3777
- South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Waste Drop-Off Center (1400 W 96th St, Bloomington), 612-348-3777

Hennepin County Environmental Services also has an "A–Z How-To-Get-Rid-Of-It Guide" for households.

Recyclopedia

The *Recyclopedia* is a 32-page alphabetical guide to safe disposal practices. Listings range from businesses that take used building materials to those that take used eyeglasses. The *Recyclopedia* extensively covers proper hazardous waste disposal as well as ways to reduce waste, reuse resources, and recycle more. It is produced cooperatively by the Cities of Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Plymouth, St Louis Park, and the West Hennepin Recycling Commission Cities of Greenfield, Independence, Long Lake, Loretto, Maple Plain, Medina, and Orono.

Copies are available at Golden Valley City Hall or by calling Public Works at 763-593-8030.

More recycling resources can be found online:

- www.greenguardian.com
- www.moea.state.mn.us

Recreation OPPORTUNITIES

Find details on the following Recreation Opportunities in the Fall Recreation Activities Brochure or the City Web site. Register in person, by mail, by fax (763-512-2344), or online (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/econnect/).

Youth Activities

Music, Mom/Dad & Me • Musical Magnets • Dinosaur Discovery • Kid Smart • Spooktacular • Monster Mash Teen Dance • Drama Club • Basketball Winter Warm-up • Skateboarding Camp at 3rd Lair

Adult Activities

Yoga • Pilates-Inspired Workout • Line Dancing • Yoga & Pilates • Power Yoga & Pilates • Women's Self Defense • Hypnosis For Chronic Pain • What Are Flower Essences? • Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT) • Knit a Sweater, or Whatever! • Power Sort & Organize Your Photos • Simple Scrapbooking • Big-Picture Scrapbooking • Holiday Photo Greeting Cards

DAVIS COMMUNITY CENTER

Shoot Some Buckets (ages 7+ with adult)—Sun, Oct 1–Dec 17, 1–3 pm; Mon, Oct 2–Dec 18, 6–8 pm; Thu, Oct 5–Dec 21, 6–8 pm; Sat, Oct 7–Dec 16, 10 am–12 pm

Teen Open Basketball—Fri, 6–9 pm

Adult Drop-in Gyms

Over 40 Basketball—Mon, 8–10 pm

Basketball—Wed, 8–10 pm; Sat, 8–10 am

Co-Rec Volleyball—Tues/Thurs, 8–10 pm; Sun, 3–5 pm

For more information, contact:

Park & Recreation
Brookview Community Center
 200 Brookview Parkway
 Golden Valley, MN 55426
 763-512-2345
 Monday–Friday, 8 am–5 pm

For Health's Sake: Keep Active During Winter

Think slowing down is just another aspect of winter, like snow and higher heating bills? You're not alone. A 1997 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found about a third of Americans are almost completely inactive during winter months. At the same time, Harvard Medical Schools says winter activity keeps weight down, mental health up, and maintains cardiac fitness. Golden Valley's Park and Recreation staff agree, offering a flurry of fun to keep residents up, out, and about during winter.

"We're Minnesotans," says Recreation Supervisor Brian Erickson. "We embrace winter. We don't let it get us down." Erickson coordinates most of the recreation activities on the nine ice rinks the City maintains. "Skating is a great cardio workout," says Erickson, touting a hockey skills camp that gives kids practice before joining a team, and an adult broomball league that's "not highly competitive, so people of all abilities can join." A new program offers skiing, snowboarding, and racing instruction from Blizzard Ski & Snowboard School for kids ages six to 16 (see Fall Activities Brochure for details).

Folks who prefer the indoors also have options. "We have a variety of activities for people who don't want to be out in 10-below temperatures," says Recreation Supervisor Sue Cook. Besides line dancing classes and a new cardio belly dancing class, there's Hoop It Up, a new fitness class in which participants use weighted hula-hoops for added resistance. Davis Community Center is hopping with open basketball for teens, holiday open gyms, and volleyball and basketball for adults. Cook also sets aside time at Davis so families can "play tag, shoot buckets, and socialize."

There's much to do in Golden Valley during the winter, so shovel those excuses along with the snow, and sign up for some winter activities (see sidebar for more information).



Bridge Builder Organizes JAZZY Neighborhood Party

When Darcie Rossborough attended a Connecting Golden Valley meeting last spring, little did she know she'd be inspired to become a Bridge Builder—someone who fosters community connections by sharing interests with others. Bridge Builders is one approach to citizen engagement recommended by the Golden Valley Connection Project to realize goals expressed in *Envision Golden Valley*, the City's recent community visioning effort.



Neighbors enjoy a dinner/dance party.

Rossborough left the meeting feeling she could do something to connect with her neighbors. "I realized it didn't have to be anything big," she says. "I just needed to do something." She started with a co-worker whose husband's band was looking for work, added a potluck, mentioned both to a neighbor, who enlisted another neighbor, and voila...the 1st Annual North Tyrol Hills Dinner and Dance Party was held August 5.

Organizers distributed flyers to more than 175 homes, borrowed supplies, and underwrote the cost of the band. Participants brought food and contributed to a kitty to help defray costs. Throughout the evening the festivities at the intersection of Burnside and Woodstock drew about 200 people, from infants to octogenarians. There was so much food, Rossborough feared briefly there weren't enough tables to hold it.

