



cityNEWS



SUSTAINABILITY AND WATER RESOURCES

Water and energy are vital to the health and function of a community. Golden Valley's 2040 Comprehensive Plan will help the City prepare to manage these resources in the future.

SEE PAGES 8-9

THE NEW BROOKVIEW

Construction on the new Brookview is well under way. Here's an update on recent progress and a look at what's to come.

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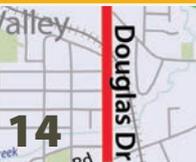
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BROOKVIEW CONSTRUCTION MAKES PROGRESS

Construction on the new Brookview is well under way, with 98 percent of the structural steel complete. The next step includes above and underground plumbing, roof trusses, and electrical systems.

“We’ve been very fortunate. The design work has been excellent,” says Rick Birno, Parks and Recreation director.

Crews are a few weeks behind schedule, but the warmer weather means they’ll be able to make up some time, he adds.

“The longer we have warm temperatures and dry weather, the more we will close that gap,” Birno says.

The next major step in construction is for crews to get the building fully enclosed and watertight. Once that’s done, internal construction can begin.

THE NEW BROOKVIEW

The new 37,000-square-foot building will feature amenities for the whole community in a mid-century modern package with soaring views of the golf course. The main level will house:

- Brookview Golf & Lawn Bowling operations, including a golf shop, locker rooms, and offices
- the Golden Valley Senior Center, including a large multi-purpose gathering room, classroom, and patio
- the Backyard, a 3,100-square-foot indoor play structure with two adjacent party rooms
- Three One Six, a full-service bar and restaurant opening to a large patio and upper level deck
- a well-proportioned lobby/gathering area with a fireplace

The second level will house:

- City Parks and Recreation offices
- a large multi-purpose classroom
- the Bassett Creek Room, a 250-person banquet/event facility with full-length windows and terrace overlooking the golf course
- a full-service catering kitchen



Structural steel is nearly complete on the new Brookview.



The current building will remain operational until late September.

There will be an additional 65 parking spaces available on the south end of Brookview this summer. Those spaces will officially open when the driving range does, weather permitting.

Track the progress of the new Brookview at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/about/thenewbrookview.php. 🌱



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Visit www.facebook.com/cityofgoldenvalleymn

Show Us Your Views Of The Valley



Photo Contest Deadline Is June 9

The 25th annual *Views of the Valley* photo contest is looking for photos that celebrate Golden Valley. Enter your best work, vote for your favorite photo in the People's Choice award category, or both.

This year there will be no specific entry categories. Instead, the focus will be on photos that capture the spirit of what makes Golden Valley a successful community.

Photographers are encouraged to submit active photos of residents at work and play; artistic photos of parks, nature areas, trails, waterways, structures, neighborhoods, and buildings; and images that can be used to highlight and reinforce themes in Golden Valley's Comprehensive Plan (ie, land use, parks and nature areas, housing, transportation, water resources, economic competitiveness, and sustainability).

Judges will select the top three photos from the overall pool of entries. Additionally, the City reserves the right to award honorable mentions.

To enter, submit your favorite photos (see rules below). The entry form on this page can be photocopied, or download the form at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/photocontest.

Entry deadline is June 9, 2017, 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. Entries become the property of the City of Golden Valley and will not be returned. City employees and their families are not eligible to enter.

Contest Prizes

A panel of judges evaluates each entry on originality, composition and framing, clarity and focus, lighting and exposure, artistry/drama, difficulty level/tech skill, and overall impact.

The three top winners will each receive \$50, the grand prize winner will receive an additional \$50, and the People's Choice winner will receive \$25. All winners are published on the City website and in *CityNews* and receive certificates of appreciation.

Entries will be displayed at City Hall and on the City website in the second half of June for voting for the People's Choice award during business hours (8 am–4:30 pm, Mon–Fri) or online at www.goldenvalleymn.gov. Winners will be notified in early July. Questions? Call 763-593-8004. 

ENTRY FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Day Phone _____

Age (if under 18) _____

Title of Photo _____

Location of Photo _____

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

Deadline for entries is June 9, 2017

- You must be a Golden Valley resident.
- Photographers are encouraged to submit active photos of residents at work or play; artistic photos of parks, nature areas, trails, waterways, structures, neighborhoods, and buildings; and images that can be used to highlight the themes of Golden Valley's Comprehensive Plan.
- Submit up to three photos.
 - All photos must be trimmed to 5x7.
 - Do not submit slides, photocopies, or prints 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).
- All entries must be your own work.
- All decisions will be final.
- The City of Golden Valley will not be responsible for lost 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.

Brush Pickup Begins April 24

If you have brush and branches to get rid of, start stacking. Golden Valley's annual residential Spring Brush Pick-Up, running from April 24 to May 12, gives homeowners the opportunity to place tree limbs and brush at the curb for collection and disposal.

Guidelines

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

- Tree limbs and brush must be 4 inches in diameter or less and approximately 8 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.
- 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 another contractor.

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.

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: Week of April 24

Area north of Hwy 55 and west of Douglas Dr

Section 2: Week of May 1

Area north of Hwy 55 and east of Douglas Dr

Section 3: Week of May 8

Area south of Hwy 55

Green Thinkers, Choose To Reuse!

