

Golden Valley

CITYNEWS



Citizen Group Plans for City's 125th Celebration

Golden Valley will be 125 years old in 2011, and a group of citizens is planning a series of events and activities during the year to commemorate the anniversary, which stems from the City's incorporation as village Dec 16, 1886.

Time Capsule

The 125th Anniversary Time Capsule will contain artifacts reflective of contemporary Golden Valley to be opened by residents in 2036, during the City's 150th anniversary. Golden Valley residents are welcome to contribute ideas about the design and location of the capsule as well as items or materials to be included inside. Send suggestions by April 11 to the City's volunteer coordinator (see box). Include your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

Sandy Werts
Volunteer Coordinator
swerts@goldenvalleymn.gov
763-512-2341

Luncheon Honoring 75-Year Residents of Golden Valley

The Golden Valley Historical Society will honor residents who have lived in the community for 75-plus years with a dinner and special program Sept 7 at the Golden Valley Country Club. To submit your name or nominate a friend, neighbor, or relative, contact Don Anderson at 763-588-8578 or e-mail Nancy Azzam at Shazzam45@aol.com by May 13.

125th Anniversary Events

Many 125th anniversary events are set (see page 2), and more are being planned. If you're interested in collaborating with the planning team on a 125th anniversary event, contact the volunteer coordinator (see box). For more information about Golden Valley's 125th, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/125.

Mark Your Calendar:



Celebrate community spirit at the eighth annual Golden Valley Days Art & Music Festival.

Saturday, May 21

9:30 am–9:30 pm, Brookview Park

- 9:30 am: Parade
- 10 am–6 pm: Games, Artists, Food Vendors
- 10 am–3 pm: Plant Sale, Community Organization Booths
- 11 am–3 pm: Vintage Auto Show
- 11 am–6 pm: Music
- 3:30–5:30 pm: Bingo
- 6:30–9:30 pm: Street Dance
- 9:30 pm: Fireworks

Golden Valley Days is presented by the Golden Valley Community Events Fund, a non-profit community foundation organized by city residents. For more information or to volunteer, call 612-710-0995 or 612-377-3043, or visit www.goldenvalleyfund.org.



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125th Events

DIVERSITY IN GOLDEN VALLEY

Thursday, April 14, 7 pm
Golden Valley Historical Society
Museum

Learn about events leading up to the formation of the Golden Valley Human Rights Commission. Free program.

A PHOTO TOUR OF MINNESOTA'S LIBRARIES

Saturday, April 16, 1-2 pm
Golden Valley Library

Doug Ohman, Midwest photographer of historic architecture, will present highlights from his book "Minnesota Libraries." The Golden Valley Library, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year, will be included in the discussion. Free program.

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY IN GOLDEN VALLEY

Thursday, May 12, 7 pm
Golden Valley Historical Society
Museum

Roxanne Gould and Jim Rock, educators at Wayzata High School and Augsburg College, will talk about Native Americans in the Golden Valley area in the 1800s. Free program.

GOLDEN VALLEY HISTORY TOUR

Saturday, May 21, 2 pm
Pick-up points @ Golden Valley City
Hall and Brookview Community Center

Step onto a 1950s vintage transit bus and take a trip back in time to sites and buildings important to Golden Valley's history. Tour limited to 50 people; advanced registration required. Cost: \$10. Send check payable to Golden Valley Historical Society to 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427. Include name, address, and day and evening phone number for each person attending.

For a complete list of events, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/125.

Cooperative Agreements Save \$\$ For City

Golden Valley is one of many cities that engage in intergovernmental collaborations among cities, counties, and school districts to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Such cooperative efforts also help local governments navigate fiscal constraints and growing service demands. For example, Golden Valley's participation in a fuel consortium allows the City to purchase fuel at set prices (unleaded, \$2.71/gallon; diesel, \$3/gallon) through Jan 31, 2012.

According to the League of Minnesota Cities, "cities that have implemented collaborative efforts know this is hard work that can take significant political will and perseverance, and success is not always easy to demonstrate. There are also risks to be considered as formal agreements are drawn up."

The City of Golden Valley's current cooperative agreements with other governmental agencies are listed below.

2011-2012 CONSOLIDATED COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

- Animal Impound Facility (Medicine Lake)
- Aquatics and Swimming (St Louis Park)
- Automatic Aid Plymouth Fire Department
- Automatic Aid St Louis Park Fire Department
- Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (9 cities)
- Caring Youth Recognition (5 entities)
- Five Cities Senior Transportation
- General Mills (trails)
- Health Insurance/LOGIS (42 cities)
- Hennepin County Assessor
- Hennepin County Fire Investigation Team
- Hennepin County Mutual Aid
- Hennepin County Purchasing
- Hennepin County Violent Offender Task Force
- Home Remodeling Fair (7 entities)
- Hopkins School District (Davis Community Center)
- Houston-Galveston Area Purchasing Consortium
- Joint Dispatching/Booking Facility (2 cities)
- Joint Labor Relations (50 cities)
- Joint Traffic Management/I-394 (St Louis Park)
- Joint Water Commission (3 cities)
- League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust
- LOGIS (45 governmental organizations)
- Metropolitan Council Environmental Services
- Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (27 cities)
- Minnesota Fire Agency Purchasing Consortium
- Mutual Aid: Public Safety and Public Works
- North Suburban Regional Mutual Aid (35 Fire Departments)
- Northwest Community Television (9 cities)
- Northwest Drug Task Force (5 cities)
- Northwest Hennepin Human Services Council (15 cities)
- Northwest Suburbs Cable Communications Commission (9 cities)
- Park & Recreation Cooperative Programs Ronald B. Davis Community Center
- Perpich Center For Arts Education (soccer fields)
- Plymouth Tree Purchasing Program
- Reach For Resources (5 cities)
- Recycling Services (3 cities)
- Robbinsdale School District (athletic fields)
- School Liaison Program (5 cities)
- State of Minnesota Cooperative Purchasing
- Suburban Rate Authority
- University of Minnesota Cooperative Purchasing



Save the date!

Lilac Planting Party
Saturday, Oct 1, 2011

Volunteer for the planning team or the planting team. Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/lilacplanting/, or contact Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Werts at 763-512-2341 or swerts@goldenvalleymn.gov.

Capture Your Community For Views of the Valley

Frame, focus, click, and capture the beauty of your surroundings for the 19th annual *Views of the Valley* photo contest. People, places, buildings, landscapes—as long as it's in the city limits, it's game.

The contest aims to promote Golden Valley and civic pride in a fun and educational way. A panel of judges evaluates each entry on subject matter, composition, clarity, lighting, depth of field, artistry/drama, degree of difficulty, technical excellence, and overall impact. Creative photo titles also earn points.

