



City Of Burnsville

Bulletin

Winter • 2014 • Volume 24 • No. 1

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PARKING NOTICE:
Burnsville Does Not Allow Overnight Parking On City Streets From 2 to 6 a.m.



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

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City Meetings City Council

First and third Tuesdays of the month after the first Monday

City Council Work Sessions
Second Tuesday of the month after the first Monday

Planning Commission
Second and fourth Monday of the month

Parks and Natural Resources Commission
First Monday of the month

Economic Development Commission
Second Wednesday of odd-numbered months

Performing Arts Center Commission
Fourth Wednesday of odd-numbered months

Meetings are subject to change and cancellation. Unless noted, all meetings will be televised on Burnsville Civic Channel 16 and streamed at www.burnsville.org/meetings live.

I Volunteer

Burnsville Residents Volunteer For Many Reasons. What Will Yours Be?



A digital message featuring volunteer "Janelle." Look for the I Volunteer campaign this year throughout Burnsville.

The Burnsville Bulletin often features the great work done by City volunteers, but did you know that you too can volunteer for your City?

Amber Jacobson, Burnsville's Community Services Specialist, has been coordinating City volunteers for several years. She says that while current volunteers provide hours of valuable assistance, there are still many, many more volunteer opportunities available.

"The City needs more volunteers than it ever has before," said Jacobson. "More and more departments are using volunteers, and they still need additional help."

To help recruit those willing to donate their time, the City has launched the "I Volunteer" campaign. The campaign highlights the many reasons individuals volunteer, and includes a print brochure as well as a series of electronic messages in City Hall, on the City's website, on Burnsville Community Television Channels 14 and 16,

and on Burnsville's I-35W billboards.

"The City has always deeply appreciated and relied on its volunteers," said Jacobson. "It's our hope that more people will see these messages and will also want to say 'I Volunteer.'"

Volunteering Your Way

The City has volunteer opportunities to fit all types of skills, interests and schedules. Some

volunteers offer their services every week, but many only volunteer for a few hours each month. (See "Where Do You Fit?" for examples.)

"While many of the administrative opportunities take place during the day," said Jacobson, "opportunities like the Mobile Volunteer Network (which aides Burnsville's Police and Fire departments) take place during evening hours and weekends."

Volunteering Can Benefit You

Volunteering has many benefits. Like an internship, it can help build a resume – providing an opportunity to obtain real-world experience that can help you reach or explore your career goals.

"Volunteering with the Mobile Volunteer Network has not only been a great experience, but has also reinforced my desire to become a law enforcement officer," said one City volunteer. "I am now more excited than ever to pursue my passion of

working alongside officers and interacting with the community."

For those not looking to climb the career ladder volunteering can also provide a fun and flexible social environment. Retirees, stay-at-home parents and others looking to be a part of a team can volunteer to "stay connected" in a work environment.

Where Do You Fit?

The City provides a variety of volunteer opportunities. Which one is right for you?

- Data entry and letter writing
- Interpreter/translator
- Television production
- Property maintenance inspections
- Adopt-A-Planter Box, Park or Rain Garden program
- Storm-drain stenciling
- Monitoring, documenting and assisting with work in parks, wetlands and other natural areas
- Usher at the Performing Arts Center
- Police and Fire Department operations
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Mobile Volunteer Network (MVN)
- Neighborhood Watch

View more opportunities at www.burnsville.org/volunteer or call 952-895-4575.

Adopt-A-Hydrant

Burnsville Fire Asks for Residents to Help with Shoveling Neighborhood Fire Hydrants

When firefighters are digging - time keeps ticking.

During a fire, every second counts, and with this winter's snowfall, there are a few hydrants in Burnsville that have become a little hard to find.

Residents are encouraged to "Adopt-A-Hydrant" or two in their neighborhoods, and make sure they are accessible after each snowfall. By adopting a hydrant, you will be helping the Fire Department, your neighbors and yourself.

Burnsville's firefighters need a three-foot area clear of snow and ice around each of the City's fire hydrants, and a three-foot wide path leading to them from the street.

For more information contact the Burnsville Fire Department at 952-895-4550.



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: council@ci.burnsville.mn.us

Internet: www.burnsville.org

Cable Television: [Burnsville Community Television www.burnsville.tv](http://www.burnsville.tv)



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Burnsville Performing Arts Center to Become 'Ames Center'

The City of Burnsville and Ames Construction, Inc. have reached an agreement involving the naming rights of the Burnsville Performing Arts Center.

The facility – which includes a 1,014-seat main theatre, Black Box theatre, meeting spaces and art gallery – will officially become the “Ames Center” later this year.

As part of the \$1 million agreement, Ames Construction will pay the City \$100,000 for each of the next 10 years in exchange for name recognition in perpetuity. The facility will continue to be owned by the City and managed by VenuWorks.

Ames Construction has been a family-owned Burnsville business for more than 50 years. The company has made valuable contributions to the community in the past, including the donation of the Ames Sculpture on Burnsville Parkway in the Heart of the City.

Look for upcoming announcements and events regarding the newly named 'Ames Center' later this year. For more information visit www.burnsvillepac.com.



Burnsville's Performing Arts Center will become the "Ames Center" later this year



BURNSVILLE
Performing Arts
Center

Burnsville Performing Arts Center Events

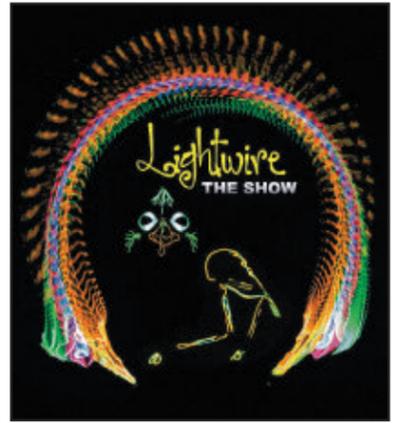
For ticket information visit www.burnsvillepac.com or call 952-895-4680.

Lightwire: The Show

Main Stage • Friday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Ticket Information: Orchestra Level \$40 • Balcony Level \$30

Audiences are invited to enjoy an epic adventure of endless possibilities during *Lightwire: The Show*. A signature brand of dazzling visuals; poignant storytelling; and creative use of classical, pop and film score music evokes exciting imagery. *Lightwire: The Show* features up to 60 characters, and will take audiences to a fascinating place where good and evil struggle to be a dominant force. It's a place where birds grow 16 feet tall, aliens exist and cats fight with light sabers. The show follows the story of an outcast young bird as he tries to come to terms with the strange power he has been given, which has resulted in banishment from his tribe.



