

Golden Valley

CITYNEWS

City Adopts New Building And Fire Codes

When the new state building and fire codes were adopted in May, it capped a five-year national effort to provide consistency in code requirements throughout the United States. For the first time, each state is looking at the same minimum construction requirements for life safety, which are enforced by local building and fire inspectors. And some aspects of the new code will directly affect the scope of individual building or remodeling projects.

The new International Building Code was developed from elements of the three model codes previously used in the US. It puts more emphasis on rehabbing older buildings and is divided into two books, one for residential buildings and one for commercial buildings. Golden Valley's building and fire inspectors say this makes it easier for them to find specific information. The addition of helpful drawings and illustrations is another benefit. "This gives the City more current information on materials and products," says Chief Building Official Gary Johnson. "That's one thing that's always changing."

Perhaps the item that will have the most impact on residential projects is the change regarding smoke detectors. For improved life safety, the new code requires hard-wired smoke detectors in each sleeping room, outside of sleeping rooms, and on each level of the house. Any interior remodeling project (repairs, alterations, etc) or addition that requires a permit will enact the new code requirement. Other changes: first-floor egress windows must now be five square feet, and building permits are no longer required for kitchen cabinet replacements (although other kitchen projects may still require building, plumbing, or mechanical permits).

The new commercial building code puts more emphasis on use of automatic sprinkler systems for fire suppression. This allows for more flexibility in building design, explains Mark Kuhnly, Golden Valley's Chief of Fire

(Building Code continued on page 2)

BROOKVIEW Golf: AN OASIS FROM SUMMER CONSTRUCTION

Although street rehabilitation will close Brookview Park August 4, Brookview Golf Course will still be open, serving as a place to escape the hustle of Minnesota's construction season. Its tree-lined fairways, 28 moderate bunkers, abundance of water hazards, and multiple tee settings provide challenges and relaxation.

Stop in for 18 holes, nine holes on the Par 3, some practice on the driving range, or to enjoy refreshments and the view at the Brookview Grill. For more information, call Brookview today at 763-512-2300. 



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Poop PATROL

Picking up after your pet in public places is part of responsible pet ownership.

With everyone out enjoying the summer weather on sidewalks, trails, and in parks, there will undoubtedly be more encounters with pet droppings left by pets owned by our less considerate residents. This will inspire numerous phone calls to City offices from residents who are tired of sidestepping the issue.

According to City ordinance, pet owners shall not allow their dogs or cats to foul any lawn, garden, or other property. Dog owners are required to carry supplies for excrement removal when walking their dogs. Any mess made by a dog must be cleaned up (including in public parks).

Complete copies of the animal control ordinance are available at the reception window in the Public Safety building, or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/yourhome/pets.htm. If you have questions, call 763-593-8079.

Building Code

(continued from page 1)

and Inspections. For example, commercial building design could rely less on fire-rated construction (fire walls, solid-wood doors, etc).

The new fire code is in a separate book, and Golden Valley Fire Marshal Ed Anderson spent two years on a state committee that studied existing codes and made recommendations for changes and updates.

A highlight of the new fire code prohibits grilling on balconies in any building with three or more dwelling units. Anderson says this isn't much of a problem in Golden Valley because the fire department has worked closely with apartment managers on prevention and enforcement issues.

For more information on City building or fire code requirements, contact the City Inspections Department at 763-593-8090 or the Fire Department at 763-593-8065. Information is also available at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us under the "Your Home" or "Permits" sections.

Traffic Signals Control Pedestrians, Too

How is anyone short of an Olympic sprinter supposed to cross the street when the "Walk" light is on for only five seconds? If you have been at a traffic signal equipped with "Walk" and "Don't Walk" indications in Golden Valley or other cities, that question may have passed through your mind.

A regular traffic signal provides three colors, or indications, of vehicular traffic—red, yellow, and green. Red indicates traffic should not enter the intersections, while green permits traffic to proceed. Yellow is intended to function as a clearance, or transition, period.

"Walk" and "Don't Walk" indications attempt to function in the same manner for pedestrians, except there are only two instead of three indications. A separate clearance indication does not exist. Instead, it is provided by the flashing "Don't Walk" indication.

When the "Walk" interval is illuminated, pedestrians can leave the curb and enter the crosswalk it controls. There is adequate time for a person entering the intersection and walking at a normal speed to cross the street.



The clearance period indicates that pedestrians in the process of crossing the street can complete the crossing but that others should not enter the same crosswalk. This is displayed as a flashing "Don't Walk" indication. There should be adequate time for those in the crosswalk to complete their crossing before the "Don't Walk" flashing interval is completed.

A steady "Don't Walk" indication means that pedestrians should not enter or be in that particular crosswalk.

In recent years, the "Walk" and "Don't Walk" indications have been provided by words or a red hand symbol for "Don't Walk" and by words or a white pedestrian symbol for "Walk."

A newer concept supplements these with a countdown timer, which indicates to pedestrians how much time is left to finish crossing the intersection. Once the countdown timer begins, pedestrians should not enter the intersection, and only those already in the crosswalk should continue to complete their crossing. These are still experimental, and some have been installed in the Twin Cities metro area.

For more information about traffic management issues, contact Golden Valley City Engineer Jeff Oliver at 763-593-8034 or Golden Valley Deputy Police Chief Roger Johnson at 763-593-8070.



Sheriff's Site Has Life

The Sheriff's Pistol Range Site in northwest Golden Valley may have new life as a small subdivision, including for-sale market-rate and affordable homes. Located north of Naper St and south of Earl, roughly between Hillsboro and Flag Avenues (or east of the Sheriff's Dispatch Center and west of the General Mills Research Nature Area), this site has been the subject of extensive discussion as to its possible reuse since the Hennepin County Sheriff declared it excess property in 1995 (see *Site History* at right). When local affordable housing advocate Bill Bergquist presented the Golden Valley Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) with a proposal for the site, the HRA designated him as developer at a special meeting July 1.

DESIGNATING A DEVELOPER

When the HRA designates a developer, it is basically agreeing to work with said developer to see if a feasible project can be put together. In this case, Bergquist heard the Sheriff's Site might be lost for housing and decided to try and resuscitate a housing development with an affordable component. His goal is to create a financially viable project that is sensitive to neighborhood site plan concerns. Bergquist approached investors about providing capital to purchase the land and invited Habitat for Humanity to consider partnering with him to meet his goal of making at least some of the homes affordable.

DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

Any public development project requires a development agreement, which sets the terms and conditions for sale and development of the land. After the development agreement is presented to the HRA at a public hearing, the HRA formally considers the land sale. Before any of this can occur with the Sheriff's Site property, Hennepin County needs to come to terms on the sale of the land to the HRA and extend its current August 1 deadline for a local decision on the land purchase. If there is not concurrence with the County on this approach, the land will be sold at public auction and its development will be guided by the City's zoning ordinances.

