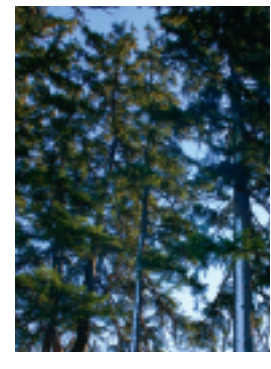


# L I F E I N T H E P R A I R I E

Meals on Wheels volunteer Judy Orrock loads lunches for delivery.



Snow clings to the bark of the trees at Red Rock Lake Park.

Pierce Thonka returns books at the Eden Prairie Library.



JANUARY 2005

## Eden Prairie Businesses Recognized for Achievements in Technology



At the recent Tekne awards ceremony, five Eden Prairie companies took home top honors. The Tekne awards, presented by the Minnesota High Tech Association, Medical Alley, and Minnesota Project Innovation, recognize both Emerging and Established companies for achievements in technology.

Three of the seven Emerging companies honored are based in the City of Eden Prairie:

- NVE Corporation
- Compellent Technologies Inc.
- Jasc Software

Another Eden Prairie company, E-Travel Experts, was also a finalist in the Emerging companies category but was defeated by Jasc Software.

In the Established company category, two Eden Prairie companies were recognized with Tekne awards:

- Stellent
- Digital River

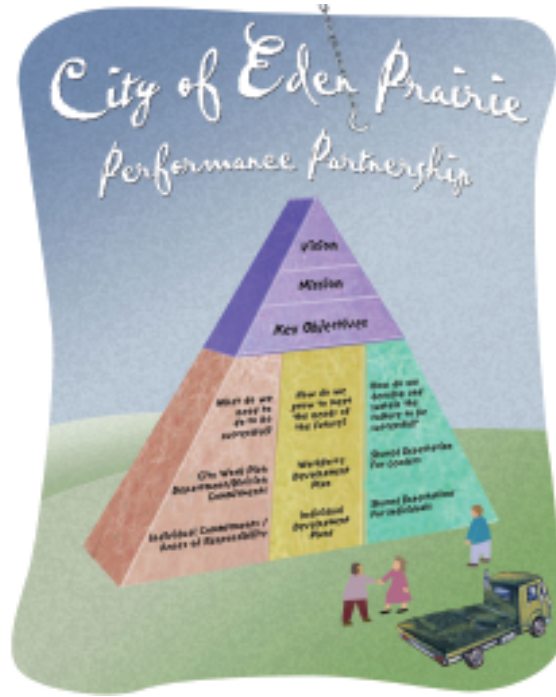
These two organizations were in very good company, as three of the other businesses (3M, Cargill and Medtronic) are significantly larger corporations.

The City of Eden Prairie is embarking on a new initiative to change the way its employees work. "Performance Partnership" is a new framework for assigning accountability and assessing results for City leaders and employees. The goal of the Performance Partnership is to ensure that the City's work plans, culture, and employee development plans reflect the long-term objectives established by the City Council.

City Manager Scott Neal helped spearhead the new program. "Eden Prairie has a talented staff that consistently meets and exceeds our expectations," he said, "Our employees genuinely want to succeed and to do their very best. This new program will allow employees, their managers, myself and even the City Council to determine just how good a job we've done individually and as a group."

One of the first Performance Partnership initiatives involved establishing annual goals at every level of the organization. Next year, City leaders intend to improve on this start by developing stronger performance measures. "We have to be able to show the value we add for the investment our citizens and businesses make" explains Neal. "I believe that linking

## Performance Partnership Changing the way we work



performance measures to our work will demonstrate that we take that investment very seriously."

Another key component of the Performance Partnership is workplace culture. "How we accomplish our work is just as important as what we accomplish," stated Human Resources Manager Karen Kurt. "If an employee does their job but leaves customers unhappy because of slow response times, we aren't going to be successful."

Development teams consisting of employees and managers took the first steps in defining the cultural attributes necessary for success. For City employees, those attributes (or values) include Teamwork, Flexibility, Customer Focus, Initiative, Public Stewardship, and Results Orientation.

