

# Grayslake Record



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February 2019

## 2019 Winter Season Reminder

Citizen efforts are important to create safer road and pedestrian conditions. As a reminder, responsibilities required by Village ordinance are as follows:

- 1. Sidewalk Snow Removal:** Residents are required to clear sidewalks adjacent to their homes of snow and ice within 24 hours of a snowfall.
- 2. Putting Snow In Streets:** Please do not deposit snow on streets when shoveling sidewalks or driveways.
- 3. Parking On Streets:** Parking on Village streets is prohibited during periods where snow removal operations are underway. Vehicles may be ticketed and/or towed at owner's expense.

Property owners are subject to the enforcement of these Village ordinances which could result in fines for non-compliance. The Village thanks residents for their cooperation in helping make our community a safer place during the winter season.

## Seasonal Employment Opportunities with the Village of Grayslake!

The Village is currently accepting applications for seasonal employment for the Public Works Department and the Esper A. Petersen Foundation Family Aquatic Center. Information on these opportunities can be found below:

### Lifeguards and Swim Instructors

The Village is seeking candidates for seasonal employees for lifeguards and swim instructors for the summer 2019 season. The starting wage for swim instructor positions and lifeguard positions is \$9.50 +/- per hour. Applicants must be at least 17 years of age for swim instructor and at least 16 years of age for lifeguard.

Interested applicants should submit a Village employment application to Village Hall, 10 S. Seymour Avenue, or by email to [cmuscato@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:cmuscato@villageofgrayslake.com). An employment application is available at [www.swimgrayslake.com](http://www.swimgrayslake.com). Applications should be submitted by February 18, 2019.

### General Manager

The Village is seeking qualified candidates for the role of General Manager for the upcoming 2019 summer season at the Esper A. Petersen Foundation Family Aquatic Center. The starting wage for this position is \$16.00 +/- per hour. For more information, please visit the employment section at [www.swimgrayslake.com](http://www.swimgrayslake.com) or call 847-223-7665. Applications should be submitted by February 18, 2019.

### Swim Lessons Coordinator

The Village is seeking qualified candidates for the role of Swim Lessons Coordinator for the upcoming 2019 summer season at the Esper A. Petersen Foundation Family Aquatic Center. The starting wage for this position is \$12.00 +/- per hour. For more information, please visit the employment section at [www.swimgrayslake.com](http://www.swimgrayslake.com) or call 847-223-7665. Applications should be submitted by February 18, 2019.

### Seasonal Public Works Crew Member

The Village is seeking qualified candidates for Public Works seasonal positions working from approximately May 15<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>. The positions are for 40 hours per week at starting at \$10.00 +/- per hour with the opportunity for overtime. Typical duties for these positions include landscaping, painting, litter removal, tree trimming, and other general maintenance. Applications are available at [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com) and should be submitted no later than Friday, April 5, 2019 to Village of Grayslake Attn: Jennifer Hess, 10 S. Seymour Avenue or to [jhess@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:jhess@villageofgrayslake.com).

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## Reminders

### Water & Sewer Bill Payment Options

Residents have six options to pay their water and sewer bills:

1. Electronically
2. Automatic debit
3. By phone (1-844-463-8922)
4. By mail
5. In person at Grayslake Village Hall
6. Drop box at Village Hall

For additional information regarding water bill payment options including auto-debit enrollment, please visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com), "Water & Sewer Services", under the Residents tab or contact the Request for Service System at 847-223-8515.

### Senior Citizen Electricity Surcharge Rebate

The Village's senior citizen electricity surcharge rebate reimburses individuals 65 years of age or older (as of April 1, 2018) for the amount of electricity surcharge paid on their electric bill during the previous year, not to exceed \$20.

Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>, eligible individuals should submit copies of their past electric bills dated April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019 at the Village Hall, 10 S. Seymour Avenue. A valid driver's license or ID card is required. Past electric bills will be accepted April 1, 2019 - April 30, 2019.

## From the Mayor...

In the middle 1980s, after years of intergovernmental planning, Grayslake joined a number of other municipalities and Lake County to form the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency ("CLCJAWA") to provide Lake Michigan drinking water. The new high quality water source replaced wells with their water quality and supply issues for the involved municipalities. Even today having Lake Michigan water puts Grayslake in the top tier of communities.

