



Rochester, MN

Ordinance Highlights



Guidelines brought to you by



Intro

Friends,

It is my pleasure to provide greetings and an introduction to this booklet outlining the City of Rochester Ordinances that are most relevant to those who live in one of our many beautiful neighborhoods or are visiting our wonderful and growing city!

Rochester seeks to provide a warm and welcoming environment to everyone who lives or visits here. We have long been known as a “city for health” and it is my wish to also be known as of health, sustainability and resiliency. We are officially a “compassionate city” and an “intercultural city” – designations we are quite proud of and will continue to work to emulate.

We will strive to provide first class service and hope to partner with residents, non-profits and businesses to continually make improvements. We hope you will reach out to share your concerns, as well as let us know



Mayor Norton and husband Randy took part in the Front Door Project in spring 2020.

when we are doing things right. This booklet is one way of pro-actively communicating the basic rules and responsibilities the City Council has put in place to help us maintain a safe, sustainable community and we are grateful for the work of RNeighbors in putting it together and disseminating it.

— Mayor Kim Norton City of Rochester

201 4th Street SE – Room 281
Rochester, MN 55904
Office: (507) 328-2700



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The information in this booklet is a general summary of select city ordinances and is not meant to be a complete account. Keep in mind that ordinances are periodically amended.

On May 6, 2019, the Common Council adopted and enacted a new Code for the City of Rochester. Ordinance chapter and section numbers are all part of the Rochester Code unless noted.

The complete Code of Ordinances can be found online.

https://library.municode.com/mn/rochester/codes/code_of_ordinances

For clarification, call the City Clerk's office at (507) 328-2900, Monday-Friday, 8 am – 5 pm, or the Police Non-Emergency at (507) 328-6800, available 24 hours per day.

A symbol such as **16** corresponds to City and County departments. Contact phone numbers are on page 26.

It is the policy of the people of this city and the city itself not to discriminate based on color, race, creed, religion, national origin, sex, disability or family status.



After getting approval from Olmsted Public Health in May of 2020, the Rochester Front Door Project collected photos and narratives from households during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order. Many of the photos in this booklet are from this project.

While maintaining proper social-distance measures, the project documented a diverse selection of Rochester neighbors living through

the pandemic. There are a total of 83 portraits in the collection taken by local photographer Shawn Fagan, and can be viewed at www.rneighbors.org/rochester-front-door-project-portraits/.

Project partners, led by RNeighbors included Family Service Rochester, Meadow Park Initiative, Channel One Food Bank, Rochester Public Library, United Way, Cradle2Career, and the Youth Commission.

Capturing how this community not only survived, but thrived, during a once in a lifetime event is an important reminder of the resiliency we have as a community when we work together.

Project partners hope that this collaborative photo project spreads **kindness** and **compassion** while documenting neighbors living through the COVID-19 experience.



Houses and Apartment Buildings



Whether you rent or own your dwelling place, housing should be safe and healthy. Here are some of Rochester's regulations and standards.

Regulations

Permits Required for Work on Residential Buildings

Chapter 4-1 & State Building Code, Minn. Statute §326B.101 et seq. **03**

Residents are required to obtain permits from Community Development - Building Safety for remodeling work, including additions, decks, new windows and doors, garages, sheds over 120 square feet in area, pools over 5,000 gallons, retaining walls greater than 4 feet high and fences over 6 feet tall.

Zoning Certificates for Work not Requiring a Building Permit

61.111 Zoning Ordinance regulated by Community Development **03**

When a Zoning Certificate is required: Subdivision 1. A zoning certificate shall be required before (1) any new use may be established involving a change in the manner in which the exterior portion of a site is used or involving the erection, construction, reconstruction or alteration (as defined) of a building or structure; (2) an existing use is changed or modified so as to alter the character of its occupancy; (3) the re-establishment of a use involving the erection, reconstruction, construction or alteration of a building or structure; or (4) the establishment of a temporary use on a site may proceed.

Storage sheds 200 sq ft or less do not require a building permit (changed from 120 sq ft), but they require a zoning certificate.

Fences 6' or less do not require a building permit. Fences over 6' but at or below 7' require a zoning certificate.

Identification of Houses, Buildings, and Apartments

Sect. 7-2-38 & Sec. 9-11-3 **03**

Every house and building must have address numbers that can be easily read from the street or road fronting the property. The numbers must be on the front of the building, be as close to the main entrance as practicable, be at least .5 inches in width and 4 inches tall, Arabic numerals or alphabet letters and contrast with the color of the building. Easily visible numbers and/or letters are also required on the entrance door to every apartment and rooming unit in any dwelling.

