

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF ROGERS

CITY NEWS

2020 FALL | WINTER
NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING

DEVELOPMENT

CHECK OUT PAGES 13-18 FOR THE
LATEST DEVELOPMENT NEWS IN
ROGERS, MINNESOTA!

WHAT WILL THE
ELECTIONS

LOOK LIKE THIS YEAR?
SEE PG. 2



2020 FALL | WINTER NEWSLETTER

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Contact the City of Rogers

Important City Contacts!

- City Hall: 763-428-2253
- Fire Department: 763-428-3500
- Police Department: 763-428-3450
- Public Works: 763-428-8580
- Recreation Department: 763-428-1033
- Rogers Activity Center: 763-428-1033
- Rogers Senior Center: 763-428-0939

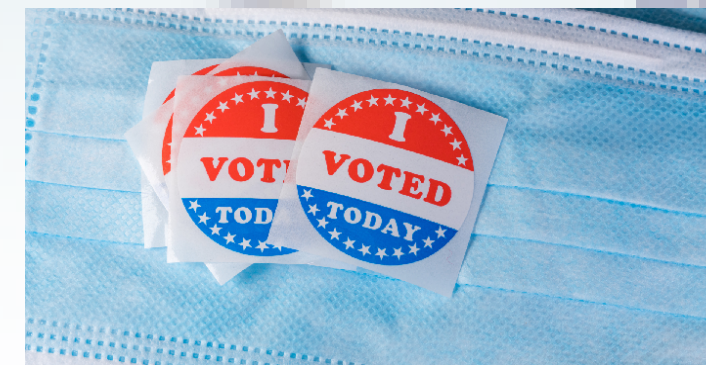
Visit Our City Website to Stay Up to Date on the Latest Info!

www.rogersmn.gov



General Election Day: November 3, 2020

The General Election is coming up on November 3, 2020! You can vote at your assigned precinct from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on election day. Please remember social distancing guidelines at all times and that a mask is required to enter any City buildings. The City will ensure that our polling place layouts meet social distancing guidelines. We will have PPE supplies including alcohol-based hand sanitizer, and sanitizing spray readily available. For any additional election information visit www.rogersmn.gov/elections.

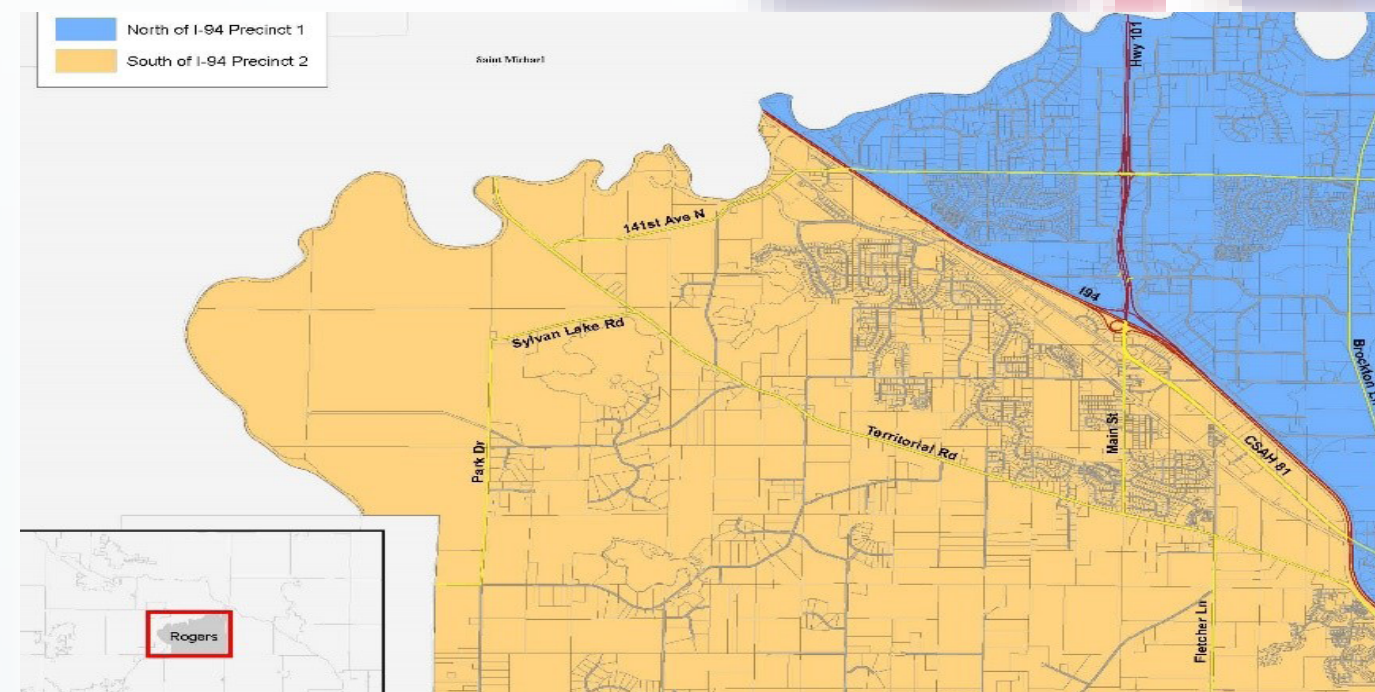


What is Different about the Polling Place with COVID-19?