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

To enter, read the rules (see box below) and submit your favorite photos. The entry form on this page can be photocopied. To see past winners or to download an entry form, check out www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/photocontest/. Photo entries become the property of the City of Golden Valley and will not be returned.

Deadline is June 8, 2011, at 4:30 pm. Mail or drop off completed entries to Photo Contest, City of Golden Valley, 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427. City employees and their families are not eligible to enter. If you have questions or need more entry forms, call 763-593-8004. 

125th Anniversary Category

In honor of Golden Valley's 125th anniversary, *Views of the Valley* will award a \$25 prize to the photo voted most historically significant by judges. All other contest rules still apply.



CONTEST AWARDS

Overall Grand Prize
Winner receives additional \$50.

First Place Prize
Winners in each of the three categories receive \$50, publication of photo on City website and in *CityNews*, and a certificate of appreciation.

People's Choice
Publication on the City website and in *CityNews*, \$25, and a certificate of appreciation.



2010 Overall Grand Prize: "Free Lunch" by Felix Norman

All photo entries will be displayed at City Hall and on the City website. From June 10–24, Golden Valley residents may vote for the "People's Choice" award at City Hall during business hours (8 am–4:30 pm, Monday–Friday) or online at www.goldenvalleymn.gov. Winners will be notified in early July.

ENTRY FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Age (if under 18) _____

Category

Natural Golden Valley

Golden Valley Lifestyle

Enhanced*

Title of Photo _____

*Enhancement Explanation _____

I agree to let the City of Golden Valley publish my photo(s) in City publications with proper credit.

Signature _____

All photo entries become the property of the City of Golden Valley and will not be returned.

CONTEST RULES

- You must be a Golden Valley resident.
- Submit each photo in one of three categories:
 - Natural Golden Valley (landscapes, flora, fauna, etc)
 - Golden Valley Lifestyle (cityscapes, buildings, people, activities, etc)
 - Enhanced (photos significantly altered by editing software, lenses, etc). On the entry form, explain what alterations were made to each enhanced photo.
- Submit up to three color or black-and-white photos.
 - All photos must be trimmed to 5x7.
 - Do not submit slides, photocopies, or prints that are not on photo-quality paper.
 - Digital files must be accompanied by a print on photo-quality paper.
 - Do not mat or frame photos.
 - Include complete entry information for each photo (see form). Be sure to indicate the category.
- All entries submitted must be your own work.
- All decisions will be final, and judges reserve the right not to award in any category.
- The City of Golden Valley will not be responsible for lost entries.
- The contest organizers reserve the right to re-categorize or disqualify any entries.
- If there are identifiable people in the photo and it was taken in a non-public space, it is the responsibility of the photographer to obtain permission to use the photo.
- **Deadline is June 8, 2011, 4:30 pm.**

RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Hennepin County now accepts electronic media at its drop-off facilities at 8100 Jefferson Hwy in Brooklyn Park and at 1400 W 96th St in Bloomington.

Materials accepted include:

- computer disks
- DVDs, CDs, and Blu-ray discs
- flash drives and Secure Digital (SD) memory cards
- game cartridges
- ink jet and laser toner cartridges
- plastic cases and jewel cases
- video and audio cassettes and tapes
- vinyl records

Before recycling media, please remove and recycle any cardboard boxes.

The US Environmental Protection Agency estimates that in the United States, approximately 100,000 pounds of CDs become obsolete each month and more than 5.5 million boxes of software are discarded each year.

Hennepin County is the first local option to accept such a wide variety of electronic media for recycling. In the first month of the program, 700 pounds of media was collected.

For more information about recycling electronic media, contact Kristin Pierskalla at kristin.pierskalla@co.hennepin.mn.us or call 612-348-4787.

Take It To The Curb For Spring Brush Pick-Up

When the snow starts to melt, it's time to get ready for Golden Valley's annual residential *Spring Brush Pick-Up*. The pick-up, running from May 2 to May 20, gives you the opportunity to place tree limbs and brush at your curb for collection and disposal.

Pick Up Schedule

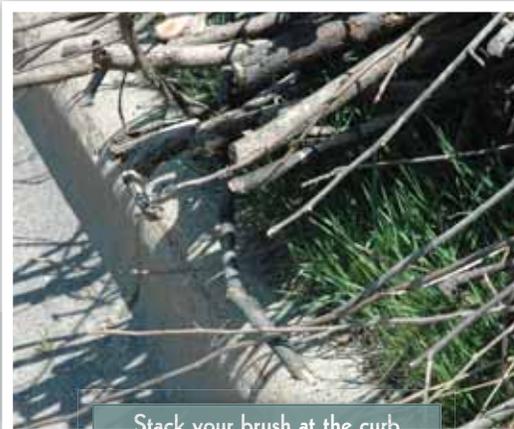
The City will be divided into three sections (see below), with a week designated for pick-up in each.

Brush must be placed on the curb by 8 am Monday the week of pick-up. If there is a lot of brush, pick-up may take longer than a week.

Section 1— Area north of Hwy 55 and east of Douglas Dr—**week of May 2**

Section 2— Area south of Hwy 55—**week of May 9**

Section 3— Area north of Hwy 55 and west of Douglas Dr—**week of May 16**



Stack your brush at the curb according to program guidelines.

Guidelines

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

- Tree limbs and brush must be four inches in diameter or less and approximately six feet long or less.
- Stack brush so the larger ends face the street (do NOT tie limbs together).
- Condense brush to **one pile** per household. Trucks will stop only **once** at each property, so if there is more than one pile, only one will be picked up.
- Do not use plastic bags.
- Place brush and limbs on the boulevard completely clear of sidewalks, mailboxes, streetlights and sign poles, landscaping and fences, overhead tree branches, and power lines. If piles don't fit between the curb and sidewalk, place them on the boulevard behind the sidewalk. The contractor uses trucks with automated loading arms to pick up the brush piles. If your brush is stacked near a restricted area or tossed in a pile rather than stacked, it will be left behind.
- No leaves, grass clippings, stumps, soil, roots, limbs exceeding the size limits, building lumber, landscape timbers, or bags of garbage will be picked up. If any of these items are mixed in the brush stacks, the entire stack will be left behind. The contractor will not sort through brush stacks for acceptable material.

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

The Spring Curbside Brush Pick-Up is a component of the Golden Valley recycling program. If you have questions about the residential brush pick-up program, call 763-593-8030 or visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/homeyard/yards/brush-pick-up.php.

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>
Memorial Day	Sat, Jun 4
July 4	Sat, July 9
Labor Day	Sat, Sept 10
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 26
Christmas	Fri, Dec 23
New Year's '12	Fri, Dec 30

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.

