Brooklyn Park has launched a mobile app, Brooklyn Park HRG Recycling, to make it even easier for you to get information about recycling collection programs.

Download the Brooklyn Park HRG Recycling app for Apple iPhone or Android smartphones.

In the mobile app, you'll find the recycling and special pickup collection schedule specific to your home address. The mobile app can also remind you of your collection day, so you'll never

HRG

up leaves that have accumulated

along your curb and sidewalk.

Drop them off for free at the

Maple Grove Yardwaste Site

Curbside yard waste pickup

Tales from Tim's Recycling Bin

can't melt it with the laundry detergent jug.

Manufacturers who buy our recycling to use

basic, homogenous material. They are set up to

recycle products or packaging made with few

detergent jug. Once items get additives or other

ingredients such as a water bottle or laundry

components manufacturers can't use them.

When it comes to recycling plastics stick to

the basics: bottles, jugs, cups and containers.

Until next time, my friends, keep your plastic

hangers or laundry baskets in your cart.

equipment, put them in the trash.

recycling basic not bulky.

Instead, like we did with the playground

Do not put bulky plastic items such as toys, chairs,

in their new products and packaging want

through your garbage hauler

Street sweeping can keep a lot

Also in the mobile app, you can search our Waste Wizard to find out if a material can be reused, recycled, composted or

If you don't have an Apple or Android smartphone, you can also visit our Recycling webpage and search your home address in our My Schedule tool. You can then:

- Sign up for waste collection reminders by email, phone
- Download your collection schedule into your iCal, Google calendar or Microsoft Outlook calendar.
- Print your collection schedule.

On our Recycling page, you can also search the Waste Wizard to learn how to properly recycle or dispose of materials.

Don't just leave your leaves this fall!

of leaves out of the water, but Fallen leaves decompose and by the time they drive by, lots of restock the soil with nutrients. But, decomposed material may have when there is no soil to land on, already washed away. such as on a street or sidewalk, all the decomposing bits wash **Compost your leaves** down the storm drain directly The leaves that are collected can into lakes, rivers, and ponds. Here, the nutrients will feed unwanted Backyard compost bin

Here are some ways to keep leaves out of local waterbodies:

Bigger is not always better

Recently, one of our park maintenance staff

asked me what to do with some worn out

plastic playground equipment. It had those

familiar chasing arrows with the number in the

middle — a symbol that leads many people to

believe that the item is recyclable, even though

That symbol is not a government standard. It's

something the plastics industry invented years

ago to denote the base resin used to make the

item. Base is the key word, base as where you

start from. While the playground equipment

into a laundry detergent jug — these #2s are

not equal. Outdoor equipment has added UV

protectants so that sunlight wouldn't cause it to Tim Pratt, Recycling Manager

degrade. Those added chemicals mean that you Operations and Maintenance

was stamped with a #2 like the #2 molded

Clear your curb or sidewalk

it's not.

Special materials drop-off day

that can be recycled but can't go in your recycling cart.

Drop-off your mattresses, electronics, appliances, tires, scrap metal, bikes, batteries and more at the Operations & Maintenance facility, 8300 Noble Ave N. on Saturday, October 9 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Fees may be charged for some items. There will also be free paper shredding.

Before winter arrives get rid of those items Please put your items in your trunk, hatch, or pickup bed so that workers can remove items without going into passenger areas of your vehicle. Pay with check or exact change to limit interaction with staff.

> For more information including a list of what is accepted, and fees visit www. brooklynpark.org/recycling-events or call **763-493-8006.**

Changes to bulky waste curbside collection

Curbside bulky waste cleanup will be held on four Saturdays beginning on September 18. This year we will be in the West District. Note that the citywide garage sale concludes on September 25 so please be cautious if you are attending sales in that area on that day.

The cost of the bulky waste curbside collection program has more than doubled in the past five years. To reduce costs the City Council set limits on the amount of material collected.

Items exceeding limits will be left behind by the hauler. Residents will need to arrange and pay for separate disposal.

