

VILLAGE
GOVERNMENT

All Riverwoods Board of Trustees and Plan Commission meetings are held at Wolters Kluwer, 2700 Lake Cook Road. All are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend.

Riverwoods Village Board

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30pm. Jan. 24, Feb. 7, 21 and Mar. 7 and 21.

Riverwoods Plan Commission

1st Thursday at 7:30pm. Feb. 2, Mar. 2 and Apr. 6.

GET INVOLVED
IN RIVERWOODS

Riverwoods Preservation Council (RPC)

Mike Clayton, president
riverwoodsrpc@comcast.net

Riverwoods Residents Association (RRA)

Jill Kaplan
847-945-0062

Riverwoods Book Club

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

Plant Sale Committee

Margie Kaul
847-945-5131
or Sheila Hollander
847-945-4879



Riverwoods

VILLAGE VOICE



Woodland Animals in Winter

Submitted by the RPC

Animal species have two general approaches to winter: migration and adaptation.

Birds migrate by flying south. Some mammals and fish migrate to warmer climates. Even insects migrate. Some butterflies and moths fly great distances. Other insects, such as earthworms, termites and Japanese beetles, migrate by burrowing deeply into the soil to escape the frozen surface.

Many animals adapt to winter. Some grow thicker coats of fur to keep warm. Some,

such as squirrels, mice and beavers, accumulate food in the fall to be eaten later. Others, such as rabbits and deer, continue to forage for leaves, twigs and bark to eat. And some, such as foxes, change their diet from fruits and insects in the summer to rodents in the winter.

Animals adapt to winter by seeking shelter in places that can provide warmth, from an accumulation of leaves or a hole in a fallen tree to the attic of a house.

Some animals, such as skunks, woodchucks, raccoons, chipmunks and some squirrels, adapt to winter by reducing their need for food by slowing their metabolism through hibernation. In some cases the animal's heart rate can drop by 95% and its body temperature can be reduced by more than 50%. If the ambient temperature drops too low, the hibernating animal will begin shivering to generate heat. Skunks, raccoons and some chipmunks are relatively light hibernators and awaken periodically to forage for food. Cold-blooded animals, such as snakes, frogs and turtles, cannot generate heat to keep warm during the winter and become dormant. Many insects also spend the winter in a dormant state.

Birds – Birds need food and water during the winter. Many birds that winter in Riverwoods survive on the seeds produced in late fall by native grasses and wildflowers. Winter bird-feeding stations supplement the diminishing supply of seeds birds search for in developed areas.

When deciding to set up bird feeders, they should be placed at different heights to accommodate different species of birds. Some birds, such as sparrows and juncos, feed on the ground. Others, such as finches and cardinals, prefer raised feeders.

Continued on page #8





RIVERWOODS
VILLAGE VOICE

Riverwoods Village Voice is published bimonthly by the Village of Riverwoods. The 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.



SEND IN THOSE
LETTERS!

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 March/April 2017 issue: February 20, 2017
Send to:
Editor
Riverwoods Village Voice
300 Portwine Road
Riverwoods, IL 60015
Jackie@borchew.com

MAYOR'S LETTER

Happy 2017!

As we start the New Year, I am pleased to report that the state of the Village is excellent. Our operating budget has a surplus of revenues over expenses. The new Village Hall is well on its way to completion, on schedule and on budget. Portwine Road has been repaved using state-provided funds from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund.

We are now planning much needed rehabilitation/replacement projects for the Village Water System that we hope to start this spring. This rehabilitation and replacement work should result in fewer service interruptions and lower maintenance costs in the long run. This work on the water system will be funded from the capital projects reserve created in the Water Fund. No borrowing or increase in water rates, which have not been increased since April 2007, will be required for this work.

There will, of course be challenges and change in 2017. I am confident, however, that if we meet these challenges with the same hard work and community spirit that Riverwoods has shown in the past, the Village will be better than ever.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Village Staff, and myself, let me wish you all a very Happy and Successful New Year.

John W. Norris
Mayor, Village of Riverwoods

2017 RIVERWOODS VILLAGE
ELECTION

Candidate Caucus - Town Meeting Results

On Monday, December 5, 2016, the Riverwoods Caucus Party's slate of candidates for Mayor, Village Clerk, and three Village Trustees was presented at a Town Hall meeting.

The Riverwoods' voters in attendance approved the proposed slate on the first ballot.

The candidates who will appear on the April 4, 2017, general election ballot are John Norris for Mayor, Irene Gagerman for Village Clerk, and Cheryl Chamberlain, Henry Hollander and Eric Goldstein for Village Trustees.

For further information, contact the Caucus Party at RiverwoodsNomCom@gmail.com.

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 18, November 1 and 15. Read the entirety of these minutes on the Village of Riverwoods website at www.villageofriverwoods.com.

