



City of Burnsville

Summer • 2016 • Volume 26 • No. 3

Bulletin

City Services

Page 2

- Municipal Primary Election Set for Aug. 9
- Absentee Voting Now Open
- Participate in Burnsville Budget Meetings

Neighborhoods

Page 3

- New Crosswalks on Highway 13 Help Drivers See Pedestrians
- Changes to Portland Avenue Near Burnsville High School
- Nominate Those Who Build Community in Burnsville

Community Enrichment

Page 4

- International Festival Brings Rhythms of the World to Burnsville
- Fire Muster Festivities Set to Entertain
- Volunteer Opportunities with the City

Insert – Climate Resiliency Guide

Page 5

- Ames Center Events
- Recreation Highlight: Burnsville Skate Park Phase II Construction Underway
- Upcoming Events for Adults 62+

Development

Page 6

- Burnsville Business Corner
- Four Burnsville Businesses Named ‘Employers of Excellence’
- Burnsville Community Home Show Sept. 24
- Update to City’s 2040 Comprehensive Plan Underway

Environment

Page 7

- City Compost Site Open for Buckthorn Disposal
- Neighborhood Buckthorn Pickup
- Seminar: Take Back Your Woods
- Volunteers Needed for Storm Drain Stenciling
- Please Do Not Feed Ducks and Geese

Public Safety

Page 8

- Night to Unite Builds ‘Paw-sitive’ Community Connections
- Citizens Academy Offers Look Inside Police Department
- Don’t Miss the Call During an Emergency
- Please Remember to Keep Dogs Leashed

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 Meetings

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 to Roll Out New Water Meters

Since the early 2000s, all Burnsville residences and businesses have been equipped with automated water meters. Rather than requiring a “meter reader” or self-reporting of meters – the system is able to transmit data electronically to a utility worker driving through the City streets

Next Generation Water Meters Being Installed

This summer, the City will begin a large-scale meter replacement project that will eventually upgrade all commercial and residential meters within Burnsville. These new meters will automatically transmit meter reads to the utility department at City Hall.

The new system will provide many benefits to customers – including a 20-year life expectancy, real-time data on water usage and real-time leak detection. It will also allow meters to be read more cost effectively!

The City will be working with utility contractors HD Supply Waterworks and Utiliuse to procure and install new Sensus water meters. Starting this summer, the City will identify 1,500 residential and commercial meters to be part of a pilot installation. Full roll-out (beginning with commercial meters) is expected to begin later this year. The hope is to have all meters replaced City-wide by 2018.

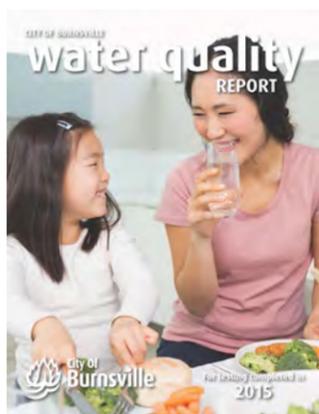
Keep an eye out for more information on the City’s meter upgrade process and instructions on scheduling your meter replacement. For more information on City water and utilities visit www.burnsville.org/water.



New water meters will be installed on interior plumbing in residences and businesses City-wide.

Burnsville Drinking Water is Again Certified Safe

Annual Report Available Online



The City of Burnsville’s annual Drinking Water Report is available online. The results from 2015 testing once again show that Burnsville is providing clean and safe drinking water from each of its water sources.

View the full report at www.burnsville.org/waterreport.

The City of Burnsville is committed to providing safe and quality drinking water to residents that meets or exceeds federal requirements. The purpose of this report is to provide a better understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

Individuals may request a paper copy by calling 952-895-4550.

When Can I Water?

Did you know that to provide residents enough water during the hot summer months, the City of Burnsville uses an odd-even lawn and garden watering policy through Sept. 30?



Midday Watering Restrictions

- No watering is allowed between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on any day.

Odd-Even Watering Restrictions

- Homes with odd-numbered addresses may water lawns before 11 a.m. or after 3 p.m. on odd-numbered calendar dates (July 1, 3, 5, 7, etc.).
- Homes with even-numbered addresses may water lawns before 11 a.m. or after 3 p.m. on even-numbered calendar dates (July 2, 4, 6, 8, etc.).
- If there are 31 days in a month, both even and odd addresses can water on the 31st.

Exceptions to these restrictions include hand watering, new seed/sod, and plants that require daily watering such as golf greens and certain athletic fields.

Visit www.burnsville.org/watering for more details.

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:
burnsvillecouncil@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



City of Burnsville
Burnsville Bulletin
100 Civic Center Parkway
Burnsville, MN 55337-3817

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #44
Burnsville, MN

ECRWSS

**ECRWSS EDDM
Postal Customer**

Municipal Primary Election Set for Aug. 9

Voters to Choose City Council Candidates to Move on to General Election

The City of Burnsville will hold a municipal primary election on Tuesday, Aug. 9 to narrow the number of City Council candidates from eight to four.

The Burnsville City Council, which is elected at-large, will have two seats up for election in November. The City's mayoral seat is also up for election. Incumbent Mayor Elizabeth Kautz is running unopposed – meaning the race will not be on the primary ballot.

State law allows cities to hold a municipal primary if the number of candidates is more than double the number of available seats.

