

# Rogers City

# News

## City to See Partial Relief from Excessive Fiscal Disparities Program Burden

For decades the City of Rogers has felt a disproportionate impact from the Metropolitan Fiscal Disparities program, a mandatory tax base sharing program whereby a portion of the Rogers tax base has been contributed to a Metropolitan pool to be used by other communities. The majority of those dollars leave Rogers permanently.

Rogers has lost a net 15-20% of its tax base annually to the program. This amounts to Rogers taxpayers losing more than \$1 million in revenue per year to this program for the last 10 years. Rogers has consistently ranked as first or second out of 180 jurisdictions with the highest percentage of tax base lost, resulting in a significant portion of local revenues left unavailable for the tax relief, or to fund local services.

While the Fiscal Disparities program does not affect how much the City spends as part of its annual budget, it absolutely impacts the City's tax rate as well as tax bills for individual property owners.

For the past five years, the City has worked with Senator Warren Limmer and Representative/House Majority Leader Joyce Peppin to pursue relief from these impacts. After years of hard work, documentation, one-on-one meetings and legislative committee testimony, those efforts paid off in 2017 with new legislation being adopted. Specifically, House Majority Leader Peppin achieved inclusion of Fiscal Disparities relief language in the 2017 House Omnibus Tax Bill, which

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## Snow Removal and Safety

The City of Rogers 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 and equipment availability, and street priority classification. The primary objective is to open streets to two-way traffic beginning with arterial and collector streets, and followed by local streets. Cul de sacs are generally opened by plowing the outside edge first, and full clearing within 24-48 hours.

Due to environmental concerns, sand/salt will be limited to steep grades, high volume intersections, school crossings, and icy patches on priority routes. Trails and sidewalks within arterial and collector streets, and those within school walking zones, will be plowed when accumulation exceeds 2 inches within a 24-hour period.

**Sidewalks:** Residents are responsible for clearing snow from sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24

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**WINTER 2017**

## Snow removal and safety...from page 1

### Snow Removal From Around Fire Hydrants

The Rogers Fire Department would like to ask residents of the City of Rogers, during your snow removal efforts this winter season to keep fire hydrants free from obstruction of snow.

As you shovel or push snow off your driveways and sidewalks, take time to clear the snow from around fire hydrants (three-foot radius).

During a fire, seconds count. The extra minute removing snow from around fire hydrants may save your neighbor's home or yours.

Also, keep your house numbers readily visible. If you have any questions, call Fire Chief Brad Feist at 763-428-3500.



*Buried fire hydrants can cause serious delays for firefighters responding to a fire.*



*Your effort to clear hydrants of snow may help save your, or your neighbor's, home.*

hours. Although primary responsibility lies with the resident, the City will assist as time and equipment allows. Priority walks, such as those leading to schools, will be cleared first.

**Parking:** The City of Rogers would like to remind residents that there is NO parking allowed on any City street from November 1st to March 31st between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. Vehicles found parked at these times, will be issued a citation and may be towed.

**Private Property Snow Removal:** The City of Rogers reminds property owners that State Law prohibits shoveling snow or ice onto streets and highways. This not only creates unsafe driving conditions, it increases the cost of snow removal.

**Right-of-Way Obstructions:** Items which are properly installed and allowed by ordinance will be considered for repair/replacement only if physically struck by a plow blade, wing, or other piece of plow equipment. Trees, shrubbery, landscaping, irrigation, and other items located within right-of-way will not be considered for compensation.

