

Village of Park Ridge

Village Hall (Fire Dept. & Meeting Room): 24 Crestwood Drive

Village Clerk/Treasurer's Office: 24 Crestwood Drive, 715-343-1590

villageofparkridge@gmail.com

www.park-ridge.us

ESTABLISHED 1938

A LETTER FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Dear Park Ridge Residents:

As we start the process of closing out another year in the Village of Park Ridge, I can't help but reflect on the tumultuous two and a half years I've spent on the Board. Years ago, when I was asked to consider running for a seat on the Board, I was told the position would "be easy" and the fire department decision would "not be that big of a deal". That same person, the person whom I've waved to almost daily for six years, who walked over and asked for my help during the storm of 2017 and who helped my family out during the same storm will not even acknowledge me now. All because I feel differently about how the Village should handle the fire department decision. I have been told I am "hated" by certain members of our Village, for the mere fact that I have a different thought than they do. Our Village Clerk has been harassed, yelled at and ridiculed, for decisions the board has made and she had no part in. Reflecting on this, it makes me sad. Then I think of the two people who waved at me this morning between the trip from a local gym in the Village and my house, I think of the support I've received. I think of the neighbors who have introduced themselves, and despite their own ideas, have taken the time to contemplate all views. Thinking of these positive things, the friends and acquaintances I've gained through this experience, I come to one conclusion: The Village of Park Ridge is still a good place to live.

As for the Village Board: there is a theory that groups who work together go through stages: forming, storming, norming, conforming and performing. Some groups hit all the stages in order, other groups skip stages, fall back a stage, or never reach the performing stage. It all depends on the ability of the members of the group to understand viewpoints, make compromises, and to have respectful conversations about issues. As our Village Board, a group of elected and appointed representatives, make decision on the fire department, the roads, the street lights, the swales, the Village infrastructure as a whole, I ask for your patience and understanding. I also ask for respectful input to decisions, with the understanding that some things may just not be feasible or attainable. (continued on page 3)



DATES TO REMEMBER

September 27

Large item pick-up (see p. 2)

October 6

Fire Dept. – *TAME THE FLAME*
(see p.3)

November 1

Deadline for moving
recreational vehicles



December 20 SANTA VISIT

Registration for children 12
year & younger will be held
at the Village Hall on
November 6th – Election
Day



Village Stop Signs are there
for your safety!
Please come to a full stop at
each stop sign!

Fall Leaf Composting & Mulching Recommended

Fall is almost here and we'll soon be raking leaves! The Portage County Solid Waste Department discourages people from burning leaves because it pollutes the air, causing potential health hazards for the elderly, very young, and people with asthma. Composting and mulching are healthy alternatives. If you decide to burn leaves, the leaves MUST BE COMPLETELY DRY.

Park Ridge Burning Regulations:

AUTHORITY OF FIRE DEPARTMENT: Per Village Ordinance, the Fire Chief, Fire Inspector, any appointed Fire Officer, or Law Enforcement officer may order and/or cause to be extinguished any fire that may, in their singular opinion, be threatening the safety of persons or property in the Village. Non-compliance to regulations or order of Fire Department official may result in citation.

BURNING HOURS: 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

SIZE OF PILES: Piles larger than 4'x4'x3' are prohibited.

FIRE LOCATION: No burning shall take place in any street right-of-way. Approved burning shall take place 30' or more from any structure, flammable liquid, or other material which constitutes a potential fire hazard.

WIND REGULATIONS: No burning shall take place when the wind velocity exceeds 9 M.P.H. as indicated by a credible source or during periods when either the Village Fire Chief or the Department of Natural Resources has issued a burning ban.

FIRE PREVENTION: ALL fires must be attended at all times, by a responsible person equipped with either an operable garden hose or fire extinguisher. ALL FIRES MUST BE extinguished before such person leaves the site. Fully extinguished means no heat can be felt emitting from the remains of the fire.

Fire Pit / Camp Fire Regulations

MATERIALS FOR BURNING: Only clean wood (i.e. sawn wood) may be burned. Yard waste and construction materials are not part of this section.

BURNING HOURS: NOON to MIDNIGHT

SIZE & LOCATION: Fire pits (i.e. camp fires) not more than thirty-six (36") in diameter, shall be located a minimum of twenty (20') feet from any structure and/or fifteen (15') feet from any lot line (i.e. distance from edge of fire pit to either lot line and/or structure).

WIND REGULATIONS: No burning shall take place when the wind velocity exceeds 9 M.P.H. as indicated by a credible source or during periods when either the Village Fire Chief or the Department of Natural Resources has issued a burning ban.

FIRE PREVENTION: All fire pits (i.e. camp fires) shall be encircled with non-flammable material (i.e. bricks, stone, metal, etc.). All fires must be attended at all times, by a responsible person equipped with either an operable garden hose or fire extinguisher. All fires must be extinguished by MIDNIGHT or when left unattended. This means no heat can be felt emitting from the fire area.

FALL 'LARGE ITEM PICK-UP' DAY SEPTEMBER 27

This is the time for you to clean out the basement and garage, and dispose of those **non-recyclable** items such as furniture, carpeting, mattresses, box springs, etc. **All items to be picked up must be placed at the end of the driveway or street-side by 8 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27th.** **No** appliances, building/demolition materials, electronics, tires or toxic materials (paint thinners, pesticides, fertilizers, insecticides, etc.) will be picked up. There will be only one "run" by Harter's through the Village, so items put out later in the day will not be picked up. Don't miss it – this opportunity to dispose of non-recyclable items which would normally require a special pick-up is offered only once/year!! Harter's: 715-253-2619

ELECTION – NOVEMBER 6

Mark your calendars

New in the Neighborhood and would like to register? Please access Form EL-131 at <https://myvote.wi.gov/> Or stop by the Village Hall to register.