November 15

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Community Services Director Rob Durning reported that he has requested that several non-compliant signs be removed from businesses in The Shoppes of Riverwoods. Trustee Chamberlain requested that the Village closely monitor the owners so that they know the Village will not tolerate violations.

There is also concern that The Shoppes will not comply with the landscape improvement schedule to which they agreed.

PLAN COMMISSION

Plan Commission Chairman David Niedelman reported that the Plan Commission met on November 3, 2016, and had a thorough discus-

sion on the proposed Windlake re-subdivision. The lots are nonconforming; however, the non-conformance was granted a long time ago and should not be held against the applicant.

The Plan Commission went along with the applicant while noting that the neighbors would have two upcoming opportunities to voice their opinions. Mayor Norris indicated that, according to Village Code, the Village is not required to provide notice to neighboring properties.

POLICE REPORT

Police Chief Dayno presented highlights from the Police Report since the November 1, 2016 Board of Trustees meeting. The Police Report is available to read in full on the Village of Riverwoods website. Chief Dayno noted that on November 3, 2016, the Department conducted tobacco compliance checks and the two businesses did not sell to the minor agents.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Village Hall Construction Update – Trustee Jamerson reported that there has been significant progress on the new Village Hall project, including installation of the binder course of pavement. Trustee Jamerson noted that almost all of the windows have been installed and the roof is being shingled. The project is moving along quickly. Trustee Jamerson will work with the Construction Manager to find a time for the Board to tour the building.

Lake County Forest Preserve / Deer Management – Mayor Norris explained that the Forest Preserve’s deer management activities will not occur within the Village boundaries.

New Business

WINDLAKE TERRACE RE-SUBDIVISION

Village Attorney Huvad explained that the re-subdivision request complies with the subdivision code. Windlake Terrace is a legal non-conforming lot. If the subdivision is approved, this lot will still be non-conforming. The Village policy is to have non-conforming lots corrected before the completion of a subdivision, but that is impossible in this case. There is no reasonable, apparent fix the frontage issues.



The applicant is requesting an exception to the strict interpretation of the subdivision ordinance to allow a subdivision plat to be approved that would result in non-conformance. If the exception is approved by the Board, this would go back to the Plan Commission to resume its consideration of the plat.

The Board voted to concur with the Plan Commission’s recommendation.

COLONIAL COURT SHOPPING CENTER

Village Engineer Pat Glenn explained that the Board had previously approved the replacement of the leaking hydrant at Colonial Court, but the contractor subsequently discovered that certain valves necessary to isolate the hydrant do not work. The intention was to do the replacement without interrupting any service, but that is no longer possible.

The Board authorized Canyon Contracting to perform the repairs in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS ON SHERRY LANE AND HAZELNUT LANE

Village Clerk Irene Gagerman received nine petitions out of a possible 14 in favor of a Special Service Area 31 for road improvements on Sherry Lane and hazelnut Lane which represents more than 50% of the properties. This could be included in the December 6, 2016 tax levy.

RIVERWOODS VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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



November 1

AUDIT REPORT

Ed Tracy, Audit Partner with Selden Fox, discussed highlights from the Audit Report. The first phase of the audit involves looking at internal controls. They walked selected transactions through the internal controls on key systems, such as cash receipts, disbursements and payroll and found that the controls were operating as represented by management. The second phase involves confirming balances in various accounts, reconciling payroll numbers and significant expenditures, and examining the budget.

The General Fund for the year was positive by approximately \$25,000. Revenues in the Police Fund were \$180,000 under budget. Village expenses were \$400,000 under budget. The Water Fund had a small loss of \$38,000 due to depreciation expense. The Village issued debt from the TIF Fund, which is new this year. The Village also adopted a new pension reporting standard.

VILLAGE ECOLOGIST

Trustee Ford held a Homeowner's Association meeting with the Timberwood Lane area residents and invited Steve Zimmerman to address the group. The presentation was very well received. Trustee Ford encourages other HOAs to do the same.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Village Hall Construction Update – Trustee Jamerson distributed an updated cash flow projection for the Village Hall project. The Village is on-track with the budget.

Landscaping for the New Village Hall – Trustee Jamerson had both hardscape terraces removed from the landscape plan. Initially the plan called for putting a terrace outside the main boardroom but that would entail removing a rare tree. The construction may kill that tree at which time the Village construction of the terrace.

New Business

POTENTIAL TIF DISTRICT AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE AND DEERFIELD ROAD

Village Attorney Huvad explained that the study by S.B. Friedman & Company to determine TIF eligibility at the northeast corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Deerfield Road would cost \$9,850 and that the total study would be \$25,000. Trustee Jamerson asked if the Village will be able to get firm pricing from other contractors after the eligibility study is done. Mr. Huvad replied affirmatively. The Board voted to approve the agreement.

