



Alternate Side Parking: Are You Ready for Snow?

Alternate-side street parking during heavy snow allows Skokie's Public Works Department to efficiently plow Village streets. The mandatory program is designed to provide the ability to plow the streets from curb-to-curb within a two-day period.

Residents should call 847/675-SNOW (7669), visit www.skokie.org or tune to 1660 AM, Skokie's advisory radio station, to confirm that the program is in effect and

for program updates. There is a \$50 fine for vehicles parked on the wrong side of the street when the Village's alternate side parking program is in effect.

Frequently Asked Questions

• On what side of the street do I park?

On odd-numbered dates, residents park vehicles on the odd-numbered side of the street. On even-numbered

dates, residents park vehicles on the even-numbered side of the street. Odd and even dates are determined by the date on the calendar. Odd and even sides of the streets are determined by house addresses.

• When is alternate-side parking in effect?

The alternate-side parking plan is in effect between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. after any snowfall of two inches or more. An alert siren sounds to signal the start of alternate-side park-

ing at 7 a.m. each day the plan is in effect. Cable television subscribers are alerted through the Village emergency over-ride system at 6 a.m., 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Additional information can be found on the SkokieVision cable station, 1660 AM, www.skokie.org or by contacting 847/675-SNOW (7669) for a recorded status report.

• How many days does alternate-side parking last?

The program generally is in effect for at least two days. To find out if it is extended, call 847/675-SNOW (7669).

• What should I do with my vehicle(s) while on vacation or at work?

Residents who do not have off-street parking facilities must make arrangements to have vehicles moved when the program is in effect.

• May I park on either side of the street once the street is plowed?

No, even after the street is plowed, your vehicle must remain parked on the designated side of the street until 6 p.m. This allows Public Works to plow a second time if necessary. At 6 p.m., an alert siren will sound notifying residents that vehicles may be parked on either side of the street.

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Property Tax Freeze Continues

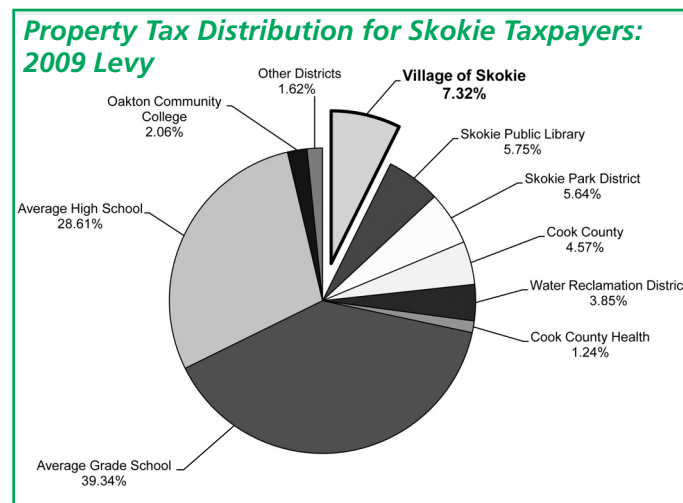
2009 Levy Identical to 1990 Levy

When property tax bills arrive, it is often a confusing task to determine where your property tax dollars go. The Village's tax levy of \$15.4 million is the same as it was in 1990 due to the self-imposed property tax freeze. Over the 19 years of the self-imposed property tax freeze, Skokie's percent of an average taxpayer's property tax bill has decreased from 15.2% in 1990 to 7.3% in 2009.

A common misconception is that the Village of Skokie collects all of the property tax payments. In actuality, Cook County issues property tax bills and collects all property tax payments. The county then distributes the collected property taxes to each of the taxing districts listed on your property tax bill.

These taxing districts include grade school districts, high school districts, the Village of Skokie, Cook County, the Skokie Public Library, the Skokie Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, Niles Township, Oakton Community College and other taxing districts.

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2011 Refuse and Recycling Schedule

The Village of Skokie has a comprehensive refuse and recycling division. Crews are projected to collect close to 19,000 tons of garbage this coming year and more than 7,000 tons of solid waste is expected to be diverted from landfills as a result of the Village's weekly recycling collection program.

For more refuse and recycling collection information please visit www.skokie.org.

Refuse Collection

- **If you live on the north side of Greenleaf Street or north of Greenleaf Street, refuse is collected on Monday and Thursday.**
- **If you live on the south side of Greenleaf Street or south of Greenleaf Street, refuse is collected on Tuesday and Friday.**

2011 Holiday Refuse Collection Schedule:

Friday, December 31, 2010 (New Year's Day observed): Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday, Friday collection on Thursday.

Monday, January 17, 2011 (Martin Luther King Day): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, February 21, 2011 (President's Day): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, May 30, 2011 (Memorial Day): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, July 4, 2011 (Independence Day): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, September 5, 2011 (Labor Day): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25, 2011 (Thanksgiving holiday): Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, attempt to complete Thursday and Friday collections on Wednesday.

