

# 12<sup>th</sup> ward news

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[September, 2013]

## The Fifth Annual Monarch Festival is Saturday!

The Nokomis East Neighborhood Association and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board are once again hosting the Minneapolis Monarch Festival at the Nokomis Naturescape, 50<sup>th</sup> St and Lake Nokomis Parkway, this Saturday, September 7. This celebration of the Monarch butterfly, its amazing migration journey, and the Monarch as a symbol of the connection between Minnesota and Mexico is unique in our city. The food, music and art of the Festival all highlight this connection.

**Music & Dancing:** The stage opens with Silva Sol at 10am, followed by Machinery Hill at 11am. At noon, the hugely popular Kalpulli KetzalCoatlilcue Aztec Dance group will perform. The afternoon lineup starts with RAMM, and its distinctive repertoire of R&B, Rock, Funk, Motown, and Blues. The sound will become more Caribbean when Charanga Tropical takes the stage with its flute, violins, and Latin rhythm section. The day ends with Salsa del Soul's high energy Bachata, Plena and Salsa music. New this year, dance instructors will teach guests a few new dance moves on the portable dance floor, beside the stage (1:00 - 4:00).

**Art & Activities:** activities include printmaking by steamroller (really!) with ArtOrg and Grupo Sopa del Corazon; printing with plants; Art in the Park with the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, a variety of hands-on activities with Project Art for Nature and more.

**Monarch Butterflies:** The U of Minnesota's Monarch Lab has decided not to provide the Festival with Monarchs to release because of possible disease in their stock. So, citizen volunteers collected eggs and raised the butterflies at home for the Festival. On Saturday, those Monarchs will begin their amazing 2,300 mile migration from Minnesota to the mountains of Michoacán Mexico where they will spend the winter. Monarchs will be released singly throughout the day (no mass releases) by groups of guests that have gone through a brief education and tagging exercise



The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, and the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, are once again hosting the Minneapolis Monarch Festival at the Nokomis Naturescape. The event is Saturday, September 7. This will be the fifth year of this celebration of the Monarch, its amazing migration journey, and the Monarch as a symbol of the connection between Minnesota and Mexico. The food, music and art of the Festival all highlight this connection.

**Kids Butterfly Fun Run:** The races starts with groups of no more than 30 at a time and are age-bracketed for children up to 12 years old (no strollers this year,

## Two minute video explains Ranked Choice Voting

[Watch here](#)



## Visit the Minneapolis Elections Website

The City of Minneapolis has launched a new elections website to help voters get ready for this fall's election. By visiting [vote.minneapolismn.gov](http://vote.minneapolismn.gov), voters can learn what they need to know about how to register to vote, find their polling place, and many other elections topics, including who is running!

please.). For the younger kids, there will be prizes awarded for the best monarch costumes. Older kids compete for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finish in their age bracket. Winners are announced and invited onto the stage after the races. The Run is sponsored by Univision MN and U Care. Register at least 10 minutes before the race, or register in advance, [online](#).

**Food:** Food vendors will be available including roasted corn.

**Location:** The Festival takes place alongside the Nokomis Naturescape, comprised of a variety of native grass and wildflower gardens which have been certified as a Monarch Waystation. The gardens contain annual and perennial plants that provide habitat and food sources that are essential to the survival of monarch butterflies.

### **Nokomis Block Party, Sunday September 8!**

The [Nokomis Block Party](#) is on Sunday, September 8, starting at 11:00 a.m. and wrapping up at 4:00 p.m. A message from the organizers: There will be a wide variety of food vendors, local artists and farmers, a bounce house, dunk tank, games for the kids, free root beer floats, live music by the Caffeines and Mobster Lobster, door prize drawings, and much more. The block party has something for everyone, from the littlest tyke to the most seasoned Minnesotan. With burgeoning neighborhood home sales in 2013 and continued renovation to existing and addition of new businesses, it's no wonder CityPages magazine recently named the intersection of 34th Ave. and 50th St. "The hottest intersection in south Minneapolis." Though the Block Party officially ends at 4:00 p.m., there is much more right here in the neighborhood to satisfy the desire to linger.

