

# VILLAGE *of* PALATINE



SPRING 2014



## VILLAGE AND ROTARY CLUB PARTNER TO ENHANCE INTERSECTION

After the completion of the Palatine/Plum Grove roads reconstruction project, the Village began considering electronic informational sign options for the busy intersection.

The Rotary Club contacted Village leaders during this planning stage expressing their desire to participate in the sign project as a way to commemorate the organization's 50 years of community service.

Through this partnership, the Palatine Rotary Club contributed an additional

\$50,000 to enhance the beautification of the intersection. The completed plaza includes landscaping features, a commemorative brick paver area, benches and a flag pole.

The Palatine Rotary Club plans to host a dedication ceremony at the new plaza in May celebrating the beautification of the intersection and their 50th anniversary.

For complete event information, visit [www.palatinerotary.com](http://www.palatinerotary.com). For message display information, visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us). Search: community event sign.

## 2014 Budget Decreases Property Tax Levy Again

Palatine's recently adopted 2014 Annual Budget and Capital Investment Plan provides for a third consecutive decrease in the property tax levy. The Village Council now will have decreased the property tax levy by more than \$200,000 over the past three years. The current reduction reflects a decrease of \$86,002 over the 2013 tax levy.

The budget totals \$108,839,952, with \$66,073,845 representing the operations budget and the remaining \$42,766,107 representing the capital budget, TIF districts, debt service, transfers, casualty/liability/health and other insurance programs, and pension administration requirements. In total, this represents an increase of 2.81 percent when compared to the 2013 Annual Budget.

The Village comprises just 12.56 percent of the property tax dollars residents pay. In addition to the property tax reduction, the Operating Budget, for the third consecutive year, includes no new taxes or fees. This achievement reflects the repositioning and structural changes implemented over the past five years.

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# VILLAGE OF PALATINE

200 E. Wood St.  
Palatine, IL 60067

[www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us)  
[village@palatine.il.us](mailto:village@palatine.il.us)

**VILLAGE HALL HOURS**  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.,  
Monday through Friday

## VILLAGE PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency .....911  
Village Hall.....358-7500  
TDD (Emergency).....911  
TDD (Non-Emergency) .....359-9000  
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](mailto:jschwantz@palatine.il.us)

### Village Clerk

Margaret R. Duer.....359-9051  
[mduer@palatine.il.us](mailto:mduer@palatine.il.us)

### District 1

Tim Millar .....894-0001  
[tmillar@palatine.il.us](mailto:tmillar@palatine.il.us)

### District 2

Scott Lamerand .....894-0002  
[slamerand@palatine.il.us](mailto:slamerand@palatine.il.us)

### District 3

Jim Clegg.....894-0003  
[jclegg@palatine.il.us](mailto:jclegg@palatine.il.us)

### District 4

Greg Solberg .....894-0004  
[gsolberg@palatine.il.us](mailto:gsolberg@palatine.il.us)

### District 5

Kollin Kozlowski.....894-0005  
[kkozlowski@palatine.il.us](mailto:kkozlowski@palatine.il.us)

### District 6

Brad Helms .....894-0006  
[bhelms@palatine.il.us](mailto:bhelms@palatine.il.us)

### Village Manager

Reid Ottesen.....359-9031  
[rottesen@palatine.il.us](mailto:rottesen@palatine.il.us)

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



## Primary Election March 18 Offers Residents Voting Options

### Not registered to vote yet?

Voters will choose candidates in the Primary Election on March 18. The 2014 General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4. Grace period registration and voting only takes place at the Cook County Clerk's office, 69 W. Washington St., 5th Floor—Chicago, or suburban courthouses. Registration ends on Saturday, March 15. This is the only way to register, update voter information or vote.

As of January 1, any 17-year-old citizen who will turn 18 by the November 4 General Election is eligible to register and vote in the March 18 Primary Election.

### Voting options include:

#### Early Voting

Monday, March 3, through Saturday, March 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Village Hall or at any early voting site in suburban Cook County. Voters must show a current government-issued photo ID.



#### Vote by Mail

Download an application and mail it to the address listed on the form. Ballots must be postmarked on or before March 17.

#### In-Person Absentee Voting

Sunday, March 16, only at the Cook County Clerk's downtown Chicago office.

Monday, March 17, at the Cook County Clerk's downtown Chicago office or suburban courthouses.

#### On Election Day

Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For additional information, visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us) or [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com)

## Contact Village with Pothole Concerns

Extremely low temperatures and excessive snowfall have taken a toll on Village roadways. The Public Works Department regularly reviews roadways to address potholes or other defects needing attention. Residents who would like to report a pothole or a roadway condition concern should contact the Public Works' Action Line, 705-5200 or visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us) and click on the Report A Pothole icon.

## Monthly Winter Farmers' Market Draws Shoppers to Train Station

The second winter farmers' market is a great success. Ten winter market vendors fill the train station once a month on Saturday mornings from 8 a.m. until noon with more hearty vendors outside in the parking lot. The last two markets are March 8 and April 12.

Many of the vendors that residents enjoyed during the summer market are here with fresh products. For updated information, visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us).



