



# The ANCHOR

## VILLAGE OF FOX LAKE NEWSLETTER

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### FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

Summer is here and we are experiencing yet another drought. It seems that we are always either flooding or in a drought. ***Please exercise even more caution when boating.***

The Lakefront Park Development Project Plan was approved at the June 13, 2023 board meeting. While we will still host Village events including Celebrate Fox Lake (complete with fireworks on July 1), the Mayor's Fish Fry on August 11, and the Cardboard Boat Races and Youth Fishing Derby on August 12, there will be some disruption to normal activities. We ask for your patience, as these inconveniences are temporary and the benefits to our community will be generational. Work began on June 19. The completion date for the project is the week before Memorial Day 2024. Below is the final design. This was a collaborative effort by your Village Board and the residents of Fox Lake. Thank you to all who participated in the planning.



*More detailed plans with key found on page 3.*

Item 14, the fixed pier/ boardwalk, will be a separate project. This will be funded by a federal grant that we have been awarded. We are finishing up the required paperwork and once that is taken care of, we will complete the final design and put the project out to bid.

# FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

*(Continued)*

Due to a recent Supreme Court ruling, there are issues over which agency has the jurisdictional control over Nippersink Lake. We are working through these issues and will do everything we can to minimize interference with the construction of the beach.

The Village Board and I actively make an effort to be as transparent as possible. On the Friday before a board meeting, before 5:00 p.m., the board meeting agenda is available for all to see on the Village website in the transparency portal.

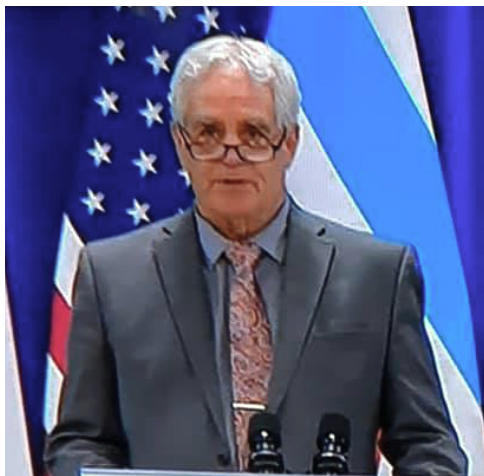
For information on emergency situations or critical alerts, sign up for CodeRed notifications at:

**<https://tinyurl.com/952mkp55>**

Or, visit the village website and under government, click on FOXCOMM Emergency Dispatch Center. On the left hand side of the page, you will see the CodeRed Notification Sign up, click on that and you will be taken to the signup page.

Finally, again, on a personal note, your kindness to me after I lost my wife has meant and means the world to me. Thank you. I look forward to seeing you at one of the many events listed in the Parks and Recreation section of this newsletter. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and enjoy the many benefits of living in Fox Lake. Make sure you say hello.

As always, you can contact me at (847) 587-3943 or at [schmitd@foxlake.org](mailto:schmitd@foxlake.org)



Enjoy the summer,

Donny

*Welcome to*  
**TOWN**

Check out these new,  
local businesses!

**Valvoline**  
1370 S Route 12

**Pizza Hut**  
1390 S Route 12

**The Coffee Shop**  
21 W Grand Ave

**Twisted Burger**  
7233 State Park Rd

**J.V. Seafood & Sushi**  
41 E Grand Ave

*Coming Soon!*

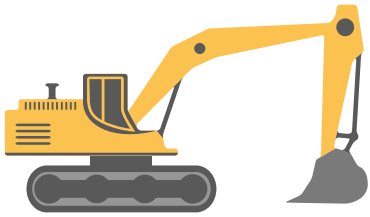
**Randolph Hotel**  
115 / 117 Nippersink Blvd

**Black Lung Brewery**  
115 Nippersink Blvd

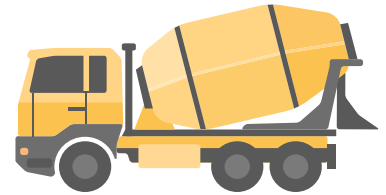


**TO BURN, OR  
NOT TO BURN...**

Burning of leaves must be  
30ft from any structure,  
and is only allowed April  
1 – June 1, and September  
1 – December 1, or by  
special permit.