Houses and Apartment Buildings / Sign Restrictions

61.130 Zoning ordinance regulated by Community Development **03**

A sign permit issued by the zoning administrator is generally required before a sign can be erected, altered or replaced. Temporary signs do not require a sign permit but may need to meet other applicable regulations.

Well & Water Supply

3200 (Olmsted County Ordinances) **12**

Owners of wells on residences which are also served by a public water supply must apply for a maintenance permit for that well.

Standards

Minimum Housing Standards

Chapter 7-2 **03**

All residential dwellings must have: Properly functioning kitchen sink, bathroom sink, toilet, bathtub or shower, running hot and cold water, adequate and safely functioning heat and electricity, adequate number of windows and proper ventilation, garbage storage containers, with operable smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detector, and a safe way to exit the building.

Rental Property

All rental property within the City of Rochester must be registered with Building Safety as meeting all safety requirements and have a current rental certificate.

Chapter 7-5 **03**

All rental property must be fit for human occupancy, and must be kept clean and safe.

Sections 7-4-1 & 7-3-12 **03**

Either the rental property owner or property manager hired to maintain the property is required to attend a public safety seminar.

Section 7-5-5 (c)(19) **03**

Violations of Public Health or Safety Hazards Abatement Procedure

Sections 7-3-23 & 7-3-24 **03**

A person who creates, maintains, or allows to continue a property condition that poses a risk to public health or safety must abate the hazard contained on any property. The City, by and through its authorized personnel, may under appropriate circumstances enter upon such property and abate the public health hazard by any reasonable means, including the contracting with a private person to do so.

Standards cont.

Disorderly Use

Section 7-5-19 **01** **03**

Landlords are responsible for taking appropriate action against tenants or tenant's guests who are disorderly on the property. Disorderly use of the property can include loud music/noises, assault (other than domestic), obscenity, overcrowding, unlawful sale of alcoholic beverages, gambling, disorderly conduct, indecent conduct, prostitution, participating in a disorderly house, drug offenses, and weapon offenses. Three violations within one year can result in sanctions against the landlord, including the loss of the landlord's rental certificate.

Open Areas

Section 7-3-21 **03** **14**

All open areas and parts of premises shall be maintained and kept in a reasonably clean and neat condition. This requirement shall include the removal of dead trees and brush; the removal of inoperable machines, appliances, fixtures and equipment; the removal of lumber piles and building materials not being used in actual construction on the premises unless such premises are being used by a business dealing in or requiring the use of such lumber and materials, and the storage of these materials for business use is allowed or permitted by ordinance; the removal of tin cans, broken glass, broken furniture, mattresses, box springs, boxes, crates, cardboard, tires, and other garbage and debris; and the removal of furniture and other items of the type not designed or intended to be stored outside or in such a manner that they are exposed to weather and climatic conditions.

Yards & Trees



Property owners and the Park and Recreation Department share responsibilities for the natural beauty of our neighborhoods.

Boulevard Trees

46.01-46.04 and 64.160 **13**

Boulevard is defined as the city right of way, typically between the sidewalk and the curb. Boulevard trees are generally planted by the city as finances would allow. However the person who owns the property bordering the boulevard may obtain a planting permit from the Park Department and plant their own tree(s). The Park Department is responsible for the general maintenance and removal of dead boulevard trees. The bordering property owner is responsible for the ordinary care of the trees, such as watering, minor twig removal, and raking of leaves. Branches overhanging a pedestrian sidewalk should be no lower than 9 feet from the sidewalk and 14 feet clearance over the street.

Contact the Forestry Division for a tree planting permit or boulevard tree maintenance at (507) 328-2515.

The City of Rochester finds that trees and especially shade trees along streets provide numerous community benefits (such as energy savings and health benefits). It is the City's intent to establish trees on boulevards on public streets in all neighborhoods and all zoning districts within the City.

Boundary Trees

The University of Minnesota Extension Service has a helpful fact sheet on tree law that can be found at: www.myminnesotawoods.umn.edu/2008/12/minnesota-law-and-trees/

Abatement of diseased trees

Sections 6-2-5 & 6-2-6 **13**

Property owners are responsible for the removal of diseased trees (i.e.: Dutch elm, oak wilt, Emerald Ash Borer etc.) If the trees are not removed within the timeline specified in the notice, the park department will remove the trees and the costs will be billed or assessed to the property owner.

Tall Grass and Weeds

Chapter 8-5 **13**

Grass and weeds in yards and boulevards are to be kept less than 12 inches high. If grass is identified that is in violation of the ordinance an administrative citation shall be mailed to the property owner and a notice will be sent to the property owner. If the property owner fails to comply within 48 hours, the Park Department will have the property mowed and will bill the owner. Exemptions are listed in section Rochester Code Section 8-5-4.