## 2014 Budget

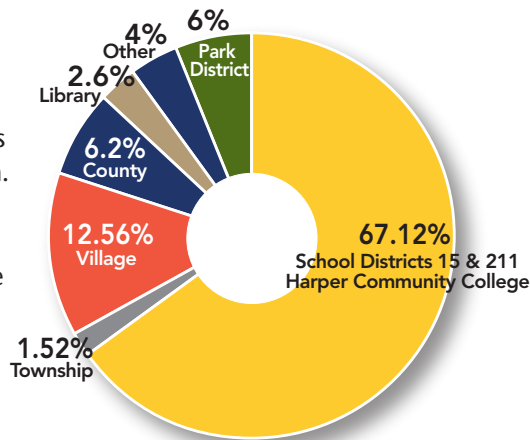
(continued from front page)

The past five years have been unlike any in modern economic history. In response, the Village has repositioned itself for a sustainable future that focuses on maintenance and financial stabilization. These efforts have led to a reduction of 28 full-time employees since 2009, realignment of responsibilities and some service reductions. However, the core services expected by residents have remained in place and will be delivered in the most efficient manner.

The budget also continues an investment in the community's infrastructure. This regular investment is critical to protecting residents' public health, safety and welfare.

"As we look to the future, our focus will continue to identify opportunities to deliver the most cost effective services, assist existing businesses in their operational success and expansion and attract new business and residents to our community," said Mayor Jim Schwantz.

## Where Each Property Tax Dollar Goes (Community Wide)



"The Village Council and staff are always seeking opportunities to expand upon the sales tax base. Any sales tax expansion results in less dependency on the property tax. In the coming year we welcome the addition of new businesses to our community and look forward to continued stabilization of the property tax levy," he continued.

For more information on the 2014 Budget, visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us). Search: budget.

## VILLAGE CONTINUES TO PURSUE DESTRUCTIVE EMERALD ASH BORER

The Palatine Forestry Division faced the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) head-on in 2013. First discovered in 2009, EAB is now in all areas of the Village. The EAB is small, 1/2 inch long and 1/8 inch wide, metallic green in color as an adult. The adults emerge through "D" shaped holes and lay eggs in bark crevices. Eggs hatch within 10 days and develop into wormlike larvae that tunnel under the bark causing "S" shaped galleries. This tunneling causes major damage to the trees by destroying the tree's ability to move nutrients and water to the upper level of the tree causing it to eventually die.

In 2008, the Forestry Division arborists began identifying declining, infested

and structurally unsound ash trees in the Village. Approximately 1,000 ash trees were then removed and replaced over the next four years. The EAB infestation accelerated its destruction of the ash trees in 2013. Village and contracted crews removed just under 1,000 ash trees last year. The Village Council approved, as part of the Village EAB plan, the replacement of ash trees with new diversified species of trees to provide some benefits. As the last remaining ash trees are removed, the replacement trees are starting to provide some benefits.

The Village is about halfway through its battle against EAB. The Forestry Department expects to remove and replace an additional 1,200 ash trees in 2014 and 2015. Residents with EAB questions, please call the Department of Public Works, 705-5200, or visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us) for more information.



## NEW BUSINESSES

### AUTOMOBILE

#### Patrick Hyundai

221 E. Lake Cook Rd. • 264-5033  
Dealership

### BUILDER/CONTRACTOR

#### KF Walter Homes, LLC

21 N. Brockway St., #201 • 224-210-6360  
General Contractor

### COMPUTER/SOFTWARE

#### M. Fluent, LLC

220 N. Smith St., #430  
Mobile Software Development

#### Stryker Networks, LLC

19 S. Bothwell St., Ste. 206 • 328-1400  
Computer Consulting

### EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

#### Bluestone Staffing

220 N. Smith St., #420 • 382-3559  
Staffing Agency

#### Quality Labor Services, LLC

2001 N. Rand Rd., Unit K • 221-8185  
Staffing Agency

### FINANCIAL

#### Tri State Financial Services

90 W. Northwest Hwy. • 485-8053  
Loans

### SALONS

#### Kara Nails

220 N. Smith St. • 221-2171  
Nail Salon

#### Malibu Tanning Inc.

1709 N. Rand Rd., #100 • 907-9153  
Tanning Salon

### SERVICES

#### Cosmera Dental Lab

616 N. North Ct., #200 • 496-5203  
Dental Lab

#### JAI Yoga Studio

37 E. Northwest Hwy. • 224-567-0838  
Yoga Studio

#### Smart Shakes

1713 N. Rand Rd. • 224-578-6828  
Nutrition Classes

#### Vital Defense Solutions

1590 N. Rand Rd., #205 • 877-361-3363  
Fire Arm Training/Office Only

#### VG Iron Design Inc

544 W. Colfax St., #2 • 224-532-1694  
Metal Work

### RENTALS

#### Mrs B's Costumes n Parties

552 E. Northwest Hwy. • 202-2217  
Costume/Rental

#### Rent-A-Center

315 E. Northwest Hwy. • 289-5264  
Retail/Household Goods

### VETERINARIAN

#### Loving Care Animal Hospital

444 E. Northwest Hwy. • 963-8887  
Veterinarian

### NEW NAME/NEW ADDRESS

#### Accel Mortgage Inc.

675 N. North Ct., #205 • 843-0003  
Mortgage Broker

#### American Muscle Cars

607 S. Vermont St. • 485-8449  
Auto Showroom

#### TJ Maxx/HomeGoods

715 E. Dundee Rd. • 934-1609  
Department Store

#### Econo Lodge

1200 N. Frontage Rd. • 392-2100  
Hotel

#### 360 Revo

117 W. Slade St., #200 • 833-9300  
Marketing

(847) area code unless otherwise noted.

