



# FOX RIVER GROVE QUARTERLY

A newsletter for and about the Village of Fox River Grove

SPRING 2012

## Village News



### Ray Cooper Retires

More than likely you will see Ray out walking, biking or birding these days instead of working at the wastewater treatment plant.

After 36 years, Ray hung up his public works hat as Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. Not many people work at one place for thirty-six years — that's commitment.

Thanks to Ray for all his hard work over the many years. The Village staff will definitely miss daily contact with Ray and we wish him the very best in retirement!

## Free Landscape Waste

While cleaning out the house and garage, find some time to get your 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 4th and Friday, May 11th. You may put out as many brown kraft bags as needed without stickers. You can buy the bags in town at **Leader Ace Hardware** or **Dominick's**, but can purchase them from anywhere. They do not have to be any special type — just brown kraft bags.

# Free Spring Clean-Up

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 19th. 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.

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.
- 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
- Tree branches and brush recycling

Visit their website at [www.algtwsp.com](http://www.algtwsp.com) or call 847.639.2700, ext. 6 for more information.

## Village Newsletter Going Green

Starting with the Summer 2012 edition, the *Fox River Grove Quarterly* newsletter will no longer be mailed to each household address in Fox River Grove.

It will be available on our webpage at [www.foxrivergrove.org](http://www.foxrivergrove.org) and it will be emailed to everyone who subscribes to the new Community Notification System (sign up on our webpage now). A very limited number of paper copies will be available at Village Hall.

Not only will this be better for the environment — less trash paper and ink to be disposed of, but it will save the Village \$4,400 each year in paper and postage.

Every little bit of savings helps to keep our taxes as low as possible and the information is still available in a very convenient format.

Let's give this a try and see how it works out. Thank you.



# The President's Letter



SPRING! Kids are rollerskating, daffodils are pushing through the crust of the winter and baseball practice has filled the air with shouts of joy! What a great time to go out for a long walk. The very mild past winter (never did get the skis out) has allowed the Village to catch up on many maintenance projects. I trust you will find things in good shape as you walk.

With Spring comes our budget time, as the Village budgets from May through April of the following year. Good news, with three-quarters of the budget year gone, we are under budget, and expect to end the year with a small surplus. Currently, we have brought the Village to a stable and secure financial position. These results and other items have allowed the Trustees to authorize the least expensive auto sticker for each household be free this year.

The redevelopment action for our downtown renewal is progressing well. The area eligible for development has been set up and public meetings have been held to show it off. The study is available at the Village Hall for you if you want to see it. But, alas, the Village will need some funds to kick things off; and that is where you come in. There will be a referendum question on the March 20th election ballot asking your permission to raise the local sales tax twenty-five cents (\$0.25) on each \$100 non-food-drug purchase. We expect at least a ten-fold return on this investment by the residents. Whatever your choice, please get out and vote on March 20, 2012.

The Parks Commission is focused on renewal of our park equipment, which in some cases is very old. Thus, they are holding a fundraising party. The location is our Brunch Café, and the date is March 10, 2012. Come out with me and we can celebrate St. Pat's Day with good food and stout drinks to wash it down.

As I close this letter, I see the kids all coming home from school wearing short pants and parkas! Why! Did I miss the memo?

**HAVE A GREAT FOX RIVER GROVE DAY!**

Robert J. Nunamaker  
President, Village of Fox River Grove

# Parks Commission St. Patty's Day Fun-Raiser

Be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, March 10th for an early St. Patty's Day celebration. The FRG Parks Commission is hosting their second annual Fundraiser for the Parks and Playgrounds of FRG. This year it will be held at Brunch Café!! They are opening their doors at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$30 and include upscale all you can eat appetizers!! Plus 2 drinks of your choice including good beer, great wine, and premium cocktails. Music and great company plus 50/50 raffle and fun silent auction items are also on the agenda!!

The Parks Commission works very hard to keep our parks user-friendly. 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 by this annual fundraiser.

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...



