



Riverwoods Village Voice  
January-February 2022  
Volume 26/Issue 1  
VillageofRiverwoods.com



# Riverwoods

V I L L A G E V O I C E

## The Ecological Cost Share Program

In the late 1990's, the Village of Riverwoods began encouraging residents to be good stewards of their properties through Ecological Cost Share Programs. The goal is to improve property values by caring for, protecting and conserving our unique woodlands. In 2016, the Village updated these programs to make them more systematic and easier to understand and implement. The most recent updates were made on March 1, 2018. There is a program to suit every property type.

### Ecological Consultation

An Ecological Consultation is required as a gateway first step to apply for any of the Village Ecological Cost Share Programs. Residents get the opportunity to spend an hour with the Village Ecologist on their property to obtain an in-depth ecological assessment and determination of which Cost Share Programs the resident is eligible for. Residents learn what will grow best on their property and how to care for it. A Program Eligibility Map/Report is provided to the resident which summarizes the consultation, outlines all Cost Share Programs eligible to the resident, and how to implement the work. Next, the resident hires a "Certified" contractor to implement the work and gets reimbursed by the Village after the work is complete. All programs are a 50/50 cost share with a Village reimbursement maximum of \$2,000 to \$4,000, depending on the program.

- The Ecological Consultation cost to the resident is \$75.

- Request a Village Ecologist consultation by filling out the Cost Share Program request form located on the Village website. Please include a \$75 payment and submit to Village Hall. The Village Ecologist will contact you to schedule a residential visit.
- Ecological Consultations can be conducted year round but are best done from April through November.

## The Cost Share Programs

### Invasive Shrub Removal Program

This program helps residents improve the ecological health of their property by removing invasive shrubs such as buckthorn and honeysuckle thereby increasing the opportunity for desirable native species to grow and thrive.

Invasive shrubs include but are not limited to common & glossy buckthorn (*Rhamnus sp.*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera sp.*), burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*) saplings, and ash (*Fraxinus sp.*) saplings. Many of these species are on the Illinois Invasive Plant List.

Follow up planting (with native seed) may be required by the Village Ecologist after removing heavy infestations of invasive shrubs to help prevent them from returning. The Invasive Shrub Removal Program is a 50/50 cost-share program. The Village's share limit is \$4,000 and there is a \$100 non-refundable application fee.

The Invasive Shrub Removal Program requires an assessment by the Village Ecologist of the existing conditions and preparation of a plan that includes the general area where proposed work is to be performed. The applicant is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



# What a Year!

I'm finally getting my feet on the ground as Mayor. With a wonderful staff at Village Hall, knowledgeable consultants, and a Police Department to be proud of, I am truly in a good place. Looking forward there are some grand opportunities – and challenges – for Riverwoods.

There are some important projects still in progress: water meter updates and the hazardous tree survey. These important projects do not happen every year, or even every other year. Not everyone is impacted by these projects, but both are important to our community. And both will take some time to complete. And both will take patience – for satisfying water billing questions even if you are not impacted by the meter change, and for removing or pruning hazardous trees that may be in your area.

The hazardous tree survey is done every three years or so. The purpose of the survey is to identify trees and large limbs that could fall onto Village streets blocking access. Trees were marked by red paint for removal or green paint for pruning and notices have been sent to the owners. Work is scheduled to begin around January 10, and completed by March 30. New this time is the relationship with Lucas Landscape and Design. The Village has obtained competitive pricing for Riverwoods residents from Lucas that is detailed in your personalized resident letter. This program is solely for hazardous tree removal.

We are also in the process of updating and revising our Village website.

Trustee Dikin has been leading this important project, and we are nearing completion. It is no simple task so again we ask for patience.

We are hopeful that the COVID restrictions will be relaxed sometime soon so we can return to more normal activities, like reviving the spring Riverwoods Clean Up Day.

Respectfully,

Kris Ford  
Mayor of Riverwoods

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## VILLAGE GOVERNMENT

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### **Riverwoods Village Board**

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30pm. Jan. 18, Feb. 1, 15 and Mar. 1 and 15.

### **Riverwoods Plan Commission**

1st Thursdays at 7:30pm.  
Feb. 3, Mar. 3 and Apr. 7.

Meetings are generally held at Village Hall, 300 Portwine Road.

Meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend.

During COVID meetings may be virtual. Please check the website.

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## GET INVOLVED IN RIVERWOODS

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### **Riverwoods Preservation Council (RPC)**

David Shimberg, President  
RiverwoodsRPC@gmail.com

### **Riverwoods Residents Association (RRA)**

Jill Kaplan  
847-945-0062  
jedma1@yahoo.com

### **Riverwoods Book Club**

June Melber  
847-940-7086  
argos501@aol.com

### **Plant Sale Committee**

Sheila Hollander  
847-945-4879  
sheilahol@comcast.net

### **Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods**

Catherine Game  
Executive Director  
cgame@brushwoodcenter.org





# Riverwoods Village Board of Trustees Meeting Notes

*The following is a summary of ordinances, resolutions, and non-routine matters considered by the Board of Trustees from the meeting minutes of October 19, and November 2 and 16. Read the entirety of these minutes, including the current Police Reports and Plan Commission Reports on the Village of Riverwoods website at [www.villageofriverwoods.com](http://www.villageofriverwoods.com).*

November 16

## TREASURER AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Michael Clayton reported that the general fund cash went up \$119,000 and is continuing to hold steady. The sewer fund has \$1.8 million. The target for the fund is \$1 million.

Village Engineer Pat Glenn identified grinder and pump modernization costs per year at more than \$300,000 for the next five years. At some point, the Board could consider some rate relief to get the fund closer to the target level. Trustee Jamerson suggested rolling back the quarterly \$54 per home fee if the revenues would still offset the expenses.

Trustee Clayton discussed the summary of revenues of expenses. Year to date, the Village is running \$273,000 positive. The Police Department expense is running \$209,000 below budget.

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Community Services Director Russ Kraly reported that Sweet Basil Café has closed their doors. On Friday, he was contacted by the owner of Rhapsody Café who inquired about taking over the restaurant space.

Mr. Kraly suggested revisiting the fee schedule to determine fees for

a tobacco store and a video gaming facility as well as business licenses and raffles.