- Masks are required in City buildings at all times.
- The Greeter Table, Check-In Table, and Ballot Table are spaced at least 6 feet apart.
- Acrylic shields will be placed on election judge tables to serve as a barrier between the election judge and voters.
- Voting booths are spaced at least 6 feet apart and are cleaned after use.
- Voters will use one pen to sign the voter oath and to fill out the ballot. Pens will be dropped off after casting ballots for sanitizing.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available at each precinct with alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

Where Do I Vote on Election Day?

The City of Rogers has two precincts. Precinct 1 is located at the Rogers Activity Center (21080 141st Ave. N. Rogers, MN 55374), and Precinct 2 is located at the Rogers Community Room (21201 Memorial Dr. Rogers, MN 55374). The easiest way to figure out where you vote is to determine your location in relation to I-94. If you are north of I-94, you will vote at Precinct 1, if you are south of I-94 you will vote at Precinct 2.



ROGERS COMMUNITY NAVIGATES COVID-19

To say that it's been a unique summer would be an understatement. For some, it's been a change to how we socialize and entertain ourselves. Others have been forced to worry about their jobs or their businesses. Others still have dealt with personal health impacts or the deaths of loved ones. Even the way in which we educate our children has changed, at least for now. COVID-19 has touched everyone in our community - all ages, all occupations, all faiths, all political parties.

Rogers has not been immune to the direct health impacts of COVID-19. Anecdotally we know that there have been entire Rogers families who have tested positive and have dealt with the disease. Statistically, the 14-day trend for recorded cases per 10,000 residents was trending sharply upwards in Rogers, relative to other cities in Hennepin County, at the time of this writing. Moreover, there have been many unfortunate deaths attributable to COVID-19 in Rogers, most of which have occurred in long term care facilities. We thank our residents and businesses who are doing their part to help contain the spread as progress towards therapeutics and a vaccine marches on.

The City continues to follow Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines in its operations and with regard to public events and business regulation. The City's COVID-19 Task Force continues to meet weekly to monitor and react to local and nationwide developments and for operational/response purposes.

The Governor's executive orders -

including capacity restrictions on businesses and other gathering, and the statewide mask mandate - currently run through October 12, 2020. At this time, it is unknown what things in Minnesota will look like after that date, but additional extensions/modifications seem likely given that the pandemic will still be ongoing at that time.

The Mayor and City Council have actively worked to implement policies intended to help Rogers businesses survive in this climate. First, in working to help restaurants safely reopen, the Council adopted a policy to allow for regulatory flexibility to encourage outdoor seating and provided concrete traffic barriers for safety purposes where necessary/requested. Second, the Council earmarked over \$200,000 from the City's federal Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars to be used as grants for small businesses that faced temporary closure under the state's executive orders. To date, more than \$100,000 has been provided to Rogers businesses.

City budget discussions for 2021 have centered around the financial impacts to residents and businesses, and the continued uncertainties that surround the pandemic. The Council's goal has been to adopt a City tax rate that would produce a flat or slightly decreased City tax bill for the average homeowner in Rogers (dependent upon individual property valuation changes), and the proposed preliminary tax statements mailed by the County this November should reflect that goal.

What's Open/ What's Not

Rogers businesses are open and working under the respective state restrictions regarding face coverings, capacity and social distancing. City Offices remain open at this time. As a critical infrastructure/essential industry, City operations have continued throughout the

pandemic. City Hall, Public Works offices and the Police Station are open to the public at this time, although it is recommended that residents access services remotely (telephone at (763)-428-2253 or website at www.rogersmn.gov, as appropriate) whenever possible to reduce unnecessary contacts. The Fire Department can be reached at (763)428-3500.

All City parks and trails remain open for use, and caution should be used regarding contact with shared amenities and playground equipment (at discretion of parents). As sanitizing can't be assumed, users should wash hands/use hand sanitizer before and after such use.

The Rogers Activity Center is open to organized groups for on-ice activities and other events. At the writing of this newsletter, open skating and open hockey are available for up to 25 people as long as they pre-register for the event; please see our website for details. The Senior Center is open Monday-Thursday, 10 am to 1 pm. City meeting/rental spaces have reduced capacities per state requirements, allowing for social distancing.

The Rogers Muni on-sale liquor operation on John Milless Drive has been closed since March 17, 2020 (pursuant to Governor's executive order at that time). While other bars and restaurants have been allowed to reopen at reduced capacity, the Muni has remained closed for several reasons:

