

VILLAGE OF GOLF NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2011

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VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS

Held the second Monday of the month at 7pm in the Village Hall

- ◆ June 13
- ◆ July 11
- ◆ August 8
- ◆ September 12
- ◆ October 10

LETTER FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

As we move into summer, the following summarizes some of our key accomplishments and activities since the last newsletter at the end of 2010:

- Board Member Elections
- Golf is now a Tree City USA
- Working on WGA parking lot expansion request
- Update to zoning setback ordinance
- Passed ordinances to collect municipal tax on cable providers
- Started scanning in our records as electronic files
- Completed study on our street signs
- Passed Tax Levy for 2010
- Approved 2011/2012 Budget
- Study of increased noise and vibrations from trains
- 4th of July Fireworks Display

The above will be discussed in more detail in this newsletter. Since the last Newsletter, there have been no major events in the Village. We made it through the Winter with no water main breaks and minimal damage to our parkways. We do not have any infrastructure projects planned in the short term.

Going into the summer, are our key focus areas are:

- Continue records management process and cleaning out old Village records
- Continue work on long term financial plan
- WGA parking lot expansion request
- Building permit fee and service review
- Replacement of faded/rusty street signs
- Street Patching
- Water Impeller replacement

Please do not hesitate to e-mail me with questions, ideas, and concerns. Enjoy your summer and see you at the 4th of July festivities.

Sincerely, Jerry Daus

j.daus@villageofgolf.us or 847-724-4744

BOARD MEMBER TRANSITIONS

In May, Ted Kapica joined the Village Board for a 4 year term. Ted is replacing Lis Williams as our new Building & Zoning trustee. Lis' key accomplishments included renegotiating our trash services contract, coordinating the building department, and updating our permit fees. Many thanks go to Lis for volunteering to serve and her commitment to our Village and Board.

The following trustees were either re-elected to new terms or officially elected after replacing departing board members last year:

- Bob Walker (Streets & Sanitation) for 2 more years
- Mary Howe (Utilities) for 2 more years
- Dan Williams (Finance & Administration) for 4 years
- Kevin Ridley (Emergency Services) for 4 years

All the above terms started on May 8, 2011



ZONING BOARD UPDATE

In April 2011, Steve Brown replaced Chris Paxson on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Thanks to Chris Paxson for his commitment to the Village again and again. The current board members are:

- Dan Williams (Chair)
- Steve Brown
- Andy Goldberg
- John Gallagher
- Megan Miller

The Board met in April 2011 and approved changes in the wording of our Zoning ordinance regarding setbacks. The Village Board approved this change at the May 8th Board Meeting. The Ordinance changes are posted on the Sterling Codifiers Website—click [HERE](#) or go to:

http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/codebook/index.php?book_id=368

Look in the “Ordinances Pending Codification” Section. Please contact [Dan Williams](#) with any

VILLAGE STREET SIGNS



Many of our street signs and poles are showing wear. There are also new Illinois regulations on the placement of street signs and a requirement for the Village to have an inventory of our signs. A study has been completed and the signs have been inventoried. The last step is to ensure they are within the “reflectivity” guidelines. This will be completed shortly and we will be replacing the older signs and poles over the summer.

U.S. Census
Village of Golf Population:
500

Hazardous Waste—Hazardous Waste may be disposed of using SWANCC, the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County. There is useful information about recycling, disposal, energy savings, and more at their website: www.swancc.org

4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY — CANCELLED

All Great things Must Come to an End...but why now! With over 50 years of a Golf tradition, the Village finds itself in a quandary. Due to a confluence of events, the Village is no longer allowed to launch our fireworks from the Metra property/ right of way. Upon learning this, many Village Board Members have been trying to find an alternative site. Working with the Glenview Fire Department, the Village has been trying to find a safe launch site for the fireworks near Deitrich Park. We are required to follow regulations regarding the distance fireworks can be launched from buildings and the distance the viewing areas need to be from the launch site. We have found no safe place to launch the fireworks within the Diederich Park area. We have also contacted Avon to see if we could launch from their parking lot, however since that property is currently on the market and may possibly be under contract for purchase, we have not been able to obtain their approval. Prior to the Avon building closure, we previously requested their approval to launch from their parking lot and we were denied.



