

WINTER – SPRING | 2024

# Village News



**NOMINATION LETTERS FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY QUEEN DUE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

*For details on how to submit an application, see Page 7 of this newsletter or visit [lemont.il.us/SPAT-Parade](http://lemont.il.us/SPAT-Parade) for more information.*

# Message From the Mayor



On behalf of the Village Board, we wish everyone a very Happy New Year and we look forward to continuing our momentum to build the best community in 2024!

Lemont continues to see many successes and interest with new residents, businesses and visitors alike, enjoying all we have to offer. Our desirable community stems from being a safe, attractive community with award winning schools, lower Chicagoland property taxes, and being a recreational destination. It also takes the support of our community, and we are grateful to our residents, as we accommodate our growth responsibly, and provide the necessary amenities to encourage an active lifestyle and provide for retail and housing needs.

## 150th Anniversary of Incorporation

As we move into the new year, we are reminded of our many successes and times of celebrations we had together in the past year, and look ahead to create more memorable moments!

2023 was a year of celebrations, as we kicked off our sesquicentennial anniversary in January at Ice & Lights Fest with the debut of our friendly Lemont mascot, Lemontster Archie! The celebration culminated during the weekend of June 9, 2023, which marked the first official meeting date, 150 years ago. This event included a special dedication of the new Village Green park on Main Street, and the celebration continued all year long with special events devoted to the town's heritage. Special thanks to the 150th Anniversary Committee consisting of support from the Heritage Corridor Business Alliance, Keepataw Day Parade Committee, Lemont Area Historical Society, Lemont Historic Preservation Commission, Lemont Junior Woman's Club, Lemont Park District, Lemont Public Library, Lemont Township, and the Village of Lemont. We especially want to thank all of our 150th Anniversary sponsors who made celebrating this milestone all year possible.

Also, to honor the 150th Anniversary, Economic Development Director, Jason Berry, teamed up with local historian, Kevin Barron of @SouthCookExplore to compile the "Lemont: Images of America" book devoted to Lemont. Local historian and author, Pat Camalliere wrote a special Foreword for the book, and the Lemont Area Historical Society provided much of the historic photos and local knowledge. The anniversary book celebrates 150 years of Lemont history and hit the shelves last November and is available wherever books are sold. Proceeds from the sales of the book go to the Lemont Area Historical Society. We thank Jason, Kevin, Pat, and the Lemont Area Historical Society for making this project possible! Author Pat Camalliere also wrote the "Lemont at 150: Yesterday and Today" booklet with a snapshot of 150 years of history! This can be found on our website at [Lemont150.com](http://Lemont150.com).

Special thanks goes to Pollyanna Brewing Company who made the commemorative Lemont 150 Lager, wrapped in the artwork of deceased, local artist Joyce Affelt, and to Eich's Sports for the anniversary collection of merchandise. Both will be donating proceeds from the sales to Village Green on Main Street. Special thanks also goes to Joyce Affelt's family for permitting us to use her treasured artwork throughout the celebration.



## Economic Development & New Investment

We continue to see new development interest in all our districts, whether it be residential, commercial, or downtown business districts. New investment or reinvestment is key to increasing the tax base so new revenues can be generated to put towards infrastructure and other needs. A few of these projects are nearing completion, under construction or about to begin construction in the coming months:



**Marbella of Lemont** – The 79-unit, luxury apartment complex with first floor commercial/restaurant space and underground parking is nearing completion. Along with the new housing opportunities and restaurant space, the project will include a public outdoor space and additional parking areas for everyone to utilize. The park and parking areas will be built in the spring. This \$30 million private investment is the

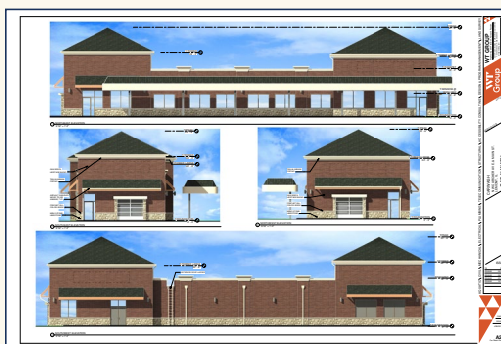
result of two decades of planning efforts which designated the former Peterson Hardware site as a key development block for multi-story mixed use development. Marbella of Lemont is expected to begin occupancy later this year.



