



The ANCHOR

VILLAGE OF FOX LAKE NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

From the desk of the Mayor	1
Newest Onboarded Businesses	2
Phosphorus and Our Waterways	2
Fox Lake Community Reflections	3
This is the Life	3
Public Works	4
Fox Lake Friday Night Live	5
Refuse & Recycling Update	5
Fox Lake Police Department	6
Lakefront Park Building Open Gym	6
Parks & Recreation 2025 Event Calendar and Information	7
Contact Information	8

FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR DONNY SCHMIT

Summer is finally here– along with all of the events that make Fox Lake such a great place to live and raise a family.

The election is over, and I want to thank you all for placing your trust in me to serve you for another four years. I promise to do my best to deliver essential services, keep Fox Lake a safe, affordable place to raise a family, create enjoyable memories and offer open, transparent government that listens to the will of the people.

Along with the reelection of Trustees Bernice Konwent, Jeff Jensen and Village Clerk Michelle Runnion, there is a new addition to the Village Board. We welcome David Gauger as our newest Village Trustee. David has served the Village as the Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Board for many years. He has been instrumental in streamlining the permit process for both residents and businesses, creating a business-friendly environment. He also comes to the Board with a vast knowledge of the planning process and is a welcome addition to your Village Board. I want to thank Ron Stochl for his many years of service and dedication to the Village and I wish him well in all his future activities.

We are facing many challenges, including loss of revenue from the state and an aging regional sewer treatment plant. One of our top priorities will be road repairs. The Board, staff and I will do our best to meet these challenges in a responsible manner.

I hope you have been able to enjoy one of the many events and amenities at our Lakefront Park. We all can take pride in this park, as it was truly a community effort! I want to thank the Ray Auto Group for their sponsorship of the Friday night concerts and the Fox Lake Lions Club for their assistance in building the band shell.

The Village has made efforts to make your experience at the park the best it can be. We have security on site to ensure that all can enjoy the park safely. We have a dedicated park staff to maintain equipment and facilities. Our staff also ensures that your visit to the park and the many events they have created for you are a pleasurable experience for you and your family. Please help us to keep this park a place to be proud of.

As always, you can reach me at 847-587-3943 or schmitd@foxlake.org. I hope to see you at the Village board meeting or one of our many events.

Donny



ANCHORED IN FOX LAKE

NEWEST **ONBOARDED** BUSINESSES

BP Gas Station (New Ownership)
49 N. Rt 12

Specialty Pain Anesthesia
256 E. Grand Ave

Village Bakery (New Ownership)
27 Grand Ave

EV Med Spa
1280 S. Rt 12

BUSINESSES ONBOARDING **SOON**

Advantage Honda
91 S. Route 12

Antioch Pizza (New Ownership)
20 S. Route 12

Dinghy's (New Ownership)
112 Lakeview Ave

Dom's HomeGoods Resale Shop
129 S. Rt 12

HLM Towing LLC
855 S. Rt 12 #4

LaCocina (New Ownership)
2 E. Grand Ave Unit B

Living Roots
104 Sayton Rd

Magic Pool Services
855 S. Rt 12 #5

Shell Gas Station
511 Grand Ave

Bailey Behavioral Health PLLC
34 W. Grand Ave Suite 101

Master Craft & Design
11 E. Grande Ave

NORTHWEST REGIONAL WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY **PHOSPHORUS AND OUR WATERWAYS:** *What You Can Do to Help*

Phosphorus (P) is one of the most important nutrients in agricultural systems when used and applied properly. In natural environments or properly tested quantities, phosphorus is a valuable nutrient and fertilizer that promotes plant growth and development. However, in excess, phosphorus can create problems in our waterways and drinking water called eutrophication. When phosphorus pollution (runoff) enters our lakes, rivers and streams, it causes green scum and harmful algae blooms that can deplete waterways of oxygen, cause fish kills, damage ecosystems or even result in "dead zones" in larger bodies of water.

Our homes — via yards, driveways, appliances and pets — contribute to nutrient pollution. Fortunately, there are many strategies that individuals can do to help reduce phosphorus runoff. Here are a few simple ways to reduce phosphorus pollution in local lakes, rivers, streams and your watershed.

OFF THE STREETS

Keep leaves, grass clippings and other organic matter off the streets. Avoid blowing leaves or clippings into areas where they can wash into storm sewers. Once in the water, phosphorus from clippings and leaves can grow algae. Blow or bag your leaves, keep your clippings on the grass and use other organic matter as fertilizer.

LOW P FERTILIZERS

Use no-phosphorus or low-phosphorus fertilizer on lawns and gardens to avoid over-fertilizing. Look for package formulas of nitrate-phosphorus-potassium with a middle number (which represents phosphorus) of zero. For example, 22-0-15 indicates no phosphorus. Lower phosphorus fertilizers are also an option; look for numbers like 13-2-13 or 20-3-19.

