

VILLAGE of PALATINE

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING NOVEMBER 18



Join Mayor Schwantz, Santa and the Village of Palatine on Saturday, November 18, at 4:45 p.m. to help kick-off the holiday season at our annual Tree Lighting event at Towne Square Park.

Enjoy holiday music performed by the Palatine Children's Chorus and help Santa light the holiday tree. Children may also visit with Santa and take pictures in the Towne Square gazebo.

Kids, do you want to help Santa light the holiday tree?

Simply submit a one-page letter about the importance of the season by November 11th for a chance to be selected.

Please send letters to:

Village of Palatine
Tree Lighting
200 East Wood Street
Palatine, IL 60067



IN this ISSUE

Pumpkin Disposal	2
Beware of Ice Conditions	3
Final Leaf Collection	4-5
Snow Removal	6-7
Holiday Waste Schedule	8
Food Safety Tips	9, 18
Bathroom Exhaust Fan	10
Yard Waste Ends	11
Knox Box Program	12
Recycling Guide	13
Keep the Wreath Red	14
November Coat Drive	15
Holiday Safety Tips	16-17



PALATINE'S WINTER FARMERS' MARKET OPENS NOVEMBER 4!

The Palatine Winter Farmers' Market returns with 18 vendors to the train station parking lot on November 4, 2023. The market is open the first and third Saturday of every month between November and April, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. All shoppers are welcome to drive-through or walk-up, bring your bike or dog.

Welcome newer vendors: Haydon's Groots with a variety of fresh microgreens, Smokin' Sully's breakfast sandwiches and unique toppings, and River Valley Ranch mushrooms and related products.

Many of your favorite summer vendors return all winter to keep you supplied in hormone free, organically fed meats from Scott Hasselmann, fish and seafood from Soft Wave Fish Co., local Garlic Underground and Honey Lake Bee Company products, and Mari's homemade Treat Yourself cookies and sweets. Tacos and tamales are not the only offerings from Tamales Express, who have vegan cookies, breads, street corn, guacamole, and more! Bring all cutlery tools to Dave is Sharp for sharpening while you shop. Katich Bread comes every week from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. with pre-orders only at office@KatichBreads.com.

For more information on vendors and how to place pre-orders, visit **Palatine Winter Farmers' Market**.

VILLAGE OF PALATINE

200 East Wood Street
Palatine, IL 60067
www.palatine.il.us
village@palatine.il.us

VILLAGE HALL HOURS
8 am to 4 pm
Monday through Friday



VILLAGE PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency.....911
Village Hall.....358-7500
TDD (Emergency).....911
Village Action Line705-5200
Community Services.....359-9042
Fire (Non-Emergency)....202-6340
Police (Non-Emergency)..359-9000
Public Works.....705-5200
Mayor
Jim Schwantz.....359-9007
jschwantz@palatine.il.us

Village Clerk
Margaret R. Duer.....359-9051
mduer@palatine.il.us

District 1
Tim Millar.....894-0001
tmillar@palatine.il.us

District 2
Scott Lamerand.....894-0002
slamerand@palatine.il.us

District 3
Doug Myslinski.....894-0003
dmyslinski@palatine.il.us

District 4
Greg Solberg.....894-0004
gsolberg@palatine.il.us

District 5
Kollin Kozlowski.....894-0005
kkozlowski@palatine.il.us

District 6
Brad Helms894-0006
bhelms@palatine.il.us

Village Manager
Reid Ottesen.....359-9050
rottesen@palatine.il.us

All phone numbers are (847) area code unless otherwise noted.

PUMPKIN DISPOSAL



Composting and recycling are important and we should try collectively to reduce the amount of waste that goes into our landfills. Pumpkins are no exception!

The Village encourages residents to place pumpkins in your regular curbside bagged yard waste for weekly pickup. Remember, each yard waste bag cannot exceed 60 pounds. You may have to split up those pumpkins between a few bags. Yard waste from the Village's contracted Groot service goes to a landscape waste composting facility. The final scheduled pickup for curbside bagged yard waste and bundled brush will occur the week of December 11, 2023. If this option is not available to you, pumpkins can be placed in your trash bin.

Another option is to compost your pumpkin yourself. If a pumpkin is starting to decompose, chop up gourds to help speed up the process before tossing the pieces into a compost bin.

To find a local pumpkin composting event or site, search [here](#).

THE VILLAGE OF PALATINE IS ON TWITTER
FOLLOW US: @PALATINEIL

BEWARE OF DANGEROUS ICE CONDITIONS

Changing temperatures during the winter months have the potential to create deceiving and dangerous ice conditions on our local ponds and lakes that may make them unsafe to stand on or walk over. The Palatine Fire Department would like all residents to remember the below safety precautions and helpful information when winter arrives.

- Never leave a child or pet unattended around icy bodies of water.
- Always keep pets on a leash so they can't venture onto the ice.
- If a pet falls through the ice, do not attempt to rescue it. Call 911 for help.
- Ice seldom freezes or thaws at a uniform rate. It can be safe in one area and dangerously thin in another. As temperatures change so does the condition of the ice.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU FALL THROUGH THE ICE?

If you fall through the ice, try not to panic. Place your hands and arms on top of the ice and place your body against the edge of the ice. Kick hard with your legs and try to pull yourself out of the water and onto the ice. When you get onto the ice, remain lying down and try to roll away from the hole and crawl back towards the shore.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU SEE SOMEONE FALL THROUGH THE ICE?

