



Spring/Summer
2026

PIPELINE

Upcoming Events

May 11 – May 22
Hydrant Flushing

May 25
Memorial Day Ceremony
Central Park
4:00 p.m.

June 1
Summer Reading Kickoff
Library Parking Lot
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

June 6
Youth League Parade
Ferguson Avenue
10:30 a.m.

June 11 – September 24
2026 Farmers Market
Madison Avenue
Downtown Parking Lot
Thursday Evenings
4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

July 3
4th of July Celebration
Belk Park
4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

July 12
Ice Cream Social
Central Park
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

August 6
National Night Out
Police Department
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

October 5 – October 9
Hydrant Flushing



*Join The City of Wood River on Friday, July 3, 2026, at Belk Park from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. as we celebrate America's 250th Birthday!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!!!*

Public Services Project Updates

Wood River Avenue Phase 1 and 2 – This is a rotomill and resurfacing project on Wood River Avenue from East Alton Village limits to Ferguson Avenue. All intersections will be upgraded to be handicap accessible. There will be new striping for this length of road. The current construction cost estimate is \$1,350,000. Project design has been completed and has a bid date of April 2026. Project construction costs are covered 75% by the State and 25% by the County.

Edwardsville Road Phase 1 and 2 – This is a rotomill and resurfacing project on Edwardsville Road, from East Alton Village limits to approximately 6th Street in Wood River. Intersections will be upgraded to be handicap accessible. This project is a 2026-27 project and is anticipated to bid as early as Spring 2027. Project construction costs are covered 75% by the State and 25% by the County. Project has begun engineering. The total construction cost is estimated to be \$1,300,000.

Edwardsville Road Phase 3 – This is a rotomill and resurfacing project on Edwardsville Road, from 6th Street to East Acton Avenue. Intersections will be upgraded to be handicap accessible. The project has been submitted for Funding through the Surface Transportation Block Grant program, which construction costs are covered 75% by the State and 25% by the County.

Edwardsville Road Water Main Improvements – Phase 3 – This project will continue the new 12-inch water main along Edwardsville Road from Whitelaw to 3rd Street. The total cost of the project is approximately \$620,000. Construction is anticipated to begin April 2026 and be completed by June 30, 2026.

Sign Up Now for
Water Billing Text
Reminders!

Call 618-251-3131, Option 1
to add your mobile number.

Public Services 1% Sales Tax Project Updates

State Street Sewer Separation – This project consists of separating the combined sewers in the State Street area. The area is bound by Wood River Avenue, Old St. Louis Road, Edwardsville Road, and State Route 143. The current construction cost estimate is \$20,825,000. Project construction costs are covered 75% by the Corp of Engineers and 25% by the City. The City received notice of a 3.5-million-dollar grant from the Corp of Engineers to complete Phase 1, as well as notice of pending \$3.5 million for Phase 2. Construction started in May 2024 for Phase 1 and will last approximately a year and a half. Due to field issues, construction progress has been slower and the project scope for Phase 1 has changed. Construction costs are anticipated to increase to \$9.2 million for Phase 1. The current anticipated completion date for Phase 1 is April 2026.

9th Street Detention Expansion – This project will expand the capacity of the 6th Street retention pond and create a new detention pond located on City owned property just east of 9th Street and allow the homes in that area to be removed from the flood zone. The current project estimate is \$8 million with \$850,000 recently allocated from the Federal Government in March 2024. Project requires environmental clearances before the City can complete engineering design and begin construction. Construction is currently estimated to begin Fall 2026 and will last approximately 18 months.

Sidewalk Replacement (Various Locations) – This project will replace sidewalks in various locations in conjunction with the City’s overlay projects. The total project construction cost is approximately \$600,000. Progress is ongoing, and the City continues making sidewalk improvements as funding allows.

Jackson Ln. & Vaughn Dr. Water Main Improvements – This project will replace an aging 4-inch water main with a new 8-inch water main along Jackson Lane and new 8-inch water main along Vaughn Drive. Construction is anticipated to begin April 2026.

Ferguson – 4th to 6th Street CIPP (Cured-in-Place-Pipe) Lining – This project consists of lining the existing 18-inch sewer main between 4th and 6th Street on Ferguson Avenue. The project construction cost is \$250,000. The project started in the Fall 2025 with some initial pipe cleaning and is anticipated to be completed by May 2026.

