



2023 | Issue 3 | Fall



Skalbekken County Park  
Photo Credit: 2019-2020 RCW LYFT Class

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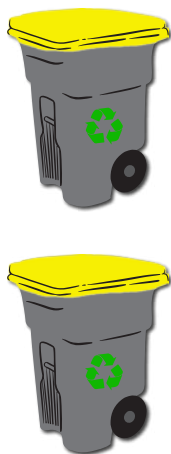
**RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES**

**ATTENTION!**

**IMPORTANT CHANGES**



**QUESTIONS?** Call RRRSWA at 320-523-8002 or 507-637-1800 or email [info@rrrswa.com](mailto:info@rrrswa.com)



### Recycling cart **DELIVERY** and recycling cart **REMOVAL** instructions:

#### Phase I: RRRSWA Recycling Cart Delivery

You will receive a new cart between  
**January 4, 2024 and February 2, 2024.**

#### Phase II: West Central Sanitation Recycling Cart Removal

After receiving the new RRRSWA recycling cart, **use your old West Central Sanitation recycling cart on your next regular recycling collection date.** This is the week your old cart will be removed.  
**KEEP IT ON THE CURB UNTIL IT IS PICKED UP.**

#### Contact RRRSWA immediately if:

- You do not receive a new recycling cart by February 2, 2024.
- You notice your neighbors received a new recycling cart but you did not.
- You are a snowbird and need to make recycling cart arrangements upon your return.

**Inclement Weather Notice:** Delivery delays due to inclement weather will be posted on the county website. Visit [www.renvillecountymn.gov](http://www.renvillecountymn.gov) for updates.

## Restorative Justice

**R**estorative Justice is a fundamental change in approach when working to repair damages caused from crimes or wrongdoings within a community. This is not only a restorative philosophy but a way of life that emphasizes the need to restore the relationships harmed in these situations.



**What is a Circle?** The Circle process is an intentional way of gathering and organizing effective group communication, building relationships, establishing accountability, problem solving, and healthy decision making. As a group, members work with the family or individual to determine what they can do to repair the harm they have caused by the circumstances that brought them to Circle. While in Circle participants and volunteers discuss what is going well, what is not going well, and potential next steps to head in the right direction.

### YOU can make a difference: Become a Restorative Justice Volunteer Today!

This is a great way to get involved with people in your community or the one down the road. **The need for connection, support, and mentoring continues to grow as evidenced by the times we are in.** With that comes the reality that the number of youth and families in need of extra support are certainly not declining. Your time and willingness to listen to someone's life story, and share the lessons learned from your own can make a difference that neither one of you would have ever imagined possible.

**Do you have two hours every other week to spare to participate in conversations and mentoring of folks that are awaiting your support?** If this sparks something within you, please don't be afraid to reach out and ask more questions or visit the Restorative Justice Department page at [www.renvillecountymn.gov](http://www.renvillecountymn.gov).

**If you are interested in volunteering to support families in your community, please contact Andrew Peltz, Restorative Justice Coordinator at 320-522-1573 or [andrew.peltz@renvillecountymn.gov](mailto:andrew.peltz@renvillecountymn.gov) for more information.**

*"It is so worth your time volunteering to intercede in a family's life with their child. We work as a team creating a safe circle of adults that they can be responsible to and receive support from. One caring adult can make a big difference in a child's life, which is really what it is all about."*

- Volunteer

## Happy Halloween from Renville County

Please join us for an open house with  
**Halloween Fun** and **Trick-or-Treating**  
at the Renville County Government Services Center  
and Renville County Courthouse  
**Tuesday, October 31 from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

Bring the little ghosts and goblins in for a spooktacular time!

Government Services Center | 105 South 5th Street, Olivia  
Courthouse | 500 East DePue Avenue, Olivia



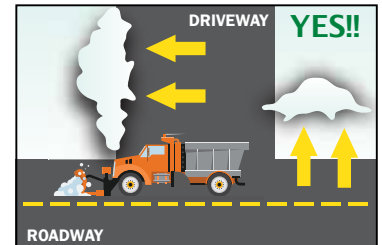
Participating offices will have a  
pumpkin picture by their office door!



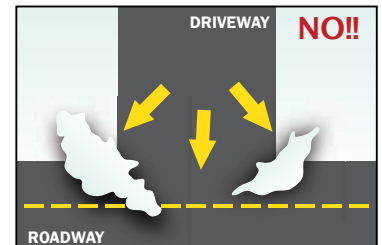
**Renville**  
COUNTY  
Service • Stewardship • Shared Responsibility

## Snow on Road Notice

The Renville County Public Works Department would like to remind county residents that it is unlawful to deposit or push snow or ice, in any fashion, onto a public roadway or across the road right of way.



