

Park Perspective

Fall 2025 www.stlouisparkmn.gov



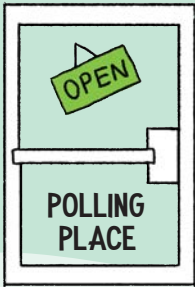
Find out about Howl-O-Ween and other upcoming fall city events on page 8.

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This is the official city newsletter of the City of St. Louis Park. It's printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper in an effort to meet the city's environmentally preferable purchasing policy.

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NOVEMBER						
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General election 2025

Tuesday, Nov. 4 ★ Early voting starts Sept. 19

elections@stlouisparkmn.gov | 952.924.2503 | www.stlouisparkmn.gov/vote

Steps to voting

Election season has arrived! Learn more below about when, where and how to participate in the Nov. 4 general election. In early October, don't forget to check your mailbox for the official 2025 election guide, complete with a sample ballot for your precinct.

1. Make a plan to vote

Decide when, where and how you will vote. You have several options to participate:

Vote before Election Day: Sept. 19 – Nov. 3

All eligible St. Louis Park voters may choose to vote before Election Day through absentee voting. Ballots for absentee voting can be submitted in person or by mail, instead

of at a polling location. Learn more at bit.ly/vote-before-election-day.

Vote on Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 4

Polling places are open 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Election Day. See below for information about how to find your polling place.

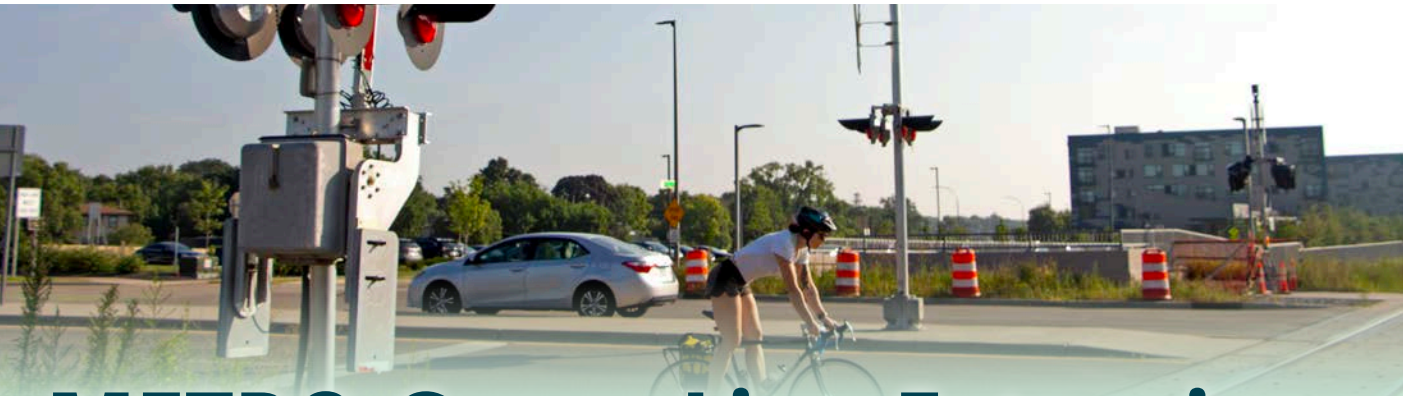
2. Register to vote

Check your registration and make any updates, if needed, at www.mnvotes.gov. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/vote to learn more about voter registration options and requirements.

3. Find your polling place

Find your polling place at pollfinder.sos.mn.gov or contact the city's elections office for help.

Continued on page 5.



METRO Green Line Extension testing begins this fall

Metro Transit will begin testing light rail vehicles this fall as the Green Line Extension project is nearing completion. Testing will continue throughout 2026.

Light rail vehicles will be moving between St. Louis Park and Eden Prairie to test the electrical systems and crossing warning lights. For everyone's safety, please be aware of and comply with all railroad crossing gate arms and warning lights, even if the reason for them might not be apparent. The testing work is critical to ensure the Green Line Extension Light Rail Transit project is ready to serve customers in 2027.

The city continues to prepare for the opening of the light rail and its influence on communities near its stations. Learn more about the St. Louis Park's Arrive + Thrive gateway plans on page 6.



NOW HIRING!

Experience LIFE in the Park

as a City of St. Louis Park paid intern or full-time employee!

Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/employment or scan the QR code today!



