



# Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Parks and Recreation  
Brochure Enclosed

MAR/APR 2021  
NO. 229

We believe in a Fridley that is 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 – Steve Eggert  
Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann Bolkcom  
City Manager – Wally Wysopal

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## Finding Your Fun in Fridley – New Parks Map



### It's not too late to get involved!

We want to thank the many residents who are following our current park planning process and have provided us with valuable input. We encourage others to join in on the conversation.

The City of Fridley is continuing our park system plan study and has developed a new interactive parks map that contains concept plans and related estimates for the Fridley parks system. See what improvements could take place at your favorite park and let us know what is important to you. The interactive map includes:

- Park locations and amenities
- Park conceptual improvement plans & estimated costs
- Draft priority projects
- Links to provide feedback



Visit our website for the latest project information, opportunities to provide additional input, and access to the new interactive map. Visit [FridleyMN.gov/FindingYourFun-Updates](http://FridleyMN.gov/FindingYourFun-Updates) or scan this code.



## Save the Date: 2021 Town Hall Meeting

Saturday, June 5 at 10 a.m.  
Fridley Civic Campus – City Hall or Virtual (TBD)



Join us for our annual town hall meeting! You will hear from city leaders with updates on projects, developments and other initiatives. The primary focus of this year's meeting will be the Finding Your Fun in Fridley parks master plan.

The setting for the annual Town Hall meeting will be determined closer to the date in order to best follow community guidelines related to COVID-19.

More information will become available on our website at [FridleyMN.gov](http://FridleyMN.gov) and our social media channels.

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## New Things in Town: *Development Updates*

### Nutrition Station

1061 East Moore Lake Drive

Nutrition Station is still relatively new to Fridley and officially opened in March 2020. Owners Lori Koester and Jessica Villa explained that Fridley was a great choice to locate the business as the community is wellness-minded and home to a Lifetime Fitness facility as well as many other businesses. The store is located in the Moore Lake Shopping Center.

The Nutrition Station's menu includes healthy shakes, Protein Coffee (high in protein, low in sugar), smoothies, teas, and other food choices like healthy oatmeal and there are even occasional Waffle Saturdays.

### Original Malt Shop

8300 University Avenue NE, Suite 300

Once known as Snuffy's Malt Shop, the family owned and operated business enjoyed the reputation of delicious malts, burgers and second to none customer service. In business since 1986 at the corner of Larpenteur Avenue and Lexington Avenue in Roseville, the business was sold in 2017 and renamed the Original Malt Shop.

Its advertisements still boast the same great menu and same great customer service, but a new name and second location. The new location is at 8300 University Avenue NE in Fridley. It will serve as the business anchor at the other end of the building from Dunkin Donuts.

Construction has begun on the interior elements and the restaurant is scheduled to open just as the weather turns warm. It is our hope at the City that now that building one in this two-building complex is filled, Gaughn Companies will soon begin construction on its second building, which will be north of the Dunkin/Sports Clips/Original Malt Shop Building.

Welcome Nutrition Station and the Original Malt Shop! Thank you for choosing Fridley for your new business!



Source: Sherwin Williams Internet Photo

### Sherwin Williams

8480 University Avenue NE

In late 2020, Slumberland's property owners requested a plat that would create a separate parcel to be sold to Java Properties. In the process that parcel was created, and the City Council finalized their plat approval in December.

For those you have driven past Slumberland recently, you may have noticed the excavation and footing work has begun to complete the Sherwin Williams Store.

The developer has indicated that it is his plan to have the building completed so that Sherwin Williams can move in this space this summer.

The building and its parking are a bit unique in that it sought to minimize hard-surface and share parking and or driveway area where possible to help with ponding requirements and storm water runoff.

As the first building you see entering Fridley from the north (along with the existing Slumberland furniture store), the architecture had to be right. The developer and staff worked together to assure that the building was as attractive as the front entry from any direction it was viewed.

### Fridley Station Village

6030 Main Street, NE

Sherman and Associates market rate building has opened to the public and its first new residents have moved into their building they have named Altair. In March, seniors will have the opportunity to begin renting their units in Aura.

#### Altair

Altair is a luxury market-rate building located at 6060 Main Street NE in Fridley. The building is now open and those interested in leasing an apartment can visit [LiveAtAltair.com](http://LiveAtAltair.com). Residences include studio, one bedroom, two bedroom and three-bedroom floor plans with a variety of layouts. There are 95 units in total.

#### Aura

Aura is a luxury 55+ apartment home community currently under construction at 6000 Main Street NE in Fridley. The property will feature 107 residences including studio, one bedroom, one bedroom + den, and two-bedroom floor plans available for lease. You can visit [LiveAtAura.com](http://LiveAtAura.com) for more information and to join their interest list.

In the first week of 2021, the mixed income groundbreaking occurred and construction is underway. This building will be ready to open in May 2021.

For additional information on these or other current developments please check the City's website at [FridleyMN.gov](http://FridleyMN.gov).



