



Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Parks and Recreation
Brochure Enclosed

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023
NO. 240

WE BELIEVE FRIDLEY WILL BE A SAFE, VIBRANT, FRIENDLY AND STABLE HOME FOR FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES.

7071 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432
phone: (763) 571-3450
FridleyMN.gov

email: info@FridleyMN.gov

Mayor – Scott Lund
Councilmember-at-Large – David Ostwald
Councilmember 1st Ward – Tom Tillberry
Councilmember 2nd Ward – Ryan Evanson
Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann Bolkcom
City Manager – Wally Wysopal

2023 Budget Summary

In an effort to promote transparency and citywide awareness, the 2023 budget summary is included in the newsletter for the first time. The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the 2023 budget information concerning the City of Fridley to interested citizens.

The budget is published in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Section 471.6965. This is not the complete budget.

Where can I view the full budget?

The complete City budget may be found online at FridleyMN.gov/CityFinancials or examined in-person at City Hall (7071 University Avenue NE).

The City Council approved this budget on December 12, 2022.

What Does the 2023 Budget and Levy Include?

- Year one of the Park System Improvement Plan - Learn more at FridleyMN.gov/ParkPlan.
- Inflationary Cost Pressures
- Existing Service Levels

BUDGETED GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

| | 2023 BUDGET | 2022 BUDGET |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| REVENUES: | | |
| Taxes | \$ 14,455,700 | \$ 14,166,300 |
| Licenses and Permits | 1,371,700 | 1,435,900 |
| Intergovernmental: | | |
| Federal | 895,000 | 680,000 |
| State-General (Local Government Aid) | 1,743,400 | 1,707,300 |
| State-Categorical | 4,308,000 | 2,536,100 |
| Other-Local | 11,000 | 9,500 |
| Charges for Services | 3,693,400 | 3,073,700 |
| Fines and Forfeits | 133,400 | 159,600 |
| Special Assessments | 993,300 | 605,900 |
| Interest on Investments | 339,200 | 196,500 |
| Gambling Tax | 60,000 | 35,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 71,800 | 76,700 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 28,075,900 | 24,682,500 |
| EXPENDITURES: | | |
| General Government | 4,512,700 | 4,185,300 |
| Public Safety | 11,926,200 | 11,283,300 |
| Streets and Highways (excluding construction) | 5,045,700 | 5,083,800 |
| Streets and Highways (construction) | 5,408,000 | 2,843,000 |
| Sanitation | 460,400 | 517,900 |
| Culture and Recreation | 1,613,100 | 1,519,600 |
| Capital Outlay | 8,126,000 | 1,726,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 112,000 | 402,300 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 37,204,100 | 27,561,200 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES | (9,128,200) | (2,878,700) |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES): | | |
| Sale of General Fixed Assets | 115,000 | 102,400 |
| OPERATING TRANSFERS IN | | |
| General Fund | 680,100 | 192,300 |
| CIP-Parks | - | 100,000 |
| Building Fund | - | 32,000 |
| Capital Equipment | 250,000 | 250,000 |
| OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT | | |
| CIP Streets | (106,600) | (103,800) |
| TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) | 803,500 | 572,900 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES | (8,324,700) | (2,305,800) |
| PROPERTY TAX LEVY REQUIREMENT | \$ 19,620,870 | \$ 17,392,070 |

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

| | WATER | SEWER | STORM WATER | LIQUOR | 2023 BUDGET | 2022 BUDGET |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Revenues | | | | | | |
| Sales | - | - | - | 7,138,700 | 7,138,700 | 7,068,700 |
| Operating Revenues | 4,544,900 | 6,613,000 | 1,909,300 | - | 13,067,200 | 12,660,900 |
| Total Gross Profit and Operating Revenues | 4,544,900 | 6,613,000 | 1,909,300 | 7,138,700 | 20,205,900 | 19,729,600 |
| Operating Expenses | | | | | | |
| Personnel Services | 871,800 | 481,500 | 631,100 | 732,500 | 2,716,900 | 2,668,600 |
| Supplies | 297,400 | 51,500 | 33,700 | 25,100 | 407,700 | 365,600 |
| Cost of Sales | - | - | - | 5,198,600 | 5,198,600 | 5,100,900 |
| Other Services & Charges | 2,189,300 | 6,222,900 | 1,484,600 | 717,400 | 10,614,200 | 9,624,400 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 3,358,500 | 6,755,900 | 2,149,400 | 6,673,600 | 18,937,400 | 17,759,500 |
| Operating Income (Loss) | 1,186,400 | (142,900) | (240,100) | 465,100 | 1,268,500 | 1,970,100 |
| Nonoperating Revenue (Exp) | | | | | | |
| Interest Income | 54,400 | 131,100 | 94,900 | 7,300 | 287,700 | 92,100 |
| Grant Proceeds | 614,500 | 550,000 | 180,000 | - | 1,344,500 | 1,000,000 |
| Capital Outlay | (1,291,000) | (883,000) | (471,000) | (110,000) | (2,755,000) | (2,395,000) |
| Debt Service | (1,210,200) | (43,400) | (32,600) | - | (1,286,200) | (1,281,700) |
| Total Nonoperating Rev (Exp) | (1,832,300) | (245,300) | (228,700) | (102,700) | (2,409,000) | (2,584,600) |
| Income (Loss) before Operating Transfers | (645,900) | (388,200) | (468,800) | 362,400 | (1,140,500) | (614,500) |
| Operating Transfers In (Out) | - | - | - | (338,500) | (338,500) | (338,500) |
| Net Income (Loss) | (645,900) | (388,200) | (468,800) | 23,900 | (1,479,000) | (953,000) |

