



Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Parks and Recreation
Brochure Enclosed

JULY/AUGUST 2020
NO. 225

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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BECOME AN ELECTION JUDGE

for 2020 Elections

There are two Election Days remaining in 2020:

August 11 | November 3



Election Judges Needed

For each election, Fridley needs over 100 Election Judges to run the City's 12 polling locations. Elections in Fridley cannot run without them. Election Judges are people who help community members cast ballots while protecting the voters' rights by ensuring the election process is fair and in accordance with state and federal laws.

Fridley Election Judges administer the City's 12 polling locations in several different capacities, such as greeting voters, registering new voters, demonstrating how to mark a ballot, maintaining accurate ballot counts and certifying polling location results.

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

- Must be eligible to vote in Minnesota
- Must be able to read, write and speak English fluently
- Must attend mandatory Election Judge training

- Must not be a candidate in the election, or a family member of a candidate in a precinct where the candidate is on the ballot
- Must not be a family member of any other Election Judge in the same polling location during the same shift

Fridley Election Judges are paid \$10 per hour. Students who are at least 16 years of age may serve as Student Judges. Student Judges perform all job functions of a polling place and are paid \$10 per hour. Minnesota state law (M.S. § 204B.195) allows individuals time off from work to serve as an Election Judge, similar to serving on jury duty.

For more information, visit us at FridleyMN.gov/Elections, email Elections@FridleyMN.gov or call 763-572-3523.



Reminder: COVID-19 Event & Services Updates

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we have made some adjustments to our services and cancelled or restructured some community events. These updates have been made in the best interests of our community. Because of the lead time in producing a printed city newsletter, there may have been updates to our services or additional cancellations for events since the July/August edition was published. For the most up-to-date information, please:

- Visit FridleyMN.gov/Coronavirus for updates on our city services and council/commission meetings
- Visit FridleyMN.gov and view our calendar/search for a specific event page to find cancellation or rescheduling information
- Follow the City of Fridley (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), Springbrook Nature Center (Facebook, Instagram) and Fridley Recreation (Instagram) for information on services and events
- Call 763-571-3450 and your questions will be directed to the appropriate staff member

2020 City Council Candidates

The City has two offices on the November 2020 ballot: Mayor and Councilmember-at-Large. Candidate filings closed June 2. The following individuals have filed for office:

Office of Mayor: Scott Lund

Office of Councilmember-at-Large:
David Ostwald

Terms for these Council positions are four years beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2024.

Early Voting

Minnesota voters may cast ballots from their own home by requesting a mailed absentee ballot. Mail balloting is safe and secure. When you apply for an absentee ballot, your registration status and eligibility to vote are verified by the Secretary of State's Office (SOS). When your ballot is initialized by the SOS, it will be given a unique barcode and mailed to your home. After a ballot is filled out, you will need to return it to the Anoka County Elections office by mail or in-person. Each voter's signature is verified and the unique barcode is scanned by Election Judges at the Anoka County Courthouse. All returned absentee ballots will be run through a ballot counting machine, and votes are tallied in the same way as on Election Day.

To apply for a mailed Absentee Ballot, visit the Minnesota Secretary of State's website MNVotes.org or call 1-877-600-VOTE (8683).

In-person early voting is available at the Fridley Civic Campus (7071 University Avenue) beginning June 26. Voting hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and August 8, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Voters may also vote at the Anoka County Courthouse (2100 3rd Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303).

Door Knocking for Political Candidates

With Election Day around the corner, residents may experience political candidates knocking on their door. City Code exempts political candidates from being licensed. Normally, most people visiting door-to-door need to have a Solicitor's License and go through a background check with the City.

For More Information

For more detailed election and voter information, including where to vote, please visit the SOS website at sos.state.mn.us or contact the City Clerk's office at Elections@FridleyMN.gov.



United States®
Census
2020

Connect with us
@uscensusbureau

2020 Census Update

Thank you to everyone in Fridley who has completed the 2020 Census! The state of Minnesota continues to lead the nation in Census self-response rates.

Due to COVID-19, the U.S. Census Bureau is adapting and delaying Census operations to protect the health and safety of staff and the public. Even though the Census Bureau is adapting and delaying operations, you can still respond to the census online, over the phone, or by mail with a paper questionnaire.