Some people showed up to hear the band, Pizazz Jazz, while 30 or so children ranging from three to 12 years old had the run of the block for the evening. Kids made friends, families met potential neighborhood babysitters, and neighbors connected.

"It was so much fun," Rossborough says. "Neighbors came up to me for two weeks after with donations and thank-yous. It was amazing." Next year's event will be held the same weekend, and neighbors have already agreed to help. And now that neighborhood emails have been collected, the group plans to join Golden Valley Connects, another citizen engagement tool promoted by the Golden Valley Connection Project.

Golden Valley Connects is an online neighborhood that makes community engagement as easy as possible. Besides being a great tool for organizing neighborhoods through emails, Golden Valley Connects allows people to reach others with similar interests and read about places and events in Golden Valley. To join, visit i-neighbors.org, enter the 55427 zip code, and be sure to join the "Golden Valley Connects" neighborhood.



For more information about Golden Valley Connects or Bridge Builders, visit the City Web site at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/ConnectingGV.htm. Or, contact Assistant City Manager Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014 or jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us.

SENIOR Stuff

Activities are at Brookview Community Center and require advance registration.

EXTRA SPECIAL EVENTS!

Oct 20, noon–2 pm: Country Hoe-down—\$8. Register by Oct 13.

Oct 27, 1–3:30 pm: Spooktacular Halloween Dance—\$3 until Oct 26/\$4 at the door. Crystal Community Center.

Nov 6, 1–2:30 pm: Golden Valley Seniors 45th Anniversary Party—\$3 at the door. Register by Nov 2.

MEDICARE PART D AND HEALTH INSURANCE Help

Oct 10 and Nov 14 at 9, 10, and 11 am. Get help with health insurance and Medicare forms and information about Medicare supplemental, long-term care insurance, and Medicare Part D. Call for an appointment.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Oct 25, 11–11:30 am. By Ambassador Good Samaritan Home Care.

UPCOMING TRIPS (REGISTER EARLY)

Oct 24: Barbary Coast Dixieland Band—\$51 (includes performance and lunch). Payment due Oct 2.

Nov 18: Hudson Holiday Homes—\$60. Payment due Nov 1.

Nov 29: Holiday Revue At Chanhassen—\$50.50.

Dec 12: Deck The Falls—\$33. Payment due Nov 14.

Dec 5–7: East Peoria Festival of Lights and Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library/Museum—\$395 per person dbl, \$470/person single. Final payment due Oct 31.

For more information or to register, contact:

Golden Valley Seniors Program
Brookview Community Center
200 Brookview Parkway
Golden Valley, MN 55426
763-512-2339
8 am–5 pm, Monday–Friday

Services You Get For A Month Of *Tax*\$

Public Works

Public Works services cost \$18 a month and provide well-maintained streets, sidewalks, parks and park shelters, playgrounds, ballfields, and ice rinks; snow-plowing; tree preservation and inspections; maintenance of City buildings and facilities; engineering; planning for infrastructure needs; and more.



Tax Abatement Levy

The Tax Abatement Levy for the General Mills expansion comes to \$2.42 a month. This designated levy goes toward paying off debt for the improvements at the Hwy 55 and Boone Ave intersection.

Debt Levies

The \$20.33 you pay each month towards debt levies is designated to pay debt service on existing bonds for the City's street reconstruction program and equipment replacement.



