

# Park Perspective

Summer 2026

[www.stlouisparkmn.gov](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov)



Find out about our native plant sale and other summer programs on page 7.

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This is the official city newsletter of the City of St. Louis Park. It's printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper in an effort to meet the city's environmentally preferable purchasing policy.

## Annual St. Louis Park FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

June 16, 5 – 7:20 p.m.  
Details on page 5.



## Your next election is August 11, 2026



The state primary election is on Aug. 11, 2026. Your vote will determine who will be on the ballot in the November general election. Your ballot may contain state, federal and county offices that require a primary election based on the candidates who file for office.

Voting is easier if you plan ahead. The five steps to voting in 2026 are:

### 1. Make a plan to vote

- Know key election dates.
- Decide when and where you will vote (early by mail, early in person at city hall or on Election Day).

### 2. Register to vote

- Check your registration and make any updates.
- New to St. Louis Park? Register at your new address.

### 3. Find your polling place

- Note that your polling location may change. Check before you vote: [pollfinder.sos.mn.gov](http://pollfinder.sos.mn.gov)
- Want to vote before Election Day? Come to St. Louis Park City Hall or request a ballot to vote by mail.



### 4. View a sample ballot

- Sample ballots are available 46 days before each election (June 26, 2026).
- View the candidates that will be on your ballot.

### 5. Go vote!

- Vote before Election Day at St. Louis Park City Hall or through the mail by absentee voting.
- Vote on Election Day at your polling place. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.



### Vote before Election Day in person or by mail

For the 2026 state primary election, you can vote before Election Day at St. Louis Park City Hall. Voting services at city hall are for St. Louis Park residents only.

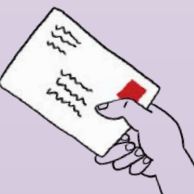
- June 26 – Aug. 10, 2026, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday

Extended hours for voting before Election Day at city hall are also available on the following days:

- Saturday, Aug. 8, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 10, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

You can also vote by mail. You must first apply for an absentee ballot. There are several ways you can apply to have a ballot mailed to you:

- Apply online at: [bit.ly/mail\\_ballot](http://bit.ly/mail_ballot).
- Print and mail a paper absentee ballot application.
- Contact the elections office to have an absentee ballot application mailed to you.



If you have questions regarding the state primary election or voting, visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/vote](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/vote).



## Parktacular is June 18 – 20!

Wolfe Park and The Rec Center, 3700 Monterey Dr.

- Friday, June 19:** Splash Into Summer Pool Event from 5 – 8 p.m.
- Saturday, June 20:** Grand Day Parade from noon – 2 p.m.; food trucks from noon – 9 p.m.; Business Expo, Kidtacular and Ecotacular from 1:30 – 6 p.m.; Rock the Park Concert from 6 – 9 p.m.

Learn more at [www.parktacular.org](http://www.parktacular.org).

## Fireworks Celebration is July 3!

Aquila Park • 7 – 10:30 p.m. • Fireworks begin at 10 p.m.

Have a night to remember with family and friends at one of the best fireworks shows in the Twin Cities! Enjoy a DJ, kids events and food trucks from 7 – 10 p.m. Rain date is July 9.

Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/events](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/events) for more details.



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# Stay informed


To talk to someone in person, visit city hall at 5005 Minnetonka Blvd., during business hours, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Can't make it out? Call the main number during business hours at 952.924.2500 or try one of our many online resources.

For city events, activities, schedules and news updates, visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov), sign up for text and email notifications through govDelivery, or follow us on social media.

The city council meets regularly at city hall the first and third Monday of the month at 6:15 p.m. with study sessions the second and/or fourth Monday at 6 p.m. More info at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/city-council](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/city-council).

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Make service requests or receive city information via the app  or visit [www.mystlouispark.org](http://www.mystlouispark.org).

## Update on city response to federal actions

In early April, the St. Louis Park City Council discussed the use of automated license plate readers (ALPRs) by the St. Louis Park Police Department. Residents who are interested in learning more about how the city's ALPRs are used can visit the city website to view both the transparency portal and the ALPR policy used by the police department.

The city has continued its involvement as a founding member of the Cities for Safe and Stable Communities Coalition, now with more than 30 members. This included supporting the state omnibus tax bill that included \$2 million for a one-time reimbursement mechanism for documented costs cities incurred due to federal enforcement actions. While ultimately this portion of the tax bill didn't pass, cities built strong relationships through the Coalition and learned there is strength in numbers.

The city has developed resources for the public to stay informed about current federal actions and how the city is responding. Visit the Federal Action Updates page on the city's website at [bit.ly/Fed-Updates](http://bit.ly/Fed-Updates) to stay informed on current events, read FAQs or find support resources and service providers for help on a variety of topics, including immigration.