**Minnesota Statutes 160.2715 and 169.42 prohibit the plowing, blowing, shoveling, and placing of snow from sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots onto public roadways.**



This can include the ditch and right-of-way area. Violations of these statutes are a misdemeanor. Piles of snow left on or near the road can freeze into a solid mass creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Accidents and damages caused by snow placed in the roadway may result in liability to the property owner.

## NOW HIRING JOIN OUR TEAM

as a  
**Highway  
Engineering  
Technician  
I, II, or III**  
(Depending on Qualifications)

To Learn More Visit: [www.governmentjobs.com/renvillecounty](http://www.governmentjobs.com/renvillecounty)

### Renville County Offers:

- Health Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Advancement Opportunities
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Paid Holidays
- Vacation/Sick Time
- Retirement Plan
- Friendly Workplace
- Diverse Environment
- On-the-Job Training
- **Much, Much More!**



## Why Consider a Career in Local Government?

**L**ooking for a fulfilling career? Consider local government! As a whole generation of baby boomers begins to retire, we in local government are searching for energetic learning oriented first-time workers, as well as talented experienced workers. Public service is a wonderfully fulfilling career for a number of reasons:

### 1. Meaningful, Challenging Work

Local government service is inherently meaningful because our work is related to building and improving communities. The Sheriff's Department keep us safe. Public Works builds, re-builds and maintains physical infrastructure. County planners help envision and shape future community growth. Parks and Statewide Health Improvement Partnership staff enhance community life. County management takes the aspirations of residents and the policy goals of the elected governing board and puts those aspirations and goals into action.

Public service at the local level is also fulfilling because employees see the fruits of their labor. On a daily basis, local government employees see infrastructure improvements, safety improvements, and happier, more fulfilled children, families, and senior residents.

Public service at the local level is also challenging work. The efforts of local government workers happens in the context of local government, where everyone gets to participate, and everyone has a say. Every day presents new challenges.

### 2. Financial Benefits

Local government service offers salaries that are competitive with the private sector and great benefits including a defined benefit public pension. Public agencies need employees with all kinds of talents, skills, and occupational interests.

### 3. Steady Demand for Services

Another reason to consider a career in local government is that the public needs, wants, and demands services. Residents typically do not ask their local government to reduce police services, public works, park and recreation, or other programs. While local government may have to cut programs from time-to-time because tax or other revenues decline, the demand for services remains steady.

### 4. Learning Abounds

Local governments operate in a very dynamic environment. Changing resident demands, new federal and state laws and regulations, technology advances, demographic changes, new value trends, and other societal forces often make technical skills obsolete. Consequently, local governments need agile learners who are eager to pick up new ways of doing business or delivering services. Simply put, we are looking for people new to the workforce as well as experienced employees who provide "learn-how" as well as "know-how" to our public organizations.

### 5. Plenty of Opportunities

#### Consider local government if:

- You want meaningful and challenging work.
- You want to make a difference and build and improve communities.
- You want a competitive salary and good benefits.
- You are interested in learning.



#### What current employees say about working for Renville County:

- "I enjoy the flexibility of my position. My schedule can vary depending on time of year or needs of client."
- "I appreciate the paid holidays."
- "Our department has financial support to go to trainings and other learning opportunities."
- "Vacation and sick leave are available right away. There is no six month waiting period."
- "The tuition reimbursement policy is great. I'm happy to continue my education!"
- "We have received support to be early adopters with technology, which has served us well in learning and growing."
- "I appreciate my coworkers and the support I feel."
- "The wellness activities and financial incentives are appreciated."
- "I am able to work outside and be home every evening to do family events and activities."

Learn more about Renville County career openings at:  
[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/renvillecountymn](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/renvillecountymn)

## ATTENTION RENVILLE COUNTY BUSINESSES!

The Renville County Housing Committee would like your feedback on employer/employee housing needs. Visit [www.renvillecountymn.gov](http://www.renvillecountymn.gov) to take the survey and help us expand housing options in our area.