Keep usable stuff out of the trash and obtain quality items without buying new. Hennepin County's new Choose to Reuse website is a gathering space for Twin Cities green thinkers that will help you make sustainable choices for everyday living. Features include:

- a listing of more than 600 local places to sell, donate, buy, repair, rent, and share items
- a Google Maps function to locate reuse resources near your zip code

- "Spotlight on Reuse" articles that take a deep dive into reuse topics, such as cloth diapering and the negatives of fast fashion
- local event highlights to keep you in the loop on area Fix-It Clinics, neighborhood garage sales, classes, and more.

Choosing to reuse helps reduce waste, protect natural resources, conserve energy, prevent pollution, and save money. Learn more at the Choose to Reuse website: www.hennepin.us/choosetoreuse.

Golden Valley Recycles

GRAY Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
July 4	Sat, July 8
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 25
New Year's	Sat, Jan 6, 2018

BLUE Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
Memorial Day	Sat, June 3
Labor Day	Sat, Sept 9
Christmas	Sat, Dec 30

Missed Pick Ups

If your recycling is missed on Friday, call Republic Services at 952-941-5174, Option 5, before noon on the following Monday. If you have specific recycling questions, call 763-593-8030.

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

Advice And Discounts On Flood Insurance Available For GV Residents

Due to its voluntary floodplain management actions, the City of Golden Valley became eligible to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and Community Rating System. This means residents can receive a 15 percent discount on flood insurance premiums for NFIP policies issued or renewed in special flood hazard areas.

“We implement a higher level of floodplain management actions as part of the program,” says Eric Eckman, public works specialist. “In exchange for that, our residents can get discounts on some flood insurance premiums.”

Residents can also receive advice and services from City staff.

Golden Valley’s Floodplain Management Services

The City of Golden Valley is dedicated to the preservation and management of its floodplains to help protect life and property. This includes a commitment to provide the community with information and services.

City staff provides technical advice on flooding, drainage issues, and flood protection methods for buildings and property. This includes free on-site visits if you have any flooding or drainage problems in your home or yard. Call 763-593-8030 to set up an appointment.

In addition to site visits and technical advice, the City provides the following information and services upon request:

- whether your property is in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as shown on Hennepin County’s current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), which is the area that would be inundated by a flood having a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year, also known as the base flood

- whether your property is in an area known to flood but not mapped on a FIRM, or is in an area that flooded in the past
- whether your property is in or near an area with a natural floodplain function (such as a wetland)
- other historic flood information and studies
- a floodplain search letter or additional flood insurance data, such as the FIRM effective date, panel number, flood zone designation, and the Base Flood Elevation or depth, if shown on the map (a fee of \$25 will be charged for a floodplain search letter signed by the City engineer)
- basic information regarding flood insurance requirements that can help people who need a mortgage or loan for a property in the SFHA
- elevation certificates for new and substantially improved structures in the SFHA

Whether or not people live in a flood hazard area, they should work with their insurance company to review and assess their own risk, says Eckman.

Golden Valley’s floodplain management ordinance regulates activities and development within the floodplain and other areas of the City prone to flooding.

The current Flood Insurance Study, Flood Insurance Rate Maps, and copies of Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs), Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs), and Elevation Certificates are on file in the City’s Engineering office.

Questions? Contact Eckman at 763-593-8084 or eeckman@goldenvalleymn.gov.

GV EMERGENCY

Sign Up For GV Emergency

GV Emergency is a mass notification tool that will help the City more effectively communicate with residents in the event of an emergency. It will only be used during community-wide or localized emergencies that may affect public safety or City services.



EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS
from the City of Golden Valley, MN

Subscribe Now!

GV Emergency will provide important information via text, phone call, or email, depending on subscriber preferences. But for the tool to be effective, you need to sign up.

To get started, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/news/gv-emergency/index.php and follow the directions.

RECREATION Highlights

See complete list of activities at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation.

Youth

We have lots of fun and exciting activities coming up this summer! Here are a few to check out: Flight and Drones Club, Preschool Soccer, Hoopstars Basketball Camps, After-School Wiff-o-Ball, Archery, Bike Rodeo, Vehicle Fair, and more.

Adult

Ballroom Dancing For Beginners—Sundays, April 9–May 7, 4–5:30 pm. For beginners and those with experience. Learn steps in swing, hustle, and more. Register by Feb 10. Brookview, \$55.

Social Media Basics—April 19, 2–3:30 pm, Brookview Community Center, \$6.

Seniors

Money Matters—April 20: “Pets Trust—Funds For Fido.” May 18: “Options and Resources To Support Aging in Place.” 10–11:15 am, Brookview, free.

Coffee Talk—April 26: “Memory Loss: What Are We Afraid Of?” May 24: “Cremation,” presented by the Neptune Society of Golden Valley. 9:45–11:15 am, Brookview, \$2 at door.

Davis Community Center

Davis Community Center offers times for open basketball, volleyball, soccer, pickleball, and family gym time. Check the calendar at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/davis/calendar.php.

