

Golden Valley

CITYNEWS

New BUILDING CODE Sets Solid Precedents

When it comes to building codes, consistency is key. Set standards and measurements create a solid precedent for new construction and renovation. If every house and building had a different set of standards, not only would construction workers have to reinvent the wheel for each project, but the level of safety would vary haphazardly from house to house. National building codes ensure uniform minimum standards of health and safety across the United States.

Every three years the national building code is updated to meet modern building practices and adjust for safety concerns and efficiency. Minnesota adopted the new national code July 10, and the City of Golden Valley began enforcing it. All construction and renovation must reflect the code's changes. Even changes that seem small are important, says City Building Official Gary Johnson.

"If builders don't know the code up front, it causes a lot of headaches," he says. It's a matter of people getting used to the new code and not falling back on outdated standards. For example, a stairway step (tread) must now be a minimum 10 inches deep, and the height from one step to the next (the rise) must be a maximum 7¾ inches. That's only a quarter of an inch shorter than the old measurement, but if a contractor builds it at the old standard of 8 inches, the project would need to be torn down and rebuilt.

The best way homeowners can avoid such hassles is to familiarize themselves with the code and make sure they understand it before starting a project, and to make sure their contractor understands it as well, explains Johnson.

So call the Golden Valley Inspections Department (763-593-8090) with questions, or, better yet, stop by City Hall (ground floor, 7800 Golden Valley Rd) to discuss your project—and how the code affects it—with an inspector.

A Few Examples Of CODE CHANGES

Here's a peek at a few 2007 International Residential Code changes (do NOT use these as a substitute for speaking with an inspector or addressing the code yourself).

- Stairway treads must be a minimum 10 inches deep (instead of 9), and stairway rises must be a maximum 7¾ high (instead of 8).
- Ice and water guards (rubber membranes that protect the edge of roofs from ice damage) are only required on a home's main structure. The treatment no longer applies to detached unheated structures, like sheds or garages.
- Corners with fewer than four feet between the corner and a doorway greater than 6 feet wide must have special bracing (a set amount of nails, anchors, and beam support). These standards are very specific, so be sure to triple-check the code before construction.
- Overlaying of shingles is no longer allowed. Any time a house needs new shingles, the old layer must be removed.
- Spindle spacing on a residential stair guard rail can now be a maximum width of 4⅜ inches. The old maximum was 4 inches.

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CITY TAX LEVY

	Actual 2007	Proposed 2008
General Fund Levy	\$ 10,615,000	\$ 11,520,415
Tax Abatement Levy ¹	\$ 367,215	\$ 367,215
Bonded Debt Levy:		
Street Improvement Bonds ²	\$ 2,394,750	\$ 2,715,750
Equipment Certificates ³	\$ 721,000	\$ 770,000
Sub-Total	\$ 3,115,750	\$ 3,485,750
Total Levy	\$ 14,097,965	\$ 15,373,380

¹ In 2001, the City approved the sale of tax abatement bonds to pay for intersection improvements at Hwy 55 and Boone Ave. This debt is paid from the increased value of the new General Mills building.

² The Bonded Debt Levy will increase to pay existing bond issues sold for the City's pavement management street improvements.

³ Equipment Certificates are debt that is sold to pay for equipment and vehicles, such as fire pumpers, police squads, and dump trucks. The City schedules replacement of equipment and reviews each item before the purchase is made.

Council Adopts 2008 Proposed Budget/Levy

Increased expenditures and a decision to use no City reserve funds are key factors behind the \$91/year increase (for a home valued at \$280,000) in Golden Valley's proposed 2008 City tax levy.

As required by state law, the City Council certified a preliminary levy of \$15,373,380 at its September 4 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 at left). The preliminary levy can be lowered, but not raised, when the Council adopts the actual 2008 levy December 18.

PROPOSED GENERAL FUND LEVY INCREASES

Part of the increase in the City's proposed General Fund Levy is because the City is using no General Fund reserves to balance the 2008 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 City also needed to increase transfers to the building improvement fund by \$300,000 to begin the immediate building infrastructure maintenance items. In mid-2006, the City hired Wold Architects and Engineers to evaluate existing building infrastructure and plan long-term maintenance and space needs for 10 municipal buildings (a complete study is available at City Hall).

Without the transfers, operations increased by four percent. Part of this increase includes three new staff positions and projected salary increases at 3%, and increases for group health insurance (for a total of \$436,455). Ever increasing use of technology (hardware, software, phones) requires increasing information technology staff from one to two; a planner position eliminated by 2003 State aid cuts had been added to help with zoning, comprehensive plan updates, and corridor studies; and an additional police sergeant has been added to increase shift supervision. Other increases include holding the 2008 Primary and Federal election, traffic management, and energy costs.

For more information about how your City tax dollars are used, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us. The complete budget is available at City Hall and the Library. If you have questions about the City's proposed 2008 budget or tax levy, contact Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010.

Truth In Taxation

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 3. Details about the 2008 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.



You are invited to experience... "A TASTE of Golden Valley"

The Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF) invites you 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).

"A TASTE of Golden Valley"

Thurs, November 8, 2007

5:30-8:30 pm

Golden Valley Country Club

Tickets: \$20

National Grant Funds Two Active Living Studies

As human and environmental health concerns continue to rise, people's desire to safely and efficiently walk and bike to work, school, and commerce is growing. Active living is the idea of adding more physical activity to everyday events. It is a guiding principal in the growth of Golden Valley, and the City is working to promote it by planning for more trails and sidewalks that link residential and commercial areas.

As part of these efforts, the City will examine a redesign of Douglas Dr using a grant awarded by Transit for Livable Communities in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration and the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The planning study seeks to provide a safe, non-motorized connection to Minneapolis by redeveloping the Douglas Dr Corridor, which connects to the Luce Line Trail. City planners will look at ways to enhance the quality of life along the Corridor by focusing on land use issues and trail and sidewalk improvements.

In a partnering effort, the City of St Louis Park also received grant money to determine how to improve non-motorized connections between St Louis Park and Golden Valley to Cedar Lake Trail and Wirth Park. The study will examine three major safety issues: dangerous, unofficial crossing of railroad tracks west of Hwy 100; dangerous crossing of I-394 along the Park Place/Xenia corridor; and sidewalk conditions along Glenwood Ave.

