



FOX RIVER GROVE QUARTERLY

A newsletter for and about the Village of Fox River Grove

SUMMER 2015

Village News

Water & Sewer Adjustment

The Village Board recently passed a 2% water and sewer rate increase. The base charge is \$26.50 for water only and \$50.32 for water and sewer. This covers a portion of the cost to operate the water and sewer system for the Village.

The user charge for all customers located within the corporate limits for each 1,000 gallons is \$2.94 for water only and \$7.18 for water and sewer. Regular increases are necessary to keep pace with the increase in operating expenses and facility modernization.

Don't forget there is another option for paying your water bill: online through the Village website www.foxrivergrove.org. It is free and you can use Visa, Master Card or Discover. You will need your account number which is listed on the upper left corner and lower

Free Week For Fox River Grove Residents

The Village belongs to the McHenry County Historical Society, located at 6422 Main Street in Union. Included in our membership is a "free week" of admission for our residents from June 2nd through June 5th. If you have not gone before, the museum has many interesting collections and exhibits from throughout McHenry County, including several preserved buildings. They offer tours, lecture series, workshops and a local research library. For more info, visit their website at www.GotHistory.org.

Shredding Dates

Algonquin Township and Road District are hosting two personal document shredding days: Saturday, June 6th and Saturday, September 5th from 8:00 a.m. until noon at Algonquin Township offices.

Accurate Document Destruction will be onsite and unload up to four boxes or bags of personal papers for shredding.

Get Ready For the FRG Fireworks!

Our annual Fireworks Show will be Saturday, July 11th at Picnic Grove Park. The park opens and festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. with food, drink and music! Marty Monti and Rick Cornwall will be there with music and announcements throughout the evening.

The FRG Lions and Lioness Clubs, the Cary-Grove Jaycees, Jaycee Ambassadors and Cary-Grove Masons will be selling good eats and drinks. Without your purchases, they can't do the good work they do. The Lioness Club will be selling glow-in-the-dark necklaces.

Each of our community groups generously donates half of their profits back to the fireworks fund.

So, bring your family and friends early to have dinner, visit with friends and neighbors and listen to the music before the fireworks.



but they may scare others that are attending, or make a mess in a crowded area, so no pets are allowed.

- Please do not trespass on private property as you make your way to and from the park. Many wooded areas are actually private property. Call the Village Hall if you are uncertain.

- Please don't litter! Let's keep our parks beautiful and make it easier for clean up after.

Thank you to all the residents who have donated money to the fireworks with their vehicle sticker purchase

(many have donated \$5, \$10 and \$20) and those that have dropped it into the donation jars around town. It really helps us provide this great family evening!

BUS ROUTES

No parking is allowed in or near the park. Walk on over or take the free shuttle buses. The routes are:

Route #1: Victoria Woods/Hunters Farm/Welch's Subdivision (one bus)

Victoria Drive/Tiffany Lane, Camilla Place/Jasmine Way, Victoria Drive/Jasmine Way, Bridle Path Lane/Saddle Lane, Bridle Path Lane, Morgan Lane, Saddle Lane/Morgan Lane

Route #2: Foxmoor Route (two buses)

Old Hunt Road/Plum Tree Road, Old Hunt Road/Lexington Road, Foxmoor Road/Yorkshire Drive, Algonquin Road Fire Station

Route #3: South Route (one bus)

Algonquin Road School, Lion's Park, Commuter/Metra Lot

REMINDERS:

- No entry after 9:00 p.m. Once the fireworks are about to begin, no one will be allowed to enter through the front gate – safety first.

- No carry-ins of food or drink are allowed. Other than a non-alcoholic drink in one hand, there will be no carry-ins of alcohol, pop, water, snacks, etc. Food and drinks are available to purchase.

Please make it easy on the volunteers policing the grounds and support the local groups that are donating their time, half their profits to help pay for the fireworks, and half their profits to helping others. Prices are very reasonable!

- No pets are allowed. You may love your dog or cat,

Branch Chipping Policy

The Fox River Grove Public Works Department chips tree limbs from April through November (weather permitting) starting on the first Tuesday of every month and after a major storm (determined by the Superintendent of Streets and Parks). The crew begins on the south side of town and works from west to east. Once complete, the north side will be done in the same manner. Chipper material must be:

- One to Five inches (1'-5') in diameter
- Four to Ten feet (4' - 10') in length
- No stumps or roots

Limbs must be placed in the parkway with cut ends facing the road or direction of traffic flow. Small branches can be bagged for pick up with Waste Management.



