



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2023



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From the Desk of Village President Daniel Tannhauser

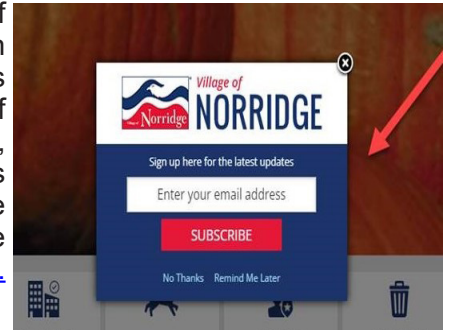
Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were pleasant and peaceful. As we settle into another Midwestern winter of cold and snow, we would like to dedicate the majority of this newsletter to addressing some regulations, ordinances and questions regarding snow removal in the Village. Most of the information you will find in this newsletter is not new information, however, as with driving in the snow for the first time, we can forget from year to year. Though the hope is that Mother Nature will be kind to us this winter, but in case she is not, please take a moment to refresh yourselves.

The Village has many ways that we use to communicate with our residents, but as you see below, our new communication tool, GovDelivery, will send you an email communication for many topics from water breaks, to upcoming community events, to snow route activation, if your water will be shut off due to a water break, or if we have in fact activated the snow route restrictions. I encourage you to take a moment to sign up for GovDelivery now.

On the last page of this edition of the newsletter is a list of our 2023 community events. Please mark your calendars and join us for one, a few, or all the events listed. More information on our 75th Anniversary celebration, which will take place in August, will be coming in the next newsletter.

Village of Norridge Website Upgrade

The Village of Norridge, in conjunction with the upgrade of our website, implemented an email communication tool called GovDelivery. GovDelivery allows residents and visitors to subscribe to email updates on specific topics that are of interest to them, such as this newsletter. The Village will use GovDelivery, in addition to our website and social media pages, to inform residents of water breaks, snow route activation, job postings and more. Since launching GovDelivery, 681 subscribers have signed up to receive these email communications. Haven't signed up yet? Visit our website at www.villageofnorridge.com and click on the pop-up to register.



Please add our new sending email address, norridgealerts@public.govdelivery.com to your email contacts/safe sender list so that our emails land in your inbox when sent.

Hometown Heroes

The last three years, the Village of Norridge honored our hometown heroes during the months of May through August on our Facebook page. This year, we will once again be showcasing our Veterans and active Military Members each Tuesday beginning in May. If you would like your hero spotlighted, please email a photo, branch of service, years of services, war or conflict served in, or any other information which you would like us to share with the Community. Emails should be sent to Joanna Skupien at jskupien@villageofnorridge.com by April 30th. Prior submissions will once again be honored this year, and do not need to be resubmitted.



Please feel free to contact Joanna at the above email if you want to update last year's submission or have any questions.

Snow Route Parking Changes We all knew the mild weather couldn't last forever, and now that we have the first measurable snow fall under our belts, many questions have been asked about the two different snow route designations and the regulations regarding them.

Odd/Even snow route area The Historic section of the Village, East of Harlem Avenue, the 8200 & 8300 blocks of Foster Avenue, and some streets near Leigh School are located in the odd/even snow route area. Simply put, from Wednesday through Sunday, after two inches of snow has fallen, there is no parking from 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. on the side of the street with even addresses on even calendar dates and no parking on the side of the street with odd street addresses on odd calendar dates. These restrictions will remain in effect until the snow event is over and snow removal is completed.

Why the change? Like many municipalities, the odd/even snow removal restrictions are in place to aid Public Works in removing the snow quicker and more efficiently.

Why Wednesday – Sunday only? Year round street maintenance restriction days in the historic section are Mondays and Tuesdays. You are already moving your cars for these days. **NOTE: THE MAJORITY OF THIS CHANGE AFFECTS THE HISTORIC SECTION AND EAST OF HARLEM. IF YOU ARE IN THE AREA NEAR LEIGH SCHOOL THAT IS AFFECTED, YOUR STREET MAINTENANCE DAYS ARE WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY.**

Where can I park my car? You may park your car on the opposite side of the street, or as you do on your street maintenance day.



