

Village of ORLAND PARK Public

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Spring, 2007 • Volume 26, Number 2

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**VILLAGE OF
ORLAND PARK
BIENNIAL VEHICLE
STICKERS**
are due this year.
See page 12 for details.
All vehicles registered to
Village of Orland Park
addresses must display
current village
vehicle stickers.

State of the Village Highlighted

by Mayor Daniel J. McLaughlin

In February, I was invited by the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce to give the annual State of the Village Address. This yearly event allows me to highlight the many accomplishments of every village department. Although space does not allow me to include everything in this newsletter, I want to touch on a few of those items and some of the projects that are planned for this year. You may, however, view the entire State of the Village broadcast on Comcast Channel 4.

This is the fourth year that the village is rebating property taxes. For those residents who are eligible and applied for a tax rebate, the village mailed checks rebating 100% of the 2005 property taxes paid to the village in 2006. The village estimates that the total 2005 tax year rebate will amount to approximately \$5,100,000. This property tax rebate was included in the FY2007 Budget.

Property taxes abated for the tax year 2006 amounted to \$1.2 million. The abatement will be reflected on tax bills paid by taxpayers in 2007.

The Village of Orland Park remains fiscally sound. I'm happy to report that village's bond rating was recently upgraded by both Moody's and Standard & Poor's. Our current Moody's rating is Aa2 and our current Standard & Poor's rating is AA+. The ratings reflect the village's substantial and growing tax base, strong finances with retained revenue flexibility and moderate debt burden.

Orland Park ranked seventh in the state for total sales tax revenue for the calendar year 2005. The village's total earned revenue for the twelve month period ending September 30, 2006 amounted to approximately \$27,647,000, including the village's Home Rule Sales Tax.



As a village, we're still growing as evidenced by the number of permits issued. The village issued 182 new residential permits, over 1400 residential remodel and addition permits and 33 new commercial building permits in 2006. We welcomed a significant number of new financial institutions, restaurants and commercial businesses to town.

A new Village Center Zoning District was created to guide and encourage redevelopment of the area roughly bounded by the Norfolk Southern Railroad, 147th Street, Humphrey Drive and Ravinia Avenue. This area includes the Triangle District, Orland Park Crossing and the Village Center. We envision a lively, pedestrian-friendly area of mixed residential and commercial uses with attractive public spaces. These elements already exist at Orland Park Crossing.

continued on the following page

State of the Village continued

Public Works is working with consultants for the design and construction of existing and new infrastructure improvements to the Main Street Triangle, including 142nd Street, intersection improvement at 142nd and LaGrange Road, overall layout and design and the Metra parking lot construction. They are also working on street and seasonal lighting on major roadways within the village. Additionally, we are working with consultants for state roadway improvements and coordinating efforts for road improvements with the Cook County Highway Department.

The Recreation Department introduced a number of new athletic programs and exceeded 4,500 participants overall last year. We were host to over 10,000 participants attending the two-day Independence Spectacular and over 55,000 patrons at the Taste of Orland Park.

In addition to recreation programs, the village hosted many special community events throughout the year.

More information on this year's events can be found in the Special Events Guide 2007 which was mailed to every household and on the village's website at www.orland-park.il.us.

I know that I've talked about improving the intersection of 159th and LaGrange Road for some time. I can now report that IDOT recently awarded the contract for the intersection improvements. Utility relocations have begun and construction will continue through the summer of 2008. When completed, there will be nine lanes north and south, and seven lanes east and west at that intersection. This will solve the biggest bottleneck in the village.

Orland Park is one of the premier communities in the Chicago area and we've had a lot of successes of which we are very proud. We are fortunate to have an outstanding staff and numerous volunteers who serve on boards and commissions to help us realize these accomplishments.

Village of Orland Park Art Fair



hosted by the
Village of Orland Park
Arts Commission



Saturday, July 14
10am to 5pm
Sunday, July 15
11am to 4pm



Orland Park
Crossing
143rd & LaGrange Rd
Free Admission & Parking

The fourth annual Art Fair will showcase 60 artists from across the country. View and purchase original pieces in two and three dimensional forms. Enjoy live music, refreshments, a community art project and a children's art area at this outdoor gallery. For more information, call 708/403-6145.



Mayor McLaughlin Salutes Outstanding Youth

Providence Catholic High School Varsity Cheerleaders finished second in the state competition. Congratulations to Orland Park squad members **Olivia Goetz, Kelsey Mayher, Kristi Gabriel, Natalie Anderson, Tara George, Brittany Klimek, Stephanie Wic** and **Sam Hawkinson** on a great win!

Congratulations to Providence Catholic High School senior **Petro Czerniak** for being chosen to play on the Chicago Catholic League All-Star soccer team.

Sandburg's Varsity Girls Bowlers placed second at the 2007 SWSC championship. All-Conference members included **Erin Czuprynski**, who took the conference crown, **Jenny Binkowski** who placed fourth and **Kelly Binkowski** who placed sixth. Sophomores **Jen Harder** placed fifth, **Ashley Bujak** placed seventh and **Danielle**

Diamond placed tenth. Congratulations on a great conference!

Congratulations to Eagle wrestling State Champions **Conrad Polz, Matt Cusick, John Morrison, John Doyle** and **Eric Rettke**. This is the second year in a row that Sandburg's wrestling team has taken the IHSA state championship.

Congratulations to Cardinal Joseph Bernadin sixth grader **DeAnna A. DeHoff**. Her poem, "Spring," was chosen for publication in the Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans®. The Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans® provides a forum through which young authors can see their work and the work of other students published in an actual book.

CodeRED® Delivers Village's Important Messages

CodeRED® allows the Village of Orland Park to call targeted areas or the entire community in case of an emergency or urgent situation that requires immediate attention, such as a boil-water notice, missing child announcement or public notifications. It delivers the village's recorded message to a live person or an answering machine, making three attempts



to connect to any number. **Village residents and businesses are urged to visit the village's website at www.orland-park.il.us, click on "Village Services" and complete the CodeRED® Residential and Business Data Collection Application Form to update the contact information.** Required information includes first and last name, street address (physical address, no post office boxes), city, state, zip code, and primary phone number. Additional phone numbers, i.e., such as cell phone numbers, are optional.

Water Conservation Program Begins May 15

Orland Park's Water Conservation Program is in effect annually May 15 through September 15. Over the last several years, as the community has grown, it has become more difficult to maintain adequate water levels during the summer months. **Lawn sprinkling is only permitted between the hours of 7 and 11 - both a.m. and p.m. - year around.** Between May 15 and September 15 peak water conservation measures are in effect. **All outdoor water usage (sprinkling, washing cars, watering flowers, etc.) is restricted to an odd/even address basis and only during the hours of 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. on the permitted day.**

ODD/EVEN ADDRESS SYSTEM EXPLAINED

Homes and businesses with addresses ending in 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8 may sprinkle between 7 and 11 a.m. or p.m. only on even numbered days.

Those with addresses ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 may sprinkle between 7 and 11 a.m. or p.m. only on odd numbered days.

Regulated outdoor water usage includes but is not limited to, all lawn and garden sprinkling by hose-fed sprinklers or underground irrigation systems for residential and commercial properties, all non-commercial car washing, residential pool maintenance and other similar uses, but shall not include water used for construction or building renovation purposes, commercial car-wash operations or filling of swimming pools. Newly sodded lawns may be watered more frequently upon application for and receipt of a special permit from the Public Works Department. **Those violating the village's water usage provisions are subject to fines of \$750 for each offense.** Each day of violation and each violating location shall be considered a separate offense. Questions may be directed to the Public Works Department at 403-6350.