Monday, December 26, 2011 (Christmas Day observed): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Recycling Collection

- **MONDAY**
Residents living east of Kostner Avenue and north of Greenleaf Street have recycling collection every Monday.
- **TUESDAY**
Residents living east of Kostner Avenue and south of Greenleaf Street have recycling collection every Tuesday.
- **THURSDAY**
Residents living west of Kostner Avenue and north of Greenleaf Street have recycling collection every Thursday.
- **FRIDAY**
Residents living west of Kostner Avenue and south of Greenleaf Street have recycling collection every Friday.

In curbside collection areas, set out recycling containers by 7 a.m. on the day of pickup, but not before 6 p.m. on the night before collection.

2011 Holiday Recycling Collection Schedule

Friday, December 31, 2010 (New Year's Day observed): Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

Monday, January 17, 2011 (Martin Luther King Day): Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

Monday, February 21, 2011 (President's Day): Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

Monday, May 30, 2011 (Memorial Day): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, July 4, 2011 (Independence Day): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

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Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25, 2011 (Thanksgiving holiday): Monday, Tuesday and Friday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday.

Monday, December 26, 2011 (Christmas Day observed): Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

2010 in Review... Commission on Family Services

The Village's Human Services Division and the new Commission on Family Services initiated their first project to benefit the Niles Township Food Pantry. In summer 2010, through the Commu-

nity Garden Initiative, over 2,000 pounds of produce was donated to the food pantry by community gardeners and farmers at the Skokie Farmers' Market. 

Alternate Side Parking Program

Continued from page one

• Where is a vehicle towed if in violation?

If your vehicle has been towed due to a violation of the Village's snow ordinance, contact the Police Department at 847/982-5900.

• Are there streets that are exempt from snow parking provisions?

Yes, the following blocks are exempt on Saturdays, Sundays, New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day:

Birchwood Avenue: 4600 block

Bronx Avenue: 8800, 8900, 9000 and 9100 blocks

Carol Street: 4800, 4900, 5000 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Central Park Avenue: 8000 and 8100 blocks

Cleveland Street: 3300, 3400, 4600 and 4700 blocks

Conrad Street: 4800 and 4900 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Crain Street: 4800, 4900 and 5000 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Davis Street: 4600, 4700, 4800, 4900, 5000 and 5100 blocks

Dobson Street: 4700 block

Elm Street: 4800 block

Enfield Avenue: 4800, 4900, 5000 and 5100 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Greenleaf Avenue: 4800 block

Greenwood Avenue: 4800, 4900, 5000 and 5100 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Grove Street: 4700, 4800, 4900, 5000 and 5100 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Hull Street: 4800 and 4900 blocks

Jarvis Street: 3800 and 3900 blocks

Karlov Avenue: 7900 block

Keating Avenue: 8000, 8100, 8200, 8300, 9000, 9100 and 9200 blocks

Kedvale Avenue: 7900 block

Keeney Avenue: 4600 and 4700 blocks

Kilpatrick Avenue: 8000, 8100, 8200, 8300, 9000, 9100 and 9200 blocks

Kimball Avenue: 8300 block

Kirk Street: 4800 and 4900 blocks

Knox Avenue: 7600, 8000, 8100, 8200 and 8300 blocks

LaCrosse Avenue: 7900, 8800, 8900, 9000 and 9100 blocks

Lamon Avenue: 7800, 7900, 8800, 8900, 9000 and 9100 blocks

Lavergne Avenue: 8800, 8900, 9000, 9100, 9200, 9300, 9400 and 9500 blocks

Lawler Avenue: 9100, 9200, 9300, 9400 and 9500 blocks

Lee Street: 4800 block

Long Avenue: 7800, 7900, 8000, 8100 and 8200 blocks

Louise Street: 4800 and 4900 blocks

Madison Street: 4600 and 4700 blocks

Monticello Avenue: 8000 and 8100 blocks

Mulford Street: 4800, 4900, 5400 and 5500 blocks

Niles Avenue: 7750, 7800 and 7900 blocks

Ridgeway Avenue: 8000 and 8100 blocks

St. Louis Avenue: 8300, 8600 and 8700 blocks

Suffield Terrace: 5000 block

Trumbull Avenue: 8600 and 8700 blocks

Washington Street: 4600 and 4700 blocks

Wright Terrace: 4800 block

• Are state and county roadways exempt from snow parking provisions?

Yes, the following roads are exempt from the program: Crawford Ave. (Jarvis Ave. to Old Orchard Rd.), Church St. (Gross Point Rd. to McCormick Blvd.), Church St. (Linder Ave. to Gross

Point Rd.), Gross Point Rd. (Church St. to Old Orchard Rd.), Golf Rd. (McCormick Blvd. to Harms Rd.), Gross Point Rd. (Lincoln Ave. to Howard St.), Lincoln Ave. (Linder Ave. to Jarvis Ave.), McCormick Blvd. (Touhy Ave. to Golf Rd.), Niles Center Rd. (Pratt Ave. to Brown St. and Main to Church), Oakton St. (Skokie Blvd. to McCormick Blvd.), Old Orchard Rd. (Harms Rd. to Crawford Ave.), Skokie Blvd. (Jarvis Ave. to Old Orchard Rd.) and Touhy Ave. (east to west limits).