The most important thing you can do is to call 911 immediately. Getting help on the way quickly can be the difference between life and death. If you decide to take action remember to "Reach, Throw, and Go". Try to reach the person with a pole, ladder, tree branch, or another long object. You can try to throw a rope, jumper cables, a life vest, or similar items to the person in the water and pull them to safety. The most dangerous thing you can do is to go out onto the ice and try to make a rescue. The ice has already broken from the weight of the first person and will most likely break when you go out on it too. Do not stand or walk near the hole; if the ice breaks once it will break again.



The Palatine Fire Department has 15 certified rescue divers and a variety of specialty equipment for performing ice and water rescues. The Department is committed to providing the highest level of service to our residents and guests in our community. Please remember to be safe around (or what appears to be) frozen bodies of water.

CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION ENDS WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13

Public Works crews have been busy collecting leaves this fall season! Each Palatine single-family residence still has two leaf pickup opportunities remaining; one scheduled collection day and the final all zone collection.

Visit our [website](#) to lookup your collection zone and scheduled day.

All raked leaves must be put into the street and ready for pick up no later than 7 a.m. on scheduled days, but no earlier than 4 p.m. on the day prior to collection.

The final “**ALL ZONE**” collection will take place the week of Monday, November 13, 2023.

All zones must have the final collection of leaves out on the street by 7 a.m. on that day. Crews will start the final pickup on Monday and continue throughout the week until all the leaves have been collected. Only one pass will be made down each street. Leaf piles set out after crews have cleaned the street will not be collected and must be bagged for the weekly household yard waste pickup.

To review the collection guidelines, click [here](#).

ADDITIONAL PICKUPS

The Village does not anticipate adding any additional leaf pickups this season. We will continue to monitor the weather and announce if conditions allow for an additional all zone sweep on our [website](#), in the emailed PalatinE-Newsletter (sign up [here](#)) and on our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

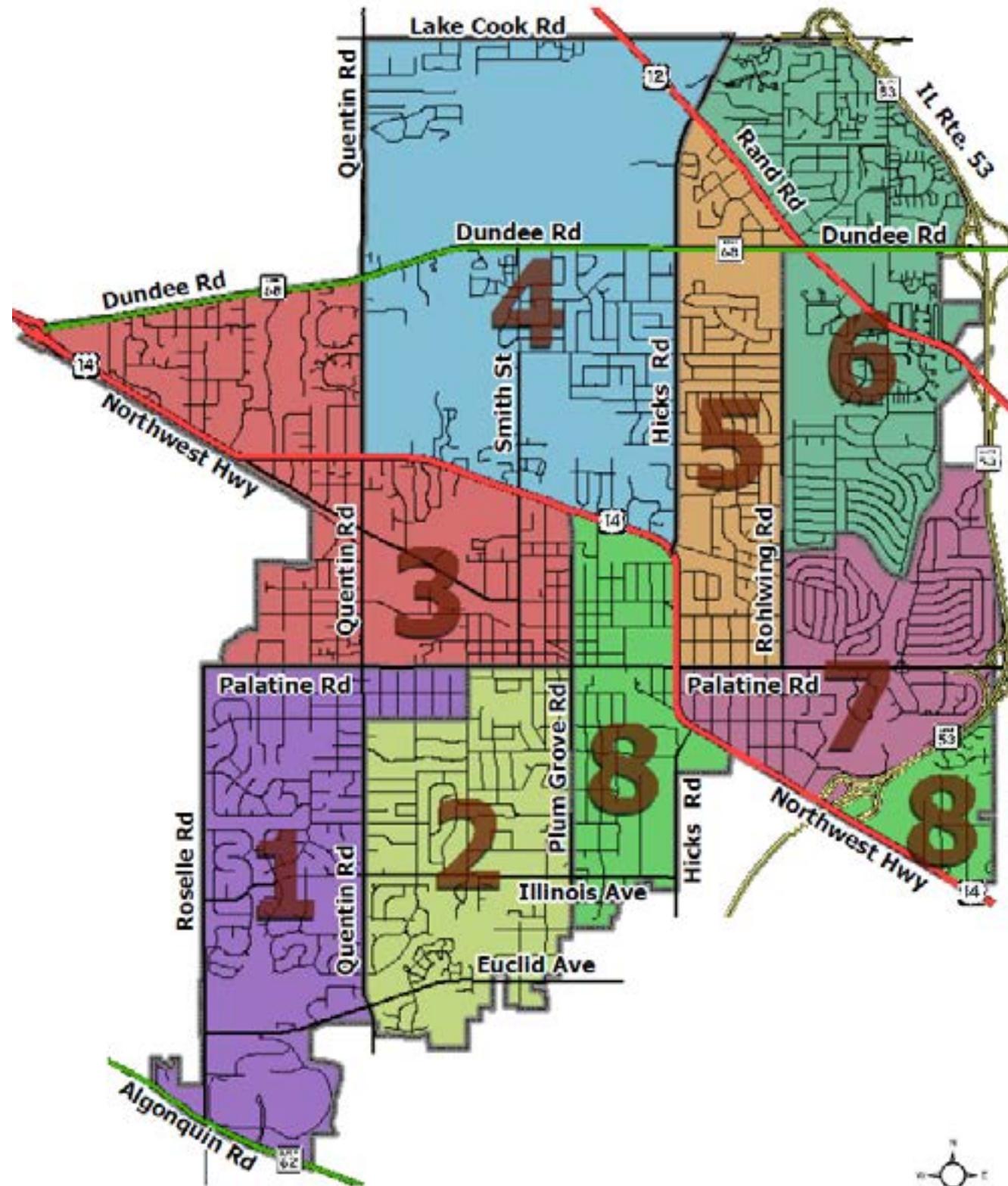
BAG LEAVES FOR PICKUP

Residents may continue to bag fallen leaves for their weekly household refuse pickup. The final scheduled pickup for curbside bagged yard waste and bundled brush will occur the week of December 11, 2023.

