

# Park Pages

Brooklyn Park 

[www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org)

Brooklyn Park Newsletter • May / June 2025



## Breaking ground: Brooklyn Park's brand new Teen Center!

Did you know we have a new building coming to our city?



Zanewood Recreation Center, located at 7100 Zane Ave N, has been a staple in the community for youth and families by providing impactful programs and services. Zanewood, also called "The Wood" by young people, was intentionally designed to build transforming relationships with youth and families and provide access to quality programs to our diverse community. "We truly have outgrown the space and are excited about the future for youth to enjoy Zanewood," said Pam McBride, Youth Services Manager.

The project consists of a renovation to the existing building and construction of a brand-new teen center attached with amenities such as the first city-owned multisport gymnasium, a Best Buy Tech Center, an arts gallery and garden, a workforce development space for youth looking for internships and job opportunities, and intervention and prevention services for youth needing additional support.

City staff hired architectural firm Design by Melo, who also designed the Brooklyn Park Small Business Center. The City contracted Donlar Construction to build the state-of-the-art facility with youth and community input and engagement. "We hope this new facility will continue to provide a safe and positive environment for all the youth in our city. We also hope to help all the youth and teens regionally and all will be welcome in this space," said Marcus Hill, Parks and Facilities Manager.

The Teen Center is expected to open in Fall 2025.

Learn more at [www.brooklynpark.org/teen-center](http://www.brooklynpark.org/teen-center).

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## Brooklyn Park City Council



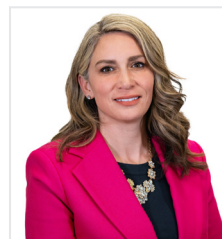
**HOLLIES WINSTON**  
Mayor  
(Elected through 2026)



**CHRISTIAN ERIKSEN**  
East District  
(Elected through 2026)



**AMANDA CHENG XIONG**  
East District  
(Elected through 2028)



**NICHOLE KLONOWSKI**  
Central District  
(Elected through 2026)



**SHELLE PAGE**  
Central District  
(Elected through 2028)



**TONY MCGARVEY**  
West District  
(Elected through 2028)



**MARIA TRAN**  
West District  
(Elected through 2026)

  
City of Brooklyn Park  
City Hall  
5200 85th Ave. N.  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

### Stay informed!

Watch City Council meetings live, at 6PM on the second and fourth Monday of every month.

Access meeting agendas and the livestream at [www.brooklynpark.org/city-council](http://www.brooklynpark.org/city-council).



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Si usted necesita esta información en español llame 763-424-8000.

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See detailed event info!



## Older Americans Month

### Flip the script on Aging!

May is Older Americans Month – a time to celebrate and show gratitude to our seniors in Brooklyn Park and across the country. We recognize the wisdom, experience, and invaluable contributions of our older community members who have enriched our lives in so many ways.

The 2025 theme, Flip the Script on Aging, focuses on transforming how society perceives, talks about, and approaches aging. It encourages individuals and communities to challenge stereotypes and dispel misconceptions.

This year, join us in honoring older adults' contributions, exploring the many opportunities for staying active and engaged as we age, and highlighting the opportunities for purpose, exploration, and connection that come with aging.

### Adults on the Move

Brooklyn Park hosts many opportunities in the quarterly Adults on the Move guide, jam-packed with programs, trips, activities, lifelong learning, fitness, and resources! Find it online at [www.brooklynpark.org/adults](http://www.brooklynpark.org/adults)



You can also join the quarterly Adults on the Move mailing list. Email your name and address to:

#### Kelly Becker

Recreation Supervisor  
[Kelly.Becker@brooklynpark.org](mailto:Kelly.Becker@brooklynpark.org)  
 763-493-8254



## Tater Daze Parade & Community Gathering

Saturday, May 31



Come enjoy the Brooklyn Park community at the Tater Daze Parade and Community Gathering on Saturday, May 31! Learn more online at [www.brooklynpark.org/tater-daze](http://www.brooklynpark.org/tater-daze).

### Tater Daze Parade

The parade begins at 10AM (East on 101st, South on Regent, then West on Oak Grove Pkwy in the Founders Neighborhood).

Look for your favorite public safety units, community organizations, local businesses, candidates, elected officials and marching bands!

### Community Gathering

After the parade, head to the Community Activity Center from 12-4PM to enjoy a community resource fair, live music, inflatables, and food trucks.

