

LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

Teams from the Eden Prairie Police and Fire Departments were Freezin' for a Reason at the 2008 Polar Bear Plunge!



MAY 2008

Preparing for a Public Health Emergency

Emergency preparedness is a key element in the City of Eden Prairie's commitment to the prevention of, and response to, emergencies, disasters and acts of terrorism.

For this reason, the **Eden Prairie Police and Fire Departments** will be assisting the **Hennepin County Public Health Department** with a mass dispensing drill that will take place the morning of **Sunday, May 4** in the parking lot of **Eden Prairie Center**.

The goal of this drill is to test the effectiveness of methods for distributing a medication or vaccine to a large group of people in a short period of time during a public health emergency.



"Rapidly dispensing medication to an entire community can effectively curtail some infectious disease outbreaks before they become widespread," explained **Alisa Johnson** with the Hennepin County Public Health Department. "The mass dispensing drill in Eden Prairie will test one option we are currently considering for accomplishing this."

The method being tested is a drive-through system that would essentially dispense medication to

an entire household via a drive-up dispensing station. If successful, this method could be utilized by Hennepin County in a public health emergency to distribute a mass amount of medication without requiring residents to leave their cars.

On **Sunday, May 4**, the **City of Eden Prairie** and **Hennepin County** are asking the public to participate in the mass dispensing drill by driving through the JCPenney parking lot at Eden Prairie Center (8251 Flying Cloud Drive) between 8:45 and 10 a.m.

Participation will take approximately 30 minutes and will involve driving through one of several dispensing stations where Hennepin County Public Health officials will distribute a "test medication" in the form of M&M® candies. Participants will also receive gift bags filled with coupons and giveaways from Eden Prairie Center merchants.

To register for the mass dispensing drill, visit edenprairie.org or call Hennepin County at **612-348-4463**.



Mass Dispensing Drill Your Participation is Needed!



Sunday, May 4
8:45 – 10 a.m.

Eden Prairie Center
8251 Flying Cloud Drive

Register at edenprairie.org or by calling **612-348-4463**

Spring Cleaning and Waste Collection

Get a jump-start on your spring and summer cleaning projects with these timely disposal opportunities!

City Clean-Up Day

Need to dispose of tires, appliances, electronics, yard waste, recyclables, fluorescent bulbs, construction waste and more? The City of Eden Prairie is hosting a drop-off event for residents.

Where: Hennepin Technical College (13100 College View Drive)

When: Saturday, June 21, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m.

Cost: Fees vary

More Information: edenprairie.org



Hennepin County Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Looking for an environmentally friendly way to dispose of old household batteries, cleaning solvents, fluorescent bulbs, fire extinguishers, mercury, paint and more? Hennepin County is hosting three spring collection opportunities for residents.

Where: City of Minnetonka Public Works (11522 Minnetonka Blvd.)

When: May 15–17, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Where: City of Independence City Hall (1920 County Road 90)

When: May 1–3, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Where: St. Louis Park: Louisiana Oaks Park (3500 Louisiana Ave.)

When: June 12–14, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Cost: FREE

More Information: hennepin.us/collectionevents

Please note: some disposal opportunities require verification of residency.



Fire Hydrant Maintenance

Throughout the month of April and into early May, the Eden Prairie **Utilities Division** will perform a flushing and maintenance check on all City fire hydrants.

This process involves opening and exercising each of the hydrants, which expels any sediment that may have accumulated in the pipes. The flushing process is conducted annually to maintain the water quality within the distribution system and ensure that each fire hydrant is in proper working order.



Residents are asked to use caution when driving in and around the sites being tested, and call the City's Utilities Division at **952-949-8530** with any questions or concerns.



The City of Eden Prairie is celebrating **150 Years of Community** this summer!

Visit edenprairie.org for a list of sesquicentennial celebration events.

Adopt-A-Street Program

The City of Eden Prairie would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation to the participants in the City's **Adopt-A-Street** program over the past year!

