

BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING



JULY 2024



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Residents gather at the City's first engagement event to share what they enjoy about Nine Mile Creek.

MOVING BLOOMINGTON FORWARD



THREE PROJECTS MAKING PROGRESS

In November 2023, Bloomington voters approved a new half-percent sales tax to provide \$155 million for the enhancement and protection of the Nine Mile Creek corridor and Moir and Central parks, renovations to the Bloomington Ice Garden, and construction of a new community health and wellness center. There has been progress over the last month in each of the three projects. Here's a brief overview.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HAS BEGUN ON THE NINE MILE CREEK CORRIDOR PROJECT

Staff estimate about 200 people attended a Nine Mile Creek celebration event in early June. Many attendees enjoyed the Moir Park play structure and food from Sambusa Samosa food truck while sharing what they love about the Nine Mile Creek corridor area, including Moir and Central parks.

"Residents expressed appreciation for the opportunity to have conversations with staff and it was fun to make the personal connections with so many!" Assistant Director of Parks and Parks Projects Renae Clark said.

The next public engagement opportunities for the Nine Mile Creek corridor renewal project are expected later this summer. More details regarding the public engagement plan and design process are available online at bloomingtonforward.org.

SURVEY RESULTS WILL HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

The new community health and wellness center project team is analyzing data collected in the community survey administered from May 28 – June 30. The survey was promoted in the *Briefing*, on the cable TV show *Bloomington Today*, at City events throughout the month of June and on the City's social media accounts. Survey results, in addition to stakeholder interviews and previous community center work, will help inform City staff and HGA Architects as to what kind of programs, services and amenities residents would like to see in the new center. In this feasibility study phase of this project, HGA Architects will draft a selection of right-sized facility amenities based on the feedback gathered. After those facility amenities are selected and it's determined that it will fit on the Creekside site, there will be another round of community engagement where people will be able to begin to consider designs and share their opinions. The end goal is for the new center to open in 2027. Visit bloomingtonforward.org for the latest information.

BLOOMINGTON ICE GARDEN RENOVATIONS HAVE BEGUN

The City is renovating Bloomington Ice Garden, which will allow Bloomington athletes and families to enjoy ice time closer to home, and help the facility host more events that draw visitors from across the region. Dasherboards and new refrigeration equipment have been purchased to help modernize the rinks at BIG. The existing floors in all three rinks will be removed and reconstructed. Work is planned to begin in the fall of 2024 on a small building addition for the new refrigeration equipment and other work inside is planned to begin in January 2025. No interruptions to operations are expected until mid-March 2025 through fall 2025 when the facility is anticipated to close for construction. Learn more at bloomingtonforward.org.

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The *Briefing*, published monthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to residents and businesses. Direct your comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer file to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3071; PH 952-563-8819; MN Relay 711; FAX 952-563-8715; Email: jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov
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MAYOR'S MEMO

BLOOMINGTON ADVANCES AS SEMICONDUCTOR LEADER

By Mayor Tim Busse

Leveraging \$120 million in direct funding from the U.S. CHIPS and Science Act and \$75 million from the Minnesota Forward Fund, Polar Semiconductor announced in May it will invest \$525 million to expand its Bloomington manufacturing facility.

Bloomington has always been a place where innovation thrives. Polar Semiconductor's significant private investment in expanding its facilities, with direct funding from the CHIPS and Science Act and a substantial investment by the State of Minnesota, will boost our local economy and will contribute to the growth and vibrancy of semiconductor manufacturing in Bloomington.

Polar's federal funding is the first award in Minnesota from the 2022 U.S. CHIPS and Science Act, a \$53 billion initiative passed by congress in a bipartisan vote to grow the U.S. semiconductor industry. Minnesota's \$75 million investment comes from the Minnesota Forward Fund, a new Department of Employment and Economic Development program Governor Tim Walz signed into law last year to invest \$400 million in business growth.

"Polar and its employees are grateful to the U.S. Department of Commerce and the State of Minnesota for their commitment to the future of American semiconductor manufacturing and appreciate the strong collaboration with the CHIPS Program Office, DEED and the City of Bloomington, Minnesota, throughout this process," said Surya Iyer, President and COO of Polar Semiconductor.



