



Riverside Review

August / September 2018

Village of Riverside

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

- Community Dev. 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**
- Flood Brothers 630-261-0400
- ComEd 800-334-7661
- Nicor 800-642-6748

Village President
Benjamin Sells

Board of Trustees
Joseph Ballerine
Wendell Jisa
Scott Lumsden
Elizabeth Peters
Douglas Pollock
Michael Sedivy

Village Manager
Jessica Frances

Village Clerk
Cathy Haley

Village Board Meetings
*All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.
(unless otherwise noted)*
August 2, August 16
September 6, September 20

**Advisory Board &
Commission Meetings**

August

- 09 Police Pension Bd., 8:00 am
- 09 Preservation Comm., 7:00
- 13 Riverside TV Comm., 7:00
- 14 Bd. of Fire & Police, 7:00
- 14 Landscape Advisory, 7:00
- 16 Code Enforcement, 5:30
- 16 Police Adjudication, 6:00
- 22 Planning and Zoning 7:00

September

- 10 Riverside TV Commission, 7:00
- 11 Landscape Advisory, 7:00
- 13 Economic Development, 7:00
- 17 Historical Commission, 7:00
- 20 Code Enforcement, 5:30
- 20 Police Adjudication, 6:00
- 24 Parks & Recreation, 6:30
- 26 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.

New Emergency Notification System Coming

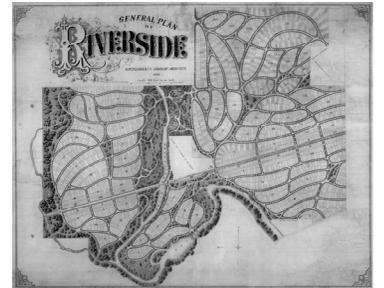
The Village of Riverside will soon implement the Riverside Alert System. This emergency notification system will allow village staff to communicate critical information to residents and business owners in the village event of an emergency. The Riverside Alert System allows recipients to receive information by phone, email or text



message, depending on the preferences chosen by the recipient. Recipients can submit multiple forms of contact and select preferences for how information should be conveyed. The system is also more flexible than the Eflash in that it allows messages to be targeted to a specific geographic area of the village. For example, if there is a water main break on Audubon Road, the system will be able to notify only those residents whose homes or businesses will be without water. Messages can be in the form of a voice recording to a landline or cell phone, a text message or email message. In order to maximize the effectiveness of the system, the village needs the participation of all residents and business owners. Please visit the CONNECT area on the homepage of the village website and click on Sign up for Emergency Alerts to create an account in the Riverside Alert System.

Property Lines, Plantings & Invisible Fences

An important aspect of Riverside's unique design is the large parkway that meanders between the road and homes throughout the village. Unlike other communities, property lines do not necessarily extend to the public sidewalk in Riverside. When installing landscaping like trees or bushes, residents must be mindful of their property lines and the size these plants can grow to. Planting trees or shrubs within 3 feet of the sidewalk is prohibited, and plantings overhanging the public right of way must be maintained to a clearance height of ten feet. Any plantings in the public right of way must first obtain a Parkway Landscape Permit. Similarly, a Hardscape Permit is required for any hardscape installations in the public right of way such as large potted plants or address markers. An encroachment waiver may also be required for landscaping/hardscaping in the public right of way. All underground sprinkler systems extending into the parkway require an encroachment waiver and permit. Residents should be aware that the village is not responsible for damage to underground sprinkler systems in the public right of way that may occur during road construction, sidewalk replacement or other utility work in the parkway. Please contact the village office prior to embarking on any landscaping or hardscape installation in the parkway.



Invisible fences do not require a building permit; however, they should not be installed immediately adjacent to a public sidewalk. If an invisible fence will be encroaching into the public right of way, an encroachment waiver is necessary. Residents should refer to their Plat of Survey or the interactive GIS map on the village website before planting or installing an invisible fence. Contact the Community Development Department for more information.

New Stop Signs

The Village has installed several new Stop signs along with corresponding pavement markings to improve driver and pedestrian safety and facilitate traffic flow. Drivers and pedestrians will notice changes in traffic flow, especially at the intersection of Burling Road and Riverside Road, in front of the Library and Township Hall. Please use caution, especially during the morning and afternoon school drop off and pickup times. School resumes on Thursday, August 23 for District 96 students. Classes at Riverside Brookfield High School resume on Tuesday, August 14.