Refuse Carts and Fire Hydrants

Refuse collectors have a difficult time emptying refuse and recycling carts that are buried by drifts or piles of snow. Residents are responsible for ensuring that refuse containers are accessible. Please clear a path for the crews so that your recycling and refuse can be picked up as scheduled.

In addition, snow plowing operations may cover your fire hydrant. Please assign someone in your household the responsibility of keeping fire hydrants on or near your property clear of snow for easy access. Snow piled on top of fire hydrants slows fire response time. In the event of a fire emergency every second counts!

For more information please visit www.skokie.org.

2010 in Review... CTA Yellow Line Oakton Street Station

Construction began in fall 2010 on the CTA Yellow Line Oakton Street Station in Downtown Skokie. Construction of the "Kiss 'n Ride" facility is expected to be complete in late fall 2011, and the Chicago Transit Authority estimates some 1,200 boardings will occur at the stop each day.

The station will cost approximately \$20 million to construct, with the Village of Skokie funding \$6 million and an additional \$14 million coming from federal funds.

Skokie Roadway Jurisdictions

IDOT and Cook County Responsible for Plowing and Repairing Potholes on Major Skokie Roadways

The Village of Skokie has approximately 179 miles of streets. While the Village is responsible for maintaining the majority of Skokie roadways, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Cook County Highway Department are responsible for approximately 35 miles of Skokie streets. These typically include more heavily used roads such as Crawford Avenue, McCormick Boulevard, Old Orchard Road and Skokie Boulevard. During snow events, either Cook County or IDOT are responsible for clearing snow from these roads, and they also are responsible for all road resurfacing and repairs, including repairing potholes. When the Village receives complaints about these roadways, the information is passed along to the appropriate jurisdiction.

Skokie is responsible for the following streets:

All side streets in Skokie, as well as all alleys, Dempster St. (border to border), Gross Point Rd. (Main St. to Church St.), Main St. (border to border), Niles Center Rd. (Main St. to Lincoln Ave.), Oakton St. (from Long Ave. to Skokie Blvd.) and Howard St.

The Cook County Highway Department is responsible for the following streets:

Church St. (Linder Ave. to Gross Point Rd.), Crawford Ave. (Jarvis Ave. to Golf Rd.), Frontage Roads, Oakton St. (Skokie Blvd. to McCormick Blvd.) and Old Orchard Rd. (Harms Rd. to Crawford Ave.).

IDOT is responsible for the following streets:

Church St. (Gross Point Rd. to McCormick Ave.), Crawford Ave. (Golf Rd. to Old Orchard Rd.), Gross Point Rd. (Church St. to Old Orchard Rd.), Golf Rd. (McCormick Ave. to Harms Rd.), Gross Point Rd. (Lincoln Ave. to Howard St.), Lincoln Ave. (Linder Ave. to Jarvis Ave.), McCormick Blvd. (Touhy Ave. to Golf Rd.), Niles Center Rd. (Main St. to Church St.), Niles Center Rd. (Pratt Ave. to Brown St.), Skokie Blvd. (Jarvis Ave. to Old Orchard Rd.) and Touhy Ave. (East to west limits).

Please contact IDOT, 1-800-452-4368 or www.dot.state.il.us, or Cook County, 708/485-7130 or www.cookcountygov.com, if you have issues regarding conditions on the roads over which they have jurisdiction. ∞

New, Enhanced Downtown Skokie Website

In October 2010 the Village launched www.skokiedowntown.org, a new, enhanced Downtown Skokie website. The website is connected to the Village's main website, www.skokie.org, but has a new look that ties into the *Downtown Reinvented* revitalization and marketing campaign.

Through www.skokiedowntown.org, residents and visitors can obtain information on dining, shopping, events and entertainment opportunities in Downtown Skokie. The new website also provides potential businesses a one-stop-shop for doing business in Downtown

Skokie. Through www.skokiedowntown.org businesses can find a list of available properties, resources for starting a business, information on Downtown Skokie business incentives and assistance, links to other business assistance programs and much more.

For more information on *Downtown Skokie* or for questions on www.skokiedowntown.org, please call the Economic Development Division at 847/933-8446. ∞

Georgi Angelov Receives Excellence in Professional Government Management Scholarship

Oakton Community College student and Skokie resident Georgi Angelov recently received the Village of Skokie's Excellence in Professional Government Management Scholarship. Georgi has a 4.0 GPA and wants to be an attorney involved with the judicial or legislative branches of government.