## PLAN COMMISSION REPORT

Plan Commission Chairperson Laurie Breitkopf reported that the Plan Commission met on Thursday, November 4, 2021 to consider a hearing on a limited restaurant/café food shop in the former Center for Holistic Medicine as well as a hearing on the Thorntons proposal. She noted the café food shop is really a wellness service center with meal plans and smoothies. There may not be a need for text amendments as it is already zoned for a wellness center.

Thorntons made a presentation to the Plan Commission and the Plan Commission voted 5-1 to recommend approval of the application. Chairperson Breitkopf voted against the plan because she feels that building a new gas station at this point in time is ecologically irresponsible. Village Attorney Bruce Huvard stated that the Board can decide whether or not to act on the recommendation.

Trustee Jamerson understands Chairperson Breitkopf's concerns; however, he thinks this gas station would not create demand for more gas. In the past, Riverwoods has been somewhat elitist on who they want in the Village. This has put Riverwoods in a bind, without a lot of tax revenue generating businesses.

Trustee Hollander would like to direct Mr. Huvard to move forward with the process for the sale of the property and preparation of the Ordinances. Mayor Ford polled the Trustees and they agreed to move forward with the appropriate Ordinances for Thorntons.

## ITEMS FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Liquor license for the Mobil convenience store** – Mayor Ford explained that the

## RIVERWOODS VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Kris Ford

Mayor/Board President  
847-945-3990  
[kford@villageofriverwoods.com](mailto:kford@villageofriverwoods.com)

## VILLAGE TRUSTEES

### Michael Clayton

Economic Dev./Finance/Capital Planning  
224-813-1263  
[mclayton@villageofriverwoods.com](mailto:mclayton@villageofriverwoods.com)

### Liliya Dikin

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### Michael Haber

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### Henry Hollander

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### Rick Jamerson

Building/Utilities  
847-370-6565  
[rjamerson@villageofriverwoods.com](mailto:rjamerson@villageofriverwoods.com)

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Russ Kraly

Director of Community Services  
847-945-3990  
[rkraly@villageofriverwoods.com](mailto:rkraly@villageofriverwoods.com)

### Bruce Dayno

Chief of Police  
847-945-1130  
[bdayno@villageofriverwoods.com](mailto:bdayno@villageofriverwoods.com)

### Police Department

Non-Emergency 24/7  
847-945-1820  
Office (Records, Admin, or leave a message for officers) 847-945-1130  
[police@villageofriverwoods.com](mailto:police@villageofriverwoods.com)  
**Emergency Police/Fire 911**

### Tom Krueger

Fire Chief  
Lincolnshire/Riverwoods  
Fire Protection District  
847-634-2512



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## RIVERWOODS VILLAGE VOICE

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Riverwoods Village Voice is published bimonthly by the Village of Riverwoods. Its purpose is to provide a communication forum and information for residents. The views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the Mayor or members of the Board of Trustees.

Editor: Jackie Borchew.

Any resident wishing to become a newsletter staff volunteer please call the Village Hall at 847-945-3990 and leave your name and phone number.

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## SEND IN THOSE LETTERS!

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Letters from residents and Riverwoods homeowners' associations are invited and encouraged. Preferred length: approximately 250 words or less, typed. All letters must include the author's name, address and phone number. Letters may be printed, space permitting, but may be edited for grammar, clarity and length. If controversial topics are addressed, the editor will seek opposing viewpoints for balance.

Deadline for the  
January/February issue:

February 20, 2022

Send to:

Editor

Riverwoods Village Voice

300 Portwine Road

Riverwoods, IL 60015

or jackie@borchew.com

## VILLAGE OF RIVERWOODS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Village has received a request from Anil Abbott, owner of the Mobil Gas Station, and that he would like to sell packaged beer and wine at the gas station.

Mr. Huvard noted that at the Plan Commission meeting with Thorntons it was indicated that they keep spirits in a locked case. He would like assurance that any alcohol to be sold, regardless of the size, is kept away from underage people getting it. Trustee Hollander noted the Village does not have a liquor store and believes that the Village should have that service.

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### OLD BUSINESS

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#### Further Discussion of the BS&A Contract

Trustee Clayton noted that there were a number of questions by the Trustees. The demonstrations went well and the system capacity is as desired. This system is operationally superior and well supported. Wes Levy from L&A addressed the open questions from the last meeting.

**1. Cloud storage space** – there is no cap on the amount of storage or data that can be used within the cloud.

**2. Local versus cloud-based software**

The local version would be about \$16,000 more than the cloud-based version but maintenance would be about half.

**3. Training fees** – Mr. Levy explained that the training and implementation is billed based on what is used; however, L&A already uses the software.

**4. References** – Mr. Levy and Ms. Kozlowski would like to provide an unbiased opinion, so Mr. Schafer from BS&A will provide references.

**5. Demonstrations of the application were completed.**

**6. Additional proposals** – Mr. Levy noted L&A does not have clients

comparable to the Village. He has not asked for additional proposals at this point.

Trustee Jamerson noted that the cloud storage is unlimited at \$4000 through Microsoft Azure. The building department's goal is to digitize all of the building department records for every address in the Village. He wants to ensure this software can handle this. Mr. Schafer explained that the City of Lake Forest, Village of Northbrook, Village of Skokie and other larger municipalities use the software. The cost for Microsoft Azure is negligible, so there is no cap on the data.

Mayor Ford spoke with Vivian, the building coordinator at Village Hall and she was impressed with what she was seeing. The software offers more than what is available to the Village at this point. Vivian expressed the need for more training. Trustee Haber asked about self-hosting or using the cloud-based system. Trustee Clayton believes the Village should go with the cloud-based system. Trustee Jamerson believes the Village should go with a cloud-based system because the Village would need bigger servers if they hosted them inhouse. Servers need to be replaced every 8-10 years which would ultimately cost more money.

Trustee Clayton moved to approve the BS&A contract for account and associated operational systems pending review of the final contract by the Village Attorney. The Board voted in favor.

*November 2*

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### POLICE REPORT

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Chief Dayno indicated that the Police Report is available to read in full on the Village of Riverwoods website. He also noted that there were two residential burglaries. The Department is comparing video with other departments. The burglary crew tries



to do a ruse burglary and if there is no answer at the door, they force entry into the home.