Anticipated City Paving Locations

<u>Location</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Jackson Lane	Route 111	Vaughn Drive
Vaughn Drive	Jackson Lane	Dead End
Lorena Avenue	4 th Street	6 th Street
Rockhill Road	Edwardsville Road	Wesley Drive
Rockhill Road	Country Lane	255 Overpass
Rockhill Road	Moreland	S-Curve
East End Park Parking Stalls Along 14 th Street		
Downtown Parking Lot between Wood River Avenue & 1 st Street		

Additional Improvements from 1% Sales Tax

City Center
Downtown Sign
Edwardsville Rd. Water Main Improvement Project

Follow the Public Services Department on Facebook at
facebook.com/woodriverpublicservices

Public Notices

WEED OVERGROWTH PROHIBITED:

It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant of any lot of ground or premises to allow such lot or premises or any right-of-way or sidewalk adjoining such lot or premises, to be encumbered by any growth of grass or weeds over a height of eight inches.

SOLICITOR LICENSES REQUIRED:

City ordinance regulates peddlers and solicitors in residential neighborhoods. Individuals going door-to-door are **REQUIRED** to have a Solicitor’s License issued by the City. Before a license is issued, the Police Department runs a background check on each individual for the safety and welfare of our residents. Ask solicitors to show you their City Solicitor’s License. If they do not have a license or if the solicitor is acting in an undesirable manner, please contact the Police Department immediately at 618-251-3114.

Please remember that a City Solicitor’s License is in no way an endorsement of the firm or product. Established religious and charitable not-for-profit organizations are exempt from these regulations.

RECENTLY PASSED CITY ORDINANCES: Parking motor vehicles on grass, dirt, or other non-improved surfaces is prohibited, and any new or existing improved parking surfaces, such as gravel or pavement require a permit before construction. Unauthorized scavenging from refuse containers is prohibited to protect public health and cleanliness, with violations subject to fines.

WATER/SEWER/TRASH BILLING

Billing Schedule

Meter Reading:	On or about the 26th of the month.
Bills Transmitted:	On or about the 5th of the month
Due Date:	3rd of the following month
Penalty:	A 10% penalty is applied if the payment is not received in our office by the due date.
Shut Off Notice:	The 15th of the month
\$25 fee added at 8am	(or the following business day) after the bill is transmitted.
Shut Off:	The 25th of the month
\$60 fee added at 8am	(or the following business day) after the bill is transmitted.

Please remember to look at the important messages on your bill and the file directory on the portal for important information.

If you are over the age of 62, please bring your ID and/or social security award letter to the Finance Department to see if you qualify for a penalty waiver.

Take advantage of paying your bill online at www.woodriver.authoritypay.com or over the phone at 855-966-6582.



Sign Up for Free Auto Pay!

Avoid service fees and simplify your payments with Auto Pay through e-check completely free of charge! Sign up today at woodriver.authoritypay.com or call 618-251-3131. With Auto Pay, your payments are processed without worry, and you never have to think about due dates again.



First Time Homebuyer Program

Our First-Time Homebuyer Program offers financial assistance of up to \$5,000 to make purchasing your first home more affordable and attainable. Assistance is based on income, and the application process is simple.

For more details visit woodriver.org or contact the Finance Director at 618-251-3134 or by email at kweber@cityofwoodriver.com



Exterior Home Renovation Program- Coming Soon!

The City of Wood River will soon be offering an Exterior Home Renovation Program to support owner-occupied homes with major exterior improvements and lasting upgrades. The program provides up to \$5,000 in assistance, based on income.

Follow the City of Wood River on Facebook at facebook.com/thecityofwoodriver and visit our website at www.woodriver.org

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

20 Years

Brady Greene



5 Years

Randy Hopkins



Not Pictured:

Travis Mouser – 10 years
Dakota Barrett – 5 years



The City flushes and tests fire hydrants twice a year. These times include the beginning of May and the beginning of October. Residents may experience discoloration of their water. However, the water will continue to be safe to drink.

Residents may want to avoid doing laundry during this time to avoid discoloration of clothing. Despite the inconvenience of the discolored water, it is necessary to flush fire hydrants to remove any sediment that may have settled in the water mains and to ensure the hydrants remain in good working order.

