

THE ANCHOR

Village of Fox Lake Newsletter

From the desk of the Mayor...



As we close out 2016, review our accomplishments of the past year and look forward to even better things for our Village in 2017. I want to wish you all Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

As you will read in this newsletter, we have accomplished quite a bit as a Village and we all have a lot to be proud of. The Business Update and the Year in Review portion of the newsletter are just some of past year's accomplishments of the dedicated staff and employees of your Village, both past and present. This year we said goodbye to Amy Serafin who ran the Parks and Recreation Department. Amy was an integral part of our Village for several years and her smiling face and enthusiasm will be missed. We wish her well as she moves to the next phase of her life.

Fox Lake is a wonderful town, made up of caring people that volunteer their time and talents for the betterment of our Village. I would like to recognize people and organizations that make a difference in our lives. One such group that truly embodies the spirit of Fox Lake is Promote Fox Lake. Previously named Fox Lake in Bloom, it had been disbanded. Shortly after the new administration was installed in 2013, the group resurrected and was renamed. The 8 member Board of Directors is comprised of two Fox Lake Area Chamber Directors, two Village of Fox Lake employees, two local business owners and two area residents. You can see the results of their beautification efforts all over town. Visit their website at promotefoxlake.org to see all of their projects and volunteer opportunities. They will be recognized at the January 24, 2017 Board meeting.

One of the goals of this Administration is complete transparency. This means decisions affecting you are made openly and you have the opportunity to participate in these decisions. We have held Town Hall Meetings to receive your input and hear your ideas as to the future of our Village.

Continued on page 2...

April 4, 2017 Consolidated Election Site Relocation

Due to improvements being made to the Lakefront Park Building, the Election Site will be unavailable for use during the April 4th Consolidated Election.

The Lake County Clerk's Office is working to diligently determine an alternate location. New polling place information will be posted to the website as soon as we receive it.

For questions, please contact the Fox Lake Village Hall at (847) 587-2151

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Village hall offices closed

December
23 – 26
&
January 2

Mayor's Message

Continued...

The newsletters are another way to provide you with information. Visit our website the Friday before our Village Board meetings and you can review everything the Village Board will be deciding from paying bills, to open discussions on policies, department updates, and the resolutions and ordinances to be voted on.

The Village Board meetings are your meetings. I encourage you to come to a Village Board meeting and talk to your Board Members or, if preferred, I am available after the meetings to speak to you.

Enjoy the holidays. As always, please feel free to contact me at schmitd@foxlake.org or by phone at (847) 587-3943.

Donny

BUSINESS UPDATES

Thank you to our existing and new local businesses for anchoring yourselves in Fox Lake!

- CalAtlantic begins building new townhomes in the Country Club Hills subdivision on State Park Rd.
- Reva Bay constructs the first of two 18 unit condo buildings off of Grass Lake Rd.
- Culver's Restaurant receives Village Board approval for a Special Use Permit to construct a restaurant with a drive-thru on S. U.S. Highway 12.
- Burger King receives Village Board approval for a Special Use Permit to construct a restaurant with a drive-thru at the northeast corner of S. U.S. Highway and Route 134.
- Learn and Grow Day Care received approval from the Village Board for a Special Use Permit to operate a day care center at 1250 S. U.S. Highway 12.
- Studio 25 Art Creations opens their doors at 5 Nippersink Blvd. offering art classes and Paint Parties.
- HDZ-Yong Taekwondo opened their doors at 31 Towne Centre in the Lakeland Plaza.
- Ray Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram opened their doors at 23 N. U.S. Highway 12.
- Able Storage breaks ground on the expansion of their existing business on State Park Rd.
- Tammy's Pizza expands with a new addition onto their building on State Park Rd.
- Link O'Chain Cyclery opens their doors at 145 Sayton Rd. and offers bike services.
- New Restaurant, Lynn Catherine's opened their doors at 32 E. Grand Ave.
- Vintage Salon opened their doors at 38 E. Grand Ave.
- Heather Hair anchors down at their new store on 816 E. Grand Ave.
- Paradise Jewelry relocated and expanded at 33 S. U.S. Highway 12.
- New Restaurant, Diamond Deli & Wine opened their doors at 33 S. U.S. Highway 12.
- Pug Mahones expanded their bar/restaurant at 282 E. Grand Ave.
- Gyorgos Café opened at 7233 State Park Rd.
- Marine Grill is reopening under new ownership at 154 N. Rte. 12.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

During the first two weeks of January 2017, Waste Management will pick up Christmas trees free of charge. Simply haul your Christmas tree to the curb! Please follow these guidelines to ensure proper disposal:

- Live Christmas trees will be accepted only.
- Removal all lights and decorations.
- Remove all tree stands.

