

Riverside Review

February/March 2009

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
EMERGENCY 911

Village President
Harold J. Wiaduck

Board of Trustees
Candice Grace
John E. Scully
Ben Sells
Thomas C. Shields
Kevin F. Smith
Jean Sussman

Village Clerk
Arlene Blaha
Village Manager
Kathleen F. Rush

Village Board Meetings

February 2

Board of Trustees, 7:30

February 17

Board of Trustees, 7:30

March 3

Board of Trustees, 7:30

March 16

Board of Trustees, 7:30

Commission Meetings

February 2009

05 Police Pension Board, 9:00 am

05 Economic Dev Comm., 7:30

09 Cable Commission., 7:30

10 Landscape Adv Comm., 7:00

10 Fire & Police Comm., 7:00

12 Preservation Comm., 7:30

17 Plan Commission, 7:00

19 Police Adjudication, 6:30

23 Parks & Rec Brd., 7:00

24 Historical Commission, 7:00

Zoning Board of Appeals –As called

March 2009

05 Economic Dev Comm., 7:30

09 Cable Commission, 7:00

10 Landscape Adv Comm., 7:00

12 Preservation Comm., 7:30

16 Parks & Rec Brd., 7:00

17 Plan Commission, 7:30

19 Police Adjudication, 6:30

24 Historical Comm., 7:00

Zoning Board of Appeals –As called

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

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

Centennial Park Plans on the Web

The Village now has an initial site plan for the Centennial Park project (Centennial Park is located at the base of the historic water tower). The project is partially funded with a 70% matching grant from the State of Illinois through an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program grant. The project includes milling and resurfacing the road with asphalt. The sidewalk style used throughout the Central Business District will continue into the street to define the cross walk area. The service road will be removed. Three additional trees will be planted on the southwest corner of the plaza. Perennials will be planted around the new museum and an ADA ramp constructed. Included in the scope of the project but dependent on available funds will be plantings for the beds along East Avenue. The Village anticipates that funds will be available in part due to the Village's selection of material for the street surface. Also within the scope of this project is the lighting of the Tower. To review the site plan, please go to www.riverside.il.us, and click on the related news item. Actual construction is due to begin in late May.

Recycling Made Simpler

Village officials recently announced the implementation of a new method of recycling preparation which will make recycling more convenient for residents. Effective immediately, residents no longer are required to separate paper and non-paper recyclable items for pickup. Instead, they may co-mingle all items in their bins. This "single-stream" approach is aimed at making collection easier and simpler for participants. All items can be placed in one or more recycling bins that are collected weekly.

Village officials worked together with Allied Waste Services to modify the recycling program to increase participation. Residents will continue using the same collection bins and the pickup schedule will remain unchanged.

"The village takes recycling very seriously. Our residents have made the Riverside recycling program one of the highest volume and participation programs in the western suburbs. Last year Riverside residents recycled over 1300 tons of material with the average household recycling 975 pounds of material. According to the Environmental Protection Agency's figures, this helped conserve nearly 11,000 trees and 4-1/2 million gallons of water. We hope the simplified, revised program will bring more convenience to our residents and increases our overall recycling rate", said Riverside Village Manager Katy Rush. "

"Single-stream recycling typically increases the number of participants, tonnage collected, and material diverted from landfills," said Richard Van der Molen, an Allied Waste representative "Switching to single-stream offers the opportunity to update the collection trucks and processing system. This new year, we'd encourage everyone to add one more type of material to the material they already recycle, whether it is water bottles or mixed paper such as mail and bills."

Recycling Guide

Examples of ACCEPTABLE Items:

- Glass bottles or jars (all colors)
- Aluminum cans or clean foil
- Tin cans and empty aerosol cans
- Plastic containers #1-5 and #7
- Six & twelve pack rings
- Newspaper
- Direct mail, bills, envelopes
- Magazines and catalogs
- Telephone directories
- Paper
- Brown paper bags
- Paperboard, chipboard (cereal boxes)
- Wet strength cardboard (beverage cartons)
- Corrugated cardboard (3'x3' only)

Examples of UNACCEPTABLE Items:

- Plastic bags and wrap
- Styrofoam and packing peanuts
- Motor oil, anti-freeze, pool chemical containers
- Pesticide and herbicide containers
- Window glass and mirrors
- Food-contaminated paper or cardboard
- Diapers
- Tissue paper
- Automobile parts
- Carpeting, roofing, & siding materials
- Toys
- Buckets and gasoline cans
- Hoses and pipes

To get the latest news and developments about the Village of Riverside, please sign up for the E-Flash System. To register, please go to www.riverside.il.us/eflash.