1964 The Tribute

Main Stage • Saturday, March 15 at 8 p.m.

Ticket Information: Orchestra Level \$40 • Balcony Level \$30

Since the early 1980s, *1964 The Tribute* has been thrilling audiences all over the globe with what *Rolling Stone Magazine* has called the best Beatles tribute on earth. Choosing songs from the pre-Sgt. Pepper era, *1964 The Tribute* astonishingly recreates an early 1960s live Beatles concert with period instruments, clothing, hairstyles and onstage banter.



Spencers Theatre of Illusion

Main Stage • Thursday, March 20 at 2 & 7:30 p.m.

Ticket Information: Orchestra Level \$40 • Balcony Level \$30

Magic is no longer merely about baffling the audience by doing something seemingly impossible. Magic these days is about spectacle, drama, danger and personality. Kevin and Cindy Spencer are the masters of the new magic theatre, and have redefined the art of illusion by combining original theatrical elements with cutting edge illusions. Their peers have recognized them as “the best of the best,” naming them *International Magicians of the Year*, an honor they share with the likes of Copperfield, Henning, Penn & Teller and Criss Angel.



Burnsville Awards Six 'Community Builders'

Three individuals, two businesses and one community organization were recognized in October 2013 for making a lasting impact on the quality of life in Burnsville.

Members of the Burnsville City Council presented their 15th-Annual “Community Builder” awards to:

Bill Ganz, 360 Communities Volunteer

Ganz began volunteering with 360 Communities in 2007. Since then, he has volunteered more than 5,100 hours - primarily through leading the Burnsville Food Shelf and volunteering at the Eagan Lewis House.

Fay Finn, Independent School District 191 (ISD 191)

Finn is the Youth Service Specialist with ISD 191 Community Education. She has worked with thousands of Burnsville High School students to get them excited about volunteering. In a recent school year, Burnsville High School students recorded more than 9,000 volunteer hours. Finn was also instrumental in creating “BrainPower in a Backpack,” which provides weekend meals for students in need.

Ramsey Boyd, Manager of Colonial Villa

Boyd has taken it upon himself to improve the Colonial Villa Community in Burnsville. Through his actions, he has encouraged the property owners to fund a number of renovations and repairs. He has also worked tirelessly with Burnsville's Police and Fire departments to quickly address concerns, and bring the complex's aging buildings into compliance with fire and building codes.

Cornerstone Copy Center of Burnsville

Owners Daniel Mahowlad and Warren D. Mosier have a long history of donating services to multiple Burnsville civic groups and endeavors. Their efforts to support organizations and events with “in-kind” services or reduced costs have contributed greatly to the volunteer efforts of numerous Burnsville residents and businesses.

Options Family & Behavior Services - Brian Sammon

For 15 years, Options Family & Behavior Services in Burnsville has provided adolescent day services for teens who need help managing mental or chemical health concerns. They provide a safe place where youth can come to be heard, supported and challenged to rise above their current struggles.

Burnsville Lions Club

The Burnsville Lions Club has been serving Burnsville since 1966. In 2013, they donated funds for a number of community projects, including \$50,000 for new equipment at the Lions Playground in Cliff Fen Park; \$50,000 to Fairview Ridges Hospital, which will be used to refurbish two inpatient pediatric rooms with an “animal” theme; and \$20,000 in matching grant funds to support improvements at THE GARAGE youth center.

For more information on this year's award winners visit www.burnsville.org/communitybuilder. Nominations are accepted from the community and reviewed by the City Council. For more information on nominations contact Macheal Collins, City Clerk at 952-895-4490.



Burnsville's 2013 Community Builders were recognized at the Oct. 22, 2013 City Council Meeting.

Winter Programs for Seniors 62+

Snow Shoe and Nature Walk

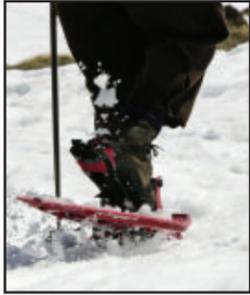
Take a snow shoeing lesson and learn about birds, deer and how animals adapt to winter. Warm up afterward with a cup of hot chocolate or coffee.

When: Thursday, Jan. 30 • 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Where: Terrace Oaks Park West, 12801 County Road 11

Cost: Free

Registration deadline is Monday, Jan. 27.



Chocolate & Hearts: How Sweet It Is

A 62+ Music, Magic and Chocolate Extravaganza

This Valentine's Day, treat yourself (or your special someone) to something more than just a greeting card. At this 62+ Valentine's Day celebration, your heart may melt, but the chocolate buffet certainly will not.

This celebration will include hors d'oeuvres and a chocolate buffet; "Golden Oldies" by the original beach boy, Bob the Beachcomber; a roaming magician and much more!

When: Friday, Feb. 14 • 3-5 p.m.

Where: Apple Valley Senior Center
14601 Hayes Road, Apple Valley

Cost: \$12 per person

Registration deadline is Friday, Feb. 7.

Register by phone at 952-895-4500, online at www.burnsville.org/recreation and click "Online Registration," or in person at Burnsville City Hall Recreation office, 100 Civic Center Parkway.



Make Television at THE GARAGE



This winter, THE GARAGE and Burnsville Community

Television (BCTV) have partnered to offer opportunities for area youth interested in video production.

Youth and teens who are members of THE GARAGE will be able to attend free video training sessions through BCTV, where they will learn to operate camera equipment and various editing techniques.

For more information on becoming a member of THE GARAGE visit www.THEGARAGE.net. For information on community television classes visit www.burnsville.tv.

THE GARAGE, the City of Burnsville's youth recreation center, offers high-quality, structured, supervised and enriching after school programs for young people in grades 6 - 12. Membership is \$5 and is good through the end of the summer. Transportation is provided to Burnsville residents, and a free snack or meal is provided daily. On weekends, THE GARAGE serves as an all ages music venue.



De-cluttering Your Home

For older adults struggling to get their home in order, this is an opportunity to get some professional advice. Jan Lehman, the owner of Can the Clutter (www.cantheclutter.com), will provide tips on how to get started, and how to let go of possessions. Find out about local resources to get rid of stuff for free or possibly even make some money.

When: Thursday, Feb. 20 • 11 a.m. - Noon

Where: Burnsville City Hall Council Chambers, 100 Civic Center Parkway

Cost: Free

Registration deadline is Monday, Feb. 17.

Recycling Mythbusters

What really happens to recyclables after they leave the curb? Should the cap on a pop bottle stay on or off? Hear the facts on "10 Common Recycling Myths," and get the inside scoop about new technology in the recycling industry. (Oh - and for those wondering, leave the caps on!)

