

Everbridge: Citizen Alert Notification

Get alerted about emergencies by signing up for the Everbridge Citizen Alert Notification System. This system enables Rice and Steele Counties to quickly provide you with critical information in the event of severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons and evacuations.

You will receive time-sensitive messages wherever you specify (phone, email, text, etc.). Sign up by using the link at www.co.rice.mn.us/departments/sheriff.

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www.co.rice.mn.us

- Dundas • Faribault
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The Rice County Water Patrol Provides Education, Enforcement

Along with their usual duties of keeping Rice County safe, the summer months bring additional responsibilities for members of the Sheriff's Office. Seven seasonal staff members make up the Rice County Water Patrol, along with 10 on-call resident volunteers who live on the local lakes. These Water Patrol deputies work alternating shifts throughout the week, with the heaviest concentration on weekends and holidays. Rice County received two State Boat & Water Safety Grants from the Minnesota DNR which help to fund these additional hours.

In addition to boating law enforcement plus search, rescue and recovery operations, the Water Patrol unit's goal is to prevent and reduce complaints, boating accidents and drownings while making Rice County's waters safe and enjoyable for all.

With two trucks, four watercraft of varying sizes, and two jet skis at their disposal, Water Patrol deputies can patrol large bodies



of water, while being properly equipped to perform rescues on lakes and rivers.

The Sheriff's Office also includes a dive team/sonar unit. This unit consists of personnel trained to operate a sonar device and computer equipment. They work alongside the actual divers during search and rescue operations in the event of a water incident or drowning. The sonar unit most recently assisted Winona County on a drowning last winter.

Water Safety and Boating Violations

“Water Patrol deputies observe many types of violations, and they may issue citations for

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Rice County Drug Court Opens as of July 1, 2014

On July 1, Rice County Drug Court became one of six new drug courts in the State of Minnesota, after the Legislature provided new funding during the 2013 legislative session. After more than a year of planning, Rice County now offers this specialized drug court to deal with alcohol and other drug-addicted offenders in the judicial system.

The mission of the Rice County Drug Court (RCDC) is to reduce the adverse impact of serious and repeat offenders on the citizens and criminal justice system of Rice County, and create a system that is more effective for participants.

Drug courts are specialized, problem-solving court programs that target non-violent criminal offenders who suffer from addiction. The RCDC will provide and enforce a treat-

ment program that prioritizes sobriety and recovery for the offender. Participants will receive ongoing treatment, frequent drug testing and regular mandatory check-in court appearances. The program uses a range of immediate sanctions and incentives to foster behavior change.

The RCDC will admit adults who are deemed to be high-risk and high-need offenders, who are facing either a presumptive prison sentence or a mandatory minimum of six months in the Rice County Jail. In order to qualify for drug court in Rice County, participants must also be parents of minor children. Violent offenders will not be eligible, nor will first-time fifth-degree drug offenders or DWI offenders.

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County Profile



Tony Murphy
County Administrator

Tony Murphy became the new Rice County administrator in February. He reports directly to the Board of Commissioners and acts as a liaison between the Board and county departments. He prepares and submits the proposed annual budget and long-range capital expenditure program. He also makes recommendations to the Board on policy development and the provision of county services. "I am responsible for implementing Board decisions, policies, ordinances and resolutions."

Murphy was born and raised in Bemidji. He received his degree in public policy and a master's degree in public administration from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, where he met his sweetheart, DeAnna. They just celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary, and have three adult children and two grandchildren.

Murphy's first real "government job" was as a legislative aide for the State of Utah House of Representatives. He says, "I chose to work in city and county government because I believe that what we do in local government makes a real difference in people's lives. While I'm still new here, I look forward to working with Rice County employees to make a positive difference for citizens."

Did you know? "Once I chased a full-grown black bear up a tree. See me for the rest of the story ..."

Water Patrol Provides Education, Enforcement

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those violations," said Sergeant Joe Yetzer. "The Water Patrol unit is about education and enforcement. In the beginning of the season, the deputies mainly issues warnings and explain to people the violations, but as the season continues, there may be more citations issued. The Water Patrol is out there for education, to respond to complaints, and to make the lakes as safe as possible."

The Water Patrol unit also does short presentations. They have been present at the Faribault Safety Camp, YMCA, and are scheduled at the Northfield Safety Camp this summer.

Some of the most common boating violations the Water Patrol observes include:

- Not enough personal flotation devices for the number of people on board. (NOTE: A throwable life preserver does not count as an actual wearable personal flotation device.)
- Not enough of the correct sizes of personal flotation devices are available for the people on board (adult-sized versus child-sized devices).
- Personal flotation devices that are not in good working condition.

