



MOVING PAST COVID-19

Last year, our community endured unforeseen challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic. Many people became ill, and lives were lost. Countless others fell victim to the coronavirus, but fortunately survived. Most of us were isolated or quarantined in our homes last year, and almost everyone was excited for the moment we could all return to normalcy.

Progress has been made to get back to the lives we once knew, but challenges have thrown stumbling blocks in the path to returning to a fully-opened way of life. The number of positive Covid-19 tests has once again spiked, and as a result, the Governor has reintroduced masks back into our wardrobes while we are out in public.



The Village has made a conscious effort to respect residents' rights to make decisions for their personal health, while supporting businesses who depend upon the ability to remain open and viable. In an effort help to reduce Covid-19 fatalities in our community and move beyond the coronavirus, the Village urges residents who have not already been vaccinated to consider getting the vaccine. Please also do your part to adhere to the mask mandates while in public buildings. By following these steps, we can collectively continue to move past Covid-19.

If you have any questions about the Covid-19 vaccines that are readily available, or if you are wondering where to obtain a vaccination, please visit: <https://www.wchd.org/covid-19/vaccine>.

Holiday Events

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Touch-A-Truck & Trunk-N-Treat Event is back!

Following a year hiatus due to Covid-19, the Village is bringing back the Touch-A-Truck & Trunk-N-Treat event on Saturday, October 30th, 2021 from 11 AM-1 PM at the Machesney Town Center.



Bring your family to explore firetrucks, construction equipment, emergency vehicles, and more! Kids are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes (optional) and participate in a Trunk-N-Treat event. This year, masks are optional, but we would advise wearing one. The Winnebago County Health Department may require changes to how the Village runs this event and we would like you all to stay informed. Please watch the Village's website, Facebook, or call Village Hall to keep updated on any changes that make occur.



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FINANCE & HUMAN RESOURCES

Neighborhood Revitalization

In an effort to revitalize neighborhoods and restore property values, the Village is managing four programs to rehab or demolish troubled properties throughout the community. The properties we are targeting have either been abandoned, damaged by flooding, or are blighted.



For homes located in the floodplain, the primary goal is to remove the structure to avoid future property damages and potential risks to health and safety. For homes located outside of the floodplain, the primary goal is to encourage restoration, however, demolition may be necessary due to conditions.

➤ **Flood Buyout Program**

Grantor: FEMA and IL Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) **Timeframe:** Ongoing

Program background: This is a voluntary program that provides interested residents located within a floodplain an opportunity to sell their home and relocate outside of the floodplain to avoid future flooding. All structures are demolished and the properties are required to be maintained by the Village as open green space.

Current status: The Village was awarded \$1,755,345 through FEMA and \$458,600 through IDNR. Eligible homeowners will be contacted by the end of the year. The Village will be making an application for additional funding by December 2021.

Contact: If you wish to sign-up for the waiting list or have questions regarding the program, please call Michelle Johannsen at 815-877-5432.

➤ **Abandoned Property Program (APP)**

Grantor: Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA)

Timeframe: August 2021 – July 2023

Program background: This program provides funding to the Village for maintenance and demolition of abandoned residential properties.

Current status: The Village received a \$60,000 grant; one property has been demolished and additional properties are currently being identified.

Contact: If you are aware of an abandoned property within your neighborhood, please call Zach Andrews at 815-877-5432.

➤ **Land Bank**

Grantor: IHDA through the Region 1 Planning Council

Timeframe: Ongoing

Program background: The Village is a member of the Northern Illinois Land Bank Authority which is a regional initiative to reduce blight. Through a judicial deed process, the land bank may acquire an abandoned property using its statutory ability to provide clear title, and then find a qualified buyer to rehab the property and return it to the market.

Current status: The Village is currently identifying properties.

Contact: If you are aware of a blighted property within your neighborhood, please call Zach Andrews at 815-877-5432.

➤ **Single Family Rehabilitation (SFR)**

Grantor: Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA)

Timeframe: May 2019 – April 2022

Program background: This program assists income eligible homeowners with critical repairs on the exterior and interior of the home. The program provides a forgivable loan up to \$45,000 per home to assist the homeowner in bringing the property up to code.

Current status: All properties have been identified and are currently at various stages within the program. At this time we have not heard when another application may be made and therefore the lottery timeframe is unknown at this time.