Chief Dayno urged residents to sign up for vacation watch and a home security survey. For details, read the Police Department article on services offered in this issue.

### NEW BUSINESS

**BS&A Contract for Accounting and Associated Operational Systems** – Wes Levy with L&A explained they have a proposal for an ERP system to house all of the Village's financial and payroll, building department and community development records. BS&A is a cloud-based software company frequently used by municipalities. Their support is timely which will allow Village staff to be more efficient. The estimated conversion and implementation costs for the first year are \$72,760 which includes the software modules, set-up, training, implementation and hosting fees. Mr. Levy believes it is necessary for the Village to upgrade their system.

Mayor Ford noted L&A is acting as the Village's consultant. This system would also handle payroll, so it would be a combination of the payroll and accounting systems. Mr. Levy can set up a demo for the Village. He would not recommend a solution that would be troublesome or problematic for the Village.

Trustee Clayton noted that after implementation, the ongoing cost would only be \$5000 more than the Village is currently paying. He noted the proposed financial solution has been used by L&A in approximately 40

other government agencies.

Trustee Jamerson suggested the Village reach out to other municipalities that use the other modules such as the building module. Trustee Dikin asked if the software would integrate with the Village website and generate digital invoices. Mr. Levy explained the ability is there. Mayor Ford noted the Trustees would like additional information and options.

**Video Gaming Terminals** – Mr. Huvard explained that the Village had the option of opting out of video gaming. Other Ordinances allow video gaming in a mixed-use development and then amend the Special Use for Shops of Riverwoods, allow a liquor license (which is required by State statute) and establish a business license for a video gaming facility.

Trustee Hollander noted that the tax revenue to the Village of Oak Lawn was \$3000 per machine. Trustee Haber noted the applicant discussed an annual revenue of \$40,000. He asked if the Village could have a special fee for a liquor license for a gaming facility.

Mr. Huvard explained Villages do not set license fees as revenue generators. The Board could set a license fee for a Class K liquor license. Mr. Huvard believes it would be unusual to impose a specific fee for an individual user rather than a development as a whole.

Mr. Meston explained the State may increase the taxes and the municipality would still receive their 5%. He noted Betty's gave unincorporated Lake County \$58,000 in the last 10 months.

Trustee Haber moved for Second Reading and adoption of the Ordinance authorizing video gaming terminals in the Village of Riverwoods. Trustee Clayton seconded the motion. The motion passed.



## Riverwoods Residents Association—Get Involved and Make a Difference

The Riverwoods Residents Association (RRA) forms a support network within our Village. Membership is \$25 per family and includes two vehicle stickers. Mail your check to RRA, P.O. Box 341, Deerfield, IL 60015. For more information contact Jill Kaplan at jedmal@yahoo.com or call her directly at 847-945-0062.

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

# of extra stickers at \$5 each \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_



## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Communications & IT** – Trustee Dikin reported that the website development team met to discuss a more intuitive navigation structure. She met with Municode’s project manager to discuss the content. Trustee Dikin established a timeline to go live with the new website and will share mock-up designs shortly. She noted the Village is in final approval stages for the Riverwoods.gov url.

**Building and Utilities/Storm Water** – Trustee Jamerson stated that the complete building report is available to read in full on the Village of Riverwoods website.

Construction permit fees are close to 2019. Mr. Jamerson believes that the revenue will grow next year. He has discussed the possibility of instituting a registration fee for contractors coming into the Village. Trustee Haber questioned some of the low permit values on the building report. Mr. Kraly will adjust the permits based on \$150 per square foot.

October 19

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Mr. Kraly will put together an RFP for security cameras in the Village Hall. Mr. Kraly has received plans for three new houses coming into the Village.

## ENGINEER’S REPORT

Mr. Glenn reported that the meter upgrade program is in full swing. They have swapped out equipment in 200 homes.

## PLAN COMMISSION REPORT

Chairperson Laurie Breitkopf noted the Plan Commission met on October 7, 2021 and discussed an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for the Federal Life property. The Plan Commission recommended the property be rezoned as business compatible with a mixed-use overlay which could be used for multi-family homes.

New Business

## VILLAGE PROPERTY TAX IN 2021 TAX LEVY

Mr. Huvar noted the 20% increase in the tax levy would be \$988,800. As it is above 5% over last year’s tax levy, there needs to be a Truth in Taxation Hearing.

Trustee Clayton moved to direct preparation of the Truth in Taxation Hearing for a tax levy increase of \$988,800.



## Director of Community Services

# Residential Lighting: Are You Within Village Code?

*By Russell Kraly, Director of Community Services*

Happy New Year! (Or is it?) Writing this year’s last article, I’ve been reflecting on the world around us and what we have to look forward to this New Year. The Covid Virus has been with us for two years, and according to this morning’s news, the new strain has brought a resurgence to the number of cases and deaths. The last two years has taught us that the world we knew has changed, and maybe forever. Wearing masks, social distancing, working from home, and having to rethink our gatherings to celebrate life’s events, have altered and changed our way of living, and it’s hard to comprehend the toll it’s taken on all of us. I really hope and pray that this coming year will bring a miracle of sorts to help us control, or beat this vicious virus, and we can all get back to “normal”, however we define that today.

The one area I want to address is Residential Lighting. It’s become an area of concern lately, people seem to be “lighting up” in such a way so it disturbs their neighbors. We have a Code that regulates outdoor residential lighting, what kind of fixtures you can have and where you can install them. The Village code is way too long to discuss in length here, but if you go to our website and go to Village Codes, look up 5-6-5: GENERAL REGULATION; and 5-6-6: RESIDENTIAL LIGHTING STANDARDS; they explicitly outline in detail what you can and cannot do.

I’ve gotten more complaints lately since the leaves are off the trees. With the lights not being shielded by nature this time of year, they become a problem. When I get complaints, I usually will issue a “Red Tag” of violation, and you’ll have to address what you have and how you can change or redirect the beam of light so it’s shielded or directed downward, to meet the Codes and not affect your surrounding neighbors. As always, if you have any questions, please call me so we can work through the problem and find a solution.