### Questions?

Community Activity Center  
 763-493-8333



## May events

### Movie at the Dome

Saturday, May 3 @ Noble Sports Park

### Art in the Park

Saturday, May 10 @ Central Park

### Walk the Park

Wednesday, May 14 @ Trinity Garden Park

### Citywide Garage Sale

Thursday, May 15-Saturday, May 17

### Tater Daze Parade

Saturday, May 31 Near Noble Sports Park

### Community Gathering

Saturday, May 31  
 @ Community Activity Center

## June Events

### Colors of Southeast Asia

Saturday, June 7 @ Centennial Park

### Cops & Kids Fishing

Wednesday, June 11  
 @ Community Activity Center

### Juneteenth

Friday, June 20  
 @ North Hennepin Community College

### River Park Festival

Saturday, June 28 @ River Park

## AAPI Heritage Month

During the month of May, we celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month. We recognize the deep legacy of our AAPI communities and the incredible role they have had—and continue to have—in shaping the culture of Brooklyn Park.

Learn more at [asianpacificheritage.gov](http://asianpacificheritage.gov)

## Pride Month

June marks Pride Month—a time to celebrate love, identity, and the diversity of our community. We continue to welcome all our LGBTQ+ neighbors, honoring their history, resilience, and year-round contributions to our city.

Learn more at [tcpride.org/about-pride](http://tcpride.org/about-pride)

## Community Goals

On March 10, the City Council approved the City's newest community plan—Brooklyn Park, Jewel of the North. The process to develop this strategic plan lasted over a year, and it was a team effort. Thank you so much to all community members who provided input to inform the process.

Jewel of the North is centered around six aspirational priorities:



### Inclusive & Engaged Community

Brooklyn Park is a thriving community, defined by a positive identity and image.



### Safe Community

Comprehensive and transparent public safety services create a sense of safety throughout the community.



### Equitable Outcomes

The City maintains a focus on equity to remove barriers, address opportunity gaps, and build more just systems.



### Beautiful Places

Unique amenities, art, and quality infrastructure make Brooklyn Park a community of choice.



### Thriving Economy

Brooklyn Park is home to an inclusive economy where people and businesses can prosper.



### Innovative & Responsive Government

The City continuously seeks creative solutions to drive effective service delivery.

As implementation begins in the coming months, be sure to look for more information on the City's social media channels and other communications platforms to see how progress is being made to ensure Brooklyn Park truly is the Jewel of the North!



## Help shape the future of Brooklyn Park's Northwest Growth Area

### Community Open House: Wednesday, May 7

City officials are planning the future of Brooklyn Park's 700+ acre Northwest Growth Area - one of our last large-scale development opportunities!

Join us for a Community Open House on Wednesday, May 7 at the Brooklyn Park Small Business Center (7970 Brooklyn Blvd) from 5–7PM. Enjoy light snacks, review three development scenarios, and tell us what future you'd like to see. Your voice will help guide public and private investment that reflects the needs of our community.

Learn more at [www.brooklynpark.org/northwest-plan](http://www.brooklynpark.org/northwest-plan).



## Spring animal safety & new ordinance updates

As the weather warms up, it's the perfect time to make sure your pets are safe and ready for spring. The City of Brooklyn Park is updating its animal ordinance to help keep pets and neighbors safe. **Key changes include:**

- No more than three animals may be kept at any one dwelling.
- Animals must have identification on them at all times. Acceptable forms include:
  - Rabies tags from a veterinarian
  - Tags or collars with your contact information and phone number
  - A registered microchip

### Spring animal safety tips

It's also a good time to revisit a few seasonal safety tips:

- Animals must be on a leash any time they're outside - unless they're in a fully fenced yard or one of our two dog parks
- Leashes should be no longer than eight feet.
- Don't forget to walk your fence line. Winter can be hard on structures, and even a small gap or damaged section could be an escape route for your furry friend.

## What to expect when calling 911

When you call 9-1-1, dispatchers are trained to quickly assess the situation and gather essential information.

Expect to be asked your location, the nature of the emergency, and details such as the number of people involved or any potential hazards. Stay calm and provide clear, concise answers.

Dispatch may offer instructions or advice while emergency responders are on the way. If possible, keep the line open until help arrives. Your cooperation helps ensure a faster, more effective response. Remember, dispatchers are there to assist and guide you during emergencies.

