

# Golden Valley

## CITYNEWS

### City Partners With Edina For 911 Dispatch Services

Starting in 2011, Golden Valley's new 911 dispatch provider will be the City of Edina. Both City Councils approved the agreement at their Sept 7 meetings.

Golden Valley's decision to change dispatch providers is a cost-saving issue, explains City Manager Tom Burt. The City has contracted 911 dispatch services through the City of St Louis Park since 1994. Costs for 2010 are \$305,000 and have been as high as \$337,000 in other years. Golden Valley gave notice to terminate the dispatch agreement with St Louis Park effective Jan 1, 2011.

The City first approached Hennepin County as a potential dispatch provider in 2008. Hennepin County provides dispatching services for 23 law enforcement agencies and 19 fire departments at no cost. Like all county residents, Golden Valley residents already pay for dispatch services through their property taxes to Hennepin County. In May 2010, the Hennepin County Board denied Golden Valley's request, and City officials began taking bids from dispatch service providers in nearby cities or counties.

Golden Valley will pay Edina a one-time \$25,000 administrative fee, annual charges of \$178,140, and will contribute to technology and staff upgrades. Even with

those costs, Golden Valley will save up to \$100,000 a year.

It's a good business decision for Golden Valley, says Police Chief Stacy Altonen, adding that residents and business can expect a seamless changeover with no impact on service levels.



### New City Website LAUNCHED

The City of Golden Valley launched a revamped website Aug 30 featuring improved navigation, streamlined and accessible information architecture, up-to-date technology, and plentiful images that reflect the community's personality. It also has a simplified domain name:



[www.goldenvalleymn.gov](http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov)

All development, writing, and design was completed in-house by the City's communications staff.

The new website also features use of free or low-cost third-party applications to provide interactive maps, calendars, and forms. It represents a major step forward for the City and will continue to evolve with the addition of new applications and interactivity.

If you have questions about the City website or want to report problems or errors, contact Communications Coordinator Cheryl Weiler at 763-593-8004 or [cweiler@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:cweiler@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).

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## City Tax Levy

	Actual 2010	Proposed 2011
General Fund Levy <sup>1</sup>	\$ 11,996,290	\$ 12,203,835
Fire Relief Pension Levy <sup>2</sup>	\$ 150,000	\$ 66,000
Tax Abatement Levy <sup>3</sup>	\$ 367,215	\$ 300,000
Bonded Debt Levy:		
Street Improvement Bonds <sup>4</sup>	\$ 2,994,900	\$ 3,208,200
Equipment Certificates <sup>5</sup>	\$ 819,320	\$ 791,415
Sub-Total	\$ 3,814,220	\$ 3,999,615
<b>Total Levy</b>	<b>\$ 16,327,725</b>	<b>\$ 16,569,450</b>

<sup>1</sup> The General Fund Levy funds City operations such as police, fire, engineering, park & rec programs, snowplowing, buildings, inspections, administration, etc.

<sup>2</sup> The Fire Relief Levy, mandated by state statute, helps fund the shortfall of the Fire Relief pension.

<sup>3</sup> Tax abatement bonds were issued 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.

<sup>4</sup> The Bonded Debt Levy will increase to pay existing bond issues sold for the City's pavement management street improvements.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

### Upcoming Budget Meetings

**Oct 12, 6:30 pm**  
Council Manager meeting

**Nov 9, 6:30 pm**  
Council Manager meeting

**Dec 7, 7 pm**  
Public hearing on adoption of the final levy

# City Sets 2011 Proposed Budget/Levy

At its Sept 7 meeting, the Golden Valley City Council certified a preliminary 2011 tax levy of \$16,569,450, a 1.48% increase from 2010.

## TOTAL LEVY

The total levy is made up of a general fund levy, fire relief pension levy, tax abatement levy, and bonded debt levy (see sidebar). Even though general fund expenditures decreased by \$61,700 for 2011 (the result of not filling two positions, one in street maintenance and one in police), the general fund levy increased by \$207,545 to offset the loss of revenue from building permits, interest earned, and the state unallotment of market value homestead credit (MVHC). This increase also was needed to maintain a balanced budget.

Although the bonded debt levy increased, it was less than projected because of the City's upgrade to an Aaa bond rating and refinancing of bond issues. The City will also reduce the miles of streets to be reconstructed (1.2 miles in 2011 and 1.1 miles in 2012), which will lower the future debt levy needed to pay back the bonds issued to finance these street projects. In addition, the City delayed some equipment purchases.

This total levy will be collected from taxpayers in 2011 based on property values as of Jan 2, 2010 (set by Hennepin County) and tax classifications set by the state legislature.

## PROPERTY VALUES

Total property value has decreased by 8.7% in Golden Valley. For example, Golden Valley's median home value went from \$270,000 for taxes payable in 2010 to \$250,000 for taxes payable in 2011. With the proposed budget, city taxes on the median home will be \$1,276 per year, an increase of \$25 per year (\$2.08 per month) from 2010. However, housing types were affected differently (see examples below).



### MEDIAN HOME VALUE

	City Tax
Jan 2, 2009: \$270,000	\$1,251
Jan 2, 2010: \$250,000	\$1,276
<b>Annual increase/decrease:</b>	<b>+\$25</b>



### HOME VALUE A

	City Tax
Jan 2, 2009: \$207,000	\$950.53
Jan 2, 2010: \$195,000	\$988.74
<b>Annual increase/decrease:</b>	<b>+\$38</b>



### HOME VALUE B

	City Tax
Jan 2, 2009: \$484,000	\$2,332
Jan 2, 2010: \$435,000	\$2,319
<b>Annual increase/decrease:</b>	<b>-\$13</b>

City taxes make up one portion of the entire tax bill. In November, partial specific proposed tax statements will be mailed by Hennepin County. For more information about how your City tax dollars are used or the City's proposed 2011 budget or tax levy, go to [www.goldenvalleymn.gov](http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov). If you have questions, contact Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010 or [svirnig@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:svirnig@ci.golden-valley.mn.us).