KEEP GRASS CLIPPINGS OFF THE STREETS

SWEEPING OR BLOWING GRASS CLIPPINGS INTO THE STREET CAN CAUSE....

...stormwater system to clog, flooding roadways

...a safety hazard for cyclist, particularly motorcycles

...pesticides and herbicides to runoff into the stormwater system and contaminate our natural bodies of water

WARNING

WHEN FLOODED
TURN AROUND
DON'T DROWN

POLICE OFFICER & TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR 2025



Officer Brendan Wright has been with the Wood River Police Department for over four years. In 2025, Officer Wright handled the most complaints in the department. Officer Wright's commendable qualities include his community-oriented mindset, professionalism, and dedication. Officer Wright makes a difference in our community every day.

Telecommunicator Kristine Kestler has been a Dispatcher for the Wood River Police Department for four years. Telecommunicator Kestler demonstrates professionalism, sound judgment, and a calm demeanor under pressure. She is a trusted communicator, a reliable teammate, and a credit to the Wood River Police Department.



POLICE NEW HIRES

Telecommunicator **Joel Woodruff** started the Illinois State Police Academy on March 8, 2026. Woodruff tested for the Probationary Police Officer Eligibility List in May of 2025.

Probationary Police Officer **Nickolas Beem** started with the Wood River Police Department on March 30, 2026. Officer Beem transferred from the Hartford Police Department.

Reminders from the Police Department:

- If you park on the streets, please make sure you are parked facing the right direction with the flow of traffic.
- Do not block driveways.
- Do not park across the sidewalk.
- Do not park in front yards.
- Any vehicle parked on the street must have a valid registration.
- Unattached trailers/R.V.'s cannot be parked on the streets at any time.
- Any vehicle parked on your property must have a valid registration and not be considered a derelict vehicle.

Did you know you have a Police Officer assigned to your address? The entire city has been divided into districts. Every address in the city has an officer assigned. The officer's duties for their districts are to provide another avenue for you to ask questions or work out a particular issue if you do not feel comfortable making a police report. This is another path for Wood River P.D. to be connected with our great community. If you want to find out who is assigned to your address email our Administrative Assistant Erica Chalcraft at

echalcraft@woodriverpolice.com.

POLICE NEWS



Police Chief Wells is launching a community initiative aimed at enhancing safety, reducing crime rates, and enhancing cleanliness throughout Wood River.

CRIME FREE

Leading by Example:
Our department has adopted a section of IL Rt 143 to keep it litter free and serve as a model for community pride.



LITTER FREE

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Ensure proper disposal of waste
- Maintain cleanliness and upkeep of your property
- Report suspicious activities
- Encourage local residents and businesses to participate



Follow the Police Department on Facebook at [facebook.com/woodriverpd](https://www.facebook.com/woodriverpd)

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS



The Wood River Fire Department proudly introduces its new Rosenbauer pumper, boosting response capabilities for years to come. Paired with a newly completed apparatus bay addition, these improvements mark a significant investment in efficiency, readiness, and service to the community.

The Fire Department is planning a community open house to highlight its new apparatus, equipment, and recent station renovations and expansion. Residents are encouraged to watch for an announcement in late spring or early summer and attend to see the improvements firsthand.



The City of Wood River has an ISO Class 3 Rating because of the hard work of the WRFD!



The mission of the **Wood River Woman's Club** is to promote helpfulness among women by offering support and encouragement to area children and their families. So, when the Wood River Fire Department called the Club to ask for aid replacing their aging Pediatric Advanced Life Support Kit with an updated one, the women of WRWC unanimously supported donating the full purchase price of the new kit. You may ask yourself what is so important about an emergency pediatric kit, and Fire Chief Wade Stahlhut is more than happy to provide the answer. When asked to describe the importance of a kit geared towards pediatric emergencies, Chief Stahlhut stated, "This pediatric EMS bag provides our EMTs and Paramedics with specialized, age-specific equipment that allows us to deliver critical care to children when every second matters. Pediatric emergencies can be among the most challenging calls that providers face. Having dedicated pediatric equipment organized and ready allows our EMTs and Paramedics to respond with confidence, efficiency, and the highest level of care possible." This is the second pediatric kit that the **Wood River Woman's Club** has had the privilege of purchasing for the Wood River Fire Department and the Club is honored to have the

opportunity to support such a dedicated and proactive department. Chief Stahlhut also expressed his department's gratitude towards the club, "We are extremely grateful to the **Wood River Woman's Club** for helping us better protect families when emergencies occur."



