



City of RIVER FALLS NEWSLETTER



September 2013 • VOLUME 4 • ISSUE 3

Mayor's Message



It's time for the fall newsletter (I am actually writing this on July 28 so it's hard to think about the cooler weather already but here goes...) With fall and the coming winter, there are many things starting up again. School starts on September 3 so please take a couple of extra minutes and slow down and watch out for the kids.

At the city, it's budget time. As always, we will strive to make sure we continue to provide you with the best services that you have come to expect from us.

It's also football season again and the Packers are on their way to another Super Bowl run (For the Viking fans out there, this is when your team actually wins the last game of the football season)!

On a more serious note, the new Hwy. 35/Radio Road interchange is moving right along and is really starting to take shape. It will be a great new entrance into our city when it is complete. We are already working on the plans for what will happen out there when it is finished. Our new corporate park will start to fill up and with that will come more people moving into town to work there. We will have to decide how we want that area to be

developed and zoned. There will be some big decisions that will need to be made. It is a nice addition to our downtown area.

Our new website launched on August 1 (www.rfcity.org). I hope everybody has had the chance to visit it. The design was aimed to be very user friendly, and we have made many improvements to it. Please let me know what you think of it.

Don't forget about all the opportunities for fun in the fall. We have lots of beautiful trails for hiking and biking, not to mention the school district's fall sports programs (Go Wildcats and Falcons) where you can get out and support your home team.

I would like to thank all of the people who applied for the two open council seats we had in the early summer. It was great to see so many people interested. We are always looking for people to volunteer for open seats on the boards and committees, so please call or email me (dtoland@rfcity.org) and let me know that you are interested.

Take care and remember it's your city so get out there enjoy and be proud of it. ~

Dan Toland

Coffee with a Cop



The River Falls Police Department, in coordination with local businesses, is announcing a new program called "Coffee with a Cop." This is an opportunity for citizens on a regular basis to have a chance to ask questions, voice concerns and get to know the officers of the Police Department.

The first Coffee with a Cop was July 26 at Family Fresh. It was a success. The next event is September 20 at 8 a.m. at the American Legion. Please view upcoming dates on the calendar at the City's website (www.rfcity.org).



org) or contact the Police Department at 715-425-0909 for future dates and locations. Please stop in for a cup of coffee and some pleasant and informative discussion. ~



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City of
RIVER FALLS
City of River Falls
Web Site
www.rfcity.org

Calendar of Events

September & October Farmers' Market,
Corner of East Locust and 2nd Streets Every Saturday 8 a.m. – 12 noon;
Every Tuesday 3-6 p.m.; Phone 715-425-7394 – Rain or Shine

September 1-2 Library Closed; City Offices Closed on the 2nd

September 3 Middle School Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

September 7 Local Authors Dan Woll and Mike Murtha, 7 p.m. at library

September 7 Kinni River Trout Trot (www.active.com)

September 7 Art on the Kinni (www.riverfallscab.org)

September 8 . Car Cruze-In/Bacon Bash 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (visit www.rfchamber.com)

September 10 Teen Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

September 12 Sand Painting 7 p.m. at library

September 16, 30 Lego Afternoons 4-5 p.m. at library

September 17 4th-5th Grade Book Discussion Group, 4:15 p.m. at library

September 17 . . Charles Dickens Book Club - Book Discussion 7 p.m. at library

September 19 Wisconsin's Most Haunted Locations 7 p.m. at library

September 20 Coffee with a Cop, 8-9 a.m. at American Legion

September 29-October 25 Local Yokels Railroad:
Model Trains and other Railroad Bits at library gallery

September 30 Fire Department Open House 6-8 p.m. at Fire Hall

October 7 Middle School Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

October 8 Teen Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

October 8 Coffee with a Cop, 8-9 a.m. at Perkins

October 14, 28 Lego Afternoons 4-5 p.m. at library

October 15 4th-5th Grade Book Discussion Group, 4:15 p.m. at library

October 15 Charles Dickens Book Club - Book Discussion 7 p.m. at library

October 21 Out of School Event 10:30 a.m. at library

October 26 River Falls Community Business Expo 12 noon-4 p.m. at RFHS

October 31 Annual Haunted House, 6-9 p.m. at library

November 1-30 Winter Outerwear Collection at City Hall

November 1-March 31 Odd/Even Parking in Force

November 5 Middle School Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

November 10-December All Community Art Show at library gallery

November 11, 25 Lego Afternoons 4-5 p.m. at library

November 12 Teen Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

November 12 . . Charles Dickens Book Club - Book Discussion 7 p.m. at library

November 19 4th-5th Grade Book Discussion Group, 4:15 p.m. at library

November 20 Coffee with a Cop, 8-9 a.m. at South Fork

November 25 Holiday Light Exchange, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. at City Hall

November 26 Holiday Light Exchange, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at City Hall

November 26 Gingerbread "How to" Class for all ages, 6:30 p.m. at library

November 28, 29, 30 City Offices and Library Closed

November 29 River Dazzle Holiday Parade (visit www.rfchamber.com)

December 1-31 Food Bank Collection at City Hall

December 1 Library Closed

December 1 First day to circulate nomination papers for City Offices

December 2 Santa and his Reindeer 6:30 p.m. at library

December 3 Middle School Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

December 7 Coffee with a Cop, 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Family Fresh

December 10 Teen Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

December 10 . . Charles Dickens Book Club - Book Discussion 7 p.m. at library

December 11 Teen Book Discussion Group, 4 p.m. at library

December 13 Library Closed

December 15-January 26 The Prom: The Dresses at library gallery

December 17 4th-5th Grade Book Discussion Group, 4:15 p.m. at library

December 24, 25 and January 1 City Offices and Library Closed

January 1-17 Curbside Christmas Tree Pickup

**January 7 Final day to file nomination papers
for City Offices 5 p.m. at City Hall**

New Development in River Falls

This has been a year for growth especially in land development. To the north, the City has been working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation on the Radio Road/State Highway 35 Interchange. The interchange is scheduled to open in late 2014. It will feature three roundabouts and the extension of Paulson Road to Radio Road. Community Development has been working with the Plan Commission on updating the future land use plans for the land surrounding the interchange. This includes the land located southeast of the intersection of Chapman Drive and STH35 for a future Corporate Park. This new Corporate Park will complement the Whitetail Ridge Corporate Park.

NCCM is relocating and building a new home in the Whitetail Ridge Corporate Park. NCCM markets and manufactures non-woven mill rolls used by metal processing operations around the world. Plans have been approved and construction is scheduled for an addition to the front of McDonald's. The First Covenant Church at 1374 N. Main Street, which was constructed in 1993, will be adding an addition to front of the building. Construction is scheduled to begin in fall. Also, Little Caesars Pizza has open its doors at 707 North Main Street. Little Caesars Pizza the fastest growing pizza chain in America originally opened in Garden City, Michigan, in 1959.

To the east and south of the City three major subdivisions that have been on hold have been taken off the shelf, dusted, and re-platted with new ideas and new homes to come. They are:

- Highview Meadows 3rd Addition on the eastside of the City with 30 single family lots
- Stonebrook 4th Addition planned unit development with 22 single family lots
- Spring Creek Estates 1st Addition with 37 single family lots both on the south side of the City

Staff is also working with developers on plans for the alteration of the remaining undeveloped portion of Boulder Ridge Townhome Community Planned Unit Development and a 26 acre site in Spring Creek Estate. The new baseball field is being built now on the east side of Hoffman Park "Play Ball" is set for the summer of 2014. ~

You're Invited to the Fire Department's Open House!

