

# LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

## LIVING GREEN

Look for the following environmentally friendly changes in this issue:

- This newsletter is now printed on 30-percent post consumer recycled paper with soy ink.
- To reduce the environmental impact of a printed publication, the 2011 Drinking Water Report is now available online or by request at the City Center.
- Don't miss the new Living Green guide inserted in this issue, and be sure to tuck it away for future reference.



JULY-AUGUST 2012

## Round Lake Park Slated for Renovation

At its June 5, 2012, meeting, the Eden Prairie City Council approved the contract to begin work on the first phase of renovations at **Round Lake Park** (16691 Valley View Road).

One of Eden Prairie's three largest park facilities, Round Lake Park had its humble beginnings as a private gun club and farm land, until the City began land acquisition for the community park in the 1960s. This was followed by construction of the first park amenities in the 1970s, including two ball fields, the beach area, picnic pavilion and a skating rink. Since then, Round Lake Park has become the designated location for the City's annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Hometown Celebration since 1984, and it is now one of Eden Prairie's most frequently used parks.

"Round Lake is one of the City's most popular parks," said **Jay Lotthammer**, parks and recreation director for the City of Eden Prairie. "However, many of the amenities you see there today, such as the play structure and the skate park, are ready to be replaced."



In response to indications that the overall health of the park was beginning to fail, the City's **Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission** began a visioning process for improvements to Round Lake Park in early 2011. As a result, a master plan for the redevelopment of the park was established, and after receiving design input and bids from contractors, the Commission made a recommendation to the City Council for the renovation of the park.

### Phase one renovations at Round Lake Park will feature a nautical theme and include:

- Play areas and equipment for ages 2-5 and grades K-12
- A splash pad with a variety of spray features
- Shaded seating areas and picnic tables around the play areas and splash pad
- Adult exercise equipment
- Improvements to the picnic pavilion
- Increased barrier-free accessibility

In all, the cost to redevelop Round Lake Park will come in just below the original budget at approximately \$1.6-million, and the project will be paid for with a combination of remaining funds from the 2005 parks referendum and the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). In addition, the City Council accepted a generous donation from the **Garvin-Miller Family Foundation**, which will be used to add elements of accessibility to Round Lake Park, similar to the barrier-free additions that were added to **Miller Park** in 2009.

"It's really wonderful to see the commitment to our community by residents and the people of Eden Prairie who are willing to raise money for park projects, as the Garvin-Miller family has done," said Council Member **Brad Aho**. "And I think it's a real testament to the quality of life and the quality of people who live in this City."

The Round Lake Park renovation project is scheduled to begin this summer after the City's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Hometown Celebration, and the anticipated completion date for the project is June 1, 2013.

For more information about the City's parks and recreation amenities, visit [edenprairie.org/parksandrec](http://edenprairie.org/parksandrec).

## Eden Prairie Night to Unite

Each year, neighborhoods across the country and in Eden Prairie, dedicate one summer evening to celebrate and strengthen the commitment to a safe community. This year's **Night to Unite** event will take place **Tuesday, Aug. 7**.

As residents of Eden Prairie, this is your opportunity to put together a neighborhood celebration, gather with neighbors and friends, get to know one another, enjoy a few hot-off-the-grill favorites and build a sense of community with those who live around you.



Representatives from the Eden Prairie **Police and Fire Departments**, as well as several City officials, will visit many of the local celebrations that evening. Be sure to register your event with the City and you just might receive a surprise visit from some familiar faces!

While you're celebrating, please remember those in your community who may be in need this summer. The City will once again collect donations for **PROP** (People Reaching Out to Other People) during the Eden Prairie Night to Unite festivities. Food shelf items are typically low in the summer months and the City of Eden Prairie encourages residents to incorporate food drives with the neighborhood events.

City representatives will begin visiting parties at 7 p.m. to collect PROP donations, and the neighborhood with the largest volume donation overall will receive an ice cream social hosted by the Police and Fire Departments.

Visit [edenprairie.org/nighttounite](http://edenprairie.org/nighttounite) to register your Eden Prairie Night to Unite celebration. The deadline for registration is Monday, July 30.

## 2011 Drinking Water Report

Each year, the City of Eden Prairie issues the results of drinking water monitoring to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

In an effort to reduce the environmental impact of producing this report, the City of Eden Prairie is now providing the annual **Drinking Water Report** in an online version only. To view the monitoring results from Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2011, visit [edenprairie.org/drinkingwater](http://edenprairie.org/drinkingwater).

In summary, no contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. The **Minnesota Department of Health** (MDH) has determined that the source(s) used to supply your drinking water is not particularly susceptible to contamination. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment issued by the MDH, please call **651-201-4700** or **800-818-9318** (press 5) during business hours. To view the source water assessment report online, visit [health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa](http://health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa).

For more information about the City of Eden Prairie 2011 Drinking Water Report, or to obtain a printed copy, contact **Joe Dusek**, the City's water treatment supervisor, at **952-294-5902** or [jdusek@edenprairie.org](mailto:jdusek@edenprairie.org).



