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Provided as a
public service to
all citizens of
Coon Rapids



2006 BUDGET PRESENTED TO COUNCIL

In late August, the Coon Rapids City Council met in a work session to review the proposed 2006 budget as presented by the City Manager. At the September 6th Council meeting, a preliminary tax levy will be set by the City Council, as well as the Truth in Taxation hearing date. Citizens will be notified in November of the date, as well as the impact to their specific property. The levy can be decreased until final adoption in December, but cannot increase.

The total proposed General Fund expenditures for 2006 are \$22,191,214 compared to \$20,809,820 for the amended 2005 budget, an increase of 6.6 percent. The General Fund pays for basic services such as police and fire, parks and street maintenance, and general government services. Cost drivers include health insurance and state mandated contributions to PERA.

Major highlights proposed include:

- Park projects totaling \$600,000 for the design of Prospect Park, neighborhood park renovations, trail reconstruction and continued trail expansion.
- Street seal coating (\$200,000)
- Street reconstruction in various areas
- Cook Ice Arena exterior painting
- Help America Vote Act (HAVA) voting equipment
- Tree trimming, removal and replacement (\$231,000)
- One new staff position (police officer)
- Public Works facility furnishings, a generator and a vehicle crane
- Two mini pumpers for fire and rescue

Actual tax dollars raised are proposed to increase \$1,284,847 to \$17,019,847, approximately 8.2%. Since the City's tax base increased about 8.5% which includes about \$90 million in new construction and increased home values, the tax rate will decrease slightly from 30.328 to 30.07. This will increase the City share of taxes on a home valued at \$193,000 by approximately \$33, or 6% before applying the homestead credit.



WINTER PARKING BAN BEGINS NOVEMBER 1

Vehicles cannot be parked on a public street:

- a. between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. between November 1 and April 1; or
- b. anytime there is a snowfall with three or more inches accumulated on the ground, except where the street has been plowed from curb to curb.

Vehicles in violation will be issued a ticket and may be towed.



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Coon Rapids, MN



Mayor's Letter

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

A special thank you to all the residents for your hospitality on National Night Out. The weather was warm, the people were warmer. Congratulations to all who participated in what looks like our largest event ever.

ONE GIANT STEP

The City recently entered into an agreement with a developer for the Riverwalk (Old Coon Rapids Shopping Center area) property. We are looking forward to some quality housing and small commercial development construction to start in early 2006. We will be looking to move onto our next "Port" redevelopment in the near future.

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Some of you may have followed our discussions in

regards to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Low Density Residential (LDR) designation, and the use of Planned Unit Development in these areas and whether or not that is a proper use in LDR designated land. We are possibly heading into our third revision in 3 years on this item. Our purpose is to get it right and handle as many situations as possible and do it in the best interest of our City's future.

VISION 2030

Speaking of our City's future, thank you to each of you who participated in our Vision 2030 nights. Your input was vital to the process and we look forward to the final wrap up session coming up this fall. All residents are welcome to attend. Thank you for helping make this process a success.

Mayor Tim Howe

CITY MEETINGS CALENDAR

City Council Meetings

September 6 and 20; October 4 and 18;
November 1 and 15
7:00 p.m. - City Hall

Arts Commission

September 20; October 18; November 15
7:00 p.m. - City Hall

Board of Adjustment and Appeals

October 6; November 3; December 1
6:30 p.m. - City Hall

Historical Commission

September 15; October 20; November 17
7:30 p.m. - City Hall

Parks and Recreation Commission

September 12; October 3; November 7
7:00 p.m. - Public Works Building

Planning Commission

September 15; October 20; November 17
7:00 p.m. - City Hall

Safety Commission

September 8; October 13; November 10
7:15 p.m. - City Hall

City offices will be closed: November 11, 24 and 25

Public notices are published in the City's official newspaper, the Coon Rapids Herald. They are also available on the web site:
www.ci.coon-rapids.mn.us

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

June - August

Adopted Resolutions:

- a. Ordering feasibility report and plans for CVS Pharmacy, Northdale Boulevard and University Avenue
- b. Concurring with gambling premises permit for Coon Rapids Youth Hockey Association at Bunker's Grill, 12800 Bunker Prairie Park Drive
- c. Concurring with gambling premises permit for Coon Rapids National Baseball League at The Well, 35 Coon Rapids Boulevard
- d. Formally requesting Anoka County to improve Coon Rapids Boulevard
- e. Approving plans and ordering advertisement for bids for:
 1. Northdale bridge over Highway 10
 2. Villas Plus by Mary T, Xeon Street and Northdale Boulevard
 3. Foley Oaks Townhomes, Foley Boulevard and 108th Avenue