Join us on September 30

Mark your calendars! The River Falls Fire Department will be holding its Annual Fire Safety Open House at the Fire Hall on Monday, September 30, from 6-8 p.m. This year's theme is "Prevent Kitchen Fires and Get Cookin' with Fire Safety".



During the Open House, you can check out the fire trucks, play fire safety games, tour the fire safety house and have your picture taken with Sparky. We will also celebrate the retirement of "Pluggy," our robotic fire hydrant that is used in the schools to help deliver our fire safety message to students. We will be taking donations to be used to purchase new educational demonstration equipment so we can continue to spread the fire safety message to our students.

It's time for Fire Prevention Month, and in October, the River Falls Fire Department is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to remind local residents to 'Prevent Kitchen Fires.' During this year's fire safety campaign, firefighters and safety advocates will be spreading the word about the dangers of kitchen fires – most of which result from unattended cooking – and teaching local residents how to prevent kitchen fires from starting in the first place.

According to the latest research, cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Two of every five home fires begin in the kitchen – more than any other place in the home. Cooking fires are also the leading cause of home fire-related injuries.

"Often when we're called to a fire that started in the kitchen, the residents tell us that they only left the kitchen for a few minutes," says Fire Chief Scott Nelson. "Sadly, that's all it takes for a dangerous fire to start. We hope that Fire Prevention Week will help us reach folks in the community before they've suffered a damaging lesson."

Among the safety tips that firefighters and safety advocates will be emphasizing:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food.
- If you must leave the room, even for a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- When you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the home, and use a timer to remind you.
- If you have young children, use the stove's back burners whenever possible. Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the stove.
- When you cook, wear clothing with tight-fitting sleeves.
- Keep potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper and plastic bags, towels, and anything else that can burn, away from your stovetop.
- Clean up food and grease from burners and stovetops.

Fire Prevention Week is actively supported by Fire Departments across the country. Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. ~

Public Power Week October 6 – 12



Each year, more than 2,000 community-owned utilities across the nation, such as River Falls Municipal Utilities, observe Public Power Week. Since it was founded in 1900, River Falls Municipal Utilities has powered our days and nights. From that morning cup of hot coffee to the late-night television news – and all the hours in-between – we keep the power flowing. Public Power is one of the many valuable assets enjoyed by the citizens of River Falls. Our community has proudly operated its own electric system for over 100 years! That accomplishment is possible because of local community support, professional employees, and a commitment from your elected officials to implement sound business practices. Those combined efforts will keep our utility operating strong for future generations. We hope you join in recognizing Public Power Week with us October 6 -12! ~

2014 Spring Elections and Candidate Information



Elections for local offices will be held on April 1, 2014. The following offices will be up for election:

- Mayor – Two year term currently held by Dan Toland
- Alderperson At Large – Two year term currently held by Scott Morrisette
- Alderperson District 4 – Two year term currently held by Christopher Gagne
- Municipal Judge – Four year term currently held by June Cicero

Due to temporary appointments made in 2013, a Special Election will also be held on April 1, 2014, for the following offices:

- Alderperson at Large – Currently held by Dan Gulick
- Alderperson District 3 – Currently held by David Reese

The Alderperson at Large and Alderperson District 3 positions will serve until April 20, 2015.

If a primary is needed, it would be held Tuesday, February 18, 2014. A primary is needed when more than two candidates run for the same office. If you are interested in running for a City Office, contact the Clerk's Office at 715-426-3419 or 715-426-3408.

Important Dates to Remember:

December 1, 2013 – First day for candidates to circulate nomination papers for the 2014 Spring Election

December 27, 2013 – Last day (5 PM) for incumbents not seeking re-election to file Notification of Non-Candidacy with the City Clerk

January 7, 2014 – Last day (5 PM) for candidates to file nomination papers with the Clerk's Office for the 2014 Spring Election ~

Library Programs and Events Fall 2013

Check the library website, www.riverfallspubliclibrary.org/events.html or our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information and events not included in this list or call 715-425-0905. Library programs are free of charge. Registration is not required unless noted.



Closed Dates

- **September 1-2; November 28, 29, 30; December 1, 13, 24, 25**
Drop boxes will be open; renew materials online at the MORE website, www.more.lib.wi.us or by calling Telephone renewal 1-866-697-3639.

Children/Youth Programs

The **Teen Book Discussion Group** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. Upcoming dates are September 10, October 8, November 12, and December 10. The group is open to students in 9-12 grade.

The **Middle School Book Discussion Group** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. Upcoming dates are September 3, October 7, November 5, and December 3. The group is open to students in 6-8 grade.

The **4th-5th Grade Book Discussion Group** meets the third Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. Upcoming dates are September 17, October 15, November 19 and December 17. Books are selected by group members. Participants sign an agreement to attend the discussion and receive a copy of the book to keep.

Legos Afternoons (grades K-5)

Lego time will be held on every other Monday afternoons from 4-5 p.m. Join us for a fun hour of building Lego creations at the Library. We provide the Legos, you provide the imagination. Please register by stopping by or calling the children's desk; limited to 20 children per session. Dates: September 16, 30; October 14, 28; November 11, 25.

Out of School Day Event

The library will be sponsoring a special event or craft session on no-school days. Check the library website for details as the date approaches. Dates: October 21, 10:30 a.m.; January 20, 1 p.m.; February 17, 1 p.m.; March 17, 10:30 p.m.

Fall Story Times

Stories, songs, action rhymes, and lots of fun! Pre-registration required. Class sizes are limited. Registration begins August 26.

Babytime (0-23 months & caregiver – Tuesdays 9:30-9:50 a.m.)

Dates: September 10 – December 3

Toddler Lapsit (24–36 months & caregiver) – Tuesdays 10:30-11 a.m. Dates: September 10 – December 3

Preschool Story Time (3-5 year olds) Thursdays 10:30-11:15 a.m. or 1:00-1:45 p.m. Dates: September 12 – December 5

Events and Programs

Authors Dan Woll and Mike Murtha-September 5, 7 p.m.

Music, readings, and some fun banter will round out the evening with local authors Woll ([Death on Cache Lake](#) and [North of Highway 8](#)) and Murtha ([Stranger in a Small Town](#)).

Charles Dickens Book Club

In celebration of Dickens' 200th birthday, we'll be reading and discussing the books, watching the films, and investigating the life and times of this literary giant. Check the library calendar on our website for more dates and details. Copies of the books will be available to check out.

- Tuesday, September 17, 7 p.m.—[Hard Times](#), Laura Zlogar, discussion leader
- Tuesday, October 15, 7 p.m.—[Little Dorrit](#), Annette Klomp, discussion leader
- Tuesday, November 12, 7 p.m.—[Bleak House](#), Larry Harred, discussion leader
- Tuesday, December 10, 7 p.m.—[Great Expectations](#), Jane Harred, discussion leader

Sand Painting Demonstration – September 12, 7 p.m.

Michael Augustin, whose beautiful and temporary works of art will be on display in the Kleinpell Gallery, will be demonstrating sand painting, based on the ancient techniques practiced by Hopi and Navajo Indians.

Wisconsin's Most Haunted Locations – September 19, 7 p.m.

Chad Lewis, author of the several books on Wisconsin history and folklore, including [Wisconsin Road Guide to Gangster Hot Spots](#), [Wisconsin Road Guide to Mysterious Creatures](#) and the [Wisconsin Road Guide to Haunted Locations](#) will be speaking at the library. Always a fun and compelling speaker!

Halloween Haunted House, October 31, 6-9 p.m.

