

Golden Valley

CITYNEWS

Envision Connection Project Seeks Input

Envision Golden Valley engaged the community in 2004, and hundreds of people shared ideas about future opportunities for development, transportation, recreation, environment, and government as well as options for community engagement. So how does the City fertilize and grow its vision, involving the people who live, work, and play here?



The City Council is pursuing ambitious goals for the future and inviting participation from stakeholders. Some examples include:

- new ordinances to improve housing maintenance in Golden Valley
- study of land use in the I-394 corridor and how ordinances can help imprint design guidelines (see pages 8–9)
- master planning to look at parks for the twenty-first century
- business surveys to better understand business and employment in Golden Valley
- strategies to improve traffic safety, bridges, and pedestrian access

Envision Connection Project

The City Council does not have a franchise on the community vision—citizens also have a vested interest in making it a reality. In December, the City Council appointed the *Envision* Connection Project Board of Directors to develop ways to engage the public in the ongoing *Envision* process. Its four-phase approach includes:

- presenting the Vision Guide to the community
- linking people, groups, and resources

(*ENVISION CONTINUED ON PAGE 2*)

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

This summer, join family, friends, and neighbors at Brookview Park's large picnic shelter for free weekly concerts. Concerts start at 7 pm and last 60 to 90 minutes. Bring lawn chairs or a blanket and picnic supper. Concerts will be moved to Brookview Community Center if it rains.

2005 CONCERT SCHEDULE

June 13—Golden Valley Orchestra

June 20—The Blue Drifters

June 27—Banjo Bandits

July 11—Gypsy Mania (Swing Jazz)

July 18—Calhoun Brass

July 25—The Bavarian Musikmeisters

August 1—Booley Band

August 8—Beacon Hill Brass

August 15—Tune Into Kids

Special thanks to the Golden Valley Federated Women's Club for its donation to the *Concerts In The Park*.

For more information on any Parks and Recreation program, contact Golden Valley Parks and Recreation at 763-512-2345. 

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ENVISION

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

- encouraging Council, staff, volunteers, and others
- involving more people

Board members are using a Web blog to facilitate their discussion on ways to reach the Vision. To participate in this discussion and view the full work plan, go to <http://envisiongv.blogspot.com>. You can also get there through the City's Web site. Go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us, click on the *Envision* logo on the home page, then follow the "Envision Connection Project" link to the blog.

INVENTORY OF COMMUNITY GROUPS

To involve more people, the *Envision* Connection Project Board is currently doing an inventory of community resource groups. Any group located in Golden Valley or with significant membership in or goals related to Golden Valley is invited to share contact information with the *Envision* Connection Project.

There are many ways groups can benefit by this association. First, it would make their existence known to interested persons in Golden Valley. It would also link them to other groups or individuals who want to further a vision. The net result is to forge new relationships between people and groups in Golden Valley that will benefit the community at large. Use the blog connection above to share information about your group.

You can also visit with Connection Project Board members at the City booth at Golden Valley Days, May 21, Civic Center Campus, 7800 Golden Valley Rd.

GET INVOLVED

For more information about the *Envision* Connection Project, all Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014. Detailed information about *Envision Golden Valley* is available at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us. To get involved in the *Envision* Connection Project, go to <http://envisiongv.blogspot.com>.

GV DirectConnect Brings City Hall To You

If you want to know what's going on in the City but are strapped for time, check out *GV DirectConnect*, the newest feature on the City Web site. Launched May 16, *GV DirectConnect* is an email listserve that provides subscribers with updates and information about City services that interest them. Although a limited number of topics are available to start, the City plans to significantly expand the service in both range and variety by the end of the year.

Types of Lists

Initially, *GV DirectConnect* will feature two types of services. One will provide short updates and new information about specified topics or supply a link to more information, minutes, or agendas available on the City Web site. These lists are considered "one-way"—information is sent to the subscribing member, but no interaction occurs between members.

The first lists available will provide agendas, minutes, and information about City Council, Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), and Planning Commission meetings. Eventually information will be available for all City Boards and Commissions, and many more lists are in the planning stages.

The second type of service provides moderated discussion on specific topics. These "two-way" lists will supply information about specific topics and allow subscriber discussion, with questions, comments, and replies posted for all members to view. City staff will moderate the discussions to prevent inappropriate information (eg, profanity, misinformation, and off-topic subjects), from being posted.

The first discussion list available will focus on the I-394 Corridor study (see article on pages 8–9). Look for that list May 23. The second discussion list will be a virtual block club for businesses interested in working together on crime prevention. Look for that list June 1.

Signing-Up

To sign up for *GV DirectConnect*, go to the City Web site (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us) and hit the *GV DirectConnect* link. On the sign-up page, select the list(s) you want and provide your full name and email address. To finish, pick a password so other people cannot unsubscribe you or participate in list discussions using your name.

WHAT'S AHEAD

The City plans to use a variety of e-services to both communicate with and accept information from the public. Currently citizens can sign up online for Parks and Recreation offerings through *GV RecConnect* and get a limited number of permits through *GV PermitConnect*. Later this year the City will launch *GV RequestConnect*, an online function for citizen service requests. Watch future editions of *CityNews* for details.

For more information about *GV DirectConnect* and other communications initiatives, contact Communications Coordinator Cheryl Weiler at 763-593-8004.



Run the Valley Raises \$11,600 for GVHSF

The 11th annual *Run the Valley* 5–10K Run and 5K Walk drew 607 runners and walkers to Meadowbrook School April 16 to compete for medals and raise funds for the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF).

The event raised \$11,600 for the GVHSF, which allocates the funds to local human service organizations such as Crisis Connection, Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, Home Free Shelter, North Hennepin Mediation Center, PRISM, Senior Community Services, Suburban NW Dinner At Your Door, and YMCA Detached Work Program.

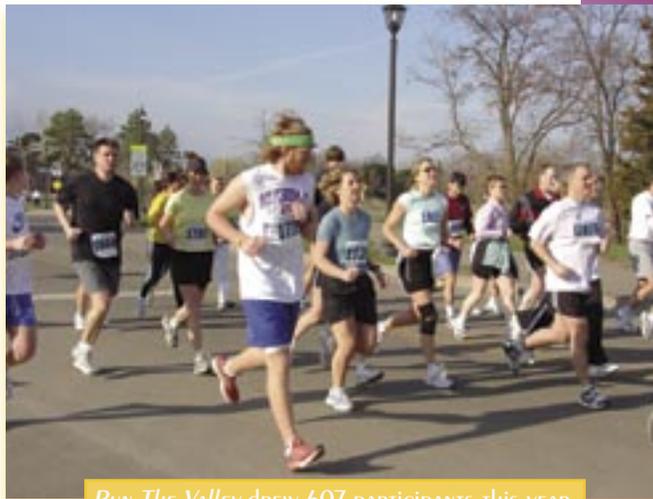
Corporate sponsors for this year's event were Liberty Carton, Wells Fargo Golden Valley, and BNC National Bank. Other sponsors included Byerly's, Cable 12, Golden Valley Country Club, Golden Valley Rotary, Perkins, Super America Golden Valley, Valley Pastries, and Nestle Waters North America, Inc.

In the 10K, the top three male finishers were Derek Dippon, Cedar (35:52); Kirt Goetzke, Plymouth (36:26); and Michael Mogilka, Germany (37:21). The top three female finishers were Jackie Larson, Pelican Rapids (40:17); Nancy Schmelzle, St Louis Park (41:32); and Katie Berndt, Golden Valley (44:05).

