

FIND US ON BLOOMINGTONMN.GOV



BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING

MAY 2026

Presort Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Twin Cities, MN
Permit
#2293

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
1800 WEST OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD
BLOOMINGTON MN 55431-3027

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

CLOCK TOWER
CHANGES
COMING SOON

PAGE 2

COMMUNITY
CENTER
UPDATE

PAGE 3

SUMMER ARTS
IN THE PARKS
EVENTS

PAGE 8

MAY BRINGS MANY COLORFUL BLOSSOMS TO THE NORMANDEALE JAPANESE GARDEN. SEE THESE AND MANY OTHER BEAUTIFUL PLANTS AT THE AWARD-WINNING GARDEN AT 9700 FRANCE AVE. S. DID YOU KNOW THE JAPANESE GARDEN TURNS 50 THIS YEAR? WATCH FOR MORE ABOUT THE GARDEN'S HISTORY IN THE AUGUST BRIEFING.



BRIEFING

Volume 33, Number 04

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 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3071; PH 952-563-8819; MN Relay 711; Email: communications@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
612-463-9014
jcarter@BloomingtonMN.gov



Council Member At Large
Danielle Robertson
612-834-5395
drobotson@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
651-247-5199
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 | |
| Zach Walker, City Manager | 952-563-8780 |
| citymanager@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Kathy Hedin, Deputy City Manager | 952-563-8780 |
| citymanager@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Elizabeth Tolzmann, Deputy City Manager | 952-563-8780 |
| citymanager@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Kim Berggren, Community Development | 952-563-8920 |
| communitydevelopment@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Amy Cheney, Information Technology | 952-563-4885 |
| it@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Lori Economy-Scholler, Finance | 952-563-8791 |
| finance@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Janine Hill, Communications and Engagement | 952-563-8819 |
| communications@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Booker T. Hodges, Police | 952-563-4900 |
| police@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Ann Kattreh, Parks and Recreation | 952-563-8877 |
| parksrec@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Nick Kelley, Public Health | 952-563-8900 |
| publichealth@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Melissa Manderschied, Legal | 952-563-8753 |
| legal@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Ulie Seal, Fire | 952-563-4801 |
| fire@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| Public Works | 952-563-8760 |
| publicworks@BloomingtonMN.gov | |
| General phone number | 952-563-8700 |

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.

MAYOR'S MEMO: COMPOSING BLOOMINGTON'S NEXT CHAPTER

At this year's State of the City, we gathered around a simple but powerful idea: Bloomington works best when we are in tune with each other.

That theme reflects what I see every day across our community. Whether it's residents stepping up to support one another, businesses continuing to invest here, or City staff delivering high-quality services, our success comes from how well we work together.

The state of our city is strong. And our future is bright.

Over the past year, we've continued to deliver on the fundamentals such as reliable public safety, quality drinking water, accessible transportation systems and enjoyable parks and green spaces to ensure that Bloomington remains an enduring and remarkable community where people want to be. At the same time, we are making meaningful progress on major community investments like the Nine Mile Creek corridor and a new community health and wellness center, which will serve residents of all ages for generations to come. See page 3 for project updates.

We are expanding opportunities for community engagement, supporting local businesses and creating spaces and experiences that bring people together. These efforts help ensure that Bloomington is a place where people feel they belong.

Looking ahead, we will continue to focus on housing, sustainability, economic vitality and equity. These are not separate priorities, they are all part of how we create a community that works for everyone.

Because when we listen to one another and align our efforts there is no limit to what we can accomplish.

Together, we are composing the next chapter of Bloomington and it's one worth being proud of.

TIME FOR CHANGE: THE BLOOMINGTON CLOCK TOWER

For decades, the Bloomington Clock Tower at the intersection of Lyndale Avenue and 98th Street has been a familiar landmark. Over time, the structure has deteriorated and now presents ongoing maintenance and safety concerns.

A comprehensive assessment by the City's facilities team and an external consultant reviewed the tower's structural integrity, mechanical systems, safety compliance and long-term maintenance needs. The evaluation found advanced structural wear from age and weather exposure, outdated clock components requiring full replacement and reconstruction needs that go far beyond routine repair. Costs to restore the tower would be substantial and out of proportion to its remaining useful life.

