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OUTDOOR FARMERS MARKET COMING SOON

The Bloomington Farmers Market is back, and with more vendors than ever before. The Farmers Market runs every Saturday morning, from June 11 – October 15. Over 60 vendors will be at the market throughout the summer, with more than 40 vendors each week. There will be more ready-to-eat food, live music from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. every Saturday as well as community tables. Master Gardeners will be attending nearly every week to answer your summer gardening questions.

Beginning Wednesday, July 13, the annual Midweek Music and Market series begins, featuring food trucks, live music and a farmers market on Wednesday evenings. Be sure to mark your calendars! Call 952-563-8877 for any questions or visit blm.mn/market.



CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS *BLOOMINGTON. TOMORROW. TOGETHER.* STRATEGIC PLAN

Nearly a year after starting the process, the City Council reviewed and approved the *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* strategic plan that will guide the City's work for the next five years. City representatives and community members worked together to develop plan for Bloomington's future.

"Every step of this process, we've involved community," City Manager Jamie Verbrugge said. "We believe defining the future and intended future for Bloomington is best done when we do it in partnership with the community."

A core planning team of 30 residents and City employees met in late 2021 and early 2022 to draft the *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* strategic plan.

"You get the best response when you have community representatives at meetings like this," Bloomington resident and core planning team member Amos Olivarez said. "There are different beliefs, nationalities and stories, but we all call Bloomington home. It's great to have so many perspectives when we're talking about the city we all live in."

Action and measurement teams met to expand on the plan developed by the core planning team in January and February. The action team constructed a road map for putting the strategic plan into motion. The measurement team developed metrics to monitor and measure progress on the strategic plan. Throughout the process, resident and community member voices were at the forefront. Bloomington community members made up more than half of each strategic planning team, exceeding the City's goal for public participation in each group. This plan will be effective for five years and reviewed annually.

Watch for upcoming *Briefing* articles for a deeper dive into *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* and learn more at blm.mn/btt.

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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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The City of Bloomington does not discriminate against or deny the benefits of its services, programs, or activities to a qualified person because of a disability. The City will provide a reasonable accommodation or modify its policies and programs to allow people with disabilities to participate in all City services, programs, activities, and employment. The law does not require the City to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden on the City. To make a request for a reasonable accommodation, ask for more information, or to file a complaint, contact the Community Outreach and Engagement Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733, MN Relay 711.



Pictured above: The 2019 class of the Bloomington Leadership Team.

BECOME A LEADER IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The City's Bloomington Leadership Program promotes civic engagement and develops community leaders. You should consider applying for this free program if you:

- Are a Bloomington resident over the age of 18.
- Are passionate and committed to improving the Bloomington community.
- Want to learn and develop leadership skills and better your neighborhood, faith community, school or city.
- Are interested in networking and building relationships with City and local nonprofit staff and elected officials.

The 2022 cohort begins meeting every Thursday for seven weeks beginning September 15 with an additional Saturday, October 15 session. To apply you must be able to attend at least eight of the nine sessions. The program is accepting applicants June 1 – July 29. If you currently serve on a Bloomington board or commission, you are not eligible to apply. Applicants will be notified of acceptance on August 24. For more on the full session schedule or to apply, visit blm.mn/leadership.

REDISTRICTING: CHECK YOUR POLLING PLACE

Every 10 years, cities are required to redraw the boundaries of election districts following the federal census. In March 2022, the Bloomington City Council approved its councilmember districts and precinct boundaries based on the population count of the 2020 Census. An estimated 25% of residents will be voting at new polling places this year.

As the population grows and changes, it is important that district boundaries are distributed evenly, and that the population of each district is equally represented. In July, all registered voters will receive postcards notifying them of their legislative districts and polling places.

The new precinct boundaries will go into effect for the primary election on August 9. View the new maps at blm.mn/precincts. Voters are encouraged to visit mnvotes.org to look up their polling place location before heading to the polls.



ABSENTEE AND EARLY VOTING BEGIN JUNE 24

Absentee and early voting for the August 9 primary election will begin on June 24. To request a mailed absentee ballot, voters can complete an online application at mnvotes.org. Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, will be open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., for in-person early voting. Extended hours are offered from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Saturday, August 6, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Monday, August 8.

For questions, contact the City Clerk's Office at 952-563-8729.

