



VILLAGE OF RIVERSIDE  
**MUNICIPAL GUIDE**

*VILLAGE IN THE FOREST*

Village Hall Hours: 8am—4:30pm, M—F

Visit: [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us)



# Table of Contents

<a href="#"><u>Village Directory and Contact Information</u></a>	pg. 3
<a href="#"><u>Emergency Numbers</u></a>	pg. 4
<a href="#"><u>Riverside History</u></a>	pg. 5
<a href="#"><u>Village Board and Staff</u></a>	pg. 6
<a href="#"><u>Form of Government</u></a>	pg. 7
<a href="#"><u>Village Departments</u></a>	pg. 8
<a href="#"><u>Village Boards &amp; Commissions</u></a>	pg. 12
<a href="#"><u>Meeting Schedule</u></a>	pg. 15
<a href="#"><u>Police &amp; Fire Departments</u></a>	pg. 16
<a href="#"><u>When to Call 9-1-1</u></a>	pg. 18
<a href="#"><u>The Village in the Forest</u></a>	pg. 21
<a href="#"><u>Riverside Public Library</u></a>	pg. 23
<a href="#"><u>Riverside Museum</u></a>	pg. 25
<a href="#"><u>Riverside Township or Village of Riverside?</u></a>	Pg. 26
<a href="#"><u>Things You Should Know</u></a>	pg. 28
<a href="#"><u>Parking in Riverside</u></a>	pg. 37
<a href="#"><u>Recycling and Refuse Service</u></a>	pg. 40
<a href="#"><u>Riverside Distinctions</u></a>	pg. 46
<a href="#"><u>Riverside Dining Options</u></a>	pg. 50
<a href="#"><u>Let's Keep in Touch</u></a>	pg. 51
Map of Riverside	center
Emergency Contact Information Form <i>(to be filled out and returned to Village)</i>	center



# Village Directory &

## Contact Information

### **Village of Riverside**

Police/Fire/ Medical Emergencies	911
Police Non-Emergency	708-853-1384
Fire Non-Emergency	708-447-2123
Public Safety Records Dept	708-447-2127
Public Works	708-442-3590
Parks & Recreation	708-442-7025
Building Department	708-447-1241
<b>Administrative Office</b>	<b>708-447-2700</b>
Fax	708-447-2704
Payments by phone	844-937-0132

### **Other Governmental Organizations**

Riverside Public Library	708-442-6366
Riverside Museum	708-447-2542
Tax Assessor's Office	708-447-7700
Riverside Township	708-442-4400
Riverside Post Office	708-447-8320
Metra Passenger Services	312-322-6777

### **School Districts**

Riverside School District #96	708-447-5007
Riverside Brookfield H.S. District 208	708-442-7500
Hauser Jr. High School	708-447-3896
Ames School	708-447-0759
Blythe Park School	708-447-2168
Central School	708-447-1106
Hollywood School	708-485-7630

### **Utilities**

Flood Brothers ( <i>Refuse and Recycling</i> )	630-261-0400
NICOR Gas ( <i>Natural Gas</i> )	888-642-6748
ComEd ( <i>Electricity</i> )	800-334-7661
MC Squared ( <i>Electric Aggregation Program</i> )	888-508-0299
Comcast Cable ( <i>Phone, Cable, Internet</i> )	866-594-1234
AT&T ( <i>Phone, Cable, Internet</i> )	800-288-2020
J.U.L.I.E. ( <i>Before you Dig</i> )	800-892-0123



## Emergency Numbers

### Police/Fire/Medical Emergencies 911

Illinois Poison Center 800-222-1222

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital 630-856-9000  
120 N. Oak Street, Hinsdale

Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospital 708-245-9000  
5101 S. Willow Springs Rd, LaGrange

Loyola University Medical Center 708-216-9000  
2160 S First Ave, Maywood

MacNeal Hospital 708-783-9100  
3249 S Oak Park Ave, Berwyn

Rush Oak Park Hospital 708-383-9300  
520 S. Maple Ave, Oak Park

West Suburban Hospital 708-383-6200  
3 Erie Court, Oak Park



## Riverside History

Settled in 1836, Riverside, known then as the Aux Plaines, first welcomed the Forbes family to its serene riverbanks and beautiful forest areas. Others soon discovered the desirability of the area. However, only a handful of individuals held large land holdings in Riverside, and consequently, land development, from approximately 1840 to 1868, was minimal. In 1869, the Riverside Improvement Company was incorporated and set forth to fulfill the company's dream of developing "a perfect village in a perfect setting", in which nature would become an integral and essential part of everyday living for all its residents.

The company selected Frederick Law Olmsted as their architect of choice, and based on Olmsted's plan, the community began to take shape and resemble the Riverside we know today. In 1873, the Riverside Improvement Company failed, creating conditions that warranted Village incorporation in order to carry on municipal functions. On June 25, 1875, the Cook County court was petitioned to organize the Village of Riverside, and soon after, on August 8, 1875, the first Village President, Carol Gaytes, and first trustees were elected.

Over the past 130 years since incorporation, Riverside has matured into a beautiful, vibrant "Village in the Forest". Many of the original elements of Olmsted's plan, including expansive green parkways, gas-lit street lanterns and curvilinear streets are still intact, and as a result, the Village has enjoyed a National Historic Landmark designation since 1970.



## Village Board and Staff

### **Village Officials**

President Joseph Ballerine

[iballerine@riverside.il.us](mailto:iballerine@riverside.il.us)

Trustee Megan Clauncherty

[mclauncherty@riverside.il.us](mailto:mclauncherty@riverside.il.us)

Trustee Cristin Evans

[cevans@riverside.il.us](mailto:cevans@riverside.il.us)

Trustee Alex Gallegos

[agallegos@riverside.il.us](mailto:agallegos@riverside.il.us)

Trustee Edward Hannon

[ehannon@riverside.il.us](mailto:ehannon@riverside.il.us)

Trustee Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga

[amarsh-ozga@riverside.il.us](mailto:amarsh-ozga@riverside.il.us)

Trustee Douglas Pollock

[dpollock@riverside.il.us](mailto:dpollock@riverside.il.us)

### **Village Staff**

Village Manager Jessica Frances

Assistant Village Manager Ashley Monroe

Village Treasurer Karin Johns

Director of Public Safety Matthew Buckley

Director of Public Works Dan Tabb

Director of Recreation Ron Malchiodi



## *Form of Government*

The Village of Riverside operates under a council-manager form of government. Under this form, the Village Board of Trustees, which consists of a President and six Trustees, is elected at large for overlapping terms of four years. These residents of Riverside serve as the policy making body for the Village Government. The board is responsible for adopting ordinances and resolutions which serve as the legislative policies of the Village. They are also responsible for the adoption of the Village's annual operating budget.

The President of the Board of Trustees, with the consent of her/his fellow board members, appoints a Village Manager, Village Clerk, Village Treasurer, Village Attorney, the Fire Chief, the Police Chief and members of various boards and commissions who advise the Village Board on a wide variety of matters.

