



City Of Burnsville

Winter • 2016 • Volume 26 • No. 1

Bulletin

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Burnsville Bulletin

Comments and questions about this issue of the Burnsville Bulletin can be sent by mail to the Communications Department, by phone to 952-895-4402 or email to marty.doll@burnsvillemn.gov.

CITY HALL

Information on upcoming City Council and Commission meetings, as well as live and on-demand meeting videos can be found at www.burnsville.org/meetings.

Meetings are subject to change and cancelation. Unless noted, all meetings will be televised on Burnsville Civic Channel 16 and HD Channel 859, and streamed online at www.burnsville.tv/live.

City Meetings

Do You Want to Build a Rain Garden?

Free Workshops Available



Monarch Butterflies benefit from native wildflowers planted in rain gardens.

Burnsville/Dakota County residents are invited to attend an introductory "Landscaping for Clean Water Workshop" to see how others in the community have created native gardens, rain gardens and shoreline stabilization projects. These projects benefit water quality and provide habitat for bees, butterflies and other pollinators.

Workshops last just over one hour, and provide dozens of examples of unique gardens that add variety and interest to yards, and help clean up local ponds and lakes. Participants will also learn about native plants that can enhance flowerbeds and provide habitat for butterflies.

Burnsville residents can also attend the introductory workshop in other neighboring Dakota County cities. Visit www.dakotacountyswcd.org for other locations/dates.

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER



Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District

- Who:** Burnsville and Dakota County residents
- When:** Feb. 24 OR April 12
6:15 p.m.
- Where:** Burnsville City Hall
100 Civic Center Parkway
- Cost:** FREE
- Registration is required at www.dakotacountyswcd.org or by calling 651-480-7777.**

Grant Money Available for Rain Gardens and Shoreline Restorations

The City of Burnsville offers grants of up to \$1,000 for residents, neighborhood groups and community organizations willing to add a rain garden or shoreline restoration project to their property.

Application deadline is Monday, May 2. To download a grant application or for more information visit www.burnsville.org/WQGRANT or contact Liz Forbes at 952-895-4518 or liz.forbes@burnsvillemn.gov.

BCTV Now Available in High Definition and Online

BCTV in HD

This past November, Burnsville Community Television (BCTV) launched BCTV HD Ch. 859 – the station's first, crystal-clear high definition (HD) channel.

"High-definition is the standard in television, and has been for some time" said Marty Doll, Burnsville's Communications Coordinator. "We are excited to offer programming in the high definition format that viewers expect."



BCTV staff prepare for a Council meeting in the upgraded control room.

Burnsville cable subscribers with HD service can now tune to BCTV HD Ch. 859 to view all City meetings, news stories and public service announcements like they've never seen them before.

To prepare for the transition to HD, the City upgraded its City Council Chambers – adding HD cameras and control room equipment for meeting broadcasts.

Over the next two years, HD upgrades are also planned at the BCTV Studio in Burnsville High School, and for the City's shared mobile production truck with Eagan Television. The goal is to add a second HD channel in the future.

As in the past, the City's government programming will still be available in standard definition on Ch. 16 – and

local/public programming will be available in standard definition on Ch. 14 for cable subscribers.

BCTV Web Streaming Channels

Don't have cable? No problem! BCTV has recently launched live web streams of BCTV Ch. 14 and 16, as well as School District 191 Ch. 18.

"This is an exciting feature," said Jay Golden, BCTV Production Specialist. "Now things we cover, such as high school games and community events, can be seen by friends and family anywhere in the world."

Anyone with internet access can view all three channels, 24-hours-a-day at www.burnsville.tv/live.

For more information on Burnsville Community Television visit www.burnsville.tv.



Burnsville City Council:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Elizabeth Kautz | Mayor |
| Bill Coughlin | Council Member |
| Dan Kealey | Council Member |
| Suzanne Nguyen | Council Member |
| Mary Sherry | Council Member |

City Manager:
Heather Johnston

Mayor/City Council Message Center:
952-895-4403

Email:
burnsvillemn.gov

Internet:
www.burnsville.org

Cable Television:
Burnsville Community Television
www.burnsville.tv

- Social Media:**
- facebook.com/cityofburnsville
 - twitter.com/burnsvillemn
 - youtube.com/cityofburnsvillemn



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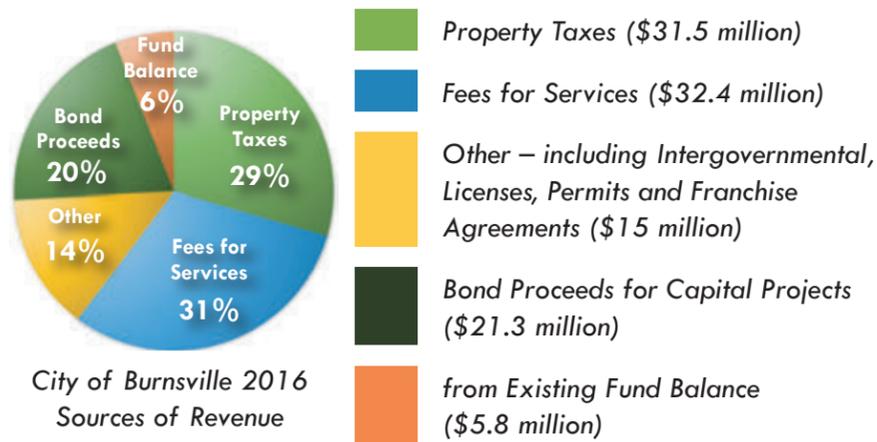
ECRWSS EDDM Residential Customer

Burnsville City Council Adopts 2016 Budget

On Dec. 8, the Burnsville City Council voted 4 to 1 to approve the City's 2016 budget. The budget will fund important services such as police, fire, parks and public works – as well as all other City operations. In total, \$106 million is being budgeted to cover the City's day-to-day operations, capital projects (including roads, buildings, vehicles, equipment, etc.) and annual debt repayment.