## Active Shooter Response

In an active shooter situation, remember: **Run, Hide, Fight.**

If possible, run to a safe location immediately. Encourage others to escape with you. If you cannot leave, hide—lock doors, turn off lights, and stay quiet. If neither option is available, fight using available objects to defend yourself.

As a last resort, protect yourself and others by targeting the attacker's vitals. Always call 9-1-1 if safe to do so and provide key details. Stay alert, stay calm, and follow law enforcement instructions when they arrive.



### Run, Hide, Fight.

Watch this video from Ready Houston to learn more about the Run, Hide, Fight procedure.

## Water safety reminders

### May is Water Safety Awareness Month



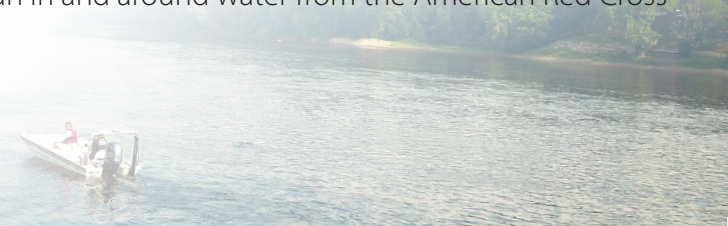
May is Water Safety Awareness Month! Awareness is the first step in preventing drowning and water emergencies. The American Red Cross offers several tips to reduce risks and keep yourself and others safe while enjoying water activities. Always wear a life jacket, especially when boating or participating in water sports, and never swim alone. Adults and caregivers should always be present when youth are near or in the water. The American Red Cross also recommends learning basic water safety and rescue techniques, which can be lifesaving.

The City of Brooklyn Park is an American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim provider for individuals of all ages and abilities, offering the opportunity to gain these critical skills. To enroll in our summer program, visit our website, call 763-493-8333, or stop by the Community Activity Center (5600 85th Avenue).



### Water safety for kids!

Explore online resources to help your child learn about water safety while having fun in and around water from the American Red Cross



# Reserve a park building or pavilion

Get the most out of event season this year!

Did you know Brooklyn Park residents and community members can rent space through the City for their personal or company events. Find the right place for your celebration with our Park Finder app - then reserve it online! Search for the parks closest to you, and filter results by amenities or activities to shortcut your planning.



### Questions?

**Community Activity Center**  
(763) 493-8333



## Rock your event recycling

Don't forget your recycling bins! If you're hosting guests at your own home or building, remember to set out recycling containers for all your bottles, cans, and/or organics like food scraps and other compostables. **We can help!**



- Reserve FREE recycling containers and bags at [www.brooklynpark.org/eventrecycling](http://www.brooklynpark.org/eventrecycling). Containers are available for any event taking place in Hennepin County.
- Pick up containers and bags at the Brooklyn Park Operations & Maintenance Facility, 8300 Noble Avenue.
- After your event, bring recycling and organics to the Hennepin County Drop-off Facility at 8100 Jefferson Highway in Brooklyn Park OR empty the recycling into your recycling cart.

Remember - never put plastic bags in your recycling carts! However, compostable bags filled with organics can be placed in your organics recycling cart.

## Fire up the fun – but keep it safe!

### Reminders from the Brooklyn Park Fire Marshal Division

Recreational fires can be a great way to enjoy the outdoors, but safety comes first!

- **Keep it small:** Fires should be no more than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet high.
- **Leave enough space:** Place your fire pit at least 25 feet from buildings. If you're using an approved container like an above-ground fire pit or chimney, keep it at least 15 feet from structures.
- **Skip the flammable liquids:** Stick to clean wood or charcoal.

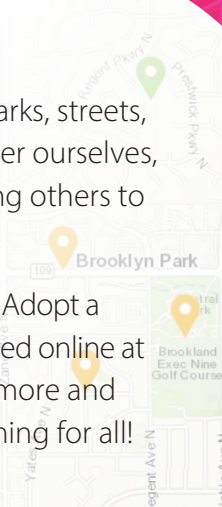


## Take pride in our parks

### Adopt a Park and more!

Spring is the perfect time to take pride in our parks, streets, and neighborhoods. Whether it's picking up after ourselves, organizing a block clean-up, or simply reminding others to do their part, every action helps.

Community clean-up events, like ones through Adopt a Park, are scheduled throughout the year. Get started online at [www.brooklynpark.org/adopt-a-park](http://www.brooklynpark.org/adopt-a-park) to learn more and help keep Brooklyn Park clean, safe and welcoming for all!



