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## Investing in Buffalo Grove's Future

The Village's 5-year Infrastructure Modernization Program kicked off this spring, and its first year was extremely successful. Many of the neighborhood improvement projects were completed ahead of time, and some under budget. This \$175 million capital improvement program looks to fortify the Village's aging water and sewer system infrastructure, along with neighborhood streets under the Village's jurisdiction.

Below is a snapshot of improvement projects in different areas and when they are planned for 2021, as the Village continues to improve roadways throughout our neighborhoods.

- Melinda/Hiawatha Water and Street Improvements: January - May 2021
- Vintage Street Improvements: May - July 2021
- Cambridge Water and Street Improvements: July - November 2021
- Thompson and Brandywyn Street

Improvements – Contract 2:  
May - November 2021

- 2021 Pavement Patching Project: Estimated to start in June 2021
- Cambridge on the Lakes Lift Station Rehabilitation: May - December 2021

Additional details about each of these projects can be found at [vbg.org/constructionupdates](https://vbg.org/constructionupdates).

All projects are subject to available funding, successful bidding, and approval by the Village Board. The schedule above is what is currently planned - but is subject to change based upon a range of variables; many of which are outside the Village's control.

Sign up for dedicated Enewsletter communications for the different road projects managed by the Village here [vbg.org/enewssignup](https://vbg.org/enewssignup).

*Learn more on page 4*



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## Village Clerk



**Janet Sirabian**  
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# Letter From The Village President

Looking back over the past eight months, I am proud of what our community and our Village has accomplished - despite all the setbacks and challenges associated with the pandemic. So many of our community members, nonprofits and businesses have all stepped up to do their best, and in many cases, have helped one another in times of need.

When we all suddenly became aware of COVID-19, our first concerns were for the health and well-being of our community. As a Village, we also needed to concern ourselves with the potentially negative impacts on economic development and growth during this pandemic. Despite it all, the Village has seen continued and significant growth, investment, and interest in our local economy. Since the start of 2020, we have welcomed many new businesses into our community, as well as some that have expanded.

Construction is underway for the new 70,000 square foot Northwest Community Healthcare building on Lake Cook Road between McHenry and Weiland roads. This project will also include a new 4,900 square foot retail building, and we look forward to seeing what fills those spaces when it is completed.

Woodman's Market continues to make significant investments in our community by adding a second gas station on the south side of Deerfield Parkway. The grocery store is also finalizing work on 15 new Tesla Super Charging Stations, located on the east side of their store.

While our residents have spent substantially more time at home than usual, home improvement projects have been on the increase. As a result, the Village has seen marked increases in residential permit activity throughout the year, which is positive for homeowners and for their property values. Construction activity continues at Link Crossing,

with many new single family and townhomes being constructed.

Looking toward 2021, the Village is excited to be working with Kensington Development Partners who will be redeveloping the existing Town Center property. The 20-acre property will include a new, mixed-use development to be anchored by retail, restaurants, and multi-family residential housing.

Investment in the Lake Cook Corridor also continues, and we are pleased to announce the proposed redevelopment of the property at the northeast corner of Lexington Drive and Lake Cook Road across from the Starbucks. The proposed plan includes 11,000 square feet of retail along with a gas station.

All of this shows the positive signs that we continue to persevere through this pandemic. Thanks to our residents, charitable organizations, businesses, the Village, and our entire community, Buffalo Grove really does continue to be a great place to live, work and raise a family. I would like to thank all of you for doing your part to accomplish this.

Please remember to wear a face cover, wash your hands, watch out for crowds, and keep a 6-foot distance whenever you are with other people. Be safe and healthy.

I wish you all a happy holiday season and a new year filled with hope.

Sincerely,

*Beverly Sussman*

Beverly Sussman  
Village President



**Beverly Sussman**  
BSussman@vbg.org

## Village Hall Holiday Closures

In observance of the Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year's holidays, Village Hall will be closed to the public on the following days:

**Thanksgiving:** Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27, 2020

**Christmas:** Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25, 2020

**New Year's Day:** Friday, January 1, 2021

# Village Manager's Message

Despite an array of serious challenges over the last several months, your Village of Buffalo Grove team continues to provide the highest level of service, fiscal management and accountability to our residents and businesses. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Village has introduced the new "OpenBG" portal which provides access to public documents, financial records, vendor contracts and more. Residents can now search for information anywhere, anytime. The BG Resident Academy was also recently launched to help community members better understand the functions and unique challenges that each of the Village departments encounter.

As a result of the pandemic, the Village took aggressive action to reduce expenditures and to help mitigate the impact of economic decline on our residents and businesses. Since March, the Village has reduced

operating expenditures by more than \$1.5 million in direct response to the pandemic. Looking forward to 2021, downward pressure on revenue sources is expected to continue, necessitating a creative approach to balancing the budget and minimizing tax impacts on residents and businesses.