## St. Louis Park Police Department is hiring!

The City of St. Louis Park is focused on hiring and retaining a highly competitive and skilled workforce that reflects a wide range of backgrounds and experiences while demonstrating a commitment to serving all residents with expertise and respect. We invest in you so you can invest your time and energy into the St. Louis Park community! Learn more and apply at [bit.ly/be-an-officer](http://bit.ly/be-an-officer).

- **Competitive pay:** \$89,039 – \$122,355
- **Hiring bonuses:** \$10,000 lateral hires and \$5,000 new hires
- **Numerous special assignment opportunities**
- **Continuous professional training and development**






## City council set new strategic priorities

Since 1995, St. Louis Park has turned to its residents every decade to ask: What kind of city do we want to be in 10 years? Following a year of deep community conversation through our Vision 4.0 initiative, the council has officially adopted five new strategic priorities. These priorities will guide our city's budget, services and long-term planning through 2036.

These priorities are rooted in the feedback of approximately 1,600 residents who participated in surveys and small-group discussions between March and September 2025. This outreach intentionally sought out diverse perspectives, including youth, renters and BIPOC residents, to ensure our future reflects everyone who calls St. Louis Park home.

### Our five strategic priorities

The council has committed to focusing city resources and efforts on these five core areas:

-  **A Welcoming, Safe Community:** Creating an inclusive, equitable and vibrant city where everyone feels safe and experiences a true sense of belonging.
-  **Good Governance:** Delivering reliable services, using city resources responsibly and operating with the transparency you deserve.
-  **Connected, Safe Infrastructure:** Maintaining reliable neighborhoods and public spaces that connect people and places, with an emphasis on walking, biking and transit.
-  **Diverse, Affordable and Dignified Housing:** Ensuring a quality range of housing options that are affordable and attainable for all.
-  **Climate Leadership and Natural Spaces:** Leading the way in caring for our planet while maintaining dynamic parks that connect people with nature.

### Next steps

This spring and summer, city staff will work with a consultant to develop a strategic plan. This plan will include specific goals and measurable metrics to ensure we are making real, trackable progress toward these priorities every single year. To learn more about the Vision 4.0 process and see the full report, visit [bit.ly/visionSLP](http://bit.ly/visionSLP).

## Introducing the city's online budget book

The City of St. Louis Park started its fiscal year 2027 budget planning this May. Residents can mark their calendars for key public budget dates:

- **August 3:** Council reviews the first draft of the general fund budget.
- **September 8:** Presentation of the 10-year capital improvement plan to the city council.
- **September 22:** Council considers the preliminary property tax levy.


### A new look into city finances

In conjunction with this year's budget process, the finance team is proud to introduce its new online budget book. The budget book is an interactive tool offering a new look at how public dollars are allocated to support city services, invest in infrastructure improvements and build a stable financial future for the city.

Without visiting city hall or attending a meeting, residents can explore dedicated landing pages for each city department that include:

- **Key performance indicators:** See the why behind spending.
- **Budget to actuals:** View spending across the city.
- **Take a deep dive:** Access financial policies, city-wide spending reports, revenue projections and historical financial information.

To view the online budget book, simply visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov), and go to the City Budget tab under the finance department.


**NOW HIRING!** Experience LIFE in the Park as a City of St. Louis Park paid intern or full-time employee! Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/employment](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/employment) or scan the QR code today!



Left to right: Behavioral Health Officers Nordrum and Lewis and social worker Leidy Cortes Arrington.

## Addressing behavioral health: More than just statistics

Mental and behavioral health is increasingly prevalent and touches people in every community. It's seen in the high school student experiencing anxiety in class, the seemingly successful neighbor who recently lost their job, the 80-year-old man with early-stage dementia and in those who quietly struggle alone. The St. Louis Park Police Department has witnessed firsthand the increase in individuals needing more support through their daily work and calls for service.

In 2024, the department launched its Behavioral Health Unit to more effectively address and respond to mental health, behavioral health, and substance use challenges seen in the community. The unit is led by officers Don Lewis and Erin Nordrum, along with an on-site social worker. Together, Officers Lewis and Nordrum bring more than 50 years of experience, including work on the department's crisis negotiation team, but that alone is not why they were selected for the job or why they have been so successful leading the unit. Lewis and Nordrum have a strong passion for helping people through moments of crisis, and their life experiences allow them to connect with individuals in a genuine, compassionate way during some of the hardest times in their lives.

