



The Lakewood Newsletter

From the President

Dear Neighbors,

I am now less two months from completing my second and last term as Village President and I want to thank you again for the privilege of serving. Lakewood is my home town, the place where I grew up, the place my husband Mike and I raised our 4 children and the place where the majority of my extended family still resides. I have always considered it to be a great privilege to live in Lakewood, surrounded by so much beauty and so many kind and generous neighbors.

I have been fortunate to serve for 4 years as Village Trustee and then 8 years as Village President with wonderful Board Members and an outstanding Village Staff. Additionally, I have served as an Officer in the McHenry County Council of Governments (MCCG) and on the Executive Board of the Chicago Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. In these extended roles, I have learned so much from other experienced mayors that has helped our community. I want to express my appreciation to all my colleagues.

Accomplishments

In the 14 years that spanned my Village service, there have been many accomplishments that were directed by the Village Board, but truly accomplished by our amazing Village Staff, including:

- Reduced our tax rate almost every year and now have the lowest municipal tax rate in McHenry County;
- Strengthened our financial position earning a AAA bond rating, the highest possible bond rating and a designation reached by only 2.6% of Illinois municipalities;
- Survived the 2008 economic recession better than other communities, with the Chicago Tribune reporting in the years following that Lakewood property values outperformed other cities.
- Hired several new department directors, including our previous Chief of Police Larry Howell, Redtail Golf Club Manager Chris Neuhart and our current Chief of Police Leigh Rawson;
- Identified the need for a succession plan for Village Manager and hired Shannon Andrews who is now acting as our Interim Village Manager;
- Negotiated a long-term fire service agreement with the City of Crystal Lake that significantly reduced the cost of fire service;
- Brought Lou Malnati's to the community and further developed the Lakewood Commons commercial center to diversify our tax base;
- Established an ordinance to ensure Retail Golf Course remains a golf course or open space in the future;
- Developed an award-winning recycling program and the strictest storm water ordinance in McHenry County;

Spring 2017

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Village Board Meetings

Village Board meetings will be held at:

**RedTail Golf Club
7900 RedTail Dr.**

at 7:00 p.m.
on the 2nd and 4th
Tuesday of each month

Holiday Schedules

Memorial Day
Village Hall Closed
Monday, May 29

Trash, Recycling and
Yardwaste Pickup on
Saturday, June 3

Police and Fire
Departments are on
duty 24 hours a day

Consolidated Election



**Tuesday
April 4, 2017**

www.elections.state.il.us

- Twice reaffirmed Lakewood as a community that prohibits gambling to preserve our property values; this makes Lakewood the only community in McHenry County that prohibits video gaming;
- Annexed over 600 acres of property including the intersection of Routes 47 and 176 before our boundary agreement with surrounding communities expired, adding revenue from 4 successful businesses and significant residential development;
- Established a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District to attract commercial development at Routes 47 and 176;
- Made important investments in infrastructure including:
 - * A new state-of-the-art wastewater treatment facility;
 - * The transition of east side wastewater treatment from Crystal Lake to Lakewood;
 - * Bike lanes on Lake, Lakewood and Huntley Roads;
 - * Phase 1 engineering for utilities at Routes 47 and 176; and
 - * Phase 1 engineering for intersection improvements at Routes 47 and 176.

State of our Community

As I reported in the annual Chamber of Commerce Luncheon in February, the state of our community is very strong. We are financially stable with the lowest municipal tax rate, healthy reserves to survive unexpected events including revenue shortfalls from the state, and a AAA bond rating that allows us to borrow money at the lowest rates when necessary.

Even more exciting is the future outlook for Lakewood, provided that we build upon our strong foundation. Although our current financial state is strong, our costs will continue to escalate and the only way to maintain existing services without tax increases will be to diversify our tax base through commercial development. The intersection at Routes 47 and 176 provides the best opportunity for commercial development without impacting the property values of our homes. Any development at this intersection will meet with protest from surrounding communities who prefer that it remain open space, but if future Boards are truly looking out for the best interests of Lakewood residents, leaders will need to have the courage to move forward. In terms of competing for commercial development, we are at a competitive disadvantage in relation to the larger cities that surround us if we do not use every economic development tool available, including the TIF district we established to compete with the TIF districts that exist in every other community.

