

The

VILLAGER



Fall 2016 Leaf Collection Program

The Leaf Collection Program for residents will begin **Monday October 3, 2016**. The Village will send out leaf collection equipment and vacuum your leaves from your parkway. Residents must place the leaves in the parkway and not on the street.

Crews will start at the beginning of the week on the north side of town and work their way south. The goal is to collect the leaves at least once a week.



Please follow these helpful guidelines to ensure that this service will operate quickly, safely and efficiently:

- Place leaves on the parkway parallel to the street and immediately behind the curb or the edge of pavement. Leaves **must not** be placed in the street, the curb/gutter, or on the sidewalk. If the leaves are placed in the street or gutter, they have a greater chance of blowing and will obstruct the flow of storm water and cause street flooding during rain events.
- **Do not** include any debris such as garden materials, brush, cans, paper, bottles, etc. These foreign materials can cause damage to leaf collection personnel and equipment.
- **Do not** place leaves behind obstacles such as: parked vehicles, trees, mailboxes, fire hydrants, streetlights, etc.

The Village's free leaf collection program ends **Friday December 2, 2016**.

Alternative Options are also encouraged. In some neighborhoods where trees are not mature, utilizing a mulching lawn mower adds the leaves back into the lawn - providing nutrients to the soil. Nu-Way will also pick-up leaves placed in the Kraft-type paper bags free of charge for 6-weeks on your regularly scheduled garbage day. This service begins the week of October 27th and ends December 2nd. In addition to the free leaf collection for bagged leaves, the Village offers ten free yard-waste bags per fall for our senior citizen households which may be picked up at the Village Hall.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions please call the Public Works Department at (815)215-4800.

Nelson Road Extension

Nelson Road will be extended between Haven Avenue and Illinois Highway/Spencer Road. The new roadway will include one lane in each direction, 10-foot wide bike path, drainage improvements and roadway lighting. Where Nelson Road intersects Haven Avenue and Illinois Highway there will be dedicated left turn lanes and temporary traffic signals. Additionally, Joliet Highway will be widened from Boeing Drive, in the Aerohaven Subdivision, to where it will connect with Nelson Road. Currently the contractor is working on dirt moving operations, utility installation and road widening.

Beginning September 19th, the contractor will start work on Haven Avenue. This work will include widening of Haven Avenue for turn lanes and the start of the Nelson Road extension. The south lane of Haven Avenue will be closed to allow completion of this work. Eastbound traffic will continue to utilize the north side of Haven Avenue. This work will require a detour of westbound traffic on Haven Avenue. Westbound traffic will utilize Kris Drive and Honey Lane as a detour around the work. Staff has met with the contractor regarding the detour and Public Works will be providing supplemental signage to help with the traffic control. This work should be completed in approximately 6 weeks, weather permitting. The project is currently on schedule.

2016 - 2017 Election Information

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8th. Last day to register to vote at the Village Hall is October 11th. To register to vote you need two forms of identification - one with your photo, age and current address.

Early voting for this election starts October 24th and runs thru November 4th from 9am to 4pm in the Community Room, which is on the lower level of the Village Hall.

The Consolidated Election will be held on April 4, 2017. The Village of New Lenox will have (3) 4-year Trustee positions and (1) 2-year unexpired term Trustee position. Petition packets for these positions will be available on the upper level of the Village Hall starting on September 20th which is also the first day you can start circulating.

This information is available on our website at www.newlenox.net as well as the Will County Clerks website at www.thewillcountyclerk.com.



October 2016

Village Officials

Timothy Baldermann *Mayor*
 Laura Ruhl *Village Clerk*
 Annette Bowden *Trustee*
 David Butterfield *Trustee*
 Douglas Finnegan *Trustee*
 Emily Johnson *Trustee*
 Keith Madsen *Trustee*
 David Smith *Trustee*
 Kurt T. Carroll *Village Administrator*