What has changed? Over the last couple years, the Village has been working closely with Metra on a number of projects. Because of this, the relationship with Metra is much more formalized. With the safety fence installed along the tracks and the Metra Bridge project completed, we now have to request access to the area where the fireworks were previously launched. As part of this request, Metra took a much closer look at the liability and risk of fireworks being launched from their property. After many discussions with their legal department, they denied our request due to the risk of negative publicity in the event of an accident. They also did not want to set a precedent for other municipalities to begin to use the Metra right-of-way.

What are our alternatives? We asked the Glen View Club about relocating the fireworks display to their property -- as they had set off a fireworks display with proper permits and safety measures last Labor Day weekend. The Glen View Club Board reviewed the request and was not in favor of the fireworks being launched from their property on the 4th of July. They believed the launch would interfere with other events happening at the club at the proposed launch site. However, they are in favor of a Village of Golf viewing area for their Labor Day fireworks celebration. ***We will be working with the Glen View Club and the Golf Civic Association to organize a Labor Day fireworks event.*** On the 4th of July, the Village of Glenview has a fireworks display at the Glenview Park District Golf Course. The Village Board and Golf Civic Association will be looking into ideas on incorporating the Glenview fireworks into our Golf 4th of July celebration.

VILLAGE FINANCE

At the May 8th Board meeting, the Village Board passed a balanced budget for fiscal year 2011/12 which started on May 1, 2011. As explained in the prior newsletter, this budget includes \$38,000 for the capital reserve account. The budget is posted on the Village web site. Click [HERE](#) or go to Villageofgolf.us—Financials page.

YARD WASTE REMINDER

All landscaping waste must be placed in standard brown paper yard bags. If you have sticks, they must be tied in bundles less than 4 feet long and no more than 2 feet in diameter. Landscape waste pickups are made on Monday's between April 1st and November 30th. All waste must be at the curb by 6:00am.

TREES AND PARKWAYS

As you know, we have had a very wet Spring and all the new trees in the Village are well watered. As summer comes on, if there is a new tree on your parkway, please try and water once a week.

Many homes have dead and dying ash trees which will need to be removed. Homeowners should make sure that their trees are leafing out, and if not they can either call [Care of Trees](#) for a recommendation, or send Pam Maga an email at p.maga@villagofgolf.us and she will check it out.

Thanks goes to the Glenview Troop 156 Boy Scouts for preparing and distributing sapling trees to the Village residents on Arbor Day. Chris Daus organized this project as part of his service requirement for advancement.

We are planning another round of planting 30 – 40 trees in the parkways again this fall. Our goal is to replace all the removed ash trees and any other open spaces in our parkways over the next two years.

The Village of Golf is now a Tree City USA. You should see signs at the Village entrances sometime in the near future. The following link explains more about this program -- <http://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA/index.cfm>

Please maintain your parkway adjacent to the street. When cars park on the grass a rut is formed along side of the pavement causing pavement failure on the edge of the street.



TREE CITY USA[®]

METRA UPDATE

Station and Parking Lot

Over the past two years, Metra has replaced the train platform and reimbursed the Village for painting the station. This summer they have agreed to reimburse the Village for replacing the station roof and gutters. **The Village is also planning to patch, reseal and restripe the parking lot and drop-off area. We apologize for any inconvenience to the residents during this necessary improvement.**

Landscaping

As part of the Metra Bridge Project, Metra provided the Village with \$30,000 for landscaping and buffering. Last year \$13,000 was spent on the planting of evergreen trees along the train tracks by the field house cul-de-sac and further South. We are working with the Park District to further landscape/buffer the end of Park Lane, other parts of the park and the area near the Metra parking lot.



Train Noise and Vibration Issues

Several residents living near the train tracks have complained about an increase in noise and vibration from the freight trains. A noise and vibration study was performed by a consulting firm hired by Metra in late March. We are still waiting for the results from Metra.

Also, after discussions with Canadian Pacific Railroad (who runs the freight trains) regarding the increased noise and vibrations, most of the trains are now slowing down when passing through the Village of Golf.

WATER METER IMPELLER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM



Water meters, like any mechanical device, require periodic maintenance. The National Environmental Services Center recommends that residential meters should be checked, cleaned, and calibrated every seven to ten years.