Based on these findings, the City plans to remove the clock tower later this year.

Looking ahead, the site presents an opportunity for something new. Community engagement will play a key role in shaping what comes next for this site that reflects Bloomington's identity and creates a sense of place.





NEW COMMUNITY CENTER COMING TO LIFE

The new community health and wellness center is beginning to take shape at the corner of West 98th Street and Penn Avenue South. The center will house an aquatic facility, an indoor play area, a fitness center, three fitness studios, gymnasiums, community meeting spaces, a cafe and more.

Through a combination of strategic planning and favorable market conditions, the project team is also able to add the third gymnasium back to the facility design while remaining within the approved \$104.8 million budget.

Since the groundbreaking in October, footings, foundation walls, underground mechanical work and first-floor precast wall panels are largely complete. Construction crews are installing structural roof and floor steel, pouring concrete decking and raising wall panels for the facility's second level.

Work on the underground pool structure will begin soon and residents can expect to see glazing and installation of floor-to-ceiling windows this summer. As the exterior of the building continues to come together, construction will shift to interior work. To learn more and follow the progress, visit bloomingtonforward.org/CHWC.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE ANY TIME

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and Bloomington Public Health is reminding residents that support is always within reach.

People we care about may be facing silent struggles and knowing where to turn can make all the difference. Free, confidential help is available any time. Call, text or chat 988, or visit 988lifeline.org, to connect with the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline whenever you or someone you know is experiencing emotional distress or a mental health or suicidal crisis.

"Getting help can truly change someone's life," said Bloomington Public Health Specialist Jada McDonald. "Now more than ever, it's important to reach out and know that support is available."

Bloomington residents can also access free local support through the Bloomington Community Brain Health Services program, which works to expand access to mental health treatment and resources for individuals and families. Services are offered at no cost in home, at the Bloomington Civic Center or through an online telehealth platform. Visit blm.mn/brain-health for more information.

A comprehensive list of community health services is available at blm.mn/resources.

CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERING FRANCHISE FEE CHANGES

The City Council is considering changes to gas and electric franchise fee rates. There will be a public hearing to gather community feedback on May 18, 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers at Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. Any approved franchise fee rate changes would take effect January 1, 2027. Visit blm.mn/franchise for more information.



BUSINESSES: ARE YOU LENDER READY?

Thinking about applying for a business loan? The City is partnering with the Minnesota Small Business Administration and the Minnesota Small Business Development Center to host *Are You Lender Ready?* on Tuesday, June 9, 8:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m., at Civic Plaza in the Council Chambers, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.

This free workshop is designed to help entrepreneurs prepare for financing with confidence. Whether you are starting up or scaling up, preparation is key. Learn more or register today at blm.mn/business-loan. Topics include understanding your credit, organizing financial statements, pitching your business effectively, and exploring alternative lending options. An interactive lending forum will connect attendees with experts who can answer questions and share insights.

Breakfast and lunch are included, and the event is sponsored by the SBA and the City of Bloomington.



SMALL SHOPS, STRONG CITY

May 3 - 9 is national Small Business Week, a time to recognize the entrepreneurs who power our local economy.

Small businesses make up the majority of employers in Bloomington, supporting local jobs, filling storefronts and contributing to the city's tax base. Recent immigration enforcement actions have created uncertainty for some business owners and workers, underscoring just how interconnected our community is. Many of Bloomington's small businesses are family owned and immigrant owned, and they play a vital role in everything from hospitality and retail to construction and professional services.

When small businesses face disruption, the ripple effects are felt across neighborhoods, impacting employment, consumer spending and community vibrancy.

During Small Business Week, residents are encouraged to shop local, dine local and support the entrepreneurs who invest in Bloomington every day. Their resilience, creativity and commitment help keep our city strong this week and all year long.



SUMMIT SPARKS INNOVATION, COMMUNITY AND GROWTH

The Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit Minnesota Regional returns on Friday, June 5, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., at the Masonic Heritage Center, 11411 Masonic Home Drive.

With support from the City, this event brings together immigrant innovators who strengthen Minnesota's economy and cultural vitality.

You are invited to join us for inspiration, connections and practical tools for business growth. For full details and registration, visit our website at blm.mn/business-support.