Special Services Offers Vets' Assistance

The Office of Special Services has moved from the lower level of the Village Hall and is located in the main lobby. The phone number for the office is 403-6150. The Office of Special Services' purpose is to serve the diverse needs of Orland Park residents. One of the services that the office provides is assistance for veterans. Village staff can help veterans obtain service medals to which they are entitled, provide information on the V.A. health care enrollment process and help complete the enrollment form. Throughout the year, the office offer seminars on topics of interest to veterans.

Allow extra time when applying for passports.

Applications and Photos Available At Orland Park Village Hall

In January and February of this year, the village's Office of Special Services processed more than 1,500 passport applications. Because of the high volume, applicants should allow extra time between applying for and receiving passports. We can only anticipate that these time periods will be extended as the year continues. It would be wise to obtain your passport well before making any travel plans. Special Services calls the downtown office weekly to ask how long it is taking for passports to be processed. As of this writing, it is taking eight to ten weeks for regular service and four to six weeks for those who pay extra to expedite their applications.

JANUARY 23, 2007

Passports required for all air travel to or from Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Bermuda.

JANUARY 1, 2008

Passport requirement extended to all sea and land border crossings and air travel.

Emergency Medical I.D. Bracelets Available

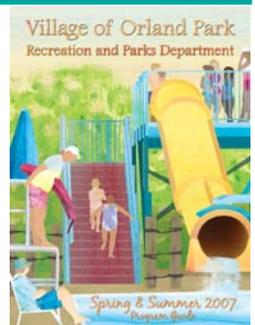
Mayor McLaughlin's Emergency Identification Bracelet Program is a free service for Village of Orland Park residents. Seniors, disabled and children with medical conditions or special needs may come to the Office of Special Services to complete an application which includes their name, address, persons to be notified in case of emergency, medications taken, physician's information and current health problems. This information, along with a digital photograph, is entered into a secure computer database.

The identification bracelet has a spandex wrist bracelet with a compartment. Engraved on the lid of the compartment is the Orland Park Police phone number. Opening the lid of the compartment reveals a code number that corresponds to the participant's database record. If someone discovers a senior or disabled person lost, confused or otherwise incapacitated, s/he can call the number on the compartment lid, and provide the Orland Park Police Department with the code number on the inside. Immediate assistance can be dispatched and appropriate medical attention administered based on the information from the senior's application.

Audio Tapes Available

This publication, the "Orland Park Public," is available on professionally recorded audiocassettes. Cassette tapes are available FREE for visually impaired village residents. For more information, call the Office of Special Services at 403-6150.

See the Spring/Summer Recreation & Parks Department Guide for all of your summer fun needs!



Veterans' Services Available At Village Hall

The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs officially opened its new office in Orland Park last January. The office is located in the Village of Orland Park Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. The Illinois State Veterans' Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Services include providing assistance to veterans and their families located in Orland Park and the surrounding areas. Veterans will also be able to file VA claims for federal and state benefits, apply for copies of discharges, military records and medical records. The office is able to provide assistance with VA headstones, federal and state educational benefits and claims for VA medical benefits. For more information, call the Veterans' Service Officer at 403-2011 or the Office of Special Services at 403-6150.

No Excuse Required to Vote Early

by Village Clerk David P. Maher

The next local election is Tuesday, April 17, 2007. Polls open at 6:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. The Clerk's Office will be staffed from 5:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Residents with questions about polling place locations may call 403-6150.

Dial-A-Ride to the Polls... Residents who don't have transportation to their polling places can schedule a ride to the polls on Election Day. For your convenience the Village of Orland Park is providing a bus service to take residents to and from the polls on Tuesday, April 17, 2007. For more information call the Dial-A-Ride dispatcher at 403-6355 or my office at 403-6150.

College students home on spring break, business travelers or election judges now have two options for voting.

EARLY VOTING... Early voting is offered for **all** suburban Cook County residents March 26, 2007 through April 12, 2007. There are no restrictions to vote early. Suburban Cook County residents who wish to vote early may do so. You **do not** need a reason such as being out of town or in surgery to vote early. Simply come in and cast your ballot!

All early voters must show a government-issued photo identification in order to vote early. This ID must be an Illinois driver's license, a state ID or other government-issued i.d. such as a passport. No other type of identification will be accepted.

Early Voting will be available at the Clerk's Office, located on the main floor of the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and for your convenience on Saturday, March 31st and April 7th from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

ABSENTEE VOTING is an option for those out of the county on Election Day, performing certain election duties, a student attending college and temporarily residing at school, serving as a juror, observing a

religious holiday, physically incapacitated, or are a pre-trial detainee.

Residents can pickup an absentee voter application in the Clerk's Office located on the main floor of the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall. You do not need any form of identification to absentee vote, but you **will** need a reason.



YOU MUST BE A REGISTERED VOTER IN ORDER TO VOTE IN ANY ELECTION.

Voter's registration closed on Tuesday, March 20, 2007. **Cook County closes voter registration 28 days before an election.** Registration is scheduled to **re-open on April 19, 2007** at 8:00 a.m.

Can't come into our office but want to register to vote in Cook County? Need to find out where to go to vote? Not sure if you are registered in Orland Park? Visit David Orr's Cook County website at www.voterinonet.com or call the Clerk's Office at 403-6150.

This site gives you summaries of recent election returns in the suburbs of Cook County. It has a mail-in registration form that you can download if it's inconvenient for you to come into our office to register. **If you mail-in your registration, you must vote in-person the first time you vote, so absentee voting would not be an option for you.**

VIRTUAL BALLOT... A virtual ballot, which allows registered voters to learn about the candidates appearing on their ballot will be available online at least one month before the April 17, 2007 Election. View your virtual ballot on the Cook County website www.voterinonet.com, by clicking the ELECTION tab, candidates' tab, click on virtual ballot and type your information required. Your ballot will then appear.

EARLY VOTING THROUGH APRIL 12, 2007
is available for **all** suburban Cook County voters at
Orland Park's Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia.
Call 403-6150 for details.

Progress Continues In Orland Park

by Trustee Kathy Fenton, Chair
Building and Zoning Committee



Orland Park continues to be the community of choice, as is illustrated by the continuing construction in the village. The Village of Orland Park issued 2,899 permits in 2006. Residential subdivisions under way or near completion include Southmoor with 186 single family homes and 39 townhomes (180 condominium units will begin shortly), Charleton Highlands with 23 single family lots, Fountain Village with 35 townhomes, Orland Crossing with 85 townhomes, and Sterling Ridge with 82 single family homes.

A total of 182 residential permits were issued, including 82 single family homes; 49 townhomes; 51 condos with a valuation of \$63,907,734. Residential remodel and addition permits were substantial, totaling over 1400. New building commercial permits totaled 33 in 2006 with a valuation of \$53,514,250 compared to 28 new building commercial permits issued in 2005 with a valuation of \$47,664,489. Commercial remodeling permits in 2006 reflect an investment of \$27,530,823 into existing businesses.

Large, new commercial projects in 2006 included Costco at 159th Street and Ravinia Avenue; Lexus of Orland at 8300 West 159th Street; P.F. Chang's China Bistro at 14135 South LaGrange Road; Main Street East at 16200 South LaGrange Road; the Hilton Hotel and Conference Center at 16235 South LaGrange Road; Lowe's at 15601 South LaGrange Road and the Orland Park Business Center buildings at 115th and 184th Place. This development includes ten office buildings, the tenants of which include IIT Educational School, Metro Storage Warehouse and Tech-nic Dental Labs. And, the new METRA Train Station at 143rd Street is almost complete.