Supporting the Transition to New Board Members

I care deeply about future of Lakewood as do other outgoing Board Members and we want to ensure that there is an effective transition to the next Board of Trustees that will be comprised of as many as 5 new Board Members. To this end, we have scheduled two things to support this transition at our second Board Meeting on April 25:

- An informal reception to welcome new Trustees and thank outgoing Board Members in advance of the Board Meeting. The reception will begin at 6:00 pm, followed by our 7:00 Board Meeting.
- A discussion item on the agenda to provide historical context, share key learnings and anticipate the big decisions the next Board will face. We will include newly elected Trustees in this discussion.

I would like to encourage all residents to consider attending the April 25th Board Meeting at Redtail Golf Club to hear what I believe will be a very positive discussion about the future of our community.

In closing, I want to again thank you for placing your trust in me and allowing me to serve as both Trustee and Village President. It has been a lifetime privilege. I also want to remind all of you to vote in the **April 4th election**, which is a very important election for our great city.

Wishing you the very best in life,

Erin Smith

Village President

COMMUNITY NEWS

2017 Road Improvement Project

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) recently awarded the bid for the Village's 2017 Road Improvement Project to Plote Construction, who was planning to begin the week of April 3, 2017.

The project includes the resurfacing of the roadways listed below. In addition, pavement markings will be used to delineate 5' bike lanes and 11' travel lanes along Lake Avenue.

Lake Ave - Huntley Rd to East Village Limits
Pheasant Dr - Bard Rd to Bardwell Lane
Wiltshire Ln - S. Shore Dr. to Broadway Ave.
Warwick Ln - S. Shore Dr. to Lake Ave.
Cumberland Ln - Lake Ave. to Broadway Ave.
Oxford Ln - Lake Ave. to Broadway Ave.
Essex Ln - Lake Ave. to Broadway Ave.

Throughout the project, the roadways will remain open to two-way traffic, by using flaggers to guide traffic through the construction zone. However, there will be short periods of time when access to and from properties located adjacent to the construction site will be limited. The Village, contractor, and/or the Village's engineering consultant will make every effort to provide notice prior to these access restrictions.

For regular status updates throughout the project or for further information, please visit the Construction Projects page of the Village's website, village.lakewood.il.us. Any additional questions or concerns can be directed to Interim Village Manager Shannon Andrews at (815) 459-3025.

Celebrate Lakewood

Sunday, June 11, 2017

Join us on Sunday, June 11, 2017 from noon to 4:00 p.m. to Celebrate Lakewood! This community and family gathering offers an opportunity to have a little fun while getting to know each other and our local and locally owned businesses. In addition, there will be a petting zoo, music, games, moonwalks, face painting, golf lessons, hot dogs, drinks and more!

For more information about the event, or if you have a business you would like to highlight, please contact Village Hall at (815) 459-3025.



Be a Good Neighbor!

The warmer weather tends to bring people out of their homes to enjoy the community and open spaces. The newly improved Pencil Park bike path (between Huntley Road and Country Club Road) has seen a significant increase in use, however residents are asked to please be sure to refrain from littering and properly dispose any animal waste.

Broadway Landscaping Project

The Village is considering a beautification project this summer to improve the landscaping in the median along Broadway Avenue.

If you have an interest in being part of the discussion and/or would like to receive email updates as the Village begins this process, please provide your contact information and email address to Shannon Andrews at sandrews@village.lakewood.il.us.

KOLZE'S CORNER GARDENS
APRIL 22
10AM-2PM

HAPPY EARTH-DAY PARTY

CELEBRATE THE COMMUNITY
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS

HELPING PAWS ANIMAL SHELTER

TURNING POINT
"To confront violence against women & children in McHenry County"

Crystal Lake Food Pantry
We care about it all together.