I hope all of you had a safe and Happy Holiday(s). I, for one, am looking for a happier and safer time this coming year!!

# A Move to Preserve the Night Sky

**IN IDAHO, A BREATHTAKING NEW RESERVE PROMISES TO PRESERVE THE DARKNESS — AND SHOWS HOW OTHER COMMUNITIES CAN FOLLOW.**

With August comes the Perseid meteor shower, that time of year when Earth passes through a cloud of cometary dust and gravel that can produce hundreds of shooting stars in a single night. The annual phenomenon reminds us that all of humanity resides upon a single stone hurtling through space at breathtaking speed. Closer to home, it also reminds us of the growing problem of light pollution, which each year prevents most Americans from seeing the Perseids and other common celestial events.

Fortunately, awareness of the value of natural darkness is building. One promising new development is the Central Idaho Dark Sky Reserve, an oasis of wilderness located about 150 miles east of Boise. Recognized by the International Dark-Sky Association as the world's 12th Dark Sky Reserve and the first designation of its kind in the United States. The reserve, which was years in the making, reflects collaboration among municipalities, land managers, private citizens and others. Their work demonstrates that communities can enjoy the modern benefits of well-lit lives without sacrificing the wonders of the night sky.

The new reserve spans over 1,400 square miles and includes the communities of Ketchum, Stanley and Sun Valley. Its heart is an expanse of remote national forest that encompasses the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and most of three federally designated wilderness areas. Vast and largely undeveloped, these public lands provide one of the best windows onto the universe in the contiguous U.S.

Light pollution has attracted growing attention and alarm in recent years. Research published in 2016 estimated that 99 percent of Americans live within its glare, and that 80 percent no longer experience the once-common view of the Milky Way. Health experts point out this excessive exposure to artificial lighting disrupts the human circadian rhythm, increasing our susceptibility to obesity, depression, dementia, cancer and other health problems. And our exposure to artificial lighting is increasing, through sprawling development, home lighting choices, and even the tendency to stare into the bright lights of our phones until we roll over to sleep each night.

But preserving natural darkness is about much more than human health and experience. From plants to wildlife, dark nights are vital for sleep, migration, hunting, feeding, reproduction and much more. In Puget Sound, research found artificial lighting draws endangered juvenile Chinook salmon out of dark waters, increasing their exposure to predation. In Florida, streetlights lure young sea turtles off course as they try to navigate toward the safety of the ocean. Perhaps most famously, artificial lighting disorients migrating birds, who perish by the millions from collisions with buildings, increased predation or exhaustion from becoming lost in spheres of artificial light. Thus protected natural areas, including the Central Idaho Dark Sky Reserve, provide ecological havens for an array of species dependent on the dark.

Preserving natural darkness is the mission of the International Dark-Sky Association, founded in 1988. Their work builds global awareness, and their system of protective designations has real sway. Examples include their Dark Sky Communities, which include Ketchum, Idaho; Borrego Springs, California; and Flagstaff, Arizona, where well-attended star parties showcase how local cultures can reconnect to the night sky. The association's Dark Sky Parks include over forty U.S. national parks committed to maintaining nocturnal environments, including Natural Bridges in Utah and Big Bend in Texas.

Federal land management agencies increasingly recognize the value of dark nights. In 2009, the National Park Service formed its Night Sky Team after construction of a prison threatened to spray light into California's Pinnacles National Monument (now a national park). Today the team is active across the park system. In 2016 they helped Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota successfully negotiate for efficient lighting at a nearby crude oil loading facility. The U.S. Forest Service and other agencies also now list natural darkness as a measure for monitoring conditions in federally designated wilderness areas.

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**80 PERCENT OF PEOPLE ON EARTH HAVE LOST THEIR VIEW OF THE NATURAL NIGHT SKY DUE TO THE OVERPOWERING GLOW OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHTS.**

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These initiatives demonstrate increased appreciation for natural darkness and the abundance of methods — many of them simple and cost-effective — for preserving it. In Idaho, which saw thousands of “astro-tourists” flock to view the 2017 solar eclipse, communities see dark-sky preservation as a potential economic boon. It also offers potentially swift and meaningful reductions in carbon pollution. After all, light pollution often represents wasted lighting — light that is cast up rather than down. Eliminating wasted lighting saves energy, and on a community level that savings can help make a difference for the climate.

As demonstrated in Idaho with the new dark sky reserve, individuals, businesses, communities and land managers can all play a role in reducing light pollution — and they should, as it would benefit the health and economies of their neighborhoods. A good place to learn more is the International Dark-Sky Association resources page, which features brochures, guides to dark-friendly light fixtures, links to research, materials for educators and more. The association also helped produce a model lighting ordinance, which offers key ways communities can take the steps that both preserve natural darkness and reduce energy costs.

Meanwhile, this month Earth is making its annual pass through the trail of Comet Swift-Tuttle, the source of the Perseid meteor shower. If the sky is clear and you can find a place free of artificial light, it's an excellent opportunity to watch shooting stars, connect to your local night sky, and bask in its life-sustaining darkness.

Therevelator.org/**A Move to Preserve the Night Sky**, 2018, By Tim Lydon  
<https://www.darksky.org/our-work/grassroots-advocacy/resources/>

# POLICE SERVICES THAT YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF

By Bruce Dayno  
Riverwoods Police Chief

## VACATION WATCH PROGRAM

Are you traveling soon? Riverwoods Police Officers check vacant homes while our residents are out-of-town. If you wish to utilize this free service, please fill out a House Watch form available at the Police Department or on the Police Department website under Police Department forms at [villageofriverwoods.com/public-safety/police](http://villageofriverwoods.com/public-safety/police). Send it to the Police Department or drop it off. You can also call the Police Department at (847) 945-1820 and have your information entered into our system. While house watches do not guarantee total crime prevention, they can be a significant safety measure.

If somebody is staying or regularly in your home while you are away, please do not place your home on house watch.

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Village of Riverwoods contracts with the Blackboard Connect service for emergency resident notification. With this service, the Village is able to send personalized voice messages and email alerts to residents and businesses within minutes with specific information about time-sensitive or common-interest issues such as boil order alerts, missing persons, and road closures.

