

MARCH April
2007

Golden Valley

CITYNEWS

Before Selling Property, Get To The "Point"

NEW LAW REQUIRES POINT OF SALE INSPECTION, SEWER COMPLIANCE

Those selling a home take note—the City of Golden Valley requires all properties to pass a sanitary sewer inspection before being advertised for sale.

The law, which went into effect January 1, 2007, is part of the City's efforts to reduce the flow of clear water into the regional wastewater collection system (often referred to as Inflow and Infiltration, or I/I). I/I is a problem that costs Golden Valley about \$380,000 annually to fix, an expense charged by the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES).

The MCES provides regional wastewater collection and treatment for the metropolitan area. It requires that cities reduce peak flows into the system, which are caused by I/I. Golden Valley's new Point of Sale ordinance allows the City to inspect private properties to ensure there are no illegal connections to the sanitary sewer system that contribute to excess peak flow.

Property owners must obtain a Certificate of Sanitary Sewer Service Compliance from the City before selling, advertising for sale, or transferring title of property. Any improper connections or significant defects in the sanitary sewer service pipe must be corrected before the Certificate of Compliance is issued. Failure to obtain the Certificate is a misdemeanor and may result in additional monthly charges on the customer's utility bill and possible loss of water service.

To learn more about I/I, inspection fee rates, to apply for a permit, or for additional information about the I/I Point of Sale Inspection, visit www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us and click on the Point of Sale banner, or contact Public Works at 763-593-8030.



GOLDEN
VALLEY
DAYS
art & music festival

Friday, May 18
6–10 pm
Brookview Park Pavilion
Saturday, May 19
10 am–10 pm
City Hall Campus

Celebrate Golden Valley and its creative community spirit by joining friends and neighbors for the fourth annual Golden Valley Days.

Day one of this arts and music festival features a community picnic and kids concert, a Golden Valley Orchestra concert, and fireworks. The festival picks up Saturday with a parade and local and regional music group performances. Enjoy artists' exhibits, food vendors, and kids games from 10 am to 7 pm.

Golden Valley Days is presented by the Golden Valley Community Events Fund (GVCEF), a non-profit community foundation organized by city residents.

For more information or to volunteer, call 612-710-0995 or 612-201-9130, or visit www.GoldenValleyFund.org.

Photo by Peter Knaeble

IN THIS ISSUE

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 2

- PROPERTY TAXES DUE MAY 15, OCTOBER 15|2
- BRUSH UP YOUR LAWN FOR SPRING BRUSH PICK-UP|4
- GET UP, GET OUT, GET ACTIVE WITH CITY PROGRAMS|6
- FEATURE ARTICLE 8-9|Golden Valley's OPEN SPACES: A WELCOME SIGHT
- KEEP CROOKS FROM RIDING AWAY WITH YOUR BIKE|10
- CLEAN STREETS ARE A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT|12
- STAY ALERT AS YOU CROSS THE CROSSWALK|14
- 3|TAKE A SHOT AT VIEWS OF THE VALLEY PHOTO CONTEST
- 5|CITY UNVEILS I-394 CORRIDOR STUDY
- 7|BOOST COMMUNITY STRENGTH, VOLUNTEER!
- 11|GV FIRST RESPONDERS TO LEARN ANIMAL AID
- 13|STREET CONSTRUCTION SET TO START IN LATE SPRING
- 15|OUTDOOR PROPERTY INSPECTIONS TO BEGIN THIS SPRING

A Closer Look At 2007 Tax

Golden Valley's residential property values increased an average of 7.6 percent from 2005, equating to an estimated overall increase of 3.9 percent of the City's portion of your property tax. If your residential property value increased less than the average, your City tax will increase less than 3.9 percent.

Property values are based on a home's characteristics, new construction, and actual sales of property in the city. The City of Golden Valley contracts with Hennepin County for licensed professionals to appraise the market value of property in the city. The market value estimated by the assessor should be very close to the amount the property would sell for if placed on the open market. The value and classification of real estate must be established by January 2 every year. That assessment establishes the basis for the following year's property tax. For example, a property's value and classification on January 2, 2006, is what was used to calculate the tax payable in 2007.

When you receive your property tax valuation notice this spring, please review it closely. It gives you information like homestead status, classification of property, and two years of estimated market value, limited market value, and taxable market value. If you want to discuss your valuation with assessors, you may attend the annual Open Book Meeting (see box below).

If you have more questions regarding the City's property tax and values, contact Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010. 



Property Taxes Due May 15, October 15

By now you may have received this year's property tax statements and are looking to make your payment. Hennepin County, not Golden Valley, is responsible for handling the transactions, and while the first deadline is approaching (May 15), there's no need to panic. The following guidelines from Hennepin County should help make the process as easy as possible.

INTERNET OPTIONS

To pay online, visit www.co.hennepin.mn.us and click on "Property Tax Payments." Once you follow the link you'll have three online options:

1. Direct Debit

If you'd like to have your taxes deducted from your bank account on time, automatically, for every installment, Direct Debit is the way to go.

Once your account is verified, the payments will be scheduled for you.

2. E-Check

E-Check allows you to pay taxes directly from your checking or savings account. Previous year payments can also be paid through the Hennepin County Web site. Your tax payment is postmarked when you pay, and current payments can usually be viewed the next business day.

3. Credit Card

Additional fees are charged by Official Payments Corporation for this service—2.5 percent of the amount of the payment.

CONVENTIONAL OPTIONS

1. Mail

Make sure your payment is postmarked on or before the due date, otherwise penalties will be charged. Checks should be made payable to Hennepin County Treasurer. If your taxes are not escrowed, pre-addressed envelopes were included with your tax statement. Mail to Hennepin County Treasurer, A-600 Government Center, Minneapolis, MN 55487-0060.

2. In Person

Current property taxes can be paid by check or cash at all Hennepin County Service Centers (payments made at the downtown office are handled by the Property Tax Department cashiers located in the same building). Payments are also accepted in the cashier's area of the Hennepin County Government Center at 300 S 6th Street, Administrative Tower, A-600, Minneapolis. 

Get E-Notified

When you're online you may also sign up for an e-mail notification of deadlines. Follow the "Subscribe To eNotices" button in the Online Services area of the page. With automatic e-mail notification, you will receive a notification approximately two weeks before the first and second property tax deadlines.

Open Book Meeting

Property owners who want to discuss their valuations with assessors may attend the Open Book Meeting April 24, from 4–6:30 pm, at Golden Valley City Hall. If you plan to attend, Hennepin County assessors ask that you call ahead so they can have your information ready for the review.

For more information about property valuation, contact the Hennepin County assessor at 763-593-8025.

You're Invited... City Council Social

THURSDAY, April 19, 2007

6:30 - 9 pm

GOLDEN VALLEY VFW Post #7051 (7775 Medicine Lake Rd)

Share common ground and informal discussion with the City Council and others who care for the community. Questions? Contact Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014.

