

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



MARCH/APRIL 2024 NO. 246

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

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Mayor - Scott Lund

Councilmember-at-Large – David Ostwald Councilmember 1st Ward – Tom Tillberry Councilmember 2nd Ward – Ryan Evanson Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann Bolkcom City Manager – Wally Wysopal

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Help Us Inventory Our Water Service Lines

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recently altered its drinking water standards related to lead and copper. This rule was enhanced to protect property owners by reducing their exposure to lead.

Safe drinking water continues to be a top priority for the City, and **the water pipes in Fridley do not contain lead**.

However, lead can enter the drinking water from lead service lines. The City has not encountered any lead service lines in Fridley.



As part of the new requirements by the EPA, the City of Fridley is required to inventory the water service lines and type of materials used. The water service line is the pipe the connects the residence to the City's watermain in the street.

We will be using different methods to inventory these pipes. Historical records, service line replacements, physical inspections and help from residents via an online mobile application.

How You Can Help

The City needs the help of property owners to complete this inventory. Here's what you can do to help:

- 1. Locate your water service line in the lower level of your home.
- 2. Take a photo of the service line and upload it to **FridleyMN.gov/ServiceLine** or by scanning the QR code.
- 3. If you are unable to locate your service line or need assistance identifying the pipe material, contact our Utilities Division at 763-573-3566. The City will, at no charge, come to your residence and assist in identifying your service line material.

Thank you for your help!





managing erosion and stormwater runoff.
Erosion is when soil washes off properties int nearby streets, wetlands, ponds or rivers during rainstorms, leading to flooding. The updated chapter aims to clarify existing requirements.

A friendly reminder:

 A permit may be required, even for small projects. Land alteration permits ensure the owner has a plan to control erosion when land is disturbed. Things like 2. Maintenance agreements are required for large projects. It's imperative to the City's waterbodies to ensure new stormwater ponds, rain gardens and other runoff systems are properly maintained long-term. If these features aren't working right due to lack of upkeep, they can worsen flooding and send more pollution into waterbodies.

The goal is keeping Fridley's waterbodies vibrant and healthy while protecting neighbors from flooding. Please reach out with any thoughts on the erosion and stormwater code update. If you notice a construction project that is causing erosion into the street or onto adjacent properties, please call Public Works at 763-572-3566.



Homeowner Programs Open House

March 27 | 5-7 p.m. | Fridley City Hall

The Fridley Housing and Redevelopment Authority invites you to our Homeowner Programs Open House on March 27 from 5-7 p.m.

Learn about programs relating to utilities, lights, recycling, trees, Home Energy Squad, Center for Energy and Environment and more. We look forward to seeing you there!

Learn more about available programs online at FridleyMN.gov/HomePrograms.





Looking to Give Your Exterior a Refresh? You May be Eligible for a Residential Paint Rebate

Do you have any peeling paint on around your home? In Fridley, all properties must be kept in an attractive and well-maintained condition that is free of exterior peeling paint. Common areas where peeling paint is found include exterior walls, doors, fences and windows.

If you find that you do have peeling paint visible, you may be eligible for the City of Fridley's residential paint rebate. Available annually until funding runs out, the residential paint rebate offers up to \$500 for paint used on the exterior of your home. Please note that the residential paint rebate cannot be used for paint that has already been purchased. As a

result, make sure to apply for the rebate before painting your home. To learn more about the residential paint rebate or other City-sponsored grants and loans, visit **FridleyMN.gov/HomePrograms** for more information.

For more information about peeling paint, property maintenance regulations, or other code questions, consider reaching out to our Code Enforcement Inspector, at 763-572-3598. If you would like to report a code violation, visit **CitizenServe.com/Fridley** to make an anonymous complaint.

Natural Gas Rate Increase

Earlier this year, the City received notice from CenterPoint Energy that they are requesting a natural gas rate increase for 2024/25. Currently, the typical residential customer's rate is \$75 per month. CenterPoint Energy proposes an increase in these rates to \$81 per month for 2024 and \$83 per month for 2025.

The City does not control CenterPoint Utility rates. More information, including information about commercial rate increases, can be found at CenterPointEnergy.com/RateCase.

Save the Date for the 2024 Citywide Garage Sale!

The sales will take place on Friday, June 7 and Saturday, June 8.
Registration is free and will open May 1 - 31.

More information can be found online at FridleyMN.gov/CitywideGarageSale.

This year, Fridley and Columbia Heights will be hosting their sales the same weekend for double the fun! Visit Columbia Heights' website and social media for more information about their sale.



