



The Algonquin Citizen

The Village of Algonquin: The Gem of the Fox River Valley

Fall 2008

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Village's Downtown Plan Wins Award

The Village of Algonquin is pleased to announce that its Downtown Revitalization Plan has been selected as the winner of the 2008 Chaddick Development Award. Each year, DePaul University's Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development recognizes a suburban unit of government that has been innovative in managing the municipal development process. This year's Chaddick Award was given to Algonquin in recognition of the Village's efforts to enhance the vitality of its historic Old Town District located along the Fox River. The award selection committee was particularly impressed with the Village's ability to strike a balance downtown between preservation and progress.

Algonquin's Downtown Revitalization Plan was created in 2000 and promotes the establishment of a mix of residential, commercial, and recreational uses. Over the past several years, numerous public improvements and private investments have been made in the Village's Old Town District, including the addition of public park space, restoration of historic structures, and construction of new mixed-use commercial and residential developments. Earlier this year, the Village adopted a comprehensive Downtown Streetscape Enhancement Plan that outlines a set of specific improvements (such as new landscaping planters, decorative lighting fixtures, benches, and bike racks) to be incorporated throughout the Old Town District as funding becomes available over the next several years.



Village President John Schmitt accepted the Chaddick Award at the July 1 Village Board Meeting.

Trick-or-Treat Hours

Halloween trick-or-treating hours in the Village of Algonquin are from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Friday, October 31, 2008. The Algonquin Police Department recommends the following tips for a safe and fun Halloween:

- Never go trick-or-treating alone; all Halloween participants should be accompanied by an adult.
- If an adult is unable to go along, make sure to travel in big groups.
- Walk, don't run.
- Only go to well-lit houses.
- Do not approach strangers in vehicles for any reason.
- Always go to the front door.
- Carry flashlights when trick-or-treating in the dark.
- Don't eat any of your candy until an adult can check it.



Remember to turn a porch light on if your home will be handing out treats. Have a safe, fun, and happy Halloween!

Fall Cemetery Cleanup

The annual "Fall Cleanup" of the Algonquin Cemetery will begin on Monday, October 27, 2008 and will run through Friday, October 31, 2008. All summer plantings, wreaths, and other decorations not removed before October 27 will be discarded.

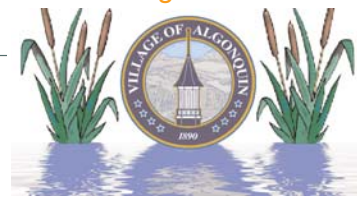
Winter decorations such as blankets and wreaths may be placed on graves beginning Saturday, November 15, 2008. For more information, contact the Village Hall at 847-658-2700.

Administrative Adjudication in Algonquin

On September 24, 2008, the Village of Algonquin will launch its Office of Adjudication, beginning the process of saving citizens both time and money. The process will serve as a quasi-judicial tribunal for the adjudication of municipal ordinance violations. These cases were previously held in Kane and McHenry County Circuit Courts. This process expedites prosecutions, reduces expenses, and allows the Circuit Court to focus on the most serious offenses.

Typical cases that will be heard include building code violations, water restriction violations, police issued tickets, and others. More information about the Administrative Adjudication process is available by calling Village Hall at 847-658-2700 and will be posted on-line at www.algonquin.org.

Conservation Zone



Emerald Ash Borer

In early July, the first noted case of the highly invasive and destructive tree pest, the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), was discovered within the Village of Algonquin. This foreign pest has made its way to the United States over the course of the last ten years and has been spreading at an alarming rate, killing millions of ash trees thus far. Much like Dutch elm disease eliminated American elm from our midst, EAB will remove all ash species.

For residents, this presents a two fold issue: what to do with trees on our own property, and what will our Village do with trees on its property.

Privately owned ash trees that grow on residential properties or businesses are the responsibility of the individual owner. What happens to these trees is a personal decision that must be made by the property owner. The first step is education. To begin, find out whether you have ash trees, and what the treatment options may be. A web site for EAB information is www.emeraldashborer.info. This site provides the answers to most questions you may have relative to this issue, including ash tree identification and approved treatment options.

The only product approved for control by the Illinois Department of Agriculture is Tree-age (pronounced triage). Other products available have not yet been scientifically proven to be fully-effective, however will provide some form of relief. If you plan on treating your trees, immediate treatment is recommended as EAB has been confirmed in the Village. If treatment is not an option that you wish to consider, preparing for removal options and costs now will help anticipate any associated future expenses.



