Wood River ILLINOIS

Fall/Winter 2026/2027

PIPELINE

Upcoming Events

October 5 – October 9
Hydrant Flushing

October 11
Cruise & Que Car Cruise
Downtown
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

October 21
Downtown Trick or Treat
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

October 24 & 25
Camp Dubois
Fall Rendezvous

October 30 & 31
Trick or Treat
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

October 31
Halloween Parade
10:30 a.m.

November 2 – December 17
Leaf Pick-up

November 11
Veterans Memorial Ceremony
EAWR Memorial Gymnasium
4:00 p.m.

November 27
Holiday Traditions
Parade & Festival
Downtown
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

November 28
Indoor Holiday Market
Wood River
Recreation Center
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

December 12
40th Annual Breakfast
with Santa
Roundhouse
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

March 20
Easter Egg Hunt
Central Park
10:00 a.m.

May 3 – May 14
Hydrant Flushing



The City of Wood River and the Wood River Fire Department are proud to introduce two new fire engines, E-4212 and E-4213. These engines represent a significant investment in our community's future and provide better tools for our firefighters which means better service and protection for our community.

Public Services – Project Updates

Wood River Avenue Phase 1 & 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 handicap accessible. There will be new striping for this length of road. The current construction cost estimate is $1,500,000. Project design has been completed and was bid April 2026. Project construction costs are covered 75% by the State and 25% by the County. Project construction is anticipated to be completed Fall 2026.

Edwardsville Road Phase 1, 2, and Phase 3 – This is a rotomill and resurfacing project on Edwardsville Road from East Alton Village limits to approximately East Acton Avenue in Wood River. Intersections will be upgraded to be handicap accessible. 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 $2,100,000.

Edwardsville Road Water Main Improvements Phase 5 – This project consists of installation of a new 12-inch water main from Third Street along the alley just south of Edwardsville Road to Tipton Avenue. The project construction cost is approximately $300,000. The City is seeking CDBG funding from Madison County to help fund the last phase of construction. If funding assistance is received, construction is anticipated to start April 2027 and be completed by June 30, 2027.

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

Sign Up Now for Water Billing Text Reminders!
Call 618-251-3131, Option 1 to add your mobile number.

1% Public Services Project List

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. Construction costs for Phase 2 and Phase 3 are anticipated to be 10 million dollars. Project construction costs are covered 75% by the Corps of Engineers and 25% by the City. The City is waiting on notice of funding from the Corps of Engineers in November 2026 to determine the start of Phase 2 and Phase 3. Assuming funding is received from the Corps of Engineers, the anticipated start date of construction for Phase 2 and Phase 3 will be Spring 2027 and is anticipated to last approximately one year.

9th Street Detention Expansion – 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 will allow homes in that area to be removed from the flood zone. The current project estimate is 8 million dollars with $850,000 recently allocated from the Federal Government in March 2024 and 2.5 million dollars from the IEPA. Project requires environmental clearances before the City can complete engineering design and begin construction. Construction is currently estimated to begin as early as late Spring/early Summer 2027 and will last approximately 18 months.

Sidewalk Project (Various) – This project will replace sidewalks in various locations in conjunction with the City's overlay projects. The total project construction cost is approximately $725,000. 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 main along Jackson Lane and a new 8-inch main along Vaughn Drive. The project construction cost is approximately $260,000. Installation of the new water main has been completed, and the streets are anticipated to be repaved Fall 2026.

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: **$25 fee added at 8am**	The **15th** of the month (or the following business day) after the bill is transmitted.
Shut Off: **$60 fee added at 8am**	The **25th** of the month (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.

Bulk Pickups & Holiday Schedule

Those houses with Republic Services trash service get **TWO FREE** bulk item pickups per calendar year. Residents must pre-schedule these pickups by calling Republic Services Customer Service at 618-656-6883.

Remaining 2026 Holidays observed by Republic Services are Thanksgiving Day & Christmas Day.



Exterior Home Renovation Program

The City of Wood River offers 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.



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

Leaf Burning Restrictions

Leaf burning is **ONLY ALLOWED** on **Wednesdays & Saturdays** from **October 1 through April 30** during daylight hours and a calm weather period with winds of less than ten miles per hour. The burning shall be supervised, and a water hose shall be available to extinguish the fire, if necessary. In addition, outdoor leaf burning must be done at a minimum of 15 feet from any structure and shall include only leaves falling from trees, plants, and shrubs. No leaf burning shall be allowed on any public street or alley and shall occur on private property only.

Deposits on Streets & Sidewalks

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to dump or deposit any grass, leaves, branches, gumballs, glass, nails or other similar articles or any waste materials on any public street, alley, or sidewalk in the City.

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



This map is for LEAF PICK UP ONLY. No planters or junk will be picked up during this schedule.

