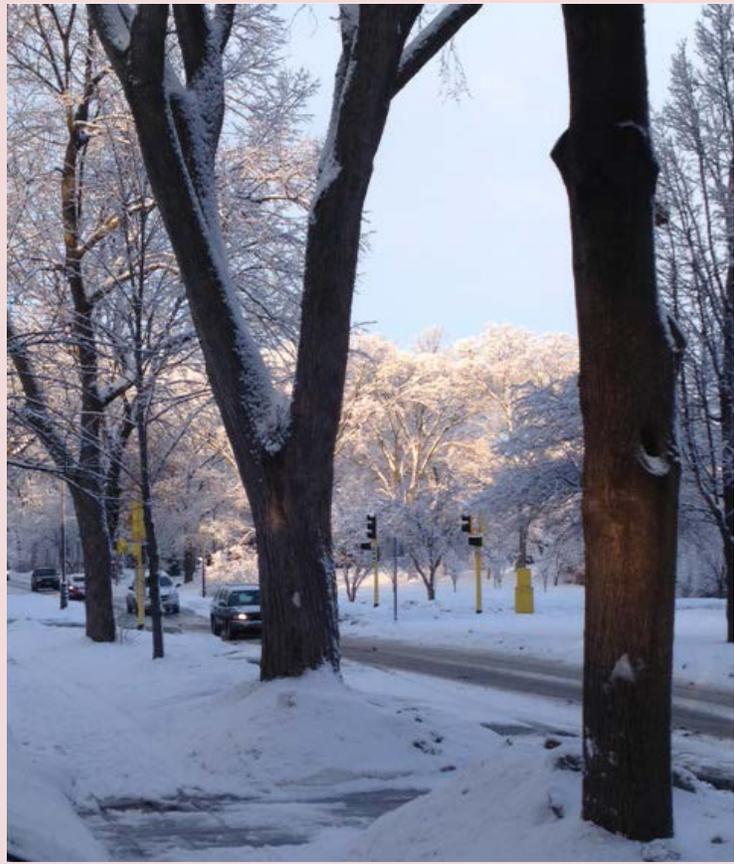




[March, 2013]



"Sunlight on the Parkway" Photo by Ward 12 Resident, Norm Spilleth

City Collects Nearly 400 More Tons of Recycling in Six Weeks of One-sort

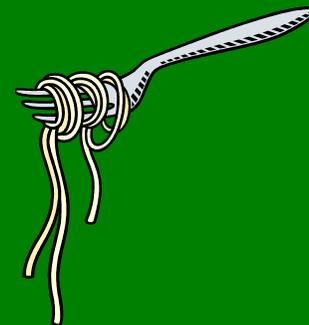
Minneapolis residents have dramatically increased the amount they recycle, where one-sort recycling has been delivered. Results are in for the first six weeks of one-sort recycling: the four collection routes that were switched to one-sort last fall show a 63 percent increase in recycling over the same period a year ago, when they still used the older multi-sort process.

Attention Cooper Residents

Street resurfacing is being scheduled for much of the Cooper Neighborhood. There is a meeting on March 27 to explain the details. See the yellow calendar below for more information.

Wenonah School Celebrates 60 years! March 15

Do you have a connection to Wenonah? Just want to have some fun? Join the celebration which will include some "Back to the 50's" fun and surprises. Get more details from the calendar below.



St. Helena School's Annual Spaghetti Dinner ALL YOU CAN EAT

Sponsor: Fat Lorenzo's

That's 396 more tons of waste that was recycled! The City hopes to double the 2012 recycling rate by 2015. One-sort recycling, where customers combine their glass, plastic, paper, aluminum and cardboard into one container, began in the fall for 30,000 Minneapolis residential recycling customers. The other 80,000 households will roll into the program this coming spring and summer. Crews will drop off new blue carts for each residential customer, and as soon as they have the cart, they can start using it for one-sort recycling. Rolling out the carts in two phases allowed the city to save about half a million dollars.

If you don't have one-sort recycling now, you'll be getting it soon

Starting in late April, customers who don't have the new blue, one-sort recycling cart yet will get one. They will receive letters in the mail with instructions about a week before the cart arrives. These customers will stay on the same schedule and keep the same recycling day as before. When they get the new cart, customers may choose to leave their old bins out to be recycled or keep them for other uses such as garage storage or for carrying the recyclables outside to the new cart. There is no change in the amount customers pay. (continued..)

When you get your cart, please continue to rinse your recyclable containers. Please do NOT put the following into your recycling bin: yard waste, Styrofoam, plastic foam or plastic bags. These steps will help the city to keep costs down and to retain the value of the recyclables. The money from the sale of the recyclables helps fund recycling services.