For more information visit our [website](#) or call the Public Works Department at (847) 705-5200.

ZONE	DAY/DATE
1	MON., OCT. 30
2	TUES., OCT. 31
3	WED., NOV. 1
4	THURS., NOV. 2
5	MON., NOV. 6
6	TUES., NOV. 7
7	WED., NOV. 8
8	THURS., NOV. 9

**ALL ZONES FINAL PICKUP
WEEK OF MON., NOV. 13**



SNOW REMOVAL

Winters are usually a challenge for almost everyone in the Midwest area. But when the snow begins to fall or icy conditions are present, the Department of Public Works is ready to set its snow and ice removal operation plans into motion to get the streets cleared and motorists on their way as safely as possible.

The Village plows 167 center lane miles, which are divided into 11 routes with 2 trucks assigned to each route for a plowing event. Depending on the type and amount of snowfall, it takes approximately 6 to 7 hours to clear 15 miles of streets (the typical length of a route). Major streets are plowed first, such as Northwest Highway and Palatine and Hicks Roads. Then the secondary and residential streets, including cul-de-sacs, are cleared. Please remember that the Snow Plowing Team is working as efficiently as possible to maintain safe roads throughout the Village.

The Village **does not** plow certain State or County Roads. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is responsible for Rand, Dundee and Algonquin Roads, Hicks Road north of Dundee Road and Route 53. The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOH) is responsible for Lake Cook, Quentin and Roselle Roads, Euclid Avenue and Wilke Road south of Route 53.



Parking on Streets

Residents can help by not parking vehicles on any public street within a 24 hour period after an accumulation of two or more inches of snow or when snow removal is in progress. Illegally parked cars that are interfering with snow plowing operations may be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. Cars are towed only when absolutely necessary and every effort is made to tow the vehicle to a nearby location. If your car has been towed, please call the Police Department at (847) 359-9000 for information on its location.

Sidewalks and Snow Replacement

Designated sidewalks are cleared by the Village when three or more inches of snow falls. The selected sidewalks are main routes to schools or on higher volume roads to help keep children and other pedestrians from walking in the streets. Some of the routes include the sidewalks along portions of:

- Dundee Road
- Hicks Road
- Illinois Avenue
- Northwest Highway
- Palatine Road
- Plum Grove Road
- Quentin Road
- Rand Road
- Rohlwing Road
- Smith Street

Homeowners are not required to shovel the public sidewalk adjacent to their property. However, the Village encourages residents to clear the sidewalks for the safety of pedestrians and children walking to school. State law protects property owners from any added liability if they shovel the sidewalks.

Curbside Mailboxes

Snow plow drivers make every effort to plow the snow as close to the mailbox as possible so mail can be delivered. However, it is very difficult, especially on cul-de-sacs, to completely clear snow without risking damage to mailboxes or posts. Therefore, drivers may err on the side of caution and not clear the snow up to the curb line. Residents are responsible for removing snow from around their mailboxes to ensure mail carriers can reach the mailboxes.

If you believe your curbside mailbox was damaged by a Village snow plow, report it to Public Works at **(847) 705-5200** or by email to PublicWorks@palatine.il.us. A temporary mailbox will be set up so you can continue to receive mail delivery. Every effort will be made to repair your mailbox. If that is not possible, it will be replaced with a standard metal mailbox and/or standard pre-treated wood post. The Village is not responsible for mailboxes if they do not meet Village Code or if they are damaged by non-Village vehicles.

Driveways

Unfortunately, plow trucks will push snow into driveways during a plowing event. This is an unavoidable inconvenience, but there are a few tips you can use when clearing snow to minimize the amount plowed onto your driveway. When possible, save time and prevent frustration by waiting to clear the bottom of your driveway until after the plows have completed the final pass from curb to curb.

You can also reduce the amount of snow dumped onto your driveway by clearing an area "upstream" of the driveway. This allows more snow to roll off into that pocket and less onto the driveway.



When shoveling snow from driveways or sidewalks, please refrain from throwing or blowing it back onto an already plowed street. Doing so can create a hazardous condition for motorists. Village ordinances prohibit plowing, blowing or shoveling snow into any public street, onto a public sidewalk or on a parkway across from your property. We understand it is sometimes difficult to find a place to deposit snow, but putting it in a street or parkway not adjacent to your property could result in a fine.

For more information about snow plowing, visit our [website](#) or call Public Works at **(847) 705-5200**.

