

# Grayslake Record



Follow the Village

April 2021

## Reuse-A-Shoe

The Reuse-a-Shoe program offered through the Village of Grayslake and SWALCO provides citizens with the opportunity to recycle unwanted shoes. Instead of throwing away shoes, recycling will mean that 95% or more of all shoe materials will be reused. The program is available at the Grayslake Public Works facility, 585 Berry Avenue (Mon-Fri 7-3:30; Sat 8-12). All shoe contributions must be in a pair and tied/connected to its pairing shoe.

## Free Textile Recycling

Spring-time is coming and it's time to clean out closets, cupboards or other household items you no longer need. You can recycle the textiles you no longer need at the Grayslake Public Works facility, 585 Berry Avenue (Mon-Fri 7-3:30; Sat 8-12). Some of the items accepted for textiles and clothing include blouses, shirts, coats, jackets, dresses. For a full list of accepted items please visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com). About 95% of the materials collected will be repurposed or recycled.

## Register for the Green Package Curbside Composting Program Today!

Are you interested in sustainability and looking for a way to be more sustainable in your home? Look no further! The Village of Grayslake's Green Package composting program is a waste service package centered on composting food scraps as well as landscape waste that can help residents and the Village be more sustainable! The Green Package includes a dedicated 35-gallon cart for organics and yard waste, collected year round, in addition to resident's current sized trash and recycling carts.

The cost of the Green Package is \$11.60 per month in addition to residents' current trash and recycling bill. This cost is billed by the Village, just like your current trash and recycling bill.

Composting is a great way to reduce your food waste and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Grayslake. Composting also keeps food and yard waste products from going to the landfill. By helping divert food and yard waste from the landfill, you can do your part to help the Village achieve its goal of diverting 60% of the waste stream from going to the landfill!

All sorts of food items can be composted, including fruits and vegetables, meat/poultry/fish products, pasta, bread, cereal, dairy products, eggs, and nuts. Additionally, many non-food items like coffee grounds/filters, tea bags, ice cream containers, popcorn bags, soiled tissues, napkins and paper towels can be composted too! In addition to food waste, residents can also use their organics cart for grass clippings and other yard waste items!

To register for the Green Package program, please call the Village of Grayslake at 847-223-8515 or visit the Village's Request for Service system at [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com). The Green Package is just one more way the Village continues to be a regional leader in sustainability."

## Aquatic Center Memberships On Sale Now

Memberships for the 2021 Aquatic Center season are still available at a discounted price! Guarantee a summer of fun for the whole family and purchase yours today! Spend your summer poolside and create family memories that will last a lifetime! For more information please visit [www.swimgrayslake.com](http://www.swimgrayslake.com) or call 847-223-7665

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## Reminders

### Water & Sewer Bill Payment Options

Residents have six options to pay their water and sewer bills:

1. Electronically
2. Automatic debit
3. By phone (1-844-463-8922)
4. By mail
5. In person at Grayslake Village Hall
6. Drop box at Village Hall

For additional information regarding water bill payment options including auto-debit enrollment, please visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com), "Water & Sewer Services", under the Residents tab or contact the Request for Service System at 847-223-8515.

### Senior Citizen Electricity Surcharge Rebate

Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>, eligible individuals can submit copies of their past electric bills dated April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021 at the drop-box located just outside the Village Hall front door, 10 S. Seymour Avenue.

The Village's senior citizen electricity surcharge rebate reimburses individuals 65 years of age or older (as of April 1, 2020) for the amount of electricity surcharge paid on their electric bill during the previous year, not to exceed \$20. A valid driver's license or ID card is required. Past electric bills will be accepted April 1, 2021 - April 30, 2021.

## From the Mayor...

At this year's budget meeting, the Village Board approved funding for a number of community improvements and our annual road resurfacing program. Projects include installation of new curbing and sidewalks, a new ice-skating rink in Gelatin Park, additional tree planting, water system improvements, open space purchases and the continued conversion of our street lights to LED technology. In addition to these the funding includes resources for programs and initiatives at the Heritage Center, business attraction and retention and full two-year funding of the soon-to-start Grayslake Bike Share Program.

