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BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING

DECEMBER 2025



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BLOOMINGTON JEFFERSON JUNIOR VARSITY GOALIE ANNIKA BJORKLUND LOOKS ON AT THE ACTION OF THE OPENING GAME AT THE NEWLY RENOVATED BLOOMINGTON ICE GARDEN.





Bloomington voters visited polling places around the city on November 4.

MAYOR’S MEMO

ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN

By Mayor Tim Busse

This November, Bloomington residents made their voices heard in the 2025 City Council election. Voters cast their ballots for the At Large, District I and District II seats on the City Council.

I want to thank everyone who took part in this year’s election. Whether you voted early or on Election Day, your participation helps keep our local democracy strong.

Bloomington voters elected Danielle Robertson to the At Large seat, Dwayne Lowman to represent District I and Shawn Nelson to represent District II. Each will serve a four-year term beginning in January 2026. A special thank you to Chao Moua who has served for nearly three years as Council Member At Large and decided not to seek reelection. Chao was first appointed to the At Large seat in January 2023 when former Council Member Nathan Coulter won election to the Minnesota House of Representatives. He was then elected to complete Coulter’s term in November 2023.

The work of the City Council is vital to Bloomington’s continued success. Together, the Council and I will focus on advancing our shared priorities, including public safety, strong neighborhoods and investments that make Bloomington an enduring and remarkable community where people want to be. *Read about the Bloomington Forward investment projects on page 3.*

Elections are an important reminder that local government has a direct impact on our daily lives. From our parks and public safety to housing and infrastructure, Council decisions shape the community we live in. I encourage residents to stay engaged, attend Council meetings and share feedback throughout the year.

Voter turnout was 27.8%, with 16,477 of Bloomington’s 59,306 registered voters casting ballots. Of those, 3,500 voted absentee, including 2,322 who voted early in person at Civic Plaza. City Clerk Jamy Hanson expressed gratitude to the many people who made the election possible.

“Bloomington’s elections rely on teamwork across every City department,” Hanson said. “Thank you to our election judges, City staff and community members who helped ensure a smooth and secure election process.”

Thank you again to everyone who took part in this election. Your involvement helps build a stronger, more connected Bloomington. For complete election results, visit blm.mn/results.

2026 BUDGET DECISION COMING

EARLY DECEMBER

The City Council will vote to approve the 2026 budget during its meeting on Monday, December 15. There are multiple ways to share your priorities for the 2026 budget leading up to that date. **For details on how to participate in person or by phone**, visit blm.mn/budget or call 952-563-8790.

In September, the Council approved a preliminary 2026 property tax levy increase of 9.44% from the 2025 property tax levy. The preliminary levy can be reduced, but not increased, before final adoption.

Share your 2026 budget feedback online at blm.mn/budgetfeedback.

For more information, including links to Council presentations on the budget and related Council Minute segments, visit blm.mn/budget.

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BRIEFING

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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 Website: BloomingtonMN.gov

BLOOMINGTON CITY COUNCIL



Mayor
Tim Busse
952-563-8782 (w)
952-457-7506 (c)
tbusse@BloomingtonMN.gov



Council Member At Large
Jenna Carter
612-284-8751
jcarter@BloomingtonMN.gov



Council Member At Large
Chao Moua
763-229-7582
cmoua@BloomingtonMN.gov



Council Member District I
Dwayne Lowman
952-270-2377
dlowman@BloomingtonMN.gov



Council Member District II
Shawn Nelson
952-479-0471
snelson@BloomingtonMN.gov



Council Member District III
Lona Dallessandro
612-231-6824
ldallessandro@BloomingtonMN.gov



Council Member District IV
Victor Rivas
952-255-9570
vrivas@BloomingtonMN.gov

Elected officials presented for informational purposes.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

council@BloomingtonMN.gov

EXECUTIVE STAFF

City Manager's Office	952-563-8780
citymanager@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Elizabeth Tolzmann, Interim City Manager	952-563-8780
citymanager@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Kathy Hedin, Interim City Manager	952-563-8780
citymanager@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Kim Berggren, Community Development	952-563-8920
communitydevelopment@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Lori Economy-Scholler, Finance	952-563-8791
finance@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Ulie Seal, Fire	952-563-4801
fire@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Amy Cheney, Information Technology	952-563-4885
it@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Melissa Manderschied, Legal	952-563-8753
legal@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Ann Kattreh, Parks and Recreation	952-563-8877
parksrec@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Booker T. Hodges, Police	952-563-4900
police@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Public Works	952-563-8760
publicworks@BloomingtonMN.gov	
Nick Kelley, Public Health	952-563-8900
publichealth@BloomingtonMN.gov	
General phone number	952-563-8700

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Mayor Tim Busse drops the puck for the first hockey game at the renovated Bloomington Ice Garden.

