



# The Bridge—Volume 136

CITY OF ROCKFORD

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The Council is reviewing our long-term street improvement plan with the city engineers and are looking for ways to fund future projects. Our objective is to save up enough money to pay the city's share without bonding, which is approximately 70% of the cost. Residents benefiting from the street improvements are assessed the standard 30% per unit and have been notified of the possible 2019 street assessment. If council approves to move forward, we will have a \$480,000 mill and overlay street project in the Autumn Oaks and Woodhill areas this year.

Please continue to keep fire hydrants clear of snow during the rest of our snow season. Having access to a fire hydrant clearly saves time in responding to an emergency. It is also important to make sure cars are not parked on the streets when it snows so plows can get through and clean the streets for our safety.

Mark your calendars for the Fire Department's pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and come support our amazing volunteers. Also, Crow River Thousand Hearts event will take place on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Please check their website to volunteer or coordinate an activity in our community.

Wish you all a Happy St. Patrick's Day!  
Mayor Renee Hafften



*Renee Hafften*

## 2018 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The City of Rockford is searching for its 2018 Volunteer of the Year. Nomination forms are available on the city website, City Hall, Community Expo or the library. Please submit your nomination no later than noon **Wednesday, March 20, 2019**.

City Council will vote for the 2018 Volunteer of the Year at their March 26th meeting.

## LOCAL BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

**Important Information Regarding Property Assessments**  
**This may affect your 2020 property taxes.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization for the City of Rockford, Wright and Hennepin County, Minnesota will meet on Tuesday, the **9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019** at 6pm at City Hall in the Council Chambers at 6031 Main Street, Rockford. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your county assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board will review your assessments and may make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

### City Hall

6031 Main Street  
Rockford, MN 55373  
phone: 763-477-6565  
fax: 763-477-4393

Email: [cityhall@cityofrockford.org](mailto:cityhall@cityofrockford.org)  
Web Site: [www.cityofrockford.org](http://www.cityofrockford.org)

### City Hall Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8am—4:30pm

### Mayor

Renee Hafften

### City Council

Deb Buoy  
Ted Hill  
Rick Martinson  
Scott Seymour

### City Council Meetings

Second & fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm

### Planning Commission Meetings

Second Thursday (fourth Thursday Apr-Oct if needed) of each month at 7pm

### Park Commission Meetings

First Monday of every other month at 6pm

To receive the newsletter and city updates via email, send your email address to:

[audrae@cityofrockford.org](mailto:audrae@cityofrockford.org)

"Like" The City of Rockford on Facebook



## ROCKFORD LIBRARY

Located at **8220 Cedar Street** (763) 477-4216. For more information see their website: [www.griver.org](http://www.griver.org)

**Highlighted Events:**

**Ferdig Fridays Music Recital**—March 1st, April 5th, and May 5th (3:30-4pm)

**Create a Felted Landscape**—March 7th (6-7:30pm)

**Rockford Friends of the Library**— March 9th, April 27th and May 11th (8:30-9:45am)

**Upcycled Slipper Workshop**—March 11th (6-7:30pm)

**Minnesota's Wild & Woolly Prohibition Days with Arn Kind**—March 28th (6-7:30pm)

**Blackout Poetry**—April 4th (6-7:30pm)

**Rockford Friends of the Library Book & Bake Sale**— April 8th to April 13th (during library hours)

**\*\*Book donations accepted year round\*\***

**Vanishing Landmarks**—April 30th (6-7pm)

**Create a Garden Ornament**—May 2nd (5:30-7:30pm)

**Author Kevin Lovegreen**—May 7th (4-5pm)

**Rockford Library 30th Anniversary Celebration & The Skally Line: Oldtime Stringband Music and Minnesota Stories**-May 20th (5-7pm)



**Celebrating 30 Years in Rockford**

## CLEAN UP DAY &amp; FOOD SHELF COLLECTION

Clean Up Day and Food Shelf Collection will be held **Saturday, May 4th** (8am-noon) at Public Works - 6551 Utility Dr. Items **MUST** be sorted if you want volunteers to help unload. **NO** broken glass.

RiverWorks Thrift Store will be on site to collect gently used items. A contribution receipt will be provided for your tax return.

The following items will be accepted for a fee: scrap metal, household appliances, furniture items, electronics, tires, and fluorescent/compact bulbs. Fees and further details are available at City Hall or on the website.

- Compost/Yard Waste will be accepted at the compost site 8am-noon on Saturday.
- Household Batteries and Eye Glasses accepted year round at the Rockford Library-8220 Cedar Street.
- The City is **UNABLE** to collect Household Hazardous Waste at Clean-Up Day. Contact City Hall for other options of disposal.