The 2021/2022 fiscal year budget includes over \$1.1 million in funding for our annual road resurfacing program. Many area towns struggle to pay for and complete regular resurfacing, causing roads in those towns to deteriorate, or causing a need for property tax increases. Grayslake has a multi-year plan for resurfacing all our roads and our plan includes regular, annual, non-property tax funding for these projects. This year the roads to be resurfaced include Slusser Street (Center Street to Allen Avenue), Manor Avenue, Laurel Terrace (north of Highland Road), Kenilworth Street (north of Briargate Drive and north and south of Highland Road), Kenilworth Court (south of Briargate Drive), Briargate Drive, Dawn Circle, Stuart Street (north and south of Highland Road), Flanders Lane, Lawrence Avenue, Pierce Court, Lincoln Avenue, Harris Road (Hedgerow Drive to Blazing Star Road), Harris Road (Blazing Star Road to Casey Road), Highland Road (west of Lake Street), Highland Court, Willowby Court, Killarney Court, Mulrany Place, Deep Woods Court, Wellington Court, Galway Street, Village Station Lane, Thomas Court and the west section of Carillon Drive (Drury Lane to Rollins Road).

The Village makes annual investments in community improvements. These include road expansion projects, Village Center/downtown improvements, flood mitigation projects, open space purchases and enhancements, recreational amenities and utility system

investments. In the last ten years these investments have totaled over \$32 million. These quality-of-life improvements are also intended to support rising property values over the long term. These investments have been accomplished without the use of property tax funds. The Village is also debt free (one of a handful of communities our size) because we organize our capital plan on a pay-as-you-go basis.

In the last 20 years the Village has also expended funds to assist other local taxing districts by paying for and constructing certain public improvements. In addition to enhancing service capability this helps hold down property tax bills because other districts do not have to raise property taxes or incur debt to pay for these improvements. Over the years, 30 projects costing over \$11 million have been completed. Highlights include the east side fire station, Frederick Road, road/intersection improvements around Grayslake Central High School, utility extensions for Grayslake North High School, Library Lane, funds for adding to the collections of the Grayslake Area Library District, baseball field lighting, parking and various park projects. This intergovernmental cooperation improves the overall community.

The Board is now working on a new ten-year capital plan that will continue investments in our neighborhoods.

Please contact me with any questions you might have or any topics you would like to see addressed in the monthly newsletter.

Sincerely,



Rhett Taylor

## Leak Detection Helpful Hints!

Little leaks inside your home can waste large amounts of water and cost you money on your water utility bill. Below are some tips for identifying possible leaks inside your home:

- **Toilets:** If a toilet turns the water on without you touching the handle, if you have to jiggle the handle to make it stop running or if you have to hold the handle down to allow the tank to empty. One way to determine if you have a leak is to add dark food coloring to the tank and wait 40 minutes. Do not flush. If the water in the bowl changes colors, you have a leak.
- **Whole House Humidifiers:** Regular maintenance can keep a humidifier working well, but if issues arise, troubleshooting may be useful.
- **Bathroom, Kitchen and Outdoor Faucets:** Occasionally, faucets may leak in other places such as the on/off handles. You may have a leak if there are visible drips at the piping or if there are wet, damp areas underneath the sink.

## Village Announcements

### Seasonal Public Works Employment

The Village is seeking qualified candidates for Public Works seasonal positions working from approximately May 15<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>. The positions are for 40 hours per week starting at \$11.00 per hour with the opportunity for overtime. Typical duties for these positions include landscaping, painting, litter removal, tree trimming and other general maintenance.

Applications are available at [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com) and should be submitted no later than Friday, April 23, 2021 to the Village Hall drop-box, Attn: Jennifer Hess, 10 S. Seymour Avenue or to [jhess@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:jhess@villageofgrayslake.com).

### Grayslake Arts Alliance Mayfest

Join us as we celebrate MayFest on Saturday, May 1! The Grayslake Arts Alliance will be showcasing the artwork of local artists for their annual May event. Check online at [www.grayslakeartsalliance.org](http://www.grayslakeartsalliance.org) for the latest information.

### Yard Waste Clean-Up Week of April 19

This service will take place during the week of April 19. There is no extra cost to residents for this service. Residents may set out an unlimited amount of yard waste for this one-time pick-up. When putting out yard waste, residents are asked to follow these guidelines:

- Yard waste (up to 50 pounds) must be placed in brown paper yard waste bags or plastic garbage containers (up to 32 gallon) clearly marked "yard waste".
- All branches should be tied in bundles no more than 2" in diameter and 4' long.
- Yard waste should be placed at the street after 6:00 p.m. the night before the scheduled pick-up.