The Village Manager serves at the pleasure of the Village Board of Trustees and is responsible for the overall administration of all Village Departments. The Manager carries out policies which are adopted by the Board of Trustees. S/He keeps the Board informed on the financial condition of the Village and is responsible for the preparation of the annual budget for the Village. The Village Manager makes recommendations to the Board on matters of legislation, financial issues, capital improvements and any other applicable programs or policies.

The Board of Trustees meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend.



## Village Departments

### **Administration & Finance Department**

**708-447-2700**

The Administration and Finance Departments serve the Village Board and the other departments within the Village. These departments are usually the first point of contact in the Village for residents, businesses or others seeking information about the Village.

The Finance Department is responsible for all accounting, billing, collections, and budgetary activities in the Village. This department handles your water bills, vehicle stickers, parking permits and pet licenses. These employees also serve as the receptionists in the Village Office.

### **Community Development/Building Department**

**708-447-1241**

This department is responsible for the inspection and supervision of all construction activities in the Village. They are also responsible for the enforcement of Village Ordinances and Property Maintenance Codes. The employees of this department must keep up with current State and National certifications relating to building codes. They also review and process permit applications for building improvements. This Department ensures that your buildings are safe and in compliance with all zoning regulations.

Building Permits are required for any construction activity costing over \$500.00 Whether you plan an addition, remodeling, garage construction, deck, swimming pool, fence or air conditioning installation, you must have a permit



if the cost is more than \$500.00. Applications for building permits can be found on the Village website: [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us) (under the Community Development Department) or in the Village Office at 27 Riverside Road (in wall rack on right side of lobby).

The permit process is conducted for your protection. Filling out a permit allows you to let the Building Department know that construction is taking place at your address. This helps ensure that the selected contractor has insurance coverage, that no building and zoning ordinances are violated and that your new construction is safe.

### **Fire Department**

**Non-emergency: 708-447-9191**

The Village of Riverside operates its own Fire Department through paid on call volunteers and some part time employees. This department responds to all fires and emergencies requiring paramedic services and provides assistance to neighboring towns if required.

### **Police Department**

**Non-emergency: 708-447-9191**

The Police Department employs 19 full time sworn officers consisting of Chief, Deputy Chief, Lieutenant, three Shift Sergeants, Detective Sergeant, Detective and 12 patrol officers.

The West Central Consolidated Communications (WC3) is a dispatch agency for Riverside, Brookfield, and North Riverside. WC3 provides dispatching services for police and fire departments.

Your Chief of Police, his staff and officers are committed to public safety and continually demonstrate this commitment.

The Chief, officers and dispatchers attend various community group meetings and schools to speak in regards to safety (9-1-1 programs, rail crossings, home security checks, recognizing scams and much more). Officers also regularly meet with senior citizen groups, provide school tours of the station and police vehicles and teach proper installation of child safety seats.

RPD has a Police Explorer Post that youth can join and a few Auxiliary officers. Both of these groups help with Riverside public events throughout the year. Riverside Police encourage residents to contact them with any questions about police related matters.

**Parks and Recreation Department**  
**708-442-7025**

The Parks and Recreation Department manages all of the parks and playgrounds in the Village of Riverside; over 134 acres of parkland, which includes 3 tot lots and 5 large playing fields. The Department hosts a wide variety of program offerings for participants of all ages. Programs include a range of activities and durations from sports and specialty classes to long-running programs and one-time workshops. Approximately 1500 people participate in paid recreation programs every year; that is one out of every six residents. The Riverside Parks and Recreation Department also celebrates the community through its many Special Events, with some events holding over 35 years of tradition! Registration and detailed descriptions of our programs and events can be found on our Village website, [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us) under the Parks and Recreation Department.

## **Public Works Department**

**708-442-3590**

The Public Works Department oversees road, street, parking lot construction and maintenance, public building maintenance, public vehicle upkeep and inspection as well as forestry, parks and parkway landscaping, and water and sewer operations in the Village. Residents also benefit from programs operated in this department such as forestry advice and education, tree planting and the sidewalk repair and replacement programs.



## *Boards and Commissions*

The Village Boards and Commissions are an integral part of the Village government in Riverside. These appointed volunteers provide the extremely valuable service of listening to the public on a variety of topics, and submitting recommendations to the Board of Trustees and the Village Manager. Most of the boards and commissions meet on a specified evening, usually once per month. All board and commission members are appointed by the President of the Village Board and serve without compensation. They are all residents of the Village of Riverside. All board and commission meetings are open to the public and most take place in the Riverside Township Hall.

### **Board of Fire and Police Commissioners**

The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners consists of three residents who serve three year terms. These residents review and recommend appointments and promotions in the Police and Fire Departments.

### **Economic Development Commission**

This commission consists of seven resident members. The commission serves to encourage commercial development within the village to improve the village's tax base and sales tax revenue, develop plans for attracting business and patrons to the village and examine the businesses and the business districts in town to determine the best uses for retail spaces. The commission also works closely with the Chamber of Commerce.

### **Emergency Services and Disaster Agency**

This agency is charged with preventing, minimizing and repairing any damages that result from natural or man-made disasters. The agency prepares and keeps current a disaster

emergency plan. The Fire Department is the agency in charge of this function.

### **Landscape Advisory Commission**

This commission consists of seven members who prepare and recommend to the President and Board of Trustees a master landscaping and planting plan for public lands in the Village. These residents also prepare a Master Landscape Plan and advise the Board on treatment methods and prevention of disease which may affect trees or plantings in the area.

### **Planning and Zoning Commission**

This seven member commission is responsible for comprehensive planning for present and future developments in the Village; making recommendations to the Board of Trustees with respect to the Village development, review, planning and zoning processes; conducting hearings and making recommendations with respect to Special Uses, variations and other matters referred to the Commission by the Zoning Ordinance or Building Code. The Commission also hears and makes final decisions on appeals of any decisions made by the Zoning Administrator in enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance.

### **Parks and Recreation Board**

Five residents are responsible for overseeing the use and designation of public park and recreation areas within the Village limits.

### **Preservation Commission**

This commission consists of seven resident members. This commission reviews all applications for Certificates of Appropriateness and for Landmark status of Riverside buildings.

**Public Library Board**

This Board consists of seven directors who supervise the management of the Riverside Public Library.

**Riverside Historical Commission**

The Commission has seven members. They are responsible for managing the Museum and opening it to the public on Saturdays.

**Safe Environment Commission**

This commission consists of the Village Manager and five Village residents. This commission studies and reports on traffic and other hazards to public safety and recommends methods for eliminating such hazards.



