



Cottage Grove Reports

Cottage Grove Competing in Nationwide, Mayoral Water Conservation Challenge: Take the Pledge!

Cottage Grove residents know just how valuable our water supply is, and they're extremely familiar with the need for future water conservation. Well, Mayor Bailey needs your help! He's signed the City up for the "National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation," an initiative created to reward residents for positive conservation actions and set goals to promote changes in consumer behavior. Boasting more than 3 dozen miles of Mississippi River shoreline puts Cottage Grove in a unique position to participate in this extremely important challenge. Plus, reducing everyday water use can have a positive effect on your personal finances!



Mayor
Myron Bailey

The 411 on Food Trucks in the City

This spring the City Council updated our city code regarding food trucks. The new ordinance provides residents and businesses the opportunity to have food trucks cater private events while simultaneously supporting existing restaurants and maintaining safety standards. The following represents a summary of the City ordinance relating to food truck vendors, residents and business owners who wish to invite them:



Just log on to mywaterpledge.com and click on "Take the Pledge!" From there, you can find our City and check a series of boxes promising you'll do your part to help preserve nature's precious resource. It's just a simple, 4-step pledge and each entry helps the City compete for prizes and pride. Cottage Grove will face off against dozens of cities across the nation with populations between 30,000 and 99,999 people. Together, we can make a difference; nationally, participants pledge to save almost 2 billion gallons of water.

- A resident can invite a food truck to cater a private event at their home
- A business in the business park can invite a food truck to cater a private event on their property
- In other areas of the city, if a food truck is requested and approved as part of a park reservation permit or a special event permit that was approved by the City of Cottage Grove, a food truck can operate at that event.

City Launches New, Online Utility Bill Payment System

The City has launched a new and improved bill pay service with a user-friendly portal and more features than before to view and pay bills online—for free! In addition to being able to pay online, you'll also have the option to **Pay by Phone 24/7** and/or sign up for **Pay by Text** to receive notifications and pay via text message. It is easy to make an online payment, simply visit cottagegrovemn.gov/utilitybill to get started. Online payment highlights include:

- View and pay your bill online anytime with credit/debit card or e-check
- Schedule a payment for a future date
- Securely store payment information for a faster experience
- Receive notifications and payment confirmation via email

You can also save time by setting up auto pay. To pay by phone or check your balance at any time, simply call **1-844-855-0025**. If you have questions regarding your account, please send an email to dhintz@cottagegrovemn.gov for a prompt reply.

CGPD Body Camera Program in Full Swing



All 43 sworn police officers with the Cottage Grove Police Department are now wearing body worn cameras. “The audio/video recordings enhance an officer’s ability to capture objective evidence, increase the department’s transparency and accountability and offer opportunities for evaluation of officer performance,” Public Safety Director Pete Koerner explains. The CGPD was able to find tremendous cost savings by pairing the body cameras with a new in-car camera system, as the previous system needed to be replaced. Video from both systems are uploaded into a secure, cloud-based system daily.

Per State Statute, and in the vast majority of cases, body camera data that is no longer part of an active criminal investigation must be retained for at least 90 days. State rules also dictate that people whose image is in the camera footage have access to the video through data practices requests, but generally speaking, for parties not involved in any way, the footage is considered private or non-public. CGPD officers will be recording on their cameras during calls for service, but officers are not required to record interactions that are social in nature. The Department held public comment meetings and reviewed dozens of similar policies before finalizing the CGPD’s policy. “We’re proud to respond to our community’s safety needs in a compassionate and professional manner, and we believe these cameras will increase our level of service and public trust. If you have any questions, feel free to ask an officer,” Koerner concluded.



Reminder: HERO Center Shooting Range Open to the Public

The state-of-the-art HERO Training Center Shooting Range is now open to the public. 12, 50-yard lanes are available on the weekends, between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturdays and 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sundays. Visit herocentermn.org/shooting-range to reserve lanes, fill out waiver forms and find pricing. Walk-ins will be accepted, but again, avoid waiting in line by reserving your lane online. For more information, you can also call 651-458-2811. The HERO Center is located at 10125 85th Street.

Mark Your Calendars: Tentative Date Set for “Night to Unite”

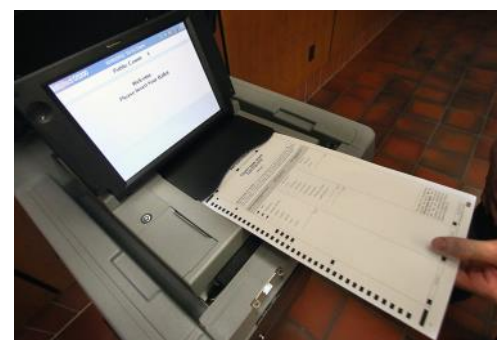
The state organization that runs “Night to Unite” has set a new, tentative date for public safety gatherings. Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, October 6th** and stay tuned to the Police and Fire Department Facebook pages for registration details. More information will be provided as the date nears, as there remains the potential for further postponement due to coronavirus factors. “Night to Unite” was originally scheduled for August 4th.

Election Judges Still Needed for November Election



The City Clerk’s office is seeking eligible voters to work as Election Judges for the General Election on November 3rd. Election Judges are paid \$12 per hour for attending a mandatory, two-hour training session and for time worked on

Election Day. Judges may also serve voluntarily without pay. For eligibility requirements, more information, or to apply, visit cottagegrovemn.gov/electionjudge or contact City Clerk Joe Fischbach at 651-458-2883 or jfischbach@cottagegrovemn.gov.