## Citywide Garage Sales

Thursday, May 15 - Saturday, May 17

Meet your neighbors and score some deals at garage sales hosted around the city!

### Plan your route

Make your treasure hunt easier with our own Garage Sales App, or pick up a paper map at City buildings! Visit [www.brooklynpark.org/garage-sales](http://www.brooklynpark.org/garage-sales) for more details.



Get the Garage Sales app!

## BrookLynk celebrates 10 years!

### A decade of positive impact!

The room was filled with enthusiasm as over 100 youth arrived at North Hennepin Community College for BrookLynk's Get Ready! training on March 8, 2025.

This hands-on session helped young people develop career skills and workforce confidence. Youth who completed Get Ready! are now eligible to apply for BrookLynk's paid summer internship, beginning June 16.

For 10 years, BrookLynk has provided life-changing opportunities for youth – with more exciting programs and celebrations coming soon!

Learn more at [www.brooklynk.works](http://www.brooklynk.works).





## Emerald Ash Borer

Tiny pest - big impact

Emerald Ash Borer is a small, shiny green beetle that loves to munch on ash trees. Native to Asia, it accidentally found its way to the United States and is now threatening our trees. The adult beetles lay eggs on the bark, and when the larvae hatch, they tunnel under, disrupting the tree's ability to access food and water.



### How bad is the problem?

Brooklyn Park is home to many ash trees. When infected, their health begins to decline. Diseased trees can become hazardous, affecting our neighborhoods and increasing the risk of falling branches.

### Help us in the fight!

City staff are working to remove smaller, unhealthy, or hazardous ash trees from city parks, and rights of way. There is also an ongoing, preventative treatment cycle on public ash trees in city rights of way and parks. Public ash trees that are a minimum of 12 inches in diameter and in good health are currently being treated.

Do your part by staying vigilant! Keep an eye out for signs of EAB, such as canopy thinning and woodpecker activity. If you notice EAB, begin a course of treatment immediately, if possible, or plan for tree removal.

Learn more at [www.brooklynpark.org/emerald-ash-borer](http://www.brooklynpark.org/emerald-ash-borer).

## Start organics recycling today!

In April, the recycling program expanded to include curbside collection of organics. Organics consist of food scraps and non-recyclable paper like napkins or paper towels.

### Get your organics cart

Visit [www.brooklynpark.org/organics](http://www.brooklynpark.org/organics) learn more and sign up to receive an organics cart. Organics will be collected weekly on the same day as your trash.



Organics should be put in a compostable bag. Compostable bags can be found in many stores such

**BPI** as Menards and Lowe's. You can tell they are compostable because they will have the BPI logo on the box and bag. Paper shopping bags are also acceptable.

Starting with April bills, garbage haulers will stop billing you for organics recycling. Instead, you'll see the \$2.90 per month organics recycling fee on your utility bill as part of the recycling fee.

## Have you seen code violations?

Brooklyn Park's Environmental Health Division is committed to safety and health for all! They diligently investigate and address property maintenance concerns such as overgrown grass, inoperable vehicles, junk and debris, and more, to keep our community thriving.

Submit a business or housing code violation with our easy form. We'll ask for your contact details and a description of the concern, and work with the property owner to resolve the issue.

Learn more about city codes and report any concerns at [www.brooklynpark.org/city-code](http://www.brooklynpark.org/city-code)



**Questions?**  
**Operations & Maintenance**  
(763) 493-8007



## Water Quality Report

Did you know the City of Brooklyn Park's drinking water supply comes from fourteen groundwater wells ranging from 213 to 617 feet deep? The City works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets federal and state water quality requirements.

The 2024 Consumer Confidence Report will be available in late June and contains information about Brooklyn Park's drinking water supply. If you have questions or would like a paper copy of the report, contact Richard Luckow, Public Utilities Superintendent at 763-493-8008 or [richard.luckow@brooklynpark.org](mailto:richard.luckow@brooklynpark.org).



## Tales from Tim's Recycling Bin

### Eat up! Food is too good to waste

I'm the youngest of five boys and I learned not to be late to the supper table. While I always got firsts, sometimes since we were growing teenagers there wasn't much left for seconds. And nothing left for thirds. Food went to our waists not to our waste. I share that story as part of our continuing conversations about organics. You know, the food scraps and non-recyclable papers recycling program we just started.

