



MinneapolisConnects

News and Information from Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations
Call 311 or visit www.minneapolismn.gov

October 2014

Upcoming Events

October National Disability Employment Awareness Month and Latino Heritage Month

10/1: "Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Civil Rights: A Public Policy Agenda for Uniting a Divided Country" talk

10/4: Nokomis Health Seniors' Wine Tasting Event

10/5: Art Outside the Box

10/6: North First: Education

10/9: Hennepin County Community Works 20th Anniversary Celebration

10/11: St. Anthony West Historic Riverfront 5K Run/Walk

10/11: Healthy and Housed 5K: Race for the Key

10/11: Explore the North Loop

10/12: CIDNA Fall Festival

10/13: Indigenous People's Day

10/16: Jordan Area Community Council Golden Anniversary Celebration

10/20: Minneapolis Riverfront Summit 2014

10/23: Neighborhood Film Festival entry deadline

10/30: Bryn Mawr Harvest Dinner

Additional events and details can be found online:

www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/calendar

Get ready to vote in general election Nov. 4

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 4. Voters will be asked to choose their candidates for governor, U.S. Representative, U.S. Senate, Minnesota Representative and other elected positions. There will also be two questions to amend the City Charter on the ballot.

To vote on Election Day, you will need to go to your precinct. Find out how to get the address of your precinct and see your sample ballot on the elections website.

If you want to cast your ballot early, you can submit an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots can be requested online. Applications are also available on the Minneapolis elections website and may be sent anytime leading up to the primary. You can also vote absentee in-person by visiting the Minneapolis Office of Elections & Voter Services, 350 Fifth St. S.

Before you vote, make sure you're registered. It is possible to register on the day you vote, but registering in advance is fast and easy and will save you time at the polls. You can register at online or at government offices, libraries, park buildings, fire and police stations. Voter registration applications are available in English, Hmong, Somali, Spanish, Russian, and Vietnamese on the elections language support website.

More information on voting is available at vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters.



Neighborhood Stories: Southside neighborhoods collaborate on Nicollet Votes

This fall, the Kingfield, Whittier, Lyndale and Stevens Square neighborhood organizations are working together on a project called Nicollet Votes. The goal of the project is to get people excited to vote and register un-registered voters. For example, in Kingfield non-presidential elections like this upcoming one, up to 7,000 voters haven't made it to the polls. Beginning Sept. 11, the groups will be door knocking four days each week (Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays). All four neighborhood groups hope to increase participation from fifty-seven percent to sixty-five percent in this non-presidential election.

Lyndale neighborhood hired two canvassers, a neighborhood intern and a HECUA intern through the U of M to work on Nicollet Votes. After recruiting and canvassing training the team began recruiting volunteers at events throughout the four neighborhoods. To read more about their stories head to <http://www.lyndale.org/nicollet-votes>. To sign up to volunteer contact call 612-823-5980.

Minneapolis to observe first-ever Indigenous Peoples Day Oct. 13



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 612-235-4969 OR VISIT WWW.NACDI.ORG

The first-ever Indigenous Peoples Day in Minneapolis will be Monday, Oct. 13. A celebration will be held 4-7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 13, at the Minneapolis American Indian Center, 1530 E. Franklin Ave. There will be a community meal with indigenous foods from throughout North and South America provided by Native chefs Sean Sherman and Cheo Smith, a film screening of "Women Are Sacred," by bfreshproductions, community speakers and cultural performances. More information about the Oct. 13 event is available here: <http://www.nacdi.org/default/index.cfm>.

On April 25, Minneapolis approved a resolution to recognize the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day in Minneapolis, beginning this year. Along with the federal government, Minneapolis had for many years recognized the second Monday in October as Columbus Day. Recognizing the day as Indigenous Peoples Day marks and celebrates the significance of the American Indian and Indigenous community in Minneapolis, as well as the city's history of American Indian activism.

Recently Minneapolis committed to working across City departments with leaders in the American Indian community and Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors to review

the City of Minneapolis' programs, practices and policies as they relate to the intended impact of the Indigenous Peoples Day resolution. Staff will present recommendations in May 2015.

Help shape our city – apply for openings on Minneapolis boards and commissions

Applications are accepted in the spring and fall for boards and commissions positions. Board and commission members in the City of Minneapolis provide valuable insights, help shape key policy decisions and provide community-based input into administration of services. The City is seeking applicants with a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to strengthen the work of the City, to apply visit: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm>.

Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin will deliver Energy Assistance Program in Minneapolis

Following the State of Minnesota's termination of its contracts with Community Action of Minneapolis, the City of Minneapolis is committed to ensuring that those who need the services that Community Action provided will still receive them. Effective immediately Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin (CAPSH) will deliver the Energy Assistance Program (EAP) in Minneapolis.

Energy assistance applications that were previously submitted to Community Action of Minneapolis (CAM) will be delivered to CAPSH and processed in the order in which they were received. Clients do not need to submit new applications unless notified by CAPSH. Minneapolis residents who have received energy assistance applications should mail them to CAPSH rather than the address printed on their applications (see address below).

The energy assistance application can be downloaded online at www.capsh.org or by calling 952-930-3541.

**Mail new applications to:
Energy Assistance Program
8800 Highway 7, #403
St. Louis Park, MN 55426**

Residents who are interested in weatherization services for their home should contact Sustainable Resources Center at 612-870-4255.