PLANT EXCHANGE SET FOR JUNE 6

Bloomington Parks and Recreation's Garden Club will host the 2026 Plant Exchange Saturday, June 6, 8 - 11 a.m., in the parking lot at 9930 Logan Ave. S. Enter from Logan Avenue just north of the Animal Shelter and follow posted signs.

This free event is open to anyone. Participants may donate, exchange or adopt indoor, outdoor and vegetable plants. Please bring only healthy plants to share.

For details, visit blm.mn/plant-exchange-2026.



ADOPT A STORM DRAIN, HELP LOCAL WATER BODIES

The water, and everything else that enters grated drains on your street, flows through pipes directly into our lakes, ponds, rivers, streams and wetlands. If too much debris enters, the drain can clog and cause flooding.

By volunteering just 15 minutes once or twice a month to sweep up, rake up or pick up whatever is in the drain(s) you adopt, you become a hero in the effort to keep our drains flowing and our water clean.

Ready to be your street's water hero? Visit mn.adopt-a-drain.org to get started. Find your street and select the drains you want to adopt. Don't forget to review tips on safety and drain clearing and report the estimated pounds of drain debris you collect.

BLOOMINGTONMN.GOV



NONPROFITS CAN POWER EVEN MORE GOOD

Bloomington nonprofits can now stretch their budgets further while reducing energy use. The City of Bloomington has partnered with EnerChange to launch a Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Rebate Program that rewards local organizations for making smart energy upgrades.

Through this partnership, nonprofit owned properties in Bloomington that participate in the EnerChange program can receive City funded rebates for qualifying improvements. After completing an energy assessment, nonprofits receive upgrade recommendations and rebate estimates. Once improvements are made, the City may provide an additional rebate equal to 20% of eligible upgrade costs, up to \$2,500.

Rebates apply to projects that also qualify for Xcel Energy or CenterPoint Energy programs. Each nonprofit may submit one application that includes multiple upgrades.

A total of \$15,000 in City funding is available for this program through December 31, 2026. Rebates will be issued to qualifying applicants while funds remain.

For more information or to begin by scheduling an energy assessment, visit EnerChange at blm.mn/enerchange.

STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE: CELEBRATING DRINKING WATER

From May 3 - 9, communities nationwide will celebrate Drinking Water Week. This is an annual observance led by the American Water Works Association and formally recognized by Congress in 1988 and signed by President Ronald Reagan. The week highlights the essential role safe drinking water plays in public health and everyday life.

In Bloomington, the story is one of excellence. The City won a national Best in Glass award in 2016 and three statewide awards in 2015, 2016 and 2024 for the taste of our tap water.

City of Bloomington Utilities provides high quality, safe, reliable drinking water that consistently surpasses all state and federal requirements. Extensive testing by Minnesota State and City laboratories confirms the strength of Bloomington's water system and the care behind every glass.

During Drinking Water Week, residents are encouraged to learn more about their water and celebrate the professionals who keep it clean, safe and refreshing all year long.

Learn more in the City's annual Water Quality Report in June or visit blm.mn/water.

ORGANICS RECYCLING PROGRAM CONTINUES TO GROW

At the end of 2025, 33% of eligible households were signed up for curbside organics recycling in Bloomington. If you haven't signed up for organics recycling yet, spring is a great time to give it a try. Learn more and sign up at blm.mn/organics. Bloomington will hold a free composting facility tour later this month. Details will be posted at blm.mn/organics.

The City is also working to increase access to organics recycling. For apartment dwellers and those without space for another cart, a third organics recycling drop-off site is expected to open in east Bloomington later this year. The drop-off will be located near multifamily housing where curbside organics service is not available. As with existing organics drop-off locations, *pictured at right*, registration will be required before use and the site will be free for Bloomington residents. The project is supported by \$15,000 in grant funding from Hennepin County, and the new location and opening date will be announced soon.





NOTABLE NEIGHBOR KASSIE ARIZA MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN KENNEDY STUDENTS' LIVES

When students at John F. Kennedy High School need someone to talk to, they often turn to Kassie Ariza. A 2011 graduate of Kennedy, Kassie returned to her alma mater as a family and student advocate. Students describe her as funny, relatable and open. Many say she is their safe space and the reason they were able to get back on track. “I work one on one with students, supporting them with academic resources and just being a person they can count on to be there for them,” Kassie said.

