



27 Riverside Road
Riverside, IL 60546

Township Office

Phone: (708) 442-4400

Fax: (708) 447-0302

Website:

www.riversidetownship.org

E-mail:

supervisor@riversidetownship.org

clerk@riversidetownship.org

Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Fri: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Assessor's Office

Phone: (708) 447-7700

Fax: (708) 447-6442

E-mail:

assessor@riversidetownship.org

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Community Resource Center

Phone: (708) 853-9578

E-mail: crc@riversidetownship.org

Office Hours:

Mon: 9 am - Noon | 4 pm - 6 pm

Weds: 9 am - Noon | 4 pm - 8 pm

Thurs: 9 am - Noon | 4 pm - 8 pm

Supervisor

Vera A. Wilt

Clerk

Jay Reyes

Assessor

Frances Sitkiewicz

Trustees

Mary Rob Clarke

Timothy Heilenbach

John P. Carroll, Jr.

Matthew J. Decosola

Riverside Township

SPRING 2023

Paper Shredding Event In April

Spring has sprung and that means it's time for another "Shred-A-Thon" hosted by the Township! The always popular paper shredding event will be held on Earth Day this year, so join us on **Saturday, April 22, from 9:00 am - Noon**, and celebrate the day by shredding and recycling those old documents cluttering up your home. Once again, the event will be held in the parking lot of the **Riverside Masonic Lodge at 40 Forest Avenue in Riverside**.



This **FREE** event is only for Riverside Township residents and only for personal, confidential documents. No shredding of business documents allowed. Each household will be restricted to **no more than 3 boxes of paper**, and all documents will be securely destroyed and disposed of on site by American Mobile Shredding and Recycling.

Please note: be sure to remove all paper clips, binder clips, and spiral binders before you bring your items. Do not bring magazines, newspapers, junk mail, or other items that belong in traditional recycling. As always, this will be a contactless, drive-up event; no need to get out of your car! Just place your documents in your trunk, follow the signs at the event and then pop the trunk. We will remove the documents and shred them for you.

We ask that you please **bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Township Food Pantry as well!** The Food Pantry is always in need of donations of non-perishable, non-expired items from generous residents in the community.

Township Official Passes Away

We are saddened to inform the residents of Riverside Township about the untimely passing of Trustee Liane J. Blauw at the end of January this year, after having battled with ongoing health issues. A resident of North Riverside, Liane was first elected to the Township Board as Clerk in 2009 and served three terms in that position before shifting over into the role of Trustee at the last election in 2021.

The Township Board is grateful for her many years of dedicated service to the community and to the residents of Riverside Township. Her positive personality and always joyous presence will be greatly missed by all. The Township would like to offer our deepest condolences to Liane's family, friends, and loved ones. Liane J. Blauw was 67 years old.



Property Reassessment Info

2023 is a reassessment year for the southern portion of Cook County, which includes Riverside Township. Here are some frequently asked questions taxpayers typically have regarding property reassessment.

Why is property reassessed? - All properties, commercial and residential, are reassessed every three years in Cook County in order to capture changes in market value. Southern suburban townships in Cook County will be reassessed in 2023, the city of Chicago will be reassessed in 2024, and those in northern suburban townships will be reassessed in 2025.

What is an assessment? - The Cook County Assessor places a "market value" on all properties in Cook County. The assessment or Assessed Value is 10% of that market value for residential properties and 25% of that market value for commercial properties. The Assessed Value has two parts: a portion of the value is attributed to the land, and if the land contains a building, a portion is attributed to the building. Building Assessed Value + Land Assessed Value = Total Assessed Value, and that total value is used to calculate property taxes.

Does the Cook County Assessor come out to look at my property? -

No. The reassessment is conducted by mass appraisal. The Cook County Assessor collects sales data of all properties in the county. Sales data of properties sold 3 years prior to the reassessment is analyzed and property characteristics like location, livable square footage, and the number of bathrooms are given values based on those sales. During the reassessment, all properties are given new assessed values based on this data.



When should I appeal? - At this time, the dates for appeal have not yet been determined. The Cook County Assessor will send out reassessment notices with proposed 2023 Assessed Values. Property owners will then have 30 days to file an appeal with the Cook County Assessor. The Riverside Township Assessor, Fran Sitkiewicz, and her staff will be actively communicating with homeowners as the reassessment process unfolds. The Township Assessor's Office is open **Monday - Friday, from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm**, and will be available to provide guidance to property owners through the appeal process. Residents should make sure that they are added to the Township Assessor's email and call list for future updates, as well as keep an eye out for notices in the newspaper and updates on the Township's website. Please call the Township Assessor at **(708) 447-7700** to be added to their contact list, or send an email to: assessor@riversidetownship.org.

Swinging Bridge Repairs Underway



The current state of the Swinging Bridge, first erected in 1940.

After multiple delays, restoration work on the historic H. Wallace Caldwell Memorial Bridge, more commonly known as the Swinging Bridge, has finally begun at the end of March. The pedestrian suspension bridge spans over the Des Plaines River behind Riverside Town Hall and connects Riverside to the unincorporated Riverside Lawn area. It was first erected in 1940 and last rebuilt in 2002. In recent years, the Swinging Bridge's appearance has quickly fallen into disrepair, plagued by surface rust and peeling paint. The Township applied for an Invest In Cook grant from the county, but will fund the project by borrowing against existing tax levies. If needed, an alternate levy would be expected to increase tax bills by \$7 per \$5,000 of taxes.