**Athens Park** – In partnership with Lemont Park District, 30 acres of land located at the north end of Stephen Street near the Sanitary and Ship Canal will be redeveloped into open-park space, walking paths, parking, and trail linkages over multiple phases. Engineering, design, and bidding activities for initial phases are complete and the project is expected to begin construction later this year. This area will also be the landing

place for a new pedestrian/bicycle bridge which is currently being engineered by the Village to connect the park and downtown to the regional trail system north of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal.

**Downtown ADA Pedestrian Improvements & ADA Planning Study** – The Village is currently constructing a new accessible ramp and related hardscape/landscaping improvement at the existing Lemont Street pedestrian bridge that connects to Front Street. The project is nearing completion with aesthetic and landscape final improvements to be installed in the spring. A new pedestrian bridge over the I&M Canal just east of Pollyanna Brewing Company will be constructed this fall. The Village also has secured a planning grant through the Chicago Metropolitan Area for Planning (CMAP) aimed to assist the Village in developing a public right-of-way self-evaluation and transition plan. This will guide additional capital improvement decisions for the downtown and beyond in making the town more accessible and assist with obtaining additional grant opportunities for accessible improvements.



### **83 & Main – Gas N' Wash Site**

The 16-acre commercial property previously owned by the Village on the northeast side of town has been sold, is back on the tax-rolls and is under construction. The first component of the development will be a fuel station, convenience store and auto wash, owned and operated by Gas N' Wash. In addition to the fuel station and auto wash, the Gas N' Wash will include a convenience store with food options typical of

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## Village of Lemont

### Mayor

John Egofski

### Clerk

Charlene Smollen

### Trustees

Janelle Kittridge	Kevin Shaughnessy
Dave Maher	Rick Sniegowski
Kenneth McClafferty	Ronald Stapleton

### Village Administrator

George J. Schafer



## Message from the Mayor – Cont'd

their other locations, Dunkin' and Mickey's Gyros restaurant. The commercial center is expected to open in late spring. Future phases of the 16-acre site will include another retail building and an industrial building to be built in subsequent years. We look forward to having fuel and retail options on the east side of town and are excited to have them open their doors this year!

## Quality Residential Development

Lemont's continued residential growth was deemed one of the highest in the 2020 Census in the south suburbs and one of the highest in all of Chicagoland. While maintaining this controlled high-quality growth, Lemont provides many options for families moving into town and empty nesters looking to downsize with a mix of quality housing, townhomes, duplexes, and apartment buildings.

The Village issued nearly 150 new single-family permits in 2023 (1,300 total permits), which is the highest total since the early 2000s. With implementation of the Village's new online permitting system (OpenGov) and up-to-date building codes that went into effect January 1, 2024, the regulation of new housing, along with non-residential construction, will be as efficient and effective as ever going forward.

While, currently there are not any new large residential subdivisions coming through the pipeline, previously stalled subdivisions such as Marble Landing (Archer Avenue east of State Street) have been restarted with new homesites beginning construction again in 2024, along with the continued buildout of recently approved subdivisions, including Copper Ridge (near Timberline), Gleneagles, Equestrian Meadows/Villas (near Bell & McCarthy roads) and others. These quality subdivisions add to the community, extending and looping infrastructure and provide additional infrastructure including means for bike paths, parks, open space, and additional amenities. Information on these and other projects can be found on our website at [lemont.il.us/Development-Projects](http://lemont.il.us/Development-Projects).

## New Water Rates and Overall System Improvements

At our last December 2023 Board Meeting, the Village Board approved an updated water and sewer rate structure that will go into place beginning February 1. More information on the new structure and overall rates are available on page 5 of this newsletter and on our website at [lemont.il.us/water-studies](http://lemont.il.us/water-studies). Currently, the Village has the lowest water and sewer rates in the area and has the most generous senior discount of any town in Chicagoland. The new structure is like the existing, retains the senior discount for essential water, and the rates will continue to be below our neighboring communities even after the increases go into effect.

Our water and sewer fund must meet certain minimum financial requirements and other criteria to ensure a sustainable utility system going forward. Significant recent capital expenses to the system (repairs to major facilities, new storage facilities, aggressive water main replacement efforts, etc.) and overall costs that have outpaced annual rate increases, have presented challenges. There will be continued challenges ahead including lead pipe replacement and other obligations. The Village has been studying the rates for the last several months to overcome these challenges and set new rates. We had previously sent out a pamphlet with a drastically changed rate structure and increased rates to meet all the financial and environmental objectives to deal with those challenges. Those rate/structure changes did not go into place as previously communicated. Additional rate analysis, along with detailed household usage analysis, was evaluated to see if a more targeted and mindful approach to dealing with the issue was possible.

