



**bottineau**  
neighborhood association

# BOTTINEAU GAZETTE

A Publication of the Bottineau Neighborhood Association  
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## In This Issue

Air Quality .....1  
 And GAF .....1  
 Telephone Numbers....2  
 River Clean Up.....2  
 Safe Rental Housing ...2  
 Graffiti .....2  
 Bottineau Park News...3  
 NRP Update .....3  
 Websites .....3  
 Calendar .....4

### Air Quality...

Recently, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issued air quality alerts for Minneapolis and much of Minnesota for that matter. The air quality got as bad as it did because of a couple of factors. They include the amount of pollution generated on a daily basis, a high pressure system with calm air and a temperature inversion, with warm air trapping the pollution near ground level.

According to the MPCA web-site, the source of 52% of the air toxics in Minnesota are what are called mobile sources. These include, cars, busses, lawn mowers, airplanes, and pretty much anything that has an engine and moves. Another 26% comes from area sources like fireplaces, gas stations, dry cleaners and paint and solvent use. The last 22% comes from point sources like manufacturing plants, waste incinerators, and utilities.

If you would like to be notified via email of air pollution alerts issued by the MPCA, you can sign up at the following URL: [www.pca.state.mn.us/air/airqi-subscribe.html](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/air/airqi-subscribe.html).

### ...And GAF

Many of you have noticed, and let us know on occasion about a periodic sulfurous-sweet odor that blows into the neighborhood. The most likely source of this smell is GAF Manufacturing Inc, which is located on the north side of Lowry Avenue just across the Mississippi River from the neighborhood. GAF manufactures asphalt roofing products.

## NOTICE

Come to find out about how to get involved in improving the neighborhood.

**Informational Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**6:30 PM**  
**Bottineau Park**  
**(2000 2<sup>nd</sup> Street)**

Stay for the chili, cornbread and games.

Both the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the City Department of Environmental Management are aware of this issue and are working with GAF. Because the odor is periodic, it is important to document each time it occurs. When you do smell that odor, you can report it to two places.

MPCA: (651) 296-7300  
 City of Minneapolis: (612) 673-5897

You will need to leave your name and phone number. These are kept confidential, but are necessary if you need to be contacted for more information. You will also need to identify the name of the company, and its address (50 Lowry Avenue), describe the odor, indicate the day and time it occurred, and other conditions – like wind direction.

You should call both places because while the State holds the air emission permit, it does not deal with the



Please Recycle

February 2005

## Phone

## River Clean Up

## Graffiti

Police, Fire and Medical  
Emergency  
911

Bottineau Neighborhood  
Association  
782-2145

3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilman  
Samuels  
673-2203

Hennepin County  
Commissioner Stenglein  
348-7882

Parks Commissioner  
Dziedzic  
230-6443

Bottineau Park  
370-4958

Family Violence,  
Domestic Abuse, Child  
Abuse  
673-3072

Housing Inspections  
673-5858

NE Home Ownership  
Center  
378-7985

Community Crime  
Prevention  
673-2797

Pierre Bottineau Library  
630-6890

Minneapolis Park Board  
230-6400

Minneapolis Solid Waste  
and Recycling  
673-2917

Graffiti Hotline  
673-2941

Traffic Enforcement  
673-3443

The Mississippi Corridor Neighborhood Coalition (MCNC) has decided not to coordinate the long-running Mississippi River Clean Up this year. The river clean up usually takes place in the late spring. Last year it took place in the middle of May.

The BNA Board is considering taking on the task of coordinating a smaller version for the Bottineau neighborhood or perhaps extending farther north and south along the river to include Sheridan, Marshall Terrace and the Hawthorn neighborhood across the river.

If you would like to see this event happen and are interested in helping with the planning, please call BNA at 782-2145.

## Safe Rental Housing

In a new initiative, Minneapolis Inspections and the Fire Department will inspect all rental properties in a five-year cycle. Housing Inspections will inspect all one- to three-unit rental property and the Fire Department will be responsible to inspect all 4+ unit rental properties.

Inspections has asked neighborhood organizations and block clubs to help prioritize their inspections. If you know of a rental property that might have some life safety and/or health and livability issues, please notify BNA at 782-2145. We will forward that information to the Inspections team for our area. You can also fill out an online format our web site. You can find the form at [bottineauneighborhood.org/housing/](http://bottineauneighborhood.org/housing/).

General property complaints like tall grass and abandoned vehicles should be directed to the city at (612)673-5858.

With the warmer weather, many are seeing an increase in the amount of graffiti in the neighborhood. There are two main types of graffiti: gang and tagger. Tagger graffiti itself has subcategories. There are several samples of the various types of graffiti on the Minneapolis web site at: [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/graffiti/](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/graffiti/).

Graffiti is a form of vandalism. The cost of removing it across the city runs in the millions of dollars each year. Not removing it can have an even greater impact. Graffiti encourages graffiti – a neighborhood with a lot of graffiti becomes unappealing which can cause property values to fall. The best thing that can be done is to report the graffiti and then remove it. Reporting is necessary to help the police build cases against the taggers.

### How to report graffiti:

- If you witness a tagger in the act, call 911.
- To report damage not in progress, call the Graffiti Hotline at 612-673-2090. You will need to provide the location (address), date and approximate time of the offense.

The city will send someone to take a picture of the graffiti for their records. Once you are notified that the report is complete, you can remove the graffiti. If you want to remove the graffiti right away, you can take your own photo. The Graffiti Hotline has instructions about where to send it.