One of the most impactful things you can do right now is fill out the Census and encourage your family, friends and neighbors to fill it out as well. Filling out the census online is currently the safest option with distancing measures in place, for both our Fridley residents and Census Bureau staff. Information collected from the Census is used for population counts and is vital to ensure funding for emergency response services.

Self-Response Extended to October 31

If you have not completed the Census yet, it is okay! You can still respond on your own until October 31, but do not wait. You are encouraged to fill out the forms even if you have not received an invitation in the mail. You can respond by visiting my2020census.gov or calling 844-330-2020. If you

prefer to fill out a paper copy, paper questionnaires were sent to addresses between April 8 and April 16. Census information is also available in 59 languages. Learn more at 2020census.gov/en/languages.

In Person Follow Up August through October

If you do not respond, Census workers will be visiting homes in August through October for an in-person count. Filling out your Census form online right now is the safest option for our community. Census workers take an oath to protect and keep private all the information they collect. The information is confidential. For more information, visit 2020census.gov/Avoiding-Fraud or call 800-923-8282.

If you have questions or want to receive updates on the 2020 Census, text COUNT to MN 2020 (662020).

You can also reach out to Alyssa Kruzel, City of Fridley Community Engagement Specialist, by email at Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov or by phone at 763-572-3579; or visit the City website at FridleyMN.gov/2020Census.

Vote Early by Mail

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some voters may be hesitant to visit the polls on the Election Day. You can vote early by mail once you have applied to have an absentee ballot mailed to you. You do not need to be registered to apply.

Application Deadline

You can apply for a ballot any time during the year, except the day of the election. Leave time for election officials to mail your ballot and for you to return it on or before Election Day.

Deadline to Return Ballots

Your ballot will *not* count if it is received after Election Day. Return your ballot by mail or package delivery service (such as FedEx or UPS). You can also return your ballot in person no later than 3 p.m. on Election Day to the election office that sent your ballot. You can drop off ballots for up to three other voters. You will need to show identification with name and signature when returning a ballot for someone else.

How to Apply

To request a ballot for the August primary and/or November general election, go online to MNVotes.org and select "Other Ways to Vote." From there, fill out an online Absentee Ballot Application or mail, fax, or email a fillable form application.





Getting Around Town: Roundabouts

Featured Project: Locke Parkway Roundabout

Fridley's first roundabout was installed at the intersection of the University Avenue Service Road and the new Locke Parkway instead of a traditional two- or four-way stop.

What is a roundabout?

Roundabouts are circular intersections that replace two-way stops, all-way stops, or signalized intersections. Drivers move in a roundabout in a counter-clockwise direction to reach their intended street.

Why are roundabouts an improvement?

Roundabouts have lower entrance and exit speeds, gentler crossing angles, and separated traffic flows. As a result, there are fewer serious accidents and improved traffic flow. Roundabouts installed in Minnesota have shown a 42 percent decrease in crashes with injuries and an 86 percent decrease in fatal crashes compared to their previous design.

There is also less waiting at stop signs or red lights, which reduces the time motorists need to move through the intersection by 50 percent or more.

Do you have to stop before entering a roundabout?

Drivers entering the roundabout must yield to drivers already in the roundabout. In a multi-lane roundabout, you must yield to traffic in all traffic lanes. However, if the roundabout is clear, you do not need to stop before entering. Use your turn signal when exiting.

The exception is if there is a pedestrian or bicyclist in a roundabout's crosswalk. If there is a pedestrian or bicyclist in the crosswalk, you must stop and allow them to cross.

How do pedestrians and bicyclists get through roundabouts?

Roundabouts are designed with crosswalks that indicate where pedestrians and bicyclists should cross. Roundabouts can improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety by slowing vehicle speeds, improving sight lines in crosswalks, and setting crossings farther away from

traffic. Bicyclists can choose to cross the roundabouts through the crosswalk or ride within the roundabout. If a bicyclist rides through the roundabout, they must follow the same rules as vehicles and entering cars must yield to them. Pedestrians and bicyclists should never attempt to cut through a roundabout and are not allowed on the center island.