Designated snow route areas This area, where houses have driveways, the snow route restrictions have not changed. Please utilize your driveways, and move all cars off the street, after two inches of snow has fallen, until the snow event is over and snow removal is completed. By moving your cars, the plows can remove the snow fall before it freezes, which will eliminate any boulders being thrown back onto driveway aprons on street maintenance days.

As a reminder, once the two inch threshold has been reached, the Village immediately activates the snow route hot line (708-583-5775), our website, GovDelivery and our social media pages.

You can find the maps for the two snow route areas, as well as any updated information on our home page, under the tab "Snow Route Maps & Information."

State Roads Public Works Snow Command is not responsible for plowing the following roads: Cumberland Avenue, Lawrence Avenue, Harlem Avenue and Irving Park Road. This removal is completed by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Snow Plowing Alleys As a convenience to our residents, the snowplows will make one pass down the center of the alley in the Village once final snow removal of the streets is completed.

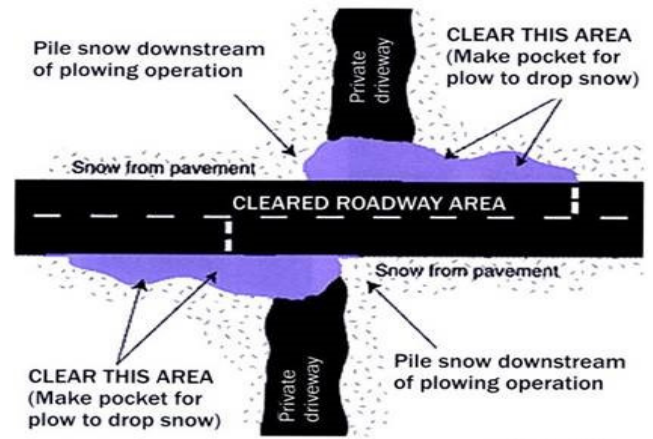
Property Maintenance List If you are interested in having your name added to our 2022-2023 Property Maintenance list, or if you would like to receive a copy of the list, please contact Patty Spain at 708-453-0800 or at pspain@villageofnorridge.com. You may also obtain a list on our website at www.villageofnorridge.com, or on our Facebook page. All financial arrangements are made between the parties.

PLEASE NOTE: The list is subject to change. For the most current list, please check our website and Facebook page periodically.



Snow on your apron and driveway An unavoidable, and unfortunate, consequence of municipal snow removal operations is when snow from the street ends up at the end of your apron or driveway. We understand the frustration this may cause. Here are some tips and reminders to help avoid headaches and backaches.

- Clear about 10 feet of snow from the right side of your driveway (as you are facing it).
- Pile the snow to the left of your driveway-downstream of plowing operations.
- Remember, shoveling or blowing snow from your driveway onto the street is prohibited, and can also create hazardous conditions for drivers.
- If you hire a snow removal service for sidewalks, driveways and parking lots, please make sure to talk with your contractor to ensure that snow is placed on private property and not on the right of way.



In a World Where You Can Be Anything - Be Kind It really isn't that hard. Though this quote pertains to so much more than snow removal, we can all remember a time when neighbors would be out in droves helping each other to clear the sidewalks and driveways of snow. Listed below are a few reminders of ways to be kind when the snow falls:

- Clear the sidewalks adjacent to your property of snow as soon as possible. Landlords are responsible for keeping sidewalks, parking lots and all common areas, including open stairwells, free from hazardous conditions at all times.

- When clearing the snow from your property, please do not blow it back into the street. Doing so can create hazardous conditions for cars. If you hire a snow removal service, please make sure they place all snow on private property and not on the right of way.
- The #1 complaint to the Village Hall is frustrated residents who have moved their car, cleared the snow from their apron or driveway, and then snow from the neighbor who didn't move their car is deposited back onto their clean driveway. Be a good neighbor and aid with snow removal by following the Village's snow routes and move your car. It will also save you from receiving a ticket.