The candidates, in alphabetical order by last name are:

*Incumbent

Mayor

- *Elizabeth Kautz

City Council

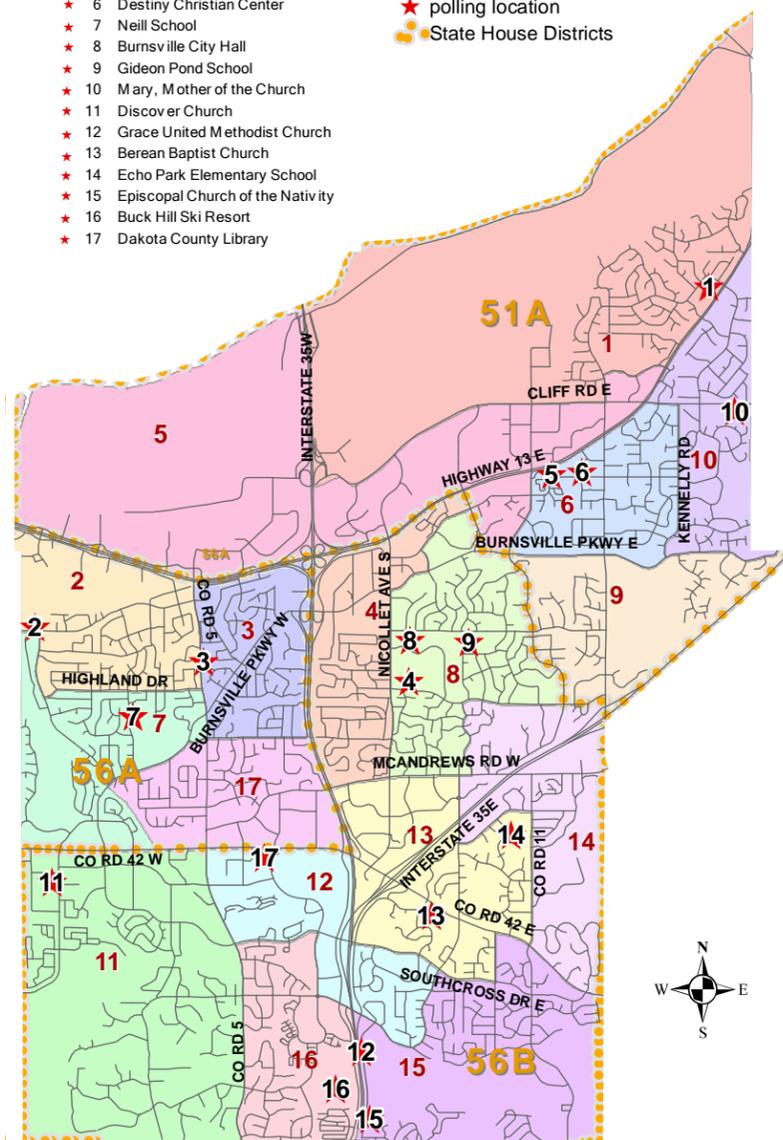
- Jim Bradrick
- James Vincent Cammarato
- Kirk Duckwall
- Dan Gustafson
- Robin G. Harris
- Russell Jenkins
- Dan Powers
- Cara Schulz

Incumbent Council Members Mary Sherry (completing her second four-year term) and Suzanne Nguyen (completing her first term) will not be running for reelection.

Burnsville has 17 voter precincts. Please refer to the precinct map on this page or visit www.mnvotes.org to locate your polling place.

PRECINCT	LOCATION
★ 1	Sioux Trail Elem. School
★ 2	St. James Lutheran Church
★ 3	Vista View School
★ 4	Joseph Nicollet Junior High
★ 5	Eden Baptist Church
★ 6	Destiny Christian Center
★ 7	Neill School
★ 8	Burnsville City Hall
★ 9	Gideon Pond School
★ 10	Mary, Mother of the Church
★ 11	Discover Church
★ 12	Grace United Methodist Church
★ 13	Berean Baptist Church
★ 14	Echo Park Elementary School
★ 15	Episcopal Church of the Nativity
★ 16	Buck Hill Ski Resort
★ 17	Dakota County Library

★ polling location
 ● State House Districts



Absentee Voting Now Open

Absentee voting for the Aug. 9 Primary Election opened on Friday, June 24. Any resident who wishes to vote by absentee ballot may do so prior to Aug. 9 at:

Burnsville City Hall
 100 Civic Center Parkway
 Monday through Friday
 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

City offices will also be open for absentee balloting on Saturday, Aug. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and until 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 8.

Absentee voting applications may also be completed online, or received electronically.

Request an absentee ballot application:

Online: www.mnvotes.org
 Mail: Call 952-895-4491 or email macheal.collins@burnsvillemn.gov

Completed applications must be mailed, emailed or delivered to Burnsville City Hall. Once an application is processed, you will be mailed an absentee ballot. Completed absentee ballots must be returned by mail, or dropped off at City Hall by 3 p.m. on Election Day.

Any eligible voter may vote absentee. Absence from the precinct on Election Day is no longer a requirement.

Visit www.burnsville.org/elections or contact the City Clerk's office at 952-895-4490 for more information.



Photo credit: Dominion Voting Systems

Participate in Burnsville Budget Meetings

Just like any household, the City of Burnsville sets an annual budget. And just like a household budget, the City must set priorities. Things like police, fire/emergency response, streets and parks are always at the top of the list.

The process for Burnsville's 2017 budget has already begun, and the City will once again hold a number of public meetings at City Hall. Residents are encouraged to participate by attending meetings – or offering questions, comments or suggestions to City staff at www.burnsville.org/budget.



All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m., are cablecast live and replayed on Burnsville Civic Television Channel 16/HD859 (for cable subscribers) and streamed online at www.burnsville.tv/live.

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

Meetings on the 2017 Budget (Dates are subject to change)

- Monday, Aug. 8: Discuss possible level for the maximum property tax levy
- Tuesday, Sept. 6: Adoption of the maximum property tax levy
- Mid-October: Video "Budget Open House" available online
- Tuesday, Oct. 25: Department presentations
- Tuesday, Nov. 15: General Fund & Property Tax Fund discussion
- Tuesday, Nov. 29: Capital & Enterprise Fund discussion
- Tuesday, Dec. 6: Consider adoption of the 2017 budget

New Crosswalks on Highway 13 Help Drivers See Pedestrians

As a pedestrian, crossing a road with upwards of 40,000 cars traveling at high speeds can be overwhelming. On Highway 13 at Cliff Road and County Road 11 in Burnsville, it can be downright frightening – specifically, when trying to cross a free right turn lane, where drivers tend to be more focused on other drivers and not on pedestrians in the crossing.

Now, imagine crossing the road with your eyes closed. That is a regular experience for Burnsville resident, Annie Young. Young – a mother, wife, business owner, artist and advocate – is blind.

“There is no certainty that cars will see me when I’m trying to cross a free right turn lane,” said Young. “I listen to the traffic to determine when it is safest for me to cross.”