CELEBRATING BLOOMINGTON ICE GARDEN

Nearly 100 people gathered September 30 for a ribbon cutting, and more than 200 people November 8 to celebrate the grand reopening of the Bloomington Ice Garden. The celebration had something for everyone—open skate, two high school hockey games featuring Jefferson Girls vs. Armstrong, *pictured above*, and Minnesota artist Adam Turman on-site to talk about the new mural he created that celebrates winter and the spirit of community that BIG nurtures. The \$37.2 million renovation project delivered

major updates, including a new ice system, accessibility improvements, renovated locker rooms, reconfigured rink space and new gathering areas. Construction was completed on time and on budget, making BIG the first Bloomington Forward project finished. With nearly 500,000 visitors annually, the renovated facility continues to serve Bloomington families while attracting skaters and events from across the state and region. *Learn more about BIG programs on page 6.*

City Intern Lynn Reynolds measures a space for bike parking.

PEDAL POWER MAPPING A BIKE-FRIENDLY FUTURE

Active transportation like biking to work or walking to school adds movement to daily life. While many bike for fun, fewer use bikes for errands or commuting. With e-bikes making longer trips easier, the City saw an opportunity to rethink mobility. The first step? Assessing bike parking through a partnership between Bloomington Public Health and the City’s sustainability team, with support from the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership.

Three interns were hired to enter data into a GIS-based inventory of racks across Bloomington, Edina and Richfield. Over three months, they visited 690 bike racks and biked hundreds of miles in all kinds of weather, experiencing firsthand the challenges of bike commuting. “I noticed that resource allocation is not always equitable and some areas that could have bike racks didn’t,” said Bloomington Intern Lynn Reynolds. This data will help guide future planning, ensuring bike projects are prioritized with the environment, equity and connectivity in mind.

EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL GO PAPERLESS AND PAY ONLINE

The City’s online bill pay service provides easy, convenient and secure options for paying utility bills. You can view and pay your bill online with a credit card, debit card or e-check and schedule payments for a future date. You can also: **Sign up for autopay** to avoid late payments and save time. **Enroll in paperless billing** and get bills via email. **Sign up for email notifications** when your bill is ready and just before the due date. **Sign up for text notifications** and have the option to pay by text. Learn more at blm.mn/paymybill.

NINE MILE CREEK CORRIDOR RENEWAL MOVES TOWARD FINAL DESIGN

The Nine Mile Creek Corridor Renewal Project is progressing steadily, with construction anticipated to begin in spring 2026. Residents may see tree clearing crews in the area in late winter in advance of construction. Last fall, an environmental assessment worksheet was released for public review outlining the project’s potential environmental impacts. The comment period closed in October. The document remains available online through the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board at blm.mn/worksheet.

If you missed the open house events at Moir Park in August and September, explore the draft final design story map and project details online at bloomingtonforward.org/9mile. Since 2024, the City has hosted numerous engagement events for the Nine Mile project, earning national- and state-level awards in 2025 for excellence in public participation and communication. To learn more about any of the Bloomington Forward projects, visit bloomingtonforward.org.



BREAKING GROUND ON A NEW COMMUNITY CENTER

Construction is officially underway on Bloomington’s new community health and wellness center at 9801 Penn Avenue. Crews began work in November following the October demolition of the former Creekside Community Center. The new facility will replace the aging Creekside and Bloomington Public Health buildings built in the 1960s. It will offer expanded space for health services, fitness, recreation and community programs. Designed to serve residents of all ages and abilities, new amenities will include gymnasiums, a walking track, indoor playground, multipurpose rooms and more. The project was approved by voters in a November 2023 referendum after extensive community input. Residents shared feedback at 19 public engagement events, online and through City Council meetings. A parking study confirmed the new center will have sufficient on-site parking. The parking area design includes green features like native landscaping and stormwater basins. Nearby parks and trails will continue to offer easy access to nature. The center will strengthen access to public health services such as immunizations, nutrition education and older adult wellness, while providing flexible gathering spaces for the entire community.



