

Rochester, MN Ordinance Highlights



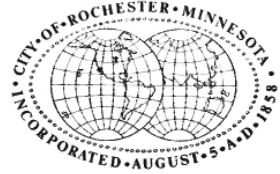
Guidelines for Neighborhood Awareness
brought to you by





Mayor Ardell F. Brede

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Dear Rochester residents, friends and neighbors,

Welcome to Rochester! Whether you are a lifelong resident, lived here for 20 years, or just recently arrived, we welcome you and wish for you and your family to take advantage of all our city has to offer. Your success is our success.

We're very proud of what our city offers that has kept you here or has attracted you to relocate here ...good jobs, good schools, a safe city with great neighbors. A very livable city.

What makes our city stand out is what I hear all the time, “ people are so friendly .. they are so welcoming!” To me it means we're happy here and want to share this with others. We're a thriving community of good neighbors. Thank you for that.

What helps to make for good neighbors is simple common courtesy to everyone. To keep our city, or any city, functioning smoothly is to have some rules, common sense rules that benefit each of us. Officially these are listed as city ordinances.

This booklet is a summary outline of those ordinances that contribute most to good neighbor to neighbor relationships. Thanks to the many people who contributed to this update and to RNeighbors for taking the lead on it creation.

The City has knowledgeable employees who are ready to help or explain rules beyond what's printed within this booklet. If further details are needed refer to the specific department phone number listed on page 18 and highlighted in a square box by each ordinance.

So, who's responsible for boulevard trees, how many dogs can you have in any household or can you operate your snowmobile within the City limits are just some of the questions answered in this booklet. Get copies to share with your friends and neighbors.

This information is a general summary of select city ordinances and is not meant to be a complete account of each ordinance. Please keep in mind that ordinances are periodically amended.

Thank you,

Ardell F. Brede
Mayor, Rochester, Minnesota

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This information is a general summary of select city ordinances and is not meant to be a complete account of each ordinance. Please keep in mind that ordinances are periodically amended. Ordinances included generally are from the Rochester City Ordinances unless indicated.

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

A complete listing and description of all Rochester ordinances is posted on the City of Rochester’s website:

www.rochestermn.gov/departments/city-attorney/city-ordinances

A symbol such as 16 corresponds to City and County departments and contact telephone numbers on **page 18** of this booklet.

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.

Houses & 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

50.01-50.04 3

Permits Required for Work on Residential Buildings

Residents are required to obtain permits from 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.

61.111 3

Zoning Certificates for Work not Requiring a Building Permit

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.

106.4 3

Completion of Homes

A building permit expires after 180 days if no work is done during that period.

34.37, 74.03 3

Identification of Houses, Buildings, and Apartments

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.



61.130 16

Houses and Apartment Buildings/Sign Restrictions

A document issued by the zoning administrator which permits the erection, alteration or replacement of any sign. Temporary signs do not require a sign permit but must comply with any applicable regulations herein.

3200 (Olmsted County Ordinances) 13

Well & Water Supply

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

Standards



34.01-34.17 3

Minimum Housing Standards

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.

38.01-38.153 3

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.

37.01, 35.12 3

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

38.154, 21.05 3

Any owner of rental property or their agent are required to attend a public safety class.

35.23, 35.24 3

Public Health or Safety Hazards Abatement Procedure

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 an through its authorized personnel may 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 (continued)

38.152 1 3

Disorderly Use

Landlords are responsible for taking appropriate action against tenants or tenant’s guests who are disorderly on the property. Disorderly use of the property ranges from loud music, assault (other than domestic), obscenity, overcrowding, unlawful sale of alcoholic beverages, gambling, and disorderly conduct, to indecent conduct, prostitution, participating in a disorderly house, drug offenses, and weapon offenses. Three violations of this ordinance can result in loss of the landlord’s rental certificate.

63.242 1 3 15

Exterior Storage

In most residential areas, materials, machinery, and equipment must be stored within a building or be fully screened so as to not be visible from adjoining properties except for the following when kept in good order: laundry drying and minor recreational equipment, construction and landscaping materials and equipment currently used on the premises, agricultural materials and equipment if intended for use on the property, off-street parking of passenger vehicles and pick-up trucks, and storage of firewood.

