



**TEXT
YOUR
CRIME
TIPS**

HELP FIGHT CRIME ANONYMOUSLY

The Rice County Sheriff's Office has a way for you to help fight crime. It's fast, easy and completely anonymous. Just text RICECO plus your tip to 847411.

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www.co.rice.mn.us

Dundas • Faribault
Lonsdale • Morristown
Nerstrand • Northfield
Warsaw • Webster

Wheelage Tax, One-Half Percent Sales Tax Hike Will Benefit County Roadways Starting January 1

During its session last year, the Minnesota legislature voted to allow counties to elect to impose a \$10 "wheelage" tax, something previously permitted only to the Twin Cities metro counties. Forty-seven of the state's 87 counties, including Rice County, have chosen to do so, with the intent of offsetting revenue losses that could be caused by strict property tax levy limits also imposed during the legislative session.

Beginning January 1, Rice County motorists will pay an additional \$10 tax each time they obtain or renew their vehicles' license plates or license tabs. The money raised, estimated at about \$520,000 annually, will be dedicated to maintenance and construction on the county road system, including bridge replacement projects identified and developed through the annual bridge inspection program.

A one-half percent increase in the sales tax, another option offered to counties by the 2013 state legislature, will raise sales tax in the county from the current rate of 6.875 percent to 7.375 percent. The hike, which also takes effect January 1, will be applied to all goods and services to which the state applies a sales

tax – except for automobiles. It is expected to raise some \$22 million over its 10-year lifetime.

The sales tax revenue will be used to fund or augment 23 projects, 13 of which are county road projects that would not be possible unless property taxes were raised, according to Rice County Engineer Dennis Luebbe. Ground for the first of these projects – work on County Road 99 – will be broken in 2015, after the tax has been collected for a year.

While State Aid construction funding is not likely to increase significantly without action by the Minnesota legislature, many of the projects that will be undertaken will qualify for grant aid of various sorts, noted Luebbe, and the county intends to actively pursue partnerships with the federal government, the Highway Safety Improvement Program, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and others.

Scott and Dakota Counties have a 0.25 percent additional sales tax for county road projects, and Olmstead County recently approved a 0.5 percent sales tax similar to the one Rice County is implementing.

Survey of County Residents Designed to Determine Areas of Greatest Health Need

Rice County Public Health is partnering with District One Hospital in Faribault, Northfield Hospital and Clinics, and HealthFinders Collaborative, a group that works to be an access point for uninsured and underinsured Rice County residents, to take the county's wellness "temperature." In October, surveys were sent to more than 1,000 randomly selected households in the county in search of information that will help them understand and improve the health of area communities.

The survey, which is voluntary and confidential, asks adults questions about their health status, lifestyle habits such as nutrition, exercise, smoking and alcohol use, access to health and dental care, and health insurance

coverage. In addition, it asks about perceptions of health-related issues in Rice County.

Results will help identify areas of greatest community health need, notes Public Health Department Director Deb Purfeerst, and will be used to provide "direction for future health initiatives and programs."

Community health assessment is part of the public health assessment and planning process that the county conducts every five years. In addition to the information that the survey will supply, the county and its partners – aided by faculty and students from Carleton College – will be mining and analyzing

On the Web

Working for Rice County

Are you interested in working for Rice County and helping to serve its residents? If so, you'll want to become familiar with the county's Human Resources web pages, especially the list of position postings and online application process instructions found at www.co.rice.mn.us/employment

Staff openings don't occur often, but when they do, they are posted here, along with detailed information about what each position entails and the kinds of education and experience it requires. Applying online is easy – just click on the title of the job you are interested in and then click on the "Apply" link.

If this is the first time you are applying using the online job application, you'll need to create an account and select a username and password. After your account has been established, you can build an application by clicking on the "Build Job Application" link. This application can be saved and used to apply for more than one job opening. Online applications are stored on a secure site. Only authorized employees and hiring authorities have access to the information submitted.

If you require special accommodations to participate in the hiring process, please call 507-332-6100 and request to speak to a Human Resources staff person.

IMPORTANT! Read job postings carefully. Announcements may contain special instructions and requirements. It is important that your application show all the relevant education and experience you possess. Applications may be rejected if incomplete. Veterans Preference documentation must be received in the Human Resources Office by the application deadline for the position.

Local Wellness Efforts Receive Boost From Statewide Health Improvement Program Grant

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recently announced that it awarded \$442,000 in Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) funds for two years to Rice County Public Health. These funds will support community wide efforts to improve health through increasing the availability of active living, healthy eating and tobacco-free environments.

Launched in 2008 as part of Minnesota's bipartisan health reform effort, SHIP works to help Minnesotans live longer, healthier lives while building healthy, vital communities. SHIP encourages healthy eating, active living and avoiding tobacco through its work with schools, communities, workplaces, and health-care facilities to make healthy choices easier.