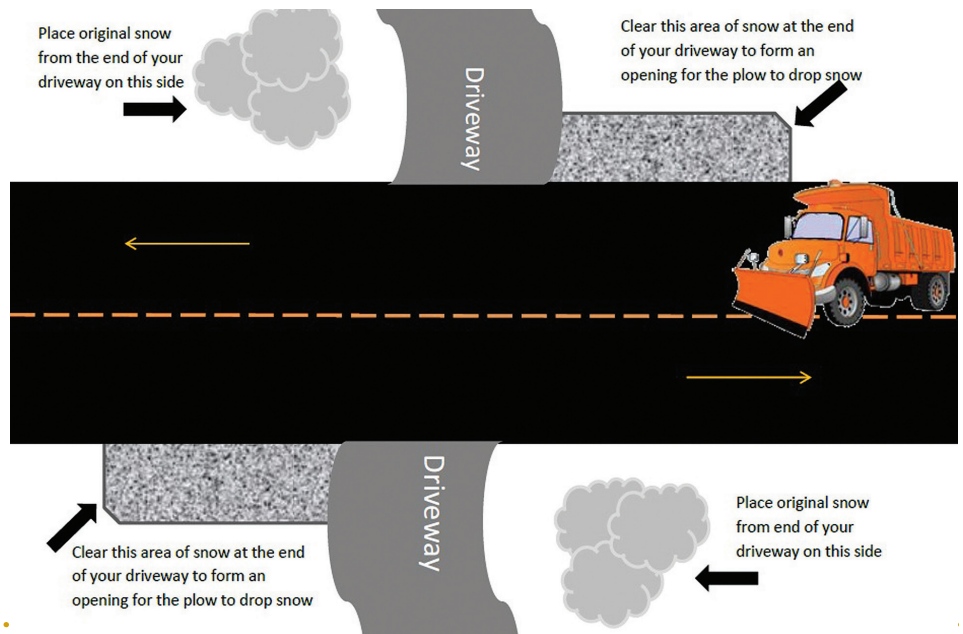
**Mail/Paper boxes:** Mail and paper boxes must be mounted a minimum of 46 inches above street level. Properly installed mailboxes will be considered for repair or replacement only if physi-

cally struck by snowplow equipment. Installations damaged by snow or ice coming from the plow blade will not be repaired or replaced. The City, the Fire Department, and Post Office are requesting that you help keep the area around your mailbox clear of snow. This will enable the postal carriers to deliver your mail without delay.

**Sod Damage:** When streets and sidewalks are covered with snow, it is almost impossible to determine the edge of the road or sidewalk. To minimize sod damage from plows, place brightly painted stakes just behind the curb or sidewalk.

**Winter Driving:** Allow ample room between your vehicle and snow removal equipment, and always assume the driver cannot see you. Do not pass until the plow has reached a safe clear area and never pass on the right side of the snowplow. Always assume that intersections, curves, bridges, and hills are slippery and drive according to road conditions.

**Winter Fun:** Discourage children from building snow forts at the street edge, or sliding from snow banks onto the roadway. Instruct children that snow removal vehicles are dangerous, and they should move away from the road until it has been cleared and the vehicle has moved from the vicinity.





# Simplify Utility Bill Pay with ACH Direct

Can't seem to remember when your utility payment is due? Tired of sending checks in the mail and hoping they get to the City on time? The City of Rogers offers a direct payment option (called ACH) in which you can have your utility payment paid automatically from your checking account. It's easy and still gives you control to cancel up to 3 business days prior to the due date.

How the ACH payment plan works:

- Fill out the form below authorizing utility payments to be made from your checking account
- After each billing cycle (every 2 months), you will receive your bill in the mail with your charges and the message "ACH DO NOT PAY"
- You can still review your bill and call City Hall with questions



- Payments will be made automatically on the due date which is the 10th of the month
- If you wish to cancel your ACH payment, notify City Hall at least 3 business days prior to the due date to ensure payment is not taken from your account
- Proof of payment will appear on your next mailed utility bill

**Note:** The authority you give to charge your account will remain in effect until you notify us in writing to terminate the authorization.

## Fiscal disparities relief... from page 1

was ultimately approved by both houses and the Governor. This new legislation will result in additional funding to Rogers in the form of a distribution from the Statewide General Property Tax. The distribution will be in the range of \$575,000 to \$626,000 for 2018, approximately half of the City's annual revenue loss from the program.

City Council and staff routinely hear from passionate residents and groups regarding their hopes and priorities related to City spending, ranging from a desire for tax relief to additional services and amenities. These attitudes and desires help shape Council priorities and staff efforts. The balancing of these often-competing priorities will be part of what shapes Rogers as a desirable community with a strong identity and strong property values.

Rogers City Council is currently reviewing ways to implement these new "relief" dollars, including:

- The potential of lowering future property taxes, decreasing debt, and/or adding facilities, amenities, services.
- When to start programming for the relief dollars; funds will not be received until December 2018, and subsequent budget years

City property taxes and potential tax relief involves many factors: tax rate, current market value of your home, and any changes in your market value over the prior year. These factors influence the amount of relief, if any, that any individual property could receive.

The City Council will continue to discuss the best long-term use of this new funding as budget discussions progress.

### ACH Automatic Pay Plan Authorization for Utility Bills

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I/We authorize the City of Rogers and the financial institution named on the attached voided check to initiate debit entries (deductions) to the account shown on the voided check. Please print legibly.