# Tantalize Your Taste Buds With A Taste Of GV

Mark your calendar for an evening filled with great food, music, and fun at the fifth annual *Taste of Golden Valley*, set for Nov 10 from 5:30 to 8 pm at the Metropolitan Ballroom (5418 Wayzata Blvd). Hosted by the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF), the event is one of the community's biggest annual fundraisers to benefit local charities.



Guests sample food from a variety of local restaurants while enjoying music and conversation with friends, neighbors, and community members. A cash beverage and bar service will also be available. In addition, there will be a silent auction featuring theme baskets donated by area businesses and residents. Donations for the silent auction can be dropped off at City Hall or Brookview Community Center.

## LAST YEAR'S EVENT

Last year's event attracted 250 people who enjoyed the culinary specialties of Al's Coffee, Benihana, Chipotle, D'Amico and Sons, D'Amico Catering, Davanni's, Dolittle's Woodfire Grill, Kip's Irish Pub, Mort's Delicatessen, Noodles and Company, Olive Garden, Perkins Family Restaurant, and Uncle Franky's. Entertainment was by Nuance A Duo, Tim Mahoney, and students from the Perpich Center for the Arts.

The 2009 *Taste of Golden Valley* helped the GVHSF raise approximately \$5,000, which was donated directly to causes serving the Golden Valley community.

Last year's event raised \$5,000 for local human service organizations.

## TICKETS

Tickets are \$20 and are available at Brookview Community Center, City Hall, Best Wishes Floral, or at the door. For more information, contact Jeanne Fackler (763-512-2340 or [jfackler@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:jfackler@ci.golden-valley.mn.us)).



## "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.

Tickets are available at Brookview Community Center, City Hall, Best Wishes Floral, or at the door.

Wed, Nov 10, 2010  
5:30-8 pm  
Metropolitan Ballroom  
Tickets: \$20



## Pajama Party Supports Domestic Violence Awareness

The Golden Valley Federated Women's Club (GVFWC) will kick off a "pajama party" October 1, 2010 to support the General Federated Women's Club of Minnesota's Domestic Violence Awareness project.

The GVFWC will collect pajamas for the Home Free Shelter, a local organization that supports women and children who are fleeing from domestic abuse. In 2009, the shelter housed 500 women and children from Golden Valley and surrounding areas.

The shelter needs lighter weight pajamas in all youth sizes, from infant to teen.

There is also a great need for women's pajamas size 8 and smaller as well as size 3X and larger.

Drop off new pajamas at City Hall or the Police Station in October.

To help the GVFWC with this effort, please drop

off new pajamas at the collection boxes in Golden Valley City Hall or the Police Station (7800 Golden Valley Rd) throughout October 2010.

The GVFWC plans to accept pajama donations through spring 2011 at other locations. Contact Dorree Adelmann at 763-231-2973 for more information about this or other GVFWC programs.

# Fall Leaf Drop-Off Offers Place To Unload Leaves

Need a place to leave your leaves this fall? Golden Valley's *Fall Leaf Drop-Off* provides residents a place to dispose of their leaves at no charge during late fall weekends (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.

## 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. No brush will be accepted.

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.

- Residents hauling loose leaves must help unload their leaves at the site. (Tip: 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* or online for names of commercial yard waste processing sites. The Maple Grove Yard Waste Site (14796 101<sup>st</sup> Ave N) accepts leaves and brush up to 10 inches in diameter for \$7.50/cubic yard April through November. Grass is accepted for \$14/cubic yard June through September. 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](http://www.mgyardwaste.com).

If you have questions about yard waste, call Public Works at 763-593-8030. 🍂

## Boulevard Trees: Who's Responsible?

While maintaining grass and shrubs along a boulevard is largely the resident's responsibility, tree maintenance is another story.

According to the City ordinance: The director of public works has "control and supervision of all trees upon or overhanging the right-of-way," and additionally, the director or designee is "responsible to plant or remove trees ... which are on the City right-of-way except for grass and low lying plants no greater than 12 inches above the ground."

Therefore, if a tree falls into the right-of-way, grows up in a right-of-way, or overhangs the right-of-way, the duty to remove it is placed on the public authorities charged with the supervision and maintenance of the road.

When it comes to storm damage and fallen trees, the City is responsible for removing trees that are on the City right-of-way, according to City Code. However, if the tree originated on private property, City crews will place the tree on the boulevard adjacent to that property for the homeowner to remove.

Trees within a homeowner's yard are the responsibility of the homeowner, unless they are boulevard trees that have fallen into the homeowner's yard.

If you have questions about City ordinances regarding trees, contact Golden Valley Public Works at 763-593-8030 or [publicworksdept@goldenvalleymn.gov](mailto:publicworksdept@goldenvalleymn.gov). 🍂

## 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>
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 27
Christmas	Fri, Dec 24
New Year's	Fri, Dec 31
Memorial Day '11	Sat, June 4
July 4 '11	Sat, July 9
Labor Day '11	Sat, Sept 10

### 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.



# Mighty Tidy Day: Your Answer To Junk Anxiety

If you have unwanted household items, Golden Valley's seventh annual *Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day* is a cost-friendly, environmentally smart way to get rid of them.

This year's event is Saturday, Oct 9, 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. Even so, this is no time to rest on our laurels.

The Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (MOEA) reports that by 2020, the Twin Cities Metro area is projected to produce six million tons of waste, nearly twice the amount generated in 2000. Much of the discarded materials contain toxins that threaten public health and the environment.