Old Business

Compensation for Mayor and Village Clerk – Mayor Norris reported that the personnel committee met and came up with a recommendation to increase the compensation for the Mayor to \$40,000 per year and the Village Clerk to \$13,500 per year with no scheduled annual increases. The committee also believes that the Board needs to discuss whether to have a Village Manager and/or a working Mayor. The Board voted in favor of the increases.

October 18

APPLIED ECOLOGICAL SERVICES

Trustee Jamerson expressed concern that whoever marked the hazardous trees throughout the Village may have overstepped their bounds. His understanding of the intent of the program was to keep hazardous trees from falling across the road or on someone's house. In his observation, many of the marked trees were 35-50 feet from the street and, if they did fall, they would have to take out several trees before they reached the street. He is also concerned about the amount billed thus far, especially since there will be another billing for time spent to verify that the trees have been removed.

Lastly, he stated that the letter that went out was confusing. Mayor Norris will speak with Steve Younger about Trustee Jamerson's concerns. As to the billed amount, he has Susie Crohn researching prior years' bills. He reminded the Board that there are many hazardous trees due to the death of many of the ash trees in the Village.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Article in Daily Herald about Buffalo Grove expansion – Mayor Norris explained that the Village of Buffalo Grove is looking to expand and annex the Mulch Center on Milwaukee Avenue.

The Land Use Committee will meet and speak with Buffalo Grove and other communities about boundary agreements.

PREPARED FOOD SHOP AT 2175 DEERFIELD ROAD

The Board voted to authorize a small parcel special use for the food shop to operate at 2175 Deerfield Road.

Mr. Huvad provided a red-lined Ordinance in the packet as the Village now has actual architectural drawings. The draft also includes changes from earlier in the month when the left turn situation from Deerfield Road was discussed. The County requested that Mr. Glenn provide them with language that they can include in their access permit conditions to reflect the Village's requirements, that, if it turns out to be an accident-prone location, the Village can restrict left turns.

The Trustees discussed the three-year restriction on making changes. Mr. Glenn believes that, between the Village's review, the applicant's professionals and the County, the permit would never have been issued if the proposed lane turns were inherently or unusually dangerous. Trustee Haber suggested changing the verbiage to "annual report that contains cumulative data for the preceding three years". Mr. Glenn raised the point that as soon as five accidents are realized, by definition, it would meet the restriction criteria in the Ordinance. The Trustees discussed how the annual report would be generated. Chief Dayno stated that the Police Department will easily be able to generate the report and that it will be added to a calendar along with other required reports.

A representative of the property's owners noted that they respect the safety in the Village. However, it has only one entrance for westbound traffic on Deerfield Road. There is no southbound access on Saunders Road. If the left turn lane from Deerfield Road was prohibited, commuters traveling west on Deerfield Road would not be able to access the café. Mr. Huvad indicated that this restriction would only give the Board the authority to reconsider the access from Deerfield Road. Mr. Glenn added that the restriction could be limited, e.g. no left turn during peak hours.

780 SAUNDERS ROAD

The Board voted in favor of an ordinance classifying 780 Saunders Road as a B-1 Neighboring Business District and authorizing a Small Parcel Special Use for a Limited Restaurant.



Shiny New Fire Engine

By Tom Krueger, Fire Chief

We are proud to announce the purchase and addition to our fleet of fire apparatus. This new fire engine is quite different from the traditional fire service engine. This fire engine carries all of the equipment as its replacement along with a compliment of fire hose, ladders, heavy rescue equipment, 500 gallons of water (capable of pumping up to 1500 gallons per minute), and seats four firefighter paramedics. It also has advanced life support equipment to assist our paramedics during emergency incidents. The fire engine is smaller than our traditional fire engines, and our ambulances are a little longer in length. This shorter-sized engine allows for a tighter turning radius on smaller streets and harder to get to places, less wear/tear on mechanical components, stress to roads, etc. within our Fire District. The cost of the engine was approximately \$150,000 less than our traditional fire engines. The new fire engine will be located at Station 53 for a trial period, but more likely is suited for the topography of Riverwoods.

Reminder to Keep Fire Hydrants Visible and Accessible in the Snow

The Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire Protection District would like to remind residents of the importance of having snow removed from around fire hydrants. With the recent snow storms many area fire hydrants have become invisible and inaccessible due to being covered in snow. We would like to ask residents to assist the Fire Department by removing the snow from the fire hydrants if they are able. In the unfortunate event of a house fire, the time spent trying to locate a fire hydrant buried in snow can make a critical difference in the outcome.