Financial Institution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Routing Number \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK. I/We understand that this authorization will continue in force unless discontinued by my/our written request. Please continue to pay your bill until the following message appears on your bill "ACH DO NOT PAY". If at any time I/we decide to change banks or discontinue this payment service, I/we will notify the City of Rogers in writing 30 days prior to any change. The City of Rogers requires that a new authorization form be filled out in the case of a change in banks and/or bank accounts.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (for joint-account) \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name (for joint-account) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_



For more information on programs – [www.parksandrec.rogersmn.gov](http://www.parksandrec.rogersmn.gov)

For more information on skating schedules and details – [www.rac.rogersmn.gov](http://www.rac.rogersmn.gov)



## Outdoor Rinks

Neighborhood skating rinks will open mid-December (weather permitting). Rinks will close when temperature drops 20° below zero with wind chill. Locations are Triangle Park and Rogers Activity Center (RAC).

## Try Hockey For Free

(Ages 4-9)

Sample the game of ice hockey and learn some basic skills of the game. Two dates are set aside and will be ran by Rogers Youth Hockey coaches at the Rogers Activity Center. Hockey equipment will be available for newcomers. For more information or to pre-register, visit [www.rac.rogersmn.gov](http://www.rac.rogersmn.gov) or [www.rogershockey.com](http://www.rogershockey.com).

Nov. 4 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.  
Feb. 24, 2018 10:30-11:30 a.m.

## Adult Open Hockey

Fridays through May 31  
11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

**Fee:** \$7/skater; \$50/10-punch card; goalies free for Adult Hockey only

## Ice skating

Rogers Activity Center offers many forms of ice-skating for the winter, including Learn to Skate, Try Hockey for Free, Special Events, Glow 'N' Skates, Open Skating, and Adult Open Hockey and Pond Hockey. Visit [www.rac.rogersmn.gov](http://www.rac.rogersmn.gov) for details, schedules, events, updates and cancellations.

## Learn to Skate USA

(Ages 3 – adult)

### Upcoming sessions:

Saturday mornings / Jan 20 - Feb 24.



## Open Skate

Sundays 4:00-5:15 p.m.

Wednesdays through May 31

11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

Wednesdays through March 14

6:00-7:15 p.m.

**Fee:** \$4/skater; age 5 & under free

\$34 for a 10-punch card

*See Glow N Skate schedule for exceptions*

*Skate times are subject to change.*

## Special Event Open Skates

### Haunted Glow 'N' Skate

Sundays, Oct. 29 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.

*\$5 – includes glow necklaces  
no punch cards or passes accepted*

### Gobbler Skate

Wednesdays, Nov. 22 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.  
and 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

*Free admission with a non-perishable food item for local Food Shelf*

### Glow 'N' Skate

#### Last Wednesday of the month

October to February 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

Oct. 25, Nov. 29, Dec. 27,

Jan. 24, 28, March 14

*\$5 – includes glow necklace  
no punch cards or passes accepted*

## Skate with Santa

Sun., December 17

4:00-5:15 p.m.

**\$4/skater (ages 5 & under Free)**

*Free hot chocolate with paid admission*

Join us at the  
Rogers Activity Center





# Arena Walking

Free indoor walking at the Rogers Activity Center/ice arena. Eight times around equals a mile.



The arena opens Monday through Friday at 9:00 a.m. Visit the website at [www.rogersmn.gov](http://www.rogersmn.gov) for daily closings and weekend hours.

Arena is not open for walking during paid events such as tournaments or high school hockey games.

# Open Gym

Open gym days are for all ages, families and individuals. Gyms are supervised Community Education staff and is pay at the door - \$4 per student/ \$5 per adult / \$12 per family. Verify changes/cancellations on [www.728communityed.com](http://www.728communityed.com) or twitter feed at CE728ALERT.

## All Ages: Sundays

Oct 1 – May 13\* 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Rogers Middle School, Gym Door A \*Not meeting Dec. 24, Apr 1

## Grade 9-12 & Adult: Wednesdays

Oct 4 – May 16\* 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Rogers High School, Gym Door I  
\*Not meeting Nov. 22, Dec 27

# Space to Host Events

The City of Rogers has two facilities to host meetings, family gatherings, birthday parties, wedding receptions and more. The Community Room and Activity Room each have rooms over 3,000 square feet with a variety of setups and amenities.

The Community Room is in the same building as the Fire Station and contains a large banquet room attached to a commercial kitchen. For smaller gatherings, the room can be divided, or there is a small conference room that shares the same hallway. Rental fees for banquets, meetings, and Rogers non-profit organizations are available online.