Approved:

- a. Contract with Anoka-Hennepin School District for School Liaison/D.A.R.E. officers
- b. Final plats for Michael's Meadows and Colleen 2nd Addition, 122nd Avenue and Olive Street
- c. Preliminary plat for Hanson Station Lofts, 11339 Hanson Boulevard
- d. Preliminary plat for Tradition Development, Main Street and University Avenue Extension

- e. Planned Unit Development revision for New Horizon Childcare, 131st Lane and Riverdale Drive
- f. On-sale/Sunday/2 a.m. liquor license for Boston's Gourmet Pizza, 12794 Riverdale Boulevard

Awarded Contracts for:

- a. Watermain extension for Steel Tech, 11611 Eagle Street
- b. Replacement of lift station #2, 93rd Avenue west of East River Road
- c. Public improvements for SAV Enterprises, 11325 Xeon Street NW
- d. Public improvements for KG Leasing, 1135/1136 114th Lane NW
- e. Improvements to Rockslide Park, 11200 Swallow Street NW

Accepted:

- a. \$20,000 donation from Coon Rapids Lions for 4th of July fireworks
- b. Donations from Coon Rapids VFW and Coon Rapids Lions for summer concert series
- c. Community partnership grant from CenterPoint Energy for Fire Department
- d. 2004 Annual Financial Statement from external auditor
- e. Semi-annual lawful gambling expenditure reports

2005 Coon Rapids City Council

Mayor

Tim Howe
763-755-8850
howe@ci.coon-rapids.mn.us

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ward 1

Denise Klint
763-576-8488
dklint@ci.coon-rapids.mn.us

Ward 4

Joe Sidoti
763-427-3626
joepatgolf@aol.com

Ward 2

Ron Manning
763-755-9128
rmanning11464@yahoo.com

Ward 5

Bruce Sanders
763-757-8486
sanders@ci.coon-rapids.mn.us

Ward 3

Jerry Wright
763-786-6095
jwright3536@msn.com

At Large

Scott Schulte
763-712-1316
hi-ten@comcast.net

COON RAPIDS JOINS ANOKA COUNTY FIRE INVESTIGATION TEAM

Fire Marshal John Piper, Fire Captain Tim Gilsrud, Fire Inspector Aaron Johnston, and Police Detective John Stanhke are part of the newly formed Anoka County Fire Investigation Team (ACFIT). ACFIT began responding to calls in October 2004 and have been averaging four to six calls per month. The team consists of 21 members from local police and fire departments, Anoka County Sheriffs and Attorneys Office, State Fire Marshal, and ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms).

Members of the team respond to Anoka County cities requesting assistance at a fire to determine the origin and cause. Law enforcement becomes involved if the investigation points to a criminal aspect. Members from Coon Rapids are becoming more proficient at fire investigations by being involved in more fires than just those in Coon Rapids as well as on-going training. A collaborative effort by all those involved has increased the teamwork between the cities and agencies.



Fire Prevention Week October 9th - 15th

Fire Station Open House October 15th

2005 Theme *Use Candles With Care*

Fire Prevention Week includes an open house at the fire stations on Saturday, October 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The three locations are:

- Station #1, 1460 Egret Boulevard
- Station #2, 1199 121st Avenue NW
- Station #3, 2831 113th Avenue NW

Demonstrations, including rope rescue and vehicle extrication, will be held at each station. Tours will also be given and refreshments will be served. Cameras are welcome. Mark your calendars for a morning of fun and excitement for all ages.

The Coon Rapids firefighters will be visiting all elementary schools in the City during Fire Prevention Week. They will present fire safety information and techniques, reaching nearly 7,000 students in kindergarten through 5th grade.

