



Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

JULY/AUGUST 2023
NO. 243

Parks and Recreation Brochure Enclosed

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

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FridleyMN.gov

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Councilmember-at-Large – David Ostwald
Councilmember 1st Ward – Tom Tillberry
Councilmember 2nd Ward – Ryan Evanson
Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann Bolkom
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Park Improvements Coming to Fridley this Summer: Moore Lake, Ed Wilmes, Creek View and Skyline Parks



Fridley residents love their parks, and this summer, exciting updates will be coming to four of the City's parks, including a major renovation of Moore Lake Park!

After years of town hall meetings, surveys, and community engagement in schools, neighborhood and City Commission meetings, shovels will hit the ground this summer at Moore Lake, Ed Wilmes, Creek View and Skyline Parks.

Learn more about each park's improvements at FridleyMN.gov/ParkPlan.

Ed Wilmes, Creek View and Skyline Parks

The three neighborhood parks will receive new playgrounds, park shelters, benches, courts, bike racks, signs and walkways. Residents met with staff during the summer of 2022 to provide ideas and feedback on the park designs. Neighbors should expect closures in these parks so that work can safely be completed.

Moore Lake Park

Moore Lake Park will be closed throughout the

summer and early fall to allow for park construction, and Anoka County's installation of a roundabout at the park entrance on Gardena Avenue. No shelter rentals will be available during the construction and access to fishing piers and other park amenities will be temporarily closed.

Residents can look forward to a beautiful new community building at Moore Lake Park that will be available for community rentals for events of up to about 60 guests. The building will also feature an open-air covered plaza, indoor restrooms, access to drinking water and unique places to gather.

Fridley Parks & Recreation staff are planning events, programs and activities for the new space. The team envisions the park being a perfect place to introduce new outdoor recreation experiences, such as fishing and paddle sports.

A large new playground will be installed at Moore Lake Park that was designed with the help of over 250 residents who attended a summer event at the park.

Stay Connected!

Like Us on Facebook: search City of Fridley

Follow Us on Twitter: @CityofFridley

Watch City Programming: Search Fridley Municipal TV

Sign up for email notifications on FridleyMN.gov

2024 PARK PLANS - PLAN YOUR PARKS!

New playgrounds are coming to a park near you in the coming years! Fridley staff will be in several neighborhood parks this summer to get feedback on 2024 park improvements. You can help plan your playground and give comments on trails, park amenities and other park improvements. Online surveys will also be available for those who are unable to attend in person. Stay up-to-date on the park projects at FridleyMN.gov/ParkPlan.

Please join us for one of the following events, or reach out to Parks and Recreation Director Mike Maher at Mike.Maher@FridleyMN.gov to share your ideas:

Logan Park, 155 Logan Parkway NE
Wednesday, July 12 • 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Edgewater Gardens Park, 6700 Ashton Avenue NE
Thursday, August 10 • 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Plymouth Square Park, 4801 Main Street NE
Thursday, July 27 • 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Sylvan Hills Park, 6205 Jupiter Drive NE
Thursday, August 24 • 5:30 - 7 p.m.

PRESORTED STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Twin Cities, MN
Permit NO. 92886

*****ECLROT**C 033

City Administrator
City of Spring Lake Park
1301 81st Ave NE
Spring Lake Park MN 55432-2188

CIVIC CAMPUS FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION + TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Join us as we celebrate five years of our Civic Campus location!

- Unveiling of new medallion designed by a Fridley artist
- Center Ice designation of the former Columbia Arena
- Live music
- Food trucks
- Games & activities for all ages
- Touch-A-Truck event in partnership with Fridley ECFE



FREE EVENT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
CIVIC CAMPUS PLAZA



Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Fridley

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an aggressive, invasive insect pest that quickly spreads and kills ash trees. Since EAB was confirmed in Fridley in 2019, several infestations have been found throughout the City requiring immediate tree removal. All ash trees are susceptible to EAB infestation. Once an ash tree shows signs of infestation, it has a very low chance of survival.

Once a tree is infected, it can quickly become hazardous and pose a safety risk to surrounding people and property. Due to this risk, the City requires the removal of EAB-infested trees found on private property. If you have an ash tree in your yard, plan to remove and replace it, or chemically protect the tree against EAB.

Step 1. Identify if you have an ash tree

Ash trees are one of the most common trees in Fridley. It was widely planted after the 1965 tornado and the proliferation of Dutch Elm Disease since it grows quickly and provides excellent shade.

