

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Eruv of Minnesota is grateful for the support and hard work of many people who made this Eruv possible and special thanks go to:

- ❖ Rav Moshe Heinemann of Baltimore, who, for several years, provided patient and generous guidance for this project;
- ❖ 190 families from near and far; and the Jewish Community Foundation of Minneapolis for contributing the funds to establish the Eruv;
- ❖ The rabbis and synagogues in our area who have given us their strong support and, in the case of Beth El, the opportunity to use the synagogue as a "wall" of the Eruv;
- ❖ The City Councils and staffs of St. Louis Park & Minneapolis and the Hennepin County Board; and
- ❖ Xcel Energy (formerly NSP) for its close cooperation and careful work in installing and maintaining the Eruv lechis and lines.

Eruv of Minnesota is a Section 501(c)3 organization, and your tax-deductible gift helps to provide a solid financial base for the Eruv. If you have questions, need additional brochures, or wish to make a donation in support of the Eruv, please contact:

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THE ST. LOUIS PARK - MINNEAPOLIS COMMUNITY ERUV

Enhancing Oneg Shabbat since 1990

Two extensions to the community Eruv were completed in 2006, and this brochure and map have been updated and distributed to the community.

WHAT IS AN ERUV?

Carrying from one domain to another or within the public domain is one of the 39 categories of labor prohibited on Shabbat. However, Jewish law also recognizes the concept of an Eruv. An Eruv permits designation of a neighborhood or citywide district as one large private domain (*reshut ha-yachid*), within which Jews may carry on Shabbat.

An Eruv is established by buying certain rights from local governments and by creating a physical border around the district. The city councils of Minneapolis and St. Louis Park and the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners have adopted resolutions and sold the necessary rights to Eruv of Minnesota.

Under Jewish law, the borders of an Eruv can be established by creating a continuous series of "doorway images" (*Tzurat ha-petach*). As in most American cities, our Eruv is established largely by using existing utility poles and lines; the poles are the sides of the doorway, and the wires are the door lintels.

USING THE MAP

The borders of our community Eruv are shown on the map. The area included is about one mile square, and includes five synagogues, Torah Academy, and Menorah Plaza. Please be aware of where the borders are and remember that sidewalks and homes on the far side of certain streets are not within the Eruv. Several families live in homes that are literally just over the border. Eruv of Minnesota works with these families to create private Eruvs linking their homes to the community Eruv.

INSPECTION

Mr. Shimon Perez inspects the Eruv each week to ensure that it may be used. Each Friday afternoon, people should call 612-640-ERUV (612-640-3788) for a recorded message of the Eruv's status. Under special circumstances, synagogues in the area will be asked to announce each Friday evening whether the Eruv may be used.

RULES OF THE ERUV

Our Eruv is intended to help families observe Shabbat in a manner which enhances

their Oneg Shabbat and which unifies our community. However, use of an Eruv is limited in several important ways:

1. There are many Shabbat prohibitions that an Eruv does not affect. For example, an Eruv permits carrying only those items that may be used on Shabbat. Items that are