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Valuation Notices and Tax Statements: Here is What to Expect

Valuation Notices

Each year in March, Anoka County mails residents the valuation notice for estimated market value of their property in 2024. The estimated market value will determine what your property taxes will be in 2025. Taking the time to review this document ensures that you are aware of this estimate and gives you specific remedies to appeal it.

Appealing Your Valuation Notice
If you choose to appeal, the first step is to call
the Fridley Assessor's office. The assessor will

work with you to schedule a full inspection of your property and verify all the information used to estimate market value. The assessor is also happy to review information that you provide such as an appraisal, a broker's price opinion or your own research.

Tax Statements

Also included with the valuation notice is a copy of your tax statement for taxes payable in 2024. This is the document you will need when filing for a property tax refund and provides an itemized list of how your tax dollars will be distributed. It also includes the same

itemization from 2023 which is useful for comparison from year to year.

Take the time to check the classification which can be found under the estimated market value for each year and located in the upper right-hand corner. There are tax benefits available for homestead properties so be sure you have the homestead classification if you own and occupy your residence. There is also a relative homestead, so be sure to check that if you have a home where a qualified relative lives. If you are unsure, call the Assessor's office at 763-572-3537.

2024 Elections Underway

We are wrapping up a successful Presidential Nominating Primary. Thanks to all our Election Judges and staff for all their hard work.

The Election train keeps on moving forward. The next 2024 election date is the Primary election on August 13. This election may include runoffs for local seats on the ballot including Mayor and Councilmember at Large if more than three people file for one City office.

Interested Candidates who wish to file to run for these offices will have some important dates upcoming. The first day to file is May 21, 2024. The final day to file is June 4, 2024 and the last day you can withdraw is June 6, 2024. If you wish to file to run for office, please visit or contact the Clerk's Office for more information and assistance in completing the necessary paperwork.



Become an Election Judge

It is also not too late to apply to be an election judge and work in the primary and general elections. For more information, please contact the Clerk's Office – CityClerk@FridleyMN.gov or 763-572-3573. Continue to watch the City website for the latest election information in this busy year.

Street Sweeping This Spring

Spring is on the horizon, and our street sweepers are eager to get the salt and sand off the roads. Due to the unpredictability of Minnesota weather, we are unable to provide an except date for street sweeping. Our Public Works team tries to clear the streets after the last snowfall but before the "April showers." Typically, streets are cleaned in late March or early April.



Street sweeping is essential to remove winter debris buildup before the rainy season arrives to avoid washing salt and other debris into the city's storm sewer system. We do this to reduce stormwater pollution and maintain the water quality. Ways you can help include picking up dog poop, sweeping near your storm drains or installing a raingarden on your property.

Hydrant flushing

After we finish street sweeping, we move onto hydrant flushing in April. Hydrant flushing occurs tice a year, in the spring and fall, when the city flushes its water mains through the fire hydrants. This helps clear the water of small amounts of sediment like iron or manganese that settles over time and it verifies that the hydrants are in good, working order.

During the hydrant flushing, deposits from the water lines may create yellowish-brownish discoloration of water in homes near the flushing area. While this water is safe for drinking, it may discolor laundry. If discoloration lasts longer than two days, call us at 763-572-3566. You can also call the same number for current flushing locations and updated information.

Fridley Community Calendar

March

March 4 | Parks and Recreation
Commission Meeting

March 7 | Housing and Redevelopment
Authority (HRA)

March 11 | City Council Meeting

March 12 | Environmental Quality and
Energy Commission Meeting

March 20 | Planning Commission Meeting

March 25 | City Council Meeting

April

April 1

April 4

April 29

April 8 | City Council Meeting

April 9 | Environmental Quality and
Energy Commission Meeting

April 20 | Town Hall

April 22 | City Council Meeting

Authority (HRA)

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Housing and Redevelopment

Charter Commission Meeting

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

Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in any City of Fridley services, programs, or activities. Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons who require auxiliary aids should contact the City at 763-572-3450.

Upcoming Heartsaver Classes

Fridley Police and Fire want to make Fridley a heart Safe Community. Sign up for one of our upcoming classes to learn CPR and first aid skills. Classes are open to ages 16 and older. Cost is \$60 per registrant. Learn more and register online at **FridleyMN.gov/HeartSafe**.

HeartSaver CPR:

March 15, April 18, May 16 and June 15

HeartSaver First Aid: July 18



Park Facility Reservations

The City of Fridley has park shelters available for rental between May 6 and October 29, 2024. Shelters are located at Commons, Flanery, Moore Lake and Locke parks. The brand new Moore Lake Community Building is now open for reservations. Reservation requests can be submitted online at FridleyMN.gov/Rec or by calling 763-572-3570.