The Village Board will hold its 2021 Budget Hearing on November 16 at 7:30 p.m. I encourage you to take a look at the budget and see how your tax dollars are allocated to provide the highest-quality public safety, infrastructure and local government management in the region. In 2021, the Village will build upon some of our successes in the current year by continuing the high-impact Infrastructure Modernization Program to replace aging water, sewer and street infrastructure, pursuing redevelopment of the Town Center property and completing the Comprehensive Plan project.



**Dane Bragg**  
847-459-2500  
DBragg@vbg.org

In an effort to contain costs, we've also made changes to the way we provide services to our community. The Village will launch outsourced fleet maintenance, tree trimming and snow removal programs to augment our professional, in-house services. All total, the Village's operating budget will be reduced by about \$1.6 million in the coming year.

We take pride in the quality, efficiency and value of services we provide to the Buffalo Grove community, and look forward to seeing you in 2021 when, hopefully, we are on our way out of this pandemic!



## VILLAGE BOARD BUDGET HEARING NOVEMBER 16TH AT 7:30 P.M.

See how your tax dollars are allocated to provide the highest-quality public safety, infrastructure and local government management in the region.

## BG Resident Academy

The Village is dedicated to improving the accessibility, transparency, and accountability of local government. Due to this overarching goal, the Village is excited to share information about the newly-launched BG Resident Academy - which airs live Wednesdays at 1 p.m. on the Village's Facebook page. Community

members, the Village Board and Village staff were involved in the creation of this additional communication tool which aims to:

- Improve transparency of Village operations
- Engage residents in the decision-making process
- Foster a dialogue about issues facing the community
- Create opportunities for participants to learn more about Village services and departments

Recordings of these sessions are published on the Village's Facebook page at [facebook.com/VBGillinois](https://facebook.com/VBGillinois). Past sessions have included an interview with Village Manager Dane Bragg, a tour

of the police station, a pictorial history of Buffalo Grove and more. Check back on the Facebook page for future editions of the BG Resident Academy.

## WHO'S LISTENING?



**Evan Michel**  
ASSISTANT TO THE VILLAGE MANAGER

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# Pardon our Dust in Village Neighborhoods

You likely have noticed a considerable amount of construction activity within the Village. If you have been driving around town, I am fairly sure your commute or even a short trip for running errands is taking longer than you planned or expected. If you have been home for an extended period and near to a construction project, I am sure you are surprised by the amount of noise it can create during the day.

I'd like to assure you that we will all get through this, together. There will be a day when the roadwork projects are completed, and the new developments are finished. I can tell you with certainty that Buffalo Grove is going to look a lot different than it does now. And I don't know about you, but I am excited to see it!

Lake Cook Road is being widened by Cook County, while Lake County is widening Weiland Road and Buffalo Grove Road. The Village has managed and completed improvement projects within the following neighborhoods: University/Saxon/Downing, Applehill/Tenerife, Gail/Green Knolls and Hidden Lake, as well as on Checker Drive west of Route 83. Nearly \$10 million dollars in federal funding was received by the Village for the reconstruction of Thompson Boulevard and Brandywyn Lane, so we are taking advantage of that to improve this area as well. And this is just a list of the 2020 projects. We will be continuing with the ambitious Infrastructure Modernization Program with similar projects for the next few years, and we are delivering on our plan to focus on improving and completing roads and utilities within our neighborhoods. Cook County and Lake County will also be continuing



their road projects into next year and are planning a few more in the future.

In addition to the roads and utilities, there are exciting new developments being undertaken in Buffalo Grove. The Town Center and the Bob Rohrman properties are now under contract for future development, the NCH building is being replaced with a new, larger building, a redevelopment is proposed at 700 E. Lake Cook Road, the corner lot at Lake Cook Road and Route 83 is ready for development, and the Link Crossing subdivision is building new homes near Brandywyn Lane.

In these exciting times I wanted to thank you for your patience as we work through this together. I will use the old saying, "please pardon our dust" and I promise you we are working through this as fast as we can. A few years from now when all this construction is done, we will all be able to enjoy a new, beautiful, and modern Village of Buffalo Grove.

Sincerely,  
Darren T. Monico, P.E.  
Village Engineer

## WHO'S LISTENING?



**Darren T. Monico, P.E.**  
VILLAGE ENGINEER

Phone: 847-459-2523  
Email: DMonico@vbg.org



## DID YOU KNOW?

**NOT ALL ROADS IN BUFFALO GROVE ARE MAINTAINED BY THE VILLAGE**

Depending on the roadway, different agencies are responsible for roadwork, potholes, flooding, incidents and snow plowing.

### ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (IDOT)

Dundee Road - McHenry Road - Milwaukee Avenue - Half Day Road  
**800-452-4368**

### LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (LCDOT)

Buffalo Grove Road - Deerfield Parkway - Arlington Heights Road - Aptakisic Road  
**800-452-4368**

### COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS (CCDTH)

Buffalo Grove Road - Arlington Heights Road - Lake Cook Road  
**847-827-1164**

### VILLAGE OF BUFFALO GROVE

All other Village roads  
**847-459-2545**

So, if you have a question/concern, please reach out to the appropriate agency! Visit [vbg.org/roadways](http://vbg.org/roadways) to visit dedicated websites for the Lake Cook Road, Weiland Road and Buffalo Grove Road road projects, along with an agency jurisdiction map.



# Snow plowing

Crew members have been actively preparing the Village's snow removal equipment over the last several weeks and have undergone continuous training to be ready for what's to come.

Winter maintenance of Buffalo Grove roadways and in our neighborhoods continues to be a balance between weather and road conditions, traffic and emergency activities, in addition to staffing levels and snow removal equipment functionality (because equipment does sometimes fail).

Below are some of the most frequently asked questions about winter maintenance and snow removal procedures, as well as what residents should do to keep our community as safe as possible.

## **Q. What are the stripes on Village streets that appear before a predicted storm event?**

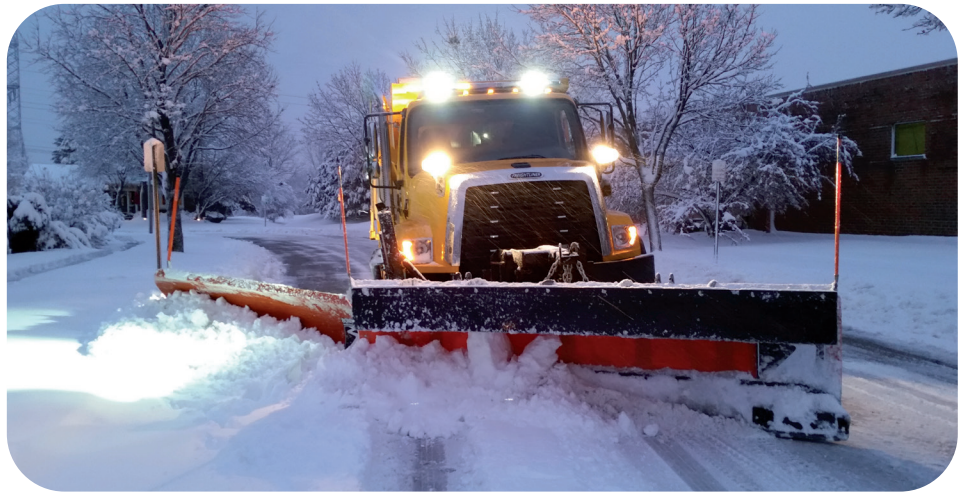
**A.** This is an anti-icing pre-treatment that is a cost effective, proactive first step towards achieving drivable roads during storm events. It helps to melt falling snow and prevents the bond between the road and snow from forming.

## **Q. Do snowplows have to push snow into my driveway?**

**A.** Yes – this is unfortunately, unavoidable. Snowplows clear roads moving from the middle of the road towards the outside curb during snow events, and plowing activities continue until all snow has been removed. When these snow events are prolonged, clearing can involve multiple plowing passes which can cause large deposits of snow along the road edge, including on driveway aprons.

## **Q. Can I shovel or snow-blow snow from my driveway into the street?**

**A.** No – this is prohibited by Village ordinance and you can be subject to a fine. Why? This is a safety and liability issue; this action can cause accidents or injuries. Snow removed from your driveway should be placed in your yard.



## **Q. When should I move my car off the street?**

**A.** Vehicles are prohibited to park on the street when there is two or more inches of snow. Residents are strongly encouraged to move vehicles off the street as soon as winter weather arrives, as equipment must pass between vehicles that are parked illegally on the street. This creates potential hazards for the winter maintenance equipment and slows down overall response.

## **Q. What should I do if a plow damages my mailbox or my parkway?**

**A.** Damage to your parkway and/or mailbox by a snow plow should be reported to the Public Works Department. Parkways will be repaired/restored in the spring, and mailboxes or posts that are damaged will also be repaired or replaced.

Public Works does not repair damages caused by snow thrown from the plow. When purchasing a mailbox, please consider sturdiness so it can resist the force, weight and weep of snow caused by plows. Repairs or replacements will also not be completed on improperly installed mailboxes/support posts. Installation guidelines and diagrams can be obtained through the Public Works Department.