Every little bit helps. During the 2009 Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day, the City collected 10 tons of bulk waste, more than 3 tons of metal, 69 appliances, 11,500 lbs of electronics, about 150 lbs of batteries, 22 tires, and 90 fluorescent bulbs.

## 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. No hazardous waste (motor oil, asbestos, cleaning solvents, pool chemicals, etc) is accepted.

For more information on *Mighty Tidy Day*, call Golden Valley Public Works at 763-593-8030.



7th ANNUAL EVENT  
Cost-friendly and  
eco-smart!

**MIGHTY TIDY DAY**  
Saturday, Oct 9  
8 am - 1 pm  
Brookview Park  
(south of Hwy 55 & Winnetka Ave)

# JOIN THE MOVEMENT & CHOOSE TO reuse

There has never been a better time to reuse. Every year, Hennepin County residents throw away 32 million pounds of usable clothes and household items. So whether you donate your old stuff or buy used items, becoming a reuser helps reduce needless waste.

## WHY PARTICIPATE?

Reuse is good for the environment, stimulates the local economy, and saves money. Reused items typically cost less than buying new, and reuse businesses contribute significantly to the economy.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the reuse industry in the United States employs nearly 170,000 workers and generates revenues of approximately \$14.1 billion. Shopping at reuse stores also benefits the local economy because most reuse businesses are owned by community members.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Hennepin County's Choose To Reuse Online Directory lists more than 500 businesses and organizations that rent, repair, resell, consign, trade, exchange, or accept donations of used goods.

Hennepin County has also partnered with 80 reuse retailers to offer Choose to Reuse Today coupons that can be redeemed for discounts from Oct 1–Nov 30, 2010. Pick up a coupon book at participating retail locations, Hennepin County Service Centers, Hennepin County libraries, and all Three Rivers Park District locations.

Learn more at [www.hennepin.us/choosetoreuse](http://www.hennepin.us/choosetoreuse) or call 612-348-3777. You can also find Hennepin County's Choose to Reuse Program on Facebook.

## MIGHTY TIDY DAY DISPOSAL COSTS

### Lot 1

#### ELECTRONICS

- Printer, VCR/DVD... \$ 3
- Laser printer ..... \$ 5
- Monitor/Plastic TV .. \$15
- Computer system (monitor, CPU, keyboard) ..... \$15
- Wood TV ..... \$25

Fees for all other electronics will be \$3-\$25 based on size.

#### 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

## Recreation OPPORTUNITIES

Find details on the following recreation opportunities in the Fall Recreation Activities Brochure or the City website ([www.goldenvalleymn.gov](http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov)).

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

**Pre-school Playtime**—Fridays, 10–11:30 am, \$3/child. No class Oct 22 & Nov 26.

**Kids Club**—Starts Oct 25 & 26. Mon/Wed or Tue/Thu, 9:30–11 am, \$43.

**Art Skool**—Pumpkins & Masks, Oct 27, 6:30–7:30 pm, \$16.

**Monster Mash Teen Dance** (grades 5–7)—Fri, Oct 29, 7–9:30 pm, \$5 before Oct 28, \$8 at door.

**Basketball Winter Warm-Up** (grades 2–3)—Tuesdays, Nov 9–Dec 14, 6–7:30 pm, \$42.

**Supper with Santa** (ages 2 & up, with adult)—Fri, Dec 3, 6–7:30 pm, \$10/child, \$5/adult.

### ADULT PROGRAMS

**Daytime Yoga**—Tues, Oct 5–Dec 7, 11 am–noon, Brookview Community Center, \$56.

**Sketch 'N' Journal**—Tues, Oct 12 & 19, 1–2:30 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$36.

**Tae Kwon Do**—Tues, Oct 26–Nov 30, 6–6:45 pm, \$56.

**Yoga & Pilates**—Thurs, Nov 4–Dec 16, 5:30–6:40 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$60.

Register in person, by mail, phone, fax (763-512-2344), or online ([www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/programs.php](http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/programs.php)).

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

# Instructor Gets Creative With Recreation Classes

When it comes to creative ways to get people in shape, Annette Fragale is in the loop.

Besides teaching line dancing, yoga, and pilates for the Golden Valley Park and Recreation Department, Fragale is also an experienced hoola-hoop instructor.

“My favorite story is the 91-year-old man who came to Golden Valley and took the class to loosen his hips so he could start dancing,” Fragale says.

The hoola hoop class, where all ages are welcome, includes balance, strength, and flexibility exercises using weighted hoops specially made and designed by Fragale. She makes the hoops so they're more durable, flexible and heavier than store-bought hoops.

“I use irrigation tubing. The secret ingredient is water,” Fragale says. “I make them different sizes and weights. The purpose is to work your core, and boy does it work your core. They also work your legs and heart.”

After taking her class, most people choose to purchase their hoop for \$15 so they can continue with the exercises, she says.

Having taught parks and recreation classes for more than 20 years, and with experience as an entertainer and magician, Fragale says she approaches all her classes with the idea that it should be both fun and theatrical.

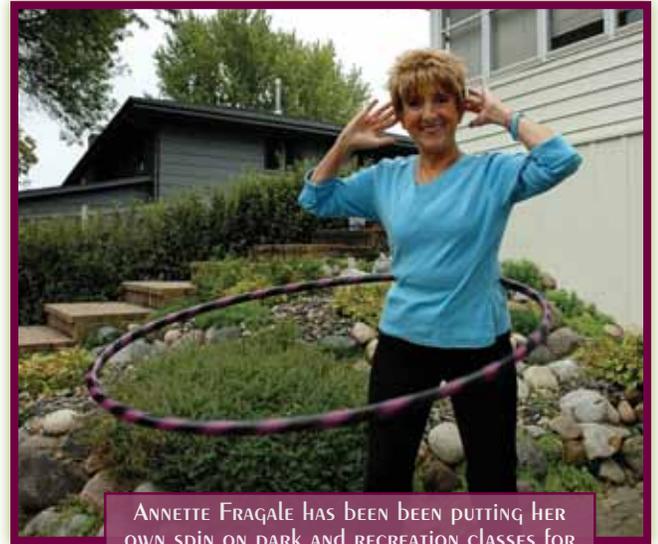
“My favorite story is the 91-year-old man who came to Golden Valley and took the class to loosen his hips so he could start dancing.”

