



Cottage Grove Reports

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Park Buildings, Pavilions and Field Rentals

Make your reservations soon, as some park rentals fill fast. Residents may reserve a park shelter for \$11 per hour and a park building for \$14 per hour. Park building rentals include two eight-foot tables, four eight-foot benches and access to standard power.

Highlands Park adjacent to the Splash Pad

The Highlands Park building may be rented from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. or 4–8 p.m., seven days a week. The rental fee is \$75 per four hour block of time. Add an additional hour of 10–11 a.m. or 8–9 p.m. for another \$20. Keep in mind that the restrooms are not exclusive use for the party that has rented the building and will remain open to the general public. Check out our website for more information, prices and rental forms.

Caution! Road Work Ahead

A number of road construction projects in Cottage Grove are planned for this summer. Here is a summary of the projects:

Hadley Avenue and 95th Street—scheduled to begin mid–April

The roundabout at Hadley Avenue and 95th Street will remain open, but Hadley Avenue will be closed from the roundabout to 100th Street. You won't be able to enter Hadley from 97th or 98th Streets. This section of Hadley Avenue will reopen the end of July.



80th Street and East Point Douglas Road—scheduled to begin early May

The signals at this intersection will be moved and a new right turn lane added to East Point Douglas Road heading north to 80th Street. The work will take four days, and during that time a four-way stop will be set up at that intersection. The intersection will remain open, but you're encouraged to use an alternate route.

County Highway 22 (70th Street)—scheduled to begin May

Washington County is making improvements to the County Highway 22 corridor in coordination with the City. In May work will begin on County Highway 22 from Highway 61 to Hinton Avenue. The existing pavement will be replaced, additional turn lanes added, and new trails and walking paths created. Watch for road closures and posted detour routes. Work will end fall 2017.

County Highway 19 (Innovation Road)—scheduled to begin May

This is a joint partnership with Washington County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation with a number of improvements being made. A six-leg roundabout is being constructed at County Highway 19 and Highway 61 to help address traffic volumes and safety concerns. This roundabout will be similar to the one at Jamaica Avenue and Highway 61. On East Point Douglas Road, city utilities are being extended from Walmart to County Highway 19. In addition, the entrance to the Ravine Regional Park will be relocated to County Highway 19. Construction will end fall 2017. Expect road closures and detours.

65th Street and Geneva Avenue—scheduled to begin April

This road project is being done in conjunction with the new Oltman Middle School construction. Improvements will be made to 65th Street and Geneva Avenue, a roundabout added at 65th Street and Goodview, and two new City streets will be built. Expect road closures and detours late summer when the roundabout is built. Work will be completed by fall.

City staff worked hard to coordinate these road construction projects so that the timing of each will have the least impact. Please be patient and use caution when driving in construction zones.

Stay up-to-date on the construction projects by visiting the City's website and clicking on the construction quick link on the left side of the home page.

Coming Up

Apr 17 Ladies Only Golf Clinics begin
Learn more and sign up at www.riveroaksmunigolf.com

Apr 18 Adult Softball League Registration Deadline Leagues filled on a first-come basis, games played at Lamar Park. More information on the City's website.

Apr 22 Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase 10 a.m.– 2 p.m., Ice Arena, no entrance fee

Apr 22 Stone Soup-er Bowl 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Park Grove Bowl, 1020 Hastings Ave., St. Paul Park. More info: www.stonesoupthriftshop.org

May 6 Spring Cleanup Day 7 a.m.–3 p.m., Public Works Garage, 8635 W. Point Douglas Road. See website for flyer with list of items accepted and costs.

May 20 Standing Strong 5K Run/Walk 9 a.m., Hamlet Park

For more city-wide events, check the calendar on the City's website.

**Rec. Works
Youth Volunteer Training**

This program is a must for youth interested in volunteering during summer playground programs. Youth will learn volunteer expectations and summer programs/events. Training includes material packet and 2017 recreation shirt.

Youth should be ready to choose the park location (Hamlet or Peter Thompson) as well as the shifts they'd like to volunteer when they arrive at the training.

Available shifts: 8:30 a.m. to noon or 12:30 to 4 p.m.

Ages: 12-16

Date: May 23

Time: 6–7:30 p.m.