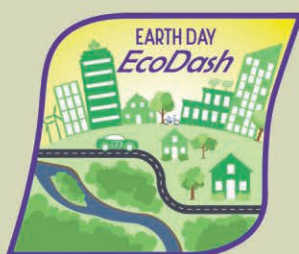
Source: Developer's Architect

### On you mark, Get set, GREEN!

#### EcoDash

April 24 - 25

This weekend is all about getting outside and Greening-up Fridley! This city park system-wide scavenger hunt will have you hugging trees and saving the bees.



You can compete by yourself or make a team of 2-8 people. There are over 250 missions for all ages and abilities to complete using the GooseChase App to earn points. Points can be earned throughout the day on Saturday and Sunday. Prizes are awarded to the top teams with the most points. Learn more at [SpringbrookNatureCenter.org](http://SpringbrookNatureCenter.org).



## Public Works wins AWWPA Award

Public Works ended 2020 with honors by winning the American Public Works Association's (AWPA) award for Project of the Year. The Public Works garage project earned this award for the team. Special recognition goes out to our entire operations staff who guided the design of their new facility. Special thanks to Jeff Jensen, Mark Foster, Greg Kottsick, and Jeannie Benson who spent many additional hours working out the details of the new facilities with the architects, engineers, and general contractors.

## Home Improvement Loans: Interest Rates Lowered and New Programs Added!

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.

### Changed – Lower Interest Rate! 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.

### Changed – Lower Interest Rate and Expanded Uses! 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 2 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.

### Changed – Lower Interest Rate! 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:

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.

### New! 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.

### New! 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 - 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 include 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 include 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

Learn more at [FridleyMN.gov/HomeImprovements](https://FridleyMN.gov/HomeImprovements).

## What's Coming: 2021 Street Projects

### 2021 Street Rehabilitation Project:

The project includes roads in the Rice Creek Terrace, Spring Valley and Harris Lake Neighborhoods. The work includes pavement resurfacing, concrete curb repairs, watermain replacement in select segments, and stormwater improvements. Completion is anticipated for summer 2021.

### University Avenue Service Road Traffic Changes:

This project includes the west side of University Avenue from 61st Avenue to Mississippi Street, then continuing from Mississippi Street to 69th Avenue, and on the east side of University Avenue from 66th Avenue to 67th Avenue. This project includes road geometric changes and the installation of a multi-use trail on the west side of University Avenue from 61st Avenue to 69th Avenue. Construction is slated to start mid to late summer of 2021.



### 7th Street and 57th Avenue Trail Project:

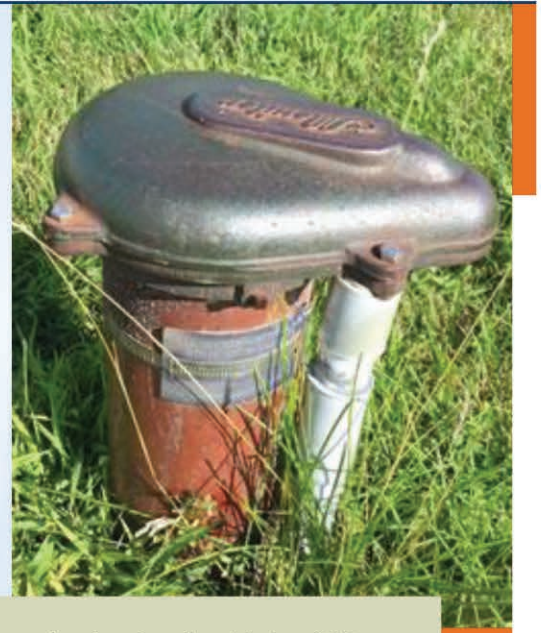
This project, scheduled for June through August construction includes the addition of a 10-foot multi-use trail on the east side of 7th Street from 53rd Avenue to 61st Avenue and on the north side of 57th Avenue from University Avenue to 7th Street.

Learn more at [FridleyMN.gov/Projects](https://FridleyMN.gov/Projects).



## Civic Campus Trail/Bridge Project:

With completion in the fall of 2020, the new Civic Campus trail network included a pedestrian bridge providing an important link to Locke Parkway. Take a stroll around the pond and explore the woods in Locke Park by taking the connecting Rice Creek West Trails behind the Fridley Civic Campus.



## Well, Well, Well

Prior to the development of the City's municipal water supply system, Fridley residents relied on private, unregistered wells for their drinking water. Left unclosed, the remaining wells can be potential pathways for contaminants into our drinking water supply and should be sealed by a Minnesota Department of Health-licensed contractor and certified with a Well and Boring Sealing Record. If you have or suspect you have a well on your property, the City's Public Works Department has resources to help determine its location and guide you through the well-sealing process. Grant funding is available for a limited time to assist with well sealing. Unsealed wells or sealed wells without a Well and Boring Sealing Record can cause significant delays during the home selling process—do not wait until you are about to list your home to seal a well on your property.