The Activity Room is on the second floor of the Rogers Activity Center, overlooking the Ice Arena. This open banquet room can be rented out for \$30 an hour for Rogers residents with a \$150 maximum daily charge and \$40 an hour for non-residents with a \$200 maximum daily charge.



## Community Room

21201 Memorial Drive  
[rogersmn.gov/community-room](http://rogersmn.gov/community-room)  
Contact Liz Faust: 763-428-0939



## Activity Center

21080 141st Ave. N.  
[rogersmn.gov/activity-room](http://rogersmn.gov/activity-room)  
Contact Mike Bauer: 763-428-0974

# Rogers Senior Programs

The City of Rogers provides a variety of programs for older adults in the area. Public senior programs have expanded significantly since the City of Rogers opened the Senior Center on Main Street more than two years ago.

Since attaining a dedicated building for senior programs, a variety of activities for older adults are held every Monday-Friday. From billiards, card playing, and movies, to exercise, painting and driver improvement classes, we are continuously adding new programs, trying new activities, and welcoming suggestions, with the goal of expanding our positive impact on the senior community.

Beyond the daily happenings at the Senior Center, the Rogers Community Room is also utilized for the Senior Dining program three days a week, and Jammers events on the first Sunday of each month.

The City of Rogers facilitates day trips to various sites in Minnesota, including theaters, casinos, museums, sports stadiums, concerts, boat cruises, and



*Rogers Seniors enjoy a variety of outings and activities throughout the year.*

more. More than 60 trips have been provided since 2013 and there is always something new for us to explore.

For more information about Rogers senior programs, please contact Liz Faust at 763-428-0939. Visit [www.seniors.rogersmn.gov](http://www.seniors.rogersmn.gov) to view the monthly newsletter, dining menu, upcoming events, and more. As a Rogers resident, you can receive the newsletter by mail or email for free.

# Shop Rogers Wines and Spirits and the Muni!

Our mission is to control the sale of alcohol in our community while generating necessary revenue to reduce the cost of city services. Our profits stay in the community!



Rogers Muni Tap Room, located at 21400 John Milless Drive, is a Roger's best option for fun, fellowship and friends! Twelve tap lines feature local and national craft beer. The Lions meat raffle is every Wednesday evening, and live entertainment, free popcorn, Rogers Fire Relief Association pull tabs and delicious pizza await you at Roger's most historic watering hole. Happy Hour pricing from 3 to 7 p.m., Monday-Saturday, Thursday free pool, daily specials, Tuesday pool leagues and bags on the patio are other available options.

Rogers Wines and Spirits is located at 21725 South Diamond Lake Road. We currently carry over 14,000 unique items to satisfy the most discriminating palate. We proudly feature a broad selection of local and regional craft beer, artisanal spirits, an extensive varietal wine selection and an impressive distilled national spirits and domestic beer inventory.

Our friendly staff will assist you with that special purchase to perfectly suit any occasion and our pricing is easy on your budget! Pets are welcome at Rogers Wines and Spirits.

# Take Advantage of Single Sort Recycling

Take Advantage of your Single Sort Recycling Cart!

## Items Accepted:

- ✓ Newspaper and magazines
- ✓ Mixed mail and office paper
- ✓ Boxboard ie: cereal, cracker, shoe boxes
- ✓ Fax paper
- ✓ Envelopes
- ✓ Computer paper
- ✓ Cardboard packaging from bathroom products
- ✓ Aluminum beverage cans
- ✓ Metal food cans
- ✓ Glass bottles and jars (all colors)
- ✓ Plastic containers and lids (#1-#7) ie: pop, juice bottles, milk, water
- ✓ Aseptic and gable-topped containers ie: juice & milk cartons, juice boxes
- ✓ Shampoo and Conditioner bottles

## Items Not Accepted:

- ✗ No plastic bags
- ✗ No egg cartons
- ✗ No styrofoam
- ✗ No pizza boxes
- ✗ No window glass
- ✗ No mirror or plate glass
- ✗ No ceramic or porcelain
- ✗ No toys, dishes, hangers
- ✗ No motor oil jugs
- ✗ No metal car parts
- ✗ No flower pots
- ✗ No plastic or metal household items

## Is your current cart too small?

Contact Randy's Environmental Services at 763-972-3335 and you can swap your existing 65 gallon cart for a 95 gallon cart.



