Sweet Treats in the Park

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 • 5:30-7:30 PM

Grab your mask and come to Armatage Park for a new safe and distanced neighborhood event - Sweet Treats in the Park!

Food trucks Sonny’s Ice Cream and Thumbs Cookies & Milk will take orders in the parking lot while practicing new safety guidelines and distanced ordering. Dairy-free or gluten-free? Not to worry - Sonny’s has options for you.

Thanks in advance for following our safety guidelines:
• Please maintain *at least* 6 feet of distance from everyone outside of your household. We know you’re missing friends and neighbors (we are, too!), but this part is critical.
• Wear a mask during the entire event unless you’re eating (more on that below).
• Follow signs and use the pre-marked spaces to wait in line.
• Eat away from others or bring your treats home. Feel free to bring a chair or blanket and find a comfy spot to sit in the park away from others.
• Follow guidelines for parks and playgrounds (stay 6 feet or more apart, even when playing).

In case of rain, we will post cancellations on Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor.
We can all make a difference and be part of something bigger than ourselves, why not help solve ocean plastic and other pollution right at your curb?

Plastics make their way into the storm drains and directly into our waters. As they travel downstream, they break down into microplastics, and eventually accumulate in the foodweb or join massive floating islands.

The good news is we live right on the Mississippi River, a main artery of the United States. Our actions have a big impact, so here's how you can get involved.

**SIGN UP AND ENTER TO WIN A $25 GIFT CARD**

Head to [adopt-a-drain.org](http://adopt-a-drain.org) and enter your address to see the open storm drains near you. Sign up to adopt a drain and commit to keeping it clean and free of debris throughout the year.

The best part? You can name your adopted storm drain and have it join the likes of Dino the Drain and Professor Albus Dunbladrain.

To enter to win a $25 gift card from a local business, please adopt a storm drain AND let us know at [armatage.org/adoptadrain](http://armatage.org/adoptadrain) by September 30. We can all make a real difference by stopping plastic and other pollution at the source.

Thank you to the Armatage Green Team for their leadership on this campaign! The Green Team meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00pm on Zoom, and all are welcome to join. Meeting links are posted at [armatage.org/events](http://armatage.org/events).

### Adopt a Storm Drain This Fall

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### NEW Native Plant Rebates

The Armatage Green Team is launching a Native Plant Rebate program to increase pollinator habitat in Armatage! Native plants in urban neighborhoods help create much-needed corridors for pollinators like monarchs and bees. Early fall is a great time to plant more native perennials.

The ANA will reimburse you for 50% of your native plant purchase up to a max of $20/household through this new program. If you are starting a garden from scratch, Bachman’s offers pollinator packs of 6 plants. You can also find individual native plants at locally-owned garden stores like Wagners, Bachman’s, Sunnyside Gardens, Mother Earth Gardens, etc.

To get a rebate, you must purchase from a locally-owned store. Unfortunately, most plants at large national chain stores are treated with neonicotinoid insecticides, which are incredibly harmful to bees and other pollinators.

Check out a list of suggested native plants and learn more about what you can do to support pollinators at [armatage.org/nativeplants](http://armatage.org/nativeplants).

The deadline to apply for a rebate is September 30 or until funds run out, so don’t delay in buying your new native plants, taking a picture or saving a digital copy of your receipt, and submitting your application at [armatage.org/nativeplants](http://armatage.org/nativeplants).

### Armature Play Area Construction

**NEW DESIGNS COMING THIS SUMMER**

New play area designs for the Armature Park Play Area are coming soon! Community members can weigh in on the designs and give feedback on what they want to see in the play area.

Visit the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board’s project webpage at [bit.ly/ArmatagePark](http://bit.ly/ArmatagePark) to learn more and sign up for project updates.

The planning team anticipates holding a virtual open house sometime in the next month and will post the date at the link above so stay tuned.

### Meet the Board

**KEVIN ROSS**

I am a ten year resident of the Armatage neighborhood. I moved to the neighborhood to be close to the lakes and all of the great parks in Minneapolis. My goal was to be within a mile of the connected parks and parkways for running and biking. Armature was the perfect fit! I have worked for the University of Minnesota for the last 21 years as a Construction Project Manager, overseeing design and construction on campus.

**Why did you join the ANA Board?**

I previously served on the board of the Minnesota Distance Running Association, a non-profit organization that serves the running community. I am also currently serving on the University of Minnesota Recreation Center Advisory Board. So I guess I like Boards - and the volunteer opportunities to serve our communities that they provide.

**What do you bring to the ANA?**

I hope to bring my management skills to the ANA board. My goals for participation on the board include influencing the park board’s plans for the future of Armature Park and supporting the great activities and events the park provides for us.

**What motivates you?**

In regards to serving on the ANA Board, I am motivated by the strong sense of community that is reflected in our neighborhood.

**What do you enjoy in your free time?**

Well ... I’m in a scooter gang. We spend endless hours on our mopeds riding the beautiful parkways of this great city.

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**20 IS PLENTY**
**SLOWER IS SAFER**

### New Speed Limits on City Streets

Did you know that both Minneapolis and Saint Paul are currently implementing new, lower speed limits to support safer streets?

Lower traffic speeds reduce the likelihood of a crash and make all types of crashes less likely to lead to death or a life-changing injury.

Reducing speed limits on city streets is one of the main strategies of the City of Minneapolis’s Vision Zero Action plan, aiming to end traffic deaths and injuries on city streets by 2027.

Starting this fall, the new speed limit will be 20 mph in both Cities unless otherwise signed.

A map with the new speed limits for all City of Minneapolis streets can be found on the Vision Zero website at [visionzerompls.com/speedlimit-s](http://visionzerompls.com/speedlimit-s).

If you have questions on the new speed limits in the City of Minneapolis, you can email [visionzero@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:visionzero@minneapolismn.gov).