Inside This Issue

Fall Leaf Collection Program	1
Nelson Road Extension	1
Election Information	1
Winter Snow Removal & Parking	2
Did You Know?	2
Commons Christmas Tree	2
Before You Know It	2
Christmas in the Commons	2
Ladies Night Out	2
Rain Barrels	3
Menards in New Lenox	3
Tree Pruning	3
Parkway Tree Removal	3
Bio-Blitz 2016	4
Triple Play Concert Series	4
What Is An RPZ?	4

Village Meeting Dates

Village Board Meetings
 second and fourth Monday of
 each month at 7pm

Council of the Whole Meetings
 third Monday of each month at 7pm

**Plan Commission and
 Zoning Board of Appeals**
 first and third Tuesday of each
 month at 7pm

All meetings are held in the Village
 Council Chambers at the Village Hall

Agendas for Village Board and
 Plan Commission meetings are
 posted at the Village Hall.

Village Board meetings air on
 New Lenox Channel 6 starting
 the day after the meeting.

New Lenox Village Hall
 1 Veterans Parkway
 New Lenox, IL 60451
 815.462.6400

Hours

Mon. Tues. Thurs. Fri. 8:30-5:00
 Wed. 8:30-7:00

www.newlenox.net

the
Village of New Lenox
"Home of Proud Americans"

Winter Snow Removal & Parking Regulations

The winter season brings inclement weather conditions making travel difficult. One of the Village's primary objectives during the season is to keep roads and highways free from snow and ice through plowing and salting operations. As residents, you can help us keep our streets and roads safer by keeping vehicles off public streets and roads during a snow storm and by depositing snow from private drives and walkways on your own property and not on Village streets.

On Street Parking Prohibition - Snow Tow

In order to effectively clear all streets from curb to curb, any vehicle parked on the roadway must be removed. Failure to clear the entire road surface hinders further removal of snow and presents a hazard when the remaining snow on the roadway freezes. As soon as the snow depth reaches 2" or greater, ALL vehicles must be removed from the street. It is advisable, however, to remove your vehicle as soon as it begins to snow. When parking overnight, keep in mind it may snow while you are sleeping, creating a problem early in the morning. Village code provides for ticketing or towing of vehicles in violation of this ordinance.

Depositing Snow in the Roadway

The practice of pushing or blowing snow from private driveways into the public roadways is prohibited. Frozen snow piles from private snow removal operations create a hazard to vehicular traffic and make subsequent snow removal efforts difficult. Village code provides for ticketing violators of this ordinance.

We ask that when clearing your driveway and walkways, snow is placed in your yard or in the parkway, not the street. Our snow plow drivers try to minimize any excess snow plow windrowing into cleared drives, however, the plowing process regrettably pushes some snow back into the cleared drives. Depositing snow on the street simply adds more to your drive after the next plowing cycle. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding by keeping private drive snow removal off public streets.



Did You Know?

New Lenox residents have or will soon have more retail/service opportunities per the new businesses listed below:



- Armor Nutrition, 1417 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in Coldwell Banker Plaza). Open NOW.
- Dr. Lisa Eckenstein (Orthodontist), 1425 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in Coldwell Banker Plaza). Opening October, 2016.
- Nurse's Nook, 1314 N. Cedar (in Francis and North Cedar Road Plaza). Opening September 19, 2016.
- Papa John's Pizza, 705 E. Lincoln Hwy. (next to AT&T Store in front of Walmart). Opening September 21, 2016.
- Pico de Gallo, 1938 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in Atrium Point). Opening October, 2016.
- Turning Pointe Dance Academy, 2351 E. Joliet Hwy. (in Bluestone Commons). Open NOW.
- Ugly Ducklings by Kathleen, 398 N. Cedar (on the corner of Oak and North Cedar). Opening in September, 2016.
- U.S. Foundations, 1007 Schoolgate Road (basement/crawl space waterproofing). Open NOW.

"Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree"

Do you have this year's "Commons Christmas Tree?"

We are looking for an Evergreen or Blue Spruce Tree to adorn the Village Commons this Christmas Season. Do you have a tree that is at least 20 ft. tall, on your private property that you would like removed by the Village (we will even replace it with another tree)? If you think you may have the perfect specimen, please contact the Public Works Department at (815) 215-4800. If your tree is chosen it will be removed at no cost to you, transported to the Commons and decorated with lights for the entire Village to enjoy this Christmas Season.