Arbor Glenn Homeowners Association
Boy Scout Troop 324
Boy Scout Troop 479
Cody Candland
Cub Scout Troop 579
David Beyer
Deb & Michael Speckman

Dory Burnett & Nimal Fernando
Dreamreachers
Eden Prairie Lion's Club
Eden Prairie Noon Rotary
Eden Prairie Women of Today
Friends of Birch Island Woods

GE Capital Fleet Services – Elfyn Group
Kevin Kraemer
Kimberly Miller
Linda & Dana Kloeckner
Spoon Ridge Helping Hands
Susan Anderson

Your efforts and commitment to keeping City streets clean have helped make Eden Prairie an even better place to Live, Work and Dream!

For more information about the Adopt-A-Street program contact **Maarie Gayther** in the City's Fleet, Street and Park Maintenance Office at **952-949-8533** or mgayther@edenprairie.org.

YOUR ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS



MAYOR

Phil Young
952-426-1931

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Brad Aho
952-949-8300

Sherry Butcher
952-829-5351

Jon Duckstad
952-903-0274

Kathy Nelson
952-941-6613

LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE IS PUBLISHED BY:

City of Eden Prairie
Communications Division
8080 Mitchell Road
Eden Prairie, MN
55344-4485

952-949-8334
edenprairie.org

Live Well Eden Prairie!

Celebrate Senior Awareness Month

Statistics show that one in eight Americans is age 65 or older, and whether you are nearing that age bracket or represent the opposite end of the spectrum, Senior Awareness Month offers a multitude of opportunities to Live Well in Eden Prairie!

May is Senior Awareness Month nationwide, and here in Eden Prairie the theme of this year's celebration is *Stepping Up and Out!* Since 1993, the City has endorsed this annual awareness month in an effort to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions and accomplishments of older adults, to recognize the organizations that serve older adults and to enhance community involvement across generations.

For senior citizens, this is your month to celebrate! Whether you enjoy meeting new people, learning something new, revisiting events in history or exploring new places, the City of Eden Prairie offers an abundance of options for *Stepping Up and Out*, and living well!



Mickey Axton and Harold Hesse enjoy a dance at the 2007 Garden Party.



Sharon Steiner and Vernetta Bredow take time to appreciate friendship and flowers at the 2007 Garden Party.

For younger adults, this is a great month to enhance your life by expressing your appreciation or making a contribution to the generations that have come before you. Whether you have a special senior in your life, a special talent to share, or would like to reach out and volunteer, Senior Awareness Month is the perfect occasion to make a contribution to the lives of senior citizens.

Stop by or call:

Eden Prairie Senior Center
8950 Eden Prairie Road
952-279-8050
Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Or visit edenprairie.org for more information about Senior Awareness Month and discover dozens of new and exciting opportunities that will help you Live Well Eden Prairie!



To Live Well is to live the life you desire!

As of May 1 there will be only 244 days left in this calendar year; have you taken the opportunity to Live Well in 2008? Now is the time and May is the perfect month to get started!

- Get the whole family together and participate in the **2008 Arbor Day Walk**.
- Revisit the wonder of your youth at **Kite Fest 2008**.
- Plan ahead and gather with friends to enjoy the **2008 Concert Series: Concerts in the Park**.
- Make 2008 the year to reunite with old friends and jump on the bus for a **Crofut Family Wine Tour**.
- Register the kids for one of the many **2008 Summer Day Camps**.
- Celebrate 2008, Minnesota's 150th Anniversary, with a bus trip to the **Minnesota History Center Museum**.
- Attend the **Community Center Grand Opening** festivities and find convenient options to help you follow through on your 2008 fitness resolutions.
- Prepare for 2008 summer beach outings with **Spring Swimming Lessons** for the whole family.

For those who Live, Work and Dream in the City of Eden Prairie there is no time like the present to explore the opportunities and make this the year you begin to Live Well!

To learn more about these and other Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation programs, visit edenprairie.org.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the profits generated by **Eden Prairie Liquor** benefit the Eden Prairie community?

Over the past decade, liquor operations in Eden Prairie have contributed more than **\$6 million** to the City's **Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)** which helps to fund projects such as playground equipment and road improvements.

