

VILLAGE *of* PALATINE

2016 BUDGET AND CAPITAL PLAN

Palatine's recently adopted 2016 Annual Budget and Capital Investment Plan provides for a flat property tax levy following four consecutive years of a decrease in the levy. All told, the Village's levy has been reduced by over \$300,000 during the last five years. Despite maintaining a reduced property tax levy, the Village plans several projects in 2016 to benefit the community.

In 2016, our Public Works Department will partake in several projects to improve operations and Village infrastructure. Residents and visitors to the area will notice significant changes to the Village's "Lighthouse" water tower, located on the west side of town along Northwest Highway, when it is repainted in 2016. Instead of repainting with the current lighthouse appearance which includes multiple colors and window detailing, a two tone color scheme with two Palatine logos will be used. The repainting is part of a larger planned maintenance program that is expected to save the Village roughly \$200,000 over the next 20 years. The benefit of the planned maintenance program is that the tank will have a longer service life, improved aesthetics, and reduced long-term maintenance costs.

Thirty segments of Village roads are budgeted to be resurfaced in 2016. The Village was successful in acquiring grant funding totaling \$794,000 which will fund 80 percent of the cost to rehabilitate and resurface Colfax Street, from Quentin Road to Plum Grove Road. The grant funding was critical as we are dealing with decreasing revenues to fund our road program. The complete list of streets scheduled to be resurfaced can be found in the 2016 Street Resurfacing Table included on page 7 of this newsletter.

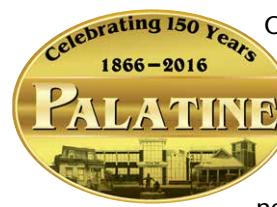
The projects listed above are just some examples of the things planned for 2016 that will benefit the residents and businesses of Palatine. For more information on the Village's 2016 Budget, please visit palatine.il.us and search "budget".



IN *this* ISSUE

Village Hall Renovation Updates.....	2
Important Notices from the Village of Palatine	3-4
Community Events	5
All About Refuse and Recycling	6
Public Works Updates	7-8
Floodplain Q&A	9
Fire Safety.....	10
Homeowner Safety.....	11
Police Education & Enforcement.....	12

THE VILLAGE OF PALATINE IS CELEBRATING ITS 150TH BIRTHDAY IN 2016



On April 2, 1866, local leaders voted 73-20 in favor of incorporating the Village of Palatine. Since that date nearly 150 years ago, our Village has grown into a thriving suburb of Chicago, and a great place to live, work and raise a family.

Throughout the year, dozens of Palatine community organizations will host a variety of events to highlight this special milestone birthday. The Palatine 150 Core Committee will present two signature events; 'A Good Old Summertime Festival' at the Palatine Historical Society on Sunday, June 5, and the 'Palatine Sesquicentennial Ball: Through the Ages' on Saturday, October 22 at The Cotillion.

Here's just a glimpse into some of the other events and activities that are planned in 2016: Palatine Historical Society's annual Scholarship Contest, themed around Palatine's 150th birthday, will award \$1,500 scholarships to two high school seniors; the Bike Palatine Club will lead a historical ride around the Village; District 15 students

will participate in the Palatine 150 poster contest; and a mural contest for Palatine and Fremd High School students will be presented by the Palatine Public Library. The Palatine 150 Committee will also have a presence at many annual events like Farmers' Market, Street Fest, and Hometown Fest.

Palatine's oldest service organization, the Palatine Lions Club, will be putting together a time capsule with items and information about Palatine today to be opened in 50 years to communicate what our Village is like right now to future generations. Other participating organizations include Palatine

continued on page 2



Slade St. looking west from Greeley St. Estimated to be taken around 1910.

VILLAGE OF PALATINE

150 W. Wilson St.
Palatine, IL 60067
www.palatine.il.us
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

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 Helms 894-0006
bhelms@palatine.il.us

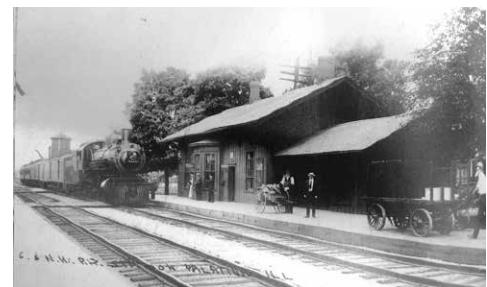
Village Manager
Reid Ottesen 359-9031
rottesen@palatine.il.us

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

The Village of Palatine is Celebrating its 150th Birthday in 2016 (continued from page 1)

Township, the Palatine Park District, Salt Creek Park District, the Downtown Palatine Business Association, the Palatine Area Chamber of Commerce, Township High School District 211 and many more!

Visit the Palatine 150 website at Palatine150.com to learn about the Village's rich history, contests, and to view a full list of activities. All Palatine residents are invited to take pride and take part in highlighting this once-in-a-lifetime celebration in our Village's history.



The first train depot in Palatine was built in 1866. Back then, it was located east of Brockway Street, on the north side of the railroad tracks.

VILLAGE HALL RENOVATION UPDATES



Construction activity at Village Hall has continued without interruption throughout the winter months. The late arrival of snow and freezing temperatures enabled the construction crew to complete the windows and exterior walls in time to focus their efforts toward completing the interior spaces, allowing the project to remain on track for completion in early summer 2016.

From the exterior, those walking or driving by will see that the front entrances and glass curtainwalls are mostly complete, with only a select few openings covered with temporary plywood to allow for large equipment deliveries. Aluminum panel detailing at the roof line is well underway and the main entrance canopy is starting to take on its final form. The new entrance canopy for the Park District is set to be finished with a standing seam metal roof.

Inside the building, significant progress toward completion has been made. HVAC, plumbing, and electrical systems are substantially complete pending final trim-out and start-up. Interior partition walls are

completed and painting has commenced. Installation of final finishes – including ceilings, light fixtures, and ceramic wall and floor tile – are also close to being finished. The new elevator has been installed.

As warmer weather approaches, we can look forward to exterior construction resuming in full effect. In concert with restoration and resurfacing of Wood Street, the south side of the building will be enhanced with new sidewalks, pavers, lighting, and landscaping. The north parking lot will also be reconstructed and new lighting installed. A new pedestrian plaza will be created between Village Hall and Cutting Hall.

