



VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST E-NEWS

Thank you for taking the time to read the Village's E-News. These messages are sent approximately once per month and include timely information regarding Village events, news and other useful information. We strive to keep the content brief and relevant to the issues that matter most to the community.

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Message from the Village President



Dear Residents of River Forest,

Fall is upon us. The weather is turning colder and our trees will soon turn beautiful colors.

Fall also means raking leaves. Once again, the Village will offer free and unlimited leaf pick-up, "Rake to the Street", through November 27. Rake only leaves onto the street, leaving the curb exposed, so crews can collect them starting around 7 a.m. Please remember to coordinate your lawn maintenance according to the

Village's collection schedule, which you can find by clicking [here](#).

As we continue looking at how government can become more efficient and responsive, the Board and I approved two new initiatives and will soon embark on a third.

1. A free service will come to River Forest that can help curb flooding and conserve water. Rain barrels will be distributed through the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. Roll out is expected in the spring. This new program comes as a result of our partnership with the River Forest Parks Foundation Sustainability Committee. We thank those volunteers for continuing to educate us on how we can be better stewards of our environment. To read more about the program, click [here](#). Additional information will be forthcoming.
2. The Village, Park District and District 90 have agreed to work collaboratively to clear snow and salt sidewalks and parking lots around schools, parks and the public library. Working in partnership with other taxing bodies will save time and money and improve the quality of life for all the residents of River Forest.
3. Village-wide collaboration efforts are taking shape. A first-ever subcommittee, comprised of an elected official from each taxing district serving River Forest, will soon start exploring how we can come together to solve pressing community issues. There are many things we can do to help River Forest progress, and I am confident that this experienced and knowledgeable group of

residents can work together for the common good. The Board of Trustees and I and the boards of all units of government anticipate good things coming from this group.

A few quick updates:

1. The Northside Stormwater Management Project is progressing nicely down Greenfield and the side streets between Division and Greenfield. We anticipate that asphalt will be laid and most of the restoration work will be complete by the end of November.
2. The Madison streetscape is on schedule and, by the end of next spring; we will see new planters, benches and lighting.
3. Many of you have asked about the growing skunk and deer populations this year. There are few real options the Village has to control wildlife; however, the Village published tips on its website that residents can use to make their properties less desirable to wildlife. Click [here](#) for more information. For information about deer and other wildlife please click [here](#) to visit the University of Illinois Extension's website.

Halloween falls on a Saturday this year and the Police Department has set trick-or-treat hours from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 31. This adds an extra hour of enjoyment for our children. We all look forward to a fun-filled and safe Halloween. For safety tips and more information, click [here](#).

On a personal note, I am pleased to inform you that my peers have elected me to serve as a Vice President on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Municipal League. I will help set the legislative calendar and be a resource on municipal matters for the most prominent association representing the interests of all municipalities. I am excited about taking part, and I know our town will have a first-hand opportunity to try to affect positive change for all communities in our state.

Best wishes,

Cathy Adduci

River Forest Police Department Receives Special Award

On Thursday, September 10, 2015 the River Forest Police Department was honored and received a special award from State's Attorney Anita Alvarez for the two long-term successful cases that River Forest worked in partnership with the Cook County Regional Organized Crime (CCROC) Task Force. This award was given to the Department primarily due to the hard work and sound investigative skills demonstrated by Detective Justin Labriola and Officer Ben Laird. Over 650 people were in attendance at the CCROC Conference where both Justin and Ben received numerous compliments from both public and private sector organizations. Deputy Chief Jim O'Shea accepted the award on behalf of the Department.

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River Forest Little League

In August, The River Forest boys 10/11-year-old baseball team won the Illinois State Little League State Tournament Championship. The players and coaches were honored by President Adduci and the Village Board of Trustees at their September 15th meeting. Congratulations!



Fire Department Open House

The River Forest Fire Department will be hosting an [Open House](#) on **Saturday, October 10, 2015 from 10 am to 2 pm** to culminate Fire Prevention Week. The event will be held at the Fire Department located at 400 Park Avenue. Department firefighters and paramedics will display fire apparatus, fire equipment and give tours of the fire station. It will also include home safety programs from the Police Department, a 9-1-1 practice station for children, and information from River Forest Citizen Corps, Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler, and Flame House! This event is free and open to the public.

Fire Prevention Week

October 4th through the 10th is Fire Prevention Week. The River Forest Fire Department has gathered some important fire safety tips to help you keep

you and your family safe this fall and throughout the year. Below are links to this important information.

- [Fire Prevention Week](#)
- [Fall Safety Tips](#)
- [How to make your own Home Escape Plan](#)
- [Halloween Safety Tips](#) and tips for [Halloween 2015](#)
- [Candle Safety](#)
- [Carbon Monoxide Safety](#)
- [Smoke Alarm Safety](#) for those who are deaf or hard of hearing
- [Clothes Dryer Safety](#)
- [Microwave Safety](#)

Trick or Treating Hours and Tips for a Safe Halloween

In order to have a safe and fun Halloween, the Village of River Forest has set official trick-or-treating hours from 12 noon to 5 PM on Saturday, October 31. Residents are asked to try their best to participate within these hours.

