

NewSkokie



January/February 2011

The award-winning municipal information source

When it Snows in Skokie

The Plow is on the Way

Anytime the forecast calls for snow, a Skokie Public Works snow commander is placed on call to monitor storm conditions and oversee snow plowing operations. The snow commander uses computerized weather system equipment to gauge a storm's intensity and progression. If needed, snow plowing crews are placed on alert.

Refuse Pickup

The first priority during a snow emergency is keeping the streets safe for traffic, emergency vehicles and pedestrians. Refuse pickup can be delayed when Village refuse trucks are used to assist with plowing operations. For current information on refuse schedule changes during a snow emergency visit www.skokie.org, tune into 1660 AM, watch SkokieVision Cable or call Public Works at 847/933-8427.

Severe Storms

When a severe storm is predicted, the Village's emergency preparedness team meets to develop an action plan. The team is made up of staff from Fire, Police, Public Works and the Village

During heavy snow falls, please keep the area around fire hydrants free of snow and clear a path for refuse crews so that refuse and recycling can be picked up as scheduled.

Manager's Office. During heavy storms, the full resources of the Public Works Department including staff from the Water and Sewer, Streets and Alleys, Automotive, Refuse and Traffic Engineering Divisions may be enlisted to help.

Alternate Side Parking

After a snowfall of two or more inches, the Alternate Side Parking Program is placed into effect. On even-numbered days, all vehicles are to be parked on the even-numbered side of the street. On odd-numbered days all vehicles are required to park on the odd-numbered side of the street.

The program is in effect from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for a minimum of two days. This emergency parking system is placed into effect so that snowplows can clear snow from residential streets from curb-to-curb.

As a reminder, an alert warning siren sounds at the start of alternate-side parking at 7 a.m. each day the plan is in effect. Residents can verify that the Alternate Side Parking Program is in effect by dialing 847/675-SNOW (7669), watching SkokieVision Cable, tuning into 1660 AM or visiting www.skokie.org.

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Police Department Receives Re-Accreditation

The Skokie Police Department received official re-accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in November 2010. First accredited in 1988, the Skokie Police Department was the eighth

agency in Illinois and among the first 100 departments in the country to become accredited. The Skokie Police Department also was re-accredited in 1993, 1998, 2001, 2004 and 2007.


Accreditation is a process through which law enforcement

agencies voluntarily demonstrate their continued ability to meet or exceed approximately 450 nationally recognized standards. These standards, established by CALEA, are designed to:

• Increase agency abilities to

prevent and control crime;

- Increase agency effectiveness and efficiency;
- Increase communication with other elements of the criminal justice system; and
- Increase the confidence of both citizens and employees in the goals, practices and procedures of the agency.

For more information on the accreditation process or the Skokie Police Department, please contact the Police Department at 847/982-5900. 

Coming Together in Skokie

The Village of Skokie, Niles Township High School District 219 and Skokie Public Library invite everyone to participate in the 2011 Coming Together in Skokie initiative. This unique collaboration between many different community groups presents an important opportunity for Skokie residents to participate in an enriching learning experience. The program begins in January and continues through March 2011. *Continued on page six*

Skokie Police Evidence Technician Program

The Skokie Police Department operates an Evidence Technician Program to assist with investigations, as well as crime and accident scene processing. In addition to regular patrol duties, 18 active Skokie police evidence technicians utilize specialized equipment and training to identify, collect and process physical evidence from crime scenes. Skokie evidence technicians collectively conducted approximately 700 follow-up investigations in 2010.

The Skokie Evidence Technician Program has advanced greatly in recent years. With a new state-of-the-art Evidence Processing Center in the new Skokie Police Headquarters, technicians are able to efficiently and effectively process various types of evidence. The Evidence Processing Center includes special lighting for capturing high-definition photos of evidence, an evidence drying room, a forensic light room to assist in identifying DNA and blood evidence and a fuming chamber that allows latent finger prints to be developed and collected. The new Evidence Processing Center greatly improves the way the Police Department collects, processes and stores evidence.

Each Skokie police evidence technician receives extensive initial training and continuously take new courses to expand their knowledge. In 2010 Skokie police evidence technicians received over 640 hours of training. A new evidence technician must attend a two-week basic course after which they work in the field with an experienced evidence technician before working on their own. After assisting in the field for several months, a new evidence technician will attend more advanced training in classes that include blood stain evidence, crime scene analysis, advanced digital photography, gunshot/ballistic analysis, death investigations and processing computer evidence.