SERVE AS AN ELECTION JUDGE

The City is hiring election judges to staff its polling places for the primary election on August 9 and the general election on November 8. Election judges provide a vital service to their community, receive training and are paid for their time. For more information and to complete an online application, visit blm.mn/election-judges or call 952-563-8729.

SCOOP THE POOP TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY

Pet waste is a significant source of pathogens like fecal coliform and E. coli that can cause disease. If pet waste is not cleaned up, stormwater sweeps up bacteria and delivers them straight to streams, rivers and lakes.

Elevated bacteria levels in water can cause health problems when swimming, boating or wading in contaminated water. Symptoms can include gastrointestinal problems and rashes. Pet waste also contains nutrients that foster weed and algae growth.

This is an active problem in Bloomington. Nine Mile Creek is listed on Minnesota's impaired waters list for E. coli. The easiest way to solve this problem is to scoop the poop. Remember to bring baggies with you on your walks and tie baggies to your leash. Spread the word to help educate others: Too much pet waste is not a natural compost; it is a serious pollutant in lakes and streams.



Dog poop carries harmful bacteria. Pick up after your pet.



PLANNING FOR CITY PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Building on the Park System Master Plan adopted by the City Council in August 2021, the City is using the public input received to embark on concept plans for nine parks: Sunrise, Southwood, Brookside, Poplar Bridge, Smith, Running, Gene Kelly, Bryant and Tretbaugh. The concept park plans will create a new vision for these parks and ensure that improvements are consistent with the needs of residents.

The Park System Master Plan identifies needs for Bloomington’s parks and provides a planning process for how to continue to engage the community on park projects. Staff will engage the community by holding events in parks and using familiar online tools including Let’s Talk Bloomington. *See link below.*

“We are looking forward to hearing from residents and gathering ideas to create the individual park plans,” Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Renae Clark said. “Collaboration with the community is expected to begin in summer 2022.”

Following the planning process, Bryant Park and Tretbaugh Park are anticipated to be the first renovation projects scheduled to begin in 2023. To learn more and to provide input, visit blm.mn/ltb-parks. For questions, call 952-563-8877.

DOES YOUR PROPERTY HAVE A DISCRIMINATORY COVENANT?

Last June, the Bloomington City Council passed a resolution condemning the use of discriminatory covenants and encouraged property owners to formally discharge them. The City of Bloomington is a member of the Just Deeds Coalition, which works with volunteer lawyers to provide free services to property owners interested in discharging these discriminatory covenants from their properties.

There are 500 properties in Bloomington have real estate deeds that include discriminatory covenants. You can look up your property on the City’s website at blm.mn/justdeeds. About 50 property owners have already begun the process of formally removing the discriminatory covenants from their properties. City properties will go through the process of discharging their discriminatory covenants.

If you are interested in sharing your story, helping plan education and outreach efforts, or hosting an event in your neighborhood, contact justdeeds@BloomingtonMN.gov. Together we can acknowledge this and other forms of discrimination, discharge these covenants and build more inclusive communities.

Visit blm.mn/justdeeds for more information.

WHAT IS A DISCRIMINATORY COVENANT?

A covenant imposes a restriction on the use of land. Discriminatory covenants were established in Bloomington between 1923 – 1951. These covenants were used by real estate developers and others to prevent Black, Indigenous and People of Color from buying or occupying property. Governments and developers deliberately used discriminatory covenants to create segregated communities and build wealth for the white community at the expense of the Black community and other people of color. Discriminatory covenants are not legally enforceable under current laws. Most property owners are likely unaware of their existence.

RECREATIONAL FIRE SAFETY

Every summer, we look forward to camping, picnics, family reunions and the Fourth of July. Summertime, however, also brings fires and injuries. Use common sense, remember to be considerate of your neighbors, and follow these tips to stay safe.

A recreational fire is an outdoor fire used for cooking, warming or ceremonial purposes. Follow the City ordinance that states:

- A recreational fire may only be conducted between 7 a.m. and midnight when the wind speed is less than 10 miles per hour.
 - A recreational fire must be located at least 25 feet away from any structures or combustible materials, and constantly attended to by a person within sight of the flames.
 - Fire extinguishing equipment must readily available.
 - Only dry, clean wood such as cordwood or Presto logs may be used.
 - Wood that has leaves or needles and wood that is rotten, wet, or treated with paint or glue are prohibited by ordinance and should not be burned.
 - The fire stack should not exceed three-feet wide by two-feet high.
 - The fire must be extinguished immediately if an official determines the fire is creating a fire safety hazard.
- For questions and concerns, call 952-563-4801 or visit blm.mn/recfires.