For information on determining if you have a well, well sealing grants, or well maintenance, visit [FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater](http://FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater) or call 763-572-3554.

### Finding the Well

How do you know if your property has an unsealed well? Wells typically look like a pipe or casing from 1-1/4 to 6 inches in diameter but can be a circular ring in a patch of concrete or the floor up to 3 feet in diameter. These pipes are typically:

- Sticking out of the basement floor or the yard.
- Sticking out of a wall in the basement, leading to a buried well outside
- In a basement offset or behind a false wall or paneling in a basement or utility room
- In a pit in the yard that is covered with wood, concrete, or steel in which the pipe is in the bottom of the pit
- Beneath a glass block in a porch step or patch of concrete

Check out our Well Screening Tool at [FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater](http://FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater) to see if your property likely has a well. Many licensed well contractors will

Like most suburbs in the Twin Cities, Fridley's drinking water is sourced from groundwater located in underground aquifers. This water is pumped to the surface for treatment from municipal wells located throughout the city. The wells are protected by wellhead protection plans that limit what kind of activity and land uses can occur in the surrounding area. You can find a full version of the City's Wellhead Protection Plan at [FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater](http://FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater).

also perform a property search at no cost, using tools such as metal locations and magnetometers.

Once you have identified the well, your well contractor can seal the well and obtain the Well and Boring Sealing Record. For a list of contractors who perform lost well searches or seal wells visit [FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater](http://FridleyMN.gov/Groundwater) or call 763-572-3554.

*Information and photo courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Health*

## Fridley Fire Division and Fridley Public Schools Provide Families with Batteries for Smoke Detectors

With the increase in distance learning, teachers at Fridley Public Schools noticed something while engaging with students through online learning. During video class sessions, several teachers could hear a persistent electronic chirping sound in the background while teaching students. It was the sound of smoke detectors that needed new batteries.

After meeting with several teachers, Pat Varro, School Psychologist at Hayes Elementary, identified that this was a problem that affected several families. Pat contacted Fridley Fire Marshal James Lange and they were able to take advantage of a battery program sponsored by Energizer. Now the district can provide batteries for students to help keep their families safe this winter.



## Appraising in a Pandemic

There are many elements that contribute or detract from the value of your home. A waterfront location versus a busy street, for example, or maintenance free siding versus wood siding and the upkeep that comes with it. Overall condition, finish surfaces, cabinetry, floor coverings—fit and finish, updating or lack thereof, are all examples of interior attributes that also affect a home's value. When an appraiser comes out to review your property for a mortgage refinance or an assessor reviews for estimated market value, all of these must be considered in a proper analysis. This year, appraisers and assessors have had to balance the need for accurate data with the health and safety concerns of the homeowner and themselves.

With the challenges of the pandemic came the question of how to accomplish market value appraisals and statutorily-required assessments. Much of the value lies inside the home, and under normal circumstances, inspection of the interior was routine. In most cases, the lenders still require interior inspections and the appraisers have accomplished this with careful preparation, PPE or have furnished quality digital cameras that were loaned to the owner so they could make a video tour of the property.

Assessors have also been able to use this technology with many owners who took video or still shots of remodeled bathrooms or newly finished basement living areas.

Assessing staff met its obligation to review 20% of the city's property through careful planning and the cooperation of property owners. Letters were sent in advance notifying occupants that an assessor would be in the area over the next few weeks and would be wearing identification and driving city vehicles. Staff would knock on the door and take several steps back. If the owner responded, staff would maintain a safe distance and ask about the home's interior. If there was no response, staff would leave a tag either stating that the City's information was complete or asking the home owner to call for further details. This same process was followed for new permit work that was inspected in the fall.

City Assessing staff encourage Fridley property owners to carefully examine their "Notice of Valuation" when it arrives this Spring and to call Patrick Maghrak at 763-572-3536 or Brian Northenscald at 763-572-357 if there are any questions.

## Calling for Big Ideas for Little Libraries

We are looking for creative Fridley residents or groups to design and build Little Free Libraries for Fridley community parks. Little Free Libraries encourage reuse of books, build community, and inspire readers by providing free book exchanges. Three design entries will be selected for construction and provided with stipends of up to \$150 for materials. Entries that utilize unique designs or recycled/reused materials are encouraged. Learn more and find an application at [FridleyMN.gov/LittleFreeLibrary](http://FridleyMN.gov/LittleFreeLibrary). Submissions due by May 10. Libraries must be constructed by August 30, 2021.

