



Cottage Grove Reports

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Election Results

Visit the Secretary of State's website at <http://mnvotesinfo.sos.state.mn.us> for election results.

Monster Bash 2014

The streets were filled with costumed characters at the annual Monster Bash parade on Oct. 25. Hundreds lined the streets to watch the parade, many also in costume. Visit the City's Facebook page to view pictures from the parade. The Monster Bash Parade is organized by the Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest committee.



When the Snow Begins to Fall

THINGS TO KNOW

The City works throughout the winter to clear snow and ice from more than 166 miles of city streets to help you get to where you need to go. When it's snowing, please remember:

- City collector and arterial streets are plowed and salted first, followed by residential streets, cul-de-sacs, sidewalks, and bike paths.
- To minimize the amount of snow deposited at the end of your driveway, place snow near the end of your driveway to the right (as you face the street).
- Don't throw snow from your driveway into the street. It is against the city ordinance, and it can cause slippery spots.
- Keep trash carts out of the street if it is snowing on collection day.
- Instruct children to stay clear of the street when snowplows are present, and to not build snow forts near the street.
- Snow from snowplows often obstructs mailboxes located in the boulevard. Residents are responsible for keeping their own mailbox clear of snow.
- Conduct routine maintenance on your mailbox prior to the winter.
- The City will repair or replace properly installed mailboxes if they are physically struck by a snowplow. City staff will make the mailbox serviceable as quickly as possible and return in the spring to permanently reinstall a standard design mailbox (the City cannot replace decorative mailboxes).
- The City is not responsible for improperly installed mailboxes, damage to landscaping, irrigation systems or other items located within the city right-



2013 Photo Contest Entry from Bill Pohlmann

of-way (generally about 15 feet behind the curb), or damage caused by snow thrown by a City snowplow.

- If grass is damaged by a snowplow, maintenance workers will repair the damage with black dirt and grass seed as soon as possible in the spring (typically in May).

To advise the City about a slippery intersection or report damage caused by a snowplow, call Public Works at 651-458-2808 (answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week).

WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Winter parking restrictions are in effect from Nov. 1 until March 31. That means:

- No on-street parking between 2 and 6 a.m. daily whether there is snow on the ground or not.
- In addition, on-street parking is prohibited anytime it is snowing until the street has been cleared.

The winter parking ordinance (City Ordinance Title 6-2-1A) is designed to allow for safe and efficient snow removal. Contact Public Works at 651-458-2808 with questions.



2015 City Budget

On Dec. 3, the City Council will adopt the final levy and budget for 2015. The meeting takes place at City Hall and begins at 7:30 p.m. In addition, there is an open forum at 7:15 p.m. for anyone who wishes to address the Council on a subject not on the agenda.

Congratulations SWCTC

The South Washington County Telecommunications Commission (SWCTC) received eight national awards for video production excellence. The awards were presented at the annual National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) Conference Government Awards Gala, Oct. 2, 2014, in St. Paul, Minnesota. The following videos won recognition:
 1st place: Melissa (public safety); 2nd place: Holiday Train (community); 3rd place: 75 years of the St. Paul Park Fire Dept. (profile city dept.), A Day in the Life of a 3rd Grader (children), Melissa (documentary), and Overall Excellence in Government Programming; Honorable mention: Ron Elmer (seniors), and First Reponse: A Survivor's Story (public safety). Watch these online at www.swctc.org.

River Oaks Fall Golf

Fall golf season is still going strong. The course will remain open until snow covers the grounds for the winter season. Bring in a non-perishable donation for the food shelf and receive these special rates:

- Senior (62 +) 18 holes with cart: \$30
- General public 18 holes: \$30
- Add a cart: \$14/per person

Secure 2015 tournament dates now. Call 651-438-2121 (ext. 3).

River Oaks, 11099 Highway 61 S.
www.riveroaksmunigolf.com



CATEGORIES
 Celebrations and Events
 Historical
 Parks and Trails
 People at Play
 Progress
 Streetscape

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
 December 19

The deadline is approaching for this year's photo contest. We're looking for your pictures that capture the spirit of Cottage Grove—from the beauty of our parks to our community celebrations to people enjoying places around town. All photos must be taken in Cottage Grove.

The winner in each category will receive \$50 and have their photos highlighted on the City's website and Facebook page. New this year—the six category winners compete for a People's Choice award and an additional \$50 prize. Visit the City's website for contest rules.