Look for these key attributes of an ash tree:

1. Compound leaves with 5-9 leaflets
2. Leaflets, buds and branches growing directly opposite from each other instead of in an alternating pattern
3. Diamond-shaped bark ridges on mature trees

Step 2. Decide to remove and replace or treat your ash tree

Start your treatment before your tree shows symptoms. If you wait to start the treatment until your tree looks infected, it will likely be too late.

Residents interested in chemical treatment should contact a licensed arborist to chemically inject the tree. Non-injected forms



EAB Treatments for Private Ash Trees

2023 Contract Rate:
\$5.80-\$5.85 per inch tree diameter

To schedule a treatment for your ash tree at the contract rate, call **Rainbow Treecare at (952) 767-6920**.

The "Contractor Rate" is a guaranteed price that the City obtains on behalf of residents as part of the City's contract for treatment of public ash trees (e.g. parks and boulevards).

Residents may also hire any City-licensed tree contractor with a commercial pesticide applicator license to treat an ash tree.

of chemical treatment are less effective and are more likely to negatively impact pollinators and water quality. As part of the contract with the City to treat high-quality ash trees, Rainbow Treecare is offering a bulk-rate pricing discount for EAB treatment to Fridley residents.

Trees that should be considered for chemical treatment are greater than 10" in diameter, do not compete with other trees or infrastructure, and show no more than 30 percent of canopy decline if infestation is suspected.

Due to the low cost of EAB treatment, it's likely more cost-effective to treat the tree than cut it down. Ash tree removal is expensive and becomes more costly following EAB-infestation due to the safety risks of removing a hazardous tree. If you remove an ash tree, you are encouraged to replace it with another tree in order to preserve the benefits of Fridley's urban forests.

Step 3. Be on the lookout for EAB infestations

One of the most noticeable symptoms of EAB is increased bird activity, particularly

woodpeckers and nuthatches looking to eat the borers. As the birds search for the borers, they strip the bark which exposes the lighter inner colored bark in a process called ash-blonding. If you peel back the tree's bark, you may find serpentine grooves of the borer's path or d-shaped exit holes where an adult borer flew away. Another symptom of advanced EAB infestation is a sparse canopy due to leaf dieback.

What about Public Trees?

The City has removed more than 250 ash trees and replaced them with diverse tree species. This includes over 60 trees that were removed and replanted with climate resilient species in Riverview Heights Park in partnership with Mississippi Parks Connection in 2021.

The City has been treating all high-quality ash trees in its parks and right-of-ways on a two-to-three year cycle using the contractor Rainbow Tree Care. The City was awarded a \$14,506 grant by the DNR towards this work in 2024. As a result of the City's urban forestry efforts, the City has been awarded Tree City USA status through the Arbor Day Foundation for the past six years.

Learn more about EAB, visit the City's website at FridleyMN.gov/EmeraldAsh.

Tree City USA

The City of Fridley was awarded Tree City USA status for the sixth year in a row for the City's efforts to manage Emerald Ash Borer, host a tree sale, and plant boulevard trees. Trees help make our community great—consider planting a tree in your yard this summer!

ART IN THE PARK

Community Art Partnership with
North Suburban Center for the Arts
(formerly Banfill-Locke)



TEEN DRAWING

Join us in the park to learn more about drawing! This weekly class will introduce you to the fundamentals of drawing as you work on perspective, shading, blending, design and composition. No experience or tools necessary—come prepared to learn and have fun!

6262 Ages 12-17 W Sep 13 - Oct 11 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. \$42
Commons Park Shelter

SKETCHES AT SPRINGBROOK

You'll be lead on an artistic journey at Springbrook Nature Center! You'll immerse yourself in different areas of the park where you can slow down and create a sketch of the natural world around you. Learn how sketching is fun—and anyone can do it! This class is intended for all levels and no experience necessary.

6261 Ages 15+ Sa Sep 16 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. \$35
Springbrook Nature Center

Code Update Relating to Animal Control

The City is updating the City Code to better reflect the needs of the residents, business owners and City government. It also creates vibrant neighborhoods through our community for current and future residents.

As of April 28, the City updated a large portion of the Code that focused on many things related to the health, safety and welfare of residents. A few highlights from Title 3 are outlined below.

FEEDING WILD ANIMALS PROHIBITED

The revised Code prohibits attracting and feeding wild animals in the City, with the exception of birdfeeders placed six feet above the ground.

