



FOX RIVER GROVE QUARTERLY

A newsletter for and about the Village of Fox River Grove

SPRING 2016

Village News

SAVE THE DATE: FOX RIVER GROVE FIREWORKS! JULY 9, 2016

Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual fireworks celebration, Saturday, July 9th at Picnic Grove Park. Besides the fireworks, there will be food, drinks, music and our shuttle bus service. We appreciate the many businesses and residents that have made donations in the past and hope that you will consider contributing again this year.

Watch for the vehicle sticker application mailing as well as donation jars at our local businesses and at Village Hall. You are even able to make a donation at our website www.foxrivergrove.org under payments. Looking forward to a great event - hope to see you there!

Vehicle Stickers

Your current vehicle stickers expire May 31st and new stickers need to be posted on the front passenger window of your vehicle by June 30th. The cost of stickers increases in July (50%) and again in August (100%). The renewal postcards will be mailed the first week in May, although you don't need your card to purchase new stickers. Village Ordinance states that any car residing in the Village must display a current vehicle sticker. The money collected for stickers is used toward capital improvement projects throughout the community.

The costs per vehicle are as follows:

- Automobiles/RV's - \$20
- Non-Highway Vehicles - \$20 (e.g. golf carts)
- Motorcycles - \$10
- Trucks - A & B Plates - \$26
- Trucks - C Plate & above - \$60
- Replacement Stickers - \$12
- Senior Citizens (age 65) - \$2 (Limit one per household)

You may also pay for your sticker on the Village website www.foxrivergrove.org using your credit or debit card. Go to the payments section. Once processed, we will mail you the stickers.



While you're on a roll cleaning up your garden and yard, you can continue in the attic, basement and garage for the annual *Spring Clean-Up* on May 21st. This is a Saturday, not our regularly scheduled pick up day. It is a great opportunity to "clean house" and dispose of the "stuff" you've been accumulating.

All items must be at the curb by 7:00 a.m. to ensure pick up. They will not come back if you are late!!

The types of items they will pick up are:

- Furniture weighing less than 50 pounds
- Lawn and garden items, but not landscape waste
- Plumbing fixtures
- Small auto parts drained of oil and gasoline
- Bundled construction debris of not more than one cubic yard and weighing less than 50 pounds
- Similar types of items that are usually found in garages or basements

They will not pick up the following items:

- Automobile batteries
- Auto parts weighing more than 50 pounds
- Any liquid or hazardous waste materials such as paints, gasoline or motor oil
- Bricks, stones, concrete
- Roofing debris
- Tires
- White goods, such as appliances, air conditioners, water heaters, etc.

Free Landscape Waste Pick-Up

While cleaning out the house and garage, find some time to get the landscape waste together. Landscape waste is classified as grass, brush, garden clippings, small shrubs, weeds, garden and household plant materials, flowers and branches and limbs not to individually exceed four feet in length and one inch in diameter.

This will be picked up for free on Friday, May 6th and Friday, May 13th. You may put out as many brown kraft bags as needed without stickers.

- Computers, computer parts or plasma TV's
- If you are not sure about an item, please call Waste Management at 1-800-447-1066

Algonquin Township has a Recycling Center that is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week for Algonquin Township residents. They accept the following:

- Aluminum and metal cans
- Glass bottles and jars (green, brown or clear)
- Plastic bottles (milk and water jugs, pop and beverage bottles, laundry and household detergent bottles)
- Newspaper, cardboard, magazines

On the last Saturday of the month from March through October, between 8 a.m. and noon, they will accept the following items:

- Paint - latex and oil-based paints, stain and varnish are accepted. NO thinners, stains or paint removers are accepted.
- Used motor oil
- TV's - one TV per household per month - **Algonquin Township Residents Only**
- Computer monitors - one monitor per household per month - **Algonquin Township Residents Only**

Visit their website at www.algtwsp.com or call 847.639.2700, ext. 6 for more information

More Bill Payment Options

The Village has recently updated our payment options both on our website (www.foxrivergrove.org) and at the counter. Besides water bill payments, the Village now accepts credit/debit card payments for Vehicle Stickers, Building Permits (at the counter only) and Fireworks Donations with no additional charges.

We will also accept cards for Parking Tickets, but there is a convenience fee charged for those payments.