“Being an evidence technician provides a good foundation in law enforcement. When entering a crime scene, evidence technicians are able to see and process things differently than a patrol officer who has not received evidence technician training,” stated Skokie Evidence Technician Mary Santana-Escobedo, an evidence technician since 2006. “Being an evidence technician is like solving a puzzle. You must focus on minute details, analyze extensively, be very organized and then put the crime scene back together using the evidence gathered.”

At a crime scene, an evidence technician will first secure the area, keeping the scene as pristine as possible. The evidence technician will then examine and analyze the crime scene, studying each piece of evidence looking for key elements. Skokie Evidence Technician Frank Keener, an evidence technician since 1995,

stated that, “As a police officer on a crime scene you receive many different accounts about what occurred because people process things differently. An evidence technician is able to get to the truth about what really happened by following the evidence.”

Before the scene is disturbed, it is extensively photographed. Once a crime scene is examined and analyzed, numbered placards are distributed to specify various areas of the crime scene. Photos of the whole scene and close ups of all pieces of evidence are

taken to ensure that the crime scene is documented exactly as it existed. Evidence is then bagged to process at the station. An evidence technician vehicle allows evidence technicians to expeditiously process evidence that is unable to be removed from the scene. This vehicle is outfitted with a vast array of equipment including a forensic light source to locate blood, fluids and fingerprints; special chemicals to detect the presence of blood and many other items that are routinely used in the collection and preservation of evidence.

At Skokie Police Headquarters evidence technicians use specialized equipment to develop latent finger prints, trace evidence and/or biological evidence. Some evidence is packaged and sent to the state crime lab for further processing.

Many Skokie police evidence technicians and detectives are routinely assigned to the North Regional Major Crimes Task Force (NORTAF). NORTAF personnel assist with investigating homicides and non-parental kidnappings in 13 area communities.

NORTAF helps minimize the cost and logistical hardships a major investigation can have on a given community.

Evidence Technician Frank Keener notes that, “Skokie’s Evidence Technician Program ranks highly because of the extensive training Skokie evidence technicians receive and the technology and equipment available in the Evidence Processing Center.”

For more information on the Skokie Police Department’s special programs please visit www.skokie.org.



E. T. Santana-Escobedo fingerprints evidence in the Evidence Processing Center.



E. T. Keener and E. T. Santana-Escobedo inspect the Evidence Technician Vehicle.

When it Snows in Skokie

Continued from front page

Here Comes the Plow **Alleys**

When the Village experiences multiple days of snow, the emergency preparedness team works through evening hours to help keep ahead of conditions. It takes approximately 16 hours to clear the Village's 160 miles of roadway and 12 to 16 hours to clear the 70 miles of alleys. Heavy snow accumulations require even more time. Over 50 pieces of equipment including 13 Village refuse trucks are used to clear snow from Village streets, alleys and sidewalks.

Sidewalks

Skokie is one of a few municipalities that plows residential sidewalks. The Village plows its entire network of sidewalks when snow accumulations exceed four inches. After streets are cleared of snow, special, smaller plows are dispatched to clear sidewalks.

Alleys are plowed after a 6" or greater snowfall. This operation depends upon all other snow removal operational aspects being completed and that personnel and equipment are available.

Plowing Responsibilities

The Village is responsible for plowing Village-owned streets. Cook County and the State of Illinois own many of the Village's major roads, such as Old Orchard Road, Skokie Boulevard, Crawford

Avenue, Touhy Avenue and Golf Road, and are responsible for plowing and salting these roads. For more information on Skokie roadway jurisdictions, see the Public Works snow webpage at www.skokie.org. ∞

To reduce the amount of snow that plows deposit on the driveway apron, pile snow to the left side of the driveway when facing the house or garage when shoveling.



The 2011 Streets and Alleys Snow Crew

D.A.Y. Program Expands *Action - Awareness - Achievement*

Through the Skokie D.A.Y. (Diversity Action by Youth) Program, the Education Committee of the Village of Skokie Human Relations Commission wishes to recognize young people for their activities to foster better understanding and mutual respect among all peoples in Skokie.

Below are the three D.A.Y. Program areas in which students and groups may participate.

Action

High school students perform a minimum of 24 hours of volunteer work in addressing unmet community needs and helping a person or a group different from the participant—different in terms of cultural heritage, religion, age, gender, socio-economic level, family structure, abilities or educational background.

Once the high school student has completed the minimum 24 hours of service, he or she must submit a completed log of service hours along with a short essay describing the volunteer experience.