# Tree Lighting — A Great Success!

Thanks so much to everyone for making the Tree Lighting "a Great Success" at our new location, Algonquin Road School. Special thanks to our co-chairs **Sheri Sepeczi, Michele Drage and Jennifer Bolf** for organizing a great day, our Lions Club who made arrangements for Santa to attend and took photos with the children, our FRG Lioness who did an awesome job with the hot chocolate and cookie patrol and to School District #3 for allowing us to use ARS for this delightful event.

We also appreciate the assistance from the following:

- FRG Fire Protection District for making sure Santa arrived for photos.
- Cary Grove Area Chamber of Commerce
- Cary-Grove High School Interact Club
- Mike, Francesca and Marisa Richardson and

**Joe Sepeczi** for all their assistance with decorating our wonderland.

- **Dan Otto** for working at the crafts table all day.
- **Kevin & Megan Lentz and Amy Dixon-Kolar** for their wonderful performances.
- FRG Babysitting Co-op and the Lioness for supplying the delicious cookies.
- Miss FRG, **Leslie Michaelchuck** who greeted our many guests and then treated us to a musical performance.

Thanks so much to Harris Bank Fox River Grove and Fidelity Motor Group for sponsoring the horse and wagon ride this year. It wouldn't be the Tree Lighting without it. This wonderful Christmas tradition is just another example of the Fox River Grove community spirit!

# Pet Reminder



It's spring-time 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 are 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 person keeping any dog shall keep and maintain a collar around his neck with his county tag, which is required by law to be displayed on the collar.

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.**



## Free Garbage Toter

The Village has partnered with Waste Management to secure a free 96-gallon cart for waste for each household in Fox River Grove.

These wheeled carts will be more convenient for the residents and will improve the efficiency for Waste Management.

The carts were delivered between February 20th and March 1st. If you already have a cart, you will no longer be billed for it. The carts should be placed with the handle toward the house along the curb. Any additional garbage should be placed in additional bags or 32 gallon cans.

## Com Ed News

You can receive electric outage alerts on your mobile phone

Subscribe to the Outage Alert program administered by ComEd's partner, AGENT511, and you can receive text messages that alert you of estimated restoration times and other important outage information affecting your ComEd service.



Please note that ComEd does not charge customers for this notification. Message and data rates may apply. Up to 7 outage alert messages per day. Text STOP to 26633 (COMED) to cancel alerts and HELP to 26633 (COMED) for information.

## Hydrant Flushing

The Water & Sewer Department flushes, inspects and flow tests all fire hydrants twice a year – Spring and Fall. The entire water distribution system is flushed clean to improve water quality and assure that all fire hydrants are in good operating condition for emergencies.

Residents are urged to check for hydrant flushing signs posted at major intersections and at entrances to subdivisions. There may be some loss of water pressure at the time of the flushing. We also ask that residents check for discoloration of water before doing laundry. Running your cold water until it runs clear will remove any discoloration.



# "Cary Grove Fights Hunger" in April

The Cary Grove Food Pantry has helped and assisted many residents of Cary and Fox River Grove. The need has never been greater as people in the Cary Grove area reach out for help in these difficult times.

It costs over \$6,000 per month to effectively run the food pantry and with monetary donations; the Cary-Grove Food Pantry can get significant discounts on food that translates into more buying power for every donated dollar.

The month of April has been designated as Cary Grove Fights Hunger Month. St. Barnabas Pre-school and St. Barnabas Lutheran Church are leading the efforts to raise \$20,000 from the communities for the Cary-Grove Food Pantry.

The Brunch Cafe in Fox River Grove will be donating a percentage of their sales on April 9,

2012 to the drive. When you visit on that day mention the Cary Grove Fights Hunger and it will be counted.



Cary-Grove Fights Hunger

We are calling upon all of Cary and Fox River Grove residents/businesses to consider contributing, to the best of their ability and means to the Cary Gove Food Pantry. If you would like to volunteer in any way please attend a meeting at St. Barnabas Lutheran Church on March 12 at 7:30pm or contact the chairs below.

On April 28th we will be holding a Pancake Breakfast at St. Barnabas Lutheran Church, 8901 Cary Algonquin Road, Cary. The breakfast will run from 9:00 am to 11:30 am.