Questions? Email Finance Director Joe Starks at Joe.Starks@FridleyMN.gov or call 763-572-3520.

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Development Update: New Things in Town

Axle Apartments

In November 2020, Roers Companies received approval from the City Council to construct a 261-unit, multi-family housing development on the former Holly Center property at 6530 University Avenue. The Axle Apartments opened at the end of April, and at that time, was 70-80 percent leased. They offer a variety of one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments, underground parking, a fitness center and community/game rooms. For more information, visit AxleApartments.com.



Willows Bend Senior Living

Doors opened at the Willow Bend Senior Living building (located at the former City Hall site at 6455 University Avenue) at the end of June. Willows Bend offers 136 independent living, assisted living and memory care apartments for adults 55+. For more information, visit WillowsBendSeniorLiving.com.

INDEPENDENT LIVING offers a maintenance-free lifestyle with access to assistance when needed.

ASSISTED LIVING helps residents get the assistance they need to live as independently as possible. A full array of homemaking and personal care services is available.

MEMORY CARE is a controlled-access neighborhood designed for individuals living with all forms of dementia. Ebenezer's Dimensions Program® is designed to ensure



memory care residents receive exceptional, compassionate care that meets them where they are.

Amenities

- Restaurant-style dining room
- Theater / Chapel
- Group gathering spaces
- Underground parking
- Fitness Center
- Salon
- Outdoor dining and sitting areas

Willows Bend Senior Living is developed by Ivy Properties and United Properties, and is managed by Ebenezer, an experienced provider of residential and health care environments since 1917.



FRIDLEY BY THE NUMBERS

58 percent
voter turnout

5.25 percent
increase in sales price of homes

More than **2,000** volunteer hours donated at Springbrook Nature Center

1,980 (and counting) building permits issued

1,569 online registrations for Parks & Recreation activities

30,000 visits to FridleyLiquor.com ecommerce site

Recodification Update

The Fridley City Code is a collection of ordinances, or local laws, adopted by the City Council. Coupled with the City Charter, it provides the foundation for nearly all municipal functions. In 2021, the City Council authorized the City Manager to begin a full review and update to the entire Code, a process known as recodification. The project is led by the City Manager's Office and facilitated by the City Clerk's Office. Staff from every department work together to review the Code to see what areas can be updated to improve accessibility and modernization.

The Council approved the first two titles of the Code in 2022. Staff and the Council are now reviewing approximately 20 chapters of the Code that will be organized together into Title 3: Health, Safety and Welfare. The title will include chapters on controlled substances, solid waste, dangerous weapons, fire prevention, animal control and others.

The City has created a page (FridleyMN.gov/Recodification) for the project where all supporting documents may be viewed. Any questions on the project may be directed to CityClerk@FridleyMN.gov.

Energy Efficiency Kits Available

Understand your home's energy usage and start saving energy with an Energy and Water Savings Kit! The kit includes an electricity usage monitor, an infrared thermal leak detector gun, free LED light bulbs and toilet leak detection tabs. You can use these tools to find drafts and leaks around fireplaces and windows, measure which appliances and devices are heavy electricity users, determine if toilet water leaks are present and replace any CFL and incandescent bulbs with LEDs. Kits can be checked out from City Hall for three weeks at a time. To reserve a kit, call 763-572-3594.



Energy Business Blitz

In August, City staff partnered with the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) to host an Energy Efficiency Business Blitz visit to many Fridley businesses. CEE's consultants visited more than 75 businesses across the city, providing managers and owners with free lighting consultations and connecting businesses with Xcel Energy lighting rebates.

