

# LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

## Local kids enjoy the 2010 Citywide Open House



NOVEMBER 2010

# ELECTION 2010

The 2010 Minnesota gubernatorial election, scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2010, will elect the 40th Governor of Minnesota, who will serve a four-year term to begin in January 2011. It will coincide with the 2010 United States Senate elections for 37 of the 100 seats in the Senate.

In Eden Prairie, elections for two of the four **City Council** seats are held every two years, with a mayoral election held every four years. City Council members and the mayor serve four-year terms of office.

For the 2010 election year, Eden Prairie will elect a mayor and two at-large Council members.

The following residents have filed for candidacy in the 2010 Eden Prairie mayoral election:

**Jon Duckstad Nancy Tyra-Lukens**

The following residents have filed for candidacy in the 2010 Eden Prairie City Council election:

**Donna Azarian Sherry Butcher Wickstrom**

**Dan Kitrell Kathy Nelson**

**Jeremiah Pilon Scott Pollino**

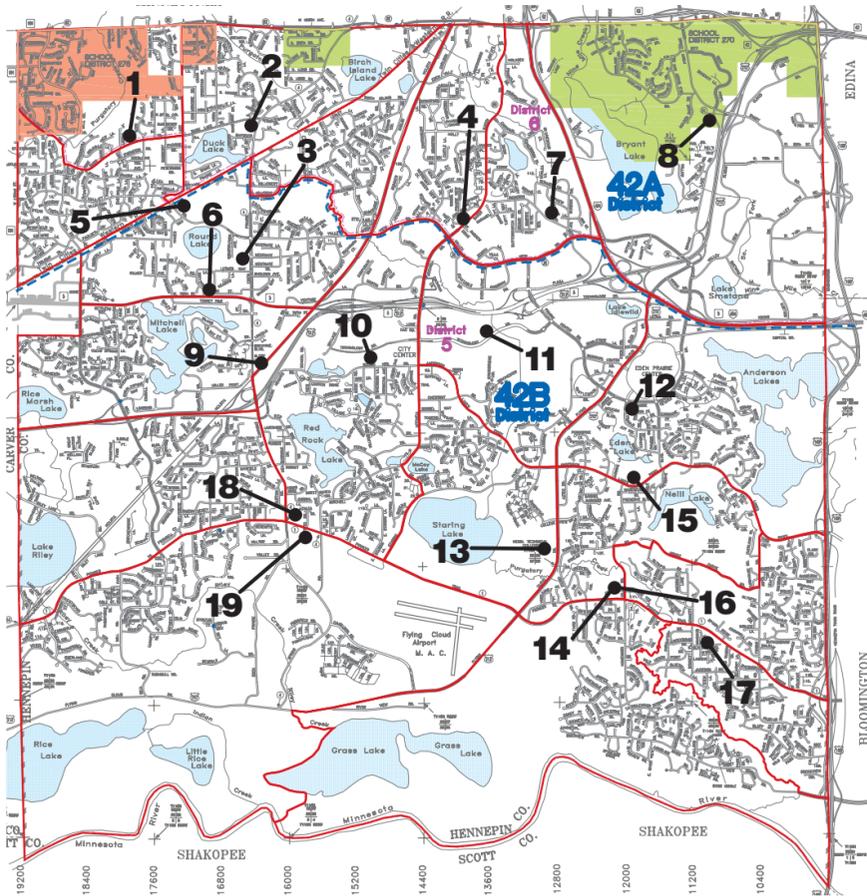
### When to Vote

**Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2010.  
Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

To view local candidate forums tune into **EPTV** cable channel 16 or visit [edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org) to watch on-demand.

### Where to Vote

You must vote in the precinct in which you live. To find your precinct visit [pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us](http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us) and enter your current address. There are 19 precincts in Eden Prairie, each with a designated polling location:



