



# Cottage Grove Reports

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Open to Business**  
**DNR Encourages Composting**  
**Food Carton Recycling**  
**Damaged Sod**  
**Central Fire Station Emergency Vehicle Flashing Beacon**  
**April Artist of the Month**  
**Upcoming Events at River Oaks**  
**Eagles Bar and Grill Specials**  
**Recreation Supervised Playgrounds**  
**2018 Strawberry Fest Logo Winner**

## Annual Business Showcase

Date: April 21  
 Time: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
 Place: Cottage Grove Ice Arena,  
 8020 80th Street S.

Visit with more than 50 local exhibitors at this family friendly event. The first 500 families receive a free insulated tote bag (one per family).

**New this year!** Food will be offered for sale from Bonngard's Family Meats, Cub Foods, Culver's, Hy-Vee, Junction 70, Perkins, and Von Hanson's Meats. Don't forget to bring some cash.

Fun family entertainment including free open skating, inflatables, a fire truck, 3M Wizards, balloon animals, Carpenter Nature Center, vintage pinball and games, chipping and putting contest, and golf simulator.

This event is put on by the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce. Learn more at [www.cottagegrovechamber.org](http://www.cottagegrovechamber.org) or call 651-458-8334.

## Celebrate Arbor Day with a Free Tree

Be one of the first 150 residents at our Arbor Day Celebration and receive a free bare root ornamental sapling! (One free sapling per residence; must provide proof of Cottage Grove residency.) Light refreshments will be available.

Date: Saturday, April 28  
 Time: 9 a.m.—numbers given out for trees  
 9:15 a.m.—ceremonial tree planting  
 9:20 a.m.—plant your free tree demo  
 9:35 a.m.—redeem number for tree  
 Place: Hamlet Park, 8883 Hamlet Avenue S.

### Free Buckthorn Pickup

Each Arbor Day Cottage Grove promotes the removal of Buckthorn for a healthier urban forest. Curbside pickup will take place on April 30 and May 1, however you do need to call and schedule the pickup. Please call Adam at 651-458-2844 by 3 p.m. on April 27 to schedule.

**Win a prize** by participating in our social media contest! Here's how:

- Plant your free sapling no later than May 5. It must be planted in Cottage Grove.
- Take a photo of you and/or your family by your tree once it is planted.
- Post it on Facebook or Instagram and use #CGArborDay18. We'll comment on your post confirming your entry.
- On May 7 we will randomly draw FIVE winners! Each will receive a \$25 gift card to a local garden center.



## Stay Up-To-Date on the 3M and PFCs Settlement

On Feb. 20, 2018, Minnesota settled its lawsuit against the 3M Company in return for a grant of \$850 million. Minnesota's attorney general sued 3M in 2010 alleging that the company's production of chemicals known as PFCs had damaged drinking water and natural resources in the southeast Twin Cities metro area, including Cottage Grove.

Visit [www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/3m-and-pfcs-2018-settlement](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/3m-and-pfcs-2018-settlement) for more information and to sign up for email updates.

## Celebrate Month of the Military Child with Beyond the Yellow Ribbon

Be prepared to burn some energy through both of these fun programs! PreK age children will celebrate with Mrs. Laura's Special 'Little Military Athletes' Children's Program. Older kids will celebrate with Park High School Air Force JROTC students. This event is open to any military or veteran-connected child.

Date: April 21  
 Time: 9:30 a.m. – Noon  
 Where: 8180 Belden Blvd S.  
 Pre-register: <https://goo.gl/forms/HBpgBQftWVrgq0Aa2>

More information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/812074792333896/> or [gbytr@gmail.com](mailto:gbytr@gmail.com) or 612-584-BTYR.



**Coming Up**

- Apr 16**     **Park Grove Library  
Redevelopment Pre-design  
Open House #2**, 6 – 8 p.m.,  
Park Grove Library
  
- Apr 28**     **Stone Soup-er Bowl**,  
9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Park Grove  
Bowling Alley, St. Paul Park,  
[www.stonesoupthriftshop.org](http://www.stonesoupthriftshop.org)
  
- May 3**        **Town Hall with Council  
members Dennis and Thiede**,  
7 – 8:30 p.m., City Hall, 12800  
Ravine Parkway South.
  
- May 5**        **Spring Cleanup Day**  
7 a.m. – 3 p.m., Public Works  
Garage, 8635 W. Point  
Douglas Rd. See insert for  
details.
  
- May 15**     **Park Grove Library  
Redevelopment Pre-design  
Open House #3**, 6:30 – 8 p.m.,  
Park Grove Library
  
- Jun 2**        **DATE CHANGE! Central Fire  
Station Grand Opening  
Celebration**  
Save the Date! More info in  
next month’s newsletter.

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

**Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest**

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

Date: June 14-18

Place: Kingston Park, 9195 75th Street S.

Email [sfest@cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com](mailto:sfest@cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com) or visit [www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com](http://www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com) for more information.

