



Riverside Review

August / September 2020 

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
WC3 Dispatch 708-853-1384
Pay-by-Phone 855-895-2537

EMERGENCY 911

Flood Brothers 630-261-0400
ComEd 800-334-7661
Nicor 888-642-6748

Village President

Benjamin Sells

Board of Trustees

Patricia Collins
Cristin Evans
Alexander Gallegos
Edward Hannon
Wendell Jisa
Douglas Pollock

Village Manager

Jessica Frances

Village Clerk

Cathy Haley

Village Board Meetings

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.
(unless otherwise noted)

August 20

September 3, September 17

Advisory Board & Commission Meetings

August 2020

10 Riverside TV Comm., 7:00 *
11 Bd. of Fire & Police, 7:00 *
11 Landscape Advisory, 7:00 *
13 Police Pension Bd, 8:00 a.m. *
13 Preservation Comm., 7:00 *
20 Code Enforcement, 5:15 *
20 Police Adjudication, 6:00 *
26 Planning and Zoning 7:00 *

September 2020

08 Landscape Advisory, 7:00 *
10 Economic Development, 7:00 *
14 Riverside TV Comm., 7:00 *
17 Code Enforcement, 5:15 *
17 Police Adjudication, 6:00 *
21 Historical Commission, 7:00 *
23 Planning and Zoning, 7:00 *
28 Parks & Recreation, 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. Due to COVID-19, some meetings may be held by teleconference or Zoom.

Slow the Spread of COVID-19 by Wearing a Mask

Why is it important to wear a cloth face covering? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cloth face coverings may help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others. Wearing a cloth face covering will help protect people around you, including those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and those who frequently come into close contact with other people, such as essential workers in grocery stores and restaurants. Cloth face coverings are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings. The spread of COVID-19 can be reduced when cloth face coverings are used along with other preventive measures, including social distancing, frequent hand washing, and cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.



The cloth face coverings recommended by the CDC are not surgical masks or respirators. Those items remain critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders. Please wear a mask when in public. For the most up to date information on COVID-19, please visit the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>, the Illinois Department of Public Health website: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19> or the Cook County Department of Public Health website: <https://cookcountypublichealth.org/communicable-diseases/covid-19/>.

2020 Census Update

Currently, Riverside's 2020 Census self-response rate is 79.7%. We need everyone's cooperation to ensure a complete and accurate count of everyone living in Riverside! Beginning the week of July 30, Census Bureau employees began visiting households in suburban Cook County that have not yet responded to the 2020 Census, including those 20.3% of Riverside residents who have not yet responded. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Census takers will follow all public health guidelines for Illinois including wearing a mask, speaking to people outside their homes in a well-ventilated space, maintaining a distance of 6 feet between themselves and the person they are speaking with and frequently washing their hands.



All Census takers will have an ID badge that bears their photo and the United States Department of Commerce logo and will have a Census Bureau issued cell phone. Many will also be carrying a tote bag with the Census Bureau logo. If a Census taker visits you, expect to answer questions regarding your name, age, race and sex. A Census taker will never ask for your social security number, bank account information or citizenship status. Census interviews will be conducted between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., including on weekends, when people are more likely to be home. If no one is home when a Census taker visits, they will leave a notice of the visit with information about how to respond online or by phone. If necessary, a census taker will return several times to ensure the household is accurately included in the census. All in person interviews will be concluded by October 31, 2020. Please note: households can still respond online at 2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-220 or by mail until October 31, and online and phone responses can be made in 13 different languages. Please visit <http://2020census.gov/languages> for more information. If anyone representing him or herself as a Census taker is unable to provide proper identification, do not open your door to them, but rather call West Central Consolidated Communications.

Solicitation During the Pandemic

The Village has not issued any permits for door to door solicitation during the pandemic. Presently, only Census takers have permission to canvass the village. If you have concerns about someone going door to door without a permit, please call WC3.

Sign Up for Email Notifications Today!