RECREATIONAL FIRE REGULATIONS

Recreational fires are allowed without a permit, but subject to limitations which will be strictly enforced. The following rules will apply:

1. Burning will be allowed from 9:00 a.m. to midnight any day of the week.
2. A recreational fire is not a bon fire. Bon fires are not permitted. Recreational fires shall not exceed 3 feet in diameter and a flame height of approximately 3 feet.
3. Only clean wood (same kind of wood you would burn in your livingroom fireplace) or charcoal is allowed to be burned. No burning of trash, leaves or brush is allowed. (City Code 12-415)
4. Recreational fires shall be constantly attended by a person knowledgeable in the use of fire-extinguishing equipment. An attendant shall supervise a recreational fire until such fire has been extinguished.
5. Fire-extinguishing equipment, such as buckets, shovels or garden hoses shall be readily available for use at recreational fires.
6. Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material unless contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which would cause a fire to spread to within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
7. Barbecue pits in outdoor locations shall be constructed of concrete or approved noncombustible materials.
8. Barbecue pits outside of buildings shall not be located within 25 feet of combustible walls or roofs or other combustible material.



REMEMBER YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE CAUSED BY YOUR FIRE.

If you have any questions concerning these rules, please call us at 763-767-6429.

SCOOTER USE NOW HAS RULES

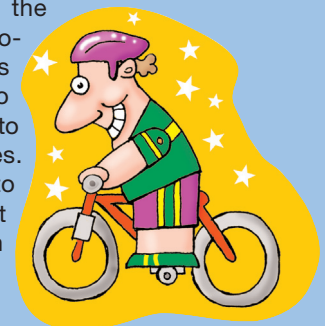
Effective August 1st, a new state law regulates motorized foot scooters. Usually operated by children, scooters have handlebars, are powered by an electric or gasoline engine, and either have wheels not more than 10 inches in diameter or an engine with a maximum speed of 15 mph.

The law makes operators of the scooters subject to the same rights and duties as bicyclists. Operators are prohibited from driving the scooters on sidewalks and they may not carry passengers.

Persons under age 12 cannot operate the scooters, and operators under age 18 must wear helmets. Headlights and taillights are required when operated at night. Scooters will have to be operated as close as possible to the right curb of the road unless the operator is passing or making a left turn. When turning, the operator must dismount at the right curb and cross on foot, subject to the same laws as a pedestrian.

BICYCLE REGISTRATION PROGRAM IS ELIMINATED

The transportation bill approved in the legislative special session eliminated the bicycle registration program. The Coon Rapids Police Department will no longer require residents to register their bicycles. Bicyclists are reminded to always wear a bike helmet and carry identification when biking.



Youth First



Youth First is a partnership of many dedicated individuals from Coon Rapids working together to support families. Their mission is for every resident to be responsible and support each other so our youth and community will flourish.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday each month at 7:30 a.m. during the school year (next meeting September 13). This is an opportunity for anyone interested to share ideas and connect with others in the community.

For additional information contact 763-767-6565 ext. 278.

COON RAPIDS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Basketball/Wrestling Registration
CRAA Building, 401 115th Avenue NW

Wrestling / Girls Basketball

Wednesday, September 7 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Thursdays, September 8 and 15 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays, September 10 and 17 - 9:00 a.m. to noon
Monday, September 12 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 13 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Boys Basketball

Monday, November 7 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 9 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays, November 12 and 19 - 9:00 a.m. to noon
Tuesday, November 15 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 17 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For further information on registration dates and times, or to leave a message to have someone contact you about a particular sport, call 763-757-8359. CRAA meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the CRAA building and are open to the public.

ANDOVER AREA LACROSSE

For information contact Maureen at 763-767-8870 or visit www.AndoverAreaLacrosse.com.

GRANT/SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Youth First has exciting grant and scholarship programs for community groups, churches, schools, and individuals. The grant program provides small grants (\$100-\$500) for community and school groups who promote the mission and goals of the Youth First Initiative. The scholarship program provides scholarships of up to \$250 to youth in grades 4 through 12 to pursue a special interest, gain or improve a skill, or participate in an enriching experience in any field except athletics. For more information or applications call 763-767-6565 ext. 278.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Coon Rapids Teen Center "The Element"
Riverwind Community Center
2701 Northdale Boulevard; 763-755-7790

Open to middle and high school youth
Tuesdays & Thursdays from 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Some Fridays 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Admission is free.

The Element is fully staffed and provides special events and a variety of activities including pool, foosball, Playstation 2, karaoke, TV, music and games; 8-ball café is available for a fee. For more information and the fall schedule call Tim at 763-506-4912.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Kinship

Kinship is a Christian-based mentoring program that matches children, ages 5 to 15, in need of additional adult support, with individuals, couples and families. The child is included in everyday activities, meeting for at least a year. To learn more how to become involved with Kinship, call 763-862-6755 or go to www.kinship.org.