NEW COVID-19 MEMORIAL CAPTURES REFLECTIONS AND PAYS TRIBUTE TO LIVES LOST

COVID-19 changed people, and we got through it together. That is the message intended in the new COVID memorial art installed in June at Civic Plaza and the Bloomington Public Health Center.

"We lost 285 of our neighbors here in Bloomington during COVID. We had many people lose jobs. Lives were disrupted," said Dr. Nicholas Kelley, Bloomington's Public Health administrator. "This memorial is a tangible way to use art and all the therapeutic tools of art to help bring some healing and closure to some of the challenges Bloomington navigated."

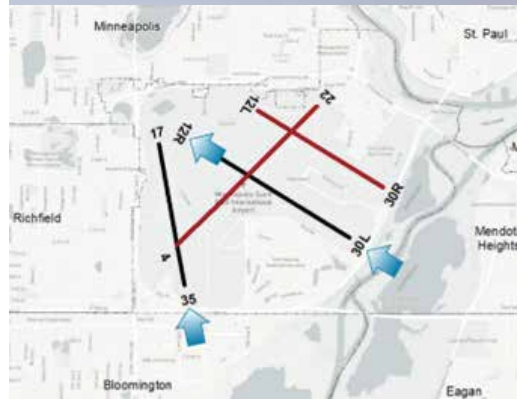
The new memorial pays tribute to the lives lost to COVID-19 and captures the reflections of a variety of Bloomington voices. Development included an artist selection process. Together with the artists selected, Aaron Squadroni and Leah Yellowbird, the City facilitated community engagement activities at Hillcrest Elementary School, Creekside Community Center, Civic Plaza and Martin Luther Campus, Fairview. Bloomington Public Health and Creative Placemaking worked together on this project.

"It was a great opportunity for students to reflect upon and share their memories now that they are old enough to understand," said a participant from the Hillcrest session.

With federal funding, the memorial consists of imprinted metal that forms a quilt and is intended to inspire contemplation. "The idea of wrapping its arms around you and creating its own little space for you to reflect, I thought that was important," said Squadroni.

"Quilts are there for stories, and so this is a big story to be told," said Yellowbird.

The COVID-19 Memorial will likely be moved to its permanent location at the planned community health and wellness center, *read more about this project on page 1*, once that center is completed.



NEW BRYANT AND TRETBAUGH PARKS BREAKING GROUND SOON

New amenities are coming to Bryant, *above left*, and Tretbaugh, *above right*, parks soon. Construction on both projects is scheduled to begin in mid-August and finish by fall 2025. During construction, there will be limited access to Bryant and Tretbaugh parks. Please do not enter gated construction zones on site.

When construction is complete Bryant Park, 1001 W. 85th St., will host the first fully inclusive playground in Bloomington along with a redesigned park shelter. The new Bryant Park shelter will offer a warming house for ice skating during winter months, youth programs, facility rental and other recreational amenities like seating areas and restrooms with exterior access open during park hours.

The new Tretbaugh Park, 3261 W. 90th St., will be a bike skills park. The reimagined park will feature a paved all-wheel track and a gravel course for mountain bike skills development. There will also be a new shade structure and seating areas.

Learn more about the projects at blm.mn/letstalk.

BUDGET PLANNING UNDERWAY FOR 2025

Summer is the time to enjoy sun, lakes, friends and municipal budget planning. Throughout the summer and fall, City staff will be learning from residents about what is important to them in planning for the 2025 budget at events around Bloomington.

Learn more and share your priorities at these events:

- Midweek Music & Market, Wednesday, July 17, 5-8 p.m., Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.
- Learning Link Up, Saturday, August 17, 12-3 p.m., Valley View Playfield, 9000 Portland Ave.
- On the One Music Festival, Saturday, August 17, 4-7 p.m., Normandale Lake Bandshell, 5901 W. 84th St.

Learn more about the budget planning process and see September and October engagement events online at blm.mn/budget or call 952-563-8725.

FIBER OPTICS BEING INSTALLED IN BLOOMINGTON

If you see work being done in front of or along your property line, it could be crews installing fiber optics in your neighborhood. This work is not being carried out by the City of Bloomington. Broadband providers are doing the work as a first step in providing faster internet service to homes and businesses in Bloomington. Work is expected to continue throughout Bloomington for the next two to five years.

Many residents have had questions about this work, especially around property lines, right-of-way and easements.