Awareness

Using a book related to diversity from a list prepared in cooperation with the Skokie Public Library, schools, classes or groups of students in grades 6 to 8 may perform a service or exercise promoting awareness and appreciation for diversity in the community. Activities may include performance, essays, poetry, poster, photography, painting, audio visual, animation, computer generated art, music, video, community service, fundraising, etc., as inspired by the source material and the imaginations of the participants.

Achievement

Teachers or mentors in the community may nominate a student or group in grades 6 through 12 for special recognition by the Human Relations Commission for outstanding achievement in fostering and enhancing awareness, knowledge and understanding differences and promoting harmonious living in the community.

Recognition and honors will be given at the Skokie Festival of Cultures on May 22, 2011. Entries are due by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 8, 2011.

For more information or to obtain applications, please visit the D.A.Y. Program webpage at www.skokie.org/dayprogram.cfm or contact the Human Services Division 847/933-8208. ∞

2011 Community Video Awards Application

The Skokie Cable Television Advisory Commission invites residents to submit locally produced, non-professional video programs for this year's video awards competition. All videos produced in 2010 or 2011 are eligible for entry. Tapes must be submitted in VHS or DVD format. Please provide a log for tapes over five minutes long. Entries are not returned.

Please submit entries no later than March 11, 2011.

Producer Name: _____

Address: _____

Organization: _____

Program Title: _____

Production Location: _____

Production Date: _____

Run Time: _____

Producer Age Group (please circle one):

Junior High School High School Adult

Category (please circle one):

Art & Culture
 Entertainment (music, sports, comedy, etc.)
 Educational
 Public Service
 Other: _____

Please deliver completed entry form and DVD or VHS tape by March 11, 2011 to:

**Village of Skokie - Public Information Division
 5127 Oakton Street
 Skokie, Illinois 60077**

For more information, please contact the Public Information Division at 847/933-8257.

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 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. ∞

Grants for Skokie Schools and Arts Organizations

The Skokie Fine Arts Commission offers Cultural Arts Grants for Skokie schools and Project Art Grants for Skokie art organizations.

Cultural Arts Grants for Skokie schools are in the amount of \$500 for fine arts programming. These programs should have an emphasis on fine arts, music and dance while promoting cultural diversity.

Skokie not-for-profit arts organizations are eligible to apply for the Project Grant. This grant is available in varying amounts; however, the organization submitting the application must make a matching financial contribu-

tion of at least 25% of the cost of the project. Schools and governing bodies with taxing powers are not eligible to receive funding through the Village's Grant Programming Budget.

The grants require the submission of a basic application, due February 1, 2011. A copy of the application is available at www.skokie.org. New applicants and applicants with questions are strongly encouraged to contact the Fine Arts Commission at 847/933-8257 or info@skokie.org with questions regarding grant guidelines. ∞



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:

January 3, 18
February 7, 22

Plan Commission:

January 6, 20
February 3, 17

Appearance Commission:

January 12
February 9

Zoning Board of Appeals:

January 5, 19
February 2, 16



Village Board Action

The Village Board recently approved an ordinance that amended the Village code pertaining to outdoor dining regulations. The general modifications exempt outdoor dining from parking requirements, clarify the location/better define the perimeters of an outdoor dining area and provide businesses with a chance to use outdoor dining areas during the off-season time and on a limited basis.

David Lawry, Regional Director of the American Public Works Association (APWA) formally awarded the Skokie Public Works Department with professional re-accreditation. The APWA accreditation program recognizes public works agencies that go beyond the requirements of the management practices established nationally in the public works industry. The Skokie Public Works Department first received accreditation in 2003.

The Village Board recently approved a Tax Increment Financing District for the West Dempster Redevelopment Project Area. ↻

2010 Road Construction Recap

The Village of Skokie Traffic and Civil Engineering Divisions worked on various projects in 2010. Following is a recap of the 2010 road construction projects in the Village:

- Old Orchard Road between Lavergne Avenue and Skokie Boulevard was resurfaced in fall 2010 by the Cook County Highway Department as a short-term repair. The reconstruction of the intersection of Old Orchard Road and Skokie Boulevard is scheduled to begin in 2011. Old Orchard Road between Harms Road and Skokie Boulevard will be reconstructed in stages in the future. This roadway is plowed and maintained by Cook County.
- Pavement work at the intersection of Golf Road and Skokie Boulevard is complete. Completion of the project including installing new traffic signals, street lights and landscaping is ongoing.
- The Village constructed and opened a new section of Madison Street between Central Park Avenue and St. Louis Avenue servicing the needs of that area.
- The CTA Skokie Oakton Street Station construction has begun and CTA is performing preliminary track work. ComEd is doing electrical work and underground utility work also is underway.
- The Village's street resurfacing projects included four miles of residential streets. ↻

Remember to Remove Holiday Lights and Decorations

Exterior holiday decorative lighting is a festive way to enjoy the holiday season. In accordance with the Village of Skokie adopted 2008 National Electric Code section 590.3 (B), temporary electric power and lighting installations shall be permitted for a period not to exceed 90 days for holiday decorative lighting and similar purposes.