Before You Know It . . .

The year-end holidays are three and a half months away and New Lenox residents don't need to stress about shopping for gifts. Celebrate & Shop New Lenox will be held again this year where local businesses, e.g., retailers, restaurants, and other services allow you to shop local to cross names off your gift list. The Village will print a list of businesses wishing to participate in Celebrate & Shop in a local paper and post on the businesses on the Village website soon after Thanksgiving.



Why be stressed driving to other communities to shop? Stay in New Lenox, save time, and shop local!

Christmas in the Commons

The Village Commons will be merry and bright this holiday season as the Village of New Lenox presents Christmas in the Commons as you've never seen it before. A stunning display of lights and sculptures will light the Commons throughout the holiday season crowned by the largest lighted Santa Claus in the United States, standing 36-feet tall and weighing over 2.5 tons.



The Christmas in the Commons Kick-Off Celebration will take place Sunday, December 4th. This celebration will feature many of the New Lenox holiday traditions you've grown to love, including horse-drawn carriage rides and visits from Santa, Mrs. Claus, and some of Santa's reindeer. Please save the date and stay tuned for more details at www.newlenox.net and the Village of New Lenox Facebook page in the coming weeks.

Ladies Night Out

This year's Ladies Night Out was hosted on August 31st in the Village Commons and offered shopping and live music for the ladies who attended. A total of 56 vendors participated in the event to offer their wares to attendees, including everything from clothing, jewelry, kitchen gadgets, health and fitness products, books, and more.



Thanks to donations from participating vendors, a total of \$1,120.00 was donated to the Lincoln-Way Area Business Women's Organization, who will use these funds to provide college scholarships to local girls and women. Thank you to all of our vendors and our attendees, and we hope to see you again next year!

Rain Barrels & Other Ways to Save Water

When we think of stormwater as a precious fresh water resource, it doesn't make sense to manage it like a waste product. There is a finite amount of fresh water on earth and we can all take steps to protect it, starting with collecting it where it falls!



When we catch and keep the rainwater that falls on our yards, we reduce flooding and stress on sewer system infrastructure, keep pollutants out of our rivers, creeks and streams, and end up with clean water that is perfect for watering lawns and gardens, washing cars or the family dog.

Rain Barrels

One simple, efficient, low-cost method to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff from your property is to use rain barrels. Estimates indicate that a quarter-inch of rain falling on an average home yields over 200 gallons of water. Rain barrels are simply large containers that capture stormwater from your roof that would otherwise be lost as runoff. Modern rain barrels are sealed, safe around children and insect resistant – they can even be painted or decorated to your liking. You can divert water from your downspout to fill your rain barrel and a hose spigot on the front makes the water easy to access and use.

Around 40% of total household water used during the summer months is for watering lawns and gardens. Rainwater doesn't contain chlorine, lime or calcium which makes it ideal for watering your flowers and vegetable garden or washing your car or windows. You may notice a decrease in your water bill! Even if you don't have an intended use for the water, emptying the rain barrel after a storm reduces the rate and volume of stormwater the sewer system and our rivers and streams have to manage at a peak time.

The Village of New Lenox sells rain barrels year-round through our partnership with Upcycle Products, Inc. Our 55-gallon rain barrels are made of recycled food-grade plastic, come in a variety of colors and can be purchased online for \$66 (plus tax) and delivered to your home. For more information, visit the "Going Green at Home" page of the Village's website www.newlenox.net.



1,500 Parkway Trees Removed in the Village

Millions of native Ash trees are dying, being killed by a tiny, metallic green beetle known as the Emerald Ash Borer.



The disease is spreading relentlessly across the United States, and New Lenox was not spared its infestation. The Village has been removing diseased Ash trees for several years, however, this summer saw the largest amount of over 1,500 trees removed in a single season. Barr Tree Care was awarded the bid in May. Removal began in early June and should end in October.

Residents received letters from the Public Works Department notifying them their tree was slated for removal. The diseased trees were tagged, removed, stumps grinded and restored with dirt and seed.