Free admission to Firefighters Hall & Museum Oct. 4 for National Fire Prevention Week

Celebrate National Fire Prevention Week with the Fire Department at a free day at the Firefighters Hall & Museum Saturday, Oct. 4. Attendees can explore the museum's exhibits, take a ride in a fire truck, enjoy complimentary hot dogs and learn from one of several safety vendors, including Minneapolis Community Emergency Response Teams, CenterPoint Energy, Xcel Energy, BNSF Railway and more.

Free admission day
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4
Firefighters Hall & Museum
664 22nd Ave. NE

This is the 10th anniversary of the Firefighters Hall & Museum. Tickets usually cost \$6 for adults, \$5 for adults 65 and older, and \$3 for children 3-12 years old. The museum features historic items from Minnesota fire departments dating back to the 1860s, including fire trucks, fire equipment, historic photos and interactive displays for children. There is also an exhibit about emergency response efforts after the Interstate 35W Bridge collapse.

On Sunday, Oct. 5, The Minneapolis Fire Department will hold a Fire Truck Pull fundraiser from noon to 3 p.m. at Fire Station 19, 200 Ontario St. SE. The benefit will help raise money for the Hennepin County Medical Center's burn unit.

Seasonal fire safety tips

National Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 5-11) comes at the beginning of fall every year. The Minneapolis Fire Department has some tips for you as the season changes:

- Get your furnace inspected by a licensed professional to make sure it's working safely and efficiently.
- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned by a licensed professional if you use your fireplace regularly.
- Enjoy bonfires, or recreational fires, safely by burning only untreated wood, keeping the fires small and locating them at least 25 feet from any structure. Learn more about the Minneapolis recreational fire policy or watch a video on having bonfires in the city.
- Don't burn leaf piles or other yard waste.
- Test your carbon monoxide detectors, and make sure you have one within 10 feet of every bedroom.
- Test your smoke alarms, and make sure you have one inside every bedroom as well as on every level of your home. Smoke alarms need to be checked monthly, and the batteries must be changed twice a year. A great time to remember to change your battery is daylight saving time (change your clock, change your battery). Daylight saving time is Nov. 2.
- Create a family safe-escape plan: Plan ahead in case you need to exit your home quickly in an emergency, and pick a safe meeting spot for family members outside your house. Make sure everyone knows where to meet, and practice the plan. Ideas for a safe meeting spot include: a neighbor's house, a big tree close by or a nearby fire hydrant.

For more fire safety tips, follow the Fire Department on Twitter at [@MinneapolisFire](https://twitter.com/MinneapolisFire).

Prevent kitchen fires

More fires start in the kitchen than in any other part of the home. That's why the Minneapolis Fire Department wants to make sure you know how to keep cooking fires from starting in the first place.

Kitchen fire safety is explained in English, Hmong, Somali and Spanish as part of the City's "Did You Know..." series of short videos that can be viewed on the City's YouTube channel and cable channels 14 and 79. Residents who have friends or neighbors who speak these languages are encouraged to share links to the videos.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofminneapolis>.

Neighborhood Stories: Bring meetings to the people for greater participation

The Ventura Village and East Phillips neighborhood organizations report that they have been building relationships in the East African, Latino and Asian communities by “bringing their meetings to the people.” The neighborhood organizations host meetings in high-rise apartment buildings, community centers and even in garages. According to the East Phillips residents, “These meetings involve anywhere from 15 to 30 people, not including the many children that accompany the meetings. Interpreters are provided. The focus is to discuss concerns and future priorities and, again, the focus has recently tended to be public safety and youth issues.” Ventura Village residents report that they started these more informal community gatherings after a neighborhood resident was robbed and beaten. According to Ventura Village, “utilizing Somali and Oromo residents who are multi-lingual, we have built up participation in our neighborhood-sponsored events, meetings and activities. But far more than that we have built up lasting personal friendships that can best be illustrated by a few of a thousand or more photos and images we have made to document our growth.”



Whittier has also reported success with similar well-attended meetings at a local coffee shop with members of the Somali community. Stevens Square has had success with renters by setting up card tables on sidewalks near rental buildings. These types of meetings mirror what seems to be a larger trend in neighborhood organizations away from formal meetings (with strict agendas and votes) and towards less formal gatherings in more social environments.

Grants can help your community reduce waste

Hennepin County has Green Partner grants of up to \$15,000 available to organizations to implement environmental education projects that empower residents to reduce waste, increase recycling, reduce and properly dispose of household hazardous waste, reduce climate change pollution and improve air and water quality. Applications are due by 5 p.m. Oct. 15, 2014.

To learn more about this opportunity, get feedback on your project ideas and tips for completing your proposal, attend a meeting Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2014 from 10 - 11 a.m. at the Brookdale Library in Brooklyn Center.

If you have any questions, contact Patience Caso at patience.caso@hennepin.us or 612-348-9352.

Minneapolis parks have new garbage and recycling carts

Minneapolis residents will recognize new garbage and one-sort recycling carts in Minneapolis parks as the same ones they use at home. Minneapolis neighborhood parks are now part of the City of Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling program.

Recycling in the parks is now an easier choice, because each garbage cart will be paired with a recycling cart. The one-sort carts collect glass, plastic, paper, aluminum and cardboard into one container. Remember – no plastic bags, trash, clothes, items that have food or wax on them, Styrofoam or other kinds of plastic foam.

For more information on what you can recycle in Minneapolis, visit: http://www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/recycling/solid-waste_recycling.

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The City of Minneapolis invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event within our city. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or should you require this document in an alternative format, please let us know by contacting 612-673-3737.