

Golden Valley

CityNEWS

Visioning Gains Momentum



The people who live or work in Golden Valley are part of why the city is recognized as a model Minnesota community. They have been important contributors in making the city a great place to live, work, and play since Golden Valley was incorporated in 1886. Looking back, it's clear to see how Golden Valley came to be. The question is, where should Golden Valley be in five, 10, or 25 years? *Envision Golden Valley* is a process to develop and define ideas for the future of your community.

The Golden Valley City Council, with assistance from the Golden Valley Rotary and other community groups, recently initiated the final stage of a community visioning process that began in 1997. After recruiting volunteers through community groups and this newsletter (March/April 2003), Mayor Linda Loomis and Rotary representative Don Anderson funneled the talents of more than 45 respondents into a 19-person steering committee and eight subcommittees. At the first steering committee meeting May 22, co-chairs Loomis and Anderson provided committee members with information to kick off the planning process.

Using information gathered from citizen surveys (1999 and 2001) and neighborhood focus groups (2001), the steering committee will plan a Town Meeting and auxiliary events with input from the subcommittees. Subcommittees will plan alternative ways for people to participate, including off-site "meetings-in-a-box" to be held in homes or on the Internet. Other subcommittees are developing the theme and format for the events, planning ways for youth to participate, securing a facility and refreshments, and coordinating ways to communicate *Envision* activities to the community.

In addition, the steering committee will consider three levels of participation from local organizations and businesses. Sponsoring Organizations would make cash or in-kind contributions. Supporting Organizations would inform their membership of *Envision*

(*Envision Golden Valley continued on page 2*)

DON'T Miss

- Police and Fire Open House (page 10)
- Golden Valley Fire Relief Association Street Dance (page 11)
- Skate Park Opportunity (page 8)
- 2002 Water Quality Report (insert)

Vehicle Licensing GENERAL INFO

The City of Golden Valley has a full-service Motor Vehicle Deputy Registrar Department right in City Hall that can handle your licensing needs.

- Vehicle Licensing and Registration
- Title Transfers
- Fishing and Hunting Licenses
- Notary Service

LOCATION AND HOURS

Located in Golden Valley City Hall, 7800 Golden Valley Rd (one block north of the Highway 55/Winnetka Ave intersection and east on Golden Valley Road).

Open each weekday from 8 am to 5 pm and Tuesdays until 6 pm.

763-593-8101

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SENIOR STUFF

Membership Dues are \$5 per person for 2003. Support the Senior Program!

Special Events (register early)—June 23: Supper & Entertainment, 6:30 pm, Brookview; June 27: Summer Daze Dance, Dick Macko Band, 1 - 3:30 pm, Crystal Community Center; July 9: Spirit of America Lunch, 11:30 am, Crystal Community Center

Continental Breakfast—9:30 am, Brookview. June 25: "Sharing Your Power;" July 23: The Golden Age of Radio

Wellness & You—1:30 pm, Dover Hill. June 5: "Walk, Talk & Treats"

Financial Talks—10 am, Brookview. June 19; "Beneficiary Designation & Corporate Bonds"

Nutrition & You—9:30 am, Brookview. June 3: "Low Sodium Diet"

Defensive Driving Course—At Brookview. Four-hour refresher. June 26 and July 31, 9 am - 1 pm

Blood Pressure Screenings—June 25 and July 23, 11 am - noon, Brookview

Health Insurance Help—June 10, 9 - 11 am, Brookview

Upcoming Trips (register early)—June 6: Fountain City, WI; June 16 - 19: Quad Cities & Riverboat; June 27: Cokato, MN; July 10: Minnesota Centennial Showboat; July 22: Mystery Trip; August 5 and 6: Itasca State Park

Health Insurance Help—Second Tuesday, 9 am - noon, Brookview. Call to schedule an appointment.

Five Cities Transportation Program offers rides to seniors. Call the Five Cities office at 763-537-0229 between 8 am - 3 pm, Monday through Friday.

PRISM EXPRESS provides door-to-door senior transportation for medical appointments, personal shopping, etc. To schedule a ride, call 763-529-1252 in advance.

For more information or to register, contact:

Golden Valley Seniors Program
Brookview Community Center
 200 Brookview Parkway
 Golden Valley, MN 55426
 763-512-2339
 8 am - 5 pm, Monday - Friday

Envision Golden Valley

(continued from page 1)

events and encourage participation. Partner Organizations would encourage members to help plan and implement Envision activities. Partners would also develop a formal process to review Envision's outcomes and consider ways for their organization to be involved in implementing the vision.

Citizens need opportunities to come together with ideas for the future of Golden Valley—ideas which can be pursued by the City Council and City staff, and ideas which local service clubs, veterans groups, senior groups, youth, the faith community, and businesses can help bring into focus. The *Envision* Town Meeting is one way to generate such ideas. Although the Town Meeting events aren't scheduled until winter 2004, the City Council hopes the extra effort in planning will inspire broad participation by people who live and work in Golden Valley. Watch *CityNews* and the City web site for regular updates and new ways to participate.

All interested people are encouraged and welcome to participate in *Envision Golden Valley*. To get involved, contact Mayor Linda Loomis at 763-593-3990 or Linda.Loomis@ci.golden-valley.mn.us. For more information about *Envision Golden Valley*, contact Jeanne Andre (763-593-8014) or Cheryl Weiler (763-593-8004).



