



# The Bridge—Volume 133

CITY OF ROCKFORD

## City Hall

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Rockford, MN 55373  
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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



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It's summer time, and with that we Minnesotans know this also means it is road construction season. MnDOT has a Hwy 55 project planned for mid-June through mid-September which will create a detour from Rockford to Buffalo. Details have been posted on our city website ([www.cityofrockford.org](http://www.cityofrockford.org)), Facebook page and in our weekly email updates or visit the project's website at [mndot.gov/d3/2018/h55/](http://mndot.gov/d3/2018/h55/)

Council and Staff have been revising goals for 2018 and plan to focus on Residential/Commercial development, creating a long term street Capital Improvement Plan, researching an alternative system for Utility Billing and options to reduce expenses for our city's annual bio solid disposal process.

Mark your calendars for Rockford River Days! Our annual event will take place August 10 - 12 with Shane Martin Band on Friday night, and Jonah and the Whales on Saturday night. Come down to Riverside Park for the midway, bingo, Texas hold'em, craft/market place, food, beverages, 5k/10k run and cribbage/volleyball/corn hole tournaments. Parade will take place at noon on Sunday. for more information, visit River Days website at [www.rockfordriverdays.weebly.com](http://www.rockfordriverdays.weebly.com).

Finally, Congratulations to Kathy Ehlers for being selected as our 2017 volunteer of the year! The award is well-deserved, and we thank you for volunteerism and dedication to our community.

Enjoy your summer and I'll see you at Rockford River Days!

*Renee Hafften*

## ROCKFORD RIVER DAYS AUGUST 10TH - 12TH

Come and enjoy Rockford River Days celebration at Riverside Park—8220 Elm Street. Many events happening – Band Friday and Saturday Night, Duck Drop, Carnival, Corn Hole Toss, Volleyball, Bingo, **Fireworks at dusk on Saturday** and **Parade at noon on Sunday**.

For more information go to the website: [rockfordriverdays.weebly.com](http://rockfordriverdays.weebly.com). If you would like to learn more information about how you could help with River Days planning or be part of the committee, please email Christina Schultz at [schultz6300@msn.com](mailto:schultz6300@msn.com).

Presale tickets for the rides will be available at City Hall, BANKWEST and Holiday.

Great food and fun, so save the dates: August 10, 2018 –August 12, 2018!

**Bring your family and join in on the celebration!**

**C L E A N - U P D A Y**

Rockford's Annual City Wide Clean-Up was held on Saturday, May 5th from (8am-noon) at the Public Works Site—6551 Utility Drive. The weather was pleasant and the residents were patient. There were approximately 175 vehicles that came thru to dispose of their unwanted items.

Items collected:

**55 Appliances (7,885 pounds)**

**3,713 pounds of Electronics**

**408 Fluorescent Bulb**

**34 Tires**

**6.02 tons of Scrap Metal**

**9.85 tons of Garbage/**

**4.88 tons of Construction Material**

About 10 residents donated food or cash to the RiverWorks Food Shelf (collecting \$25 cash and 89 pounds of food was donated).

**RIVERSIDE PARK  
8220 ELM STREET**

Looking for a building to host your upcoming: graduation, wedding, anniversary, shower, birthday, family or class reunion or meeting?

Building occupancy approximately 48 people. Rental includes use of building and overhangs, some tables and chairs, refrigerator, oven/cooktop, sink, and bathrooms.

Rates: Residents \$128.00 (plus sales tax)  
Non-Residents \$170.00 (plus sales tax)

For availability and/or to make a reservation Call City Hall (763) 477-6565.



**R E N T A L D W E L L I N G  
L I C E N S E**

If you are renting a residential property within the City of Rockford you are required by city code to have the property licensed.

If you already have an existing Rental Dwelling License it is time to renew it for 2018/2019. The City Council has established a fee for rental property licenses. Stop by City Hall or go on-line to obtain the license application. All applications need to be submitted to City Hall no later than June 30, 2018.

