

# Brooklyn Park Park Pages

Brooklyn Park Newsletter • March / April 2026 • [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org)

## Teen Center Grand Opening

"Construction of the new Teen Center is completed! This new facility was designed to support the renovated Zanewood Recreation Center and the growing demand for additional youth activities in Brooklyn Park.

This Center will be an excellent program space for children, teens, young adults and community giving a place to hang out, meet new people, explore new interests and build their own adventures with a group of caring adults to support their journey.

### The types of spaces will include...

- Indoor gym
- Art space
- Best Buy Teen Tech Center
- Workforce Development
- Teen gaming lounge
- Intervention and Prevention
- Drop in spaces
- Outdoor amenities and a plaza space for large-scale events

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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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For other languages, formats or more accommodations, email [access@brooklynpark.org](mailto: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.

# COSA Fest

**Saturday, August 29, 12:00-6:00PM**

**COSA Fest (Colors of Southeast Asia)** returns for another vibrant celebration of culture, community, and connection!

Join us at Mississippi Gateway Park for an unforgettable day filled with live cultural performances, music, food trucks, artisan vendors, family-friendly activities, and interactive experiences for all ages.

Celebrate the rich traditions, diversity, and unity of Southeast Asian cultures while enjoying a beautiful riverside setting and welcoming community atmosphere. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors – COSA Fest is a joyful celebration you won't want to miss!

## Questions?

**Chris Xiong**

[chris.xiong@brooklynpark.org](mailto:chris.xiong@brooklynpark.org)

## March events

### Game Night & Puzzle Competition

**Saturday, March 7, 3-8PM**

Community Activity Center

### Eidem Farm Snow Day

**Saturday, March 7 & 21, 10AM-2PM**

Historic Eidem Farm

### International Women's Day Celebration

**Wednesday, March 18, 6-8PM**

North Hennepin Community College

### Spring Break Glow Party & Movie Night

**Thursday, March 24, 5-7PM**

Zanewood Recreation Center Gym

## April events

### Skate Through the Decades

**Saturday, April 11, 6-8PM**

Community Activity Center



Find more events at  
[www.brooklynpark.org/events](http://www.brooklynpark.org/events)

## Gardening Swap

**Monday, May 3, 11:00AM-1:00PM**

While cleaning this spring you may find gardening items you no longer need. Give those supplies a new home at our FREE Gardening Swap at the Central Park pavilion!

All items should be clean and in good working condition. Donations are encouraged but not required to take items home.

### What to bring

- Garden and yard tools
- House plants, seedlings and annuals (other plants not allowed)
- Seeds
- Pots/planters (ceramic, wood, plastic)
- Gardening and plant books
- Bird houses & feeders
- Garden Art & décor



**Monday, May 3**

11AM-1PM

**Central Park**

8440 Regent Ave N



## Homeowners Association Workshop

**Saturday, April 18, 9:00AM-2:00PM**



Attend the annual City of Brooklyn Park Spring HOA workshop! Whether you have served on your board for years or if you just want to know the ins and outs of homeowner associations, this workshop is for you! This FREE workshop will give you tools and techniques to:

- Communicate better with residents of all backgrounds
- Manage conflict for better outcomes
- Improve your operations and financials

Gain insights into the roles and responsibilities of HOA members and board members, and help create the kind of community people want to call home. A light lunch is provided.



**Saturday, April 18**

9AM-2PM

**Brooklyn Park City Hall**

5200 85th Ave N

### Questions?

Register for the event and learn more about city HOA resources at [www.brooklynpark.org/HOA](http://www.brooklynpark.org/HOA).

**John Kinara**

[john.kinara@brooklynpark.org](mailto:john.kinara@brooklynpark.org)

763-493-8054

## Citywide Garage Sales

**Registration opens March 23**

Get ready to shop, sell, and connect during Brooklyn Park's 10th Annual Citywide Garage Sale!



This popular citywide event gives residents the opportunity to declutter, earn extra cash, and meet neighbors.

All registered sales are featured on an online map, making it easy for shoppers to plan their route and helping sellers reach a wider audience.

- Register at [www.brooklynpark.org/garagesale](http://www.brooklynpark.org/garagesale)
- Hosts may purchase up to two official garage sale signs
- Pick up printed sales map packets, available at City Hall and other city locations



# Become a New Connect Volunteer



## Help welcome new residents to Brooklyn Park!

Volunteers will greet newcomers with a bag full of city information, freebies, and local business coupons. Join the training at City Hall. Background check required.