Of course creating an agency took foresight, effort and cooperation. Building the water intake pipe, treatment plant, pumping capacity/storage and water lines to transport the water to all the communities took money. Voters overwhelmingly approved a referendum to impose a new property tax for the agency to pay for a portion of this new utility (water rates paid for the remainder). At that time the estimated property tax rate for the property tax supported bonds was \$.34/\$100 of assessed value for each home or business. Today a home with a value of \$275,000 would pay approximately \$311/year at this property tax rate. Fortunately over the last 30 years growth within the agency service area had allowed CLCJAWA to lower its property tax rate to much below the rate contemplated at the formation of CLCJAWA. This month the last payments will be made on the property tax bonds. As a result the CLCJAWA portion of your property tax bill will be eliminated. There are no plans to issue any new property tax bonds for CLCJAWA.

The elimination of the water agency property tax is a positive step. In addition to its role in CLCJAWA the Village has taken steps to lower its tax rate for municipal services. Since 1984 the combined tax

rates for municipal purposes have declined 51%. If the Village tax rate had remained unchanged today a home with a value of \$275,000 would be paying \$540 more in property taxes for Village operations. As the Village rate has declined so has the Village's share of a typical tax bill from 13% to just under 5%.

Like everything else, the costs of your municipal services will rise for inflation. Over the long-term controlling property taxes, and other service fees, can only happen if operating costs are controlled and, if possible, debt is limited. Since 1992 the Village has tracked the increase in per-person operating costs. Since then the Village's operating costs, including the addition of some new services, have increased almost 35% less than inflation. This has been possible by innovative approaches, like contracting for services versus in-house staffing and other operating techniques, that have allowed for a 60% reduction, through attrition, of full-time non-police officer staffing. The Village, for many years, has also employed a pay-as-you-go approach to infrastructure capital spending and this has allowed the Village to maintain its debt-free status since 2009. This cost containment and debt avoidance have allowed the Village Board in some years to take less property tax dollars than allowed under law.

Sincerely,



Rhett Taylor, Mayor

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### Senior Center

As the holidays and New Year's events have ended, different programs and activities have begun at the Grayslake Senior Center. The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Active independent seniors 60 and over can enjoy socializing with others by participating in exercise classes, Yoga, Tai Chi, computer classes, crafts and many more activities/programs. Please review our newsletter at the Village website [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com) for complete details of events. If you have any questions, stop by 50 Library Lane for a tour or call 847-543-1041 for more information.

## **FREE RECYCLE CAN UPGRADE PROGRAM**

Now through February 15<sup>th</sup>, registration is open for the 2019 garbage and recycle can exchange programs. Registration for the program is between January 1 and February 15, 2019. Residents opting to exchange their garbage can may choose one of three sizes:

**90-gallon (\$20.82 / month)**

**65-gallon (\$18.57 / month)**

**35-gallon (\$15.48 / month)**

Residents may also choose a FREE UPGRADE for their recycle

can size from 65-gallon to 96-gallon. An upgraded recycle can offers more recycling room, same floor space as smaller cans and less waste, which could result in reducing your garbage can size.

The exchange of the can(s) takes place during the month of March and the rate change will take effect on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The exchange is for residents who would like to have either a smaller or larger can size. For more information or to register for the exchange program, please contact 847-223-8515 or visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com/r4s](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com/r4s).

## Village Announcements

### Who Plows Where?

#### Village Responsibilities

- Village streets (except private streets)
- Municipal parking lots/alleys
- Metra parking lots

Other agencies are responsible for snow and ice removal on the following roads:

#### Lake County Division of Transportation

- Alleghany Road (south of Route 120)
- Casey Road
- Center Street (east of Route 83 to Route 45)
- Rollins Road
- Washington Street
- Peterson Road
- Midlothian Road

#### Illinois Department of Transportation

- Route 45
- Route 83 (Barron Boulevard)
- Route 120 (Belvidere Road)
- Route 137

Avon and Warren Townships also assist the Village in selected areas.

### Community Involvement Grant Pilot Program

The Village of Grayslake has launched the Community Involvement Grant Pilot Program!

The purpose of the Community Involvement Grant Pilot Program is to offer public support for Grayslake-based non-profit organizations with Village sponsored grants, which are used to enhance the missions of each organization and add to the overall well-being of the community. The program seeks to form strong ties between the Village and its residents by demonstrating our commitment to groups that add to our quality of life and provide a positive impact on the community.

More information on the Community Involvement Grant Pilot program, including the application for grant funding can be found on [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com) under the "Community" tab.

### Sidewalk Replacement Program

The Village's 50/50 sidewalk program is for residents interested in replacing the sidewalk adjacent to their homes.

