



# Cottage Grove Reports

## Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Releases Options for Long-term Drinking Water Supply Plan Worth \$700 Million

After years of studies and meetings, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Department of Natural Resources released the “3M PFC Settlement Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan” for the East Metro last month, kicking off a 45-day public comment period. The Mayor, City Council Members and utilities and engineering staff members have been pushing for the plan as they used State money to fully fund temporary treatment plants; the newly announced long-term improvements are set to begin in 2021. While the three options offered vary in capital and operating/maintenance costs, (see table on the right) all include \$130 million in funding for drinking water protection, sustainability and conservation efforts. The City of Cottage Grove supports option #2 as it provides for greater resiliency for decades to come. Overall, the 3M Settlement Working

Groups sought to meet specific long-term goals including providing safe and sustainable drinking water, protecting and improving groundwater quality and quantity and minimizing the long-term cost burdens for communities affected by PFAS contamination. For details on all three recommended options, including the draft conceptual plan and appendices, an interactive map and a link to fill out the public comment survey, please visit: <https://3MSettlement.state.mn.us>



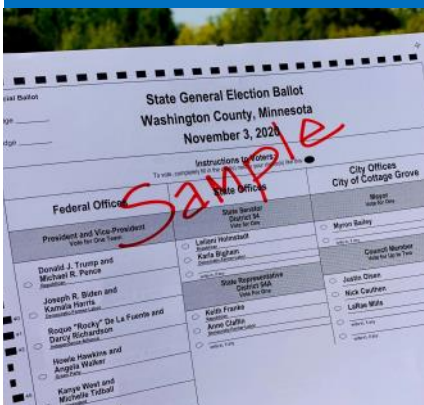
## CGFD Honors Four Leaders in Swearing-In Ceremony



In September, the Cottage Grove Fire Department held a swearing-in ceremony to celebrate the promotion of three Fire Captains and to officially welcome our newest Deputy Chief, Jon Pritchard, who oversees the City’s EMS operations. Meanwhile, the full-time Captain role is new to the Fire Department. The rank is now held by Nick Arrigoni, Peter Fischer and James Olson. Congratulations to all four leaders, who were joined by friends and family for the “badge pinning” event.

### Absentee Voting Continues Through November 2

Absentee voting began Friday, September 18 and will continue until the day before the election (November 2). Any Washington County resident who is an eligible voter can vote early at one of five locations. The Cottage Grove in-person absentee and ballot drop-off location is located at the Cottage Grove Service Center at 13000 Ravine Parkway. The location is open Monday—Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It will also be open on Saturday, October 31 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday, November 2 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information on absentee voting and the election, residents are encouraged to call Washington County Elections at 651-430-6790 or visit the website located at [co.washington.mn.us/667/Elections](http://co.washington.mn.us/667/Elections). You can find your polling place by visiting [pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us](http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us)



## CGFD's New Aerial Ladder Truck is Ready for Service



The newest arrival to the Cottage Grove Fire Department's fleet is now officially in service. The 101 foot aerial ladder truck arrived in August. Fire Chief Rick Redenius is quick to note the length of the extendable ladder now enables crews to quickly rise four stories into the air should the need arise for a high-rise rescue. A hose attachment also allows teams to attack a fire from high above when necessary. Four rescuers can fit into the state-of-the-art bucket, which is also equipped with a camera. The truck's arrival is a long-time coming as the manufacturer, Rosenbauer (Wyoming, MN), navigated several COVID-related equipment and shipping delays. Portions of the truck were also built in Kearney, Nebraska.



## Bring Your Food Scraps to Public Works (For Compost)!



More than a third of our trash is organic material that can be recycled into compost. So what are we doing throwing it in with the rest of our garbage? Good question. The City's answer is to ask you to collect those scraps, throw them into a compostable bag and drive down to the Public Works facility located at 8635

West Point Douglas Road. There is a dumpster behind the building, at the intersection of 95th Street and Irvin Avenue. Just toss the compostable bag (not a plastic bag!) into the dumpster and grab a new one, which are available for free at the drop-off site. Examples of compostable scraps and items include:

- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, fish, poultry and bones
- Eggs and egg shells
- Bread, pasta, beans and rice
- Paper towels, napkins and tissues
- Pizza delivery boxes

For a full list of what is acceptable (and what isn't acceptable) for composting visit [cottagegovemn.gov/compost](http://cottagegovemn.gov/compost).

## City Offering Big Rebates if You Plan on Purchasing a New, Efficient Toilet or Clothes Washing Machine

The City is offering rebates to residents who purchase water saving toilets and clothes washers. As part of the City's water conservation program, and taking advantage of funds from the Metropolitan Council and the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment, Cottage Grove is offering rebates of up to \$80 for new toilets and up to \$200 for new clothes washing machines. Please visit [cottagegovemn.gov/waterrebate](http://cottagegovemn.gov/waterrebate) to find a list of eligible toilets and washing machines and information on who is eligible for the program. You'll also find the rebate application. If your application is approved, a check will be sent to you within seven to ten days. Questions? Contact City Project Engineer Joe Fox by phone at 651-458-2826 or by email at [joefox@cottagegovemn.gov](mailto:joefox@cottagegovemn.gov).