## Protecting the Investment

Maintenance Ensures Safety and Longevity of City Streets

Much like the thousands of vehicles traveling on them each day, the streets of Eden Prairie also require regular maintenance to ensure their safety and longevity. Eden Prairie's roadway system is currently valued at \$95.4 million, and the City takes street maintenance seriously in order to protect this taxpayer investment and the safety of the public.

Eden Prairie's annual street maintenance program involves **overlaying** and **sealcoating** more than 30 miles of City streets each year. This annual maintenance schedule is designed to preserve and protect the pavement, with the goal of reaching a 40- to 50-year life expectancy before a street requires complete reconstruction.

By conducting these sealcoating and overlaying projects, the City can ensure the longevity and condition of the roadway system, which was rated 81 out of a possible score of 100 in a recent pavement condition survey. This rating is classified as "very good" and is reflective of the City's street maintenance efforts over the years.

### Overlaying

Every 20 years or so, a street is milled and then overlaid with a new 2-inch layer of asphalt, which reshapes the street itself and eliminates any settling or flaws that may have developed over the years. The overlay project also includes concrete curb and gutter repair, as well as storm sewer catch basin and manhole repairs, and street patching.

In 2012, the City is overlaying approximately 12 miles of streets. The bulk of these projects are expected to be complete by the end of July.

### Sealcoating

Every seven or eight years, City streets are sealcoated. This is one of the most common methods of preventative street maintenance and consists of a surface treatment that seals and protects the existing pavement.

After filling any cracks in the street, Eden Prairie uses a single-surface sealcoat treatment. A single application of liquid asphalt is sprayed on the existing surface, followed immediately by a single layer of aggregate rock, which is swept off the street three to five days later. This type of treatment is excellent for waterproofing and improves skid resistance.

In 2012, the City is sealcoating approximately 21 miles of streets and 5 miles of trails. These projects are expected to be complete by the middle of August.

For maps and additional information about 2012 street maintenance projects, visit [edenprairie.org/infrastructureprojects](http://edenprairie.org/infrastructureprojects)

## Park Cleanup Day

On a cool April morning, hundreds of Eden Prairie residents and organizations stepped out to do their part in maintaining the beauty of Eden Prairie's many miles of parks and trails. The City of Eden Prairie thanks all of those who participated in this year's **Park Cleanup Day!**

Allied Waste Services

Caribou Coffee

Cub Scout Pack 479

Cub Scout Pack 579

Boy Scout Pack 919

Bob Becker

Eden Prairie a.m. Rotary

Frank Kendall

Friends of Birch Island Woods

Girl Scout Troop 14282

Girl Scout Troop 14286

Heidi Derner

Janna & Tobin Nord

Joyce & Jack Provo

Katherine Hansen

Kellie Krick-Oborn

Laura Jester

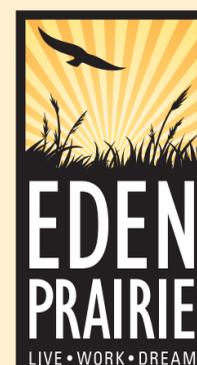
Lifetouch, Inc.

Matt Mail

Michelle Amidon

Mitchell Lake Association

Samantha Schultz



### MAYOR

Nancy Tyra-Lukens  
[ntyra-lukens@edenprairie.org](mailto:ntyra-lukens@edenprairie.org)  
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### COUNCIL MEMBERS

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# Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year

Each year, more than 200 men and women put their lives on the line to protect and serve the Eden Prairie community with duty, honor and courage. And each year, two of these brave public servants demonstrate the commitment, dedication and leadership it takes to be nominated by their peers and chosen to receive the honor of Eden Prairie Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year.

*In November 2011, the Eden Prairie Police Department proudly named Officer Travis Serafin as the 2011 Police Officer of the Year.*

In his 12 years of service with the Eden Prairie Police Department, Serafin has demonstrated commitment to the community and the department through his service as a patrol officer, Emergency Response Unit (ERU) team member and Assistant Team Leader, and as a Retail Crime Unit Officer, which is his current assignment.



**Travis Serafin**  
2011 Police Officer of the Year

*Travis Serafin has enhanced our department with the positive attitude, eagerness and friendly demeanor he demonstrates on a daily basis. The genuine care and concern Travis exhibits in his interactions with others, along with his willingness to go above and beyond, make him an outstanding officer.*

Police Chief Rob Reynolds

*In March 2012, the Eden Prairie Fire Department proudly named Firefighter Scott Schram as the 2011 Firefighter of the Year.*

In his 26 years of service with the Eden Prairie Fire Department, including 19 years as a lieutenant, Schram has consistently demonstrated dedication to the community and the department with his leadership and inspirational work ethic, not only during emergency calls, but especially when mentoring his fellow firefighters.