General junk and building materials:

Pile limited to ONE level truck bed (about 4' x 8' x 2')

Unusable furniture Limit TWO

Mattresses or box springs Limit TWO

Several times during the fall, rake Mulch your yard

Whole or shredded leaves can be used as mulch. Mulch benefits the soil and reduces weeds. Use a mulching mower to break apart the leaves so that they fall between the blades of grass.

In garden beds, leaves provide a protective layer of insulation for perennial gardens and shrubbery be composted in a variety of ways: Just remember: by law, leaves and other yard waste cannot go in

Thanks for doing your part!

your garbage or recycling carts.

Get into Brooklyn Park Restaurant Week!

September 12-18

Restaurant Week is an opportunity to explore the diverse variety of cuisines in Brooklyn Park, enjoy discounts, and have a chance to win prizes! Brooklyn Park is proud to be the home to a diverse selection of over 100 restaurants. We are working hard to promote our locally owned restaurants and connect with our community.

How to participate

1. Visit one of the featured restaurants and take advantage of one of these great discounts!

2. Win a prize by visiting a participating restaurant, taking a picture, posting it on social media and tagging Brooklyn Park! You will be entered into a drawing to win a gift

Learn about participating restaurants at brooklynpark.org/restaurant-week

Vision for the future inspires new logo

NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

As we plan for the future of North Hennepin Community College, we are inspired by our students, our colleagues, the community, and the culture around us. Using the college's overall strategic plan, we have developed a new brand strategy that is authentic to what NHCC is, our culture, what we stand for, and what we aspire to be. At its core, the new brand strategy can be summed up in one statement: Global mindset, shared success. NHCC is a global-minded, local collegiate community of lifelong learners, where multiple unique perspectives, open-mindedness, and curiosity shape our thinking. The new NHCC logo is designed to communicate that infinite possibilities exist, and a vibrant new color palette infuses the new look. At NHCC, our mission is to create opportunity for students to reach their academic goals, succeed in their chosen professions, and make a difference ir the world. Visit **blog.nhcc.edu** to learn more about the new branding.



at Yale in fall

Dr. Rolando García

esident, North Hennepin Community College

APPLY FOR FREE

OCTOBER 1-31.

Visit nhcc.edu/apply for more information.

Alum starts graduate school

When Afeez Sodeinde came to NHCC in 2015, he originally started as a

Pre-Nursing major. While taking the required science courses, he discov-

of Biology at Bemidji State University. "Andy showed me this four-year

ered a passion for Biology and met with Andy Arsham, Assistant Professor

plan. The graduation path was clear and I chose BSU." The Biology Transfer

Pathway is just one of several bachelor's degree programs offered through

NHCC's University Center. Since graduation, Afeez worked at the National

Institutes of Health, and will start a graduate program at Yale University

this fall. Visit **blog.nhcc.edu** for a Q&A with Afeez.

A big thank you to

NHCC donors

Program Spotlight PHLEBOTOMY TECHNICIAN



NORTH

HENNEPIN

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A member of Minnesota State

After launching in June, NHCC's Phlebotomy Technician certificate program is being met with high demand. Courses filled up immediately, representing strong student interest in the program, not to mention the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated 17 percent job growth from 2019 through 2029. This short-term certificate program prepares students for entry-level positions in healthcare, and transferrable skills for students who wish to continue their education in medical laboratory technology, nursing, radiology and others.

Tiahna, a current student, said Phlebotomy will help her decide if she wants to stay in the medical field. "I chose Phlebotomy because it's an entry-level hospital position that gets me closer to my career goal of being a Pathologists' Assistant." Visit **blog.nhcc.edu** for a Q&A with Tiahna.



Did you know that 67 percent of NHCC students attend part-time? As a non-residential college, most of our students work to cover rent and provide food for themselves and their families. Thanks to the generosity of donors, \$136,500 in scholarships will be awarded this year to deserving students.

Another \$30,000 of emergency aid will be available through the Random Acts of Kindness program and \$4,000 for the NHCC Food Cupboard. Donors not only make a college education accessible but also help students succeed in completing their education. Please join those who are changing lives by donating online at **nhcc.edu/donate** or call 763-424-0815.