Accepting Nominations for Sustainable City Award

Cottage Grove is accepting nominations for the second annual Sustainable City Award. Nominations will be accepted until Feb. 1, 2015. The award was created in 2013 to promote sustainability in the community. It recognizes community members, businesses and organizations that make a commitment to making Cottage Grove more sustainable, provide innovative programs and sustainable practices or demonstrate environmental leadership.

Categories include: green building (new construction), green remodeling, energy efficiency and conservation, use of renewable or alternative energy, waste reduction, composting and recycling, environmental awareness and education, water conservation, innovative storm water management practices, sustainable business practices and youth leadership.

Nomination forms are available on the city's website. Winners will be announced on or near Earth Day.

Call for Entries for the First Films in 5 Festival

Local filmmakers are invited to showcase their talents in a short film contest. Films will be shown at the Arts Commission's first Films in 5 Festival on Jan. 24, 2015 at Park High School in the Lecture Hall.

Films should be no longer than five minutes and made anytime in 2014.

- 1st place: \$100 gift card and trophy
- 2nd place: \$50 gift card
- 3rd place: \$25 gift card

The deadline to enter is Jan. 2, 2015. There is a \$5 submission fee.

The Arts Commission was created earlier this year and hopes to inspire creative expression in filmmakers with this festival.

Visit the City's website for more information including submission guidelines and form.



Fire Department Open

More than 500 people visited the Fire Department's Open House on Saturday, Oct. 10. The open house is held annually during National Fire Prevention Week. Visit the Fire Department's Facebook page to view more pictures from the event.

'Tis the Season

The Holidays in Cottage Grove

Holiday Train

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10 | 5:45 P.M. TRAIN ARRIVAL

The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train rolls into town its 12th year with a trainload of fun and entertainment.

The brightly lit train will arrive at 5:45 p.m. along West Point Douglas Road just south of the 80th Street Bridge and Belden Crossing. Cash and nonperishable donations will be collected for the Friends in Need Food Shelf that serves residents of Cottage Grove, Grey Cloud Island, Newport and St. Paul Park.

Although last year was a special year to celebrate the train, many residents are looking forward to having the train stop along West Point Douglas Road again, where they can almost reach out and touch the beautifully lit train.

Last year, \$142,480 was raised and more than 23,202 pounds of toiletries and food were collected. In the past 11 years the Holiday Train event in Cottage Grove has raised more than \$660,800. This year's goal is to raise \$90,000.

Some pre-stop fundraising events:

Holiday Loaves Sale

Begins Nov. 15 | Sold at area churches

Cub Foods Grocery Bagging

Sunday, Nov. 23

Cub Foods, 8690 E. Point Douglas Road

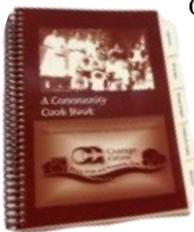
Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, Dec. 7 | 8 a.m. to Noon

The Church of St. Rita, 8694 80th Street S.

Community Cookbook

Community cookbooks, compiled by the Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, are available at City Hall for \$15 each. Purchase one to use for your Thanksgiving meal or as a holiday gift.



Santa Breakfast

AT RIVER OAKS GOLF COURSE AND EVENT CENTER
SUNDAY, DEC. 8 | 8 A.M. - NOON

The elves at the North Pole told us Santa will be stopping at River Oaks Golf Course to enjoy breakfast with the kids on Dec. 8.

• Menu

Elves' Famous Egg Bake
Frosty's French Toast Sticks
Mrs. Claus' Mini Doughnuts
Reindeer Refreshments
Orange Juice, Milk and Coffee

• Cost

Ages 3 and under free
Ages 4-12 \$6.95
Ages 13 and older \$9.95

There is a **special gift from Santa** for the first 150 children to visit him with their Christmas list.

Experience the magical morning in a **horse drawn sleigh ride** around the golf course.

Sorry, no reservations taken.

Hale to the Bird 5K Run

AT HAMLET PARK ON THANKSGIVING MORNING

Hale to the Bird 5K is back for its fifth year! Last year almost 500 people enjoyed the family-friendly run (or walk) which helps raise funds for the Friends in Need Foodshelf. Why not join the fun this year? Be sure to watch for Fatty Bird around town during November as he prepares for the big day.

Date: Thanksgiving, Nov. 27

Time: 8 a.m. check-in
9 a.m. start

Where: Hamlet Park, 8855 Hamlet Ave.

Cost: \$30 ages 13 and older
\$10 ages 12 and under

Register at www.active.com or
www.facebook.com/haletothebird5K

Winter Lights Contest

DEC 8 NOMINATION DEADLINE

DEC 11 JUDGING FROM 6-9 P.M.