Where Does The Money Come From?

Just under 30 percent of the City's budget comes from property taxes paid by residents and businesses. The rest comes from fees paid directly for services (such as recreation programs and utilities); licenses, permits and franchise fees; and bond proceeds.



These dollars are used to provide many of the important City services residents rely on each day.

City Tax Levy Increased 4.6%

For 2016, the portion of the City's budget paid by property taxes increased by 4.6 percent (or \$1.39 million) – for a total of \$31.5 million.

Approximately 3.2 percent of this increase will allow the City to maintain its existing levels of service – while 1.4 percent will be dedicated toward much needed improvements to the Burnsville Police Station and other City facilities.

2016 Tax Levy Increase of 4.6% to Bring in Additional \$1.39 million

Total Tax Levy Increase	\$1.39 million	4.6%
New Construction	\$150,000	0.5%
Existing Tax Base (Current Services)	\$821,963	2.7%
Existing Tax Base (Debt Service for Facility Improvements)	\$420,000	1.4%

Highlights of the 2016 budget include:

- \$17.9 million dollars dedicated to roadways, parks and utility improvements
- \$8.7 million dedicated to replacing aging City water meters
- \$8.8 million for improvements to City facilities

Will My Property Taxes Go Up?

The tax levy increase, coupled with the fact that home values continue to rise, will likely result in an increased property tax bill for residents.

However, by breaking down the City's portion of your property tax statement to show the cost you pay for monthly service (right) you'll find you are getting a lot of value!

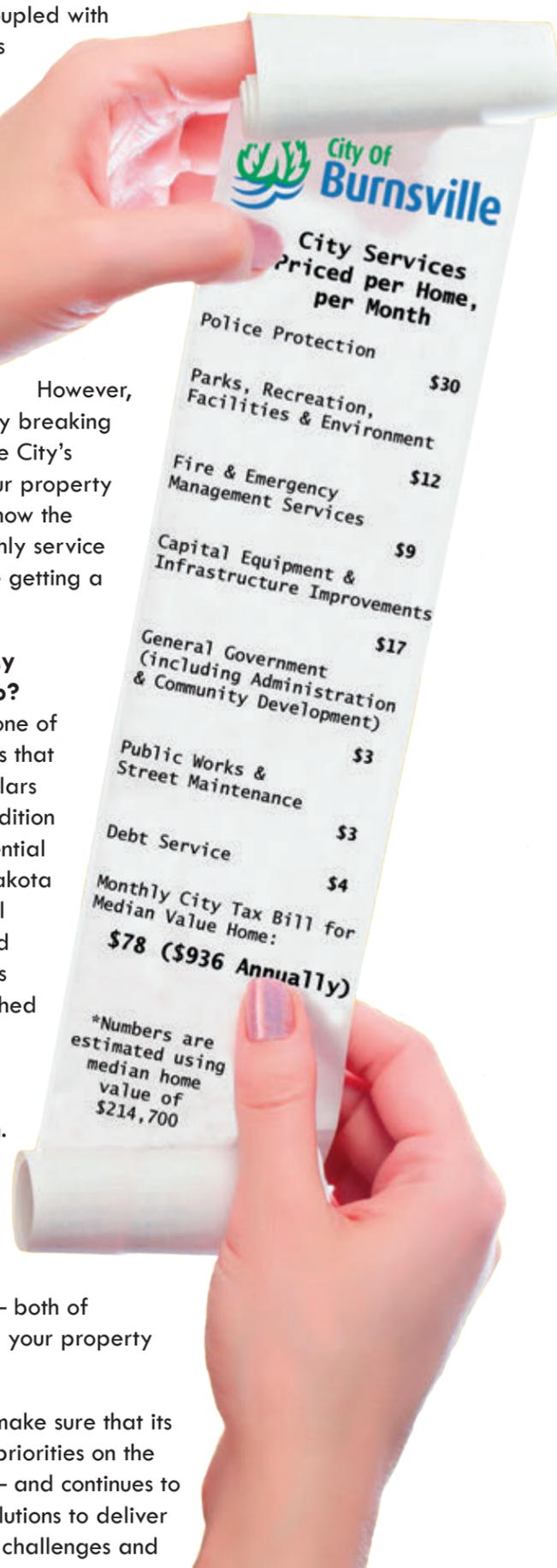
Where Do the Rest of My Property Tax Dollars Go?

The City of Burnsville is one of several governing bodies that rely on property tax dollars to provide service. In addition to the City (43%), residential tax dollars also go to Dakota County (28%); your local school district (23%); and other governing agencies (6%) such as the Watershed District, Metropolitan Council and the Dakota County Community Development Association.

Burnsville's City Council does not have control over property values, or taxes assessed by other governing bodies – both of which have an impact on your property tax bill.

However, the City does make sure that its budget puts the highest priorities on the most important services – and continues to look for cost effective solutions to deliver those services, deal with challenges and keep Burnsville running smoothly.

For more detailed information visit www.burnsville.org/budget.



2016 Residential City Utility Rates

While a 20-ounce bottle of water can cost up to \$2 in the store, an entire gallon of water out of the tap costs only about one penny.

Even including the additional fees on a utility bill – such as the delivery of fresh water; removal of waste water; sewer treatment; and non-water services such as street lighting, sidewalk plowing and storm drainage fees – an average residential user can get a gallon of water for one cent!

To meet continued, increasing demands on the City's utility infrastructure, residents will notice a slight increase in their City utility bills this year. These few added dollars per household will go a long way in maintaining Burnsville's water and sewer system at a high level.