What: Nokomis East Block Party

When: Sept. 8, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Where: The intersection of 51st St. and 34th Ave. S.

Cost: Free

For more information, visit: <http://www.nokomisblockparty.com/index.htm>

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### **Longfellow Community Council to Host Discussion about Minnehaha**

Longfellow Community Council (LCC) is sponsoring a community meeting to discuss plans for redesigning and reconstructing Minnehaha Avenue. How will the reconstruction of Minnehaha Avenue in 2015 impact you? If you live, walk, bike, drive, park or own a business on Minnehaha, LCC wants to hear from you. The meeting will feature a panel of local residents, a business owner, and representatives from Hennepin County and the City.

LCC's Minnehaha Avenue Layout / Design Discussion

**Wednesday, September 11th**

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Tapestry Folkdance Center

3748 Minnehaha Avenue

Continued...

### **Absentee Voting Begins Sept. 20**

Voters who will not be able to vote at their polling place on Election Day are eligible to vote by absentee ballot. Voting absentee can be done in person at City Hall, or by mail.

If a voter chooses to cast an absentee ballot in person, that can be done beginning September 20 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at City Hall, 350 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

To vote absentee by mail, request a ballot now. Ballots will be mailed out beginning Sept. 20, and will include everything a voter needs to send back a completed ballot. Visit the city [website](#) for absentee ballot applications in multiple languages.

Feel free to contact 311 for assistance.

Hennepin County held two meetings in July to discuss preliminary plans for the road. Now that the plans have been presented, LCC would like to hear your thoughts about how this project will affect you. If you would like more information about the meeting, please contact LCC at 612-722-4529. The road was last rebuilt in the 1960's and this version will likely have to last for fifty years, so it is very important for community members to hear from each other about what will serve best.

## County Holds Second Set of Meetings About Minnehaha Design

As a follow up to the meetings held in July, the County is holding meetings two meeting to discuss the feedback they received about the Minnehaha design and any changes they are making as a result. There will be two meeting just to accommodate the large number of people who may be interested in the topic.

Hennepin County Minnehaha Avenue Reconstruction Meetings  
**Monday, September 30**  
**Wednesday, October 2**

Both meetings will be held from 6:00-8:00 pm at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis Public Works staff will provide information about the project, which is scheduled to begin during the spring of 2015.



CenterPoint crews installing a gas main that runs 60 feet below the creek.

## City Runs Mock RCV Elections

Mock elections will be held at the following times and locations to educate voters about ranked choice voting

- **September 9, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.**  
Roosevelt High School cafeteria  
4029 28<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.
- **September 10, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.**  
Patrick Henry High School cafeteria  
4320 Newton Ave. N.
- **September 11, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.**  
Washburn High School cafeteria  
201 W. 49<sup>th</sup> St.
- **September 12, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.**  
Edison High School small gym  
700 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NE
- **At City Hall**  
In addition to these four geographic-based locations, the Elections & Voter Services team will be hosting voters here at City Hall every day from September 5 through September 16, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the City Hall Rotunda



## Gas Line Replacement on 28<sup>th</sup> Ave Nearly Complete

After nearly four months of intense construction activity, the replacement of a large 16 inch natural gas main located under 28<sup>th</sup> Ave between 40<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Streets is nearly complete. In addition to the disruption that residents and businesses along 28<sup>th</sup> Ave experienced, the rerouting of traffic has impacted residents living along Nokomis Ave and several cross streets in the area.

Throughout the project, Council Member Colvin Roy has stayed in close contact with CenterPoint Energy to ensure that every effort was being made to complete the project as quickly as possible. The recent installation of the gas main approximately 60 feet below Minnehaha Creek completed the final piece of the large-main construction part of the project (see photo). Following that, crews began installing new service lines from the main to the gas meters located on people's homes and businesses. CenterPoint doubled the number of crews to expedite completion of this phase of the project, which they anticipate to be complete by Sept. 10.