Meet your

Lisa Jacobson

The 2021 special election for Brooklyn

Park Mayor was as close as it gets! Initial

results were in favor of Lisa Jacobson by

a single vote, prompting a request for a

recount. Final results were certified on

August 23 in favor of Jacobson by two

votes. There was a total of 6,856 votes in

the mayoral race, or 14.5% of registered

Lions Club, Crime Prevention Board, and more.

Lisa Jacobson is a business owner and a 34-year resident of Brooklyn Park

Jacobson has a long history of volunteer work, nonprofit leadership and

other involvement in the city. This includes serving as president of the

Economic Development Authority (EDA), a member of the Rotary Club,

Jacobson has also been the Council liaison for various committees and

commissions, including the Human Rights Commission, Planning

(both as a homeowner and a renter) and has served on the Brooklyn Park

voters in Brooklyn Park.

About Lisa Jacobson

city council since 2017.

Mayor,



4

OKLY OKLY

4



OPEN POSITION Special election will be held watch for more information at:

"It is my absolute honor to continue serving Brooklyn Park

from a new seat on the Council, as your Mayor. I want to thank

everyone involved in this special election and look forward

to coming together to build a better Brooklyn Park for all!"



TERRY PARKS 763-493-8097 voicemail terry.parks@brooklynpark.org (Elected through 2022)

CENTRAL DISTRICT



BOYD MORSON 763-493-8040 voicemail boyd.morson@brooklynpark.org (Elected through 2024)



TONJA WEST-HAFNER 763-493-8372 voicemail tonja.west-hafner@brooklynpark.org (Elected through 2022)

WEST DISTRICT

Lisa's priorities are:

IN THIS ISSUE:

Rec & Parks Director Retires

Restaurant Week

Sept 12–18

New Recycling

Commission, Charter Commission, Budget

Advisory Commission, Business Forward

Advisory Board and the 252 Planning

 A safe community for the residents, police and fire departments Continuing to lead by putting constituents first and listening to

all members of the community

- Fiscal responsibility and long-term sustainability to protect taxpayers
- Continuing positive growth for residents and businesses in all corners of the community
- Wise decision making and consistent communication, especially during a community crisis
- Working with the city's unique and diverse community to come together for change and celebrations

Congratulations, Mayor Jacobson!

EAST DISTRICT



SUSAN PHA 763-315-8496 voicemail susan.pha@brooklynpark.org



WYNFRED RUSSELL 763-315-8442 voicemail vynfred.russell@brooklynpark.org (Elected through 2022)

Wednesday

Celebrate Brooklyn Park

Events & Experiences

Fresh Locally





City and 40 years in Recreation and Parks administration, Jody Yungers,

Director of Recreation & Parks for the city of Brooklyn Park decides to retire. Her final day was August 31, 2021. During her time with the City, ody had many accomplishments. To name a few, the development of a Park System Plan and successful \$26M

2018 Park Bond Referendum to support the redevelopment and improvements of many of our city parks, the complete redesign of River Park that re-opened this past July, and the

construction of the Brooklyn Park Sports Dome in partnership with Osseo Area Schools. Jody has been such an asset and was instrumental in making our park system one of a kind and in advancing the partnership with the Police Department in creation of the Youth Services Division. She has supported the overall health of the community through

removing barriers to participation in programs and enhanced access to the park system, all while staying relevant to the changing needs of the community.

Jody started her career in recreation as the Recreation Manager with the City of Roseville and went on to work for the Ramsey County Park System for 23 years before coming to Brooklyn Park. When asked what she enjoyed most about working for the City, Yungers said, "I truly believe our diversity within the City is what has made my work so enjoyable. Our diversity is what makes Brooklyn Park so special...and working with the community has truly enriched my professional growth."

Jody and her husband are expecting their first granddaughter in October and are excited about this new chapter in their lives. They plan on a warm winter retreat in Arizona for a month each winter, as well as traveling abroad to Europe, Austrailia and Korea. Jody says she could see herself teaching part time in a university, helping others find the same love for Recreation & Parks as she did. All of us thank Jody for her tireless efforts and innovative ideas that have helped form the future direction for the park system; she will be greatly missed.

