



# Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Parks and Recreation  
Brochure Enclosed

SEPT/OCT 2019  
NO. 220

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

7071 University Avenue NE  
Fridley, MN 55432  
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FridleyMN.gov  
email: info@FridleyMN.gov

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!

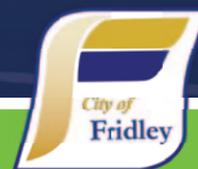
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- Sign up for email notifications on FridleyMN.gov

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## Save the Date



# Timberwolves Court Unveiling



## Timberwolves Court Unveiling on September 19

Now that we've won our new basketball court - courtesy of the Minnesota Timberwolves and U.S. Bank - it is time to break it in! Mark your calendars for the unveiling party on Thursday, September 19, 2019, from 4-5 p.m. at Fridley's Madsen Park (735 73rd Avenue).

This event will include special remarks from Timberwolves and City of Fridley officials, snacks, drinks, music, games, giveaways and a free 30-minute Timberwolves basketball skills session for kids ages 8-14.

The first 50 kids to register for the session will receive a free t-shirt and water bottle. You can register for the skills session online at <https://bit.ly/2P23tke> or by calling Fridley Recreation at 763-572-3570.

Thank you again to everyone who voted for Madsen Park and supported the competition! Remember, this event is open to the public – everyone and all ages! We look forward to seeing you on September 19 at Madsen Park to celebrate our new basketball court.



springbrook  
autumn sampler

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14  
FROM 5:30-8 P.M.

## Enjoy an Evening of Tastings while Supporting Springbrook Nature Center

Join us for the third annual Springbrook Autumn Sampler! This event will help raise funds for the Pavilion Activity Center at Springbrook Nature Center.

Your ticket includes live music, great food from local vendors, delicious wine and beer samples, door prizes, and a silent auction. Bring your friends to this ages 21+ event and enjoy the beautifully remodeled Springbrook Nature Center and learn about the great wines and beers available at Fridley Liquor.

### TICKETS

Purchase tickets *in person* at Fridley Liquor and Springbrook Nature Center or *online* at Eventbrite.com (Search 2019 Springbrook Autumn Sampler).





## Prairie in Progress— Please Pardon our Weeds

Visitors to the Civic Campus might notice some planted areas with a wilder look. These areas have been landscaped with native plant seeds in order to provide pollinator habitat, improve water quality, and to reduce erosion. Native plants grown from seed follow a three-year “sleep, creep, leap” process, in which they spend their energy the first year “sleeping” and developing a strong underground root system.

During this time, quick-growing, weedy vegetation seems more apparent. As the prairie plants become more established and begin to creep and leap, they will take over and shade out the weeds. With a little bit of time, we will soon see the native plants that were planted: black-eyed susan, wild bergamot, golden alexander, prairie blazing star, milkweed, asters, and many more. Come visit the Fridley Civic Campus to see what different plants have begun to take root, and take a look at a photo-based plant list available at the front desk!

## Park Feature: Briardale Park

Briardale Park is located at 6171 Rice Creek Drive and is a 2.8 acre neighborhood park with lighted tennis courts, a basketball court, a picnic area and playground equipment. A general skating rink is also provided during the winter months.

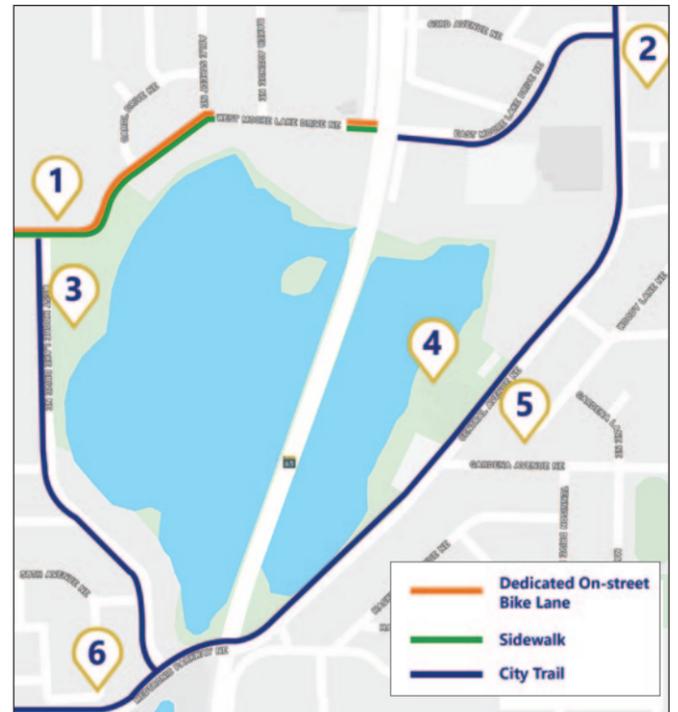


## West Moore Lake Trail Completed

The new West Moore Lake Trail is now complete and ready for walkers and bikers! This trail section completes the Moore Lake Loop, a 2.6-mile trail around Moore Lake, and provides a critical route to safely bike or walk to Fridley Middle School and Fridley High School. Get out and enjoy the beautiful fall weather along the loop and explore the connecting trails!