## Meeting Schedule

**Meetings are in the Township Hall unless otherwise noted.**

Riverside Board of Trustees	First and third Thursday at 7:00PM
E-911 Board	As called
Economic Development Comm. Odd months only	Second Thursday, 7:00PM
Fire & Police Commission	As called
Historical Commission	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:00PM
Landscape Advisory Comm. Odd months only	Second Tuesday, 7:00PM
Library Board	Second Tuesday, 7:30PM, in Library
Planning & Zoning	Fourth Wednesday 7:00PM
Parks & Recreation Odd months only	Fourth Monday, 7:00PM
Preservation Comm. Even months only	Second Thursday 7:00PM
Riverside Cable Comm.	Second Monday, 7:00PM
Safe Environment Comm.	As called



## *Police & Fire Departments*

On behalf of the Riverside Police and Fire Departments, welcome to the Village of Riverside. I hope that you will enjoy the truly unique experience that this Village offers. I would like to share a little information about public safety and give you the opportunity to share some information with us, if you choose.

I feel that Riverside is a very safe community to live in. The amount of violent crime is very low compared to surrounding communities. However, crime exists everywhere. We need the help of Riverside residents and business owners to assist us in performing our law enforcement duties. If you observe any type of suspicious or criminal activity, do not hesitate to call 9-1-1 or 447-9191. Remember that it is always in your individual best interest to lock car doors, your home, etc., even if you are away for just a few moments, so as not to invite crime. Rest assured that the Riverside Police Department is there to enforce not only the laws of the State of Illinois but the Ordinances of the Village of Riverside as well.

The Riverside Fire Department not only protects the Village from fire, it provides Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Management services as well. The Fire Department is prepared to respond to all incidents from the smallest gas leak to a significant flooding problem.

In an emergency, please dial 9-1-1. Riverside is capable of receiving 9-1-1 calls from both a home phone and a cellular phone. If you have general questions for the Fire Department, please call 708-447-2123. General questions for the Police Department, call 708-447-2127. For more information, please visit the police and fire sections of the Village of Riverside web site at [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us)



In order to be able to contact you about a problem at your home, I would like to offer you the opportunity to provide us with emergency contact information. This is completely voluntary, and the information will only be used for Official Village Business in and emergency. You may submit the information in three ways. First, you may complete the information on the enclosed Resident Emergency Contact Form (center of Guide) and return it through the US Mail, by placing it in the Village drop box located in front of the Township Hall or bringing it to the Village Office. Next, you may email the information to [dwalter@riverside.il.us](mailto:dwalter@riverside.il.us) Finally, you may complete the form through the Village website. You can locate the Resident Emergency Contact Form in the Form Center (bottom of the home page) or by using the search option.

While I hope that you will never need the Riverside Public Safety services, we want you to know that we are here. Please let us know how we can be of service to you.

*Matthew Buckley*

Matthew Buckley

Director of Public Safety



## When to Call 9-1-1

9-1-1 is the Police, Fire and Medical **emergency** telephone number. An emergency is any serious medical problem (chest pains, seizure, bleeding), any type of fire (brush, car, building), or any life-threatening situation (fights, person with a weapon, etc.). You are also urged to call 9-1-1 to report crimes in progress, whether or not a life is threatened.

*Below are examples of when to dial 9-1-1 and important information to remember.*

### **CALL 9-1-1 if**

- A person is in need of immediate medical treatment.
- You are involved in or observe a motor vehicle, train or bicyclist in an accident.
- There is smoke or fire coming from a building or vehicle.
- A person publicly displays a firearm.
- Someone appears to be forcing a person into a car.
- A stranger engages with or invites children to go with him/her.
- People are acting suspiciously around schools, parks or other recreational areas.
- There is someone breaking or opening and entering a neighbor's window or door.
- Anyone suspiciously enters or leaves a house or business.
- You observe someone damaging or defacing property.
- You hear a person screaming for help.
- An alarm (fire or burglar) is sounding.

### **Guidelines for using 9-1-1:**

- **STAY CALM** and tell the dispatcher the exact location and nature of the emergency. Dispatcher will then ask further questions about your emergency and your name and phone number from which you are calling.
- Follow the instructions of the dispatcher.
- Be as observant as possible, without risking your safety, so you can provide descriptions of people (sex, race, clothing, hair) and vehicles (color, make, license plate).
- If the dispatcher asks you to hold, do so. Do not hang up until you are told it is okay.

### **Important Information to Remember:**

- Call 9-1-1 only in an emergency – for all other inquiries call the non-emergency numbers. **Police/ 708-447-9191 Fire/708-447-9191**
- Attach stickers specifying the Riverside Police and Fire non-emergency numbers and your address to every phone in your house in case someone else is using your phone or you are too upset to remember.
- If you dialed 9-1-1 in error, **DO NOT HANG UP**. Instead, stay on the line and explain to the dispatcher that you dialed by mistake and you do not have an emergency. If you hang up, officers will be dispatched to your location to see if someone is in need of assistance.
- If you are a cellular 9-1-1 caller, your telephone number and location may not be displayed on the dispatcher's phone. Cellular callers are routed to the nearest available cell tower which may be miles from the location of your emergency. Be prepared to give the dispatcher your complete location and be aware of your surroundings.

- Do not call 9-1-1 for power interruptions. Call the appropriate utility company. **Com Edison: 1-800-334-7661**(1-800 EDISON1) or **NI Cor Gas: 1-800-942-6100**
- Teach children that 9-1-1 is for an emergency only; cell and land line phones are not toys.
- When you call 9-1-1, the dispatcher will send the appropriate personnel to provide you with the help that is needed. Be patient with the dispatchers. Do not be verbally abusive toward the dispatcher - they are trained to determine priority in emergency situations and will get help to you as quickly as possible.

***Please note*** that if you have a monitored home security system, you will need to complete an alarm permit application for the Police Department. For detailed information see the chapter titled “Things You Should Know” under the “Alarm Permits” section.



## *The Village in the Forest*

### **Forestry and Landscaping**

As “The Village in the Forest” our tree population of approximately 9,000 trees is one of our most distinct features. The Department of Public Works has a Village Forester on staff who is a certified arborist with the State of Illinois. While some of the care of our trees is contracted out, all are supervised and managed by our Forester.

Each year, the Forester spearheads our Cooperative Tree Planting Program designed to help reforest public parkways and keep Riverside green and growing. The Village offers a 50/50 price matching program that covers half the cost of trees planted on the parkway and public setback. Prices include free tree planting, mulch and delivery. Information on the program is available on the website under the Forestry Department and in the Village Office. Parkway trees are under the care of our Forester; please feel free to contact him through the Public Works Department at 708-442-3590 x 502.

The Village Forester also oversees a cyclic trimming program in which all public trees are trimmed on a five year rotational basis. Young trees are trained to improve structure while older trees are trimmed to preserve health. Public trees are also inspected to ensure safety and reduce risk.

The Village of Riverside is a National Historic Landscape District because it was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, the father of landscape architecture. As such, a permit is required for planting of trees and shrubs on the parkway. The application for the permit can be found on the website [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us) in the Form Center (bottom of home page) or by using the Search option.