Feeding wild animals, especially deer, poses many dangers to the community:

- **Injury:** Feeding deer is deadly for both deer and humans. Human food is not healthy for wild animals, and increased density of wild animals near roadways increases wildlife-related auto accidents.
- **Disease:** Feeding wild animals can congregate animals that would otherwise feed apart on natural foods. This increases the odds that an infected animal will spread chronic wasting disease.
- **Behavior:** Supplemental feedings can make deer less fearful of humans and encourages deer to gather in close quarters to humans.
- **Property Damage:** The City sees an increase in property damage caused by deer where feedings occur.
- **Costly:** The City contracts with the USDA to manage the deer population in Fridley. These efforts cost the City \$5,000-10,000 annually.

Wildlife Watching Alternatives

Parks: View wildlife on the trails of Springbrook Nature Center or watch an animal feeding program as a naturalist explains their feeding behaviors and taste preferences. Learn more at SpringbrookNatureCenter.org.

Conservation Planting: Including wildflowers and native plants into your yard can be a great alternative to increasing cohabitation with nature by attracting hummingbirds, bees and butterflies.

POULTRY AND BEEKEEPING

Urban farming is becoming increasingly popular for enjoyment, food like eggs, meat and honey, pest control and helping pollination. The City allows licensed residents to keep poultry and bees when certain considerations are met:

Poultry

- A training course on how to keep poultry is required.
- Maximum of six poultry.
- No roosters.
- No slaughtering or butchering.
- Provide a sketch/photo of the proposed coop and run.
- Coop must be in the backyard and must be located in the backyard at a minimum of 10 feet from all adjacent property lines and 30 feet from any neighboring structure.

Beekeeping

- A training course on beekeeping is required.
- Only two colonies may be kept at the same time.
- Colonies must be in the backyard and be kept at minimum of 10 feet from all property lines and 30 feet from any neighboring structure.
- Tenants are required to show proof of approval from their landlord allowing the keeping of bees.

ANIMALS AND LICENSING

The City of Fridley allows a combination of three dogs or cats in a home. All dogs over the age of six months must be licensed and vaccinated against rabies. Fridley dog licenses are issued for the lifetime of the dog. The City does not require cats to be licensed.

Multiple Pet Location

Pet sitting apps like Rover and Wag! have increased the number of residents in Fridley who have non-resident dogs and cats rotating in and out of their home. To help ensure these non-resident dogs and the surrounding community are safe, the City requires a special license when there are more than three dogs or cats on a property. Requirements include:

- Location must be fenced
- Facilities and grounds must be kept free of fecal matter
- Animal feed must be stored in leak-proof containers with tight-fitting covers

THE CODE ENFORCEMENT PROCESS

Notification: The Code Enforcement process begins when City staff learn about a possible code violation through community members or by noticing an issue while driving through the city. The identity of a complainant is protected under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

Response: After a possible issue is noted, staff conduct an inspection and educate the property owner on how to correct the violation and prevent the violation from occurring in the future.

Correction Timeframe: The property owner is given between five and thirty days to correct the violation. Staff will re-inspect the property on or shortly after this time to see if the issue has been corrected.

Uncorrected Violations: The property owner will receive an additional notice if the violation has not been corrected in the timeframe listed in the initial notice. The second notice states that staff will schedule an abatement or issue a citation if the violation is not corrected. In the case of an abatement - staff will schedule a contractor to correct the violation, and the cost of the correction is added to the property owner's property taxes. With citations, the property owner may be charged with a misdemeanor and court fees of at least \$300.

Learn more online at FridleyMN.gov/CityCode

Questions? Contact Us.

- Poultry or beekeeping: Megan Matzick, Permit Technician - 763-572-3598 or Megan.Matzick@FridleyMN.gov
- Animal licensing: Beth Kondrick, Deputy City Clerk - 763-572-3573 or Beth.Kondrick@FridleyMN.gov
- Code enforcement: Dan Cahill, Neighborhood Preservation Specialist - 763-572-3589 or Daniel.Cahill@FridleyMN.gov

- **Report a wild animal feeding:** Public Safety - 763-572-3629
- **Report a concern:** FridleyMN.gov/1517/Report-a-Concern

Cummins Opens First U.S. Electrolyzer Manufacturing Facility

On Friday, May 19, 2023, Cummins, Inc. held a ribbon cutting for the opening of the first U.S. electrolyzer manufacturing facility in Fridley. The Cummins facility is home to the power generation plant, which manufactures generators that can power everything from recreational vehicles to hospitals.