How do school buses and large trucks get through roundabouts?

Roundabouts are designed to accommodate vehicles of all sizes. The center island of the roundabout includes a truck apron which allows rear wheels on it when necessary. As with any intersection, please give trucks plenty of room, and do not attempt to pass a truck that is turning.



Virtual Connections During Stay at Home Order

In March, City of Fridley employees, like many surrounding government agencies, experienced a rapid change to their work environments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some began working from home, while others began work with new crews or on adjusted work schedules to reduce possible exposure to the virus. New processes were also implemented to ensure the safety of our community and staff. These changes required flexibility and a quick adjustment in the way employees connected with each other and the public.

Microsoft Teams had recently been introduced citywide when the Stay at Home order began. This became the main medium for communication and allowed employees to stay connected via features such as video conferencing and easy file sharing. Teams provided a collaborative space for employees to work together while physically apart.

While most of our employees are now back in the office, Microsoft Teams continues to be a valuable asset to share files, collectively edit documents and schedule video conferences with fellow employees as well as external partners. Although this pandemic has been a challenge for everyone, our work has been made easier by having access to this technology in order to follow distancing guidelines.

We also want to thank our community members for adapting to our service changes during the Stay at Home order. While the Civic Campus was closed to the public, our services became centered around phone, mail, and online connections. We realize this may have changed how some of our residents typically conduct their city business, such as paying their utility bill or applying for a building permit. Thank you for your patience as we all navigated this new environment.

Fridley Community Calendar

July

- 3 City Offices Closed in Observance of July 4
- 6 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
- 13 City Council Meeting
- 14 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission Meeting
- 27 City Council Meeting

August

- 3 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
- 6 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 10 City Council Meeting
- 11 Election Day: Regular Primary
- 19 Planning Commission Meeting
- 24 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.





New Things in Town: *Development Updates*

University Avenue transformation

University Avenue and Highway 65 were the focus of much great discussion and input sessions from residents through a public engagement process that resulted in a final study report published in 2019. One year since that report was published, many of the determined changes have begun. Public Works Director, Jim Kosluchar asked Council to approve a Cooperative Agreement between the City of Fridley and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). This agreement defines the roles in removing chain link fencing, grading, and landscaping. Kosluchar worked with the state to not simply replace and update the chain link fence, but instead to eliminate the fence where possible. The alternative buffer will be carefully designed landscaping. The project will replace and/or eliminate the fence from 37th Avenue in Columbia Heights to 69th Avenue in Fridley.

The project budget was originally \$844,000, as MnDOT anticipated just replacing the existing chain link with black-coated chain link. The same budget will be used with the revamped project plans.

One noticeable change will be the plantings in the medians. There has been a lot of focus placed on the medians to allow a general clean-up and reimagining of what the medians could/should look like. The plant materials will include indigenous, salt-tolerant plants and some ornamental trees.

Staff are preparing to submit a grant application to allow lighting in the medians, and at intersections in the future as well.



File Photo - Example of the planting bed-type as proposed for University Avenue

Industry and Commerce - Before and After

In this development update, we wanted to show the work that has been done by Fridley business owners through before and after images of the sites.

Note: Although these businesses are being recognized for their updates to their exteriors, the City takes no credit for these changes. These businesses made these changes of their own accord.

In the case of the Stacks 8 building, built by Hyde Development, a big part of the strategy was to make this building look like its neighbors in the Northern Stacks development. The building also received new glass, overhead doors, landscaping, and loading dock bumpers.



Industrial Building (before)



Stacks 8 Industrial Building (after)

Commercial Partners, ATXC Industrial LP, at 5730 Main Street refreshed its color palette with shades of gray and burgundy.

This complex is home to various Fridley businesses including Viking Engineering, Floors Northwest, Inc., Sam Nutrition and Staples. Viking has been in business since 1975 and provides automated wood fastening products.



5730 Main Street (before)



5730 Main Street (after)

Zantigo on 57th Avenue in Fridley underwent an exterior renovation in 2019. The color scheme is distinctive and reflects the branding that the owners have selected for their restaurant. The color scheme is consistent with the West 7th Street Zantigo location in Saint Paul.