For more information on utility rates and water conservation visit www.burnsville.org/utilities.

Services	2015	2016
Water	\$2.65 per 1,000 gallons \$13.25	\$2.77 per 1,000 gallons \$13.85
City Sewer	\$1.20 per 1,000 gallons \$6	\$1.10 per 1,000 gallons \$5.50
Met Sewer (Regional Waste Water Treatment)	\$2.12 per 1,000 gallons \$10.60	\$2.37 per 1,000 gallons \$11.85
Meter Replacement Charge	\$1.20 per meter	NO CHANGE – \$1.20
Basic Charge	\$6 (\$2 for each service – water, city sewer, met sewer)	NO CHANGE – \$6
Storm Water (Drainage and Surface Water Quality)	\$6.78 per property	\$6.85 per property
Street Light	\$2.86 per benefiting property	NO CHANGE – \$2.86
Major Roadway Light	\$0.34 per property	NO CHANGE – \$0.34
Sidewalk Snowplow	\$1.11 per benefiting property	\$1.39 per benefiting property
State Surcharge	\$0.53 per water connection	NO CHANGE – \$0.53
Penalty	1.25% of the amount due for late payment	1.5% of the amount due for late payment
Total Utility Bill	\$48.67	\$50.37

*Figures in red indicate average household cost per month based on 5,000 gallons

2016 Proposed Roadwork Projects

City of Burnsville

The City is planning to dedicate \$9.2 million to City street and utility projects in 2016.

Street Reconstruction

Four reconstruction projects are planned within neighborhoods. Work will start in mid-May and is scheduled to be complete by Sept. 30.

- Chateaulin Area (south of 130th Street East and east of Parkwood Drive)
- Highland Forest 3rd Addition (near Upton Avenue, south of Brookview Drive and north of Highland Drive)
- Portland Avenue Roundabout (north of Highway 13)
- West Buck Hill Area (east of County Road 5 and south of 155th Street West)

Reconstruction typically includes replacing aging and failing roads. The existing road is removed, ground up and combined with gravel to create a strong base for the new road. Utility work and curb replacement may also occur.

Street Rehabilitation

Three rehabilitation projects are scheduled for 2016. Work will start in mid-May and will be staged to provide minimum impact on drivers. The projects are scheduled to be complete by Labor Day.

- 150th Street (from County Road 5 to Greenhaven Drive)
- Dupont Avenue/126th Street/Cliff Road (between County Road 5 and I-35W)
- Portland Avenue (from Highway 13 to Burnsville Parkway)

For more information and to sign up for periodic updates on City road projects visit www.burnsville.org/streetrecon or call 952-895-4457.



Dakota County Projects

County Road 11

County Road 11 will receive a number of intersection modifications, including additions of right and left turn lanes at select intersections, as well as micro-surfacing and re-striping between 122nd Street and 134th Street.

County Road 42 – Aldrich Avenue to Nicollet Avenue

A turn lane extension will be added to eastbound County Road 42 to northbound I-35W. The bridge deck over I-35W will also be rehabilitated.

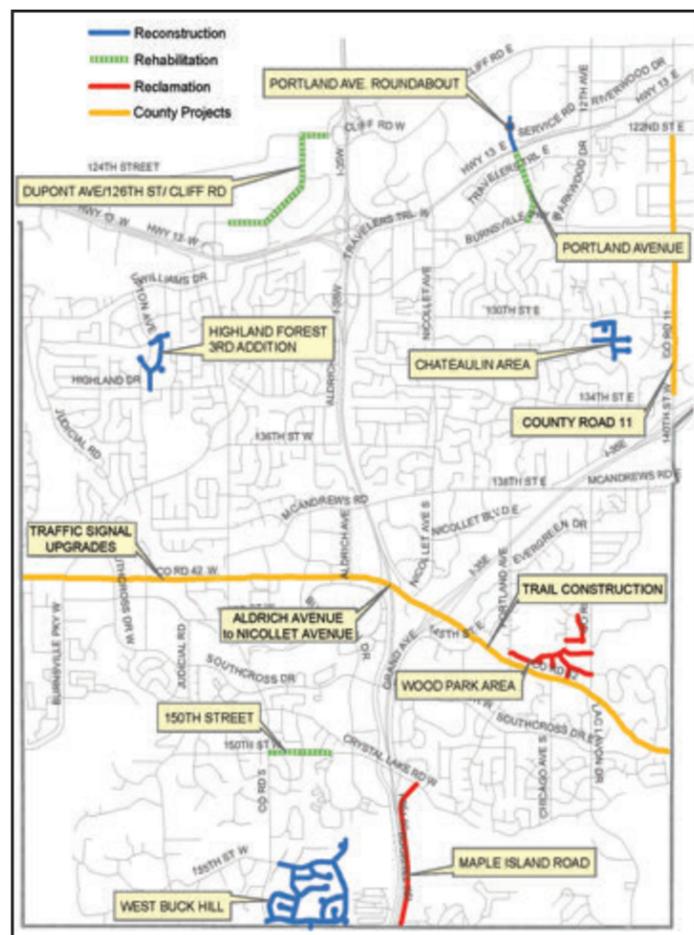
County Road 42 – Trail Construction

The sidewalk and trail project that began in 2015 along County Road 42 from Nicollet Avenue to Summit Oaks Drive will continue.

Traffic Signal Upgrades

A signal management system project that began in 2015 will continue in 2016 along County Road 42 from Scott County to Rosemount. This new system will allow the County to actively manage and coordinate traffic signal timing.

For more information on County transportation projects visit www.dakotacounty.us and search "Planned Construction."



