

Brooklyn Park Park Pages

Brooklyn Park Newsletter • July / August 2025

www.brooklynpark.org

Enter the 2025 Citywide Photo Contest!

Submit your entry by July 18 - see details on page 4!



Learn more!



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Postal Customer

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.



brooklynpark.org/subscribe



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[brooklynparkmn](https://www.youtube.com/brooklynparkmn)

For other languages, formats or more accommodations, email access@brooklynpark.org or call 763-424-8000.

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

Yog xav tau kev pab, thov hu rau 763-424-8000 lawv mam li nrhiv ib tus neeg txhais lus rau koj.



National Night Out

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

National Night Out builds stronger neighborhood spirit, police-community partnerships and creates safer neighborhoods.

Register your party!

Learn more online at www.brooklynpark.org/NNO

Questions?

Community Activity Center

763-493-8333



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Reduce waste at National Night out

Plan ahead to reduce waste at your National Night Out parties!

- Use email invites instead of printed ones to cut down on paper use
- Ask attendees to bring their own reusable plates, napkins, and utensils
- Serve beverages in reusable or recyclable containers Note: most plastic cups, such as Solo cups, are **not** recyclable
- Collect organics, such as food scraps and non-recyclable papers
- Make sure items such as paper plates have the BPI Certified Compostable label Note: plates **without** the logo usually have a plastic coating that make them non-compostable.
- Provide recycling bins for cans, bottles, and other recyclables including organics. Need some bins? Borrow them for free! Learn more at www.brooklynpark.org/eventrecycling



Americans with Disabilities Act

Celebrating the 35th year of ADA!

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a monumental civil rights law that was passed on July 26, 1990. The ADA prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in all areas of public life, including state and local governments (www.ada.gov/topics/intro-to-ada).

Brooklyn Park Recreation & Parks offers a full complement of programs and services to meet the unique needs of our community and ensure ADA compliance.

The department provides inclusion services for individuals with disability-related needs, allergies, or medical conditions within all preschool to older adult programming. Adaptive recreation programs specifically designed for individuals with disabilities are also offered.

All Abilities Showcase

To celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the ADA, Recreation & Parks is excited to host the first annual **All Abilities Showcase!**

Showcase your talents at this community open mic night, enter our art show, or come out to support the talent! Artwork will be displayed at the Community Activity Center on July 24.

Artwork submissions deadline is July 10

Thursday, July 24

6:00PM - 8:00PM

Community Activity Center

5600 85th Ave N



Questions?

Community Activity Center

763-493-8333

July events

Farmers Market Opens

Wednesdays starting July 9, 1-6PM

@ North Hennepin Community College

Summer Splash

Friday, July 11, 5-7PM

@ Community Activity Center

Central District Town Hall

Thursday, July 17, 5:30-7:30PM

@ Brooklyn Park City Hall

Jazz in July

Saturday, July 19, 11AM-2PM

@ Community Activity Center

East District Town Hall

Wednesday, July 23, 5:30-7:30PM

@ Edinbough USA

All-Abilities Showcase

Thursday, July 24, 6-8PM

@ Community Activity Center

Happy Hour on the Farm

Friday, July 25, 4:30-8PM

@ Historic Eidem Farm

August Events

Brooklyn Park Night Out

Friday, August 1, 7-9PM

@ Central Park

Sounds of Africa

Saturday, August 2, 11AM-2PM

@ Community Activity Center

Kid's Concert at the Farm

Thursday, August 7, 6-7PM

@ Historic Eidem Farm

Back to School Bash

Thursday, August 21, 5-8PM

@ Community Activity Center

Happy Hour on the Farm

Thursday, August 22, 4:30-8PM

@ Historic Eidem Farm

Movie on the Barn

Thursday, August 28, 7-10PM

@ Historic Eidem Farm



Gus Macker 3-on-3 Tournament

August 2-3, 2025

Hit the courts at North Hennepin Community College for a weekend of high-energy hoops, music, food, and fun!

Register now!



Learn more!

GusMacker@MplsNW.com

macker.com/local/twin-cities



7th Annual Restaurant Week

Get ready to eat local this September!



Brooklyn Park's Restaurant Week is back from September 22 through 28, and it's serving up a full week of flavor, community pride, and great deals!

This exciting week-long event shines a spotlight on the city's culinary diversity, showcasing restaurants that make Brooklyn Park taste like home. There will be a handful of participating restaurants offering reduced-price menu items and special promotions! Restaurant Week isn't just about enjoying great food, it's about supporting the small and local businesses that help Brooklyn Park thrive.

Do not miss out on exclusive offers and updates by following the City of Brooklyn Park's social media channels throughout Restaurant Week!

Let us know which restaurant you want to see participate! Your input helps make Restaurant Week better every year.

Learn more at www.brooklynpark.org/restaurant-week.

Get featured!

Are you a restaurant or food truck owner? We want to help you spread the word! Sign up to be featured in this year's restaurant week!

Questions?