Zantigo (before)



Zantigo (after)

Mike's Discount Foods has been a long time business on Osborne Road. Mike's at one time shared the building with Tried & True Tools and now occupies the entire building.



Mike's Discount Foods (before)

Along with the expanded space, Mike's has a new fresh exterior appearance as well. The building now contributes to a unified appearance of the overall complex.



Mike's Discount Foods (after)

The former Godfather's Pizza Building on University Avenue has been purchased and re-invented as the home office for Total Construction Solutions (TCS). New windows, doors, landscaping, and paint make the home office of TCS stand out prominently along University Avenue.



Total Construction Solutions, TCS (before)



Total Construction Solutions, TCS (after)

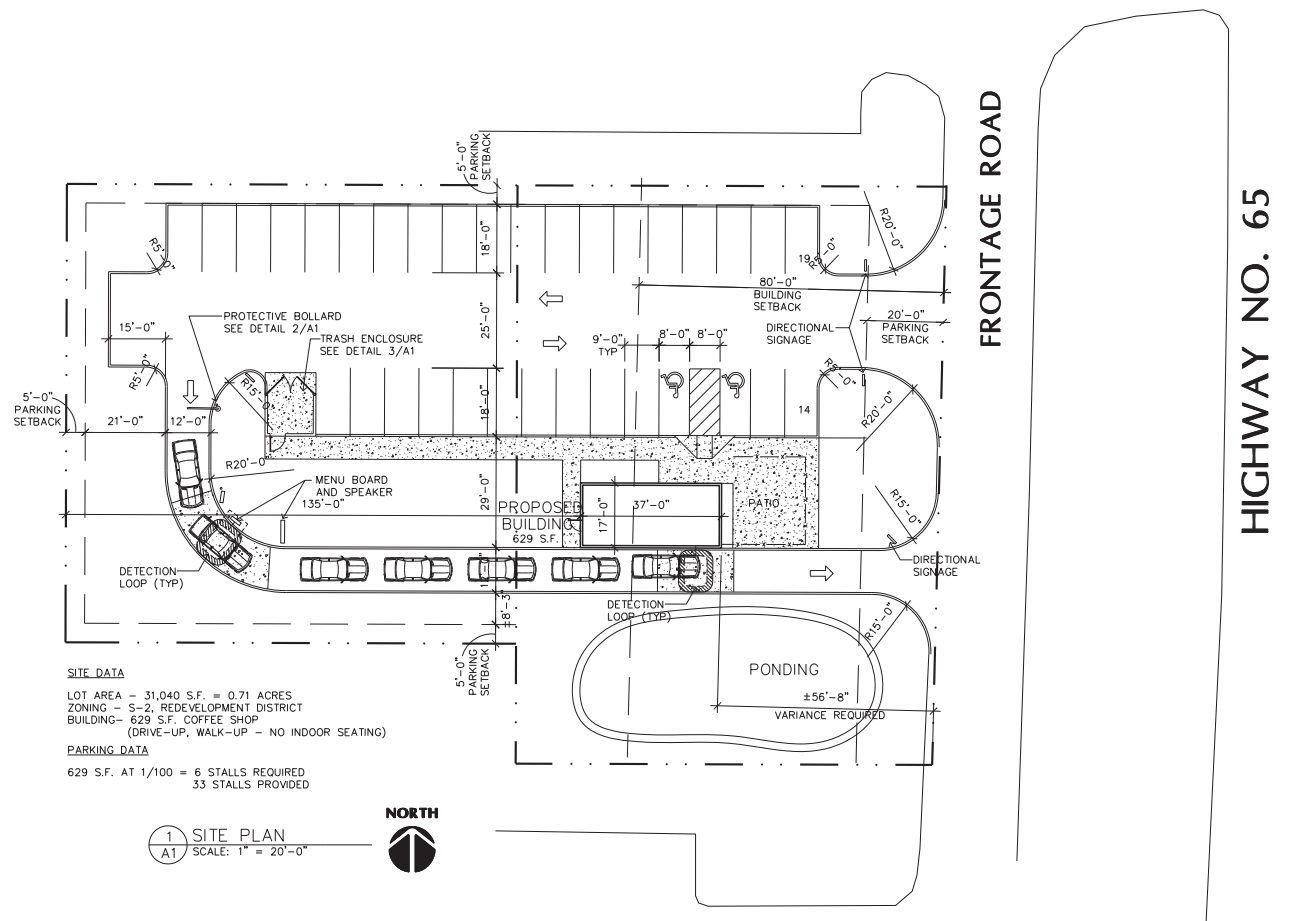
Caribou Coffee Cabin

Java Companies has submitted its plan for a second Coffee Cabin location to the City Council. As most by now are aware, Java Companies has been in the process of redeveloping the former Midas site at 8094 University Avenue NE. Its second location is at 6290 Highway 65. Construction for this second coffee location has been planned to take place this fall.

This site is the result of combining a former gas station/service center site with a parcel of property that existed and was undeveloped, until now.

According to a Caribou Coffee press release on the topic, dated August 26, 2019, The Caribou Cabin concept is the vision of President & CEO, John Butcher who joined the company two years ago and has been focused on leveraging Caribou's twenty-six years of coffeehouse heritage and strong brand to