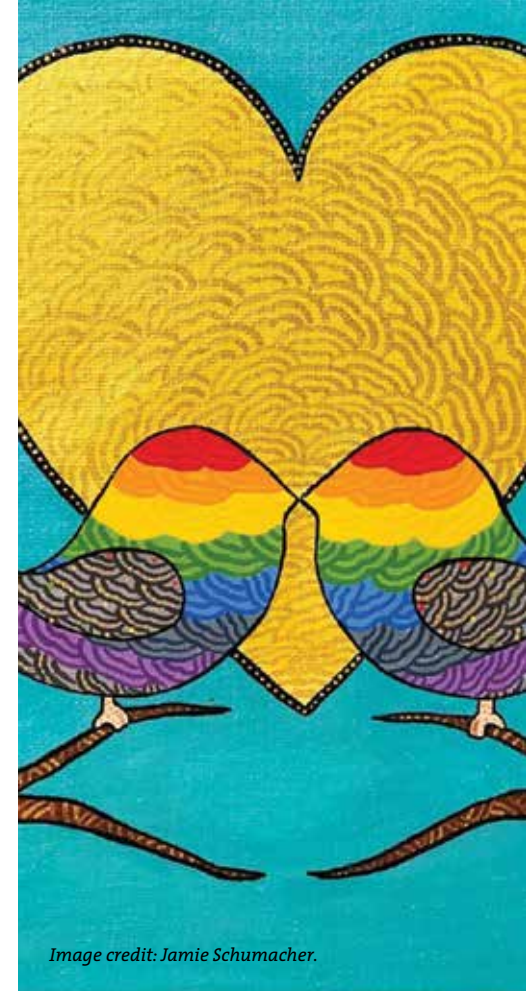


Image credit: Jamie Schumacher.

FREE ARTIST WORKBOOKS FOR BLOOMINGTON ARTISTS

The City of Bloomington Creative Placemaking Commission and Artistry would like to expand the capacity of local artists by providing Bloomington artists, creatives and culture bearers with two free printed workbooks: *Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists* curriculum and the *Handbook for Artists Working in Community*, both by Springboard for the Arts.

“The workbooks provide core business skills to artists in all disciplines and guidance on extending your artistic practice to work in and with the community,” Creative Placemaking Director Alejandra Pelinka said.

These free workbooks are available to Bloomington residents only. Sign up to receive your copies at blm.mn/freeartistworkbooks.

PRIDE FEST CALL FOR VENDORS

The City of Bloomington supports its LGBTQ+ community. The City will host a 2022 Bloomington Pride Celebration to create a fun, inclusive and welcoming setting for all LGBTQ+ community members to honor and celebrate their contributions in advancing equity and justice in our community and across Minnesota.

Organizations, businesses and artisans interested in exhibiting at the event must communicate meaningful information relevant to the event’s focus on support of the LGBTQ+ community. Those organizations and businesses chosen by a committee of City staff and community members coordinating the event, and whose products or services support the criteria in the application, will be invited to participate in the 2022 Bloomington Pride Celebration. The deadline to apply is July 18 at 5 p.m. For more information or to register, visit blm.mn/pride.

arts *in the* Parks

Arts in the Parks includes not only musical performances from classical to 90s, but also offers everything from moonlight movies to fireworks. All of our programs are free and open to the public. For more information, visit blm.mn/aip or call 952-563-8878.

TUESDAY NIGHT NORMANDALE LAKE PERFORMANCE SERIES

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

The sounds of summer echo throughout the Normandale Lake Bandshell with Bloomington's best music and dance.

June 7
NOTEable Singers



June 21
Continental Ballet



June 28
Alive and Kickin'



July 12
204th Army Band



July 26
Medalist Concert Band



MIDWEEK MUSIC AND MARKET SERIES

5 – 8 P.M. AT CIVIC PLAZA, 1800 WEST OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD.

Music, food trucks, a beer garden and a farmers market—everything you need to enjoy your Wednesday evenings. Music starts at 5:30 p.m.