For more information or to register, call 763-512-2345 for Youth and Adult and 763-512-2339 for Seniors (M–F, 8 am–4:30 pm). Register in person, by mail, fax, or online at webtrac.goldenvalleymn.gov.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAMS GET A NEW LOOK

Golden Valley’s summer playground programs will have a fresh look this year to better meet the needs and expectations of the community.

The focus will be on afternoons for older kids, mornings for younger kids, Friday field trips, plus a new traveling playground program and an end-of-summer camp.

“These are truly some of the best programs available to kids,” says John Stutzman, recreation supervisor. “And the more participation we have from the public, the better these programs will be.”

Most programs will now require a participation fee, which Stutzman says will help cover the costs for extra supplies, activities, and staff.

Here’s What’s New

Kids ages 7–12 can enjoy afternoons of outdoor fun Mondays–Thursdays with games, arts and crafts, great playgrounds, nature activities, and more at **SUMMER PLAYGROUND ADVENTURE**.

PLAYGROUND ADVENTURE VAN takes the Summer Playground Adventure on the road, bringing a free drop-in program to neighborhood parks Mondays–Thursdays with fun games, crafts, and activities for kids ages 7–12.

Kids not quite ready for the full Summer Playground Adventure experience may enjoy **MITES PLAYGROUND ADVENTURE**, a morning program Mondays–Thursdays of games, arts and crafts, songs, and storytelling for kids ages 4–6.

FRIDAY FUN DAYS include a mix of activities ranging from art projects to aquatic parks. Kids will explore new places on Friday field trips supervised by playground staff. Each trip will offer entertaining, exciting, and unique Minnesota experiences. Transportation and supervision provided for activities located outside of Golden Valley.

Playground programs run June 12–Aug 4 (no programs July 3–6), and most require advance registration. Participants will be supervised by staff experienced in recreation and working with children.

The summer will wind down with **CAMP VALLEY**, a full week of games, swimming, team challenges, arts and crafts, snacks, and other outdoor experiences for ages 7–12. Participants should bring a water bottle and bag lunch each day. Two sessions run Aug 7–11 and Aug 14–18 at the Brookview Park large picnic shelter. Join us to have fun, learn, and make new friends before heading back to school!

For specific dates, times, park schedules, and registration information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/youth.

Scout Builds Outdoor Stairway At Brookview For Eagle Project

Thanks to a 14-year-old Boy Scout from Troop 298 in Apple Valley, a long-standing problem at Brookview Golf Course was remedied last fall. As part of his Eagle Scout Service Project, Collin Beane constructed a much-needed stairway at hole #8 on Brookview's regulation course.

"We've had requests for years for that stairway," says Rick Birno, Parks and Recreation director. "The access was fine for those who used golf carts, but it was very cumbersome for those on foot."

Beane contacted the City last year about the possibility, Birno says. He then met with staff on site, designed the stair addition for staff review, secured materials for the project, and constructed the stairway with other scouts from Troop 298. The construction took two days in October.

"We had a total of 22 people, including my family, working all together more than 100 hours," Beane says.

"It looks great and our recreation users are thrilled with the outcome," Birno says. "This is one of the projects that has been on our to-do list for years. It just seemed each year we would run out of time to get it done."

The City has a history of supporting projects with the Boy and Girl Scouts to promote healthy lifestyles and park improvements. In 2015, three Eagle Scout projects were completed in Golden Valley. These included the addition of bike racks at Wesley Park, a tree identification system at SEA School, and a new rebound tennis board at Brookview Park.

One of the reasons Beane picked the Brookview project, he says, was that his brother, Robert, had built the rebound board



at Brookview the previous summer, and the family has a good relationship with Brookview staff.

For a Boy Scout to achieve the top rank of Eagle Scout, he must first plan and complete a service project designed to benefit the community as a whole. Like a graduate thesis, the community service project is the last and most comprehensive project a scout has to accomplish before becoming an Eagle Scout.

Because these projects require assistance from several other people, they give scouts a chance to demonstrate leadership skills while accomplishing something that benefits the community. Before the projects can move forward, they must be approved by the Boy Scout Council.

The amount of work that leads up to completing these projects makes their completion relatively rare. *CityNews* will continue to highlight completed projects by the Boy and Girl Scouts as they happen. 🏆

Council Proposes Youth Membership On City Commissions

Because of its commitment to youth involvement in the City's political process, the City Council is considering a proposal that would add youth members to five City Commissions.

The proposal would add one voting youth member to the Open Space and Recreation Commission, Environmental Commission, and Human Services Fund. The Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals would each add one non-voting youth member. The Human Rights Commission already has two youth voting members.

Youth membership on City Commissions would be open to students grades 9–12 who live or attend school in Golden Valley. Applicants would be interviewed and appointed by the City Council to one-year terms.

The new youth membership proposal replaces the City's Teen Committee, which would be disbanded.

For more information or to get involved, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/boards/index.php. 🏆



2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

As the 2040 Comprehensive Plan takes shape, *CityNews* will spotlight its sections in a six-part series. Next up is Sustainability and Water Resources.



SUSTAINABILITY

&



WATER RESOURCES

Water resources and sustainability present complex challenges for municipalities, not only because water and energy are vital to the health and function of a community, but also because changes in the environment require flexibility in how a City manages these resources.