# Get to Know Your Watershed: Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

This year, we are interviewing the different organizations that manage water and natural resources in Fridley. In this issue, we are featuring Doug Snyder, Executive Director of the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, regarding the work they are doing in the Mississippi watershed. Learn more about their work at [MWMO.org](http://MWMO.org)

## Can you tell us about the Mississippi Watershed Organization?

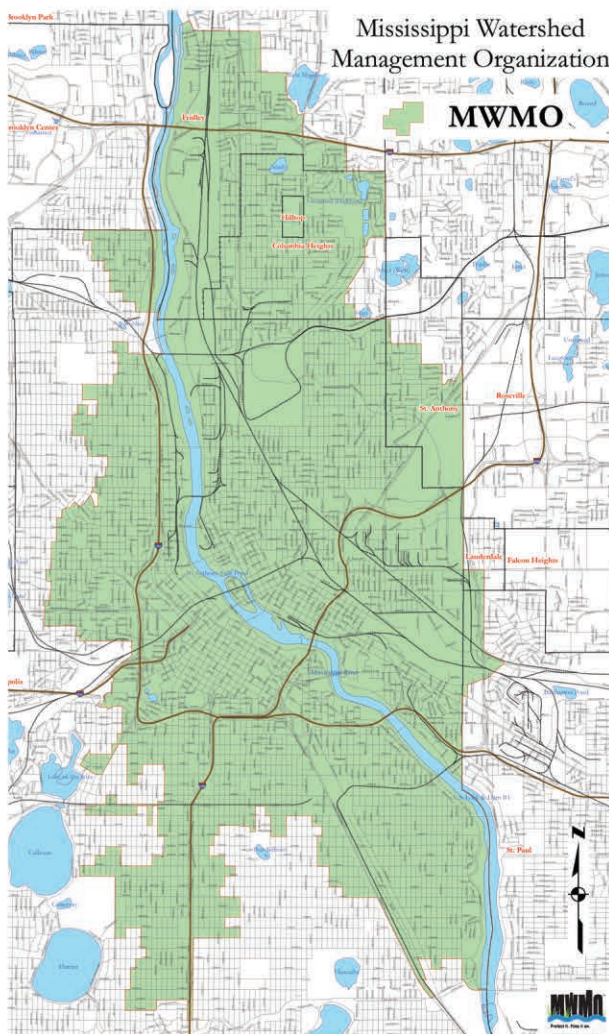
The Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) is a special-purpose unit of local government. Our boundaries include part of Fridley as well as parts of Minneapolis, Columbia Heights and four neighboring cities. Our job is to work with our member communities to protect and improve water quality and habitat in our watershed. We do this by funding stormwater management and habitat restoration projects, by monitoring water quality, and through education and outreach.

One thing that makes us unique is that our entire watershed drains directly into the Mississippi River. This means that everything that happens here impacts people downstream of us as well as our own residents. Another thing that is unique about MWMO is that we are a fully developed, highly urban watershed. Every square mile is filled with streets, buildings, homes, businesses, parks, and so on. So the pollutants in our watershed have a very urban character: road salt, chemicals, fertilizer, yard waste, pet waste, etc.

## What are some projects that you have done in Fridley?

Fridley has several miles of Mississippi River shoreline, and we have worked with the city and other local partners on a number of restoration projects. We funded shoreline and habitat restoration at Riverfront Regional Park and also Islands of Peace Regional Park. We also helped restore a nearby ravine and create an outdoor classroom at R.L. Stevenson Elementary School. These projects not only help keep polluted runoff out of the Mississippi River and its backwaters; they also enhance educational opportunities and the local ecology by improving habitat for wildlife.

In addition to riverfront projects, we also provided funding for the City of Fridley to purchase smart salting equipment for the Public Works Department. This equipment allows their snow plow operators to



apply road salt and deicing chemicals in a more precise, science-based method. It is a win-win that makes the roads safer for travel while also reducing the amount of chloride that reaches the river and other local waterbodies.

Some Fridley residents might also recognize the boulevard raingardens and bioswale bumpouts that were added as part of a street reconstruction project a few years ago near Summit Square Park. The MWMO funded those features, as well as an underground stormwater treatment system at the park itself.

## Why should Fridley residents care about our water resources?

Water quality has a huge impact on our everyday lives. During the pandemic, many people have been spending more time outdoors, exploring local parks, enjoying the scenery and wildlife. All of that wildlife and natural beauty depends on a healthy ecosystem that starts with good water quality. Many Twin Cities residents also get their drinking water directly from the Mississippi River, and water quality has an impact on recreational opportunities and the local economy.

There is a saying that “Water is life.” It really is an essential part of our life, especially here in Minnesota. Unfortunately, many of our rivers and lakes are being threatened by pollution. For example, a recent study found that by 2050, some metro-area lakes will likely be so polluted by chloride (from road salt) that they will no longer be able to support fish and other aquatic wildlife. We need the support of residents to address these issues, and each of us also needs to do our part as individuals to protect our water resources.

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

The simplest thing people can do to have a direct impact on water quality is to adopt a stormdrain. Volunteering to clean out a stormdrain in your neighborhood just a couple of times per month can keep potentially hundreds of pounds of sediment, leaves, trash and debris out of a nearby waterbody during the course of a year. The cumulative impact of many residents helping to keep stormdrains clear is significant.

