

# PARK PAGES

The People, Places and Events of Brooklyn Park

May/June 2009

## The Vikings are Coming! The Vikings are Coming! Football superstars, Toro Company employees and city residents team up to build a playground

Last spring Crest View Elementary School Principal Suzette Erickson was in a tizzy. She just learned from her safety advisors that her school's playground set was falling apart and unsafe for her children. Given the tough economic times, she knew the Osseo School District wouldn't have the funds to replace the playground. So she sent out a letter to community members asking for donations. She managed to raise around \$15,000, but it was far short of the \$80,000 it costs to build a safe playground. Not giving up hope, Erickson decided she would do anything it took to get a playground built for her kids, many of whom come from financially challenged families.

In March of this year, unbeknownst to her, Erickson's letter was passed on to Brad Madson, the Executive Director of Community Relations for the Minnesota Vikings. Madson was looking for a school that was in need of a new playground for the team's Playground Build Program. After reading the letter, he immediately contacted

Judson Tharin, the Giving Program and Community Relations Manager for the Toro Company, which is a co-sponsor of the program. It didn't take long for the two to decide Crest View really needed their donation.

Madson and Tharin immediately contacted Erickson, who was shell shocked when they told her Crest View was going to receive their \$65,000 donation to build a new playground. "I thought I was going to cry.



"Teaming up to Build a Playground" continued on page 3...

## Logan Fisher's Ready to be Mayor And, he's the 2009 Tater Daze Button Winner!

Logan Fisher is already planning his run for Brooklyn Park Mayor sometime around 2023. Being a savvy student of public relations, the 7-year-old knows he's got to get his name out in the community to get votes. That's one of the reasons why he entered this year's Tater Daze Button Design Contest. Not only does he like to draw, but he could win a cool prize and maybe more people would know who he is.

Almost a hundred children entered the contest, but Logan's design was the winning entry. The Woodland Elementary student's design featured a guitar in front of a backdrop of trees and the Mississippi River. It also says this year's Tater Daze theme, Rockin' by the River.

"I got the idea to put a guitar on the front because I got one from Santa last year. I like to play my guitar and hum songs and Tater Daze always has music,"

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# PARK PAGES

PARK PAGES is produced by Brooklyn Park city staff, published every other month and distributed to residences and businesses.  
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Email: [bruce@twinwest.com](mailto:bruce@twinwest.com) Website: [www.twinwest.com](http://www.twinwest.com)

### Proudly Serving the North Hennepin Area!

#### City Services: 763-493-8166

- Vehicle title transfers
- License plate tab renewals
- Registration for out-of-state vehicles

- Fishing and hunting licenses
- Registration for snowmobiles, boats, ATVs
- Pet licenses

#### Hennepin County Services: 612-348-8240

- Driver's license renewals

#### State of Minnesota Services: 952-476-3042

- Driver's license testing

### CITY SERVICES

#### City Hall Office Hours

Monday - Friday ..... 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### Licensing Division Hours

Monday - Friday ..... 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturdays ..... 9 a.m. - Noon

#### Information Contacts

Emergency Assistance ..... 911  
City Hall ..... 763-424-8000  
Community Activity Center ..... 763-493-8333  
Recreation & Parks ..... 763-493-8333  
Operations & Maintenance ..... 763-493-8007

Fire Administration ..... 763-493-8020  
Police Administration ..... 763-493-8222  
Recycling ..... 763-493-8006  
Utility Billing ..... 763-493-8185  
Yard Waste Site ..... 763-420-4886

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

### REGULAR MEETINGS

**City Council:** The 1st, 3rd and 4th Mondays of each month, 7 p.m. Each meeting will begin with an Open Forum of up to 15 minutes.

**Budget Advisory Commission:** 4th Tuesday, 7 p.m.

**Economic Development Authority:**  
2nd Monday of each month, 7 p.m.

**Planning Commission:** 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Charter Commission:** 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

**Citizen Long-range Improvement Committee:**  
2nd Thursday, 7 p.m.

**Human Rights Commission:** 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m.

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Commission:**  
3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Brooklyn Park Firefighters Relief Association Board of Trustees:** 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m.

### ON AIR

#### Channel 16

7 p.m. - 1st thru 4th Monday: Council & EDA, Live

7 p.m. - 2nd Wednesday: Planning Commission, Live

6:30 p.m. - Thursday: Brooklyn Park Now!

7 p.m. - 2nd Monday: Economic Development Authority, Live

7 p.m. - 2nd thru 5th Thursday: City Council, Replay

2:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. - Friday: Brooklyn Park Now!

3 a.m. & 11 a.m. - Friday: City Council, Replay

#### Channel 19

8:30 p.m. - Monday: Brooklyn Park Now!

4:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. - Tuesday:

Brooklyn Park Now!

Times and dates subject to change.  
Contact 763-424-8000 or  
[custserv@brooklynpark.org](mailto:custserv@brooklynpark.org)  
to confirm.

### NEWSPAPER OF RECORD

Residents interested in receiving the Brooklyn Park SUN-POST or those who are having delivery problems should contact the paper's circulation department directly at 952-392-6860. Messages should include a delivery address and return phone number. Please note the paper cannot be delivered north of 101st Avenue and distribution is limited in apartments, townhomes and condos.

"Teaming up to Build a Playground" continued from cover...

I had no idea anything like this could happen," said Erickson recently.