NEW OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN SYSTEM

Using Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, the Village of Palatine recently completed a comprehensive replacement of all ten (10) outdoor warning sirens. The new outdoor warning siren system cost approximately \$241,000 and complies with current State and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines. Although the warning siren system blankets the entire village, it is solely intended to alert residents who are outside that something dangerous is approaching such as a tornado, hail storm, high winds, etc. The outdoor warning sirens are tested the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00 AM. If the sirens are activated – and it is NOT a monthly test, residents should seek shelter immediately and tune into local radio or television to obtain further storm information.

More information about outdoor warning sirens can be found at ready.illinois.gov.



TOYS FOR TOTS

The Palatine Police and Fire Benevolent Association partners with the U.S. Marine Corp's "Toys-For-Tots" program by collecting toys in and around the Palatine area during the holiday season. The toy drive begins early November and runs through the third week in December.

Coming Soon! Check palatine.il.us for donation drop off locations. Additional info can be found at PPFBA.org.

2023-2024 HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Mark your calendar for the below holidays that will affect your solid waste collection. For those holidays not listed, solid waste collection will take place as regularly scheduled. Save and post this handy schedule for reference throughout the year and save yourself from hauling the trash to the curb a day early or missing your collection entirely.

Week of	Holiday	Collection
December 25, 2023	...Christmas Day	All collection one day later
January 1, 2024	...New Year's Day	All collection one day later
May 27, 2024	...Memorial Day	All collection one day later
September 2, 2024	...Labor Day	All collection one day later
December 23, 2024	...Christmas Day	Wednesday collection one day later

Curbside collection of bagged and bundled yard waste ends the week of December 11, 2023 and resumes the week of April 1, 2024.

For more information, contact the Environmental Health Division at 847-359-9042.



HOLIDAY FOOD SAFETY TIPS

Cooking for Groups

Reheating Food
Reheat cooked food to at least **165°F**

Keep Hot Food Hot
Cooked food should be held at or above **140°F**

Keep Cold Food Cold
Store food in the refrigerator at **40°F or below**

Serving Food
Use clean containers and utensils to serve food

DANGER ZONE
Temperature range (between 40°F and 140°F) where bacteria multiplies quickly.

Two-Hour Rule
If perishable food is kept at room temperature, do not leave it out for more than **2 hours**

Do not use a chafing dish, warming tray, or slow cooker to reheat food – this leads to **too much time in the Danger Zone!**

BATHROOM EXHAUST FANS: A HIDDEN FIRE DANGER?

Between 2017 and 2020, bathroom exhaust fans were the cause of 6 residential structure fires within Palatine causing \$227,700 in smoke and property damage. This does not include the cost of housing displaced residents while repairs to their homes were made. Bathroom exhaust fans are found in most residences and many commercial properties to help prevent fogged-up mirrors, moisture buildup on walls, window condensation and to assist with removing unpleasant odors.

These fans present a potential fire hazard if not cleaned and maintained on a regular basis. Bathroom fans over time will attract and accumulate combustible dust which can cause the motor to overheat. When conditions are right, this overheating can ignite the dust which in turn consumes the plastic fan blades, wire insulation and spreads to the combustible wood structure of the residence. The rate at which the dust builds up is dependent on the amount of use and the dust in the air of the room in which the fan is located.

Bathroom fans are not designed to last forever. In most instances they date to the original construction of the residence. Starting in the late 1970s some fans were built with thermal protection, which shuts down the motor should the fan overheat or seize. The requirement that all fans have thermal protection did not occur until the early 1990s. If you have a bathroom exhaust fan(s) in your home, inspect them twice a year and clean or replace if necessary. If the fan starts to make noises or emits a burning smell, turn the power off to it and replace it.

Public Education is the Cornerstone of the Fire Service



BATHROOM CEILING FAN CHECKUP

Inspection of your exhaust fan can provide a lot of details. To properly inspect the fan, you're going to need to remove the cover. **Watch for:**

- Discoloration or melting from heat
- Odd sounds
- Slowness to start
- Dust buildup
- Mild burning smell or scent of ozone (As the fan's job is to vent away air, it can be difficult to smell a fan in trouble.)



These are clues that your fan needs attention! Sometimes it is best to replace the whole fan.

Twice a year inspect, clean and replace, if necessary, your bathroom ceiling fan. Follow the above inspection steps to make sure all is well. Small actions like inspecting and simple proactive maintenance of your bathroom ceiling fan are important factors to the overall fire safety of your home.

BATHROOM EXHAUST FAN MAINTENANCE

- **Install a timer switch.** Bath fans are only intended to run for 20 minutes. Leaving the fan on for hours can cause a dust compromised fan to overheat resulting in the dust igniting and spreading to nearby combustible material.
- **Clean the duct.** Dust and dirt collected inside the duct can make it difficult for the fan to work efficiently. This could result in the fan overheating which can ignite dust and the wood framing of the home.
- **Get rid of the dusty buildup.** Make sure the power is off at the breaker. After removing the faceplate, submerge it into warm soapy water and then wipe down the interior of the fan housing with a damp rag. If needed, you can spray the fan with canned air to remove additional dust buildup.
- **Use LED light bulbs.** Besides saving energy, LED light bulbs produce less heat which can ignite dust within a fan. They also decrease the electric load placed on the circuit and the exhaust fan.
- **Manage dust buildup with canned air.** In between thorough cleanings, you can keep the buildup to a minimum with a few bursts from canned air typically used for cleaning electrical equipment. *Be sure to turn the fan off before cleaning.*

FEBRUARY CURBSIDE BRUSH COLLECTION

A curbside brush collection for single-family residences will occur ONLY ONCE during the winter season in February of 2024. All loose brush must be set out at the curb no later than 7 a.m. on Monday, February 5, 2024.

