



CIRCLE PINES

City News

Celebrating 75 Years

www.ci.circle-pines.mn.us

April 2025

Recording Oral Traditions

On May 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. at City Hall, the Anoka County Historical Society (ACHS) will host a story-gathering workshop, equipping you with the tools to record a community conversation in celebration of the 75th anniversary of Circle Pines.

Creating an oral history means collecting and preserving firsthand accounts from individuals about their experiences and perspectives on events, places, or cultural practices. To make this project successful, we need to gather people who have lived in Circle Pines over the last 25 years. This focus will help us build upon the information collected for the 50th anniversary, which, as it turns out, took place in 2000. Remember, just because you lived through history doesn't mean it isn't worth saving!

The first step is to brainstorm friends, family, community leaders, educators, or civic workers who have made a significant impact in the city, contributed to its growth or changes, or have an interesting story to share.

Next, we'll consider each person's specific role in the community and develop questions that will draw out the information we want to preserve. Examples of this could include:

- "Can you describe your memories of [specific event]?"
- "What was life like during [specific time period]?"
- "How did your community respond to [specific situation]?"

Finally, we will practice interviewing each other. This will focus on introductions, asking open-ended questions with follow-up inquiries (essentially, being curious about what the person just said), and resisting the urge to insert our personal experiences into the recording. It's more complicated than you might think to sit and listen with an open mind!

Before you leave the workshop, you'll receive a packet of tools to help guide conversations aimed at preserving the recent history of Circle Pines. This will include:

- A copy of the ACHS "Story Gathering Form" with question prompts
- Links to online resources for creating oral histories
- Examples of oral history transcripts

Home can mean many things to many people. Describing that concept often involves sharing stories of experiences that have shaped the community we all share. With contributions from everyone, the future narrative that people will reference should be more complete and honest.



This is a view from the Circle Pines water tower, taken in the late 1950s by Rienald Schrooten. This photo looks to the north; in the foreground is Old Highway 8, now known as Lake Drive. Then you see the backyards of the houses along East Road; the fire/police station was off the left of the photo. The houses farthest to the left are located on Pine Drive, followed by Circle Drive and then Inner Drive; here, you can see the open area that was and still is Inner Park. In the back, you can see the first school being built, which is actually in Blaine, not Circle Pines. Centennial High School was dedicated on March 7, 1958. Way in the background are the houses of Lino Lakes.



Debbie and Cindy Schrooten (on the back of the tricycle). They are riding on Circle Drive; the year would have been about 1962.

City Council

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Non-Emergency
Police:763-784-2501
Fire:651-792-7900
In an emergency, please call 911.

March Public Meetings
City Council
04/08 & 04/22 7 p.m.

Park Board
04/01 6:30 p.m.

Utilities Commission
04/22 5 p.m.

Planning Commission
04/14 7 p.m.

You can also view the latest Council meeting
at any time on the internet on the City Website
at
www.ci.circle-pines.mn.us. Click on City
Council meeting video on demand.

Recycling/Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 26
8 a.m.-Noon
760 Civic Heights Drive
Public Works Facility



As the weather gets warmer, it is time to clean out the garages and yards. One way to get rid of your garbage, old appliances, tires, old bikes, etc. is to bring them to Recycling/Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 26 from 8 a.m. to noon at the public works facility located at 760 Civic Heights Drive.

Everything will be accepted **except** for household hazardous waste, recyclables, and yard waste. Some items may have a fee.

This year residents are able to bring ALL RECYCLE ITEMS FREE.



Curbside Leaf Pickup May 3

Spring yard waste and leaf pick-up has been scheduled for Saturday, May 3. This is a free service for Circle Pines residents. Yard waste is identified as leaves, grass clippings, garden wastes, weeds, soft-bodied green plant materials, pine cones and needles, acorns and residential quantities of sod. Yard waste carts are **not** included in this event.

Yard waste must be free of garbage and in compostable bags. Please have your compostable bags at the curb by 6 a.m.



Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination

Storm sewer systems carry water directly into our lakes, rivers, and wetlands. If anything other than stormwater enters the system, it is an illicit discharge. Substances can include oil, chemicals, sediment, and more.

