

VILLAGE OF RAPIDS CITY

2024 FALL NEWSLETTER

GREETINGS TO ALL RESIDENTS & BUSINESSES!!

Please see reverse side of this page for a message from our President / Mayor Harold Mire Jr.

Regular board meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. Agendas are posted 48 hours prior to all meetings that are not an emergency. We encourage all members of the community to attend board meetings, but if you cannot attend, approved meeting minutes are available to view at www.rapidscity.us.

RAPIDS CITY PRESIDENT HAROLD J. MIRE JR. & BOARD OF TRUSTEES WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS & BUSINESS OWNERS A HAPPY AND SAFE THANKSGIVING.



WE ARE ALSO PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE 8TH ANNUAL SENIOR THANKSGIVING APPRECIATION LUNCHEON FOR RAPIDS CITY'S SENIOR CITIZENS 60+

Meals will be served on Wednesday, November 20th, 2024 at the Rapids City Community Center.

Doors will open at 11:00am for our Seniors to gather and enjoy conversation. Meals will be served between 11:30am and 1:30pm.

Meal options include your choice of:

Turkey Green Bean Casserole Mashed Potatoes Cranberry Jelly Gravy Roll with Butter

Your choice of one piece of pie:

Pumpkin Apple Pecan

If you are not able to drive, please call Village Hall to order your meal, 309-496-2321, deliveries can be arranged. This is a free luncheon to honor our Senior Citizens.



Please help with keeping the culverts clean & not blocked. Raking leaves & debris into the streets plugs the storm drains, which causes flooding in yards & streets. Burning in the streets is prohibited by ordinance or a ticket may be issued. Be sure to be compliant with the Village Burning Ordinance by finding the ordinance at www.rapidscity.us before burning leaves.



Village of Rapids City in conjunction with the Rapids City Fire Protection District are very excited to have SANTA CLAUS traveling

through the Village on December 7th, 2024 from 11:00am – 1:00pm. Santa will be driven through the village giving a jolly HELLO! and a HO HO HO! to the young and young-at-heart on various village streets. Candy canes, hot cocoa and holiday cheer will be passed out to all residents. You will know he is near when you see lights and hear sirens, so bundle up and come out to say HI!

Ⓟ Ⓟ Street Parking Ordinance Reminder Ⓟ Ⓟ

- When parking on the street please do not block mail boxes per ordinance.
- If there is 2" of snow predicted to fall you will need to find an alternative to street parking. When removing snow from private property, please do not put snow in the roads per ordinance.



MAKE SURE YOU STAY SAFE & INFORMED BY RECEIVING NOTIFICATIONS & ALERTS FROM THE VILLAGE. SIGN UP NOW TO RECEIVE IMPORTANT EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS PERTAINING TO:

- ✓ Water Main Breaks
- ✓ Criminal Activity
- ✓ Natural & Manmade Disasters
- ✓ Evacuations
- ✓ Pandemics
- ✓ Wildfires

Signing up is easy! Simply go to <https://rapidscity.us/information.php>

and enter your contact information. Then we'll send updated alerts through email, voice, or text.



Are you thinking about moving?

Please call Village Hall and all utilities to inform them you are moving. In most cases you have paid a water deposit to the Village which is refundable. By informing us you are moving we can start the refund process for those funds.

If you're not moving and have a new phone number, please touch base with the Village Office to give us the best contact number for you.



On the 1st Thursday of the first full week of each month you can put out a single large item to be picked up that will not fit in the provided garbage bin. Please call the Village Office to be added to the special pickup list. October 10th, November 7th and December 5th will be your last large item pickup dates in 2024.

2025 large item pick up dates will be:

January 9 th	July 10 th
February 6 th	August 7 th
March 6 th	September 11 th
April 10 th	October 9 th
May 8 th	November 6 th
June 5 th	December 4 th

The last day for yard waste to be picked up will be November 30th, 2024.

Live Christmas tree disposal collection will be Friday, January 17th, 2025.

2025 waste calendars should be available for pick up at the Village Office mid-December, electronic copies will also be available on our website and Facebook page.

A Message from Our Village President (Mayor)
HAROLD J. MIRE, JR.

Dear Resident(s):

Wow how quickly time flies by. It just seems like yesterday that I was wishing everyone a Happy Holiday Season. As I write this update and Holiday Message, I hope the past year has been good for you and your families. To those of you who may have lost loved ones, on behalf of the Board and the Employees, you and your families have our deepest sympathies.

I'll be brief with my update on Village Projects. The three Capital projects, Waterloo, 13th Street Culvert Replacement and 17th Street Project have now all been completed. There has been some recent re-seeding along 17th Street and we are hopeful it will be successful. The 1% Sales Tax you approved a couple years ago, along with other funds, are being utilized to pay back the Bonds that were taken out to undertake these projects. These 3 projects combined cost in excess of approximately 2.6 million dollars. These Bonds still have approximately 12 years remaining on them. This was accomplished by you the citizens because no federal or state grants were awarded to the 13th Street and 17th Street projects. It was also accomplished without any increases in Village Property Tax Rates.

Speaking of Village Property Tax Rates, the Village Board will be discussing the new Village Tax Rates at our Board Meeting on November 12, 2024. Once again it appears the Assessor has increased our assessments. To offset this increase as much as possible, I will once again propose a reduction in our Village Tax Rate. Our Village Property Tax Rate is currently .5688 and I will recommend to the Board to reduce that property tax rate to .538492. If the Board accepts my recommendation, this will mean that since 2016, the Village and the Board of Trustees have lowered the Village Property Tax Rate on four separate occasions, without any Village Property Tax Rate increase during that period.

I am happy to announce the Village was awarded a BAAD Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. This grant should be utilized in the area of natural resources and our Schuler's Shady Project qualified for this. The first phase consists of a \$200,000 grant and it will involve replacing the culverts near the boat launch that drain to the river. There are two other phases that we will apply for over the next three years to complete a refurbishment of the entire Schuler's Shady Grove Recreation and Boat Launch area. Additionally, I am excited to announce that we have added some playground equipment to the Shadow Hill Playground for our toddlers and younger children to enjoy. It's always enjoyable to provide for the children.

It's also a great joy to provide for our Seniors as well. I am happy to announce that our **8th Annual Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at the Rapids City Community Center from 11:30am-1:30pm. Doors open at 11:00am.** Please see the front page of the newsletter for more details on Homebound Meal Delivery.

GREAT NEWS! I just received a text from Santa that he will be escorted through the Village by the Rapids City Port Byron Fire Department on December 7, 2024 from 11:00am-1:00pm. He asked for all the kids to be looking for him when they hear the sirens.

Finally, on behalf of myself and all Village Officials, I want to wish you and your families a Safe and Happy Holiday Season. Please drive safely and consume responsibly. Also, please remember to **LOCK BOTH YOUR VEHICLES AND YOUR HOUSES.**

Regards,

Harold J. Mire, Jr.
Your Village President