## Renville County Encourages Community to Participate in Operation Green Light in Support of Veterans

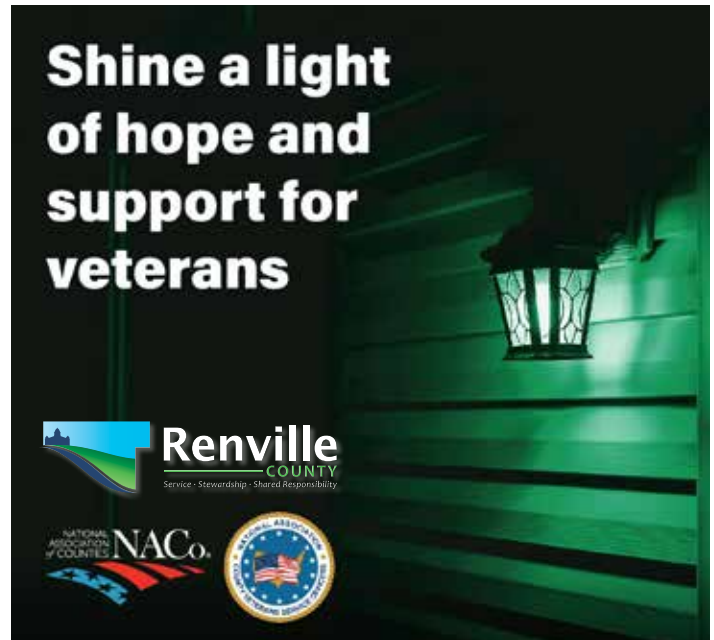
In advance of the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, Renville County announces that county buildings will be illuminated green November 6 - 12 as part of Operation Green Light for Veterans, an initiative of the National Association of Counties (NACo) to support military veterans, as well as raise awareness about the challenges faced by many veterans and the resources that are available to assist veterans and their families.

Operation Green Light is a simple way to express appreciation for the public service of our veterans who risked everything to protect our country and our way of life.

***“Since the tragedy of September 11, 2001, our nation’s military force members, and their families, have made immense sacrifices for our safety and security,”*** shared Lee Stock, Renville County Veterans Services Officer. ***“Similar to the sacrifices of previous generations of our armed forces, this service to country often results in significant stress to many of our veterans. We want to make sure our veterans, and their families, know their service mattered, we are grateful for their sacrifices, and that it is our turn to make sure they are served by their county government and our community.”***

In addition to lighting county buildings, residents and businesses are encouraged to participate by simply changing one light bulb in their house to a green bulb. This can be an exterior light that neighbors and passersby see, or an interior light that sparks a conversation with friends.

**By shining a green light, we let our veterans know they are seen, appreciated, and supported!** While this event is focused around the week of Veterans Day (November 6 - 12), participants are encouraged to continue shining the light year-round. Community members can share their participation on social media using the hashtag #OperationGreenLight.



Operation Green Light is also an opportunity to raise awareness of the resources available to veterans and their families. Throughout the year, Renville County Veterans Services staff are busy connecting veterans to federal and state benefits, helping to manage employment needs and doctors' appointments, as well as helping them find veteran peers who can assist with the transition back to civilian life. Here in Renville County, we're proud to serve and support our veterans!

For more information and links to resources available to veterans, visit [naco.org/operationgreenlight](https://naco.org/operationgreenlight) or [www.renvillecountymn.gov](https://www.renvillecountymn.gov). **If you have questions, contact the Renville County Veterans Services Office at 320-523-3763.**

## Did You Know? Renville County Offers Veterans Van Services



**If you are a Renville County Veteran and need help getting to medical appointments, the Renville County Veterans Van may be able to help! Appointment times must be between 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. A family member or friend may accompany you on the Veterans Van if space is available.**

### **VETERAN'S VAN SCHEDULE:**

- **Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC):** Every odd numbered Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
- **St. Cloud VAMC:** Wednesdays
- **Montevideo Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC):** 1<sup>st</sup> even Tuesday of each month

**To schedule a ride, call (320) 523-3763 at least four days prior to your Minneapolis VAMC, St. Cloud VAMC, or Montevideo CBOC appointment. The Renville County Veterans Van is not wheelchair accessible. The van cannot transport anyone with a serious or acute medical condition, life threatening emergency, or requiring continuous use of an oxygen tank.**



## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Renville County Fire Departments RibFest a Huge Success!

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Renville County Fire Departments RibFest was another huge success! The event was held at the American Legion in Olivia on September 9, with funds raised benefiting our county fire departments. Fire departments competed for top prize in three categories, including People's Choice, Veterans Choice, and Best Booth. Congratulations to the winning teams!

The fire departments would like to thank all who attended and supported this event. You are invited to save the date for next years' event, which will take place on Saturday, September 14, 2024 at the American Legion in Olivia. **Volunteers are needed for all Renville County city fire departments and ambulance services. Contact your city to learn how YOU can join!**



### OLIVIA FIRE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPANTS

Row 1 (L to R): Allison Lubitz, Bre Athmann, Jess Balderston, Jen Olson. Row 2: Bryan Lubitz, Logan Erickson, Brady Revier, Brad McLagan, Mark Everson, Trent Athmann, Laurie Lubitz, Megan Erickson, Kelsie Kingstrom, Brenda Rouse, Sheryl Seehusen, Kathy Altmann, Kaylee Padrnos. Row 3: Joe Ryan, Tim Seehusen, Randy Johnson, Mike Kingstrom, Travis Lubitz, Jason Rouse, Kevin Morse, Jacob Pastoors, Clint Olson, Nate Erickson, Turner Padrnos, Neil Balderston, Dave Altmann

