



906 E. 47th St.
Minneapolis, MN 55407-3564

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID TWIN
CITIES, MN
PERMIT #1342

1234 Mailing Address
Mailing address line 2
Minneapolis, MN 55XXX



LOCAL BUSINESS HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

For your holiday shopping, get inspiration from our 2023 Field Regina Northrop Holiday Gift Guide featuring gifts from around the neighborhood for \$25 or less.

See the suggestions and explore FRNNG's new business directory for more ideas at frnng.org.

FALL & WINTER GREENING EVENTS

Thank you to all our FRNNG neighbors who joined us to beat back buckthorn along Minnehaha Creek throughout 2023. We've made great progress, and you helped make it happen! We'll be setting up more dates in 2024, so watch for updates on frnng.org.

We're also relaunching FRNNG's Greening Committee. Join us on Saturday, Jan. 27 from 12-2 p.m. at McRae Park Rec Center to help reimagine what this committee can accomplish around sustainability, waste reduction, conservation and environmental justice. Sign up at frnng.org or just show up.

And mark your calendars for two upcoming events: winter sowing seeds and Adopt-A-Drain to protect our waterways. More details to come in our *Close to Home* e-News. All are welcome!



CLOSE TO HOME

THE FIELD REGINA NORTHROP NEWSLETTER

Close to Home is published four times a year by the Field Regina Neighborhood Group, 906 E. 47th St., Minneapolis, MN 55407-3564. Stories and photos are welcome. Please send to frnng@frnng.org
©2023 Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group

FIELD
REGINA
NORTHROP
Neighborhood Group



CLOSE TO HOME

THE FIELD REGINA NORTHROP NEWSLETTER | FALL 2023



MAKE HOLIDAYS BRIGHT WITH HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR

Whether you go all out or prefer a minimalist look, nothing brightens up dark winter nights like holiday lights. This holiday season, sign up to be part of the first-ever Field Regina Northrop Holiday Lights Tour.

We'd love to showcase your home, apartment or business display for the delight of neighbors and to bring visitors to our community. The tour is self-guided and runs from Monday, Dec. 11 through Sunday, Dec. 31 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. each evening.

Any winter holiday or theme is welcome — Hannukah, the Winter Solstice, Christmas, Kwanzaa and New Year!

Sign up at frnng.org by Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 11:59 p.m. Your address will be published on the tour map, which will be available Dec. 8 at frnng.org. Contact our Community Coordinator, Lauren, at frnng@frnng.org with any questions.

NEIGHBORHOOD LOAN PROGRAMS ARE BACK!

FOCUS ON FRNNG

By FRNNG Board of Directors

MAX OUT YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

On November 16, we celebrate 15 years of Give to the Max Day! Join us as thousands of Minnesota nonprofits raise funds for causes that strengthen our communities.

We encourage you to give back to your neighborhood organization so we can continue to make a local impact by promoting and hosting community-building events, keeping you informed and engaged through our newsletters and website, and helping advocate for our neighborhoods.

This year, FRNNG brought you social events and volunteer opportunities such as the Earth Day Neighborhood Clean-Up; Minnehaha Creek Duck Race, which brought together hundreds of our neighbors; biweekly buckthorn removal opportunities that logged more than 100 volunteer hours restoring our shared green spaces along Minnehaha Creek; our McRae Playground Celebration; low-cost or forgivable home loan programs; a new business directory at frnng.org; the upcoming Holiday Lights Tour; and more!

We hope you'll consider making a tax-deductible donation to FRNNG so we can continue to advance our impact in our neighborhoods.

Give today at givemn.org/organization/Field-Regina-Northrop-Neighborhood-Group or by scanning the QR code.



FRNNG funds home improvement, emergency deferred, and exterior and energy deferred home loan programs for residents in single-family homes and two-, three- and four-unit buildings. These programs had been on hiatus but are now back!

FRNNG partners with the Center for Energy & Environment to administer loans.

Learn more at www.frnng.org/loanprograms.

MEET THE MINNEHAHA BUNNY!

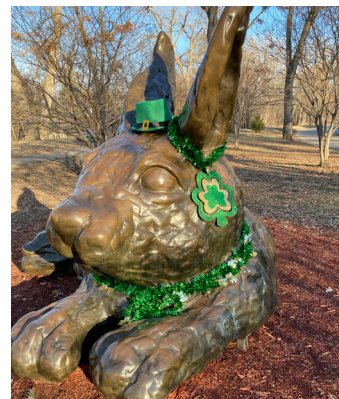
In a neighborhood filled with squirrels, ducks and many other critters, the most noteworthy is our 1,500-lb. bronze bunny that resides on the corner of E. Minnehaha Creek Parkway and Portland Avenue S.

Cottontail on the Trail was one of several "gateway art projects" chosen through public input as part of the city's Art in Public Places program of the late 1990s.

Jeff Barber's proposal for Cottontail on the Trail was chosen because of residents' desire for something whimsical to represent our area's beauty and love of nature. Costing \$50,000 of public money and donations, the nine-by-six-foot bunny took two years to sculpt and was installed by crane in September 2002.

The "Minnehaha Bunny" was listed by City Pages in 2019 as the best landmark in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul area. To neighbors, this sculpture isn't just a landmark but also a gathering space. It's often decorated for holidays by rogue neighbors and brings a smile to anyone who walks by or stops for a photo.