## **Q. Are all roads in Buffalo Grove plowed by the Public Works Department?**

**A.** No. Many roads throughout the Village are maintained by other agencies. State roads and County roads are plowed by the agency that owns the

road. Please see the infographic on page 4 that breaks down what government agencies have jurisdiction over which roadways in the Village.

## **Q. What should I do if it is my garbage day and plows are out clearing snow?**

During winter maintenance activities, residents are strongly encouraged to place garbage and recycle cans back away from the curb, and inside the driveway apron so blowing snow coming off plows does not knock cans over. The closer the cans are placed to the curb, the greater the likelihood they will be knocked over during plowing operations.

## **If you have a question or concern relating to winter weather conditions:**

Call Public Works during normal business hours Monday – Friday from 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at **847-459-2545**. Call the non-emergency Police Department after hours, on weekends and on holidays at **847-459-2560**.

## **WHO'S LISTENING?**



**Bryan Beitzel**

MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDANT

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Email: BBeitzel@vbg.org

# Improving Water and Sewer Systems

Public Works has received phone calls over the last several weeks regarding high water bills, and would like to provide a friendly reminder that water and sewer rates were increased by 11-percent, along with a fixed facility fee that went into effect January 1, 2020. Even with the rate increase, the Village still has among the lowest water and sewer rates in the area. Find out how Buffalo Grove's rates compare to equivalent villages, and additional water and sewer rate information at [vbg.org/IMP-water-sewer](http://vbg.org/IMP-water-sewer).

These increases occurred because the Village's aging water and sewer infrastructure needs repairs and replacements, and this work could not have been adequately funded with 2019's rates. By improving these systems over the next five to ten years, we can help to minimize future interruptions in water flow, and lower future project costs. The water and sewer rate increase will ensure the residents of Buffalo Grove continue to receive safe water delivered to their

homes via a reliable water system for generations to come.

If you have any additional questions concerning the water and sewer rates or believe there is a major discrepancy in your water and sewer bill, please call Public Works at **847-459-2545** to determine if there are any potential leaks in your home.

## WHO'S LISTENING?



**Mike Skibbe**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
OF PUBLIC WORKS

Phone: 847-459-2545

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# A 2019 bill compared to a 2020 bill

## 2019

If you use 11,000 gallons a month your bill current looks like:

CURRENT METER USAGE					
METER READ DATES			READS		
START	END	DAYS	PREVIOUS	PRESENT	USAGE X 1000
09/01/2019	10/31/2019	61	143	154	11

NEW CHARGES	
Water Charges	70.07
Lake County Sewer Charges	44.88
Stormwater Fee	10.16
<b>TOTAL NEW CHARGES</b>	<b>125.11</b>

## 2020

If you use 11,000 gallons a month your bill will look like:

CURRENT METER USAGE					
METER READ DATES			READS		
START	END	DAYS	PREVIOUS	PRESENT	USAGE X 1000
09/01/2020	10/31/2020	61	143	154	11

NEW CHARGES	
Water Charges	77.77
Lake County Sewer Charges	49.75*
Stormwater Fee	10.16
Fixed Facility Fee	34.78
<b>TOTAL NEW CHARGES</b>	<b>169.46</b>

\*Lake County increased its sewer charge in December of 2019. Any questions can be directed to Lake County Department of Public Works at 847-377-7500.

\*Lake County increased its sewer charge in December of 2019. Any questions can be directed to Lake County Department of Public Works at 847-377-7500.

# Firefighter/Paramedic Procedures During the Pandemic

The pandemic has created challenges for all of us, and that includes how our firefighter/paramedics (FF/PM) encounter and handle emergency situations daily. While in the fire stations, all FF/PMs wear masks when social distancing cannot be adhered to, and that is just one of those changes.



For medical calls, rather than all five FF/PMs responding simultaneously, one paramedic now goes into the call location alone, in full personal protective equipment (PPE) to assess risk, and then calls for assistance as needed.

At a minimum, each FF/PM that goes out on a call wears a surgical mask and gloves. For suspected or confirmed COVID-19 calls, team members conduct treatment while wearing an N95 mask, face shield, gloves, and a gown, as necessary. Within high-risk facilities such as nursing homes, all FF/PMs are in full PPE (including gowns and N95 masks) regardless of a patient's COVID-19 status. After a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 call, a full ambulance decontamination occurs as well to keep our team members, and the community at large, safe.