Landscaping

48.05 **13**

Applications for natural landscape permits may be filed with the Park Department to allow proposed landscape which includes planting of native grasses that exceed 12 inches in height. For financial assistance to add native plants to your landscape, visit www.rochesterstormwater.com to learn about the Garden Grant Program.

Grass Clippings and Leaves

141 **14**

It is unlawful to dispose of grass clippings, leaves and other forms of yard waste in city streets, parks, or other private property without the owner's permission. Residents should rake from the curb line in and dispose of yard waste appropriately to prevent impacts to area lakes, streams and rivers. Consider adopting a storm drain in your neighborhood at www.adopt-a-drain.org.

Fences, Walls and Hedges

63.126 14

There are a number of requirements concerning fences, walls and hedges. Please refer to this entire ordinance online prior to construction.

Before you dig

When starting a digging project you must notify Gopher State One Call before you dig. By contacting Gopher State One Call you will not only follow the law, but this could also help you to avoid costly underground utility damages or even deadly accidents.

Call (800) 252-1166

Garbage

There is a proper place for your waste. The proper place is not always the garbage can. Management of waste includes reduction, reuse, recycling, and disposal. Contact Olmsted County Environmental Resources (507) 328-7070 or check their website at www.olmstedwaste.com.

Property owners are responsible for either arranging for garbage removal through private companies or for removal and legally disposing of garbage from property on a regular basis.

Garbage/Exterior Storage Containers

3505.02 Subs. 5 (Olmsted County Solid Waste Management Ordinance) 12

While being accumulated and stored for collection and transportation to a permitted facility, Solid waste shall be stored in reusable, covered containers (e.g., cans, dumpsters, compactors, roll-off containers, etc.) that are rust, impact, vermin, and leak resistant.

Yard Waste

3506.02 Subs. 1 (Olmsted County Solid Waste Management Ordinance) 12

On-Site Yard Waste Composting; On-site or "backyard" compost sites, are allowed if the sites are managed in such a manner to prevent annoying odors, Public Health Nuisances, or unsafe conditions. See ordinance for additional guidelines of what is and is not permitted for composting.

Location of Containers

Section 12-10-3 15

All refuse containers shall be stored in or adjacent to the garage, or adjacent to the residence if there is no garage. Each container shall bear the name of the commercial hauler supplying it. During collection periods the containers shall be placed adjacent to but not in the traveled portion of the right of way. No container shall be kept adjacent to the right of way for longer than 24 hours.

Schedule and Hours of Collection

Section 12-10-13 14

Private companies collect garbage at least once a week. In both residential and commercial areas, collection should occur between 7:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Garbage Disposal

3550 (Olmsted County Solid Waste Designation Ordinance) 12

All garbage generated in Olmsted County must be delivered to an Olmsted County Solid Waste Management Facility by a licensed hauler, or by self-hauling to the Olmsted County Recycling Center Plus. For more information, see olmstedwaste.com or call Environmental Resources at 507-328-7070.

Seasonal Rubbish

Section 12-10-17 12

In residential areas during spring and fall, when a great amount of leaves, grass trimmings, and similar material, may accumulate between collections, such items may be stored in fiber boxes, plastic bags or similar containers and shall be disposed on site or at a composting facility.

Recycling

Chapter 3503.02 (Olmsted County Solid Waste Management Ordinance) 12

Residents must separate recyclable materials from garbage. At a minimum, newsprint, glass containers, corrugated cardboard, aluminum cans, and aluminum scrap should be separated.

Hazardous Waste

3506.08 (Olmsted County Solid Waste Management Ordinance) 12

The Olmsted County Hazardous Waste Facility is available to accept hazardous materials from residents and approved businesses. Visit olmstedwaste.com or call 507-328-7070 for more information.



Sidewalks, Streets & Alleys



Let's keep them safe and open.

Maintenance and Repair – Snow Removal

Property owners whose property borders a public sidewalk shall keep the sidewalk in good condition, including removing rubbish, making repairs to the sidewalk when necessary and removing all snow and ice from sidewalks within 24 hours. Violations may be subject to administrative fines and the assessment or repair or removal costs if work is done by the city. Learn more about snow removal and smart salting best practices at www.rochestermn.gov/winter.

72.02, 72.04 15

Effective snow removal creates safer roads for the traveling public and provides access for emergency vehicles. Seasonal parking requirements include alternate side parking from 2am to 3pm every day, regardless of weather from October 1 to May 1. Learn more at rochestermn.gov/winter.

Section 11-6-49 15

- + Park your vehicle on the side of the street with EVEN house numbers when the calendar date is EVEN.
- + Park your vehicle on the side of the street with ODD house numbers when the calendar date is ODD.
- + Alternate side parking requirements do not apply to metered spaces or streets where parking is only allowed on one side.