The new playground will be built on Friday, June 5, the last day of school. The entire Minnesota Vikings organization, including all their superstars, will build the project with the help of employees from the Toro Company and volunteers and parents from Crest View and Brooklyn Park community groups. Vikings players will also meet with the children of the school for autographs and pictures.

The playground will be project managed by a Washington D.C. based nonprofit organization called KaBOOM! It's an organization that was started in 1995 by Darell Hammond, who had read an article about two children who died in a car because they didn't have a safe place to play. His call to action has led the construction of more than 1600 play spaces across North America.

The project, of course, involves lots of planning, and Erickson is grateful that all sorts of community groups have already committed to help. The school is still soliciting donations to help feed the roughly 400 volunteers who will be working at the site that day, and they are still looking for a few volunteers to help direct traffic, build the playground and serve food.

An exciting part of the project is that the City of Brooklyn Park is working with the folks at KaBOOM! to make it a zero waste event by recycling and composting 99.9 percent of the waste generated in the project.

KaBOOM! leaders also recently came to the school to meet with Crest View's kids. The children, who range from kindergarten to 6th

grade, had the opportunity to tell KaBOOM! designers and former Vikings player Everett Lindsay what kind of a playground they would like. Swings and slides were very popular, and the students also told them they would like the playground to be red, black and purple in honor of the Minnesota Vikings and the Toro Company.

Erickson says she hopes the community thinks of this playground as a place for all of the City's children to have fun. "This is not just about Crest View. This is about everyone coming together to give kids a safe sanctuary. We're so grateful there are so many wonderful people willing to help us."

If you are interested in volunteering for the event, please contact Sue Risse at 763-561-5165 or email her at [risses@district279.org](mailto:risses@district279.org). Also, please note that several roads surrounding Crest View Elementary School will be closed to general traffic from 5:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on June 5, in order to accommodate the needs of the project.



Fisher continued from cover...

said the second grader.

Logan recently came to City Hall to show Mayor Steve Lampi his award winning design and get some political advice. The Mayor told him he thought his guitar looked like a potato. But Logan disagreed. "No, it's a guitar!" proclaimed the youngster.

Logan will get to see Mayor Lampi again when he'll be honored by the Brooklyn Park City Council. He'll also have the opportunity to see his design on a button, being sold to raise money for Tater Daze 2009.



2009 winning button design by Woodland Elementary School 7-year-old, Logan Fisher

## Talkin' Twitter with Dan the Recycling Man



Hi Brooklyn Park residents!

Normally, I talk recycling but today I want to tell you about a new communications tool that the City of Brooklyn Park is using.

We just started posting short messages from various city departments on our new Twitter account. If you don't know what Twitter is, it's a free social networking and micro-blogging service that allows users to send updates known as tweets. Tweets are text-based posts of up to 140 characters in length which are displayed on the user's profile page and delivered to other users who have subscribed to them (known as followers). If you would like to follow our city tweets, just go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com), sign up for a free account and then go to the "find friends" page, and type in "brooklynpark." You can get the messages as a text message on your cell phone. (Careful! You might get charged for the text from your cell phone provider if you don't have an unlimited plan.)

If you do sign up, you'll get tweets from just about every department in the City, and of course, plenty about recycling. We recently put tweets out about the Highway 610 project and recent spring garage burglaries. The City is also experimenting with other social media as well. The Tater Daze Festival volunteer committee has a Facebook page, and they'd sure love to have more city residents sign up and become a friend. I have my recycling blog, so be sure to read that as well! There are links to all of these communications efforts on the city's website, [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org).

If you have any questions, call 763-493-8003 or email the City's Communications Coordinator at [mary.tan@brooklynpark.org](mailto:mary.tan@brooklynpark.org).

Happy Tweeting Everyone!

*Dan*  
Dan Ruiz



## Free Housing Resource Fair Wednesday, June 3



If you're a homeowner or want to be one, we've got an event for you! Come to an Open House at the Community Activity Center (CAC) on Wednesday, June 3 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Buyers can learn about mortgages, down payment assistance, the \$8,000 tax credit and view affordable homes for sale. Homeowners can learn about mortgage loan modifications and lower-interest home improvement loans. Lenders, real estate professionals and financial counselors will be on hand to visit one-on-one and answer all your questions. There will also be door prizes, refreshments and activities for kids ages 4-12. The address of the CAC is 5600 85th Avenue North.

# Ride the Bus? Changes are Coming!

## Metro Transit route changes start May 30

Metro Transit is rolling out changes to better serve the needs of Brooklyn Park residents and employers. If you ride bus routes 715, 716, 717, 755, 756 or 767, then get ready for some major changes, which include:

- Creation of new Route 705, a north-south route traveling primarily on Winnetka Avenue in Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, New Hope and St. Louis Park
- Elimination of Route 715, with service replaced by Route 705 and Route 717
- New service to the Wal-Mart Supercenter in Brooklyn Park
- Simpler Saturday routing between Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park
- Facility improvements at Starlite Transit Center
- Restructuring of service in the Winnetka Avenue corridor, with more off-peak and reverse-commute service
- New connections between Winnetka Avenue and Ridgedale Mall and between 42nd Avenue and City of Plymouth Dial-A-Ride



The changes are a result of Metro Transit officials meeting with lots of Brooklyn Park riders to take a fresh look at where and how often buses operate in the City. Cyndi Harper, a Senior Transit Planner with Metro Transit, also stresses that the changes are in part, "to make it easier for riders to travel from suburb to suburb so they don't always have to go through downtown Minneapolis." Customers who want to know more details can call 612-373-3333 or log on to: [www.metrotransit.org/NWservice](http://www.metrotransit.org/NWservice).

