

Burn Ban Lifted, Storm Clean-Up Complete

City Manager

September 3, 2008



The City of Rock Island is pleased to announce that the city-wide clean-up of storm debris from the July 21, 2008 wind storm is now complete. The burn ban in the City has now been lifted.

“The storm presented a tremendous challenge for everyone. I want to especially thank our employees who worked very hard to respond to this storm and handle the clean-up efforts throughout the city,” commented City Manager, John Phillips.

Burn Rules

- Leaf burning is permitted for dry leaves only on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Prior to burning, dial 309.732.BURN (2876) to determine if leaf burning is allowed that day due to weather conditions. Yard waste, such as tree limbs, grass, and twigs are not allowed to be burned. Leaf burning is allowed between sunrise and sunset only, no burning is allowed within 25 feet of any structure, and no burning is allowed on sidewalks. The fire must be attended at all times.
- Recreational fires are allowed under the fire code. For recreational fires the fuel area must be 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height. Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible materials. These fires must also be attended at all times with a means of extinguishment readily available.

Rock Island Fire Department reserves the right to extinguish a fire at any time.

Debris Pick-Ups and Drop-Offs

To report any locations crews missed during the clean-up please call Public Works at 309.732.2200.

The City will continue to pick-up storm debris through the special pick-up program. The first pick-up per year is free for Rock Island residents, and subsequent pick-ups are \$25 each. Please call Public Works to schedule a special pick-up at 309.732.2200.

The tree and limb drop-off site at 31st Avenue near 1st Street will remain open until 3 p.m. Friday, September 5. Once the

site closes, residents can drop off material at the City's Refuse and Yard Waste Drop-Off Center at 1309 Mill Street, which is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. One truckload of brush and limbs will be taken for free each Saturday. Fees apply to dropping off grass and yard waste.

Free mulch will be available at the tree limb and drop-off site until it closes at 3 p.m. Friday. After the site closes, mulch will be available outside the Drop-Off Center at 1309 Mill Street. Mulch may be picked up 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The City expects the storm clean-up costs to exceed \$600,000. The City of Rock Island is working with Rock Island County and other municipalities to obtain a federal disaster declaration which would help recover some of the costs.

The video will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. at the Rock Island Library Community Room located at 401 19th Street, Rock Island. The video is approximately an hour and a half. **Pizza and soda** will be served throughout the evening. This event is **FREE** so please spread the word! RSVP is recommended by calling 732-2900 so we know how much pizza to order!