Bassett Creek Restoration Project Nearly Complete

A Bassett Creek restoration effort stretching from the Golden Valley/Crystal boundary through the Briarwood Nature Area to Regent Ave is all but completed. Meant to protect local water quality and minimize erosion, the project is part of an ongoing stabilization effort by the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC).

While the bulk of the project is done, the finishing touches will not take place until spring when the City does final grading work and completes native vegetation planting with the help of Twin Cities Tree Trust, says Al Lundstrom, environmental coordinator.

"Nothing like this has been done on this scale in Golden Valley," Lundstrom says. "We hope to be completely done by the end of May."

PUTTING EROSION UNDER CONTROL

Similar to many other urban streams, Bassett Creek suffers from erosion caused by increased runoff. Over time, erosion builds up and in turn pollutes other local waterways. The stabilization project, with an estimated cost of about \$630,000, extends along 5,100 feet of Bassett Creek. This total includes \$476,200 within Golden Valley and \$159,900 in Crystal. The project is funded by the BCWMC and a grant from Hennepin County and the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Bank stabilization involves using many bioengineering techniques and creating a "buffer zone" along the creek. The buffer zone will be a 15-foot wide area on both sides of the creek that stabilizes the soils and filters pollutants with the help of native plants, grasses, and riprap. Despite all these changes, the stream maintains its original bends and natural flow, Lundstrom says.

The project, which began in January, also includes stabilizing some of the storm sewers that discharge into the channel.

GOLDEN VALLEY CONTINUES WATER Quality Efforts

The project continues Golden Valley's efforts to address bank stabilization concerns and to protect water quality. Bassett Creek is one of many local water bodies on the federal impaired waters list. Others include Sweeney Lake, Medicine Lake, and Wirth Lake.

Impaired waters are streams, rivers, and lakes that currently do not meet their designated use and associated water quality standards. Some lakes made the list because of excess nutrients (phosphorus), which can come from dead vegetation and fertilizer.

Phosphorus promotes algae and surface vegetation that make a lake murky and block sunlight from reaching plants on the lake bottom, plants that provide food for ducks, fish, and other marine life. As these plants decompose, they use up water oxygen, making it harder for aquatic life to survive.

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



The fieldstone along the bank will serve as a buffer zone between the creek and the soil.

City To Hear Water Pollution Control Plan

Every year the City of Golden Valley is required to report on how it is managing storm water that comes from overland flow—water that does not originate from a single pipe—to reduce pollution. The process is called the Phase II National Pollution and Discharge Elimination System, and it requires significant planning by the City, including a public meeting with the City Council (this year set for June 7 at 7 pm).

All communities with more than 10,000 people are federally mandated to get the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit. They must file a report with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) by June 30, and the MPCA then reviews how the City will regulate and improve storm water discharges.

Golden Valley uses its Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan as a guide for managing surface water resources. The permit process requires the City to address and implement six Minimum Control Measures: public education about water resources, public involvement, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site runoff control, post construction runoff control, and pollution prevention.

The June 7 City Council meeting will give the public a chance to share comments on the plan. All written comments should be received no later than 4:30 pm the day of the meeting. Forward comments to: City of Golden Valley, Attn: Al Lundstrom, 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427.

A copy of the plan is available at the Public Works Department in City Hall. For more information, contact Lundstrom at 763-593-8046. 

Recreation Opportunities

Find details on the following recreation opportunities in the Spring/Summer Recreation Activities Brochure or the City website (www.goldenvalleymn.gov).

Youth Programs

Kids' Club (ages 3–5)—New classes start April 4 & 5. Mon and Wed or Tue and Thur, 9:30–11 am. Brookview Community Center, \$43.

Preschool Playtime (ages 1–5 with adult)—Fridays, 10–11:30 am, ends April 22. \$3/child at the door.

Indoor Nerf Soccer (ages 5–7)—Thursdays, April 7–May 19, 6 or 7 pm. \$30.

Nature Art Class (ages 6–12)—Monday, May 10, 6:30–8 pm, \$36.

Adult Programs

Yoga & Pilates—Tues, April 5–May 10, 5:30–6:40 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$60.

Daytime Yoga—Tues, April 5–May 24, 11 am–noon, Brookview Community Center, \$56.

Tae Kwon Do—Tues, April 12–May 24, 6:15–7 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$59.

Hula Hoop Fitness—Thurs, May 5, 6–7:30 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$12.

Register in person, by mail, phone, fax (763-512-2344), or online (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–4:30 pm

Brookview Men's Golf Association

is now registering members for the 2011 golf season. For information, contact Nick Schultz at 612-964-4289 or go to www.bgma.org.

Little League Field Project On Schedule

A project to improve the Little League baseball field near Honeywell in north Golden Valley is right on schedule, says Ron Nims, public works project coordinator.

After securing a Hennepin County Youth Sports grant last year, the City of Golden Valley is set to construct two more Little League baseball fields at the current ballpark.

The City Council will consider awarding a contract for construction of the fields on April 5. Construction is scheduled to begin this spring and be completed in mid summer. It will include two new Little League fields (for a total of three fields in the park), additional fencing, batting cages, and new pedestrian path, access road, bioretention pond, and irrigation facilities. Staff will review the turf condition through fall 2011 and spring 2012 to determine if the fields will be able to open during the 2012 season.

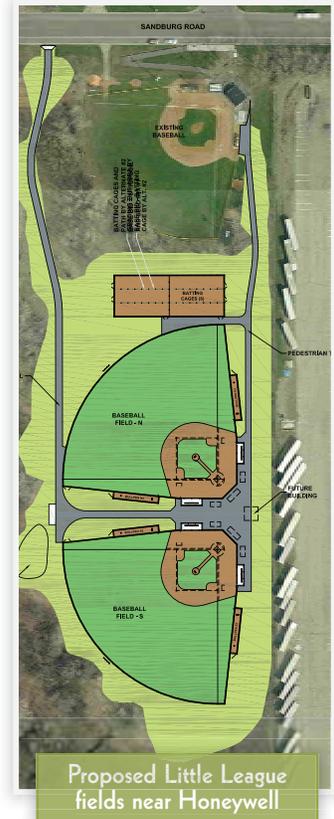
The fields will primarily be used for youth sports, both through the Little League organization and Golden Valley Park and Recreation, says Andy Soltvedt, recreation supervisor.

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 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 the ballpark. The new paths will create easier access to the overall park, 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@goldenvalleymn.gov.



Proposed Little League fields near Honeywell

Register Online for Recreation Activities

Registration is now open for spring and summer recreation activities—why not register online? Log on to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation and follow the links to online registration. There you can:

- access the most current program listing
- register 24 hours a day
- pay with your Visa or MasterCard
- check availability for programs you're interested in
- view your account history and program start dates and locations

First time user? Call 763-512-2340 for your PIN number.