After the new service lines are installed, the old gas main will be disconnected, sidewalk panels and grassy areas that were disturbed during construction will be repaired, concrete will be poured to form a solid road base in preparation for blacktopping / paving, and the traffic barriers will be removed. It's anticipated that all of CenterPoint Energy's work will be completed by Sept. 20, after which Minneapolis Public Works will resurface the street from curb-to-curb. Since CenterPoint is done with its activity between 42<sup>nd</sup> street and 44<sup>th</sup> streets, the city is going to pave those streets beginning on September 9.

### Area Residents Ask for Cooperation from Bus Riders

Some residents near this project are getting a lot more traffic than they are used to a result of the detour that's been in place all summer. City buses and school buses are running down streets that they normally would not be on and that were not designed to carry such traffic. This has been a strain, but residents have been exceedingly patient. We received a request from an area resident to help make this experience a little better as this project winds down. If you drive through the neighborhood please don't speed, and if you are waiting for a bus, please stand on the sidewalk and not in the yard. Thank you!

### Park Board Storm Recovery Update

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will begin removing tree stumps remaining from the June 2013 storms beginning the week of September 3. Once the stumps are removed, City of Minneapolis Public Works personnel will repair sidewalks and curbs damaged by tipped stumps at no charge to residents. All stump removal and sidewalk repairs are expected to be complete by November 1. The late June storms toppled more than 3,000 park and boulevard trees throughout the City. During the days and weeks following the storm, Park Board and City crews worked around the clock to open streets, remove downed and damaged boulevard trees and haul away residential tree debris. More than 2,300 semi truckloads of tree debris was removed from across Minneapolis between June 22 and the end of July. During the month of August, University of Minnesota researchers photographed and inventoried the addresses of nearly 800 stumps, looking for patterns that could

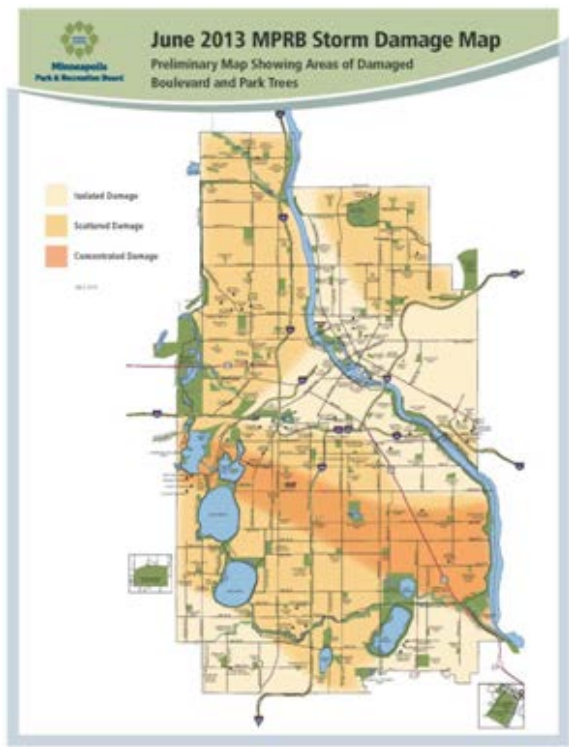
## Volunteers Needed for Bike / Walk Counts

In mid-September Bike Walk Twin Cities will conduct counts and collect information at 47 locations in and around Minneapolis. Since 2007 these counts have documented a 51% increase in bicycling and 24% increase in walking in the Twin Cities. Volunteers are absolutely essential to the effort. The counts will occur September 10-12 and 17-19 from 4-6pm. If you are interested in a 2 hour volunteer shift, [sign up here](#). New volunteers will attend a 30 minute training session at the Bike Walk Twin Cities office (2356 University Ave W, Suite 403, Saint Paul). At the training volunteers will receive count materials, important information and a free t-shirt. The trainings will occur on the following dates:

- Wednesday 9/4, 5-5:30pm
- Thursday 9/5, 12-12:30pm
- Saturday 9/7, 9:30-10am

Please contact Prescott at 651-789-1404 with any questions or for more information.

help foresters and arborists better understand why some trees of the same age and type fell and others did not. The researcher's documentation will also be used as part of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's FEMA application process.