Stormdrains are direct pipelines to the Mississippi River and other local streams and lakes, so every bit of dirt and debris removed from a stormdrain helps protect water quality. Residents can visit [adopt-a-drain.org](http://adopt-a-drain.org) to sign up to adopt a stormdrain in their neighborhood. The MWMO also has a variety of eco-friendly yard care tips and landscaping ideas on our website.

## Maddison Zikmund Named Deputy Director/Fire Chief of Fridley Public Safety

Maddison Zikmund joins the City of Fridley as the new Deputy Director/Fire Chief of Public Safety.

Zikmund spent the previous eight years with SBM Fire Department, which serves Spring Lake Park, Blaine, and Mounds View. While at SBM, he served as Assistant Fire Chief and acted as the organization’s Public Information Officer, HR Director, and responded to emergency incidents as Chief Fire Officer. He has a bachelor’s degree in Organizational Leadership from Bethel University and is currently pursuing an MBA.

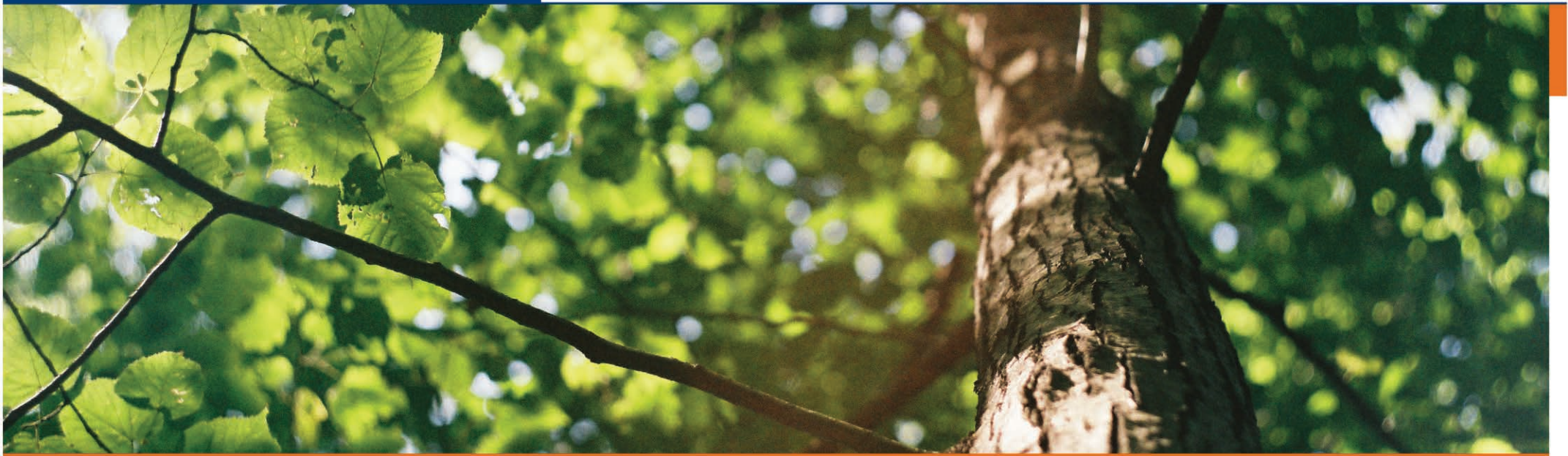
Through the years, Zikmund has worked closely with Fridley Fire and knows Fridley’s three previous Fire Chiefs very well. When asked about his new position, Zikmund said, “I’m eager to be in a brand new facility with an up-and-coming staff. I’m also excited about the opportunity to work in all-hazards environments like the Mississippi River, BNSF

Railway, and large industrial complexes, in addition to the diverse commercial and residential communities.” Director of Public Safety, Brian Weierke, is very pleased with the hiring of Zikmund and had this to say: “Deputy Director/Fire Chief Zikmund is an outstanding leader in fire service and I’m excited for him to get started with our fire division. He has great vision and will provide great leadership within our Public Safety Department.”

Zikmund is involved in many philanthropic organizations and serves on the board of directors for the Minnesota Dakota Region of the American Red Cross, is Chairman of the Minnesota Fire Exploring Association, Chairman of Spring Lake Park’s Opportunities in Emergency Care (OEC) Program, and is active in Boy Scouts of America. In 2019 he was the recipient of the Spurgeon Award, which honored his outstanding service to the Boy Scouts organization.



Zikmund lives in Blaine with his wife Dani and two sons. Both of his parents are actively involved in the MN Fire Service and his father is a former SBM Fire Chief. He began his new position with the City of Fridley as Deputy Director/Fire Chief on January 4, 2021.



## City of Fridley's Sixth Annual Tree Sale

Could your yard use a tree? The City of Fridley's tree sale is now open and offering a variety of reduced cost trees. Trees improve air and water quality, increase property values, lower energy bills and provide valuable wildlife habitat. All trees sold are #10 containers (approximately 5'- 6' tall). Submit your order by April 11 online at [FridleyMN.gov/TreeSale](http://FridleyMN.gov/TreeSale) or by calling the city at 763-572-3594. Trees will be available for pick-up on May 15 from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Fridley Public Works. Limited quantities available, limit two trees per species per household. Fridley residents only.