# LAKEFRONT PARK CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY



We are thrilled to bring you the latest updates on the exciting Fox Lake Lakefront Park Development Project. This ambitious endeavor aims to transform our beloved lakefront into a vibrant recreational haven for residents and visitors alike. The Fox Lake Lakefront Park Development Project is a true testament to the power of community collaboration. Throughout the planning process, residents have been actively involved, providing valuable insights and ideas to shape the project. Your input has been invaluable, and the result is a park that reflects the desires and needs of the community.

One of the main objectives of the Fox Lake Lakefront Park Development Project is to provide diverse recreational opportunities for people of all ages and interests. Looking ahead, the development project has a comprehensive vision for the future. Plans include the establishment of an outdoor amphitheater for concerts and

community events, outdoor pickleball courts, an enhanced splash pad and playground, restrooms and a beach with a shaded shelter. To make the park enhancements a reality, much of the construction activity will be infrastructure related. Crews have begun working to construct the north and south access roads and parking lots. Once infrastructure is complete, work will continue on the south side of the current lakefront park building to begin construction on the various park amenities. While we hope much of the work will be completed in 2023, some construction will continue through the winter with an anticipated grand opening date by Memorial Day 2024.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all the individuals, organizations, and stakeholders involved in making this project a reality. With your unwavering support, we are confident that Fox Lake's Lakefront Park will become a cherished destination for generations to come.

site

## REVISED PARK PLAN



### LEGEND:

- 1 Playground Parking
- 2 Entry Sign
- 3 Playground
- 4 Splash Pad
- 5 Amphitheater Drop-off
- 6 Outdoor Amphitheater
- 7 Pickle Ball Court
- 8 Restroom / Beach Shower
- 9 Sloped Circle Path - Access to Fishing Spot
- 10 Beach Volleyball
- 11 Swimming Beach Cove
- 12 Shade Structure w/ Picnic Tables
- 13 Bench Swings
- 14 Fixed Pier Boardwalk / Boat Docks [Future Scope]
- 15 Adventure Hill Nature Play
- 16 Plaza Parking Lot w/ Catenary Lighting
- 17 Access Road Connection between Riverview and Oak
- 18 Retaining wall
- 19 Entry Driveway





# HELP THE CAUSE & **STOP** THE CLOG



Pile of about 30 yards of wipes and assorted personal care items (q-tips, women's feminine products, etc.) that were flushed down toilets that had to be cleaned out of a digester.

A product that is made to keep you feeling clean is causing some nasty problems for our sewer systems. Despite the labels on the packaging, wastewater system workers say “flushable wipes” do not dissolve like toilet paper. They are clogging toilets, backing up sewer lines and creating huge messes. When you flush a wipe, it travels from your home through the city’s sewer system until it gets to a pump station and eventually ends up at a wastewater treatment plant.

Those messes, Northwest Regional Water Reclamation Facility (NWRWRF) Chief Operator John Thompson says, are referred to as rags. “We pull piles of these rags from our pumps daily. Not only do they not dissolve, they clog up our pumps and create bigger messes to clean up.” Moist wipes marketed as disposable are not flushable. When they do get flushed, they end up in sewage plants, contributing to a global plumbing problem. Debris that doesn’t get sorted out by huge machines ends up stuck in them. Staff has to shut down the system and clear out the equipment by hand, and most of what is pulled out is disposable wipes.

**To help this problem, *please* do not flush any other products down your toilet; only toilet paper. Instead, dispose of other hygienic/personal care items in the trash can.**

## BRUSH PICK UP *Spring - Fall*

Brush pick up resumed in early April, and will continue on Fridays through early fall. During specific instances including heavier staff work load, holidays, and inclement weather, pickups may be delayed.

As a reminder, branches must be trimmed by the home owner, not a tree service. We ask that limbs do not exceed six feet in length or six inches in diameter, and they must be neatly stacked at the curb. Piles are not to exceed 4'x 6'. Yard waste, tree trunks, logs, weed, and dirt do not qualify as brush. Piles not meeting these guidelines will not be picked up.