### Trail Features/Connections (see map)

1. Continue along 61st Avenue to Commons Park, the North Star Train Station and the Mississippi River Trail.
2. Travel north on the Central Avenue Trail 0.75 miles to the Rice Creek Regional Trail system, a winding trail through the woods through Locke County Park toward Long Lake Regional Park to the east or the Mississippi River Trail to the west.
3. Check out the West Moore Lake Sand Dunes, a remnant of the prairie and oak savannah that used to cover much of Anoka County. Trails through the dunes provide the opportunity to see many unique native plants and enjoy lake views.
4. Plan a picnic or fish at Moore Lake Park.
5. Head down Gardena Avenue 0.5 miles to visit the many walking trails at Innsbruck Nature Center or head south along Matterhorn Drive to visit Kordiak Regional Park.
6. Head west on the Medtronic Parkway Trail 0.5 miles to 7th Street.



to create a safer route between Fridley Middle School and Fridley High School. Cars dropping off students in the shoulder parking lanes were unpredictably entering and exiting traffic, creating unsafe conditions for pedestrians, bikers, and other vehicles.

Medians were installed, traffic lanes were narrowed and designated bike lanes were added. The number of east-west travel lanes has not been impacted. Anyone dropping off students should use the official drop-off locations designated by the schools. These improvements are part of the approved Safe Routes to Schools Plan to make Fridley a place where all students can walk and bicycle on routes that are safe, comfortable, and convenient.

### What else is new in the area?

In partnership with Fridley Public Schools and the Fridley Public Safety Department, Fridley Public Works has installed additional traffic calming measures along 61st Avenue/West Moore Lake Drive

## Commissions Help Advise City Decisions; Appeals Commission Update

Commissions are a great opportunity for residents to help advise the City Council on important aspects of the city. The City of Fridley has five commissions:

- **Charter Commission (four-year term):** Review the City Charter and make recommendations for amendments.
- **Planning Commission (three-year term):** Participate in continuous community planning and development of comprehensive goals and policies, and review of land use requests.
- **Environmental Quality and Energy Commission (three-year term):** Advise on a broad range of environmental policies and programs as well as the management of the City’s environmental resources.
- **Parks and Recreation Commission (three-year term):** Recommend actions for the development of park facilities and recreational activity programs, as well as provide direction in City goals and policies.
- **Housing and Redevelopment Authority (five-year term):** Implement housing rehabilitation programs and redevelopment projects that create new housing opportunities, and administer programs aimed at creating jobs and bringing businesses to undeveloped areas.

If you are interested in joining a commission, please check our website for current openings or contact Roberta Collins at 763-572-3500 for more information.

### Appeals Commission to Merge with Planning Commission

The City has determined that the Appeals Commission will dissolve, and its responsibilities will move to the Planning Commission. The purpose of dissolving the Appeals Commission relates to changes at the state level that have made it more difficult for a city to grant variances. As a result, the City is seeing less people applying for variances. Text amendments to code language have also led to fewer situations where variances are needed.

For example, common variance applications were for front yard setbacks to allow a front porch, living room or other additions. The City has since reduced the required setback for single family homes from 35 feet to 25 feet, which allows for many of these improvements to be built without requiring a variance.

The City wants to thank everyone who has served on the Appeals Commission over the years. Your service is very much appreciated! We hope you will continue to serve the City in other capacities.



## New Things in Town: Development Update



### Former City Hall

Demolition of the former City Hall, in preparation for the construction of the Ebenezer Senior Living development, has experienced some delay. The original demolition completion was set for July 19, 2019. However, the project is still planned to move ahead for demolition during the 2019 construction season. The developer is also working hard to begin construction of the foundation, including the underground parking, before winter.

