



THE VILLAGE

MESSENGER

FALL/WINTER 2020, ISSUE 03

A PUBLICATION FOR THE
VILLAGE OF HOMER GLEN

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Pictured (l to r) Trustee Broque Backal, Trustee Sharon Sweas, Trustee Ruben Pazmino, Mayor George Yukich, Clerk Christina Neitzke-Troiike, Trustee Beth Rodgers, Trustee Keith Gray, Trustee Carlo Caprio

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George Yukich
Mayor

Christina Neitzke-Troiike
Clerk

TRUSTEES

Broque Backal
Public Services & Safety

Carlo Caprio
Homer Community Festival,
Public Services & Safety

Keith Gray
Administration & Finance,
Community & Economic
Development

Ruben Pazmino
Environment,
Parks & Recreation

Beth Rodgers
Administration & Finance,
Parks & Recreation

Sharon Sweas
Administration & Finance,
Environment





FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents and Businesses of Homer Glen:

I love the Fall season in Homer Glen. With the harvested fields, changing leaves and fall fests, we proudly own the Fall. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and staying informed on what is happening in your hometown.

This past year has been extremely difficult for all of us. I can't think of one person who has not been impacted by the pandemic in some way. Our businesses were shut down, our resident's jobs were impacted, and our children's lives were interrupted. At Village Hall, we had to quickly pivot to provide services in a virtual environment, hold our village board meetings remotely, and mobilize additional resources for our impacted residents and businesses. During these difficult times, our community supported each other and our local businesses. I want to offer a sincere thank you for this.

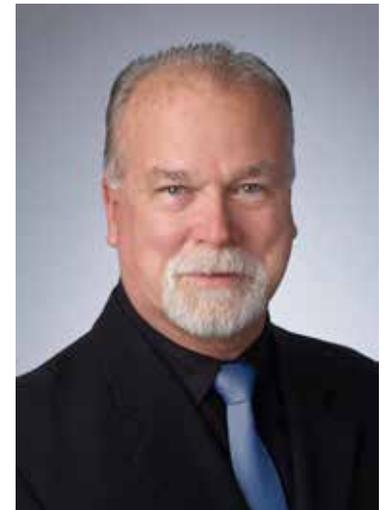
I ask that everyone stays vigilant during the winter and please continue to wear your masks, wash your hands, stay home if you are sick, get a flu shot, and be kind to each other. We will be facing the cold and flu season, along with the pandemic, at the same time. Please continue to shop and eat at our local small businesses, they rely on us now more than ever!

Even during these difficult times, we have so many blessings. New businesses continue to open and grow in Homer Glen. The real estate market is doing very well, for both existing homes and new construction. At the Village, we continue to plan for the future of Homer Glen. I look forward to 2021 and celebrating the 20th birthday of Homer Glen. We have already begun to plan for a big celebration and stay tuned for more announcements in the near future. I am also excited to promote our new Channel 6 on Comcast, please check it out. This is another tool we will use to share important community information with you. We also have new swings and a disc golf course at Heritage Park and a brand new park that will be opening in the Glenview Walk neighborhood. Get outside and check it out!

In closing, I want to encourage everyone to vote. How lucky are we to live in such a great country! Enjoy the fall and winter seasons, and remember to count your blessings.

Warm regards,

Mayor George Yukich



FROM THE CLERK



VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE

Clerk Christina Neitzke-Troike

*The Will County Clerk
is the chief election
authority administering
elections throughout Will
County. Learn more at
thewillcountyclerk.com
or call (815) 740-4615.*

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE!

ELECTION 2020

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Illinois allows any voter to request a ballot by mail. You can also vote in person.

REGISTER TO VOTE

WHO CAN REGISTER TO VOTE

A U.S. citizen 18 years of age by the date of the next election (some 17 year olds may vote in the General Primary) and a resident at a current Will County address for 30 days immediately prior to the next election.

WHEN CAN I REGISTER TO VOTE

Online registration is available until October 18. For questions about Voter Registration call (815) 740-4620.

EARLY VOTING

Illinois offers early voting. Early and Grace Period voting takes place at the Homer Township office located at 14350 W. 151st Street. The dates/hours are as follows:

October 19 to 31

M/W/F Hours: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

T/TH Hours: 12 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 31: 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

VOTE BY MAIL

Vote By Mail is a safe and secure way to cast a ballot without having to personally visit a Polling Place on Election Day or an

Early Voting location in the weeks prior to the Election. Citizens across the country have demonstrated an increased interest in casting ballots by mail to minimize the risk of catching the COVID-19 virus.

WHEN WILL RESIDENTS RECEIVE VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS?

Vote By Mail Ballots will be sent and received back in the following fashion:

- The Will County Clerk's Office will begin mailing ballots to a voter's registered address or the requested mailing address starting on September 24, 2020.
- The clerk's office will mail ballots within two business days to those who submit their applications after September 24.
- Ballots must be completed and returned to the Will County Clerk's Office no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day (Tuesday, November 3, 2020).
- Voters are encouraged to closely follow all instructions they receive with their Vote By Mail Ballots.

POLLING PLACES & PRECINCTS

The Polling Places of Will County list can be found on the Will County Clerk's page thewillcountyclerk.com under the General Election tab.



BUSINESS IN THE TIME OF COVID

2020 certainly has been a wild ride for the Village of Homer Glen. Our business community has done a wonderful job of learning to adapt to the new restrictions and seemingly endless guidance from the State. Recently, the Mayor and I hosted a Roundtable discussion with local business owners and managers to better determine how they have been coping and where we might be able to lend more help.

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

The Village was one of the first in the area to establish a bridge loan program for our most impacted business partners. Our goal was to streamline the application process and quickly approve the funding in order to provide early assistance until other programs came online. The Village has distributed \$130,000 to date.

Village Staff did an excellent job of gathering and digesting all of the resources of Village, County, State, and Federal assistance programs and making sure that business owners had timely notification and easy access. Communication tools used to facilitate this process include the Village website and eblasts to business owners.

There is great optimism about the business climate in the Village and this is certainly evident with the many recent new business openings and new development projects. A recurring comment among our business partners is their appreciation for the support and kindness of the residents. Our Village Residents stepped up when the business community needed it most! Way to keep it local Homer Glen!

VILLAGE BRANDING

We have been making great strides in our branding project. This project kicked off in March with the intended goal of updating our Village image as presented to the

public. The Village has never had standards for using the Village logo, taglines, colors, etc., leading to a very mixed identity. A new marketing logo and standards will help us present a professional and unified "brand" to businesses, developers, residents, and the public. The new marketing brand will be rolled out next spring in time for the Village's 20th Anniversary Celebrations!

I would like to personally thank all of the members of the Community & Economic Development Committee for their input on both the branding project and the ongoing process to update the Comprehensive Plan. Many of our recent meetings have been changed in order to accommodate new restrictions and the opportunity to co-meet with stakeholders. The Committee's flexibility is greatly appreciated.

The Committee meets in the Community Room at Village Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Trustee Keith Gray



During the Discovery Phase of the Branding Project participants were asked what the "personality" and "visual identity" is of Homer Glen.





PARKS & RECREATION

Trustee Beth Rodgers
Trustee Ruben Pazmino

WELCOME NEW PARK!

GLENVIEW WALK PARK

The Village's newest Park is now open! The playground in Glenview Walk subdivision may seem small, but it is packed with exciting play features. The highlight of the park is the Village's first zipline! The zipline runs nearly 100 feet long and allows children to stand or sit on a swing as they fly through the air. The playground includes modern versions of a see saw, a merry-go-round and four slides. The swing set includes eight swings, including a swing designed for children and parents to use together. Listing the features does not do the park justice; come visit Glenview Walk Park today!

The Village Board and Parks and Rec. Committee selected this location for a

park based on resident input. Residents are encouraged to share their thoughts about our park system.

SWINGS AT HERITAGE

The Active Core at Heritage Park now has swings! A new swing set was constructed at the Active Core next to the nature play area and challenge course. The set includes a pair of traditional swings, a pair of bucket swings and an inclusive swing. The set fits seamlessly with the rest of the park, and offers even more for families to do.

The Committee meets in the Community Room at Village Hall on the third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.