REDUCE WASTE AND SAVE MONEY

Looking to cut your waste and your bill?

Downsize carts if they’re rarely full. Have extra trash occasionally? You can set out an extra bag for \$6.24, including taxes.

Choose every-other-week service if weekly pickup isn’t needed. This is a great option for households who compost because the stinky items are still collected weekly in organics.

Save on taxes by recycling and composting more. Garbage is taxed 25.25% by the state and county. There is no tax on recycling or composting.

Increase your recycling service. There is no additional cost to request a larger 95-gallon recycling cart or get a second recycling cart.

Start composting. About 30% of household garbage is compostable. If you aren’t composting yet, it is an easy way to reduce your garbage. Sign up at blm.mn/organics.

GET UPDATES IN YOUR EMAIL INBOX

E-Subscribe is the City’s free subscription service that sends email and, for select topics, wireless notifications. You’ll receive up-to-date news for your selected topics including solid waste management. Sign up at blm.mn/esub.

LOOKING FOR THE FULL 2026 GARBAGE AND RECYCLING CALENDAR?

The full-page clip-out of the 2026 garbage and recycling calendar will be included in the *January Briefing*. The Christmas holiday falls on Thursday, December 25 and will delay garbage and recycling pickup by one day for the rest of that week. Garbage pickup will also be delayed by one day following New Year’s Day on Thursday, January 1.

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BIG SAVINGS FOR SMALL CARTS: GARBAGE RATE CHANGES IN 2026

Changes are coming to Bloomington’s garbage rates. The pay-as-you-throw system will remain, but price differences between cart sizes will widen so smaller carts cost less. These changes, guided by a rate study and resident input, will encourage waste reduction and help keep services affordable over time as garbage disposal costs continue to increase significantly faster than recycling and composting.

For households that create very little trash, there’s even better news: a new, lower-cost every-other-week pickup option will be available for the smallest cart size. The City Council approved the new rates after the October budget review and a November 17 public hearing. Learn more about the rate changes online at letstalk.bloomingtonmn.gov/pay-as-you-throw.

2026 SOLID WASTE RATES

The 2026 rates include the Hennepin County solid waste management fee and the state solid waste tax. For reference, the 2025 monthly rates for weekly pickup were: \$14.06 for 35 gallons, \$18.99 for 65 gallons and \$23.90 for 95 gallons.

CART SIZE AND SERVICE LEVEL 2026 MONTHLY COST			
			
95 Gallon (Weekly pickup):	65 Gallon (Weekly pickup):	35 Gallon (Weekly pickup):	35 Gallon (Every-other-week pickup):
\$33.11	\$23.17	\$13.24	\$9.93



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

- Downsizing pays off:** Switching from a 95-gallon to a 65-gallon cart, or 65-gallon to 35-gallon cart could save you nearly \$10 per month in 2026.
- Smaller carts, bigger savings:** Using the smallest cart size collected every-other-week rather than weekly will save you 30% compared to 2025 rates.
- Larger carts cost more:** Keeping a 95-gallon cart will cost about 32% more than it would under the former rate structure.



PLAN AHEAD TO MAXIMIZE YOUR FREE CART DELIVERY

As part of the City’s cart services, each household receives one free cart delivery or pickup per year so it pays to plan ahead. To avoid additional delivery fees, make all your cart changes at once during your free delivery window.

- Here are some tips:
- Sign up for organics recycling.** Delivery is always free but combining it with other changes saves time and energy.
 - Need a larger recycling cart?** It’s the perfect time to upsize.
 - Thinking about switching garbage cart sizes?** Do it now to avoid a second delivery fee later.