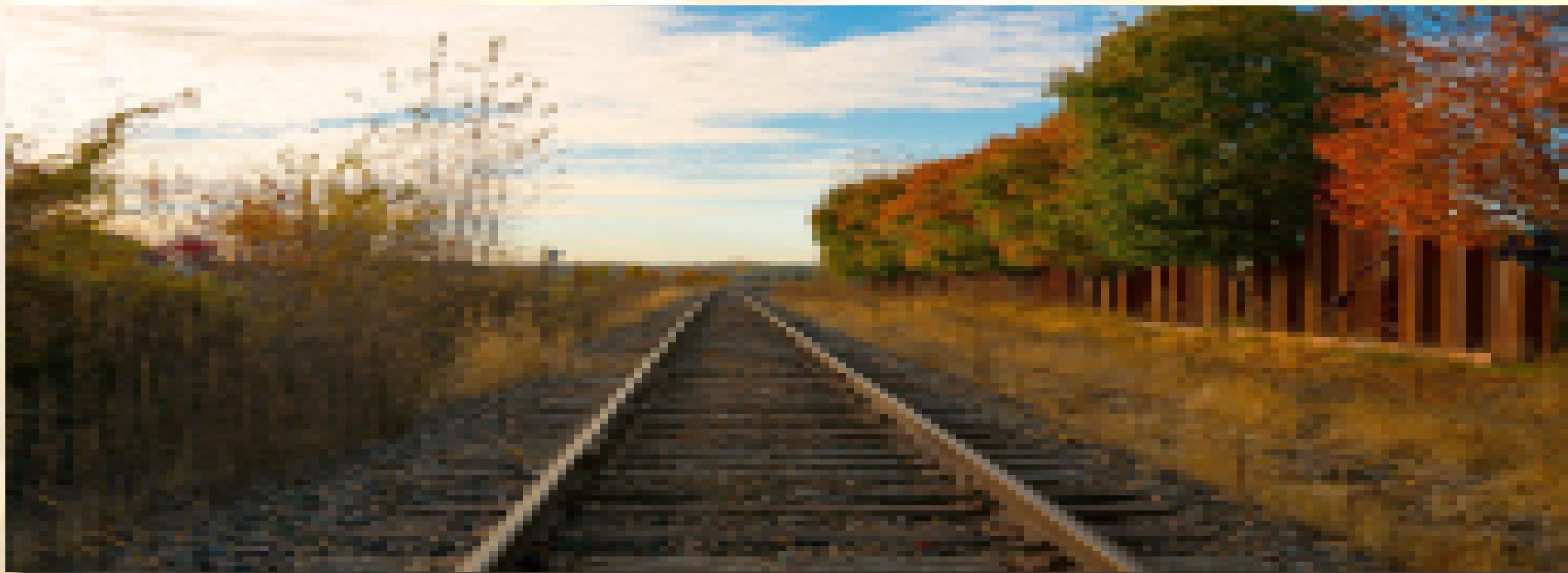
- Bars have been identified as being "problematic" by both the CDC and the Minnesota Department of Health with regard to the spread of COVID. MDH periodically releases a list of bars and restaurants that have been directly linked to coronavirus outbreaks for this reason.

- Bars by their nature are notoriously susceptible to spreading COVID given the social interaction between groups of patrons and the average length of stay inside establishments.
- Enforcement of social distancing restrictions are much different and much more difficult in a bar environment as compared to a seated restaurant setting. As a governmental entity which should be held to a high standard, it would unacceptable for the Muni to fail in enforcing these restrictions, which would be very likely given those practical difficulties.
- As a property-tax-exempt establishment, the City believes it is in the best interest to support other restaurants/bars in the City rather than to compete with them while they are still facing State-imposed capacity restrictions and dealing with the impacts of a reduced clientele.

At present, the intention would be to re-open the Muni at the point that capacity restrictions for bars/restaurants are lifted by the state, to return to 100% capacity. That said, the City's Liquor Commission will continue to monitor developments and adjust accordingly, given that such timing is currently unknown. When a decision is ultimately made to reopen, it will be announced via social media and the City's website.

Please refer to the City's COVID-19 web page at <https://www.rogersmn.gov/covid-19> for the most up-to-date information on the current situation including resources for residents and businesses, general updates.

As we continue to navigate this unprecedented situation, we remain committed to the idea that we are a community of people that truly care about their neighbors, and are committed to showing grace and patience in the face of adversity and honest disagreement while partnering to get to the other side of the pandemic. Thank you and stay healthy, Rogers!



BNSF RAILROAD NIGHTTIME OPERATIONS

Residents near the BNSF railroad tracks south of I-94 have no doubt experienced some unwelcome train/whistle noise during the late-night hours over the past few months.

The railway segment in question is called the Monticello Subdivision, as it terminates in Monticello to our west. BNSF government/public relations folks have informed the City that Coronavirus-related operational changes have resulted in this route running at night as opposed to during the day as was previously the case. Where the previous schedule was roughly one to three trains per week during daytime hours, the more re-

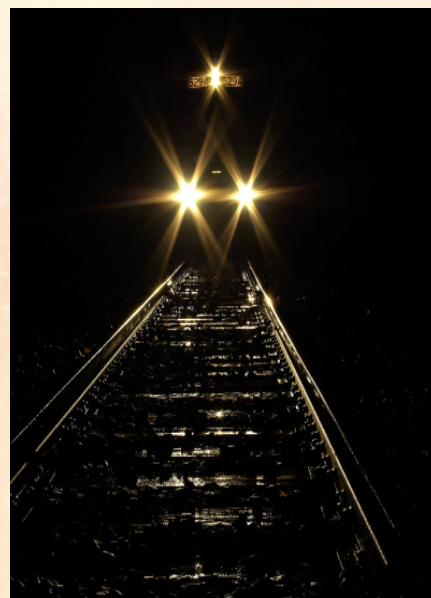
cent changes have resulted in late night trips, typically multiple times per week. The City does not know how long these changes will last or whether they will be temporary or permanent in nature.

Per federal law, the City does not have jurisdiction over railroads with regard to hours of operation (whether travel or loading/unloading), so City zoning or noise ordinances are not applicable and cannot be used to control these operations.

The City is studying the issue with regard to "quiet" zones that would limit and/or prevent whistles from blowing in proximity to certain railroad crossings. However, in order

to implement quiet zones, the City would be required to invest significant tax dollars in order to improve existing crossings with cross-arms and lights, as well as to pay substantial up-front maintenance costs to BNSF (\$400,000 in maintenance costs alone, per crossing, plus equipment/construction costs).