Don't ride the bus? Why not give public transportation a try! With all these changes, riding public transportation has never been easier. And, you're saving gas money and the environment as well. In fact, last year Metro Transit had the highest annual ridership in 27 years. **C'mon, hop on!**

## Don't Get Scammed

### What you need to know

by Sgt. Eric Nelson, Brooklyn Park Police Department

While crime trends go up and down, the Brooklyn Park Police Department has seen a steady increase in the number of citizens getting scammed. Some losses are as high as \$5,000 or more. Here are some of the most frequently reported scams we hear about at the Police Department.



## City Budget Update

There has been much discussion recently about budgets at the state and local levels of government. The Brooklyn Park City Council has been watching this year's legislative discussion very closely. Like many cities, Brooklyn Park is anticipating the loss of State-funded local government aids and credits for 2009 and 2010. Our community is expecting to lose almost \$1.6 million each of the next two years, depending on how the final State budget negotiations are resolved. The anticipated reduction is on the heels of a \$560,000 loss in State credits at the end of 2008.

The City Council approved budget adjustment recommendations that will preserve City services at their current level for this year, 2009. Going into 2010, the City staff and City Council will be looking very closely at the services we provide. Budget priorities are expected to focus on the core services we deliver to the community, such as public safety, as well as focusing on the Council's goals to strengthen our neighborhoods, support our youth, and grow our local economy in jobs and tax base.

Here are some quick budget and tax numbers:

- **\$35.2 million** -- adopted 2009 general fund budget that provides for city services such as police, fire, streets and parks maintenance, recreation, code enforcement, building inspections, and finance/administration
- **\$228,100** -- median valued home in Brooklyn Park, taxes paid in 2008
- **\$221,800** -- median valued home in Brooklyn Park, taxes payable in 2009
- **\$893** -- city taxes paid by Brooklyn Park homeowner with a median valued home in 2009
- **\$1.57 million** -- anticipated lost State aids and credits in 2009
- **\$2 million** -- anticipated budget shortfall to begin 2010
- **8%** -- increase in overall tax base for taxes payable in 2008
- **1%** -- decline in overall tax base in for taxes payable in 2009
- **10%** -- decline anticipated in overall tax base for taxes payable in 2010.

Despite the fiscal challenges in front of the community, we are very optimistic about Brooklyn Park's future. We invite your ideas regarding city services and budgets. Feel free to contact us at [bpfinance@brooklynpark.org](mailto:bpfinance@brooklynpark.org) or 763-488-6370.



In the "lottery scam," the unsuspecting victim either receives an e-mail or an actual letter in the mail telling them they have won a large sum of money, usually in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. But before the money can be claimed, the "winner" must wire an amount of money, usually \$3,000-\$4,000 to the lottery, to cover taxes and transfer fees. In most instances, this money ends up

Scammed continued on page 12...



# Keeping Safe in Your Car

## Work zone safety & traveler Information

by Jeff Holstein, Traffic Engineer

With winter finally over, we now turn the page to the other season in Minnesota, road construction. There will be three major roadway reconstruction projects within the City of Brooklyn Park in 2009. These include the Devil's Triangle project, the West River Road project between 99th and 109th Avenues and the reconstruction of 109th Avenue between the Oxbow Creek Elementary School and Winnetka Avenue.

During an average construction season in Minnesota, there are more than 1,600 crashes in work zones, including 10 fatalities and 700 injury crashes. These totals comprise a disproportionately high percentage of the total annual crashes within the state. Thus, it's critical for drivers to pay close attention when traveling through work zones. Safe driving through work zone areas means:

- Following traffic control devices
- Staying alert for changing and unexpected conditions
- Wearing seat belts
- Allowing ample space between you and the car in front of you for stopping distance and ability to react to work zone traffic controls
- Obeying posted speed limits and advisory speed limits through the work zone
- Avoiding use of cell phones and other possible distractions while driving
- Being patient

Drivers can access detailed traveler information relating to roadway construction on the web by logging on to [www.511mn.org](http://www.511mn.org) or calling 511. Traveler information is available for a variety of issues, such as;

- Roadway construction information along specific routes
- Roadway conditions and weather reports
- Travel delays, travel times and congestion
- Detours

- Public Transit alternatives
- Traffic Camera real-time photos at several hundred Metro locations
- Commercial vehicle permits and restrictions for specific routes
- Travel information for neighboring states

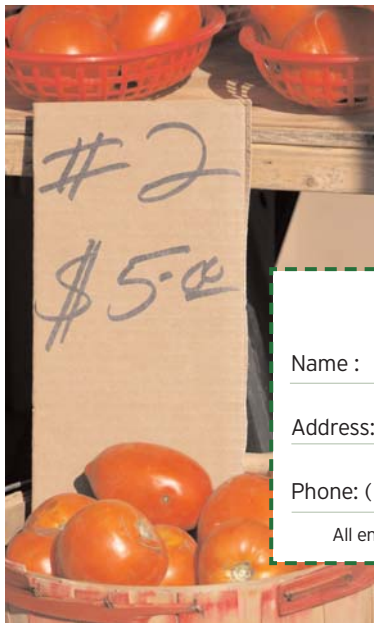
I encourage you to take a minute to access the traveler information site. I'm sure that you will find some very useful information for your work- and pleasure-related travel during this construction season and beyond.