HOW TO SWITCH YOUR CART SIZE

There are multiple ways to sign up for a new cart size:

- Online:** Complete the form at blm.mn/garbage.
- By phone:** Call Utility Bill at 952-563-8726.
- In person:** Visit Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. Carts will be delivered in waves to allow the haulers enough time to purchase new carts and plan efficient delivery. If you submit a cart change request by December 15, your new cart will arrive by the end of March 2026. If you submit a cart change request by February 16 your new cart will arrive by April 2026. Organics recycling carts will be delivered within one to two weeks of submitting a request. Your new cart rate will take effect based on the date your request is submitted, not the date your cart is delivered. To learn more, visit blm.mn/garbage or call 952-563-8726.



CURBSIDE CLEANUP RETURNS IN 2026

Curbside Cleanup is offered every other year, occurring only in even-numbered years, which means it’ll be back in 2026. The program allows residents to dispose of certain large or hard-to-manage items that are not accepted through regular trash pickup.

On their assigned Saturday, participants may place a limited quantity of appliances and bulky trash at the curb for collection. Dates for the 2026 Curbside Cleanup will appear in the *February Briefing*. More details about which items are accepted, and which are not, will also be included in the *February Briefing*.

HOLIDAY RECYCLING 101 KEEP THE SEASON GREEN

The holidays bring joy, cheer and about 25% more household waste. That’s a jump from four million to five million tons, according to the U.S. Environmental Agency. Give the planet a gift by recycling:

Foil and trays: Rinse foil and roll it into a ball three inches or larger.

Cartons: Eggnog, broth, wine and milk all count.

Gift boxes: Flatten them before putting them in your cart or save intact for next year’s wrapping.

Paper: Cards, junk mail and newspapers.

Tins: Recycle or reuse cookie, pie and decorative tins.

DON’T “WISHCYCLE” YOUR WRAPPING

It’s tempting to toss everything shiny into the recycling cart, but not all holiday sparkle is recyclable. Keep your cart off the “naughty list” by leaving out:

Cellophane wrap.

Wrapping paper.

Glittery, laminated or coated gift bags.

Ribbons and bows.

Holiday lights (Instead, drop them off at Hennepin County’s facility, 1400 W. 96th St.).

Plastic bags, bubble wrap, air pillows and foam packaging. (These are also accepted at the Hennepin County drop-off facility.)



HOLIDAY LEFTOVERS FEED THE SOIL, NOT THE TRASH

Holiday feasts are delicious but inedible leftovers don’t belong in the trash. Put your food scraps, paper towels and prep waste into organics recycling. All homes pay for organics recycling, but you need to let the City know if you’d like a cart. You can sign up at blm.mn/organics. No curbside organics service? No problem. Find an organics drop-off site at blm.mn/organics. It’s a small act with a big impact for our planet. If you have questions, call 952-563-8726.

SEASON OF SAVINGS, NOT FOOD WASTE

If you got back in cash what you spent on uneaten holiday food last year, you’d have extra money for gifts! Americans waste up to 40% of their food, according to the National Resources Defense Council, and part of that waste happens at home. For a family of four, that adds up to more than \$2,500 a year, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

This season, protect your wallet and the planet:

Plan portions so you don’t overbuy.

Love your leftovers by freezing or reinventing them.

Share the abundance with guests or neighbors.

Celebrate smarter, waste less and keep the holiday spirit, not the trash bin, full. Learn more and sign up for Fridge Check Friday reminders at trashorcash.org.

WHEN YOUR CART OVERFLOWETH

If your recycling cart is bursting like Santa’s sleigh, don’t worry. Overflow can go in paper bags or boxes beside your recycling cart. Have a mountain of cardboard? Extra cardboard and recyclables can be taken to Hennepin County’s drop-off facility at no cost. Find more information at blm.mn/recycling.



CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

The City will collect natural Christmas trees during the weeks of January 5-9 and January 12-16. A fee of \$12.43 per tree will appear on your utility bill if you put your tree out for pickup.

To prepare a tree for pickup,

- Do not place it in any type of bag.
- Remove all decorations, lights, wires and stands.
- Set it out before 7 a.m. on your collection day, and no earlier than the day before.

Collected trees are taken to a local composting facility where they are ground into mulch and composted. This material is then used in landscaping, gardening and erosion control projects throughout the community. Recycling your tree helps reduce landfill waste and supports a more sustainable city.