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Being a Big Brother or Sister is a fun and exciting way to change the life of a child. Currently, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Great Twin Cities (BBBS) serves more than 20 children in the Coon Rapids area. At the same time, there are 24 young people waiting to be matched with a caring and committed adult friend.

BBBS has options for busy people of all ages. Community-based Big - meet with their Littles two to four times per month. School-based Bigs - meet with a child once a week for about an hour over lunch, before or after school. Club Connect Volunteers - BBBS plans monthly outings for kids waiting to be matched. Club Connect Volunteers attend at least four outings a year.

For more information call 651-789-BIGS or visit www.bigstwin cities.org.

COON RAPIDS POLICE EXPLORER POST

Coon Rapids Police Department is hosting a first nighter/recruitment for youths aged 14 to 21 on Sunday, September 18th at 6:30 p.m. at the Coon Rapids Civic Center, Room A

Attendees must be at least 14 years old and in the 9th grade or above with a "C" or better grade average, have no adverse contacts with police, and submit to a background check and interview. Dues are \$2.00 a meeting, \$10.00 initiation fee. Uniform shirts are provided. A parent or guardian must be present at the first nighter. For more information or questions contact Officer Toninato at 763-767-6488.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Community Schools: The Anoka-Hennepin Community Education Department offers a variety of recreation and enrichment classes and activities for preschool, elementary and middle school age youth. Brochures and flyers will be sent home with elementary and middle school students this fall. Call Jamie at Northdale Middle School 763-506-5412 or Tim at Coon Rapids Middle School 763-506-4912 for more information.

Aquatics Program: The Anoka-Hennepin Community Education Department offers American Red Cross swimming lessons (infant through adult), recreational swimming, water aerobics, lifeguard training, water safety programs, and pool rentals. Registration begins on Monday, October 3rd or register online at www.discovercommunityed.com. Daytime programming will also be offered. For more information call Shirlee at 763-506-1273.

SCHOOL READINESS PRESCHOOL: EDUCATING FOR SUCCESS

The Anoka-Hennepin School Readiness Preschool Program provides a preschool experience for 3-5 year olds. There are currently openings at Coon Rapids High School on Monday and Wednesday mornings and afternoons for three year olds. There are openings for 4-5 year olds on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The preschool year runs from September through May. Registrations are now being accepted for the 2005-06 year.

School Readiness Preschool classes are designed to help children become enthusiastic about learning and prepare for kindergarten. The daily schedule offers large and small group activities, snack time, and choice time at learning centers.

Children must be at least three years old on or before September 1st. Parents provide transportation. Fee assistance is available based on family size and income. For more information call 763-506-7650.



MISS COON RAPIDS / MISS ANOKA COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS AND COON RAPIDS JUNIOR ROYALTY SEEK CONTESTANTS

The Miss Anoka County title will be a closed crown and only open to young women between 17 and 24 who reside in Anoka County. The Miss Coon Rapids title will be open to all young women who reside or attend school in Minnesota. Areas of competition include:

- Personal Interview (25%)
- Talent (35%)
- Lifestyle & Fitness in Swimsuit (10%)
- Evening Gown (15%)
- Casual Wear (10%)
- On-Stage Question (5%)



The scores for each division will be segregated.

Orientation for Miss Anoka County will be held Thursday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m. at the Coon Rapids Civic Center followed by Miss Coon Rapids orientation at 7:30 p.m.

If you are a local business owner interested in becoming a scholarship sponsor, contact Tina Vande Vrede at 612-462-4022 or email to misscoonrapids@aol.com.

The Coon Rapids Junior Royalty program has been modified to keep up with the cost of facility rentals and float maintenance. Each contestant must provide a \$150 sponsor fee to participate.

The age group requirements have also been modified to three age divisions: Petite, ages 7-9 for boys and girls; Junior, ages 10-12 for girls only, and Teen, ages 13-16 for girls only. Contestants must live or go to school in Coon Rapids. Competition is based on interview and modeling with personal speech. Each division will have a Queen and Princess; the Petite Division will also have a Commodore and Vice Commodore for boys.