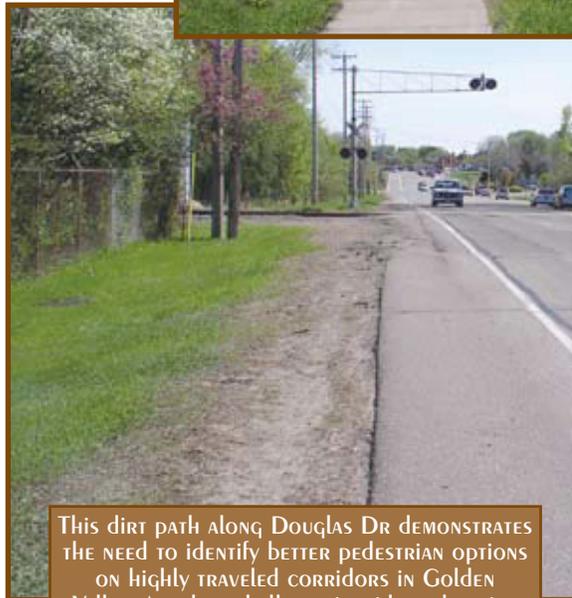
The Xenia Ave/Park Place Blvd and Douglas Dr corridor studies are still in their early stages. Check future *CityNews* publications for updates on these studies and how they'll guide future redevelopment and public infrastructure.

FUNDING SOURCE

Under its Bike/Walk Twin Cities initiative, the Transit for Livable Communities' board of directors recently gave \$7.3 million to boost active living projects for Twin Cities streets. Bike/Walk Twin Cities is part of a national Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Project. The program is part of a six-year, \$21.5 million initiative in four states.

The law provides \$21.5 million to four pilot communities nationwide—Columbia, MO; Marin County, CA; Minneapolis/adjoining communities, MN; Sheboygan County, WI—to explore how investments in planning, infrastructure, and public education can increase rates of bicycling and walking and reduce driving by 2010. The four communities will also study the impact of these investments on traffic congestion, energy use, health, and the environment.

For more information, contact Golden Valley Planning Director Mark Grimes at 763-593-8095. 



THIS DIRT PATH ALONG DOUGLAS DR DEMONSTRATES THE NEED TO IDENTIFY BETTER PEDESTRIAN OPTIONS ON HIGHLY TRAVELED CORRIDORS IN GOLDEN VALLEY. ANOTHER CHALLENGE IS WIDE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS, ILLUSTRATED BY THE HWY 55/DOUGLAS DR INTERSECTION IN THE TOP PHOTO.

DEVELOPMENT Update

Through August 2007, the City of Golden Valley issued nearly 700 building permits totaling more than \$46 million. Here's a look at a few projects.

- **Honeywell** is consolidating facilities in its one-million-square-foot headquarters on Douglas Dr. Existing offices and portions of the manufacturing facilities are being remodeled to accommodate office, research, and training uses as well as an employee cafeteria. Improvements are expected to be completed by year end and total more than \$20 million.
- The Golden Valley Shopping Center (northwest corner of Hwy 55 and Winnetka Ave) has a new 9,500-square-foot building housing **Chipotle** and **Joey's Seafood and Grille**. The facility, which opened this summer, offers additional dining options in downtown Golden Valley. There is still space available. For leasing opportunities contact Ron Trach at 952-926-7621.
- Just across Winnetka Ave, construction is under way at Doolittle's Air Café, which closed for remodeling July 28. It will reopen mid-October as **Doolittle's Woodfire Grille**, with the addition of a fireplace and a private dining area.
- **The Tennant Company** (701 North Lilac Dr), manufacturer of indoor and outdoor sweepers and cleaning solutions, has gradually been moving its Maple Grove operations to its world headquarters at the northwest corner of Hwys 55 and 100. Tennant has also acquired a number of adjacent parcels to be incorporated into its expanded headquarters facility.
- **General Mills** continues to upgrade its facilities, creating a new chiller at its James Ford Bell facility in northwest Golden Valley. The General Mills Federal Credit Union will build a drive-through operation adjacent to General Mills' gas station on Betty Crocker Dr.

If you have questions about these or other development projects in Golden Valley, contact Planning Director Mark Grimes at 763-593-8095. 

LINGERING LEAVES RUIN WATER QUALITY

Falling leaves are an annual beauty, but if left to languish, they become a year-round pollutant. Leaves contain phosphorus, so when they blow into lakes, ponds, and streams, they promote unwanted weed growth and murkiness (see story on page 8).

You can help keep Golden Valley's waterways clear and healthy by properly disposing of leaves and grass throughout the year. 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 (the same phosphorus found in fertilizer that makes lawns green). Not only does this feed vegetation in water, but it also fosters a cycle of water quality decline.

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 survive.

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).

Fall Leaf Drop-Off Helps Avoid Harmful Pile-Ups

Don't let leaves pile up. Take advantage of Golden Valley's *Fall Leaf Drop-Off* and do your part to keep area waters clear and healthy (see story on page 8).

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 leaf below). As in previous years, the drop-off site 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.

LEAF DROP-OFF

Fri, October 26,
8 am - 4 pm

Sat, October 27,
7 am - 1 pm

Fri, November 2,
8 am - 4 pm

Sat, November 3,
7 am - 1 pm

Brookview Park

(south of
Hwy 55 at
Winnetka Ave)

Guidelines

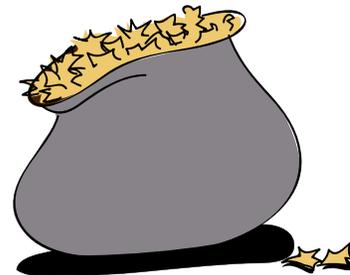
- Participants must provide proof of Golden Valley residency (Minnesota driver's license, ID, or proof of identity and address).
- Residents must untie leaf bags, help de-bag their leaves at the site, and take the bags home for reuse or disposal (see tips below for conserving bags). No brush will be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

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. 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 yard waste, 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
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 24
Christmas	Sat, Dec 29
New Year's '08	Sat, Jan 5
Memorial Day '08	Sat, May 31
July 4 '08	Sat, July 5
Labor Day '08	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.

LEAVES DEPOSIT
PHOSPHOROUS INTO
WATER, LEADING TO
UNWANTED PLANT
GROWTH

Mighty Tidy Day: Cost-Friendly, Eco Smart

By 2010, solid waste generation in the Metro region will have increased more than one million tons over 2000 numbers, according to the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (MOEA). By 2020, the Metro area is projected to produce six million tons of waste, nearly twice the amount generated in 2000.

That's why it's more important than ever to take part in programs like Golden Valley's *Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day*. If you have unwanted household items, the fourth annual event is a cost-friendly, environmentally smart way to get rid of them.

This year's *Mighty Tidy Day* is Saturday, October 13, 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, MOEA also reports that much of the discarded materials contain toxins that threaten public health and the environment.