Please drive safe and be courteous to other drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians.



### Did You Know?

During an average construction season in Minnesota, there are more than 1,600 crashes in work zones, including 10 fatalities and 700 injury crashes.



## Farmers Market Opens June 24

Cool cucumbers, vine-ripened tomatoes, and succulent strawberries are just some of the tantalizing treats you can savor at the Brooklyn Park Farmers Market. This year's weekly event will run from June 24 to October 14 from 3-7 p.m. at the Zane Sports Park parking lot, just north of 85th Avenue North. There will also be crafters as well as some food vendors. Watch the city website for special events. **Bring the following form with your name, address and phone number to the Farmers Market by July 8 to be entered for a gift card drawing.**

### 2009 Farmers Market Gift Card Drawing Entry Form

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

All entries must be dropped off at the Brooklyn Park Farmers Market (Zane Sports Park parking lot) by July 8, 2009 for consideration.



# Tater Daze

## City Festival June 18-21, 2009

### Rockin' by the River

The 45th Annual Tater Daze Festival promises to be better than ever. This year's theme is meant to showcase one of the city's great natural resources, the Mississippi River. The week-long party will feature plenty of music and fun for the whole family, and include a new parade route that will showcase a marching band competition. Make sure you check out the schedule of events, because there's sure to be something for everyone!

### Tater Daze Buttons

So now you know that Logan Fisher created the 2009 Tater Daze button. But what do you get when you buy one? Once you purchase a button and turn in the registration card, you're eligible to participate in a drawing, which includes prizes such as:

- A \$500 Visa Gift Card
- A \$100 Visa Gift Card
- A Wii
- "End of the Fishing Day" painting by local and national award-winning artist Dean Heng
- A \$50 gift card from ABC Gift Services
- Several \$40 gift cards from Girvan Grille
- Quilts from the Golden Needles Club

Buttons can be purchased at the front desk of City Hall or the Community Activity Center or from the Brooklyn Park Ambassadors. The Park Center Band Boosters and Girl Scout Service Group are also selling the buttons.

**OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS:** Mail-in registration card must be postmarked by June 13, 2009. If registering after June 13, you need to bring your registration card to the Tater Daze Volunteer Tent June 18-20, 2009 by 9:30 p.m. at Noble Sports Park. To request an Official Registration Card send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Tater Daze, 5200 85th Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443. Winners will be announced at the Tater Daze Main Stage, Saturday, June 20 at 10:30 p.m. Need not be present to win.

## 2009 Tater Daze Schedule

All events are at or near Noble Sports Park, unless otherwise noted. The park is located at 4701 Oak Grove Parkway.

### Saturday, June 13

#### 4th Annual Car Show & Ice Cream Social

Wagner's Drive-In 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 7000 West Broadway Avenue  
 Register at [www.taterdaze.org](http://www.taterdaze.org)  
 Cost to enter a car is \$3 or a Tater Daze button. Entry starts at 10 a.m. and the show begins at 11 a.m. You will receive three tickets to vote for your favorite cars with a Tater Daze button. Hosted by Wagner's Drive-In, Mayer Electric and O'Reilly Auto Parts.

#### Tater Tot Mini Golf Classic

11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.  
 Tee-off at Brookland Golf Mini Course. This nine-hole mini course is laid out especially for 3-6 year olds. Participants will use a special three-club plastic golf set and sponge golf balls, which will be supplied. Parents or guardians will caddy. You must sign up for a specific tee time.

#### Drive-in Family Movie

Wagner's Drive-In  
 Dusk (approximately 9:30 p.m.)  
 7000 West Broadway Avenue  
 Hosted by Wagner's Drive-In, Mayer Electric and O'Reilly Auto Parts.



#### Geocaching Event hosted by the Izaak Walton League

June 13-20  
 8816 West River Road  
 Brooklyn Park, MN 55444  
 The Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League in Brooklyn Park is designing and sponsoring our first-ever geocaching event. Enjoy fresh air and great natural sightseeing in park environments right here in the City. Never tried geocaching before? We'll help you learn. Check out the Tater Daze website at [www.taterdaze.org/geo](http://www.taterdaze.org/geo) for information and help. If you find all the hidden treasures, you will be eligible to win great prizes. The event begins on Saturday, June 13, and ends on Saturday, June 20. The prize drawing will be held at the main Tater stage on Saturday, June 20 at 5 p.m.

### Tuesday, June 16

#### Concert at the Coon Rapids Dam

10360 West River Road, 7 p.m.  
 Come celebrate nature and music with your friends and family by the beautiful Mississippi River. The concert features **Boyd Lee and Joe Cruz**, who will perform a combination of folk, Latin, pop, jazz and rock. Bonfires and naturalist staff-led walks are also part of the evening.

### Wednesday, June 17

#### Village Creek Park Opening Celebration

5601 Village Creek Parkway  
 6:30 p.m. Dedication Ceremony, 7-8:30 p.m. Music  
 Join your neighbors in celebrating the City's newest recreation area. **Music and food are all part of this free event.**

### Thursday, June 18

**Festival Site at Noble Sports Park** open from 6-11:30 p.m.

**Tater Daze Parade** 6:30 p.m. (also, see page 10)

**Main Stage and Potato Patch Kids Area** 7-10 p.m.  
 Enjoy children's games and live music

More specific information can be found at [www.taterdaze.org](http://www.taterdaze.org).

