

THE VILLAGE VOICE

The Official Newsletter of the Village of Machesney Park



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(815) 877-5432
machesneypark.org

Follow us on social media!



Temporary Village Hall Relocation

RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY TO BETTER SERVE YOU

Throughout the summer and into the fall, construction crews have been busy renovating the Machesney Park Village Hall & Police Station. In order to protect the safety of Village Hall visitors and prevent service disruptions, Village offices have been temporarily relocated to a new location until renovations are complete. All services and staff will be available at the temporary office. For non-emergency police assistance, please call (815) 282-2600. The re-opening of Village Hall is planned for early January.

Temporary Village Hall Office Location

9942 N Alpine Road
Machesney Park, IL 61115

Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

Many Village services are also available 24/7 online! Visit machesneypark.org and follow the Village's social media feeds for renovation updates. All public meetings will continue to be held at 300 Roosevelt Road during construction.

Fiber Optic Internet Construction

i3 Broadband has announced that their construction crews will soon be installing new fiber optic internet infrastructure in Machesney Park. Residents can expect to see some construction activity throughout the right-of-way and utility easements around their neighborhood. This involves digging and laying the fiber optic lines safely in the ground in easements and along roadways. Several weeks after construction is completed, homeowners will typically see restoration work being done as part of the overlapping process, while the crews move to another street. Projects are generally completed within 8-10 weeks. Internet service will be available within a month of network installation. For more information, contact i3 at (866) 259-1590 or visit i3broadband.com/support.



OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION
FIBER CONSTRUCTION
COMING SOON



i3 Broadband Postcard Mailer

A New Look for The Village Voice

You may have noticed that this edition of The Village Voice Newsletter is sporting a new design. While the newsletter may have a new look, we're still committed to keeping you informed of all Village happenings. Happy reading!

ADMINISTRATION



Holiday Events

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

The annual Touch-A-Truck event will take place on Saturday, October 28 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Machesney Town Center (8750 North 2nd Street). Bring your family to explore firetrucks, construction trucks, emergency vehicles, and more!

A Trunk-or-Treat will also be offered, thanks to generous donations by Meijer. Kids can dress up in their favorite Halloween costume and enjoy this incredibly fun and free event sponsored by the Village of Machesney Park.



LIGHT UP THE PARKS PARADE & CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

The Light up the Parks Holiday Parade will be held on Sunday, November 19 and begin at 4:45 p.m. The parade route will travel from GE (Schneider) Electric parking lot on Clifford Avenue, turn north on Elm Avenue, turn left onto Roosevelt Road, cross North 2nd Street and conclude at the Town Center located at 8750 North 2nd Street.

Join us immediately after the parade as we light the Village's 30 foot Christmas tree!



TRICK-OR-TREAT HOURS

Tuesday, October 31

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Have a safe and happy halloween!



HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

Now through December 9

Donate unwrapped toys at Village Hall



Gifts are distributed to beneficiaries of the Helping Hands Pantry

Upcoming Village Hall Closures

October 9 – Indigenous Peoples' Day

November 10 – Veterans Day

November 23 & 24 – Thanksgiving ★

★ Garbage collection delayed 1 day

December 25 & 26 – Merry Christmas!

December 29 & January 1 – Happy New Year!

January 15 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 19 – Presidents' Day



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



New Business Activity

STARBUCKS

A new Starbucks will soon be constructed in front of the Machesney Town Center next to Burger King. The freestanding 2,500 square foot location will feature a drive-thru and dining room. This will be the first new construction project the Town Center outlot properties have seen in 20 years!



ROCKFORD COMMUNITY BANK

A local financial institution will soon open a new branch in Machesney Park. Rockford Community Bank, a Wintrust Community Bank, is slated to construct a new location on the north east corner of Perryville Road and Route 173.



HENNIG INC.

Chip management and machine protection manufacturer, Hennig, is once again expanding its operations in Machesney Park. This latest expansion will include a 290,000 square foot addition to the company's property on Marlin Drive. As part of this expansion, the company plans to hire 160-250 new workers. Once complete, Hennig's total footprint in Machesney Park will exceed 700,000 square feet!

NORTH 2ND STREET REDEVELOPMENT

The buildings located in the 7800 block of North 2nd Street are soon to be transformed as part of a new redevelopment project. Once complete, the property will feature a new building facade, parking lot, and retail business space.



MISTER CAR WASH

A new Mister Car Wash location is slated to be constructed this spring on Alpine Road behind Chick-fil-A. The car wash will feature interior and exterior cleaning services, as well as self-service vacuums.



Shop Local this Winter Season

Did you know that shopping and dining at your favorite Machesney Park businesses and restaurants makes a huge difference in our community? By shopping local, you are helping to keep the Machesney Park economy strong, create local job opportunities and uphold Machesney Park as the area's destination to shop, dine, and explore.



