



Cottage Grove Reports

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Cottage Grove is Hiring Seasonal Employees

Applications are being accepted for:

- Six-month full- and part-time positions in Parks and Utilities maintenance
- Three-month full-time positions in Parks and Streets maintenance

Wages range from \$9.50 to \$11.25 per hour depending on the job.

Minimum requirements:

- At least 18 years of age
- High school diploma, and
- Valid driver's license

Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled.

Visit www.cottage-grove.org for complete job descriptions and an application packet or pick up at City Hall.

Photo Contest Winners Announced

Photographers of all skills and ages were encouraged to submit their favorite pics in the 2015 photo contest for a chance to win \$50 per winning category. The winners were announced at the March 2 City Council meeting.

Winners:

- Celebrations and Events: Bill Pohlmann for the photo of the Holiday Train reflected in the water at Hamlet Park.
- Historical: Bill Pohlmann for the photo of the old barn and silo on Grey Cloud Trail at sunset.
- Parks and Trails: Bill Pohlmann for the photo of the sunrise over the Mississippi River at Hazen P. Mooers Park.
- People at Play: Andrew Menges for the photo of his daughter swinging at the Hillside Elementary School park.
- Progress: Bill Pohlmann for the photo of the controlled burn at Ravine Regional Park.
- Streetscapes: Bill Pohlmann for the photo of lit streets on Highway 61 and 80th Street.



The winning photos will be displayed at City Hall and posted on the City's Facebook page.



Thank you to everyone who participated. Watch for information on the 2016 photo contest on the City's website.





Coming Up

Fridays Friday Night Fish Fry
 4–8 p.m., Feb. 5 to Mar. 25
 \$15.95/adults, \$9.95/kids
 ages 4-12, 3 and under free
 River Oaks Golf Course,
 11099 Highway 61 S.
 651-438-3627 for more info

March 20 Lions Breakfast with the Easter Bunny
 8 a.m.–noon, VFW Red Barn

April 8 Black Dirt Theater Improv Comedy Show
 7 and 9 p.m. shows, Tickets
 are \$10. Purchase at door or
 online at
blackdirtheater.com/improv
 River Oaks Golf Course,
 11099 Highway 61 S.

April 23 Stone Soup'r Bowl
 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Park Grove
 Bowl, 1020 Hastings Ave, St.
 Paul Park. More info:
stonesoupthriftshop.org.

Best Face Forward: A Free Gardening Workshop

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 10 AM–NOON
COTTAGE GROVE PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING,
8635 WEST POINT DOUGLAS ROAD S.

Enjoy a morning of informal presentations, educational displays, and an opportunity to have your gardening questions answered by U of MN Extension Master Gardeners.

Presentations will focus on entry gardens, creating beautiful pots, and basic design principles. The workshops are tailored for new as well as experienced gardeners in the hope that some will be inspired to enter Cottage Grove's new Green Garden Award categories of Residential Entryway and Containers.

No registration required.

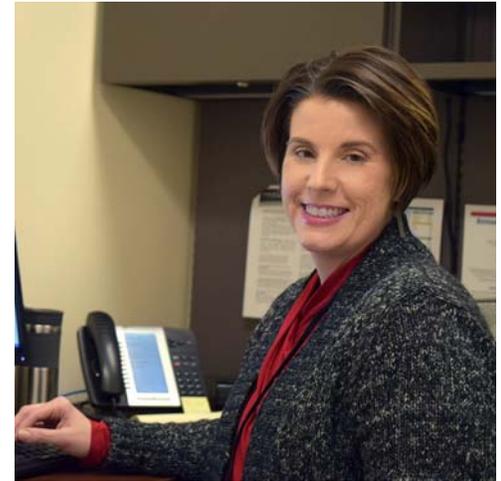
For more information visit www.mastergardenersinwashingtonco.org or email wcmg@umn.edu.

Cottage Grove Welcomes New Economic Development Director

Christine Costello was recently hired as Cottage Grove's economic development director and began work on Feb. 23.

Costello has more than 12 years of experience working in zoning, planning, redevelopment and economic development.

"Hiring Christine fits in with the council's strategic goal of positioning Cottage Grove for growth," said Mayor Bailey. "She has a great mix of experience in business attraction and retention. I know she'll do great things for our City."



