



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

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 | 1 pm - 5 pm
Tues: 9 am - 1 pm
Weds: 9 am - Noon
Thurs: 9 am - Noon | 3 pm - 5 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 2025

Paper Shredding Event In May

It's never too late to do some spring cleaning by purging old documents that are cluttering up your home. So come on out and join the Township as we host another one of our popular "Shred-A-Thon" events on **Saturday, May 17th, from 9:00 am - Noon**. The event will once again 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 will be 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 drive-thru event; no need to get out of your car! Just place the 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.

North Riverside Senior Fair

North Riverside Parks & Recreation will be hosting their annual Senior Fair on **Thursday, May 22nd, from 10:00 am until Noon**. This **FREE** event is a great resource for all seniors and caregivers and will take place at the **North Riverside Village Commons at 2401 S. Des Plaines Avenue**.

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!



For more information about the Senior Fair, call North Riverside Parks & Recreation at **(708) 442-5515** or visit: www.northriverside-il.org.

The Value of Townships

What if there was no Riverside Township? What would happen to valuable services like the Mental Health Board, Community Resource Center, and the Township Assessor? Would township-sponsored programs and organizations like the Radio Players and Lions Club still exist? Where would local community organizations meet and hold events, or apply for partnership funding?

In Governor Pritzker's 2025 budget address, he proposed that townships be eliminated. Township services would then be theoretically merged into the counties, but township officials and counties statewide are fighting this proposal. Studies show that eliminating townships will not solve the property tax problem in Illinois. Further research shows that it would cost taxpayers far more for some other government entity to provide the same level of services that townships currently provide.

Township government:

- Is the most efficient unit of local government.
- Has the lowest number of full-time employees.
- Has the lowest amount of debt.
- Accounts for only around 2% of property taxes statewide.
- Manages more than 72,000 miles of roads across the state.
- Provides vital services to the most vulnerable people in the state at a time when those services are most needed.



At the Riverside Township board meeting on March 11, 2025, the Board of Trustees approved a resolution stating that the Township is committed to opposing any legislation that would consolidate or eliminate townships. The Board resolves to continue its commitment to maintaining essential social services and programs in Riverside Township, including General & Emergency financial assistance, the Mental Health Board, the Township Assessor's Office, food pantry, medical equipment lending, senior health & welfare services, community group & residential use of the Town Hall facilities, and Community Partnerships to provide residents with services that the Township could not provide alone.

- Mary Rob Clarke, Riverside Township Trustee & Trustees Division President of the Township Officials of Illinois.

Info About Property Tax Exemptions

The easiest way homeowners can save on property taxes is to make sure that they are taking advantage of all Property Tax Exemptions available to them. Taxpayers who purchased their homes in 2023 should file for their 2024 exemptions if they were using their home as their primary residence on January 1, 2024. Taxpayers born in 1959 or earlier should apply for the Senior Citizens Exemption and if their 2023 total household income was less than \$65,000, they should apply for the Low Income Senior Citizen Exemption. Exemptions are also available to taxpayers with disabilities, veterans with service-related disabilities, and veterans returning from recent service.



Applying for exemptions can sometimes be confusing and overwhelming. All exemptions are shown on the 2nd installment property tax bill, so there is still time to file for them. The Riverside Township Assessor's Office is here to provide **FREE** assistance to all Riverside Township taxpayers, not just with their exemptions, but also with filing appeals and fielding property tax inquiries. Residents should

make sure that they are added to the Assessor's email and call list for future updates; please call the Township Assessor at **(708) 447-7700** or send an email to: assessor@riversidetownship.org. The Township Assessor's Office is open **Monday - Friday, from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm**, and it is best to call ahead and make an appointment.



Scan the QR code to view the Community Resource Guide.

Community Resource Center

The Riverside Township Community Resource Center will still be holding its annual Health & Wellness Fair this year, but the event will no longer be held in June. A joint decision was made with the Riverside Township Mental Health Board to move the date to the Fall where it will not overlap as much with other similar, local events taking place at the same time. Keep an eye out on the Township's website and Facebook page later this year for an announcement on the new date planned for this October.

The Resource Center can provide assistance with any number of concerns including: aging services, benefits counseling (by appointment), developmental and intellectual disability services, mental health services, substance abuse services, and more. Staff is available on **Mondays from 9am - Noon & from 1pm - 5pm, Tuesdays from 9am - 1pm, Wednesdays from 9am - Noon, and Thursdays from 9am - Noon & from 3pm - 5pm.** Reach out to the Resource Center by phone at **(708) 853-9578** to schedule an in-person appointment, or send an email to: crc@rivertownship.org.

A Community Resource Guide is also available online as an information source for services and organizations throughout the community and is always being updated with the latest information. Scan the QR code above with your smartphone to be taken to the CRC webpage, where you can access the guide, or you can view and download the guide directly at this link here: <https://rivertownship.org/community-resource-center/>.

Mental Health Board News

The Riverside Township Mental Health Board continues to work with local service agencies to support the mental health and disability needs of Township residents. One of the key requirements from local partners is that they agree to ensure that Riverside Township residents are not waitlisted when attempting to gain access to agency services. The Mental Health Board continues to hold meetings onsite at various partnering agencies in order to spend more time understanding the work they do and the challenges they face. Within the past 2 years, the Mental Health Board has met at all of the local agencies it funds that have a nearby and public location, and plan to continue these regular visits for the foreseeable future.

In order to better inform the community of the services available, the Mental Health Board has established a community engagement committee to seek and implement new approaches, in order to increase awareness and utilization of the local services that the Board continues to support. More details on the efforts of this committee will be shared this coming Fall.

Mental Health Board meeting dates, meeting locations, and more info about the Board itself can all be found online here:

<https://rivertownship.org/rivertownship-mental-health-board/>.

This past Fall, Thomas Dunleavy retired after many years of service on the Mental Health Board. His service to the community was recognized at the Board's October 2024 meeting hosted by the West Suburban Special Recreational Association at the Riverside Parks & Recreation Center. The Mental Health Board thanks Tom for all his years of service and his continued work to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Members of the Mental Health Board present Thomas Dunleavy with a plaque for his many years of service.



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Assessor: (708) 447-7700

Lions Club Chicken Dinner

The Riverside Township Lions Club will host their Annual Chicken Dinner on **Sunday, May 4th, from Noon until 5:00 pm**. The event will once again be held in the **2nd floor auditorium of the Riverside Town Hall** and will feature delicious fried chicken, plenty of sides, and light refreshments. Cost is **\$20 per person** and tickets are available to purchase directly from Lions Club members or at the door on the day of the event.



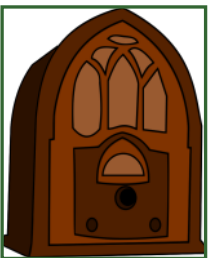
Visit us online!

www.riversidetownship.org

www.facebook.com/riversidetownshipLL

Radio Players End Season

The Riverside Township Radio Players look to close out their 26th 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 after a summer break, but for now, here are their last two performances of the season:

Friday, April 25 - Suspense: "On A Country Road" & Phil Harris/Alice Faye: "Cadillac In The Swimming Pool"

Friday, May 16 - The Sealed Book: "Death Brings Down The Curtain" & My Favorite Husband: "The Radio Script"

Free Weekly Movies

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 17 - **"That Touch of Mink"** (1962)

April 24 - **"Conclave"** (2024)

May 1 - **"I Confess"** (1953)

May 8 - **"Designing Woman"** (1957)

May 15 - **"The Searchers"** (1956)

May 22 - **"On The Waterfront"** (1954)

May 29 - **"Wicked"** (2024)