Follow the Wood River Fire Department on Facebook

655 N. Wood River Avenue
 Wood River, IL 62095
 Phone: 618-251-3130
 www.wrparcs.org



Hours of Operation
 Mon-Fri: 6:30am-8pm
 Saturday: 7am-5pm
 Sunday: 10am-4pm

CAMP OTTO SUMMER CAMP

FOR 1ST-6TH GRADERS
2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR

CHOOSE 1 WEEK OR CHOOSE THEM ALL!

JUNE 1ST-JULY 31ST
8 week program

Fun activities, guest performers every Wednesday and field trips every Friday including St. Louis Zoo, St. Louis Science Center, Roxana Pool, Edison's Entertainment Complex, Altitude Trampoline Park & Much More!

Scan for more info

Thanks to our Camp Sponsor! WOOD RIVER REFINERY

WOOD RIVER RECREATION CENTER
655 N. Wood River Ave • 618-251-3130

Before Care 7am-9am \$15/child per week
 Core Camp 9am-3pm \$130/child per week
 After Care 3pm-5:30 \$20/child per week

Must register in person. Lunch is not provided.

For more info contact Tyler @ 618-929-7707 | tlafferty@wrparcs.org

GYMNASTICS/CHEERLEADING SUMMER CAMPS

GYMNASTICS CAMP (JUNE 15-17)
 AGES: 4-6, 9-10:15AM, 24 KIDS MAX, \$70
 AGES: 7+, 10:30AM-12:30PM, 24 KIDS MAX, \$70

CHEER CAMP (JULY 6-8)
 AGES: 5-12, 10-11:30AM, 18 KIDS MAX, \$70

GYMNASTICS CAMP (JULY 20-22)
 AGES: 4-6, 9-10:15AM, 24 KIDS MAX, \$70
 AGES: 7+, 10:30AM-12:30PM, 24 KIDS MAX, \$70

CHEER CAMP (JULY 27-29)
 AGES: 5-12, 10-11:30AM, 18 KIDS MAX, \$70

REGISTER ONLINE: NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

REGISTER IN PERSON: WOOD RIVER RECREATION CENTER
655 N. WOOD RIVER AVENUE
WOOD RIVER, IL 62095

WOOD RIVER RECREATION CENTER
WWW.WRPARKS.ORG
FOR MORE INFO CALL 618-251-3130

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

WOOD RIVER RECREATION CENTER

SPORTS PACKAGE
\$175 RES/ \$225 NR
INCLUDES:
2 HOURS OF ACCESS TO HALF GYM/PARTY ROOM
ASSORTMENT OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT (BASKETBALL, VOLLEYBALL, PICKLEBALL, DODGEBALL AND MORE!)

GYMNASTICS PACKAGE
\$200 RES/ \$250 NR
INCLUDES:
PARTY HOST
2 HOURS OF ACCESS TO GYMNASTICS ROOM/PARTY ROOM

HYBRID PACKAGE
\$250 RES/ \$300 NR
INCLUDES:
PARTY HOST
2 HOURS OF ACCESS TO GYMNASTICS ROOM/HALF GYM/PARTY ROOM

FALL/WINTER/SPRING GYMNASTICS:

This is a great way to improve your child's strength and coordination levels. The program is typically an eight-week session. Classes are held from August through May. Classes are offered on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, in addition to Saturday mornings.

- Parent & Tot: 2yrs-3yrs
- Tiny Tumblers: 4yrs-5yrs
- Gymnastics I: 6yrs & Older
- Gymnastics II, III, & IV: 6yrs & Older (with instructor approval)
- Tumbling I: 6yrs & Older
- Tumbling II, III, & IV: 6yrs & Older (with instructor approval)
- Handstand Heroes: 4yrs-5yrs (with instructor approval)
- Cheer Tumbling: 11yrs & Older
- Boys Ninja Warrior Tumbling: 5yrs & Older

Youth Programs

TRI-CITY SOCCER: Wood River, Roxana & East Alton have joined together once again to form a soccer league. Children ages 5-13 are invited to participate. The registration fee includes a T-shirt. Games will be held on Saturday mornings and weeknights beginning in September. Watch for registration in June & July.

