

Village of Riverview Spring/Summer 2009 Newsletter



Village of Riverview Website

The Board of Trustees is proud to announce that the Village of Riverview's official website is now up and running. The website contains downloadable forms, copies of agendas and minutes from the meetings of the Board of Trustees, a searchable online version of the municipal Code book, and information from the various Village departments.

Visit the website today at
www.riverviewmo.org.



Helpful Phone Numbers

City Hall (General Information)	868-0700
Municipal Court	868-0700
Police Dept. (Non-Emergency)	868-9130
Dispatcher (After Hours)	889-2341
Street Department	868-7120
Fire Department	867-3889
Riverview Gardens School Dist.	869-7436
Ameren UE	342-1111
Laclede Gas	621-6960
MO American Water	866-430-0820
St. Louis County	615-5000
County Animal Control	831-6500

Municipal Election Results

In the municipal election held April 7, 2009, the following vote counts were recorded:

Theo "Ted" Brown, Sr.....	25
Lynda Foster.....	57
Bruce Stocker.....	116
Steve Paro.....	121
Howard Pierce.....	115



Emergency Preparedness- Loss of Power

The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), offers the following tips to help you prepare for and cope with a sudden loss of power:

Food Safety

If the power is out for less than 2 hours, then the food in your refrigerator and freezer will be safe to consume. While the power is out, keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to keep food cold for longer.

Safe Drinking Water

When power goes out, water purification systems may not be functioning fully. Safe water for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene includes bottled, boiled, or treated water. Your state, local, or tribal health department can make specific recommendations for boiling or treating water in your area.

For more information on emergency preparedness, visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

Dog Inoculation Clinic

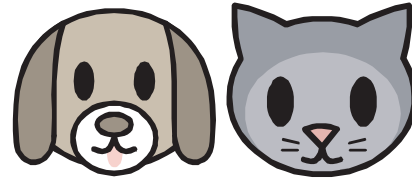
The Village of Riverview's annual dog inoculation clinic will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2009 from 9 a.m. to noon in the City Hall parking lot. There will be a licensed veterinarian on hand to administer dog and cat vaccinations.

The clinic is open to both residents and non-residents.

Please bring all pets on leashes, or in carriers, and be advised that the Village has an Ordinance requiring pet owners to clean up after their pets. Also note that you must show written proof or certificate of spay/neuter.

Dog Vaccinations

Rabies (if spayed/neutered).....	\$19.00
Rabies (if <u>not</u> spayed/neutered).....	\$26.00
Distemper.....	\$15.00
Kennel Cough.....	\$15.00
Lyme Disease.....	\$15.00
Distemper/Kennel Cough Combo.....	\$25.00
Village Dog License.....	\$3.00



Cat Vaccinations

Rabies (if spayed/neutered).....	\$19.00
Rabies (if <u>not</u> spayed/neutered).....	\$26.00
Distemper.....	\$15.00

Residents who do not attend the dog clinic to receive their dog's vaccinations are reminded that Village dog tags must be renewed at City Hall by June 30, 2009.

Bulk Trash Drop Off

The annual bulk trash drop off will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the City Hall parking lot.

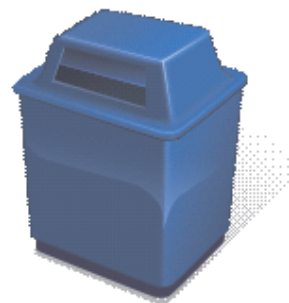
Items that will be accepted include: carpet, mattresses, box springs, furniture, washers and dryers, water heaters, refrigerators (without compressors), lawn mowers, car parts, scrap metal, wood, and televisions.

Items that will not be accepted include: grass, branches, leaves, hazardous materials, gas tanks, drums, batteries, household waste, bricks, and concrete blocks.

Litter

In the warmer months, the Village sees an increase of blowing trash and litter. As a property owner, you are responsible for removing this trash and litter on your property, no matter where it comes from. We kindly request that each homeowner make an effort to check their property for litter and remove it in a timely fashion. In order to help with the litter, the Village will be installing trash containers near major intersections and along bus routes in the coming months. The trash containers are being funded by the Community Development Block Grant program.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY IS REQUIRED!!



St. Louis County Spay/Neuter Program

St. Louis County Animal Control Services operates a reduced-cost spay/neuter program for County residents. The program is voucher-based and allows residents of St. Louis County to have their pets spayed or neutered at a reduced cost. The vouchers are like a coupon that can reduce the cost of the procedure; the remainder of the cost is paid by the resident. To be eligible for the program, the pet must have a current St. Louis County rabies tag.

About 90% of the veterinarians in St. Louis County participate in the program and will honor the vouchers. A limited number of vouchers are available through the St. Louis County Animal Shelter at 4100 Seven Hills Drive in Florissant. For more information about the voucher program and for a list of participating veterinarians, visit the website at www.stlouisco.com/doh.