Above: Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).

Should you have an Emerald Ash Borer infested tree, located on a private parcel within the Village, which is smaller than ten (10) inches in diameter, the Village will provide for its disposal. In order to qualify for this service, a request must be made to the Village Parks and Forestry Department 847-658-2754 prior to the removal of the tree. Once it is confirmed by Village staff that the tree is infested and meets these requirements, the tree can then be removed by the resident and placed in the parkway or road right-of-way area adjacent to their parcel. The debris must be easily accessible to Village equipment.

Village-owned Ash trees that show signs of infestation, decline, death, or are structurally compromised, will be scheduled for timely removal. Trees will be removed, inspected for the presence of EAB, and destroyed, in compliance with imposed regulations. All lot owners whose parcel abuts a Village road right-of-way that contains an infected tree will be notified. Lot owners will be given the option to request the pre-harvest of Village-owned Ash trees adjacent to their

...Continued on Page 3

Fall Brush Collection

Free leaf pickup by Waste Management will begin on October 1, 2008 for Algonquin residents and will continue through December 12, 2008. There is no collection of yard waste from December 13, 2008 through the end of March 2009.

All leaves must be placed in standard paper yard waste bags or reusable 33-gallon trash containers that are clearly marked. You may use a large, visible red "X" to indicate yard waste. Leaves should not be placed in loose piles.

During this time period, Waste Management will also provide free pickup of branches. The branches must be tied in bundles which are not more than four feet in length and two feet in diameter. Grass clippings and other yard waste (such as sod, dirt, or woodchips) will require a collection sticker. Any bags or cans that contain leaves mixed with other yard waste will also require a collection sticker.

Also, please remember that putting leaves and yard debris into the street or sidewalk is prohibited by the Algonquin Municipal Code.



Water Conservation Poster Contest Winners

The Village of Algonquin would like to congratulate the winners of our 2008 Water Conservation Poster Contest. The contest challenged children in grades K-5 to exhibit their best creative skills in designing a poster explaining the importance of conserving water. The winning posters were recently on display in the Community Development Department.

The winners were presented with their awards at the July 15



Village Board meeting, where they got their picture taken with Village President John Schmitt and also received prizes for free games of bowling at Brunswick Zone XL and free ice cream at Oberweis.

The winners were Grace Lossau, Patrick Conomikes, Kristin Baert, Meghan Ramanan, Samantha Savage, and Joey Savage.

Village President John Schmitt with one of the contest winners, Samantha Savage.

...Emerald Ash Borer, Continued from Page 2

parcel, or to allow the tree to remain until the Village determines its removal is necessary. Should an appropriate planting site be available, all removed trees can be replaced with a suitable alternative tree species.

Another challenge we face as a community is how to replace this tremendous loss to our ecosystem. The loss to our neighborhoods on Village owned property alone will be over 4,500 trees. Some of the options we are currently considering are dramatically reducing the size of the trees we install. This will allow for many more trees to be installed each season, as well as reduce the associated labor costs. The Village will also allow individual parcel owners to replant their own parkway tree(s). Owners must contact the Village to ensure they meet species and spacing requirements. It should be understood that



Approximate size of EAB compared with a penny.

once a tree is installed, it becomes the property of the Village, who will then be responsible for all of its long term maintenance needs.

Owners must apply for, and obtain, a tree removal permit for every tree (of any species) that:

- Has a diameter of ten (10) inches or larger, or
- If four (4) or more trees four (4) inches in diameter or larger are to be removed from the same property.

Owners of trees that do not require removal permitting per Village Code may remove trees without obtaining a permit from the Village, but must insure that the removal, destruction, and handling requirements, as specified by the Illinois Department of Agriculture, are followed carefully. Owners will be encouraged, but not required, to replace trees lost to this pest.

The Village would like to thank you in advance for your understanding, patience, and cooperation in what poses to be a difficult time of transition for our community. For more information, please contact Steven Ludwig, Parks and Forestry Superintendent, at 847-658-2754, or visit www.algonquin.org.

Recreation Brochures

Your Fall & Winter Recreation Brochures will be delivered in the month of September. Be sure to take advantage of the various activities and events that the new seasons offer. The brochure will also available online at www.algonquin.org.

Free CFL Bulbs

The Village of Algonquin has been given 5,000 Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulbs to distribute free of charge to anyone who lives in incorporated Algonquin. CFLs use less energy and therefore produce less CO₂ for the same amount of light, thus saving energy costs as well as being more environmentally-friendly.