Cottage Grove supplies water by pumping groundwater out of aquifers. On average, the daily volume of water used in the City is approximately 3.4 million gallons, totaling about 75 gallons of use per person every day. The goal is to reduce water demand throughout the system and encourage municipal water users to install more efficient appliances and toilets in hopes of lowering demand. In the spring, the City runs a separate program to sell water-saving lawn irrigation controllers at below-market cost.

## You are Looking Live at the Cottage Grove Ice Arena; Anytime on Any Device



LiveBarn subscribers pay a monthly fee to watch unlimited video from all facilities equipped with the system. Friends, family, coaches and athletes can access video Live or On Demand for up to 30 days, and the platform allows users to download and share unlimited highlights.



From now on, you don't have to travel to the Cottage Grove Ice Arena to catch a game there. In fact, you can watch your favorite hockey player take the ice on your laptop at home, or on your phone at the grocery store. The Ice Arena has entered into a five-year broadcasting contract with LiveBarn.



LiveBarn is installed in more than a dozen NHL practice facilities, including the TRIA Rink at Treasure Island, home to the Minnesota Wild. The company has also partnered with 84 rinks in Minnesota and 65 in Wisconsin.

## “The Heat is On”: Tips from the Cottage Grove Fire Department

As temperatures start to slide, it's time to fire up your heating systems. The CGFD wants to make sure you stay warm and safe this season.

### Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

- Install carbon monoxide alarms within ten feet of each sleeping room, or inside each sleeping room
- Test CO alarms monthly. Replace your alarms every five years
- If your CO alarm activates, immediately evacuate the home and call 9-1-1
- Keep your house vents clear of snow and other debris



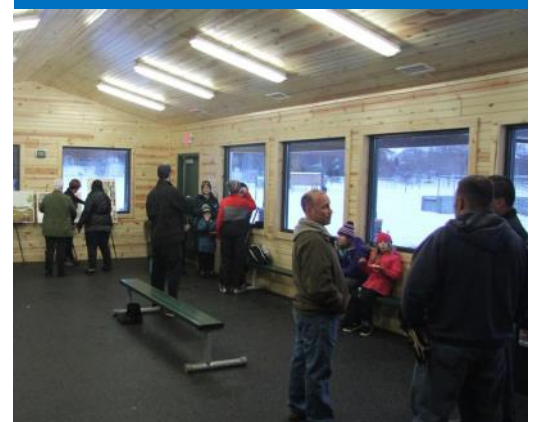
Each year, 10% of residential structure fires are caused by faulty heating equipment. Please consider the following safety tips:

- Have your furnace and fireplace inspected/cleaned annually
- Turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep
- Never use your oven to heat your home
- Keep portable heaters three feet from anything combustible



## Help Wanted: Warming House Attendants

The Cottage Grove Recreation Department is hiring Warming House Attendant Supervisors to provide customer service, ensure building cleanliness and track usage at seven warming houses and outdoor skating rinks throughout the City. Positions run from December 26, 2020 through March of 2021. The salary is \$14 per hour and you must be at least 17 years of age to apply. You can fill out an application by going to the City's website at [cottagegrovemn.gov](http://cottagegrovemn.gov)





# River Oaks Golf Course & Event Center

11099 South Highway 61  
 (651) 438-2121  
[riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://riveroaksmunigolf.com)

## Last Rounds of the Season: Fall Colors for Fall Golf



The staff at River Oaks would like to thank all of our golfers for making this year one of our best ever. Golf rounds were way up in 2020, but don't take those clubs out of your trunk yet. The course is in phenomenal shape and the leaves are turning, making this one of the best times of the year to get those final swings in. Twilight rates start at 2:00 p.m. and you can still get unlimited balls and range time for \$10. While Mother Nature (or maybe Old Man Winter) decides when we pull the plug, it's important to note we didn't close the course down last year until November 6th. There's still time to get out, so book your tee time today!



## River Oaks is Ready to Host Your Wedding in 2021

If you or your loved one is looking for a place to "tie the knot", look no further. River Oaks offers a beautiful backdrop and plenty of amenities to make your wedding day a special and memorable one! We have plenty of newly renovated space, both indoors and outdoors, and our friendly staff is ready to serve you and your party, making sure all the details, big and small, are taken care of. River Oaks can accommodate 2 dozen or 200 guests, or any number in between. To schedule a tour, contact Events & Grill Manager Jaime Mann at 651-438-2121 ext. 2, or send her an email at [jmann@cottagegrovemn.gov](mailto:jmann@cottagegrovemn.gov).



## Golf Tourney Set for Next Year? Secure your Dates



If you're thinking about hosting a golf tournament in 2021, let us know and we'll get it on the books. River Oaks usually hosts close to three dozen tournaments for various organizations throughout the City and region. This year we didn't quite make it to a dozen events, but we're planning on rebounding next year if conditions related to COVID-19 improve. Regardless, we now have a system in place that ensures we meet social-distancing protocols. We have the facilities and staff needed to make your next tournament a successful one. Contact Jaime at 651-438-2121 ext. 2 to schedule your 2021 event.

