



# Cottage Grove Reports

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Annual Photo Contest
- John P Furber Farm Wedding Venue Ribbon Cutting
- Upcoming Events
- Holiday Light Recycling Program
- The Holidays in Cottage Grove
  - Holiday Train; Holiday Lights Contest; Giving Back Contest; Santa Breakfast; Community Tree Lighting
- River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center
- Ice Arena News and Events
- Recreation Events
- Hiring Warming House Attendants



## Strawberry Fest Logo Contest

The Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Committee is accepting submissions for the 2016 logo contest. The Strawberry Fest is scheduled for June 16–19. The winner will be invited to be Grand Marshal in the parade.

Strawberries should be featured prominently in the theme idea as well as the dates of the event.

Entries may be submitted as a .jpg, a word document or a PDF. Mail to Strawberry Fest 2016, P.O. Box 512, Cottage Grove, Minn. 55016 or send via email to [sfest@cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com](mailto:sfest@cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com).

Full contest rules can be found at [www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com](http://www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com)

The deadline to enter is Dec. 7.

## City Council Changes Meeting Start Time

Regular City Council meetings will now begin at 7 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m. The change was effective Nov. 4.

Council members made the change agreeing it was a more efficient use of time while still allowing for participation in open forum. Previously open forum began at 7:15 p.m. and if no one was there to speak Council had

to wait another 15 minutes before starting the regular meeting. Open forum will now be part of the regular agenda.

The Cottage Grove City Council typically meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway. Council meetings are open to the public.

## Winter Parking Reminder

Winter parking rules are in effect Nov. 1 through March 31. No on-street parking between 2 and 6 a.m. is allowed whether or not it is snowing.

Any vehicle parked on the street during this time may result in the registered owner being

issued a citation. The vehicle may also be towed at the owner's expense.

At all other times parking is allowed on the street if the vehicle does not interfere with the removal of ice and snow from city streets.

## American Red Cross to Install Free Smoke Alarms

As part of the American Red Cross Home Fire Preparedness campaign, local Red Cross volunteers are teaming up with Cottage Grove Public Safety to install free smoke alarms and teach residents how to prepare for home fires.

To schedule a smoke alarm installation appointment please call 612-460-3674. For more information about the Cottage Grove campaign, please contact Richard Lyden at 651-434-4399.

Seven times a day someone in this country dies in a home fire. Countless others suffer injuries. To combat these tragic statistics, the Red Cross has launched a nationwide campaign to reduce the number of deaths and injuries due to home fires by 25 percent over the next five years.

### Simple Steps to Save Lives

The Red Cross is asking everyone to take two simple steps that can save lives: check their existing smoke alarms and practice fire drills at home.

There are several things families and individuals can do to increase their chances of surviving a fire:

- If someone doesn't have smoke alarms, install them. At a minimum, put one on every level of the home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Local building codes vary and there may be additional requirements where someone lives.
- If someone does have alarms, test them today. If they don't work, replace them.
- Make sure that everyone in the family knows how to get out of every room and how to get out of the home in less than two minutes. Practice that plan. What's the household's escape time?

For more information about home fire safety, including safety checklists, printable fire escape plans and more, visit [redcross.org/homefires](http://redcross.org/homefires).



**Nov 26 Hale to the Bird 5K**

Family-friendly, dog-friendly 5K walk/run, 8 am, Hamlet Park  
 Proceeds benefit Friends in Need Food Shelf. More information at [facebook.com/haletothebird5K](http://facebook.com/haletothebird5K)

**Dec 6 Breakfast with Santa**

Sponsored by Cottage Grove Lions. 8 am to noon, VFW Red Barn  
 \$5 children, \$7 adults

**Dec 26 Warming Houses Open**

Weather permitting. Open weekdays and weekends at Hamlet, Hearthside, Highlands, Peter Thompson, Pine Tree Valley and Woodridge Parks.

**Jan 29 Skate Night**

5-8 pm, Highlands Park Pond

**2015 Monster Bash Parade**

The cold rain didn't dampen the Halloween spirit at the 2015 Monster Bash parade. Check out more photos on the City's Facebook page: <http://bit.ly/MonsterBash15>



**SUBMISSION DEADLINE**  
December 18

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

# Photo Contest



2014 Photo Contest winner, Jared Bird

The deadline is approaching for this year's photo contest. We're looking for 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. The six category winners compete for a People's Choice award and an additional \$50 prize. Visit the City's website for contest rules.