Neighbors Are Waiting To Help Neighbors

Golden Valley neighbors are standing by to help their neighbors with minor home maintenance and upkeep, and some contractors have even offered help on more major tasks, but so far not a lot of requests have been made. If you or someone you know could use a little extra help in these areas, contact Neighbors Helping Neighbors.



Launched in 2010, Neighbors Helping Neighbors supports homeowners who are having trouble keeping up with home maintenance. It's a collaboration between PRISM, Calvary Lutheran Church, Valley Community Presbyterian Church, and H.O.M.E. North/West, with support from the City of Golden Valley.

To aid the process in 2011, the City of Golden Valley secured a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to establish a funding base. In the past, homeowners and churches provided what they could, materials or cash, to get the job done. In one case, Neighbors Helping Neighbors secured a loan from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for a project that needed more extensive work.

This year, the loan fund can be tapped to help with emergency needs such as a new hot water heater or damage from ice dams. Depending on the scope of job, work will be done by volunteers (helping to keep the cost down) or contractors. In either case, Neighbors Helping Neighbors will help homeowners navigate the process.

On April 30, Neighbors Helping Neighbors is sponsoring a Spring Cleaning Blitz to help folks with spring cleaning chores and raise the profile of Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Volunteers from several local church and community organizations will go to homes around Golden Valley to help residents with chores like yard raking and exterior window cleaning. Deadline to sign up for Blitz services is March 30. Seniors who miss the deadline can seek spring cleaning services from H.O.M.E. (952-541-1019).

For more information, visit www.prismmpls.com/programs/neighbors.html or call Neighbors Helping Neighbors at 763-529-1350. ~

The Helping Neighbors

Several local organizations work together on Neighbors Helping Neighbors:

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH—Its Hearts and Hands volunteer group has offered maintenance services to parishioners and is now offering its assistance to the wider community.

H.O.M.E.—This social service agency offers help to homeowners over age 60. It matches work requests with volunteer groups who work for free and paid housekeepers and handymen who provide services on a sliding scale depending on income.

PRISM—This social service agency is coordinating resident requests with groups willing to provide services and will administer the loan fund for the City. Residents needing services should call 763-529-1350 and ask for services through Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Its Youth Mission Group has undertaken many community service projects in other cities and RAMP UP! and Paint-A-Thon projects in the Twin Cities Metro Area. Along with the Church Mission Possible Team, the youth now provide services to Golden Valley neighbors. ~

Senior Stuff

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

It's Tax Time!

AARP is offering free tax help to people with simple returns. Service is first-come, first-served. Bring all information needed to fill out your form and a blank check for direct deposit of your refund. Thursdays, March 31 and April 7 & 14. 9 am–noon, registration at 8:15 am.

Tai Chi For Health & Arthritis

This series of gentle yet powerful, easy-to-learn movements promotes effective physical and mental well-being. Great for joint pain relief and fall prevention! Taught by certified instructor Marie Mathay and endorsed by the Arthritis Foundation worldwide. April 5–May 10, 9:45–10:45 am. \$42/resident, \$47/non-resident. Try it March 29, 9:45 am, for \$2, payable at the door. Wear comfy clothes.

Coffee Talk

"Gumption: Lessons on Old Age, Loneliness, and a Hotdish." This book is about the social network and travels of some old guys in rural Minnesota. It's told by Golden Valley resident Faye Berger, who heard the stories from her dad, founder of the group known as "The Gang," which was limited to the six that fit in a car. Be ready to be entertained and inspired. April 27, 9:45 am, \$2 payable at door. Please register at least one day in advance.

"MARY WANDERERS" Trip Program

June 21–24: Dubuque, Iowa and Galena and Springfield, Illinois. \$615/person, double room; \$765/person, single. Includes deluxe motor coach transportation; lodging for three nights; and one coffee & rolls, three breakfasts, four lunches, and two dinners. Travel insurance available. Call for brochure. \$200 deposit due May 5.

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



Revisiting Envision Golden Valley

As Golden Valley heads into its 125th year, CityNews reports on progress made toward the goals of Envision Golden Valley, the community visioning process that began in 1997 and continues today. Over the years, thousands of people have participated, sharing their ideas and hopes for Golden Valley's future in six overlapping categories: Development, Transportation, Environment, Recreation, Community Engagement, and Government. Throughout 2011, CityNews is revisiting one category in each issue, continuing with Transportation.

Transportation

Golden Valley has four major highways and 120 miles of well-tended City streets. Combined with its 129 miles of local sidewalks and regional trails and access to public transportation, it makes Golden Valley a convenient place for people and businesses to locate.

Supporting Themes & Ideas

- ◆ Improvements of highways, roads, boulevards, and right-of-ways consider beauty and quality of life as well as traffic capacity and safety.
- ◆ Transportation solutions consider individual priority destinations and encourage walkability.
- ◆ Transportation systems coordinate with neighboring cities and regional systems and provide a balance of transit options, including walking and biking.
- ◆ Planning for future transportation innovations encourages inventive design and technology to manage traffic efficiency.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE: Golden Valley enhances quality of life and community connection by encouraging innovative transportation choices that are appealing, efficient, and safe.

Residents want well-maintained, neighborhood-friendly streets that are attractive as well as functional, with connections to regional transit systems. They want efficient transit schedules and routes with easy transitions between transportation modes. And they want to be able to safely walk and bike to destinations throughout the community. Transportation solutions should be environmentally appealing and use the latest technology to reduce congestions and enhance accessibility.

“Transportation improvements aren’t something you can build once and forget about,” says Mark Ray, City engineering technician. “It takes constant maintenance and upgrades to keep them operational.”

Upcoming projects indeed reflect Envision’s themes and ideas, including:

- ◆ continued investment in the City’s transportation infrastructure
- ◆ continued investment in trails, sidewalks, and pedestrian amenities
- ◆ projects and technology that promote traffic efficiency and safety
- ◆ planning for and implementation of improved road conditions along Douglas Dr



Infrastructure Investment

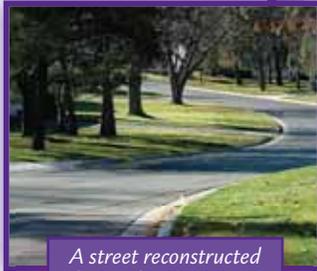
Golden Valley has been reinvesting in its infrastructure for years and will continue to do so. Since 1995, the City's Pavement Management Program (PMP) has rehabilitated more than 80 miles of local streets and water, sewer, and storm sewer pipes where needed. Ongoing maintenance protects the investment.

