

Service Day 2022

Community business donors and volunteer work crews serve Two Rivers homeowners



July 26th was a very full day. Several Two Rivers homeowners, as well as Two Rivers itself, hosted a group of young adults and chaperones for a day of yardwork, painting, and general cleanup of homes and yards. The volunteers were ELCA youth, in town for a convention called "The Boundless Gathering". Organized in partnership with Service Learning Camps, LLC, these young people and adults arrived with enthusiasm and a willingness to get their hands dirty in service to others.

Their hands didn't get too dirty, however, thanks to the generous donations from local businesses. The businesses shown here stepped up when asked and donated water, tools, cleaning and paint supplies...and yes, gloves.

The impact made by the end of the day was visible. The crews worked on a Two Rivers home just finishing rehab and being purchased in September. Two homeowners that are selling received help with readying their homes for new owners, and a third homeowner had assistance with yardwork.





One of the homeowners was happy to allow us to share her appreciative words: "My requested projects were completed to my fullest satisfaction...I was impressed at how friendly and eager to help the volunteers were. I was especially blown away when at the end of their volunteer period they formed a circle and asked if they could pray for my family. I was so touched and grateful for that specific gesture! Wow! Thank you!"

Two Rivers would like to thank: Service Learning Camps, LLC and Kelsey Blinn, who coordinated the volunteers, our local business donors - Burggraf's Ace Hardware of Cottage Grove, Woodbury's Home Depot, HyVee of Oakdale, and Woodbury's Sherwin Williams Paint Store, as well as James Goodpaster and our Executive Director, Sherry Timmermann Goodpaster, who worked alongside the crews and hauled loads of trash away. Thanks as well to Meg Skaret with Carriage Realty for going out of her way to photograph the day.

And special thanks to all of the young adults and chaperones that participated to bring real change to others.

Two Rivers Community Land Trust

The mission of Two Rivers Community Land Trust is to provide permanently affordable housing for low and moderate income individuals, families and households earning up to 80% of the median income in Washington County, Minnesota.

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Save the Date!

Plan to attend the Annual Meeting on December 1st.



More information will be emailed in November, but please mark your calendar now and plan to be present, either in person or online. Your involvement as a homeowner is appreciated and important.

Getting Your Home Ready for Fall...and Winter

Home and yard maintenance checklist



It may not even officially be Fall yet. But if you're a Minnesotan, you know that Winter weather can arrive before Halloween. So while you're drinking your pumpkin spice latté and raking your leaves, it's a good idea to add some other chores to the home maintenance list.

Some of those items include:

- Clean out the gutters and downspouts on your home. If you are not comfortable on a ladder, hire someone to do this.
- Change the batteries on your smoke / CO detectors, and test them.
- Change your furnace filter - and then keep changing it every 2 months.
- Get your furnace checked by a professional.
- Get your dryer vent (and duct) cleaned. This can often be done by the same company that gives your furnace a tune-up, so you could ask for a discount if you order both services.
- Disconnect, drain and store garden hoses.
- Shut off the main water supply to outside water faucets, and make sure you drain the faucet after! Water remaining in the pipes can freeze, expand and do major damage.
- Install weatherstripping around doors and windows to prevent cold air drafts.

Go to tworiversclt.org for more information about caring for your home and yard in every season.

Welcome our Newest Board Member

Andrew Gitzlaff

Andrew (Andy) Gitzlaff joined the Two Rivers CLT Board in August of this year, on approval to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in December.

He brings a wealth of insight to the Board. His career began in the cities of Maplewood and Hugo and as a planning consultant for Landform. Following that, Andy worked as a transit project manager for both Washington and Ramsey counties. His newest position is as the Community Development Director for the City of Oakdale, Minnesota.

His range of experience, including housing, economic development, planning and environmental and building inspections, will undoubtedly offer perspectives that will help Two Rivers as we seek to make wise and informed decisions for the health of the organization and Two Rivers home buyers and owners.

Andrew lives in Stillwater with his wife, two kids and their dog, Coco.

One final note: there is an open position on the Board for a Two Rivers homeowner! If you would like more information about getting more involved in the mission of Two Rivers, contact Sherry at sherry@tworiversclt.org.

Storm Damage...

It isn't "if". It's "when".



If you have not had any damage to your home from wind, lightning or hail this year, consider yourself very lucky. Or, maybe you should take a look at your roof.

Minnesota received some extremely destructive weather this Spring and Summer. Anyone living here knows that. What everyone may not know is how important it is to **check your home's roof and siding for damage after a storm.**

Damage to a home's exterior, if not replaced or repaired, will leave the home vulnerable to Winter weather and temperatures. Repairs need to happen.

That is what insurance is for. But covering the deductible for a damage claim is expensive as well.

Make sure you plan for the unexpected. Have funds set aside for deductibles that you do not touch for anything else. Then when the roof caves in (let's hope not), your finances don't collapse as well.