*"I want to express great gratitude for your mental health officers Erin Nordrum and Don Lewis. They have been a consistent support and presence through our daughter's mental health crisis. Officer Nordrum stayed with us, making sure our daughter was safe, getting help and having a plan for recovery. As parents, she coached us and gave us perspective and strategies on how to support our daughter without interfering, respecting her boundaries, but assuring us she was safe. She called our daughter regularly to check on her recovery and safety. They were available to her as support from the initial police call, to the crisis intervention to the home recovery. Both officers have been a lifeline of support for our daughter and us. They have been our angels."*

— Excerpt of thank you note from St. Louis Park residents to the SLPPD. Identities withheld to protect privacy

The success of the program isn't something you can fully capture with statistics and numbers alone. While it might seem like there would be fewer calls for service as more people get the help they need, the department is actually seeing the opposite — and that's what they expected and hoped.

"Through the BHU, we are breaking down barriers and building trust within the community. We see individuals now feeling more comfortable to contact us in times of need or crisis," explained Officer Lewis. "We have people we have never worked with contacting us, as well as those who we have already worked with reaching out again for help. This new comfort and trust gives us the opportunity to have more successful outcomes, both short-term and long-term."

Successful outcomes often begin with the first interaction. Officers Lewis and Nordrum are able to spend the kind of time with people that patrol officers often can't — time to build trust, recognize concerns, and truly understand what someone needs and what the best next step should be. When hospital transports are needed, they do more than simply drop someone off. They remain with the individual to make sure doctors, nurses or other staff fully understand their situation and story — something that can easily get lost or not communicated when simply dropping someone off. They've built relationships with hospital staff, helping ensure

individuals receive more informed treatment, better resources and stronger support. Officers Lewis and Nordrum's involvement and commitment don't end there. They continue to speak with hospital staff, family members and the individuals themselves, checking in on their well-being and supporting the progress they are making.

"Our evaluation of the BHU's success may not be seen in simply decreasing the number of mental health calls, but maybe in the ability to save a life or help someone create a better future moving forward," Officer Nordrum said. "By building relationships and connecting people to the right resources, we hope to make a small dent in the increasing demand for mental health support, one call or step at a time. From the heartfelt feedback and thanks we have received since starting the unit, there is no doubt in my mind that it has been a success."

Through their dedication, compassion and ability to think beyond traditional approaches, the Behavioral Health Unit team are making an impact that reaches far beyond the individuals they serve. They're also supporting family members and friends — people who have often done everything they can, but may not have had the resources or new ways to connect and truly help their loved ones.

In the future, as the police department continues to see the program's success, it hopes to expand the program and add additional BHU officers and social workers. Having additional team members would increase their ability to connect individuals with the support and resources they need quicker and help more people experiencing mental and behavioral health issues.

### Alternative response medic teams up with BHU

In 2025, the BHU began teaming with an alternative response medic from the St. Louis Park Fire Department to assist with medical-related calls. The presence of a paramedic provides an added layer of support, as they bring advanced medical training beyond what officers and other first responders typically have. This allows them to identify medical concerns that might otherwise go unnoticed, such as improper medication combinations, and connect individuals with additional resources.



Scan the QR code to watch a video featuring the alternative response medic and behavior health unit team speak more about what they do.

## Sign up for Citizens' Police Academy

Get an inside look at what it's like to be a St. Louis Park police officer and learn about the police department's role in the community as well as the training and resources that go into effective community policing. Citizens' Police Academy classes take place over 10 consecutive weeks, Sept. 3 – Nov. 12, on Thursdays from 6 – 9 p.m. at the St. Louis Park Police Department (no class Oct. 15). Fifteen applicants will be accepted to attend. Dinner is provided at each class. Potential participants must agree to a basic background check.

Registration will be open July 27 – Aug. 21. Learn more at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/police-academy](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/police-academy).



## Summer public safety and community events

The St. Louis Park Police Department is excited to connect with the community this summer at fun events for all ages. Join us at Fishing with a Cop, Skateapalooza, Basketball in the Park and National Night Out. Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/events](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/events) for dates and information.



Groundbreaking on Terasä, a new mixed-use, mixed-income development.

## Community development department updates

Exciting news! The city has brought together the building and energy and community development departments into one unified community development department. This change combines closely related services such as building permits and inspections, housing and property maintenance, planning and zoning and sustainability into one team, making it easier to coordinate work and better serve residents, businesses and development partners.

This update follows a comprehensive review of building and energy operations and is part of a broader effort to improve efficiency, strengthen collaboration and enhance customer service across the city. There are no immediate changes to how you access these services, but you may begin to see updates to the city’s website and communications reflecting the new department name.

## Welcoming Week is Sept. 10 – 19 in St. Louis Park

Launched in 2012 by Welcoming America, Welcoming Week provides individuals and organizations the opportunity to bring together neighbors of all backgrounds to build strong connections and affirm the importance of welcoming and inclusive places in achieving collective prosperity. This will be our city’s second year participating.



For the City of St. Louis Park’s Welcoming Week celebration, the community will be invited to participate in daily opportunities to “Be a Welcomer” in your neighborhood.

