

Coyotes Are Suburban Residents That Are Here to Stay; Here's What You Need to Know To Protect Your Children and Pets

As anyone who has seen one roaming near their backyard knows, coyotes have lost their fear of humans. As more and more trees are torn down to make way for new construction, coyotes cling to whatever woodland areas they can find. In



Palatine, coyotes are most often found to be living near the southwest corner of Lake Cook/Hicks, Harper College, Dundee/Quentin, Brockway/Northwest Highway, west of the Smith Street dump site, Rand/Frontage Road, and the Riemer Reservoir. But coyotes like to roam and they have been spotted in many other areas of the Village. A coyote seen near Hale/Colfax may be a resident of the wooded land just north of the Plum Grove Business Park or near the Smith Street dump. Because coyotes are territorial, each group clings to a different parcel of land. Although coyotes are occasionally seen during daylight hours, they are most often spotted from dusk to dawn.

How do you know if the animal you spotted is a coyote? Coyotes are often described as having a German Shepherd-like appearance. They have long-thin legs, a tapered muzzle and adult males weigh approximately 25-40 pounds; females are smaller. The peak breeding season is late February to early March. The pups are born in April and May, with an average of 5 to 7 in a litter.

Although their favorite food is small rodents, rabbits, and mice, they sometimes eat birds, reptiles, fish, and deer carcasses. Spilled birdseed attracts animals which then attracts the coyote. This may be why they wander into yards. Areas with abundant tall grass such as the Riemer Reservoir offer the coyote not only protection but also a large food source because of the smaller wildlife that co-exists there. When their preferred food source is scarce, they may eat berries, insects, and even garden vegetables. Pet food left out at night not only feeds raccoons and opossum but also the coyote.

Small dogs left unattended and off leash can be snatched up by a coyote. They are carried off, but soon discarded when the coyote discovers the dog is not part of his regular

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Come Early for the Best Bargains at Annual Police Auction On May 20

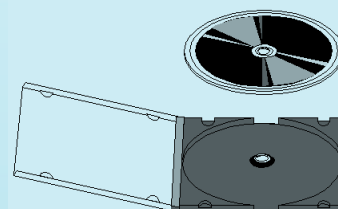
If you're looking for a great buy on a bike, backpack, sports equipment, car stereo, auto parts and more, mark your calendar for Saturday, May 20 and plan to attend the annual Police Auction of unclaimed property.



The event will be held at the Police Department, 200 E. Wood Street, at the west end of the complex near the Police garage. Items will be available for viewing at 9:30 a.m.; the auction will begin at 10:00 a.m. This year's auction includes 74 bicycles, miscellaneous DVD's and CD's, Play Station 2 games, electric jig saw, car stereos, flashlights, car jacks/stands, backpacks, cowboy hats, a jump start battery charger, ladies watch, picture frames and other assorted items.

Payment for items will be by check with a photo I.D. or cash. All sales are final.

The auction is open to the public, so bring a friend or neighbor to join in the fun and take home a bargain!



Coyotes: Protecting Kids and Pets

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diet. The dog may incur serious injury as a result of being snatched by the coyote. Their chance of survival increases if the animal is found shortly after the incident. But too often, because the animal was unattended, the owner does not immediately realize it is missing.

Preventing Coyote Encounters

- ❑ Do not provide food sources for the coyotes. Keep trash securely contained. Do not leave any food outside for pets.
- ❑ Clear away any brush or wood piles to deter smaller wildlife from residing there.
- ❑ Consider fencing in your yard with a fence a minimum of 6 feet high.
- ❑ Install motion light sensors.
- ❑ Animal-proof decks and porches to prevent raccoons, opossum, skunks and other small wildlife from living there. Small animals living under your deck are like a buffet table for the coyote, which encourages him to return to your yard over and over again.
- ❑ Teach your children to respect wildlife and not approach any animal. Do not leave small children unattended. A child may perceive a coyote as a dog and try to pet him.
- ❑ Never leave smaller pets unattended. Larger dogs are at less risk because they may be perceived by the coyote as a threat. Always have a responsible person walk your leashed dog. If a coyote does approach, act aggressively, make loud noises, throw rocks, spray with a hose, etc. Although the response may not be immediate, the coyote will leave. In rare instances where the coyote approaches, it is out of curiosity.

It is unrealistic to think we can rid our urban areas of coyotes, raccoons, opossums, skunks, and other wildlife. Even when some are removed, there are countless others that migrate or are born every year. Studies conducted by the Department of Natural Resources and the Cook County Wildlife District have shown that coyotes, even after they are removed, attempt to return to their original habitat.

Even though it is an unpopular choice for some, we need to learn to live in harmony with wildlife and realize that we have displaced them.