Expanding what we recycle

Just last year, Minneapolis expanded the types of plastics and paper it collects. Minneapolis recycling customers can now include plastics numbers one through seven, which includes yogurt, pudding and fruit cups; disposable cups and bowls; margarine, cottage cheese and other containers; and produce, deli and takeout containers. New paper items accepted include milk cartons; juice boxes; and soup, broth and wine cartons.

Making products from recycled material rather than virgin material conserves natural resources and creates less waste. It also causes less pollution and uses less energy; for instance, 95 percent less energy is used to make a can from recycled aluminum than from raw materials.

For more information about one-sort recycling in Minneapolis, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/onesort.



Regional wastewater collection pipes, or interceptors, are larger to anticipate future growth.

Sewer Charges Often a Surprise for Small Businesses; Colvin Roy Appointed to Explore Sewer Availability Charge (SAC) Reform

Too many small businesses have been surprised to learn that they need to make a large payment toward wastewater costs before they can even open their business. The theory of the charge is that the business is adding wastewater to the system and that the system needs to be adjusted to keep up with the overall increase in

Saturday, March 9, 5 to 7:30 p.m. St. Helena Church Rowan Hall, 3204 E, 43rd St.

PRE-SALE TICKETS:

Adults \$9, Family \$30
Kids under 12 & Seniors \$7

AT THE DOOR

Adults \$11, Family \$35
Kids under 12 & Seniors \$9

Contact information:

St. Helena School 612-729-9301. Church 612-729-7344
www.sainthelenaschool.us

Free Homeownership Counseling for Current Owners and New Buyers

Whether you need to make repairs to your home, are struggling with mortgage payments and need foreclosure counseling, or interested in buying a new home, the City of Minneapolis can help. Counseling is available to everyone, free of charge. Office hours will be held in City Hall from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month, beginning in February. Spanish interpreters will be available in the morning on the first Thursday; Hmong interpreters will be available in the morning on the third Thursday. Counseling will take place in City Hall, Room 333, 350 South Fifth Street, Minneapolis. No appointment is needed.

demand. While there is *some* logic there, the system has come under scrutiny because a business will pay this charge even if the pipes which serve them directly already have adequate capacity. The charges can be quite large and Met Council's methodology for determining the charge is very complex. The last thing that a small business needs is an unpredictable charge that must be paid in a short time.

Council Member Colvin Roy has shared concerns with the Met Council about the system and provided testimony. "The costs of maintaining our wastewater system and accommodating growth need to be paid for," said Colvin Roy, "but there seems to be a growing consensus that there are better ways to do this."

In recent years, the Met Council has made several technical and financial changes to the program in response to local customer concerns, including those expressed by Minneapolis representatives. These changes simplified some SAC rules, made the program more flexible, and included provisions that help small businesses and aid redevelopment efforts. Now the Met Council would like to take a more global view of the program and they have appointed a working group to explore the issue.

The working group will be co-chaired by Metro Cities Executive Director Patricia Nauman and Metropolitan Council Member Jon Commers. Other appointees include:

- Metropolitan Council Members Gary Cunningham, Gary Van Eyll, and Wendy Wulff
- Andover Mayor Mike Gamache
- Cottage Grove Mayor Myron Bailey
- **Minneapolis Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy**
- Minnetonka Mayor Terry Schneider
- Prior Lake City Manager Frank Boyles
- Roseville Mayor Dan Roe

The first stage of the new group's efforts will be to develop a scope of work. That scope may include a survey of peer wastewater agency practices, as well as developing a variety of options for paying for reserve capacity. A national consultant is expected to be hired to assist the group.

Check out the Depot Rink

The Depot, 225 Third Avenue South

It's fun, it's romantic, and it's warm in the winter. Named one of the top ten best places in the United States to ice skate by the USA Today and MSNBC, The Depot Rink is a historic downtown Minneapolis train shed that now houses a modern-day, indoor rink with floor-to-ceiling glass walls showcasing views of the downtown city skyline. Take a moment out of your busy winter schedule for the perfect place for birthday parties, family outings and reunions, school field trips, holiday parties, romantic dates, team building and employee appreciation parties. The rink offers public skating or private rink rental, a full catering menu and group party packages. For information about skating and rental rates and rink hours, call 612-339-2253.



Council Members Colvin Roy and Reich speak with Public Works employees about the City's concrete street rehab pilot program.

Preserving Concrete Streets

Public works rehabilitates asphalt streets every summer but there has not been a program for preserving concrete streets, of which the 12th Ward has quite a few. Council members Colvin Roy & Reich visited the site of a pilot project last fall, designed to help the city understand the most economical way to save these streets. The pilot project had promising results. The goal is to create a program for systematic renewal, similar to those for asphalt streets; a program that will save most of the concrete, save resources and save money.