**John P. Furber Farms Wedding Venue Ribbon Cutting**

The grand opening of the locally owned Historic John P. Furber Farm Wedding and Event Venue was celebrated with a ribbon cutting and open house on Oct. 22.

The beautiful venue, located at 7310 Lamar Avenue, has a seating capacity of 500 and is available for weddings, graduations, family reunions, corporate events, holiday and birthday parties.

Call 651-336-4421 or visit [johnpfurberfarm.com](http://johnpfurberfarm.com) for more information.

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/FFTjL3LgOGw>



*From left: Wayne Butt, Angi Butt, Council member Steve Dennis, Council member Dave Thiede, Council member Jen Peterson, Strawberry Fest ambassadors*

**Holiday Light Recycling begins November 15**

Whether you have holiday lights and electrical cords that no longer work, or if you are simply ready to make the switch to energy efficient LED lights for your holiday decorations, there is an easy and FREE option for disposal.

The Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM), in partnership with WCCO and CERTs (Clean Energy Resource Teams), is sponsoring its annual Recycle Your Holidays™ program. This statewide program provides convenient and FREE recycling of holiday lights, beginning November 15 through the end of January.

Unlike any other holiday lights recycling program in the country, this program recycles every part of the light strand. The

lights are collected and sorted by vocational centers throughout Minnesota, which employ more than 200 individuals with disabilities. RAM's goal for this holiday season is to recycle 200,000 light strands. The program provides free recycling of holiday lights, electrical and telephone cords.

In Washington County, there is a year-round drop-off location for holiday lights at the Washington County Environmental Center, located at 4039 Cottage Grove Drive, in Woodbury. Additional drop-off locations will be added throughout the holiday season, so visit [www.RecycleMinnesota.org](http://www.RecycleMinnesota.org) for additional locations within the Cottage Grove area.

# The Holidays in Cottage Grove

December 10  
5:45 pm arrival

## Holiday Train

The brightly lit train arrives at 5:45 p.m. on Dec. 10 along West Point Douglas Road just south of the 80th Street Bridge and Belden Crossing. Arrive early to enjoy refreshments and shop for merchandise. Cash is the preferred donation but the need is also great for toiletry items such as bar soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, dish soap, toilet paper, paper towels or diapers. Donations will be collected onsite.

Parking is available at the Park & Ride. Please enter West Point Douglas Road from Jamaica Avenue as the entrance near 80th Street will be closed.

Some pre-stop fundraising events:

### Holiday Bread Loaves Sale

Begins Nov. 8 | Sold at area churches, \$5

### Cub Foods Grocery Bagging

Sunday, Nov. 22

Cub Foods, 8690 E. Point Douglas Road

### Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, Dec. 6 | 8 a.m. to noon

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

All proceeds benefit the Friends in Need Food Shelf that serves residents of Cottage Grove, Grey Cloud Island, Newport and St. Paul Park.

Presented in partnership with  
SWC Bulletin

## Holiday Lights Contest

NOV 29 NOMINATION DEADLINE

DEC 2 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 annual contest. Entries are judged on holiday spirit, overall appearance, theme, and use of LED lights. Qualifying entries must be located in Cottage Grove with displays visible from the street. To make a nomination call 651-458-3404 or email [mpietruszewski@cottage-grove.org](mailto:mpietruszewski@cottage-grove.org).

Presented in partnership  
with SWC Bulletin

## Businesses Giving Back

NOV 29 NOMINATION DEADLINE

DEC 2 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. To make a nomination call 651-458-3404 or email [mpietruszewski@cottage-grove.org](mailto:mpietruszewski@cottage-grove.org).

December 13

8 am to noon

## Santa Breakfast

Santa will be traveling from the North Pole to have breakfast with the kids on Dec. 13, from 8 a.m. to noon, at River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center.

Enjoy breakfast, visit with Santa, decorate cookies, play games, and ride in a horse drawn sleigh.

The cost is \$6.95 ages 4 to 12, \$9.95 ages 13 and older, and free ages 3 and under

Tag your pics #rosantabreakfast so we can see them. No reservations needed.

December 2

6 pm

## Tree Lighting Ceremony

The festivities begin at 6 p.m. outdoors.

Usher in the holidays in Cottage Grove with this free Christmas Tree Lighting, on Dec. 2, at City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway S.

Enjoy hot cider, holiday cookies, and carols sung by members of the Park High School choir.

Don't miss Santa's arrival in a fire truck about 6:10 p.m. Santa will invite all the kids to join him and Mayor Bailey as they countdown to throw the switch and light the tree.

Afterwards, Santa will go inside City Hall where the kids can visit him.