Piling of Snow

Section 9-1-2 (b) 15

No person shall push into or deposit snow or ice onto any public street or alley or pile snow at such height or locations so as to interfere with the view onto or from public streets or alleys.

Skateboarding and In-Line Skating

Section 9-1-6 1

In the central business district skateboarding, in-line skating, and roller skating are not allowed on any public sidewalk, any public parking lot, any portion of the Peace Plaza, or in any public or private structure located therein. However, skateboarding, in-line skating, and roller-skating is allowed on the bike paths along the Zumbro River.

Signs on Public Property

Section 9-1-2 (c) 15

Posting of any handbill, sign, flyer is prohibited on any public property or right of way and may be removed by any person. This includes garage sale signs.

Waste Disposal

Section 12-2-3 15

It is unlawful to place any human or animal excrement, garbage, or objectionable waste on public or private property or on any area under the jurisdiction of the city. This includes storm sewers.

Potholes/Street Maintenance

15

To make reports and place routine maintenance requests contact Infrastructure Maintenance via phone or online at www.rochestermn.gov/publicworks.

Parks & Playgrounds

The City of Rochester maintains over 125 parks covering more than 4500 acres. Swimming is available at two outdoor pools and two swimming beaches.

The city also operates three 18-hole golf courses and 1 executive 9 hole course, over 100+ miles of trails/path are in the system, 32 tennis courts, 6 pickleball courts, 34 horseshoe courts, 20 picnic shelters, 5 cross country ski trails, 88 playgrounds, 54 ball diamonds, 15 basketball courts, 19 sand volleyball courts, 2 archery range, 2 Frisbee golf courses and 3 dog parks.

Hours

Section 9-16-13 13

In general, parks are open from 5 am through 11 pm each day. The Park Board may set different hours for individual parks indicated at all entrances.

Golf Prohibited

Section 9-16-14 13

Hitting golf balls is prohibited in city parks except at the city's four municipal golf courses.

Alcoholic Beverages

Section 9-16-17 13

It is unlawful to possess alcohol in a park in containers greater than 2 gallons (no kegs) without an appropriate liquor license. Additionally, no alcoholic beverages are allowed in Mayo Park, Foster-Arends Park, Central Park, Kutzky Park, Slatterly Park or Bear Creek Park without a permit approved by the Park Board.

Parks & Playgrounds cont.

Down by the Riverside Concert Series regulations

Smoking is prohibited in public places; places of work; outdoor dining or bar areas; and within 15 feet of entrances, exits, open windows and ventilation intakes.

Section 5-19-32 **13**

Section 9-16-18 **13**

Bicycles

Bicyclists and motorists are equally responsible for safety. Many factors contribute to crashes including inattention, distractions and limited access for bicyclists on roads.

Registration of bicycle serial numbers can be completed online and kept on file at the Police Department, enabling bicycles to be returned if recovered. Visit rochestermn.gov and search bicycle registration.

State laws governing bicycles and the provisions of this chapter shall apply whenever a bicycle is operated upon any street, roadway, or public path.

Section 11-3-1 **4**

Riding Restricted

Section 11-3-2 **4**

No person shall ride a bicycle on downtown sidewalks or any street, roadway, or public path where signs have been erected prohibiting bicycle riding.

Emerging Bicycle

Section 11-3-3 **4**

The operator of a bicycle emerging from an alley, driveway, or building, shall upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extended across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on the sidewalk or sidewalk area extended, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all approaching vehicles.

Minnesota Statutes include bicycling operation in terms of traffic laws, riding rules, bicycle parking, lane change and bicycle events etc. www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/?id=169.222

Minnesota Statute 169.222 **4**

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

AASHTO provides nationwide information on physical infrastructure, one of several elements to community bicycling program. Information on other elements of bicycling program such as enforcement, education, encouragement, evaluation can be obtained from other State and Local publications. www.transportation.org/

Urban Bikeway Design Guide

National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) **4**

The purpose of the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guideline is to provide cities with state-of-the-practice solutions that can help create complete streets that are safe and enjoyable for bicyclists. nacto.org/publication/urban-bikeway-design-guide/

Animals



While a dog may be our best friend, a variety of pets are permitted within certain limitations.

Animal Licenses

Section 3-1-5 & 3-1-6 **2**

All dogs, cats, and ferrets over the age of 4 months must be vaccinated and wear a metal identification tag.

Ownership Limits

Section 3-1-3 **2**

No more than a total of 8 animals (dogs, cats, ferrets or other domesticated animals) over the age of 6 months may be kept within any household, with the number of dogs limited to 5.