HOMERFEST IN THE WORKS

With great disappointment, HomerFest 2020 was canceled due to concerns about COVID-19. The Homer Community Festival Committee had great plans for the four-day festival, and it was heartbreaking to cancel the event. The Committee has continued to meet and concentrate on moving forward with HomerFest 2021. We are optimistic and excited about next year!

The first HomerFest was created in 2011 to celebrate the Village's 10th Anniversary. With family friendly entertainment, amusement rides, live music, a beer tent, food vendors and the best fireworks display in the Chicagoland area, HomerFest has become Homer Glen's premier annual summer festival. In 2021, we will celebrate the Village's 20th Anniversary, and we have something very unique planned to kick off the event. Stay tuned for special announcements and further details!

It takes community effort to make this event happen. We are seeking local restaurants

who would like to showcase their delicious offerings by participating as a food vendor and businesses that would like to reach the Homer Glen community through a variety of sponsorship opportunities. Volunteers are also needed. Individuals and organizations experience a special festival comradery as volunteers. Students earn community service hours, and community organizations will have an opportunity to raise funds.

Please plan on joining us for four fun-filled days, June 24-27, 2021 as we celebrate the Village's 20th Anniversary! For the most current HomerFest information visit the Special Events section of the Village website homerglenil.org or the HomerFest.com website and follow the Village of Homer Glen Municipal Government and Homer Community Fest Facebook pages.

The Committee meets in the Community Room at Village Hall on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.



HOMER COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Trustee Carlo Caprio



"It is our collective and individual responsibility to preserve and tend to the environment in which we all live."

- Dalai Lama



ENVIRONMENT

Trustee Sharon Sweas

Trustee Ruben Pazmino

PRESERVING OPEN SPACES

OPEN LANDS PRESERVATION

One of the goals of the Environment Committee is to support and enhance an attractive and distinctive community that builds upon and preserves Homer Glen's unique character and open space. The Environment Committee is working to identify a listing of distinctive open space areas, which will enhance the beauty and environmental quality of the Village. Some of the advantages of open space is to provide habitat for flora and fauna and to protect the tree canopy that provides for absorption of air pollution. Expanses of open space also allow rain to percolate into the ground and replenish the groundwater, of which many residents rely upon. Green areas bring a certain charm and character to the Village by providing a welcome contrast from dense urban areas.

AUTUMN LEAVES

As the air turns colder and the leaves fall from the trees, please remember that the burning of leaves in the Village of Homer Glen is prohibited unless a no cost leaf burning permit is obtained. Residents may do so by contacting the Building Department at 708-301-1301. Open burning fires must be at least 50 feet away from

all structures & property lines. Burning on Village roadways, streets, sidewalks and other right-of-ways is prohibited. All yard waste and leaves can be picked up by Homewood Disposal on your regular pickup day through November 30.

SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WE DO!

- Arbor Day and Lands Day Tree Plantings
- Community and Nature in Harmony Awards
- Dark Skies Initiative
- Tree City USA Program
- Homer Glen Lands Day Event
- Star Gazing Events
- Green Vision of the Homer Glen Community
- Environmental Ordinance reviews and recommendations
- Recommend methods for defining and preserving open spaces
- Grant applications for environmental projects

The Committee meets in the Community Room at Village Hall on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.



CREEK CLEAN UP

Long Run Creek, which runs through Homer Glen, is a critical waterway throughout our region. It provides vital habitats for plants and wildlife and serves as an important drainage route, especially during heavy rains or melting snow.

In early June the Public Services & Safety Committee met with residents from the Spring Creek Woods subdivision who asked the Village for assistance with flooding and drainage along the creek.

This is a complex and difficult issue, as the creek is located on private property, not public land. As a governmental entity, the Village cannot trespass on privately owned property. However, we are committed to assisting when and where we can.

In July, the Village sent a letter to 162 residents living in proximity to Long Run Creek. The letter provided information regarding Long Run Creek, along with a request for permission from the private property owners to allow the Village access to the Creek.

In September, the Committee met with the Village Engineer and Chief Building Official to further discuss the Long Run Creek issue.

Together we identified several high-priority areas and will begin investigating a plan to clean up the creek with the help of the residents.

The cleanup will take place in several stages beginning this fall and will continue as we identify trouble areas. We would like to thank the small group of motivated residents of the Spring Creek Woods subdivision, whose help has been, and will continue to be, a vital aspect of this ongoing project. If you live along the creek and would like to take part in the cleanup, please contact Village Hall at 708-301-0632.

Here are some helpful reminders for those who live alongside a creek:

1. Do not dump lawn debris or household waste into waterways or storm drains.
2. Clear heavy debris jams.
3. Remove non-native plant species.
4. Install rain gardens and use rain barrels to reduce storm water run-off.
5. Use less salt on sidewalks and driveways.
6. Reduce lawn chemicals and fertilizer use on lawns.

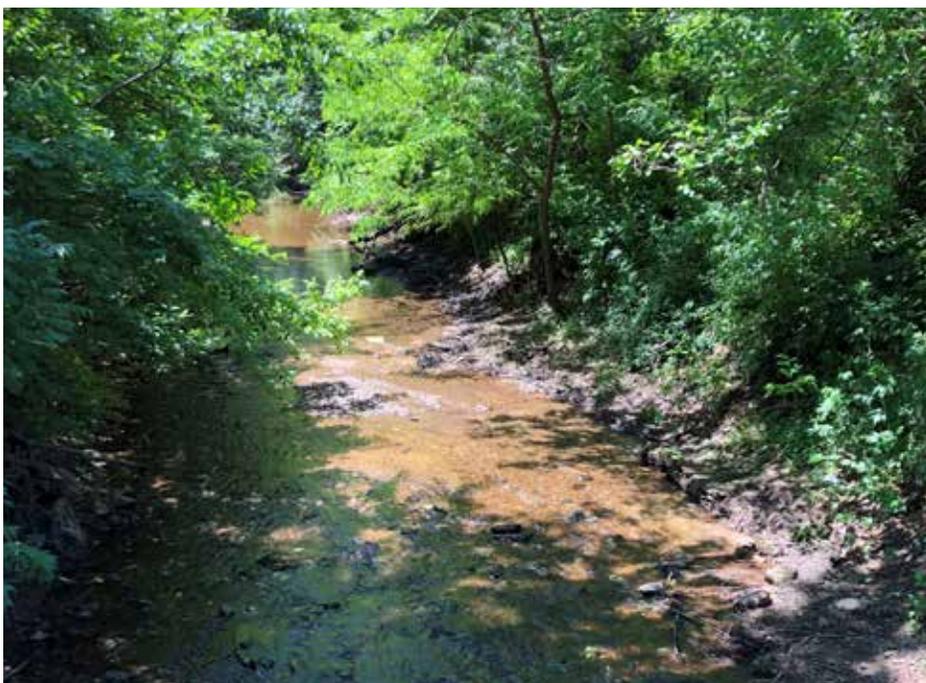
The Committee meets in the Community Room at Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.



PUBLIC SERVICES & SAFETY

Trustee Broque Backal

Trustee Carlo Caprio





EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Coordinator John Robinson

BE SAFE THIS WINTER

The Homer Glen Emergency Management Agency is preparing for winter weather. Here is some information from Ready.gov on winter weather preparedness.

SNOWSTORMS & EXTREME COLD

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion. Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice, and high winds.

HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A WINTER STORM THREATENS:

Prepare NOW

- Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking, and weather stripping. Learn how to keep pipes from freezing. Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups.
- Pay attention to weather reports and warnings of freezing weather and winter storms. Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

- Gather supplies in case you need to stay home for several days without power. Keep in mind each person's needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets. Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights.
- Create an emergency supply kit for your car. Include jumper cables, sand, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water, and non-perishable snacks. Keep the gas tank full.
- Learn the signs of, and basic treatments for, frostbite and hypothermia.

RECOGNIZE AND RESPOND

Frostbite causes loss of feeling and color around the face, fingers, and toes.

- Signs: Numbness, white or grayish-yellow skin, firm or waxy skin
- Actions: Go to a warm room. Soak in warm water. Use body heat to warm. Do not massage or use a heating pad.

Hypothermia is an unusually low body temperature. A temperature below 95 degrees is an emergency.

