



# The Algonquin Citizen

News from the Village of Algonquin

Winter 2013

## Harvest Yields 900 Pounds of Food Donations

The Village of Algonquin recently concluded the fall harvest of a garden at its Wastewater Treatment Facility which yielded over 900 pounds of vegetables donated to the Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Interfaith Food Pantry. This is the second year that the Village has hosted a garden site to help support the pantry. The garden is planted and maintained by volunteers from both the village and the pantry.

"This partnership is a real win for the community," said Village President John Schmitt. "We are able to utilize idle land at one of our facilities to grow vegetables and help the food pantry carry out their mission."

The initial vegetable garden design and construction were guided under the direction of pantry volunteer Laurie Selpien. **To date, nearly 2,000 pounds of vegetables grown at the Algonquin Wastewater Treatment Facility have been donated to the Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Interfaith Food Pantry, with an estimated value of \$3,000.**



Algonquin Water and Sewer Utility employees with the fall's harvest of vegetables

## Electric Aggregation in Algonquin

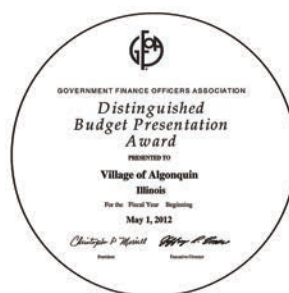
The Algonquin Village Board approved submitting a referendum question to voters on whether the Village should have the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers.

Electric deregulation in Illinois allows consumers to purchase their electric supply on the open market. Please note that this only applies to supply and not distribution, which is handled exclusively by ComEd. Electric aggregation allows for municipalities to collectively negotiate electric supply on behalf of its constituents with the goal of achieving a lower rate than the consumer could individually. **A referendum question authorizing the Village to proceed with electric aggregation will be on the March 18, 2014 ballot.** Frequently asked questions and other information on the program are available at [www.algonquin.org](http://www.algonquin.org) and in informational pamphlets available at the Ganek Municipal Center.

## Village Wins Budget Award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to the Village of Algonquin for the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 budget. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, an operations guide, a financial plan, and as a communications device. **This is the tenth year in a row the Village has received this prestigious award.**

To view the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 budget, please visit [www.algonquin.org/VillageManager](http://www.algonquin.org/VillageManager).



## Sidewalk Snow Removal

With winter weather officially here, please remember that the Algonquin Municipal Code states that any person occupying a property within the Village shall remove snow and ice accumulating on the adjoining sidewalks within 24 hours after any snowfall has ceased. If snow and ice cannot be removed, the surface shall be sanded or otherwise treated to lessen the hazard for pedestrians until the climate permits removal.

Please remember that this code pertains to all front, back, and side area sidewalks that adjoin your property. **Snow should never be blown or shoveled into the public streets as it is prohibited by Village code.** Such placement of the snow may create a driving hazard for motorists, especially if the Village plows have already passed through the area. The Municipal Code is available online at [www.algonquin.org](http://www.algonquin.org).

## Winter Parking Regulations

Don't forget that winter parking regulations are in effect and **parking is prohibited on any public street in the Village between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.** The winter parking hours will be in effect until April 15, 2014.

In addition, it is unlawful to park on the street after any snowfall of 2 inches or greater unless the street has been cleared of snow. The snowfall parking ban is in place for your safety and will remain in effect until snow removal operations have been completed. Violators will be issued tickets. Residents with special parking issues should contact the Algonquin Police Department at 847-658-4531. Short-term parking may be allowed under special circumstances.

## Holiday Lights Recycling

The Village of Algonquin will be offering holiday lights recycling through January 21 at the Ganek Municipal Center, 2200 Harnish Drive. A container for your unwanted lights will be available on the first floor lobby during normal business hours. Items that will be accepted include mini-lights, C7 lights, C9 lights, rope lights, LED lights, and extension cords of any length. Please be sure to remove all tinsel, garland, and other decoration items from the light sets before they are dropped off. Vintage Tech Recyclers will recycle the light sets collected and help reduce waste sent to landfills.

### Village of Algonquin

2200 Harnish Drive  
Algonquin, Illinois 60102

John Schmitt, Village President  
Gerald Kautz, Village Clerk

### Village Trustees

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[www.algonquin.org](http://www.algonquin.org)

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The Algonquin Citizen newsletter is published by the Village of Algonquin as a public service for residents and businesses. The Village complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). For assistance, call 847-658-2700. For additional information regarding this newsletter, contact Michael Kumbera, Assistant to the Village Manager, at 847-658-2700.

## Adopt a Hydrant Program

Algonquin has over 2,200 fire hydrants in need of adoption. Winter storms often bury fire hydrants, making it difficult to locate quickly. It becomes impossible to keep all hydrants clear of snow in a timely manner, which costs firefighters valuable time to locate and access. By adopting a fire hydrant closest to your home or business and keeping it clear of snow you can help to keep the community safer.



When maintaining a hydrant, a three-foot area should be cleared around the entire hydrant and a path shoveled from the roadway to the fire hydrant. This will allow fire department personnel to quickly locate the hydrant and obtain a water supply.

Thank you for keeping the fire hydrants clear of snow and the community safer! More information about the Adopt a Hydrant program is available online at [www.algonquin.org/PublicWorks](http://www.algonquin.org/PublicWorks).

## Village Holiday Hours

Village offices will be closed on 12/24, 12/25, and 1/1. Waste Management service will be delayed during the weeks of 12/23 and 12/30. Check [www.algonquin.org](http://www.algonquin.org) for your neighborhood's schedule. Happy holidays!

## 2014 Snowman Photo Contest

Build the best snowman in town this year! Get your family together and make a snowman during one of this year's snowfalls. After you have built your snowman, stand next to it and have someone take a picture.

Submit photos to [recreation@algonquin.org](mailto:recreation@algonquin.org) (electronic photos only). Photos are due by March 3, 2014. Winners will be published in a future recreation guide and on our website.

For more information or to browse and register for recreation programs, please visit [www.algonquin.org/recreation](http://www.algonquin.org/recreation).



2013 Snowman Photo Contest Winner

## Christmas Tree Collection

Waste Management will collect Christmas trees at no charge on your normal collection day beginning on December 30 and ending January 17.

In order for a tree to be collected, it must be placed at the curb or the edge of the road by 7:00 a.m. on collection day. All lights and decorations must be removed. Trees should not be placed in plastic bags, and any trees over six (6) feet tall should be cut in half so one person can handle them. Also, trees should be placed on top of the snow. Trees buried under snow could result in Waste Management not collecting them. Please contact Waste Management Customer Service at 1-800-796-9696 with any refuse or recycling inquiries.