The Village will not remove tree limbs cut down by a contractor on private property. The contractor would be responsible for the disposal of this material. Do not place branches out after the first Tuesday unless there is a major storm. Call if you have questions.

The President's Letter

Hello and welcome to summer!

I see the waterfront parks and the playgrounds are full of people. Remember that the improvements at the Picnic Grove Park should be completed by the end of July, so come down and check them out.



The road maintenance and sidewalk repair are mostly finished at this time and I trust that they are working for you, if not please give us a call before the contractors pack up and leave.

Now for something fun and exciting for June 6th - a Village Fest!! Your Special Events Committee has brought together kids games, food, drinks, Car & Motorcycle shows and great bands for all our entertainment. They are having a blowup obstacle course with two routes which is the most fun you can get (could we race the kids through?). Please come and spend some time at this free, (except food and drink), live music performance. See the details in the newsletter.

Let's go back and pick up on two things that the Village has set up for your ease and convenience. First, is the ability to pay water bill charges on line with your credit card, or to sign up for automatic withdrawal from your account. These are working very well and many people are now using both of them. I recommend that you try them and simplify your life. Call the office for all the help you need to start this.

Second is the Metra Parking Pass that you can purchase and hang on your rear view mirror when you park in the lots. The point to remember is that the daily parking fee was increased to \$1.50 this year, but the parking pass is still only \$30, making it not only convenient but the lower cost option. Go for it!

The current status of the new garage for the Streets and Parks equipment is that the Board of Trustees have selected a firm of architects and this firm will now begin accessing the project and provide suggestions to the staff and then on to the Board for further review.

And, finally, the program for the redevelopment of the train station area has progressed to the point where the developer has obtained control of all the important land parcels in the area near the station. This then will allow the planning process to begin with the Planning and Economic Development Committee sometime this month.

Have a great Fox River Grove day!

Robert J. Nunamaker
President, Village of Fox River Grove

FRG Vehicle Stickers

New vehicle stickers are now on sale. Many of you have received the pre-printed forms in the mail. If you haven't, just stop by the Village Hall to pick up your stickers. You do not need the actual card in order to purchase them. The income from the stickers helps to pay for road repairs.



All residents living in the incorporated areas of Fox River Grove are required by ordinance to display a vehicle sticker in every vehicle owned or operated in the Village.

Cars, RV's.....	\$20
Non-Highway (Golf Carts).....	\$10
Motorcycles.....	\$10
Trucks with A & B plates.....	\$26
Trucks with C plates and above.....	\$60
Replacement/ Transfer Fee.....	\$12
Senior Citizens (One/ family) - age 65.....	\$2
Late Penalty: 50% between July 1st and July 31st;	
100% starting August 1st	

You can also pay for your vehicle sticker online. Simply visit www.foxrivergrove.org and click on payments on the right hand side. It brings up the State of Illinois E-Pay system. Fill in the information and we will receive it and mail the stickers to you.



FRG Summer Festival – "Rock The Routes"

Kick off the summer the right way! Join us on Saturday, June 6th from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Stone Hill Center for Fox River Grove's 2nd annual summer festival!

This year's event is called Rock the Routes and is sure to be a rockin' good time! This year there will be a car AND motorcycle show! There will also be live music, food from some of your favorite local restaurants, sweet treats, shaved ice & ice cream, craft beer from local breweries, and LOTS of fun stuff for the

kids! Something for the whole family!

For the most up to date information visit us on Facebook at FRG Living for the Weekend. If you'd like to volunteer for the event, we're looking for volunteers for the car/motorcycle show and kids activities areas. Please send an email to village@foxrivergrove.org. Come on out! You don't want to miss THE party of the summer!

Garbage Day Reminder

Waste Management picks up our trash and recycling on Fridays. Village Ordinance prohibits putting out your trash before 3:00 p.m. the day prior and the containers need to be brought in within 24 hours of pick-up. Violators are subject to a fine. Garbage cans along the street detract from our community's appearance.