Water Rate Increase Effective January 1

Facing a near 13% increase in water costs from the Village of McCook, the Village Board had no option but to approve a 7.9% increase to Riverside water customers. Riverside's water is pumped from Lake Michigan by the City of Chicago. Chicago sells water to the Village of McCook, who transmits the water to Riverside. In late 2007, the City of Chicago raised its rates by 50% over three years, with a second 15% increase effective January 1, 2009. In turn, McCook is passing on increases of more than 42% over three years to the Riverside, including a 12.8% increase January 1, 2009.

Riverside water customers will see a rate adjustment from \$5.44 per unit (100 cubic feet) to \$5.87, or 7.9%. The new rate is effective for water service after January 1, 2009. The increase will be prorated beginning with the December/January bills that are due in March, 2009. The January/February bills that will be due in April, 2009, will be the first to reflect the full 2009 rate.

Chicago will increase its rates by 14% as of January 1, 2010. In turn, McCook will pass on a 12.2% increase. Riverside water customers are scheduled to see a 6.1% rate bump in 2010 to cover these increased costs.

Parks & Rec Department Goes Paperless!

The Parks & Recreation Department went to a paperless brochure in January 2009. Due to budget cuts, starting in 2009, the Parks & Recreation Department's program brochure is only available online at www.riverside.il.us. Registration for winter / spring classes for residents begins February 2nd, with non-resident registration starting the following week on February 9th.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk

Saint Patrick's Day is widely observed by Americans of all ethnic backgrounds. While it's a day to celebrate Irish heritage and perhaps enjoy the company of friends, it can turn deadly due to impaired driving. Whether you're attending a parade or making a trip to the local pub, don't rely on the luck of the Irish to keep you safe. Designate a sober driver before the party begins - *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk*.



Driving while impaired during the St. Patrick's Day holiday puts everyone on the roads at risk.

- Over the past five years, 851 people lost their lives in motor vehicles crashes during the St. Patrick's Day holiday.

Whether you're meeting a few friends at the pub or attending the local parade, if you plan on drinking, don't drive.

- Plan a safe way home before your celebrations begin;
- If you're impaired, use a taxi, call a sober friend, or use public transportation to get home safely;
- If you see a drunk driver on the road, don't hesitate to contact your local law enforcement;
- And remember, if you know someone who is about to drive while impaired, take their keys and help them get to where they are going safely.

Impaired driving has dire consequences. Don't rely on the luck of the Irish this St. Patrick's Day.

- The tragedies and costs from drunk driving are not limited to death or injury. They can also lead to the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest, which can be very significant.
- People that break the law often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, and other unanticipated expenses such as attorney fees, court costs, increased insurance rates, repairs, lost time at work, etc.
- Plus there is the added embarrassment and humiliation of informing family, friends, and employers.

Remember on St. Patrick's Day and everyday, Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

Municipal Election - April 7, 2009

Please note the following important dates regarding the upcoming municipal election:

- Last day to Register to Vote in the Consolidated Election: **Tuesday, March 10, 2009**
- Grace Period Voter Registration: **Wednesday, March 11 through Tuesday, March 24, 2009**
- Early Voting Period: **Monday, March 16 through Thursday, April 2, 2009**
- Election Day: **Tuesday, April 7, 2009**. Polling places open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

For a preview of the April 7 ballot, please go to the Cook County Clerk's website: www.voterinfonet.com.

Did You Know?

A food pantry exists on the third floor of the Township building? If you or someone you know needs assistance, please check it out. If you are able to help support the food pantry, it is always in need of donations and could especially benefit from the generosity of our residents this year.