Since Young is unable to see the cars – and there is no guarantee that cars will see her – she says she has had a few close calls. One in particular, when her cane got caught in the wheel well of a car.

“It was an electric car, which doesn’t make sound,” said Young. “I stepped into the lane and my cane was ripped out of my hand. I was stranded in the road, stunned.”

Looking to try to make the intersections on Highway 13 at Cliff Road and County Road 11 safer, Young contacted the City of Burnsville – which connected her to the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT).

MnDOT explored a range of ideas to help make the crossing safer, including different types of flashers, installing speed tables/bumps at the right turn, and even eliminating the free right turn lanes completely. After evaluating for effectiveness, cost, traffic operations and maintenance issues, MnDOT came up with a creative, not-so-typical design.

New crosswalks on Highway 13 at Cliff Road and County Road 11 now include:

- Push-button activated pedestrian crossing signs, with borders that illuminate and flash LED lights to make it easier for drivers to see when a pedestrian is attempting to cross their lane of traffic
- A crosswalk assistance system that is fully equipped with audio
- Re-alignment of truncated domes (nubs that protrude from the concrete that mark the edge of the sidewalk) to provide direction for blind pedestrians to cross in a straight line.

According to Tara McBride, MnDOT South Area Engineer, this project was a relatively inexpensive step that could be completed quickly to improve the safety of these crossings without rebuilding the entire intersection.

“Our hope is to see improved stopping for people, whether they are walking or biking, at these [types of] right turn lanes,” McBride said. “If this is successful, this application could be used at other [free] right turn lanes where blind users find it challenging to cross safely.”

“These changes will definitely enhance my quality of life, and have given me the gift of continued independence,” said Young. “More importantly, they help all pedestrians be seen better by drivers.”

The project was funded by the MnDOT ADA Accessibility program. For more information on MnDOT visit www.dot.state.mn.us.



Burnsville resident Annie Young activates the new crosswalk system.

Changes to Portland Avenue Near Burnsville High School

As part of Burnsville High School’s (BHS) major expansion, motorists have likely noticed some changes taking place at the intersection of Highway 13 and Portland Avenue.

The City is currently installing additional turn lanes on both roads, as well as a roundabout on Portland that will help facilitate increased traffic flow beginning with the 2016 school year.

When the bell rings at BHS this fall, more than 800 additional students will be hurrying to class. This is a result of the high school expanding to house all freshman through senior students in the district. (Previously, the high school was home only to 10th, 11th and half of 12th grade each day. The remainder of 12th grade students attended class at the nearby Diamondhead Education Center.)

These additional students will generate approximately 1,100 extra trips each morning and afternoon. The improvements are meant to better route traffic during peak times.

Portland Avenue adjacent to the high school closed in June, and work is anticipated to be complete for the new school year in September.

For more information on the BHS construction project visit www.ISD191.org.



This rendering shows the additional lanes and roundabout being added to Portland Avenue this summer.

Nominate Those Who Build Community in Burnsville

From environmental stewardship – to volunteerism – to good old fashioned good Samaritans – many people help make Burnsville a better place.



Nominate those who help make Burnsville great for the City’s 2016 Community Builder Award. Each year, this award is presented to individuals, community groups and businesses that – through their volunteer or work life – do their best to build a brighter future for Burnsville.

- Who:** All ages – individuals, community groups or businesses
- When:** Nominations close Friday, Sept. 2 at 4:30 p.m.

Awards will be presented during the Burnsville City Council Meeting Tuesday, Oct. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

The size and scope of the work doesn’t matter. Community building includes any task in which the nominee has selflessly put others before themselves.

Submit a Nomination

- Complete the online form at www.burnsville.org/communitybuilder
- Send a typed or printed letter, including the name of the nominee, your contact information and reason for the nomination to:

Community Builder Award
City of Burnsville
100 Civic Center Parkway
Burnsville, MN 55337

For more information contact the City Clerk’s Office at 952-895-4490 or macheal.collins@burnsvillemn.gov.

International Festival Brings Rhythms of the World to Burnsville

Annual Celebration Set for Saturday, July 16



Mu Daiko will be one of many performance groups at the 2016 International Festival of Burnsville.

The International Festival of Burnsville (IFB) provides an opportunity to experience a variety of cultures, one half-hour at a time.

The annual event is filled with music and dance that will get participants tapping their feet and moving on the dance floor.

This year, Nicollet Commons Park will be filled with people dancing to deep African beats, Irish folk, Hmong, Indian, Brazilian and Japanese performances – with the final act performing high-energy music from the Caribbean.

2016 IFB Performers

- Black Market Brass (Afrobeat)
- Rince Nua Irish Dance (Irish)
- Voice of Culture Drum and Dance (West African)
- Hmong Cultural Center Qeej (Hmong)
- Bollywood Dance Scene (Indian)
- Batucada do Norte (Brazilian)
- Mu Daiko (Japanese)
- Alma Andina (South American)
- Socaholix (Caribbean)
- Roving Artist – Upstanding Stilts

Who: All ages
When: Saturday, July 16 • 3 – 9 p.m.
Where: Nicollet Commons Park
 12250 Nicollet Ave.
Cost: FREE admission

In addition to musical and dance performances, the festival will also highlight ethnic food; cultural exhibits; and a family activity area with henna tattoos, face painting and more. The “Tracks in the Snow: The Minnesota Muslim Experience Since 1880” art exhibit will be on display in the Ames Center Gallery. An artist’s reception is scheduled for Thursday, July 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Raffle tickets are on sale for \$10 each at Burnsville City Hall (100 Civic Center Parkway) and during the International Festival to support the event. Participants need not be present to win. The grand

prize is a round-trip airline ticket to any of the 48 continental states.

The International Festival of Burnsville would like to thank the following Platinum and Platinum Plus sponsors: Burnsville Lions Club, Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, Kraus Anderson Insurance, Comcast, the Minnesota Regional Arts Council and the City of Burnsville.

To find out more about the 2016 International Festival of Burnsville visit www.intlfestburnsville.org.