Contact: If you are interested in this program, please call Penny Miller at 815-877-5432.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Opening Soon: Chick-fil-A and Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers

Progress is moving along on the construction of two of Machesney Park's latest restaurants. Both Chick-fil-A and Freddy's Frozen Custard are scheduled to open later this year. Once operating, Machesney Park will be home to Freddy's first location and Chick-fil-A's second location in the Rockford region. Chick-fil-A will be located at the southeast corner of Alpine Road and Route 173, and Freddy's will be located in front of Lowe's on Orlando Avenue.



Chick-fil-A under construction



Freddy's under construction



Chick-fil-A location in Appleton, WI



Freddy's Location in Henderson, NV



New Bar & Grill Coming Soon

A new family-friendly, country-themed bar and grill is coming soon to a well known location in Machesney Park.

The Mill Bar and Grill will soon occupy the old Cronies Grill building at 9032 N. Second Street.

Owners, Ryan and Amanda Miller took ownership of the building earlier this summer and have since been completing renovations. The new restaurant, slated to open in late November, will feature American-style cuisine, live music, karaoke, and much more!

ZONING APPROVAL & REGULATING DEVELOPMENT

Floodway Regulations

The Regulatory Floodway makes up a portion of the 100-Year Floodplain. It is the area indicated with red cross-hatched lines on the map segment example below. During a flood event, the river expands into the floodway. It moves with a strong current and has the potential to move structures off their foundations. Substantial damages are likely in this Floodway area. For that reason, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) regulates all development in the Floodway. Specifically, development activities that could obstruct or redirect the flow of floodwater are prohibited. This includes activities such as the construction of new structures or regrading the property.



Floodplain Delineation, Ventura Blvd. area (10700 block – 11200 block)

However, there are some development activities in the Floodway that the Village can approve if the activity meets specific criteria set by the IDNR. These activities include:

- Installation of Minor Boat Docks;
- Minor, Non-Obstructive Activities such as sidewalks or unwall open structures;
- Bank Stabilization; and
- Some Accessory Structures and Additions no more than 500 sq. ft. in size.

These improvements always must be seeded, stabilized, or anchored and they can never involve a positive change to the grade of the land. Please contact Carrie Houston at 815-877-5432 for complete information about the criteria for each of these development activities, and **do not** begin an activity before contacting the Village.

Village Staff must review all plans for any projects in the Floodway, to determine if it can be allowed or if it would require a permit from the IDNR. Residents should not begin any projects in any part of the 100-Year Floodplain without checking with the Village first. Any activity in the Floodplain that does not first acquire necessary permits could compromise eligibility for all residents to obtain Flood Insurance, and could result in significant fines for the property owner.

To verify if your property is in the regulatory floodway, visit <http://www.wingis.org>, click on the “Winnebago” icon under property search, enter your address into the parcel search bar and click on the select icon under your address. Then, click on the layers/details button next to the magnifying glass icon on the upper left side of the screen. Next, click on the right arrow next to property search – a list of property attributes will open below it. Finally, click on the white box next to “Flood Zones 2016”. You will then be able to see if any part of your property is in the “AE Floodway”.



Example of acceptable Bank Stabilization using rip rap.

CODE ENFORCEMENT CORNER

Hard Surface Parking Requirement

Effective as of June 1st of 2020, vehicles may no longer park on the grass on private property in residential areas of Machesney Park. All vehicles must be stored on an approved hard surface such as concrete or black-top within their allowed yard location. The vehicles affected include but are not limited to motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, travel trailers, trailers, recreational transportation equipment, and boats when stored on trailers (*excluding canoes and kayaks*). Previously existing, well maintained gravel parking areas are still permitted, although they may not be expanded or altered with gravel and no new gravel parking areas will be permitted to be installed. For citizens with properties that have frontage along the Rock River, properly trailered boats are not required to be parked on an approved hard surface. The Machesney Park Division of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office may issue tickets to any vehicle parked in violation.



Garbage Collection

All single-family residences in the Village must have weekly garbage/refuse collection through the Village's approved garbage collection contractor. Any property without residential garbage/refuse service is in violation of Village Code. Rock River Disposal is the current approved garbage collection contractor.

Garbage day is Friday in the Village.

DO NOT place your cans out for collection any earlier than Thursday and return the cans by no later than Saturday.

Garbage cans/totes must always be stored in an area behind the front of your house and in an approved container always utilizing tight-fitting lids. If you are using additional store-bought cans, they must have a tight-fitting lid on when stored. DO NOT store garbage outside in bags. All other properties (*multi-family, commercial and industrial*) in the Village must select and pay for their own contractors for garbage/refuse collection services.