WHO TO CONTACT

The companies handling this installation in Bloomington have permits from the City. Please contact the company working in your area with project questions:

- DirectLine /Intrepid (T-Mobile): 612-463-2348 or 763-807-2744.
- Gigapower/ITG Installers (ATT): 884-331-1217 or 952-210-5097.
- Lumen (CenturyLink): 763-326-2531 or 651-312-5630.

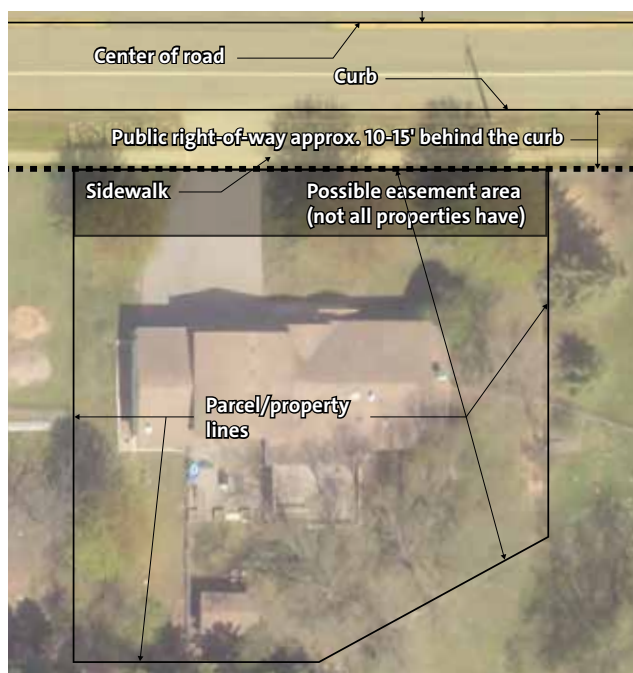
If you have difficulty identifying the company working in your area or want to report an incident, please complete a Fiber Installation Incident Report at blm.mn/fiber.

UNDERSTANDING RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND EASEMENTS

In most Bloomington residential areas, the City controls a 60-foot-wide right-of-way, dedicated to the City through a plat or easement that may include sidewalk. Land within the right-of-way can be used for streets, sidewalks, public and private utilities, etc. A typical street is 32- to 36-feet wide and is centered in the right-of-way. Approximately 10-15 feet of public right-of-way exists on either side of the street; therefore, the private property line is typically 10-15 feet behind the curb and gutter.

Utility or sidewalk easements may exist on private property adjacent to the right-of-way. Utility easements grant the rights for utilities such as gas, electric and communication lines, such as fiber optic cables, to be located on private property within the easement area.

For more information about rights-of-way or easements, contact Public Works Engineering at 952-563-4870 or engineering@BloomingtonMN.gov.



FLIGHT PATTERN CHANGES DURING MSP AIRPORT RUNWAY CONSTRUCTION

Temporary changes in flight patterns and aircraft activity are occurring while MSP Airport is under construction.

Two runways are closed through late September for pavement work. Flights normally using these runways have been reassigned by the Federal Airport Association based on wind direction, safety, efficiency and a priority Runway Use System.

As a result, there are more southbound departures from Runway 17 and more northbound arrivals on Runway 35. Bloomington residents on the east side will likely experience more aircraft noise due to this temporary rerouting.

To make an aircraft noise complaint, contact the Minneapolis Airport Commission's Community Relations Office's 24-hour hotline at 612-726-9411 or customers.macnoms.com/customers/.

HATCH BLOOMINGTON: COMMUNITY VOTING STARTING SOON

Hatch Bloomington offers entrepreneurs the opportunity to pitch their business ideas and compete for a chance to receive \$100,000 in financial assistance to kick-start a brick-and-mortar business in Bloomington.

In May, contest organizers received more than 60 applications. Twenty-five semifinalists were selected in early June. On June 26, the semifinalists presented their pitches to a panel of nine judges who narrowed the field down to 10 finalists.

Public voting will take place July 29 – August 5 to narrow the field to three finalists. Hatch Bloomington is part of the City's strategic effort to support the small business community and attract fresh investment into Bloomington, positioning it as a hub of economic activity and innovation in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

The City and the Minneapolis Regional Chamber are partnering to offer Hatch Bloomington.