Be in the Know: Introducing Grove 411

Be an informed citizen and stay up-to-date with the latest information with the Cottage Grove Public Safety Board's new initiative—Grove 411.

It's long been the mission and desire of the Public Safety Board to offer public-safety-related education to the public, which is how Grove 411 came to be.

The program will feature classes or seminars, no longer than an hour, covering a variety of topics such as crime prevention, suicide awareness, parenting in the digital age, and home and personal safety. Programs will start at 6:30 p.m. and be held in the training room at City Hall.

March 24: Meet city officials, learn about Safe Exchange Zones, and how to buy and sell safely on sites such as eBay.

April 28: Learn more about seasonal City ordinances at "Know the Code" program.

Other dates and topics will be announced.

To learn more about the Public Safety Board and Grove 911, visit their Facebook page (search "Cottage Grove Public Safety Board), or contact Liaison Officer Gail Griffith at ggriffith@cottage-grove.org.

Street Sweeping and Hydrant Flushing to Begin in April

Crews will begin sweeping streets the week of April 11, weather permitting. Residents should sweep sand from their boulevards onto the street before crews clean the streets. Please park your vehicles in driveways so sweeping can be completed curb to curb without missing any areas.

Hydrant flushing will also begin the week of April 11, weather permitting. The flushing may discolor the water briefly, but it is safe to drink. It may stain fabrics so residents should check for signs of

discoloration before using water to wash clothes. If water is discolored, run cold tap water until it is clear. Public Works recommends homeowners flush out the taps in their home at the same time water main flushing is done, since iron deposits tend to also build up in residential lines.

If you have questions about street sweeping or hydrant flushing please call Public Works at 651-458-2808.

Cottage Grove
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Cottage Grove, Newport, St. Paul Park

13th Annual
**SPRING BUSINESS
SHOWCASE 2016**

The Business Showcase is a great opportunity to meet and support local businesses and organizations.

The family-friendly event features products and services from local businesses in a variety of fields including home improvement, real estate, finance and banking, health and wellness, home and office products, cuisine, professional services, and more.

Activities for the kids include Bruce the Bug Guy and Balloon Artistry by Mandana. A range of different local restaurants will be serving food samples and you can enter to win grand prizes.

Come and learn what our local businesses have to offer and why it pays to “Support Your Community Businesses”.

Date: April 16
Time: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Place: Cottage Grove Ice Arena
8020 80th Street S.
Ages: All
Cost: Free

For more information or to sign up your business visit the Cottage Grove Area Chamber website:
www.cottagegrovechamber.org.

Be sure to stop by the City's booth to visit with elected officials and city representatives and to learn more about the Woodridge Park Inclusive Playground!

River Oaks Golf, Grill and Event Center

The 2016 golf season is just around the corner, and with the relatively mild winter we may have an early spring! Visit our website for 2016 golf rates, and information on golf lessons and leagues.

Looking for banquet or party space with some outstanding food? Contact our Banquet Manager at 651-438-2121 ext. 4. Now booking into 2017 with select 2016 dates still available!

 River Oaks
11099 Highway 61 S
www.riveroaksmunigolf.com

Green Spring Cleaning Tips

The days are longer, the snow is gone (hopefully?), and the flowers are blooming—yes, it is spring in Minnesota! For many people, this time of year provides motivation to open the windows, clean the house, spruce up the lawn and home, and clean out the clutter.

As you begin your spring cleaning, consider replacing your traditional cleaners with non-toxic “green” cleaners. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), we spend 90 percent of our time indoor, which may have indoor pollutants that are two to five times higher than outdoor levels. Some of the chemicals in traditional household products can lead to allergic reactions, headaches, nausea, and eye or respiratory irritations. Children also have an increased chance of exposure when these chemicals are stored in the household.

One easy way to ensure that you are cleaning with non-toxic products is to mix them yourself with common household ingredients such as vinegar, water, and baking soda. You may be surprised at the cleaning power that these simple ingredients can provide, while saving you money on expensive traditional cleaners.