**Scott Schram**  
2011 Firefighter of the Year

*Our department is fortunate to have a firefighter like Scott Schram. The kindness with which he works to bring out the best in others has helped to form the culture of our organization, and his willingness to share the expertise he has gained throughout many years in the fire service is an invaluable asset to the department.*

Fire Chief George Esbensen

## 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY HOMETOWN CELEBRATION EDEN PRAIRIE

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 4**  
**5-11 P.M.**  
**ROUND LAKE PARK**  
**16691 VALLEY VIEW ROAD**

**Enjoy entertainment, concessions and activities throughout the evening!**

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

5-8 p.m.	BINGO
5:30 p.m.	Jazz on the Prairie
6:45 p.m.	Eden Prairie Community Band
8 p.m.	Synergy
10 p.m.	FIREWORKS display with music
10:30 p.m.	Synergy

*Thank You to our Sponsors*

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**southwest**  
metro magazine

# Mark Your Calendar

**KidStock**  
Tuesdays, June 26-Aug. 7  
10:30 a.m.

Enjoy the sounds, actions, stories and fun at these free Staring Lake Amphitheatre performances by children's entertainers from around the Twin Cities.

**2012 Concert Series: Starring at Staring**  
Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays, June 27-Aug. 17  
7 p.m.

Pack a picnic basket, a blanket or lawn chair, sit back, relax and enjoy some free outdoor entertainment at the Staring Lake Amphitheatre.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Hometown Celebration**  
Wednesday, July 4  
5-11 p.m.  
Round Lake Park

Enjoy entertainment, concessions, activities and more; fireworks begin at 10 p.m.

**Community Photo Contest**  
Entry Deadline: July 13 at 4:30 p.m.

Calling photographers of all ages, submit your best photos highlighting what makes Eden Prairie a great place to live, work and dream - and you could win! Visit [edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org) for contest details and information.

**City Council Meetings\***  
Tuesdays, July 17; Aug. 21  
*\*Meetings begin at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the City Center.*

**Eden Prairie Players Children's Theater Workshop**  
**Presents: The Glass Slipper**  
Aug. 3, 4 at 2:30 and 7 p.m.  
Aug. 5 at 1 and 1:30 p.m.  
Riley-Jacques Barn  
Revisit the tale of Cinderella and her silly stepsisters with this performance by the Eden Prairie Players Children's Theatre Workshop; tickets available at the door 45 minutes before show time, \$3 for ages 5 and under, \$5 for ages 6 and up.

**Movies in the Park**  
Aug. 3 - *Wall-E*  
Aug. 10\* - *The Goonies*  
Aug. 17\* - *Dolphin Tale*  
Bring a blanket and enjoy a free movie under the stars at the Staring Lake Amphitheatre; all movies begin at 9 p.m. \*Pre-show entertainment begins at 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 10 and 17 only.

**Splash Time at Miller Park**  
Wednesday, Aug. 8  
5-7 p.m.  
Miller Park Playground  
Enjoy the interactive water experience at the Miller Park playground, complete with fun-in-the-sun activities for everyone. Swimsuits and towels are strongly recommended!

**Senior Center BBQ**  
Thursday, Aug. 23  
4:30 p.m.  
Senior Center  
Enjoy live entertainment with a picnic meal, complete with dessert!

# 2011 Annual Report

Fiscal Year Ended Dec. 31, 2011

## City Services Provided in 2011

- ◆ 1,143 fire calls
- ◆ 59,544 police service calls
- ◆ 6,531 building permits issued
- ◆ 4,827 property appraisals completed
- ◆ 103,452 participants in parks and recreation programs
- ◆ 680,000 visitors to the Community Center
- ◆ 43 parks, 120 miles of trails, 230 miles of City streets maintained
- ◆ More than 8-million gallons of daily water usage managed
- ◆ 4,158 hydrants flushed
- ◆ 94 miles of sanitary sewer cleaned
- ◆ 61 storm water sediment tanks maintained

## A Message from the City Manager

One year into my tenure in Eden Prairie, I am ever more impressed by the City's long history of fiscal prudence and planning for the future. Forward-thinking City Councils past and present, along with strategic budgeting decisions by City staff, have provided financial stability, even through the downturn in the economy.



And the great news is the financial picture is becoming increasingly positive for Eden Prairie!

The year 2011 brought several new business developments to the City. Ranging from the opening of more than five new dining establishments, to large-scale remodels and redevelopments of existing structures, these projects increased license and permit revenue by \$220,500 – and they are sure to bring continued strength to our local economy.

In addition, there are signs of growing financial strength amongst Eden Prairie residents. One indication of this is an increase in Parks and Recreation revenues of more than \$200,000 in 2011 – this can be largely attributed to an increase in the number of Community Center memberships and park facility rentals throughout the year.

Looking forward, it is fair to say that we will continue to see some economic challenges into the 2012–2013 budget years. However, we will always strive to provide the high quality services that generate an excellent quality of life in Eden Prairie – and we certainly anticipate that positive economic trends will continue to surface in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Rick Getschow  
City Manager



## City Finances

To manage the diverse activities of the City, several different funds or accounting entities are used to manage City finances. Following are the types of funds and activities included within each fund:



**General Fund** – The City's primary operating fund accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**Special Revenue Funds** – Funds account for revenues used for a specific purpose.

