

Riverside Review

April / May 2014

Village of Riverside

27 Riverside Road
Riverside, IL 60546
708-447-2700
www.riverside.il.us

Building Dept. 708-447-1241
Fire Admin. 708-447-2123
Parks & Rec. 708-442-7025
Police Admin. 708-447-2127
Public Works 708-442-3590
Museum 708-447-2542
Library 708-442-6366
EMERGENCY 911

Village President

Benjamin Sells

Board of Trustees

Joseph A. Ballerine
Patricia Collins
Michael Foley
Ellen Hamilton
Douglas Pollock
Jean Sussman

Village Manager

Peter Scalera

Village Clerk

Cathy Haley

Village Board Meetings

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

April 3, April 17

May 1, May 15

Advisory Board & Commission Meetings

April 2014

08 Landscape Adv. Comm., 7:00
10 Economic Dev. Comm., 7:30
10 Preservation Comm., 7:30
11 Board of Fire & Police Commissioners 7:00
14 Cable Comm., 7:00
14 Safe Environment, 7:30
17 Police Adjudication, 6:00
21 Historical Comm., 7:00
23 Planning & Zoning, 7:00
28 Parks & Rec. Board, 7:00

May 2014

01 Police Pension Bd., 8:00 a.m.
08 Preservation Comm., 7:30
09 Economic Dev Comm., 7:30
12 Cable Commission, 7:00
12 Safe Environment, 7:30
13 Bd. of Fire & Police Commissioners, (annual meeting), 7:00
13 Landscape Adv. Comm., 7:00
15 Police Adjudication, 6:00
19 Parks & Rec. Board, 7:00
19 Historical Comm., 7:00
28 Planning and Zoning, 7:00

Please call 708-447-2700 ext. 254 to confirm the meeting you wish to attend.

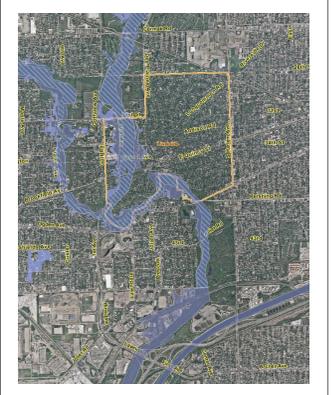


For more information, please visit www.riverside.il.us

Springtime Flooding

April showers bring May flowers, but sometimes spring rains also result in flooding. This past Winter was the 3rd snowiest in Chicago since the National Weather Service began keeping records. This translates to an increase in the potential for flooding with the onset of warmer temperatures, heavy rains and rapid snow melt. According to FEMA, each foot of compacted snow contains gallons of water and the frozen ground prevents melting snow and rain from seeping into the ground.

Residents should be aware that standard homeowners insurance policies do not cover flood damage or sewer backups. Information regarding flood insurance is available on the FEMA website at www.floodsmart.gov or by calling 1-800-427-2419. The Village of Riverside currently has in place many of the best practices outlined in the FEMA Community Rating System program, but is awaiting a FEMA audit. Participation in the Community Rating System program is voluntary, but residents who reside in participating communities may see a reduction in their flood insurance premiums after a favorable audit. Residents are also encouraged to contact their insurance agent to inquire about the availability of sewer backup coverage.



Severe Weather

According to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), Illinois ranks 5th in the United States in terms of the number of tornadoes per square mile, with the majority of tornados occurring between April 1 and June 30, between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 10 p.m. On average, there are 47 tornados in Illinois each year, so it's important to understand the terms used to describe different severe weather threats. A **Tornado Watch** means that weather conditions are right for the formation of a funnel cloud. A tornado is possible, so remain alert to changing weather conditions. A **Tornado Warning** indicates that a funnel cloud has been sighted or radar indicates the formation of a funnel cloud. Take shelter immediately in the lowest level of your home or office. If there is no basement in the building, an interior room with no windows such as a bathroom or closet is considered the next safest place to seek shelter. A **Severe Thunderstorm Watch** means that severe thunderstorms are possible due to current weather conditions. A **Severe Thunderstorm Warning** indicates that a severe thunderstorm is approaching or occurring and may include damaging winds, hail and lightning. Seek shelter!

Real Estate Transfers



All property transfers in Riverside require a compliance inspection and final water meter reading. The fee for a compliance inspection for a single family dwelling is \$175. The final water bill must also be paid prior to closing and the seller must obtain a final payment certificate or any unpaid balance will be transferred to the new property owner. Compliance inspections and final water meter readings should be scheduled with the Building Department at least ten days in advance of the proposed closing date. Sellers must also provide the village with a current plat of survey not more than six months old and a copy of the deed which will be stamped and returned. For additional information regarding the compliance inspection or final payment certificate, please contact the village office at 708-447-2700. To schedule a compliance inspection, please call the building department at 708-447-1241.

