

# VILLAGE of PALATINE

## HOLIDAY LIGHT RECYCLING PROGRAM



The Village of Palatine, in partnership with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) and Elgin Recycling, is pleased to offer a Holiday Light Recycling Program.

**When:** Now until January 31, 2025.

**Where:** Drop off at the Palatine Village Hall, Village Services Counter (first floor), Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM.

### Accepted Items:

- Holiday string lighting (mini-lights, C7 & C9, rope, and LED)
- Extension cords

### Not Accepted:

- Wreaths, garlands, or other holiday decorations

**Important:** Do not place string lights or extension cords in your recycling cart.

For more information, contact the Environmental Health Division at 847-359-9042. Help reduce waste this holiday season!



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## WINTER FARMERS' MARKET RETURNS NOVEMBER - APRIL!

The Village welcomes back the expanded outdoor Winter Market in the Palatine train station parking lot on the first and third Saturday, November through April. The market is opening an hour earlier, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., and there are more quality vendors you've come to expect.

Returning are Scott Hasselmann's meats and eggs, Sean's soups, Mario's Pasta Bar, Elsie Mae's Pies, Nate's Kettle Corn, Kim's Folklorica cookies, Mari's sweet treats, Katich breads, Honey Lake Bee products, Skokie Provisions, R&M Polish pierogies & sausage, Vesna's European cookies, Maggie's Munchies, and Tamales & Tacos Express. These familiar vendors will be joined by new Heady Cup Coffee, Sharing Bread and cinnamon rolls, muffins, and more specialty items! Amanda and Dave will be on hand to sharpen knives and more for all your holiday needs. Mimi will have her garlic varieties for your holiday meals, and Mike is bringing apples through November. Watch for other special appearances throughout the season!

Thank you for supporting the Palatine Farmers' Market throughout the years! For more information, 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 Line .....705-5200  
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**  
Vacant.....894-0004

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

**District 6**  
Brad Helms .....894-0006  
bhelms@palatine.il.us

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

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

## FILE OF LIFE PROGRAM



The Palatine Fire Department is pleased to offer the FILE OF LIFE program to our community.

Medical emergencies can happen anytime. When they do, there is confusion, panic and urgency. Paramedics arrive on the scene with no information about the person in need. Seconds count – they can make the difference between life and death.

The FILE OF LIFE card enables first responders to quickly obtain critical medical information all on one printable document. This can save lives by being your voice when you are unable to communicate.

One of the most important parts of the program is keeping your information up to date!! Please help us help you. We ask that you print this document and fill it out in pencil so that making changes is easy.

Please visit our **website** or scan the QR code to print your free copies. Place them on your refrigerator so they are quickly identified.

Don't forget to print extra copies for your loved ones.



## BEWARE OF DANGEROUS ICE CONDITIONS

Changing temperatures during the winter months can 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. 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 18

Public Works crews have been busy collecting leaves this fall season! Each Palatine single-family residence still has two leaf pickup opportunities remaining. Visit our [website](#) to lookup your collection zone and pickup dates or refer to the map and schedule to the right.

Zones 1 through 4 will be picked up the week of November 4. All residents within these zones must place their leaves in the street by 7 a.m. on Monday, November 4. Crews will start the pickup on Monday and continue until all the leaves have been collected in those zones. Collection is anticipated to be complete by Thursday, November 7, but may finish sooner depending on the volume of leaves.

Zones 5 through 8 will be picked up the week of November 11. All residents within these zones must put their leaves in the street by 7 a.m. on Monday, November 11. Again, crews will start the pickup on Monday and continue until all the leaves in those zones have been collected. Collection is expected to be done by Thursday, November 14, but may finish sooner depending on the volume of leaves.

The final collection will take place the week of Monday, November 18, 2024. All zones must have their leaves out on the street by 7 a.m. on Monday, November 18. Crews will start the final pickup on that day and continue throughout the week until all the leaves have been collected. 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.