The darker orange areas on this map show where the storm damage was most concentrated.

## Airport Update – Congressman Ellison Hosts Meeting

On a hot evening in August more than 400 people gathered at Washburn for the airport meeting hosted by Congressman Keith Ellison. A clear message was sent, including to the Regional FAA Representative that was present, that airport noise has a big impact on peoples' lives and that residents do not intend to be silent about proposed changes. Residents have questions and expect answers.

What was also evident is that the elected representatives of airport-affected people stand with residents and they will continue to collaborate to give a voice, and teeth, to the concerns of residents. That kind of collaboration was well-illustrated by the fact that U.S. Representatives Keith Ellison (D) and Erick Paulsen (R) shared the stage. Many legislators, including Senator Dibble and Representatives Davnie and Hornstein were present as well as Council Members Colvin Roy, Hodges, Quincy and Glidden. There were also MAC Commissioners present to listen.

The meeting was focused on the topic of RNAV, a navigation system that would result in consolidation of flight tracks. When asked at the meeting just how narrow the tracks would be, Barry Peterson of the FAA described the tracks as "a line." Last fall, the FAA sought approval to implement RNAV as MSP but citizens and elected officials objected citing too many unanswered questions and unaddressed concerns. Even though the Metropolitan Airports Commission said "no" to RNAV for now, it is expected that the FAA will be asking once again to re-visit the matter.

The purpose of Congressman Ellison's meeting was to hear questions and concerns

## Prolific Scam Artist Arrested for Assault

Prolific door-to-door scammer, Marcus C. Bell, was arrested in August after allegedly assaulting someone who he was attempting to swindle.

Police were able to track down Mr. Bell the day after the assault and arrest him.

The Hennepin County Attorney's Office has charged the defendant with Aggravated Robbery in the First Degree. A felony.

Bell is in custody in connection with this case and others including theft by swindle and an offering a false check case from Bloomington, MN.

so that Congressman Ellison (and Rep. Paulsen) can ensure that answers to the public's questions are provided through the process if RNAV tracks are proposed again. There were not a lot of answers at the meeting, but that was expected. An important outcome of the meeting and ongoing advocacy of Rep. Ellison is to send a clear message to the FAA that we require this information, and meaningful engagement, if they want to have a discussion about RNAV. The city is in close collaboration with Rep. Ellison, who is great ally in this effort.

## **City Collects 894 More Tons in First Month of Citywide One Sort**

Minneapolis residents have dramatically increased the amount they recycle, now that one-sort recycling has rolled out across the city. July was the first month where all Minneapolis customers had one-sort carts, and in that month there was a 57.75 percent increase in recycling compared to July of last year. That's 894 more tons of material that was recycled instead of being thrown in the trash. The increase brings the city's overall residential recycling rate up to 24.4 percent, compared to 16.4 percent before one-sort started. The City hopes to double the 2012 recycling rate by 2015 by making it easier to recycle.

One-sort recycling, where customers combine their glass, plastic, paper, aluminum and cardboard into one container when putting them out for collection, began in fall 2012 for 30,000 Minneapolis residential recycling customers. All 105,000 Minneapolis residential recycling customers had their one-sort carts by June 11 this year.

The change makes recycling a lot easier and more convenient for residents. One sort removes the need to sort recyclables and it means residents no longer need to flatten, bundle and tie cardboard with twine. The new one-sort carts provide residents with more space to collect more recycling and can be easily rolled to the curb, unlike the old multi-sort bins.