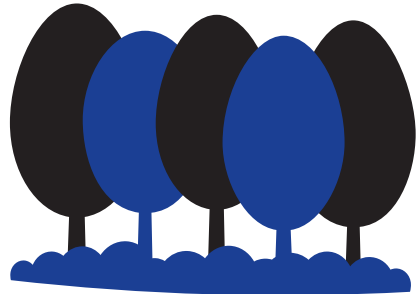
Yards & Trees

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

46.01-46.04 and 64.160 14

Boulevard Trees

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.

118

Yard trees (Private Trees) 14

Removal of dead and diseased trees (ie Dutch Elm Disease, Oak Wilt and Emerald Ash Borer) from private property is the responsibility of the property owner. If the property owner uses a tree service firm, the property owner should check with the Park Department to make sure that the tree service is licensed as required.

47

Diseased Trees 14

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 20 days of notice, the park department will remove the trees and the costs will be billed or assessed to the property owner.

48.03

Grass and Weeds in Yards and Boulevards 14

Grass and weeds in yards and boulevards are to be kept less than 12 inches high. If violations are found by the Park Department, the property is considered in violation and immediately receives a fine for the violation 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 48.04.

48.05

Native Landscaping 14

Natural landscape permits are available and required from the Park Department if the proposed landscape includes planting of native grasses that exceed 12 inches in height.

63.126

Fences, Walls and Hedges 15

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



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.
(800) 252-1166**

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 to follow the law, but could also help you to avoid costly underground utility damages or even deadly accidents.

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.

3505.02 Subs. 5 (Olmsted County Solid Waste Ordinance)

Garbage/Exterior Storage Containers 13

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.

3506.02 Subs. 1 (Solid Waste Management Ordinance)

Yard Waste 13

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.

141.09 16

Location of Containers

If there is an alley, garbage containers must be kept as near the rear of the property as possible. Containers stored within a house, garage, or other structure shall be made easily accessible each scheduled collection day.

141.23

Schedule and Hours of Collection 16

Private companies collect garbage at least once a week. In residential areas, collection should occur between 7 am and 6:30 pm. In commercial and industrial areas, collection should occur between 6 am and 6:30 pm.

3550 (Olmsted Designation Ordinance)

Garbage Disposal 13

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

146A

Grass Clippings and Leaves 14 16

Do not dispose of grass clippings, leaves and other forms of yard waste in the city streets, city parks, or other private property without the permission of the property owner. Homeowners are encouraged to direct grass clippings away from the road and to rake leaves from the curb line in order to prevent yard waste from fueling algae growth in the spring. Report improper disposal practices at 328-2525 (for parks) or 328-2400 (for streets).

Chapter 3503.02 (Olmsted County Solid Waste Ordinance)

Recycling 13

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

3506.08 (Olmsted County Solid Waste Ordinance)

Hazardous Waste 13

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

Sidewalks, Streets & Alleys

Let's keep them safe and open.

72.02, 72.04

Maintenance and Repair – Snow Removal 16

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. Sidewalks that haven't been cleared are subject to fines. Enforcement is via a complaint based system. Complaints about un-cleared sidewalks can be lodged at 328-2400.

136.06

Piling of Snow 16

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.

73.10

Skateboarding and In-Line Skating 1

Prohibited in Certain Areas . Skateboarding, in-line skating, or roller skating is not allowed on any public sidewalk, in the Peace Plaza, any public parking lot, or in any public or private structure located within the central business district. However, skateboarding, in-line skating, and roller-skating is allowed on bike paths.

73.11

Signs on Public Property 16

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.

76.03

Waste Disposal 16

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 16

To make reports and place routine maintenance requests contact Infrastructure Maintenance via phone or online at <http://tinyurl.com/rochservicerequest>.

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, 40 tennis courts, 6 pickleball courts, 35 horseshoe courts, 14 picnic shelters, 3 cross country ski trails, 56 playgrounds, 46 ball diamonds, 11 basketball courts, 18 sand volleyball courts, 1 archery range, 2 Frisbee golf courses and 2 dog parks.



45B.12

Dumping 14

Dumping rubbish or waste of any kind on any parkland property is strictly prohibited.

45B.13

Hours 14

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.

45B.14

Golf Prohibited 14

Hitting golf balls is prohibited except at the city's three municipal golf courses, the golf learning center, or where allowed by the Park Board.