Stay informed

To talk to someone in person, visit city hall at 5005 Minnetonka Blvd., during business hours, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Can’t make it out? Call the main number during business hours at 952.924.2500 or try one of our many online resources.

For city events, activities, schedules and news updates, visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov, sign up for text and email notifications through govDelivery, or follow us on social media.

 govDelivery www.stlouisparkmn.gov/sign-up

 @stlouispark

 @stlouisparkmn

 @stlouispark

 www.nextdoor.com

 www.youtube.com/slpcable

Make service requests or receive city information via the app  or visit www.mystlouispark.org.

Contact mayor and city council

Nadia Mohamed, mayor nmohamed@stlouisparkmn.gov 952.207.0256	Lynette Dumlalag, ward 2 ldumlalag@stlouisparkmn.gov 612.449.0989
Yolanda Farris, at large A yfarris@stlouisparkmn.gov 952.374.8868	Sue Budd, ward 3 sbudd@stlouisparkmn.gov 612.523.5834
Paul Baudhuin, at large B pbaudhuin@stlouisparkmn.gov 612.523.4359	Tim Brausen, ward 4 tbrausen@stlouisparkmn.gov 612.523.5678
Margaret Rog, ward 1 mrog@stlouisparkmn.gov 612.523.5702	The city council meets regularly at city hall the first and third Monday of the month at 6:15 p.m. with study sessions the second and fourth Monday at 6 p.m.

St. Louis Park’s strategic priorities

Below are the five guiding leadership priorities of the City of St. Louis Park and city council as selected through the community Vision 3.0 process.

-  Being a leader in racial equity and inclusion in order to create a more just and inclusive community for all.
-  Continuing to lead in environmental stewardship.
-  Providing a broad range of housing and neighborhood-oriented development.
-  Providing a variety of options for people to make their way around the city comfortably, safely and reliably.
-  Creating opportunities to build social capital through community engagement.

Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/our-city/about-us to learn more.



Apply for an Arts & Culture Grant

The Arts & Culture Grant program makes grant dollars available every year for music, visual arts, theater, film, multimedia, dance and other art projects that take place within the City of St. Louis Park. Artists, arts groups, students, community groups and neighborhood, cultural and religious organizations are encouraged to apply for funding of projects that support community pride, connect artists and the community, and engage people in creative learning.

Applications for 2026 grants are due Sept. 28, 2025. For the application and guidelines, visit bit.ly/arts-and-culture-grant.



Vision 4.0

Help plan tomorrow. Take the survey!



The Vision 4.0 process will guide the city’s strategic priorities for the next 10 years. Previous visioning processes have informed key city projects, including organizing neighborhoods, the Town Center idea (a.k.a. Park Commons area, including Wolfe Park redesign and Excelsior & Grand), Connect the Park pedestrian and bicycle networks, inclusion of affordable housing in development and more!

Share your vision for St. Louis Park by taking the Vision 4.0 community survey using the QR code above or at bit.ly/Vision-Community-Survey. Look out for engagement opportunities to attend throughout the fall and visit bit.ly/visionSLP to learn more.

Pictured above: Studio Thalo brought ideas to life through live painting, transforming insights from all Vision 4.0 ambassador cohort sessions into a vibrant visual story.

Welcoming Week is Sept. 12 – 21

Welcoming Week is an opportunity for organizations and communities to bring together neighbors of all backgrounds, build strong connections and affirm the importance of welcoming and inclusive places in achieving collective prosperity. Learn more about St. Louis Park’s Welcoming Week activities at www.stlouisparkmn.gov/welcoming-week.



Apply for a neighborhood grant

Earlier this year, the St. Louis Park City Council approved a new equity-based funding model to fairly distribute funds to city neighborhoods for special projects and events. This needs-based formula considers the population, median income and median property value of each neighborhood.

The current grant cycle closes Dec. 31, 2025 and will reopen at the beginning of 2026. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/neighborhoods to find out if your neighborhood is organized, get involved, request funding or find out how to register your neighborhood.

Fire department community trainings

The St. Louis Park Fire Department offers various training opportunities for community members interested in learning life-saving skills. Trainings can be requested for groups of five to 15 people at your facility or at Fire Station 1 by contacting the fire department at 952.924.2595.

Hands-only CPR is a simplified method of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) that focuses on chest compressions without rescue breaths. Hands-only CPR trainings can be requested or are offered quarterly at Fire Station 1.