2004 property taxes: All Projections On Hold

By this time of year, local government can usually begin to make some projections of property taxes on residential property for the coming year. This year, with the State facing significant deficits for at least the next couple of years and the legislature currently considering how to deal with the situation, it is impossible to predict what the future holds for property taxes in Golden Valley.

What is almost certain is that payments from the State for Local Government Aid (LGA) and Homestead Credit Reimbursement, totaling approximately \$590,000, will be eliminated in 2003. The City Council has already approved cuts in personnel and capital outlay to offset this anticipated revenue reduction. The estimated cut for 2004 is around the same amount.

Meanwhile, the legislature is considering limiting a City's ability to levy in 2004 to replace the lost revenue. If the legislature passes strict levy limits or some type of tax "freeze," the City would have to cover any budget increases with additional revenue and/or the use of reserves.

Even if the City's levy remains about the same for 2004, the residential taxpayer will probably see some sort of increase in property taxes because of the "shift" in tax burden from commercial/industrial (C/I) property to residential property. This shift occurs because the market value of residential property continues to increase at a significant rate while the market value of C/I property is relatively flat or, in some cases, even decreasing.

After the legislature passes the 2003 tax laws, *CityNews* will provide as much information as possible on the tax impacts for 2004 and beyond. If you have questions about your property taxes or the City budget, contact the City Finance Department at 763-593-8013.

JWC Studies Water System Options

In February, City Councils from the Joint Water Commission (JWC) cities of Crystal, Golden Valley, and New Hope approved in-depth evaluations to determine whether it is feasible for the JWC to supply and treat its own water instead of purchasing treated water from the City of Minneapolis. The rate the JWC pays Minneapolis for water, which has increased by 156% since 1997, is expected to increase another 32% between 2003 and 2007. The evaluations, which should be completed by this fall, will cover several technical and financial considerations (see box at right).

HISTORY

The Cities of Crystal, Golden Valley, and New Hope formed the JWC in 1963 to purchase treated water collectively from the City of Minneapolis. For 40 years Minneapolis has been a reliable source of reasonably priced, good quality water. In return, the JWC has been a good customer, purchasing about 15% of the water treated by Minneapolis. The original contract between the JWC and the City of Minneapolis expired in 1991. The JWC is currently buying water under a memorandum of understanding that will expire in December 2003.

After several years with little or no increase in water rates, the price the JWC paid Minneapolis for water began to rise rapidly in 1997. While Minneapolis continues to provide excellent water, its water treatment facilities in Columbia Heights and Fridley need updating to meet current water quality standards. Minneapolis will begin to bring new, state-of-the-art treatment facilities online in 2004 and hopes to complete the process by 2007. The total cost will likely exceed \$140 million, and as a major water customer of Minneapolis, the JWC will shoulder a significant share of the cost.

STUDYING THE OPTIONS

The JWC is committed to providing its customers with safe, high-quality water at the best possible price. To ensure it was considering all options, the JWC conducted an initial study in 1997, which recommended the JWC consider "going it alone" if rates increased by 130%. A preliminary Water System Feasibility Study, completed in September 2002, indicated an independent water system may be both technically and economically feasible. In February 2003, City Councils from the JWC's three member cities authorized additional evaluations to confirm the results of the feasibility study.

"No decision has been made whether or not we will proceed with our own water system," said JWC Board chair, Dan Donahue. "The member cities have decided to complete the study to ensure that we can make an informed decision whether an alternative water system is in the best interest of our utility customers."

"The pilot testing of different membrane and treatment technologies on local water is perhaps the most critical component of the study," said Donahue. "If engineers can't produce softened water from a local well that has taste and other aesthetic qualities that meet or exceed our current water supply, then an alternative water system is a nonstarter. There will be no need for further study."

Another key factor is cost. If projected costs for an alternative water system would require water rates for utility customers that are not competitive with projected rates from Minneapolis, then an alternative water system will not be considered at this time. Pilot testing should begin this summer.

For more information about the JWC and the alternative water system study, watch for upcoming issues of *CityNews* and explore the new JWC web site at www.jwcontap.org

WATER STUDY OBJECTIVES

If the JWC decides to construct its own water system, that system would:

- provide softened, treated water with equal or better taste and quality than the current water supply.
- draw water from the Jordan-Prairie du Chien aquifer through a system of wells located in Crystal, Golden Valley, and New Hope.
- include one or two water treatment facilities to remove excess iron and manganese, reduce hardness, and disinfect the water before distribution to customers.
- incorporate existing JWC infrastructure, including reservoirs in Crystal and Golden Valley, water towers in Golden Valley and New Hope, and the water distribution system.

The current water system study will:

- determine if the Jordan aquifer would provide abundant, high-quality water to the JWC without negatively impacting neighboring water systems.
- evaluate if such a system could obtain the necessary permits from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.
- assess the options for governing an independent JWC water system.
- pilot test various membrane and treatment processes on a test well in one of the JWC cities to confirm that equal or better water quality and taste can be achieved.
- refine cost estimates for designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining an alternative water system and determine how best to pay for it.

Next month *CityNews* will focus on how cutting-edge water treatment technology can transform hard ground water that does not taste very good into softened water that tastes at least as good as the JWC's current water supply.

**Want to know "What's On Tap?"
Go to www.jwcontap.org.**



Holiday Notice

Recycling pick-up the week of the July 4 holiday will be one day later than usual. Have your recyclables at the curb by 7 am Saturday, July 5.



The Golden Valley Recycling Program is partially funded by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners.