Donations can be made out to Cary Grove Fights Hunger and sent to CGFH, 8901 Cary Algonquin Road, Cary. Att: **Sally Biere/ Cheryl Vaughn** Co-chairs. 847-528-1531.

## What's the Problem With Stormwater?

Stormwater is generally rain and melting snow that runs off surfaces that cannot readily absorb water. Along the way it picks up contaminated sediments such as oils, grease, fertilizers, pesticides, litter, and metals. Stormwater can carry high concentrations of these pollutants to nearby lakes, rivers and drinking water supplies. Polluted stormwater runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water, even rivaling discharges from factories and sewage treatment plants.

### 12 Things You Can Do to Reduce Stormwater Pollution:

Each of us can do our part towards enhancing the quality of life in Fox River Grove by observing a few simple guidelines:

- Compost your yard waste
- Sweep paved areas instead of washing with a hose to keep waste and debris out of storm sewers
- Reduce the amount of fertilizers and pesticides I apply on my lawn and use organic types
- Bag leaves and keep them out of the street and gutter
- Direct gutter downspouts away from paved surfaces to lawns or gardens
- Take my car to the car wash or wash in the yard

- Pick up after my pet
- Dispose of toxic waste properly
- Recycle used motor oil, batteries, and paint supplies
- Keep my cars tuned-up and in good operating condition
- Drop-off prescription medication for disposal at Fox River Grove Police Department
- See McHenry County Green Guide ([www.mchenry.edu/recycling](http://www.mchenry.edu/recycling)) for more recycling information

### McHenry County Planning & Development Divisions of Stormwater & Water Resources

On Friday, April 13th McHenry County Planning & Development will host a workshop on natural lawn care and sustainable landscapes. It is from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$25. It will include sessions on the following:

- Implementing a natural lawn care program
- What to look for in law care contracts
- Greening your ordinances
- Creating a sustainable landscape
- New fertilizer and pesticide regulations

Please contact [plandev@co.mchenry.il.us](mailto:plandev@co.mchenry.il.us) or call 815-334-4560 for more information.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ **CGA Chamber Community Showcase**..... March 3rd 10 a.m – 4 p.m. .... C-G High School  
Get to know your local businesses and organizations.
- ◆ **Ladies Day Out 2012** ..... March 3rd 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. ..Onion Pub & Brewery  
Enjoy a fun day while supporting School District #3 PTO.
- ◆ **St Patty's Day Parks Fundraiser**..... March 10th 7:00 p.m..... Brunch Café  
Support the FRG Parks Commission to Raise Green by Wearing Green to Preserve the Green!!
- ◆ **General Election**..... March 20th ..... Polling Places  
Exercise your right to vote and make your opinion count.
- ◆ **Easter Egg Hunt**..... March 31st..... Lions Park  
Our Cary-Grove Jaycees have invited the Easter Bunny at noon for a photo opportunity with your children – bring your Easter Basket to hunt for eggs and your camera to make memories.
- ◆ **Free Yard Waste Pick-Up**..... May 4th & 11th..... Your House!  
Time to clean up the yard of winter debris and put your kraft bags out for free. Two free Fridays!
- ◆ **Spring Clean Up** ..... May 19th..... Your House!  
Get your spring clean-up done for this special pick up!
- ◆ **McHenry County Recycling Event** ..... May 19th..... MCC  
Electronics and more from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- ◆ **Memorial Day Parade**..... May 28th..... ARS  
Line-up early to watch the parade in remembrance of those who died for our country.

**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](http://www.foxrivergrove.org) for all the latest information on events, regulations, policies, etc.

## New Village & Police Notification System

The Village has a new Community E-Mail Notification System. We are no longer part of NIXLE and if you were previously signed up for NIXLE, you are no longer receiving notifications from Fox River Grove.

You can sign up for this new Village & Police system at our website: [www.foxrivergrove.org](http://www.foxrivergrove.org). The new system will keep residents informed of Village & Public Safety notifications. You do need to sign up separately for the Village & Police to receive information from both.

This is a free program.



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