Stop the Bleed training consists of a formal presentation followed by hands-on practice of applying direct pressure, packing a wound and using a tourniquet to stop bleeding. Participants will have the option to receive a certificate electronically stating they have met the training requirements after the end of the one-hour course.



Learn more:
bit.ly/fire-train

Don't leave your car running unattended

While it's tempting in the colder months, warming up your car by leaving it running unattended is one of the most common causes of vehicle theft. It creates an easy target for thieves on the lookout for crimes of opportunity. It also wastes gas and pollutes the air. In addition to the negative consequences of letting your car idle, it's not an efficient way to warm up your vehicle. The best way to warm up a vehicle is to drive slowly during the first mile.

Winter vehicle maintenance tips

As winter approaches, it's wise to have a basic winter emergency road kit and supplies in your vehicle, including a snow shovel and brush, jumper cables, basic first-aid kit, winter gear like gloves and a hat, and a change of warm clothes. Find a comprehensive winter emergency road kit checklist at the link below.

In addition, be sure your vehicle is winter-ready to reduce the likelihood of breakdowns or accidents by doing the following:

- Check the condition of your tires, and replace them if necessary
- Check tire pressures weekly
- Check all your vehicle's lights at least monthly
- Monitor fluid levels
- Replace your wiper blades if they are worn before winter driving
- Inspect your vehicle's battery and clean the terminals
- Inspect your vehicle's belts and hoses
- Keep your fuel tank at least half full to prevent moisture buildup and fuel line freezing; consider using a fuel line antifreeze
- Clear all windows and lights of snow, ice, slush, salt and sand residue before driving

For more information on winter driving and vehicle maintenance, visit bit.ly/winter-drive-tips.

Permits required for recreational fires

Permits are required for recreational fires (in-ground fire pits, portable fire pits, fire bowls, chimineas, etc.). Natural gas and propane fire pits and fireplaces don't require a recreational fire permit.

Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/firepermit to view or print the permit application and to find more information and regulations.

Teens invited to explore policing

Come and learn about the Police Explorers program at the Explorers First Nighter on Monday, Sept. 15, 6 p.m. at the police department, 3015 Raleigh Ave. S. At the introductory, no-commitment meeting, potential Explorers and their parents will learn more about the Explorers program, meet the advisors and tour the police department.

The Explorers program allows young adults ages 14 – 20 to participate in scenario-based training, class studies and learn tactics from officers at weekly meetings. Explorers will go on ride-alongs, volunteer within the community and compete at the Minnesota Law Enforcement Explorer Association State Conference.

Contact Officer Caroline Bjorge at cbjorge@stlouisparkmn.gov or Officer Madeline Rice at mrice@stlouisparkmn.gov to learn more.

Police Reserves program

Consider volunteering as a reserve officer in St. Louis Park!

Reserves assist with night patrols and city events and complete valuable trainings, including crisis intervention, various scenarios, traffic control, first aid and more. Visit bit.ly/Police-Reserves to learn more and apply.

Smoke alarms for seniors

The St. Louis Park Fire Department has partnered with the American Red Cross to provide 10-year, battery-operated smoke alarms free of charge to seniors who live in their own home or condo, or anyone physically unable to install or replace smoke alarms.

To have a fire prevention specialist set up an appointment to install smoke alarms and discuss fire safety, call Fire Station 1 at 952.924.2595. Please note that they will not replace hardwired smoke detectors.



Small business financing resources

Small businesses are integral to St. Louis Park’s economic prosperity. Below are programs and resources the city provides to help your business grow and succeed.

Advance loan program

The advance loan program provides qualified St. Louis Park small businesses with forgivable loans up to \$10,000. Loan funds must be used for hard costs associated with opening a new commercial location, expanding into a larger space or first-time commercial property acquisitions. Loan funds require a minimum of one-to-one match of applicant-incurred eligible expenses.

2% loan program

The 2% loan program offers low-interest loans to new and existing businesses and property owners in St. Louis Park to make building improvements or purchase equipment. The Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) or a private lender provides half of the loan amount at market rate. The city provides the remaining loan amount, minimum of \$10,000 and up to \$75,000, at 2% interest for a term up to 10 years.

Revolving loan fund

The revolving loan fund provides gap financing and commercial lending to local businesses to help them grow and expand in St. Louis Park. Both new and existing businesses may apply. Loans have fixed interest rate terms and range from \$50,000 – \$200,000.

Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/business/financing-resources to learn more about these programs.

Climate Action Academy

Come learn how to reduce your energy use, save money on energy upgrades, avoid common solar scams, compost your food scraps and more from the City of St. Louis Park’s sustainability specialists. Staff will provide resources and expertise on how you can reduce your carbon footprint and leave a healthier world for future generations.

This free, two-part class will take place on Sept. 18 and Sept. 25 from 6 – 8 p.m. at Lenox Community Center. Register at bit.ly/SLP-Climate-Academy.



Electric outdoor equipment creates cleaner air

Did you know that operating a commercial gas-powered leaf blower for one hour is equivalent to a single car driving 100 miles? The City of St. Louis Park was recently awarded funding from Hennepin County to electrify many pieces of landscaping equipment, decreasing local air pollution. With these funds, parks and recreation staff will replace gas-powered equipment with cleaner, quieter electric alternatives.

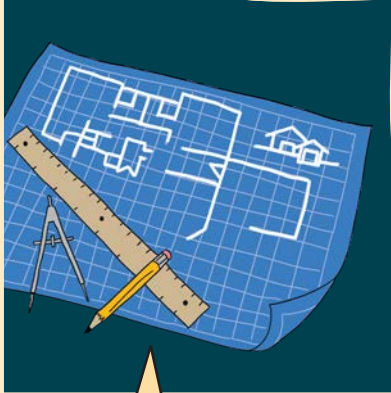
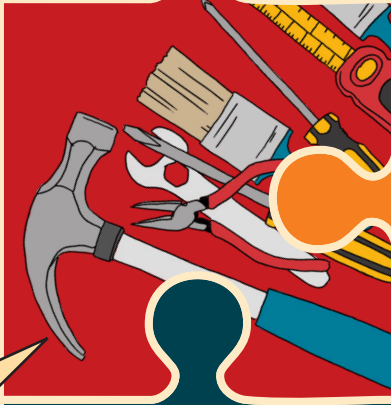
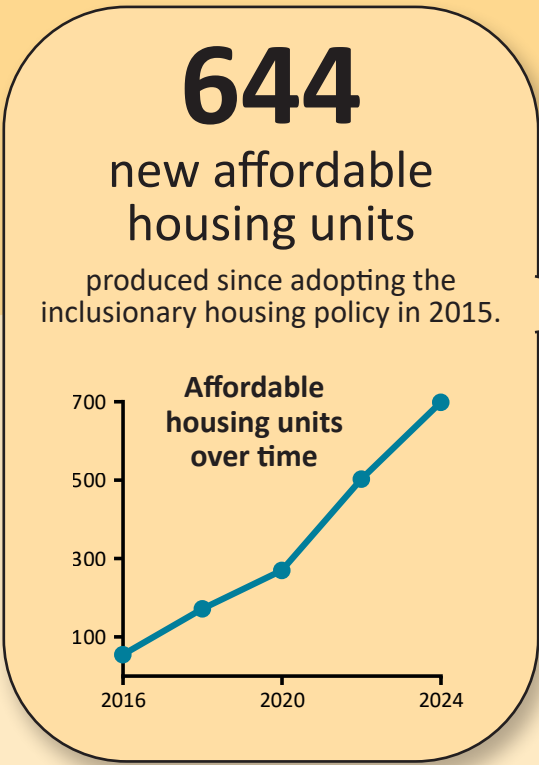
You can be part of the solution too! Xcel Energy is now offering rebates for electric lawn mowers, push snow blowers, trimmers, chainsaws and more. Rebates are available for residents and home-based lawncare or snow removal businesses. Find more information at bit.ly/electric-rebates.

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT: community development

The work of the city’s community development department touches on the experiences of anyone who lives, works, plays or owns a business in St. Louis Park.

The department supports the city’s long-term vitality and quality of life through its three core areas: economic development, housing, and planning and zoning. Department staff work alongside the city council, economic development authority, planning commission, board of zoning appeals and housing authority to provide insights that help guide public policy and development decisions that shape the city’s character for decades to come. Together with other city departments and regional partners, the team works to meet community needs both now and for the future. Efforts include helping small businesses access resources, expanding housing options through zoning reforms and managing a variety of homeowner, homebuyer and rental assistance programs.

This community development spotlight is the second in a series that highlights the work and responsibilities of each of the nine St. Louis Park city departments.



Learn more:
www.stlouisparkmn.gov/community-development



\$170,000
small business loans
provided in 2024 to local
businesses.