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE:**  
**OLIVIA**

**VETERAN'S CHOICE:**  
**SACRED HEART**

**BEST BOOTH:**  
**MORTON**



### SACRED HEART FIRE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPANTS:

(L to R): Andy Stauffer, Dave DeLong, Ross Hebrink, Paul Peterson, Jeff Agre, Mitch Agre, Zach Chapman, Pete Lanning, Ryan Hebrink



### MORTON FIRE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPANTS:

(L to R): Leif U'Ren, Ricardo Nunez, Justin Reinke, Tim Nesburg, Sam Robinson, Tony Mages, Darren Sam, Ethan Bernardson



Wanted: DREAMERS & INNOVATORS & DOERS  
**START & GROW YOUR BUSINESS**

The Southwest Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provides one-on-one, confidential business consulting services at no cost to you.

We can help:

- Develop and refine business plans
- Identify sources of capital
- Analyze financial records
- Create marketing strategies
- General business assistance

SBDC@SMSU.EDU

WWW.SBDCASSISTANCE.COM

507-537-7386



# Let's Keep the Revolution Rolling, for Good.

## A plan for elevating the health of Renville County and beyond.



Renville County residents have been discussing a community-based wellness center for more than 15 years. This exploration has taken many forms with different collaborating partners. The basis of need is real, tangible, and ongoing. **The time has come to invest in our own communities at large to satisfy the existing needs of residents and attract potential new community members of all ages through:**

- Creation of a regional destination hub for programming and partnerships, which enhances physical and social wellbeing.
- Provision of physical spaces with flexibility for change that can accommodate activities that improve health and wellbeing.
- Promotion of an attainable vision of a project that can be seen to completion.

The vision is a new two-level regional facility with approximately 45,000 square feet. A public gathering space promoting wellness will be surrounded by access points to allied health

services, education, and movement options. The intent is to plan for the needs of today while being open to changes of the future.

**The Renville County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution requesting bonding monies from the State of Minnesota to help make the wellness center concept a reality for our county and our region.** This would be a county owned building, and the overall goal is to partner with the state to secure funding for the project along with matching funds; utilizing creative options that do not have a direct impact on our taxpayers.

We were able to welcome state legislators to tour the site and hear more about the project earlier in October. The work will continue to expand our plan. The plan to elevate the health of our communities is coming together, and all are feeling optimistic about making this a reality. **More updates will follow as the work continues.**

## Renville County Awarded \$350,000 Outdoor Recreation Grant from Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Renville County is pleased to announce they are a recipient of a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Outdoor Recreation Grant. **The \$350,000 grant will be used to build a camper cabin and replace the current restrooms/storm shelter with a new restroom/shower/storm shelter facility at Lake Allie County Park.**



Image Above: Lake Allie County Park Restroom/ Shower/Storm Shelter Facility Concept

a camper cabin for Lake Allie, camping will be accessible to all people.

This grant award will allow Renville County to expand outdoor recreation opportunities to those who may not own their own RV or may not physically be able to camp in a tent. By building

Renville County has partnered with Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop (GFW) school's construction and trades class to build the camper cabin.

The new restroom/shower/shower/storm shelter facility will be available for guests and visitors of the park to use and will provide shelter in the case of inclement weather.

The County expects construction of the camper cabin to begin this fall and installation to take place in 2025. Demolition and groundbreaking for the new restroom/shower/storm shelter facility is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2024. The project will be completed no later than the summer of 2025.

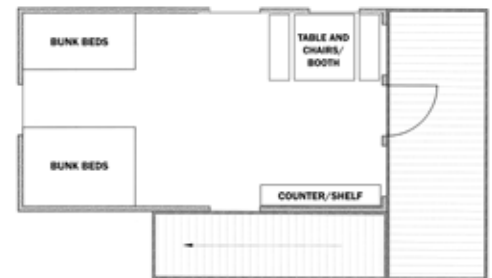


Image Above: Lake Allie County Park Camper Cabin Interior Concept

**Questions? Contact the Renville County Parks Department at [ParksDept@renvillecountymn.gov](mailto:ParksDept@renvillecountymn.gov) or call 320-523-3747**



## Southwest Initiative Foundation Offers Grant Opportunity to Foster Social Connections in Later Life

- Submitted by Southwest Initiative Foundation

The Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) has created a grant program to support projects that provide southwest Minnesota-serving organizations with funding to reduce and prevent social isolation and loneliness among older adults in our region. These pose serious public health risks affecting a significant number of people in our communities, putting them at risk for dementia and other serious medical conditions.