Remember to remove holiday decorations and lighting early in the New Year. For more information, please contact the Property Standards Division at 847/933-8224. ↻

Coming Together in Skokie

Continued from front page

In 2011, Coming Together in Skokie celebrates the Philippines and its people. Representing the Filipino American community on the program committee were Skokie residents Angeles "Jelly" Carandang, Chairperson, Illinois Chapter National Federation of Filipino American Associations and Jerry Clarito, Skokie Park District Commissioner.

Skokie residents are encouraged to read *When the Rainbow Goddess Wept* in which author Cecilia Manguerra Brainard explores the Filipino culture.

This year, the program committee also has selected several books that will appeal to children and adolescents. The committee hopes that residents and students will participate in book discussion groups at the library and high schools and in special events sponsored by these and other community organizations such as the Niles Township ELL Parent Center, Oakton Community College and the Skokie Park District. Copies of each book are available at the Skokie Public Library.

This year's initiative begins with a special Kickoff Celebration on Friday, January 28 at 7:30 p.m., when the Filipino Community hosts a cultural program at Niles West High School. On Monday, March 7 at 7 p.m., author Cecilia Manguerra Brainard will speak at the Skokie Public Library. For further information about Coming Together in Skokie and a calendar of program events, please visit <http://ComingTogether.skokie-library.info>.

The Coming Together in Skokie initiative is intended to build knowledge, awareness and appreciation of different cultures and backgrounds. The first Coming Together in Skokie initiative in 2010 featured the Asian Indian population. Several thousand Skokie residents from many cultures and countries participated by attending more than 30 community events and reading the book *Motherland* by Indian author Vineeta Vijayaraghavan. ∞

Skokie Award for Artistic Excellence

In coming months, the Skokie Fine Arts Commission will invite nominations from the community for Skokie residents who have made a significant contribution to the arts in Skokie, including visual, musical, performing or literary arts. Nominations for the 2011 Skokie Award for Artistic Excellence will be judged by the commission on the nominee's visibility in the community, their recognitions and awards, the breadth of their artistic impact, the scope of talents and demonstration of the nominee's artistic excellence. In 2010, Mary Sass, long-time member of the Skokie Art Guild, received the first-ever Skokie Award for Artistic Excellence. The March 2011 edition of *NewSkokie* will contain an entry form, and the deadline for submittal is April 1, 2011. The award will be presented at the June 6, 2011 Village Board meeting. For additional information email info@skokie.org or call the Public Information Division at 847/933-8257. ∞

Stop Smoking Clinic

The Skokie Health Department is offering a stop smoking clinic for area residents. It is free of charge for anyone who lives or works in either Skokie or Evanston. The clinic begins on Tuesday, January 18 at 7 p.m. It will also meet on January 19, 20, 21, 24 and February 1. All clinic sessions will be held at the Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

Mr. Jerry Zabin will conduct the clinic. Zabin has many years of experience in the development and implementation of smoking cessation and prevention programs. He has a unique style that is very popular with his clinic participants.

Advance registration is required for the stop smoking clinic. For more information or to register for the clinic, contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252. ∞

Refuse and Recycling Holiday Collection for 2011

The following dates reflect the recycling and refuse collection schedules for 2011.

Recycling Collection:

On the weeks beginning January 17 and February 21 normal collection schedules remain in effect. On the weeks starting May 30, July 4, September 5 and December 26, Monday collection is on Tuesday, Tuesday collection is on Wednesday and Thursday and Friday collections are unchanged. On the week beginning November 21, Monday, Tuesday and Friday collections are unchanged and Thursday collection will be on Wednesday.

For further information on holiday recycling and refuse collection schedules please call 847/933-8427. ∞

Refuse Collection:

On the weeks starting January 17, February 21, May 30, July 4, September 5 and December 26, Monday collection will be on Tuesday, Tuesday collection will be on Wednesday and Thursday and Friday collections are unchanged. On the week starting November 21, Monday and Tuesday collections are unchanged and an attempt to complete Thursday and Friday collections will be on Wednesday.

