



# Riverside Review

February / March 2022



## Village of Riverside

27 Riverside Road  
Riverside, IL 60546  
708-447-2700  
[www.riverside.il.us](http://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  
Library 708-442-6366  
Museum 708-447-2542  
WC3 Dispatch 708-853-1384  
Pay-by-Phone 844-937-0132

### EMERGENCY 911

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

### Village President

Joseph Ballerine

### Board of Trustees

Megan Claucherty

Cristin Evans

Alexander Gallegos

Edward Hannon

Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga

Douglas Pollock

### Village Manager

Jessica Frances

### Village Clerk

Ethan Sowl

### Village Board Meetings

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

February 3, February 17, March 3,  
March 17

### Advisory Board & Commission Meetings

#### February

08 Landscape Advisory, 7:00  
08 Board of Fire & Police, 7:00  
10 Police Pension, 7:00  
10 Preservation Comm., 7:00  
14 Riverside TV Comm., 7:00  
23 Planning and Zoning, 7:00  
17 Code Enforcement, 5:15  
17 Police Adjudication, 6:00  
21 Historical Comm, 7:00  
28 Parks & Recreation, 7:00

#### March

08 Landscape Advisory, 7:00  
10 Economic Development, 7:00  
14 Riverside TV Commission, 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.



## Water Rate Change

Effective January 1, 2022, the Village eliminated the \$30 bimonthly infrastructure fee and adjusted the water rate from \$10.63 per unit to \$12.13 per unit and the sewer rate from \$2.09 per unit to \$3.59 per unit. In total the water and sewer rates were increased by a total of \$3 per unit. By removing the infrastructure fee, minimum bills will decrease from \$93.60 to \$78.60 every billing cycle (a billing cycle is 2 months).

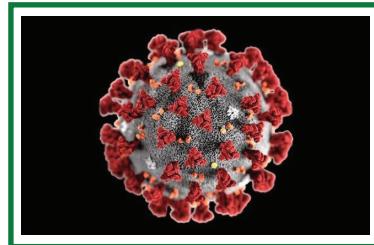
When will these changes be reflected in your water bill? Currently the Village has two billing cycles, every utility account is billed every other month. For those receiving their bills at the beginning of March, which accounts for December 2021 and January 2022 usage, their bills will be prorated to reflect a blended rate. For those receiving bills at the beginning of April, which accounts for January and February 2022 usage, the new rate will be fully incorporated.



The rate increase will help fund necessary projects to maintain and replace our current aging water and sewer infrastructure. Over the next 10 years, the Village has over \$17,500,000, in water and sewer projects budgeted. The aggressive capital plan includes sewer separation projects, storm water storage, and replacement of under-sized water mains.

## COVID-19 Update

To view the most up to date information on COVID-19 vaccination rates and case counts, visit: <https://ccdphcd.shinyapps.io/covid19/> and select Data by Towns. As



of January 15, 2022, 8,863 (95%) of Riverside residents have received at least one vaccine dose. Out of that segment, 6,838 (73.5%) residents have completed their vaccination series. Thank you to everyone in the community who has taken care to mask up, wash hands, keep distance and get vaccinated. To learn more about Cook County and Illinois Department of Public Health guidelines, please visit: <https://dph.illinois.gov/> and <https://cookcountypublichealth.org/communicable-diseases/covid-19/mitigation-guidance/>.

## Village Code Updates

Adopted on December 2, 2021, the Village made adjustments to certain fees, permits and charges. Sections 3-6-14 and 5-4-8 (False Alarms) of the Village Code were amended to increase the fines for false alarms. The false alarm fine updates apply to any user who owns and operates a burglar or fire alarm and has a false alarm occurrence. The Village will not charge for the first 3 false alarm occurrences; however, a fine will be assessed after the fourth false alarm within a calendar year. The fine for a burglar false alarm is \$50 per occurrence and the fine for a fire false alarm is \$250 per occurrence.

Fee Updates	Old	New
Burglar Alarms	\$25	\$50
Fire Alarms	\$250-\$750	\$250
Parkway Opening	\$500	\$1,000

Two of the fee updates are associated with construction activity. The parkway deposit was updated based on current costs of sidewalk replacement, from \$500 to \$1000. The other update was based on resident requests received over the past year to use the Village right-of-way on a temporary basis. The Village established a temporary right-of-way permit for cases where short-term, limited use of the right-of-way is unavoidable, such as when a dumpster or other equipment cannot be placed within private property during active construction. The cost of the permit is \$50.