PUBLIC WORKS



Fall Service Updates

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Yard waste can be disposed of as part of your regular weekly garbage pick-up through the first week of December by placing waste in brown yard waste bags or in containers marked with an "X".



Yard waste consists of grass clippings, leaves, and small branches. All branches and bush trimmings that cannot fit into bags or in a container can be cut and bundled no more than four feet long and two feet in diameter and tied with string or twine.



LEAF VACUUMING

Leaf vacuuming begins the week of October 16 and runs through the first week of December. Vacuuming will alternate weekly between the west and east sides of North 2nd Street, with the west side being vacuumed on the first week. Leaves may be placed along the road edge for collection. Leaves should be raked to an area away from gravel and just off the roadway where trucks can reach them.

Leaf vacuuming schedules are subject to change based on weather and other factors. Stay tuned to the Village's website and social media feeds for service updates. Please contact Rock River Disposal at (815) 965-2489 with questions regarding leaf vacuuming and yard waste removal services.



Infrastructure Improvement & Maintenance

WRAPPING UP THE CONSTRUCTION SEASON

From new sidewalk and stormwater facility construction to road resurfacing, the Village has undertaken several significant construction projects this year. The two largest projects are located in the Steele Drive/Burden Road/Forest Hills Road areas with the remediation of Gateway Pond, and the construction of new storm sewer facilities that will provide stormwater management for future Burden Road and Forest Hills Road Improvements.

GATEWAY POND PROGRESS

Gateway Pond, located on the south side of Steele Drive, is under remediation to remove silts and sediments that have accumulated over the past 20 years. The pond's spillways will be replaced, and the dead trees and overgrowth that took over the area has been removed. The pond will soon be restored with native prairie seed that will prevent erosion and provide natural habitat for pollinators such as butterflies and bees, and will have wildflowers that are in bloom year-round.



PUBLIC WORKS



Preparing for Winter Weather

SNOW & ICE CONTROL

The Village's snow and ice control operations are commenced as precipitation begins to accumulate. Public Works staff and our contractors are initially engaged to begin salting operations on primary traffic routes, such as Forest Hills Road, Mitchell Road, Harlem Road, and Alpine Road. For safety reasons, primary roads are serviced first because they contain higher traffic volumes. Soon thereafter, Village crews begin salting major collector streets that link primary roads with schools and residential subdivisions.

The Public Works Department and our contractors work together to decide how to handle each unique weather event. Drifting, road material, sun exposure and elevations are all factors that affect road conditions. Please slow down and drive safely during inclement weather conditions this winter.



PARKING DURING SNOW EMERGENCIES

The Village will declare a snow emergency when forecasted weather conditions indicate a significant snow event. Parking is **not** permitted on any road, highway, roadway shoulder, ditch, or any other property used, or which could be used, as a roadway within the Village during a snow emergency declaration.

A snow emergency will be declared by posting a press release on the Village's website and social media feeds. Once announced, a snow emergency remains in effect until the snow has been removed from the full width of the street or until the Public Works Director declares the snow emergency is over.



MAILBOX DAMAGE

While the Village's public works crews and snow plow contractors exercise great caution and safety during plowing operations, it is possible that your mailbox may be damaged by a snowplow blade. If it is determined that the Village is at fault, you can receive reimbursement for damages. Please complete our online reimbursement form at machesneypark.org/winterweather to submit a claim. Forms may also be completed at Village Hall. All claims must be submitted within 10 days of the date of damages.



Helping Your Neighbors This Winter

Many people rely on walking and transit as their primary way to travel, and without a wide, clear path through snow and ice, it is especially difficult for people with disabilities, seniors, and children to walk safely. Property owners and occupants are highly encouraged to keep the sidewalks on their property clear of snow and ice.



CODE ENFORCEMENT



Recreational Vehicles

REGULATIONS OVERVIEW

Village officials have received reports regarding the improper use of recreational vehicles throughout the Village. Please be aware that all small, non-street legal, motorized vehicles designed for recreational enjoyment, including all-terrain vehicles, gators, three-wheelers, four-wheelers, snowmobiles, golf carts, dirt bikes, etc. are regulated in the Village of Machesney Park.

ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Recreational vehicles may not be operated on private property, except for unloading or storage purposes. Unauthorized use of these vehicles on private is prohibited and subject to fines.

Golf Carts may be operated on private property for use with legitimate grounds maintenance activities.

Recreational vehicles may be stored on private property, so long as they are in a rear or side yard and on an approved hard surface.

ON PUBLIC ROADS & RIGHT-OF-WAYS

It is unlawful for any person to drive or operate an off-highway vehicle upon any street, highway, or roadway in the State of Illinois. The Village also prohibits the use of these vehicles on Village streets.

