



Summer Newsletter 2019

## Summer in Edgewater — it's a beautiful thing!

Perhaps it's not \*officially\* summer according to the calendar, but all the events, activities, and community energy that we associate with the season are in full swing! For Edgewater, that means anticipation of the 4th of July events to come and lots (lots!) of people walking, biking, roller blading, longboarding, dog walking, stroller pushing, and just plain enjoying our beautiful neighborhood. After being cooped up from a long winter and very wet spring, it's a great time to meet new neighbors or reconnect with old ones. Spend a little extra time on the porch, linger on that over-the-fence conversation, and enjoy the long, warm evenings. You'll see lots of ways to enjoy the summer in Edgewater and beyond in the following pages.

Have you had an opportunity to view the new video promoting Edgewater? Featuring interviews with Edgewater residents (screenshots at right) and lots of great photography and videography of our beautiful streets and homes, it is a showplace video meant to promote all the things we know and love about our neighborhood to a wider audience. The video was produced by North End business Engine Studio and commissioned as the first neighborhood-focused video by the Great Neighborhoods Project. It is proudly featured on our website ([www.rockfordedgewater.org](http://www.rockfordedgewater.org)) and since posted to our Facebook page back in early May has been shared nearly 150 times and **has been viewed more than 12,000 times!** We are confident this video will increase the positive visibility for our neighborhood in Rockford and beyond, helping ensure houses stay occupied and neighbors stay engaged in the life of the neighborhood.



KARYN + KEVIN 3 YEARS



JOSHUA 6 YEARS

MATTHEW 8 YEARS



PHYLLIS + TED 53 YEARS

Have you renewed your Edgewater membership for 2019? Remember, the household membership is just \$20/year and helps support all the great things that go on in Edgewater. Learn more on the last page of this newsletter.

Have a wonderful summer!

—The Edgewater Neighborhood Association Board



### Neighborhood Association Board Officers

**President & Alderman**  
John Beck 815.289.4787  
[john.beck@rockfordil.gov](mailto:john.beck@rockfordil.gov)

**Vice President**  
Michelle Bowman

**Treasurer**  
Kim Millhorn

**Secretary**  
B.J. Alexis

### Board Members

Barb Berman  
Dick Berman  
Stacy Bernardi  
Michael Goddard  
Phyllis Holm  
Mark Podemski  
Bill Simpson  
Jennifer Smith

### Community Services Officer

Brian Squires  
779.500.6627  
[brian.squires@rockfordil.gov](mailto:brian.squires@rockfordil.gov)

# Upcoming Neighborhood Events

## 4th of July Celebration Thursday, July 4 | Oxford Park

Bring out your red, white, and blue and celebrate the 4th in style in Edgewater! Kids, deck out those bikes for the Kids Bike Parade starting at 6:30pm on Fulton Street in front of Oxford Park — everyone gets a goody bag and names are drawn for fun prizes! Face painting, music, and concessions will be available from 6:00pm until the start of the fireworks. The Rockford Country Club shoots off a great fireworks display starting at dusk so bring your lawn chairs or a blanket and enjoy the evening with neighbors and friends at Oxford Park! Watch for more details on Facebook ([Edgewater Neighborhood Association](#)), [RockfordEdgewater.org](#), and [Nextdoor Edgewater](#)



## Monthly Association Meetings Wednesdays, June 19, August 14, September 18 | Rockford Country Club

Each month (*excluding July*) the Edgewater Neighborhood Association holds a meeting on the third Wednesday at 5:30. The meetings are held at the Rockford Country Club and all residents are welcome, whether or not you are an Association member! The meeting begins with a presentation by our community services officer Brian Squires, who shares crime stats for Edgewater and gives additional updates from the police department. Neighbors are invited to share any comments, questions, or concerns about the neighborhood, and Alderman John Beck provides updates from the City of Rockford. Occasionally a guest speaker is on hand to give a presentation on a timely topic. We break for dinner (light dinner is served by the Country Club and donations are accepted to offset the expense) and then the Board holds its business meeting; all neighbors are welcome to stay.



We wish to extend a very warm THANK YOU to local businesses who provided sponsorship, prizes, and support for this spring's Edgewater Easter Egg Hunt. Please join us in patronizing these businesses in thanks for their continued support of our neighborhood: Stockyard Burger Bar; Rockford Family Dental; Rockford Rivets; North Main Pizza Hut; Nickelworld; and especially Michelle Bowman - Edward Jones. **We couldn't do it without you! Thank you!!**



**PAMPERED PET  
GROOMING**

## Do-It-Yourself Dog Wash

**Includes: Brushes and Combs,  
Towels, Aprons, Power Dryer and a  
Walk In Tub.**

**\$12.00 for ½ hour**

**\$20.00 for one hour,**

**NW corner of N. Main and Riverside**

**Call to make an appointment,  
please:**

**815-282-9663**





## Edgewater Medical Center

At Swedes we understand you and are here for you.