The scholarship commemorates the 2007 50th Anniversary of the Council-Manager form of government in Skokie. The scholarship is awarded annually to an Oakton student who lives in Skokie and aspires to a career in government administration. ∞

2010 in Review... CodeRED Emergency Phone System

In August 2010, the Village implemented the new CodeRED emergency telephone notification system to contact residents and businesses quickly in the case of an emergency. The high-speed telephone calling system is capable of making several thousand calls per hour to traditional landline phones, cell

phones and voice over internet protocol (VOIP) phones. The system allows the Village to phone the entire community in two to three hours and the system can target smaller geographic areas within the community for alerts that do not apply to everyone. See www.skokie.org for details. ∞



The Skokie Village Board meets the first and third Mondays of each month, except in the case of a holiday. Meetings begin at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

Watch Village Board Meetings on SkokieVision Cable Television (Channel 25 on RCN systems, Channel 17 on Comcast systems). The Board Meetings are broadcast at noon and 8 p.m. on the Thursday, Saturday and Tuesday following a Board Meeting.

Upcoming Public Meetings

All meetings are held at Village Hall (5127 Oakton Street).

Board of Trustees:
December 6, 20

Plan Commission:
December 9, 23

Appearance Commission:
December 8

Zoning Board of Appeals:
December 8, 22



Village Board Action

The Village Board approved financial assistance for Ace Hardware, 5035 Oakton Street, for exterior building improvements under the Downtown Façade Assistance Program.

The Village Board approved three resolutions regarding the Old Orchard Road/Skokie Boulevard Intersection Improvement Project. This project includes intersection/signal improvements, new pavement on Skokie Boulevard and a portion of Old Orchard Road, a new water main and storm sewer improvements. Significant federal, state, county and private (Westfield Old Orchard) funds were received for this project. The project is scheduled for a construction start in 2011.

2011 - 2012 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Each year under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides block grants to qualified local communities. Skokie expects about \$550,000 in funding for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2011. These funds are used for physical improvement projects, housing programs, limited social services, and other activities that are consistent with local planning goals and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) regulations.

Eligible projects must meet national objectives by principally benefitting people in the community with low- to moderate-income or aiding in the prevention and elimination of blighted conditions. All projects must be approved by HUD before funds are released.

The Village has scheduled three public hearings to solicit public input on the 2011-2012 CDBG Program. Information gathered at the hearings assists in formulating the Village's funding request to HUD. At the December 20, 2010 Village Board meeting, the Board will review the current year's program progress and discuss 2011-2012 community development needs and objectives. Project suggestions, comments, and program recommendations that are solicited from Village staff, citizens, and representatives of various social service agencies will be presented at the January 3, 2011 Village Board meeting. The Board will select the projects to be funded at the February 7, 2011 hearing. Village Board meetings begin at 8 p.m. and CDBG hearings are held at the close of regular Village business.

For information on the Community Development Block Grant Program contact Economic Development Coordinator Tom Thompson at 847/933-8446.

2010 in Review... West Dempster Street

The Village actively initiated redevelopment on West Dempster Street by purchasing several properties for redevelopment purposes. Because of the deteriorated conditions, the Village demolished most of the buildings on these parcels. The Village

developed a new West Dempster Street brochure for distribution to commercial real estate brokers, representatives of restaurants and a targeted mailing list of additional brokers, developers and other potentially interested parties.

Downtown Skokie Spotlight: Downtown Dine-Around a Success

On Wednesday, October 13, 2010, the Village hosted the first-ever Downtown Skokie Dine-Around. All nine Downtown Skokie restaurants participated in the event that was designed to better acquaint Downtown Skokie workers and students with the restaurants' fare and locations as was recommended by 4Insights in the 2009 Downtown Skokie Market and Retail Analysis study. The Village funded its portion of the event through the Downtown TIF, funds from which must be used for economic development purposes.

Some 400 people registered for the Dine-Around, including approximately 200 from the Illinois Science + Technology Park. Other attendees were from Oakton Community College, Sanford Brown College, Village Hall, the Skokie Public Library, Forsythe Technologies and other businesses affiliated with the Skokie Chamber of Commerce. Guests rode trolleys throughout Downtown Skokie, were treated to free samples of each restaurant's finest cuisine, received a goody bag with restaurant menus, a bottle of water from Oakton Community College and were eligible for a prize drawing. They also received a



10% discount card for the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie. Outdoor musicians strolled

Downtown Skokie sidewalks throughout the event.

Feedback from both the participants and restaurants has been overwhelmingly positive. One guest from Forsythe wrote, "Thank you so much for organizing this event. I had a fantastic time and now I know where to go for lunch.

Thanks again." Participating restaurants called the event a resounding success in cultivating additional customers, and all are in favor of repeating and even possibly expanding the



Dine-Around concept in 2011. Participating restaurants included Annie's Pancake House; De-Jred Fine Jamaican Cuisine; Sweetie Pies Bakery-Cakery-Café; Subway; Pat's Place; The Curragh Irish Pub; Tub Tim Thai; Village Inn Pizzeria, Sports Bar & Grill and Yolo Mexican Eatery. The Dine-

Around bags also included menus from The Skokie Club and Beijing Wok that are located in the 'Sector A' planning area for Downtown Skokie, and Kabul House that is expected to open soon in Downtown Skokie. ∞

Skokie TeenLink Program

The Village of Skokie offers the *TeenLink* program to unite Skokie residents who are in need of outside seasonal yard work, including snow shoveling, raking and lawn care, with Skokie teens who are available for hire to do the work.