Wild Animals

Section 3-1-4 **2**

Most wild animals and hybrids are prohibited within city limits.

Care of Animals

Chapter 3-1 **2**

All dogs and cats must be restrained by being enclosed within a residence, dwelling, business, or other structure, within a fence, on a leash or under control by command. Animals that are not restrained are considered "at-large." Dogs must be kept on a leash in locations defined in Section 3-1-1

Lost Pets

To reclaim a pet which has been lost or at large, or if you have any questions about pets and licensing, call:

Animal Control: (507) 328-6960

Paws and Claws: (507) 288-7226

Police Non-Emergency:
(507) 328-6800

Animal Waste

Section 3-1-8 **2**

The owner of an animal is responsible for cleaning up their animal waste on public or private property.

Noisy Dogs

Section 3-1-9 **2**

No dog shall be permitted to unreasonably disturb the "peace and quiet" including barking for more than five minutes continuously or intermittent barking for more than an hour.

Safety & Welfare



Rochester's curfew ordinance is designed to protect the public, to protect minors, and to help parents control their children. Other ordinances preserve the peace and quiet. Graffiti removal preserves the appearance of the community and may assist in preventing the entrenchment of gangs.

Juvenile Curfew Regulations

Section 8-8-3 & 8-8-4 **1**

Children must not be on public streets, alleys, parks, playgrounds, public buildings or grounds, places of amusement, entertainment, refreshment, or vacant lots during the following restricted hours:

- + Under 16: 10:30 pm - 5 am
- + Ages 16-17: 12 midnight - 5 am

Exceptions: The child is with a parent, guardian, or other adult person who is primarily responsible for providing the child with food, clothing, and shelter; the child is on an emergency errand as directed by their parent, guardian, or other adult; the child is working; the child is traveling directly to and from work and home; or the child is traveling to and from an event officially designated as a school activity.

No parent, guardian, or other adult who is primarily responsible for the child's food, clothing and shelter shall permit curfew violations. Owners and operators of places of amusement, entertainment or refreshment shall not allow a child to come in or stay there during the restricted hours unless the child is with a parent, guardian, or other adult.

Noise

Section 8-7-8 **1**

No person shall make noise which unreasonably disturbs the peace and quiet of people nearby.

Section 8-7-8 (e)(1)The play of any device for the production or reproduction of sound as to be plainly audible at a distance of fifty feet is evidence of a violation of this subsection.

Sound Amplification Permit Required

Section 8-11-3 **8**

A Special Event Permit is required to hold a special event during which: amplified sound is used, a public way is closed, alcoholic beverages are provided, or a considerable number of citizens will be impacted.

Smoking

Section 5-19-32 **4**

Smoking is prohibited in public places; places of work; outdoor dining or bar areas; and within 15 feet of entrances, exits, open windows and ventilation intakes. For more information contact Olmsted County Public Health Services at (507) 328-7500.

Parties

Section 8-7-8 (c) **1**

Between 11 pm and 7 am, no person shall attend any gathering of four or more persons which is noisy enough to disturb the peace and quiet of people nearby.

Construction

Section 8-7-8 (b) **1**

Construction is prohibited during the following times:

- + 10 pm through 7 am Monday through Saturday
- + 10 pm Saturday through 12 noon Sunday; and
- + 10 pm Sunday through 7 am Monday

Firearms

Section 8-7-10 **1**

With certain exceptions including possessing a permit to carry, no person shall discharge a firearm or transport an uncased firearm within the city limits. (See Section 8-7-11 for bow and arrow conditions).

Graffiti

Section 8-6-3 **1**

Placement of graffiti on any exterior surface on public or private property or possession of materials for placing graffiti is unlawful.

Fire Works

Section 5-16-1 & 5-16-2 **1** **5**

Fireworks use is limited to small devices that do not leave the ground and that contain less than 75 grams of explosive mixture, such as sparklers. Aerial fireworks and pyrotechnic displays are limited to those intended specifically for public viewing outdoors or as otherwise allowed by Chapter 33 of the Fire Code and Minnesota Statute 624.

Fire Works

Section 5-16-1 & 5-16-2 **15**

Fireworks use is limited to small devices that do not leave the ground and that contain less than 75 grams of explosive mixture, such as sparklers. Aerial fireworks and pyrotechnic displays are limited to those intended specifically for public viewing outdoors or as otherwise allowed by Chapter 33 of the Fire Code and Minnesota Statute 624.

Recreational Fires (Bonfires)

Section 307.4.2 and 307.5 **5**

To reduce unnecessary fire calls, it is recommended that you call Fire Dispatch, 328-2830, prior to starting a recreational fire giving your name, address, and telephone number.