You are allowed two bulk items each week in your normal garbage pick-up as part of your monthly fees. A bulk item is considered a piece of furniture or mattress, that weighs less than 50 pounds. If you have any questions regarding the eligibility for pick-up of an item, contact Waste Management 24 hours prior to pick-up. Their Customer Service number is 800-796-9696.

Take Care of Your Pets

Summer is here and the warmer weather allows windows to be open all day and night. It can be annoying to hear constant animal noises. The Village does have an ordinance stating it is unlawful to have an animal that disturbs the peace by loud noises at any time of the day or night. It is also against the law to allow any dog to "run at large" within the Village, as well as not cleaning up after your dog. You could face a \$75 ticket for any of these offenses. Please be a good neighbor and pet owner!

Kids Are Out

Summer is upon us and we need to remember that kids are out riding their bikes, playing ball and enjoying the summer. Please use extra caution when driving and stay off your cell phone.



Homes For Heroes

Homes for Heroes is a national program that was started by a group of realtors as a way to thank the heroes who sacrifice so much for all every day. This includes military veterans, police, firefighters, EMT's, medical professionals and teachers.

The realtors who partner with Homes for Heroes agree to give back 30% of their commission - 25% is rebated back to the purchaser at the closing of the transaction and 5% is donated to the Homes for Heroes Foundation.

For more information visit their website at www.homesforheroes.com. And thank you to the many heroes who serve us daily!



New Signs

Be sure to check out the new Fox River Grove entryway signs that have just been installed!

Hands Free Driving

Recent laws banned the use of all hand-held electronic devices when driving. Only hands-free technology, such as bluetooth, speakerphones, and headsets are permitted.

Also, all cell phone use is completely prohibited while driving in a school zone or a construction zone. According to a 2012 National Highway Traffic Safety report, there were more than 3,300 people killed in the United States due to distracted driving.

Let's keep our roads safe for the pedestrians and bicyclists that the warm weather will bring out!

Police Department News

Officer Will Halasz, Officer Kira Petronella and Sergeant Eric Waitrovich participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit the Illinois Special Olympics on April 26th at Cary-Grove High School.

Also, officers from our department participated (for the first time ever) in the annual "Cop on the Roof", a charity event that benefits the Illinois Special Olympics, on Friday May 29 from 5 a.m. until 2 p.m. at our FRG Dunkin Donuts.

Railroad Crossing Safety Reminder

When you are traveling northbound on Lincoln, Algonquin or Foxmoor Roads, keep in mind the following:

- As you are approaching the crossing, pay attention to the south-side signals. These are the signals you must obey.
 - If the traffic signal is red, stop at the white painted stop line on the south-side of the tracks. Do not cross the tracks.
 - There are "No Turn on Red" signs on the south side of the tracks.
 - The electronic "No Turn" signs are activated by the traffic signals on Route 14 when railroad signals are activated.
 - When a train is approaching, the far signal will either turn or stay green to clear the tracks. DO NOT drive or walk across the tracks when railroad signals are flashing.
- Both pedestrians and motorists are subject to fines.



- When your traffic signal turns green, proceed with caution.
 - Pedestrians need to cross Route 14 at the painted crosswalk.
- If you have any questions, contact the Police Department at 847-639-2411.

Boat And Trailer Parking

It is boating season! There are parking regulations for watercrafts and trailers. (Watercrafts are considered sailboats, motorboats, kayaks, canoes, rowboats, jet skis and waverunners. The Village's regulations are:

- Parking on residential lots that border the Fox River: A minimum of three (3) feet from the sidewalk or ten (10) feet from the street – unless parked in a garage.
- Parking on residential lots that do not border the Fox River: Beginning April 1 through November 30



minimum of three (3) feet from the sidewalk or ten (10) feet from the street – unless parked in a garage. From December 1 – March 31, no parking in the front yard unless parked in a garage.

No motorized boat launching allowed in any of the parks. Enjoy a safe and fun boating season!

Residential General Sewer Information

If you notice a strong sewer smell in your home, this could indicate a dry trap on a sink or basement floor drain. Running water into each drain will fill the trap and eliminate the odor. If you notice any unusual gurgling noise or a drain is running slowly, you may be experiencing the beginning of a blockage.