To schedule a brush pick up, please contact the Public Works Department at (847) 587-8570.



## STAY SAFE ON THE INTERNET WITH THESE TIPS

In today's world, technology is unavoidable. As new technological innovations arise, the opportunity for exploitation by criminals increases. Today's youth and elderly are too often victims of cyber-criminals. This creates a large need to educate citizens on their digital wellbeing. Proper guidance and supervision are the keys to safe internet usage.

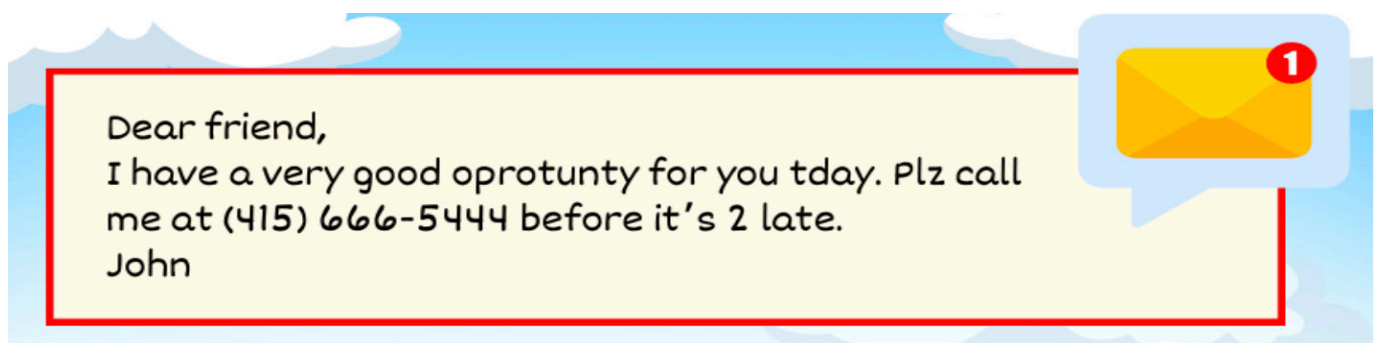
### Tips for kids:

- Never agree to meet an online friend.
- Never share your password with anyone.
- Never give out your name or age.
- Never give out your home address or phone number online.
- Tell your parent if anyone asks for any of this information.

### Identity Theft and Scam Alerts

- Avoid too-good-to-be-true's. If it doesn't seem real, it's probably a scam.
- Watch out for spelling mistakes, grammar problems, and weird email addresses.
- Never ever give passwords, birth dates, addresses, social security numbers or any financial institution information to anyone online.
- Avoid working on private sensitive information on public networks without a VPN (virtual private network).
- Don't install unverified software; double-check with a google search or a trusted reviewer to ensure what you're downloading is safe!

Watch out for "Phishing", this is a social engineering tactic used by scammers and hackers that trick you into sharing private information or passwords to steal from your accounts. If you think it's someone you know reach out to them at a known number or email.



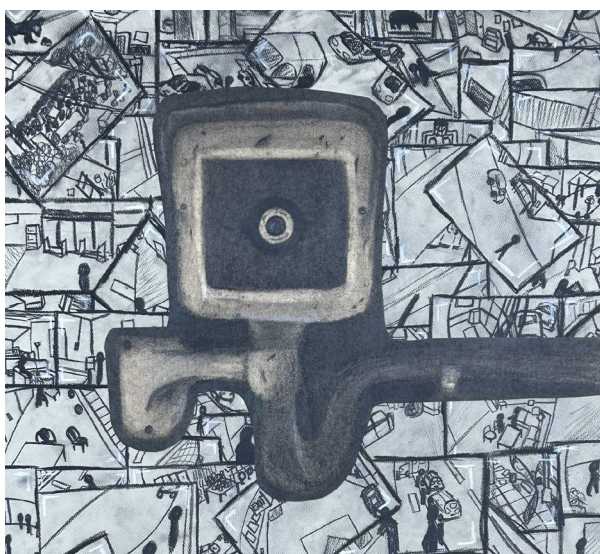
We encourage anyone to report instances of cyber-crimes as soon as possible to the Fox Lake Police Department at (847) 587-3100.