New Water Treatment Facility Up and Running Near Foothill Park

Cottage Grove's third interim water treatment plant is up and running. Employees started up the new system, located near Innsdale Avenue and Foothill Road, in early July. The facility was fully-funded by the State through the 2007 3M Consent Order and it will look and operate much like the two facilities constructed in 2017. All three plants will be in operation for the coming years as the City works toward agreeing on a long-term water supply plan with the State. The three interim facilities further ensure the City of Cottage Grove will continue to supply water that is safe and compliant with the State of Minnesota's Health Based Values for PFAS.

Breaking Ground on a Market-Rate Apartment Complex



On August 4th, Mayor Bailey and members of the City Council helped break ground on a new market-rate apartment complex that will be located at 80th Street and Hemingway Avenue. You may recall that this parcel of land is the site where Cottage Grove's City Hall was located for decades. Developer North Shore Development Partners is in charge of the project. Grove80 will feature a four-story, 120-apartment unit complex. We have not witnessed construction of a new apartment complex inside the city limits since the mid- 1990s.

Grove80 will be a state of the art building with a long list of amenities, making it an attractive housing option. Some of the features included in the complex are a community room, pet park and washing station, bike storage and a package room. The development also features 94 underground parking spaces and 116 surface-lot parking spots. Employers throughout Cottage Grove have been asking for a market-rate option for their employees for years and the complex also helps the City meet a strategic goal of diversifying the City's overall housing stock.



Renewal by Andersen Expansion Complete



Renewal by Andersen has announced the completion of a major expansion at the company's facility in the City's Business Park. The "Value Add" Center encompasses 350,000 square feet and will be home to approximately 125 new employees. The company celebrated the center's completion with a socially-distant ribbon cutting, broadcast online, in the first week of August.

Minnesota Sings is On and We Want to Hear From You!



Usually this event would be held during Strawberry Fest, but these are extraordinary times! Pick out your song, it can be any genre of music, and submit an extraordinary video of your singing for a chance to be a part of the Minnesota Sings competition. The criteria for applying is that the song must be 5 minutes or less in duration, the song and performance must be family friendly, and the song must be memorized. Find more information at cottagegovmn.gov/minnesotasings.

ICE ARENA

Summer Stick & Puck

These sessions are great for exercising, practice skating, stick handling and shooting skills. The cost for Summer Stick & Puck is \$10.

- Space is limited to 25 skaters
- Skaters 18 and younger must wear a helmet
- Skaters 12 and younger must have a parent present in the arena
- No walk-in sign ups will be allowed at this time.
- Pre-registration is required.

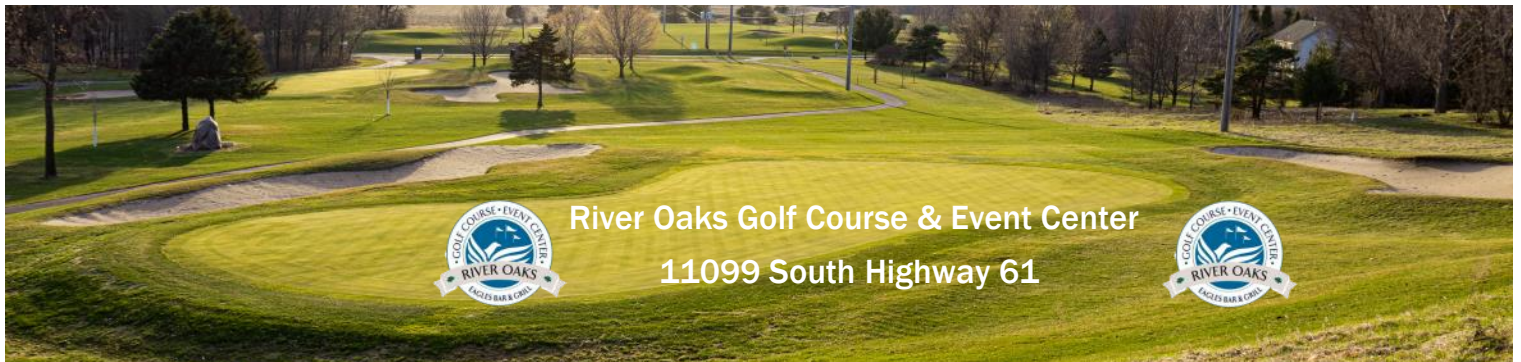
Registering for classes is very easy, but you have to pre-register. You can register by signing up online at www.cottagegrovemn.gov, calling us at 651-458-3400, or by simply stopping by the office at 8020 80th St. So.

Summer Stick & Puck Calendar

August 11th	1:15 p.m.—2:15 p.m.
August 18th	1:45 p.m.—2:45 p.m.
August 25th	1:15 p.m.—2:15 p.m.



For more information call
651-458-3400



Fall Golf—Autumn is right around the corner and that means two things for golfers; pants weather and fall golf rates. Get your rounds in and experience autumn the right way by golfing when the leaves begin to change colors.

Glow Golf—This fall, head out onto the course after sunset and experience a completely different game of golf. Find a partner or a group and play golf at night with a glow in the dark ball and glow in the dark pins. Watch our website or Facebook page for more details coming soon!

30th Anniversary—River Oaks is turning 30 next year and to help us celebrate our 30th anniversary we are asking our guests to share with us their favorite photos and memories of the course. Email us your stories and photos at MDufresne@cottagegrovemn.gov or message us on Facebook to share your memories with us.