### Fridley Train Station Village

The Fridley Train Station Village building permit applications have been submitted for the market rate building and senior building within the Transit Oriented Development (TOD). Site preparations began in August 2019. The market rate building will be four stories high with underground parking. There will be 95 units with a mix of studios, two bedrooms, and three bedrooms. To learn more about the units, please email [agoins@sherman-associates.com](mailto:agoins@sherman-associates.com).

### Lock Park Pointe

Construction for the Lennar Townhomes at Locke Park Pointe will begin soon. Representatives indicate they would like to get their models constructed during the 2019 building season. There will be 72 townhomes, with two styles: Carriage Urban Row (2.5-story) and Colonial Patriot (2-story). This development will be located south of the water feature at the new Civic Campus and will have trails connected in with the park and campus for active living. For people potentially interested in living in the community, please call 952-373-0485 or email [lennarminnesota@lennar.com](mailto:lennarminnesota@lennar.com).



### Northern Stacks Forgotten Star Brewery (Opening Fall 2019)

Fridley's first brewery, Forgotten Star, will occupy what was once the boiler room of the Northern Pump/FMC/BAE's Building on East River Road. The name of the brewery relates to the fact that the previous facility onsite was awarded the prestigious Battle E Award given during war time for outstanding contribution to the war.

According to the U.S. Navy, the Battle "E" Effectiveness Award recognizes sustained superior performance in an operational environment and sustained continuous readiness throughout the Fleet Response Training Plan (FRTP). It should be recognized that the Battle Effectiveness Award is not a qualification award or an award for mere excellence, but an award for being the best ship in the organization.

The original facility was given the prestigious award six times, even though it was not a ship. In honor of the awards, an "E" and stars were painted on one of the exhaust stacks for the original boilers of the facility. The stars were painted to show the number of times the award was won. However, they painted only five stars instead of six. There was one star missing – hence, "Forgotten Star."

## What is the Capital Improvement Program (CIP)?

The Capital Investment Program (CIP) is a plan that details the budget allocations for Fridley's capital projects over the next five years. A capital project is typically a one-time expense over \$10,000, and usually the acquisition, study, design and construction of an infrastructure project. It may also include the purchase of equipment, such as dump trucks, information technology systems and playground equipment. Projects are categorized in one of nine sections: building, streets, parks, information technology, capital equipment, water utility, sanitary sewer utility, stormwater utility and municipal liquor. Examples of past projects include the revamped Springbrook Interpretive Center and the University Avenue/Highway 65 Corridor Study.

Each year, City departments make a request to the City Manager and City Council for possible capital projects to be included in the next CIP. The application includes a summary of the project and project needs, as well as an estimated cost of the project and the longevity of its usage. Each application is reviewed independently by the Finance Department, which includes a financial analysis and an eligibility determination. Funding for the project and ongoing costs (such as equipment maintenance or building utilities) are also determined during this part of the process. Some projects may be funded entirely

by the City or through a combination of sources such as federal/state assistance or grants.

After the Finance Department reviews the applications, staff present the proposed CIP to the City Council. The mayor and council members review the document, set priorities, suggest changes and provide feedback on individual projects. Assuming the City Council is in agreement, the CIP is then finalized and adopted in December. All capital improvement projects must be approved by council.

These capital projects go through a lengthy, in-depth process that involves a significant amount of review, consideration and design. Even after a capital project has been approved, the City and Council is actively working with the CIP plan as project considerations are updated or additional funding sources identified. The City takes a very deliberate and cautious approach when selecting these projects to ensure they will be an effective improvement or enhancement to the community.

### Interested in reviewing the CIP?

Review the current and past CIPs, as well as other financial documents, on the City of Fridley website at [FridleyMN.gov/CityFinancials](http://FridleyMN.gov/CityFinancials) or in-person at City Hall.



## Register for POLCO and Continually Help Improve Your Community

Our residents are the heart of our community, and we continually want your input to help us guide City services and initiatives!

One of the City's survey tools, POLCO, is specifically designed for Fridley residents. We encourage you to create an account so you can give feedback and be notified of all our surveys. You will be asked for your contact information and ZIP code to ensure you are receiving Fridley-specific input opportunities. After you have signed up, it is quick and easy to give feedback on all current and future surveys!

Visit [polco.us/groups/city/fridley-mn](http://polco.us/groups/city/fridley-mn) to create your account today.



## Year of Energy: Community Solar Gardens

*2019 is the year of energy. Each newsletter issue will include ideas to help you save money on your energy bill and reduce energy consumption. For this issue, we spoke with Natividad Seefeld, the president of the Park Plaza Cooperative.*

Shifting toward solar energy is an important strategy to reduce greenhouse gases and meet energy goals, but not every building is a good candidate for solar panels. Too much shade, lack of roof support, and other factors can make panels impractical or cost ineffective. A great alternative can be subscribing to a community solar garden, which allows you to support solar energy and potentially receive a discount on your energy bill.