While actual costs are not known at this time, the likely total cost for such improvements to meet quiet zone requirements would be in the



millions of dollars due to the number of crossings and the required improvements. A major part of the City's analysis involves whether this would be a wise long-term investment given that BNSF could, at any time in the future (tomorrow, post-Coronavirus, later) simply revert to their daytime schedules which generally did not cause noise concerns for residential neighborhoods, thus making the expenditure unnecessary at that time. This is a difficult determination as the City understands the annoyance and inconvenience of such late-night noise in the short term, while looking to avoid a substantial cost to taxpayers that could wind up being largely wasted dollars over the long term.

We understand and sympathize with the noise situation as it relates to nearby residences, and we appreciate the patience and understanding of those homeowners with regard to the complexities of this issue as noted above.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS!



- Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed within 10 feet of each sleeping room or inside each sleeping room.
- Test CO alarms monthly.
- If a CO alarm sounds and you feel ill, call 911 immediately.
- Clear snow and debris from furnace, dryer, fireplace or oven vents around your home to prevent a CO buildup.

For any questions about carbon monoxide alarms, call 763-428-3500 or email RogersFD@rogersmn.gov!

Did You Know?

- Carbon monoxide is an odorless, tasteless and invisible gas.
- Signs of CO poisoning include headache, nausea, fatigue, vomiting and disorientation.
- Cooking and heating units that burn fuel and are not properly ventilated or malfunction can be a source of CO in the home.



ROGERS SENIOR CENTER CURRENT SCHEDULE

The Senior Center is open Monday-Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This is for those who would like to:

- Grab a library book
- Use the computers
- Buy an upcycled greeting card
- Borrow a puzzle.

We are asking that you come in, do your "business," and be on your way, so staff can sanitize for the next person. We will allow 6 visitors at a time. Each person will sign in with their name, the date, and their phone number. If you are not able to visit the Senior Center during these hours, please email jriebel@rogersmn.gov or call Jackie at **763-428-0939** for an appointment.

HOW DID MUNICIPAL LIQUOR START IN MN?

Municipal liquor was introduced to the State of Minnesota when the 21st Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, ending alcohol prohibition on December 5, 1933.

The repeal of the Volstead Act started the process which allowed each state to develop and control an appropriate delivery model for alcoholic beverages that suited their social climate. Some local Minnesota communities chose to continue prohibition, some chose municipal liquor; others gave the option to private business.

Since its inception Municipal liquor's major focus is control of the sale of alcohol. We work very hard to assure that we do not allow the sale of alcohol to obviously intoxicated persons or anyone who is not of legal drinking age. We understand that the sale of a controlled substance is a serious responsibility, not merely a revenue generator.



Rogers Wines & Spirits and the **Rogers MUNI** contribute in excess of \$250,000 to the City of Rogers annually! This funding is used to reduce the operating costs of many city departments. We are proud of our success and the support that we receive from the citizens of Rogers and our customers from the surrounding communities!

We sincerely hope that you are doing well during this difficult time! We are looking forward to an eventual return to normal, however that will present itself, and that the MUNI and Rogers Wines and Spirits will flourish and grow as continuing community assets!

Thanks very much for your continued support and your support of local business!

Battery Recycling

Due to potential fire hazards caused by vape pens/e-cig devices and rechargeable batteries, Hennepin County has discontinued battery collection at city and county buildings, libraries, schools, and community centers.

Hennepin County still accepts household batteries from residents at its drop-off facilities in Bloomington and Brooklyn Park and at county household hazardous waste event collections.

To prepare your batteries for recycling, place batteries in a clear plastic bag, or, place clear tape on both the

positive (+) and negative (-) terminals of batteries to prevent fires. If you cannot remove the battery from the device, bring the entire device to a Hennepin County drop-off facility.

Alkaline batteries (single-use AA, AAA, etc.) do not contain hazardous material and may be placed in the trash.



Going away for the winter months?

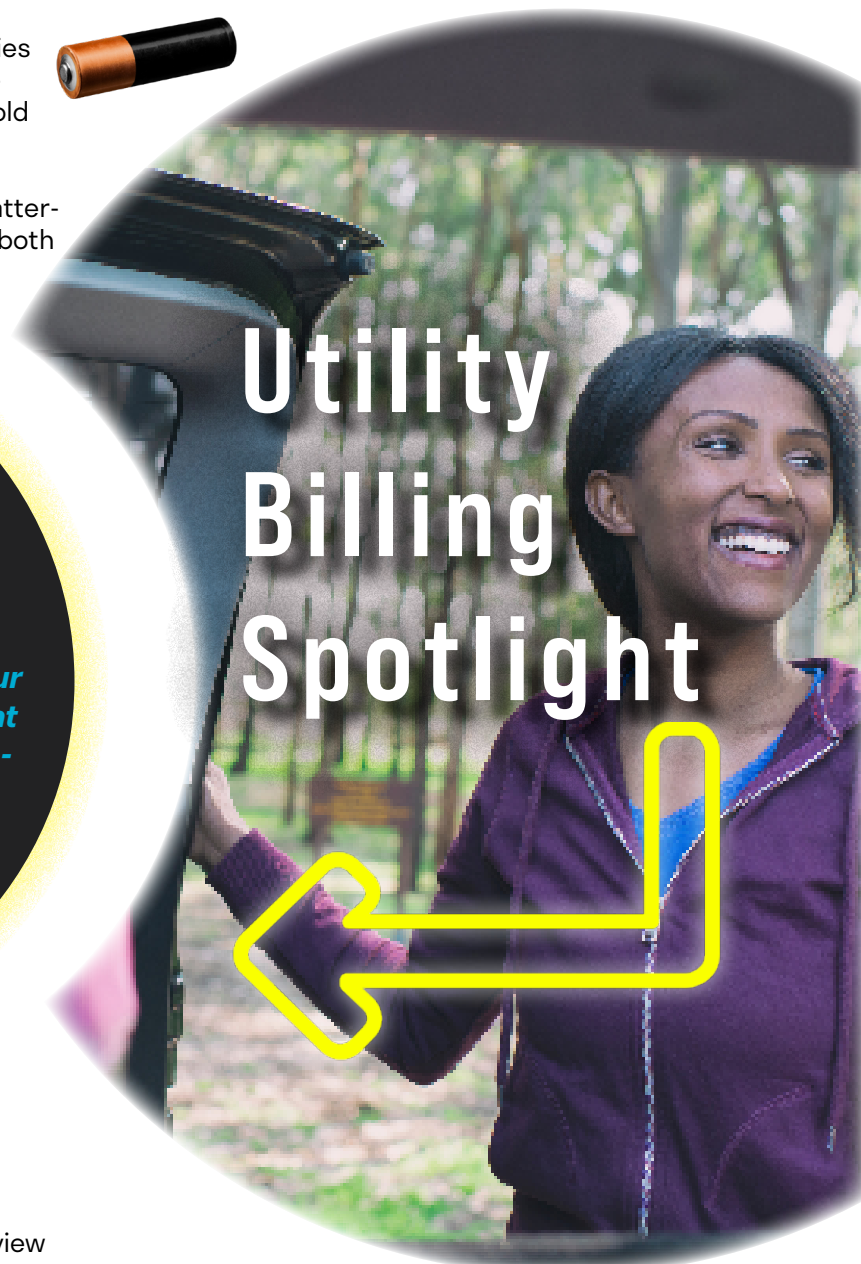
Don't forget to notify the City of Rogers prior to leaving for the winter by calling (763) 428-0920 or via email to UB@RogersMN.gov to arrange for your utility bill to be forwarded to a different address. This will also assist us in identifying any high-water usage that may have resulted from leaks in your home while you are away.