For a different pickup date, call Utility Billing at 952-563-8726 to schedule a bulky item pickup for an additional fee. For more information, visit blm.mn/garbage.



An exhibitor shares resources at the 2025 Early Childhood Expo.

CALL FOR EXHIBITORS EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPO

Connect, inspire and make a difference in the lives of Bloomington’s youngest residents by signing up to be an exhibitor at the upcoming Early Childhood Expo.

The City and Bloomington Public Schools’ Early Learning at Washburn invite exhibitors to take part in the Early Childhood Expo on Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.

This fun, family-focused event connects parents and caregivers of young children with trusted resources, services and products that support early learning and healthy development. If your organization offers something meaningful for young families, here’s a great chance to showcase your work and make a lasting impact.

To be considered as an exhibitor, organizations must register by February 6 at blm.mn/expo26. Participation fees are \$50 for nonprofits and \$200 for for-profit organizations. Proof of licensure or insurance may be requested.

To learn more, contact Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator Amanda Crombie at acrombie@BloomingtonMN.gov or 952-563-8736.

ENTER THE SUMMER 2026 YOUTH PROGRAM LOTTERY

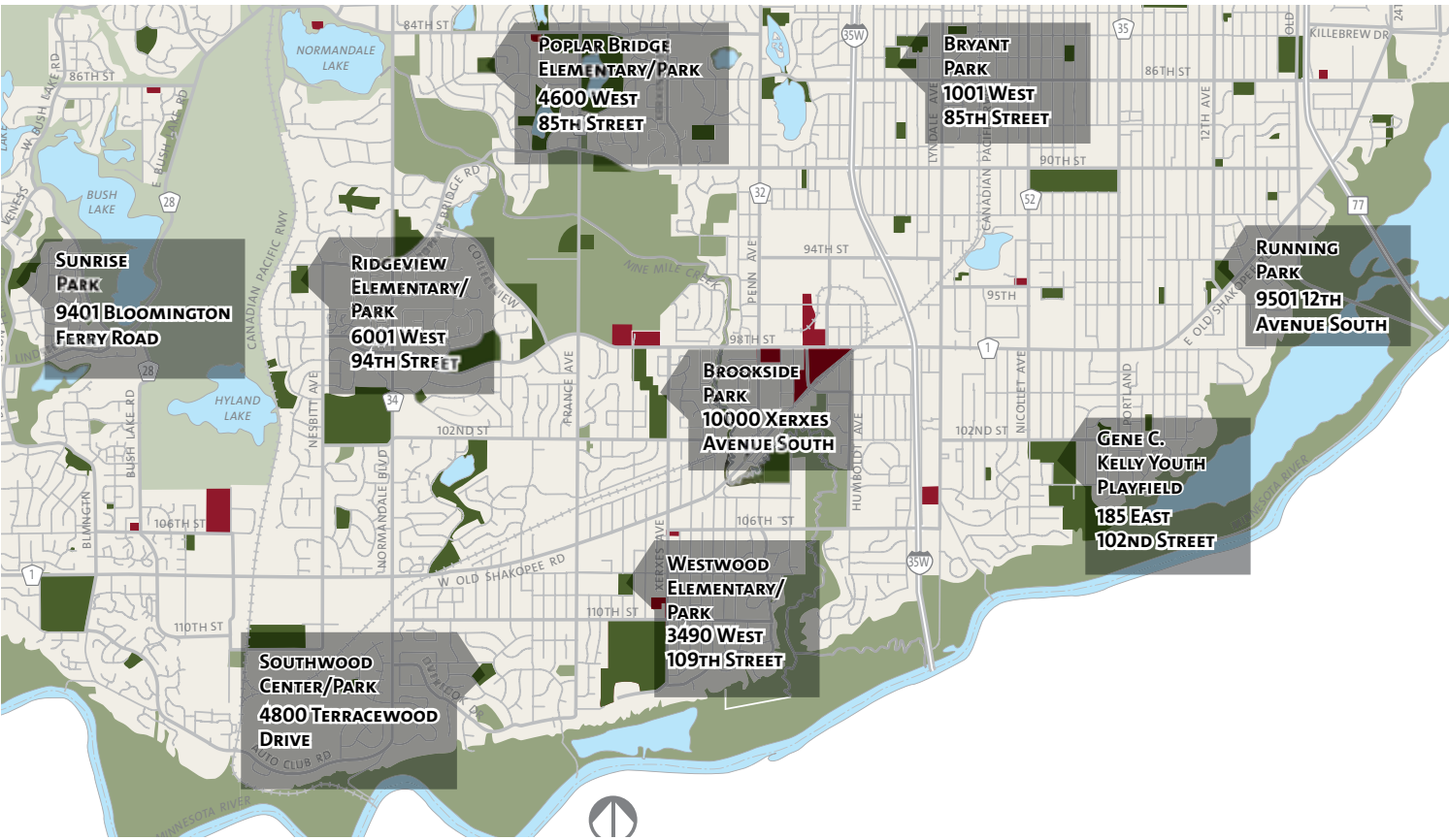
The lottery for Bloomington’s summer 2026 weeklong youth programs opens January 5. Participation is free and open only to Bloomington residents.