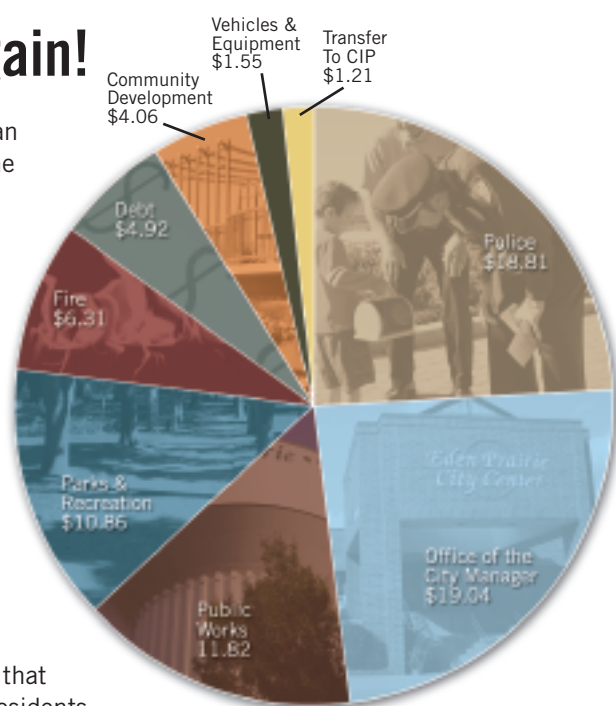
Starting in 2005, candidates for City positions will go through an interview with their peers to assess if they are the right "fit" for the City's desired culture. In addition, all employees will complete a series of classes related to these shared expectations.

"As an organization, we are strongest when we are pulling in the same direction," noted Neal. "I believe that the Performance Partnership puts us all on the same page and that leads to a more successful City government."

## It's a Bargain!

For slightly more than \$2.50 each day, the average Eden Prairie taxpayer receives police and fire services, an award winning park system, well-maintained and plowed streets, and a focused community development effort.

The average cost per month for all these services, as well as a host of other services that the City provides its residents, is only \$78.58.



\* The Office of the City Manager includes Human Resources, City Clerk, Communications, Finance, Information Technology and Facilities.

\*\* CIP is the Capital Improvement Plan. The CIP funds major capital initiatives such as the Preventive Management Plan for City streets and the replacement of the sheet of ice at the Community Center.

## Adopt-A-Street Volunteers Recognized

Eden Prairie's Adopt-A-Street program was created to help keep the City's streets and adjoining properties clean and litter-free. The individuals and groups listed below have donated their time and efforts during the past two years and have been responsible for keeping "their" streets cleaned. We'd like to thank these people and groups and publicly recognize them for the service they've provided to our community.



**Susan Anderson**  
Homeward Hills from Anderson Lakes Pkwy. to Pioneer Trail

**David Beyer**  
LRT trail from Valley View to Edenvale

**Sherry Black**  
Anderson Lakes Parkway between Preserve Blvd. and 212; Hennepin Town Rd. by Preserve Shopping Ctr.

**Cody Candland**  
Waterford Rd., Larkspur Lane, Preserve Blvd., Anderson Lakes Pkwy, Homeward Hills

**Linda and Dana Kloeckner**  
Evener Way from Dell Road to Hames Way

**Kimberly Miller**  
Edenvale Blvd. from Valley View Rd. to Woodland Drive

**Deb and Michael Speckman**  
Prairie Center Drive between Preserve Blvd. and W. 78th St.

**Arbor Glen Homeowners Association**  
Arbor Glen, Baker Rd., Roberts Dr.

**Boy Scout Troop 342**  
Staring Lake Parkway from Staring Lake to Pioneer Trail

**Boy Scout Troop 479**  
Miller Parkway from Cty. Rd. 4 to Candlewood Parkway

**CMS Star Mentor Program**  
Scenic Heights Rd. from Cty. Rd. 4 to Mitchell Rd.

**Dreamreachers**  
Franlo Road from Anderson Lakes Pkwy. to Pioneer Trail

**Eden Prairie Lion's Club**  
Prairie Center Drive from 212 to 494

**Eden Prairie Noon Rotary Club**  
Valley View Rd. from Mitchell Rd. to County Rd. 4

**GE Capital Fleet Services**  
W. 78th St. between Prairie Ctr. Dr. & 169

**Girl Scout Troop 1202**  
Valley View Rd. from Prairie Ctr. Dr. to County Rd. 4

**Spoon Ridge Helping Hands**  
Homeward Hills Rd. from Anderson Lakes Parkway to Grist Mill Ridge

If you or your group is interested in becoming a part of the Adopt-A-Street program in Eden Prairie, please contact the City's Street Maintenance office at 952-949-8533.



## Eden Prairie Police Offers Personal Safety Presentations

The Eden Prairie Police Department has speakers available for a Personal Safety Presentation to be given to your group or organization. This is not a course in self-defense, however it is an opportunity for you to increase your awareness of potential threats to your personal safety. Learn how to be aware, be prepared, and have a plan should your personal safety be endangered while at home, traveling and during your normal daily business.