GUIDELINES

- Brush must be 8" or less in diameter to accommodate the chipper.
- Firewood, tree stumps, and root balls are not accepted because of the potential damage to the chipper.
- Clean Christmas trees (without lights or decorations) will be accepted.
- Branches should be as long as possible with cut ends facing the street, without impeding traffic or the sidewalk.



Crews will pass down each street just once. Piles set out after February 5 will be left at the curb. If amounts of brush are excessive, the collection may take the entire week to finish. The collection may also be delayed due to snow or other weather conditions. The Village will monitor the weather conditions and announce if the collection week will be rescheduled on our [website](#), in the emailed PalatinE-Newsletter (sign up [here](#)) and on our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION ENDS FOR THE SEASON

Curbside collection of bagged and bundled yard waste by Groot will end for the season the week of December 11, 2023. Yard waste collection will resume the week of April 1, 2024. Please follow these guidelines for weekly collection of yard waste:

- Place yard waste at the curb no later than 6:30 am on your scheduled collection day.
- Yard waste must be bagged or bundled. Use two-ply brown paper yard waste bags. Each bag or bundle cannot exceed 60 pounds.
- Branches or limbs cannot exceed 4 inches in diameter. No logs or tree stumps.
- Tie each yard waste bundle with biodegradable cotton twine or rope.
- Yard waste bundles cannot exceed 4 feet in length or 2 feet in diameter.
- Christmas trees and wreaths may be placed at the curb on your scheduled collection day during December and January.



For more information, contact the Environmental Health Division at 847-359-9042.



RESIDENTIAL KNOX BOX PROGRAMS

WHAT IS A KNOX BOX?

In an emergency, seconds count when the Fire Department is responding. With a Knox Box, firefighter/paramedics have quick non-destructive access to your residence. This is especially useful for residents who are unable to move around the house due to underlying medical conditions, those recuperating from surgery, or those who use an electronic medical alert device.

A Knox Box is a high-security key safe that is constructed of steel with a high-strength lock core that is UL listed and approved. Once the residence's key(s) are locked inside by the Fire Department only the Fire Department can access them. The Knox Box can utilize an integrated hanger to mount the box over the top of an entry door or it can be secured directly to the residence if purchased.

Residential Purchase Program

For those residents who need a Knox Box for longer than six months or can purchase one, the Knox HomeBox is a great cost-effective option. To purchase one go to knoxbox.com/Products/Residential-KnoxBoxes.

Short Term Residential Loaner Program

The Palatine Fire Department, along with Palatine Firefighters Local 4588 has a limited supply of Knox HomeBoxes to loan out. These are available for Village residents with limited mobility or underlying medical conditions who are unable to purchase a Knox HomeBox. The goal of this program is to lend a Knox HomeBox for up to six months to residents who would have difficulties getting to their door in the event of an emergency.

Multi-Family Residential Knox Box

Some larger multi-family buildings have purchased a large Knox Box for their residents to place voluntarily the key to their unit in. In addition to providing Fire Department access in the event of a medical emergency, having a key in this Knox Box allows the Fire Department to investigate and mitigate emergencies such as natural gas or water leaks without damaging the door or metal frame. The replacement of a fire-rated corridor door is \$800 to \$1000.

If you or a family member have a need or questions about our residential Knox Box program, please contact the Palatine Fire Prevention Division office at 847-359-9029 or e-mail us at fireprevention@palatine.il.us.



Curbside Recycling Guidelines

Put in Recycling Cart LOOSE! - Empty & Clean



Glass
Bottles & Jars



Plastic
Bottles - Caps On Preferred,
Tubs, Jugs, Jars
No Bags, Film, or Foam



Metal
Steel & Aluminum
Depressurize Aerosols



Mixed Paper & Cartons
Flatten Boxes

DON'T Put in Recycling Cart!



No Batteries,
Electronics,
or Sharps



No Plastic
Bags or Wrap



No Food, Liquids,
Diapers, or
Shredded Paper



No Clothing
or Shoes



No Hoses, Wires,
or Hangers

Scan for FAQs:

KEEP THE WREATH RED

The Palatine Fire Department will again be participating in the annual "Keep the Wreath Red" holiday safety program. This public-safety campaign was started in the mid 1950's to increase fire safety awareness during the holidays.

Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, each of our five (5) fire stations will display a wreath decorated only in red lights. In the event of a "holiday related fire," we will exchange a red bulb with a white bulb. We hope, as you pass the wreaths, you will consider potential fire safety problems in your home and take the time to correct them. Some safety considerations include:

- Check all holiday lighting for wear or damaged wiring and replace as needed.
- Use indoor/outdoor lighting and extension cords where they are intended.
- Do not run lighting or extension cords through windows, doors or across sidewalks.
- Do not overload electrical cords. If it is hot, it is overloaded!
- Turn off all holiday lighting before leaving or going to bed.
- If displaying a live tree, use a sturdy tree stand and water the tree often.
- Keep the tree, wreaths and all holiday decorations away from any heat source such as fireplaces, space heaters, candles and heating ducts.
- Make sure smoke alarms are tested and in good working order with fresh batteries.
- Check the age of all smoke alarms. If they are more than 10 years old, replace them.
- Keep and maintain a Carbon Monoxide detector within 15 feet of all bedrooms.
- Use only sturdy candle holders and only place on firm, uncluttered surfaces.
- Do not place candles in windows near blinds and curtains.
- Have fireplaces and wood-burning stoves cleaned regularly.