After further discussion, the Village Board has approved the new rate structure shown on page 5, that will more closely mirror the existing rate structure – keeping in place the base fee plus volume-based structure for water usage, and leaving the sewer charge flat for residential accounts and the senior discount for essential water. This increase is effective February 1, which allows us to meet most of those financial objectives. It's important to note that after the increase, Lemont's water bills will still be the lowest in the region and will still have the most generous senior discount in place.

To satisfy requirements of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), we have also introduced a graduated conservation tier where the rate will increase to higher levels where consumption goes significantly beyond essential water usage. As we approach the summer months, conservation tips will be sent out to assist residents in conservation and tracking consumption.



## Finance Department

Congratulations to our Finance Department who once again has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fourteenth year in a row. They also received the GFOA Distinguished Budget Award, making it their eighth consecutive year.

Visit the Financial Transparency Center through our “ClearGov” platform on our website which provides a clear and concise financial profile of the Village with info-graphics. The Village is dedicated to making sure that information is easily accessible to the general public to improve accountability – [lemont.il.us/Financial-Transparency](http://lemont.il.us/Financial-Transparency).

Lemont is a very active community no matter what season it is. Be sure to sign up to our “Stay Informed” e-news, to be informed of all the events, activities, and Village information going on, and visit our websites and social media channels often (see page 12). Thanks to our residents, partners, businesses, Village commissions and our local organizations for giving so much back to our community. It takes all of us to work together to make Lemont the best town around. Let’s have a great 2024!

*Mayor John Egofske*



REMEMBER HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO SHOP LOCAL!

## WATER & SEWER RATE STRUCTURE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2024

<b>CURRENT Residential Rates:</b>		<b>Residential Rates Effective February 1, 2024:</b>	
<b>WATER:</b>		<b>WATER:</b>	
Non-Senior Base Fee (\$) for 0 to 4,000 gallons	\$45.57	Non-Senior Base Fee (\$) for 0 to 4,000 gallons	\$50.13
Non-Senior Usage: (\$/1,000 gallons) over 4,000 gallons	\$8.05	Non-Senior Usage:	
		(\$/1,000 gallons) for 4,001 to 18,000 gallons	\$8.85
		(\$/1,000 gallons) for 18,001 to 36,000 gallons	\$12.00
		(\$/1,000 gallons) for over 36,000 gallons	\$16.00
Senior Base Fee (\$) for 0 to 4,000 gallons	\$22.80	Senior Base Fee (\$) for 0 to 4,000 gallons	\$25.06
Senior Usage: (\$/1,000 gallons) over 4,000 gallons	\$4.02	(\$/1,000 gallons) for 4,001 to 18,000 gallons	\$4.43
		(\$/1,000 gallons) for 18,001 to 36,000 gallons	\$12.00
		(\$/1,000 gallons) for over 36,000 gallons	\$16.00
<b>SEWER:</b>		<b>SEWER:</b>	
Non-Senior Sewer (\$)	\$40.00	Non-Senior Sewer (\$)	\$45.00
Senior Sewer (\$)	\$20.00	Senior Sewer (\$)	\$22.50
<b>CURRENT Commercial Rates:</b>		<b>Commercial Rates Effective February 1, 2024:</b>	
Water Base Fee: (\$) for 0 to 4,000 gallons	\$45.57	Water Base Fee: (\$) for 0 to 4,000 gallons	\$52.63
Water Usage: (\$/1,000 gallons) over 4,000 gallons	\$8.05	Water Usage: (\$/1,000 gallons) over 4,000 gallons	\$9.29
Sewer Base Fee: (\$) for 0 to 20,000 gallons	\$40.00	Sewer Base Fee: (\$) for 0 to 25,000 gallons	\$50.00
Sewer Usage: (\$/1,000 gallons) over 20,000 gallons	\$0.25	Sewer Usage: (\$/1,000 gallons) over 25,000 gallons	\$1.25

# NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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**New Building Codes** – The Village of Lemont has adopted new building codes, effective January 1, 2024. New permits will be reviewed using the 2021 International Code Council I-codes and related construction codes, with local amendments. View the full list of codes at [lemont.il.us/Building-Code](http://lemont.il.us/Building-Code).