TRI-CITY FALL VOLLEYBALL: Wood River, Roxana, & East Alton have joined together to form a volleyball league. Children in grades 3rd to 8th are invited to participate. The registration fee includes a T-shirt. Games will be held on Saturday mornings and weeknights beginning in November. Watch for registration in August.

Join the Parks & Recreation Department and beat the heat this summer by partaking in our **Annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 12, 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Wood River Parks & Recreation is co-sponsoring with the Women's Club for this event at Central Park.



Adult Leagues

SUNDAY NIGHT COED VOLLEYBALL:

Leagues:	Fee:
Competitive Division	\$275
Semi-Competitive Division	\$275
Recreational Division	\$275

Registration for the Fall session begins in August

Follow the Parks & Recreation Department on Facebook at facebook.com/woodriverparks

Wood River Community Appearance Board

A special **THANK YOU** to the Appearance Board and volunteers for their time and effort making our City look beautiful by planting flowers every Spring!

The **2026 Appearance Awards** will kick off in May for residences and businesses. Appearance Awards are given once a month to one residence and one business from May to September. The Appearance Awards are open to all residents and businesses in Wood River, and anyone can nominate a residence or business by contacting City Hall or a committee member with the address of the property.

Wood River Heritage Council

MUSEUM – The Museum is open on Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with several new exhibits including, clubs and organizations of Wood River, modes of transportation servicing the people and industries of the Wood River region, and political buttons. The banking exhibit has been enhanced with a digital picture frame displaying photos of FNB of Wood River employees. Several new items have also been added to the Gift Shop including, an adult coloring book that highlights familiar Wood River landmarks and a book about a Tamaroa Village located on Grassy Lake. This village, a Cahokia satellite village, is located at the current site of the Wood River Refinery. This book is great for readers who like history and Mississippian culture! Don't forget special tours can be arranged to visit the museum, especially for EAWR High School Reunions!

DID YOU KNOW? Candy Bill's given name was William Harry Tsimpris (pronounced with the T silent) and immigrated as a young boy from Greece to St. Louis where he assisted other family members operating a candy shop. As a young man, he sold candy for a regional distributor and in 1923 he opened



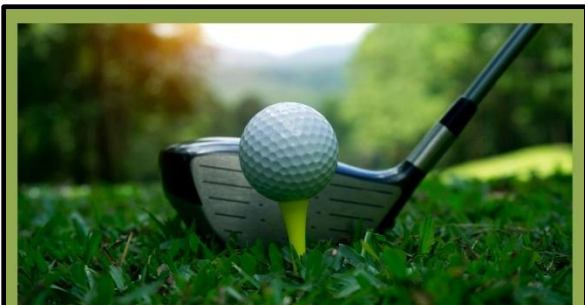
The Princess Confectionary at 44 E. Ferguson in downtown Wood River. In 1927, he married his lifetime partner, Dorothy, and together they not only started a family, consisting of two sons, but began building a successful business involving "handmade" chocolates and hard candies, plus distributing candy, beverage items, and tobacco products to other local establishments. In 1938, the confectionary changed its name to Candy Bill's and became the favorite spot for not only candy, but caramel apples, soft drinks, ice cream sundaes, malts, chili, assorted sandwiches, and where one could send a Western Union telegram. The store remained in operation until 1988. Bill and Dorothy were a very personable and hardworking couple who were viewed as pillars within the business community and beloved by the residents of Wood River. Stop by the Museum to see the exhibit, including the candy molds and recipe books used to make the candy that Wood River residents enjoyed!

RENDEZVOUS AT CAMP DUBOIS – The next Rendezvous at Camp DuBois will be October 24 & 25, 2026. The Rendezvous is open to the public free of charge. Please contact Alice Buzzard at 618-462-7765 for more information.