For more information on home fire safety visit our [website](#) or the [National Fire Protection Association](#).

All members of the Palatine Fire Department wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

VILLAGE SEEKS CDL DRIVERS FOR SNOW PLOWING SEASON

The Village is still accepting applications for seasonal snow plow drivers!

Experienced CDL drivers who hold a valid Illinois Class A or B commercial driver's license with air brakes endorsement are needed to assist the Public Works Department with snow plowing during the winter season.

Candidates must be available to work flexible hours. These positions are temporary and require a high school diploma or equivalent. Snow plowing experience is a plus, and starting pay is \$26 per hour.

Apply online on our [website](#). Positions are open until filled.



NEW ELEVATION & DRY FLOODPROOFING CERTIFICATES

Elevation Certificates are an optional tool used by FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to evaluate a building's First Floor Height (FFH) and adjacent elevation, stay in compliance with floodplain regulations and help lower the cost of flood insurance coverage. Dry Floodproofing Certificates certify a design that may be permitted as an alternative to elevating to or above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) for non-residential buildings and the dry floodproofed non-residential portions of mixed-use buildings.



FEMA



Both the current Elevation Certificate (EC) and the Dry Floodproofing Certificate for Non-Residential Structures were recently issued and the new expiration date of these forms is June 30, 2026. The new **Elevation Certificate** requests additional data needed to better align the new Risk Rating 2.0 flood insurance methodology. The new **Dry Floodproofing Certificate** requires separate certification of building design, elevation, and construction.

Remember the EC is just a tool to help you determine compliance with your floodplain regulations. It must be reviewed for accuracy and does not guarantee compliance. Check for items such as accurate building diagram, freeboard, required openings in any enclosures/ attached garage, lowest machinery and equipment, and lowest adjacent grade. The EC does not address floodplain development concerns such as fill compaction or if the improvements are in the floodway.

For more information about Elevation Certificates, visit FEMA's NFIP [website](#). For additional questions, contact the Public Works Department Engineering Division at (847) 705-5200.

2023 NOVEMBER COAT DRIVE BENEFITTING P.A.T.H.

The Palatine Police Department will be serving as a drop off location for gently used and new winter coats, snow pants, and boots of all sizes. The coats will be collected in the lobby of the Palatine Police Station November 1st through November 30th. The collection will be donated to the Palatine Assistance Through Hope (P.A.T.H.) program.

For more information and tax receipts, visit the P.A.T.H. [website](#).



NOTE: PATH is currently in great need of children's clothes, age newborn to 18. The Palatine Police Department will accept those items in the donation box as well. Much appreciation to all who donate!

PREVENT HOLIDAY FRAUD

Many frauds look legitimate at first glance. Most cons attract victims by advertising a "too good to be true" deal, offering a free gift, promoting a "once in a lifetime" business opportunity, or the chance to earn some quick cash. Typically, during the holiday season, and in light of recent tragic events, charity frauds occur frequently as well.

To help protect yourself from fraud during the holidays, just follow these easy guidelines. First, if someone solicits a donation in person, ask to see official identification that includes the name of the solicitor and their organization. Make sure you recognize the name of the charity. Most of the better-known charities are very reputable. Find out the purpose of the donation. Ask, specifically, how the money will be used. You may also request written information on the organization and its functions. Ask the solicitor if contributions are tax deductible. If you are not satisfied with the answers given to these questions, or if the solicitor can't answer your questions, do not contribute money to that organization.

If a solicitor reaches you by telephone, ask questions about the organization and its function. Request that the solicitor send you written information about the charity and how the funds will be used. Never give credit card information to a person who calls to solicit funds. Be suspicious of charities that only accept cash as well. If you send money to the charity by check, make the check payable to an organization, not an individual.

Never give money to a solicitor that pressures you into donating!

Finally, call the Palatine Police Department at (847) 359-9000 with any questions or concerns.



PROTECT YOUR HOME DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Many of us travel to be with relatives for the holidays. Remember to protect your home from break-ins while you are away. Burglars would love to take advantage of all the presents under the tree if you give them an opportunity.

Always lock and secure all doors, including sliding glass doors, when you leave the house, no matter how long you will be away. A home burglary can happen in less than a minute, especially when gifts or valuables are left near a door or window. Never display gifts or valuables where they can be easily seen from a window or doorway. This will only give the burglars an incentive to break in.



Give any potential burglars the impression that someone is home. Remember to reset your timers for the lights and television since it gets dark so early at this time of year. Have a neighbor pick up the newspaper and the mail, and arrange to have someone remove snow from your driveway after a heavy storm.

Finally, if someone comes to your door collecting holiday donations or to deliver a package, always ask for official identification before you open the door. Never let anyone into your house who cannot provide this information.

Police non-emergency number at 847-359-9000 or stop by the Police Department.