SITE INFRASTRUCTURE

The biggest unknown about the site is the cost of infrastructure needed for the development (ie, ponding for the storm drainage system, a new street, water and sewer services for the new homes). The soil conditions in the area could elevate the cost of the infrastructure and affect the financial feasibility of developing the site. In fact, Bergquist's current proposal indicates that 16 units should be built to better absorb the fixed cost of providing the infrastructure.

PLANNING APPROVALS

Any project to be developed on the site would require planning approvals that involve multiple public hearings before the City Council. If the HRA were involved in the development, the planning process would be formal consideration of a concept plan previously worked out in collaboration with the neighborhood. If Hennepin County decides to sell the land to the highest bidder, the City would review plans presented by a private developer in keeping with current city regulations. The site is currently zoned low-density residential, which would allow up to five units per acre.

For more information about the Sheriff's Site or the current proposal for its development, contact HRA Assistant Director Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014.

SITE HISTORY

1950-1993—Hennepin County uses site as pistol range for county and local law enforcement target practice.

1995—County moves pistol range to new facility in Maple Grove and declares the 4.5-acre Golden Valley site as excess property.

1996—To promote county-wide disbursement of affordable housing, County staff approaches HRA staff about the HRA developing affordable housing on this site. State law provides local jurisdictions with the right of first refusal on the sale of excess land.

1996-1999—County cleans site of lead contamination and remediates it to residential standards.

2000—Golden Valley HRA sets up Citizen Advisory Board to study site and recommend possible reuse.

2001—County remodels existing dispatch center adjacent to pistol range site and commits to retaining dispatch center and a wooded buffer just north of the building.

2001—Golden Valley receives report from Citizen Advisory Board; HRA authorizes proceeding with land purchase.

2001-2003—County and HRA staff negotiate on terms and conditions of land purchase.

April 2003—City's Community Development Block Grant funding is reduced, removing the proposed source of funding for the land purchase.

May 2003—City considers site for possible water treatment facility if the Joint Water Commission decides to proceed with new water system for Golden Valley, New Hope and Crystal. (see

story on page 6).

May 2003—County increases the land price 100% and asks for a City/HRA decision on the land purchase by August 1, 2003.

July 1, 2001—Bill Bergquist presents proposal to the HRA for use of the site as a small subdivision with market-rate and affordable housing.

Next STEPS

By designating Bergquist as developer for the Sheriff's Site, the HRA has agreed to work with Habitat for Humanity, Hennepin County, and Bergquist to see if a feasible project can be put together. First, the City Council will consider a feasibility study to determine the costs for site infrastructure and then establish a viable development plan. Second, the HRA will present this plan to the public and seek feedback on the proposed development. Only after these two steps will the HRA be able to negotiate a development agreement with Bergquist.

Holiday Notice

Recycling pick-up the week of the Labor Day holiday will be one day later than usual. Have your recyclables at the curb by 7 am Saturday, September 6.



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

24-Hour Recycling Info-Line

Features recorded answers to your recycling questions 24 hours a day. Just call 763-593-8119 to reach the Golden Valley Recycling Information Line (directions for rotary phone users are on the message). For information on:

- curbside recycling, press 1
- apartment recycling, press 2
- yard waste disposal, press 3
- household hazardous waste disposal, press 4

763-593-8119

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.

New Recycling Hero To Help Clean Up Metro



Citizens of six metro area counties are starting to see more green in their lives now that the Green Guardian is on the job providing education and information about waste reduction. The knight is a mascot that started as an idea of the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board (SWMCB). It was developed through a joint effort of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties along with the Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA) and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The recycling hero's main job is to encourage awareness of what area residents buy, what they throw away, and what both actions means to the local environment.

All of this recycling information will be relayed via www.GreenGuardian.com,

a new web site that will replace much of the SWMCB's print material (citizen resource guides, brochures, and pamphlets). To promote awareness and use of the web site, the Green Guardian will swoop into schools and area events and will be visible in outdoor and newspaper advertising. Check GreenGuardian.com for resources, links, and information on recycling, reuse, composting, and disposal of household items, such as pesticides and mercury thermometers.

The Green Guardian's mission is to turn the tide on the wave of trash people make everyday and encourage adoption of his "Code of Honor," which promotes responsibility, commitment, and enlightenment regarding the local environment. ♪

Metro WASTE FACTS

- The amount of garbage generated in the metro area over the past five years grew twice as fast as its population.
- About one-third of what is thrown away at home is recyclable through curbside programs.
- Food waste accounts for about 11% of all garbage. Composting is an easy way to reduce this waste stream.
- Electronics is a fast growing waste stream. Minnesota homes and businesses boast more than three million TVs and another two million computer monitors, each of which can contain between five and eight pounds of lead, as well as mercury, cadmium, and PCBs.

These facts and more can be found at GreenGuardian.com.

ANGLERS Asked To GET THE LEAD OUT

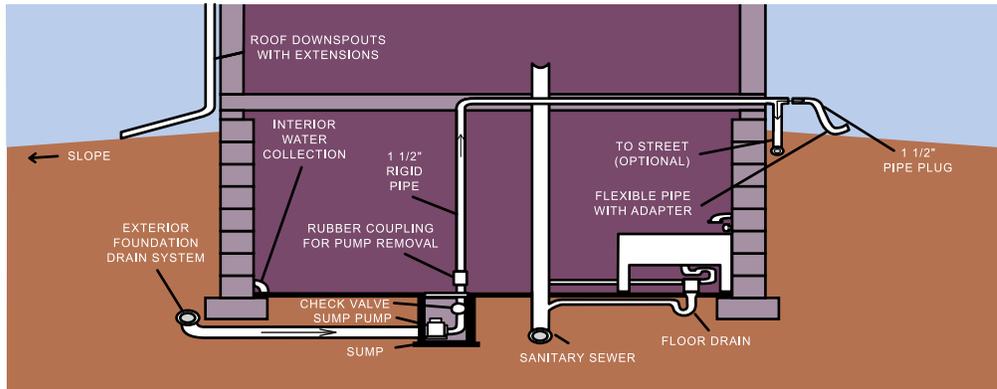
The Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are partnering with retailers, conservation, and outdoors groups to offer free lead tackle exchanges throughout the state this summer. At these events, anglers can trade lead fishing jigs and sinkers for non-lead tackle and help reduce the amount of lead being deposited in Minnesota's lakes. The lead collected will be properly recycled at Gopher Smelting.

Lead is a toxic metal that adversely effects mammals and birds and is poisoning wildlife such as loons and eagles. Research in New England, Michigan, and Minnesota suggests that 12 to 50 percent of loons die because of lead ingestion.