On September 1, Brad Tullberg stepped into Jody's role as Director. Brad has been Brooklyn Park's Manager of Parks and Facilities for the past six years.

Highlighting our programs

About Rec on the Go

Rec on the Go is a FREE program in Brooklyn Park that uses two mobile recreation vehicles to bring recreation opportunities to youth 5–12 years old who have never participated or may have barriers to participating in recreation programming. Programming is provided at multiple locations throughout the summer and in the fall and winter. This summer, Rec on the Go was at eight parks and seven apartment communities with programming twice a week for 90 minutes at each location, Monday through Thursday, from June 21 through August 13. Activities included group games, team building challenges, sports, science and arts and crafts.

The Rec on the Go team distributes free snacks/meals to participants and families through a partnership with MDE and Osseo Area School District. Last summer, the team distributed more than 47,000 meals to meet the needs of youth and families in our community.

To see a list of apartment and park locations where Rec on the Go currently visits, please go to www.brooklynpark.org/recgo

History Behind Rec on the Go

The Rec on the Go (ROTG) program started in 2016 in partnership with Brooklyn Center through their work together with the Brooklyn Bridge Alliance for Youth.

The Brooklyn Bridge Alliance for Youth was instrumental in Brooklyn Park's and Brooklyn Center's 2015 proposal to Hennepin County Youth Sports grant that is estimated to serve roughly 3,360 participant visits in the summer. Results indicated that the summer launch of the ROTG program was a success. ROTG served 204% of the estimated goal of total visits in the Hennepin County Youth Sports grant proposal its first summer, and 65% of youth who participated in site programming were new to recreation programming. All stakeholders were highly satisfied with the program and

demand was created for growth in the future. Several partners also provided programming that enhanced the ROTG program. Three Rivers Park District brought programming to some of the sites, and Partners in Nutrition provided food. Brooklyn Park also had the Pop-Up Book Nook program operating during the summer months.

In 2017, the Brooklyn Bridge Alliance for Youth and the city of Brooklyn Park connected with the Minnesota Super Bowl Host Committee related to the Legacy Fund community grant and submitted a grant and secured funding for a second Rec on the Go vehicle.

Children and Families Reached through Rec on the Go

Increasing participation in recreation activities where children and families reside is a priority of Rec on the Go. Since its inception year in 2016, Rec on the Go has increased visits and unduplicated participants with a start of 2,409 participant visits and 741 young people over the 10 weeks of summer to 5,022 participant visits and 4,925 young people in 2019. Each year, Rec on the Go programming is present at special events and brings activities to other areas of the community. Special event attendance has increased the reach of 2,963 participants in 2017 to 4,925 attendees in 2019. During the pandemic in 2020, Rec on the Go still connected with 1,304 young people who socially distanced and met the small group size requirements of the MN Dept. of Health. During the pandemic, Rec on the Go staff focused on meal insecurity and distributed more than 47,000 meals to meet the needs of youth and families in our community.

For more information and updates, please visit www.brooklynpark.org/recgo.

Donate to Rec on the Go

If you are interested in donating to this great program that connects thousands of young people to caring adults, high quality recreation programming and necessary food, you can do so on your Brooklyn Park Utility Bill in the section that says "Opt in for Kids" or go to www.brooklynpark.org/

BrookLynk: Rising above the occasion

BrookLynk continues to shine as the city's leading youth development program. BrookLynk's summer internship program is a ten-week career exploration and summer employment program for youth 16-24 who live or attend school in Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center.

Since March 2021 BrookLynk has successfully engaged more than 300 youth and young adults from the community and more than doubled summer participation since summer 2020.

