



# Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

A YEAR IN REVIEW

JAN/FEB 2019  
NO. 216

We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

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Mayor – Scott J. Lund  
Councilmember-at-Large – Robert L. Barnette  
Councilmember 1st Ward – Tom Tillberry  
Councilmember 2nd Ward – Steve Eggert  
Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann R. Bolkcom  
City Manager – Wally Wysopal



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### Stay Connected!



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## Thank you to all who attended our Civic Campus Open House!

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Fridley Civic Campus open house on Saturday, November 17! We were amazed and humbled by the amount of people who came to show their support and recognize the great resource this is to our community. This campus was built for Fridley residents – we are so glad you were able to come and explore it!

The event started off with refreshments and opening remarks from our Public Safety Director Brian Weierke, a speech from Mayor Scott Lund and closing statements from Community Development Director Scott Hickok.



Residents and visitors were able to witness a flag raising, done with the help of a local Boy Scout Troop, and a ribbon cutting ceremony out to the front of the campus. Guests had the opportunity to take tours of the Public Safety, City Hall and Public Works buildings. Staff members were stationed around the buildings to answer questions and get to know residents.

Commemorative practice pucks were also handed out with a rendering of Columbia Arena and the Fridley logo to represent the Fridley history that came before the Civic Campus. Once again, we would like to thank everyone who came to the open house to show their support. If you missed out – no worries! Stop by to explore parts of the building and learn more.



## Fridley Becomes a HeartSafe Community

The HeartSafe initiative began on December 1, 2017, with the commitment to educate the community, make AEDS available throughout the city and offer free public training on bystander CPR and AEDS. Trainings were offered every month, at special events and upon request. Local businesses could also receive training at no cost – to which an average of two businesses scheduled trainings per week.

Every city department was trained in bystander CPR including Fridley Police Explorers, Reserves and Neighborhood Block Captains. There were also trainings at the Fridley Middle School, '49ers Days Festival and Safety Camp. This year's Night to Unite was themed around HeartSafe Fridley. On that night alone, Fridley firefighters and police officers trained more than 500 citizens on bystander CPR.



The HeartSafe designation acknowledges a community's efforts to prepare its staff and citizens to recognize when someone suffers a sudden cardiac arrest and how to respond. The required *heartbeats* (a.k.a. application points) to become a designated HeartSafe Community is 600. The City of Fridley's application had over 1,200 *heartbeats* listed – which was produced within one year. As of November 4, the HeartSafe team had trained over 2,000 people who live, work or play in the City of Fridley.

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## Recreation Creates Connections and Fun

There were a lot of great recreation programs and events in 2018, including one of the more collaborative and successful programs the recreation staff has worked with—the Police Athletic League (PALs). Staff helped coordinate activities and support the Police Department in building relationships with the teenage community in Fridley. Police volunteered their time to play sports and connect with Fridley youth in an effort to promote a healthy lifestyle and provide leadership and guidance throughout the school year.

Another new concept for recreation programs was launched this summer to bring programs to kids in the park through “Rec on the Go.” Staff brought games, sports, crafts and healthy snacks to more than 1,200 kids at various parks and neighborhoods throughout the city.

In an effort to keep moving the city into a more digital environment, a new software platform called PerfectMind was just installed in the last quarter of 2018. PerfectMind provides a simple, user-friendly way for participants to access classes and programs online including registration, point-of-sale transactions and event ticketing. This new platform will be widely used by both the Recreation and Springbrook Nature Center teams. Create a new account or register for programs at [FridleyMN.gov/Recreation](http://FridleyMN.gov/Recreation).



## Environmental Efforts in Fridley

In 2018, Community Development and Public Works worked together to continue to make Fridley more environmentally-friendly, including qualifying Fridley for Step 2 in the GreenStep Cities Program. There were many individual project victories that led to these awards, such as establishing several multi-family bulky item pickup events, partnering with 4-H to create an Environmental Fun Fair, and volunteer tree planting projects.

Additionally, Fridley has made a resolution to support pollinators and be a pollinator-friendly city. One of the most recent projects to support pollinators was the new Pollinator Patch at Commons Park. Staff designed and built a retaining wall to stop erosion, and then used the construction as an opportunity to develop a pollinator habitat. Pollinators are crucial to a healthy ecosystem, and over one-third of our food supply is dependent on them. Stop by the park during the next blooming season to see how many plants and pollinators you can spot!



