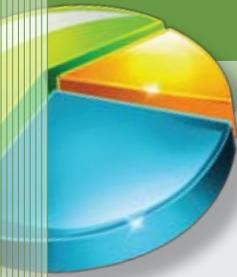


July AUGUST

2009

# Golden Valley

## CITYNEWS



### Council Reviews Proposed City Budget

The Golden Valley City Council held its first discussion July 14 on the proposed 2010 City budget, which shows overall expenditures decreasing by \$494,055, or 3.20%. Budget discussions began with a financial wellness workshop in March, where Council and staff considered the economic climate and its effect on City finances.

The City's 2010 proposed budget includes no increases in salaries and wages for all employees. The Council's goal is to try to retain staffing to meet the service needs of the community and mandates by state and federal agencies. Other cost saving proposals include delayed rehiring upon retirements, delayed capital and equipment purchases, and refinancing debt at lower rates when possible. The City also participates in money-saving partnerships, consortiums, and group purchasing.

Future budgets may follow a similar path. The League of Minnesota Cities has warned cities not to anticipate improvement in the state's economic condition for a while. The state budget forecast will likely be facing another deficit into the 2012-2013 biennium.

For the 2010 budget, in September the Council will approve a proposed levy that will be used for the Truth in Taxation (TNT) notices that are sent out in November. The final levy and budget will be approved in December for 2010 property tax statements. The schedule for the 2010 proposed General Budget is available online at [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/budget.html](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/budget.html).

For updates to the General Fund budget, check the City Web site at [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/publish.html](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/publish.html). Information is also available at City Hall and the Golden Valley Library. Questions? Contact City Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010 or [svirnig@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:svirnig@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).

### City Sets First Biennial Budget

Starting this year, the City of Golden Valley prepared a two-year budget to help with upcoming financial needs and forecasts for 2010 and 2011. Minnesota law requires cities to adopt a budget annually.

Many assumptions were made and will have to be reevaluated as time passes, and hard choices were made by staff to balance this biennial budget.

The proposed biennial budget includes General Fund expenditures, General Fund revenues, and the 2010-2011 CIP for Parks, Buildings, and Equipment. Other funds that do not require a levy will be available in September.

To review the proposed biennial General Fund budget, go to the City Web site at [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/publish.html](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/publish.html). Copies are also available at City Hall or the Golden Valley Library.

If you have questions, contact City Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010 or [svirnig@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:svirnig@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).

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## BEFORE YOU VOTE OR FILE, *Get Informed*

If you're voting or running in the upcoming City elections, you should be aware of Golden Valley's approach to local government. Golden Valley is a Statutory "Plan B" city with a part-time Mayor and City Council and a full-time City Manager who serves as the chief executive officer. The City Council and Mayor are elected "at large" to represent the entire community and are empowered by law to legislate city-wide policy.

The City Council appoints the City Manager who, as the executive officer, is responsible to the Council for day-to-day administration of City matters and implementation of Council policies and directives. The City Manager appoints the City Attorney, who advises and represents the City and Council in all legal affairs. The City Manager also appoints the City's department heads and members of the management team. The plan B form of government is often referred to as the "council-manager" plan. There are 16 Plan B cities in Minnesota.

Most cities in Minnesota have weak mayor-councils, meaning that the mayor has all the powers and duties of a council member in addition to those of the mayor. The council as a whole retains ultimate administrative and legislative responsibilities and authority.

In Golden Valley, all City meetings are held at City Hall unless otherwise noted. Public participation is welcome; agendas are available for review before the meetings at City Hall, the Golden Valley Library, and [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us), where you can also subscribe to email updates for City meeting agendas and other news through *GV DirectConnect*. For more information, call the City Manager's Department at 763-593-8006. 

# Want To Run For City Council? *File* By Sept 8

Golden Valley residents interested in becoming City policy makers can file to run for City Council in this year's Nov 3 municipal election. The following eligibility guidelines and filing information will help get you started.

## GOLDEN VALLEY CITY OFFICES ON THE BALLOT:

- Two Council Members – At Large (represent entire city, four-year term)

All offices are non-partisan (don't represent political parties). Candidates who are elected take office in January 2010.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY TO HOLD OFFICE:

- Must live in Golden Valley and be a qualified voter therein
- Must be at least 21 years old upon assuming office
- Must have established residency in the City at least 30 days before election day
- Must not have filed for any other office in the current election
- Must pay a \$5 filing fee or present a petition with the signatures of eligible voters in lieu of the filing fee (Minnesota Statute 204B.07-204B.11)
- Must file a personal financial disclosure with the Golden Valley Elections and Voter Registration Office within 14 calendar days of filing their candidacy (candidates receive a packet on campaign reporting requirements and financial disclosure reporting requirements when they file for office)
- Must provide information requested by the City that will be made available to the public



### *Get Out & Vote!*

The 2009 Local General Election is Tuesday, Nov 3. Polls are open from 7 am to 8 pm.

## FILING DATES:

Aug 25 through Sept 8, 8 am to 4:30 pm. Offices are open until 5 pm Sept 8. Candidates who will be absent from Minnesota during the filing period may arrange with Golden Valley Elections to file before departure.

## WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE:

Sept 10 at 5 pm

## FILING LOCATION:

City of Golden Valley General Services Department (second floor of City Hall), 7800 Golden Valley Rd

**FEE:** \$5

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Information packets (City elections and requirements to run for City office) are available at City Hall and on the City Web site at [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/voting.htm](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/voting.htm). 



# GVHSF Golf Classic: Tee Up For Charities

Get ready to tee it up for charity this fall at the 2009 Golden Valley Golf Classic, set for Friday, Sept 18, at Brookview Golf Course. The Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF) hosts the annual event to benefit local charities, and it distributes 100 percent of funds raised to causes directly serving the Golden Valley community (see sidebar).

## Hit The Greens

Sign up for the tournament and begin a day of fun with an 8 am shotgun start. Foursomes can register for \$300 before Sept 16 or \$350 after (includes fees, cart, continental breakfast, lunch, and a chance to win prizes). Or, bring a second foursome for \$500 total (both foursomes must register together).



LAST YEAR'S CLASSIC RAISED NEARLY \$5,000 FOR LOCAL HUMAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.

## Give Some Green

Prefer the role of booster? You can support the GVHSF and this event in several ways:

- Corporate Sponsor (\$1,000)
- Golf Hole Sponsor (\$500)
- Food/Prizes/Awards: Contributions of cash, merchandise, and in-kind items or gift certificates are welcome for hole contests, prizes, and drawings.