Place: Peter Thompson Park

Cost: \$30

Inclusive Playground Donation



The West St. Paul/Mendota Heights Rotary Club made a \$21,000 donation to be used towards the construction of the Inclusive Playground at Woodridge Park. City Council accepted the donation at the April 5 meeting. At that same meeting, City Council awarded the construction contract to Landscape Structures, Inc. The playground will be built summer 2017. Watch the City's website for updates.

Construction on Central Fire Station To Begin in April



On April 5, the City Council awarded a \$9 million dollar contract for the construction of the new Central Fire Station. It will be built on the current site of Fire Station 2, which will be demolished in late April.

Emergency medical services have been temporarily relocated to the old City Hall building at 7516 80th Street. The public entrance is on the east side to the building and there will be signs directing visitors. For now, fire operations are located at Station 1, on Belden Blvd, and Station 4, on Jamaica Avenue.

These temporary moves will not affect the level of service you'll receive if you have an emergency. Construction will be underway starting in April and continue through April 2018. A construction camera will have a live feed of the construction. For more information on the new Fire Station, and to view the live feed, visit the City's website, and click on the construction quick link on the home page.

Central Fire Station Groundbreaking

On Tuesday, May 9, at 3:30 p.m., a groundbreaking ceremony will take place at 8641 80th Street S. Park in the St. Rita's parking lot.

SPRING CLEAN YOUR GARAGE FOR FIRE SAFETY

With the annual Spring Cleanup Day just around the corner, now is a good time to clean out your garage and dispose of excess items and hazardous materials. Doing so will help prevent garage fires.

Join Us at Highlands Park April 29 for Arbor Day Event

APRIL 29 | 9 TO 11 A.M. | HIGHLANDS PARK

Join us for our annual Arbor Day event! This year we'll be at Highlands Park installing a tree plantation. To help minimize the number of geese that make their way on the grass on the west side of the park we'll also be planting 135 plants around the pond. Bring your shovels, work gloves and mud boots for a morning of planting to enhance the park.

Meet at 9 a.m. for instructions (and tools if you need them).

BUCKTHORN REMOVAL

Each Arbor Day, Cottage Grove encourages residents to remove buckthorn from their properties to help promote a healthier urban forest. Please call 651-458-2844 by 3 p.m. on April 28 to schedule a curbside pickup on May 1 and 2.

April Artist of the Month: Joe Filipovich



Joe Filipovich was named Artist of the Month for April by the Arts Commission. Filipovich has been playing music for approximately 24 years, beginning with piano lessons at the age of seven. He played the clarinet in fourth and fifth grade but then picked up an electric guitar, thanks to his love of the movie *Wayne's World*.

Filipovich grew up in Cottage Grove. After high school, he moved around Minnesota

and Wisconsin for business before returning and settling back in Cottage Grove.

He offers music lessons and performs at several venues around Minneapolis, both on his own and with the bands the Blue Cities and Crooked Dice. In 2015, he recorded his debut album, *Release*, and has enjoyed radio play in the United States and Europe. Filipovich repurposes vintage oil cans into guitars. He also works with local non-profit organizations, such as Discover Music, that offer music education for kids where he created Blues for Kids, a program that organizes workshops at schools and festivals with the mission of teaching children of all ages about the Blues music genre with harmonica and guitar.

"Each day is a blessing, a challenge, full of music, and I absolutely love it!"

Door-to-Door Salespeople

With warmer weather comes an increase in the number of door-to-door salespeople. Generally, the City can't prohibit people from trying to sell you something, but you do have the right to prohibit them by:

- Posting a No Peddlers or Solicitors sign,
- Telling them you are not interested, or
- Simply not answering the door.

Companies and individuals must be licensed or registered with the City and carry a copy of their certificate when they go door-to-door (there are some exceptions such as those providing information considered to be protected free speech or certain sales by persons under 18 years of age, such as Girl Scout cookies).

Licensed or registered companies and individuals undergo basic background checks, but this is not an endorsement by the City of the products or services they're selling. Always take appropriate precautions whenever you enter into a business transaction.

A **No Peddlers or Solicitors** sign can be downloaded from the City's website or picked up at City Hall.



River Oaks Golf Course is Now Open

River Oaks Golf Course opened for the season on March 29. Book your tee time online at www.riveroaksmunigolf.com. Group golf lessons begin in April. Visit the website for more information including dates and prices. River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center is located at 11099 S. Highway 61.