Water Patrol recommendations for water safety:

- Follow your watercraft's capacity ratings (do not carry more people than the watercraft can safely hold).
- Be courteous to other boaters and people who are fishing, and give plenty of room to waterskiers/tubers.

- Be sure to use your observers when skiing or tubing.
- Do not drink or use controlled substances while operating watercraft.
- If a watercraft has an enclosed gas tank, there must be a fire extinguisher on board.
- At night, be sure to use your boat's navigational lights.

Aftermath of June Flooding

With recent heavy rains and severe flooding, there is still a need for extreme caution on area waters. In June, Sheriff Troy Dunn issued a no-wake zone throughout the county (which has now been lifted). "While the water has since gone down, it is still high and the current is still strong," Dunn says. "Canoeists and kayakers need to be very careful. There's a lot of debris in the water, including trees, and the rivers are still moving fast. I want to remind all boaters to use common sense, operate boats carefully and slowly when close to the shorelines, and be very cautious for debris, especially trees, that may have eroded into the lakes and rivers."

The Minnesota DNR recommends that people be especially cautious around high water, making sure they wear a life jacket, and are aware of local flooding conditions and alerts. People also should not venture into flooded areas.

How to Reach Us

For more information about the Rice County Water Patrol or to contact the Sheriff's Office, visit www.co.rice.mn.us/departments/sheriff, or email RCSheriff@co.rice.mn.us or call 507-334-4391.

Visit us at the 2014 Rice County Fair!

Do you want to know more about what is going on in county government? Visit this year's Rice County Fair, where these departments will be on hand with displays, handouts and giveaways.

- County Attorney's Office
- Environmental Services
- Sheriff's Department
- Rice County Public Health – The theme this year focuses on helping your children live a healthy lifestyle with five easy-to-

remember numbers: 9-5-2-1-0. This code for health stands for:

- 9 – children of all ages need at least 9 hours of sleep each night
- 5 – eat 5 or more servings of fruits or vegetables each day
- 2 – limit recreational screen time to 2 hours or less per day
- 1 – get 1 hour of physical activity each day
- 0 – eliminate sugar-sweetened beverages from your diet



2014 Rice County Fair – Entertainment Highlights

Grandstand

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Wed., July 16 | Enduro Auto Races – 7:30 p.m. |
| Thurs., July 17 | Lawn Mower Racing – 7 p.m. |
| Fri., July 18 | Professional Bull Riding – 7 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | NTPA Truck & Tractor Pull – 6:30 p.m. |
| Sun., July 20 | Demolition Derby – 6:30 p.m. |



Beer Garden Entertainment (Live Music: 8 p.m.–midnight; no cover charge)

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Thurs., July 17 | Killer Hayseeds |
| Fri., July 18 | Mister Peabody |
| Sat., July 19 | The Jonny B Band |

Cannon Stage (Free Entertainment)

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Wed.–Sat. | Theater of Foods – 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | Karaoke Contest with Electric Fusion – 1 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | Karaoke Finals – 5:30 p.m. |
| Sun., July 20 | What's Next Band – 1 p.m. |

Legacy Stage (Free Entertainment)

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Tues., July 15 | Jivin Ivan Band – 7 p.m. |
| Wed., July 16 | Mi Teierra Mariachi Band – 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. |
| Thurs., July 17 | Schell's Hobo Band – 6:30 p.m. |
| Fri., July 18 | Minnesota Raptor Center – 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. |
| Fri., July 18 | Charlie Sticha Band – 6:30 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | The Herringbone Badgers Band – 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | Legacy Band – 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | Forty Shades of Green Band – 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. |
| Sun., July 20 | Swiss Alphorn Players – 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. |
| Sun., July 20 | Duniya Drum and Dance – 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. |

Midway Stage (Free Entertainment)

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Wed., July 16 | Brad Boice Elvis Tribute Show – 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. |
| Thurs., July 17 | Jerry Hatfield – 2 p.m. |
| Thurs., July 17 | The Whitesidewalls – 6–10 p.m. |
| Fri., July 18 | Czech Singers – 2 p.m. |
| Fri., July 18 | Czech Domaci Dancers – 3 p.m. |
| Fri., July 18 | Dan Perry & Ice Cream Band – 6:30 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | Benson Family – 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | Long Time Gone – 12 p.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. |
| Sat., July 19 | Christian Rock Band - Breakthrough – 7 p.m. |
| Sun., July 20 | Amateur Talent Contest – 12 p.m. |
| Sun., July 20 | 4-H Fashion Revue – 3 p.m. |
| Sun., July 20 | 4-H Parade of Champions – 4 p.m. |

Attend the 2014 Rice County Fair

It's time for the Rice County Fair – some of the most exciting days of the summer! Every year, members of the Fair Board work hard to bring different events and exhibits to the fair.