While the pandemic changes how they approach medical situations and

what they wear, it does not change the emergency response of FF/PMs – the Fire Department remains available to provide the best possible medical care at any hour of the day, on any day of the year. **Residents should not ever hesitate to call 911.**

## WHO'S LISTENING?



**Mike Baker**  
EMA DIRECTOR, FIRE CHIEF

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Email: [WBaker@vbg.org](mailto:WBaker@vbg.org)

# Stay Informed About Pandemic Developments & News

As we enter into the holiday season and continue to live through this pandemic, news and updates can change quickly relating to the number of COVID-19 cases, health restrictions and other safety guidelines to minimize the spread of this disease. While the Village will continue to

inform its residents of new developments through our **social media pages** and our weekly **Newsletter**, residents are encouraged to visit the **Illinois Department of Public Health website** for the most current information. Please stay safe and stay informed!



## Public Works Director Mike Reynolds Retires

This December, Buffalo Grove Public Works Director Mike Reynolds, MPA,

CPFP, CPWP-M, will be retiring after an impressive 37-year career in public service. He will be missed by the entire Village for his professionalism, sense of humor, and kindness.

Mike's first job in local government began in 1983 as a paid on-call firefighter for the Village of Northfield. Two years later, the village hired Mike to work as a part-time maintenance worker in the public works department, and he was hired full-time in 1987. This is when his dedication to the public works profession began to solidify. During his 13 years at Northfield, Mike worked to acquire his Associate's ('89), Bachelor's ('91) and Master's ('97) degrees, all while working full-time. From there he went on to become the Deputy Director of Public Works for the City of Des Plaines and had a short stint as acting director, before moving to the Village of Arlington Heights Public Works Department as a Maintenance Superintendent in 2001 - 2013. His final stop was at the Village of Buffalo Grove, where he was hired as the Director of Public Works, and where he has served the community for the last seven years.

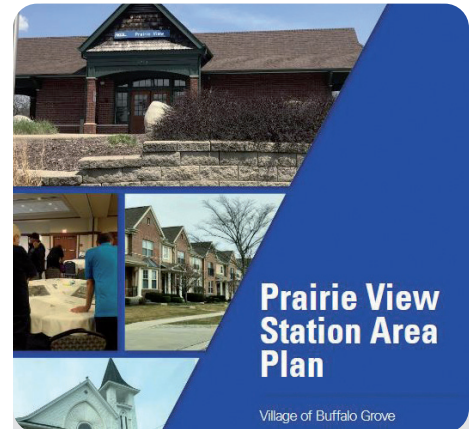
"I am proud of the accomplishments the Public Works Department has achieved over my time here, where I have been fortunate to lead," Reynolds said. "We have a solid team of individuals who deeply care

about the services we provide for the Village, and understand the important function each of them play to ensure that Buffalo Grove remains a premiere community, while providing the highest level of public works services available."

Among the successful initiatives under Mike's leadership in Buffalo Grove are the re-organization of the entire department, and increased training and educational opportunities for all employees. Mike led the creation and implementation of the Village's stormwater utility fee and played a key role in the renegotiation of the Buffalo Creek Reservoir Maintenance agreement with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD). He was a key team member in the implementation of the Infrastructure Modernization Plan - which looks to fortify and strengthen infrastructure throughout Buffalo Grove over the next five years. Additionally, the Department saw the implementation of an asset management system and has received numerous department and staff awards at the local and national level.

Since 2003, Mike has served as the statewide municipal representative on the Illinois Commerce Commission's Underground Damage Prevention Advisory Committee and has served as a Municipal Vice-President on the JULIE Board of Directors since 2015. Mike is also a Life Member with the American Public Works Association.

The Village wishes Mike well in his retirement!



## Prairie View Award

The Prairie View Metra Station Area Plan was awarded a Merit Award for Planning and Analysis by the American Society of Landscape Architects, Illinois Chapter. The Village of Buffalo Grove is proud of this accomplishment of the Community Development Department, which reflects the organization's commitment to quality planning and development. To learn more about the plan and the award, please visit [vbg.org/prairie-view-plan](http://vbg.org/prairie-view-plan).

## WHO'S LISTENING?



**Nicole Woods**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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# 2020 Community & Economic Development

Since the start of 2020, the Village of Buffalo Grove Community Development Department is on track to issue nearly 2,700 commercial and residential building permits. These permits represent a total project valuation of more than \$50 million invested into the local community.

The following is a summary of various upcoming projects, and those that are approved or are under construction:

## Approved Projects Under Construction



### Woodman's Second Gas Station

Given the high demand for fuel, in 2020, Woodman's Market began construction on their second gas station located on the south side of Deerfield Parkway. The unattended gas station will offer customers an additional ten dispensers.

### Shell Gas Station (185 N. Milwaukee Avenue)

True North recently completed construction of their new Shell Gas Station at 185 N. Milwaukee Avenue (former Wooil Restaurant).