- Signs: Shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech, or drowsiness
- Actions: Go to a warm room. Warm the center of the body first—chest, neck, head, and groin. Keep dry and wrapped up in warm blankets, including the head and neck.

The Homer Glen EMA meets the first Thursday of each month at 15757 Annico Drive, Unit #3 at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in emergency management is invited to attend.



Keep warm this winter while sledding on Homer Glen's sled hill with hats, mittens, and scarves!



10 things you can do to manage your COVID-19 symptoms at home

Accessible Version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

If you have possible or confirmed COVID-19:

1. **Stay home** from work and school. And stay away from other public places. If you must go out, avoid using any kind of public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis.



6. **Cover your cough and sneezes** with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow.



2. **Monitor your symptoms** carefully. If your symptoms get worse, call your healthcare provider immediately.



7. **Wash your hands often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



3. **Get rest and stay hydrated.**



8. As much as possible, **stay** in a specific room and **away from other people** in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available. If you need to be around other people in or outside of the home, wear a mask.



4. If you have a medical appointment, **call the healthcare provider** ahead of time and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19.



9. **Avoid sharing personal items** with other people in your household, like dishes, towels, and bedding.



5. For medical emergencies, call 911 and **notify the dispatch personnel** that you have or may have COVID-19.



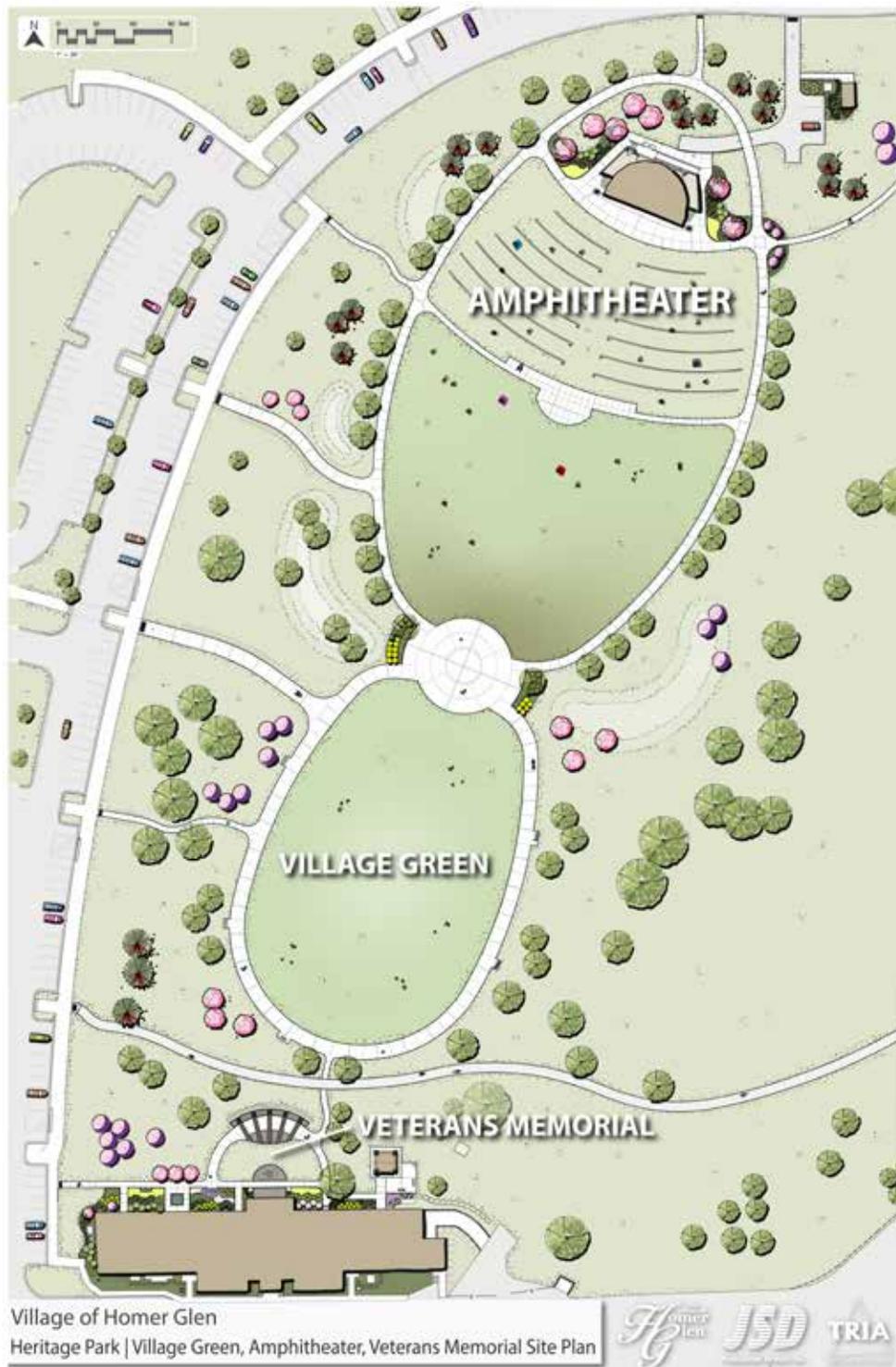
10. **Clean all surfaces** that are touched often, like counters, tabletops, and doorknobs. Use household cleaning sprays or wipes according to the label instructions.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



CHANGES IN HERITAGE PARK



Renderings of the Heritage Park Village Green, Amphitheater, and Veterans Memorial as designed by Tria Architecture. The next step is to put out a call for bids for construction costs.



Village of Homer Glen
Heritage Park | Amph



VILLAGE UPDATES



Amphitheater Rendering



NEXT STEPS

For months, the Village has been designing the potential next phases of Heritage Park. This fall, the final designs will be presented to the Village Board. At that time, the Village Board will decide which of the features listed below will go out for construction. Village staff and consultants believe this winter will be a very competitive time for bids, and that could drive construction costs down. Depending on the results of those bids, the Village hopes to begin construction next spring.

VILLAGE GREEN/AMPHITHEATER

The designs include a beautiful stage, terraced seating, lawn seating and additional walking paths. This section of the park would host a variety of special events.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL

To honor those that have served the United States in the armed services, the Village intends to construct a Veteran's Memorial immediately behind Village Hall. The memorial will be ADA accessible.

HERITAGE CIRCLE CUL-DE-SAC

During special events, parking and traffic flow has been challenging. Extending Heritage Circle north will add approximately 150 additional parking spots and provide for better access to the sledding hill during winter.

OPEN PLAY AREA

Construction of the Open Play area will include grading of an area the size of a soccer field, additional walking paths, and a small arboretum.



DISC GOLF

This summer, the Heritage Park Disc Golf Course opened to the public. Disc Golf is a fast-growing sport that is friendly for all ages. The fun course takes players throughout the park, with 18 holes (baskets) of challenging obstacles, distances and angles. The course begins immediately west of the Active Core, north of the Heritage Park parking lot.

For a downloadable map and guidelines for play, please visit the Village website at homer Glenil.org.



Village of Homer Glen
Heritage Park | Veterans Memorial Rendering



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT WATER SUPPLY IN OUR COMMUNITY



NWCWA: A Regional Approach

The Northern Will County Water Agency* (NWCWA) is comprised of five municipalities served by Illinois American Water and the American Lake Water pipeline. NWCWA was formed in 2012, to pursue the acquisition of the pipeline supplying our communities.

While not all five communities are equally served by the private pipeline and utility and thus equally impacted by high water rates, we all recognize the critical importance of this water infrastructure to the future of our communities and our region. We agree that it is in the best interest of citizen taxpayers to own and operate the pipeline collaboratively rather than be subject to the actions of a for-profit, publicly traded company.

**As an intergovernmental agency, the five municipalities in NWCWA have equal representation on the agency Board. Expenses of the agency are prorated between the villages based on the number of affected customers in each community.*

Northern Will County Water Agency | Fact Sheet

Fighting for Affordable Water

Clean and affordable water is critical for drinking and so much more. Many of our residents and businesses receive Lake Michigan water through a pipeline owned and operated by the for-profit company American Lake Water, an affiliate of Illinois American Water, and they pay extremely high and ever-increasing rates. We must stop putting profits over people.

