

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

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[June]

## Historic Walking Tours of Minneapolis Offered May through September

The Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission and the City of Minneapolis Department of Community Planning and Economic Development will offer a series of tours of historic sites throughout Minneapolis. To view the available tours visit: [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/hpc](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/hpc).

Expert guides will lead 19 tours ranging from Minneapolis cultural gathering places and residential neighborhoods, to bustling commercial and industrial areas, to the theaters of Hennepin Avenue and remnants of the city's once extensive streetcar system.



**Don't miss the "City Tree Canopy" tour on August 15 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.**

Learn about local tree history, the current state of our city's tree canopy, tree identification tips and how to care for your trees. The tour begins in the Minnehaha Falls. A passenger van will provide transportation. **This tour is limited to the first 24 people.** Please call 612.673.2615 to reserve your spot.

## What are Your Drinking Water Habits? City Survey Wants to Know

The average person drinks about 64 ounces of water a day. How much do you drink? Where do you get that water? The City of Minneapolis is conducting an online survey to get answers to those questions. Although this survey is geared toward our water customers, the survey is open to anyone who works in or visits Minneapolis. There are 10-11 questions, and it should take less than five minutes to complete. The City will keep taking responses through **June 15, 2009**. To take the survey, go to <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/watersurvey>.

## Minneapolis' High Credit Ratings Save Taxpayer Dollars

In the midst of dark economic news, there is a bright spot for Minneapolis. The City has again been assigned some of the highest credit ratings. Fitch Ratings and Standard and Poor's Ratings Services assigned the City of Minneapolis the highest rating possible, AAA, while Moody's gave the City a very high Aa1 rating.

**All three rating agencies noted Minneapolis' strong financial management as key to earning high ratings.** Standard & Poor's considered "Minneapolis' management practices "strong" under its financial management assessment methodology, indicating practices are strong, well embedded, and likely sustainable." Moody's stated that "Minneapolis has a long history of

Abandoned Vehicles

Crime Prevention

Utility Billing

Housing Inspections

Metro Transit

Report Graffiti

Animal Control

USI Wireless

LCC

NENA

SENA

**Congratulations to Recipients of Climate Change Grants!**

**Gardening Matters**  
Yards to Gardens will create meaningful connections by matching available garden space with those who are seeking a space.

**Do It Green**  
Will create a low carbon kit in conjunction with a series of low carbon cook offs to promote locally grown food and raise awareness about food decisions.

demand can be very high for visits, we can't promise that one will be available. But feel free to request a visit when you register by calling 311 (or 612-673-3000) to put your name on the list. Sorry, we can't take requests for mounted patrol.

- ❑ Make rain plans. Decide if your event will go forward if it rains, or be rescheduled for another time. If you apply to close your street, you'll have a rain date of Wednesday, August 5 unless you decline it during the application. If you don't close your street, you can choose any date that works for your group. Plan ahead!
- ❑ If this is your first time holding an NNO event, you can request a start-up kit. There is a limited supply of free NNO start-up kits for blocks holding NNO events for the first time. They contain plates, cups, plastic utensils, napkins, etc. for 50. If your block is new to NNO this year, call 612-673-2956 to see if a kit is available.

Each event organizer will receive Mystery Point Passes for Nickelodeon Universe at the Mall of America and vouchers (each good for 2 tickets) for Minnesota Twins games to use as door prizes. Each Mystery Point pass is worth either a single ride, a day of rides or a whole season of rides. If you register your NNO event by July 14, you will be entered into a drawing for other door prizes donated by Minneapolis businesses.

## Events & Special Meetings

### Howe Community School Site Re-use Meeting

**June 4 6:30 pm** Communication Workers of America (CWA) Hall, 3521 E. Lake St. Learn about prospective buyer(s), plans for development, timeline and Q&A. Longfellow Community Council & Mpls Public Schools hosting.

### SENA Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale

**June 13 9 am- 3 pm** Maps available at Tillie's Bean 2803 E. 38<sup>th</sup> St, Midtown Farmers Market E. Lake St & 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave & Caribou Coffee 47<sup>th</sup> St & Cedar Ave. To be added to map & list of sales, call SENA office 721-1601 by Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Lake Hiawatha Public Art Dedication

**June 20 11 am- Noon** E. 44<sup>th</sup> St & 27<sup>th</sup> Ave. "The Listening Vessel" is a 9,500 lb. piece of granite shaped to catch & amplify sounds coming across Lk. Hiawatha. Artist Craig David, Park Board Commissioners & other local dignitaries. Music & refreshments.

### Midtown Farmers Market is Open!

#### Summer Saturdays 8 am-1 pm

**July – Tues 3:30-7:30 pm** E. Lake St & 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Locally grown fruits, vegetables, meat, honey, jams, flowers, and more. Music and special events enhance your outdoor shopping experience.

### Open Appointments

#### Mpls Workforce Council – Deadline Extended to 6/5/09

For information on City openings: [ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open)

viewing habits, traffic, gym memberships, and the availability of junk food. Minneapolis' ranking is up two notches from last year, when it ranked fourth in the nation.

Las Vegas was rated the "Fattest City."

SUBSCRIBE OR UNSUBSCRIBE TO THE 12<sup>TH</sup> WARD ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER.

Write [lorenolson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:lorenolson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us) and ask to be added to or removed from the list.