Properly functioning water meters enable the Village to better detect leaks and water line breaks in the water distribution system. To accomplish this, the Village of Golf has instituted a water meter maintenance program. This work is performed at no cost to the resident. 1/3 of the meters in the Village have received maintenance as a part of this program. This summer the Village will be servicing another 1/3 of the meters.

If you receive a letter from the Village of Golf notifying you that your meter is scheduled for service, please follow the instructions in the letter. If you have any question regarding the instructions or require further information regarding the meter maintenance program, please contact [Mary Howe](mailto:m.howe@villageofgolf.us) at m.howe@villageofgolf.us.

MAINTAINING OUR PROPERTY

It has come to the Village Board's attention that several properties in the Village are not being maintained in accordance with our Village Ordinances. The following summarizes some of the maintenance rules:

- It shall be unlawful for any owner, and any lessee, or occupant, and any agent, servant, representative, or employee of any such owner, lessee or occupant, having control of any premises to allow or maintain on such premises any "rubbish" as defined in this chapter to stand and accumulate thereon or any growth of weeds to the height of over eight inches (8"), or to allow any dangerous or unsafe building to remain thereon. Rubbish is defined as any unsightly material, waste products, refuse, debris, trash or waste lumber deposited, left, piled or scattered that may become a breeding place for insects, rodents or vermin or that may give off unpleasant odors or create a health or fire hazard where located (Code 4-5-3)
- **No recreational vehicles**, commercial vehicles or other motorized vehicles of any kind (including, but not limited to, boats, aircraft, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles), regardless of size or license plate designation, shall be parked upon any lot within the residence zoning districts of the village, unless they are entirely contained or housed within a completely enclosed garage or accessory structure, subject to the exceptions noted below:
 - **Private Vehicles:** Private passenger cars, sports utility vehicles, minivans, vans designed primarily for the transportation of passengers, and small pickup trucks may be parked upon a driveway serving a single-family residence and need not be parked within a completely enclosed garage, provided that the vehicle is not a commercial vehicle as defined in this subsection.



All of our Village Ordinances can be viewed at http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/codebook/index.php?book_id=368

WGA REQUEST FOR PARKING LOT EXPANSION

In the last newsletter, we discussed the WGA request for expanding their parking lot. The board determined that the original request of 25 – 30 parking spaces that included both Metra and WGA spaces was too much hardscape without knowing what was going to happen to the Avon property. An alternative plan was proposed that would create 9 tandem spaces by extending 9 current WGA spaces to allow two cars each (one behind the other). Metra is has tentatively approved the adding of the spaces on their property. The WGA is in favor of this approach and is in the process of getting a cost estimate. The following summarizes what the Village has requested of the WGA as part of installing the spaces:

- **Landscaping** -- WGA to provide additional landscaping from the south side of the cul-de-sac to the current Metra Parking lot. This should include some new trees, grass, and bushes. The end result should be a finished landscaped area (including grass) from the south side of the cul-de-sac to the current Metra lot.
- **Lighting** -- Add light poles (# to be determined) similar to the ones on the Metra Lot to illuminate all of the WGA and Park District spaces.
- **Curbs** -- If practical, install a curb from the current Metra Lot to the cul-de-sac. This would provide a good barrier to keep cars from pulling too far into the spots and protect any landscaping. If installed at the right height/grade, it would also prevent any flooding on the spots.
- **Resurfacing** -- The current road and parking spaces are in need of repair. While adding the new spaces, it would also be cost effective to re-surface the road and cul-de-sac.
- **Signage** -- Appropriate signs identifying the WGA and Park District parking spaces. Also, signage indicating the WGA spaces would be available for Park District use on weekends, holidays, and after 5 PM on weekdays
- **Drainage** -- The area from the cul-de-sac to the current Metra Lot floods frequently. In order for the landscaping to grow and to minimize mosquitoes at the Park, the flooding issue should be addressed and fixed.
- **Loading Dock** -- Re-configure the loading dock such that the Post Office semi can back into the dock without blocking the entire road. Currently, the semi blocks the entrance to the park for 10-15 minutes, three times a day. An emergency vehicle or car should be able to pass by the semi while it is parked.

