



February 2023 Newsletter

OXFORD PARK PLAYGROUND UPDATE

Getting Closer to Reality

2023 is the year we will be getting our new playground at Oxford Park. At the February 14, 2023 Rockford Park District Board of Commissioners meeting, the Board approved a contract to Stenstrom Companies, Inc. in the amount of \$210,851 to complete the Oxford Park Playground Renovation project.

The work includes a new playground, unitary playground surfacing, accessible pathway, picnic area, and concrete footings for a future picnic shelter when funding becomes available. The shelter was a need addressed during neighborhood engagement for a master plan. The Edgewater Board will work with the Park District to determine the cost of the remainder of the master plan. The next step would be to consider a capital fundraising campaign to complete the master plan vision.

Removing the old playground and installing the new one is all subject to weather conditions and timely delivery of playground equipment and surfacing materials. No construction date has yet been set.



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Don Schreiner
PRESIDENT
Brandon Kruse
VICE PRESIDENT
Mark Podemski
TREASURER
BJ Alexis
SECRETARY

BOARD MEMBERS

Barb Calgaro
Phyllis Holm
Richard Lopez
Cassie Pike
Michelle Polivka
Zak Rotello
Emily Rose Walch

12th Ward Alderman
Gina Meeks
815-419-1143
gina.meeks@rockfordil.gov

EDGEWATER MEETINGS

All Neighbors Welcome! 5:30 pm at Rockford Country Club.

March 15, 2023
April 19, 2023
May 17, 2023
June 21, 2023

In these waning days of winter, it is with excitement and anticipation that we look forward to another spring in our amazing Edgewater neighborhood. We can't move on without recognizing what a successful year 2022 was for our association! Our Christmas party was a wonderful way to close out the year: perfectly orchestrated by our team of volunteers with great food at Rockford Country Club, beautiful gift baskets curated by Stacey Bernardi, and of course, neighborhood cheer and fellowship. A big thank you to Gina Meeks for her continued community and financial support from the City of Rockford. And please, join me in welcoming the three new board members elected during the festivities: Richard Lopez, Emily Rose Walch (soon-to-be Johansson), and Barb Calgaro. A big thank you to outgoing board member Staci Walton. Your input and efforts for Edgewater are much appreciated.

So, what's ahead in the near future? Our much-loved and well-attended Easter Egg Hunt at Oxford Park. Our hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8th at 10am. Of course, the Easter Bunny will be there along with thousands of treasure-filled eggs. In order to make this the annual memory-making event for our little ones, we will need your help. Please consider volunteering for this holiday event (i.e., fill plastic eggs and event setup). Contact me at DSchreiner@rockfordgi.com.

Finally, membership is off to a great start with 133 member households as of January 31st, but would love to add many more neighbors. Please consider joining today for \$25 per calendar year! All dues go directly back into our association for security, beautification, social events and neighborhood outreach. Let's break our 2022 year-end household membership total of 166 with a target goal of over 250 member households by 12-31-2023.

Don Schreiner, President
Edgewater Neighborhood Association

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Richard Lopez Board Member

My Wife Maria and I moved from Mesa, AZ., to Edgewater in January of 2021. My wife grew up in Rockford, but moved away 22 years ago. When it was time to return to Rockford, Edgewater was the only neighborhood to call home. We enjoy the four seasons and all that comes with them. While our time here has been short, we have learned all about gardening, lawn maintenance, and wildlife living in our midst. I am an IT consultant and enjoy meeting neighbors, BBQing, cooking, woodworking, and snow removal. I am excited to be a part of this community.

Emily Rose Walch (Johansson) Board Member

My fiancé, Alex, and I bought our house on Clinton Place just last September. Alex has been in Edgewater since 2017, so when I moved here from Chicago in 2021, we knew Edgewater was where we wanted to stay. We love having such a strong neighborhood community, the unique architecture of the homes here, and the quick access to the bike path. We will be tying the knot officially in June this year at Nicholas Conservatory. I work from home in global supply planning for Target, so if you cross paths with me taking a midday neighborhood walk to get out of my home office, feel free to stop me for a chat.



JOIN THE NETWORK

Do you have a doorbell camera or surveillance cameras on your property? The Community Camera Network is a program that invites residents and business owners who own private security cameras to voluntarily register them with the Rockford Police Department.

In today's world, many businesses and homeowners use surveillance cameras. Hundreds of police departments across the country have crafted community camera programs as a way to better understand how crimes occurred, identify suspects, and even apprehend suspects. When the community comes together to keep additional eyes on crime, our city becomes a less appealing place to commit those crimes. Scan the code or click here to learn more.

**SCAN TO
LEARN MORE**



REMINDER: ODD/EVEN PARKING ORDINANCE!



In order for crews to remove snow and ice, they must have the ability to safely and effectively maneuver a plow truck up and down our streets. A Snow Emergency requires that vehicles be parked on the odd address side of the street when the date ends in an odd number and on the even address side of the street when the date ends on an even number. If the snow emergency carries into the next day, at 8:00 AM your car should be moved to the even address side of the street.

