

Office phone
952-894-4368

Email
riverwoods@myriverwoods.org

Maintenance requests
rwgroundsmgr@gmail.com

THE Villager



April 2026

myriverwoods.org

Maintenance requests Due by May 15

The deadline for submitting maintenance requests is May 15, 2026. The forms for maintenance requests are available on the Association website. We want the requests by then so projects can be prioritized, plants and materials purchased ahead of time, and work hours allocated up front. Forms may be emailed to rwgroundsmgr@gmail.com or dropped off at the office

Get Your ACC Requests in Early

Spring is here, the weather is warming (with brief reminders of winter) and people are planning upgrades to their homes. Remember, before you make any changes to the exterior of your River Woods home, you need an approval from the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). ACC Request forms are available on the River Woods website.

Requests must be in by the 5th of any month to be considered at that month's ACC meeting (which is normally the fourth Tuesday of the month). This gives the committee time to review the request and contact you if more specifics are needed.

Courtyard Maintenance Available at No Cost

For the 92 units with courtyards, we offer these maintenance and upkeep services at no charge if you fill out a Courtyard Maintenance Form: mowing, trimming, pruning, spraying, fertilizing, sidewalk shoveling and salt treatment. If you would like to sign up for courtyard maintenance this year, please download the Courtyard Maintenance Form from the Association's website and submit it to the HOA office. The deadline is April 30, 2026 to assure you get the maintenance you want. Even if you submitted a maintenance form last year, you should still submit another one this year: we need a new form each year. Reminder: pet-friendly salt is not available.

Annual Meeting Set for June 16

The River Woods HOA 2026 annual meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at the Heritage Library, 20085 Heritage Dr, Lakeville, MN 55044. (Normally, the annual meeting is held at the Burnhaven Library in Burnsville, but it's closed for remodeling this year. We've tried other close venues, but none was available.) On the ballot will be the election of three people to the Association's Board of Directors. The meeting will be adjourned at 7:15 p.m. as we have the meeting room available only until 7:30 p.m. Ballots will be mailed to homeowners in May.

April Dates to Remember

The **Board** meets on April 21 at 5:30 in the HOA office.

The **ACC** meets on April 28 at 5:30 in the HOA office. Deadline for ACC requests: April 5

The **HOA office** will be closed April 4 and April 6 for Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Spring Walkthroughs for Units in the Paint Cycle (274-333)

The Spring walkthroughs will be completed soon for the units in the paint cycle this summer (units 274–333). Walkthrough reports for units that need to make repairs will be sent in the mail. Those repairs *must* be completed by May 31, 2026 so those units can be power-washed and painted. If they are not completed by the date, the Association may do the repairs and bill the unit, as the repairs must be made so the units can be painted.

The remainder of the walkthroughs will be done in April.

Power Washing for Units 274–333

The power washing of units 274–333 will begin sometime in May; please do not set out plantings, furniture, decorations, etc., until you have been power washed. Both vinyl and wood sided units will be power washed. This will also bring out any wood rot that is on the unit. In order for painting to begin, rotted wood will need to be replaced correctly. Once the siding is power washed a white paint will be sprayed to indicate any wood that needs replacement. Water will need to be accessed, please have your outside faucets on and in working order.

Sanitation/Recycling Outside of Approved Containers

All sanitation and recycling set out on the day of collection must be placed inside the approved containers, per our contract with Aspen.

Any items left outside of the containers may not be collected. You should make arrangements with Aspen Waste Systems, 612-884-8000, for separate pickup, which will incur a separate fee payment by owners.

Parking in River Woods

When River Woods was built some 50 years ago, the builder — Pemtom — did not provide enough guest parking spaces, and that has been a problem ever since.

Originally, the Association Rules and Regulations did not permit any parking outside of garages. That restriction soon proved impractical, as many people had more than two cars. So the rules were altered to permit parking outside garage doors. Residents with a two-car garage can park two cars outside their garage (except where it interferes with a neighbor's access to

their garage or a fire lane). Residents with a one-car garage can park one car outside their garage, with the same limitations. Translated, that means if you have a two-car garage, you can park four cars, and if you have a one-car garage, you can park two cars.

What you can't do, however, is park a car in the limited guest parking spots, which are intended *only* for guests making brief visits. If you own five cars, one of them must be parked outside of River Woods.

Towing policy

We don't assess fines for parking violations as we do for other violations of rules. Instead, we have a towing policy. When a car is parked for three days in a guest parking area it will be given a parking tag. There is no penalty associated with the tag. But if a tagged car is still parked in guest parking 24 hours later, we'll have it towed away by Captain Towing in Burnsville. To retrieve their cars, owners will have to pay Captain Towing towing charges and storage fees.

If a car has been tagged and later shows up again in a guest parking area, it may be immediately towed.

We can make exceptions to this policy, but *only* if you contact the office by email or phone beforehand. If, for example, you plan on having a guest visiting for a week, please let us know the guest car's license number, and the dates it will be in guest parking. We will avoid tagging or towing the car during that period. This is contingent, of course, of parking being available. If three residents want to reserve spots for guests in a two-car guest parking spot, the third one to notify us will miss out.



Please Don't Throw Food on the Common Grounds

Several homeowners have reported finding chicken bones, bread and other scraps of food in the grass, around ponds and on walking paths as they were walking their dogs. Chewing chicken bones can be deadly to dogs. The



soft bones split into sharp shards when chewed and can stick in a dog's throat, possibly killing him.

No food should be thrown onto the common grounds. First, it's a violation of Association rules, and subject to fines. Second, human food is generally not healthy food for most animals, even wild ones. Plus, food tossed onto the grounds can attract coyotes, which can be a real danger to pets. And, while there have been no reports of bears being sighted in Burnsville, there have been bear sightings in the northern suburbs. As the climate changes, bears have been moving south into the Metro area to find food and it wouldn't be too surprising to find them showing up in the southern Metro suburbs in the future.

Please don't throw food onto the common grounds.

Have You Checked Your Dryer and Vents for Lint?

One of the known causes of house fires is lint build-up in clothes dryer vents and dryers themselves. You can hire services to vacuum the lint out of your dryer vents (and the heating ducts throughout your house). And you can hire handymen to take off the back of your dryer and vacuum the lint out of the dryer. If you're a DIY person, there are YouTube videos that show you how to clean the lint out of your dryer.

What do You Do About a Lost Mailbox Key?

If you've lost the key to your mailbox, you can contact the HOA office to see if a duplicate of the key has been left with the office. (When the mailboxes were installed, owners were given two keys to their mailboxes; some owners gave one of the keys to the HOA office for safekeeping, just in case they lost a key, and those duplicate keys have been kept on file ever since.)



If there is no key filed in the office, or if a key filed with the office doesn't work, you need to contact the Burnsville Post Office directly so that they can re-key the mailbox. There is a fee for that. Several years ago, the fee was \$40; it may have risen since.

A duplicate key?

If you had two keys, but lost only one, you have two options to get back to having two keys:

- Contact the Post Office about re-keying the box

and giving you two new keys

- Having a locksmith duplicate your remaining key.

Rules and Regulations

Minor Pool Rules Changes Proposed

The Board will consider several minor changes in the pool rules for 2026 at its April meeting (5:30 p.m., April 21, 2026 at the HOA office). Included will be a more-complete definition of smoking prohibited at the pool to include vaping and e-cigarettes, and clarity on penalties for violations of pool rules, refusing to leave the pool area for violations when requested by the monitor, and forcing entrance to the pool even though a unit is suspended.