The Minnesota Legislature considered banning lead tackle this year but agreed it would be better to educate anglers and offer a chance to sample non-lead sinkers and jigs. For more information about scheduled lead tackle exchanges, go to www.moea.state.mn.us/reduce/sinkers.cfm.

Cross-Connected Sump Pump Can Cost You \$\$

Each year during the rainy season (March through October), Golden Valley's sanitary sewer system handles one to two times its normal volume of wastewater. The problem is that the additional volume is not actually wastewater—it's clear water that is misdirected from sump pumps into the City's sanitary sewer system. This is called a cross connection, and it results in higher charges for disposal and treatment of sewage.



UNDERSTANDING WASTEWATER AND CLEAR WATER

Any water that goes down any drain inside a residence or structure—from showers, sinks, tubs, toilets, washing machines, etc—is considered wastewater and is directed to a wastewater facility for treatment before it is released into the environment. Wastewater from Golden Valley travels through the City's sanitary sewer system and goes to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant, located on the Mississippi River in St Paul. Wastewater treatment is provided through the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Division (MCES). Utility customers pay a flat rate each billing period to cover costs for disposal and treatment of sewage.

Clear water does not have to be treated before it's returned to area lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers. It needs to be directed into the storm sewer system or onto the ground where it can be absorbed. Clear water is rainwater, ground water, or snow melt—exactly the type of water a sump pump handles. When this water is directed into the sanitary sewer system, utility customers pay for the increased flow and treatment of what is essentially already clean water.

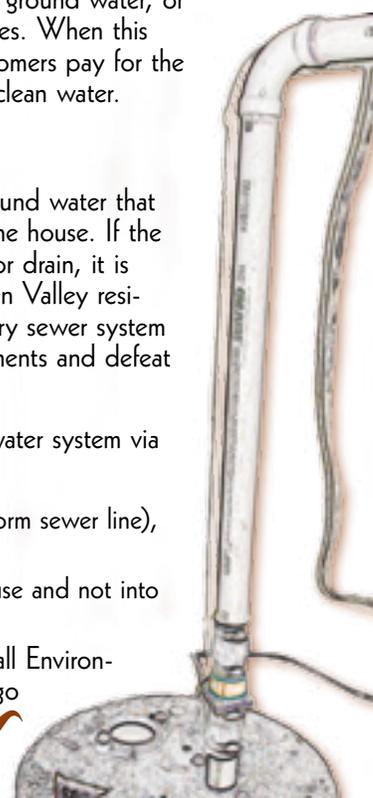
How To Avoid THE PROBLEM

Sump pump systems are designed to capture surface or ground water that enters basements or crawl spaces and pump it away from the house. If the hose from your sump pump leads to a laundry tub or a floor drain, it is emptying into the sanitary sewer system and costing Golden Valley residents more in sewer treatment costs. An overloaded sanitary sewer system can also potentially cause back-ups, which can flood basements and defeat the purpose of the sump pump.

Sump pump discharges need to be directed to the storm water system via one of two methods:

- a direct connection (a pipe from the house to the main storm sewer line), if available
- directly onto the ground (preferably 20 feet from the house and not into a neighbor's yard)

For more about sump pump discharge in Golden Valley, call Environmental Coordinator Al Lundstrom at 763-593-8046 or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/streets/sumppumps.htm.



PARK & REC UPDATE

Join the fun with Golden Valley Park and Rec summer offerings. Check the Spring/Summer Park & Rec Brochure for complete information, or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/parks/prprograms.htm.

Picnic Concert with "Hoot and Annie"—Wed, Aug 6, 11 am - noon. Free event for all Little Tikes and Little Critters, ages 3 and up. Pack a picnic lunch, bring a blanket, and enjoy a show with "Hoot and Annie." Drink and popcorn is provided. In case of inclement weather, show and picnic will be held in the shelter at Lions Park.

Magic and More (ages 8 and up)—Aug 7, 1 - 3 pm, \$24

Balloon Workshop (ages 8 and up)—Aug 7, 1 - 3 pm, \$12

Insect Investigator—Aug 11 - 14, 9:30 am - noon, \$63

Tennis-n-Fun Day Camp (ages 6 - 14)—Aug 18 - 22 and Aug 25 - 29, 11 am - 4 pm, \$135

Future Stars Tennis Day Camp (ages 4 - 6)—Aug 18 - 22 and Aug 25 - 29, 9:30 - 10:30 am, \$45

Easy Photo Organization (ages 8 - 15)—Aug 26, 6 - 8 pm, or Aug 27, 10 am - noon, \$11

3rd Lair Skate Park Partnership—Golden Valley youth age 16 and under can use the outdoor portion of the 3rd Lair Skate Park, 850 Florida Ave S, at no fee. Initial one-time registration required. For more information, call 3rd Lair at 763-797-5283 or go to www.3rdlair.com.

Four Ways To Register—in person or by mail (address below), by fax (763-512-2344), or on-line at GV Rec Connect (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/parks/prprograms.htm).

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

REVIEW: JWC WATER STUDY

In 1963 the Cities of Crystal, Golden Valley, and New Hope formed the Joint Water Commission (JWC) to collectively purchase treated water from the City of Minneapolis. When that contract expired in 1991, the JWC continued buying water under an agreement that will expire in December 2003.

Water prices began a rapid ascent in 1997, mainly because of Minneapolis' need to update its water treatment facilities to meet current water quality standards. As a major water customer, the JWC would shoulder a significant share of the estimated \$140 million cost. To date, this has translated to a 156% increase in the rates the JWC pays Minneapolis for water. Those rates are expected to increase another 32% by 2007.

Although rate negotiations with the City of Minneapolis continue, the JWC has been exploring two questions: first, is it technically and financially feasible to construct a water system that would provide an ample water supply of equal or better quality than currently supplied by the City of Minneapolis; and second, can such a system be built cost-effectively so water rates would be competitive with the anticipated Minneapolis rates?

In February, the Crystal, Golden Valley, and New Hope City Councils authorized an in-depth study to determine if the JWC should "go it alone" and construct its own water pumping and treatment facilities. Engineering consultants were hired to do the evaluations, and in mid-June they reported the answer to both questions appears to be yes.

The three City Councils met jointly June 24 and authorized the engineering consultants to continue their evaluations. A JWC Governance Advisory Committee is also evaluating the financial and governance issues related to a new water system. For more information, go to www.jwcontap.org.