24-Hour Recycling Info-Line

Features recorded answers to your recycling questions 24 hours a day. Just call 763-593-8119 to reach the Golden Valley Recycling Information Line (directions for rotary phone users are on the message). For information on:

- curbside recycling, press 1
- apartment recycling, press 2
- yard waste disposal, press 3
- household hazardous waste disposal, press 4

763-593-8119

Missed Pick-Ups

If your recycling is missed on Friday, call Waste Management at 952-890-1100 before noon on the following Monday.

If you have specific recycling questions, call 763-593-8030.

It's UGH Time Again

If you're planning any spring cleaning this year, here's some information that will help you get rid of the UGH—"Unwanted Garden and Household" chemicals and waste—you may come across. Just plan your cleaning days in conjunction with the following free household hazardous waste collection in St Louis Park:

Thursday, June 12 - Saturday, June 14

9 am - 4 pm

St Louis Park Senior High School

6425 W 33 St, St Louis Park

(N of Hwy 7 on Dakota to 33 St)

The event, sponsored by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners and the City of St Louis Park, provides County residents with an opportunity to conveniently and properly dispose of garden and household hazardous wastes (see list of accepted materials below).

Toilet cleaner, disinfectant, windshield washer fluid, and cleaners with bleach and ammonia (never mix products containing bleach with those containing ammonia—a toxic gas can form) can be flushed with lots of water down your sink or toilet (but not in septic tank systems). Latex paints and caulks, glaze, spackle, empty aerosols, cosmetics, putty, grout, and empty containers can be dried completely and placed in the trash with lids removed.

You can get rid of UGH any time of the year at Hennepin County's two permanent household hazardous waste drop-off sites:

Hennepin County Recycling Center & Transfer Station

8100 Jefferson Hwy, Brooklyn Park

South Hennepin Recycling & Problem Waste Drop-Off Center

1400 West 96th St, Bloomington

For materials accepted at these facilities and hours of operation, call Hennepin County's 24-Hour INFOLine at 612-348-6500.

NOT ACCEPTED

- any waste from businesses
- appliances* (refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc)
- asbestos
- compressed gas cylinders and tanks
- explosives
- garbage
- medical or infectious wastes
- motor oil and oil filters*
- radioactive waste (eg, smoke detectors)
- tires

*Accepted at County's permanent drop-off sites (see article above).

ACCEPTED*

- auto wastes (batteries, starter fluid, etc)
- cleaning solvents and adhesives
- consumer electronics (TVs, radios, etc)
- corrosives
- driveway sealers
- flammable liquids
- fluorescent and HID lamps
- household batteries
- paint & lead-based paint chips
- paint thinners and solvents
- pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, etc)
- photographic and hobby chemicals
- rechargeable appliances
- wood preservatives

*Not a complete list. Call 612-348-3777 for more information about what is accepted.

Phosphorus Restriction Goes Statewide

By City ordinance, Golden Valley has been phosphorus free since March 2000. The rest of Minnesota will be required to follow suit January 1, 2004, when a new state law takes effect that restricts lawn fertilizer to 0% phosphate content throughout the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area and Crow Wing County (3% elsewhere in Minnesota). Enacted last April, the Minnesota Phosphorus Lawn Fertilizer Law makes Minnesota the first and only state to place such broad restrictions on use of phosphorus lawn fertilizer.

Although phosphorus is an important nutrient for plant growth, it's not necessary in some soils. Excess phosphorus runs off lawns and pollutes lakes, rivers, streams, and creeks, producing algae and water weeds. Homeowners unintentionally contribute to the problem by using fertilizer with phosphorus their lawns don't need. Since soil in Golden Valley (and most of Hennepin County) is phosphorus rich, it rarely needs more to keep lawns green.

Experts from across the country, including those at the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water and the University of Minnesota Extension Service, advocate using phosphorus-free fertilizers to protect the environment. Golden Valley City Code prohibits phosphorus content in fertilizers in any form, except when it occurs naturally in unadulterated organic fertilizing products, such as yard waste compost.

Soil TESTING

Before buying any fertilizer, have your soil tested. Results will tell you exactly what nutrients are needed in what amount to make your lawn healthy. For \$12.50 per soil sample, the University of Minnesota Soil Testing Lab tests for phosphorus (P), potassium (K), and pH (acidity of the soil). If results show a need for phosphorus, lawn fertilizers with higher phosphate content can be used in accordance with rates recommended by the U of M and approved by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. For more information, or for soil test forms and sample bags, contact the University of Minnesota Soil Testing Laboratory at 612-625-3101 or go to <http://soiltest.coafes.umn.edu/index.htm>.

Buying PHOSPHORUS-FREE FERTILIZER

To be sure you are purchasing phosphorus-free fertilizer, locate the three numbers on the bag or bottle. These numbers indicate the percent content of nitrogen, phosphate, and potassium. Phosphorus-free fertilizers will have 0 for the middle number (see photo).

Before you shop, call to see if retailers carry phosphorus-free fertilizers. Golden Valley's retailers are aware of the City ordinance and have been requested to carry phosphorus-free fertilizers. Still, neither Golden Valley's ordinance nor the Minnesota Phosphorus Lawn Fertilizer Law restricts the sale of phosphorous lawn fertilizer because there are two instances when phosphorus can be used: on newly seeded lawns and on lawns where soil testing shows a phosphorus deficiency.

Using phosphorus-free fertilizer is just one way to boost water quality (see box at right for more). If you need more information about phosphorus or water quality, contact Golden Valley's Environmental Coordinator, Al Lundstrom, at 763-593-8046.