Admission to the Rice County Fair is free. Parking on the grounds costs \$5 per day, per visit.

You will be able to see more than 100 commercial exhibits, lots of animals and exciting entertainment all week long. This list is a preview of just some of the great entertainment on tap this year. Be sure to visit our website and check the full schedule published just prior to the fair.

Please remember: Pets, skateboards, bikes, inline skates or roller skates are NOT allowed on the fairgrounds. (There are exceptions for service animals and pets allowed for exhibition, demonstration or show.) Please help ensure the safety of all our visitors. Enjoy the 2014 Fair!

On the Web

New Online Tool for Voter Absentee Ballot Requests

Rice County voters can now request an absentee ballot online through a new tool launched by the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State. Voters may request an absentee ballot for both the primary election on Aug. 12 and the general election on Nov. 4. Ballots for those elections will be mailed when they become available on June 27 and Sept. 19, respectively.

To request an absentee ballot online, complete the online application at www.mnvotes.org. Voter information is verified against data from the state's Driver and Vehicle Services or Social Security Administration. Local election officials review the application, and, if approved, send the voter their absentee ballot so they may vote early.

This new tool joins a suite of online applications provided by the Office of the Secretary of State, including:

- Voter Registration Lookup
- Online Voter Registration
- Polling Place Finder
- My Ballot – voters can view their sample ballot.
- Absentee Ballot Lookup – voters can find the status of their absentee ballot.

“No Excuse” Needed to Vote Absentee

Rice County voters no longer need an excuse to vote absentee, such as being ill or out of their precinct on Election Day. As a result, more voters can vote early by absentee to avoid long lines and waits at the polling place.

Eligible voters may learn more about the absentee ballot process at the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at www.mnvotes.org. A link is also available from the Rice County website at www.co.rice.mn.us.

McCullough Park and Campground Offers Natural Wonders, Wi-Fi and Online Reservations

Whether you are looking for a quick getaway or a week-long vacation, consider McCullough Park, Rice County's newly remodeled campground on Shields Lake.

Located 11 miles northwest of Faribault, on the north side of Shields Lake, McCullough Park offers visitors much to explore, including 750 feet of shoreline, scenic bluffs, beautiful overlooks, natural trails, and a six-acre island bird sanctuary that was once one of the largest rookeries in the Upper Midwest for the great blue heron and the American egret. Adjacent DNR boat access gets those who want to fish onto the 940-acre lake, where they can angle for black crappie, bluegill, bowfin, largemouth bass, northern pike, walleye and yellow perch.

The park features 30 campsites (20 with electrical and water hook-up and 10 without water or electric), all with picnic tables and fire rings. Three of the camping sites are accessible to campers with disabilities. Park amenities include modern toilet and shower facilities, an RV dump station, a picnic shelter, children's play area, a new dock, as well as free Wi-Fi internet access.

To make reservations, call 507-332-6112, email RCCamping@co.rice.mn.us, or visit www.webreserv.com/ricecountyenvironmentalservicesmn. For more information about McCullough and other Rice County parks, visit www.co.rice.mn.us/departments/parks-facilities.



Disaster Relief Grants Available to County Veterans

As a result of recent flooding and storms, the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) is offering Disaster Relief Grants for reimbursable expenses to veterans in several counties, including Rice, per the Governor's Emergency Executive Order 14-11.

Veterans, their families and surviving spouses may be eligible for a Disaster Relief Grant of up to \$1,000 if they have not received other state or federal assistance.

To apply for a Disaster Relief Grant, veterans and their families should contact Tracy McBroom in the Rice County Veterans' Service Office at 507-332-6117.

Original receipts for expenditures must be dated no earlier than June 11, 2014, and no later than August 31, 2014. MDVA must receive all completed applications and receipts with a postmarked date no later than September 30, 2014.

Save the Dates: Free Residential Electronics and Appliance Recycling Collection Events

Rice County Environmental Services has scheduled three free electronics and appliance recycling collection events. On these days, fees will be waived to allow residents to dispose of items in a safe, responsible, cost-effective manner. Collected items will be sent to facilities to be disassembled and recycled properly.

Material Collection Event Dates

- **Sat., September 6 (8 a.m.–2 p.m.)**
Rice County Fairgrounds in Faribault (enter the fairgrounds off of Hwy. 3)
- **Sat., September 13 (8 a.m.–2 p.m.)**
Rice County Highway Shop in Lonsdale (110 5th Avenue NW)
- **Sat., September 20 (8 a.m.–2 p.m.)**
Rice County Highway Shop in Dundas (597 County Road 1)

Restrictions

Only Rice County residents are eligible to bring in material. Proof of residency will be required (a current driver's license or

utility bill statements with I.D. verification). **No business electronics will be accepted.**

What Kinds of Things Will be Accepted?