	Full Grown Height	Shade Preference	Wildlife Value	Cost
Hackberry	60-75'	Full to partial sun	Fruit for birds and small mammals; habitat	\$25
American Elm "Prairie Expedition"	55'-60'	Full sun	Habitat	\$25
Blue Beech	20'-35'	Part shade to full shade	Seeds food for birds; habitat	\$30
Eastern Redbud "MN Strain"	20'-30'	Full to partial sun	Flowers for insect pollinators	\$30
Norway spruce	40-60'	Full sun	Habitat	\$25
Rain Watering Bag	20 gallon bag that delivers a slow release of water directly to the root zone of tree			\$15



## Fridley Historical Society to Reopen Fridley History Museum

After being closed since last March, the Fridley History Center plans to reopen on Saturday, May 8 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

### Fridley Tornadoes Exhibit of 1965

Mark Bonesteel has been working on building a permanent Fridley 1965 Tornadoes Exhibit. In addition to the artifacts now on display, the Fridley Historical Society is excited to announce that additional artifacts were found in the old Fridley City Hall basement and will be on display.

Due to the possibility of changing guidelines concerning COVID-19, updates on the reopening will be available on the Fridley Historical Society's website. You can also call 763-571-0120 or find updates via their sign in front of their building on 61st Avenue.



## Spring Cleaning: Streets Style

Spring will (hopefully!) be arriving soon! Our street sweepers are eager to get all the salt and sand off of the ground. Due to the unpredictable personality of Minnesota weather, we are not able to provide an exact 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 twice 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 also 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.

## 2021 Fridley Resident Survey

The City of Fridley is currently conducting a survey of Fridley Residents. The survey is designed to assess quality of life in Fridley, and measure resident satisfaction with current city services and amenities. The survey will also include questions to help give direction to city staff around city services.

The Morris Leatherman Company, based in the Twin Cities, is conducting Fridley's 2021 Resident Survey. The Morris Leatherman Company will randomly select 400 households to answer the survey by phone in February.

Results from Fridley's 2021 Resident survey will be shared later this spring with the City Council and city

staff, as well as Fridley residents. Watch out for updates and results on the Resident Survey in the city newsletter and on the city's website.

For more information about Fridley's Resident Survey, contact Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist at [Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov](mailto:Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov) or call 763-572-3579.

### Previous Surveys of Fridley Residents

The City of Fridley last conducted a Resident Survey in 2013 through Morris Leatherman. In 2013, 85 percent of residents consider Fridley a "good" or "excellent" place to live! The results from the 2013 survey can be found on our website at [FridleyMN.gov/ResidentSurvey](http://FridleyMN.gov/ResidentSurvey).