An area including 89,000 square feet within the existing Cummins Facility has been dedicated to the production of hydrogen for

use as fuel in large vehicles such as buses, trucks, and generators. Their goal is to replace some of the existing demand for diesel fuel, and move the energy source to a cleaner, more environmentally-friendly power solution.

Choosing Fridley as the site for its first U.S. electrolyzer production plant highlights Cummins' long-term commitment to the greater Twin Cities area and the favorable climate for investment.



Senior Driving Courses

Improve your driving skills, and if you're 55 or older, get a discount on your personal auto insurance. The Defensive Driving Course teaches basic crash prevention techniques and has a proven record of reducing traffic violations and incidents. It's taught by experienced, professional traffic safety instructors, including current and former law enforcement. The class consists of lectures, films and discussions. There is no behind-the-wheel driving.

According to Minnesota state law, people age 55 and older who complete a state-approved defensive driving course are eligible to receive a 10 percent, three-year discount on auto insurance. This includes in-person classroom, online training and live virtual Zoom classes. Contact your insurance agent for details. After you complete the course, you will receive a certificate of completion to give to your insurance company.

8-Hour Initial Courses

Training options include: In-person classroom, online or live virtual Zoom training.

An 8-hour course is offered over two days, with four hours each day. Pre-registration is required. See course schedules for contact phone numbers.

4-Hour Refresher Courses

Training options include: In-person classroom, online or live virtual Zoom training.

If you have successfully completed a state-approved 8-hour defensive driving course you are eligible to take a 4-hour defensive driving course to renew your insurance certificate.

Learn more at MinnesotaSafetyCouncil.org/Traffic/Mature.cfm.



Music in our Parks!

Presented by the Fridley City Band, FREE! All concerts start at 7pm. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the music!

July 24—Springbrook Nature Center

Serve Your Community: Election Judges Needed

2024 is a Presidential Election year and will have three Election days - the Presidential Nominating Primary on March 5, the Primary Election on August 13 and the General Election on November 5. The City is looking to hire Election Judges for all three dates. Election Judges are responsible for the administration of election procedures in each polling location on Election Day. They are citizens who help their neighbors cast ballots while protecting the rights of voters by ensuring the election process is fair and in accordance with Minnesota and federal laws.

Election Judges are an integral part of making the election process work smoothly for voters. Fridley Election Judges administer the City's polling locations in several different capacities such as greeting voters, registering new voters, demonstrating how to mark a ballot, maintaining accurate ballot counts and certifying polling location results.

There are a few requirements to serve as an Election Judge:

- Must be eligible to vote in Minnesota;
- Must be able to read, write and speak English fluently;
- Must attend mandatory Election Judge training;
- Must not be a candidate in the election, or a family member of a candidate; and
- Must not be a family member of any other Election Judge in the same polling location.

Please consider serving your community as an Election Judge in 2024. For more information you may visit us on the web at FridleyMN.gov/Elections, email Elections@FridleyMN.gov or call 763-572-3573.



Environmental Fun Fair

The Environmental Fun Fair was on Saturday, April 22 at the Springbrook Nature Center. It was a little chilly, but that didn't hold back a crowd of about 400 people! This is the second year that the Fridley Recreation Division has been the main organizer of the event in partnership with the Fridley Environmental Planner, Springbrook Nature Center and Anoka County 4H. The event had 17 different exhibitors from the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota area meet to share information

through activities for all ages. Participants were given a map and event passport when they arrived. The event passport encouraged them to visit different exhibitors to get "stamps" on their passport that entered them in to win prizes at the welcome table. In addition, there were two different Yoga demonstrations from Growing Green Hearts and a live musical performance from Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade providing even more entertainment for visitors!

Electric Vehicle Added to Fleet

The City has added a second electric vehicle to its fleet with the lease of a Plug-In Hybrid Ford Escape driven by the Rental Division.

Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV) have both an internal combustion engine and a battery-powered motor. The battery-powered motor lasts for moderate distances (about 15-60-plus miles) and can be recharged using an electric vehicle charger and regenerative braking. Once the battery is depleted, the car switches over to a traditional engine, making them a great fit for people who want to go

electric for daily driving but are worried by battery range over long distances.