Each Algonquin household can receive two CFL bulbs by visiting either Village Hall, 2200 Harnish Drive or the Public Works Facility, 110 Meyer Drive. Hurry, bulbs are only available while supplies last!

For more information, please call Village Hall at 847-658-2700 or visit www.algonquin.org.



Village Holiday Hours

The Village of Algonquin Village Hall and Public Works Facility will be closed on Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day. Refuse collection for that week will be delayed by one day with Monday routes being picked up on Tuesday, etc.

Village offices will also be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 27 and 28. Refuse collection will be delayed by one day, with Thursday routes being picked up on Friday, and Friday routes picked up on Saturday.

The Village of Algonquin website remains open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Please visit www.algonquin.org to access Village information any time.



Did You Know?

Monday, September 22 is the official first day of Fall. This day is also known as the Autumnal Equinox, in which the sun crosses the equator from north to south. On this day, the amount of daylight is approximately equal to the amount of night.

Tornado Sirens

Although severe weather and tornado season normally arrive in early spring, this type of weather can occur at any time in northern Illinois. The Village of Algonquin reminds all residents that preparedness is very important to your safety. Outdoor warning sirens are located throughout the community and are capable of alerting residents by siren. These sirens are only meant/designed to warn people who are OUTSIDE and are not designed/meant to be heard inside. Warning for people inside comes from radio or TV and not the sirens. If a severe storm warning or tornado watch or warning is issued, the sirens will be activated. During severe weather, you can receive additional information by tuning in to your local radio station or television. No "All Clear" alert will be issued by the siren; please check the news on television or radio. Both WZSR 105.5 FM and WGN 720 AM radio stations provide weather information coverage for Algonquin's immediate area. Weather radios are another reliable device for keeping track of severe weather.

As a reminder to the public, warning sirens are tested on the first Tuesday of each month at approximately 10:00 am, unless inclement weather is present. Please keep the above information in mind when severe weather hits.

Historic Commission News

In conjunction with the Old Town Merchants' Fall Country Harvest Day Event, the Algonquin Historic Commission will present its sixth Annual "Historic Cemetery Walk" on Saturday October 11 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Algonquin Cemetery (Route 31 and Cary Road). This walk will feature five former residents who will "bring to life" the elements of Algonquin's early history through stories of their lives as they meet with visitors.



Residents learning of Algonquin's rich history.

Advanced tickets are not required; however, a donation at the event of \$1.00 per person or \$5.00 per family is requested to help further the work of the Commission in preserving Algonquin's diverse and rich history. Shuttle bus service to and from the event will be provided at no charge from the rear parking lot of Historic Village Hall (2 South Main Street) and from the municipal parking lot on South Harrison Street, starting at 11:00 am with trips leaving about every 20 minutes. Limited parking is also available at the Cemetery near the water tower on Cary Road. This has been a very popular event for all ages and a great way to learn about our very unique and colorful local history. Bring your entire family and discover that history can be fun!

Randall Road Construction

Randall Road construction from County Line Road north through Harnish Drive began in late July. The construction project involves the widening and resurfacing of Randall Road from two lanes in each direction to three lanes in each direction between County Line Road and Harnish Drive. Left and right turn lanes will also be added to all four legs of the Randall Road/Harnish Drive intersection. The work is being undertaken by Algonquin Penney L.P. as part of required roadway improvements associated with the construction of the new Oakridge Court Shopping Center, located at the southwest corner of Randall Road and Harnish Drive in the Village of Algonquin. During the project, some daily lane closures between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm will be necessary to allow for the construction of the third lane as well as for paving operations. Anticipated lane closures will be posted in advance on message boards located within the project area. The project is anticipated to be completed in November 2008. Project updates will be posted to the McHenry County Division of Transportation website as necessary throughout the duration of the project. For more information please visit: <http://www.co.mchenry.il.us/Common/CountyDpt/Highway/>.

Frequently Asked Questions: Speeding

What does the Police Department do about speeding?

The Algonquin Police Department is committed to keeping your streets safe. The department has a full-time traffic unit, which dedicates numerous hours enforcing traffic laws in residential areas. The primary goal of the traffic unit is to reduce the number of crashes throughout the Village.

How are speed limits determined on my street?