As a resident or business, you can opt-in to emergency messages, non-emergency messages or both. The information supplied will be sent to the Blackboard Connect system. If you have an unlisted telephone number, or if you have not previously signed up to be on the system, you may not be in our database.

The system will only be used for emergencies and exigent circumstances.

We know that your personal information is important; all usage of your personal information will be in compliance with the Village Privacy Policy.

To register, or for more information, go to [villageofriverwoods.com/public-safety/notification-system](http://villageofriverwoods.com/public-safety/notification-system). If you don't have internet access and would like assistance, call the Police Department Records Section at 847-945-1130 between 8:30a.m. and 1:30p.m. M-F.

## CRIME PREVENTION

Our Crime Prevention Officer is available for presentations to residents and businesses on topics including, but not limited to, Bullying, Stranger Danger, Traffic Safety, Internet Safety, Identity Theft, Personal Safety and Workplace Violence. Residents and businesses can schedule a home security survey, which will provide an assessment of security safeguards and risks observed at the residence. The homeowner or business will be provided guidance on how to correct safety deficiencies using crime prevention and environmental design. For further information, contact Officer Al Maciareillo at 847-945-1130 ext. 231 or [amaciareillo@villageofriverwoods.com](mailto:amaciareillo@villageofriverwoods.com).

## CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSTALLATION

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children ages 2 to 14.

Correctly used child safety seats are extremely effective, reducing the risk of death by as much as 71 percent, but nearly 73 percent of child restraints are not installed or used correctly.

Child Passenger Safety Technicians can ensure your child's seat is installed correctly. CPS Technicians put their knowledge to work through a variety of activities, including child safety seat checks where parents and caregivers receive education and hands-on assistance with the proper use of child restraint systems and safety belts.

Call 847-945-1130 for an appointment to have your seat checked or receive installation assistance by a National Child Passenger Safety Certified Technician.

## PREMISE ALERT PROGRAM

The Riverwoods Police Department, along with the Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire





Protection District and the Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District, provide a Premise Alert Program (PAP) in support of individuals living with disabilities or special needs as well as police and emergency medical personnel responding to calls at a related address. Individuals with disabilities or special needs wishing to participate in the program may supply information to be kept in our computer aided dispatch (CAD) database free of charge. Information may also be supplied by the individual's family members, friends, caregivers, or medical personnel familiar with the individual. When a 911 operator sends police or emergency medical personnel to an address in the database, the information will be passed on to the emergency responders. The information gathered as part of PAP shall remain strictly confidential and will be used only to provide assistance to the emergency medical and police responders.

Individuals with disabilities are those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities.

Individuals with special needs are those who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require mental health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by individuals generally.

The intent of the Premise Alert Program is to afford people with special needs or disabilities the same access to public safety services provided to all citizens. Provision of the information will not result in preferential treatment, but it will enhance the ability of emergency responders to effectively deal with those individuals.

If you would like to provide information for a person with a disability or special needs for entry into our computer aided dispatch system, please fill out a Premise Alert Enrollment Form available at the Police Department or on the Police Department website under Police Department forms at [villageofriverwoods.com/public-safety/police](http://villageofriverwoods.com/public-safety/police). The form must be filled out every two years. Information not renewed after two years will be removed.

## Alternative De-icing Strategies for Winter

Snow and ice, along with the use of de-icers, promise to be regular occurrences in the upcoming months. While preservation issues dictate many aspects of Riverwoods life, icy streets, driveways and sidewalks need to be treated because they can be dangerous. To prevent skids, slips and falls, many homeowners and communities choose to apply de-icing salt because it's inexpensive and readily available. However de-icing salt/rock salt (sodium chloride), when transferred through snowmelt runoff and traffic spray, is toxic to animals, plant life, organisms living in the soil, and the aquatic environment. De-icing salt also tends to cause corrosion and the rusting of steel used in most vehicles and the rebar in concrete bridges.

### The damage to plants shows up in the following ways:

- Salt deposited on small branches and buds causes desiccation and burn.
- On evergreens, deposited salt causes browning or yellowing of needles.
- Salt that migrates into the soil can poison plants through their root systems.
- Salt damage is noticeable in the browning along leaf edges, stunted growth, fewer and small leaves, and flower and fruit reduction.

Also consider the impact of de-icers on animals, both domestic and wild. Walking on de-iced areas may cause feral animals and pets to have dry, chapped, and irritated paws, leading them to lick themselves and ingest the de-icer. It's best to wash a pet's paws when returning from a walk in salted areas.

Some local governments are using beet juice, a sugar-beet-molasses-based product, to increase rock salt's ice-melting capacity when the two are mixed. The mixture helps rock salt melt ice below its 15-degree limit, to as low as minus 20 degrees, and helps municipalities to melt larger amounts of ice and to clean up snow more quickly. However, these mixtures can have an unpleasant smell and can stick to boots and equipment. Then there's our Wisconsin neighbors who are using a by-product of cheese production to de-ice their roads and to keep snow and ice from sticking to roads before a snowstorm.

### Riverwoods residents, including road associations, are encouraged to use the following approaches:

- Reduce the amount of sodium chloride salt used by mixing it with sand, sawdust, or cinders.
- Apply de-icer only after you shovel or plow to reduce the amount of de-icer used.
- Avoid putting salt-laden snow on top of the root zones of plants.
- Protect susceptible evergreens by making barrier fences (e.g., from burlap) to shield them from salt spray.
- Select salt-tolerant trees and shrubs for trouble spots.
- Apply pelletized gypsum on grass and plants near sidewalks and driveways to neutralize the effect of salt.



# Riverwoods Community Garden

*By Barb Shimberg*

All residents are invited to participate in the Community Garden's 2022 lottery to be held in April. If you are interested, please email [BarbShimberg@gmail.com](mailto:BarbShimberg@gmail.com) indicating your interest, including your address and preferred phone number.

This was the Garden's 2nd successful year with the continued support of Verd Nolan, owner of the Organic Gardener. Our success is based on the efforts of Sheila Hollander whom we thank for her vision and commitment to this project. She has now turned over the Garden to Barb Shimberg, who is excited to be part of this important community effort.