Subscribing to a community solar garden allows you to act as an investor in an offsite solar garden. When the solar energy (and the associated renewable energy credit) from the garden is sold to Xcel Energy, you

receive your percentage of the profits. While each garden's contract is different, the amount you receive from the sale of the energy is usually greater than the cost to subscribe, resulting in a profit for you that is credited to your energy bill.

One neighborhood taking advantage of these savings and supporting solar energy is the Park Plaza Cooperative, a resident-owned manufactured home community. In partnership with Cooperative Energy Futures and North County Cooperative Foundation, over 20 Park Plaza residents have joined together to subscribe to a new 1357-kiloWatt garden in Sherburne County.

“Not only will it help families save money, we will help save our planet,” says Natividad Seefeld, president of the Park Plaza Co-operative. “The land we are set on does not leave room for a solar garden onsite nor is it safe to put panels on top of our homes. So being part of a solar garden that is on someone else's land and maintained by an outside entity seemed to make the most sense for our community.”

Other residents who are interested in subscribing to a community solar garden can learn more and find open gardens at [cleanenergyprojectbuilder.org](http://cleanenergyprojectbuilder.org). Since the renewable energy credit is sold to Xcel Energy, you cannot claim the credit toward offsetting emissions, however it plays an important part in shifting the grid to include more solar power. If you would like to claim the credit, consider an offsite program such as Xcel Energy's Windsource. Learn more at [XcelEnergy.com/Renewables](http://XcelEnergy.com/Renewables).

## Fall Clean-up: Street Sweeping and Hydrant Flushing

Our street sweepers will be heading out this fall to clean the roads. Due to the unpredictable tendencies of Midwest weather, we are not able to provide an exact date for street sweeping. Typically, our Public Works team cleans the streets in October, before the first snowfall.

Street sweeping is essential to remove debris buildup before the winter season arrives to avoid washing leaves and other materials into the City's stormwater system. We do this to reduce stormwater pollution and maintain the water quality of our lakes, creeks, and rivers. You can help keep pollutants out of the storm drain year-round by cleaning up your local storm drain through the Adopt-A-Drain program. Join over 4,000 other metro-area volunteers by signing up at [adopt-a-drain.org](http://adopt-a-drain.org)!

### Hydrant flushing

After we finish street sweeping, we move on to hydrant flushing in late October. Hydrant flushing occurs in the spring and fall, when the City flushes its water mains through the fire hydrants. This clears the water of small amounts of sediment like iron or manganese that settle over time, and it verifies that the hydrants are in good working order.

During the hydrant flushing, deposits from water lines may create yellowish-brownish water in homes near the flushing area. While this water is safe for drinking, it may discolor laundry. Run your water regularly to clear discoloration. If this persists for longer than two days, or for updated information, call our Public Works mainline at 763-572-3566.



## Reminders for Your Fall Yard Clean-up

Fall is in the air, the leaves are changing colors and soon, they will be dropping from the trees. Leaves that decompose in compost bins can turn into useful fertilizer, but leaves that enter our storm drains can cause flooding and pollution.

Please keep these tips in mind as you start your fall clean-up:

- Fridley residents can coordinate yard waste collection with their garbage hauler, drop off yard waste at Bunker Hills Compost Site or practice backyard composting.
- Yard waste can only be stored in bags or bundles outside through your next pick-up day.
- Leaves should be raked away from the street and sidewalk to keep them out of storm drains.
- Plan ahead for tree care – late winter (just before spring arrives) is the best time to prune trees for quick healing and to reduce disease.

### Bunker Hills Compost and Yard Waste Drop-off Site

13285 Hanson Blvd NW, Coon Rapids  
(763) 767-7964

Hours of Operation:

April - November, weather permitting

Monday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.\*

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday: Noon - 5 p.m.

\*or sunset, if earlier than 7 p.m.

December - March, weather permitting

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. only

## Reminder: 2019 School District Election is November 5

Three out of four school districts in Fridley will have an election this fall. There are no city, state or federal elections in Fridley in November.

Anoka County will be in charge of the election process and because school districts can consolidate their polling places, not all locations will be open.

To find more information and where to vote in the 2019 election, visit [FridleyMN.gov/1414](http://FridleyMN.gov/1414).