2021 Recycling Calendar

The 2021 Recycling Calendar is now available to view at www.rogersmn.gov/recycling. On the page, click on the "Curbside Recycling" dropdown tab to view the calendar.

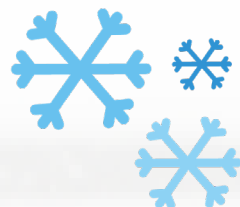


Utility Billing Spotlight



On the recycling page you can also find pick up information on holidays throughout 2021. Holidays include New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Randy's office is closed on the holidays listed above. For any specific questions about recycling, please contact Randy's at 763-972-3335!

SNOW REMOVAL HELPFUL REMINDERS



The City of Rogers Public Works Department is committed to keeping our streets as safe as possible within staffing and budget parameters. Staff begins plowing when snowfall reaches 2 inches or when roadway conditions warrant a response by Public Works. Equipment dispatch is dependent upon timing and intensity, weather forecast, personnel, equipment availability, and street priority classification. Trails and sidewalks within arterial and collector streets and school walking zones are the City's main priority to plow within a 24-hour period. Due to environmental concerns, sand/salt will be limited to steep grades, high volume intersections, school crossings, and icy patches on priority routes. There are a number of things residents can do to minimize plowing-related problems for themselves and to help City crews do the most effective job possible. Here are some City guidelines and winter

Driveways and Private Property
Residents and private contractors hired to plow snow from driveways, sidewalks, and parking lots may not deposit snow onto or move snow across public streets or walkways. Doing so is not only a violation of law, but also slows plowing operations, limits streets or walkways from being plowed to full width, and creates dangerous conditions for vehicles and pedes-

Sidewalks
Residents are responsible for clearing snow from sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours. Please keep sidewalks clear of snow so you and your neighbors can safely walk on them this winter.

Right-of-Way Obstructions
Trees, shrubbery, landscaping, irrigation, and other items located within the right-of-way are prone to damage by snow from plow equipment and will not be considered for compensation. These items should be a minimum of 10 feet behind the curb line.

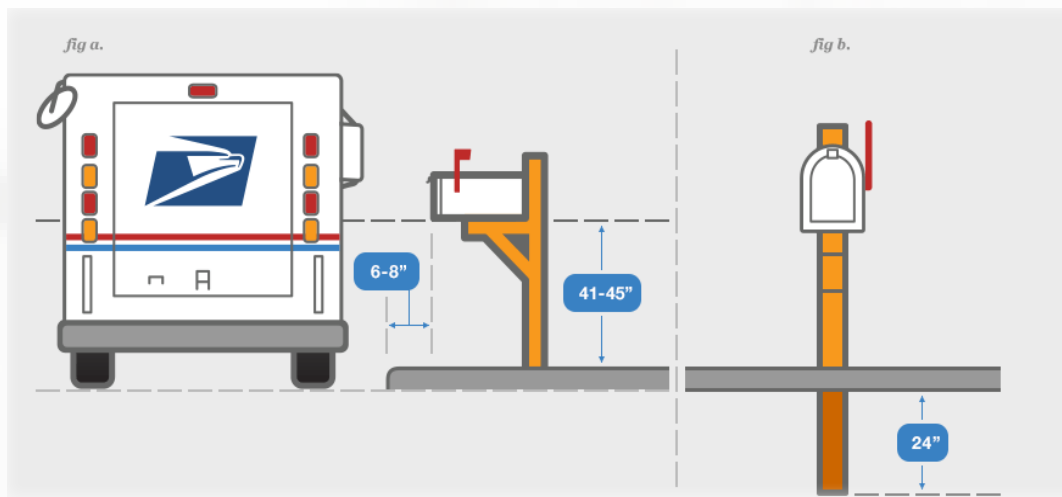
Fire Hydrants
As you shovel or push snow off of your driveways and sidewalks, take time to clear the snow around fire hydrants (three-foot radius). During a fire, seconds count. The extra minute to remove snow around fire hydrants may save your neighbor's home or your own.