Must provide proof of residency.

Need to absentee vote? Please access Form EL-121 at <http://elections.wi.gov/forms/el-121-english>.

Or stop by the Village Hall to complete Form EL-121.

Must provide an acceptable ID

In-person early voting is allowed from September 24 to November 1

Must provide an acceptable ID

2018 PROPERTY REVALUATION

The Village of Park Ridge is undergoing a revaluation this year. It has been over 10 years since the last revaluation. Many of you have already received a visit from a representative affiliated with Pauls & Associates, our assessor. The Open Book and Board of Review will be scheduled later this year. The date will be announced on the Village website, at the 3 posting areas: at Walgreens, in front of ODC and at the Village Hall, and a notice will be published in the Portage County Gazette. **OPEN BOOK** – takes place first. During this session, the municipality's assessment roll (which lists all the municipality's properties) is open for examination. The property owner can informally discuss the property value with the local assessor. If the property value is changed at Open Book, the assessor corrects the assessment roll. **BOARD OF REVIEW** – if the property owner is not satisfied with the assessment after attending Open Book, the property owner can bring his/her appeal to the BOR. The Board schedules assessment appeals requiring property owners to provide evidence proving the assessment is incorrect. After review, if the Board agrees with the property owner's evidence, it can change the assessment.

SAVE A TREE/SAVE A STAMP – Please contact clerk to receive newsletter by email

(continued from page 1)

As for the Village business: one of the largest Village issues that occurred in 2018 was the revaluation of all the properties within the Village. This revaluation assessment was required for us to conduct and prior Boards had planned for the cost of it over the years. We have not received the final assessments but they should be coming shortly. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact a Board member or the Clerk.

Finally, as we transition to the Fall and then the Winter season, please review the information included in this Newsletter regarding large item pickup and yard waste drop off. The Board will start tackling the 2019 budget within the next month, elections will occur, and we will move forward into another year. I thank all of you for being my neighbors and making this Village a very good place to live.

Very Respectfully,
Randy Busch, Village President (appointed)

From your Fire Chief – Come support your local Fire Department for their third annual 5k Tame the Flame event. You will get a t-shirt for signing up for this event also. Please arrive at 9:30 am or earlier to register for the event. It will be located in Park Ridge and follow onto the Green Circle trail. After the Run/Walk there will be refreshments and food at the Village Hall. Bring your children along - after the walk there will be the Kids' Fitness Challenge. Have your kids test their skills out at the smoke house, kids' fitness games, and meet Smokey the Bear and McGruff the Crime Dog.

DATE, TIME & COST: Sat, October 6, 2018 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM CDT - \$18.50

CONGRATULATIONS! The Village of Park Ridge Volunteer Fire Department has been selected to receive one of the 2018 Safety Grants offered through Wisconsin Public Service Foundation. The funds will be used to purchase a High-Pressure Compressor.

REMINDER

School started September 4 – The Village crossing guard is on duty 30 minutes before and after school at the Sunset/66 intersection. Please slow down when you see the yellow school crossing signs and watch for children. Stevens Point Elementary Schools will begin the day at 8:45 am and end at 3:35 pm for the 2018/2019 school year.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE! Portage County Transfer Facility & Recycling Site

Located at 650 Moore Road, east of I-39 off of County Hwy B in Plover. Turn north onto Apache Drive. Stop at the scale speaker and the attendant will direct you from there. When done, weigh out and go to the scale office in the MRF (Material Recovery Facility) to make payment. Open Mon-Fri 7:30 am – 3:30 pm and Sat 7:30 am – 11:00 am. Arrive at least 30 minutes prior to closing. Fees vary and some restrictions apply, so call 715-343-6297 for more information or go to www.co.portage.wi.us and click on 'County Departments', 'Solid Waste'.

REMINDER

Fall is the time for raking leaves and yard clean-up. While Village Ordinances allow for burning of leaves & other yard waste we do not encourage it. Please see the burning regulations on p. 2 for information on burning and disposing of yard materials. The City yard waste site is open Tuesday & Thursday 1pm – 7pm and Saturday 9am – 4pm

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Village of Park Ridge

Kathy Bemowski, Clerk/Treasurer
24 Crestwood Dr.
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Board and Staff

President: Randy Busch
Trustees: Steve Bergin
Jim Sachs
Charm Fournier
Bill Dunham
Clerk/Treasurer: Kathy Bemowski
Fire Chief: Brian Lepper
Building
Inspector: Jim Zepp
Zoning
Administrator: J.D. Manville
Maintenance: John Kraft
Diggers Hotline: John Kraft
Crossing Guard: Lois Miller
Village Hall 715-343-1590
villageofparkridge@gmail.com

The next Village newsletter will be out after Thanksgiving.

Here are some 'snow' reminders:

Snow Sticks – While snow sticks can help guide snowplows when the first snows fall, they should be placed one foot from the pavement. The Village and snowplow operator will not be held liable for any broken snow sticks.

Parking – When two or more inches of snow are predicted, please do not park on the street.

Sidewalks – If you have a sidewalk on your property, Village ordinances **require snow and ice removal within 24 hours** after the snow stops falling. Please think of the pedestrians, bicyclists and disabled persons who rely on our sidewalks year-round – don't allow ice to build up or snow to become packed on the sidewalk surface.

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