During the 2006 *Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day*, the City collected nearly 14 tons of bulk waste, more than five tons of metal, 72 appliances, 11,326 lbs of electronics, 1,075 lbs of batteries, 86 fluorescent bulbs, and about a ton of 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 by cash or check (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. 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

How To Hire A TREE TRIMMER

Hiring a tree removal or trimming contractor deserves the same consideration and caution that goes into selecting a doctor or home builder. A mistake can be expensive and long lasting, but the right choice can assure health, beauty, and a longer life for your trees. Use the following tips for optimal results.

- Start by checking the phone directory under Trees or Tree Service. Ask friends and neighbors for recommendations.
- Beware of door-knockers. Most reputable companies have all the work they can handle without going door-to-door.
- Ask for certificates of insurance, including proof of liability for personal and property damage and worker's compensation.

Call the insurance company to make certain the policy is current. Under some circumstances, you can be held financially responsible if an uninsured worker is hurt on your property.

- Ask for references and talk with former clients. Experience, education, and a good reputation are signs of a good arborist.
- Have more than one arborist look at your job and give you estimates. Don't expect one contractor to lower a bid to match another's, and be willing to pay for the estimate if necessary. Three or more cost estimates are worth the effort.
- Ask if the arborist will use climbing spikes. A good arborist will not use climbing spikes if the tree is to remain in the landscape.

THE City FORESTER

Golden Valley's City forester is responsible for maintaining and caring for public trees and consulting with residents about tree diseases, planting, watering, pruning, and other tree-related topics. If you have questions for the City forestry staff, call Public Works at 763-593-8030. 

Recreation OPPORTUNITIES

Find details on the following recreation opportunities and many other programs in the Fall Recreation Activities Brochure or the City Web site (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us).

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Mixture Madness (ages 3½–6)—Explore the world of chemistry by mixing safe ingredients. Nov 2 and 9, 9:45–11:15 am, \$26 per child

Spooktacular—Games, prizes, dancing, and treats. Oct 27, Crystal Community Center, \$6. 11–11:30 am for ages 4–6 (check in with adult from 9:40–9:55 am); 1–2:30 pm for ages 7–9 (check in from 12:40–12:55 pm)

Basketball Winter Warm-up—Grades 2–6 can improve skills and fundamentals before the season starts. Grades 2–3: Tuesdays, Nov 13–Dec 18, 6–7:30 pm, Davis Community Center, \$40; Grades 4–6: Mondays, Nov 12–Dec 17, 6–7:30 pm, Forest Elementary, Crystal, \$40.

Monster Mash Teen Dance—Youth in grades 5–7 can socialize with friends and dance to Halloween favorites. Treats and costume contest. Oct 26, 7–9:30 pm, Crystal Community Center, \$5 in advance, \$8 at door

Adult Activities

Nutrition: A Way Of Life—Discuss what it means to live, think, and feel in balance. Oct 29, 6:30–7:30 pm, \$18

Davis Community Center Open Gyms—Over 40 Basketball: Mondays, 8 pm; Open Basketball: Wednesdays, 8 pm and Saturdays, 8 am; Volleyball: Tuesdays/Thursdays, 8 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

Cooperative Programs Create More Opportunities For You



No city is an island. Maximizing the quality of life for residents requires a healthy amount of cooperation among communities and organizations. Without this cooperation, some of Golden Valley's parks and recreation programs wouldn't be possible.

"It allows us to give our participants a better experience," says Brian Erickson, recreation supervisor. The soccer program, for example, wouldn't be as enjoyable if other cities weren't involved, he adds. Cooperation gives activities more depth and range. "When we bring all our resources together, we're able to put on better programs and events."

Golden Valley teams up with Crystal for the youth basketball program. Youth chess is a joint program with New Hope, Crystal, and Robbinsdale. Music for Everyone brings together Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Maple Grove, New Hope, and Plymouth.

Target Center events, the Spooktacular Halloween event, Monster Mash Teen Dance, Opportunity Fest, and the Bike Rodeo all rely on the support of surrounding cities and organizations.

"Cooperative programming is the best of all worlds," says Jeanne Fackler, senior citizens coordinator. "It's a cost-effective way to provide programs in the community by sharing financing, advertising, and staff. Plus, it reduces the number of duplicate programs, so everyone benefits."

Fackler says the Senior Center regularly works with other agencies to offer as many opportunities as possible. Golden Valley partners with Crystal on special events like the Boo Bash Dance, Holiday Tea, and Spring Fling. The two cities also sponsor the Pedal Pushers Bicycle Group. Senior day trips are made possible with the help of Calvary Co-op and Covenant Village; extended trips are made possible with the help of the Cities of St Louis Park, Crystal, New Hope, Robbinsdale, Hopkins, and Burnsville.

Senior classes are held with the support of the Golden Valley Library, Country Villa, Calvary Co-op, City of St Louis Park, AAA of Minneapolis, and the Minnesota Safety Council. Blood Pressure Screenings are provided with the help of Ambassador Good Samaritan Home Health.

If you're age 60 or older and need a ride to City-sponsored senior clubs, activities, or dining, or to shopping centers in Brooklyn Center, Crystal, Golden Valley, New Hope, or Robbinsdale, the Five Cities Senior Transportation Program can give you a lift. A prime example of Cities working together to better the community, the Five Cities Program was started in 1985 for seniors in apartments who wanted to attend City-sponsored activities but had no way to get there. For more information, call 763-531-1259.

"The Five Cities programs [Brunch Bunch, Treasure Seekers, Vivace! Concert Series, Nature of Things, Seniors In Mind, and Local Motion] could not be offered at all if it wasn't for the financial backing of each city, and that would definitely limit the opportunity for seniors to get out into the community," says Fackler.

For more information about Golden Valley Park and Recreation programs or Senior programs, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us.

Community Volunteering Makes A DIFFERENCE

Making and keeping Golden Valley a great place to live is the responsibility of every resident. Volunteers come in all ages and from all walks of life, but they share a care for the community. In particular, local volunteers have the inside scoop on area needs and resources and a vested interest in keeping the community strong.

Golden Valley Connects and Bridge Builders are citizen community-building initiatives stemming from *Envision Golden Valley*. To provide an idea of what's possible, two citizen-led Bridge Builder projects are outlined below. Both are examples of creative, innovative ways to make a difference in Golden Valley.