**Debt Service Funds** – Funds accumulate revenues from taxes and other sources to pay debt.

**Capital Project Funds** – Funds account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital expenses.

**Proprietary Funds** – Funds are primarily supported by user fees from both internal and external customers.

Financial results for the General, Capital Project, Debt Service and Liquor Funds are provided in this report. The Liquor Fund is one of the 11 Proprietary Funds of the City.

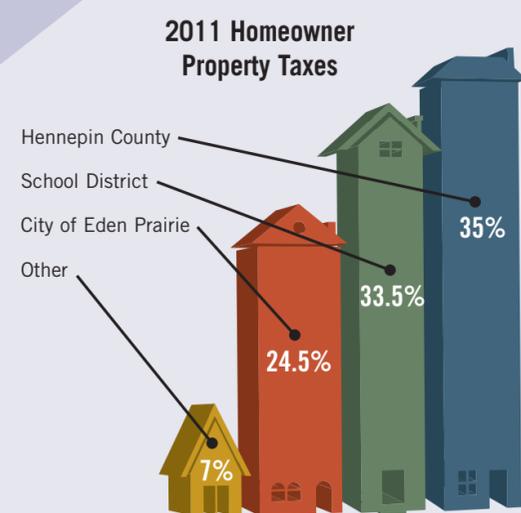
### Market Value

From 2002 to 2009, Eden Prairie's market value has averaged an increase of 8.7 percent per year. Market values declined to \$8.9 billion in 2011, which is a 7-percent decrease from 2010. Eden Prairie's market values continue to trend higher than most communities, and changes in 2012 values are more moderate.



### 2011 Homeowner Property Taxes

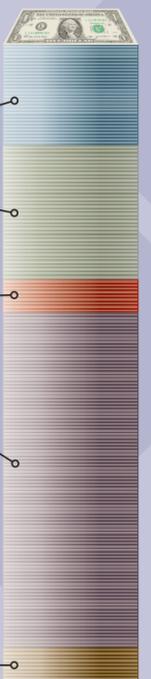
City taxes account for about one-fourth (24.5 percent) of property taxes, the remainder is comprised of taxes for the school district (33.5 percent), the county (35 percent) and other jurisdictions (7 percent).



### Your Tax Dollars at Work in 2011

#### Estimated Monthly Charges for Other Services \$285

- Basic Telephone Service \$45
- Cable Television \$60
- Daily Newspaper \$15
- Electricity and Natural Gas \$150
- Trash Collection \$15



#### Total Monthly Taxes\* \$89.66

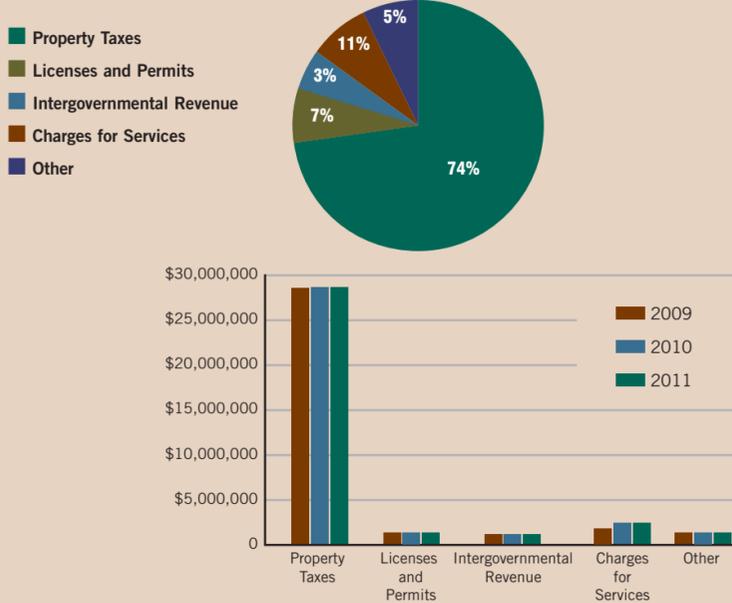
- Administration \$8.16
- Capital Improvement Plan \$ .20
- Community Development \$4.55
- Debt \$7.57
- Fire \$11.02
- Housing and Redevelopment Authority \$ .44
- Parks and Recreation \$19.87
- Police \$26.11
- Public Works \$11.74

\*Based on the 2011 median single family home value of \$334,500 and an estimated City property tax of \$1,076 annually.

### Where the Money Comes From

General fund revenues for 2011 totaled \$37,365,765. This compares to \$37,201,861 for 2010. Revenues increased by \$163,904 or .4 percent. The City of Eden Prairie has five components of revenue consisting of property taxes, licenses and permits, intergovernmental revenue, charges for service and "other."

#### General Fund Revenues



#### Property Taxes: \$27,763,741

The City's property tax is levied based on the value of property from the previous Jan. 1 as determined by the City Assessor. The property tax levy is established annually during the City budget process.