The team also helped Fridley obtain “Tree City USA” status! Tree City USA is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees. Fridley has joined the more than 3,400 communities that have made the commitment to becoming a Tree City USA. Fridley met the four core standards of sound urban forestry management by maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry, and celebrating Arbor Day.

Additionally, Fridley developed an Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation Plan that resulted in the removal of 66 ash trees and planting 85 new trees in 2018 in the Melody Manor neighborhood. In keeping with the theme of “reduce, reuse, recycle,” a curbside organics recycling program was launched and has saved tons of material from the trash!

## Record-Breaking Year at Fridley Liquor

In 2018, the municipal liquor division surpassed \$6M in sales for the first time in Fridley Liquor history! In addition to skyrocketing sales, the liquor stores have done over 330,000 transactions compared to 283,770 the previous year. In 2018, sales increased 10 percent over 2017, and 10 percent of all sales are now occurring on Sundays.

The liquor stores have also engaged even more with the community. Fridley Liquor hosted multiple Dr. Don’s Cocktail Classes, led by local dentist Dr. Don Blakeslee, a 35-year Fridley resident and craft cocktail connoisseur. Be sure to stop by Fridley Liquor for the next Cocktail Class!

Fridley Liquor partnered with four non-profit organizations in 2018 to raise over \$50,000 for the community. Thank you to the Fridley Lions, the Rotary Club, Springbrook Nature Center Foundation and Lee Carlson Center for



their partnerships in bettering the community. All of the profits from Fridley Liquor gets put back into the community to better our parks, purchase equipment to more efficiently maintain our city, and more.

### BY THE NUMBERS

62

individual field rentals



96

adult teams participated in Fridley Recreation sports programs through November

57

summer youth sports



70%

city wide voter turnout

### 6 new programs and groups

including Multi-Cultural Kids Network, Laser Tag in the Park, Zumba in the Park, Archery Obstacle Course, Ultimate Frisbee and Grass Volleyball tournament



Recreation produced the **20th year of ROCKS** which included **73** classes, **10** weekly themes, **11** field trips and **2** special events



## Developing the Community

In 2018, over 870 rental properties were successfully licensed. This included over 1,300 individual units that were inspected by the rental division since the beginning of the year, many of which required a second inspection.

Over 4,300 violations were identified and resolved within the interior and exterior of rental properties due to the great work of the rental inspections team paired with the 100 percent cooperation of owners. No court action was required to gain compliance on any of these violations.

In conjunction with the Police Department's Special Operations Unit and the Fire Marshall, the rental division is nearing completion of code revisions to Fridley City Code, Chapter 220 Residential Rental Property Maintenance and Licensing Code.

In the two-and-a-half years the Civic Campus project was in process, the Community Development Department and the Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) processed over \$250M in new development projects. Some of the projects included:

- John Allen's River Road Park of Commerce
- Fridley Civic Campus
- Pulte Patio Homes
- East train station site proposed by Sherman and Associates
- Watermark – Phase 2 senior assisted/memory care facility
- Final stage of Cielo Apartments and Northern Stacks
- Lennar townhomes 72-unit development

The building division processed many applications, reviewed plans and inspected locations for a great year of \$91M in new construction value. These developments continue to help make Fridley a safe, friendly and stable community for residents and businesses. With a variety of new commercial and residential spaces, we are able to attract more people to our beautiful city while accommodating our current residents by offering more housing types.

## Springbrook Nature Center has Another Great Year of Learning and Fun

The city received a \$150,000 match grant in 2018 from the Minnesota DNR to build an improved Pavilion Activity Center at Springbrook Nature Center. This activity center will include an open air picnic seating area, restrooms and an enclosed classroom space. The project is expected to begin in spring 2019.

The nature play area was completed in and has been a big hit over at the Nature Center. Visitor numbers have increased as families flock to the nature play space to splash in the water, make creative creations with sand and sticks, build forts and climb on the unique and fun play features!

Another new and inviting feature to the Nature Center is the outdoor amphitheater. The amphitheater was host to a concert series in the summer and Friday Night by Firelight sessions in the fall. Over 600 guests attended both programs at no cost to them. The free admission was made possible by the generous donation of the Nee Family and Magenic in honor of William Nee and Kay Bonner Nee.

