

Edition: Edina



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CITY GOALS:



Strong Foundation



Reliable Service



Livable City



Better Together

Care for Neighborhood Storm Drains, Hydrants and Parks

Adopt One to Help Firefighters, Lakes and Keep Community Clean

Residents have three ways to get involved and help keep their neighborhoods clean and safe: Adopt-a-Hydrant, Adopt-a-Park and Adopt-a-Drain.

Adopt-a-Hydrant

You may have heard of the Adopt-a-Hydrant program to keep snow away from hydrants, but it's just as important in the summer as it is in the winter. During the colder months, hydrants can be buried in snow and cause dangerous delays for firefighters. In the summer and fall, plant growth and leaves can obscure hydrants, too. The City looks for residents to sign up to adopt hydrants to keep them shoveled in the winter months and clear of foliage in the summer.

"It's just as important to keep an eye on the hydrants near your home in the summer as it is in the winter. We'll see a lot of hydrants hidden behind tall flowers or grass and, though the resident may like the landscaping around it, it makes it difficult for us to find and open that hydrant when there is a fire," said Fire Inspector Brian Hanrahan.

"Minutes really do matter when there is a fire, so we hope people sign up for the Adopt-a-Hydrant program."

Hydrants are available for anyone to adopt – it doesn't have to be located in your yard. Sign up to participate by calling 952-826-0378.

You can also sign up to paint a fire hydrant. The Public Works Department supplies the required fire-hydrant-red spray paint. Call 952-826-0376 to arrange paint pickup.

Adopt-a-Park

The Adopt-a-Park program, established in Edina in 1994, is a popular program, especially for clubs and families. Parks are adopted for two years at a time. Adopters commit to cleaning up trash at the park at least twice a year. The

City will provide cleaning equipment, haul trash away and erect a personalized sign that's displayed at the park and highlights the group or individual who has adopted the park.

"Residents who participate in the Adopt-a-Park program contribute to a cleaner environment in their neighborhood and allow the City to conserve and redirect resources," said Parks & Recreation Administrative Coordinator Janet Canton. "They help maintain the high quality of Edina's parks by keeping them litter-free and identifying safety hazards."

If you would like to sign up to adopt a park, call Canton at 952-826-0435.

Adopt-a-Drain

The newest opportunity for residents is the Adopt-a-Drain program, which gives you the chance to "adopt" any number of storm drains in your neighborhood. Adopt-a-Drain launched in April and is a coalition of more than 70 public, private and nonprofit organizations, including the City of Edina and the Nine Mile Creek and Minnehaha Creek watershed districts. Those who sign up commit to keeping drains clear of trash, leaves and grass. In addition, participants are encouraged to spread the word that pet waste, plant debris and road salt directly impact Minnesota lakes, streams and rivers.

"The Adopt-a-Drain program empowers residents and businesses to directly contribute to clean water. Whether you can see a lake or creek from your home or not, the actions you take in your neighborhood have an impact. The collective actions of a community committed to clean water are powerful," said Water Resources Coordinator Jessica Wilson.



The new Adopt-a-Drain program is a great way for younger residents to take an active role in keeping their community and waterways clear. Photo by Krystal Caron

When pollutants enter a waterway, they break down and feed algae, which causes the water to become green and soupy, filters sunlight so fish and plants can't grow, and eventually creates dead zones.

Those interested in signing up in the program can do so at Adopt-a-Drain.org. From there, you can select the drains you're interested in adopting, give each drain a personal name and track the amount of waste you've eliminated from waterways.

To learn more about Adopt-a-Drain and Edina's involvement, contact Wilson at 952-826-0445.

We hope people sign up for the Adopt-a-Hydrant program and commit to helping keep their hydrant clear in the winter as well as the summer.

Centennial Lakes Weekly Farmers Market Starts June 6

Indian Street Food Vendor Muddy Tiger Makes Debut This Season



Tibetan Momo always draws a line of people eager to try the dumplings and dipping sauces at the stand near Hughes Pavilion during the Centennial Lakes Park Farmers Market. File Photo

You can eat an entire meal or buy everything you need to make one from fresh and local sources each week at the Farmers Market at Centennial Lakes Park.

Bread, chicken, desserts, eggs, pork, produce, salsas and sauerkraut are sold every Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. starting June 6. So are lots of flowers to decorate your table or patio.

Sauerkraut? That's the same reaction Joel Linker, better known as The Kraut Guy, gets when people spot his booth and his nine – going on 10 – varieties of kraut.

"They say, 'I didn't know there are so many different kinds of kraut,'" Linker says. "When I got into the business, I just wanted to dispel some rumors about sauerkraut. They think of what's on the shelves in the grocery store. That isn't what sauerkraut is all about."