Businesses are also welcome to participate by requesting free “We are Welcoming” window clings from [rei@stlouisparkmn.gov](mailto:rei@stlouisparkmn.gov).

Stay engaged on the city’s website and social media pages for more information on St. Louis Park’s Welcoming Week celebration in September!



## Is your property at risk of flooding?

Many people don’t think about flood insurance until it’s too late, but rainfall and flooding events will likely continue to get more extreme.

Here are some facts you should know:

- Since 2001, widespread rains of more than 6 inches are four times more frequent than in the previous three decades in Minnesota.
- Rainfall events of more than 3 inches have increased 65% since 2000 in Minnesota.

If you’re wondering what the flood risk is for your property, contact the community development department at 952.924.2588 or visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/floodplain](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/floodplain).



WOW Mobile Metal Lab at a public workshop funded by the Arts & Culture Grant.

## Arts and Culture grant applications

The Arts & Culture Grant Program is a collaborative program between the City of St. Louis Park, St. Louis Park Friends of the Arts and Park Public Schools & Community Foundation. The program makes grant dollars available every year for music, visual arts, theater, film, multimedia, dance and other art projects. It provides funding for new arts programs that support community pride, connect artists and the community and engage people in creative learning.

Artists, arts groups, students, community groups, and neighborhood, cultural and religious organizations are encouraged to apply. Applicants do not need to live in St. Louis Park, but projects must take place within the city. Applications are open July – Sept. Grants will be awarded in December. Learn more at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/arts](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/arts).

## New deferred loan program

The St. Louis Park deferred loan is administered by the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE). The program offers loan amounts from \$2,000 - \$30,000 with no monthly payments, deferred for 20 years. Work may not begin until after the loan is closed and your property value cannot exceed \$445,000 based on the most recent estimated property tax value. Income limits apply, household income cannot exceed 80% AMI. Visit [www.mncee.org/st-louis-park-deferred-loan](http://www.mncee.org/st-louis-park-deferred-loan) or call 612.335.5884 for complete eligibility and loan details.



## A reminder about sprinkling restrictions

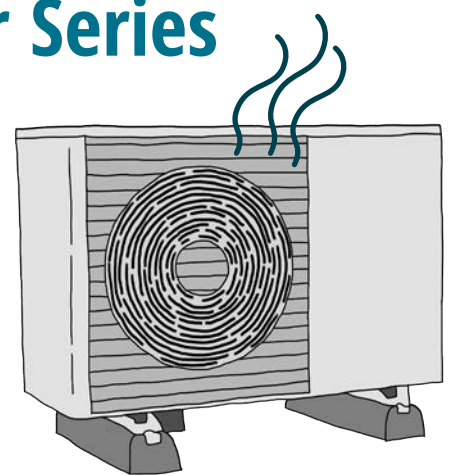
To conserve water, St. Louis Park prohibits lawn sprinkling (watering) between noon and 6 p.m. Also, all households and businesses must follow an odd/even schedule when sprinkling lawns. Properties with addresses that end with an odd number sprinkle on the odd numbered days on the calendar; properties with an address that end with an even number sprinkle on even-numbered days.

Exceptions: new sod or seed; newly planted shrubs, trees and landscaping; and flower gardens are exempt from the odd/even schedule. Watering should still be done outside of the prohibited hours.

Questions? Contact public works at [operations@stlouisparkmn.gov](mailto:operations@stlouisparkmn.gov) or 952.924.2562.

## Learn How to Electrify Your Home: Webinar Series

Are you interested in installing a heat pump to heat and cool your home efficiently with clean electricity? Planning to replace an old appliance soon? Learn how to upgrade home appliances to efficient, electric alternatives at a free two-part webinar series with Electrify Everything MN and the cities of Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and St. Louis Park on June 9 and 17 at 6:30 p.m. Register for the webinars today at [electrifyeverythingmn.org/events](http://electrifyeverythingmn.org/events).





# Fire Department Open House

Tuesday, June 16, 5 – 7:20 p.m. | Fire Station 1, 3750 Wooddale Ave. S.

Come interact with your community partners for an evening of fun and safety education for all ages! Don't forget to bring non-perishable food donations for community food shelf support.

## Displays and activities:

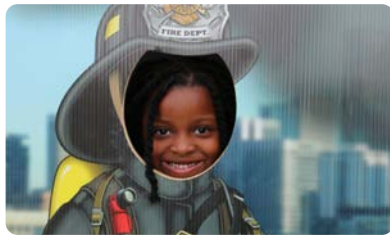
Fire trucks and equipment • kitchen safety • meet the firefighters • emergency preparedness • police, sheriffs and squad cars • squirt house • Community Emergency Response Team • first aid • public works crews and equipment • EMS bike patrol • fire and life safety information and tips • community partners • Park 'N Play Van • St Louis Park city departments

## Demonstrations:

Grease fires • hands-only CPR • fire extinguishers • grand finale burn rooms

## Food:

Hebrew National hot dogs • chips water • popsicles



# Volunteering in St. Louis Park

Itching to get out and do some good in the community this summer? The city offers plenty of volunteer programs for you to choose from! Pick up trash in our parks, keep a local street clear of litter and debris, maintain a city flower garden, adopt a hydrant near your home or find another opportunity that best suits you!