The City has also been leasing a fully electric Chevy Bolt since 2021.





community concert series

Bring a lawn chair and enjoy live music with your neighbors! All performances are free and friendly for all ages. Concerts feature a variety of genres, and at the Civic Campus, include food trucks and games on the plaza! We hope to see you there!

Springbrook Nature Center @ 7 p.m.

July 18: Anthony Miltich, Acoustic Guitar

August 15: Bluegroove Bluegrass, Bluegrass

Kids' Concerts @ 11 a.m.

July 26: Commons Park: Jolly Pops (Chalk the Walk, Kid's Book Swap)

August 11: Springbrook Nature Center: Madagascar Jr, Musical

Civic Campus @ 7 p.m.

July 11: The Inland Seas, Irish (Popsicles and Public Safety)

August 8: Everett Smithson Band, Zydeco/Blues (Music of the Mississippi)

August 22: Carlyne Naomi, AfroPop

Concerts may be cancelled due to inclement weather—check our Facebook page (City of Fridley) or call the weather hotline at 763-572-3578 for updates.

Electric Vehicle and Bike Showcase Event on August 22

Stop by the Fridley Civic Campus Plaza on August 22 from 6-7 p.m. for an electric vehicle (EV) showcase before the Carlyne Naomi concert!

Fridley electric vehicle, bike and lawn equipment owners will be on hand to talk about the realities of EV ownership. Learn about vehicle charging, Xcel Energy programs, tax rebates and more.

BIKE WITH A NATURALIST

Join us for a leisurely bike ride led by a naturalist! Ask questions, explore and learn about the environment.

RICE CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL

We'll take the Rice Creek Regional Trail through urban riparian forests, hunting for flora and fauna along the way. The program meets at Fridley Civic Campus. Distance is around 4 miles.

6101 F Jul 21 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. age 13+ \$15
Civic Campus

MISSISSIPPI GATEWAY REGIONAL PARK

Learn about the Mississippi River and Coon Rapids Dam on this exciting tour! This ride will start at Springbrook Nature Center, head to Mississippi Gateway Regional Park and return to Springbrook. Distance is 8-10 miles.

6102 F Aug 18 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. age 13+ \$15
Springbrook Nature Center



SUMMER CONCERT KIDS BOOK SWAP EVENT

**JULY 26 @ 10:30 A.M.
COMMONS PARK**

Join us for a kids-themed book/puzzle/game swap before the Jolly Pops Concert at Commons Park on July 26. Stop by the book swap to grab some new books/puzzles/games.

Have items to swap? Drop-off your good condition books/games/puzzles on the following dates to be included in the swap: July 24 and 25 from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Please have items sorted by the following categories: picture books, activity books, early reader, young reader, young adult, games and puzzles.

You do not need to bring an item to take an item. Any items left after the swap will be donated or distributed in the community.

Staff are not monitoring donated items for content. Items at the swaps do not represent the opinions or positions of the City of Fridley.

Chores & More Program for Seniors

Did you know? Anoka County Community Action Program offers a Chores & More program for seniors to help with housekeeping, minor home repairs and seasonal chores.

This program can be a solution to a temporary situation such as illness or injury, or an essential service to help residents remain living safely and independently in their homes.

For income-eligible clients, our Chores & More services are available on a sliding fee scale rate (or suggested donation). If you or someone you know is interested in these services, please contact the Chores & More staff at 763-783-4767. Learn more at accap.org.



Annual Tree Sale – New with Native Plants!

Could your yard use a tree? The City of Fridley's tree sale is now open and offering a variety of reduced cost trees. Properties located in priority reforestation zones are eligible for a discount of an additional 50 percent off with the promo code **2023TreeSale**. Trees improve air and water quality, increase property values, lower energy bills, and provide valuable wildlife habitat. Limited quantities available. Limit two trees per species per household.

New in 2023, we are excited to offer discounted pricing on native seed and plant kits to help your yard become pollinator friendly.

This sale is open to Fridley residents only. Check if your property is located in a priority reforestation zone and submit your orders online at FridleyMN.gov/TreeSale by July 31. All items will be available for pick-up on September 16 from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Fridley Civic Campus.