Some of our 2021 gardeners wanted to share their experience with the community. Here is what they had to say:

## Corey Grabow

"Thanks for a wonderful season of gardening! I encourage Riverwoods to expand the number of garden plots, and here's why:

- Met neighbors I would not have otherwise come to know
- Walking to my plot, weeding, planting, picking & talking outside with others really helped keep me healthy both mentally and physically during this past year of pandemic
- And of course the healthy eating from the bounty of veggies

The sun/soil/water of that plot is magical I tell you! I was able to grow eggplant, tomatoes, peppers, tomatillos, green beans, zucchini and radishes. Yes, I am bragging a bit but also just saying that a single 4 x 8 foot bed can really produce."

## Margy Eastmond, who shared her garden experience with Andy and son Andrew

"We are writing in support of the Riverwoods Community Garden. We won a spot in the lottery for a shared plot our second year trying. We were so excited to be able to grow fruit and veggies in a bright, sunny spot which is so difficult to come by in Riverwoods. The raised beds were wonderful for growing potatoes, tomatoes, lettuce, and my son's favorite cucumbers. Planning, planting, watering, harvesting and tending to the garden gave our family focused time together. My one recommendation would be to make more!"

## Laurie Breitkopf

"Planting seeds and watching them grow into food is one of the most joyful experiences I've had. Every visit to the community garden in the early weeks reveals a new green shoot or a bud of a vegetable. Harvesting is immensely satisfying. I've learned so much about growing organic vegetables from working in the community garden and attending classes held there."

## Bill Simon

"I have been a Riverwoods resident for over 20 years now and fortunate enough to have had a plot in the Community Garden for the last two years. Prior to that, my attempts to





grow vegetables in my yard were always thwarted by deer, critters and inadequate sun. As a result, my summer home grown vegetable pursuit was a weekly trip to the Deerfield Farmer's Market.

For the last two years, I have been able to head to my own "farmer's market", the one in the Riverwoods Community Garden. My visits to the Community Garden are always filled with excitement and anticipation of what I might be able to harvest that week. Not having to drive into Deerfield during Covid only added to the benefit.

I am in support of any effort to increase the number of plots for our Community Garden. I feel that the garden is a wonderful benefit for those village residents that are passionate about vegetable gardening, but find it difficult to be successful on their own property."

### Lora Millman

"I had never had a garden before 2021. I attended the informative meetings at the garden with Vern and did my own research on the internet. It really took a lot of work to maintain the garden, yet it was incredibly fun! With the information I gathered, my garden thrived. I did not have to buy many key ingredients for my recipes and made many new recipes with my high yield. I would highly recommend this gardening experience."



## Sheila Hollander Honored as Riverwood's 2021 Citizen of the Year

The 2021 Citizen of the Year was awarded to longtime resident Sheila Hollander. The Citizen of the Year Award is a special recognition that celebrates residents for their outstanding volunteerism and commitment to the community. Jill Kaplan, Riverwoods Resident Association President, presented Sheila with a personalized plaque at the December 21, 2021 board of trustees meeting.

During the presentation, Sheila was described as "the ultimate volunteer" which is fitting since she spearheaded the development of the community garden plots near the police station. The plots are so popular and coveted that Sheila holds an annual lottery to determine which lucky residents



may grow plants and vegetables for the season. Additionally, Sheila was chairperson of the native plant sale for many years. Sheila headed up a volunteer team that selected native plants appropriate for Riverwoods and worked with

local nurseries to stock, take orders and distribute purchases in our community. The native plants sold at the plant sale are critical to the success of our diverse woodland ecosystems.

*Congratulations  
and Thank You  
Sheila!*



required to hire a certified contractor to remove invasive shrubs per the plan created by the Village Ecologist. Note: This program does not apply to removal of dead shrubs.

All invasive shrubs on the subject property must be designated for removal in order to be eligible for the matching funds. For larger lots, the Village Ecologist may approve a phased approach that can be accomplished over more than one year. The work must also include a follow-up herbicide treatment to target resprouts.

After the application is submitted, for this or any of the cost share programs, and approved by the Village, the applicant will receive a permit from the Village to proceed with the work as proposed in the application. After the invasive shrubs are removed/herbicide and second herbicide treatment applied to resprouts, notify and deliver a copy of the paid contractor invoice to the Village and the Village Ecologist will conduct a site visit to verify the work has been completed properly. The reimbursement request is then forwarded to the Village Board for approval and reimbursement can be expected in 1 to 3 months. This program best done during the winter months when the ground is frozen.

### **Native Tree & Shrub Planting**

Residents can improve the ecological health of their property by planting native trees and shrubs appropriate for the ecological setting. An Ecological Consultation and approval from the Village Ecologist is required prior to applying for the Native Tree & Shrub Planting Program. Canopy & subcanopy thinning and/or invasive shrub removal may also be required before planting native trees & shrubs to promote survival. Please read all requirements carefully and complete the checklist before submitting your completed application. The applicant must use native trees and/or shrubs appropriate for their ecological community and from approved lists created by the Village Ecologist. (The trees and shrubs can be obtained from any nursery of choice.) The Native Tree & Shrub Planting Program is a 50/50 cost-share program. The Village's share limit is \$2,000 and there is a \$100 non-refundable application fee.

The intent of the Native Tree & Shrub Planting Program is to provide an incentive for all residents, whether they own wooded property or not, to plant native trees and shrubs that will increase the native species composition in the Village. It requires an assessment by the Village Ecologist of the existing conditions and preparation of a plan that includes general locations of the proposed native trees and shrubs. The applicant is required to hire a certified contractor to plant the native trees and shrubs per the plan created by the Village Ecologist. (Note: This program does not apply to planting non-native or cultivar varieties of trees and shrubs unless approved by the Village Ecologist.)

### **Canopy & Subcanopy Tree Thinning Program**

The intent of this program is to provide for the removal of selected canopy & subcanopy trees such as sugar maple and basswood in order to reduce shade levels and competition for desirable native species. This program best suited for May through June and October through November.

### **Garlic Mustard Removal Program**

This program encourages residents to remove invasive garlic mustard from their property to allow native woodland understory species to thrive.