**Precinct 1**  
King of Glory Lutheran Church  
17850 Duck Lake Trail

**Precinct 2**  
Eden Prairie Assembly of God  
16591 Duck Lake Trail

**Precinct 3**  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
16515 Luther Way

**Precinct 4**  
Life Church  
14100 Valley View Road

**Precinct 5**  
Prairie Hill Evangelical Free Church  
17200 Valley View Road

**Precinct 6**  
Christ Lutheran Church  
16900 Main Street

**Precinct 7**  
City Hill Fellowship  
12901 Roberts Drive

**Precinct 8**  
Wooddale Church  
6630 Shady Oak Road  
Door #1

**Precinct 9**  
Resurrection Life Church  
16397 Glory Lane

**Precinct 10**  
Eden Prairie United Methodist Church  
15050 Scenic Heights Road

**Precinct 11**  
St. Andrew Lutheran Church  
13600 Technology Drive

**Precinct 12**  
Eden Prairie Community Library  
565 Prairie Center Drive

**Precinct 13**  
Hennepin Technical College  
13100 College View Drive

**Precinct 14**  
Pax Christi Catholic Community  
12100 Pioneer Trail

**Precinct 15**  
Eden Lake Elementary School  
12000 Anderson Lakes Parkway

**Precinct 16**  
Pax Christi Catholic Community  
12100 Pioneer Trail

**Precinct 17**  
Prairie Lutheran Church  
11000 Blossom Road

**Precinct 18**  
Eden Prairie Presbyterian Church  
9145 Eden Prairie Road

**Precinct 19**  
Grace Church  
9301 Eden Prairie Road  
Door #1

### Election Day Registration Requirements

If you are not preregistered to vote you may do so at your local polling location on Election Day.

**You must register to vote if:**

- You have never registered to vote in a prior election
- You have moved or changed your name since you last registered
- You have not voted at least once in the last four years

To register at your polling place on Election Day, you must have **one** of the following to verify your residence:

- A valid Minnesota driver's license, learner's permit, Minnesota ID card or receipt for any of these containing a valid address in the precinct
- A valid registration in the same precinct under a different name or address
- A notice of late registration that was sent to you from your county auditor or city clerk
- A voter registered in the same precinct as you who can confirm your address with a signed oath
- An authorized employee of a residential facility where you reside who can confirm your address (the residential facility must provide a list of employees to election officials)
- A student ID card including your photo, if your college provided a student housing list to election officials
- A Tribal ID card that contains your name, signature and address in the precinct



Alternatively, you may provide **both** a photo ID from the list below and a bill in your name, with your current address, that is due within **30** days of the election.

#### Types of Photo ID Accepted

- Minnesota Driver's License
- Minnesota ID Card
- United States Passport
- United States Military ID Card
- Tribal ID Card
- Minnesota University or Technical College ID Card

#### Types of Bills Accepted

- Gas
- Telephone
- TV (cable, satellite, etc.)
- Water
- Electric
- Cell phone
- Solid waste
- Sewer services
- Internet services
- Student fee statement
- Rent statement that itemizes utilities

### Absentee Voting

Eligible Eden Prairie voters may vote by absentee ballot for any of the following reasons:

- Absent from the precinct on election day
- Illness or disability
- Religious discipline or observance of religious holiday
- Service as an election judge in another precinct

General absentee voting will take place through **Monday, Nov. 1, 2010.**

Absentee Voters may vote in person during the 45 days prior to a regularly scheduled election, or complete the entire process by mail.

#### Absentee Voting In Person

**Locations:**  
City of Eden Prairie  
8080 Mitchell Road  
Hennepin County Elections  
300 6th Street South – Public Service Level

**Absentee Voting Hours:**  
Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 30, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

#### Absentee Voting by Mail

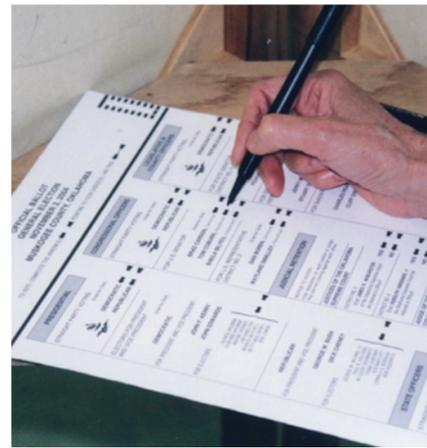
An official **absentee ballot application** may be obtained from the city or county elections office, or online at [edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org).

Return the completed absentee ballot application to:

City of Eden Prairie Elections  
8080 Mitchell Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Or fax to 952-949-8390

Remember to allow at least seven days between requesting your absentee ballot and completing the voting process.



#### Deadlines and requirements for return of an absentee ballot are:

Absentee ballots delivered by United States Postal Service (USPS) must be received by the city or county election office by the last regular USPS mail delivery on Election Day.