As she's teaching yoga, she says she's always talking with the group and keeping people entertained while making sure by the end of the class, students feel good about themselves and have a sense of accomplishment.

“I love parks and recreation. I think it's the best,” Fragale says. “Unlike fitness clubs, the people aren't in the classes to look cute. They're there to exercise and have fun.”

Those interested in signing up for a hooping class or any of the other fitness classes offered by Golden Valley Park and Recreation can visit [goldenvalleymn.gov](http://goldenvalleymn.gov) and type “fitness” into the search engine at the upper right-hand corner. Courses cost anywhere from \$12 to \$70, depending on how intensive they are. The hoop class is \$12 for residents, \$16 for non-residents.

The City of Golden Valley offers a wide variety of recreation activities and classes for all ages. For an overview, go to the City website at [www.goldenvalleymn.gov](http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov) and click the Parks & Recreation button.



ANNETTE FRAGALE HAS BEEN PUTTING HER OWN SPIN ON PARK AND RECREATION CLASSES FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS.

# Community Garden Would Foster Connections

Connections continue to sprout up throughout Golden Valley, with institutions as well as people embracing the *Envision Connection Project* ethos—Actively Building Community. A recent example involves community gardening.

This year, about 15 members of Valley Community Presbyterian Church created a large garden with the intent of sharing some of the bounty with the community. Plots were tended by groups and individuals. Valley Community youth group members planted a salsa garden and made fresh salsa, which they sold to help finance their mission work. The Children's Garden was created from a packet of seeds and features a glorious patch of 3- to 4-foot zinnias. Individuals created gardens to suit their tastes but shared their produce with PRISM, an area food shelf.



The project was guided by a brief set of expectations, with a focus on building relationships with our neighbors and the wider community, explains Reverend Kathy Smith, church volunteer and gardener. Each Tuesday night, the gardeners met to weed and commune at a potluck dinner. They collectively shared in watering and delivering the harvest to PRISM. Being able to make those food shelf donations was one of the top reasons the church wanted a garden in the first place, adds Smith.

Next year, depending on how much interest they hear from the Golden Valley community, the church plans to expand the garden and make plots available to others. The Golden Valley Garden Club is also interested in creating a community garden and is meeting with Valley Community Presbyterian leaders to see if they can collaborate.

If you'd like to join Golden Valley's community garden initiative, contact a community garden leader (see box) or Golden Valley Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Werts at 763-512-2341 or [swerts@goldenvalleymn.gov](mailto:swerts@goldenvalleymn.gov).

### community garden leaders

**Kathy Smith**, Valley Community Presbyterian Church, [katsmith007@aol.com](mailto:katsmith007@aol.com)

**Lynn Gitalis**, Golden Valley Garden Club, [lynngi2@gmail.com](mailto:lynngi2@gmail.com)

**Rick Martens**, Valley Community Gardens, [rvm2955@aol.com](mailto:rvm2955@aol.com)



**LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED in your community or to start your own community project?** Golden Valley Bridge Builders is a way for individuals and groups to match up with like-minded people who want to make things happen in their community. Bridge Builders is an outgrowth of *Envision Golden Valley*, the City's successful community visioning process. Call Assistant City Manager Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014 for more information.

## Senior Stuff

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

### Coffee Talk

- Oct 27, 9:45 am: "Medicare Advantage." What is Medicare Advantage, how does it work, how many kinds are there and what are their differences, what are the advantage and disadvantages? The class is an educational opportunity and not a sales pitch. Register by Oct 25. \$2 payable at door.
- Nov 17, 9:45 am: "New Changes in Medicare Part D." The class is an educational opportunity and not a sales pitch. Register by Nov 15. \$2 payable at door.

### Golden Tones

Join a local choir. Practices: Thursdays, 10:30–11:30 am, Sept 23–May 5, Calvary Church. Call 763-512-2339 or join any Thursday.

### "MARY WANDERERS" Trip Program

- Nov 12: Chocolate, Wine, and Cheese—Lunch at Scandia Café, then Chateau St Croix for wine, cheese, and chocolate presentation plus tour. \$59. Register or cancel by Oct 18.
- Dec 3–4: Dutch Christmas in Pella Iowa—Day 1: Snack stop and lunch before arriving in Pella for the Tour of Homes/Festival of Trees and Christmas Theater Show plus Country Christmas Lights Display. Day 2: Breakfast and tour of area with Dutch-theme lunch before returning. \$325/person for double room, \$415/person single room. \$75/person deposit by Oct 18. Final payment due Nov 1. After Oct 18, payments are not refundable. Travel insurance available. Call for insurance or trip brochure.
- Dec 9: Fanny Hill Theater—Have lunch and see "You Better Watch Out." \$64. Register or cancel 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

# ASHES, ASHES, They'll All Fall Down



A bug is killing ash trees across America, and Golden Valley is facing the threat proactively.

IT'S A SMALL BEETLE, no larger than a penny, but its damage may be immeasurable. The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation is like a plague slowly creeping its way across the country, and Golden Valley could be next on the map.



Scientists have yet to find a way to fight back against the beetle, leaving foresters with the undesirable but necessary measure of cutting down healthy trees early on to spread out costs of removal.