Please keep an eye out for the summer newsletter for all the details pertaining to our Village Hall Grand Opening! For more information on the renovation project, as well as pictures documenting the various phases of the project, please visit the Village Hall Renovation Update Page on the Village's website at palatine.il.us, search: "village hall renovation".

KEY DATES FOR UPCOMING PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Thursday, March 10, 2016: Last Day to Request a Mail Ballot

Download a "Mail Ballot Application" at cookcountyclerk.com, search: "vote by mail", or stop by the Village Clerk's Office located at the Temporary Village Hall (150 W. Wilson St.). Your ballot must be postmarked no later than the day before Election Day and received at the Cook County Clerk's office within 14 days after Election Day.

Monday, March 14, 2016: Grace Period Registration and Voting Ends

For a complete list of Grace Period Registration and Voting locations, visit cookcountyclerk.com, search: "grace period".

Monday, March 14, 2016: Early Voting Ends

For a list of Early Voting sites and hours, visit cookcountyclerk.com, search: "early voting".

* Please note: Temporary Village Hall will not be an Early Voting Site for this Election.

Tuesday, March 15, 2016: Election Day

For a list of polling locations, visit cookcountyclerk.com, search: "polling locations". The Presidential General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 8.

For additional information, please visit palatine.il.us or call the Village Clerk's Office at (847) 359-9051.

VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE EXPANDS PASSPORT APPLICATION PROCESSING HOURS

The Village Clerk's Office is pleased to announce we will be expanding our hours to process passport applications to Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. (excluding holidays). The Village Clerk's Office is located on the second floor of the Temporary Village Hall (150 W. Wilson St.). For detailed information on what is required to process passport applications, applicable fees, etc., please visit palatine.il.us, search: "passport service" or call the Village Clerk's Office at (847) 359-9051.

PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL ONLINE!

The Village of Palatine has launched a new Utility Bill Portal, allowing customers to review their account balance, monitor their water consumption, sign up for e-Bills, and pay their utility bills online.



Simply go to palatine.il.us and select the "Utilities Portal with Online Payments" icon on the right side of the screen.

All you need to do is click on the icon and enter in your utilities account number and last name on the account. Once logged in, you will be able to see current and past bills, review activity on your account, see your consumption, and securely pay your bill online. You will also be given an opportunity to sign up to receive notifications via email when your next bill is ready instead of, or in addition to, receiving your paper bill in the mail.

NOTE: The Village of Palatine does NOT contract out nor associate with third party utility bill payment service vendors. Paying your utility bill on any other online site could result in fraudulent charges to your credit cards, identity theft, payment of unnecessary fees, and/or the payment never being sent to the Village.

PalatinE-News

Sign up to receive the latest information on community events, news and alerts!

Enter Email Address

Go

VILLAGE OF PALATINE 2016/2017 VEHICLE STICKERS PURCHASE ONLINE STARTING MAY 2!

Beginning May 2, you will be able to purchase your vehicle stickers

Vehicle/Animal License Online Purchase

and animal licenses online at palatine.il.us by clicking the "Vehicle/Animal License Online Purchase" icon on the right side of the screen. Follow the instructions and your vehicle stickers and animal licenses will be mailed promptly.

Vehicle stickers and animal licenses can also be purchased in person between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by mail (only checks will be accepted).

To avoid delay, please consider paying online or by mail.

The last day to purchase vehicle stickers or animal licenses without penalty is Thursday, June 30. You can purchase them in person between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. or online until 11:59 p.m.

To avoid penalty or citations for the 2016-2017 year, stickers must be purchased and affixed to vehicles by June 30. The appropriate late fees will be charged beginning July 1.

DOWNTOWN PALATINE TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD) PLAN

The Village of Palatine, with funding assistance from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), is working to create a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Plan for the downtown district within a 1/4 mile walking distance of the existing Metra Station. The Village is also working with a consultant team led by SCB (project management, planning & urban design) along with the Goodman Williams Group (market analysis) and Fish Transportation Group (transportation analysis) to complete this TOD Plan.

Planning for new development around the Palatine Metra Station will help expand transit ridership and attract new visitors and investment to Downtown Palatine. Locally, making transit options and our Downtown area more attractive will help to bring new customers to existing businesses, as well as attract new shopping, restaurant, and employment options to the area. Regionally, the increase in transit ridership helps to alleviate traffic congestion, reduce the need for new roadways, and reduce air pollution. TOD plans promote walking and an active lifestyle by encouraging quality streetscape and buildings in a compact layout. This consequently allows for more efficient use of land, and often requires less parking due to the potential for sharing between businesses.

The final plan is anticipated to be completed in summer of 2016. If you'd like to help shape Palatine's Downtown TOD Plan, please visit PalatineDowntownTOD.com. There will also be multiple community workshops to allow for public feedback held with the development of each phase of the plan.

If you have any questions regarding the Downtown TOD Plan, please contact the Planning and Zoning Department at (847) 359-9047 or by email at PalatineTOD@palatine.il.us. For more information, visit PalatineDowntownTOD.com.

NO MORE NOTICES! MAILED VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWALS REMINDER NOTICES SUSPENDED

Due to the lack of a State budget, the Illinois Secretary of State's office is suspending the practice of mailing vehicle registration renewal notices. This move is anticipated to save the State approximately \$450,000 a month. Drivers can sign up at ilsos.gov/greenmail/ to receive reminder emails in lieu of mailings or to check the date when their vehicle registration is due. For more information, you can visit the Illinois Secretary of State's website at cyberdriveillinois.com.

AUTOMATED WATER METER PROJECT UPDATE: INSTALLERS ON TARGET IN PALATINE

As reported in our previous newsletters, the Village has entered into an agreement with Siemens Industries Incorporated to replace 19,150 water meters with new automated meters.

As of December 2015, 36 percent of Palatine water customers have received notification to have their water meter replaced. As a result, Siemens has installed over 5,000 automated water meters, which is approximately 30 percent of the Village's inventory. In an effort to stay on course, we appreciate your continued cooperation and assistance. As Siemens continues to move throughout the Village, water customers will be contacted via a mailed postcard from Siemens in order to schedule an appointment to install a new water meter. We ask that you provide easy and safe access to and around your inside water meter to make for a safe and efficient meter exchange.