Only one pass will be made down each street during collection weeks. 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 collection on our [website](#), in the emailed PalatinE-Newsletter (sign up [here](#)) and on our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

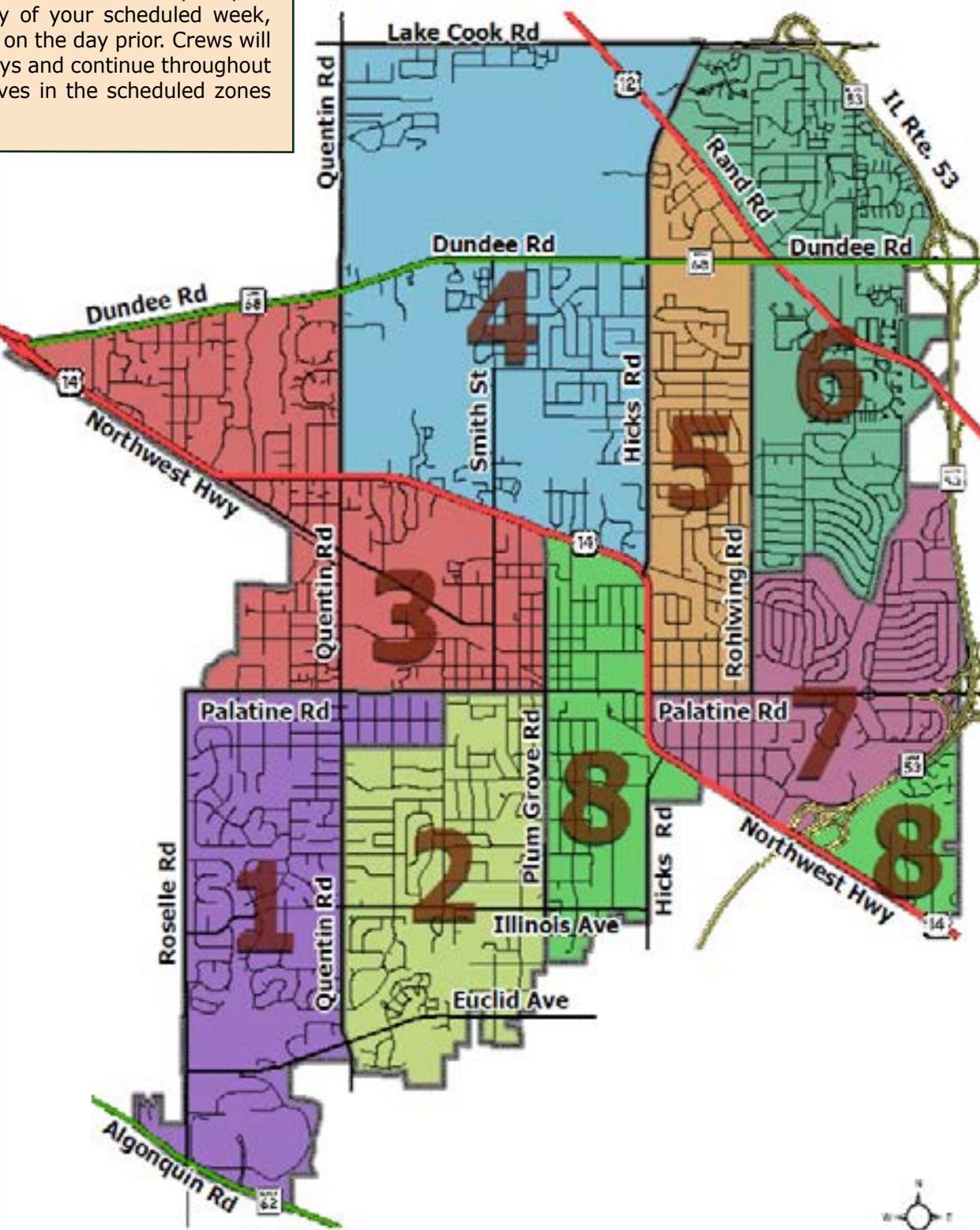
## BAG LEAVES FOR PICKUP

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 9, 2024.

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

Zone	Collection Week
1 - 4	NOVEMBER 4
5 - 8	NOVEMBER 11
ALL ZONES	NOVEMBER 18

Raked leaves must be in the street and ready for pick by 7 a.m. on the Monday of your scheduled week, but no earlier than 4 p.m. on the day prior. Crews will start the pickup on Mondays and continue throughout the week until all the leaves in the scheduled zones have been collected.



