



Cottage Grove Reports

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See the Winter Lights Contest Entry Displays

Congratulations to Jim Wirkus and Bill Davison, 7682 Immanuel Avenue S., and Wade Parrot, 6220 Hearthstone Avenue S., for winning this year's Winter Lights and Decoration contest! Each received a holiday planter to add to their winning displays. The 8th Annual Winter Lights and Decoration Contest is presented in partnership with South Washington County Bulletin. Here are the addresses if you're interested in seeing all of the entries.

- 9636 66th Street S.
- 8851 67th Street Bay S.
- 8351 75th Street S.
- 9657 82nd Street S.
- 9595 87th Street S.
- 8834 Upper 89th Street Circle S.
- 6220 Hearthstone Avenue S. (winner)
- 6649 Homestead Avenue Court S.
- 7590 Hyde Avenue S.
- 7682 Immanuel Avenue S. (winner)
- 8450 Indian Blvd. S.
- 9244 Indian Blvd. S.
- 8263 Innsdale Avenue S.
- 7520 Irish Avenue S.
- 7788 Jasmine Avenue S.
- 8008 Jewel Avenue S.
- 8598 Jewel Avenue S.
- 7384 Jorgensen Avenue S.

Photo Contest Deadline Approaching



Have you been thinking of entering the annual Capture Cottage Grove photo contest? You better hurry as the deadline is rapidly approaching. You could win \$50 and have your photo highlighted on the City's website and social media pages. All photos entered must be taken in Cottage Grove and become the property of the City. The deadline for this year's photo contest is Dec. 29. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/2ewBOeR> or email communications@cottagegrove.org

Elementary Students Learn about Recycling

Hundreds of students at Pine Hill Elementary School attended a fun and interactive performance by CLIMB Theatre designed to teach the importance of waste



reduction, reuse, and recycling. With funds provided by Washington County's Recycling Grant, the City partnered with CLIMB Theatre to provide additional community outreach and education at all of the local elementary schools within the City.

Recycle Holiday Lights

Do you have old holiday lights lying around taking up space? Washington County offers year-round recycling of holiday lights at the Environmental Center in Woodbury.



Recycling these lights is much better for the environment, and allows the different materials in the lights to be reused for other purposes. Both working and broken lights can be recycled, so please consider recycling your old lights this holiday season! For hours and location visit www.co.washington.mn.us/604/Environmental-Center



Coming Up

- Dec 29 Photo Contest Entries Due
- Feb 7 Photo Contest Winners Announced, 7 p.m., Council Meeting, City Hall
- Feb 7 State of the City Address, 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chamber

OPEN
TO BUSINESS

For more information:
www.opentobusinessmn.org
OR call the Washington county office at 612-789-8838

**Need to RAMP UP
your business
for the holidays?**

Open to Business is a free, nonprofit consulting and lending program. Our experienced team can help you assess financing options to increase your year-end inventory.

Nextdoor

The City has partnered with a private online network called Nextdoor. Nextdoor is a free private social networking website for your neighborhood. Nextdoor makes it easy to connect with your neighbors and build stronger, safer, happier places to call home. The City shares information and updates that are relevant to your neighborhood. The City’s account does not have access to your neighborhood’s content. There are 35 Cottage Grove neighborhoods on NextDoor—you can sign up to be part of your neighborhood by visiting www.nextdoor.com.

#MyCottageGrove Videos (and more) on YouTube

Learn more about your neighbors in the City’s “My Cottage Grove” videos on the City’s YouTube channel: <http://bit.ly/YouTubeCGmn>

Meet a family who is visiting all 33 parks, a young hockey player who wants to be a pro when he grows up, the man behind the flamingos on Highway 61, and more.

In addition, you can view public safety and economic development updates, meet City staff, watch monthly Council updates, listen to messages from Mayor Bailey, and see fun PSAs. Be sure and subscribe so you’ll be notified when videos are posted.

Tyler Hilsabeck, Open to Business Advisor, is available at Cottage Grove City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway S., from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of every month. Entrepreneurs can either stop in or make an advance appointment with Tyler. If these days and times do not work, contact Tyler to schedule a time that works.