# 2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

3/9

## Move Clock Ahead

**Sunday, March 9 at 2 a.m.**

Spring ahead one hour and change the time from 2 to 3 a.m. It also is a good time to change batteries in all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure alarms will sound in an emergency.



3/15

## Paint the Town Green

**Saturday, March 15**

Residents will enjoy an Irish market located under a tent outside Dirty Nellies from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. that features Irish music and dancing plus a variety of food and merchandise. The day will also serve to collect food, clothing and donations to benefit Journeys the Road Home, serving the homeless and near-homeless in the north and northwest Suburbs.

The Paint the Town Green family-friendly event will also feature a parade at 11 a.m. For a complete schedule of events and activities, visit [www.stpatpalatine.com](http://www.stpatpalatine.com).

4/11  
to  
4/13



## Button for Nuttin

**Friday, April 11 to**

**Sunday, April 13**

**Cutting Hall**

**Performance Center**

**150 E. Wood St.**

Palatine Police and Fire Benevolent Association Charities and Big-2-Do Productions present the greatest musical you've never heard of! For tickets, discounts and group rates call the box office, 202-5222, or visit [cuttinghall.org](http://cuttinghall.org).

4/28

## Village Blood Drive

**Monday, April 28**

**Noon to 6 p.m.**

The Board of Health and Palatine Medical Reserve Corps are hosting a Community Blood Drive on Monday, April 28, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Palatine Village Hall, 200 E. Wood St., in the Council Chambers. The blood drive will be conducted by LifeSource, Chicagoland's Blood Center. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact LifeSource at 877-543-3768 or visit [www.lifesource.org](http://www.lifesource.org). Walk-ins are always welcome.



St. Patrick's Day Parade Route  
Memorial Day Parade Route

5/2  
to  
5/7



## Spring Clean-up Week

**Friday, May 2 through**

**Wednesday, May 7**

Take advantage of Palatine's annual spring clean-up by placing garbage bags and other refuse items in advance of scheduled collection days. All refuse will be collected on scheduled days. All refuse must be placed out at the curb in the same manner as regular weekly collections. For more information, call 359-9090, or visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us). Search: spring clean-up.

eggs, cheeses, pickles, olives, mushrooms, breads, crepes, cakes and more. May markets bring bedding plants, flowers and advice from the University of Illinois Master Gardeners. Local musicians will entertain from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Located in the train station parking lot at Wood and Smith streets. For updated information, visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us).

5/3  
to  
10/25



## Farmers' Market

**May 3 to October 25**

**Saturdays, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

It's the 23rd season of the Palatine Farmers' Market with fresh-from-the-farm produce, organic meats and

5/26

## Memorial Day Parade, Ceremonies

**Monday, May 26**

American Legion Post 690 will honor fallen veterans on Memorial Day at a wreath laying ceremony at Hillside Cemetery at 9:45 a.m. A



parade will follow at 10:15 a.m. at Cornell Avenue and Smith Street and end with a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in Community Park (Northwest Highway and Wood Street). At 12:15 p.m. there will be a short memorial service at the Legion Memorial in Towne Square. For more information or if your group would like to participate in the parade, call the American Legion, 359-1606, after 12 p.m.

5/30



**Cop on Top**  
Friday, May 30  
5 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Dunkin' Donuts**  
801 E. Dundee Rd.

*Cop on Top of Dunkin' Donuts is a statewide fundraising event for the Law Enforcement Torch Run that raises awareness for Illinois Special Olympics athletes. Contact Officer Ferraro, 963-6237 or [jferraro@palatine.il.us](mailto:jferraro@palatine.il.us).*

6/13



**American Cancer Society Relay For Life**  
Friday, June 13

*The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Palatine, Rolling Meadows and Inverness will hold its annual overnight event at Plum Grove Junior High School, 2600 Plum Grove Rd., Rolling Meadows. Teams raise funds—prior to and at the event—to support cancer research and local programs. For more information, call 368-1166 or visit [www.relayforlife.org/prmil](http://www.relayforlife.org/prmil).*

6/26

## Firefighter Challenge Blood Drive

Thursday, June 26  
1 to 7 p.m.

*The Palatine Fire Department, Board of Health and Medical Reserve Corps are hosting the Annual Firefighter Blood Donor Challenge. The drive will be located at Palatine Fire Station #84 located at 220 W. Illinois Ave. A barbecue will be held at the drive to thank all donors. For more information, contact LifeSource at 877-534-3768.*



7/2  
to  
7/6

## Palatine Jaycees Hometown Fest

Wednesday, July 2 to  
Sunday, July 6

Fireworks: July 3, 9:30 p.m.

Parade: July 5 @ 10 a.m.

*Food, fun, fireworks and a parade. For more information, visit [www.palatinejaycees.org](http://www.palatinejaycees.org)*



8/22  
to  
8/24

## Downtown Street Fest

Friday, August 22 to  
Sunday, August 24

*For more information, visit [www.palatinestreetfest.com](http://www.palatinestreetfest.com)*



## Follow Safety Rules for Residential Pools



Adding as many water safety steps as possible is the best way to assure a safe and fun experience in a swimming pool or spa.

