



Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

JULY/AUGUST 2021
NO. 231

Parks and Recreation
Brochure Enclosed

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

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

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

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GET RENT HELP MN TODAY

Visit renthelpmn.org or call 211



RentHelpMN

What is RentHelpMN?

This program was created to help Minnesotans who have fallen behind on their rent or fear that could happen. If you find yourself in this position, RentHelpMN can assist you. Find out if you qualify and get ready to apply.

What does RentHelpMN offer?

Eligible Minnesota renters can receive help with rent and utility bills dated on or after March 13, 2020. If you

qualify, you could receive up to 15 months total in assistance.

Who can I call with questions?

Trained operators are available to answer questions about your eligibility, bills, documents or to make a reasonable accommodation. Call 211 today.

Learn more at RentHelpMN.org.

Anoka County Mediation Services - Housing Help

Landlord-Tenant Mediation

Whether you have issues surrounding eviction, lease termination, move-out plans, security deposits, unpaid rental and/or maintenance, Anoka County Mediation Services can help. They will provide a neutral space for negotiations to take place, where parties reach their own self-determined agreement.

Their low-cost mediation services are confidential, voluntary, and flexible – and help both parties avoid the cost and time commitment of going to court. Learn more at MediationService.org or call 763-422-8878.

Anoka County Housing Clinic

The Anoka County Housing Clinic was created through a partnership between the Tenth Judicial District, Central Minnesota Legal Services (CMLS), Volunteer Lawyers Network (VLN), Judicare of Anoka County, and Mediation and Restorative Services (MARS).

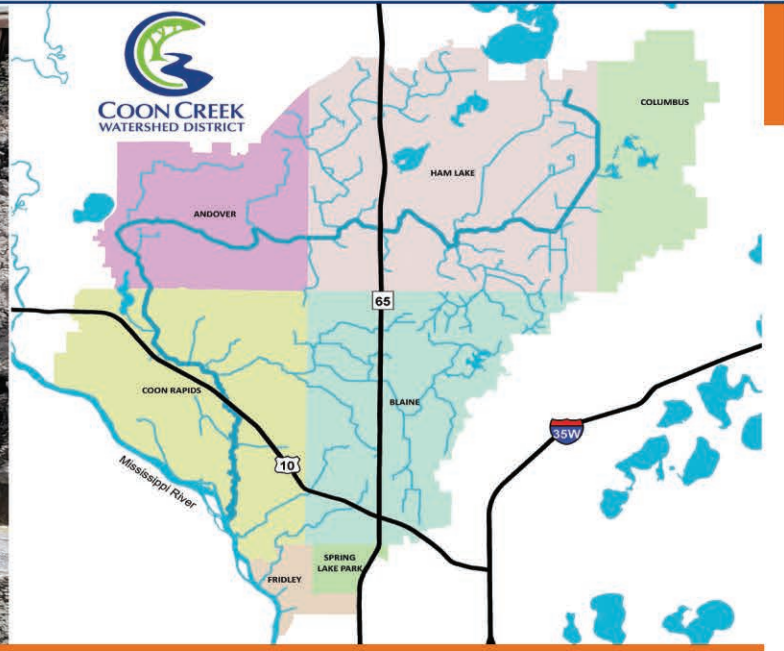
Clinics are held every Monday and Wednesday morning during eviction calendars. The clinics provide free mediation and legal services to those who qualify. If you have any questions, please contact Dana Amundson at dana@mediationservice.org.

Extended – Well Locating and Sealing

Private wells can be a potential pathway for contaminants into groundwater if not properly managed or sealed. These wells are often located in basement offset rooms or under basement floors and may not be readily visible without close inspection. Property owners are responsible for sealing unused wells. The presence of an unsealed well can delay the sale of your home. The City received a grant from the Minnesota Department of Health to provide homeowners grants of up to 60 percent of total cost to seal unused wells on their property. Use the City's Well Screening tool by visiting FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater or calling 763-572-3554 to determine if your property has a higher likelihood of a well. If it does, receive a free well screening visit to



determine the presence of a well. If a well is found, you can receive guidance and apply for cost-share funding for well sealing from the City's Public Works Department. Grant funding is limited and expires April 30, 2022. Call 763-572-3554 or email Beth.Kondrick@FridleyMN.gov with questions.



Get to Know Your Watershed: Coon Creek Watershed District

This year, we are interviewing the different organizations that manage water and natural resources in Fridley. In this issue, we are interviewing Justine Dauphinais, Water Quality Coordinator, and Britta Dornfeld, Outreach Specialist, at the Coon Creek Watershed District regarding the work that they are doing in the Coon Creek Watershed.

Can you tell us about the Coon Creek Watershed District?

The Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD) is a special purpose unit of government responsible for managing water resources within a 107-square mile area of Anoka County, including the northern part of Fridley. We work with residents and partners to prevent flooding and to protect and improve water quality and habitat. Our work focuses on supporting sustainable development, inspecting and maintaining the public drainage system, installing water quality improvement projects, and doing education and outreach to help people reduce water pollution. We have a staff of 12 with expertise in these areas and are happy to assist with any questions or concerns regarding local water resources.

What are some projects that you have done in Fridley?