Stolen dragon eggs, wizards, and more!

Gingerbread House Construction Class - November 26, 6:30 p.m.

Free! Get instruction and tips for making your own gingerbread creation! Then enter the Gingerbread Competition at the library!

Gingerbread Competition

A holiday favorite! Adult and Youth categories, architectural (buildings) and whimsical. Cash prizes! Entries due by closing on Wednesday, December 4. Judging takes place December 5.

Sponsored by the Public Library and River Falls State Bank.

Santa and his Reindeer - December 2, 6-8 p.m.:



Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit the library along with some of his reindeer!

Library Programs and Events

(continued from page 4)

In the Lower Level Kleinpell Gallery

August 25 – September 22 – The Sacred Art of Sandpainting: Contemporary Vision/Ancient Traditions



Sandpainter

Michael Augustin returns to create contemporary, and temporary, works of art based on the traditional art form practiced by the Navajo and Hopi.

September 29 – October 25 – Local Yokels Railroad: Model Trains and Other Railroad Bits

October 31, 6-9 p.m. – Halloween Haunted House



Dragon troubles in the Red Queen's realm were the subject of last year's "Haunted House." This year, the dragon's eggs have been stolen and the wizard has hired Acme Egg finders to locate

them. Young visitors will be drafted to help with the search and recover the eggs and rewarded for their efforts. Free fun for all ages.

November 10-December 8 – The All-Community Art Show

The yearly display of arts and crafts by your friends and neighbors. If you are interested in participating, contact the Event Coordinator at 715-426-3496.

December 15-January 26 – Prom: The Dresses

And the related finery, customs, accessories, and stories. We had so much fun with the bridal show, we're trying something similar! If you are interested in participating, contact the Event Coordinator at 715-426-3496. ~

Energy Assistance Available

The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) provides assistance for heating costs, electric costs, and energy crisis situations. Operating with federal and state funding, the program provides assistance to approximately 225,000 Wisconsin households annually. Most types of fuel are eligible to receive assistance. Whether you use wood, propane, natural gas, electricity, or fuel oil to heat your home, energy assistance is available, if you qualify. Households with income at or below 60

Income Guidelines	
Size of Family	Monthly Gross Income
1	\$2,058
2	\$2,691
3	\$3,324
4	\$3,957
5	\$4,590
6	\$5,223
7	\$5,342
8	\$5,461

percent of the Wisconsin state median income may be eligible for WHEAP and weatherization services. Many households with income from farms, offices, factories and other work places receive WHEAP assistance and weatherization services.

- **Heating Assistance.** WHEAP assistance is a one-time payment during the heating season (October 1-May 15). The funding pays a portion of the heating costs, but the payment is not intended to cover the entire cost of heating a residence.
- **Electric Assistance.** Your household may be eligible to receive a payment for non-heating electric energy costs through funding provided by Wisconsin's Public Benefits. WHEAP electric (non-heating) assistance is a one-time benefit payment during the heating season (October 1-May 15).
- **Crisis Assistance.** A household may be eligible if you have no heat, have received a disconnect notice from the heating vendor, or are nearly out of fuel and do not have the money to purchase more. There are also non-emergency or proactive crisis services that include providing information on how to reduce fuel costs, counseling on budgeting and money management, providing payments to a fuel supplier, and co-pay agreements.
- **Furnace Assistance.** WHEAP emergency heating system assistance can provide services to eligible home owners if the furnace or boiler stops operating during the heating season. Heating system assistance includes payment for repairs, or in some situations your residence may qualify for a total replacement of a non-operating furnace or boiler. Call the local energy assistance office immediately if you are experiencing a no heat situation.

The amount of the benefit varies depending on a variety of factors, including the household's size, income, and energy costs. The funding pays a portion of the costs, but the payment is not intended to cover it entirely. In most cases the energy assistance benefit is paid directly to the household energy supplier. For more information on the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) and how to apply, please call 1-866-HEATWIS (432-8947), or visit the "Where to Apply" tab on www.homeenergyplus.wi.gov to find your local energy assistance agency. ~

2013-2014 Property Tax Payments

City of River Falls property owners make their payments to their County Treasurer. The County Treasurer's name and address is printed on the tax bill. Both counties offer the ability to pay with credit cards, and to make online payments.

Real Estate Tax bills are mailed in mid to late December. Full payment is due by January 31. However, if you choose to pay in two installments, the first payment is due by January 31 and the second payment is due by July 31.

The counties also have online tax information for current and

previous years at the following sites:

- Pierce County: http://www.co.pierce.wi.us/Treasurer/Treasurer_Main.html
Phyllis Beastrom, County Treasurer, 715-273-6743
- St. Croix County: <http://www.co.saint-croix.wi.us/>
Laurie Noble, County Treasurer, 715-386-4645

City staff will continue to answer questions regarding the property tax process and will help with other tax related issues.

Name changes on property records

The City cannot make name or address changes to your tax bills. Contact your County Treasurer's Office for information on how to make the needed changes. ~

What's the Plan?

Council approves Administration's recommended 2013-2015 Work Plan

Just as the 2011-2013 Work Plan cycle successfully came to an end, staff began preparing the 2013-2015 Work Plan. On July 23, the City Council approved the Administration's 2013-2015 Work Plan. This work plan is based upon review and discussion with each of the current Council members regarding their vision for the organization and community. Additionally, the City Council, Committee Chairpersons, and staff attended Work Plan Workshops on May 14 and 28, to provide additional feedback and participate in a prioritization exercise. During the prioritization workshop a list of nearly 200 projects, plans, and studies, was discussed. Provided below is an example of the 2013-2015 Work Plan goals and projects: ~

Deliver quality, cost effective municipal services

- Complete Fire Department By-Laws Revision
- Continue Shared Services Collaboration Discussions Neighboring Communities
- Create Business Plan for Ambulance
- Determine Feasibility of Transitioning to LED Street Lights
- Develop 2015-2019 Capital Improvement Plan
- Develop Comprehensive Records Management
- Develop Funding and Phasing Plan for Main Substation Reconstruction/Reconfiguration
- Establish Emergency Situation Agreements with Contractors
- Evaluate Feasibility of Long-Term Rural Ambulance Agreement
- Evaluate Feasibility of Single Agency Dispatch Arrangement
- Evaluate Feasibility of Sludge Handling and Storage Options at WWTP
- Evaluate Fine Bubble Aeration at WWTP
- Evaluate Library Meeting Room Modifications
- Evaluate Library Parking/Traffic
- Issue RFP for Assessing Services, including City-wide Revaluation
- Resubmit for Storm Shelter Grant
- Review Disconnection Methodology for Water and Electric
- Review of Electric Rates
- Review Water/Sewer Impact Fees
- Revise 2013-2020 Fiscal Strategy with Projections

Develop a high performance workforce

- Enhance Employee Skills with Current Technology Tools
- Evaluate Feasibility of PTO system
- Evaluate Performance Management Systems
- Evaluate Police Staffing Levels
- Evaluate Public Information Functions
- Evaluate Short-term Disability Options
- Implement ERP System – Phase 1 – Financial Management, HR & Payroll
- Review Employee Residency Requirements
- Review Staffing for Emergencies and After Hour Calls
- Support Employer/Employee Committees & Working Groups

Promote economic vitality

- Complete Domestic Solar Hot Water Feasibility for Glen Park Pool & Building
- Complete Downtown Parking Plan
- Complete Formal Development Plan for New Corporate Park Sterling Ponds
- Complete Plan for Incubation Center with UWRF and Other Partners
- Complete Safety Improvements at Main/Union