Help Boost WATER QUALITY

Leaves, soil, grass clippings, and pet waste are major sources of phosphorus. Proper disposal and yard maintenance practices will keep these materials out of storm drains and nearby lakes, ponds, or streams.

- Keep storm drains clear and don't rake lawn debris into streets.
- Sweep grass clippings off paved surfaces.
- Sweep up and reuse any lawn care products that fall on streets, sidewalks, or driveways.
- Follow label instructions on lawn care products and properly dispose of containers.
- Direct water from downspouts onto your lawn and away from the house and paved surfaces.
- Reseed bare spots on your lawn, and mow high and often (keep grass height between 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 inches).

CITY OUTLINES LAWN ORDINANCE

Golden Valley residents are required by City ordinance to keep their lawns mowed and maintained. If a lawn is left to grow taller than eight inches, the resident is notified of the ordinance violation and required to correct the situation within five days of notification. If there's no compliance, the City will have the lawn mowed and then bill the homeowner.

This summer, if you plan to be away from home longer than two weeks, make arrangements to have your lawn mowed. If the City attempts to notify you and is unsuccessful over time, it may be forced to have your lawn mowed while you are gone.

If you need to report a yard maintenance complaint, call the Park Maintenance Department at 763-593-8045. If you have questions about other horticultural topics, try leaving a message at the Hennepin County Master Gardener Hotline (612-374-8433). These trained volunteers will return your call when they can and try to help.

Public Works

Contributing to the Quality of Community Life

Residents in modern cities are accustomed to certain amenities. We want clean, safe water to come out of our faucets, and we want it to drain away when we're done using it. We don't want to worry about where everything goes after we flush the toilet, as long as it goes away. When we get in our cars, we expect streets (preferably in good repair) that allow us to get to our various destinations. We don't want to worry about flooding. In our free time, we like to have access to public parks and trails for recreation. Oh yeah, we want our urban landscape to have some nice trees, too, so it doesn't seem like we're in a city.

In a busy world, it's easy to take these basics for granted. Generally called infrastructure, they are the facilities and framework that provide a foundation for human civilization.

Golden Valley's Public Works Department manages and maintains the City's infrastructure, including the water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer system; street and sidewalk system; parks and trails system; and forestry and environmental programs. Each day, a staff of dedicated individuals is on the job making sure you can brush, flush, walk the dog, jog a wooded trail, or drive your kid to Little League at a groomed field in a neighborhood park.

By managing the physical aspects of the City's infrastructure and using a strong public education program to build community understanding of the philosophy behind it, the Public Works Department contributes to Golden Valley's quality of life one day at a time.

Storm Water System

As rain, melting snow, and other precipitation runs off streets, roofs, parking lots, lawns, driveways, and other surfaces, it is directed to the storm water system through storm drains in and under the gutters (catch basins) of the street system. Water going through storm water catch basins in the street is not treated before it is returned to the environment. However, devices such as storm water ponds help filter out sediment and pollutants before the water reaches natural waterways.

Public Works crews maintain approximately 90 miles of storm water piping and about 1,000 catch basins. They also maintain Bassett Creek, which meanders through the community from the west to east, by checking it for debris that could restrict the flow.

The City of Golden Valley administers several storm water management programs, including pond cleaning, rear yard drainage, sump pump discharge, street sweeping, storm water system cleaning, and installation of sump catch basins. Through its Environmental Division, Public Works educates the community about water quality issues as they relate to storm water runoff (see phosphorus article on page 5).

Street and Sidewalk System

Street maintenance is one of the biggest, and costliest, responsibilities of City government. It's also one of the most necessary. Public Works must keep approximately 120 miles of streets and 31 miles of sidewalk at an adequate level of service and safety. And because streets deteriorate as they age, Golden Valley's Pavement Management Program (PMP) recommends rehabilitating streets that require costlier ongoing maintenance. Staff then systematically manages further maintenance (sealcoating and overlays) on the new pavement to provide a longer street lifespan at the lowest possible cost to the taxpaying public (see sealcoating article on page 9).

Under Golden Valley's PMP, Public Works evaluates all city streets based on their need for maintenance or rehabilitation. Priority is given to streets, or groupings of streets, that have the highest need. Most of Golden Valley's neediest streets are more than 30 years old and were constructed using methods that differed greatly from today's standards. Streets not constructed to current standards (including concrete curb and gutter) will be reconstructed or reclaimed at some time during the life of the PMP.

On the maintenance side, Public Works crews repair potholes and support sealcoating and overlay efforts to keep streets safe and help them last longer. Crews sweep and clean streets from March to November to keep the city clean and prevent debris from entering the storm water system. In the winter the focus shifts to keeping streets safe and passable. Besides standard maintenance issues, crews handle major weather events about 10 times each winter, driving about 450 miles each time to plow and sand the streets and clear sidewalks. For more information on the street system, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/streets.htm.

Park and Trail System

Golden Valley's numerous parks and open spaces play a vital role in the identity and character of the community. Fifteen percent of the city (more than 1,035 acres) is dedicated to parks and open space, for a total of 21 parks, nine nature areas, and two activity areas. Many of these areas include amenities such as shelter buildings, ball fields, game or sport courts, playground equipment, and ice rinks. As caretakers of these areas, Public Works crews provide all general upkeep and improvements, including mowing grass, trimming bushes and trees, maintaining park shelters, grooming ball fields, and more. In addition, crews maintain nearly 47 miles of trails. Each winter efforts turn to providing Golden Valley residents with some of the best ice rinks in the metro area.