**Wednesday, April 22**

5:30-6:30PM

## Business coupon books

Want to attract new customers and increase your business exposure? Join the New Connect coupon book! This free opportunity lets you offer a free or buy-one-get-one deal to new residents. Build community while growing your customer base!

## Questions?

Learn more and sign up online at [www.brooklynpark.org/newconnect/](http://www.brooklynpark.org/newconnect/)



**Shanna Woods**

[shanna.woods@brooklynpark.org](mailto:shanna.woods@brooklynpark.org)

763-238-5216

# Street sweeping

Starting April 1 - or sooner, if the weather cooperates - we will be cleaning our streets and keeping sand and trash out of the storm drains.

## Here's how you can help

- Move your vehicles off the street during the day
- Keep garbage and recycling containers off the streets

These small actions make it easier for our crews to sweep every inch, curb to curb. Stay tuned to the City website and follow us on social media for the latest updates on sweeping schedules.

# Hydrant flushing

## Beginning April 27, 2026

Public Works will be flushing fire hydrants beginning April 27. Crews may start as early as 5AM and may work until 5:30PM. Work is expected to be completed by May 1, depending on the weather.

Hydrant flushing is necessary to test the hydrants and to remove mineral buildup from the watermain. Occasionally, water becomes discolored after hydrant flushing. If this happens, run your cold water tap for a few minutes until the water clears. You should avoid washing clothes until the water clears.

We apologize for any inconvenience this necessary maintenance may cause. Parents: please remind children to maintain a safe distance from the utility crews as they work!

## Questions?

**Public Works**

763-493-8007

[bpom@brooklynpark.org](mailto:bpom@brooklynpark.org)



# Neighborhood Activity Fund

Have an idea for a fun project or event in your neighborhood? The Neighborhood Activity Fund is a grant opportunity that helps residents bring neighbors together through engaging activities and community-building projects.

Represent your neighborhood and apply today!

## Impact by the Numbers

- **2023** 12 projects, 300+ residents served
- **2024** 9 projects, ~150 residents served
- **2025** 10 projects, ~150 residents served

## Eligibility

Only individual residents (not apartment leasing offices) may apply. Apartment communities, HOAs, and Block Captains are encouraged to help organize and participate in projects.

## Project Ideas

- Neighborhood picnics
- National Night Out parties
- Cultural exchange potlucks or fashion shows
- Neighborhood beautification
- Talent shows or game nights
- Kickball, dodgeball, or soccer games
- Litter clean-up
- Ice cream socials

## Ready to Get Started?

Event and project guidelines, fund spending requirements, available City support, and the application can be found online at [www.brooklynpark.org/neighborhood-activity-fund](http://www.brooklynpark.org/neighborhood-activity-fund)

## Looking to host a larger event?

Apply for the Brooklyn Park Community Events Grant! This program supports community driven events and experiences in Brooklyn Park. For more information and to apply, visit [www.brooklynpark.org/brooklyn-park-community-events-grant](http://www.brooklynpark.org/brooklyn-park-community-events-grant).

# Support your local DMV

Handle your Motor Vehicle needs!

Car registration

Trailer Registration

Motorcycle registration

Disability parking cert.

Title transfers

DNR transactions

Duplicate titles

And more!



## Spend your summer with Recreation and Parks!

Get ready for an amazing summer with the City of Brooklyn Park's Recreation and Parks Department!

We'll soon be accepting applications for the first round of seasonal positions, including golf, summer camps, dance, aquatics, Historic Eidem Farm, Adaptive Recreation, Zanewood Recreation Center, and more.

If you're looking for a fulfilling and fun experience, don't miss this chance to join our team! Keep an eye out for upcoming announcements and be part of making this summer unforgettable for our community.

Search for these job opportunities and more online at [www.brooklynpark.org/jobs](http://www.brooklynpark.org/jobs).



## Fire Chief's Corner



## Active shooter response: Run, Hide, Fight.

In an active shooter situation, remember the mantra: 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 vital areas.

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. Scan the code to watch a video and learn more.



## Financial Preparedness

### An important part of being ready for a bad day

Start by gathering and safeguarding key records—IDs, insurance policies, bank and housing info, income sources, medical information, and emergency contacts—so you can recover faster.

- Build an emergency savings cushion and keep a small amount of cash at home (including small bills) in case power or card systems are down.
- Review your insurance now to confirm it matches your risks; many homeowners policies don't cover flooding, so separate flood coverage may be needed.
- Protect yourself from scams by never sharing sensitive financial information and avoiding unfamiliar links or messages.
- Use tools like FEMA's Emergency Financial First Aid Kit to get organized.