When: Thursday, March 20 • 10 - 11 a.m.

Where: Burnsville City Hall Council Chambers, 100 Civic Center Parkway

Cost: Free

Registration deadline is Monday, March 17.

Grand 'Ol Carnival

Grandparents are invited to bring their grandkids to enjoy carnival games, open gym, arts and crafts, cookie decorating and more.

When: Thursday, March 27 • 1 - 4 p.m.

Where: Nicollet Junior High, 400 E. 134th St.

To register for any of these programs call 952-895-4575 or email amber.jacobson@ci.burnsville.mn.us.

Winter Recreation Highlight:

Playing In A Winter Wonderland

Outdoor recreation doesn't have to stop when the weather gets cold.

Outdoor Ice Skating - A Family Tradition



Outdoor ice skating is as Minnesotan as, well..., as outdoor ice skating! Many people embrace the cold weather as a chance to get outside and enjoy this activity that is more than 3,000 years old.

"More than 16,000 people have used Burnsville's outdoor ice skating rinks annually during the past few years,"

says Recreation Supervisor Kelly Hansen-Mundahl.

One of those people regularly out on the ice is 19-year-old local skater Luke Tucci.

Tucci says his grandmother taught all of her grandchildren how to skate on a rink near her home in North River Hills.

"We learned using a folding chair like many other children," says Tucci. "I spent most of my youth playing at the Northview rink until I couldn't feel my toes."

Tucci says he still tries to get out on the ice as often as possible, and regularly plays one-on-one or pick-up hockey with his cousin and other local skaters. Tucci's mother, father and sisters also enjoy skating, he says, so visiting the rinks is often a family affair. Though he occasionally skates in indoor arenas, he anxiously awaits the start of the outdoor skating season every year.

"There's no better feeling than gliding across a fresh sheet of ice in sub-zero temps," says Tucci. "While skating indoors has benefits, you can't beat being out in freezing temps playing hockey with your buddies."



Tucci takes to the ice on one of Burnsville's rinks.

Tucci hopes that more people will learn to love outdoor skating as much as he does, and he encourages people to give it a try. He believes that skating is an affordable sport that anyone can learn.

"Nobody is out there to judge you," Tucci says of people who might be embarrassed as they first take to the ice. "There are many different skaters of all skill levels, but you have to remember, we all started out the same way."



Outdoor Ice Rinks

Burnsville has 13 park locations that offer outdoor skating. Warming houses are located at 12 of those sites. Rinks are open during regular park hours (5 a.m.-10 p.m.), but rink lights are on, warming

houses are open and facilities are staffed only during specified hours.

The Recreation Department begins to assess weather and rink conditions in early February and may begin to close some rinks. The outdoor skating season will likely finish at the end of February.

For more information on Burnsville's outdoor skating rinks visit www.burnsville.org/rinks.

More Winter Activities

Cross Country Skiing

Burnsville has several groomed cross country ski trails that allow people to stay active while enjoying some of Burnsville's winter landscapes. Skiers can choose between the flatter trails at Alimagnet Park or the steeper, more challenging trails at Terrace Oaks West Park.

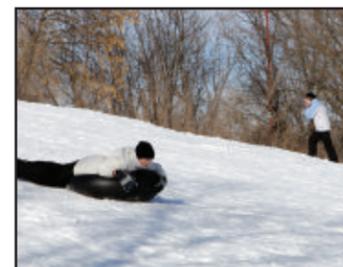
"Beginners and people looking for an easier ski experience should stick with Alimagnet," recommends Hansen-Mundahl. "Terrace Oaks can be tricky for those who don't cross country ski regularly."

A ski chalet at the west entrance of Terrace Oaks West Park allows skiers to stop by to change into, or out of their equipment - or just come in to warm up from the cold. Weather permitting, the chalet is open on weekends from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. December through February.

For more information on Burnsville's cross country ski trails visit www.burnsville.org/trails.



Cross country skiing offers a way to enjoy the scenery of Burnsville's parks during the winter.



A Neill Park sledder races downhill while others climb the hill for another ride.

Sledding

Kids and adults alike will enjoy speeding down Neill Park's famous sledding hill. WCCO News recognized it as one of the best sledding hills in the Twin Cities in 2012.

Walking/Snow Shoeing

Winter walking provides many of the physical benefits of cross country skiing and can be done casually or vigorously. Walkers are asked to stay off of the cross country ski trails for safety reasons, but there are still numerous walking locations available.

"Sunset Pond, Earley Lake and Crosstown West Park have some really nice landscapes," says Hansen-Mundahl. "But many of Burnsville's parks can provide enjoyment for winter walking."

For more information on winter recreation activities in Burnsville visit www.burnsville.org/recreation.

Look for the Spring "Recreation Times" in mailboxes in March.

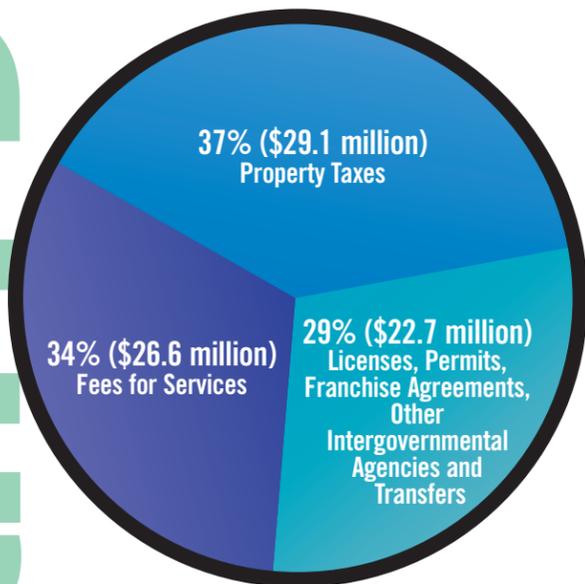


Burnsville City Council Adopts 2014 Budget

On Dec. 3, the Burnsville City Council voted unanimously to approve the City's 2014 budget.

In total, \$85 million dollars is needed to cover the City's operational, debt and capital (roads, buildings, vehicles, equipment, etc.) costs in 2014.

Of that \$85 million*, approximately **37 percent will come from the City's property tax payments, 34 percent from fees for services, and the remaining 29 percent from other revenue such as licenses, permits, franchise agreements, other intergovernmental agencies and transfers.** These dollars are used to provide important City services including police and fire protection, streets and utilities, water treatment and City parks.



City of Burnsville 2014 Sources of Revenue

*Additional \$6.6 million in budget comes from existing fund balance.