- Complete STH 35 North Commercial Sector Plan
- Complete Work on 9th Street (Hazel-Pine) Reconstruction Project
- Continue Work on Historic Plaques
- Cooperate with SCVHH on Eco Village Project

Promote economic vitality

- Coordinate with UWRF on Falcon Center, Rodli Hall, and Farm Master Plan Projects
- Coordinate with WisDOT on Radio Road Interchange Development
- Develop Plan for Future Land Uses on South Main Street
- Develop Site Readiness & Marketing Plan for TID#7
- Draft Lake George Trail Plan – Family Fresh, Second Street Bridge, and Riverwalk Connection
- Enhance Economic Development Marketing Program
- Review Neighborhood Complaint Procedures/ Neighborhood Awareness of Property Owner Contact Information for Rental Property
- Study & Develop Strategy to Seek Appropriate Future Assimilative Capacity Allocations of Kinnickinnic River for City of River Falls WWTP
- Update Glen Park Master Plan
- Update Hoffman Park Master Plan

Promote a positive image

- Conduct River Falls Citizen Survey
- Evaluate Boards & Committees – Operating Procedures, Responsibilities, Membership, Staffing, and Calendar
- Maintain Current Quality of Life Designations



Employee Spotlight

Michael Centinario

Mike Centinario, Management Analyst, started with City's Community Development Department in April. There he assists with planning, development review, special projects, and general office management.



Having grown up in the Milwaukee area, Mike was always intrigued by cities, and loved trips to downtown Milwaukee going to Summerfest, restaurants, and cultural or sporting events. The interest in how cities are organized and function led Mike to major in Geography and Environmental Studies at UW – Madison.

Deciding to continue his education in urban planning, Mike started graduate school at the University of Illinois at Chicago after being offered a research position, but decided to transfer back to the UW – Madison to finish his master's degree and be with his fiancée, Rachel, who was attending law school at UW. They have now been married four years and cannot believe how time flies by. Rachel serves as an attorney for the National Labor Relations Board.

Mike garnered significant local government experience before coming on-board with River Falls. While in graduate school, Mike interned with the City of Middleton and Town of Dunn, Wisconsin. For over three years, Mike served in a full-time capacity as Planning and Zoning Specialist, and then as Planning and Zoning Administrator, with the Village of DeForest, Wisconsin. Mike is eager to learn while using his education and experience to enhance the community's quality of life.

Mike and Rachel are loving their new home and are taking full advantage of recreational and cosmopolitan opportunities available in the area. Naturally, Mike is an avid Badger fan, and come fall you can find him cheering Bucky on at a local establishment with cheese curds sure to be within arm's reach! ~

Employee Spotlight -

ICMA Local Government Management Fellows Nathan Steele

Nathan Steele began working at the City of River Falls on May 6. He has worked in the City Manager's offices of both Sandy, Utah, and Laguna Hills, California (his hometown).



As a native Southern Californian, River Falls is a new adventure for him and his family, with his wife, Diana, and baby boy, Alexander. He completed his MPA at Brigham Young University where he also earned his Bachelor's degree in English.

He is a die-hard BYU Cougars fan and is looking forward to the Badger-Cougar game this fall. He and his family enjoy watching and playing sports, riding their bikes, going on walks, or anything else they can find to keep them active.

Nathan is excited to serve the community of River Falls. He hopes to learn more about the city as he works on projects that will directly serve the community's needs.

Ray French

Ray French began working at the City of River Falls on April 1. He had internships with the Cities of St. Louis Park and Eagan. He finished his Master in Public Administration this summer from Hamline University in St. Paul.



Ray, his wife, Sarah, and daughter, Phoebe, have loved the move to River Falls and are excited to be a part of the community. Ray and Sarah met at UW-Eau Claire where they received their Bachelor's degrees. Sarah now works in fundraising for the UW-River Falls Foundation, and Phoebe enjoys her teachers and friends at daycare. In 2012, Ray received his law degree, also from Hamline, and was admitted to practice law in Minnesota.

Ray enjoys working in local government and hopes to learn more about how Wisconsin municipalities operate. He enjoys being a resource for community members and wants to help create an environment for the community to thrive. ~



Spotlight on Collins Park

Collins Park is located at 502 County Highway MM. It is a 4.32 acre neighborhood park that was developed in 1995. The park is a landscaped, active/passive mixed use neighborhood park located northwest of the downtown district. It is part of the Collins



Subdivision. Trails within the park provide connectivity with a path system traveling along County Highway MM to the north, the Patrick Court sidewalk to the south, and the Collins Subdivision to the west. The Town of Troy is directly north of Collins Park; the Kinnickinnic River is located to the west and a storm-water pond is located at the southern end of the park.



The existing park inventory includes field sports, open fields, court sport, 1/2 basketball court, play equipment/structure, safety surface, and miscellaneous activities. Paved trails and sidewalks are on the perimeter of this park. There is a gazebo, picnic tables and benches. ~

City Launches Redesigned Website – www.rfcity.org

The City of River Falls is pleased to announce a new redesign of its website. The redesigned site launched on August 1, 2013.

The website www.rfcity.org underwent an eight month redesign process by CivicPlus, the leading government website provider, and the City of River Falls website design team.

The redesigned website will be easier to navigate and allow for greater user interaction.

Citizens and the City will be able to communicate through a variety of new features:

- With “Notify me”, visitors can sign up to be notified via email and/or SMS text message about community activities, meetings, and other city updates
- The “Alert Center” provides an efficient and noticeable way to get important news out to our community, whether it be local inconveniences like street closures and road conditions, or critical, up-to-the-minute emergencies like flood warnings and Amber Alerts
- Citizens will be able to report issues, such as pot holes, graffiti and any other non-emergency activities, through the interactive “Report It” website feature.
- To assist in creating greater transparency, City documents are now categorized and organized in date order which allows visitors to easily find the specific document they are seeking. Additionally, the site features an “Archive Center” that includes past City Publications. The Archive Center can be searched by date, category or keyword.

The City of River Falls strives to promote a positive image and to engage the community in its work. It is our hope that the redesigned website will enhance efforts to increase community engagement and promote greater communication between residents and the city. ~