**For questions call Waste Management at
(866) 570-4702.**



SMART METER INSTALLATION SCHEDULED FOR VILLAGE OF FOX LAKE

ComEd crews started replacing Smart meters in fall of 2016 throughout local homes and small businesses within Fox Lake. We will keep you informed of the exact scheduled dates once we receive them from ComEd. Installations will be performed by a uniformed meter installer with appropriate identification from ComEd or a ComEd-authorized contractor, Corix or MZI Group.

A smart meter is a digital electric meter that securely sends energy-usage information to ComEd. ComEd will be installing smart meters that are certified by Underwriters Laboratories, further demonstrating the meters are safe and reliable. Smart meters help eliminate estimated bills and reduce operating costs that become savings on your electric bills. Residential customers with smart meters have access to energy-management tools, high-usage alerts and weekly reports summarizing daily electricity usage to help them manage their electric bills. They can also enroll in Peak Time Savings and Residential Real-Time Pricing and save money by voluntarily shifting electricity use to times where there is less demand. Additional money-saving programs that use smart meter information may be available through other electric suppliers.

Smart meters are important building blocks of the smart grid that, when complete, will provide customers with faster restoration times by notifying ComEd when an outage occurs and when power has been restored. Smart meters will be installed in all homes and businesses across northern Illinois by the end of 2018. Homes and businesses scheduled for smart meter installations will receive information from ComEd explaining how the installation process will work and how customers can use smart meters to manage their energy use. For more information, visit ComEd.com/SmartMeter.

INSTALLATION FYI

Installation will take place over the next few months. While most meters are outside of a home, some maybe require home entry. All contractors will have a contractor badge as shown in the image below. If this Contractor badge is not visible, do not allow the individual into your home.

If at any point, anyone replacing a smart meter asks for money, please call the Police immediately at (847) 587-3100



NEWS FROM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Business Owners!

Studies have shown that restoration and thoughtful design improvements often lead to greater business success by attracting more customers. The Village of Fox Lake Facade Improvement Program offers grants up to \$4,000 for local businesses to improve the facades of their buildings. Thousands of dollars in grant funding has been given to Fox Lake businesses, and we have more to give!

Facade improvements which may be eligible include: awnings, painting, siding/masonry, signage, windows/doors, permanent exterior lighting, and permanent landscaping.

**Contact Community Development Director,
Donovan Day at (847) 587-3176
for more information.**



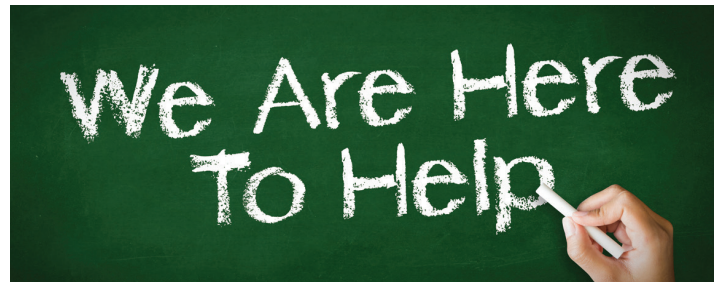
RIGHT OF WAY SIGNAGE

During the months of October and November, code enforcement staff pulled 432 illegal signs from the public right of ways. Most of the signs were campaign signs.

Those running for public office should keep in mind that signage can only be placed on private property, and not on the public right of way.

If there are no sidewalks present, utility poles are a good indication of where a right of way is located. A good rule of thumb is to keep signage at least 15' back from the street if there are no sidewalks or utility poles to indicate where a right of way is located.

**For questions, please contact the
Community Development Department at
(847) 587-3176.**



WE'RE HERE TO HELP

The Village of Fox Lake Community Development Department is responsible for economic development, plan reviews, permits, inspections for construction projects and rental units, as well as enforcing compliance with building and zoning codes through the code enforcement program.

Your Community Development Department strives to promote the general health, safety, and welfare of the residents, business owners, and visitors to Fox Lake.