Because after all, we're close like family which is why we're growing for the community!

**Edgewater Medical Center** will be a beautiful facility providing primary care, obstetrics and so much more.

We can't wait to serve the Edgewater community.

For more information or to find a doctor that's right for you, visit [SwedishAmerican.org](http://SwedishAmerican.org).

**SWEDISHAMERICAN**  
**A DIVISION OF UW HEALTH**

Coming soon at 2909 N. Main Street | Rockford, Illinois

## All About Yards!

The weather has been pretty bizarre this spring, and after weeks of heavy rains it's been a challenge to keep up with the quick-growing grass (and weeds!). As we all shift into summer mode and making time for mowing and weeding, let's be patient with neighbors who may sometimes take a little longer than we'd prefer to address long grass. Do you have a neighbor who is elderly or for whom a physical impairment makes yard work difficult? Perhaps you'll consider taking a little extra time to help them out!

All this being said, should you notice a yard that is perpetually out of control, or trees and bushes that have grown to the point they impede people walking on the sidewalk or cars entering an alley, **place a call to the City of Rockford Weeds Hotline to report the issue: 779.348.7161**

Yard refuse pickup continues throughout the summer, and occurs on the same day your trash is picked up. Refuse including leaves, grass, and sticks should be placed in brown paper yard waste bags or in garbage cans that are clearly marked with an "X". Branches may be no more than 4 inches in diameter, trimmed to 4 feet in length, and no bundle of branches or yard waste bag/can should weigh more than 50 pounds. **Reminder:** Trash and yard refuse should not be placed in the street but up on the right of way or driveway.

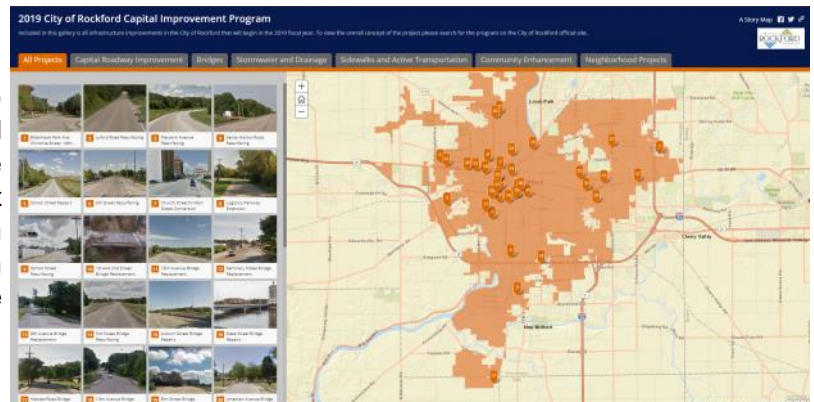
An additional reminder, lawn refuse may not be blown, swept, pushed, or otherwise placed in the street or in gutters. Lawn clippings, leaves, and other debris clog storm drains, pollute our water system, and are an unsightly mess. Gather and bag loose clippings to be disposed with the rest of your yard refuse. Thank you!



## CIP GIS, ASAP!

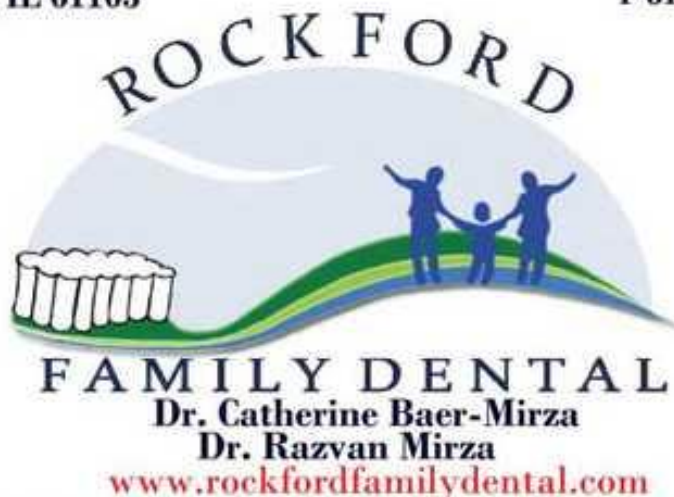
No, these aren't just a bunch of meaningless acronyms. They spell good news in the shape of a new tool available to people interested in learning more about the City of Rockford Capital Improvement Program (CIP)! The CIP Interactive GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Map displays current Capital Improvement Projects and other construction projects in the City of Rockford, including those located in and near our neighborhood! For instance, this summer the Auburn Street Bridge will undergo routine joint replacement. Learn more about this and all of the CIP projects here:

