

Village of Park Ridge

Village Hall (Fire Dept. & Meeting Room): 24 Crestwood Drive

Village Clerk/Treasurer's Office: 24 Crestwood Drive, 715-343-1590

villageofparkridge@gmail.com

www.park-ridge.us

A LETTER FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Dear Park Ridge Residents:

It was great meeting and reconnecting with so many residents at our ice cream social two weeks ago. A big thank you to Joan Dorschner, Jean Probst and everyone else that worked to make it happen.

As I write this I see all of the heroic measures by people in the storms of Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma. It reminds me of our own storm back in June and watching residents of Park Ridge embody our motto of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors". There are so many people to thank for helping during and after the storm. The list is too long to mention everyone but I would be remiss if I didn't mention the DNR teams, Portage County Emergency Management, members of our own Fire Department who worked late that night and the following days, the AmeriCorps volunteers and our own Trustees. While it was a tough week for Park Ridge, I couldn't have been prouder of how neighbors came together to help one another. We have a special charm here in the Village and it starts with our wonderful residents.

Moving forward, it is budget season for the Village Board. We will soon be in the midst of planning our budget for the 2018 year. When I talk to residents the number one complaint I get is about our roads. We do not have the funds necessary to mill and repave without borrowing – which is something we have never done. I am considering recommending that the Board borrow money to begin the process of repaving our streets by milling and paving one road next year. If the Village borrowed \$100,000 over 10 years - which would be enough to get one street done– taxes would go up approximately \$25.00 per year on a \$100,000 home. We would need to do that every year until they are complete.

I would like to hear your opinions on this topic and invite you to call me or any of the Village Trustees to express your opinion. My home phone number is 715-342-6986.

Many Park Ridge residents may know that we have not chip sealed for the past two years. While the chip sealing was holding the overall road bed together, the standing water on the roads was causing the road bed to deteriorate from the edges.

– continued on page three



DATES TO REMEMBER

September 21

Large item pick-up (see p. 2)

October 7th

Fire Dept. 5k fun run (see p.3)

November 1

Deadline for moving recreational vehicles (see p. 2)

Fall is the time for raking leaves and yard clean-up.

While Village Ordinances allow for burning of leaves and other yard waste we do not encourage it.

Please see the burning regulations on p. 2 for information on burning and disposing of yard materials. Please consider composting and mulching your yard materials. The City yard waste site is open for you Tuesday & Thursday 1-7, Saturday 9 -4 p.m.

School started September 5.

The Village crossing guard is on duty 30 minutes before and after school at the Sunset/66 intersection. Please slow down when you see the yellow school crossing signs –

Fall Leaf Composting & Mulching Recommended

Fall is almost here and we'll soon be raking leaves! The Portage County Solid Waste Department discourages people from burning leaves because it pollutes the air, causing potential health hazards for the elderly, very young, and people with asthma. Composting and mulching are healthy alternatives. If you decide to burn leaves, the leaves MUST BE COMPLETELY DRY.

Park Ridge Burning Regulations:

AUTHORITY OF FIRE DEPARTMENT: Per Village Ordinance, the Fire Chief, Fire Inspector, any appointed Fire Officer, or Law Enforcement officer may order and/or cause to be extinguished any fire that may, in their singular opinion, be threatening the safety of persons or property in the Village. Non-compliance to regulations or order of Fire Department official may result in citation.

BURNING HOURS: 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

SIZE OF PILES: Piles larger than 4'x4'x3' are prohibited.

FIRE LOCATION: No burning shall take place in any street right-of-way. Approved burning shall take place 30' or more from any structure, flammable liquid, or other material which constitutes a potential fire hazard.

WIND REGULATIONS: No burning shall take place when the wind velocity exceeds 9 M.P.H. as indicated by a credible source or during periods when either the Village Fire Chief or the Department of Natural Resources has issued a burning ban.