Are you a business owner interested in a free lighting or HVAC assessment? Free energy assessments are available year-round with the Center for Energy and Environment. Visit mncee.org/sign-one-stop-efficiency-stop/ or call 612-244-2427 to learn more and sign up for a free consultation.

Are you associated with a non-profit? Did you know that your non-profit building can receive a free full-building energy efficiency review,



capital planning, and project implementation support through EnerChange? This program is funded through Xcel Energy, CenterPoint Energy and the Minnesota Department of Commerce to help the nonprofit community save money on energy. They have helped non-profits, including over 500 houses of worship, save a total of more than \$22 million on energy costs in the past 11 years. Learn more at EnerChange.org.

Fridley Community Calendar

January

- 2 City Offices Closed in Observance of New Year's
- 4 Planning Commission Meeting
- 5 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 9 City Council Meeting
- 9 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission Meeting
- 10 Charter Commission Meeting
- 16 City Offices closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 18 Planning Commission Meeting
- 23 City Council Meeting

February

- 2 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 6 Charter Commission Meeting
- 6 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
- 13 City Council Meeting
- 14 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission Meeting
- 15 Planning Commission Meeting
- 20 City Offices Closed for Presidents' Day
- 27 City Council Meeting

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

Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in any City of Fridley services, programs, or activities. Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons who require auxiliary aids should contact the City at 763-572-3450.

Springbrook Spree Fundraiser

Springbrook Nature Center Foundation is planning a fundraiser for spring 2023! Please watch for more details to come at SpringbrookFoundation.org.

\$5,000

awarded in summer camp scholarships from the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation



108 trees

added to the community forest through the City's annual tree sale



2,008

cubic yards of sweepings collected from streets

181,000

gallons of water saved through 54 water grants awarded to Fridley property owners for energy-efficient appliance upgrades



907

properties licensed

99 shelter rentals

across Commons Park, Flanery Park and Moore Lake picnic shelters

9

free outdoor concerts held at Springbrook and the Civic Campus throughout the summer



Fridley Fire responded to **2,685** calls and Fridley Police had **20,006** calls for service, including **6,141** traffic stops



* as of October, incidents only

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 be a bit confusing. Some changes are due to the time of year, as seasonal consumptions can vary significantly. For example, during the warmer months, you may 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 Changes

Based on the current revenue and expenditure projections, and to maintain an adequate balance of cash in each fund, there will be a modest three percent increase in the Water Utility Fund and the Sanitary Sewer Utility Fund. The Storm Sewer Utility Fund will have a 10 percent increase in 2023. While this may seem like a large increase, it is important to know that it equates to \$1.10/quarter for residential customers.

Recycling Fund: The City's Recycling Fund is used to cover the cost of the City's residential recycling program. Currently, the City has a contract with Republic Services, Inc. to provide city-wide curbside recycling. Recycling commodity pricing has rebounded so based on the City's variable price model; the City is excited to report that the rate has gone down for the second year in a row. This is a decrease of \$1.70 per dwelling unit per quarter for residential units of 12 users or less. **Residents can help continue to lower our recycling rate by only placing recyclables in the recycling cart. This helps the City avoid contamination charges and improves the value of our recyclables.**

What does this mean to your utility bill?

The total impact of these proposed changes will result in an increase of \$5.20 per quarter (2.44 percent) to a residential customer using 18,000 gallons of water a quarter. See Figure 1 which outlines the increase from 2022 to 2023 for an average residential quarterly utility bill.

How does Fridley compare with other cities?

As you can see in Figure 2, for Cities with a population between 20,001 and 50,000, the average increases are quite a bit higher than Fridley's for all utilities.

Fridley has been able to keep our rate increases to a minimum due to the City Council's decision to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds from the Federal Government to help pay for costly utility infrastructure projects. This decision helps our community threefold; first, by keeping utility rates stable for our residential and commercial customers; second by reducing the need for external debt issuances in the Utility funds; and third, by keeping the City's utilities safe and well maintained.