For their donations, corporate and hole sponsors receive green fees, cart, continental breakfast, lunch, and gift packs for golfers, and their company name displayed on a tee marker. All sponsors will be acknowledged in tournament publicity. As of mid-July, sponsors for 2009 include Central Bank, Golden Valley Rotary, Golden Valley Cadillac and Saab, WSB & Associates, and Anonymous (Golf Hole); Cable 12 and Brookview Golf Course (Event); Al's Coffee, Cable 12, Crossroads Delicatessen, Major's Restaurant, Old Log Theater, and Park Tavern (Food/Prizes).

There is still time to sponsor or play in this year's Classic. Last year's event drew 64 golfers who, with corporate and individual sponsors, helped the Golf Classic raise \$4,897 for local human service organizations. For more information about the Golf Classic or the GVHSF, contact staff liaison Jeanne Fackler at 763-512-2340 or [jfackler@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:jfackler@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).

## GVHSF Helps Fund Community Programs

The Golden Valley Human Services Foundation helps fund several nonprofit agencies that serve Golden Valley residents in need.

- *The Bridge for Youth* provides 24-hour help to youth and families in need.
- *Community Mediation Services* provides respectful, confidential, and accessible mediation services.
- *Crisis Connection* provides mental health telephone counseling to people with personal and family problems and crisis.
- *Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery* provides shelter care for children up to age six for families dealing with stress or crisis that need time away from children to stabilize themselves.
- *Home Free* provides battered women and their children with safety, support, and shelter, a 24-hour crisis line, and community advocacy.
- *Northwest Suburban Dinner At Your Door* provides nourishing meals to homebound people unable to afford a home-cooked meal.
- *Senior Community Services HOME Program* offers services to help elders remain independent in their homes.
- *Senior Community Services Outreach* provides in-home counseling and case management to help frail elders remain independent.
- *TreeHouse* provides guidance to teens and families during difficult times.

## GV Foundation Taking Funding Applications



The Golden Valley Human Services Foundation, which is comprised of community volunteers, helps fund several nonprofit agencies that serve Golden Valley residents in need (see sidebar). For 2009, the Foundation contributed \$42,000.

The Foundation will review funding requests and allocate available funds using the following guidelines:

- The services must not be duplicated by a level of government.
- The service provided is for Golden Valley residents at a time of crisis.
- The service must include cooperation or collaboration between organizations.



- Foundation funding should be a "last resort" source for funding the services.
- The organization should use the funds granted by the Foundation to serve Golden Valley citizens.
- Funding shall be granted to human service organizations and not to an individual or individuals.
- Funding will not be granted to any organization licensed in the City of Golden Valley for lawful gambling operations.

Pick up applications at City Hall or Brookview Community Center or download from the City's Web site. If you want more information or would like to make a tax deductible contribution, call 763-512-2340.

## Get Ready For Mighty Tidy Day

Saturday, Oct 10, 2009

8 am–1 pm

at Brookview Park  
(south of Hwy 55 at Winnetka Ave)



If you have unwanted junk in your home, now's the time to plan for disposal. Golden Valley's sixth annual Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day is just the place to unload old mattresses and sofas, broken bicycles, ancient appliances, unwanted tires, and outdated computers and televisions.

Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day provides a monitored site to dispose of items residents no longer use, that cannot be donated, and that can litter homes and yards and become a nuisance. However, hazardous waste (used motor oil, asbestos, cleaning solvents, pool chemicals, etc) are not accepted. For information about how to dispose of this and other problem waste, check the recycling information on Hennepin County's Web site at [www.hennepin.us](http://www.hennepin.us).

To participate in Mighty Tidy Day, you must be a Golden Valley resident (proof of residency will be required at the entrance). Fees apply. Look for the September/October *CityNews* or go to the City Web site ([www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us)) for more information.

# Don't Let The Digital Switch Create An Eco Hazard

This June changes in television broadcasting required viewers nationwide to make a choice regarding their televisions: replace them with digital models, or keep them and buy analog-to-digital converter boxes. If you chose to replace your TV, or are planning to do so, remember proper disposal of old TVs represents an environmental concern, says Al Lundstrom, Golden Valley environmental coordinator.

If you buy a new television, Lundstrom says, don't throw your old one in the garbage. Old televisions are classified as hazardous waste and should be disposed of properly. Most TVs and computers contain a cathode ray tube (CRT), which contains 2 to 8 pounds of lead. Hennepin County residents can dispose of their old televisions at the Hennepin County Recycling Center and Transfer Station for free (see TV above).

The Recycling Center also accepts VCRs, camcorders, fax machines, telephones, computers, and stereo equipment for no fee.

"Some people forget about the recycling center," Lundstrom says. "But it's a great service."



### Hennepin County Recycling & Transfer Station

8100 Jefferson Highway, Brooklyn Park

**Hours** Tues, Thurs, Fri: 10 am–6 pm  
Wed: 10 am–8 pm  
Sat: 8 am–5 pm  
Sun, Mon, Holidays: Closed

#### For More Information

Visit [www.hennepin.us](http://www.hennepin.us), keyword search "recycling center" or call 612-348-3777.

## Golden Valley Recycles

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

### Holiday Schedule

<u>Holiday Week</u>	<u>Pick-Up Date</u>
Labor Day	Sat, Sept 12
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 28
Christmas	Sat, Dec 26
New Year's '10	Sat, Jan 2
Memorial Day '10	Sat, Jun 5
July 4 '10	Fri, July 9

### 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.

## did you know?

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

The average US household is storing two to three old televisions and computers at any given time, according to the Hennepin County Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board.

Recycling options for household electronics available to Twin Cities metro-area residents include the following:

- Take-back programs—Some manufacturers and retailers will take back your old electronics for recycling.
- Garbage haulers—Some haulers pick up electronics for recycling.
- Recycling companies—You can drop off your old electronics at a recycler. Some recyclers offer pick-up service.
- Government recycling programs—Your city, county, or a neighborhood organization may pick up electronics, offer drop-off sites, or accept electronics at community clean-up events.

To find electronics recycling options, visit [RethinkRecycling.com](http://RethinkRecycling.com) (formerly [GreenGuardian.com](http://GreenGuardian.com)), your go-to-guide for waste and recycling in the Twin Cities. For more information on the digital TV transition, visit [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov).

# City Preparing For Emerald Ash Borer Infestation

Several weeks ago the destructive Emerald Ash Borer beetle was discovered in St Paul. Since then, communities throughout the area have been scrambling to develop management plans specific to their city.

The Emerald Ash Borer beetle has killed tens of millions of ash trees where it has been discovered. Minnesota has about 870 million ash trees, one of the largest concentrations of any state in the country. Not only are these trees abundant in our forests, they are also an important component of our urban landscapes. Research has not found any resistance to this Asian beetle in our native ash.