The President's Letter



Hello Friends,

The Winter season is just about over and what an unusual Winter it was. The use of our snow plows and salt spreading so far has been about thirty percent of our normal usage. Yet, the early ice-snow fall turned our famous sled hill (Barberry Hill) into a wild ride on an ice covered surface. This caused the Village to temporarily close the hill to all users, the first time in recent memory.

A couple of weeks ago I gave our "state of the Village" presentation to the Chamber of Commerce and I will now give you the main points of the speech. The Village recently received the Audit's for the last fiscal year. This reported that all the accounts and transactions were in compliance. The important points were that last year's results were not only balanced but ended up with a small amount of cash reserve.

Growth in the business activity in the Village obviously is of great value to the residents and the local governments. Your Trustees monitor this and tirelessly promote existing and new businesses. I am happy to report that this activity continues to increase and at a steady rate.

Over the past three years the sales tax receipts, which are our first indicator, have grown at an average of over six percent. Last year the growth again was six percent. Balancing our budget, growing our economy and adding jobs. Good job by everyone, thanks for that.

At the meeting, we also announced the plan of a well-known restaurant operator to build a first class banquet hall on the site of the old 5 o'clock steak house. This will be a large facility that will be able to accommodate two wedding parties at the same time.

The Parks Commission is holding their annual fundraiser on Saturday, March 12th at the Brunch Café. I hope to see you there.

Robert J. Nunamaker
President, Village of Fox River Grove

Fox River Grove Water

The Village is proud to deliver quality, good tasting drinking water to its citizens and businesses. This has always been our goal since 1928 when our first well went in service. It is even more important today to meet the needs of our growing community.

Water Treatment Plant

The Village of Fox River Grove water system is supplied with water from four wells, ranging in depth from 120 feet to 170 feet. Two of the wells are located at Water Treatment Plant No. 1 at Lions Park on Beach Way Drive. The other two wells are located at Water Treatment Plant No. 2 at Picnic Grove Park, which was built in 1996 to meet our growing supply needs.

No restrictions on outside watering were imposed during the summer months due to the addition of this new well. Each well can produce between 400 and 500 gallons per minute (gpm). The existing wells have a reliable sustained capacity of 0.918 million gallons per day (mgd) and a reliable short term capacity of 1.22 mgd.

How it Works

- Groundwater is pumped from the wells to the treatment facilities where dissolved iron and manganese is removed in the iron removal filters.
- Aeration of the drinking water is provided to strip any volatile organic compounds and to improve taste and odor.
- Fluoride is added to our drinking water to prevent cavities, we maintain a concentration of one part per million of fluoride. This has shown to reduce cavities from occurring by 60%.
- Chlorine is added for disinfection, and blended Poly-Phosphate is added as a corrosion control inhibitor.
- The treated water is pumped out to the distribution system where water storage for the system is provided in a 500,000 gallon capacity elevated tank located on Algonquin Road.

Water quality testing is performed on a daily basis, with monthly bacteriological samples collected and submitted to the E.P.A. The hardness of the water is 476mg/l or 28 grains per gallon. An in-house water softener unit will help to soften the water. The Village water supply is in compliance with all E.P.A. Water Quality Standards and Regulations. Our Water Quality Report is available on our website.

The Water Department flushes all the fire hydrants in spring and fall to ensure they are in good operating condition for emergencies and to help improve the water quality and clean the water mains. Flushing is scheduled for the week of April 18th. The water main distribution valve is examined and operated annually to ensure it will operate during normal maintenance and emergency water main break repairs. Also, please keep the fire hydrant in front of your home visible at all times by trimming the grass in the summer and clearing the snow during the winter.

The Village currently maintains over 20 miles of water distribution main, ranging in sizes from

4", 6", 8" and 12" diameter. There are over 300 Fire Hydrants that are color coded according to gallons per minute (gpm) flow and 1,362 service lines to homes and businesses. The Village maintains the water service lines from the b-box to the main. The homeowner is responsible from the b-box to the house including the shutoff valve before the water meter. Water meters are read and billed bi-monthly. The cost for one thousand gallons of water is \$7.18 for water and sewer customers.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Village of Fox River Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant is designed to provide wastewater treatment of 1.25 mgd. Currently we are treating a daily average flow of 0.850 mgd or 68% of our rated capacity. There are three major wastewater pumping stations that transfer wastewater to the treatment plant. The plant is designed to handle a population equivalent of 9,900 people. The final effluent flow is disinfected by ultra violet bulbs and released to the Fox River after meeting all of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (I. E.P.A.) water quality standards.