THE WOODSTOCK FOOD PANTRY

Local Catering & McHenry County

SAMPLE LOCAL FOOD FROM

Porkies

ROSATT'S
Specialty & Home Prep McHenry County

SWISS MAID BAKERY

DQ

Red Mill Tavern

LIVE MUSIC BY "THE POOR FOLKS"

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.kolzescornergardens.com FOR DETAILS!
12717 IL Rt. 176 | WOODSTOCK, IL. | 60098 (815) 338-1475



POLICE NEWS

At Home Entertaining

As we approach Spring, many residents may be planning to entertain at their homes. If planning a gathering such as a wedding or large party, please keep a few things in mind:

- Please plan where people will park. Cars must park as to not impede access of any emergency vehicle such as a fire truck, an ambulance or a police car. Typically, this would mean parking on only one side of the street.
- Also, the Village has a noise ordinance. If loud music, etc. is a part of the party, please note that the permitted time period for any type of amplified sound is between the hours of 7:00 am and 11:00 pm
- Inform your neighbors of the event as a courtesy so they can let you know if they have any issues.

Door to Door Solicitation

Should you have an unlicensed solicitor knock on your door, please take the following action:

1. Tell them you are not interested.
2. After they leave, immediately call the Police Department's non-emergency phone number at (815) 459-2151 and report the activity of illegal door to door solicitation as it is occurring in your neighborhood. Provide the dispatcher with your address and the time that the solicitation occurred. This is the most effective way that the Police Department can identify these individuals.
3. Should you wish to avoid solicitors, we have a supply of "No Solicitors Invited" stickers at Village Hall that residents may pick up at no cost.



Drug Collection Unit

Village Hall
2500 Lake Ave.
Weekdays
8:30 am—4:30 pm



Burglary Prevention Tips

Here are some preventative measures that residents can take to help deter burglaries:

1. Place your home on the Police Department's Vacation House Watch list by calling (815) 459-2151 or visit the website at: village.lakewood.il.us.
2. Install **and activate** any security system you may have. (Change alarm codes regularly, give key codes or alarm codes only to trusted friends or relatives).
3. Install motion sensor lights in rear of home, especially if it backs up to a golf course or other dark areas.
4. Install and use timers on lights, radios and televisions or simply leave them on.
5. Cancel newspapers and mail while gone.
6. If you have expensive valuables (i.e. jewelry or coins) they should be kept in a locked safe or bank safety deposit box.
7. Talk to trusted neighbors and have them watch and check your home while you are out of town.
8. Use caution when notifying your cleaning and landscaping providers that you will be out of town.
9. Don't advertise vacations or trips on social media.

Should you return home and discover you have been burglarized, please do not touch anything. Leave the residence and call the police immediately.

Also, as Spring is upon us, please make sure that you lock the vehicles that are left in your driveway or on the street. **Do not** leave anything of value in your vehicles as this will help reduce thefts from vehicles.

Please remember if you see anything that doesn't seem right, call the Police Department when it is occurring; including suspicious vehicles and persons in your neighborhood. We cannot be everywhere and we need your eyes and ears to keep Lakewood the safe community that it has always been.

Medication Disposal Unit

The Village of Lakewood, in partnership with CVS/ pharmacy and the Partnership TM for Drug-Free Kids provides a Drug Collection Unit to safely dispose of expired and unwanted prescription drugs and prevent them from becoming a source for drug abuse.

Our Drug Collection Unit is located in the lobby of Village Hall and is available for drug drop-off between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

CRYSTAL LAKE FIRE RESCUE



Test Your Smoke Alarms

It's that time again! Time to change your batteries in your smoke alarms. Did you know that if a fire starts in your home **you may have as little as two minutes to escape?** During a fire, early warning from a working smoke alarm plus a fire escape plan that has been practiced regularly can save lives.

