



May 2013

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# Rock Falls News

## Earth Day Cleanup



A great turnout of volunteers made light work of the city-wide cleanup project on Earth Day 2013. Ten volunteers greeted a warm, balmy, day to help pick up large trash items not normally taken in the weekly residential trash removal.

Waste Management Co. brought a 25-yard trash packer to town at 7:00 A.M. April 27 to assure adequate collection and transport of large items.

The Rock Falls City Council would like to thank the following volunteers for helping keep Rock Falls the prettiest town in Iowa: Scott Ennis, Lincoln Jost, Doug Heimer, Rich Petersen, Tracy Ward, Roger Luther, Terry Stanley, Chris Gritzmacher, Jake Hubert, and Sharm Ward.



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Memorial Day is fast approaching. And every year the Rock Falls Cemetery looks absolutely beautiful. But it

doesn't happen by accident. Like most other things, the cemetery needs some sprucing; especially something that is approaching 150 years old. So the board of trustees has designated Saturday, May 11, for a cleanup day. The board is needing volunteers who are willing to spend a couple of hours picking up brush, raking out

gravel, and replacing sod from winter snow plowing. So bring some lawn tools and meet at the cemetery on Saturday, May 11, at 9:00 AM.

## Weather Radios



Several years ago, the City of Rock Falls provided every household a weather radio to provide early warning of treacherous weather conditions. It was about a year ago that the city of Creston, Iowa, experienced a serious tornado event. The warning sirens did not activate until seven minutes after the tornado struck the town. Tornado sirens are activated by a tornado warning system from the National Weather Service. The NWS reported that this was a rapidly changing atmospheric condition that quickly formed into tornadic winds and didn't appear on radar as a tornado cell until it had passed through Creston.

Another community reported that high winds took out the power before the tornado warning was issued, thus preventing the warnings sirens from operating.

Weather radios, on the other hand, have a battery backup, and give more complete information regarding tornado watches, tornado warnings, high winds alerts, blizzard conditions, flash flood warnings and other concerns.

The NOAA weather reporting service provides a test of weather-alert radios every Wednesday morning at about 11:00 AM. If your radio is not sounding this test alarm, then it needs to be re-programmed. The radio should have a sticker on the back with a phone number (919-639-3001) to call to receive programming instructions.

We are approaching a severe-weather season. So make sure you have a fresh battery in your radio and it is programmed to receive the alert signal from NOAA. On occasion, KIMT-TV meteorologists visit area HyVee stores and will program weather radios.

**Betterment Breakfast**  
Sunday, May 5  
8:00 – 11:00 am



Pancakes, Biscuits, Gravy,  
Sausage, Eggs, Juice,  
Coffee