

Village of Island Lake Newsletter: October 2023 Mini-Newsletter



From Mayor McLaughlin

Welcome Fall! As you admire the natural beauty of the great outdoors, have a look at your property from the outside. Do you need to get rid of debris and give your property a facelift? Try to see our community from the eyes of prospective new neighbors and businesses. Will they want to make Island Lake their home?

Building Projects and Contractors: Building requirements and permit applications are on our website. Recently, a number of residents have had issues with contractors for their building projects. The building official has shut down work being done without a permit or an unregistered contractors. Permits and registrations are for your protection. *When in doubt, call the Village.*

Slow down and obey STOP signs. We also hear concerns from residents about speeding and running stop signs; most of the violators live in the neighborhood. Our Police Department will cite motorists for failing to obey traffic safety laws.

Respect our shared public property and facilities. Public Works and Adopt a Park volunteers work hard to take care of our parks and lake. Due to frequent vandalism, the restrooms at Converse and Veterans Parks will be locked and replaced by portable toilets. The strain on the budget and staff is only part of the cost of the damage. Morale and use of the parks suffers. **Pick up after your pets.** The nuisance of leaving pet waste left on public property has been increasing. It is not only a violation of the *Village Code*, it is disrespectful of the others who use our parks and common areas. Sadly, funds that could have been used for park improvements will be used to install trail cameras to help identify and prosecute offenders.

Enjoy the new basketball backboards and rims at the Village Hall court. **Remodeling of the Village offices** is nearly complete. Thanks for your patience while we make improvements to serve you better.

Construction of Senior Lofts 55+ housing is underway. The developer will let the Village know when they will be accepting applications for the apartments and we will post their contact information on our website. Projected occupancy: September 2024.

Economic/Business Development: *Emerald Dispensary and Lounge* is scheduled to open November 1, 2023. The owners will be accepting employment applications in October. *Kelley's Mobil Market* has purchased the property at River Rd. and Rte. 176 and is getting Department of Transportation approvals to go forward with developing the property.

Congratulations on their retirement and honors to *Larry Loos* after 34 years of Public Works service and *Rick Beaudoin* after 28 years of service in the Water Department. Congratulations to Island Lake resident and District 118 FBLA Coordinator *Wendy Mills* on her induction into the National FBLA Hall of Fame.

Public Works and Water, Director Chris Carlsen

2023 Road and Curb Projects are complete and planning for 2024 is underway.

Snow season reminders Public Works is on call 24/7—including on holidays—to keep the roads clear during snowfalls. Arterial streets are the first to be plowed. Show courtesy to the snow crew: *keep your distance* from the plows;



stay safe at home if possible. Do not shovel or push snow into the roadway. *Make sure your mailbox can withstand the weight of snow* from the plow.

The new WaterGator was busy summer cleaning up areas of the lake, resulting in decrease use of chemicals. Public Works looks forward to even better results when it is used during the full summer season next year.

Public Meetings

Village Board: 2nd, 4th Thurs.* of the month, 7:00pm
**No meeting the 4th Thurs. in Nov. & Dec.*

Planning and Zoning Commission: 3rd Thurs. of month, 7:30pm *as needed*

Parks and Lake Commission: 1st Mon. of month, 6:30pm *as needed*

Emergency Management Agency: 3rd Wednesday*, 7:00pm *as needed*
**No meeting July, Aug., Nov. & Dec.*

Police and Fire Commission: 1st Wed. of month, 7:30pm *as needed*

Historical Society: 1st Mon. of month, 7:00pm

Interested in serving on a Village Commission? Go to our website; click on the Job & Village Commissions tab.

Contact the Village

Village office: 847-526-8764
Public Works & Water: 847-526-8767
Official website of the Village of Island Lake: www.villageofislandlake.com.
Click on the **Contact Us** link in the blue toolbar on the left and select the department you would like to reach.

Visit our website for a directory of Village and Community Contacts.

Assorted Information

- Trunk-or-Treat: Oct. 28, 6-8pm
- Trick-or-Treat: Oct. 31, 4-8pm
- Tree Lighting: Dec 2
- **Office Closed for Holidays** Nov. 23, 24; Dec. 25, 26; Jan 1
- Visit the Events page on our website for updated 2023 Events Calendar

Police Department, Chief Jennifer Paulus

Halloween Safety: You may see Island Lake's very own LEGO Cop on patrol on Halloween. He has some *tips to keep everyone safe* on his favorite night of the year.

- **Accompany** young children.
- **Set time boundaries** for older children and have them give you their route.
- **Costumes** should be made of fireproof material and *should not* impair vision.
- **Do not allow children to have realistic replicas of firearms.**
- **Closely inspect treats** before anyone eats them. *When in doubt, throw it out.*

Trick or Treat hours will be 4:00pm – 8:00pm on Halloween, Oct. 31.



Safety always: *Stop means to cease moving; to come to a stand. Speed limit means the maximum speed. Obey traffic signs or expect citations.* Your safety and the safety of others is at stake—especially in the coming winter season when road conditions call for extra caution.



Parking Reminders: Parking on Village streets is prohibited from 2-6am, when 2" of snow has accumulated or when streets are in an iced or glazed condition.

Building and Code Enforcement

Fall is a good season for exterior work on your home and property. Here are some reminders as you plan your repair and improvement projects.

Permits are required for most work. Go to our website on the forms tab to find Building Department information and forms:

www.Villageofislandlake.com/forms.

Permit processing can take up to 20 business days. Complete paperwork and a \$50 permit application fee must be submitted with the application. Make

inspection requests at *least 48 hours in advance.* You must display the orange permit card in a front window for inspections to take place. *Fines apply for starting work without a permit.*



Code Enforcement gives residents 14 days to remedy violations to avoid fines. Respect your neighbors and your property. Property cleanup is a challenge when the snow falls. Take advantage of the final days of fine weather to spruce up your property.

Parks and Lake Commission



Wanted! Volunteers to join in our efforts to help care for our parks. Go to <https://villageofislandlake.com/parks-beaches> to find the brochure about the "Adopt a Park" program. Also visit the Parks and Lake Commission Facebook page.



Also Wanted! Members for Parks and Lake Commission—especially with an interest in parks. An interest form for commissions is on our website on the Job & Village

Commission Opportunities tab.

Job & Village Commission
Opportunities

The Mutton Creek Native Buffer Project is designed to help with shoreline stabilization. Progress continues on this ongoing project with additional work planned for Spring 2024.

Planning is in the works for the 2nd Annual Cardboard Sled Race at Converse Park: *date TBD.* It's a great opportunity for families, individuals and community groups to enjoy some outdoor recreation this winter at our most popular park.

Evidence suggests that parks and green spaces have significant benefits for their users, with additional benefits accruing with investments in park and green space access and quality... Park leaders and advocates are identifying ways to unlock the full potential of parks to spur economic benefits for neighborhoods and residents, foster belonging and collective identity, and provide health benefits for users. —The Health Benefits of Parks and their Economic Impacts: A Review of the Literature (Urban Institute, February 2022, <https://www.urban.org/>)

Garbage, Recycling and Yard Waste Reminders

- All materials must be at the curb/roadside by 7:00am on Mondays.*
- Call LRS, 847-381-9300, for billing questions, missed pickups and large item pickup requests.
- Final 2023 yard waste pickup: Mon., Nov. 26
- *Holiday schedule pickups: Tues. Dec. 26, Tues. Jan. 1

Have a safe and joyous holiday season!