City Of Lilacs

C. Dwight Townes has a vision to expand the signature lilacs of Golden Valley from Hwy 100 to Hwy 55. He is promoting a pilot program as the kick-off for his larger vision, and he has made contacts with the Minnesota Community Landscaping Partnership Program sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). MnDOT staff will collaborate on a landscape design on the south side of Hwy 55 just west of the pedestrian bridge adjacent to Winnetka Ave. If the project gets approved, MnDOT will supply the plants and materials and Townes will recruit the labor. The proposed schedule could bring lilacs to this locale as early as the spring of 2008.

LIBRARY MENTORING

Mary Anderson, head librarian at the Hennepin County Golden Valley Library, has a vision of engaging young library visitors. She is working with interested people from the Perpich Center for Arts Education, CommonBond Communities, Hennepin County Libraries, and Golden Valley Mayor Linda Loomis to develop a mentor program for neighborhood middle school students who frequent the library. CommonBond has agreed to coordinate the program in the Library Community Room. The program is still in developmental stages, but Anderson is encouraging folks interested in mentoring to step forward. It is anticipated that mentors would volunteer after school one day a week. A background check and orientation will be part of the process.

Interested in starting your own small spark? Want to join one of the Bridge Builder initiatives outlined above? Contact Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014 or jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us. Learn more about Bridge Builders and Golden Valley Connects at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us (click on the "Connecting Golden Valley" icon).

Scenes from the ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The August 13 Bridge Builder's Ice Cream Social, a volunteer effort, brought all ages of the community together.



Photos by M Jensen Photography Inc

SENIOR *Stuff*

Unless noted otherwise, activities are at Brookview Community Center and require advance registration.

SPECIAL EVENTS

"Boo Bash" Halloween Dance—Friday, Oct 26, 1–3:30 pm, Crystal Community Center, 4800 N. Douglas Drive, Crystal, \$4 payable at door

CLASSES

Defensive Driving 4-hour Refresher Course—Thursday, Nov 8, 9 am–1 pm. Register with Minnesota Safety Council at 651-291-9150.

Memory Loss and Aging—Wednesday, Nov 14, 6–8 pm, Golden Valley Library, register by Nov 12 with Golden Valley Seniors, free

ACTIVITIES

Coffee Talk—"The Depression Years," Wednesday, Oct 24, 10 am, register by Oct 22, \$2 payable at door

Brain Games—Thursday, Nov 1, 10 am, donation for refreshments

Living Wise and Well—"Legacy—A Present for the Future," Thursday, Nov 1, 1:30 pm

Money Matters (10–11 am)—"Mortgage Backed Bonds/First Mortgage Bonds," Thursday, Oct 18; "Risk Management for the Sophisticated Investor," Thursday, Nov 15

Mary Wanderers—"Holiday Show," Friday, Nov 16, 11:05–11:15 am, \$39, register by Oct 22; "Sparkling St Paul," Thursday, Dec 6, 1:35–1:45 pm, \$52, register by Nov 12

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 Has Its Clean Water Act Together

Sweeney Lake is a 67-acre body of water in Golden Valley surrounded by 2,360 acres of drainage area. That means a street on the other side of town is essentially part of the lakeshore, says Al Lundstrom, Golden Valley's environmental coordinator.

Highways, streets, and yards are also extensions of shorelines. Chemicals spilled on area streets eventually get washed into local waterways. Leaves that fall into the gutter seep phosphorus through storm drains and creeks.

This adds up, and it contributed to Sweeney Lake's 2004 inclusion in a list of "impaired waters" as

determined by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the federal Clean Water Act (see box). Impaired waters are streams, rivers, and lakes that currently do not meet their designated use and associated water quality standards. About 16 percent of Minnesota lakes have been assessed so far, with about 37 percent labeled as impaired.

Sweeney made the list because of excess nutrients (phosphorus), which come from dead vegetation and fertilizer. Phosphorus promotes surface vegetation that not only makes a lake murky, but also blocks sunlight

from reaching plants on the lake bottom, plants that provide food for ducks, fish, and other marine life. As these plants decompose, they use up water oxygen, making it harder for aquatic life to survive.

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission began Sweeney's TMDL study (see sidebar) in spring 2007 and aims to complete it in 2008. The goal is to identify sources of phosphorus entering the lake and work toward improving its water quality.

About The Clean Water Act And TMDL

The federal Clean Water Act (CWA), passed in 1972, is the cornerstone of surface water quality protection in the United States (it doesn't deal directly with ground water or water quantity issues). Its goal is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waterways so they can support "the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water."

The CWA uses a variety of tools to sharply reduce direct pollutant discharges into waterways, finance municipal wastewater treatment facilities, and manage polluted runoff. Over the last decade, CWA programs have shifted from a program-by-program, source-by-source, pollutant-by-pollutant approach to more holistic watershed-based strategies, which place equal emphasis on protecting healthy waters and restoring impaired ones. This approach also develops and implements strategies for achieving and maintaining state water quality and other environmental goals.

One such strategy is Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), which establishes the maximum amount of a pollutant a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards for the designated use (see Sweeney Lake story at left for a local example).

The CWA requires the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to assess all state waterways, formally list as impaired those that fail to meet standards, then conduct a TMDL study for each pollutant cited. The TMDL study is a written plan that analyzes the problem and determines how water quality standards will be attained. It identifies both point and non-point sources of each pollutant. Water bodies may have several TMDLs, one for each pollutant, and respective local governments examine and implement ways to reduce pollutants so the water bodies fall within CWA water quality standards.

Source: Environmental Protection Agency (www.epa.gov)

Phosphorus Sources and Solutions

To comply with the Clean Water Act, Golden Valley employs a number of best management practices (BMPs) aimed at reducing phosphorus sources for area waterways.

Source: Fertilizer Use

Landowners who use phosphorus-rich chemicals to fertilize their lawns contribute to the greening of local water bodies.

Solution: A phosphorus ban. In 2005, Minnesota banned phosphorus in the metro area. Phosphorus free fertilizer has become more available in response to the law.



Source: Shore Run-off

When there's not enough vegetation along shorelines, fertilizer and other chemicals easily drain into waterways.

Solution: Encouraging and implementing buffer zones. City and state environmental officials like to see at least 15 feet of vegetation between a yard and a water body, says Lundstrom. Native plants and grasses act as good filters to sift out phosphorus. Shoreline beaches and riprap are poor filters, but people don't have to get rid of them, adds Lundstrom. A beach is fine as long as it is surrounded by a vegetation buffer zone, with a path leading to the shoreline.



Source: Street Drainage Issues

Many typical pollutants along the curbs of residential streets (eg, grass clippings, leaves, fertilizer pellets, sediments) flow directly to nearby water bodies through the storm sewer system.