St. Louis County Juvenile Helmet Ordinance

St. Louis County recently enacted Ordinance 23830, which requires juveniles between the ages of 1 and 17 to wear helmets during wheeled sports. This Ordinance impacts all of St. Louis County, including incorporated areas such as the Village. The St. Louis County Police Department and the Riverview Police Department will be issuing "Notice of Violation" forms when juveniles are found without helmets. The St. Louis County Department of Health will maintain a database and will send an educational packet to the parents of the violators. When juveniles are cited 3 times within 12 months, the parents will face a fine of \$10 plus St. Louis County court costs.

Municipal Court

Municipal Court is held on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Some dates and times may change as scheduling conflicts occur. Please check the website for current court dates and times.

Pet Adoption through St. Louis County Animal Shelters

If you're looking for a new family pet, consider St. Louis County Animal Control Services, which has pets available for adoption at the North Animal Shelter, located at 4100 Seven Hills Drive in Florissant.

The adoption fee is \$40, which covers some of the immunizations and the placement of a microchip ID. A microchip is injected under the skin and stays with your pet forever. It contains a barcode that is linked with your information. If your pet is ever lost, the microchip can be read with a scanner so that your pet can be returned to you as soon as possible.

The animals are required to be spayed or neutered by a vet at the adoptee's expense within 30 days of adoption.

Shelters are open Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Visit the shelter to view the animals available for adoption or visit the website at www.stlouisco.com/doh.

Board Meetings

Monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Residents are invited to attend the meetings.

Some dates and times may change as scheduling conflicts occur. Please check the website for current meeting dates and times.

Branch Pickup

The Village of Riverview offers residents a free branch pickup program. The following regulations apply to the program, if they are not followed, the branches will not be picked up.

- Branches will only be picked up during the fourth week of the month (please see below for specific dates). In order for branches to be picked up, residents must call the Street Department and have their addresses added to the list by the Friday before the pick up week. Only those that have been called in will be picked up.
- The Street Department will go street by street beginning Monday and ending Friday of the designated week.
- Branches must be placed at the curb with the butt end (the end that was cut from the tree) facing the street. Try to leave the limbs as complete as possible, don't break branches off.
- Limbs must be less than 6 inches in diameter.
- Yard waste, twigs, and vines will not be picked up.
- If a tree service cuts a tree down or trims branches, the Street Department will not pick up the branches.

In the event of a storm, additional branch pickups may be scheduled throughout the year. For more information, please call the Street Department.

Pickup will occur the week of April 20-24, 2009. Branches must be called in by April 17.

Pickup will occur the week of October 19-23, 2009. Branches must be called in

St. Louis County Household Chemical Collection Events

Each spring the St. Louis County Health Department holds a FREE household chemical collection event. The collection events are held rain or shine and are for **St. Louis County residents only**. The event is usually held in at three sites. The closest site is St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley. This year, the event will be held on Saturday, May 16 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.. For more information, please call the St. Louis County Health Department Waste Management Hotline at 286-9200 or check the website at www.stlouisco.com/doh/waste/waste_mg.html.

Acceptable Materials- Paints, stains, varnishes, pesticides, herbicides, poisons, gasolines and other fuels, solvents and strippers, aerosols, motor oil and filters, gas cylinders (BBQ-pit size or smaller), fluorescent tubes, rechargeable batteries, anti-freeze, brake and transmission fluids, pool chemicals and other acids and bases, car batteries, wood preservatives, driveway sealant, and mercury-containing items (thermometers, thermostats, salts).

Unacceptable Items- Explosives and ammunition, radioactive waste, smoke detectors, medical waste, household trash, tires, electronics and other bulky items.

Materials from business, commercial, non-profit, and government organizations are also prohibited.

Foreclosure Assistance

The Obama Administration has introduced a comprehensive Financial Stability Plan to address the key problems at the heart of the current crisis and get our economy back on track. A critical piece of that effort is Making Homes Affordable, a plan to stabilize our housing market and help up to 7 to 9 million Americans reduce their monthly mortgage payments to more affordable.

The Home Affordable Refinance Program gives up to 4 to 5 million homeowners with loans owed or guaranteed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac an opportunity to refinance into more affordable monthly payments. The Home Affordable Modification Program commits \$75 billion to keep up to 3 to 4 million Americans in their homes by preventing avoidable foreclosures.

The consumer website, www.makinghomesaffordable.gov, provides homeowners with detailed information about these programs along with self-assessment tools and calculators to empower borrowers with the resources they need to determine whether they might be eligible for a modification or refinance under the Administration's program. Through the website, borrowers can also connect with free counseling resources to help with questions, locate homeowner events in their communities, find a checklist of key documents and materials to have ready when calling their loan servicer, as well as frequently asked questions from borrowers in similar circumstances.