Kassie is a bilingual Spanish speaker, bridging communication with Hispanic and Latino families, ensuring they feel welcomed, supported, and truly connected to the school community. She is passionate about creating spaces where every student feels heard and valued. Through restorative practices, Kassie centers student voices and strengthens meaningful connections between students, families and staff.

She also leads the school pantry, helping to ensure that students and families have the support they need inside and outside of school.

Kassie’s motivation is simple: her students. Each success story reminds her why showing up, listening and caring truly matters. Sometimes the greatest difference in a student’s life starts with simply knowing someone believes in them.



KNOW THE CODE: RECREATIONAL FIRES

Nothing brings people together like a backyard fire. Whether you are cooking, warming up on a cool evening or celebrating with friends, recreational fires are allowed in Bloomington when done safely and responsibly.

City code is designed to protect people, property and neighboring homes. Fires must be small, with stacked firewood no larger than three feet in diameter and two feet high. They must be located at least 25 feet from structures and combustible materials such as fences, tall grass or trash containers.

Only clean, dry firewood or charcoal may be burned. Construction debris, treated wood, leaves and wet or rotten wood are not allowed. A responsible adult must watch the fire at all times and keep extinguishing tools such as a hose, shovel or fire extinguisher nearby.

Recreational fires are allowed between 7 a.m. and midnight when winds are below 10 miles per hour. As a courtesy, let neighbors know ahead of time and position fires so smoke does not drift into nearby homes.



CELEBRATE NATIONAL POLICE WEEK AND REMEMBER FALLEN OFFICERS THIS MAY

This year, Sunday, May 10 – Saturday, May 16, is National Police Week and May 15 is National Peace Officers Memorial Day. Suggested by President Kennedy in 1962, congress passed a resolution that same year designating May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week it falls in Police Week.

Each year, the service and sacrifice of officers across the country and of those who have been killed in the line of duty are honored during the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund’s annual candlelight vigil in Washington D.C. This year the vigil is scheduled on Wednesday, May 13, at 8 p.m. Locally, the Bloomington Police Department will recognize National Peace Officers Memorial Day with a Memorial Flag ceremony on Friday, May 15 at Civic Plaza at 8 a.m. The BPD will also join the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association to stand guard at the Peace Officer Memorial in St. Paul, followed by the attendance of a remembrance ceremony at 7 p.m.

Learn more about the police officers serving Bloomington at blm.mn/pd.

MEET COMMANDER MIKE UTECHT

After nearly three decades of service, Commander Mike Utecht reflects on his career with the Bloomington Police Department as he prepares for retirement. Mike holds an associate degree in law enforcement and a bachelor’s degree in police science. After several years with the Faribault Police Department, he joined Bloomington and has served 27 years in roles from patrol officer and explosives K9 handler to sergeant and commander. He currently heads the Core Values Bureau.



WHY DID YOU BECOME A POLICE OFFICER?

To help people, make a positive difference and contribute to a safe community. Witnessing resilience and compassion have kept the work meaningful.

NAME ONE PROUD ACCOMPLISHMENT?

Helping lead the selection, policy development, training and departmentwide deployment of body worn cameras.

WHO HAS SUPPORTED YOU ALONG THE WAY?

My family—my wife Tina, and children Matt, Sarah and Luke—made countless adjustments around my job. I also have had great field training officers, mentors and supervisors who shaped my professional growth.

HOW DO YOU HAVE FUN WHEN OFF DUTY?

You can find me cheering at the ice rink, fishing and hunting.

WHAT IS YOUR GO-TO ADVICE FOR RESIDENTS?

Stay aware, trust your instincts and don’t hesitate to call 911 if something seems suspicious.

STAY READY WITH EMERGENCY ALERTS

When urgent situations happen, timely information matters. The City’s emergency alert system helps residents receive critical updates about emergencies that affect Bloomington neighborhoods, homes, schools and workplaces.

The system is designed for urgent public safety situations. It is not used for most weather announcements. Only events identified as emergencies by public safety personnel trigger an alert.

Residents can choose how they receive messages, including phone calls to home, mobile or business numbers, emails or text messages. At least one phone number is required to create an account.