Springbrook Nature Center day camps had 540 kids enrolled for fun-filled days of learning, action and adventure. The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation awarded 14 scholarships to campers in need of financial assistance.

The Nature Center also successfully celebrated another year of Pumpkin Night in the Park. There were over 1,300 carved pumpkins on display, costumed characters, and live entertainment. Over 3,000 people attended the event! Thank you to everyone who helped make Pumpkin Night a big success in 2018.

To top off all of the great upgrades and activities the Nature Center saw in 2018, Springbrook was also featured as one of Explore Minnesota's 10 fall hiking spots for the Springbrook's stunning forests, wetlands, prairie landscapes and incredible wildlife.



**17,054** total registered voters,  
including **1,081** Election Day registration



**32**  
new trees were planted  
by volunteers



**3,462**  
rental inspections were completed  
as of November

**101**  
election judges trained

Public Safety participated in  
**130** community  
events

**300+**  
smoke alarm batteries  
distributed to residents

**1,786,042**  
impressions on both Facebook and Twitter

**\$7,175** awarded from the MN Board of  
Firefighter Training & Education for  
the 2018-19 fiscal year



**6** paper shredding events here held  
resulting in **17.7** tons of paper being shredded



## Public Works Keeps City Clean and Safe

New in 2018, the Public Works staff developed a policy to flush and evaluate the condition of private (indicated by the red color) fire hydrants in Fridley. Utilities staff flushed and assessed 256 private hydrants in addition to more than 1,000 public hydrants. During the inspection of private hydrants, one hydrant was found inoperable, five needed minor repairs and one was not accessible. By identifying and resolving these issues, Public Works staff were able to increase the safety of these residents and their homes.

The fleet maintenance staff salvaged, packed, moved and stored/unpacked/set-up an estimated 90 tons of supplies and equipment in their new shop, with the assistance of Public Works staff. The new shop now provides shelter for vehicle maintenance and materials storing, leading to longer lifespans of the equipment and reducing costs.

In April, city crews responded to the largest April snow storm on record which resulted in staff members working 22 hours over two days to remove nearly 20 inches of snow that fell throughout the city.

Public Works and Community Development worked together to obtain grant funding for the 7th Street Trail project, 53rd Avenue improvements, Smart Salting Equipment, Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation and Electric Vehicle Evaluation. These collaboration efforts resulted in \$1,474,000 of grant funding to better the city.

## Leaving behind a Legacy: 2018 Retirees

The city of Fridley would like to thank our 2018 retirees for the work and dedication they have made to our city over their years of service. Congratulations on a job well done and a retirement well deserved.

- Jack Kirk, Director of Parks and Recreation, 40 years (*below left*)
- Connie Thompson, Senior Program Coordinator, 39 years (*below center*)
- Mary Smith, Assessor, 32 years
- Sue Johnson, Recreation Office Assistant, 32 years (*below right*)
- Curtis Pribula, Springbrook Nature Center Custodian, 5 years



## Police and Fire Connect with the Community

In 2018, our Police and Fire Departments merged into a more efficient and robust Public Safety Department. Combining leadership and talents eliminated duplicate services and allowed cost savings to be redistributed to areas of need – all while maintaining quality of service. Throughout the year, the Public Safety staff also interacted with the community through various events to provide safety resources.

- The HeartSafe initiative began on December 1, 2017, with the commitment to educate the community, make AEDs available throughout the city, and offer free public training on bystander CPR and AEDs. Training sessions were offered every month, at special events, and upon request.
- Public Safety staff also spread awareness about fire safety through this year's new event, Fridays with Fridley Fire. Held once a month throughout the summer, the public was invited to Fire Station 1 to meet firefighters, check out the trucks, ask questions and set up a home fire escape plan.



- Recreation and Springbrook Nature Center partnered with Public Safety employees to present another great year of Safety Camp! Firefighters and police officers traded in their uniforms for camp counselor gear to help create connections with our Fridley youth. Approximately 50 kids from third, fourth and fifth grade came out for a day-long adventure of learning and fun! Kids were able to learn about safety measures related to fire, seat belts, animals, bicycles, first aid and more.
- The Police Dunk Tank at this year's '49er Days Festival proved to be a popular spot once again! Kids and adults alike took their turn throwing at a target for the chance to dunk a cop. By the end of the day, people had taken more than 800 throws – many of which hit the bullseye. The dunk tank raised almost \$800 for the Fridley Police Association to fund community programming.
- Fridley's 2018 Night to Unite event took place on Tuesday, August 7. Public Safety staff visited block parties and trained over 500 residents on bystander CPR, and connected with them to answer any questions or just simply to get to know them better. It was another successful Night to Unite and we look forward to next year!
- Through a partnership with Fridley Public Schools, the Public Safety Department also began providing Tip411, an anonymous tip submission service, to all residents and visitors of Fridley to help make the community safer. It provides multiple ways for someone to submit their anonymous tip without recording any identifying information and allows for two-way communication. These services and outreach efforts, helped fulfill Fridley's mission to be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

