



Village of River Forest



RIVER FOREST

Proud Heritage • Bright Future

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.

Message from the Village President



Dear River Forest Residents,

All In Illinois' "It Only Works If You Wear It" campaign reinforces River Forest's dedication to playing, working, learning, shopping, and living safely.

The Village is working in collaboration with River Forest taxing bodies (District 90, Park District, Library and Community Center/Township) and [our businesses](#) to support and communicate these important messages.



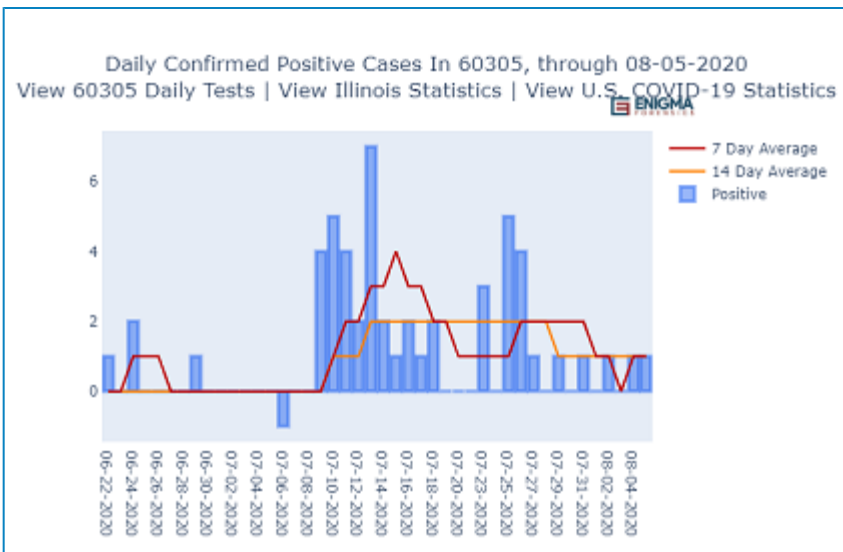
Thank you to every member of our community for continuing to wear face coverings, practicing social distancing and washing your hands. Please also remember to insist on smaller groups of neighborhood get-togethers, and do not go out if you or those who you have been in contact with feel sick. Additionally, all residents are asked to review the [travel guidance](#) issued by the Cook County Department of Public Health and self-quarantine for 14 days if you have traveled to or from any of the states on this list.



**River Forest
Public Schools**

District 90 has announced their plan to transition to full-remote instruction. To learn more about District 90's plan, [click here](#). Now is the time for all of us to come together to help our River Forest families learn safely. The Village is collaborating closely with all our schools to help them address any facility, parking, and traffic needs they may have. [Click here](#) for a listing of our schools' opening plans to date.

[Click here](#) for an update on positive cases of COVID-19 in River Forest.



River Forest COVID-19 Senior Response Team is still available. Please call 708-613-1642 for any assistance you need. Please remember to help care for our senior community members. If you have an elderly neighbor, give them a call to check in on them.

Cook County received approximately \$429 million from the U.S. Treasury from the CARES Act. The funds are eligible for direct expenses related to responding to the coronavirus and are not eligible for any lost revenues. River Forest's allocation is approximately \$100,000. Each municipality allocation was determined through an [equity relief model](#), with factors including, but not limited to, the following: immediate needs of the municipality to respond to the pandemic, municipal population, municipal median income and municipal public health statistics.



Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Dan Patlak will be holding a property tax appeal [webinar](#) on Thursday, 8/13 at 11 AM and again at 6 PM for taxpayers seeking to appeal their 2020 property tax assessments. River Forest Township is open for appeal at the Board of Review 7/30/20 - 8/28/20. Click [here](#) to register.

The Census is safe and secure, quick and easy, and important for our community. Visit my2020census.gov today. The U.S. Census Bureau announced that they will complete their counts by September 30, 2020, a month earlier than anticipated.