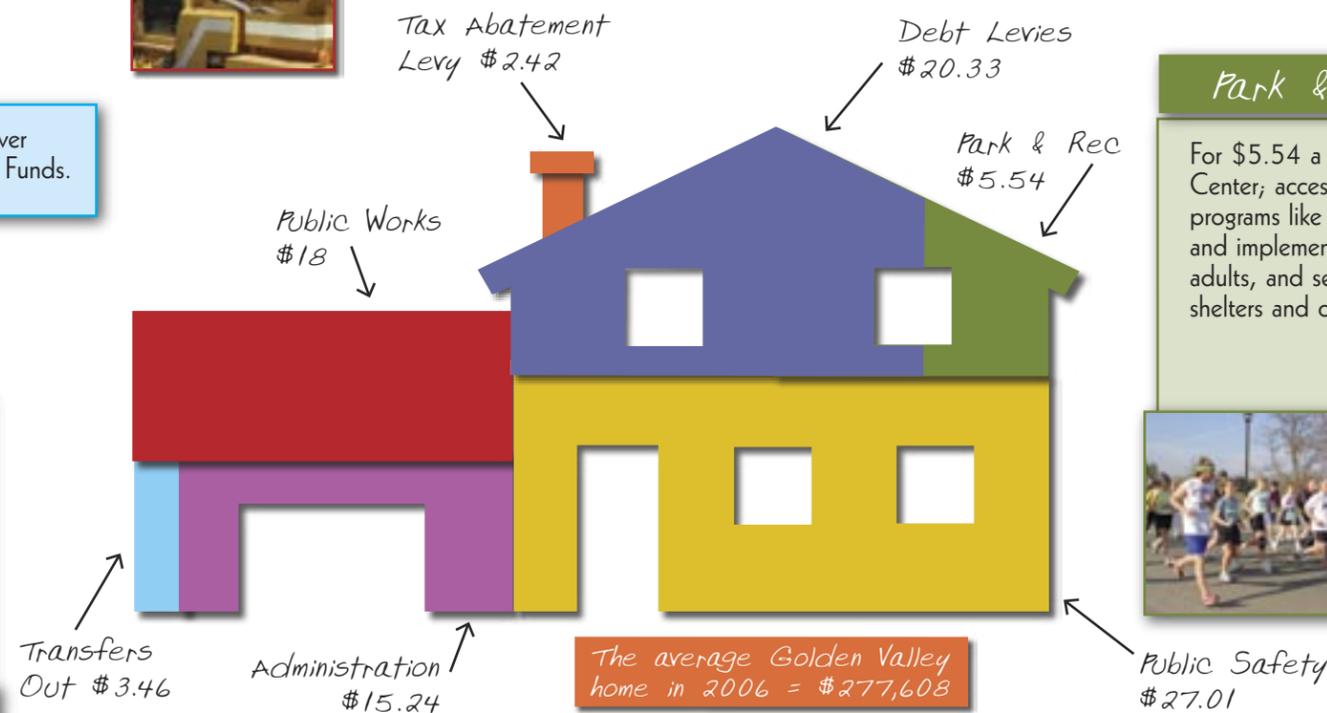
Transfers Out

Transfers Out cost \$3.46 a month and cover transfers to Building and Park Improvement Funds.



Administration

Your \$15.24 a month towards City administration covers the City Council and Commissions, public notices, elections, assessing, accounting, computer services, the City budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP), policies and ordinances, newsletters and public information, review of changes to the Comprehensive Plan, planning, municipal legal services, casualty insurance, and more.



Park & Recreation

For \$5.54 a month, you get Brookview Community Center; access to year-round community recreation programs like those featured on page 6; planning and implementation of recreation programs for youth, adults, and seniors; administration of rentals for park shelters and community centers; and more.



Public Safety

For \$27.01 a month, you get police and fire services, investigation of crimes, prosecution of offenders, community crime and fire prevention programs, building improvement and property maintenance inspections, building permit services, and more.



How Do You Figure?

Hennepin County mails Truth In Taxation notices each year between November 10 and 24. To understand the City portion of your overall proposed property tax levy, find the line on the Truth In Taxation statement that says "City of Golden Valley." The City of Golden Valley is only responsible for this portion of the statement.

The City Portion

In 2006, the market value of an average home went up an average of 7.6%, from \$255,000 to \$277,608. To calculate the City portion of this property tax, multiply the taxable market value of \$277,608 by 1% (the class rate for residential home values under \$500,000).

Multiply the result (\$2,776) by 41.43% (the City's proposed tax capacity rate, which is the result of dividing the City's proposed tax levy by its current tax base, or the taxable market value of all properties in the city). Take the result (\$1,150) and subtract the allowable market value homestead credit of \$46 (see below), and you get the total proposed City portion of the property tax for the year, or \$1,104. This is an increase of \$42, or 3.9%, over 2006. Some property tax increases will be higher or lower, depending on how the taxable market value of the property changed.

Tax Reduction Programs

The market value homestead credit is a State funded program that reduces the taxes on residential homesteaded property. The credit phases out as properties increase in value and is completely phased out on homes valued at \$414,000 or more. Therefore, some properties may receive a smaller credit in 2007 than 2006, which results in a higher tax.

Limited market value was created by the Legislation in an effort to protect property owners from the tax impacts of sharp valuation increases. Limited market value will be phased out with property taxes payable in 2010.

Questions?

If you have questions about the City portion of your property tax, contact Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010.

Property taxes for 2007 are based on your home's taxable market value in 2006. For this example we are using a home valued in 2006 at \$277,608. Using the city portion of your proposed property tax (see sidebar), one month of taxes would equal \$92.

Truth In Taxation (TNT)

Each year Hennepin County prepares a Truth In Taxation notice based on proposed tax levies of various taxing jurisdictions (city, county, school, and other districts). These notices are sent to all property owners to help them understand how their property taxes are divided amongst the taxing jurisdictions.

Golden Valley's Truth In Taxation public hearing is scheduled for 6:30 pm Monday, December 4. Details about the 2007 proposed budget and the City's budget process are available on the City web site at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us. If you have questions on the budget and/or tax levy contact Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010.

Quiz

HOME SECURITY

- Unsecured garden tools and ladders can contribute to a break-in.
 True False
- You should keep a spare key hidden somewhere outside your home.
 True False
- Burglars target homes that:
 - appear to be unoccupied
 - do not have an alarm system
 - provide cover so they can go unseen
 - all of the above
- To protect small valuables such as jewelry and cash, hide them in unusual places such as dresser drawers, in the freezer, or under a mattress.
 True False
- Only the presence of a large-breed dog will deter a burglar.
 True False
- How do burglars usually enter a home?
 - front door
 - back door
 - window
 - garage
- Getting to know your neighbors can protect your home.
 True False
- A home security system will deter most burglars.
 True False
- At what time of day do most burglaries occur?
 - middle of the day
 - early evening
 - middle of the night
 - just before sunrise
- Landscaping can help deter break-ins.
 True False

For answers, visit the City Web site at to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us. A link will be posted on the home page. For more information about home security, contact the Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit at 763-593-8058.