Parking
Please do not park on the street during a snow event. The City of Rogers would like to remind residents that there is NO PARKING ALLOWED on any City street from November 1 through March 31 between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. This allows City crews to plow streets curb-to-curb in a snow event. Vehicles found parked on a City street during these times will be issued a citation and may be towed.

Winter Driving
For your safety as well as others', allow ample room between your vehicle and snow removal equipment. Do not pass until the plow has reached a safe, clear area, and never pass on the right side of a snowplow. Always assume that intersections, curves, bridges, and hills are slippery and drive according to road conditions.

Snowbanks and Winter Fun
Please discourage children from sliding from snowbanks and from building forts in snowbanks close to streets. Children playing on or near the road are a concern for snowplow operations. Many times, operators are unable to see a child behind a snowbank or parked car.

Salt Use
Road salt and deicing chemicals are carried by melted snow and ice through sewers, leading to streams, rivers, and lakes, killing fish and plants. The City of Rogers has taken measures to limit the amount of salt used on its streets. The City plows curb-to-curb, using liquid additives that enhance the salt's effectiveness and equipment that applies more liquid brine and less granular salt. Less than one teaspoon of salt will pollute five gallons of water. Once water is polluted, it is nearly impossible to reverse.



Mail/Paper Boxes

Mail and paper boxes must be mounted a minimum of 45 inches above street level. Properly installed mailboxes will be considered for repair or replacement only if physically struck by snowplow equipment. Installations damaged by snow or ice coming from the plow blade will not be repaired or replaced. The City of Rogers Public Works Department, Fire Department, and Post Office are requesting you help keep the area around your mailbox clear of snow. This will enable the postal carriers to deliver your mail without delay.

Know When to Use Salt

If it is 15 degrees or below, most salt doesn't work. When it is this cold, sand is a good alternative.

Trash and Recycling Containers

Please place trash and recycling containers in your driveway for collection. If snowplow operators have to stop and get out of the truck to move them off the right of way, it increases the time and costs of snow removal.

Sweep Up Leftover Salt

When the ice has melted, sweep up the remaining salt and sand from your driveway. You can use it again and help reduce the amount flowing into storm drains and into the water system.

Shovel More

Shovel early and often during a snowstorm. This is easier on your back and the snow won't compact as much and turn to ice.



Picture of properly placed garbage and recycling containers.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as crews work to clear snow safely and effectively from our City streets and trails. Depending on the timing and severity of the snow event, it may take hours or days to clear all of the snow. Be safe while clearing and driving on snow and ice this winter!



WINTER DRIVING TIPS FROM THE ROGERS POLICE DEPARTMENT!

Another winter driving season is just around the corner. The Rogers Police Department would like to remind you of some simple winter driving survival tips to keep you and your loved ones safe during the upcoming winter season.

Make sure your vehicle is in good working order. Check tire pressure, change worn out wiper blades, check the battery condition, check fluid levels and clean off the windshield prior to driving are simple things that if not maintained properly, can cause issues or breakdowns on winter roads.

Slow Down! Winter weather also means it is holiday season. The City of Rogers sees a dramatic increase in traffic during the holiday season. Wet, icy and/or snow packed roads can easily double the amount of space required to adequately stop your vehicle once you apply the brakes. Pay close attention to changing road conditions and traffic while you are driving. Many of us are out with friends and family and can easily become distracted while driving, so ensure you are focused on driving not visiting or using your cell phone.

Stay in your vehicle. If you are involved in an accident, and it is feasible, move to safe location and call 911. Staying inside of your vehicle will be a much safer place to be rather than standing on the side of a roadway where other vehicles may strike you.

Carry a simple winter survival kit. A kit can be made out of items you have in your home, placed in a tote, and be left in your vehicle during the winter. A shovel, blanket, first aid kit, small bag of kitty litter for tire traction and a flashlight are items that can easily be stored in your vehicle in case of an emergency. Even within the city limits during severe weather, officers respond to hundreds of accidents and vehicle spinouts in a single day, and response times for assistance can be much longer than usual. Please plan accordingly and let a loved one know your travel plans should you be traveling long distances.

These simple reminders will help make certain your holidays and winter travels are safe for you and others. Please be safe!



DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Parking is prohibited on city streets between the hours of 2:00 am and 6:00 am, from November 1 through March 31.

Additionally, the City may remove a vehicle from a street when the vehicle is left unattended and hinders snow removal.

Please do your part to ensure we keep our streets clear, especially during snow events!

SCAM ALERT!

The Rogers Police Department has observed an uptick in scam attempts. Many common fraud/scam examples include:

- Phone calls or emails indicating that you have won the lottery, or a prize, and you need to send money somewhere for the taxes before you can receive the item.
- Fraudulent emergency situations in which the caller states a close family member has been arrested in a foreign country, and you need to wire them money immediately if you want your family member released.
- Fraudulent emails or phone calls stating you owe taxes to the IRS, and that you need to send money to clear your name, or you will be arrested.
- Agreements to purchase items where you are told that you will receive a higher than agreed upon check/amount if you send a lesser amount of money initially.

Should you experience any of these fraud attempts, or other similar scams, please contact Rogers Police.



Enclave Development

Check out page 14 for more information on Enclave's proposed project!