The Eagles Bar and Grill

Visit The Eagles Bar and Grill at the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce Spring Business Showcase on April 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ice Arena. Visit with staff, try a food sample, look at our menu, and get a coupon to use at the restaurant.

Follow The Eagles Bar and Grill on Facebook to stay up-to-date on specials, hours and menu items.



ICE ARENA

For more information call **651-458-3400**

ONCE UPON A TIME—ON ICE

The 2017 Ice Show is a great opportunity to come and see our skater's talents showcased in your favorite classic fairytales. Skaters of all ages and abilities participate in this year's 40th Annual Ice Show on Friday, May 5 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, May 6 at 3 p.m. Call or stop by the Ice Arena office to purchase tickets.

SUMMER SKATING LESSONS

Lessons are available for skaters of all ages and abilities. The Learn-to-Skate program is designed for recreational, figure or hockey skating. Skaters may be shifted to a different class during the first lesson to accommodate their ability. Helmets required for all skaters ages five and under (bike helmets are fine). Note: no classes are held the fourth of July week. Cost: \$72.

- Monday evenings - June 12 to Aug. 14
- Friday mornings - June 16 to Aug. 18

Skating Tots: For skaters five and under. Skaters play games and sing songs as they develop the skills needed to balance and move across the ice.

Learn-to-Skate Level 1: Skaters learn the proper way to fall and get up, the penguin march, hopping, and how to make A's & V's.

Learn-to-Skate Level 2: Skaters learn forward swizzles, two-foot glides, back-ward wiggle, stop and freeze, the "dip," and the "teapot."

Learn-to-Skate Level 3: Skaters learn backward swizzles, hockey turns, forward slalom, push off and glide (two feet), and semi-spiral.

Learn-to-Skate Level 4: Skaters learn backward slalom, one-foot glides, three-step crossovers, backward glides (two feet), and pump circles.

PARKS AND RECREATION

For more information call **651-458-3400**

SUPERVISED PLAYGROUNDS

7:30AM-4:30PM | MONDAY-FRIDAY | HAMLET AND PETER THOMPSON PARK | AGES 5-13 | ALL SUMMER

Supervised Playgrounds is a fun and safe place for your child to be cared for during the summer. Each day will consist of arts and crafts, water activities, large and small group games, free play, special events, sports, and new friendships!

Each park will have three adult staff, multiple teen volunteers, and up to 35 youth each day. Youth must be signed in and out by an adult each day they are registered. Youth may sign themselves out if staff is notified in advance by an adult.

We want everyone will have a great summer, however, if there are continuing discipline problems you will be notified immediately. Please contact us to discuss any defining characteristics of your child so that we may serve them better. This program may not be suitable for youth which thrive from a routine schedule.

Should weather prevent us from holding activities as scheduled, a modified version will take place. Programs will not be canceled due to weather. If severe weather is in the area, the building/restrooms will serve as our shelter.

Youth should dress appropriately for weather conditions and activities being held that day (crafts, water, running, jumping, and playing at the playground); this includes wearing athletic shoes. Youth should bring a swimsuit and towel on Wednesdays.

Youth must bring their own lunch, snacks, beverages and utensils. If your child does not come with a lunch, we will attempt to contact you to bring one; otherwise we will provide one and a \$5 lunch fee will be applied to your account. We also strongly encourage each child to bring their own water bottle each day.

Playground Leaders have received several hours of training including basic first aid, emergency procedures, insight on planning events for youth, and have passed a Criminal History Background Check. Please communicate with us on a daily basis to be sure of who is picking up and dropping off your children and also so that you are aware of how the program is working for your children.

A 2017 Registration Form (available on the city's

website) must be completed for each participant. The registrar must agree to weekly payments for the fees due each week or full payment due at the time of registration. Weekly payments will be charged to the credit card on Mondays. Registration and payment will not be accepted at the park; all payments/changes must be made through the office. All registration changes must be done by noon on the preceding Thursday; no refunds given after noon.

There is a charge for participants picked up late. A \$10 fee will be assessed to your credit card per each 15 minutes, or portion of, past 4:30 p.m.

Registrations are on a first come first served basis, with a limit of 35 participants per site, per day. This program may qualify as a dependent care expense if it is used as daycare. Our tax id number is 41-6008286.

Dates: June 12 to Sept. 1
(closed July 3 and 4)

Cost/Week: \$84

Cost/Day: \$21