*Removal of the buckthorn on our property immediately created a natural preserve like feeling, allowing us to enjoy the movement of birds and wildlife through the woodland. And over the first season we identified new native plant species that we had never noticed before.*

### **Native Seeding Program**

The intent of this program is twofold. First the Village Ecologist may recommend that an area be seeded and/or planted with native species following garlic mustard removal or invasive shrub removal. Second, residents may wish to seed a woodland understory, prairie, or wetland to increase native species diversity or to fill in bare areas. Best done May through June and November through December

### **Rain Garden Program**

The Rain Garden Program encourages residents to install rain gardens on private property to "micromanage" stormwater runoff as close to the source (like downspouts, driveways, sump pump discharges) as possible. A rain garden is a shallow depression that is planted with deep-rooted native plants. It functions by capturing and infiltrating stormwater runoff into the ground thereby reducing the flows to nearby streams and other drainageways.

### **Prescribed Burn Program**

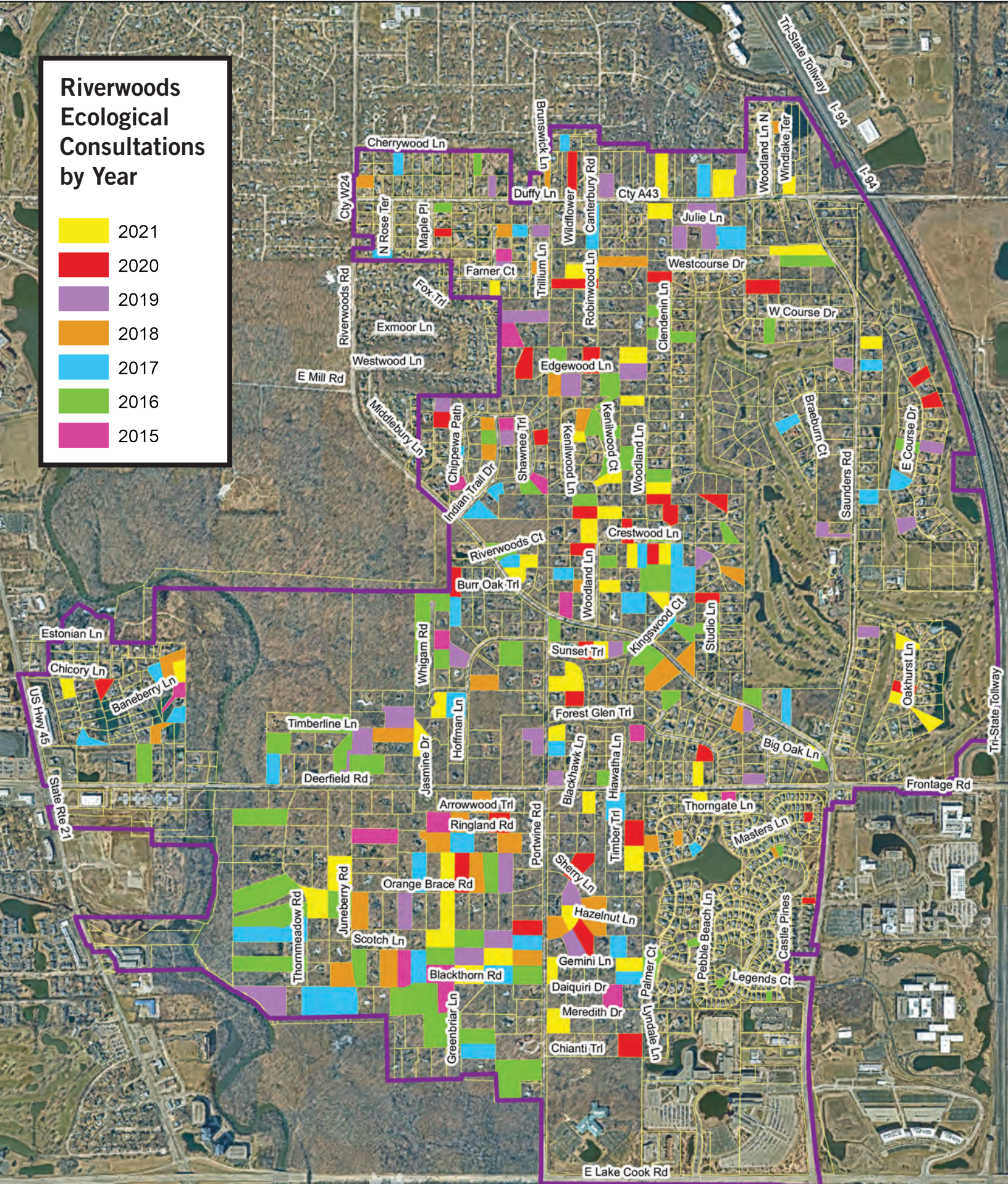
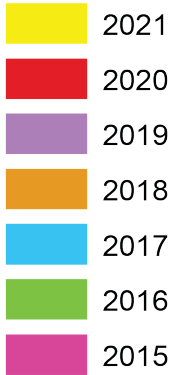
The Prescribed Burn Program provides a tool for residents with healthy woodlands and/or prairies to maintain these areas using fire. Prescribed burn management helps improve the health of a woodland or prairie by removing duff, replenishing the soil with nutrients, and by allowing native plants to thrive. Burns suggested November through December and March through April.

For more details on the various Cost Share Programs, or to print out an application form, see the Village of Riverwoods website.





# Riverwoods Ecological Consultations by Year







attachment beat the eggs 5-7 minutes till very light and very fluffy. Add the sugar, vanilla, and salt and mix in, then gradually add the flour while mixing on low, then continue mixing while you drizzle in the hot milk/butter, then add baking powder and mix a bit more. Pour it into the tube pan. Bake at 350 for 1 hour. Let cool in the pan then turn it out and serve with fruit compote and whipped cream.

To make the fruit compote, combine the cut up fruit with the sugar and toss to bring out some of the juices and make a syrup. Add the mint and toss again. Keep chilled till ready to serve.

Notes about the recipe: This recipe is from my boyfriends mother, Vita and she got it from her neighbor, Anne Puleo, years ago. When Anne gave it to her she said the lady who gave it to her made her swear not to give it away. Oh well!!