54 received **609**
businesses hours
of free business advising assistance
from partnering area agencies.

25
community
engagement
activities in 2024,
including open houses, pop-up
events and surveys.

\$562,695
in down payment
assistance
for first-time and first-generation
homebuyers in 2024.

Learn more:



231
electric vehicle
chargers
installed since 2016.

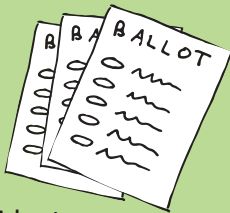
330
bicycle spaces
installed since 2016.

Steps to voting in the 2025 election!

(Continued from page 1.)

4. View a sample ballot

Sample ballots will be available beginning Sept. 19. View a sample ballot at myballotmn.sos.mn.gov, in person at city hall, in the 2025 election guide that is mailed to all residents in early October, or by requesting a copy from elections staff.

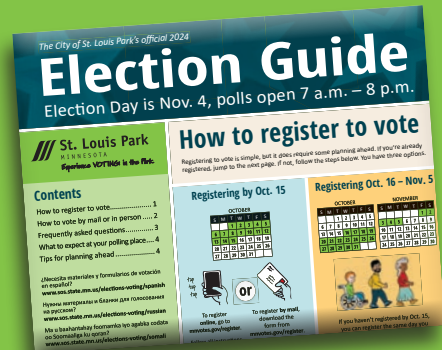


5. Go vote!

Learn more about candidates

In an effort to remain neutral, the city does not advertise for or provide background information on candidates or political platforms, but it supports voters finding ways to research and educate themselves about the candidates on their ballot.

You can see who filed for local office on the city website at www.stlouisparkmn.gov/vote. Candidates appearing on the ballot may have their own websites dedicated to their campaign. You can also search candidate filings on the Minnesota Secretary of State's website, check the Sun Sailor for information on local candidates or watch candidate forums hosted by the League of Women Voters.



Watch for your 2025 election guide!

The 2025 election guide will be mailed in early October and contains everything you need to know about voting in this year's election in St. Louis Park.

Zoning code update – phase 2 survey

Phase 2 of the zoning code update is underway and your input is needed! Provide feedback on the city's business districts using the survey on the project page at the link below.

The phase 2 review consists of the following:

- Uses allowed in non-residential zoning districts, such as office, commercial, industrial and others.
- Performance standards for parking, signs, landscaping, lighting, architectural standards, etc.
- Administrative procedures for applications, code enforcement, etc.

To learn more about the phase 2 review and to take the survey, visit bit.ly/zoning-code-phase-2.

Truth-in-taxation notices and public hearing

Truth-in-taxation notices are mailed in November. They show the proposed property tax amount for the following year for each taxing jurisdiction and include the meeting dates where you can provide input. A truth-in-taxation public hearing will be held in the city hall council chambers on Dec. 1, 2025. For more details, visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/finance.



Name a snowplow!



Help us name a St. Louis Park snowplow! Submit your punniest, most creative, most snow-tastic ideas by scanning the QR code or at bit.ly/snowplow-name-contest from Sept. 8 – 26. Public works staff will narrow down submissions to their top 10, which will be posted on social media, the city website and shared through a govDelivery email for residents to vote for their favorite Oct. 6 – 13.

The winning name will be announced in the winter Park Perspective and shared on the city website, social media and through a govDelivery email. The lucky individual(s) or family who submit the winning name will get to take a photo with the plow and crew and ride in the snowplow.

Sarah Fielder won last year’s contest with her submission CTRL + SALT + DELETE (pictured above). Residents may spot this plow and previous winner, The Big Snowplowski, clearing streets this winter.

The winner of 2024’s snowplow naming contest Sarah Fielder and family posed last winter with public works crews and the freshly labeled snowplow CTRL + SALT + DELETE.

Snow emergencies

St. Louis Park’s snow removal ordinance restricts on-street parking once a snow emergency has been declared. There are some exceptions, but only in select locations where ample off-street parking is limited.

Stay informed this winter

The city announces snow emergencies in several ways. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/snow to learn more about snow emergency alerts, parking exemptions and procedures.