In the 5K, the top three male finishers were Michael Little, Minneapolis (15:29); Rick Taplin, Dayton (16:42); and Doug Keller, Plymouth (17:15). The top three female finishers were Joyce Bourassa, Lakeville (18:22); Jessica Young, Plymouth (18:41); and Charlene Einarson, Minneapolis (19:18).

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 2006. For more information, check the City Web site for updates (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/runvalley.htm) or contact Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010.



Run The Valley drew 607 participants this year.

CHANNEL 12 HAS LOCAL COLOR

Looking for more news about Golden Valley and surrounding locales? Northwest Community Television's (NWCT) Channel 12 offers family-friendly neighborhood programming with a focus on

your community, including a daily newscast, coverage of area high school sports and community events, and features on area people and businesses. It's also the place to turn for features on local city government.

NorthWest Cities is a weekly newsmagazine program about local government produced by Channel 12 in cooperation with various northwest metro municipalities. It can be seen on Channel 12 every day at 22 and 52 minutes after the hour following *Channel 12 News*. Each program airs for an entire week, and each city is featured bimonthly.

GOVERNMENT ACCESS

Going up the dial will take you to Channel 16, your government access channel. This is the place to turn for Golden Valley's Cable Bulletin Board and for live broadcasts of City Council, Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), and Planning Commission meetings, and other City programming. Council meetings are replayed on Channel 16 daily at 6:30 pm.

Public Access

Ever wondered about the behind-the-scenes world of television production? NWCT's public access department provides free classes designed for beginners that offer a combination of discussion and basic hands-on training needed to produce programs for cablecast on NWCT Channels 19 and 20. There are openings now for classes in May, June, and July.

For more information about public access or Cable 12 programming, call Northwest Community Television at 763-533-8196. For more information about Golden Valley's government access programming, call the City's Communications Coordinator at 763-593-8004.

fall soccer REMINDER

Sign up now now for fall soccer.

JUNIOR SOCCER

Grades K–1
Saturdays, Sept 10–Oct 29
Hampshire Park
Fee: \$28, Shirt: \$12

YOUTH SOCCER

Grades 2–6
Saturdays, Aug 29–Oct 29
Lions, Wesley, and Sheid Parks and
Perpich Center for Arts Education
Fee: \$28, Shirt: \$12 (if needed)

For more information, contact Golden Valley Parks and Recreation at 763-512-2345.



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

763-593-8030

Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week—Pick-Up Date

Memorial Day—Sat, June 4
 Fourth of July—Sat, July 9
 Labor Day—Sat, Sept 10
 Thanksgiving—Sat, Nov 26
 Christmas—regular pick-up
 New Year's—regular pick-up

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

Courtesy of the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners and the City of St Louis Park, residents can get rid of the UGH—"Unwanted Garden and Household" chemicals and waste—at this free, annual household hazardous waste collection:

Thursday, June 9—Saturday, June 11

9 am—4 pm

St Louis Park Senior High School
 6425 W 33 St, St Louis Park
 (north of Hwy 7 on Dakota to 33rd St)

Hennepin County's two permanent household hazardous waste drop-off sites at (8100 Jefferson Hwy, Brooklyn Park and 1400 W 96th St, Bloomington) accept UGH year around.

For more information, call Hennepin County's 24-Hour INFOLine at 612-348-6500.

Paper Is A Big Recycling Commodity

Minnesotans are some of the best recyclers in the country. According to Golden Valley's last community survey, more than 90% of its residents recycle. Question is, are you recycling all you can?

What is picked up by your curbside recyclers depends on what can be sold. That means aluminum and steel cans, glass bottles and jars, some plastics, and most paper are commodities. Aluminum and steel cans have always been the mainstays of recycling programs because of established markets. And as more products are made from recycled plastic, there will be more opportunities to recycle an expanded variety of plastics. But right now paper is where the action's at.

Paper is in demand. People use tons (literally) of it, and there is simply not enough new trees to keep us supplied. That's why just about every type of paper you get your hands on can be recycled—telephone directories, glossy magazines and catalogs, direct mail advertising, letters, receipts, bills, envelopes, school and office paper, hard- and soft-covered books, corrugated boxes, boxboard (toy, gift, shoe, and tissue boxes and tubes, and beverage carriers for pop, water, and beer, etc), and the 4 Cs (cereal, cake mix, chip, and cracker boxes). The only type of paper that can't be recycled is the wax-coated variety that maintains its strength in case it gets wet (eg, packaging for refrigerator or freezer products).

Golden Valley's curbside recycling program has been operational since 1988, and by now most people are probably pros at recycling cans, glass, and plastic bottles. But how are we doing with the paper? Take a moment and assess your disposal habits. Peek into your garbage cans and see if anything should be in the recycling bin instead. These days there should be virtually no paper in anyone's garbage (except for that waxy freezer stuff). Since recyclers today are paying top dollar for paper, the more Golden Valley recycles, the better it is for the bottom line.

If you have questions about Golden Valley's recycling program, contact Environmental Coordinator Al Lundstrom at 763-593-8046.

materials

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.

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 at left).

You Can Help Protect Surface Water Quality

Not seeing the shoreline out your window? Look closely. The river that careens down your street during and after a rainfall, or when the kids go crazy with the garden hose, enters a storm drain on your street and begins its journey through part of the 90 miles of storm water pipe under the city. Eventually this water emerges from storm drain outlets throughout the community and into streams, lakes, and rivers.

Keeping such runoff clean is essential to keeping our waterways clean, and you can help. First, keep pollutants off streets and other impervious surfaces (see sidebar for tips). Second, prevent pollutants from entering storm drains. And third, help identify pollutants that may be exiting storm drain outlets.



PREVENT SOURCE POLLUTION

Many people are unaware that storm water is not treated before discharging into Golden Valley's water resources. This may explain why some people continue to dump used oil, antifreeze, and other wastes into storm drains. In addition, average rainwater runoff picks up street litter, yard waste, lawn fertilizers and pesticides, residue from oil leaks and gas on streets and parking lots, sediment from construction sites, and other pollutants as it flows to storm drains and into area water resources.