JWC Evaluates Water Treatment Technologies

As the Joint Water Commission (JWC) continues to evaluate the feasibility of developing its own water system (see Review box at left and background information at www.jwcontap.org), water customers are expressing concerns about whether water delivered from a new system would be as good as the current water supply. Many have heard about the quality of water in area communities that pump water from the Prairie-du-Chien/Jordan aquifer but do not soften the water before distributing it to their utility customers.

The JWC's engineering consultants carefully evaluated the three basic technologies used to treat and soften the water: ion exchange, reverse osmosis membrane filtration, and lime softening. All three would provide softened water and would not require customers to install water softeners in their homes and businesses.

ION EXCHANGE Several small water treatment plants in the Twin Cities metro area use ion exchange systems, which soften water in the same manner as home water softeners. While consultants found that these systems may be the least expensive alternative for the JWC to build (about \$39 million) and operate (about \$4.9 million per year), they concluded that the quality of the treated water would not be as high as water from the City of Minneapolis and that it would contain elevated sodium levels.

REVERSE OSMOSIS The 2002 preliminary JWC water study focused on reverse osmosis membrane filtration, which softens water by forcing it through a series of membrane filters. Commonly used to remove salt from sea water and extremely fine impurities from raw water, reverse osmosis is capable of producing very high quality softened water. However, about 20 percent of the raw water pumped from the ground is rejected during reverse osmosis treatment, meaning the process would require more wells and a larger plant than the other methods proposed. In addition, large sanitary sewer pipes would need to be installed to carry off the millions of gallons of daily waste flow. Consequently, construction costs (about \$51 million) and operating costs (about \$7.4 million annually) are the highest of the three methods being considered.

what's
on
tap?

LIME SOFTENING Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Richfield, and White Bear Lake use lime softening to treat the groundwater they draw from the Prairie-du-Chien/Jordan aquifer. It is the same technology used to treat the JWC's current water supply, and it results in high quality, good tasting water. The process involves rapidly mixing raw water in softening units containing lime, followed by recarbonation and filtration. It produces very little wastewater but does produce waste lime that is hauled away and used for agricultural application. Because lime softening requires continuous monitoring, a single plant is desired to minimize labor costs. Construction costs (about \$42 million) and operating costs (about \$5.6 million annually) would be lower than reverse osmosis but higher than ion exchange technology.

CONCLUSIONS The engineering report recently presented to the three City Councils concluded it is technically feasible for the JWC to develop a groundwater supply system and produce treated water at a lower cost than the current Minneapolis rate. It also concluded the JWC should select lime softening to treat the groundwater supply because it has a proven track record, minimum discharge, and provides water of similar hardness and better or equal quality when compared to the current Minneapolis supply. In addition, several sites have been identified that can accommodate a single treatment plant.

For more information about the JWC's water system study, visit the JWC web site at www.jwcontap.org, look for future articles in the local newspaper or your city newsletter, or call Golden Valley Public Works Director Jeanne Clancy at 763-593-8035.

Tear out the corrections to last year's Water Test Results on page 7 and insert in the 2002 JWC Water Quality Report (distributed in the May/June 2003 CityNews).

2002 Tap Water Test Results

Regulated substances have Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) set by EPA. This is the highest level allowed in drinking water. Some regulated contaminants also have MCL goals (MCLGs). This is the level of a substance where there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as possible using the best available treatment technology. All water systems must monitor about 80 regulated substances.

Regulated Substance Detected By Monitoring	Units Of Measure	Highest Amount Allowed In Water By EPA (MCL)	Amount Found In Joint Water Commission Water	Range Detected	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Typical Source Of Substance
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	80	Crystal: 37.7 GV: 32.05 NH: 31.6	16.5-74.0 19.9-47.2 14.9-57.7	—	Disinfection by-products
Haloacetic Acids (HAAS)	ppb	60	Crystal: 30.65 GV: 19.5 NH: 27.2	14.7-58.0 1.4-28.8 15.5-51.9	0	Disinfection by-products
Thallium (7/2/99)	ppb	2.0	1.0	—	<0.5	Leaching from ore-processing sites; glass, electronic, and drug factory discharge
Nitrate as Nitrogen	ppm	10	0.38	—	<10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	4.0	1.06	0.98-1.1	<4.0	State-required additive; erosion of natural deposits; fertilizer, aluminum factory discharge
Alpha Emitters	pCi/L	15.4	0.4	—	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and copper are also regulated substances, but they are evaluated using a regulatory level known as an Action Limit (AL). This is the concentration which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement a water system must follow. Lead and copper get into tap water via corrosion of home plumbing systems. The Golden Valley and New Hope distribution systems have been found to be in violation* of the lead limit. Infants and children who consume water containing lead in excess of the action level (15 parts per billion) could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. You can substantially reduce the amount of lead in your water by simply letting the tap run for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking. The Joint Water Commission is working with the Minneapolis Water Works to reduce corrosion and is pursuing an ongoing public education program to inform water customers about the lead issue.

Substance Detected By Monitoring At Customers' Home	Units Of Measure	Action Level (AL)	# Of Samples Exceeding The Action Level	90% Of Samples Were Below This Level	Typical Source Of Substance
Lead	ppb	15	1 out of 30	6.8	21.0*
Copper	ppm	1.3	0 out of 30	0.12	0.13

Turbidity is monitored at the Minneapolis Water Works treatment plant as a measure of the effectiveness of the filtration system. EPA requires: 1) certain treatment processes be used to reduce turbidity; 2) 95% of monthly samples to be below 0.5 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU); and 3) all samples to be less than 5 NTU.

Turbidity Monitoring	Units Of Measure	Lowest % Of Monthly Samples Meeting Limits	Highest Single Measurement	Typical Source Of Substance
Turbidity	NTU	too low to measure	Soil runoff	

Many **unregulated substances** are also monitored. They are evaluated using state standards known as health risk limits. The data from this monitoring is used to determine future drinking water regulations.

Unregulated Substance Detected By Monitoring	Units Of Measure	Amount Found In Joint Water Commission Water	Range Detected	Typical Source Of Substance
Sulfate (7/2/99)	ppm	25.0	—	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (7/2/99)	ppm	8.3	—	Erosion of natural deposits

Tear out these corrections to last year's Water Test Results and insert in the 2002 JWC Water Quality Report (distributed in the May/June 2003 CityNews).

Other Definitions

Amount found in the water is sometimes the highest amount detected and sometimes the average of all detected amounts from samples tested throughout the year, depending on the regulation for that substance.

ppm: parts per million
 ppb: parts per billion
 pCi/L: pico curies per liter, measure of radioactivity
 ND: Not Detected

*First Place
Golden Valley Lifestyle*



*Team Spirit
by Shelley Van Dellen*

*Second Place
Golden Valley Lifestyle*



*Golden Valley Water Tower
by Richard Gunderson*

2003 Views of the Valley Fill Another Page In C

If you ask the folks who live here, Golden Valley is a study in contrasts—from the image of a newborn fawn wobbling behind a city fire hydrant to that of a T-ball team's victory huddle. From prairie grasses waving against a blue summer sky or the abstract lines of a water tower against an overcast sky to footprints on a snow-covered footbridge. All were captured by residents for Golden Valley's 11th annual *Views of the Valley* photo contest, which drew 53 entries in two categories: Natural Golden Valley (landscapes, flora, fauna, etc), or Golden Valley Lifestyle (cityscapes, buildings, people, activities, etc).