The use of recreational vehicles on any roadway is subject to fines and confiscation. If you witness anyone using recreational vehicles illegally, please report it to the Sheriff's Department by calling the non-emergency line at (815) 282-2600. Callers do not need to give their name or any personal information to report violations.



Burning Regulations

RECREATIONAL FIRES

Recreational campfires are permitted year round, however the materials to be burned must be clean, firewood, cut to a size of not longer than 22 inches in length and not larger than 11 inches in diameter.

Recreational fires must be kept in a pit or ring structure and have extinguishing tools readily available at all times. Fires must be extinguished by midnight and not re-lit before 6:00 a.m.



LEAF BURNING

Separate from recreational fires, leaf burning is permitted during the months of **April & November**. During this time period, residents may burn sticks, woods, leaves, and other yard waste. Burning of any other items is prohibited.

Residents are asked to check with their neighbors prior to burning in case they have health problems which might be affected by smoke, so that an appropriate time to burn can be arranged.

When atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make fires hazardous, leaf burning will be prohibited.



PLANNING & ZONING



Home Occupation Permits

DO I NEED A PERMIT?

As more and more people work from home, the Village would like to remind residents that some home-based businesses require a Home Occupation Permit, while others cannot be conducted from a property in a residential neighborhood at all due to their potential impact on the quiet enjoyment of neighboring properties.

If you are working remotely for a business or other employer headquartered elsewhere, you do not need a home occupation permit. The same is true if you work as a sales representative for a multi-level marketing company, or if you sell merchandise online on sites such as Ebay or Etsy.

OCCUPATIONS THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT

You are required to have a permit if you have customers coming to your home, or if you wish to have a sign at your home to advertise your business.

Examples of home occupations that require a permit:

• **Home Daycares** • **Accounting/Tax Preparation** • **Beauty Salons** • **Contractors** • **Bakeries & other "Cottage Food Operations"**

You may also need to be licensed by the State to conduct your business, and/or approved by the Winnebago County Health Department.

Certain home occupations are only permitted at your home if a Special Use Permit is approved for the business such as, doctor, dentist, chiropractor, and massage therapist practices.

In addition, some occupations, such as the selling of firearms, smoking products and alcoholic beverages, car washes, car repair, kennels, and tattooing or body piercing are **prohibited** from being operated in residential areas.

HOW TO OBTAIN A PERMIT

Permits can be applied for in-person at Village Hall, or online at machesneypark.org/licenses. The fee for a permit is \$10, and does not require annual renewal.

If you have questions about home occupations or the permitting process, please contact the Village's Community Development Department at (815) 877-5432, or send an email to carrieh@machesneypark.org and include the type of business you would like to operate and your address.

Military Banner Recognition Program

The Village is seeking new submissions for its Military Banner Recognition Program! The program honors selfless individuals that are serving or have served in the United States Armed Forces by displaying banners in the median of N. Second Street, south of Harlem Road, between Presidents' Day and Veterans Day each year.

To learn more about the program and to apply, visit machesneypark.org/military or contact the Village's Community Development Department at (815) 877-5432.





300 Roosevelt Road
Machesney Park, Illinois 61115
(815) 877-5432 | machesneypark.org

PUBLIC SAFETY



Vehicle Theft Prevention

According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), nearly 1 million cars were stolen in 2022. Here are a few ways you can reduce your risk of becoming a victim of vehicle theft:



- Do not leave your keys in your vehicle
- Close & lock all windows and doors
- Never leave your car running and unattended
- Do not leave valuables in your vehicle

Winter Weather Safety Tips

STAY OFF THE ROADS

During inclement weather, refrain from traveling if at all possible. If you must drive, slow down, don't crowd snow plows, and prepare an emergency supply kit for your vehicle.

AVOID FIRE HAZARDS & CARBON MONOXIDE EXPOSURE

Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters. In addition, install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.

KEEP FIRE HYDRANTS CLEAR

If there is a fire hydrant on your property, please provide a 3-foot clearance for area fire agencies to access them in the event of an emergency.

Have a safe & happy holiday season!

Village of Machesney Park Elected Officials



Steve Johnson
MAYOR



Deb Alms
TREASURER



Joe Seipts
TRUSTEE | DISTRICT 1



Jodi Stromberg
TRUSTEE | DISTRICT 2



James Kidd
TRUSTEE | DISTRICT 3



Aaron Wilson
TRUSTEE | DISTRICT 4



Terri Bailey
TRUSTEE | DISTRICT 5



Julie Boggie
TRUSTEE | DISTRICT 6

machesneypark.org/villageofficials

Slow Down in School Zones

School zone speed limits are set to reduce the speed of travelers during school hours when children are present. Machesney Park deputies are assigned to various grade schools and Harlem High School during drop-off and pick-up hours to ensure the safety of our children.