Springbrook Nature Center (SNC) also has a variety of indoor and outdoor facilities available for rental including indoor room rentals, picnic shelter rentals and amphitheater rentals!

To learn more about SNC visit **SpringbrookNatureCenter.org**. To check availability, call SNC at 763-572-3588.





Springbrook Summer Camp!

Are you looking for adventure this summer? Want to make new friends? Claim your spot as a wizard, spy, adventurer, superhero and more! Camps run from June 4 through August 22. Ages vary for each camp. Check out our website or visit Springbrook Nature Center for more information.

This year's themes include:

- Camp Classics
- Imagination Creation
- Beast Powers
- Fantastic Forts
- Zombie Survival
- Splish Splash
- · You're a Lizard, Harry
- Water Works
- Nature Play
- Mischief Makers
- T.R.I.C.K.Y. Tinkers

CITY OF FRIDLEY

POP-UP COMMUNITY TOY STORE

Free toy swap at the Environmental Fun Fair!

Dropoff: April 16-May 16

Dropoff gently loved toys, puzzles, books, art supplies and games for kids!

Please No broken, ripped, damaged or recalled toys; No items with missing or broken pieces; No clothing; No stuffed animals; and Include working batteries for all electronic items.

Collection boxes at Fridley City Hall and Springbrook Nature Center

Shop: May 18, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Stop by the Community Toy Store at the Environmental Fun Fair at Springbrook Nature Center to shop for a FREE toy or game to bring home!



RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR CREATIVE KIDS IN THE SUMMER

June 11 - August 16

Kids currently in grades K-6 will have a blast at our Monday-Friday day long camp at the Fridley Middle School and Commons Park!



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- Mornings: a variety of indoor scheduled activities including sports, arts and crafts and STEM
- Lunch: Free lunch provided by Fridley Schools
- **Afternoon:** Play time at Commons Park and outside activities
- Weekly: Special Events or Field Trips and Open Swim

Groups are divided by age (18 kids per room) and taught by college and high school aged camp counselors, with supervision from Recreation coordinators. Some activities are taught by outside, specialized instructors.

Registration will open at 8 a.m. on March 6. We hope you can join us for a fun, creative and exciting summer!

Join the Team!

Looking for a fun way to spend the summer and earn some money? The City of Fridley has several openings for seasonal positions in Recreation and Public Works. Learn more and keep an eye out for open positions at FridleyMN.gov/Jobs.



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Water Efficiency Grant – Last Call!

The City of Fridley was awarded another water efficiency grant by the Metropolitan Council to provide residents and businesses rebates for switching to water-efficient appliances and irrigation systems. Rebates will be available on a first come, first served basis. Act now before funds run out! Apply today at **FridleyMN.gov/WaterGrant**. Call 763-572-3554 with any questions. **Rebates must be submitted by May 30, 2024**.





Rebate amounts:

Item	Specification	Rebate Amount*	Estimated Water Savings
Dishwasher	Energy Star Labeled	\$150	4,000 gallons per year
Washing Machine	Energy Star Labeled	\$150	2,000 gallons per year
Toilet	WaterSense Labeled	\$100	13,000 gallons per year
Irrigation System Controller	WaterSense Labeled	\$150	7,600 gallons per year
Irrigation System Audit	Conducted by WaterSense- Certified Irrigation Professional	\$150	Dependent on findings
Spray Sprinkler Body	WaterSense Labeled	\$5 per head	N/A
Rainbarrel	N/A	\$50	N/A

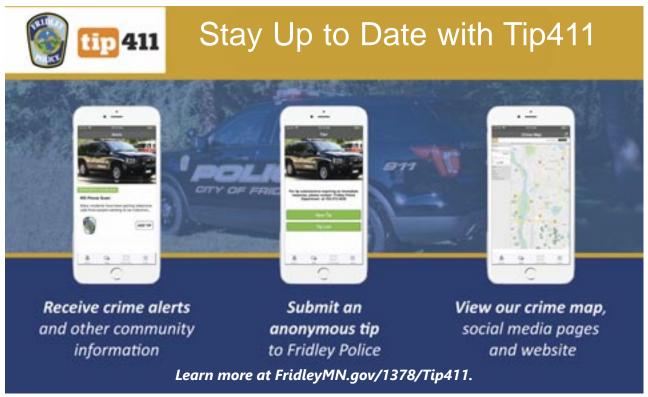


Winter Parking in Effect through April 1

Friendly reminder: Fridley does not declare snow emergencies. From November 1 through April 1, however, it is a violation to park any vehicle on City streets between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

It is a violation to stop, park or leave standing a vehicle in such a manner as to impede the plowing or removal of snow, ice or waste from public streets or highways regardless of date or time.