**R O C K F O R D L I B R A R Y**

Located at **8220 Cedar Street** (763) 477-4216

*Just a few of their EVENTS:*

- Family Storytime—Wednesdays (11:15am-noon)
- Summer Reading Program—started June 12th (sign-up anytime during the summer)
- KidPower with Rachael Kroog—June 19th (2:30-3:30pm)
- Metal Detecting Program (12 and older) - June 25th (7-8pm)
- Pint Size Polkas—July 2nd (4-5pm)
- Learn About the Amazing World of Bugs—July 17th (6:45-7:45pm)
- Big Fun Show—July 30th (6-7pm)
- Wolves at our Door—August 7th (4-5pm)
- Zoom, Rocket, Zoom Art Program (ages 5-12)—August 15th (1-2pm)

For more information see their website: [www.griver.org](http://www.griver.org)



The next R-G Chamber meeting will be held on **July 12th** at Wright-Hennepin Electric located at 6800 Electric Drive, Rockford. Networking starts at 11:30am with lunch and program at noon.

**August 9th** Chamber Coffee Meeting at BANKWEST 7:30am

The chamber invites all the businesses from the surrounding area to join them at their gatherings.

RSVP via email: [rockfordgreenfieldchamber@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordgreenfieldchamber@gmail.com)

**Contact Information:**

PO Box 413, Rockford, MN 55373  
<http://rgchamber.wixsite.com/rgchamber>

**L A W N S P R I N K L E R S**

Residents installing a lawn sprinkler system need to apply for a building permit before installation. A site plan with the proposed placement needs to be submitted with the permit and fee. The permit fee is \$51.00.

**Rockford Farmers Market**

Fridays (June-October) 3pm—6:30pm  
Rockford City Parking Lot—6121 Main Street  
At the corner of Main Street & Cedar Street  
Website: <http://rockfordmarketweebly.com>

**ELECTION INFORMATION**

Rockford residents will be able to vote for: two council members (4 year Term) and one special council member (2 year term). Filing for candidacy starts on Tuesday, **July 31, 2018** during office hours 8am-4:30pm until Tuesday, **August 14, 2018** at 5pm. The filing fee is \$2.00.

If you are a new resident to the City of Rockford, recently turned 18 or have not voted in the last four years, we encourage you to go online to [www.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.sos.state.mn.us) and complete a Voter Registration Application. You may also register to vote on Election Day, but make sure you have ID such as a current driver's license or MN ID card with your correct address. If you have not changed your driver's license you must have a current utility bill and your license. Last day to pre-register for the Primary Election is **Tuesday, July 24, 2018** and the General Election is Tuesday, **October 16, 2018**.

Absentee voting begins Friday, **June 29, 2018** for the Primary Election and Friday, **September 21, 2018** for the General Election. **Absentee ballots will NOT be available at City Hall.** Applications to request an absentee ballot are available on the City website (Election tab), at City Hall, 6031 Main Street, or in person at the county where you live:

Hennepin County Government Center  
300 South 6th Street/Skyway Level 012  
Minneapolis, MN 55487  
Fax: 612-348-2151 / Phone: 612-348-5151

Wright County Government Center  
10 2nd Street NW, Room 230  
Buffalo, MN 55313-1195  
Fax: 763-682-7873 / Phone: 763-682-7578

All Rockford residents in Hennepin County and Wright County vote at the Rockford Community Center, 7600 County Road 50 (Rebecca Park Trail), Rockford. The polls will be open at 7:00 am until 8:00 pm.

**Primary Election, Tuesday—August 14, 2018**  
**General Election, Tuesday—November 6, 2018**

If you are interested in serving as an Election Judge, please contact City Hall or go on the website and complete the Election Judge Survey.



**2017 VOLUNTEER  
OF THE YEAR  
KATHY EHLERS**

On March 27th the City Council reviewed the nominations for the 2017 volunteer of the year. Kathy Ehlers was selected for her community spirit with the Rockford Area Historical Society, Rockford School District #883 and many other volunteer activities.