## Every Other Week Recycling

- Homes West (or South) of I94
- Homes East (or North) of I-94
- Holidays

JANUARY						
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28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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DECEMBER						
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# Are your smoke alarms too old?

Some of Rogers developments are now almost 10 years old, and so are the smoke alarms in those homes. Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years from the manufacture date. Over time, the sensors in the alarms become dusty and cloudy causing alarms to go off for no reason or to not sound when intended.

Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of your home, outside each sleeping area and inside each bedroom. There are two types of smoke alarms:

- Ionization – detects flaming fires
- Photoelectrical – detects smoldering fires.

It is recommended to use both types

or a combination alarm in your home. Smoke alarms should be tested monthly and batteries replaced every six months depending upon battery duration.

Carbon Monoxide alarms should be installed at least 10 feet from every sleeping area. Most often, carbon monoxide alarms are in the furnace area, which may not be heard when sleeping. It is recommended to purchase a carbon monoxide alarm with a digital read out. Carbon monoxide alarm replacement should follow manufacture guidelines as different brands vary.

Contact Rogers Fire Department for any questions you may have regarding smoke alarms and or carbon monoxide alarms 763-428-3500.

# Crime Prevention

The police department has responded to multiple reports of thefts at residences the past few months, and the losses are concerning to all of our residents. To protect your family from becoming a victim, we urge you to follow the following crime prevention tips:

- **Consider purchasing a locking mailbox.** Your mail contains items of value, correspondence with your personal information including bank account information and other identity details that are easily stolen and used. The consequences of these losses can be very time consuming and difficult to work through.
- **Lock your vehicles** when left unattended on the street, in your driveway and even in your garage. In almost every theft reported – the vehicle had been left unlocked.
- **Do not leave valuables inside your car or truck.** Wallets, credit cards, cash, laptops and other valuables should be either locked, concealed or brought inside your home or business.
- **Keep garage doors closed and secure.** Make sure your vehicle is locked, if you keep a garage door opener inside your car.
- **Lock garage entry doors,** either exterior or interior, at night or when you are away from home.
- **Illuminate the exterior of your home** with exterior or landscape lighting.
- **Be vigilant and call 911** if you see anything suspicious in your neighborhood.
- **Consider joining our Neighbor Block Watch Program.** Email Officer Zachman at [nzachman@rogersmn.gov](mailto:nzachman@rogersmn.gov) if you are interested.

# Seeking Paid on-call Firefighters

The Rogers Fire Department is currently accepting applications for paid-on-call firefighters in order to establish a hiring eligibility list. Rogers Fire responds to over 500 Fire/EMS calls each year covering the cities of Rogers, portions of Corcoran, and Otsego.

Firefighters are paid for responding to fire calls, training and meeting attendance, and are eligible for membership in the Rogers Fire Department Relief Pension Fund. Firefighters must be 18 years of age or older, possess a high school diploma or G.E.D., and hold a valid MN driver's license.



**No Experience Needed  
All Training Provided**

**Please contact Chief Feist  
at [bfeist@rogersmn.gov](mailto:bfeist@rogersmn.gov)  
or 763-428-3500.**



22350 South Diamond Lake Road  
Rogers, MN 55374

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
ROGERS MN  
PERMIT NO. 2

# Here's How Organics Recycling Works

**Step 1:** Discard food waste and food-soiled paper into a kitchen compost bucket, separate from your other household trash. You may use any sturdy washable container as a kitchen compost bucket. Consider using the 3 gallon Blue Bag Organics 100% BPI Compostable liner as well. Please don't use plastic shopping bags or other kinds of plastic bags. They will not compost.

**Step 2:** Empty your compost bucket into the 13-gallon Blue Bag Organics BPI-certified bag. All your household's organics, including flattened and folded pizza boxes, go into that special Blue Bag Organics liner.

**Step 3:** Hand tie the 13 gallon Blue Bag and place it inside your regular garbage cart for curb-side pickup. We'll



separate it from other trash at our facility. Only place 13 gallon BBO liners in the garbage cart. Smaller bags will not be collected.

Contact Randy's Environmental Services at 763-972-3335 or visit [randysenvironmentalservices.com/residential/organics-recycling](http://randysenvironmentalservices.com/residential/organics-recycling).

## These items are acceptable compost materials

- Spoiled leftovers
- Egg and nut shells
- Meat and bones
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Vegetable scraps
- Tea leaves and tea bags (staples removed)
- Fruit scraps
- Dairy products
- Paper towels and napkins
- Pizza boxes
- BPI-Certified products