ROOTS THAT GO DEEP

Plant buffers of deep-rooted plants in landscaping and along shoreline properties. Natural plantings or using plants with deep roots do a better job of absorbing and filtering runoff during rain events and can provide habitat for wildlife.

CONTROL PET POO-LLUTION

Pick up pet waste from yards, parks and shorelines whenever possible. Pet waste contains phosphorus (and other nutrients and bacteria) that can pollute water when it rains and create runoff poo-llution when it is not disposed of properly.

DRAIN SMART

Direct downspouts to lawns and plant beds, and use landscaping practices that stop or slow runoff from your property. By aiming your downspouts into landscapes, versus hard surfaces like sidewalks and driveways, you can reduce runoff to storm drains. Water will be better able to soak into the ground.

WATCH YOUR SOAPS

Use low- or no-phosphate cleaning products. Some soaps, detergents, and household cleaners contain a form of phosphorus called phosphates. Choosing phosphate-free products can help minimize pollution. The good news? Phosphates were banned nationally from laundry detergents in 1994. And in 2010, 17 U.S. states banned phosphates in automatic dishwasher detergent.



We asked, and you shared! These stories represent the heart and soul of Fox Lake—the moments, places, and people that have shaped our Village into what it is today.

#FoxLakeTales

“ I moved to Fox Lake in 1979 and stayed because of the water—it’s in my blood. Back in the day, Fox Lake was a destination, with trains bringing visitors to fancy resorts, lotus flower tours, and even gangsters hiding out. It had a wild reputation, but today it’s changing for the better. With places like the lakefront park and breweries, and the second-busiest waterway in the U.S., Fox Lake has the potential to become a destination again—connecting boats, trains, and people to its heart. ”

FOX LAKE RESIDENT IN FOX LAKE TALES

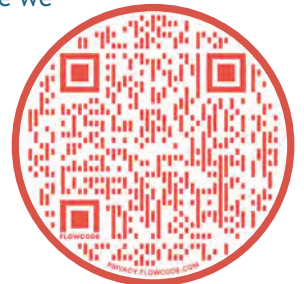
FOX LAKE

~ COMMUNITY REFLECTIONS ~

The Village of Fox Lake is in the midst of “**Fox Lake Community Reflections**”—a comprehensive planning initiative to envision a vibrant, resilient future for our community. We’re currently in the second of three phases, and your voice matters.

We invite you to share your thoughts, stories, and aspirations in whatever way works best for you—whether that’s through the contact form on the website below, by reaching out directly, or by tuning into the Fox Lake Tales podcast, where we highlight the unique voices and experiences that make our community special.

Let’s shape a thriving Fox Lake together—one that honors our heritage while embracing the opportunities ahead. Thank you to everyone who has participated so far!



www.FoxLakeCompPlan.com



THIS IS THE LIFE

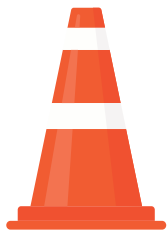
FOX LAKE'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN



The Village of Fox Lake is proud to highlight its “This Is The Life” Economic Development campaign, a bold initiative showcasing the community’s unique blend of small-town charm, natural beauty, and growing business opportunities. Recently featured on WGN’s “Around Town,” Fox Lake was celebrated for its dynamic lakefront lifestyle, welcoming atmosphere, and exciting momentum. From the placemaking efforts downtown to major developments like the new eateries, housing, and lakefront enhancements, Fox Lake is making waves as a destination for residents, visitors, and investors alike.

Located on the famous Chain O’ Lakes, Fox Lake is the perfect summer escape with unmatched access to boating, fishing, waterfront dining, and outdoor recreation. The “This Is The Life” campaign captures the essence of living and investing in a community where lake life meets opportunity. Whether it’s strolling through town on the weekend, enjoying sunset views from a lakeside restaurant, or launching a new business in our thriving corridors, there’s never been a better time to discover what makes Fox Lake so special and why This Is The Life!

Follow This Is The Life, Fox Lake IL on Facebook and This Is the Life Fox Lake on Instagram for updates in town and all things happening within Fox Lake’s local business community. If you missed the WGN Radio Hometown series, all interviews and videos can be found at www.wgnradio.com/your-hometown/



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

BRUSH PICK-UP IS BACK!

Summer is right around the corner! Brush pickup will continue throughout the summer and into early fall.

Brush pick up resumed early April and will continue

on Fridays until the fall. However, due to other work, holidays, and inclement weather, pickups may be delayed. As a reminder, branches must be from trimming done by the homeowner, not a tree service.