For more information, contact Pageant Director Diane Buszta at dianebuszta@yahoo.com or visit www.snowflakedays.com. Pageant flyers/entry forms will be distributed to all Coon Rapids schools prior to Thanksgiving. The information is also available at www.snowflakedays.com. Registration deadline is January 1st, 2006.

A National Night Out Against Crime



Coon Rapids' National Night Out 2005 was host to 110 registered sites that organized neighborhood parties. The crime and drug prevention event, held the first Tuesday of August every year, is designed to strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

2005 events included many new crime watch groups. Coon Rapids Youth First hosted their 4th annual National Night Out with approximately 200 participants at The Element Teen Center. Highlights included a helicopter visit by the Minnesota Army National Guard in conjunction with Drug Abuse Resistance Education, music and prizes by KDWB, visits from CenterPoint Energy and Target representatives, and free passes to Adventure Park in Ham Lake. Thanks to a generous donation by Scholastic Books, police officers distributed children's books.

National Night Out events included bike parades, karaoke, dunk tanks and children's games. Many groups had drawings for door prizes and celebrated with potluck picnics and ice cream socials. Representatives from the Police and Fire departments visited every registered site. Mayor Howe and members of the Council were guests at many locations. Sponsors included the Coon Rapids Police Department, WalMart, CenterPoint Energy, Culver's of Coon Rapids, Party City and Raghead Sports.

To sign your neighborhood up for next year's event and to start a Neighborhood Watch Group, contact Lauri Ebel, Crime Prevention Specialist at 763-767-6501 or ebel@ci.coon-rapids.mn.us

CTN STUDIOS HONORED WITH AWARDS

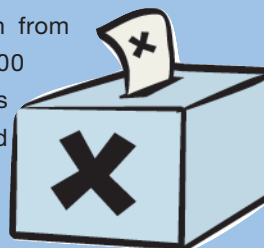
The Coon Rapids cable television department received four first place national awards for local programming at the 2005 Hometown Video Awards. The winning programs are:

- CTN News (News-professional)
- Sportsnight (Sports Entertainment-professional)
- Football Playoffs: Coon Rapids vs. Blaine (Sports Event Coverage-professional)
- Summer Concert at the Dam featuring One World (Local Performances-professional)

The 2005 Hometown awards received nearly 1,500 entries and is local cable's largest video festival.

ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOL BOARD PRIMARY ELECTION

A primary election for a school board seat will affect three Coon Rapids precincts on September 13. Voters who reside in precincts 42 (Summit Oaks), 43 (Fire #3) and 45 (ECM) are in an Anoka-Hennepin combined precinct and will be eligible to vote at Morris Bye Elementary. Voters will be asked to vote for one candidate: John Hoffman; Suzy Scheller; or Mark Temke. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Questions should be directed to 763-506-1037.



LEARN TO SKATE CLASSES AT COOK ARENA

Cook Arena offers skating lessons for all ages and levels of skaters, from the beginner to the advanced figure skater. Cook Arena has a veteran coaching staff with many years of experience and proven success.

Lesson Days:

- Monday evenings
- Saturday mornings
- Wednesday mornings for tots (four to six years old)

Fall lessons start in September and run for 12 weeks. Beginning hockey players are encouraged to take lessons before they play hockey.

Call Cook Arena (763-421-5035) for times, costs and dates.

Senior's Corner

Minnesota Safety Council

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSES

Consumers 55+ years of age with a valid driver's license can receive a 10% automobile insurance discount for three years by attending a MN Safety Council Defensive Driving Course. Anyone taking the course for the first time must attend an 8-hour session. Others may take a shorter, 4-hour refresher course every three years. Call 763-767-6473 for a registration form. Registration and payment must be received two weeks prior to the class.

4-HOUR REFRESHER COURSE: \$16.00

Monday, October 31: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Monday, November 7: 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Monday, November 28: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Monday, December 12: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

8-HOUR COURSE: \$18.00

Mondays, Nov. 14 & 21: 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Mondays, Jan. 23 & 30: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ANOKA COUNTY

OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZENS

Amy Crabb and Russ Eager were named Anoka County's Outstanding Senior Citizens at the Anoka County Fair on July 27.

Amy was nominated by Camilia Rose Care Center, where she is a volunteer. She has also been a member of the Goldentones Choir and the Coon Rapids Super Senior Club for nearly 20 years. Amy, along with her husband Ken, were some of the founding members of Coon Rapids Senior Services.