**Damaged Sod Replacement**

If your boulevard grass was damaged by a snowplow this winter, maintenance workers will repair the damage with black dirt and grass seed as soon as possible in the spring, typically in May. Please call Public Works at 651-458-2808 to report damage caused by a snowplow.

**DNR Encourages Homeowners to Compost vs. Burn**

In an effort to prevent wildfires, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources urges woodland property owners to compost their yard waste rather than burn it.

“Burning should be a last resort for yard waste – especially in April and May, when wildfire risk is especially high,” said Casey McCoy, fire prevention supervisor. “Composting prevents wildfires and reduces air pollution, so it’s the safest possible way to manage yard debris.”

The Cottage Grove Fire Department issues commercial and residential burn permits to residents and business owners. A permit application can be picked up at City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For information and daily updates on open burning restrictions and current fire danger, visit [mndnr.gov/burnrestrictions](http://mndnr.gov/burnrestrictions)

The University of Minnesota Extension offers a step-by-step guide to composting yard waste on its website. Visit <http://bit.ly/2uR2ppE>

**Recycle Your Food Cartons**

From wine to soup to dairy, cartons have become the packaging of choice for many retailers. Cartons are mainly made of paper, making them lightweight and compact. This high-quality paper is in great demand by manufacturers of recycled products, and they are easily recycled.

All of the waste and recycling haulers in Cottage Grove accept paper based cartons for recycling through curbside service. Additionally, some local schools have programs in place to recycle milk cartons from the lunchroom, and all City public buildings offer recycling containers for everyone to use.

Before placing cartons in recycling bins, make sure they are empty, then place the plastic caps back on the containers.

There is no need to rinse the containers before recycling.

After cartons are collected through the curbside program, they are taken to a materials recycling facility to be sorted and baled, then shipped to a paper mill. Some mills recycle cartons into tissues and office paper, while others use the paper fibers to make building products.

You can have a profound global affect by reducing the need for landfills just by making sure your recyclable cartons are placed in recycling bins.

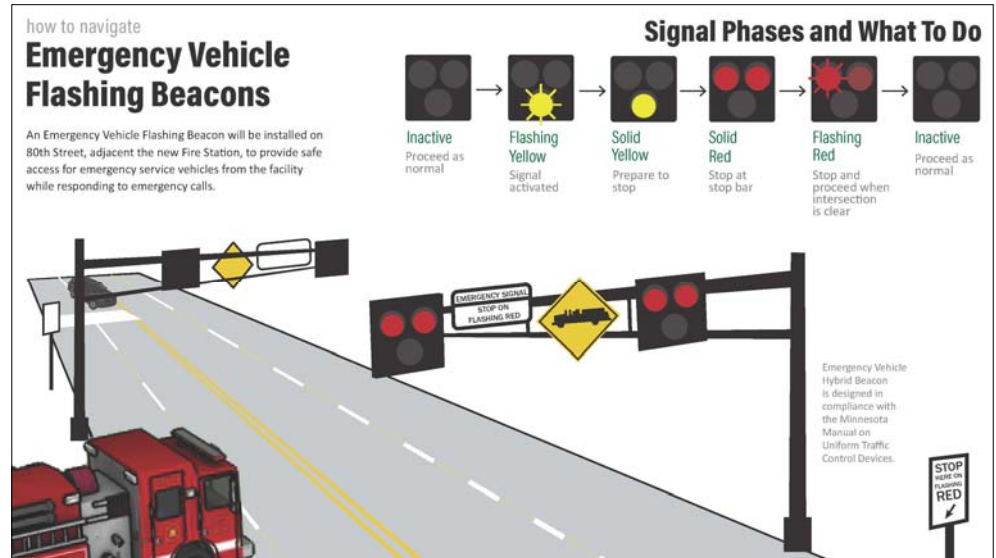
For more information on carton recycling in Cottage Grove, visit: [www.cottagegrovemn.gov/environment/recycling-and-solid-waste](http://www.cottagegrovemn.gov/environment/recycling-and-solid-waste).

For more information on the carton recycling process visit: [www.recyclecartons.com/center-info/?location=37258](http://www.recyclecartons.com/center-info/?location=37258).

## Emergency Vehicle Flashing Beacon Being Installed on 80th Street

An Emergency Vehicle Flashing Beacon will be installed on 80th Street, adjacent to the new Central Fire Station, to provide safe access for emergency service vehicles from the facility while responding to emergency calls.

When the light is inactive, proceed as normal. When the light is flashing yellow, the signal has been activated. When the light is solid yellow, be prepared to stop. When the light is solid red, stop at the stop bar. When the lights are flashing red, stop at the stop bar and proceed when the intersection is clear (similar to a flashing red at a traditional intersection).



## April Artist of the Month: Bobby Zahradka



Bobby Zahradka was named the Arts Commission April Artist of the Month. The Zahradka family have been Cottage Grove residents for 25 years, and their son Bobby is a fifth grade student in Cottage Grove. He has always liked art and is very creative, drawing since he was in preschool. Zahradka started by coloring but soon advanced to drawing his own pictures.