The service follows strict data privacy standards, including requirements under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

Learn more or sign up today at blm.mn/alerts.



TRY TENNIS CLINIC RETURNS MAY 16

Celebrate National Tennis Month with a free Try Tennis Clinic on Saturday, May 16, 4 – 6 p.m., at the Dred Scott tennis courts, 10820 Bloomington Ferry Road. The City is partnering with Tenicity and USTA Northern for this event.

Youth lessons for ages 5-8 will take place from 4 – 5 p.m. Lessons for ages 9 – 15 will be held from 5 – 6 p.m. Adults may participate at any time. All skill levels are welcome.

This event is free and no registration is required. Bring a water bottle, tennis shoes and a racquet if you have one. A limited number of racquets will be available to borrow.

BLOOMING ARTS PARTNERSHIPS

CALLING ALL ARTISTS GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

The City of Bloomington is now accepting applications for the 2026 Blooming Arts Partnerships grant program. The program supports nonprofit arts organizations, artists and arts-related education programs that make a positive impact in Bloomington. Both new and returning applicants are encouraged to apply.

Eligible applicants include organizations or artists whose main focus is producing or presenting performing arts such as dance, theater, opera, spoken word, puppetry and music or visual arts primarily within Bloomington. Grants of up to \$10,000 per applicant may be available.

Applications are due Monday, June 29. For more information, including eligibility details and application materials, at blm.mn/bca.

BLOOMINGTONMN.GOV



VISIT THE BLOOMINGTON ICE GARDEN A PLACE WHERE ICE DREAMS ARE MADE

When the temps rise, the ice stays cool at the Bloomington Ice Garden. With three indoor rinks, BIG is the place for year-round fun and learning.

Hockey players can sharpen their edge through Developmental Hockey, a flexible program designed to build individual skills. Figure skaters can refine routines on Pro's Ice, with dedicated training time. Families and friends can lace up for Open Skate, an affordable way to glide, spin and make memories together. No experience required.

Ready to begin? BIG Skate School offers year-round lessons for ages three through adult. As part of Learn to Skate USA, the nationally endorsed program offers classes to build confidence and skills in a fun, supportive environment. From Snowplow Sam for preschoolers to Basic Skills, Free Skate and Adult classes, there is a path for every skater of nearly every age.

View schedules and register online at blm.mn/big.

MEETING SPACES ARE AVAILABLE FOR RENT

Looking for a fresh, flexible space for your next meeting or professional gathering? Bloomington Ice Garden offers versatile room rentals designed to meet your needs.

BIG features two newly available rental spaces equipped with full audio/visual capabilities. Rooms can be configured for meetings, trainings, presentations, workshops and other events. Find rates at blm.mn/big under the “meetings” tab.

For groups looking for a unique twist or to host a party, exclusive packages include a full hour of private ice time, a dedicated room, and complimentary skate rentals for \$350 plus tax.

Concessions offer customizable food and beverage options, or groups may bring their own. Friendly staff ensure spaces are clean, safe and ready to go. Skilled skating instructors are also available for \$50 per hour.

To reserve your space, contact 952-563-8841, MN Relay 711, or BIG@bloomingtonmn.gov.



SIGN UP FOR SUMMER SKATE SCHOOL

Skate School will return to Bloomington Ice Garden for the summer. Registration opens Wednesday, June 3.

Lessons are open to Bloomington residents and nonresidents. Skaters of all ages and experience levels can build their skills in a safe, fun environment.

Classes will be held at Bloomington Ice Garden, 3600 W. 98th St. Additional session details and schedules will be available at registration.

For more information and registration, visit blm.mn/big.



PETALS OF PEACE BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER FOR AANHPI HERITAGE MONTH

In May, communities across the country recognize Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. In Bloomington, the celebration will bloom into something personal and participatory.

To celebrate, the City's AANHPI & Allies Employee Resource Group will host Petals of Peace on Saturday, May 30, 12 – 2 p.m., at Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. You are invited to share stories, create art and learn the cultural meaning of flowers across Asian traditions.

Community partners including the Cambodian American Partnership of Minnesota and the Bloomington Izumi Sister City Organization will help bring the gathering to life. Eggroll Queen Food Truck and Amazing Momos will be onsite for delicious food for purchase.