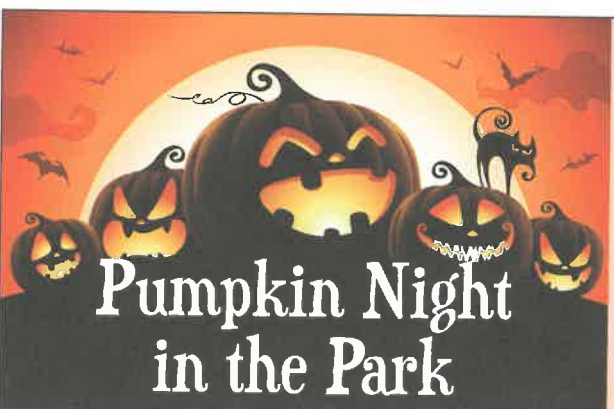
Species	Container Size	Full Grown Height	Shade Preference	Ecological Value	Cost
Princeton Elm	#10	50-70 feet	Full sun	Nesting sites for birds	\$35
River Birch	#15	50-70 feet	Full or partial sun	Seeds eaten by birds; nesting sites for birds	\$35
Showy Mountain Ash	#15	20-25 feet	Full sun	Flowers for pollinators; fruit for birds	\$45
'Evans Bali' Cherry	#7	15-20 feet	Full sun	Flowers for pollinators; fruit for birds	\$35
Tamarack aka American Larch	#10	40-80 feet	Full or partial sun	Nesting site for birds	\$25
Watering Bag	20 gallons	Watering bags make it easier to provide the irrigation necessary to help your new tree hydrated			\$15

Seed Mixes: Bagged seed mixes are a low-cost way to establish a pollinator patch when precise plant layout is not important. Seed mixes include cover crops to stabilize the soil while the plants establish, which can take up to three years. You may choose to mix seed with plugs for greater visual impact. Learn more about how to prepare an area for seeding at FridleyMN.gov/Pollinators.

Name	Planting Area	Description	Cost
Pollinator Mix	100 square feet	A diverse mix for pollinators. Grasses, sedges, and over 25 wildflower species, for dry to mesic conditions	\$17.50
Lakeshore Mix	100 square feet	Shorter grasses & sedges in this mix highlight a diverse list of wildflowers for shoreline areas. Best planted one to two feet up from water's edge	\$20
Bee Lawn	1,000 square feet	A short stature, pollinator-friendly, and low maintenance alternative to traditional turf. Contains non-native species that provide pollinator forage and requires less mowing, watering, and fertilizer.	\$70

Plant kits: Each kit will consist of 36 plugs comprised of six plants of six different species. Species may be substituted based on nursery availability. All kits cost \$50.40. Find example kit contents at FridleyMN.gov/TreeSale.

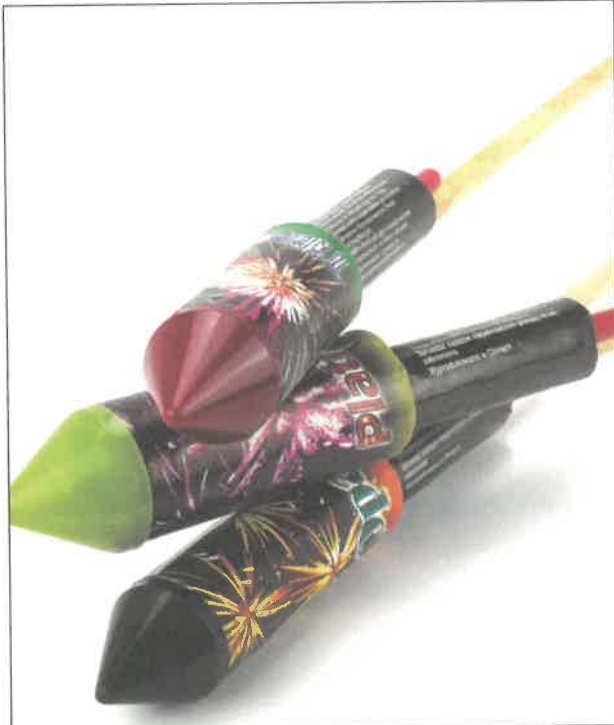
Name	Description
Backyard Prairie Kit	An attractive mix of native prairie species for your backyard. Grows well in dry to mesic soils and full sunlight. Heights ranging 36 inches and up.
Short and Tidy Kit	A mix of short-statured, well-behaved prairie species. Perfect for existing flowerbeds with mesic soil and full sun to partial shade. Up to 36 inches in height.
Shady Garden Kit	Designed for areas with limited direct sunlight.
Rain Garden Kit	Mesic to moist soil species. Perfect for areas of concentrated runoff and occasional inundation.
Shoreline Stabilization Kit	Deep-rooted, wet-soil species to help prevent erosion along large bodies of water.
Prairie Grass Kit	A mix of native prairie grasses. Plant on its own or use alongside other kits to provide ground cover, a more natural prairie look, and support for wildflowers.
Milkweed Kit	A mix of milkweed varieties to host Monarch caterpillars and fall-blooming nectar favorites for Monarch butterflies.