Typical Household Water Use and Ways to Reduce Water Consumption

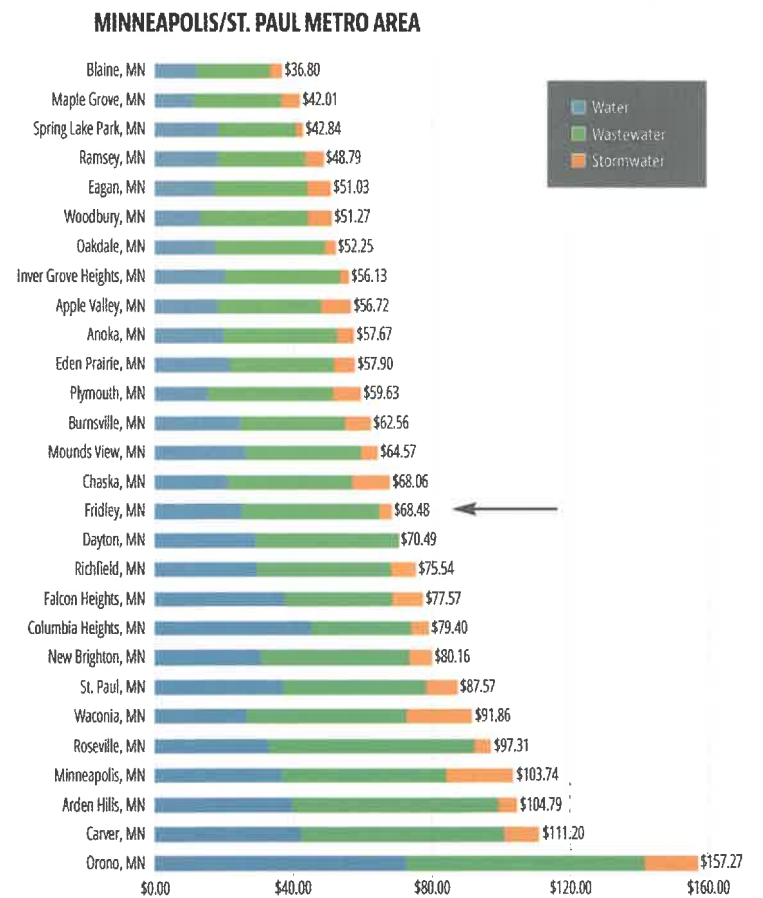
According to the American Water Works Association, about half of household water use is for flushing and laundry.

Some easy ways to reduce water consumption include:

- Turn off the water while washing dishes by hand.
- Run the clothes washer only when full
- Update to a water-efficient washer, toilet and/or irrigation system. Learn more about the City's water rebate program at FridleyMN.gov/WaterRebate.
- Shorten shower time (one to two minutes shorter saves approximately 25 gallons of water per month).

Nobody likes rate increases, but they are sometimes a necessity. The City believes in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home 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.

FIGURE 2



Please consider enrolling in our automatic payment plan to save time and not ever have to worry about late fees again. A cut-out form is included below.

FIGURE 1: Residential (18,000 Gallons Used)

| | 2022 | 2023 | \$ Change | % Change |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Water Utility | | | | |
| Fixed Charge | \$ 22.20 | \$ 22.90 | - | - |
| Usage | \$ 50.60 | \$ 52.10 | - | - |
| Subtotal | \$ 72.80 | \$ 75.00 | \$ 2.20 | 3.02% |
| Sanitary Sewer Utility | | | | |
| Fixed Charge | \$ 54.10 | \$ 55.70 | - | - |
| Usage | \$ 65.00 | \$ 67.00 | - | - |
| Subtotal | \$ 119.10 | \$ 122.70 | \$ 3.60 | 3.02% |
| Storm Water | | | | |
| Fixed Charge | \$ 11.10 | \$ 12.20 | \$ 1.10 | 9.91% |
| Recycling | | | | |
| Fixed Charge | \$ 10.20 | \$ 8.50 | (\$ 1.70) | -16.67% |
| Total Utility Bill | \$ 213.20 | \$ 218.40 | \$ 5.20 | 2.44% |

Sign up to pay your utility bill automatically with our free Auto Pay program

- Save money (no stamps, no processing fees)
- Save time (no checks to write)
- No late fees, no worries!
- Residential renters are not eligible.

Auto Pay is a free service and enrollment is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Simply complete the form below.
2. Attach a voided check. (Deposit slips are not acceptable).
3. Return this form and voided check to the address listed below. Once you are enrolled, your utility bill will state *** Bank Draft***. It's that simple!

Bills are paid automatically from your checking account on the due date. Our **Auto Pay** program is a free service and you can unenroll anytime by contacting us at least 10 days prior to your due date.

Questions? Call us! 763-572-3529

Mail completed forms to:

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

Account Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Utility Account #: _____
 Daytime phone#: _____
 Financial Institution: _____ Checking

By signing below, I am authorizing the City of Fridley Utility Billing Department to automatically withdraw my utility payments from my checking account.

Signature _____ Date _____



Fridley HRA 2023 Home Programs

Applications open in January for 2023 Fridley Front Door Grants and Senior Deferred Loan programs.