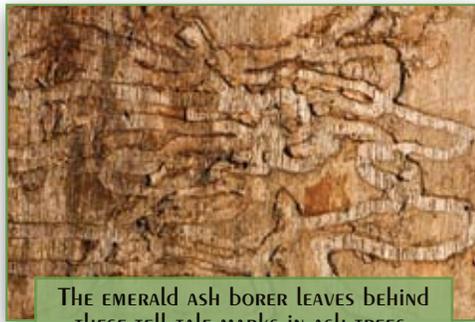
The City of Golden Valley is developing an Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan outlining objectives and approaches the City will use to meet the anticipated impact of this pest on the urban forest. The plan will include:

- a detailed inventory of all ash trees located in City parks and nature areas, within the public golf course, along road right-of-ways, and on other publicly owned properties. The completed inventory will give City officials a better understanding of the beetle's potential impact and help them develop a plan and budget to manage tree removals and replacements accordingly.
- necessary modifications to the City's tree ordinance. For example, communities that have experience with the pest have had to develop a plan to deal with a significant amount of standing dead ash trees on private property that may become hazards.
- a communications plan to provide residents with a complete understanding of how the community will manage the infestation once it hits our doorstep.

The City will take a proactive approach and attempt to spread the costs associated with the outbreak of the Emerald Ash Borer over approximately five to 15 years.

The Emerald Ash Borer was first discovered in North America in southeast Michigan in 2002. It has since been found in Ohio, Indiana, Maryland, Illinois, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Missouri, Virginia, Kentucky, New York, and in the Canadian provinces Ontario and Quebec.

If you suspect an infestation near your home, visit the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Web site at [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us) and use the "Do I Have Emerald Ash Borer?" checklist. The site will also provide you with treatment methods.



THE EMERALD ASH BORER LEAVES BEHIND THESE TELL-TALE MARKS IN ASH TREES.

photo by James Marvin Phillips

## How To Hire A Good Tree Contractor



Hiring a tree removal or trimming contractor deserves the same consideration and caution that goes into selecting a 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.

## firewood facts



To prevent the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer, a state quarantine is in place for Hennepin, Ramsey, and Houston Counties. This means any ash material (trees, logs, branches, chips, mulch, etc) and all hardwood (non-coniferous) firewood is not to be transported outside these three counties. This material may enter the quarantined counties and travel within them; however, once inside the quarantine, it is not allowed to leave.

It's essential that Golden Valley residents consider the quarantine when purchasing or transporting firewood.

Official emergency quarantine language can be found at [www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/eabquarantine.htm](http://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/eabquarantine.htm).

## 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 in the Fall Recreation Activities Brochure or the City Web site ([www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us)).

### Youth Programs

**Tap & Ballet** (ages 4–18)—Sat mornings beginning Sept 12, \$36.

**Kids' Club** (ages 3–5)—New classes start Sept 14. Mon and Wed or Tue and Thur, 9:30–11 am. Brookview Community Center, \$38/12 classes.

**Drama Club** (ages 8–14)—Mon and Wed, 6:30–7:30 pm, Sept 21–Oct 28, Brookview Community Center, \$52.

**Monster Mash Teen Dance** (grades 5–7)—Fri, Oct 23, 7–9:30 pm. \$5 before Oct 22, \$8 at the door.

**Spooktacular** (ages 4–10)—Sat, Oct 24, 10 am–2 pm, Crystal Community Center, \$6.

**Chess for Parent & Tots** (ages 3–6)—Wed, Nov 4–Dec 16, 10–11 am, New Hope Ice Arena, \$26.

### Adult Programs

**Tuning Forks: What Are They?**—Learn about a form of vibrational healing using sound waves. Tue, Sept 22, 6:30–7:30 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$20.

**Pilates**—Mon, Oct 5–Nov 23, 6–7 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$56.

**Yoga**—Tue, Oct 6–Dec 15, 11 am–noon, Brookview Community Center, \$56.

**Swing & Social Ballroom Dance**—Sun, Nov 1–22, 5–6:30 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$50/person.

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



## Soccer Program Needs Referees, Wants Players

Golden Valley resident Becca Hanscom joined the City's soccer program at age 4.

"When I was younger, it was all about fun," she says. "If you kicked the ball, no matter where it went, you were good."

Hanscom's mom coached her team those first few years, and Hanscom later became a coach herself, but first she tried her hand at refereeing, beginning at age 11.

"My brother was two years older than me and had become a referee for the Golden Valley soccer program. We could take the classes that young," says Hanscom, now 18. "It was a paying job I could get at that age."

Golden Valley's soccer program is always looking for more referees, says Brian Erickson, recreation supervisor. "We want people who are flexible and able to work with kids and be an instructor to them."

Hanscom recommends refereeing and coaching because it gives you a whole new perspective on the game. Her favorite age group to work with is 8 to 10. "It's really fun to be able to pass down some wisdom to the kids."

But, she adds, being a part of the soccer program in any way is a worthwhile experience. "In the Golden Valley soccer program, you get to know and play with everybody," she says. "It's a community in itself."

### Golden Valley Soccer, An Affordable Option

The Golden Valley Youth Soccer Program is an affordable and flexible option for kids to get involved in their community and have some fun and exercise during the fall, Erickson says.

Golden Valley has 15 to 20 youth teams full of players of all skill levels. Ages range from kindergarten to eighth grade.

"The main goal is to have kids learn the game of soccer in a fun, recreational environment close to home," Erickson says. "And it's a collaborative effort with the City of Robbinsdale and Crystal, which makes it possible to play with and get to know people from other communities."

Golden Valley offers soccer programs for adults as well. The City's adult co-ed soccer league features three competitive levels: A (more aggressive teams with experienced players), B (moderately experienced teams), and C (a fun, recreational opportunity for neighborhood and company teams). Golden Valley's soccer program also offers youth divisions.

For more information on the soccer programs, visit [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us), and click on "Parks, Recreation, and Leisure." To inquire about becoming a referee or a coach, call Brian Erickson at 763-512-2345. 

# First Golden **VISI** Award Goes To Dwight Townes

How does a community recognize the people who make it a better place? Golden Valley presents a Golden Visi award, reserved for people who envision a way to improve Golden Valley and then make it happen. The City's first Golden VISI was presented in July to Dwight Townes, who combined state and local resources to conceive, plan, and coordinate the Highway 55 Lilac Planting Project.

