



City of Minneapolis – Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

12th Ward Update

Sign up for the monthly Update by sending an e-mail to sandra.colvin.roy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE 12TH WARD? SIGN UP FOR THE “12TH WARD UPDATE”

Once a month my office sends out an electronic newsletter with stories you won't see in the *Star Tribune*. I focus on providing information important to residents of the 12th Ward, including current issues, discussions at the Council, opportunities for citizen involvement, and a community calendar. The newsletter is brief and residents are encouraged to respond with questions and opinions. The “12th Ward Update” has been appreciated by hundreds of residents. I invite you to sign-up for this free and convenient service.

To subscribe, send an e-mail to sandra.colvin.roy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us with the word “Update” in the subject line.

HOW GREEN IS MINNEAPOLIS?

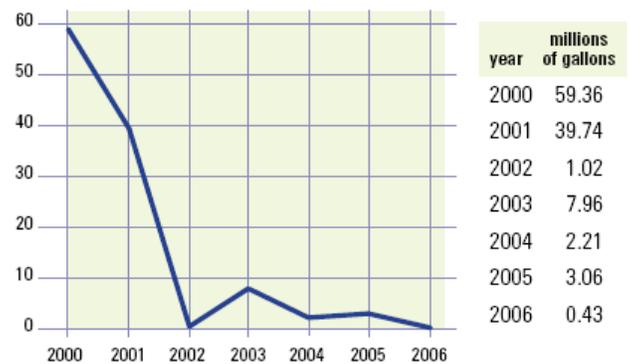
GREENPRINT REPORT TELLS THE STORY

The City of Minneapolis has produced *Minneapolis GreenPrint*, a roadmap used to track our efforts to sustain and enhance our environment. *Minneapolis GreenPrint* is based on a vision and goals developed by City leaders to create a more ecologically sustainable city.

Minneapolis is considered one of the most environmentally-friendly cities around. We're known for our sparkling lakes and waterways and beautiful, vibrant parks and neighborhoods. We want to keep it that way. That's why protecting and enhancing our environment is one of the City's top priorities.

You can view the report at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/GreenPrint07_home.asp

Combined sewer overflows into the Mississippi River in millions of gallons



Source: Metropolitan Council

During intense rainstorms, untreated sewage may overflow into the stormwater sewers and discharge into the Mississippi River. The City of Minneapolis has dramatically reduced this, both how often it happens and how much overflow ends up in the river.

STREET SWEEPING IMPORTANT PART OF PROTECTING WATER QUALITY

Minneapolis is currently sweeping 1,100 miles of city streets and parkways (there are two comprehensive sweeps every year). Our goal is to keep our City clean and our neighborhoods livable.

The City's street sweeping effort also helps protect our lakes, creeks and the Mississippi River because debris and leaves on city streets can wash into storm drains and eventually pollutes our waterways.

The spring sweep removes sand from the streets as well all the accumulated trash and other debris. The fall sweep is primarily to remove debris as well as accumulated leaves from clogging or entering storm drains which can result in localized flooding, and may create a hazard for vehicles and pedestrians. Decomposing leaves can wash into storm drains and eventually end up in Minneapolis' lakes, streams and the Mississippi River. Leaves and nutrients over-fertilize lake water and encourage harmful aquatic plants and algae to thrive. The result is murky lake water that isn't good for swimming and fishing and which harms wildlife.

No parking restrictions will be posted in advance of street sweeping. The city will also place a courtesy call the night before an area will be swept. Residents can see the sweeping schedule at: <http://apps.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/streetsweep/>

EVENTS & SPECIAL MEETINGS

Community Crime Prevention/SAFE Block Leader Training

Wednesday, April 25
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
3rd Prct. Community Room, 3000 Minnehaha Ave.

You MUST RSVP to attend this training! Call 612-673-2839.

Community Forum on City Comprehensive Plan
Minneapolis is updating its comprehensive plan and looking for input on the themes of sustainability, heritage preservation and urban design.

Saturday, April 28, 10 to Noon

Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall

Tuesday, May 1, 7-9 p.m.

Midtown YWCA, 2121 East Lake St.

Thursday, May 17, 4 -6 p.m.

Capri Theater, 2210 Oliver Ave. North (at Broadway)

Blooms Day

Saturday – May 5, 9-1

Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E M'haha Pkwy
Talk to experts on plants, trees and water gardens. For more information about Blooms Day or to volunteer for the event, call Metro Blooms at 612-673-3014.

46th Street Transit Oriented Design Public Workshop

Tuesday, May 15, 7 p.m.

Hiawatha/Howe School Gymnasium

Nokomis Library Renovation Planning Meeting

Thursday, May 17, 7 p.m.

Minnehaha United Methodist, 3701 E 50th Street

Longfellow Gardens Planting Day

Saturday, May 26, 8:00 a.m. – noon

Call Teresa at (612) 230-6523

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

NENA Annual Meeting

Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m.

Minnehaha United Methodist, 3701 East 50th St.

No Pie Charts! Only Pies! LCC General Membership Meeting and Director Elections

Monday, April 30, 2007, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Patrick's Cabaret - 3010 Minnehaha Ave. S



**Yard Waste
Pick-Up Began
April 9th**

RAIN BARRELS

The City of Minneapolis is making 2,000 rain barrels available to Minneapolis households this summer at a reduced cost. When connected to a downspout, the 55-gallon rain barrels store rain-water for later use. Rain barrels help protect the environment by reducing water consumption and cutting down on runoff that ends up in our lakes and streams. The barrel connects to a standard garden hose so it's easy for folks to use them to irrigate lawns and gardens.

The barrels are available thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 5 Great Cities Program and in partnership with Mpls/Metro Blooms and the Green Institute.

The cost of a rain barrels is \$45, about half their normal retail price. Barrels are available to Minneapolis residents for use on Minneapolis properties, and there is a limit of one per household. You can order the rain barrels at www.thereusecenter.com or by phone at 612-724-2608. Quantities are limited.

Starting in May, pre-ordered barrels will be available for pick-up at the ReUse Center at 2801 21st Ave. S. Re-Use Center hours are Monday to Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the center accepts credit cards, checks, or cash.

A limited number of rain barrels will also be available for sale and pick up at three neighborhood events:

Saturday, May 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Nokomis Park Recreation Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.

Saturday, June 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Victory Neighborhood / Loring School, 2600 44th Ave. N.

Saturday, June 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Northeast Bank Parking Lot, 77 NE. Broadway

The 55-gallon rain barrels are made of 100 percent recycled plastic. They are bulky, so bring a suitable vehicle to pick them up (rain barrels are 32 inches high and 24 inches wide and weigh 18 pounds).

For more information on the rain barrels, just call 311.