



STAFF REPORT

TO: Parks & Recreation Commission
FROM: Sierra Hietala, Recreation Coordinator
DATE: October 6, 2022
RE: Recreation Updates

ACTION REQUESTED

Informational Update. No action is requested.

BACKGROUND

Upcoming Events and Activities:

Geocache Exploration: City staff is currently working on a Geocache program to encourage residents to explore our variety of parks and trails in Little Canada. Residents will be able to pick up a packet at City Hill or download it from the City website with coordinates to each cache. Inside each cache location will be a log sheet and a secret letter. Find all caches to decode the secret password! Stay tuned and keep an eye on the website and Facebook for our Geocache Exploration kickoff coming soon.

Farmers Market: The Little Canada Regular-Season Farmers Market has ended on Monday, October 3. Thank you to our vendors and visitors for a wonderful summer! A full report of the Farmers Market will be presented at the November Parks & Recreation Commission meeting. We will continue the Little Canada Indoor Market on the first Monday of the month from November-April (the second Monday in January). We are accepting vendors for our Indoor Market. Applications can be found on our website!

Upcoming Adult Activities

- *Master Gardener Class:* These virtual classes are typically held on the first Tuesday of the month. Upcoming class topics are:
 - o November 1- Houseplant Success
 - o January 24- Winter Sowing
 - o February 28- Pruning Trees & Shrubs
 - o March 28- Spring into Summer

- *Adult Trips:* Partnering with the surrounding cities Parks & Recreation Department we are excited to offer our residents the opportunity for adult trips throughout the year.
 - o November 16- Bell Museum and Planetarium
 - o December 9- European Christmas Market
 - o January 11- Footloose at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater

Upcoming Youth Activities

- *Winter Activities:* Registration for winter youth activities opened on October 1. Those activities include gymnastics, basketball leagues, and ice skating lessons.



STAFF REPORT

The *I Can Engineer* program is back by popular demand. This module is for kids grades 3-5 and explores the Engineer Design Process through hands-on learning.

Cookies with Santa: This year's Cookies with Santa event will be on December 3 from 1-3 PM at City Hall. We will have the chance for families to take a picture with Santa, live reindeer, a take-home craft, cookies, and cocoa! Follow our event on Facebook for event updates, and fun pictures before the big day! We will need 10-15 volunteers, and staff will provide a SignUpGenius for next month's meeting for those who would like to join us. Thank you to the LCRA for sponsoring the reindeer!

Snowshoes: Winter is approaching, so Staff is working on snowshoe programs for both adults...and kids! The LCRA funded youth snowshoes for the City. Staff reached out to local schools to discuss hosting a class on "How to Snowshoe" for kids. This will be a great way for families and friends to enjoy the outdoors and our local parks during winter! Snowshoes will be available once there is a solid 6 inches of snow on the ground (Usually December or January).

ATTACHMENTS:

- *Adult Trips Brochure*
- *Little Canada Indoor Market*
- *I Can Engineer*
- *Geocache Logo*