# Recycle Smart – Know What to Place in Your Recycling and

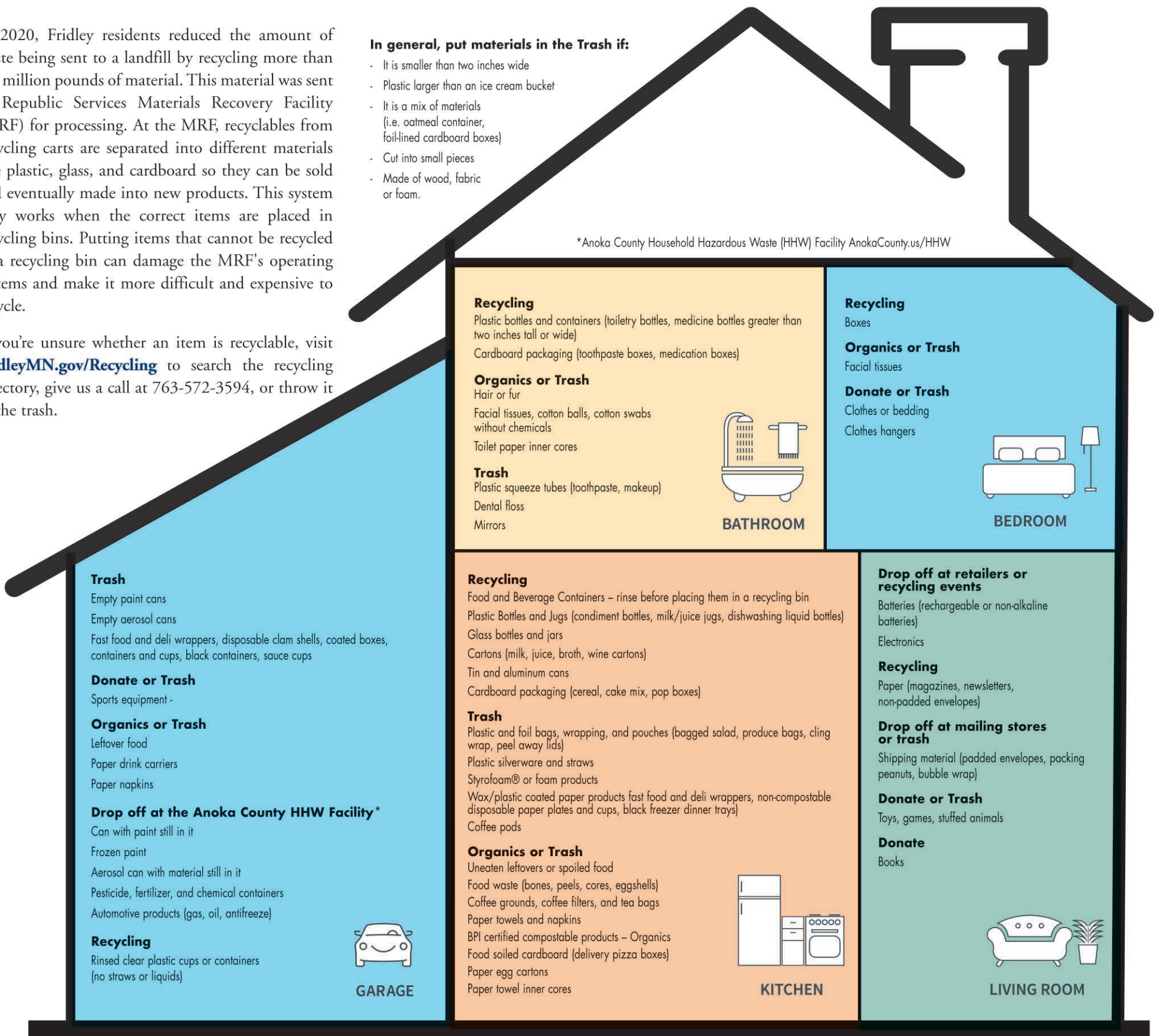
In 2020, Fridley residents reduced the amount of waste being sent to a landfill by recycling more than 3.7 million pounds of material. This material was sent to Republic Services Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) for processing. At the MRF, recyclables from recycling carts are separated into different materials like plastic, glass, and cardboard so they can be sold and eventually made into new products. This system only works when the correct items are placed in recycling bins. Putting items that cannot be recycled in a recycling bin can damage the MRF's operating systems and make it more difficult and expensive to recycle.

If you're unsure whether an item is recyclable, visit [FridleyMN.gov/Recycling](http://FridleyMN.gov/Recycling) to search the recycling directory, give us a call at 763-572-3594, or throw it in the trash.

**In general, put materials in the Trash if:**

- It is smaller than two inches wide
- Plastic larger than an ice cream bucket
- It is a mix of materials (i.e. oatmeal container, foil-lined cardboard boxes)
- Cut into small pieces
- Made of wood, fabric or foam.

\*Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility [AnokaCounty.us/HHW](http://AnokaCounty.us/HHW)



## Organics Recycling - It's Easier Than You Think

Landfills around the Twin Cities are running out of space, making it more important than ever to reduce our trash. If you already recycle at home, it is easy to start collecting your organics as well. Organics, such as food waste, paper towels, and BPI compostable products, are the most common type of material in the trash and the greatest source of greenhouse gas emissions from landfills.

Your food waste can be collected, processed, and turned into something valuable to improve the soil—Compost! Organics recycling is as easy as regular recycling. Just sign up for the organics recycling program, collect your organics in compostable bags,\* put the bags in your organics recycling cart, and wheel the cart down to the curb on organics recycling day.

\*Compostable bags are available for free to program participants at City Hall and Springbrook Nature Center and can be purchased from local retailers.



Sign up for organics recycling at [FridleyMN.gov/Organics](http://FridleyMN.gov/Organics).

Program is \$10.61/month through Republic Services

Three Free Months when you sign up in March\*

\*Free months will be applied to second billing cycle.

## Recycling Drop-Offs

Recycle your mattresses, appliances, electronics, batteries, and more at our recycling drop-offs in 2021:

March 13, May 8, July 10, September 11, and November 13 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

All recycling drop-offs will be held at Green Lights Recycling (enter at 1525 99th Lane NE, Blaine).

\*New in 2021- All Fridley resident receive \$30 in free items. What can you recycle for \$30?

- Two appliances for free
- A small TV
- A large 60" TV for only \$25
- One mattress
- A mattress and box spring for only \$10
- 5 small electronics
- 4 tires

Mix and match to suit your needs and keep your items out of the trash! See a full pricing list at [FridleyMN.gov/Dropoff](http://FridleyMN.gov/Dropoff).

## Adopt-A-Park Registration starts March 1

Are you looking to make a positive impact in the Fridley Community? Adopt a Fridley park!

The City of Fridley is looking for community members, organizations, and businesses to adopt a park! Community members and groups will work alongside City of Fridley Parks and Recreation staff to help keep our city parks clean and beautiful. You can make a difference in Fridley parks!