#### Licenses and Permits: \$2,587,768

License and Permit revenue increased in 2011. The value of building permits issued increased from \$101-million as of Dec. 31, 2010, to \$111-million as of Dec. 31, 2011. Businesses continued to invest in Eden Prairie, including the following:

New dining establishments in 2011 include **Little Caesars, I-Hop, Five Guys Burgers and Fries, Famous Dave's, Dickey's Barbecue Pit, Panino Brothers** and **Smashburger**.

Some of the larger construction projects for the last year include:

- **Stratasys** converted existing office/warehouse space into manufacturing space
- **UnitedHealthcare** remodeled the former **ADC/Tyco** building
- **Eagle Ridge Academy** renovated an existing building
- **Metropolitan Ford** built a new building
- **CIGNA** revamped four floors of its building
- **Milestone AV Technologies** gave the former **Department 56** building an extensive interior facelift

Development revenue is expected to remain stable the next few years with some large projects leading the way.

#### Intergovernmental Revenue: \$1,143,397

Police and Fire pension aid accounts for \$721,888 of the total intergovernmental revenue. The remaining includes amounts for Public Works, Police, and Parks and Recreation.

#### Charges for Services: \$4,202,734

The largest source of charges for services are amounts collected for the City's Parks and Recreation Department programs. Parks and Recreation revenue charges totaled \$4,107,711, which is \$207,362 or 5-percent more than 2010. This is due mainly to an increase in Community Center memberships and rentals.

#### Other: \$1,668,125

Other revenue includes cable TV franchise fees (\$775,525), fines and penalties (\$554,862), and miscellaneous revenue (\$337,738).

### How the Money is Spent



#### Administration: \$3,454,753

Administration includes City Attorney, City Council, City Clerk, City Manager, Communications, Facilities, Human Resources and Information Technology. Expenditures slightly decreased in 2011.

#### Community Development: \$2,022,952

Community Development includes Assessing, City Planning, Economic Development, and Housing and Community Services. Services provided include comprehensive planning, homestead applications, promotion of business growth and retention, and affordable housing. Expenditures are similar to 2010.

#### Fire: \$4,958,871

The Fire Department consists of fire services, inspections and emergency preparedness. Expenditures were less than in 2010 due to a decrease in a State mandatory benefit payment to the Fire Relief Association.

#### Parks and Recreation: \$8,805,548

The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for providing and maintaining the park and open space system, wildlife and forestry management, maintenance of parks and trails, recreation programs and facilities such as the Community Center. Expenditures are similar to 2010.

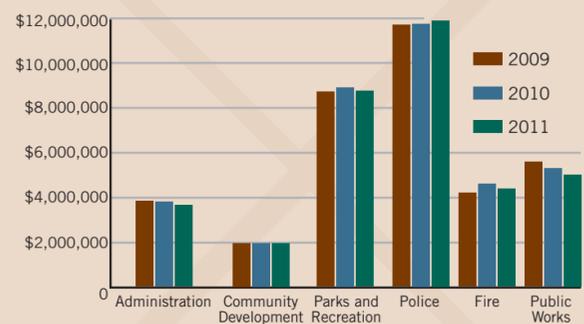
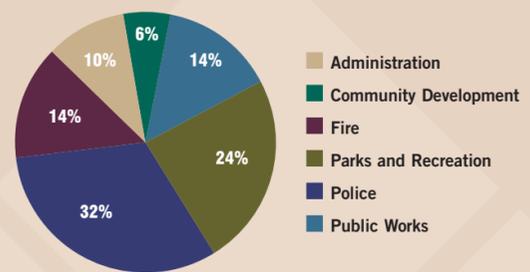
#### Police: \$11,866,574

The Police Department consists of police officers, dispatch, animal control and administration. Expenditures are similar to 2010. Personnel costs make up 78 percent of the total expenditures for Police.

#### Public Works: \$5,127,079

The Public Works Department includes Engineering, Fleet Services, Street Maintenance and Utilities. Public Works is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of the street, water, sewer and drainage infrastructure systems in the City. Expenditures are similar to 2010.

#### General Fund Expenditures



### Capital Improvement Projects

As part of the City's ongoing commitment to provide a quality of life that ensures the success and vitality of the area, investments in community/capital improvements are made each year. For 2011, the City spent \$12,069,341 on capital.

#### Significant projects include:

##### Street Improvement Projects

Highway 169/494 Design/Build	\$2,971,627
Valley View Road/Prairie Center Drive Intersection	\$679,861
Pioneer Trail Improvements	\$293,066

##### Parks Referendum

Flying Cloud Baseball Fields	\$1,349,066
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##### Water Capital

Water Plant Process Upgrades	\$901,299
Water Plant Control Upgrades	\$566,831
Cherokee Trail Sewer and Water	\$128,258

##### Sewer Capital

Well House Monitoring System Upgrade	\$298,158
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##### Facilities Capital

Community Center Standby Generator	\$369,888
City Center Metal Roof Replacement	\$151,943

### About this Report

The information for this report was taken from the City of Eden Prairie's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which was prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and applicable legal requirements for the year ended Dec. 31, 2011. This report is intended to keep the public informed about City of Eden Prairie services and the costs to provide these services. Information about 2011 service activity and the City's Dec. 31, 2011, financial condition are provided. For a complete review of the City's financial position for 2011, consult the CAFR, available at [edenprairie.org/budget](http://edenprairie.org/budget) or by calling 952-949-8300.