make impactful company changes. New product innovation, digital advancements and customer engagement have been key areas of focus during Butcher's tenure. Caribou Coffee will look to add locations over the next twenty-four months, exploring additional store formats in urban and suburban areas. This strategy is aimed at increasing the company's store penetration while also delivering on customers' increasing demand for convenience and speed.



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 are encouraged to visit 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.



Please 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).

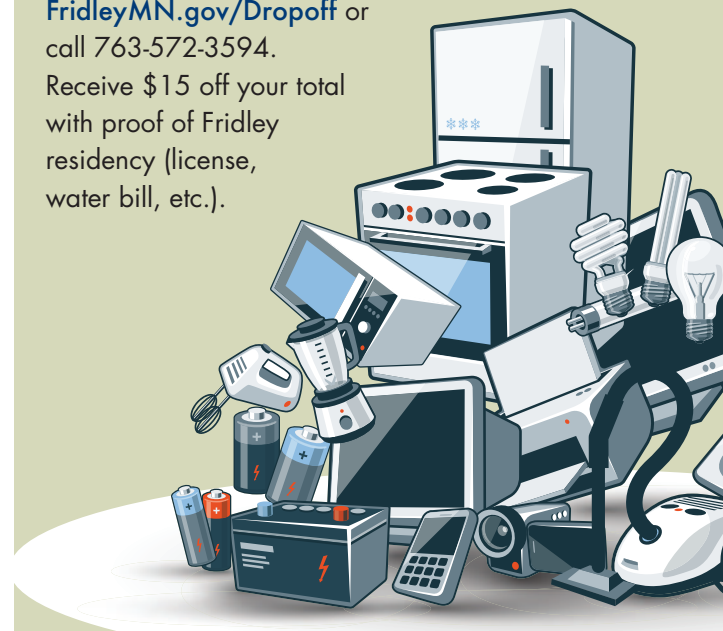
If we find a lost dog, it will be brought to North Metro Animal Care and Control (formerly Dover Kennels). You can contact them at 763-434-7332.

Recycling Drop-Off September 12

Join us for our September Recycling Drop-off and Paper Shredding Event at Green Lights Recycling (1525 99th Ln NE in Blaine) for free and reduced cost disposal of electronics, appliances, mattresses, carpet and more. This event will be from 8 a.m. - noon.

View accepted items and pricing at FridleyMN.gov/Dropoff or call 763-572-3594.

Receive \$15 off your total with proof of Fridley residency (license, water bill, etc.).





HANDS-FREE MINNESOTA LAW

HandsFreeMN.org

One-Year Anniversary of MN Hands-Free Law

The Fridley Public Safety – Police Division has noticed improvement on cellphone use while driving, but still see many people using their phones while stopped at a stoplight or in traffic. As a reminder, since the MN Hands-Free Law went into effect on August 1, 2019, it is illegal for drivers to be holding a phone in their hand(s). The law allows a driver to use his/her cell phone to make calls, text, listen to music or podcasts, and get directions, but only by voice commands or single touch activation, without holding the phone. Additional “Hands-Free” enforcement will be active during the summer.