If clear water is entering through the walls or cracks in the floor, this is an indication of a waterproofing issue, a blocked footer or a blockage in the storm lateral. If you have trees in your front yard, be aware that the root system extends out as far as the widest part of the canopy of the tree. Roots tend to seek out "the path of least resistance" to supply the tree with water. This occurs often with the sanitary and storm laterals. Slow sanitary laterals can also experience back up from detergents used for laundry. The detergents build up in the line, reducing the size of the pipe.

- Items to protect your property:
- Have a trusted plumber's name and number.
 - Make sure your power strips are up off the floor and secured. Power strips can continue to function-even under water.

- Storage items should be placed on shelves in plastic containers. Cardboard boxes absorb water and odors.
- Make sure your gutters are cleaned once a year.
- Grade planting beds away from the house foundation. Water should flow at least 3 feet away from the foundation.
- Periodically check and clear debris from any yard or driveway drains on your property. This will ensure that they flow properly.
- If you have a catch basin in the street near your home, take a moment to clear debris from the top. If the basin needs attention, call Public Works.
- If you have a garbage disposal, make sure to run water for 3 to 5 minutes after disposing of food. This will ensure that waste does not build up in your sanitary lateral. Use ice cubes to sharpen the blades on your disposal.
- Never dispose of fats, oils and grease (FOG's) down the drain. They tend to thicken and block the sanitary main lines and are the primary cause of back ups.



This newsletter is published by the Village of Fox River Grove,
 305 Illinois Street, Fox River Grove, IL 60021
 Phone (847) 639-3170 • Fax (847) 639-9876
www.foxrivergrove.org
village@foxrivergrove.org

Editor - Donna M. Brouder
 Layout - Chris Erbach

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FOX RIVER GROVE, ILLINOIS 60021

President
 Robert J. Nunamaker

Trustees
 Thomas Anderson
 Suzanne Blohm
 Jennifer Curtiss
 Steve Knar
 Andrew Migdal
 Patrick Wall



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ **Rock the Routes Summer Festival** June 6th Stone Hill Center
 Kick off the summer with lots of activities at Stone Hill Center.
- ◆ **Steven Macko Memorial Golf Outing**..... June 19th..... Cary Country Club
 Enjoy this fun day with your favorite FRG and Cary Firefighters.
- ◆ **Veteran’s Picnic**..... June 24th..... Lions Park
 Amvets & American Legion hosting the annual picnic for the Vets at Lions Park
- ◆ **Vehicle Sticker Deadline** June 30th..... Fox River Grove
 The last day to purchase and display your vehicle stickers before the late fee.
- ◆ **Fireworks 2015** July 11th..... Picnic Grove Park
 Enjoy an evening of good old-fashioned community fun at Picnic Grove Park!
- ◆ **FRG Firefighters Water Fights**..... July 12th..... Lions Park
 Cheer on our FRG Firefighters as they challenge other departments in a water battle at Picnic Grove Park at 1:00.
- ◆ **Arts & Crafts Fair** July 19th..... Lions Park
 Browse and buy the beautiful handiwork of many talented crafters at Lions Park.
- ◆ **Touch-A-Truck** August 22nd Algonquin Township Offices
 Visit Algonquin Township Offices to explore different trucks, police vehicles, fire equipment and maybe even a helicopter!
- ◆ **Lions Fest**..... September 12th Lions Park
 Enjoy this annual event held at Lions Park.

Consumer Confidence Report For 2014

Please go to 2014 Fox River Grove Water Quality Report that is under “In the News” on our website www.foxrivergrove.org, to view your annual water report. This report contains important information about source and quality of your drinking water during 2014.

If you would like a paper copy mailed to your home, please call Village Hall at (847) 639-3170.

Thank You For Parks Clean-Up on April 25th

Thank you to all of our residents and families that worked in the parks on April 25th. It was a great turnout and many things were accomplished.

Besides general trash pick-up, new sand was spread in the volleyball court at Picnic Grove Park, dirt and seed restoration was done around the playground, invasive vegetation and branches were removed and trash receptacles were painted. Thanks again to everyone who showed up – it is appreciated!

Village Hall hours: Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Visit the Village of Fox River Grove web site at www.foxrivergrove.org for all the latest information on events, regulations, policies, etc.