**National
Public
Works Week
May 18-24,
2003**

Water and Sewer System

The system that brings water to Golden Valley homes and businesses involves more than 128 miles of pipe. The City is responsible for maintenance and repair of the water system up to the right-of-way line, as well as the water meter itself. When water mains break during Minnesota's freeze/thaw cycles of fall and spring, City maintenance crews are there to fix them. For more information on the where the City gets its water, see the article on page 3 and the Water Quality Report inserted in this newsletter, or go to jwcontap.org.

Wastewater treatment is a key service for residential, commercial, and industrial development and an important defense in protecting public health. Golden Valley's sanitary sewer system carries wastewater through 120 miles of pipe to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant in St. Paul. The system consists of gravity pipes (including trunk lines and lateral lines), force mains, and lift stations.

Homeowners can help control sewage treatment costs by making sure the sump pumps in their basements do NOT discharge into the sanitary sewer system (generally via a laundry tub or floor drain). Instead, sump pumps should drain into the City's storm water system through a direct connection to the main storm water line or directly onto the ground (preferably 20 feet from the house and not into a neighbor's yard). For more information, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/streets/sumppumps.htm.

Forestry Program

Golden Valley's many wooded residential areas are important visual, aesthetic, and economic resources and add significantly to the quality of life and value of property in the community. Just as streets, sewers, public buildings, and recreational facilities are part of a community's infrastructure, so are publicly owned trees.

Direct benefits are usually associated with energy costs—tree shade can reduce air conditioning costs by 15 to 50% and heating costs as much as 30%. The indirect economic benefits of trees are even greater. On average, an acre of trees can store 2.6 tons of carbon (pollution) annually and generate enough oxygen daily for 18 people. Models show that in 50 years, one tree can generate \$30,000 in oxygen, recycle \$35,000 of water, and remove \$60,000 of air pollution.

Golden Valley's Urban Forestry Program ensures that public trees are properly managed and gives residents information they need to care for their own trees. For many years, Golden Valley has received the nationally recognized designation of Tree City USA. Tree City USA was developed by the National Arbor Day Foundation, in conjunction with the United States Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. It recognizes towns and cities across America that meet four standards: a community tree ordinance, a legal tree governing body, a comprehensive urban forestry program supported by a minimum of \$2 per capita, and an annual observance of Arbor Day.



PARK & REC UPDATE

3rd Lair Skate Park Partnership—In May, the City of Golden Valley began partnering with the 3rd Lair Skate Park, 850 Florida Ave S, for Golden Valley youth age 16 and under to use the outdoor portion of its facility at no fee. Use of the indoor park will require the regular fee. Initial one-time registration requires users to provide proof of age and Golden Valley residency, a \$5 fee, and have a parent present to sign a waiver. For more information, call 3rd Lair at 763-797-5283 or go to www.3rdlair.com.

Summer Programming—The Golden Valley Park & Recreation Department offers an array of summer programming for people of all ages. Look for details in the Spring & Summer Recreation Activities Brochure or on the City web site at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/parks/prprograms.htm.

Youth Programs—Summer Playgrounds and Park Sports Programs, Little Critters, Kids Korner, Little Tikes, Drama Club, Karate, Music Lessons, Tennis Lessons, Tennis Leagues, Tennis Camps, Skateboarding Camps, Field Trips, Craft Classes, Science Classes, and much, much more.

Adult Programs—Yoga & Pilates, Women's Self Defense, Line Dancing, Karate, Tennis Leagues & Lessons, Warrior Woman Workout, Energy Healing Workshop, and more.

Fall Adult Athletic Leagues—Information for Fall Adult Softball, Basketball, Soccer, and Volleyball Leagues will be available in June. Call the Park & Recreation office (763-512-2345) to get on the mailing list to receive information as soon as it's available.

Four Ways To Register—in person or by mail (address below), by fax (763-512-2344), or on-line at GV Rec Connect (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/parks/prprograms.htm).

For more information, contact:

Park & Recreation

Brookview Community Center

200 Brookview Parkway

Golden Valley, MN 55426

763-512-2345

Monday - Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm

Run the Valley Raises \$8,725 for GVHSF

The ninth annual *Run the Valley* 5 - 10K Run and 5K Walk drew 635 runners and walkers to Brookview Park April 12 to compete for medals and raise funds for the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF). The event raised \$8,725 for the Foundation, which allocates the funds to local human service organizations such as Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, Home Free Shelter, North Hennepin Mediation Program, PRISM, Senior Community Services, Suburban Northwest Dinner at Your Door, and YMCA Detached Work Program.

Corporate sponsors for this year's event were Liberty Carton, Lupient, and Wells Fargo. Other sponsors included: Byerly's, Cable 12, Glenwood Inglewood, Golden Valley Country Club, Golden Valley Rotary, Perkins, Super America Golden Valley, Valley Pastries, and Yoplait.

In the 10K, the top three male finishers were Paul Brown, Waconia (36:24); Chris Humbert, Mound (36:34); Michael Bjornberg, Minneapolis (36:45). The top three female finishers were Nancy Schmelzle, St Louis Park (40:52); Christa Henly, Minneapolis, (44:53); and Vicki Christiansen, Brooklyn Park (44:53).