Based on the above, the key benefits to the Village are eliminating the flooding issue, more attractive landscaping, and eliminating the blockage of the entrance to the park. This project is currently in the discussion stage. Metra still has to officially allow the 9 spots to be added and the WGA needs to determine if they can afford the project. No action will be taken without a public Village meeting to walk through the WGA proposal.

FORECLOSURES

There are currently four Golf properties in foreclosure. For any properties that are vacant, the Village plans to maintain the outside yards. Based on our foreclosure ordinance, the Village will seek reimbursement for these expenses.



SKUNK CONTROL—PLEASE TREAT YOUR LAWN FOR GRUBS

One of the biggest attractions to skunks is grubs. Grubs live underneath the lawn and eat the grass roots. **In the month of June, it is critical to treat your lawns for grub larvae.** The recommended approach is to apply a grub control product that kills the grub larvae. This product can be purchased at hardware stores or home centers and applied using a spreader. There are also services such as landscapers and lawn care companies (e.g. Trugreen) that can apply grub control. It is important to specify grub control that kills larvae and not the poison that kills live grubs. If the larvae is not destroyed, the grubs come out starting in July.



GOT SKUNKS?

The following was provided by trustee Mary Howe and repeated from the last newsletter:

This year the Village of Golf has been overrun by skunks. With the assistance of the Village of Glenview Animal Control Officer, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources District Wildlife Biologist, and the University of Illinois Extension Service, we have come up with the following suggestions. The Village is working on a village-wide program to address some of these issues.

- ◆ Eliminate areas where skunks den
- ◆ Reduce or eliminate food sources
- ◆ Use grub control
- ◆ Do not use Japanese beetle traps

Potential den sites are overgrown shrubbery, stumps, under porches, decks, playhouses, and sheds, in rock piles, wood piles, and dry drainage tiles. Close off all openings under sheds, playhouses, decks, and porches with ¼-inch hardware cloth, fasten securely, and bury the wire to 6-inches in depth as skunks will dig to get into a desirable den space. Vents and drainage tiles should be covered with hardware cloth. All firewood needs to be stacked tightly and should be under a fully enclosed cover. Overgrown shrubbery should be cut back.

To reduce food sources, fallen fruit under trees should be removed frequently. No pet food should be left outside. Garbage cans should have tight fitting lids. No food items or table scraps should be put in compost piles unless the compost is in an animal proof container.

The favorite food of skunks in this area is lawn grubs. Grubs are the immature life stage of tan chafer, May, June, and Japanese beetles. Skunks dig for beetles in lawns leaving conical holes 2 to 5 inches across and about as deep. Lawns that are fertilized and watered throughout the summer tend to have more grubs and provide good feeding areas for skunks. There are several effective grub control products on the market. There are also inoculants called milky spore that can be used in conjunction with grub control for several years. After several years use, your lawn will be inoculated against grubs and grub control may be discontinued. John Fulton, U of I Extension-County Extension Director recommends the products Mach 2, Cruiser, and Merit (follow all product directions carefully). The Cruiser product is a nematode and is considered environmentally safe.

SKUNK CONTROL (CON'T)

Japanese beetle traps use a pheromone to attract beetles. These traps can attract beetles to a large area. Use of Japanese beetle traps can increase the number of beetles in the Village and therefore increase the number of grubs for the skunks to eat. The most effective manner of beetle control is grub control.

Although it is legal for an IDNR licensed wildlife control company to trap skunks, trapping skunks is very difficult. The Glenview Animal Control Officer describes skunks as being more like cats than raccoons, smart and trap adverse. As I and several of your neighbors can attest, trapping will lead to catching everything but skunks, including raccoons, squirrels, chipmunks, foxes, etc. Since wildlife control services charge for the traps and charge for removing any and all animals, this is both an ineffective and expensive alternative.

If your pet is sprayed by a skunk, the following home remedy is reported to be effective. Mix 1 quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup baking soda and 1 teaspoon liquid dish detergent. Do not add water. When these ingredients are mixed, the mixture is unstable and cannot be bottled or stored. Apply avoiding eyes then rinse with water. Due to the peroxide in the mixture, this remedy may lighten fur or hair. Also, a professional wildlife control operator or veterinarian may be able to supply the chemical neutroleum-alpha along with instructions for its use.