Josephine Thao

Project Facilitator

josephine.thao@brooklynpark.org



2025 Igbofest Celebration

Celebrate the culture and traditions of the Igbo speaking people at the 30th Annual IgboFest!

Get a taste of south-central and southeastern Nigeria, including traditional dances, performances by masquerades, arts and crafts, as well as fashion. People from Canada, Nigeria, Kansas City, Maryland, the indigenous population in the Twin Cities all gather to perform and celebrate at this unique, two-day event.

Friday, August 8

5-11PM

Community Activity Center

5600 85th Ave N

Questions?

igbofestmn@yahoo.com

651-226-9595

Saturday, August 9

11AM-7:30PM

North Hennepin Community College

7411 85th Ave N



Tips for hiring a contractor

Whether you're planning a remodel or repairing storm damage, hiring the right contractor is critical. A licensed contractor is your best protection as a homeowner.

Why Hire a Licensed Contractor?

Licensed contractors meet state requirements, including passing exams, carrying liability insurance, and completing annual continuing education. More importantly, if a licensed contractor fails to deliver, you may be eligible for compensation through Minnesota's Contractor Recovery Fund.

Do Your Homework

Before hiring, verify the contractor's license with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI). You can call 651-284-5069 or visit dli.mn.gov/license-and-registration-lookup.

Also, ask how long they've been in business, check if they have a physical Minnesota address (not just a P.O. Box), request a local phone number, and talk to previous customers. It's also wise to check their legal history through the state court system.

Spot the Red Flags

Be cautious if a contractor shows up unsolicited, pressures you to sign an estimate, or offers a suspiciously low price. Avoid anyone who lacks a license, asks for full payment upfront, refuses to provide references or written estimates, or only offers a P.O. Box for contact. These are classic signs of fly-by-night operators.

Get It in Writing

Your contract should spell out exactly what work will be done, what materials will be used, and the total cost or method of pricing. It must include a payment schedule, firm deadlines, and a clause that requires all changes to be documented in writing and approved by you.

Know Your Rights

Special rules apply to roofing repairs—if your insurance claim is denied, you may be able to cancel the contract.

Extreme heat safety

Look out for the most vulnerable people

Heat is the leading weather-related killer in the United States, resulting in hundreds of fatalities each year. It can be very taxing on the body and can lead to heat related illnesses or make existing health conditions worse.

Remember to drink plenty of water if you have to be out in the heat! Learn more about how to stay safe at www.weather.gov/safety/heat-during.

Who are most vulnerable?

While anyone can be harmed by heat, it's important to check in with friends and family who fall into the most vulnerable categories.



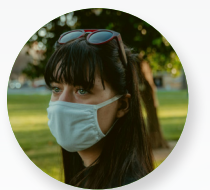
Pregnant Women



Children & Infants



Older Adults



Those with Chronic Conditions





2025 Citywide Photo Contest









Show off your love for your city and the visual arts!

This year's theme: Capturing Moments - Your Story, Our Vision. It's important for Brooklyn Park residents to share their lived experiences – those moments of comfort, peace, joy, harmony, and togetherness found throughout our city.

By honoring these everyday moments, we shape a shared vision for the future, one that is both inviting to new residents, and celebrates the community that we love.

We want to see stories that are authentic and heartfelt, and convey a genuine glimpse of life as a Brooklyn Park resident. Submit your entry by July 19!

2025 contest categories

-  **Storytelling**
Capture a moment that tells a story or sets the mood
-  **Pets**
Show off your companions in their cutest or funniest moments
-  **Self-Created Creations**
Highlight your original art, crafts, or DIY projects, finished or in progress
-  **Nature**
Showcase the beauty of Brooklyn Park
-  **Food**
Show off your cooking skills, backyard BBQ's, bonfire snacks and more
-  **Recreation**
Capture the joy of staying active, whether in the gym, at a park, or in sports
-  **Black & White/Monochrome**
Explore mood and contrast through black & white or single-color images
-  **Family**
Celebrate connection, love, and everyday moments with family and friends

Cash payments are no longer accepted

As of June 1, the City of Brooklyn Park no longer accepts cash payments placed in the City Hall drop box.

For your security and ours, we ask residents to use one of the other payment methods instead:

- **Drop box** payments by check or money order
- **Online** payments via brooklynpark.mysecurebill.com
- **In-person** payments during business hours
- **Phone** payments at (763) 493-8185, Option #1

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation to ensure safer and more secure payment options for everyone.



Questions?

Brooklyn Park Utility Billing
BPUTBill@brooklynpark.org
(763) 493-8185

Community Cleanup

Saturday, July 26, 10AM @ River Park

Grab some gloves and join your East District neighbors for a community cleanup!

Supplies will be provided - just show up ready to pitch in. This will bring us to a cleaner, greener, and more connected Brooklyn Park!

Questions?

Cindy Devonish
Cindy.Devonish@brooklynpark.org

Enter by July 19!

For more contest details and submission, visit www.brooklynpark.org/photo-contest.