Door-to-Door Salespersons

Chapter 5-14 **8**

In general, persons selling, taking orders for, exhibiting or taking surveys for personal property goods, wares, merchandise or services must first register with the City Clerk. For exceptions see. Rochester Code Section 5.14.-3

Motor Vehicles



Safe use and storage of motor vehicles is everyone's responsibility.

Operation

Motorcycles

Section 11-1-2 **1**

Motorcycles cannot be operated upon public sidewalks or pedestrian walkways in parks, or in any public grounds except on roadways.

Snowmobiles

Section 11-9-2 **1**

No person shall operate a snowmobile in any public grounds or upon any public street, roadway, or alley within the city limits.

Parking

Section 11-6-10 **1**

No one may park a vehicle, whether attended or unattended: on a sidewalk or boulevard between a sidewalk and a roadway; within 5 feet of any public or private driveway; in a crosswalk or within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection. Refer to the ordinance for additional conditions.

Certain areas have parking restrictions which are marked by signs, parking meters, etc. In areas without specific limitations, vehicles cannot be parked for more than 24 consecutive hours.

Section 11-6-28 **1**

Parking in the unpaved portion of a front yard in a residential neighborhood is not permitted.

Section 11-6-12 (c) **1**

Off-Street Parking

63.455 Subd. 2 (Rochester Zoning Ordinance and Land Development Manual) **3**

Off-street parking spaces may be located on a lot according to the rules provided. In a Residential District: A. In the rear yard and in the Core Neighborhood – Neighborhood Residential District at-grade, unstructured, off-street parking areas may be located in the rear yard if situated so as to be separated from the dwelling on the lot and any side lot line shared with another residential use by at least 6 feet.

Fences

63.126 E (Rochester Zoning Ordinance and Land Development Manual) **3**

No fence, wall or hedge shall be placed closer than ten feet to the intersection of a driveway with any right of way used for vehicular or pedestrian traffic, including alleys.

Obstructing Fire Lanes & Hydrants

Section 11-6-10 **1**

Obstruction of the fire department and fire department equipment is prohibited, including blocking or parking in fire lanes and obstructing a fire hydrant with snow or shrubbery.

Certain Types of Vehicles

Section 11-6-23 **1**

The following vehicles shall not be parked on any street or alley for more than one hour: Trucks of capacity more than 3/4 ton; trucks or "motor Homes" having an overall length of more than 20 feet; dump trucks; tractors; truck-tractors; trailers; boats and boat trailers; semi-trailers; recreation vehicles (RV's), advertising or livestock vehicles or any heavy machinery.

Recreational Vehicles

62.278 subd. 9 (Rochester Zoning Ordinance and Land Development Manual) **14**

Recreational vehicles (RV's) may be parked in the rear yard. If the RV is less than 18 feet in length and 7 feet in height it may be parked in a side yard on a hard surface adjacent to the driveway. If the RV is over 18 feet in length or 7 feet in height, it can be parked on the driveway but there must be 20 feet between curb and the vehicle.

Snow Emergency

Chapter 11-8 **1**

On occasion a snow emergency may be declared. Please do not park your vehicle on the public streets until they have been plowed.

Inoperable or Junked Motor Vehicles

Section 7-3-22 **3**

Motor vehicles in an open area on residential property must have current legal license plates, all essential parts that would make it operative and must not be rusted, wrecked, or partially dismantled.

No Current Plates

62.278 subd. 9 **1**

Vehicles or trailers without current legal license plates on residential property must be stored or parked in a completely closed building.

Unsheltered Storage

Section 8-3-5 (b) **3**

Except for junk or salvage yards, the unsheltered storage of old, unused, or stripped automobiles, machinery, implements, junk, or personal property no longer safely usable is considered a nuisance.

Resources

Housing

Property Improvements

The Community Development Department and the Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (OCHRA) administer housing rehabilitation loan programs which provide affordable financing (deferred loans) to qualified homeowners. For more information contact the Community Development Department or the OCHRA at **507-328-7150**.

Home Ownership

Three Rivers Community Action Agency and the Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (OCHRA) provide classes that help people work toward the goal of homeownership. Three Rivers: **507-316-0610** or online at www.threeriverscap.org/housing/achieve-homeownership.

OCHRA: 507.328.7143 or online at <https://www.co.olmsted.mn.us/cs/ochra>.

Building Safety

Refer to www.rochestermn.gov/departments/building-safety for information on acquiring permits, rental certificates, and downloadable brochures with tips on deck construction or basement refinishing.