**Fostering Social Connection in Later Life Grants will invest in coordination of activities and/or direct interventions to improve people's connections through social supports, enhanced interactions, or adaptive cognition.** Examples could include connection to opportunities, meaning making and volunteer programs, online and physical program coordination, or caregiver support. SWIF has allocated a total of \$250,000 for individual grant awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 (one-year term).

**The grant application deadline is 5 p.m. on October 31, 2023.**

The application is available online at [swifoundation.org/grants](https://swifoundation.org/grants).

These grants are made possible by the Paul and Alma Schwan Aging Trust Endowment Fund at Southwest Initiative Foundation.

### Community Foundation Partners in Renville County

SWIF has 31 community foundation partners around the region that are catalysts for philanthropy and community improvement while putting local leaders in the driver's seat. This includes

the Bird Island-Olivia Community Foundation and the Morton Area Community Foundation in Renville County. Each is guided by board members

who lead fundraising, recommend grants, and tell stories of good work happening locally.



Find out how to get involved at the local level by visiting [swifoundation.org/giving/community-foundations](https://swifoundation.org/giving/community-foundations).

## Coat Drive

### Drop-off Locations:

#### Olivia:

St. Aloysius Catholic Church  
Olivia Hospital & Clinics  
HomeTownBank  
FM Bank  
Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church

#### Danube:

MinnWest Bank

#### Renville:

First Security Bank  
Holy Redeemer Catholic Church

#### Fairfax:

Frandsen Bank & Trust

#### Bird Island:

St. Mary's Catholic Church

**Please Donate**

A New or gently used WARM Coat to help families in our community stay warm this winter!!

Accepting donations until Oct 30th

For more information:  
**320-523-1842 or Email:**  
[jeand@unitedcapmn.org](mailto:jeand@unitedcapmn.org)

## Coat Handout

### Renville County Communities

Do you need a winter coat or warm winter gear? UCAP may be able to help.

FREE gently used and new coats are available to those in need.

### Pick Up Location:

1635 W Lincoln Ave  
Olivia MN 56277

**Monday's  
8:30-4:30**

**Wednesday's  
12:00-4:30**

**or  
by appointment**

For more information:  
**320-523-1842 or Email:**  
[jeand@unitedcapmn.org](mailto:jeand@unitedcapmn.org)

Sizes and supplies are limited

EOE/AA/ADA



# How's the Water?

## Finding Local Water Quality Information

- Submitted by Hawk Creek Watershed Project



Locating water quality information about a nearby stream or lake can be daunting. Here are some resources that can provide water quality information on waterbodies in Minnesota.

### Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring

The Hawk Creek Watershed Project (HCWP) contracts with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to conduct water quality monitoring as part of the MPCA's Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network, which is a long-term program that collects water quality data from streams and rivers throughout Minnesota and tracks water quality trends.

#### HCWP collects water quality samples at six sites:

Hawk Creek Watershed	Yellow Medicine River Watershed
Hawk Creek near Maynard	Sping Creek near Hanley Falls
Hawk Creek near Granite Falls before it enters the Minnesota River	Yellow Medicine River near Hanley Falls
Beaver Creek near Beaver Falls and Redwood Falls before it enters the Minnesota River	Yellow Medicine River near Granite Falls before it enters the Minnesota River

The Hawk Creek Watershed has some of the highest concentrations of water pollutants (total suspended solids (TSS), phosphorus, and nitrogen) in the state, with TSS and phosphorus levels over two times greater than water quality standards. To view water quality data, search for "MPCA Data Viewer" through an internet search engine.

### Pesticide Monitoring

HCWP contracts with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) to collect agricultural chemical monitoring samples at three sites:

Hawk Creek near Granite Falls before it enters the Minnesota River
Yellow Medicine River near Granite Falls before it enters the Minnesota River
South Fork Crow River near Cosmos

Each year, MDA conducts comprehensive surface water monitoring for agricultural chemicals, including pesticides and fertilizers in lakes, rivers, and streams throughout Minnesota as directed by the Minnesota Pesticide Control Law. In 2020, 1,074 samples were collected from 60 rivers, streams, and lakes throughout Minnesota and analyzed for 178 pesticide compounds. Seventy-three pesticide compounds were detected, with 2,4-D, metolachlor, and atrazine the three most detected pesticide parent compounds. In addition to surface water monitoring, MDA also monitors groundwater and private



wells. To learn more, search for "MDA Agricultural Chemical Monitoring and Assessment" through an internet search engine.

### Field Scale Water Quality Monitoring

HCWP also contracts with Discovery Farms Minnesota to monitor and maintain an intensive in-field monitoring site year-round near Brownton in McLeod County monitoring both sub-surface tile drainage and overland flow within a grassed waterway. Discovery Farms is a farmer-led effort to gather water quality information from farming systems under real-world conditions. It is funded by the Minnesota Agricultural Water Resources Center, Minnesota Corn Research and Promotion Council, Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council, MDA, and Natural Resources Conservation Service. Real-time data is available at [discoveryfarmsmn.org](http://discoveryfarmsmn.org).