Census takers will begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census. If you haven't filled out your Census response yet, there's still time to do so online, by phone or by mail. If you respond online or by phone today, a Census taker is less likely to have to visit your home to collect your response. For more information on what to expect when Census takers visit your home and how you can verify that someone is a Census taker, [click here](#).

Have a great weekend and remember to stay safe.

Sincerely,

Cathy

Cathy Adduci
Village President

Village Spotlight

The River Forest Fire Department members flush and test every fire hydrant in the Village annually. This is an important process to remove any sediment that may be in the line and to ensure all hydrants are in working order in case of a fire. Water discoloration may occur during hydrant flushing, however, the discoloration is harmless. Running water from a

fixture in the lowest section of your home until clear will correct this problem. Please avoid doing laundry or using a dishwasher until water runs clear.

Cook County Department of Public Health Guidelines



The Cook County Department of Public Health, which has jurisdiction over River Forest, has also issued additional recommended [guidelines](#) for bars, fitness clubs, personal care businesses, and other settings to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Department of Public Health notes that if this guidance is not followed, Cook County will be facing far more restrictive measures. The guidelines include:

- Bars, taverns, breweries, and other establishments that serve alcohol for on-site consumption without a retail food license are being asked to serve customers outdoors only.
- Restaurants that serve alcohol must continue to abide by ongoing COVID-19 guidance and existing regulations.
- Maximum party size and table occupancy at restaurants, bars, taverns, and breweries should be reduced to 6 people (indoor or outdoor).
- Indoor fitness class size should be reduced to a maximum of 10 people.
- Personal service businesses should discontinue services (shaves, facials) that require the removal of face coverings.
- Residential property managers should limit guest entry to 6 people per unit to avoid indoor gatherings and parties.
- Businesses and workplaces should institute remote work for high-risk individuals and continue to support telework for as many workers as possible.
- Retail establishments should maintain no more than 50% capacity, which is the current recommendation.

ComEd Bill Payment Assistance

ComEd is offering additional bill payment assistance for income eligible customers. Eligible customers can receive a one-time bill assistance credit of up to \$500 for past-due balances, up to the amount of the balance. Available only for a limited time, the Bill Payment Assistance Program expires on 12/31/2020 or until funds are exhausted, whichever comes first. Funds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. To learn more about eligibility requirements and apply for a Bill Payment Assistance Program credit call 1-800-EDISON-1 or visit [ComEd.com/BillAssistance](https://www.comed.com/BillAssistance).

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 7/14 on the application has been extended to 9/14/20. **In order to avoid late fees and citations, vehicle stickers must be purchased and affixed to your windshield by 9/14/20.** 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 drop box in front of Village Hall or in person during regular business hours.

If you choose any one of the 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](#).

Deer Management Committee Questionnaire

REMINDER: The River Forest Deer Management Committee invites you to take the Deer Questionnaire.

Visit www.RiverForestDeer.com to participate or call Village Hall 708-366-8500 to obtain a paper copy. This questionnaire is open to River Forest residents 18 and older. Responses are due August 31, 2020. The questionnaire contains 15 questions and takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather River Forest residents' point of view on the deer population and its impacts on the community. This questionnaire will help guide the River Forest Deer Committee on making recommendations for next steps and is for information gathering purposes only.

Safety in River Forest Parks

The Village of River Forest and River Forest Park District are working together to reinforce and enforce requirements for social distancing, wearing masks and practicing good hygiene while using the parks. We are also working together to address other issues that are occurring after hours. We ask for your help in reinforcing the need to play and visit with each other safely (and pick up after ourselves) when using our parks.

River Forest Fire Department

Closed Doors



The River Forest Fire Department would like to remind residents about fire safety. Working smoke alarms and having an escape plan and designated meeting place are extremely important in case of a fire. Keeping doors closed can also be important for safety as they can reduce fire growth, limit damage, and keep temperatures down. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Hot Cars

The Fire Department would like to remind residents that kids and pets left in parked vehicles are in danger of hyperthermia during the warmer months. Click [here](#) for more information about the heating rate of cars as temperatures rise.