SHOP SAFELY DURING THE HOLIDAYS

This holiday season, don't let the spirit of giving lull you into giving crooks a better chance to take advantage of you. Burglars and pickpockets love the holidays as much as everyone else, because for them it is an opportune time for easy crimes. Here are a few simple reminders to keep you and your belongings more safe as you shop:

- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- Carry your purse or wallet in a safe manner. Purses should be kept close to the body, and they should always be closed, zipped or snapped shut. Wallets are most safe in a front pants pocket or breast pocket in a coat.
- Never flaunt your cash, expensive jewelry, or clothing.
- Walk confidently, and be alert at all times. Take notice of those who pass you or walk behind you. Be especially alert in crowded areas where a pickpocket may strike without warning.
- Never overburden yourself with packages. Too many bags will make it difficult to keep track of your wallet or purse. It may also restrict any efforts to protect yourself if you are approached by a crook.
- Park your car in a well-lit area of the parking lot. Make sure you close and lock all doors and windows. Do not place bags and boxes in your vehicle where they are easily visible. Place packages in the trunk to deter a break-in.
- Shopping with children? Teach them to meet you at a designated place or to find a store employee. Remind them never to leave the store without you.
- If you are shopping with small children, always remember what they are wearing or take a photo of your child before you shop. An accurate clothing description or photo, provided by you to the store personnel, would be extremely helpful if the child is lost.



WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

AJ & Company Salon 1128 West NW Highway 847-221-2020 <i>Beauty Salon</i>	EXP Realty 220 North Smith 110 847-848-4647 <i>Realty Branch Office</i>	OME Partners LLC 1742 North Rand Road 224-201-8532 <i>Property Management</i>	Salon 377 377 West NW Highway 847-991-2909 <i>Hair Salon</i>
Azteca Movers Inc. 579 First Bank Dr., #220 773-664-2890 <i>Movers</i>	Fence Builders 948 East Lilly Lane 224-829-1095 <i>Contractor</i>	Paper Route Tobacco 1242 East Dundee Road 224-490-9367 <i>Retail</i>	Second City Lacrosse 340 North Eric Drive 847-471-1048 <i>Lacrosse Facility</i>
Bloc Cannabis 333 East Lake Cook Road 312-531-8590 <i>Retail</i>	Mega Auto Glass Inc. 544 West Colfax, Ste 3 847-275-8947 <i>Auto Glass Company</i>	Prosthetics Dental Lab 552 East NW Highway 847-592-4577 <i>Dental Prosthetics</i>	Sunbelt Rentals 514 South Hicks Road 847-291-7761 <i>Equipment Rental</i>
Coco Nail Bar 655 East Dundee Road 847-496-4958 <i>Nail Salon</i>	MI Pilates 21 North Brockway, Ste 201 224-201-7254 <i>Pilates Studio</i>	Rise Strong Counseling 800 East NW Highway #422 847-737-4344 <i>Licensed Counselor</i>	Terra Tax 311 East Dundee Road 847-359-0500 <i>Tax Service</i>
Dollar Tree 780 West Euclid Avenue 224-801-1510 <i>Retail</i>	Nelikona Cafe Inc. 45 North Bothwell Street 773-319-9437 <i>Cafe/Coffee House</i>	Rocky's Blacktop 1364 East Inverrary Lane 847-840-7008 <i>Contractor</i>	

LET'S TALK TURKEY



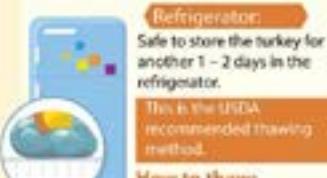
Types of turkeys regulated by the USDA:



*For more information about each type of turkey, visit fis.usda.gov.

3 WAYS TO THAW

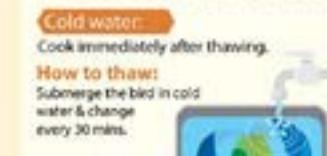
While frozen, a turkey is safe indefinitely. As soon as it begins to thaw, bacteria that may have been present before freezing will begin to grow again. Here are three ways to safely thaw your bird:



Refrigerator:
Safe to store the turkey for another 1–2 days in the refrigerator.

This is the USDA recommended thawing method.

How to thaw:
Allow approximately 24 hrs. for every 4.5 lbs of bird.



Cold water:

Cook immediately after thawing.
How to thaw:
Submerge the bird in cold water & change every 30 mins.



Microwave:
Cook immediately after thawing.

How to thaw:
Use defrost function based on weight.

For more information on safe thawing methods, visit fis.usda.gov

DID YOU KNOW?

It's safe to cook a frozen turkey though cooking time will be 50% longer!

Clean



SO DON'T WASH YOUR TURKEY!!

SEPARATE



COOK



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Visit foodsafety.gov

CHILL



If you have a specific question, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHOTLINE or visit AskKaren.gov. Visit PreguntasaKaren.gov for questions in Spanish.

USDA  **Ad Council**

Unsafe handling and under-cooking your holiday bird can cause foodborne illnesses. Here are a few tips from the USDA to keep your Thanksgiving safe and delicious!



Fire Safety during Winter Storms

Winter storms can happen almost anywhere. They can cause us problems. Know what to do before, during and after a storm. This will help keep you and your family safe from a winter fire.