Learn more about the many ways to get involved in St. Louis Park and fill out an interest form at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/volunteer](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/volunteer).

# Adopt-A-Drain

St. Louis Park residents are encouraged to adopt a storm drain near you, committing to keep it clear of leaves, trash and other debris. These efforts reduce the chance of flooding in the event of heavy rains and cut down on waterway pollution. Visit [mn.adopt-a-drain.org/map](http://mn.adopt-a-drain.org/map) to sign up.



# Funding available for neighborhood organizations

Turn your community-building ideas into reality! Neighborhood organizations can apply for funding through the city's Neighborhood Grant Program, which supports projects and events that bring neighbors together. Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/neighborhoods](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/neighborhoods) to learn more and apply.



Improvements made by a St. Louis Park business using city grant funding.

# Storefront grant available for small businesses

The St. Louis Park Economic Development Authority (EDA), along with Hennepin County, established the Façade Improvement Grant Program to help eligible businesses and property owners make lasting physical improvements to their buildings and enhance the overall aesthetics of Historic Walker Lake business district, CedarLou Corridor, Minnetonka Boulevard, Excelsior Boulevard and 36th Street areas.

Grant funds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and all projects receiving funding must be completed by Dec. 31, 2026. This grant requires a 1:1 match from the applicant. The program is subject to funding availability from the City of St. Louis Park and Hennepin County's Love Local Storefront initiative. For more information, contact Jase Pater at [jpater@stlouisparkmn.gov](mailto:jpater@stlouisparkmn.gov).

# No-cost courses for local businesses

Whether you're an entrepreneur with a new idea, an established business or a growth-minded enterprise navigating high-stakes challenges, Elevate Hennepin's Group Learning offers cohort-based programs designed to support you at every stage. In partnership with local business strategy experts and national leaders, these award-winning programs provide the tools, guidance and connections needed to help your business grow. Explore all available cohorts at [elevatehennepin.org](http://elevatehennepin.org) or contact Jase Pater, [jpater@stlouisparkmn.gov](mailto:jpater@stlouisparkmn.gov) for more information.

# One- and two-bedroom public housing waiting lists open soon

The two-bedroom public housing waiting list will open Monday, June 15, at 8 a.m. and close Wednesday, June 17, at 4 p.m. The one-bedroom public housing waiting list will open Monday, June 29, 8 a.m. and close Wednesday, July 1 at 4 p.m. Applications will be accepted online only at <https://housing.slpmn.us>. Translation is available in 60 languages. Applicants must meet income and eligibility requirements. Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/rental-assistance](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/rental-assistance) to learn more.



# Human Rights Award recipient

The 2025 Human Rights Award has been awarded to the PTO organizations within the St. Louis Park School District for their contributions to the community during Operation Metro Surge. These organizations stepped up and took care of students and members of our immigrant families who needed assistance during this time. From organizing mutual aid, ride shares, connecting to resources and so much more, they exemplified what it means to be pillars in the community and took a stance when it was desperately needed.



# Summer construction and transportation project updates

Below is an overview of some of the current and upcoming construction projects in St. Louis Park. Get more details about projects near you and sign up for email updates at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/construction-updates](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/construction-updates).

## Cedar Lake Road and Louisiana Avenue Improvements

The final year of this three-year project has begun this spring! Construction will take place on Louisiana Avenue between BNSF railroad and Fire Station #2 and on Cedar Lake Road between Rhode Island and Kentucky avenues.

Access to local businesses, parks and homes will be maintained throughout the construction. Please follow posted detours to get to your destination.

To learn more, visit [bit.ly/RedoCedarLou](http://bit.ly/RedoCedarLou).

## MnDOT I-394 and Louisiana Avenue project

MnDOT is reconstructing I-394/Louisiana Avenue interchange to reduce congestion and improve traffic flow. For more information, visit [www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i394stlouispark](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i394stlouispark).

## I-94 and I-394 between downtown Minneapolis and Hwy 100

MnDOT will continue repairing bridges and ramps along I-394 and I-94 between downtown Minneapolis and Hwy 100. This work is expected to last through fall 2026. For more information, visit [www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i94-i394minneapolis](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i94-i394minneapolis).

Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/construction-updates](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/construction-updates) to learn more about projects near you and to sign up for updates. Call 952.924.2656 with questions.