Rehabilitation typically involves removing the top two inches of existing road and replacing it with asphalt. This new surface has an approximate lifespan of 20 to 25 years with regular maintenance.

Street Reclamation

Two reclamation projects are scheduled for 2016. Work will start in mid-May and is scheduled to be complete by Labor Day.

- Maple Island Road (from Crystal Lake Road West to 158th Street West)
- Wood Park Area (between Portland Avenue and County Road 11)

Reclamation is a hybrid of rehabilitation and reconstruction. Existing asphalt is ground up and mixed with gravel to create a base, while new asphalt is paved on top. Curbs may receive spot repairs where severely cracked or broken. Reclamation is a cost-effective method for upgrading a street that is too deteriorated for rehabilitation, but has existing utilities and curbs that do not need total replacement.



Proposed 2016 roadwork projects in Burnsville.

Burnsville Considers Implementing Gas, Electric Franchise Fees

The Burnsville City Council is considering establishing franchise fees on utilities (gas and electric) to help offset future property tax/special assessment increases.

City staff began meeting with Burnsville's four utility companies – Xcel Energy, Dakota Electric Association, Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative and CenterPoint Energy – in December to discuss the feasibility of implementing these new fees.

What is a Franchise Fee?

Under Minnesota Statute, cities have the ability to impose a fee on utility companies that use the public rights-of-way to deliver service. Generally, franchise fees are structured in one of two ways:

- A flat rate per utility account OR
- A percentage of consumption used by each utility account

What Does This Mean for Residents?

Utility companies have the right to pass this fee on to their customers. If implemented, utility customers would likely see an increase on their utility bills noted as a "City fee" sometime in 2016.

Currently, the City is focusing its discussions on the "flat rate" option. The current proposal is a \$1 per month, per account fee for residential gas and electric bills. Fee amounts for commercial customers are still being developed.

Why Implement a Franchise Fee?

Utility franchise fees are a method for the City to help cover increasing

costs of maintaining aging facilities and infrastructure without raising property taxes. Many cities in Minnesota already use utility franchise fees to help offset these rising costs.

These fees are also more equally distributed than property taxes, since they would be paid by all utility customers, even those who do not currently pay property taxes. Because more people are paying the fee, the rate per utility customer could remain low.

What Happens Next?

The City is currently negotiating with the utility companies regarding franchise fees. Once agreements with the companies are in place (anticipated to be sometime in February 2016), the City Council will establish a new ordinance to collect the fees. After the ordinance is adopted, utility companies have 60 days to notify the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission before implementing the fee.

While there is no public hearing requirement for implementing utility franchise fees, the City still wants to provide residents the opportunity to express their comments, questions and concerns.

For more information or to provide comments visit www.burnsville.org/utilityfranchise. Residents may also send comments to Finance Director Kelly Strey at kelly.strey@burnsvillemn.gov or 952-895-4493.



AMES CENTER

For ticket information visit www.ames-center.com or call 952-895-4680

Todd Rundgren

Main Stage • Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m. • Ticket Information: \$62.50 & \$42.50

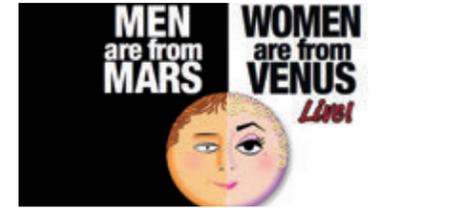
Born and raised in Philadelphia, Todd Rundgren began playing guitar as a teenager, going on to found and front “The Nazz.” In 1969, he left the band to pursue a solo career, recording his debut offering, the legendary *Runt*. His 1972 album *Something/Anything?* – on which he played all the instruments, sang all the vocal parts and acted as his own producer – catapulted him into the superstar limelight.



Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus – LIVE

Main Stage • Saturday, Feb. 6 at 8 p.m. • Ticket Information: \$55 or \$27.50 with code “MARS”

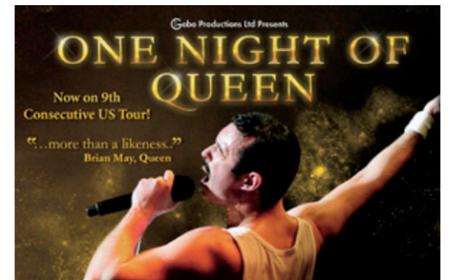
This one-man fusion of theatre and stand-up is a light-hearted comedy based on the *New York Times* No. 1 best-selling book by John Gray. Moving swiftly through a series of vignettes, the show covers everything from dating and marriage to the bedroom.



One Night of Queen

Main Stage • Wednesday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. • Ticket Information: \$30, \$40 & \$50

In 2000, Gary Mullen won ITV’s reality show, *Stars In Their Eyes*, live grand finale with the largest number of votes ever received in the show’s history. In 2002, he formed the band “The Works” to pay tribute to rock legends “Queen.” Since then, “Gary Mullen and the Works” have performed throughout the world to sell-out audiences. *One Night of Queen* is a spectacular live concert, recreating the look, sound, pomp and showmanship of one of the greatest rock bands of all time.



City Council Recognizes Outstanding ‘Community Builders’

For their contributions toward building a bright future for Burnsville, nine community organizations/members were recognized in October during the City’s 17th-Annual “Community Builder” presentation.

Sahro Abdullahi; Sky Oaks Elementary Cultural Liaison: Abdullahi serves as a vital link between families and the school – especially those who are new to the country. In addition, she is a tireless volunteer for the community and a great role model for Burnsville’s youth.

Burnsville Lions Club; Ongoing Community Service: With the motto “We Serve,” the Burnsville Lions Club has spent the last 50 years contributing countless hours of service, and countless dollars to support Burnsville events, initiatives, charities and organizations.

