



Cottage Grove Reports

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2016 Elections Information
- National Karate Ribbon Cutting
- Summers Landing Ribbon Cutting
- Daylight Saving Time
- Upcoming Events
- Winter Parking Ban Begins Nov. 1
- Business Retention and Expansion Program
- The Eagles Bar and Grill Now Open
- River Oaks Banquet Facility
- River Oaks Golf Course
- Winter Ice Skating Lessons
- Open Skate, Hockey and Broomball at the Ice Arena
- Halloween Spooktacular Skate Event

Fire Station Open House

Come to the Fire Department Open House on Oct. 15, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Fire Station 2, 8641 80th Street S. Lots of family friendly activities are planned.

- Meet your local firefighters
- Climb aboard fire trucks
- Tour the fire station
- Watch an auto extrication
- View a kitchen fire demonstration
- Jump in a bounce house
- Play the crowd favorite, whack-a-car
- View the plans for the new Central Fire Station
- Purchase a hot dog and chips for lunch

See you at the open house!

What Do You Want Cottage Grove To Look Like?

When you look 15 to 20 years into the future, what does Cottage Grove look like to you?

Let your voice be heard by participating in the City's community visioning process called My Future Cottage Grove. This is a chance for everyone in the community to share what their vision is for Cottage Grove over the next 15 to 20 years.

The City wants to hear from as many people as possible. Get involved through social media, by writing on community chalkboards, by attending a town hall meeting or by contacting a member of the steering committee or City Council.

- **Social Media:** Every Friday, through the end of November, a new question will be posted on the City's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CottageGroveMinnesota>. Answer the question and invite your friends and neighbors to do the same.
- **Town Hall Meetings:** Attend Oct. 11 at the South Washington County District Program Center, 8400 E. Point Douglas Road or Dec. 1 at City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway S. Both are 7 to 9 p.m. and will be facilitated by Rebecca Ryan from Next Generation Consulting. At the meetings, residents will be able to share



what they want for the community and how the City can be prepared for the future.

- **Chalkboards:** Large chalkboards are being set up at various places in the City, including community events and City parks. When you see a chalkboard, pick up the chalk and write your wish for the community. The chalkboard schedule can be found on the City's website <http://bit.ly/2dn2HJm>.

The process will continue through the end of December. The information gathered through this project will be used by city leaders as they develop long-term goals and strategic plans for the City.

Check out the video announcing the initiative that features many of the steering committee members: <https://youtu.be/5IVQdBWGux4>

Please contact Becky Ahlvin at rahlvin@cottage-grove.org or 651-458-2814 if you have any questions about the project.

Yard Waste: A Great Source of Nutrients

In Minnesota, it is illegal to put yard waste, such as grass clippings, leaves and branches, in your household garbage. The good news is that these resources can be very valuable to your lawn and garden in the form of nutrients or recycled compost. Here are four easy ways to manage your yard waste:

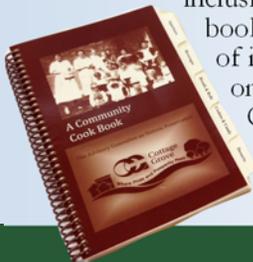
- **Leave grass clippings on your lawn.** As grass clippings decompose, they release their nutrients back to the lawn, and serve as a free, high-nutrient fertilizer.
- **Backyard composting.** Use a compost bin for your garden, yard and food waste. For more information about composting, visit: www.reduce.org, click on *By Composting*.
- **Curbside pick-up.** Contact your waste hauler for options on material preparation and pick-up. By law, yard waste must be placed in compostable bags.
- **Yard waste drop-off sites.** In Cottage Grove, Rumpa Companies Inc., 9600 Glendenning Road is open to all county residents.

Coming Up

- Oct. 16** **Oktoberfest Friends in Need Food Shelf Fundraiser**, Noon–4 p.m., Hope Glen Farms, 10276 E. Point Douglas Road, More info: <http://bit.ly/2dGOxFY>
- Oct. 19** **Free Document Shredding**, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Washington County Environmental Center, 4039 Cottage Grove Drive, Woodbury
- Oct. 27** **Car Seat Clinic**, 4–7 p.m., Fire Station 2, 8641 80th Street, email: carseatinfo@healthpartners.com
- Oct. 29** **Monster Bash Parade**, 10 a.m. Runs along East Point Douglas Road from ISD #833 Service Center to District Program Center. www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com
- Nov. 1** **Winter Parking Ban Begins** No on-street parking between 2 and 6 a.m. from Nov. 1 to March 31 whether or not it is snowing.
- Dec. 5** **Strawberry Fest Logo Contest Deadline**, More info: www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com
- Dec. 7** **Tree Lighting Ceremony**, 6 p.m., outside City Hall. Santa arrives on a fire truck at 6:10 p.m.
- Dec. 9** **Holiday Train**, 6 p.m., details to be announced

Find more events on the City’s website in the Calendar of Events.