Take A Shot At Views Of The Valley Photo Contest

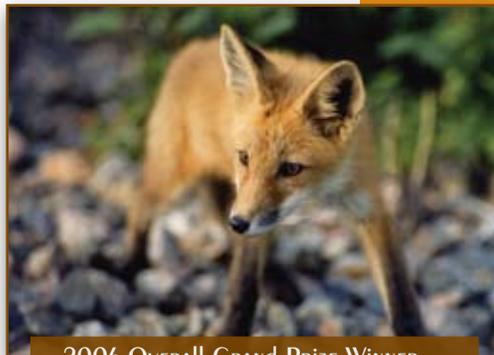
It takes a keen eye and a handy camera to capture the beauty of Golden Valley in a single click. For the past 14 years, enthusiastic Golden Valley residents have done just that. Snapshots of heartwarming moments of community spirit, freeze frames of nature areas, parks and public spaces, focused images of everyday life seen from a new perspective — it's time for the 2007 *Views of the Valley* Photo Contest.

The contest aims to promote Golden Valley and civic pride in a fun, entertaining, and educational way. Entries are judged on subject matter, composition, clarity, lighting, depth of field, artistry/drama, degree of difficulty, technical excellence, and overall impact. Creative photo titles earn points too. Photo entries become the property of the City of Golden Valley and will not be returned.

Photographers and critics alike can participate in the contest by voting for their favorite photo in the "People's Choice" award category. View the photo entries online or at City Hall, and vote at either venue. Watch for more "People's Choice" voting details in the May/June issue of *CityNews*.

To enter, read the rules (see box below) and submit your favorite photos. The entry form on this page can be photocopied. To see past winners or to download an entry form, check out www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/PhotoContest/.

Deadline is June 6, 2007, at 4:30 pm. Mail or drop off completed entries to Photo Contest, City of Golden Valley, 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427. City employees and their families are not eligible to enter. If you have questions or need more entry forms, call 763-593-8004.



2006 Overall Grand Prize Winner—
Fox Pup by SHAWN DOOLEY

Contest Awards

Overall Grand Prize

Winner receives additional \$50.

First Place Prize

Winners in each of the three categories receive \$100, publication of photo on City Web site and in *CityNews*, and a certificate of appreciation presented at a City Council meeting.

People's Choice

Publication on the City Web site and in *CityNews*, \$25, and a certificate of appreciation presented at a City Council meeting.

All photo entries will be displayed at City Hall and on the City Web site. From June 12–24, Golden Valley residents may vote for the "People's Choice" award at City Hall during business hours (8 am–4:30 pm, Monday–Friday) or online at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/PhotoContest/. Winners will be notified by July 6.

Contest Rules

- ☞ You must be a Golden Valley resident.
- ☞ Submit each photo in one of three categories:
 - Natural Golden Valley (landscapes, flora, fauna, etc)
 - Golden Valley Lifestyle (cityscapes, buildings, people, activities, etc)
 - Enhanced (photos significantly altered by editing software, lenses, etc). On the entry form, explain what alterations were made to each enhanced photo.
- ☞ Submit up to three color or black-and-white photos.
 - All photos must be trimmed to 5x7.
 - Do not submit slides, photocopies, or prints that are not on photo-quality paper.
 - Digital files must be accompanied by a print on photo-quality paper.
 - Do not mat or frame photos.
 - Include complete entry information for each photo (see form). Be sure to indicate the category.
- ☞ All entries submitted must be your own work.
- ☞ All decisions will be final, and judges reserve the right not to award in any category.
- ☞ The City of Golden Valley will not be responsible for lost entries.
- ☞ The contest organizers reserve the right to re-categorize or disqualify any entries.
- ☞ If there are identifiable people in the photo and it was taken in a non-public space, it is the responsibility of the photographer to obtain permission to use the photo.
- ☞ **Deadline is June 6, 2007, 4:30 pm.**

ENTRY FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 Zip _____
 Day Phone _____
 Age (if under 18) _____
Category
 Natural Golden Valley
 Golden Valley Lifestyle
 Enhanced*
 Title of Photo _____

 *Enhancement Explanation _____

 I agree to let the City of Golden Valley publish my photo(s) in City publications with proper credit.
 Signature _____
 All photo entries become the property of the City of Golden Valley and will not be returned.

WHEN RECYCLING, KEEP PAPER SEPARATE

Several residents have noted that the new Waste Management recycling trucks have only one opening for the driver to load the recyclables instead of the former three-sort system (three openings for the driver to separate recyclables). A few residents have called the City to ask if they can now put all recyclables together in the recycling crate.

Golden Valley Environmental Coordinator Al Lundstrom encourages residents to keep the paper separated. "Metal, steel, and aluminum food and beverage cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastics with necks can all be mixed together," he says, "but residents should still separate paper and put it at the curb in a paper grocery bag. When it is mixed with other recycling, and not in a bag, it tends to blow away. The goal is to recycle, not to litter."

If you have questions about recycling, call Public Works at 763-593-8030. 

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
Memorial Day '07	Sat, June 2
Fourth of July '07	Sat, July 7
Labor Day '07	Sat, Sept 8
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 24
Christmas	Sat, Dec 29
New Year's '08	Sat, Jan 5

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.

Brush Up Your Lawn For Spring Brush Pick-Up

With winter coming to an end, Golden Valley's annual residential *Spring Brush Pick-Up* is just around the corner. The pick-up, running from April 30 to May 18, gives you the opportunity to place tree limbs and brush at your curb for collection and disposal.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Please observe the following guidelines when preparing your brush for pick-up:

- Tree limbs and brush must be four inches in diameter or less and approximately six feet long or less.
- Stack brush so the larger ends face the street (do NOT tie limbs together).
- Condense brush to **one pile** per household. Trucks will stop only **once** at each property, so if there is more than one pile, only one will be picked up.
- Do not use plastic bags.

Place brush and limbs on the boulevard completely clear of sidewalks, mailboxes, streetlights and sign poles, landscaping and fences, overhead tree branches, and power lines. If piles don't fit between the curb and sidewalk, place them on the boulevard behind the sidewalk. The contractor uses trucks with automated loading arms to pick up the brush piles. If your brush is stacked near a restricted area or tossed in a pile rather than stacked, it will be left behind.

- No leaves, grass clippings, stumps, soil, roots, limbs exceeding the size limits, building lumber, landscape timbers, or bags of garbage will be picked up. If any of these items are mixed in the brush stacks, the entire stack will be left behind. The contractor will not sort through brush stacks for acceptable material.

To dispose of brush or tree waste not collected in this pick-up, contact your garbage hauler or choose a contractor from the *Yellow Pages*.

For more information, check the City Web site (www.ci.goldenvalley.mn.us/environment/SpringBrushPickUp.htm) or call 763-593-8030.

Pick-Up SCHEDULE

The City will be divided into three sections (see below), with a week designated for pick-up in each. Brush must be placed on the curb by 8 am Monday the week of pick-up and must remain there until picked up. If there is a lot of brush, pick-up may take longer than a week.

Section 1—Area south of Hwy 55—week of April 30

Section 2—Area north of Hwy 55 and east of Douglas Dr—week of May 7

Section 3—Area north of Hwy 55 and west of Douglas Dr—week of May 14

The *Spring Curbside Brush Pick-Up* is a component of the Golden Valley recycling program. If you have questions about the residential brush pick-up program, call 763-593-8030.



Spring Brush Pick-Up



City Unveils I-394 Corridor Study

As the southern gateway to the City of Golden Valley, with its central location and proximity to Minneapolis, the I-394 corridor abounds with opportunities for development. And with a new report of the I-394 study unveiled this spring, the City is one step closer to taking advantage of those opportunities.