- Residents are encouraged to help the Norwood Park Fire Department by shoveling out the fire hydrants. Shoveling a three-foot perimeter around a hydrant, and a path to the hydrant from the street, will allow quick access in the event of an emergency.
- Be a good neighbor by snow blowing, or shoveling your neighbors driveway and sidewalk. They may surprise you and clear your snow the next time. Check on your elderly or homebound neighbor.
- Thank a snow plow driver. They are working diligently to ensure that our streets are cleared, curb to curb of snow for our community, only to go home and have to shovel their own sidewalk and driveway.

Working together as neighbors and as a community, will help make our roads and sidewalks safe for all, and you may even have a little fun doing so.

When the snow melts. As you remember, in recent years, our area was hit with back to back snow storms resulting in a significant amount of snow in a short period of time. This was followed up with warm temperatures and a quick thaw. Regardless of a rapid thaw or not, once the snow starts to melt, here are some tips to avoid snow melt flooding:

- Make sure that gutters and down spouts are free from snow and ice.
- If you have a sump pump, make sure it is working properly and that you have a back-up in place.
- Clear a path through the snow for water to drain to the street as the snow melts. Water will find the path of least resistance; providing an easy route for the water to run away from your home will help keep it from entering your home.
- When shoveling, always remember to bend your knees and lift with your legs.
- Remove snow around your foundation walls, ideally about three feet.
- Consider clearing snow off your roof. Stores sell snow rakes, however, if you are not skilled in this area, please consult with an expert or hire a professional so that you don't damage your roof or get injured.
- Clear snow, ice or any debris from storm drains or catch basins.



Pictured to the left is a storm drain at an intersection. Drainage is one of the reasons snow on corners is pushed up. If the snow at corners is not pushed up, melting snow will create flooding and icy conditions, if temperatures drop below freezing.

Pictured to the right is a storm drain catch basin. If you have one in front of your property, or in the vicinity of your property, it would be a great help if residents could check the area and keep it clear of snow, ice, leaves and debris to help minimize flooding. If you are unable to clear the drain, but observe it is blocked, especially if you see water starting to pool, please contact the Village Hall.



Blackboard Connect With an aging infrastructure and the fluctuation of winter temperatures, water breaks will occur. A water break can happen at anytime, and requires the Public Works crew to shut off the water service in the area affected by the break until the repair is complete.

The Village of Norridge successfully launched the Blackboard Connect mass notification system in October of 2006. The Village uses this notification service to disseminate crucial information to our residential and business population. Notifications can be used for a myriad of situations such as a road closures, weather and other emergency situations. It is also the #1 method of notifying residents that their water service will be turned off due to a water break. The system has the ability to reach thousands of people in a matter of minutes. If you have not yet done so, we strongly encourage you to register your phone number and email address. Rest assured that your personal information will not be shared with anyone. Register by calling 708-583-5783, on our website at www.villageofnorridge.com, or by calling the Village Hall at 708-453-0800. It is also important to notify us if you change your phone number, or email address.



Please note: Water break Blackboard Connect Calls are sent between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 10:00 P.M. If the crew needs to turn the water off during the middle of the night, no call is sent.

Burglary Prevention No one individual or agency working alone can prevent crime. It takes police and citizens working in partnership. The Norridge Police Department community policing strategy provides many ways for the police and communities to work together to prevent crime and build safer neighborhoods.



One of the most important things you can do is to know who belongs in your neighborhood and be alert in protecting not only your home, but your neighbors' as well. Report any suspicious persons immediately to 9-1-1. In addition, don't enter your home if it looks like it's been illegally entered. Leave the premises and call the police.

Ruse Entry Burglary Prevention Tips Ruse entry burglaries or "distraction burglaries" are an attempt to enter someone's house through deception, usually with the intent to steal valuables or cash money kept in a house. Senior citizens are often targeted by these groups during daylight hours. Offenders usually will pose as outside workers, such as surveyors, utility company workers, tree trimmers or city water department employees to get homeowners outside and lure them away from the front entrance. Once the homeowner is outside the home or isolated to a particular area of the home, another offender will sneak inside to snatch small items like jewelry or cash.