**Online Permitting** – The Village of Lemont’s Community Development Department has gone paperless! All Contractor licenses, building permits, and Business Licenses are now handled online. Check out our new web-based portal at [lemontil.viewpointcloud.com](http://lemontil.viewpointcloud.com) to learn more.

With our online permitting you’ll get greater transparency, more updates, the ability to track the progress of a permit or application online, and quicker approvals. You can submit an application at any time, on your time. All payments for contractor licenses, building permits, and business licenses have moved online, and both credit card and e-check are accepted for applications. Switching to online-only payments, we are able to reduce administrative costs and accelerate the permitting and licensing process. Approved permits will be emailed directly to the applicant (and any guests that they add to their application) and include a QR code tracker for faster inspections. Business licenses can be printed online after payment.

If you are a contractor that does regular business with Lemont’s Building Department, we encourage you to create a login and register now. Go to [lemontil.viewpointcloud.com](http://lemontil.viewpointcloud.com) and click “Sign Up” to create your OpenGov ID and login.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Last year the Village of Lemont issued **1,300** permits (A record for the most we’ve ever issued in a single year!) and performed **4,527** inspections! Really hummin’ in 2023!

## 2023 COMMUNITY SURVEY

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With Polco’s strict privacy policy, your individual data and votes are never shared with us. You remain anonymous.

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The Village of Lemont is seeking residents’ input for our 2023 Community Survey. The survey is utilized to better serve our residents and provide us with an overview to compare to our past community surveys to ensure our standards are being improved upon and met. Please take the survey through Polco, available now through February 26, at <https://polco.us/n/res/vote/lemont-il/lemont-2023-community-survey>.

If you have not yet signed up visit <https://polco.us/lemont>, and create an account. Select “Create Account” from the left side panel. After creating your account, scroll down to “Lemont 2023 Community Survey” to take the survey. By providing your email, you will receive notifications when future surveys are posted. Polco is committed to a strict privacy policy where they only share aggregated de-identified results. Participant’s individual data and votes are never shared with the Village of Lemont.

## BEST OF LEMONT

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**Best of Lemont 2023**, presented by the Heritage Corridor Business Alliance, is an annual community awards banquet that gives our community a chance to say THANK YOU to all the hard working public servants, teachers who are educating our children, employees who give 100%, storefronts that go the extra mile in customer service and all the amazing residents who volunteer so much of their time and talents to make Lemont such a wonderful community. Congratulations to all the Best of Lemont Award Winners!!

### **The 2023 honorees are:**

- Non-Profit/Community Outreach Leader of the Year: Lemont/ Homer-Glen Rotary
- Lemont Park District Employee of the Year: Pam Carter
- Lemont Public Library District Employee of the Year: Friends of the Library
- Lemont Township Employee of the Year: Suellen Sredin
- Lemont Township Volunteer of the Year: Joe Phillips
- Lemont High School District 210 Educator of the Year: Kathy Young
- Lemont-Bromberek District 113A Educator of the Year: Jarrod Russotto
- Lemont Fire Protection District Firefighter of the Year: Steve Frank
- Lemont Law Enforcement Officer of the Year: Kevin Anderson
- Village of Lemont Employee of the Year: Jason Berry
- Lemont Small Business of the Year: Mosquito Squad



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & FEST  
SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024  
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN LEMONT

## VILLAGE SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY QUEEN

The Village of Lemont is seeking nominations for Queen of the St. Patrick's Day Parade to be held on **Saturday, March 9, 2024** at 1:00 p.m. in historic downtown Lemont. Nomination letters must be submitted online by **February 5, 2024**, via our online form at <https://form.jotform.com/240105116545142>.

This contest is open to Lemont residents, high school juniors through second year college students, preferably of Irish heritage. The candidate must demonstrate an active involvement in school service organizations and/or community service activities. The nominee who is chosen will reign as Queen of our 32nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and lead the parade in a horse drawn carriage (weather permitting). For more information, please visit [lemont.il.us/SPAT-Parade](http://lemont.il.us/SPAT-Parade).

For how to register your group in the parade, please visit [lemont.il.us/SPAT-Parade](http://lemont.il.us/SPAT-Parade).