## FOX LAKE SUMMER ART SERIES SHOWCASES LOCAL EXPRESSION

The Fox Lake Summer Art Series goes beyond a mere exhibit; it actively engages the community and encourages artistic participation. In coordination with Grant High School Chapter of the National Art Society, the art exhibits located at the Community Garden Green have been refreshed to display 27 new pieces showcasing student talent and forms of expression through portraits, living creatures, and abstract compositions.

In addition to student art, work submitted from local residents will be on display in Village buildings including Village Hall and the Lakefront Park Building.



## RIDE YOUR BIKE SAFELY THIS SUMMER

With the summer months upon us, the Fox Lake Police Department would like to remind residents to be safe while enjoying the bicycle riding season. Before getting on the bicycle make sure you try on your helmet and check it for proper fit. If the helmet does not fit correctly, or you see any damage to the helmet, it is time to get a new one.

Once you know your head is properly protected, you should make sure your bicycle is ready to ride. There are four points to check; proper tire pressure, properly working brakes, chain tightness, and overall bicycle fit. Keeping your bicycle in proper working order will help prevent injuries during your adventures. If you are planning to ride your bicycle at night, make sure you have reflectors on the rear of the bicycle and on the pedals, along with a light in the front to provide visibility. When riding your bicycle in the roadway, make sure to ride with the flow of traffic, and to obey all traffic laws.

Always be sure to use your eyes and ears when riding, and check to ensure that every intersection you ride past is clear.

The Fox Lake Police Department offers a free registration of your bicycle. This will assist with identifying your bicycle in the unfortunate case that it becomes lost or stolen. Stop by the police department at any time to take advantage of this free registration.

Have a fun and safe summer, and enjoy riding your bicycle around Fox Lake.



## WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

Over the last few years the Village has worked to evaluate signage needs and improvements. With input from the public, the Village unveiled new branding in 2019. Since then, the Village has been working on budgeting and permitting for the implementation of new signage throughout town. This includes new wayfinding signage, monument signage, banner signage, pedestrian signage, and entryway signage.

Recently, the Village publicly bid the project to begin the first phase of the signage installation. This phase includes over 20 new signs including new “Welcome to Fox Lake” entryway signs, and a monument sign at the corner of US-12 and Grand Avenue. The new signage is long awaited and will solidify the branding efforts with the Village, as well as help those who are new to the area navigate Fox Lake.



## ‘TIS THE SEASON FOR HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Before you start a summer project, check the Village website ([www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org)) or call the Village’s Community Development Department at (847) 587-3176 to find out if your work requires a permit.

Building permits are required for:

- Roof replacement or repair
- Any interior or exterior structural changes
- Any electrical or plumbing changes
- Fences
- Signs
- Swimming pools
- Tree removal
- Driveways





# Upcoming EVENTS



Looking for more  
Parks & Recreation  
events? Follow us  
on Facebook!

/VFLparksandrec

## FOX LAKE FARMERS MARKET

TUESDAYS, JUNE- AUGUST  
3:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
📍 17 E. School Court, Fox Lake, IL

The Fox Lake Farmers Market is committed to supporting locally grown and produced foods and crafts. Every Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. June through August, the Fox Lake Farmers Market brings the Fox Lake and surrounding communities the very best and freshest of the season. Link cards are accepted. Link Match dollars are provided by LinkUp Illinois. Spend \$1 in Link, earn \$1 in Link Match for fresh fruits.

## FRIDAY NIGHT CONCERTS

FRIDAYS, JUNE-AUGUST  
6:30-8:00 p.m.  
📍 Community Garden Green, 17 E. School Court

Our Friday Night Concerts in the park are the perfect way to kick off your weekend. Bring a blanket, grab a bite to eat, and enjoy the show. From rock to country, we've got something for everyone! For a complete list of the concert line up, please visit [www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org).



# MAYOR'S FISH FRY

Friday, August 11 • 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Lakefront Park Building

📍 71 Nippersink Blvd., Fox Lake, IL



The annual Mayor's Fish Fry has become a popular tradition. The Mayor's Fish Fry promises all you can eat golden fried fish, an array of sides and a drink (nonalcoholic). Adult beverages will be available for purchase. Adults: \$10, Seniors (65 and up): \$9, Children (8 and under): \$5. No reservations required.