For more information, or to schedule this one-hour presentation, please contact Mark Krueger at 952-949-6200.

## I like Eden Prairie because...

The City of Eden Prairie would like to hear directly from our residents about how you would finish this statement: "I like Eden Prairie because..."

- What was the number one reason you moved to Eden Prairie?
- What is it you brag about to others?
- What have you discovered in the City that brings a smile to your face?

We'd like to hear from you by the end of January and, if you don't mind, we'd like to know your name and how to contact you.

Please tell us your thoughts by contacting the City through:

Email: [communications@edenprairie.org](mailto:communications@edenprairie.org)  
Voice mail: 952-949-8434  
US Postal Service: "I like Eden Prairie because"  
City of Eden Prairie  
8080 Mitchell Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Some legal stuff: By submitting your comment/s, you give the City of Eden Prairie all rights to use and disseminate the information in whatever way the City sees fit. You give up any and all rights to the statement/s you submit.



### YOUR ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

#### MAYOR

Nancy Tyra-Lukens.....952-937-1898

#### COUNCILMEMBERS

Sherry Butcher .....952-829-5351

Ron Case .....952-949-0915

Philip Young.....952-949-2451

Brad Aho .....952-949-5955

## L I F E I N T H E P R A I R I E

Life in the Prairie published by:

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952-949-8434  
[www.edenprairie.org](http://www.edenprairie.org)

# Just for the Fun of It!

A PUBLICATION OF THE EDEN PRAIRIE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## Upcoming Events CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

- Dec. 20** **"Celebrate Winter" Art Expo Class**  
Ages 6-12. 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road.  
\$18 advance registration required.  
952-949-8456
- Dec. 20-22** **Open Swim**  
At Oak Point Pool  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Dec. 22** **Stepping Stone Theatre and Swimming Trip**  
Chaperoned trip for kids in grades 1-6. Leave from EPCC.  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
\$38 advance registration required.  
952-949-8456
- Dec. 24** **City Center and Senior Center closed  
Community Center open until 3 p.m.**
- Dec. 25** **All City Buildings Closed**
- Dec. 27-30** **Open Swim**  
At Oak Point Pool  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Dec. 28** **SnowTubing & Maple Maze**  
Chaperoned trip for kids in grades 1-6 to Maple Grove for snowtubing and indoor playground. Leave from EPCC. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
\$38 advance registration required.  
952-949-8456
- Dec. 31** **City Center and Senior Center closed  
Community Center open until 5:00 p.m.**

### JANUARY

- JAN. 1** **All City Buildings Closed**
- JAN. 3** **Park Facility Rentals**  
Begin for 2005
- JAN. 3** **Swimming Lessons Begin**  
At EPCC and Oak Point Pools.  
advance registration required.  
952-949-8447
- JAN. 6** **Fly Fishing at the Prairie Dome**  
Five Thursdays inside the High School Prairie Dome. 9:00 - 10:00 p.m.  
\$100 advance registration required.  
952-949-8479
- JAN. 7** **Night with the Timberwolves**  
Game and transportation for youth attending with an adult.  
5:30 - 11:00 p.m.; Leave from EPCC.  
\$28 advance registration required.  
952-949-8456
- JAN. 12** **Memoir Writing Class**  
6 week journaling class on Wednesdays. 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.  
Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road.  
\$55 advance registration required.  
952-949-8475
- JAN. 12** **Art & Nature for Homeschoolers ages 7-12**  
Sign up for one Thursday class or all twelve through March 30.  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Outdoor Center, 13765 Staring Lake Parkway.  
\$20 advance registration required.  
952-949-8479
- JAN. 14** **Science & Experiments for Homeschoolers ages 7-12**  
Sign up for one Friday class or all eleven through March 25.  
12:30 - 3:30 p.m.; Outdoor Center, 13765 Staring Lake Parkway.  
\$15 advance registration required.  
952-949-8479
- JAN. 20** **Sesame Street Live**  
Show and transportation for youth with an adult. 9:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Leave from EPCC.  
\$15 advance registration required.  
952-949-8456
- JAN. 22** **Winter Family Fun Day**  
Free family event. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Staring Lake Park. 952-949-8456
- JAN. 25** **Make & Take**  
Leisure Education program.  
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.; Outdoor Center.  
\$5 advance registration required.  
952-949-8457

## Outdoor Ice Rinks

The community-lighted free skating and hockey rinks are scheduled to open on **December 16 through February 25** depending on weather conditions. Call the weather hotline (952-949-8449) for updated information.