## adults on the move



## Adults on the Move

View the quarterly Adults on the Move guide with complete information on weekly groups, trips, speakers, classes, resources and more!

For full program information and to register for programs, call 763-493-8333 or visit [www.brooklynpark.org/adults](http://www.brooklynpark.org/adults).

### Join our mailing list

To be added to the Adults on the Move mailing list, contact Kelly Becker with your name and address at at [kelly.becker@brooklynpark.org](mailto:kelly.becker@brooklynpark.org) or call 763-493-8254.

## Programs & Activities

### Luck O' the Irish Luncheon

Thursday, March 12, 11:30–1:30AM | \$20

Enjoy lunch and Irish music inspired by Irish lumberjacks of the old north woods performed by Brian Miller

Menu: Corned Beef & Cabbage, Colcannon Mashed Potatoes, Roll, and Dessert

Register by March 5. Location: Community Activity Center.

### Day Trip - Target Field Tour

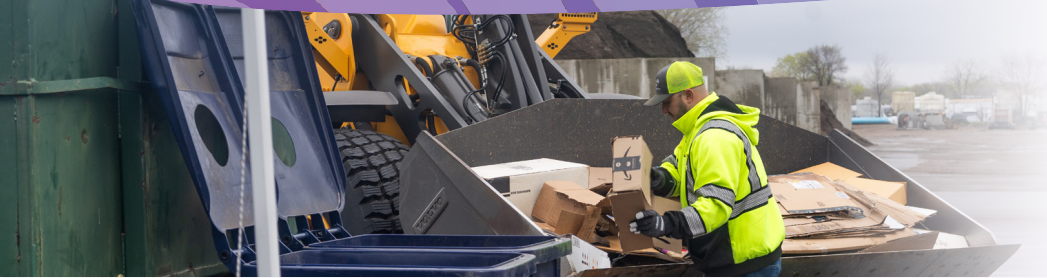
Thursday, April 23, 10AM–3:30PM | \$96

Get ready for baseball season with a behind the scenes walking tour of Target Field. Enjoy lunch at Murray's Steak House, menu: short ribs, mashed potatoes, green beans, chocolate dessert, beverage. \*Note this is a 90 minute walking tour. Register by March 23.

### Technology Support

Senior Community Services offers FREE technology support. Bring your device (cellular phone, tablet, or laptop) for a free 45-minute in-person support appointment in the Senior Lounge. Support includes basic device overview, settings, troubleshooting, texting, voicemail, email, video calls, app stores, streaming services, and more! Grant funded program, must be age 60+.

Support services are offered at the Community Activity Center on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesday of each month with appointments at 9, 10, or 11AM. Register in advance for your time slot.



## Special Materials Drop-off Day

Spring cleaning season is near!

Spring cleaning season is here! Let us help you tackle those items that don't belong in your curbside recycling cart. Bring your recyclable but tricky-to-dispose-of items to our Special Materials Drop-Off Day, featuring free paper shredding for all attendees!

Drop off items such as mattresses, electronics, appliances, tires, scrap metal, bikes, batteries, and more. If possible, place your items in your trunk, hatch, or truck bed for easy unloading by our staff.



Fees may apply for some items. For a full list of accepted materials and fees, visit [www.brooklynpark.org/recycling-events](http://www.brooklynpark.org/recycling-events) or call 763-493-8006.



**Saturday, April 25**

8AM – 3PM

**Operations & Maintenance Facility**

8300 Noble Ave N

## Bins & Barrels Sale

Want to make a positive impact on our planet while saving some green? We've got the perfect solution for you!

### Compost in Style

Pre-order a compost bin at a reduced price through the Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM) starting this March. It's a win-win-win! Help your garden thrive by turning food scraps, weeds, and flowers into nutrient-rich compost. Say goodbye to waste and hello to free plant food!

### Harvest rainwater

Gardeners, rejoice! Capture nature's gift with a rain barrel at a discounted price. Not only does it save you money on watering, but it also protects your foundation and keeps our storm sewers cleaner.

### Discounts for Brooklyn Park residents

**Brooklyn Park residents get an extra perk – a \$20 discount!**

**Use the code BP20OFF during checkout.**



You can pick up your order from the Operations & Maintenance Facility on Saturday, May 2.



