

News from Avon Township

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Earlier this month the Township Hall was a red-hot place to be. That's because a crew from Minnesota Native Landscapes conducted a prescribed burn of our rain garden and restored prairie. If you didn't have the opportunity to watch the flames surround the Town Hall, you can check out the excellent article by Liz Vos in the previous issue of the *Enterprise* (May 9, 2018).

After the Town Hall was constructed, the Township received grant funding from the Soil and Water Conservation District to install the rain garden and prairie. As Liz described in her article, fire is an essential ingredient to maintain these plant communities. Though we often think of the devastating effects of forest fires, many plant communities, like our prairie and rain garden, have evolved with and require periodic burning. The fire helps to remove weeds, recycle nutrients, and stimulate seeds to germinate. Without fire, these plant communities would eventually give way to weeds. The Minnesota Native Landscapes fire crew did an excellent job and we are looking forward to seeing the beneficial effects of this landscape management tool.

This coming Saturday (May 19), the Supervisors will conduct their annual road inspection. It was originally scheduled for April 14th but needed to be rescheduled because of the massive snowstorm that struck the area. There was so much snow we couldn't even see the roads. The public is invited. Meet in the Town Hall parking lot at 9:00 AM. If you have any suggestions about specific township roads that the Supervisors should check during the road inspection, please contact me.

Now that the snow is finally gone, it is brushing, tree trimming, and weed time. Our maintenance staff are removing brush, trimming trees and spraying weeds. Please use caution if you come across our crews working in the road right-of-way. If you know about areas that need to be treated, again, let me know.

Finally, at the June 6th Supervisor meeting (7:00 PM) we will hold a ceremony to honor former Supervisors Richard Bresnahan and LeRoy Gondringer who have done so much for the Township. We hope you can join us.