The I-394 study report envisions mixed-use zoning to replace the current combination of industrial, commercial, office, and institutional districts. Office buildings will be next to parks and trails; residential housing will mingle with ponds and open spaces. Another goal is to maintain plazas and active spaces in the I-394 area and the community as a whole (see pages 8 and 9). Public open space already makes up about 21 acres of the I-394 corridor, and new development should enhance and connect these areas. From an ecological standpoint, the City plans to take measures not only to limit the environmental impact of redevelopment, but also to improve the structure of the development to better suit the land, making the project more environmentally friendly in the long run.

In 2004, *Envision Golden Valley* asked hundreds of residents about their hopes and ideas for the future of the community. The result was a core idea to build a community that creatively connected people and places. The final *Envision* report stated, "Golden Valley's location at the axis of urban density and suburban tranquility makes us acutely aware of our connections to a greater whole. We enjoy the access afforded by the highway system that intersects our community but want to reduce its impact on our neighborhoods and natural spaces." The City Council believed this vision for the greater community was particularly applicable to the I-394 area.

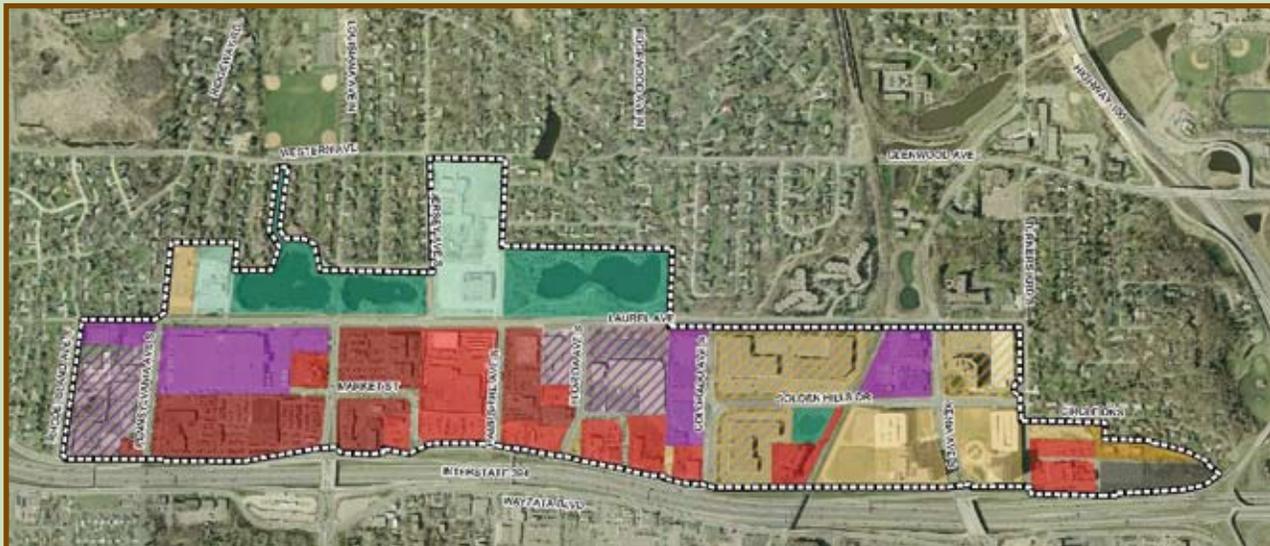
To read the new I-394 report draft, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/zoning/index.htm. The City Council will review public feedback before formal consideration of the report recommendations. It is anticipated that the City will begin the process to amend its Comprehensive Plan, rezone the identified properties, and adopt a new ordinance creating a "Mixed-Use" zoning district during 2007. For more information on the I-394 study, contact Mark Grimes at 763-593-8095. ✓

ORIGIN OF I-394 STUDY

Three years ago, *Envision Golden Valley* collected public feedback about people's hopes and ideals for the community. The Golden Valley City Council had these ideals in mind when it began studying the I-394 corridor along the city's southern border. With an eye toward future development issues, the City Council wanted to evaluate current land uses in the area and determine how to focus future development to best meet the needs and desires of the community. The I-394 Corridor Study included surveys of area businesses and residents as well as several discussions with residents and community groups. A Visual Preference Survey (VPS) offered all community members the opportunity to provide their views on urban design, building types and architectural styles, parking treatments, setbacks, landscaping, and signs. See complete VPS results at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/zoning/394corridor/public-input.html.

In 2005, the City Council adopted seven planning principles to manage future change and growth in the I-394 area: access, aesthetics, connectivity, diversification, employment, integration, and neighborhood. For more information, contact Planning Director Mark Grimes at 763-593-8095. ✓

LAND USES IDENTIFIED FOR EXISTING CORRIDOR IN 2005



Source: Golden Valley Property Survey

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| AUTO-RELATED COMMERCIAL | INDUSTRIAL/OFFICE | OFFICE | VACANT |
| COMMERCIAL/RETAIL | MIXED USE OFFICE | PUBLIC/OPEN SPACE | STUDY AREA ACREAGE, Table 2-1 |
| INDUSTRIAL | MULTIFAMILY | INSTITUTIONAL | |

Recreation OPPORTUNITIES

Find details on the following recreation opportunities in the Spring Recreation Activities Brochure or the City Web site.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **Hoopstars Basketball**—Apr 10–May 15
- **Private Piano Lessons**—Apr 10 or Apr 11
- **African Safari**—Apr 13 and 20
- **Music, Mom/Dad & Me**—Apr 17–May 22
- **American Red Cross Babysitting Training Course**—Apr 28, May 5, or May 12
- **Little Tiger Self Defense**—May 7–June 18
- **Tae Kwon Do**—May 7–June 18
- **Einstein's Laboratory**—May 11 and May 18
- **Kids Smart Self Defense**—May 19

For a list of adult activities offered this spring, visit www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us.

DAVIS COMMUNITY CENTER

- **Shoot Some Buckets** (ages 7+ with adult)—Sun, 1–3 pm
- **Family Open Gym**—Sat, 10–11:30 am; Sun, 1–3 pm

Adult DROP-IN Gyms

- **Over 40 Basketball**—Mon, 8–10 pm
- **Open Basketball**—Wed, 8–10 pm; Sat, 8–10 am
- **Co-Rec Volleyball**—Tues/Thurs, 8–10 pm

Register in person, by mail, phone, fax (763-512-2344), or online (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/econnect/).

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

Get Up, Get Out, *Get* *Active* With City Programs

Golden Valley's Park and Recreation Department offers dozens of spring and summer activities that provide residents with a range of ways to get up, get out, and get involved. "Most people are often unaware about all that's available," says Recreation Supervisor Brian Erickson.

"A lot of times people just don't realize what's out there for them and their kids to do in Golden Valley," says Erickson. "There's an activity for you Monday through Friday." And every year the Park and Recreation Department introduces a handful of new activities to its lineup (for a list of all activities, visit www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us, and click on Parks, Recreation, and Leisure). New activities this year include:

Fishing Club, AGES 8–14

This activity gives kids a chance to check out some of Golden Valley's fishing hot spots. The City will provide the bait, and staff will take participants' fishing poles and tackle to the location.

Where: Wirth, Medicine, and Cedar Lakes

When: Tues, June 12–July 17, 9:30–11:30 am

Fee: \$25

Ball Games, AGES 8–12

This activity gives participants a chance to play a different ball game each day, including dodgeball, kickball, croquet, and soccer.