Thank you Kathy and all of the volunteers for their dedication to make Rockford a great community to live and work!



(Kathy Ehlers pictured with Mayor Renee Hafften)

**ROCKFORD FIRE  
DEPARTMENT**

The Rockford Fire Department is 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)

Fire Fighter Water Ball Contest will be held Saturday, August 11th during Rockford River Days starting at 4pm at Cedar Street and Mechanic Street.

**DOG LICENSES**

The City of Rockford licenses dogs for a 2 year period. The current licenses expire June 30, 2018. You must apply for your new license at City Hall between the hours of 8-4:30 p.m. A certificate that the dog has been vaccinated for rabies is required.

Fee's for licenses are: Spade/Neutered \$12  
Other \$18

A kennel permit is required to have three or more dogs.

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, July 9th**-Riverside Park-8220 Elm Street
- **Monday, August 13th**-Delano Senior Center
- **Monday, September 10th**—Rockford Community Center



**Upcoming Events**

- June 14th to June 16th—*City Wide Garage Sales*
- June 29th—*Absentee Voting Begins for the Primary Election*
- July 4th—*City Hall Closed* in observance of the Independence Day
- July 9th—*Rockford Senior Citizen's* 11:30 am at Riverside Park
- July 12th—*R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting* 11:30am at Wright-Hennepin Electric
- July 24th—*Last day to Pre-Register for the Primary Election*
- July 27th—*Movie in the Park* at dusk
- July 31st—August 14th—*Filing for Candidacy* at City Hall (office hours 8-4:30pm and until 5pm on the 14th)
- August 7th—*National Night Out* (Community Event in Riverside Park)
- August 9th— *R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting* 7:30am at BANKWEST
- August 10th to August 12th—*Rockford River Days Celebration*
- August 13th—*Rockford Senior Citizen's* 11:30 am at the Delano Senior Center in Delano
- August 14th—*Primary Election* 7am-8pm at the Rockford Community Center
- September 3rd—*City Hall Closed* in observance of Labor Day



**A M E S - F L O R I D A - S T O R K H O U S E**

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

**R E C Y C L I N G**

Waste Management collects recycling every other Wednesday. The 2018 calendar is available on the City website or at City Hall.

Recyclables must be set out at the curb by 7 a.m.

- June 20, 2018
- July 5, 2018\***
- July 18, 2018
- August 1, 2018
- August 15, 2018
- August 29, 2018
- September 12, 2018
- September 26, 2018
- October 10, 2018
- October 24, 2018
- November 7, 2018
- November 21, 2018
- December 5, 2018
- December 19, 2018
- January 3, 2019\***
- \*Thursday pick-up**

If you would like a tour, please call or email.

**Privy Dig**—July 14th with a 9am presentation, location of presentation to be determined. Mr. Youngblood travels to historic sites, locates the location of any old outhouses that were on the property, and digs them up. Outhouses used to serve as trash dumpsters for people. Any old bottles, household items, etc., that people threw away often went down the outhouse hole. Mr. Youngblood has found a lot of interesting bottles, plates and other materials that were thrown away years ago.

**Annual Quilt Drawing**—August 12th during the Rockford Ambassador Coronation Ceremony. Quilt Raffle Tickets are just \$5 each. Help support the RAHS and purchase your chance to win a handmade quilt. Tickets will be available in July at City Hall, BANKWEST and other local businesses. Also hosting BINGO in the Park on August 11th during River Days!

Volunteer are always appreciated.

**T A L L G R A S S & N O X I O U S W E E D S**

The city has an ordinance regulating the height of grass. The ordinance states that grass shall not exceed 12" and all noxious weeds and other rank growths of vegetation upon public or private property must be removed.

Typically 5 days are given for tall grass and less if there are noxious weeds.

**Thank you for your cooperation and taking pride in the city!**

**S W I M M I N G P O O L S**

All swimming pools with a capacity of five thousand (5,000) gallons and a depth greater than thirty (30) inches requires a permit and a yearly inspection. Contact City Hall if you need to apply for a permit.