Installers have completed a background check, will be wearing a uniform with the "Siemens" logo, use a marked vehicle with a "Siemens" decal under the side front windows, and carry a Village contractor ID card with his or her picture. The installer WILL NOT ask for any personal information nor request any payment.

If you have any concerns whether someone is acting in an official capacity or about any suspicious activity, contact the Palatine Police Department by calling 9-1-1.

For more information on the automated water meter project, please visit palatine.il.us, search: "water meter project". For any questions related to the project, you can also contact Siemens at (855) 620-7993.

NOTE: Any valve required to complete the meter replacement that becomes inoperable during the replacement process shall be replaced by the contractor at the unit price within the Siemens agreement and be funded by the project. Any shut off valve immediately adjacent to the water meter is eligible for replacement by the contractor at the unit price within the Siemens agreement at \$207 each. If the property owner initiates the valve replacement, the cost of the replacement valve(s) will be paid in future utility bills.

VISIT FRANCE THIS SUMMER!



Sister Cities Association of Palatine

In continuation of Palatine's 20 years of friendship celebration with Fontenay-le-Comte, France, the Sister Cities Association of Palatine is inviting all residents to travel to Fontenay in one of two trips planned this summer. The first will be in May for the festive Biennial Celebration and the second in June for events honoring our 20 years of friendship. Anyone interested in joining us on either of these trips is encouraged to contact president@palatinesistercities.org.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Paint the Town Green ★

Saturday, March 19

The Paint the Town Green family friendly event will feature a parade at 11 a.m. that kicks off from the Community Center (250 E. Wood St.). Residents will also enjoy an Irish market located under a tent outside Durty Nellies from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. that features Irish music and dancing plus a variety of food and merchandise. The parade and market 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. For a complete schedule of events and activities, visit: stpatspalatine.com.



Downtown Palatine Business ★

Association's (DPBA)

Girls on the Town Event

Friday, April 15

Downtown Palatine (Wilson St. and Bothwell St.)
Spend the evening celebrating Palatine's Sesquicentennial as you explore the shops and storefronts of downtown Palatine. Participating DPBA businesses will provide product and service demonstrations, raffles and giveaways, and complimentary food and wine tastings. For more information, visit the Palatine Downtown Business Association website at downtownpalatine.org.

Summer Farmers' Market ★

Every Saturday beginning May 7 - Oct. 29

Palatine Train Station (137 W. Wood St.)

Come to the
Palatine Train
Station
between



7 a.m. and 1 p.m. each Saturday from May through October for fresh from the farm produce, organic meats and eggs, breads, soaps, pet treats, sweets, expert knife and tool sharpening, and more! The Palatine Farmers' Market, hosted by the Sister Cities Association of Palatine, will also provide an information table highlighting upcoming activities and events associated with the Palatine Sesquicentennial Celebration. Palatine 150 commemorative items will also be available for purchase. Visit palatinesistercities.org for more information.

Palatine Historical Society's ★

Annual Cemetery Walk

Sunday, May 15

Hillside Cemetery (Smith St. north of Colfax St.)
The Palatine Historical Society presents their annual Cemetery Walk in Palatine's Hillside Cemetery, located on Smith Street in Palatine, just north of Colfax Street. This year's theme for the walk is "Living in 1866". For more information visit palatinehistoricalsociety.com.

Cop on Top

Friday, May 20

Cop on Top is an annual statewide fundraising event for the Law Enforcement



Torch Run that raises awareness for Illinois Special Olympics athletes. Hundreds of police officers throughout Illinois, including several from the Palatine Police Department, will spend part of the day on the rooftops of Dunkin' Donuts. Stop by and see Palatine Officers from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. on top of the Dunkin' Donuts located at 801 E. Dundee Rd. and 231 W. Northwest Hwy.

Memorial Day Parade and

Ceremonies

Monday, May 30

The American Legion Post 690 is sponsoring a Memorial Day Parade and other



related activities beginning at 10 a.m. with a service at Hillside Cemetery on Smith Street. The annual parade will start at 10:15 a.m. at Cornell Avenue and Smith Street. Following the parade at 11 a.m. there will be a short program at the Veterans Memorial and then another ceremony at the Legion Memorial in Towne Square beginning at 12:15 p.m. For more information or if your group would like to participate in the parade, call the American Legion at (847) 359-1606 (please call after 12 p.m.).

The Bike Palatine Club's Free

Group Bike Rides

Every Tuesday and Thursday beginning May 31 through mid-September (daylight permitting)

The Bike Palatine Club sponsors free casual bike rides on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer beginning at

6:30 p.m. Tuesday rides meet at Birchwood Recreation Center (435 W. Illinois Ave.) and Thursday rides meet at Mike's Bike Shop (155 N. Northwest Hwy). These bike rides are open to riders of all ages and abilities. Helmets are required. For more information, visit bikepalatine.com.

Good Ole Summertime Festival ★

at the Clayson House Grounds

Sunday, June 5

Clayson House Museum (224 E. Palatine Rd.)
This historical-themed event hosted by the Palatine Historical Society, will include a Civil War living history camp, music, blacksmithing, basket weaving, quilting, ice cream social, hands-on displays, kids' games, antique cars, and a tour of the gardens. For more information, visit palatinehistoricalsociety.com.

History Fair ★

Saturday, June 25

Palatine Public Library (700 N. North Ct.)
The Palatine Public Library is calling for citizens, businesses, and organizations to reserve a table to display their old photographs and/or artifacts in celebration of Palatine's 150th Anniversary. Please call Gayle Weyland, Adult Programming Coordinator, at (847) 358-5881 for more information.

Palatine Jaycees Hometown Fest ★

Friday, July 1; Saturday (parade), July 2; Sunday, July 3 (fireworks); and Monday, July 4

Community Park (262 E. Palatine Rd.)

The Palatine Jaycees are proud to host Hometown Fest, Palatine's Fourth of July Celebration. Visit palatinejaycees.org for the most up-to-date information.