Where: Hampshire Park

When: Thu, June 14–July 19 (no session July 5), 10–11:30 am

Fee: \$20

Chess-O-Rama, GRADES K–6

Instructed by Matt Mahwald, the USCF National Chess Master, and Ms Daa, the third highest ranked female chess player in Minnesota. Participants will play Chess Master in a simultaneous exhibition, compete in a Bug House Tournament, try four-way chess, and act out chess pieces in "body chess."

Where: Brookview Community Center

When: Tue, June 12, 9 am–1 pm

Fee: \$24

Soccer Camp, AGES 7–14

Kids will learn the fundamental skills of soccer through fun games and exercises and get a chance to test their new expertise with group activities and scrimmages.

Where: Perpich Center for Arts Education Soccer Field

When: Mon–Fri, July 16–20, 9 am–3 pm

Fee: \$131

Flag Football Camp, AGES 7–14

Flag Football introduces kids to a sport rich in tradition. Players learn catching, passing, and de-flagging as well as the rules and the strategies of offense and defense.

Where: Perpich Center for Arts Education Soccer Field

When: Mon–Fri, July 30–Aug 3, 9 am–noon

Fee: \$103

Register in person, by mail, phone, fax (763-512-2344), or online (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/econnect/).



Boost Community Strength, VOLUNTEER!

Envision Golden Valley illustrated the importance of community engagement through volunteering. The final *Envision* report identified hundreds of ways modern-day Golden Valleyans want to be involved (see report at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/Envision.htm). It states: "As individuals, families, neighborhoods, and organizations, our actions protect and enhance the public assets for which we share responsibility." Here are a few options for getting engaged in the community.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Each year the City Council seeks citizens interested in becoming more active in their City government by volunteering to serve on one of Golden Valley's Advisory Boards and Commissions. These Boards and Commissions recommend policy to the City Council and advise the Council on a variety of diverse issues. You must be a resident of Golden Valley to apply. Detailed information and applications are available on the City Web site (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/boards.htm) or by calling 763-593-3991.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Golden Valley is an active community with a variety of events taking place throughout the year. You can participate in these events, or you can go the extra mile, working with friends and neighbors to plan and staff them.

Run the Valley (see page 16) is a popular annual race/walk presented by the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF) to raise funds for local human service organizations. To get involved, call 763-512-2345 or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/runvalley.htm.

Golden Valley Days (see sidebar on page 1) is presented by the Golden Valley Community Events Fund (GVCEF), a non-profit community foundation organized by an all-volunteer board of residents with financial support from local businesses. For more information or to get involved, call Luke Weisberg at 612-201-9130 or visit www.GoldenValleyFund.org.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

The Golden Valley Seniors Program offers a variety of volunteer opportunities, such as service project helpers, newsletter assemblers, class instructors, group leaders, clerical assistants, and production assistance for "Seniors On Screen," which is a weekly public access program on Cable Channel 19. To get involved, call the Golden Valley Seniors Office at 763-512-2339.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The Parks and Recreation department always has a list of activities needing volunteer support. Examples include the Bike Rodeo (see page 10), the Penny Carnival in July, Youth Soccer (looking for coaches mid-August through the end of October, two to three hours a week), Youth Basketball (looking for coaches January through March, two to three hours a week), Youth Halloween events (last weekend in October), and Supper with Santa (Friday, December 7). For more information, call the Parks Department at 763-512-2345.



Bring your ideas and apply your talents to improve Golden Valley and make Envision Golden Valley a reality. The next Bridge Builder meeting will be Saturday, April 21, from 10 am to noon at the Community Room at the Golden Valley Library. Hear what others are doing and share your ideas.

SENIOR Stuff

Most activities are at Brookview Community Center and require advance registration.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Spring Back to the 50s—Apr 19, 10 am–2 pm, Crystal Community Center. \$12 (includes food, bus, and escort). Register by Apr 11.

Spring Sing—Apr 22, 2 pm, Minnetonka Arts Center. Donations accepted. Sponsored by the Minnesota Senior Choral Association.

SPEAKERS

Stimulate your mind with these events:

- "Thunder, Lightning & Hail, Oh My!"—Apr 5, 1:30–3 pm.
- "Risk Management for the Sophisticated Investor"—Apr 19, 10–11 am.
- Author Judy K. Baer—Apr 25. Register by Apr 23. \$2 at door.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Apr 25, 11–11:30 am. Free service provided by an Ambassador Good Samaritan Home Health nurse.

UPCOMING TRIPS (REGISTER EARLY)

May 19: "Syttende Mai" in Hanska, 10 am–6:30 pm. \$54/person (includes bus and food). Register by Apr 23.

June 13: Mill Pond Market, 7:30 am–5 pm, \$49/person (includes food and bus). Register by May 21.

July 17–18: Ten Chimneys, Lake Geneva, and US Mailboat Tour, \$375 double room/\$510 single room, includes lodging, tours, all meals except one dinner and one breakfast, escort, motor coach, taxes, and gratuities. \$100 deposit due May 15. Full payment due June 15.

Seniors Program: Send a \$5 donation to the Senior Program and receive six issues of the senior newsletter by mail.

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

Golden Valley's Open Spaces: A Welcome Sight

A community without open space is like a house without windows. Parks, golf courses, ponds—just having these features nearby increases property value and boosts the overall attitude about a city.

Open spaces—non-developed areas—are part of what draws people to a community, says Mark Grimes, Golden Valley's director of planning and development. Even if people don't golf or use the parks, these places are still nice to look at, and they act as buffers from highways and pollution.

That's why Golden Valley City officials have worked so hard over the years to acquire open space, adds Grimes, and why they have no plans to sell existing open space to developers.

"What we want to do now is preserve what we have," Grimes says. And as part of the City's 2008 Comprehensive Plan, he

adds, City planners are hoping to encourage more open space use by enhancing Golden Valley's trail system, easing residents' ability to bike or walk from one open space to another.

According to Golden Valley Park and Recreation Director Rick Jacobson, the City has nearly 500 acres of open space, not including the 517 acres of Theodore Wirth Park that lie within Golden Valley's borders. That breaks down to 166 acres of community parks, 160 acres of nature areas, 147 acres for Brookview Golf Course, and 11 acres for the Honeywell Little League area. The biggest section of open space owned by the City is Brookview Park and the Brookview Golf Course (see below). It's a valuable property even for those who don't golf, says Grimes. Besides the benefits it offers as an open space, it's also in the City's flood plain, designed to channel flood waters away from homes and buildings.

Among urban environments, open space is in high demand, says Golden Valley Environmental Coordinator Al Lundstrom, who views the topic from an ecological standpoint. Many communities are finding that their open spaces are the only economical place to manage clean storm water as mandated by the federal Clean Water Act. Golden Valley has found several opportunities in its parks and open space areas to install natural buffers and ponds for filtering storm water that were previously difficult to manage and were providing safe havens for noxious plants. These installations have also improved the quality of wildlife that inhabits the areas, Lundstrom adds.

Golden Valley has installed trail systems and interpretive signs within the natural areas, attracting several wildlife enthusiasts. "It is not uncommon to notice a pedestrian or two with cameras in hand visiting the many native buffers within Golden Valley's parks and open spaces," says Lundstrom.

For more information on open space in urban communities, visit www.embraceopenspace.org.



enez Park



Sweeney Lake



South Tyrol Park



General Mills Nature Area



Brookview Park & Golf Course



Lions Park



Laurel Avenue Greenbelt

Open Space Valued... By The Numbers*

Nearly **two-thirds** of Twin City area residents would pay between **10 percent** and **25 percent** more for a home within walking distance to an open space.

