



March, 2013

- Creekside Website Address: www.winternet.com/~mr_n64/creekside
- City Website Address: www.stlouispark.org

CREEKSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ANNUAL MEETING

**Come meet your neighbors and
attend our neighborhood's Annual Meeting**

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

7:00 -8:30 pm

Anglican Church of St. Dunstan

4241 Brookside Ave

(south side door to basement)

Agenda (read below)

Annual Meeting Agenda

- Greet neighbors
- Dialogue with our Councilwoman
- Business meeting
 - 4/10/12 Minutes approved
 - Treasurer's report
 - Communication committee
 - Election of officers
- Discussion of events/projects for this year
- Block Parties planning/committees
 - Sunday, June 2
 - Jackley Park Set time
 - Time to plan

Citizens for the Minnehaha Creek Corridor continues to be a small active group from all over the city that meets, here in the Creekside neighborhood, once a month.

Please feel free to visit us for a meeting. We usually meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6:45pm.

Here are just a few of our accomplishments from the past year.

- Updated our organizations Vision and Goals and our registration as a Minnesota Non-Profit Organization.
- Brochure, Website and Facebook updated.
- We developed recommendations for improved signage and amenities at Creek access locations. We expect subsequent meetings with City Park Boards to make things happen.
- We joined with the Alliance for Sustainability and the Freshwater Society to promote the fall Work for Water Cleanup campaigns.
- We continued our tradition of hosting a booth at the Leinies Cleanup this summer. Handing out information on our organization as well as information on Aquatic Invasive Species. The Alliance for Sustainability shared our booth this year with very positive results.
- We became an original member of the Coalition of Minnehaha Creek Waters. Several of our Lake associations are working with Carver County to develop a Multi-Lake Regional Inspection Pilot for invasive species. The CMCW has also joined MN Cola which is a Coalition of Minnesota Lake Association Coalitions (mostly county based) to obtain an even Greater Voice. With the AIS Task force now working on the high level MCWD position statement on AIS, the CMCW is now addressing our second priority of Runoff. A draft position statement is under review.
- Due to low Creek Water Flow we did not have an Annual Canoe trip this year. We did however have a storm drain stenciling outing along the creek in Minneapolis to inform people that what they put in the street ends up in our waterways.
- The U of M study on Creek flow sustainability is progressing with more work in the coming year.
- One of our members presented at the Lynnhurst Fall Forum.
- The MCWD submitted a request on behalf of the Freshwater Society for development of a Master Water Stewards Program. We have been involved in a couple of meetings. The program is now underway.

If you are interested in helping to test the creek throughout the summer the program is currently looking for participants for the training. (See article on page 4, "Citizen Lake Monitoring".)

Please consider visiting one of the meetings of Citizens for the Minnehaha Creek Corridor (CMCC).

Spring Plant Sale

Please mark your calendars for the

10th Annual Creekside Plant Sale
May 18 (Saturday) Jackley Park
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.



We are celebrating our 10th year! Hundreds of plants have been exchanged and May 18 is the day. Bring those extra plants from your garden that you've been meaning to divide or just remove. You have neighbors who would love to plant them in their gardens. *"Bring one, take one"* ... you will receive one or more coupons for each plant you bring. With the coupons you can "buy" other plants. Examples of plants are: hostas, peonies, bleeding hearts, lily of the valley, cannas, day lilies, chives, Shasta daisies and ferns.

No plants to exchange? You can also purchase plants for \$1-\$4 depending on size and rarity. You're certain to find something your garden needs and certainly cheaper than retail. Look for a flyer that will be sent out the end of April.



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN:

Fr Bart Ryan has had to resign as Rector of the Anglican Church of St Dunstan due to failing health. Fr Paul Kolisch will carry on the day to day work of the Church and will lead both services on Sundays.

On Sunday, 17 March, Bishop Stephen Strawn ordained Christopher Hage into the Diaconate. Chris has been studying for Holy Orders and is a member of St Dunstan, so this could not have happened at a more opportune time. He will assist Fr Kolisch in the orderly working of the Church until we call a new Rector sometime in 2014.

See you on the 9th
Lucille

A BIG THANK YOU TO ST. DUNSTAN'S FOR THE USE OF THEIR FACILITY AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING. THEY ARE A GOOD NEIGHBOR TO US!

Citizen Lake Monitoring:

Marjorie received an email from a representative from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, most of which follows:

We are looking for a volunteer to monitor Meadowbrook Lake in St. Louis Park.

The lake monitoring would involve collecting grab water samples from the lake to be analyzed for total phosphorus, total nitrogen, chlorophyll-a (estimate of algal abundance), chloride and measuring water transparency using a Secchi disk once a month from May through September. The volunteer would need a canoe or kayak to collect the samples. MCWD will provide the training to interested volunteers, supply sampling bottles and loan the sampling equipment.