Jodi Congdon; Burnsville Fire Muster: For the last 10 years, Congdon has served as a volunteer and board member for the Burnsville Fire Muster. Her work is instrumental in making sure the event goes off without a hitch. Congdon also serves as a crisis counselor for women – and has given her time to a number of other worthy community causes.

Bill Johnson; Dedicated Community Service: Johnson has lived in Burnsville since 1969, and has been a tireless volunteer for countless organizations. Most recently, Johnson became a member of the Burnsville Lions Club, where he was instrumental in bringing the Lions Playground to Cliff Fen Park in 2013 and adding the new Splash Pad in 2015.

Gary Lally; Burnsville Commercial Real Estate Council: Lally was a founding member of the Burnsville Commercial Real Estate Council in 1999. He remains a member today, and has been responsible for the attraction and retention of numerous companies to Burnsville.

David McDevitt and Jen Waller McDevitt; #burnsvillestrong: The McDevitts are the driving force behind the community campaign, #burnsvillestrong. After the heartbreaking deaths of several Burnsville youth, the McDevitts are working to turn grief into positive actions – growing the #burnsvillestrong movement into a true sense of “community togetherness.”

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church; Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA): Three years ago, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church opened VITA with just a handful of volunteers from the congregation. They spent weeks learning income tax law and software to prepare returns for low-income families. They now serve low-income, disabled, immigrant and elderly taxpayers and help find more than \$500,000 in refunds that go back into family budgets.

Relay for Life; Community Service: Relay for Life is an annual event held to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Because of the planning and organization of the Burnsville group – Burnsville was one of the only Relay events in Dakota County to meet its fundraising goal in 2015 – and actually exceed it by \$1,000 for a total of \$32,000 in donations.

The Community Builder Award began in 1998, and since then has been presented each year to individuals, groups or businesses that have made a lasting impact on the quality of life in Burnsville. For more information on this year’s award winners visit www.burnsville.org/communitybuilder.

Fereidoon, Fereshteh and Gholamali Golchin; Honesty, Integrity and Positive Citizenship: The Golchin family was recognized as “Good Samaritans” for finding and returning the contents of a lost wallet – including hundreds of dollars in cash and important identification cards and documents.



Members of the Burnsville City Council and the 2015 Community Builders during the Tuesday, Oct. 20 Burnsville City Council Meeting.

State of the City Address Set for Feb. 10

Burnsville residents, business leaders and others interested in learning more about the direction of the City are invited to the annual State of the City Address on Wednesday, Feb. 10.

The State of the City Address is put on by the Burnsville Chamber of Commerce. The keynote speech will be given by Burnsville Mayor Elizabeth Kautz, with a Chamber luncheon to follow.

For more information or to register for the luncheon visit www.burnsvillechamber.com.



When: Wednesday, Feb. 10 • 11:30 a.m.
Where: Ames Center
 12600 Nicollet Ave.
Cost: Address is FREE
 Luncheon following is \$25

Recreation Highlight:

Cross-Country Skiing at Terrace Oaks, Alimagnet Park



Burnsville's cross-country ski trails are groomed similar to the photo above, with a combed area in the middle for skiers using the "skating" technique, and deeper tracks on the side for skiers using the classic skiing technique.

It can be tempting to hunker down and stay indoors during the winter, but there's an entire world of recreation that awaits when the snow begins to fall. Cross-country skiing is a great way to see some snow-covered landscapes and stay fit all winter long.

Cross-country skiing is a total-body aerobic activity that will get the heart pumping and calories burning. Upper and lower body muscles work to push and pull the skier while the core muscles maintain balance and coordination. Unlike some other aerobic activities, cross-country skiing is a low-impact workout that is good for anyone concerned about joint health.

Cross-Country Ski Trails in Burnsville

Burnsville maintains six groomed cross-country ski trails at two parks. The ski season generally runs from December through February, but

depends heavily on the weather. At least five to six inches of packed snow is needed before trails can open. Burnsville's park maintenance staff work hard to ensure good trail conditions throughout the season – grooming trails three times a week or more.

Terrace Oaks Park

Terrace Oaks Park is home to three groomed ski trails. Traversing them requires some stamina and skiing experience. All of the trails wind through heavily wooded and hilly terrain.

- The **Savanna Trail** (1.07 km) is rated "more difficult" and may be good for skiers who want to get a feel for the park's environment.
- The **Oakleaf Trail** (4.72 km) and **Blaze Trail** (5.19 km) are rated "most difficult" and take skiers over several large hills.

Walkers, snowshoers, skijorers and dogs are not permitted on the groomed ski trails. Skiers are often traveling at high speeds, and encountering obstacles on the trail (whether other people or places where the trail has been damaged by people walking through) can be dangerous.

Non-skiers and dogs on leashes are welcome on Terrace Oaks' ungroomed trail.

Alimagnet Park

The three groomed trails at Alimagnet Park are relatively flat and are considered easier trails. Those who are new to cross-country skiing

may find these trails more to their liking since the terrain is easier and the pace is generally slower. All trails are multi-use and welcome cross-country skiers, walkers, snowshoers, skijorers and dogs on leashes.

- The **Deer Run Trail** (.77 km) is rated "easier" and goes through the Alimagnet Dog Park.
- The **Muskrat Trail** (2.15 km) and **Lakeside Trail** (2.9 km) are rated "more difficult" and take skiers through wooded and open areas.

Learn more about Burnsville's trails and download trail maps at www.burnsville.org/trails.

