



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.

ComEd Outages

According to representatives at ComEd, approximately 218 River Forest customers remain without power due to the storm on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. 1,035 customers have already been restored. ComEd crews continue to work to restore all customers. For updated information and numbers of outages, please view the [ComEd Outage Status map](#).

Storm Damage

In the event a tree is damaged by storm activity, and for the first two weeks following a storm event, residents may place fallen tree limbs and branches that are four inches or greater in diameter, regardless of length, in the parkway to be collected by Village crews. All smaller materials (less than four inches in diameter) should be disposed of in the regular yard waste program utilizing yard waste bags or brush tags. Do not place these materials in the street. If it is not practical to prepare materials for collection under the regular yard waste program, residents may contact a tree care company or waste disposal company to arrange for a special collection of the material. All contractors must be licensed and bonded with the Village of River Forest.

Watch the Weather

Being prepared includes staying informed on the weather. Now more than ever before, residents are able to do this with weather apps that provide updates, websites, or even radio and television. Utilize a resource such as [weather.com](#), the [National Weather Service](#), the [Chicago Tribune](#), or any other weather radar provider to stay in the know and stay prepared.

Village Spotlight

The Village's new 100% renewable EcoGreen Aggregation Program with MC Squared offsets carbon emissions by purchasing Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) from energy supplied by wind farms in the Midwest. Approximately half of the ComEd accounts in the Village are eligible for this program and will receive notice of enrollment and the value of renewable energy for the community. There are no savings or additional cost to residents to participate in the program since it will match the ComEd rate, and the Village will receive \$30,000 in civic contribution funds to use towards sustainable initiatives. Click [here](#) to read the FAQ.



Public Hearing - Home Kitchen Operations

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, 6/11, at 7:30 PM** to consider amendments to the Village's Zoning Ordinance related to home baking operations. Click [here](#) for more information.

2020-2021 Vehicle Stickers

Vehicle stickers for 2020-2021 are now available for purchase. Due to the unprecedented circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the deadline for purchasing the vehicle stickers has been delayed by 60 days. The stated deadline of July 14 on the application has been extended to September 14, 2020. **In order to avoid late fees and citations, vehicle stickers must be purchased and affixed to your windshield by 9/14, 2020.** All vehicles registered in the State of Illinois with a River Forest address must also be registered with the Village through the purchase of a vehicle sticker

license. Payment may be made as follows:

- Online at the Village Website by clicking [here](#).
- By mail using the envelope received from the Village (the application can also be downloaded [here](#)).
- Drop off your application in the green bin in front of Village Hall.

If you choose any one of these no contact payment options, the vehicle sticker will be delivered to you via US Mail.

Stickers are \$45 for passenger vehicles and \$25 for motorcycles, antique vehicles and senior citizens (one senior citizen vehicle sticker per household). Vehicle sticker applications were recently mailed. If you receive an application for a vehicle that you no longer own or a duplicate application, please notify the Village by either calling, or returning the application noting the vehicle's status in the enclosed envelope, so that the vehicle will be removed from our records. For additional information please contact Village Hall at 708-366-8500 or click [here](#).

Fire Safety

Fireworks & Grilling Safety

The River Forest Fire Department in conjunction with the Illinois State Fire Marshal wants to remind citizens that fireworks are not all fun and games. Click [here](#) for more information about fireworks safety. Additionally, this year's Oak Park July 4 parade and fireworks are [canceled](#) due to the ongoing pandemic. June is also typically the first month people start cooking and grilling outside with gusto, with July being the peak month for grill fires. In the last five years, fire departments across the United States responded to an average of 7,700 home fires involving grills, hibachis or barbecues. Click [here](#) for more information about grilling safety.

Hand Sanitizer

While the use of hand sanitizers is one of many tools to protect our health, if not properly handled, it can be a significant fire hazard. Click [here](#) for more information.

Hydrant Flushing

Now that the River Forest Fire Department is getting back into the swing of things, they will be on the street testing all 440 fire hydrants, which are flushed annually. Click [here](#) to learn more.

GREEN NEWS

All the best to Julie Moller, Chairperson of the Village of River Forest Sustainability Commission

The Village of River Forest and its residents owe Julie Moller a debt of gratitude for the many contributions that she has made in the name of all things green across the Village. Julie has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Village of River Forest and its residents, leaving the Village of River Forest so much better than she found it! Click [here](#) to read more about Julie's contributions to making River Forest more sustainable.

Healthy Lawn / Healthy Family Program

As the weather gets warmer and we all start thinking about lawns and gardens, please take note of the River Forest [Healthy Lawn, Healthy Family Initiative](#). If you [take the pledge](#), you will join the many River Forest residents who have made the commitment to a sustainable and resilient lawn. In doing so, you will contribute to a healthier environment for your family, pets, insect pollinators and the Des Plaines River. You will also receive our ["Keep ON the Grass" lawn sign](#) to show your commitment.



Below are links to additional information to help transform your lawn to a Healthy Lawn!

- [West Cook Wild Ones](#)
- [5 video segments](#) from a natural lawn care workshop hosted by Deep Roots Project in 2019

Happy Summer!