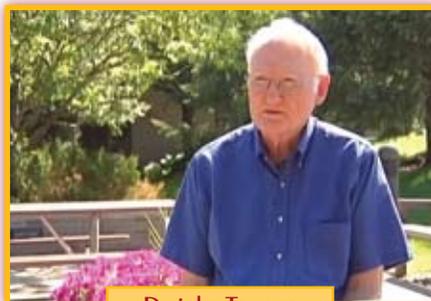


photo courtesy Channel 12

The project began in 2006 and culminated with the first phase in October 2008, when more than 80 volunteers planted lilac trees and other vegetation in designated areas on both sides of the highway between General Mills Blvd and Winnetka Ave. A second planting party is set for September 2009 (see page 15).

"While several people have helped improve Golden Valley's quality of life, Townes executed his vision with such a high level of success he was a natural for the first VISI," says Blair Tremere, who nominated Townes for the award.

The Golden VISI is the brainchild of the Envision Connection Project, which is an outgrowth of *Envision Golden Valley*, the city-wide visioning process in which hundreds of citizens shared ideas for the future of Golden Valley. Today, the Connection Project and Golden Valley Bridge Builders help individuals or groups to regularly connect with others in the community who share similar interests.

*Envision Golden Valley* planted seeds for several initiatives that are blossoming today with the help of Bridge Builders, such as the annual community ice cream social, the lilac planting party along Hwy 55, and the After School in the Valley program.

If you would like to be someone worthy of nomination, get involved (see story on page 15). Anyone can be a Golden Valley Bridge Builder. To learn more, contact Assistant City Manager Jeanne Andre at [jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us) or 763-593-8014.



*For details about the VISI nomination process, go to [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/EnvisionAward.htm](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/EnvisionAward.htm).*

## Donate Used Children's Books

Read Around Town is a Robbinsdale School District 281/Community partnership that encourages reading for all ages. Each September Read Around Town collects gently used *children's* books to distribute to area residents at various school and community events.

Golden Valley's book donation bin will be located in the entryway to City Hall, 7800 Golden Valley Road, from Monday, Aug 31 through Wednesday, Sept 30.

For several years, Read Around Town has organized book collections in cooperation with cities in the Robbinsdale School District. The program's main goal is to improve reading skills and literacy levels throughout the community. Your book donations are a big help in working to achieve that goal.

For more information, call Mary Anderson at 763-588-8578.

## Senior *Stuff*

Unless noted otherwise, most activities are at Brookview Community Center and require advance registration with the Seniors Program office (see below).

### INSURANCE COUNSELING

Sept 8 & Oct 13. Call for FREE one-hour appointment at 9, 10, or 11 am.

### PEDAL PUSHERS BICYCLE GROUP

Sept 10: Dakota Rail Regional Trail, Wayzata • Sept 22: Big Rivers Trail, Mendota. Call for information.

### GOLDEN TONES CHORUS Kick-off

Sept 17, 9:45 am, Calvary Lutheran Church. Practices Thursdays, 10:30, Calvary music room. Monthly performances.

### DEFENSIVE DRIVING

- 4-Hour Refresher Course—Sept 10 & Oct 8, 9 am—1 pm, \$17

Register by sending a check to Minnesota Safety Council, 474 Concordia Ave, St Paul, MN, 55103.

### MONEY MATTERS

Sept 17: "Recession Investing in Foreign Stock" • Oct 15: "Protecting Finances and Medical Preferences" Both 10–11 am.

### COFFEE TALK

Sept 23: "Famous Minnesota Lawsuits" • Oct 28: "Medicare Part D Changes" Both at 9:45 am, \$2 payable at door. Please register at least one day in advance.

### LIVING WISE AND WELL

Sept 3: "What is COPD?" • Oct 1: "How Senses Change with Aging" Both at 1 pm, Calvary Cooperative, 7600 Golden Valley Rd.

### "MARY WANDERERS" TRIP PROGRAM

- Oct 13: Fall Colors and Eagle Center, \$57 (register by Sept 21)
- Nov 5: A Rural Masterpiece, \$49 (register by Oct 19)
- Dec 3–4: Showtime in Wisconsin, \$375/double room; \$100 deposit due by Oct 19.

### Golden Valley Seniors Program

Brookview Community Center  
200 Brookview Parkway  
Golden Valley, MN 55426  
763-512-2339

8 am–5 pm, Monday–Friday

photo by Kenny Louie

# “And the winners are...”

**f**auna, forests, and all kinds of flora were the most popular subjects in the 17th annual *Views of the Valley* photo contest, but it was a caterpillar that took home the top prize, while a deer and five geese tied for People’s Choice. A surrealistic railroad track and a snowy bridge grabbed top prizes in the remaining categories.

Participants could enter up to three photos total in any of three categories: Natural, Lifestyle, and Enhanced. Judges scored photos on technical excellence and how well each captured Golden Valley’s

beauty, uniqueness, and quality of life. All winners receive a cash prize, certificates of recognition, and publication of their photos in various City public information pieces.

Overall grand prize winner and first place in the Natural category went to Elena Bursch for “Just Hanging Around.” Bursch also won first place in the Enhanced category for “Find Your Way To Golden Valley.” First place in the Lifestyle category went to Mary Lou Adams for “Wooden Bridge.” Judges were Marc Drummond, City of Minnetonka Web Technologies Coordinator; Karen Monson,

Visual Arts Dept Chair, Perpich Center for Arts Education; Nancy Harriss, Harriss Graphic Design; and Kathy Carlson, Great Photos Fast.

The People’s Choice award, based on community online and ballot box voting, was a tie between Karen Miller and Kalin Kauppila for “Summer Reflection” and “Take a Gander,” respectively.

To view all 55 photo entries, go to [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us) or stop by City Hall. Next year’s contest deadline will be June 7.

## natural

FIRST PLACE & OVERALL GRAND PRIZE



Just Hanging Around // Elena Bursch

SECOND PLACE



Purple Pride // Mary Lou Adams

THIRD PLACE



Golden Flower // Karen Nelson

# enhanced



Find Your Way To Golden Valley // Elena Bursch

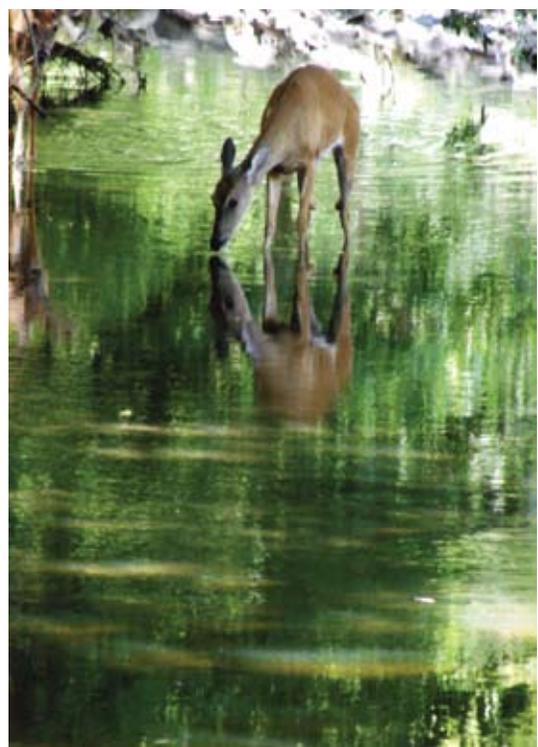
# lifestyle



Wooden Bridge // Mary Lou Adams

# people's choice

The People's Choice Award is given to the photo that receives the most votes through online voting and from the ballot box at City Hall. This year, two photos tied for the most votes received.