Previous winners

- Joy Stark** "Swinging with Dad"
- Jennifer Findley** "Soccer in the Rain" and "Ari in the Rain"
- Joni Mack** "Sunset at Oxbow Lake"
- Angie Larson** "S'mores"





NOW HIRING!

www.joinbppd.com




Bulky Waste Curbside Cleanup

Cities all over face a difficult dumping issue year after year. Old furniture, mattresses, and other bulky waste gets abandoned on curbs and streetsides, creating unsightly safety hazards and homes for pests.

Brooklyn Park provides a better way to get rid of your unwanted stuff! The Bulky Waste Curbside Cleanup program schedules specific days where large items are collected from your curb and disposed of properly – no more nuisance for you and your neighbors!



Find out when the collection is coming to your neighborhood at www.brooklynpark.org/recycling-events.



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 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



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.

Know who's knocking!



Know your rights as door-to-door activity picks up

Here's the bottom line: if someone is trying to sell you something, regardless of how casual it seems, they need a valid City license. Brooklyn Park supports legitimate businesses, but also wants to protect your right to privacy.

Soliciter requirements

- Wear a city-issued ID badge in plain view.
- Display the badge with the Brooklyn Park logo, their name, the company they represent, and the license expiration date.
- Limit the visits to between 8:00AM and 8:00PM

If there are any issues with these requirements, you can report non-urgent concerns to BPLicense@brooklynpark.org or 763-493-8182.

If a soliciter is behaving aggressively or refusing to leave your property, call 911.

To avoid unwanted visits entirely, consider posting a "No Solicitors" sign near your front door. These signs are legally enforceable!

Looking for a license?

If you're considering door-to-door sales yourself, you'll need to apply for a license through the City.

Find the Peddler/Solicitor License application at www.brooklynpark.org/business-licenses.

Lawn sprinkling restrictions are in effect

Keep your lawns lush and lively while conserving water! Odd/even lawn sprinkling restrictions are in effect until September 30, 2025. If you live at an even-number address, water on even days. Odd-number addresses can water on odd numbered days. Remember: The most effective time to water is before 10AM!



Upgrade your irrigation controller

WaterSense rated irrigation systems are so efficient that they'll pay for themselves in as little as 12 months! These controllers act like a thermostat for your sprinkler system by telling it when to turn on and off. They use local weather and landscape conditions to tailor watering schedules to actual conditions.

Plus, you may qualify for a \$100 rebate from the city for your efficient upgrade! Find out how online at www.brooklynpark.org/water-rebate.

Questions?

Operations & Maintenance

(763) 493-8007



Water Quality Report



The 2024 Water Quality Report is now available to read online at www.brooklynpark.org/drinking-water

Small Batteries are a Big Problem



Tales from Tim's Recycling Bin

Usually, my work tends to be done quietly with little notice. However, this year I have been working with our Communications Team on videos for social media. One video got a bunch of attention that I didn't expect. In the video I talked about one of the biggest dangers in garbage and recycling – battery fires. Many people told me that they did not know that rechargeable batteries can heat up and cause fires even if the batteries no longer charge.

When the batteries are put in your trash or recycling, they can cause lots of problems. A couple of recent examples: the load in a recycling truck caught on fire in Saint Paul, material in a landfill near Mankato started burning. In both cases fire crews were called in to extinguish the flames and no one was hurt, but there was damage to be dealt with.

To keep everyone safe, we offer free battery disposal at both the year-round Hennepin County Drop-Off Facility, 8100 Jefferson Highway

and the twice-a-year Special Materials Drop-Off Day. Batteries are sent to a specialty company that can responsibly recycle the materials.

Until next time, responsibly recycle your batteries, my friends.

Did you know... college can be affordable for you?

More than 50% of NHCC students receive grants and/or scholarships to help pay for college.

At NHCC, you'll also enjoy:

- Low tuition & fees
- FREE college for eligible students
- An inclusive campus with academic and well-being resources



Scan to find out if you're eligible for free college tuition!

Did you know... college can be affordable for you?

New Outdoor Environmental Leadership AA

Love the outdoors and want to make a difference? NHCC's Outdoor & Environmental Leadership AA is for students passionate about nature, sustainability, and community impact. Learn through immersive experiences like a five-day trip to YMCA Camp Northern Lights, hands-on projects, and mentorship from professionals at the DNR, National Park Service, and more. Explore careers in environmental education, tribal conservation, and outdoor recreation while gaining leadership skills through hiking, canoeing, wildlife tracking, and studying environmental justice.



Scan to learn more!

Congrats grads!

On May 19, NHCC celebrated the Class of 2025 graduates at the Heritage Center of Brooklyn Center.



Your Impact, Their Future



Because of donor generosity, students like Augustine Benson thrived at NHCC. Thank you for opening doors to education – your support truly changes lives. Make a difference today at nhcc.edu/donate.

"My time at NHCC has been transformative filled with personal growth, leadership development, academic achievement, and meaningful relationships. When I first enrolled, I never imagined how much this journey would shape my future and redefine how I see myself and the power of community colleges. In every way, NHCC has helped shape me into the student, leader, and person I am today and for that, I am deeply grateful."

Wishing you all the best!