

Minnesota Nice Community **Gatherings: Where Goodness Grows**

Organizer Guide (Community Host Version)

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Tagline

"In peace we stand, with hearts aligned – Minnesota Nice, for all humankind."

1) What You're Hosting (In One Sentence)

A **calm, peaceful, non-escalating community gathering** where people wear **green**, hold **candles**, and share **presence + song + unity** in public spaces.

A sea of green. A chorus of voices. A calm that sustains.

2) The Organizer's Role

Your job is not to "run a protest."

Your job is to **hold the tone** and make it easy for others to participate safely.

You are creating a space that is:

- visible
- peaceful
- welcoming
- grounded
- impossible to misread as aggressive

3) Choose a Gathering Format (Keep It Simple)

Pick one of these:

Option A: Stand & Sing Circle (easiest)

- People stand in a circle or loose cluster
- Candle in hand
- Gentle songs + short chants

Option B: Sidewalk Presence

- People stand peacefully along a sidewalk
- Quiet humming or soft singing
- No blocking entrances or roads

Option C: "MN Nice Walk" (calm walk)

- Short, slow walk (10-20 minutes)
- Quiet, family-friendly
- No shouting, no chasing, no confrontation

Option D: Candle Window Unity (home-based)

- Invite neighbors to place a candle in their window
- Share a short peace message online

4) Pick the Time + Place

Best locations

- neighborhood parks
- public squares

- community centers (outside)
- sidewalks near libraries or civic spaces
- lakeside paths or green spaces

Best timing

- 30-60 minutes is perfect
- early evening works well (candles show beautifully)
- choose a predictable time if repeating weekly

5) What to Ask People to Bring

Keep it light and accessible:

Encourage:

- wear **any shade of green**
- a candle (wax or battery)
- water
- comfortable shoes
- a calm heart and respectful presence

Optional:

- small hand drum / shaker
- blanket or folding chair (elders welcome!)

6) Non-Negotiable Agreements (These Protect the Movement)

This gathering stays strong by staying calm.

We commit to:

- No violence
- No confrontation with law enforcement
- No damage
- No intimidation
- No signs
- No provocation
- No hostile engagement

Instead, we bring:

- Presence
- Song
- Rhythm
- Peaceful chants
- Unity in green

7) Roles to Assign (Even for Small Groups)

If you have 5+ people, assign these:

Host / Lead Organizer (you)

- starts the gathering
- reads the opening agreements
- sets the tone

Peace Stewards (1-3 people)

- wear green ribbon/armband
- gently redirect energy if someone escalates
- help protect vulnerable participants
- remind: "We don't engage. We stay calm."

Song Starter (1 person)

- begins songs slowly and gently
- keeps it unifying, not intense

Safety Support (1 person)

- water reminder
- checks on elders/kids
- watches weather and pacing

(For tiny gatherings, one person can do multiple roles.)

8) The 10-Minute Opening Script (Copy/Paste)

Welcome. Thank you for being here.

We are part of *Minnesota Nice Community Gatherings: Where Goodness Grows.*

We are here to show what peaceful citizenship looks like.

We stand for **kindness, calm, compassion, and caring for one another.**

Today we agree together:

- Stay grounded
- Protect the vulnerable
- Stay with the group's tone
- No pushing
- No escalation

- No chasing or taunting
- No confrontation
- No signs
- No provocation

We are not here to argue.

We are not here to inflame.

We are here to be visible without giving escalation a doorway in.

Let's take three slow breaths together.

(...pause...)

And now we begin in unity:

"In peace we stand, with hearts aligned – Minnesota Nice, for all humankind."

9) Songs & Chants (Use Only Unifying Sound)

Songs (easy, widely known)

- *This Little Light of Mine*
- *Lean on Me*
- *Amazing Grace* (slow tempo)
- *Let Peace Begin with Me*

Chants (gentle, not aggressive)

- "Minnesota voices, peaceful choices!"
- "Stand together, stand in peace!"
- "In peace we stand, with hearts aligned – Minnesota Nice, for all humankind."

10) If Someone Tries to Escalate (What to Do)

You don't argue. You don't lecture. You don't match energy.

Peaceful phrases that work

- "We're keeping this calm and unprovokable."
- "We're here for peace and community."
- "We're not engaging—thank you."
- "Let's return to the song."
- "We stay grounded here."

If needed: Peace Stewards gently guide the group to **tighten the circle**, begin singing, and refocus.

11) How to End the Gathering (Simple Closing)

Close with:

- one final song
- one final breath together
- invite candle-in-window tonight
- invite others to host their own gathering

Closing line option:

"Thank you for growing goodness with us. 

12) Sharing It (Social Post Template)

Minnesota Nice Community Gatherings: Where Goodness Grows

We're gathering peacefully in green to show calm strength, compassion, and community unity.

Bring a candle, bring your voice, bring your presence.

No signs. No provocation. Just peace.

#MinnesotaNice #WhereGoodnessGrows #GreenForGood #MNUnited