The EPA has made it easier to find safe cleaning products by developing a Safer Choice label. For a searchable database of products, and to learn more about the label, visit:
<http://www2.epa.gov/saferchoice/learn-about-safer-choice-label>

Easy recipes for green cleaning products

Glass cleaner

- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon liquid soap or detergent
- 2 cups water

Combine in a spray bottle and shake to blend.

All-purpose cleaner

- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 2 teaspoons borax
- 3-1/2 cups hot water
- 20 drops lemon or lavender essential oil
- 1/4 cup liquid dish soap

In a 32-ounce spray bottle, mix vinegar, borax and water thoroughly. Add essential oil if desired. Add dish soap last.

Floor cleaner

- 1/8 cup liquid soap
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup white vinegar or lemon juice
- 1/2 cup peppermint herbal tea (peppermint has antibacterial qualities)

Combine ingredients in a pail with 3 gallons of warm water. Swirl until sudsy. Rinse with one cup of vinegar in 3 gallons of cool water.

Soft scrub

- 1/2 cup baking soda
- Enough liquid soap or detergent to make into frosting-like consistency
- 5-10 drops antibacterial essential oil, such as lavender

Put baking soda in a bowl; slowly pour liquid soap, stirring continually. Add essential oil if desired. Scoop onto a sponge and wash surface. Rinse.

COTTAGE GROVE Ice Arena

Looking to rent ice?

www.rinkfinder.com or 651-458-3400

Advertise at the Ice Arena

Call 651-458-3415

Ice Skating School Lessons

Spring sessions run June 13 to Aug. 18. Register online or call.

Public Skating Sessions (\$5)

These sessions are a chance for the entire family to get exercise, practice skating and have fun. Skate rentals \$4. Skating aids (buckets) available for beginners. Check the monthly event calendar online as session times vary.

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

For the dedicated figure skater, level Alpha and above. Practice figure skating skills, jumps and spins. Check online or call as times may vary.

Adult Open Hockey (\$5)

Join others, ages 18+ on Monday evenings. Bring your own hockey equipment. Helmets required. Check the website for times or call.

Birthday Parties

The Ice Arena is the “coolest” place in town to have a birthday party! Celebrate the special day and have a blast skating with friends. The party room is available year-round. A variety of packages are available. Check website or call for details.

Indoor Turf Rental

Indoor turf rental at the Ice Arena is available now through September. The indoor turf is located on the West Rink and can be rented for a variety of events, such as baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, home shows, corporate events and more. Host your next event at the Ice Arena. Call 651-458-3415 for availability and cost.

Ice Arena Advertising

Get the most marketing value for your dollar now by displaying your message to the thousands of people that come to the Cottage Grove Ice Arena, the most heavily trafficked spectator facility in town. For more information, call 651-458-3415 or download a brochure from the website.

Recreation News

For more information 651-458-3400

Youth Activities Expo

This is your one-stop shopping for spring and summer activities. Youth activities providers get together to offer you and your family a chance to learn more about opportunities for youth in the Cottage Grove area. Co-sponsored by the Cottage Grove Recreation Department and Community Education ISD 833. Plan to stay for something to eat from the River Oaks Grill.

Date: March 17

Time: 5–7 p.m.

Place: River Oaks Golf Course
11099 Highway 61 S.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Spring Break

Participants should bring their own beverages, snacks, and lunch each day (except on Friday) as well as an extra set of dry clothes and outdoor play gear.

- *Monday:* Movie Theater, bring money for snacks (\$32)
- *Tuesday:* Ping Pong Competition (\$20)
- *Wednesday:* Wooddale Fun Zone, skate/play/arcade (\$32)
- *Thursday:* Pajamas, Popcorn, and a Movie (\$20)
- *Friday:* Pizza and Pop for Lunch (\$23)

Dates: March 28 to April 1

Time: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Place: Peter Thompson Park

Ages: 5–13

Cost: Per day prices listed above or \$110 for the whole week

Tot Spot

Our Friday program will complement your 3-5 year old's other activities during the week. Each week, games, songs, crafts, story time, and projects will be theme based. Children should be dressed for possible outdoor playtime (weather permitting) and for creating messy crafts. Participants need to bring their lunch and beverages each day. This drop-off program is run on-site by Recreation Department staff.

Date: April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, and 27

Time: 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Place: Pine Tree Valley Park

Ages: 3–5

Cost: \$120