Yard-Waste Compost Site

Olmsted County operates a yard-waste compost site that accepts leaves, grass clippings and other acceptable items to help people who are unable to compost leaves and grass in their own yards. There is no charge to drop off leaves and grass clippings at the Olmsted County Compost Site. The site is located on the east side of Olmsted County Recycling Center Plus at 305 Silver Creek Road NE in Rochester. Small quantities of trees and brush can be disposed at the Olmsted County Recycling Center Plus.

Clean Streets Means Clean Streams

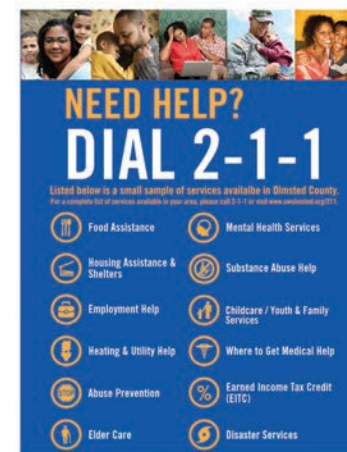
Stormwater runoff does not go to the Water Reclamation Plant for treatment - rather, it runs to our rivers, lakes and streams, often without treatment. As stormwater moves across the landscape, it collects dirt, debris, and chemicals. This pollution is carried through storm sewers and ditches to our waterways. Untreated stormwater can be harmful to people and aquatic plants and animals. Your actions on the land have a great impact on the quality of our surface waters. Report water pollution concerns to **(507) 328-2440**. www.rochesterstormwater.com

Family Service Rochester



Family Service Rochester (FSR) is a community-based organization providing mental health, senior independence, child well-being, and family stability services. Services include counseling for all ages, Family Access Center, and Father Project. Older adults can receive support through Meals on Wheels, Senior Café, and grocery shopping as well as transportation, friendly visit, and chore services. FSR also offers a variety of volunteer opportunities. For information regarding these and other FSR services contact **507-287-2010** or familyservicerochester.org.

United Way



Some cell phone customers may need to use
1-800-543-7709
Free. Confidential. Multilingual. 24/7/365



Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association



Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association (IMAA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that primarily serves refugee and immigrant populations. The agency's mission, "building bridges between cultures by empowering individuals to create a diverse, inclusive, and equitable community" is reflected through its culturally responsive programs and services to help new Americans overcome the barriers and challenges to achieve self-sufficiency and rebuild a new life.

IMAA's programs include employment services, victim services, interpreting and translating, community engagement services including the Match Program and Meadow Park Initiative, community health work and MNsure navigation, and early childhood development. Also, the organization offers diversity and inclusion training for businesses interested in increasing cultural competence and inclusive practices in their work strategies. www.imaa.net



A Litter Bit Better

One week, at the end of April, service groups, businesses, scout troops, schools, faith groups, and neighborhoods pitch in to make a Litter Bit Better, a annual event in the City of Rochester. Trash and recycling bags are provided. Just pick a location, pick a date, and pick it up!

Registration information, maps and more can be found at www.RNeighbors.org/litterbitbetter



Investigations-Crime Prevention

The Investigations-Crime Prevention Department works in Rochester on the public safety programs listed below and many others. Call **(507) 328-6890** for more information.

Vacation House Check

Prior to going on vacation, call **(507) 328-6800** to register.

Pooch, Pedal and Walker's Patrol

This program is for adult dog owners who walk their dogs daily, those who ride their bicycles and those who go for daily walks in their neighborhoods to serve as 'extra eyes and ears' for the Rochester Police Department as part of the city's ongoing crime prevention efforts.

Fire Prevention Programs

Home safety inspections, fire safety education, and fire extinguisher classes are also available.

To Report Suspected Arson

To report any information pertaining to a suspicious or possible arson fire which may have been intentionally set please call **(800) 723-2020**.

Important Dates to Remember

- + RochesterFest, third full week in June
- + National Night Out, first Tuesday in August
- + Olmsted County Free Fair, last weekend in July
- + Seasonal Parking Requirements, October 1 to May 1

Rochester Public Library



Located in the heart of downtown, Rochester Public Library and the RPL Bookmobile provide service to all.

Rochester-area residents and support over 190 mini-libraries in Olmsted County through Neighbors Read. The mission of the library is "Welcoming all to connect and learn."

RPL provides programs for all ages, and special services such as reference, reader's advisory, homebound delivery, Bookmobile and BookBike access, free Wi-Fi, and other tools for neighborhood living.

All Minnesota residents are eligible for a Rochester Public Library card to access over 440,000 physical items (books, DVDs, CDs, etc.), over 45,000 digital items (through Overdrive and other digital applications), and dozens of high-quality databases for business information, genealogy resources, academic research and other purposes.

Applications for library cards are accepted at the library, the Bookmobile or the BookBike. Digital applications can be filled out online at www.rplmn.org/card and later picked up in person at the library. All applicants must present a photo ID and current address verification to receive a card.