Learn more about contestants and the program at hatchbloomington.com.



STEWARDS PROGRAM SEEKS PARTICIPANTS AND FEEDBACK

The City of Bloomington is launching a pilot Stewards Program from July 1 – August 31 to get feedback from the community and inspire people to work toward ecological living in their private lives and on private property.

The Stewards Program highlights five categories of environmental stewardship: civic, energy, ecological land steward, solid waste and transportation.

Bloomington residents who participate in the Stewards Program will try out the prototype, which is set up in a fun game style and brings information together into one easy-to-find place. Feedback collected through a short survey will influence the creation of the next version of the program.

For more information or to sign up for the Stewards Program pilot, visit blm.mn/stewards-pilot.

RECYCLING IS REAL, AND IT WORKS

Misinformation swept through the media recently about recycling being a myth. In a recent Bloomington survey, 20% of respondents said they didn't believe that recyclables got recycled. The truth is recycling is real, and it works.

After your recyclables are picked up from your curb, they're taken to recycling sorting facilities in the Twin Cities where people and machines sort it into material types and sell it mostly to markets within Minnesota or the Midwest.

Plastic milk and laundry detergent jugs are transformed into decking, fencing and landscaping products in Paynesville, and plastic drink bottles and produce containers are made into new bottles in Wisconsin and Ohio.

Glass bottles and jars are sorted in Saint Paul. The clear glass goes to Shakopee to make new bottles.

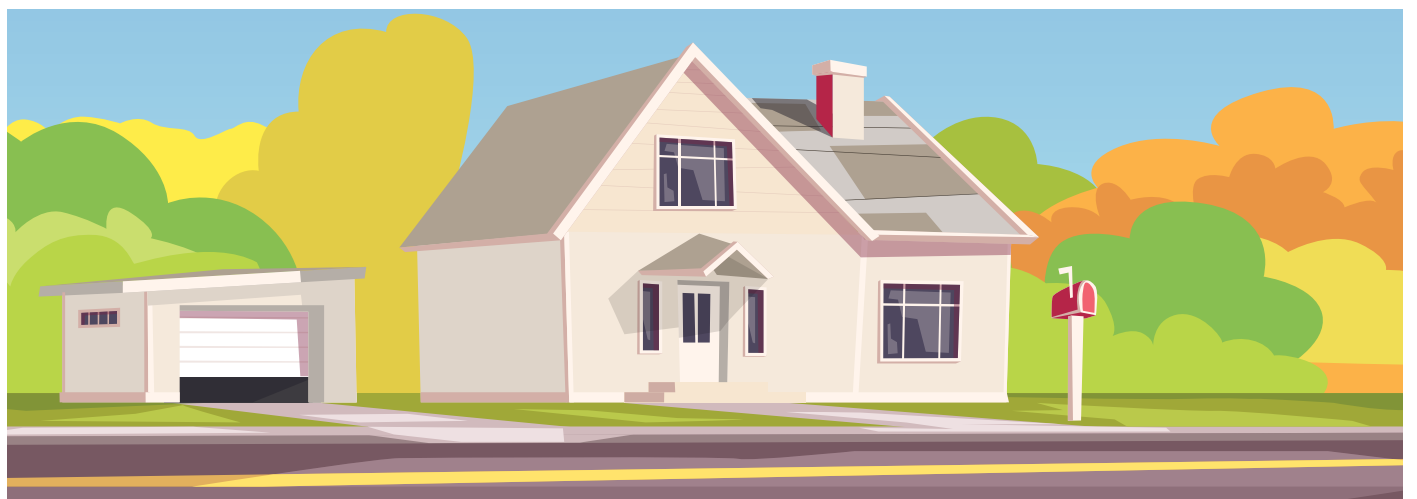
Recycled paper and cardboard are made into cereal and cracker boxes in Saint Paul. Recycled food cans are made into new products like wire, and parts for cars and appliances at facilities in the Midwest.

Learn more about recycling at recyclingexists.com.



YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE LATINO CULTURES AT THE LATINO NATURE FEST

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, the City of Bloomington, Indigenous Roots and Huellas Latinas present Latino Nature Fest to celebrate the cultures that make up the Latino community and the nature that connects us all. Enjoy an afternoon filled with activities, such as a guided walk, animal presentation, archery range, piñatas, alebrijes, music, performances, food trucks and more on Saturday, July 20, 1-5 p.m., at the Bloomington Education and Visitor Center, 3815 American Blvd. E. The first 250 people to arrive will receive free meal tickets to use at the food trucks. For all the details, visit blm.mn/latinonaturefest.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR: HOME ENERGY WORKSHOP

Learn from experts about home energy efficiency, electrification and solar energy and enjoy a free, light dinner at the home energy workshop on Wednesday, July 31, 6:30-8 p.m., Black Box Theater, Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. RSVP online at blm.mn/homeenergy. Questions? Contact Jamila Boudlali at jboudlali@BloomingtonMN.gov or 952-563-8732.

EARTH ACTION HERO: KAREN SHRAGG

Karen Shragg, a Bloomington resident for nearly 29 years, is a lifelong environmental educator and activist. She was an interpretive naturalist and nature center director for more than 35 years, primarily at Wood Lake Nature Center in Richfield, a position she retired from to start Move Upstream Environmental Consulting. She is currently a board member of Scientists and Environmentalists for Population Stabilization.

To engage more people in learning about the natural world, Shragg has authored more than 15 books, including a Mountain Press book series with co-author Lee Ann Landstrom and illustrator Rachel Rogge, titled "Nature's Yucky! Gross Stuff that Makes Nature Work."

The "Nature's Yucky!" series intentionally highlights creepy behaviors and disgusting animal facts. "We try to use kids' natural fascination with gross, icky stuff to help them learn about the world," Shragg said.

Their fourth book on ocean animals was published in 2023. Did you know that the Queen Parrotfish sleeps in a bubble of mucus? "EEEWW that's yucky," or so the book's refrain goes, all to help increase appreciation of life on this planet and encourage care of nature.

"Books create a ripple effect," Shragg said. "Who knows how many people will read it or what effect it may have on environmental attitudes? If we see how the planet works, perhaps we will do better by it."

If you know someone who's working toward better environmental health, let us know at communications@BloomingtonMN.gov. The City wants to highlight these Earth Action Heroes.



UP TO CODE: KEEPING BLOOMINGTON AT ITS BEST

Residents play an important role in maintaining property values and the appearance of Bloomington neighborhoods. The City code describes standards for property maintenance and relies on residents to take care of their properties. Here are some common standards set forth in the City code regulating your house and neighborhood.



PARKING

Vehicles must be parked in the garage or on an approved driveway. Vehicles cannot be parked on the street for more than 24 hours. Unlicensed or inoperable vehicles must be stored in the garage. This includes vehicles with expired tabs.

No more than four vehicles may be parked outside of a garage, excluding visitors.

Trailers that exceed six feet in height or have a bed length of more than eight feet six inches cannot be stored outside of the garage. One trailer under this size may be stored outside, no closer than five feet to side yard property lines. A utility trailer may also be parked in the driveway if it is at least 30 feet back from the street.

Nonresidential vehicles taller than seven feet six inches or longer than 22 feet cannot park in residential areas.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

All recreational vehicles parked or stored near a dwelling must be owned or leased by an occupant of that dwelling. Guests may park recreational vehicles on a driveway for a period not exceeding seven days in any consecutive six-month period, provided all other standards are met.

Any recreational vehicle less than 40 feet in length may be temporarily parked in the driveway for the sole purpose of loading or unloading and routine maintenance for a period not exceeding 72 hours within seven consecutive days.

If the recreational vehicle extends more than eight feet in front of the dwelling it must meet the following additional standards:

- Must be set back at least five feet from any property line, at least 10 feet from any sidewalk and at least 20 feet from the back side of any street curb or edge of pavement.
- Must not exceed 11 feet in height at any point.
- Must not exceed 25 feet in length, including trailers.
- Must be parked or stored no more than 30 feet closer to the street than the principal building on the same site.
- Must be parked or stored on a conforming or legally nonconforming driveway or off-drive parking area.

Recreational vehicles parked at homes that are on corner lots have additional requirements. Some recreational vehicles also have seasonal requirements depending on the type. A permit is not required to store recreational vehicles in compliance with the City code. Many properties are unique. If you are unsure about a requirement, please call 952-563-8920 or email City staff at planning@BloomingtonMN.gov for clarification.