DEC 17 WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND IN THE SWC BULLETIN

Brighten those long winter evenings, decorate in style for the holidays and enter the 6th annual contest. Entries judged on creativity, holiday spirit, overall appearance, theme, and use of LED lights. Qualifying nominees must be located in Cottage Grove with displays visible from the street.

Businesses and Organizations Giving Back

DEC 8 NOMINATION DEADLINE

DEC 17 WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND IN THE SWC BULLETIN

Nominate a business or organization that "gives back" during the holiday season by volunteering in the community, collecting food items, participating in toy drives, or anything else that brightens the holiday spirit in Cottage Grove.

Nominations can be made by leaving a message at 651-458-3404 or via email mpietruszewski@cottage-grove.org. Presented in partnership with the South Washington County Bulletin.

Holiday Tree Lighting

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3

6-7 P.M.

Enjoy hot apple cider, holiday cookies and festive music by the Park High School Choir at City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway S. **Santa will arrive on a fire truck at 6:15 p.m.** After the tree is lit go inside City Hall where kids can have their photo taken with Santa and receive a candy cane.



COTTAGE GROVE Ice Arena

For more info call 651-458-3400

Winter Ice Skating Lessons

Winter sessions run Dec. 1 to Feb. 12. Register online or call 651-458-3400.

Turkey Tournament

There is no cost to attend the annual Turkey Tournament.

Friday, Nov. 28 11 a.m. start
 Saturday, Nov. 29 8 a.m. start
 Sunday, Nov. 30 8 a.m. start

No-School Winter Break

DEC. 26, 29, 30 AND JAN. 2

Youth Open Hockey (\$5)
 9–10:15 a.m.

Public Skating (\$4)
 10:30 a.m.–noon

High School Open Hockey (\$5)
 12:15–1:30 p.m.

Skate with the Wolfpack

If your child's dream is to play Wolfpack hockey, get ready for a fun afternoon of skating with their favorite Wolfpack players from Park High School. No cost to attend this event.

Sunday, Dec. 28 2–3:30 p.m.

Public Skating Sessions (\$4)

Practice skating, get exercise and have fun. Skate rentals are \$2 and skating aids (buckets) are available for beginners.

Sunday: Noon–1:30 p.m.
 Monday to Friday: 10:30 a.m.–noon
 Wednesday 6–7:30 p.m.

Figure Skater Practice (\$8–\$10)

For the dedicated figure skater, level Alpha and above. Practice figure skating skills, jumps and spins.

Tuesday, Thursday: 2:30–5:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Friday: 6–7 p.m.
 Saturday: 6:15–7:45 a.m.
 Sunday: 8–9:45 p.m.

Co-Ed Open Broomball (\$5)

For ages 17+ on Sundays, 8–9:30 p.m. Join other players on the studio rink for a pick-up game of broomball. Sticks available on a first-come, first-serve basis. No experience necessary. Helmets required.

Adult Open Hockey (\$5)

For ages 18+ on Mondays. Bring your own equipment; helmet required. Check the website or call for times.

Birthday Parties

The “coolest” birthday party venue in town is the Ice Arena. Kids can celebrate their special day and have a blast skating with their friends. A variety of packages are available. Parties are scheduled around public skate times and include private party room for one hour. Visit the website or call for more details.

Advertise at the Ice Arena, the most heavily trafficked spectator facility in Cottage Grove. Get the most marketing value for your dollar by displaying your message to the many patrons at the Ice Arena. Call 651-458-3415 or visit our website for more information.

Looking to rent ice?
www.rinkfinder.com
 651-458-3400

Parks & Recreation News

FOR MORE INFO CALL 651-458-3400

Grand Slam

No School Dec. 1

Spend the day with Recreation staff at Grand Slam in Burnsville. Unlimited laser tag, bumper cars, miniature golf, and batting cages. Cost includes four game tokens, a hotdog and small soda. Purchase additional concessions or bring a cold lunch. Pre-registration required.

Ages: 5 and older
 Date: Dec. 1
 Time: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. (Grand Slam)
 Place: Peter Thompson Park
 Cost: \$35

Winter Break Bash

No School Dec. 22–23, 29–30

Kids looking to have a good time over winter break? Then be sure to sign them up for the Winter Break Bash. Bring winter gear for outdoor play, a dry set of clothes, ice skates (we have some available for use), G-rated movies to watch, and lunch and snacks.

Ages: 5 and older
 Date: Dec. 22, 23, 29 and 30
 Time: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
 Place: Cottage Grove Ice Arena
 Cost: \$20 per day



2013 Photo Contest Winner | Sue Hofacker