The *TeenLink* program list provides contact information for Skokie teens available to do seasonal yard work. The list includes the name and address of the teen, days available, type of work they are willing to do and their expected rate of pay. Residents can receive the list by mail or email.

The resident is responsible for contacting the teen and for making financial and scheduling arrangements.

If you would like the *TeenLink* contact list please call the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8257. Skokie teens can also complete an application to be added to the *TeenLink* program by contacting the Village Manager's Office or visiting www.skokie.org to download an application. ∞

2010 in Review... Downtown Skokie "Road Diet"

During summer 2010, the Village Board considered a detailed proposal to narrow Oakton Street through Downtown Skokie to calm traffic, increase available parking and widen sidewalks to accommodate more pedestrians, outdoor dining and

streetscape amenities. Officials heard from residents and businesses who both support and oppose the proposal and are expected to revisit the issue at a later Village Board Meeting. ∞

Grant Received for Emergency Communications Center Enhancements

The Village of Skokie recently received confirmation of a \$465,000 grant from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology Program Grant. These funds will be used to upgrade the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system used at the Village's Combined Communications Center.

The grant-supported enhancement of the CAD and communication systems of the Combined Communications Center will significantly improve emergency personnel access to detailed information regarding community assets, resources, infrastructure, safety concerns and contact information. The CAD up-

grade will enhance the Village's ability to collect and analyze strategic data to support police and general life safety operations, investigations, community policing and efficient use of resources along with facilitating detailed management reports to guide the Village's financial and strategic planning. In addition, the enhancement will support emergency management initiatives along with Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) efforts which are all dispatched from the Combined Communications Center utilizing the assets of the CAD system.

With respect to the Skokie Police Department (SPD), the Patrol Division, which is the

largest division of the department, will be better supported in all aspects because of the CAD system upgrade. When responding to both emergency and non-emergency calls, handling special assignments and seeking to proactively address community concerns, the upgraded CAD system will provide police officers with access to important information that will increase their effectiveness in protecting the community. Other specialized Police Department units such as Investigations, Police K-9, Victim/Witness Assistance, Evidence, Tactical Intervention, Tactical Mission Team and the Traffic Unit also will realize a positive impact from data available through the up-

graded, enhanced CAD system.

The Village of Skokie embraces a philosophy of proactively and professionally delivering public safety services to Skokie citizens and visitors to enhance the quality of life in the community, as evidenced by both the long-held, nationally recognized professional accreditations of both the Skokie Fire and Police Departments. The improvements in information collection and exchange provided by the COPS grant will have a positive impact on community public safety for many years. ∞

Property Tax Freeze Continues

Continued from page one

Each individual property tax bill within Skokie is different because each is unique to the property, the property's value, as well as the school districts by which the property is served. An average property taxpayer in the Village of Skokie would pay property taxes distributed to the taxing bodies as indicated in the chart on page one. The largest portion of property taxes, approximately 68%, is received by the school districts that serve a particular property.

Cook County reassesses properties every three years. Depending on the level of the assessment for each property, any given resident's Village of Skokie property tax line may show an increase/decrease or even remain somewhat constant. This is all a result of the tax extension and tax appeal processes over which Skokie does not have control.

Please contact the Niles Township Assessor's Office at 847/673-9300 or at www.nilestownshipassessor.com with questions about your property tax assessment. Residents can also contact the Cook County Assessor's Office at 312/443-7550 or visit www.cookcountyassessor.com. ∞

2010 in Review... Police and Public Works Re-accreditation

In late 2010, the Village of Skokie's Police Department and Public Works Department earned re-accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and the American Public Works Association (APWA), respectively. The Skokie Police Department has been accredited by CALEA since 1988 and was the eighth agency in Illinois and among the first 100 departments in the country to become ac-

credited. The Skokie Public Works department originally earned APWA accreditation in spring 2003 and re-accreditation in 2006. The Village of Skokie was the first municipality in the country to have a professionally accredited Police Department, Public Works Department and a professionally accredited, ISO Class One-rated Fire Department. ∞

Outdoor Emergency Sirens

The Village's warning siren system is used to advise residents to take specific actions. These actions include preparation for dangerous conditions and announcing phases of snow removal operations. The sirens are used to signal the start and conclusion of alternate-side parking during snow emergencies. Sirens are tested in Skokie on the first Tuesday of each month for one minute at 10 a.m. A steady tone is used for testing.

Learn more about outdoor emergency sirens and the Village's alternate-side parking program at www.skokie.org.

Locally Purchased Gifts

Skokie offers a variety of art, entertainment, dining and retail options. This holiday season, try shopping in Skokie not only to see what's new but to also give a gift that will help support your community. For a listing of local entertainment venues, dining and retail outlets, visit the new Downtown Skokie website at www.skokiedowntown.org, the Skokie Chamber of Commerce website at www.skokiechamber.org or the Chicago's North Shore Convention & Visitor's Bureau at www.cnsccb.com.