For example, Golden Valley has seen an uptick in precipitation and flooding over the last several years, and this excess water puts more and sometimes new kinds of strain on the City's infrastructure. The same can be said for an increase in the City's population.

Planners and engineers must find ways to adapt to how climate and demographics have changed in the last decade, as well as prepare for how they might change over the next 20 years.

Adapting To Change

Since the 2030 Comprehensive Plan was published in 2009, more data and information is available on what Golden Valley's changing weather and climate conditions might look like in the years to come, says Eric Eckman, public works specialist. The data is showing a greater need for resilience and adaptability.

This will be the first time, in fact, that the City's Comp Plan will include a section specifically about resilience and sustainability, Eckman says. Golden Valley received a grant from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to help write the chapter.

Infrastructure, Infrastructure, Infrastructure

When it comes to water resources, the overall focus is infrastructure, says Jason Zimmerman, planning manager.

The Comp Plan will highlight several areas where infrastructure needs improvement, he says. Right now, the questions are what, where, and how much work needs to be done.

"There's a whole conversation starting to swirl around this topic, and with the new modeling of rain events, we

know we may get more flooding in certain areas that we didn't expect, and we have to start thinking about bigger storm events and how we can improve the storm drainage systems and other infrastructure to handle those," Zimmerman says.

The water distribution system, built in the '50s and '60s, is the biggest problem area, largely because the older pipes are brittle and more prone to breaking as they age.

"This is something first-ring suburbs all around the country will be dealing with because of their age," says Emily Goellner, associate planner/grant writer.

Infrastructure is also a focus area for sustainability. Boosting energy efficiency and increasing renewable energy resources means revamping or replacing current structures and utilities.

Share Your Ideas

Help shape Golden Valley's future by participating in the 2040 Comp Plan process. Details at bit.ly/GV2040CompPlan.

- Complete our **online questionnaires**.
- Host your own **Comp Plan In A Box** input meeting.
- Attend an informal **Comp Plan Conversation** session, 6-6:30 pm (followed by presentations, discussion, and Planning Commission meetings):
 - April 12: Housing
 - May 8: Sustainability and Resilience
 - June 12: Water Resources
 - July 10: Transportation
 - Aug 7: Parks and Nature Areas
 - Sept 11: Economic Competitiveness
- Sign up for **2040 Comp Plan updates and reminders** at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/news/subscribe.

Resident Feedback Helps Set Priorities

The City is still in the feedback and brainstorming phase of the Comp Plan process. City staff is using results from recent surveys and public input meetings and will continue to take more feedback as the process moves forward. Below are some of the areas in which more feedback is invited.

Wastewater

With redevelopment, the City may see more multi-family buildings, more units overall, and an increase in wastewater. Knowing how to rebuild wastewater infrastructure requires predicting accurately where, how, and in what ways the City gets redeveloped. Some areas may need an increase in wastewater capacity, and some may need a decrease. This means trying to zero in on a moving target, which in many respects sums up the entire Comp Plan process, Zimmerman says.



Surface Water

Planners and engineers continue looking for opportunities for additional water quality projects, including improvements to sediment ponds, catch basins, native vegetation buffer zones, wetland protection, and reductions in water runoff and outdoor chemical use, as well as more education outreach about these topics. There will also need to be a renewed focus on flood-prone areas, and strategies for reducing flooding impacts (see related floodplain management story on page 5).



Water Supply

The City faces a continual need to operate, maintain, and invest in its water supply and distribution system, and to make sure quality water is accessible to all residents at all times. To help meet this need, the Joint Water Commission (an agreement between the Cities of Golden Valley, Crystal, and New Hope to purchase treated water from Minneapolis) recently added emergency water supply wells as a backup system. Going forward, a major focus area for future investment will be water infrastructure renewal.



Resilience And Sustainability

Resilience is defined as the ability and capacity (of the community and City government) to respond, adapt, and protect the public from changing conditions and adverse situations. Many people think only of the natural environment, Goellner says, but it's also about community health and economic strength and diversity.

While there are a lot of topics under this umbrella, public feedback so far has emphasized the importance of renewable energy (such as solar power), waste reduction, energy efficiency (such as an increase use of LED lights), water quality, environmental protection (recycling, waste reduction, open space preservation, cultivating native vegetation, etc), and education on these subjects.

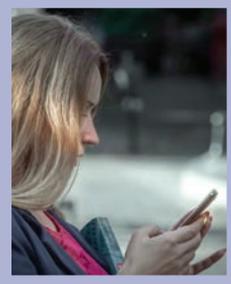


“Since this is such an encompassing topic, it will be addressed in every part of the Comprehensive Plan,” Goellner says. “But a chapter will be devoted to bringing all of those strategies together into one place.”

Stay Savvy—Phone Scammers Are Endlessly Inventive

You've read about phone scams and maybe wondered, "How can people be so easily taken in?" Truth is, scammers are getting sneakier by the day, and you have to be savvy. Here are a few common scams and reasons for their success.

IRS And Utility Bill Scams



As tax day approaches, phone scammers know emotions and stress may be getting the better of you, and that can leave you open to a swindle, says Golden Valley Police Sgt Jeff Johnson.