Visit the RAM website at [www.brooklynpark.org/recycling-events](http://www.brooklynpark.org/recycling-events) to pre-order your bins and barrels today!



## Bare root trees and wholesale prices!



Add some color to your yard by planting trees. You can even save energy by planting large shade trees on the east or west side of your home! Order online at [www.brooklynpark.org/arborday](http://www.brooklynpark.org/arborday).



**Saturday, May 2**

8:00AM - 11:00AM

**Operations & Maintenance Facility**

8300 Noble Ave N

## Organics Recycling



About 30% of your trash is food scraps and other material that could be composted through the curbside organics program.

Organics consist of food scraps and non-recyclable paper such as napkins and paper towels.

Go to [www.brooklynpark.org/organics](http://www.brooklynpark.org/organics) for more information and to sign up to have an organics cart delivered. There's no additional charge to participate. Organics are 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 Target. You can tell they are compostable because they will have the BPI logo on the box and bag. Paper shopping bags are also acceptable. Pizza delivery boxes and paper egg cartons may be placed loose in the cart.



## Tales from Tim's Recycling Bin



### It's Not in the Bag

I joke sometimes that Coke spends billions of dollars each year figuring out how to get things into our homes. Meanwhile the recycling program has about \$20,000 a year to help you figure out how to get things out of your home. It's much harder for my messages to be seen.

What brought that to mind is a call from a resident who received an education tag for having recyclables in plastic bags. We've been sharing the no plastic bags message on the website, our bi-weekly recycling week reminders, and the annual mailer for years, but she has never seen those messages.

That means I have to repeat the message and find new ways to spread the word. That word is that plastic bags get thrown in the trash unopened at the sorting facility because bags may contain unwanted items such as trash. And those items could injure workers. Better safe than sorry.

Until next time I leave you with a reminder to keep recyclables loose in the cart my friends.



# NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Engaging Students, Changing Lives

## Your well-being matters here

We support your well-being inside and outside the classroom starting with affordable (or possibly free) tuition.

At NHCC, you'll also enjoy:

- Licensed counselors, food pantry and more
- New space where parents study and kids play
- Experienced tutors and career advisors
- Low tuition, plus grants, scholarships and on-campus jobs
- In-person, online and hybrid course options



Learn about our resources and find out if you're eligible for **FREE college tuition!**



*"What truly sets NHCC apart is the genuine care and understanding from the faculty and staff. If you're going through a difficult time or balancing family responsibilities, they take the time to listen, support you, and work with your schedule. They make sure you understand the material and never make you feel alone in the process. As a mother with a lot of responsibilities at home, that kind of support has meant everything to me."*

– Norma Soriano



## JOIN US FOR OPEN HOUSE April 9, 3–6 p.m.

- Apply for free and tour campus
- Learn about financial aid and scholarships
- Explore academic programs
- Meet instructors and staff

Learn more and RSVP at [nhcc.edu/openhouse](https://nhcc.edu/openhouse)

## Apply for scholarships



Scholarships are a powerful resource for making higher education more accessible and affordable. For the 2026-2027 academic year, NHCC will award more than \$300,000 in scholarships to support student success. The scholarship application opens March 4. To apply, go to [nhcc.edu/scholarships](https://nhcc.edu/scholarships).

These opportunities are made possible through the generosity of individuals like Kurt and Kelly Johnson (pictured here with their scholarship recipient) as well as businesses and organizations. Scholarship recipient Ngoc Nguyen shared, "This scholarship is more than financial help. It is a reminder that I am not alone. Thank you for your support and belief in my journey."



## IMPORTANT DATES

**MARCH 4:** Apply for Scholarships

**MARCH 11:** Register for Summer Courses

**MARCH 20:** Register for Fall Courses



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**NHCC, Northeast Community Band, & Star of the North Concert Band Concert** — March 4, 7:30 p.m., Washburn H.S.

**International Women's Day** — March 18, 5:30 p.m.

**NHCC Student Art & Design Show** — March 30-May 2

**Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Circle** — April 15, 2 p.m. [Zoom Meeting ID: 991 1648 9419, Passcode: 847324]

**Department of Theatre Production, "HIR"** — April 15-18, 7:30 p.m.

**Concert Band Concert** — April 29, 7:30 p.m.

**Vocal Ensembles Concert** — May 1, 7:30 p.m.

**Orchestra Concert** — May 4, 7:30 p.m.

**Jazz Ensemble Concert** — May 5, 7:30 p.m.



Engaging Students, Changing Lives

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