## Sign Up for Email Notifications Today!

Please visit the new village website at [www.riverside.il.us](http://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.

## **Water Meter Replacement Program**

Beginning Summer 2022, Riverside will begin a village-wide water meter replacement program. During this program, all residential and commercial water meters will be replaced over a period of three years. The aging water meters are being replaced due to the wearing of mechanical components, which result in a decrease in metering accuracy. The new meters will be solid state meters, comprised of no moving parts. This technology will aid in maintaining the meters accuracy over the projected 20 year life expectancy. The exchange process will begin in the next couple of months with residents receiving calls from staff to schedule a



meter exchange appointment. The appointments will begin in late May and last approximately 30 minutes. On the day of the appointment, residents will be asked to remove all items within three feet of the water meter to allow ample working space for the installer. To be as efficient as possible, staff will begin replacing the meters on the south side of the Village and work their way north over the next three years.

Residents will be responsible for the cost of the replacement water meter. Cost will vary depending on the water meter size; however, 97% of the village will experience an average cost between \$300 and \$350. Water meters larger than one inch will be more expensive. All residents and businesses will be eligible to have the cost of their water meter spread out on their water bills for a period of up to twelve months. Residents that have replaced their water meter within the last ten years will have the cost of the new meter prorated based on how long the current meter has been installed. The Village will also provide financial assistance to eligible residents.

Water meter replacement is an integral part in water conservation, water accountability and managing costs associated with the water and sewer infrastructure throughout the village. We appreciate your time and patience throughout this process.

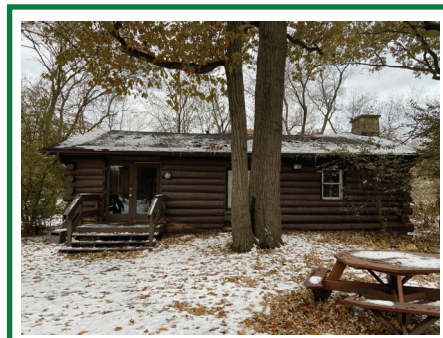
## **Staying Warm**

Warming centers have been set up throughout Cook County to help residents stay warm during periods of extreme cold. To access the warming centers map, please visit: <https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/warming-centers> and keep these tips in mind:

- Learn more about the signs and symptoms of hypothermia and frostbite, who is most at risk, and when to seek medical attention.
- Never use your oven for heat.
- Never bring charcoal or gas grills indoors (they are a carbon monoxide hazard).
- Make sure all portable heaters are unplugged when not in use.
- Use electric space heaters with extreme caution – avoid placing them near curtains or other flammable materials and turn them off before going to bed.
- Keep heat at adequate levels or leave faucets open with a slight drip to prevent pipes from freezing.
- Keep moving. Your body generates its own heat when you engage in physical activities.
- Build an emergency supply kit for your home, office and car in case something happens and you need to shelter-in-place. There is a shopping list with items you can check off as you gather them from around your home or from the store.

## **Winter Recreation News**

The Riverside Parks & Recreation Department's 2022 Winter/Spring brochure was released in early January, but there are plenty of programs taking place all season! Be sure to check out some of the department's new classes, including adult water coloring and the beginner guitar class for youths and adults. For more details, go to the Register Online tab for Riverside Parks & Recreation on the village website: [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us) or call 708-442-7025 with questions. The Department's Giving Tree will also be on display for the entire month of March at the Quincy Community Center located at 43 E Quincy, so please come by if you have any extra pop tops lying around to donate! All collected pop tops will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House at the end of the month.



Can't watch the kids when they are off school? The Parks & Recreation Department would like to remind everyone that we offer a Cabin Daze program on days when District 96 is off school. Registration for all remaining Spring semester 2022 Cabin Daze programs are available on the village website. You will also see that registration for Summer Camp is also open! We are looking forward to theme days, field trips, arts and crafts, games and more fun! Camps include Mini Adventures, Afternoon Play Camp, Adventure Camp and Teen Camp and will run from June 6<sup>th</sup>- August 8<sup>th</sup>, with no camp on July 4<sup>th</sup>.