Chicago White Sox World Series Trophy Coming to Palatine June 21

Continuing the celebration of the Chicago White Sox World Series Championship, the White Sox and U.S. Cellular are bringing the 2005 World Series trophy to Palatine. The visit is part of a 75 city tour across Illinois and Northwest Indiana making at least 200 appearances along the way.

A suggested \$10 cash donation, which will benefit Chicago White Sox Charities and the United Way, is requested of all visitors. Fans will need to provide their own cameras to take advantage of this photo opportunity.

WHEN: Wednesday, June 21
3:30-6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Village of Palatine
200 E. Wood Street
Council Chambers (2nd floor)

WHAT: Fans will have the opportunity to have their picture taken with the 2005 World Series Trophy. Bring your own camera to take advantage of this photo opportunity. Only the first 500 fans are guaranteed a photo with the trophy.

COST: A suggested \$10 cash donation, which will benefit Chicago White Sox Charities and the United Way, is requested of all visitors.

QUESTIONS: Call (847)359-9031

2006 Market Opens June 10

Palatine Farmers' Market Celebrates 15th Season

All winter we crave the flavorful, fresh-off-the vine produce direct from the farm. On June 10th the farmers return to Palatine's Farmers' Market at the train station, bringing the freshest fruits, berries, vegetables, herbs and flowers from their farms in Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

In addition to produce, you'll find the highest quality spices and teas from around the world, Georgia nuts, Homemade Gourmet mixes, fresh pasta, Ron's buffalo steaks, chili, sausage and fabulous pheasant pies. By request, Ron will bring bones for the four legged customers who are also happy to find Maggie's Munchees, treats for cats and dogs.

This, the 15th season, promises to be the biggest and best Farmers' Market with delicious breads, pastries, and beautiful pottery — all homemade. Walk, bike, drive to the Train Station parking lot on Wood Street each Saturday morning to enjoy downtown Palatine and Palatine's Farmers' Market from June through October.

For more information, visit www.palatine.il.us



Vehicle Stickers Available for Purchase; Must be Displayed by June 30

If you live within the corporate limits of the Village of Palatine, you must display your 2006-07 Village vehicle sticker by June 30. Stickers may be purchased at the Community Center, 200 E. Wood Street beginning in May.

The vehicle stickers are valid from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. The price for passenger cars if purchased during the months of May and June is \$25.00. Stickers purchased on July 1 and after are \$35.00 per passenger vehicle.

One vehicle sticker per person is available at the reduced rate of \$5.00 if the driver qualifies as a disabled veteran (proof by vehicle registration), holder of handicapped license plates issued by the State of Illinois, (proof by authorization from the Secretary of State of Illinois) or as a senior, 65 years or older. There is only one reduced rate vehicle sticker per household.

The Village of Palatine Office hours are:

Monday-Friday	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturdays (only in June)	8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

And Don't Forget Fido and Fluffy!

Animal tags also need to be purchased by July 1 at a cost of \$6.00 per animal. A current rabies vaccination number is required for purchase.

Jaycees Getting Ready to Kick Off Another Great Hometown 4th of July Festival on Friday, June 30

Plans are well underway for the Palatine Jaycees 49th annual 4th of July celebration, June 30-July 4. Five days of family fun and great entertainment are in store at Community Park.

As always, the festival has something for everyone --food, beverages, entertainment, and a carnival.

This year's parade will step off at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 1. If Bingo is your game, you'll have the opportunity to play from 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 2. The popular arts & crafts fair will be held on Saturday, July 1 and Sunday, July 2 from 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Everyone's favorite, the fireworks display, will begin at 9:00 p.m. on Monday, July 3. Tuesday, July 4 is Family Day with games and special activities for the entire family to enjoy.

As always, there will be lots of great musical entertainment with something to please just about every musical taste. Be watching local newspapers as well as the June edition of the Village of Palatine Newsletter for a complete lineup of this year's main stage attractions.

For updated information, check out the Palatine Jaycees website, www.palatinejaycees.org.



Protect Yourself from Identity Theft by Permanently Disposing of Old Files at Document Destruction Event on June 10

Prevent identity theft while cleaning out your files. The Village of Palatine and the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County will be hosting a document destruction event on June 10, 2006 from 9:00 -11:00 AM. The event will be held at the Palatine Public Works facility located at 148 W. Illinois Avenue. Paper documents will be shredded on site at no cost. The following types of documents will be accepted for shredding: bank statements, medical forms, personal files, tax forms and receipts. Staples and paper clips do not need to be removed, but please remove binders.

This event is open to SWANCC area residents only. Proof of residency will be required. No business waste will be accepted.

For further information contact the Environmental Health Division at (847) 359-9090 or visit www.palatine.il.us and SWANCC at (847) 724-9205 or visit www.swancc.org.