# SNOW PLOWING QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

The Public Works Department receives a variety of information requests from residents throughout the year, especially during winter when snow falls. Here are the most frequently asked questions with answers.

## **How many miles is the Public Works Department responsible for plowing?**

The Village is responsible for 167 center lane miles of snow and ice control.

## **How are those miles divided up to plow?**

The 167 miles are divided into 11 sections with 2 trucks typically assigned to each section or route in a plowing event. Public Works is also responsible for plowing the commuter lots, five Fire Stations, Police Headquarters, and Village Hall parking lots.

## **Why are two trucks assigned to a route?**

Tandem plows clear street pavement from center line to curb in one pass.

## **Why don't the plows clear the whole street at once?**

Drivers make a preliminary pass during the storm to open up the streets. Final clearing from curb-to-curb occurs after it stops snowing.



## **How long does it take to plow a route?**

Depending on the type and amount of snowfall, it takes approximately 7 hours to clear 15 miles of streets. A typical route is 15 miles.

## **Are the same drivers assigned to the same route each time they plow or salt a route?**

Yes. Two drivers are assigned to each route for a plowing event and one driver for a salting event.

## **For some storms, plows are out for most of the day and night. Are the same drivers out there the whole time?**

No. The Department has two fully staffed crews - front line snow plow drivers and back-up drivers, which include part-time seasonal drivers hired each year.

## **Where do drivers start plowing?**

Major streets are plowed first, such as Northwest Highway, Palatine and Hicks Roads, followed by secondary and residential streets, including cul-de-sacs.

## **Are there roads Palatine does not plow?**

Yes. 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.

## **Can I park on the street during a storm?**

No. On-street parking is not allowed after a snowfall of two or more inches until the street has been plowed. Illegally parked cars that hinder plowing operations may be ticketed and towed. If your car has been towed, please call the Police Department at (847)359-9000 for information on its location.

## **Some sidewalks are cleared by the Village, but not all of them – why is that?**

The Village Council designated certain sidewalks to be cleared when there is over three inches of snowfall. These sidewalks are the main routes to schools or on higher volume roads to help keep school children and other pedestrians from walking in the streets.

## **Am I required to shovel the public sidewalk adjacent to my property?**

No. However, the Village encourages all residents to clear the sidewalks for the safety of pedestrians and children walking to school.

## **If I shovel the public sidewalk adjacent to my property, where can I put the snow?**

Place the snow on the parkway or in your front yard in a manner to avoid injury or limit access to any person, animal or other property.

## **Can I put snow on a public sidewalk or street?**

No. This includes the portion of the sidewalk that crosses over a driveway apron. Village ordinances prohibit plowing, blowing or shoveling of snow into the street, onto the public sidewalk, or onto a parkway across from your property. These actions can create hazardous conditions for both motorists and pedestrians.

## **If I hire a snow plow contractor, who is responsible for notifying that contractor of the Village ordinances?**

Property owners are responsible for the actions of their contractors. Non-owners of property should forward this information to the party responsible for conducting the snow plowing and snow removal operations.

## **Can children build snow forts in the parkway?**

No. Playing in or near the street, especially while snow and ice control operations are in process, poses a safety hazard for children. Snow forts can also obstruct drivers' vision when backing out of driveways.

## **The snow plow driver hit my mailbox. How do I receive mail now?**

It is very difficult, especially on cul-de-sacs, to completely clear snow without risking damage to mailboxes or posts. If a curbside mailbox is damaged by a Village snow plow, call Public Works at **(847)705-5200** or email us at [PublicWorks@palatine.il.us](mailto:PublicWorks@palatine.il.us). We will either repair the box and/or post at no cost to the homeowner or bring out a temporary mailbox so you can receive mail delivery. Keep in mind, the Village is not responsible for mailboxes that do not meet Village code or if they are damaged by non-Village vehicles. The Village's total liability is limited to the cost of replacing a standard metal mailbox and/or a standard pre-treated wood post.

## **The snow plow tore up the grass in the parkway. How do I request restoration?**

Call Public Works at **(847)705-5200** or email us at [PublicWorks@palatine.il.us](mailto:PublicWorks@palatine.il.us) as soon as the damage is noticed. Turf will be restored in the spring, usually in early April. Public Works crews will level out any areas with plow damage and then apply grass seed. Residents are asked to water the area until the grass has established.