We know you have a choice when you purchase beer, wine and spirits, and we're thankful when you choose to shop at Eden Prairie Liquor and help make our City an even better place to Live, Work and Dream!



Around Eden Prairie

A Page from the Blog of City Manager Scott Neal

The City Council took a big step last night toward advancing the City's **20-40-15** initiative by approving a plan prepared by the City's energy management consultant, **McKinstry & Associates**, which will increase the energy efficiency of the City's public buildings.

The plan, which we call Phase 1.1, includes improvements to the lighting and electrical controls at the City Center, Community Center, Streets & Parks Maintenance Center and three other city buildings. The cost of the projects is estimated to be \$860,000. The City will secure the cost of the project through a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) contract with McKinstry. The blended simple payback period for the projects is 12 years.

One of the more interesting aspects of the plan is how it's financed. The projects are financed with debt that is repaid by the money saved by the City through lower energy costs attributable to the projects themselves. Our agreement with McKinstry guarantees sufficient energy cost savings to pay the

project costs — or they will make up the difference, so they have a stake in making sure that what they recommended will actually work. That seems like a good idea to me.

We call the project Phase 1.1 because there are additional projects for other public buildings under development that we will present to the Council for approval in the near future. We're also working on a plan to show the Council how the 20-40-15 initiative is playing out in our vehicle fleet as well.

The Phase 1.1 projects approved by the Council last night will reduce the amount of carbon dioxide produced by the city government operations of the City of Eden Prairie by 625 metric tons per year. That's pretty good, but we can do better — and we will.



See more of **Scott Neal's** blog entries by visiting edenprairie.org.

Mark Your Calendar

Park Cleanup Day

Saturday, April 19
8:30–11 a.m.

Make it a family service project or grab a group of neighborhood friends, and do your part to help keep the parks and trails of Eden Prairie clean! Call **952-949-8463** today for your local assignment.

Open Mic Poetry Night

Monday, April 21
7 p.m.

Celebrate National Poetry Night at the Eden Prairie Library. Call **952-847-5375** to register for participation, or just stop by to listen.

Severe Weather Awareness Week

April 21–25

With the arrival of the severe weather season in Minnesota, the Eden Prairie Police and Fire Departments encourage all residents to take a moment this week to review your severe weather plans and be sure to participate in the state-wide tornado drill on Thursday, April 24 at 1:45 p.m.

Broadway on Blades

April 25, 26
7 p.m.
April 27
2 p.m.

Bring the whole family to the Community Center for this annual ice show featuring the sights and sounds of Broadway! Tickets available at the Community Center front office beginning April 21: \$8 for adults 18 and older; \$5 for children.

Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting*

Tuesday, April 29

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

Arbor Day Walk

Saturday, May 3
9–11:30 a.m.

Celebrate Arbor Day with a walk around Staring Lake and enjoy complimentary refreshments, tree health and planting information, seedlings and landscape drawings.

Kite Fest

Sunday, May 4
1–4 p.m.

Join the Minnesota Kite Society at Round Lake Park for a dazzling kite show! Learn about kites and how to fly one, bring your own or make one for only \$3.

City Council Meetings*

Tuesday, May 6 and May 20

*All meetings begin at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the City Center.

Spring Run for Fun – 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, May 10
9 a.m.

All proceeds benefit the Eden Prairie Girls on the Run program. Pre-register at the Community Center or online at midwestevents.com; race-day registration begins at 7:45 a.m. at Purgatory Creek Park's Lambert Pavilion.

Riley-Jacques Barn Twilight Special

Saturday, May 17
7:30 p.m.

Bring the whole gang for a barn dance at the historic Riley-Jacques Barn, featuring Shake These Bones with Bob Walser and Julie Young. Tickets available at the door: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, students and seniors.

Community Center Grand Opening Celebration!

Saturday, May 17
10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Celebrate the Grand Opening of the newly renovated and expanded Community Center with entertainment, refreshments, activities and more!

Memorial Day

Monday, May 26

In observance of Memorial Day the City Center and Senior Center will be closed on Monday, May 26. The Community Center and all Eden Prairie Liquor stores will maintain regular operating hours.