Also on the website are two guides for planting in Riverside. Both guides are meant to provide specific information on planting native trees properly. The first is entitled Landscaping in a Landmark Village and the second The Right Plant for the Right Place. They are easily located using the Search option.



The Riverside Public Library is located on the banks of the DesPlaines River. Since opening April 4, 1931, the Library has proudly served the people of the historic community of Riverside. More importantly, the people of Riverside have supported the Library generously throughout this time. They contributed during the Great Depression when our doors opened and continue through today! An addition, completed in 1986, increased the original 7,500 square foot building to the present 17,500 square foot size. The Public Library has the distinction of being Landmark number 1, in a Village which has Landmark Status. We welcome you to the Library and the many resources it offers

The Riverside Public Library is open to the public seven days a week. 9:00AM to 9:00PM Monday – Thursday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM Friday and Saturday and 1:00PM to 5:00PM on Sunday's during the school year.

Over 126,000 patrons utilize the Library annually and 5,000 Riverside Public Library cards are currently issued to residents. The Riverside Public Library's collection consists of over 73,000 books, almost 6,000 movies and nearly 4,000 audio recordings. The Library offers residents online databases through several sources; E book downloads through **My Media Mail**; and E book, music, movie and television programs through **HOOPLA**. Portable DVD players, laptops, Kindles and ROKU units are also available for residents to check-out. The Library's website ([www.riversidelibrary.org](http://www.riversidelibrary.org)) and Facebook page offer important information to patrons.

The Library's Children and Youth Services Department has almost 28,000 holdings and provides a variety of story-times and programs for children of all ages. Our librarians work

closely with schools in the community to support student needs. Last year, department program attendance was over 7,000.

Programming for all ages is a priority of the Library. In addition to many adult opportunities and a monthly book discussion group, all ages Summer Reading Program is held each year. The Library is a proud partner of the Riverside Farmers' Market and offers programming and entertainment during the Summer Market.

Wireless connectivity is available in the Library as well as in many spots outside the building. Public Internet computers are available to adult and youth residents.

The Riverside Friends of the Library, organized in 1932, supports the Library through an annual fundraising drive. The money raised pays for the Summer Reading program and other programming and materials to support the Library's mission.





The Historical Museum, located at 10 Pine Avenue, contains approximately 16,000 documents and artifacts that are primarily dedicated to preserving the rich history of Riverside. The Museum promotes an awareness and understanding of the historical significance of the Village of Riverside, a designated National Historic Landmark, through the exhibition, online presentation, study, preservation and growth of its unique collection of artifacts, photographs and archival materials that have particular emphasis on the urban plan and landscape architecture of Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvin Vaux; a noteworthy architectural legacy that includes public buildings and private residences designed by world-renowned architects; and local history dating from the Native American period to the present. The Museum is part of the cultural life of the Village. It is open on Saturdays from 10:00AM until 2:00PM. You may visit the website [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us) and look for information and videos from the Museum by selecting Community (directly under the Search bar) and chose the Culture & Recreation option.



## Riverside Township or Village of Riverside?

Often the Village of Riverside and the Riverside Township and the various services they provide get confused. The historical building at 27 Riverside Road, where both the Riverside Township and Village of Riverside have their offices, is called Riverside Town Hall and is owned and operated by Riverside Township. The Township represents the residents of Riverside, North Riverside, Riverside Lawn, Brookfield and Lyons. Township offices are located to the left of the front entrance of 27 Riverside Road and their office hours are 9:00AM to 3:00PM, Monday through Friday. The following are some of the important services which the Township provides:

***Nurse's Closet*** – short-term loan of durable medical equipment (walkers, wheelchairs, canes, crutches, bath benches, commodes, etc.). Donations of equipment are welcome as well.

***Food Pantry*** - offers non-perishable food to the residents in need. Donations from the community help to keep the pantry shelves fully stocked.

***Handicapped Parking Placards*** – applications are available in the Township office. The Township issues a TEMPORARY placard once the application is completed. Applications for permanent placards must be mailed to Springfield.

***Reduced Fare Transit Card for Seniors***– applications are available at the Township office. Once the application is completed, the office will take your photo and mail it in to be processed.

**Senior Assistance** – the Township has connections to various agencies which offer assistance to Senior Citizens. Please contact the office at 708-442-4400 for more information on these services.

**Voter Registration and Notary Public** – both services are available in the Township office during regular business hours.

**Discount Prescription Cards** – the Township is partnered with Financial Marketing Concepts Inc. to offer a discount prescription card to residents.

**General Assistance** – The General Assistance program is designed to help needy residents who are not eligible for Social Security or a state supported program. In order to determine if one meets all requirements necessary, contact the Township Supervisor at 708-442-4400.

The Township Office also handles **Room Requests** for use of the rooms in the Town Hall.

The **Tax Assessor's office** handles questions on your property taxes and is located on the third floor of the Town Hall. Office hours for the tax assessor are 9:00AM to 1:00PM, Monday through Friday. The phone number is 708-447-7700.



## Things You Should Know

### **Alarm Permits**

Any residence which has a monitored home security system needs an annual alarm permit according to our local ordinance. However, fire and medical alert systems do not need a permit and if a resident installs a system they monitor themselves (via computer/cell phone), no permit is needed. Alarm permits renew each January. Village ordinance requires any premise with a burglar alarm to have a permit on file with the police department. Alarm permit forms are mailed to residents each January and completed forms should be returned by month end along with the \$60.00 annual fee. New residents should stop by the Police Department or the village office to pick up an alarm permit application or call the office at 708-447-2700 to request the form be mailed or emailed to them.

The information you provide on the alarm permit application gives first responders critical information enabling them to provide a timely, appropriate response. The alarm permit also provides first responders with emergency contact information in the event the property owner is unavailable or unresponsive. These records are updated annually.

### **Block Parties**

Block Parties are a great way to meet neighbors and have fun. Applications for a Block Party Permit can be found on the website at the Form Center (bottom of home page) or at the front desk of the Village Hall. The Village will provide barricades for the street however residents are responsible for their placement and removal from the street. Police and Fire personnel will do their best to accommodate visits, contingent on staffing needs. Applications should be filed at

least 10 days in advance. Return the complete application and \$10.00 application fee to the Village Hall.

## **Building Permits/Forms**

Any building or other construction, alterations or repairs where the cost is more than \$500.00 shall require a permit. Any electrical or plumbing work of any kind requires a permit. Permits are not required for painting or flooring work, minor repairs or regular maintenance. A complete listing of permit requirements can be found in the Village Office or on the website on the Community Development page. Applications and requirements for submittal are in the Forms Center which can be found toward the bottom of the home page.

## **Certificate of Compliance**

*What to do when you sell your home:*

Riverside Village Code requires that homeowners obtain a Certificate of Compliance whenever title is transferred for a structure, building or dwelling unit, whether or not there is monetary consideration. The expense is the seller's responsibility and the Certificate of Compliance must be given to the new owner at the time of closing.