Trail Hours and Locations

Terrace Oaks Park

- Trails are open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily
- Skiers should enter through the west entrance on County Road 11
- A ski chalet near the west entrance is open weekends from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. December through February
- Non-skiers (walkers, showshoers, etc.) should enter the ungroomed trail through the east entrance on Burnsville Parkway

Alimagnet Park

- Trails are open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily
- Trails can be accessed through the park entrance on County Road 11

Upcoming Activities for Seniors 62+

Register online at www.burnsville.org/recreation and click "Online Registration," by phone at 952-895-4500 or at the Recreation Office in City Hall.



Chocolate & Hearts:

How Sweet It Is

This Valentine's Day, your heart may melt, but the chocolate buffet will not. Enjoy music, appetizers, a chocolate buffet, games and more! Singles, couples, friends and anyone age 62 and over are invited.

When: Friday, Feb. 12
2 – 4 p.m.
Where: Rosemount Community Center
13885 S. Robert Trail
Rosemount, Minn.
Cost: \$14 per person
Registration deadline is Friday, Feb. 5

De-clutter Presentation

Get organized during this opportunity for professional advice on how to restore order to your home. Nikki Havens, owner of *Seriously Organized*, will provide tips on how to get started. Find out how to let go of possessions and about local resources that will take stuff for free – or even pay for some items!

When: Wednesday, March 9
10 – 11 a.m.
Where: Burnsville City Hall
100 Civic Center Parkway
Cost: FREE
Registration deadline is Friday, March 4



Spring Break Beach Party

Are you looking for something fun to do with the kids during spring break? Grandparents, parents and kids of all ages are invited to the Spring Break Beach Party! Enjoy games, open gym, arts and crafts, snacks and entertainment by "Bob the Beachcomber."

When: Thursday, March 31
1 – 4 p.m.
Where: Nicollet Junior High School
400 E. 134th St.
Cost: \$5 per child
Grandparents/parents are FREE
Registration deadline is Monday, March 28

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Learn about the history of recycling and everything that's recyclable in the modern world. Fun ways to reuse items for the sake of art and a "low-waste" lunch will also be part of the event. Find out just how easy it is to reduce, reuse and recycle in your home.

When: Thursday, April 7
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Where: Burnsville City Hall
100 Civic Center Parkway
Cost: \$5
Registration deadline is Friday, April 1 Limited to the first 30 people



BURNSVILLE BUSINESS CORNER

Business Development Update

Burnsville means business! Here are some upcoming projects taking shape around town.

WSB & Associates is renovating the former home of Edina Realty to make ready for their new engineering consulting offices at 540 Gateway Blvd.



Aldi is in the process of renovating space at Burnhill Plaza Shopping Center for a second Aldi grocery store in Burnsville.

Green Horizons Lawn Care, a Minneapolis-based landscape company, has begun clearing land to prepare for spring construction of their new corporate headquarters at Cliff Road and River Ridge Boulevard.



Metro Self Storage will be constructing a new mini-storage facility located at 2300-2350 County Road 42. The

facility will have both traditional and climate-controlled storage units.

Buck Hill Preparing for Major Improvements

Now under new ownership, Buck Hill will be taking on a number of improvement projects over the next six to seven years. Buck Hill is in the early stages of transitioning from an iconic winter ski slope to a year-round destination and training facility. The new Buck Hill will be committed to both the casual enthusiast, and the elite skier. Some planned improvements include:



Photo courtesy of Buck Hill

- Installing a “Neveplast Dry Ski Slope” to allow skiing year round. Buck Hill will be the first facility in the U.S. to have this technology
- Building a hilltop restaurant accessible by gondola
- Construction of an indoor training facility
- Additional parking and banquet space
- Introducing an amphitheater for concerts
- Building a hotel with a possible microbrewery

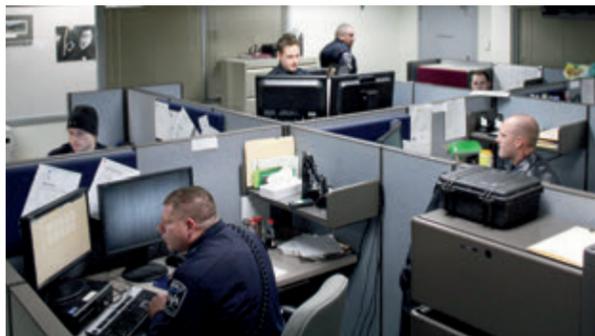
These upgrades will position Buck Hill to be both a training mecca and a ski resort.

Welcome to These New Burnsville Businesses

- 513 Organic Coffee House
- Celadon Systems, Inc.
- Chick-fil-A
- Clandestine Strength & Conditioning
- Denny’s
- Dime Bar
- El Gusto Mexican Grille
- Led Your Stained Glass Studio
- Name of the Game
- Rainbow at Burnsville Center
- Refit Athletic
- Rischaria Hands of Magic LLC
- Starbucks
- WSB & Associates

If you have a new business in Burnsville contact Economic Development Coordinator Skip Nienhaus at 952-895-4454 or skip.nienhaus@burnsvillemn.gov to schedule a welcome visit.

Police Department, Other Facility Upgrades to Begin in 2016



The current configuration of the Burnsville Police Station results in tight quarters – with seven workstations shared among 47 patrol officers.

As part of their 2016 budget, the Burnsville City Council approved a City-wide facility improvement project that will include additional conference rooms and upgrades to community rooms and restrooms at Burnsville City Hall. It will also include a large renovation of the Burnsville Police Station.

For 26 years, the Burnsville Police Department has worked in the same space to provide service to the City of Burnsville. During the last two-and-a-half decades, the City’s population has increased by more than 10,000 residents,

technology has exploded to include more and larger equipment, and a number of responsibilities previously held by the State were shifted to local law enforcement.

To accommodate these changes over the years, the department has added 25 additional sworn officers; in-house evidence processing; and more computers, servers and other equipment – resulting in their current space no longer meeting current law enforcement standards.

