

# Fourth Ward Report

## Council President Barbara Johnson Minneapolis City Council

July, 2012

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Minneapolis 311
Dial 311 from any phone in the City limits. Outside of the City call: 612-673-3000

E-mail 311: minneapolis311@minn eapolismn.gov

311 Online Services: http://www.minneapolismn.gov/311/

4<sup>th</sup> Ward Neighborhood Group Links

Cleveland

Folwell

Lind Bohanon

Jordan

Shingle Creek

Victory

Webber Camden



## Fireworks Facts

Certain types of fireworks became legal in Minnesota in April 2002. With warmer weather and an increase of complaints about fireworks, the Minneapolis Police Department wants you to know these facts: What's legal? Minnesota law permits the sale, possession and use of some non-explosive and non-aerial fireworks. Examples include sparklers, cones and tubes that emit sparks, and novelty items like snakes and party poppers. (These consumer fireworks may not be used on public property such as roads, alleys, schools, and parks.

Purchasers of these fireworks must be at least 18 years old. Sale, possession and use may occur at any time during the year.

Fireworks can only be sold from inside a permanent structure. Merchants selling fireworks from any location other than a permanent structure are in a violation of a city ordinance.

What's illegal? The law still prohibits explosive and aerial fireworks for public sale, possession and use. Examples of illegal fireworks include firecrackers, bottle rockets, missiles, roman candles, mortars and shells—any fireworks that are explosive or aerial.

Please comply with the fireworks law! Be a considerate neighbor! Shooting off fireworks can be extremely frustrating for neighbors, especially when homes are close to each other, people are trying to sleep and pets are frightened. Fireworks can also be very dangerous.

911 will take calls about illegal fireworks; however, fireworks complaints are most prevalent on summer nights, when the police are very busy. Please provide the exact address and a good description of the person(s) setting off the fireworks. Because of the volume of calls over the 4th of July holiday, the 911 dispatcher will put out general info to the squads, but will not dispatch a specific car, except in situations where a fire hazard or a direct threat to personal safety is present. This is to assure that police officers can respond to more serious crimes in progress. Fireworks complaints can also be filed on line through 311. Go to

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/forms/fireworks

**Contact Us** 

Phone: 612-673-2204

**E-mail Contact Link** 

#### Mail:

Barbara Johnson Minneapolis City Council 307 City Hall 350 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St. Minneapolis, MN 55415

#### Website:

http://www.minneapolismn.gov/council/ward4/

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## Spay or Neuter Your Pet for Free

Minneapolis Animal Care and Control (MACC) was awarded a \$67,500 grant last year to do 1,350 FREE spay / neuter surgeries in Wards 4 & 5. Why is spay and neutering so important? Between six and eight million cats and dogs enter our nation's shelter system each year. Animal Shelters cannot save or support this huge number of accidental litters, strays



and offspring of family pets. As a result, nearly four million animals are humanely euthanized annually. It is estimated that 90,000 dogs and cats are humanely euthanized each year in Minnesota due to overpopulation. Spaying and neutering is the only 100 percent proven way to reduce these numbers and save animals lives. Fourth Ward residents who own dogs or cats can receive free surgery for their pet(s). MACC partners with Minnesota Spay Neuter Assistance Program (MN SNAP) on this grant (they do the surgeries and operate out of the MACC facility Tuesday to Friday). For more information please call MN SNAP at 612-720-8236.

Hennepin County organizes collection events in cooperation with Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling throughout the year to give residents more convenient, local disposal options for their household hazardous wastes. For information on how City of Minneapolis recycling customers can safely dispose of all everyday items, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/whattodo

## Trees need an inch of water every week



While a rainy spring and early summer have temporarily kept our trees watered, our yard and boulevard trees need an inch of water every week throughout the spring, summer and fall. The recent rain has been welcome for trees but not enough to counteract nine years of drought, the driest fall on record and 10th lowest snowfall in more than 100 years. If it rains less than one inch in any week, trees need to be watered to help them recover. Past years of high temperatures and drought conditions are a problem even for otherwise healthy trees and put them at

serious risk of long-term damage.

Extended drought conditions can make trees vulnerable to insects and disease and cause permanent damage to young and old trees alike. Young trees three to five years old are especially susceptible. An effective way for residents to water a tree is to turn on a slow stream of water (just so the hose is weeping) for a few hours. Watering in the evening after dinner time is most effective since it minimizes evaporation, and trees tend to take most of their water during the night. Watering one tree weekly for the warmer months costs only about \$3 for the entire season. For people who lose track of when they last watered a tree, a good system could be watering it on the same day trash is picked up. For information on tree care and the urban forest, contact the Park Board's Forestry Department at 612-313-7710.

If you hire a tree servicing company to prune a tree, make sure to use a company licensed in Minneapolis to ensure that the tree gets the right care. Taking care of our trees means protecting our Minneapolis quality of life. Research proves that healthy trees are beautiful, increase property values, help improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gases by absorbing carbon dioxide, save energy, keep the city cooler, provide homes for wildlife and help manage stormwater.

## License Your Pet

- **It's a free ride home.** If your licensed pet is found in Minneapolis, it will get a ride home instead of to the Animal Shelter.
- Your pet is more likely to get back home. Licensed pets are three times more likely than unlicensed pets to go home again.
- Prompt medical attention. If you pet is found injured, it will get medical care right away.
- **It's the law** for dogs, cats, ferrets and rabbits. (Minneapolis Ordinance 64.10 and 65.10)
- It helps other pets. Your pet's license helps Minneapolis Animal Care & Control
  - Shelter and feed lost dogs and cats adn find them new homes
  - o Educate the public about responsible pet ownership
  - Reunite lost dogs and cats with their owners

Licensing is easier than ever. MACC now offers residents many ways to license their pets:

- License your pet online
- Call 311 or (612) 673-3000 to license your pet over the phone
- Download the complete the <u>Pet License Application (pdf)</u> and mail it to us. Mail-in applications may take several weeks to process.
- If your pet is deceased and was licensed with MACC, please let us now by sending your name, address and pet's name to 311 by email at Minneapolis311@minneapolismn.gov.
- License at your veterinary clinic or local pet store. Tags are sold at the following locations:
  - Westgate Vet Clinic
  - Minneapolis Veterinary Hospital
  - Minnehaha Animal Hospital
  - Pet Doctors
  - <u>Chuck & Don's Pet Food Outlet</u> -- NE Minneapolis and Calhoun stores ONLY
  - Lake Harriet Veterinary
  - <u>Urbanimal</u> (Uptown Location)
  - o Camden Pet Hospital coming soon!
  - Kenwood Pet Clinic coming soon!
  - Sidewalk Dog, Inc. coming soon!

