Volunteers Getting Settler’s Island Ready for Visitors

September 12th was literally a dark day and a foreboding forecast caused more than 3 dozens volunteers to scrap a canoe and kayaking trip to Settler’s Island. On their second try, on September 26th, the sunny skies and calm water presented the perfect opportunity to get some work done. After two years of clearing buckthorn, and then a day spent burning that buckthorn, river enthusiasts had the opportunity to plant hundreds of bare-root trees. The ultimate goal is to create a place where canoers and kayakers can stop and enjoy this part of the Mississippi River. While it would be tough to list all of the people and groups that have donated so much time and energy to this project, there are several that deserve to be highlighted, including the Friends of the Mississippi, the National Park Service, the Mississippi River Connection and the City of Cottage Grove’s Park and Recreation Department. Now that the buckthorn has been removed, and trees and plants are starting to thrive, the City will work on building a launch, and perhaps some picnic areas, on Settler’s Island.

Cottage Grove Ice Arena Ready for Public Unveiling

Celebrate the “Re-Grand Opening” with Us!
October 20 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
8020 80th Street South
Free Open Skate and Mini Donuts
Mayor Drops Ceremonial Puck at 6:15 p.m.

All systems go! The new refrigeration system is in, the ice is ultra-smooth, the graphics are sharp, and the scoreboard hangs high over the North Rink. Check out the new and improved rinks at the Ice Arena—you won’t be disappointed!
When Trey Wilhelm asked the Cottage Grove Fire Department to help him by placing a donation barrel in the Central Fire Station, firefighters were impressed by his drive and compassion. Trey was collecting teddy bears to give to sick kids at Children’s Hospital. You can see the result of his Eagle Scout mission below; Trey collected 741 bears. This huge haul says a lot about Trey and the community he lives in. Way to go Cottage Grove!

Jamaica Avenue Closed Between 95th and 97th Streets

Jamaica Avenue, between 95th and 97th Streets, will remain closed through the end of October. Crews are installing a box culvert that will vastly improve the City’s storm water system. The suggested detour route includes Highway 61, Keats Avenue and 100th Street.

“Not Every Hero Wears a Cape; Plan and Practice your Escape”

Earlier this month, the Cottage Grove Fire Department recognized National Fire Prevention Week with an Open House at the Central Fire Station. This year’s theme is “Not every hero wears a cape; plan and practice your escape!” to highlight steps everyone can take to keep themselves and their families safe. In a typical house fire, you may have as little as one or two minutes to make a safe escape from the time your smoke alarm sounds.

If your fire alarm sounds:
- GET OUT AND STAY OUT. Never go back inside for any reason.
- If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke on your way out.
- Call 911 from outside of your home. CGFD will be there quickly!

Fire Escape and Planning Tips:
- Make a home escape plan. Draw a map of your home with all the doors and windows, and discuss the plan with everyone in your home.
- Know at least two ways out of every room if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
- Have an outside meeting place a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
- Close doors behind you as you leave in the event of a fire.
- Practice your fire drill with everyone in your home.

City Water Extension On Tap for 2 Neighborhoods

Along with other impacted cities in the East Metro, Cottage Grove has been participating in the 3M Settlement Working Groups since the summer of 2018. MPCA and the DNR’s current goal is to have a “Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan” to address PFAS contamination, in the long-term, by Spring of 2020. As part of the Expedited Project process, the City Council approved $9 million in grant agreements with the State to extend City water to areas (River Acres and Granada Avenue) that were heavily impacted by PFAS contamination. Design work is ongoing while construction for the project will begin in late spring of next year.
Cottage Grove Bus Loop

Beginning October 15, 2019, bus service on the Cottage Grove Bus Loop will be available for all residents. While the service is geared towards the City’s growing senior population, it is available to everyone. With stops at Norris Square, The Legends of Cottage Grove and the Woodland Park Apartments, the bus will then take riders to restaurants, grocers, retailers and the Senior Center along East Point Douglas Road before crossing Highway 61 for a stop at the Allina Clinic. Each loop takes about an hour and the bus runs every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. A ticket to ride, for the full day, will cost residents $3.
PARKS AND RECREATION

MEA Break
3 days of No School!

Be sure to sign up for the Recreation Department’s MEA Break at Peter Thompson Park. We will be playing games, making crafts, watching movies and having lots of fun! Be sure to bring your lunch and snacks. A refrigerator and microwave are available for use. Participants will have an opportunity to go outside, so dress for the weather. Pre-registration is required for this program and space is limited.

Ages 5 and older
Oct 16, 17, 18
7:30am-4:30pm
Peter Thompson Park
$22 per day

- New fall golf rates have started! Check out riveroaksmunigolf.com or our Facebook page for more details.
- Planning a holiday party? We can help! Call us at 651-438-2121 x2 so we can help you plan your event.
- Dueling Pianos by Sweet Keys on October 25th at 5:30 p.m. This event will bring music to life in an exciting way! $45 per person or $300 for a table of 8
- Holiday Maker’s Market from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on November 2nd
- 4 course Cider Dinner featuring Sociable Cider Werks at 6:30 p.m. on November 8th. $45 per person or a table for $345
- Friendsgiving November 22nd!

Grab your wooden stakes or dust off your capes for Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest’s 11th Annual Monster Bash Parade! The parade will be on October 26th at 10:00 a.m. and the parade route will start at the District 833 Service Center at 7362 East Point Douglas Road and end at the District 833 Program Center at 8400 East Point Douglas Road. For more information visit cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com/monster_bash

River Oaks
11099 South Highway 61
Phone: 651-438-2121

Golf Course & Event Center

The Cottage Grove Reports Monthly is mailed to all residents with their utility statement, sent directly to residents not receiving City utilities, and available at www.cottagegrovenm.gov. Comments may be sent to City of Cottage Grove, 12800 Ravine Parkway S., Cottage Grove, MN, 55016. Phone: 651-458-2800.
Mayor: Myron Bailey. Council Members: Steve Dennis, Wayne Butt, La Rae Mills, Dave Thiede.