"Newborn Fawn," by Paul Flower, won the overall grand prize and first place in the Natural category; second place in this category went to "Prairie Blue Skies," by Ellen G. Anderson. "Team Spirit," by Shelley Van Dellen, took first place in the Lifestyles category, while second place went to "Golden Valley Water Tower," by Richard Gunderson. "Snow Crossing Golden Valley Library," by Katie Heyda, was given the People's Choice Award as the photo most

Overall Grand Prize Winner and First



Golden Valley Contest Winners Community Album

avored by folks who viewed the entries at City Hall and on the City web site.

First prize winners in each of the two categories received \$100 and the overall grand prize winner received another \$50. Second prize winners received \$50, and the People's Choice winner received \$25. Winners also receive certificates of appreciation at a City Council meeting, and first prize photos are reproduced for permanent display in City Hall. Entrants must be Golden Valley residents and must allow their photos to be used in City publications with proper credit.

This year's judges were Rod Radtke (PhotoFast), Bobbie Hartfiel (City of Hopkins Communications Coordinator), Sue Webber (SunPost newspaper editor), and Liz Atherton (City of Golden Valley accountant and freelance photographer).

The deadline for next year's photo contest will be June 7, 2004. For more information, call 763-593-8004.

Second Place Natural Golden Valley



Prairie Blue Skies
by Ellen G. Anderson

First Place Natural Golden Valley

Newborn Fawn by Paul W. Flower



People's Choice



Snow Crossing Golden Valley Library
by Katie Heyda

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED BY GVHSF

Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery (763-591-0400) provides up to 72 hours of free shelter care for children up to age six for families dealing with stress or crisis that need time away from children to stabilize themselves. Advocates also help the family find resources.

Home Free Domestic Assault Intervention Project (763-545-7072) responds to victims 24 hours a day by phone or via home or hospital visit to offer support and information, including assistance in court proceedings.

PRISM (763-529-1350) offers emergency and supplemental food, financial assistance, clothing, senior transportation, and case load work to low-income residents of Golden Valley, Crystal, New Hope, Robbinsdale, Plymouth, and Brookly Center.

North Hennepin Mediation Program (763-561-0033) provides residents and businesses with respectful, confidential, and accessible mediation services.

Northwest Suburban Dinner At Your Door (763-520-7386) provides hot nourishing meals to people who are homebound and unable to afford a home-cooked meal.

Northwest YMCA Detached Work Program (763-535-4800) operates out of the Northwest YMCA and helps troubled youth by working to identify problems before they escalate to a crisis level.

Senior Community Services HOME (763-504-6980) helps Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal, and New Hope seniors with home maintenance.

Senior Community Services OUT-REACH (763-537-0709 or 763-541-1019) helps seniors in suburban Hennepin County remain independent by linking them with a broad range of services and programs. Staff meets with seniors (and often families) in their own homes to explore the most appropriate and cost-effective services available to them.

Seventh Annual Golf Classic Set For September 12



Golf enthusiasts are encouraged to join the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF) in an upcoming community event to benefit local charities. The event, the seventh annual Golden Valley Golf Classic, is scheduled for Friday, September 12, at Brookview Golf Course.

The fee for foursomes is \$260 before August 29 or \$300 after, which includes green fees, cart, continental breakfast, and lunch. Golfers also have a chance to win prizes.

The Foundation is accepting sponsorship for the tournament in three areas:

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

All sponsors will be acknowledged in pre- and post-tournament publicity.

Last year's event drew many golfers from Golden Valley and the surrounding area who, with corporate and individual sponsors, helped the Golf Classic raise \$10,513 for local human service organizations. The GVHSF distributes 100% of funds raised to causes directly serving the Golden Valley community (see box at left). For more information about the Golf Classic or the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation, call Sue Virnig, staff liaison, at 763-593-8010.

GV FOUNDATION Taking Funding Applications

The Golden Valley Human Services Foundation, which is comprised of community volunteers, helps fund several nonprofit agencies that serve Golden Valley residents in need. In 2003, the Foundation contributed \$74,501 to Home Free Shelter, PRISM, YMCA Detached Work Program, Northwest Suburban Dinner at Your Door, North Hennepin Mediation Program, Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, and Senior Community Services.

The deadline for 2004 funding applications is August 29, 2003, at 4:30 pm. The Foundation will review funding requests and allocate available funds using the following guidelines:

- The services must not be duplicated by a level of government.
- The service provided is for Golden Valley residents at a time of crisis.
- The service must include cooperation or collaboration between organizations.
- Foundation funding should be a "last resort" source for funding the services.
- The organization should use the funds granted by the Foundation to serve Golden Valley citizens.
- Funding shall be granted to human service organizations and not to an individual or individuals.
- Funding will not be granted to any organization licensed in the City of Golden Valley for lawful gambling operations.

Pick up applications at the Finance Department in City Hall. If you want more information or would like to make a tax deductible contribution, call 763-593-8010.

Park Maintenance Tends A BIG Yard

Yeah, summer's here! People are out and about after the long winter and the unusual spring. Walkers, joggers, bikers, picnickers, and participants in Golden Valley's numerous Park and Recreation programs people the parks and nature areas. Each day, the 12 (six full-time and six seasonal) members of Golden Valley's Park Maintenance staff are out there too, working on the mega-yard of the city—130 acres of open space, nature areas, and parks—during the growing season.

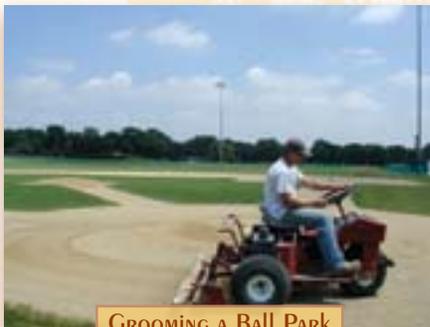


WEEDING

KEEPING THINGS MOWED AND GROWING

To keep Golden Valley public spaces ship-shape, Park Maintenance crew members rack up around 125 hours a week just mowing grass. In addition, they handle fertilizing, dirt and seeding projects, weed control, and maintenance of the irrigation systems throughout the parks, streetscapes, and Government Center complex. Along with maintaining more than 46 miles of trails, crews spend about three days each week trimming grass around trees, fences, and buildings in the parks.