Schedule for Leaf Pick Up

Area	Pick-up dates
Zone 1	Nov 2, Nov 16, Dec 7
Zone 2	Nov 3, Nov 17, Dec 8
Zone 3	Nov 4, Nov 18, Dec 9
Zone 4	Nov 5, Nov 19, Dec 10
Zone 5	Nov 9, Nov 30, Dec 14
Zone 6	Nov 10, Dec 1, Dec 15
Zone 7	Nov 12, Dec 2, Dec 16
Zone 8	Nov 13, Dec 3, Dec 17

Employee Anniversaries



15 Years
Karen Weber



5 Years
Charlie Keshner



5 Years
Brendan Wright



5 Years
Bryan Brown



5 Years
Dustin Johnson

Not Pictured:
Jason Crutchley – 30 years
Darrell Jose – 25 years
Josh Timmins – 20 years

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

Fire Department News

October is fire prevention month and is an important time to educate our community about fire safety practices in your home. Having and practicing a home fire escape plan is critical to ensure your family is best prepared in the event of a fire. This includes knowing two ways out, having an outside meeting place, and an understanding **when you're out… you stay out (never go back in)!** If there is smoke, make sure to stay low to the floor. Teach young ones to know when to call 9-1-1 and have a plan for multiple floor and basement emergencies.

Fire Chief Recommendations:

- Install 10-year lithium-ion sealed smoke detectors.
- Smoke detectors within 15 feet of sleeping areas.
- Smoke detectors in each sleeping area and each floor of occupancy and/or stairwells.
- Replace batteries every 6 months.
- Replace smoke detectors every 8-10 years.
- Carbon Monoxide detector in each occupancy.
- Have and practice a home fire escape plan.



CENTRAL STATION CONTINUES TO EVOLVE

Improvements to Central Station have continued, with upgrades to the building and additional improvements designed to make the station more functional for today's Fire Department.

From the roof and windows to doors, additions, storage, and other improvements, the department is benefiting from a significant investment in its facilities.

A better firehouse helps us maintain a better-equipped and better-prepared department.

WRFD IS MORE THAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Fire Department's job doesn't end when the emergency is over. Our firefighters continue to participate in **fire prevention, public education, community events, school programs, station tours, CPR education, inspections, and other community activities.** We believe that building relationships with our residents is an important part of public safety. When you see us at a community event, **stop by and say hello!**

Follow the Wood River Fire Department on Facebook

Fire Department News

After **21 years of service to the Wood River Fire Department**, Fire Chief **Wade Stahlhut** retired over the summer. Chief Stahlhut leaves the department with a strong foundation, including new apparatus, facility improvements, and continued progress in staffing and operations.

Following his retirement, **Nathan Kamp** was sworn in as the new Fire Chief. Chief Kamp began his fire service career with the Wood River Fire Department in 2002 and has spent more than two decades serving the community. Most recently, he served as Deputy Chief. As the department moves forward, the focus remains on **training, staffing, equipment, and continuing to improve the services that the Fire Department provides.**

LOOKING AHEAD:

The next six months will bring even more opportunities to improve the Wood River Fire Department. With **new engines, improved facilities, new leadership, continued staffing efforts, and a dedicated group of firefighters**, the department is in a strong position to move forward. But the most important part of the Wood River Fire Department isn't the trucks or the building, **it's the people.** The men and women of the Wood River Fire Department are proud to serve this community, and we appreciate the continued support of our residents.

Police Department News

Trick or Treat:
October 30th & 31st from
6-8pm for children under 12 years old

The Police Department encourages parents to be involved with children's trick or treat activities and to supervise them closely while following these safety tips:

- Wear bright colored costumes
- Carry a flashlight
- Visit the homes of only people you know
- Do not eat unwrapped or homemade treats
- Walk together in groups
- Be alert, watch for potential problems

Follow the Police Department on Facebook at facebook.com/woodriverpd

Police Department News

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, e-mail our Administrative Assistant Erica Chalcraft at echalcraft@woodriverpolice.com.

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.
- School is back in session. Please be cautious driving in and around school zones and be aware of buses dropping off and picking up children.

Police Department New Hire

Irene Jones was hired in May 2026 as a 9-1-1 Telecommunicator. Irene is a graduate of Granite City High School.

Hydrant Flushing



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, this does not indicate a change in water quality associated with the flushing. 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.