### Stream Flows

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) collects stream flow data (how high the water is and how fast the water is flowing), which is essential in calculating pollutant levels in our waterways, managing streams, dams, and flooding, and ensuring public safety (is the water level too high to safely kayak or swim?). To see real-time data, search for "DNR Cooperative Stream Gaging" through an internet search engine.

For more water quality information, contact HCWP at 320-523-3666, visit [hawkcreekwatershed.org](http://hawkcreekwatershed.org), or stop into their office in the lower level of the courthouse in Olivia.



CCT's mission is to provide safe, reliable, cost-effective transportation to all residents of Kandiyohi, Renville, and Meeker Counties.

**SERVICES INCLUDE:**

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

- Demand Response Rides (Dial-a-Ride)
- Fixed Flexible Route
- Same Day Service
- Saturday and Sunday Service

**VOLUNTEER TRANSPORTATION**

- Senior Volunteer Program
- Non Emergency Medical Transportation

**CCT CARRIAGE TRANSPORTATION**

- Transporting groups from long term care facilities, senior living residences, group homes, etc.

Learn More:  
[www.cctbus.org](http://www.cctbus.org)  
320-523-3589

**VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!**



# Native Prairie Management

- Submitted by Renville County Soil and Water Conservation District



The prairie covers a large number of acres across Renville County. Native

grasses provide quality habitat and forage for many wildlife species, including deer, pheasants, and turkeys. Native forbs provide pollinating habitat for bumblebees and monarch butterflies. Native grasses and forbs also provide water infiltration and water storage that help provide clean water and mitigate flooding. Unfortunately, if native prairies are neglected, these important functions decline rapidly.

**Without timely management, native prairies risk the chance of losing these functions. Ways to maintain these high-quality functions and diversity include prescribed grazing, prescribed burning, and haying.**

## Prescribed Grazing:

Grazing plays a critical role in the ecosystems of grasslands; not only for the native grasses and forbs, but also biological activity. Grazing livestock allows for increased stimulated plant growth through hoof compaction and leaving fecal matter on the landscape. Livestock hooves leave indentations in the ground where new seeds will germinate. The fecal matter provides nutrients for the plants, as well as stimulates biological activity that helps breakdown decaying plant matter and increase nutrient cycling in the soil to increase the health of the native grasses and forbs.

## Prescribed Burning:

The life cycle of prairies causes an exponential amount of dead plant material to accumulate over the years. This accumulation of biomass covers the ground and takes years to decay, inhibiting the ability for new seedlings to grow and restart the prairie life cycle. This causes opportunistic weed and tree species to prosper. Prescribed burning of native prairie targets this accumulation of biomass and turns it into available nutrients usable for new native grass and forb species. Fire stimulates plant growth and targets noxious weeds and trees that decrease diversity and function of native prairies.

## Haying:

Mechanical raking/haying offers an efficient and effective way to manage native prairie. This involves clipping the grass, then mechanically raking the ground, and baling the plant material. The clipping allows for control of noxious weeds and trees, while stimulating plant growth. Mechanically raking the material provides ground disturbance that allows new seeds to germinate and removes the dead plant material that has been accumulating. Removing this vegetation helps maintain diversity and function and increases the growth of native grasses and forbs.

**For more information regarding native prairie management, contact the Renville SWCD at (320) 523-1559, or visit [www.renville-swcd.com](http://www.renville-swcd.com).**



*Cattle grazing native prairie in Renville County.*



*Prescribed burn of native prairie.*



*Hayed native prairie.*

## FOLLOW THE SWCD:

- Renville County SWCD
- renvilleswcd
- @Renville\_SWCD
- @renvillecountyswcd5672

# Renville County HRA/EDA: Childcare Forgivable Loan Program

**Do you know someone interested in starting a home childcare or childcare center in Renville County?**

If you do, direct them to [www.renville.com](http://www.renville.com) to learn more about the HRA/EDA Childcare Forgivable Loan Program. Forgivable loans of \$7,500 for home based childcare and \$15,000 for childcare centers are now available!





## 2024 Renville County Budget Proposed at \$51,664,446

**2024 Preliminary Levy:**  
**\$17,581,511**

(9.27% increase from 2023)

## Renville County Board of Commissioners BUDGET MEETING

Provide input on Renville County's proposed 2024 budget on:



**Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m.**



**In-Person:** Renville County Government Services Center  
105 - 5th Street South, Suite 313, Olivia, Minnesota



**Virtual:** [www.renvillecountymn.gov](http://www.renvillecountymn.gov)

(Find meeting link under Agenda/Minutes on the homepage.)