We have done several outreach and water quality projects. We have participated in the Fridley Environmental Fun Fair every year since it began. In 2018, we created a fun poop-emoji scavenger hunt to teach attendees about E. coli sources in the environment! In 2019, we started a CCWD-wide citizen winter salt monitoring program and have some very dedicated volunteers from Fridley. Their data

helps us target chloride hot spots to reduce pollution. This year, we co-created a contest with the City of Fridley and three other cities – the Community Adopt-a-Drain Challenge. City residents compete to see which city can get the most storm drains adopted and cleaned from March to October!

In addition to our ongoing outreach, monitoring, and inspection activities, we have partnered with the Anoka Conservation District and City of Fridley to complete several water quality improvement projects. We studied the Springbrook Creek and Oak Glen Creek drainage areas to identify and diagnose specific flooding and water quality issues and determine workable solutions. As a result of these assessments, we constructed several projects, including several stream bank stabilizations, a new stormwater pond, and two innovative filters designed to remove nutrients and bacteria from stormwater runoff. We also provided cost-share grant funding towards two City of Fridley projects that went above and beyond requirements in protecting water quality: 1) the installation of an in-pipe stormwater treatment device as part of a road reconstruction project, and 2) construction of stormwater swales with native plantings as part of updates to Craig Park in 2021-22.

Why should Fridley residents care about our water resources?

As a resident of a city bordered by the great Mississippi River and peppered with wetlands, lakes, and streams, water surrounds and sustains each of us, our biological communities, and our economy. How we use the land directly impacts the health of our local water resources. This is especially important in a city

like Fridley that was largely developed in the 1960s, before environmental protections were a major consideration in land use and development. With older infrastructure, stormwater is typically piped directly into local waters. Unlike sanitary sewers, the water entering storm sewers does not pass through a treatment plant, so it is important to prevent pollution at its source, keeping pollutants from entering our wetlands, streams, and the Mississippi River. Fridley also has the unique distinction of being home to the intake pipes supplying drinking water to all of Minneapolis, St. Paul, and many surrounding suburbs!

What is one of your favorite tips to help protect water quality?

After a winter storm, always shovel first and only apply de-icing salt if it is above 15 degrees F. Use salt sparingly and sweep up any extra to be re-used. This will not only help protect our local waters, but also your wallet!



Activity/Park Packs Available for Check-Out!

Springbrook Nature Center Activity Backpack

Check out an Activity Backpack at no charge by calling Springbrook at 763-572-3588.

There are three themes available:

- Pond Exploration
- Wonderful Wildlife
- Art Adventures

Each backpack includes supplies and activities that can be done on Springbrook's trails with the entire family. Try them all!



Anoka County Library Park Pack – Available at the Northtown Location

A collaboration of Anoka County Parks Department and Anoka County Library to encourage outdoor recreation, nature appreciation, conservation and creativity. Library card holders can check out a park pack to experience local parks! Here is what's included:

- Anoka County Parks parking pass
- Leaf rubbing plates
- Crayons
- Two-way bug viewer
- Nature journals of Minnesota birds, trees, flowers, etc.
- Binoculars
- And more!

Development Update

Fridley Station Village

Minneapolis-based Sherman Associates received final plat approval in April 2019 to finalize the Fridley Station Village project, located at 6050 Main Street NE. This project will allow for the construction of a 275-unit mixed income, transit-oriented, multi-family residential development. The development includes a 95-unit market-rate building, a 107-unit age-restricted (55+) market-rate building, a 73-unit affordable building, and a private outdoor dog park.

Altair - Fridley Station Village

Altair is a luxury market-rate building developed by Minneapolis-based Sherman Associates, located at 6060 Main Street NE in Fridley. The building opened in January 2021, and is accepting applications for



immediate move-ins. Apartment homes can be held for up to 90 days from the date you apply. Altair features 95 residences including studio, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and three-bedroom homes available for lease. Those interested in reserving an apartment home or scheduling a tour can visit their website.

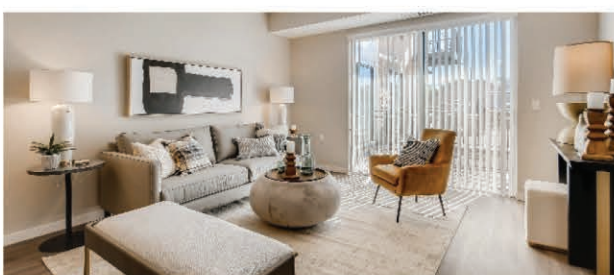
Learn more at LiveAtAltair.com or contact the leasing office at 763-343-8607.



Aura - Fridley Station Village

Aura is a luxury 55+ active community developed by Minneapolis-based Sherman Associates, located at 6000 Main Street NE in Fridley. The building opened in May 2021, and is accepting applications for immediate move-ins. Apartment homes can be held for up to 90 days from the date you apply. Aura features 107 residences including studios, one-bedroom, one-bedroom + den, and two-bedroom homes available for lease. Those interested in reserving an apartment home or scheduling a tour can visit their website.

Learn more at LiveAtAura.com or contact the leasing office at 844.420.1259.



