



Village News

Volume XXIII, No. 3
September 2014

News & Information for Residents

The Village of Lemont is dedicated to promoting and preserving the character of the community and ensuring a high quality of life through professional public service provided in a friendly, consistent, and fiscally responsible manner, emphasizing the best interest of the community as a whole.

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Lemontster Days 2 Weeks of Halloween Fun

See Pages 6-7 for Details



From the Mayor's Desk

The Village's current economic condition continues to be on an upturn and the Village Board continues to focus on economic development to bring commercial and retail development into town. There are several areas we are focusing on to align with the need to remain a viable community. One such area with development potential is Rt. 83 and Main Street which consists of property within our Gateway TIF District. After initially utilizing our own efforts, we are currently in the process of selecting a government development/public finance consultant to aid us in this process.



The Village Board has also approved the allocation of funding in the fiscal year 2015 Downtown TIF budget to make improvements to the historic I&M Canal through the downtown area. This will consist of raising the water level and utilizing aeration methods to improve the quality of the water through the downtown. This improvement will assist in our ongoing effort to beautify the area.

Residential development continues as we welcome Kettering subdivision located at the southwest corner of 131st Street and Parker Road. The subdivision consists of 241 single family homes on 131 acres. The first phase has broken ground already and more significant progress will be seen in the spring of 2015.

These are just a few projects taking place in the Village, and all lead to our desired vision for our community. Having said that, we would like to hear back from you as to what you would desire to see in the Village. We want to know what you would like the Village Board to focus on as we move forward. Included in the back of this newsletter is a Feedback form. We would greatly appreciate any comments and suggestions you have to offer.

On a final note, there are a number of events coming up in the next few months. Be sure to visit our website's Lemont Community Calendar often, www.lemont.il.us/CommunityCalendar, and check out all the activities taking place around town.

Mayor Brian K. Reeves



TRICK OR TREAT
HOURS
3:00 - 6:30 P.M.
OCTOBER 31

Visit us on the web
at www.lemont.il.us

Electric Aggregation

All eligible residents and small businesses should have received a letter by now from the Village and Homefield Energy, who was chosen for our new municipal aggregation plan supplier. No action was required on the residents' part to be included in our plan. Those wanting to opt-out of the plan were instructed in the letter to return the provided yellow post card by September 5, 2014. Our contract term with Homefield Energy is a three year term, expiring in October 2017. Rates are as follows:

Time Period of October 2014 to October 2016 - \$0.06996
 Time Period of October 2016 to October 2017 - \$0.06850



It is important to know that through this term, Homefield Energy will not impose a fee for early cancellation. In addition, residents are able to join the plan at any time during our contract term with no fee as well. Residents should always contact their current energy supplier before considering a switch to find out if the company imposes an early termination fee. If you have any questions please visit www.homefieldenergy.com for FAQ's and information. Homefield Customer Care is available 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at (866) 694-1262 or via email at HomefieldCustCare@Dynergy.com.

Exciting New Changes Coming to the Lemont Commuter Station Parking Lot

Daily Parking Pay Stations

Effective October 1, 2014, the Lemont Commuter Parking Lot will upgrade to new pay stations for the daily parking slots. Pay cards will no longer be available and will no longer be accepted. The pay stations will accept credit cards and cash (exact change only) for daily parking slots. The fee for daily parking will increase to \$1.50 per slot, per day. Again, you must use the exact amount in the machines, as they will not give out change. The improved technology and design will make paying more user friendly. Additionally, the pay stations will be integrated with "Passport Parking" to allow pay by phone payment. More information regarding the Passport Parking program will be posted in the Metra Station.



Commuter Permit Parking

The process to purchase a commuter parking permit has been changed this year. The Village will no longer be issuing permits on a first come first serve basis in October. Additionally, permits will be issued on an annual basis with the option to pay quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. The current permit holders will receive an offer letter in September to renew their permit by November 15, 2014. If the permit is not renewed, the Village will issue the permit to the next person on the wait list. To be added to the wait list, please call (630) 257-1550.