Commercial Buildings to Report Energy and Water Use in 2014

Starting next year, large commercial buildings in Minneapolis must report energy and water use annually to comply with a new ordinance City leaders approved intended to increase energy awareness. The ordinance is a tool that uses market forces, rather than performance or design mandates, to motivate owners and tenants to invest in efficiency improvements, ultimately saving energy, lowering energy costs, reducing pollution and spurring local green jobs. Commercial buildings account for roughly 35 percent of greenhouse gas pollution in Minneapolis.

The City of Minneapolis and other public entities will lead by example and begin publicly disclosing energy and water use in their buildings larger than 25,000 square feet starting in 2013. Private commercial buildings larger than 100,000 square feet will begin reporting June 1, 2014, and publicly disclosing in 2015, and private commercial buildings larger than 50,000 square feet will begin reporting June 1, 2015, and publicly disclosing in 2016.

The free software, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Portfolio Manager, measures the building's energy and water performance and generates a score and other metrics, similar to a fuel economy rating on a vehicle. The system takes into account such information as building age, operating hours, workers per square foot, occupancy rates and space usage. (Scoring models assume buildings with higher intensities of activities use more energy; more intense uses do not necessarily result in lower scores.) (continued...)



Reduce Idling to Improve Air Quality

Did you know that an idling car carries a higher load of pollutants than a moving car?

Air pollution causes health problems and is harmful to people with existing respiratory or cardiovascular problems. Most air pollution comes from fossil fuel exhaust. Exhaust is also a major contributor to climate change. That's why there is an ordinance in Minneapolis to discourage idling.

If the air temperature outside is colder than zero, idling is allowed for 15 minutes. Under warmer conditions idling is limited to 3 minutes. Illegal idling can carry a fine of \$200.

Vehicle motors release particulate matter, dirt, nitrous oxides, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide into the air. Chemicals in vehicle exhaust are linked to increased rates of cancer, heart and lung disease and asthma.

For more information about air quality in Minneapolis, go to the [Sustainability page](#) on the Minneapolis website.

The City will partner with the Center for Energy and Environment to offer training for building owners starting in early 2014, before the first reporting deadline. The Center for Energy and Environment is a nonprofit that specializes in commercial energy efficiency solutions. A City website will guide building owners and managers through what is needed to comply and how to use the required software. While the City does not require energy efficiency improvements, it will guide building owners toward rebates and loans for retrofits.

Cities that already have this requirement include Austin, Texas; Boulder, Colo.; New York; Philadelphia; San Francisco; Seattle and Washington, D.C.

For more information including the complete ordinance, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/environment.

Play a Role in Public Access TV; Apply for the MTN board

Want to help improve public access television in Minneapolis? The Minneapolis Television Network (MTN) Board of Directors has two vacant seats to fill. The successful applicants would serve terms that would start immediately and run through Jan. 15, 2016.

MTN provides broadcasting equipment and training so Minneapolis residents can learn how to create and broadcast programs on the City's three public access channels (16, 17, 75). MTN's nine volunteer board members are appointed by the Minneapolis City Council and Mayor. Board members participate in committee meetings, fundraising activities and monthly board meetings. Board meetings are currently held on the second Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at MTN, 125 SE Main Street. Meeting times/days may change, depending on board member schedules.

For more information on how to apply or submit a nomination, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings and click on "Telecommunications Network, Minneapolis." The application deadline is March 1, 2013.

City Accepting Applications for 2013 Urban Scholars Internship

The City of Minneapolis is once again offering its internship program for college students interested in public service careers. Beginning today, the City will accept applications for the 2013 Urban Scholars program, which aims to help young people from diverse backgrounds build their skills for the future, with a focus on careers in public service. Interested students should apply online Monday by March 25 at www.minneapolismn.gov/jobs/jobs_before.

Students who are enrolled and in good standing at a two- or four-year college or university are eligible to apply. They must also be a permanent resident of Minneapolis, although they can be attending a school anywhere, not just in Minnesota. The 12-week program is a full-time paid internship experience that runs from May 20 – Aug. 9. Urban Scholars will work in a City of Minneapolis department and also complete a team-based community project that will be presented to government and community stakeholders.

The Urban Scholars Internship and Leadership Development Program is one

component of the One Minneapolis Equity in Employment initiative, which aims to close the employment gap in a city and metro area that suffers from one of the highest disparities between white and non-white unemployment in the country. While the City's overall unemployment rate is 5 percent, unemployment among African Americans in Minneapolis is at 18 percent, and the unemployment rate for American Indians is 25 percent.