*To finish the cookie:*

*1 egg white, broken up with a fork  
1 ½ cups pinenuts or sliced blanched almonds*

In a bowl combine the almond flour and sugar. In a mixer with a whisk attachment whip the whites with the salt till soft peaks. Fold in the almond mixer, then fold in the jam and extract. Form in to 1 - inch balls then roll them into ovals if desired. Dip the top in egg white and roll in the nuts, pressing a bit to get them to stick well. Bake at 325 degrees Fahrenheit for 25 to 30 minutes, till light golden brown. Cool and enjoy.

## In The Kitchen with Gale Gand

### Vita's Pantry Pound Cake

*Makes 1 cake that serves 12*

*1 cup milk  
1/2 cup butter  
4 eggs  
2 cups sugar  
2 teaspoons vanilla  
1 teaspoon salt  
2 cups flour  
2 teaspoons baking powder*

*1 half pint strawberries  
1 nectarine  
2 mint leaves, julienned  
1 tablespoon sugar  
Slightly sweetened whipped cream*

Butter and flour a straight walled 10 inch tube pan (not a Bundt pan). In a saucepan bring to a boil the milk and butter. Meanwhile, with a whip



### Italian Almond and Pinenut Cookies

*Makes 5 dozen cookies*

*3 cups almond flour  
1 cup sugar  
3 eggs whites  
Pinch of salt  
3 Tablespoons apricot jam  
Few drops of almond extract*



Gale Gand is a pastry chef and was a founder and partner in the Michelin two-star restaurant, Tru, in Chicago. She hosted Food Network's long running show "Sweet Dreams", is the author of eight cook books, and worked with Julia Child on her book and PBS series, "Baking with Julia". Gale teaches cooking classes all over the country and is an artisanal soda pop maker producing Gale's Root Beer which is sold nationally. She has received two James Beard Awards, has been inducted into the American Academy of Chefs and Chicago Chefs Hall of Fame and was schooled in Paris at La Varenne. Gale appears at many food and wine festivals across the country and is a professional Pie and Food Competition Judge. She is the mother of three and plays the ukulele. Fun fact-She once made a Peach Cobbler for Aretha Franklin. For more info on Gale go to: [www.galegand.com](http://www.galegand.com).





## Chanukah Celebration Lights Up Riverwoods

The Riverwoods Chanukah celebration this year was held outside Village Hall at the new Flatwoods Heritage Center, and it was, as a participant described it, "spectacular."

The celebration began with highlighting Chanukah's message of light overcoming darkness, inspiring participants to respond to times of challenge by doing more good. Then it was time for delicious potato latkes, holiday treats and games, and Chanukah music. The grand finale was a mesmerizing fire dance show enjoyed by both children and adults.

For the candle lighting various Riverwoods residents were called up, underscoring the inclusivity of the holiday and its universal message. Mayor Kris Ford kindled the "leader" candle, followed by Police Chief

Bruce Dayno, and village residents Rabbi Shmuel Notik & Dr. Burton Herbstman.

Many residents had never been on the site before and couldn't stop commenting about how beautiful it is. Indeed, the well planned & thoughtfully designed outdoor campus was the perfect setting for the event and everyone is looking forward to future gatherings in this great space.

"The Mayor, Police Chief, and the staff at Village Hall were always available to answer any questions" organizers said, "they are committed to ensuring that all residents can benefit from this special gathering space and we are very grateful for their assistance."

The Riverwoods Chanukah celebration was organized by village residents Rabbi Sholom & Sarale Notik of Chabad Riverwoods and Synagogue FREE. They can be reached at 847-208-8794 or [rabbi@chabadriverwoods.com](mailto:rabbi@chabadriverwoods.com).



A hearty welcome to the Village's newest restaurant, The Poached Egg. Owners Ramon and Diana Abarca were excited to open their doors in January. The Abarca's formerly owned Deerfield's Rhapsody Cafe but are thrilled to now be in Riverwoods.

**1111 N. Milwaukee Ave. / Daily: 7am until 2pm**  
Check out the menu at [thepoachedegg.info](http://thepoachedegg.info).

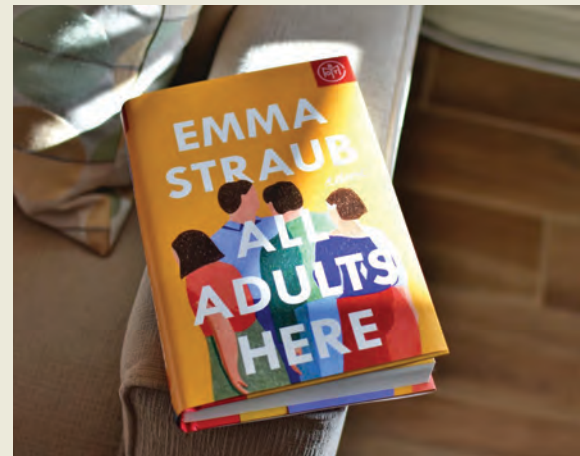
## Riverwoods Book Club

The next Book Club meeting will be Monday, Jan. 31, 2022 @ 10am @ Village Hall. We will be discussing All Adults Here by Emma Straub.

Check out the new book club addition to the Village Hall, a bookcase with free books! Feel free to browse and pick out a new book to read and leave one that you've finished.; your brain will be happy!

So now in addition to the drive-up Little Free Library, there's a walk-in book exchange in the lobby---check it out!

For more book club questions, contact June Melber at [argos501@aol.com](mailto:argos501@aol.com)



## Village Curfew

The Village Curfew Ordinance, which affects youths under the age of 18, is 11:00pm during the week and 12:00am for holidays, Fridays and Saturdays.

## Village Mailings

If you receive mail from the Village, it is important information and announcements that residents should be aware of. Please take the time to open and read.

## Fire Hydrants

The Lincolnshire/Riverwoods Fire Protection District asks that you keep your snow removed from fire hydrants.



Village of Riverwoods  
300 Portwine Road  
Riverwoods, Illinois  
60015-3898

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BRUSHWOOD CENTER AT RYERSON WOODS



**VIRTUAL EXHIBITION OPENING WITH ARTISTS STATEMENTS - JANUARY 20 / 7-8PM**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER FOR THE VIRTUAL OPENING - [BRUSHWOODCENTER.ORG](http://BRUSHWOODCENTER.ORG)

**LIVE EXHIBITION AT BRUSHWOOD CENTER - JANUARY 9 – APRIL 24**

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