Investing In Youth Helps Prevent Crime

Law enforcement officers know from years of experience that it will take more than arrests, prosecutions, and lock-ups to prevent crime and violence. They also know that investing in youth through early childhood education and after-school programs is one way to keep kids from becoming criminals in the first place. Multiple studies provide powerful evidence that quality educational child care in the first years of life can greatly reduce the risk that today's youngsters will become tomorrow's violent teens and adults.



Quality educational child care reduces the risk of later criminal activity.

A Good Head Start

In Minnesota, 65% (248,261) of children under age six have both parents or their only parent in the workforce and are in the care of someone else during the work day. Too often they are in "child storage" (for instance, parked in front of a TV).

Quality early childhood education programs provide children a stimulating and safe environment during the parents' workday and are proven to prepare children to succeed in school. They also reinforce respect and responsibility for others, reduce behavior problems that can spiral out of control, and reduce the potential for later involvement in crime and violence.

For example, Chicago's government-funded Child Parent Centers have served more than 100,000 three- and four-year-olds. A study by the Journal of the American Medical Association showed that children who participated in the program were 29% more likely to graduate from high school, while children who didn't participate were more likely to have been retained a grade in school (67%), placed in special education (71%), and arrested for a violent crime by age 18 (70%).

In Minnesota, government-funded pre-kindergarten programs served approximately 14,388 children in 2005. Data also shows only nine percent of all three- and four-year-olds were served by these programs. Inadequate funding denies thousands of Minnesota's children access to quality pre-kindergarten, especially those most at-risk.

PRIME TIME FOR JUVENILE CRIME

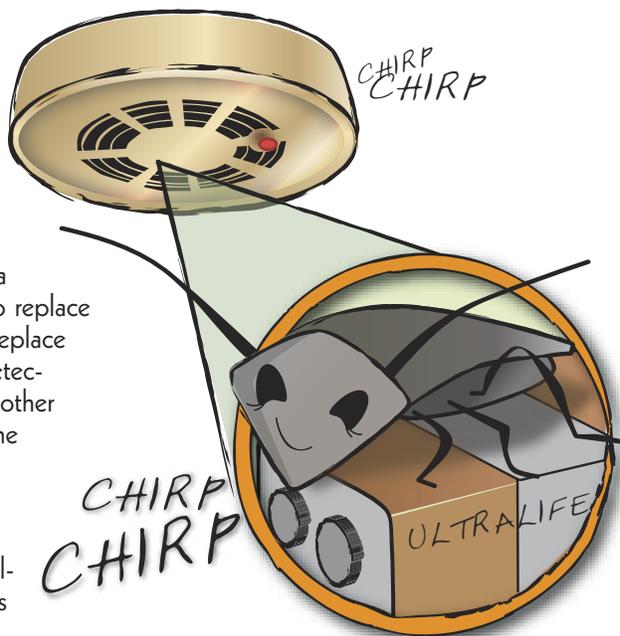
More than seven in 10 school-age children are in households where both parents or the only parent are in the workforce, and 14 million children and teens are left unsupervised by adults after the school day ends. Research has shown that school days from 2 to 6 pm are the peak time for teens to commit crime, be a victim of crime, be in or cause a car crash, and smoke, drink, or use drugs.

Aside from their child care and supervision value, after-school programs often provide youth development and skill building activities proven to reduce delinquent behavior. Quality, constructive, highly supervised programs can cut crime immediately and convert the hours after school into safe learning time.

Law enforcement leaders recognize that early childhood education and after-school programs are among the most powerful weapons in preventing crime and violence. Besides significant reductions in crime, long-term benefits include higher graduation rates, college enrollment, and income levels. For more information about fighting crime by investing in youth, go to www.fightcrime.org. If you have questions about youth crime prevention efforts in Golden Valley, contact the Crime Prevention Specialist at 763-593-8058.

Is That A Cricket In Your House?

No, that chirping sound is your smoke detector telling you it needs a new battery. You could just ignore it, and it will go away, but that would increase the risk of death in the event of a fire by 50%. Your best bet is to replace that battery. While you're at it, replace the batteries in all your smoke detectors, and pay attention to a few other maintenance essentials as well. The following timeline will help.



MONTHLY

Test Your Smoke Detectors: Follow the manufacturer's instructions for testing your smoke detectors.

Most just have you press a button, and the alarm will beep if the smoke detector is working. If the alarm chirps or makes no sound, you need to replace the battery.

Dust or Vacuum: Dust can cause a smoke detector to give a false alarm. Prevent build-up by taking the top off smoke detectors and carefully dusting or vacuuming the inside.

SEMIANNUALLY

Replace the Battery: When a smoke detector makes an intermittent chirping or beeping sound, it means the battery is running low and needs to be replaced. The least expensive smoke detectors use nine-volt batteries. They're easy to install, move, and maintain, and batteries must be checked monthly and replaced twice a year. Some newer smoke detectors come with a lithium battery that lasts for years—they require less maintenance, but you still need to test the battery each month.

