



Village News

Volume XVII No. 1
March 1, 2008

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.

Inside This Issue:

- Mayor's Message 1
- Earth Day Events 4
- Green Lemont Tips 5
- Spring Events 7



DON'T MISS . . .

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival
March 8th - 1:00 p.m.
Historic Downtown Lemont

Earth Hour 2008
Turn Off Lights on Saturday, March 29
8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

New Event:

Document Disposal
Dispose of Paper Safely and Securely
April 19
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Metra Station Lot

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



Motor Oil Recycling Day
Photo by Brian Reinke, LEAC

Lemont Environmental Advisory Commission sponsors and staffs two motor oil recycling events each year. In 2007, about 4,000 gallons of used oil, 125 gallons of anti-freeze and 200 gallons of flammable liquids were collected. Citgo Refinery and IMTT-Lemont co-sponsor the events.

From the Mayor's Desk



Lemont's Green Initiative

Communities across the nation are exploring local programs aimed at conserving natural resources, reducing waste, and creating a more sustainable community and Lemont is no exception. As a village, we have already begun an evaluation of measures aimed at creating a "greener" community in every area. A "Green Lemont" committee of representatives from local government and community organizations has begun meeting to examine various ways that sustainable practices could be adopted and encouraged, including everything from landscaping of public areas and street lighting to design of new construction projects. The Committee's goal will be to make some recommendations that can easily be adopted and yet make a difference. In this issue, we are presenting some suggestions each household can use to examine its carbon footprint — implementing just a few of the tips can help the entire community to be more "green." Trustee Peter Coules will serve as the Board liaison for this project.

We have been asked by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to participate with governments, business, communities and millions of individuals on six continents in Earth Hour 2008 by encouraging our businesses and residents to turn off their lights from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 29.

FY 2008 Budget Underway

From January through March each year, the Village Board and staff invest a substantial amount of time in formulating and preparing the budget for the coming fiscal year. The Public Works, Police, Building, Community Development and Finance Departments present their projected needs for vehicles, personnel and equipment, while the 10-year Capital Improvement Plan is reviewed and prioritized for roadway, infrastructure and building upgrades.

(continued on page 2)

Mayor's Message (cont'd)

The Finance Committee, chaired by Trustee Brian Reaves, closely examines these requests, eliminating some items and refining others until a balanced budget is achieved. As anticipated, due to the general state of the economy and a corresponding decline in revenues, spending will have to be conservatively calculated in this fiscal year. We have all listened to the woes of state and county elected officials looking for additional tax revenues to plug their budget shortfalls. Local government does not have that option and must simply live within its means.

Last year's Village budget was approximately \$25 million. This year, we are projecting a budget of about \$27 million. Usually, about 30% of the total budget is allocated to engineering and construction projects. This year, some of the revenues normally allocated to these programs will be diverted to the Police Station Building project, since the Board was completely opposed to seeking a tax increase to pay for the new facility. About \$400,000 will be allocated to fund the annual street resurfacing program.



Police Facility

By the time you receive this newsletter, the demolition of the old Public Works facility on 127th street will be in process. The contractor intends to break ground for the new Police facility on the same site around March 15, weather permitting. The Board is eager to have this project underway. Trustee Cliff Miklos on the Public Safety Committee will be working with the staff and contractor on the project. It will take about a year to construct and complete the 29,000 sq. ft. facility.

Exploring TIF District at Rt. 83 & Main

One of the Board's higher priorities is the eradication of the junkyards at Rt. 83 & Archer Avenue and development of the area near Rt. 83 and Main Street. To that end, the Board has recently approved a resolution stating the Village's intent to establish a TIF District to facilitate development in that area. The action does not bind the Village, but would offer a developer a level of assistance if a development plan is approved. At a previous meeting, the Board approved a proposal by a TIF consultant to investigate the feasibility of an expanded TIF district to encompass the area at Rt. 83 & Main Street, another area we would like to see explored for commercial purposes.