Bike Palatine Club's Historical ★

Bike Ride and Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, July 9

Join the Bike Palatine Club on a journey through time. The bike ride will begin at 10 a.m. at Cutting Hall and continue throughout Palatine, visiting and learning about historical landmarks and sites. For more information, visit bikepalatine.com.

continued on page 6

**All dates and times are subject to change.*

★ Denotes event is part of the 150th Anniversary Celebration. To learn more about these and other Palatine Sesquicentennial events please visit Palatine150.com.

IT'S ALL ABOUT REFUSE AND RECYCLING

Curbside Yard Waste Collection Resumes in April

Curbside bagged yard waste and bundled brush collection will resume the week of April 4. Please note the following requirements for yard waste collection:



- All yard waste (grass, shrubbery clippings, and leaves) shall be disposed of in two-ply brown paper yard waste bags. No plastic bags, boxes, or containers are permitted for yard waste disposal. Each paper bag shall not exceed 60 pounds in weight.
- Branches or limbs cannot exceed 4 inches in diameter and must be bundled in lengths not to exceed 4 feet in length. Bundles should be secured with biodegradable cotton twine or rope. Bundles must not weigh more than 60 pounds each.

Please have all yard waste at the curb no later than 6:30 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.

Spring Clean-Up Week is May 13-18

Take advantage of Palatine's annual spring clean-up by placing refuse out in advance of your scheduled collection day. All refuse will be collected on your scheduled day. All refuse items placed at the curb must be prepared according to standard specifications.

Items restricted from clean-up week include appliances, tires, paints, household chemical waste and electronics. Construction debris must be properly bundled and is limited to a maximum volume of 2 cubic yards.

Looking for more information on the Village's Refuse, Yard Waste, and Recycling Program? Contact the Environmental Health Division at (847) 359-9090 or visit palatine.il.us, search: "refuse and recycling".

SWANCC Offers Reuse and Recycling Directory

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) provides the Green Pages Reuse and Recycling Directory, a useful resource for residents seeking outlets for items they no longer need.



The Reuse and Recycling Directory lists reuse opportunities for books, clothing, office equipment, sporting goods, toys, and other materials. This guide also provides information on various aspects of recycling and waste, featuring sections for automotive products, batteries, electronics, ink cartridges, furniture, propane tanks, cell phones, and many other items. For more information, visit swancc.org or contact SWANCC at (847) 724-9205.

Community Events *(continued from page 5)*

Palatine Township Health and Happiness Fair

Wednesday, July 20

Palatine Township Center (721 S. Quentin Rd.)

The fair will provide free health screenings, educational presentations, and other information to promote optimal health for Township residents. Visit PalatineTownship.com for more information.

Downtown Palatine Street Fest

Friday, August 26; Saturday, August 27; and Sunday, August 28

Downtown Palatine (Slade St. & Greeley St.)

Join us for live music, local cuisine, and family-friendly activities. Visit palatinestreetfest.com for the most up-to-date information.



**All dates and times are subject to change.*

 Denotes event is part of the 150th Anniversary Celebration. To learn more about these and other Palatine Sesquicentennial events please visit Palatine150.com.

LEARN HOW TO COMPOST IN YOUR BACKYARD – IT'S EASY!

In 2012, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that food is now the single largest type of waste going to America's municipal landfills and incinerators. More than 33 million tons of food is wasted each year. When food is discarded in landfills, it produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. Americans throw away up to 40 percent of their food, an average of 20 pounds per person a month. Much of this wasted food is actually surplus, wholesome and edible food that could have helped those in need. Food waste makes up about 12 percent of what is thrown away.

Composting is nature's way of recycling. Composting converts organic materials, including food scraps (such as fruits and vegetables) and yard waste trimmings (like leaves, grass, and small tree branches) into a dark, earthy-smelling soil conditioner, thereby preserving valuable nutrient-rich organic resources. Additionally, composting can save money by lowering disposal costs and replacing store-bought fertilizers. Compost also saves water by helping the soil hold moisture, reducing water runoff. Composting can make a significant contribution to achieving waste reduction goals, especially if organic waste comprises a large proportion of your waste stream.

A properly constructed compost pile is needed to minimize nuisances (such as odors) and achieve quality finished compost. Section 10.3.8 of the Palatine Code of Ordinances regulates the location, construction and maintenance of compost piles. The following is a summary of those requirements:

- Size of compost bins should be limited to 4'x4'x4'.
- A maximum of three compost bins shall be allowed on residential properties.
- Bins need to be made of commercial grade material. Barrel type containers are also acceptable.
- Yard waste should primarily make up compost piles.
- Items that are prohibited include: oils, grease, lard, meat, bones, fish, dairy products, human or animal waste, and inorganic materials.

continued on page 9

NOTEWORTHY PUBLIC WORKS ITEMS

50/50 Sidewalk Program

The Village of Palatine 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 for replacement. This year, the homeowner's cost is approximately \$75 for a typical sidewalk square.

Applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Hazardous Sidewalk Program

The annual Hazardous Sidewalk Program is specifically designed to identify and eliminate the worst tripping hazards at no cost to homeowners. The target area this year is from Hicks Road east to Clark Drive and from Baldwin Road north to Dundee and Rand Roads. To view the current map, visit palatine.il.us and search: "hazardous sidewalk".

50/50 Tree Program

One of the best things residents can do for the local environment is plant a tree in their neighborhood. Residents can partner with the Village to add deciduous trees to public parkways by splitting the cost of the trees. The cost includes the tree purchase, installation, and a one-year guarantee with one-time replacement, if necessary. Standard sized trees and varieties suitable for underneath power lines are available. The Village Arborist reviews and approves all planting locations. Trees must be ordered by Friday, April 22, for spring planting. Parkway trees removed by the Village will be replaced at no cost to the homeowner.

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 mulch can enhance and protect plants, shrubs, and trees by reducing root damage caused by temperature extremes. Mulch also inhibits weed growth, controls soil erosion, and prevents soil compaction. Contact the Public Works Department in early March to schedule a delivery appointment. Deliveries are made on Fridays in April to residents' driveway aprons. The cost is just \$12 per cubic yard with a 3 cubic yard minimum order. For smaller amounts of mulch, residents may visit mulch bins at the holding center located at 550 N. Smith St. Please provide your own shovel and containers.