This law is meant to reduce the risk of distracted driving. Distracted or inattentive driving is when a driver engages in any activity that might distract them from the primary task of driving — and increases their risk of crashing.

- More than 60,000 crashes were distracted driving-related from 2014 – 2018, contributing to one in five crashes in Minnesota.

- In 2018, distracted driving contributed to 3,927 injuries and 29 deaths.
- Distracted driving contributes to an average of 45 deaths and 204 life-changing injuries a year (2014 - 2018).

Minnesota’s Hands-Free Law

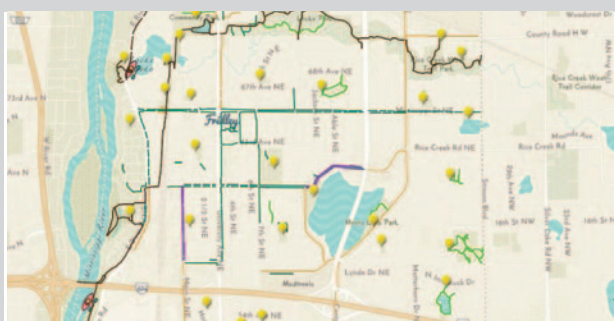
With Minnesota’s Hands-Free law, it is illegal for drivers to read, send texts and emails, and access the web while the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic. That includes sitting at a stoplight or stop sign.

- The first ticket is more than \$120, which includes the fine plus court fees. The second and later tickets are more than \$300, which includes the fine plus court fees.
- Cell phone use is totally banned for school bus drivers.
- Cell phone use is totally banned for teen drivers during their permit and provisional license stages.

Tips to Avoid Distracted Driving

Drivers face many distractions while driving. Share these tips with family and friends to take action to stop the distraction:

- **Cell phones** — turn off cell phones, or place them out of reach to avoid the urge to dial or answer. If a passenger is present, ask them to handle calls/texts.
- **Music and other controls** — pre-program favorite radio stations for easy access and arrange music (mp3 player/CDs/tapes) in an easy-to-access spot. Adjust mirrors and heat/AC before traveling, or ask a passenger to assist.
- **Navigation** — designate a passenger to serve as a co-pilot to help with directions. If driving alone, map out destinations in advance, and pull over to study a map.
- **Eating and drinking** — try to avoid food/beverage, at least messy foods, and be sure food and drinks are secured.
- **Children** — teach children the importance of good behavior in a vehicle. Do not underestimate how distracting it can be to tend to children while driving.
- **Passengers** — speak up to stop drivers from distracted driving behavior.
- When making/receiving a call, ask if the person is driving. If so, ask them to call back at a safer time.



Interactive Maps

The City of Fridley has new interactive maps for residents to view and utilize! Interactive maps are a helpful tool for finding locations, viewing amenities, property information and more. Here is a current list of our interactive maps:

- **Adopt-A-Park:** View available parks to adopt in your area
- **Developments in Fridley:** Find out updates on new residential, industrial and commercial builds/properties in Fridley.
- **Fridley Parks:** Find amenities, locations and more.
- **Fridley Property Information & Zoning:** Find types of land, boundaries, recycling weeks and other property information
- **Pollinator Gardens:** Find out where pollinator gardens/patches are located in Fridley.

Visit FridleyMN.gov/CityMaps to view the interactive maps.

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 no need to worry about 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 anytime.
- Once you are enrolled, your utility bill will state *** Bank Draft***. It’s 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.

Energy Tips

Looking to cool down your energy bill? Follow these tips to keep your home safe and efficient this summer:

- Check and replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Check and replace burned out bulbs with efficient LED bulbs.
- Review and update your programmable thermostat settings. If you do not have a smart thermostat yet, get a \$50 off rebate plus \$25 off a month through Xcel Energy's Smart Thermostat Program
- Reverse your ceiling fans' direction so that they rotate counterclockwise to push cooler air down.
- Check windows and doors for drafts or leaks. Seal any leaks with weather-stripping.
- Check and replace furnace and air conditioner filters.
- Clean your dryer filter and hoses.
- Check exterior dryer and heating vents to ensure they are clear of lint buildup and debris.