The Village continues to work on resolving this issue and will provide updates on our progress. The Village of Golf thanks the Glenview Police and Illinois Department of Natural Resources for their assistance.



EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE—PLEASE SIGN-UP!

All of our residents should have received a message from the Village of Glenview inviting us to add our phone numbers and email addresses to its Code Red™ Emergency Notification System. This system allows municipalities to instantly send out critical emergency messages (such as evacuation notices or missing child alerts) to the phone numbers and email addresses of any portion of an affected community. Due to our close relationship with Glenview in the area of emergency services, Glenview has agreed to include Golf residents in its system and to notify us of any emergencies that might affect us. Your Golf village officials also can use this system to notify Golf residents of any emergency situations that only affect our Village, such as downed trees blocking access to a portion of the Village.

If you have not already done so, please go to the Village of Glenview website (www.glenview.il.us), click on the link “Sign Up for Our Emergency Notification System” on the right side of the home page under “Useful Links,” and enter all of your contact information so that you receive any important notices. You can be assured that the information you enter will not be shared with anyone, but remain protected and secure within only the Code Red™ database. If you do not have internet access, we recommend you work with a family member or friend who does. In addition, you can always call (847) 901-6082 and Glenview staff will assist you. If you have any questions or concerns about this new system, please contact Kevin Ridley, Trustee of Emergency Services

VILLAGE COMMUNICATION

Our intention is to use e-mail as our primary vehicle of communication. We request that rather than call the village hall, please send any questions, issues, or complaints in an e-mail to either the trustee e-mail address on the last page of this newsletter and on our Village web-site or j.daus@villageofgolf.us. The more detail you provide, the quicker we will be able to get your question or issue answered. If you do not have an access to the Internet, please continue to call the Village Hall or a Village trustee.

We also are sending any announcements or notifications out via e-mail. The Village newsletters will be e-mailed and posted on the web-site. This will save on postal costs and administration.



John Benson has volunteered to be a our webmaster and has done an outstanding job of putting together our web-site. Please take a minute to review. Over the next few months we will be adding new content, so please continue to check it out. The web address is www.villageofgolf.us

The Village of Golf is a “Home Rule” community governed by the Illinois constitution and its Village ordinances (you can read our village ordinances, including our building code, at www.sterlingcodifiers.com/Golf,IL. The Village has long had a volunteer government (trustees and the Village president receive \$1 per year and the Village Clerk and Treasurer receive a modest monthly stipend).

The Village Board of Trustees meets on the second Monday of each month at the Village Hall. Agendas are posted on the website and on the bulletin boards at the Post Office and around the Village. The six Trustees function like department heads with one taking on responsibility for a different aspect of Village government including the Emergency Services Department, Administrative Department, Public Buildings and Grounds Department, Financial Department, Water Department, Sanitation Department and Streets & Sidewalks Department. You can see the specific, current assignments in the table below.

We also have a part-time Village Administrator who handles much of the day-to-day work of your Village government. You can contact Bob Der Avedisian at administrator@villageofgolf.us or give him a call at 847-998-8852.

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Position	Person	E-mail address	Responsibilities
President	Jerry Daus	j.daus@villageofgolf.us	liaison & leadership
Trustee	Kevin Ridley	k.ridley@villageofgolf.us	emergency services
Trustee	Bob Walker	b.walker@villageofgolf.us	streets & sanitation
Trustee	Mary Howe	m.howe@villageofgolf.us	utilities
Trustee	Dan Williams	d.williams@villageofgolf.us	finance & admin
Trustee	Ted Kapica	t.kapica@villageofgolf.us	building & zoning
Trustee	Pam Maga	p.maga@villageofgolf.us	public buildings & grounds
Treasurer	Cindy Hackl	c.hackl@villageofgolf.us	accounting
Clerk	Ann Erie	a.erie@villageofgolf.us	village clerk
Building Commissioner	Brett Karson	karsonarchitect@msn.com	buildings
Webmaster	John Benson	j.benson@villageofgolf.us	website

THIS LISTING CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE—WWW.VILLAGEOFGOLF.US