Ursa - Fridley Station Village

The 73-unit affordable project, named Ursa, is in the construction phase. This building is expected to be completed early 2022.

All properties are pet friendly and will offer on-site management and 24/7 emergency maintenance services.

D & B Plating

Jordan Marshall with Corval Constructors, Inc., who is representing V&T Properties LLC, the property owner of 7989 Main Street (a.k.a. D & B Plating), requested a special use permit to increase the allowable lot coverage requirement from 40% to 49%. This increase in lot coverage will allow for the construction of a building addition, which will connect the two buildings that exist on the site.

When this property and the surrounding properties were developed in the 1980s, the owner and developer (at the time) wanted the area to function as a campus that would share an access easement off 79th Avenue and parking in some cases. Over the years, this has created some issues with maintenance of the easement area, because each parcel is now owned by different parties. The subject property will continue to have a row of parking along the eastern property line and does have an access easement with the properties to the east, which allows direct access to 79th Avenue in addition to access to Main Street.



City Code allows industrial properties to increase the amount of lot coverage (roofed structures) on a lot from 40% to 50% with a special use permit, provided all other code requirements can be met. The addition will be on the south side of the main building and will connect the two buildings on-site.

According to D&B Plating representatives, they have outgrown their existing building and need additional space to continue to grow their business and serve their clients. They would prefer to grow their business in Fridley instead of moving to another location.

Medtronic Solar Installation - Rice Creek Campus

Dan Rogers on behalf of Nokomis Energy and Medtronic, Inc. requested a special use permit to allow a Photovoltaic Carport Canopy 1.0-megawatt Solar Energy System, which will cover a portion of the parking lot and walkway on the Medtronic Rice Creek Campus. The project will take place on the East Rice Creek Campus, which is addressed as 6951 Central Avenue.



Medtronic recently committed to achieving zero net carbon emissions by 2030, including obtaining more than 50% of their energy from renewable sources by 2025. This project represents one of several large, clean energy projects Medtronic is investing in to support their sustainability goals. Medtronic employees will be able to subscribe to the energy produced by the system as part of a Community Solar Garden program, similar to what the City subscribed to in early 2020.

The M-2, Heavy Industrial, zoning code allows solar energy devices that are part of the principal structure as an accessory use, which means it is allowed without special consideration. If the solar device is located on the roof of a building, it is part of the principal structure and simply requires a building permit to ensure the roof is structurally sound to hold the solar device. Many Fridley homeowners and businesses have this type of solar. The code does require that a special use permit be issued if the solar device is not part of the principal structure. This is the City's first request to allow solar that is not part of the principal structure.

The petitioner is proposing to construct a solar carport and covered walkway that will consist of approximately 3,300 solar panels that will cover approximately 240 parking stalls and the walkway to the building entrance. The foundation of the canopies will be poured piers that are embedded in the ground, and the solar modules will be attached to the top. The solar canopies will tilt west and south and have a minimum clearance of 13 ft. 6 in., which is the minimum required based on the City's Fire Division's review. The solar panels will have an anti-glare coating, which is an important factor considering the residential users to the south.



The representatives from Medtronic started meeting with City staff a few months ago to make sure their proposal would comply with City requirements. Generally, ground-mounted solar does not need to comply with lot coverage standards if the soil under the equipment is maintained in vegetation and not compacted. In this case, the solar canopy is being located over existing hard surface parking areas, so there will not be an additional storm water impact. A stipulation will still be placed on the special use permit to make sure the project meets any requirements set forth by the City's Engineering Division and the Rice Creek Watershed District.

In 2018, the City Council adopted an Energy Action Plan. The vision of the plan is "to continue leading by example and engaging residents, businesses, and institutions to save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the benefit of everyone in the community." Industries are a heavy energy user, so the proposed use would meet what the City is hoping to achieve through the adoption of the Energy Action Plan.

Staff has not heard from any neighboring property owners. The petitioner anticipates that when this special use permit is approved, construction would start as early as September of this year. Council is to consider this proposal in early June.

For more information on any of these projects, please call 763-572-3592.

Pet Reminders

If your pet is not on your property, it must be on a leash (Fridley City Code 101.06.2). If you want to let your dog enjoy some time running around, you can go to Locke County Dog Park. It is a one-and-a-half acre, fenced, off-leash dog park located at Locke County Park (840 71st Ave NE, Fridley, MN 55432). This dog park provides a nicely shaded, wood chipped, enclosed areas for dogs of all sizes.

Clean up after your pets. It is unlawful to allow your pet to relieve itself on another person's property (Fridley City Code 101.06.11). You are also required to clean up after your pet in parks and other public places (Fridley City Code 101.06.12).

Dogs six months of age and older must be registered and licensed with the City (Fridley City Code 101.07). Licenses are valid for the life of the dog. In order to get a license, your dog must have proof of current rabies vaccination. The City-issued dog tag must be worn by the dog at all times.



You cannot have more than three dogs or cats, or any combination of dogs or cats that are at least six months of age without obtaining a multiple pet location license (Fridley City Code 101.16.1).

If we find a lost dog, it will be brought to North Metro Animal Care and Control (formerly Dover Kennels). You can contact them at 763-434-7332.

Did you know? There are two Fridley Liquor locations!