# Added Talent through Summer Interns at the City



**Michael Van Gorp**



**Zach Kramka**



**Matthew Mraz**



**Carl Lind**



**Brice Richter**

We have great seasonal staff that join us in summer to help with recreation activities, code enforcement, development projects and more. Interested in working or interning with the City? Find current openings and sign up for job opening alerts at [FridleyMN.gov/Jobs](http://FridleyMN.gov/Jobs). Here are our great summer interns from this year and their takeaways from their internships:

**Michael Van Gorp, Code Enforcement Intern**  
 School: Third year at University of Michigan  
 Area of Study: Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

**Responsibilities:** Michael researched and inspected all the commercial properties with special use permits for uses not typically allowed by City Code, such as outdoor storage. He determined compliance of stipulations included in the special use permits and what was needed to reach full compliance. He also aided our Neighborhood Preservation Specialist in residential inspections.

**What he liked about his internship:** The internship exposed Michael to many areas of local government. He now has experience with code enforcement, planning and the various legal matters that come with the area of work. He liked that every day was different and he was met with new challenges. Going forward, Michael will be able to use these skills for his future studies and work.

**Zach Kramka, Economic Development Intern**  
 School: Final semester of graduate school at Cleveland State University  
 Area of Study: Master of Public Administration

**Responsibilities:** This summer, Zach coordinated the City's business retention program, while also working on the University Avenue corridor fence project, among other tasks. Another highlight of the summer for Zach was his work on the City's successful Minnesota Investment Fund application. This program is administered through the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, and it helps provide incentives for a new business to relocate into our community.

**What he liked about his internship:** Zach was able to experience so many dimensions of local government and believes that will help him be even more prepared as he begins his career upon graduation. He also really enjoyed the employees he was able to work with and learned from.

**Matthew Mraz, Recreation Intern**  
 School: Graduated in May 2019 from University of Minnesota – Twin Cities  
 Area of Study: Business and Marketing Education

**Responsibilities:** Matt's responsibilities included weekly recreation operations such as supervising, programming and organizing summer events for all

age groups. He also managed the adult athletic leagues and supervised the recreation staff. Matt prepared a variety of written reports and promotional materials such as flyers, brochures and press releases. He also served as the main point of contact for scheduling recreation facilities.

**What he liked about his internship:** Matt enjoyed the balance of working with kids and adult programming, the program participants and the trust they put in him. His internship also gave him a variety of experiences that better prepared him for his future career.

**Carl Lind, Engineering Intern**  
 School: Third year at University of Minnesota - Twin Cities  
 Area of Study: Civil Engineering

**Responsibilities:** Carl assisted the engineering division with street and utility projects, daily operations and other tasks related to municipal public works. He also worked with Community Development on energy efficiency studies and raingarden implementation. This was his second summer with the city.

**What he liked about his internship:** Carl's internship with Fridley gave him ample opportunities to explore his major and public sector work. Even though this is his second summer as an Engineering Intern with the City, he still found himself learning new things every day. He also strengthened his communication skills by working with various departments and gained a new perspective on engineering.

**Brice Richter, Recreation Intern**  
 School: Graduated in December 2018 from University of Minnesota – Twin Cities  
 Area of Study: Recreation Administration and Leadership

**Responsibilities:** Brice assisted in supervising seasonal staff and children within the Fridley Summer ROCKS program. He also helped coordinate special events like '49er Days, Wet n' Wild, Nickel Jamboree and weekly field trips. Additionally, Brice coordinated with Fridley Public Schools on programming and created the foundation for a Fridley Adopt-a-Park program.

**What he liked about his internship:** Brice really enjoyed working alongside fellow professionals and in a positive work environment. It made his summer with the City fun and gave him plenty of opportunities to learn and grow. He also liked the responsibility of coordinating his own events such as Bantu Healing and Adopt-a-Park. Brice was given the chance to challenge himself and grow within his internship.

## Fridley Community Calendar

### September

- 2 City Offices Closed for Labor Day
- 3 Charter Commission Meeting
- 3 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- 5 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 9 City Council Meeting
- 10 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 18 Planning Commission Meeting
- 30 City Council Meeting

### October

- 3 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 7 Charter Commission Meeting
- 7 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- 8 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 14 City Council Meeting
- 16 Planning Commission Meeting
- 28 City Council Meeting

**NOTE:** City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Fridley Civic Campus, 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.