Visit the Village of Fox Lake website for more information regarding the permit process, application forms, and to report a violation.

The Community Development Department is located at the Village of Fox Lake Village Hall - 66 Thillen Drive.

Office Hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You can reach any member of the department by calling (847) 587-3176.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the Community Development Department, we are here to help!

Contact us



(847) 587-3176

WINTER SAFETY TIPS

Winter and the Holidays are here! With the Holidays and winter weather comes unique challenges such as: winter driving, the potential for freezing or frozen pipes, and Holiday related fire hazards. The Village of Fox Lake Police, 911 Center, and Water Departments, in conjunction with the Fox Lake Fire Protection District, have provided the following winter safety tips.

WINTER DRIVING

Severe weather can be both frightening and dangerous for automobile travel. Motorists should know the safety rules for dealing with winter road emergencies. The Fox Lake Police Department and 911 Center reminds motorists to be cautious while driving in adverse weather.

FLPD and the 911 Center recommends the following winter driving tips:

- Avoid driving while fatigued.
- Never run a vehicle in an enclosed area.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full.
- Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface (ice, wet snow, sand).
- If traveling long distances, watch weather reports.
- Keep an extra set of clothing, stocking cap, gloves, and a blanket in your vehicle.
- Determine if you have Anti-lock breaks, and know how your breaks respond in weather.



AVOIDING FROZEN PIPES

While we have enjoyed a warm summer winter weather is around the corner. With that in mind, the Village of Fox Lake Water Department recommends the following tips to prevent pipes from freezing:

- In freezing weather, never set your home's thermostat below 55 degrees.
- Avoid cold drafts by the water meter or exposed pipes.
- In extremely cold weather, leave cabinet doors under sinks open.
- When temperatures are severely cold, run the cold water faucet at a minimal rate.
- Locate your home's main valve so you can shut off the water temporarily if a line does break.

IF YOUR PIPES FREEZE...

- Use a hair dryer set on low, heat lamp, or light bulb to gradually warm and thaw the frozen pipe.
- Too much heat in one spot, can burst the pipe, so be sure to evenly distribute the heat over a large area.
- Do NOT use a blow torch or any type of flame to thaw a frozen line.

HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY

With the Holiday season fast approaching, the Fox Lake Fire Protection District would like to remind everyone to be fire safe.

FLFPD recommends the following Holiday season fire safety tips:

- Do not string too many lights together
- Do not use candles on Christmas trees.
- Always water live Christmas trees daily.
- Turn off tree lights when not home.
- Keep animals away from all trees and decorations.



NEWS FROM THE WATER DEPARTMENT

2015 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS

NOW AVAILABLE

The Village of Fox Lake 2015 Consumer Confidence Reports are now available for both water systems. These reports detail the quality of the water the Village provides to our Residents.

The Village is pleased to report no violations for 2015.

A copy of these reports can be obtained at <http://www.foxlake.org>, select "Government" then "Sewer and Water." A paper copy may be obtained at the Village Hall Office.

For any questions or concerns about your water quality please contact the Village of Fox Lake Sewer and Water Department at (847) 587-3506 or via email at horvathr@foxlake.org



ADOPT A HYDRANT THIS WINTER

With the winter season upon us, the Water Department is asking for help from Residents who have fire hydrants in or near their yards. We are requesting Residents "adopt" their hydrant and keep the area around them free of snow. Having a hydrant clear and visible will help the Fire Department and the Water Department in case of emergencies. If assistance is needed keeping the hydrants clear, please feel free to contact the Village at (847) 587-3506.



NORTH TOWER

Construction of a new 500,000 gallon elevated storage tank to the Village of Fox Lake –Plant 2 Water System #0975780 located at 1201 Grass Lake Road will be financed by a low interest loan from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Public Water Supply Loan Program (PWSLP).

The PWSLP is funded by both state and federal sources. The SRF program is administered by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and receives a portion of its money to fund these types of projects from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

This project will include construction of a 500,000 gallon water tower and updates to pumping and control systems. Once complete, it will improve water quality for area residents and businesses in the Village of Fox Lake by improving fire flows, reducing water main breaks, and improving water pressure.

SRF programs operate in each state to provide communities the resources necessary to build, maintain, and improve the infrastructure that protects one of our most valuable resources: water.