Fridley Market

264 57th Avenue NE, Fridley, MN 55432
(University Avenue & I-694)
Phone: 763-571-1994
Monday through Saturday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.



Fridley Liquor: Moore Lake

6289 Highway 65, Fridley, MN 55432
Phone: 763-571-8365
Monday through Wednesday: Noon - 8 p.m.,
Thursday through Saturday: Noon - 10 p.m.
Sunday: CLOSED


Currently, we have two off-sale liquor locations, 6289 Highway 65 and 264 57th Avenue NE.

History

The Fridley municipal liquor operations began in 1949 in the building that currently houses the American Legion at 7361 Central Avenue NE. According to former liquor operations manager, Bob McGuire, we operated on-sale and off-sale businesses at this site.

Throughout the years, there have been multiple locations for Fridley Liquor, including East River Road, Highway 65 and University Avenue. In 1960, the City was operating four different liquor stores.

In 1971, the City stopped all on-sale liquor operations and scaled back to two off-sale facilities. Learn more about Fridley Liquor's history at FridleyLiquor.com.



BUY ONLINE

Pickup curbside
or in-store

START SHOPPING AT

FridleyLiquor.com/Shop

Available only at the 57th Ave.
location (next to Cub Foods)

Attention Utility Customers!

Did you know? You can have your City of Fridley utility bill paid automatically with our free Direct Payment program. Save money by eliminating stamps and processing fees, save time and avoid late fees.

1. Simply complete the form below.
2. Attach a voided check or savings withdrawal slip.
3. Return it to us with your current City of Fridley utility payment or mail to anytime.

Once you are enrolled, your utility bill will state *** Bank Draft***. It is that simple!

Bills are automatically paid from your checking or savings account on the due date. Our Direct Payment program is a free service, and you can withdraw anytime by contacting us at least 10 days prior to your due date.



Utility Auto Payments

Mail completed forms to:
City of Fridley, Attn: Utility Billing
7071 University Ave NE, Fridley MN 55432

Questions? Call us! 763-572-3529

Name: _____

Address: _____

Utility Account #: _____ Daytime Phone#: _____

Financial Institution: _____ Checking Savings

By signing below I am authorizing the City of Fridley Utility Department to automatically withdraw my utility payment from my checking / savings account.

Signature _____ Date _____

Attach voided check or savings withdrawal slip here.



Home Improvement Loans & Grants

The Fridley Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) provides a variety of housing rehabilitation programs to help Fridley residents maintain and improve their homes. The following is a summary of the programs available.

Home Improvement Loan Program:

This program is intended to address the home improvement financing needs of eligible homeowners residing in the City of Fridley. The interest on this loan has been reduced to 2%. Owners of 1-4 unit residential properties may borrow up to \$50,000 for most permanent interior and exterior improvements.

Multi-Family Loan Program:

The intent of the program is to provide more incentive for Fridley's multifamily property owners to make substantial exterior and interior improvements to their rental units. Properties with 12 or fewer units, owned by the same entity for two or more years, are eligible for a 2% loan, up to \$50,000. Improvements can include correcting code violations, roofing, solar, siding, painting, windows, driveways, parking, signage, security systems, ADA accessibility, fire prevention, HVAC, insulation, plumbing, electrical and flooring.

Mobile Home Loan Program:

The intent of this program is to make low-interest home improvement loans available to Fridley residents for basic mobile home improvements. Owner-occupied mobile homes are eligible for up to a \$10,000 loan, with a 2% interest rate, for most permanent interior and exterior improvements.

Senior Deferred Loan Program Update:

Note: All funds have been used, please check back in 2022 for program availability.

The intent of the Senior Deferred Loan Program is to provide an incentive for Fridley seniors to make home improvements that will allow them to remain in their homes and/or update the homes for a future sale. The program provides a 0% loan, up to \$25,000, that is due when the borrower sells, transfers ownership or no longer occupies the property.

Down Payment Assistance Loan Program:

The program is intended to provide incentive for first-time home buyers, earning 110% or less of the area

median income (AMI), to move to Fridley. Eligible properties include 1-4 unit residential properties. The program provides a 0% loan, up to \$5,000, that is due when the borrower sells, transfers ownership or no longer occupies the property. Funds may only be used for down-payment and/or closing costs. The borrower(s) CANNOT receive any portion of these funds as cash.

Fridley Foundations Residential Major Project Grant Program:

This program is intended to provide financial incentives for homeowners to do major remodeling projects of at least \$35,000. Eligible properties include one and two unit residential properties, at least 20 years old, homesteaded by the owner.

Qualifying Projects include the following:

- Building an addition
- Building a sun room
- Finishing previously unfinished space
- Constructing a covered front porch
- Converting a garage into livable space
- Major kitchen, bathroom or basement remodel
- Adding a bathroom
- Reconfiguring living space

Exterior Upgrade Projects including the following:

- Altering the roofline on the front of the house
- Constructing columns at the front door
- Building a covered front porch
- Enhancing the front of the house with brick, stone, or shakes
- Upgrading the front door and/or garage door if it faces the street
- Landscaping (landscape design assistance required)
- Other elements as approved by the HRA

Projects including two or more exterior upgrades are eligible for a grant of up to 10% of the project cost, not to exceed \$5,000. Projects that do not include eligible exterior upgrades are limited to a grant of up to 5% of the project cost, not to exceed \$2,500.