Russ was nominated by Coon Rapids Senior Services. He is the volunteer activity leader for the Woodcarvers Club, a group that meets weekly at the senior center. He also coordinated the making of over 400 wooden toy "Limberjacks" that were assembled by seniors and Hamilton Elementary students.

GOLDENTONE CHOIR NOTES

This group of seniors always welcomes new members. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at the Coon Rapids Civic Center. The group performs at area nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and the Senior Center. If you are a senior and enjoy singing and bringing joy to others, this is the choir for you.



"OVER 90" CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15



Art Holter
Over 90 Honoree

Join Coon Rapids Senior Dining for a special celebration for our friends who are over 90 years of age! Enjoy a reception in their honor beginning at 10:30 a.m. The program begins at 11:00 a.m., with some old-time favorites by the Goldentones Choir and a special recognition of those "Over 90". At noon, enjoy a baked ham dinner.

If you are over 90, please inform us when you make your meal registration, so you can be involved in our special recognition. Make your reservation by calling 763-767-6524 before Tuesday, September 13.

SENIOR DINING

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Seven days without Senior Dining makes one weak!

If you are 60 years of age or older, you're welcome to join Coon Rapids Senior Dining in the Coon Rapids Civic Center! A nutritious noon meal including dessert and beverage is served, Monday through Friday, for a \$3.00 donation. Call 763-767-6524 two days in advance for a guaranteed reservation or call the same day and see if there is an opening.

GRANDKIDS DAY!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

The kids are out of school for MEA break, so enjoy a special morning together at the Senior Center! The fun starts at 10:30 a.m. with the popular "Fruit Basket" game, a craft, snack and more! The activities are designed for children 4-14 years old. Adults must remain for the entire event. Cost is \$1.00 for each child and can be paid on the day of the event. Adults are free. Call 763-767-6473 to register.

LOW VISION HELP

Minnesota State Services for the Blind will be happy to meet with you at Coon Rapids Senior Services. Please call Paul Mattson at 651-642-0846 to schedule a visit.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

2nd Thursday of each month
2:00 p.m.

Coon Rapids Senior Services
Everyone is welcome to participate in the Parkinson's Support Group, sponsored by the American Parkinson Disease Association. No registration necessary.

EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11 AT 10:30 A.M.

Topics include:

- funeral arrangements
- Veterans benefits
- medical assistance
- protecting your assets
- cremation choices
- what does life insurance cover
- locking in at today's prices.

Presented by Jack Matura, Pre-Planning Specialist and Speaker. Call Senior Services at 763-767-6473 for a reservation.

FREE HEALTH INSURANCE COUNSELING

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program of Anoka County provides free health insurance counseling for senior citizens at Coon Rapids Senior Services. Trained volunteer counselors can answer questions about Medicare supplements, long-term care insurance, prescription drug costs, medical bills and more. Call 763-422-7528 to schedule an individual appointment.

FREE NEWSLETTER

Coon Rapids Senior Services has a free, monthly newsletter with tons of information about day trips, speakers, classes, Senior Dining, card clubs, support groups and more. Sign up by calling 763-767-6473.

COON RAPIDS CIVIC CENTER AVAILABLE FOR RECEPTIONS!

Looking for just the right spot for that wedding reception, anniversary party or special event in your life? The beautiful banquet facility at the Coon Rapids Civic Center is available for meetings, dinners, banquets and weddings. Seating for up to 250 in an elegant setting, complete with gazebo, flower garden and nature path. For available dates, prices and more information, call 763-767-6522.

NEW MONEY AVAILABLE FOR HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Have you considered a home improvement project for 2005? The City of Coon Rapids, together with the Coon Rapids Mortgage Assistance Foundation, is introducing several Home Improvement Loan Programs for homeowners to maintain, remodel and improve their homes.

Currently, Coon Rapids homeowners may borrow up to \$30,000 at interest rates ranging from 0% to 5%. Depending on income, loans may be available with affordable monthly payments or deferred with no monthly payments. Most types of home improvements projects are eligible through these new loan programs - siding, roofing, windows, kitchen and bath remodels, plumbing, wiring, driveways, sidewalks, carpet, flooring, furnace and central air, basements, garages, fences, landscaping, and more!

These home improvement loans are available immediately on a first come, first serve basis. Loan options are available for households of all income levels. In most cases, you may either hire a contractor to complete your projects or do the work yourself.