Illinois American Water customers pay far more than customers who get their water from other sources in Will, Cook and DuPage Counties. The high cost of water is a hardship to many residents, especially those on a fixed income. Ongoing development and future growth are dependent on getting water rates in line with other communities in our region.

IMPACTED COMMUNITIES: NUMBER OF CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS

COMMUNITY	CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS
Bolingbrook	23,000
Homer Glen	6,000
Woodridge	200
Lemont	17
Romeoville	6

20,000
NUMBER OF
HOMER GLEN
RESIDENTS



AMERICAN LAKE WATER PIPELINE LOCATION



RESOURCES

For more facts about your water bill and about public, municipal water agencies vs. for-profit companies, view the Citizens Utility Board fact sheet at: citizensutilityboard.org/factsaboutyourwaterbill

CONTACT

Northern Will County Water Agency
375 W Briarcliff Rd.
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
P: 630.226.8416
F: 630.226.8409

Legal Process to Acquire the Pipeline

In 2013, NWCWA filed an Eminent Domain lawsuit to acquire the pipeline from American Lake Water for fair market value. In 2016, the Will County Circuit Court ruled that NWCWA has authority to acquire the pipeline.

WE HAVE TWO MAIN GOALS IN ACQUIRING THE PIPELINE:

1. To stabilize or reduce water rates by removing the profit motive
2. To gain control of our water infrastructure to have greater say over water access well into the future

This winter will mark a critical milestone in the process. A jury will determine the fair market value of the system based on valuation proposals submitted by both NWCWA and American Lake Water. If the jury issues a fair market value that is reasonable, NWCWA will acquire the pipeline.

What's at Stake in this Case

Controlling our water future will enable us to control our own destiny. Water access and affordability are important for the ongoing growth and development of our region and each of our communities.

As a government-controlled water system not driven by generating profits for shareholders, NWCWA will be able to set water rates solely on the cost of operating the system.

Nationwide, 89 percent of water is provided by government agencies, and we believe this is what is best for our communities too.



Transfer of Township Roads = Local Control

A THRIVING COMMUNITY

Incorporated as a village in 2001, Homer Glen ranks among the newest municipalities in Illinois. Unlike other towns that started small and eventually grew, Homer Glen started big and continues to grow quickly.

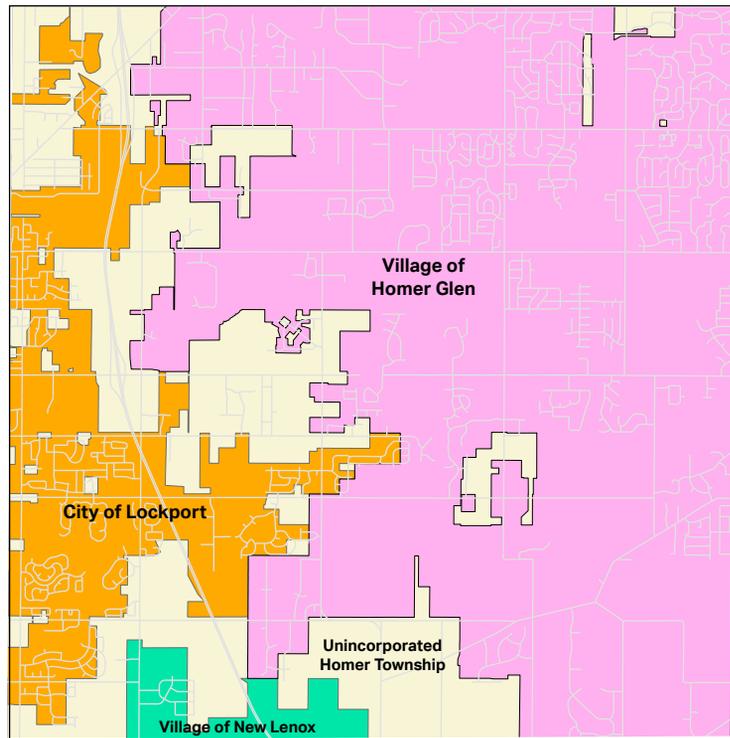
As the largest municipality in Homer Township, Homer Glen accounts for 61 percent of land, and our residents fund 63 percent of the Road District's budget.

Because of its large size when it formed nearly 20 years ago, the Village didn't have the capability to quickly create a new public works department that could service its vast network of existing streets, nor did it have the resources to purchase new vehicles, acquire storage facilities and hire workers. Instead, the Village employed a cost-saving approach, entering into an intergovernmental agreement that called for the Homer Township Road District to maintain, repair, and plow Homer Glen streets – just as it had been doing – with Village residents paying for those services.

While the agreement, which continues to exist today, has worked well for both the Village and the Road District, Homer Glen is now a thriving community that needs its own professional public works department – which is accountable to its residents, its taxpayers, and the Village.

THE NEED FOR A PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

By establishing its own public works department, Homer Glen would not only streamline services and benefit taxpayers in the long run, but it would also protect and insulate Village residents from uncertainty and differences between jurisdictions that could prove costly in the future. Consider these facts:



HOMER TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY MAP

- Homer Glen is the largest Illinois municipality that is dependent on a Township Road District department to oversee its roads. The other villages within the Township – Lockport, Lemont, and New Lenox – each have their own public works departments despite their smaller sizes.
- Of the 153 miles of roads maintained by the Road District, 135 of them are owned by Homer Glen. Yet the Village has no power over the Township Road District's budget or control over how funds are allocated.
- Homer Glen is vulnerable because the existing intergovernmental agreement can be nullified by either party with only one year's notice, and that could potentially cost Village taxpayers significantly more to cover services, buy equipment and hire workers in a short period of time. Simply stated, the Village wants to control its own destiny.
- The City of Lockport comprises 20 percent of Homer Township and only 47 out of its 233 miles of roads. Yet the Township's Road District collects taxes from Lockport residents who also reside in Homer Township (approximately \$800,000 dollars annually) to help maintain Homer Glen's roads. Lockport residents are essentially taxed twice because they pay to fund both the Township Road District and the City of Lockport's public works department.

ACHIEVING ACCOUNTABILITY

Just as other municipalities have done, Homer Glen intends to pursue



consolidating the Township Road District into the Village through a “transfer of stewardship.”

Under this transfer, the existing assets will shift from the Road District to the Village of Homer Glen. The Village will also agree to maintain the 18 miles of roads in the unincorporated parts of the Township in the future, so no areas are neglected.

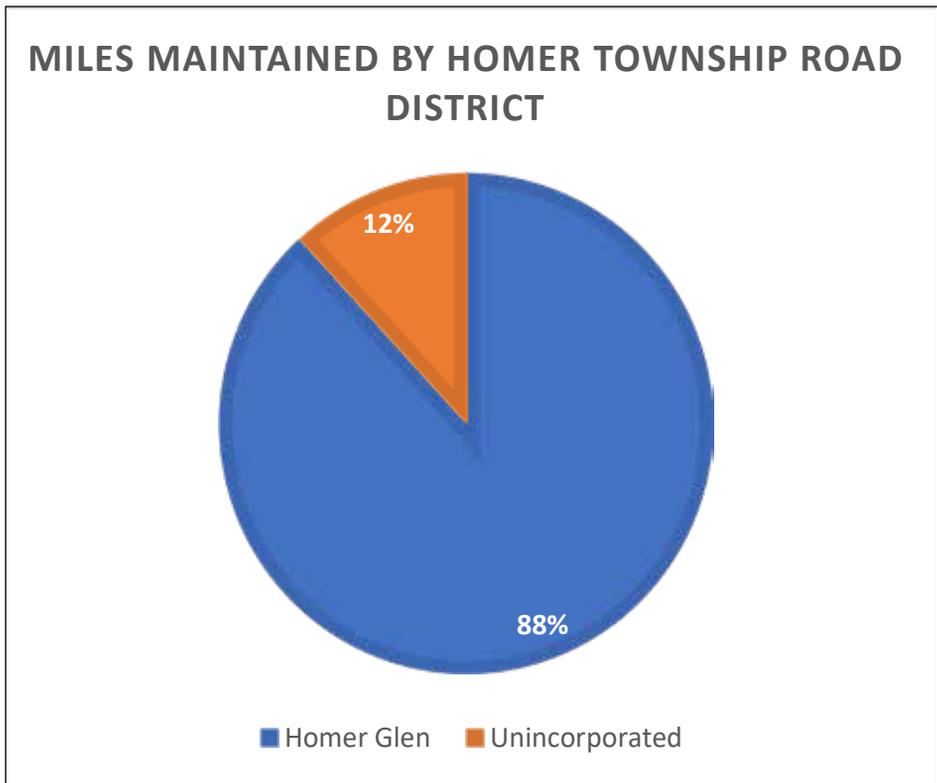
The transfer of assets – the equipment and buildings – will allow taxpayers to assume the responsibility without having to pay for a new public works department, created from the ground up. Establishing a new public works department from scratch is estimated to cost the taxpayers more than \$15 million, and they will lose out on what they have already funded during the last 20 years.