## Link Crossing

Construction continues for the new Link Crossing Development. The developer, K. Hovnanian Homes, will be constructing 68 clustered single-family detached homes and 119, 2-story townhomes.

## Northwest Community Healthcare

In 2019, the Village Board approved the redevelopment of the Northwest Community Healthcare (NCH) property at 15 S. McHenry Road and 125 E. Lake Cook Road. Construction on the new 70,600 square foot medical office building has begun. The project will also include a 4,900 square foot retail building and is expected to be completed in late 2021.

## Upcoming Projects



### Town Center Redevelopment

Kensington Development Partners plans to redevelop the 20-acre Town Center property into a new, mixed-use development to be anchored by retail, restaurants, and multi-family residential.

Kensington's total investment and project costs are estimated to exceed \$100 million. The project is still in the planning stages and construction is not expected to start until late 2021.

## 700 E. Lake Cook Road (northeast corner of Lake Cook Road and Lexington Drive)

The Village has received an application to redevelop the existing office building at 700 E. Lake Cook Road. The proposal involves demolishing the existing building and redeveloping the site for multiple uses, including an 8,720 square foot convenience store, fuel center and car wash complex (Rick Rockets Fuel Center), an 8,550 square foot retail center, and a 2,400 square foot quick service restaurant. The project is expected to go through the Village's planning process in early 2021.

## Spoerlin Commons Outlot

The Village has received an application for a new 2,800 square foot Dunkin Donuts outbuilding with a drive-through. Dunkin Donuts is currently located in the corner unit of the existing retail building and is looking to expand services by including the drive-through. The project is expected to go through the Village's planning process in early 2021.

# Online Shopping and Safe Package Delivery

Buffalo Grove Police would like to remind our community members about the importance of safe online shopping this holiday season. When ordering items online, please remember to:

- Use strong passwords and pay with a credit card instead of a debit card, if possible.
- Be sure you are on a trusted vendor website (look for the padlock in the website address bar) and avoid using public Wi-Fi networks when entering credit card information.
- When expecting packages, if the option is available, pick a specific delivery time when someone can be home to accept it.
- If you are unable to be at home to accept deliveries, have packages delivered to a location where they

can be immediately retrieved, such as a neighbor's home or place of employment.

You can also opt-in to receive text messages for delivery alerts, so you know when packages are expected to arrive. Should items be stolen, police will be able to determine the time frame of the crime. Another option is to ask the delivering company to hold packages at their facility until they can be picked up in person. Residents can additionally choose to invest in security cameras or a Wi-Fi doorbell system that can be discreetly placed on the exterior of the home. While they could act as a deterrent, they also can provide helpful descriptions for police of persons and vehicles that are involved in thefts.

Following these tips will help keep your personal information safe and help to ensure the successful delivery of your holiday packages!

## WHO'S LISTENING?



**Steven Casstevens**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

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Email: [SCasstevens@vbg.org](mailto:SCasstevens@vbg.org)



Good deeds with individuals or groups helping others has become a common theme throughout the pandemic and continues right here in Buffalo Grove!

#### **Police Department Assists Midwest Veterans Closet**

Now through March of 2021, the Police Department will be a collection site for new or gently used winter coats and seasonal outerwear of all sizes. A collection box is located in the Department's lobby, and donations can be accepted 24/7. Clothing items will be delivered to the Midwest Veterans Closet 'Winter Coat Drive', where they will be distributed to local veterans in need. Visit [midwestveteranscloset.org/](http://midwestveteranscloset.org/)

#### **Townships Support Individuals and Families In-Need**

Residents of Buffalo Grove experiencing financial challenges, as well as senior

citizens who need a variety of assistance and supports, can rely on the two Townships that serve Buffalo Grove. Wheeling Township covers the Cook County side of the Village, while Vernon Township serves residents living in the Lake County portion.

Among the services available to in-need individuals and families are:

- Food pantries
- Holiday giving programs
- Senior programs and services
- Assistance with Medicare
- Lending closets
- Transportation
- Low income energy assistance programs for winter heating bills

Please call or visit the township website below for more information on specific programs offered if you need assistance.

- **Vernon Township:** Call 847-634-4600 or visit [vernontownship.com](http://vernontownship.com)
- **Wheeling Township:** Call 847-259-7730 or visit [wheelingtownship.com](http://wheelingtownship.com)

#### **Buffalo Grove Rotary Club Delivers Thanksgiving Dinners for Families**

For more than 30 years, the Buffalo Grove Rotary Club has delivered Thanksgiving

Food Baskets to families in need, who are identified by social workers from local school districts. In the weeks leading up to the Thanksgiving holiday, Buffalo Grove Rotarians will volunteer their time and efforts to put together these baskets filled with all the fixings for a delicious holiday meal. This year, the Rotary Club didn't miss a beat despite the pandemic. The club continued to raise funds through their annual Duck Race in early September and will be able to give at the very same level as previous years. There will be more than 150 Thanksgiving Food Baskets distributed to in-need families living in Buffalo Grove and the immediate surrounding areas, just in time for the holiday season.