This year the program matched more than 90 youth to paid internships June - August. During the ten-week internship experience BrookLynk interns learned new skills, gained exposure to high demand industries, and built professional connections

To sign up for upcoming BrookLynk programs and find out about paid summer internship opportunities visit <u>www.brooklynk.works</u> or contact BrookLynk staff at admin@brooklynk. works or 763-493-8381.

and networks



Speed limit changes

In 2019, State Legislature passed a allowing local communities to set speed limits on city-owned roadways once they have a policy providing a framework for addressing speed limits. In December 2020, City Council approved a policy for the larger city-owned roads with heavier traffic. Staff then conducted dozens of studies to help determine appropriate speed limits and proposed changes

There are eight roadway segments slated for speed limit decreases and eight scheduled for increases. The changes will include reduced school speed limits along Noble Avenue and Brookdale Drive. All speed limit changes are expected to be implemented between July and September 2021. Residents who live near a road with a speed limit change will be notified ahead of the change.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND PROGRAMS >>>

Neighborhood Connections

By creating awareness, fostering connections, strengthening neighborhood bonds, encouraging collaboration, and celebrating the diversity of our city, together we work toward achieving Brooklyn Park's vision for a thriving community inspiring pride, where opportunities exist for all.

Check out the programs listed below and connect with Claudia Diggs, neighborhood relations specialist to learn how you can be a part of it. You can also invite her to speak with your Homeowners Association or neighborhood group to discover what matters to you.

She can help with all things neighborhood related!

Citywide Garage Sales — Sep 23–25 brooklynpark.org/event/city-wide-garage-sale/

Annually the city of Brooklyn Park hosts a Citywide Garage Sale. Meet you

neighbors and score some deals at the Citywide Garage Sales! Come to Brooklyn Park City Hall or the Community Activity Center to pick up your printed garage sale locations maps or go online (url above) to view all sale locations.!

New Connect

Page 3

brooklynpark.org/volunteer/connect-new-neighbors/

New Connect is an exciting program where you can help welcome new residents to Brooklyn Park with a bag filled with community and city information, free gifts and coupons for free items or services from local businesses! New Connect started in October 2012 and we welcome approximately 280 new residents per month.

Neighborhood Activity Fund

brooklynpark.org/neighborhoods/neighborhood-activity-fund/

Residents play a key role in improving the quality of life in their neighborhoods. Brooklyn Park is offering funds to support and encourage our community members to get to know their fellow neighbors, build relationships and work together to make their neighborhoods united, healthy and thriving.

Anyone with an idea for a project or event to improve their neighborhood should consider applying for this fund. The city is specifically looking for projects that focus on livability, building relationships and collaboration.

Pick Up Your Neighborhood

brooklynpark.org/neighborhoods/pick-up-your-neighborhood/

The Pick Up Your Neighborhood program helps keep Brooklyn Park beautiful. Helpers will pick up litter in a selected area as often as they'd like and report how many pounds they have disposed of. That's it!

Please join us if you are:

- Passionate about keeping the Earth free of litter
- Enthusiastic about having beautiful spaces in your neighborhood
- Looking for a flexible and fun community experience

Now is the perfect time to start a new effort in your neighborhood; enlist a group of neighbors, friends or family to help Pick Up Your Neighborhood!

Neighborhood organizing

Contact Claudia for ideas, tools and tips to create a more connected neighborhood. Meet your neighbors, find out what they're interested in and start making connections!

Contact

Claudia Diggs, Neighborhood Relations Specialist Phone: 763-493-8106 Email: claudia.diggs@brooklynpark.org

Be a part of it

- Develop your leadership, professional and social skills
- Increase your cultural intelligence
- Help identify the needs of your neighborhood; be a part of the solution
- Promote a positive image of the city
- Build a sense of unity and pride in your Brooklyn Park neighborhood

Brooklyn Park Community Assembly: Neighborhood Connections

Thursday, September 22, 6-7:30 p.m. **Online via MS Teams**

To make Brooklyn Park an empowered and resilient community, we need active and engaged neighbors!

Join us to learn about all the neighborhood programs and initiatives currently happening and in the works. Meet other residents who are interested in building neighborhood connections too!

Check the city's website calendar for more information and to RSVP.

Questions?

Contact Claudia Diggs at <u>claudia.diggs@brooklynpark.org</u> or call 763-493-8106

National Hispanic Heritage Month

According to the new 2020 Census data, 6.7% of Brooklyn Park residents identify as Hispanic or Latino! This month we are celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month or Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana...it is celebrated from September 15 through October 15 in the United States.