From pollinators to thermostats, find more ways to stay sustainable this summer at [FridleyMN.gov/Environment](https://www.fridleymn.gov/Environment).

Virtual Home Energy Squad Visits

The Home Energy Squad (HES) is now offering virtual home energy visits to help you find your biggest energy savings. The cost-free visit is conducted online to help you discover low cost energy-saving opportunities. They will also help identify possible future projects to save you even more, so you will be ready for action when the time comes.

Virtual HES visits are complementary to future in-person visits — you can do both! After the consultation, the Home Energy Squad may find that you could benefit from some free, energy-saving products that can be installed during a home visit, when possible. Meanwhile, a virtual visit gets you started on energy savings that increase over time.

Home Energy Squad is provided by CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy, supported by participating cities, and delivered by CEE. Learn more at 651-328-6220 or by visiting [mncee.org](https://www.mncee.org).

Street Project Updates

2018 Street Rehabilitation Project (69th Avenue and Anoka Street):

This project started construction during the week of June 8 and is estimated to be completed by the beginning of August. This project incorporates a “road diet,” which includes pavement rehabilitation, trail, stormwater drainage improvements and other ancillary items.

2019 Street Rehabilitation Project (69th Avenue, University Avenue Service Road and 71st Avenue):

This project received final approval and was in the bid process at the end of June. Completion of this project is anticipated for fall 2020. This project includes pavement rehabilitation, new trail and sidewalk amenities, pond expansion, and watermain work.

2020 Street Rehabilitation Project:

This project was awarded to C&L Excavating in May. The project includes roads in the Springbrook neighborhood that were originally constructed between the mid-1960s and 1970s. The work includes pavement resurfacing, concrete curb repairs, watermain replacement in select segments, aging fire hydrant replacements, and stormwater improvements. Completion is anticipated for fall 2020.



Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste

The Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste facility reopened to the public in June with new hours and distancing requirements.

Materials must be placed in your vehicle's trunk, bed or trailer for staff to safely remove. Items must be in the upright position to prevent spills or damage. Proof of residency (driver's license or identification card) should be ready when you arrive. Materials from Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties will be accepted. Materials from businesses, organizations or schools will not be accepted.

Free items accepted include: aerosols, ammunition, driveway sealer, fluorescent bulbs, motor oil, paint, paint stripper/thinner, pesticides, pool chemicals, propane tanks and sharps. Also accepted are products with labels such as caution, warning, danger, inflammable, etc.

For more information, call 763-324-3400 or visit [AnokaCounty.us/Recycle](https://www.AnokaCounty.us/Recycle).

Anoka County
Household Hazardous Waste Facility
3230 101st Avenue NE, Blaine, MN

Wednesdays - 1 - 7 p.m.
Thursday - Saturday - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



NIGHT to UNITE!
Neighbors Joining Together

Night to Unite Rescheduled

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Night to Unite has been rescheduled for Tuesday, October 6. We are excited to still be able to connect with our community! More information will be posted at [FridleyPublicSafety.org/NightToUnite](https://www.fridleypublicsafety.org/NightToUnite) as it becomes available.



Did you know...?
You can upgrade your recycling cart for FREE! Upsize your curbside bin from the standard 65-gallon size to a 96-gallon size with one simple call: 763-572-3594.

Rice Creek Clean-Up



Justin Foell, member of the City of Fridley's Environmental Quality & Energy Commission (EQEC), provided a report of a community clean-up of Rice Creek he helped with in May.

"I spent Saturday, May 16, with some amazing volunteers from the Rapids Riders Whitewater Canoe and Kayak Club. The goal was to clear the lower section of Rice Creek so that it's passable by canoe and kayak without having to portage past the *many* downed trees.

We met at Creekview Park in New Brighton to start the journey downstream into Fridley and Anoka County. My 10-year-old son and I provided ground

support by bicycle with a trailer carrying a chainsaw and other provisions. The paddlers donned their protective gear and brought specialized hand saws.