VILLAGE OF FOX LAKE NEWS



KEEP THE WREATH RED

The Fox Lake Fire Protection District would like to remind everyone to be careful and remember to be fire safe.

The FLFPD will be displaying wreaths at all of our fire houses to raise public awareness about fire safety. The fire department is participating in a program called Keep The Wreath Red. The wreaths are strewn with red lights and bows. If a holiday fire occurs, one of the red lights will be changed to a white light.

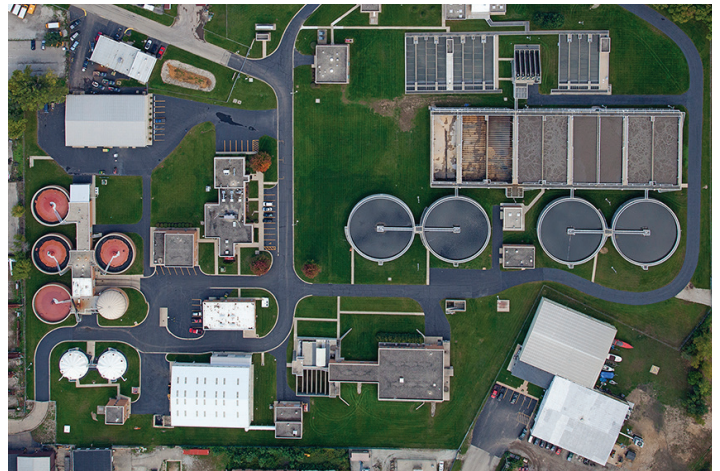
The goal is to have all of the lights red at the end of the holiday season! Help Keep the Wreath Red!



WASTEWATER REUSE

Water is one of the world's most valuable resources, yet it is under constant threat due to drought, population growth, and waste. One of the most promising efforts to stem the global water crisis is industrial and municipal water reclamation and reuse. Recycled or reclaimed water is defined as "water that is used more than one time before it passes back into the natural water cycle."

The Village of Fox Lake Northwest Regional Water Reclamation Facility (NWRWRF) currently uses reclaimed water for cleaning, foam reduction, recycling for odor control and as a lubricant for dozens of pump seals. This allows us to be less dependent on groundwater sources, which decreases the diversion of water from sensitive ecosystems. Additionally, water reuse reduces the nutrient loading from the Treatment Plant into the Fox River, thereby reducing and preventing pollution. In time, this 'new' water source may even be used to replenish overdrawn water sources and rejuvenate or reestablish those previously destroyed.



REMINDER FROM WASTE MANAGEMENT...

All solid waste and recycling collection will be delayed by one day following the Christmas and New Year's day holidays. Holidays will be observed on December 26 and January 2, therefore there will be no solid waste or recycling on both Mondays. All collection will be delayed one day from customer's normal pickup day.

A YEAR IN REVIEW

911 CENTER

- FoxComm was awarded internationally as an Accredited Center of Excellence for Emergency Medical Dispatching.
- Lakemoor and Park City joined the FoxComm Service Clientele.
- Expansion is underway, adding four additional consoles as FoxComm seeks to take on additional agencies.

ADMINISTRATION

- Received over \$4 million in STP Federal Grant Funding for various road projects including: Nippersink Blvd., Grand Avenue, and Sayton Road.
- Additional grants received for various Village projects and functions totaling over \$200,000.00

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Community Garden of Fox Lake is established and 70 garden plots are reserved for the inaugural year.
- Fox Lake's first 'It's an Art Thing' downtown art installation launches with Inspire Hydrants placed along Grand Avenue.
- 677 permits were issued between January 1st to November 15th.

FINANCE

- Received the GFOA Budget Award for Fiscal Year 2015.
- Completed the Fiscal Year 2015 Audit and received a clean and unqualified opinion.

MOTOR POOL

- Installed a new electronic job ticket system to increase efficiencies.
- Attended trainings to learn all current techniques for the Village of Fox Lake Fleet.

NORTHWEST REGIONAL WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

- Completed the Prairie Site Remediation Project.
- Completed Aeration Blower Improvement Project which consisted of the removal of two multistage centrifugal blowers and the installation of two high efficiency screw compressors, including equipment, piping and valves, instrumentation, electrical and control systems.

POLICE

- Initiated and participated in inter-department cooperation with other law enforcement agencies and speciality teams such as the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System.
- The Police Department now has two divisions: Operations and Support Services. The divisions are overseen by either a Commander or Lieutenant.