There are two kinds of streets in local neighborhoods that are of prime concern for speeding:

The first street is a residential street. State law dictates that residential areas have a 30 m.p.h. speed limit. However, reducing the speed limit to 25 m.p.h. may be considered. Some of the criteria that are involved in making this decision are:

1. Parking allowed on the street.
2. Pavement width between parked cars is less than 20 feet.
3. Number of driveways less than 150 feet apart.
4. The accident rate is 50% higher than state average.

The second street is a collector street. This type of street is designed to carry more traffic and is usually larger in width and length than a typical residential street. These streets have been classified by the Village planners prior to any subdivisions being built. Speed limits on these streets range from 25 m.p.h. to 40 m.p.h. In order to set the speed limits on these streets, a speed study must first be conducted on the specific roadway. The above criteria is used to reduce the limit from that point.

What can I do to help slow cars down on my street?

First, talk with your neighbors. Most of the traffic on residential streets are either your neighbors or visitors. Ask them to slow down or have visitors travel in a safe manner. Second, hand out letters showing your concern. Let people know that these habits will not be tolerated. Third, write down license plate numbers and contact the police at 847-658-4531. Then the Police Department can contact the violator and let him know that their driving habits must change. Lastly, contact the Police Department and let them know of your concerns. Request increased patrols for your subdivision. NEVER make contact with a violator on your own.



Speed monitoring in an Algonquin residential neighborhood.

Farmers Market & Old Time Country Harvest Fest

Looking to get into the fall spirit? The Downtown Algonquin Partnership (DAP) Merchants' Association has just the answer!

The DAP's 2nd annual Downtown Algonquin Farmers Market continues through October 2 and features fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods, flowers, and other assorted items. The weekly market is held on Thursdays from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm in the public parking lot on South Harrison Street, just south of beautiful Cornish Park. Please visit the Downtown Algonquin Partnership website at www.downtownalgonquin.org or call the market manager, Gabriele Reego, at 847-458-9779 for more information.

As a special fall treat, the Farmers Market will conclude on Saturday, October 11 (Rain Date: October 18) with the annual Old Time Country Harvest Fest that will feature free games for kids, a pumpkin contest, craft fair, and other autumnal delights. Additionally, the Algonquin Historic Commission will be holding its annual Cemetery Walk on Saturday, October 11 from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm with shuttle buses to the cemetery leaving Downtown Algonquin throughout the day. For more information about the event, please contact Diane Perrone at 847-458-9823.



Business Award Nominations

Do you have a favorite business in town? Have they done something recently that is truly deserving of recognition? If so, you may want to consider nominating them for a business award. The Village is currently seeking nominations for the 2009 Business Awards, to be presented to businesses by the Economic Development Commission in January 2009. Awards will be presented to businesses in the following categories:

Community Service: Businesses that make strong contributions to the community in terms of volunteer activities or monetary contributions.

Economic Impact: Newer businesses that have provided the Village with enormous economic benefits, including large numbers of new jobs, sales tax revenue, spurring other business development, etc.

New Development Architectural: New businesses or developments with exemplary architectural design, use of material, land use, or landscaping.

Rehabilitation/Improvement: Rehabilitation of an existing building or landscaping enhancements to the site.

If you would like to nominate a business, please contact Katie Parkhurst at 847-658-4184 by the end of September.

Daylight Saving Time

It's that time of the year again! Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour at 2:00 am, on Sunday, November 2.

This is also a good time to change the batteries in the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Although 90% of households have smoke detectors in their homes, one-third are estimated to have dead or missing batteries.



Getting Your Kids to School Safely

While motor vehicle injury is one of the leading killers of children more than 1 year of age, not all deaths and injuries occur in motor vehicles. Children often rely on walking, or riding a bicycle or bus to or from school or other activities, and it's up to parents, caregivers, teachers, and other concerned adults to make sure that these kids are taught and reminded to practice safe traffic safety behaviors.

The facts are alarming. In 2005, nearly one-fifth of all children between the ages of 5 and 9 who were killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians. Children age 15 and younger accounted for 8% of the pedestrian fatalities in 2005 and 28% of all pedestrians injured in traffic crashes. Parents and caregivers need to remember that 'children are not small adults' and often need help crossing the street – especially if they are 10 years old or younger.

Nearly one-fifth of the bicyclists killed in traffic crashes in 2005 were between the ages of 5 and 15. The fatality rate for this age group was about 14% higher than the rate for all bicyclists. Although bicycle helmets are up to 85% effective in preventing head and brain injuries, almost 75% of bicycle crashes involved head injuries where no helmet was used.