## Friday, June 19

**Carnival site** is open from 5-11:30 p.m.

**Potato Patch Kids Area** is open from 7-10 p.m.

**Craft and Business Fair** is open from 7-10 p.m.

### Soccer Tournament

2nd Annual Tater Daze Soccer Tournament for adults. Registration is \$50 per team. 1st Place is \$300, 2nd place is \$150. Call 763-493-8013 for more information or get a form online at the Tater Daze website.

### Main Stage Performance Charlie Maguire 6 p.m.

Charlie Maguire, the man known as the singing ranger, performs at Tater Daze on Friday and Saturday, June 19 and 20. Look for him on both the main stage and at the bingo tent. This former park ranger will feature Brooklyn Park's new song, "The No. 1 Pride of Brooklyn Park." The song highlights our city's history as a potato farming community. You probably know Charlie from such familiar TV and radio programs as "Prairie Home Companion," "Almanac," "Good Morning America," and "On the Road," among many others. Check out Charlie's website at [www.charliemaguire.com](http://www.charliemaguire.com). If you haven't heard or seen him before, take this opportunity to hear him sing for free!

### Main Stage Performance Tim Sigler Band 7:30-11:30 p.m.

Tim Sigler has been playing music for thousands of people throughout the Midwest for most of his adult life. With nearly 200 shows per year, and a massive play list, the country music singer has quickly become a fan favorite here in Minnesota. Backed by the best musicians in the Twin Cities, the Tim Sigler Band is a must-see show!



## Saturday's schedule continued...

### Big Wheel and Tricycle Obstacle Course 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

After the kiddie parade, ride through the maze of tunnels, bridges and other obstacles on your Big Wheel or tricycle. Compete to qualify for prizes. Children must be nine and under, and less than 80 pounds.

### Children's Entertainment 10:30 a.m.-Noon

Puppet shows, magicians and music delight children of all ages.

### Main Stage Performance Charlie McGuire, Noon & 4 p.m.

**Carnival site** is open from 11 a.m.-11:30 p.m.

### Softball Tournament

Men's Class D National Qualifier. Entry fee is \$140 and national tournament berths are based on a minimum of a six-team draw. Expense money is \$500 for first place, \$300 for second place and \$200 for third place. **Deadline to register is Tuesday, June 16. Call 763-493-8333** to register, or go to the Tater Daze website for forms.

### Soccer Tournament

### Potato Cooking Contest

Items must be dropped off by 11 a.m. Go to [www.taterdaze.org](http://www.taterdaze.org) for a complete list of rules, and registration forms. Winners announced on the Main Stage at 1:30 p.m.

### Main Stage Performance Dazy Head Mazy, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

This band takes ear candy eye-opening pop and blends it with soothing melodic vocals that leave you humming infectious tunes days after.

**Fireworks** 10 p.m.

## Saturday, June 21

### Spud Run 5K

Brooklyn Park North Fire Station  
9700 Regent Avenue North  
Check-in: 7 a.m./Take-off: 8 a.m.



### Kids Fun Run

8:45 a.m. Immediately follows the Spud Run 5K.

Are you looking for a challenge or some good family fun? Then run or walk, the Spud Run is for you! After the adult run, there's also a special race just for the kids. Parking is available next door at St. Gerard's Church. There will be medals for first place winners, both male and female. Kids get ribbons and prize bags. Everyone receives a t-shirt.

### Elks Pancake Breakfast

8-11 a.m.

Start your morning off right! Join us for the Elks Pancake Breakfast right at the festival site. All you can eat pancakes for just \$5.

### Kids Soccer Clinic 9 a.m.

Kids learn the basics of the game while having fun!

### Tater Tots Kiddie Parade 10 a.m.

Kids are encouraged to dress up as their favorite characters, decorate their bikes, wagons and strollers, or even dress up the family pet in a special outfit! All children who take part in the event will receive a treat bag. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes and decorations. Check in begins at 9:30 a.m.

## Sunday, June 22

**Carnival site** opens from Noon-6 p.m.

### Potato Patch Children's Games

Opens Noon-6 p.m.

### Soccer Tournament

### Softball Tournament





# PARK PAGES

## Brooklyn Park Ambassador Coronation

**Please join us!**

The Brooklyn Park Ambassadors, who range in age from 8 to 21, represent the City at festivals and events all over the Twin Cities metro area. They would like to invite all residents to their 2009 Tater Daze coronation ceremony, which will take place Friday, June 26 at 7 p.m. at the Discover Church, commonly known as the Brooklyn Park Lutheran Church, at 1400 81st Avenue North.



## 2009 Parade Information

**New parade route ends at festival site**

This year the parade will be held on Thursday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m. The event will start on 101st Avenue North and go South on Regent Avenue ending at Noble Sports Park, which is the Tater Daze festival site.

The Park Center High School (PCHS) Marching Pirates will host the parade, which will be led by Wayne Schroeder. PCHS is just one of the bands that will be judged during the parade for the festival's marching band competition. Immediately after the parade everyone is invited to an awards ceremony for the top winners at Noble Sports Park.

During the parade, please note the following road closings:

From 3-8 p.m.:

- Oak Grove Parkway from Zane Avenue to Wickford Parkway
- Oak Grove Parkway from Regent Avenue to Oak Avenue North

From 6-9 p.m.:

- 101st Avenue North from Yates Avenue to Regent Avenue
- Regent Avenue from 101st Avenue North to 93rd Avenue North

## Tater Daze Carnival & Game Information

**What you need to know to have a rockin' good time**

Get your carnival tickets early and save money!