Hard-wired smoke detectors are connected to your home's electrical wiring system. They're easier to maintain because they don't require batteries, but an electrical fire could short-circuit the electrical system and the hard-wired smoke detector. The safest bet is a hard-wired smoke detector with a battery back up, supplemented by separate battery-operated smoke detectors for extra protection. Hard-wired smoke detectors should still be tested monthly and the back-up batteries replaced semiannually.

EVERY 10 YEARS

Replace Your Smoke Detectors: According to reliability studies, most electronic products, including smoke detectors, fail at about three percent per year. That means even with good upkeep, most smoke detectors have a 10-year life span. Unless otherwise directed by the manufacturer, replace smoke detectors when they fail to respond to tests or are 10 years old. At this point, both hard-wired and battery-operated units are near the end of their service life.

Always follow manufacturer's directions when installing new smoke detectors and disposing of old ones. Some newer models have their 10-year anniversary date imprinted on the cover, but if you're unsure of your smoke detector's age, it is always better to be safe and replace.

Questions about fire safety? Call the Golden Valley Fire Department at 763-593-3977.



Prevent Cooking Fires

WATCH WHAT YOU HEAT

Three in 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen—more than any other place in the home. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) provides the following safety tips to help prevent cooking fires from starting.

- The leading cause of cooking fires is unattended equipment. If you must leave the kitchen for a short time, turn off the stove. Check cooking food regularly, and use a timer to remind you that something is cooking.
- Keep cooking equipment clear of items that could burn, including spilled cooking materials, towels, low-hanging curtains or drapes, and grease build-up on walls or cabinets. Avoid reaching over active burners to access items behind them.
- Keep young children at least three feet away from any place where hot food or drink is being prepared. They have high risk of thermal or scald burns from hot food, drink, tableware, cookware, and cooking equipment.
- Use oven mitts or other protection when moving hot food from cooking equipment. If a small grease fire starts in a pot or pan, smother the flames by carefully sliding a lid over the pan, using an oven mitt to shield yourself if the lid itself becomes hot. Then turn off the burner. To keep the fire from restarting with fresh oxygen, keep the lid in place until the pot or pan is completely cool.
- Never cook when you are drowsy or if you have consumed alcohol or medication that can make you sleepy.

For more information, go to the public education section of NFPA's web site at www.nfpa.org.

Fire Prevention
Week is
October 8-14.

TREE TRUST CREWS DELIVER FOR 30 YEARS

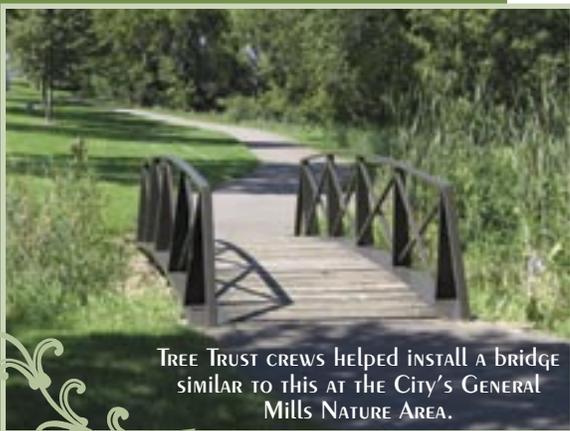
For 30 summers, the City of Golden Valley has partnered with Twin Cities Tree Trust to give groups of teens (ages 14–17) valuable work experience through improving the City's nature areas.

This summer Tree Trust crews again focused on the General Mills Nature area, completing two observation areas with benches, painting an older bridge, and placing dirt and rip-rap around a new bridge. Crews also placed soil along the newly paved loop trail. Last year's Tree Trust crews cleared a 12-foot swath of woods and underbrush, making way for City crews to pave a half-mile trail around the wetland.

City Park Maintenance Supervisor Ron Hammer oversees Tree Trust crews. "Without these kids, we don't have the resources to do the work they do," he says, "and the quality of their work is always exceptional."

Founded in 1976 to help reforest the Twin Cities metro area, the Tree Trust program invests in at-risk youth, unemployed adults, and individuals who need a second chance to excel. The program is sponsored by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners and Private Industry Council. It is funded by federal and state dollars and donations from local private foundations and corporations.

For more information, contact Twin Cities Tree Trust at 651-644-5800. For information about City park improvement projects, contact the Public Works Maintenance Manager at 763-593-3981.



TREE TRUST CREWS HELPED INSTALL A BRIDGE SIMILAR TO THIS AT THE CITY'S GENERAL MILLS NATURE AREA.

New City Nature Area Marches To Maturity

To use terms of human development, the City's General Mills Nature Area at the southeast corner of Hwys 55 and 169 is in an awkward stage of adolescence. This summer, for example, most of the 19 acres is covered with a temporary crop to stabilize the soil until the native plants take firm root. And just as adolescents bloom in their own time, the General Mills Nature Area will eventually reach its full beauty.

"The establishment phase takes three years," says Al Lundstrom, Golden Valley's Environmental Coordinator.

Park Maintenance Supervisor Ron Hammer concurs. "In a year or two it's going to look great." For now, he points out that the recently paved half-mile blacktop loop around the wetland area is already heavily used.