Tax Levy Increase Will Have Small Impact on Taxpayers

For 2014, the City increased its overall budget by approximately 6 percent from 2013. The portion of that increase covered by property taxes is 5.4 percent.

While that seems like a large increase, most of those funds will come in the form of NEW revenue for the City. (See graph below)

2014 Tax Levy Increase Primarily Supported by New and Redirected Revenue

Total Tax Levy Increase \$1.49 million 5.4%

Expiring TIF District \$1.14 million 4.1%

New Construction \$210,000 0.8%

Existing Taxpayers \$135,000 0.5%

With 4.1 percent coming from an expiring Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district and another 0.8 percent coming from taxes paid by new construction in Burnsville - only 0.5 percent (or an average increase of \$2.50 per month per household for the average home) will be felt by existing residential taxpayers.

Save the Date for the State of the City

Burnsville residents, business leaders and others interested in learning more about the future of the City of Burnsville – as well as taking a look back at 2013 – are invited to the community's annual State of the City Address on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

The event will be held at the Burnsville Performing Arts Center, 12600 Nicollet Avenue. The event, with keynote speech given by Mayor Elizabeth Kautz, is scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m. and is open to the public. A luncheon will be available after the Mayor's remarks at a cost of \$25.

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



Home Improvement Loans Available to Burnsville Residents



The Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) offers a Home Improvement Loan Program to assist low and moderate income

homeowners with making repairs and improvements to their homes.

These funds can be used for items such as home insulation, electrical and plumbing repairs, roof replacement, furnace replacement and other needed improvements.

The minimum loan amount is \$15,000, with a maximum of \$25,000 per homeowner. Loans feature zero percent interest and no monthly payments. They are due when the house is sold, or when the house is no longer the borrower's principal place of residence.

To qualify, applicants must own their home, have sufficient equity in the property, a satisfactory credit history and a gross annual income that does not exceed the limits listed in the chart on the right.

For more information or to request an application contact Mark Hanson, Rehabilitation Loan Coordinator, at 651-675-4469 or visit www.dakotacda.org.

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$45,100
2	\$51,550
3	\$58,500
4	\$64,400
5	\$69,600
6	\$74,750
7	\$79,900
8	\$85,050

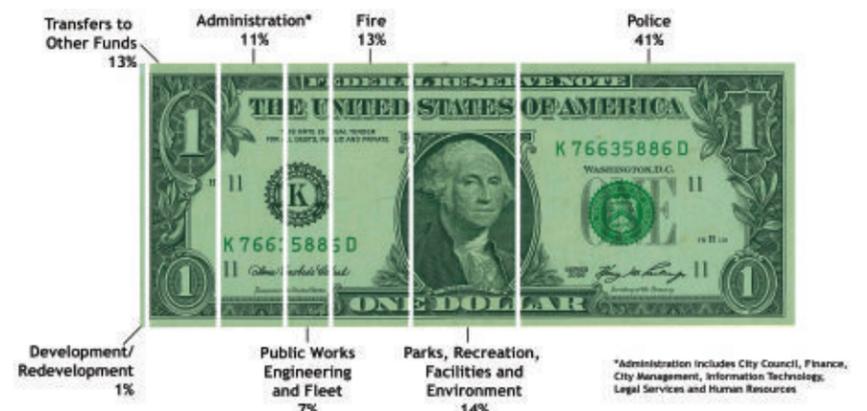
Highlights of the 2014 Budget:

- Because of a change in Minnesota State law, municipal governments (including the City of Burnsville) will no longer have to pay sales tax on many of their purchases. This will save the City approximately \$175,000 per year.
- The City plans to dedicate \$1.75 million to repair failing pavement on 10 miles of City streets. This new "maintenance overlay program" is in addition to the City's annual street reconstruction and resurfacing plan.

Where Do My Property Tax Dollars Go?

The City of Burnsville is one of several governing entities that rely on property tax dollars to provide core services. In addition to the City (42%), your residential tax dollars also go to Dakota County (29%), your local school district (23%) and other governing bodies (6%).

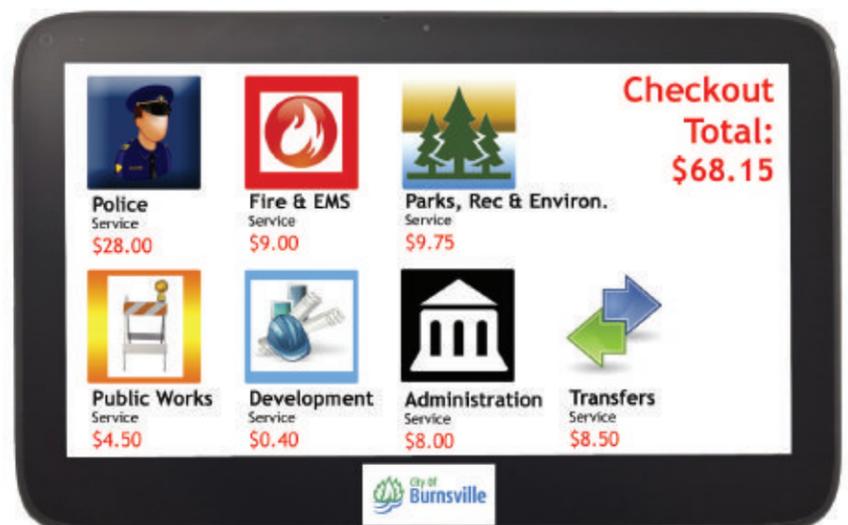
In 2014, the City of Burnsville (including the Burnsville Economic Development Authority) will collect approximately \$29.1 million in property taxes. Here's how that money is spent.



The City of Burnsville makes sure that its budget puts the highest priorities on the most important services to residents, businesses and visitors. Departments such as Police, Fire, Parks and Public Works account for 75 percent of the City's general fund budget.

Am I Getting a Fair Value?

If you were to break down the cost for services per home (based on the taxes paid on an average home worth \$191,200), your monthly bill would look like this:



As always, the City will continue to look for cost effective and efficient ways to deliver services, deal with challenges and keep Burnsville running smoothly.

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

2014 Residential Utility Rates

Did you know that Burnsville residents and businesses use more than two billion gallons of water each year? That's enough to fill more than 3,000 Olympic-size swimming pools!

When you pay your utility bill, you are paying for a number of services provided by Burnsville's Public Works and Utilities divisions related to fresh water delivery and waste water removal. In addition, your bill includes fees for sewer treatment services provided by the Metropolitan Council, and for other services such as street lighting, sidewalk snow plowing and storm drainage fees.