## DID YOU KNOW? Just a few reminders . . .

### VILLAGE VEHICLE STICKERS FOR 2023–2024

As a reminder, the Village of Lemont's Vehicle Sticker program is valid from **August 1 to July 31**. All residents who have vehicles registered with a Village of Lemont address through the Illinois Secretary of State's Office, regardless of where the vehicle is housed, are required to purchase a Village of Lemont vehicle sticker (Ord 49.19). To avoid receiving ordinance violations for not displaying a current sticker, 2023-2024 vehicle stickers are available for purchase online. The stickers must be affixed to the lower right-hand corner of the passenger side windshield. If you haven't done so, don't delay! Get yours now by visiting the Village website at [lemont.il.us/VehicleStickers](http://lemont.il.us/VehicleStickers).

### AT YOUR DOOR SPECIAL COLLECTION SERVICE

As a reminder, Village of Lemont, through Waste Management, implemented the At Your Door Special Collection service. This service was implemented as a solution to the ever-increasing inquiries from residents about where to dispose of recyclable and hazardous waste items. The At Your Door Service is available to single and multi-family homes that are covered under our current Waste Management agreement.

Through this program, you can schedule a collection of these materials right from your home. Acceptable materials for pickup include:

- Automotive Products (used motor oil, oil filters and batteries)
- Garden Chemicals (pesticides, herbicides, weed killers, etc.)
- Paint Products
- Household Cleaners
- Swimming Pool Chemicals
- Electronics (TV's, computers, monitors and more)
- Household Batteries
- Fluorescent tubes and Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL)
- Thermometers and thermostats

Schedule your pickup in one of these three easy ways:

- Go to [WMATYOURDOOR.COM](http://WMATYOURDOOR.COM)
- Call 1-800-449-7587 (M-F, 7am-7pm CT)
- Email [ATYOURDOOR@WM.COM](mailto:ATYOURDOOR@WM.COM)

We certainly hope all residents will utilize the At Your Door Service to properly dispose of all recyclable material in this safe and proper method, through the At Your Door Special Collection Service.



**NOTE: Waste Management does NOT collect ammunition, explosives, asbestos, tires, or any materials in unlabeled or leaking containers.**

# SEASONAL REMINDERS

## SALTING AND SNOW REMOVAL

The Public Works Department begins ice and snow control measures even before hazardous road conditions are expected. As soon as conditions warrant it, the salting process begins on major streets designated as primary routes, hills, curves, and all intersections. Residential streets that are relatively flat will be salted only at intersections. Salt remains the most cost effective means of breaking the bond between ice and street, especially with Lemont's unique topography.

Plowing commences after snow accumulates to an inch or more. Village roadways are divided into 9 zones for the plowing process with primary routes, including hills and school bus routes, being plowed first. As soon as primary routes are cleared, crews will move on to the secondary routes. After all streets are open, trucks will begin the curbing operation.

The goal of the Public Works Department is to remove snow from all streets within six hours after the conclusion of a significant snowfall. Your cooperation in removing vehicles from the street and observing the odd-even parking regulations will make this job easier and more efficient.

## WINTER PARKING REMINDER

During and after any snowfall, please try to remove vehicles from Village streets if at all possible to facilitate clearing. If removing vehicles is not possible, AFTER a snowfall of 2 inches or more, please park on the ODD-numbered side of the street on odd calendar days, EVEN-numbered side of the street on even calendar days. The day is considered to begin at 9:00 a.m.

## EMERGENCIES DURING A WINTER STORM

If an emergency arises during a winter storm, residents should dial 911. All Public Works plowing vehicles maintain continuous two-way radio communication with the Police Department. Snow removal equipment can provide immediate support to ambulance and fire equipment.

## DAMAGED PROPERTY

The Village replaces mailboxes that have been damaged through direct contact with a snow plow, if the original mailbox was installed in compliance with Village regulations. If your mailbox is struck, a temporary repair will be made so that you can continue to receive mail delivery. When winter ends and the ground thaws, final repairs will be made. If replacement of the mailbox or post is required, a standard metal rural size mailbox and 4 x 4 wooded wolmanized post kit will be utilized. All final mailbox repairs are typically completed by early spring.