New commercial project buildings in 2006 included Frederick Eul's Building B, 16309 107th Avenue; four more Winterset Office Buildings at 165th & 106th Avenue, and 107th and 165th Avenue; Orland Park Crossings Building #4 at 15225 95th Avenue; Orland Park Business Center's building at 11545 183rd Place; HSA's Retail Mall at 9559 W. 151st Street; Orland Grove Office Park's two buildings at 107th & 143rd; and Orland Square Professional Building at 14479 John Humphrey Drive .

New financial institutions

that came to Orland Park in 2006 included Founder's Bank, 14497 John Humphrey Drive; JP Morgan, 15255 South 94th Avenue; Cole Taylor Bank, 15014 South LaGrange Road; Washington Mutual Bank, 18000 South Wolf Road; and Bank of America, 15631 South LaGrange Road.

New restaurants

that came to town in 2006 included Starbucks, 14209 South LaGrange Road and 950 Orland Square Mall; Rock Bottom Brewery, 16156 South LaGrange Road; Mimi's Café, 16154 South LaGrange Road; P.F. Chang's Chinese Bistro, 14136 South LaGrange Road; Bellissimo Kabob, 16111 South LaGrange Road; Panda Express, 31 Orland Square Drive; Panera Bread, 9505 West 142nd Street and 15845 South Harlem Avenue; Sophia's House of Pancakes, 7110 West 159th Street; Taste of Europe, 8122 West 143rd Street; Ginger Asian Bistro, 15700 South Harlem; Bobak's Orland, 11333 West 159th Street; Subway, 16093 South LaGrange Road; Yangtze River Chinese Restaurant, 15020 South LaGrange Road; Al-Amal Grocery & Bakery at 8752 West 159th Street.

The village's Development Services Department is responsible for ensuring that all developments in the village comply with public health and safety code requirements. In 2006, more than 10,500 inspections were completed for both residential and commercial developments. More than 1000 health inspections were conducted at the restaurant and food establishments in the village. Additionally, more than 1200 business licenses were issued. Each year, business license inspections are completed by inspectors for building compliance. These annual inspections are conducted with the Orland Fire Protection District and our health inspectors.

Thank you to the Development Services staff for compiling the information for this edition's column.



Trolleys Help Lessen Holiday Traffic

by Trustee Brad O'Halloran, Chair
Planning and Economic Development

This past holiday season marked the twelfth year for the village's free Holiday Shopper Trolley Service. As you know, these trolleys

travel through retail and residential areas shuttling shoppers to stores throughout the community beginning the day after Thanksgiving through the day after Christmas. The trolleys help lessen the traffic and they're a convenient and fun way to get into the holiday spirit while shopping.

Thank you to this year's trolley service sponsors, including **94 West, BMW of Orland Park, Bank Financial, Bon Fire Steakhouse, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Community Honda of Orland Park, Daily Southtown/Star Newspapers, First Midwest Bank, Fox's of Orland Park, Jewel-Osco, M.P.I. Media Group, Mercedes Benz of Orland Park, Moraine Valley Community College, Orland Square Shopping Center, Papa Joe's, U.S. Cellular, Scuba Emporium, Norman's Cleaners, Panera Bread and Prospect Equities.** Many thanks to all of you. Your support of this village holiday tradition is very much appreciated.

Technology Update

Village staff has been busy updating the village's Geographic Information System (GIS) to be able to provide interactive capabilities when using data and maps online.

This means that in the near future, an interactive mapping system will be available through the village's web site for the public to obtain property information and aerial photography, as well as to peruse points of interest, districts and boundaries. Another goal is to enable users to conduct vacant property searches and offer a map engine for developers, buyers and agents looking for the ideal location for their business.

Right now, the system continues its progress as a village-wide entity, being utilized by various municipal departments. The system enables Development Services to redefine open lands in the Comprehensive Plan, maintain a database of bike path features, and to

connect building records to respective property and address information. These innovative technological uses continue to help the village provide tremendous public services and we will keep you updated on the progress. Interested persons can check out the village's zoning map and Land Development Code on the village's website at www.orland-park.il.us.

Think spring!

The village will once again sponsor its annual Garden Contest, open to those who live in single-family residences within the corporate boundaries of the Village of Orland Park. This contest, the ninth annual, will judge amateur gardeners on originality, creativity, overall maintenance, use of native landscaping, color, texture, and on the variety and combination of plants and flowers.

First, second and third place awards will be presented for Best Use of Landscaping on a Hill, Best Use of Perennials, Best Use of Landscaping in a Natural Setting, Best Overall Maintained Landscaping, and Best Water Feature. An entry form appears on the back cover of this issue of the *Orland Park Public* and the deadline to enter is July 1. Judging will be held in late July and we'll present the awards at a board meeting to follow. Good luck to everyone!

Mark your calendars for the third annual Garden Walk, sponsored by the Open Lands of Orland Park. The event, which begins at the Orland Park Civic Center, will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., on Sunday, June 24. For more information about the Garden Contest or the Garden Walk, please call 403-6145.

Summer Jobs for Youth Program

We're ready for another season of Summer Jobs for Youth, a service designed to help local young adults seeking employment connect with local businesses looking to fill summer positions. It has been a tremendously successful partnership and an invaluable service to our young people looking for summer employment. More details on this year's programs will be made available soon. My thanks to all of the local businesses who have participated in this program and I look forward to your continued support.

Police Programs Foster Cooperation

by Trustee Ed Schussler, Chair
Police and Emergency Preparedness Committee



In 2006, the Orland Park Police Department recorded a 46% decrease in robbery, sexual assault, aggravated assault and battery, motor vehicle theft, arson and burglary. This is one of the largest decreases in these categories of violent crime that the village has ever experienced. Orland Park experienced an 8% increase in reported thefts. This increase includes shop lifting, retail and employee thefts.

In 2006, the department completed two pharmaceutical distribution drills in conjunction with Cook County and the Department of Homeland Security.

The department conducted lock down drills and follow up evaluations as part of our Safe Schools Initiative at all schools in Orland Park to enhance security in our schools.

The year 2006 included several Internet safety programs conducted for parents and school staff to illustrate the potential dangers of the Internet. This past year, beat meetings were held for all eight village beats. And, the department received national recognition for its “National Night Out Against Crime” event held in August of last year.

The Orland Park Police Department continues to offer programs that are designed to bring officers closer to residents and businesses. These efforts foster close communication in the spirit of community policing and encourage collaboration between the police and the community for crime prevention and safety measures.

Internet Safety Class Important for Parents

The department will continue to offer Internet safety presentations that heighten the awareness of parents of the inherent dangers associated with the use of the Internet by children and young people. These presentations include real time illustrations of popular websites and chat rooms (i.e., MySpace, Jmeeting and Yahoo Instant Messenger).

The presentation shows parents how to monitor their children’s online activities with the use of specially designed software. Due to the content and nature of these presentations, they are only open to adults and children are not permitted.

Beat Meetings To Return

During the months of April and May, the department will resume “Beat Meetings” in each of the eight patrol beats within the Village of Orland Park. These meetings are staffed by patrol officers, patrol supervisors and the Problem Oriented Policing Officer. The purpose of the Beat Meeting is to inform residents of the type and nature of police activity occurring in their neighborhoods and to receive feedback and questions from the residents. Residents are able to share concerns and hear directly from the police regarding issues related to their areas.

Citizens' Police Academy Is Back

Along with the much awaited warmer weather, the “Orland Park Citizens’ Police Academy” will return by popular demand. This eight week program includes one evening each week for three hours per night.

The program is designed to give citizens an overview of the operation of the Orland Park Police Department. The purpose is to develop positive relations between the Orland Park Police and the community through education and familiarization of issues facing the department. This program should create a growing number of well informed citizens who will complete the program with a general knowledge and understanding of police practices and the services that are provided.