Summer Reflection // Karen Miller



Take A Gander // Kalin Kauppila

Go behind the scenes with the Golden Valley Police Department.

## Citizens' Police Academy

January 26–March 2, 2010  
Tuesdays, 7–9 pm

### TOPICS

911 Dispatch Center  
Police Investigations  
Crime Analysis  
Hennepin County Crime Lab  
Hennepin County Canine Unit  
NW Metro Drug Task Force  
SWAT Team  
Use of Force  
Patrol Operations



Limit: 20  
Tuition: Free

Location: Public Safety Building  
7800 Golden Valley Road

For more information or to register, call the Golden Valley Police Department at 763-593-8079.

Your partner for a safer community.

# Keep Crooks Away: Lock Up Your Valuables

Unlocked doors result in half of all residential burglaries in Golden Valley, says Joanne Paul, crime analyst. It's often too easy for burglars to gain entrance to a person's home, not just through unlocked doors, but through unlatched windows and with the use of garage door openers left in unlocked cars.

Most recently, the Golden Valley Police Department has seen an increase in theft from automobiles—briefcases, wallets, purses, cell phones, GPS units, and laptop computers. They are occurring at any time of day in parking lots, drive-ways, and on the street. In many cases the vehicles had been left unlocked.

So do what you can. Don't leave valuables in your car. Write down the serial numbers of your valuables so they can be tracked if stolen. Why make it easy for thieves?

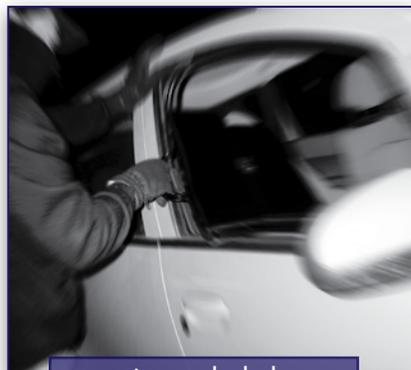
Cars, homes and garages are all easy targets if unlocked. A common practice among burglars is to walk from one house to another until they find an unlocked door. In 2007, 40 of the 99 residential burglaries in Golden Valley were not forced entries, meaning the burglar simply walked in and walked out. Almost all of those burglaries occurred between May and October, Paul says.

Bikes also tempt thieves. People, especially children, often leave bikes unsecured when they think it will only be 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," Paul says. It also helps to lock bikes in well-traveled, well-lit areas.

Locking up your possessions should become habit, Paul says.

Also, stay vigilant. If you see any suspicious behavior in your neighborhood, call 911 and report it, even if you think it's probably nothing, Paul says. Reporting suspicious behavior leads to effective crime prevention, she adds.

Taking these steps to protect yourself and others from burglars is especially important during warmer months.



...AS IS AN UNLOCKED CAR.



AN UNLOCKED DOOR IS AN INVITATION TO CRIME...

photo by Donna DesRoches

"Property crime in general is higher during summer months," Paul says. "We're out and about more. We're leaving our garages open. We're leaving our doors open. Kids leave their bikes out. We put our wallets in our shoes at the beach. Across the board we see more property crime in the summer, whether it's burglary, theft, or vandalism. The majority of crimes are crimes of opportunity." So lock up your valuables, she says. Remove the opportunity.

For more information, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 763-593-8058 or [jpaul@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:jpaul@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).

# Firefighter Training Takes Time But Is Rewarding

When someone signs on to be a Golden Valley paid on-call firefighter, he or she begins extensive training to prepare for all that an emergency situation can throw at them.

“Golden Valley firefighters dedicate a lot of time and effort to protecting the community,” says Stephen Baker, fire education specialist. “But firefighters get a lot out of it that they can take into their personal life. They learn critical thinking skills that can be very beneficial at any time in their life. It’s very rewarding.”

Six recruits recently graduated from the local Fire Academy, a joint operation among Golden Valley, Plymouth, Maple Grove, and the West Metro Fire Rescue District. In their first six months, recruits go through 140 hours of training before taking the state firefighter certification exam. In addition to learning firefighting techniques, they learn hazardous material management methods.

The Fire Academy not only strengthens individual firefighters, it also helps fire departments strengthen connections across city boundaries, Baker says. “The fire departments that conduct the training have a lot of opportunity to work together on a regular basis,” he adds. “It’s an opportunity to build relationships with surrounding communities.”

Even after passing the state exam and graduating from Fire Academy, firefighters never stop training. Golden Valley firefighters train three Wednesdays a month, three hours at a time. Training session specifics change each year based on the requirements of the Minnesota State Fire Certification Board (see sidebar).

Recently, Golden Valley’s 52 firefighters have been focusing on firefighter health and wellness, emergency vehicle driving, and fire ground operations. Before tearing down an old home for new development, the Accent Homes development company let the Golden Valley Fire Department use it to practice fire ground operations.

“We fogged up the home using a smoke machine and practiced real-time roll ups, fire ground operations, search and rescue, and rooftop ventilation,” Baker says. A real-time roll up, he adds, is when firefighters are away from the scene and have to respond to a house fire as if it were real. This September the firefighters will take part in an annual live burn training session.

Questions? Contact Baker at 763-593-3977. 



NEW RECRUIT SARAH AUER PRACTICES REPELLING DURING THIS YEAR’S FIRE ACADEMY.