Tyler Hilsabeck, Business Advisor
Office: 612-789-8838
Email: thilsabeck@mccdmn.org

This Open to Business Program is offered by the Washington County CDA and is available for free to all Washington County residents.

Winter and Holiday Fire Safety from www.usfa.fema.gov

You and your family are at greater risk during the winter season as you cook holiday meals, display decorations, and possibly use unsafe heat sources. The threat of winter fires is real. Did you know?

- 905 people die in winter home fires each year.
- 67% of winter fires occur in one and two family homes.
- Cooking is the leading cause of all winter home fires.
- 5 to 8 p.m. is the most common time for winter home fires.
- Nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart:

- Inspect holiday lights before you put them up. Get rid of light strands with frayed and pinched wires.
- Water your Christmas tree daily. A dry tree can easily catch on fire.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.

Other winter safety tips:

- Make sure your home has a working Carbon Monoxide detector within ten feet of every room used for sleeping.
- Replace dirty furnace filters.
- Fire wood should be seasoned for at least 8 to 12 months; only burn dry wood.
- Clear out a three foot clearance around fire hydrants. Cottage Grove has more than 1,500 hydrants. Help the City’s firefighters by shoveling out snow around fire hydrants located near your home.

River Oaks Holiday Gift Cards

Buy a \$50 gift card and receive a *free* Fish Fry dinner!

Buy a \$100 gift card and receive a *free* Fish Fry dinner and a free King Cut Prime Rib dinner!

Gift cards must be purchased by Dec. 23 to receive this special offer.

Purchase at www.riveroaksmunigolf.com or call 651-438-2121.



Saying I Do?

Engaged? Book your event at River Oaks Event Center and enjoy half priced room rental fees on all remaining 2018 dates! Contact Dennis Neitz at 651-438-2121 or dneitz@cottage-grove.org for more information.



Upcoming River Oaks Events

- Jan. 12 Paint and Sip with Atlas Traveling Art. Hosted by the Cottage Grove Arts Commission. For more information visit the River Oaks and Event Center Facebook page.
- Jan. 19 Winter Wine and Beer Tasting. For more information: www.riveroaksmunigolf.com
- Feb. 9 DIY Sign Making with Sawdust Savvy. For more information: <https://sawdustsavvy.regfox.com/feb-9-2018-river-oaks>

Enjoy Cross Country Skiing and Snowshoeing at River Oaks

The River Oaks winter trails will be open and groomed for traditional cross country skiing and snowshoeing when there is a base of at least 10 inches of snow.

Hours will be from sunrise to sunset as there are no lights on the trails.

At the parking lot, a sign will be posted showing the trail route along with a bench for changing and a portable restroom.

The Eagles Bar and Grill will be open during normal business hours, Fridays and Saturdays from 3 to 10 p.m., as well as for special events.

Get out, burn some calories and enjoy the scenic views at River Oaks this winter!

Eagles Bar and Grill

River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center
11099 Highway 61 S.

3-9 pm Fridays and Saturdays
Happy Hour 3-5:30 pm
Full Menu!

Special Features:

Fish Fry on
Fridays



Prime Rib on
Saturdays

FREE APPETIZER

One FREE appetizer with the purchase of one of our popular nightly specials.

One coupon per table. Not valid with any other specials or offers.

Expires 12/30/17

GIVE THE GIFT OF GOLF - OR USE IT YOURSELF!

Holiday Gift Pack

6 Pack of Golf
with Cart
(save 23%!)

Plus Two Complimentary Dinners
at Eagles Bar and Grill

\$249
plus tax

CALL 651-438-2121 TO PURCHASE

Limit 2 per household
Only 50 packs available
Offer expires 12/23/17



River Oaks Golf Course & Event Center
11099 Highway 61 S

ICE ARENA

8020 80th Street S.
Phone: 651-458-3400

ICE SKATING LESSONS

Our Learn-to-Skate program prepares participants for all ice sports. Students are individually evaluated to make certain they are in the appropriate level. Please come prepared with: sharpened, leather, single blade hockey or figure skates; warm and comfortable clothing including mittens; and a bike/hockey helmet if skater is age 5 or younger. Call for more information.