Outside the parks and nature areas, the staff mows all City property and maintains the Winnetka and Xenia Avenue streetscapes, including the flowers and plants (see story at right) and the trash cans. Besides assisting other Public Works Departments as needed and supporting Park and Recreation programs such as Water Day and the Penny Carnival, crews also inspect complaints about overgrown or weedy private lawns and mow those declared a nuisance by the City.



GROOMING A BALL PARK

KEEPING THINGS SAFE AND CLEAN

Another major focus during the growing season is maintenance of the City's numerous playing fields and 23 tennis courts. Every day, crews groom 15 - 20 ball diamonds and freshen the lines on youth soccer fields. They regularly inspect and maintain playground equipment and outdoor lighting systems at all parks and City buildings. They're also responsible for cleaning and maintaining park shelter buildings, providing maintenance on City buildings, and emptying more than 150 trash cans each week throughout the park system.

KEEPING THINGS FLOWING

Golden Valley is located almost entirely in the Bassett Creek Watershed, which handles runoff from about 26,000 acres of land. This means Bassett Creek gets most of the runoff—both naturally and via storm water pipes. According to Merlin Thorn, Golden Valley's Public Works Utilities Supervisor, about 40% of the runoff that enters storm water pipes in Golden Valley goes directly into Bassett Creek. While residents along the creek are primarily responsible for keeping the creek clear of debris, Park Maintenance crews regularly inspect the creek to try to keep potential flooding issues to a minimum.



ONE DOWN, 149 TO GO

For more information on Park Maintenance activities throughout the year, call Ron Hammer, Park Maintenance Supervisor, at 763-593-8045.

GARDEN CLUB LENDS A HAND

Downtown Golden Valley gets a boost of color each growing season, thanks to the talent and dedication of the Golden Valley Garden Club. In May, nine of the club's 27 current members planted flowers in the 50 large planters along Winnetka Ave and around City Hall. The flowers, mostly golden for Golden Valley, provide passers-by with relief from the urban landscape throughout the summer.

"This group is so enthusiastic," says Tim Teynor, Golden Valley's Assistant Forester. "And we really appreciate their time during May, which is a busy time for anyone involved with outdoor landscaping and parks."

According to 12-year member and current chairperson Jan Motari, the club always does an annual community project. Annual fund-raisers enable the club to sponsor two scholarships to the University of Minnesota Horticulture Department and buy books for the Minnesota Arboretum and the Golden Valley Library.

Founded in 1939 by Clarence Tolg and Lillian Seeman, the club is credited (with help from the Minnesota Highway Department and local donations) with planting lilacs in Golden Valley along the stretch of Hwy 100 called Lilac Way.

"If we had a larger more energetic group, we would take on more projects," says Motari. But with most members older than 60, including a 92-year-old and a 100-year-old, she admits they are going to need new members to keep the club going. Teynor hopes the Garden Club will be able to continue its seven-year tradition of helping the City out.

The Golden Valley Garden Club meets the third Wednesday of each month at noon at Brookview Community Center. For information, call Motari at 763-544-6228.



Ducks Find SANCTUARY

Sylvia Nearhoof's photo didn't win any prizes in the 2003 *Views of the Valley* Photo Contest, but the story behind it makes for a great human, or duck, interest piece.

In 2000, Nearhoof unexpectedly adopted three ducks after bitterns raided their nest in a flower planter in her yard. She was able to gather three of the nine eggs, and she kept them warm for three weeks with the pilot light on her stove. Hatching them turned out to be the easy part. "They wanted to be with me all the time that first year," says Nearhoof.

The young ducks left that fall but returned the next spring. When two left, Nearhoof assumed they answered their mating call. The one that stayed made a nest near the house, which was raided by raccoons. The remaining female duck left that August and returned in April 2002 to lay eggs again. Nearhoof tried to fence the nest off, but not even her efforts could keep a fox and ingenious raccoons from getting the eggs.

Nearhoof and her duck family became known in the neighborhood, and she says people still ask about them.

All the ducks seem to be gone now, but Nearhoof has fond memories of "once in a while" sleeping in the screen porch with them, of having breakfast outside so they could join her and her husband, Lester, and of course, their walks to Bassett Creek.

"We enjoyed the ducks," says Nearhoof. "We had them for a lot longer than I thought we would."



GVFD Awarded Grant For Smoke Alarms

Recently, the Golden Valley Fire Department (GVFD) was awarded a grant from "Alarmed and Alert: The Minnesota Initiative to Prevent Residential Fire-Related Injuries" program. This federally funded grant, administered through the Minnesota Department of Health, will be used to supply Golden Valley senior citizens with smoke alarms and fire prevention education.

A FOCUS ON VULNERABLE CITIZENS

Although participation in Alarmed and Alert is open to everyone (while supplies last), the GVFD wants to focus on people the United States Fire Administration identifies as the high-risk populations—children younger than 14 and adults older than 65.

"Our vision is to provide smoke detectors to the residences in our community that house the most vulnerable population," says Golden Valley Fire Chief Mark Kuhnly.

Currently, senior citizens make up about one-fourth of the Golden Valley community (2001 Citizen Survey). They are at a higher risk for fire-related injuries and death for several reasons. First, older people may be less able to act quickly in the event of a fire, and medications they are taking may affect their response even further. Second, many older people live alone and may not have anyone around to help if a fire occurs. And finally, according to Golden Valley Fire Prevention and Training Specialist Sarah Larson, seniors may simply have a difficult time getting out of a building.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Golden Valley residents, especially seniors, interested in being involved in Armed and Alert should call Larson at 763-593-3977 to make an appointment. There are approximately 200 smoke alarms available at this time, so call as soon as possible.

Once you make an appointment, firefighters will visit your home, do a fire-safety survey to detect fire hazards, share their extensive knowledge about fire safety, and install needed smoke alarms. "Our goal is to make their home as safe as we can before we walk out the door," Larson says. 



the importance OF SMOKE ALARMS

According to the National Center for Disease Control (CDC), someone is killed or injured in a home fire every 27 minutes, and one dollar spent on a smoke alarm can save up to \$69 dollars in the costs associated with a fire.

Any firefighter or injury prevention agency will tell you smoke detectors save lives. The National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) reports that, while 15 of 16 homes in the US have at least one smoke alarm, one-half of home fire deaths occur in homes with no smoke alarms.