The Village offers 3 types of permit payments:

- Quarterly \$ 60
- Semi-Annually \$110
- Annually \$220

Should you have any questions please contact the Finance Department (630) 257-1550.

Change Jobs? Commuters may return any unused valid quarterly parking permits to the Village Hall for a refund. There is usually a waiting list of commuters who would like to purchase these permits.



Lemont 2030 Comprehensive Plan

Thank you to everyone who gave their time and energy to provide input into the Lemont 2030 Comprehensive Plan. The full draft plan is now available for review at www.lemont.il.us/lemont2030. You have one more opportunity to help shape the final document; the Planning & Zoning Commission will be holding a public hearing to collect input on the draft plan on **September 17 at 6:30 p.m.** at Village Hall. If you are unable to attend, you can forward written comments to Village Planner Martha Glas, at mglas@lemont.il.us.

Annual Water Rate Increase Effective October 1



Beginning October 1, a slight increase in the water rates will become effective. The rate for the first 4,000 gallons will increase from \$32.33 to \$33.30, and each additional thousand gallons will increase from \$6.17 per 1,000 gallons to \$6.29 per thousand. **Senior rates and sewer rates remain unchanged.**

These annual incremental increases are necessary to keep up with the costs to maintain and improve the Village's water system.



Early Voting for November 4 General Election

Library's Meeting Room

- October 20 to October 25.... 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- October 27 to October 31.... 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- November 1 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Suburban Cook County voters only, photo ID required.

For further voting information, to see if you're registered to vote, and for polling locations, go to:

www.cookcountyclerk.com

Village Receives a Aa2 Bond Rating

We are very proud to have received a Aa2 bond rating from Moody's Investor Service which is a top credit rating company. This rating was issued as a part of two General Obligation Refunding Bonds issuances. These bonds were reissued based on a projected cost savings due to lower interest rates.

This rating was issued by Moody's for the Village of Lemont citing our credit strengths as a moderately sized tax base in the Chicago metropolitan area, structurally balanced operations bolstered by healthy General Fund reserves and a moderate debt burden.

This is a reflection of the continued commitment that the Village Board and management has in ensuring that the Village has a strong financial position. The Village also received a Aa2 bond rating in 2012 from Moody's, which was the last time the debt was analyzed.



Lemont Emergency Management Agency Seeking Volunteers

The Lemont Emergency Management Agency (LEMA) is looking for volunteers. If you are at least 18 years of age and are interested in assisting Lemont and surrounding communities in their time of need, please contact James Boyer at jboyer@lemont.il.us.

The "411" on the Lemont Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

MRC units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers who want to donate their time and expertise. MRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources.

If you're interested, there is training available that will be held in Lemont at the Lemont Township Community Center on September 23. Space is limited to 40. Registration is required and opens September 8. It is free and a great training for all who are interested in preparing their family and self for disasters and emergencies. For additional information on joining the Lemont Township Medical Reserve Corps, please contact Terri O'Neill-Borders at Lemont Township Community Services, (630) 257-2522, Ext. 13.



Landscape Waste Pick-Up Ends The First Week in December

Residents are reminded that the yard waste pick-up program will end the first week of December. The landfill will then be closed until spring. Wrap up those pruning and clean-up projects before your regularly scheduled pick-up date the first week of December.

The yard waste collection is FREE – no stickers required for Village residents for leaves and other yard debris if placed in a kraft paper yard waste bag and left at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your regular trash pick-up day.

Branches are also picked up as a free service BUT be sure to observe the requirements for branch pick-up:

- **Branches must be bundled and tied with biodegradable string or twine.** (*Branches in cans will not be accepted nor will unbundled branches.*)
- **Branches must be less than 4 feet in length, less than 2 inches in diameter and weigh less than 50 pounds. No wider than 2 feet.**

Emerald Ash Borer

The Village continues with the mass removal of the ash trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer which began with the hardest impacted areas. The Village has also secured a reduced and fixed rate for ash tree removal on private property from Homer Tree Care, Inc. through 2014. Tree removal on private property is at the resident's expense and requires a signed agreement between the property owner and Homer Tree Care, Inc. Please contact them directly at (815) 838-0320.