By a **70 percent** to **24 percent** margin, residents would support a **\$30** per year property tax increase to raise funds for purchasing, restoring, and maintaining natural areas in their county.

Residents reporting they are "very satisfied" with nearby open space are more active in their communities, and, of that group, **50 percent** said they feel a real tie to their city or township, compared to **40 percent** of overall respondents.

* Source: 2006 survey by Decision Resources Ltd, and economic impact study conducted by Wilder Research Chief Economist Paul Anton. The study was sponsored by Embrace Open Space, a public education campaign to engage citizens in the decisions that affect the future of open spaces in the Twin Cities region. For more information, visit www.embraceopenspace.org.

Take Advantage Of Our Open Spaces: Brookview Golf Course

Though open space benefits a community even when residents don't use it directly, park and recreation professionals still like to see people getting outdoors and being active in open space areas.

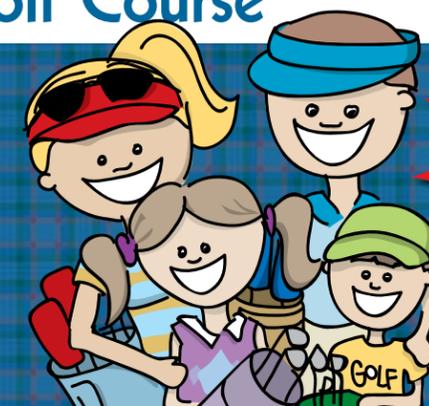
Golden Valley holds dozens of park activities each season (see story on page 6), and Brookview Golf Course, which makes up the largest chunk of City-owned open space in Golden Valley, has something new to offer every year.

Brookview is one of the older golf courses in the Twin Cities metro area, dating to the 1920s. It was operated as a private country club until the late 1960s, when it was purchased by the City of Golden Valley. Today, Brookview's full-service facilities include an 18-hole regulation course, nine-hole par 3, driving range, teaching area, golf shop, and grill.

Brookview's Most Valuable Patron (MVP) Program is new and improved this year, with additional savings on every round of golf,

as well as special savings for patron pairs on MVP Days, says Golf Course Manager Kris Tovson. A new Family Sunday discount amounts to huge savings for families golfing the par 3 course, with the first adult golfer paying \$11.50 and additional golfers paying \$5 each.

For more information about Brookview Golf Course, its programs, and other great deals being offered, visit www.brookviewgolf.com.



A family of four saves more than 40% with the new Family Sunday Discount at Brookview!

Bike Rodeo Is May 2

Join your friends for a free bicycle safety check and riding skills test.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2
6-8 pm
Golden Valley City Hall

Enjoy special treats and register to win prizes. Highlights include:

- free bike safety checks
- bike skills tests
- demo on bike helmet fitting
- complimentary refreshments
- music
- appearances by McGruff and Sparky

The Bike Rodeo will be held rain or shine.

This annual event is sponsored by the Cities of Golden Valley, New Hope, and Crystal, and Golden Valley VFW Post 7051.

For more information, call Golden Valley Park and Recreation at 763-512-2345.

Keep Crooks From Riding Away With Your Bike

Chirping birds. Warm breezes. Stolen bikes.

Police officers know if reports of bicycle theft start coming in, it must be spring.

"It's that time of year," says Joanne Paul, Golden Valley crime prevention specialist. "We need to start thinking of the crimes that happen when it's warmer, and that's one of the first crimes we see."

People often don't think about it. With winter over they're eager to get outdoors, get on their bikes, and enjoy themselves. In the excitement of the warmer weather, they might get careless, leaving bikes unattended and unsecured. But bike theft is easily prevented, Paul says. It's just a matter of common sense.

Below are a few simple measures to keep your bike out of a crook's hands.

KEEP THE GARAGE DOOR Closed

Of Golden Valley's 59 residential burglaries in 2006, roughly a third were garage related, Paul says. All too often it's a matter of someone just walking through an open door and walking away with stolen goods. "I always remind people it can happen anywhere, anytime, to anybody," adds Paul. An open door is an open invitation for burglary.

WRITE DOWN THE BIKE'S SERIAL NUMBER

Most people don't do this, Paul says, but it gives police a better chance at recovering the bike, especially if it's found in another city. Every bike has a unique serial number, sometimes found inside the rear dropout or the bottom shell. Bike retailers often know where to find the number of a given make and model. When you buy a new bike, ask the retailer if the serial number is included with the receipt.

Lock It Up

People, especially children, often leave bikes unsecured when they think it will be only for a few minutes, but it only takes a few seconds to steal an unlocked bike. "Kids ride their bikes to destinations as innocent as the library. They don't lock them up, and they get stolen," says Paul. It also helps to lock bikes in well-traveled, well-lit areas. Locks should be placed through the frame and both wheels (removing the front wheel is necessary). Never lock a wheel without locking the frame. And remember to lock the bike to something substantial—NOT small trees, aluminum posts or chain link fences. Instead think sign posts, parking meters, and designated bike lock areas.

For more information, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 763-593-8058 or jpaul@ci.golden-valley.mn.us.



LOCK YOUR BIKE TO SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE EASILY REMOVED.



THE BIKE RODEO IS AN ANNUAL EVENT THAT FEATURES FREE BIKE SAFETY CHECKS, BIKE SKILLS TESTS, AND MORE.

GV First Responders To Learn ANIMAL First Aid

This spring, the Golden Valley Fire Department will enroll its first responders in animal rescue training. "We know how much pets mean to residents of Golden Valley, and doing this is another service we can provide," says Sarah Larson, the City's fire education specialist and training coordinator.

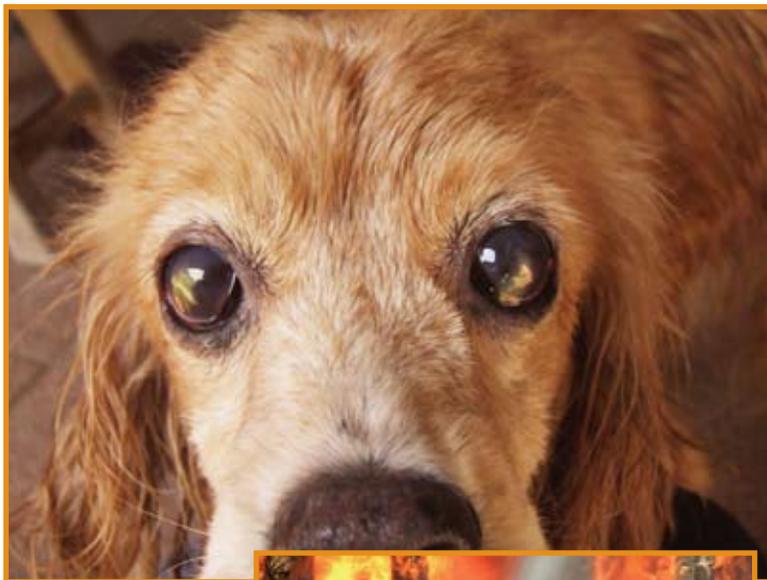
The three-hour training will take place in May as part of the Basic Animal Rescue Training (BART) initiative. BART is a non-profit organization run by volunteers in the veterinary profession and supported by community donations. Its mission is to "empower firefighters and other first responders with the training, knowledge base, and equipment necessary to safely and effectively handle domestic animals encountered in emergency situations, in order to help preserve human health, safety, and well-being."