Over the years the City also worked with regional and state authorities to improve major thoroughfares like I-394 and Highway 100. A project at Highway 55 and Boone Avenue and General Mills Boulevard improved the roadways, traffic signals, and flood control in the area. In addition, the City partnered with General Mills to convey a developable property into the 26-acre General Mills Nature Preserve. It features wetlands and native plants and a half mile walking path for the community to enjoy.

A project at Boone and Golden Valley Road featured similar improvements to the street, traffic signals, and storm water ponding. To the north of this area, the City put a new liner in a 50-year-old water main in Boone Avenue, avoiding excavation of a street built to City standards.

And when a railroad bridge over Golden Valley Road east of Douglas Drive was placed on a critical repair list, the City worked with the proper authorities to replace the bridge for the safety of the community.

"The condition of a City's infrastructure is a symbol of the community's vitality," says Public Works Director Jeannine Clancy. "Our City council, citizens, and corporations understand that, and Golden Valley's investment in its infrastructure will benefit the community for generations."



A street reconstructed during the 2009 PMP

Pedestrian Connections

Golden Valley's sidewalk and trail system was molded by a group of citizens in the 1970s with a vision for a walkable community.

To satisfy the community's desire for walking and biking, the City continually improves its trails and sidewalks. For example, during a recent PMP project, the City built a sidewalk along Regent Ave that completed a connection between sidewalks along Golden Valley Rd and sidewalks in Crystal.

The City also improved connections from sidewalks along Winnetka Ave S and Harold Ave to the pedestrian bridge over Hwy 55 and is always working to improve accessibility to community sidewalks and trails.

After listening to concerns about safety near Noble Elementary School, the City used a Safe Routes to School grant to improve sidewalks and pedestrian crossings in the area and made changes to the school's parking, drop-off, and pick-up zones.

To improve connections outside the community, the City works with other local and regional authorities, like the Three-Rivers Park District. Such efforts helped complete the west-to-east Luce Line Trail link that connects Golden Valley to a larger network of regional trails. Another project involved completing connections to a pedestrian bridge over Hwy 100 in northern Golden Valley, and another improved connections to the Park & Ride lot at General Mills Blvd and Wayzata Blvd.



Luce Line Trail link

Smart Planning

Smart traffic planning concepts encourage efficiency and safety. For example, the recently rehabilitated Country Club Dr between Rhode Island Ave and Douglas Dr features a street designed for traffic calming with a sidewalk on one side and a trail on the other.

An upcoming project will reconfigure traffic lanes on northbound Louisiana Ave at Market St, which will allow traffic to flow more smoothly.

Traffic signals at a number of Golden Valley intersections have been upgraded to LEDs (light emitting diode). In 2010, the City received a grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program to fund the upgrade of all traffic lights from the current incandescent bulbs to LEDs.

Douglas Drive

For several years, City planners and engineers have been studying ways to improve traffic flow, pedestrian safety, and aesthetics along Douglas Dr. A 2010 signing and striping project reduced turning conflicts and provided space for bikers off the sidewalks and out of traffic lanes.



Douglas Drive

The City is also partnering with Hennepin County to plan a 2016 reconstruction project that would reconstruct Douglas Dr from Hwy 55 to Medicine Lake Rd and add turn lanes, allow for shoulders and bike lanes, improve sidewalks, install street lights, and place existing above-ground utilities underground.

Photo courtesy SEH

Bike Rodeo



Wed, May 4
6-8 pm

Crystal Community Center
4800 Douglas Dr

Join your friends for a free bicycle safety check and riding skills test. Enjoy special treats and register to win prizes. Highlights include:

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

The Bike Rodeo will be held rain or shine.

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

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

Officers Stick By “Use Of Force” Guidelines

The nature of police work demands that officers know how to make split-second decisions in high-pressure situations. While most situations don't involve using any force, there are times when officers have no choice, says Golden Valley Police Chief Stacy Altonen. Golden Valley's police officers receive many hours of training in state law and department policy governing use of force, as well as hands-on simulation training in use of force tactics.

THE USE-OF-FORCE CONTINUUM

The goal in any conflict situation is to de-escalate it as quickly as possible with the least force necessary, explains Altonen. Officers follow a general law enforcement guideline called the “use-of-force continuum.” The situation usually dictates where officers need to start on the use-of-force continuum, but ideally, they would be able to start at the lowest level (verbal commands) and progress upwards if the suspect didn't comply. In rare cases, deadly force is necessary to prevent great bodily harm or death.

In escalating order, officers try to defuse a situation by using:

- verbal commands
- soft or empty hand techniques (escort hold, pressure point compliance)
- intermediate or impact weapons (mace, baton)
- less-than-lethal force (Taser, sandbag rounds)
- deadly force (firearm)

Using deadly force is never taken lightly. When it happens, an officer has his or her gun removed and is blood tested for alcohol. He or she is then put on administrative leave for several days, is required to see a therapist, and faces a grand jury investigation that decides if use of deadly force was justified.



Though police officers train for the worst scenarios, the goal in any situation is to use the least force necessary.

Using DEADLY FORCE

Minnesota law authorizes use of deadly force only when necessary to:

- protect the peace officer or another from apparent death or great bodily harm
- arrest or capture, or prevent the escape, of a person whom the peace officer knows or has reasonable grounds to believe has committed or attempted to commit a felony involving the use or threatened use of deadly force
- arrest or capture, or prevent the escape, of a person whom the peace officer knows or has reasonable grounds to believe has committed or attempted to commit a felony if the officer believes that the person will cause death or great bodily harm if the person's apprehension is delayed

“The hope is always that a situation won't require the use of force,” says Altonen, “but if it is necessary, our officers are well-versed in state laws and police tactics. They will execute their duties in accordance with the law and use their best judgment in the interest of officer and community safety.”

Neighborhood Watch



The GVPD hosts annual Neighborhood Watch meetings by zone. New groups or groups that wish to meet on their own may hold individual meetings in addition to the annual meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Zones	Meeting Date
5a	Monday, April 18
5b & 7	Monday, May 16
1	October
2 & 4	October
3	November

Exact dates for Zones 1, 2 & 4, and 3 have yet to be determined.

All meetings will be held at 7 pm in the Golden Valley Public Safety Building Training Room, 7800 Golden Valley Rd.

Firefighter Dreams? Don't Let Doubts Hold You Back

As you mull over the possibility of being a Golden Valley paid on-call firefighter, keep in mind your doubts may deceive you.



JENNY TOAVS didn't think she was strong enough.

A lot of people give up on the idea before they even come to a single information meeting, says Stephen Baker, fire education specialist. They think they're too old, too busy, too weak, or too out of shape.

"And all I want to say to those people is let's talk," Baker says. "They might be surprised at what they can achieve."