### THE \$51.7 MILLION BREAKDOWN



#### Public Safety.....13.5%

6,818 cases handled by the Sheriff's Office in 2022, which equates to 18.7 events per day. 7,022 911 calls answered by dispatch. Average daily jail population was 53.1 inmates, with 33.9 (or 63.8% of the jail population) boarded for other jurisdictions.

#### Road & Bridge.....43.2%

Major projects completed in 2023 include 5-bridge replacements, 10-miles of bituminous paving and 4-miles of shoulder widening. Major projects planned for 2024 include 8-bridge replacements and 23-miles of bituminous paving.

#### Parks and Libraries.....2.4%

#### Public Health.....4.3%

In 2022, Public Health continued to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, providing COVID-19 vaccinations to the public as well as information and guidance including isolation/quarantine guidance; made 5,620+ visits through family home visiting, car seat education, child & teen checkups, home care and case management programs; 582 Women, Infants and Children (WIC) participants were served; Kandiyohi-Renville Environmental Health conducted 340 licensing inspections of food establishments, pools, and lodging and licensed 332 special events.

#### Recycling/Landfill/HHW.....1.7%

In 2022, the Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority (RRRSA) processed/transferred 5,190 tons (260 semi-loads) of recyclables and 15,040 tons (776 semi-loads) of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). Together Redwood and Renville Counties recycled 108 tons of electronics/appliances, transferred 101 tons of used tires to be recycled, completed 30 property demolition inspections, properly managed 3,836 tons of demolition waste at the demolition landfill, and disposed of 12 tons of household hazardous waste materials from 870 participants and 2.6 tons of materials for re-use through our product exchange program by 365 participants.

#### Human Services.....14%

There are three primary service areas: Social Services, Child Support, and Public Assistance. 267 Child Protection reports were submitted in 2022.

#### Conservation of Natural Resources.....0.7%

Extension, agricultural inspection, and water planning.

#### General Government.....13.7%

County Board, Administration, Auditor-Treasurer, Assessor, County Attorney, Recorder, Environmental Services, Veterans Services, License Department, and Restorative Justice.

#### Capital Improvements.....6.5%

The proposed Capital Improvements and Bond Funds budget is \$3.4 million.

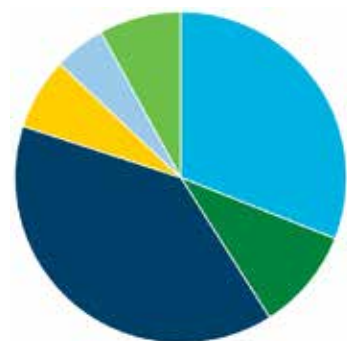
### HRA/EDA Preliminary Levy:

The Housing and Redevelopment Authority and Economic Development Authority (HRA/EDA) has a separate levy of \$293,912.

(4.6% increase from 2023).

### 2023 Revenue Sources

Renville County's funding comes from a variety of federal, state, and local revenues and service fees.



- Agricultural Property Taxes (32%)
- Non-Agricultural Property Taxes (9%)
- State Aid (39%)
- Federal Grants (7%)
- Fees (5%)
- Miscellaneous (8%)





# Renville County Recycling



## Curbside Schedule January - December 2024



**Bird Island - Renville - Sacred Heart**

**Buffalo Lake - Fairfax - Hector**

**Danube - Olivia**

**Franklin - Morton (RF Zone 1)**

**Holiday - No Service**  
(Remainder of the week  
will be a day later)

**RRRSWA:**  
(507) 637-1800  
(320) 523-8002



**SCAN  
ME**  
for Recycling  
Information

January 2024						
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		

February 2024						
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		

March 2024						
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						

April 2024						
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				

May 2024						
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	

June 2024						
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						

July 2024						
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			

August 2024						
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

September 2024						
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					

October 2024						
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		

November 2024						
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

December 2024						
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				

**Remember to have  
your carts to the curb  
no later than 6:30am**

### Glass

**Clear, green, and brown  
bottles and jars (food and  
beverage containers only.)**

- No canning jars, light bulbs, mirrors, ceramics, or dishes.
- Must be empty and clean.
- No need to remove labels.