Knox Box for Homes

As more individuals within the senior community choose to live at home rather than move to retirement communities, gaining access during a medical emergency can be an issue for first responders, particularly if an individual has medical or mobility difficulties.

While help is always just a call away, what happens when you cannot answer the door?

With a Residential Knox Box, specifically keyed for Skokie Fire Department use, first responders are able to let themselves into your home with a high-security master key for emergency access.

The Residential Knox Box is just one part of the Skokie Fire Department's Knox Rapid Entry System. For many years, Knox Box key boxes have protected businesses, schools and commercial properties against forced entry damage and delayed emergency response.

It is highly recommended that those with a home medical alarm system also have a Knox Box for the home.

For more information, contact the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5340 or the Skokie Human Services Division at 847/933-8208. ∞

Water Billing Automatic Bank Payment Authorization Form

The Village offers an Automatic Water Bill Payment Program. By participating in the program, the amount of your water bill is automatically deducted from your checking account on the due date. The water bill continues to be mailed to you as a reminder of the amount and date of deduction from your account. There is no fee for this service. To enroll in the program, please complete the information below.

Yes! I wish to participate in the Automatic Water Bill Payment Program. Enclosed is my voided check. I understand that the cost of my water bill is directly deducted from my account on the due date.

Name: _____

Water Bill Account Number: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

**Please mail this form, along with a voided check to:
Skokie Water Billing Department, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, IL 60077**

Terms and Conditions

Record of Payment - Your bank statement will indicate the amount and date of your automatic transfer. Retain this statement as proof of payment. If you have a question regarding your transfer, or if the amount differs from your bill, you must notify the Village and your financial institution within sixty days of the statement date.

Funds Availability - Should there be non-sufficient funds available, the Village assesses a \$14.50 fee for each payment returned. If there are more than two non-sufficient funds within a 12-month period, your direct payment privileges with the Village of Skokie may be cancelled.

Payment Date - Fund withdrawal occurs on the due date listed on your water bill. Generally the automatic deduction occurs with your next bill; however, it depends on the date your completed application form is received. Please continue to pay your water bill by check until you see the words "Bank Draft-Do Not Pay" printed on the bottom left side of your bill.

Enrollment for Automatic Bank Payment - To enroll in the automatic payment program, submit the above completed authorization form, along with a voided check from your checking account to the Village of Skokie, Water Billing Department.

Termination - In the event that you would like to stop participating in the Automatic Water Bill Payment Plan Program, you must send a completed termination form to the Water Billing Department no later than 30 days prior to your next billing date.

Account Changes - If you change banks it is your responsibility to notify the Village by sending an updated Automatic Bank Payment Authorization Form 10 days before your water bill due date.

For more information or if you have a billing question, please contact the Water Billing Department at 847/933-8418. ∞

Downtown Skokie Spotlight

In early November, 2010, Kabul House restaurant opened at 4949 Oakton Street in Downtown Skokie. This brings to 10 the number of restaurants in Downtown Skokie, many of which reflect the community's diversity. In addition to Kabul House, Downtown Skokie features Annie's Pancake House; De-Jred Fine Jamaican Cuisine; Pat's Place; Subway; Sweetie Pies Bakery, Cakery, Café; The Curragh Irish Pub; Tub Tim Thai; Village Inn Pizzeria, Sports Bar & Grill and Yolo Mexican Eatery. These restaurants are joined by Beijing Wok, Dunkin' Donuts, Taco Bell and the newly opened Skokie Club that are nearby in the Skokie Boulevard and Main Street vicinity. The Village has recently received inquiries from other restaurants interested in Downtown Skokie locations, and hopefully 2011 will bring more new eateries to the area. *For information on Downtown Skokie dining options, and to view the new Downtown Skokie featured business section, visit www.skokiedowntown.org.* ∞

Forestry Corner

Just Say No to "Volcano" Mulching

There are many benefits to proper mulching: mulch helps retain soil moisture, insulates roots from extreme temperatures, reduces weeds and "weed eater" damage, adds nutrients to the soil, and beautifies the landscape. Trees, shrubs, perennials and even annual plants all greatly benefit from proper mulching.

The best types of mulches are organic, such as wood chips, shredded hardwood mulch, leaf mulch or compost mixes. The mulch area should be wide, but not deep – only 2" to 4" of mulch is recommended. It is also important to brush the mulch about 6" away from tree trunks and shrub stems in order to prevent the trunks from rotting.