## HOW TO REPORT A STREET LIGHT OUTAGE

To report a street light outage, go to our Village website's front page, and click on, "Citizens Support Center." Navigate to Streets & Public Places, Streetlights. Please report the tag number located on the pole. The yellow tag number will start with either a C or V, maintained by ComEd or the Village of Lemont. You may report the ComEd lights to the Village, who will then report the outage to ComEd. Residents can also call Public Works at (630) 257-2532 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Lemont Public Works Dept. works hard to keep our roads safe and clear to travel. Please be kind – Follow the Odd/Even Parking Guidelines for a snowfall of 2 inches or more.



**Don't Take Chances!**





# NEWS FROM THE LEMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT



## VEHICLE SAFETY TIPS

With the winter season upon us, residents need to be even more aware of their surroundings while out and about. Below is some information to assist in situational awareness:

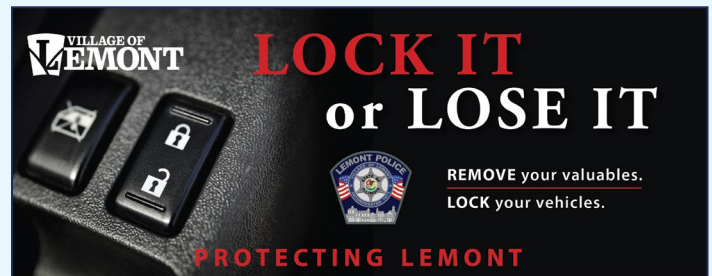
- When stopped in traffic, don't pull too close to the car in front of you. Leave at least a car length so you won't be boxed in and can quickly go around if you need to.
- If you are involved in a minor fender-bender crash and more than one person from the other car gets out, don't get out of your vehicle. Drive to the nearest police station and explain what happened. If it's a legitimate crash, the other party and the police will understand.
- When you are stopped in traffic, stay aware. Do not pick up your phone to talk, text or look at social media. Criminals prey on people who are distracted.
- Minimize the amount of time you spend in a car while parked. Avoid taking time to check the internet before you leave your car to enter a home or store.
- Don't ever leave your car running unattended, and never, ever leave children or pets inside a car unattended.
- If you feel like you are being followed, call 9-1-1 and drive to the nearest police station or flag down a police car.
- When parking your car at a store or in a parking facility, avoid bushes or other blocking objects. Remember this especially if you are parking for a long time that extends into darkness.
- Attach your seat belt only when you are ready to drive away. Those extra seconds can be an advantage if a problem arises.
- Most of all, if you are ever confronted by a carjacker, armed or not, do not resist. Vehicles are recovered a majority of the time.



## LOCK IT OR LOSE IT

We want to again encourage residents to "Lock It or Lose It".

- Please lock vehicles that are parked outside overnight.
- Close the garage door.
- Do not leave keys inside an unattended vehicle.
- If you observe any individuals who you don't recognize from the neighborhood, please contact the police by dialing 9-1-1.



## NO SHAVE NOVEMBER EXTENDED THROUGH FEBRUARY

Lemont residents may notice some less than clean-shaven police officers, as members of the Lemont Police Department are participating in "No Shave November" through the end of February. "No Shave November" is an annual event involving the growing of beards and mustaches during the month of November to raise awareness of various cancers.

Participating officers must make a donation to be allowed to grow facial hair and be excused from the department's strict uniform/appearance guidelines. Female officers and staff can also participate by painting their fingernails, which is also restricted by the guidelines. A portion of all proceeds will be matched by the Lemont Police Benevolent Association. This year, "No Shave November" will be extended through the end of February (donations accepted through February 29, 2024). Proceeds raised through February will benefit Lemont families that are currently battling cancer.

Anyone wishing to donate to this special cause can drop off or send donations to the Lemont Police Department, Attn: Commander Dykshorn, 14600 127th Street, Lemont, IL 60439. Checks can be made out to the Lemont Police Benevolent Association with "No Shave November" in the memo section.



## NEXT TIME YOU INTERACT WITH A LEMONT POLICE OFFICER, YOU WILL BE ON CAMERA

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The Lemont Police Department established their body worn camera program on January 1, 2024. All officers have been issued cameras. A new state law requires each department in Illinois to implement such a program. The cameras will be in use when officers are in uniform and engaged in interactions with the public.