Additional Trick-or-Treating Safety Tips from the Village of River Forest:

- Make sure your costume is visible to vehicles and others.
- Instead of a candle to light a pumpkin, use a small flashlight or a liquid light stick that glows in the dark.
- Purchase only flame retardant or flame proof costumes and masks.
- Be sure costumes fit properly to prevent tripping or falling and wear masks that allow full vision.
- Do not trick or treat alone.
- Only approach homes that are well lit and only approach the front door.
- Stay on sidewalks and obey traffic signs/signals.
- Carry a flashlight.
- Adults should check their child's candy before they eat it.

Have a safe and fun Halloween!

Fall Leaf Collection

The Village's annual Fall Leaf Collection Program runs through November 27th. The next opportunity to dispose of leaves after November 27th will be during the yard waste collection program which starts in April 2016. Rake only leaves onto the street by 7 a.m. on your collection day, leaving the curb exposed, where Village and Strom crews will collect them. Grass clippings, brush or any other type of yard waste mixed with your leaves will not be collected. Leaves are collected on both sides of the street in accordance with the following schedule:

Mondays: The area west of Thatcher including Edgewood, Auvergne, River Oaks and Lake, and all streets south of the Union Pacific Rail Road tracks.

Tuesdays: Harlem through and including William.

Wednesdays: Monroe through and including Lathrop, north of the Union Pacific Railroad.

Thursdays: Ashland through and including Park, north of the Union Pacific Railroad.

Fridays: Forest through and including Thatcher, north of the Union Pacific Railroad.

Know the Code!

Here are a few friendly reminders:

- Lawn yard waste bags cannot go on parkway before 6 p.m. on Monday.
- Large items such as furniture, televisions, etc. cannot be left out on the parkway to see if someone will take them. Large items put out for pickup must have a garbage tag and cannot be put out until the night before the assigned pick up day.
- If for some reason your refuse is not picked-up on your regularly scheduled day, please call Strom at (708)344-5000 to reschedule a date. You cannot leave your refuse out until the next scheduled date.
- For more information on the Village's refuse collection requirements, please visit the [Refuse & Recycling](#) page on our website.

Green News You Can Use

- **Green Block Parties.** Thinking of kicking off the fall with a block party? Then make your Block Party Green. When you do, a representative from the [Sustainability Committee](#) will stop by your event to present a fun and informative demonstration on composting. A resident on your block will have the opportunity to win a free one-year subscription to the curbside program. In addition, you will also learn about the [Healthy Lawn, Healthy Family](#) initiative, and simply by choosing "YES" will receive discount coupons from the [Good Earth Green House](#) in River Forest for all residents on the block!
- **Tree Identification Workshop. Sunday, October 11, 1 p.m.,** at Trailside Museum, 738 Thatcher Ave., in River Forest. Learn to identify local trees by bud and leaf shape, habitat and bark. Register at least two days in advance by calling 708-366-6530.
- **Lemon-Aid Stand Successfully Goes Zero-Waste.** Congratulations to the *LemonAid Stand* for their Zero-waste efforts! Over 2,500 people attended this year and the event created only 21 pounds of waste. Not only is the *LemonAid Stand* supporting local charities and creating a healthy community, they are also great examples of taking care of the planet. The event generated 340 pounds of waste but through the use of waste stations the *LemonAid Stand* was able to divert 94% of that waste, or 319 pounds, from the landfill.
- **Rain Barrels in the Spring.** New for next spring, Free Rain Barrels. It is a bit early to be thinking spring but the Sustainability Committee is excited to share the news of the recently approved program. Next spring River Forest will partner with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago to offer free rain barrels to any resident who disconnects downspouts from the sewer system. Up to four rain barrels and hardware are available per household.

Sunday, 10/4, 2 PM, Strings Attached, @ RF Library

River Forest author and Chicago Symphony Orchestra violinist Melanie Kupchynsky shares her remarkable story through her book *Strings Attached*. This program is held in partnership with the River Forest Township as part of our series, Let's Celebrate Seniors All Year Long.



Other October Library Events

Monday, 10/5, 10-11 AM, Coffee Monday: Come to the library on the first Monday morning of every month for coffee, breakfast snacks and conversation. It's a great way to get to know your neighbors and learn about things going on in the community. Coffee Mondays are supported by Blue Max Coffee and River Forest Township.

Tuesday, 10/6, 3:30-4:30 PM, Story Studio: Scary Storytelling, Grades 5-8 Join us each month for books, snacks, and an activity based on a different literary format. October will feature oral storytelling that highlights scary stories. Participants will be able to share their favorite tales as well as creating a creepy crawly tasty snack.

Wednesday, 10/7 & 10/14, 10-11:30 AM, iPad Learning Lab: Drop in for some iPad help during the break between our Computer Learning Lab sessions. We can help you with basics of navigating your device as well as show you how to use it to download ebooks, stream video and listen to music from the library! Please note, for assistance with downloading content from the library you will need to have a River Forest Library card.