How it Works

Treatment consists of pre-treatment utilizing a bar screen and aerated grit tank, primary settling clarification followed by biological treatment using rotating biological contactors. The sludge is treated by aerobic digestion and mechanical dewatering. Final sludge disposal is by land application to farm land.

Certified plant operators are responsible for the inspection, maintenance, and repair of the equipment and the sanitary sewer collection system. The over 20 miles of sanitary sewer are inspected, jetted and cleaned on a periodic basis, to help prevent backups.

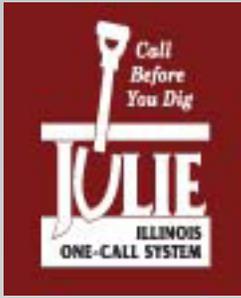


Homeowners are responsible for repairs to their private sewer service line from the house beyond the sidewalk to the sewer main in the street.

Tours of the Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment plants are available year-round. Any size group or individual tours are welcomed. Please contact Operations Manager Tim Zintl at 847.639.8360 if you have any questions or would like additional information.



Call J.U.L.I.E. Before You Dig



Spring is the season for digging and with it comes the excitement of completing some outdoor projects. All outdoor digging projects, including the smallest tasks, require a call to J.U.L.I.E. (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators). They are available 24/7 at 1-800-892-0123. One free call does it all to protect you from digging where utilities are buried – it's simple, safe and the law.

Have the following information ready when you call:

- Your name, address and phone number
- County and city or county and unincorporated area of township
- Your company's name and address (if applicable)
- Location of the dig site
- Extent of the work involved (reason for dig)
- Date work will begin
- Permit number (if applicable)
- Section and quarter numbers (if available)

After providing J.U.L.I.E. with the above information, the J.U.L.I.E. operator will give you a "dig number". Be sure to write this number down as it serves as proof of your call. You will also need to reference this number if subsequent calls to J.U.L.I.E. are necessary (e.g. to have utility marks refreshed).

Parks Commission Annual Fundraiser

Be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, March 12th, for the annual Parks Fundraiser which is hosted by the Fox River Grove Parks Commission. It begins at 7 p.m. at Brunch Café!!

Tickets are \$30 per person and include two drinks (beer, wine, or cocktails) and all you can eat appetizers. Music, 50/50 raffle, fun silent auction items and great company are also on the agenda!!

The Park Commission of Fox River Grove is a small committee – **Dan Otto, Bill Conway, Cheryl Joseph, Jim McNutt, Diane Phillips, Mike Richardson and Sheri Sepeczi** – who work very hard to keep our parks updated. Fox River Grove does not have a Park District to fund playgrounds and parks upgrades. So we strive to keep our green spaces fun for kids and adults. This fundraiser helps us achieve that! (Last year's huge accomplishment is the new pavilion in Picnic Grove Park = awesome!!) Thanks to everyone who help make these events happen!

Hope to see you there!! Tickets are available ahead of time at the Village Hall or at the door! Pass the word to anyone you know!



Exterior Home Repair Checklist

Keeping your home maintained helps keep your property value secure and your neighbors happy! Check your home top to bottom, now, so you can enjoy the whole summer.

Walls: look for holes, decay, peeling paint, missing brick or mortar.

Roof: look for leaks, worn shingles, broken gutters and downspouts.

Chimney: make sure it is structurally sound and look for any loose or missing bricks.

Doors: (including your garage) check for weather tightness and secured hinges and locks.

Foundation: check for any holes and cracks.

House Address Numbers: Ordinance states they must be at least 6 inches high, visible from the street, in numerals only.

And a reminder: if you are doing the work, get a building permit.

Water Conservation

Here are five easy ways to conserve one of our most valuable resources – and your money.

1) Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just one slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day.

2) Put a couple drops of food coloring in your toilet tank. Without flushing, watch the bowl water to see if any color shows up in the bowl. A leak like this can cause a loss of up to 100 gallons per day.

3) Keep your shower time to five minutes and only fill your tub to five inches.

4) Run your dishwasher or washing machine only when you have a full load. Even when your washing machine has a short cycle, it's a more efficient use of water when there are enough dirty clothes for a full load.

5) Water your lawn and garden early or late in the day, not in the midday heat. Avoid watering on windy days. Be sure you're watering your grass and not the sidewalk or driveway. A single lawn sprinkler spraying five gallons per minute uses 50% more water in just one hour than a combination of ten toilet flushes, two five-minute showers, two dishwasher loads and a full load of clothes.



