

Electronics and Lighting Recycling Event



One Day Only! Saturday, April 22

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Public Works Garage, 950 Benson Street

FREE for River Falls Municipal Utilities Customers

(Please bring a copy of your RFMU bill for eligibility.)



Recycle all types of lights (including fluorescent tubes), car batteries, and electronics (TV's, computers, monitors, printers, dehumidifiers, window air conditioner units, and cell phones).

For more information, contact Keri Schreiner at 715-426-3469 or kschreiner@rfcity.org.

Renewable Energy Options

Green energy blocks: The River Falls community ranks #1 in the state and #4 in the nation for the percentage of customers participating in green energy programs. Get 300 kilowatt hours of clean, renewable electricity for only \$3 a month. As an added bonus, you will receive two LED light bulbs, for signing up (rfmu.org/greenblock).



Community solar: Solar has never been more affordable. The cost of solar has dropped almost 80% in the past five years. Purchase a share in community solar and receive a monthly credit on your utility bill equivalent to the amount of renewable energy the panels produce. Your share(s) can be sold, transferred, or gifted at any time.

Renewable Energy Grant for Nonprofits: Nonprofits like churches, sports venues, and schools have received these generous grants to help install solar on their roofs. Rooftop solar is a great way to reduce costs and your carbon footprint.

For more information on renewable energy options, visit rfmu.org or call Mike Noreen at 715-426-3467.

Irrigation

For those City residents who rely on irrigation during the summer months, a reminder that your system should have a backflow preventer that needs to be inspected annually. For more information, contact Greg Koehler at gkoehler@rfcity.org.

Odd-Even Watering

A reminder that watering is allowed before 8 a.m. and after 7 p.m. on an odd/even schedule from May 1-September 30. This means that residents and businesses with addresses ending in an even number may water lawns on even-numbered calendar days. Likewise, those with addresses ending in an odd number may water on odd numbered days. For more information, check out our link on the City's website: <http://www.rfmu.org/watering>.



Emerald Ash Borer Update Spring 2017

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive insect that attacks and kills all species of ash trees found in Western Wisconsin. EAB has been slowly spreading across southern and eastern Wisconsin and has now been positively identified just across the St. Croix River from River Falls near Lakeland, MN. Careless firewood movement is the number one factor that aids the spread of EAB, so be cautious this summer about moving firewood. The insect in its larval stage can be transported beneath the bark of infected ash firewood. Both Wisconsin and Minnesota have numerous firewood quarantines throughout their states, which you can find on their respective DNR websites. Fortunately, EAB can be effectively treated. For more information on this invasive threat and how you can help mitigate it, visit the Urban Forestry page at rfcity.org.



Street and Road Maintenance Projects

The City of River Falls takes seriously the maintenance of our roadways. As a result, it can provide some minor inconvenience at times over the summer. Like taking care of the exterior of your house, we approach our streets in a similar fashion. Think of crack sealing as a caulking and sealing of the exterior of your home. A chip seal is like applying a coat of paint to your home to preserve the longevity of the surface. Once the surface is beyond repair, a mill and overlay is needed, similar to replacing the siding on your house. We anticipate a number of projects around the City this summer, especially in the areas adjacent to the downtown. While the inconvenience is noted, it is an important part of our stewardship of City assets. We will provide additional information closer to when the projects are expected to begin.

Advanced Disposal Customers: Spring Cleanup is May 8- 12 at the Public Works Garage (rfcity.org/cleanup). For weekly pickup, additional garbage tags are \$2.05 each and are available for purchase at Family Fresh, Dicks, and City Hall. Each tag allows an additional 35-gallon trash bag to be placed curbside.

Maintaining Buffer Zones

Buffers have been intentionally built into areas abutting parkland and stormwater ponds. Please do not mow; place sheds, playgrounds, and/or other structures; or dump waste or yard material in these buffers. If noxious weeds become a problem in these zones, contact City staff who will assist in the management of these areas.

Spring Yard Safety Reminder

Contact with electricity can result in serious injury or even death. Follow these tips to stay safe:

- ALWAYS assume that electric lines and equipment are energized, even when overhead lines are lying on the ground and/or equipment is damaged.
- Before working outside, always look up and all around for overhead electric lines.
- Keep yourself and any tool you're using at least 10 feet away from overhead electric lines and carry all tools horizontally, especially ladders.
- Stay at least 10 feet away from a downed power line and any nearby object(s) it may be touching, such as a fence or tree limb(s).
- Never touch a person who is in contact with a downed power line as you could become the next victim. Call 911 immediately.
- If a fallen power line is resting on or near your vehicle, stay in the vehicle until first responders clear the scene.

Adopt-a-Pond

Are you looking for a great outdoor activity to share with friends and family - and keep the river healthy?

Consider adopting a stormwater pond! For more information, check out www.rfcity.org/adopt



Contact Update



Do we have your up-to-date phone number? As cell phones are used more and land lines are eliminated, we find that we may not have your most recent phone number on record.

Please contact us with updated phone number(s) so we may contact you with information related to utility and garbage services. You can submit your updated telephone number via email at rfmu@rfcity.org or call us at 715-425-0906.

April 18 - National Lineman Appreciation

National Lineman Appreciation Day is a time to express our appreciation to our linemen who work so hard for us every day to keep the lights on.



Holiday Closure City Hall Schedule

City Hall is closed Memorial Day (May 29)
and Independence Day (July 4)

Garbage and recycling - one day delay in
pickup on these two holidays.

Emergency Utility Service 24/7
call 715-425-0906



Utility News Spring 2017



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River Falls Municipal Utilities City Hall, 222 Lewis Street

Office Hours:
M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

www.rfmu.org

**Emergency Service 24/7
715-425-0906**