Most of Golden Valley's firefighters had doubts going in.

"As silly as it sounds, I did not think I could be a firefighter because I was a girl," said Jenny Toavs. "I am not a big, buff, meathead who can pick up a compact car or anything. Who knew?"



JOSH RICHARDSON didn't think he lived close enough.

Josh Richardson and Steve Yingst both held back initially because they either didn't live in Golden Valley or didn't know if they were staying here.

Worries about time constraints were particularly popular.

"Before I asked, I didn't think I would be able to balance firefighting with my job, time with my wife and two sons, and other hobbies, unless I was willing to never have a moment's rest," says Marc Berris. "I was wrong."



MARC BERRIS didn't think he had time enough.

Chris Gemlo didn't know the City had part-time firefighters. "A lot of people I talk to also are surprised to find out Golden Valley is part time," he says. "Growing up, I always wanted to be a firefighter. Didn't think I could. I finally, at age 30, said 'let's find out.' I was surprised to find out I had a lot of the wrong information."

The point is, Baker says, assumptions can lead you astray. Golden Valley offers multiple opportunities (see box below) to learn more about what it takes to be a paid, on-call firefighter.

"There are certain myths about what the perfect firefighter looks like," Baker says. "Attending these meetings requires no commitment. Just give me a chance to be a myth buster."

For more information, see the sidebar at the right or visit www.goldenvalleyfire.com. You can also contact Baker at 763-593-3977.

Join Up. Give Back. Stand Out.

Joining the Golden Valley Fire Department (GVFD) is a real skills-driven commitment that will leave you prepared to face any number of unique challenges, both as a firefighter and a citizen, says Stephen Baker, fire education specialist.

First-year firefighters attend two to three nights of training per week, for 160 hours of training in the first six months. They'll come away with new or refined skills in search and rescue, emergency medical, hazmat management, auto extrication, critical thinking under pressure, emergency vehicle driving, and of course, firefighting.

The GVFD is seeking men and women to join its long tradition of community service by becoming paid, on-call firefighters.

There are two ways to serve. If you live within six minutes of a Golden Valley fire station, apply to become a night-time/weekend responder. If you live in another community but work in Golden Valley, check out Corporate Call, a collaboration with local businesses to recruit daytime responders (available Monday–Friday, 6 am–6 pm).

FIGHT FOR AIR CHALLENGE

On Feb 26, 2011, 10 Golden Valley firefighters participated in the annual Fight For Air Stair Climb for the American Lung Association. With 120 other firefighters, they climbed a 30-story building in full gear (about 40 lbs) to help raise money to fight lung disease.

This is the fourth year Team Golden Valley participated, raising nearly \$10,000 on its way to a third straight fundraising title.

Team Golden Valley included Steve Baker, Ken Bence, Brent Hadoff, Andy Hutson, Bryan Magnuson, Gregg Prest, Ben Vogel, and Steve Yingst. Golden Valley firefighters Jenny Toavs (representing Metropolitan Airport Commission Fire Department) and Matt Preston (representing West Metro Fire Rescue District) also climbed.

Learn More About Firefighting

FIRE AND POLICE OPEN HOUSE
June 15 • 6–8 pm
Tour one of the Fire Stations, gather information, and talk to firefighters.

FIRE RECRUITMENT EXPO
June 23 • 7–9 pm
Live the firefighter experience! Try on gear, practice some firefighting skills, watch a live burn, participate in a Jaws of Life demo, and talk with firefighters about how they make it work in their lives.

FIRE RECRUITMENT MEETING
June 27 • 9:30 am & 6:30 pm
Learn details about the hiring process, training, schedules, and more.

Events held at Fire Station 1, 7800 Golden Valley Rd. Open House is at all three Fire Stations.

2011 PMP Nears Construction

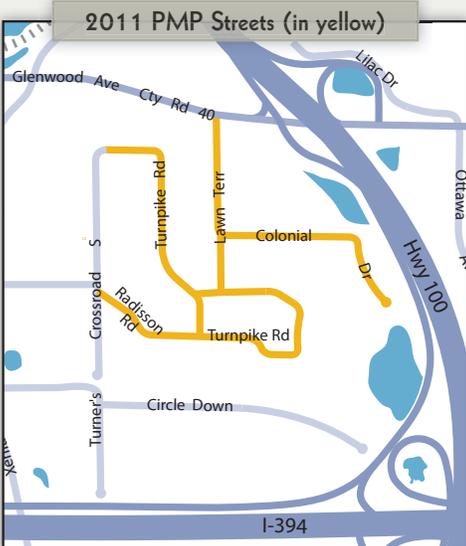
The 2011 Pavement Management Program (PMP) will rehabilitate streets in the Lawn Terrace area of Golden Valley, which is between Hwy 100 and Turner's Crossroad and I-394 and Glenwood Ave (see map below).

Streets will be reconstructed to City standards, including concrete curb and gutter. The project will also address any necessary repairs to the storm water, water, and sanitary sewer systems. Work is scheduled to start in May.

Residents in PMP project areas receive regular construction updates from the City. Those updates are also offered electronically via GV DirectConnect, the City's email subscription service. To subscribe, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov.

The 2012 PMP, which was designed at the same time as the 2011 PMP to save money, will include Circle Down north of I-394 and east of Turner's Crossroad, King Hill Rd and King Creek Rd south of Glenwood Ave, as well as Welcome Ave, Welcome Circle, and Phoenix St south of Golden Valley Rd and west of Hwy 100. It was approved by the City Council in November 2010. The City will bid the 2012 PMP in January 2012.

For more information about Golden Valley's PMP, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/streets/pmp/ or contact Public Works at 763-593-8030.



STREET SWEEPING KEEPS debris and pollutants OUT OF THE STORM WATER SYSTEM.

Street Sweeping Strikes Again

With spring on the way, melting snow will wash a winter's worth of debris into the streets. Golden Valley's street sweeping program helps keep that mess from clogging area catch basins and polluting local waterways. It cleans away the salt and sand of winter to get streets ready for summer.

Trash, sticks, and leaves in the street are eyesores and pollute surface water. Do your part to maintain the City's streets throughout the year. Do not place materials such as soil, pet waste, oil, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and litter into the street. City programs like the *Spring Brush Pick-Up* (see page 4) and *Fall Leaf Drop-Off* give residents some options for yard waste disposal.

With streets clear of debris, the City has an easier time sweeping away salt and sand. Weather permitting, street sweeping usually begins around late-March, with priority given to major intersections, hilly areas, and high-traffic roads where large amounts of sand and salt were distributed over the winter. Crews also focus on areas near Bassett Creek and area lakes to minimize the amount of sand entering these outlets. After this is completed, crews move into neighborhoods. If all goes well, curb-to-curb sweeping is done by early May (streets are swept again in the summer and fall—see schedule below).

