



# Cottage Grove Reports

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## Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Begins June 14



The Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest, a four-day family-focused event, offers something for everyone! The

fun takes place at Kingston Park, from June 14 to 18.

The Grande Day parade begins at 10:30 a.m. on June 16. The parade starts at Jamaica Avenue and 80th Street S., heads north on Jamaica, east on Indian Blvd., ending at Cottage Grove Middle School.

Visit [www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com](http://www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com) for more information and schedule of events.

## Justin Fox Named Volunteer of the Year



From left: Council member Johnson, Council member Mills, Justin Fox, Council member Dennis, Council member Thiede, and Mayor Bailey

Justin Fox was named Volunteer of the Year at the annual volunteer recognition event held April 17. Fox was recognized for serving on the City's Planning Commission, on the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee, and as president of his homeowner's association. In 2017, Fox put in more than 200 hours of mentoring, training, scheduling, and other administrative duties while still serving in a patrol capacity as Captain of the city's Police Reserves.

Also at the event, the Inclusive Playground Task Force members were also recognized for their five years of work bringing their shared vision of a fun, safe, and inclusive playground to the community. The playground is located at Woodridge Park, 9000 90th Street S.

Alene Colvin, Samantha Crabtree, Cassie Fearing, Pat Forsythe, Shannon Hagness, Barb Mueller, Dawn Rankin, and Cameran Schwichtenberg each received a plaque acknowledging their work.



From left: Pat Forsythe, Council member Johnson, Barb Mueller, Alene Colvin, Council member Mills, Samantha Crabtree, Cassie Fearing, Council member Dennis, Cameran Schwichtenberg, Council member Thiede, and Mayor Bailey. Missing: Shannon Hagness, Dawn Rankin

For the past 32 years the city has recognized its volunteers at a banquet held at the River Oaks Event Center during Volunteer Appreciation Month.

## Military Road Closing to Through Traffic June 11

Military Road, from Jamaica Avenue to Keats Avenue (County Road 19) will close to through traffic beginning June 11. Detour signs will be posted.

The closure is part of the Ravine Parkway project. As part of the project, 65th Street from Hinton Avenue east to Inwood Avenue will be reconstructed. In addition, a new road from Jamaica Avenue to Keats Avenue (north of 70th Street) will be constructed. The project will also include new paved trail, concrete and landscaped

medians, new light fixtures, new turn lanes, and utility improvements.

A section of Military Road will be permanently removed about 1/2 mile west of Keats Avenue. The long-term County route will be 70th Street to Jamaica Avenue to Military Road.

Learn more about the Ravine Parkway project, and view maps, on our website: <http://bit.ly/2I7rJgr>



**Coming Up**

- May 15** **Park Grove Library Redevelopment Pre-design Open House #3**, 6:30 – 8 p.m., Park Grove Library
- May 19** **Standing Strong 5K** 9 a.m., Hamlet Park, Information: <http://tinyurl.com/ktoel8c>
- Jun 11** **No Kid Hungry Kick-Off Event**, 5 – 7 p.m., Park High School. Free, family-friendly outdoor event with snacks, games, activities. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/2K0v3M2>
- Jun 13** **Neighborhood Pond Dipping**, 6:30 p.m., Free event hosted by East Metro Watershed educators. Meet at Highlands Park near the basketball courts. Minors must be accompanied by an adult.
- Jun 16** **Strawberry Fest 5K Race & Walk**, 8 a.m. More info: <http://www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com/5krace.html>

For more city-wide events, including council and commission meetings, visit the calendar on the City's website.

**Memorial Day Ceremony**

The annual Memorial Day ceremony will be held at 1 p.m. on May 28 at the Cottage Grove Veterans Memorial located outside City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway S. In case of rain the ceremony will be moved inside City Hall. Hosted by Cottage Grove's Beyond the Yellow Ribbon organization.

**Four Firefighters Sworn In at April 4 City Council Meeting**



From left: Christy Kreminski, Tim Oachs, Mike Armesto, and Peter Fischer

**File to Run For Cottage Grove City Council**

**TWO CITY COUNCIL SEATS UP FOR ELECTION**

Two Cottage Grove City Council seats will appear on the Nov. 6 General Election ballot. **Filings for candidates will be accepted from Tuesday, July 31 to Tuesday, Aug. 14.**

Filings are accepted by the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway S. during regular City Hall office hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. City Hall will also be open for filing until 5 p.m. on Aug. 14. The filing fee is \$5.

Persons interested in running for office must be at least 21 years of age, maintain residency in Cottage Grove for at least 30 days prior to the General Election date, and have not filed for any other office for that year's elections.

Members of the City Council are elected to four-year terms and the salary is \$681 per month.

If you have any questions, please contact Joe Fischbach, City Clerk at 651-458-2883.

**BE AN ELECTION JUDGE!**

We are seeking eligible voters to work as Election Judges at the Primary and General Elections on Aug. 14 and Nov. 6. Election Judges are paid \$10 per hour for attending a mandatory two-hour training session and for time worked on Election Day. Election

judges may also serve voluntarily without pay. For eligibility requirements, more information, and application, visit <http://bit.ly/ElecJud> or contact Cottage Grove City Clerk, Joe Fischbach at 651-458-2883 or [jfischbach@cottagegrovemn.gov](mailto:jfischbach@cottagegrovemn.gov).

**Skylar Fields Recognized for Girl Scout Gold Award**



Skylar Fields, Girl Scout Troop 52797, was recognized for her Gold Award achievement at the April 18 City Council meeting. She taught kids from Kindergarten to fifth grade basic cooking and gardening skills at Hamlet Park with the help of volunteers and staff members of Cottage Grove. She chose this project because she likes cooking and hopes to be a chef someday.