Village Council to Consider New Regulations for Signs Placed in Parkways

Many residents have expressed concern about the effect that signs placed in Village parkways have on the aesthetic appearance of the Village.

In response to these concerns, the Village Council will be considering possible new regulations governing parkway signs in coming weeks.

If you are interested in expressing an opinion about parkway signs, or would like to know when possible new regulations will be discussed by the Village Council, check the Village's website, www.palatine.il.us

Join Mayor Rita Mullins in Fighting Cancer by Participating in 2006 Palatine Relay for Life

It's my pleasure to serve as this year's Honorary Co-Chair of the 2006 American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Palatine/Rolling Meadows/Inverness along with Rolling Meadows Mayor Ken Nelson, and Inverness Mayor Jack Tatooles. I'm involved with this project because cancer has taken the life of all the relatives on my father's side and half of them on my mother's side. The number of friends who I have lost or were touched by cancer is too numerous to count. My mother is a 6 year survivor, but sadly I lost my father two years ago to cancer. I'm sure many of you have similar stories. Cancer is now the number-one killer in the United States.

I'd like to encourage you to join in our efforts to battle this disease. The Relay For Life is an overnight walk/run to raise money for cancer education, advocacy, awareness, support and research to help find a cure. This year, the Relay will be held at Harper College on June 16-17, beginning at 6:00 p.m. We encourage you to form a team of 8 to 15 people - this could be anyone from a high school sports team to co-workers to friends or family members. The object is for team members to raise pledges prior to the event to help us reach our goal of \$165,000. During the Relay, your team members take turns walking on the track the entire night. The Relay features a survivor celebration at 6:00 p.m., and all are welcome to attend, a touching candlelit luminaia ceremony at 10:00 p.m. which honors our survivors and memorializes those who've lost their battle, special exhibits on cancer prevention and control, and entertainment all night long.

I hope you'll join us as the communities of Palatine, Rolling Meadows and Inverness join together to fight cancer. It will be an evening you will never forget! For more information on ACS's Relay For Life of Palatine/Rolling Meadows/Inverness, please call Ellie at the American Cancer Society office in Palatine at (847) 358-3965 or visit www.palatine.il.us. For 24-hour cancer information you may call 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

Sincerely,



Rita L. Mullins, Mayor



New Flower Cart at Home At the Train Station

A beautiful flower cart will become the newest amenity at the train station in May.

The cart had its origin in 2002 when a Palatine Public Works employee, the late Steve Stoltzner, built a flower cart for the Village's Beautification Commission's float in the 4th of July parade. After the parade, the cart was put on display in front of the train station with an arrangement of flowers.

The cart's popularity grew and it was placed in front of the train station on an annual basis. But because it was only built as a temporary fixture, it began to deteriorate and was desperately in need of repair.

The Beautification Commission reached out to Paul Hardy, the Applied Technology teacher at Palatine High School, for help. The result: a new cart is being designed and constructed by several students who are enrolled in woodworking classes.

The new flower cart will be a permanent fixture at the train station. As an added bonus, it can be moved into the train station during the winter months. Be sure to stop by and see the wonderful design and beautiful flowers in the new flower cart.



Downtown Palatine Street Fest Set for August 25-27: Save the Date!

Everyone's favorite hometown block party will be returning to the streets of Palatine on August 25th, 26th and 27th. Again this year, Downtown Palatine Street Fest will once again span Slade Street from Plum Grove Road to Smith Street. Come and enjoy the main stage acts, family entertainment, food from local restaurants and much more. More detailed information about Street Fest will be included in upcoming issues of the Village newsletter as well as on the Village website at



www.palatine.il.us/streetfest as it becomes available.

Headline entertainment that has already been booked includes:

- Mike & Joe
- Big Head Todd and the Monsters
- Ralph's World, and
- The Monarchs

Mark your calendar today and plan to invite friends and family to enjoy this great close-to-home summer celebration!

Palatine News Briefs

HYDRANT FLUSHING BEGINS THE WEEK OF APRIL 24

The Village of Palatine will conduct its annual Hydrant Flushing Program starting the week of April 24th and will continue through the week of May 12th. This process is used to flush out accumulated sediments, ensure the quality of the water, and to make sure the hydrants are working properly. The flushing process may cause some temporary water discoloration but will not affect the water's safety. Running the water for several minutes should eliminate the problem.

PALATINE'S HISTORY COMES ALIVE AT CEMETERY WALK ON MAY 21

The Palatine Historical Society is hosting its popular Cemetery Walk on Sunday, May 21 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. The event will take place at the Hillside Cemetery on Smith Street just north of Colfax Street. Costumed actors will portray the lives of some of Palatine's early pioneers.