"We are excited that we can continue our work on policy, systems and environmental change, to help improve the health of individuals and families in Rice County," says Public Health Director Deb Purfeerst. Rice County Public Health will be able to begin new projects across the county, while continuing its existing community health improvement work, such as supporting employers in offering comprehensive workplace wellness programs, working with

communities to encourage biking and walking, educating child-care providers on best practices in healthy eating and activity for Rice County's youngest residents, and ensuring better access to healthy fruits and vegetables by supporting community gardens and farmers markets.

"We know from research that to make a real, long-lasting change in the rates of physical activity, healthy eating and tobacco exposure and use, we need to help communities make it easier for their people to succeed," says Michelle Larson, interim director for the Office of Statewide Health Improvement Initiatives, the home for SHIP at MDH. "That is why working with communities has been a cornerstone of SHIP since its inception."

The Rice County Community Health Board received an "implementation" grant, allowing Rice County Public Health to build on its existing health improvement work. "We are thrilled to continue the work we started four years ago. SHIP has meant a lot to our community, and we know we have only just begun," says Rice County SHIP Coordinator Bonnie Story. For more information about SHIP, visit www.healthyricecounty.org or www.health.state.mn.us/ship.

Rice County Public Health Survey

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demographic and statistical health data from a multitude of sources.

Timing of the survey and the community health assessment process is ideal, since Rice County Public Health recently was awarded a \$442,000 two-year Statewide

Health Improvement Program (SHIP) grant. As the community health assessment process moves forward, Rice County Public Health plans to continue its work with local partners to help shape future community health efforts, in making the healthy choice the easy choice for people in Rice County.

Conservation Tree Seedlings and Shrubs for Sale

The Rice Soil and Water Conservation District, 1810 NW 30th Street in Faribault, is currently taking orders for its annual tree sale. The district sells a wide variety of tree seedlings and shrubs (usually in bundles of 25 or 50) to be used for conservation purposes only, such as windbreaks and wildlife plantings.

The selection includes conifers (Black Hills spruce, Norway pine and, new this year, Meyer spruce); deciduous trees (including

basswood, black walnut, sugar maple and Princeton American Elm, a true American elm that is resistant to Dutch Elm Disease), and shrubs (cranberrybush, common purple lilac, hazelnut and others).

Orders will only be taken until February 28 this year, with trees arriving in April. To receive an order form or get free help with a tree plan, call the district office at 507-332-5408 or visit www.riceswcd.org.

Rice County Landfill, Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Facilities

3800 145th Street E. • Dundas, MN 55019

507-332-6833 • www.co.rice.mn.us/waste • rcsolidwaste@co.rice.mn.us

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday–Friday: 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Saturday: **April–October:** 7:30–11:30 a.m. (2nd and 4th Saturdays only)
November–March: 7:30–11:30 a.m. (2nd Saturday only)

2014 Recycling Calendar/Schedule

Your single-sort recycling will be picked up on a schedule set by your garbage hauler (bi-weekly or weekly). Call your garbage hauler if you are not sure of your week (blue or white, indicated below).

= Rice County Landfill, Recycling, Household Hazardous Waste Facilities are Closed

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| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>MAY 2014</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table> | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | <p>JUNE 2014</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | <p>JULY 2014</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | <p>AUGUST 2014</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Recycling Info

Plastics Recycling in Rice County

The Rice County recycling program accepts the following household/consumer plastic goods in your single-sort recycling cart:

- **#1 plastic:** All soft drink/water bottles (leave bottle caps on bottles, please), beverage and mouthwash bottles, and rinsed plastic food jars/containers
- **#2 plastic:** Plastic bottles, milk and water jugs, detergent, cleaner and shampoo bottles
- **#3 plastic:** Household cleaner product bottles (must be empty), cooking oil, salad dressing and shampoo bottles (**no** PVC piping allowed!)
- **#4 plastic:** Plastic bags (all bags need to be placed in one bag and then tied shut before placement into recycling cart), small buckets (8 inches in diameter maximum size), soap dispenser bottles, food storage containers and squeezable bottles (no food residue allowed)
- **#5 plastic:** Yogurt containers, margarine tubs, food containers and ketchup bottles (rinsed clean)
- **#6 plastic:** Small plastic flower pots (8 inches diameter maximum size and clean!) and plastic cups (**no** Styrofoam and Styrofoam-like containers, cups and packing pieces)
- **#7 plastic:** Small miscellaneous containers/packaging

For more information go to the Rice County website at www.co.rice.mn.us/waste/index.php or call the Rice County Recycling Center at 507-332-6833.