STREETS

- Completed skip patching of streets with areas that were problematic for snow plowing. 290 tons of asphalt was used on various streets throughout the Village.
- Planted 25 new trees throughout the community. Trees were provided by "Promote Fox Lake." Thank you!

WATER & SEWER

- The water main installation on Glen and Highland has been completed. The affected roads have been resurfaced. Final landscaping is to be completed in spring 2017.
- Of 685 hydrants, 1/2 of them have been repainted this year. The remaining half will be painted in 2017.

UPCOMING 2017 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SCHEDULE

JAN
10

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

FEB
14

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

MAR
14

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

APR
11

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

MAY
9

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

JUN
13

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

JUL
11

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

JAN
24

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

FEB
28

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

MAR
28

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

APR
25

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

MAY
23

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

JUN
27

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

JUL
25

Board of Trustees

66 Thillen Drive
6:30pm

*Remaining dates can be found on the Village's website: www.foxlake.org

LAKEFRONT PARK UPDATE

In October 2014 the Village of Fox Lake received an \$800,000 Park and Recreational Facility Construction (PARC) Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Due to State budget issues, the PARC grant was delayed, but as of August, funds have been released.

Starting January 1, 2017, Lakefront Park located at 71 Nippersink Blvd. will be under construction until Summer 2017. The newly renovated Lakefront Park will be upgraded with locker rooms, new facility rental space, and a splash pad.

The Village is in the process of determining a new location for Parks and Recreation Department programs that are currently offered at Lakefront Park. Updates will be posted to the Village of Fox Lake website. The Village is working with the Fox Lake Chamber to locate office space during the construction and for the future in order to continue to serve the business community.

Please contact the Village of Fox Lake with questions at (847) 587-2151.

WINTER REMINDERS FROM THE STREET DEPARTMENT

The Street Department is responsible for approximately 60 miles of Streets, (8) Metra parking lots, (6) Village parking lots, and numerous sidewalks for snow removal.



Please refrain from allowing children to play in snow piles that have been created by plows.



Route 12 and Route 59 belong to and are maintained by Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Rollins Road is maintained by Lake County Division of Transportation and Wilmot Road is maintained by McHenry County Division of Transportation.

Village ordinance requires no parking on Village Streets after 2 inches or more snowfall and until snow plowing operations are completed. This not only includes the initial pass of the snow plow, but also when the plow returns to widen to full width of the street. It is also a violation of Village ordinance to shovel, plow, or snow blow snow back into a street.



After an accumulation of snow, the Street Department will display temporary "No Parking for Street Cleaning" signs. The signs are yellow with black letters and are usually posted on Grand Avenue and Nippersink Blvd. This allows us to remove snow from the downtown areas. Vehicles not in compliance will be towed.



2017 Polar Plunge

TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 | 1 PM

FOX LAKE - 71 NIPPERSINK BLVD | FOX LAKE, IL



\$100
Minimum
to plunge

REGISTER at
www.PlungeIllinois.com
or scan the code below.



All Plungers must raise
a minimum of \$100 and will
receive a FREE Polar Plunge
hooded sweatshirt.



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Contact Information

Village of Fox Lake

66 Thillen Drive
Fox Lake, Illinois 60020
www.foxlake.org

*****ECRWSS*****

**POSTAL CUSTOMER
FOX LAKE, IL 60020**

Village Hall Hours

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Village Officials

Mayor Donny Schmit

Trustees

Jeff Jensen	Brian Marr
Bernice Konwent	Greg Murrey
Nancy Koske	Ron Stochl

Village Clerk

Niki Warden

Village Administrator

Anne Marrin

Emergency	911
Village Hall	587-2151
<i>(Includes Administration & Finance)</i>	
Community Development	587-3176
Police Dept <i>(non-emergency)</i>	587-3100
Street Dept	587-8570
Parks and Recreation	587-3944
Water and Sewer	587-3506
Northwest Regional	587-3694

All phone numbers are (847) area code.

**The Anchor is the official newsletter for the Village of Fox Lake.
Comments regarding the newsletter should be directed
to the Village Administrator.**

Happy Holidays!

**MAYOR DONNY SCHMIT, THE VILLAGE
TRUSTEES, AND VILLAGE STAFF WISH
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A SAFE, AND
HAPPY HOLIDAYS.**