Spring Debut Planned

Finally, the construction project for the new police headquarters at 15100 South Ravinia Avenue continues toward completion. This project is coming together nicely and the department is looking forward to the grand opening sometime in the early spring. Most of the remaining work to be done is on the outside of the structure and will continue when the weather permits. The Police Department will offer public tours of this new village facility after the ribbon cutting. More information will follow.

Special thanks to Deputy Police Chief Jerry Hughes for helping to prepare this edition's column.



Village Rebates \$5.1M to Residents

by Trustee Patricia Gira, Chair
Finance Committee

For the fifth consecutive year, the village is in the process of rebating to village residents 100% of the 2005 property taxes paid to the village in 2006. The estimated total tax year

2005 rebate will amount to more than \$5,100,000. The village has also included the property tax rebate in its FY2007 Budget.

Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Orland Park is in the process of compiling a multi-year Capital Improvement Program, a program that is vital for anticipating and planning for the physical assets of the village that are required for the safety, health and welfare of village residents. This Capital Improvement Program will be reviewed and extended on an annual basis as part of the village's annual budget process, thus maintaining a continuous multi-year program. An annual review of this program will allow the village to adjust to changing circumstances and modify the program as needs and priorities change.

Sales Tax Revenues

The Village of Orland Park was ranked seventh in the state for total sales tax revenue for calendar year 2005 (including Home Rule Sales Tax). The village's total earned revenue for the 12-month period ending September 30, 2006 amounted to approximately \$27,647,000, including the village's Home Rule Sales Tax.

Village Bond Rating

The village's bond rating was recently upgraded by two rating agencies – Moody's and Standard & Poor's. Moody's upgraded Orland Park's bond rating from Aa3 to Aa2. The rating upgrade reflects the village's substantial and growing tax base, strong finances with retained revenue flexibility and moderate debt burden due to borrowing by overlapping issuers. Standard & Poor's upgraded the village's bond rating from AA to AA+. The rating upgrade is due to strong residential and commercial growth, proven resiliency of the Orland Park's sales tax revenues and the village's maintenance of strong financial operations and reserves.

TIF Surplus Distribution

The village has declared a surplus for tax year 2005, in the amount of \$2,224,434, from its Orland Park Place TIF District. This amount was remitted to the Office of the Cook County Treasurer for further distribution to other taxing agencies. The three largest recipients are School District 135 (\$773,260), Consolidated High School District 230 (\$565,366) and the Orland Fire Protection District (\$283,412).

Financial Awards

The Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Village of Orland Park for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2005. This was the fifteenth consecutive year that Orland Park received this prestigious award. The village was also awarded the Government Finance Officers' Association Distinguished Budget Award for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006. This is the first time the village received this award in approximately ten years. Orland Park's CAFR for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2006, as well as the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget, have been submitted to GFOA for review and award.

Taste of Orland Park 2007

Plans are underway for this year's Taste of Orland Park, which will be held August 3rd to 5th at the Orland Park Village Center. Each year, the Taste gets better and better and we're looking forward to having everyone come out this year to enjoy some of the village's best eateries, live entertainment, kids' activities, community groups and more. Watch for more information in the coming months.

Questions

If you have questions about anything included here, or if you have other concerns, please send me an email at pgira@orland-park.il.us or call me at 403-6163. In the meantime, have a wonderful spring!

Special thanks to Finance Director Annmarie Mampe for helping to prepare this edition's column.

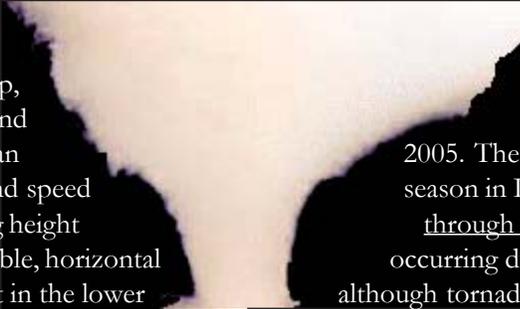
Prepare for Spring Weather

Before thunderstorms develop, a change in wind direction and an increase in wind speed with increasing height create an invisible, horizontal spinning effect in the lower atmosphere. Rising air within the thunderstorm updraft tilts the rotating air from horizontal spinning to vertical.

Thunderstorms develop in warm, moist air in advance of eastward moving cold fronts. These thunderstorms often produce hail, strong winds and tornadoes.

A severe thunderstorm warning means that severe thunderstorms are occurring. Close all windows and doors. Draw all shades or blinds on windows. If a window or door glass breaks due to high winds, shades might reduce the risk of flying glass.

Tornadoes pose the greatest severe weather risk to residents of Illinois.



Tornadoes in Illinois totaled 124 in 2006 and 19 in 2005. The prime tornado season in Illinois is March through May, with 63% occurring during that time, although tornadoes can and do occur at any time of the year

Tornadoes can be almost invisible, marked only by swirling debris at the base of the funnel. Some are composed of several mini-funnels.

A tornado watch means that tornadoes are possible. Watch the sky and listen to the radio or television for more information. Be prepared to take shelter.

A tornado warning means an actual tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. The Village of Orland Park's Outdoor Warning Siren System is activated when a tornado warning for our area is issued by the National Weather Service or when an actual tornado has been sighted.

Consider Buying An NOAA Weather Radio

The National Weather Service issues severe weather alerts through NOAA (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration) Weather Radios. Different models and price ranges are available at area electronic stores.

Does Your Family Have A Disaster Kit?

All Orland Park families are encouraged to put aside a separate box with supplies to be used only in the event of an emergency.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flashlight and extra batteries • Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries • First aid kit and manual • Emergency food and water | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-electric can opener • Essential medicines • Cash and credit cards • Sturdy shoes • Change of clothes |
|--|--|

Establish An Out-of-State Contact

If family members are separated from one another during a tornado --- a genuine possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school --- have a plan for getting back together. Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact." After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address, and phone number of the contact person.

When The Sirens Sound

When a warning has been issued by the National Weather Service, the village's sirens have been activated, or a tornado has been sighted, take the following actions.

- Go at once to your predetermined shelter (basement, storm cellar or the lowest level of the building). If there is no basement, go to an inner hallway or a small inner room without windows, i.e., a bathroom or closet or get under a stairway. Monitor the radio for the latest weather information. Remain in the shelter until the danger has passed.

- Stay away from all windows, door and outside walls. Go to the center of the room. Stay away from corners because they tend to attract debris.

- Get under a piece of sturdy furniture, i.e. workbench or heavy table. Use sofa cushions to protect your head and neck. If sturdy furniture is not available, become a very small target. Squat low to the ground. Place your hands on your knees with your head between them.

- If in a trailer home or business, leave and seek shelter elsewhere. A mobile home can overturn very easily even if precautions have been taken to tie it down. If there isn't substantial shelter nearby, seek shelter in a low lying area. Shield your head with your hands.

- In schools, hospitals, nursing homes or public buildings, go to small interior rooms or halls on the lowest floor. Avoid large rooms such as gymnasiums or auditoriums.

- Damage to buildings is caused by violent winds and debris slamming into the building, not by the low pressure of the tornado as it passes overhead.

When the tornado sirens or lightning detectors sound, all ballfields are to be immediately cleared.

Local Races On April 17th Ballot

These locations are subject to change. Polling places are located in Orland Park, unless otherwise noted. For more information about voting in the Village of Orland Park, call the Village Clerk's Office at 403-6150.