## **Know what NOT to put in your recycling**

As folks get used to using one-sort recycling, crews have been finding some non-recyclable materials in the one-sort carts, so it's important to remember a few key things that shouldn't go into the one-sort cart. Do not include:

- Garbage.
- Yard waste.
- Plastic bags. Plastic bags get wound around the gears at the sorting facility and require the machinery to be shut down for several hours each day to cut the bags off the gears. Residents can bring their plastic bags to a participating grocery store for recycling.
- Expanded polystyrene foam (such as food-service polystyrene or packing bricks that come around furniture and electronics).
- Needles and syringes (sharps). These are not recyclable and pose a health risk to collection crews and sorting facility staff. Residents should place ..

household sharps in a hard plastic container with a tight sealing lid, such as a laundry detergent bottle, and write “SHARPS – DO NOT RECYCLE” on the bottle. When almost full, the bottle should be taped shut and placed in the garbage cart. Residents can also contact their doctor’s office or pharmacy for other disposal options.

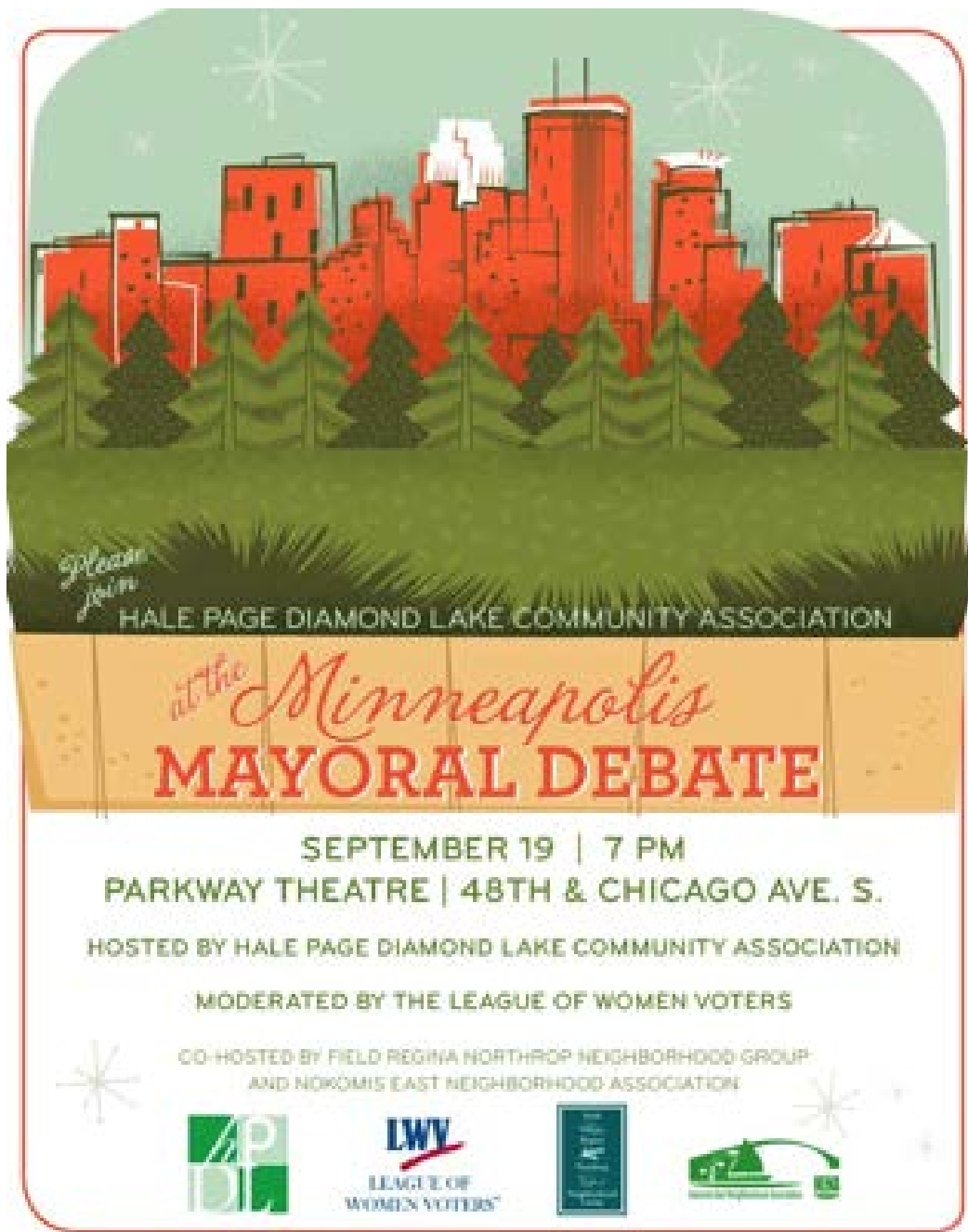
Also, it is important to rinse recyclables.