Friday, 10/9, 5:30-7:30 PM, Family Fireside Halloween at RFPL and Centennial Park, Birth-12 years: Join River Forest Public Library and River Forest Park District for an evening of family-friendly Halloween fun. Enjoy live music from Super Stoli, pumpkin painting (\$1), spooky stories, creepy crafts, face painting, tattoos, a bonfire, s'mores, hot chocolate and more. For kids ages 12 and under with a parent/caregiver.

Monday, 10/12, 2 PM, Candy Science, Grades 5-8: Will it float? Explode? Change colors? Come satisfy your sweet tooth and help us put

some candy myths to the test.

Tuesday, 10/20, 3:45-4:45 PM, Crafternoon, Grades K-4: Make candy sushi and more at this fun after school crafting program for elementary schoolers.

Wednesday, 10/21 & 10/28, 10-11:30 AM, Computer Learning Lab: Come and learn in a casual and collaborative environment! Bring your questions or just come to learn the basics. Designed for the total beginner through intermediate home/personal user. No need to sign up, drop in and use one of our laptops or bring your own.

Thursday, 10/22, 3:30-5 PM, Book Speed Dating, Grades 5-8: Hello Book Lovers, How You Doing? You're Lookin Good! Are you ready to make a connection and to hang out... with a good book?

Sunday, 10/25, 2 PM, What Color is Your Brain?: Have you ever wondered why some people are a song in your heart while others are a pain in your neck? Discover the answers, when author Sheila Newman Glazov offers you colorful clues from her book, What Color Is Your Brain?®, which simplifies the complex nature of the four Brain Color personalities. Understand yourself and others and learn how to create more harmonious relationships in your life!

Monday, 10/26, 7 PM, Book Bonanza, Scary Books, Grades K-4: Learn about new books, play a fun game, and enjoy yummy snacks in the Children's Room. October's theme is Scary Books. For independent readers.

Friday 10/30, 3:30-5 PM, Zombie Jamboree, Grades 5-8: Join us for an epic Halloween party full of scares, games, and sweet treats.

TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Let's Celebrate Seniors All Year Long!

Two programs remain in the "Let's Celebrate Seniors All Year Long" series, co-sponsored by River Forest Township and the River Forest Public Library. These fun and informative sessions are directed at seniors, but all are welcome to attend!

Sunday, October 4, 2 PM, RF Public Library - River Forest author and Chicago Symphony Orchestra violinist Melanie Kupchynsky shares her remarkable story through her book Strings Attached (recommended reading).

Tuesday, November 3, 2 PM, RF Community Center - Charles Troy dramatizes the story behind the making of the musical Fiddler on the Roof. Just in time for the Broadway revival, opening in November!

Coffee Mondays and Computer Labs for Seniors: Fall Schedule

River Forest Library and River Forest Township are pleased to co-sponsor the following events at the Library:

Mondays, 10 AM, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7 - Coffee Mondays... join your fellow seniors for conversation, coffee and snacks.

Wednesdays, 10 AM, 10/21-10/28, 11/4-11/18, 12/2-12/16- Computer Learning Lab...build your computer skills with the help of hands-on instruction. For the total beginner through intermediate home/personal user. Use one of the library's laptops or bring your own. Open to all, with space priority given to RF and OP residents.

Fall Sibshop Schedule is Announced

River Forest Township will resume its Sibshop program this fall, specially designed for brothers and sisters of kids with special needs, which can include physical & developmental disabilities or emotional & mental health challenges. Saturdays, noon - 2 PM, **October 24, November 21 and December 5**, at the River Forest Community Center, 8020 Madison Street, River Forest. For 3rd-8th grade siblings. Younger grade school children will be considered on a space available basis. Open to residents of RF, Oak Park and surrounding suburbs. Please contact Supervisor Carla Sloan to register or if you have questions: (708)366-2029 or cbsloan.rftownship@gmail.com.

River Forest Seniors...did you know these services are available?

- Cab coupon booklets - 30% discounted cab rides on Blue Cab and Red Cab; purchase at RF Township offices (8020 Madison) and Village Hall.
- Temporary handicapped parking placards- available with signed physician form at RF Township offices and Village Hall.
- Gently used medical equipment - available for loan at Oak Park Township offices, 105 S. Oak Park Ave. Call (708)383-8005 for more info.
- Senior bus rides to get around Oak Park and River Forest - weekdays; \$1 per ride requested; book at least 24 hours in advance; call (708)383-4806.
- Lunch at the Township Senior Services center - served Monday-Friday, 11 AM, 130 S. Oak Park Ave, \$1.50 requested.
- Special presentation about Township Senior Services at your apartment/condo building or organization- please call Cathaleen Roach at (708)366-6159 x234.
- Senior office hours at River Forest Township, Wednesdays, 1-3 PM - Drop in to meet Supervisor Carla Sloan or Senior Outreach Coordinator Cathaleen Roach.
- Questions? Email croach.rftownship@gmail.com or call (708)366-2029.



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