Village to Utilize Services of the Center for Conflict Resolution

Submitted by Bruce Dayno, Riverwoods Chief of Police

Riverwoods Police Officers often mediate disputes between community members. Many disputes are settled on the spot with the assistance of police officers. Others are more complicated and involve more time and resources. One resource successfully used in other municipalities is the Center for Conflict Resolution. The Riverwoods Police Department will be referring some of these more complicated disputes to the Center when the involved parties are open to mediation. The following is an article from the Illinois Municipal League Newsletter with more information.

Mediating for municipalities

By The Center for Conflict Resolution

What do community members do when they have a dispute with a neighbor? Maybe they try to talk to their neighbor, but sometimes people are too upset to work out differences on their own. Maybe they hire a lawyer and file a court case, hoping to have a judge decide who is right and who is wrong. Or maybe they do not want to go through the time, hassle and expense of the court system, so they call the police or local government office. This is where mediation comes in. The Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that assists municipalities by providing free mediation services to help residents resolve their conflicts.

What is mediation? – Mediation is a negotiation that is facilitated by a neutral third party mediator. Unlike a court proceeding or binding arbitration, the mediator does not make decisions for the parties or provide advice. Rather, the mediator facilitates a conversation between the parties to help identify what is most important to them and to develop solutions that meet their needs. The process is based on the idea that the individuals in conflict are best situated to solve their own disputes. If the parties reach an agreement, the mediator helps the parties write up a signed agreement based on the terms that all parties have agreed to. Thus, mediation can be a great alternative to court for people who have a previous or continuing relationship.

What is the Center for Conflict Resolution? – CCR began in 1979 in a storefront in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood, started by young lawyers hoping to help neighbors resolve their disputes through mediation. In the early 1980s, CCR began working with the Circuit Court of Cook County to receive referrals and has since established partnerships with many non-profits, municipalities and community groups.

In the past two years alone, CCR has provided free mediation services to more than 10,000 community members and trained over 1,000 individuals in mediation and conflict management. CCR has 11 full-time staff members and approximately 140 active, trained volunteer mediators. All CCR mediators have been certified and undergone an intensive 40 hours of training and a three-month mentorship program.

CCR regularly handles disputes involving parenting time and decision making, guardianship and probate issues, consumers and merchants, breaches of contract, foreclosures, landlords and tenants, condominium associations, religious institutions, schools and neighbor/community conflicts.

How can CCR and mediation be helpful to my community? – CCR uses a facilitative approach to mediation. The mediator asks the parties questions to help them identify, understand and communicate their own needs and interests. The parties will talk with each other and may speak individually with the mediator to explore options for settlement. The mediator will help the parties to think through possible solutions, as well as potential consequences of the parties' decisions regarding the dispute. The process is designed to give each party a voice, allow them to be heard and empowered, and to assist the parties in making thoughtful and informed decisions.

How can CCR be an asset to my municipality? – When community members have a problem, they often reach out to their government officials who may not have the staff, time and resources necessary to handle the dispute. This is when Wilmette Police Chief Brian King has found CCR to be "an exceptional resource." Chief King first referred a particularly difficult case to CCR as an experiment and has been referring cases ever since. Chief King's officers are often called when neighbors have a dispute. The officers are able to successfully mediate many disputes on the spot, but some disputes take much longer than the 15-20 minutes the responding officer has to spend on the call. This is when Chief King refers the case to CCR.

Outsourcing dispute resolution to a third-party mediation organization like CCR has a number of benefits for municipalities. First, getting outside help with disputes saves huge amounts of staff time and resources. Concerned or upset community members can take up vast amounts of time in multiple departments within a municipality. CCR has trained mediators who can spend multiple hours with the community members in dispute, working through their problems. Second, sometimes disputants feel uncomfortable having the government involved or believe that the government favors one side or the other. CCR can come in as a neutral third party. Third, CCR mediators have gone through extensive training and are prepared to handle difficult and highly emotional disputes. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, CCR's services are free!

What does a relationship with CCR look like? – If the parties are willing to try mediation, the municipality refers the case to CCR, and trained case managers will work with the community members to set up a date and time for the mediation. Many mediation sessions take place at CCR's office, located in downtown Chicago; however CCR has also worked with different communities to hold mediations on-site throughout the Chicagoland area.

If you are involved in a dispute and are interested in mediation by the Center for Conflict Resolution, Contact Chief Bruce Dayno at 847-945-1130 or at bdayno@riverwoods-il.net.



Brushwood Center at Ryerson

FIELD MUSEUM AT BRUSHWOOD CENTER

In 2016, Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods announced a new partnership with The Field Museum. This quarterly speaker series is designed to inform northern Illinois residents on new and brilliant research underway at The Field Museum - without the long drive to Chicago. This new partnership gives The Field Museum a chance to reach their northern neighbors while allowing the Brushwood Center a chance to further the conversation on important environmental and cultural issues that impact our region and world.