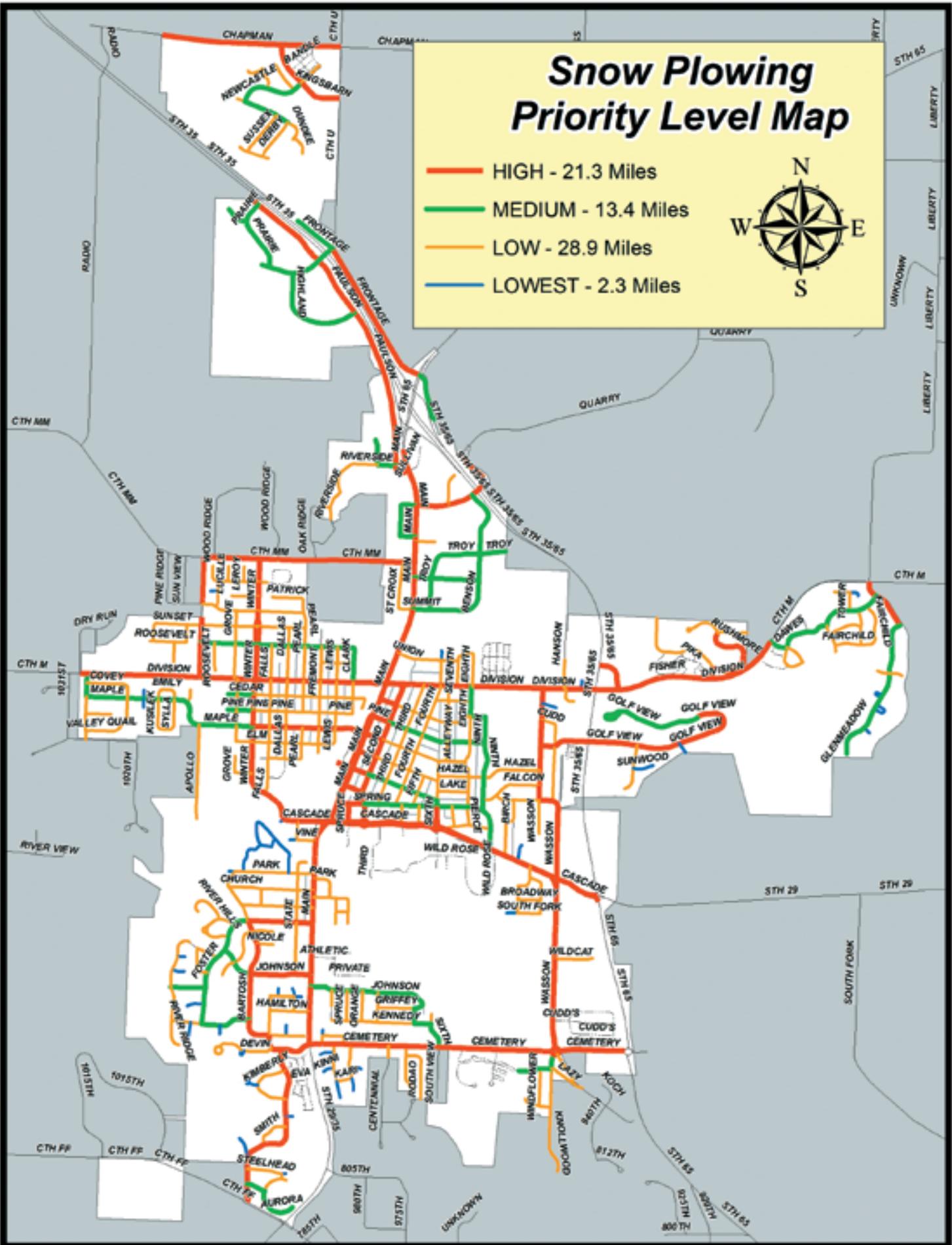
Customer Appreciation Event a Success!

Thank you customers of the River Falls Municipal Utilities for making our Customer Appreciation Event on August 8 a huge success! We appreciate you coming and spending your day with us. We look forward to continuing to serve you. ~



Snow Plowing Priority Level Map

- HIGH - 21.3 Miles
- MEDIUM - 13.4 Miles
- LOW - 28.9 Miles
- LOWEST - 2.3 Miles



Snow Removal in River Falls

Winters in Wisconsin are unpredictable. The winter of 2011-2012 was mild, resulting in the City being able to save money from its designated budget for snowplowing. Any savings resulting from that budget was quickly spent in the next year's budget. The winter of 2012-2013 began quietly but ended with a bang! The City's snowplowing crew dealt with 12 storms from February through May with the last snowfall on May 2.

Each snow fall is unique, but the response is evaluated on the same set of criteria: the time the snow fall begins, the duration and accumulation, the type of snow, the temperature before and after snowfall, the wind speed, and the available staff and equipment. Despite what can seem like a complex process, the goal of the City's plowing efforts is simple: to maintain safe travel by pedestrians and vehicles throughout River Falls.

Prior to an anticipated snowfall, the main and high traffic roads are treated with a small quantity of liquid salt brine (a water/salt solution) to prevent ice and snow build-up on surfaces. These anti-icing methods produce quicker and better results compared to just applying salt. Less equipment, time, and labor are utilized. Additionally, anti-icing efforts significantly reduce the overall amount of salt applied to our roads causing less impact to our environment.

Citywide snow removal begins with clearing snow in the downtown business district area where much of the snow must be loaded onto trucks and dumped at a snow storage site. Next, snow removal operations turn to cleaning all City streets. City crews and contractors plow roads in order of priority: high volume main roads, steep hills, and streets adjacent to streets and schools. Local residential streets will not generally be plowed while it is still snowing. Although we may wish that our street or neighborhood could be plowed first, it is a necessity that the most heavily traveled areas are plowed first to prevent accidents and congestion. City streets are usually cleared within 8-10 hours.



City crews and contractors also clear sidewalks adjacent to City owned property, trails along streets and in parks, and all City owned parking lots. Because the City allows on street parking, follow-up snow removal operations continue for up to two nights following a snow storm to clear snow from areas where cars were parked during the initial cleanup. After snow removal operations have been completed, Public Works crews respond to complaints and inspect for areas where snow has not been removed from sidewalks by the adjacent property owner.

Virtually every resident's least favorite activity after a snow storm is clearing their driveway where plows have deposited a significant amount of snow from the street. If possible, wait to shovel your driveway until the streets are plowed. The plows have to clear snow from the street and push it to the curb. A driveway that has already been cleared provides less resistance to snow coming off the plow and general results in slightly more snow being deposited in a driveway. Keep in mind that plows make multiple passes on a street to clear it curb to curb, so be patient. If on-street parking is prevalent in your neighborhood, plows may redeposit snow in your driveway when clearing sections of street where cars were previously parked. There are not cost effective ways to clear streets without depositing snow in driveways.

How can residents help with the City's snow removal operations? By following the Odd/Even Parking (Chapter 10.12 of the Municipal Code) or when possible moving cars off the street and into a driveway. The City also requires property owners to shovel their sidewalk, full width, within 24 hours after a storm. On corner lots, the pedestrian ramp must be cleared of snow so that pedestrians can safely and freely use the ramp.

If you have any questions, please contact Terry Kusilek, Street Supervisor, by phone at 715-426-3481 or by e-mail at tkusilek@rfcity.org

Sidewalks to be Kept Clear

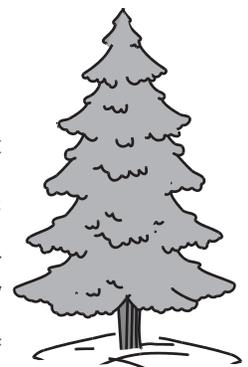
The owner/occupant of any lot or parcel shall have snow and ice removed within 24 hours after the snowfall ceases. If the owner/occupant fails to comply with this requirement, the City shall cause the snow and ice to be removed and the cost charged to the property owner. The cost for the City to remove the snow and/or ice shall be billed according to the City's current Fee Schedule. Failure to pay for said services, upon billing, will result in the costs being assessed against the property and placed on the annual tax roll.



Note: Only one door hanger notice will be posted at the property this snow season regarding clearing of sidewalks. After the first notice, the City will clear sidewalks if they have not been done. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Kusilek, Street Supervisor, by phone at 715-426-3481 or by e-mail at tkusilek@rfcity.org.

Curbside Christmas Tree Pick-Up

The City of River Falls through Advanced Disposal will pick up Christmas trees that are placed near your normal garbage through January 17, 2014. Trees enclosed in plastic will be accepted. Wreaths or garland with wire **will not** be accepted. Heavy snow fall or other severe weather conditions may delay or extend the schedule. A separate truck will be used to collect the trees independently of garbage and recycling pickup. If you have any questions or if your tree is not picked up by January 24, please call Kristy Treichel at 715- 426-3412 or e-mail her at ktreichel@rfcity.org.



