



City of Burnsville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OFFERS FREE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKSHOPS FOR RESIDENTS

RESIDENTS WILL LEARN ABOUT REDUCING WATER POLLUTION

As spring approaches, Burnsville residents will emerge from their winter cocoons to step outside and get their hands dirty working on their lawns and gardens. This annual tradition, performed on the thousands of residential properties throughout the City, has the ability to significantly impact the water quality in our rivers, lakes, and ponds. Most of the concentrated water pollution is accounted for, but the low-level inputs that every resident contributes are an elusive pollution source. The City believes that education is the best solution. Angela Hanson, the City's Natural Resources Technician, elaborates "Nobody wants to live in a polluted community, but many people are unaware of what they can do to help—that's where we come into the picture."

On Wednesday March 3rd, from 6:30-8:00 PM at Burnsville City Hall, the City will host a Blue Thumb Program workshop. The program is coordinated by the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District and its intent is to educate residents about the benefits of low-impact landscaping techniques, such as raingardens, shoreline restorations, and native plant gardens. These workshops are free and are held in several cities throughout the county. All Dakota County residents may attend any of the workshops. Although the workshops are free, registration is required. Call 651-480-7777 to register.

On Saturday March 20th, from 8:30-10:30 AM at City Hall, the City will be hosting a workshop entitled Homeowner Turfgrass Maintenance with Reduced Environmental Impacts. Did you know that a well-maintained lawn contributes less to water pollution than a poorly-maintained one? This workshop will inform residents about the best management practices regarding this ubiquitous component of the suburban landscape. This workshop is designed to help homeowners make better decisions on how to manage their lawns. Topics covered will be soil testing, fertilizing, watering, mowing, aeration, and weed control. Experts will be present to answer specific questions. The workshop is free and open to all Burnsville residents, but registration is required. Contact 952-895-4518 or angela.hanson@ci.burnsville.mn.us to register.

More information regarding these workshops is available on the City of Burnsville's website, www.burnsville.org, on the Natural Resources page under News and Events.

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