While creative and frugal leaders continually repurposed space, created shared workspace stations and utilized every nook and cranny to best accommodate this growth – creativity only gets one so far. For example, the department currently has only seven workstations for 47 patrol officers to share. Industry standards state that there should be one work station for every two to three officers.

The solution is a renovation of the Police Station at 100 Civic Center Parkway to provide a better, more efficient workflow for Burnsville officers. After an in-depth space study

conducted by an outside consultant, the City will address the following needs as part of the project:

- Creating a central space for evidence processing and equipment storage that is located near the staff who use it most frequently
- Creating collaborative work spaces so that staff who frequently work together can be housed in close proximity to one another
- Increasing the number of workstations available to officers
- Creating additional meeting space (used for police briefings, case management, training and administrative meetings)
- Increasing locker room capacity to meet industry standards

The bidding and design process for the Police Station and City Hall renovations began in January, with a goal to start construction in mid-November. Watch for the construction, and more information in future Burnsville Bulletins.

Overnight Parking Restrictions in Effect Year-Round

On-Street Parking Prohibited Between 2 and 6 a.m. Daily



Did you know that cars and trucks parked on the street overnight pose public safety hazards and obstruct public service vehicles? That’s why the City prohibits on-street parking from 2-6 a.m. daily.

The ordinance prohibiting overnight parking on City streets aims to protect residents and their property. It is meant to lessen neighborhood clutter; create more space for fire trucks, ambulances, police vehicles and snow plows; and prevent accidents by removing obstacles.

It is also a tool to help minimize auto theft. Because Burnsville police officers are assigned to the same patrol area every shift, they become very familiar with the neighborhoods they patrol. Parking restrictions help officers recognize suspicious vehicles in the area, making Burnsville a safe community.

While these parking restrictions are in effect year-round, they become even more important in the winter. Cars parked on the street often leave a space too narrow for snow plows to easily drive through. Plow operators may need to raise equipment or back out of a street – which could result in damage to cars and plows.

Residents can request a temporary street parking pass online, at least 24 hours in advance. Visit www.burnsville.org/request and click “Overnight Street Parking Request.”



Snow plows can’t get snow pushed all the way to the curb when vehicles are parked in the street. This creates ice ridges, which can damage other vehicles and create dangerous conditions for pedestrians.

New Recycling Law for Businesses in 2016

Businesses generate more than half of the total waste in Dakota County – and according to a recent statewide study – about 75 percent of that waste is actually recyclable. Having a strong recycling program conserves natural resources, helps a business's bottom line and demonstrates an organization's commitment to sustainability and the community.

Starting Jan. 1, certain businesses will be required to collect at least three recyclable materials (paper, glass, plastic, metal or organics). This new law applies to commercial building owners operating or leasing to a retail establishment, restaurants, educational or professional services, health care services or any other business with a North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) code between 42 and 81 (and that contracts disposal of at least four cubic yards of solid waste per week).

It is estimated that more than 9,500 businesses in Dakota County may be affected by this new mandate. Business owners should check with their waste hauler for details.

For more information visit Dakota Valley Recycling online at www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org.



Emerald Ash Borer Not in Burnsville...Yet

Emerald Ash Borer adult beetle



The destructive emerald ash borer has not yet been found in Burnsville, but it is closing in as the City prepares for its arrival.

The emerald ash borer (EAB) has not yet been found in Burnsville, but it has been found in Dakota County. To prepare for its likely arrival, the City of Burnsville has a management plan in place to protect good quality public ash trees, and to remove those that are poor quality.

In 2014, the City treated 477 public ash trees to protect them against EAB, and treated an additional 911 trees in 2015.

Since treatments protect ash trees for two years, follow-up treatments will continue on an alternating schedule. In 2016, crews will be treating approximately 1,300 public ash trees – including some second-round treatments.

Removal of poor quality public ash trees – many in the City's boulevards – also began in 2014. Crews removed 10 trees the first year and an additional 102 trees in 2015. The goal for 2016 is to remove another 270 poor quality trees. The City is also working to replace a percentage of these trees with non-ash varieties as funds are available.

For more information visit www.burnsville.org/EAB.

Burnsville Ice Center Revamps Recycling to Include Organics

Many sports facilities have a game plan for a “zero waste” goal – and now the Burnsville Ice Center is in the scoring column. New waste containers can be found in or around the Ice Center's spectator areas, concessions, restrooms and locker rooms.

The new system provides three options for disposing waste – side, by side, by side – including traditional recycling, trash and new green organics bins.

Organic collection bins are meant to help keep food and food items out of landfills, and instead use them for composting. To help spectators make the right choice in regard to recycling organics, the concession stand is now also using serviceware items that are either recyclable or compostable. For example, nachos are served in paper trays, and all fountain drink cups, cutlery and straws are made from compostable, corn-based plastic. Photos displayed on the bins make disposal quick and easy.

Dakota County received an Environmental Assistance Grant from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the purpose of collecting organics at public sporting venues, including the Burnsville Ice Center. This grant covered the cost for the new containers and communication efforts to spread the word.

For more information on this and other recycling initiatives visit www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org.



New collection bins for traditional recycling, trash and organics are helping reduce landfilled waste at the Burnsville Ice Center

Protect Lakes and Ponds This Winter

Don't Let Salt Go Down the Storm Drain

Did you know that the salt you use to melt ice and snow can pollute Burnsville ponds?