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.
- Test smoke alarms every month.

- Create a fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.
- If a fire occurs in your home, **GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL FOR HELP**. Never go back inside for anything or anyone.

If a Fire Starts:

- Remember to GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL 9-1-1.
- Yell "Fire!" several times and go outside right away. If you live in a building with elevators, use the stairs.

- If closed doors or handles are warm or smoke blocks your escape route, use your second way out. Never open doors that are warm to the touch.
- If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit. Close doors behind you.
- If smoke, heat or flames block your exit routes, stay in the room with doors closed. Place a towel under the door and call 9-1-1. Open a window and wave a brightly colored cloth or flashlight to signal for help.

Severe Weather

Illinois experiences diverse weather patterns throughout the year but summer storms can be severe. Summer storms can develop quickly and can occur with little or no warning. Start preparing for summer's weather in the spring by building your Emergency Kit and making a family communications plan.

An Emergency Kit Should Include:

- Water—one gallon per person, per day
- Food—non-perishable, easy-to-prepare
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Medications (7-day supply) and medical items
- Sanitation & personal hygiene items
- Cell phone with chargers
- Family & emergency contact information
- Extra cash



Your family may not be together during an emergency. Consider the following when making a family communications plan:

- **Know how to receive emergency alerts and warnings.** Check with your local emergency management agency to see what is available in your area.
- **Discuss family plans for emergencies that affect your area and plan where to go.**

- **Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family that includes:**
 - * phone (work, cell, office)
 - * email
 - * medical facilities, doctors, service providers
 - * school
- **Pick an emergency meeting place.**
 - * Decide on a place where your family can go for protection or to reunite.
 - * Make sure these locations are accessible for household members with disabilities.
 - * If you have pets or service animals, think about animal-friendly locations.
- **Examples of meeting places:**
 - * **In your neighborhood:** A mailbox at the end of the driveway, or a neighbor's house.
 - * **Outside of your neighborhood:** library, community center, place of worship, or family friend's home.
 - * **Outside of your town or city:** home of a relative or family friend. Make sure everyone knows the address of the meeting place and discuss ways you would get there.
- **Share information.** Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. Post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator.
- **Practice your plan.** Have regular household meetings to review your emergency plans, communication plans and meeting place, and then practice.

*Information provided by the American Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).



NEWS FROM REDTAIL GOLF CLUB

2016 Junior Golf “Kick-off” Event Sunday, April 30th, 3:00—5:00 pm

Juniors between the ages of 5 to 17 years, their parents and family members are invited to come out to RedTail Golf Club for a fun event which will “kick-off” the 2017 Junior Golf Programs.

Juniors will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of golf games. There is NO COST to attend this event. We encourage the whole family to attend and learn what lesson programs are being offered for the 2017 Season.

2017 Player Development Program

The player development program is great for golfers who are just getting in to the game, and players who have time to get out on the course later in the day. The card is \$20 for a family and \$10 for an individual. The program rules are \$1.75 per hole if you start after 5:30 pm and \$1.25 per hole if you start after 6:30 pm. Just tell us at check-in how many holes you would like to play and go have fun.

RedTail Lesson News

With spring upon us, brings the official start of the 2017 Golf Season. Getting a “jump start” to the season can be a key component to consistent play. At RedTail, we offer several lesson options to players of all different abilities and interest. Check out the spring programs below and take advantage of the opportunity to give your game the boost it deserves to play your best golf this season! For additional lesson information, including private instruction and registration forms, please visit the UPDATED RedTail Golf Club website at www.redtailgolf.com.