## **Why does the plow driver always seem to fill driveways with snow after residents have cleared away the snow?**

This is not done intentionally. The goal is to have safe roads for residents and other motorists traveling within the Village. When possible, save time and prevent frustration by waiting to clear the bottom of your driveway until after the plows have completed their final pass.

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

## HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING NOVEMBER 23

Join Mayor Schwantz, Santa and the Village of Palatine on Saturday, November 23, at 4:45 p.m. to help kick-off the holiday season at our annual Tree Lighting event at Towne Square Park, 150 W. Palatine Road.

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.



**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](http://palatine.il.us) for donation drop off locations. Additional info can be found at [PPFBA.org](http://PPFBA.org).

## 2024-2025 HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Mark your calendar for the below holidays that will affect your solid waste collection. 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
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December 23, 2024	...Christmas Day	Wednesday collection one day later
December 30, 2024	...New Year's Day	Wednesday collection one day later
May 26, 2025	.....Memorial Day	All collection one day later
September 1, 2025	....Labor Day	All collection one day later

Curbside collection of bagged and bundled yard waste ends the week of December 9, 2024 and resumes the week of March 31, 2025.

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



## ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE SAFETY TIPS



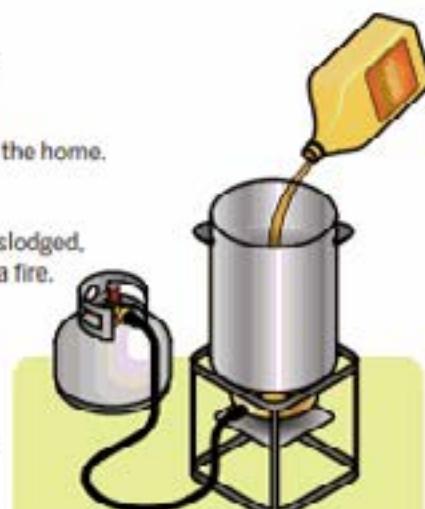
### Key Safety Tips

- Always use cooking equipment—air fryers, slow cookers, electric skillets, hot plates, griddles, etc.—that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions on where and how to use appliances.
- Remember to unplug all appliances when not in use.
- Check cords regularly for damage. Do not use any appliance with a damaged cord.

### Slow Cooker

A slow cooker is designed to be left on while you do other things, even things outside of the home. However, there are few safety tips to keep in mind:

- Keep things that could catch fire away from the slow cooker.
- Make sure the slow cooker is in a place where it won't get bumped. If the lid gets dislodged, the liquid could boil away, which could cause the appliance to overheat and create a fire.



### Pressure Cooker

A pressure cooker is designed to cook food faster than a stovetop or oven. Because it uses hot steam and pressure to cook food it is important that they are used properly to prevent burns.

- Place the cooker in an open space to give enough room for the steam to ventilate.
- Never cover the steam release valve on the pressure cooker.
- Do not leave the home when using a pressure cooker.

### Air Fryers

- Give your air fryer enough space. The air vents release heat and need airflow.
- Do not leave the home when using the air fryer.
- Make sure you clean grease and food debris after every use. Unplug and allow to cool completely before cleaning.

### Hot Plate, Griddle and Electric Skillet

- Stay with the hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet when cooking.
- Do not touch the surface of a hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet, as it could burn you.
- Unplug a hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet when not in use and before cleaning. Allow the appliance to cool before cleaning it.

**Turkey fryers** that use oil and an open flame cannot be used safely. These fryers use a large quantity of cooking oil at hot temperatures, which can lead to devastating burns.

Buy an infrared fryer or electric turkey fryer that has been listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Do not leave fryers unattended when in use.

## CONSIDER LOCAL LAWS BEFORE GIFTING MOTOR DRIVEN SCOOTERS

As the holiday season approaches, many families consider gifts that encourage outdoor activity and fun. However, we want to take a moment to discuss motor driven scooters, mini bikes, pocket bikes, and go-carts—items that may seem appealing but come with important regulations you should be aware of.