RECYCLING REMINDER: Christmas wrapping paper is **not** recyclable. Please **do not** place in recycling containers.

2014-2015 Poll Workers Needed!

Citizen involvement is essential in conducting open, accurate and fair elections. The City of River Falls encourages all citizens to vote and to become involved in the election process. One of the most rewarding ways to become involved is to serve as a poll worker or "Election Inspector".

The City's five polling places are staffed with a total of 35 Election Inspectors per election. We are looking for persons interested in being election inspectors, chief election inspectors, special registration deputies and special voting deputies. Duties, requirements, and compensation vary by each position. Applicants need to be City residents. The City will provide training.

Applicants must be able to deal with the public, communicate effectively, handle stressful situations and be available for trainings and election days. Election days in 2014 are: February 18, April 1, August 12 and November 4. There are also physical demands such as lifting, vision and dealing with a noisy environment.

Poll workers are appointed to two year terms but one year commitments are also appreciated. Every effort is made to assign a poll worker to his or her neighborhood polling place but this may not happen due to vacancies in other locations.

If you want to get involved and learn more about these positions, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 715-426-3408 or 715-426-3419 or visit the City's website at www.rfcity.org/elections/pollworker.



2014 Budget Underway

The budget process for 2014 is underway! Every year, the City creates a budget that guides its financial planning for the year. The budget is broken down by department with clear goals and projections for upcoming revenues and expenses. The City will publish a summary of the proposed budget on the City's website (www.rfcity.org/budget) and copies will be available for the residents of the City.

Before the budget is approved, workshops with the Council and public will be held during the month of September. We strongly encourage interested members of the community to participate in these workshops. Please look for announcements for public hearings in the newspaper and on our website (www.rfcity.org).

These public meetings are opportunities for the public to voice their opinions and ideas on the budget of the City. Together, with City staff, the public can learn more about how City funds are collected and utilized. City staff works every day to ensure that City dollars are spent effectively.

If you have any questions regarding the City budget and the budget procedure, please contact Julie Bergstrom at jbergstrom@rfcity.org. The first workshop is planned for September 10 at 5 p.m. in the lower level of City Hall.

River Falls Community Television Channel 16 Recognized for Outstanding Programming



River Falls Community Television Channel 16 was recognized for outstanding programming at the Wisconsin Community Media (WCM) Video Festival in Milwaukee, WI on April 26,

2013. Congratulations to the following RFC-TV Staff and Volunteers:

- "Haiti's Future is in your Helping Hands", producers Pat O'Malley and John Lindell won an Award of Excellence in the Documentary category.
- "Threshing Bee 2012", producer John Lindell won an Award of Excellence in the Local Events category.
- "20 Questions with Gail Upton", producers Gail Upton and Dennis Hildreth won an Award of Achievement in the Talk Show category.
- "Arts Alive in River Falls", producers Camilla Horne and Dennis Hildreth won an Award of Achievement in the Series category.
- "Bowl of Fun", producers Taren Weyer and Dawn Wills won an Award of Achievement in the Series category.
- "DJ's Book Review & Beverage", producers Diane Barr, Janet Burns, Chris Blasius and Dawn Wills won an Award of Achievement in the Talk Show category.
- "Falcon Frontier Days Rodeo 2012 Part 2", producer Trish Juers won an Award of Achievement in Local Events category.
- "Glen Park Pool 75th Celebration", producers Dennis Hildreth and Dawn Wills won an Award of Merit in the Documentary category.
- "RFMU Power Plant 1900 - 2011", producer Dennis Hildreth won an Award of Merit in the Documentary category.

These award winning programs along with all of RFC-TV's programs can be viewed at: <http://rfctv.pegcentral.com/>.



From left around table: John Lindell, Anna Weyer, Trish Juers, Gail Upton and Janet Burns. Standing: Taren Weyer, Dawn Wills, Dennis Hildreth and Diane Barr. Not pictured: Chris Blasius, Camilla Horne and Pat O'Malley

Hot Tub/Pool Draining

The City of River Falls does not require a permit to discharge pool water; however, please keep in mind the following procedures and restrictions.

To protect the environment, the following “Best Management Practices” apply to water discharged from swimming pools and hot tubs:

- Direct discharge water to grass and/or landscaping
- If irrigating on site is not possible, water may be discharged off the owner’s property provided it is directed to a curbline gutter of a paved street.

How to drain your pool or spa:

- Prior to irrigating or disposing of the water, shut off the chlorination system (if you have one) or stop adding chlorine.
- Let the water in the pool/spa “sit” for at least one week to reduce the chlorine or bromine level until it is undetectable and temperature is at air temperature.
- Measure the pH. It should fall within a range of 6.5-8.5 prior to discharge. Discharge water should not be cloudy or discolored as this typically indicates a pH imbalance.
- As the water is discharging, it must be monitored to ensure that it does not cause any erosion or flooding. Erosion is most likely to occur at houses on a bluff that discharge to the rear yard down the steep slope.
- Discharges may not run onto a neighbor’s property or across a sidewalk
- If a pool or spa has been acid washed, the water may not be discharged off the pool/spa owner’s property.
- Water from back flushing pool filters should not be discharged to a stream, ditch or storm sewer. Back flush from pool filters must be discharged to the sanitary sewer or on-site septic tank and drain field system. ~

Fall Clean Up

Fall clean up begins October 21 and runs for one week at the City Public Works Garage located at 950 Benson Street.

The days/hours are: Monday-Friday, 4-8 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Questions about items should be directed to Advanced Disposal at 866-983-6542 or view www.rfcity.org/cleanup.

The City’s brush/compost facility (yard waste site) is open through November during daylight hours. This site is for disposal of yard waste and brush only. Material must be removed from plastic and other non-compostable bags. A dumpster is available at the site for bag disposal. Compost and woodchips are available at the site for residents on a first come, self-serve basis. Please help us by self-monitoring the site and using it for only composting materials. *Use of this site is for City residents only.* The site is located at 901 W. Locust Street, two blocks west of Winter Street near the River Falls School Bus Garage. ~

River Falls Municipal Utilities Earns National Green Power Recognition

The U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) recognizes RFMU for the Seventh Time

River Falls Municipal Utilities (RFMU) continues to be recognized for their reflection of community values in promoting and encouraging customer participation in voluntary renewable energy programs. The U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) ranked RFMU among the top 10 utilities in the nation for customer participation in its voluntary renewable energy programs and for green power sales as percentage of total retail electricity sales. This is the seventh time River Falls has earned national NREL recognition for its successful green power program performance.

Residential and business customers in River Falls can opt to purchase some or all of their electricity from renewable resources. Customers pay \$3 per month for each 300 kilowatt-hour block of renewable energy they purchase through the Utility’s Renewable Energy and Green Power for Business programs.

River Falls Municipal Utilities (RFMU) had a customer participation rate of 6.1 percent as of December 2012, ranking it eighth nationally among utilities of all sizes that offer a voluntary green power program. Customers’ green power purchases accounted for 7.3 percent of total retail electricity sales, which earned the utility third place in that category.

“Buying renewable energy shows a commitment to a better energy future for our children and grandchildren,” said RFMU Utility Director Kevin Westhuis. “These purchases help support projects to develop additional sources of green power.”

The Utility is among the 51 not-for-profit, locally owned member utilities that comprise WPPI Energy. In addition to providing the utilities with reliable, affordable electricity, the organization allows the utilities to jointly own generation and transmission resources, invest in technology and offer cost-effective programs.

River Falls’ green power supply is comprised of renewable energy from wind, solar and biogas resources.