**387,435**  
pageviews on the city website

**600+**  
people attended the Civic  
Campus Dedication & Tour day

Fire responded to  
**2,273** incidents as  
of November



Public Safety received over **\$10,000**  
from the BNSF Railway Foundation to purchase  
the Ranger 900 UTV which will bring water to enclosed  
undeveloped area fires (such as Springbrook Nature Center)



Police responded **21,859** calls for service  
and **9,123** traffic stops as of November



**6** recycling drop-off events  
that brought in 1,309 vehicles which equaled  
87 tons of recycled materials



## Smart Salting this Winter

Did you know one teaspoon of salt can permanently pollute five gallons of water—forever? Salt and de-icers contain chlorides, which can enter our waterways as snow and ice melt. Springbrook Creek is already listed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as vulnerable to chloride contamination, and other Fridley waterbodies are close behind. Chloride contamination can kill fish and plants as well as give a salty taste to drinking water. If you use salt during the winter, please follow these smart salting tips from our partners at the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO):

- 1) More salt does not equal faster melting — just more pollution and wasted money. Shoot for a 3-inch spread between salt granules. For \$10–\$20, a hand spreader can make the job easier and more accurate. To be more exact, try to apply no more than one pound per 250 square feet of pavement. (Tip: A regular-size coffee mug typically holds about 1 pound of salt.)
- 2) If you must apply salt or deicer, clear off any loose and/or compacted snow first. Apply the product on ice only; do not apply it on dry pavement. Temperatures often drop after a snowstorm, so double-check the label on your salt or deicer product to make sure it will work before you apply it (rock salt does not work below 15°F). You can use this table from the MWMO to check the lowest pavement temperature different deicers will work.
- 3) Sweep away any extra salt once the ice is gone to keep it from washing into the stormsewers.

Melting Agent	Lowest Melting Temp.	Things to Know
Urea	20°F	Promotes algae growth in waterways; over-application can harm plants; slow-acting; relatively pet safe
Sodium Chloride (NaCl)	15°F	Harmful to plants; harmful to concrete; very corrosive to metal, cheap and abundant
Magnesium Chloride (MgCl2)	-10°F	Harmful to plants, corrosive to metal, relatively high cost
Potassium Acetate (KAc)	-15°F	Can cause surface slickness; lowers oxygen levels in waterways; biodegradable, relatively high cost
Calcium Chloride (CaCl2)	-20°F	Corrosive to metal; leaves slimy residue; less harmful to concrete
Sand	No melting	Provides traction only; potential pollutant; can be swept up and re-used

## Annual Tree and Shrub Sale

The Anoka Conservation District (ACD) is now accepting orders for the annual tree and shrub sale! The trees are offered to help residents or businesses with soil and energy conservation planting, wildlife habitat plantings and native ecosystem restoration. The ACD promotes the restoration of native ecosystems by offering more native species and categorizing them based on their ecosystems.

Trees and shrubs are sold in a variety of categories:

- Coniferous trees
- Deciduous trees
- Native Prairie Seed
- Shrubs
- Tree aides
- Trees and shrubs for dry forest
- Trees and shrubs for moist forest
- Trees and shrubs for wetlands
- Trees and shrubs for windbreaks and wildlife



Trees and shrubs are sold in bundles of 10 for \$17 and 25 for \$30 bare-root seedlings and transplants.

### Trees and shrubs can be ordered in four ways:

1. Order and use the payment option online at [anokaswcd.org](http://anokaswcd.org).
2. Order online and mail a check to ACD within five business days.
3. Call ACD at 763-434-2030 to order and pay.
4. Print an order form from [anokaswcd.org](http://anokaswcd.org) and mail it along with your payment to ACD.

Tree orders will be accepted until the second Thursday in April, or until inventory is exhausted. If you are ordering after February, check the website for product availability. There will be no order cancellations after March 1.