You can get a free bottle of a graffiti removal product from Minneapolis Fire Stations. Fire Station 2, 143 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, is the closest for Bottineau residents. There are also several things that can be done to prevent graffiti. You can call the BNA office to receive copies of brochures prepared by the city or visit the city web site at the address above.

Thanks for your help in keeping down graffiti in the neighborhood.

nuisance odor directly. That is what the City can help with.

The most likely cause of the odor is sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>). Below is some information about SO<sub>2</sub> taken from the MPCA website.

**Characteristics:** Sulfur dioxide is a colorless gas that can be detected by taste and odor in a concentration as low as 0.3 ppm. Above 3 ppm, SO<sub>2</sub> has a pungent, irritating odor similar to a struck match. SO<sub>2</sub> is found at appreciable levels in the lower atmosphere (troposphere). Once in the atmosphere, SO<sub>2</sub> is oxidized to SO<sub>3</sub>. Due to a high affinity for water, SO<sub>3</sub> is rapidly converted to sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), a colorless, mildly corrosive acid. Sulfuric acid droplets and other sulfates account for up to 20 percent of suspended particulate matter in urban air. They can be transported long distances and return to the earth as a major component of acid rain.

Part of the difficulty is in better understanding the concentrations involved. GAF is allowed, under permit, to emit a certain amount of SO<sub>2</sub>. These emissions are measured in tons – in 2002 GAF emitted 4.99 tons of SO<sub>2</sub>. Breaking this down into a parts per million discussion is difficult.

BNA is anxious to work with the City, State and GAF to develop a way to better document ppm concentrations of air toxics in the neighborhood. Until that happens, the best thing that you can do is to continue to report the odor to those numbers listed on the front page.

## Bottineau Park News

**T-Ball & 4-Pitch** (5-8 years) and **Baseball and Softball** (9-16 years) sign up begins March 14<sup>th</sup>. The season runs from May to July. Cost is \$13 for T-Ball and 4-Pitch and \$15 for Baseball and Softball.

**Softball Clinic:** April 12 – 16 from 4-8 pm. Cost is \$20 and includes t-shirt, water bottle. Frisbee and pizza party at the end of camp. Ages 9-12.

**Baseball Clinic:** April 19 – 23 from 4-8 PM. Cost is \$20 and includes t-shirt, water bottle. Frisbee and pizza party at the end of camp. Ages 9-12.

The framework for continuing neighborhood improvements is ready for one last neighborhood review and ratification. It contains ideas for funding additional home improvement programs, increasing safety in the neighborhood, reducing pollution, working closer with the arts community and much more. However, these are still only general ideas. BNA will need your continued efforts to help define the details. Take the example of home improvements. What improvements should be eligible? How should the funds be distributed? Should there be income limits? If so, how high, or low, should they be set? How do apartment buildings fit into this mix? These are just some of the questions that need answers for a neighborhood funded program to be successful.

You will receive (or possibly already have) the final copy of the neighborhood's Action Plan. Based on your earlier comments and a legal analysis, a few slight changes have been made. They are underlined to point them out better. You are asked to review the plan once again and fill out the enclosed ratification ballot showing your support for the plan. With neighborhood support, the plan will be presented to the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) and the City Council. Once they approve the plan, the neighborhood will have access to funding for the improvement ideas in the plan.

However, we do not need to wait for those approvals before getting started defining the detail of those projects. To help you get involved in the area or areas that interest you, BNA has established several committees that will have the authority to design these programs and events. Call BNA at 782-2145 for more information or visit our website and go to the 'information' page. There you will find links to the various committees and contacts.

Bottineau Neighborhood Association  
[bottineauneighborhood.org](http://bottineauneighborhood.org)

Minneapolis  
[ci.minneapolis.mn.us](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

3<sup>rd</sup> Ward  
[ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward3](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward3)

Inspections  
[ci.minneapolis.mn.us/inspections](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us/inspections)

Hennepin County  
[co.hennepin.mn.us](http://co.hennepin.mn.us)

Park Board  
[minneapolisparcs.org](http://minneapolisparcs.org)

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
[pca.state.mn.us/](http://pca.state.mn.us/)

Environmental Protection Agency  
[epa.gov](http://epa.gov)

Friends of the Mississippi  
[fmr.org](http://fmr.org)

Mississippi Corridor Neighborhood Coalition  
[mcnc-mpls.org](http://mcnc-mpls.org)

NE Minneapolis Arts Association  
[art-a-whirl.org](http://art-a-whirl.org)

Neighborhood Revitalization Program  
[nrp.org](http://nrp.org)

MN State Legislature  
[leg.state.mn](http://leg.state.mn)

Minneapolis Crime Alerts  
[ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert)

Eureka Recycling  
[twincitiesfreemarket.org](http://twincitiesfreemarket.org)

Federal Trade Commission  
[www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)

## Mark Your Calendars



- 2/22 BNA Chili Cook Off – NRP Plan Preview  
6:30 PM at Bottineau Park  
(2000 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NE)
- 3/8 BNA Board of Directors Meeting  
6 p.m. at BNA office  
(2205 California Street, #107)
- 3/12 Breakfast with Councilman Samuels  
9:00 AM – 11:00  
Mill City Cafe

- 3/17 St. Patrick's Day
- 3/24 BNA Neighborhood Meeting  
7:00 PM at Eastside Neighborhood Services  
(1700 2<sup>nd</sup> Street)
- 3/27 Easter
- 4/3 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 4/12 BNA Board of Directors Meeting  
6 PM at BNA Office  
(2205 California Street #107)

**NOTE:** The public is welcome at all BNA meetings.

To have your event listed here, please call  
782-2145.

Community Events