Fire Muster Festivities Set to Entertain

Four-Day Community Celebration Sept. 7-10



The Burnsville Fire Muster kicks off during the Walser Fire Muster Block Party and Family Day on Sept. 7.

For 37 years, the Burnsville Fire Muster has entertained multiple generations with music, carnival rides, activities for kids and adults, local food and drink, public safety demonstrations, and of course – the fire truck parade that started it all!

2016 will be no exception. This year, festivities will kick off with The Walser Fire Muster Block Party and Family Day (Wednesday, Sept. 7 at 4 p.m. – Nicollet Commons Park). This rocking end-of-summer party will include live music, food trucks, refreshments and more. Since the party starts early, attendees are welcome to swing by right after work.

The fun continues for three more days filled with activities and entertainment, including the Heart of the City 10K/5K Run/Walk (Saturday, Sept. 10 at 8 a.m.). Participation for this race has increased dramatically over

the past few years, and is expected to reach up to 500 runners/walkers in 2016.

Saturday’s festivities will also include the popular fire truck and community parades, again taking place back-to-back. The fire truck parade starts at 11 a.m. with the community parade following at 11:30 a.m.

As always, live music will also fill the stage in Civic Center Park on both Friday and Saturday night, as well as the annual carnival.

For a complete list of events, times and parade routes visit www.burnsvillefiremuster.org.

When: Sept. 7 – 10
Where: Most events at Civic Center Park
 Civic Center Parkway
Cost: Many events are FREE; Fire Muster Buttons can be purchased for \$5 (Buttons admit you to Fire Muster activities at Civic Center Park after 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.)

2016 Fire Muster Highlights

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Tuesday, Sept. 6
 (Pre-Fire Muster Activities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medallion Hunt | <p>Saturday, Sept. 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Truck Parade • Community Parade • Heart of the City Run/Walk • Fire Truck Water Display • Fire and Public Safety Demonstrations • Business Expo • Carnival • Live Music • Fireworks |
| <p>Wednesday, Sept. 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walser Block Party | |
| <p>Thursday, Sept. 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car Show • Beer Tasting | |
| <p>Friday, Sept. 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Truck Water Display • Business Expo • Carnival • Live Music | |

Volunteer Opportunities with the City

Residents of all ages – looking for something fun and different? Consider volunteering with the City of Burnsville.

Opportunities currently available include:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Mobile Volunteer Network | • Human Resources | • Walking Group Leader |
| • Park Pet Patrol | • Community Services | • Code Enforcement Administration |
| • Document Imaging | • Natural Resources | • Burnsville Community Television |

Visit www.burnsville.org/volunteer for more information or to apply, or call 952-895-4575.





Climate Resiliency GUIDE

City of Burnsville | 100 Civic Center Parkway | www.burnsville.org/sustainability | 952-895-4400



Pledge to Become Climate Resilient!

Climate Resiliency is the practice of dealing with challenges and impacts on the community that may result from climate change. This guide outlines current weather changes already observed in the Twin Cities, and provides steps you can take to be more climate resilient!

Impacts of Climate Change

Climate resiliency efforts are being undertaken at local, state, national and international levels to address areas that will likely be impacted by climate change. Some of these impacts include:

Hotter Summers

According to the Minnesota State Climatology Office, Minnesota's annual temperatures have increased at an average rate of .23 degrees F per decade since 1895, but at a much faster rate of .45 degrees F per decade since 1970. Although much of this warming has occurred during winter, summertime lows are also getting warmer. This makes it more difficult to stay cool, and increases the potential for heat-related impacts. The most up-to-date climate projections indicate that Minnesota can expect several more days per year with temperatures above 95 degrees by the middle of the century.

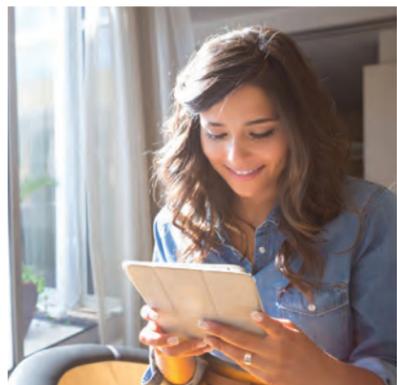
Excessive heat is more likely to affect populations in northern latitudes, where people are less prepared to cope. The body's cooling mechanisms are less effective when air temperature is higher than body temperature, and humidity is high.

1. Heat Exhaustion & Heat Stroke: Symptoms include headaches, dizziness, irritability, fatigue and loss of coordination. Heat stroke becomes a medical emergency when the victim experiences disorientation or delusions, unconsciousness or seizures. It can injure the liver and lead to kidney failure or death.



Stay hydrated during extreme heat.

Prevention/Tip: Reduce physical activity in the heat before experiencing symptoms. Hydrate with water or other nonalcoholic fluids. Check on vulnerable populations such as children, the sick and the elderly. Do not leave children and pets alone in cars for any amount of time. Cool off with water spray, a lake or pool. Spend time in air-conditioned locations such as malls and libraries. Use fans and open windows to circulate air if there is no air conditioning, but do not direct the flow of portable electric fans toward yourself when room temperatures are hotter than 90 degrees F. If you experience severe symptoms, get medical attention.



Stay indoors if air quality is low.

2. Heat Cramps: Symptoms include painful muscle spasms in the arms, shoulders and legs caused by extreme heat.

Prevention/Tip: Rest. Drink plenty of fluids that have electrolytes and salt. Seek immediate medical care if you experience severe symptoms.

3. Respiratory & Cardiovascular Disease: Pre-existing cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, including asthma, pneumonia and influenza are aggravated by heat.

Prevention/Tip: Stay indoors if air quality is low.

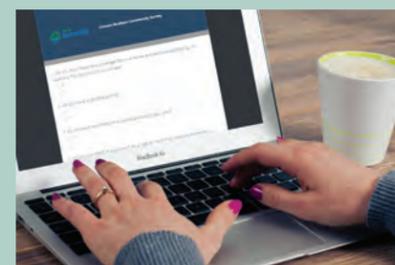
4. Heat Rash: Symptoms include flushed, pale or clammy skin caused by blocked sweat ducts.