## Sign up for Curbside Organics! New customers receive three months free!

Organics is a simple and easy way to make a difference in your community. The service is just \$10 per month and the average organics user is keeping 350 to 450 pounds of trash out of each year. That means a large amount of organic material is being kept out of the landfill and instead repurposed for future use. What a simple way to make a difference in the world!

Learn more and sign up at [FridleyMN.gov/organics](http://FridleyMN.gov/organics).

*\*Three months of free pick-up is for new customers only and will be applied to the second billing cycle.*



## Recycling Drop-off Days Return: Six Events in 2019!

Recycling drop-off days will return by popular demand. Fridley residents will have six opportunities for free and reduced recycling of items including electronics, appliances, mattresses and more. There is also free paper shredding at every event.

Drop-offs take place at Green Lights Recycling in Blaine at their second entrance. The new location, established in 2018, reduces wait time to approximately 15 minutes without requiring residents to get out of their vehicle.

Drop-off days are on Saturdays from 9 a.m. - noon:

- January 12
- March 9
- May 11
- July 13
- September 14
- November 9

## Join us for our First Recycling Drop-off for 2019

Saturday, January 12 • 9 a.m. to noon

**Green Lights Recycling**  
1525 99th Lane NE, Blaine

Residents can receive \$15 off, one free appliance and one free mattress. Residents just need to present proof of residency to receive the discounts and free drop-offs.

Recycle fluorescent lights, scrap metal, bicycles, TVs, printers and more! Learn more at [FridleyMN.gov/dropoff](http://FridleyMN.gov/dropoff).



## 2019: Year of Energy

### City of Fridley Approves Energy Action Plan to Reduce Energy Consumption 20% by 2030

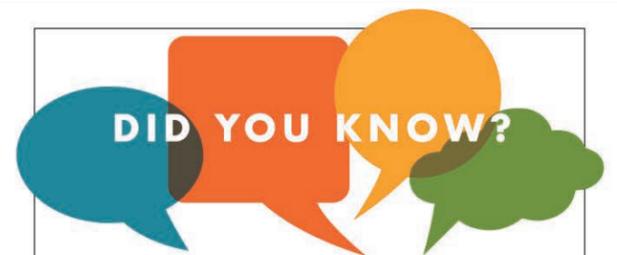
At the November 26 Council meeting, the Fridley City Council approved an Energy Action Plan which sets the goals of reducing energy consumption across the City by 5 percent by 2020 and 20 percent by 2030. This reduction in energy use is expected to save the community more than \$3 million citywide by 2020 and reduce greenhouse gas emission by 30 percent by 2030.

The plan was developed as part of Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy program, a two-year program designed to assist cities in setting and meeting their energy goals. Xcel Energy and the Center for Energy and Environment led the City's Energy Action Team, (comprised of Fridley staff, residents, businesses, and institutions) as well as representatives from Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy through a series of five workshops to create the energy plan. Xcel Energy and Center for Energy and Environment will now partner with the city for 18 months to assist with

implementation of the plan, with focuses on residential, commercial and institutional uses as well as electric vehicles.

The average Fridley resident spends \$771 per year on electricity and \$677 on gas per year. By reducing your energy use through easy changes such as turning down your thermostat at night or installing LED lights, you are leaving more money in your pocket and reducing your energy footprint. It is a win-win!

**Not sure where to start?** One of the easiest ways for you to reduce your energy bill is to schedule a Home Energy Squad enhanced visit for a customized energy analysis and free upgrades. They will install energy-saving materials, perform tests to evaluate insulation and air leaks, recommend upgrades and more – all for just \$50! Visit [FridleyMN.gov/Energy](http://FridleyMN.gov/Energy) to schedule a visit today.



The Public Safety and City Hall building is 32 percent more energy efficient than the average building of a similar design.

The Fridley Public Works building is 43 percent more energy efficient than the average building of a similar design.



### Save on Energy (and cost!) this Winter: Check out these tips

During the winter, we tend to use more energy to keep us and our homes warm while we are losing energy due to the cold weather. Below are a few tips to save energy and money – all while keeping your home comfortable during the cool months.