## Navigating a roundabout



### Drivers

- Slow down when approaching a roundabout. For multi-lane roundabouts, as with any intersection, get into the appropriate lane.
- Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists in the crosswalk. It's the law.
- Yield to vehicles already in the roundabout. Merge into the traffic flow when it is safe.
- Continue through the roundabout until you reach your exit. Do not stop or pass in a roundabout.
- Exit the roundabout immediately if an emergency vehicle approaches, and then pull over. Do not stop in the roundabout. Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists in the crosswalk when exiting the roundabout.
- Give large trucks extra space in a roundabout. Large trucks may straddle both lanes while driving through a multi-lane roundabout.



### Bicyclists

- Ride with traffic inside the roundabout or use the crosswalks appropriately.
- Follow the same rules as vehicles when riding with traffic and yield when entering the roundabout. Since traffic is slower inside the roundabout, bicyclists should be able to travel at or near the same speed as motorists, staying in line with the circulating traffic.

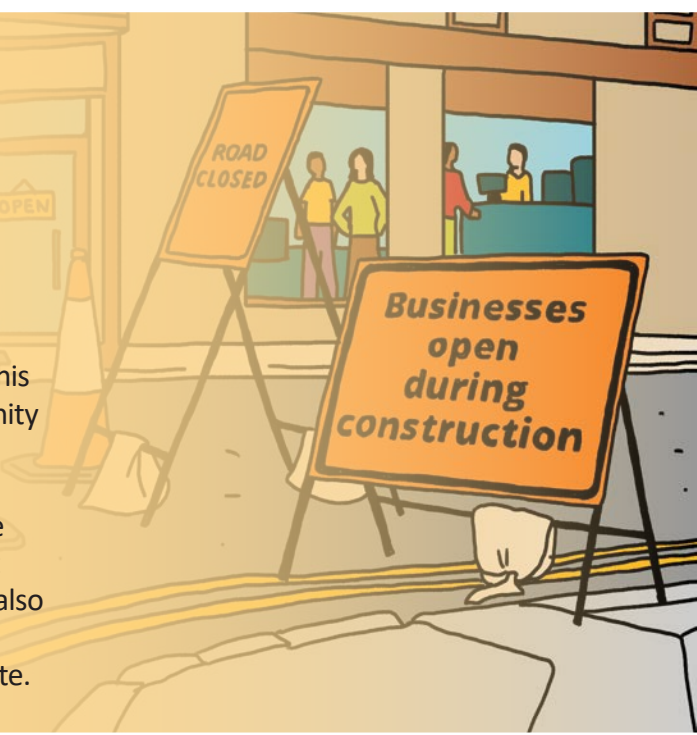


### Pedestrians

- Cross only at crosswalks, and always stay on the designated walkways.
- Never cross to the central island.
- Cross the roundabout one approach at a time. Use the median island as a halfway point where you can check for approaching traffic.

## Businesses open during road construction

Businesses remain open during road construction and continue to serve customers with minimal disruption. This is a great opportunity for the community to show support! By shopping local, dining out and visiting as usual, you help businesses stay strong during the construction period. Your support not only helps maintain momentum, but also ensures these businesses continue to thrive long after the project is complete.



## Testing has begun along the Green Line Extension corridor!

Light Rail Vehicles (LRVs) will be active on tracks between Minneapolis and Eden Prairie. During testing, LRVs will be moving slowly to verify that all mechanical and electrical components are ready. Stay aware and stay safe; pay attention to all railroad crossing gate arms and warning lights. Trains can come from either direction at any time.



## June 23 open house: Oxford Street and Louisiana Ave corridor improvements

The city plans to modernize and reinvest in the Oxford Street and Louisiana Avenue corridor. The roadways, bridge, drainage, pedestrian and bicyclist facilities, and utilities are aging, and improvements can be made to better meet the needs of the community. Community involvement will help us understand how people use the corridor and what matters to them.

You are invited to an open house Tuesday, June 23, from 4:30 – 6 p.m. at the Municipal Service Center, 7305 Oxford Street. Project team members will be there to answer questions and discuss your ideas.

Visit [bit.ly/renewoxfordlou](http://bit.ly/renewoxfordlou) for details. More information will be posted as plans take shape.

## Turn small scraps into big impact: Join St. Louis Park's organics program

Weekly collection of food scraps and compostable material is available to residents with city collection at no extra cost. A brown-lidded organics cart will be provided to households that sign up, and will be picked up weekly on the same day as your garbage.

Organics drop-sites are available to residents in multifamily buildings in the city that do not have organics collection on-site. These residents can sign up to dispose of their food scraps and compostable material through this program at no extra cost.