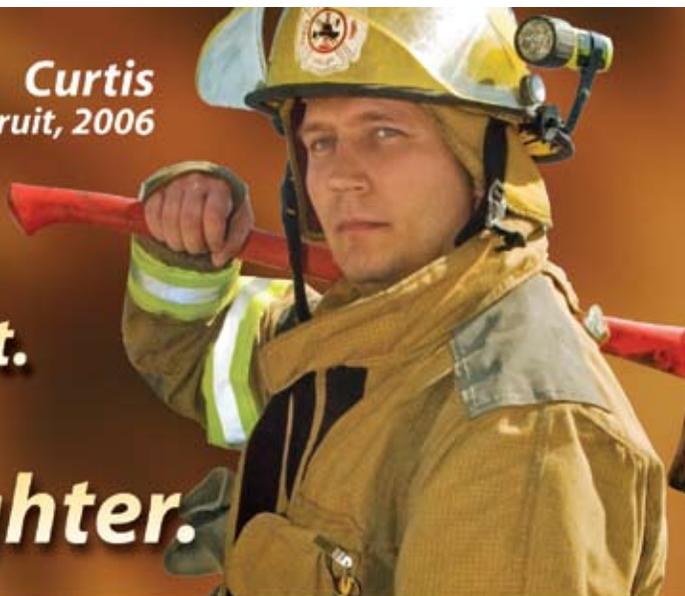
## Fire Certification

The mission of the Minnesota Fire Service Certification Board is to provide a means of recognizing people who achieve the levels of competency specified in established standards.

The organization offers certification on a voluntary basis to individuals who work or live in Minnesota. Golden Valley training sessions change focus each year based on the requirements of the Certification Board.

The certification levels Golden Valley firefighters meet after their first six months of training include Firefighter I, Firefighter II, and HazMat Operations. For more information about the Certification Board, visit [www.mnfirecert.org](http://www.mnfirecert.org). 

**Curtis**  
New Recruit, 2006



**PR Expert.  
Dad.  
Firefighter.**

[goldenvalleyfire.com](http://goldenvalleyfire.com)

CURTIS SMITH HAD ALWAYS BEEN intrigued by stories of helping others, whether told by friends in the Rocky Mountain fire rescue service or by others involved in crises like 9/11. “Sometimes bad things happen,” he says. “I wanted to be part of the solution.”

He made his wish come true by becoming a firefighter. Through the Golden Valley Fire Department, Smith says he’s learned useful skills, gained confidence and a whole new base of friends, and discovered a unique form of therapy.

“I have a high-stress job and work long hours,” Smith explains, “but when I come to drill, I always leave smiling.” That comes from the fulfillment of learning new things alongside a great group of people he’s come to trust and depend on, and discovering that “very few complications can’t be corrected.”

## 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 right 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](http://www.epa.gov))

# Three Local Lakes Impaired: Studies Under Way

Three area lakes, Sweeney Lake, Wirth Lake, and Medicine Lake, are listed as "impaired waters" as determined by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the federal Clean Water Act (see sidebar). Impaired waters are streams, rivers, and lakes that currently do not meet their designated use and associated water quality standards. About 40 percent of Minnesota lakes have been labeled as impaired.

These three lakes made the list because of excess nutrients (phosphorus), which come from dead vegetation and fertilizer, to name a few. Phosphorus promotes algae growth 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.

In response, the MPCA and the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) are doing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies on the lakes to determine how much of a pollutant is in the water and what can be done to reduce that pollutant to meet water quality standards.

The final TMDL reports for Sweeney, Wirth, and Medicine lakes should be completed by fall 2009, according to the BCWMC. **Once the TMDL studies are completed, the agencies involved will hold public meetings to discuss ideas to improve water quality.**

"We're looking to find the most cost-effective ways to meet the goals of reducing nutrients."

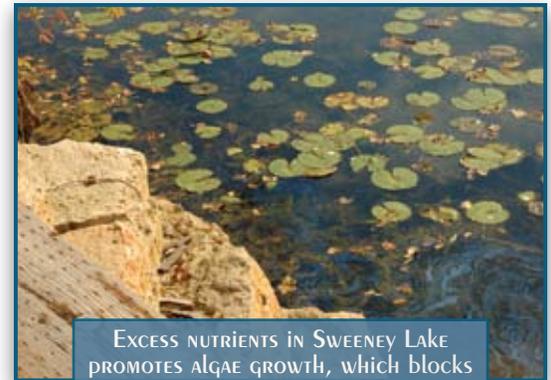
ways improves all of Minnesota's quality of life. The main obstacles to improving water quality, Lundstrom says, are lack of resources and funding.

One of the best ways to keep pollutants out of the water is creating natural vegetation buffer zones around existing waterways, Lundstrom says, which Golden Valley has already started to do, mainly on public lands. Golden Valley implemented a phosphorus ban before the state law was enacted and began educating residents on building their own buffer zones and using safer lawn chemicals. Reducing water pollutants will have to be a community effort, Lundstrom says.

### More TMDL Information

If you want information about the water quality status of other lakes in Minnesota, go to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site at [www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-development.html](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-development.html). The site also includes the 303(d) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) list at [www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-303dlist.html](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-303dlist.html).

For more background on the efforts of the Bassett Creek Commission, visit [www.bassettcreekwmo.org](http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org).



EXCESS NUTRIENTS IN SWEENEY LAKE PROMOTES ALGAE GROWTH, WHICH BLOCKS SUNLIGHT TO THE REST OF THE LAKE BELOW.

# Tree Trust Projects Help Both Youth And Community

Go up Skyline Drive in north-east Golden Valley and you'll stumble on a team of youth stacking bricks, leveling stone, digging out gravel, and working rigorously to build a new retaining wall near the water reservoir.

These crew members are part of a larger group of 1,300 who will spend their summer working toward positive, lasting changes in their own lives and in their communities.

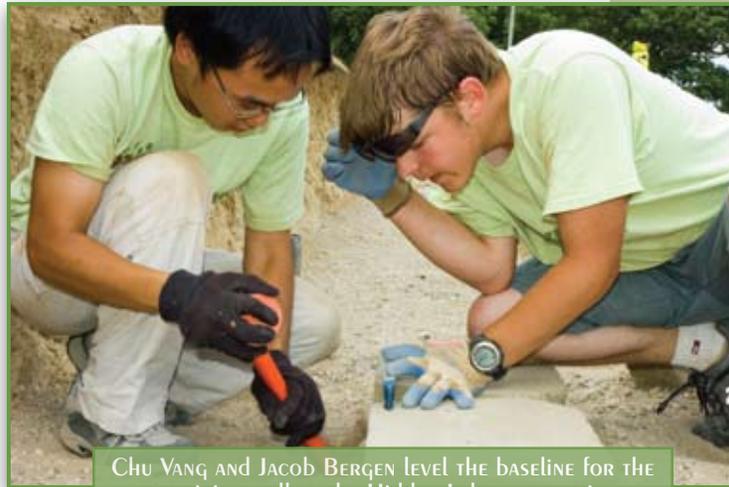
It's called the Tree Trust Youth Conservation Corps. Each summer, the Corps employs low-income, special needs, and at-risk youth between the ages of 14 and 21. This year, members will complete landscaping, construction, and individual service projects in more than 50 parks, nature reserves, and community organizations around the Twin Cities seven-county metro area, including Golden Valley.