Prevention/Tip: Keep cool. Avoid over-dressing. Wear breathable, light clothing.

Take the Climate Resilient Community Survey

To help the City better understand the needs of our community when it comes to climate resiliency, please take our short survey. Your answers will help us better prepare to help you in a time of need!

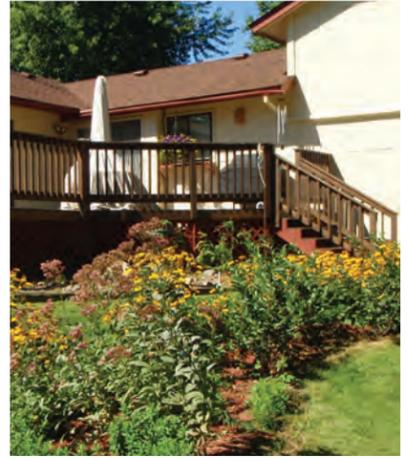
www.burnsville.org/climatesurvey



More Heavy Rain and Snow Storms

Heavy downpours in Minnesota are now twice as frequent as they were a hundred years ago. Intense or prolonged precipitation can be disruptive and even dangerous, causing falling tree branches or flooding. Scientists expect precipitation events like these to become increasingly common.

- 1. Pollution:** Intense storms can increase pollution and create health hazards. Runoff from driveways and lawns, construction sites and agricultural fields carry pollutants to water sources.
Prevention/Tip: Decrease the use of lawn chemicals, and consider planting rain gardens to reduce runoff and allow water to seep into the ground.
- 2. Soil Erosion:** Unlike historically light rains, intense rainfall does not easily absorb into the ground. Runoff erodes precious soil, and makes it difficult for crops and garden plants to endure. Extreme precipitation also softens the soil, making it easier for wind gusts to uproot trees.
Prevention/Tip: Mix compost into soil and plant deep-rooted native plants to increase infiltration.



Plant rain gardens to help reduce storm runoff.



Falling trees and branches can cause power outages and damage.

- 3. Power Outages:** Without power, refrigerators don't work and food will spoil. Without air conditioning, home temperatures increase to uncomfortable levels. Water becomes less accessible or contaminated.
Prevention/Tip: Have a back-up plan for power outages such as a friend or relative in a different part of the city or a generator. Make sure you have an Emergency Preparedness Kit available (see below).
- 4. Tree Damage:** Falling trees and branches can cause damage to streets, cars, homes and power lines.
Prevention/Tip: Trimming trees keeps them out of the way of power lines to help prevent outages.
- 5. Flash Flooding:** Heavy rainfall on solid surfaces can result in flash-flooding, causing water damage and dangerous conditions for drivers and pedestrians.
Prevention/Tip: Reduce the risk of flooding by diverting water to rain gardens or using permeable pavement, which allows water to soak into the ground. Help protect property by elevating equipment in basements and installing backflow prevention devices/sump pumps. While driving, avoid low spots with high flooding potential and do not attempt to cross flooded roadways.

Warmer Winters

Winter temperatures are expected to increase at a greater rate than summer temperatures.

- 1. Travel Delays:** Warmer winters mean that motorists can expect some winter snowfall to be replaced with freezing rain. This can lead to icy roads, downed trees and power lines, public transit delays and power outages.
Prevention/Tip: Allow plenty of time for winter travel. Prepare for winter driving by watching media reports the night before planned travel.



Plant native plants and trees adapted to the area's climate.

- 2. Changing Road Conditions:** Driving conditions can change significantly on pavement and bridge decks as temperatures hover around the freezing mark.
Prevention/Tip: Be aware of road condition changes and drive carefully.
- 3. Environmental Impacts on Plants/Animals:** Warmer winter temperatures will increase the presence of pests such as ticks, mosquitoes and the emerald ash borer. Some tree species are also slowly migrating north, meaning they may not be as resilient over the long run for planting.
Prevention/Tip: When spring arrives, make sure to use an insect spray when outdoors. Check with the State or City forestry departments to determine which tree species are best for your area.
- 4. Earlier Ice Outs:** Earlier ice outs and thinner ice can increase the danger of being on the ice in winter.
Prevention/Tip: Research ice conditions carefully before driving or being on the ice.



Warmer winters can result in poor road conditions.

Create an Emergency Preparedness Kit

Being prepared means being equipped with the supplies you may need during an emergency or disaster. Keep your supplies in an easy-to-carry emergency preparedness kit that you can use at home or take with you.

- Be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for 72 hours
- Water – one gallon per person, per day at a minimum
- Food – non-perishable
- Flashlight with extra batteries (or hand-crank)
- Radio with extra batteries (battery-powered or NOAA Weather Radio)
- First-Aid Kit
- Medications (7-day supply)
- Multi-purpose tools
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items such as toilet paper, etc.
- Cell phone with chargers
(fully charge cell phones before a predicted extreme weather event)
- Family contact information
- Maps
- Pet food – non-perishable, with extra water for pet



Photo Credit: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

AMES CENTER

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

The Chameleon Theatre Circle's presentation of Avenue Q

Black Box Theatre • Sept. 23 – Oct. 16 • See Ames Center Website or Box Office for Ticket Information

**Due to strong adult themes, this show is not recommended for those under 18*

Avenue Q is populated by puppets, but it is no neighborhood for kids. Rather, it's a place to learn about the struggles of adulthood – hilariously. This Tony Award-winning Broadway smash hit, co-created by Robert Lopez (also co-creator of *The Book of Mormon* and composer of songs in *Frozen*), is a breakthrough mix of puppetry, satire and earnest life lessons.



The Chameleon Theatre Circle's presentation of Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

Black Box Theatre • Nov. 4 – 20 • See Ames Center Website or Box Office for Ticket Information

**Due to strong adult themes, this show is not recommended for those under 18*

George and Martha's marriage is not what it seems, as Nick and Honey find out when the older couple invites them home after a party. A friendly gathering slides into mayhem and despair as relationships unravel. Liquor and insults flow freely in an atmosphere fraught with tension, emotional manipulation and seduction. The Chameleon Theatre Circle is proud to partner with Theatre Uncorked to present this well-known drama.