If you buy your tickets beginning May 1 at City Hall or the Community Activity Center, you can get 20 ride tickets for \$25. But that's not all. Presale tickets will only cost one ticket per ride during the event. If you wait to buy your tickets at the event, it will cost you a dollar per ticket and each ride will take between two to four tickets.

Other options are to buy a wristband for \$15 presale or \$20 on site. They are good for one day only. Wristband specials are good for all you can ride on Thursday night from 7-11 p.m. or Saturday from noon-4 p.m.

The Potato Patch is back again this year with even more great prizes. Kids can win tokens to go shopping in the Tater Store for games, stuffed animals, scooters, bikes, iPods and other prizes. Every game wins a token. To play, you need to buy potato tickets. Presale tickets are 20 for \$5. On site they will be four tickets for \$2 or 20 tickets for \$8.

Potato tickets can also be used for balloons and other children's activities. They are not eligible for use at Crescent City Amusement rides or games.

So what's the easiest way to buy tickets? Mail in the order form (on page 11). Order forms must be received by Saturday, June 13 for presale orders. Presale tickets will be sold at City Hall and the Community Activity Center until 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 18.

# Volunteer at Tater Daze

## We need your help!

Do you want to connect with other Brooklyn Park residents? Then how about spending a few hours volunteering at the 45th annual Tater Daze Festival!

Last year's volunteers said they had a blast! Julia Steinkopf volunteered because it was "a great way to get to know others and have a great time." Jaabah Karbedeh volunteered for the first time last year while working at the parade and in the children's area. "My friends and I didn't expect to have so much fun. We're looking forward to helping out this year and enjoying the fireworks on Saturday night."

Volunteers are needed to help in the potato patch children's area, but the Tater Daze team also needs volunteers in other areas as well. In order to help out you must attend one of the following orientation sessions:

- Thursday, June 4 at 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 9 at 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 16 at 6:30 p.m.

All volunteers receive a Tater Daze t-shirt and parking pass. If you volunteer for four or more hours, you receive a ticket to the VIP picnic and fireworks show on Saturday night. You can sign up to volunteer on the city's website [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org) or by calling 763-493-8013.



# Tater Daze Sponsors & Donors

We would like to thank all of our 2009 Sponsors and donors for making the 45th Annual Tater Daze Festival possible. Please patronize and support these organizations and businesses.

### Spud Sponsors

City of Brooklyn Park  
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### Superior Level

Cub Foods

### Yukon Level

Maple Grove Hospital  
Visit Minneapolis North

### Red Potato Level

3R's Child Development Center  
African Health Action Organization  
Brooklyn Park Lions Club  
Edina Realty  
Evan's Nordy Funeral Home  
Luther Brookdale Chevrolet  
Mayer Electric

### Chipper Level

Bakers Square  
Bremer Bank  
Champlin Family Chiropractic  
Frames to You  
God Father's Pizza  
O'Reilly Auto Parts  
Wagner's Drive-In

### Community Organizations & Donors

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Girl Scouts  
Girl Scouts Osseo Service Unit  
Park Center Band Parents  
Minneapolis Elks Lodge #44  
Palmer Lake VFW Auxiliary No. 3915



[maplegrovehospital.org](http://maplegrovehospital.org)



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FUNERAL HOMES



## 2009 Tater Daze Ticket Preorder Form (order forms must be received by Saturday, June 13 for presale orders)

**Presale One-day Ride Wristband \$15 Presale 20-Count Carnival Ride Tickets \$25 Presale Tater Tickets \$5**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**One-day Ride Wristband** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Carnival Ride 20-count** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Tater Tickets 20-count** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**(select one)**  
 I will pick up tickets at the volunteer tent on event day **OR**  
 mail to me!

**Checks can be made payable to the City of Brooklyn Park and mailed to:** City of Brooklyn Park Tater Daze, 5200 85th Ave. No., Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

## Recreation & Parks Activities

The Brooklyn Park Recreation and Parks Department offers a wide variety of recreational activities for all ages. Youth scholarships are available for enrolling in children's programming. Call 763-493-8333 to inquire about classes or pick up a brochure at the Community Activity Center or City Hall. You can also go online at [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org) to get more detailed information and register.



The new "GetUp&Go" summer recreation brochure is available and can be picked up at City Hall or the Community Activity Center

### Step To It! Challenge

May 18-June 24

Let's bring on the competition! Last year, Brooklyn Park residents walked more steps than any other city in the Northwest Metro area. Let's do it again! Sign up to participate online at [www.steptoit.org](http://www.steptoit.org), then keep a log of how many steps you took from May 18 to June 24. The first 100 who register get a free pedometer.

### Family Movie in the Park

Friday, July 17

7 p.m.

Central Park

Sponsored by M&I Bank

Come listen to a concert, play some games, eat some food then watch a family movie with your neighbors.



### Teen Trips (ages 13-18)

#### Minnesota Twins Game

Thursday, June 18

12:20 p.m. game time

\$16 per person

Let's sink the Pirates as we cheer the Twins to victory over Pittsburgh. Fee includes transportation, game ticket, hot dog, soda and chaperones.