It is possible to have too much of a good thing. Excessive mulch and "volcano mulching" techniques can kill trees and plants over time. Roots need air to survive, so excessive soil or mulch piled around the tree can cause girdling surface roots. Deep mulch also provides a protected habitat for rodents to chew bark and stem tissues.

Consider mulching this spring. If mulch is already present on parkway trees or private landscaping, check the depth. Do not add any additional mulch if there is already a sufficient layer in place. Fluff or rake the existing mulch to increase water absorption and refresh the appearance. If you find "volcano mulch", pull it back about 6" from the trunk and make a wide, donut-shaped ring around the tree. If you hire landscapers, please ask them to use proper mulching techniques.

For more information, please visit the following websites at www.mortonarb.org or www.treesaregood.com, and follow the links for "Tree Care". ∞



Improper "Volcano" Mulching



Proper Mulching

Federal Income Tax Program

Federal Income Tax filing help will be provided free-of-charge to low-to moderate-income senior residents (at least 60 years of age) and those individuals who are handicapped. An appointment is necessary, no drop-ins. Please call Human Services Division at 847/933-8208 for further information.

Through the coordinated efforts of the Human Services Division, Skokie and AARP, tax aides will assist these individuals with the completion and review of *simple taxes only*. You will only be allowed one, one-hour appointment. You must have all your paperwork at the time of your appointment, *no exceptions*. This program is available to U.S. Citizens only.

For further information, or to make an appointment for this service, call 847/933-8208 near the end of January 2011. ∞

Winter Health Tips

The mention of winter evokes images of sparkling snowflakes and skaters gracefully gliding across the ice. But winter also can be a time of illness and injury, if people fail to take adequate health and safety precautions.

Hypothermia

Hypothermia, a drop in body temperature to 95 degrees or less, can be fatal if not detected promptly and treated properly. In the United States, about 700 deaths occur each year from hypothermia.

While hypothermia can happen to anyone, the elderly run the highest risk because their bodies often do not adjust to changes in temperature quickly and they may be unaware that they are gradually getting colder. The condition usually develops over a period of time, anywhere from a few days to several weeks, and even mildly cool indoor temperatures of 60 to 65 degrees can trigger it. If you have elderly relatives or friends who live alone, encourage them to set their thermostats above 65 degrees to avoid hypothermia.

When the body temperature drops, the blood vessels near

the surface of the body narrow to reduce heat loss. Muscles begin to tighten to make heat. If the body temperature continues to drop, the person will begin to shiver. The shivering continues until the temperature drops to about 90 degrees. Temperatures below 90 degrees create a life-threatening situation.

Signs of hypothermia include forgetfulness, drowsiness, slurred speech, change in appearance (e.g., puffy face), weak pulse, slow heartbeat and very slow and shallow breathing. If the body temperature drops to or below 86 degrees, a person may slip into a coma or have a death-like appearance.

If you notice these symptoms in a person, take his or her temperature. If it is 95 degrees or below, call a doctor or ambulance or take the victim directly to a hospital. To prevent further heat loss, wrap the patient in a warm blanket. A hot water bottle or electric heating pad set on low can be applied to the person's stomach. If the victim is alert, give small quantities of warm food or drink.

There are several things you should not do to a hypothermia victim. Do not give alcoholic beverages. Do not give a hot shower or bath, since it could cause shock. Generally, do not try to treat hypothermia at home. The condition should be treated in a hospital.

Frostbite

The parts of the body most affected by frostbite are exposed areas of the face (cheeks, nose, chin, forehead), the ears, wrists, hands and feet. Frostbitten skin is whitish and stiff and feels numb rather than painful. When spending time outdoors during cold weather, be alert for signs of frostbite and, if you notice any, take immediate action.

To treat frostbite, warm the affected part of the body gradually. Wrap the area in blankets, sweaters, coats, etc. If no warm wrappings are available, place frostbitten hands under the armpits or use your body to cover the affected area. Seek medical attention immediately.

Do not rub frostbitten areas; the friction can damage the tissue. Do not apply snow to

frostbitten areas. Because its temperature is below freezing, snow will aggravate the condition.

If you have any questions or would like more information these winter health tips, contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252.

Guidelines for Feeding Wildlife

Many people like to feed birds and animals during the winter months, but most don't realize that this practice is regulated. Ground feeding can attract rats, skunks and other unwanted "guests."

According to Village ordinance, feeding wildlife requires the use of approved feeders that are off the ground. The feeders and the areas around them must be properly maintained to discourage unwanted pests.