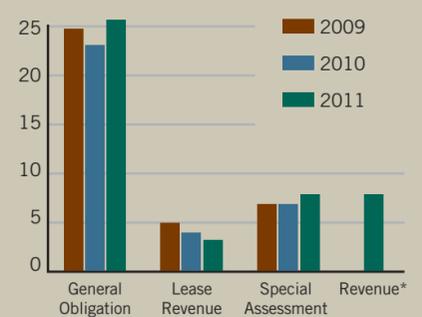
### Liquor Fund

The City's three municipal liquor stores constitute one of the largest municipal off-sale operations in the State. **Eden Prairie Liquor** profits contribute to the financial well-being of the City by funding important City capital projects. Also, the City is committed to restricting youth access to alcohol in Eden Prairie. The City believes the municipal-owned liquor operations help to protect the health and safety of youth by placing emphasis on preventing sales to underage people.

Liquor sales increased .2 percent over 2010 to \$11,547,025 and profits of \$1,000,000 were transferred to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Various projects funded include pavement and trail management, including seal coating and overlay. Liquor profits provide an alternative funding source and therefore reduce property taxes. From 2001 to 2011, liquor operations contributed more than \$8-million to CIP.

### Long-Term Debt

For the year ended Dec. 31, 2011, the City had \$40,630,000 in long-term debt outstanding, which is a \$6,765,000 or 20-percent increase over 2010 debt of \$33,865,000. During the year, the City issued new debt for Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, and Water and Sewer construction projects. The City also refinanced older debt resulting in a reduction of debt payments by \$385,441.



\*No revenue bonds outstanding in 2009 or 2010.

### Awards

The City received the following awards (valid for one year only) from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA):

- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the CAFR for the year ended Dec. 31, 2010.
- Distinguished Budget Presentation award for its Two Year Budget for the fiscal years beginning Jan. 1, 2010, and 2011.
- Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended Dec. 31, 2010.

# LIVING GREEN



The City of Eden Prairie has always been mindful of the **environment and natural resources** the community enjoys.

The City's efforts to reduce its environmental footprint began in earnest after the inaugural **Sundance Summit's Mayors' Gathering on Climate Protection** in 2005. Mayor **Nancy Tyra-Lukens** participated in the summit and signed the **Mayor's Commitment to Action**, which led to the formation of the City's **Conservation Commission** and the launch of the **20-40-15 initiative**.

Since then, the City has worked toward meeting its energy-efficiency goals and signed on to participate in the **Minnesota Green Step Cities** program, and in 2011 Mayor Tyra-Lukens was awarded an honorable mention for The U.S. Conference of Mayors **Climate Protection Awards**.

Learn more about what you can do to **Live Green** in Eden Prairie by checking out the useful information and resources in this publication, then visit [edenprairie.org/livinggreen](http://edenprairie.org/livinggreen) for more information and sign up to receive Living Green email updates!

## EDEN PRAIRIE WATER GUIDE

### Coal Tar-Based Driveway Sealants

The Eden Prairie City Council passed an ordinance effective May 3, 2012, which prohibits the sale and use of coal tar-based sealer products in the City of Eden Prairie. Sealers are black liquids that are sprayed or painted on asphalt pavement in an effort to protect or beautify the asphalt.

Coal tar is a byproduct of coal processing which contains high levels of toxic chemicals called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH). Some PAH are classed as probable or possible carcinogens. Studies show that PAH are released as the seal coat flakes off and is then flushed by stormwater runoff into nearby ponds, wetlands, lakes or creeks, where they can accumulate in sediments at levels that are potentially harmful to fish and other aquatic organisms. The accumulation of PAH in stormwater ponds can prove costly. As ponds fill up they may need to be dredged or cleaned out. The price of disposal of these contaminated sediments can triple the cost the project.

Most retailers have already stopped the sale of coal tar-based sealers, and are providing safer alternatives such as asphalt-based sealer products. Please check with any company you hire to provide sealant services to make sure they are using asphalt-based sealers.

### Red Rock and Duck Lake Watershed Monitoring

The City of Eden Prairie is continuing work on a study of the City's ponds and wetlands that receive public stormwater from the surrounding area. These water bodies help prevent flooding and act as filters for pollutants ranging from sand to nutrients that are present in such things as fertilizers, pet waste and grass clippings. These pollutants are picked up by water runoff from hard surfaces like driveways, parking lots and streets after rain or snowmelt events, and washed into the ponds. Due to this collection of debris, many ponds require maintenance over time.



With the help of **Wenck Associates** the City is conducting an evaluation of its ponds. This is a multi-year project, and in 2012 the focus is on the Duck and Red Rock Lake watersheds. Data collection includes surveying pond contours, measuring depth of sediment and evaluating the overall pond condition. With computer modeling, Wenck will determine pond effectiveness for collecting and treating stormwater along with estimating current and future maintenance needs.

