

Riverside Review

June / July 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.

June 5, June 19

July 17

Advisory Board & Commission Meetings

June 2014

09 Cable Comm., 7:00
10 Landscape Adv. Comm., 7:00
12 Economic Dev. Comm., 7:30
12 Preservation Comm., 7:30
16 Historical Comm., 7:00
18 Safe Environment, 7:30
19 Police Adjudication, 6:00
23 Parks & Rec. Board, 7:00
25 Planning & Zoning, 7:00

July 2014

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

Independence Day in Riverside

Break out the red, white and blue! The Village of Riverside will once again host the much anticipated Independence Day celebrations on Thursday and Friday, July 3rd and 4th. The fun begins with the annual Concert in the Park on Thursday, July 3 at 6:00 p.m. in Guthrie Park. The annual Independence Day 5K Run begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Historic Water Tower on Friday, July 4, with runners making their way through the winding, tree lined streets of our historic village to the finish line just in time to enjoy the annual Parade down Longcommon Road, which will kick off promptly at 8:45 a.m. at the intersection of Longcommon & Delaplaine Roads. Following the parade, all are welcome to attend the annual festival and car show in Guthrie Park.

All of these events are made possible through the hard work of the Riverside Parks & Recreation Department with the support of Riverside Friends of the Fourth. For more information on how you can support these important community events, please visit the Parks & Recreation page of the Village website or contact the department at 708-442-7025. Volunteers are needed to help with runner registration, hand out water, serve as course marshalls and help with finish-line hospitality. Please also support Friends of the Fourth by making a donation to defray the cost of these events: Riverside Friends of the Fourth, P. O. Box 26, Riverside, IL 60546.



Village Bond Rating Upgraded to AAA

Standard & Poor's has upgraded the Village of Riverside's bond rating to "AAA" based on the new rating criteria released in September 2013. In 2013, Standard & Poor assigned a bond rating of AA+ to the Village. Standard & Poor's assessment of the Village's financial management practices is classified as 'strong' under the current financial management assessment (FMA) methodology. Areas of note include the board's decision to make a catch-up payment to IMRF, bolstering Police Pension contributions, and the long-term financial and capital plans adopted by the board.



Riverside Farmers' Market

The Riverside Farmers' Market returns on Wednesday, June 4. The market will be held in the parking lot between the Riverside Public Library and the Township Hall from 2:30—7:00 p.m. each Wednesday from June 4 through October 15. The market will feature 30 vendors selling organic and sustainable fruits and vegetables, honey, hand crafted specialty baked goods, eggs, pork, fish, tea, coffee, butter, cheese, preserves, mushrooms, specialty soaps, pottery, dog treats, plants for your garden, confections and prepared foods such as pizza and fruit smoothies. There will also be knife sharpening available and other weekly specials, including live music by local performers. Be sure to visit the Riverside Farmers' Market facebook page and blog for the latest news on upcoming events and programs: JUSTEATLOCAL.WORDPRESS.COM www.facebook.com/Riverside.Farmers.Mkt.



Annual Sprinkler System Inspections

Any Riverside property owner with an underground irrigation system and/or a fire suppression system must obtain an annual reduced pressure zone (RPZ) backflow prevention inspection. This inspection is a requirement of the EPA and Illinois Plumbing code. All inspection forms must be on file with the Riverside Department of Public Works by July 1. The Director of Public Works is authorized and directed to discontinue water service to any property for non compliance of this inspection.

Property Maintenance

Now that the warmer weather has finally arrived, the grass has started to grow and grow and grow... Please be a good neighbor and cut your grass regularly. Village Ordinance prohibits accumulations of weeds or grasses over eight (8) inches in height.



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.

Mulching 101

Mulching is one of the most beneficial things a homeowner can do for the health of a tree. Mulch can reduce water loss from the soil, minimize weed and turf grass competition for nutrients and water, as well as improve overall soil structure. Properly applied, mulch can also give landscapes an attractive, well-groomed appearance. Mulch must be applied properly; if applied too thick or if the wrong material is used, it can actually cause significant harm to trees and other landscape plants. Most organic mulches are beneficial but the application of rock material is strongly discouraged.

TOO MUCH MULCH CAN BE HARMFUL TO TREES. The recommended mulching depth is 3 to 5 inches. Unfortunately, many landscapes are falling victim to over mulching. A new term, “mulch volcanoes,” has emerged to describe mulch that has been piled up around the base of trees. Please talk with your landscape contractor to ensure the proper amount of mulch is applied. This may help reduce costs associated with landscape maintenance by decreasing the cost of mulch material purchased.

Most organic mulches must be replenished, but the rate of decomposition varies. Some mulch, such as cypress mulch, remains intact for many years. Top dressing with new mulch annually (often for the sake of refreshing the color) creates a buildup to depths that can be unhealthy. Deep mulch can be effective in suppressing weeds and reducing maintenance, but it often causes additional problems. The most important piece of advice is DO NOT PILE MULCH AGAINST THE TRUNK OF A TREE. Piled mulch will promote insect infestations, rodent damage and potentially suffocate the tree’s root system.

Mulch is free for any Riverside resident! The Department of Public Works welcomes you to pick up mulch during business hours (M-F 7:30 AM to 4:00PM). Please call if you need directions to stop in and see us. If you would like to talk about mulching on your property, please contact the Village Forester at (708) 442-3590.



2014 Cooperative Tree Planting Program

The Cooperative Tree Planting Program is designed to accept donations from residents for fall tree planting. Your donation will help reforest public parkways, keeping Riverside green for future generations to enjoy. The Village is offering a 50/50 price matching program that will cover half the cost of all trees planted on the parkway and public setback. The cost share will not be offered for public park areas. Remember, donations for the program are tax deductible!



Olmsted Society members may be eligible for a rebate on a portion of their purchase. Please contact the Olmsted Society for details and information.

Tree prices differ based on the species selected, sizes available, and the nursery or grower providing the plant material. All prices include free tree planting, mulch and a guarantee which will expire July 1, 2015. Tree descriptions and order forms will be available at the village office and on the village website.

Riverside’s tree planting program requires substantial coordination between JULIE, the nursery contractors, and Village staff. Orders will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis, starting on July 14, and must be received by August 29. Please mail in your completed order form or drop it off at the village office. Payments will be refunded if the order cannot be filled. Funding is limited. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Village Forester Mike Collins at (708) 442-3590 Ext. 502.

Vacation Safety Tips

Be sure to lock doors and windows before leaving.

Be careful when telling others of your vacation plans. This includes posting information on social media. Be aware of anyone who may be watching as you load your luggage into the car.

Remember, burglars find house keys easily when they are hidden under doormats, above the door ledge, or in a potted plant. Don’t leave keys in these locations!

Stop all deliveries while away. Or better yet, allow deliveries to continue and have a trusted neighbor pick up your newspapers and packages.

Try to maintain the “lived in” look of your house while you are away. Use timers on lights and turn the ring tone down on your phones. A ringing phone that goes unanswered can alert a burglar to the absence of any occupants inside the home. Arrange for a trusted neighbor to do some yard work or occasionally park a car in your driveway.

Leave emergency contact numbers with someone you trust. Call the Riverside Police Dept at (708) 447-2127 to request a House Watch. House watches are conducted by police officers on an “as time permits” basis. In most cases, a good neighbor keeping an eye on your home is much more effective than any intermittent law enforcement patrol.