Palos 10 (Southmoor) Palos Park Rec Center 8901 123rd Street • Palos Park	20 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street	55 - Orland Park Civic Center 14750 Ravinia Avenue
Palos 41 All Saints Lutheran Church 13350 LaGrange Road	21 - Silver Lake Country Club 14700 South 82nd Avenue	56 - Robert Davidson Center 14700 Park Lane
Palos 45 Nativity BVM UKR Catholic Church 8530 West 131st Street	24 - Christian Ref Church (Gym) 7500 West Sycamore Drive	57 - Township Highway Department 16125 South Wolf Road
Palos Park	25 - OrlanBrook Condos 15633 Orlan Brook Drive	59 - Living Word Lutheran Church 16301 South Wolf Road
Bremen 64 Bremen Township 15350 South Oak Park Avenue	27 - Salem Baptist Church 15500 South 73rd Avenue	60 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street
Oak Forest	28 - Silver Lake Country Club 14700 South 82nd Avenue	62 - Calvary Reformed Church 15101 South 80th Avenue
Frankfort 14 (Will County) St. John United Church of Christ (annex) 11046 Second Street	29 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street	64 - Presbyterian Church 13401 Wolf Road
Mokena	30 Calvary Reformed Church 15101 South 80th Avenue	65 - OTownship Highway Department 16125 South Wolf Road
Frankfort 22 (Will County) Mokena Int School 11331 West 195th Street	31 - Orland Township 15100 94th Avenue	66 - Living Word Lutheran Church 16301 South Wolf Road
Mokena	32 - Liberty School 8801 West 151st Street	68 - Century Junior High School 10801 West 159th Street
1 - Orland Park Civic Center 14750 Ravinia Avenue	33 - Prairie School 14200 South 82nd Avenue	71 - Parkview Christian Church 11100 Orland Parkway (Wolf Road at 183rd Street)
3 - Village of Orland Hills 16033 South 94th Avenue	34 - Christian Re Church (Gym) 7500 West Sycamore Drive	75 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street
4 - Robert Davidson Center 14700 Park Lane	35 - Orland Park Civic Center 14750 Ravinia Avenue	76 - Village of Orland Hills 16033 South 94th Avenue
7 - Christ Lutheran Church 14700 South 94th Avenue	37 - Riviera Country Club 8801 West 143rd Street	77 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street
8 - Calvary Reformed Church 15101 South 80th Avenue	38 - High Point School 14825 South West Avenue	78 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street
9 - Brighton Gardens 16051 South LaGrange Road	39 - Orland Park Civic Center 14750 Ravinia Avenue	80 - Standing Stones Baptist Church 16250 South 84th Avenue, Tinley Park
10 - Riviera Country Club 8801 West 143rd Street	40 - Orland Township Hall 15100 94th Avenue	81 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street
12 - Fernway School 16600 88th Avenue	43 - Presbyterian Church 13401 Wolf Road	82 - Brighton Gardens 16051 LaGrange Road
13 - Orland Park Civic Center 14750 Ravinia Avenue	47 - Orlan Brook Condo Assn 15633 Orlan Brook Drive	84 - Robert Davidson Center 14700 Park Lane
15 - Century Junior High 10801 West 159th Street	48 - Orland Township 15100 94th Avenue	85 - Presbyterian Church 13401 South Wolf Road
18 - Silver Lake Country Club 14700 South 82nd Avenue	52 - Liberty School 8801 West 151st Street	87 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street
19 - Calvary Reformed Church 15101 South 80th Avenue	53 - Salem Baptist Church 15500 South 73rd Avenue	88 - Village Sportsplex 11351 West 159th Street
	54 - Prairie School 14200 South 82nd Avenue	

EARLY VOTING • MARCH 26, 2007 THROUGH APRIL 12, 2007

Early voting is available for all suburban Cook County voters at the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. A government issued i.d. is required to vote. Call 403-6150 for details.

Vehicle Stickers Due June 30



All vehicles registered to Village of Orland Park addresses must display a current village vehicle sticker. New residents have 30 days to purchase a sticker. Applications for the 2007-09 stickers will be mailed to all village addresses in mid-May. Residents who do not receive a pre-printed application in the mail must come to the Village Hall to purchase stickers or call the Cashier's Office at 403-6170 to ask that a form be mailed.

Stickers will be available for purchase beginning May 14, 2007 through June 30, 2007 without penalty. Cars and motorcycles are \$15.00 each while stickers for recreational vehicles are \$22.00 each. Trucks vary in price from \$22.00 to \$127.00, dependent on the license plate class. Seniors, age 65 or older, may purchase stickers for \$1.00 each with two seniors per household permitted, provided there are two senior drivers at the address.

Village Ordinance #3975, adopted January 17, 2005, states that after July 1, vehicle sticker fees shall be doubled. Stickers for new residents moving into the village must be purchased within 30 days to avoid paying an additional penalty. Residents who purchase new vehicles during the year must provide proof of purchase date if the vehicle is purchased after June 30, 2007.

Half-term stickers will be available for new residents and those who purchase new vehicles after June 1, 2008. Cars and motorcycle stickers will cost \$7.50 while RVs will be \$11.00. Trucks will vary from \$11.00 to \$63.50, dependent on the type of license plate. Seniors may purchase a \$1.00 vehicle sticker for 50 cents, again with only two senior purchases per household, provided there are two licensed senior drivers at the same address.

TRUCK CLASSIFICATIONS FOR VILLAGE VEHICLE STICKERS

CLASS	WEIGHT	AMT	1/2 YEAR AMT
Class B	Less than 8000 lbs	\$22.00	\$11.00
Class D	8001 to 12,000 lbs	\$30.00	\$15.00
Class F-H-J	12,001 to 28,000 lbs	\$52.00	\$26.00
Class K-L-N-P	28,001 to 45,000 lbs	\$82.00	\$41.00
Class Q-R-S-T-V	45,001 to 73,280 lbs	\$105.00	\$52.50
Class X-Z	73,281 to 80,000 lbs	\$127.00	\$63.50



Village of Orland Park FARMERS' MARKET

Fridays, June 8 through October 5

7:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

No market August 3

Orland Park Village Center
14750 South Ravinia Avenue

VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK CALENDAR KEY

- CAC**
Cultural Arts Center
(former library)
14700 Park Lane
- CC**
Civic Center
(14750 Ravinia Ave)
- CCA**
Civic Center Authority
- ComRel**
Community Relations Com
- CPAC**
Centennial Park Aquatic Center
- DLFac**
Driver's License Facility
(Board Room in Village Hall)
- EDAB**
Economic Development AdvBd
- ElecCom**
Electrical Commission
- ETSB**
Emergency Telephone Sys Bd
- HostCab**
Hostert Log Cabins
(147 & West)
- HPRC**
Historical Pres Rev Com
- LRC**
Franklin E. Loebe Rec Center
(14650 Ravinia)
- OA**
Outdoor Amphitheater
(147 & Ravinia)
- OC**
Orland Crossing
(143rd & LaGrange)
- OPAC**
Village Arts Commission
- OVH**
Old Village Hall
(144 & Beacon)
- PD**
Police Department
(14600 Ravinia)
- PlanCom**
Plan Commission
- PTAB**
Parking & Traffic Advisory
Board
- PubWks**
Public Works
(15655 Ravinia Ave)
- RAB**
Recreation Advisory Board
- Splex**
Village Sportsplex
(11351 159th St)
- TAB**
Telecommunications Adv Bd
- VETS**
Veterans' Commission
- VC**
Village Center
(14700 South Ravinia)
- VH**
Frederick T. Owens Village Hall
(14700 Ravinia Ave)
- ZBA**
Zoning Board of Appeals

Remembering Those Who Serve

Each edition of the *Orland Park Public* includes a list of village residents who are currently serving in the United States military. Please join us in saluting and remembering the Orland Park residents listed below as they serve our country. To have your loved one's name added to this quarterly list, e-mail the information to info@orland-park.il.us or fax the details to 403-6171.