During the yard waste pick-up season (April through November), residents may use the yard waste sticker subscription service. Yard waste pick-ups occur on the same day as your regular garbage and recycle pick-up.

### Basement Flood Prevention Tips

- For basements that use a sump pump, it is a good idea to have an extra battery powered pump in the event of a power outage.
- If the location of the floor drain permits, an uncapped standpipe may be installed in the floor drain. Never cap a standpipe or floor drain.
- For basements with window wells, make sure drains work and be sure to clear all leaves and debris. Window well covers for basement windows may also help.
- Downspouts with above ground opening should be extended away from the foundation.
- If water accumulates next to the outside walls of your home, consider relandscaping to direct the water away.
- Consider routine inspection or rodding of the sewer lines at your home. Root intrusion from trees is often the cause of a sewer line blockage.
- If you notice leaf or small branch debris obstructing a catch basin or street storm sewer, you can try to remove it to allow the water to flow through.

## Grayslake History is available in-person, online or outside!

- Check online for the latest information about Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum hours and availability.
- “Overcoming Disasters: A Community Comes Together” opens April 10. Grayslake has faced fires, tornados, floods, and now a pandemic. With original photographs, artifacts, and sets built by the College of Lake County Theater Department, you can be an eyewitness to disasters of the past. The exhibit ends with our current pandemic and an opportunity for you to leave your mark on records that will be kept for future generations to study this time in Grayslake history.
- Join Grayslake Historical Society member Jane Trump as she shares “Challenging Conflagrations and Capable Chiefs”, the history of the Grayslake Fire Department, on Wednesday, April 14 at 7 PM on Facebook Live.
- Win a puzzle! Visit the Annex and complete a scavenger hunt for the chance to win a 300 piece puzzle
- This is not your typical paper airplane! April’s take home kit has paper airplane and helicopter templates designed to get you experimenting with wind. Kits are available April 24-25 or while supplies last. Be sure to come inside to see the damage wind can do in our exhibit “Overcoming Disasters: A Community Comes Together.
- Share your genealogy triumphs and struggles with the Grayslake Historical Society on the first Wednesday of each month at Search and Share Genealogy. Limit 10 people. Each participant will sit at their own 6’ table and is required to wear a mask.

For more information about these and other initiatives, visit [www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com](http://www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com), 847-543-1745, or email [mpoe@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:mpoe@villageofgrayslake.com). For more information about the Grayslake Historical Society, visit [www.grayslakehistory.org](http://www.grayslakehistory.org), 847-223-7663 or email [charenehan@aol.com](mailto:charenehan@aol.com).

### Happenings at the Grayslake Area Public Library

Your City @ Home - Behind The Scenes Tours! Get exclusive behind the scenes tours at a variety of stellar Chicagoland museums including the Shedd Aquarium, The Art Institute of Chicago, IL Holocaust Museum and Garfield Park Conservatory. Tours will take place on Saturdays in April and May via ZOOM; registration is required and details can be found at [www.grayslake.info](http://www.grayslake.info) or call 847-223-5313. All ages are welcome!

Curbside Pickup Hours Expanded! Service hours are Mon-Thrs 10am-7pm, Fri 10am-4pm, Sat 10am-1pm, Sun 1-4pm. Checkout, books, movies, music, and more to pick up curbside!

### CLC James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts

So Good – The Neil Diamond Experience on Friday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. A tribute like no other! Robert Neary takes on the persona of Neil Diamond as he and the band passionately perform 20 of his greatest hits!

To register for your FREE virtual event link: Phone the Box Office: 847-543-2300 or email: [clcboxoffice@clcillinois.edu](mailto:clcboxoffice@clcillinois.edu)

Voice and email messages can be left anytime and will be answered at the earliest opportunity. Phone lines are open Monday – Friday, noon to 5 p.m.

## Lake County Fairgrounds Events

*To confirm event  
schedule please visit  
[www.lcfair.com](http://www.lcfair.com)*

## Elected Officials

### Mayor

Rhett Taylor [mayortaylor@hotmail.com](mailto:mayortaylor@hotmail.com)

### Trustees

Shawn Vogel [trusteevogel@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteevogel@hotmail.com)

Ron Jarvis [trusteejarvis@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteejarvis@hotmail.com)

Kevin Waldenstrom [trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com)

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Adam Shores [trusteeshores@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteeshores@hotmail.com)

Lalena Magnetta [trusteemagnetta@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteemagnetta@hotmail.com)

*To see our major meeting schedule, please visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com).*