His krauts are healthy and organic. They aren't sour because the taste comes from the fermentation process, not from vinegar like most store versions. Among the top sellers are a Latin American version with jalapenos, carrots, onion and Mexican oregano; an apple cinnamon version and a classic caraway.

"It's health food. It's super food," Linker said of sauerkraut. "That's how we got into it. We wanted to eat healthy."

Jyoti Kistner started Muddy Tiger Indian Street Food to bring the food she loves to make for

friends and family to a wider audience. Inspired by the Tibetan Momo stand and the cultural diversity of vendors at the Centennial Lakes Park Farmers Market, she choose the space to make her market debut after successful pop-up and catering events.

She'll be making her signature dish: potato sliders with a sweet and spicy chutney. The recipe was shortlisted in a national chef competition.

"At all my pop-up events, people really like that. It's tasty and easy to eat," Kistner said of the sliders that come on a bun and look like pub food. All her cuisine is vegetarian and inspired by street food from her home city of Pune in Western India.

The Centennial Lakes Farmers Market, 7499 France Ave. S., runs Thursdays through Sept. 26. About 30 vendors line the walkways in both directions starting at Hughes Pavilion. Plenty of free parking is available.

For more information, visit CentennialLakesPark.com.

BY THE NUMBERS

North Ramp Open For Parking

Construction to refresh and expand the North Ramp on Market Street at 50th & France finished last fall. Now, the North Ramp features several improvements. Visitors and shoppers are encouraged to check it out!



2 elevators



633

vines planted on the outside of the ramp



1,180

square feet of public art



2

free ChargePoint charging stations for electric vehicles

546

new and refurbished parking stalls





STAY COOL AT THE EDINA AQUATIC CENTER THIS SUMMER

The Edina Aquatic Center is now open for the 2019 season! In addition to the Lost Wave surf simulator, the Edina Aquatic Center offers activities for all ages and interests, including a 50-meter lap pool with diving well, Pirate's Plunge body slide and Shipwreck Express zip line. For the littlest swimmers, stop by the Lil' Lagoon water playground. Finally, if you need a break from the water, Oakwood Forest is a dry playground with a hollowed-out treehouse, three slides, climbing nets and a lookout tower. Find rates and hours online at EdinaAquaticCenter.com.

Photo by Kersten McManamon

Council Approves Preliminary Rezoning for Amundson Flats

Housing Project Improves Blighted Area, Workforce Housing and Pedestrian Connections

Removal of a vacant building. More workforce housing. Improved pedestrian movement in the area, including a connection to the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail.

Many community benefits are coming together with a multi-family housing project in the Cahill District.

At its meeting May 21, the City Council granted preliminary approvals to allow for the construction of Amundson Flats at 7075-9 Amundson Ave. by MWF Properties.

MWF Properties plans to tear down the existing dry cleaners building and build a four-story, 62-unit affordable housing project on the 1.2-acre site. Plans include dedication of a 17-foot trail easement along the south lot line for future construction of a connection from Amundson Avenue to the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail.

Amundson Flats would serve families whose average income is 60 percent or less of the area median income. MWF Properties has committed to maintaining that level of affordability for at least 40 years with a mixture of one-, two- and three-bedroom units.

"Think about how many threads have come together to get us to this day. We had the 70th & Cahill Small Area Plan, which was a collection of folks from the neighborhood coming together to talk about their vision for that node.

At the same time, you had the Edina Housing Foundation creatively seizing an opportunity ... to find a property that could be good to develop for affordable housing. And then you had an applicant willing to come forward and kept modifying a plan to try to fit the project into what we were looking for," said City Council Member Kevin Staunton during the meeting. "I think we have a win-win-win. We have a new building that starts this plan. ... To get an all-affordable housing project with this quality workmanship ... and to be able to get a start on building the vision of the 70th and Cahill area is extraordinary."

In other business last month, the City Council approved a draft of the Comprehensive Plan Update, starting the six-month review process for neighboring cities and affected agencies. During that time, staff was also directed to edit the document for consistency and complete an inventory of current housing types in the community. Barring no objections from neighboring cities and agencies, the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the final Comprehensive Plan Update in November and the City Council in December.

The City Council next meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays June 4 and 18 in the Council Chambers of Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St. For more information, visit EdinaMN.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Recurring Events:

Concerts in the Park, Centennial Lakes Park
7 p.m. Sundays-Wednesdays

Children's Entertainment, Centennial Lakes Park
Noon Tuesdays and Thursdays

Movie in the Park, Centennial Lakes Park
Sunset Thursdays starting June 13

Saturday, June 1 | 10 a.m.