Staff Sergeant Michael Britton

United States Marine Corps
 Carl Sandburg High School
 Class of 1998
 Served two tours in Iraq
 Currently stationed in Washington, D.C.

Lance Corporal Robert A. Glascott

United States Marine Corps
 Carl Sandburg High School
 Class of 2006

Orland Park Civic Center To Host Veterans' Events

Outreach To Host Job Fair

The Veterans Outreach Program of Illinois, Inc., is hosting a job fair for veterans on April 5, 2007, at the Orland Park Civic Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.. Veterans seeking employment are asked to bring a copy of their DD214 discharge papers, a picture ID and copies of resumes. The Veterans' Outreach Program will have employment coordinators on site to assist you. If you have any questions about this event or would like to register to have an employer table at this job fair, please call Teresa Gorecki, Employment Coordinator, at 708-371-9800 ext. 1.



Breakfast for Orland Park Vets

The Veterans' Commission will host a breakfast for Orland Park veterans on April 7, 2007 at 9:00 am at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 Ravinia Avenue.

Tickets are free and can be picked up at the Cashier's Office at the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall. Only 200 tickets are available and they will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. Only two tickets will be given to each Orland Park veteran upon showing proof of residency. If a veteran does not live in the village, but belongs to a military organization in Orland Park, proof of membership will be required to obtain tickets.

Veterans' Commission To Host Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

Deadline To Add Vets' Names to Memorial Wall is April 27

The Village of Orland Park Veterans' Commission will host its Memorial Day Ceremony at the Veterans' Memorial, Ara Pace – Place of Peace, 14750 Ravinia Avenue, at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, May 28, 2007. The entire community is invited to attend as the event includes a guest speaker, a vintage military fly-over and other patriotic ceremonies to remember those who have died serving our country. To have a veteran's name engraved onto Orland Park's memorial in time for this ceremony, the deadline to submit the required information and \$250 donation, is April 27, 2007.

Vets' Steak Fry Planned for August 12

The 8th Annual Veterans' Commission Veteran Steak Fry will be held on Sunday, August 12, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. Tickets will be available for purchase the first week in July. More information about this event will be available in local news as the date nears.

MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Open to anyone with a loved one serving --- regardless of where you live!

First Thursday Each Month • 7:00 p.m.

Orland Park Civic Center • William R. Vogel Memorial • 14750 South Ravinia Avenue

Stellwagen Farm Retains Agricultural Heritage

The Stellwagen Farm is a picturesque sixty-acre property located on 108th Avenue south of 175th Street. The original barn, home and out buildings remain, set within the rolling farmland. This rare remaining part of the area's agricultural heritage was acquired with the help of a state grant through the village's Open Lands Program and the Stellwagen Family Farm Foundation was created to oversee the property.

Two members of the Stellwagen Family—Betty Maue and Jim Stellwagen—are foundation members. Other members include Trustee Kathy Fenton, Carol Yunker and Bob Sullivan. Current projects include restoration of the barn and installation of a perimeter path with a perimeter arboretum. The foundation and village staff have produced a draft site plan that includes prairie restoration, crop fields, orchards, vegetable gardens, animal enclosures and pathways.



The Stellwagen Farm includes 60 acres on 108th Avenue, south of 175th Street.

Activities and exhibits that are envisioned include interpretive displays of equipment and demonstrations of farming methods, historic interpretation and

restoration in the house, hayrides, pumpkin patch, apple picking and others.

Residents are encouraged to send suggestions and comments about the farm plan and activities to the Stellwagen Family Farm Foundation at the ComDev@orland-park.il.us e-mail location.

This is a very exciting project that already adds to Orland Park's quality of life just by its preservation. These future activities will bring a rich experience of Orland Park's agricultural heritage to its residents.



"Electronic Check" Now In Use At Village Facilities

Electronic Check converts your personal check into an electronic transaction at the time of purchase. Rather than physically routing the check from the merchant to the financial institution, this service electronically transmits the payment information.



What does this mean to me?

It means faster checkout, increased security and detailed transaction descriptions on your bank statement.

How does Electronic Check work?

You present a paper check at the point of sale. The check is quickly passed through a check reader and voided. The transaction is processed electronically. Typically, funds are withdrawn from your checking account in one or two days.

How will an Electronic Check transaction appear on my bank statement?

It will be listed with other electronic transactions, such as direct deposits and ATM withdrawals. In addition to the check number, the entry will include the merchant name.

Will I still need to provide an ID?

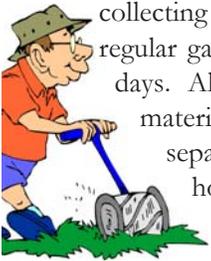
Yes. For your protection, you will still need to show an ID, just as you would with a traditional check.

Who do I call if I have questions about my checking account statement? Contact your financial institution.

Spring Brings Yard Waste Collection and Clean Up

Yard Waste Collection Begins April 1st

Yard waste collection resumes April 1 and continues through November 30. Waste Management began collecting yard waste on regular garbage pick-up days. All yard waste materials must be separate from normal household garbage. In Orland Park, residents may use Waste Wheeler Carts for yard waste or Kraft biodegradable bags. Yard waste in other containers will not be collected.



Spring Clean Up Dates Announced

The Spring Clean-Up Campaign, sponsored in cooperation with Waste Management, will be held Friday, April 27 (7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.), Saturday, April 28 (7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) and Sunday, April 29 (7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.). Dumpsters will be located at the Public Works Facility, 15655 South Ravinia. Dumpsters will be placed at the Public Works Facility for residents' disposal of normal household garbage. All disposed materials must be placed inside of the dumpster and not along side the dumpster. Construction and other hazardous materials are prohibited. Public Works is located at 15655 Ravinia (one block west of LaGrange Road). For details, call Public Works at 403-6350.



Village To Observe Drinking Water Week

The Village of Orland Park will observe National Drinking Water Week May 6 to May 12, 2007.



A great way to learn more about how Orland Park gets its water is to visit the village's Pumping Station. The Public Works Department regularly conducts tours for local groups including seniors, neighborhood associations, scout troops and school classes.

Schedule a visit to the village's Pumping Station during Drinking Water Week. To arrange a tour for your group, please call Public Works at 403-6350.

**Celebrate Memorial Day
Monday, May 28 • 1pm
Veterans' Memorial**

Public Works Offers Seasonal Reminders



Warm Weather Brings Street Sweeper

Residents can expect to start seeing Street Sweepers out and about starting in March. The Village contracts with Waste Management of Illinois, Inc. to sweep streets from spring to late fall. The Commercial and Arterial Streets are swept eight times a year beginning at the end of March. In addition, residential streets are swept four times a year also starting at the end of March.

Streets that are still under development in new subdivisions are not part of this process. Those streets are the responsibility of the subdivision developer. Each developer has a separate agreement to sweep streets during construction.

The last residential sweeping of the year takes place at the end of November so it will coincide with the Village's annual Leaf Pick-Up Program. If you have leaves left over from last fall, they will need to be placed in yard waste containers or Kraft Biodegradable Bags for pick-up by Waste Management.