*2019 Buffalo Grove Rotary Club Thanksgiving Food Basket Program*

## **Fire Investigations: An Inside Look**

While putting out fires is most often what comes to mind when you mention the fire department, people may not realize all that happens after a fire is extinguished. By state law, the fire chief is responsible for investigating the fire's origin and cause. A team of highly skilled department staff members - who continually train through the classroom and hands-on education - help identify the cause. Any individual who investigates a fire must have a state certification through the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

When a fire occurs in the Village, an investigator is immediately dispatched to the scene to begin the investigation once it is extinguished. He or she carefully picks through fire debris, looking for clues that indicate where and how it began. Evidence is carefully

photographed and logged, and findings are reported to a national database where they are analyzed for trends.

The primary causes of fires are due to cooking and faulty electrical equipment, both of which increase over holiday season. For fires that occur in the kitchen, investigators have found distraction and multi-tasking are both contributors. Simple tricks, such as ensuring a timer is used while cooking, and that the area around the oven is clean and clear of flammable objects, can help to prevent a fire from beginning. Overloaded electrical outlets and power strips are also a significant cause of fires. As holiday decorations are displayed, try to minimize the use of extension cords, throw away cracked or split cords, and make sure not to

overload electrical circuits.

Everyone can play a role in preventing a fire, so please consider these simple steps and help keep the holidays merry!

### **WHO'S LISTENING?**



**Joe Welter**  
DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL

**Phone:** 847-777-6071  
**Email:** [JWelter@vbg.org](mailto:JWelter@vbg.org)



BUFFALO  
GROVE  
PARK  
DISTRICT



## GOLF DOME at the Buffalo Grove Park District

Open for daily  
golf practice  
November 14

### Hours

Monday - Friday 9 am - 8 pm  
Saturday & Sunday 8 am - 8 pm

Thanksgiving Day  
Thursday, November 28 Closed

### Fees (Per ½ hour)

Weekdays, before 6 pm	\$11
Weekdays, after 6 pm	\$12
Weekends	\$12
5-Hour Pass	\$95 (\$10 off in November)

801 McHenry Road

(½ Mile West of Buffalo Grove Road)

847.353.7575

## COVID-19 Requirements

- Face coverings are required in the facility at all times, including while hitting at stations.
- All customers are required to complete the wellness screening questionnaire prior to arrival.
- Reservations are required for admittance into the Golf Dome for your chosen time block. No one will be admitted without a reservation. Everyone must exit the building by the end of their reservation time, with no exceptions.
- Per Illinois phase 4 guidelines, indoor recreation facilities should operate at less than 50 customers.

## 5-Hour Pass

Only \$95 • Save \$10 when you buy in November

Save some green while you master the green! Purchase a 5-Hour Pass for only \$95; or, stock up in November when they're on sale for only \$85. Passes never expire; so, they can be used season after season. There are no age restrictions for 5-Hour Passes; however, children 12 years and under must be accompanied by an adult at all times. 5-Hour Passes may be borrowed or shared, as long as the pass is present at check-in. 5-Hour Passes are nonrefundable, unless they were purchased during the current season and do not have any time used.

## Season Pass

Unfortunately, due to more restrictive occupancy limits, and the changes we are making because of concerns related to COVID-19, we will not be offering season passes this year.

- |                 |                                                   |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| > Driving Range | > Private & Group Lessons                         |
| > Putting Green | > Gift Certificates                               |
| > Retail Shop   | > Open for walking weekday mornings from 8 - 9 am |

## VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION CANCELED

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are unable to safely bring our Veterans Day Celebration to the community this year. We are hopeful that we will be able to bring back our tradition of properly celebrating Veterans Day in 2021. If you are a veteran, please visit our event sponsor Culver's on November 11. Let them know you are a veteran, and receive a free scoop of frozen custard. This offer is only good at the Culver's locations in Buffalo Grove, Lincolnshire and Northbrook.

Sponsored by:





BUFFALO GROVE  
FRIENDS OF THE PARKS  
FOUNDATION

The Buffalo Grove Park District's charitable foundation.



## Santa's Mailbox

Santa has made special arrangements with the Buffalo Grove Park District as a special helper to answer all the letters from boys and girls in Buffalo Grove. Letters will be answered to each child who drops off a letter. **Please Note:** This is for Buffalo Grove Park District residents only. School teachers who wish to have their students' letters answered must have prior approval.