Both the Police department and snow ticketing staff will issue parking tickets at the cost of \$60.00 to vehicles that are parked on the wrong side of the street. It's safe to assume that if it's snowing the Odd/Even Parking is in effect.

If at all possible, please remove your vehicle from the street during a Snow Emergency. If your street is marked as "No Parking" on one side of the street, the Snow Emergency Declaration allows you to park legally in the restricted area during the time that the Snow Emergency Declaration is in effect.

EASTER EGG HUNT

APRIL 8, 10am, Oxford Park

The annual Edgewater Easter egg hunt will return in 2023! The Easter bunny had so much fun hiding eggs in the park, he can't wait to do it again. The event will be held at Oxford Park - near Oxford and Fulton Streets. Thousands of eggs will be spread throughout the park. Look for the golden eggs for special treats! Please remember to bring baskets or bags.



GARAGE SALE

MAY 6, 8am to 3pm

Our spring garage sale is coming back. Start cleaning out closets and basements and submit your sale for the map. We will make electronic maps available for visitors. Scan the code to enter your sale, or [click here](#). The deadline to submit is Noon on May 3.



LUMINARY SALE

DECEMBER 2 - 9am-3pm

Buy your luminary supplies at Village Green on North Main Street. There will be a free sand pile available on a first-come, first-served basis (bring your own bucket - remember, the sand can be wet so you want something sturdy). While you're at VG, stock up on fresh greens for your winter pots! Don't forget to renew your membership for 2024 at the sale as well!

EDGEWATER HOLIDAY PARTY

DECEMBER 14, 5:30-8:00pm

Save the date! We plan to bring back the annual holiday party in 2023. We'll have more details throughout the year, but we wanted you to put this fun event on your calendar now.



LUMINARY NIGHT

DECEMBER 16

We are committing to the 3rd Saturday in December for Luminary Night going forward. Enjoy and participate in this Edgewater tradition. Line your walkways with luminaries (white candle-lit bags weighted with sand) at dusk.



EDGEWATER CELEBRATES THE SEASON

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2022 Edgewater Holiday Party in December. We had more than 100 people attend the event at Rockford Country Club. We had crafts for the kids, a silent auction, wonderful food and most important, an opportunity to spend time with friends and neighbors. Mark your calendar for the 2023 event on December 14!



HELPFUL NUMBERS

GRAFFITI HOTLINE:

779-348-7261

NEIGHBORHOOD STANDARDS HOTLINE:

779-348-7395

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER:

815-966-2900

WINNEBAGO COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL:

815-319-4100

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Edgewater Association is looking for neighbors who are interested in sharing their time and talent. Our sought-after neighborhood wouldn't be what it is without volunteers. Below are opportunities for consideration:

- Writer for the newsletter
- Beautification committee to help water plants/pots
- Coordinate events - 4th of July, garage sale, Easter, Luminaria
- Recruit membership
- Sell ads in the newsletter
- Membership data entry

The roles are flexible and don't take up much time. If you're interested, email rockfordedgewater@gmail.com.

REPORTING CRIME HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER

**The Rockford Police Department
is introducing our new
Rockford PD tip411 anonymous
crime-fighting app!**

(Download the app on the App Store or Google Play)



**You can also send an anonymous
tip via text message to the
Rockford Police Department.**

**Text the keyword RPDTIP and your
tip to 847411.**

Apple Users

Scan to Download
App on Apple Store



Android Users

Scan to Download
App on Google Play



WHY MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT



The Edgewater Neighborhood Association was established in 1979 to create a greater sense of community and provide resources that help keep Edgewater a beautiful, safe, and inviting place to live. Currently, 155 households have paid the \$25 membership fee for 2023. **2023 GOAL - 250 Households as Members.** See the membership form below or go online at rockfordedgewater.org.

Your annual membership fee supports:

- Seasonal Neighborhood Activities including the Easter Egg Hunt, Annual Garage Sale, 4th of July Festivities in Oxford Park, Luminaria and the holiday party.
- Snow Plow Fund: The City does not plow Edgewater's alleys, so we pool our resources to contract a plow service to keep the alleys clear. **These fees are up an average of 7%. We spend \$410-\$585 per snowfall depending on inches of snow.**
- Plantings at the signs and pots on the bridge.
- Postage and printing for neighborhood mailings as well as signs advertising neighborhood activities.



JOIN THE EDGEWATER ASSOCIATION

Please mail your completed form with check to:
Edgewater Neighborhood Association
PO Box 515, Rockford, IL 61105

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Membership Dues: **\$25 annually**

Additional Donation _____ (supports snow removal & other neighborhood activities)

TOTAL _____

Checks may be made out to Edgewater Neighborhood Association. Prefer to pay by card? Pay online at www.rockfordedgewater.org or scan the QR code