HOME MAINTENANCE AND OUTDOOR STORAGE

Store materials, machinery and equipment in a building or fully screened area so they are not visible from adjoining or adjacent lands. Home exteriors must be maintained free from peeling, chipping and other deterioration. This includes siding, windows, trim, roof, doors, driveways, sheds and fences.

The size and location of firewood stacks are also regulated by City code.



REFUSE, LITTER AND WEEDS

When tall grass inspections begin, grass must be cut before it reaches eight inches in height and before it goes to seed. All noxious weeds must be removed. All twigs, tree and shrub branches that fall in the yard must be removed immediately or stored in an enclosed container. Brush piles are not allowed on residential properties.

Garbage must be stored within a building or an enclosed container.

All refuse, recycling, compost, twigs and brush should be placed at the assigned collection location no more than 12 hours before collection day. Waste containers must be removed no more than 12 hours after collection day. Garbage and recycling containers for single-family, detached homes must be set back 30 feet from any four-season living area other than the owner's. Garbage and recycling containers cannot be stored more than five feet in front of the principal building along any public right of way.

HOME BUSINESSES



Certain businesses are prohibited in residential zones, including manufacturing, vehicle repair and retail where customers come to the house. Home businesses are separated into two types: Type 1 businesses that include beauty shops, tutoring and piano instruction are allowed, but have limits on the number of daily customers allowed. Type 2 businesses require Council approval.

OTHER CITY CODES

This is not a complete list of City codes. To read all City codes, visit blm.mn/code.

NOTICE A PROBLEM?

Let us know if a neighborhood property is becoming a problem. To report a nuisance or ordinance violation, call Environmental Health at 952-563-8934 or email envhealth@BloomingtonMN.gov.



BIG: A GREAT PLACE TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS AND EVENTS

Bloomington Ice Garden is a great place to host an ice-skating birthday party or special event. The party package includes one hour of private ice for all your guests, a private room and free rental skates.

Skating instructors, to help your guests learn to skate, and food and beverages are available for additional fees.

To get more details about special event options or make a party reservation, call BIG at 952-563-8841 or email BIG@BloomingtonMN.gov.

WANT TO LEARN TO SKATE AT BIG?

Registration for group skating classes this fall opens August 19. Classes start September 24.

CREEKSIDE COOKOUT FOR PEOPLE 50+

Come on down, if you are 50 or older, for a summer cookout Monday, July 22, 12 p.m., Creekside Community Center lawn, 9801 Penn Ave. S. Attendees will receive a free lunch hot off the grill and an invitation to join in some fun yard games. The event is free, and you bring the fun. Preregistration is required at blm.mn/webtrac.

Get all the details at blm.mn/creekside-cookout.



LINE DANCING INVITES YOU TO GET YOUR GROOVE ON

Beginners to seasoned experts are invited to learn and refine their line dancing moves in a six-week session, Wednesdays, 10-11:30 a.m. For \$30 for residents or \$32 for nonresidents, an instructor will teach steps to various dances. Expect new dances every class.

Line dancing is a fun way to move your body with benefits to coordination, heart and lung function, and brain stimulation. Register at blm.mn/webtrac.



MEET A BLOOMINGTON FIREFIGHTER

NAME:
JUSTIN J. FLORECE
STATION:
FIRE STATION 6

Justin J. Florece has worked with the Bloomington Fire Department for two years as a paid on-call firefighter out of Station 4 and now also as a full-time firefighter out of Station 6. Before coming to Bloomington, he held a position in marketing with the Minnesota Timberwolves, and in fitness and retail.

“When considering careers, I wanted three things,” Florece said. “To help others, to be on a supportive team and to problem solve. Firefighting was a perfect fit and has allowed me to make a positive impact in my community.”

Since starting with the BFD, Florece has completed many trainings, and he is currently working on a degree in fire science. Outside of work, Florece is a regular at the gym and plays rugby and pickleball.

“My capability as a firefighter is shaped by the lessons learned through competitive sports, such as fostering discipline, teamwork and resilience,” Florece said.

FLORECE’S FIRE SAFETY ADVICE

Replace any electrical cord that is cracked and frayed and plug only one electrical cord into each receptacle. And electric appliances that produce smoke or an unusual smell should not be used.



COPS IN YOUR CORNER

Building trust and respect are at the heart of the Bloomington Police Department’s mission. Check out these upcoming events intended to keep the community, and the police officers who serve them, connected.