Rhythmic Circus: Red and Green

Main Stage • Dec. 16 – 17 at 7:30 p.m. • Ticket Information: \$62.50, \$42.50 & \$32.50

From the creators of *Feet Don't Fail Me Now*, Rhythmic Circus presents a brand new holiday experience. Combining their signature style of rapid-fire tap with music you know and love, this show leaves audiences excited with the joy of the holiday spirit. No holiday season would be complete without seeing these home-grown hoofers, along with their trunk full of tap shoes and seven-piece funk band.



Recreation Highlight:

Burnsville Skate Park Phase II Construction Underway



Rendering of Phase II upper deck addition.

Catching air, riding the bowl and grinding rails are what skateboarders have to look forward to when the Burnsville Skate Park re-opens in August.

"We worked hand-in-hand with park users to determine the most important features to the local skating community," said Dean Mulso, Burnsville Recreation Facilities Manager. "We're excited that this will open up more opportunities for a variety of skating styles."

The design is meant to seamlessly integrate with Phase I, which was completed in 2012. The new additions will make the Burnsville Skate Park a well-rounded park that accommodates all types of skaters at all ages and levels of ability. The skate park will remain a "Tier 1" park, which requires no on-site supervision.

"Both the City and the skaters are excited about the additions," said Kelly Hansen, Burnsville Recreation Supervisor. "We plan to continue the skateboard-related programming that started last year, and will look at the possibility of competitions and other events at the park."

With the construction schedule pushing into mid-August, Hansen said that there is a chance

the first session of the previously scheduled First-Time Skateboard Clinic will need to be pushed back a week. If residents have already signed up for that session, they will be contacted directly via email about any changes.

Plans are in the works for a re-opening celebration once construction is complete. Festivities will include a ceremony renaming the park to Burnsville Lions Skate Park. More information will be coming soon.

The total project cost is approximately \$260,000, with nearly \$100,000 coming from community donations. The Burnsville Lions Club alone donated \$95,000, and other community organizations and individual donors made up the rest. The City will cover the remaining cost from the Parks capital improvement budget.

For skate park construction, reopening celebration or skateboarding programming updates visit www.burnsville.org/skatepark.

The Burnsville Skate Park closed in mid-May to start Phase II construction. Skaters are asked to please stay off all equipment until construction is complete.

Once complete, the project will add 6,750 sq. feet to the existing Skate Park, including:

- Upper deck with an amoeba-shaped bowl ranging from four to six feet deep
- High-to-low frame with rail
- Various quarter pipes
- New terrain with urban plaza elements such as stairs, rails and block seating

Upcoming Events for Adults 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.



S.O.R.R. Grandparents, Grandkids & Seniors Day at Holz Farm

Experience the nostalgia of days gone by at the 1940s-era Holz Farm in Eagan. Seniors, grandparents and their grandchildren are welcome to reconnect to farm life in the 1940s. Activities include a hay ride, entertainment, family games and a picnic complete with roasted corn. Sponsored by the South of the River Recreators (S.O.R.R.)

When: Friday, Aug. 26 • 1 – 3:30 p.m.
Where: Holz Farm, 4665 Manor Drive, Eagan
Cost: \$7/person – max of \$50 for family of 8 or more
Registration deadline is Monday, Aug. 8



Be Clutter Free!

Burnsville seniors are invited to learn how to downsize before the snow flies during this seminar focused on decluttering. The workshop will feature advice on how to restore order to homes, as well as tips on how to let go of possessions. Participants will also get information on how to dispose of unwanted items and learn about local resources in the community.

When: Thursday, Sept. 15 • 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Where: Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Parkway
Cost: FREE
Registration deadline is Monday, Sept. 12

BURNSVILLE BUSINESS CORNER

Welcome to These New Burnsville Businesses

- Ascend Chiropractic & Wellness
- Baja Sol
- Black Diamond Engineered Products
- HealthPro Chiropractic
- Kapco Global
- MetroPCS
- Ride Auto Co.
- Techtrav
- The UPS Store
- Tiny Feet Boutique
- University Auto Sales

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.

Four Burnsville Businesses Named ‘Employers of Excellence’

Earlier this year, the City of Burnsville participated with the Dakota-Scott Workforce Development Board (WDB) for their inaugural “Employers of Excellence” program. The program is meant to help identify area employers’ best practices related to attracting and retaining employees, and recognize those who are the most successful in these areas.

The inaugural program saw 20 companies in Dakota and Scott Counties participate. Each participant was asked to complete a survey that measured employment practices such as turnover rates, growth, promotion percentages and benefit packages.

In addition to providing a personalized report on the data for each business, the program analyzed 37 different measurements to determine who would be named “Employers of Excellence.”

Participating companies were grouped into three categories based on number of employees. A total of nine businesses were recognized – including four from Burnsville!

Burnsville companies named “Employers of Excellence” were:

Small Business Category

- Banker’s Equipment Service, Inc., 11561 12th Ave. S.
- Custom Drapery & Blinds by Michael Esch, 1149 Riverwood Drive



Mid-Size Business Category

- Firefly Credit Union, 1400 Riverwood Drive
- Valley Natural Foods, 13750 Co. Rd. 11



Congratulations to these outstanding businesses!

Burnsville Community Home Show Sept. 24

Residents are invited to the Burnsville Community Home Show for inspiration on their next home project.

Participants will learn from the professionals during home improvement seminars, have an opportunity to visit with remodelers, enjoy fun activities with the kids and much more.



Who: All ages
When: Saturday, Sept. 24
 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Where: *NEW LOCATION
 Mary Mother of the Church
 3333 Cliff Road E.
Cost: FREE

Home Show Inspiration Awards

New this year, the Burnsville Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring “Home Show Inspiration Awards.” The Chamber is seeking Burnsville renovation success stories. Participants are asked to share their exterior or interior remodeling projects (DIY or professional) including kitchen, bathroom, basement, whole-house or exterior remodeling.

Application forms will be available July 1. Award winners will be announced during the Community Home Show Sept. 24.

For more information or to apply visit www.burnsvillechamber.com.