Solution: The City of Golden Valley's annual Pavement Management Program (PMP) repairs and upgrades streets and utilities throughout the City. Recently, the City completed a drainage improvement plan and extensive public input process for the first segment of street reconstruction projects in the Sweeney Lake watershed. The intent and goal of the drainage study was to identify locations and types of BMPs that could be installed as part of the PMP and achieve improvements in water quality treatment in the Sweeney Lake watershed.



Source: Leaf Pile Ups

Fallen leaves decompose, creating phosphorus. When it rains, the phosphorus washes into creeks and storm drains. And if left to pile up, leaves often blow directly into waterways, generating even more nutrient loading.

Solution: Leaf pick-up programs and street sweeping. The City's annual Fall Leaf Drop-Off program gives residents a way to dispose of their leaves at no charge (see story on page 4). This provides an alternative to raking leaves into the street, an illegal practice. For leaves that manage to get into the streets anyway, the City has implemented a thorough street sweeping program, where trucks collect road debris and dispose it in an eco-friendly way.



Source: Lack of Natural Filters

Open spaces are often the only economical place to manage clean storm water as mandated by the Clean Water Act.

Solution: Golden Valley has found several opportunities in its parks and open space areas to install natural buffers and ponds for filtering storm water. The City also plans to install artificial filters in the form of environmental manholes, which are storm drain filters used in highly developed urban areas where land use is too limited for ponds.



Using these BMPs and other practices, and with the help of the community, Sweeney Lake could be off the list as early as 2012, says Lundstrom. Such actions will also benefit other local waterways, like Bassett Creek. The City will develop details of the implementa-

tion plan through an open process that takes input from all project stakeholders, including local residents, neighboring municipalities, and other agencies. "Every effort counts toward keeping area waterways clean, healthy, and beautiful," says Lundstrom.

For more information on the TMDL study and Sweeney Lake project, visit www.sehinc.com/online/sweeney.

GVPD To Debut New Program

October is National Crime Prevention Month, when cities, civic groups, schools, and businesses educate the public about crime prevention, showcase accomplishments, and explore new partnerships.

While the Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) does this all year long, this year it will debut a new crime prevention program (see below). Its goal is to educate citizens about how the Police Department operates and to ask citizens to share their concerns about the community. The program kicks off in November.

The GVPD presents numerous crime prevention programs throughout the year. For more information go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/publicsafety/policedept.htm or contact Crime Prevention Specialist Joanne Paul at 763-593-8058.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2007
9 AM-4 PM
GOLDEN VALLEY POLICE DEPT
7800 GOLDEN VALLEY RD

Learn more about the Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD), and provide feedback about crime concerns and department performance measures. Session includes:

- presentations on GVPD functions, such as patrol deployment, investigations, crime prevention, use of force, and school/juvenile crime
- a building tour
- focus groups to discuss community expectations and priorities for 2008

Space is limited to 40 Golden Valley residents or business owners. There is no cost, but pre-registration is required. Call 763-593-8079 to reserve your spot.



Safety Camp Leaves Lasting Impression

After landing a National Guard helicopter in Golden Valley's Brookview Park, Chief Warrant Officer BJ Voute stood before a large group of riveted 7- to 9-year-olds and gave a firm lecture on safety.

"What's something you can do that will kill your brain?" the pilot asked.

"Hit your head with a hammer," a kid shouted.

Voute couldn't disagree, but it wasn't the answer he was looking for.

"Anything else that can kill your brain?"

The kids were stumped.

Drugs, was Voute's answer. And he got his message across by appealing to the kids' sense of cool. By the looks on their faces, they thought flying a helicopter would be pretty cool. But would the National Guard ever let someone on drugs pilot a helicopter? Voute asked.

Of course not, the pilot said, and the kids didn't argue. Of all the high-tech survival gadgets on the helicopter, the brain is the most useful piece of safety equipment a pilot has, Voute said.

The National Guard visit was part of Golden Valley's 15th annual Safety Camp, where 100 kids spent a day at Brookview Park learning safety tips, precautions, and emergency responses—everything from bike safety to the proper use of 911. A week earlier, the City also held a similar Jr Safety Camp, attended by 80 kids ages 4 to 6.

Golden Valley Firefighter Dave Comb spent time at both camps. He and other staff participate as part of their civic duty, he said.

When the kids hear these safety lessons from people other than their family, it helps them remember, said Comb.

"Children listen to their parents, of course,



Chief Warrant Officer BJ Voute talks to campers about safety.



Campers get a close up of the National Guard helicopter.



ing Impressions

More than 100 kids attended Safety Camp this summer.

but it's nice when it also comes from an outside source." The camp, he added, puts kids in a positive environment that helps create lasting impressions.

It was the second time 7-year-olds Abigail Houk and Mary Jo Hammons attended the camp. They said they took what they learned last year and shared the lessons with their friends at school. Abigail returned to camp because "it's fun and you learn lots of safety stuff." She and her friends cited bike safety as their favorite lesson and explained that it's "stupid" not to wear a bike helmet, a lesson retained from last year.

You'd be surprised how much the kids retain, said Joanne Paul, Golden Valley crime prevention specialist and Safety Camp coordinator.

"I've had parents tell me that their kids knew to call 911 or knew what to do in emergencies because of what they learned at Safety Camp," she said. And even for the kids who won't face such emergencies, she added, it never hurts to be prepared.

On top of teaching valuable lessons, the camp also helps kids get to know their local law enforcement as more than just authority figures, Paul said. That's why Golden Valley police and firefighters took some time away from lessons and lectures to play games with the kids and just hang out with them.

Even Chief Warrant Officer Voute and his co-pilots stuck around to eat pizza and answer an assortment of helicopter questions.

"What happens if the helicopter crashes in water?" a child asked. Voute explained the procedure, assuring the kids that pilots are trained for such emergencies.

Another child shouted a follow-up question: "But what if there's alligators?"

An unlikely scenario, but hey, never hurts to be prepared.



Kids took turns sitting on the golf course lawn mower.



Firefighter and Safety Camp Staff Member Dave Comb gets piled on during a game of freeze tag.

PRACTICE YOUR ESCAPE PLAN FOR FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

"Practice Your Escape Plan!" is the theme of Fire Prevention Week 2007, Oct 7-13. When it comes to escape plans, practice is key.



According to a 2004 survey by the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA), 66% of Americans have an escape plan in case of a fire, but 34% have not practiced it. Yet three quarters of those surveyed think they have less than 10 minutes to get out of the house before a fire turns deadly.