<https://rockfordil.gov/cip-interactive-map/>



2715 N. Main St.  
Rockford, IL 61103

P 815-964-8713  
F 815-964-3719



## Private Property Tree Removal Program

The City of Rockford has a program to help address dead and dying trees on private property. The program provides a no-interest loan, to be repaid on the resident's water bill, for the removal of trees deemed a hazard by the City's Forestry Division. The program is available to residents with an annual income under \$70,000, and only for owner-occupied property. Visit the [program detail page on the City's website](#) to learn more!





## ROCKFORD COUNTRY CLUB A PROUD MEMBER OF THE EDGEWATER NEIGHBORHOOD SINCE 1889

Rockford Country Club offers the perfect one-year memberships to preview everything we have to offer. Golf Preview Membership allows unlimited family access to golf, pool, tennis, skeet, dining, and social events. Social Preview Membership allows unlimited family access to the pool, tennis, skeet, dining, and social events.

**CALL FOR YOUR PERSONALIZED TOUR TODAY!**

2500 Oxford Street    [www.rockfordcc.com](http://www.rockfordcc.com)    815.968.9881





## A few friendly reminders to help keep your Home Sweet Home safe this summer

Our Community Services Officer gave us a few reminders about ways to discourage criminal activity.

- Most of the non domestic-related burglaries that occur in our neighborhood occur when a car or garage door is accidentally left unlocked. Double check that entrances are secure and help your neighbors stay safe, too — if someone inadvertently leaves a garage door open, give them a call!
- If you have outside lights, turn them on at night. A well-lit street and well-lit entrances are major deterrents. Also, keeping bushes, shrubs, and trees trimmed around the perimeter of your house leaves fewer places for someone to hide or be obscured from street view.
- With increasing amounts of shopping done online, there are also increases in packages being stolen off porches. If you have a neighbor who is home during the day, you might ask if they can keep an eye out for the delivery.
- **If you see activity that seems suspicious, do not hesitate to call it in to the non-emergency line: (815) 966-2900.** Every police officer that visits our neighborhood meetings stresses this point and encourages residents to not feel they are being a bother for calling in something that “may be nothing”.



One of the best things about Edgewater and one reason that we have very low relative incidents of crime is that there are so many people enjoying our neighborhood by foot and by bike. **“Eyes on the street” can be one of the most effective deterrents against criminal activity.** Keeping our neighborhood friendly for people walking with kids or dogs, pushing strollers, or enjoying a leisurely bike ride sends a clear message about who these streets are for — for our neighbors to enjoy!



With this in mind, help keep Edgewater walkable and bikeable:

- Keep sidewalks clear from overgrown grass, shrubs, and trees.
- Don't park your car in a way that blocks the sidewalk or crosswalks.
- Keep an eye out for pedestrians and bikes when driving through the neighborhood.

And above all, get out and enjoy the neighborhood yourself! Meet some new neighbors, linger on a front porch, take a different route and discover a new street. See you out and about this summer!



The Mirza family from Rockford Family Dental is a great business neighbor to Edgewater, and this spring they spent extra time sprucing up their building on North Main! **Thank you, Mirzas!**

Did you spot a neighbor doing a great job and want to recognize them for their efforts? Send us their name (if you know it), address, and a brief description of the good thing they did, and we'll send them a note in the mail! We will NOT share your name or contact info. Look for the “Great Job, Neighbor!” icon near the bottom of the page at [www.rockfordedgewater.org](http://www.rockfordedgewater.org) to nominate a neighbor!





# Upcoming Community Events

Page 7

## Rockford City Market & North End Market

**City Market: Fridays, 3:30—8:30 p.m.**

Intersection of State & Water St., downtown Rockford

**North End Market: Saturdays, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.**

SE corner of North Main and Auburn

City Market and North End Market are here again for your enjoyment all summer long! Live music, fresh produce, local handmade goods, and delicious food make both these weekly events popular with residents and visitors alike. The North End Market is just a short walk or bike ride from Edgewater and a great way to meet neighbors and friends in our own stomping grounds! [www.rockfordcitymarket.com](http://www.rockfordcitymarket.com)



## Tuesday Evenings in the Gardens

Live music on Tuesday evenings in the grounds of Anderson Japanese Gardens.