Sixteen members of the program started their summers by removing and replacing a modular wall by Reservoir Hidden Lakes in Golden Valley.

"We've been associated with Tree Trust for more than 30 years," says Ron Hammer, Golden Valley park maintenance supervisor. "We believe in this program because it helps young people who in turn help the community."

The nine-week program engages youth with their environment while instilling in them a strong work ethic, explains Hammer. Participants receive instruction emphasizing basic job skills, money management, and proper workplace behavior. They can also earn high school credit for their work experience.

"We give them a list of projects we're looking at doing with our parks," he says, "and they'll come out and help us." Hammer adds that over the years, former Tree Trust participants have come back to thank him for giving them those opportunities.



CHU YANG AND JACOB BERGEN LEVEL THE BASELINE FOR THE RETAINING WALL AT THE HIDDEN LAKES RESERVOIR.



DEAUNTE YOUNG SHOVELS OUT A DITCH FOR THE RETAINING WALL.



## TREE TRUST WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK

Tree Trust encourages community members to visit summer work sites, observe the crews' progress, talk with participants, and thank the youth for the improvements they are making to the local landscape. The local work site is at 1500 Skyline Drive in Golden Valley. The crew will work on a variety of projects over the summer. Public feedback is welcome.

Tree Trust is a non-profit organization founded in 1976. For more information or to get involved with Tree Trust, go to [www.treetrust.org](http://www.treetrust.org).

# Tree Trust Partnership Yields Results

For more than 30 years, Golden Valley has been reaping the benefits of a partnership with Tree Trust Youth Conservation Corps, an organization that employs youth to do public improvement projects throughout the Twin Cities metro area.

Tree Trust's first cooperation with Golden Valley was in 1977 (the first year of Tree Trust's actual programming), clearing debris out of Bassett Creek.

The City continued to partner with Tree Trust in the early 1980s, when teams planted 133 trees and cleared, pruned, and upgraded four miles of trail in open space development areas in 1983. Tree Trust has done tree plantings, landscaping, and construction projects for Golden Valley every year since.

Golden Valley locations benefiting from Tree Trust projects include Rice Lake Nature Area, Pennsylvania Woods, Bassett Creek Park, Briarwood Nature Area, Laurel Avenue Greenbelt, Mary Hills Nature Area, Brookview Municipal Golf Course, St Croix Park, City Hall, the City Maintenance Facility, General Mills Research Trail, Brookview Nature Trail, and Schaper, South Wesley and Medley Parks, to name a few.

In the last few years, Tree Trust workers constructed bridge footings and built two 15-foot octagon seating areas with 8-foot benches at the General Mills Nature Area. They also removed and replaced five timber paths.

This year, in addition to the reservoir project (see main story), Tree Trust teams are building timber paths in both Hampshire and Wesley Parks.



## Give Emergency Vehicles SPACE

When driving anywhere in Minnesota, remember to give parked squad cars and emergency vehicles a full lane when you pass. It's the law.

The "move over" law, also known as the Ted Foss Law, was written after Minnesota State Trooper Ted Foss was hit and killed by a semi-truck on Aug 31, 2000, during a traffic stop.

The law is designed to give emergency vehicles room to work on the portion of roadway they are occupying for safety purposes. The law also requires that drivers reduce their speed as they pass the location of the emergency vehicles and road repair equipment.

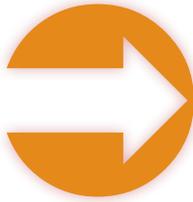
"Here in Golden Valley, there are several freeways our officers routinely make stops on, and it is plain dangerous, even in daylight," says Police Chief Stacy Altonen. "With law abiding citizens, this law is a tremendous help."

Emergency vehicles are defined by Minnesota statute as the following: towing vehicles, police vehicles, ambulances, and fire trucks.

"I think all emergency workers are happy this law is on the books, and everyone does worry being on the side of busy roadways with no protection," Altonen says. "This law is a good thing. It's just very sad it took an officer's death to bring it to life."

The penalty for violation is a citation and a fine of more than \$100.

If it is not possible to move to the next lane over, drivers are supposed to slow down to a reasonable speed. Use common sense, Altonen says. 



# See Lights? Hear Sirens? Pull Over

If you hear sirens or see flashing lights while driving, pull over as soon as possible. State law requires motorists to yield the right of way to emergency vehicles traveling with lights and sirens on. All vehicles on the road must immediately pull over to the right-hand curb, stop, and wait until the emergency vehicle has passed.

## ON ONE-WAY & TWO-WAY STREETS

On a one-way street, pull over to the nearest curb and stop. On a two-way street, drivers in both directions should pull over to create an open lane down the middle of the road for emergency vehicles to use. After the emergency vehicle has passed, make sure no other emergency vehicles are coming before safely re-entering the traffic lane.

## AT INTERSECTIONS & TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Intersections are sometimes more complicated. Pull over to get out of the way, or, if you cannot pull over to clear the way, safely move through the intersection first and then pull over. If you are already waiting in a left turn lane, you may be able to stay stopped in that location because drivers in the through lanes will create an open lane when they pull over.

Traffic signals and emergency vehicles in Golden Valley are equipped with emergency vehicle preemption (EVP), which means signals respond to emergency vehicles by preempting the normal signal cycle to provide a green light for the emergency vehicle. To let all drivers know the signal may change, a special EVP light illuminates.

If you see a steady (not flashing) white light, an emergency vehicle has requested a green light for the road you are traveling (it could be coming from behind you or may be coming toward you from the opposite direction). A flashing EVP light means the emergency vehicle is approaching the intersection from the crossing roadway.

## HELP EMERGENCY VEHICLE DRIVERS

Emergency vehicle drivers are well-trained to help us in times of need, and we need to be ready to help them. Follow these guidelines, use turn signals to indicate intentions, make eye contact with emergency vehicle drivers when possible, and don't forget to give them plenty of room when they're stopped along a roadside. 



photo by Sean Cannon



photo by Ariel Camille

PULL OVER TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

# Bridge Builders: Jump In, Make Something Happen

Do you have a hobby you'd like to share with others? An idea to improve your community that you could use some help with? If so, consider becoming a Golden Valley Bridge Builder. Since 2006, Bridge Builders has provided a way for community members to share their ideas and learn how to jump in and make something happen.

Whether you want to promote knitting or photography, spearhead a community reads project, or promote a dog park, there are others who share your passion and would join your efforts to make Golden Valley a better place. You can learn more at this fall's Bridge Builder Training session (see box below), but meanwhile, here are three Bridge Builder projects you could get involved with right now.