An inspection of the property and an original stamped copy of the Plat of Survey no older than six months are required for a Certificate of Compliance. A final water read will be scheduled at the same time as the inspection. Please contact the Building Department at least 10 days before the closing date to set the appointment.

## **Communications**

The Village of Riverside has multiple opportunities to remain informed. Our local newspapers include *The Landmark* (weekly), *The Suburban Life* (weekly) and *The Chicago Tribune* (daily). Comcast's channel 6 broadcasts all Village Board of Trustee's meetings; our newsletter, *The Riverside Review*, is included with your water/sewer bill. You can sign up for notification of the most current information through Riverside Alerts (emergency information) and Notify Me program on our website, [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us). Both programs can be accessed through the Connect tab at the top of the home page. The website also contains detailed information on news, events and opportunities in Riverside.

## **Electric Aggregation Program:**

In 2012 the residents of Riverside directed the board to contract for lower cost electrical supply while going GREEN. In response, the village implemented an electric aggregation program which has been in place for over 6 years. In 2018, after a competitive bidding process, Dynegy Energy Services (DES) was chosen as the retail electric supplier for our current Electric Aggregation Program. The contract with Dynegy runs through October 2020 with a fixed rate of \$0.07719 per kWh and includes 100% Renewable Energy Credits for all power consumed by participants in the program. There are NO enrollment, switching or early termination fees. New residents should confirm their enrollment in the electric aggregation program by contacting Dynegy at 844-351-7691. Your monthly bill will continue to come from ComEd with Dynegy listed as your supplier. ComEd will also continue to deliver your electricity and **all Outages, Service Calls and Emergencies should be reported to ComEd at 800-334-7661**. If you have questions or need additional information about Dynegy please contact their Customer Care Department Monday through Friday 8:00AM to 7:00PM at 866-694-1262.

## **Farmer's Market**

Every Wednesday, from June through October, our busy Farmer's Market is set up in Centennial Park at the Historic Water Tower. From 2:30PM to 7:00PM, you can purchase fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs, jams, meats, nuts, honey and even prepared foods. Our community table changes every week to show off all the various programs and opportunities in the Village. We also usually have music or programs to keep you entertained while you shop and you will meet the nicest people at the Market.

## **Garage Sales**

A permit is needed for garage sales. This can be obtained, free of cost, at the Village Office a few days before the sale. You may also fill out and submit the application online from our website. The online submittal can be found in the Forms Center under the Finance Department. Residents are allowed one garage sale per calendar year. Sales can be held for a maximum of two consecutive days between the hours of 9:00AM and 5:00PM. Advertising is not allowed on any public property.

## **Parking Restrictions**

***There is no parking allowed on Village street between the hours of 2:00AM and 6:00AM.*** If your car cannot be driven or you have special needs (such as a party, or your driveway is being resurfaced) please advise the Riverside Police Department and we will try to accommodate you. You can notify the police using our new online option, [www.frontlinepss.com/riverside](http://www.frontlinepss.com/riverside). Parking restrictions vary by area. Call the Police Department for details.

## **Payment Methods**

The Village of Riverside has several methods of payment available. The cashier's window at the Village Office accepts checks, cash, Discover, VISA or MasterCard. Payment via check can also be mailed via US Mail or in the silver drop box outside of the Township Hall. If you prefer, payments to the Village for utility bills, traffic tickets, vehicle sticker renewals, parking permit renewals and parks & recreation can be made on the website through the Pay tab at the top of the home page. Additionally, payment made be made via the phone by dialing 855-895-2537 and following the prompts. Payment for utility bills may also be automatically deducted from your checking account on the due date of the bill. Forms for the automatic payment can be found at the front desk of the Village Office or on the website, [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us) in the Form Center (bottom of home page) under the Finance section.

## **Pets**

Just as people elsewhere in the United States, many Riverside residents consider their pet an important member of their household. Pet owners should remember the special responsibilities they have pertaining to the four-legged members of the family.

- Animals must be leashed when not on the property of the owner.
- It is unlawful to allow any animal to defecate on private or public property without collecting the by-product.
- Pets must be licensed by the village and wear a collar at all times. Annual licenses at a cost of \$10.00 are due at the same time as vehicle stickers, by June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.
- Owners of dogs who bark excessively may be fined. Dogs are not permitted to violate the peace and quiet of another person or neighborhood.



- Every owner of a cat or dog four months old or older must have their animal inoculated with the rabies vaccine as required by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- For more information please see “Being a Responsible Dog Owner” on the Village’s website or you can pick up a copy at the front desk of the Village Office.

## **Snow Removal**

Snow removal is conducted by the Public Works Department. Main streets are given priority with the side streets and Central Business District sidewalks to follow. Residents are not permitted to remove snow from their driveways into the street. Doing so makes it difficult for Public Works crews to keep streets clear for emergency vehicles and other motorists.

## **Solicitors**

Solicitors must receive a permit before soliciting and are allowed to solicit only during the hours of 9:00AM and 5:00PM. If you do not want solicitors to come to the door, post a sign near the door stating “No Solicitors Invited”. If a solicitor stops at a posted home, you may then call the Police Department. Do not allow any solicitor into your home without first checking their identification and solicitor’s permit.

The Village may not impose restrictions on the kind and types of solicitations that are allowed. Unless fraudulent or illegal acts are involved, soliciting may not be prohibited by the Village according to Federal law.

## **Sprinkling Restrictions**

Between May 15 and September 15 of each year, the mechanical sprinkling of lawns by means of an in-ground sprinkling system or on-ground sprinkling system attached to a hose is permitted between the hours of 6:00AM and 10:00PM as follows:

- Lawn sprinkling is permitted on properties having even numbered addresses only on even numbered days.
- Lawn sprinkling is permitted on properties having odd numbered addresses only on odd numbered days.

This sprinkling restriction does not apply to watering trees, shrubs, flowers and gardens with a hand held watering device intended for this purpose such as a gardening hose.

Any resident with a lawn irrigation system must provide an RPZ or back flow inspection to the Village annually per the Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Plumbing Code. Reminders of the needed inspection will be sent from the Public Works Department. Please contact Public Works at 708-442-3590 if you have any questions.

## **Vehicle Stickers**

Vehicle stickers are always valid from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the next year. All vehicles that are registered with the Illinois Secretary of State at a Riverside address or housed in Riverside must have a vehicle sticker – even antiques. New vehicle stickers are required to be purchased and placed on the vehicle within 30 days of 1) purchase of a new vehicle, or 2) moving into the Village. Residents are responsible for the purchase of an annual vehicle sticker for each vehicle, even if they have not received a renewal application. Cost of vehicle stickers follows: Autos & RV's- \$90.00, Motorcycles-

\$90.00, Trucks under 8,000lbs. - \$100.00, Trucks over 8, 000 lbs. - \$120.00. Late fees are incurred at a rate of \$10.00 per month and are assessed beginning July 1 of each year. Discounted fees of \$45.00 are available for new vehicles purchased (or move-ins) after January 1 of each year. Proof may be required to establish move-in date (such as lease). If it is more than 30 days since move-in, you must provide proof of recent vehicle purchase date (bill of sale) or late fees will be assessed.