The City has hired CEE Financial Resources, a local non-profit organization, to administer this loan program and help you through your application process. For more information about this or other home improvement programs, or to have an application sent to you, call Kristin at CEE Financial Resources at 612-335-5881 or visit www.mncee.org.

COON RAPIDS HOME IMPROVEMENT GRANT/DEFERRED LOAN PROGRAM

The City of Coon Rapids announces continued funding of a home improvement program designed to assist low- and moderate-income Coon Rapids homeowners fix up their single family homes. The program focuses on basic home improvements that affect the safety and livability of a structure.

Up to \$20,000 is available to qualified homeowners in a combination grant and no-interest loan. Up to 50 percent of the loan is forgiven over the first five years of the loan; the remaining loan balance is deferred until you sell your home. Under certain conditions, refinancing of your mortgage may trigger repayment. There are no monthly payments and no interest will accrue. Additional grant funds of up to \$5,000 are available to remedy lead-based paint problems. No repayment of this grant is required. To qualify for this program, you must own and live in the property to be improved, be current on your mortgage and property taxes, and meet income and asset guidelines.

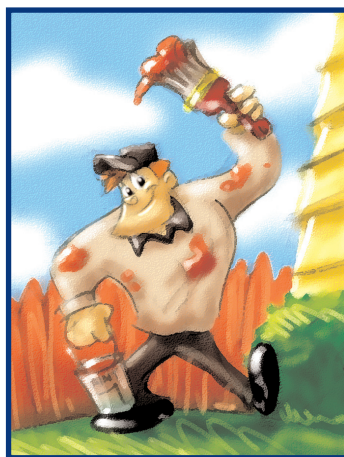
Funds are made available to qualified applicants on a first-come, first-serve basis. This is a great opportunity for assistance in making those needed home improvements. Contact the North Metro Office of the HousingResource Center™ at 651-486-7401 to learn more about this program.

ELECTRONIC WATER METER READINGS

Residents may submit their quarterly water meter reading by phone, internet or with the traditional postcard. To submit your reading anytime, log on to <http://www.ci.coon-rapids.mn.us/watermeter> and insert the requested information or call 763-767-6514 and respond to the recorded prompts. Over time, the traditional meter reading card will be phased out to save printing and postage costs. Citizens are, therefore, encouraged to utilize one of the other options.

Individualized Housing Improvement and Purchasing Assistance

Available to Coon Rapids Residents through HousingResource Center™



The City of Coon Rapids contracts with the Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation to provide residents the services of its HousingResource Center™ at no cost. Services include extensive, individualized assistance with home improvement and financ-

ing needs. Call 651-486-7401 for:

Loan Information: Examine all loan options, including purchase and rehabilitation mortgages; private home improvement loans for owner-occupied and rental property; public loan and grant programs; equity loans; reverse mortgage loans.

First Time Home Buyer Assistance: Referrals to home ownership education programs, including free counseling before purchase; information on closing costs, loans and grants; private mortgage loan programs information and application assistance.

Construction Management: Home improvement assistance with building elevations; building code and permit requirements; detailed written summary of the scope of work required; construction cost information; education of the construction bid process; evaluation of bids and work completed; monitoring of the construction process.

Homeowner Assistance: Information on mortgage foreclosure prevention programs and energy assistance programs.

REMODELING PLANBOOKS AVAILABLE

Cape Cods and Ramblers: A Remodeling Planbook for Post WWII Houses offers homeowners great design options for remodeling ramblers and cape code story-and-a-half houses constructed in the 1940s, 50s and 60s. With over 30 pages of remodeling plans and ideas, this book shows you how you can update and improve your home to fit today's lifestyles in a manner consistent with the original style and character of your house.

Split Visions: A Planbook of Remodeling Ideas for Split-level and Split-entry Houses is a 34-page book full of ideas for remodeling, improving and updating these ubiquitous suburban house types. This remodeling planbook takes two very popular house types constructed in the suburbs--the split-level and split-entry--and shows homeowners how they can make their houses work well for today's lifestyles. The planbook offers straightforward, cost effective solutions to problems commonly associated with split-level and split-entry houses.