## Japanese Summer Festival

A Celebration of Traditional Cultural Arts, July 27-28. The Japanese Summer Festival features exhibits, demonstrations and unique performances that appeal to all age groups and helps foster a better understanding of the Japanese culture. Learn more: [www.andersongardens.org](http://www.andersongardens.org)



## Rockford Public Library Summer Reading Challenge

Kids, young adults, and adults alike can participate in the RPL Summer Reading Challenge, and earn points and prizes along the way! You can still register online:

<https://rockfordpubliclibrary.beanstack.org/reader365>

**For Housing News, Visit:  
Edgewater-Homes.com**



**Keith Kelly**

**815-509-3655**

[keithk@dickersonnieman.com](mailto:keithk@dickersonnieman.com)

## Tour de North End (TDNE)

Rockford's original bike festival and neighborhood ride returns for its EIGHTH year on Saturday, July 20! Hosted by Olympic Tavern and featuring many North End businesses, this is right in our backyard and you do NOT want to miss out. [www.tourdenorthend.com](http://www.tourdenorthend.com)



## Enjoy Life on 2 Wheels this Summer

Looking for more opportunities to explore Rockford by bike and get to know other people who enjoy life on two wheels?

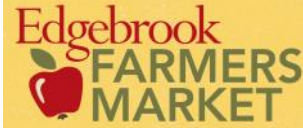
[I Bike Rockford](http://I Bike Rockford) is an all-volunteer group that works to establish more ways for people on bikes to enjoy Rockford, including hosting weekly Swarm the Market rides at the end of City Market! Meet in the Rockford Register Star parking lot for a casual ride in and near downtown, starting at 7pm. Sunday "Rise and Rides" happen every Sunday, departing from Rockford Roasting Company at 9:30 a.m. Additionally, the second-annual Cycle on 2nd will take place Sunday, September 8. Learn more about I Bike Rockford, these rides, and much more at their website, [www.ibikerockford.com](http://www.ibikerockford.com)



# Community Events, Continued

Page 8

## Edgebrook Events



Rockford's longest running farmers market is open every Wednesday from 9a—1p until October 30 in the parking lot at Edgebrook Shops, 1639 N Alpine Road. And on select Fridays throughout the summer, enjoy live music outside the Edgebrook Mary's Market! Learn more: <http://edgebrookshops.com/events/>

## Sinnissippi Music Shell

Free live performances on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00pm, through August 8. Sinnissippi Park Music Shell is located at 1401 N. Second St.



## Tunes on the Terrace

Free concerts featuring local musicians on the outdoor terrace at Nicholas Conservatory. Held Wednesday nights during the summer from 6-8pm. Don't forget your lawn chair!



## Levings Showcase & Domingo el Parque

Live music, Sunday afternoons and evenings throughout the summer. Located at Levings Lake, 1420 S. Pierpont Ave.



Learn more about all three of these Rockford Park District summer music series in the Sounds of the Summer Program Guide:

<https://rockfordparkdistrict.org/soundsofsummer>

## Become a Member of Edgewater Neighborhood Association!

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. Your annually-renewable \$20 Membership fee supports:

- ❖ Seasonal Neighborhood Activities including the Easter Egg Hunt, Annual Garage Sale, 4th of July Festivities in Oxford Park, and Luminaria (including Luminaries placed in public places like the Auburn Street Bridge).
- ❖ Snow Plow Fund: The City does not plow Edgewater's many alleys, so as a neighborhood we pool our resources and contract with a plow service to keep those alleys clear all winter long.
- ❖ Watering planters on Auburn Street and the north side of Auburn Street Bridge.
- ❖ Postage for neighborhood mailings and printing of those mailings, as well as signs advertising neighborhood activities.

Thank you for your Membership and for helping Edgewater continue to be the vibrant, unique neighborhood we can be proud to call home!



Please mail your completed form with check to:

Edgewater Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 515  
Rockford, IL 61105

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Used for Edgewater mailings)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(Used for Edgewater information only)

Email \_\_\_\_\_  
(Receive updates from our Alderman and Neighborhood Association President, John Beck)

Membership Dues **\$20**

Additional Donation \_\_\_\_\_  
(to support snow removal and other neighborhood activities)

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Checks may be made out to Edgewater Neighborhood Association. Prefer to pay by card?  
Pay online at [www.rockfordedgewater.org](http://www.rockfordedgewater.org)