The Golden Valley Fire Department wants all Golden Valley residents to be aware of the need to get out fast if there's a fire. That means having an escape plan and practicing it. Follow these NFPA tips to get started:

- Draw a floor plan or a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Mark two ways out of each room, and keep doors, stairways, and other exits clear of toys, furniture, and clutter.
- Be sure smoke alarms are in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- Assign a family member to assist those who might need help getting out (elderly, infants).
- Make sure everyone in your household knows how to call 911 and report a fire.
- Pick a family meeting place outside where everyone can meet. Mark it on your escape plan.
- Practice your plan at least twice a year, and practice getting low to go under smoke. Be sure to close doors behind you, which can slow the spread of fire and smoke.

For more information about fire escape plans or fire safety, contact the Golden Valley Fire Department at 763-593-8080.

CHOOSE TO **reuse** IN OCTOBER

Every year, 32 million pounds of usable items are thrown away in Hennepin County. Residents can Choose to Reuse and help reduce the volume of waste thrown away by supporting businesses and organizations in the community that provide opportunities to rent, repair, resell, consign, trade, sell bulk, and exchange used goods. Residents can save money, help reduce waste, and support the local economy by thinking about reuse when shopping.

Helping the environment has never been so much fun! To encourage more reuse, Hennepin County Environmental Services is hosting the sixth annual Choose To Reuse program in October. The County has partnered with 80 businesses and organizations to offer discounts. Local participants include:

- Down In The Valley and National Camera Exchange in Golden Valley
- Cash N Pawn, Down In The Valley, and Maranatha Storehouse in Crystal
- Arc's Value Village and Unique Thrift Store in New Hope
- Knights Formalwear and Norcostco-Northwestern Costume in Plymouth
- Home at Last in Robbinsdale
- Once Upon A Child, Jerry's Hardware, and Second Debut Renewed Fashions and Art in St Louis Park

For a complete list, go to www.hennepin.us and search "Choose To Reuse Month." While there, download a copy of the "Save Cash, Save the Planet! Get Great Stuff" Choose To Reuse Month Coupon Book. Customers can also get the Coupon Book at participating "Choose To Reuse" locations, Hennepin County Service Centers and Libraries, and all Three Rivers Park District locations.

For more information, visit Hennepin County Environmental Services Web site at www.hennepin.us or call 612-348-3777. 

Illegal Dumping: A Threat To Health And Safety

A secluded bit of woods just off the road can sometimes turn into a hot spot for illegal dumping, a sporadic graveyard of old furniture, computers, tires, and trash. Illegal dumping ranges from yard maintenance contractors dumping debris on darkened city dead-ends to residents heaving bags of leaves into adjacent nature areas or leaving a chair or brush pile on the sidewalk in front of a home.

"They do it in the middle of the night, any place that's a little darker and a little less visible," says Lyle Johnson, Golden Valley's street maintenance supervisor. He believes people likely do it because it's convenient and to avoid paying waste disposal fees. "As soon as we hear about it, we pick it up." Johnson says the City is called out to clean up illegal dumping sites a couple of times per month.

Dumping in undesignated areas is not only a crime, but it also diverts land from more productive uses, depresses the value of surrounding land, and poses health, safety, and environmental threats,* such as:

- fire and explosion
- injury to children playing in or around the dump site
- disease carried by mosquitoes, flies, and rodents
- contamination of streams, rivers, and lakes (see pages 8–9)
- contamination of soil and groundwater
- contamination of drinking water wells
- damage to plant and wildlife habitats
- decrease in the quality of life to nearby communities and residents
- spoiling the area's natural beauty

*Source: Environmental Protection Agency

Illegal dumping also costs the city up to \$2,000 a year to clean up, and it could cost perpetrators several hundred dollars in fines if caught.

Residents have better options. In addition to legal waste disposal sites and recycling facilities, Golden Valley's annual Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day gives residents a monitored site to dispose of items that they no longer use and that cannot be donated, such as old mattresses and sofas, broken bicycles, ancient appliances, and unwanted tires (see page 5). The City's annual Fall Leaf Drop-Off (see page 4) and Spring Brush Pick-Up (first three weeks each May) provide options for disposing of yard waste. The Hennepin County Recycling Centers (8100 Jefferson Highway, Brooklyn Park and 1400 West 96th St, Bloomington) take a variety of items. Call 612-348-3777 for directions, fees, and to verify that they will accept the items you wish to dispose of.

You can also help cut down on illegal dumping by reporting it where you see it. Call Public Works at 763-593-8030 if you know about an illegal dumping site. If you see someone doing it, call 911. For more information about keeping Golden Valley clean, go to ci.golden-valley.mn.us and click on "Environment." 



Illegal dumping is harmful to the health and safety of Golden Valley, plus it will cost you.

Q&A: Understanding I/I

Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) is a complex and important subject. Although the City has been working to explain it to citizens for several years, there are still public misperceptions about the issue. This Q and A addresses frequently asked questions about I/I.

Q. Is it true 40% of I/I sewer inspections are failing (non-compliant)?

A. Yes. Approximately 40% show some level of non-compliance. These range from sump hoses draining to laundry tubs or connected to the sanitary sewer, foundation drains connected to the sanitary sewer, broken or cracked sewer pipes, and in some cases, sewers that are missing portions of the pipe. As Golden Valley homes continue to age, so do their sewer systems. Generally other portions of a property get repaired or replaced as they age, but in most cases sewers are not addressed unless they stop working. It's the old "out of sight, out of mind" scenario.

Q. Why doesn't the City just fix these problems?

A. For the same reason the City doesn't fix other items on private property, such as aging roofs or furnaces. Property owners are responsible for maintaining and repairing the sewer pipes from their home or building to the City's main line in the street.

Q. If that's the case, why is the City sticking its nose into private properties now?

A. To be successful at reducing I/I, the City has to inspect all sources of I/I. Cracks in public and private sanitary sewer pipes can contribute as much as several gallons of clear water per minute at times when ground water levels are high and infiltration (from cross-connected sumps, etc) is also high. Each year the City televises about five miles of public sewer to detect defects and problems, and cleans another 40 miles, completely cleaning the entire 113-mile system every three years. Next year, the City will spend about \$700,000 to maintain the system and reduce I/I. The privately owned sanitary sewer system is more extensive (approximately 147 miles of pipes), and based on data from I/I inspections, it is not maintained as well.

Q. So why isn't the I/I inspection program mandatory in Pavement Management Program (PMP) areas? Why the emphasis on Point of Sale?