FIRE PREVENTION: ALL fires must be attended at all times, by a responsible person equipped with either an operable garden hose or fire extinguisher. ALL FIRES MUST BE extinguished before such person leaves the site. Fully extinguished means no heat can be felt emitting from the remains of the fire.

Fire Pit / Camp Fire Regulations

MATERIALS FOR BURNING: Only clean wood (i.e. sawn wood) may be burned. Yard waste and construction materials are not part of this section.

BURNING HOURS: NOON to MIDNIGHT

SIZE & LOCATION: Fire pits (i.e. camp fires) not more than thirty-six (36") in diameter, shall be located a minimum of twenty (20') feet from any structure and/or fifteen (15') feet from any lot line (i.e. distance from edge of fire pit to either lot line and/or structure).

WIND REGULATIONS: No burning shall take place when the wind velocity exceeds 9 M.P.H. as indicated by a credible source or during periods when either the Village Fire Chief or the Department of Natural Resources has issued a burning ban.

FIRE PREVENTION: All fire pits (i.e. camp fires) shall be encircled with non-flammable material (i.e. bricks, stone, metal, etc.). All fires must be attended at all times, by a responsible person equipped with either an operable garden hose or fire extinguisher. All fires must be extinguished by MIDNIGHT or when left unattended. This means no heat can be felt emitting from the fire area.

FALL 'LARGE ITEM PICK-UP' DAY SEPTEMBER 21

This is the time for you to clean out the basement and garage, and dispose of those **non-recyclable** items such as furniture, carpeting, mattresses, box springs, etc. **All items to be picked up must be placed at the end of the driveway or street-side by 8 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 21nd.**

No appliances, building/demolition materials, electronics, tires or toxic materials (paint thinners, pesticides, fertilizers, insecticides, etc.) will be picked up. There will be only one "run" by Harter's through the Village, so items put out later in the day will not be picked up. Don't miss it – this opportunity to dispose of non-recyclable items which would normally require a special pick-up is offered only once/year!!

Let the Village Clerk know if you would like newsletters emailed to you. Help us save on printing and postage costs!

BUILDING PERMITS

Jim Zepp, Building Inspector –

jzepp55@charter.net

715-310-3157 (after 4 pm)

REMINDERS

Recreational Vehicles:

Residents with recreational vehicles (including boats, canoes, boat and utility trailers, motor homes, campers, personal water vehicles and kayaks) are reminded that these vehicles are not to be stored on any street right-of-way, or within the front setback including the driveway, or in a side yard if the side yard borders a street, from November 1 through March 31. [Ordinance 10.06, 'Junk, Certain Vehicles and Firewood'].

Displaying House Numbers –

Per Village Ordinance 11.14, house numbers not less than three inches high should be placed on the front of your home – so responding units will be able to find your home in the event of a 911 emergency.

Leash Law Applies to Cats, Too –

Per Village and County ordinances, dogs and cats must be on a leash anytime they are off the owner's property. There have been numerous complaints of cats roaming the Village, stalking birds at feeders, causing issues with indoor pets observing them, etc. **Keep your cats at home.** Call the Humane Society at 715-344-6012 to pick up stray cats and dogs.

Continuation of President's Letter from page one - That is why we have been working to remove the water by creating swales on the sides of the roads. This is the most cost-effective way we can protect the road beds from further deterioration. We are also doing asphalt patches where necessary to increase the longevity of each road. That may be more than you wanted to know about roads but you should know your Board of Trustees are doing the best possible job with the tax funds that we have. Construction of the swales should be fully underway by the time this newsletter is out!

Also, your Board of Trustees voted to hold an advisory referendum in February on the issue of Fire Protection. While the wording of that non-binding referendum hasn't been decided yet, the Board agreed that we need to hear directly from all our residents about how you feel about this critical public safety issue. The issue is distilled to whether to invest to maintain our volunteer Fire Dept. or begin to contract with the City of Stevens Point, like we do for sewer treatment.