## Managing The Threat In Golden Valley

Ash trees make up 20 percent (about 3,000) of all public trees in Golden Valley, and 33 percent of trees in public parks, says Al Lundstrom, environmental coordinator. Since the beetle attacks ash trees so effectively, Golden Valley may lose a fifth of its forest.

That's why the City plans to get there first and remove all public ash trees over a 15-year period, starting this winter.

"We can't afford to wait," Lundstrom says. "If we wait for the beetle to get here, we'll have to deal with too many trees dying at once."

In 2009, the City of Golden Valley started

an inventory of trees on public land to help foresters gauge the impact of the Emerald Ash Borer threat. As the inventory nears completion this winter, officials now know where the highest populations of public ash trees are and how many they'll have to remove each year.

"We'll start by removing ash trees from the nature areas, parks, and golf course," Lundstrom says, "beginning with dead and dying trees."

The City has approved a plan to replant trees of multiple varieties in place of the removed ash trees.

"We want to prevent planting a high percentage of any one variety of tree," Lundstrom says.

The City plans to remove 200 public ash trees and plant a minimum of 50 new trees per year. Removal and replacement costs will range from \$45,000 to \$58,000 per year.

The City does not have resources to replant boulevard trees at this time, Lundstrom says.

As for ash trees on private property, Lundstrom suggests property owners start planning. Homeowners can either remove ash trees and replant now, work with a private forestry consultant to treat the tree with preventive insecticides, or wait to remove

Since the beetle attacks ash trees so effectively, Golden Valley may lose a fifth of its forest.



Ash trees in Hampshire Park

Emerald Ash Borer on penny photo from <http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov>  
Emerald Ash Borer photo by Iowa State University Extension



The City of Golden Valley began an inventory of public trees last winter. The inventory is complete in City parks and revealed 1,616 ash trees, or 33% of all trees in City parks.

the trees when they become infested. Waiting, however, will lead to standing dead ash trees that may become hazards.

### Is There A Silver Lining?

City officials believe its proactive EAB management plan will help it rise from the ashes in the end. The EAB threat encouraged the City to inventory all public trees, which gives City foresters valuable information about how many of each variety of trees there are on public land, where those varieties are located, and the condition of the trees.

When it comes to overall landscaping and the future health of Golden Valley forests, having this detailed inventory will be a major benefit, Lundstrom says.

“When we’re planting new trees, we’ll know not to overplant a certain species,” Lundstrom adds. “And we’ll plant more of our native species.”

If you have questions about the City’s Emerald Ash Borer management plan, contact Public Works at 763-593-8030 or [publicworksdept@goldenvalleymn.gov](mailto:publicworksdept@goldenvalleymn.gov).

## FIREWOOD QUARANTINE

To prevent the spread of 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).

## WHAT IS THE EMERALD ASH BORER?

The Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive beetle that attacks and kills ash trees. Its larvae kill the trees by tunneling into the wood and feeding on the tree’s nutrients. Since its accidental introduction into North America, the beetle has killed millions of ash trees in 10 eastern states. With an estimated 900 million ash trees, Minnesota is at high risk.

On May 14, 2009, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) announced the discovery of an Emerald Ash Borer infestation in St Paul just northeast of the I-94/Hwy 280 intersection. It is the first detection of the destructive tree pest in Minnesota, and on May 15 the MDA implemented a quarantine on firewood and certain ash products and material for Ramsey and Hennepin counties.

The metallic-green adult Emerald Ash Borer beetles are a half inch long and are active from May to September. Signs of EAB infestation include one-eighth-inch diameter D-shaped exit holes in ash tree bark and serpentine tunnels packed with sawdust under the bark.

If you suspect an Emerald Ash Borer infestation, visit the MDA website at [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us) and use the “Do I have Emerald Ash Borer?” checklist.



The Emerald Ash Borer’s handiwork

# City Sees Drop In Part One And Part Two Crimes

Over the last three decades, Golden Valley has seen a significant drop in severe crimes—aggravated assault, rape, homicide, robbery, arson, burglary, and felony theft. For the purposes of FBI reporting, these are known as “part one” crimes.

Golden Valley had 1,019 part one crimes in 1979, while 30 years later in 2009, only 665 part one crimes were reported, says Joanne Paul, Golden Valley crime analyst.

She attributes the drop largely to better awareness.

“People are better at notifying the police in a timely manner,” she says. “And our Neighborhood Watch programs are working.”

Also, the average age of Golden Valley residents has gone up over the years, which directly correlates to a drop in violent crimes.

“Part two” crimes are those that are not violent in nature or don’t include damage to property. There are generally about twice as many part two crimes per year than part one crimes, though part two crimes have also dropped in Golden Valley—by 32 percent in the last 10 years. Comparing the first seven months of last year with the first seven months of this year, overall crime has dropped 23 percent.

The police department has taken a different, more community based approach to policing in the last couple of years, Paul says. And an emphasis on educating the public about crime prevention has clearly helped.

“We have to give a lot of credit to citizens,” Paul says. “They’re more diligent; they lock their doors; they’re better at calling us. One of my jobs is to watch for crime trends and if I see a problem, if I see crime going up, I will sit down with command staff and we’ll discuss other approaches we can take to fighting crime and for educating the public. There are a lot of tools at our disposal.”

## KEEP YOUR VALUABLES LOCKED UP

Unlocked doors result in half of all residential burglaries in Golden Valley, says Joanne Paul, City 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.

Lately, 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, driveways, and on the street. In many cases the vehicles had been left unlocked.