**Donate 10 non perishable food items or \$10 to the RiverWorks Food Shelf on May 4th and receive \$5 off your 2019 clean-up day total!**



*Sharing love and faith by gathering and serving in our communities to address Health, Habitation and Hunger.*

The **7<sup>th</sup> annual Thousand Hearts Crow River Serve Day** is **Saturday, May 18, 2019**. Join over four-hundred volunteers in one day of service to our communities. Projects include groundwork at Elmwood Cemetery, Rockford Schools and the Ames-Florida Stork House, community gardens, donating blood, planting flowers at Greenfield Central Park and packing meals for Kids Against Hunger. Many projects are family friendly. The day includes a light breakfast and lunch at Riverside Park in Rockford and a program and dinner at Rockford High School Commons. For more information and to sign up, contact Annette Tryon at [annette-tryon@gmail.com](mailto:annette-tryon@gmail.com) or visit our website at [www.thousandhearts.weebly.com](http://www.thousandhearts.weebly.com) and like us on Facebook at Thousand Hearts Crow River Serve Day.

Thousand Hearts 365 exists to address community needs throughout the year. Currently volunteers are Reading Buddies at Rockford Elementary School (REAMS), perform seasonal ground work at the Ames-Florida Stork House and provide help for seniors when asked. If you would like to join a group of 'on call' volunteers, contact Annette Tryon at [annettetryon@gmail.com](mailto:annettetryon@gmail.com).

**RiverWorks Food Shelf**

It is time for the Minnesota Food Share March Campaign! For every pound of food donated and every dollar collected, along with the number of clients served in March, the MN Food Share will provide free dollars that can be used to purchase food.

8230 Cedar Street , Rockford  
[www.riverworksonline.org](http://www.riverworksonline.org) (763) 477-6098

### ROCKFORD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Ames-Florida-Stork House is located at: 8131 Bridge St  
Phone (763) 477-5383  
Email: storkhouse@cityofrockford.org  
[www.storkhouse.org](http://www.storkhouse.org)



NEW roof Installed back in 2010

**Speakeasy—Saturday, March 2, 2019** (7pm-9:30pm)  
At Molly’s Wine & Spirits Event Center, Highway 55, Greenfield  
Tickets \$29 each in advance or \$35 at the door (limited amount of tickets available)

**Memorial Day Pie & Ice Cream Social—Monday, May 27th** (11am-2pm )  
Enjoy—fruit pies, ice cream sundaes, and root beer floats, as well as many activities taking place on the grounds that day.

### ROCKFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Rockford Fire Department is always looking for NEW members. Paid on call. No experience needed. Training will be provided. Applications are available at City Hall or online at: [www.cityofrockford.org](http://www.cityofrockford.org)

Rockford Fire Auxiliary Members WANTED. This group meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month. If interested in joining, contact Deb Buoy at 612-760-8755.

**Pancake Breakfast and Raffles—Sunday, May 5, 2019** at the Fire Station (7am-noon)



The chamber invites all the businesses from the surrounding area to attend. [www.rgchamber.wixsite.com/rgchamber](http://www.rgchamber.wixsite.com/rgchamber)

**March 14th** Meeting at Wright-Hennepin Electric located at 6800 Electric Drive, Rockford. Networking starts at 11:30am with lunch and program at noon. Cost \$15 members and \$20 non-members. Email RSVPs to: [rockfordgreenfieldchamber@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordgreenfieldchamber@gmail.com)

**April 17th** Evening Mixer at the Choo Choo Restaurant in Loretto from 4:30pm-6:30pm. Cost \$25 per person (includes appetizers and drink tickets). The Join us for networking and fun as we celebrate the completion of tax season. Email RSVPs to: [rockfordgreenfieldchamber@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordgreenfieldchamber@gmail.com)

**May 9th** Meeting at Wright-Hennepin Electric located at 6800 Electric Drive, Rockford. Networking starts at 11:30am with lunch and program at noon. Cost \$15 members and \$20 non-members. Email RSVPs to: [rockfordgreenfieldchamber@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordgreenfieldchamber@gmail.com)

#### Community Expo

The Rockford Community Expo will be held **Saturday, March 16th** from 9am-noon at the Rockford High School - 7600 County Road 50. For more information contact the Rockford Community Center at 763-477-4563. **Free to the public!**

### MAILBOX REGULATIONS

Your local postmaster must approve the location of your mailbox. Put a roadside mailbox where a carrier can reach inside without leaving the truck. That means positioning it about 41” to 45” off the ground and back about 6” to 8” from the curb. **Remember to keep the path to your mailbox clear in inclement weather.**

If you’re mounting a curbside mailbox on a post near the street, the support should be secure and safe. The best supports are designed to bend or fall away if a car hits them.

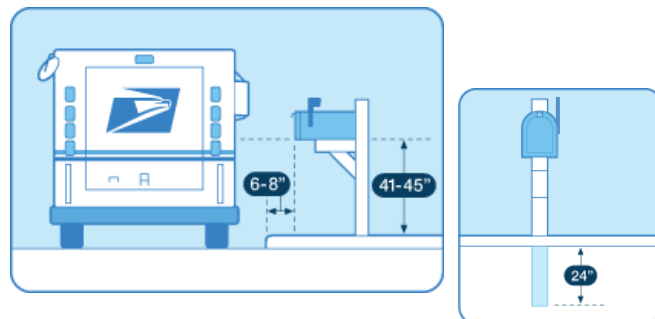
The Federal Highway Administration recommends:

- a wooden mailbox support no bigger than 4” x 4”
  - a 2”-diameter standard steel or aluminum pipe.
- Bury your post no more than 24” deep, so it can give way in an accident.