New! Residential Paint Rebate Program:

This program is intended to assist in eliminating blight by preserving and improving the appearance of neighborhoods by reimbursing the cost of materials and supplies for exterior painting, for households

earning less than 110% of the area median income. One to four unit, owner-occupied, residential properties are eligible. The maximum grant amount is not to exceed \$500 for a single-family residence, with up to \$350 for each additional unit.

New! Front Door Grant Program:

This program is intended to incentivize homeowners to increase the "curb appeal" of their home (and the City) by making improvements on the street side of their home. Eligible properties include 1 and 2 unit residential properties, with an assessed market value of less than \$400,000, located in Fridley and homesteaded by the owner. The maximum grant amount is \$5,000 and must include improvements from the "Beautification Projects" list.

Basic Projects including the following:

- Roof
- Siding
- Painting
- Soffit
- Facia
- Trim
- Windows
- Chimney repair; tuck-pointing, repointing
- Deck – front/side yard, visible from front
- Porch – front/side yard, visible from front
- Retaining wall – repair or replace

Beautification Projects including the following:

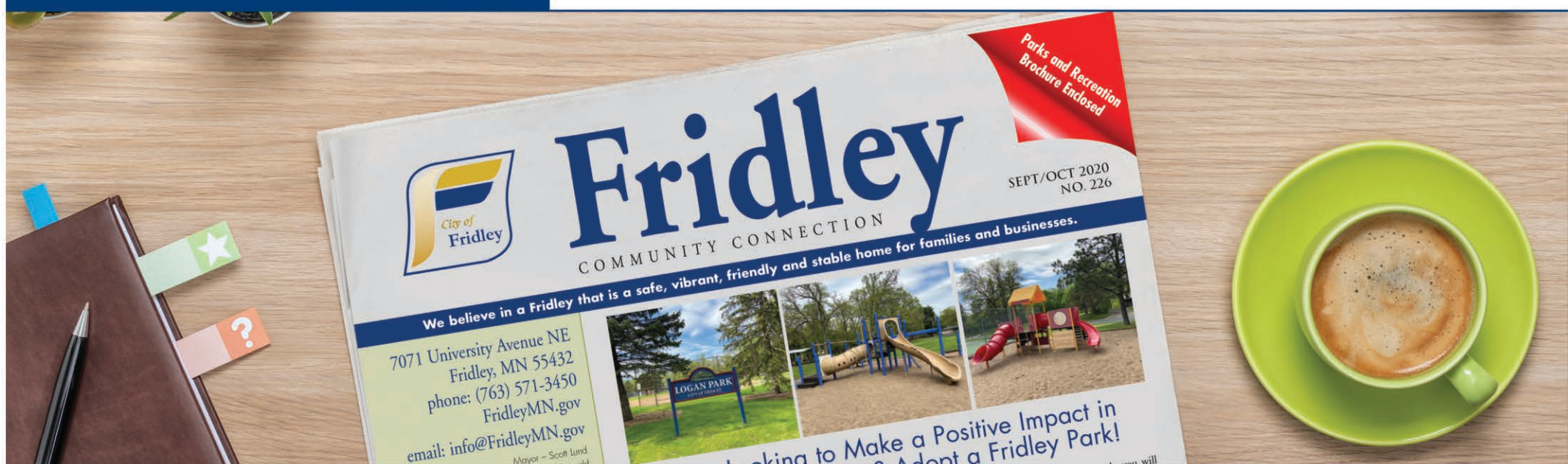
- Front door, storm door and/or garage door
- Sidelight windows by front door
- Columns at front door
- Covered front porch
- Brick, stone or shakes
- Permanent landscaping
- Driveway and Sidewalk repair and replacement
- Window boxes and shutters
- Screening of utility boxes, garbage/recycling cans
- Fence

If you are interested in learning more about these programs or would like to complete an application, visit [FridleyMN.gov/HomeLoans](https://www.fridleymn.gov/HomeLoans). Questions? Call 763-572-3593.

Reminder: Additional Water Rebates Available

Last year, 70 Fridley residents and businesses took advantage of the water rebate program to receive 75 percent off the cost of water-efficient appliances and irrigation system components. Over 74 water-saving devices were installed, resulting in annual savings of over 400,000 gallons per year. Rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are expected to run out in 2021. Learn more at [FridleyMN.gov/WaterGrant](https://www.fridleymn.gov/WaterGrant) or by calling 763-572-3554.





2021 Resident Survey Overview & Methodology

Survey Overview & Methodology

In 2021, the City of Fridley conducted a survey of 400 Fridley residents. The survey was designed to assess the quality of life in Fridley, and measure resident satisfaction with current City services and City staff. It also included questions to help give direction to City staff around City services. This work was contracted through The Morris Leatherman Company.

The last time the City conducted a survey of Fridley residents was in 2013. You can view the 2021 Resident Survey results in more detail including the questions and reports as well as look at previous surveys of Fridley residents, on the City's website at FridleyMN.gov/ResidentSurvey.