July 13 
Paul Holland Blues Band



July 20 
Everett Smithson Band



July 27 
Lehto and Wright



August 3 
Bossa Soul



August 10 
Tuxedo Band

August 17 
Alma Andina

August 24 
Southside Aces

THURSDAY NIGHT BLOCKBUSTER SERIES

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

Don't miss Thursday Blockbusters and the Evening Performance Series at the Normandale Lake Bandshell. Enjoy some of the best entertainment in the Twin Cities as well as food vendors to handle your dinner plans.

June 9 
British Invasion Rubber Soul



June 16 
Best in Bluegrass Monroe Crossing



June 23 
Latin Music Night Salsa Del Soul



June 30 
Classic Rock Bash Tuxedo Band



July 14 
'90s Revisited Flannel

July 21 
Country Night Hitchville

July 28 
Blues and Bar-B-Q The Jimmy's

August 4 
Brazilian Jazz Natania and Ticket to Brasil

August 11 
Classical Music Bloomington Symphony Orchestra

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE SERIES

FOOD SERVICE AT 6 P.M., SHOWS BEGIN 6:30 P.M., AT MULTIPLE LOCATIONS IN BLOOMINGTON

Join us for music, movies and theater on Friday nights at the Normandale Lake Bandshell, Wright's Lake Park and other locations throughout the city.

June 17
Alma Andina and Ballet Folklorico
Wrights Lake Park



June 24
Shakespeare in the Park with the Classical Actors Ensemble
Normandale Lake Bandshell

LOVE'S LABOR'S LOST

July 8
BOB! The Music of Dylan
Bloomington Civic Plaza East lawn



July 15
Music and Movie in the Park
Wrights Lake Park



July 22
Sawyers Dream
Normandale Lake Bandshell

July 29, August 5 and 12
On The One Music Festival

A new three-night music festival at the Normandale Lake Bandshell, featuring rising stars in the Twin Cities' R&B/Soul, Reggae, Afrobeat and conscious Hip-Hop music scene along with a touch of Spoken Word Poetry.



MONDAY MORNING KIDS' SERIES

Wake up to Mondays at Moir Park, 10320 Morgan Avenue South, and Valley View Park, 401 90th Street West, June 6 – August 8. Alternating weeks at these two popular locations, the fun begins at 10:30 a.m. and each show lasts about an hour. Bring your family and friends throughout the summer to enjoy music, dancing, magic, storytelling and much more!

June 6—Bob the Beachcomber (Moir Park)

Featuring fun surfin' and rockin' music from the '60s and '70s.

June 13—Rachael Kroog (Valley View Park)

Be ready to have fun and dance along with Rachel and her original songs.

June 20—Jolly Pops (Moir Park)

Their unique approach to rocking with the kids will leave you with a one-of-a-kind experience and great time had by all.

June 27—Wiggle, Jiggle, and Jam (Valley View Park)

This fun family event makes you want to move to the music.

July 11—Alpha Bits (Moir Park)

Fun and interactive kids' variety band.

July 18—Wonder Weavers Storytellers (Valley View Park)

Kids of all ages will be captivated by these amazing storytellers.

July 25—Brodini (Moir Park)

High energy, interactive, comedy magic.

August 1—Dazzling Dave (Valley View Park)

See a performance by yo-yo master Dazzling Dave Schulte and you might start believing his yo-yos are alive! Then try your hand at yo-yo tricks.

August 8—Acme Magic Factory (Moir Park)

The perfect combination of magic, comedy and audience interaction.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

June 11

Kites and Bites

Valley View Park, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Kites and Bites returns in 2022! Enjoy food trucks, music and kites, all of which will take over Valley View Park playfields at 90th Street and Portland Avenue South.

June 19

John Philip Sousa Band

Pond Dakota Mission Park, 7 p.m.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a beautiful evening concert with the John Philip Sousa Band on the south lawn at the Historic Gideon and Agnes Pond House, 401 East 104th Street. It's one of the city's most popular annual events.

August 26

Drive-in movie

Cedar Valley Church parking lot, 9 p.m.

Bloomington Parks and Recreation in partnership with Cedar Valley Church, 8600 Bloomington Avenue South, is pleased to present a free drive-in movie. Movie will be chosen by community poll.



Bring your appetite! You'll find a variety of food and drink options at events marked with a fork-and-spoon icon.