- Test all smoke alarms. Do this at least once a month. This way you will know they are working. Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home. Test the alarms.
- Plan two ways out of the home in case of an emergency. Clear driveway and front walk of ice and snow. This will provide easy access to your home.
- Make sure your house number can be seen from the street. If you need help, firefighters will be able to find you.
- Be ready in case the power goes out. Have flashlights on hand. Also have battery-powered lighting and fresh batteries. Never use candles.
- Stay aware of winter weather. Listen to the television or radio for updates. Watch for bulletins online.
- Check on neighbors. Check on others who may need help.
- Generators should be used outdoors. Keep them away from windows and doors. Do not run a generator inside your garage, even if the door is open.
- Stay away from downed wires. Report any downed wires to authorities.
- Be ready if the heat stops working. Use extra layers of clothes and blankets to stay warm. If you use an emergency heat source, keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away.
- Turn portable heaters off when you leave the room. Turn them off when you go to bed.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

There are more home fires in winter than in any other season. Half of all home heating fires happen in December, January and February.

As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, be fire smart!



Fact

Nearly half of all space heater fires involve electric space heaters.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

nfpaf.org/education ©NFPA 2017



THE MOST DANGEROUS TIME TO DRIVE

As we "Fall Back" to Shorter Days, Take Extra Care on the Road

Shorter days, fatigue, compromised night vision, rush hour and impaired drivers are some of the risks we face when driving at night. These risks become especially pronounced moving into the weekend, with fatal crashes peaking on Saturday nights, according to NSC analysis of NHTSA data. When Daylight Saving Time ends – for 2023, that's 2 a.m.

Sunday, Nov. 5 – many people will find themselves spending more time driving in the dark. Depth perception, color recognition and peripheral vision can be compromised in the dark, and the glare of headlights from an oncoming vehicle can temporarily blind a driver.

Even with high-beam headlights on, visibility is limited to about 500 feet (250 feet for normal headlights) creating less time to react to something in the road, especially when driving at higher speeds.



WHAT SHOULD YOU DO TO COMBAT DARKNESS?

- Aim your headlights correctly, and make sure they're clean
- Dim your dashboard
- Look away from oncoming lights
- If you wear glasses, make sure they're anti-reflective
- Clean the windshield to eliminate streaks
- Slow down to compensate for limited visibility and reduced stopping time

COMPROMISED NIGHT VISION

Night vision is the ability to see well in low-light conditions. As we age, we have greater difficulty seeing at night. A 50-year-old driver may need twice as much light to see as well as a 30-year-old. At age 60 and older, driving can become even more difficult, according to the American Optometric Association. Some older drivers also may have compromised vision due to cataracts and degenerative eye diseases.

The AOA recommends older drivers:

- Have annual vision exams
- Reduce speed
- Take a driving course; even experienced drivers can benefit from a refresher course, and some of the rules have probably changed
- Minimize distractions, like talking with passengers or listening to the radio
- Check with your doctor about side effects of prescription drugs
- Limit driving to daytime hours if necessary

FATIGUE

A National Sleep Foundation poll says 60% of adults have driven while they were tired, and another 37%, or 103 million people, have fallen asleep at the wheel. Of those, 13% say they fall asleep while driving at least once a month, and 4% say they have caused a crash by falling asleep

while driving. The reasons are many – shift work, lack of quality sleep, long work hours, sleep disorders – and it doesn't only happen on lengthy trips.

These staggering numbers are backed up by a report by NHTSA that 100,000 police-reported crashes are a result of driver fatigue. Most crashes or near-misses happen at the times you would expect drivers to be tired: 4 to 6 am, midnight to 2 am and 2 to 4 pm, according to NSF. Drowsy driving puts everyone on the road at risk. Losing two hours of sleep has the same effect on driving as having three beers, and tired drivers are three times more likely to be in a car crash if they are fatigued.

The National Sleep Foundation offers this advice:

- Get seven or more hours of sleep a night
- Don't drive if you've been awake for 16 hours or more
- Stop every two hours to rest
- Pull over and take a nap if you're drowsy
- Travel during times you are normally awake

RUSH HOUR

Evening rush hour (between 4 and 7 pm weekdays) is a dangerous time to drive due to crowded roadways and drivers eager to get home after work. In winter, it's dark during rush hour, compounding an already dangerous driving situation.

How can you make it home safely during rush hour?

- Don't be an impatient driver; slow down
- Stay in your lane and beware of drivers who dart from lane to lane
- Even though the route may be familiar, don't go on autopilot; stay alert
- In unfamiliar areas, consult a map before you go and memorize your route
- Don't touch your phone, eat, drink or do other things that are distracting

IMPAIRED DRIVERS

Nearly 30 people die every day in crashes that involve a driver impaired by alcohol, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Drivers impaired by prescription medicines and other drugs increase that number significantly. Impaired drivers are most frequently on the road after dark – particularly between the hours of midnight and 3 am on weekends.

While drunk driving has declined by about one-third since 2007, the number of drivers under the influence of drugs has increased. Between 2013 and 2014, 22% of drivers tested positive for a drug that would cause impairment, according to a roadside survey conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. NHTSA also found that the prevalence of THC (found in marijuana) among drivers on weekend nights increased 48% since 2007, from 8.6% of drivers to 12.6%. Many states have not yet updated their impaired driving laws to address this growing problem.

STAY ALERT. STAY ALIVE

While we do only one quarter of our driving at night, 50% of traffic deaths happen at night. It doesn't matter whether the road is familiar or not, driving at night is always more dangerous. More than 40,000 people were killed in car crashes in 2016, according to Injury Facts. By taking some extra precautions, we can all contribute to reducing these numbers.