Dog Lovers

It's springtime, and everyone will be outside enjoying the weather with their dogs. If you take your dog for a walk around the neighborhood, carry a plastic bag with you to pick up the waste. Be sure to throw pet waste away in the trash, not in storm drains. Pet waste left in yards, streets or parks eventually washes into storm sewers and empties untreated into our streams, ponds, rivers and lakes. Coliform bacteria in pet waste can be harmful to your health.

Also, when treating your pet and yard for fleas or ticks, check with your veterinarian for safe substitutes that will minimize impact to the storm drains and your family. Flea dip liquid should be disposed of as a household hazardous waste. By following these disposal techniques, it helps keep drinking water and our natural resources safe and healthy.



Our Village Code of Ordinances requires that every dog wears a collar around his neck displaying the county tag, which is required by law. Section 5-28 states it shall be unlawful for any person to permit any dog owned or kept by him to run at large within the Village. Any dog found to be running at large is hereby declared to be a nuisance and will be fined \$75.00. Dogs must be leashed.

ComEd's Pay Your Way

ComEd offers flexible options and ease of payment for customers who need help paying their bill, including minimum pay options, budget bill, and deferred payment arrangements.

Download the ComEd Mobile App by visiting ComEd.com/CustomerService for easy access to all payment information. Use any variety of ways to pay: automatic payments, e-check, credit card, mail, phone or in person. Learn more about flexible payment options by calling 1-800-Edison-1.

Summer Help Wanted

The Village is looking for hard working summer help employees for its Public Works Department. The work begins in May and concludes by the end of August. Applicants must be 18 years of age and be available to work Monday – Friday.

Some work may be required on the weekends during special events. Starting pay is \$8.25 an hour. Please visit the website www.foxrivergrove.org to review the job description and print an application today.

Rock the Routes 2016

SAVE THE DATE! Our next annual Rock the Routes event will be held on Saturday, June 25 again in the grassy areas and parking lot of Stone Hill Shopping Center. You don't want to miss it! This event gets bigger and better every year! Stay tuned!



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ **Parks Fundraiser**.....March 12th - 7:00 p.m.....Brunch Café
Support the FRG Parks Commission!!
- ◆ **General Election**.....March 15thPolling Places
Exercise your right to vote and make your opinion count.
- ◆ **Easter Egg Hunt**.....March 19thLions Park
Our Cary-Grove Jaycees have invited the Easter Bunny at noon for a photo opportunity.
Bring your Easter Basket to hunt for eggs and your camera to make memories.
- ◆ **CGA Chamber Showcase**.....April 16th 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.....Cary-Grove High School
Get to know your local businesses and organizations.
- ◆ **Hydrant Flushing**.....April 18th.....All around town
Hydrant flushing begins this week. Watch for signs throughout town!
- ◆ **Parks Clean – Up Day**.....April 23FRG Parks!
Volunteers are needed to help clean our parks in honor of Earth Day!
- ◆ **Free Yard Waste Pick-Up**.....May 6th & 13th Your House!
Time to clean up the yard from the winter debris and put your kraft bags out for free. Two free Fridays!
- ◆ **Spring Clean Up**.....May 21st..... Your House!
Get your spring clean up done for this special pick up!
- ◆ **Memorial Day Parade**.....May 30th..... ARS
Line-up early to watch the parade in remembrance of those who died for our country.
- ◆ **Kona Ice Truck**June 1st ARS Parking Lot
Enjoy a treat from 3 – 5 p.m. and help raise funds for school!

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

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

Tree Lighting 2015

Thanks to all who came out to our annual Tree Lighting event on December 5. It was a fun filled day for the kids and their families with Santa, the Miracle Express electric train, Cary-Grove Swing Choir, Irish dancers, and more!

A special thank you goes out to the people and groups who helped make it such a success: FRG Fire Department, FRG Lions Club, Algonquin Road School teachers and staff, FRG Community Church, FRG Lionesses, FRG Girl Scout Troop 1231, Cary Grove High School Swing Choir, **Angel Nollett** for the Irish Dancers, and **Dianna Buettner** for her awesome backdrop!

No More Notices!!

The Illinois Secretary of State's office is discontinuing the practice of mailing your vehicle registration renewal notices. This will save the State about \$450,000 per month. You can receive an email reminder by signing up at www.ilsos.gov/greenmail. You need your registration ID and PIN, which are located on your current registration card. For questions, visit their site at www.cyberdriveillinois.com or call 800-252-8980.