The Field Museum and the Changing Landscape of the Chicago Region / Saturday, January 23

Mark J. Bouman, Chicago Region Program Director in the Keller Science Action Center of the Division of Science and Education at The Field Museum, presents: "The Field Museum and the Changing Landscape of the Chicago Region," providing a window into recent findings while also laying the foundation for upcoming talks. Dr. Bouman oversees the Museum's interdisciplinary conservation and cultural heritage work in the Chicago region. The Science Action Center's work takes a number of forms: conservation, ecological restoration, environmental leadership development and stewardship, creative placemaking, climate change adaptation, green infrastructure planning, and cultural heritage planning and development.

ART EXHIBITIONS

The Choreography of Birds

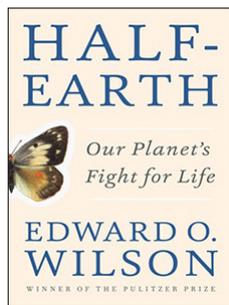
Opening Reception Sunday, March 5, 1-3pm

Choreography is the art of designing sequences of movements, and birds both in flight as well as on still water arrange themselves masterfully. Explore the work of painter, author, and Field Museum Artist in Residence, Peggy Macnamara. The exhibition will include paintings from her new books, "Art of the



Peregrine Falcon" and "Coloring Nature". Free. No registration required. Exhibition runs March 5 - April 17.

RYERSON READS



Half-Earth

by Edward O. Wilson

Wednesday, March 8, 7:30 - 9pm

Join our vibrant group of nature enthusiasts for lively discussions of American environmental literature. The book talks are led by Benjamin Goluboff, professor of English at Lake Forest College and an expert in American literature. Insightful and informative discussions cover the historical context, impact and influence of important works in the environmental literature movement.

Register for individual sessions or the entire season. For more information contact Brushwood at 847-968-3308 or visit the website at www.brushwoodcenter.org.



Stevenson High School Celebrates The McCartney Years

Submitted By Greg Diethrich, Executive Director, Stevenson High School Foundation

The Stevenson High School Foundation's Professional Performance Series welcomes the community to enjoy inspiring artists at Stevenson's world-class performing arts theaters.

For more info and to purchase tickets, visit Stevenson-Foundation.org or call 847-415-4121.

The McCartney Years

The world's #1 Paul McCartney tribute experience

Saturday, January 28, 7:30pm, SHS Performing Arts Center.

Hailed by original Beatles promoter Sid Bernstein as "The best on the scene," The McCartney Years is a period-true, technically stunning, and explosive live concert show that performs the music of Paul McCartney spanning two decades from The Beatles to Wings. The band has entertained audiences worldwide and even has a personal accolade from former Wings guitarist Denny Laine.



Dear Plant Ladies

Riverwoods Plant Ladies, Margie Kaul and Shiela Hollander answer your plant questions.

The snow is so deep that my plants are buried. Is this a good thing or a bad thing? – The phrase “blanket of snow” is more than a visual description – it’s accurate in terms of warmth. Snow is an excellent insulator for gardens, landscapes and hibernating animals by protecting against low temperatures, damaging winds and temperature fluctuations. Snow cover protects buds, foliage branches, stems and roots. Generally, temperatures beneath a layer of snow increase about 2 degrees for each inch of accumulation.

Okay, so snow is a good thing. How exactly do the plants benefit? – Needle evergreens such as Yews and Rhododendrons and Boxwoods are susceptible to winter burn. They lose water in cold weather through their leaves. The snow cover provides insulation and moisture retention. In the spring, flowering shrubs will bloom more heavily if they spend the winter below the snow line. Also plants with shallow root systems, like perennials, ground covers and bulbs, can be pushed up out of the soil by temperature fluctuation. The snow protects them from drying out due to the cold and wind.

Okay, I’m freezing but I’m becoming a believer. Any other benefits? – Snow enriches the soil with nutritious elements, so you may not realize it, but you’re fertilizing just as the snow melts and is being absorbed.

What about my shrubs buried and covered with ice?

I know the tendency to knock the snow off is strong, and if there is a day above freezing you can GENTLY brush off the snow to free the buried branches. However, they will be very brittle and will break easily. It’s probably best to just leave the plants alone and let nature’s melting take its course.

Okay. That’s news about snow. What about the ice on my driveway? If I protect myself from a fall, am I also killing my plants? – Most deicing salts use chloride and sodium, both of which can damage plants. Plants can absorb the chloride in the salt, which can lead to dieback. Sodium in the salt may destroy soil structure, which leads to poor drainage and root growth. The preferable type of salt is magnesium chloride. It will melt the ice until the temperature reaches -13 F. It releases about 40% less chloride than either of the other two types of deicing salt, which are sodium chloride or calcium chloride. It is also much less toxic to plants and animals.