A limited number of residents will be randomly selected through a lottery to receive early access to registration. Selected participants will be notified on February 5, at 9 a.m., and may register for any weeklong youth programs between February 5 and 19, ahead of general registration. Learn more at blm.mn/youth-programs.

THINK SPRING: RESERVE A PARK SHELTER

Starting January 6 at 9 a.m., you can reserve park shelters for the 2026 season online and in person at Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. Park shelters are open from April 15 through October 15. Shelters include Bryant Park and Smith Park. Moir Park will be closed for construction. For more information visit blm.mn/rentals.

BloomingtonMN.gov





Leanne Hansen enjoying many different adventures through the years.

NOTABLE NEIGHBOR: LEANNE HANSEN, CLIMBING MOUNTAINS AND INSPIRING OTHERS

Ask Leanne Hansen’s grandson, Noah, about his grandma, and he’ll tell you proudly: “My grandma climbs mountains.” He’s not exaggerating. Leanne has scaled 33 peaks in Colorado and even summited Mount Kilimanjaro at 19,000 feet. For her, mountain climbing is more than a hobby, it’s freedom.

“It really energizes me,” Leanne said. “You could be feeling bad (when you start), and you don’t feel bad anymore (when you finish). Just keep walking.”

A Bloomington resident for nearly 50 years, Leanne chose to live here because she loves the city’s nature centers and safe, walkable neighborhoods. When she’s not climbing mountains, she’s biking, running or competing in triathlons, though swimming was always her least favorite leg. She’s a passionate racquetball player, even joining a men’s league when there wasn’t a women’s option, and making the playoffs. She also participates in Bloomington’s walking club.

Beyond athletics, Leanne enjoys music. She’s played piano since age five and once taught lessons. Whether outdoors on the trails, in competition, or cheering on friends, Leanne embodies the energy, determination and community spirit that make Bloomington so special.

To learn more about Leanne, check out her video interview at blm.mn/leanne. Do you have a notable neighbor story? Submit it via email to communications@BloomingtonMN.gov.

BLOOMINGTON PROGRAM REIMAGINES POLICE RESPONSE TO MENTAL HEALTH CRISES

An innovative program from the Bloomington Police Department is changing how the City responds to mental health crises. The Bloomington Community Brain Health Services Program provides immediate, no-cost mental health care to residents, with the goal of reducing police and emergency room visits.

The program, the first of its kind in Minnesota, employs two licensed therapists, supported by student interns, who work directly for the BPD. This team offers rapid response therapy sessions in a person’s home, at Bloomington Civic Plaza or through telehealth and provides referrals.

The pilot program, funded with \$63,000 from the state’s opioid settlements and state Public Safety Aid funds, has already made a significant impact. From December 2023 to September 2025, 130 individuals, couples and families received referrals and 78 are engaging in treatment. These clients have completed 536 therapy sessions to date.

By providing immediate and affordable access to care, the program is helping to fill a critical gap for the approximately 4,200 uninsured residents in Bloomington. For more information, contact BPD Therapist Luke Campbell at lcampbell@BloomingtonMN.gov or 612-240-1433.