In the 5K, the top three male finishers were Rick Peterson, Maple Grove (7:43); Mike Setter, Minneapolis (17:57); Charly K, Edina (16:59). The top three female finishers were Jessica Young, Edina (19:20); Jill Ellenbecker, Coon Rapids (19:42); and Kate Clarkin, Anoka (22:28).

All participants received Golden Valley T-shirts, and medallions were awarded to the top three finishers in each age group. The Foundation thanks all who participated.

Next year's race is scheduled for April 17, 2004. For more information, check the City web site for updates (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/runvalley) or contact Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010.



hwy 100 Work CONTINUES

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) began construction May 1, 2000 on a major project to upgrade Hwy 100 through Golden Valley, Crystal, Robbinsdale, and Brooklyn Center. Currently:

Segment I (Glenwood Ave to Duluth St)—Crews are paving the ramps and working on the noise wall at Hwy 55. The week of May 19, traffic was switched on Hwy 100 northbound so traffic in opposing directions was no longer side-by-side. Median work is under way and scheduled for completion in July 2003. Completion of Segment I is expected by late fall 2003.

Segment V (Duluth St to 29th Ave N)—This portion of the project involves widening Duluth St to provide turn lanes, widening the Duluth St bridge, and improving exit and entrance ramp safety. In June, traffic will be switched back to the northbound Hwy 100 lanes, and work will begin on the medians. Depending on schedules, weather, and other factors, work on the southbound Hwy 100 lanes will begin in late August or September. The Duluth St ramp will likely open at the end of May. Work in this segment should be essentially completed in October 2003.

MnDOT will post signs announcing any street or access closings about two weeks before they occur. Motorists should watch for the signs, allow additional time to reach destinations, and plan to take alternate routes whenever possible. For more information, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/streets/streetconst.htm, which includes links to MnDOT's web site.

Sealcoating Prolongs Life of Asphalt Streets

Much like good paint or sealant prolongs the life of wood, sealcoating protects and prolongs the life of an asphalt street. This summer several Golden Valley streets (see box at right) will be sealcoated as part of the City's ongoing street maintenance program.

Sealcoating is one of the most common methods of preventive street maintenance. It's a surface treatment that seals and protects existing pavement and adds new life but does not add significant structural strength. Golden Valley uses a single surface treatment, which means a single application of liquid asphalt is sprayed on the existing bituminous surface, followed immediately by a single layer of aggregate (small pieces of rock) of as uniform a size as practical. The treatment is about 1/4 of an inch thick—the maximum size aggregate particles used. This type of treatment provides for excellent wear and waterproofing and also improves skid resistance. The City hires a contractor to perform this maintenance activity, while City crews perform all preparatory work and sweeping.

Here are a few things to expect during the sealcoating process:

- Streets will be well marked with signals and cones. Use alternate routes if possible.
- Drive slowly over the rock; don't spin your tires.
- Excess rocks will become bumpy and will be swept as soon as the new surface is ready to be exposed.
- Roads will be swept as necessary throughout the summer and early fall. It may take three or four times before all the excess rock is picked up.

Don't forget: drive slowly and be patient. Crews doing the road work appreciate your cooperation. If you have questions about work on a particular street, call the Street Maintenance Department at 593-8082. If you have questions about the street maintenance program, call the Public Works Maintenance Manager at 763-593-3981.



SEALCOATED STREET

CITY WORKS TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS WITH 2002 SEALCOAT

Last winter Golden Valley Public Works staff began documenting concerns with the performance of the 2002 sealcoat on City streets, most notably the failure of aggregate to adhere to liquid asphalt sprayed on the streets (see article above for details on the sealcoating process). The City is currently working with the sealcoat contractor to remedy the situation as required by the warranty provisions of the contract.

The problem varies from block to block, with some streets in excellent condition and others showing loss of some or all of the aggregate. Street maintenance crews have been sweeping these areas throughout late winter to pick up the loose aggregate.

The City and the sealcoat contractor are working together to determine the best corrective measures and proper timing required to repair the problems areas. If you have questions regarding the 2002 sealcoat program, contact Public Works Maintenance Manager Tom Klatt at 763-593-3981.

2003 SEALCOAT STREETS

- Zenith Ave (Glenwood Pkwy to 26th Ave)
- Glenwood Pkwy (Zenith to Xerxes)
- St Margaret Dr (Zenith to Xerxes)
- Vista Dr (Zenith to Xerxes)
- York Ave (St Margaret Dr to Vista)
- Manor Dr (Zenith to Xerxes)
- 26th Ave (Kewanee Way to Xerxes)
- Xerxes Ave (Wirth Pkwy to St Margaret)
- Xerxes Ave (Vista to St Margaret)
- Xerxes Ave (Vista to Manor)
- Xerxes Ave (26th to Manor)
- Manor Dr (Zenith to Parkview Blvd)
- Manor Dr (Crestview to Parkview)
- Crestview Ave (Manor to Byrd Ave)
- Kewanee Way (26th to cul-de-sac)
- Byrd Ave (26th to Crestview)
- Byrd Ave (McNair to Crestview)
- Byrd Ave (McNair to Parkview Blvd)
- McNair Dr (26th to Byrd)
- Parkview Blvd (26th to Terrace Lane)
- Parkview Blvd (Byrd to Terrace)
- Parkview Blvd (Byrd to Manor)
- Terrace Lane (Parkview to Meridian)
- Terrace Lane (Zenith to Meridian)
- Meridian Dr (26th to Terrace)
- Alley (26th to Terrace)
- Noble Service Rd (Culver to Triton)
- Noble Service Rd (Lowry Terrace to Triton)
- Orchard Ave (Culver to Triton)
- Orchard Ave (Lowry Terrace to Triton)
- Orchard Ave (Lowry Terrace to Lowry Terrace)
- Lowry Terrace (Orchard to Noble)
- Lowry Terrace (Orchard to Quail)
- Triton Dr (Regent to Quail)
- Triton Dr (Perry Ave to Quail)
- Triton Dr (Perry to Orchard)
- Triton Dr (Noble Service Rd to Orchard)