COPS AND CONES: SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

Cops and Cones helps strengthen relationships over a favorite summer treat: ice cream! A free scoop is offered for kids up to 18 years old. Join BPD at the next Cops and Cones Tuesday, August 20, 1-2:30 p.m., at Scoops Ice Cream, 7700 W. Old Shakopee Road.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

National Night Out 2024 is taking place Tuesday, August 6. Preregister your party by July 26 at blm.mn/nno to get on the list for a police or fire visit. National Night Out is an annual community-building event celebrated nationwide to promote police-community partnerships and make neighborhoods a safer, better place to live. Get all the details at blm.mn/nno.

COOKOUT WITH THE COPS: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

Putting the “unity” in community, BPD is hosting a cookout with the cops on Wednesday, August 21, 5-7:30 p.m., at Moir Park, 10320 Morgan Ave. S. There will be free food, drinks and raffle prizes while supplies last. Seating may be limited. Bring lawn chairs or a blanket.





BEGIN THE JOURNEY OF HOMEOWNERSHIP

The City of Bloomington recognizes that homeownership is key to generational wealth. The City is also committed to equity in home ownership and shares resources for current and first-generation homebuyers. Here are some places to begin.

NEW HOMEBUYER AND CURRENT HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE

MINNESOTA HOMEOWNERSHIP CENTER

This organization provides free services and other resources to help buy a home or prevent foreclosure. Learn more at hocmn.org.

HENNEPIN COUNTY HRA HOMEBUYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Homebuyer Assistance Program provides Hennepin County homebuyers with up to \$30,000 in assistance. Learn more at blm.mn/henn-co-homebuyer.

FIRST GENERATION-FOCUSED NEW HOMEBUYER PROGRAMS

FORGIVABLE FIRST GENERATION HOMEBUYERS COMMUNITY DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE FUND

Recipients can get forgivable assistance up to 10 percent of a home's purchase price. Learn more at firstgendpa.org/.

MINNESOTA HOUSING'S FIRST-GENERATION HOMEBUYER LOAN PROGRAM

This program provides a deferred, interest-free and forgivable loan. Learn more at blm.mn/mn-first-gen.

First-generation homebuyers are the first in their family (including their parents or legal guardians) to own a home or to have lost a home due to foreclosure. You may still be eligible for loan programs even if you do not know this information.

BLOOMINGTON HRA HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER (SECTION 8) AND PROJECT-BASED VOUCHER WAIT LISTS OPEN

Beginning Monday, July 15, the Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority will open online applications for its Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) and Project-Based Voucher waiting lists. All applications must be made online at bhra.bloomingtonmn.gov.

Need assistance? Online application support and computers will be available at Bloomington Civic Plaza from July 15 – July 26.

Eligible applications are sorted by preference, and then by the date and time they are received. Find details about program eligibility, the application process and application support at blm.mn/hra.

VOTE EARLY IN THE 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION

This year's primary election is on Tuesday, August 13. Multiple candidates for U.S. Senator will be on the ballot.

You can vote early in-person 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.

Extra voting hours will be held on Monday, August 10, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Tuesday, August 13, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Starting on July 26, absentee voters who vote in person are allowed to place their ballots through a tabulator instead of sealing them in an envelope for later processing.

This allows the voters to watch as their ballots are tabulated and to be made aware of any errors the tabulator may detect as the ballots are processed.



VIEW YOUR SAMPLE BALLOT

All you need is your address to view a sample ballot online at mnvotes.org.

SERVE AS AN ELECTION JUDGE

The City is hiring election judges to staff its polling places for the general election on November 5. Election judges receive training, are paid for their time and provide a vital service to their community. For more information and to complete an online application, visit blm.mn/voting or call 952-563-8729.



HEALTH SERVICES CLOSE TO HOME

Bloomington is all about healthy communities. So, check out the highlights of the free or discounted health services offered through Bloomington Public Health to eligible residents.

Health screenings including free blood pressure checks, low-cost tuberculin skin tests and home assessments for asthma triggers.

Immunizations and flu shots for residents with no or partial insurance.

Older adult health support including health concern assessments, connections to resources and more.