Save the date! Springbrook Nature Center's Pumpkin Night in the Park will be back on October 21! The event features a dazzling pumpkin trail, local food trucks and live entertainment for the whole family to enjoy. Early bird tickets will be on sale September 1-15 for a discounted price. Tickets are limited.

Interested in volunteering? Pumpkin carvers, placers and lighters, trail actors, parking attendants, and helping hands for clean-up are needed! Volunteer spots open on September 1.

Learn more online at FridleyMN.gov/PumpkinNight.



Fireworks Safety

Only use Minnesota-legal fireworks like sparklers, fountains, ground spinners and snappers.

- Point fireworks away from people and animals.
- Use fireworks in an open area away from trees and houses.
- Extinguish and dispose of spent fireworks in a bucket of water. Do not try to relight a dud.
- Always use caution around fireworks and make sure children are supervised.

Did you know?

More than 30 percent of fireworks injuries are from sparklers.

There is an average of 75 hospital visits each year in Minnesota due to fireworks injuries.

Nearly 45 percent of fireworks injuries each year happen to children.

Fireworks that explode or shoot into the air are illegal in Minnesota.

Recycling Dropoff: July 8 from 8 a.m. - noon

On July 8, Fridley residents will have an opportunity for free and reduced recycling of bulky items such as mattresses, appliances, electronics and more! You can receive \$50 off your total with proof of Fridley residence (driver's license, mail or utility bill). What can that include?

- Two appliances
- A large 60" TV
- A small TV
- Four tires
- And more!

All drop-off events will be held at Recycle Technologies Inc. (formerly Green Lights Recycling). Enter at 1525 99th Lane NE, Blaine.

Paper shredding, scrap metal, batteries, fluorescent lightbulbs, bicycles small electronics and electronic media (VHS tapes, CDs, cassettes, etc.). See a full pricing list at FridleyMN.gov/Dropoff.

* Free recycling of VHS tapes, cassette tapes, CDs, floppy discs and other electronic media.

Summer with Public Safety

Join the Fridley Public Safety Department for several fun events and activities this summer:

July

- Popsicles and Public Safety at the Civic Campus (July 11): Come cool off with a popsicle treat and great conversation with the Public Safety Department and stick around for the Summer Concert series concert happening that night!



August

- Night to Unite (August 1): Night to Unite block parties take place the first Tuesday in August. This is a chance to build community partnerships with Public Safety and get to know your neighbors.
- Our Leaders are Readers at the Civic Campus (August 3): Fire
- Our Leaders are Readers at the Civic Campus (August 31): Police

We're looking forward to a great and safe summer with you!

Fridley Community Calendar

July

- July 3 | City Offices Closed
- July 4 | City Offices Closed for Independence Day
- July 6 | Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Meeting
- July 10 | City Council Meeting
- July 11 | Environmental Quality & Energy Commission (EQEC) Meeting
- July 19 | Planning Commission Meeting
- July 24 | City Council Meeting

August

- August 3 | Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Meeting
- August 7 | Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- August 8 | Environmental Quality & Energy Commission (EQEC) Meeting
- August 14 | City Council Meeting
- August 16 | Planning Commission Meeting
- August 28 | 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.



Tuesday, August 1, 2023

Fridley's Annual Night to Unite will take place on Tuesday, August 1! This is a great chance to build community partnerships with the Public Safety Department and get to know your neighbors.



Looking to host a block party?

Each year Fridley celebrates Night to Unite with nearly 100 block parties across the city. If you're interested in hosting a party this year, registration is open online now through July 17.

Learn more and register your party at FridleyMN.gov/NightToUnite.

Successful Springbrook Spree Thanks to Generous Donors

The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation (SNCF) is a non-profit 501(3) tax exempt organization led by an all-volunteer board of directors who are passionate about preserving the natural environment, educating people about nature and committed to raising funds for the improvement of Springbrook Nature Center (SNC).

On April 15, the foundation hosted a successful "Spring Spree," their annual fundraising event, to raise money for preservation and improvements to SNC. This year's event raised \$45,679 from ticket, auction and donation revenues, including a generous donation from Blaine and Lee Jones.