These are safety steps residents can adopt at their pool or spa:

- Staying close, being alert and watching children in and around the pool
- Teach basic water safety tips
- Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings to avoid entrapments
- Have a portable telephone close by at all times
- If a child is missing, look for him or her in the pool or spa first
- Share safety instructions with family, friends and neighbors
- Learn and practice water safety skills
- Learn how to swim and teach children how to swim
- Learn to perform CPR and update those skills regularly
- Understand the basics of life-saving
- Have the appropriate equipment for the pool or spa
- Install a four-foot or taller fence around the area and use self-closing and self-latching gates
- Install and use a lockable safety cover on the spa
- If a home serves as a fourth side of a fence, install door alarms
- Install window guards
- Install pool and gate alarms
- Ensure any pool or spa has the compliant drain covers
- Maintain pool and spa covers in good working order
- Consider using a surface wave or underwater alarm

Create a pool safety toolkit for emergencies. What should be in a pool or spa toolkit?

- A first aid kit
- A pair of scissors to cut hair, clothing or a pool cover, if needed
- A charged portable telephone
- A flotation device

# FLOOD INSURANCE PREMIUMS MAY INCREASE IN 2014

Palatine property owners who purchase mandatory flood insurance as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may face significant increases in premium costs based on the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012.

The 2012 law is an effort to balance the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) budget, currently estimated at \$25 billion in debt. The Act imposes 25 percent rate hikes on some, but not all, properties that have received subsidies through the NFIP program.

By FEMA bringing rates in line with true flooding risks, properties would either immediately lose their subsidy or begin losing subsidies at an annual rate of 25 percent.

Grandfathered rates for Palatine flood plain properties built before February 20, 1973 would be phased out at an annual rate of 20 percent effective October 1, 2013.

However, Congress is discussing whether to delay premium increases beyond 2014 and to require FEMA to complete an affordability study. Rate hikes would be retroactive to October 1, 2013.

The majority of flood insurance policies in Palatine applies to properties outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and would not be affected by the elimination of subsidies. However, some homeowners may be affected by the lawmakers' final decision.



By law, the lender decides whether a property needs to carry flood insurance. Lenders often rely on third-party vendors for flood zone determination, provided the vendor guarantees accuracy of their determination.

The Village is not a third-party vendor and cannot assume the lender's responsibility, but can assist a homeowner when there is a disagreement as to whether a property has been incorrectly determined to be in an SFHA. The following processes may resolve a flood zone dispute:

**TALK TO THE LENDER**—First, talk to the lender and demonstrate that the building is not in the SFHA. The Village can supply a copy of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) showing the building's location. If the lender's decision is based on information from a flood zone determination company, the property owner can ask the lender to request a manual determination. Often determinations are computer-generated; a manual determination may result in a different finding.

**LETTER OF MAP AMENDMENT-OUT AS SHOWN (LOMA-OAS)**—Occasionally a parcel or a building may be incorrectly determined as located within a SFHA because of imprecise map delineations. A property owner may submit property and elevation materials to FEMA in support of a LOMA request.

When the FIRM is based on an aerial photograph, as used in Palatine, and the building is clearly shown as outside the SFHA, the LOMA can be a relatively simple approach.

**LETTER OF DETERMINATION REVIEW (LODR)**—This process is meant to determine whether the FIRM was read correctly. The borrower and lender can jointly submit a request to FEMA within 45 days after the borrower is notified that flood insurance is required. Within 45 days after receiving a complete packet of supporting documentation, FEMA will issue a written LODR, indicating its concurrence or disagreement with the original determination.

**LETTER OF MAP AMENDMENT (LOMA)**—Sometimes the flood map will show a building as clearly being within an SFHA, even though it is on ground that is above the base flood elevation because FIRMs may not reflect every rise in terrain. A property owner may submit property and elevation materials to FEMA in support of a request to remove the property from the SFHA.

More details about these processes are available at [www.fema.gov/letter-map-amendment-letter-map-revision-based-fill-process](http://www.fema.gov/letter-map-amendment-letter-map-revision-based-fill-process) or contact the Village Engineering Department, 359-9044.



## KEEP CREEKS CLEAN AND NATURAL

Chicago area rivers and creeks bear little resemblance to their natural state. Once meandering waterways with broad flat areas that could store floodwater when needed, rapidly changed when early farming activities straightened creek channels and filled low areas to maximize farmland. Municipalities realized the benefits of natural creeks and their floodplains in the 1970s and passed laws regulating the elimination or construction within floodplains for urban development.

Today the goal is to improve water quality and preserve or reverse the loss of natural habitat associated with the creeks and their adjacent areas. The Village, through its creek maintenance projects, has been incorporating features such as stream bank restoration and planting native plant materials that enhance water quality or improve the natural habitat. Landowners who have creeks, wetlands or other waterways on their property are encouraged to consider planting native materials.

Some residents who live on or near creeks, wetlands or other drainage-ways have used these areas for yard waste disposal believing that eventually yard waste will decay and fertilize the area. **WRONG!** It is illegal to deposit any type of debris including branches, leaves, grass clippings or dirt into or adjacent to any creeks, ponds, wetlands detention basins, ditches or other areas that periodically collect and convey storm waters. Besides being unsightly, they can cause obstructions that aggravate flooding.

Materials left on the banks or shores will kill the natural vegetation under it resulting in soil erosion. Any person found guilty is subject to a fine of not less than \$75 nor more than \$750. Anyone seeing someone dumping anything in these areas should call the Public Works Department, 705-5200.

Dumping also seriously impairs water quality. The second phase of the federal Clean Water Act first passed in 1972 is underway. The goal: make all U.S. waterways fishable and swimmable. Not too many people may want to swim or fish in Salt or Buffalo creeks, but the water quality of these creeks affects the quality of the Des Plaines and Illinois rivers into which they discharge.