Methodology

The Morris Leatherman Company randomly selected 400 households to answer the survey by phone from February 25 to March 30, 2021. Survey responses were gathered by professional interviewers, and the average interview time was 30 minutes.

All households in the City had an equal chance of being selected, and the adult respondent in each household was also chosen randomly. Morris Leatherman randomly selected from households that had only landlines, only cellphones, as well as households with both landlines and cellphones. The households that were randomly sampled for the survey were demographically representative of the community across various demographics such as age, renting versus owning a home, household income, gender, race, and City ward.

The Morris Leatherman Company did not ask for names of residents who were being interviewed and does not share with the City the phone numbers that were contacted for the Resident Survey.

Demographics

Fridley remains a demographically balanced first-ring suburban community. Twenty-four percent of Fridley residents surveyed report moving to the City during the past five years, while 35% have been here for over three decades. Eighty-two percent of residents surveyed have no plans to leave during the next ten years, with 46% sure to spend the "rest of their lives" in the City.

Twenty-five percent of Fridley households surveyed are completely composed of seniors, while 31% of the households contain school-aged children or preschoolers.

Of Fridley residents surveyed, 59% self-report they are White, 11% are Hispanic-Latino, 10% are African

American, six percent are mixed or bi-racial, 6% are also Asian or Pacific Islander, and 2% are Native American.

You can learn more about the demographics of survey participants in the 2021 Fridley Results Presentation and 2021 Executive Summary. The City of Fridley will also share additional demographic information about the community from the 2020 Census with the public later in 2021 when the results are made public.

Resident Survey Results

Fridley residents are overall satisfied with the community and give comparatively high ranks on most aspects of City operations and services.

Quality of Life

- When it comes to quality of life in the City of Fridley, 97% of Fridley residents surveyed rated their quality of life as either "excellent" or "good," which is a 9% increase in seven years.
- The most serious issues facing Fridley according to those who were surveyed are high taxes, at 17%; rising crime rates, at 17%; street maintenance, at 8%; property maintenance, at 7%; and aging infrastructure, at 6%.

Community Identity and Relationship Building

- Of Fridley residents surveyed, 88% percent rated the strength of community identity in Fridley as "excellent" or "good."
- When it comes to creating a welcoming community, 95% of Fridley residents surveyed think the City of Fridley is doing "excellent" or "good" in making all residents feel welcome and that they belong. Eighty-seven percent of residents surveyed rated the City either "excellent" or "good" in openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds.
- Sixty-seven percent of Fridley residents surveyed, have "daily" or "few times a week" contact with their neighbors, 28% report "once a week" or "few times a month" contact.

Vibrant Neighborhoods & Places

- Of Fridley residents surveyed, 91% rated the general appearance of their neighborhood as either "excellent" or "good." When it comes to the general appearance of business and commercial areas in the City 85% rated them as either "excellent" or "good."
- Residents surveyed were asked if there are any types of development or redevelopment they would like to see in the City of Fridley. Sixty-one percent say there is nothing they would like to see, while nine percent are "unsure." Retail opportunities was suggested by 6% of residents surveyed.

Organizational Excellence

- Of Fridley residents surveyed, 92%, a seven percent increase since 2013, think "things in Fridley are generally headed in the right direction."
- Fridley residents who interacted with City staff rated their interactions with City staff positively, either "excellent" or "good," in the following areas: courtesy of staff at 93%; responsiveness of staff at 88%; and knowledge of staff at 86%; and follow-up by staff at 77%.
- When it comes to City services, the top four positively-rated services are Recycling, at 96%; Fire Services, at 95%; Police Services, at 94%; and Park maintenance, at 91%.

Public Safety

- Fridley Public Safety services and personnel score remarkably high positive ratings in comparison with neighborhood communities.
- Of Fridley residents sampled, 98% feel safe in the City of Fridley. 92%, up 7% from 2013, feel safe walking alone at night in their immediate neighborhood, and 93% feel safe using both City parks and trails.
- The most serious public safety concerns are distracted driving, traffic speeding, and stop sign violations.
- Those surveyed were asked to rate the accuracy of Public Safety personnel in regard to their relationship with the community. These areas rated: are respectful to residents of all backgrounds, at 94%; fair to residents of all backgrounds at 92%; and trustworthy to residents of all backgrounds at 88%.

Communications & Engagement

- The three main communication sources where residents are getting City information are the City's newsletter, the "Community Connection"; family and friends; and direct mail. The City's newsletter, the "Community Connection," is a highly valued source of information with 98% rating the content favorably.
- Of Fridley residents sampled, 89% believe they have adequate opportunities to provide input and feedback about City issues.

Financial Stability

- One most serious issues facing Fridley according to those who were surveyed are high taxes, at 17%.
- Of Fridley residents surveyed, 43%, think their property taxes are "high" in comparison with neighboring suburban communities, while 47% see them as "about average." Eighty-one percent of the residents view City services as either an "excellent" or a "good" value for the property taxes paid.

2021 Resident Survey, continued

Next Steps

The results from the 2021 Fridley Residents Survey were presented to City Council, Department Directors and City leaders. City staff are continuing to educate and inform additional City staff of the results of the resident survey.