There are specific safety rules that children need to understand before they can safely utilize school transportation. Parents and other caregivers must teach and reinforce these skill sets to ensure that their children enter and exit the bus environment safely. Teach and reinforce safety rules so they become safety habits that last a lifetime. This will help to save lives, prevent injuries, and make our communities stronger.

Still Time for Algonquin's Annual Photo Contest!

There's still time to submit your photos for the annual Village of Algonquin photo contest! This year's theme is "Algonquin: A GREEN Community" and will focus on photos that depict the preservation, enhancement, and utilization of natural and open spaces in the Village. Applications are available at Village Hall and online at www.algonquin.org. All ages are welcome to participate and demonstrate your photographic talent. Entries are due September 5, 2008.



VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN FALL NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

(ALL AREA CODES 847)

For EMERGENCY Police, Fire & Paramedic Services.....9-1-1
Village Hall, 2200 Harnish Drive.....658-2700
Village Hall Hours: M-F, 8 am to 5 pm
Community Development Department.....658-4184
Community Development Hours: M-F, 7 am to 5 pm
Water and Sewer Billing.....854-3440
Police Department (non-emergency).....658-4531
Swimming Pool (summer only).....458-7677
Public Works Dept., 110 Meyer Drive.....658-2754

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

John Schmitt 658-7643 johnschmitt@algonquin.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brian Dianis 340-2046 briandianis@algonquin.org
Jerry Glogowski 458-1639 jerryglogowski@algonquin.org
Robert Smith 658-2466 robertsmith@algonquin.org
Debby Sosine 658-3480 debbysosine@algonquin.org
John Spella 458-8289 johnspella@algonquin.org
Jim Steigert 658-0536 jimsteigert@algonquin.org

Gerald Kautz, Village Clerk

William Ganek, Village Manager

VILLAGE MEETINGS

Village Board

1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8:00 pm

Committee of the Whole

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm

Planning and Zoning Commission

2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm

Historic Commission

2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm

Economic Development Commission

2nd Thursday of the following months at 7:00 pm:
January, March, May, June, September, November

Village of Algonquin Mission Statement

The mission of the people of Algonquin is to foster a harmonious, distinctive community with a strong sense of place, preserving its ecological and historical richness, providing a safe and comfortable environment through a responsible use of community resources, and developing ownership and pride in the community through significant citizen involvement in all civic, social, and cultural affairs.

The 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 handicapped assistance, call (847) 658-2700. For additional information regarding this newsletter, contact Jenna Kollings, Assistant Village Manager at (847) 658-2700.



Printed on Recycled Paper.

Fall Hydrant Flushing

As a regular maintenance practice, the Village of Algonquin Utilities Division flushes all fire hydrants throughout the Village two times per year. This exercise not only ensures proper operation of each hydrant, but also helps move fresh water throughout the distribution system, improving overall water quality. The practice of flushing tends to cause local disturbances of iron debris within the water system that can be drawn into the home during usage and cause staining on light colored laundry. It is important to be mindful of the schedule and avoid doing laundry during flushing activities. Should you experience a problem with laundry staining related to flushing, the Public Works Department offers a free detergent additive to remove the stains. This product is available to residents on a one-time basis, in portion-controlled amounts, by contacting the Public Works office at 847-658-2754. The schedule for this fall is as follows:



September 22 - 26

The entire area east of Main Street (Route 31) as well as the Arrowhead subdivision, Jefferson Street, Railroad Street, and Washington Street.

September 29 - October 3

The area north of Edgewood Drive, east of Hanson Road, south of Algonquin Road, and west of Main Street (Route 31).

October 6 - 10

The area south of Edgewood Drive and County Line Road, west of South Main Street (Route 31), and east of Randall Road.

October 13 - 17

The area east of Randall Road, south of Algonquin Road, west of Hanson Road, and north of Country Line Road. This includes Randall Road.

October 20 - 24

The area west of Square Barn Road to Village limits.

October 27 - 31

The area east of Square Barn Road and west of Randall Road, south of Algonquin Road.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Take a moment to communicate with Village officials. Your comments, questions, and opinions are appreciated. To submit a comment, complete this box (attach an additional page, as necessary), and either mail it to Village Hall @ 2200 Harnish Drive, or place it in the drop box at Historic Village Hall or Village Hall. Comments can also be sent to webmaster@algonquin.org.

Name: _____ Address: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____