

Riverside Review

February / March 2013

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

Cathy Haley

Village Board Meetings

All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

February 4, February 18

March 4, March 18

Commission Meetings

February 2013

07 Economic Dev. Comm., 7:30
07 Police Pension Board, 8:00 am
11 Cable Comm., 7:30
12 Landscape Adv. Comm., 7:00
12 Board of Fire & Police
Commissioners, 7:00
14 Preservation Comm., 7:30
19 Plan Commission, 7:30
21 Police Adjudication, 6:00
25 Parks & Rec. Comm., 7:00
26 Historical Commission, 7:00
Zoning Board of Appeals –As
called

March 2013

07 Economic Dev Comm., 7:30
11 Cable Commission, 7:30
12 Landscape Adv. Comm., 7:00
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Please call 708-447-2700
ext. 254 to confirm the
meeting you wish to attend.

Restoring Riverside's Urban Forest



Riverside's urban forest will be facing several challenges in the near future. Invasive pests such as the Emerald Ash Borer along with other invasive plants continue to pose significant challenges for our community. The good news is that many residents and civic organizations have responded to these challenges by contributing to our Village with generous monetary donations and many hours of volunteer work. THANK YOU to everyone who participated in landscape maintenance and tree planting efforts in 2012. There were several major fundraising and tree planting events in 2012 which will have a significant impact on the future of Riverside's urban forest. Throughout the year, beginning in March and continuing through November, the Department of Public Works and the Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside partnered to maintain Riverside's park and wilderness areas by weeding, mulching and removing invasive species. The brush clearing and native plantings along Riverside Road, between Gage and Olmstead, is a direct result of this continued collaboration. Volunteers from local service organizations such as St. Mary's, Riverside Garden Club and Riverside Chamber of Commerce, along with many other residents, took part in landscape clean up days in the Central Business District as part of the Riverside Springs Ahead project to beautify and maintain our downtown! In September, the Forester collaborated with local Girl Scout Shannon Layng to organize a fund-raising effort as part of her Girl Scout Gold Award which secured over \$34,500 in donations, enough funding to plant over 100 trees in honor of the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting. And in November, Riverside resident Tom Sisulak organized the 6th Annual 1,000 Tree Planting Project, which saw volunteers fan out across the Village to plant 1,000 tree seeds in one day. Perhaps the most heartfelt story of 2012 was that of aspiring arborist Mary Hennelly, a 5th grader at Ames School who asked for donations to Riverside's tree fund in lieu of birthday presents and raised \$175 with the help of family and friends. The Village intends to organize an Arbor Day celebration in 2013 to plant Mary's tree. These efforts, along with the return of the Cooperative Tree Planting Program will benefit all residents by ensuring the continued vitality of the landscape. Although, the Village will lose a significant amount of ash trees over the next five years, the important thing to remember is that trees are a renewable resource and can be replaced judiciously to preserve our landscape and Olmsted's design. Thank you once again to all the residents who contributed to our landscape in 2012! Your efforts keep Riverside green and growing for future generations to enjoy.

Income Tax Assistance for Seniors

Aging Care Connections will have experienced, AARP-trained tax volunteers available by appointment on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from February 4 through April 12, for residents 60+ who would like assistance preparing their personal income tax returns. If you or someone you know is interested in this service, please call Aging Care Connections at (708) 354-1323 to schedule an appointment. You must bring the following documents to the appointment: a copy of your federal and state returns from 2012, all federal and state tax forms and booklets, all records of interest, dividends, pensions, Social Security and retirement annuities, and property tax bills. A referral to a professional tax consultant may be made if the volunteer determines this is necessary. For more information on Aging Care Connections and the services they offer to seniors in the western suburbs, please visit: <http://www.agingcareconnections.org/>.



Mandatory Electronics Recycling

Effective January 1, 2012, recycling of electronic products became mandatory. It is illegal to throw out electronic devices with the trash and illegal for Illinois landfills to accept them. In response to this mandate, the Village began providing electronics recycling services at the Public Works facility located at 3860 Columbus Boulevard. Residents may recycle 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 and digital video disc recorders in the electronic recycling dumpster from 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please contact the Department of Public Works at (708) 442-3590 if you have any questions or need directions to the facility.

Yard Waste Collection resumes on Tuesday, April 2, 2013!

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.



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

Calling 911 vs. using the Non-Emergency Number

PROCEDURE FOR USING THE 9-1-1 SYSTEM

The following information will assist you in reporting incidents so you will receive the best possible response to your situation:

- When you first dial 9-1-1, tell the dispatcher that you need police, fire or medical services. In situations where you require more than one service, first request the service that will maintain life. The other services that are needed will automatically follow.
- Stay on the line until the dispatcher has all the information needed. Do not hang up until you are instructed to do so by the dispatcher.
- Give the dispatcher your name, address, telephone number and a brief description of what you actually see and hear. Let the dispatcher ask you questions to ensure that they receive the information needed to respond to your call. Be specific about what is happening. Do not exaggerate the circumstances. Tape a label with your name, address and phone number on or near your phone. In emergency situations people often forget this information when they need to relay it to 9-1-1.
- Continue answering the dispatcher's questions so that they have up-to-date information to relay to the officer. It is not necessary for you to hang up before the police can be dispatched. While you are talking to the dispatcher a police officer may be on the way.
- Calls are prioritized. A priority one call is an immediate threat to life or property. Priority two is, for example, responding to a "graffiti in progress" call. Priority three is a "cold" call; the crime has already been committed.

NON-EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

(708) 447-2125

This non-emergency telephone number should be used when reporting any crime that has already occurred where no suspect was seen. Non-emergency calls are usually given a "3" priority. Officers will respond to priority "1" and "2" calls before they respond to a priority "3" call.

Examples of non-emergency situations include:

- Your lawn ornaments or statues were stolen from your yard during the night or your Christmas tree lights were stolen from the exterior of your house while you were asleep. No suspect information available.
- You receive annoying or obscene phone calls and you do not recognize the caller. You are not able to identify the suspect.
- You are the victim of vandalism with no suspect information. These situations could include finding graffiti on your property, malicious damage to your vehicle, or a window broken out.

Please visit the village website for a complete listing of Village Board and Advisory Commission Meetings for 2013. The public is welcome at all open meetings.

Township Board Meetings Coming to Riverside TV



In 2013, the Riverside Cable Commission will begin live broadcasts of Riverside Township Board Meetings which are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in Room 4 of the Township Hall, 27 Riverside Road. Recording and broadcast of the meetings is made possible by a generous grant from the Riverside Township Board of Trustees. Please tune in to Riverside TV, Comcast Cable Channel 6, to watch your township board meetings!

Finance Department Receives Award

For the twenty-second year, the Village of Riverside's Finance Department has been awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. This is the 22nd time in 23 years that the Village has received the prestigious award. To achieve this recognition, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report must meet rigorous standards for fairly presenting financial information, must adhere to generally accepted accounting principles and legal requirements and must be easily readable and efficiently organized.

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR. The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL and Washington, DC. Please visit the Village website, www.riverside.il.us to view the award winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The document can be found by selecting the "Financial Information" tab in the "Open and Transparent Government" link on the homepage of the Village website.