Providing support was tricky in places where the bike trail diverged and private homes limited access to the creek. We stayed in communication with hand-held radios in places where maintaining visual contact wasn't possible.



All-in-all over half a dozen sites were cleared upstream of Locke Lake. I should add that while sites were cleared, some obstacles remain on part of the creek - for instance the right side might be passable while the left side still has a tree obstacle. I recommend anyone looking to paddle this section to check out this USGS page for the Rice Creek Flow rate (waterdata.usgs.gov/mn)."

Water Rebates Available to Residents

For a limited time, Fridley residents and businesses can qualify for rebates of up to 75 percent off the cost of water-efficient appliances and irrigation system components. Rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Learn more at FridleyMN.gov/WaterGrant or by calling 763-572-3554.



Rebate Amounts

Fridley residents and businesses can receive rebates for the following water-saving devices:

Item	Specifications	Maximum Rebate Amount*	Est. Water Savings
Washing Machine	Energy Star Labeled	\$250	2,000 gallons per year
Toilet	WaterSense Labeled	\$150	13,000 gallons per year
Irrigation System Controller	WaterSense Labeled	\$250	7,600 gallons per year
Irrigation System Audit	Conducted by WaterSense-Certified Irrigation Professional	\$250	Dependent on findings
Spray Sprinkler Body	WaterSense Labeled	\$5 per head	N/A
Rainbarrel	N/A	\$50	N/A

*Rebate amounts capped at listed amount or 75 percent of purchase price, whichever is less.

Why should I participate?

Funding for this rebate program is provided by the Metropolitan Council's Water Efficiency Grant program to encourage water savings in Fridley. All of the City's water comes from groundwater sources, which take many, many years to recharge, so it is important that we conserve our water. Pumping water from the ground also uses considerable energy, which costs money and contributes to greenhouse gases. Many homes in Fridley have older appliances. Switching to newer, more efficient appliances will save you and the City money and help conserve resources.

Who qualifies for the rebate?

All property owners in the City of Fridley qualify. Renters are encouraged to work with the property owner to participate. Rebates for toilets and washing machines can only be used for replacement items, not for new construction. The product must have been purchased after January 13, 2020.

Why should I update my irrigation system?

Irrigation systems can use a lot of water, especially if they are not properly calibrated. A smart irrigation controller automatically adjusts watering frequency

and amounts based on weather and site conditions, which keeps your yard from getting over-watered. Even if you already have soil sensors, a smart irrigation controller is important, especially in yards with slopes or patches of shade. If every home in the US with an irrigation system used a smart irrigation controller, we could save 100 billion gallons of water per year (equal to the household water needs of 1.2 million Americans). Smart irrigation controllers also allow you to control your irrigation system from your phone and chart water usage over time.

How will I get my rebate?

Your rebate will be applied to your utility bill. Depending on when you submit your receipts, it may take a full billing cycle for your rebate to process. If your rebate is more than your water bill, the rest of the rebate will be applied to the second billing cycle.

What other rebate programs does the City offer?

The City of Fridley offers discounts on the Home Energy Squad program as well as a competitive loan program. Learn more by visiting our website at FridleyMN.gov/HomeImprovements.



Find New Favorites at Fridley Liquor!

Both Fridley Liquor locations are now open for in-store shopping! Curbside pick-up is also still available at Fridley Liquor Market. Visit FridleyLiquor.com for the most up-to-date information on hours and service.

Looking for a specific item you cannot seem to find? Fill out the Product Request Form! At Fridley Liquor, we do our best to offer a wide variety of products for everyone's taste. If you do not find what you are looking for, we encourage you to fill out a suggestion for products via the form. Visit FridleyLiquor.com/ProductRequest.

Locations: Fridley Market

264 57th Avenue, NE, Fridley, MN 55432
(University Avenue & I-694)
Phone: 763-571-1994

*In-store shopping is available Monday - Saturday from noon - 10 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Curbside pick-up is available from Monday - Saturday from noon - 7:30 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Fridley Liquor: Moore Lake

6289 Highway 65, Fridley, MN 55432
Phone: 763-571-8365

*In-store shopping is available Monday - Saturday from noon - 8 p.m.