The Township's Road District Commissioner, Mike DeVivo, is in full support of the transfer of his department to the Village, believing the transfer is best for ALL Village and Township taxpayers. The consolidation of services will result in taxpayer savings and create efficiencies that could potentiall drive down taxes in the future. Meanwhile, the Homer Glen Village Board unanimously approved a resolution endorsing the transfer.

NOVEMBER 3 REFERENDUM ON ELECTION BALLOT

When Homer Glen and the Road District Commissioner met with the Township Supervisor and proposed the transfer of stewardship to the Village, Township officials decided to place a referendum on the November 3 election ballot asking voters to abolish the Road District and grant control to the Township.

If the referendum is approved, the Township will take total authority of the roads from the Road District and could refuse to allow the transfer of stewardship to occur. If that happens, the Village will need to create an intergovernmental agreement with the Township, or pay to create a new public works department from the ground up, costing millions of dollars in equipment and property, and ultimately costing Village taxpayers significantly more



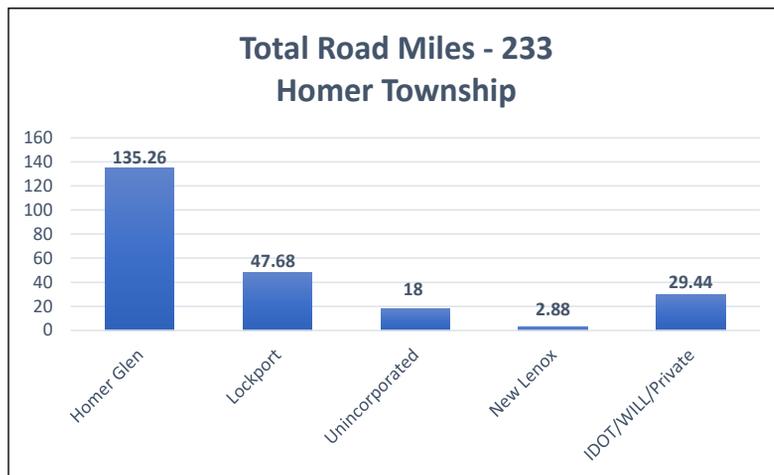
The Village of Homer Glen is the largest investor and owner of Homer Township Road District's operations and assets, yet has no direct legal authority or input over the Road District.

money. Meanwhile, taxpayers throughout Homer Township (Homer Glen, Lockport, New Lenox, and Lemont) would still be taxed for the few miles of road the Township would be responsible for in the unincorporated areas.

be managed and led by the Village and accountable to its residents. Furthermore, taxpayers in Lockport, New Lenox, and Lemont will no longer have to pay taxes to the Township for roads that exist outside of their towns.

If the referendum is voted down, the Village will begin the transfer of stewardship and create its own public works department – with the Road District's existing assets – which will

Regardless of the outcome on Nov. 3, the Village intends to move forward with the transfer, believing it's best for residents and taxpayers, not only in Homer Glen but throughout Homer Township.



Of the 233 miles of roads in Homer Township, only 18 miles are located in unincorporated areas – or outside the boundaries of a municipality.



TRANSFER OF STEWARDSHIP

Why does the Village want to assume the responsibilities of the Road District?

Currently, only 18 of the 233 miles of road are located in unincorporated Homer Township. The remaining 215 miles are all within boundaries of a local municipality. Of those, 135 miles are owned by the Village of Homer Glen. As it continues to grow, the Village wants to have control and certainty over its roads - just like nearly every municipality in Illinois and in Homer Township - and not be beholden to another jurisdiction.

Is it common for Township Road Districts to control municipal roads?

No. Homer Glen is the largest Illinois municipality that is dependent on a Township Road District department to oversee its streets. Lockport, Lemont and New Lenox are all smaller than Homer Glen, yet each has its own public works departments, which are controlled by those towns.

Will the Village just take over the Road District?

No. Both the Village and the Homer Township Road District considers this to be a transfer of stewardship. In other

words, the residents of Homer Glen should not have to pay for something that they already paid for and own. Legal documents will be drafted that must be approved by both the Village of Homer Glen and the Homer Township Road District. Both the Village, which voted unanimously in September, and the Road District Commissioner support this transfer.

Why can't the Village just create their own Public Works Department without involving the Road District?

Creating a brand new public works department will cost millions of dollars, and the same taxpayers of Homer Glen have already paid for the Road District's equipment and land for the past 20 years.

Who controls the roads within the Village of Homer Glen?

The Homer Township Board controls the budget and property tax levy that supports the Road District. The Road District controls the condition of the roads, including snow plowing, repairs, mowing, etc. The Village of Homer Glen has no control of the roads, even though they are owned by the Village.

What happens to the 18 miles of unincorporated roads that the road district currently oversees?

The Village has offered to maintain, via an intergovernmental agreement, the remaining unincorporated roads within the Township, at no cost to the unincorporated residents, in perpetuity or until these areas are annexed into the boundaries of a nearby town.

What happens if the Homer Township Board wants to keep control of their 18 miles of unincorporated roads?

They will need to continue to tax all of the properties located within Homer Township to pay for the 18 miles of



roads. The Homer Township Road Commissioner has estimated this will cost approximately \$500,000 annually. While the Village of Homer Glen does not support this decision, the decision rests solely with the Homer Township Board.

Why should Homer Township residents who live in Lockport, New Lenox and Lemont care about this?

For Homer Township residents who reside in Lockport, New Lenox and Lemont, they will no longer pay taxes to a road district that does not maintain the streets where they live. Under the proposed agreement, Homer Glen has agreed to maintain the small number of unincorporated roads, which will result in lower tax bills for Homer Township residents who reside in Lockport, New Lenox, and Lemont.

What are the steps involved in the transfer?

After the transfer of assets from the Homer Township Road District to the Village of Homer Glen occurs, the current intergovernmental agreement would be terminated, and the Village will create its own public works department. The Homer Township Road District tax levy would be eliminated and will no longer appear on the tax bills of township residents. The Village will adopt a new tax levy that will appear on the tax bills of Homer Glen residents.

How does the November 3 referendum impact the Village?

The ballot referendum that the Homer Township Board – without input from the Homer Glen Village Board – placed on the November 3 ballot calls for the Township Supervisor and the Board of Trustees to take over all of the duties and authorities of the Road District Commissioner and effectively renders the Village Mayor and Trustees inconsequential.

Will I have to pay taxes to the Village and Road District?

No. The taxes you pay to the Road District will be eliminated. However, if the Township decides to continue to maintain the 18 miles of their roads, Homer Glen residents would be required to pay property taxes to both the Village and the Homer Township.

Would Homer Glen increase the tax levy?

No. The levy from the Homer Township Road District would be eliminated and it is anticipated the same levy would be imposed by the Village of Homer Glen under the new public works department.

How will this impact my overall tax bill?

If you live in Homer Glen, your taxes will rise slightly. Although the Village will not increase the levy, only Homer Glen residents will pay it. By contrast, the levy amount that is currently spread across all Homer Township residents – which includes Homer Glen, Lockport, New Lenox, Lemont and unincorporated Homer Township – will no longer have to be paid by those residents. The Village estimates that keeping the levy the same, would result in an approximately \$57 increase per \$100,000 of Home Market Value.

Is Homer Glen going to hire the current Road District Commissioner as its Public Works Director?

