

CHECK OUT THE LATEST SHINGLE CREEK AND CAMDEN ACTIVITIES AND VIDEOS AT OUR UPDATED WEBSITE: www.scna-mpls.org



Using our logo, SCNA is in the process of developing a new sign for residents to promote this great neighborhood! Want to help or learn more? Check out our website or be watching for more news soon!

SCNA Meetings:
 Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association
 P.O.Box 15656, Minneapolis, MN 55415;
 Web Site: www.scna-mpls.org
 E-mail: scna@stribmail.com;
 Amy Luesebrink, staff, 763-561-1616

SCNA Annual Board meeting and Elections is Tuesday, April 13th at 6:30pm

Shingle Creek Clean up Saturday, April 17th, 9-Noon at Creekview Park

at Creekview Park 5001 Humboldt Ave N, unless stated otherwise

***All meetings are open to the public *All residents are encouraged to attend.**

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Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association
 P.O.Box 15656
 Minneapolis, MN 55415



SCNA 16th Annual Shingle Creek Clean-up Coming April 17th!
The Raptors are Coming! The Raptors are Coming to the SCNA 16th Annual Shingle Creek Clean-up Coming Saturday, April 17! 9-Noon. Mark your calendars for this family fun-filled day! We'll spend a couple hours in the morning picking up trash from the banks of Shingle Creek, eating some food, and this year we'll also have the University of MN Raptor Center swooping in to lend a hand! Come help out and then stick around to see the live raptor show! Our Annual Shingle Creek Clean-up is from 9-11am at Creekview Park, 5001 Humboldt Ave N. The celebration party with food and refreshments and educational activities is from 11:00-noon. For more information or to volunteer contact SCNA at scna@stribmail.com or contact SCNA staff at 763-561-1616.



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- **Special Guest at Annual Meeting**
- **New CCP/Safe Mary Etzioni**
- Every precinct sector has a Community Crime Prevention/Safe Specialist assigned to them. We're happy to have our new CCP/Safe Specialist attending our SCNA Annual Meeting so residents can have an opportunity to meet her. Bring your questions about crime and safety, block clubleaders/trainings, or anything else about the neighborhood on April 13th.
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SCNA Annual Meeting and Elections April 13th
 6:30pm at Creekview Park

Do you wish our neighborhood had....? Do you find yourself wondering what your property tax statement means? Got questions about improving the neighborhood?

SCNA, is a 501c3 organization whose mission is to educate residents and promote the local area. We currently have openings on the board and are seeking volunteers who can commit 2 hours a month to attend one meeting a month to lend input and ideas about ways we can meet new neighbors and have fun improving our community.

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Facing Foreclosure? Want more information? Check out Minnesota Home Ownership Center at www.hocmn.org. Informacion En Espanol

We also have volunteer opportunities at upcoming events like the Annual Shingle Creek Clean-up, Tour De Camden, Common Ground Community Garden, etc., so if you're interested in finding out how you and your family can get involved go to our website or contact us at scna@stribmail.com or our staff at 763-561-1616.



Protect your home against spring break-ins

As Spring warms up to summer, many people are busy planning their vacations and preparing to leave Minneapolis for sunnier places. Minneapolis Police want to remind vacationers that it's important to take time to prepare their homes for vacation too. An empty home is a tempting target for a burglar, so use these tips as a checklist to help protect your home against break-ins and theft while you're away.

- § Install good locks on windows and doors and be sure to use to them.
- § Avoid leaving a spare key outside your home.
- § Make arrangements to suspend mail, newspaper and package deliveries or ask a neighbor to pick them up.
- § Arm your home security alarm if you have one.
- § Set up timers around your home to turn TVs, lamps and radios on and off at appropriate hours; install motion detectors around your home.
- § Turn the ringer volume on your phone to low to avoid having someone hear it go unanswered.
- § Keep blinds, shades or curtains the way they are when you are home.
- § Close and lock garage doors and windows; secure storage sheds.
- § Tell a few trusted neighbors to keep an eye on your home during your vacation, but generally keep travel plans to yourself—don't announce your absence on voice-mail; tell your co-workers not to give out your travel plans.
- § Mark your property: record make, model and serial numbers and take pictures of electronic equipment and valuables; use the free national police program Operation ID to mark and inventory your valuables. Just call (612) 673-2749 to request an information packet. Should your property be stolen, this simple step will make it more difficult for thieves to sell it and easier for police to return it to you.