"They prey on people's anxieties and fears," Johnson says.

If you're worried the IRS might audit you or that an unpaid bill may have been turned over to a collection agency, you just might believe someone who calls to say you owe the IRS money or there's a warrant for your arrest.

But the IRS always notifies by mail, Johnson says. And while utility companies may send an automated alert, they never ask for money over the phone. Their requests can be easily verified by visiting the company website or calling the corporate phone number.

Grandparent And Medical Alert Scams



Just last year a man in Golden Valley lost \$5,000 to someone posing as his grandson, Johnson says. This happens so often, there's a name for it—the grandparent scam. Scammers are able to successfully impersonate friends and family members using all the information they can easily learn about you online.

Afterwards, victims often say they could have sworn they were talking to their actual grandchild. Be very suspicious if someone who sounds like a friend or family member calls and asks to be wired money, sent prepaid cards, or given a credit card number. Double and triple check identities.

In the medical alert scam, callers posing as sales reps offer a free service or device, such as a medical alert bracelet, in exchange for personal information. They then use that information to steal the victim's identity. Never give out personal information over the phone unless you initiate the call and know you're dealing with a legitimate and reputable company.

Protect Yourself

With all the personal information we voluntarily and involuntarily share online, conning people has never been easier. Facebook and sites like Family Tree allow scammers to learn about you and your family and then build from there. Once you let your information slip away, it's out there for good.



In addition, con artists have a number of tools at their disposal to be convincing imposters, including technology that can trick caller ID to make it look like the call is coming from a family member or company.

"Limit access to your information," says Joanne Paul, Golden Valley crime analyst. "When someone asks for vital information, like social security numbers, make sure they have a legitimate reason to need it."

Screen your calls. Unless you recognize the number, let your message machine pick up your phone, Johnson says. Once scammers learn you're the type of person to answer even when the number is unknown, your phone number gets marked as a hot number, and you'll start to get many more fraudulent calls.

Report Scams

If you fall victim to a scam, call the police department. You can also report scams at www.Ic3.gov. Unfortunately, most of these scammers operate outside of the country and are never caught.

C  **FFEE**
WITH A COP

DROP BY FOR A CUP OF COFFEE AND CONVERSATION WITH GOLDEN VALLEY POLICE OFFICERS.

Tue, April 25 | 9–10:30 am
Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute, 3915 Golden Valley Rd

Tue, May 23 | 8:30–10 am
Starbuck's, 7802 Olson Memorial Hwy

Is Firefighting Right For You? Come See What We're About.

*Golden Valley Fire Department 2017
Recruit Class: (L to R): Lieutenant
Eric Boe, Aila Crumley, Ron Blum,
Tariq Bashir, Jen Chen, Chad
Schneider, Max Hazledine, Stephen
Peschman, Josh Knudsen,
Brett Fierce, and Battalion
Chief Steve Baker.*

Thinking about becoming a firefighter? Hesitating because you don't believe you can do it? Or are you ready to dive in? One way or the other, you owe it to yourself to get the full scoop first.

Sometimes people think they don't have what it takes to be a firefighter, says Steve Baker, battalion chief. Or people apply, get hired, and realize it doesn't work out for them or it's not what they expected. Either way, they didn't do their homework.

The Golden Valley Fire Department (GVFD) has several ways to help prospective firefighters do that homework.

Three recruitment meetings provide details about the hiring process, training, schedules, and more. A firefighter recruitment expo provides a hands-on opportunity to try on gear, practice some firefighting skills, participate in a Jaws of Life demo, and talk with firefighters about how they make it work in their lives (see box at right for dates and times).

To be a Golden Valley firefighter, you must live or work within six minutes of a Golden Valley fire station and be age 18 or older. It also helps to be in good shape and have a clean driving and criminal record. Beyond that, it's a matter of what you're willing to give of yourself and your time.

"Call us," says Baker. "We can set up meetings with you and other firefighters. Talk with us about what the job is like. Get an understanding of what is expected of you."

For more information, visit www.goldenvalleyfire.com or contact Baker at 763-593-3977.

Recruitment Meetings

Thur, May 4 | 6:30 pm

Thur, June 22 | 9:30 am & 6:30 pm

Fire Station 1, 7800 Golden Valley Rd

Firefighter Recruitment Expo

Thur, June 8 | 6-10 pm

Fire Station 1, 7800 Golden Valley Rd

Must live or work within six minutes of a Golden Valley Fire Station. Sign up online at www.goldenvalleyfire.com.

Team GV Fire Raises Funds In Fight For Air Climb

Six people participated as Team Golden Valley Fire in the Feb 25 American Lung Association Fight For Air, a fundraiser that brought dozens of fire departments and hundreds of firefighters to US Bank Plaza in Minneapolis for a 31-story climb in full fire gear.

Team Golden Valley Fire raised \$9,601 this year, bringing its 11-year total to \$107,101. Golden Valley has been one of the top fundraising team for each of the years it has participated in the climb. Golden Valley Battalion Chief Ken Bence was again the top individual fundraiser for the event, bringing in \$6,874. 🏆



Team Golden Valley Fire (above L to R): Firefighter Mike Palmer, Mayor Shep Harris, Captain Ben Vogel, Battalion Chief Steve Baker, and Battalion Chief Ken Bence. Not pictured: Ryan Baker.