45B.17

Alcoholic Beverages 14

No alcoholic beverages may be consumed without a permit in Mayo Park, Foster-Arends, Central Park, Kutzky Park and Slatterly Park.

Smoking 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.

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 done at coptalklive.com and kept on file at the Police Department enabling bicycles to be returned if recovered.



131.01

Scope 4

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

131.02 4

Riding Restricted

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

131.03 4

Emerging Bicycle

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 Statute 169.222

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

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/

National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide

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 2

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



106A.05-106A.07

Animal Licenses

All dogs, cats, and ferrets over the age of 4 months must be licensed and vaccinated. The animal must wear a metal identification tag when not indoors or on the property of the owner.

106A.03

Ownership Limits

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

106A.04

Wild Animals

Most wild animals and hybrids are prohibited within city limits.

106A.08

Care of Animals

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.”

106A.09

Animal Waste

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

106A.10

Noisy Dogs

No dog shall be permitted to unreasonably disturb the “peace and quiet.”

Lost pets

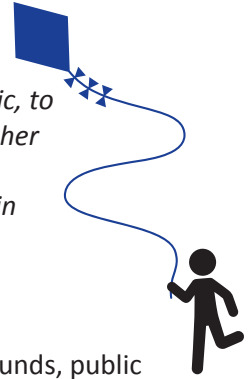
To reclaim a pet which has been lost or at large, or if you have any questions about pets and licensing, call:

- Animal Control **(507) 328-6960**
- Paws and Claws **(507) 288-7226**
- Police Non-Emergency **(507) 328-6800**



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.



85A.14-17

Curfew Regulations 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.

85.10

Noise 1

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

Subd.5 (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.

117C 9

Sound Amplification Permit Required

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.

85.26

Smoking 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.

Safety & Welfare (continued)

85.10, subd. 3

Parties 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.

85.10, subd.2

Construction 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

85.13

Firearms 1

With certain exceptions, no person shall discharge a firearm or transport an uncased firearm within the city limits.

(see subd. 3 (H) for bow and arrow conditions)

85B.03

Graffiti 1

Placement of graffiti on any exterior surface on public or private property or possession of materials for placing graffiti is unlawful. Property owners are responsible for removing any graffiti from their property within 24 hours of notice.

55.04

Fire Works 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.

307.42

Recreational Fires (Bonfires)

Defined as the burning of materials, other than rubbish, contained in an outdoor fireplace, barbecue pit, or pit and with a fuel area 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height. Contact the Fire Department non-emergency number 507-328-2830 prior to each burning event.

Motor Vehicles

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



Operation

130.03

Motorcycles 1

Motorcycles and motorized bicycles cannot be operated upon public sidewalks or pedestrian walkways, or in any public park, public school grounds, or any other public ground except on roadways.

137.02

Snowmobiles 1

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

134.10

Parking 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.

134.28 1

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 12 consecutive hours.

134.11 Subd. 3 1

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

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

Off-Street Parking 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 CN-NR 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.

63.126 E (Rochester Zoning Ordinance and Land Development Manual)

Fences 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.

55.02.7

Obstructing Fire Lanes & Hydrants 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.

134.23

Certain Types of Vehicles 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.

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

Recreational Vehicles 15

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.

136.04 subd. 2

Snow Emergency 1

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

35.22 subd. 2, 85.22

Inoperable or Junked Motor Vehicles 3

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

62.278 subd. 9

No Current Plates 1

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

85.21

Unsheltered Storage 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

Property Improvements 15

The Planning Department and the Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (OCHRA) administer several housing rehabilitation loan programs which provide affordable financing (no interest, deferred loans) to qualified homeowners. For more information contact the Planning Department or the OCHRA at 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: 507-732-8574 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 3

Refer to <http://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 13

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 16

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

Investigations-Crime Prevention

The Investigations-Crime Prevention Department works in Rochester on the public safety programs listed below and many others.

Check www.coptalklive.com or call (507) 328-6890 for more information.

3805 sub. 21

Crime Free Multi-Housing 17

If you own, or are thinking about buying, rental property it is mandatory by city ordinance that you take the Crime Free Multi-Housing class.

Vacation House Check 17

Prior to going on vacation, call (507) 328-6800 to register or at coptalklive.com.

Pooch, Pedal and Walker's Patrol 17

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 5

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

To Report Suspected Arson 17

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

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! an 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



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 160 mini-libraries in Olmsted County through Neighbors Read. The mission of the library is to “strengthen community and enrich lives by sparking imagination, creativity, engagement, and learning.”