For more ideas to secure your home while you're away or for information contact your police precinct's Crime Prevention Specialist by visiting <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/>. Click on Precinct Finder and CCP/SAFE Team links.

Your best protection is to make your home appear occupied and to make it difficult to break in to. And as always, remind your neighbors to call 911 immediately to report any suspicious activity.

Help Minneapolis' urban forest

Order an inexpensive tree to enjoy in your yard! More than 1,000 trees are being made available to Minneapolis residents for planting this spring. Since 2006, the City of Minneapolis has funded the City Trees program, a low-cost way for folks to help build the city's tree canopy. The trees cost \$25 each, residents can order one tree per household, and all trees are available first-come, first-served.

Last month, the emerald ash borer was found in Minneapolis and could potentially contribute to the decline of all of the City's more than 200,000 ash trees. Planting a new tree now will help start the next generation of trees.

Varieties of trees available are Fat Albert spruce, pagoda dogwood, Kentucky coffee tree, blue beech, Merrill magnolia, regal prince oak, Canada select chokecherry, Redmond linden and burgundy belle maple. Orders for trees can be placed at www.treetrust.org. You can also order a tree by calling (651) 644-5800. In previous years, the trees have sold quickly, so place your order early.

Folks who order trees will need to pick them up on one of three days at the Minneapolis Impound Lot, 51 Colfax Ave. N.

- Saturday, May 8
7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Sunday, May 9
8 a.m. to noon
- Monday, May 10
3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Volunteers will be on hand to help load your new tree and complimentary bag of mulch into your vehicle. Research has proven that trees are a valuable investment and improve urban quality of life. 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.

The City Trees program is a partnership between the City of Minneapolis and Tree Trust, a local nonprofit that works to improve the community environment. For more information on how to order a tree, contact Tree Trust at 651-644-5800.

SCNA Board Members

Chair Brock Hanson, Vice Chair Jeff Johnson, Secretary Jeffrey L. Strand, Treasurer Lori Hanson, Board members: Virginia Bratton, Marie Castle, Brian Hitchcock, Carol McCrillis, Pam Owens, Brian Preiner, Lori Thayer, John Thies, Troy Parker.

What's Happening at Webber Library Spotlight

Hmong Storytime
Saturday in April, 2 – 2:30 p.m. April 3, 10, 17, 24

For children 2 years of age and older. Enjoy stories together in Hmong and build language skills.

Girls Only Bookclub

Saturday, April 17 1:00-3:00 p.m. For girls in grades 4 - 6.

Join other girls to talk about a great book! Title TBD. Pick up a copy at the information desk.



**Shingle Creek
Common Grounds
Community Garden
Seeks Volunteers!**

Spring has almost sprung!
The Common Ground Community Garden at 5200 Newton Ave N has vegetable garden plots available and is looking for volunteers for this growing season.

One night a week during the summer for a couple hours! It's a relaxing way to learn and grow a community at the same time!

If you're interested in learning about plants, helping a community garden look good or just want to grow your own veggies, contact Linda Eriksson a Call at 763-566-6618 or check out our SCNA website at www.scna-mpls.org. Under volunteer

Check out these important facts about the SCNA Home Improvement Loan Program to see if a loan from SCNA could help improve your home and the community!

Low-Interest Home Improvement Loans

Loan Amount

- Maximum: \$15,000

Interest Rate(s)

- 0% loans are available to eligible property owners able to match loan amounts dollar for dollar. For example: If the total cost of the improvement is \$4,000, the owner contributes \$2,000 towards the cost of the improvement and receives a \$2,000 loan from SCNA at 0%.
- 4% loans are available to eligible property owners who wish to finance 100% of the improvement.

Requirements

- No outstanding judgments or collections
- No tax liens
- No defaulted government loans
- Home must not be in foreclosure
- No more than three 90-day late payments in last 3 years (without reasonable explanation)
- Prove ability to repay loan

Eligible Properties

- 1-4 unit owner-occupied or absentee-owned residential structures located in the Shingle Creek neighborhood.

Eligible Improvements

- Most improvements are eligible, interior or exterior maintenance or remodeling.
- One bid is required for projects under \$5,000 and two bids required for projects over \$5,000.

Loan Term

- Maximum repayment term 10 years.

Proof of Income

- **If you are employed:** submit copies of your two most recent paystubs.
- **If you are retired:** submit a copy of your social security benefits or pension.
- **If you are self-employed:** submit copies of your Federal Tax Returns for the last 2 years.
- Contact Jim Hasnik at (612) 335-5885 for more information.