### UNDERSTANDING THE ORDINANCE

In Palatine, motor driven scooters are defined as any electric or gas-powered wheeled vehicle operated by a rider, either sitting or standing, that does not require a title, license plates, or registration in Illinois.

### KEY RESTRICTIONS

The operation of these vehicles is prohibited on public streets, sidewalks, parking lots, bike paths, parks, reservoirs, and other public property.

### EXEMPTIONS TO CONSIDER

While some vehicles, like police and fire department vehicles, as well as motorized wheelchairs for individuals with disabilities, are exempt from these restrictions, most personal scooters are not.

### POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES

Parents should be aware that violations of this ordinance can lead to fines ranging from \$75 to \$750. If a minor is involved, the penalties can extend to parents or guardians, and police may impound the scooters if necessary.

### MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS

Before purchasing a motor driven scooter as a gift, consider the following:

- Ensure that your child understands the importance of following local laws and riding safely.
- Explore other gift options that promote physical activity without the legal restrictions.
- Have an open conversation with your child about safe riding practices and the importance of adhering to regulations.



### PALATINE VILLAGE HALL WILL BE CLOSED

**Thursday, November 28 & Friday, November 29, 2024**  
In Observance of Thanksgiving

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024**  
In Observance of Christmas

**Wednesday, January 1, 2025**  
In Observance of New Year's Day

### SIGN-UP FOR THE PALATINE-NEWSLETTER



## FEBRUARY CURBSIDE BRUSH COLLECTION

A curbside brush collection for single-family residences will occur ONLY ONCE during the winter season in February of 2025. All loose brush must be set out at the curb no later than 7 a.m. on Monday, February 3, 2025.

### 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 3 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 e-mailed PalatinE-Newsletter (sign up [here](#)) and on our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

## YARD WASTE COLLECTION ENDS FOR THE SEASON

The last week for curbside collection of bagged and bundled yard waste, for the season, is December 9, 2024. Yard waste collection will resume the week of March 31, 2025. 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.
- Use two-ply brown paper bags or bundled yard waste. Each bag or bundle cannot exceed 60 pounds.
- Branches or limbs should be no more than 4 inches in diameter. No logs or tree stumps.
- Tie bundles with biodegradable cotton twine or rope.
- Brush bundles should not 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.

# SAFELY DISPOSE OF SHARPS AND LIGHT BULBS

The Village of Palatine is offering a Special Materials Drop Off Program in partnership with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC). This FREE program is available for residentially generated special materials, including:

- Sharps (needles)
- CFL and fluorescent light bulbs

## ELIGIBILITY

Only residents of SWANCC member communities, including Palatine, can participate. No waste from businesses, schools, or institutions is accepted.

### SHARPS (Needles)

- Container Requirements: Bring sharps in a red biohazard container or a rigid plastic laundry detergent bottle with a lid.
- Preparation: All sharps must be placed in containers at home. Loose or bagged sharps will not be accepted.
- Free Containers: The Environmental Health Division provides free 1-quart or 1-gallon sharps containers to residents who administer home injections (while supplies last).
- Disposal: When full, return the container for proper disposal.

### FLUORESCENT BULBS AND TUBES

- Accepted Items: Bring mercury-containing bulbs such as compact fluorescent lights (CFL) and fluorescent light tubes up to 4 feet in length.
- Exclusions: Do not bring incandescent or LED bulbs (these can be disposed of in the garbage) or any broken light bulbs/tubes.
- Packaging: All bulbs and tubes must be in a plastic bag.

### DROP OFF LOCATION

- Address: Village of Palatine, 200 E. Wood Street - Village Services Counter, First Floor
- Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 am - 4 pm

For more information, visit our **website** and search for 'Special Materials' or contact (847) 359-9042.



 **Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County**  
[swancc.org](http://swancc.org)



Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.



Heating equipment is involved in **1 in every 6** home fires and **1 in every 5** home fire deaths.



Keep anything that can burn at least **3 feet** from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.



Keep portable generators **outside, away from windows, and as far away** from your home as possible.



Install and test carbon monoxide alarms **at least once a month**.



Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year**.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it **outside at least 10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.



**FEMA**



**U.S. Fire Administration**



**Fire is Everyone's Fight**



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit [usfa.fema.gov/winter](http://usfa.fema.gov/winter) and [nfpa.org/winter](http://nfpa.org/winter).