Before it snows: Keep waterways clear

Leaves and other debris that get into storm drains pollute waterways and negatively impact the health of local plants and wildlife. They can also cause flooding. Here’s how to help:

Keep streets clear of vehicles and leaves for street sweepers

If possible, avoid parking on streets during daytime hours. Fall street sweeping starts in early October and continues until the snow falls. Even though “no parking” signs aren’t posted for street sweeping since work is ongoing and contingent on weather conditions, cars parked on the street will reduce the effectiveness of street sweeping and slow down the process.

Excess leaves raked into the street can slow down or damage sweeping equipment and contribute to the pollution of area waterways. It’s also against city code. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/backyard-composting for tips on composting grass and leaves. Yard waste is also collected for pick up by the city’s yard waste hauler (see page 7).

Adopt a storm drain

Keeping storm drains clear of obstructions reduces the chance of flooding in the event of heavy rains and cuts down on waterway pollution. St. Louis Park residents are encouraged to adopt a storm drain near them by committing to keep it clear of leaves, trash and other debris. Visit www.adopt-a-drain.org/map to sign up.



Construction updates

The 2025 construction season is entering its final phase, and most of the roadway projects are expected to be substantially completed by the end of November. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/construction-updates for more information on construction projects.

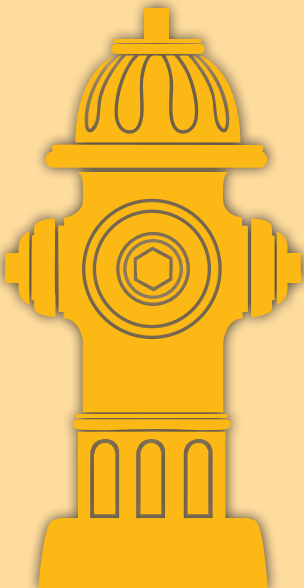
Minnetonka Boulevard preliminary planning

Hennepin County has begun the planning process to reconstruct Minnetonka Boulevard between Vernon and Xylon avenues starting in 2027. They continue to offer opportunities for the community to engage in project development. Learn more and share your input at www.beheardhennepin.org/minnetonka-boulevard.

Fall fire hydrant flushing

Fall dead-end hydrant flushing will take place Sept. 22 – 26 and Sept. 29 – Oct. 3 between 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The estimated dates are based on the weather, current maintenance needs or emergencies that staff need to address. Hydrant flushing will be mainly on dead-end streets or cul-de-sacs and is necessary to maintain water quality. Any one neighborhood or area won’t be affected for the entire week. Once a watermain is flushed, city crews will move to the next one. Residents can check to see if watermain has been flushed in their neighborhood by visiting bit.ly/WMflushing to view a map. If you have questions, call public works at 952.924.2562.



Arrive + Thrive gateway plans

Plans for the light rail station areas and west Excelsior Boulevard have been updated. Access, land use and natural systems were assessed, and community members shared their desired outcomes for these new gateway areas. Visit bit.ly/transit-area-plan to learn more and view the full plan documents.

The city will work to implement the plan and communicate progress with an online tracking tool that will be available by the end of 2025.



Upcoming events

Fall cleanup event is Sept. 13

The fall cleanup event is Saturday, Sept. 13 from 8 a.m. – noon at the Municipal Service Center, 7305 Oxford St. Bring your unusable electronics, appliances, scrap metal, mattresses, remodeling debris and more. Your vehicle must be in the event queue before noon in order to drop off material. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/cleanup for requirements and accepted materials.

Paper shredding event is Sept. 19

Did you know shredded paper isn’t accepted in recycling or organics carts? Bring your confidential documents to be shredded and recycled at the fall paper shredding event Sept. 19, 4 – 6 p.m. at the Municipal Service Center, 7305 Oxford St. Residents may bring up to five paper grocery bags worth of paper. Do not use lawn/leaf bags or plastic bags. Bikers or walkers will not be allowed to enter the event for safety reasons. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/cleanup or contact public works at 952.924.2562 for additional details.

Brush drop-off site open until Nov. 23

If you have excess leaves and grass clippings you want to get rid of before your next yard waste collection day, bring them to the city’s brush drop-off site. There is no charge for St. Louis Park residents. A Minnesota ID, driver’s license or utility bill is required as proof of residency. Call 952.924.2562 with questions.

Residents can drop off branches, brush, logs, grass clippings and leaves during the dates and times listed below (weather permitting).

- Hours through Oct. 28**
 - Saturdays: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 - Sundays: noon – 4 p.m.
 - Tuesdays: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Hours Nov. 1 — 23**
 - Saturdays: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 - Sundays: noon – 4 p.m.