Restorations Explained

During the late fall and winter months, there may have been some damage to the parkways in front of your house from a water main break, a sewer repair or maybe snowplow damage. The first thing every resident wants to know is "When will my area get restored?" Unfortunately, we cannot always give a standard response. The restoration depends upon when the work or damage occurred and size of the disturbance. If the damage was from a snowplow, the restoration will occur in early spring as the ground disturbance was minimal. If the restoration was from a water main or sewer repair, that could take longer. When the ground is excavated down several feet, it takes about three months for the ground to properly settle to avoid having dips or depressions develop later. Public Works makes every effort to get the sites restored as soon as possible. Public Works may avoid laying sod in the very dry months of June, July and August as sod will have a difficult time getting established. It is the homeowner's responsibility to water the area regularly to help the new sod take root.

Hoping for Spring Rain

Hopefully, springtime this year will mean some steady showers. The rain is needed this year following last year's very dry weather. Unfortunately, some rains can be very heavy and sheet off the ground instead of soaking in. When this happens, street and backyard inlets can become clogged with debris. We need every homeowner to help us minimize these problems from occurring. When doing yard work, always remember to clean off the curb line of leaves, trash and grass clippings so when it rains, debris will not wash down the storm sewers. If you have a curb inlet near your house, make sure it is cleared off to prevent flooding. If your home has a backyard inlet on the property, avoid putting mulch or wood chips around it as they will wash in and can clog the storm pipes. A few minutes of preventative maintenance can help avoid problems.

B-Boxes Can Be Lowered

Residents whose b-boxes (buffalo boxes) are above the lawn or sidewalk should call the Public Works Department so that it can be lowered to grade.

A buffalo box is a small metal pipe that is typically located in the parkway for shutting off the water to the residence. Because of the annual freeze/thaw cycle and natural ground movement, some b-boxes may have a tendency to rise. If a b-box has become a tripping hazard or if residents find themselves constantly hitting the b-box with a lawn mower, they should call so that it can be set back to the proper grade. For more information, call the Public Works Department at 403-6350.



August 3rd, 4th and 5th
ORLAND PARK
VILLAGE CENTER
Food, Music & Lots of Fun!

ORLAND PARK VILLAGE VIEW

Orland Park's monthly cable television show about the village's many programs, services and events

Every day on Comcast Channel 4

at 10:00 A.M., 4:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M. and 11:00 P.M.

Inside Water Meter Readings Are Required

Inside water meter readings are required by village ordinance. With spring's arrival, Orland Park's water meter readers will be in out in force to get readings inside a number of village homes. Meters are to be accessible for the village's meter readers. Outside meters should be clear of shrubs, fireplace logs and other obstructions. Inside meters should be easily accessible for service technicians and meter readers.

Options for Water Bill Payments

Automatic Debits Available to Pay Water Bills



Water bills can be paid by having the amount owed directly withdrawn from a checking or savings account. To use this program, complete an application for bank drafting. Once the bank drafting information is in the village's billing system, the bill will be automatically withdrawn from a checking or savings account on the due date of the bill. Once the automatic withdrawal is confirmed in

the billing system, the resident's bill will read "BANK DRAFT" in the upper right hand corner. The lower right hand corner of the remittance stub will say "Bank Draft – Do Not Pay" in the "Amount Due" area.

Customers may also pay by mail or come to the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall to pay in person using cash, check, or credit card. To obtain a form to have payments automatically debited from an account, call 403-6175. Or, residents may download the form on the village's website at www.orland-park.il.us. Choose the link for Village Services and scroll down to the Finance Department section for the downloadable form.

orland park public contributors

Ellen Baer Assistant Village Manager	Jerry Hughes Deputy Police Chief	Jackie Neven Village Manager's Office
Gail Blummer Civic Center General Mgr	John Ingram Public Works	Johanna Quinn Village Manager's Office
Irene Buikema Recreation	Mary Klinger VMO - MIS	Charles Rabideau ESDA Coordinator
Peter Casey Director of Public Works	Jack Knight Mayor's Office	Donna Rymut Recreation
Diane DeBias Police - ESDA	Joe LaMargo Deputy Clerk	Lee Sambor Public Works
Susan Dubelbeis Clerk's Office	Harriet Lisula Public Works	Sarah Schueler Finance
Linda Eckhorn Public Works	Annamarie Mampe Finance Director	Mary Shanahan Village Manager's Office
Kathy Flynn Civic Center	Tom Martin Public Works	Stephanie Simpson Recreation
Debbie Gerwatowski Finance	Lori Mavrovic Public Works	Bob Sullivan Community Dev Dir
Erik Hallgren Village Manager's Office	Tim McCarthy Chief of Police	Mary Lou Switak Public Works
Gina Hassett Recreation	George McLaughlin Public Works	Patty Vlazny Special Events/Media
Shirley Hine Special Services	Nancy Melinauskas Clerk's Office	RJ Zeder Village Manager
Kim Hofkens Dev Services		Cathy Zuro Special Services

Editing and Design by
Margie Owens-Klotz

Use Night Deposit Box for Late Payments

Residents who forget to make their water bill payments on the date due may use the night deposit box located in front of the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall. The free standing gray box is on the driver's side of the median in front of the circle drive. The box is emptied at 8:00 a.m. every morning and all payments in the box are considered payment for the previous day. Residents should place their water bill stubs and check payment in an envelope labeled for Water Billing. Cash payments are not advised. A drop box for water bill payments is also located next to the Cashier's Window in the lobby of the Village Hall, accessible during Village Hall business hours. Payment by cash is not recommended.

Rec Department's LUNCH BUNCH Plans Outings

Adults and seniors are invited to be a part of the Recreation Department's "Lunch Bunch." On select Tuesdays, the group travels to different restaurants with great food and wonderful venues. Participants travel via bus from the Humphrey Complex, 14700 West Avenue.

See the department's Spring/Summer Guide for details and costs for the following outings.

- May 8**
Gibson's Steakhouse
Rosemont
- June 5**
Fisherman's Inn
Elburn
- August 14**
Lovell's Restaurant & Museum
Lake Forest

**Call 645-7529 for
more information.**

Waste Management Offers Inkjet Cartridge Recycling

Waste Management has announced a new inkjet cartridge recycling program. Free mailing pouches are available at village buildings for residents and businesses to recycle cartridges. Postage is paid by the company recycling the cartridges.

Clip and save.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Village of Orland Park Garbage Pick Up Holidays

Waste Management, the village's contracted waste hauler, observes the following holidays. If a garbage pick up day falls on one of the holidays listed below, trash and recyclables will be picked up one day later. For more information, call Waste Management at 1-800-796-9696.

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| New Year's Day | Labor Day |
| Memorial Day | Thanksgiving Day |
| July 4th | Christmas Day |

Alternative Approaches to Lawns & Watering

Where's my lawn? Don't let the recent blankets of snow deceive you. Spring is just around the corner and it's time to think about your home landscape. Every year is a bit different, and although Orland Park enjoyed lush green lawns last fall, those same yards resembled a brown floor mat two years ago. Drought conditions can spur watering bans that last almost the entire growing season.

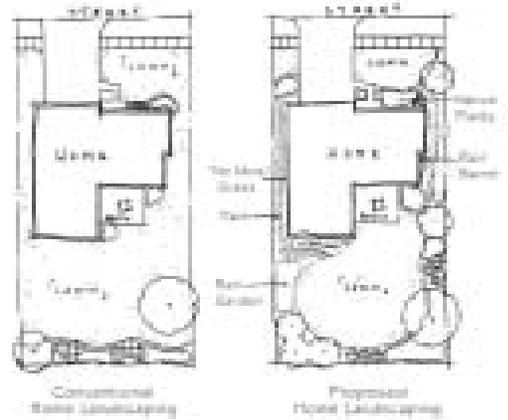


The background of grass. A well-maintained lawn is a source of pride for every homeowner and the endless products and services available to achieve the perfect weed-free lawn are a testament to its presence in the American landscape.