Save Money and the Environment: B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Bag)

While it is now possible to deposit plastic bags in the Rice County recycling stream (all bags need to be placed in one bag and then tied shut before placement into recycling cart), only a small percentage are recycled. So the next time the checker at the grocery store asks, “paper or plastic,” why not say, “I brought my own.”

Facts About Plastic Bags

Plastic bag use is a bigger problem than you might think.

- Plastic resin production has doubled in the past 20 years from 60 billion to 120 billion pounds.
- According to the EPA, between 500 billion and 1 trillion plastic bags are consumed worldwide each year.
- In the U.S., half a million plastic bags are used every minute.
- The average family uses about 60 plastic grocery bags every month.
- The plastic bag has an average useful lifespan of 12 minutes.
- Every hour, approximately 200,000 plastic bags are landfilled.

It is estimated that Americans throw away some 100 billion plastic bags each year. This hurts the planet in a number of ways.

- Plastic bags clog storm drains and sewers and pollute our streets, parks and beaches. Eventually they make their way into rivers, estuaries, lakes, bays and oceans where they endanger and kill marine life.
- Plastic bags are made from petroleum and natural gas. The energy used in the production and transportation of the bags results in further natural resource consumption and increased greenhouse gas emissions.
- Plastics do not biodegrade but rather photo-degrade, meaning that the plastics break into smaller pieces from exposure to UV light. It is estimated that plastic bags take 1,000 years to break down, if they do so at all.

The Solution to Pollution – Reusables!

What can you do? Bring your own bags with you when you shop and encourage others to do the same. It is estimated that every reusable bag can prevent 1,000 plastic bags from entering the environment.

Bringing your own bag could save you money on grocery bills too. Increasingly, grocery stores are implementing refund and



other policies encouraging the use of reusable bags – because reducing the use of both paper and plastic bags saves them money. Grocery stores pay approximately 1.5 cents for each plastic bag, and typically more for paper bags.

Commonly Asked Questions

Where can I buy a reusable bag? Are they expensive?

Reusable bags can be found in many retail stores and online. Prices range in price from 75¢ and up. You can also make, sew, knit or crochet them yourself. Google “making reusable bags” for ideas.

I recycle my plastic bags. Isn't that good enough?

Recycling doesn't address the fact that disposable plastic bags are made from polluting fossil fuels. It's best to BYOB.

I use plastic bags to line my garbage cans and pick up pet waste. What would I use instead?

There are ways to decrease your household waste and your need for plastic wastebasket bags – reduce, reuse, compost, conserve and choose items with less packaging. For pet waste, bread bags and other packaging offer great substitutes.

Are reusable bags safe? I'm concerned about them carrying germs.

Be smart. Designate one bag for meats and cheeses and wash it to avoid contamination. Almost all reusable bags are washable, just as dishtowels and sponges are. The same reusable bags can be used for years without a problem.

How to Lose 41 Pounds of Bulk (Mail), Conserve Resources and Aid Area Landfills

Experts estimate that each year every person in the U.S. receives 41 pounds worth of third class mail – and that 44 percent of all junk mail is thrown in the trash, unopened and unread.

You can drop that material directly into your recycling bin instead, of course, but why not stop it from arriving in the first place? You'll not only reduce pressures on local recycling and landfill efforts, but help conserve resources such as trees, electricity, water and fossil fuels that are used to produce the mail.

Control Your Exposure

The best way to control your exposure to junk mail is to keep your name off mailing lists. Add a privacy statement to anything you put your name on, from churches, non-profits and contest sweepstakes to product warranties and utilities, asking not to be added to their mailing lists and that your name not be sold or shared with other organizations.

You can also contact companies and marketing associations directly and request no mail. Here are some of the types of mail you may want to curtail.

- **Credit offers:** The nation's major consumer credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian, Innovis and TransUnion) offer toll-free numbers to remove your name from pre-approved credit card offers. The recording asks for social security number, name, address and phone number.

- **Catalogs:** Contact catalog companies individually by looking for their contact information on the catalog.
- **Mail list brokers and marketing associations:** These firms or their members provide national lists for non-financial data:
 - Direct Marketing Association – You can print and mail a registration form from www.dmachoice.org.
 - Polk Company – Call 1-800-464-7655 and ask for the "Opt Out" line.

Handling the Mail You Still Receive

Some people don't recycle their mail because they are concerned about protecting their identity. However, mail and other papers are no safer in the trash.

- **Sort mail directly into a recycling bin:** Place a bin near your desk or wherever you do the most paperwork, to make recycling easy and convenient. Mail you can recycle includes magazines, catalogs, all mail (including window envelopes), greeting cards and coupon advertisements.
- **Shredded mail can be recycled.** If you prefer to shred (or tear up) personal documents containing data that might be used to gain access to your current accounts or aid in identity theft, keep in mind that you can still recycle it. Just place it in a closed paper bag.