Edina Aquatic Center opens for the season

Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2 | 10 a.m.

Edina Art Fair, 50th & France

Tuesday, June 4 | 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Saturday, June 8 | 10 a.m.

Community Open House for new Hennepin County Library – Southdale, former Hennepin County Service Center, 7009 York Ave. S.

Saturday, June 8 | 10 a.m.

The Author's Studio: *Faces Don't Lie: The Science of Expressions Applied to Portraits & Self-Portraits Alike* with author Dan Hill, Edina Art Center



Sunday, June 9 | 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Parade of Boats, Centennial Lakes Park

Monday, June 10 | 6:30 p.m.

Fitness in the Parks, Braemar Golf Course Courtyard

Thursday, June 13 | 7:30 a.m.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority meeting, Edina City Hall

Monday, June 17 | 6:30 p.m.

Fitness in the Parks – Family Fitness, Rosland Park

Tuesday, June 18 | 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Edina City Hall

Wednesday, June 19 | 9 a.m.

Walk With the Mayor, Bredesen Park

Thursday, June 27 | 7:30 a.m.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority meeting, Edina City Hall

Thursday, June 27 | 6:30 p.m.

Fitness in the Parks, Pamela Park

For a complete listing of meetings and events, visit EdinaMN.gov.



WORKSHOP:

Mental Health FIRST AID

Learn how to help someone who is developing or experiencing a mental health crisis. This special eight-hour course will teach you:

- Risk factors
- Warning signs
- What to do

Course developed by the National Council on Behavioral Health.

Dates: 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 25, and Thursday, June 27. Must attend both days.

Where: Edina Senior Center, 5280 Grandview Square

Cost: Free

Registration: Call 952-833-9570 by June 18. Space is limited.



CITY OF EDINA
4801 WEST 50TH STREET
EDINA, MN 55424

PRESORT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
Permit No. 3932

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON
CAR-RT-WS

Recycling Pickup to Remain Biweekly

Organics Collection To Begin in 2020

Republic Services will continue biweekly recycling collection in Edina. Those wishing to recycle more material may receive a second cart at no cost.

Edina has provided residential curbside collection since 1985. The current biweekly city-wide contract for residential recycling collection with Republic Services ends Dec. 31. Three companies responded to a request for proposals for a new contract. Republic Services offered the most competitive proposal for biweekly collection, but another vendor provided the most competitive proposal for weekly collection.

The City Council directed staff to collect feedback from residents on their preferences for recycling frequency. The Morrison Leatherman Company conducted a survey using a statistically valid, random sample, finding that by a 51 to 32 percent majority, residents prefer the current biweekly service.

“Biweekly recycling benefits the community by keeping the truck traffic to a minimum and still capturing the recyclables,” said Recycling Coordinator Solvei Wilmot.

If space is an issue, residents can request an additional recycling cart at no cost by calling Republic Services at 952-941-5174.

“It is important for all of us to do what we can to reduce waste. First, by buying only what we need and with the least amount of packaging,”

said Melissa Seeley, Energy & Environment Commissioner. “Second, disposing of waste with the smallest impact on our planet is incumbent on all of us.”

A seven-year contract is expected to be awarded to Republic Services, allowing residents to keep their existing carts.

Residents are also encouraged to participate in the citywide organics program beginning next spring, when those bins will be delivered to Edina homes.

A recent study by Hennepin County found that 25 percent of trash is made up of organic materials – the largest category within trash that could be diverted from landfills. In an effort to meet Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Hennepin County waste reduction goals, the City Council decided to have staff implement an organics recycling program in 2020.

“Collection is made easy by adding a small bin to the kitchen to capture scraps as food is prepared or meals are finished. Compostable bags and other products are readily available in stores all over the Twin Cities,” said Seeley. “Once waste is separated between organics and recycling, it is often amazing to see how little trash is left.”

The Council asked staff to negotiate a contract with Vierkant Disposal as the organics vendor for several reasons, including the company’s



Recycling collection will remain biweekly and organics collection will begin in 2020. Photo by Dietrich Nissen

existing organics customer base in Edina, pricing, location and commitment to customer service. The contract is expected to be approved at a future Council meeting.

With another cart for organics, the Council also voted to change the law regarding storage of trash and recycling bins to create more flexibility. City Council approved an ordinance amendment that now allows residents to store containers within five feet of their home. Previously, containers were to be stored out of view from the street.

For more information, visit EdinaMN.gov/Recycling or contact Wilmot at 952-826-0463.