

# ROCK FALLS NEWS

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## Sewage Grinder Pumps

Every residence in Rock Falls is served by a grinder pump that grinds household waste, liquefies it, and pumps it into the city-wide sewer distribution system. It is sometimes helpful to remember that a pressurized sewer system can be a bit more sensitive than gravity systems that do not have a grinder-pump.

A properly maintained grinder pump should be able to handle wastewater from the kitchen, bathroom, laundry, etc. However, some chemicals and substances can adversely impact a grinder pump and may cause safety hazards. Check the labels on all chemicals before using or disposing. Also, never pour the following items down the drains or flush down toilets:

Grease! (a by-product of cooking that comes from meat fats, oils, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, sauces and dairy products)

Explosive or flammable material

Kitty litter

Aquarium gravel

Strong chemicals or toxic, caustic or poisonous substances

These items can damage the grinder pump and its controls, cause blockages and backups and may create unsafe conditions within the lines and tank. Also, never connect a sump pump to sewer lines. The added ground water from a sump pump can cause additional wear to the grinder pump and overload the sewer system.

**If a resident needs to be away for extended periods**, it could be helpful to replace the waste water in the tank with clean water to help minimize odors. Run an inside faucet for about 10 minutes—long enough for the grinder pump to start working. After the pump starts, turn the faucet off. The pump will run until the tank is nearly empty and shut off automatically. This process will cleanse the pump and keep it filled with a minimum amount of clean water. If the absence is for several weeks, also notify PeopleService, Inc. of the absence so the company can check the tank and pump periodically and flush the lines to keep the machinery in good working order.



## Betterment Breakfasts

Fall is upon us, there's a nip in the air, the leaves are falling, and it's time for a hearty, country breakfast. The Rock Falls Area Betterment Group has the answer and will once again be serving an All-You-Can-Eat breakfast on the first Sunday morning of each month. Breakfast includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, coffee, and milk.

Serving begins in the Community Center at 8:00 AM and continues through 11:00 AM. This schedule allows for the pre-church crowd so that stomach growing doesn't occur during the sermon. It also allows for the brunch crowd so that Mom (or whoever cooks) can have a Sunday off from cooking Sunday dinner. The monthly breakfasts are a big part of the funding strategy of the Betterment Group. This organization was created to fund and manage the operation of the Rock Falls Community Center. Profits and

### Pancake Breakfast

All You Can Eat

Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs,  
Coffee, Juice

Sunday October 5

8–11 AM

Free Will Donation



Community Center

donations from the breakfasts help pay for such items as snow removal, lawn care, insurance, air conditioning, and heating. We all know how costs have skyrocketed over the past year. Funding operations at the Community Center has become a huge challenge.

So, start emptying your pockets every night into the change jar on the bureau and by the first Sunday of every month you'll have enough to take the family to Breakfast! Let's keep the Community Center vital!

## Progress in City Park

Improvement to the Rock Falls City Park is an ongoing process. Once the new well was drilled in the park, a pump, pressure tank, and electrical connections were installed. This equipment allowed for the installation of a new water fountain. In mid-September a crew consisting of Todd Huff, Doug Heimer, Josh Stanley, and Rich Petersen began construction of a rock platform

around the new fountain. The rock was needed to catch spillage and prevent mudholes. A truckload of black dirt was delivered for filling a few low spots and additional landscaping. Additional thanks are extended to Bill Boyd for donating some river rock and to Randy Arndt for transporting the rock to the city park. The final stage of the park improvement project will be the construction of sanitary restrooms.