RedTail Lesson News

EVENT	AGES	DAY	TIMES	DATES
Jr. Academy	7-14 Years Old	Mondays	4:30—5:30 pm (10-14 yrs) 6:00—7:00 pm (7-9 yrs)	April 10, 17, 24 May 1, 8, 15 & 22
Jr. Flex Clinics	5-14 Years Old	Thursdays	5:00—5:45 pm 6:00—6:45 pm	April 13, 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18 & 25
		Sundays	3:00—3:45 pm 4:00—4:45 pm	April 23 & 30 May 7 & 21
Womens Clinics	18+	Tuesdays	9:00 —10:00 am (Level 2) 10:30—11:30 am (Level 1)	April 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16 & 23
Adult Flex Clinics	18+	Tuesdays	6:30—7:30 pm	April 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
			Class Pass Options: 1, 3, 5 or 7 classes	

New Membership Options

Plus One Membership \$3,200

The Plus One Membership allows the membership holder free green fees with cart for themselves and any one guest seven days per week anytime. This membership is great for the avid golfer who enjoys playing golf with many different players all season long. The cost of the Plus One Membership is \$3,200.

Pre Twilight Membership \$99

The cost of the Pre Twilight Membership is \$99 for the 2017 season. This membership offers \$14 green fees with cart for the membership holder seven days per week between the hours of 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm.

**Please call RedTail Golf Club at
(815) 477-0055 or visit
www.redtailgolf.com for more
information about these
programs**

SPRING CLEAN UP

Weekly Yardwaste Pick-Up

MDC Environmental Services will resume weekly yardwaste pick-up beginning **Friday, April 7 through December 1.**

Your free allotment includes any combination of up to four brown kraft paper bags and/or small bundles of brush. **Each item over the free allotment must have a MDC Environmental Services sticker attached. Stickers are \$2.00 each and can be purchased at Village Hall.**

Yardwaste Bags

- Leaves and grass cuttings - **NO DIRT, SOD, ROCKS OR STONES.**
- Branches under 2 feet and rakings get bagged.
- Maximum 50 pounds in weight.
- No plastic bags – only brown kraft paper bags.

Bundled Brush

- Maximum size bundles: 4 feet x 2 feet and no more than 50 pounds.
- No individual branches over 3" in diameter.
- Brush must be neatly bundled and tied with biodegradable rope or twine.
- Anything over the free allotment must have a MDC Environmental Services sticker attached.

Unlimited Leaf Pick-Up

Unlimited leaf pick-up will occur on all Fridays in April. An unlimited number of leaves and/or yardwaste can be left for pickup *in brown kraft paper bags* per our contract with MDC Environmental Services.

Note: Leaves and unbundled brush should be kept apart since MDC Environmental Services picks up the paper bags and the Village picks up unbundled brush.



Building Projects

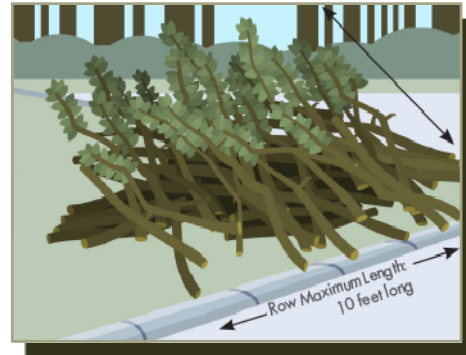
Finishing your basement? Building a deck? Planning a home improvement project? If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, then you need a permit. Working without a permit is illegal, can jeopardize the safety of your family, and may create serious problems when trying to sell your home or in some insurance situations when you are asked to show proof of inspection that the work was completed pursuant to Village Code.

For more information, call the Building Department at (815) 459-4671, or visit village.lakewood.il.us.

Unbundled Brush Pick-Up

The Village of Lakewood's spring unbundled brush pick-up program will take place on **April 10 and April 24.** Your brush must be at the curb by 7:00 am on the first day of the collection, as the Public Works crews will only make one pass on each street. It may take a number of days to complete the collection throughout the community.

These are the only days the Village will collect unbundled brush until the Fall.