Officers from the Skokie Health Department's Animal Control Division are glad to give recommendations about approved feeders and how to maintain them properly. The officers also will investigate complaints of illegal feeding.

For more information about the Village's bird feeding ordinance, contact the Health Department at 847/933-8484.

Health Department Holiday Closing

The Skokie Health Department will be closed on Monday, February 21 in observance of the Presidents' Day holiday. No clinic or registrar services will be available.

The Health Department will resume its normal operating schedule on Tuesday, February 22.

January/February 2011

Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule



Holiday Refuse Collection

During the weeks of January 17 (Martin Luther King holiday) and February 21 (Presidents' Day holiday) Monday collections are on Tuesday, Tuesday collections are on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections are unchanged. To find out which days your refuse is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Holiday Recycling Collection

Normal collection schedules will remain in effect during the Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day holiday weeks. To find out which day your recycling is collected and what items are recyclable, please visit www.skokie.org.

For more information please visit www.skokie.org or call the Skokie Public Works Department at 847/933-8427.

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.

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, January 5, 19 and February 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays, January 11, 26 and February 9, 23 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Hearing Screening*

Fridays, January 14 and February 18 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Stop Smoking Clinic*

Tuesday, January 18 at 7 p.m. Also meets January 19, 20, 21, 24 and February 1.

Lead Screening*

Wednesdays, January 5 and February 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, January 5, 19 and February 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$25 fee.

Body Composition Analysis*

Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon. Thursdays 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, January 5, 19 and February 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$6 fee.

Blood Pressure Screening

Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, January 5, 19 and February 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Simple Cholesterol Screening

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, January 5, 19 and February 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$6 fee.

Lipid Profile Screening*

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, January 5, 19 and February 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$15 fee.

Diabetes Screening*

Tuesdays, January 18 and February 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. \$5 fee.

TB Skin Testing*

Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:45 p.m. \$5 fee.

Well Child Clinic*

Mondays, January 10 and February 14 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Smith Center Activities

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

Bright Ideas ESL Class

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

Woodcarving Club

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

Chess

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

Conversational German

Thursdays, January 6, 20 and February 3, 17 at 1:30 p.m.

Conversational Yiddish

No fee or registration required. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays, January 18, 25 and February 15, 22 at 1:30 p.m.

FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)

Wednesdays, January 12 and February 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Please call Juanita at 847/933-8208 for more information.

Hearing Loss Support Group

Thursdays, January 13 and February 10 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Circuit Breaker/ Illinois Cares RX

(Formally known as Circuit Breaker) Please call 847/933-8208 for an appointment.

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesdays, January 11 and February 8 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Medicare Supplement Claims Assistance/ Senior Health Insurance Program

Appointments are necessary. Tuesdays, January 11 and February 8 from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

News and Views

Fridays at 10 a.m.

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

Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

Needlework

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

Rules of the Road

Review for driver's exam. Mondays, January 3 and February 7 from 9:15 a.m. to noon.

Silver Singers

Mondays, January 31 and February 28 at 1:30 p.m. For more details, please call 847/933-8208.

Skokie Senior Mens' Group Discussion

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

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.

Stamp Club

Wednesdays, January 5, 19 and February 2, 16 at 1:30 p.m.

U.S. Citizenship Class

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. at the Smith Activities Center. Please call 847/933-8208 to register for the class.

Womens' Discussion Group

Wednesdays, January 12, 26 and February 9, 23 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Oakton Park.

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CPR Schedule

Please call the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5340 for January 18 and February 15 program information. **Residents:** \$15 refundable fee. **Non-residents:** \$20 non-refundable fee.

Skokie Park District

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

Photo Exhibit: National Parks of the West

January 7 through March 6 at Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel Street. Reception held Friday, January 7 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Summer Camp 2011 Open House

January 12 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

Summer Camp - Resident Registration Begins

January 30. Non-resident registration begins February 22. Don't wait in line, use WebTrac at www.skokieparkdistrict.org for fast and easy service anytime. Walk-in and mail registration also accepted.

Daddy-Daughter Valentine's Dance

Dance the night away with your daughter or daddy. Ages 1+ February 5 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$20 - \$30/couple, \$10 for additional attendees. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street

The Acrofabulous Circus Spectacular

February 5 at 7 p.m. \$8 for students and seniors, \$10 for adults. Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Street.

Winter Chilly Fest

Enjoy an evening of outdoor ice skating under the stars and a cozy chili dinner. February 12 and 13 from 4 to 8 p.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel Street.