How does the organics program work? It's as easy as 1, 2, 3:

- 1. SORT IT:** Separate your food scraps (including fruits, vegetables, meat, bones, dairy and bread), coffee grounds and napkins to be composted.
- 2. BAG IT:** Put your organics in a certified compostable bag, provided by the city, or brown paper grocery bag.
- 3. DROP IT:** Place bagged organics in your brown-lidded organics cart (if you have city collection) or bring to a multifamily drop-site for collection.

Every banana peel, coffee filter and veggie scrap you compost helps reduce waste and enrich our soils. Give it a try, you might be surprised at just how much you're throwing away! Sign up for the organics program and learn more about what is accepted at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/organics](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/organics).

## Rainwater rewards

The city's Rainwater Rewards Program offers funding to residential property owners who install projects that do at least one of the following:

- Protect and restore stormwater by capturing pollutants in rain runoff
- Increase the watershed's ability to store water
- Preserve and restore native plant and wildlife communities
- Protect and preserve groundwater quality and quantity

Program benefits include cost share of 75% of the project cost up to \$3,000. Project examples include rain gardens, rain barrels, permeable pavement and green roofs.

Applications are accepted all year, first-come, first-served. Learn more at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/rainwater-rewards](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/rainwater-rewards) or contact Erick Francis, water resources manager, at [efrancis@stlouisparkmn.gov](mailto:efrancis@stlouisparkmn.gov) or 952.924.2690.

## Stop the FOG (fats, oils and grease)

Don't dump fats, oils and grease into your kitchen drain or elsewhere. After being poured down the drain, these liquids solidify over time. Eventually, they will cause a sewer backup in your home and/or the city sewer mains, requiring costly and time-consuming repairs. Instead, collect them in a heat-safe glass jar or in a can, then throw it in the garbage after it has solidified.

## Drinking Water Report available July 1

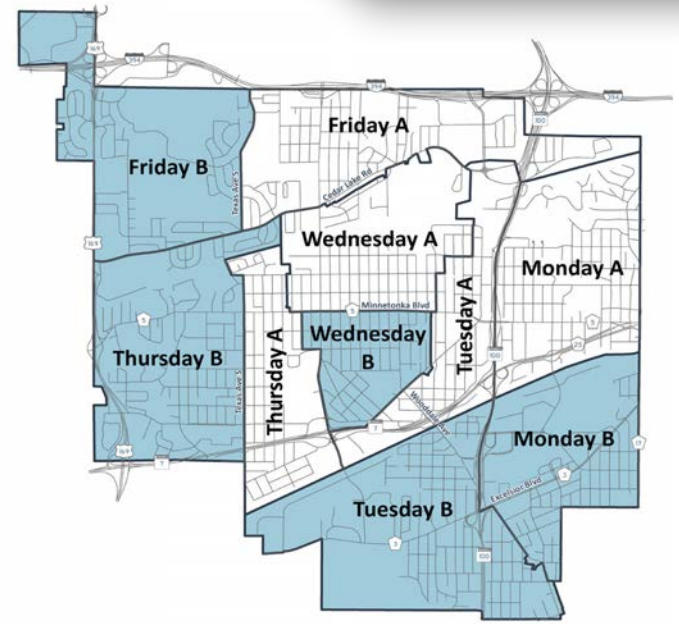
Starting July 1, paper copies of the City of St. Louis Park's 2025 Drinking Water Report will be available to request at city hall or the Municipal Service Center. To have a copy mailed to you, call 952.924.2186. The report will also be available to read or download online at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/drinking-water-report](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/drinking-water-report). This report contains drinking water monitoring results from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2025, for the City of St. Louis Park. The city's drinking water continues to meet or exceed Minnesota Department of Health and Environment Protection Agency requirements. The purpose of the report is to give you information on your drinking water and provide ways to protect our precious water resources. Drinking water standards protect Minnesotans from substances that may be harmful to their health. Contact public works at 952.924.2562 or [operations@stlouisparkmn.gov](mailto:operations@stlouisparkmn.gov) with questions.

July 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



## Know your recycling day

For your convenience, the next four months of the recycling schedule are provided above. Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/recycling](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/recycling) to download a yearly calendar, find your collection day or sign up for email reminders.

- If your normal service falls on or after a holiday, you will receive service one day later. Collections are delayed one day all week after holidays that fall on a week day. Collections are not delayed for holidays that fall on weekends.
- Report missed pickups within two days of collection day to:

**Garbage/recycling:** 952.226.6457, [SLP@buckinghamcompanies.com](mailto:SLP@buckinghamcompanies.com)

**Organics:** 952.941.5174, [SLP@republicservices.com](mailto:SLP@republicservices.com)

**Yard waste:** 612.405.9579, [SLPyardwaste@trashcontractors.net](mailto:SLPyardwaste@trashcontractors.net)

.....> Our yard waste hauler (formerly Waste Container Systems) changed their company name to Trash Contractors. Their phone number will remain the same, but their email has changed.