Campfires and RECREATIONAL FIRES

Plan ahead for summer fun. If you're looking to have a campfire or recreational fire in Golden Valley, check first with the Golden Valley Fire Department to obtain the proper permit, then adhere to the following guidelines:

- fire area must be within a three-foot diameter circle (measured from the inside of the ring or border) and completely surrounded by non-combustible materials, such as natural rock, cement, brick, tile, block, or metal
- fire area must be below grade, on the ground, or on a raised bed of non-combustible materials

Guidelines also apply to permanent outdoor and manufactured wood-burning fireplaces.

To get your recreation or campfire permit, contact Fire Marshal Ed Anderson at 763-583-8065 or eanderson@ci.golden-valley.mn.us, or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/permits/recfirepermit.htm.

POLICE AND FIRE OPEN HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2003
6 - 8 PM

Fire Station 1

7800 Golden Valley Rd
Squirt House, Police Squad Car, Vehicle Extrication (7:30), T-Shirts, Fire Truck Rides, and Door Prizes

Fire Station 2

400 Turners Crossroad
Old Number One, Sprinkler Trailer (7:30), Fire Truck Rides, Police Squad Car, T-Shirts, Squirt House, and Door Prizes

Fire Station 3

3700 Golden Valley Rd
Live Fire Demo (7:30), T-Shirts, Fire Truck Rides, Squirt House, Police Squad Car, Sparky, and Door Prizes

For more information, call the Golden Valley Fire Department at 763-593-3977.

Don't Support The Crime Triangle

Crime does not simply happen. Certain factors must be present first. The three elements of crime—ability, desire, and opportunity—are like a triangle. Remove any one element, and the triangle is not complete and the crime cannot occur. While it is difficult, if not impossible, to control someone's ability and desire, you can help reduce crime by controlling opportunity. Removing the opportunity side of the crime triangle limits a criminal's ability to act.

The following crime prevention tips will help you limit opportunity and greatly reduce criminal incidents at home and while you are out and about.

- Close and lock the overhead garage door when you are not in or near the garage.
- Close and lock windows at night and when you are not at home. Consider "pinning" your windows to allow for ventilation (for double-hung windows).
- Don't leave bikes, lawn mowers, and other valuables unattended and unlocked—even in the front yard or unlocked/open garage.
- Always roll up car windows and lock your car doors, even if you are "just running for a minute." Don't leave anything of value in the car. If you must, place it in the locked trunk before arriving at your destination.
- Lock your front doors when working in the back yard (and vice versa).
- While on vacation, have a trusted neighbor check on your house, water outdoor plants, and mow the lawn.
- Keep ladders inside so they are not used to reach high windows that may be open.
- Light up the outside of your home from dusk until dawn.
- If you're walking or riding your bike alone, carry a whistle or some kind of noise maker to attract attention if needed.
- Call 911 immediately when you see or hear something you feel is suspicious.

No theft is justifiable, regardless of how easy something is to take. However, the responsibility to protect personal property belongs to the owner. Ensure that your personal valuables are secure!

For more on crime prevention, contact the Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit at 763-593-8058 or jpaul@ci.golden-valley.mn.us, or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/publicsafety/crimeprev.htm.



National Night Out is designed to:

- heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
- generate support for, and participation in, local crime prevention efforts
- strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships
- send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

Neighborhoods throughout Golden Valley are invited to join forces with communities across the nation for the 20th annual National Night Out (NNO) celebration Tuesday, August 5, 2003.

As in past years, the Golden Valley Police Department and the Golden Valley Crime Prevention Fund will provide prize kits to all groups that register their National Night Out celebration.

Information will be mailed to block captains in early June, or you may contact the City's Crime Prevention Unit (763-593-8058) or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/publicsafety/nationalnightout.htm.

GVFD Celebrates 60 Years of Service

Volunteer fire departments have existed in this country since colonial days, but it was during World War II that many, including Golden Valley's, came to be. This year, the Golden Valley Fire Department (GVFD) celebrates 60 years of community service and support.

EARLY BEGINNINGS

Golden Valley was mostly farmland in 1940, with 2,048 people and about 700 homes. As the country emerged from the depression, many new homes were built and residents were acutely aware of the lack of fire protection they had enjoyed in larger cities. The attack on Pearl Harbor further heightened this awareness, and when Civil Defense was organized nationally, lumber yard owner Fletcher Olson was named the local director. In 1943, Olson called for a fire department. The village council agreed and near the end of the year, the Golden Valley Volunteer Fire Department was recognized under state law.



Old Number 1
PURCHASED IN 1943

The first fire truck was housed in a drafty shed behind the village hall. The first fire station was an unused wooden garage donated by the Minneapolis, Northfield, and Southern Railroad. Firefighters kept the building warm by continually checking the furnace and stoking it with coal. Since Glenwood Hills Hospital had the only 24-hour switchboard in the village, its switchboard operator took the fire calls and began the round robin system that had the firefighters' wives notifying the volunteer firefighters. By September 1944, firefighters were paid 75 cents for the first hour and 50 cents an hour thereafter while at a fire.