#### Minnesota Lynx Basketball

Wednesday, July 15

Noon game time

\$20 per person

Come root for the Lynx as they take on the Atlanta Dream. Fee includes ticket, meal deal, transportation and chaperones.

### Brookland Executive Nine Golf Course

Find out about our men's, women's and junior golf leagues by calling 763-561-3850.

### Edinburgh USA Golf Course

Sign up for adult and junior golf lessons from our PGA professionals. Ladies: don't forget about our free Women's Golf Clinic on June 20. Visit [www.edinburghusa.org](http://www.edinburghusa.org), or call the golf shop at 763-315-8552.

### Edinburgh USA Junior Season Pass

We are now offering a season pass for junior golfers who are between the ages of 12-18. The pass can be used weekdays before 11 a.m. and after 3 p.m., or weekends and holidays after noon. This pass is not valid for leagues or tournaments. Cost is \$300 plus tax.

### Open swimming at Jackson School Pool

Begins June 15

Beat the heat and swim at the pool Mondays, Tuesdays and

Thursdays from 1-3:15 p.m. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult or responsible caregiver. \$1 at the door.



Scammed continued from page 5...

being wired to locations overseas where it is claimed by suspects using fictitious identifications. You need to delete these e-mails immediately! No legitimate lottery or contest will require you to wire money before you can claim the prize.

Another scam targets our seniors. The victim is called by someone claiming to be a grandchild who has been involved in an accident, usually in Canada. The person tells the victim they need money wired to them to cover the costs of medical care. Like the lottery scam, the victims wire money and then the money is claimed by suspects using fictitious identifications. You need to hang up immediately. If family members are involved in an emergency outside of the country, the authorities in that country will generally make official notifications to the next-of-kin or contact local law enforcement for assistance.

Then, there's the "Craig's List" scam. We've heard cases where a prospective buyer sends a counterfeit check to

a seller, for thousands of dollars more than the price of the item being sold. The buyer tells the seller to deposit the check and keep an extra \$400-\$500 for their trouble. They then ask to send them the remaining money, usually \$2,000-\$4,000. Once again, the suspect uses a fictitious I.D. to claim the wired money and the victim has to cover the cost of the bogus check. Another Craig's List scam involves the suspect offering a home for rent. The prospective renter corresponds with the suspect and wires them a rental deposit of \$1,000 or more. Usually this money is wired to a location in Africa where again, it is claimed by unknown suspects. All Craig's List transactions should be conducted face-to-face in a safe manner and location and involve cash only.

By following these suggestions, the Brooklyn Park Police Department hopes you can avoid being scammed out of your hard-earned dollars. **Remember: If it's too good to be true, it probably is.**

## Neighborhood Corner

### Parking, grass & weed information

#### Parking Cars and Recreational Vehicles on Your Property

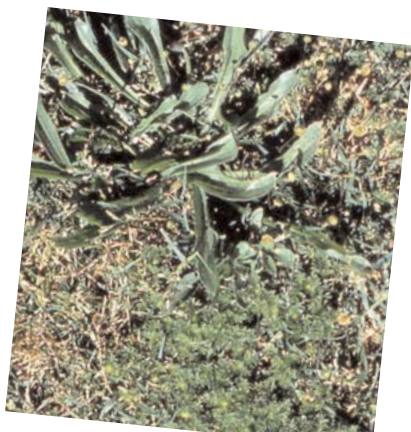
- **Motorized vehicles** may not be placed directly on grass, crushed rock, bare soil or any landscaped area. All motorized vehicles must be parked on a hard surface like concrete or asphalt.
- **Non-motorized recreational vehicles** and recreational equipment must be located on a hard surface if located in the front yard. Items located in the side and rear yard may be located on a landscaped surface like grass as long as that surface is maintained free of long grass, weeds and erosion. Five foot setbacks from property lines are required. Setbacks for corner lots may vary.
- **Vehicles, equipment, and other items** stored outside a property must be owned by the person who legally resides at the property. Ownership requirements also apply to rental properties.



#### Grass & Weed Regulations

To promote a safe and attractive environment in our residential and business properties, the City ordinance requires that weeds and grasses not exceed eight inches in height. This includes, but is not limited to, boulevards, landscaped areas, developed land and undeveloped land. Grass and weeds in drainage ponds, wetlands and similar waterways are exempt from the eight inch height requirement. The Lawn and Landscape Maintenance brochure, which summarizes city regulations and helpful hints is available on the city website at [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Code Enforcement & Public Health Division at 763-493-8070. We're also looking for residents to tell us how we're doing. Tell us what you think and take our online survey by logging on to [www.brooklynpark.org/nap](http://www.brooklynpark.org/nap).



## Water Conservation It's Your Job!

### What you need to know

#### Lawn sprinkling restrictions

Odd/Even lawn sprinkling restrictions are in effect from May 1 until September 30. Residents with even-numbered addresses may water on even-numbered days and odd-numbered addresses may water on odd-numbered days.

Residents should avoid sprinkling their lawns between the hours of 4 and 10 p.m., when demand on the water supply is at its peak. Newly seeded or sodded lawns and irrigation wells are exempt from this restriction.

#### Best lawn watering practices

Summer lawn watering creates large demands on the city's water supply. Water supply treatment and storage facilities are built three times larger to support additional demands created by lawn watering. This extra capacity is not used for most of the year and adds significant costs to the design, construction and operation of a water system. Efficient lawn watering practices can help maintain a beautiful yard and conserve the city's valuable water supplies.