Tickets can be purchased at the cemetery that day. Ticket prices are \$4.00 for Historical Society members, \$5.00 for non-members, and \$2.00 for children 16 and under.

THREE ADDITIONAL STREETS TO BE RESURFACED

The Village will be including three additional streets in its 2006 street resurfacing program this summer.

The streets that have been added are:

Monterey from Ventura to Rohlwing
Hedgewood from Monterey to Mill Valley
Sayles from Clark to Plate

A complete list of streets being resurfaced in 2006 was included in the February edition of the Village newsletter.

Work on all streets being resurfaced this year is expected to be completed by mid-July.

HANDICAPPED PARKING FINES INCREASED TO \$250

The State of Illinois passed Public Act 94-610, which became effective January 1, 2006, that requires a \$250 minimum fine be assessed for illegally parking in a handicapped parking space in Illinois. The Village of Palatine will now start fining violators \$250 when parked in a handicapped space without a valid permit.

All signs on Village owned property have been changed to the \$250 amount. Businesses within the Village are also required to change the fine amount on their signs. The Palatine Public Works Department will supply signs to businesses for a nominal fee. Those looking to purchase these signs can call (847) 705-5200.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE ON MAY 29

The Memorial Day Parade, organized by members of the American Legion, will step off at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 29. The day's events will begin with placement of flags and a prayer at veterans' graves at Hillside Cemetery, just north of Colfax Street. The parade will then proceed south on Smith Street to Wood Street, turn east on Wood Street and continue on to the Veterans Memorial near Northwest Highway at Community Park.

The ceremony at the Veterans Memorial will include a 21 gun salute, presentation by the color guard, and speeches by dignitaries.

Those interested in participating in the parade or who need further information are invited to call the American Legion at (847) 359-1606.

HOUSE WALK SET FOR JUNE 25

The Palatine Historical Society's annual House Walk will be held on Sunday, June 25 from 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m. The tour, which features three gardens and six homes including the Patten house and a home that is currently being restored, begins at the Clayson House Museum, 224 E. Palatine Road.

Tickets are \$15.00 per person in advance, \$20.00 on the day of the event. Advance tickets may be purchased at the Clayson House Museum or the Palatine Park District Community Center.

Palatine's Spring Clean Up Week May 12-17; Garbage & Refuse May be Placed at the Curb Early



It's that time again for spring cleaning. The Village of Palatine is designating May 12 to May 17, 2006 as its annual Spring Clean Up Week. During this time garbage bags and other refuse items may be placed in advance at the curb through out the weekend without violating Village ordinance. Refuse will be collected only on your regular collection 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, and household chemicals. Construction debris must be properly bundled and is limited to a maximum volume of one cubic yard.

For further information please call the Environmental Health Division at (847) 359-9090 or visit www.palatine.il.us.

Used

PALATINE STREET

Signs
for Sale

\$10.00 each

Visit
www.palatine.il.us
for a listing and
more details

Make Your Family's Name a Part of Palatine's History

Make your own family a part of Palatine history, or honor someone special with a personalized commemorative brick in Volunteer Plaza at Northwest Highway and Hicks Road.

Commemorative bricks may be purchased by mail using a personal check or money order, or IN PERSON at the front counter in the Village Hall lobby with payment by cash, check, money order, or Visa or MasterCard.

Volunteer Plaza Brick Paver Order Form

Name _____

Address _____ Daytime phone _____

- 4x8 inch brick, 3 lines of up to 13 characters each; \$25
- 8x8 inch paver, 5 lines of up to 13 characters each; \$100
- 8x8 inch granite paver, 5 lines of up to 13 characters each; \$1,000

Be sure to include spaces

} Fill in top three rows for 4x8 brick

} Fill in all five rows for 8x8 paver

Please return form and check payable to the Village of Palatine to:
Village of Palatine Attn: Administration, 200 E. Wood Street, Palatine, IL 60067

A portion of your donation is tax deductible.
The Village of Palatine reserves the right to deny brick/paver applications deemed to be inappropriate.

Bedframes, Makeshift Bridges and Abandoned Row Boats Are Just Some of the Things that Cause Creek Flooding

Some people who live on or near creeks feel they are a handy place to dispose of unwanted household items, dump yard waste, or build makeshift bridges.



Whoever built this bridge no doubt had lots of fun doing it, but when the water level rises the bridge will become floating debris that will cause flooding downstream.

What they don't realize is that these and any other items dumped into the creek or left along its banks can quickly become floating debris that will be carried downstream and cause serious flooding when spring and summer rains cause the water level to rise.