## KEEP THE WREATH RED

The Palatine Fire Department will once again participate in the annual "Keep the Wreath Red" holiday safety program. The red wreath is a long-standing tradition among Illinois fire agencies and is part of a campaign to raise awareness about safety when putting up holiday lights and other decorations around the home.

Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, each of our five fire stations will display a holiday wreath with only red lights. In the event of a "holiday related fire," we will exchange a red bulb with a white bulb. The Palatine Fire Department's goal is to prevent any fires this holiday season. We ask all Palatine residents to inspect their homes for potential fire safety issues and address them as soon as possible. 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](#).

***The Palatine Fire Department wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.***

## COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK PROGRAM

The Cook County Sheriff's Prescription Drug Take Back Program provides a safe way for residents to dispose of unwanted medications. Collection boxes are available throughout Cook County. For more details, visit the [Cook County Sheriff's website](#) and search for the Prescription Drug Takeback Program. You can find information on participating pharmacies and locations by address and zip code.

For additional inquiries, you can contact the Prescription Drug Takeback Hotline at (844) 688-7379.

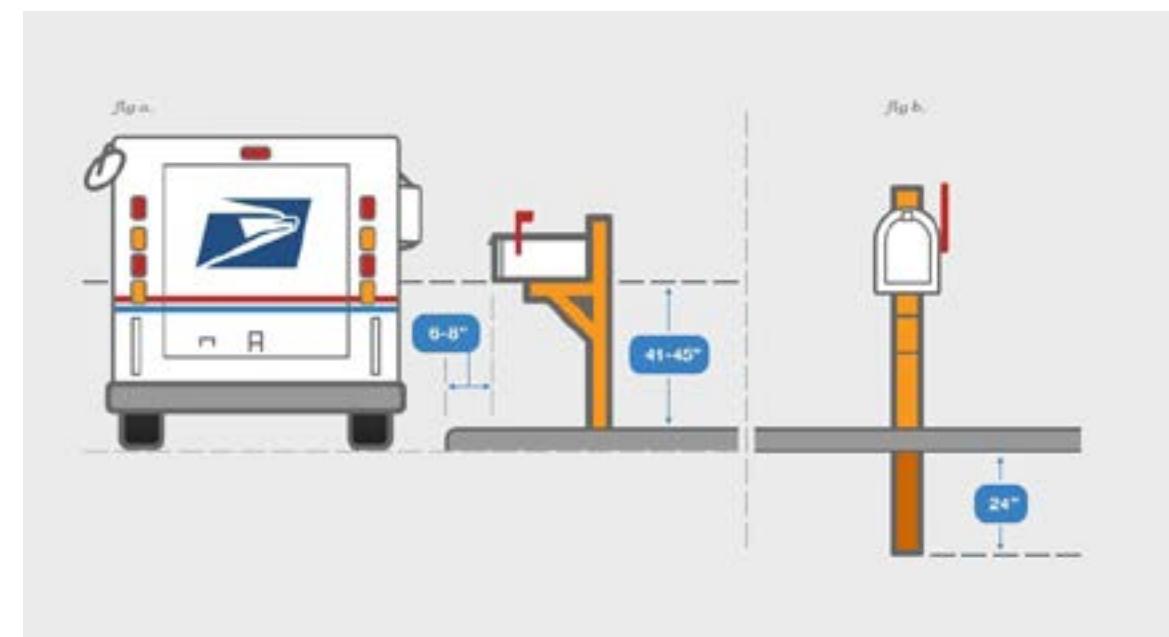


## PROTECT YOUR MAILBOX THIS WINTER WITH PROPER PLACEMENT

During winter, mailboxes are occasionally damaged during snow plowing operations. If a Village snowplow hits a properly installed mailbox that meets Village Code, the Public Works Department will repair or replace the mailbox and/or post at no cost to the homeowner. The Village's total liability is limited to the cost of replacing a standard metal mailbox and/or a standard pre-treated wood post. The Village is not responsible for mailboxes damaged by non-Village vehicles.