The drop-off site is located at 6215 Cedar Lake Road with the entrance on the southeast side of the railroad tracks.

Last week of yard waste collection Nov. 24 – 29

The last week for yard waste collection is the week of Nov. 24. If there is a significant snowfall before then, yard waste collection will end at that time. Yard waste must be in your own reusable containers, compostable bags or bundled separate from garbage. It must be set out by 7 a.m. to ensure collection, especially during peak season. It’s illegal to throw yard waste in the garbage or to use traditional plastic bags for yard waste. Each bag, bundle or container should weigh no more than 40 pounds. For more information, visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/yard-waste.

Free Christmas tree collection Jan. 5 – 23

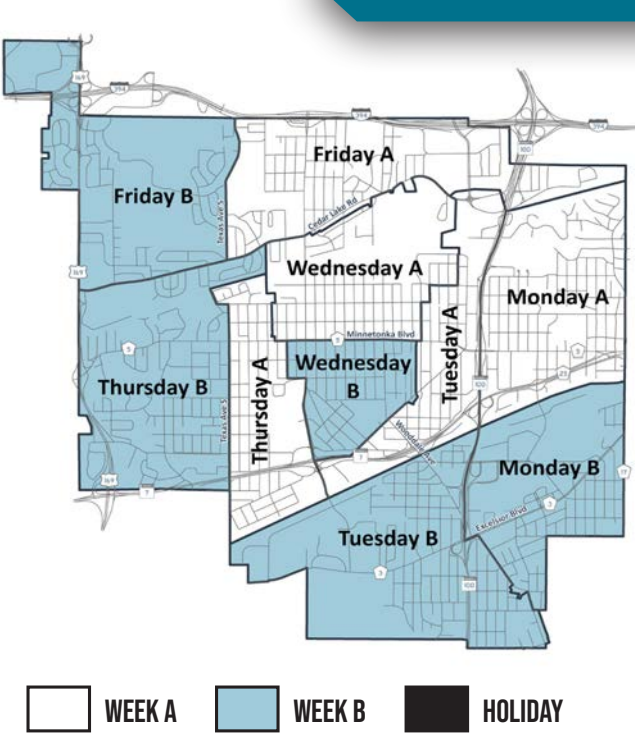
Christmas trees can be set out for collection on your regular collection day by 7 a.m. from Jan. 5 – 23 for no charge. Residents who set trees out after the free collection period will be charged for bulk pickup. Bagged trees won’t be collected. Remove all decorations, and make sure your tree is not stuck in ice or snow before collection. For more details, including options for residents without city collection service, visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/garbage-recycling.

September 2025						
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December 2025						
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28	29	30	31			



Know your recycling day

For your convenience, the next four months of the recycling schedule are provided above. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/recycling to download a yearly calendar, find your collection day or sign up for email reminders.

- If your normal service falls on or after a holiday, you will receive service one day later.
- Report missed pickups within two days of collection day to:

Garbage/recycling: 952.226.6457, SLP@buckinghamcompanies.com
Organics: 952.941.5174, SLP@republicservices.com
Yard waste: 612.405.9579, SLP@wastecontainersystems.com

- This calendar applies only to properties with city-provided recycling. Multifamily buildings are required to offer recycling to their tenants. Check with your building management or email city staff at recycling@stlouisparkmn.gov if you have questions about recycling collection at your building.

Collections are delayed one day all week after holidays that fall on a week day. Collections are not delayed for holidays that fall on weekends.

Cart Art in the Park winners

This summer, the City of St. Louis Park received 31 submissions from community members for the 2025 Cart Art in the Park contest. Congratulations to winner Meg Alles whose art will be displayed on the multifamily organics drop-site carts.

“Our family has been composting for almost a decade and it has GREATLY reduced the amount of garbage that we throw out. It’s something so easy to start and does so much good for the earth,” says Meg.

Keep an eye out for our first, second and third-place winning art pieces on the organics drop-site carts located at parks and city buildings. Visit www.stlouisparkmn.gov/organics to learn more about organics recycling.



Fall gardening tips: leave the leaves, but be strategic

Leaf litter is an essential winter shelter for butterflies, moths, beetles and native bees, but too many leaves in the wrong places can do more harm than good. Here are a few gardening tips for cold months. **Bonus tip:** Remember to pull your leaves back in the spring to let in the sun!