How do we replace 1,500 lost trees to this disease? That's where the 50/50 Replacement Program comes into play. The replacement program provides residents the opportunity to

Cont'd. on page 4

Tree Pruning

Public Works plans on conducting parkway tree pruning throughout the village. This article is intended to inform the public and answer the most common questions about this service.

Which trees will you be pruning?

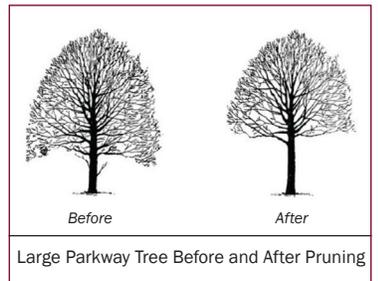
Parkway trees are the trees located next to public streets, usually in between the sidewalk and road. In areas without sidewalk, the Village maintains trees in the Right-of-Way, which typically extends fifteen feet beyond the edge of the road.

What is the purpose of tree pruning?

Trees are pruned to improve tree structure, increase crown growth, improve the look and shape of the tree, and maintain safe conditions in the parkway by providing adequate clearances over the road and sidewalk. Pruning is also a good opportunity to remove dead or diseased branches and to thin and space interior branches, which will allow the wind to pass through the tree more freely, decreasing the chance of damage during a storm.

How much will each tree be pruned?

The amount of pruning varies for each individual parkway tree, based on tree species, size, and overall health. In general, small trees will require minor pruning to start shaping the tree for upward growth. Mature trees may also require only minor pruning, as the crowns are already high and



provide clearance over the road and sidewalk. Trees with trunk diameters ranging from six to twelve inches usually require the most pruning, as the lower portion of their crowns typically conflict with road and sidewalk clearances.

What are the clearances for the street and sidewalk? Why are branches pruned so high?

Parkway trees are pruned to allow fourteen feet of clearance in the street and eight feet of clearance over the sidewalk. This allows emergency vehicles, school buses, garbage trucks, snowplows, and Village Leaf Pick-Up crews to get to the curb safely and unimpeded, and allows pedestrians and bicyclists to use the sidewalk safely. Properly pruning lower branches allows these clearances and encourages the tree to grow up out rather than out and down. While these clearances may initially leave some trees with a lopsided appearance, a symmetrical crown will be achieved as the tree matures and more pruning is performed.

If you have additional questions or concerns about this service, please contact the New Lenox Public Works at (815) 215-4800.

When Is Menards Coming to New Lenox?

Many residents know that Menards purchased the property that is east of Walmart on Route 30 and the Village receives inquiries as to when Menards is coming. The majority of national retailers and restaurants have benchmarks that justify a new store that vary depending on where their most successful stores are located. Menards invested in New Lenox by purchasing the property and in addition, shared the cost of expanding Route 30 in front of Walmart from two to four lanes.



At Menards' request, Village staff provided Menards with population-related information last summer and this summer. We are going to resubmit in 2017 and were encouraged by Menards to do so. Menard's is coming to New Lenox and we'll certainly announce when the decision is made to proceed.

Bio-Blitz 2016

The Hickory Creek Watershed Planning group held another great Bio-Blitz this year at 5 locations along Hickory Creek. The bio-blitz is a great opportunity for citizens to team up with researchers and biologists to help sample and identify aquatic organisms in Hickory Creek.



Macroinvertebrates are collected by citizens and biologists then later all organisms will be identified and a MBI/mIBI score will be concluded. The MBI/mIBI score is a way to identify the stream quality based on the type of organisms found. Aquatic macroinvertebrates were sampled because they can be used to characterize stream quality and prioritize restoration efforts. If you missed this year's event, don't worry there will be another one next year that you can get involved in. This year a total of 50 volunteers participated and a total of 1,500 macroinvertebrates were collected.

Additionally, wastewater plant tours are offered every year at a different location. This year was at The Village of New Lenox Wastewater Treatment Plant #1. It was a great opportunity to learn how wastewater treatment plants work and how we protect the health and safety of our citizens and the environment. The tour was a great success with residents, kids, teachers and even Congressman Bill Foster taking part in it.