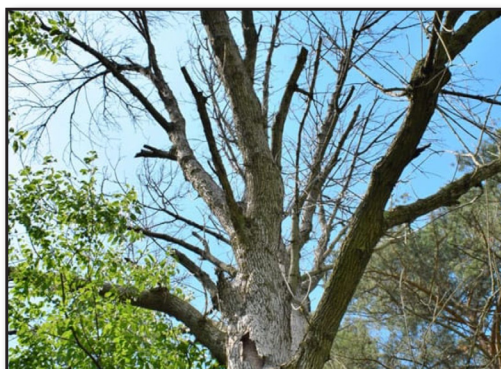
Parking Exceptions:

Seasonal Allowance for Recreational Vehicles and Properly Trailered Boats

Between April 15th and October 15th of every year, recreational vehicles are permitted to be parked in front of a residence on the driveway in the area designated for off-street parking. Recreational vehicles may never block the public sidewalk or encroach into the public right of way. Properly trailered boats 25ft in length or less are also permitted to be in the front of a residence on the driveway designated for off-street parking between April 15th and October 15th each year. Outside of those dates, both recreational vehicles and properly trailered boats need to be stored in a side or a rear yard on an approved hard surface. The Machesney Park Division of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office may issue tickets to any vehicle parked in violation.

Trees on Private Property

Fall is the perfect time to check your property for dead trees and to have them removed. Not only is having dead trees on your private property a public nuisance, but it is also potentially a hazard to you and your neighbors. Please also keep in mind to trim tree branches back away from your home and garage. This will reduce the risk of costly repairs to the roof or foundation of your home.



ROAD CONSTRUCTION



2021 Machesney Park Street Projects

This year the Village had an exciting season of road construction projects thanks in part to the passage of the 1% sales tax referendum in 2020. The Village was able to complete one of the largest projects to date with the improvements to Alpine Rd from Schnucks to Lowe's. We are happy to announce that all work has been completed. Thanks to the cooperation of the weather this summer and the hard work of our contractors, this project was able to wrap up almost a month ahead of schedule. New traffic signal upgrades at the intersection of Gladys and Alpine will complete the project and better improve the functionality of that intersection and entry to Harlem High School.



Alpine Road Improvements

In addition to our Alpine Rd project, we are pleased to announce that the Village was able to continue its yearly road maintenance program with our resurfacing project. This year the Village will be resurfacing approximately 4.22 miles of roadway. In addition to resurfacing roads, the Village will be making ADA improvements to existing sidewalk ramps, as well as ensuring they are properly aligned with a receiving ramp.

This year's resurfacing project will include the following roads:

Brentwood between Ventura and Waidi, Norman between Brentwood and Gershwin, Teakwood, Symphony Cove, Old Ralston Road, Landing Gear, North Pier, Victory between Northway Park and North Pier, Waterview between North Park and Greenview, Wayne Drive, Rogers between Evans and Maple, Polaris Drive, Nova Drive, Luna and Apollo between Alpine and Polaris, Derbyshire, Buetell, Vaughndale between Mitchell and Mullinshire, Salzbrenner between Vaughndale and Derbyshire, Mullinshire between Vaughndale and Derbyshire, Crystal Drive and Crystal Court. Additionally, there will be patching work completed along Shore Drive and Burden Road, and some minor stormwater repairs along Minnahan.

We would like to once again thank our residents for all of your cooperation and patience throughout the course of this year's projects!



Small Cell Wireless Towers

You may notice new antenna structures on streetlights and utility poles throughout the Village. These antennas are known as Small Cell Wireless Facilities, which provide access to 5G wireless data networks. Complementary to typical cell phone towers, these facilities provide needed coverage and capacity to areas with demand for 5G network access. As home to numerous cellular providers, it is essential that access to 5G is readily available across Machesney Park. While regulated by the Village, these facilities are owned and operated by cellular providers.



Small Cell Wireless Facility on the NW corner of Alpine Rd & Rt 173



PUBLIC WORKS

Leaf Vacuuming and Yard Waste Removal

During the fall season, we encourage residents to utilize two options for disposing their yard waste in place of burning. Leaves can be disposed of as part of your regular weekly garbage pick-up through the first week of December by placing yard waste out to the curb on pick up days in brown yard waste bags or in cans marked with an "X".