Firefighters will learn restraint and handling of pets, as well as CPR and first aid. Departments undergoing the training receive an emergency medical kit that contains all the materials and supplies covered in the small animal course. BART has trained and equipped more than 1,200 EMS personnel in Minnesota since December 2004.

BART was established in response to the loss of a pet in a house fire in New Brighton, Minnesota. The burning home, which belonged to a firefighter, trapped a 13-year-old German shorthaired pointer named Bart. The fire department was able to put out the fire and find Bart, but he was unresponsive and firefighters didn't have the knowledge or equipment to save the dog's life. The BART program was developed to honor the memory of Bart and to ensure fewer Minnesotans will suffer a similar loss.

All members of the Golden Valley Fire Department (about 50) will take part in the training, which will be a one-time event with possible future refresher courses.

For more information on the City's training session, call Larson at 763-593-3977. For more information on the BART organization, visit www.BasicAnimalRescueTraining.org.



IF THE UNTHINKABLE HAPPENS TO YOUR HOUSE, REST ASSURED THAT FIRST RESPONDERS CAN HELP YOUR PETS AS WELL AS YOUR FAMILY.

CLOTHES DRYERS POSE FIRE THREAT

In light of a new national report detailing the dangers of dryer fires, the Golden Valley Fire Department reminds residents to take extra caution when using that particular home appliance.

"Clothes Dryer Fires in Residential Buildings," a report by the US Fire Administration, was released in January 2007. It states that clothes dryer fires account for about **15,600** structure fires, **15** deaths, and **400** injuries annually. Eighty percent of clothes dryer fires in structures occur in residential buildings.

Failure to clean is the leading factor contributing to clothes dryer fires in residential buildings. Placing clothes dryers and washing machines in more hazardous locations away from outside walls (such as bedrooms, second-floor hallways, bathrooms, and kitchens) also contributes.

A clothes dryer works by forcing hot air through a turning drum. It is possible for a full load of wet clothes to contain more than a gallon of water. The process of removing the water and drying the clothes creates lint.

While much of the lint is trapped by the dryer's filter, lint is also carried through the venting system, together with moist air. The accumulation of lint, both in the dryer and in the dryer vent, reduces airflow and creates a highly flammable fuel source. In addition to the accumulation of lint, blockage in dryer exhaust vents also can occur from the nests of small birds and animals or from bends in the venting system itself.

A compromised vent will not exhaust properly to the outside, leading to possible overheating and ignition of lint, dust, or clothes.

Most dryer fires can be prevented by frequent cleaning, following installation guidelines, and performing regular inspections (every two to three years) of dryer vents.

To read the full report on dryer fires, visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/statistics/reports/.

CITY REQUIRES LAWN MAINTENANCE

Golden Valley's lawn maintenance ordinance bans noxious weeds and requires turf lawns to be maintained at eight inches or less. Two years ago the City Council updated the lawn maintenance section of the City Code with two major changes. First, the City no longer sends certified letters to residents who violate the lawn ordinance. Second, residents can now cultivate native plants in residential lawns. This year the City updated its lawn-mowing fee rate.

The City mails letters to notify those in violation of the lawn maintenance ordinance. Property owners then have seven days to comply before the City mows the vegetation at the property owner's expense.

The complete lawn maintenance ordinance is available at City Hall, the Golden Valley Library, and on the City Web site (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citycode1/chapter10index.htm).

Residents who want to vary their landscape can apply for a "Native Vegetation Permit." For more information, contact Public Works at 763-593-8030.

For questions about violations, call the Park Maintenance Department at 763-593-8045. 🌿

Clean Streets Are A Collaborative Effort

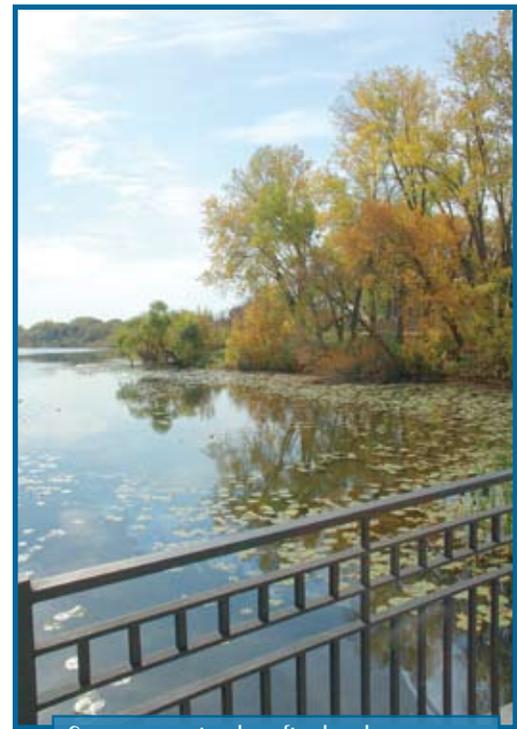
When snow melts and reveals soggy leaves and muddy branches scattered across your lawn, it might be tempting to just rake all that waste into the streets and let the sweepers take care of it. **DON'T DO IT!**

Not only is debris in streets an eyesore, it also disrupts the City's street sweeping and pollutes surface water. Debris picks up and carries pollutants (soil, pet waste, oil, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and litter) into the storm water system and area surface waters, such as Bassett Creek. City programs like the *Spring Brush Pick-Up* (see page 4) help ensure yard waste does not end up, intentionally or inadvertently, in the street.

With streets clear of debris, the City has an easier time sweeping away salt and sand. Weather permitting, street sweeping usually begins around mid-March, with priority given to "bulk sweeping" major intersections, hilly areas, and high traffic roads, where large amounts of sand and salt were distributed over the winter. Crews also focus on areas near Bassett Creek, lakes, and ponds to minimize the amount of sand entering these outlets. After this is completed, crews move into neighborhoods.

If the weather and residents cooperate, bulk and curb-to-curb sweeping is done by May 1 (streets are swept again in the summer and fall—see schedule below).

For more information about street maintenance, contact Golden Valley Public Works at 763-593-8030. 🌿



STREET SWEEPING BENEFITS LOCAL WATERWAYS.

street sweeping SCHEDULE

SPRING: Sweep curb-to-curb in mid-March/April.

SUMMER: Sweep all gutters in June; clean low collection areas and sweep as needed in July, August, and September.

FALL: Sweep curb-to-curb in October and November (wait for as many leaves to fall as possible).

Golden Valley is divided into four sections for street sweeping. This allows crews to rotate sections each year so no area is always first or last. This year, Section IV leads off the rotation, followed by Sections III, II, and I.

Section I boundaries: Winnetka Ave, north City limit, south City limit, west City limit

Section II boundaries: Winnetka Ave, north City limit, Hwy 100, Hwy 55

Section III boundaries: Hwy 100, north City limit, east City limit, Hwy 55

Section IV boundaries: Hwy 55, Winnetka Ave, south City limit, east City limit



Street Construction Set To Start In Late Spring

This spring the City of Golden Valley will undertake several street reconstruction projects in various areas of the city. One project will reconstruct Golden Valley Rd between Douglas Dr and Hwy 100 and will include replacement of the Canadian Pacific railroad bridge over Golden Valley Rd (see project update below).