MCWD will be hosting a training session in April to teach how to collect and handle the water quality data. All the water quality data collected is available to the public and will be published in the MCWD's Annual Monitoring Report.

Please email Marjorie@mobiusmodel.com if you are interested.

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St. Louis Park Historical Society:

Please consider becoming a member of the St. Louis Park Historical Society. Your \$20 annual donation is tax deductible and helps support projects such as the website, the Re-Echo newsletter and the inventory program. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Lenox Community Center, except for June-September when meetings are at the Historic Depot at Jorvig Park. Office hours are 10:00-12:00 on Thursdays and by appointment. Your membership will help us continue our quest for St. Louis Park's rich history.

St. Louis Park Historical Society
3700 Monterey Drive

email: history@slphistory.com
website: www.slphistory.org

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CREEK AND GOLF COURSE CLEAN UP

Please join your Creekside neighbors to help clean up the area around Minnehaha Creek and the marsh along Meadowbrook Golf Course. SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM, RAIN OR SHINE! This is a great opportunity to interact with neighbors and others while improving our environment. Garbage bags and snacks will be provided at the golf course gate. Please bring your own work gloves and rake to help pull items out of the creek. Come for a few minutes or a few hours.

Adults and youth welcome!

Creekside Neighborhood – Did You Know?

- We have a wonderful neighborhood.
 - There are approx. 188 housing units.
 - The average age of the single family homes is 1939. When was yours built?
 - The spatial size is 0.34 sq. miles or 218.9 acres. Of that, 65% is occupied by Meadowbrook Golf Course. Our west boundary is the city border on the golf course.
 - Meadowbrook Golf Course is a public course developed and opened in 1926 and leased to the Minneapolis Park Board. It was sold to the City of Minneapolis in 1945 and continues to be operated by their Park and Rec Board.
 - The large flower urn at Excelsior and Colorado was bought with our petty cash and flowers planted 3x/year through a grant from the city.
 - We share the cost of the porta potty at Jackley Park with the Brookside Neighborhood from May – October.
 - Our annual meeting is April 9 – please attend
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Things of note from the City of St. Louis Park Annual Neighborhood Leaders Forum held in February

More Plastics are Recyclable in St. Louis Park!

Make sure everyone is including these items in your recycling: yogurt, pudding and fruit cups; margarine, cottage cheese, and other tubs; produce, deli and take-out containers; clear plastic packaging from toys and electronics. These new items were added this year by request!

For more information on how to recycle: www.eurekarecycling.org or 651-222-7678, or www.stlouispark.org/garbage-recycling.html

Police Update:

Redevelopment projects help the Police because they bring a healthy attitude to our community.

Panhandling: Educate community not to give them money. The police and others have offered to help the panhandlers, but they don't actually want any help. They appear to have a place to stay and a car. They use props. Panhandlers are allowed to be along the side of a road, but not on medians where they may prove to be a distraction from safe driving.

Grant Application for 2013-2014:

\$2,000 max per neighborhood available, with \$800 max for a particular activity. Grant requests are due April 5, 2013, while receipts from previous year are due April 30th. We need to show match of volunteer time for dollars requested.



Coyotes Are Among Us

Some things to keep in mind about coyotes:

- Coyotes will sometimes approach humans when a dog is present, particularly during the mating season, which runs from January through March (dogs of any weight, shape and size serve as threats to mating male coyotes)
- Extensive studies show that coexistence is the only effective relationship for humans and urban coyotes and one of the best ways to coexist with coyotes is to prevent conflicts with them.
- Do not let them get accustomed to you or your neighborhood; habituation of humans and our surroundings creates coyote conflicts

Another way to coexist with coyotes is through hazing. Hazing is a method that makes use of deterrents to move an animal of an area or discourage undesirable behavior or activity. Examples of hazing includes:

- Yelling and waving your arms while approaching the coyote
- Noisemakers: Voice, whistles, air horns, bells, soda cans filled with pennies or rocks, pots and pans banged together
- Projectiles: sticks, small rocks, cans, tennis balls, rubber balls
- Other: hoses, water guns with vinegar water, spray bottles with vinegar water, pepper spray, bear repellant, walking sticks

The City of St. Louis Park has done a lot of research on how to deal with coyotes. Unfortunately, what we learned is that there really are not many realistic measures to deal with coyotes. They are very elusive and shooting them is difficult, especially in a suburban or urban setting. Trapping can be done and involves using bait but has unintended consequences in populated areas especially with domesticated animals.

If you'd like more information and tips for dealing with coyotes and other wildlife, visit www.stlouispark.org.