Last year, eight Urban Scholars were chosen from more than 100 applicants. The students selected worked in key areas of City government, and in the long run, the City hopes to develop a group of young talent who can begin careers in public service, and someday be the next generation of City leaders. The eight scholars were all Minneapolis residents, who were attending colleges across the country.

For more information, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/civilrights/one/urbanscholars.

See suspicious activity? Call 911

There have been reports of burglaries in some city neighborhoods recently so now is a good reminder that the City of Minneapolis wants residents to call 911 to report any suspicious activity, crimes in progress and anytime folks need the police, fire, or ambulance to respond.

Residents are a neighborhood's eyes and ears, and arrests often result from good witness information and quick calls to 911. It's important for folks to call 911 if they think they see something suspicious. Examples of suspicious activity could include sounds of glass breaking, an unfamiliar vehicle circling the block, suspected drug dealing, or an unfamiliar person carrying items from a house.

Tips for calling 911

When calling 911 folks should follow these guidelines:

- Do not hang up. If the call isn't answered immediately or if you encounter silence on the line, do not hang up and redial unless the silence lasts more than 8 seconds.
- Do not hang up if you call 911 by accident. Hang ups require 911 operators to call back the number the incoming 911 call came from. This happens up to 200 times a day and uses valuable 911 resources including phone lines that should be used for answering emergency calls.
- Give your location when calling 911. This includes, address, intersection, and landmarks. Be prepared to give a short description of a suspect.
- Help can be sent while you talk. A caller should state the problem briefly, answer the operator's questions and stay on the line until the operator terminates the call.
- You can ask 911 operators to stay on the line until help arrives.
- If you need a translator, let the operator know or simply say, "Language line."

When to call 911

There are many reasons to call 911 including:

- If the situation requires an ambulance or the fire department to respond immediately
- To report a situation that requires a police officer at the scene (for example: assaults, burglaries, kidnapping, domestic disputes, auto theft, accidents in which there are injuries / or it is unknown whether injuries have occurred, etc.).
- To report a crime that is in progress
- To report suspicious criminal activity that you witness (for example: sounds of shots fired, cries for help, sounds of glass breaking or if you see an unfamiliar person carrying items from a house).

When not to call 911

There are also many reasons not to call 911. Folks should avoid calling 911 to get directions, legal advice, or to find out if someone is in jail. The Hennepin County Sheriff's Jail Roster is available online at www4.co.hennepin.mn.us/webbooking or by calling 612-348-5112. People should also not call 911 to report city issues that do not need police, fire, or an ambulance to respond. They should use the City of Minneapolis website or call 311.

Events & Meetings

Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Wenonah School

Friday, March 15, 1:00-3:00 pm, 5625 23rd Ave. S. Enjoy games, refreshments and a tour of the school. There will be a "back to the 50's" celebration in the gym at 2:30. Alumni and families who attended Wenonah in the past are encouraged to attend. Call the school for additional information: 612.668.5040

Block Leader Training

March 18, 6:30-8 pm, 3rd Police Precinct, 3000 Minnehaha Avenue. If you are interested in starting a block club, register for this free training session. Learn how to communicate with your neighbors, share crime alerts and safety information. Please call 612-673-2856 or 673-3482 to reserve a seat.

Master Gardener at Nokomis Library: Advanced Vegetable Gardening

March 19, 6:30-8 pm, 5100 34th Avenue South. Learn how to read seed packets and plant tags, when to plant, which fertilizers work best and how to best use available garden space. Registration is required. [Register Online](#) or call 612-543-6800.

Cooper Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Community Meeting

March 27, 6:30 pm, Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Avenue South. The Minneapolis Department of Public Works will host this informational meeting to address questions residents may have about the upcoming street resurfacing project in the Cooper neighborhood. For information contact Larry Matsumoto at 612-919-1148 or larry.matsumoto@minneapolismn.gov



Visit your
neighborhood
organization:

LCC

NENA

SENA



The Great Egg Crawl

March 30, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm, Sibley Park, 1900 40th Street East. Breakfast served from 9:30-11 (\$5 adults, \$3 kids). All other activities are free, including an egg hunt at Noon.

Metro Paint-A-Thon Application Deadline

April 12. Each year on the first weekend in August, Metro Paint-A-Thon volunteers paint the homes of seniors and people with disabilities. Application information is available at www.paintathon.orgmcc.org or call 612-276-1579.

Boards & Commissions Openings

There are currently many openings on the City's Boards, Commissions & Advisory Committees. Applications are accepted in the spring and fall. Please visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm> for application information.

I am honored to serve the residents of the 12th Ward. If you have any questions or comments please call me at 612-673-2212 or e-mail me at Sandra.Colvin.Roy@minneapolismn.gov

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the 12th Ward News, contact Loren Olson, with your request at Loren.Olson@minneapolismn.gov or 612-673-2378.