City Preps For 2017 Street Projects

In addition to the ongoing Douglas Dr reconstruction project (see page 14), the City will tackle a variety of other street construction projects this year. Residents directly affected by these projects will be notified by mail.

Pavement Management Program

Golden Valley's Pavement Management Program (PMP) rehabilitates the City's aging streets as a long-term investment in the community's infrastructure. Streets are reconstructed to City standards, including concrete curb and gutter. Necessary repairs are also made to the storm sewer, water mains, and sanitary sewer mains. In 2017 the City will reconstruct six streets in the area north of Plymouth Ave, east of Hwy 169, south of Naper Ave, and west of the General Mills James Ford Bell Research Center.

Mill And Overlay

Mill and overlay involves removing the top two inches of pavement and repaving the road. One project will be Betty Crocker Dr between Hwy 169 and General Mills Blvd. The project will occur in September and October, says RJ Kakach, engineer. It will include upgrading pedestrian ramps to be ADA compliant and replacing defective sections of curb and gutter. The City is working to coordinate its schedule so the project doesn't conflict with planned surface repair construction on Hwy 169 from Bren Rd to Hwy 55.

Crews will also mill and overlay just under a mile of streets in the Cloverleaf Dr neighborhood, including some curb repair. This project will begin and end in July, weather permitting.

Pothole Repair

According to Tim Kieffer, street maintenance supervisor, this year's pothole season might be worse than normal. "The more

freeze-thaw cycles there are, the more potholes form," he says. "We've had a lot of temperature fluctuations this year."

During pothole season, City maintenance crews repair these nuisances daily. Priority is given to the more heavily traveled roads, but all holes are repaired as detected. Call 763-593-8030 to report potholes.

10th Ave Culvert Replacement

Starting late fall or early winter, City crews will begin replacing the culverts that carry Bassett Creek under 10th Ave and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks between the Golden Valley Library and the end of Rhode Island Ave N.

The aging metal culverts, classified as bridges because of their size, are inspected annually and have shown rapid deterioration. Work will involve digging up the street, Luce Line Trail, and railroad track to replace the culverts with a concrete box culvert similar to the one just installed in Bassett Creek across Douglas Dr.

The project is expected to take two to three months to complete. Traffic will be detoured to Golden Valley Rd and Winnetka Ave. Access will be maintained to all adjacent properties while work is under way.

More information will be provided closer to the project start date. If you have questions or concerns, contact City Engineer Jeff Oliver at 763-593-8034 or joliver@goldenvalleymn.gov.



Spring Street Sweeping Under Way

Street sweepers pick up grit and decomposing leaves to keep them out of the waterways. This improves water quality and prevents flooding. Thanks to warmer weather, City crews began street sweeping much earlier than normal this year.

"In my 20-year career, I've never had a sweeper out in February," says Tim Kieffer, street maintenance supervisor.

Kieffer says it's important that people know it's against City ordinance to blow leaves into the street or put anything else into the street. The extra debris clogs the storm sewer and gets into the waterways.

The City only uses two sweepers, which means it takes several weeks to sweep every road. After clearing streets around waterways, crews will be sweeping streets in the following order: Section I leads off the rotation this year, 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

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU LOSE POWER

WHEN POWER GOES OUT IN YOUR HOME OR OFFICE, IT CAN BE A CONFUSING TIME. IS IT JUST YOUR HOME OR IS IT THE WHOLE BLOCK, OR THE WHOLE CITY?

Michelle Swanson, Xcel Energy manager of community relations and economic development, offers some tips for what you should do after the lights go out.

FIRST, CALL XCEL ENERGY RIGHT AWAY AT 1-800-895-1999.

“It doesn’t matter if your neighbor already called it in. Everyone should call in their outages because that provides us with more information,” Swanson says.

You can also visit the Xcel website if you can find a connection. Report a power outage at www.xcelenergy.com/outages_and_emergencies/report_electric_outage.

Do not call the City. Xcel Energy is responsible for responding to power outages. If there’s an emergency, call 911.

Also, it’s important to update your phone number with Xcel, Swanson says. Xcel can pull up your account based off your phone number, but if you have an out-of-date number on file, it will make communication with them more difficult during an already difficult situation.

And have patience, she adds. Xcel fixes power outages in a specific order, prioritizing their attention on areas with the highest number of effected people and then working their way from there. If it’s taking longer than you expected for power to come back on, it may mean the outage is widespread.

To find out how widespread an outage is, you can visit Xcel’s outage map at www.outagemap-xcelenergy.com/outagemap. This will give you detailed information on the extent of the problem.

A few other things to keep in mind during an outage:

WHO SHOULD YOU CALL?

WHERE’S THE FLASHLIGHT?