Loans: Apply at MNcee.org/Fridley or call 612-335-5884

Senior Deferred Loans are available on a first-come, first-served basis to homeowners age 55+ making permanent improvements to their properties. No interest is charged, but the deferred loan is due in full when the borrower sells, transfers ownership or no longer occupies the property as the borrower's primary residence. Loans range from \$500 to \$25,000.

Low-Interest Loans are available year-round at a two percent fixed rate for the term of the loan.

Loans are available for owner occupied, one- or two-family homes in Fridley where permanent property improvements will be made. Loan amounts range from \$1,000 to \$50,000.

Rental Property Exterior Loans are available for 1-12 unit properties where improvements are needed to correct code violations or make interior and exterior structure improvements. Loans of up to \$50,000 are available.

Grants: Apply at FridleyMN.gov/HomePrograms

Front Door Grant applications are due March 6. Grants provide reimbursement for a portion of the project cost for homeowners who improve the "curb appeal" of their properties, and as a result, beautify the entire community. To be eligible, projects must include at least \$4,000 of work from a list of eligible beautification projects. (Additional "basic" projects may be included in the grant, once the beautification minimum has been met). Beautification projects are reimbursed at 25 percent of the project cost, while basic projects are reimbursed at 15 percent of the project cost. The maximum grant amount is \$5,000.

• **NEW FOR 2023:**

Grant applications will be prioritized based on the 'readiness' of the project. Applications can include bids (or price lists and an implementation timeline, for DIY projects), or verification of a property consultation, for a greater likelihood of being selected for funding. Applications within each prioritization 'point' tier will be selected by lottery.

Applicants who have previously received a Front Door Grant will be eligible for funding, but will be considered **after** all new-recipient applications are reviewed. Applicants who are not selected for funding during an initial round of applications will be placed on a waiting list. Projects should be completed within six months

of receiving a signed Participation Agreement. Apply at FridleyMN.gov/HomePrograms. **DO NOT begin your project before receiving a signed Participation Agreement from HRA staff.**

Insulation Rebate matches utility insulation rebates from CenterPoint Energy or Xcel Energy, up to \$500. The rebate is for projects completed after January 1, 2022. All applicants must have had a Home Energy Squad visit occurring after January 1, 2019, to qualify. Apply at FridleyMN.gov/HomePrograms.

Water Rebate For a limited time, Fridley residents and businesses can qualify for rebates of up to 75 percent off the cost of water efficient appliances and irrigation system components. The product must have been purchased after July 1, 2022, to qualify. Rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Apply at FridleyMN.gov/WaterRebate.

Available in April: Paint Rebate

This program was developed to eliminate blight and improve the appearance of neighborhoods. The rebate covers exterior paint and supplies for low- and moderate-income families. The maximum rebate is \$500 for single family properties. Work should be completed within four months of applying for funding. Applications will open in April.

Energy Assistance Applications Open

Financial assistance for energy and utility bills are available for income-qualified Fridley residents through the Minnesota Department of Commerce's Energy Assistance Program. Both renters and homeowners are eligible to apply. All approved households can also be referred to weatherization services for no-cost improvements including insulation, air sealing, and furnace tune-ups. Visit ACCAP.org/energy-assistance to learn more.

Homeowner Programs Open House Wednesday, February 8

Join fellow Fridley homeowners at an open house on Wednesday, February 8, from 5-7 p.m., to learn about available resources.

Featured open house topics include:

- **Fridley Front Door Grants:** Learn how to receive up to \$5,000 towards the cost of eligible exterior beautification projects and other eligible property improvements. Applications are due March 6!
- **Fridley Paint Rebate:** Discuss how to get up to \$500 for exterior repainting of a single-family home (and up to \$1,400 for 4-unit properties), for income-qualified owner-occupants.
- **Fridley Insulation Rebate:** Find out how to double your utility-provider rebate, up to \$500, for qualifying insulation projects.
- **Low-interest Home Improvement Loans:** Pay just 2 percent interest to finance improvements to owner-occupied homes, mobile homes, and rental properties with 12 or fewer units.
- **Home Energy Squad Services:** A \$50 investment in your home could save you hundreds of dollars. Learn how to schedule a site visit for installation of energy saving materials and recommendations for cost-effective energy upgrades. A home visit also qualifies you for utility rebates and access to specialized energy financing.
- **FREE LED Lightbulb Kits** for all attendees.
- **Public Safety Resources** from Fridley Police & Fire Departments.

The open house will be held at Fridley City Hall (7071 University Avenue NE). Attendees are welcome to come to the event any time from 5-7 p.m. There will be no formal presentations given.