Woodland Animals; continued from the front cover

Some birds flock to rigid feeders while other smaller and more agile birds prefer free-hanging feeders that sway in the breeze. Bird feeders should always be placed so access is difficult for squirrels and away from windows that could be a collision hazard for birds. Feeders must be kept free of wet seed or the seed will spoil and birds will avoid the feeder.

Not all seeds are attractive to all birds. Sunflower seed is favored by a wide variety of birds, but birds prefer sunflower seeds with a high oil content, rather than the soft-shelled, low-oil sunflower seeds that humans consume. Many birds also like safflower seeds. One advantage of safflower seed is that it does not appeal to squirrels. In general, seed



mixes usually contain fillers that do not appeal to most birds.

When deciding to put out bird seed, it is important to be consistent in feeding birds. Birds will circulate through an

area, feeding at a variety of places, including bird feeders. If seeds are not regularly available in a bird feeder, birds will not become accustomed to visiting the feeder and will not visit it routinely.

Even more helpful than keeping a bird feeder full of seeds is planting seed-bearing plants on which birds can feed throughout the winter. Native flowers, such as coneflowers, will keep seedheads through the winter. Some species of Viburnum shrubs bear large amounts of berries that will provide food for birds during the winter. Plants that do not provide food but that provide shelter, such as dense evergreens, are also valuable to birds during winter months.

Birds, as indeed other animals, should not be fed bread, either fresh or stale, since it provides no real nutritional value. Bread doesn’t contain much protein, which animals need to develop muscles and feathers, and it doesn’t contain the fat they need for energy. The same holds true for crackers, chips, cookies, and donuts.

Birds also require water. Ice and snow may not provide sufficient moisture for survival. Birds can’t rely on winter run-off from sidewalks and roads since the water is usually heavily contaminated with salt. One approach is to put out a large container of water daily or employ a heated birdbath. Again, consistency is a key to attracting birds.

More information on birds and other animals is available through the National Audubon Society, the Illinois Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy of Illinois, the Lake County Forest Preserve District, and on the web.



Summer Dreaming — Winter Composting

Although it's only January, does the winter already seem to have gone on too long? Are you already dreaming about your summer garden? If so, then composting with worms is an easy winter project that will benefit not only your summer garden but the greater environment as well.

Why worms? Worms can spin flax into gold . . . so to speak. If you feed your daily vegetable scraps and your shredded paper to hungry red wiggler worms, by summer your garden will have spectacular, nutritious vermicompost (that's worm poop in lay terms) and you will have kept numerous bags of garbage out of the waste stream.

Just as soil bacteria feed on the grass, clipped by your mulching mower, or as the soil fungi eat the leaves and twigs on the forest floor and break them down into micro-nutrients, your worms can eat your vegetable waste and transform it into food for your garden or houseplants.

To get started, all you need is a pound or two of red wiggler worms, available from bait shops and websites. An easy worm home uses two plastic containers that stack, one inside the other, plus one lid. Drill the lid, body and floor of the upper container with air holes to provide oxygen for the worms. Put bedding, like straw or shredded paper, lightly moistened, in the bin and add the worms. The bottom container will hold excess moisture which drips from the holes in the floor of the top bin.

Feed your worms weekly (no meat, bones or onions) and add dry bedding to maintain the moisture of a wrung-out sponge. Keeping a proper moisture level will involve a little trial and error. Too little and the worms can actually dry out; too much will encourage the growth of damaging anaerobic bacteria. Properly kept, there is no odor. So, you can house your worms in a closet, the basement, or any place that maintains a temperature between 45 and 80 degrees. In summer, separate the worms from the compost. (A pair of rubber kitchen gloves is great for the squeamish.) The compost can be added directly to the garden or diluted with water for compost tea which is wonderful for houseplants. Then, begin the process again.

To learn more, check out [Worms Eat My Garbage](#) by Mary Appelhof or visit the Shedd Aquarium website at www.sheddaquarium.org/worm_composting.html for a beautiful, illustrated and very detailed explanation.

The Riverwoods Preservation Council's mission is to preserve a sound balance of plants, animals and development in Riverwoods. Keep up to date with the RPC events and news at www.riverwoodsrpc.org.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE RPC

The RPC would like to involve more people throughout the Village in local ecological issues. We have sponsored interesting programs and events, such as a water management panel, shoe and eyeglass recycling, installation of a rain garden at the police station, and a native plant lecture at Red's Garden Center. The RPC, a nongovernmental, resident-run environmental organization, is seeking directors and others interested in Riverwoods' ecological matters. To learn more, please contact the RPC at riverwoodsrpc@comcast.net.

RPC MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes, I want to support the RPC in its efforts to preserve Riverwoods! Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of :

- \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other _____
 I have attached my employer's matching contribution form.