Please send letters to:

Santa Claus  
c/o Buffalo Grove Park District  
530 Bernard Drive  
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089

Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.  
Only letters received by December 10 will be answered.



Become a part of Buffalo Grove history

## Community Brick Paver Program

Makes a great gift!

Birthdays • Anniversaries • Memorials • Personal Tributes • Family Trees • Employee Recognition

Now available at the following locations:

Alcott Center, Willow Stream Park, Rolling Hills Park, Twin Creeks Park, Veterans Park, Emmerich Park, Happy Tails Dog Park and the Community Arts Center

For more information and registration forms, visit [bgbricks.org](http://bgbricks.org).



## Camp registration begins January 11

Residents may register their child beginning January 11. New this year, we are accepting online registration for summer camp. Registration can also be taken at the Alcott Center during regular business hours. If registering for the first time as a resident, you must provide proof of residency. Nonresident registration will begin February 22. Visit our website at [bgparks.org](http://bgparks.org) for detailed information and a list of camps offered, or call 847.850.2100.





50 Raupp Boulevard  
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089

Phone: 847-459-2500

Fax: 847-459-0332

Email: [info@vbg.org](mailto:info@vbg.org)

Website: [vbg.org](http://vbg.org)

### VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday  
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Non-Emergency)  
847- 537-0995

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

(Non-Emergency)  
847- 459-2560

### PUBLIC WORKS

847-459-2545

## Blood Drive December 5



The next Buffalo Community Blood Drive will take place from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 5, 2020

at the Alcott Center, 530 Bernard Drive in Buffalo Grove. Due to COVID-19, social distancing guidelines are in place, and therefore, the number of donations that can occur during the blood drive are limited. Please call Vitalant at **877-543-3768**, or visit [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) to schedule your appointment or to find additional blood drives in the area. For more information, please visit [vbg.org/blooddrive](http://vbg.org/blooddrive).

Village of Buffalo Grove  
50 Raupp Boulevard  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

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PERMIT #26  
BUFFALO GROVE, IL

**WS-CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT  
LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER  
BUFFALO GROVE, IL 60089**

## 2021 Municipal Election

**April 6, 2021** is the date of our next **Municipal Election**. This is the date you will elect the local leaders that determine the direction moving forward for the Buffalo Grove community.

Our last Municipal Election in 2019 had a contested race for Village President, as well as nine candidates vying for three Trustee seats - yet voter turnout was only 16-percent! As is typical in a race with low turnout and multiple candidates, one of the Trustee positions was decided by just two votes and resulted in a lengthy and costly court battle.

I am urging you to remember that local elected leaders have the largest impact on our daily lives, compared to those that are elected nationally. One example is that they are responsible for the distribution of your property tax dollars and these are the same individuals who may be your neighbors or even friends. They are

volunteering their time to serve, and you can reach out to them when you have challenges, questions, or needs. Please take the time to review the credentials of all the candidates so that you may make an informed choice and please be sure to **VOTE on April 6, 2021.**

There are three Trustee positions up for election. Petitions are available at Village Hall Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. If you'd like one mailed to you, please email [info@vbg.org](mailto:info@vbg.org). Petition filings begin in the Village Clerk's office at 8 a.m. on Monday, December 14, 2020 and end at 5 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2020.

You must be a registered voter in Buffalo Grove to run for office, and to sign a petition for a candidate. For any questions, please call the Village at **847-459-2500**.

*Janet Sirabian, Village Clerk*

## Last Landscape Waste Pick-Up of the Year is December 15

Residential landscape waste is picked up on your normal recycling day and should be contained in 32 gallon special yard waste paper bags; 32 gallon rigid and unlined waste containers marked with a large "x" that are at least 12 inches in diameter that can be seen from the truck are also accepted. **Acceptable items include:** Grass clippings, leaves, vegetative plants and as well as brush and small trees. **Unacceptable items include:** Indoor plants, flower arrangements, trees larger than 3.5 inches in diameter, dirt, stones, pine cones and sod. If you have questions, please visit Waste Management online at [wm.com](http://wm.com).

### Holiday Refuse and Recycling Pickup

Refuse and recycling will not be picked up on the following holidays:

**Thanksgiving Day** - Thursday, November 26, 2020

**Christmas** - Friday, December 25, 2020

**New Year's Day** - Friday, January 1, 2021

Weekday holidays delay collection by one day for the remainder of the week. For example, if a holiday falls on a Thursday like Thanksgiving, Thursday customers will be collected on Friday, and Friday customers will be collected on Saturday.