We ask that limbs be no longer than 6 feet in length, no larger than 6 inches in diameter, and neatly stacked at the curb, not piled into a messy heap. Piles are not to exceed 4' x 6'. Yard waste, tree trunks, logs, weeds, and dirt do not qualify as brush. Piles not meeting these guidelines will not be picked up.

To schedule a pickup, please contact Public Works at 847-587-8570 or pw@foxlake.org.

ROUTE 59 & GRAND AVENUE ROADWAY PROJECT

The Lake County Division of Transportation, along with Lima Excavating, has been hard at work with the Route 59/Grand Avenue Intersection Project. This project includes the reconstruction of Route 59 and Grand Avenue, which realigns Washington Street to meet Route 59 south of Grand Avenue. The project also consists of a new intersection connecting to Grand Community High School.

Route 59 and Grand Avenue will now have left turn lanes on three legs, and a southbound right turn lane. Left-turn lanes will be on all legs of Route 59 and Washington Street, with a southbound right-turn lane into the high school. Sidewalks and multi-use paths are also included in this project. This project is on track to be completed at the end of the summer/early fall.



THE PROBLEMS WITH 'FLUSHABLE' WIPES

Even though wipes are sometimes labeled "flushable", they should not be flushed down the toilet. They can cause clogs in your home's plumbing and in the public sewer system, potentially leading to expensive repairs and sewer backups. Always dispose of wipes in the trash.

Why Shouldn't You Flush Wipes?

They don't break down like toilet paper.

Wipes are made of more durable materials that don't dissolve in water like toilet paper.

They can clog pipes and sewers.

As wipes accumulate in pipes, they can create large clogs that require professional drain cleaning services or even sewer backups.

They damage treatment plants.

Wipes can also cause problems with wastewater treatment plants by jamming pumps and causing equipment damage.

They can contaminate septic systems.

In homes with septic systems, flushed wipes can clog leach fields and lead to costly repairs.

They are not subject to the same standards as toilet paper.

Toilet paper is designed to dissolve quickly and is subject to strict standards, while wipes are not.

What to Do Instead of Flushing:

Always dispose of wipes in the trash.

Even if they are labeled 'flushable' they should not be flushed.

Consider using toilet paper instead.

Toilet paper is designed to break down quickly and is safe for flushing.

Be mindful of what you flush.

Only human waste and toilet paper should be flushed down the toilet.

Promote responsible disposal in your community.

Share information about the dangers of flushing wipes and encourage others to dispose of them properly.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, KEEP STORM DRAINS CLEAR!

To be a good neighbor and keep storm drains clean, avoid letting yard waste, trash, and other debris accumulate near or enter storm drains. This prevents flooding, protects waterways, and maintains water quality.

Keep yard waste out of the street.

Bag, mulch, or compost grass clippings, leaves, and sticks instead of blowing them onto the street.

Clear away debris.

Remove fallen trees, twigs, and other debris from natural waterways and stormwater.

Dispose of trash properly.

Ensure trash cans and recycling bins have tight lids, especially during windy days, and pick up litter in your community.

Avoid blowing or sweeping leaves into the street.

Direct them onto your property for composting or bagging.

Pick up after your pets.

Stormwater can pick up pet waste and carry it into drains and waterways, so always pick it up.

Use storm drains for rainwater only.

Storm drains are designated for rainwater and should not be used for dumping other materials.



**FOX LAKE
FRIDAY NIGHT
Live**

Music Market Memories

We're excited to invite you to join our all-new event, Fox Lake Friday Night Live! This event combines our former Tuesday evening Farmer's Market with our Friday Night Concert Series to create a more vibrant community experience for all!

Lakefront Park (10 Riverview Ave, Fox Lake, IL)
Fridays | June - August
Artisan Market from 4-7pm | Music from 7-9pm

PRESENTED BY:

Ray
FOX LAKE

CHEVROLET
DODGE
Jeep
RAM

Featuring
Food Trucks
Theme Weeks
w/Community
Partners



REFUSE & RECYCLING

Upcoming Changes to Refuse & Recycling Service Days

The Village of Fox Lake would like to inform residents of a proposed change to our community's refuse and recycling service schedule. Currently, Waste Management services our area on a four-day rotation from Monday through Thursday.

To improve efficiency, it has been proposed to reduce the service days to a three-day rotation—Monday through Wednesday—beginning this fall.

At this early stage, no additional details are available. Waste Management will lead the communication efforts regarding this transition, and the Village will also share updates through our official media outlets.