On a May 4, a proclamation from the Bloomington Human Rights Commission recognized the deep cultural, civic and economic contributions AANHPI communities bring to the city.

Petals of Peace is meant to create space for neighbors to connect, listen and celebrate traditions that help shape the shared story of Bloomington. Residents are encouraged to support local Asian-owned businesses and continue the spirit of appreciation long after the flowers fade. Join the celebration and learn more at blm.mn/petalsofpeace.

INDIGENOUS ART FAIR COMING SOON

You are invited to celebrate Indigenous creativity, culture and community at the second annual Bloomington Indigenous Art Fair, at Civic Plaza, Sunday, May 17, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. This free, family-friendly event will showcase the work of more than 30 Indigenous artists, offering a wide range of traditional and contemporary art available for purchase. Throughout the day, attendees can enjoy vibrant music and dance performances, sample delicious fare from Indigenous food trucks and take part in hands-on art activities designed for all ages. Learn more at blm.mn/indigenous-art-fair.

Editor's note: The April Briefing stated that the Indigenous Art Fair was taking place on Saturday, May 17, which is incorrect. It is taking place on Sunday, May 17.

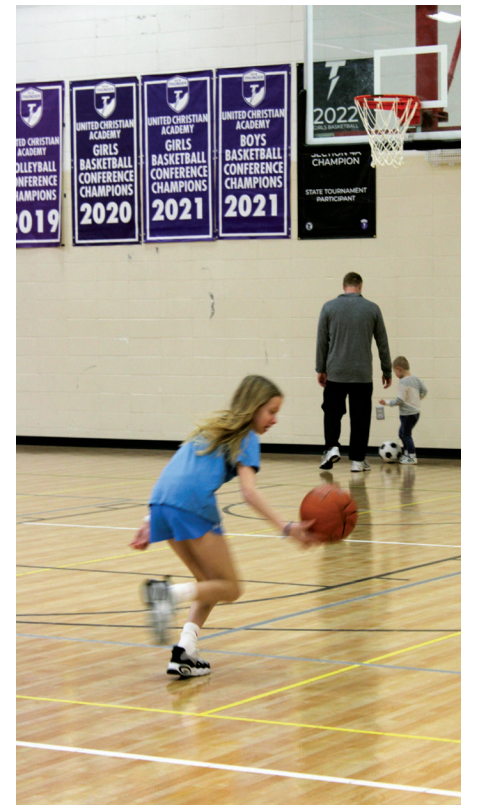


SEASONAL STAFF JOIN PARKS AND RECREATION THIS SPRING

This month, Bloomington Parks and Recreation will welcome a group of seasonal staff to the team. Many are local young people who bring energy, creativity and dedication to programs and parks throughout the city.

They will support recreational programs, create a safe and inviting environment at the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center, maintain parks and help create memorable experiences for participants of all ages. Their contributions will be felt throughout the summer 2026 season and beyond.

For more information, visit blm.mn/parksrec.



ENJOY AN OPEN GYM

Open gym time is now offered for community members to experience casual, unstructured play in a relaxed environment. Participants can play with friends, practice skills and move at their own pace.

All ages are welcome. Youth under 13 must be supervised by a parent or guardian. A signed liability waiver is required. The cost is \$5 per participant per visit with a maximum of \$20 per family per visit.

The open gym hours are Saturdays from 3 – 6 p.m., at Substance Gym, 6900 W. 115th St. For more details and upcoming dates, visit blm.mn/open-gym.



ADAPTIVE RECREATION PROGRAMS OFFERED YEAR-ROUND

It's almost time for summer Adaptive Recreation programs to begin and participants are encouraged to sign up soon.

Bloomington Parks and Recreation offers adaptive recreation programs specifically designed for adults with disabilities. This summer, activities include canoeing, archery, fishing, kickball, pickleball, softball and a one-day camp.

For more information and to register, visit blm.mn/adaptive-programs.



ARTS IN THE PARKS

Arts in the Parks offers musical performances that range from classical to rock and everything in between, plus live theater, kids entertainment and more. All programs are free and open to the public. For more information, visit blm.mn/artsparks or call 952-563-8877.

Bring your appetite! To find events with a variety of food and drink options, look for the fork-and- spoon icon.



