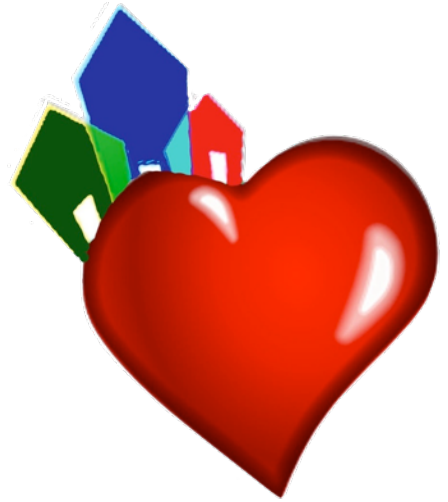


# Why should my community be Heart Safe?



To make the community a SAFER place to *live, work, and play* by being prepared to reduce the number of deaths and disabilities associated with Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

*...because it takes a village to save a life!*

## FAQs:

### Who can apply to be a designated Heart Safe Community?

Any municipality, county or organization is eligible to apply for the Heart Safe designation. Applicants can be determined by geographic locations or organization size. Geographic locations are cities, townships or counties. Organizational applicants are determined by campus size and average daily population.

### Is there an application fee?

While there is no application fee, there are often costs associated with meeting the criteria to become a Heart Safe Community. Cost will vary depending on the Community's size and needs (i.e. CPR training and equipment or AED placement). A proper assessment of your Community will determine the needs.

### Why should my community be a designated Heart Safe Community?

To make the community a safer place to live, work, and play by being prepared to reduce the number of deaths and disabilities associated with Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

### When are Heart Safe Community applications due?

Applications can be submitted to American Heart Association (Edina, MN) Heart Safe Communities Program at any time. Applications are reviewed and referred for designation.

### Will an AED always resuscitate someone in Cardiac Arrest?

The AED will look at the electrical activity of the heart. If the electrical activity is "chaotic" and needs a "restart" the unit will charge and be ready to shock. If someone is in cardiac arrest and the AED does not indicate a shock is needed, CPR should be initiated immediately.

### Is the AED safe to use?

Absolutely! An AED is safe to use by anyone. If you can turn it on, you can use it. They are designed with multiple safeguards and warnings. You can receive training by attending most CPR classes or specific unit training if there is an AED at a site you frequent.

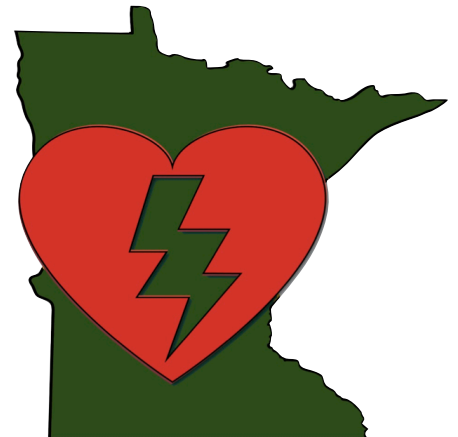
### Is there any protection for public bystanders that administer CPR?

Minnesota Statute 604A.01 defines the two main subdivisions: the duty to act and general immunity from liability. The general immunity from liability covers the basic care rendered at an emergency scene and includes the use of an AED.

### Can anyone buy an AED?

Yes. However, AEDs are manufactured and sold under guidelines approved by the FDA. Current FDA rules require a physician's prescription to purchase most AEDs. Heart Safe Communities can assist you in all the steps of purchasing an AED.

## HEART SAFE



## COMMUNITY

For more information on how to become Heart Safe, please email [heart.safe@heart.org](mailto:heart.safe@heart.org) or <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/hpcd/chp/cvh/resources.htm>.