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

Wood River, Illinois
Parks and Recreation

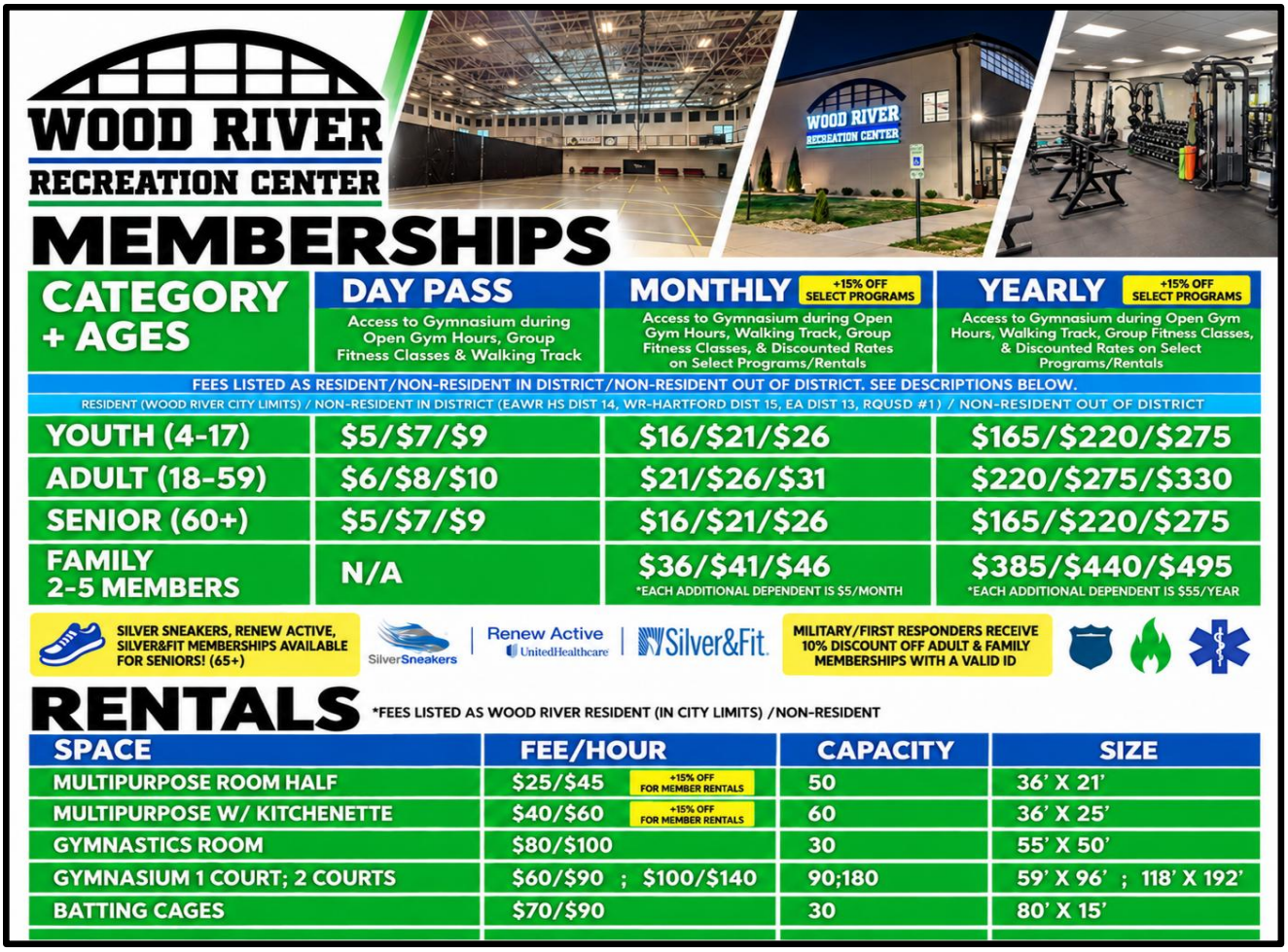
Hours of Operation:
Mon-Fri: 6:30am-8pm
Saturday: 7am-5pm
Sunday: 10am-4pm



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)
Boys Ninja Warrior Tumbling: 5yrs & Older



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



Heritage Council

HERITAGE COUNCIL CALENDAR – The Heritage Council's 2027 Calendar will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Wood River Museum and Visitor Center and will be available in October. The calendar is the primary fund raiser for the Heritage Council and proceeds support the operation of the Museum, Camp DuBois, and the Historic Chapel.

MUSEUM – Except for unexpected circumstances, the Wood River Museum & Visitors Center is open to the public each Saturday of the month from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., excluding January and February. Special arrangements can be made by calling the Museum at 618-254-1993 and leaving a message stating the desired date, time and contact phone number. The museum welcomes groups from senior citizen facilities, clubs/organizations, student field trips as well as former students attending class reunions.

During 2026, several new exhibits have been added or enhanced, including an exhibit identifying the importance of various modes of transportation that have played critical roles in moving products in and out of town, an expansion of an exhibit showcasing the various past and present clubs and organizations, as well as new items added to the existing school's exhibit. During June and July, the Museum featured a major temporary exhibit on the life and career of actor Clint Walker, who was born in Hartford, went to school in the East Alton Wood River School District, and worked in several local industries before becoming an actor and starring in the TV series Cheyenne, and a number of movies. The Museum was able to host the exhibit thanks to the generosity of Clint Walker's cousin.

