

Riverside Review

February / March 2012

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

Michael C. Gorman

Board of Trustees

Joseph A. Ballerine
James D. Reynolds
Lonnie R. Sacchi
Benjamin Sells
Mark D. Shevitz
Jean Sussman

Village Clerk

Arlene Blaha

Village Board Meetings

All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

February 6

February 20

March 5

March 19

Commission Meetings

February 2012

02 Economic Dev. Comm., 7:30
09 Preservation Comm., 7:30
13 Cable Commission, 7:30
14 Landscape Adv. Comm., 7:00
16 Police Adjudication, 6:00
21 Plan Commission 7:30
27 Parks & Rec. Comm., 7:00
28 Historical Comm., 7:00
Zoning Board of Appeals –As called

March 2012

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08 Preservation Comm., 7:30
12 Cable Commission, 7:30
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Please call 708-447-2700
ext. 254 to confirm the
meeting you wish to attend.

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



Electric Aggregation

On March 20, 2012, voters in Riverside will have the opportunity to vote on a referendum regarding electric aggregation. What does this mean for you? Keep reading to find out.

In 1997, the State of Illinois deregulated electric power providers. Since then, over 75% of commercial customers have purchased power from suppliers other than ComEd; however, few residents have moved to lower-cost energy suppliers. As a result, the State of Illinois recently passed legislation allowing municipalities to solicit competitive bids from suppliers on behalf of residential and small business customers. Since passage of the legislation, nineteen communities in Illinois have begun buying electric power from suppliers other than ComEd. The average resident of these communities is saving \$150 to \$175 annually. ComEd continues to bill each resident, and continues to repair any outages.

The Village will be placing a referendum on the upcoming March 2012 ballot to determine if residents would like the Village to pursue electric aggregation and similar savings. If approved, the referendum would allow the Village to solicit bids on behalf of residents and small businesses to buy electric power on the open (newly deregulated) energy market. *The goal is to secure lower electric supply rates for residents and small businesses in our community. The referendum must receive a majority of votes for the village to move forward with electric aggregation.*

To help residents understand what electric aggregation is all about, we have created a webpage on the village website, www.riverside.il.us that provides background information on the program and answers to frequently asked questions. Please also refer to the special electric aggregation insert in all February and March 2012 water bills. Additional details are available at www.ElectricAggregation.org or by calling 1-800-856-3404.

Important Property Transfer Information



Riverside Village Code requires that property owners obtain a Certificate of Compliance whenever title is transferred for a structure, building or dwelling unit, whether or not there is monetary consideration. The expense is the seller's responsibility, and the Certificate of Compliance must be given to the new owner at the time of closing. The seller must also submit an original plat of survey not more than six month old at least one week prior to the proposed closing date. The Building Department uses the survey to verify measurements and generate the Certificate of Compliance.

A compliance inspection is not a home inspection. It is a zoning inspection. Anything about the property that does not comply with current zoning ordinances will be noted on the Certificate of Compliance. More than likely, no corrective action will be required before the property is sold, but this is a way to inform the new owner of any items that are non-conforming to the zoning code. If the new owner wants to make alterations in the future, the items will have to be brought into compliance with current village ordinances.

The inspector will check the property for setbacks, width of driveway and note any accessory structures such as sheds or garages. The inspector will also walk through the inside of the property to verify that it complies with zoning uses, such as single family home, multi-family building, commercial, etc. At the same time, the final water meter reading is taken.

Residents who intend to sell a property should call the Building Department at (708) 447-1241 to schedule a compliance inspection as soon as a closing date has been set. Please be prepared to provide the name of the current owner, the name of the buyer and a contact person who we will call if we have questions and to notify when the Certificate of Compliance is ready to be picked up. The cost for a single family dwelling is \$175.00 plus the final water bill. Any additional outstanding fines or fees due to the Village must also be paid prior to issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.

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.

New Requirements for Disposing of Electronics

Effective January 1, 2012, the State of Illinois' amended Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act makes it illegal to throw out electronic devices with the trash and illegal for Illinois landfills to accept them. The amended law mandates the recycling of Televisions, Monitors, Printers, Computers (laptop, notebook, netbook, tablet), Electronic Keyboards, Facsimile Machines, Videocassette Recorders, Portable Digital Music Players, Digital Video Disc Players, Video Game Consoles, Small Scale Servers, Scanners, Electronic Mice, Digital Converter Boxes, Cable Receivers, Satellite Receivers, Digital Video Disc Recorders. Please visit the Refuse Collection page of the For Residents section of the village website for local electronics recycling resources.

Emerald Ash Borer Update

Most residents are aware of the Emerald Ash Borer, a newly identified destructive pest and its presence in Riverside. The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a highly destructive pest of all ash trees. It has proven to be unstoppable, and is aggressively eliminating the ash tree as a viable tree specimen for our area. In response to the EAB infestation, the Village has adopted an Emerald Ash Borer Policy to provide management guidelines relative to EAB populations within the Village that comply with Federal and State mandates and best monitor, reduce, and replace our ash trees.



Once an ash tree is found to be infested (or failing in any other way) it will be removed at the direction of Village staff. Additionally, residents may request removal of a Village-owned ash tree prior to a confirmed infestation. If resources are available, the village will accommodate these requests in order to spread the required removal work and replacement costs over a longer period of time, as opposed to needing to remove and replace all public ash trees at once. Residents with questions or concerns should contact the Village Forester at the Public Works Department at (708) 442-3590.

Fairbank and Hofmann Dam Removals and Swan Pond Restoration

The US Army Corp, of Engineers, through their contractor, will be removing the Fairbank Dam in late January. This work will be followed by improvements to Swan Pond in April/May and the notching of Hofmann Dam in June/July. As reported, the enhancements to Swan Pond include the removal of invasive species along the river, repair of the WPA wall, regrading to improve drainage, and construction of a walking path from Burling Road to the Barrypoint Bridge. These improvements will allow residents and visitors to once again enjoy the Swan Pond area for recreation.



Photo: Swan Pond near present day Library site. (Courtesy of Riverside Historical Museum)

Parks & Recreation Summer Camp Registration

The Parks and Recreation Department will be offering new and enhanced summer camps this year for children ages 3 to 13 with more choices than ever before! Summer Camp Registration forms will be available at the Water Tower after February 15. Resident registration begins on Wednesday, February 22 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. inside the Historic Water Tower at 10 Pine Avenue. Non-resident registration begins on February 24 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The new Camp Director and Supervisor will be present both days. After February 24, registration is open to all during normal business hours, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Space is limited, so be sure to register early. Families who register more than one child will receive a 10% discount on the second and third child. Please call the Parks & Recreation department at (708) 442-7025 for more information.

Yard Waste Pick-up Resumes Tuesday, April 3, 2012!