Pregnancy and parenting support including individual education and resource referrals; in-person and virtual home visits; growth and development screenings and assessments; nutrition education and counseling; breast/chestfeeding support; and food benefits for eligible pregnant and breastfeeding people and families with children up to five years old.

Sexual and reproductive health support for both individuals and groups.

For a complete list or to access services, visit blm.mn/ph/services or call 952-563-8900.

PUBLIC HEALTH'S IMPACT IN 2023

The Bloomington Public Health Division recently released its 2023 annual report highlighting how staff live out Public Health's mission to engage the community in promoting, protecting and improving the health of all. Here's just a glimpse of their efforts:

- 3,155 WIC participants.
- 1,671 flu shots and immunizations.
- 1,391 family home visits.
- 557 home safety assessments for older adults.

View the full report at blm.mn/health2023.

PUBLIC HEALTH CONTACT INFORMATION

Use the following contact information for assistance with immunizations, nutrition and more.

Public Health Center
952-563-8900

Immunizations and flu shots
952-563-8900, option 3

Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program (WIC)
952-563-8993



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE ARTS IN THE PARKS CLASSICS

RINGING IN THE FOURTH OF JULY WITH SUMMER FETE

Summer Fete took place on Wednesday, July 3, 5-10:30 p.m., for what has become the true “ringing in” of Independence Day in the Twin Cities. This festival, which culminates in one of the State of Minnesota’s largest fireworks displays, takes place each year on July 3 at Normandale Lake Park, W. 84th Street and Normandale Boulevard.

MONDAY MORNING KIDS’ SERIES





Wake up to Mondays at Moir Park, 10320 Morgan Ave S., and Valley View Park, 9000 Portland Ave., June 3 – August 12. Bring your family and friends alternating weeks at these two popular locations throughout the summer to enjoy music, dancing, magic, storytelling and much more. The fun begins at 10:30 a.m. and each show lasts approximately one hour.

July 8 Jolly Pops (Moir) Great kids’ music and fun.	July 15 Dazzling Dave (Valley View) Check out this amazing yo-yo master.	July 22 Bob the Beachcomber (Moir) Featuring '60s and '70s surfin’ and rockin’ music.	July 29 Wiggle, Jiggle, and Jam (Valley View) Family fun that puts the move in music.	August 5 Acme Magic Factory (Moir) A perfect combination of magic, comedy and audience interaction.
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TUESDAY PERFORMANCE SERIES

7 P.M. AT NORMANDALE LAKE BANDSHELL, 84TH STREET AND CHALET ROAD

Take in a lovely summer evening with Bloomington’s best music and dance. All shows are free.

July 9 Continental Ballet 	July 16 Concerto Dance 	July 23 Bloomington Symphony Orchestra 	July 30 Medalist Concert Band 
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MIDWEEK MUSIC AND MARKET SERIES

5-8 P.M. AT CIVIC PLAZA, 1800 W. OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD

Bloomington Parks and Recreation is pleased to announce that the Midweek Music and Market returns in 2024 on Wednesdays, from July 10 – August 21, 5-8 p.m., at the Bloomington Civic Plaza East Parking Lot, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.

This weekly outdoor market and concert series features fresh produce from local farmers market vendors, a variety of food trucks, lawn games and a live concert by local musicians and more. Here’s the music lineup for July:

July 10  Ken Valdez Band 	July 17  Twin Cities Hot Club 	July 24  Tuxedo Band 	July 31  BOB! The Music of Dylan 	August 7  St. Dominics Trio 
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THURSDAY BLOCKBUSTERS SERIES

FOOD SERVICE 6:30 P.M., SHOWS BEGIN 7 P.M. AT NORMANDALE LAKE BANDSHELL, 84TH STREET AND CHALET ROAD.

July 11  Hitchville	July 18  Salsa Del Soul	July 25  Flannel	August 1  R Factor	August 8  Lamont Cranston Band
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SUNDAY FUNDAY

Sunday Funday offers free, family-friendly live entertainment and food. This series is sure to be a fun way to spend summer afternoons. Events take place 4-6:30 p.m. at locations throughout the city.

July 7 Shakespeare in the Park Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road	July 14  Tropical Zone Orchestra Central Station Park, 8100 33rd Ave. S.	July 21 Summer Musical in the Park Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road	July 28  Kat Perkins Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road	August 4  Tim Sigler Band Central Station Park, 8100 33rd Ave S.
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