### Plastic Containers

**#1, #2, #5**

**No larger than 5 quarts.**

- Must be removed from bags
- No Styrofoam
- No bags
- No toys
- No pools
- No siding
- No PVC pipe
- No pesticide Containers
- No herbicide containers

### Steel and Aluminum

**Food and beverage cans,  
aluminum foil, pie pans, and  
aerosol cans (must be empty).**

- No food remaining (empty and clean)
- No need to remove labels on food cans

### Paper

**Newspaper, junk mail,  
paperbacks, catalogs,  
phone books, envelopes  
(including windowed) and  
office paper.**

- Do not bundle or tie (place in cart loosely)

### Cardboard

**Cardboard (folded flat),  
brown paper grocery bags  
and boxboard (e.g. cereal,  
cracker, pasta, and shoe  
boxes), paper egg cartons**

- No frozen food or refrigerated food boxes
- No beer or pop boxes (6 packs, 12 packs or cases)
- No packing foam
- No waxed cardboard
- No furnace filters

### Do NOT Recycle:

**Plastic Bags/Film Plastic:** Please purchase and utilize reusable grocery bags, ask for paper, or have your groceries loaded loosely into your cart. Do **NOT** place bags or other film plastic into your recycling container.

**Shredded Paper:** Please utilize our shredding service, which is FREE for personal papers and a nominal fee for businesses. If you shred your own paper, please bag it and bring it to the office located at the RRRMRF in Redwood Falls.

**PLEASE KEEP AND POST**



Good Neighbors You've Come To Trust

4089 Abbott Drive | P.O. Box 796

Willmar, MN 56201

Phone: 1-800-246-7630

[www.wcsanitation.com](http://www.wcsanitation.com)

County Directory:	Phone:
Administration	320-523-3710
Assessor	320-523-3645
Attorney	320-523-2661
Auditor/Treasurer	320-523-2071
Court Administrator	320-523-3680
Court Services/Probation	320-400-0711
Economic Development Authority	320-523-3656
Emergency Management	320-523-3838
Environmental Services	320-523-3768
Extension (4-H)	320-523-3713
HRA (Housing Programs)	507-637-4004
Human Services	320-523-2202 or 800-363-2533
Landfill/Solid Waste	320-523-1144
License	320-523-3612
Parks	320-523-3747
Public Health Services	320-523-2570
Public Works	320-523-3759
Recorder	320-523-3669
RRRSWA / Solid Waste / Household Hazardous Waste	320-523-8002 or 507-637-1800
Restorative Justice	320-523-3871
Sheriff	320-523-1161
Veterans Services	320-523-3763

## FOR SALE: BUFFALO LAKE SCHOOL



Photo Above: Street view of building

**RING THE BELL!**  
*Bring new life to this  
old school building!*

### FEATURES:

- Three-phase building (1917, 1939, and 1954)
- 68,000+ square feet
- Lot size approximately 2.4 acres

**COME VIEW THIS PROPERTY! OPEN HOUSES:**  
November 14 and 16 from 5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m.

For more information contact Joel Baumgarten at  
[jbaumgarten@blh.k12.mn.us](mailto:jbaumgarten@blh.k12.mn.us) or 320-848-2233 x1359

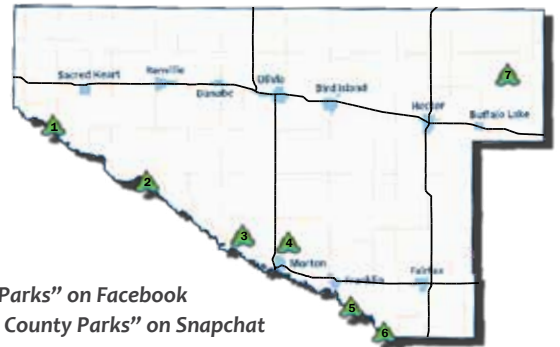


More than just  
*Camping* } *Want to go for a Ride?*

### Enjoy the trails in Renville County Parks!

Horse Trails: Beaver Falls: 8.35 miles of trail | Skalbekken: 10.24 miles of trail  
Rustic camping is available. Call to make your reservations today!

- 1 - Skalbekken
- 2 - Vicksburg
- 3 - Beaver Falls
- 4 - Birch Coulee
- 5 - Anderson Lake
- 6 - Mack Lake
- 7 - Lake Allie



Like "Renville County Parks" on Facebook



Subscribe to "Renville County Parks" on Snapchat



**Archery Hunt runs  
until December 31**

**Renville  
COUNTY  
PARKS**

*\*If visiting parks during this time, guests are highly encouraged  
to wear bright colored clothing and be aware of hunters.*

**Courthouse**  
500 East DePue  
Olivia, MN 56277

**Government Services Center**  
105 South 5th Street  
Olivia, MN 56277

**Landfill**  
32877 Co Rd 4  
Olivia, MN 56277

**RRRSWA**  
907 West Bridge Street  
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

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**Renville**  
COUNTY  
Service · Stewardship · Shared Responsibility

105 South 5th Street  
Olivia, MN 56277

Phone: 320-523-3710

Email: [lisa.herges@renvillecountymn.gov](mailto:lisa.herges@renvillecountymn.gov)

Web: [www.renvillecountymn.gov](http://www.renvillecountymn.gov)

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