KEEP THE 2016 HOMETOWN PRIDE AWARDS IN MIND WHEN PLANTING YOUR SPRING FLOWERS

Do you or someone you know put a lot of work into landscaping their residence or business? If the answer is yes, don't forget to nominate them later this summer for a 2016 Hometown Pride Award! Each year, the Village of Palatine Beautification Commission looks to recognize properties in Palatine with outstanding landscaping and curb appeal for the 2016 Hometown Pride Award. Nominate yourself, your neighbor, a subdivision entrance, multi-family property, or even a business. Information and nomination application forms for the 2016 awards will be made available in late spring at palatine.il.us, search: "hometown pride award".

Hydrant Flushing Helps Ensure Water Quality

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

Was Your Parkway Or Mailbox Damaged By Snow Plows?

During the winter snowfalls, it is 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 will also 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 wood 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 the Public Works Department at **(847) 705-5200** Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

2016 STREET RESURFACING SECTIONS

Street Name	From	To
ARBOR COURT	ARBOR LANE	CUL-DE-SAC
ARBOR LANE	DUNDEE ROAD	SHERWOOD LANE
BARONET LANE	WILKE ROAD	CUL-DE-SAC (WEST)
CARPENTER DRIVE	STARK DRIVE	ROHLWING ROAD
CHERYL LANE	CEDAR STREET	PLEASANT HILL BOULEVARD
CLARK DRIVE	WILLIAMS DRIVE	BALDWIN ROAD
CLARK DRIVE	BALDWIN ROAD	ANDERSON DRIVE
CLARK DRIVE	ANDERSON DRIVE	SAYLES DRIVE
CLARK DRIVE	SAYLES DRIVE	CARPENTER DRIVE
FOREST AVENUE	NORTHWEST HIGHWAY	PALATINE ROAD
GLENCOE STREET	ROHLWING ROAD	KRISTA LANE
GLENCOE STREET	FOREST AVENUE	ROHLWING ROAD
HOME AVENUE	THACKERAY DRIVE	OLD BRIDGE ROAD
ILLINOIS AVENUE	MALLARD DRIVE	QUENTIN ROAD
ILLINOIS AVENUE	PLUM GROVE ROAD	CALIFORNIA AVENUE
ILLINOIS AVENUE	CALIFORNIA AVENUE	HICKS ROAD
KENILWORTH AVENUE	ROHLWING ROAD	DEAD END EAST
LANCELOT LANE	BARONET LANE	WILKE ROAD
NEW HOPE DRIVE	PALATINE ROAD	FIRE STATION P-LOT
OLD BRIDGE ROAD	HOME AVENUE	HICKS ROAD
OXFORD COURT	ILLINOIS AVENUE	CUL-DE-SAC NORTH
PATTEN DRIVE	GLENN DRIVE	CLARK DRIVE
POPLAR STREET	FRANKLIN AVENUE	QUENTIN ROAD
PRATT DRIVE	GLENN DRIVE	CLARK DRIVE
ROSE STREET	PLEASANT HILL BLVD	W. GLADE ROAD
SHERWOOD LANE	ARBOR LANE	EDGEWATER LANE
SLAYTON DRIVE	GLENN DRIVE	CLARK DRIVE
THACKERAY DRIVE	HOME AVENUE	CUNNINGHAM DRIVE
W. GLADE ROAD	CEDAR STREET	IMPERIAL COURT
WILLIAMS DRIVE	PALATINE ROAD	CLARK DRIVE

NEW BUSINESSES

Retail

CRS International Co.

1540 E. Dundee Rd.

(847) 963-0688

Import/Wholesale

F1 Audio

311 E. Dundee Rd.

(847) 772-3140

A/V Sales

FreE-Cigs.com

11 N. Bothwell St.

(847) 907-4440

E-Cigarette Store

ProHealth Drugs

777 N. Quentin Rd.

(224) 993-3737

Pharmacy

Ross Dress For Less

749 E. Dundee Rd.

(847) 934-4346

Clothing Store

Services

Compliance Team

1296 W. Northwest Hwy

(847) 359-0320

Consulting

Fast Geekz

107 S. Northwest Hwy

(847) 721-3855

Computer Repair

LM Property Solutions

305 N. Eric Dr., Suite B

(312) 215-2853

Property Maintenance

Lucky's Energy Service

1216 W. Northwest Hwy

(224) 801-8060

Energy Management

Pathway Financial

1230 W. Northwest Hwy

(630) 855-2525

Financial Services

Platinum Home Mortgage

800 E. Northwest Hwy, Suite 614

Palatine, IL 60074

(847) 705-4950

Mortgage Lending

Wings Travel Events

1298 W. Northwest Hwy

(847) 991-3707

Travel/Event Planning Services

continued on page 9

EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) UPDATE

The Ash Removal and Replacement Program began in 2007 to remove trees that were structurally unsound or declining in health. As trees decline from EAB, they become very brittle and structurally compromised. For this reason, the removal of dead and dying trees has been the focus of Village efforts to provide safety for residents and property. Stump removal then becomes the secondary priority in the process. Please be patient when waiting for your stump to be removed as we schedule several stumps for removal, rather than one at a time. Restoration will continue in the spring, with fresh topsoil and grass seed applied to stump sites. Replacement

trees are planted in the spring and fall depending on when the ash tree was removed and on stock availability.

In 2015, nearly 1,200 ash trees were removed by Village and contracted crews. 2016 looks to be another busy year, with an additional 1,000 removals expected. The few remaining parkway ash trees will likely require removal in 2017. However, 2016 should be the first year the Village will plant more trees than it removes. If you have an ash tree in your parkway and would like its health evaluated for possible removal and replacement, please call the Public Works Department at (847) 705-5200.

CLEAN WATERS: WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT WATER QUALITY ANYWAY?

There are plenty of reasons to worry about water and water quality. We expect to have crystal-clear, pure water for drinking, food production, and recreation at the same time we use our waters for waste disposal. The old slogan, "the solution to pollution is dilution" typified the feeling that anything dumped down a drain, into a river, or even into the ocean was going to disappear without a trace. We now know that NO aquatic system can absorb unlimited human pollution.