Protect yourself from ruse entry burglaries with these tips:

- If you're not sure who is at your door, don't open it.
- Check the identity of the person by calling the company they are purporting to be from. Do not use any telephone numbers provided by the individual, though. Find the company's number online, on a utility bill or through other means.
- Many utility service providers will call on the phone prior to arriving at your home. In many cases, the caller will be the technician who will be arriving. Ask them for their name ahead of time.
- Safeguard valuable items and documents in a safe or safe deposit box.
- Keep your doors and windows locked at all times.
- If somebody shows up at your home asking for help or needing to make a phone call, assist them through a closed door or call a friend or neighbor to come and assist.

When to call 9-1-1:

- If you are suspicious or it just doesn't "feel" right.
- If someone forces entry or enters your home without permission.
- If you notice valuables or money have gone missing shortly after someone has visited.
- Whenever you think a crime has been, or is about to be committed.

Additional Prevention Tips

- Keep doors, windows and garage doors locked even when at home. Patrol officers report hundreds of open garage doors each month during the evening hours.
- Never leave a house key in an obvious place such as in a mailbox or under plants or doormats.
- Don't tell a stranger that your neighbor is not home or volunteer any personal information about your neighbor.
- Do not post on any social networking sites that you are going out of town.
- While traveling, keep your home looking lived-in by having the grass cut, mail and newspapers picked up, and lights turned on and off with timers.
- Know who belongs in your neighborhood and be alert in protecting not only your home, but your neighbors' as well. Report any suspicious persons, vehicles or activity immediately to 9-1-1.

- Report all unusual activities and unrecognized cars circling the area. The thieves that are targeting our area are scouting the neighborhood and observing people as they are leaving their house to ensure that there is no one at the house when they break-in. Be vigilant.
- Discuss the importance of home security with everyone. It only takes one person to forget to lock a door or window.
- The best place to keep important items safe is in a safety deposit box in the bank. Keeping too much jewelry and a lot of cash at home is not only impractical, but also makes you a target for a burglary.

And the winners are ...At the January 25, 2023 Village Board meeting, the winners of the 2022 Holiday House Decorating Contest were honored. Seven volunteer judges individually scored the applicants on creativity, originality and arrangement. Awards were given for first, second and third place. Judge's Choice Awards were chosen by two different volunteer judges who drove through the Village looking for their "Choice" based on their own critique. Below are pictures of the winning houses. A very special thank you to all who entered.



**First Place - Hussey Family
8236 W. Agatite**



**Second Place - Miller Family
4608 N. Ozanam**



**Third Place - Monno Family
4445 N. Overhill**



**Judge's Choice - Bertolli Family
4850 N. Pittsburgh**



**Judge's Choice - Yeshchenko Family
5001 N. Pittsburgh**

Calendar of Events The Village of Norridge's Special Events Committee is currently working on the Village's 2023 Community Events Calendar. Some of the events to watch for are:

Spring 2023 - Spring Recycling Event
 May 28, 2023 - Memorial Day Ceremony
 June 3, 2023 - Car Show (Rain Date June 10th)
 June 14, 2023 - Flag Retirement Ceremony
 August 1, 2023 - National Night Out
 August 24-27, 2023 - 75th Anniversary Celebration

September 16, 2023 - Touch-a-Truck
 Fall 2023 - Fall Recycling Event
 October 2023 - Halloween House Decorating Contest
 November 11, 2023 - Veterans Day Remembrance
 November 25, 2023 - Tree Lighting Event
 December 16, 2023 - Santa Send Off
 December 2023 - Holiday House Decorating Contest

In addition, Coffee and Conversation with the Mayor, as well as Coffee with a Cop dates are being considered. Please watch our newsletter, Facebook page, and website for more information as these events approach.