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

Street Sweeping Schedule

Spring

Sweep curb-to-curb in late-March/April.

SUMMER

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

Fall

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

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

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

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

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

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



Follow Best Practices With Lawn Chemicals

The use of chemicals is sometimes necessary for the health and beauty of your lawn, but if used incorrectly or too often, they pose a threat to the environment and health.

So before spraying your lawn with herbicides or fertilizer, be sure you're doing it properly. Park Maintenance Supervisor Ron Hammer and Environmental Coordinator Al Lundstrom offer a few tips for using lawn chemicals responsibly:

1. Follow the Instructions

Following the instructions listed on the product is the best way to keep safe. If the directions say one ounce of chemical per one gallon of water, don't use two ounces thinking you'll get done twice as fast. It doesn't work that way, Hammer says. You'll only risk the health of those around you as well as the health of your lawn.

2. Use the Right Chemical for the Specific Weed

Research which herbicide works best for the type of plant you're dealing with. Use the wrong chemical and you'll end up using more than you have to, a practice that's hard on the environment and bad for your pocketbook.

3. Spot Spray

Rather than spraying your entire yard, take a handheld water bottle and spray only those plants you want eradicated. This significantly cuts down the amount of chemical runoff while still keeping your lawn weed-free.

4. Do Not Spray On or Near Impervious Surfaces

Treat your sidewalk and driveway as if they were a shoreline. What runs off of them ends up in the lakes. Spray all chemicals on their intended target.

5. Rinse Properly

Do not dump remaining chemicals on a single spot on your lawn. They'll only drain into the storm sewer. Instead, dilute the chemicals by filling the container with water and spraying it back out over a large area. Do this three times to ensure a proper rinse with no runoff. One of the worst things someone can do after spraying, Hammer says, is rinse the container and dump it out on an impervious surface.

For more information, contact Al Lundstrom at 763-593-8046.



If you have young children, use extra caution when treating your lawn, if you choose to treat it at all.

City Outlines Requirements For Lawn Maintenance

Golden Valley's lawn maintenance ordinance bans noxious weeds and requires turf lawns to be maintained at eight inches or less. If a property is found to be in violation of the ordinance (10.51), the City mails a letter to the property owner. The property owner then has 10 days to comply before the City mows the vegetation at the property owner's expense.

If the City has to mail a second violation notice to a property owner, the notice will include a general warning that the City can abate future violations without providing specific notices. That means if a property has had two or more violation notices issued within the prior 12-month period, the City will not mail further notices before mowing the vegetation at the property owner's expense.

The complete lawn maintenance ordinance is available at City Hall and the Golden Valley Library. Residents who want to vary their landscape by cultivating native plants can apply for a "Native Vegetation Permit." For more information about this permit or the lawn maintenance ordinance, contact Public Works at 763-593-8030.

For questions or to report a tall weed or lawn maintenance violation, call the City's lawn maintenance hotline at 763-593-3966.

City Uses Chemicals Cautiously, Sparingly

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, Hammer says, adding that as a general guideline Golden Valley crews use chemicals as minimally as possible, spraying only when it's absolutely needed.

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.

Don't forget!

All yardwaste for curbside pickup must be in compostable bags. For details, go to RethinkRecycling.com.

Safer Driving. Safer Work Zones. For Everyone.

Log your steps at step toit.org!

Step To It Builds Fit Communities

The Step To It multi-city walking challenge encourages participants to increase their physical activity levels. This year's event is scheduled for May 9 through June 5.

Participants use pedometers or walking charts to note the number of steps taken, then record that number on the Step To It website (www.step toit.org). Other activities, such as biking, skateboarding, basketball, Tai Chi, or even lawn mowing, also count toward over-all steps. During the 2010 challenge, participants logged more than 620 million steps.



The city with the most average steps per individual and the city with the most overall steps will each receive a trophy and a community-wide celebration sponsored by the Hennepin County. Step To It is co-sponsored by the Minnesota Twins.

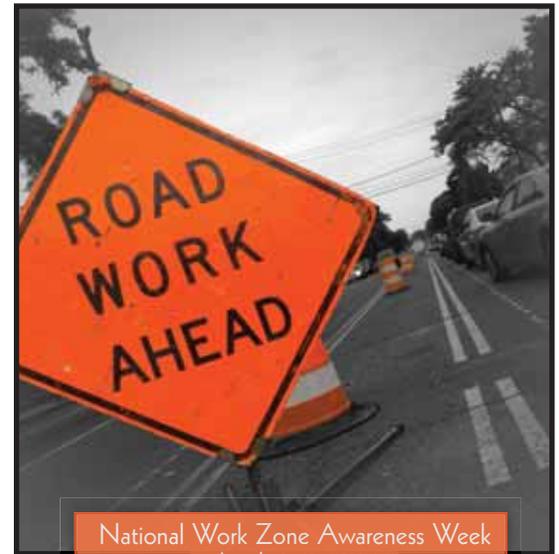
Step To It promotes physical activity as important to your health. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American College of Sports Medicine, the minimum amount of physical activity necessary to experience health benefits is at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity activity five or more days each week or 20 minutes of vigorous-intensity activity three or more days each week. This activity can be accumulated throughout the day in as little as 10-minute increments.

Sometimes keeping a physical activity routine is a challenge. All types of physical activity count during the Step To It Challenge because there isn't one best way to be active.

To learn more and to register, visit www.step toit.org or contact Hennepin County Health Promotion at 612-348-5618. 

While road construction is infamous for creating stress and delaying drivers, these projects are required to maintain the transportation and utility (water, sanitary sewer, electricity, phones, cable) infrastructure we use every day. Making sure construction work zones are safe for both drivers and workers requires a unified effort.

A work zone begins at a "Road Work Ahead" sign and ends at an "End Road Work" sign, or where the construction-related traffic control ends. Even if the work is taking place on the side of the road and there are no direct impacts on traffic, there can still be a work zone on the adjacent road.



National Work Zone Awareness Week is April 4-8, 2011.

When traveling through work zones this summer, please follow these tips:

- **Slow down.** Not only will it provide you with more time to adjust to construction conditions such as lane shifts or bumps, but it will also be easier on your vehicle.
- **Follow posted speed limits.** Fines double in work zones.
- **Pay attention to the traffic.** Sudden stops or driver confusion can create hazardous conditions.
- **Be patient.** Work zones are a necessary part of infrastructure maintenance and improvement.
- **Plan ahead.** Anticipate delays related to construction activities. Keep in mind that peak travel times, holidays, and weather conditions may cause additional delay.
- **Watch for construction workers and vehicles.** The workers are trying to focus on what they are doing while keeping an eye on traffic. Allowing them extra space helps ease their mind. Keep in mind that construction vehicles can be significantly heavier than passenger vehicles and a collision with a construction vehicle, even at low speeds, can cause a lot of damage.