Through our everyday activities we all cause water pollution without realizing it. The exhaust and oil from driving cars, materials washed down drains or flushed down the toilet, pet wastes, fertilizers and pesticides used in yards, all contribute to water pollution.

Making simple changes in our everyday activities can help reduce some types of pollution. For example, choosing non-toxic alternatives for

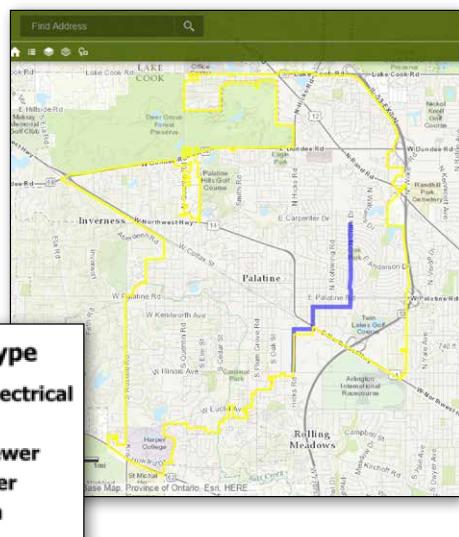


household cleaning products reduces water pollution, cleaning bills, and our exposure to hazardous materials. Rethinking landscaping and gardening practices reduces the need for pesticides, fertilizer, and irrigation, thus reducing the potential for contaminating local waters.

To learn more on different ways to help prevent water pollution or to report possible illegal discharges to the storm drain system, call the Public Works Department at (847) 705-5200.

INTERESTED IN VIEWING THE VILLAGE'S ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS?

The Public Works and Engineering Departments maintain an interactive map of all active construction projects with information about each one. Visit palatine.il.us and search "construction updates".



Project Type

- Lighting/Electrical
- Pavement
- Sanitary Sewer
- Storm Sewer
- Water Main

Learn How to Compost in Your Backyard – It's Easy! (continued from page 6)

- All compost piles shall be enclosed in a freestanding compost bin and be maintained to deter pests.
- Compost bins are allowed only in rear yards of residential properties and must be set back 5 feet from rear and side property lines and 25 feet away from neighboring homes.

Composting is easy with some basic guidelines. To learn more about backyard composting and tips for success, visit the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) website at swancc.org or contact SWANCC at **(847) 724-9205**.

NEW FLOODPLAIN BOUNDARIES

Due to a major creek channel improvement project the Village completed in 2010, FEMA has revised the floodplain boundaries for the area along Buffalo Creek north of Dundee Road and between Rand Road and Baldwin Road. As a result, most of the Capri Gardens and Pinehurst neighborhoods are no longer designated as being in a flood hazard area. Homes that were previously located in the above mentioned floodplain no longer

need to carry flood insurance, though they can continue to do so at a lower premium. Additionally, building restrictions in that area pertaining to things such as new construction, adding additions onto homes, etc. have been lifted. To view the new floodplain boundary for this area, please visit palatine.il.us, search: "revised floodplain boundaries". If you have any questions, you can call the Village's Engineering Department at **(847) 359-9044**.



QUESTIONS ABOUT FLOODPLAINS?

Q: How can I find out if my property is in a floodplain?

A: If you want to know if a property is in what FEMA considers a Special Flood Hazard Area, contact the Engineering Department at **(847) 359-9044**. The Village has copies of all current and former flood maps and flood studies. Current maps along with a Letter of Map Amendments and Revisions are also available on the Federal Emergency Management's website at fema.gov.

Q: How do I read these maps?

A: For many people it is hard to translate the flood elevations and boundaries that are shown on a map to how it may affect your property. It's also difficult to determine how they correspond to actual rain events in the past. The floodplain areas on these maps are based on a design rain storm having a theoretical return frequency of 1 percent in a year (The 100-year rain). However, rain events can exceed this amount or other conditions may cause higher flood levels.

Q: What if my property is within or adjacent to a flood hazard area?

A: If your property is within or adjacent to a flood hazard area and you would like to know to what extent it could be affected by a flood, the Village Engineering Department can be of help. We can provide information about how deep the flooding may be on a property by comparing the projected flood elevation to the ground or building elevation. We can also determine if the property or building is located within a floodway which is a portion of the floodplain that is essential for the conveyance of floodwaters.

Q: Are there any areas beyond FEMA's flood maps that could be prone to flooding?

A: Yes. These may be low lying depressional areas, nationally regulated wetlands as depicted on the National Wetland Inventory map, isolated wetlands and waters, and riparian protection areas as defined in the Metropolitan Water

NEW BUSINESSES

Sports (continued from page 8)

Play It Again Sports
315 E. Northwest Hwy
(847) 221-8260
New/Used Sporting Goods

Step Ahead Sports
1546 E. Dundee Rd.
(630) 771-1008
Soccer Facility

NEW ADDRESSES

Dress Barn
727 E. Dundee Rd.
(847) 202-8370
Women's Clothing

Integrity Packaging Solutions
1306 W. Northwest Hwy
(847) 991-1079
Packaging/Wholesaler

The Christian Shop LTD
2001 N. Rand Rd., Unit H
(847) 991-8994
Religious

Reclamation District Cook County Watershed Management Ordinance. It is important that these natural areas be preserved not only to reduce flooding on downstream properties, but they also provide habitat for a variety of wildlife that cannot live or breed anywhere else.

Q: Am I allowed to construct new homes or businesses on the areas listed above?

A: Any construction in these areas is regulated and a building permit is necessary. Existing homes and buildings that are located in a flood hazard area have limitations on how much addition or improvement can be done. This is known as a *substantial improvement requirement*. You can contact the Engineering Department at **(847) 359-9044** to find out what may be required before you start. It is important that these areas be preserved to avoid creating new problems or make any current conditions worse.

LIFE JACKET LOANER PROGRAM

The Palatine Fire Department, in partnership with the BoatU.S.® Foundation, is proud to be a life jacket loaner site. The life jacket loaner program was started in 1997 by the BoatU.S.® Foundation and currently has 575 sites where parents can borrow life jackets for their children up to 90 pounds. Each Palatine Fire Station has an inventory of life jackets in infant, child, and youth sizes. In 2015 alone, the Palatine Fire Department loaned out 120 life jackets through this program.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury death for children ages 1 to 14 years and is the fifth leading cause of death for people of all ages. Most boating deaths that occurred in 2010 were caused by drowning, with 88 percent of victims not wearing life jackets (source: BoatU.S.® Foundation).