Please visit the 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 Program Renewal

The Village of Riverside is pleased to announce the renewal of the electric aggregation program with a new supplier. Chicago based MC Squared Energy Services, LLC, was selected after a competitive bid process to serve the village with electric supply and Renewable Energy Certificates. MC² will provide eligible residents and small businesses with an electric supply price equal to the ComEd rate for a 36-month term beginning with the October 2020 ComEd meter read cycle. This new Green Electric Aggregation Program enables the Village to be designated an EPA Green Power Community at zero added cost to residents or the Village.



where **energy** comes from

This program is a bit different from our previous programs. Some ratepayers will receive an opt out notice. If they do nothing, their account will be automatically enrolled unless they opt out. Other ratepayers will receive an informative notice indicating they will remain at ComEd, or if currently enrolled with our previous program supplier Dynegy, will be switched back to ComEd. The net effect for all, whether your account is moved to MC² or to ComEd, is identical: All pay exactly the ComEd rate (for no risk of ever paying more), and the Village receives 100% Renewable (Green) Energy for all at zero added cost to residents and the Village.

If you are currently served by another electric supplier, and you want to continue to receive service from your chosen electric supplier, you do not need to take additional action. If you wish to be served by MC² as your electric supplier within the Village's Green Electric Aggregation Program, you may enroll by visiting www.mc2energyservices.com/special (enter the promo code Riverside) or by calling 888-508-0299, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, email Riverside@mc2energyservices.com or call 888-508-0299, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Please beware:** any solicitor who comes to your door or calls asking you to switch your account is not associated with the Village, MC² or ComEd.

Back to School Safety

School will be back in session one way or another in August and whether students are learning in schools or remotely, there will be more pedestrian activity throughout the village. While driving through the village, please be aware and cautious of children walking/biking to and from school. Make an extra effort to stop for all stop signs and especially for pedestrians. According to data compiled from all 50 states by the National Safety Council, speeding and reckless driving has increased during the pandemic. The presence of fewer cars on the road has resulted in a disproportionate number of accidents with injuries and fatalities per miles driven.



Please pay attention and observe designated school and park zone speed limits. If you have a child that walks or rides a bike to school, be sure to talk to your son or daughter about safety and remind them to be aware of the vehicles around them. Pedestrians should never assume that a driver sees them. Motorists should be cognizant of the pedestrian stop signs placed throughout the village. These long rectangular signs are placed in the middle of the street in areas where pedestrians frequently cross. These are not regular stop signs in that you are not required to stop for them when no pedestrians are present. However, when there are pedestrians trying to cross the street, you must stop your vehicle and allow them to cross.

Please also note that the Village has implemented several traffic safety improvements in conjunction with the Selborne Road reconstruction project. These improvements include new stop signs and high visibility pavement markings at crosswalks.

Free Mulch is Available!

On June 9, the Village in the Forest sustained significant tree damage from a late afternoon severe weather event. These extreme weather events are becoming increasingly common due to the impacts of climate change and can be quite disruptive to daily activities. In the weeks following the storm, the Department of Public Works (DPW) picked up enough downed branches to generate 8 dump trucks of mulch, which increased the size of the mulch pile at the Riverside Public Works facility by 64 cubic yards. Mulch is available for free to all Riverside residents during the Department of Public Works' hours of operation, Monday—Friday from 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Please remember that the chipper crew does not pick up tree limbs from private property. If trees on your private property are damaged during a storm, you must bundle those branches for pick up by Flood Brothers. Please make sure branches do not exceed 4 feet in length or 4 inches in diameter. Branches and brush should be bundled with twine or contained in a sturdy reusable container marked with a Yard Waste Only sticker. Yard Waste stickers are available free of charge at the village office. Staff is also happy to mail Yard Waste stickers to residents. Please call us at 708-447-2700 to request stickers.

Caring for Trees During Hot Weather

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, "There is no magic schedule for watering trees. How often you should water will depend on the size of your tree, soil conditions, and weather conditions. Newly planted trees require much more water than established ones." Please keep that in mind during these dog days of Summer!