HISTORIC WOOD RIVER CHAPEL – The Historic Wood River Chapel can be rented for small events, weddings, vow renewals, or small meetings. Please contact Kristen Burns at 618-917-4326 or Cathi Stalcup at 618-910-8481 for more information about renting the chapel.

VAUGHN HILL CEMETERY – The Vaughn Hill Cemetery located off Vaughn Road is one of the oldest cemeteries in Madison County. If you are a historian of Wood River or Madison County, you will find the final resting places for many of Wood River's early settlers, including a number of Revolutionary War Soldiers, and the children killed during the Indian raid that is referred to as the Wood River Massacre.

Visit the Museum's website at woodriverillinoismuseum.org



TWILIGHT RATES
WEEKDAYS
AFTER 12PM | \$27
WEEKENDS
AFTER 12PM | \$45
AFTER 3PM | \$35

WE OFFER MEMBERSHIPS
Resident and Non-Resident Options
Come Enjoy The LARGEST Park in Wood River!
234 ACRES-LAKE-FISHING-PICNIC
AREAS-PLAYGROUND-SHELTERS
CLUBHOUSE-PAVILION

Book Your Tee Time @ belkpark.com



Belk Park
Golf Course

880 Belk Park Rd, Wood River ~ 618.251.3115



Wood River Public Library News

Everything you're into!

Unearth a Story!



Summer Reading will kick off on June 1 with a party in the parking lot! Bring the entire family from 5:00-6:30 for games, activities, and food. Registration begins on May 1.

Events run June and July and finish with a pool party for those that qualify!

Early Readers (18mo-3yr) Thursdays at 10:00am

Preschool (3-5yr) Tuesdays at 10:00

Kindergarten-5th Grade- Tuesdays at 2:00

Young Adults (6th-12th grade) Mondays at 2:00

Adults (18+) Thursdays at 6:00

Performances Wednesdays at 10:00 at the Round House (all ages)

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

What is 1000 Books Before Kindergarten?

Exactly that! Read 1000 books to your child before he/she

enters Kindergarten. Is it hard? Not really! Read a book every night and that's 365! After 3 years you're at 1,095. Read the same book over and over? Each time you read it counts! Stop by to get your reading log to get started.



Look for our regular programs to run through the summer months:

- WeeJam
- Chair Exercise
- Zillah the Comfort Dog
- Family Lego Build Day
- Spice Club

Call the Library or follow us on Facebook for more information on these events!

Library Closed:

May 25- Memorial Day

June 19- Juneteenth

July 3&4- Independence Day

September 7- Labor Day

Download the free SHARE Mobile Library App!

Request & renew your items and check your account, and more, all from the palm of your hand!



Libraries with Heart



Through a partnership with the American Heart Association, the Wood River Public Library now has blood pressure cuffs available to check out for three weeks at a time.

Don't See it on our shelves? Don't worry!

Through our interlibrary loan service, we can request items from other libraries and have them shipped here to you, at no cost! Books, DVDs, CDs, and more from over **500 libraries!**

YOUR LIBRARY CARD GIVES YOU ACCESS TO OUR ONLINE RESOURCES:

- *TumbleBooks* (ebooks for children)
- *ABCmouse* (educational games for kids 2-8+)
- *Adventure Academy* (multiplayer online educational games for kids 8-12)
- *Kanopy* (streaming movies and tv shows)
- *CloudLibrary* (eBooks and eAudiobooks)
- *Libby* (eBooks and eAudiobooks)

Check out our website:

Past issues of the Wood River Pipeline and EAWR Yearbooks can be found on our website.

In 2025...

- patrons saved \$592,545.97 by checking out library books!!
- we hosted 597 events with 13,636 participants.
- 30,155 patrons visited the library.



We Deliver!!

We offer a Homebound Delivery Service for **free** to individuals who are Wood River residents and unable to physically come to the library due to permanent or temporary mobility, health, or disability barriers. Call us to get signed up!

Additional Services We Provide:

- Copies (black & white and color)
- Fax
- Lamination
- Bus Passes (MCT system and local)
- Free Notary Services (call ahead)
- Scan to Email
- Wifi
- Meetings rooms available



SCAN HERE FOR OUR WEBSITE

VISIT US: 326 E. Ferguson Ave

CALL US: 254-4832

EMAIL US: info@woodriverlibrary.org



@WOODRIVERLIBRARY