The long overdue facelift is planned to **last at least 2 months** (weather permitting) and **access to the bridge will be closed to the public during that time**. The scope of work to be completed on the bridge is the removal of all remaining lead paint and rust and recoating the bridge surface in a new layer of paint that will hopefully last at least three decades. Keep an eye out for project updates on the Township's website and Facebook page.



Scan the QR code with your phone to view and download the Community Resource Guide.

Community Resource Center

Are you in need of information or assistance in order to access services and support in the community? The Riverside Township Community Resource Center can help! A Community Resource Specialist can provide guidance and referrals for any number of concerns, including aging services, benefits counseling (by appointment), intellectual and developmental disability services, mental health services, substance abuse services, and more.

Come see the CRC this summer at the farmers' markets in both Riverside and Brookfield. Also, remember to **Save The Date** for the CRC's annual **Riverside Township Community Health and Wellness Fair on Saturday, June 10**. Engage with multiple community organizations and learn about health-related programs, resources, and providers. All ages are welcome to attend this **FREE** event at the **North Riverside Village Commons, 2401 S. Des Plaines Avenue, from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**.

The CRC staff is available **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00 am - Noon and from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm**. Later hours are also available during the fall/winter months on **Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**. Feel free to reach out to the Resource Center by phone at **(708) 853-9578** to schedule an in-person appointment, or send an email to: crc@riversidetownship.org.

A Community Resource Guide has also been made available online as an information source for services and organizations throughout the community. You can access the guide by scanning

the QR code above with your smartphone or you can download the guide by visiting the website here:

<https://riversidetownship.org/community-resource-center/>.

News From The Mental Health Board

- ◆ In March, first responders took part in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training at the Riverside Town Hall. This is the second year in a row that the Township has hosted this week-long program, designed to provide first responders from Riverside, North Riverside, and Brookfield with training on how to handle crisis situations without resorting to physical interaction. Through community partnerships, CIT improves communication, identifies mental health resources for those in crisis, and ensures the safety of both officers and members of the community. It is a state law that all officers be CIT trained, and the Riverside Township Mental Health Board (RTMHB) is proud to again provide the full funding necessary to offer this required training. It is the goal of the Mental Health Board to have 100% of all first responders serving the Township be certified and trained in crisis intervention.
- ◆ Since February of 2022, the RTMHB has contributed to the annual costs for police officers in the Village of Riverside to have the support of a social worker. The State of Illinois requires every police officer to be evaluated at least annually by a social worker and the RTMHB proudly partners with the Village of Riverside by covering half of the annual cost for this support.
- ◆ In December of 2022, the RTMHB, in conjunction with Riverside Township, sponsored a presentation on the subject of "Meeting The Mental Health Needs of Veterans In Our Community". The presentation focused on the resources available to assist military veterans with mental health issues and featured representatives from local agencies, such as Rush University Medical Center, Hines Veterans Administration Hospital, Aging Care Connections, The Way Back Inn, and UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago. With the assistance of Riverside TV, the presentation was recorded and can be viewed on the Township's website here: <https://riversidetownship.org/mental-health-presentations/>.





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Senior Fair In May

North Riverside Parks & Recreation will be hosting their annual Senior Fair on **Thursday, May 11 from 10:00 am - Noon at the North Riverside Village Commons**. Come join Riverside Township, and over 50 other organizations, that will be on hand offering senior-related services including home health, medical representatives, retirement communities, legal & financial advisors, insurance companies, health specialists, community groups, senior clubs, and more! The event is **FREE** and for more info, please contact North Riverside at **(708) 442-5515**.



Visit us online!

www.riversidetownship.org

www.facebook.com/riversidetownshipIL

Radio Players End Season

The Riverside Township Radio Players look to close out their 24th season of old time radio programs with final shows in April and May. Presented in the **2nd floor Auditorium of the Town Hall**, performances take place once a month, from September to May each year, and **begin at 7:30 pm**. All ages are welcome to attend these **FREE**, live performances of shows from the Golden Age of Radio.



The Radio Players will return again later this year, but for now, here are their last 2 performances of the season:

April 28 - The Great Gildersleeve: *"Substitute Secretary"*,
The Jack Benny Show: *"Four Girls In White"*

May 19 - Richard Diamond: *"The Barrio Case"*,
Phil Harris/Alice Faye: *"The Election Committee"*

Weekly Movies Continue

FREE weekly movie screenings continue **every Thursday at 12:30 pm, on the 1st floor of the Town Hall**, and all are welcome to attend. So come on out and enjoy some free popcorn and light refreshments while viewing a film selected from any year, from old classics up to recent, present day releases. Here are some of the upcoming films:



April 13 - **"The Odd Couple"** (1968)

April 20 - **"What's Eating Gilbert Grape"** (1993)

April 27 - **"Roman Holiday"** (1953)

May 4 - **"The Birds"** (1963)

May 11 - **"A Man Called Otto"** (2022)

May 18 - **"The Talk of the Town"** (1942)