Sign Up for Email Notifications Today!

Please visit the new village website at www.riverside.il.us and click on **Connect** to sign up for the **Riverside Alert System**, create an account in **Riverside Responds** or sign up for **Email Notifications** for upcoming meetings and community events.

Electric Aggregation Update

At the July 19 Regular Meeting of the Village of Riverside Board of Trustees, the Board received pricing from several electric supply companies and voted to renew the village's electric aggregation program for another two years. The electrical supplier selected by the board is the current provider: Dynegy. The village's current contract with Dynegy expires in October with a rate of \$.07256 per k/Wh for 100% Renewable Energy Credits (REC) which offset energy consumption with wind, hydro-electric and biomass energy generation sources. The new contract will also feature 100% Renewable Energy Credits at a rate of \$.07719 per k/Wh. Residents will soon receive a letter in the mail with complete details regarding the aggregation program. That letter will feature both the Village of Riverside and Dynegy logos. Residents and small business accounts will automatically be enrolled in the program unless they opt out. Residents may opt out of the program at any time without penalty. There are no additional fees, monthly floating rates or other miscellaneous fees. It should be noted that many customers who have opted out of the electric aggregation program and sought pricing on their own have enrolled with suppliers who offer a low introductory rate for several months and then increase the rate dramatically. On average, these customers have ended up paying 24% more than the ComEd rate for electrical supply.



Utility Scam Alert

Residents are urged to be wary of unsolicited phone calls from individuals who claim to be a utility company representative. Typically, the unknown caller warns that the customer's service will be shut off if the customer fails to make a payment – usually within a short amount of time. Scammers have even duplicated the upfront Interactive Voice Response system some utilities use, so when customers call the number provided by the scammer, it sounds like a legitimate business. Some of these scammers also use caller ID “spoofing” to replicate a utility's phone number.

Red flags for scam activity

The scammer may become angry and tell the customer his or her account is past due and service will be shut off if a large payment isn't made – usually within less than an hour. The scammer may instruct the customer to purchase a prepaid debit or credit card – widely available at most retail stores – then call him or her back to supposedly make a payment. The scammer will then ask the customer for the prepaid card's receipt number and PIN number, which grants instant access to the funds loaded to the card.



How to protect yourself

Utility representatives will never ask or require a customer with a past due balance to purchase a prepaid debit card to avoid disconnection. Customers can make payments online, by phone, automatic bank withdrawal, by mail or in person. Customers with a past due balance will receive multiple shut off notifications – never a single notification one hour before disconnection.

Never provide social security numbers or personal information to anyone initiating contact with you claiming to be a utility representative or requesting you to send money to another person or entity other than your local utility providers. Always ask to see a company photo ID before allowing any utility worker into your home or business. When in doubt, check it out. Be skeptical of individuals wearing clothing with old or defaced company logos. If you have any doubts, ask to see a company photo ID. Never make payment for services to anyone coming to the door.

If you believe you have been the target of a scam, contact the Illinois Attorney General's office toll free at 1-800-386-5438 (TTY 1-800-964-3013), or visit the Illinois Attorney General's website. Customers who have concerns about the status of their account can always contact their utility provider directly.

Riverside Joins West Suburban Special Recreation Association (WSSRA)

The West Suburban Special Recreation Association provides year round recreation programs for persons with disabilities. At their July 19, 2018, Regular Meeting, the Village Board voted to become a member of WSSRA. This will enable residents to enroll in programs offered by WSSRA in Riverside and the other WSSRA member communities: Berwyn, Cicero, Elmwood Park, Forest Park, Franklin Park, Harwood Heights, Norridge, North Riverside, Oak Park and River Forest. Funding for the WSSRA membership will be provided through a new SRA (Special Recreation Association) Tax Levy of .04%, which will amount to an annual increase of approximately \$30.22 for a home valued at \$400,000. WSSRA offers programs for all ages. The Parks & Recreation Department, with the input of the Parks & Recreation Board and interested residents, considered the merits of several organizations providing special recreation opportunities in the area before deciding that WSSRA was the best fit for Riverside and petitioning for membership in the organization. Watch for updates regarding registration for Fall programs on the Village website or call the Parks & Recreation Department at 708-442-7025 for more information.