Update to City’s 2040 Comprehensive Plan Underway



In addition to Burnsville’s Heart of the City along Nicollet Avenue, other areas of focus for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan will include the Minnesota River Quadrant (I-35W and Highway 13), aging industrial areas and future Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit station areas.

State law requires that all cities and counties in the Twin Cities seven-county metropolitan area adopt a Comprehensive Plan. These plans provide a road map for communities looking 20 years into the future. In May, Burnsville began work on a major update of its existing 2030 Comprehensive Plan to help set the stage for the city’s growth and development into the year 2040.

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

Comprehensive Plans identify a community’s long-term vision, goals, policies, strategies and options for guiding future changes and investments. In Burnsville, this plan

will address future land use, economic development, transportation, City services/facilities, natural resources, housing, neighborhoods and youth initiatives.

Why is the City Updating Its Comprehensive Plan?

State law requires that Comprehensive Plans be updated at least every 10 years, and align with the Metropolitan Council’s regional system plans related to affordable housing, highways, transit, airports, wastewater services, parks and open space. Burnsville’s last major comprehensive plan update was completed in 2010. The City is required to complete this update, submit it to the Metropolitan Council for review and approval, and adopt it by the end of 2018.

What is the Process?

In general, the process will involve:

- A full review and evaluation of the current Comprehensive Plan
- Identification of specific issues that need updating
- In-depth exploration of the City’s primary areas of focus
- Facilitating community feedback and input

The City has hired planning consultants Hoisington Kogler Group Inc. to assist with the process. A review panel has also been selected, which consists of Planning Commissioners and other community members representing residents, businesses, youth, community services and visitors. The City expects the process to take 18 months, with anticipated completion in late 2017.

How can I get Involved?

Currently, the City and planning consultants are in the review and research stage – collecting data, updating existing plan maps, meeting with stakeholders and making site visits to focus areas. This review and evaluation is expected to last through the summer. The process will then shift to include more public engagement.

Watch for Comprehensive Plan “pop up” opportunities at events this year, and be sure to follow the City of Burnsville on Facebook and Twitter for real-time information.

Community members with questions or feedback can also provide them online, or sign up for email alerts at www.burnsville.org/2040.



facebook.com/cityofburnsville



twitter.com/burnsvillemn

Win the Buckthorn Battle

Buckthorn is an invasive plant species that has many negative impacts on the environment. Removing buckthorn is a challenge, but it's worth the fight to help local wildlife, prevent erosion and make woods more usable.

City Compost Site Open for Buckthorn Disposal

To help the many dedicated residents removing buckthorn, the City will open its compost site (for buckthorn disposal only) the **last weekend of every month June through September**. The compost site will also be open for buckthorn **every weekend in October**.

For a map to the compost site, images of buckthorn, removal tips and more information visit www.burnsville.org/buckthorn.

Who: Burnsville residents
When: June 25 – 26; July 30 – 31; Aug. 27 – 28; Sept. 24 – 25; Oct. 1 – 2; Oct. 8 – 9; Oct. 15 – 16; Oct. 22 – 23 and Oct. 29 – 30
Time: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Where: Behind the businesses at 121st Street and Pleasant Avenue
Cost: FREE

Neighborhood Buckthorn Pickup



Multiple hands make removing buckthorn a lot easier!

Residents are invited to team-up and organize a buckthorn removal project in their neighborhood. Groups can apply to the program and be approved for free pickup of their buckthorn piles.

Neighborhoods must apply and be approved to qualify for free pickup. A minimum of three homeowners must participate to be eligible. Pick-up options may also be available for individual property owners with large lots.

Applications are due by Sunday, July 31. For more information or to apply visit www.burnsville.org/nominate or call 952-895-4543.

Seminar: Take Back Your Woods



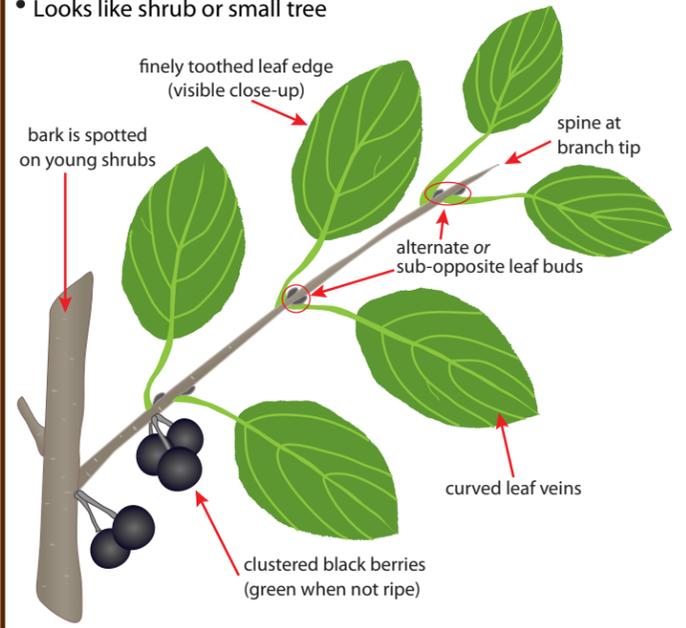
Cheryl Culbreth is an expert in woodland restoration.

This City-sponsored workshop will be led by Cheryl Culbreth of Landscape Restorations, Inc. Culbreth is an expert in woodland restoration. Participants will learn how to successfully remove buckthorn, how to bring back native plants and about the City programs available to assist with buckthorn removal.

Who: Burnsville residents
When: Thursday, Sept. 15 • 6:15 – 7:15 p.m.
Where: Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Parkway
Cost: FREE
Register online at www.burnsville.org/buckthorn

Buckthorn Identification

- **Leaves out early in spring** (before most native plants)
- **Leaves stay dark green and don't fall off until late fall** (much later than native shrubs and trees)
- Grows up to 10-20 feet tall
- Looks like shrub or small tree



Learn how to spot buckthorn in your yard.

Volunteers Needed for Storm Drain Stenciling



Storm drain stenciling is a fun group volunteer project for all ages.

Residents, work groups, community groups and just about anyone looking for a fun way to help protect local water quality should give storm drain stenciling a try!