#### Tips to do your part

- Adjust sprinklers to water only grassy areas and not surfaces such as streets, driveways and walkways.
- Mow grass to a height of two to three inches. Taller grass shades the roots and soil surfaces, which helps reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation.
- Use sprinklers that spray low large drops instead of high fine ones.
- Use hand soakers for small trees, shrubs and plants.
- Use shut off nozzles on hoses and repair leaky hoses and fittings.

#### Watering tips

- Watering your lawn about one inch per week (including precipitation) is adequate for maintaining a beautiful yard. Use a can or rain gauge to help determine the amount of water on your lawn.
- Don't use a fixed schedule for lawn watering. Apply water only when needed.
- A simple test for determining if grass needs water is to walk on the lawn. If you leave foot prints, it may be time to water!
- Using a spade or gardening tool to check soil conditions two to six inches below the surface can provide information on soil moisture.
- A good soaking once or twice a week is better than watering every day. Allowing the soil to dry in-between waterings will allow roots to grow to greater depths and help make turf more drought tolerant.
- Water during the cool part of the day to minimize moisture lost to evaporation. Early morning hours (4 to 10 a.m.) are the best.



# PARK PAGES



## City of Brooklyn Park 2008 Drinking Water Report

PWSID: 1270005

The City of Brooklyn Park is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2008. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

### Source of Water

The City of Brooklyn Park provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source. Fourteen wells ranging from 213 to 737 feet deep, draw water from the Franconia-Mt. Simon, Quaternary Water Table, Jordan, Quaternary Buried Artesian, and Franconia-Ironton-Galesville aquifer.

The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards but the Minnesota Department of Health has determined that one or more of the sources of water is potentially susceptible to contamination. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it on line at [www.health.state.mn/divs/eh/water/swp/swa](http://www.health.state.mn/divs/eh/water/swp/swa).

Call 763-315-8412 if you have questions about the City of Brooklyn Park drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the drinking water.

### Results of Monitoring

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for 2008. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.)

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
			Range (2008)	Average Result*	
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l)	0	15.4	nd-8.7	8.2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (ppm) (6/19/2007)	2	2	N/A	.06	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	0	5.4	nd-3.1	3.9	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.5-1.5	1.4	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	0	60	N/A	5.3	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80	N/A	30	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

PWSID: 1270005

\*This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes is an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.

Contaminant (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	****	*****	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	.2-.4	.33	Water additive used to control microbes.

\*\*\*\*Highest and Lowest Monthly Average \*\*\*\*\*Highest Quarterly Average

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# of Sites Over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm) (8/15/2007)	N/A	1.3	.87	1 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (ppb) (8/15/2007)	N/A	15	3	1 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Brooklyn Park is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels established for them. These “unregulated contaminants” are assessed using state standards known as health risk limits to determine if they pose a threat to human health. If unacceptable levels of an unregulated contaminant are found, the response is the same as if an MCL has been exceeded; the water system must inform its customers and take other corrective actions. In the table that follows are the unregulated contaminants that were detected.

Contaminant (units)	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
	Range (2008)	Average Result	
Sodium (ppm) (6/19/2007)	N/A	25	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm) (6/19/2007)	N/A	104	Erosion of natural deposits.

PWSID: 1270005

### Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

**Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants, can be particularly at-risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.**

## Key to Abbreviations

**MCLG** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. The MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**MCL** Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MRDL** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.

**MRDLG** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.

**AL** Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

**PWSID** 1270005

**90th Percentile Level** This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.) Note: In situations in which only five samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

**pCi/l** PicoCuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

**Ppb** Parts per billion, which can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (ug/l).

**Ppm** Parts per million, which can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

**Nd** No detection.

**N/A** Not applicable (does not apply).



# Summer Blossom Awards

## Show off your green thumb!

The Summer Blossom Awards Program highlights attractive gardens and landscaping in Brooklyn Park. This competitive program annually recognizes and rewards citizens and businesses that strive to improve the City's landscape. It runs from May 26-July 7.

Grand Winners in each of four categories -- single family, townhome, neighborhood garden and commercial, will receive a gift card with a cash value of \$150, an engraved garden paver and formal recognition from the Brooklyn Park City Council. Entries for Summer Blossom Awards must be located in the City and may be nominated by anyone including neighbors, contractors or the gardeners themselves. You may nominate more than one property.

Submit entries with two photos to: Brooklyn Park Summer Blossom Awards, 5200 85th Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443. Entries must primarily feature flowering plants, trees, shrubs, ground cover, perennials, retaining walls, arbors or water features to create a visually significant summer long display of flowers. The garden/landscape must be well maintained through the growing season and have a positive visual impact on the neighborhood. Note: previous Grand Award winners (2004-2008) are not eligible this year.



Save the dates!  
2009 Tater Daze  
City Festival  
June 18-21  
Event schedule  
inside!



### Summer Blossom Awards - Nomination Ballot

(circle one)	Single Family	Townhome	Neighborhood Garden	Commercial
--------------	---------------	----------	---------------------	------------

Name of Gardener: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Property: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner (if different than above): \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Significance of garden/landscaping to the neighborhood: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit entries May 26 through July 7, 2009, to: Brooklyn Park Summer Blossom Awards, 5200 85th Ave. No., Brooklyn Park, MN 55443. For more information, go to the city's website: [www.brooklynpark.org](http://www.brooklynpark.org).



City of Brooklyn Park  
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