No. Current Township Road District Commissioner Mike DeVivo plans to retire and is not seeking re-election. The Village and Commissioner DeVivo will continue to work together while the transfer takes place.

What will happen to the existing employees at the Road District?

They will have an opportunity to apply for jobs with the Homer Glen

Public Works Department. The Village anticipates those that desire to work for the Village, would be re-hired to work in the public works department.

How does the Village plan to educate and reach out to residents?

The Village will continue to reach out and engage with the Township and all other stakeholders in a collaborative way. We fully recognize the needs and concerns of all of the Township residents will need to be heard and addressed and invite everyone to participate in this process moving forward. There are many steps that still need to be undertaken before any plans are finalized. Both the Village and the Road District intend to hold meetings with impacted employees, residents and taxpayers in the coming weeks and months. The transfer of stewardship will be an open and transparent process. This is both the Village's and the Homer Township Road District's commitment to our residents that we serve. We believe that if we can work together, this process will be a victory for everyone involved.

If you missed the informational meetings the Village held on October 6 and 12 about this topic and have more questions for us, call Village Hall at 708-301-0632 or send an email to Village Manager Karie Friling at kfriling@homerglenil.org



NO SOLICITORS

SOLICITATION HOURS CHANGE

According to a recent court case, the Village's solicitation hours have changed from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

This means that solicitors are now able to ring your doorbell until nine at night, if they have a valid permit.

If you wish to prohibit solicitors from knocking on your door or ringing your doorbell at your home, the Village of Homer Glen is offering "NO SOLICITORS" decals free of charge to residents.

Please cut out and use the card included in this newsletter or visit the Village Hall, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., to pick up a decal.

Village Ordinance NO. 15-046 states: "It shall be unlawful for any person to go in or upon any residence or nonresidential premises for the purpose of conducting solicitation if such residence or nonresidential premises is posted with a sign bearing the words 'No Trespassing,' 'No Peddlers,' 'No Solicitors,' or any other similar notice indicating in any manner that the occupants of such residence or nonresidential premises desire not to be disturbed or to have their rights of privacy disturbed, unless such occupant has specifically requested such solicitation."

Violations may be reported during business hours by calling Village Hall at 708-301-0632. After hours, reports may be made by calling the police non-emergency number (815) 727-8575.

Cut out the No Solicitation card below and tape to your front door or window for an easy way to prohibit solicitors!



TUNE IN!



CHANNEL 6 COMMUNITY NEWS

The Village now has its very own Public, Educational, and Governmental (PEG) Access Channel. Tune in to Comcast, Channel 6 to watch the most recent Village Board meeting and catch up on the latest news, updates, and announcements for the Village of Homer Glen.

Non-profit organizations within Homer Glen are encouraged to submit their information to be included on Channel 6. Please contact Amy Blank at ablank@homerglenil.org for submission specifics.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

A comprehensive plan sets forth a vision for a village's future and provides the foundation for all land use regulations. Typically, municipalities conduct a comprehensive plan every 5 to 10 years. The last Village comprehensive plan was created in 2005. As such, the Village has been working with a consulting group since 2019 to complete an updated plan.

HOUSING & RETAIL MARKET STUDIES

Over the past several months community feedback was collected in regards to the desires of the community for future housing, retail, transportation, utilities and infrastructure, community facilities, and more.

HOUSING

The study shows that there is a demand in Homer Glen for new housing construction and there is a need for greater diversity of housing (duplex, triplex, quadplexes). However, with the COVID-19 crisis the market will not likely grow until restrictions are loosened.

BUSINESS

The study found there are many businesses and industries underrepresented in the Village, so there is much room for growth in the coming years when the market recovers from COVID-19.

NEXT STEPS

The formal plan review and adoption process is anticipated to wrap up in 2020. For more information check out myhomerglen.org.



PREVENT THEFT



LOCK
YOUR CAR



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HIDE
YOUR STUFF

WILL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



The Will County Sheriff's Office is proud to be part of the Village of Homer Glen. We want to continue to build the police-community relationship through open lines of communication. If there is an emergency, call 9-1-1. To reach dispatch for a non-emergency, call (815) 727-8575.

People are concerned about safety and security during these tumultuous times. Throughout the COVID-19 crisis the Sheriff's Office has maintained full staffing levels in Homer Glen. In fact, when rioting and protests began in surrounding areas a few months back, staffing levels were increased in case unrest came toward the Village. The vast resources of the Will County Sheriff's Office can be called up at a moment's notice.

Deputies are on active patrol 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Violent crime can occur anywhere and at any time, so please contact us regarding any suspicious activity or anything that concerns you. When you are stopped at a traffic light, in line at a store, or walking to your car, please pay attention to your surroundings.

There has been a lot of concern regarding the theft of unattended vehicles. County wide, almost every time a vehicle has been stolen, the fob or keys were left in an unlocked vehicle. Similarly, most times when items are stolen from vehicles, the cars have been left unlocked. Do not leave wallets, purses, IDs, credit cards, computers and the like in an unattended vehicle.

We have received an increase in complaints about ATVs. It is illegal to ride ATVs on streets, sidewalks, power line easements, the Heroes Trail system, farm property or any property that does not belong to you. These laws and ordinances are in place to keep you and others safe, and to respect the property of others. People violating these laws and ordinances must remember that when deputies are called to handle the complaint, valuable time is taken away from the active patrol of other parts of the village.

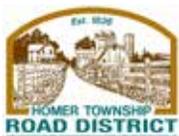
Traffic enforcement continues to be a concern for a lot of residents. We receive numerous complaints throughout the year about vehicles speeding, most of which are in neighborhoods. Please remember to pay attention and drive safely. We concentrate our traffic enforcement efforts where we receive traffic complaints from concerned citizens. We have found that most of the people speeding in neighborhoods live in that neighborhood.

Heritage Park is a beautiful addition to the Village and has a lot to offer. Because of the large increase of visitors to the park, we have increased our patrols of the park. Please remember that the park closes at dusk and the courts that are lit close at 11:00 p.m. Please also remember that alcohol and smoking are prohibited in the park.

Thank you for your support of the Will County Sheriff's Office and for your assistance keeping Homer Glen such a wonderful place to live and work. We are honored to serve and protect this community.



HOMER TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT



SNOW PLOWING

It's that time of year again when we talk about ... snow. Whether you enjoy the frosty air or are already dreaming of summer breezes, most can agree that snow on the road is no fun. As the Township Road District, we'd like to remind you that we are committed to doing our best to keep streets clear. Please be patient with us as our staff is limited. Most weather events require many man hours to address the situation.

The good news is that today's weather forecasting allows staff to meet hours prior to a winter event to determine an appropriate snow-plan. Things we consider when developing a snow-plan are:

- What time the event begins
- Duration
- Snowfall amounts
- Rush Hour Traffic
- School Bus Schedules
- Overnight Snow

We have a weather service that provides hourly forecasts of an event showing precipitation amounts, temperatures, wind speeds, road surface temperatures and recommended road treatment plans. Once the storm schedule is determined, we apply a working schedule for that storm that may include a full crew attack from beginning to end to an initial late evening skeleton crew, an overnight shut-down and a full crew at 4:00 a.m.

CAN WE IMPROVE DRIVING CONDITIONS ?

There are times during blizzard snow conditions when the road is much the same 10 feet behind the plow truck as it is 10 feet in front of the plow truck. If we're unable to significantly improve the road conditions when plowing, we may choose to cease operation until weather conditions allow us to do so. Blowing and drifting snow can also create driving conditions that we are not able to adequately manage especially in open areas. It is important to remember that while our goal is to maintain road surfaces, driving conditions may always be hazardous during a winter weather event.

WINTER PARKING

The Village of Homer Glen is strictly enforcing the no-parking ordinance for two or more inches of snow. It is important to keep vehicles off the streets until they have been cleared of snow. Parked cars will be ticketed by the Will County Sheriff's Office.

The Road District does not plow snow by "appointment". Therefore, if there is a vehicle in front of your house when we plow, we will plow around the vehicle.

PLOWING SNOW ONTO THE ROADWAY

It is now illegal to plow, snow-blow or shovel snow from your property onto the roadway. One of our goals when plowing snow is to make them safe to drive. Plowing, snow blowing or shoveling snow onto the roadway defeats that effort. Residents should be aware that if they plow, shovel or snow-blow snow onto the street, they may be held liable for any accident that it may cause.