Private Property Program Schedule of Prices 2014

- | | |
|--|---------|
| • Tree removal cost per diameter inch – front yard trees | \$18.00 |
| • Tree removal cost per diameter inch – back yard trees | \$40.00 |
| • <i>Trees are measured at 4.5 feet above ground</i> | |
| • Stump grinding cost per inch – front yard trees | \$6.00 |
| • Stump grinding cost per inch – back yard trees | \$9.00 |
| • <i>Stumps are measured at ground level, median width</i> | |

The Village will begin replacing parkway trees as budget allows, but this process will take several years. If a homeowner wishes, you can purchase and plant a new parkway tree at your own expense in the parkway adjacent to your home. No permit is required, however, the tree species should be an approved parkway tree species and trees should be planted in accordance with the Village parkway tree planting specifications. Our approved parkway tree species list and parkway tree planting specifications are located on our website at www.lemont.il.us/EmeraldAshBorer. Homeowners are cautioned to always use a licensed contractor. Please call the Public Works Department with any questions at (630) 257-2532.

Bridge Closures

- The Village of Lemont owns and maintains 4 bridges within the Village limits:
 - Stephen Street over the I&M Canal
 - Old Stephen Street over the Des Plaines River
 - Ed Bossert Drive over the I&M Canal
 - Derby Road at Ruffled Feathers

In September and October, repair work will commence on the two Stephen Street Bridges listed above. Repairs consist of installing new jointing material, crack repairs, and general bridge maintenance. As part of this work, the Stephen Street bridge, at the I&M Canal, will be closed to all traffic from approximately September 22 to October 1. Traffic will be rerouted down Canal Street to Ed Bossert Drive, then north to River Street, Front Street or Stephen Street. Your patience during this detour period is appreciated.

The Village will also be replacing the deteriorated retaining wall on State Street, between Logan Street & Custer Street. The wall will be replaced with a salt resistant decorative cement block retaining wall at the same location. This work is expected to take place in late October of this year.



**Farmers Market Continues
Through October 28**

Fall Household Recycling Event

October 11, 2014: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Metra Parking Lot - 101 Main Street

This event is sponsored by the Lemont Environmental Advisory Commission.
This event is intended for "household" recycling. It is not intended for commercial use.

Motor Oil Recycling

Collecting used motor oil, fuel oil, lubricant oil, brake/transmission fluid and antifreeze.

CITGO Refinery

Document Disposal

Dispose of personal papers safely and securely. All documents will be shredded on site. **Paper recycling will be limited to 100 lbs. per citizen. Business paper recycling will NOT be accepted.**

Beaver Document Shredding

Electronics Recycling

Dispose of outdated electronic equipment including PCs and computer peripherals, servers, networking equipment, stereo & home entertainment equipment & phone equipment. *Televisions and Microwaves will NOT be accepted.

E-Scrap Technologies

Prescription Medication Collection

Dispose of unused and outdated prescription medications safely while saving our water supply.

Lemont Police Department

Toner Cartridge - Printer Inks - Cell Phones

Bring these items for recycling and re-use.

Lemont Combined School District 113A

CFL Light Bulb Collection

Accepting used CFL and up to 4-foot fluorescent light bulbs. **CFL bulbs may NOT be disposed of in the trash.**

CITGO Refinery

Battery Collection

Accepting rechargeable batteries only (including NiCd, NiMH, Lithium Ion) and button batteries (watches, hearing aids) for proper disposal. **Alkaline batteries can be disposed as general refuse as they are no longer considered hazardous. Alkaline batteries and lead-acid batteries (car, marine) will NOT be accepted.**

CITGO Refinery

Food Collection for the Food Pantries

Bring non-perishable food for the Food Pantries to the Metra Lot.

CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN LEMONT - STYLE



LEMONTSTER DAYS

COMING THIS OCTOBER TO LEMONT • COMING THIS OCTOBER TO LEMONT • COMING THIS OCTOBER TO LEMONT

oct 18th Fall Fest 2014 Lemont Park District	oct 25th Halloween Hoedown Village of Lemont
oct 22nd Ghostly Tales Little Mountain Community Theatre Company	Haunted Central Lemont-Bromberg Combined School District 113A
oct 24th Halloween Blood Drive Lemont High School Student Council	Haunted Happenings Lemont Downtown Merchants
Lemontster Days Bash Lemont Township	oct 26th Howl-A-Ween Dog Costume Contest Lemont Township
Haunted Central Lemont-Bromberg Combined School District 113A	oct 28th Fright Night Lemont Historical Society
oct 31st Trick or Treat Fun Lemont Library	

Lemont Chamber of Commerce and Lemont Park District's
Home & Business Decorating Contest
Get Out and Decorate!

www.lemont.il.us/LemontsterDays

Lemont Chamber of Commerce & Lemont Park District's Home & Business Decorating Contest

There are two contest categories, and great prizes will be awarded to both:

"Lemontster, Inc." Business Division "Lemontster Manor" Residential Division

- Registration is FREE and must be completed by **October 6** at the Lemont Park District.
- Decorations must be up by October 20 as judging will take place **October 21 - 24**.
- Winners will be announced at the Halloween Hoedown on **October 25**.

Get out and decorate! For more information and/or to register, visit www.LemontParkDistrict.org for complete contest details!

October 18: Fall Fest 2014

Lemont Park District: 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Centennial Park. FREE event. Featuring ...LIVE Music, Scarecrow Building Contest, Children's Games & Jumpie. Kiddie Straw Maze, Bonfires with FREE Hot Dogs & S'mores, Hayrides and more! Special thanks to CITGO and Suburban Bank & Trust! For more information call (630) 257-6787.

October 22: Ghostly Tales

Little Mountain Community Theatre Company: 7:30 p.m.

Centennial Park. Free Event! This spooktacular performance is sure to get everyone in the spirit of this frightfully fun season!

October 24: Halloween Blood Drive

LHS Student Council: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Lemont High School. Calling all vampires! Make your donation today for a great cause.

October 24: Lemontster Days Bash/Oktoberfest

Lemont Township Community Center: 6:00 to 11:30 p.m.

This adult event will feature great entertainment with a polka band followed by some blues/rock music. Wine Tasting by Otto Brandt Wines, Food, and Costume Contest. For more information, go to www.lemonttownship.org. Tickets: \$15, \$10 for 65 & older.

October 25: Halloween Hoedown 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Village of Lemont, 12:30 Line-Up at Legion Park
Historic Downtown Lemont: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

12:30 p.m. Line-Up at Legion Park for our annual Costume Contest & Parade followed by Trick or Treating at participating downtown stores and all the miniature houses at Safety Village! Halloween Jumpie at Budnik Plaza! Haywagon Rides! Take some Frightening Photos with our fun backdrop! Fun Children's Activities! Lemont Park District joins in the fun with a "Halloween Hoops" Contest.

October 24 and October 25: Haunted Central Old Central School

October 24: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

October 25: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. (for young children); and
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

For full pricing information and/or to pre-order tickets, go to www.sd113a.org for complete details.

October 25: Haunted Happenings in Historic Downtown Historic Downtown Lemont

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.: Scavenger Hunt

Pick up map and information at Belle De Jour, 108 Stephen Street or Front Street Cantina, 319 Front Street, followed by:

9:00 p.m.: Adult Costume Contest at Front Street Cantina

Watch for more downtown "Happenings" on the village website at www.lemont.il.us/LemontsterDays.