Illinois law requires that anyone under the age of 13 wear a life jacket while aboard any watercraft under 26 feet in length at all times the boat is underway, unless they are below deck in an enclosed cabin or operating on private property. Illinois law also requires persons of any age to wear a personal floatation device (PFD) while operating a watercraft. For more information about our life jacket loaner program, please call the Palatine Fire Department at **(847) 202-6340** or go to boatus.org/life-jacket-loaner/.



SAFETY CLASSES OFFERED BY THE PALATINE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Class

The Palatine Fire Department offers CPR classes for community and neighborhood groups as well as businesses within the Village of Palatine. According to the American Heart Association, each year there are nearly 326,000 cases of out of hospital sudden cardiac arrests in the United States, with 88 percent occurring at home. Unfortunately, 70 percent of Americans admit to feeling helpless to act during a cardiac emergency because they do not know how to administer CPR or their training has significantly lapsed. The American Heart Association Heartsaver® CPR AED class is a great way for anyone with limited or no medical training to learn CPR and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) use, as well as how to aid a choking adult. Additional information on The American Heart Association Heartsaver® CPR AED class can be found at cpr.heart.org.



Fire Extinguisher Training Class

Do you have a fire extinguisher in your home or at work? Do you know how to use your portable fire extinguishers? Do you know what types of fire your extinguisher will put out? The Palatine Fire Department can help you answer all of these questions with our fire extinguisher training class. We can train your community or neighborhood group or your business in the proper use of a fire extinguisher and provide you with the opportunity to practice using an extinguisher on a live fire.



For more information on our CPR and fire extinguisher training classes, please call the Palatine Fire Department at **(847) 202-6340**.

PALATINE FIRE DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES TEMPORARY RESIDENTIAL KNOX BOX PROGRAM

Starting in 2016, the Palatine Fire Department along with the Palatine Firefighters Local 4588 will offer a new Temporary Residential Knox Box Program. The goal of this program is to lend Knox Boxes to residents who have limited mobility and would have difficulty getting to their door in the event of an emergency. Through the use of a residential Knox Box, emergency responders are able to access a household without causing any damage.

What is a residential Knox Box?

Manufactured by the Knox Company, a residential Knox Box is a high security key safe that only emergency responders can access. Currently, all commercial buildings within the Village of Palatine that are equipped with a fire alarm have a Knox Box mounted near an entrance to allow fire personnel access in the event of a fire alarm activation. The residential version of the Knox Box contains keys to the residence and uses a hangar to temporarily mount the box over the top of an entry door.

What is the benefit of a residential Knox Box?

Minutes count when responding to any type of emergency. With a residential Knox Box, firefighter/paramedics have immediate access to a household in the event of a fire or medical emergency. This is especially useful for residents who are unable to move around the house due to underlying medical conditions, those recuperating from a hospital stay, or those who use an electronic medical alert device. Also, by using keys found in the Knox Box, emergency responders can avoid forcing entry into a house and possibly damaging doors or windows.

How safe is a residential Knox Box?

Only the master key controlled by Palatine Fire Department personnel can unlock a residential Knox Box. The Knox Box itself is constructed of steel with a high strength lock core that is UL-tested and approved.

For more information, including eligibility requirements, you can contact the Palatine Fire Prevention Division at **(847) 359-9029**.

REDUCE AND DETER CRIME: REMINDERS FROM THE PALATINE POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME PREVENTION UNIT

False Alarms: Costly to You and the Police

The Village of Palatine, like many other municipalities, has in place an Ordinance that governs the operation of security alarms within the Village. This "False Alarm" Ordinance is designed to curb unnecessary police response to excessive false alarm activations. False alarms not only erode the overall security of your home or business and possibly cause police officers to be called away from other needed police services, but can also become an undue disturbance to your neighbors.

Section 12-287 of the Village of Palatine Code of Ordinances makes it unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to have or maintain any type of burglary or robbery alarm, calling for emergency response by the Palatine Police Department, without first having obtained an alarm permit from the Village. Permit applications can be obtained at the Police Department (595 N. Hicks Rd.) for \$25.

If the Palatine Police Department responds to your home or business for a false alarm, you would receive a "false alarm report" in the mail that you would need to complete and return to the Police Department within three business days. This report would inquire as to what corrective action has been taken to prevent future false alarms from occurring.

For a third false alarm occurrence at a given location within any six month period, and for all succeeding responses within that six months, the alarm system owner may face a \$50 fee.

Free Security Surveys Offered to Residents and Businesses

The Palatine Police Department Crime Prevention Unit offers FREE security surveys to all Palatine residents and businesses. A security survey is a great way to determine if your door locks, window locks, security systems, and other devices are adequate to help prevent a burglary. During the survey, the officer(s) will thoroughly explain any existing security devices and then make any recommendations necessary to improve the safety of your home or business.

While the Crime Prevention Unit performs security surveys throughout the year, many people wait until they have been the victim of a burglary before taking advantage of this FREE service. Don't wait for a burglar to determine if your home or business security is inadequate; let the Palatine Police Department Crime Prevention Unit help you prepare in advance.

For any questions or for more information on Security Surveys or the False Alarm Ordinance, OR to schedule a free security survey, contact Crime Prevention at **(847) 359-9061**.

HOMEOWNERS ENCOURAGED TO TEST THEIR HOMES FOR RADON

The Cook County Department of Environmental Control reminds you to be aware of the health risks of radon. Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that comes from the radioactive decay of naturally occurring uranium in the soil. Radon can enter homes and buildings through small cracks in the foundation, sump pumps, or soil in crawlspaces. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer overall in the U.S. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) estimates as many as 1,160 Illinois citizens develop radon-related lung cancer each

year and the Surgeon General estimates that radon may cause as many as 21,000 deaths in the U.S. annually.