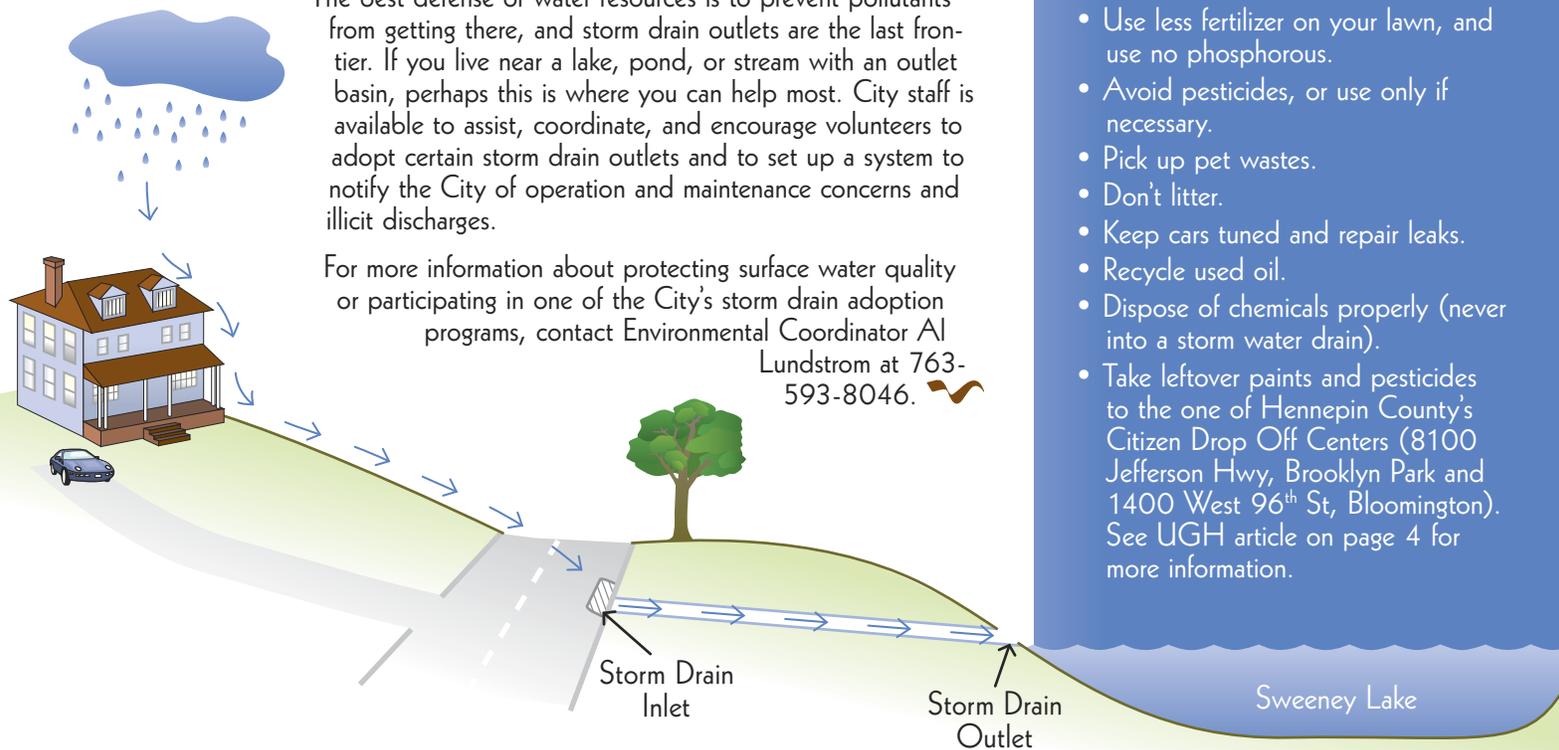
ADOPT A STORM DRAIN INLET

To prevent pollutants from entering the storm drain on your street, consider working to keep it clear of debris. Or, sign up for Golden Valley's Storm Drain Stenciling Program, an educational component of the City's Surface Water Management Plan. This summer volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 268 will stencil a fish symbol, combined with a "Dump No Waste" message, near storm drains that lead to a neighborhood pond, lake, or Bassett Creek to increase surface water awareness and remind citizens of their role in protecting water resources (see photo above).

ADOPT A STORM DRAIN OUTLET

The best defense of water resources is to prevent pollutants from getting there, and storm drain outlets are the last frontier. If you live near a lake, pond, or stream with an outlet basin, perhaps this is where you can help most. City staff is available to assist, coordinate, and encourage volunteers to adopt certain storm drain outlets and to set up a system to notify the City of operation and maintenance concerns and illicit discharges.

For more information about protecting surface water quality or participating in one of the City's storm drain adoption programs, contact Environmental Coordinator Al Lundstrom at 763-593-8046.



WATER QUALITY PROTECTION TIPS

Remember, everything that enters storm drains eventually ends up in our natural waterways (lakes, streams, rivers, etc). Here are some things you can do to help prevent surface water pollution at its source. It's easier than you think!

- Dump nothing down a storm drain you wouldn't drink or swim in.
- Direct downspouts onto lawns instead of hard surfaces, such as driveways or sidewalks.
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn.
- Compost garden trimmings.
- Sweep paved areas instead of hosing debris into the street.
- Use less fertilizer on your lawn, and use no phosphorous.
- Avoid pesticides, or use only if necessary.
- Pick up pet wastes.
- Don't litter.
- Keep cars tuned and repair leaks.
- Recycle used oil.
- Dispose of chemicals properly (never into a storm water drain).
- Take leftover paints and pesticides to the one of Hennepin County's Citizen Drop Off Centers (8100 Jefferson Hwy, Brooklyn Park and 1400 West 96th St, Bloomington). See UGH article on page 4 for more information.

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Golden Valley Parks and Recreation offers more than 45 summer activities for youth and adults. Get details from the Spring/Summer Recreation Activities Brochure or the City Web site (see below).

Youth

Bike Rangers ♦ Catch-Kick & Throw ♦ Cheerleading Academy ♦ Chess Club ♦ Dragonfly Days ♦ Drama Club ♦ Explorers Hiking & Biking Club ♦ Football Camp ♦ Intro to Knitting ♦ Jewelry Making ♦ Jump Rope ♦ Kick Ball ♦ Kid's Korner Ball Skills ♦ Little Critters ♦ Little Tikes ♦ Mixture Madness ♦ Music Mom/Dad & Me ♦ Outdoor Floor Hockey ♦ Park Baseball ♦ Pitch by Coach ♦ Pre-school Mini Music Camp ♦ Puppet Shows ♦ Running Club ♦ Sand Volleyball ♦ Skateboarding Camp ♦ Skyhawks Basketball ♦ Slowpitch Softball for Boys & Girls ♦ Soccer Skills Camp ♦ Super Heroes of Science ♦ Supervised Batting Practice ♦ T-Ball ♦ Teen 3-on-3 Basketball ♦ Teen Co-Rec Slo-Pitch Softball ♦ Teen Open Gym ♦ Tennis Camps, Leagues & Lessons

Adult

Decorating a Child's Room ♦ Decorating With Color ♦ Open Basketball and Volleyball ♦ Power Sort & Organize Photos ♦ Power Yoga & Pilates Fitness Workout ♦ Tennis Leagues & Lessons ♦ Yoga & Pilates for Stress Reduction

Register in person, by mail, by fax (763-512-2344), or online at *GV RecConnect* (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/parks/prprograms.htm).

For more information, contact:
Parks and Recreation
Brookview Community Center
200 Brookview Parkway
Golden Valley, MN 55426
763-512-2345
Monday–Friday, 8 am–5 pm

Local Playgrounds Host Hoppin' Summer Fun

With summer, and summer vacation, just around the bend, there will soon be a deluge of kids looking for ways to fill those long, hot days. Golden Valley's Parks and Recreation Department has many fun, constructive activities to keep kids occupied (see sidebar), including its free Summer Playground Programs (see box below).

Options include Morning Playground, which is more structured and geared for younger kids, and Afternoon Playground, which includes a variety of games, arts, hiking, and biking to keep older kids engaged. Staffed by energetic Parks and Recreation employees, each program features games such as Capture the Flag, Ships Across the Ocean, dodgeball, and softball, as well as crafts such as tie-dye, making bird houses and coin purses, story time, puppet shows, and much more.

Friday field trips provide loads of fun for a small cost.

"The kids learn a lot about team building," says Holly Myers, a playground leader for the past seven years. "And it gets them out of the house."

To see what's in store each week, choose a park and stop by opening day to pick up a schedule. Kids can choose to attend what interests them. "The program is open," says Myers. "Kids can come and go as they please. Parents should know this because the kids have to be relatively independent."

For more information, contact Golden Valley Parks and Recreation at 763-512-2345. 

Playground PROGRAMS

Free supervised drop-off playground programs for children ages 6–14.

MORNING PLAYGROUND

June 13–July 28
 9:30–11:30 am
 South Tyrol Park

AFTERNOON PLAYGROUND

June 13–July 28
 1–4:30 pm
 Gearty, Hampshire, Lakeview, Lions, Medley, Scheid, and Wesley Parks

Both programs run Monday–Thursday. Shelter buildings are closed Fridays due to special events and field trips.