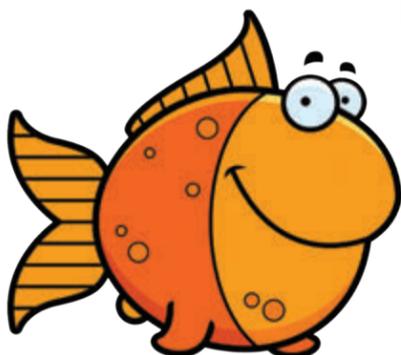
When the snow comes down and the ice starts to stick, the most common reaction is to bring out the salt. Unfortunately, when that snow and ice melts and finds its way to a storm drain, it transports salt. Storm drains lead directly to neighborhood ponds and lakes, and that salt can harm fish and plant life.

When using salt products to melt snow and ice this winter, remember the following:

- Shovel early and often so less salt is needed
- Use just enough salt to melt the ice – a heaping 12-ounce mug worth should do the trick
- Sweep up undissolved salt so it doesn't wash away



Fish and Salt Don't Mix! Don't Let Salt Go Down Storm Drains



It Can Wait – No Text is Worth Dying For

Burnsville Police Set Aside Day to Share Distracted Driving Message



Sticky notes were handed out to drivers to remind them not to text and drive.

The person in the car next to you is looking down at their phone. What do you think? Do you mentally lecture them to pay attention and stop putting everyone else in danger?

What about when it's your phone that's buzzing from the console? Unfortunately, many of us will automatically pick it up to see what message just arrived

– all while knowing the dangers of texting and driving – but without even thinking about the potential consequences.

The Burnsville Police Department wants everyone to know, "It Can Wait."

On Dec. 10, a group of motivated Burnsville patrol officers and sergeants decided to spread that message to drivers. While conducting routine patrols, officers specifically looked for this dangerous behavior, and provided education and reminder stickers to those they caught taking a peak at a Tweet or text message from behind the wheel.

"No text is worth dying for," said Sergeant Matt Smith, who coordinated the awareness day. "These are not bad people who are doing this. We just need to really emphasize the message that it doesn't take much to cause a crash – and that you have to consciously make a choice **not** to text and drive."

During the day-long event, patrol officers, investigators, administrators, crime prevention officers and others helped spread awareness of distracted driving laws and the dangers of texting and driving. Additional assistance from a Burnsville City Council proclamation, local news coverage, Burnsville High School announcements and community social media posts helped bring awareness of distracted driving to the front of people's minds.

Studies indicate that 70 percent of drivers have initiated a text, 82 percent have replied and 94 percent have read a message while driving. Drivers who engage in this behavior are 23 times more likely to be in an accident than when not texting.

Smith says he feels the day was very successful, stating, "The goal was to raise awareness about texting and driving, and that was achieved. Not only did we reach the drivers that were stopped, but we reached thousands with the news articles and television news coverage."

Awareness and education of the dangers of texting and driving will continue as patrol officers work to make the roads safer for all those who travel in Burnsville.

What Does the Law Say?

Minnesota law states that no driver can use a wireless device to write, read or send a message while driving or while stopped at a stop sign or stop light. This includes texting, scanning social media and searching or viewing pages on the internet.

Firefighters Need Help Keeping Hydrants Clear of Snow



This fire hydrant has a marker and has been cleared of surrounding snow and ice. Adopt-a-hydrant in your neighborhood to ensure that firefighters can easily locate and access them all winter long.

It only takes a minute for firefighters to attach a hose to a fire hydrant, but after a snowfall some hydrants can become a little hard to find. In an emergency, firefighters must locate those hidden hydrants and shovel them out. When firefighters are digging – time keeps ticking, and even a few minutes can make a big difference during a fire.

Burnsville's firefighters need help from residents to ensure they can do their job as quickly and effectively as possible. Residents are encouraged to "Adopt-A-Hydrant"

or two in their neighborhoods this winter, and make sure they are accessible after each snowfall.

Residents who are physically unable to shovel a hydrant on their property are encouraged to ask a neighbor for help. **Firefighters need a three-foot area around each hydrant, and a three-foot wide path leading from the street to the hydrant.**

"Having quick access to fire hydrants during an emergency is critical for firefighters to ensure that they have a sustainable water source to extinguish a fire," said Burnsville Fire Marshal Doug Nelson. "Hydrants that are covered by snow or are blocked by landscaping or other obstructions can cause significant delays, and slow down our response."

Hydrant Markers

All public fire hydrants (those located on easements and City property) should have a marker that allows the hydrant to be seen in deep snow. Residents who notice a public hydrant that is unmarked are encouraged to notify the Burnsville Maintenance Facility at 952-895-4550.

Private hydrant owners (on business or multi-unit housing properties) can purchase a hydrant marker from a City-approved vendor.

For more information visit www.burnsville.org/adoptahydrant.

City-Approved Hydrant Marker Vendors

USABlueBook
1-800-548-1234
www.usabluebook.com

Minnesota Pipe & Equipment
651-463-6090
www.minnesotapipe.com

Renew Your Pet Licenses

In Burnsville, all cats and dogs – and even domesticated ferrets and chickens – over four-months old must get a valid pet license every two years.

The City contracts with American Boarding Kennels for animal control issues. Pet owners have four options for getting or renewing a pet license:

- Apply at American Boarding Kennels (1102 Highway 13 E., Burnsville)
- Apply at the Burnsville Police Department (100 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville)
- Apply at their local veterinary clinic
- Apply online at www.burnsville.org/pets



The City issues two-year animal licenses in January of even-numbered years. Licenses expire on Dec. 31 of odd-numbered years. (For example, a license obtained Jan. 15, 2016 will expire Dec. 31, 2017.)

A two-year license is \$20 for a spayed or neutered pet, and \$30 for non-spayed or neutered animals. Dogs and cats must wear collars with their license tag attached at all times.

Learn more at www.burnsville.org/pets or call 952-894-3647.

Burnsville Animal Control Office

American Boarding Kennels
1102 Highway 13 E., Burnsville

Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday: Noon – 5 p.m.