Violators will be tagged and towed, and subject to storage charges. Fridley City Code, Chapter 506.05



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 years to recharge, so it is important that we conserve our water. Pumping 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, dishwashers and washing machines can only be used for replacement items, not for new construction. The product must have been purchased after July 1, 2022.

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.



Adopt-A-Park

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



Curbside Recycling

Fridley residents do a great job recycling! Refresh your memory on what can go in your recycling cart to help keep our recycling free of contamination. Please remember to always place your recycling in the cart loose or in paper bags, never in plastic bags.

Request a recycling calendar Did you know? Most Fridley residents in single family homes and apartments with 12 units or less have every other week recycling provided by Republic Services through a contract with the City. You should have received a recycling schedule in the mail at the end of December with your recycle days. If you have not received your calendar, or would like an extra, please email your address to Recycling@FridleyMN.gov or call 763-572-3594.



Save the Date! Environmental Fun Fair

Mark your calendars! The 2024 Environmental Fun Fair will be from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 18 at the Springbrook Nature Center! A variety of outdoor and environmental exhibitors will be present to help us appreciate our wonderful natural world. In additional, there will a bouncy castle, live musical guest Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade, and food!



Please Do Not Bag Your Recyclables!





PLASTICS BOTTLES & JUGS Water, soda and juice bottles, dish soap bottles, shampoo bottles, soap and lotion bottles, and detergent jugs (empty and clean/rinse, and dry; caps on)



CARTONS

Milk cartons, juice cartons, juice boxes, soup, broth and wine cartons (empty and clean/rinse, newspapers and inserts, phone (empty; labels OK) and dry; caps on)





PLASTICS CUPS & CONTAINERS

Yogurt cups, pudding and fruit cups,

clear disposable cups (no straws),

margarine/whipped cream tubs, cottage

cheese and similar containers, clear

produce, deli and take-out containers



BOXES (FLATTENED) Cardboard, cereal, cracker, pasta and tissue boxes, shoe, gift and electronic boxes. toothpaste and other

toiletry boxes

Please make sure your recyclables are

empty, clean and dry before placing

them in your recycling cart.



PAPER

Mail, office and school papers, magazines and catalogs, books (clean; staples OK)



METAL Food cans and beverage cans



Brown, green and clear bottles and jars (empty and rinse; no lids)

Not Acceptable Curbside Since They...

Damage or Entangle Equipment

- Plastic bags
- Ropes, hoses and chains
- Scrap metal
- Bulky items
- Shredded paper

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Harm Workers

- Medical sharps
- Diapers
- Batteries
- · Hazardous products
- Propane tanks (all sizes) · Polystyrene foam

Are Not Recyclable

- Foil pouches, bags, wrappers
- Dishes, vases, mirrors
- Plastic straws and utensils
- Glitter or wrapping paper

Twin Cities Customer Service: 320.252.9608 | RepublicServices.com



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Drop-offs

The City's 2024 Recycling Drop-Off and Paper Shredding events kick-off this month at Recycle Technologies, Inc (1525 99th Ln NE, Blaine).. Bring your bulky and electronic items to be recycled for free or low-cost. Many items are accepted for free and a \$50 discount will be applied to help cover the cost of items with a fee. Learn more at

FridleyMN.gov/Dropoff.

2024 Drop-off days

- March 9, 8 a.m. noon
- May 11, 8 a.m. noon
- July 13, 8 a.m. noon
- September 14, 8 a.m. noon
- November 9, 8 a.m. noon



Recycling Ambassador Class

If you are looking to learn even more about how we manage solid waste, consider signing up for the Anoka County Recycling Ambassador Class. This free program led by local industry experts covers waste reduction, recycling and composting. Registration is now open for the summer session which is held virtually on Tuesday nights from June 11 - July 23. Sign up at www.anokacountymn.gov/ 2104/Recycling-Ambassadors

Items Accepted for Free	
Item	Limit per Event?
Handheld-held Electronics (cell phones, laptops*, cables, cords, servers, tablets*)	No
Small Electronics (DVD/VCR players, consoles, computer towers, blenders, toaster ovens, landline phones, etc.)	No
Secure Paper Shredding	Yes, 4 boxes
Fluorescent Lights**	Yes, 10
Small Engines / Scrap Metal*** (lawn mower, snowblower, generator, metal fencing, charcoal grill, posts, gutters)	No
Batteries****	No
Bicycles	No