Downtown Improvements

The River/Front Street improvements should be completed by the end of summer. Front Street is over 80% complete with new pavement, curbs and storm sewers. Sidewalk and landscaping will begin this spring and create a pedestrian friendly boulevard from Stephen Street to Ed Bossert Drive. River Street construction will resume again this spring. The majority of the underground work including sewer, water main and storm sewers has already been completed.

John F. Piazza, Mayor

Mayor's Drive for Charity - Monday, April 28

The 2008 Mayor's Drive for Charity, jointly sponsored by Mayor John Piazza and Ruffled Feathers Golf Club, will tee off on Monday, April 28. **The 1:00 p.m. shotgun start is already sold out.** Many spots are still available for the 7:30 a.m. start.



Fees:

\$150 Per Player Includes:
18 Holes & Cart
Cont'l Breakfast - Box Lunch
Buffet Dinner
Scramble Format - Prizes

Hole sponsorships (\$175), lunch and beverage sponsorships are also being accepted to defray some of the costs of the outing.

One hundred percent of the profits from the outing will be made available to all bona fide Lemont service and non-profit organizations, and recognized community groups. **Registration Forms are available at the Village Hall or by calling 630-257-1590.**

State of the Village Report on March 20

The 5th Annual State of the Village Report, sponsored by the Lemont Area Chamber of Commerce, will be held on Thursday, March 20 at 11:00 a.m. at Woodbine Golf Club. Mayor John Piazza will present information on current and future Village plans and projects.

Tickets (\$35.00 for Chamber members) and information are available by contacting the Chamber of Commerce office at 101 Main Street (630) 257-5997.

March is Severe Weather Preparedness Month



Prepare a Home Tornado Plan

Take a few minutes this month to have a family tornado drill. Designate a safe area where family members should gather – a basement, center hallway, bathroom, or closet on the lowest floor. Avoid areas with glass. Keep the chosen area uncluttered. Make sure the disaster kit is kept in this area. Replace batteries in radios and flashlights.

When a Tornado WARNING is issued . . .

- If you are inside, go to the designated safe area.
- If you are outside, hurry to the basement of a nearby sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or low lying area.
- If you are in a car or mobile home, get out immediately and head for safety (as above).
- Do not attempt to pick up children from school or childcare facilities. They will prepare for a tornado accordingly.

The tornado siren will sound to warn residents of imminent weather emergency in the following situations:

- A tornado, rotating wall cloud or funnel cloud aloft is reported within a ten-mile radius based from the center of Lemont.
- When reported that a tornado has touched down in Lemont Township.
- When wind gusts are clocked in excess of 50 m.p.h.
- Any time the National Weather Service advises a warning which will impact the Village and Township.

Once activated, the sirens will not be reactivated for at least one hour unless a rotating wall cloud, funnel cloud aloft or tornado has been sighted and is a clear and present danger to the Village or Township.

**THERE WILL NOT BE
AN ALL-CLEAR SIREN.**

The Tornado Siren is tested on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

Coming Soon . . .

AT&T to Offer U-Verse TV/Internet Service

Approximately 80% of the village's 8 square mile area is now capable of receiving High Definition TV/Internet service from AT&T as well as from Comcast. Previously Comcast was the only provider of CATV, so most residents will now be able to have a choice of providers.

AT&T's U-verse TV programming is IP-based instead of receiving signalization through cable. The Village Hall is currently being set up for Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) programming which will allow residents to watch not only the Lemont meetings, but any area governmental meeting available on that channel. This programming is provided via video streaming technology.

Residents will be contacted directly by AT&T with specific information on packages available.

Credit Cards to be Accepted at Village Hall



The Finance Department estimates that as early as May 1, residents will be able to pay for their utility bills with a credit or debit card. The final details are being put in place to enable the Village to accept this form of payment.

Initially, only **utility bills, local ordinance fines, some building permits (fences and decks)** can be charged. Eventually vehicle sticker payments and commuter parking permits will be included.

Direct Payment of Utility Bills

Many residents are already taking advantage of the option of having water & sewer bills deducted directly from their checking accounts. Forms for direct payment are available from the Finance Department (630) 257-1550 or on the Village website at www.lemont.il.us. A deposit slip or voided check must be returned with the form.