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

<https://apps.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/apps/circ/OnlineRegistration.cfm>

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:

<http://root.evanced.info/rochester/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>.

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: <http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/neighborhoodlibraries>.

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@rochester.lib.mn.us.

Rochester's Neighborhood Resource Center **RNeighbors**

Providing tools to grow GREAT neighborhoods

Neighborhoods create the authenticity and fabric of Rochester. It is vital, as our city grows, to keep neighbors engaged in the ownership of the city as the community develops, after all they are the original investors in Rochester

In 2001, the City of Rochester determined there needed to be an organization to provide 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 serves as a liaison between neighborhoods and the City to improve communication and collaboration by fostering citizen involvement.

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 registration form.
- Email rene@RNeighbors.org for additional information.

RNeighbors.org is a packed online neighborhood resource that includes how to register your neighborhood group, available project and tree grants, the RNeighborhood Association Toolkit, a Speaker's Bureau, neighborhood news and much more.



Know Your Neighbors

Collect the names, phone number and email of each house that surround your home. A safe neighborhood is full of neighbors who know each other.

Neighbor on right: _____

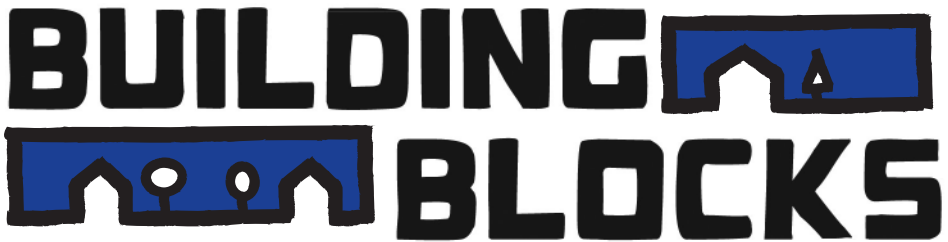
Neighbor on left: _____

Neighbor across: _____

Neighbor in back: _____

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?



building community one block at a time

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. All of the contents: tables, chairs, yard games, and so much more will be available for community members to use for free and will be delivered in a custom trailer.

Interested in reserving the Building Blocks mobile block party trailer for your neighborhood get-together? Check RNeighbors.org for info or email rene@RNeighbors.org or wgoodenberger@crwarchitecture.com for more information.



Simple Ways You Can Make Your Neighborhood A Better Place to Live

In choosing a neighborhood project, focus on a specific issue that will demonstrate action and results. Get the whole community behind the project by promoting the event as much as possible. This will provide lots of participation for you to establish an active membership base.

Small projects build confidence and capacity to tackle more complicated issues facing your neighborhood.

Consider one of the following projects to bring your neighbors together:

- Facebook page
- Neighborhood clean up
- Street or park improvements
- Neighborhood news on website
- Youth projects
- Tree planting
- Community garden
- Pot lucks
- Murals
- Parades
- Tool lending libraries
- Paint swap
- Neighborhood t-shirts
- Candidate forums
- Neighborhood cookouts
- Neighbors welcome packet
- Asset mapping
- Yard of the month
- Speakers on topics of interest to the neighborhood
- Choose representatives to attend City Council and School Board meetings
- Neighborhood scrap book or video
- Skills exchange (example: Ex-boxer in the neighborhood sets up an afternoon boxing program for kids. The kids mow and care for his yard.)