To learn more about the Utility’s Renewable Energy or Green Power for Business programs, call 715-425-0906 or go to www.rfmu.org/environment/. ~

Oil Recycling



Oil recycling is no longer available at the compost site, as there are a number of other local options for disposing of used motor oil including the following local businesses that accept used oil from the general public: ~

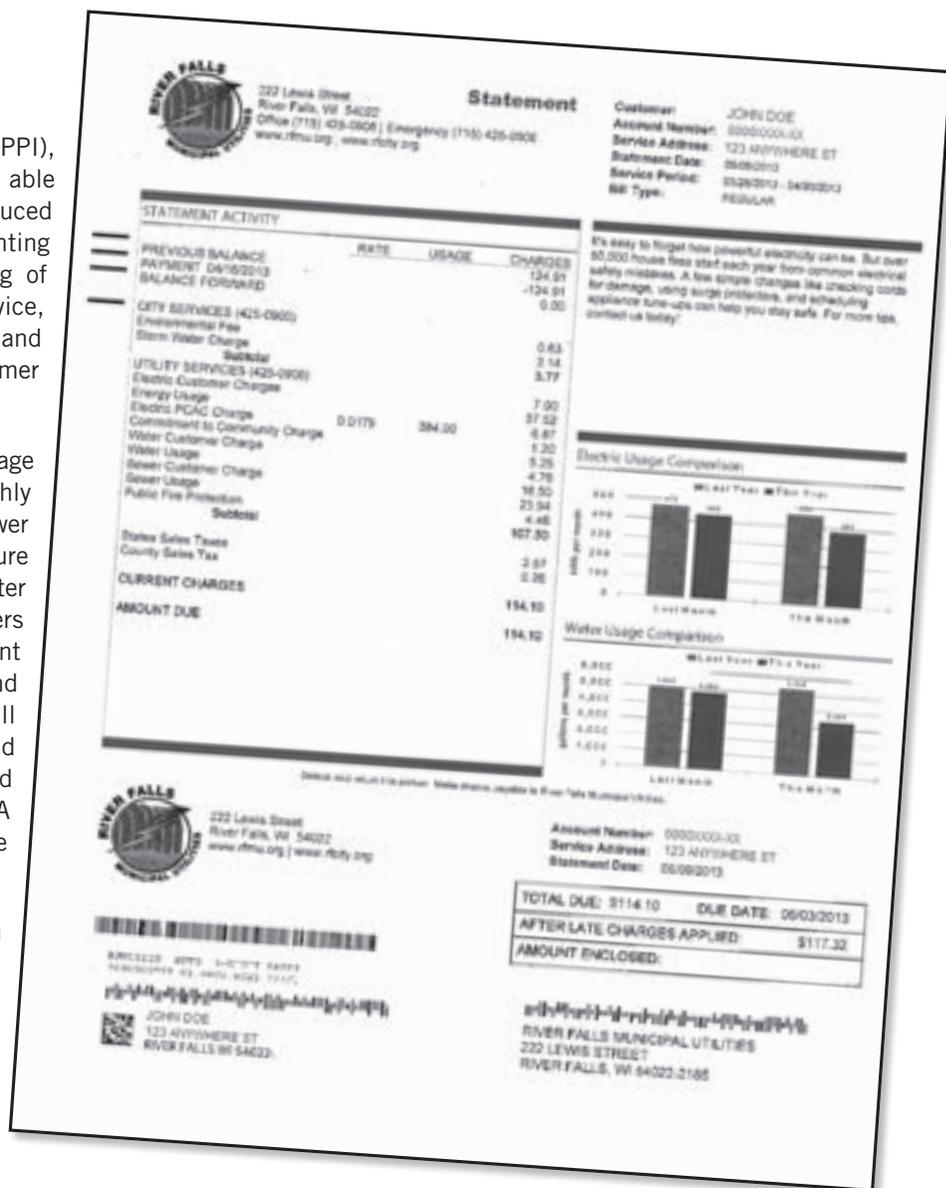
- Bowen’s Garage, 405 S. Main, 715-425-5440
- BP Amoco, 700 N. Main, 715-425-8299
- River Falls Tire, 410 N. Main, 715-425-5414
- River Falls Car Wash, 661 N. Main, 715-426-0566

A New Look to Utility Statements!

As a member of Wisconsin Public Power Inc. (WPPI), the River Falls Municipal Utilities (RFMU) is able to receive services provided by WPPI at a reduced fee. One of the services RFMU will be implementing is the outsourcing of the printing and mailing of monthly statements. By using this member service, the utilities will be able to create efficiencies and allow office staff additional time to work on customer accounts, service issues, and collections.

The newly formatted statements for July usage appeared in August. In addition to the monthly balance and detailed electric, water, and sewer service charges, the new statements will feature usage comparison charts for both electric and water consumption. With the charts provided, customers will be able to quickly visualize how their current month's usage compares to the previous month and the same period for the previous year. The bills will also feature energy-saving tips, expert advice, and timely messages about technical assistance and financial incentives available to our customers. A "How to read your new statement" insert will be provided with your new statement.

Residents can look for additional information in the City newsletters and on the City and Utility websites (www.rfcity.org and www.rfmu.org).



Bill Due Dates and More

Municipal Utility bills are processed in two cycles and each has a different due date. Bills are due either on the 1st or 15th of each month. Customers should check their bill for their household's specific due date.

Customers have 21 days to pay their bill. When payment is not received by the due date, the billing system automatically assesses late fees.

Approximately eight days after the due date, a disconnection notice is issued. Once this notice is issued, the service is subject to disconnection. If payment is not received by the 10th day after the notice was issued or if payment arrangements have not been made, the service may be shut off.

If a customer is unable to pay the bill by the due date, the customer should contact the Utility Office (715-425-0906) prior to the due date to make a pay arrangement. If service is disconnected, a reconnection fee of not less than \$35 will be

added to the account balance. A deposit will be required if service has been disconnected.

If a customer has a medical condition requiring the use of special equipment that is operated by electricity, please contact us (715-425-0906) and request a Medical Needs Form.

There are several ways customers can pay their bill—in the office, by mail, use the drop box, pay by phone (1-877-885-7968), automatic withdrawal or pay online at RFMU.ORG.

If customers choose to pay by phone or online, the 10 digit account number is needed. The number is found on the statement. Example of number: 0000XXXX-XX. Payments made on-line or by phone will be credited the next business day.



Keep Your Holidays From Going Up in Flames!

The River Falls Fire Department Offers Fire Prevention Tips for a Safe and Festive Holiday Season

For most of us, the holiday season represents a time for family festivities and good cheer. What few of us consider is that the holiday season is a time when there is an increased risk of home fires. Many households engage in holiday activities that serve as some of the leading causes of U.S. home fires, including cooking, Christmas trees, candle usage and holiday decorations. Add to that the hectic nature of the holidays, when people are trying to accomplish multiple tasks at one time, and the chance for home fires grows even further.

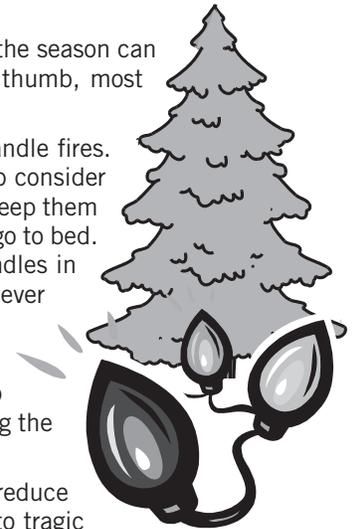
“As everyone gets busier during the holidays, we often become rushed, distracted or tired,” says Chief Scott Nelson, “that’s when home fires are more likely to occur.”

