



# City of Burnsville

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BURNSVILLE RECOGNIZED AT MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATORS NORTHERN LIGHTS AWARDS**

The Minnesota Association of Government Communicators (MAGC) recognized the City of Burnsville Communications Department with three awards during its May 19 awards banquet.

The City received one Bronze Award (3<sup>rd</sup> Place), one Silver Award (2<sup>nd</sup> Place), and one Northern Lights Award (1<sup>st</sup> Place) in the 34th-Annual Northern Lights Awards competition.

### **Bronze Award**

**Newsletter or Magazine:**

[2015/2016 Burnsville Community Guide](#)

Every two years, the City of Burnsville produces a printed Community Guide. The guide contains a welcome message from the City Council; a synopsis of the City's governance process; tips and resources for homeowners; highlights of recreational amenities; a listing of area schools; helpful phone numbers and websites; and useful information about City public safety, parks, volunteer and other departments/services.

### **Silver Award**

**Video – Educational or Informational:**

[We Are Burnsville Public Works](#)

"We Are Burnsville Public Works" is an informational video created by Burnsville Community Television (BCTV) to raise awareness of the City's Public Works Department. Referred to as "the third arm of public safety," the Public Works Department not only maintains roads, water and sewer lines and vehicles – but also assists law enforcement and fire crews during emergencies.

### **Northern Lights Award**

**Best for Least:**

[Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Interpretive Signs](#)

Birnamwood Golf Course was the first nine-hole course in Minnesota - and the smallest course in the world - to become a fully Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. The sole avenue for learning about the environmental projects and practices were limited to small audiences at educational presentations. The creation and display of interpretive signs around the course highlight and educate patrons on the environmental work and features that went into earning and maintaining this prestigious designation.

*(more)*

The Best for Least Category recognizes the “most creative project or activity pulled off with the fewest dollars spent.” Only one winner was chosen in this category, and the project was also nominated for the awards “Best of Show.”



**Cutline:**

*Representing the City of Burnsville at the Northern Lights awards were (from left to right) Jay Golden, TV Production Specialist; Kristin Thomas, Multimedia Specialist; and Marty Doll, Communications Coordinator.*

A green and white informational graphic titled "Can You Hear the Bluebirds Sing?". It features the Burnsville Birnamwood Golf Course logo and a "Certified" logo. The text discusses the decline and rebound of Eastern bluebird numbers and provides information about their diet and nesting preferences. It includes two images: one of a bluebird perched on a branch and another of a bluebird in a nest.

**Can You Hear the Bluebirds Sing?**

**Birnamwood provides an ideal habitat for Eastern bluebirds.**

Eastern bluebird numbers have declined substantially during the last century, but their numbers are rebounding because of nest boxes like the ones lining both sides of this hole.

Bluebirds eat small fruits and hunt insects, spiders and other small creatures.

Bluebirds prefer to nest in open fields, meadows, gardens, hedges and parkland where trees are scattered and grasses are short.

**Cutline:**

*Birnamwood Golf Course Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Interpretive Signs are present on each of the course’s nine tee boxes. The project received top honors and was nominated for “Best of Show” during MAGC’s Annual Northern Lights Awards completion.*

*(High resolution images available upon request).*

*For more information on how to stay connected with the City of Burnsville visit [www.burnsville.org/connect](http://www.burnsville.org/connect). For a full slate of contest winners visit [www.magconline.org/awards/northern-lights](http://www.magconline.org/awards/northern-lights).*