- Stay away from downed power lines.
- Check for mast damage on your home. The mast, a pipe-like housing that connects service wires to your meter, is considered customer-owned. If this is damaged, call an electrician.
- Observe food safety. Pack milk, other dairy products, meat, fish, eggs, and spoilable leftovers into a cooler surrounded by ice. Inexpensive foam coolers are fine for this purpose. A freezer that is half full will hold food safely for up to 24 hours. A full freezer will hold food safely for 48 hours. Do not open the freezer door if you can avoid it.
- Turn off appliances and other electrical equipment (including air conditioning), to avoid a high load on the system once electricity is restored.
- Keep elderly and other susceptible people safe. Customers who use electrically powered life support equipment may need to seek medical assistance or relocate to a location with electricity. Again, in any emergency, always dial 911. ✓

REPORT ALL OUTAGES TO 1-800-895-1999 ←

LED Lighting Saves City Energy

The City recently replaced all incandescent lighting with LED bulbs for the entire Civic Center campus, including parking lots, and is in the process of replacing crosswalk lighting with LED bulbs.

“That represents a significant cost savings,” says Al Lundstrom, parks maintenance supervisor. LED lights use about one quarter of the energy as non-LED light bulbs. They also require less maintenance and fewer replacements, and are better for the environment, which ties into the City’s sustainability goals (see story on pages 8–9).

This spring the City will install LED lighting at Ballfield #2 at Isaacson Park (in partnership with Golden Valley Little League),

thanks to a recently awarded Hennepin County Youth Sports grant. Plans call for installing LED lights at the park’s two other ballfields by the end of 2018.

“The lights are going to be a tremendous addition,” says Rick Birno, parks and recreation director. “Lighting the entire ballfield with LED would cost \$2 per hour versus the current \$12 per hour.”

Xcel Energy recently notified the City that it will be replacing all streetlamps with LED bulbs. Once conversions are completed, municipalities can expect to save 4–7 percent on their street lighting bills, according to Xcel Energy. ✓

Safety Is Priority In Construction Zones

During construction season, the number one concern is the safety of workers and the public. But the City cannot succeed without your help and cooperation. Even the safest work area can be dangerous.

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.

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

- Slow down. It will provide you with more time to adjust to construction conditions, such as lane shifts or bumps, and 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 their jobs 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.

- Don't change lanes unnecessarily. Such movements can increase the risk of 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. Although it is currently legal to talk on the phone while driving, doing so is a distraction.
- 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.
- Obey signs.

Also, keep yourself and your children away from the construction area, steering clear of equipment and heeding warning signs. Do not enter or cut through restricted areas. Do not climb on or play near dirt piles or equipment.

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

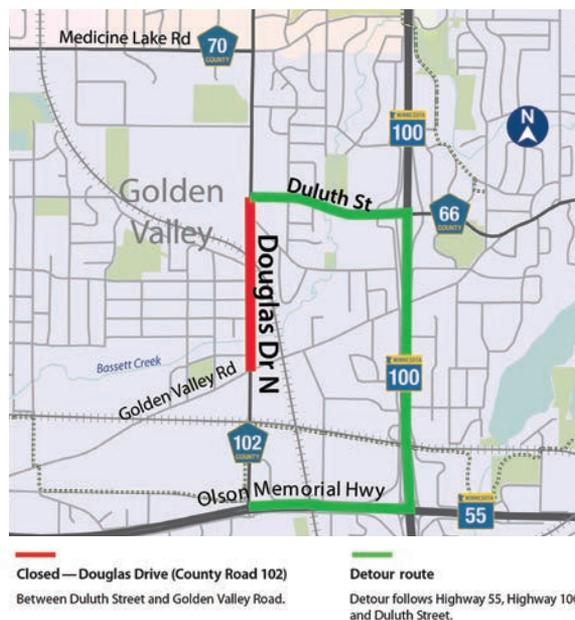
Douglas Dr Construction Work To Resume Late March

Work on Douglas Dr (County Rd 102) is anticipated to resume March 27, weather permitting. The box culvert reconstruction at Bassett Creek and the Honeywell pond work are expected to be complete in a few weeks, and construction this year will focus on segments between Duluth St (County Rd 66) and Hwy 55. There will also be work on eastbound Duluth St between Douglas Dr and Adair Ave. Watch for signs and updates.

The work, which will be done in stages through the fall, will be intense. Crews will be removing pavement and replacing tens of thousands of feet of pipes for water, gas, and sanitary sewer to meet the latest environmental and health safety standards. Crews will also bury overhead wires as well as rebuild curbs, gutters, and sidewalks to address community needs.

Douglas Drive Closure Expands

Starting March 27, Douglas Dr will be closed to through traffic between Duluth St and Golden Valley Rd. Access will be maintained for residences and businesses in the construction zone. Any non-local traffic should use the designated detour that will be signed along the corridor.



Staying In Touch

To learn more about the Douglas Dr reconstruction project, including information about schedules, detours, and construction activity, go to www.hennepin.us/douglasdrive. While you are there, sign up for the weekly email/text updates. To contact the project office, call 612-543-3485 or email douglasdrive@hennepin.us.

UPCOMING events

2040 Comp Plan Conversation Session: Housing

Wed, April 12 | 6–6:30 pm (see page 8)

Coffee With A Cop

Tue, April 25 | 9–10:30 am (see page 10)

Spring Brush Pick-Up

April 24–May 8 (see page 4)

Run the Valley

Sat, April 29 | 8 am (see page 16)

Neighborhood Watch Community Meeting

Tue, May 2 | 7 pm

Police Department Training Room

Open to all Neighborhood Watch participants and anyone interested in joining. Topics cover current crime trends and ways to keep your neighborhood safe.