Lastly, a group of our residents have expressed interest in forming a new organization similar to the old Park Ridge Garden Club. Their goal would be to beautify the village and organize Village events. I am excited about this effort. and hope that they can raise enough money to pay for new banners for our light poles. There has been some discussion about selling Crabapple trees once again, like the old Park Ridge Garden Club did about 50 years ago. You may have noticed that many of those Crabapple trees have died. That's a tradition I would like to see started again. If you have an interest in joining this group of residents, please contact me or Jeannie Tauchman at 715-344-8084.

It is a real honor and pleasure to serve as your Village President
Trish Baker ++++++

From your Fire Chief –

October 7 is our 5K walk/run and out Kid's Fitness event. 5K starts at 9:00, costs \$25 and benefits the Fire Department; The Kid's fitness challenge will run from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is free.

Effective October 1, 2017 the Village of Park Ridge's Insurance Services Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification (PPC) becomes a rating of 4. This is an improvement from the previous rating of a 5 (the lower the better).

Per a letter received from ISO, "ISO is the leading supplier of data and analytics for the property/casualty insurance industry. Most insurers use PPC classifications for underwriting and calculating premiums for residential, commercial and industrial properties." Residents are encouraged to contact your property insurance company and inquire about saving costs. This is great news for the village, coming on the heels of the January audit by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Safety and Professional Services which found the fire department to be in "substantial compliance" to all requirements

Chief Brian Lepper

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!
**Portage County Transfer Facility &
Recycling Site**

Located at 650 Moore Road, east of I-39 off of County Hwy B in Plover. Turn north onto Apache Drive. Stop at the scale speaker and the attendant will direct you from there. When done, weigh out and go to the scale office in the MRF (Material Recovery Facility) to make payment. Open Mon-Fri 7:30 am – 3:30 pm and Sat 7:30 am – 11:00 am. Arrive at least 30 minutes prior to closing. Fees vary and some restrictions apply, so call 715-343-6297 for more information or go to www.co.portage.wi.us and click on 'County Departments', 'Solid Waste'.



E-cycling: Wisconsin banned the landfilling/incineration of computers, laptops, printers, TVs, fax machines, DVD players, VCRs, phones with video displays, etc. For more information: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ecycle>.

CFLs – Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs contain small amounts of mercury that require special handling. You may bring CFLs to the MRF for recycling.

SEWERS

The City of Stevens Point maintains our sewer mains. If you experience a sewer back-up, it is not the liability of the Village or the City. Call 715-345-5260 at the first sign of trouble. If the problem is in your sewer lateral, you may have to hire a private contractor to clean it out. If the problem is in the sewer main, the City will remedy the situation as soon as possible. We encourage you to find out how much insurance coverage you have, if any, for sewer back-ups (sometimes referred to as "back-up of sewer and drains" coverage).

Village of Park Ridge

Lynnette Woyak, Clerk/Treasurer
24 Crestwood Dr.
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Board and Staff

President: Trish Baker
Trustees: Gordon Renfert
Randy Busch
Steve Bergin
Jim Sachs
Clerk/Treasurer: Kathy Bemowski
Fire Chief: Brian Lepper
Building
Inspector: Jim Zepp
Zoning
Administrator: J.D. Manville
Maintenance: John Kraft
Diggers Hotline: Mike Probst
Crossing Guard: Lois Miller

Village Hall 715-343-1590

The next Village newsletter will be out after Thanksgiving.

Here are some 'snow' reminders:

Snow Sticks – While snow sticks can help guide snowplows when the first snows fall, they should be placed one foot from the pavement. The Village and snowplow operator will not be held liable for any broken snow sticks.

Parking – When three or more inches of snow are predicted, please do not park on the street.

Sidewalks – If you have a sidewalk on your property, Village ordinances **require snow and ice removal within 24 hours** after the snow stops falling. Please think of the pedestrians, bicyclists and disabled persons who rely on our sidewalks year-round – don't allow ice to build up or snow to become packed on the sidewalk surface.