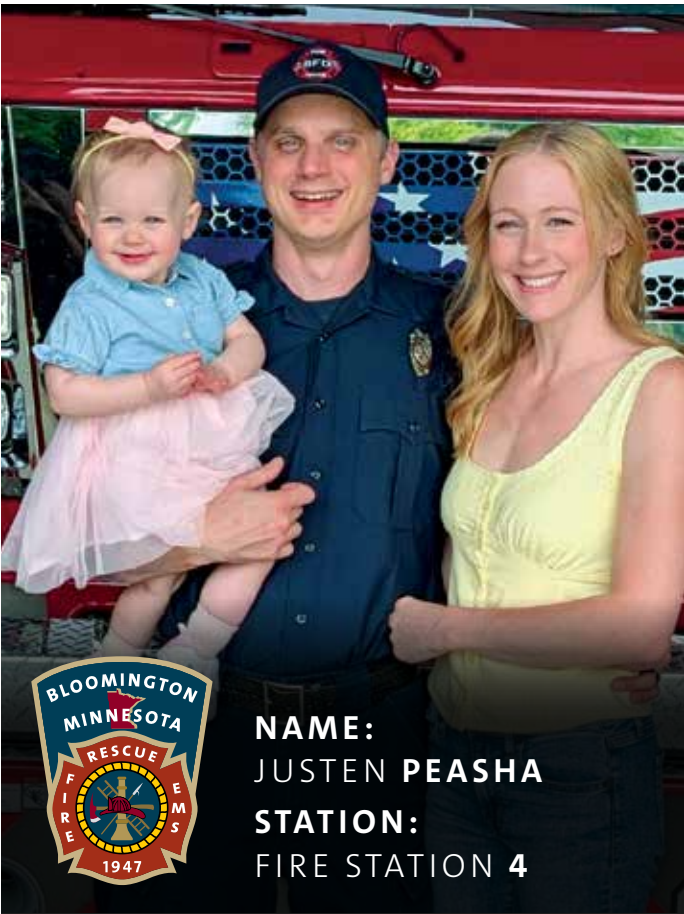
MEET A FIREFIGHTER: JUSTEN PEASHA

Firefighter and EMT Justen Peasha marked 18 years with the Bloomington Fire Department in November. Since joining in 2007, he has combined his service with a career in emergency medicine, including roles with North Memorial’s emergency department and Fairview Southdale in interventional radiology. His training includes emergency medical technician and paramedic certifications, Firefighter I and II certifications, and advanced nursing courses in trauma and pediatric care.

Peasha knew early on he wanted a career that would help people when they need it most. Known for staying calm under pressure and focused on the task at hand, he says he could not do the work without the love and support of his wife, Nicole. She has carried extra responsibilities through long shifts and missed events.

Outside the station, Peasha practices Ju-Jitsu, plays video games with Nicole, listens to audiobooks and enjoys time with his daughter Nora.

Justen’s fire safety advice: If fire strikes, get out and stay out. Things can be replaced, lives cannot.



CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH FIVE DAYS OF HOLIDAY FUN

Join Bloomington Parks and Recreation for Five Days of Holiday Fun, a week of free festive activities for adults ages 50 and older. Programs will take place at Logan Lodge, 9930 Logan Ave. S., and the Black Box Theater at the Bloomington Center for the Arts, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.



Members of the Bloomingtonones are ready for holiday fun.

Bloomingtonones Concert: Monday, December 15, 1-2 p.m., in the Black Box Theater at Civic Plaza.

Holiday Karaoke: Tuesday, December 16, 10-11 a.m., at Logan Lodge.

Holiday Craft: Wednesday, December 17, 2-3 p.m., at Logan Lodge.

Holiday Bingo: Thursday, December 18, 2-3 p.m., at Christ the King Church, 8600 Fremont Ave. S.

Cookie Decorating: Friday, December 19, 2-3 p.m., at Logan Lodge.

For details and registration, visit blm.mn/adultprograms.

CITY EXPLORES NAMING RIGHTS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND EVENTS

Bloomington Parks and Recreation is partnering with The Superlative Group, a sponsorship agency with expertise in strategic corporate partnerships, to develop a new partnership program for many of the City’s key community assets. Through this program, the City will pursue a variety of customized partnership opportunities, including naming rights for busy, high-profile venues like Bloomington Ice Garden and the new community health and wellness center. If you or your organization are interested in partnering with the City on a naming rights opportunity or strategic marketing sponsorship, contact Parks and Recreation Analytics and Strategy Manager Alison Warren at awarren@BloomingtonMN.gov.