Absentee ballots hand-delivered by an agent of the voter (a commercial delivery service or any individual other than the voter) must be received by the city or county election office by 3 p.m. on Election Day.

On Election Day, voters may go to the polls to vote, but **CANNOT** deliver their own absentee ballots to any election officials.

Absentee ballots **CANNOT** be delivered directly to a polling place.

#### Military and/or Overseas Voters

Absentee voting procedures are available for members of the military service (including spouses and dependents), and voters residing outside the United States. For more information visit [minnesota.overseasvotefoundation.org](http://minnesota.overseasvotefoundation.org).

### Eligibility

The City of Eden Prairie provides an election process that is open, fair and responsive to the needs of all eligible citizens.

**Persons eligible to register must meet the following criteria:**

- United States citizen
- 18 years old on Election Day
- Residing in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding Election Day
- Maintaining residence at the address given on the registration form

**Persons not eligible to register:**

- Those convicted of a felony which has not expired or for which a sentence has not been completed
- Those under court-ordered guardianship in which a court order revokes the right to vote
- Those found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote

### Election Results

The 2010 Election results will be available on the City website, [edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org), and the Hennepin County website, [co.hennepin.mn.us](http://co.hennepin.mn.us), following the election.



**MAYOR**  
Phil Young  
952-426-1931

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
Brad Aho  
952-949-8300

Ron Case  
952-949-0915

Jon Duckstad  
952-903-0274

Kathy Nelson  
952-941-6613

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[edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org)



# Live Well Eden Prairie!

Enjoy Fun and Fitness This Winter

As you set out to live well this winter, consider a membership at the **Eden Prairie Community Center**. An affordable monthly membership provides you with unlimited access to fitness center facilities, open swim, open skate and open gym, as well as racquetball and wallyball courts. Plus, members receive discounted rates on personal training services, specialty group fitness classes and select programs. For more information, stop by the Community Center (16700 Valley View Road), call **952-949-8470** or visit [edenprairie.org/communitycenter](http://edenprairie.org/communitycenter).

For more information about Parks and Recreation programs, visit [edenprairie.org/parksbrochure](http://edenprairie.org/parksbrochure).



## Our Environment

Celebrate America Recycles Day!

Since 1997, communities across the country have come together on Nov. 15 to celebrate **America Recycles Day**.

Sponsored by **Keep America Beautiful**, the nation's largest volunteer-based community action and education organization, America Recycles Day is the only nationally recognized day dedicated to the promotion of recycling programs in the United States.

For more information and to take the America Recycles Day pledge, visit [americarecyclesday.org](http://americarecyclesday.org).



America Recycles Day  
11.15.10

# Around Eden Prairie

A Final Page from the Blog of City Manager Scott Neal

October 28, 2010, will be my last day as Eden Prairie's city manager. So before I go, I thought that I'd share a few thoughts about my tenure here.



I started working here in April of 2002. Speaking only for myself, I can tell you that it has been an exciting run. When I walked into the Eden Prairie City Council Chambers in April 2002, I walked straight into a debate about whether or not the City should (or could) ban smoking in restaurants; a pitched discussion with the Metropolitan Airports Commission about whether or not Flying Cloud Airport's runways would be lengthened; and took the helm of an organization that was in need of nurturing, rational leadership.

Today, we don't have to debate the question of smoking in restaurants. The State Legislature took care of that for us – and everyone else in the state as well. Flying Cloud's runways were lengthened and widened. I think the airport's development will ultimately be a good thing for the community, but it's really too early to tell right now.

And the organization I work for, well, I think it's Top Notch. The people I work with are smart and productive. They care about the look and feel of the community. They care about the people who live and work here. They work well together as a team and they are good stewards of the taxpayers' trust and treasury.

As I've been here for almost two months after announcing my resignation (per my employment agreement), there has been a lot of time for people to ask me multiple variations of two questions. They are: "As you reflect back on your time in Eden Prairie, what are you most proud of?" and "What are the challenges in Eden Prairie's future?"



That's me dressed as Santa Claus, with my Executive Assistant Lorene McWaters (L) and City Clerk Kitty Porta (R)

I'll start by looking back. While I've been a part of some interesting construction projects and public policy discussions here, the thing I'm most proud of is my team of coworkers. They are exceptional people. Together, they are an exceptional team. I'll miss them all.

