

Grayslake Record



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May 2022

Sustainable Landscaping Consultations

Openlands is now scheduling spring appointments to help homeowners, businesses, and institutions manage their properties in ways that support aesthetics, stormwater management, and ecological resilience. On-site, outdoor property visits are provided by a staff Landscape Ecologist. Recommendations are tailored to each property owner's needs, and may address stormwater, the selection of native trees and other plants, the control of invasive species, and tree and lawn care.

Openlands is a nationally accredited land trust serving northeastern Illinois since 1963. Openlands.org/beautiful.

Free Textile Recycling

You can recycle the textiles you no longer need at the Grayslake Public Works facility, 585 Berry Avenue (Mon-Fri 8-3; Sat 8-12). For a full list of accepted items please visit www.villageofgrayslake.com. About 95% of the materials collected will be repurposed or recycled.

Grayslake's Bird City Illinois Designation Initiative

The Village has been working with other community partners to have Grayslake recognized as an official Illinois Bird City. Bird City Illinois is an initiative that encourages all communities to implement sound bird-conservation practices that enhances the environment for birds and educates the public about the relationship between birds and people. As part of that process, the Village is hosting the following event.

"Dim the Lights for Birds at Night" will be the topic discussed on Wednesday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Grayslake Village Hall, 10 South Seymour Avenue. This event is part of an international campaign, World Migratory Bird Day, designed to bring awareness to bird migration. This year's theme is focused on the effects of light pollution on migratory patterns. This event is free and open to the public.

The two featured speakers of the event are Dale Dellutri of the Skokie Valley Astronomers and Diane Rosenberg of the Lake County Audubon Society. Dale Dellutri will discuss the problem of increasing artificial light at night. Diane Rosenberg's presentation will focus on migratory patterns in general and specifically to local areas. Both Diane Rosenberg and Dale Dellutri will be available to answer questions following the presentations.

Diane Rosenberg's background includes serving as the environmental control commissioner for the Village of Franklin Park. She has also been a member of the Lake County Audubon Board. Diane Rosenberg is currently focused on "Sharing our Shore," a collaborative program between the City of Waukegan and the Lake County Audubon Society. With a master's degree in biology from Loyola University of Chicago, she has taught both at the university and secondary school level.

Dale Dellutri has an MBA and MS in Information Science from the University of Chicago and has managed technical employees and projects in various fields including programming, data center construction, legal, tax and futures and equity trading. Now retired, he is an amateur astronomer and manages the Skokie Valley Astronomers website. Dale Dellutri has given multiple astronomy-themed presentations and participates annually at a local Astronomy Day meeting at William Rainey Harper College in Palatine.

We hope to see you there!

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Reminders

Garbage & Recycle Can Placement Reminder

Residents are reminded to place their garbage and recycle cans and yard waste out for pick-up no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the night before their regular pick-up day. After refuse is picked up, garbage and recycle cans must be placed either on the side or back of the house or inside the garage per Village ordinance.

Storage of Recreational Vehicles/Trailers Not Allowed

Storage of a recreational vehicle, jet-ski or boat in a driveway or in the front yard of residential property is prohibited by Village Code. Trailers are prohibited on residential lots.

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 info regarding water bill payment options including auto-debit enrollment, please visit www.villageofgrayslake.com, "Water & Sewer Services", under the Residents tab or call at 847-223-8515.

From the Mayor...

Last month I wrote about the Village's long-term financial planning which has been a key factor in allowing the Village to maintain service levels and complete property value increasing community improvements despite financial disruptions from national economic conditions. Most recently the COVID-19 pandemic directly affected service delivery procedures and altered revenues and costs. While many local governments in the area, and around the nation, experienced significant disruptions, we were able to proceed according to our adopted plans.