Once spring begins, the Village contracts for the replacement of the sidewalk and invoices the property owner 50% of the cost upon completion.

If you are interested in participating in this program or need additional information, please call the Village at 847-223-8515 or visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com).

### Rainwater Drains

Per Village Ordinance, roof gutters, sump pumps, and other rainwater drains are prohibited from discharging water onto any sidewalk, street or alley in the Village.

### Clearing Snow Around Fire Hydrants

Along with clearing snow and ice off of sidewalks and the end of driveways, residents are also asked to remove snow and ice around fire hydrants so that they are clear and accessible to fire crews. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Warm Up This Winter at the Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum

Makes plans to visit the Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum this month. Highlights include:

- **A New Exhibit Opening on Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 p.m. - Where the Fun Grows: 60 Years of the Grayslake Community Park District:** After a large park on Grays Lake was sold to developers, concerned citizens started the Grayslake Park District. Learn more about the Grayslake Community Park District through costumes, photos & a hands-on play area for kids.
- **Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. - Search and Share Genealogy:** Join the Grayslake Historical Society & local genealogists for a lively discussion on researching family and local history. Share your own stories or come for advice from other genealogists.
- **Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. - Saturday Kids! Bowling Games:** 9 pins, 10 pins, 2 balls, obstacles. We'll travel through time and around the world as we play all kinds of bowling games this morning. Look for a Saturday Kids! program on the second Saturday of each month.
- **Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. - Lake County Folk Club concert** featuring Donna Herula and Tony Nardiello with opener Peter MacDonald. Tickets: general audience \$18, seniors \$15, Folk Club members \$13.
- **Tales Unveiled** - An exhibit revealing the secret stories hidden inside Grayslake artifacts, as told by the artifacts themselves. Explore newly uncovered historical facts and tales previously unknown about these artifacts.

For more information, visit us at [www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com](http://www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com), call 847-543-1745, or email Michelle Poe at [mpoe@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:mpoe@villageofgrayslake.com). For more information on the Grayslake Historical Society, visit [www.grayslakehistory.org](http://www.grayslakehistory.org), call 847-223-7663 or email Charlotte Renehan at [charenehan@aol.com](mailto:charenehan@aol.com).

### Friends of the Grayslake Library 2019 Winter Concert Series

The Grayslake Area Public Library is pleased to announce the 2019 Friends of the Library Winter Concert Series lineup. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, all concerts are free, no registration is required and all ages are welcome.

**Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.** Enjoy songs from composers as diverse as Johnny Mercer, Lennon and McCartney with this jazz-inspired ensemble of talented musicians. Multiplicity will draw from varied eras and styles, creating fresh, improvised interpretations of music by legendary artists. For more information visit [www.grayslake.info](http://www.grayslake.info).

### CLC James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts

**Elisa Monte Dance Does Brubeck on Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** A joyous, jazzy high-energy dance performance by Elisa Monte Dance Company set to the live music of Chris Brubeck's "Triple Play" band. Guaranteed to have you dancing in your seat!

To receive weekly updates about our season, text JLCEMAIL to 22828. Call the JLC Box Office at 847-543-2300 or visit [www.clcillinois.edu/tickets](http://www.clcillinois.edu/tickets) for more information.

## Lake County Fairgrounds Events

- 2019 Craft Beer Festival: Saturday, February 23 from 5:00 - 10:00 p.m. For more information please visit [www.lcfair.com](http://www.lcfair.com).
- Northern Illinois Boat Show: Thursday, February 28 - Sunday, March 3. For more information please visit [www.illinoisboatshow.com](http://www.illinoisboatshow.com).
- Survival & Green Living Show: Saturday, March 9 - Sunday, March 10. For more information please visit [www.rkpreppershows.com](http://www.rkpreppershows.com)
- Lake County RV Outlet Show: Friday, March 22 - Sunday, March 24. For more information please visit [www.gener-alrv.com](http://www.gener-alrv.com).

## Elected Officials

### Mayor

Rhett Taylor [mayortaylor@hotmail.com](mailto:mayortaylor@hotmail.com)

### Trustees

Shawn Vogel [trusteevogel@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteevogel@hotmail.com)

Ron Jarvis [trusteejarvis@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteejarvis@hotmail.com)

Kevin Waldenstrom [trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com)

Elizabeth Davies [trusteedavies@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteedavies@hotmail.com)

Adam Shores [trusteeshores@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteeshores@hotmail.com)

Heather Nicodemus [trusteenicodemus@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteenicodemus@hotmail.com)

*To see our major meeting schedule, please visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com).*