HOMER TOWNSHIP & NORTHWEST HOMER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS



SERVE UP FIRE SAFETY IN THE KITCHEN!

Your fire departments are teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) - the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years - to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!" The campaign works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

According to NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Almost half (44%) of reported home fires started in the kitchen. Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.

"We know cooking fires can be prevented," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice-president of outreach and advocacy. "Staying in the kitchen, using a timer, and avoiding distractions such as electronics or TV are steps everyone can take to keep families safe in their homes."

We encourage all residents to embrace the 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme.

The most important step you should take before making a meal is to "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!"

A cooking fire can grow quickly. Many homes have been damaged and people injured by fires that could easily have been prevented.

- Never leave cooking food unattended. Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling or broiling. If you have to leave, even for a short time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.
- You have to be alert when cooking. You won't be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs, or consumed alcohol that makes you drowsy.
- Always keep an oven mitt and pan lid nearby when you're cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan to smother the flame. Turn off the burner, and leave the pan covered until it is completely cool.
- Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities, visit www.fpw.org.



Due to the social distancing requirements the Fire Safety trailer won't be visiting local schools this year. The Fire Protection Districts look forward to seeing the kids next year. For fun safety tips kids can learn about at home, check out sparky.org.



BUSINESS & DEVELOPMENT SPOTLIGHT



GROUNDBREAKING - GAS N WASH

A groundbreaking was recently held for a new gas station in Homer Glen and construction is well underway. The new gas station is located at the corner of 159th Street and Gougar Road. The gas station development is the first commercial development to connect to the Village's recently extended water and sanitary sewer mains. Upgraded architecture including canopy roofs (pictured above) will present a high-quality appearance at the western border of the Village. The Market minimart, a Dunkin', a quick serve Mexican restaurant Ta Canijo and a car wash will also open with the gas station development. Gas N Wash will open in the first quarter of 2021.



NEW DEVELOPMENT

GoodLife Physical Therapy is now open in their 6,000 square foot building at 14753 S. Founders Crossing. Patients now have a convenient location along Bell Road in a newly constructed facility.

Shorewood Home and Auto, a major sales tax producer for the Village, will open in their new facility at 13639 W. 159th Street this month. Shorewood Home & Auto offers products from leading manufacturers in the power equipment industry, serving both residential and commercial sectors. The new 28,000 square foot facility more than doubles the size of the building purchased from Circle Tractor last year.



GoodLife Physical Therapy



Shorewood Home and Auto



The Square at Goodings Grove

THE SQUARE AT GOODINGS GROVE

M/I Homes broke ground on Homer Glen's newest 76-townhome community north of the Home Depot in late October 2019. To date, the Village has issued building permits for the construction of 9 buildings with 33 townhome units. M/I Homes reports strong interest in the low-maintenance townhome designs featuring 2-3 bedroom options and wide open floor plans. The Square at Goodings Grove is conveniently located next to multiple shopping and dining options. The overall site plan includes central courtyards for social gatherings, tree-lined streetscapes, overlooks of the pond, and easy walkability.

RIBBON CUTTINGS



MassMutual Financial Group



Mughshots Sports Bar



Fisher Berardi Law



Salon Realm



Hydro Brew

WELCOME TO THE VILLAGE

Despite the pandemic, Homer Glen continues to demonstrate strong business growth and confidence with many recent business openings and new leases signed. Featured on this page are the ribbon cuttings for our newest business openings. Please do your part to welcome our newest businesses and support all local businesses in Homer Glen. Together, we have a bright future!

COMING TO HOMER GLEN - NEW LEASES SIGNED!

- ANU Eyebrows & Wax Salon
- Floral Bliss (florist)
- Fratelli Pizza
- Game On (restaurant in the Megaplex)
- Komskis Car Care
- Pet Supplies Plus
- Sam's (restaurant)
- Smoker's Kingdom (retail)
- The Salon (hair)



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VILLAGE COVID-19 BUSINESS ASSISTANCE



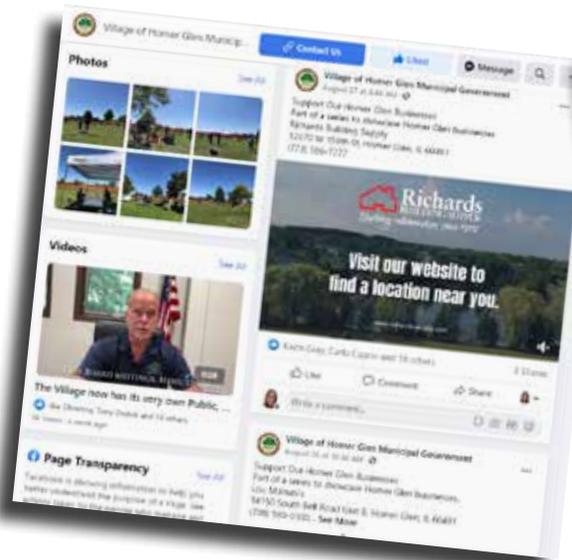
VILLAGE OPERATIONS

Village Hall maintained operations (even during the shut down).



MODIFIED RULES TO ACCOMMODATE BUSINESS DURING PANDEMIC

- Restaurants allowed to sell prepackaged wine and beer with carry-out food.
- Outdoor Dining Rules and Guidelines for restaurants.
- Barricades for outdoor dining areas.
- Annual Liquor License Fee Deferral.
- Heritage Park Use Guidelines for Health & Fitness Businesses.
- Modified Standards for the Use of Temporary Promotional Signs.



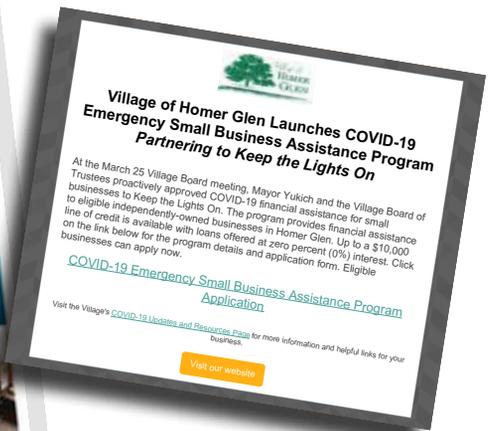
BUSINESS PROMOTION

- "Shop Local" Signs around town.
- Food Drive.
- FREE advertisements for 50 Homer Glen businesses in the semi-annual 2020 Village Newsletters mailed to every household.
- Business gift cards are purchased by the Village as prizes for events.
- Businesses were offered the ability to advertise on the Village Facebook page.



OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Separate Village COVID-19 webpage with Business Resources.
- Eblasts to business owners with assistance updates.
- News Alerts and Social Media.
- Outreach calls from the Village Board and Clerk to business owners.
- Mayor's Business Roundtable.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Small Business Assistance Loan Program distributed \$130,000 to approved applicants in April and May.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

For a full listing of all the commercial and residential businesses in the Village, visit the website at homerglenil.org under the tab "Doing Business".