In addition to the weekly yard waste pick up, the Village offers leaf vacuuming as part of the contracted garbage service. Residents of Machesney Park can begin placing leaves at the side of the road for leaf vacuuming starting the week of October 18th through the first week of December. To utilize the leaf vacuuming service residents can place their leaves along the road edge for collection by leaf vacuum trucks. Leaves should be raked to an area away from gravel and just off the roadway where trucks can reach them. Leaf vacuuming services are provided on a bi-weekly basis. Starting the week of October 18th, residents living east of IL Route 251 will receive leaf vacuuming services one week and residents living on the west side of IL 251 will have pick-ups occur on the following week, alternating weekly, until the first week of December, or until the first major snowfall, whichever occurs first. Illinois Route 251 (N. 2nd Street) is the dividing line between the west and east sides of the Village for leaf vacuuming. Please note that leaf vacuuming is dependent on weather and other factors and schedules are always subject to change.

Please note that burning yard waste is only allowed during the months of April and November.

Residents are urged to take advantage of the leaf vacuum and weekly yard waste pick up as an alternative to burning. Although burning in many cases is seen as the easiest option to dispose of yard waste, the alternative services that are provided to residents offer a clean environmentally friendly option.

Residents are urged to check the Village website or follow the Village's Facebook page for updates to pick up schedules as they arise. Questions about leaf vacuuming can be directed to Rock River Disposal at 815-965-2489.

Building Permits

Community Development cont. from pg. 3



A majority of construction projects that occur in the Village require a building permit. Building permits and inspections are required for a variety of reasons, including the assurance of building safety, proper access, and fire prevention.

For your convenience, the following home improvement projects DO NOT require a building permit: the replacement of siding and windows (of the same size), kitchen cabinets and countertops, and carpeting or flooring.

The permit process involves three steps: application, plan review, and inspection. Once your completed application is turned into the Village, plans for your project may be subject to a review by staff. Many projects, such as water heaters or a new roof, do not require a plan review.

Plans for new residential homes, garages, sheds, fences, swimming pools, parking lots, and signs are reviewed internally by Village Staff. Commercial projects are reviewed by an external planning consultant. When issuing your building permit, the Village will provide instructions for requesting a building inspection through the City of Loves Park.

The building permit application and a list of projects that require a permit are located on the Village's Building Division webpage: <https://machesneypark.org/departments/building-division/>. Still have questions about whether you need a building permit for your upcoming project? Contact our Building Division at (815) 877-6072.



300 Roosevelt Road
Machesney Park, Illinois 61115
Phone: (815) 877-5432

PUBLIC SAFETY

Speeding Concerns

The Village of Machesney Park is proud to have 20 outstanding Winnebago County Sheriff's deputies that are dedicated to serve the citizens of Machesney Park 24/7. These deputies are assigned by their Sergeants to conduct various traffic details throughout the Village of Machesney Park in order to address speeding concerns from the citizens in our community. Statistically, speeding is the number one reason for traffic crashes in our community along with distracted driving. In addition to conducting these details, the same Deputies patrol the neighborhoods, shopping areas, schools, and business districts in our community keeping everyone safe and deterring crime.

Fines/Penalties for a Speeding Ticket

- ★ **1 to 20** miles per hour over the limit. **\$120** fine.
- ★ **21 to 25** miles per hour over the limit. **\$140** fine.
- ★ **26 to 34** miles per hour over the limit. Class B misdemeanor and carries up to six months in jail and a maximum **\$1,500** in fines.
- ★ **35 miles** per hour or more over the limit. Class A misdemeanor and carries up to one year in jail and a maximum **\$2,500** in fines.



For speeding violations in school zones, the minimum fines are \$150 for a first offense and \$300 for a second or subsequent offense.

Violations that take place in a construction or maintenance zone carry minimum fines of \$250 for a first offense and \$750 for a second or subsequent violation.

Please Remember to Slow Down and Drive Safely on Village Streets!

Holiday Events

continued from front page

Christmas Tree Lighting & Light Up the Parks Holiday Parade

Sunday, November 21st at 4:45 pm

The parade will start at GE Schneider Electric parking lot on Clifford Ave., turn north on Elm Ave., turn left onto Roosevelt Rd., cross N. 2nd St. & conclude at the Town Center located at 8750 N. 2nd St. for the Tree Lighting.

Join us as the Mayor lights the Village's 30 ft Christmas Tree!

Santa will be present to visit with the children and treats will be provided by local churches.

Masks are optional but we would advise wearing one; as always, the Winnebago County Health Department may determine otherwise as the event nears. Please watch the Village's website, Facebook, or call Village Hall to keep updated on any changes that make occur.

Village of Machesney Park President and Board of Trustees



Steve Johnson
Village President/Mayor



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Aaron Wilson
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Terri Bailey
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Toy Drive

The Village will be collecting toys now through December 10th for needy children and families. Gifts are distributed by invitation only to those who also benefit from the Helping Hands Pantry in prior months.