Phase Two will focus on polluted storm water runoff. The source of the pollution can be oils, chemicals and debris washed off of streets and parking lots; fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides off lawns; soil erosion and other contaminants from construction sites and the deliberate dumping of chemicals and other wastes into waterways or storm sewers.

A Village ordinance prohibits the discharge into the storm drainage system of anything but storm water. Any person discharging pollutants into the waterways or storm drainage system is liable to criminal prosecution and is subject to a penalty of \$200 to \$1,000 per violation.

Every curb inlet and storm drain in the Village discharges into a pond or creek. Under the Federal Storm Sewer Regulations, if anyone sees someone dumping pollutants into the creeks or into storm drains or streets so that they get into the creek system, or a resident has any other storm water quality or concerns or issues, please contact the Public Works Department, 705-5200.



## Contact Police Department for Overnight Parking

When out-of-town family plans to visit for a few days there may not be any room in the driveway for extra vehicles. The Village allows residents five grace days for street parking each calendar month. If a resident needs to park a car on the street, call the Police Department's non-emergency number, 359-9000 to request overnight parking permission. Provide the following information:

- Resident's full name, address and phone number
- Location where the vehicle(s) will be parked (if different than resident's address)
- Number of vehicles to be parked
- License plate of each vehicle
- Number of requested days (not more than five days during a calendar month)

Residents who do call the Police Department and receive overnight parking permission are still required to park legally on the street.



## Gateway Center Parking Deck Accommodates Overnight Parking

The Village downtown parking lots are open to the public free of charge after 5 p.m. on weekdays and all day on weekends. Weekend overnight parking is available at the Gateway Center Parking Deck, 220 N. Smith St.

Please be aware that backing into stalls is prohibited. The Palatine Police Department will issue tickets to those who back into the stalls. For a map of all available downtown Palatine parking lots, visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us). Search: parking map.

## Participate in Electronics, Document Destruction Recycling Events

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) will sponsor a number of Document Destruction and Electronics Recycling Events in 2014. Event dates will be released in mid-April.

Since 1999, over 4.5 million pounds of electronics and approximately 858,000 pounds of paper have been recycled from one-day events. There is no cost to attend an event, but residents must live in one of SWANCC's member communities to participate. IDs will be checked for proof of residency. Materials from businesses, institutions or schools will not be accepted.

Typical documents to shred include medical forms, bank statements, personal files and retired tax forms. Staples and paper clips are acceptable, but binders should be removed. Residents will be limited to six file-size boxes or paper shopping bags per vehicle. DO NOT bring paper in plastic bags.

Under the 2012 Illinois Product Recycling and Reuse Act, the following electronics are prohibited from being thrown away in the garbage: computers (desktops, notebooks, tablets), computer monitors, printers, cable receivers, computer cables, converter boxes, DVD players, fax machines, keyboards, mice, mobile telephones, MP3 players, PDAs, satellite receivers, scanners, televisions, video game consoles, VHS players, and zip drives.

For more information, please contact SWANCC, 724-9205, or visit [www.swancc.org](http://www.swancc.org).



## PREPARE TODAY FOR TORNADES

Although a tornado's duration is short and its destructive path relatively small, it is among nature's most violent weather related events. As spring approaches, tornado season begins. The total destruction of the Washington community in central Illinois and severe damage and fatalities in several towns south of Chicago should serve as a warning for Palatine residents to prepare and seek shelter when sirens sound.

In 2012 there were 39 tornadoes in Illinois and preliminary numbers for 2013 measured 69 tornadoes. A record 126 tornadoes spun through Illinois in 2006. Tornadoes are unpredictable. Families need to have a preset "disaster plan" in place before a tornado is sighted. To survive a tornado, they need to know what to look for and where to go.

The Village of Palatine conducts its warning siren test at 10 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. A tornado warning is the most common reason why the 10 Village outdoor warning sirens would be activated at any other time. Most people are aware of the sirens' meaning, yet after the sirens sound, the Police Department takes countless phone calls from residents asking, "Why the sirens?" Northwest Central Dispatch, which handles 9-1-1 calls for 11 community police and fire departments, also receives many inquiries.

When an unscheduled siren sounds, residents should be prepared to seek shelter during severe weather. Depending on a storm's severity, the National Weather Service (NWS) may issue either a tornado watch or warning.

A *tornado watch* means tornadoes may occur in or near the area. Listen to local radio and television for information and instruction. Be alert for funnel-shaped clouds approaching

from the southwest; seek shelter immediately and contact 9-1-1.

A *tornado warning* means a tornado has been spotted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately, turn on a battery-operated radio—preferably a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) radio—and wait for the "all clear" announcement. Listen for the Village emergency sirens and take shelter immediately.

Remember:

- At home, go to the lowest level of the house. If there is no basement or crawl space, go to an interior room, closet or hallway. If possible, get under a sturdy table to protect one's head.
- At school, nursing home or like structure, go to a pre-designated area usually located on the lowest floor.
- In a car, drivers and passengers should get out and take shelter in a nearby building, if possible. If there are no structures, find a drainage ditch or other low-lying area. Never try to outrun a tornado.

The fire department suggests purchasing an inexpensive NOAA Weather Warning Radio that will automatically alert one of severe weather. Residents may also tune in 1660 AM on the radio and get information on the Palatine Emergency Weather Radio Station.