More information about programs can be found at FridleyMN.gov/HomePrograms.



Police Work Spans Calls, Community Events and Connections in 2022

The Fridley Police Division is made up of officers with diverse backgrounds and specialized trainings with the common goal to serve the Fridley community, build relationships with residents, and keep our city safe. As we kick off the new year, we are happy to share that the Police Division is fully staffed. This helps improve our emergency response, solve cases effectively and efficiently, and keep our residents safe.

In 2022, our officers were busy solving cases, responding to 20,066 calls for service (as of October, incidents only), and participating in ongoing training and professional development efforts. In the spring, Lieutenant Kevin Titus attended the FBI National Academy for ten-weeks during which he obtained excellent training and networking opportunities from law enforcement officers around the globe. Additionally, Fridley Public Safety was the only suburban department to assign a detective to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Violent Offender WorkGroup this summer. Involvements such as these help to equip our department to better serve our community. We are looking forward to continuing our efforts to keep our community safe in 2023.

In addition to responding to calls and solving cases, our officers partnered with various organizations to give back to the community in 2022:

- We raised approximately \$3,500 for Special Olympics Minnesota by participating in two annual events. In February, four of our officers raised nearly \$2,500 by jumping into Crooked Lake during the Polar Plunge. Later in the year, two officers spent the morning at Dunkin' Donuts during the "Cop on a Rooftop" event where they raised more than \$1,000.

- In partnership with Allina Health, Officer Norgaard secured a \$5,000 donation to purchase updated "Go Bags" for each of our squad cars. These bags typically contain tourniquets, bleed control supplies, and other items to aid an officer's emergency response. "As both an officer and a paramedic, I know how important it is to be equipped with proper medical supplies in an emergency situation," said Officer Norgaard. "This donation will be helpful in supplying Fridley officers with updated resources to respond to a variety of emergencies."
- In November, the division held its annual Coats from Cops event, where our officers provided 167 families with winter clothing to help keep their kids warm this winter. This popular, drive-thru event was made possible due to the generous donations from Omnetics, the Fridley Lions, and Target.
- In December, the Police Division partnered with Walmart to bring approximately 34 local children to shop for holiday gifts for their families through our annual "Shop with a Cop" event.

Throughout the year, the Fridley Police Division also had the opportunity to walk alongside residents through several of our community programs. In the fall, 23 people participated in Fridley's Citizens' Academy: An eleven-week program which offers insights into how police officers perform their duties and how the division serves the community. The goal of this program is to produce informed citizens who can serve as partners in the community.

Along with Citizens' Academy, our officers continued to walk alongside nine young adults who are considering a career in law enforcement through the Police Explorers program, partner with 161 block captains to keep our



neighborhoods safe, and serve Fridley students through the Student Resource Officer program.

These partnerships and programs would not have been possible without the community support we receive. Thank you for helping us make 2022 a great year. We are looking forward to what is to come in 2023. This year, keep an eye out for more stories about what is happening within the Police Division!

Are you interested in volunteering with the Fridley Public Safety Department? Visit [FridleyMN.gov/149/Get-Involved](https://www.fridleymn.gov/149/Get-Involved) to learn more about the various programs we offer.

Fridays, January 13, February 10, March 10 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Bundle up and get ready to hike at Springbrook Nature Center using the light of glowing lanterns to guide your way. Listen for owls hooting, keep your eyes peeled for elusive nocturnal animals and warm up by the fire along the way.

Registration required, \$5 per person. Children 5 and under are free. Register online at SpringbrookNatureCenter.org, or by calling the Nature Center at: 763-572-3588. Please check in at Springbrook's front desk for the event. If snowpack allows, snowshoes will be available to rent for \$5/pair, while supplies last.

Lantern Light Hikes

6:30 - 8:30 PM \$5 PER PERSON



Save the Date! 2023 Recycling Drop-off and Paper Shredding Events

2023 Recycling Drop-off and Paper Shredding Events will occur at Recycle Technologies (1525 99th Ln NE entrance) from 8 a.m. - noon on March 11, May 13, July 8, September 9, and November 11. Items accepted include

- Small electronics (free)
- Batteries (free)
- Light bulbs (free)
- Scrap metal and small engines (free)
- Bicycles (free)

- Paper shredding (free)
- Appliances (Discounts available)
- Water heaters and softeners (Discounts available)
- Televisions (Discounts available)
- Mattresses (Discounts available)
- Tires (Discounts available)

Visit FridleyMN.gov/Dropoff for a full list of accepted items, discounts and pricing.