Friday Fun And Field Trips

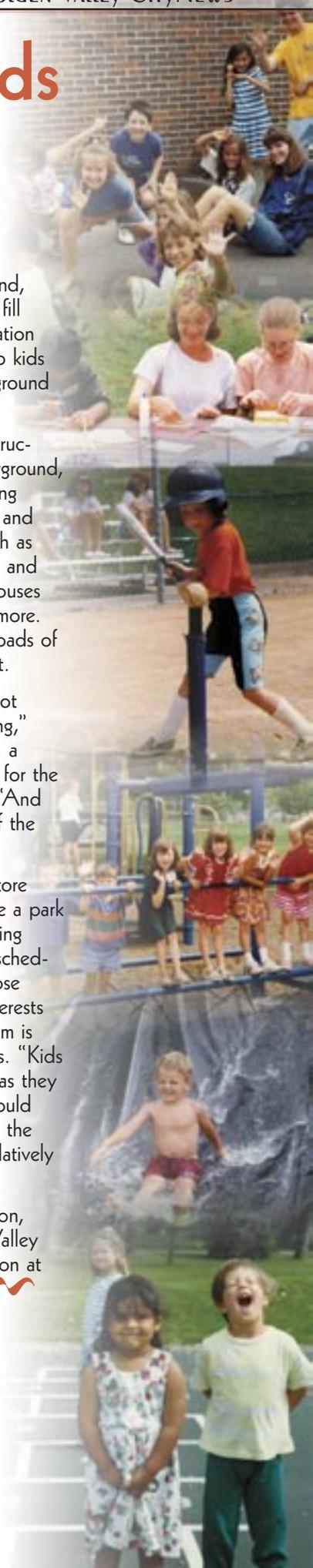
Science Museum of MN (ages 7+)—
 June 17, 9:45 am–3:30 pm, \$16

Water Days (ages 6–14)—June 24 and
 July 15, 1:15–3 pm, FREE

Cascade Bay Water Park (ages 7+)—
 July 8, \$20

Bunker Beach Water Park (ages 7+)—
 July 22, 9:45 am–4 pm, \$20

Penny Carnival (all ages)—Fri, July 29,
 12:30–2:30 pm, FREE



Seniors Have A Great Time In Golden Valley

Brookview Community Center is a beehive of activity, and it's not due to the youngsters. Drop in and you are likely to find a whole lot of seniors having a whole lot of fun. And why not? "People [in the Seniors Programs] always have a smile on their faces. There's not a grouch in the bunch," says Merton Suckerman, who coordinates Brookview's Senior Golf League. "This is a good senior group, a good senior building, and there are plenty of activities."



MERTON SUCKERMAN



LESLIE & HELEN HEATH

Our seniors bowl, sing, hike, paint, walk, explore, play cards and games, attend classes and healthcare seminars, and study everything from history to investment opportunities."

Take Leslie Heath, who joined a card group after retiring in 1980, and his wife, Helen, who commends the entertainment at weekly lunches and dinners. After 25 years they still come for 500 every Wednesday, and both teach beginner and refresher classes. They also like to cut a rug in the square dancing program. A few years ago, then-Governor Jesse Ventura recognized the Heaths as the oldest active square dancers in the state. "If everyone just stayed busy," says Les Heath, "they don't have time to get old." This 90-year-old may be on to something.

The Seniors Program offers more than entertainment. Take Stitch and Chat, a special interest group formed by seniors interested in quilting. It evolved into a volunteer craft group that makes monthly door signs for an area nursing home. Seniors interested in volunteering can contact Volunteer Coordinator Dorothy Mallin, who volunteers and organizes Senior participation in local events such as the Penny Carnival, the Bike Rodeo, and Supper with Santa.

Seniors interested in staying active, pursuing their interests, and meeting others, can contact the Golden Valley Seniors Program at 763-512-2339.

Suckerman's not the only smiling Golden Valley senior. The City's Seniors Program is a source of enjoyment for many. "Participation in our special interest groups has soared," says Seniors Program Coordinator Barbara Bailey.



MARIAN SVENDSEN AND BEV FANER "STITCH AND CHAT."

An Inspiration To Stay Active

Age is no barrier to learning and making new friends. Just look at Carol Estel, who took up painting at Brookview when she was 85. Grandma Moses stand back, people are showing interest in buying her work. She's 100 now and still going strong. "I come for the sociability," says Estel. "There's no sense in sitting around." Estel's other activities include singing with the Golden Tones chorus and playing Bridge. "When my birthday comes, they bake me a cake," she says. "I've lost so many friends. It's good to stay in touch."



SENIOR STUFF

For more information, to receive the Seniors Newsletter, or to register for a program or trip, contact:

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

Support your Seniors Program with your annual \$5 membership dues. All programs at Brookview Community Center unless otherwise noted.

Defensive Driving—Four-hour refresher, June 16, 9 am-1 pm

Continental Breakfast—June 22, 9:30 am

"Summer Swing" Dance—June 24, 1 pm, Crystal Community Center

Star Spangled Afternoon—July 13, 2 pm, Crystal Community Center

Upcoming Trips (register early)—June 15: Crosslake MN; June 28: *Peter Pan*, Ordway Theater; July 14: Lunch Cruise and Showboat; July 23: Water Gardens "Parade of Ponds"; August 2-4: On Wisconsin, Wisconsin Dells, House On The Rock, and more

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Bowling, Bridge, Dominoes, "500" Cards, Cribbage, Stitch & Chat, Golden Tones Chorus, Golf, Investment, Pedal Pushers, Walking, Brunch Bunch, Treasure Seekers, Nature of Things, Seniors In Mind, Forum & Fork, Tuesday Explorers, and Friday Luncheon Series

Five Cities Transportation Program offers rides to seniors for shopping, social activities, and senior program events. For a schedule or to reserve a ride, call the Five Cities office at 763-531-1259 between 8 am-3 pm, Monday through Friday.



ENVISIONING THE I-394 CORRIDOR

ZONING HISTORY

The City of Golden Valley adopted its first zoning ordinance in 1938. That ordinance included three districts: open development, community store, and commercial. The open development district was the most restrictive, followed by the community store district (which allowed a few more uses) and the commercial district (which was least restrictive and allowed just about anything, including industrial uses). Land along Hwy 12 was zoned open development. Nine years later, most of the area north of Hwy 12 was rezoned from open development to commercial.

In 1956 the uses in the commercial district were reduced, and the industrial and light industrial districts were created. The area west of Turner's Crossroad to Rhode Island Ave remained in these zones. Between 1965 and 1967 an area east of Florida Ave was briefly rezoned to multifamily residential but was quickly converted back to industrial.

As *Envision Golden Valley* showed us last year, citizens can influence the way a community looks and feels. Change happens, which is why the City is studying current land uses and building characteristics along the I-394 corridor east of Rhode Island Ave and south of Laurel Ave. The goal is to create an updated land use plan and zoning for the area to help guide future development.

I-394 has a significant role in our community and has always been a visible gateway, from its beginning as a cart track Golden Valley farmers used to take goods to city markets to its current role as an interstate highway carrying thousands of vehicles daily. Over the years, no one foresaw that the gradual growth throughout this area would create its current concoction of land uses. Today the corridor is largely zoned industrial, but there are many alternative uses permitted, including light industrial, business/professional office, fast-food/sit-down restaurants, auto sales, and hotels. The result is a variety of architectural styles, building materials, parking, traffic generation, signage, and landscape that may not reflect the community's vision.