When tornadoes threaten, immediate action can save lives. Stay away from windows, doors and outside walls and cover one's head. Flying debris is capable of inflicting fatal injuries.

For more information, visit [nws.noaa.gov](http://nws.noaa.gov); Palatine's Emergency Management Agency, [www.palatine-ema.org](http://www.palatine-ema.org); or contact Tom Smith, Palatine emergency management agency coordinator, [tsmith@palatine.il.us](mailto:tsmith@palatine.il.us).

# LANDSCAPE CARE INFLUENCES SPRING, SUMMER WATER QUALITY

Landscape management has impacts beyond individual property lines, neighborhoods, and town boundaries because of the way landscapes are linked together by water moving through the environment. By recognizing how each landscape is connected to the environment and managing the landscape by considering this connection, everyone can make a contribution to protecting and restoring natural resources, especially water quality.



Small changes in everyday seasonal landscape management can impact water quality protection.

## SPRING

- Recycle winter debris. Rake lawns and gardens to remove leaves, twigs and branches deposited during winter storms. Use this material as a compost base or mow or shred it and use it to re-mulch around foundations, under shrubs, trees and in groundcover beds rather than purchasing bark mulch. Do not dump brush and leaves into streams or wetland areas as they may cause flooding by blocking water flow.
- Cover bare soil. Re-seed or mulch bare areas to prevent soil erosion. Consider dead plants an opportunity to add native species with multiple season interest to the landscape.

## SUMMER

- Avoid wasting water. Invest in a rain gauge and keep track of weekly rainfall. Most plants and lawns need just one inch of water weekly.
- A thick (at least two inches) layer of mulch in gardens, around shrubs and under trees prevents evaporation of water from the soil, keeping the ground cooler and plants happier. Thick mulch layers also inhibit weed seed germination. Just don't mulch heat-loving vegetables like tomatoes and squash until the soil temperature is high enough or they won't thrive. Organic mulches provide some nutrients as they decompose, reducing the need for fertilizers.
- Avoid lawn stress. Keep the lawn mower blade sharp, mow often enough that no more than one-third of the grass blade is cut off at a time. Mow when the grass is completely dry. A mulching mower blade recycles grass clippings while mowing, returning moisture and nutrients to the soil and reducing the need for fertilizer.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash the car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to minimize the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain.
- Check the car, boat, motorcycle, and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills. Repair as soon as possible. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand. Do not rinse spills into a nearby storm drain. Properly dispose of the absorbent material.

For more information, visit [www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater) or [www.epa.gov/nps](http://www.epa.gov/nps). To learn more or report possible illegal discharges into the storm drain system, call the Palatine Public Works Department, 705-5200.

*Source: Clean Water Fact Sheet, produced by Non-Point Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) and Sea Grant Connecticut*

## Share Roads Safely

As the weather gets better for bicycle riding, it's a good time to remind residents about safely sharing the road. Here are some things to remember:

- **OBEY ALL TRAFFIC SIGNS AND SIGNALS.** Illinois law states "every person riding a bicycle upon a highway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle." Bicyclists are responsible for following the rules of the road. A bicyclist is not a pedestrian and does not automatically have the right of way.
- **RIDING ON SIDEWALKS.** When walking or riding a bicycle on a sidewalk or along a crosswalk, bicyclists must obey all pedestrian signs and signals. Bicyclists must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.
- **BE OBSERVANT.** Always pay attention to what is happening. Watch out for motor vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles and people. Bicyclists should use voice and hand signals.
- **ALWAYS WEAR A BICYCLE HELMET.** A helmet can reduce the risk of serious head injury. The helmet should be snug on one's head and always secured.
- **CONDUCT A BICYCLE SAFETY CHECK.** Be sure a bicycle is in good working order and the proper size for the rider.
- **WEAR APPROPRIATE CLOTHING.** Wear bright or reflective clothing especially at night. Secure pant legs from getting caught in the chain and always wear shoes.
- **DRIVERS MUST BE AWARE.** The Illinois' Public Act 95-0231 amended the Illinois Rules of the Road to require drivers to keep a minimum of three feet between their motor vehicle and a bicycle when trying to pass the bicycle.
- **PREVENT BICYCLE THEFT.** Always park a bicycle in a safe place and secure it with a lock. Register all bicycles with the Palatine Police Department at 595 N. Hicks Rd. or register online at [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us).

## 50/50 Sidewalk Program

The Village annually partners with homeowners in its 50/50 Sidewalk Program for infrastructure repairs. Sidewalks that are uneven, severely cracked, or deteriorated and meet specific safety standards may qualify.

The homeowner's cost is approximately \$58 for a typical sidewalk square. Applications will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

## Hazardous Sidewalk Program

The Hazardous Sidewalk Program is specifically designed to identify and eliminate the worst tripping hazards at no cost to the homeowner. The target area this year is from Salt Creek west to Hicks Road and from Salt Creek north to Carpenter Drive.

## 50/50 Tree Program

The best thing residents can do for the local environment is plant a tree in their neighborhood.

Partner with the Village to add deciduous trees to public parkways by equally sharing in the cost of the trees. In turn, the Village will plant trees that have a one year guarantee and one-time replacement. In addition to standard-sized trees, several varieties are available for planting under power lines.

The Village Forester approves and reviews all planting locations. Trees must be ordered by April 25 for spring planting. Priority on tree choice will be determined by time and date of receipt of order and payment.