That's why it is illegal to deposit branches, leaves, grass clippings, dirt or debris of any kind into or adjacent to creeks, ponds, wetlands, detention basins, ditches or other areas that collect and convey storm waters. Besides being unsightly, they can cause obstructions that create or aggravate flooding. Materials left on the banks or shores will kill the natural vegetation under it resulting in soil erosion. Anyone found guilty of creek dumping is subject to a



This rusty bedframe is just one of the dozens of items dumped illegally along the creekbed.

fine of not less than \$75.00 nor more than \$750.00. Anyone seeing someone dumping anything in these areas should call the Public Works Department at (847)705-5200 to report the violation.

Protect Our Water Supply

In addition to causing flooding, dumping in or near creeks can seriously impair water quality. The Federal Clean Water Act is designed to make all waterways in the United States fishable and swimmable. Although not too many people may want to swim or fish in Salt Creek or Buffalo Creek, they discharge into the Des Plaines and Illinois Rivers, and can affect the water quality there.

It is important to realize that every curb inlet and storm drain in the Village discharges into a pond or creek. In order to protect our water supply, Palatine ordinance prohibits anything but storm water from entering our storm



Once the water level rises, the lumber being stored under the plastic will be carried downstream where it could block the flow of water and cause the creek to flood.

sewer system. This includes things such as motor oil, antifreeze and other automotive fluids; paints, solvents or cleaning fluids; waste water from carpet cleaning or other uses; animal wastes; etc. Anyone violating this ordinance may face criminal prosecution and is subject to a penalty of not less than \$200.00 nor more than \$1,000.00 per violation. In accordance with the Federal Storm Sewer Regulations, if anyone sees someone dumping chemicals, paints, solvents or other 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 office of the Director of Public Works, Andy Radetski, at (847) 705-5200.

Most household wastes can be recycled, disposed of with the normal garbage collection, or brought to a hazardous waste collection site. Check with the Village's Environmental Health Department at (847) 359-9090 or visit the Village's website at www.palatine.il.us for further information on disposing of these wastes.

'Art in Motion' to Showcase All Forms of Art on June 24

What is art? Is art a painting, sculpture or stained glass? Is art food carving, storytelling or flower

arranging? The Palatine Inverness Arts Council (PIAC) believes these are all forms of art. We believe there is art everywhere –

including our own backyards. On Saturday, June 24th at the Fred P. Hall Amphitheater in Palatine, from 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM join us for a public forum to showcase all forms of art in our community – a day of “Art in Motion.”

“Art in Motion” is an interactive day of art performances, demonstrations, food vendors, fine art/craft booths, a kids’ craft tent, and much more!

You can be a part of the celebration of all art forms by participating in any number of ways: sponsoring, advertising, performing, demonstrating, exhibiting and attending. We are currently seeking performers for the stage and demonstration tent. If you or someone you know would be interested in playing an instrument,



PALATINE/INVERNESS ARTS COUNCIL

storytelling, demonstrating how to quilt, dancing, showcasing beadwork, or any other art/craft, please visit www.palatineinvernessarts.org or contact PIAC at (847) 963-6451. The application, advertising and sponsorship deadline is May 1, 2006.

PIAC is committed to the cultural, educational and economic growth of the members of our communities through support and encouragement of performing and visual arts and artists. We hope to provide educational and financial support for the students of District 15 and District 211. We consider the arts an integral part of life-long learning and work to provide public arts activities to all people. PIAC believes in the preservation of our cultural heritage and a responsible stewardship of community resources. We believe in the power of the arts as a stimulant to our local economic environment. With our advocacy for the arts, we hope to encourage the highest aspirations in all art endeavors.

Sister Cities Celebrates Anniversary in France

Palatine has enjoyed a partnership with our Sister City, Fontenay-le-Comte, France, since 1995, with exchanges promoting economic development, global youth forum, plein air art, work/study internship, culinary art, music, language immersion, and education.

Every two years, Fontenay organizes a weekend festival, Le Biennale, similar to our 4th of July celebration, with extravagant floats in a nationally recognized parade, fabulous French food, fireworks, and joie de vivre. This year's Biennale, June 2-5, honors their active relationship with Palatine and Fontenay's four other sister cities: in Spain, Romania, Poland, and Africa.

The people of Fontenay-le-Comte are anxious for many residents of Palatine to join them in this celebration. They offer their gracious hospitality — home stays, meals, activities, sight-seeing, and friendship—just as we provide for them when they come to Palatine. Residents are responsible for transportation. A visit to Fontenay is an amazing experience. Located four hours, by train or car, south west of Paris, Fontenay offers the clear soft air of the French countryside in the Vendee region with red tiled rooftops, fields of sunflowers, wineries, woods, streams, and legends.