Share the pictures you take on social media using hashtag #CGholidaytree

Everyone is invited to attend the City Council meeting at 7 p.m. to learn who the winners are in the Holiday Lights and Businesses Giving Back contests.

## River Oaks Golf Course-open until it snows!

18 hole senior walking \$22, or ride for \$32, seven days a week

18 hole general public walking \$30, or ride for \$44, seven days a week

Twilight golf daily after 1 pm, \$20.50 walk or ride for \$30.50

Make reservations online at [www.riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://www.riveroaksmunigolf.com)

Sign up to get our e-news at <http://bit.ly/RiverOaksEnews>

Holiday shoppers! Buy a River Oaks' gift certificate for that hard-to-shop-for golfer! Available online or call 651-438-2121 ext 3.

River Oaks Golf Course • 11099 South Highway 61  
651-438-2121 • [www.riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://www.riveroaksmunigolf.com)

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

# COTTAGE GROVE Ice Arena

## Turkey Tournament

Friday, Nov. 27 11 a.m. start  
Saturday, Nov. 28 8 a.m. start  
Sunday, Nov. 29 8 a.m. start

## U12A and U14A Tournament

Friday, Dec. 11 6:15–9 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 12 8:15 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 13 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

## Ice Skating School Lessons

Fall sessions: Nov. 30—Feb. 7, 2016  
Register online or call the Ice Arena office.

## Figure Skater Practice (\$5-\$10)

Sessions are for the dedicated figure skater, level Alpha and above. Practice figure skating skills, jumps and spins. Check the website for schedule as times may vary.

## Public Skating (\$5)

Get exercise, practice skating and have fun at open skate sessions. Skate aids (buckets) are available for those learning to skate. Session times vary. Check the schedule online for dates and times. Rental skates are \$2 per pair.

## Adult Open Hockey (\$5)

Join others, ages 18+, on Monday evenings. Bring your own hockey equipment. Helmets required. For times, check the monthly event calendar on our website or call ahead as some sessions may cancel due to special events.

## Ice Arena Birthday Parties

Celebrate the special day at the Ice Arena! The party room is available year-round. Parties are scheduled around public skating time and include one-hour in the party room. Private South Rink rental is available. Visit website or call.

## Advertise at the Ice Arena

The Cottage Grove Ice Arena is the most heavily trafficked spectator facility in Cottage Grove. Get the most marketing value for your dollar by displaying your message to the thousands of patrons at the Cottage Grove Ice Arena. For more information call Jordan at 651-458-3415 or download a brochure online.



## Skate with the Wolfpack

Join the Wolfpack Hockey boys and girls teams for a fun-filled afternoon of skating! Helmets required.

Date: Dec. 27  
Time: 2–3:30 p.m.  
Cost: Free

## Winter Break

### Dec. 21-23, 28-31, Jan. 1

Youth Open Hockey, \$5 9–10:15 a.m.  
Public Skating, \$5 10:30 a.m.–noon  
High School Open Hockey, \$5 12:15–1:30 p.m.

## Arena Dry Floor Event Rentals

Indoor turf in the West Rink is available for rent from March through September. Book your event now. 651-458-3415.

# Parks and Recreation

For more info call 651-458-3400

Come work for us

## Grand Slam

### No-School-Day Activity (\$35)

Spend the day at Grand Slam in Burnsville doing unlimited laser tag, bumper cars, miniature golf, and batting cages. Everyone also receives four game tokens, hotdog, and small pop. Additional concessions available for purchase or bring a cold lunch. We'll be at Grand Slam from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Ages: 5 and up  
Date: Dec. 4  
Time: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
Location: Peter Thompson Park,  
327 Highland Hills Blvd.  
Cost: \$35

## Winter Break

### No-School-Day Activity (\$20/day)

Wear winter gear for outdoor play, bring a dry set of clothes for inside, ice skates and sleds (if available). There will also be craft activities, foosball, ping pong and games. Bring a lunch; refrigerator and microwave available.

Ages: 5 and up  
Date: Dec. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30  
Time: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
Location: Peter Thompson Park,  
327 Highland Hills Blvd.  
Cost: \$20 per day

## Warming House Attendant

The Recreation Department is accepting applications for Warming House Attendants. As an attendant you work at one of six warming house sites assisting users with skates, supervising the skate rink, providing general first aid and attendance. Warming houses are open Dec. 26 through February, weather permitting.

Download an application from the City's website, or pick one up at the Recreation office located inside the Ice Arena.

Application deadline is Nov. 30.