SCHOOL DISTRICT 90 SPOTLIGHT

Summer Learning Opportunities at District 90 with River Forest Public Library

District 90, in collaboration with the River Forest Public Library, will be offering summer learning opportunities for students during the summer months. These summer activities are in lieu of the in-person summer school classes that are usually

held. Offered to District students in rising 1st through 8th grades, these summer learning opportunities will be conducted online. These opportunities include book clubs, math activities, and STEM lessons. All are designed to help students maintain their learning trajectory. Please visit the District [website](#) for more information about registration and learning activities. The last day for student instruction in the current school year is 6/10.

District 90 Supports Emergency Childcare at West Cook YMCA

District 90 is participating in a community effort to help support the many healthcare personnel, first responders, and essential employees who live and work in our local communities. In collaboration with the West Cook YMCA, District 90 will provide a site for the YMCA's Emergency Childcare Center (ECC), which will be housed at the Lincoln Elementary School. The program will begin on 6/15 and will conclude on 8/7. The ECC program will be housed in a designated wing of the building and will adhere to the strict health and safety guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). These guidelines address numerous issues, including social distancing, limited student-teacher ratios, daily health screenings, and rigorous facility cleaning and disinfecting protocols. For more information, contact the [West Cook YMCA](#).

SCHOOL DISTRICT 200 SPOTLIGHT

OPRF High School: What's Next?

As the District wraps up a spring of remote learning, it has received many questions about what 2020-2021 will look like. **District 200 has not yet made any decisions regarding next school year.** The District is deep into planning for various scenarios, and the members of the transition steering committee, Re-Imagine Education OPRF, have already held numerous brainstorming and discussion sessions with their subcommittees. As planning progresses, the District will be seeking stakeholder input and keeping the community updated to ensure that everyone is ready for a safe and equitable return to school in fall. Whatever happens, the District will be prepared.

Class of 2020 Virtual Commencement Ceremony

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in-person graduation was canceled. The District invites all in the community to view the live-stream of the virtual graduation ceremony on its [YouTube channel](#) on **Sunday, 6/14, at 3 PM.**

PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

Summer 2.0 Camps and Program

The River Forest Park District's Summer 2.0 camp and program registration are open for residents. This revamped program will give kids the opportunity to have a safe but fun summer. As always, everyone's safety and well-being are the number one priority and the Park District has made that the first priority when offering Summer 2.0. Click [here](#) to learn more about program offerings and details.



Virtual Programming

At this time, the River Forest Park District is still offering a variety of weekly virtual program opportunities for all ages. Many are free and some require registration. Check back weekly for the latest on virtual programs. Click [here](#) for details.

RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

Exterior Book Drops & Curbside Services

All materials will be placed in quarantine for 7 days before they will be checked in. Curbside services are now available. Staff will bring your holds right out to you for contactless delivery. (Items from other libraries are not available at this time.) See details [here](#).



Summer Programming

Please [visit the Library's calendar](#) to see the exciting summer programs planned. There are virtual book clubs and story times, activity kits to take home, special live virtual programs, and more.

The summer reading program for all ages begins on 6/15. Participants will be able to register and log reading progress online. There will be prizes for all ages. Registration and more info will be available on [the Library's website](#) on 6/8.

TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

River Forest Township is here to help support your needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please visit our website, www.RiverForestTownship.org, or the River Forest community calendar at www.RFHappenings.com, or email Supervisor Carla Sloan at supervisor@riverforesttownship.org. Please note: many in-person services and programs have been temporarily suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Special Town Meeting

A Special Town Meeting of River Forest Township will be held on **Tuesday, 6/16, 2020 at 6 PM**, to consider and vote whether to put the following question on the 11/3, 2020 general election ballot as an advisory referendum:

“Shall Oak Park and River Forest High School eliminate separate, standalone freshman honors courses in English, history and science?”

Under Executive Order 2020-7, this meeting will be held electronically by Zoom; visit www.riverforesttownship.org for the Zoom invitation.

Social Services Guide

The online COVID-19 Social Services Guide provides a comprehensive list of services and contact information and is updated weekly. Click [here](#) to access the Guide.

Seeking New Members for Township Committees

River Forest Township is seeking to fill a vacancy on each of the following volunteer committees:

- 1) **River Forest Mental Health Committee** - makes funding recommendations for local mental health and developmental disabilities programming. Meets first Tuesdays, 6:30 PM.
- 2) **OPRF Township Youth Services Committee** - makes funding recommendations for local youth programming. Meets first Wednesdays, 6 PM.

Must be a RF resident. Experience in related fields is a plus but not required. If interested in either committee, please email Supervisor Carla Sloan at Supervisor@RiverForestTownship.org.

AROUND RIVER FOREST

Still looking for more River Forest info? Click below.

[River Forest Community Calendar – RFHappenings.com](#)

[Village of River Forest](#)

[River Forest School District 90](#)

[OPRF High School District 200](#)

[River Forest Park District](#)

[River Forest Public Library](#)

[River Forest Township](#)