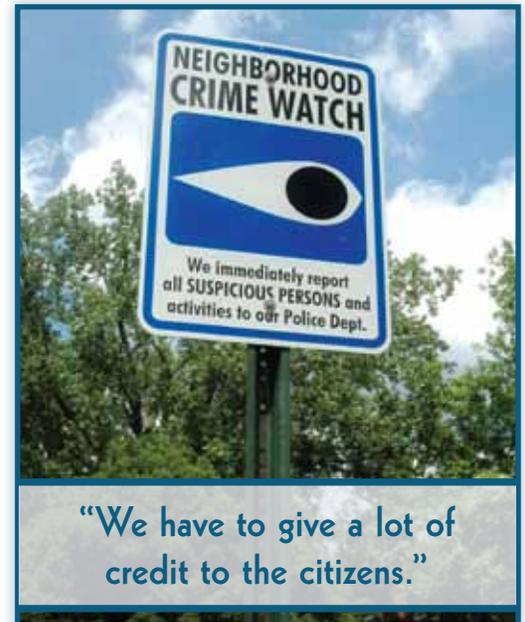
So do what you can. Don’t leave valuables in your car. Write down the serial numbers of your valuables so they can be tracked if stolen. Why make it easy for thieves?

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.

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. Reporting suspicious behavior leads to effective crime prevention.

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

If you have questions about crime prevention in Golden Valley or are interested in joining or forming a Neighborhood Watch group, contact the Police Department at 763-593-8079 or [police@goldenvalleymn.gov](mailto:police@goldenvalleymn.gov).



“We have to give a lot of credit to the citizens.”

### PART ONE CRIMES

Aggravated Assault • Rape  
Homicide • Robbery • Arson  
Burglary • Felony Theft

↓ **35%** over 30 years

### PART TWO CRIMES

Simple Assault • Curfew Offenses  
And Loitering • Embezzlement  
• Forgery And Counterfeiting •  
Disorderly Conduct • Driving Under  
The Influence • Drug Offenses •  
Fraud • Gambling • Liquor Offenses,  
Offenses Against The Family •  
Prostitution • Public Drunkenness •  
Runaways • Sex Offenses • Stolen  
Property • Vandalism • Vagrancy •  
Weapons Offenses

↓ **32%** over 10 years



# Prepare Now For A Home Safe Home

Fall is when Minnesotans start thinking about cold weather activities, yet even the most outdoorsy will stay in to enjoy a cozy fire, a good book, or perhaps some TV or a board game. Now is the time to make sure your home will be safe for the winter. Here are a few of the most important things to check:

- Smoke Alarms** You should have at least one on each level of your home and in all sleeping rooms and outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. Test them once a month and replace batteries twice a year. When the alarm "chirps," this means the battery is low. Replace any that are more than 10 years old.
- Carbon Monoxide Detectors** State law requires all homes to have a carbon monoxide detector within 10 feet of every bedroom or within each sleeping room. It's a good idea to have one on each level of the home, especially the same level as the furnace, since that's the most likely source of a CO leak.
- Appliance Venting** If you have gas burning appliances that require combustion air for proper ventilation, be sure they have enough air. For more information, contact the City Inspections Dept (763-593-8090 or inspectionsdept@goldenvalleymn.gov).
- Furnace Heating** Have your furnace and emergency shut-off inspected to be sure they're in good working condition. If you find out your furnace isn't working while it's still fairly warm, then you have some time to fix it.
- Fireplaces & Chimneys** If you have a wood burning fireplace or freestanding appliance, when was the last time you had your chimney cleaned and inspected? If you can't remember, it's time to get it done. Once a year is a good idea.
- Electrical Outlets** Make sure you have enough outlets for all of the electronics you use. If you're using a lot of extension cords from other outlets, you may be overloading your circuits. Ask an electrician for advice on upgrading your electrical wiring.
- While you're at it, now is a good time to prepare an **escape plan** in case of fire and to make sure you have and know how to operate a **fire extinguisher**.

If you have questions about home fire safety, contact Golden Valley Fire Education Specialist/Training Coordinator Stephen Baker at 763-593-3977 or sbaker@ci.goldenvalley.mn.us.

## Carbon Monoxide: A Silent Killer

CO is an odorless colorless, poisonous gas created by burning fuel. Sources include appliances used for heating and cooking and vehicles running in attached garages. Today's energy-efficient homes can also trap CO polluted air inside.

Symptoms of CO poisoning include headaches, weakness, sleepiness, nausea, vomiting, confusion, and disorientation.

To limit CO, buy appliances approved by a nationally recognized testing organization such as Underwriter's Laboratory (UL). When possible, choose fuel burning appliances that can be vented outdoors. Have all natural gas appliances, heating systems, vents, chimneys, and flues inspected and, if necessary, cleaned by a qualified technician every year. Provide adequate outdoor air for your furnace and water heater. It is unlawful to install an unvented fireplace in Minnesota.



Place CO detectors within 10 feet of all sleeping rooms or within each separate sleeping room. If you have a multi-level home, place a detector on each level. One detector is usually adequate for 1,200 to 1,500 square feet of living space. UL listed CO detectors tested to UL 2034 standards can be purchased from any home improvement store for \$50 to \$75.



**Black Belt.  
Biker.  
Firefighter.**

**Brian**  
New Recruit, 1999

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

WHEN IT CAME TO JOINING THE GOLDEN Valley Fire Department, Brian Crow chewed on the idea for a couple of years. He figured he'd be a good fit but still had doubts. Finally he thought, "if not me, who?" With a chance to serve the community right now, why stand on the sidelines any longer?

Crow, a Guthrie Theatre stage manager, has been a Golden Valley firefighter for 10 years and hasn't looked back. "It's always exciting and challenging," he says, "and the public service aspect is very rewarding. It's a real positive experience all around."

"If you're looking for a way to give back, this is something you can do," says Crow. "There's a perception you have to be ultra fit or in your 20s, but there's a role for anybody who wants to serve their community. There's no such thing as a stereotypical firefighter."