Proper placement and mounting of a mailbox can help prevent snowplows from striking it. According to U.S. Postal Service (USPS) regulations, mailboxes should be placed so that the front of the box is set 6 to 8 inches back from the curb or edge of the pavement. There should also be 41 to 45 inches from the bottom of the box to the top of the curb or road. For additional placement guidelines and installation tips, please visit the [USPS website](#).

Residents who believe their curbside mailbox was damaged by a Village snowplow may report it to the Public Works Department at (847) 705-5200 or by email at [PublicWorks@palatine.il.us](mailto:PublicWorks@palatine.il.us). Damage must be reported as soon as it is noticed.



## SCOOP THE POOP

Dog and cat waste left on the ground is more than smelly and unsightly...it pollutes our water and poses health risks for pets and people. One pile of pet waste may not seem like a lot, but it adds up!

The Village of Palatine currently has over 3,500 dogs registered in our system, generating roughly 2,000 pounds of waste every day.

As a common courtesy, and as required by the Village Code, please pick up your pet's waste from any public property.

Failure to comply with the Village's applicable animal control regulations could result in the issuance of a citation and fine to any violator.





## BE PREPARED FOR A WINTER STORM

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion.



FEMA V-1014/June 2018

Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice, and high winds.



Greater risk



Can last a few hours or several days



Can knock out heat, power, and communication services

## IF YOU ARE UNDER A WINTER STORM WARNING, FIND SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

Stay off roads.



Use generators outside only.

Stay indoors and dress warmly.



Pay attention to emergency information and alerts.

Prepare for power outages.



Look for signs of hypothermia and frostbite.



Check on neighbors.

## HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A WINTER STORM THREATENS



Prepare NOW

**Know your area's risk for winter storms.** Extreme winter weather can leave communities without utilities or other services for long periods of time.

**Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking, and weather stripping.** Learn how to keep pipes from freezing. Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups.

**Pay attention to weather reports and warnings of freezing weather and winter storms.** Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

**Gather supplies in case you need to stay home for several days without power.** Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets. Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights.

**Create an emergency supply kit for your car.** Include jumper cables, sand, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water, and non-perishable snacks. Keep the gas tank full.

**Learn to identify the signs of and basic treatments for frostbite and hypothermia.** For more information, visit: [www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/staysafe/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/staysafe/index.html)



Survive DURING

**Stay off roads if at all possible.** If trapped in your car, stay inside.

**Limit your time outside.** If you need to go outside, wear layers of warm clothing. Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

**Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.** Only use generators and grills outdoors and away from windows. Never heat your home with a gas stove top or oven.

**Reduce the risk of a heart attack.** Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow.

**Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia and begin treatment right away.**

**Check on neighbors.** Older adults and young children are more at risk in extreme cold.



Recognize + RESPOND

**Frostbite** causes loss of feeling and color around the face, fingers, and toes.

- Signs:** Numbness, white or grayish-yellow skin, and firm or waxy skin

- Actions:** Go to a warm room. Soak in warm water. Use body heat to warm. Do not massage or use a heating pad.

**Hypothermia** is an unusually low body temperature. A temperature below 95 degrees is an emergency.

- Signs:** Shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech, and drowsiness.

- Actions:** Go to a warm room. Warm the center of the body first—chest, neck, head, and groin. Keep dry and wrapped up in warm blankets, including the head and neck.

### Take an Active Role In Your Safety

Go to [Ready.gov/winter-weather](http://Ready.gov/winter-weather). Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a winter storm.



FEMA

FEMA V-1014

## ADOPT-A-HYDRANT PROGRAM

The Palatine Fire Department is continuing its community-based safety program and needs your help. During winter months, heavy snowfall makes finding, let alone using fire hydrants very difficult. Fire doubles in size every 30 seconds, making every second count in an emergency.

The Palatine Fire Department is asking residents, business owners, and local civic groups to consider participating in our "Adopt-A-Hydrant" program.

To adopt a hydrant, go to our **online adoption system** or use the QR code. Please consider adopting one or two hydrants near your home, church, or business and commit to keeping them clear of snow.

When clearing a fire hydrant, snow should be removed about three feet away from the hydrant in all directions with a pathway cleared between the hydrant and the roadway. Please exercise caution when shoveling because of the potential for vehicle traffic nearby. Do not stand in the street and be careful not to slip and fall out into the roadway.