Use of these cameras to document interactions with the public provides valuable evidence in criminal investigations and prosecution. It also fosters trust and transparency within the community. Law enforcement agencies are using body-worn cameras in different ways, including improving evidence collection, strengthening officer performance and accountability, enhancing transparency, and gathering better documentation of encounters between the police and the public to assist in the investigation of complaints. Studies have shown that the presence of a body-worn camera has a positive effect on the behavior of both officers and citizens during encounters.

## DUNKIN' "COP ON A ROOFTOP" BENEFITTING SPECIAL OLYMPICS-ILLINOIS

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The Lemont Police Department would like to express its sincere appreciation for the generosity and support in helping make the annual Dunkin' "Cop on a Rooftop" event a huge success. The generosity of the community members, volunteers and businesses was overwhelming! Due to the combined efforts, we were able to raise over \$10,000 benefitting Special Olympics-Illinois!

2023 marked the 20th Anniversary of the Dunkin' and Illinois Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois partnership. This partnership has been a huge success over the years; in fact, more than \$7.6 million has been raised in Illinois! We will once again be participating and collecting this May. Keep an eye out for our "Cop on a Rooftop"! Your continued generosity and support is greatly appreciated!

## NEWS FROM OUR FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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### LEMONT OFFERS ADDITIONAL OPTIONS TO PAY VILLAGE UTILITY BILLS

Lemont customers now have additional options to pay their monthly Village utility bill after a recent software upgrade has been completed. Customers will still have the same login, account number and user experience after entering the Village's secure online portal, which can be found on the Village's website at [lemont.il.us/Online-Payments](http://lemont.il.us/Online-Payments).

The Village has previously accepted credit cards and eChecks, but customers now have the option to schedule their bill payment in advance, make reoccurring payments with their credit cards and eChecks. Customers can view bills, consumption analysis and account history. Existing bank draft payments will remain in place. However, to switch to recurring credit card payments you must unenroll in bank draft via the Village website form.

The Village's other utility bill payment options, such as the utility bill Dropbox, U.S. Mail or visiting the Finance Department in person during normal business hours, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, remain the same. For more utility billing information, visit the Village's website or call the Finance Department at (630) 257-1550.

## RAIL INITIATIVES

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The Village is in the process of engineering an intersection realignment and rail improvement project at the Main-Illinois-Pruxne area near Turnabout Pizza, and is also designing full rail safety improvements for the Lemont Street and Stephen Street rail crossings. The Village has secured funding from the State for the improvements to these areas once engineering is complete. The Village was also awarded a \$500,000 community project funding selection last year from Congressman Foster's office for railroad improvements, which have yet to be appropriated. Canadian National has also made minor improvements to the intersections of Holmes Street and Main-Illinois-Pruxne streets late last year.

# Winter-Spring Events 2024



## Let the Shenanigans Begin!

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & FEST HISTORIC DOWNTOWN LEMONT

**MARCH 9, 2024  
1 - 5 P.M.**

#### FEATURING:

LEMONT'S OWN IRISH QUEEN AND THE CHICAGO STOCKYARD KILTY BAND

**BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND  
JOIN THE PARADE!**

**FOLLOW US TO THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY FEST  
AFTER THE PARADE FOR ENTERTAINMENT  
AND FAMILY FUN ON WEST MAIN STREET  
AND THE LEMONT VFW HALL!**

**ENTER YOUR GROUP NOW!  
[www.lemont.il.us/SPAT-Parade](http://www.lemont.il.us/SPAT-Parade)**



#### February 9: "Drinkin' With Lincoln" Historic Pub Crawl with the Lemont Quarrymen

Take a walk with the Lemont Quarrymen through Lemont's historic hangouts with a pub crawl. Visit the saloons, taverns and pubs of days gone by to learn their history. Feel free to bring photos or any memorabilia you may have. For more information, call 630-888-5259.

#### March 9: St. Patrick's Day Parade

Village Seeking Nominations for Queen of our 2024 St. Patrick's Day Parade. Deadline: February 5, 2024. See further information on page 7 for complete details on how to submit a nomination for this year's Queen.

#### March 10: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Lemont Park District CORE Indoor Triathlon

Register in advance. Event features a 10-minute swim, 15-minutes on the spin bike and 15-minutes of treadmill running. Total distance traveled for each athlete will be measured at the conclusion of the event. Must register on [Active.com](http://Active.com) by March 1. For further information, visit [lemontparkdistrict.org](http://lemontparkdistrict.org).