City staff are also available to present these results to neighborhood and community groups, as well as community partners. Please reach out to Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist at Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov or 763-572-3579, if you are interested.



Stay Engaged & Get Involved

You can help make Fridley a Friendly, Responsive, and Driven community!

- Tell others about the Resident Survey results!
 - City staff are also available to present these results to neighborhood and community groups, as well as community partners.
- Give feedback, ask questions, and share your ideas. Reach out to Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist at 763-572-3579 or Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov.
- Stay informed by signing up for Fridley For You emails, the official email newsletter for the City. Visit our Fridley For You News & Updates page and enter your email. If you are already subscribed to the Fridley For You e-newsletter, you do not need to sign up again.
- Volunteer!

Questions

If you are interested in volunteering or have a question about the Resident Survey, do not hesitate to reach out! Reach out to Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist at 763-572-3579 or Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov.



Community Adopt-a-Drain Challenge Update

Fridley is currently competing against Columbia Heights, Andover, and Blaine in the Community Adopt-A-Drain challenge. In the challenge, residents of the four communities compete in a series of monthly challenges to win prizes and support the Adopt-A-Drain program

Fridley resident, Sara Jones and her children won the monthly challenge in April for most reported cleanings in the City! When asked why they adopted their drains, Sara explained "We often go on walks to the Mississippi or Locke Lake so we can see where everything from our drains would go if we did not get rid of it. Adopting our storm drains is an easy way to keep out pollution!" Remaining competitions in the challenge are:

- July - Most Adopted Drains in Fridley
- August - Group Recognition
- September - Most Pounds of Debris Removed in Fridley
- October - Randomly Selected new Fridley Adopter

Fridley is currently in third place overall in the Challenge. Help us advance and potentially win prizes by adopting a drain or reporting a cleaning today at Adopt-a-Drain.org

Cool Off Your Energy Bill

Looking to save on your cooling costs this year? Check out the Xcel Energy's AC Rewards or Saver's Switch programs. Both programs provide you with a rebate on your electric bill for allowing Xcel Energy to remotely adjust your smart thermostat (AC Rewards) or air conditioning (Saver's Switch) for a few minutes on summer's hottest days. Participants in the AC Rewards program receive a \$75 enrollment bill credit and \$25 for every year that they are enrolled;

participants in the Saver's Switch program receive 15% off their June through September electric energy charges.

Additional rebates are available to purchase a smart thermostat which allows you to remotely adjust your thermostat. If you have ever forgotten to turn your AC down before going on vacation, a smart thermostat is for you! Find out all the details at MN.my.xcelenergy.com/s/residential.



NIGHT to UNITE!
Neighbors Joining Together

Register Your Party for Night to Unite!

Save the date! Tuesday, August 3 from 6-9 p.m.

Night to Unite will take place on Tuesday, August 3! Registration for Night to Unite 2021 parties will be open until Friday, July 23 at 4:30 p.m. You can register online at FridleyMN.gov/NightToUnite or in-person at the Public Safety front desk. Registration is required if you would like a visit from Fridley Public Safety.

For questions, email Crime Prevention Specialist, Courtney Miller, at Courtney.Miller@FridleyMN.gov.



Become a Police Explorer!

High School Students interested in law enforcement? Join the Explorers and train side-by-side with Fridley officers and participate in state competitions in:

- Hostage Rescue Negotiations
- Bomb Scene Search
- Burglary Response
- Search and Arrest
- Domestic Crisis
- And more!

Interested? Please Contact Officer Shawn Murphy, 763-238-7805 or Shawn.Murphy@FridleyMN.gov.



Springbrook Nature Center Foundation Board of Directors Elects New Officers

The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation (SNCF) is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, governed by a Board of Directors, dedicated to enhancing the Springbrook Nature Center (SNC). Board members are volunteers and receive no remuneration for their time serving on the Board. Board members are selected by the current Board to serve one-year renewable terms.

Position	Nomination
Chair	Renae Wrich
Vice Chair	Ross Meisner
Secretary	Amy Collura
Treasurer	Richard Walch
Assistant Treasurer	Hatice Bilgic-Lim