Dates: Nov. 27 to Feb. 11 (Winter Session)

Cost: \$77

Levels: Skating Tots: Ages 3–5, new to skating.
Level 1: Ages 5–8, minimal skating skills.
Level 2: Ages 5 and up, have passed Level 1.
Level 3: Skaters who have passed Level 2.
Level 4: Skaters who have passed Level 3.

OPEN SKATE SESSIONS (\$5)

These sessions are a chance for your family to get exercise, practice skating, and have fun. Skating aids (buckets) for those learning to skate. Session times vary; please check website or call for current schedule. Rental skates available for \$4 per pair.

ADULT OPEN HOCKEY (\$5)

Join others, ages 18+, on Monday evenings. Bring your own hockey equipment. Helmets required. Please check website or call for schedule as some sessions may cancel due to special events.

STICK & PUCK (\$5)

For hockey skaters of any age to come skate with sticks and pucks! Work on skating skills, drills and stick handling. Please check website or call for current schedule. Helmets mandatory for those under age 18.

OPEN BROOMBALL (\$5/player)

On Sunday nights join other players, ages 17+, on our Studio Rink for a pickup game of broomball. Players must bring their own helmets and sticks. Limited amount of sticks available on a first come, first serve basis. Please check website or call for current schedule.

FIGURE SKATER PRACTICE (\$5-\$10)

Sessions are for the dedicated figure skater, level Alpha and above. Practice figure skating skills, jumps and spins.

Tuesdays 2:30–5:30 p.m.

Wednesdays 6–7:30 a.m.

Thursdays 2:30–5:30 p.m.

Fridays 6–7:30 a.m.

Saturdays 6:15–7:45 a.m.

Sundays 8–9:30 p.m.

SKATE WITH THE WOLFPACK

Date: Dec. 17

Time: Noon–1:30 pm

Cost: Free

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

Display your message to the thousands of patrons at the Ice Arena.
Call 651-458-3415 or visit the website for a full brochure with pricing options.

RECREATION NEWS

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

Winter Break | Bring winter gear for outdoor play, a dry set of clothes for inside, ice skates and sleds (if available). Enjoy crafts, games, movies and more. Bring a lunch; refrigerator and microwave available. Pre-registration required.

Ages: 5 and up

Dates: Dec. 21, 22, 26, 27, 28

Time: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Location: Peter Thompson Park, 327 Highland Hills Blvd.

Cost: \$21 per day



Submit your best snowman photo for a chance to win a prize! Email a pic of you and your snowman (by Feb. 28, 2018) to mpietruszewski@cottage-grove.org

Photos may be used on City's website, social media accounts, and print publications

WARMING HOUSES OPEN DECEMBER 26 (Weather Permitting)

Hamlet, 8883 Hamlet Ave. S.
M/W 5–8 p.m. | Sat Noon–8 p.m.

Highlands, 6975 Idsen Ave. S.
M–F 4–8 p.m. | Sat/Sun Noon–8 p.m.

Pine Tree Valley, 8431 Indian Blvd.
M–F 4–8 p.m. | Sat/Sun Noon–8 p.m.

Hearthside, 8245 Hearthside Rd. S.
T/Th 5–8 p.m. | Sun Noon–8 p.m.

Peter Thompson, 6327 Highland Hills Blvd.
M–F 4–8 p.m. | Sat/Sun Noon–8 p.m.

Woodridge, 9000 90th Street S..
M–F 4–8 p.m. | Sat/Sun Noon–8 p.m.

The *Cottage Grove Reports Monthly* is mailed to all residents with their utility statement, sent directly to residents not receiving City utilities and at www.cottage-grove.org. Comments may be sent to: City of Cottage Grove, 12800 Ravine Parkway S., Cottage Grove, MN, 55016. Phone: 651-458-2800. Email: smadsen@cottage-grove.org

Mayor: Myron Bailey. Council Members: Steve Dennis, Wayne Johnson, La Rae Mills, Dave Thiede.