Often growth is not visible as it occurs. Here's what's going on out of view.

BEHIND THE SCENES PLANT-WISE

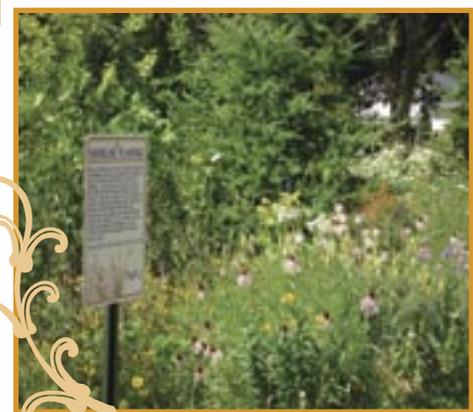
The primary purpose of the General Mills Nature Area is floodplain storage and wetland mitigation, but a permanent conservation easement through the Minnesota Land Trust preserves it as a nature area. Currently, more than 50 different native species are working to make permanent homes in three distinct habitats: shallow marsh, wet meadow, and floodplain forest (see wetland article on page 13). Strategically placed interpretive signs (see photos) will help visitors identify what they are viewing.

BEHIND THE SCENES PEOPLE-WISE

Lundstrom says the project "has been a great collaborative effort." General Mills donated the land to the City and Ames, the general contractor, prepared the area. Golden Valley's Public Works Department, with help from Tree Trust efforts (see sidebar at left), constructed the trail, benches, and supports for bridges. The City worked with Prairie Restoration, Inc, throughout the project and will continue to do so to maintain the native plants and ensure the success of the area.

The City will host a dedication ceremony next year, when more of the native plants have matured. Watch for information on the dedication in *CityNews* and on the City Web site (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us). If you have questions about the General Mills Nature Area, contact Lundstrom at 763-593-8046. ❧

NATIVE PLANT INTERPRETIVE SIGNS



ESTABLISHED NATIVE PLANTS

Wetlands Benefit Communities

Back in the day, the United States was swamped with wetlands. But people thought the land could be put to better economic use, so the great dry out began. According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR), more than 52 percent of Minnesota's original wetlands have been destroyed. MnDNR now regulates 3.3 million of the state's remaining 13.1 million acres of wetlands. The state's other wetlands are locally regulated through the Wetland Conservation Act.

Today, wetlands continue to be lost due to agriculture, development, and misunderstanding, but the rate is slowing as people begin to understand them and how vital they are to environmental health.

UNDERSTANDING WETLANDS

A wetland is part of a watershed (an area where all storm water goes to the same place). It can appear wet or dry or fluctuate in between, but a wetland has water at or very near the surface.

Healthy wetlands generally have three parts. The upland buffer zone is dry land around a wetland, often with trees, grasses, and vegetation. The riparian zone is a strip of land with trees, grasses, brush, and other plants between the upland and the wetland. And the aquatic area, which can be deep with open water or very shallow with no open water at all, contains rushes, cattail, and wetland plants. Combined, they do the hard work of all self-respecting wetlands—slow and filter the flow of water through the environment.



THE CITY'S GENERAL MILLS NATURE AREA WETLAND PROVIDES STORAGE FOR STORM WATER AND INCLUDES SHALLOW MARSH, WET MEADOW, AND SEASONALLY FLOODED UPLAND.

WETLANDS BENEFITS

The benefits of wetlands are still being discovered. Some scientists speculate that wetlands impact global climate, but only more research will tell for sure. Of the known benefits, wetlands:

- control erosion by buffering wave action
- provide fishery and wildlife habitat
- control flooding
- recharge and discharge ground water
- provide a natural water filter (trapping pollutants and sediments)
- supply habitat for rare plant and animal species
- host recreation (canoeing, hunting, fishing, etc)
- bolster income (eg, cranberries, fish, amenities to developments)

PRESERVING WETLANDS

If you live near a wetland or any body of water, consider establishing a native buffer area to filter polluted water runoff and stabilize the bank (see sidebar). To learn more about wetlands, visit the new General Mills Nature Area (see article on page 12). You'll be able to watch it mature over the years and observe first-hand the importance of wetlands in the community and region. Questions? Contact the City Environmental Coordinator at 763-593-8046.

STABILIZE BANKS TO MINIMIZE EROSION

People living by surface water, whether it's a lake, pond, river, or stream, have a special responsibility to care for the water and protect the land. One major concern is bank stabilization to minimize the erosion.

Stabilizing banks helps:

- control undesirable changes in the size and/or course of the waterway
- improve the quality of the waterway for natural habitat, wildlife, and recreation
- maintain waterway for the conveyance and storage of storm runoff
- prevent land loss and potential damage to utilities, buildings, roads, and plants
- reduce sediments drawn into the water

"People are doing everything from rip-rap [rocks] to native plantings to stabilize their banks," says City Environmental Coordinator Al Lundstrom. "It's impor-

tant to understand that water moves and erosion is inevitable. But mowed and managed turf areas are where we are seeing the most erosion."

The City of Golden Valley encourages residents to consider native buffer zones to stabilize banks. For information about planning a bank stabilization project and obtaining the necessary permit(s), contact Lundstrom at 763-593-8046.