Every week, RPL hosts 50+ programs for all ages and abilities. A complete list of programs and events can be found at: www.rplmn.org/events.

All programs are free and open to the public.

With over 70 stops every two weeks, the Bookmobile is near most neighborhoods about twice a month. Additionally, the BookBike visits parks and events within a one-mile radius of the library during the summer months. Materials are available for checkout at all locations, with returns limited to the Bookmobile and main library.

The Neighbors Read mini-library program is available in dozens of Rochester neighborhoods. To learn more about the Neighbors Read program, hosting a mini-library of your own, or to see a map of registered mini-libraries, visit: www.rplmn.org/my-rpl/friends-of-the-library/about-us/neighborhood-libraries.

Need further help accessing information? RPL's Reference Department is available during all regular library hours at **(507) 328-2309** or by email at reference@rplmn.org.





Neighborhoods create the authenticity and fabric of Rochester.

In 2001, the City of Rochester determined the need for resources to help neighborhoods thrive and with the support of the Mayor and City Council, The Rochester Neighborhood Resource Center, RNeighbors was formed. This organization provides a vast array of resources including grants and tools to help neighborhoods interact, and serves as a liaison between neighborhoods and the City to improve communication and collaboration.

RNeighbors assists in the process of starting neighborhood associations that can actively represent each Rochester neighborhood and foster a spirit of community. One group working together has a stronger impact than many individual voices. Not in a registered neighborhood association but would like to be?

- + Assemble a contact list for your neighborhood.
- + Ask if there is a core group of residents interested in helping get a group formed. We recommend 3-5.
- + Work with RNeighbors to determine boundaries and complete the free registration form.
- + Email rene@RNeighbors.org for additional information.

RNeighbors.org is a packed online resource for Rochester neighborhoods that includes how to register your group, available project and tree grants, neighborhood news, and much more.



Backyard Movie in a Box

Gather some neighbors and enjoy a movie in your backyard. RNeighbors provides you with everything you need for a family-friendly neighborhood movie night.

This resource has been utilized by neighborhoods in parks, backyards and even garages. Watch a movie or host a video game competition.

Contents include: a large outdoor screen, projector, DVD player, large speakers and all of the cords and instructions to make it work. All you need is a movie and power source.

Block Party Trailer

Ever thought about having a big neighborhood party but then got overwhelmed trying to think through all of the logistics and supplies?

The Leadership Greater Rochester Class of 2017 founded Rochester's first Building Blocks mobile block party trailer. The trailer is available for residents to reserve and use for their own neighborhood block parties. Contents include: tables, chairs, yard games, and so much more for community members to use for free and will be delivered in a custom trailer.



Check RNeighbors.org for additional information.

Phone Numbers

Emergency
Police/Fire/Medical 911

Non-Emergency

| | | |
|----|--|----------------|
| 1 | Police Non-Emergency | (507) 328-6800 |
| 2 | Animal Control | (507) 328-6960 |
| 3 | Building Safety | (507) 328-2600 |
| 4 | Olmsted County Public Health | (507) 328-7500 |
| 5 | Fire Prevention Bureau | (507) 328-2800 |
| 6 | Garbage and Recycling Information | (507) 328-7070 |
| 7 | Hazardous Waste Information | (507) 328-7070 |
| 8 | City Clerk | (507) 328-2900 |
| 9 | Housing Authority | (507) 328-7150 |
| 10 | Mayor | (507) 328-2700 |
| 11 | Olmsted County Public Works | (507) 328-7070 |
| 12 | Olmsted County Environmental Resources | (507) 328-7070 |
| 13 | Parks and Recreation | (507) 328-2525 |
| 14 | Planning and Zoning | (507) 328-7100 |
| 15 | Public Works | (507) 328-2400 |
| 16 | Crime Prevention Programs | (507) 328-6890 |
| 17 | RNeighbors | (507) 328-2940 |

Other numbers

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Civic Music | (507) 328-2200 |
| Community Housing Partnership | (507) 328-7170 |
| Mayo Civic Center | (507) 328-2220 |
| RPU Emergency Phone Line | (507) 280-9191 |
| Rochester Public Transit | (507) 328-7433 |



Dedicated to David E. Byer

who assembled the first edition of
this booklet (est. 1990)

entitled

City Ordinance Highlights Toward
Neighborhood Awareness

Brianna Acker's chalk mural "Together We Will Grow" was part of Chalk the Walk 2020.



www.RNeighbors.org



www.rochestermn.gov

This booklet was funded in part through Coronavirus Aid Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, originating from the federal government and allocated to the City of Rochester by the State of Minnesota. It was assembled by locally-owned design studio White Space.