### Water Conservation Rebate Programs

Since 2000, the City of Eden Prairie has offered rebates to promote water conservation.

The rebate is 50 percent of the cost of the item, up to a maximum of **\$100 for Energy Star washers; \$50 for WaterSense toilets, faucets and showerheads; and \$100 for irrigation controllers.**

In addition, water quality rebates are available for construction of infiltration areas such as **rain gardens** and **restoration of shoreland areas.**

To qualify for rebates, all purchases must be made in the current calendar year.

The receipt or other information provided with the application must clearly identify the model, date of purchase and the label for the Energy Star or WaterSense program. For toilet purchases, both the tank and bowl must have the WaterSense label.

Rebate funds are limited and applications are processed in order of receipt.

Visit [edenprairie.org/livinggreen](http://edenprairie.org/livinggreen) for rebate application forms.



### Lawn Watering

Lawn watering uses a significant portion of Eden Prairie's water supply. It is very important that residents and businesses follow the City's ordinance to ensure there is enough water for all uses, including vital services such as fighting fires.

City ordinance states that residents and businesses can water on an odd/even system:

- If your address ends with an odd number, then you can water on odd days of the month.
- If your address ends in an even number, then you can water on even days of the month.
- No lawn watering is allowed between the hours of noon and 5 p.m., even if you have an exemption for new sod or landscaping.



#### Lawn Watering Tips

**Length of grass** – Keep grass at 3.5 inches in height to encourage deeper roots, shade the ground, discourage weeds and retain more water. Aerate your lawn to help water more efficiently.

**How much water is needed** – Established lawns in most areas require only 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week, including rainfall. Overwatering is detrimental to the lawn, as it encourages shallow, weak roots as well as fungal diseases, and wastes water. Use a can or other measuring tool to determine how much water your system puts out in a typical watering cycle.

**How long to water** – Determine how much water your lawn receives during watering by placing a bucket or shallow pan on the lawn. Time how long it takes to fill the pan with 1 inch of water. Use this information to avoid excessive watering.

**Best water cycle** – Infrequent, but deep watering cycles are best. Letting the upper layer of soil dry out between watering will help prevent weeds from sprouting and can lead to a healthier lawn.

**Best time to water** – Water in the early morning. Afternoon evaporation rates are very high, requiring more water to get the same amount of water into the soil. Early evening and night watering can be tolerated, but the lawn may remain wet longer, which could potentially promote lawn diseases and fungus.

### Protecting our Lakes

You can help prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). AIS include plants or animals that are non-native to Minnesota which have significant ecological impacts, as they outcompete native species and threaten aquatic ecosystems. Some examples of AIS in local lakes include zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, brittle naiad and curly leaf pondweed.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recommends the following process to prevent AIS species from spreading to more lakes:

**Clean** – Make sure the boat, trailer, dock, floats, equipment and vehicle are free from aquatic plants, animals and mud.

**Drain** – Remove any water from the boat including live wells, bilges, ballast tanks and bait containers.

**Dry** – Wait at least five days before launching the boat or other equipment into a new lake. This allows the equipment time to dry out and kill the AIS that may be attached.



To learn more about AIS and which lakes in Minnesota have AIS, please consult [mndnr.gov/invasives](http://mndnr.gov/invasives)

### Educational Opportunities

The Eden Prairie **Water Treatment Plant** has an outstanding **Environmental Learning Center** and conducts tours for schools wishing to learn more about public water systems. For more information or to schedule a tour, contact **Leslie Stovring**, environmental coordinator, at **952-949-8327** or [lstovring@edenprairie.org](mailto:lstovring@edenprairie.org).

In addition, Eden Prairie hosts the Twin Cities branch of the **Water Environment Technologies** program conducted by St. Cloud Community and Technical College. This 12-month program provides adult students with the skills needed to qualify for a job in this rapidly growing industry of drinking and wastewater treatment, and water and sewer system maintenance. For more information on this program, contact St. Cloud Technical College at **800-222-1009**, or **Bill Spain** or **Keith Redmond** at [bspain@scctc.edu](mailto:bspain@scctc.edu) or [kredmond@scctc.edu](mailto:kredmond@scctc.edu).



Environmental Learning Center

# EDEN PRAIRIE RECYCLING GUIDE

## Recycling At Home

All trash haulers serving residential customers must provide recycling services through which the following items can be recycled:



### Paper

- Mail, office and school papers
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone books
- Shredded paper in closed paper bags

### Boxes

- Cardboard
- Cereal and cracker boxes
- Shoe boxes, gift boxes and electronics boxes
- Toothpaste, medication and other toiletry boxes

### Cartons

- Milk cartons
- Juice boxes
- Soup, broth and wine cartons

### Glass

- Food and beverage bottles and jars

### Plastic Bottles and Jugs (numbered 1-5\*)

- Water, soda and juice bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Ketchup and salad dressing bottles
- Dishwashing liquid bottles and detergent jugs
- Shampoo, soap and lotion bottles

### Cups and Containers (numbered 1-5\*)

- Yogurt, pudding and fruit cups
- Disposable cups and bowls
- Margarine, cottage cheese and other containers
- Produce, deli and take-out containers

### Packaging

- Clear packaging from toys and electronics
- Metal
- Food and beverage cans

**Don't recycle:** Styrofoam™, plastic wrap, microwaveable food trays, paper, plastic or tinfoil soiled with food, such as pizza boxes paper plates and towels, drinking glasses, dishes, mirrors and containers that held hazardous products.