- This calendar applies only to properties with city-provided recycling. Multifamily buildings are required to offer recycling to their tenants. Check with your building management or email city staff at [recycling@stlouisparkmn.gov](mailto:recycling@stlouisparkmn.gov) if you have questions about recycling collection at your building.

## Pollinate the park: native plant sale

Help our pollinators by creating a native plant garden in your yard or add to your existing pollinator-friendly landscape. Flats of plants offered are specifically designed for St. Louis Park and for a variety of environments. Discounts will be available for St. Louis Park residents. Ordering begins June 15. For more details or to order, visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/pollinate-the-park](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/pollinate-the-park).

Plant pickup will be Aug. 15 from 8 – 11 a.m. and Aug. 17 from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Municipal Service Center, 7305 Oxford St.

## Fall tree sale

The fall tree sale is back by popular demand! The sale is open to all St. Louis Park residents. Those who did not purchase a tree through the 2026 spring tree sale will have the opportunity to order a tree before the sale opens to all residents. Trees are \$35 each and up to three trees can be purchased for planting on private property in the city. Residents are responsible for planting the trees on their property. Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/trees](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/trees) to learn more.

Important dates: The online preview of trees available begins July 11. Ordering for residents who did not get spring sale trees opens July 25 at 8 a.m. Ordering for all residents opens on Aug. 1 at 8 a.m. Trees are picked up at the Municipal Service Center, 7305 Oxford St., on Saturday, Sept. 26, 8 a.m. – noon, or Monday, Sept. 28, 5 – 7 p.m.



# CAN'T MISS SUMMER EVENTS



## Trail of Small Wonders

Opening Day Festival is July 13 from 4:30 – 8 p.m.; trail is open July 13 – Aug. 1 at Westwood Hills Nature Center

Experience the magic of nature alongside enchanting tiny dwellings. Attend the opening day festival or come on your own to explore the trail!



## National Night Out

Tuesday, Aug. 4, 6 – 9 p.m.

National Night Out is an annual community-building event aimed at creating safer, more connected neighborhoods and communities and building police-community partnerships. Register your neighborhood party to request street closures and attendance by police or other city staff by July 28 at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/national-night-out](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/national-night-out).

## SHARE YOUR STORY!

“On Oct. 15, 2025, I proposed to Hannah at Westwood Hills Nature Center. She said yes! Both Hannah and I are St. Louis Park residents who live less than a mile from each other. We look forward to tying the knot in July 2026!”

Whether it's a sweet memory like this one, a favorite activity or a newfound passion, your story can inspire others. Share your story by completing the form by scanning the QR code or visiting [bit.ly/my-park-memory](http://bit.ly/my-park-memory).



## PARK 'N PLAY MOBILE REC



The Park 'N Play mobile rec program will bring outdoor games, crafts and other fun activities to different places in the city for youth to enjoy for free all summer long. Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/mobile-recreation](http://bit.ly/mobile-recreation) to see where it will be.



## PENNY CARNIVAL

July 24, noon – 2 p.m., Recreation Outdoor Center

Gather all your coins for fun games, music and more! Games and activities cost up to five cents per play. Refreshment coupons may be purchased for \$1. Cash only. Due to a penny shortage, all coins will be accepted for play; however, cash-to-coin exchanges will not be available.

## Endless events to enjoy this summer

Visit [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/events](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/events) to learn more about all of these summer events.

### Rollin' at the ROC

Whether you're a pro on wheels or just starting out, join us for fun on the rink and great music at the ROC from 6 – 8 p.m. on select Thursdays each month through Sept. 24. Special lessons and vendors will be offered throughout the summer. See the full schedule at [www.stlouisparkmn.gov/events](http://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/events).

### Juneteenth Event Series

Hosted by St. Louis Park Community Education, St. Louis Park Parks and Recreation and Hennepin County Library, our event series is a celebration of freedom, resilience and cultural heritage with events around the city from June 15 – 18.

### Summer concert series

Free outdoor evening concerts each week June 17 – Aug. 13, including a Kids Summer Concert Series on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Open Mic Nights on Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Veterans' Memorial Amphitheater.

### Movies in the Park

**Minecraft**, Aug. 27, 8:15 p.m., Ainsworth Park, 7700 28th St. W.  
**Zootopia 2**, Sept. 4, 8 p.m., Fern Hill Park, 4421 28th St. W.  
**Super Mario Galaxy**, Sept. 19, 8 p.m., Aquila Park, 3110 Xylon Ave. S.  
**Wicked 2**, Sept. 26, 8 p.m., Browndale Park, 4955 Morningside Rd.

### Other summer events and activities:

Safety Camp on Aug. 7, Walk the Park on the second Saturday of each month, the Aquatic Park and Splash Pad open all summer long, and so much more!