To meet continued, increasing demands on the City's utility infrastructure, residents will notice a slight increase in their 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.



Burnsville's Surface Water Treatment Plant captures and treats surface water from a local quarry, which is then mixed with ground water to ensure that the cities of Burnsville and Savage have plenty of clean drinking water.

Utility Rates/Charges

Services	2013 <small>(Indicates Average Household Cost/Month based on 5,000 gallons)</small>	2014 <small>(Indicates Average Household Cost/Month based on 5,000 gallons)</small>
Water	\$2.43 per 1,000 gallons (\$12.15)	\$2.54 per 1,000 gallons (\$12.70)
City Sewer	\$1.12 per 1,000 gallons (\$5.80)	\$1.09 per 1,000 gallons (\$5.45)
Met Sewer <small>(Regional Waste Water Treatment)</small>	\$1.92 per 1,000 gallons (\$9.40)	\$2.09 per 1,000 gallons (\$10.45)
Basic Charge	\$6.00 (\$2.00 for each service - Water, City Sewer, Met Sewer) (\$6.00)	NO CHANGE (\$6.00)
Storm Water <small>(Drainage and Surface Water Quality)</small>	\$6.78 per property (\$6.78)	NO CHANGE (\$6.78)
Street Lights	\$2.86 per property (\$2.86)	NO CHANGE (\$2.86)
Major Roadway Lighting	\$0.34 per property (\$0.34)	NO CHANGE (\$0.34)
Sidewalk Snowplow	\$0.95 per property (\$0.95)	NO CHANGE (\$0.95)
State Surcharge	\$0.53 per water connection (\$0.53)	NO CHANGE (\$0.53)
Penalty	1.25% of the amount due for late payment (1.25%)	NO CHANGE (1.25%)
Total Utility Bill	(\$44.81)	(\$46.06)

City, County and State Road Work Projects on Docket for 2014

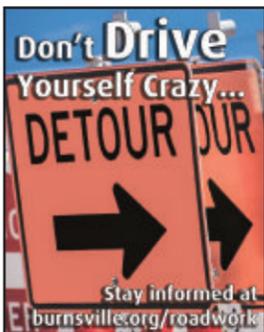
MnDOT

Interstate 35 (I-35) Concrete Pavement Repairs

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) will complete work on its concrete pavement maintenance project south of Burnsville in 2014. This will be the final phase of the project on I-35 between the I-35E/I-35W split and Elko, Minn. The remaining work is expected to take approximately three weeks.

For more information contact Kirsten.Klein@state.mn.us or 651-234-7506 or visit

www.dot.state.mn.us/roadwork/current.html for updates.



Dakota County

County Road 5/Highway 13 Interchange Project

Roadway improvements and utility work north and south of Highway 13 were mostly completed in 2013. Mainline work on Highway 13 is scheduled to begin in April 2014. Highway 13 is expected to be reduced to one lane in each direction for most of the construction season. County Road 5 access to and from Highway 13 will be closed much of this time.

County Road 5 and County Road 32 Resurfacing

Dakota County will resurface County Road 5 from Williams Drive to McAndrews Road; and Cliff Road (County Road 32) from West River Hills Drive to Slater Road in Eagan. These roads will generally remain open during construction, but there will be lane closures that will create occasional delays.

For more information contact hwy@co.dakota.mn.us or call 952-891-7100.

City of Burnsville

City Street Improvements

As part of the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), approximately \$10 million has been dedicated to reconstructing or rehabilitating six miles of aging City roadways in 2014. In Burnsville, street improvements are outlined in the five-year CIP. This plan prioritizes roadway improvements based on a variety of factors, including age and condition of the roadway and replacement schedules of utilities located under the street.

Several areas (labeled and shown on the map below) are being proposed for street work.

Reconstruction:

- Chateaulin/Parkwood South Area

Reclamation:

- Court Place

Rehabilitation/Resurfacing:

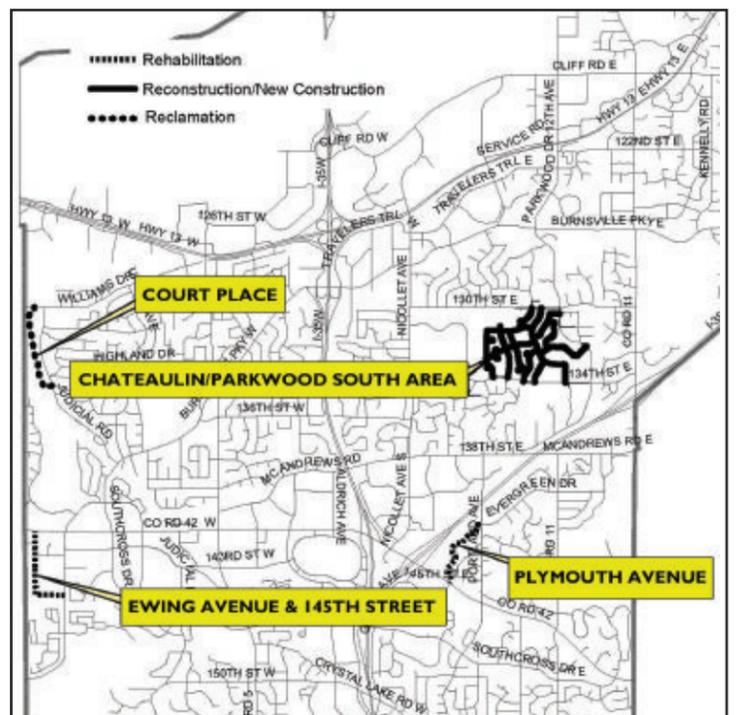
- Plymouth Avenue
- Ewing Avenue /145th Street

Residents in construction areas should have received information regarding a neighborhood meeting, which took place earlier this month. Those residents will also be invited to attend a public hearing in March or April when the projects are considered for final approval by the City Council. If a project is approved, construction will take place over the summer months. Residents who will be assessed for street projects in their neighborhood will have an opportunity to comment at a final project public hearing in September.

Maintenance Overlays

In 2014, the City will begin a new residential street resurfacing project known as "maintenance overlays." This program is expected to result in up to 10 miles of additional residential street resurfacing. The City is still determining the location of these street improvements. This program will help rehabilitate prematurely deteriorating residential streets that aren't in the CIP for street reconstruction in the near future.

For more information and to sign up for periodic updates on City road projects visit www.burnsville.org/streetrecon or call 952-895-4534.



City of Burnsville 2014 Proposed Street Improvements

Renew 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 your 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. The expiration date is printed on each tag.

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.