A. Perhaps a better question would be, "what is an aging first-ring suburb like Golden Valley doing to help protect property values for current and future residents?" During the upcoming PMP projects, property owners are already paying \$4,400 assessments for their streets. The City doesn't want to require them to pay more for potential sewer system repairs. That's why I/I inspection is voluntary on PMP projects. On the other hand, when people sell their homes, they are asked to disclose problems with roofs, furnaces, and other significant areas that may need repair. Why not sewer systems? Also, people selling their homes are more likely to have access to equity that can be used to cover the costs of significant home repairs.

Q. When the I/I problem is fixed, will the program end?

A. No, this is an ongoing inspection process to ensure continued progress in maintaining property values in Golden Valley.

Q. If I/I is such a big deal, why isn't the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concerned about it?

A. The EPA has had a Task Force working on I/I since 1995, and it is strengthening enforcement of regulations. In 2006, EPA enforcement officers visited the metro area to review progress on reducing I/I and sewer overflows. The EPA has delegated authority for enforcing its rules in Minnesota to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), which is actively involved with the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) in reducing I/I. MCES now requires communities to address I/I.

If you have more questions about I/I, contact Utilities Maintenance Supervisor Dave Lemke at 763-593-8075. For I/I information, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us.



AVOID HEADACHES: LEARN THE INS AND OUTS OF I/I.

Show Me The \$:

Why Golden Valley Can't Buy Its Way Out Of I/I

Like most problems, Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) costs money to fix and even more money not to. How much is it really costing Golden Valley property owners?

Q. Currently the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) charges the City (and its citizens) a \$380,000 surcharge per year for excess waste water treatment. Why not just pay it?

A. The \$380,000 surcharge is based on one rain event (in October 2005) where the City exceeded its peak allowable flow into the MCES sanitary sewer system. Since then, the City hasn't exceeded the threshold set by

that rain event, so the surcharge hasn't increased. If Golden Valley doesn't reduce its I/I, this charge will become a permanent *demand charge* in 2013. At that time all demand charges will be based on accumulative rain events, meaning Golden Valley's demand charge will never be less than \$380,000 but could be significantly higher.

Q. If Golden Valley gets I/I under control, what will the demand charge be?

A. There would be no demand charge.

Q. Why is the City charging property owners \$200 fee for residential I/I Point Of Sale inspection permits?

A. The \$200 inspection fee is for single family homes and covers the cost of two televised sewer inspections (\$150). The other \$50 covers scheduling, inspection tape review, permit processing, correspondence, and public education.

Q. Is it true the average cost of repairing a private sanitary sewer system is \$3,600?

A. For the 40% of sanitary sewers that failed inspection, costs to date have ranged from \$500 to \$8,595, depending on the extent of the repair. For the 60% that passed, the only cost has been the \$200 permit fee.

Questions? Contact Public Works at 763-593-8030.



WATCH FOR WALKERS/BIKERS

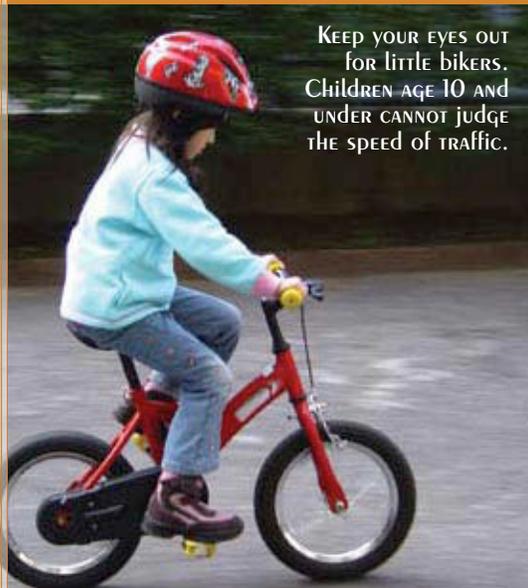


Traffic accidents are the leading cause of death and injury among school-aged children, and pedestrian injuries are the second leading cause of unintentional death in children ages five to 14.

Children age 10 and under cannot judge the speed or distance of moving vehicles, and their peripheral vision is one-third less than that of an adult. That means it's up to drivers to take responsibility for safety in areas where children are present. The following tips will help.

- Slow down. Drive 20 miles per hour in urban school areas, whether children are present or not, and never pass another vehicle in a school zone.
- 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. For children nine and under, about 50 to 70 percent of injuries result from darting into the street.
- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch out for children walking to the bus stop or walking or biking to school.
- Watch for children walking in the street, especially where there are no sidewalks, and for children playing and gathering near bus stops.
- Be alert and ready to stop. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- Avoid distractions such as cell phones and other devices.

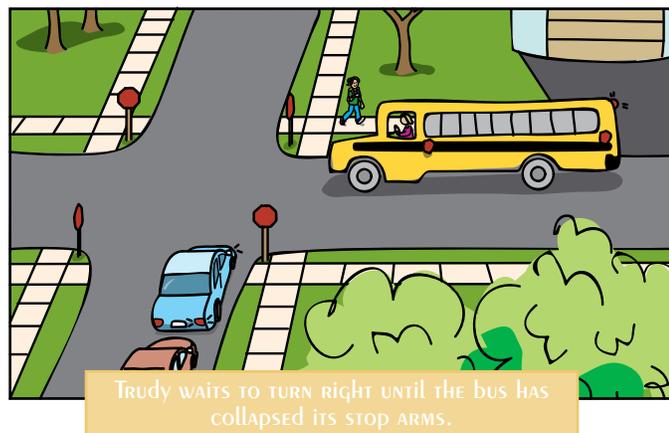
KEEP YOUR EYES OUT FOR LITTLE BIKERS. CHILDREN AGE 10 AND UNDER CANNOT JUDGE THE SPEED OF TRAFFIC.



Drive Safe In School Zones

Each day in America, 24 million students ride buses to and from school, and even more walk or ride their bikes. With school back in session, drivers everywhere need to be especially alert for school buses, walking or biking students who may not be focused on traffic (see sidebar), and other drivers who may not be focused on anything but their route and their schedule. Help make this school year a safe one for the entire community by observing the safety precautions on this page.

How Traffic Truly Follows THE RULES OF SCHOOL BUS SAFETY



STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES

In every state, it is illegal to pass a school bus that has stopped to load or unload students. School bus drivers activate yellow flashing lights at least 100 feet before stopping to indicate the bus is preparing to stop. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles. Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red flashing lights are turned off, the stop arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they start driving again.

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.

School Crossing Locations

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

As the new school year gets under way, the Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) will have an additional presence around school zones. For more information, contact the GVPD at 763-593-8079.