The GVFD recommends people install at least one smoke alarm on every floor of their home (don't forget the basement) and both outside and inside each sleeping area. Smoke alarms should be mounted high on ceilings or walls because smoke rises. Ceiling-mounted alarms should be at least four inches away from the nearest wall, while wall-mounted alarms should be four to 12 inches away from the ceiling. Alarms should be mounted at the highest point of vaulted ceilings. People are advised not to paint or decorate smoke alarms and not to mount them near windows, doors, or ducts where a draft may hinder their operation.

Targeted Education Helps Keep Kids Safe

Children are taught about safety from nearly the time they are born. It would be hard to find a parent who hasn't said to a child, "That's hot," or "Look both ways," or "Don't talk to strangers." However, there's a lot more to do.

According to the Minnesota SAFE KIDS Coalition, unintentional injuries are still the foremost killer of children age 14 and under in the United States.

Each year more than 5,800 children die, approximately 120,000 are permanently disabled from unintentional injuries, and one in four children is hurt enough to require medical attention. "Safety education is crucial," says SAFE KIDS Coordinator Amy Carroll-Olson, "especially now with the active lives kids lead."

Golden Valley's Approach

When it comes to safety information and training, Golden Valley parents, caregivers, and kids can turn to the City's Public Safety Department, which offers a variety of programs aimed at youth of varying

ages. For example, each June the Department's Safety Camp (ages 7 - 10) and Junior Safety Camp (ages 4 - 6) teach a new crop of youngsters how to be safe. Over the years, these programs have taught

more than a thousand area children the specifics of fire safety, bike safety, personal safety, animal safety, internet safety, and water safety, just to give a sampling.

"Basically, the more informed kids are, the better choices they can make," says Joanne Paul, Golden Valley's Crime Prevention Specialist and a Safety Camp organizer. "I tell kids if they're not sure about what choice to make, they should get more information." Adds co-organizer Sarah Larson, who is Golden Valley's Fire Prevention and Training Specialist, "The goal is to give them the tools they need to stay safe." Paul and Larson also have a regular safety curriculum they take into local fifth grade classrooms each year.

Golden Valley School Resource Officer Mark Persons, who teaches bike safety and the CounterAct drug awareness program, has a pragmatic approach. "We don't think we're going to save the world with a six-week program such as CounterAct, but kids remember the officer who teaches the program, and the kids are introduced to a basic decision-making model."

"It's best to reach them right away," says Carroll-Olson. "For example, bike helmets. If kids wear them right away, when they're older, they feel like something is missing if they don't have one on."

For more information about the safety education programs available for both children and adults, call Golden Valley Public Safety at 763-593-8058 or check the City web site at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/publicsafety.



JOANNE PAUL FITTING HELMETS



JIM ROBERTS (LEFT) DEMONSTRATES A GOLF GRIP.

For More Information

The Minnesota SAFE KIDS Coalition offers an interactive web site (www.safe-a-rooni.org) and the Minnesota Safety Council (www.mnsafetycouncil.org) provides fact sheets on numerous safety issues.

Kids & Cops Play Golf

An after-school program promoting positive activities for youth moved onto the golf course in June when eight Sandburg Middle School students joined several Golden Valley police officers, a Golden Valley Optimist Club member, and State Senator Ann Rest for a round at the Brookview Par 3. The new golf program is an extension of Kids & Cops, a joint effort between the Golden Valley Police Department and Northwest YMCA to provide at-risk youth with assets to help them succeed.

Since 1996, Kids & Cops has been a haven for youth ages 11 - 13 who need a supervised place to go after school. Mentored by Golden Valley police officers, the kids spend three afternoons a week participating in educational programs, team sports, and goal-setting activities. "This fills up part of their day and is a way for us to check in on them to make sure they're on track," explains Detective Jim Roberts, program founder.

Roberts thought golf presented an opportunity for continuity through the summer. "I was talking about taking my son golfing, and the kids seemed really interested," he says, "so I thought this might be a fun way to hang out with them and do something positive."

The Kids & Cops golf program kicked off with seed money and nine sets of clubs donated by Winmark Corporation, plus help from Brookview's Assistant Golf Course Manager Jim Grismer. Brookview also donated two weeks of golf lessons and a majority of the greens fees, and other local courses donated greens fees as well. After five weeks of play, the program ended with a July 29 tourney.

Kids & Cops sponsors include the Golden Valley Optimists, Golden Valley VFW Post #7051, and the Golden Valley Crime Prevention Fund. Staff support is provided by Sandburg Middle School, Northwest YMCA, and the Golden Valley Police Department. For more information about Kids & Cops, contact Golden Valley School Resource Officer Mark Persons, 763-593-8217.

SENIOR STUFF

Defensive Driving Course—At Brookview. Four-hour refresher. August 14, 9 am - 1 pm

Special Events (register early)—August 25: Bingo Picnic, 6:30 pm, Brookview

Continental Breakfast (register early)—9:30 am, Brookview. August 27: "Do You See Me"

Blood Pressure Screenings—August 27, 11 am - noon, Brookview

Health Insurance Help—August 12 and September 9, 9 - 11 am, Brookview

Upcoming Trips (register early)—August 21: Winona Church Tour; September 3: Duluth Historic Homes Tour; September 11 and 12: Fireside Theater and Madison, WI; September 21: "On Golden Pond," Lyric Arts Main Stage Theater, Anoka; October 2: Lake Pepin Fall Color Tour; October 9 - 12: Norsk Hostfest, Minot, ND

Five Cities Transportation Program offers rides to seniors for shopping, social activities, and senior program events. For a schedule, see the Seniors newsletter or go to www.ci.goldenvalley.mn.us/parks/transportshed.htm. To reserve a ride, call the Five Cities office at 763-537-0229 between 8 am - 3 pm, Monday through Friday.

PRISM Express provides door-to-door senior transportation for medical appointments, personal shopping, etc. To schedule a ride, call 763-529-1252 in advance.

Membership Dues are \$5 per person for 2003. Support the Senior Program!

For more information, to receive the Seniors newsletter, or to register for a program or a trip, contact:

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

City Begins 2004 Budget Process

While many cities awaited the outcome of the 2003 legislative session to determine how much revenue they would lose in 2003 and 2004, the City of Golden Valley decided to face the music early. Realizing it would lose all of its Local Government Aid (LGA) and Homestead Credit reimbursement payments from the State, the City proceeded in April with cuts to personnel and capital outlay to offset the State revenue reductions. These revenue reductions will total approximately \$604,000 in 2003 and 2004, including a \$80,000 reduction in LGA and a \$524,000 reduction in the Homestead Credit reimbursement.

No Time for Tabs? STOP, DROP, AND WE'LL DELIVER

Golden Valley's Motor Vehicle Licensing Department can process your license tab renewals with a fast, free service. Simply place your license tab statement and check (payable to the City of Golden Valley) in an envelope marked "Motor Vehicle" and slip it into the Utility Drop Box near the front door of City Hall. Envelopes received by 8 am will be ready for pick-up by noon or can be mailed at no extra charge.