Burnsville Animal Control Offers These Services

- Adoption
- Food and emergency medical care for animals
- Investigation of bites and quarantine of animals for rabies observation
- Enforcement of animal control laws and investigation of animal complaints and reports of animal abuse

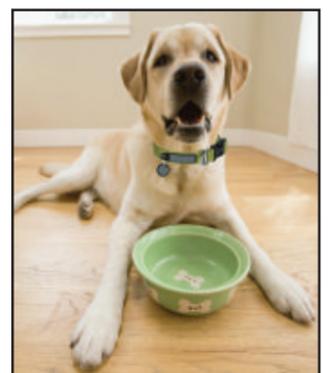
- Licensing of dogs, cats, chickens and ferrets
- Stray animal pick up, care and work to return strays to their owners

Burnsville's Animal Control office

(American Boarding Kennels - 1102 Highway 13 E., Burnsville) is open seven days a week,

Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Call 952-894-3647 for more information or visit www.burnsville.org/pets.



Airport Noise, Not Music to Your Ears?

The Minneapolis - St. Paul International Airport (MSP) is approximately 12 miles from Burnsville and provides residents with quick and easy access to air travel.

Unfortunately, along with the ease of travel and an economic boost to the area, the airport also brings some noise concerns.

“Fortunately, Burnsville’s impact from airport noise has been minimal compared to some other cities,” said Skip Nienhaus, Burnsville’s Economic Development Coordinator. “But, if residents do have a noise complaint, there is a process in place for them to be heard.”

Residents can register a complaint 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) by calling their hotline at 612-726-9411 or online at www.macnoise.com. The MAC collects and reports on aircraft noise for the entire region.

While residents can register a complaint with MAC, complaints alone cannot change how an airport operates. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has sole authority to determine where aircraft fly and how the airspace around airports is used. They use noise complaints in conjunction with other data to identify possible trends, which help gauge the level of concern about aircraft noise in a specific community.

For more information on airport noise or to learn how to file a complaint visit www.burnsville.org/airportnoise.

Did You Know?

An increase in aircraft noise complaints is seen during warmer weather. Not necessarily because aircraft are louder in the summer, but rather, because we have eliminated many sound barriers that block the noise in the winter. When the weather is warmer, we keep windows open and spend more time outdoors, making the aircraft noise more apparent.



New Sign Lights Up Civic Center Park

On a warm and sunny day in October, Civic Center Park got a facelift.

Specifically, the electronic sign at the west entrance (along Nicollet Avenue) was replaced with a new facade and sign that is more modern and environmentally friendly.

“We want community members to feel welcome at Civic Center Park and City Hall, as well as be aware of news and events in the City,” said Communications Coordinator Marty Doll. “The new sign will help keep residents informed, and enhance the aesthetics of the park.”

Energy, environment and light-emitting diodes

The new sign uses light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs rather than incandescent or fluorescent bulbs to light up both the sign and display messages. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, LEDs can be up to seven times more energy efficient than incandescent lights, and cut energy use by more than 80 percent. LEDs also contain no mercury and have a smaller environmental impact than incandescent and compact fluorescent lights.

LEDs are also incredibly long-lasting. WatchFire Signs, the company that manufactured the City’s sign, estimates that the LEDs will have a life of more than 100,000 hours – or 11 years – if left at full brightness (all white lights)



The new City Hall outdoor reader board will display messages about meetings and events happening in the City.

24 hours a day. However, even after all of those hours, the sign won’t just go black.

“The nice thing about LEDs is that they don’t burn out, they slowly begin to dim,” explained Steve Van Hout, Territory Manager for WatchFire Signs. “Even after 100,000 hours they will still be 50 percent as bright as they were originally.”

A Source of Information

The sign will display messages and pictures in full color, and will change regularly throughout the day. Messages will

typically include information about public meetings at City Hall, public events happening in Burnsville and City services.

There will also be limited opportunities for individuals and organizations to post messages on the sign. Welcome announcements for private events held at City Hall or in Civic Center Park and event announcements for

non-City sponsored public events taking place at a location outside of a City facility may be purchased for a fee.

Although the City uses many resources to disseminate information, including social media, the City’s website and print materials, the sign at Civic Center Park will provide another easy way for community members to stay aware of what’s happening in Burnsville.

Requests for messages on the sign can be made at www.burnsville.org/readerboard.

Burnsville Business Corner



Burnsville Development Update

Developers received final approval in November to build a **Hilton Garden Inn** in Burnsville’s Heart of the City (HOC).

Construction on the hotel, which will be built on vacant property adjacent to the HOC Parking Deck near the Burnsville Performing Arts Center, will begin in summer 2014.

Plans call for 100 rooms, conference facilities, a restaurant, pool and fitness center. The hotel is scheduled to open for business in summer 2015.



This photo of the Applewood Pointe of Roseville, Minn. at Langton Lake provides a glimpse of what the future Burnsville property will look like.

hobby/woodworking shops and great rooms with kitchens. The average price for a unit is expected to be approximately \$283,000.

“This area has been on our radar screen for a couple years,” Alex Hall, Vice President of Development for Untied Properties said of the Burnsville site. “Nearby amenities such as the CVS Pharmacy, the Burnsville Performing Arts Center and other businesses make the location appealing to prospective buyers.”

United Properties, LLC has plans to construct a 50-unit senior cooperative on land located at Burnsville Parkway and 125th Street in the Heart of the City. Groundbreaking for the **Applewood Pointe Senior Cooperative** will occur either summer 2014 or early spring 2015.

There are currently seven Applewood Pointe properties throughout the Twin Cities that attract active seniors with libraries, game rooms, fitness centers, craft rooms,

Heart of City, Nicollet Commons Park Named One of Six “Great Places” Award Winners

Burnsville’s “Heart of the City” and Nicollet Commons Park were named one of the Twin Cities’ “Great Places” by the Minnesota Sensible Land Use Coalition (SLUC) on Dec. 4.

The Heart of the City was one of six developments in the metropolitan area recognized at the inaugural ceremony. The development, which began to take its current shape in 2000, includes residential, retail and public spaces as well as a 1,014-seat performing arts center.

Nicollet Commons Park, located within the development, is one of the first “town square” style parks to be developed in the metro area suburbs. The park features a 250-seat amphitheater for concerts and events, open green space and a water feature.

Burnsville was the only suburban City out of 32 nominations to receive an award. Other award winners included:

- Bruce Vento Nature Center (St. Paul)
- The Loppet (Minneapolis Chain of Lakes)
- Midtown Global Market (Minneapolis)
- Piazza on the Mall (downtown Minneapolis)
- Rice Park (downtown St. Paul)

For more information on the awards visit www.sensibleland.org.