OUR WATERS DESERVE A LOW-SODIUM DIET

Winter in Minnesota means snow and ice. Deicing roads, parking lots and sidewalks often means using chloride derived from salt. Salt levels are so high in the metro area that many creeks and lakes are considered unhealthy or impaired, including Nine Mile Creek. Along with environmental consequences, too much salt leads to costly damages. You can reduce deicing salt use and impact by:

- Shoveling** walkways before snow compacts to minimize ice buildup.
- Sanding** for traction. When temperatures fall below 15 degrees, salt doesn't work effectively.
- Scattering salt sparingly** with about three inches between grains of salt. More salt does not mean more melting.
- Sweeping up leftover salt** and sand on dry pavement and reusing as needed.
- Storing salts properly.** City ordinances require stored salt and deicing materials to be covered and located on an impervious surface in an area that prevents discharge into the storm sewer or other water resources.

STAY INFORMED DURING SNOW EMERGENCIES

Snow emergencies mean no parking on city streets for 48 hours or until the full width of the street has been plowed. When a snow emergency is declared, the City posts alerts on its website, social media pages, cable channel and E-Subscribe. To receive email alerts about snow emergencies and parking restrictions, sign up for E-Subscribe alerts at blm.mn/esub.



PROFILE OF A SNOWPLOW DRIVER: BEHIND THE BLADE WITH TROY BLOMER

Meet Troy Blomer, a 6'5" tall street maintenance worker. He's been with the City for more than 18 years, keeping streets smooth by filling potholes, paving, plowing and more. During that time, he's driven a Bloomington plow truck through Minnesota's winters and remained serious about his mission: clear roads, safe travel and happy residents.

Plowing might sound simple, but Troy will tell you it's more like playing real-life Pac-Man with high stakes. We caught up with Troy for an inside scoop behind the blade.

What's the earliest or latest you've plowed? The earliest start was 11 p.m. The latest was whenever the storm said so. A plow event can stretch three days. Crews stagger shifts, so no one works more than 12 hours.

What's your go-to cab snack? My wife says gummy bears and she's not wrong. But on a marathon shift I might swing by Clark Station on Cedar Avenue for the non-diesel kind of fuel.

Wildest thing you've seen while plowing? A bus near Mall of America spinning a full 360 degrees on ice. I was headed uphill behind it. I couldn't go forward, so I went backwards, dropping salt and blade to slow my descent.

What's one thing people don't realize about plowing? Plowing goes faster without cars or garbage bins in the way. Folks can really help by not parking on the street.

Most satisfying part of the job? Looking back and seeing a street cleared curb-to-curb. And when people wave at me.



THE SCOOP ON SNOW: STAY SAFE, STAY SMART

When snow falls, Bloomington's plow crews hit the streets early, starting with main roads and working their way to neighborhoods and cul-de-sacs as early as 2 a.m. To avoid shoveling twice, wait until your street is fully plowed before clearing your driveway. Visit blm.mn/snow or call 952-563-8768 for more information.



HOW YOU CAN HELP PLOW DRIVERS

- Move vehicles off the street during snow events.
- Place garbage/recycling bins behind the curb.
- Ensure mailboxes are properly installed and in good repair.
- On the road, give plows plenty of space, avoid cruise control and watch for black ice, especially on bridges and overpasses.

TIPS FOR GOOD SNOW SAFETY AT HOME

- Wait to clear your driveway until the full width of your street has been plowed so you only have to shovel once. While clearing streets, snowplows may inadvertently push snow from the road into driveways that have already been shoveled.
- Police enforce a parking ban during snow emergencies. To see if a snow emergency has been declared, visit the City's website and look for an alert stripe at the top of each page, or call the Snow Emergency Hotline at 952-563-8768.
- Keeping fire hydrants clear is vital to helping firefighters protect your neighborhood from house fires. Accessible hydrants lessen the time it takes firefighters to extinguish a fire.
- Keep kids safe by keeping sleds and snow forts away from the street. Plows can't always see them, and snow piles can collapse.