- **Adjust the temperature**, when you are asleep or out of the house, turn your thermostat back 10-15° for eight hours and save around 10 percent a year on your energy bill. A smart or programmable thermostat can make it even easier to adjust your temperature
- **Turn the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting** (120 degrees F) and save six percent a year on your energy bill compared to the default setting (140 degrees F).
- **Cover drafty windows:** use window treatments such as a heavy, clear plastic sheet or tape clear plastic film to the inside of your window frame. You can also schedule a Home Energy Squad Visit which includes installation of weather stripping, an inspection of your insulation, and analysis for leaks among other items – all for just \$50! Visit [FridleyMN.gov/HomeImprovements](http://FridleyMN.gov/HomeImprovements).

### DIY Home Efficiency from CenterPoint Energy: Free tips and products!

Fridley residents can receive free and reduced pricing on items to improve your home's energy efficiency through Center Point Energy. Any products can be ordered online with your CenterPoint Energy account number at [CenterPointEnergy.com](http://CenterPointEnergy.com) under Save Energy & Money and DIY Home Efficiency.

Free items include:

- Wide showerheads
- Multi-function showerheads
- Bath aerators

- Swivel kitchen aerators
- Weather-stripping
- Interior storm window kits
- Hot water temperature gauge
- Outlet and switch plate gasket covers
- Pipe wrap
- Rope caulk

Reduced-price items include:

- Handheld showerheads
- Thermostats (Nest, ecobee, 4, Honeywell Vision Pro, Lux Pro 5-2)

### Submit Your Photos of Fridley!

We're looking for photos of Fridley history and their corresponding stories! Submit your photos from events, historical moments and more that took place in Fridley. If you are able, we ask that you also include some background information or story related to the photo.

We will be using the photos in a rotating display in City Hall, in the newsletter, online and more to help residents get to know Fridley a little bit better!

We are looking for high-resolution photos to be used for various projects and promotions. Please visit [FridleyMN.gov/Photos](http://FridleyMN.gov/Photos) to send in your submissions.



# Utility Billing Changes – What Residents Need to Know

As a resident of the City of Fridley, you receive a quarterly utility bill that combines four key services: water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer and recycling.

The changes in your bill from one quarter to the next can sometimes be a bit difficult to understand. Some changes are due to the time of year as seasonal consumptions can vary significantly. For example, during the warmer months you have extra water usage to maintain your lawn or fill a pool. Other changes are due to a fixed or variable rate change determined by the city. In addition, charges like sanitary sewer for residential and small multi-family are calculated once a year and carried forward for the next three quarters.

## Utility Rate Study

In 2017, the city underwent an in-depth utility rate study for the sanitary sewer and water utility funds. The study's intention was to stabilize rate increases from year to year and ensure equitability among customer classifications. A team of independent analysts reviewed Fridley's consumption trends, usage by customer types, future infrastructure needs and current rate structure.

According to the Annual Utility Rate Survey, the city ranked 17th out of 30 participating municipalities (see bar graph).



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Based on the finding and recommendations from the utility study, 2019 rates, volume usage and customer classifications (resident, multi-family, commercial, etc.) are continuing to better align with consumption trends. Rates are designed to change gradually whenever possible. However, as lower consumption becomes a trend among residents, it may become necessary to charge higher rates for the same level of service to offset operating expenses.

## Utility Rate Change

The volume rates will increase 3 percent and 6 percent, and quarterly fixed charges will increase \$2.00 per quarter and \$5.00 per quarter, depending upon customer classification and volume usage.

## Let's Talk #2

To maintain the viability of the Sanitary Sewer Utility Fund and limit the need for future borrowing, sanitary sewer volume rates will increase by 4.4 percent. Residential and multi-family will see no increase in their fixed charge. Large multi-family and commercial/industrial will see a \$1 increase in fixed charges. Metropolitan council fees to divert sewage make up over 80 percent of our operating expenses. They have increased their rate to the City of Fridley by 9.24 percent for 2019, which partially attributes to the increase for residents.

Based on the anticipated expenditures, and the desire to maintain the self-sufficiency of the Storm Water Utility Fund, the Storm Water Utility Fee will increase by 3.5 percent (or \$0.32 per residential lot).