Accepting the award, (from left to right): Tina Goodroad, former City of Burnsville Heart of the City Planner; Jenni Faulkner, Burnsville Community Development Director; Burnsville Mayor Elizabeth Kautz; John Shardlow, Principal Consultant on HOC project; Geoff Martin, Nicollet Commons Park Designer; and Phil Carlson, Project Planner.

Welcome to These New Burnsville Businesses

- Advance Auto Parts
- CH Styles
- Mad Mouse Ink
- Metropolitan State University
- The Hair District

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

Free 'Blue Thumb' Workshops Offer Ideas for Native Plant Gardens



Going "blue" is catching on! Residents are invited to attend an introductory Blue Thumb Workshop to see how others in Burnsville have created native gardens, rain gardens and native shoreline stabilization projects that benefit local water quality.

The introductory workshops include samples of dozens of affordable designs that transform bland urban landscapes into beautiful retreats. They will also touch on financial incentives that are available for these projects. (See sidebar on right.)

When: Feb. 19 and April 10 at 6:15 p.m.

Where: Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Parkway

Burnsville residents can also attend the introductory workshop in:

- Apple Valley on Feb. 20 and March 19
- Lakeville on March 4
- Spring Lake Park on March 11
- Eagan on March 17
- West St. Paul on March 24
- Farmington on April 1

Registration is required.

Visit www.dakotacountyswcd.org/bluethumb.html or call 651-480-7777 to sign up.



Backyard rain garden with native plants.

Grant Money Available for Native Planting Projects

The City of Burnsville offers grants of up to \$1,000 to residents willing to add a rain garden or perform shoreline restoration on their property.

Individuals, neighborhood groups and community organizations can apply for these grants.

Application deadline is Monday, April 28. To download a grant application or for more information visit www.burnsville.org/WQGRANT or contact Daryl Jacobson at 952-895-4574 or daryl.jacobson@ci.burnsville.mn.us.

Help Prevent Bird/Window Collisions

Every year, millions of birds crash into windows.

This happens because they see the reflection of the sky or nearby vegetation in the glass, and try to fly toward it. Some windows are more prone to bird collisions because of their size, position and surroundings.

If you have noticed birds hitting one of your windows, consider implementing some of the following tips:

- Hang silver holographic "scare" tape or wind chimes on the outside of the window.



Nearby vegetation reflects in window glass.

- Place closely spaced Ultraviolet (UV) decals (sold at bird feed stores) on the outside of the window.
- Move bird feeders to within 2 feet of the window so that birds won't be moving fast enough to hurt themselves if they run into the glass.
- Close blinds and curtains to help reduce reflections.

Visit mn.audubon.org/birdsafe-homes for other tips and ideas.



Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*)

Recycle More at Home



Recycling is an easy way to help the environment and the economy.

It saves energy, conserves natural resources and prevents pollution. Additionally, recycling directly and indirectly supports 37,000 jobs in Minnesota, and adds nearly \$8.5 billion to the State economy.

However, a recent study estimates that nationally, people throw nearly 1.2 million tons of recyclables into the garbage each year. These are valuable materials—worth approximately \$285 million—being thrown away. The best way to prevent this is to know what can be recycled.

Burnsville residents can now go online to find out if they could be recycling more. New technologies mean that more things are recyclable than ever, so even for those who have been recycling for years, there is something new to learn.

Visit www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org/curbside, and click on a garbage company's logo to see an up-to-date list of the things that can and can't be put in a recycling bin at home.

Have questions about recycling? Visit www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org or call the Recycling division at 952-895-4511.

Are you recycling these often-forgotten recyclables?

- Plastic bottles from shampoo, conditioner, lotion or soap (rinse and put cap back on before recycling)
- Empty cardboard tubes from paper towel and toilet paper rolls
- Boxes from cases of pop or beer cans
- Glass jars that held pasta sauce, jam/jelly, baby food, pickles or mixed nuts
- Plastic jugs from laundry or dishwasher detergent
- Juice boxes and milk cartons



Water, Water Everywhere

Two New Ponds Designed to Improve Water Quality in Burnsville Lakes and Minnesota River

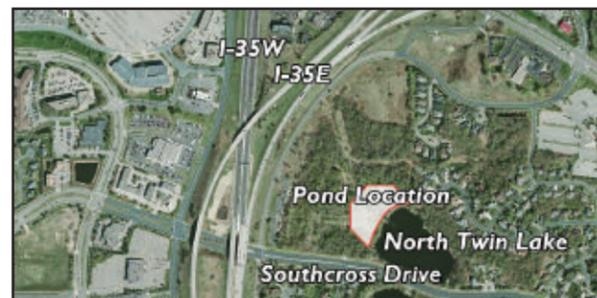
In the Land of 10,000 Lakes, two ponds may seem like a drop in the bucket. However, Burnsville's newest bodies of water—ponds near North Twin Lake and the County Road 5/State Highway 13 intersection—will have a large impact on water quality.

Ponds such as these are known as "water quality ponds" or "settling ponds," and they provide a natural way to filter pollutants from water before it makes its way from storm drains to lakes and rivers.

The idea is relatively simple. Rather than allowing water to run directly from streets to storm drains (and eventually to large bodies of water, while carrying pollutants such as phosphorous, pesticides and oils picked up from the street), water quality ponds provide a pollution buffer. Water is carried from storm drains to these ponds where pollutants are allowed to settle to the bottom instead of continuing on to the area's valuable water bodies.

"The City of Burnsville charges residents a Stormwater Utility fee, and many people may wonder where that money goes," said City Engineer Ryan Peterson. "The money goes toward projects like these water quality ponds that improve the whole community."

The 2.3 acre pond near North Twin Lake will filter water that flows into North Twin Lake and Earley Lake. Planning and designing the pond began in 2007 after the Minnesota Pollution



North Twin Pond is located near the Interstate 35E/35W split and Twin Lakes Park.

Control Agency placed Earley Lake on the "Impaired Waters List." The City of Burnsville has since completed several projects in the Earley Lake area to improve water quality, which allowed the lake to be removed from the list in 2010. The pond is the last planned water quality project in that area.



The pond in the Minnesota River Quadrant is located north of the County Road 5/State Highway 13 intersection.

The other 5.8 acre pond is located north of the County Road 5/State Highway 13 intersection in the Minnesota River Quadrant. It will clean water that flows into the Minnesota River. The pond is large enough to accommodate water runoff from current and future businesses, which will make further redevelopment in the area possible. Planning for this pond began in 2010, and it is the first of two water quality ponds that will be built in the area.