These days, cities have a better understanding of the elements that allow for cohesive comprehensive community planning (eg, technology, environment, transportation, demographics, etc) in the face of change. Some questions to consider include:

- Are there conflicts between current land uses?
- What ways can the City help improve the situation?
- Is the land put to the best use for the greater community?
- How can this corridor be enhanced and/or become a gateway to Golden Valley?
- Are there better ways to buffer the highway corridor from adjacent residential users?

- How can we be environmental stewards?
- Is there a desire to improve transportation alternatives, including pedestrian connections in the corridor?

PUBLIC INPUT AND DISCUSSION

Public involvement is critical to the success of the I-394 Corridor Study planning process. The City is committed to informing and educating the public as well as getting input from community members. Building on *Envision Golden Valley*, the City will gather feedback from residents and businesses over the next few months to help update the plan for the area.

Surveys of area businesses and residents are already under way, and a Visual Preference Survey (see box) will be conducted through the end of May. This month the City will launch *GV DirectConnect*, an interactive Web tool (see article on page 2) that will enable citizens to sign up for regular email updates or participate in a discussion list on the I-394 Corridor Study process. Regular updates will be published in the City newsletter and Web site, and the Web site will also log all community input, questions, and answers.

Because the City Council and Planning Commission want all interested parties to have a good understanding of the I-394 Corridor Study as it progresses, "roadshows" will be available to interested groups from June through December. To schedule a presentation for your group, contact Lisa Wittman at 763-593-3992. For more information about the I-394 Corridor Study, contact Assistant City Manager Jeanne Andre (763-593-8014) or Planning Director Mark Grimes (763-593-8097).

Part of the I-394 Corridor Study is a Visual Preference Survey (VPS), which assesses community preferences about buildings, landscapes, and streetscapes.

VPS participants look at images and rate their preferences from lowest to highest in categories such as:

- single-use office and commercial buildings
- mixed-use development (commercial/office/residential)
- residential development (medium to high density)
- parking design and streetscapes

Typically VPS images establish public preferences from urban to suburban and traditional to modern design which can help establish new development design guidelines.

The I-394 Corridor Study VPS will be conducted at Golden Valley Days Saturday, May 21, 10 am to 4 pm. After that it will be available at City Hall (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4:30 pm) and online (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us) through June 10. All community members are encouraged to participate.

VISUAL PREFERENCE SURVEY

1854 Territorial legislature authorizes construction of Plank Road from Minneapolis to Lake Minnetonka

1886 The Village of Golden Valley is incorporated, population 467

1920 Hwy 12 (formerly Plank Road) widened to 18 feet

1930s Because of difficulties with the high water table, little development occurs along Hwy 12

1945-1947 Community soundly rejects development proposals: one for an airport along Hwy 12 west of Hwy 100, one for drive-in theatre along Wayzata Blvd, and one for a sports stadium at Wayzata Blvd and Turners Crossroad

1955 Laurel Ave construction begins (last two blocks completed in 1980s)

1958 Golden Valley's population reaches 14,000, indoor ice arena opens along Wayzata Blvd, and General Mills opens its world headquarters at Wayzata Blvd and Hwy 169

1959 First Comprehensive Plan completed

1965 Liberty Carton opens

1966 City buys Brookview Golf Course for \$1.35 million

1970 Chrysler City (now Menards) is built as the largest indoor car dealership in the United States. Planning for I-394 begins with significant citizen outcry

1986 New development starts in Golden Hills Area (Colonnade, Golden Hills Business Park, Allianz, etc)

1987 Construction begins on I-394

2004 *Envision Golden Valley* calls for further dialogue regarding development

2005 Planning Commission starts land use study of area between Rhode Island Ave and Hwy 100

PLANK ROAD — SUPERIOR BOULEVARD — WAYZATA BOULEVARD — TRUNK HIGHWAY 12 — INTERSTATE 394



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IS AUG 2

Neighborhoods throughout Golden Valley are invited to join forces with communities across the nation for the 22nd annual National Night Out (NNO) celebration Tuesday, August 2, 2005.

NNO is designed to:

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

Make an invitation or use the invitation provided by the Police Department, include the details of your gathering, make copies, and distribute them to your neighbors. (The Police Department will make copies at no charge if you don't have copier access.) Past celebrations have included potluck dinners, ice cream socials, lemonade parties, charity socials where neighbors bring non-perishable groceries for the food shelf, barbecues, swimming pool parties, etc.

Register your party with the Police Department by sending a copy of your invitation, calling, or e-mailing, and receive a prize kit donated by the Golden Valley Crime Prevention Fund (limited numbers available).

For more information regarding National Night Out, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 763-593-8058 or jpaul@ci.golden-valley.mn.us

Education Is The Key To A Safer Community

Living in a safe and peaceful community is often high on anyone's wish list, and the City of Golden Valley knows that one way to get there is by engaging and involving citizens. That's why the City's Public Safety Department partners with the community in a variety of ways to keep it safe.

The goal is to give residents a better understanding of potential threats to their homes, workplaces, and community so they can take the right steps to reduce any hazards. This includes providing critical support to family, neighbors, associates, or people in their immediate area until help arrives.

To foster a sense of community and familiarize residents with Public Safety Department activities, the City of Golden Valley holds an annual Fire and Police Open House the third Wednesday in June (see box below). Originated by the Fire Department in 1979 to celebrate the opening of Fire Station #2, it has become a long-standing tradition.

Fire & Police OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, June 15
6-8 pm

Fire Station 1 and Police Department 7800 Golden Valley Rd

Fire Truck Rides, Life Safety Trailer, Squirt House, Fire and Police Station Tours, Squad Car, Moonwalk, Fatal Vision Display, Blood Pressure Checks by North Memorial, McGruff the Crime Dog, Door Prizes, and Free T-Shirts*

Fire Station 2

400 Turners Crossroad

Old Number One, Live Fire Demo (7:30 pm), Fire Truck Rides, Squirt House, Squad Car, Door Prizes, and Free T-Shirts*

Fire Station 3

3700 Golden Valley Rd

Sparky the Fire Dog, Squirt House, Squad Car, Moonwalk, Door Prizes, and Free T-Shirts*

*while supplies last

For more information, call Golden Valley Public Safety at 763-593-8079.

Public Safety RESOURCES

The Golden Valley Fire Department (GVFD) has served the community for more than 60 years. Today Golden Valley has three fire stations, 50 paid, on-call firefighters, three full-time firefighting professionals, and one administrative assistant. The GVFD responds to about 750 calls for service each year, including fires, motor vehicle crashes, medical emergencies, and mutual aid to other communities. Fire prevention and fire safety education are major components of the GVFD's mission.

The Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) has maintained progressive community service and law enforcement in the community for almost 50 years. The GVPD's 39 employees include 30 sworn police officers, six community service officers, one civilian police professional, and two administrative assistants. The City also benefits from the services of 14 volunteer police reserve officers. The Crime Prevention Unit has been educating residents and businesses for 25 years.

Public Safety PROGRAMS

The partnership between the City's Fire and Police Departments helps provide public safety education services to thousands of people each year.

Programs include annual Safety Camps for kids, school programs, a bike safety rodeo, residential fire safety program, emergency planning for businesses, National Night Out (see sidebar), Neighborhood Watch, Apartment Managers Association, CounterAct (a drug education program), senior citizen education, and community activities such as Fire Prevention Week and the Fire and Police Open House.

Golden Valley's Public Safety Department is dedicated to educating the community for a safe tomorrow. For more information about its programs, go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/publicsafety/index.htm, or contact Crime Prevention Specialist Joanne Paul (763-593-8058) or Fire Education Specialist Sarah Larson (763-593-3977).