Residents are encouraged to keep an eye out for things they could be recycling with their new, large one-sort carts. Paper products still make up approximately 20 percent of the average Minnesotan’s garbage; residents could make sure they are recycling all recyclable items including paper towel and toilet paper cores and boxes and bottles from bathroom or laundry products. Cartons of all kinds (milk, soup, juice, wine) can also be placed in the one-sort cart.

By recycling more and reducing garbage, residents can also save money each month by reducing the size of their garbage cart. Residents can request a smaller garbage cart by calling Solid Waste & Recycling at 612-673-2917.

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.

To learn more about one-sort recycling in Minneapolis, go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste) and click on “recycling.”



## Events & Meetings

### Minneapolis Monarch Festival

**September 7, 10 am – 4 pm**, Lake Nokomis Naturescape Gardens. This annual event celebrates the migration of Monarch butterflies from Minnesota to the mountains of Michoacan Mexico. Help to release 400 butterflies raised by the U of M Monarch Lab. Kids Butterfly Fun Run is back, ages birth – 11 years. Prizes for best kid's monarch costume. Enjoy food, music and art. Visit [www.monarchfestival.org](http://www.monarchfestival.org) for more information or to volunteer.

### Roosevelt Library Public Art Installation

**September 7, 11 am**, 4026 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. View the fine art mosaic panels and scone surrounds, talk to artist Sheryl Tuorila and hear from elected and library officials. Create your own paper mosaic art with volunteers from the Minnesota Mosaic Guild. Event is funded by One Percent for Art ([www.hclib.org/onepercent](http://www.hclib.org/onepercent))



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**Visit your neighborhood organization:**

## LCC

**NENA**

**SENA**

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**September 13-15**, St. Helena Catholic Church, 3204 43<sup>rd</sup> Street East. This annual festival will feature food of many kids, rides, live and silent auctions, games of chance and of skill, rummage-sale items, quilt bingo, music and other family-friendly events. Hours are 6-10 pm Friday, 10 am – 10 pm Saturday (starting off with a parade), and 10:30 am – 5 pm Sunday.

**September 14, 9 am-3 pm**, Hiawatha Community School, 4201 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South. Instead of pricing items, shoppers are asked to make a donation for the items they wish to keep. Proceeds will help 5<sup>th</sup> grade students go to Camp Audobon. For information, please call the PTO at 612-642-1786.

**September 19, 7 pm**, Parkway Theater, 48<sup>th</sup> Street & Chicago Avenue South. This debate is hosted by the Hale Page Diamond Lake Community Association, Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group, and Nokomis East Neighborhood Association. The event will be moderated by the League of Women Voters.

**September 28, 11 am – 2 pm**, 3025 42<sup>nd</sup> Street East. Connect with Master Water Stewards and Landscape Design Professionals. Volunteer two hours of your time to help with planting a rain garden to receive a one-hour consultation with a Master Water Steward on your property. Free snacks and refreshments will be served.

**September 30, 6 pm – 8 pm**, Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Area residents are invited to see updated layout plans of Minnehaha Avenue. Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis Public Works staff will provide information about the project, which is scheduled to begin during the spring of 2015.

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Sandra.Colvin.Roy@minneapolismn.gov)

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the 12<sup>th</sup> Ward News, contact Loren Olson, with your request at [Loren.Olson@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Loren.Olson@minneapolismn.gov) or 612-673-2378.