2040 Comp Plan Conversation Session: Sustainability and Resilience

Mon, May 8 | 6–6:30 pm (see page 8)

Step To It Challenge

May 1–28

Twenty-three cities compete to see which one has the most active residents. Register at www.steptoit.org.

Vehicle Fair

Sat, May 13 | 10 am–noon

Crystal Community Center, 4800 Douglas Dr N

See a variety of vehicles up close, from emergency vehicles to construction vehicles. Free! More information at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/free-events-and-activities.php.

Coffee With A Cop

Tue, May 23 | 8:30–10 am (see page 10)

Neighborhood Watch Block Captain's Meeting

Tue, June 6 | 7 pm

Police Department Training Room

Features resources and information for block captains to share with their Neighborhood Watch groups.

Views Of The Valley Photo Contest

Fri, June 9 | 4:30 pm (see page 3)

Market In The Valley

Opens Sun, June 18

Outdoor farmers market under the water tower. Get more information at www.marketinthevalley.org.

Public Safety Open House

Wed, June 21 | 6–8 pm

Golden Valley Public Safety Building & Fire Houses

More information at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/open-house.

Fire Relief Association Street Dance

Sat, June 24 | 5 pm–midnight

Chester Bird American Legion

An evening of entertainment for the whole family. Sponsored by the Golden Valley Fire Relief Association to celebrate its bond with the community.

More event information at:
www.goldenvalleymn.gov/calendar

2017 BIKE RODEO

Wed, May 3 | 6–8 pm (rain or shine)

Golden Valley City Hall Campus, 7800 Golden Valley Rd

Free event for kids ages 12 and under with an adult. Get a bike safety check, ride through a skills course, have your helmet fitted properly, enjoy music and complimentary refreshments,

and register to win prizes! No registration required. The goal is to educate kids about bike safety and introduce them to local law enforcement in a fun environment.

Sponsored by the Cities of Golden Valley, New Hope, and Crystal, and Golden Valley VFW Post 7051. 



7800 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55427

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763-593-3968 TTY

www.goldenvalleymn.gov

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Run The Valley Benefits Community

To Register

- In Person: \$35 by April 28 at Brookview, \$40 on race day (7–7:45 am at Davis Community Center). Check, cash, or VISA/MasterCard.
- Online (by April 28): \$35 www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/runthevalley/index.php (additional fee may apply).
- Children 12 and under may register for \$20 when accompanied by an adult (chip timing not included—to be eligible for medal, chip timing must be used).

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

Plan to *Run the Valley* Sat, April 29, to help raise money for the Golden Valley Human Services Fund. One hundred percent of the proceeds are allocated to non-profit organizations that serve Golden Valley residents in need.

The event begins at 8 am for the 10K run, 8:15 am for the 5K run, and 8:20 am for the 5K walk (5K and 10K races will be chip-timed). The .2-mile Kids Fun Run for youth ages 2–12 starts at 7:45 am (\$5 fee includes Fun Run number and participation ribbon; parents may accompany little ones for free). Race headquarters will be Davis Community Center at Meadowbrook School, 5430 Glenwood Ave, Golden Valley. The course runs through residential Golden Valley.

Water stops and post-race complimentary snacks are donated by area businesses. Corporate sponsors for 2016 were Park Nicollet Clinic and City of Golden Valley (gold); Bassett Creek Dental, Max Loff Real Estate, TruStone Financial (silver); and CCX Media (formerly Cable 12/NWCT), Valley Pastries, and Gary Metchnek Edina Realty (bronze). Other sponsors include: Al's Coffee, Byerly's, Caribou Coffee, Finken Water Solutions, General Mills Yoplait USA, Go Health Chiropractic, Old Fashioned Donut Shoppe, Perkins Family Restaurant—Hwy 55, Perkins Family Restaurant—394, and Road ID.



Plymouth Tree Sale Runs Through May 1

This year the City of Plymouth's annual tree and shrub sale features 10 varieties of trees, six shrubs, and four fruit plants. Golden Valley residents can order plants from the sale through May 1.

Plants are selected for their resistance to pests and diseases and their adaptability to local growing conditions.

Most of the trees will be 5 to 6 feet tall at the time of purchase. Some come in pots, but most are bare-root, which means they will not have soil on the roots. Bare-root trees cost less, are easier to transport and have up to 200 percent more roots than the traditional balled and burlapped plants. They are also easy to plant.

Trees and shrubs do not come with a warranty. Quantities are limited, so order early. For information on available plants and pricing, or to place an order, visit plymouthmn.gov/treesale. Information is also available at the Physical Development counter in Golden Valley City Hall.

Plants will be available for pick-up May 12 (3–6 pm) and 13 (8 am–noon) at the Plymouth Public Works maintenance facility, 14900 23rd Ave N.

For more information, or if you have questions about the trees after buying them, contact Tim Teynor, City forester, at 763-593-3976 or tteynor@goldenvalleymn.gov.



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.