Annually, the Village Board reviews financial plans and projects and adopts annual operations and capital budgets. Typically, adopted annual budgets are in-line with projections. Occasionally outside factors not in control of the Village (weather/economic conditions/State of Illinois unfunded mandates/etc) can present unexpected challenges. The Village's careful financial planning has allowed us to address these unexpected issues without reducing basic services, delaying capital projects, or taking on debt. At this time national inflationary conditions have caused some municipal costs, in a number of areas, to rise.

Despite the inflationary conditions, and the resulting rising cost of some services, the Village Board was able to approve a new annual budget (starting on May 1) that reduces combined water/sewer/garbage/recycling fees for the year. As usual the new budget continues the Village's policy of taking less property taxes than allowed by law. Total operating budgeted costs for fiscal year 22/23 are \$20,245,744. Operating costs are budgeted to rise less than the current year-over-year inflation rate.

The adopted capital budgets include infrastructure projects, Village Center improvements, and new economic development related projects. These include our regular annual road resur-

facing program, downtown sidewalk enhancements, new native planting areas, additional Village Center curbing, an emergency well back-up generator, and a new Haryan Farms outfall storm sewer. Also included in the capital budget are regular fixed asset major maintenance and/or replacements per a pre-determined schedule using funds previously accumulated for this purpose. These fixed asset capital costs are budgeted at \$1,683,380 next year.

As per the Village's long-term planning, the budget includes new water/sewer facilities in the southern portions of the Village. These projects include a new water tower, a second water supply connection with the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency, and a new watermain between the Prairie Crossing neighborhood and the Lake County Fairgrounds and on Peterson Road. These projects will help us attract new business property tax base and strengthen the water system as a whole.

Budgeted capital costs for all of these types of projects are \$8,996,519 for FY 22/23 and will be paid for without debt maintaining the Village's debt free status.

At this time it is hard to predict future inflationary conditions and the actual impact on the cost of various services the Village provides to its customers. As in the past, sound financial planning will help the Village accommodate any impacts as they arise.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions you might have or any topics you would like to see addressed in the monthly newsletter.

Sincerely,



Rhett Taylor, Mayor

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

Grayslake is planning to hold its annual Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 30, subject to change due to COVID.

The parade will step-off at 9:30 a.m. near the Grayslake Central High School parking lot on Lake Street and travel south on Lake Street to Junior Avenue and east to Memorial Park. The service will be held immediately following the parade. There will be no rain alternative date.

To register to participate in this year's parade please contact Deputy Clerk Jennifer Hess at jhess@villageofgrayslake.com.

Aquatic Center Preview Party

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 26! Join us at our Preview Party from 6:00-8:00 PM to celebrate the season opening of the Esper A. Petersen Foundation Family Aquatic Center. Admission to this event is free. Attendees can take a swim in the pool, sample food from the concessions stand, and pick up their season passes! Purchase your 2022 Aquatic Center Membership and Swim Lessons today at www.swimgrayslake.com.

The Aquatic Center is located in the Village Center at 250 Library Lane. For more information, please call 847-223-POOL (7665).

Village Announcements

Grayslake Heritage Center and Grayslake Historical Society

In April, the Grayslake Heritage Center and Grayslake Historical Society received a Certificate of Excellence from the Illinois State Historical Society for their 2021 "Celebrate 125+1 History Trail."

The award-winning program will return in Summer 2022. Residents will be invited to hike, bike, or skate to neighborhoods throughout Grayslake where they will learn the history of various subdivisions.

Lake County Folk Club Concert

Rory Makem. Sunday, May 15 at 7 PM. Join the Lake County Folk Club at Village Hall as they host Rory Makem, a seasoned performer and an adept interpreter of folk songs.

Makem masterfully accompanies himself on guitar, banjo, mandolin, or bouzouki.

Tickets are \$18/General Public, \$15/Seniors, \$13/Folk Club Members

Waste Management Holiday Delay

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, there will be no garbage, recycle or yard waste services on Monday, May 30. All pick-ups will be delayed by one day during this week.

Grayslake Arts Alliance

Join the Grayslake Arts Alliance as they host their signature outdoor event! MayFest takes place on Saturday, May 7 from 12-4 inside and on the grounds of the Grayslake Heritage Center.