The sewer department is available 24/7 365. Any time you suspect a sewer issue, call the Village first to determine if the problem is located in the sewer main or your service line. During normal business hours you can call the Village Hall (815) 462-6400 to have an employee dispatched to your home. If your issue occurs after hours you can call the Village's non-emergency number (815) 485-2500 and an employee will contact you.

Triple Play Concert Series

The eighth annual Triple Play concert series brought even more talent and entertainment to New Lenox this summer with two concert series for residents to attend. The first series included Daughtry, Huey Lewis & The News, and The Wallflowers while the second included Buddy Guy, Michael McDonald, and Chicago.



Our sincere thanks go to the sponsors, local food vendors, ESDA, CERT, New Lenox Fire Protection District, New Lenox Police Department, and the Village employees who gave their time and their support. Without you, these events would not be possible. And finally, thank you to all the residents who came out to support the concerts and enjoy some great nights of world-class music. We look forward to seeing you again in 2017!

Cont'd from page 3

replace their parkway tree by splitting the cost with the Village. The letter includes the approved parkway tree species, along with descriptions of each variety and allows you to rank your preference of species. The Village makes every attempt to honor all requests for the replacement trees as availability allows. With this year's removal of 1,500 hundred trees, we were unable to send replacement letters to everyone who was affected. If you had a parkway tree removed this year and did not receive a 50/50 letter in September, you will be on the list for 2017. The Village appreciates your patience with the removal and replacement process as we tackle the Emerald Ash Borer disease. Any questions regarding this program can be directed to the Public Works Department at 815-215-4800.

What Is An RPZ And Why Do I Have To Get It Tested?



By now, many of you have received a letter from BSI Online stating that you need to get your backflow prevention assembly tested. Title 35, Section 653.802 of the Illinois Administrative Code Section 890.1130 of the Illinois Plumbing Code, as well as, New Lenox Municipal Code (Section 94-401 through 94-435) requires these devices to be tested upon installation and, at the minimum, tested once a year thereafter. **Failure to have these devices tested annually could lead to your water service being shut off.**

The Village of New Lenox has contracted BSI Online to handle the notification and record keeping for this program. They will be sending letters once a year to remind residents and businesses that it is time to have their assemblies tested. **Please do not disregard these letters.** Beginning in 2017, all devices must be tested by June 1st. BSI will send out letters 30 days before your due date. They must be tested by a certified Cross Connection Control Device Inspector. The best time to get it tested is when it is installed.

Follow this link to find an Inspector certified in Illinois: http://www.siu.edu/ertc/cross_connection_control.shtml

These backflow devices prevent contaminants from entering not only your home, but also the Village of New Lenox water system and potentially injuring hundreds or thousands of our residents. It is for the safety of yourself and your neighbors that these devices must be checked.

FAQ's

What is backflow?

Backflow occurs when a loss in water pressure (commonly due to a fire hydrant being opened, a water main break, or abnormally high water usage) causes the water in your pipes to flow in the opposite direction. This could allow contaminated or polluted water to travel back into the drinking water supply possibly contaminating thousands of people.

What is a backflow prevention device?

A backflow prevention assembly is a testable mechanical device which uses valves, in different configurations, to prevent contaminated water or chemicals from flowing back into the public drinking water supply system.

Why do I need one?

Cross connections can occur at both commercial and residential properties. For commercial customers, cross connections exist in many forms, from carbonated beverage machines and ice makers, to fire sprinkler systems and x-ray machines. On the residential side, the most common cross connections occur with lawn irrigation and fire sprinkler systems.

Does a lawn irrigation system really need a backflow prevention device?

YES. Lawn irrigation systems are considered a hazardous cross connection. All particulates that are in your lawn can seep into the underground pipes and enter the drinking water supply. This can be anything from fertilizers to animal feces. Properly working backflow prevention devices protect this from happening.

Do I have to get it tested if I don't use my sprinkler system anymore?

If you decide to no longer use your sprinkler system, you may cut and cap the pipe inside your home that leads to your sprinkler system. Once this is complete, the Water Department will need to be notified so they can inspect it.

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Public Works Department at (815) 215-4800.