**Central Fire Station Grand Opening Celebration  
June 2, 2018**



Join us as we celebrate the opening of your new Central Fire Station! The festivities begin at 10 a.m. with remarks and a ceremonial fire hose uncoupling. Meet with firefighters, tour the new station, and enjoy refreshments (while supplies last).

The newly built station is located at 8641 80th Street S.



## New Deputy Public Safety Director and Police Sergeant Promotions



From left: Randy McAlister, Pete Koerner, and Brian Franck

Randy McAlister was appointed Deputy Director of Public Safety/Captain and Brian Franck was promoted to Police Sergeant at the April 18 City Council meeting. McAlister took over the position vacated by Public Safety Director Pete Koerner's appointment.

McAlister began his career with Cottage Grove in 1998 as a police officer/paramedic and has held multiple positions since then. He has a bachelor's degree from Bethel University and a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Leadership from Concordia University. His wife, Josie, pinned his badge at the ceremony.

Franck served four years active duty as an Infantry Rifleman and seven years in the Marine Corps Reserves as a Military Police Officer before retiring and attending college at Inver Hills. He began his law enforcement career in 2006 with the Washington County Sheriff's office before being hired by Cottage Grove in 2009. His son Sam pinned his badge.

## Historic Preservationist of the Year Announced



Jason Sanders, Dodge Nature Center, shakes Mayor Bailey's hand.

Dodge Nature Center was presented the 2018 Preservationist of the Year Award at the May 2 Council meeting. They were recognized for their previous and continuing efforts to document, preserve, and share the interesting history of Shepard Farm with the public, and to establish an adaptive reuse of property as an environmental/agricultural education center.



Golf, Grill and Event Center  
 11099 South Highway 61  
 Phone: 651-438-2121  
[www.riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://www.riveroaksmunigolf.com)

### River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center— so much more than just golf!



Book a corporate, neighborhood, or family group golf outing.

Register for our high performance Junior Golf program.

Hold your wedding ceremony outdoors surrounded by beautiful scenery.

Host a banquet, fundraiser or corporate event.

Sit on the patio and order from our new summer menu.

Enjoy our special events, such as live music, and much more!

Be sure to visit our website to book a tee time, sign up for golf lessons, and learn more about our special events.

# PARKS AND RECREATION

For more information call 651-458-3400

## 2018 Kids Race Series

Cottage Grove and Woodbury Parks and Recreation are again partnering to offer the popular Kids Race Series. Participants should arrive on time and direction will be given for their start time. Participants receive a t-shirt and drink. Pre-register to secure a spot; registration the day of the run will only be accepted if space is available. Race is appropriate for ages 6 to 12.

### Mud Run

Kids will climb, jump, slide, and run their way through obstacles around the park and end with a crawl through the mud pit. We strongly encourage participants to have a change of clothes for after the race. The route will be staffed and marked to aid in a successful run. Arrive anytime between 9 and 10 a.m. Participants will run in waves as the course clears.

Dates: June 2  
Time: Arrive anytime between 9 and 10 a.m.  
Cost: \$25  
Location: Woodridge Park

## Youth Tennis Lessons

These lessons are a great way to get introduced to the life-long sport of tennis. Lessons are structured so participants learn the skills, practice the techniques, and have fun! Registration includes a racquet. Minimum of four and maximum of ten per class.

Dates: June 21, 28, July 12, 19, 26  
Time: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Ages: 7 – 12  
Cost: \$40/session  
Location: Hamlet Park

## Archery Camp

Archery Camp is a concentrated course covering the basics of archery and is suitable for those who have never shot a bow as well as those that have some experience. The camp covers determining eye dominance, safety rules, warm-up exercises, tackle sized to archer, proper shooting techniques and consistency. All safety equipment provided. Archers should wear tennis shoes, snug clothing around the chest and arms, and no jewelry.

Dates: June 18 – 21  
Time: 6 – 7:30 p.m.  
Ages: 7 – 12  
Cost: \$75  
Location: Pine Tree Pond Park

## Rec Works-Youth Volunteer Training

This program is required for anyone interested in volunteering during summer playground programs. Youth will learn volunteer expectations and about summer programs and events. Training includes material packet and a 2018 recreation shirt.

Please choose the park location (Hamlet, Peter Thompson, or Pine Tree Valley) and shift (8:30 a.m. – noon or 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.) you would like to volunteer for and bring it to the training.

Dates: June 8  
Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.  
Ages: 12 – 16  
Cost: \$30  
Location: Peter Thompson Park

## Safety Camp

Cottage Grove Police, Fire, and Recreation Departments are teaming up to encourage youth safety. Participants experience two days of fun, all while learning about important safety topics such as how to use 911, basic first aid, fire prevention and bike, kitchen, electrical, and water safety—all taught by industry professionals in an energetic team-style setting. Registration fee includes t-shirt, hat, lunches, snacks, and a water bottle. Participants should bring their own lunch and snacks if there are dietary restrictions. Family and friends are invited to attend the graduation ceremony at the close of camp on June 21 at 4:30 p.m. Please bring your own chairs.

Dates: June 26 – 27  
Time: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Ages: 8 – 11  
Cost: \$58  
Location: Hamlet Park



## New Blue and Green Environmental Challenge!

We've revamped our Sustainable City Award from years past and turned it into the Cottage Grove Blue and Green Environmental Challenge. The Challenge encourages you to live in a more environmental friendly way by making little changes in your everyday activities. This year, the Challenge is focused on water conservation. By adopting small changes, both inside and out, you can become eligible to be entered into a monthly drawing to win a \$50 credit on your water bill. Those who go above and beyond will be entered into a grand prize drawing for either a tree with a watering bag; an irrigation controller; or a gift card to Zywiecs. More information, including Challenge rules and entry forms, can be found on the City's website.