Planning a Spring Garage Sale?

No Village permit is required for garage sales. Any temporary signs for garage sales must be located on private property (no utility poles or parkways) and must be less than 6 square feet. Signs must be promptly removed after the sale.

Severe Weather Preparedness Week March 2 - March 8



Free SPRING CLEAN-UP!

A special FREE Spring Yard Waste Pick-up provided by the Village of Lemont and Waste Management has been scheduled on the REGULAR TRASH PICK-UP DAY:

APRIL 22, 23, or 24

Place bags at curb by 6:00 a.m.
NO STICKER NEEDED

Landscape Waste and Branch Pick-up to Begin April 1

The landscape waste pick-up program will resume on April 1 and continue through the end of November. Yard waste will be collected on your regular trash pick-up day. To guarantee timely pick-up, landscape waste must be placed in a biodegradable paper landscape waste bag up to 33 gallons in capacity. **LANDSCAPE WASTE IN CANS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Place landscape waste at the curb prior to 6:00 a.m.

A landscape waste sticker is required and may be purchased at the Village Hall, Lemont Township Office, Chipain's, Jewel Foods, Peterson's Hardware and Sears Hardware.

The cost per sticker is \$2.50.

Branches/Brush

The annual branch/brush pick-up program will begin on April 1 and continue through the end of November. Branches and tree limbs will be picked up on the regular trash pick up day by Waste Management. A sticker is required for each bundle.

BRANCHES MUST BE TIED:

- less than 4 feet in length.
- less than 4 inches in diameter.
- less than 50 pounds.
- tied with biodegradable string/twine.

Let's Make a Greener Lemont



Lemont Environmental Advisory Commission Earth Week Events

Earth Day - Saturday, April 19

Motor Oil Recycling Day: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Metra Lot
Collecting used motor oil, fuel oil, lubricant oil, brake/transmission fluid and antifreeze.

Sponsored by LEAC, Citgo Refinery and IMTT-Lemont

Document Disposal: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Metra Train Station
Dispose of personal and business paper safely and securely.
All documents will be shredded on site.

Sponsored by LEAC and Beaver Document Shredding

Bicycle Recycling: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Metra Train Station
Watch media for details.

Food Collection: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Metra Train Station
Bring non-perishable food for the Food Pantries.

Heritage Quarries Trail Clean-up-Green-up: 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Meet at Heritage Quarries Pavilion on K.A. Steel Road.

Black Partridge Woods Nature Preserve Clean-up: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Watch media for details.

Heritage Quarries Trail - Guided Walk: 10:00 a.m.
With Lee Anderson. Meet at Heritage Quarries Pavilion.

Senior Hay Ride at Heritage Quarries: 11:30 a.m.
With Lee Anderson. Meet at Heritage Quarries Pavilion.

Sponsored by LEAC and Lemont Park District

Please watch the media for other activities planned for Earth Day. For additional information or to volunteer, please contact Tom Thomas, Chairman, at 630-257-1902 or the Village offices at 630-257-1550.

Recycle your Electronics at Office Max



Recycle your used computer equipment and get valuable Office Max coupons! Accepting computers, monitors, printers, PDAs and cell phones. These will be recycled by Sims Recycling Solutions for a small fee. You will be rewarded by receiving your recycling fee back in valuable Office Max coupons. Office Max is located at 13406 Archer Avenue in Lemont.

Please help keep electronic equipment and toxic components out of landfills. Recycling makes sense.

Let's Make a Greener Lemont

Reducing Your Household Carbon Footprint



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed tools to aid households measure and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. The first step is to calculate an estimate of your household's emissions resulting from household energy use and waste disposal. A Personal Emissions Calculator can be found on the EPA web site at www.epa.gov/climatechange. After your household data is entered, the calculator will help you explore actions you and your family can take to lower emissions, while reducing energy and waste disposal costs. The calculator will display the amount of emissions you could avoid and how that amount relates to your total emissions.