Volunteers will be responsible for picking up litter, removing weeds, maintaining the area around the park sign, and reporting any vandalism or safety hazards to Parks staff. Responsibilities may vary from park to park. Adopting a park is a minimum one-year commitment with four cleanups per year.

To learn more about the Adopt-A-Park program and apply to adopt a park, visit the city's website at [FridleyMN.gov/AdoptAPark](https://www.fridleymn.gov/AdoptAPark) or call Fridley Parks and Recreation at 763-572-3570.

## Seasonal Hiring

We will begin hiring for our seasonal Recreation, Springbrook and Public Works positions soon! Visit [FridleyMN.gov/Jobs](https://www.fridleymn.gov/Jobs) to look for open positions, as well as create an account on NEOGOV to receive job posting updates.

Typical openings include:

**Recreation Program Assistant** - Examples of work performed include helping to carry out lesson plans and activities, playing and interacting with children, and chaperoning off-site trips. Monday through Friday

**Recreation Program Leader** - Examples of work performed include: creating and executing lesson plans, playing and interacting with children, chaperoning off-site field trips, and communicating regularly with parents/guardians. Monday through Friday

**Summer Program Coordinator** - Responsible for implementing, assisting and coordinating recreation programs and/or special events. Various days, mostly daytime with some evenings

**Preschool Program Assistant** - Examples of work performed include: helping to carry out lesson plans and activities, playing, crafting and interacting with children

**Preschool Program Leader** - Examples of work performed include: creating and leading lesson plans (crafts, songs, games and more), playing and interacting with children, and communicating regularly with parents/guardians. Monday through Thursday

**Youth Sports Instructor** - These positions are responsible for instructing youth ages 4-10 in a variety of instructional sports including soccer, t-ball, track, and more. Daytime and evening shifts, flexible schedule

**Seasonal/Temporary Public Works Maintenance:** Perform manual labor and a variety of maintenance tasks for the Parks, Streets, Sewer or Water Divisions within the Public Works Department. Typical work schedule is 7:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. (6:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. May through September), Monday through Friday. Occasional weekend or evening work may be required. Possible four-day, (ten hours per day) work week schedule.

## Park Updates

### Craig Park Updates

We are planning updates to Craig Park in order to address longstanding drainage issues, enhance park amenities, and improve water quality of the Mississippi River. Let us know your thoughts and subscribe to project updates at [FridleyMN.gov/CraigPark](https://www.fridleymn.gov/CraigPark).



### Locke Playground Update

In 2018, the Locke Playground was displaced due to the new Civic Campus Development. In 2017, an agreement was reached with the neighborhood to replace the playground and relocate it to the southeast end of the Civic Campus Development.



On July 2020, the city hosted an open house for Locke Park playground. About 30 community members attended the open house. There was good representation from the Holiday Hills neighborhood as well as the two new housing communities—Lennar Townhomes and Pulte Patio Homes. Residents had the opportunity to speak with project staff, learn about project updates, look at playground designs, and help choose some of the playground elements,

including the play element for youth ages 2-5 and the swing set. The winning playground element for youth ages 2-5 was the Smart Play Motion and the winning swing set includes three regular swings, one molded bucket seat, and the one full bucket seat.

Construction on the playground has been completed! The playground is now open for use.

## Thank You, Malcolm and Annette Mitchell

The City of Fridley and Springbrook Nature Center community would like to thank Malcolm and Annette Mitchell for their extraordinary accomplishments and service to the non-profit Springbrook Nature Center Foundation.

Malcolm served on the Board of this organization since 1999 and served as the Chair from 2002 to 2020. His leadership was instrumental in the City of Fridley's 2014 grant award of five million dollars for the Springbrook Nature Center master plan to create a new interpretive center, pavilion activity center, nature-play space, amphitheater and trails.

Annette Mitchell joined the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation Board in 1998 and served as a tireless volunteer, fundraiser and event organizer for twenty years. She served as secretary of the organization and was a driving force behind the success of the Foundation's signature fundraising event—the Springbrook Spree.

The current Board of Directors voted in 2021 to convey the honorary titles of Board Member Emeritus upon both Malcolm and Annette Mitchell.



## Intercity Energy Challenge Results

The results are in! Fridley came in 6th in Center for Energy and Environment's Intercity Home Energy Squad Challenge which brought together 16 cities to challenge their residents to sign up for Home Energy Squad visits in 2020. 48 Fridley residents completed Home Energy Squad visits, including 5 income-qualified visits. You can learn more about Home Energy Squad visits, including free virtual options at [FridleyMN.gov/Energy](https://www.fridleymn.gov/Energy).

## Fridley Community Calendar

### March

- 1 Charter Commission Meeting
- 4 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 8 City Council Meeting
- 9 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 17 Planning Commission Meeting
- 22 City Council Meeting

### April

- 1 Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting
- 5 Charter Commission Meeting
- 12 City Council Meeting
- 13 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 21 Planning Commission Meeting
- 26 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.