City Updates Recreational Fire Ordinance

Outdoor fire pits are hot (no pun intended). Since they've caught on as the trendy new way to enhance outdoor living spaces, construction of permanent fire pits is on the rise and sales of manufactured fire pits are booming. To stay abreast of the related public safety concerns, the Golden Valley City Council recently passed an upgraded ordinance that will restrict how recreational fires are managed.

Recreational fires are outdoor fires that burn materials other than rubbish. Total fuel area is often less than three feet in diameter and three feet in height, and the fire is emitted directly to the open atmosphere.

A City permit is required before starting any recreational fire. Recreational Fire Permits are valid for one calendar year and expire annually on December 31. Such fires must:

- be constantly attended by a responsible person until extinguished (Responsible persons must be age 18 or older and knowledgeable in use of fire extinguishing equipment. Whenever a recreational fire is burning, the Recreational Fire Permit must be available upon request by the City.)
- not be used to burn yard waste, construction materials, or common household trash (clean, dry wood is the only acceptable fuel)
- remain within an approved outdoor fireplace (At- or below-grade area must not exceed 7.5 square feet with a perimeter not exceeding 10 feet. The outside edge must be ringed with brick, rock, or other non-combustible material to prevent fire spread. This includes manufactured fireplaces meeting the above dimensions.)
- not be allowed if wind speeds exceed 10 miles per hour
- not exceed three feet in height as measured from the base of the fire
- remain a safe distance from any structure or combustible materials

A garden hose or other adequate means of extinguishment must be available for emergency purposes. Recreational fires are not permitted when prohibited by any state or federal agency.

At the discretion of the City, any recreational fire not adhering to the above regulations, or that poses a dangerous condition, will be considered a public nuisance and immediately extinguished.

Violations will result in the one-year revocation of any Recreational Fire Permits.

Recreational Fire Permits can be obtained from the Fire Department at 763-593-8065 or online at www.ci.golden.valley.mn.us/permits/recfirepermit.htm. For more information, contact the Golden Valley Fire Department at 763-593-8065.



Fire pits are growing in popularity.



Fire Relief STREET DANCE

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2005
3 PM—MIDNIGHT

Chester Bird American Legion
Hwy 100 & Glenwood Ave

- Fire trucks, activities, and kiddie games (clowns and face painting)
- Hotdogs, brats, chips, popcorn, snow cones, mini doughnuts, pop
- 6–8:30 pm: *Doug and The Mooners*
- 8:30 pm—closing: *DelCounts*

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.

FIREWORKS Safety Checklist

Fireworks and celebrations go together, especially during the Fourth of July, but fireworks can be dangerous. According to The National Council on Fireworks Safety, 9,700 people were injured by fireworks in 2003.

To help ensure safety, please follow these tips:

- Only buy what you plan to use. Do not store fireworks.
- Read, understand, and follow all warnings and instructions on each device.
- Keep a bucket of water handy in case of a malfunction or fire.
- Use fireworks with close adult supervision. Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Only ignite fireworks outdoors, away from other people, animals, buildings, storage tanks, brush, and combustible materials.
- Keep fireworks dry; do not use them when dried after becoming wet.
- Do not carry fireworks in your pocket or on your person.
- Never light fireworks inside a container, such as a bottle or can. Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves, and flammable materials.
- Never throw fireworks or aim them at another person, animal, or building.
- Light only one firework device at a time, then move away quickly.
- Never relight malfunctioning fireworks.

Complete fireworks safety guidelines and a list of legal fireworks are available at www.fire.state.mn.us/FireworksInfo.html. You can also call the State Fire Marshal Division at 651-215-0500.

2005 SEALCOAT STREETS

Plymouth Ave (Winnetka Ave to Mendelssohn Ave)

Valders Ave (Orkla Dr to Duluth St)

Orkla Dr (Winnetka Ave to Wesley Dr)

Wisconsin Ave (Orkla Dr to Winsdale St)

Wisconsin Ave (Wesley Dr to Duluth St)

Knoll St (Wisconsin Ave to Valders Ave)

Winsdale St (Wisconsin Ave to Winnetka Ave)

Winsdale St (Boone Ave to Zealand Ave)

Castle Ct (Plymouth Ave to N cul-de-sac)

Castle Ct (Plymouth Ave to S cul-de-sac)

Yukon Ct (Plymouth Ave to cul-de-sac)

Zealand Ave (Plymouth Ave to Wesley Dr)

Mandan Ave (Plymouth Ave to Boone Ave)

Aquila Ave (Mandan Ave to Boone Ave)

Boone Ave (Aquila Ave to dead end)

Wesley Dr (Winnetka Ave to Aquila Ave)

Aquila Ave (Wesley Dr to Duluth St)

Julianne Terr (Aquila Ave to Patsy Ln)

Patsy Ln (Julianne Terr to Aquila Ave)

N & S Wesley Parking Lots

Country Club Dr (Rhode Island Ave to Douglas Dr)

Golden Valley Rd (Rhode Island Ave to Douglas Dr)

Florida Ave (Medicine Lake Rd to cul-de-sac)

Sandburg Ln (Medicine Lake Rd to cul-de-sac)

Glenwood Ave (Country Club Dr to Service Rd)

Kelly Dr (Glenwood Ave to Hwy 55)

Ellis Ln (Glenwood Ave to cul-de-sac)

Schuller's Cir (Glenwood Ave to cul-de-sac)

Varners Cir (Service Rd to cul-de-sac)

Jersey Ave (Country Club Dr to Service Rd)

Hwy 55 Service Rd (Jersey Ave to Glenwood Ave)

Woodstock Ave (Lilac Dr to Cloverleaf Ln)

Clover Ln (Woodstock Ave to Cloverleaf Dr)

Cloverleaf Dr (Woodstock Ave to Hwy 55 Service Rd)

Service Rd (Hwy 55 Service Rd to Turner's Crossroad)

Sealcoating Protects Asphalt Streets

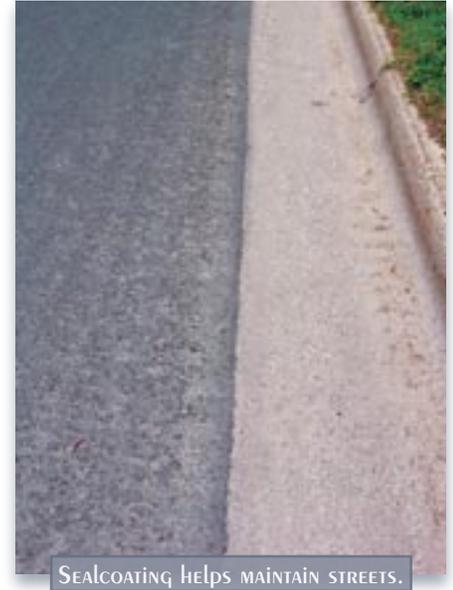
Much like people need a good coat of sunblock when exposed to the sun, sealcoating protects and prolongs the skin of an asphalt street. This summer, several Golden Valley streets (see column at left) will be sealcoated as part of the City's ongoing street maintenance program.

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. The contract calls for this work to take place sometime between the end of June and first part of August.

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

- Streets will be well marked with signs 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. 



SEALCOATING HELPS MAINTAIN STREETS.

Got a Motor? GET A LICENSE

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

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

Partnerships Benefit Both Public/Private Interests

Collaboration often delivers superior results. The City of Golden Valley recently confirmed this with two examples of public/private cooperation that resolved major traffic and safety issues for the community, all because of a little out-of-the box thinking, planning, and implementation.