The other project is the City's 2007 Pavement Management Program (PMP), which consists of approximately 2.7 miles of local streets in two primary locations in northeastern Golden Valley: north of Golden Valley Rd and east of Noble Ave, and both sides of Golden Valley Rd between Wirth Parkway and Xerxes Ave N. At its February 6 meeting, the City Council authorized construction of the 2007 PMP and directed staff to prepare final plans and specifications.

Streets in both project areas will be completely reconstructed to City standards, including concrete curb and gutter. Other work on local streets throughout the PMP project will include replacing culverts conveying Bassett Creek at Dresden Lane and Bassett Creek Drive, limited water main replacement in two locations, rehabilitation of sanitary sewer mains, lateral storm sewer extensions to facilitate drainage, and the overlay of several streets.

Work is scheduled to be under way in late April or early May, with completion anticipated by fall. If you have questions about the 2007 PMP, contact City Engineer Jeff Oliver at 763-593-8030. 

Project Updates

THREE RIVERS TRAIL & RAILROAD BRIDGE

THREE RIVERS TRAIL

Phase one of Three Rivers Park District's Luce Line Regional Trail project in Golden Valley—located between Highway 169 at Plymouth Ave and Douglas Dr just north of Highway 55—is about halfway finished, says Stephen Shurson, project manager.

When completed, the paved pedestrian trail will be 10 feet wide, about 4.5 miles long, and connect the Minnesota DNR-owned Luce Line trail in central Minnesota and the western metro area to the Grand Rounds trail system at Theodore Wirth Park in Minneapolis. The Luce Line Regional Trail will also improve connectivity among all other regional and local pedestrian trails and parks in the area. Phase one is expected to be completed this summer, with phase two—located between Douglas Dr and Theodore Wirth Park—tentatively set for completion in 2008. The trail will primarily run along the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way.

For more information, call the Three Rivers Park District at 763-559-9000.

RAILROAD BRIDGE AND CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS

Last fall, the City Council accepted a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund to replace the Canadian Pacific railroad bridge over Golden Valley Rd just east of Douglas Dr. The 80-year-old bridge has long been a public safety hazard because of its low vertical clearance. It will be demolished and rebuilt to federal highway standards as part of the Golden Valley Rd reconstruction project (see article above).

Earlier this year, the City signed an agreement with Union Pacific Railroad and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to improve the railroad crossing on Zane Ave N, just south of the Golden Valley Rd reconstruction project.

If you have questions about these projects, contact Golden Valley Public Works Director Jeannine Clancy at 763-593-8030. 

ELECTION CHANGES RECOMMENDED

In 2006, the City Council formed a nine-member Election Task Force to study the City election process and determine how it encourages participation in civic affairs and voting. After meeting several times and hosting a Voter's Fair to gather public input, the Task Force presented its findings to the City Council late last year.

Major recommendations in the Election Task Force Report include changes to the mayoral term, updates to the Council Code of Ethics, and discussion of Council salaries. The report also recommended making greater efforts to increase voter awareness and turnout.

MAYORAL TERM

Question: Should the mayoral term remain a two-year term or be changed to a four-year term?

Recommendation: The Task Force strongly supports a move to a four-year mayoral term. The City Council will review the ordinance change April 17.

CODE OF ETHICS

Question: Should the Council adopt a local code of ethics beyond what is already called for in state law?

Recommendation: The City Council should update ordinances to be consistent with recent court rulings and study whether a voluntary campaign code of ethics should be adopted.

COUNCIL SALARIES

Question: Is the current level of compensation for the mayor and council members appropriate?

Recommendation: The Task Force suggested further deliberation on the subject by the City Council.

The Task Force did not recommend adding a primary election, changing from odd-year to even-year elections, or changing the process to fill vacancies on the Council.

(See the full report at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us, under "City Government," then click on "Election Task Force"). Questions? Contact City Clerk Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010 or svirnig@ci.golden-valley.mn.us. 

GIVE YOUR Kids TIPS FOR SAFE STREET CROSSING

Pedestrian injuries are the second leading cause of unintentional death for children ages five to 14. For children nine and under, about 50 to 70 percent of injuries result from darting into the street. Remind children to cross at corners or crosswalks, NOT from between parked cars or from behind bushes.

- Children under age 10 should walk with an adult or older child because they cannot judge the speed or distance of approaching traffic. Also, their peripheral vision is one-third less than that of an adult.
- Choose the safest and most direct route with the fewest street crossings and walk it with your child.
- Teach children to understand and obey traffic signs and crosswalk markings.
- Be a good role model.
- Remind them that once the "Don't Walk" sign starts flashing, they should not begin to cross the street, but that they'll have enough time to get across if they've already started.

For more information about traffic and crosswalk safety, contact the Golden Valley Police Department at 763-593-8058. 

Stay Alert As You Cross The Crosswalk

Crosswalk safety is a matter of vigilance. While a marked crosswalk is the best, and legal, place to cross, you can't always assume drivers will see you and stop for you. Unfortunately, not all motorists are going to abide by crosswalk laws, either by choice or by circumstance. In some instances, their view of a pedestrian may actually be blocked by the previously stopped vehicle. Either way, the result could be tragic.

STAY ALERT, NEVER ASSUME

Pedestrians within a crosswalk are legally assigned the right of way. But before stepping into the street, you should make eye contact with the drivers of approaching vehicles to make certain they recognize your presence and provide an indication the vehicle will stop. Many motorists are distracted or may not see you in time. Stay vigilant as you cross.

Many pedestrian accidents occur when one vehicle stops for a pedestrian but a second vehicle in another lane does not.



Pedestrian Crossing Law

Minnesota State Statute 169.21 requires drivers to stop and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians crossing the roadway within a marked crosswalk or at an intersection with no marked crosswalk. The driver must remain stopped until the pedestrian has passed the lane in which the driver is stopped.

THE LAW OF THE CROSSWALK

Marked crosswalks help concentrate pedestrians at a specific location and provide a defined pathway for them.

They also discourage crossing at other, less desirable, locations. Crosswalk signs and

markings are meant to alert motorists to the potential presence of pedestrians.

Based on major studies detailing crashes in marked crosswalks, the City evaluates each crosswalk individually to determine whether pedestrians and motorists would be better served by marking the crosswalk, leaving it unmarked, or providing other types of safety devices. Too many marked crosswalks leads to neglect by motorists, reducing positive effects. That's why the City does not install crosswalk markings where there are only a few pedestrians crossing.

For more information about pedestrian crosswalks in Golden Valley, contact Public Works at 763-593-8030. 

By The Numbers

PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS



- Pedestrians under age 25 account for 45 percent of those killed or injured.
- Males were more likely than females to be killed: Males accounted for 64 percent of all pedestrian fatalities and 52 percent of all pedestrian injuries in 2005.
- In 2005, 30 percent of pedestrian crashes occurred during the weekday rush hour driving times (6–9 am and 3–6 pm).
- Most pedestrian crashes (91 percent) occurred in urban areas, but 34 percent of deaths happened in rural areas.
- In the US during 2005, pedestrian fatalities accounted for about 11 percent of all traffic fatalities.
- Each year there are more pedestrian deaths than there are people that die in plane, boat, and train crashes combined.