## Winter Parking in Effect November 1 – April 1

As we prepare for winter, remember that Fridley does not declare snow emergencies. From November 1 – April 1, it is a violation to park any vehicle on City streets between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

*It is a violation to stop, park, or leave a standing vehicle in such a manner as to impede the plowing or removal of snow, ice or waste from public streets or highways regardless of date or time.*

*Violators will be tagged and towed, and subject to storage charges.* *City Ordinance 506*

Note: Vehicles should stay off the street until the street is plowed curb to curb.

## Book Your Next Event Space

The City of Fridley has a variety of event space options for you to choose from – both indoors and out! Book a classroom, space for a business conference, family get together, birthday party and more.

- Fridley Civic Campus – Fireside Room
- Springbrook Nature Center – Classrooms/Meeting Rooms
- City of Fridley – Park Shelters

See the Recreation insert for more details or go online to [bit.ly/2YEMDFQ](http://bit.ly/2YEMDFQ).



## 5 Halloween Safety Tips

### 1. Look Both Ways

Use traffic signals and crosswalks and always cross streets at corners. Look both ways. Never dart out into the street, especially between parked cars.

### 2. Safety in Numbers

Children under 12 should not be out at night without adult supervision. Those older should stay in groups, and stick to familiar, well-lit areas. Never enter the home of someone you do not know. Carry a cell phone and call 9-1-1 immediately if you feel unsafe.

### 3. Candy Double Check

Even the obvious tips are important reminders: check all treats. Look for tampering and faded or torn wrappers. Also, only eat treats in original, unopened packaging. Throw away anything that is unwrapped.

### 4. Snuff-Out Your Candles

Never leave a burning candle unattended or placed near anything that might catch fire. Be sure to keep candles out of reach from children and pets. Use a candle snuffer to extinguish a candle. It is the safest way to prevent hot wax from splattering.

### 5. Light-Up the Night

If you are handing out candy, make sure you have a well-lit walking path for trick-or-treaters. If you are going out in search of candy, bring a flashlight or glow stick. This will light-up your path and make you more visible to drivers. Adding reflective tape to costumes is a great way to make you more visible and has a cool effect on your costume!



## Change Your Clocks and Change Your Batteries

It is almost time to “fall back” and change your clocks as daylight savings time ends. Fridley Public Safety also recommends that when you change your clocks, it is a great time to change the batteries on your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors as well. The National Fire Protection Association reports that everyone should switch out their smoke alarm batteries twice per year. Make it an easy-to-remember task by pairing it with updating your clocks.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, tasteless and invisible gas. Signs of CO poisoning include headache, nausea, fatigue, vomiting and disorientation. Cooking and heating units that burn fuel and are not properly ventilated or malfunction can be a source of CO in the home.

### What Your Need to Know

- Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed within 10 feet of each sleeping room or inside each sleeping room.
- Test alarm monthly.
- Follow the instructions on the package to properly install the CO alarm.
- If the battery is low, replace it.

### If the Alarm Sounds

- Make sure you and your family know the sound the CO alarm makes.

- The CO alarm will sound if CO is detected. It makes a different type of sound to indicate a low battery.
- If a CO alarm sounds and you feel ill, make sure everyone in the house gets to fresh air and call 9-1-1 immediately.

### Prevent CO Poisoning

- When warming a vehicle, move it out of the garage. Opening the garage door is not enough.
- Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not blocked by snow or anything else.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow buildup.
- A gas-powered generator should only be used outdoors and in a well-ventilated location away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Gas and charcoal grills can produce CO – only use them outside.
- Never use your oven or stove to heat your home.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional now, before the cold weather hits. Get yearly inspections.

For questions about fire safety and preventing CO poisoning, contact Fridley Fire division at 763-572-3613 or email [FridleyFire@FridleyMN.gov](mailto:FridleyFire@FridleyMN.gov).



## "I Count"-2020 Census

The 2020 Census is coming! The U.S. Constitution mandates everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. Every household will have the option of responding to the 2020 Census online, by mail, or by phone. The majority of addresses will receive their census invitation in the mail sometime between March 12-20, 2020. As a reminder, **completing the census is mandatory.**

Getting a complete count of Fridley's population is very important for a variety of reasons, including making sure Fridley receives appropriate levels of federal funding and has accurate government representation at the federal, state, and local levels. Roughly \$1,500 per person is allocated by the federal government to Minnesota – which is \$15,000 per person over the next decade. These federal funds are used for numerous projects and programs in our communities including emergency and disaster response, transportation and infrastructure planning,

nutrition and medical assistance, creation of jobs, and building of schools and hospitals. The data collected from the Census helps us all to make smart decisions for our communities. An inaccurate count in Fridley hinders services provided to our residents and businesses for decades to come. Please be sure to complete the census survey.

