



HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

The pre-application for the Expanded Rehab Assistance (ERA) Program is now available and can be accessed [here](#). The pre-application will remain open through 5:00 pm on Friday, February 16. If selected for the program, homeowners may receive up to \$60,000 to fix health and safety hazards, local code violations, and to meet any accessibility needs. Funds are provided through a three-year, forgivable loan.

To qualify, homeowners must meet the eligibility requirements which include the following:

- At or below 150% of the Area Median Income (AMI) based on household size
- Priority audience: 81% - 150% AMI
- Current on mortgage payments and property taxes
- Property must be a single-family home
- All owners listed on the deed must live in the property
- Home cannot be valued at more than \$151,000

The first round of applications will require that homeowners certify that they were negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and unable to make critical repairs to their home. While the program will prioritize residents in the 81%-150% AMI range for the first round, all residents of Rockford meeting the eligibility requirements should apply.

The City will be using various funding sources for this program, including a grant award from the Illinois Housing Development Authority. The City was awarded \$1,425,000 from the Homeowner Assistance Fund Home Repair program, and will leverage both HUD entitlement funding (CDBG/HOME) and general funds to increase the number of households assisted.

A lottery will be held on Tuesday, February 20, and applicants will be notified by February 23 of their position in that lottery.

[Click here to learn more and get started.](#) Or, scan the code to the right.



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Don Schreiner, President
Brandon Kruse, VP
Mark Podemski, Treasurer
BJ Alexis, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

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

Need to reach the board?

Email us:

rockfordedgewater@gmail.com

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

EDGEWATER MEETINGS

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

February 21, 2024
March 20, 2024
April 17, 2024
May 15, 2024
June 19, 2024
July 17, 2024

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

"Every winter has its spring." – H. Tuttle

In the meantime, during this cold blast, please drive carefully, dress warmly, and take every opportunity to enjoy the beauty of this snowy season in our neighborhood. As we enter this new year of 2024, I would like to thank everyone who attended the Edgewater Holiday Party at Rockford Country Club. There was plenty of excellent food and drink, great prizes, and interesting conversation. It was the best way to end our year and build community. The Rockford Country Club, along with our holiday party chairman, Emily Johansson, did a spectacular job organizing and hosting the event. I would also like to thank our eleven board members (listed below) and all our committee members, who have faithfully served this past year volunteering their time and talent to accomplish so much. Our neighborhood events would not happen without their organizational skills, their donated resources, and their commitment and expertise.

2024 Board Members:

Don Schreiner	Barb Calgaro
Brandon Kruse	Richard Lopez
Mark Podemski	Zak Rotello
B. J. Lexis	Phyllis Holm
Cassie Pike	Michelle Polivka
Emily Johansson (Emily served in 2023, but is unable to serve in 2024.)	

Note: There are up to 5 board member vacancies for future volunteers. This is a wonderful opportunity to build community and participate in various activities: membership drives; annually scheduled Edgewater events; and, the new fundraising initiative for Oxford Park Playground additions.

2024 is going to be a year of continued great traditions and a strong commitment to building membership and greater participation. We currently have 161 participating households and have set a goal to increase our membership to exceed 225 households. Please consider supporting the Edgewater Neighborhood Association for only \$30 per household for an entire year of membership and support.

Thank you!

Don Schreiner, President

Edgewater Neighborhood Association



John Beck Playground at Oxford Park

2024 UPCOMING EVENTS

EASTER EGG HUNT

MARCH 30, 10am, Oxford Park

The annual Edgewater Easter egg hunt is right around the corner! 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. More details to be released on our Facebook page and website.



GARAGE SALE

MAY 4, 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 on our website, Facebook and Nextdoor Neighborhood app for visitors. Scan the code to enter your sale, or [click here](#). The deadline to submit is Noon on May 1.



RESIDENT SURVEY

Good housing that is safe and in good shape is hard to come by all over the country. The kind of housing you have can affect how well you do in school and at work, how well businesses are able to hire help, and how healthy you are. So, the city has hired an expert to study the housing situation in Rockford. They want to achieve several goals with this study:

1. Discovering what the community cares about most when it comes to housing.
2. Discovering what issues are most important.
3. Determining the kind of housing needed to be built.
4. Determining the types of investment needed in the neighborhoods that already exist.
5. Inviting residents to be involved in the process.

Your input is needed to achieve these goals. Please take a few minutes to answer a few questions.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6TTYD7W>



SNOW MUCH FUN

The recent snowstorm led to a friendly neighborhood snowman competition on Clinton Street. The Pike family shared some fun photos of their seven-foot-tall snowman in the making. Even neighbors stopped by to snap some pics.



SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

We are always looking for photos to share of our neighbors in action. This could include gatherings, events, beautiful scenes in Edgewater, projects you're proud of and more. **Simply email us at rockfordedgewater@gmail.com.**



helpful numbers

WEEDS HOTLINE:

NEIGHBORHOOD STANDARDS HOTLINE:

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER:

NARCOTICS COMPLAINTS

NUISANCE NEIGHBORS (POLICE COMMUNITY SERVICES UNIT)

WINNEBAGO COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL:

779-348-7161

779-348-7160

815-966-2900

571-362-5098

779-500-6677

815-319-4100

HOLIDAY VIBES

Edgewater Holiday Party



Thank you to everyone who came to the holiday party. We had about 100 people in attendance. We are grateful for the generous sponsors listed below who donated the door prizes. A special thank you to event chair Emily Johansson, pictured below with her husband Alex, for planning the event.

NickleWorld
The Olympic Tavern
Rooted
The Norwegian
Karla Clark
Nicely Iced Cookies
Rockford IceHogs
Jeanine's Estate Sales



Village Green Home and Garden
Rockford Park District
Rockford SkateCo
Cherry Blossom Florist
Envy Salon & Spa
Garrett's Restaurant and Bar
YMCA of Rock River Valley

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



ADVERTISE WITH US

Run an ad in the Edgewater newsletter and reach hundreds of neighbors in Edgewater and beyond! Digital newsletters (Feb, May, Aug) are emailed to over 400 residents, and posted on Facebook, NextDoor, and the Edgewater website. Printed newsletters are mailed in November to nearly 900 Edgewater households. All proceeds support the Edgewater Neighborhood Association.

Ad sizes and prices are as follows:

- Full page (\$200 print, \$150 digital)
- 1/2 page horizontal (\$100 print, \$75 digital)
- 1/2 page vertical (\$100 print, \$75 digital)
- 1/4 page (\$50 print, \$40 digital)
- 1/8 page (\$40 print, \$30 digital)

Please contact us with any questions or to place your ad. Send emails to: rockfordedgewater@gmail.com.

Resume Writing Assistance

16 need a job?

19+ need a 40hr work week?

480.353.0138

Maria.Gonzalez@empowerme4u.com



Edward Jones

[edwardjones.com](https://www.edwardjones.com) | Member SIPC

Investing can reflect your values

At Edward Jones, we stop to ask you: "What causes and concerns are important to you?" By better understanding your values, we can help guide your investing to areas that match your preferences and beliefs.

Get in touch today to discuss what's really important: *your values*.



Michelle R Bowman, AAMS™, CRPC™
Financial Advisor

2715 N Main St
Rockford, IL 61103-3111
815-636-6665

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Lilis Cleaning Service
Commercial and Residential Cleaning
Lilia Mandujano
Business Owner

815-491-5866

Poderosaexitosa09@gmail.com

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, 161 households have paid the membership fee for 2024.

2024 GOAL - 50% of the 870 Households as Members



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: \$30 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