Recycling

Aggressive recycling of paper, metals and plastics, for example, when compared to the CO2 emitted when these items are landfilled equates to about 2.90 metric tons of CO2 emissions saved per household per year. Let's review the basics on accurate recycling.

DO NOT RECYCLE . . .

Window glass, ceramics or pyrex, light bulbs, polystyrene (food carry-out containers), bottles from motor oil, pesticides or chemicals, plastic grocery bags (re-use or return these to store).

New Event for Earth Day!



**Document Disposal
Saturday, April 19
Lemont Train Station
101 Main Street
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Do you have boxes of receipts, paid bills, cancelled checks, and old papers you don't want to throw away because they contain personal information? Now you can dispose of these items safely and securely at the **Earth Day Document Disposal Event** on Saturday, April 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Lemont Train Station parking lot. All documents will be shredded on site by Beaver Document Disposal. Staples and paper clips do not have to be removed. This event is for paper only. No other items can be accepted.

This event is sponsored by Lemont Environmental Advisory Commission and Beaver Document Shredding.

A Brighter Idea



Saving Energy

By replacing standard incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs, your household could make a substantial reduction in energy use. CFL bulbs use about 75% less energy than comparable standard light bulbs and last up to 10 times longer. Not only does this simple action reduce your carbon footprint, it saves money on your electric bill.

Through a partnership with the Metropolitan Mayors' Caucus Greenest Region Program, the Village will be distributing about 2,000 CFL light bulbs later this spring. More information will be available in April on this program.

DO RECYCLE

Paper:

- Mixed paper (including junk mail)
- Flattened cardboard boxes
- Chipboard (cereal boxes, shoe boxes, paper tubes, soda, beer cartons)
- Brown paper grocery bags
- Phone books and magazines
- Large pizza boxes

Containers:

- Glass jars & bottles (clear, green, blue, brown)
- Aluminum/Metal cans (aluminum, steel, metal, aluminum foil and pie tins)

Plastics

- PET #1 Beverage containers
- HDPE #2 Milk and water jugs laundry detergent bottles
- PVC #3 Vegetable oil bottles, window cleaner & detergent bottles.
- LPDE #4 Other food grade bottles
- PP #5 Yogurt cups and syrup bottles.
- PP #7 Other plastic food containers.

Look for these symbols:



Let's Make a Greener Lemont

Earth Hour 2008

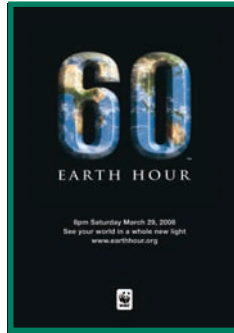
March 29, 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

On March 29, 2008, residents in major metro areas around the world will turn off their lights for one hour to show that it's possible to take action on global warming. Chicago has been selected as the flagship region to lead the Earth Hour effort here in the United States. Lemont residents are being urged to turn off lights at home and in businesses from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. that day and make Earth Hour 2008 a truly regional and global event.

Last year, 2.2 million people and 2,100 businesses in Sydney, Australia, turned off their lights for one hour – Earth Hour. This massive collective effort reduced that city's energy consumption by 10.2% for one hour, the equivalent of taking 48,000 cars off the road for one hour.

Beyond turning off your lights, there are lots of things you can do to make Earth Hour, 2008 an even greater success:

- Sign up at www.earthhour.org. Not only will you feel part of the effort, you will also receive lots of useful tips and tools.
- Tell a friend about Earth Hour. Better yet, tell all your friends, your family and your co-workers. Just email them with a link to the above website.
- Advertise. If you own a business, don't be afraid to advertise your support for Earth Hour. It's great for business and the environment.



Village Seeks Volunteers for Festival Committee

Would you be interested in using your talents to improve your community by serving on the Festival Committee? This group of seven citizens meets regularly to plan and produce community events including St. Patrick's Day, Heritage Fest, Halloween Hoedown and Hometown Holiday. The committee chooses entertainment, food vendors and plans logistics for each event with assistance from a Village staff member.

Please contact the Village Hall at vlemont@lemont.il.us or (630) 257-1590 for an application.