Bring out the kids for a fun day of catching fish. There will be giveaways, music, and prizes for top catches. There will be two different age groups: Ages 11 and under, and Ages 12-18. No registration needed. Participants 16 and under do not need a fishing license. This event is located at Lakefront Park (71 Nippersink Blvd., Fox Lake).



The annual Village of Fox Lake Cardboard Boat Race brings the community together in a display of creativity and competitive spirit. Participants design and construct boats using only cardboard and duct tape, showcasing their ingenuity and craftsmanship. This event is for people of all ages whether they are sailing their vessel or cheering on from the shoreline. Registration fee is \$15 which includes entry into the boat race, trophies for 1st & 2nd Fastest, Best of Show, and Fastest Sinking! A \$30 dollar registration kit which includes the standard registration plus a boat building kit is also available for purchase. Additional information can be found at [www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org).



Start the fall season off with music, a petting zoo, hayrides, children's activities, pumpkins, craft and food vendors and more. With its vibrant atmosphere and festive spirit, Fall Festival promises unforgettable fun for everyone.



Join the Village of Fox Lake on the Community Garden Green for pumpkin carving, live entertainment, a Halloween costume contest, craft and food vendors. Pumpkin Carving is \$3 per pumpkin. Participants are encouraged to light their pumpkins for the pumpkin wall display. Pumpkin pick-up is Sunday, October 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.







# SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR

**THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 19**

**10:00 a.m. to  
3:00 p.m.**

**LAKEFRONT  
PARK  
BUILDING**

71 Nippersink Blvd.,  
Fox Lake, IL

The Senior Resource Fair caters to the needs and interests of the senior community bringing together a multitude of resources and services tailored to enhance lives. Attendees can explore an extensive range of exhibitors offering information on healthcare, financial planning, emergency assistance, a Medicare 101 informational program, and more. This event is free to attend.

# MURDER MYSTERY DINNER & SHOW

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20**  
**5:30 p.m.**

📍 Maravela's Banquet Hall





The walking dead have never been this much fun! Join us for a murder mystery show that thinks outside of the coffin. This show has it all, high drama, comedy, a love story and zombies, of course! The ticket includes a buffet style meal and an interactive Murder Mystery Show where tables work together to solve a murder. Doors open at 5:30 and the show begins at 6:00 p.m. Please visit [www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org) for more information.





# HALLOWEEN HOWL

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 23**

**4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

📍 Fox Lake Police Department (301 Route 59)

Come Celebrate Halloween, and meet members of the Fox Lake Police Department and Public Works Department. Enjoy treats, hot dogs, children's activities, hay rides, and hot chocolate. This is a free event. Halloween costumes are encouraged for both children and parents!

# Contact INFORMATION

## Village of Fox Lake

66 Thillen Drive  
Fox Lake, Illinois 60020  
[www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org)

## Village Hall Hours

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

## Village Officials

Mayor Donny Schmit

## Village Clerk

Michelle Runnion

## Trustees

Bernice Konwent	Brian Marr
Jeff Jensen	Debra Vander Weit
Ron Stochl	Amy Driscoll

## Village Contact List

Emergency .....	911
Village Hall .....	587-2151
Community Development .....	587-3176
Police Dept (Non-emergency) .....	587-3100
Public Works .....	587-8570
Parks and Recreation .....	(224) 225-1404
Northwest Regional .....	587-3694

All phone numbers are (847) area code, except for  
Parks and Recreation, which is (224).

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
FOX LAKE, IL 60020

# STAY CONNECTED

## *with the Village of Fox Lake*

Stay up to date with Village news through social media. The Village of Fox Lake is on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook using the handle @foxlakeil. Updates can also be obtained via email in our weekly e-newsletter - the E-Anchor, or can also be found on the Village's website at [www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org).

For more information, please contact the Village at (847) 587-2151.

The Anchor is the official newsletter for the Village of Fox Lake.



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MESSAGING



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[foxlake.org](http://foxlake.org)