### Interested in helping promote the Census?

We need everyone's help getting a complete count in Fridley to ensure equal representation and federal funding for vital community programs. The City of Fridley has established a Complete Count Committee and is currently looking for residents and community leaders to join the committee. The group will meet over the next few months to develop and implement an outreach and engagement plan in order to increase awareness and participation in the 2020 Census.

If you have questions about the Census or are interested in joining the Complete Count Committee



in Fridley, reach out to Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist at 763-572-3579 or email her at [Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov](mailto:Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov).

### Get paid to help ensure a complete count in Fridley and the State of Minnesota!

The Census Bureau is also looking to fill jobs in the Twin Cities including office and field positions. These positions are great for college students, retirees, or anyone looking for temporary employment and flexible hours. Find more information at [2020census.gov/jobs](http://2020census.gov/jobs).

## October is Crime Prevention Month: Back to Basics to Prevent Credit Card Fraud

Credit card fraud continues to be an issue around the country and Fridley is no exception. We have seen in the news the issues with online scams, phone call con artists and gas pump skimmers. However, while we should remain aware of the tricks criminals use to gain access to our accounts, we cannot forget the basics of guarding our physical money. Avoid these common mistakes our detectives are seeing in reported crimes:

1. Do not store your wallet in the center console of your vehicle (or any identifying items—driver's license, passport, social security card, etc.—or valuables).
2. When shopping, keep your purse zipped/clasped shut and if you are using a cart, lock the purse strap in the seat belt. It only takes a moment of distraction for someone to grab your wallet or even your whole purse.
3. Theft in the workplace is a sad reality. Keep your purse/wallet secured when you are away from your desk (in a locked drawer, office, locker, etc.). Thieves can be members of the public coming in to your business or even coworkers.



4. Hiding your purse under the seat of your car is not fooling anyone. Thieves know that it is common practice, particularly in areas you would find it inconvenient to carry your purse around (ie. parks, sporting events, the gym, etc.). At the very least, lock them in your trunk prior to arriving at your destination. Otherwise, leave it at home and carry your money in your front pants pocket.
5. It may seem crazy to think, but thieves capitalize on the simple things we do to let our guard down like leaving the door unlocked. If you place your purse or wallet near the front door, on the kitchen counter or anywhere in plain site from an entry point to your home, you better keep your doors locked. We have had "burglary" reports that consisted of someone finding an unlocked patio door, reaching in and stealing a purse that was left on the kitchen table. The victim did not even know a crime had occurred until they started getting notifications of fraudulent purchases (which happened within minutes).

## Southern Anoka Cities Master Recycler Course

Do you have a knack for telling people that they are putting their recycling in the wrong bin? Or maybe people are always telling you that you are putting your recycling in the wrong bin? Settle the debate once and for all.

Join us for the 2nd Annual Southern Anoka Cities Master Recycler Course. Participants will get to attend a three-part class taught by recycling experts and attend free tours of area recycling and solid waste facilities. Go behind the scenes to find out how this recycling thing even works. Classes will be held September 12, 19, and 26 through Columbia Heights Adult Enrichment.

Sign up on the Columbia Heights Public Schools website under Community Education or by calling 763-572-3594.

## City Receives Grant for DWI Officer

The National Safety Council estimates the cost of alcohol-related crashes in Minnesota was nearly \$290 million in 2017. In the same year, 21 percent of serious injuries sustained in crashes and 31 percent of traffic crash fatalities were alcohol-related. The Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) has a mandate to promote the safety of those who use public roadways. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) provides federal funding to the OTS to design and implement public education and traffic law enforcement programs to fulfill this mandate. To address the ongoing issue of drunk driving, the OTS offers a program supporting full-time officers dedicated to DWI enforcement.

Fridley was awarded a federally financed grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to employ a full-time DWI officer. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS), Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) accepted proposals from law enforcement agencies from the top twenty counties with the most impaired-related deaths and serious injuries in Minnesota. Anoka County had the third highest rate of such incidents, falling under only Hennepin and Ramsey Counties. Fridley has seen a 17.1 percent increase in DWI incidents from 2017 to 2018.

The DWI officer will be used to increase driver and pedestrian safety on our roads by taking drunk/impaired drivers off the streets. This is part of a bigger picture initiative known as Toward Zero Deaths (TZD), which works to create a safe driving culture in Minnesota by supporting a goal of zero road fatalities.