Brush Pick-up Requirements:

- Place next to street by **7:00 a.m. on April 10 and April 24 only.**
- Trunk diameter of brush not to exceed 6 inches.
- Brush must be **10 feet or less** in length. **Nothing smaller than 2 feet and no rakings.**
- Material should be stacked neatly off the edge of the street with all the trunks facing the street. Lay branches parallel to each other.
- **DO NOT** bundle with string or wire.
- Brush **piled in a tangled mess** will **not** be picked up.
- No logs, root balls, or dirt clumps will be picked up.
- No rakings or bagged landscape waste picked up.
- Brush in containers will not be picked up.
- The crew will make one pass on each street starting on April 10 and April 24. Please do not call to request special pick-ups.

Tree Removal Permit Required

As a reminder, the removal of any tree taller than 20 feet or larger than 6 inches in diameter as measured 12 inches above the ground requires that a homeowner complete and submit a Tree Removal Permit request form to Village Hall. There is no fee for a tree removal permit. Any resident not following this procedure is subject to a fine.

Tree Removal Permit Applications are available on our website at: village.lakewood.il.us or can be obtained at Village Hall.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

4/9 11:30 am

5TH ANNUAL EASTER
EGG HUNT

FREE / PRIZES / AGES 2-12

www.CrosspointLakewood.org




Spring Best Management Practices

If lawn care and home improvement projects are done properly, your normal routines and maintenance can actually improve the quality of McHenry County waterways by minimizing pollutants in stormwater runoff.

Natural Lawn Care

Natural lawn care practices can begin in the spring with an inexpensive soil test to determine what—if any—nutrients your lawn needs. In addition, spring is the time to get in the habit of allowing your grass to grow 3 inches before mowing. This improves its health by allowing roots to grow longer, also helping to remove pollutants from runoff.

Green Infrastructure

Spring is also an excellent time to begin thinking about growing gardens, specifically rain gardens with deep-rooted native plants to filter pollutants from stormwater runoff. Rainwater harvesting is also a popular technique to capture and store stormwater for later use, such as lawn irrigation. This can be accomplished with a simple rain barrel or an intricate underground system.



VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD

2500 Lake Avenue
Village of Lakewood, IL 60014
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM—Mon -Fri
(815) 459-3025
info@village.lakewood.il.us

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Erin Smith - (815) 356-8005

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

J. Carl Davis - (815) 459-2685
Gene Furey - (708) 373-0606
Jeff Iden - (815) 356-6070
Paul Serwatka—(312) 388-8000
Bev Thomas—(815) 455-3321
Jason McMahon—(815) 788-5282

INTERIM VILLAGE MANAGER

Shannon Andrews—(815) 459-3025

VILLAGE CLERK

Janice S. Hansen - (815) 459-3025

TREASURER

George Roach - (815) 459-3025

FIRE CHIEF

Paul DeRaedt—(815) 356-3632

POLICE CHIEF

Leigh Rawson - (815) 459-2151

REDTAIL GENERAL MANAGER

Chris Neuhart - (815) 477-0055

Outdoor Projects? Call JULIE!

You can prevent injury and avoid damage by following these important steps:

1. Call before you dig 1-800-892-0123
2. Wait the required two working days after you call
3. Respect the marks and dig with care

Spring Hydrant Flushing

Hydrant flushing on the Village's west side will begin May 15 and continue throughout the month to ensure that hydrants work properly. The flushing of hydrants is also necessary to clean the Village's water distribution system.



Watch for hydrant flushing signs to be posted on your street. You may notice an hour or two of reduced water pressure and discolored water while work is being done in your neighborhood. We suggest not doing laundry during hydrant flushing since the discolored water could possibly stain clothes.

Wood Chips Available

Wood chips will be available on a first come, first served basis at the following locations:

- 6650 Haligus Road – South of our Sewer Treatment Plant. (Note: There is limited access during wet conditions.)
- 8211 Lakewood Road – RedTail Golf Course Maintenance Barn.
- 8810 Bard Road - There is a Village of Lakewood entryway sign at this location and it is all asphalt access.

Summer Employment

Want to earn some money over summer break? The Public Works Department is soliciting applications for several summer maintenance worker positions. Visit: village.lakewood.il.us for details.