Parkway trees removed by the Village will be replaced at no charge to the homeowner. However, if a resident requests a particular species, he or she will be required to pay half the cost as in the 50/50 program.

For more information or to request an order form, call the Public Works Department, 705-5200, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, or visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us).



# VILLAGE TARGETS STREETS FOR RESURFACING PROGRAM

Spring marks the start of street resurfacing and road repairs. Palatine relies on the state-of-the-art Micro-PAVER software program to evaluate all streets and rank them at or above an accepted standard.

Proposed streets selected for the 2014 resurfacing program include:

Street Name	From	To
Aldridge Avenue	Brockway Street	Plum Grove Road
Boardwalk Court	Boardwalk Drive	Cul-De-Sac
Brockway Street	Aldridge Avenue	Bryant Avenue
Brookside Street	Crescent Avenue	Quentin Road
Carpenter Drive	Hicks Road	Stark Drive
Cedarwood Court	Hicks Road	Cul-De-Sac
Clark Drive	Cooper Drive North	Carpenter Drive
Cooper Drive	Glenn Drive	Clark Drive
Cooper Drive	Clark Drive	Williams Drive
Dean Drive	Clark Drive	Williams Drive
Deer Avenue	Winnetka Street	Poplar Street
Deer Avenue	Poplar Street	Northwest Highway
Deer Court	Deer Avenue	Cul-De-Sac
Dorset Avenue	Quentin Road	Elm Street
Elm Street	Palatine Road	Kenilworth Avenue
Elmwood Avenue	Delgado Street	Cunningham Drive
Grove Avenue	Dundee Road	North Street
Hill Street	Grove Avenue	Dead End West
Hillside Street	Middleton Avenue	Quentin Road
Home Avenue	Del Mar Drive	North Oak Street
Johnson Street	Brockway Street	Plum Grove Road
King Arthur Court	Smith Street	Garden Avenue
Kenilworth Avenue	Quentin Road	Elm Street
Kenilworth Avenue	Elm Street	Cedar Street
Linden Avenue	Amherst Street	Cunningham Drive
Middleton Avenue	Wood Street	Wilson Drive
Middleton Avenue	Hunting Drive	Illinois Avenue
Middleton Court	Middleton Avenue	Cul-De-Sac
Paddock Drive	Glenn Drive	Clark Drive
Pleasant Hill Boulevard	Salt Creek Bridge	Plum Grove Road
Saratoga Drive	Mill Valley Road	Monterey Road
Timberlane Drive	Old Bridge Road	Cedarwood Court
Walnut Street	Palatine Road	Kenilworth Avenue
Warwick Road	Providence Road	Willow Wood Drive
Waterbury Circle	Thornhill Drive West	Thornhill Drive East
Wilshire Court	Morris Drive	Cul-De-Sac
Wilson Street	Dead End West	Cedar Street

For more information about the resurfacing program, visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us). Search: annual street resurfacing program.

## Was Your Parkway or Mailbox Damaged?

During last winter's heavy snowfalls, it was very difficult to completely clear the snow without damaging some mailboxes or parkways. The Village is not responsible for mailboxes damaged during snow plowing if the mailboxes did not meet Village Code.

The Village also will not repair mailboxes 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 post. All damage needs to be reported as soon as it is noticed.

Residents who believe their curbside mailbox or parkway was damaged by a Village snowplow, may call Public Works, 705-5200 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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## Landscape Mulch Available for Residents

Residents can take advantage of the Village's efforts to maintain a green environment with ground wood mulch created from trees removed throughout the Village.

A layer of ground wood mulch can enhance and protect gardens and shrubs by reducing root damage caused by temperature extremes. Mulch inhibits weeds and protects and keeps the soil healthy. Contact the Public Works Department, 705-5200, in early March to schedule an April delivery. There is a three cubic yard minimum. Cost is just \$12 per cubic yard.



For smaller amounts, visit mulch bins at 550 N. Smith St. Please provide your own shovel and containers.

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## Nominate Beautiful Properties

Palatine residents are encouraged to walk through neighborhoods and nominate any property location whose curb appeal is an asset to the appearance of the community. The Palatine Beautification Commission will recognize individuals who work hard to beautify their properties with the Hometown Pride Award. You can help by submitting a nomination.

Information and an application form are available at [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us). Search: hometown pride award.

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## Weekly Curbside Yard Waste Collection Resumes March 31

Weekly collection of bagged yard waste and bundled brush resumes March 31, and continues through December 10, 2014. For further information, contact the Environmental Health Division, 359-9090 or visit [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us). Search: refuse and recycling information.



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## Hydrant Flushing Helps Ensure Water Quality

The Public Works Department will begin opening or "flushing" fire hydrants throughout the Village toward the end of March and early April. This process moves water through the pipelines at a fast rate to clean the lines, clear stagnant water and ensure Village water delivered to homes is of the highest quality. Residents who perceive this as wasting water can be assured the Department will only flush lines when deemed necessary as part of protecting public health by providing safe, quality consumable water.