Riverside Arts Weekend

Riverside Arts Weekend is Saturday and Sunday, May 17 & 18 in Guthrie Park. In addition to a juried arts fair featuring artists from throughout the Midwest, there will be live musical performances and local food available in the park both days. There will also be an exciting fashion event entitled Flickr, featuring one of a kind apparel designed by area artists, at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. RAW is a free event, open to the public. Riverside Arts Weekend is a 501(c)(3) not for profit group of volunteers who have worked all year to bring together this cultural event.



Sign up for the E-flash today! Visit the website for details.

To get the latest news and developments about the Village of Riverside, please sign up for the E-Flash. To register, go to www.riverside.il.us and click on the Riverside E-flash link on the left side of the homepage or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

Vehicle Sticker and Dog Tag Renewals

Renewal forms will be mailed to residents in mid-May. Stickers must be purchased and displayed no later than June 30 to avoid penalties. Current stickers are required for all vehicles housed in Riverside or registered (with the Secretary of State) to a Riverside address. Renewals with no changes can be renewed on-line until June 30. Stickers can also be renewed by mail or by leaving the completed form along with payment in the silver lock box in front of the Township Hall. Staff will process your paperwork and mail your sticker to you. Please consider using these convenient renewal options rather than standing in line at the Village office.



If your vehicle is no longer registered or housed in Riverside, you must provide the village with a copy of the bill of sale or other disposal record such as an insurance report or Secretary of State registration showing that the vehicle is no longer registered in Riverside. If a vehicle remains registered in Riverside but is used or stored out of town (such as with a college student or at second home), a sticker is still required. Dog owners must provide proof of current rabies inoculation in order to renew a dog license. All dogs must be licensed.

Mark Your Calendars for Summer Fun!

In addition to Riverside Arts Weekend, there are plenty of other exciting events to look forward to in Riverside this summer. A partial list of upcoming events follows:

Wednesday afternoons from June 4 to October 15: The **Riverside Farmers' Market** returns!

June 12, July 10, August 14 & September 28: **Cruise Nights and Car Show**

June 1: **Olmsted Society House Walk**, Sustainability: Then and Now

June 29: **Kids Mini-Spartan Race/Theme Fun Run**

July 3 & 4: **Independence Day in Riverside**, Concert in the Park, 5K Run, Parade and Festival in Guthrie Park

August 8: **Movie in the Big Ball Park**

August 16: **Cori's Kids Triathlon**

September 5: **Bourbon Springs Concert** featuring Guitarra Azul

September 17: **Touch-a-Truck** featuring big rigs, SWAT, police and fire trucks

Energy Efficiency Audits Available



Many Riverside residents experienced a spike in energy costs during the long, cold winter of 2013-2014. Higher heating bills were an unpleasant reminder of how important it is to use energy wisely and have a home that is as energy efficient as possible. Spring is the perfect time to get a home energy assessment! The Energy Impact Illinois Program offers Riverside residents free or reduced-cost home energy assessments. These thorough assessments are conducted by Building Performance Institute certified contractors, who will then provide a comprehensive report on energy loss and potential opportunities for year-round energy savings in your home. The program also helps homeowners find, qualify for, and apply for rebates of up to \$1,200, available to residents who complete cost-effective energy efficiency upgrades, such as air sealing and insulation. Such upgrades will help homeowners save money on energy costs, in addition to making homes more comfortable year-round.

Another opportunity for savings lies in new pricing programs that residents can enroll in through the recently installed smart grid and smart meter systems. In order to learn more about either of these programs, or to request a presentation on the smart grid, smart meters, and/or the Energy Impact Illinois Program for your group or upcoming meeting, please contact our local Riverside Field Organizer, Liz Lyon, at elizabeth.lyon@elevateenergy.org or (773)299-7651. Elevate Energy is affiliated with The Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT), an award-winning innovations laboratory for urban sustainability. CNT works across disciplines and issues, including transportation and community development, energy, water, and climate change.

Bicycle Route Maps Available

With the long awaited arrival of Spring, residents should be alert to the arrival of bicyclists in the village. The warmer weather will mean more residents and visitors will be biking the streets of the Village in the Forest. Riverside has three designated bicycle routes: The Heritage Route, the Olmsted Route and the Palmer Route. Bicycle route maps are available at the village office. Please stop by the office to pick one up! Drivers and bicyclists must share the road and observe the rules of the road. When riding at night, a white headlight and red rear reflector or taillight are required by state law. Flashing lights are especially effective at making bicyclists more visible to motorists, as are reflective or light colored clothing. Cyclists should always wear a helmet to reduce the risk of serious or permanent injury or death in the event of a crash. Be safe and have fun. Let's ride!