QUARRYMAN CHALLENGE 08

When: Saturday, May 10
Where: Main Street
Check-in: 6:00 a.m.
Race begins: 7:30 a.m.

Back by popular demand, the **Quarryman Challenge 10 Mile Road Race** will be returning to Lemont on Saturday, May 10. The course will begin and end on Main Street and winds through the Village's historic residential area. The Quarryman Challenge offers athletes of all abilities, from elites to beginners, a unique and challenging race at the beginning of the mid-west running season.

For more information or to register for this event, call Ed Kerfin at (815) 483-9387 or visit:

www.quarrymanchallenge.com

The Pothole Hotline

This winter has been unusually harsh to area roadways. The Village has been receiving daily complaints of potholes and resulting damage to tires. To report potholes or submit a claim for damage on a non-village roadway, please consult the appropriate agency:

Archer Avenue	IDOT	(847)	705-4061
Bell Road	Cook County Hwy. Dept.	(312)	603-1600
New Avenue	IDOT	(847)	705-4061
Main Street (East of Wheeler)	IDOT	(847)	705-4061
Walker Road	Cook County Hwy. Dept.	(312)	603-1600
McCarthy Road	IDOT	(847)	705-4061
Lemont Road (North of Bluff)	DuPage County	(630)	682-7318
127th Street	Cook County Hwy. Dept.	(312)	603-1600
127th Street (Smith to State)	Cook County Project	(630)	420-1700
131st Street	IDOT	(847)	705-4000

Potholes on IDOT roadways can also be reported via e-mail at webmaster@iltrafficalert.com. To report potholes on Village-maintained roadways, please call the Public Works Department at (630) 257-1590 or publicworks@lemont.il.us.



Celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

PARADE & IRISH FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, MARCH 8 - 1:00 PM

Historic Downtown Lemont

Featuring Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band & Lemont's Own Irish Queen, Christen O'Neill.

Fun!

Parade Route

Line-up at Lemont Safety Village 12:30 p.m.
South on Stephen to Main Street, West to V.F.W. Hall,
15780 New Avenue.

ENTERTAINMENT AFTER THE PARADE

Visit the V.F.W. Hall for great family fun!

- 1:30 Irish Dancing
- 3:00 The Larkin Brothers
- 4:00 Soda Bread Contest

Music



Sponsored by the Village of Lemont

Carriage Ride for Lemont's St. Patrick's Day Queen sponsored by Joe Galica - Paradise Banquets, Bridgeview, Illinois.

Flowers Provided for our St. Patrick's Day Queen by Petal Play Design Studio, Lemont, Illinois.

Spring Events



March 29 - April 19 - May 17: 5:30 p.m. Special Needs Respite Nights

Location: First Church of the Nazarene. Ages birth-18. Supervised by trained professionals. To register or for more info, call 708-349-0454.

April 6: Lemont Lion's Club Harley-Davidson Raffle

1st Prize: 2008 Harley-Davidson Heritage Softail Classic; 2nd - 10th cash prizes. Tickets: \$50. Only 1,000 will be sold. Drawing April 6th. For more info or to obtain tickets, contact Ross Lillwitz at 630-257-7236 or e-mail: r.lillwitz@comcast.net.

April 10th - 13th: Friends of the Library Annual Spring Book Sale. Items can be donated anytime. For more information call 630-257-6541.

April 12: 8:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. LJWC "A Fighting Chance - Preventing & Escaping Abduction Program.

Geared for children 9 to 15 years old. Taught by Lemont Police & Fire Depts. Open to all Lemont school students. Space is limited. Registration deadline is Tuesday, April 1. For more info, call Theresa Vasvery, 630-243-1749.

April 19: Earth Day Lemont 2008

See Page 4 of this newsletter for full information.

April 19 & 26: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. AARP Safe Driver Class (Must attend both classes). Location: First Church of the Nazarene. Cost: \$10, Bring a valid IL driver's license. Call 708-349-0454, x 54 to register.

April 28: 7:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. Mayor's Drive for Charity

Ruffled Feathers Country Club. 1 Pete Dye Drive. For info: 630-257-1590.