While Zahradka is on the autism spectrum, he does not let that stop him from branching out and being artistically creative. Art is something he excels at and it is a big confidence booster for him.

He is always working on something, usually drawing pictures on his white board or with pencils and paper. Zahradka enjoys creating his house on the iPad game Bloxburg and building houses out of blocks. During the summer, he plants and maintains both a vegetable garden and a flower garden. He also loves science, especially anything to do with dinosaurs, weather, and nature.

More information on the Artist of the Month program, along with some of Zahradka's pictures, is available on the City's website.

## RIVER OAKS

Golf Course and Event Center

11099 South Highway 61

Phone: 651-438-2121

[www.riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://www.riveroaksmunigolf.com)

### Golf Leagues

The snow is melting and temperatures are rising – golf season is almost upon us! Sign up today for a River Oaks membership, a golf league or a lesson. River Oaks is also a great place for businesses or neighborhoods to host small group golf outings.

Saturday Prime Rib specials along with full menu.

### Upcoming Events

**Apr. 21:** Prom Dinner and Pictures

**May 5:** Spring GLOW Golf

**May 12:** Paint 'n Sip Party hosted by the Arts Commission

Visit <http://bit.ly/RiverOaksEvents> for more information and events.

### Eagles Bar and Grill Weekly Specials

Every Friday and Saturday, 3–9 p.m. Friday Fish Fry and



## Class of 2018!

### Let us Host your Graduation Party

Host your graduation party at River Oaks and save time, energy, and stress. We'll do the planning, and you have fun—no stress, no clean up! Reserve your date today!

### Pick Up Party Platters

Are you hosting your own graduation party? Let us help with the food! River Oaks has Pick Up Party Platters to make feeding large groups easier. Available options include meat and cheese for sandwiches, vegetables, and fruits.

Reserve your platter today!

Visit [www.riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://www.riveroaksmunigolf.com) or call 651-438-2121



# PARKS AND RECREATION

For more information call 651-458-3400

## SUPERVISED PLAYGROUNDS

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

**Supervised Playgrounds** offer a fun and safe place for your child during the summer. Each day they will enjoy arts and crafts, water activities, large and small group games, special events, sports, time for free play, and new friendships!

Ages:	5-13 (Hamlet and Peter Thompson Parks) 4-8 (Pine Tree Valley Park)
Dates:	Choose one day, one session, or all sessions
Session 1	June 11-5
Session 2	June 18-22
Session 3	June 25-29
Session 4	July 2-3
Session 5	July 9-13
Session 6	July 16-20
Session 7	July 23-27
Session 8	July 30-Aug. 3
Session 9	Aug. 6-10
Session 10	Aug. 13-17 (Adventure Camp)
Session 11	Aug. 20-24
Session 12	Aug. 27-31

### Summer Staff

Our Playground Leaders have received training in basic first aid, emergency procedures, insight on planning youth events, and have passed a criminal history background check.

Hamlet Park and Peter Thompson Park will have three staff members, multiple teen volunteers, and up to 35 youth each

day. Pine Tree Valley Park will have two staff and up to 20 youth per 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. Please let us know on a daily basis who is picking up and dropping off your children.

### What to Bring

Youth should be dressed appropriately for weather conditions as well as the daily activities, including 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 arrives without a lunch we will attempt to contact you to bring one, otherwise one will be provided and a \$5 lunch fee will be added to your account. We also strongly encourage each child to bring their own water bottle each day.

### Weather

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.

### Other Details

We want everyone to 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 who thrive from a routine schedule.

If you require your child to have a cell phone, it must be kept in the office or in their bag during the day. Electronic handheld video games are only be allowed on Thursdays before lunch. Please send games with an "entertainment software rating" of Everyone 10+ or lower only.

Youth must be able to use the restroom on their own. If an accident does occur, you will be notified and required to respond to them within 30 minutes.

### Registration and Payment

Registration forms are available on the City's website. Complete one for each participant. Payment can be made in full at the time of registration or weekly. Registration and payment will not be accepted at the park; all payments and changes must be made through the Recreation office.

Cost/Week: \$84

Cost/Day: \$21

Late Pickup: There is a late fee of \$10 per 15 minutes, or portion of, past 4:30 pm.

Registrations are on a first come first served basis. This program may qualify as a dependent care expense if it is used as daycare. Our tax id number is 41-6008286.

## 2018 STRAWBERRY FEST LOGO

Congratulations to David Lutchen, the 2018 Strawberry Fest Logo Winner! Lutchen is a regular information booth volunteer at Strawberry Fest. A 1997 Park High School graduate, he served in the Air Force until 1999. He owns Lutchen Computer Services and is in his 11th year of business serving IT needs of residents and businesses of Cottage Grove. Lutchen is member of the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce, volunteers at his daughter's elementary school PTO, serves on the Cottage Grove Planning Commission and is the marketing officer and trustee of the Cottage Grove Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Steering Committee.