More on Suspicious Activity

The November 2010 edition of *NewSkokie* featured an article that attempted to define 'suspicious activity' in the community and encourage residents to contact the Police Department anytime they see something out of the ordinary in their neighborhood or the greater community. The article listed "Persons acting unusual, disoriented or appearing lost" as an example of a suspicious activity, and further listed possible accompanying crimes as the individual being "Possibly ill, on drugs or mentally challenged."

If a resident sees a person in their neighborhood acting unusual, disoriented or appearing lost they should contact the Police. While it is possible that the individual could be on drugs or committing/involved with another type of crime situation, there also is the possibility that they are indeed ill or mentally challenged and actually need assistance. In these instances, the Police Department calls on Village Human Services Division staff and community health and social service agencies to intervene and provide the individual with assistance.

When in doubt about any occurrence, individual or activity, residents should contact the Skokie Police at 847/982-5900 or, in an emergency situation, contact the Police at 9-1-1.

2010 in Review... Police Move into New Facility

The new Skokie Police Headquarters, located at 7300 Niles Center Road, opened on October 18, 2010. Nearly 1,600 people attended a public open house held earlier that month. The new, state-of-the-art Skokie Police Headquarters replaces the original Police and Courthouse building at Laramie and Main Streets that housed the Department since 1957.

The new building has been strategically designed for optimum use and efficiency and is expected to receive at least LEED Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performing 'green' buildings.



Police Sergeant Paul Weinman moves into his new office.



K-9 Officer Jeffrey Groberski loads equipment into his locker at the new Skokie Police Headquarters.

Cold Weather Safety Tips for Your Pets

Your pet is always safer and happier when it is indoors with you. Cats should always be kept indoors so that they are not exposed to all of the dangers that exist outside, such as cars, other animals, harsh weather and cruel people. At night make sure that your pet sleeps away from drafts, preferably in a pet bed. It is also important to make sure that your cat or dog always wears an appropriately fitting collar and an ID tag with your current address and phone number on it (even if your pet never goes outdoors because you never know what might happen).

Unless your pet has adequate shelter and is under your supervision, living outdoors can be hazardous for your pet. Compare the amount of exercise your dog receives during the colder months to that received during the warmer months. If your dog is indoors more during the cold months, he is probably getting less exercise and may need less food. However, if your pet is outside often in the winter months, he may need more food to provide the calories necessary to produce more body heat.

If your dog must be outdoors, then you will need to provide them with a dry, elevated doghouse. The house should be

small enough to keep your dog warm by trapping the dog's body heat, but large enough for the dog to stand up in and turn around. The doghouse should have insulation, straw for bedding, a door flap and it should be faced away from the wind so that your dog will be protected against the cold. You need to make sure that snow does not pile up high next to your fence because it can provide a boost for your dog to jump over and escape.

When the temperature is below 20 degrees Fahrenheit, it is best to keep all dogs indoors, even if

a doghouse is provided. Short-haired dogs and puppies should always be kept indoors when the weather is 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below. Regularly check your pet's water to make sure it is not frozen. When your pet is outside, make sure there is plenty of fresh drinking water available. Ice and snow do not provide enough liquid for an animal. Your pets can't burn calories without a fresh supply of water, and if they can't burn calories they will get cold.

If you let your cat outdoors - BEWARE - in their search to keep warm they may crawl into

a warm car engine or lie next to a tire. To alert an animal that may be in your vehicle, slap the hood before starting your car. This is another good reason why cats are best kept indoors. You should always keep your pet's coat well groomed, but especially during the winter months. If your pet's fur becomes matted it will not properly protect them from the cold.

For more information or to report a pet in distress, contact the Skokie Health Department's Animal Control Division at 847/933-8252.

Where Did All those Holiday Calories Go?

Many people measure the result of their calorie intake by using a scale to weigh themselves. This is not the best way to determine fitness or to make a judgement about your health status.

Lean mass actually weighs more than fat mass. Therefore, a very muscular person's weight might indicate that he is not physically fit when in fact, he is. On the other hand, an inactive, non-muscular person's weight might indicate that he is physically fit when in fact, he isn't.

A better way to measure fitness is by determining your fat-to-lean ratio. The Skokie Health Department offers a quick and easy way to determine this ratio. Body composition analysis uses near infrared light to determine the amount of fat and lean tissue you have. A comprehensive, four-page printout is generated to help you improve your physical fitness.



The Health Department conducts body composition analysis on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon, Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. and Wednesdays, December 1 and 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. The testing is done by appointment only and costs \$6. To learn more about when these and more tests are offered by the Skokie Health Department, please see the Community Calendar on page 10.

For more information visit www.skokie.org or to schedule an appointment, call 847/933-8252.

2010 in Review... Rails-to-Trails Corridor

In late April, 2010 the Village of Skokie purchased the abandoned Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way between Oakton Street and Dempster Street, just west of the Skokie Swift tracks, for the development of a multi-use walking and bicycle path. The path will be called the Skokie Rails to Trails Corridor and will feature a paved path, natural prairie-style landscaping, signage and street furniture.