The Village of Palatine has over 3,500 fire hydrants and we need your help making sure that they are accessible when we need them, but we can't do this alone.

For more information visit our **website** or call us at 847-202-6340.

## LET YOUR CLOTHING BE LOVED AGAIN

**Free Home Pickup Service for Clothing, Shoes and Small Home Goods**

**HOW TO USE THIS FREE PROGRAM:**

- 1** Schedule Your Free Home Pickup
- 2** Place outside your front door by 7:30am
- 3** We give your clothing a new life!

85% of clothing and textiles ends up in landfills. Home pickups provided by Simple Recycling give this recyclable material a new life - whether that's at a local secondhand store or processed for its raw materials.

**simplerecycling.com**





## Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Holiday Fires

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.



 Almost half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles.	 Think about using <b>battery-operated flameless candles</b> .	 Christmas is the peak day for candle fires.
 Keep candles at least <b>12 inches</b> away from anything that burns.	 A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast.	 More than 1 in every 5 Christmas tree fires were caused by a heat source too close to the tree.
 Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.	 Make sure your tree is <b>at least 3 feet away</b> from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.	 Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.



FEMA



U.S. Fire  
Administration



NFPA  
Fire is  
Everyone's  
Fight

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit [usfa.fema.gov/holiday](http://usfa.fema.gov/holiday) and [nfpa.org/winter](http://nfpa.org/winter).

## HOW TO BE SAFE WHEN LEAVING WORK



Where we work can generally be considered a known environment where we feel comfortable. But depending on the time of day when we leave our job, our comfort level can change. So here are some simple tips to make you safer when going home.

If at all possible, it would be a good idea to check out the parking lot from inside the building before you walk out to make sure that there is no one obviously waiting. Not all threats are going to be obvious, but you can save yourself a lot of trouble by looking around before you actually leave the building.

As you make your way to your car, keep your head up, phone put away, and your keys in hand so you can get in easier.

If your car has a remote start feature, consider using it as you approach to speed up your departure. And of course, lock your doors as soon as you are inside.

Even with the best security systems and safety measures in place, it is critical employees adopt their own proactive safety habits to protect themselves. The following are best practices that help increase personal safety:

- Communicate your plans to work after hours with co-workers, family and any onsite security personnel.
- Park your car in a well-lit area close to your building's exit.
- Keep safety essentials on hand and within reach—flashlight, batteries, and first aid kit.
- Be mindful about who you share your work schedule with, and never share with strangers your plans to work late or alone after hours.
- If you see a suspicious person or vehicle during the day or after hours, call 911.
- Keep your phone on you at all times.
- Throughout the work day, stay aware of potential threats and report erroneous activity or malfunctioning equipment such as broken door locks or burned-out lights.
- Before you leave, always let someone know that you are on your way home. If possible, ask a co-worker to walk you out of the office to your car.
- Vary your routes home throughout the week when traveling from work.

Prevention, preparation and communication are tried and true strategies to reducing your risk in all situations. All businesses should review their opening and closing procedures annually and make adjustments when necessary.

The Palatine Police Department Crime Prevention Unit offers free business security surveys. If you own or manage a business in Palatine, call 847-359-9000 to schedule an appointment.

## FINDING YOUR POLICE BEAT OR BEAT SERGEANT

The Palatine Police Department patrols the Village with seven teams of officers, each team assigned to a particular geographical area (beat) of town. Each team consists of at least six patrol officers, coordinated by a Beat Sergeant, who are responsible for providing police services for their area of town around the clock utilizing permanent shifts.

The officers rely not only on their own observations, but also on citizen input to help identify problems. Once a problem has been brought to the attention of a neighborhood patrol team, and a possible cause has been identified, a plan of action is prepared. Here too, citizen input is encouraged.

### Find Your Beat

To learn more about your specific police beats, the officers and the Beat Sergeant, visit the links below or view the Police Beat Map. You may also contact your Beat Sergeant via e-mail directly from their page.

- **Police Beat 8100**
- **Police Beat 8110**
- **Police Beat 8120**
- **Police Beat 8150**
- **Police Beat 8160**
- **Police Beat 8170**
- **Police Beat 8180**