Items Accepted for a Fee

Discount: Take \$50 Off Your Total On Items Below

Item	Fee
Appliances	\$12-23
Refrigerators/freezers, ovens, vacuums, washing machines/driers, dishwashers	\$12
Humidifier and microwaves	\$15
Dehumidifier	\$23
Water Heaters/Softeners	\$15-25
Empty of water/salt	\$15
Not empty of water/salt	\$25
AC Units	\$20-30
Window units	\$20
Ground units	\$30
Mattresses/Boxsprings	\$20-25
Standard	\$20
King/Pillowtop/Extra Thick	\$25
TV/Monitor	\$20-85
Up to 17"	\$20
18" to 31"	\$30
32" and greater	\$55
Console TV	\$85
Rear projection	\$85
+Broken Screen	+\$20

Item	Fee
Printers	\$10-95
Residential inkjet, fax machine, scanner	\$10
All-In-One, Residential Laser Jet	\$35
Commercial	\$95
Exercise Equipment	\$25-40
Non-Electric	\$25
Electric	\$40
Tires	\$2.25-9
Car	\$7
SUV/Truck	\$9
Rims	\$2.25
18-wheeler	TBD
Fire/Grilling Accessories**	\$6-35
Fire extinguisher	\$30
Smoke/Carbon Monoxide detector****	\$25
Propane tank-1 lb (must be empty)	\$6
Propane tank-20 lb (must be empty)	\$20
Propane BBQ grill (no tank)	\$15
Propane BBQ grill (tank)	\$35



Organics Recycling

If you are already recycling, consider making the jump to start organics recycling as well. Through the curbside organics recycling program, Republic Services will pick up all of your food scraps, paper towels, delivery pizza boxes, and more to be recycled into compost at an industrial compost facility. Over 250 families participate in the program in Fridley and diverts thousands of pounds of food waste from the garbage each month. Find current pricing and learn more at **FridleyMN.gov/Organics**. Three free months are included on your second billing cycle for all sign-ups in March.





Springbrook Spring Spree - April 6

Planning is underway for this year's Springbrook Spring Spree! Save the date of Saturday, April 6, for this exciting fundraising event.

More information coming soon at SpringbrookNatureCenter.org!



Enjoy Some of Our New Parks This Spring/Summer!

Fridley's Park System Improvement Plan is well underway and the Moore Lake Park project will be completed and ready for a busy spring and summer season.

Updated Neighborhood Parks

Three brand new neighborhood parks will be ready to serve residents in 2024. Ed Wilmes Park, Creekview Park and Skyline Park were completed in the fall and all feature new playgrounds, park shelters and site amenities.

Moore Lake Park Update

Moore Lake Park features Fridley's first dedicated pickleball courts, a new basketball court, an amazing new playground and a beautiful new community building. The building will be home to many upcoming recreation classes and programs and is available for rental by residents.

The community room is a stunning space with incredible views, an audio-visual system, kitchenette and seating for up to 72.

Construction of the building wrapped up in January and city staff have been busy preparing the space for public use.

Locke Park

Residents can also enjoy the amenities and trails at Locke Park, which the City of Fridley now operates and maintains. This park features the Rice Creek West Regional Trail, forested walking paths, beautiful views of Rice Creek and the largest open-air picnic shelter in the City of Fridley with capacity for up to 150 quests.

2024 Temporary Park Closures Four of our neighborhood parks will experience temporary closures for improvements in 2024 including Sylvan Hills, Edgewater Gardens, Plymouth Square and Logan Parks. Residents shared ideas and feedback for these parks last summer and exciting changes are coming soon!

Plans for Commons Park

Finally, 2024 will be a year of exciting planning for revitalization of Commons Park, which will be under construction beginning in 2025. This park will feature a splash pad, inclusive playground, new courts, and a recreation building to serve residents and create a destination park in our community.

Learn More

For the latest updates on Fridley's Park System Improvement Plan or to find out more about facility rentals in Fridley Parks, visit FridleyMN.gov/ParkPlan.



Junior Leaders Needed

Do you miss camp, and are between the ages 13-17? Do you like working with kids? Join our Junior Leader Program at Springbrook Nature Center! Gain seven volunteer hours per day, build your leadership skills, and help camp staff bring the magic to camp. Apply online on our website.





Birthday Bingo | Movie in the Park
Food trucks | Car show

SAT 15

Food trucks | Beer & Wine | Kid's Activities Vendor/Art Fair | Bouncy houses | Sports Clinic | Bingo Live Music and Entertainment | Decorated Cake Contest All school class reunion | Fireworks







More information can be found at **FridleyMN.gov/49ers**. We'll see you in June!