Crews began constructing the ponds last summer and finished in late fall. The completed projects will require very little maintenance, but the settled sediment will have to be cleaned out of the ponds approximately every 10 years.

Increasing water quality in Burnsville means these ponds will make a big splash in the community!

Burnsville Police Department Focuses on Core Values, Community



When Burnsville Police Chief Eric Gieseke refers to his Department's "Core Values," he is referring to more than just words on a logo.

"The core values for our Police Department are knowledge, integrity, honor, courage and excellence," says Gieseke. "And we truly assign meaning to those words."

That meaning, he says, is what sets the Burnsville Police Department's 75 sworn officers and 19 civilian employees apart from other law enforcement jurisdictions. With a deep devotion to its community members, a penchant for public partnerships and commitment to the highest quality of service – the Burnsville Police Department uses these five core values as its most basic, yet important template for police work.

"When our officers get into their squad cars each day, they are reminded of the five core values that we hold near and dear to our heart," says Gieseke. "They use those as a road map as a way you should conduct your business."

Burnsville Police Department's Five Core Values



Knowledge, according to Gieseke, is gaining an in-depth understanding of the area – and the people – the department is protecting. He says that "knowledge" goes beyond being familiar with a street map, but rather, getting to know the community and its culture on a personal level.

Integrity, he says, is doing the right thing all of the time, whether people are watching or not.

Honor is doing the small and large things that make a department and community proud.

Courage, always associated with police work, Gieseke says goes without saying. Burnsville's officers, like so many others in the law enforcement profession, put their lives

on the line, and are required to have the courage to do so without hesitation.

The final core value, **Excellence**, is achieved when an officer does the best job he or she can at all times, and exceeds his or her expectations as an officer.

Core Values in the Community

In addition to its normal patrols, the Burnsville Police Department puts these core values into practice through a variety of community-policing oriented programs:



Sgt. Jeremiah Mahler talks with a group of seniors in Burnsville.

BLUE in the School gives the department the opportunity to build and strengthen relationships within the City's elementary, middle and high schools. The goal is to make connections with students and staff, and help serve as positive role models.



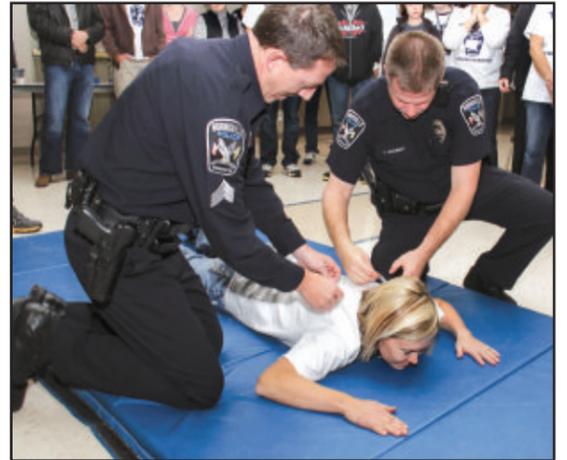
Sgt. Jeff Witte walks with students from Echo Park elementary during International Walk to School Day.

The **Multi-Housing Unit** works with 60 to 70 apartment managers on a weekly basis, discussing topics such as ongoing police calls, resident concerns, licensing

requirements and more. This relationship helps create a safer environment for renters, who then know the police department is there to serve, protect and answer any questions they might have.

The **Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART)** works directly with victims of domestic violence. Officers are assigned to specific cases, and then spend time following up with each victim to connect them to needed advocates and resources.

The **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)** works on maintaining a positive interaction when dealing with individuals with mental health issues. The goal is to develop a trusting, working relationship between the individuals and the department so they can feel comfortable in their interactions and asking for help.



Captain Jeff Behnken (left) and Community Resources Officer Chris Goodreau (right) demonstrate apprehending a suspect at a recent Citizens Academy course.

The Burnsville Police Department and Burnsville Community Television have created an eight-minute video titled "We Are the Burnsville Police Department" that provides first-hand accounts of the Department's successful use of its core values. The video can be viewed at www.burnsville.org/police by clicking "About Us."

From Trainer to One of the Team



Not too long ago, Doug Nelson was teaching incident response courses to a number of area firefighters.

Of course, some of his students were from the Burnsville Fire Department. Nelson says he was amazed by their camaraderie, and by how highly they spoke about Burnsville. He says that interaction was one of the biggest reasons he chose to make Burnsville his new firefighting home.

Nelson joined Burnsville in October 2013 as Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal, bringing more than 25 years of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) experience with him. He says he knew, even before graduating high school, that he wanted Fire and EMS to be a part of his career plan.

"In my senior year of high school, I took a class called Opportunity Emergency Care, and within three days I knew this was the type of work I wanted to do," Nelson shared.

Nelson started his career with Chisago Lakes (Minn.) Rescue in 1988. He then attended Harding University in Searcy, Ark. and worked as an Emergency Medical Technician for White County, Ark.

When he returned to Minnesota in 1990, Nelson again worked with Chisago Lakes Rescue and became a paid-on-call firefighter for Spring Lake Park/Blaine/Mounds View (SBM) (Minn.) In 2002, he was hired as a full-time

Fire Inspector/Firefighter for the City of Blaine, where he worked until coming to Burnsville last fall.

"I was really happy in Blaine," Nelson said, "but you don't always get an opportunity to help build a proactive inspection program," which is what Burnsville had to offer.

"With 9,000 rental units, and 70 percent of them being older, non-sprinkled buildings, it is our top priority to come up with a workable plan to get every building up to code and keep it up to code," said Nelson. "I'm excited to be a part of this."



Doug Nelson is sworn in as Burnsville's newest Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal.

Burnsville Officer Brad Litke Honored as 'Exceptional Officer' by Dakota County

On Nov. 27, 2012, Burnsville Police Officer Brad Litke was dispatched on the report of a missing person.

Upon arriving at the person's home, he learned that the individual had been acting strangely recently, and had not contacted his girlfriend or children in a few days.

Officer Litke followed up on a number of leads, and eventually was able to track down the individual's location using cell phone data. Soon after, he found the individual asleep in his vehicle with self-inflicted wounds to his wrist. Because of Officer Litke's quick police work, this individual was taken to the hospital, and his life was saved from an attempted suicide.

In September 2013, Officer Litke's actions were recognized by the Dakota County Chiefs of Police Association when he was awarded their "Exceptional Officer Award." He was touted for his persistence and commitment to the investigation, which very well may have saved a man's life.

Congratulations Officer Litke on a job well done!



Officer Brad Litke (left) and Burnsville Police Chief Eric Gieseke.