Rake off turf: A thick blanket of leaves can smother your lawn. Unless you’re intentionally reducing grass under a tree or creating a shade garden, clear excess leaves.

Go easy on sunny gardens: Prairie plants don’t like being buried. Keep leaf cover light and move extras to the garden edge.

Woodland gardens love leaves: Shade-loving plants thrive with a few inches of leaf mulch. Just be sure not to pile directly on plant crowns.



CAN'T MISS FALL EVENTS



ROCTOBERFEST

Sept. 20, 5 – 8 p.m.

Polka away under the ROC. Live music, food, beverages, beer, games and challenges!



LENOX TURNS 100!

OCT. 6 – 10 • LENOX COMMUNITY CENTER, 6715 MINNETONKA BLVD.

Lenox Community Center is celebrating 100 years with a week-long celebration full of events, history and fun! The kick-off event is Monday, Oct. 6, and tours of Lenox will be offered daily. No registration required; open to all. Learn more at bit.ly/lenox-100.

HOWL-O-WEEN

OCT. 12 • NOON – 3 P.M. • WOLFE PARK, 3700 MONTEREY DRIVE

Visitors can stroll through the park with their pets, meet different vendors to redeem prizes and do a little shopping. At 2:30 p.m., there will be a costume contest for all pets with fantastic prizes.



PITCH-A-PUMPKIN

**NOV. 1 – 6, 8 A.M. – 8 P.M. DAILY
THE REC CENTER PARKING LOT, 3700 MONTEREY DRIVE**

Halloween is over, and your pumpkins are ready to be pitched. Instead of tossing them in the trash, give your pumpkins another life as compost. The city is offering free pumpkin recycling. All collected pumpkins will be taken to a local compost facility. Please remove all candles, wax and decorations. Painted pumpkins can't be accepted.



Other fall events and activities:

St. Louis Park Art Fair, Sept. 6; Movies in the Park Sept. 12 and 19; Active all Autumn; Skate School Fall Showcase, Nov. 1; Small Business Saturday, Nov. 29; Disco Ball Ice Skating; and more!



MINNEHEHA CREEK CLEANUP

OCT. 4, 9 A.M. – NOON, MUNICIPAL SERVICE CENTER, 7305 OXFORD ST.

Help beautify Minnehaha Creek! Meet at the Municipal Service Center to clean up the creek. Gloves, waders, cleanup tools and disposable bags will be provided. Dress for the weather. Contact our natural resources division at naturalresources@stlouisparkmn.gov or 952.924.2699 for more information.



44th Annual Halloween Party

OCT. 17 AND 18, 6:30 – 9 P.M., WESTWOOD HILLS NATURE CENTER, 8300 W. FRANKLIN AVE. REGISTER BY OCT. 8 FOR EARLY-BIRD DISCOUNT.

Join us for this family-friendly fall tradition! Come in costumes and enjoy a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. Boo-gie down to some Halloween tunes, play carnival style games and trick-or-treat with friendly animal characters on Mother Nature's Trail. Round out the evening with a puppet show and refreshments. Register at www.stlouisparkmn.gov/rec-registration. Consider donating carved pumpkins to decorate the trails at this event. Pumpkins can be dropped off at the nature center on Thursday, Oct. 16, from 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.



Turkey Bingo

NOV. 26, 11 A.M. – NOON
The Rec Center, 3700 Monterey Drive

Join us for a special bingo event where participants are sure to have a gobbling good time! Everyone will have a chance to win awesome prizes, and no experience is needed. Participants are welcome to stay for free ice skating following bingo.

Turkeys on Ice

NOV. 26, NOON – 1:30 P.M.
The Rec Center, 3700 Monterey Drive

Enjoy free indoor holiday ice skating just before the turkey and stuffing. Free skate rental is available.

U.G.L.Y. SWEATER DASH

DEC. 7 • RACE BEGINS AT 5:30 P.M. • LOUISIANA OAKS PARK, 3520 LOUISIANA AVE. S.

Navigate a 5K course that loops through Louisiana Oaks Park and the lighted trees of Oak Hill Park. Participants and spectators are invited to wear their ugliest holiday sweaters and celebrate after the race across the street at Park Tavern. The event is for all ages. The registration fee is \$40 before Oct. 12, \$45 from Oct. 13 – Dec. 6, and \$50 at the door. All participants receive a goodie bag.

Register at www.stlouisparkmn.gov/rec-registration.