(A quick reminder you can get more info and sign up at [www.brooklynpark.org/organics](http://www.brooklynpark.org/organics)) Just like reducing is better than recycling your bottles, cans, and papers - reducing is better for food than organics recycling. There's lots of energy used growing and transporting our food that we don't want to waste. And here's the point that really hits home: Every year an average American family purchases but never eats approximately \$1,500 of food. Meanwhile there is food insecurity in our neighborhoods

I don't have space to detail all the food waste reduction tips so here are some headlines:

- *Plan before going to the store*
- *Learn how to store food so it lasts longer*
- *Use your leftovers*
- *Finally join Hennepin County's Stop Food*

Waste Challenge this August and sign up to be a member of the City of Brooklyn Park team.

Until next time, reduce then recycle my friends.

## From NHCC Student to Brooklyn Park Cadet



Brock Ajuwon, a law enforcement student at NHCC, secured a Police Cadet position with the Brooklyn Park Police Department which will cover his remaining college expenses. Originally from Las Vegas, he discovered his passion at NHCC, where supportive professors and a Public Safety student job fueled his career shift.

Brock credits his NHCC experience for providing invaluable connections and hands-on learning, reinforcing his desire to work with people as a patrol officer. With a strong foundation from NHCC, Brock now embarks on advanced training, a paid career path, and a promising future in law enforcement—proving that persistence and opportunity create success.

Read more about Brock's story:



## IMPORTANT DATES

**MAY 16:** Deadline to apply for scholarships

**MAY 27:** Summer session 1 starts

**JUNE 16:** Summer session 2 starts

**JULY 1:** Deadline to apply for Fall PSEO



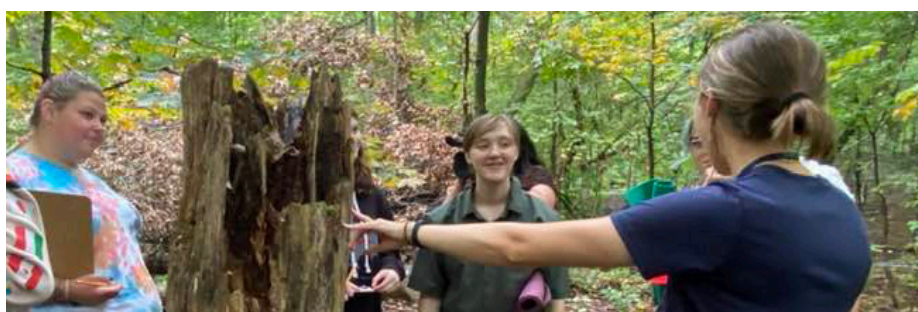
## 3rd Annual International Women's Day Event

Thank you to those who attended our International Women's Day event in partnership with the City of Brooklyn Park on March 6. The evening was complete with an inspiring keynote speaker, an expo supporting local women-owned businesses, complimentary food, and a panel discussion with a Q&A.



## New Leadership Program

Starting summer semester, gain knowledge, skills and experiences to help launch a career in environmental education, outdoor recreation, tribal conservation, cultural preservation, and sustainable development. The new **Outdoor & Environmental Leadership AA** degree program combines challenging classes, hands-on skills, and community involvement to help students become strong leaders. Program highlights include a five-day nature immersion experience at YMCA Camp Northern Lights, mentorship from the Department of Natural Resources and National Parks Service, and participation in a variety of outdoor activities. Learn more at [bit.ly/outdoorleaders](https://bit.ly/outdoorleaders).



## Golf Fundraiser for NHCC Students

NHCC President Rolando García and the NHCC Foundation invite you to participate in the 8th Annual President's Cup Golf Classic on June 9. Held at Brooklyn Park's own Edinburg USA, it is a fun-packed day of golf raising money for NHCC students. Learn more at [nhcc.edu/golfclassic](https://nhcc.edu/golfclassic).

Don't golf? You can make a donation in support of NHCC students at [nhcc.edu/foundation](https://nhcc.edu/foundation) or become an event sponsor ranging from \$350 to \$5,000. Learn more at [nhcc.edu/golfsponsor](https://nhcc.edu/golfsponsor).



**NORTH HENNEPIN**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit [nhcc.edu/finearts](https://nhcc.edu/finearts) for more information.

**Choral & Vocal Ensemble** — May 2

**Orchestra Concert** — May 5

**Jazz Ensemble Concert** — May 6

**Concert Band Concert** — May 7