# CAUTION

## City Uses Chemicals CAUTIOUSLY

Though chemicals are necessary for the proper maintenance of parks and golf courses, for the sake of the environment, their use in Golden Valley is not taken lightly.

City workers who apply herbicides and fertilizers must be certified in proper chemical use by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and they are required to renew the certification every two years, says Ron Hammer, park maintenance supervisor.

Herbicides and fertilizers, just like household cleaners, are safe if used properly, Hammer says. But as a general guideline Golden Valley crews use chemicals as minimally as possible, spraying only when it's absolutely needed.

For example, the City does not spray for aesthetic reasons. It is done when the threshold of quality turf and safety to park users is compromised, especially in athletic fields.

When chemicals are applied, crews take several precautions. Maintenance workers post signs before spraying. They spray parks at hours of low usage, and they never spray on windy days or when inclement weather is predicted. They also use the safest forms of herbicides, Hammer says. After spraying, workers triple rinse their equipment with clean water and spray the residue back out over a large grass surface.

One of the worst things someone can do after spraying, Hammer says, is rinse the container and dump it out on an impervious surface, like a driveway, allowing the chemical to run into nearby storm sewers, which lead to streams and lakes.

At the City's Brookview Golf Course, crews use liquid chemicals that are more readily absorbed by weeds, making them less likely to wash away, says Greg Spencer, golf course maintenance supervisor. Crews also use state-of-the-art equipment that measures the amount of chemical sprayed, notifying the maintenance worker when to move on to another patch. 

# City Secures Grant For New Little League Facilities

After securing a Hennepin County Youth Sports grant this year, the City of Golden Valley is set to construct two Little League baseball diamonds at the Honeywell Field in north Golden Valley (see map).

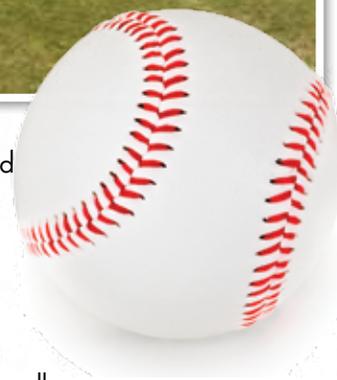
The project, with an estimated budget of \$467,000, will be funded with \$400,000 from the Hennepin County grant. The remaining \$67,000 will be raised by the Golden Valley Little League organization, says Andy Soltvedt, Golden Valley park and recreation supervisor.

The project, scheduled to begin next spring and end in 2012, will include the construction of two new Little League fields, for a total of three fields in the park, additional fencing, revamped batting cages, and new path, access road, storm sewer, and irrigation facilities.

The fields will primarily be used for youth sports, both through the Little League organization and Golden Valley Park and Recreation, Soltvedt says.

"We have Golden Valley Park and Rec programs, Golden Valley Slowpitch Softball, and Golden Valley Little League all competing for similar field space," Soltvedt adds, "so this will help free up more space, get kids off fields not designed for that age group, and create more of a community feel."

The City and Golden Valley Little League have a 55-year history of providing youth baseball programs.



In the spring and summer, Golden Valley Little League hosts three games per night, Monday through Thursday, and seven games per Saturday. Each league team averages about 15 players, with a total of 300 youth using the field on a weekly basis.

Beyond Golden Valley Little League's usage, the City Park and Recreation Department uses the field for three summer ball programs, including T-ball, coaches pitch baseball, and park baseball, for a total of 216 park and rec program participants during tournament weeks.

The City anticipates the new ballfields will generate a greater use among community members just looking to spend time at Honeywell Field. The new paths will create easier access to the overall park rather than just the current small segment, and the revamped facilities will better accommodate all who visit the 11-acre facility.

For more information, contact Soltvedt at 763-512-2367 or [asoltvedt@ci.golden-valley.mn.us](mailto:asoltvedt@ci.golden-valley.mn.us). 

# Metropolitan Council Changes I/I Program

Since 2006, the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) has been working with communities in the seven-county metro area to reduce the inflow and infiltration (I/I) of clear water into the regional wastewater treatment system. These efforts have been substantial enough to allow the MCES to approve several changes to the I/I reduction program. The changes, approved at MCES's Sept 8 meeting, will have a positive impact on many affected cities, including Golden Valley.



## The MCES I/I Reduction Program

According to MCES's I/I reduction program, cities identified as contributors of excess I/I were required to resolve the problem or face MCES surcharges. Cities that didn't meet I/I reduction goals by 2013 were to face a demand charge that would help pay the costs of addressing I/I at the regional level.

To date, those communities have spent nearly \$50 million to reduce I/I. In contrast, MCES estimates it would have to spend closer to \$1 billion to expand wastewater collection and treatment capacity to handle excess I/I.

Golden Valley is one of many cities with excess I/I that began a mitigation program to avoid MCES surcharges. Golden Valley's program involves inspecting properties for improper connections or significant I/I defects in the sanitary sewer service pipe, then requiring correction or repair (see sidebar).

MCES and City officials agree that I/I reduction most often requires an ongoing effort of private and public improvements.

## Changes Give Cities More Time

Based on recommendations of a task force appointed last year, MCES agreed cities need more time to complete their mitigation work. Officials also concluded that slower growth and less flow means the region will have sufficient sewer capacity for more years than previously anticipated.

Changes to the program create further incentive for voluntary compliance and impose demand charges only as a last resort and on a case-by-case basis (see box). MCES expects this approach will amount to a regional savings of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Questions? Contact Golden Valley Public Works at 763-593-8030 or [publicworksdept@goldenvalleymn.gov](mailto:publicworksdept@goldenvalleymn.gov).