DOUGLAS DRIVE PROJECT (UNITED HEALTH CARE)

Last fall, the City completed a construction project in conjunction with Hennepin County and United Health, Inc that resolved several traffic concerns on Douglas Dr north of Hwy 55. At this location, Douglas Dr had four lanes of traffic with no turn lanes, a traffic signal at the frontage road intersection, and three separate United Health driveways on the west side of the road, none of which lined up with the frontage road intersection.

Several years ago, United Health approached the City with pedestrian safety concerns. To properly address these concerns, the City and County believed that access into United Health needed to be part of the solution. Working together, all three parties developed a plan that realigned the main access to United Health with the existing traffic signal, combined other driveways, modified the traffic signal to include turn lanes, and made improvements to Metro Transit bus stops and other pedestrian areas.

United Health performed all parking lot and driveway construction work, while Hennepin County repaved Douglas Dr and rebuilt the traffic signal. Golden Valley provided much of the engineering designs and built the pedestrian path and amenities on Douglas Dr (see sidebar for more information about Douglas Dr).

HWY 55/BOONE AVE N/GENERAL MILLS BLVD INTERSECTION PROJECT (GENERAL MILLS)

Last June, the City of Golden Valley began a major reconstruction project to improve traffic capacity at Hwy 55, General Mills Blvd, and Boone Ave. Prompted by recent expansion at the General Mills headquarters campus (at General Mills Blvd between I-394 and Betty Crocker Dr), the reconstructed intersection will accommodate up to 1,700 additional employees based out of the new facility as well as protect Boone Ave north of Hwy 55 from flooding in certain conditions.

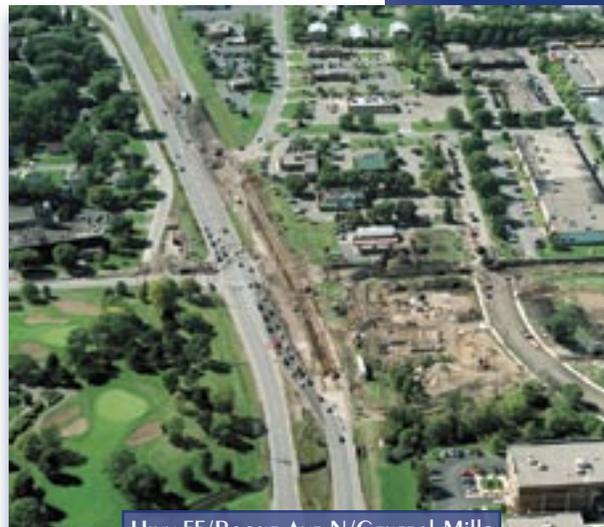
To make the project work, the City partnered with General Mills to study options. In the end, General Mills donated 19 acres of its property (at the southeast corner of Hwys 169 and 55) to the City for floodplain storage and wetland mitigation. A permanent conservation easement to the Minnesota Land Trust will preserve it as a nature area.

Besides widening General Mills Blvd to accommodate increased traffic volumes at its intersection with Hwy 55, the project also:

- included a storm water pond and lift station to reduce flooding on Boone Ave
- increased turning movement capacity at the Hwy 55/Boone Ave N/General Mills Blvd intersection
- upgraded traffic signals at the intersection

Project completion is expected in summer 2005.

For more information about these or other Golden Valley public improvement projects, contact Public Works at 763-593-8030 or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us.



HWY 55/BOONE AVE N/GENERAL MILLS BLVD INTERSECTION CONSTRUCTION

CITY SKETCHES PLANS FOR DOUGLAS DRIVE

The City of Golden Valley, in cooperation with Hennepin County, United Health Inc, and other area property owners, is developing a long-range plan for ultimate reconstruction of Douglas Dr north of Hwy 55. The project is not scheduled, but the City and County are seeking funding.

From Hwy 55 to the north city limits, Douglas Dr is currently a four-lane undivided roadway without left turn lanes. Traffic volumes are more than 15,000 on a daily basis, and congestion occurs at several locations. Left turns create problems throughout the corridor, which is also not pedestrian friendly.

The long-range plan is to convert Douglas Dr to a four-lane roadway with a raised median and left turn lanes wherever right-of-way width is adequate. The first stage will be from Hwy 55 to north of Golden Valley Rd.

Plans include possible extension of the Hennepin County trail system on the west side of Douglas Dr from Country Club Dr to the frontage road and then on the east side from the frontage road north to the railroad tracks. This will be supplemented by a City sidewalk or trail system on the east side from south of the frontage road and north of the railroad tracks. The City is also planning to extend the sidewalk north of Golden Valley Rd in the future.

By combining changes in driveways, providing left turn lanes and restricting left turns at other locations, and providing pedestrian facilities, the City hopes to significantly improve safety along this major Golden Valley

traffic corridor.

For more information, contact City Engineer Jeff Oliver at 763-593-8034.

ECO-YARD LANDSCAPING SEMINARS

Through September, Hennepin County, the City of Plymouth, the Three Rivers Park District, the University of Minnesota Extension Service, and Wayzata Community Education are sponsoring several earth-friendly landscaping seminars on a variety of topics:

Eastman Nature Center, Dayton

- *Earth-Friendly Landscape Designs*: June 18, 10 am–noon
- *Selecting and Using Native Plants Wisely*: August 18, 6:30–8:30 pm
- *Low-Input Lawn Care*: September 17, 10 am–noon

Richardson Nature Center, Bloomington

- *Rainwater Gardens*: June 23 and August 25, 6:30–8:30 pm
- *Fall Maintenance and Low-Input Lawn Care for Earth-Friendly Home Landscaping*: September 24, 10 am–noon

City of Plymouth and Wayzata Community Education

- *Control of Invasive Species*: October 1, 9–11 am

For detailed information or to register, visit www.hennepin.us (key word search "Landscaping Seminars"), or call the Hennepin County reservation office at 763-559-6700. To register for seminars through Wayzata Community education, go to www.wayzata.k12.mn.us or call 763-745-5213.

What To Do When Streetlights Go Bad

For safety's sake, it is important to keep streetlights functioning. That's why the City of Golden Valley appreciates your help in locating streetlights that are out or malfunctioning. Because Xcel Energy operates and maintains all streetlights in Golden Valley, the best way to resolve problems is to contact Xcel directly.

There are two ways to report a problem streetlight—call Xcel Energy at 1-800-960-6235 or report it online. Either way, you'll need to provide Xcel with the following information:

- exact address of the problem light
- street name, street suffix, street direction, and nearest cross street
- house number nearest the light
- light location (corner, mid-block, cul-de-sac, etc). If the light is located on a corner, please also list which corner (NE, NW, SE, SW, etc).
- pole number
- description of problem

To report an outage online, residents and businesses can access Xcel Energy's Web site at www.xcelenergy.com, select the "Residential" button and the "report streetlight outages" link, and then follow directions to fill out the Streetlight Outage form. There is also a link to Xcel Energy on the City's Web site at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/streets/privateutilities.htm.

Residents may continue to report problem lights to the City's Public Works Department (763-593-8030); however, reporting problems directly to Xcel Energy will be quicker and more efficient. Online reporting also makes it easier for residents to follow up with Xcel Energy on the timing of repairs.

The City appreciates your continued help in finding problem streetlights. If you have questions, contact Public Works at 763-593-8030. 



STREETLIGHTS ENHANCE SAFETY.

LAWN MAINTENANCE

ORDINANCE NOW ALLOWS NATIVE PLANTS

In March, the Golden Valley City Council updated the City's lawn maintenance ordinance with two major changes. First, the City will no longer send certified letters to residents who violate the lawn ordinance. Second, residents can now cultivate native plants in residential lawns. The ordinance still bans noxious weeds and requires turf lawns to be maintained at eight-inches or less; however, the City will now use regular US Mail to notify those in violation of the ordinance. Property owners will then have seven days to comply before the City mows the vegetation at the property owner's expense.