Residents Asked to Cooperate with Snow Plowing

As Minnesotans navigate another winter, we are asking residents for their help. Please do not park your cars in the street during the winter months. City ordinances prohibit overnight parking from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. from November 1 through April 1. This parking ban is automatically extended during and after snow storms until the roads are fully plowed. Vehicles parked on the street overnight or during plowing operations will be tagged and towed at the owner's expense.

Cars left on the street are especially hazardous to snowplow operators and can significantly slow down the time it takes to clear City streets of snow. They can also make it very difficult for emergency vehicles as they respond to neighborhood emergencies.

To report vehicles improperly parked on City streets you can report to the Department of Public Safety at 763-572-3629 or online at FridleyMN.gov/Parking.


Other property considerations for the winter months include:

- City Code forbids the plowing or blowing of snow from private property into City streets because it can create ice ridges.
- Do not place garbage cans or recycling bins in the street because they interfere with plowing activities.
- Any landscaping on the boulevard that is more than one foot tall and within five feet of the curb should be marked with visual stakes.
- Please remind children to be careful when playing around snow banks. These banks reduce visibility and make it hard for drivers to see children.

If you have questions or comments, contact Operations Manager Jeff Jenson at 763-572-3569.

Please do not bag your recyclables!

We Recycle!

 Please make sure your recyclables are **empty, clean and dry** before placing them in your recycling cart.



PLASTICS BOTTLES & JUGS
Water, soda and juice bottles, dish soap bottles, shampoo bottles, soap and lotion bottles, and detergent jugs (empty and clean/rinse, and dry; caps on)



PLASTICS CUPS & CONTAINERS
Yogurt cups, pudding and fruit cups, clear disposable cups (no straws), margarine/whipped cream tubs, cottage cheese and similar containers, clear produce, deli and take-out containers (empty and rinse; lids on)



BOXES (FLATTENED)
Cardboard, cereal, cracker, pasta, tissue boxes, shoe, gift and electronic boxes, toothpaste and other toiletry boxes



CARTONS
Milk cartons, juice cartons, juice boxes, soup, broth and wine cartons (empty and clean/rinse, and dry; caps on)



PAPER
Mail, office and school papers, magazines and catalogs, newspapers and inserts, phone books (clean; staples OK)



METAL
Food cans and beverage cans (empty; labels OK)



GLASS
Brown, green and clear bottles and jars (empty and rinse; no lids)

Not acceptable at curbside since they...

Damage or Entangle Equipment

- Plastic bags
- Ropes, hoses and chains
- Scrap metal
- Bulk items
- Shredded paper

Harm Workers

- Medical sharps
- Diapers
- Batteries
- Hazardous products
- Propane tanks (all sizes)

Are Not Recyclable

- Foil pouches, bags, wrappers
- Dishes, vases, mirrors
- Plastic straws and utensils
- Glitter or wrapping paper
- Polystyrene foam

Rice Creek Terrace Raingarden

The City of Fridley partnered with Rice Creek Watershed District, Anoka Conservation District, Sandstrom Land Management and property owners to install curb-cut raingardens at six residential properties in the Rice Creek Terrace neighborhood to improve the water quality of Rice Creek, Locke Lake and the Mississippi River. Curb-cut rain gardens are shallow depressions that can capture stormwater runoff from the street and filter it into the soil instead of flowing untreated into the storm sewer system. By filtering the runoff, rain gardens remove sediment, phosphorus and other pollutants. Additionally, raingardens are vegetated with native plants which improve infiltration and provide valuable pollinator habitat. The six raingardens will prevent an estimated 650 pounds of sediment and two pounds of phosphorus from reaching Rice Creek each year. Residents of the Rice Creek Watershed District who are interested in protecting water quality are encouraged to apply for the:

- Mini Grant (up to \$500) for smaller projects such as native plants, rain barrels, water education and small buffer strips (funding typically runs out early in the year)
- Water Quality Grant for larger best management projects such as shoreline erosion, rain gardens, and pervious pavers

Learn more at RiceCreek.org/Grants.



Winter Fun in Our Parks!

Cross Country Ski and Multi-Use Trails

Enjoy multi-use trails in our parks! The City of Fridley grooms trails in Moore Lake Park, Commons Park, Meadowlands Park and Riverview Heights Park. Six-foot trails are groomed including a three-foot section for cross country skiing, and a three-foot section for multi-use. Multi-use trails can be used for a variety of activities—walking, fat tire biking, snowshoeing, etc.

Please note: We do our best to groom the trails weekly depending on snow depths and conditions.

Snowshoeing

Snowshoeing is a great way to walk on the snow—it is fun, easy and a great workout! Snowshoeing can be done on snow in any of our parks. Springbrook Nature Center has snowshoes that can be rented for \$5/pair to be used on-site at Springbrook.