COMING OF AGE

Over the next few years, Golden Valley voters declined three bond issues for a new fire station. By 1946, the situation prompted firefighters to tell the village council, "Effective this date, we are serving notice that we are no longer able to provide fire protection for Golden Valley due to lack of a water supply and a heated building..." This time the community responded. In 1948, bonds were sold to build Station #2 on Lilac Dr (Hwy 100). A new public safety building, which housed another fire station, was built in 1967. In 1978 and 1979, construction began on two additional fire stations at strategic locations, prompting the closing of Station #2 on Hwy 100. In 1979 Liberty Carton, a local manufacturing company, donated the first fire rescue truck, which allowed the department to respond to medical emergencies.



FIRE STATION 3 BUILT
IN 1979

A MATURE, PROGRESSIVE PRESENT AND FUTURE

Today, Golden Valley still has three fire stations, 50 paid, on-call firefighters, a full-time fire chief, deputy fire marshal, public education specialist/training coordinator, and an administrative assistant. Firefighters make \$11.82 an hour and respond to about 750 calls for service per year, including fires, auto accidents, medicals, and mutual aid calls to other communities.



2001 HOUSE FIRE

The GVFD realizes it is not enough to just put out fires and continues to be progressive in adopting effective, controlled, and balanced community fire prevention programs that include both code enforcement and education. Thanks to community support, the GVFD has been able to provide its firefighters with excellent training, equipment, and facilities. In return, Golden Valley gets a highly qualified, paid on-call fire department dedicated to the community. For more on the GVFD, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/publicsafety/firedept.htm.

Street Dance & FIREWORKS

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2003

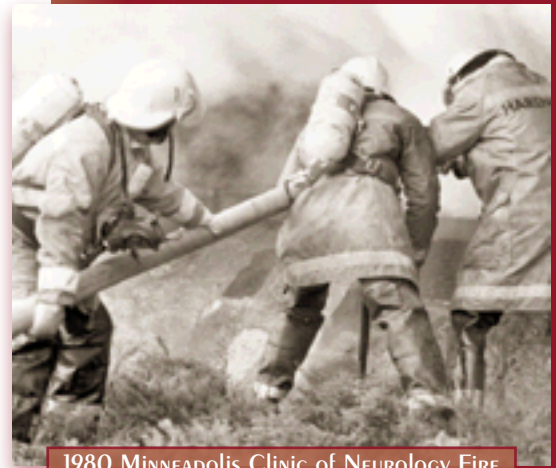
4 PM - MIDNIGHT

Chester Bird American Legion
Hwy 100 & Glenwood Ave

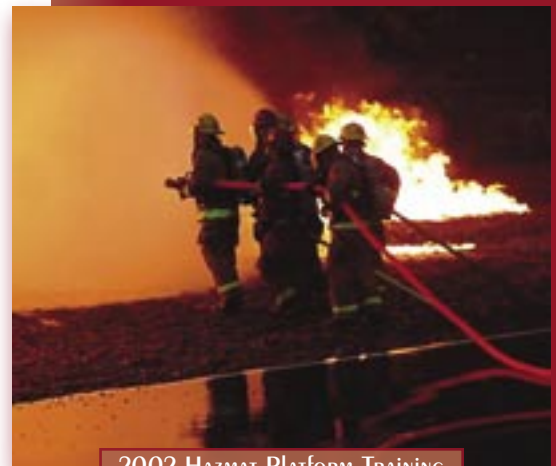
- Fire trucks, activities, and kiddie games (inflatable jump room and face painting)
- Hotdogs, brats, corn-on-the-cob, pop, beer
- 8 pm - 11 pm: Music by Natalie Simmons and Brave New World
- Fireworks at Dusk

Sponsored by the Golden Valley Fire Relief Association to celebrate its bond with the community.

For more information, contact the Golden Valley Fire Department at 763-593-8055.



1980 MINNEAPOLIS CLINIC OF NEUROLOGY FIRE



2002 HAZMAT PLATFORM TRAINING

PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Deliver complete entries to Photo Contest, City of Golden Valley, 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Age (if under 18): _____

Category: Natural Golden Valley
 Golden Valley Lifestyle

Title of the Photo: _____

I agree to let the City of Golden Valley publish my photo(s) in City publications with proper credit.

Signature _____

Snap To It: Enjoy Views of the Valley Contest

Capture on film your views of Golden Valley's nature areas, parks, public spaces, and community spirit by entering the 11th annual *Views of the Valley* photo contest. Or, vote for your favorite photo in the "People's Choice" award category by visiting the City web site or City Hall June 17 - 28.

CONTEST RULES

- You must be a Golden Valley resident.
- Submit photos in one of two categories: Natural Golden Valley (landscapes, flora, fauna, etc), or Golden Valley Lifestyle (cityscapes, buildings, people, activities).
- Submit color or black-and-white **5 x 7** photos (no slides).
- Enter up to three photos. Include complete entry information for each (see form at left). All photographs submitted must be your own work.
- Deadline is June 9, 2003, 4:30 pm.
- City employees and their families are not eligible to enter.

Winning photos will be published in *CityNews* and the City web site and reproduced for permanent display in City Hall. Grand prize is \$100. Questions? Need more entry blanks? Call 763-593-8004. Want to see past winners? Check the web site at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community.

City of
Golden Valley

763-593-8000

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