The purpose of this month is to recognize the contributions of Latinos and Hispanic Americans history, culture, and achievements in the United States.

Hispanic Heritage month first began as Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968 and was established by legislation sponsored by Representative Edward Roybal of Los Angeles.

By the late 1980's the week-long celebration had been expanded to one month. The 15th of September was chosen as the beginning of the celebration because it is the independence day of five Latino countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico, Chile and Belize also celebrate their independence days on September 16, September 18 and 21. Additionally, Día de la Raza or Columbus Day is on October 12 and falls within this time period.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The last year brought many changes impacting our own state as well as the world. Statistics reveal domestic abuse remained consistent throughout these changes. While statistics identify reported cases, this typically does not display the issue in its entirety. Too often abuse is not reported and occurs behind closed

Community awareness is crucial because domestic violence of concern. Domestic Awareness Month brings these matters into focus. Domestic abuse can hold many forms, not only physical. The most effective way to make a difference is to educate ourselves and others to recognize the signs of abuse and reach out to victims and

The color purple is a salute to survivors and those we have lost to domestic violence. Residents are encouraged to stop by City Hall or the Community Activity Center to pick up a free purple light bulb to replace their outdoor lights in support of the second annual purple light initiative to shine a light on domestic violence. All participants can send photos of their light bulbs in use to communications@brooklynpark.org. The pictures will be shared on the city's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

ROTARY BEER FEST

celebrate!

Brooklyn Park

Saturday, September 25, 2-5 PM **COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER**

5600 85th Avenue N, Brooklyn Park Craft Beers
Wine Tasting
Cideries Complimentary Bratwurst Lunch Souvenir Tasting Glass • Free Concert

Proceeds dedicated to support efforts to provide recreation, education and job opportunities for Brooklyn Park youth

PARKING LOT BINGO

— Pumpkin Bingo — THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 5 - 6 PM — Turkey Bingo —

Zanewood Recreation Center 7100 Zane Avenue N

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1 - 2 PM

BROOKLYN PARK MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, October 29, 6:30 – 8:30 PM **COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER**

5600 85th Avenue N, Brooklyn Park Movie: Casper
Costume Contest Food Trucks Activities for the whole family 6:30 – 8:30 PM

SPOOKTACULAR

Saturday, October 30, 2-5 PM **ZANEWOOD RECREATION CENTER**

Free Family Event • Open House 2–5 PM **Outdoor Spooktacular Path Costume Contest • Candy • DJ • and more!**

7 IUU Zane Avenue N, Brookiyii Park

Newly renovated River Park is open and includes: Lighted loop trail

- Fishing dock
- **Paddle Share kayak station**
- Picnic shelters and kitchen
- Multi-purpose field space **River overlook**
- Nature play area To learn more about the River Park enhancements, please visit https://www.brooklynpark.org/city-projects/park-improvement-projects/



HOLIDAY LIGHTS

The entire month of December!

For more information please visit

brooklynpark.org/celebrate

The 2nd annual Brooklyn Park Holiday Lights Tour features Brooklyn Park resident light displays all December long. Pick up your lights tour map after Dec 1 at the Community Activity Center. Also, watch the city website for a GIS map of the lights tour.

SANTA DRIVE THẦU

Friday, December 10, 5-7 PM **COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER** 5600 85th Avenue N, Brooklyn Park

Santa had so much fun at the December Lights Tour in Brooklyn Park last year that he is coming back! Families can drive thru the CAC parking lot, see Santa, receive candy canes and December Lights Tour Maps.

Please visit brooklynpark.org/celebrate for more information

NEW LIGHTED TRAILS IN BROOKLYN PARK

The following park locations will have lighted trails beginning this fall: **River Park**

Norwood Park

Hartkopf Park **Lakeland Park**

Lights will be on timers and photocells and will come on at 6 a.m., shut off when adequate daylight is reached, then turn on again when it becomes dark outside until 10 p.m. Park hours for each location are 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. daily.