Fortunately, with a little added awareness and some minor adjustments to holiday cooking and decorating, the season can remain festive *and* safe for everybody. “By taking some preventative steps and following simple rules of thumb, most home fires can be prevented,” says Chief Nelson.

Candles are widely used in homes throughout the holidays, and December is the peak month for home candle fires. Statistics show almost half of all home decoration fires are started by candles. Residents are encouraged to consider using flameless candles, which look and smell like real candles. However, if you do use traditional candles, keep them at least 12” away from anything that can burn, and remember to blow them out when you leave the room or go to bed. Use candle holders that are sturdy, won’t tip over and are placed on uncluttered surfaces. Avoid using candles in the bedroom where one-third of U.S. candle fires begin or other areas where people may fall asleep. Lastly, never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle.

U.S. fire departments respond to 230 home structure fires caused by Christmas trees each year. One of every three of them is caused by electrical problems, and one in five resulted from a heat source that’s too close to the tree. The River Falls Fire Department offers the following advice for picking, placing and lighting the tree:

By following these fire prevention tips and measure, The River Falls Fire Department feels you can greatly reduce the risk of fire in your home, and enjoy a safe holiday season. “The holidays can quickly turn from joyful to tragic when a fire occurs,” says Chief Nelson. “By taking simple precautions, people can avoid potential fire hazards, and make this time of year a healthy and happy one.” ~



- If you have an artificial tree, be sure it’s labeled, certified or identified by the manufacturer as fire-retardant.
- If you choose a fresh tree, make sure the green needles don’t fall off when touched; before placing it in the stand, cut 2” from the base of the trunk. Add water to the tree stand, and be sure to water it daily.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit, and is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, space heaters, radiators, candles and heat vents or lights.
- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory, and make sure you know whether they are designed for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords, or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini-string sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving the home or going to bed.
- After Christmas, get rid of the tree. Dried-out trees are a fire hazard and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside the home.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.



Volunteers Wanted to Help Cover Wildcat Sports!

RFC-TV volunteers play a vital role in the production of high school sporting events. *No experience is necessary* and RFC-TV provides a great environment for learning the basics of video production. Call RFC-TV at 715-425-5400 to set up an orientation meeting with our staff. ~

Revised Utility Policy and Procedures Manual Available

The Utility Advisory Board recently reviewed and approved an updated Customer Service Policy and Procedure Manual. The manual provides guidance on the Utility’s policies for disconnects, budget plans, deferred payment agreements, and other customer service issues. The manual is available on the River Falls Municipal Utilities website at <http://www.rfmu.org>. Check it out to learn more! ~



Please Join Us in Giving Back to the Community



November Collection – Mitten Tree

Donations of any and all sizes of new winter mittens, gloves, socks, hats and anything else needed to keep warm this winter are being collected at City Hall during the month of December. River Falls residents are invited to celebrate the spirit of the season by supporting this worthy cause for our community in need. Unfortunately, there is no shortage of children lacking even the most basic of warm outerwear. **Donations will be accepted Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. during the month of November.** Items collected will be distributed to schools within our community.

December Collection - Food Items

River Falls Community Food Pantry is a private, non-profit, volunteer organization that serves over 600 households in the River Falls area. In 2012, over 331,983 pounds of food was distributed, and the need continues to grow!

City employees are inviting the community to donate unopened, non-refrigerated food and toiletry items during the month of December. As the need for assistance continues to grow, the donation of nonperishable food and hygiene items are gratefully accepted. The donation of items like tuna, canned meats, stews, spaghetti sauce, pastas, pancake mix, fruit, cereal and peanut butter provide critical nutrition, health and hope to area families facing tough economic challenges.

Donations of winter outdoor and food items will be accepted at City Hall during regular hours of operation. ~

Holiday Light Exchange – The Coolest Event in Town!

November 25-26 at City Hall

Monday 9 a.m.-7 p.m. and Tuesday 9 a.m. -5 p.m.

You won't miss burning your fingers on the hot Christmas lights or breathing a sigh of relief upon discovering that the toasted needles on the tree didn't go up in flames or stepping on the inevitable broken bulbs. You can move from the cantankerous, uncooperative old school holiday lights to cool LED lights!

River Falls Municipal Utilities has a program that allows RFMU customers to trade in two set of incandescent holiday lights and get two sets of LED lights for free. But be prepared for such an event – because many of your neighbors are! This is the fourth year of the program, and it has been well-received.

Aside from avoiding all the potential pain involved with the old lights, you can save money on your electric bill. LED's cost up to 90 percent less to run and last much longer than incandescent holiday lights. You can expect to save around \$15 per year running LED holiday lights for the next ten years.

The recycling component has a good story too. River Falls Municipal Utilities has partnered with the Recycling Association of Minnesota to recycle all the old lights at no cost. The old strands are delivered to sheltered workshops in Minnesota where adults with disabilities remove the recyclable components. The recyclables are weighed, and the worker is paid. This program provides work and keeps our natural resources out of the landfills.

To get involved, simply clip the coupon and bring it to City Hall during the designated exchange date/time. Get there early, because its first come, first serve, and based on past years, this is a promotion people do not miss! ~



Odd/Even Parking Begins November 1

Per the City's Municipal Code, Chapter 10.12, Odd/Even Parking begins November 1 and runs through March 31. Each night between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. you must:

- Park on the odd numbered side of the street on odd dates
- Park on the even numbered side of the street on even dates
- Remember to park according to the date after midnight

Vehicles parked in violation of parking regulations may be towed for snow removal, street maintenance, or other public safety needs.

Questions may be directed to the River Falls Police Department at 715-425-0909. Thank you for your cooperation! ~

FREQUENTLY CALLED PHONE NUMBERS

General Information
715-425-0900

Utility Questions
715-425-0906

Police Department
715-425-0909

Public Library
715-425-0905

Municipal Court
715-426-3429

Garbage/Recycling
866-983-6542

**Recreation
Cancellation Hotline**
715-426-3422

NEWSLETTER TEAM:

(Please email comments or suggestions to:
newsletterfeedback@rfcity.org)

Kristi McKahan
Dawn Wills
Scot Simpson, City Administrator

PHOTO CREDITS:

Cindi Danke
Dawn Wills
River Falls Public Library



222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI 54022

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POSTAL CUSTOMER



From left: Diane Odeen, Scott Morrisette, David Reese, Mayor Dan Toland, Jim Nordgren, David Cronk, Christopher Gagne and Dan Gulick

Mayor and Common Council

Position	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail Address
Mayor	Dan Toland	420 E. Elm Street	715-426-3404	dtoland@rfcity.org
At Large	Daniel Gulick	1746 Southridge Road	715-425-0486	dgulick@rfcity.org
At Large	Scott Morrisette	2137 Rushmore Drive	715-425-8993	smorrisette@rfcity.org
At Large	Diane Odeen	811 Oak Knoll Avenue	715-426-5325	dodeen@rfcity.org
District 1	David Cronk	843 Leroy Lane	715-425-9174	dcronk@rfcity.org
District 2	Jim Nordgren	1144 South Fork Drive	715-425-7327	jnordgren@rfcity.org
District 3	David Reese	425 N. Wasson Lane	715-425-9369	dreese@rfcity.org
District 4	Christopher Gagne	1164 Bartosh Lane	715-222-3220	cgagne@rfcity.org



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River Falls Police Department (@rfpolice)