Join at a level of \$100 or more and receive a 10% discount on most plants sold each spring by the RRA Plant Sale Committee.

Please make your check payable to the Riverwoods Preservation Council, P.O. Box 122, Deerfield, IL 60015. The RPC is an independent, resident-run, volunteer-run, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. Your contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Thank you!

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Find the Riverwoods Preservation Council on Facebook at www.riverwoodsrpc.org, and at riverwoodsrpc@comcast.net.

RRA - Join and Make a Difference!

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 jedma1@yahoo.com or call her directly at 847-945-0062.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Address _____

of extra stickers at \$5 each _____

Amount Enclosed _____

In the Kitchen with Gale



BUTTERMILK PANCAKES

Makes 12 pancakes, 4 inches in diameter

1 cup flour
1 tablespoon sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 egg
1 cup buttermilk
1 cup milk
2 tablespoons butter, melted

In a bowl, combine all the dry ingredients. In a second bowl beat the egg with a fork, then mix in the buttermilk, milk and melted butter. Pour the wet over the dry and combine with a fork, leaving plenty of lumps. Transfer the batter to a pitcher with a pour spout.

Heat up a griddle or large skillet and melt some butter in it. Heat the butter 'till it foams. Pour 2 tablespoons of the batter to make each pancake, leaving space in between for spreading. Once they are bubbly, no longer look wet and are browned on the underside, flip them and cook on the other side 'till golden brown. Serve immediately with maple syrup, flavored butter, or fruit compote on top.

Gale Gand is a pastry chef and is the partner in the Michelin one star restaurant, Tru, in Chicago. She was the host of Food Network's long running show "Sweet Dreams" and author of eight cook books. She just finished a 2-year pop-up of Spritzburger, a burger and craft soda joint, with The Hearty Boys, also of Food Network fame. Gale teaches cooking classes all over the country and is an artisanal soda pop maker producing Gale's Root Beer which is sold nationally. Gale does Food Innovation with Hyde Park Group in Chicago. She has received two James Beard Awards, has been inducted into the Chicago Chefs Hall of Fame and was schooled in Paris at La Varenne. Gale lives in Riverwoods and is the mother of three.

Holiday Tree Recycling

From the SWALCO website

The stockings are empty. The tree is looking sad. Yes, Virginia, it's the aftermath of Christmas.

You may not be packing up already but it's probably on your New Year to-do list. But what do you with your dried-out Christmas Tree? Don't send it to the landfill. There are many ways to recycle your (real) Christmas Tree after the ornaments are put away.

Many cities have tree pick up and recycling right at your curbside. But if your town does not offer curbside recycling, you can drop off your tree at one of the Lake County Forest Preserve sites for recycling. Trees will be chipped and used for trails and landscaping. You'll get a nice, warm, fuzzy feeling walking the trails this Spring knowing a little bit of your Christmas cheer lines the paths of one of our many forest preserves.

Trees can be dropped off at the following sites daily from 6:30am to sunset. Drop-offs are accepted at the marked sites only between December 26 and February 1. They must be undecorated real Christmas trees, no yard waste.

Ryerson Woods, Riverwoods – drop trees off at the end of main entrance road

Grant Woods, Fox Lake – drop off trees at Monaville Road entrance, second parking lot

Half Day, Vernon Hills – drop trees off next to maintenance facility

Heron Creek, Long Grove – drop trees off at Shelter A

Old School, Libertyville – drop trees off near main entrance

For more information caontact Lake County Forest Preserves at 847-367-6840.



Holiday Lights Recycling

Did you know that under Illinois Law small electronics are not to be put into regular garbage to go to landfills? All electronics, including holiday lights, are to be recycled and properly disposed of at one of the county recycling centers. You can find the year-round drop-off locations at the SWALCO website www.SWALCO.org. It's well worth your time to do the research and do the right thing to protect our environment. In Riverwoods, Lakeshore Recycling Systems will pick up electronics at the curbside on the first pick-up day of each month.

Winter Recreation

From the Lake County Forest Preserve website (lcfpd.org)

Before heading out to a Lake County Forest Preserve for a winter hike or a twirl on the ice, check for status updates online, or call our 24-hour winter sports hotline at 847-968-3235. A recorded message conveys current trail and ice conditions for sledding, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, ice fishing and ice skating.

Solar-Lit Evening Hikes – With small solar lights to guide their way, hikers, skiers and snowshoers can get some brisk evening exercise along the 1.5-mile fitness trail at Old School Forest Preserve in Libertyville, and along a 1.65-mile hilly section of the Millennium Trail adjacent to the Winter Sports Area at Lakewood Forest Preserve in Wauconda.