The Cook County Department of Environmental Control offers residential radon test kits for the low price of \$7 each. Contact the Radon Hotline at **(708) 865-6177** for more information or to purchase a test kit. You can also find more information on the risks associated with radon and how to reduce radon levels in your home on IEMA's website at iema.illinois.gov. IEMA also licenses and regulates the individuals who provide radon measurement and mitigation to the public.

BACKYARD FIRE PIT REQUIREMENTS AND SAFETY TIPS

Backyard fire pits can be used all year round. They provide a place where you can gather with family and friends, enjoy the weather, and just look up at the stars.



If you are considering purchasing a fire pit in your backyard, please keep in mind the following requirements and safety tips.

General Requirements

- The use of fire pits is limited to approved commercially manufactured containers and must remain at least 15 feet from any structure.
- The use of properly selected fire wood that is well seasoned will minimize the development of smoke.
- Never burn construction cut offs or old building materials.
- A burning pile shall be no larger than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.

Safety Tips

- Never leave the fire pit unattended and always have some form of extinguishing equipment readily available.
- Most commercially manufactured outdoor fire pits come with a mesh screen; if not, provide one. These mesh screen help control sparks of the popping fire wood and flying embers that could cause an unwanted fire elsewhere.
- Keep in mind that many people suffer from medical conditions where smoke can affect their breathing, so be courteous to your neighbors and check to see if they have any medical conditions that may restrict your burning.

Finally, keep in mind that the Village of Palatine has a nuisance Ordinance that states that if any open burning becomes offensive or objectionable, the Palatine Fire and Police Departments are authorized to order the extinguishment of that recreational fire.

For additional fire pit safety tips, visit the U.S. Fire Administration's website at usfa.dhs.gov.

PALATINE VILLAGE HALL WILL BE CLOSED

Monday, May 30

In Observance of Memorial Day

Monday, July 4

In Observance of Fourth of July

Village of Palatine
150 W. Wilson St.
Palatine, IL 60067

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Palatine, IL
Permit No. 2855

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER
PALATINE, IL

BICYCLIST AND MOTORIST SAFETY

Now that the weather is getting better for bicycle riding, it's time for bicyclists and motorists to brush up on tips on how to safely share the road. Here are some things to remember:

- **Obey all traffic signs and signals.** Illinois law states that "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" (625 ILCS 5/11-1502). A bicyclist is not a pedestrian and does not automatically have the right of way. Vehicle drivers are also required to stop at or before the white line at a traffic signal to prevent striking a pedestrian or bicyclist in the crosswalk.
- **Riding on sidewalks.** When walking or riding your bicycle on a sidewalk or along a crosswalk you must obey all pedestrian signs and signals. Bicyclists must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians on sidewalks or crosswalks. When approaching a pedestrian from behind, slow down and announce your presence to others.
- **Be observant.** Always pay attention to what is happening around you. Always watch out for motor vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles, and people. Bicyclists should use voice and hand signals to inform others of your intentions to stop or turn.
- **Safe riding distance.** The Illinois Rules of the Road was recently amended to require drivers to keep a minimum of 3 feet between their motor vehicle and a bicycle when trying to pass the bicycle.
- **Always wear a bicycle helmet.** A helmet can reduce your risk of serious head injury. The helmet should be snug on your head and always secured.
- **Conduct a bicycle safety check.** Be sure your bicycle is in good working order and the proper size for the rider. All tires should have correct air pressure, handlebars should be secure, the seat should be at the right height for the rider, and the chain should be tight and in good working order.
- **Wear appropriate clothing.** Wear bright or reflective clothing, especially at night. Secure pant legs from getting caught in the chain. Always wear appropriate shoes, like gym shoes and not flip flops, while riding your bicycle.
- **Prevent bicycle theft.** Always park your bicycle in a safe place and secure it with a lock. Register your bicycle with the Palatine Police Department at 595 N. Hicks Rd.
- **Most importantly, be educated.** The Crime Prevention Unit offers presentations to your group or organization on bike safety. Feel free to contact us at **(847) 359-9061** with any questions.



The *Palatine Police Department* promotes safety through **Education** first, followed by **Enforcement**. During the spring months, Palatine Officers will focus on the following enforcement initiatives that address resident safety and quality of life issues in our community.

- **IMPROPER LANE USAGE (MEDIAN VIOLATIONS):** You are stopped in traffic and you want to make a left turn at the next intersection. The left turn lane is far ahead but the center median is wide open, so you move to the left and start driving down the center median. As you pass the stopped cars on your right, you don't see the car pulling out between the stopped cars or worse yet, the child on the bicycle; you know the rest of that story. Improper Lane Usage/Violating a Marked Median (solid yellow lines) is one of the most common violations committed by drivers each day. Drivers are in too much of a hurry so they violate the solid yellow line and drive on the center median or opposite traffic lane, only to collide with someone who was obeying the law. *Be patient and wait before it's too late!*
- **FAILING TO STOP FOR PEDESTRIANS WHEN REQUIRED AND PEDESTRIAN RESPONSIBILITIES:** You are driving north on Smith Street approaching the park district walk/bike path crossing (north of Northwest Highway) and there is someone standing on the path waiting to cross...what do you do? Illinois law states that you shall stop to allow the pedestrian to cross at a crosswalk, whether it's marked or not (625 ILCS 5/11-1002). Although the law requires drivers to stop to allow pedestrians to cross in a crosswalk, it does not relieve pedestrians of their responsibilities either. According to Illinois Public Act 625 ILCS 5/11-1002b, "*No pedestrian shall suddenly leave the curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a moving vehicle which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.*" Both drivers and pedestrians have a responsibility! Nobody wins when a vehicle strikes a pedestrian! *Be courteous, patient, and pay attention. It may save a life!*
- **BLOCKING A PUBLIC SIDEWALK:** You decide to take your child for a walk in the stroller, only to have your path blocked by a parked car. You maneuver the stroller through the grass around the car when the wheels of the stroller get wedged against the paved driveway, causing the stroller to tip forward, injuring your child. This was an actual case in the Village of Palatine. Village of Palatine Ordinance 18-81-12 prohibits persons from blocking the use of a sidewalk between the hours of 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Violating this Ordinance can result in a \$30 fine. This violation may not seem important to some, but to many it is. *Do the right thing, be a courteous neighbor and don't block the sidewalk.*