TUESDAY PERFORMANCE SERIES

The sounds of summer at the Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th and Chalet Road, featuring Bloomington's best music and dance. All shows begin at 7 p.m. and are free to the public.



JUNE 9
NOTEable Singers

JUNE 16
Medalist Concert Band

JUNE 23
Bloomington Chorale



JULY 7
Ken Valdez Band



JULY 14
Continental Ballet

JULY 21
Bloomington Symphony Orchestra

JULY 28
Steve Clarke and the Working Stiffs

AUGUST 4
Minnesota State Band

AUGUST 11
Jazz on the Prairie Big Band

MONDAY MORNING KIDS' SERIES

All programs begin at 10:30 a.m. and will be at Valley View Park, 9000 Portland Ave. S. unless otherwise noted.

June 8: Brodini Comedy and Magic
High energy Interactive entertainment that is sure to bring fun.

June 15: The Bazillions
Catchy tunes about being a kid.

June 22: Todd'n Tina
Fun, goofy, and ridiculous music for the young...and young at heart.

June 29: Riffin Griffin
Playing Rock and Roll that cultivates kids' love for music.

July 6: Jolly Pops
Music that features lots of movement and fun.

July 13: Wiggle Jiggle, and Jam
Family fun the puts the "move" in music.

July 20: Dazzling Dave
Check out this amazing yo-yo master.

July 27: Rachael Kroog
Be ready to have fun and dance along.

August 3: In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater

Join us for a morning of puppets, puppet stories, and puppet play.

August 10: Continental Ballet performance for kids
At the Normandale Lake Bandshell, 5901 West 84th Street, Bloomington.

MIDWEEK MUSIC AND MARKET

Music, food trucks, a beer garden, and vendors from the Bloomington Farmers Market-everything you need to enjoy your Wednesday evenings 5 - 8 p.m. at Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.



JULY 8
The New Feral Cats

JULY 15
Joe Flip Band

JULY 22
Feel Good, Inc.



JULY 29
Dred I Dread



AUGUST 5
Consolation Champ

AUGUST 12
Anti-Skip Protection

AUGUST 19
Jordan Johnston and the Elevation

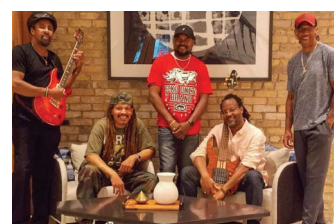


AUGUST 26
Ross William Perry

THURSDAY BLOCKBUSTERS

Don't miss the Thursday Blockbuster events at the Normandale Lake Bandshell, featuring the best in Twin Cities music, food trucks, and beer garden. Food and beverage service begins at 6:30 p.m. and shows start at 7 p.m.

JUNE 11
Kat Perkins



JUNE 18
International Reggae All Stars



JUNE 25
Tuxedo Band

JULY 16
Devon Worley Band

JULY 9
Rhino



JULY 23
Hitchville

JULY 30
The Jimmys

AUGUST 6
Salsa del Soul

AUGUST 13
Good for Gary

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

JUNE 6

Kites and Bites

Valley View Playfield, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Enjoy food trucks, music and kites at this free annual event at Valley View Playfield, 90th Street and Portland Ave. S.

AUGUST 8

On The One Music Festival
Central Station Park, 8100 33rd Ave. S., 3 - 9 p.m.

The Fifth Annual On the One Festival features rising stars in Twin Cities Urban Eclectic, Hip Hop, Afro Beats and Neo Soul.

BLOOMINGTONMN.GOV

SUNDAY FUNDAY

Sunday Funday offers free, family-friendly live entertainment and food. This series is a great way to spend Sunday afternoons in the summer. Events take place from 6 - 8 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at locations throughout the City.

JUNE 14
Paul Holland Blues Band
Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road

JUNE 21
John Philip Sousa Band
Pond Dakota Mission Park, 401 E. 104th St.

JUNE 28
Shakespeare in the Park The Tempest
Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th St. and Chalet Road

JULY 12
Tropical Zone Orchestra
Central Station Park, 8100 33rd Ave S.

JULY 19
Medalist Concert Band
Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road

JULY 26
ETC Summer Tours (Frozen Jr.)
Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th St. and Chalet Road

AUGUST 2
Alma Andina
Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road

AUGUST 9
Global Jazz Collegium
Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road