FACTOIDS

Four out of five victims in work zone crashes are motorists, not construction workers.

Work zone fatalities and injuries have fallen 30 percent since 2000, but there were still 720 work zone fatalities in 2008.

- **Don't change lanes unnecessarily.** Any unnecessary movements can increase the risk of a collision with a vehicle that was in a blind spot or entered traffic from a construction access point.
- **Avoid using cell phones,** even with hands-free devices. Even though it is legal to talk on the phone while driving, doing so reduces the focus on driving.
- **Maintain proper following distances.** Keeping adequate space between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you will allow for enough time to safely stop should traffic come to a standstill.

For information on work zones that may impact your travels within Minnesota, visit www.511mn.org.

For more information on work zone safety, visit www.workzonesafety.org. 



Fences: Build Them Right, Avoid Problems

Building a fence around your property requires a little research, a little planning, and a lot of respect for your neighbors and the community. The following tips can help you build good fences, maintain relationships with those who live closest to you, and enhance the community you live in.

MIND THE PROPERTY LINES

First, you must build your fence on YOUR property. While this may seem like common sense, the City often gets complaints from residents whose neighbors' construction encroaches onto others' lawns. Check those property lines to make sure your fence is in the right place and won't have to be moved. The entire fence must be on the owner's side of the property line. If you build your fence up to the property line, keep in mind that you do not have any right to trespass onto your neighbor's property to maintain the fence.

MIND CITY ORDINANCES

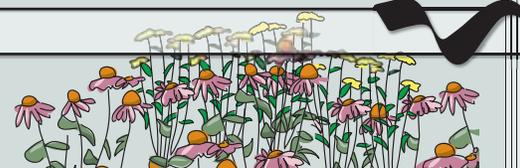
A fence around your property contributes to the overall aesthetic of the neighborhood. That's why City ordinance requires that the structural supports on the fence face toward your home, not outward for all to see. The support structures and fence must also be built so they don't impede drainage on the lawn or visibility from the road.

Regarding visibility, fences must be back far enough from the street and no taller than four feet in the front yard to give drivers a clear view around a corner. Fences can be no taller than six feet in the back yard, and they may not be constructed on any City right-of-way or other City property. If you're planning to install a fence in a City easement, a right-of-way management permit is required.

People often construct fences to add an element of privacy to their yards. As an alternative to fences, residents may use a form of vegetation screening, such as arborvitae or ornamental grasses. Unlike fences, there is no height limit on vegetation screens as long as they do not grow on or hang over your neighbor's property or restrict corner visibility.

COMMUNICATE

Many headaches and complaints can be avoided if neighbors are kept informed of projects from the planning stages. To make sure your fence doesn't violate any of the above concerns, contact the City Planning Department at 763-593-8095 before construction. And before you dig, contact Gopher State One Call (651-454-0002, 800-252-1166, or gopherstateonecall.org) at least two full business days ahead of time to make sure you don't drive a shovel into a power supply. 



Rain Garden WORKSHOPS

Get ready for spring with these \$10-\$15 workshops taught by landscape design specialists from the nonprofit group Metro Blooms. These eco-friendly gardening workshops will help you learn to:

- use native plants in your garden landscape
- limit fertilizers and pesticides without compromising a beautiful yard
- capture rainwater on site with rain gardens
- redirect your downspouts
- plan your own garden with one-on-one assistance from landscape designers and Hennepin Master Gardeners

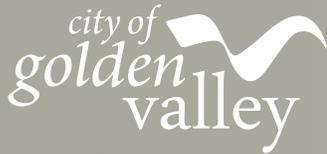
Workshops

- Wed, April 13, 5:30–7:30 pm
Nellie Stone Johnson School
807 27th Ave N, Mpls
- Thur, April 14, 6–9 pm
Meadow Lake School
8525 62nd Ave N, New Hope
- Thur, April 28, 6:30–8:30 pm
Wayzata West Middle School
Barry Ave N, Wayzata
- Sat, April 30, 10 am–Noon
Audubon Park
29th Ave NE, Mpls
- Thur, May 12, 6–9 pm
St Barnabas Church
15600 Old Rockford Rd, Plymouth
- Tues, May 17, 6:30–8:30 pm
Benilde-St. Margaret School
2501 Hwy 100, St Louis Park

More workshops are available. To register, visit www.metroblooms.org or call 651-699-2426.

Sponsored by the Cities of Bloomington, Crystal, Golden Valley, Minneapolis, New Hope, Plymouth, and St Louis Park; Carver County; the Minnehaha Creek and Lower Minnesota River Watershed Districts; Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions; and the McKnight Foundation. 





7800 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55427



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.

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Sign Up Now To Run The Valley April 9

Whip yourself in shape by helping the community do so, too.

Join friends and family April 9 for the 17th annual *Run the Valley*, sponsored by the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation. The 10K race and 5K run and walk raises funds for organizations that benefit the community. The certified course runs through residential Golden Valley—water stop and post-race complimentary snacks and chair massages are provided. The first 650 participants will also receive a long-sleeve T-shirt.

When: Saturday, April 9, 8:30 am for 5K run, 8:40 am for the 10K run, and 8:45 am for the 5K walk.

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

How To Register: Online at www.active.com and www.zapevent.com through April 7. Runners may register in person by Friday, April 8, at Brookview Community Center, 200 Brookview Parkway (M–F, 8 am–4:30 pm; April 7, 1–7 pm; April 8, 8:30 am–3 pm). Mailed registrations must be received by Thursday, April 7. Fax entry with Visa/Mastercard information to 763-512-2344, or call 763-512-2345. Register the day of the race by 8 am at Davis Community Center.

Cost: Entry fee is \$25 through 3 pm April 8 and \$35 on race day.

For more information, visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/runthevalley, or call Park and Recreation at 763-512-2345.



6 Reasons To Pick Up Your Dog's Poop

6. It shows courtesy to your community.
5. It reduces exposure to eggs and larvae of roundworms, hookworms, tapeworms, and other parasites.
4. It keeps feces from washing into storm drains and local water systems, thereby preventing harmful pollutants to the ecosystem.
3. It helps your reputation. No one wants to step in your dog's poop or have it in their yard, boulevard, or park.
2. It's easy.
1. It's the law.

photo by Sierra Twesten, 2010 Views of the Valley



7800 Golden Valley Rd
763-593-8000
TTY: 763-593-3968
www.goldenvalleymn.gov

Mayor/Council Message Line: 763-593-8001

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