Donations like these make it possible for SNC to improve their grounds and offer a variety of programs for all ages to enjoy. The funds raised at this year's event will be used to expand and upgrade the Nature Play Area at the nature center.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all who have given of their time and resources. You are helping us continue our mission of cultivating connections between people and nature.

Thank you to this year's donors:

- Blaine and Lee Jones
- Schaaf Floral
- Fridley Lions
- Allina
- Route 47

- Martha Reckdahl
- Ross Meisner
- Holly Schultz
- Xcel Energy
- MagniFi
- Mike's Discount Foods
- Jeremy and Ruth Powers
- Gail Nelson
- Erin Straszewski
- Linda Borman
- Fridley Rotary Club
- American Legion Riders Post
- Bob's Produce
- Fridley American Legion, Auxiliary Unit 303
- Shaddrick and Labeau Post 303, American Legion
- Crooners
- State Farm (Maria D.)

Interested in Giving to SNC?

There are a number of ways you can contribute to SNC. Monetary donations are accepted via mail to the SNCF (100 85th Avenue NE) or online through PayPal or SpringbrookNatureCenter.org/868/Donate-To-Springbrook.

Would you like to see your donation double? Some companies including Medtronic, Land O' Lakes, Target, 3M and Ameriprise Financial will match their employee's gifts to Springbrook Nature Center. If this applies to you, contact your employer for more information.



If you would like to give to SNC but are unable to do so financially, there are several volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Whether you want to volunteer on a regular basis or with our fun events, we welcome all helping hands. Our fantastic community events like Pumpkin Night in the Park and Summer Concert Series would not be possible without our volunteers. Learn more about how to get involved online at SpringbrookNatureCenter.org/844/Volunteer.



Adopt-A-Park

Make a difference in Fridley! We are looking for community members, families, groups or organizations to adopt our city parks! We ask for a minimum one-year commitment with at least four clean ups each year and training is provided. Adopt-A-Park volunteers will be recognized by signage in their adopted park and through community events! Visit FridleyMN.gov/AdoptAPark or call Parks and Recreation at 763-572-3570 for more information.

Our Leaders Are Readers

Join us at the Fridley City Hall as our civic leaders read stories about their jobs and roles in city government. After each story, readers will take families on a behind the scenes tour of their work spaces. This program is brought to you through a partnership with the Anoka County Library Mississippi Branch.

August 3 @ 10:30 a.m. – Fire

Aug 17 @ 10:30 a.m. – Mayor Lund

Aug 31 @ 10:30 a.m. – Police



Eagle Scout Project Completed at Innsbruck Nature Center

Innsbruck Nature Center, 5815 Arthur Street, is a 24-acre nature-based park featuring hiking trails through forests and wetlands. It is a great place to see wildlife, listen to the spring chorus of frog calls or take in the fall colors. Did you know that Innsbruck Nature Center once housed a small interpretive building and brought the first full-time naturalist to Fridley before Springbrook Nature Center opened its doors?

Today, visitors to the Innsbruck trails can enjoy a set of four beautiful park benches constructed as an Eagle Scout Project by Dylan Kirscher of Troop 3119. Dylan, supported by friends, family and his Troop members and leaders, designed and built the benches over



Dylan Kirscher and Father James Kirscher with One of Four New Benches at Innsbruck Nature Center

the winter and early spring of 2023 and completed the installation the last weekend of April.

On behalf of the City of Fridley and the many visitors to Innsbruck Nature Center, thank you to Dylan and all who supported his Eagle Scout Project. Well done, Dylan!

PLAY IN OUR PARKS!

Each month, the Rec team invites you to get outside and play in our parks with a curated, FREE, family-friendly event.

TELESCOPES AND CONSTELLATIONS

Come out to Commons to take a close look at the stars in our sky! Experts from the Bell Museum will tell constellation stories and have telescopes on hand for you to explore the stars and planets that make up our night sky! Meet at Commons Park Shelter.

All ages Sat Sep 23 7 - 9 p.m. Free Commons Park

PUMPKIN CARVING

Sign up to carve pumpkins at Springbrook Nature Center! Our Community Carving events are what help make Pumpkin Night in the Park so special.



Carve a pumpkin, then return to Pumpkin Night to try and find it on the trails! Sign up at SpringbrookNatureCenter.org.

All Ages October 15 noon - 4 p.m.
October 16-19 4 - 8 p.m. FREE
Springbrook Nature Center