## Take Precautions When Jogging

Residents should never assume that they are jogging in a "safe" neighborhood. Anyone could be a potential victim anywhere. Attackers or burglars often seek out "safe" areas to prey on unsuspecting targets. If people feel safe, they usually let their guard down while walking, jogging or even neglecting to lock their doors. Take precautions. Joggers or walkers who notice someone or something suspicious, should alert the police by calling 9-1-1. It never hurts to trust one's instincts! Follow these tips while staying fit:

- Jog with a companion
- Keep alert of surroundings
- Stay on busier streets where more people are present
- Do not use headphones or just use one earphone with reduced volume
- Be cautious of anyone who asks for directions, money, cigarettes, etc.
- Leave all jewelry at home
- Carry a cell phone with an "ICE" emergency contact in case of an injury
- Change route—patterns are noticeable to a potential attacker
- ALWAYS let someone know your route and the expected time back
- Avoid night jogging or wear highly reflective clothing and shoes
- Wear a whistle
- Avoid long hedge rows and empty parks
- Consider self-defense classes—carried items could be used against you

# PALATINE VILLAGE HALL WILL BE CLOSED

MONDAY, MAY 26  
IN OBSERVANCE  
OF MEMORIAL DAY

Village of Palatine  
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Palatine, IL 60067

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## NEW O'HARE RUNWAY CHANGES FLIGHT PATTERNS OVER PALATINE AND SURROUNDING SUBURBS

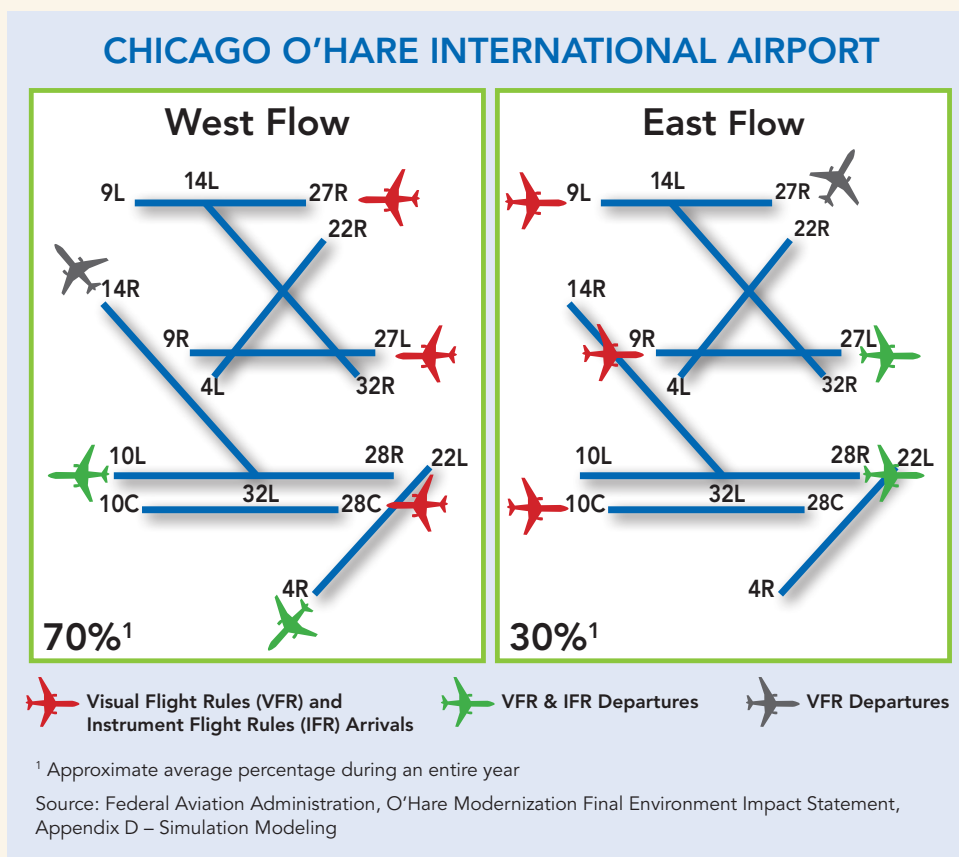
When O'Hare International Airport commissioned Runway 10C/28C in October 2013, a significant change occurred in the airport's layout. As a consequence, aircraft noise has shifted within the city of Chicago and surrounding communities.

Today the majority of aircraft arrive and depart on four parallel runways. For decades, aircraft departing and arriving at O'Hare followed a course over the northwest suburbs, including Palatine. The new \$1.3 billion 10C/28C runway, fourth in a future six-parallel runway configuration, allows O'Hare air traffic control to designate east-west flight patterns that consider wind direction and other weather-related and ground conditions.

Now 70 percent of air traffic follows a west flow with arrivals over northwest Chicago neighborhoods and suburbs including Park Ridge on three parallel runways. Thirty percent of aircraft arrivals follow an east flow over western suburbs including Bensenville, Wood Dale and Itasca.

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC), in cooperation with the Chicago aviation department, monitors aircraft noise levels compiled in monthly Airport Noise Management System reports.

"The Village has experienced a considerable decrease in aircraft noise since the new runway opened," said



Palatine Councilman Tim Millar, ONCC designee. "ONCC carefully analyzes the noise trends from 33 noise monitors throughout the region and 2 long-term portable monitors located in Itasca and the North Park neighborhood in Chicago. There has been a definite shift in aircraft noise to the east and west of the airport," he said.

While Runway 32L, a northwest diagonal runway, is responsible for 40 percent of all departures at

O'Hare, arrivals are at one percent. Aircraft noise has decreased to a November reading of 54.9 DNL from 59.1 DNL in September at the Rolling Meadows noise monitor that captures noise from flights over the northwest suburbs.

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission, in cooperation with the aviation department, will continue to monitor aircraft noise levels. For more information, visit [oharenoise.org](http://oharenoise.org).