Residents who want to vary their landscape can now apply for a "Native Vegetation Permit" available at City Hall (fee: \$65). The permit requires property information along with a description of the work, including:

- purpose and intent (eg, general yard landscaping or water source buffer zone)
- detailed site plan, planting plan, and maintenance plan with contact information for responsible person(s)

The complete lawn maintenance ordinance is available at City Hall, the Golden Valley Library, and on the City Web site (www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/citycode1/chapter10index.htm). For more information, contact Public Works at 763-593-8030.

Permits Required For Doors, Windows, Siding

City Building Inspector Jerry Frevel estimates window replacements are the number two home improvement in Golden Valley (right behind roofing), with door and siding replacement in the top 10. As with all home improvements, start by figuring out what you're going to do, get estimates for materials and labor (needed to get a permit—see sidebar), and then visit the Inspections Department in City Hall for your permit.

Here's an overview of the requirements for these top remodeling projects.

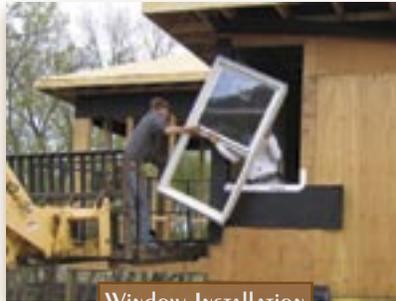
Windows And Doors

Windows are generally replaced in the same size opening; however, if the opening is enlarged, then a framing inspection is required.

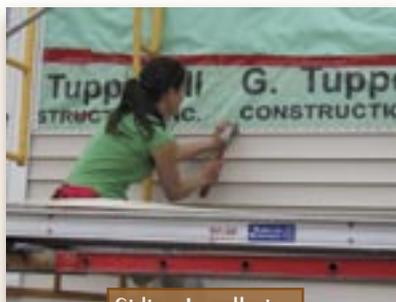
Replacing a window in a bedroom or basement has special requirements for fire safety reasons. If you change the existing framing, the following rules for egress windows apply. State Code requires egress windows in these areas to have a minimum clear width of 20 inches and height of 24 inches, with a total minimum clear area of 5.7 square feet. The finished sill height cannot be more than 44 inches above the finished floor. If the window is below grade (eg, a basement window), a window well must be installed that is at least 36 inches wide and gives access to a minimum of nine square feet when the window is fully open. A minimum six-inch drop from the window sill to the ground is also required, as is a ladder if the well is more than 44 inches deep.

A final inspection is required after windows are installed. The building inspector must have access to the home for the final inspection.

Certain areas require windows with tempered (safety) glass. The most common are those that include windows within two feet of door swing arch, more than nine square feet and 18 inches or less above floor or other walking surfaces, and in tub/shower areas. Always check with Inspections if you think your project may require tempered glass.



WINDOW INSTALLATION



SIDING INSTALLATION

Siding

Popular siding choices are steel, aluminum, vinyl, or stucco. If you dress your house in vinyl, the Inspections Department strongly recommends you study the guidelines from The Vinyl Siding Institute (available at www.vinylsiding.org/install/tools.html) for vital information about siding. With all siding projects, basically all that is needed is a permit (before work begins) and a final inspection. The exception is stucco siding, which requires a lath inspection and a final inspection. The 2000 International Residential Code requires a weather resistant barrier, either house wrap or felt paper, beneath the siding.

LEARN MORE

For more information about home improvement requirements, permits, and inspections, call the Golden Valley Inspections Department at 763-593-8090 or visit the City Web site at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/permits/residential.htm. Currently several permit applications are available online in PDF format for residents to print out and fill in (see article on page 2 for information regarding *GV PermitConnect*).

GET THE SKINNY ON PERMITS

Permits ensure that construction in Golden Valley meets local, state, and federal building standards and codes. The permit process provides a way for the City building official and inspectors to review the design and inspect construction and for property owners to ensure their investment is protected.

Before the City can issue a building permit, you must submit project plans and a building permit application (requirements can vary for specific projects).

COMMON PERMIT TYPES

Electrical Permits are required, but not issued, by the City of Golden Valley. For questions on electrical inspections or permits, contact the state electrical inspector at 763-241-2102. Applications are available at City Hall.

Grading, Drainage, and Erosion Control Permits are required for any activity that involves disturbing land by removing more than 10,000 square feet of soils or vegetation. The City will not issue a building permit until after a grading, drainage, and erosion control permit is approved.

Mechanical Permits cover installation, repair, or remodeling of fireplaces, heating systems, and air conditioners.

Right-of-Way (ROW) Permits are required for work such as driveways (to dig holes, install, or restore ANY driveway within 15 feet of the street) and right-of-way work (to place fences, shrubs, trees, flower gardens, retaining walls, or lawn irrigation systems in the right-of-way between one's property and the street).

Plumbing Permits cover installation or replacement of plumbing for toilets, bathtubs, sinks, floor drains, water heaters, showers, garbage disposals, backflow preventers for underground sprinkler systems, and dishwashers. Permits are also required if you hire a plumber to make connections to the City's sanitary sewer, storm sewer, water main, or any repairs to your sanitary service.

Questions? Call Inspections at 763-593-8090.

INSPECTIONS FYI

For safety reasons, it's important to keep your smoke detectors up to code. Inspectors will check for compliance when they're in your home.

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 _____

Day Phone _____

Age (if under 18) _____

Category

Natural Golden Valley

Golden Valley Lifestyle

Enhanced*

Title of Photo _____

*Enhancement Explanation _____

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

Signature _____

All photo entries become the property of the City of Golden Valley and will not be returned.

Views of the Valley Deadline Is June 6

Capture on film your views of Golden Valley by entering the 12th 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 13–24. 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.

RULES

- Golden Valley residents can submit photos in three categories: **Natural Golden Valley** (landscapes, flora, fauna, etc); **Golden Valley Lifestyle** (cityscapes, buildings, people, activities, etc); and **Enhanced** (photos significantly altered by editing software, lenses, etc). On the entry form, explain what alterations were made to each enhanced photo.
- Submit up to three 5x7 color or black-and-white photo finish prints (no slides, photocopies, or prints that aren't on photo-quality paper; digital files must be accompanied by a 5x7 print on photo-quality paper). Do not mat or frame photos.
- Include complete entry information for each photo (see form at left). All entries submitted must be your own work. All decisions will be final, and judges reserve the right not to award in any category. Contest organizers reserve the right to re-categorize or disqualify any entrant.

The City of Golden Valley will not be responsible for lost entries. The photographer is responsible for obtaining approval from identifiable people in a photo taken in a non-public space.

Deadline is June
6, 2005,
4:30 pm.

City of
Golden Valley

763-593-8000

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MIKE FREIBERG | SCOTT D. GRAYSON | PAULA PENTEL | BOB SHAFFER
MAYOR | LINDA R. LOOMIS

MAYOR/COUNCIL MSG LINE | 763-593-8001

CITY MANAGER | THOMAS BURT

EDITOR | CHERYL WEILER

ASSISTANT EDITOR | TINA PERPICH

GRAPHIC DESIGNER | SIRI KHALSA

City of
Golden Valley

7800 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55427

ECRWSS

Postal Customer

PRSR STD
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Mpls, MN

Available on audio tape.

Notice: To retain cost-effective rates, postal regulations require us to mail to complete carrier routes, even if they are beyond city borders. We apologize to non-Golden Valley residents who get this newsletter unsolicited.