LEMONTSTER DAYS

October 26: 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Lemont Township Presents...Hooowl-A-Ween at Central Bark Dog Park

FREE Event! Pet vendors, costume contest, trick contest, and a 50/50 Raffle to benefit Lemont Township assisted pet owners with veterinary emergencies and unpayable pet related costs. For more information call (630) 257-2522.

October 28: Fright Night in the Old Stone Church

Lemont Historical Society Museum: 7:00 p.m.

Doors Open at 6:30 p.m.

306 Lemont Street. Join us for tales of the supernatural and visit the 1860 coffin if you dare. A hauntingly good time! Refreshments available! For more information call (630) 257-2972.

October 31: Trick or Treat Fun at the Library

Lemont Public Library: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

It wouldn't be Halloween in Lemont without a stop at the Library! Here world famous book characters such as Mother Goose, Little Red Riding Hood and more, will be giving away treats!



Halloween Safety Tips

Trick or Treaters should always be accompanied by a trusted adult. Older children going alone should have a set time to return within the trick or treating hours. Have them wear a watch and carry a cell phone.

Costumes using make-up and face paint are safer than an ill-fitting mask. Children should wear comfortable, light colored clothing that is flame retardant and short enough to avoid tripping. Reflective tape on costumes, glow necklaces, flashing buttons and flashlights will all help make them stand out in the dark. Costume props should be flexible and not sharp.

Remind children of pedestrian and stranger safety rules and to only cross streets at intersections and crosswalks. Obey all traffic signs and signals. Stop, look left-right-left again and listen for cars. Walk, don't run across streets. Walk on sidewalks or on the left side of the street facing traffic.

Never allow a child to eat a treat that has not been checked by a responsible adult. Discard fruit, unwrapped items, homemade goodies or any treat with a loose or torn wrapper.

– **October 31** –

Trick or Treat Hours

3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Turn on your porch light if you welcome trick-or-treaters!

Veteran's Day Observance

All are welcome to attend the Veterans Day Observance on November 11, at 11:00 a.m. at the World War II Memorial on Main Street. The Village of Lemont recently installed two new flag poles at the memorial. The World War II Memorial was erected in May, 1947 by the Back Our Boys Auxiliary. It represents the soldiers from the Village and Township of Lemont who served our country in World War II, but sadly did not return home. There are 600 names and 22 Gold Stars displayed on the memorial.

An additional memorial also sits proudly at the site. Dedicated in November, 2003, Dan Alvey of Eagle Scout Troop 49 organized and executed this monument for his Eagle Scout Project. It is dedicated to the men and women of Lemont for their loyalty and service.

For a listing of all the upcoming fall and winter events, with the most up-to-date information, please visit our website at www.lemont.il.us/CommunityCalendar.



Farmers Market Continues Every Tuesday Through October 28!

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Talcott Square (Stephen & Talcott behind LaDolce Vita & StoneHouse Pub)

Feedback

What do you want the Village Board to focus on?

Return to:

Mayor Reaves • Village of Lemont • 418 Main Street • Lemont, IL 60439

Email: vlemont@lemont.il.us • Fax: (630) 243-0958



Don't miss Halloween Hoedown!

Saturday, October 25

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Costume Parade - 1:00 p.m.

Line-up at 12:30 p.m.

Legion Park - Historic Downtown Lemont



Lemont Village News

Village of Lemont
418 Main Street • Lemont, IL 60439
630-257-1550
FAX 630 257-1598
email: vlemont@lemont.il.us
website address: www.lemont.il.us

Mayor

Brian K. Reaves

Clerk

Charlene Smollen

Trustees

Debby Blatzer	Rick Sniegowski
Paul Chialdikas	Ronald Stapleton
Clifford Miklos	Jeanette Virgilio

Village Administrator

George J. Schafer

Village Board Meetings
2nd & 4th Mondays - 7:00 p.m.

Village of Lemont
418 Main Street
Lemont, IL 60439

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