Rendering by ESG Architechure & Design

DEVELOPMENT NEWS IN ROGERS, MINNESOTA

Development activity remains busy in Rogers, especially on the residential front. Recognizing Rogers location in the metropolitan area, successful schools and a strong daytime labor force, developers are seizing opportunities to build new neighborhoods and fill much needed housing options. Those options include not only continued construction of single-family homes but also an increased diversity in housing styles, such as twin homes and townhomes, and new market rate apartments and wider array of attainable housing that is of interest to persons of any age and income.

in Rogers is nearly 20 years old. In addition to age, factors driving the need for newer apartments in Rogers include the City's strong daytime labor force from our local employers, the price of new single-family home construction, and changing lifestyle preferences for young and old alike.

Enclave Development to Start Construction

On August 25, 2020, the City Council gave the green light for the 165-unit apartment project proposed by Enclave Development, a Fargo, North Dakota-based development company. The development will sit on a current vacant 3.3-acre parcel adjacent to HOM Furniture and between BMO Harris Bank and North Community Park. The complex will include a mix of studio up to three (3) bedroom apartments, and on-site amenities, including a fitness center, pet wash, bike storage, and large club room connected to a outside courtyard. Construction will begin this fall.

Apartments Popularity

An area of significant need for Rogers is multi-family housing. It might seem the popularity of apartment development in the community is sudden. But, until Trident Development began construction of its 168-unit Vincent Woods apartment complex in 2019, the newest market rate apartment building

DEVELOPMENT NEWS IN ROGERS, MINNESOTA

CONTINUED..

Developer Planning New Broadway Pizza, Convenience Store & Apartments

Asguard Acquisitions, LLC has received Concept Plan approval for the redevelopment of the existing Broadway Pizza site and adjacent three properties. In addition to a new Broadway Pizza, the developer is planning a convenience store/gas station and new, 77-unit apartment complex on the 9.5-acre parcel. The apartment building is proposed to include lifestyle amenities, such as a fitness center and other first-level commercial businesses. The fitness center would also be open to the public.



Rendering by Artekta Architects



Rendering by Artekta Architects



Mix of Apartments & Townhomes Behind Culver's

Rachel Development recently presented a Concept Plan to the City Council for a mixed residential development, featuring a 134-unit apartment building and 50 attached townhome units. Like several of the sites approved for apartment development, or currently being analyzed, the 14.8-acre property behind Culver's is a remnant parcel from previous development.

New Neighborhoods Update

DR Horton Residential Neighborhood Underway

Construction has begun on "Birchwood" – a 61-unit detached single-family residential development from DR Horton. The development is located on a 21-acre site on Brockton Lane, or County Road 13, about a half-mile north from South Diamond Lake Road. Housing styles include a mix of homes with traditional basements, and split entry and slab-on-grade homes. DR Horton is constructing model homes and the amenity center for the private park located in the development.



Grading for New Lennar Development to Begin

Lennar has commenced grading of its latest Rogers neighborhood – "Skye Meadows." Lennar received City Council approval in July 2020 for the new 357-unit residential development at the intersection of Territorial Road and Wood Lane. The development encompasses six properties and about 128 gross acres, and includes a mix of single-family homes, twin homes and attached townhomes. Phase 1 (north side of Territorial Road) will include 16 single-family homes and 12 twin homes (24 total units). Lennar is also building "Laurel Creek," a 480-unit mixed residential development on Territorial Road 2.5 miles east from Skye Meadows.



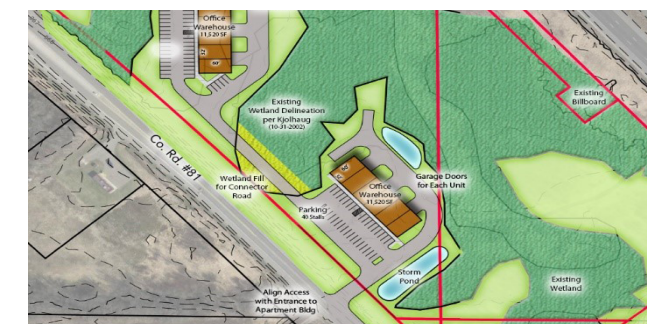
Commercial/Industrial

Space for Trades & Service Businesses

The City is currently working with a developer on a potential development plan for land owned by the City on County Road 81. The 18-acre parcel fronts Interstate 94 and sits in between Miller Chevrolet and Metro Mold. The land was purchased by the City to help with the extension of City utilities, and is mostly wetland, limited development options. The developer presented a Concept Plan to the City Council in September 2020, featuring a 20,736 square foot, 10-unit commercial building on the north end of the parcel, next to the Miller Chevrolet, and two 11,520 square foot, 6-unit commercial buildings

on the south end of the site. Each of the units would range in size from 1,920 sf to 2,304 sf and include a storefront and rear garage bay door to allow for vehicle parking and internal storage; no outside storage would be allowed.

At that meeting, the developer and City staff discussed the market need for spaces for trades businesses and service providers. The units could be leased or sold. The developer noted unit sizes could also be flexible in the event that a user needed a larger space. The City Council authorized continued study of the development opportunity.



DEVELOPMENT NEWS
IN ROGERS, MINNESOTA
CONTINUED..

Rogers City News

Rogers City News



Rendering by Cole Group

Downtown Rogers

Downtown Redevelopment Still Moving

The City Council recently entered into two purchase agreements – buy 12905 Main Street and sell the adjacent five City properties – necessary for Phase 1 of the Downtown Rogers redevelopment project proposed by Duffy Development. The City and developer have been awarded nearly \$1.9 million in grant funding for the project to support development-related activities, including property acquisition, building demolition, on-site storm water improvements, and construction of on-site pedestrian improvements, plazas and greenspaces. As an affordable housing project, Duffy is seeking tax credit financing from the State. If the project gets the green light construction could start in Spring 2021.