RENDEZVOUS AT CAMP DUBOIS – The 2026 Fall Rendezvous will be held October 24 & October 25. The Rendezvous are open to the public free of charge. Hours are Saturday 9-5pm and Sunday 9-2pm. Contact Alice Buzzard at 618-462-7765 if interested in volunteering or renting the Camp for an event.

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 City of Wood River is in the process of having some of the valued headstones repaired. The historic cemetery is open to the public from sunrise to sunset.

Appearance Board

Appearance Awards for 2026

May
803 E. Ferguson Avenue
Riverbend Resale – 41 E. Ferguson Avenue

June
983 E. Ferguson Avenue
Café LaNae – 7 N. Wood River Avenue

July
125 S. Seventh Street
Pfund Construction – 56 E. Ferguson Avenue

August
576 N. Second Street
Roasterz Coffee – 7 W. Ferguson Avenue

September
532 E. Edwardsville Road
Rustic Roots Event Space – 200 W. Ferguson Avenue

A big **THANK YOU** goes out to the community for all the submissions that were received this year for Appearance Awards! If you would like to help the Appearance Board with various projects or become a member of the Committee, please contact
City Hall at 618-251-3100, Option 3.

The Appearance Board is bringing back the Spook-Tacular Awards again this year! Please call in your submissions to City Hall by October 16th!



Watch the Museum website: woodriverillinoismuseum.org for details on the rendezvous information and new exhibits at the Museum.

Wood River Public Library News *Check it out!*

Thank you for making "Unearth a Story" a success this summer!

More than **1,500** people attended events and activities during Summer Reading. We hope you enjoyed challenging yourselves this summer. We look forward to next year when **Mysteries Await at Your Library!!**

Thank you to our sponsors:

Scott Credit Union
Pump House Bar & Grill
Mark Smith, Shelter Insurance
Midwest Members Credit Union
Jack Schmitt Chevrolet of Wood River
Inspector Plumber
Fire Safety Inc
Wood River Refinery
Robin Karpan, Edward Jones
Republic Services
2nd Generation (Little Debbie Store)
Trickey's Service
Laborers Local 338
Kiwanis
Rosalie Huebener
Helmkamp Construction

A special thanks to **Scott Credit Union** for sponsoring our performers this summer!

Meet Libby!



Libby is a free app where you can enjoy ebooks and digital audiobooks from your public library. You can stream titles with Wi-Fi or mobile data, or download them for offline use and read anytime, anywhere. All you need to get started is a library card. Find all our resources on our website!

Calling all Wizards!



Join us on October 10 when the library is transformed into the wizarding world of Harry Potter! All ages welcome!

Stream it with Kanopy

Using your library card, stream movies, shows, and Great Courses through Kanopy. Stream on your smart phone, computer, smart tv, or tablet. If you need help, give us a call!

Can't make it to the library?



The Library offers a home delivery service to individuals who are Wood River residents and are unable to physically come to the library. This is a free service available to those with valid Wood River library cards. Call us for more information or to get signed up!



Looking to go down memory lane? Check out EAWR Yearbooks on our website!

Most yearbooks from 1923-2021 are available for viewing on our website.

Woodriverlibrary.org/yearbooks

Wood River Pipelines

Find all copies of the Pipeline magazine from 1981 to current.

Woodriverlibrary.org/pipeline

Closures:

November 11- Veterans Day
November 27 & 28- Thanksgiving
December 24 & 25- Christmas
December 31 & January 1- New Years
January 18- Martin Luther King Jr Day
February 15- Presidents Day

Scan for our website

Look for our regular events and programs. Everything from storytimes, craft hours, and more!



Check out our website or Facebook for the most up to date information on events happening at the library!

Some Upcoming Events:

- Adult Craft Night (3rd Thursday)
- iCash (Nov. 7)
- Fraud Presentation (Nov. 9)
- Homeschool Hangout (4th Monday)
- Kids Art Club (3rd Monday)
- Roll-n-Read (Tuesdays)
- WeeJam (Fridays)
- Toddler Storytime (2nd Wednesday)

Spice Club

Stop by each month for a spice kit. The kit features a sample, the history of the spice, and a few recipes to try at home.

We're here to help!

Book A Tech Guy
Wood River Public Library can help you with your smartphone or tablet. Need to create an email? We can help with that too! Call to set up an appointment with our Tech Guy!

Services Provided
Copying, faxing, notary public, scanning, laminating and more!

Don't see it on our shelves? Don't worry!
Through our interlibrary loan service, we can request items from another library and have them shipped here to you, at no cost! Books, DVDs, CDs and more from over **500 LIBRARIES!**