The Historic Community Cookbook has great recipes from your Cottage Grove friends and neighbors. Available at City Hall for \$15; all proceeds going to the all-inclusive playground. The books also contain a variety of interesting information on the history of Cottage Grove from the 1840s to its suburban beginnings.



Elections 2016: General Election is Nov. 8

Cottage Grove Election

Two City Council seats and one Mayor seat will appear on the Nov. 8 General Election ballot. The candidates who will appear on the ballot for the City Council race are: Kim Graff, La Rae Mills, Samantha Crabtree, Wayne A. Johnson, AJ Janssen and Jennifer Raymer. Voters may vote for up to two candidates.

There is only one candidate who will appear on the ballot for the Mayoral race: Myron Bailey.

Absentee voting

Absentee voting began Sept. 23 and ends Nov. 7. Absentee ballots can be obtained at the Washington County Cottage Grove Service Center, 13000 Ravine Parkway S. between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Register to vote

Anyone who has moved, changed their name or not voted in the last four years will need to register to vote. With proper identification voters may register to vote on Election Day. The last day to pre-register is Oct. 18.

Visit www.mnvotes.org to register to vote, to find your polling place, to view your sample ballot or to request an absentee ballot.

Call Washington County Elections at 651-430-6175 for more information.

South Washington County Telecommunications Commission (SWCTC) will provide live election night coverage. Watch on cable channel 18 or online at www.swctc.org.

National Karate Celebrates Relocation to Jamaica Square



National Karate Academy of Martial Arts relocated their school to 8461 East Point Douglas Road and celebrated with a ribbon cutting on Aug. 19. The larger location provides more space for students. They offer lessons for ages four through adults. For more information visit www.nationalkarate.com or call 651-769-0088. Watch the ribbon cutting video at: <http://bit.ly/2cNn11X>

Summers Landing Housing Development Ribbon Cutting



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Sept. 8 for Summers Landing, the newest housing development in Cottage Grove, located near the intersection of 95th Street and Hadley Avenue. The homes will be built in phases over the next few years with a total of 383 new homes. For more information visit www.summer-gate.com. Watch the groundbreaking video at: <http://bit.ly/2dqVcQY>

Daylight Saving Time Ends; Time to Change Batteries

Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. on Nov. 6. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed.

Cottage Grove Fire Chief Rick Redenius reminds residents that this is also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke

detectors. It’s recommended that batteries in smoke detectors be changed twice a year, and detectors tested monthly. While you’re at it, check the batteries in your flashlights and weather radios so you’ll be prepared in case of an emergency.

Cottage Grove Launches Business Retention and Expansion Program

Business Retention and Expansion—more commonly called BR&E—has become an important piece of many city economic development efforts, including Cottage Grove's. As we work towards our strategic direction of positioning Cottage Grove for growth, it's important that we hear from our business community.

A **BR&E program** is an effort by the City to gain input and feedback from businesses in the community by hearing what is working for them as well as what challenges they are facing. Survey and in-person interviews will be conducted allowing businesses to provide confidential information about the business climate in Cottage Grove. The data collected will be used as the City does strategic planning and implementation in educational, technical assistance and local policy resources that address feedback from the businesses.

A **BR&E is being conducted** because existing businesses in Cottage Grove are the engines of economic growth. Studies

estimate that 40 to 80 percent of new jobs come from existing businesses. The City's existing businesses have committed a significant investment into the community and we want to make sure they succeed, grow and stay here. The most effective economic development strategy is a balance of creation, attraction, retention and expansion to maximize the effects of economic development activities. A successful BR&E focuses directly on the policies of retention and expansion.

The City will be interviewing any business that wants to be part of the program. The BR&E program will also focus on the City's top employers, businesses in the business park, healthcare industry, service industry and more.

If your business would like to be involved in the BR&E and be interviewed as part of the program please contact Matt Wolf at 651-458-2833 or mwolf@cottage-grove.org.

The Eagles Bar and Grill at River Oaks Golf Course



The Eagles Bar and Grill restaurant at River Oaks had a soft-opening on Oct. 5 and is ready for you to come and check out the new menu!