Source: Minnesota Safety Council

Outdoor Property Inspections To Begin This Spring

After months of planning, City officials will begin their first round of outdoor property maintenance inspections this spring. Inspectors will evaluate the City one portion at a time, and residents will receive a notification letter roughly a month before an inspector visits their area. At each house, the inspector will leave a checklist of items (see below) that need repair, along with a follow-up inspection date. The notification letters should give residents a reasonable amount of time to make sure their property is in good condition, said Angela Obert, a City inspector.

The Golden Valley City Council passed the Residential Property Maintenance Code (RPMC) January 2. The first of its kind for Golden Valley, the code was developed based on citizen input gathered through public surveys, meetings, and online feedback. It applies to multiple-dwelling properties and one- and two-family homes, stressing a common-sense approach to maintenance and continuing the City's pursuit of actively maintaining the vitality and integrity of its housing stock.

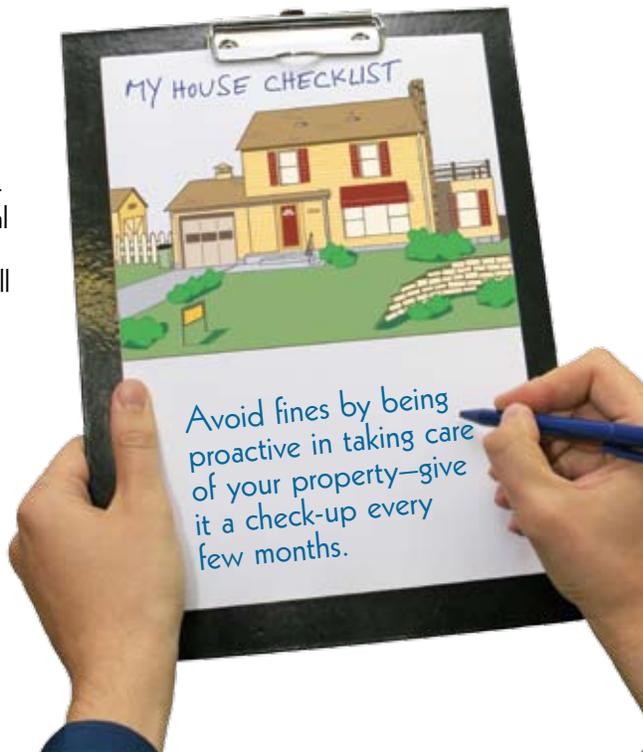
In the past, the City approached property maintenance issues on a complaint basis, receiving an average of 40 complaints per month. With the new code in place, inspectors will be proactive in addressing maintenance problems and will issue penalties for property owners who fail to respond. The goal is to encourage people to find and fix maintenance concerns well before they lead to complaints.

To view the entire RPMC, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citycode1/index.htm, click on Chapter 4, then click Section 4.60.

Maintenance Item Checklist

When an inspector evaluates your property, he or she will mark off a checklist of common outdoor items that should be in good condition. If an item needs repair, the inspector will write specific comments on what the problem is and include a follow-up inspection date. Items on the checklist include:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roof | <input type="checkbox"/> Decks | <input type="checkbox"/> Fence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chimney/Vents | <input type="checkbox"/> Foundations | <input type="checkbox"/> Driveway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gutters/Downspouts | <input type="checkbox"/> Garage | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational Vehicle(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fascia/Soffit | <input type="checkbox"/> Litter/Garbage/Brush | <input type="checkbox"/> Firewood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Siding/Shutters | <input type="checkbox"/> Trees/Shrubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Porches/Breezeway | <input type="checkbox"/> Yard/Landscape | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Windows/Doors | <input type="checkbox"/> Accessory Building(s) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand/Guardrails | <input type="checkbox"/> Retaining Walls | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalks/Steps | | |



DANGEROUS AND ILLEGAL, SO KEEP SIGNS IN LINE

Illegal sign season is upon us—garage sale signs blocking fire hydrants, realtor signs in medians, announcements cluttering phone poles, advertisements obstructing sight lines at intersections. Golden Valley Community Standards and Building Inspector Roger McCabe estimates he takes down roughly 30 illegal signs in any given week during the spring.



Most of the time, he said, people don't know they're breaking the law, so they get angry at the removal of their signs without realizing the problems those signs could create. Often people neglect to remove their signs at all, leading to pile-ups of outdated announcements.

McCabe mainly removes illegal signs because they're safety hazards. Signs too close to the road distract drivers, or might even blow into the road itself. A sign obstructing a view around a corner could cause an accident. Firefighters might have trouble finding a hydrant because someone used it to prop up a cardboard advertisement for a neighborhood sale. It's dangerous, and it could cost up to \$500 in fines for a resident choosing not to abide by the City ordinance.

The ordinance (Chapter 4.2) establishes proper and improper uses for signs. For example, a resident is not allowed to put up a garage sale sign for more than eight days a year, and the sign can't be up sooner than one day before the sale. It can't be greater than six feet in area, higher than three feet, or placed on any government or private property without permission. The sign also needs to be set back a minimum of 15 feet from a curb or sidewalk.

For more guidelines on proper sign postage, visit www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us, click on "City Code," and then click on "Buildings and Signs."

GVHSF SELECTS 2007 T-SHIRT DESIGN

Each year the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF) provides *Run the Valley* (see story at right) participants with a T-shirt to commemorate the event. The design is changed annually and the process is open to the community. This year's winner is Scott Milawski, a Golden Valley resident who works for the local design company Legacy Design Partners.

Milawski, who studied graphic design in college and has been working in the field for about 13 years, said his goal was to capture the "whole spirit of the run." For winning, Milawski was awarded 10 T-shirts printed with the design. GVHSF retains sole ownership of the winning design. For more information on the *Run the Valley* T-shirt design contest, including past winners, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/runvalley.htm.



April 14 *Run the Valley* Benefits Community

Race to sign up for *Run the Valley* and help the community keep pace with neighbors in need. The 13th annual 10K race and 5K run and walk, sponsored by the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF), raises funds for organizations that benefit the community. In 2006, the event drew more than 540 participants and raised \$13,963, 100 percent of which went to GVHSF for distribution.

The certified course runs through residential Golden Valley—water stops and post-race complimentary snacks are provided. Participants will also receive a long-sleeved T-shirt (see sidebar).

WHEN: Saturday, April 14, 8:30 am for 10K race and 8:35 am for the 5K run and walk

WHERE: Start and finish near the Davis Community Center parking lot at Meadowbrook Elementary (one block west of Hwy 100 at the intersection of Glenwood and Xenia Aves)

HOW TO REGISTER: Through April 11, register online at www.active.com. Before April 12, register by mail or in person at Brookview Community Center (200 Brookview Pkwy, 55426), or by phone (763-512-2345) or fax (763-512-2344) with VISA/Mastercard. On race day, register in person at Davis Community Center from 7:15 to 8 am.

COST: Entry fee is \$25 before April 12 and \$35 the day of the race.

For more information about *Run the Valley* or the GVHSF, call 763-512-2345.

City of
Golden Valley

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MIKE FREIBERG | PAULA PENTEL | DEDE SCANLON | BOB SHAFFER
MAYOR | LINDA R. LOOMIS

MAYOR/COUNCIL MSG LINE | 763-593-8001

CITY MANAGER | THOMAS BURT

EDITOR | CHERYL WEILER

ASSISTANT EDITOR | BEN SANDELL

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Please call 763-593-8006 (TTY: 763-593-3968) to make a request.

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