Unfortunately, most grass species, like Kentucky Bluegrass, aren't native to Illinois. These grasses evolved in cooler, damper climates and therefore are not genetically prepared to deal with our much harsher environment. Irrigation, fertilization and maintenance mean a healthy green lawn. However, as experienced two years ago, if the water is unavailable, the lawn goes into dormancy before the summer is even in full swing.

Alternative Watering Methods. Fresh water is increasingly becoming a precious, not an endless, resource. The watering ban was put in place to protect this resource. However, alternatives to hooking up the sprinkler to your outdoor faucet do exist and would keep you from getting a ticket!

Rain barrels are a relatively new product on the market but are very affordable and useful. Rain barrels come in a variety of sizes,



shapes, and colors and attach directly to your downspout. The water from a rainfall is collected into the barrel and a spigot is attached to provide water that you can use for your landscaping.

continued next page

VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK FACILITIES

FREDERICK T. OWENS VILLAGE HALL • 14700 SOUTH RAVINIA AVENUE • 708/403-6100

Open Monday-Friday 8am -5pm • Cashier open Sat 9am-1pm

www.orland-park.il.us

VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK RECORDED SPECIAL EVENTS HOTLINE • 708/403-5370

POLICE

14600 South Ravinia
708/349-4111 (non-emergency)
www.orlandparkpolice.com
e-mail: police@orland-park.il.us

Dial 9-1-1 for police,
fire or ambulance
service in the
Village of Orland Park.

SECRETARY OF STATE ORLAND PARK SATELLITE

Driver's License Facility
Located in the Board Room of the
Village Hall. For more information,
please call 1-800-252-8980.
Open Monday through Friday/9am to 5pm
Address/Name Changes • Vision Tests
State Identification Cards • Plate Stickers

PUBLIC WORKS

15655 South Ravinia
403-6350 • e-mail:
publicworks@orland-park.il.us.
PACE Bus Service - 708/403-6355

CIVIC CENTER

William R. Vogel Memorial
14750 South Ravinia Avenue
708/403-6200
civic@orland-park.il.us

WASTE MANAGEMENT OF THE SOUTH SUBURBS 1-800-796-9696

*For garbage and recyclables pick up
information and to rent or purchase
a Waste Wheeler Cart.*

RECREATION & PARKS

Franklin Loebe Recreation Center
14650 South Ravinia
708/403-PARK
Village Sportsplex
11351 West 159th Street
708/645-PLAY
recreation@orland-park.il.us
Inclement Weather Hotline
708/403-6290

J.U.L.I.E.

Joint Utility Locating Information
for Excavators
1-800-892-0123
This is a FREE utility locating service.
Call at least 48 hours before digging
for any reason on your property.
Violators are subject to fines.

Native Plants, Rain Barrels, No Mow & More

Landscape Design. The lawn is typically the first plant to suffer during a dry season. Trees, shrubs and perennials, especially those native to Illinois weather conditions, often remain healthy much longer. Therefore, replacing some of your lawn with planting beds filled with native plants helps provide a landscape that can be enjoyed even through the longest of droughts. To start, determine how much lawn is needed. The lawn should be thought of as the active space of the overall yard in the back yard and the transitional ground plane element in the front yard. Once determined, the remaining area should be designed as planting beds that include trees, shrubs, perennials, and grasses.



Rain barrels attach directly to the downspout.

Rain Gardens. Like rain barrels, rain gardens are a relatively new innovation that help utilize the water falling on your roof instead of sending it into a storm sewer. Essentially, rain gardens are depressed areas of a yard where water runs directly from your downspout. These gardens are typically planted with flowering perennials and decorative grasses and are designed to survive very wet and very dry conditions. Rain gardens are relatively easy to construct, require minimal



Rain gardens are depressed areas of a yard where water runs directly from the downspout.

maintenance, and help keep precious rainwater on site for the lawn to drink! Several local landscaping companies have experience constructing rain gardens and more information about them can be found on the websites highlighted to the right.

Native Plants. Illinois existed mostly as a prairie landscape before modern development. The plants that thrived here developed deep root systems that took advantage of rainfall, survived through long periods of drought, and provided essential biomass that created our agriculturally rich soils.

Because these plants already know how to survive in our climate, they are especially suited for our landscapes. Most of them have beautiful flowers and decorative features. Filling planting beds with native perennials and grasses will create a low maintenance, highly attractive landscape. If you don't want a lot of flowers and grasses or prefer just a simple lawn, it might be worth it to research native groundcovers and 'no mow' grasses.



Native perennials and grasses create a low maintenance, highly attractive landscaping.



No mow grasses offer a lawn-like appearance and don't need to be mowed every weekend.

No mow grasses typically come in a seed form and include a mix of fescues that do not grow more than four to six inches tall. These grasses are often native and therefore well situated to deal with a dry summer. They provide a lawn-like appearance and don't need to be mowed every Saturday morning. There are also endless amounts of groundcovers and low perennials that, when planted in masses, can provide the same visual effect as a lawn while staying green all year.

Another dry summer may be on the horizon; however, watering alternatives can offer the right landscape solution to preserve the aesthetic quality of homes throughout the entire season.

Rain Gardens
<http://raingarden.il.gov/>
<http://www.appliedeco.com/RainGarden.cfm>
<http://cecommerce.uwex.edu/pdfs/GWQ037.PDF>

Rain Barrels
<http://rainbarrelguide.com/>
<http://www.rainbarrelsandmore.com/?referrer=goograinbarrel>
http://www.composters.com/main_water.html?gclid=CJv44uqC4oMCFSoClgodzhWl6Q

Native Plantings
<http://www.prairienursery.com/>

No Mow Grasses
http://www.prairienursery.com/faq/no_mow.htm



VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK

Frederick T. Owens Village Hall
14700 South Ravinia Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462

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Open Lands of Orland Park Garden Walk
Sunday, June 24, 2007 • 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
 Orland Park Civic Center • William R. Vogel Memorial • 14750 Ravinia Avenue

Tour residential gardens on your own or via the provided transportation.
 Shop boutique vendors. Enjoy live music, refreshments and guest speakers.
 Advance tickets \$12 per person or \$15 at the door.
 Tickets will be available at the Cashier's Office in the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall after May 1, 2007.

Village's Annual Garden Contest Returns
Village Residents Invited To Participate

The Village of Orland Park invites amateur gardeners to enter the Ninth Annual Garden Contest. The contest is open to residents of single-family homes within the corporate limits of Orland Park. Awards will be presented for **first, second and third** place and for **Best Use of Landscaping on Hill, Best Use of Perennials, Best Use of Landscaping in a Natural Setting, Best Overall Maintained Landscaping, and Best Water Feature.**

Traditional and/or unusual gardens are welcome and judging will be based on originality, creativity and overall maintenance, as well as the use of native landscaping, color, texture and the variety and combination of plants and flowers used. The deadline for entries is July 1. Judging will take place in late July and awards will be presented at a Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees meeting in August or September. Contestants do not need to be home at the time of judging. For information, please call 403-6145.

Please clearly PRINT or TYPE all information. The deadline for entries is July 1, 2007.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Subdivision: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I hereby give my permission to the Village of Orland Park and its Garden Contest representatives to enter my property for the purpose of consideration in the **Village of Orland Park Garden Contest**. I hereby grant my irrevocable permission to the Garden Contest and its authorized agents to use my name, and any photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of my participation in this event for any purpose.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Completed applications must be returned to the address below on or before July 1, 2007.
Village of Orland Park Garden Contest • 14700 South Ravinia Avenue • Orland Park, Illinois 60462