## REVISED PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The I/I reduction program will continue indefinitely, recognizing that mitigation at the source is the most cost effective and efficient approach to reducing I/I.
- Some communities will be able to defer some 2011 I/I reduction work until 2012.
- The systematic 2013 demand charge is eliminated. MCES will impose a demand charge only on communities that do not implement an effective I/I reduction program, or if regulations and/or regulatory permits require city council action to ensure compliance. The charge, if implemented, would be used to cover the cost of building offline storage to handle excessive peak flows.
- Changes to the I/I reduction program will improve the methodology for determining excess I/I.

# Golden Valley's I/I Inspection Process

To comply with mandates to reduce peak flows to the regional wastewater collection system (see story at left), the City of Golden Valley requires all properties to have an Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) inspection before they are advertised for sale.

This Point of Sale ordinance is intended to help reduce peak sanitary sewer flows caused by I/I, or flow of clear water into the sanitary sewer system. It allows for inspection of private properties to ensure there are no illegal connections to the sanitary sewer system that contribute to excess peak flows.

Property owners have two options for a Point of Sale I/I Inspection: an inspection performed by the City, or an inspection performed by a licensed plumber. Plumbers who do inspections must be pre-approved by the City and must submit inspection results to the City for review. Inspections include a televised observation of the sanitary sewer service.

Before selling or transferring title of property, property owners must obtain a Certificate of I/I Compliance from the City. If the property fails inspection, the City will issue a correction notice. Any improper connections or significant I/I defects in the sanitary sewer service pipe must be corrected before the City will issue a Certificate of I/I Compliance. If a Certificate of I/I Compliance is more than one year old, a sump pump inspection is required before a sale or transfer of ownership.

## Fees

- *City Inspection Fee*: \$250 for residential properties, \$750 for non-residential properties, \$75 for subsequent inspections of a sump pump discharge.
- *Review Fee For Inspection By Licensed Plumber*: \$100 for residential properties, \$375 for non-residential properties.

## Permit Application

To schedule an I/I Compliance Inspection, contact Golden Valley Public Works at 763-593-8030. Permit applications are available online at [www.goldenvalleymn.gov](http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov) or at City Hall.

## CROSSWALKS & THE LAW

Marked crosswalks help concentrate pedestrians at a specific location and provide a defined pathway for them to cross the street. They also discourage crossing at other, less desirable, locations. Meanwhile, crosswalk signs and markings are meant to alert motorists to the potential presence of pedestrians.

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

### STAY ALERT, NEVER ASSUME

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

While pedestrians within a crosswalk legally have the right of way, that doesn't mean drivers will see you and stop. Unfortunately, not all drivers abide by crosswalk laws, either by choice or by circumstance. Some are distracted or may not see you in time. Many accidents occur when one vehicle stops for a pedestrian but a second vehicle in another lane does not.

Before stepping into the street, make eye contact with the drivers of approaching vehicles to make certain they recognize your presence and provide an indication the vehicle will stop. Then stay vigilant as you cross.

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



# School Zone Safety Starts With You

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.

## 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. Violating these laws has serious consequences:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.



## SLOW DOWN ON RESIDENTIAL STREETS

Speed kills, especially on residential streets. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA):

- each year more than 4,000 pedestrians are killed while walking on or crossing residential streets
- over the past decade, more than three-fourths of the pedestrians were killed at non-intersections and less than one-fourth were killed at intersections
- the higher the posted speed limit, the higher the probability of a pedestrian fatality

In Minnesota, the speed limit on residential streets is 30 mph, except in limited situations. But just because you can drive 30 mph doesn't mean you should. Pay attention and slow down on residential streets, and take an extra three seconds at stop signs. Watch for pedestrians and remember, children aren't always easy to see and they may not be paying attention to you. If you are walking, try to cross streets at intersections, preferably at crosswalks (see sidebar).

The Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) has an additional presence around school zones when school is in session. For more information, contact the GVPD at 763-593-8079. 



City of  
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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.



## VOTING LOCATIONS

For the Nov 2 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**  
LOGIS  
5750 Duluth St
-  **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. 

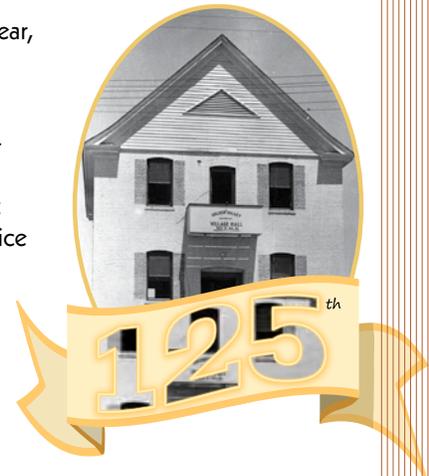
## Help Golden Valley Celebrate Its 125th

Golden Valley will have its 125th anniversary next year, and it's not too soon to start thinking of ways to celebrate.

Golden Valley resident Marshall Tanick is spearheading a Bridge Builder's group to start planning a series of celebratory events, with ideas ranging from student essay contests to historical programs to volunteer service activities. He also suggests tweaking some existing community activities to include an anniversary component.

But to pull this off, the group will need a lot of participation, lots of good ideas, and early-on organization. A Bridge Builder's meeting was held Sept 22 to discuss planning these events, and further meetings are expected.

If you're interested in helping Golden Valley and its residents make the City's 125th birthday a memorable one, contact Sandy Werts at [swerts@goldenvalley.gov](mailto:swerts@goldenvalley.gov) to be put on the group's mailing list, or call her at 763-512-2341. 



## HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE

The Village of Golden Valley was incorporated Dec 16, 1886. During its early years, Golden Valley was an agricultural community of only a few hundred residents, full of farms, mills, and dairies. Residential development began

after the Electric Luce Line Railroad was cut through the village in 1912.

More residential development followed industry's discovery of Golden Valley after World War II. It became a city in 1972.

City of  
**Golden Valley**

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