



## VECINXS UNIDXS/NEIGHBORS UNITED

"Neighbors United works to bring visibility and empowerment to the immigrant and refugee communities in the Northfield area."

[www.neighborsunitedofnorthfield.org](http://www.neighborsunitedofnorthfield.org)

June 2, 2025

### To the Northfield Housing and Redevelopment Authority,

From our ongoing work in housing advocacy and our support for neighbors at Viking Terrace, we are aware that the HRA has not provided the free cleanup service for several years. We are writing to respectfully request that this valuable service be reinstated.

Attached are photos showing the type of cleanup service currently offered by Lakeshore. While the image quality is not ideal, they were sent by a Viking Terrace family, they illustrate the nature of the current system. Items for removal are priced individually, making the service inaccessible to many residents. As a result, most neighbors have not been able to use it. You will notice the date on the list is not from the spring, they reused the same document for the cleanup offered twice per year.

The HRA previously provided free cleanup containers at Viking Terrace and what is now Riverside Park. Volunteers, including members of the Union of Youth, supported the effort. Today, some private citizens, such as college students and Rotary members, are helping in a more limited capacity. For example, a group of students led by St. Olaf junior Christine Whear recently organized two cleanup days and assisted with small home repairs.

The Rotary Climate Action Plan group is also preparing to support neighbors this fall by applying window shrink wrap and installing fire and carbon monoxide alarms. Plans are underway to organize volunteer teams for installation, in partnership with Rice County Public Health, which could supply the alarms. We also plan to reach out to Three Rivers and the City of Northfield to explore additional ways to collaborate.

We understand the complexity of supporting residents in a community managed by a private company. This concern has been discussed openly at Rotary and the dilemma it causes, and we have come to the conclusion that we stand with the neighbors. While our help may indirectly benefit Lakeshore, our efforts are always aimed at supporting the well-being and stability of the residents. Similar efforts in the past also helped the prior owners of the parks.

We remain hopeful that, in the future, Viking Terrace and Riverside Park may become resident-owned cooperatives, giving neighbors greater control over their homes and land. In the meantime, restoring the free cleanup service would be a meaningful step in showing that the city continues to stand with our most vulnerable residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mar Valdecantos" with a date "-25-" written below it.

Mar Valdecantos

Rice County Neighbors United Director

Part of our initiatives:

Mercado Local and  
Radio show at KYMN



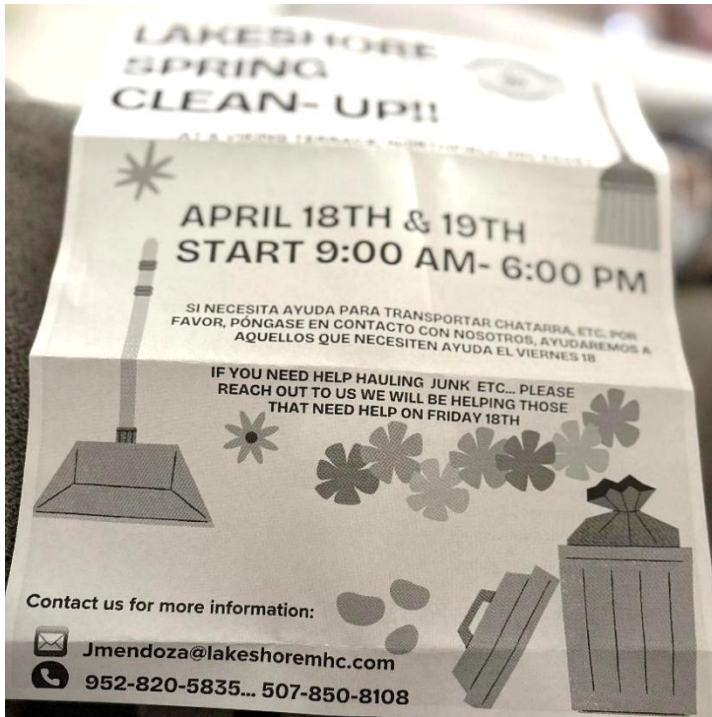
Contact Director Mar Valdecantos at 507-301-8646, [mar@ricecountyneighborsunited.org](mailto:mar@ricecountyneighborsunited.org)  
Or Director of Communications, Natalia Torres, [natalia@ricecountyneighborsunited.org](mailto:natalia@ricecountyneighborsunited.org)



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### Junk Truck

#### SPRING CLEAN UP

We will be having our spring clean-up nov-7/8, 2024. Junk Truck could take these things below with a fee. If you need to get rid of anything you will have to pay out of your pocket.

See List Below.

Chemicals- \$1.50 a pound

Tires- \$10

Mattresses- \$45 each

Spring Box- \$45 each.

cfc Appliances- \$25

appliances-free

Electronic- \$10

Tv- \$35 for 32" or smaller.. \$50 for 33" or Bigger.

Tendremos nuestra limpieza de primavera el 7/8 de noviembre de 2024. Junk Truck podría tomar estas cosas a continuación con una tarifa. Si necesitas deshacerte de algo, tendrás que pagar de tu bolsillo.

Consulte la lista a continuación.

Productos químicos: \$ 1.50 la libra

Neumáticos- \$10

Colchones- \$45 cada uno

Caja de resorte: \$ 45 cada una.

cfc Electrodomésticos- \$25

Electrodomésticos-gratis

Electrónico- \$10

Tv- \$35 por 32" o menos. \$50 por 33" o más.

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