



# City of Burnsville

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 14, 2019

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## BUCKTHORN-MUNCHING GOATS ARE BACK IN BURNSVILLE

Buckthorn-busting goats have returned to Civic Center Park (near the Burnsville Ice Center) in Burnsville to continue the City's three-year prescribed grazing pilot project. The goats first grazed their way through the area in September 2018, and are back again for round two!

Goats are being used because they are known to be great at munching buckthorn and other woody species that take over natural areas. Their specific task is to assist with oak savanna restoration efforts at the park, which should in turn promote better habitat for wildlife and pollinators.

The goats arrived on June 4, and are expected to stick around through much of the week of June 17.

This is the second year of the City's pilot project, which is meant to see if goats, along with other buckthorn-reduction techniques, can help control buckthorn in oak savanna restoration projects. If successful, the goat grazing technique will be repeated for several years.

The public is invited to stop by and check on the goats' progress.

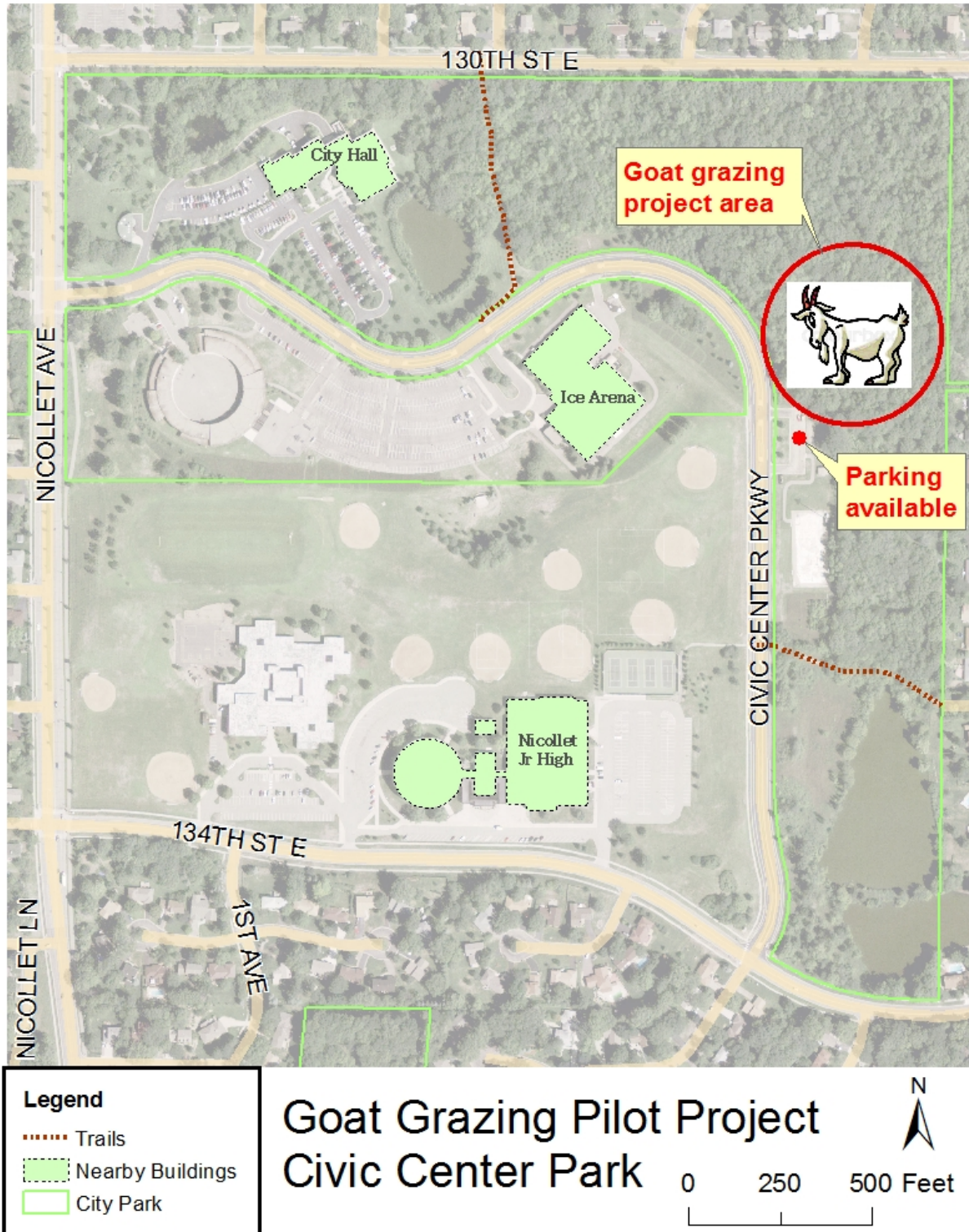
For more information on this project visit [www.burnsvillemn.gov/goats](http://www.burnsvillemn.gov/goats).

**Cutline:** A group of students from the environmental team at Gideon Pond Elementary School, led by teacher Laura Macnaughton, had a chance to come meet the City's buckthorn eating goats

Goats for Burnsville's pilot project are being provided by Goat Dispatch ([www.goatdispatch.com](http://www.goatdispatch.com)) out of Fairbault, Minn.



*(Map of goat grazing area below)*



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