VOTE On November 6

Polls in Golden Valley open at 7 am Tuesday, November 6 for the municipal general election (see page 16 for details). 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 3, from 10 am to 3 pm and Monday, November 5 until 5 pm.

VOTE By Mail An application for an absentee ballot can be picked up at City Hall or downloaded from the City Web site. 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.

Absentee voting is available starting October 5.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Minnesota allows voters to register to vote at the polls on election day (see sidebar for required identification). 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.

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

REGISTER On Election Day

Golden Valley residents who register to vote at their polling places (see sidebar on page 16) on election day will need to verify residence with one of the following:

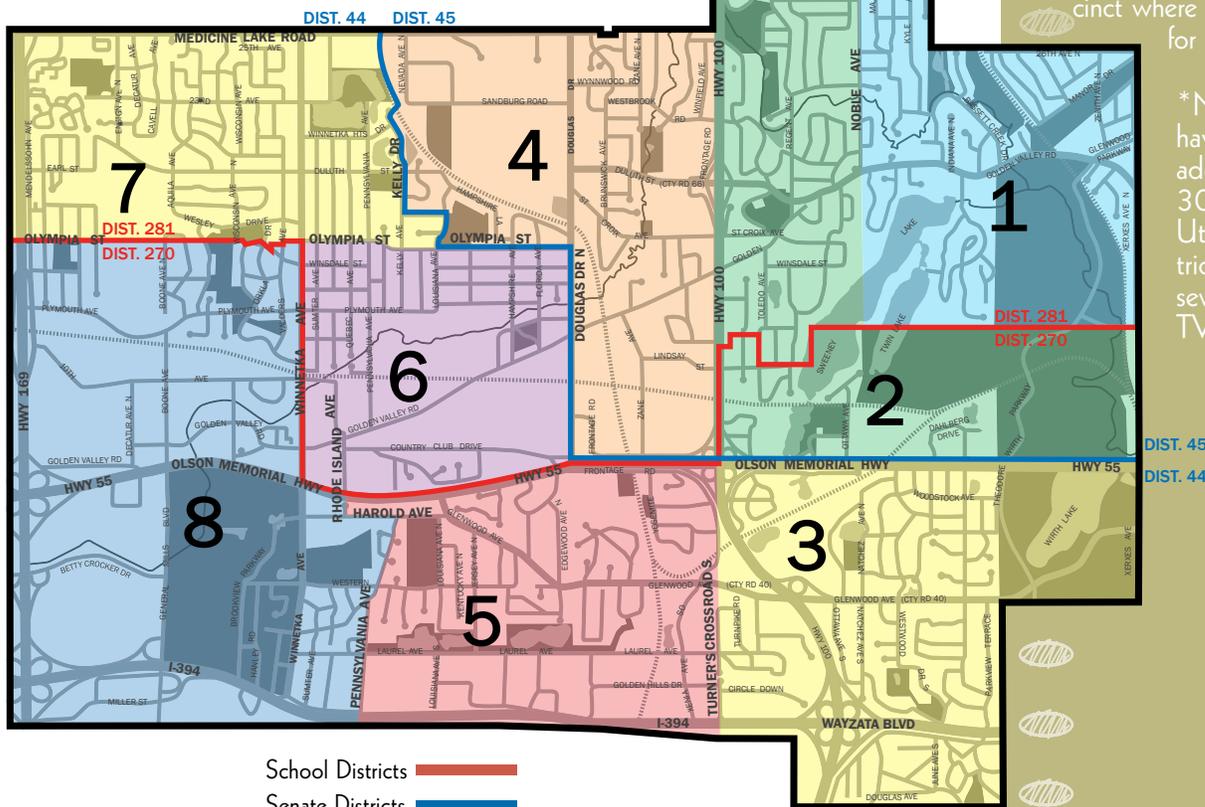
- Minnesota driver's license, learner's permit, identification card, or receipt for one, with your current address
- Minnesota Tribal ID
- recent utility bill* with your current address (if your Minnesota license, Tribal ID, or MN State ID has a former address)
- "Notice of Late Registration" letter
- US passport with utility bill*
- US military photo ID card with utility bill*
- prior registration listed on roster at former address in precinct
- oath of a registered voter in precinct ("vouching")

Students can use:

- student ID, registration, or fee statement with your current address
- student photo ID with utility bill*
- student ID if you are on a student housing list on file at the polling place
- someone who is registered in the precinct where you live who will vouch for your residence

* Note: The utility bill must have your name, current address, and be due within 30 days of the election. Utility bills may be for electric, gas, water, solid waste, sewer, telephone, or cable TV.

GOLDEN VALLEY VOTING PRECINCTS



School Districts ————
Senate Districts ————

Voting Locations

For the November 6 municipal general election, you must vote in your own precinct between 7 am and 8 pm. To find your voting location, go to <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>.

-  **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**
Christian Life Center
8025 Medicine Lake Rd
-  **Precinct 8**
Brookview Community Center
200 Brookview Pkwy

Nine File For City Council

Nine Golden Valley residents will be on the ballot November 6 for three Golden Valley City Council seats. The four-year term of Mayor Linda Loomis is up Dec 31, 2007, as are the four-year terms of Council members Mike Freiberg and Bob Shaffer.

Jeffrey Beck, Joanie Stockman Clausen, and incumbent Loomis are candidates for the mayoral seat. Bill Anderl, John Giese, Bradley Kadue, Christopher Miller, and incumbents Freiberg and Shaffer are candidates for the two council seats.

For more information about the election, see the article on page 15 or click to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/voting.htm. Official election results will be posted on the City Web site as soon as they become available. 

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

MAYORAL

Jeffrey A. Beck
2400 Rhode Island Ave N #404
763-546-9670

Joanie Stockman Clausen
2516 Lee Ave N
763-588-6873

Linda R. Loomis
6677 Olson Memorial Hwy
763-545-4659

City Council

Bill Anderl
4911 33rd Ave N
763-529-5008

Mike Freiberg
6601 Olympia St
763-544-6406

John Giese
5545 Golden Valley Rd
763-546-4650

Bradley Kadue
611 Radisson Rd
763-546-0012

Christopher Miller
408 Natchez Ave S
763-205-6623

Bob Shaffer
3125 Quail Ave N
763-588-3352

Contact candidates directly if you want campaign information.

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

GRAPHIC DESIGNER | KRISTI BUCHER



This document is available in alternate formats upon a 72-hour request. Please call 763-593-8006 (TTY: 763-593-3968) to make a request. Examples of alternate formats may include large print, electronic, Braille, audiocassette, etc.



City of
Golden Valley

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