Looking forward, Eden Prairie is about to be changed by the Southwest Light Rail Transit project. This project is going to change the nature of Eden Prairie in positive ways. As a community, we're not spending enough time talking about that project. But it's coming, and it's going to be a big deal over the next five years.



That's me with Police Chief Rob Reynolds (L) and Fire Chief George Esbensen (R)

Eden Prairie gave me a big break in 2002. That City Council – Mayor Nancy Tyra-Lukens, Ron Case, Jan Mosman, Sherry Butcher and (the late) David Luse – took a chance on me. I knew that then, and I still think about it today. I hope they think their risk was rewarded. I'll never be able to thank them enough for giving me a shot here.

All in all, Eden Prairie has been great to me. I've enjoyed my job, the people I work with and the people I've worked for. Thank you Eden Prairie. Thanks for everything. I'll miss you all.

*Scott H. Neal*

On Oct. 28, 2010, Scott Neal will leave Eden Prairie to become City Manager in Edina, MN. See more blog entries from City staff at [edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org)

## Staying Safe in Eden Prairie Fireplace Safety

The **Eden Prairie Fire Department** encourages you to make note of some important fire safety tips as we begin another Minnesota winter.

### Preventative Maintenance

- Have the chimney inspected annually, and cleaned as necessary, by a professional chimney sweep to ensure it's clear of obstructions and creosote.
- Have a cap installed at the top of the chimney to avoid the possibility that debris or animals can block the chimney.
- Install both a smoke and carbon monoxide detector. (Make sure the batteries work.)
- Keep a fire extinguisher on hand.
- Make sure the area around the fireplace is clear of furniture, books, newspapers and other potentially flammable materials. (Two feet away is a good rule.)

### Using Common Sense

- Never burn garbage, rolled newspapers, charcoal or plastic in the fireplace.
- Never use gasoline or any liquid accelerant to help start a fire.
- Keep small children and pets away from the fireplace.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Don't close the damper until the embers have completely stopped burning.
- When cleaning the fireplace, store ashes in a non-combustible container with a tightly fitting lid and place the container away from the house.

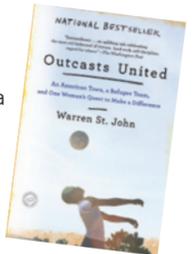
Contact the Eden Prairie Fire Prevention Bureau at 952-949-8361 for more information, or with questions related to fire safety.

## Did You Know?

Did you know that more than 2,000 Eden Prairie residents participate in a citywide reading program each year?

**Eden Prairie Reads** is a program designed to promote reading, encourage discussion among community members and strive for a new level of connection throughout the Eden Prairie community.

The 2011 Eden Prairie Reads book selection is *Outcasts United* by **Warren St. John**.



Pick up a copy today! Read it and have a discussion of the book with your book club, your organization, or friends in the community. Then watch for details about Eden Prairie Reads events related to the book, which will take place in the spring of 2011.

Eden Prairie Reads is a collaborative effort between **Eden Prairie Schools, Eden Prairie Library, Eden Prairie Foundation, Eden Prairie Barnes & Noble Booksellers, the City of Eden Prairie** and a grass roots group of Eden Prairie residents. For more information about Eden Prairie Reads events and volunteer opportunities visit [epreads.org](http://epreads.org).

# Mark Your Calendar

### Fall Festival Luncheon

Wednesday, Oct. 27  
11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Senior Center

Gather with friends and enjoy a delightful fall meal including chicken breast, rice, coleslaw, vegetables and apple crisp. Cost is \$10 per person. Registration required.

### The Great Pumpkin Event

Friday, Oct. 29  
7–9 p.m.  
Outdoor Center

Learn the history and origins of Halloween, pick a pumpkin from the patch to carve and take it home. Top the night off with a stroll on the nature trail. Cost is \$9 per child, parents and guardians admitted free. Registration required.

### Spooky Saturday

Saturday, Oct. 30  
3–5 p.m.  
Community Center

Indoor inflatable fun, spooky skating, arts and crafts, ooey-goey treats and more! Cost is \$5 per child. Admission is free for parents and guardians.

### Halloween on the Mall

Sunday, Oct. 31  
3–5 p.m.  
Eden Prairie Center

Bring the kids for an afternoon of trick-or-treating and fun at Eden Prairie Center.

### City Council Meeting\*

Tuesday, Nov. 16

\*Meeting begins at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the City Center.