For more information about our Sister City Association, visit our website: www.palatinesistercities.org

If you would like to visit Fontenay-le-Comte for the Biennale, please contact Marg Duer at 847-358-1649.



Top photo: Chateau de terre-neuve
Middle photo: Biennale parade
Bottom photo: Venice verte

Tornadoes Have Already Struck in Central Illinois This Year . . . Know How to Protect Yourself if There is a Tornado in Our Area

It's that time of year again — tornado season. And this year it started in Illinois sooner than expected. On March 12, a number of F2 and F3 tornadoes struck in the central Illinois, area, including Springfield, that caused over \$100 million dollars in damage.

Though a tornado's time on earth is short lived and their destructive paths relatively small, tornadoes are among mother nature's most violent weather related events. With spring here and summer right around the corner, we are entering prime tornado season.

On the average, Illinois experiences 39 tornadoes every year. In 2003 however, there were 120 tornadoes reported in Illinois 50 of which occurred in one day. There were 80 in Illinois in 2004 and 1700 nationwide, while there were only 17 in Illinois in 2005 with no reported deaths or serious injuries. Already in 2006 we have experienced over 25 tornadoes.

In Illinois alone, there have been a number of extremely destructive tornadoes causing millions of dollars of property damage and numerous injuries and deaths. The deadliest and most destructive in the past 20 years occurred on August 28, 1990 when a violent (F5) tornado hit the Village of Plainfield. A large portion of town was leveled and 29 people were killed. More recently we saw an F3 tornado blast through Utica in April of 2004 killing eight.

Because of the unpredictable nature of

which tornadoes appear, it is necessary to be prepared should the conditions arise that could spawn a tornado. The need for families to have a preset "disaster plan" in place is critical. Knowing what to look for and where to go if a tornado is sighted is critical in significantly increasing your chances of surviving a tornado strike.

Spring and summer thunderstorms usually are the catalyst that tornadoes spring from. Because of the frequency of spring and summer thunderstorms, it is wise to be prepared to seek shelter should a severe thunderstorm arise. Severe thunderstorms are usually accompanied by heavy rain, high winds and hail. Depending on the severity of a thunderstorm, the National Weather Service may issue either a tornado watch or a tornado warning.

A tornado watch means that tornadoes may occur in or near your area. You should listen to local radio and television for information and instruction. If you have a line of site to the southwest, be alert for funnel shaped clouds. If you should spot one, seek shelter immediately and contact 911.

A tornado has been reported by weather radio. The radio is operated by a weather radio station for the "all clear" announcement. Many areas around the state have outdoor warning sirens should a tornado warning be issued for a particular area, listen

for the Village emergency sirens to be sounded. When you hear the siren, do not waste time; get to your shelter immediately.

Remember:

- ❑ If you are at your home, go to the lowest level of your home. If you do not have a basement or crawl space, go to an interior closet or hallway. If possible get under a sturdy table and protect your head.
- ❑ If at a school, nursing home or like structure go to predesignated shelter areas usually on the lowest floor.
- ❑ If you are in a car, get out and take shelter in a nearby building if possible. If there are no structures, try to find a drainage ditch or other low lying area. Never try to outrun a tornado. They move deceptively fast and in an erratic manner.
- ❑ When tornadoes threaten, immediate action can save your life. Stay away from windows, doors and outside walls in your home and cover your head. Any debris becomes flying missiles capable of inflicting mortal

management Agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and National Weather Service websites, or contact Tom Smith, Palatine Emergency Management Coordinator at tsmith@palatine.il.us.

TORNADO!

The 100 Year Storm: What is It? How Often Can It Happen? What are the Chances It Will Cause Flooding?



Often during discussions of new developments we hear the term "100-year storm." What, exactly, does that mean?

If we had a 100-year storm this year, are we safe for another 100 years?

Is the chance that a 100-year storm will occur within a 100-year period 100%?

Are all 100-year frequency storms the same?

The answer to all is no. Simply put the frequency of a storm is the average number of years between identical storms. There are 1-year storms, 3-year, 10-year even 500 and 1,000-year storms. The size of a rainstorm is determined by the amount of rain that falls within a certain length of time. As a result there are many types of 100-year storms. A 100-year storm lasting 10 minutes in this portion of Illinois will drop 1.67 inches of rain; a 1-hour storm, 3.56 inches; a 24-hour storm, 7.58 inches and a 10-day 100-year rain event will produce 11.14 inches of rain.

Can we have more than one 100-year storm in a year? The answer is of course. We can experience a 100-year/10-minute storm tomorrow and a 100-year/24-hour storm several weeks or months later. However the potential flood effect of both these 100-year storms will be vastly different. The short duration/high intensity storm is typically very localized. It may rain very hard at your house but across town there may be little or no rain. This type of storm usually only results in minor street flooding and ponding in yards and low-lying areas that drain off quickly.

