



City of Burnsville

100 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville, MN 55337

Phone: 952-895-4400

Fax: 952-895-4404

www.burnsville.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 23, 2018

Contact: Caleb Ashling
Natural Resources
952-895-4543

BUCKTHORN-MUNCHING GOATS COMING TO BURNSVILLE THIS FALL

Burnsville has been battling buckthorn for many years, but this September it will enlist some new helpers – goats! Goats are known to be great at munching buckthorn and other woody species.

Earlier this year, the Burnsville City Council approved a pilot project in a two-acre area in Civic Center Park (near the Burnsville Ice Center). The pilot is meant to see if goats, along with other buckthorn-reduction techniques, can help control buckthorn in oak savanna restoration projects.

Large buckthorn and weedy trees have already been removed from the project area, and natural resources staff have seeded the area with native grasses. Starting in mid-September, goats will be brought in to eat the smaller buckthorn saplings, reducing the need for herbicides.

Goats are expected to be on site for several weeks. If successful, the goat grazing technique will be repeated for several years. The public is invited to stop by and check on the goats' progress once they have arrived on site!

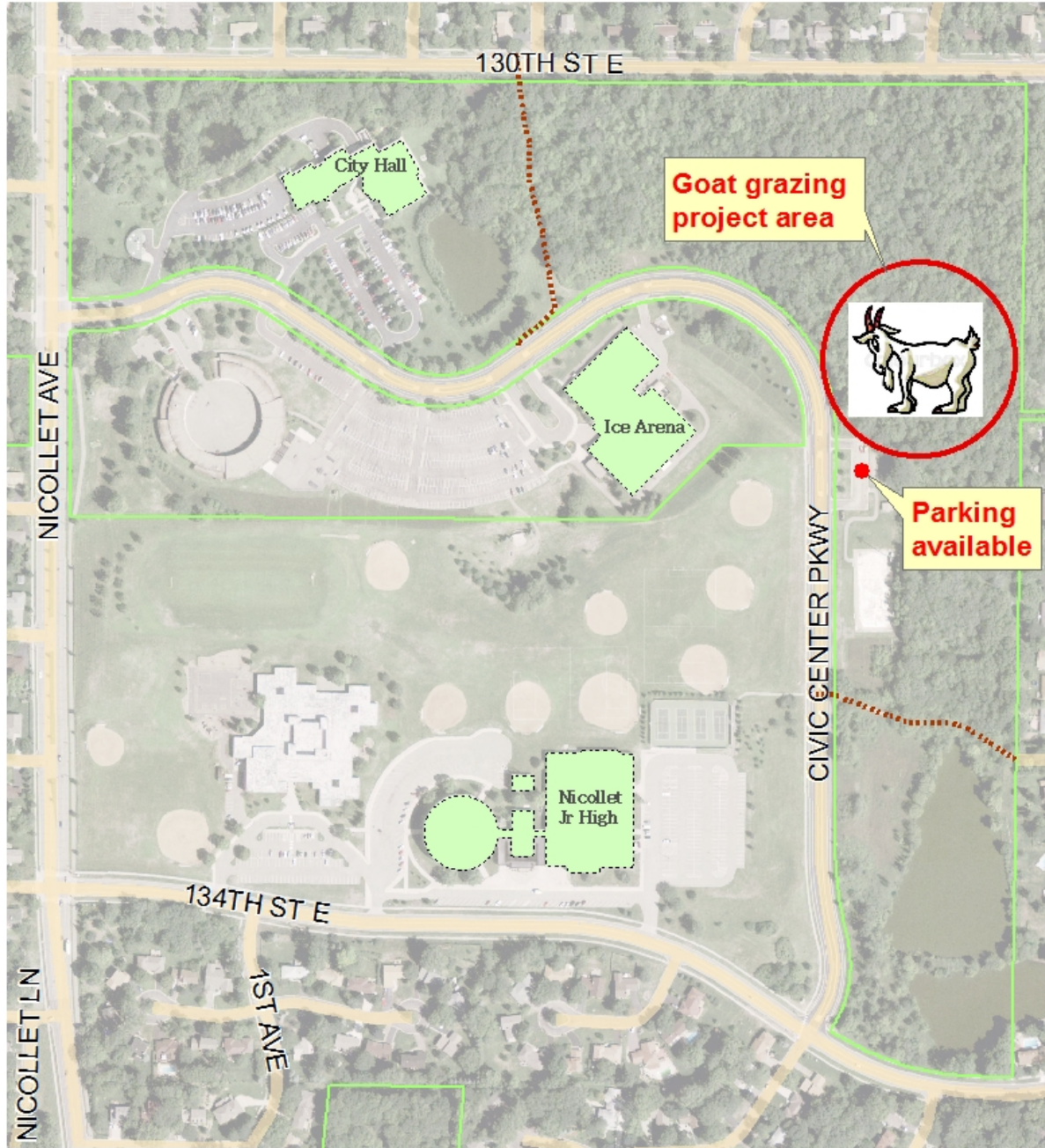
Watch the City's website (www.burnsville.org/goats), Facebook (www.facebook.com/cityofburnsville), and Twitter (www.twitter.com/burnsvillemn) for updates on the goats' arrival. A media event is being planned related to this project and a media advisory will be sent out in early September.

Cutline: A goat munching down on woody brush in a temporarily fenced plot.

Goats for Burnsville's pilot project are being provided by Goat Dispatch (www.goatdispatch.com) out of Fairbault, Minn.



(Map of goat grazing area below)



Legend

- Trails
- Nearby Buildings
- City Park

Goat Grazing Pilot Project Civic Center Park