Vehicle Stickers can be purchased online via our website, [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us) using the PAY option below the search bar. Please feel free to call the Village office if you have any questions or need assistance.

## **Voter Registration**

Citizens of the United States who are at least 18 years old by Election Day and who have resided at their present address for 30 days or more may register to vote. Registration may be accomplished through a link on the Village website under the Administration tab or by going directly to the registration website at [www.ova.elections.il.us](http://www.ova.elections.il.us) If you have trouble registering online, feel free to visit the Village Offices with two pieces of identification and we will assist you with registration.

## **Water & Sewer Billing**

The utility bill from Riverside is on a two month cycle. Bills are always due as close to the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month as possible. Charges are based on usage in units of 100 cubic feet (748 gallons). Utility bills are back-billed by approximately two months and a minimum bill of 5 units is in effect. For your convenience, payments may be made through our website (Pay tab at top of home page); by phone 844-937-0132 and following the prompts; via automatic deduction from your

checking account; via US Mail or our silver drop box outside of Town Hall . Please be sure to include the bottom portion of the bill if you are paying through the mail or drop box. A 10% late fee is assessed on any past due balance. If you have any questions regarding the bill, please contact the Village Office at 708-447-2700. Any questions or concerns regarding your water supply or water meter should be directed to the Public Works Department, 708-442-3590.

**Website: [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us)**

The Village website is an excellent source of information on news and events in the Village. You can also obtain applications and forms or make online payments via the website. More complete information than provided in this booklet is available on the website. We also strongly recommend that you sign up for our Notify Me program and Riverside Alerts (emergency alerts). By signing up for these programs, you will stay updated on the latest Village announcements, events, emergency responses and meeting schedules. You can sign up through the Village website by selecting the Notify Me link at bottom of the home page and using the Connect tab at the top of the home page for Riverside Alerts. For further information regarding the website, please see the “Let’s Keep In Touch” section of this guide.



## Parking in Riverside

Parking in the Village is very limited. On-street parking is only allowed on one side of most streets. No Parking is allowed on any street between 2:00 AM and 6:00 AM in Riverside. If your car cannot be driven or you have special needs (such as a party, or your driveway is being resurfaced) please advise the Riverside Police Department and we will try to accommodate you. To register your vehicle for overnight parking permission online, visit: [www.frontlinepps.com/riverside](http://www.frontlinepps.com/riverside). The Village webpage also has a link. Other parking restrictions vary by area. Call the Police Department for details.

### **For Residents in the Central Business District without a Garage or Parking Space:**

There are many apartments and condos near the central business district with no designated overnight parking. To these residents, the Village offers limited parking spaces by quarterly permit only. The cost is \$175.00 per quarter. There are four lots where residential parking is offered:

**-Lot 1** is south of the railroad tracks, between the train station and the swim club. This lot is also used for commuter parking.

**-Lot 2** is just north of the tracks, west of the fire station on the south side of Pine Avenue.

**-Lot 3** is two blocks north of the tracks, along Park Place between Kimbark Road and Groveland Avenue.

**-Lot 4** is just north of the tracks, west of the Riverside Garage, on the north side of Pine Avenue.

*THERE MAY BE A WAITING LIST FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMUTER PARKING LOTS. NEW TENANTS/OWNERS ARE NOT GUARANTEED A PARKING SPACE. LANDLORDS OR SELLERS CANNOT PROVIDE, HOLD, TRANSFER OR GUARANTEE SPACES IN ANY VILLAGE LOT.*

To be placed on the waiting list, contact Debby in the Finance Department at 708-447-2700 x 230 or submit your request through the village website. The typical wait time for a residential parking space is 3 - 6 months. You will be called when a space is available.

PLEASE NOTE: PERMIT HOLDERS MUST RENEW EACH QUARTER BY THE DEADLINE OR THEY WILL LOSE THEIR SPACE. The Village will mail out renewal notices, however, it is the permit holder's responsibility to pay by the deadline even if the paperwork is lost. ***The deadlines to renew for each quarter are December 15, March 15, June 15 and September 15.***

**Commuter Parking:**

Commuter parking is available in two places:

**-Lot 1** is south of the tracks, west of the train station. Some spaces are paid by the hour/day (metered) and some are sold as quarterly permits. The spaces with blue number signs are for metered parking (see below).

The spaces with brown number signs are for quarterly permit holders only. The cost is \$130.00 per quarter for commuters (6:00 AM to 9:00 PM) or \$175.00 per quarter for 24-hour parking.

**-Lot 8** is located south of the tracks, east of the crossing. These spaces are for daily commuters (6:00 AM to 9:00 PM) by quarterly permit only at \$130.00 per quarter.

Generally, there is a waiting list of 6 – 9 months for spaces in Lot 1 and a longer waiting list (approximately 24 - 30 months) for spaces in Lot 8. Please contact Debby at 708-447-2700 x 230 to be placed on the waiting list. You may also fill out the wait list request from the website. You will be called as soon as something becomes available.

WHEN USING A VILLAGE LOT, please be aware of your surroundings. If you see or hear anything suspicious, call the

police. We would rather respond to a false alarm than to not be called when needed.

**-Metered Spaces:**

The spaces in Lot 1 with blue number signs are metered. The meter machine is located on the west end of the train station platform. REMEMBER THE NUMBER OF THE SPACE YOU PARK IN and enter that number into the machine. Payment can be made with cash, credit card, via an app on your phone or on the website for the parking meter. Signage explaining payment options is located above the machine. The meters cost \$0.25 per 1 hour, and can be programmed for up to 24 hours at a time. These spaces are free on weekends and holidays.



## *Recycling, Yard Waste and Refuse Service*

***Questions or requests regarding garbage, yard waste and recycling collection, billing or changes in service should be directed to Flood Brothers at 630-261-0400. (Office hours, 8:00AM to 5:30PM, Monday through Friday and 8:00AM to 12:00PM Saturdays)***

- Garbage, recycling, and miscellaneous trash are picked up every Thursday between 7:00AM and 6:00PM. Be sure to have your containers or bags at the curb before 7:00AM on Thursdays. Containers must be removed from the curb on the day of collection.
- Trash, yard waste and recyclables are picked up at the curb and shall not be placed out before 5:00PM Wednesday.
- Each resident is issued a 65 gallon cart which is owned by Flood Brothers. In addition, residents are allowed to place up to one (1) cubic yard of additional waste that does not fit inside the cart out for collection each week. Residents should place any additional waste in their own containers which should be no larger than 35 gallons capacity and not exceed fifty (50) pounds in weight.
- Flood Brothers will not collect on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. If a holiday falls on a weekday or a Sunday, and your regular pickup is on or after the holiday, your pick up will be delayed by one day.
- Refuse containers may be stored at the rear of the building or the side of the building if screened from view from the street. They may not be located between a building and a street lot line.