#### March 15: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Stories of Lemont: Zine Release Party

Location: The Table Church, 102 Stephen Street. Enjoy a night dedicated to Lemont, its history, and the writers and artists who have celebrated it through the 150th Anniversary Zine, music, complimentary light food and drink, and listen to the writers and artists discuss their inspiration. For more information, visit [lemontdowntown.com](http://lemontdowntown.com).

#### March 23: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Lemont Park District Hippity, Hoppity Bunny Trail

Hop on over to the Centennial Park Trail and go table to table for a treat! Must register in advance. Ages 3-12. For further information and/or to register, visit [lemontparkdistrict.org](http://lemontparkdistrict.org).

#### April 26-28: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Daily Lemont Park District Community Garage Sale

Sign up to be a part of the community garage sale directory and sell your stuff. The Park District will advertise online and on social media. For further information, visit [lemontparkdistrict.org](http://lemontparkdistrict.org).

**QUARRYMAN challenge**  
5k & 10-mile

**SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024  
7:30 AM**

**Challenge Yourself!**  
Early Bird Registration is OPEN at  
[www.GetMeRegistered.com](http://www.GetMeRegistered.com)  
for this unique race through the streets  
of Lemont with the best hills  
in the Chicagoland area!

Disclaimer: Sign up to Stay Informed to receive the most current news and most up-to-date event information sent through our e-news as well as keeping an eye on the Community Calendar at [www.LemontEvents.com](http://www.LemontEvents.com).



**DON'T MISS ...  
ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & FEST  
SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024**

Village of Lemont  
418 Main Street  
Lemont, IL 60439

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## Communication Tools for Residents – Stay Connected On the Go!

- » **STAY INFORMED:** Stay Informed is our electronic messaging system to provide important messages and event information to you via email and/or text message. Sign up today to receive important messages at [lemont.il.us](http://lemont.il.us) from your computer or mobile phone. Select “Stay Informed” at the top right of the website, or the bottom portion of your phone.
- » **CITIZEN SUPPORT CENTER:** Our Citizen Support Center is a non-emergency reporting tool that allows you to submit a concern from a list of items, i.e. pothole reporting, streetlight outage, drainage issues, or other concerns from your computer or mobile phone. Visit our website at [lemont.il.us](http://lemont.il.us) from any device and select the “Citizen Support Center” icon button.
- » **ELECTRONIC EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS:**  
The Village utilizes Federal Signal’s Emergency Notification system, which is the same company we use for our outdoor siren notifications. This system allows our staff to send messages out to subscribers from any location, which is imperative during a higher level of urgency. Messages are received by email and text message to a mobile phone (carrier rates may apply). The signup button is located at the bottom of our website’s homepage at [lemont.il.us](http://lemont.il.us). **Subscribe directly through our website using a computer, as mobile sign up is not available at this time.**
- » **COMMUNITY CALENDAR:**  
Our Community Calendar contains Village Meeting and event dates, as well as event information submitted from organizations and businesses all around town. Visit our website at [lemont.il.us](http://lemont.il.us) from any device and select the “Community Calendar” icon button.
- » **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND LINKEDIN:**  
Be sure to visit us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn as we post topics of interest during the week along with event happenings. It’s a great way to find out what is going on around town. Visit the [LemontDowntown.com](http://LemontDowntown.com) website that’s packed with news, business information and things to do in our historic downtown. Sign up to receive the biweekly Lemont Downtown newsletter on the website.
- » **VILLAGE MEETING INFORMATION:**  
Village Board meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of most months at 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 418 Main Street. Meeting agendas are required to be posted 48 hours prior to any meeting, including those of our Village Commissions. You can find meeting information on our Agendas and Minutes Center webpage at [lemont.il.us/Agenda-Center](http://lemont.il.us/Agenda-Center), listed under “Upcoming Events.” In addition, our Village Board meetings are housed and live streamed on our Village of Lemont YouTube page.
- » **VILLAGE NEWSLETTERS:**  
Village News newsletters are housed on our website at [lemont.il.us/VillageNews](http://lemont.il.us/VillageNews).

For these and other communication information questions, please contact Linda Molitor, Communications Manager – email [lmolitor@lemont.il.us](mailto:lmolitor@lemont.il.us).



**PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES!**

418 Main Street  
Lemont, IL 60439  
[www.lemont.il.us](http://www.lemont.il.us)



(p) 630.257.1550  
(f) 630.257.1598  
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