County Profile



Chris Pineur
Eligibility Worker
Rice County Social Services

Chris Pineur joined the Income Maintenance Department in June 1993 after working five years as a receptionist for the county. As an eligibility worker, she is responsible for establishing initial and ongoing eligibility for multiple-income maintenance programs for the elderly and disabled population of Rice County. What she likes best about her work is "being able to provide services and programs for those clients who truly need the assistance and are very grateful for all that we can provide for them."

A teleworker, she likes being able to work on difficult applications and tasks with few disruptions or distractions. A new electronic data management system known as Caseworks, a process of scanning all incoming paper documents for the unit, has greatly reduced the amount of paper she handles and the amount of time it takes to receive documents from her clients.

Born and raised in Fari-bault, Chris attended St. Cloud State University for two years and Rasmussen Business College where she earned a certificate in sales and business administration. She and husband Scott have a son (Sam, a college junior), a daughter (Allie, a high school senior) and an English Springer Spaniel named Bo. She enjoys pontooning and fishing at the family cabin in Aitkin, and vacationing with family and friends in warm climates during cold winter months.

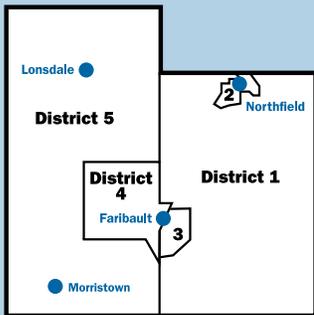
Rice County Solid Waste Facility 2014 Fee Schedule

Fees – Effective January 1, 2014 (revised fees are indicated in bold)

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Demolition (\$10 minimum) | \$26.75/ton |
| Licensed Hauler with ST-10 on file | \$48/ton |
| Licensed Hauler without ST-10 on file | \$48/ton + tax |
| Self Haulers: Small Load – car, pickup, trailer (single axle) | \$25 (tax included) |
| Medium Load | N/A |
| Large Load | \$63.33/ton (plus tax) = \$78.78/ton |
| Mattresses or Box Springs | \$20/mattress or box spring |
| Appliances (includes air conditioners) | \$10/item |
| Appliances – No commercial appliances accepted | N/A |
| Gas Refrigerators (over 4 feet) | \$50 |
| Gas Refrigerators (under 4 feet) | \$25 |
| Electronics: Computer towers, small home printers, rechargeable devices | \$2/item |
| TVs and computer screens | \$10/item |
| Tires: | \$2/tire |
| Tires (16" and under) | \$5/tire |
| Truck Tires (17"–20") | \$10/tire |
| Truck Tires (over 20") | \$25/tire |
| Tractor Tires | \$44 |
| Recycling Bins | \$44 |

NOTE: Anything over a standard pickup or single-axle truck must weigh

Contacts



Rice County Board of Commissioners (as of January 1, 2013)

District 1
Jake Gillen
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District 2
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District 3
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District 4
Steve Bauer
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District 5
Jeff Docken
952-652-2876
jdocken@co.rice.mn.us

Phone Numbers

General Information 507-332-6100
Toll-Free Numbers (do not dial "1" or area code)
 From Northfield 645-9576
 From Lonsdale 744-5185

Rice County Standing Meetings

Board of Commissioners
 Meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month as a Committee of the Whole/Work Session, 8:30 a.m., Commissioners' Room, Rice County Government Services Building.

Meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month as a Regular Board, 8:30 a.m., Commissioners' Room, Rice County Government Services Building.

Board of Adjustment
 Meets the first Thursday of the month; 7:00 p.m., Commissioners' Room, Rice County Government Services Building.

Planning Commission
 Meets the first Thursday of the month, immediately following the Board of Adjustment meeting, Commissioners' Room, Rice County Government Services Building.

Community Corrections Advisory Board
 Meets the third Thursday of March, June, September and December, 3:30 p.m., Rice County Government Services Building.

Community Health Services Citizens' Advisory Committee
 Meets the fourth Wednesday every other month (January, March, May, July, September, November), 6:30-8:00 p.m.; call 507-332-6111 for location.

Emergency Medical Services Provider Council
 Meets quarterly, 7:00-9:00 p.m.; call 507-332-6119 for meeting date and location.

Mental Health Advisory Council
 Meets the fourth Wednesday of the month, 12:00 p.m. (noon), Friendship House, located at 212-B Central Avenue, Faribault.

Rice County Departments

Administrator
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Attorney
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Paul Beaumaster
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Auditor/Treasurer
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Community Corrections Director
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Court Administrator
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Public Health & CHS Director
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Mark Shaw
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Veterans' Service Officer
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