- The supplied recycling 65 gallon cart is to be used for recycling only. Any recyclable can that contains household refuse will not be collected. Please empty and rinse all containers. Acceptable recyclables include: aluminum, iron, steel and tin cans, foil and pie tins, empty aerosol cans, dry paint cans, cardboard, chipboard, newspapers, junk mail and envelopes, catalogs and magazines, office or copy paper, clear, green and brown glass bottles and jars, juice and soda bottles, detergent and shampoo bottles, plastic containers with the # 1 through #7 symbol.

- Yard waste is collected on Thursdays from April 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>. Yard waste consists of grass clippings, leaves, small shrubbery trimmings and plant materials such as weeds, unwanted plants and roots. Please make sure material is free from dirt. Do not mix yard waste with refuse or recycling. Each is collected separately and transported to a different facility. Grass clippings, leaves and plant material must be placed in biodegradable paper bags or a refuse can with two handles, no larger than thirty-five (35) gallons. If a can is used, it must be clearly marked “Yard Waste” and placed so the collection driver can see it from the street. The maximum weight of any bag and can is fifty (50) pounds. Yard waste in *plastic* bags will not be picked up.

**Leaves cannot be placed in the streets .**

- Branches and bushes must be cut into 4 foot lengths and bundled. Bundles must not be larger than 2 feet in diameter and cannot weight more than 50 pounds.

- Christmas trees and holiday greenery must have all tinsel, ornaments, lights and nails removed before being placed out at the curb for pickup. Holiday greenery collection and pickup is FREE of CHARGE the first two full weeks in January. **Collection of Holiday greenery after the first two weeks in**

**January will be billed a \$5.00/item bulk pick up charge on your next invoice.**

- **Bulk items** are collected on your regularly scheduled collection day. Bulk items that do not fit in the refuse carts may be placed at the curb for pick up. A maximum of three (3) bulk items will be collected per household each week. Bulk items include sofas, tables, mattresses, box springs, bookcases, dressers. Tires, large car parts and vehicle batteries cannot be collected. Carpet must be cut into four-foot lengths and securely bound with tape, rope or twine in rolls or bundles. Rolls and bundles of carpeting must be no more than two (2) feet in diameter and weigh no more than fifty (50) pounds. Loose, unbundled carpeting can be collected at an additional charge by a special pick up arranged for in advance.

- There is no charge for the collection of **white good items**, however only 1 white good per household each week is allowed. The following items are considered white goods: refrigerators, stoves, washers, dishwashers, freezers, dryers, hot water tanks, air conditioners and furnaces. To schedule a collection of a white good item, contact Flood Brothers at 630-261-0400 during regular business hours. White good items will be collected on your pickup day. Any white good item to be collected must be placed at the curb by 7:00AM.

- **Unacceptable Materials:** Items such as paint, household batteries, pesticides, poisons, cleaning solvents, tainted gasoline, used oil and other automotive products are considered to be hazardous waste and should not be included in your refuse can for collection.

- Open burning of any type of refuse material within the Village limits is expressly prohibited by ordinance.

## Recycling – How Do I Get Rid Of . . . .

The Earth911 website [www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com) is one of the best resources for locating recycling centers for various items including those listed below. The following are additional resources for recycling.

**Compact Florescent Lighting (CFL) Bulbs** - All Home Depot and some Ace Hardware stores accept CFL bulbs for recycling.

**Electronics Recycling-** Residents can drop off electronic items for recycling from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday at the Public Works Building, (3860 Columbus Blvd) in the designated dumpster located in the parking lot. The list of electronic items which must now be recycled in Illinois follows: 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, Digital Video Disc Recorders.

**Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)** – The State of Illinois sponsors several one-day drop-off events in the Chicago area each spring and fall. The locations vary from year to year. It also provides funding for several drop-off locations that are open regular hours each week. Information on these options is available on the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity website ([www.commerce.state.il.us/dceo/](http://www.commerce.state.il.us/dceo/)) under the Community Development-Energy and Recycling tab. The West Cook County Solid Waste Agency at 708-453-9100 has information on these drop-off locations and events. Please confirm the schedule and acceptability of materials. Some materials including latex paints are not accepted at these locations.

**Household Products** – The West Cook County Solid Waste Agency sponsors one or more one or two day drop off events each year. Please phone 708-453-9100 for information about the location and schedule. Some state-sponsored HHW locations accept some electronics for recycling. Please confirm schedule and acceptability of materials.

**Paint** - State of Illinois-sponsored Household Hazardous Waste drop-off events and locations currently accept oil based paints for disposal. Latex paints are not accepted as they are non-toxic. You may dispose of latex paint with your household refuse provided it is hardened. Place kitty litter in open paint cans or use the excess paint to paint scrap wood/cardboard. As an alternative, the State of Illinois organizes the “Partners for Waste Paint Solutions” program, which recycles paint. Information can be found on the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency website ([www.epa.state.il.us/land/citizen-involvement/paint.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/citizen-involvement/paint.html)).

**Pharmaceuticals** – There are a number of locations in Cook County that accept unused or unwanted medications. They can be found on the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency’s website ([www.epa.state.il.us](http://www.epa.state.il.us)) under the Medication Disposal tab. In addition, most state-sponsored Household Hazardous Waste events and locations accept unused pharmaceuticals. Please contact the West Cook County Solid Waste Agency at 708-453-9100 for schedules and to confirm availability. The West Cook County Solid Waste Agency also sponsors a one day drop-off event each year for unused pharmaceuticals. Please contact them at 708-453-9100 for information.

**Plastic Bags** - Many grocery stores and some other retailers will accept plastic bags for recycling provided they are clean and dry.

**Styrofoam** – Some shippers will accept loose fill plastics (Styrofoam packing peanuts) for reuse. Information on retailers that accept loose fill plastics for reuse or recycling is available through an automated hotline, 800-828-2214. The Earth911 website may also have locations that accept these materials for recycling or reuse.

**Small Batteries** - Since retailers and other organizations who accept household and other small batteries may have limitations on the type of batteries they accept, please refer to the Earth911 website for current information. The Village of Riverside encourages its residents and businesses to investigate the use of rechargeable batteries.

**Vehicle Batteries** – Most retailers that sell batteries will accept batteries for recycling.

**Vehicle Tires** - Most retailers that sell tires will accept tires for recycling for a small fee.

Thank you for your recycling efforts. Should you have any questions, or need further information, please contact the Village of Riverside at 708-447-2700, the West Cook County Solid Waste Agency at 708-453-9100 or Flood Brothers at 630-261-0400



## Riverside Distinctions

### **Riverside Facts:**

Area: Approximately 1.9 square miles

Parks: 134 acres – 41 small parks, 5 large parks

Forest Preserve: 900 acres

Population: 8,875 (2010 census)

Village Designed By: Olmsted, Vaux & Co., in 1869

Incorporation date: July 10, 1875

**A Model Community:** Riverside has been recognized as the prototype of all garden suburbs, planned communities and commuter communities. It was the first totally planned suburb of Chicago to use curvilinear roadways instead of grid-like pattern and the first to incorporate a Central Business District into its development plan.