Types of Wetlands

Seasonally Flooded Basin: Upland; well-drained, waterlogged at times

Wet Meadow: Along shallow marshes; saturated without standing water

Shallow Marsh: Along deep marshes; waterlogged or covered with shallow water

Deep Marsh: Along open water; covered in shallow water

Shallow Open Water: Along large open waters; 10 feet or less of water

Shrub Swamp: Along slow streams, depressions, or floodplains; waterlogged or shallow water

Wooded Swamp: Along slow streams; waterlogged or shallow water

Bogs: Along slow streams; usually waterlogged

CO Safety

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless poisonous gas that can be produced by incomplete combustion from poorly adjusted or vented fuel-burning equipment (furnaces, fireplaces, water heaters, space heaters, wood stoves, stoves, etc).

CO combines with your blood and prevents oxygen from being absorbed. Initial symptoms of CO poisoning include headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea, and dizziness. To prevent CO poisoning:

- have appliances installed by professionals according to manufacturer's instructions and building codes
- have heating systems inspected and serviced annually
- CO detector/alarms must meet current UL standard requirements and not be covered by furniture or draperies
- never burn charcoal inside a home, garage, vehicle, or tent or use fuel-burning camping equipment indoors
- never leave a car running in an attached garage
- never service fuel-burning appliances without proper knowledge, skills, and tools
- never use gas appliances (ranges, ovens, clothes dryers) for heating
- do not use gasoline-powered tools and engines indoors. If use is unavoidable, ensure adequate ventilation is available, and whenever possible, place engine unit to exhaust outdoors

Finally, if your natural gas flames are not blue, contact a heating professional immediately and get out of the house.

Warm UP With A Heating Permit Review

Planning to replace a furnace or convert a wood-burning fireplace to gas? The Golden Valley Inspections Department provides essential information about permits.

FURNACE REPLACEMENT

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), furnaces are the most common residential heating system in the United States, and most of them run on gas. About half of the average home's energy use goes to heating and cooling, so the EPA has set energy efficiency guidelines. In cold climates like Minnesota's, furnaces should be more than 90% fuel efficient. CenterPoint Energy recommends having furnaces inspected annually to detect problems before an emergency develops and to ensure safety.

Golden Valley has three permit requirements for a furnace replacement:

- an Orsat Report or manufacturer's start-up sheet to measure furnace emissions for proper operation
- a Chimney Stack Sheet to verify the furnace installer inspected the venting systems
- a final inspection by a City building inspector.

For more information about furnace replacement in Minnesota, visit energystar.gov.

GAS FIREPLACES AND CONVERSIONS

"Fireplaces that burn solid fuel, like wood, just aren't as energy efficient," says Golden Valley Inspector Jerry Frevel. Frevel provides a need-to-know list for those converting from wood to gas or installing a new gas fireplace.

- Gas fireplaces must comply with the International Fuel Gas Code for gas appliances.
- Gas shut-off valves must be easily accessible, be permanently identified, and serve no other equipment.
- New gas lines must be pressure-tested for a half hour at a minimum of 25 PSIG (pounds per square inch gauge).
- Gas lines that pass through masonry walls must be protected by a sleeve.
- The existing damper must be removed or welded open (gas log sets).
- Glass covers must be sealed closed and openable with special tools only.
- Combustion air must be provided.
- Installation instructions must be posted on-site.
- Gas line air test, rough-in, and final inspections are required.

Read the manufacturer's instructions and check with a City building inspector. For more information about gas fireplaces and conversions, or to get a permit cost estimate for a furnace or fireplace, call Inspections at 763-593-8090.



GVPD Offers FREE GUN LOCKS

The Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) is distributing FREE gun locks courtesy of Project ChildSafe® to anyone in the community (while supplies last). The cable-style gun locks require that many types of firearms be unloaded before being locked, providing an extra level of safety.

Project ChildSafe® is a national program that helps ensure safe and responsible firearm ownership and storage. A component of Project Safe Neighborhoods, Project ChildSafe® is supported by a US Department of Justice (DOJ) grant and the National Shooting Sports Foundation. Its goal is to inform and educate all firearms owners on key safety issues and provide firearms safety kits that include a gun locking device. For more information, go to www.projectchildsafe.org. To receive a free gun lock, contact the Golden Valley Police Department at 763-593-8079.

School Zone Safety Is Community Concern

Now that school is back in session, drivers everywhere need to be especially alert for school buses, students who may not be focused at all on traffic, and other drivers who may not be focused on anything but their route and their schedule. The leading cause of death and injury among school-aged children is traffic accidents. Help make this school year a safe one by observing the following safety precautions.



DRIVE CAREFULLY

School and safety officials urge all drivers to use extreme caution in school areas.

- Drive very slowly. Slow to 20 miles per hour in school areas, whether children are present or not, and never pass another vehicle in a school zone.
- Avoid distractions such as cell phones and other devices.
- Look for safety patrols, school buses, and other signs that children are in the area.
- Scan between parked cars and other objects for children who might dart out.