Storm drain stenciling is a great group volunteer project. Many people are unaware that the water running into City storm drains goes directly into local lakes, rivers and wetlands – NOT a water treatment facility.

Using stencils, volunteers go out and spray paint messages such as "Dump No Waste, Drains to Lake" next to neighborhood storm drains. This sends a clear message that the water running off of roads and properties is headed straight to local water bodies. It

also helps communicate the importance of using water quality friendly practices in yards and neighborhoods.

Past participants have included church groups, scout troops, school groups and others. All that is required is time. The City will provide the stencils, paint and other necessary equipment.

For more information on storm drain stenciling and getting involved contact Burnsville Natural Resources at 952-895-4543 or caleb.ashling@burnsvillemn.gov.

Please Do Not Feed Ducks and Geese

Directly feeding or putting bird seed or other food on the ground for ducks and geese is prohibited by City ordinance. Feeding results in unnaturally large concentrations of waterfowl. This can cause water pollution and create unhealthy amounts of fecal bacteria in the water. Concentrations of waterfowl are also more prone to naturally occurring avian diseases. Ducks and geese have plenty of naturally occurring food, so for their health and for the health of the environment, please do not feed them.



Night to Unite Builds 'Paw-sitive' Community Connections

Starsky, Burnsville's Crime-Stopping Canine, Shares Experiences



Night to Unite (NTU) is an annual event designed to increase awareness of crime, drug and violence prevention, as well as strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

Burnsville neighborhoods have been organizing NTU parties for more than 12 years, and more residents and neighborhoods participate at each event.

In 2015, a very special newcomer was introduced to Burnsville's NTU – Starsky joined the Burnsville Police Department in late July, and his first official duty was to greet the community during NTU.

"My first experience with Night to Unite was completely 'paw-some,'" said Starsky. "I attended several parties throughout the night. It was a fun way to get to know Burnsville's residents."

While many NTU parties provide refreshments, a potluck or games/activities, neighborhoods are invited to create a party that will be most fun and effective for them. That could include collecting for a food shelf, beautifying a neighborhood common area, holding a bicycle parade or organizing a scavenger hunt. Neighborhoods can also request that a City volunteer visit the party for a quick CPR lesson.

Members of the Burnsville Police Department, Fire Department, City staff and local elected officials also visit parties to meet people, distribute

information and answer questions. Who knows, maybe even Starsky will stop by.

"I was 'bow-wowed' by all of the people brought together with the common goal of crime prevention and neighborhood unity," said Starsky. "Hopefully that unity continues throughout the year and helps my two-legged friends feel comfortable identifying and reporting issues that may arise in their neighborhoods."

NTU provides an opportunity to get to know people you may not connect with otherwise. It can be a great event for any neighborhood – from a large development, to a small cul-de-sac or a multi-unit housing building.

"New friendships can start by simply inviting people to a Night to Unite event – or hosting a 'furocious' event yourself," said Starsky. "Everyone benefits when neighbors know each other."

To register your party visit www.burnsville.org/NTU.

Who: All Burnsville neighborhoods are invited to host a party
When: Tuesday, Aug. 2 • 5:30 – 9 p.m.
Cost: Registering a party is FREE
Register parties by Monday, July 25



Starsky greets young party-goers.

Citizens Academy Offers Look Inside Police Department



Citizens Academy participants practice a mock traffic stop.

The Burnsville Police Department has a long-standing commitment to community-oriented policing – creating partnerships between law enforcement, community members, local nonprofits, private businesses and other community members. For nearly 10 years, the department's community policing efforts have included the popular Citizens Academy.

Citizens Academy is an 11-week course taught by Burnsville Police Officers that gives community members the opportunity to become familiar with police work and how the community can help prevent crime.

Topics covered include:

- History/tour of Burnsville Police Department
- Review of common police calls, laws of arrest and handcuffing procedures
- Functions of patrol, investigations, SWAT, physical evidence team, domestic abuse response team, negotiators, traffic and K-9 units
- Traffic stops and DWI demonstration
- Student involved scenarios, a Taser demonstration and using the indoor range (optional)

"The class gives people a different perspective of the things police departments do," said Sgt. Dan Anderson. "We offer real-life scenarios so people can see what policing entails."

The class is open to adults ages 18 and over who live or work in Burnsville. No prior experience is required, and the class typically includes a variety of people from different backgrounds.

"It's remarkable to see people come together from all walks of life," said Anderson. "It's a great chance for us to make connections and build relationships in our community."

Space is limited and enrollment fills quickly. Those interested in attending must complete an application online. Participants are asked to make a commitment to attend each session.

For more information or to apply visit www.burnsville.org/citizensacademy.

Who: Adults 18+ who live or work in Burnsville
When: Thursday evenings • Sept. 8 – Nov. 17
Where: Burnsville City Hall
 100 Civic Center Parkway
Cost: FREE
Registration deadline is Friday, July 8 at 4:30 p.m. or when class is full

Don't Miss the Call During an Emergency

Sign up for Emergency Telephone Notifications

Receive emergency alert calls directly to your cell phone by signing up for the Dakota Communications Center's Emergency Alert Program.

This mass telephone notification system is designed to quickly alert the public of emergencies that may affect their health and welfare – including evacuation notices or missing child alerts. Notifications are only sent during extreme emergencies, when deemed appropriate by local fire and police.

Please note that landline phones, which are part of the county's 9-1-1 database, are already included in this alert system – but residents must sign up to receive notification via cell phone.

Register online at www.mn-dcc.org and click "Community Notification."



Please Remember to Keep Dogs Leashed

Share the Sidewalks, Parks & Trails

Burnsville is for everyone – including many people who may not be comfortable around dogs. It can be startling to see an unleashed dog no matter how friendly. All dogs must be leashed in public areas (except designated off-leash areas).



Love 'Em? Leash 'Em

Leashes protect you and your dog from unexpected situations such as chasing after animals, running into traffic or getting lost. Leashes also allow you to control interaction between dogs who may not get along.

Designated Off-Leash Areas

Dogs are always welcome to roam off-leash in the Alimagnet Dog Park. Outdoor ice rinks may be used as off-leash areas during warm weather months. Learn more at www.burnsville.org/dogpark.