Stop in to visit with artists, enjoy the musical groups, tour the museum, and take part in art activities suited for young and old alike. An all-around fun festive atmosphere is planned no

Native Plant Sale

Join the Lake County Forest Preserve at their Native Plant Sale on Saturday, May 7 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 8 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Independence Grove Forest Preserve, North Bay Pavilion in Libertyville. Purchase native plants for your home garden at this yearly event.

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.

Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum

- Welcome May! Join us in-person, online, or outside. Be sure to check online for the latest updates about Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum hours and programs
- Search & Share Genealogy. Share your genealogy triumphs and struggles with the Grayslake Historical Society on the first Wednesday at 2 PM of each month.
- Sunday, May 1 from 8 AM to 1 PM. Enjoy the Grayslake Lions Club's pancake breakfast, come next door to see our newest exhibits.
- MayFest. Saturday, May 7 from 12-4 PM. Join the Grayslake Arts Alliance for their annual MayFest celebration. There will be live music, fine art by local artists, and hands-on activities for children.
- Who Lived in This House? Wednesday, May 11 at 7 PM. This Grayslake Historical Society program will tell about the people who lived in various houses in the village. Learn where a Civil War veteran, a major league baseball player, a Pearl Harbor victim, and others lived. Hear their stories in person or on Facebook Live. Refreshments will be served.
- Exhibit Spotlight. Friday, May 27 at 1 PM. Tune into Facebook Live for this month's Exhibit Spotlight.
- Memorial Day Parade. Monday, May 30 at 9:30 AM. Wilbur, the Grayslake Historical Society's fire truck will be in Grayslake Memorial parade. Step off is at 9:30 AM at Grayslake Central High School

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

Happenings at the Grayslake Area Public Library

Learn Computer Basics Monday, May 16; 4-5:00 pm | Save Your Seat - Register Today. Do you need a little help using a computer? Learn the basics and get familiar with using the mouse, keyboard, and sending an email!

Keep Calm and Carry Yarn! Monday, May 23; 6:30 - 8 pm | Drop-In | Ages 10+ Bring your knitting, crocheting, or other yarn arts and bond while you create! Loom knitting, crocheting, and knitting kits are available for use and checkout.

For more info, go to www.grayslake.info or call 847-223-5313.

CLC James Lumber Center 25th Anniversary !

It's the JLC's 25th Anniversary! Special Mother's Day event!

Eileen Ivers – Sunday, May 8 @ 4 p.m. An innovator and pioneer of Celtic and World music, this Grammy™ Award winner combines imaginative, virtuosic music with cultures, stories and emotions that unite us all.

Visit our website: jlcenter.clcillinois.edu (online ticket sales are available). Phone: 847-543-2300 or email: clcboxoffice@clcillinois.edu Box Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 12 to 5 p.m.

Lake County Fairgrounds Events

- Chicagoland Monster Truck Wars: Saturday, 5/7 from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Princess for a Day - Lake County Fair Queen Pageant Fundraiser: Sunday, 5/22 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. A fundraiser to benefit the Lake County Fair Queens scholarship program.
- Pulling in the Prairie Tractor & Truck Pull: Saturday, 6/25 at 12:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
- Slammedenuff Chicago Car Show: Sunday, 6/26 from 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. \$25 admission (kids 10 & under are free).
- Lake County Fair: Wednesday, 7/27 - Sunday, 7/31. Celebrating its 93rd year, offering fun for the whole family!

Elected Officials

Mayor

Rhett Taylor mayortaylor@hotmail.com

Trustees

Ron Jarvis trusteejarvis@hotmail.com

Kevin Waldenstrom trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com

Elizabeth Davies trusteedavies@hotmail.com

Lalena Zoe Magnetta trusteemagnetta@hotmail.com

Laura Dias trusteedias@hotmail.com

To see our major meeting schedule, please visit www.villageofgrayslake.com.