During open hours the warming house will be unlocked, lights will be available, and an attendant will be on duty.

The warming house and rinks may be reserved by groups when not open to the public or in use for hockey practice.

To reserve a warming house, call Nicole Weedman at **952-949-8456**. Hockey Association teams should contact the Hockey Association. All warming houses will be open extended hours during the holiday break.



## Staring Lake Sledding Hill

At Staring Lake Park  
14800 Pioneer Trail

- 900-foot sledding hill
- No pull rope available
- Use your plastic sled
- No sleds with runners
- Use your inner-tube
- No skis
- No snowboards



## Winter Family FUN Day

featuring...

- Ice Skating
- Sledding
- Horse-drawn Wagon Rides\*
- Face Painting\*
- Toast Marshmallows by the Fire
- Musical Entertainment by "Blizzard" Bob the Beachcomber
- Snowshoeing - weather permitting

**Fun for the Entire Family!**  
Saturday, January 22; 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
**Free Family Event**  
Staring Lake Park, 14800 Pioneer Trail

\*Nominal Fee

## COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATES

The Fitness Center, a 2,000-square-foot space, is freshly renovated with new equipment:

- Treadmills
- Elliptical machines
- Televisions
- Expanded area for free weights, stretching area and weight machines



**Ice Rink 1** has a fresh paint job on the interior walls and new matting on the floor area around the outside of the rink.

**Hockey team rooms** are larger and more functional. Plus there is a separate room for hockey officials, complete with restroom.

**Skate rental** with a skate sharpening area is now located in the main rink.

**Stop by the Community Center at 16700 Valley View Road to see the changes, check out the fitness classes, or sign up for a membership.**

### EPCC Membership

A Community Center membership provides you with free use of Fitness Center (14 & up), Community Center and Oak Point pools, racquetball, ice skating, and discounted rates for fitness classes, swimming and skating lessons.

	Residents (live or work in EP)		Non-residents	
	3 MO.	1 YR.	3 MO.	1 YR.
Youth (18 & under)	\$40	\$110	\$50	\$135
Adult (19 & up)	\$65	\$185	\$85	\$240
Household	\$95	\$265	\$120	\$340
Senior (62 & up)	\$40	\$110	\$50	\$140
Senior Household (62 & up)	\$45	\$130	\$60	\$170

Memberships are good for one year or 3 months from the date of purchase. Contact the Community Center at 952-949-8470 for more information.

Looking for a place to celebrate? Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation has eleven facilities for rent to offer lots of choices for a fun birthday party, bridal shower, a unique office get-together or family reunion.

Park Rental Reservations for 2005 will be taken beginning on January 3 at the Community Center. Call 952-949-8471.

The Eden Prairie Senior Center, located at 8950 Eden Prairie Road offers rooms of various sizes available for rent. Smaller rooms may be just what your business needs for an off-site meeting; while the larger Community Room with attached full kitchen is perfect for larger gatherings (up to 90 people). Rates begin at \$5 per hour up to \$25 per hour; and the Center is conveniently located next to Pioneer Park with a playground and tennis courts. Call 942-949-8475.

## CELEBRATION LOCATIONS



## Leisure Education Program

Leisure Education Programs provide opportunities for participants with disabilities.

## Make & Take

Ages 2-6 with their father

This program is an opportunity for fathers and their child with special needs to bond at the table o'crafts. Bring your creative spirit and we'll provide the materials and snack. Siblings are welcome. Register child for one or all four dates. \$5 per class.



Tuesdays, Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 22, Apr 26  
from 6:00 - 7:00 pm  
at the Staring Lake Outdoor Center,  
13765 Staring Lake Parkway.  
Advance registration required.  
Contact Nicole White at 952-949-8457  
for more information.

## Sesame Street Live "Elmo's Coloring Book"

Thursday, January 20  
9:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Join your favorite Sesame Street pals for song and dance at the Target Center. Lower level seating and transportation provided for kids and their parents. (meet at EPCC) Register before January 8. \$15 Contact Nicole Weedman at 952-949-8456 for more information.



## REGISTRATION IS EASY!

There are four easy ways to register:  
Internet, phone, mail and in-person.



\*Register using eConnect via the internet at [www.edenprairie.org](http://www.edenprairie.org)



\*Over the phone at 952-949-8407



Through the mail to the Community Center



In person at the Community Center 16700 Valley View Road or the Senior Center 8950 Eden Prairie Road

\*If you need a PIN and Family Account Number, stop by the Eden Prairie Community Center to complete a Family Information Form.