Planbooks are available by mail by sending your name and address with a check or money order payable to City of Coon Rapids. Send your request to:

**Coon Rapids City Center
Attn: Remodeling Planbook
11155 Robinson Drive
Coon Rapids MN 55433**

Specify which Planbook you are requesting. Cost is \$10.00 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling per Planbook. Copies are also available at the Information Desk at the Coon Rapids City Center.

HELP US HELP YOU Avoid Unnecessary Sewer Problems

As fall approaches some residents may have their sewer services cleaned of tree roots. If you experience root problems and hire a service to clean your sewer line, please contact the Utility Division. They will be able to remove the roots from the main line, avoiding problems with larger backups.

You may leave a message 24 hours a day on the Utility Supervisor's phone, 763-767-6576, or e-mail bednar@ci.coon-rapids.mn.us

If you experience a sewer backup, call the City immediately. During business hours, call 763-767-6462. After hours, call non-emergency dispatch at 763-427-1212. A utility maintenance person is always on standby duty.



Coon Rapids Service Numbers

Police/Fire/EMS.....911
 (Voice TTY, Non-Emergency and Emergency)

City Center.....763-755-2880

TTY.....763-757-8885

Ice Arena.....763-421-5035

Golf Course.....763-755-4141

Nucleus Clinic...763-755-5300

Public Works....763-767-6462

Editorial Policy

This is the official newsletter of the City of Coon Rapids, published quarterly and distributed to all homes and businesses in Coon Rapids. (Circulation 25,709)

Articles should be addressed to:

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The City of Coon Rapids reserves the right to determine what articles may appear in this newsletter. This newsletter is read and obtained with the understanding that the information presented is from varied sources from which there can be no warranty or responsibility by the publisher as to accuracy or completeness.

We encourage and support recycling. This newsletter is printed on recycled paper containing at least 50% post-consumer paper fibers using soy-based ink.

Designed by
Paul A. Ludenia
480.588.6380



City Classifieds



Four out of five car seats are installed incorrectly. Have your car seat properly installed at one of these two free clinics.
 By appointment only.

Tuesday, September 20, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
 Fire Station #3, 2831 113th Avenue NW
 Appointments: Dar @ 763-767-6553

Tuesday, November 15, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
 Fire Station #3, 2831 113th Avenue NW
 Appointments: Joleen @ 763-433-9880
 Sponsored by: Mercy Hospital

The mission of the Anoka County Chapter of MN SAFEKIDS is: "To decrease incidents of unintentional injuries to kids in Anoka County through community collaboration."

ADVISORY COMMISSION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are many citizen volunteer advisory commissions which advise the City Council on a variety of issues. Attendance at a monthly meeting is required. Each January the Council makes appointments for three years terms to these commissions. If you are interested in being considered to serve your city, call 763-767-6493 for an application or download the form from the City's web site. Commissions include:

- Arts - promote and present cultural activities
- Board of Adjustment and Appeals - consider variances and appeals to the zoning code
- Historical - monitor matters of historical significance
- Parks and Recreation - maintain comprehensive plan for park development
- Planning - review issues involving zoning, the Comprehensive Plan and land use
- Safety - review public safety issues

There are also openings on the Charter Commission. This commission reviews and recommends amendments to the City's Charter. The City Council recommends members to the Chief Judge of the Tenth Judicial District Court. Meeting are held as needed. Terms are four years.

YARD AND TREE WASTE DISPOSAL

Open until November 30
(weather permitting)
13285 Hanson Boulevard

Monday - Friday:
 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. *(or sunset, if earlier)*
 Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday: Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Anoka County contracts with NRG Processing Solutions to operate a yard and tree waste site as a public service. Simply dump your yard waste and keep your container. Yard waste includes grass, leaves, weeds, and soft green herbaceous material. Unscreened compost is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring your own containers and shovel. Screened compost sold at cost of equipment and labor. Tree waste (brush, logs and stumps) disposal fee is based per cubic yard.

Call 763-767-7964 for compost availability and pricing schedules.



FALL RECYCLING DAY

Saturday, September 10th
 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Public Works Garage
 1831 111th Avenue NW

Questions? Call 763-767-6485.



COON RAPIDS SUPER SENIOR CLUB BAZAAR & OKTOBERFEST

~ CRAFTS ~

~ REFRESHMENTS ~

~ RAFFLE ~

~ BAKE SALE ~

~ AUNT MARY'S ATTIC ~

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18
 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Coon Rapids Civic Center
 11155 Robinson Drive