Though regular preserve hours are 6:30 am to sunset, the illuminated trails and adjacent parking lots will remain open after sunset until 9pm, daily through Sunday, March 12. Dogs are allowed but must be leashed.

To access the lighted trails, park at Lakewood's Winter Sports Area located on the east side of Fairfield Road just south of Route 176, or at Old School's main entrance lot located on the east side of St. Mary's Road just south of Route 176. Lake County Forest Preserve Rangers regularly patrol the areas.

Sledding – Sled hills are located at Lakewood in Wauconda and Old School in Libertyville. The Lakewood hill is part of a dedicated Winter Sports Area, and is lighted, allowing for winter fun until 9pm, daily. The Old School hill is open until sunset, when conditions allow sledding. Snowboards, metal runners or toboggans are not permitted.

Cross-Country Skiing – Cross-country skiers can enjoy nearly 166 miles of trails at forest preserves throughout Lake County. Groomed trails are available at Lakewood's Winter Sports Area and at Old School, when conditions allow. Grooming is typically done two days after a large snow fall. A 4-inch snow base is required for cross-country skiing at the Ryerson Conservation Area in Riverwoods.

Snowmobiling – Snowmobilers can use nearly 24 miles of designated trails within the preserves, many of which connect to other area snowmobile trails. A 4-inch snow base is required for snowmobiling. These trails are groomed and patrolled by Lake County Forest Preserve staff and volunteers. Snowmobilers should use caution and watch for trail route signs along all forest preserve snowmobile trails.

The Des Plaines River Trail from Russell Road to just south of Wadsworth Road provides the longest stretch of trail for snowmobilers. Parking and trail access is provided at the Van Patten Woods Canoe Launch on Russell Road east of Route 41 and at Sedge Meadow Forest Preserve located on Wadsworth Road just east of Route 41.

When conditions allow, snowmobile trails are open 6:30 am–11pm, Sunday–Thursday, and 6:30am to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays.

Ice Skating – Lace up your skates and head to the lake at Independence Grove in Libertyville or the man-made rinks at Lakewood's Winter Sports Area and Old School. The shallow rinks typically freeze earlier in the season than the lake at Independence Grove where a 4.5-inch ice layer is required for ice skating.

Ice Fishing – When conditions allow, ice fishing is available at Banana Lake at Lakewood, Sterling Lake at Van Patten Woods, and the South Bay at Independence Grove. A 4.5-inch layer of ice is required for ice fishing.

Check the website for more details at www.lcfpd.org.



Dog Parks

The Lake County Forest Preserves offer four uniquely different outdoor areas where dogs can exercise, play, swim and socialize off-leash. An annual or daily permit and a dog are required for entry.

Prairie Wolf Dog Park – Most convenient to Riverwoods is the Prairie Wolf Dog Park. Located in Lake Forest (entrance is on Waukegan Road (Route 43), south of Old Mill Road and north of Half Day Road (Route 22)) This special place is one of four designated off-leash Dog Parks within the Lake County Forest Preserves.

The 44-acre area is fenced and features training enclosures, large fields, trails, toilets, water and a drinking fountain. Dogs can swim in a pond located through gates at the east end of the park. Please pay close attention to your dog in this open swimming area to make sure it does not stray.

Annual permit – An annual permit allows access to all four Dog Parks. A permit is valid for the calendar year only, and are not prorated. Reduced rates are offered annually, beginning September 1, and permit is valid through the end of the current year. Annual permits for the next calendar year go on sale in early December. A vehicle sticker is issued with each permit. To purchase a \$5 replacement sticker, call or visit our General Offices in Libertyville, 847-367-6640, 8am–4:30pm, weekdays, or our Operations and Public Safety Facility in Lake Villa, 847-968-3411, 6:30am–3pm, weekdays.

Daily permit – A daily permit allows one-day's access to all four Dog Parks. Purchase online, via mobile phone, or at a self-pay station located in the parking lot of each site.



Village of Riverwoods

300 Portwine Road
Riverwoods, Illinois
60015-3898

847-945-3990

Fax: 847-945-4059

VillageofRiverwoods.com



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Come in from the cold and join us for a good book

The Riverwoods book club met for the first time at Brushwood House, at the Edward L. Ryerson Forest Preserve last October, to discuss **A Man Called Ove**, by Fredrik Backman.

Swedish cookies were enjoyed by all, and we were able to view the monthly art display throughout the main floor of the Brushwood House. The fall leaf color was at its peak, casting a warm, golden glow on the surroundings creating a nice venue for our meeting.

The book club will continue to meet at Brushwood until the new Village Hall is completed.

The first meeting of 2017 will be January 19, and the book will be **Dead Wake**, by Erik Larson. Refreshments are provided, and the book club is free and open to residents and non-residents.

For more information contact June Melber at 847-940-7086.