Telephone Numbers

Emergency

Police/Fire/Medical9-1-1

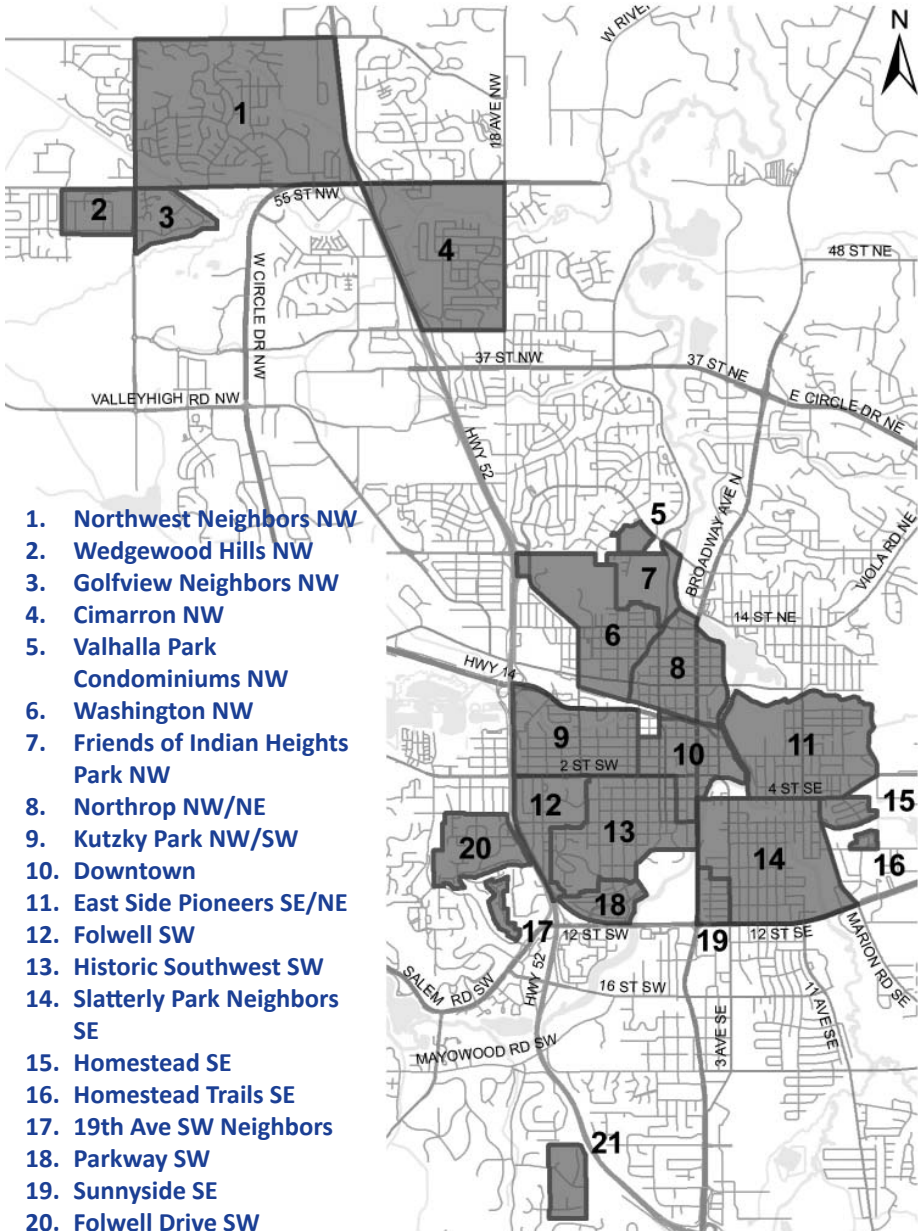
Non Emergency

- 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 Disposal (self-haul) Facility..... (507) 328-7020
- 7** Garbage and Recycling Information (507) 328-7077
- 8** Hazardous Waste Information Line..... (507) 328-7077
- 9** City Clerk (507) 328-2900
- 10** Housing Authority (507) 328-7150
- 11** Mayor (507) 328-2700
- 12** Olmsted County Public Works..... (507) 328-7070
- 13** Olmsted County Environmental Resources (507) 328-7070
- 14** Parks and Recreation (507) 328-2525
- 15** Planning and Zoning (507) 328-7100
- 16** Public Works..... (507) 328-2400
- 17** Crime Prevention Programs (507) 328-6890
- 18** RNeighbors..... (507) 529-4150

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, MN Neighborhood Associations



1. Northwest Neighbors NW
2. Wedgewood Hills NW
3. Golfview Neighbors NW
4. Cimarron NW
5. Valhalla Park Condominiums NW
6. Washington NW
7. Friends of Indian Heights Park NW
8. Northrop NW/NE
9. Kutzky Park NW/SW
10. Downtown
11. East Side Pioneers SE/NE
12. Folwell SW
13. Historic Southwest SW
14. Slatterly Park Neighbors SE
15. Homestead SE
16. Homestead Trails SE
17. 19th Ave SW Neighbors
18. Parkway SW
19. Sunnyside SE
20. Folwell Drive SW
21. Bamberwood