WATCH FOR WALKERS

Pedestrian injuries are the second leading cause of unintentional death in children ages five to 14. In children nine and under, about 50 to 70 percent of injuries result from darting into the street. Children age 10 and under cannot judge the speed or distance of traffic, and their peripheral vision is one-third less that of an adult. Be especially aware of surrounding activity when driving in areas where children are present. If you have children:

- remind them to cross at corners or crosswalks, NEVER from between parked cars or behind bushes
- teach them to understand and obey traffic signs and crosswalk markings

HEED SCHOOL BUS STOP-ARMS

Pay close attention when driving near school buses. Every year, dozens of school bus stop-arm violations are reported:

- Misdemeanor stop-arm violation—Passing a bus when the red lights are flashing, the stop-arm is extended, but no children are present can result in up to a \$1,000 fine and/or 90 days in jail.
- Gross-misdemeanor stop-arm violation—Passing the bus when the red lights are flashing, the stop-arm is extended, and children are present, or passing the bus on the right side, can result in up to a \$3,000 fine and/or one year in jail.
- Misdemeanor—Neglecting to stop for a crosswalk patrol that is extending the stop flag can result in up to a \$1,000 fine and/or 90 days in jail.

With the arrival of a new school year, the Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) will have an additional presence around school zones. For more information, contact the GVPD at 763-593-8079. 



CITY SEEKS Safe School Routes Grant

The City of Golden Valley has applied for a Safe Routes To School grant to help fund needed improvements to sidewalks and school crossings near two local schools—Noble Elementary at Noble Ave and Hampton Ave, and Meadowbrook Elementary at Xenia Ave and Glenwood Ave.

Noble Elementary (Robbinsdale School District) serves about 440 students grades K-5. Students living closer than a half-mile are required to walk or find their own transportation (bicycling is not allowed). Roughly half the students live east of Noble Ave, which has a sidewalk along its west side adjacent to the school but no sidewalk on its east side. These walkers sometimes cross Noble at improper locations or follow the grass boulevard on the east side to the patrolled school crossing at Hampton Rd. Traffic volumes and speeds on Noble contribute to the hazardous conditions for young walkers.

A proposed sidewalk east of Noble Ave would allow students to safely walk to Hampton Rd. New signing and pavement marking modifications would better inform drivers of the crossing location.

Meadowbrook Elementary (Hopkins School District) serves about 600 students grades K-6. Bus service is provided for all students, but some still choose to walk or bike to school. Roughly 20 percent of students live east of Hwy 100 and south of Glenwood Ave, where there is no sidewalk. A sidewalk on the north side of Glenwood runs all the way to the school, but there are no controlled pedestrian crossings east of the Hwy 100 ramp signals.

A proposed sidewalk on the south side of Glenwood Ave would allow students to safely reach the controlled crosswalk just west of the Hwy 100 ramp, cross there, and continue to school on the north sidewalk.

If you have questions about the Safe School Routes Grant, contact Public Works at 763-593-8030. 

School Crossing Locations

- Jersey Ave S & Western Ave
- Glenwood Ave & Xenia Ave*
- Medicine Lake Rd & Florida
- Medicine Lake Rd & Boone
- Noble Ave N & Hampton
- Natchez Ave & Glenwood Ave*
- Medicine Lake Rd & Idaho Ave N*
- Douglas Dr & Sandburg Rd*

*Do not have school patrols

VOTING LOCATIONS

For the November 7 state general election, you must vote in your own precinct between 7 am and 8 pm.

- Precinct 1**
NE Fire Station
3700 Golden Valley Rd
- Precinct 2**
Valley Presbyterian Church
3100 North Lilac Dr
- Precinct 3**
Meadowbrook School
5430 Glenwood Ave
- Precinct 4**
Sandburg Middle School
2400 Sandburg Lane
- Precinct 5**
SE Fire Station
400 Turners Crossroad S
- Precinct 6**
Golden Valley City Hall
7800 Golden Valley Rd
- Precinct 7**
Emmaus Baptist Church
8025 Medicine Lake Rd
- Precinct 8**
Brookview Community Center
200 Brookview Pkwy



On November 7

Polls in Golden Valley open at 7 am Tuesday, November 7 for the general election. You may only vote in person at your assigned polling place but may vote absentee ahead of time if conditions warrant.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Absentee voting is available for those who can't get to their polling place on election day because of illness or disability, absence from the precinct, religious observance, or service as an election judge in another precinct. There are two ways to do this:

VOTE IN PERSON Vote at Golden Valley City Hall during regular business hours, 8 am to 4:30 pm. Extended absentee voting hours will be available Saturday, November 4, 10 am to 3 pm and Monday, November 6, 8 am to 5 pm.

VOTE By Mail If voting by mail, remember your voted ballot must arrive at City Hall by election day for the vote to count, so allow enough time for postal service delivery.

If you have questions about absentee voting, contact Edie Ernst at 763-593-8017.

VOTER REGISTRATION

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 since you last voted (including moving to another apartment in the same building), or if you have not voted in four years. For more information, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/voting.htm and click "voter registration."

If you have questions about elections or voting in Golden Valley, contact Election Official Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010.

City of
Golden Valley

763-593-8000 TTY: 763-593-3968

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Available in alternative formats upon request.

Notice: To retain cost-effective rates, postal regulations require us to mail to complete carrier routes, even if they are beyond city borders. We apologize to non-Golden Valley residents who get this newsletter unsolicited.