Beware of Foreclosure Rescue Scams- Help is Free!

There is never a fee to get assistance or information about Making Homes Affordable from your lender or a HUD-approved housing counselor. Beware of any person or organization that asks you to pay a fee in exchange for housing counseling services or modification of a delinquent loan. Beware of anyone who says they can "save" your home if you sign over or transfer over the deed to your house. Do not sign over the deed to your property to any organization or individual unless you are working directly with your mortgage company to forgive your debt. Finally, never submit your mortgage payments to anyone other than your mortgage company without their approval.



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President

Marc Kootman
Executive Vice President

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Building Permits

If you own your home and are considering upgrading, remodeling, or building something new, please take caution. The Village has seen a dramatic increase in the number of unlicensed contractors doing business in the area. Hiring an unlicensed contractor could result in higher costs, construction delays, and dangerous errors being made.

Some things to look out for:

- **Contractor says the Village doesn't require a permit for what they are doing.** The Village requires a permit for most construction; information on permit requirements is available by calling City Hall or visiting the website.
- **Contractor requires that you purchase the materials for them.** Some types of construction require very specific materials. You, as a homeowner, may not even be able to purchase all of the necessary items. A contractor should include the costs of all materials needed in the estimate.
- **Contractor requires that you pay the full cost of the job before the work is completed.** You wouldn't pay up front for a car without giving it a test drive, the same is true for your home repairs. You'll want to make sure that the finished product is consistent with your expectations.
- **Contractor has only a P.O. box and a cell phone number.** Anyone can rent a post office box or purchase a disposable cell phone, and both can be nearly impossible to trace.

Tips for choosing a good contractor:

- **Get recommendations from friends, family, or neighbors.** At City Hall, we are unable to recommend a contractor to you, but if you know someone who has had quality work done, ask them for the contractor's name. If that contractor is unavailable for your job, ask the contractor to recommend someone..
- **Ask for references.** Ask the contractor to see samples of their work or for a list of former customers who would be willing to discuss their experience.
- **Check their credentials.** If the contractor says they are licensed, they should be able to show you a license. If they can't, we may be able to verify the licensing information at City Hall. Also check to make sure that the contractor is bonded and/or insured.
- **Get everything in writing.** Make sure that a contract includes the types of materials to be used, a start date, and a completion date. Some contractors may ask for a down payment, anything above 30% may be questionable..

The Village inspectors are happy to verify the license status of a contractor or answer any questions you might have about the construction.

Upcoming Job Fairs

April 19, 2009 Hispanic Diversity Career & Resource Fair

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. St. Cecilia's Church, 5418 Louisiana Ave., St. Louis, MO 63111. Near Highway 55 and Bates. Open to everyone. For information call 314-452-6139 or visit www.diversitycareernetworkstl.com

April 21, 2009 The Military Edge- National Job Fair.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel 900 Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63146. For information visit www.themilitaryedge.com

April 22, 2009 Putting America Back to Work Job Fair

11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center, 16625 Swingley Ridge Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63107. For information visit www.employmentguide.com.

April 23, 2009 Urban League Annual Spring Job Fair

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Harris Stowe, 3026 Laclede Ave., St. Louis, MO. For information contact Hollis Scales 314-388-9840.

April 24, 2009 University of Phoenix Earth City Campus Career Fair

1 p.m. - 4 p.m. University of Phoenix Earth City Campus, 13801 Riverport Dr., St. Louis, MO 63043

May 1, 2009 St. Charles Community College Job Fair

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. College Center, 4601 Mid Rivers Mall Dr., Cottleville, MO 63376. For information visit www.stchas.edu.

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MSD Clean Rivers, Health Communities Program

The Clean Rivers, Healthy Communities (CRHC) program, through the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) is the largest public infrastructure program in the history of the St. Louis region. It is a multi-billion dollar, multi-decade initiative to improve the quality of area rivers, creeks, and streams. The program is working with the public, municipalities, businesses, environmental groups, legislators, and others to:

- Reduce the amount of sewage that overflows into local waterways during moderate to heavy rainfalls;
- Involve more citizens in pollution and stormwater control efforts; and
- Support environmentally friendly practices that encourage sustainable growth.

Accomplishing these goals will enable MSD to carry out federal and state mandates to better protect local waterways and the public's health and safety.

Eleven open houses were held across St. Louis City and County between March and April of this year letting community members hear from MSD staff and consultants about options to protect local waterways.

For more information, contact the MSD CRHC info-line at (314) 768-CRHC (2742) or visit the website at www.cleanriversstl.com.



Visit us online at www.riverviewmo.org.

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