Storms of mid-duration (3 to 12 hours) will have much greater rainfall totals. In excess of 3 inches of rain could fall within a 1 to 4 hour period. As a result, the amount of runoff is greater. The soils become saturated which increases the amount of runoff. Creek levels will rise quickly and there may be flash flooding. The area affected by possible flooding is larger but still may be localized. Heavy rains may occur in Palatine but Lombard or Libertyville may not be as affected. Studies show that about 40 of these storms will occur somewhere in Illinois within an average year. However, about once every two years, somewhere in Illinois, there will be a "Blockbuster" storm. These Blockbusters last from 12 to 24 hours, producing extremely heavy rainfall over a large area and typically create 10 to 12 inch amounts at a smaller storm center. In July of 1996 Naperville and Aurora experienced a Blockbuster storm totaling 16.94 inches in a 24-hour period (a new state record) with catastrophic flood damage occurring. Palatine received only about 2 inches in that storm. Two of the more recent Blockbuster storms occurred in 2002 and were just two and a half days apart.

just north of Danville and dropped over 10 inches of rain in about 8 hours. Palatine did not receive any rain during that storm. The storm center for the second storm, August 21-22, was by Galena. They received over 12 inches of rain in less than 12 hours. Palatine received around 5-inches. Fortunately the preceding two and a half months were exceptionally dry so neither storms produced the magnitude of damages of comparable storms.

A study of 330 large storms in Illinois from the 1890s to 1990 revealed that 57 of them were Blockbusters. Interestingly, many Blockbusters follow a pattern. They produce most of their rainfall within a 12-hour period. They tend to start in early evening, reach maximum intensity before midnight, continue with intense rainfall for about 6-hours, and dissipate near sunrise. Two thirds of the Blockbusters occur June through August. The final type of flood producing rains are those repeated rain events that extend over many days producing huge amounts of rainfall and result in widespread and severe flooding along rivers and creeks. The 1993 flooding along the Mississippi River was the result of rains over a long period of time.

Will identical storms produce the same flooding problems? No. Flooding, though directly related to rain events are also influenced by other factors. For example, a 10-year/6-hour storm (3.55 inches) occurring in February on frozen ground may produce as much flooding as a 100-year/24-hour storm (7.58 inches) in August after a dry spell.

How certain are we that what we think is a 100-year storm has a 100-year frequency? Fairly certain but not positive. Engineers who design storm drainage systems rely upon climatologists (people who study long-term weather patterns) for the data used to determine rainfall amounts and their frequencies. Accurate and consistent weather patterns have only been collected in this area for about 100 years. Early rainfall measurement stations were widely scattered so storm centers may have been missed. If we had 1,000 years of measurements, rainfall events could be more accurately predicted. So what are the chances of a 100-year storm occurring? 1% for any given year, 25% over 30 years (the typical life of a home mortgage) and 63.4% within 100 years.

Two Grants from Department of Homeland Security Will Fund Purchase of Emergency Radio System, Additional Community Training Programs

Two recent unexpected grants from the Department of Homeland Security will enable Palatine to be better prepared should an emergency or disaster strike.

The first grant, in the amount of \$33,915, will enable Palatine to purchase an AM Emergency Advisory Radio System. The system is designed to give residents up-to-the-minute information before, during and after an emergency or disaster by simply tuning in on their AM radios.

The station will also have the ability to pre-record announcements that can be broadcast during special events such as the 4th of July activities at Community Park and Palatine's Annual Street Fest, advising event goers about street closings, parking locations and event schedules. Additionally, the system will allow Village Council Meetings to be heard on a radio within a three to five mile range of the downtown area.

"This technology will make Palatine better equipped to communicate with residents during emergency and non-emergency times", commented Tom Smith, Palatine's Emergency Management Coordinator. "Communicating even a single message during a disaster can be critically important. This system has been used for years in Florida where evacuating out of the path of a hurricane is a yearly event."

Although Palatine has not yet received its temporary FCC operating license dedicating the frequency in which it will appear on the radio band, the station should be up and on the air before Palatine's summer special event season begins. Look for additional information on Cable Channel 6 or later editions of the



Village newsletter for the frequency setting.

The Palatine Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) which is responsible for the Villages emergency management program, applied for the competitive grant as one of the handful of EMA's in the state that has received accreditation from the State of Illinois.

A second grant awarded \$59,570 to Palatine for emergency preparedness that will allow Palatine to continue a number of programs already in place including the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), the Palatine Medical Reserve Corps (PMRC), the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). The grant money has provided funds to purchase additional equipment and materials for these Village organi-

zations that will help respond to emergencies and disasters.