Spring Program Resident Registration Begins

February 15 is the first day of Skokie resident registration for the Park District's spring programs (February 22 for non-residents). Don't wait in line, use WebTrac at www.skokieparkdistrict.org for fast and easy service anytime. Walk-in and mail registration also accepted.

Devonshire Playhouse Presents: "The Night of January 16"

In an unusual twist, a jury composed of audience members will decide Karen Andre's fate, accused of murdering her employer and lover, Bjorn Faulkner. February 19 through March 6. Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Street.

Snowshoe Rentals at Emily Oaks Nature Center

First-come, first-served when four or more inches of snow are on the ground. \$4-\$5/hour. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel Street.

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie

Located at 9501 Skokie Blvd. For 2011 performance dates and information please call the box office at 847/673-6300 or visit www.northshorecenter.org

Eclipsed

Northlight Theatre January 13 through February 20

Tovah Feldshuh in Golda's Balcony

In the Centre East Theatre Sunday, January 16 at 1 and 5 p.m.

Capitol Steps

In the Centre East Theatre January 20 through 23

Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra

In the Centre East Theatre Sunday, January 30 at 4:30 p.m.

Lewis Black - In God We Rust

In the Centre East Theatre Friday, February 11 at 8 p.m.

Linda Eder

In the Centre East Theatre Saturday, February 12 at 8 p.m.

Thodos Dance Chicago

In the Centre East Theatre Saturday, February 19 at 8 p.m.

Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra

In the Centre East Theatre Sunday, February 20 at 4:30 p.m.

Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra

In the Centre East Theatre Sunday, February 27 at 3 p.m.

Mavis Staples

In The Centre East Theatre Saturday, March 12 at 8 p.m.

Skokie Public Library

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

Young Steinway Concert

Sunday, January 2 at 3 p.m.

Meet Staley the Bear

Sunday, January 9 from 3 to 4 p.m.

I Have an eReader - Now What?

Monday, January 10 at 7 p.m.

Lyric Opera Lecture: Lohengrin

Thursday, January 13 at 7 p.m.

Korean American Day Celebration

Saturday, January 15 from 2 to 5 p.m.

High School Finals Study Hall

Tuesday and Wednesday, January 18 and 19 from 5 to 10 p.m.

Elements Contemporary Ballet

Sunday, January 23 at 3 p.m.

Mystery Author Sharon Fiffer

Wednesday, January 26 at 7 p.m.

World Music: Balkano

Sunday, January 30 at 3 p.m.

Preschool Fair

Tuesday, February 1 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

An Uncommon Journey: African-American Art through the Twentieth Century

Saturday, February 5 at 2 p.m.

Finding your Chicago Ancestors

Wednesday, February 9 at 7 p.m.

Tovi Khali Performs Soul, Rhythm & Blues and Jazz

Sunday, February 13 at 3 p.m.

The Lore and Lure of Spice

Wednesday, February 16 at 7 p.m.

The War on Terrorism

Thursday, February 17 at 7 p.m.

The Freedom Code

Saturday, February 19 at 4 p.m.

Philippine Kut-Kut Art Workshop

Saturday, February 26 at 2 p.m.

Island Magic: Folk and Art Music of the Philippines

Sunday, February 27 at 3 p.m. 

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847/673-0500

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847/933-8455

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847/982-5900

Citizens Assistance

847/933-8480

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Skokie's 'Going Green' Holiday Light Recycling

Holiday lights at the end of their life? The Village of Skokie and the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) are offering a Holiday Light Recycling Program, free of charge.

Garland, live greens, wreaths or other non-recyclables are **not** accepted in this program. All holiday string lighting and extension cords can be dropped off at:

Village of Skokie - Public Works
9050 Gross Point Road
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Until January 28
847/933-8427

For more information or additional drop-off locations please visit
www.swancc.org

Christmas Tree Pickup

Weather permitting, the Village of Skokie Public Works crews will pick up Christmas trees during the first two weeks in January. The trees are then chipped and prepared for mulch which is available to Village residents after the New Years' holiday.

In order for your tree to be picked up, place it in your normal refuse pickup spot. Do not put the tree in a bag or container, and please remove all decorations. Wreaths are not collected with the trees and should be disposed with the regular household garbage.

After these initial collections, Village refuse crews will collect trees during normal garbage collections. The mulch pick-up area is located on the south side of Church Street in the Commonwealth Edison right-of-way property which is just east of Terminal Avenue.

For more information please contact the Public Works Department at 847/933-8427.

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