New items include appetizers, soups and salads, specialty sandwiches including a variety of prime rib sandwiches, and hamburger options including a "build your own burger" program.

Enjoy happy hour specials from 4 to 7 p.m., including 1/2 price appetizers, \$3 selected house wines and domestic and craft beer specials.

Hours are 4 to 10 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Come check us out!

Banquet Facility at River Oaks Golf Course

Our banquet facility is perfect for weddings and receptions, corporate meetings, class reunions and more. 2017 reservations are being accepted for groups up to 200. River Oaks is a community-owned operation. All patronage supports the City of Cottage Grove! Thank you for "shopping local"!



Fall Golf Rates In Effect at River Oaks Golf Course

October, with cool weather and fall colors, can be a great time to golf at River Oaks. Fall golf rates began Oct. 3.

- \$44 for 18 holes with shared cart
- \$30 to walk 18 holes
- Seniors pay \$32 to ride 18 and \$22 to walk

Receive the special fall rates by making a donation to the Friends in Need Food Shelf. Monetary donations are preferred but food donations will be accepted.

Please note that the driving range will close for the season Oct. 31.

Find River Oaks on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

COTTAGE GROVE Ice Arena

For more information 651-458-3400

Ice Skating Lessons

REGISTER ONLINE OR CALL 651-458-3400

Our Learn-to-Skate program prepares participants for all ice sports. Students are individually evaluated to make certain they are in the appropriate level. Please come prepared with: sharpened, leather, single blade hockey or figure skates; warm and comfortable clothing including mittens; and a bike/hockey helmet if skater is age 5 or younger. Choose Monday evening or Sunday afternoon sessions.

Dates: *Winter Session:* Nov. 28 to Jan. 30; or Dec. 4 to Feb. 5
Cost: \$72

Levels: *Skating Tots:* Ages 3–5, new to skating.

Level 1: Ages 5–8, minimal skating skills.

Level 2: Ages 5 and up, have passed Level 1.

Level 3: Skaters who have passed Level 2.

Level 4: Skaters who have passed Level 3.

Open Skate Sessions (\$5)

These sessions are a chance for your family to get exercise, practice skating, and have fun. Skating aids (buckets) for those learning to skate. Session times vary; please check website or call for current schedule. Rental skates available for \$4 per pair. Check out the My Cottage Grove video on skating at the Ice Arena: <http://bit.ly/2cRnVPI>

Adult Open Hockey (\$5)

Join others, ages 18+, on Monday evenings. Bring your own hockey equipment. Helmets required. Please check website or call for schedule as some sessions may cancel due to special events.

Stick & Puck (\$5)

For hockey skaters of any age to come skate with sticks and pucks! Work on skating skills, drills and stick handling. Please check website or call for current schedule.

Open Broomball (\$5)

On Sunday nights join other players, ages 17+, on Studio Rink for a pickup game of broomball. Players must bring their own helmets and sticks. Limited amount of sticks available on a first come, first serve basis. Please check website or call for current schedule.

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

Sessions are for the dedicated figure skater, level Alpha and above. Practice figure skating skills, jumps and spins.

Mondays 12:15–2 p.m.

Tuesdays 12:15–2 p.m.; 2:30–5:30 p.m.

Wednesdays 6–7:30 a.m.; 12:15–2 p.m.

Thursdays 12:15–2 p.m.; 2:30–5:30 p.m.

Fridays 6–7:30 a.m.; 12:15–2 p.m.

Saturdays 6:15–7:45 a.m.

Sundays 8–9:45 p.m.

MEA Break: Oct. 20 and 21

Stick and Puck, \$5, 9–10:30 a.m.

Public Skate, \$4, 9–10:30 a.m.

Youth Open Hockey, \$5, 10:45 a.m.–noon

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

Winter Break: Dec. 19–23, 26–30, Jan. 2

Youth Open Hockey, \$5, 9–10:15 a.m.

Public Skate, \$4, 10:30 a.m.–noon

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

Skate with The Wolfpack: Jan. 8

An opportunity to skate with your favorite Wolfpack Hockey players from 2:15–3:45 p.m.

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

Advertise at the Ice Arena 651-458-3415

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

Come and join Ice Arena and Recreation staff for a scary night of skating. There will be spooky fog, strobe lights and scary music. Play Halloween games, get your face painted, and make a spooky treat. Pay at the door; no preregistration required.

Date and time: Oct. 25, from 6:30–7:45 p.m.

Cost: \$8 per child, \$5 per adult, \$4 public skating (no Halloween activities), \$4 rental skates