May 3: 5:30 to 11:30 p.m. LJWC's Viva Lemont Ultimate Scavenger Hunt & Party

Slovenian Cultural Center. Call Kathy (630) 243-1647 or Sue (630) 243-8550 for tickets or questions. Must be 21 or older to attend.

May 10: Quarryman Challenge 08

See Page 6 of this newsletter for full information.

May 10: 9:00 a.m. to Noon (Rain or Shine) Lemont Garden Club's 9th Annual Plant Sale. Parking Lot of Lemont Park District. For more information, call 630-257-3538.

May 11: 2:00 p.m. Civil War Memorial Dedication Legion Park on Main Street

Civil War Re-enactment, and a day of activities. For more info, call Richard Lee at 630-257-7339.

March 8: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon Children's Resale

Location: First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road, Lemont. Cash only, please; no strollers or children. For more info, call 708-349-0454.

March 14: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. "Gala" Opening Set for LHS Performing Arts Center. Tickets: \$10. Advance purchase of tickets strongly encouraged. Formal attire recommended. For tickets or more info, contact Tony Hamilton at 630-243-3280.

March 14: 7:00 p.m.; March 15: 6:00 p.m.; and March 16: 6:00 p.m. Passion Play 2008 - "Let Your Kingdom Come." Location: First Church of the Nazarene. Presented by the Worship Arts Department. Childcare provided through age 5. Enjoy the Sweet Treat Cafe with friends & family afterward. Call 708-349-0454 for more info.

March 14: 8:00 p.m. Teen Flashlight Egg Hunt

Location: Northview Park. Must be 13 or older to participate in this FREE event. For more info call the Park District at 630-257-6787.



March 15: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Winter Farmer's Market

Location: St. Alphonsus Church Hall (below church proper), corner of State Street & Logan Street. For more info contact Doreen Dabney at 630-257-2414.

March 15: Noon to 2:00 pm. The Hippity Hoppity Hop

Location: Centennial Community Center. FREE! All ages welcome! For more info, call 630-257-6787.



March 15: 12:00 Noon to 12:00 Midnight Seamus McGhee's Shamrock Celebration 308 Canal Street. Refreshments & fun in our heated tent. Live music from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. For more info, call 630-243-7647.

March 19: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. District 113a Family Wellness Night Old Quarry Middle School. The entire Lemont community is invited for a variety of "wellness fun and information." Free admission. For more info, call Julie Smagacz at 630-257-5799 or Tami Franklin at 630-257-5257.

March 20: 11:00 a.m. State of the Village Luncheon

Location: Woodbine Golf Club. Advance Registration Required. \$35 Chamber Members. For further info contact the Chamber at 630-257-5997.

March 25: 7:00 p.m. Lemont Area Historical Society Women's History Month Event Celebrating Women in Art. Location: 306 Lemont Street. Meet the artists. Presentations by Lemont women in the art profession. For more info, 630-257-2972.

Feedback

Your comments, suggestions and concerns are important to us. Please use this form to communicate and include your name and address if you would like a response.

Return to:
Village of Lemont
418 Main Street
Lemont, IL 60439

FREE Spring Clean-up



Landscape Waste Pick-up
April 22, 23 & 24
on Your Regular Trash Pick-up Day
NO STICKERS NEEDED



Lemont Village News

Village of Lemont
418 Main Street Lemont, IL 60439-3788
630-257-1550
FAX 630 257-1598
email: vlemont@lemont.il.us
website address: www.lemont.il.us

Mayor

John F. Piazza

Clerk

Charlene Smollen

Trustees

Debby Blatzer	Clifford Miklos
Peter Coules	Ronald Stapleton
Brian Reaves	Jeanette Virgilio

Village Administrator

Gary C. Holmes

Village Board Meetings
2nd & 4th Mondays - 7:00 pm

Village of Lemont
418 Main Street
Lemont, IL 60439

Car-T-Sort
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lemont, IL
60439
Permit No. 89

Postal Customer
Lemont, IL 60439