Don’t use potentially dangerous supports, such as:

- heavy metal pipes.
- concrete posts.
- farm equipment, such as milk cans filled with concrete.

In areas with lots of snow, we suggest a semi-arch or extended arm-type support. That way, snowplows will be able to sweep under without knocking it down.





**Upcoming Events**

- March 2nd**—Speakeasy at Molly’s Wine & Spirits Event Center 7pm-9:30pm
- March 8th**—Rockford Ambassador’s Princess Party at the Rockford Elementary Commons Area 6:30pm-8pm
- March 11th**—Delano Senior Center 11:30am
- March 14th**—R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting at Wright-Hennepin Electric 11:30am/noon
- March 16th**—Community Expo at Rockford High School Gym & Commons 9am-noon
- April 6th**—Rockford Masonic Hog Roast at the Rockford Township Hall 4pm
- April 8th**—Delano Senior Center 11:30am
- April 8th–April 13th**—Rockford Library Book and Bake Sale (during library hours)
- April 13th**—Rockford Lion’s Greenback Dinner & Silent Auction at Rockford Township Hall 5pm
- April 17th**—R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Evening Mixer at Choo Choo Restaurant 4:30pm-6:30pm
- April 20th**—Easter Egg Hunt at Riverside Park 10am
- May 4th**—Clean-Up Day at Public Works 8am-noon
- May 5th**—Fire Department Pancake Breakfast at Fire Station 7am-noon
- May 9th**—R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting at Wright-Hennepin Electric 11:30am/noon
- May 13th**—Rockford Senior Citizen’s at Walnut Place 11:30am
- May 18th**—Thousand Hearts Day of Service
- May 27th**—Memorial Day Parade and Events in town (watch the website for more details)

**COMPOST SITE**

The compost site on Elm Street/CR 33 is scheduled to open to City of Rockford Residents on *Monday, April 15th*, **depending on the weather**.

Items accepted: grass clippings, leaves and brush no larger than 3” in diameter. All bags used to transport composting must be removed.

Please observe the following guidelines:

- Please remove all bags, bottles and flower pots.
- Yard waste mixed with rocks, metal, concrete, polystyrene foam, animal feces or foreign material is unacceptable.
- Landscape fabric does not decompose and is not allowed at the compost site.
- Grass clippings, leaves, garden waste and all soft bodied plant material is acceptable for the compost pile.
- Brush, sticks and wood waste need to be separated from compostable yard waste. Woody plant material does not degrade as fast as soft bodied plants and needs to be handled separately

All wood waste and brush needs to be placed in the brush pile which is separate from the compost pile. The city hires a contractor to remove the wood waste from the site every fall. Please observe the following rules to help keep this cost minimal for the city:

- No stumps
- No lumber or landscape timbers
- No concrete
- No logs over 6” in diameter
- Place all leaves and grass clippings in the compost pile.

**Hours of operation:**  
**Monday-Friday 7:30am-3:00pm**  
**Wednesday Evening 4:30-8:30pm**  
**Saturday 8:00am-noon**

**The compost site schedule is subject to weather and site conditions. Only material originating within the city limits is allowed at the site. No commercial lawn care or tree companies are allowed at the site. The site may also be closed if an illegal dumping creates a problem that needs to be corrected.**

You do not need to check out a key at city hall.

**NO OTHER DUMPING IS ALLOWED.**

*Finished compost material may be available to Rockford Residents.*

**SINGLE SORT RECYCLING**

Waste Management **collects recycling every other Wednesday**. The 2019 calendar is available on the City website or at City Hall.

**Recyclables must be set out at the curb by 7 a.m. Face the lid toward the street and the handle toward the house.**

Items for recycle: metal cans, plastic bottles & containers #1-7, glass bottles & jars, paper, flattened cardboard & paperboard, and dairy & juice cartons.

**DO NOT INCLUDE:** plastic bags, sharps & medical waste (needles), foam cups & containers or food waste.

The City of Rockford supports residential recycling in the general fund budget. Recycling was state mandated by legislature. The more everyone can recycle the bigger the county rebates, reducing the tax burden.

<b>2019 Pick Up Dates:</b>	August 14, 2019
March 13, 2019	August 28, 2019
March 27, 2019	September 11, 2019
April 10, 2019	September 25, 2019
April 24, 2019	October 9, 2019
May 8, 2019	October 23, 2019
May 22, 2019	November 6, 2019
June 5, 2019	November 20, 2019
June 19, 2019	December 4, 2019
<b>July 3, 2019*</b>	December 18, 2019
July 17, 2019	<b>January 2, 2020*</b>
July 31, 2019	

The Rockford Area Seniors meet the 2nd Monday of each month at different locations. Attend and find out more information about activities or call Bonnie Pool (763) 477-4468. Membership is \$10 per year. Upcoming meetings:

- **Monday, March 11th**—Delano Senior Center
- **Monday, April 8th**—Delano Senior Center
- **Monday, May 13th**—Walnut Place, 8554 Walnut Place