Riverside is also known as one of the eight great open spaces in the United States, only two of which are communities. Over 120 years of architectural styles may be observed in the Village. The Village boasts buildings designed by such influential architects as Frank Lloyd Wright, Jens Jenson, William LeBaron Jenney, G. W. Ashby, and Harold P. Zook.

World famous landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, whose professional credits include designing New York City's Central Park, The United States Capital Lawn and Mall Area and numerous university campuses, designed Riverside in 1869 with the help of his partner Calvert Vaux.

A Calvert Vaux Exhibit was on display at the New York Museum in New York City in 1989. In the brochure for the exhibit, Olmsted, Vaux and Company are credited with developing the "plan for the most environmentally enriched suburb in the United States", Riverside, Illinois, 1868/69.

Olmsted's plan is still in effect today. Riverside boasts a Grand Park system that uses several large parks as a foundation with 41 similar triangular parks located at intersections throughout town. In fact there are approximately 141 acres of Village-maintained green space in Riverside.

***Riverside Landscape:*** A major draw to Riverside is the natural, country-like landscape. The predominant goal for the Village, as designed by Olmsted and Vaux, was to create a landscape with unconscious influence on the observer. This was done by manipulating and enriching the surroundings without leaving evidence that man had tampered with it. The art of the plan was demonstrated through the emphasis and enrichment of the existing natural environment.

***National Register of Historic Places:*** Riverside has been included on the listing of the National Register of Historic Places since 1970. This is largely due to the historic look and landscape design of the Village.

***National Historic Landscape District:*** The Village of Riverside is a National Historic Landscape District because it was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, the father of landscape architecture and urban planning. It was the first Landscape Architectural District to be recognized by the State of Illinois (1969) and by the Federal government (1970).

***To retain its original aesthetic charm:*** The Village of Riverside maintains approximately 379 antique-style gas street lanterns instead of the more common electric streetlights.

***Riverside has a well-maintained diverse housing stock:*** Riverside's housing stock provides new and first-time buyers with a variety of housing alternatives, from compact to large

and from Victorian to post-Modern homes. Residents may purchase condominiums and town homes in Riverside. Residents also have the option to rent one of the many well-preserved historic apartments in the Village.

Over 60 structures have been designated local landmarks, ranging from Tudor Revival to Arts and Crafts to Colonial Revival style homes. Riverside is home to two of Illinois' 77 National Historic Landmarks: the Coonley House and the Tomek House, both designed by Frank Lloyd Wright at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Riverside Preservation Commission actively seeks to protect and maintain the historic character of the Village and its individual structures for future generations to enjoy.

***Living in Riverside:*** There are over 25 active civic organizations in Riverside, ranging from the Frederick Law Olmsted Society to the Parenting Group to the Riverside Tennis Association. Businesses in Riverside are as varied as the people that live there. They include restaurants, banks, unique gift and art and crafts shops, grocery store, bakeries and candy shop, numerous antique shops and many others.

Established and aspiring artists can learn from the skilled artisans in the Village.

Individuals and families can enjoy a privately operated community pool that is open to all residents.

Just minutes from Riverside, the renowned teaching hospital, Loyola University Medical Center, is famous for its outstanding neonatal, oncology, cardiac and trauma units. Also near Riverside are MacNeal, Hinsdale and LaGrange Memorial Hospitals.

***Brookfield Zoo:*** Nationally famous Brookfield Zoo, which welcomes over 2 million visitors a year, is within walking distance. The Zoo is home to animals representing more



than 400 species and inhabits nearly 20 naturalistic exhibits in the zoo's 216 acres.

**Location:** Riverside lies in the area between Harlem Avenue on the East, Ogden Avenue and the DesPlaines River on the south, Golf Road and DesPlaines Avenue on the west and 31<sup>st</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Streets on the north.

- Riverside is conveniently located near major forms of transportation and all of the Chicago metropolitan area.
- Riverside is located within close proximity of I-55, I-290 and I-294.
- The PACE bus system operates on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Harlem Avenue, DesPlaines and 26<sup>th</sup> Street for Riverside residents.
- Riverside is conveniently located on the Burlington Northern Railroad line and hosts numerous stops daily by Metra commuter trains. In fact, it takes less than twenty minutes to get from Riverside to Union Station in downtown Chicago. 22,000 people ride the Metra through Riverside every day.
- Riverside is only 7 miles from Chicago, and 14 miles from “the Loop”,
- Riverside is conveniently located between O’Hare International Airport and Midway Airport, with approximately a thirty-minute drive to each.



## Riverside Dining Options

Riverside has a wide variety of ways to ease those hunger pains. Try them all!

### **Aunt Diana's Confectionary**

29 E Burlington Street  
708-447-1031

### **Chew Chew Café**

33 E Burlington Street  
708-447-8781

### **El Faro 2**

3422 S Harlem  
708-777-1347

### **EmpanadUS**

7 E. Burlington Street  
708-442-5002

### **LaBarra**

2 E Burlington Street  
708-887-7700

### **La Estancia**

25 Forest Ave  
708-530-1830

### **Michael's Pancake House**

25 E. Burlington St.  
708-442-1251

### **Mollie's Public House**

31 Forest Avenue  
708-447-2233

### **Nada Arabic Food**

3216 Harlem Avenue  
708-603-6660

### **Quincy Street Distillery**

39 E. Quincy St  
708-357-7414

### **Sawmilly**

35 E. Burlington Street  
708-447-8781

### **To Your Taste**

2728 Harlem Avenue  
708-442-8003

### **White Fence Farm**

3704 Harlem Ave  
708-447-9325



## Let's Keep in Touch

Don't miss any vital information! The Village of Riverside has several ways for residents to receive updates regarding events and news from the Village.

**Notify Me:** Announcements sent to you via your e-mail account or text messaging. To sign up, go to the Village website, [www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us) and select the Notify Me link at the bottom of the home page. Input e-mail address and phone number for texts. We recommend that you elect to receive both the Trending in Riverside option and the eflash option for the most coverage.

**Riverside Alerts:** Emergency Notification via your home, business or cell phone numbers, email address or text messaging. Used only in an emergency. To sign up, go to our website and select the Connect option at the top of the home page and "Sign up for Emergency Alerts".

**Twitter:** – Follow the Village **@RiversideGov**.  
- Follow Riverside Police **@pdriverside**

More information is available on the Village website. Be sure to visit us at:

[www.riverside.il.us](http://www.riverside.il.us)

Our Business Directory map lists all of Riverside's businesses as well. It can be found by selecting the Discover option located directly under the Search bar on the home page.