Tips for residents:

- Take used oil to a recycle center or a fast Oil-Change business.
- Revegetate bare or eroding areas of your lawn.
- Return old paint to the store where you purchased it.
- Secure your trash when placed on the street.
- Take all old chemicals, including paints and automobile fluids, to Household Hazardous Waste drop-off facility.
- Do not pour fats, oils, or grease into your sink or sewer.
- Do not over fertilize your lawn.
- Do not put pet waste down a storm drain.
- Do not pour household, automotive, or any non-stormwater waste down a storm drain.
- Pump your septic tank every 4 years.
- Report any hazardous spills immediately: MPCA Incident Response pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/incident-response and City of Circle Pines – ci.circle-pines.mn.us

Library News Centennial Branch

Welcome to April! Though an occasional snowfall has been known to arrive this month, we are going to put that season behind us and focus on the beginning of spring. This is a busy time of year for many, as we come out of our winter hibernation and begin planting gardens, cleaning, and even planning summer getaways. Whether you're planning tasks or just need to find a new spring read, the library is here for you. Here are some of the programs the library is hosting this month as we "spring" into the new season.

Storytimes

Storytimes will run through the week of April 26. Please call or ask at the desk for more information. We have three options for you:

Baby Storytimes are Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.; this session is designed for children under 2. Registration **IS** required for this session; register by phone, online, or by asking at the desk.

Toddler Storytimes are Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m.; this session is designed for children between ages 2-3.

Family Storytimes are Thursdays at 11:15 a.m.; any age is welcome to these sessions.

Children

Baby Social Hour. Tuesdays, April 29, May 6, 13, and 20. Drop in and stay connected with friends that you have made during baby storytime. Share activities, playtime, and socialization for babies and caregivers during our storytime break. For babies 0-24 months and a caregiver.

Current hours:

Centennial's hours of operation are:

Monday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Tuesday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Wednesday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Thursday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed



Youth

Read to a Dog. Monday, April 14, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Children are invited to practice their reading skills in 15-minute sessions with a licensed, trained therapy dog. Program geared towards grades K-3. Registration is required. Please call the Centennial Library at 763-324-1540 to register.

Adults

Centennial Bookclub for Adults: Monday, April 28, 6:45 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Interested in trying out a new book group? Join us for the Centennial Book Club! Drop in for a favorite book discussion or become a regular member. This month's book is *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger.

Everyone

Paint a "Book" with ARCC. Thursday, April 24, 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. This program is intended for adults and youth ages 10 and older. Join Rumriver Art Center at an Anoka County Library branch for an exciting opportunity to contribute to a community book quilt! At each 2-hour drop-in session participants will receive a 5" x 7" piece of canvas to paint their choice of book cover using acrylic paints. Guided by a talented art teacher from Rumriver Art Center, you'll have the freedom to create an abstract interpretation, a reimagined cover, or an entirely original design. After this multi-month project is completed, it will be sewn together into one large, 'book - quilt' that will be displayed at Anoka County Libraries, as well as at the Rumriver Art Center. No registration required-come in and explore the library for inspiration before painting! This program is funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



Dog Owners

As the weather has gotten warmer, many of us will be spending more time outside, and many of us will want our pets to enjoy the nice weather and opportunities for play and exercise.

As a good dog owner, there are a few things to keep in mind:

- When walking your dog, please be respectful and keep dogs off of boulevard areas and private property.
- Animals **MUST** be leashed on public property, such as streets, trails and parks. Animals cannot run at large.
- You are required to pick up after your pet.
- Animals must have an ID tag that indicates the owner's name, address, and phone number.

Weekly Yard Waste Cart Service Resumes This Month

Weekly curbside disposal of yard waste will resume **April 1**, weather permitting, and ends in November. Subscribers are billed \$95 annually for the 96-gallon cart and will see that amount added to their May bill. The fee is nonrefundable and covers one calendar year. Subscribers may also add a second yard waste cart for an additional \$35 per year.

If you are interested in subscribing to weekly yard waste cart service, call Centennial Utilities at 763-784-6751.