The Skokie Rails to Trails Corridor is expected to open in mid-2011. In the future it is possible that the Skokie Rails to Trails Corridor will connect with the North Shore Bicycle Path to the north and to the Chicago bicycle path system to the south.

December 2010

Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule



Holiday Refuse Collection

During the weeks of December 20 and 27, 2010, Monday and Tuesday collections are unchanged, Thursday collections will take place on Wednesday and Friday collections on Thursday. To find out which days your refuse is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Holiday Recycling Collection

Recycling schedules are unchanged during the weeks of December 20 and 27, 2010. To find out which days your recycling is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Accepted Recycling Materials

Below are some examples of accepted materials in the recycling program. Please do not mix refuse with recycling materials:

- Newspaper
- Aluminum, steel, tin and bi-metal cans
- Empty/dry steel paint cans
- Empty aerosol
- Glass containers - all colors
- Plastic containers marked 1 through 7
- Beverage six-pack rings
- Plastic grocery and newspaper bags
- Foam egg cartons
- Small plastic foam trays

For more refuse and recycling information, please see page two or visit www.skokie.org.

Health Happenings

Unless otherwise noted, all clinics are held at the Health Department, 5127 Oakton Street. Clinics marked with an (*) require advance registration. For more information or to register for a clinic, call 847/933-8252.

Blood Pressure Screening

Tuesdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m.

Lead Screening*

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 1 and 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$25 fee.

Immunization Clinics*

Immunizations are available for only a \$5 per person clinic visit fee. *Appointments are required.* Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 1 and 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, December 8 and 22 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Body Composition Analysis*

Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, December 1 and 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$6 fee.

Simple Cholesterol Screening

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, December 1 and 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$6 fee.

Village Hall Closed

The Village of Skokie will be closed on Friday, December 24, 2010 for the Christmas holiday and Friday, December 31, 2010 in observance of New Year's Day.

Lipid Profile Screening*

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 1 and 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$15 fee.

Diabetes Screening*

Thursday, December 16 from 9 a.m. to noon. \$5 fee.

TB Skin Testing*

Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. \$5 fee.

Well Child Clinic*

Monday, December 13 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Hearing Screening*

Friday, December 17 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Smith Center Activities

Located at 5120 Galitz Street. Please call 847/933-8208 for more information or to register.

Rules of the Road

Review for driver's exam. Monday, December 6 from 9:15 a.m. to noon.

Needlework

Socialization and needlework. Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Woodcarving

Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Amateurs are welcome.

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesday, December 14 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Hearing Loss Support Group

No Meeting in December Holiday Party, December 14, 2010

FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)

A low vision support group targeting Baby Boomers, but all interested are welcome to attend.

Wednesday, December 8 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Conversational Yiddish

No fee or registration required. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays, December 21 and 28 at 1:30 p.m.

Silver Singers

Sing-a-long while Miriam Strauss plays her musical tunes on the piano. Tune up those vocal cords and join us the last Monday of every month Monday, December 27 at 1:30 p.m.

Circuit Breaker/Illinois Cares RX

Please call 847/933-8208 for an appointment.

Medicare Supplement Claims Assistance/Senior Health Insurance Program

Appointments are necessary. Tuesday, December 14 from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

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Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Counseling

Call 847/933-8208 for an appointment. Started November 15.

Simple Will/Durable Power of Attorney/Living Will Program

Program for low-income seniors who meet requirements. Fee charged by attorney. Call 847/933-8208 for program details and registration information.

Skokie Senior Mens' Group Discussion

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., Weber Park, 9300 Weber Park Place.

Chess

Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 4:30 p.m.

Stamp Club

Wednesdays, December 1 and 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Womens' Discussion Group

Wednesdays, December 8 and 22 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

News and Views Discussion

Fridays at 10 a.m.

Music and Laughter (formerly known as Men's Discussion Group)

Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

Conversational German

Thursdays, December 2 and 16 at 1:30 p.m.

Bright Ideas ESL Class

Registration required. Mondays and Thursdays from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m.

U.S. Citizenship Class

Thursdays at 1 p.m. at the Smith Activities Center. Please call 847/933-8208 to register for the class.

CPR Schedule

No December class. Check back next month for the 2011 CPR schedule and registration information.

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie

Located at 9501 Skokie Blvd. For 2009 performance dates and information please call the box office at 847/673-6300 or visit www.northshorecenter.org.

A Civil War Christmas

Northlight Theatre Playing through December 19. Call for show times.

Chicago Children's Theatre presents *The Hundred Dresses*

In the *Centre East Theatre* through December 2.

Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra

In the *Centre East Theatre* Sunday, December 5 at 4:30 p.m.

Youtheatre performance of *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*

In the *Centre East Theatre* December 7 at 10 a.m.

Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra

In the *Centre East Theatre* December 12 at 3 p.m.

Salt Creek Ballet's *The Nutcracker*

In the *Centre East Theatre* December 18 and 19 at 3 p.m.

Skokie Public Library

For more details on library activities and events, please visit www.skokielibary.info or call 847/673-7774.