Two of the more noteworthy initiatives include the producing of a Public Service Announcement (PSA) promoting Palatine's citizen volunteer programs and an interactive component for its website featuring practical points on preparing and responding to emergencies. The second item is the purchase of a CERT equipment trailer. This 12 foot by 7 foot trailer will be filled with supplies that can be brought to a disaster site. The trailer will contain fire extinguishers, radios, rain ponchos, work gloves, shovels, picks, cribbing equipment, flashlights and other equipment that would be helpful to CERT teams in a disaster.

The trailer, which is currently under construction, will feature its own power source, a battery of outside lighting and generators for running additional electrical equipment. The trailer will be housed in the Public Works garage and will be available on a 24 hour basis. Look for the easily identifiable Palatine CERT Trailer in this year's 4th of July parade.

A stylized illustration of a white truck with a large sign on its side. The sign is black with white text. The text on the sign reads: "BIG TRUCKS Saturday, May 6 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Family Aquatic Center Parking Lot (Near the intersection of Palatine Road & Northwest Highway) Parking available at the Community Center. Here's your opportunity to sit in the driver's seat of a fire truck, police car, dump truck, front end loader and many more 'big trucks'. All Ages Welcome! Thank you Palatine Police Department, Palatine Fire Department, Palatine Public Works, and other local businesses for making this event possible. For more information or weather related changes call 847-994-6888." The truck is shown from a side profile, facing right. It has a white cab and a white trailer. The sign is mounted on the side of the trailer. The truck is drawn in a simple, bold, black-and-white style.

Answers to Your Questions About the New Recycling Cart

Palatine residents recently received a new recycling cart. Although everyone is pleased to have a recycling container with a lid and wheels, we have received phone calls with some questions about the new recycling program. Following are answers to some of the most commonly asked questions regarding the new program:

Q. What items can be placed in the cart?

A. Recyclable items for collection include aluminum cans/foil, tin cans, steel and bi-metal cans, clear, green and brown glass and jars, newspapers, magazines, telephone books, mixed papers, corrugated cardboard, single use plastic bottles, plastic containers and plastic bags stamped #1-7, aseptic beverage containers and packages and six pack rings.

Q. When are my recyclables collected?

A. Carts with closed lids must be wheeled to the curb or at the end of the driveway for collection by 6:30 AM on your regular garbage collection day. Please do not place carts in the street.

Q. Do I need to sort the items before placing them in the cart?

A. Absolutely no sorting of recyclables is required. All recyclable items can be placed in the cart.

Q. Who do I contact if I did not receive a cart or my cart is damaged?

A. Contact Groot Recycling and Waste Services at 1-800-244-1977 or visit www.groot.com.

Q. What do I do with my red 18-gallon recycling bin?

A. Since the carts have replaced the bins, your bins may

no longer be used at the curb. Residents may choose to keep their bins for personal use. If you do not wish to keep the bin, you may place the empty bin at the curb for collection. The bins will be picked up by Groot and recycled.

Q. Can garbage, construction materials or landscape waste be placed in the cart?

A. No. The cart can only be used for recyclable items. Carts filled with garbage, construction materials or landscape waste will not be collected. Garbage must continue to be placed in plastic bags at the curb.

Q. When can I start using my cart?

A. Use of the cart begins the week following delivery on your regular collection day.

Q. Where can I get further information?

A. Contact Groot Recycling and Waste Services at 1-800-244-1977 or visit www.groot.com; and the Village of Palatine Environmental Health Division at (847) 359-9090 or visit www.palatine.il.us.



Village of Palatine

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The Village of Palatine
200 E. Wood Street, Palatine, Illinois 60067
Village Hall: (847) 358-7500 ♦ Village Action Line : (847) 705-5200
E-mail: village@palatine.il.us
Home page: www.palatine.il.us

Palatine Elected Officials

Rita L. Mullins, Mayor
Margaret R. Duer, Village Clerk

Michael E. Jezierski, District 1
Jim Wilson, District 2
Daniel A. Varroney, District 3
Greg Solberg, District 4
Jack Wagner, District 5
Brad Helms, District 6

Phone numbers

(847) 359-4854
(847) 359-9051

(847) 359-3573
(847) 934-0027
(847) 359-6479
(847) 358-0531
(847) 358-3766
(847) 894-0006

E-mail

rmullins@palatine.il.us
mduer@palatine.il.us

mjezierski@palatine.il.us
jwilson@palatine.il.us
dvarroney@palatine.il.us
gsolberg@palatine.il.us
jwagner@palatine.il.us
bhelms@palatine.il.us

Village Manager

Reid Ottesen

(847) 359-9031

rottesen@palatine.il.us



Kaye Lowman Boorum,
Newsletter Editor

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