## Fall Recycling Drop-off

Saturday, September 14 and November 9  
9 a.m. to noon

**Green Lights Recycling**

1525 99th Lane NE,  
Blaine



Reclaim your garage and that random drawer in the kitchen that is full of mystery cords! Residents can receive \$15 off, and recycle one appliance and one mattress for free at the drop-off events. Just provide proof of residency at the drop-off entrance.

Recycle fluorescent lights, scrap metal, bicycles, TVs, printers and more! Visit [FridleyMN.gov/dropoff](http://FridleyMN.gov/dropoff) to learn about accepted items and fees.



## Connecting with Our Community: 2019 Night to Unite

Fridley's 2019 Night to Unite event was Tuesday, August 6. Block party visits began around 6 p.m. with Public Safety employees, Council members, and other City staff visiting almost 100 registered block parties. Night to Unite is Minnesota's statewide celebration that strengthens neighborhood and community partnerships, particularly between residents and their local law enforcement. It is sponsored by the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association, AAA of Minnesota/Iowa and local law enforcement communities.

This year, we wanted to party with a purpose. Food insecurity affects a large amount of people in our community, which is why this year, block captains were encouraged to use their block parties as a food drive. Party hosts were given reusable grocery bags to collect food donations. In the days following

Night to Unite, party hosts brought the food they collected to the Fridley Civic Campus. In total, our community collected **2,370 pounds of food!** They were donated to the nonprofit Southern Anoka Communities Assistance (SACA). For more information about SACA, visit their website at [www.sacafoodshelf.org](http://www.sacafoodshelf.org).

We would like to thank some of our sponsors who helped make this event a great success. Fridley Lions Club made a financial contribution to the City's event, allowing us to provide supplies to block parties to enhance the fun of the night. As has become an annual tradition of giving, Bob's Produce generously donated a case of peaches to each block party. Thank you to all of our block party hosts who created such an amazing night for our community. We cannot wait for next year!



## Play (Pickle) ball!

The tennis courts at lower Commons Park have been resurfaced and now include pickleball court lines! As part of the Public Works maintenance schedule, a few of the tennis courts around the City are resurfaced each year. When the resurfacing occurs, the contractor adds in the pickleball lines while they restripe the tennis court singles and doubles lines.

Pickleball lines will be included during all future court resurfacings. This is a very cost-effective method by adding pickle ball courts to the existing tennis courts during the maintenance schedule.

Pickleball is becoming a popular sport among all ages, as it combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. It is played with a paddle and a plastic ball with holes, and can be played as doubles or singles.

## FRIDLEY HISTORY CENTER NEWS AND EVENTS

The Fridley Historical Society will be very busy in September and October as they finish up the new military exhibit that will be debuting later this year. They will also be setting up another decade exhibit this year that will be themed "I'll Be Home" for a 1940s Christmas.

They will also have open houses on September 14 and 28, and October 12 and 26 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

## Update: City Street Projects

### 2018 Street Rehabilitation Project (69th Avenue and Anoka Street):

This project received final approvals and was in the process of being awarded in August. Completion of this project will be mid-summer 2020.

### 2019 Street Rehabilitation Project (69th Avenue, University Avenue Service Road and 71st Avenue):

In order to provide the best outcomes for the project, the City will be pushing this project to 2020. Due to the Pulte and Lennar Developments and the Locke Park Water Treatment Plant being worked on this construction season, the City wanted to reduce the impact on neighboring residents by postponing the construction project. This will allow additional time to provide final details in construction plans that include additional sidewalks to the City's sidewalk network around City Hall. Construction will take place starting in April/May of 2020.

### 2020 Street Rehabilitation Project

The 2020 Street Rehabilitation Project will include roads in the Springbrook neighborhood that were originally constructed between the mid-1960s and 1970s. The project area is bounded by Ashton Avenue to the east, East River Road to the west, Ironton Street to the north and 79th Way to the south. The length of all segments included is approximately 1.9 miles. The work will include pavement resurfacing, concrete curb repairs, watermain replacement in select segments, aging fire hydrant replacement and miscellaneous utility maintenance.



Costs for this project will be paid using Minnesota State Aid System funding, utility enterprise funds and special assessments. The proposed improvements will be presented at an open house scheduled for September 17 at 6 p.m. at City Hall. Following the presentation, the project team will be available to answer questions and obtain resident input.

Please feel free to visit the project webpage at [FridleyMN.gov/Projects](http://FridleyMN.gov/Projects) or contact the City of Fridley Engineering Division at 763-572-3554 if you would like additional information.