Learn How to Interview Like a Pro

(Webinar for job seekers) Wednesday, December 2 at 2 p.m.

Introduction to Computers and the Internet

Friday, December 3 at 10 a.m.

Young Steinway Concert: Leah Latorraca, violin, and Brian Leong, piano.

Sunday, December 5 at 3 pm.

Concert: Nordic Wind

Sunday, December 12 at 3 p.m.

Alternatives to the Resume

Wednesday, December 15 at 6 p.m.

Online Shopping

Thursday, December 16 at 7 pm.

Concert: Caroling with the Oboes

Sunday, December 19 at 3 p.m.

Creative Craft for Families

Monday, December 20 at 7 p.m.

Library Closed

December 24 and 25.

Family Fun: New Year's Eve Celebration

Friday, December 31 at noon.

Skokie Park District

For more information on Park District programs, call 847/674-1500 or visit www.SkokieParkDistrict.org.

Winter Program Registration Begins

On-line and walk-in registration begins for hundreds of Skokie Park District winter programs. December 15 for residents and December 22 for non-residents.

Santa's Hotline and North Pole Express

Surprise your kids with a phone call or letter from Santa! (Calls limited to 847, 630, 312 and 773 area codes.) Register by December 13.

Itty Bitty New Year

The Exploritorium's family New Year bash with art projects, face painting, a noon balloon drop and more! December 30 from 10 a.m. to noon. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

Ice Skating: Holiday Public Sessions

Lace up your skates and hit the ice with the whole family! The Skatium Ice Arena offers public skating sessions once or twice daily over the holidays. Fees: \$4 to \$4.50; skate rental \$2.50; Sunday, December 19 through Friday, December 31. Call 847/ 674-1500, ext. 2900 for times. Skatium Ice Arena, 9300 Weber Park Place. 

We want to hear from you!

The Village welcomes comments and questions from residents. A number of options are available for residents to share questions, thoughts and concerns with the Village:

- Complete the *Questions/Comments/Concerns* section on the Village's website, www.skokie.org.
- Email the Village at info@skokie.org.
- Call one of the Village departments (see back page).

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www.skokie.org
1660 AM Skokie

Council/Manager
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Since 1957



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George Van Dusen

Clerk

Marlene Williams

Trustees

Michele L. Bromberg
Michael M. Lorge
Donald P. Perille
Randall E. Roberts
Pramod C. Shah
Edie Sue Sutker

Manager

Albert J. Rigoni

Counsel

J. Patrick Hanley

Phone Numbers:

Emergency

9-1-1

Information

847/673-0500

TTY

847/933-8455

Fire Non-Emergency

847/982-5300

Police Non-Emergency

847/982-5900

Citizens Assistance

847/933-8480

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Skokie's 'Going Green'

Green Holiday Tips

Consider the following tips to help lessen the impact of the holidays on both the environment and your pocketbook.

- Attend local holiday craft fairs, or simply shop locally.
- Make holiday crafts for families and kids.
- Use LED holiday lights.
- Recycle your Christmas tree when you can no longer use it.
- Send holiday greetings to family and friends via e-mail. If you prefer to send hand-written notes, make your own cards with paper you already have or look for holiday cards printed on recycled paper.
- For holiday parties, use reusable glass or plastic ware and cloth napkins.
- When shopping for gifts and holiday food, carry your own canvas bag or backpack, or reuse shopping bags.
- Purchase gifts from local vendors or gifts that were made locally. Look for gifts made from recycled materials, make it a fun challenge.
- Consider alternatives to a cut tree, such as a live tree, decorated house plant or artificial tree. If you chose to display a cut tree, please make sure to set it out for recycling pickup after the holidays. Christmas trees will be mulched and used in Public Works projects.
- Recycle any holiday waste from your household.
- Make a New Year's resolution to buy recycled products for your office and at home. ♻️

SkokieNews

Stay up-to-date with important Village of Skokie information and events with Skokie's bi-monthly electronic newsletter that is distributed by email.

To register for SkokieNews, visit www.skokie.org or call 847/933-8257 and ask to be added to the list. Subscriber's email addresses are confidential and will not be distributed. ♻️

NewSkokie is printed on 45% post-consumer recycled content paper with soy-based ink.



Village Departments

Village Hall
847/673-0500

Citizens Assistance
847/933-8480

Civil Engineering
847/933-8231

Clerk's Office
847/933-8203

Community Development
*Building/Property Standards/
Zoning*
847/933-8223

Economic Development
847/933-8446

Planning
847/933-8447

Health Department
Administration
847/933-8252

Animal Control
847/933-8484

Environmental Health
847/933-8484

Personal Health
847/933-8252

Human Services
847/933-8208

Public Works
Forestry
847/933-8427

Refuse and Recycling
847/933-8427

Signs and Street Lights
847/933-8232

Streets and Alleys
847/933-8427

Water and Sewer
847/933-8427

Traffic Engineering
847/933-8232

Village Manager's Office
847/933-8210

Water Billing
847/933-8418