GREEN NEWS

Sign up for Residential Composting Today!

Roy Strom makes composting easy! Sign up for curbside composting by filling out a [service request form](#) or calling the Village offices. Residents will receive an under-sink kitchen container and a 64 gallon cart to get started. Take advantage of this low price, low maintenance composting service today. Click [here](#) to learn more.



Student Commissioners

The Sustainability Commission is seeking applicants for student commissioners for the 2020-2021 school year (term running from 10/1/20 - 9/30/21). Click [here](#) for the application. Completed applications should be submitted to [John Anderson](#) by 9/15/20.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 90 SPOTLIGHT

Social-Emotional Wellness

District 90 has pulled together information and links to support the social-emotional wellness of students and families during these unusual times. This information provides links to community resources and activities. Please click [here](#) to access the Social-Emotional Supports and Activities for Families and Students.

Student Enrollment

Families who are enrolling students in District 90 for the 2020-21 school year, including parents of new students and kindergartners, are encouraged to complete registration as soon as possible. For more information about the registration process, please contact School Registrar [Josephine Ribaud](#).

PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

Summer Camp Openings

An additional session of summer camp has been added for ages 3-6 and 7-12 during the week of 8/17

- 8/21. Sign up for STEAM camp in the morning, Lunch Club, and Multi-Sports Camp in the afternoon to create a full day. Click [here](#) to learn more.

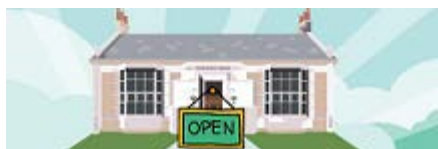


Fall Fun Guide and Programming Updates

The Fall Fun Guide will be available on rfparks.com only for the upcoming season. Postcards will be mailed to residents with all registration details. Stay in the loop on all River Forest Park District events, programs, and services by signing up for the [Park Bench Newsletter](#). As programming changes due to COVID-19 restrictions, staff also continuously updates rfparks.com.

RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

The Library is Open



The Library building is open to the public in a limited capacity following public health guidelines from the [Restore Illinois Plan](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control](#). The Library is offering browsing and check out of library materials, computer sessions, copying, printing, and faxing. Please click [here](#) for information about safety guidelines and new hours.

Get a Library Card

Applications for new library cards are now available at the Library's outdoor tent. Just complete the application when visiting and a new card will be mailed. Proof of residency will need to be provided. Residents can still [register](#) for an online-only library card that will grant access to the Library's eBooks, eAudiobooks, streaming services, and research databases.

Click [here](#) to stay up to date on Library happenings.

TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

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

Second Installment Property Tax Bills and Board of Review

Second installment property tax bills were mailed out on time; residents should have received their tax bills. Payment was due 8/3, but property owners can pay without interest through 10/1/20, due to a new ordinance.

Click [here](#) to look up your tax bill and exemptions, and to pay online with no additional fees. If you need assistance or are missing an exemption to which you are entitled, the Township Assessor's office can assist you.

River Forest will be open for appeals with the Cook County Board of Review from 7/30 - 8/28. Click [here](#) to appeal online. The Township Assessor's office can assist you with the appeal process. The office will be extremely busy during the month of August. Though currently closed for in-person meetings, Staff is available to help. Please call 708-366-2787 and leave your name, address, phone number twice and your concern.

Social Services Guide

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

Seeking New Members for Township Committees

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

- River Forest Mental Health Committee - makes funding recommendations for local mental health and developmental disabilities programming. Meets first Tuesdays, 6:30 PM.

- OPRF Township Youth Services Committee - makes funding recommendations for local youth programming. Meets first Wednesdays, 6 PM.

Volunteers must be a River Forest resident. Experience in related fields is a plus but not required. Please [email](#) Supervisor Carla Sloan for more information.

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](#)