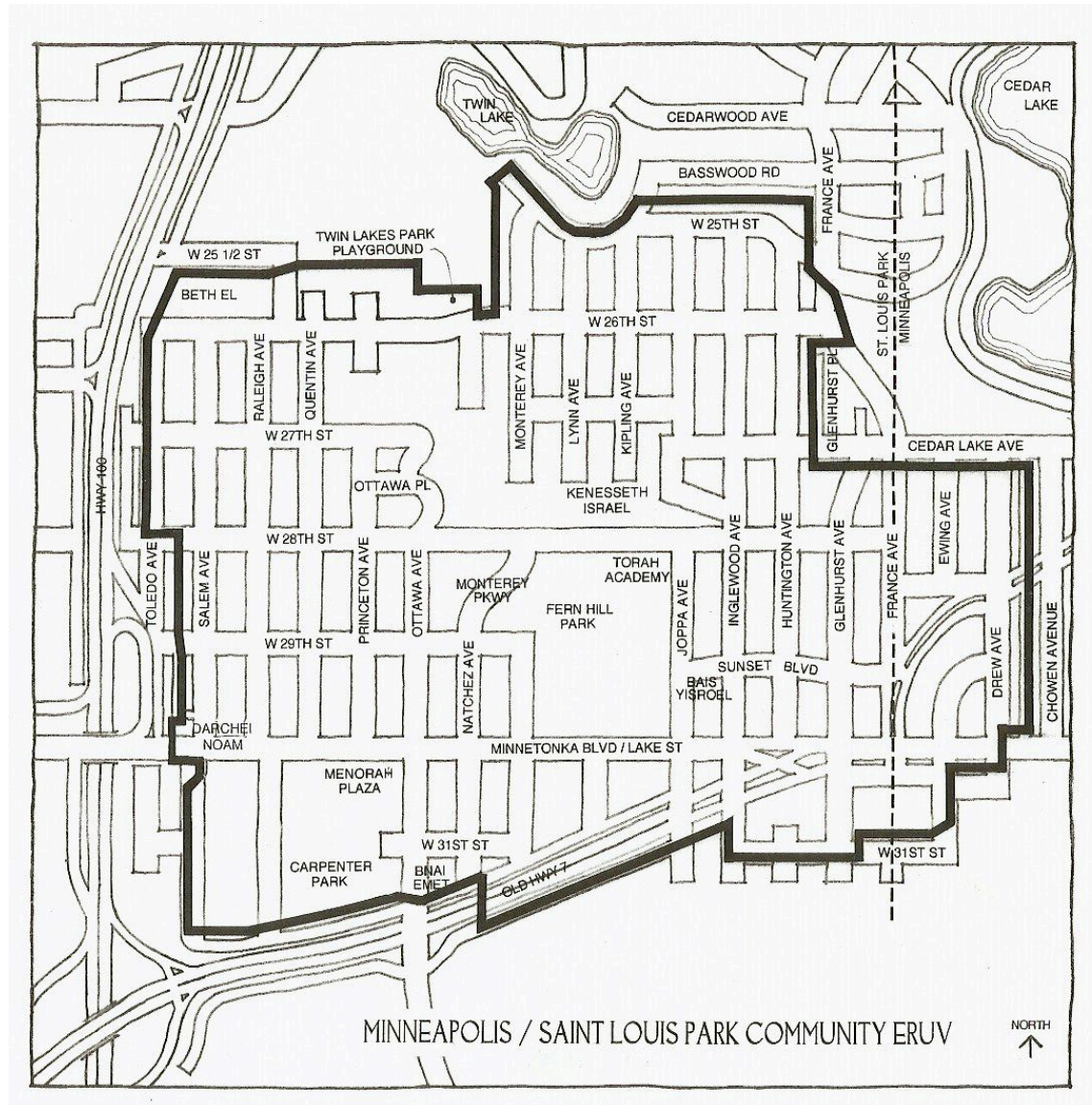
Mukezeb (umbrellas, wallets, tools, cigarettes, matches, and writing implements) still should not be carried.

2. The Eruv is not to be construed to permit any activity which is inimical to the Shabbat and which therefore violates its sanctity. Specifically, a community Eruv is not intended to sanction ball games, bicycle riding or carrying a pocketbook.

3. One may not carry any item for use after Shabbat.

4. It is always important for parents to instill in their children a sense of reverence and respect for the synagogue. Because an Eruv creates opportunities for families, it is particularly important that parents exercise good judgment in deciding if and when to bring their children to the synagogue and properly supervise children who are in synagogue.

5. Questions about what is permitted and what is prohibited within an Eruv should be directed to your rabbi. In particular, be aware of what to do if you learn that there is a problem with the Eruv on Shabbat.



Eruv Line
612-640-ERUV
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