Ice Skating

The City of Fridley maintains five general skating rinks and six hockey rinks! General rinks are located at: Briardale, Hackmann, Logan, Sylvan Hills and Plymouth Square Parks. Hockey rinks can be found at: Commons (2), Flanery, Madsen, and Ruth Circle Parks and Hayes Elementary.

Please note: We need about 10 consecutive days of freezing temps to create safe and usable ice. Warm weather, freezing rain and even snow can slow the process down, but we will do our best to get the rinks ready as soon as possible!

Sledding Hill

If you are looking for a great place to bring the sleds—check out Commons Park! The sledding hill is located just beyond the playground and picnic shelter.

Warming House at Commons Park

The warming house will be open this year! We have a variety of types and sizes of ice/hockey skates that will be available for the public to use for FREE! The warming house will be closed if unsafe ice conditions or extreme cold temperatures are present. Hours are (weather and ice conditions permitting): Friday from 4-8 p.m., Saturday from 1-8 p.m., and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. Closed holidays.

Ice Skates Available at Commons

The Fridley Parks and Recreation Department held an Ice Skate Drive in 2020 and 2021. Thank you to everyone who donated during this time! We now have over 30 pairs of skates for the public to use for FREE at Commons Park Warming House. We would also like to thank the Fridley Lions Club for their donation and Dave's Sport Shop for providing discounted skate sharpening for this program. If you have ice skates that you would like to donate, they can still be dropped off at Commons Warming House during open hours.

Join us for this **FREE** Event

winterfest



Saturday, January 21 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Springbrook Nature Center, 100 85th Avenue NE

Brrrrrrrrring on winter! Enjoy an exciting winter day in nature with the entire family! See more information in the Parks and Recreation brochure or visit our website at FridleyMN.gov/Winterfest for more event details.



Springbrook Green Roof Project Completed

In 2016, the Springbrook Nature Center interpretive building was remodeled and expanded to include new classrooms, exhibits, restrooms, staff offices and expanded gathering areas.

The newer part of the Springbrook Interpretive Center is all above ground and provides a beautiful, functional and welcoming entrance to this community gathering and learning space. During the construction phase in 2016, the sloped section of roof over the classrooms was designed to hold the weight of a green roof system, but funding was not available at the time to complete this phase of the project.

In October of 2022, through the hard work and dedication of Fridley's Mayor, Scott Lund, the green roof project was finally completed. This system is made up of interlocking trays of soil that sit on top of the roof and a protective membrane.

The plant types that are found in the green roof trays are Succulent plants from the Genus Sedum. These plants can survive in harsh conditions with less water than many other plants because they can store water in their leaves. They have also adapted to release less

water than many other plants and require fewer nutrients, making them very hardy and well-suited to the harsh conditions of drought and temperature extremes.

In addition to adding a beautiful, vegetated roof covering, these trays of plants will help insulate the nature center building, especially helping to keep it cool during the summer months. Perhaps the greatest environmental benefit is how the roof will absorb water during rainfall events. Typically, when water hits a shingled or rubber roof, it goes straight down a rain gutter, passes over pavement where it flushes pollutants into our storm sewers and waterways. Much of the rain that falls on a green roof, however, will be absorbed into the soil and plants keeping pollutants out of our lakes and rivers.

Thank you to Central Roofing Company, the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation, Fridley Lions, Gary Bank, BNSF, Ed Meyer and Barb Jackson, Donna and Jerry Bahls, Kathleen and Gerald Bury, Mandy Meisner, Ross Meisner, Malcolm and Annette Mitchell, many other generous donors and Mayor Scott Lund for making this project possible.

CPR and First Aid Classes Available

Location: Fridley City Hall EOC – 7071 University Ave NE

Age 16+ or 12+ if accompanied by an adult.

Cost: \$60 per registrant

Heartsaver CPR

CPR AED will teach you to recognize cardiac arrest, get emergency care on the way quickly, and help a person until more advanced care arrives to take over. Adult choking is also discussed in this curriculum.

Heartsaver First Aid

Heartsaver First Aid covers first aid basics, consisting of the most common life-threatening emergencies, how to recognize them, how to call for help, and how to perform lifesaving skills.

Thursday 1/19 6-10 p.m. Heartsaver CPR

Saturday 3/18 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Heartsaver CPR

Thursday 2/16 6-10 p.m. First Aid

Thursday 4/20 6-10 p.m. Heartsaver CPR

*More dates available throughout 2023. Learn more and register at FridleyPublicSafety.org.