Downtown Planning

The downtown redevelopment project proposed by Duffy Development is only part of the ongoing work focused on downtown reinvestment. City staff are currently working on two projects aimed

at re-energizing Downtown Rogers. The recently approved Rogers 2040 Comprehensive Plan places a renewed emphasis on Downtown Rogers as an important community asset – vital to the local economy and community gatherings. The traditional feel of Main Street presents a unique opportunity for the downtown to fulfill a dual role as a social district for community gatherings and hub of activity for commerce and residential living. That is accomplished through both new public and private investment.

Rogers Main Street Streetscape Plan

The Rogers Main Street Streetscape Plan is focused on redesigning Main Street from County Road 81 south to Rogers Elementary School. A main emphasis of the streetscape plan is to create spaces for people and connect those spaces to businesses and residences in the downtown area. Generally, the plan includes new public spaces for downtown and other physical enhancements to improve and encourage pedestrian activity by calming traffic on Main Street. The Streetscape Plan is a critical support tool for the Downtown Master Plan.



The streetscape plan shows the corner of Main Street and Church Avenue as a central gathering place for the community.



A rendering to show the restored storefront of the old State Bank of Rogers building.

Downtown Master Plan

The other planning effort focuses on updating the Downtown Rogers Master Plan, originally adopted in 2015. The underlying objective of the Master Plan is to guide revitalization and redevelopment of Downtown Rogers, thereby re-igniting its importance as a community asset, especially for small business. The Master Plan and 2040 Comprehensive Plan, together, seek to re-energize Downtown Rogers by capitalizing on existing assets, notably several existing buildings original to the early years of Rogers, and using new infill development to further support the vision for downtown. A major part of the Master Plan update will include a study and strategy regarding the potential investment in those older buildings, where possible, notably the rehabilitation of storefronts. Reinvesting in existing downtown buildings is important to ensure an area enticing and affordable for small business.

The City received a \$50,000 Hennepin County Corridor Planning grant to complete the planning work. The grant helped the City hire WSB to work on the Main Street Streetscape Plan and Community Design Group to update the Downtown Rogers Master Plan.

2020 FALL/WINTER ROGERS PARKS & RECREATION ANNOUNCEMENTS



ICE SKATING

Rogers Activity Center offers many forms of ice-skating for Fall and Winter including Learn to Skate, Special Events, Glow 'N' Skates, Open Skating, and Adult Open & Pond Hockey; however, note that there are limitations as we must follow MDH stay-safe guidelines due to COVID. Visit www.rogersmn.gov for details, schedules, events, restrictions and cancellations.

Learn to Skate (Ages 4 - Adult)

We use Learn to Skate USA curriculum. Upcoming sessions: Saturday mornings / October 31 – December 12 (6 weeks – No class 11/21), February 6 – March 13 (6 weeks). See COVID guidelines, class modifications, and class descriptions at www.rogersmn.gov/rec-programs. Registration is through ISD 728 Community Ed at www.728communityed.com.

Special Event Skates – Tentatively Scheduled

Glow-n-Skates

October 28 (Halloween Skate), November 25 (Gobbler Skate), January 27, February 24, March 10 6:00–7:15 p.m., and December 31, 6:00–7:15 p.m.
Fee: \$5.00 –Includes glow necklace/ no punch cards or passes accepted

Indoor Open Skate | All Ages

Sundays Oct 11 - Mar 7
4:00pm – 5:15pm
Wednesdays Oct 7 – Mar 10
6:00pm – 7:15pm



Open Skate schedules are subject to change. Visit our website at www.RAC.rogersmn.gov for COVID requirements and frequent updates at www.rogersmn.gov.

\$4/skater; age 5 & under free
\$34/10-day punch card

Adult & Pond Hockey

For schedules and times please visit www.rogersmn.gov/publicskating. The schedule is updated weekly.

Outdoor Rinks

Neighborhood skating rinks will open mid-December (weather permitting). Ice rinks will close when temperature drops -20° with wind chill. Locations are Lions Central Park and Rogers Activity Center (RAC); however, note that Lions Central Park will only have a pleasure rink, no hockey. Outdoor hockey will be available at the RAC; check times and availability as there may be scheduled youth practices and rink closures due to high school hockey games. Visit www.rogersmn.gov/publicskating for more information on outdoor rinks.

OPEN GYM

Open gym is a supervised recreation time for individuals to work on their skills in various sports, get a workout and socialize. Changes may be made to the schedule, so always check before dropping a child off at the school. Youth under 11 must have a responsible adult in attendance. Visit www.isd728.org/open-gym for more information!

EXCITING NEWS -ROGERS EVENT CENTER

The Rogers Event Center has a range of amenities to meet our community's needs, from business meetings to weddings to other private and public events. The Event Center features a conference room that will accommodate 50+ people, a full-service commercial kitchen, and a permanent coffee & wine bar. The Great Hall can accommodate seated banquets of 300. The Event Center is located in Lions Central Park (formerly Triangle Park) on Main Street, just south of Downtown Rogers, a centralized location for community gatherings. Please go to our website www.rogersmn.gov/rogers-event-center to find out more information on how you can schedule your next event or tour! Please note current (when the newsletter was printed) COVID guidelines: Due to MDH and CDC guidelines, we can accommodate 25% capacity at this time.