As a resident for more than 20 years, the Minnehaha Bunny knows our Field, Regina and Northrop neighborhoods and can answer your questions about them. Submit your questions via email to frnng@frnng.org with the subject "Ask the Bunny" for a chance to have your question answered in our e-newsletter, *Closer to Home*. Sign up at frnng.org to get *Closer to Home* in your mailbox.



PANCAKES + NEIGHBORS = NEW PLAYGROUND

Gourmet pancakes brought 400 community members to a pancake breakfast in May hosted by the Freemason's lodges of Minnehaha, Cataract and Braden as a fundraiser for new playground equipment at Field Community School. The school's PTA had been raising funds from parents and the community for a playground more appropriate for the elementary-aged children now attending the school.

But they needed a boost to reach their goal. Through donations from the pancake breakfast and a matching grant from Minnesota Masonic Charities, \$15,610 was raised.



A big thanks to all the FRNNG neighbors who turned out to savor the chef-created tres leches pancakes and helped make the playground equipment a reality. The new system was installed in October and is being enjoyed by Field students and the community.

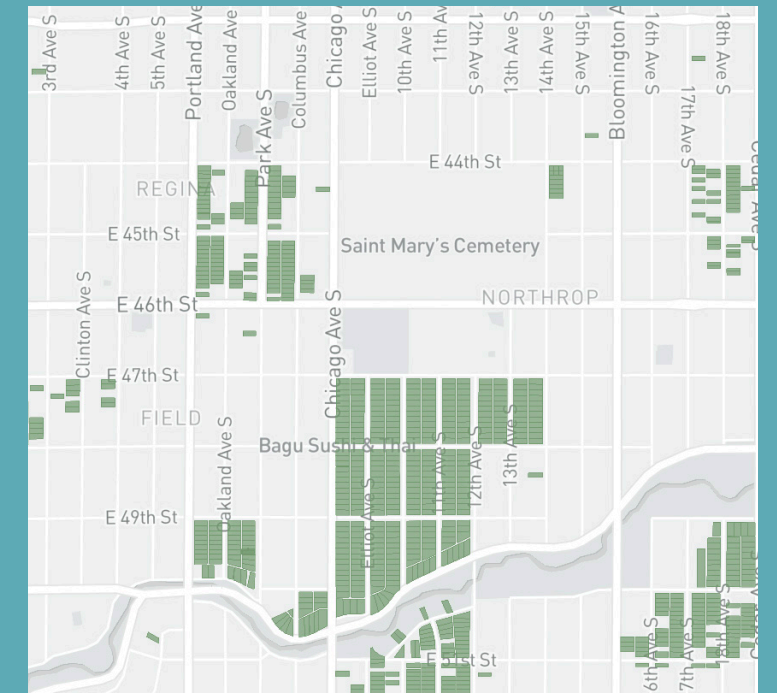
APPLY FOR THE JUST DEEDS PROJECT

The City of Minneapolis is accepting new applicants for its Just Deeds Project, which lets homeowners learn about, acknowledge and discharge racial covenants recorded against their properties and reclaim their homes as equitable spaces.

Racial covenants originally prohibited all future owners of the property from selling, renting or allowing it to be used by people of certain races or ethnicities. Although the discriminatory language used in these covenants varied, Black people were always one of the groups targeted by racial covenants.

Thanks to the work of the University of Minnesota's Mapping Prejudice, we know that more than 8,000 properties in Minneapolis contain racial covenants, including all those marked in green on the map at right.

Although enforcement of racial covenants was outlawed in 1968, the racial homeownership gap in the Twin Cities is the highest in the nation and has widened over the past two decades.



Our Field, Regina and Northrop neighborhoods were profoundly shaped by racial housing covenants. You can look up whether the property you own had a racial covenant and if so, apply to remove it through Just Deeds. Learn more at frnng.org/just-deeds.

YOU SPOKE AND FRNNG HEARD!

GREENING RANKS HIGH

Our neighborhoods' proximity to the beauty that Minneapolis has to offer was reflected in the survey results, with 40% of respondents interested in greening activities like joining a committee, learning something new about gardening, or supporting a creek restoration event or a neighborhood clean-up. For more information on how to volunteer or lead events, contact frnng@frnng.org.

GREAT IDEAS FOR GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS

We received an array of good ideas like regular community clean-ups and requesting hazardous waste collection days, garage sale weekends, more support for local businesses, and other great ways to connect as a community.

FRNNG board members are grateful for your survey responses, and we'll use them to plan our programming for 2024. Please continue to stay connected with us by attending FRNNG board meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at McRae Park at 6:30 p.m.

In March, FRNNG launched a community survey so we could amplify and execute the goals of our neighbors. The survey had near-equal responses from Field, Regina, North and South Northrop neighborhoods but lacked representation from renters and BIPOC individuals, so if you identify with either of these underrepresented groups, please make your voice heard by emailing us at frnng@frnng.org.

LOAN PROGRAM, JUST DEEDS DRAW SUPPORT

Many survey respondents were interested in the Just Deeds Project, which helps homeowners remove racial home covenants, and FRNNG's low-interest home loans. Applications for both programs are linked on the main page of frnng.org.