Fridley Community Calendar

July

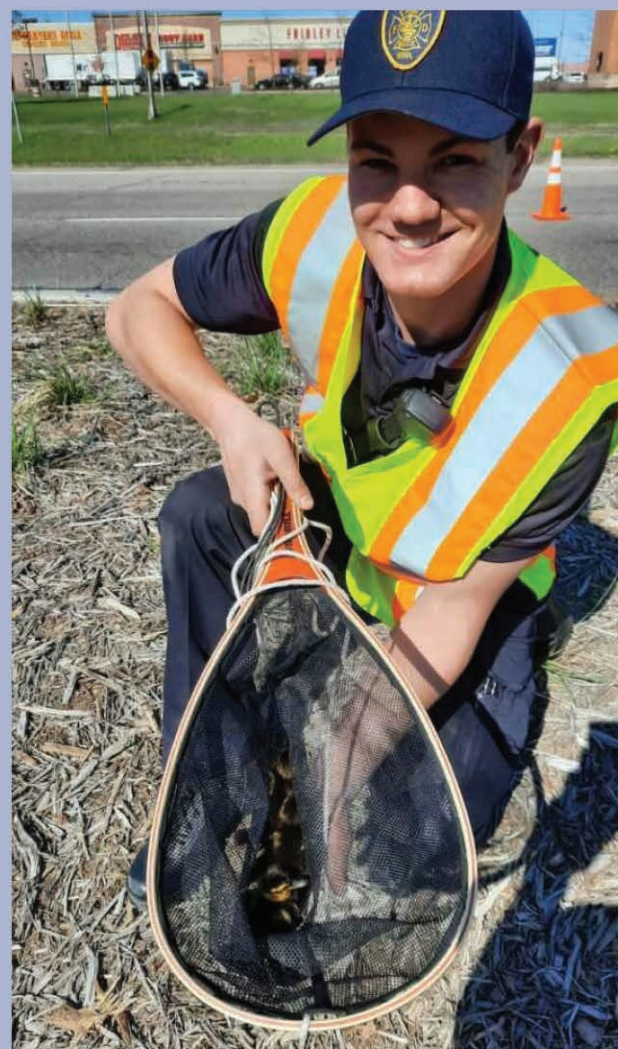
- 3 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 5 City Offices Closed in Observance of July 4 Holiday
- 12 City Council Meeting
- 13 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission Meeting
- 21 Planning Commission Meeting
- 26 City Council Meeting

August

- 2 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
- 5 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 9 City Council Meeting
- 10 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission Meeting
- 18 Planning Commission Meeting
- 23 City Council Meeting

NOTE: City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue NE. The public is welcome.

Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids and would like to attend a meeting, should contact Roberta Collins at 763-572-3500 at least one week in advance.



Fridley Public Safety – Helping Residents Big & Small

Late this spring, Fridley Fire was called to help out a group of ducklings on University Avenue. They were rescued and released in a safe spot.

Volunteering in Fridley!

Volunteering in Fridley provides the opportunity for community members and groups to make a difference and take pride in Fridley! Becoming a volunteer is a great way to share your knowledge, skills, and expertise with our community, while also learning new skills and building relationships with your neighbors and fellow community members.

There are a variety of volunteer opportunities throughout the community, with the City, and in your neighborhood. We invite you to start your volunteering journey around the Fridley community!

Volunteer to support the Fridley Parks System Plan—Finding Your Fun in Fridley!

Community members passionate about Fridley parks are encouraged to become Fridley Park Champions and help advocate for the future of our parks. You should have a strong interest in the Fridley Parks Plan and are willing to share your voice in the community and volunteer your time to create awareness of the plan. If you are interested in becoming a Fridley Parks Champion, please contact Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist, at Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov or 763-572-3579.

Volunteer in your neighborhood!

- Adopt-A-Park
- Adopt-A-Drain
- Adopt-A-Fire Hydrant
- Neighborhood Watch & Block Captains

Volunteer with the City of Fridley!

- Parks & Recreation Programs & Events
- Springbrook Nature Center
- Public Safety Crime Prevention Programs & Events
- Election Judges

Fridley launches a new Fridley community Volunteer Opportunity List & Map!

There are many additional volunteer opportunities in the Fridley and Anoka County communities. Fridley staff have created a running list of community organizations in Fridley and Anoka County that have volunteer opportunities. You can use the Fridley Volunteer Opportunities List and Map to explore volunteer opportunities in the Fridley and Anoka County communities. You can view the map online at FridleyMN.gov/Volunteer. If you would like your community organization's volunteer opportunities considered for this list, visit the volunteer webpage on the city's website to submit your opportunities.

Thank you to the many volunteers already out there putting in the time and effort to enhance their neighborhoods and the City. Your commitment is appreciated by everyone in our community!

To learn more about how to start your volunteering journey, visit FridleyMN.gov/Volunteer.

community concert SERIES

SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER @ 7PM
100 85TH AVENUE NE, FRIDLEY
SNC Concerts made possible through a generous gift by the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation.

BLUE GROOVE BLUEGRASS Bluegrass	JULY 20
XIBABA BRAZILIAN JAZZ Brazilian Jazz	AUG 17

CIVIC CAMPUS @ 7PM
7071 UNIVERSITY AVE NE, FRIDLEY (EAST SIDE OF CIVIC CAMPUS)

INNOCENT REGGAE BAND Reggae	JULY 13
BETTY RYDELL SHOW Country	JULY 27
ROSEVILLE BIG BAND Big Band/Swing	AUG 10
TBD	AUG 24

COMMONS PARK @ 11AM
6249 7TH STREET NE, FRIDLEY

THE JOLLY POPS Children's	JULY 20
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CHALK THE WALK @ 10:30AM
Come out early on July 20 to spread positivity and get artsy! Each artist will be provided with the tools to spread joy, optimism and inspiration using sidewalk chalk.

See full 'Chalk the Walk Contest' details in the Parks and Recreation Brochure.

Covid-19 safety precautions will be in place based on current guidelines.

Fridley is getting musical this summer with a full line-up of live performances. Musical acts range from big band to blue grass to Brazilian, and it is music that the whole family can enjoy. So, grab a blanket or chair and join us for a season of song!

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