## What does this mean to your utility bill?

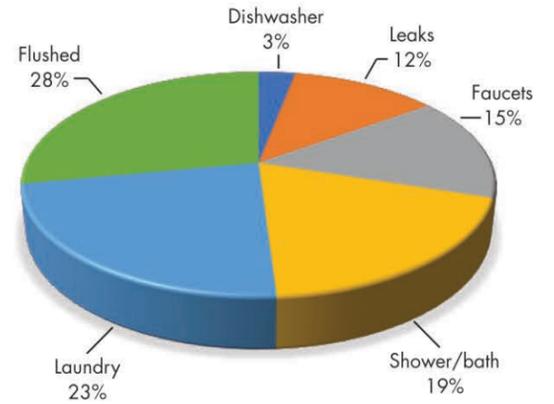
	Residential		\$Inc	%Inc
	2018	2019		
<b>Med User - Gallons Used</b>	12,000			
<b>Water</b>				
Base	\$ 18.00	\$ 20.00		
Usage	\$ 28.35	\$ 29.24		
Total Water Portion	\$ 46.35	\$ 49.24	\$ 2.89	
<b>Sanitary Sewer</b>				
Base	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		
Usage	\$ 22.80	\$ 23.80		
Total Sewer Portion	\$ 72.80	\$ 73.80	\$ 1.00	
<b>Storm Water</b>	\$ 9.24	\$ 9.56	\$ .32	
<b>Recycling</b>	\$ 8.20	\$ 9.02	\$ .82	
<b>Total Utility Bill</b>	\$ 136.56	\$ 141.59	\$ 5.03	3.68%

Average residential quarterly utility bill

The total impact of these proposed changes will result in an increase of \$5.03/quarter or 5.6 cents/day to an average residential customer using 12,000 gallons of water.

## Typical Household Water Use and Ways to Reduce Water Consumption

According to the American Water Works Association (AWWA), about half of household water use is for flushing and laundry.



The pie chart above illustrates average household water consumption. Some easy ways to reduce water consumption include:

- Turn off the water while washing dishes by hand
- Run the clothes washer only when full or upgrade to a high efficiency washing machine
- Use a water-efficient shower head (saves 750 gallons a month)
- Shorten shower time (1 to 2 minutes shorter saves 25 gallons a month)
- Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models

## Conclusion

Nobody likes rate increases, but they are sometimes a necessity. The City believes in a Fridley that is safe, friendly, and vibrant and provides stable homes for families and businesses. Residents should always be assured of the best quality of services at the best value and ensure the future of these community assets. If you have any questions on your Fridley utility bill, you can reach us at 763-573-3529.

Please consider enrolling in our automatic payment plan. Use the form below to enroll.

## Attention Utility Customers!

Did you know... You can have your City of Fridley utility bill paid automatically with our free Direct Payment Program!

- Save money (no stamps, no processing fees)
- Save time (no checks to write)
- No late fees, no worries!

**Direct Payment** is a free service and enrollment is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Simply complete the form to the right.
2. Attach a voided check or savings withdrawal slip.
3. Return it to us with your current City of Fridley utility payment or mail anytime.

Once you are enrolled, your utility bill will state \*\*\* Bank Draft\*\*\*. It's that simple!

Bills are paid automatically from your checking or savings account on the due date. You can withdraw anytime by contacting us at least 10 days prior to your due date.



## Utility Bill Direct Payment Program Form

Mail completed forms to:

City of Fridley, Attn: Utility Billing  
7071 University Ave NE, Fridley MN 55432

Questions? Call us! 763-572-3529

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  Checking  Savings

By signing below I am authorizing the City of Fridley Utility Department to automatically withdraw my utility payment from my checking / savings account.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Attach voided check or savings withdrawal slip here.

## Springbrook Spree Fundraiser at Springbrook Nature Center

The annual Springbrook Spree fundraiser is scheduled for March 2 at 5 p.m. in the Springbrook Nature Center's Interpretive Center! Come and enjoy good food and enjoyable conversation. The theme this year is Nature's Garden. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased at the Nature Center, from any Board Member or online at [SpringbrookFoundation.org/tickets](http://SpringbrookFoundation.org/tickets). The evening includes a buffet dinner, various activities, the chance to meet with local politicians and support the Nature Center.

Featured this year are live and silent auctions, the hugely popular Mystery Wine Cabinet, and the

Mystery Nature's Garden. The live auction, including the popular Restaurant Run, is boisterous and fun, and includes higher value items. The larger silent auction is where people can browse the auction items and enter their bids on a sheet near the item.

Enjoy the Nature Center exhibits, bring friends and enjoy the evening together!