\*Some haulers now accept plastics numbered 6 and 7, and even plastic bags – check with your hauler before recycling these items.

For more information visit [hennepin.us/recycling](http://hennepin.us/recycling)

## Organics Recycling

Backyard composting is an easy way to turn much of the waste from your yard and kitchen into a rich organic material you can use to improve your soil. Additional materials can be composted at the **Hennepin County Drop-off Facility\*** in Brooklyn Park (8100 Jefferson Highway), including:

- Food scraps – including meat and bones
- Food-soiled and non-recyclable paper products
- Paper napkins, towels, tissues
- Paper plates, cups, bags and food containers
- Waxed bags and paper (fast food wrappers, parchment paper, etc.)
- Paper milk and juice cartons (remove plastic spouts — NO juice boxes or pouches)
- Pizza boxes and boxes from refrigerated and frozen food, and beverages
- Coffee filters (and grounds), tea bags
- Gift wrap

**Note:** Recyclable paper is not accepted in organics and should be recycled at home.

### Other compostable items

- Plastic utensils, cups and containers that are certified as compostable by the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI)
- Paper vacuum bags, dryer lint, human and pet hair
- Wooden toothpicks, ice cream and corn dog sticks, chop sticks
- Cotton balls
- House plants



**Items not accepted:** Yard waste, leaves, branches, sticks, Styrofoam™ and plastics.

**Note:** Organics can be dropped off Tuesday through Friday and are not accepted on Saturday. Organics must be contained in BPI-certified compostable bags, and there is a limit of five bags per person per day.

\*Requires proof of residency in Hennepin County.

For more information visit [hennepin.us/recycling](http://hennepin.us/recycling)

## Unwanted and Unused Medicine Disposal

Proper disposal of unused medicines is important not only to prevent abuse or poisoning, but to protect the environment. Safely dispose of the following types of unused medicines at the new green medicine drop boxes placed at local **Hennepin County Sheriff's Offices**, such as the location in Spring Park (4141 Shoreline Drive):

- Prescription medicines, including controlled substances
- Over-the-counter medicines
- Vitamins and supplements
- Pet medicines

These items are accepted at no charge and no form of identification is required. Medicines should be brought in their original, labeled containers – use a permanent marker to black out any identifying information.

**Items Not Accepted:** Needles, sharps, syringes, thermometers, bandages, medical tape or other medical supplies.



For more information visit [hennepin.us/medicine](http://hennepin.us/medicine)

## Household Hazardous Waste Disposal



The following items can be safely disposed of at the **Hennepin County Drop-off Facility\*** in Bloomington (1400 W. 96<sup>th</sup> Street) or Brooklyn Park (8100 Jefferson Highway), including:

### Household, Lawn and Garden Products

- Adhesives (flammable or petroleum based)
- Aerosols (pressurized or containing product)
- Batteries (place tape over the positive terminals)
- Cleaners
- Drain cleaner
- Driveway sealer
- Fire extinguishers
- Flammable products
- Propane or butane gas cylinders that are 1-pound or less, and are non-refillable containers (accepted at the Bloomington facility only)
- Paint or varnish (limit three 5-gallon pails per year)
- Paint thinners, solvents and strippers (limit three 5-gallon pails per year)
- PCB ballasts (must be removed from fixtures)
- Pesticides, insecticides and herbicides
- Photographic and hobby chemicals
- Pool chemicals
- Rechargeable tools
- Wood preservatives

### Mercury-Containing Items

- Fluorescent bulbs and HID lamps (limit 25 per year)
- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Electronics (limit five of each type per year)
- Computers
- DVD players and VCRs
- Radios
- TVs

### Auto and Fuel Wastes

(must be in labeled containers smaller than 5 gallons)

- Diesel fuel
- Fuel additives
- Gasoline (containers can be left at facility to be emptied and picked up at a later date)
- Kerosene
- Starter fluid
- Vehicle lead-acid batteries
- Waxes

### Items Accepted for a Fee

- Appliances
- Air conditioners
- Appliance compressors
- Dehumidifiers
- Dishwashers
- Freezers
- Furnaces
- Garbage disposals
- Boiler gas valves
- Microwaves
- Ovens/stoves
- Plug-in coolers
- Pool and portable heaters
- Pumps (bilge and sump)
- Refrigerators
- Trash compactors
- Washers/dryers
- Water heaters
- Water coolers
- All size mattresses and box springs, including mattresses from futons, cribs and toddler beds (Brooklyn Park facility only)
- Tires

\*Requires proof of residency in Hennepin County.



For more information visit [hennepin.us/dropoffs](http://hennepin.us/dropoffs)