At the time, Golden Valley didn't know what the legislature would do with levy limits for 2004. Levy limit legislation provides a formula cities use to determine the maximum they can levy for operations in a given year. Although levy limits have always excluded levies for debt service payments on municipal bonds, the legislature discussed "freezing" cities' 2004 levies at the 2003 level, including the debt levy. Such a freeze would have restricted Golden Valley's ability to levy for increases in salaries and wages and inflationary increases in supplies and services. The City would then have been forced to make further expenditure cuts and reduce services and/or dip even further into its reserves to maintain services.

In the end, the legislature approved a levy limit for cities that would allow them to levy back 60% of the projected reduction in the State payments for LGA and the Homestead Credit reimbursement in 2004. For Golden Valley, this means the City Council

will have the option of increasing the City's 2004 operating levy by approximately \$362,000 (\$604,000 x 60%). The City Council began reviewing the 2004 proposed budget in July and has to adopt the proposed, or maximum, levy in September and the final levy in December. The next issue of the *CityNews* will feature information on the proposed 2004 budget and its potential impact on the residential taxpayer.

For more information about the outcomes of the 2003 legislative session or about the City of Golden Valley's 2004 budget process, contact Finance Director Don Taylor at 763-593-8012. The September/October issue of *CityNews* will include information about the 2004 proposed City budget. ✓

essay contest WINNERS

The Golden Valley Seniors Program presented awards for its 20th Annual Essay Contest to nine sixth-graders from five Golden Valley schools May 19 at an Intergenerational Supper at Brookview Community Center. The winners were selected from a field of 122 essays written about a grandparent or best older friend.

First place winners from each school were: Heather Anderson and Henry James (Sandburg), Rebecca Hanscom and Ben Zats (Meadowbrook), Megan Labitsky and Michael Gauger (King of Grace), Alex Luther and Conor Hamilton (Park Valley), and Anna Martino (Breck).

Winning essays are forwarded to the state competition. Winners of that will be presented at the MN State Fair in August. Judges for the Golden Valley contest were Mable Swenson, Lorraine Diederichs, and Gerry Wagenhals.

Help Minimize Damage To Your Street

Street maintenance and reconstruction are two of the most time-consuming and costly responsibilities of City government. They are also some of the most necessary. Golden Valley must keep approximately 120 miles of streets at an adequate level of service and safety. According to City Engineer Jeff Oliver, the estimated value of Golden Valley streets exceeds \$100 million.

Although streets deteriorate with age and use, Golden Valley's Pavement Management (PMP) helps maximize the life-span of the streets and minimize long-term maintenance costs. However, individual actions can have a negative impact on streets and end up costing the City a lot of money.

CAUSES OF UNNECESSARY STREET DAMAGE

When dump trucks, dumpsters, skid steer loaders, and other heavy equipment are used in residential streets during individual home improvement and landscaping projects, street damage can occur, costing all the homeowners on that street for repairs.

"It costs tens of thousands every year," says Oliver. "The most serious damage is caused by contractors using the street for a staging (loading and unloading) area for materials. Tractors and skid steer loaders scrape the streets, stripping the sealcoat and nicking and gouging the pavement. That damage causes premature deterioration."



DAMAGE FROM LOADING AND UNLOADING



DAMAGE FROM TIGHT TURNING

PREVENTING STREET DAMAGE

The most common reason cited for having heavy equipment operate in the street instead of the yard or driveway is that homeowners do not want to damage their own property. Yet a scuff on a driveway or a few repairable gouges in a lawn are a lot less expensive to repair than a street.

"Basically," says Oliver, "the city streets are the driveway for the entire city."

He recommends homeowners and their contractors take several actions to minimize street

damage while working on home improvement projects.

First, materials such as rocks and bricks should be loaded and unloaded in the homeowner's driveway or yard. Heavy equipment should be handled carefully. Spinning and sharp turns can do major damage to the street. Finally, Oliver recommends that homeowners and contractors consider using plywood under the wheels of turning equipment if it must be operated on the street.

WHEN STREET DAMAGE HAPPENS

When street damage occurs, City staff contacts the homeowner or contractor to discuss the problem. "We hold those doing the damage responsible," says Oliver. Residents can take care by following the recommendations above and by making sure contractors are bonded, insured, and have pulled the proper permits, so any damage to the street becomes their problem and not the homeowner's.

For more information on street maintenance and care, contact Jeff Oliver at 763-593-8034.

Hwy 100 Update

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) began construction May 1, 2000 on a major project to upgrade Hwy 100 through Golden Valley, Crystal, Robbinsdale, and Brooklyn Center. Currently:

Segment I (Glenwood Ave to Duluth St)—Finishing touches are under way, and work is scheduled for completion by the end of August. Brief closures may occur as crews complete minor repairs and finish the curb and gutter.

Segment V (Duluth St to 29th Ave N)—Northbound traffic is set to return to northbound Hwy 100 lanes by the end of July. Median work will follow. About mid-August, southbound traffic is expected to be moved to the northbound lanes. Closures at Duluth St are likely when the southbound Hwy 100 ramp is reconstructed. Duluth St, currently two lanes in each direction, may also narrow while a new south bridge is built. Work should be essentially completed in October 2003.

Motorists should watch for signs about closures, allow extra time to reach destinations, and take alternate routes. For more information, go to www.ci.goldenvalley.mn.us/streets/streetconst.htm, which includes links to MnDOT's web site.

Construction Safety

Pedestrians and bicyclists must take extra care to stay far away from moving equipment in construction zones (or anywhere, for that matter). Contractors often report that people walk or bike behind loaders and other equipment at or near work sites. This is very dangerous, because although the bikers and pedestrians can see the large equipment, the equipment operators cannot see anyone that is following them. Always stay at least 50 feet behind any piece of large equipment, and please stay out of construction areas whenever possible.

Help Create The Future Of Your Community

How do you see Golden Valley in the next 10 to 20 years? As interest in *Envision Golden Valley* continues to grow, more community members come forward each week to contribute their time and talent to this broad-based effort to shape the future of their city. Already more than 60 volunteers are planning ways for the entire community to be involved in the visioning process.

Later this fall, a variety of opportunities will allow community members to explore possibilities and share their ideas to preserve and/or change the future landscape and services in Golden Valley. The efforts will culminate in an exciting community event February 26, 2004.

Watch for updates in *CityNews*, the *SunPost*, and at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/Envision.htm. To get involved, contact Mayor Linda Loomis at 763-593-3990 or linda.loomis@ci.golden-valley.mn.us.

Get involved, and let your ideas bloom!



www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us

City of
Golden Valley

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