## Evening Garden Club

Bridge Builder Ellen Mickelson has a passion for gardening. She wanted to be involved with the Golden Valley Garden Club but found it hard to get to their daytime meetings. So she decided to see if others were interested in meeting in the evening. After attending a few Bridge Builder events/get-togethers and learning that others were in her same situation, she held the Evening Garden Club's first meeting in July at Brookview Community Center. If you are a gardener who wants to meet in the evening, this is your opportunity to get involved. Upcoming meetings are the first Wednesday of the month (Aug 5 and Sept 2), 6 pm, at Brookview Community Center. Identify what you would like the garden club to be and help to make it happen. If you have questions, contact Ellen Mickelson at [ccreations@gmail.com](mailto:ccreations@gmail.com).

## Come Join Bridge Builders

Community connections can occur in many ways, and the Golden Valley Bridge Builders can show you the ropes. Come and learn how you can get involved on your own terms and connect with others who share your ideas and interests.

**Bridge Builders Training**  
**Saturday, Oct 17**  
**9 am — noon**

For details, RSVP to Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014 or [jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).



## Lilac Planting Party

Last fall, Dwight Townes' Bridge Builder initiative added lilacs and other plants to Golden Valley's Highway 55 landscape. It also earned him the City's first Golden VISI award (see story on page 7). If you missed the chance to participate then, you can join in this fall for the second annual Golden Valley Lilac Planting Party (see sidebar).

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Bridge Builder DeDe Scanlon has brought together a number of Golden Valley institu-



tions whose volunteers will help homeowners with exterior maintenance. The collaborating institutions include PRISM, Calvary Lutheran Church, Valley Community Presbyterian Church, and H.O.M.E. Homeowners who need help with their yard work or minor exterior maintenance can contact PRISM to get started. PRISM will identify the needs and link homeowners with volunteers and other resources to get the job done. For more information, call PRISM at 763-529-1350 and ask about Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

To learn more about Bridge Builders, contact Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014 or [jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).



## Second Annual Lilac Planting Party Is Sept 26

Golden Valley's Envision Connection Project Bridge Builders will host the community's second annual Lilac Planting Party on:

**Saturday, Sept 26**

**8:30–9 am:** Registration (Spirit of Hope Methodist Church parking lot, 7600 Harold Avenue)

**9 am–1 pm:** Planting

This grass roots community beautification project is the brainchild of Golden Valley resident Dwight Townes (see story on page 7) and a cooperative effort between the Envision Connection Project Bridge Builders and MnDOT's Community Roadside Landscaping Partnership Program.

Last fall, more than 80 people gathered to plant lilacs and other shrubs along Hwy 55 between General Mills Blvd and Winnetka Ave. A complete list of the project's coordinators and supporters, along with a pictorial thank you dedicated to all volunteers, is available on the City Web site at [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/lilacplanting.html](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/lilacplanting.html).

This year's project will continue eastward, from Winnetka Ave N to Glenwood Ave. Volunteers should be age 16 or older and are asked to bring a shovel, a pitch or bailing fork, pruning shears, gloves, five-gallon pails, and tarps for hauling mulch. Non-planting volunteers are also needed to help organize the event. All volunteers will gather at the Spirit of Hope Methodist Church afterwards for lunch and celebration.

To volunteer for the Lilac Planting Party or to support the project in other ways, contact Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014 or [jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:jandre@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).

City of  
**Golden Valley**  
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Golden Valley, MN 55427

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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.



**douglas dr corridor** study

## Open House

Thursday, Aug 13, 2009  
5:30–7:30 pm

Council Conference Room, City Hall  
(7800 Golden Valley Rd)

After a year-long process, the Douglas Drive Corridor Study is coming to an end. The study provides a long-term plan to improve conditions along Douglas Drive, focusing on land uses and transportation. It has identified both long- and short-term options to improve the roadway.

The City will host an Open House Thursday, Aug 13 to seek comments from the public. There will be a presentation midway through the Open House providing highlights of the study.

For more information on the Douglas Drive Corridor Study, please visit [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/zoning/DouglasDrive](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/zoning/DouglasDrive) or contact City Planner Joe Hogeboom at 763-593-8095.

*Not sure what precinct you live in? Visit [pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us](http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us) to locate your polling place.*

## Register To Vote

If you're not registered to vote, you should do so by Oct 13 for the Nov 3 general election. You may register by mail or in person by completing a Minnesota Voter Registration Application, available at most government offices and public libraries (and online at [www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/voterregistration.htm](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citygovernment/voterregistration.htm)).

Golden Valley locations include:

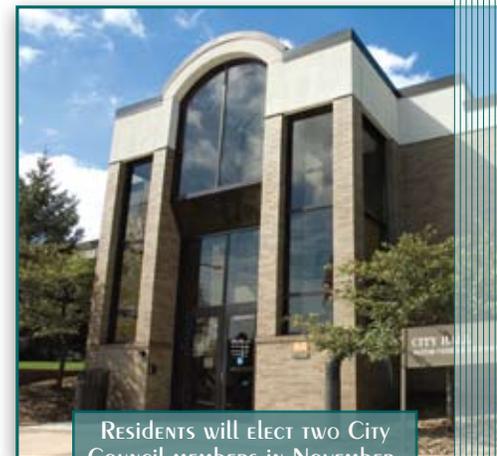
City of Golden Valley  
7800 Golden Valley Rd

You may also register directly with the county at:

Hennepin County Government Center  
300 South 6th St - Public Service Level  
Minneapolis, MN 55487

You can register to vote on election day at your precinct voting site by bringing one of the following documents to verify your current address: valid driver's license or permit (or receipt for either), valid Minnesota identification card (or receipt), notice of ineffective registration mailed to you from the county auditor or city clerk, photo ID card with a student fee statement, or a current utility bill, plus a photo identification card. You may also have a registered voter in your precinct confirm your residence.

All voters must be at least 18 years old on the day of election, be a citizen of the United States, and have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding election day. Other requirements apply; check the MN Voter Registration Application for details. Questions? Call the City at 763-593-8017.



RESIDENTS WILL ELECT TWO CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN NOVEMBER.

City of  
**Golden Valley**

7800 Golden Valley Rd  
**763-593-8000**  
TTY: 763-593-3968  
[www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us](http://www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us)

**Mayor/Council Message Line:** 763-593-8001

**Council Members:** Mike Freiberg, Paula Pentel, DeDe Scanlon, Bob Shaffer

**Mayor:** Linda R. Loomis **City Manager:** Thomas Burt

**Editor:** Cheryl Weiler **Assistant Editor:** Ben Sandell **Graphic Designer:** Kristi Bucher