Springbrook Spree is the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation's annual fundraiser. Money raised at each Spree directly benefits the Springbrook Nature Center programs and facilities.



## Lace up your skates!

It's officially winter in Fridley! Lace up your skates and visit one of the many rinks in the city.

Ten consecutive days of freezing temps are needed in order to create and maintain safe and usable ice – a 3-4 inch even layer. Warm weather, freezing rain and even snow can slow the process, but we make every effort to keep the rinks open.

Hours are weekdays 4 - 9 p.m.; weekends, and school-out days 12 - 9 p.m.

**Cold Weather Guidelines.** As a general guideline, we suggest cancelling outdoor activities if temperatures

fall below 10 degrees Fahrenheit or there is a wind chill of -25 degrees.

**Sledding Hill and Warming House.** If you're looking for a great place to bring the sleds – try out Commons Park! The sledding hill is located just beyond the playground and picnic shelter. You can also utilize the Commons Warming House which provides concessions, foosball, music, video games and family fun!

Location	General	Hockey
Briardale Park: 6171 Rice Creek Dr.	✘	
Commons Park: 555 - 61st Avenue NE		✘
Flanery Park: 1487 Onondaga Street		✘
Hackmann Park: 1071 Hackmann Circle	✘	
Hayes Elementary: 615 Mississippi Street	✘	✘
Logan Park: 155 Logan Parkway	✘	
Madsen Park: 7358 - 73rd Avenue	✘	✘
Ruth Circle Park: 9160 Ashton Avenue	✘	
Springbrook Park: 8155 Broad Ave NE	✘	
Sylvan Hills: 6205 Jupiter Dr	✘	

## Fridley Historical Society: Winter Events

Head over to the Fridley History Center to view exhibits, participate in a trivia contest, play bingo and join in on a potluck!

### Exhibits

In case you missed the Grand Opening of the Fridley Police and Firefighters Exhibit, don't fret! It is a permanent exhibit, and have two opportunities in both January and February to view the exhibit. The History Center will be open from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturday of each month.

### Trivia Contest

Test your knowledge! On Saturday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m., there will be a trivia contest at the Fridley History Center. Please call 763-571-0120 for additional information.

### Valentine Potluck and Bingo

On Monday, February 11, at 6 p.m. the Fridley Historical Society welcomes everyone to their Valentine Potluck and Bingo event at the Fridley History Center. There is always a lot of food and prizes, and it is a ton of fun, too!



## Fridley Community Calendar

### January

- 3 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 7 City Council Meeting
- 7 Charter Commission Meeting
- 7 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- 8 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 21 City Offices closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 28 City Council Meeting

### February

- 4 Charter Commission Meeting
- 4 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- 6 Appeals Commission Meeting
- 7 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 11 City Council Meeting
- 12 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 20 Planning Commission Meeting
- 25 City Council Meeting

**NOTE:** City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Civic Center, 7071 University Avenue NE. The public is welcome.

Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids and would like to attend a meeting, should contact Roberta Collins at 763-572-3500 at least one week in advance.

## DISCOVERY DINNERS – The Perfect Night Out.

Springbrook Discovery Dinners pair lively educational programs with a catered meal for the perfect night out. Leave the kids at home and enjoy the night with friends or with someone special.

Registration is required and space is limited. For more details or to sign up, visit our website or call Springbrook at 763-572-3588.

### Minnesota StarWatch Party

Saturday, January 12, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

with Mike Lynch, Meteorologist/Broadcaster at WCCO Radio

\$25 per person

Registration ends Tuesday, January 8 at 5 p.m.

### Electric Vehicles in Minnesota

Saturday, February 9, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

with Jukka Kukkonen, PlugIn Connect - an Electric Vehicle market and business solutions developer

\$25 per person

Registration ends Tuesday, February 5 at 5 p.m.

### Reinventing Minnesota's Bell Museum

Saturday, March 23, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

with Denise Young, Ed.D., Executive Director of the Bell Museum, University of Minnesota

\$25 per person

Registration ends Tuesday, March 19 at 5 p.m.

## Interested in volunteering?

As we launch new ways to celebrate neighborhoods, create better community connections and more, we are looking for volunteers to join the fun! From park maintenance to '49er Day Festival coordination, there is something for everyone!

Fill out an online interest form at [FridleyMN.gov/Volunteer](http://FridleyMN.gov/Volunteer) to let us know if you're interested in giving back to your community!