Electronics – Television sets, computer monitors, computer towers and laptops, household printers, fax machines, small electronic video games and devices, and rechargeable devices such as cell phones and MP3 players/iPods.

Appliances – Refrigerators, freezers, washers and dryers, microwave ovens/stoves, dishwashers, garbage disposals, trash compactors, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, water heaters and heat pumps/furnaces.

What Will Not be Accepted?

Small devices such as fans, toasters, hair dryers, electric pans and blenders, garbage or household hazardous waste will not be accepted. To dispose of these items properly, visit www.co.rice.mn.us/departments/recycling-solid-waste, where full information about these recycling drives will also be posted.

Rice County Drug Court Opens as of July 1, 2014

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RCDC is a collaborative effort of judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, community corrections, social services, law enforcement, treatment providers and RCDC staff that aims to reduce recidivism, increase social engagement and reduce costs to society.

“The Rice County Drug Court model will support offenders in their recovery and aid in successful outcomes for participants, their families and the community,” said Rice County Drug Court Coordinator Yvette Marthalar. “Our program has a very strong foundation because of the ongoing collaboration between county agencies, court services and community organizations.”

Director of Rice County Community Corrections Christine Curtis says, “This is an opportunity for system stakeholders to step out of their silos and away from their comfort zones. It takes courage to follow this model but a shared goal of improved public safety through offender success is something we can all get behind.”

With the opening of the six new drug courts, including Rice County, Minnesota now has 44 drug courts serving 56 counties

in the state. The Minnesota Judicial Branch's Drug Court Initiative Advisory Committee has set a goal to make drug court services available statewide. For more information about RCDC, call 507-332-5912 or email rcdrugcourt@co.rice.mn.us.

Rice County Drug Court Eligibility Criteria

- RCDC is for offenses which are motivated by substance use disorder.
- RCDC is intended to address the needs of high-risk/high-need offenders who have minor children to support and are residents of Rice County.
- Participants must plead guilty prior to acceptance to RCDC.
- Participants are required to undergo substance use disorder treatment.
- RCDC team meetings and court hearings are held every Thursday.
- Participants must complete three phases of structured services and accountability, with a minimum of 180 days of sobriety. All phases require 32 hours of structured activity scheduled per week. All phases require a minimum of two chemical tests per week.

County Profile



Susan Prieve

**Family Child Health
Supervisor
Public Health Nursing**

Susan Prieve is celebrating her 25th year as a Rice County employee. She began as a public health nurse in 1989, and for the next 23 years, she was involved in family health home visiting and health programs serving county families. Her work involved the WIC program, immunization program, family home visiting and pediatric home care. “I was especially interested in waiver programs that served children with significant medical needs requiring case management services supporting their care in the home.”

In 2013, Prieve took on the role of family health supervisor, giving her the opportunity to oversee and support the unit's efforts to protect and promote the health of county families. “I enjoy collaborating with our partners in the community in the effort to strengthen families. I work with great people and I have always felt it a privilege to be allowed to enter into nurse/family relationships through home visiting.”

Born and raised in Iowa, Prieve moved to Minnesota to attend Gustavus Adolphus College where she earned a B.A. in nursing and public health nurse certification. She met her husband, Mark, at Gustavus, and they moved to Faribault after graduation. They have three sons, Alex (28), Kurt (25) and Sam (17).



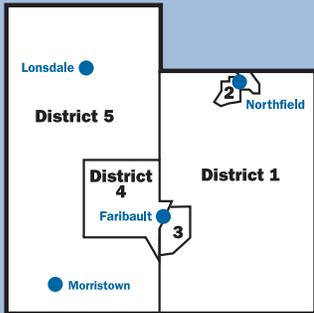
Rice County Report

Rice County Government Services Building
320 NW Third Street
Faribault, MN 55021

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SAVE THE DATES!
Electronics and Appliance Recycling
Events for Rice County Residents
(see page 5)

Contacts



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

District 1

Jake Gillen
507-334-5746
jgillen@co.rice.mn.us

District 2

Galen Malecha
507-645-6041
gmalecha@co.rice.mn.us

District 3

David Miller
507-334-4763
dmiller@co.rice.mn.us

District 4

Steve Bauer
507-334-9700
sbauer@co.rice.mn.us

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 Tony Murphy
507-332-6101 amurphy@co.rice.mn.us
Assessor Paul Knutson
507-332-6102 pknutson@co.rice.mn.us
Attorney Paul Beaumaster
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Auditor/Treasurer Fran Windschitl
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Community Corrections Director Christine Curtis
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Court Administrator Hans Holland
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Economic Development Director Deanna Kuennen
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Environmental Services Director Julie Runkel
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Social Services Director Mark Shaw
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Veterans' Service Officer Tracy McBroom
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