We encourage residents to stay informed by:

- Checking your mailbox and front door for notices
- Watching for email updates
- Visiting our website at www.foxlake.org
- Following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter

Thank you for your attention and cooperation as we work to keep our community clean and well-served.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FOX LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT SUMMER ROADWAY SAFETY

As children begin summer break and spend more time outdoors, it is essential to keep them safe while enjoying the warm weather. Drivers are reminded to concentrate and be aware of their surroundings, especially in subdivisions and neighborhoods. Children will often run into the street or ride their bicycles across roadways and intersections without looking. While navigating roadways, the Fox Lake Police Department reminds drivers to be aware of the speed limit, come to a complete stop at stop signs, and look for children playing. Drivers should be cognizant that where one child is playing it is likely that there are more as children are often advised to ride and play with a friend or family member to ensure their safety. Motorists should resist the temptation to utilize cell phones while driving as it is a distraction and a violation of state law. Extra care should be taken

when backing out of driveways and garages, opening car doors, or making sudden stops. Reducing speeds when children, bicycles, or toys are observed and scanning between parked cars can increase reaction time in case of an emergency.

Now that the weather has turned for the better, parents should emphasize safety to children while playing outside. Bicycle safety is essential. All bicycles should be inspected on a regular basis to reduce the risk of mechanical failure while riding. Emphasis on wearing safety gear, utilizing hand signals, and riding with traffic can reduce the risk of accidents and injuries. Children should be encouraged to ride on sidewalks, when possible, and utilize crosswalks when crossing roadways, looking both ways before crossing. If motorists, parents, and children place an emphasis on roadway safety, everyone can enjoy the warmer weather safely.

Save the date for upcoming events sponsored by the Fox Lake Police Department:




**TUESDAY
AUGUST 5TH**

Join us for an all-ages event promoting collaboration between the community and the Police.

📍 **Lakefront Park**

- DJ with Music & Games
- Inflatable Obstacle Course
- Therapy K-9 Hank
- *and much, much more!*

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



**MONDAY
OCTOBER 27TH**

📍 **Fox Lake Police Department**

- DJ with Music & Games
- Inflatable Slide
- Hayrides
- Jail Tours
- Street Hockey
- Scavenger Hunt
- *and much, much more!*

OPEN GYM at the Lakefront Park Building (10 Riverview Ave. Fox Lake, IL) MONDAY-FRIDAY • 3:00-4:50PM

Dates are subject to change; please visit www.foxlake.org to check availability. Participants under 18 must have a signed waiver on file for the year, available under "Applications and Forms" on the website. Children in 5th grade and under must be supervised by a parent or guardian age 18 or older; those in 6th grade and above do not require supervision.

MONDAY
Middle School & Up

TUESDAY
Closed

WEDNESDAY
Middle School & Up

THURSDAY
Closed

FRIDAY
Middle School & Up

The Village reserves the right to modify or cancel program hours. If program hours are impacted due to conflicting events, notice will be posted.

DAILY COST: \$2 PER PERSON



Village of Fox Lake 2025 Special Events

JULY 12	ACTIVE AT THE LAKEFRONT UNPLUG ILLINOIS Lakefront Park 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	OCT 16	SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR Lakefront Park 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
AUG 5	NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Lakefront Park 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.	OCT 27	HALLOWEEN HOWL Fox Lake Police Station 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
AUG 21	SENIOR LUNCHEON Grant Township Center 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	NOV 20	SENIOR LUNCHEON Lakefront Park 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
AUG 23	PROMOTE FOX LAKE'S VENETIAN NIGHT Lakefront Park 12:00-10 p.m.	NOV 29	FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS - PARADE, MARKET, & SANTA 3:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
SEPT 12	MAYOR'S FISH FRY Lakefront Park Gym 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.	DEC 4	FLORENCE FISCHER LUNCH TBD 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
SEPT 18	SENIOR LUNCHEON Lakefront Park 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	DEC 14	CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY Lakefront Park Gym 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
OCT 5	FALL FESTIVAL Grant Township 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	DEC 18	SENIOR LUNCHEON Lakefront Park 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
OCT 12	PUMPKIN JUBILEE Lakefront Park 12:00-3:00 p.m.		

**FOX LAKE FRIDAY
NIGHT LIVE
WEEKLY JUNE-AUGUST
FRIDAYS 4:00-9:00 p.m.**

DAILY ACTIVITIES at Lakefront Park

Open Gym
Pickleball

www.foxlake.org/Parks and Recreation for info



Contact INFORMATION

Village of Fox Lake

66 Thillen Drive
Fox Lake, Illinois 60020
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
David Gauger	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).

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 208
GURNEE, IL

*****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.

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

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



Like us on
FACEBOOK



Follow us on
TWITTER



Follow us on
INSTAGRAM



Sign up for
MESSAGING



Visit
foxlake.org