HERITAGE CORRIDOR BUSINESS ALLIANCE



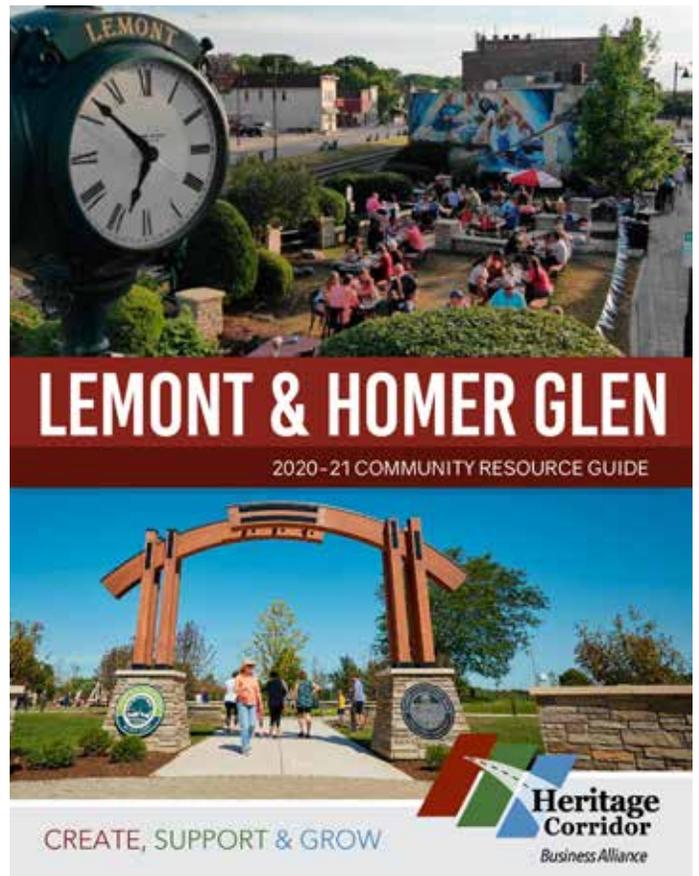
In what has been an unprecedented year in history, the Heritage Corridor Business Alliance is proud to have been able to not only withstand the Covid-19 Pandemic, but continue to grow and provide valuable resources to our members including guidance on the numerous grant and loan programs that were made available from multiple agencies.

We are excited to announce the publication of our new 2020-21 Community Guide that is a valuable reference tool for the Homer Glen area that will be mailed to over 17,000 households in Homer Glen and Lemont. It contains information on our Chamber Business Members, Professional Services, Village Governments, Schools, Not-for-Profit Organizations, Clubs, Agencies and more.

The HCBA is also proud to announce our new partnership with the Illinois Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Joliet Junior College. The professional team of business advisors offers one-on-one business advising, resources and seminars to assist entrepreneurs with the start-up or expansion of their business.

Finally, we are thrilled to be able to offer both new and existing members an array of marketing tools ranging from logo and brand design to a digital assessment of your social media needs, including live videos or photo posts each month.

To join or for further details on what the Heritage Corridor Business Alliance can do for your business, please call the office at (630) 257-5997 or email to glenn@MyHCBA.com.



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We provide assistance in these areas:

- Business plan development
- Determining forms of organization (I.e. LLC, Sole Proprietor, Corporation)
- Cash flow analysis
- Marketing plan development
- Financial analysis and planning
- Management assistance
- Sales strategy



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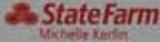
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VETERAN CONNECTION

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PHYSICAL THERAPY



S&L
Truck & Equipment Repair



AT&T

Jewel-Osco

Kenwood Liquors



OLD PLANK TRAIL
COMMUNITY BANK, N.A.
A WINTRUST COMMUNITY BANK



DAN KENNEY
GROUP
kw PREFERRED REALTY
KELLERWILLIAMS

Soft Way

AT&T



WELCOME BACK!

**Library Opens to
Walk-In Visitors!**

WHAT TO EXPECT:

1. Express 15-minute **Grab 'N Go** visits
2. Face masks required
3. All visitors must practice social distancing of 6 feet
4. 50 person capacity

AVAILABLE:

- Material checkouts and returns
- Curbside pickup continues
- Computer use (30 minutes per day)
- Newspapers daily curbside while supplies last
- Copying, faxing, scanning, printing, & WiFi
- Library cards, reference, & reader's advisory

NOT YET:

- Study rooms
- Quiet reading room
- General seating
- Group meet-ups
- Youth play areas
- Youth computers/iPads
- In-person programs

Homer Township Public Library
14323 W. 151st Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491
708-301-7908
homerlibrary.org

HOMER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
CURBSIDE PICK-UP 7 DAYS A WEEK!
 *Every day 10am-2pm
 *Wednesday 3-7pm

Contact us!
 708.301.7908
 homerlibrary.org



TEEN VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

GET SERVICE HOURS FROM HOME!
 CHOOSE FROM A LIST OF FUN, REWARDING
 PROJECTS. FOR DETAILS:
HOMERLIBRARY.ORG/VOLUNTEER



Sponsored by Old Plank Trail Bank,
 a WINTRUST Community Bank

Homer Twp Public Library
 708.301.7908



Learn at Homer

Pick up **FREE** weekly resources - Preschool thru Grade 8
Available during Curbside Pickup hours

Access online learning resources 24/7 @ [Scholastic Teachables](https://www.scholastic.com/teachables)

FREE WIFI ACCESS



Access WiFi 24/7 from
 the Homer Library's
 parking lot!

Step 1: Choose the
Public WiFi connection

Step 2: Enter password
Books60491



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, many of our in-person events have been canceled for the fall/winter season. Continue to visit the Village Facebook page and website for event updates and pop-up events this season. And stay tuned for an expanded roster of events in 2021!

Spooky Park

October 5 - 31 @ Heritage Park

Come out to Heritage Park - day or night - for bats, spiders, ghosts, and lights! The park will be decorated with all things spooky the month of October.

Scarecrow Walk

October 10 - 31 @ Heritage Park

Walk along Heritage Circle and view the creative scarecrow displays. Vote for your favorite! Three winners will be chosen.

Boo-tiful House Contest

Deadline to submit is October 25

Decorate your house for the Halloween holiday and enter for a chance to win Homer Glen's most "Boo-tiful" house! Visit the Village website for all contest rules.

Online Dress Your Pet Contest

Deadline to submit is October 25

Dress your pet for Halloween! Send a photo of your costumed pet to ablank@homerglenil.org. Photos will be posted on the Village Facebook page. The photo with the most likes wins!

Online Pumpkin Carving Contest

Deadline to submit is October 25

Show your superior pumpkin carving skills! Send a photo of your carved creation to ablank@homerglenil.org. Photos will be posted on the Village Facebook page. The photo with the most likes wins!

Veteran Care Packages

Deadline to submit is November 2

Due to COVID-19, the Village of Homer Glen and Konow's Corn Maze will not be holding the annual Veterans Celebration. Instead, we will be putting together care packages to deliver to our local veterans. If you or someone you know is a veteran living in Homer Glen, please contact us at 708-301-0632 to be put on the delivery list. Care packages will be delivered the week of November 9.

Mike Hike 5K

October 17 - November 11

5K Walk/Run is virtual this year. Registration is open now through November 6 at mikehike5k.com.



Homer for the Holidays

December 5 - January 3 @ Heritage Park

An expanded holiday light display will adorn Heritage Park for the festive season. Spectators are welcome to walk through the park and enjoy the lights each night until 11 p.m.

JOIN US AS AN EVENT SPONSOR!

There's still time to be a part of our special events and programs. Promote your business and build your brand through our community events!

- Events from 250 - 20,000 attendees
- Eblast reach + 1,000 subscribers
- Newsletter reach + 9,000 households
- Presence on Village website
- Social Media opportunities +2,000 followers
- Logo placement and recognition
- Inclusion in promotional giveaways



Visit our website at homerglenil.org under "Sponsorship" to download our complete Sponsorship Program. For more information call us at 708-301-0632 or email us at mediarelations@homerglenil.org. We offer a number of different sponsorship levels and a variety of events to fit your needs!



Call 708-301-0632 or email mediarelations@homerglenil.org

SALUTE TO VETERANS

For a
Veteran Care
Package

Join Us For

Spooky Park

Heritage Park | October 5 - 31

Walk through the park and view the spooky decorations! Free to all!

Homer for the Holidays

VIEW THE LIGHT DISPLAY!
DECEMBER 5 - JANUARY 3
14240 W. 151ST ST.

Expanded display this year!

TALES FROM THE FRONT DESK

Interesting phone calls,
Challenging requests,
We've heard them all -
Here at the front desk.

The neighbor's too noisy,
The dog barks too loud,
The rooster's a crowin',
There's too large a crowd!

Grass grew too high,
Leaves burned too long,
Motorbikes too speedy,
We've all heard that song!

Can we help you with that?
Sometimes, you bet!
Do we shovel snow?
Sorry, nope - we regret.

Do you need a permit?
The non-emergency line?
School districts, Village limits,
Authorization for a sign?

A penny for your thoughts?
No, we don't give that.
But we can answer questions
Related to bats.

Just give us a call,
We'll tell you what to do.
We swear we're very nice,
If you follow all the rules!



The Village's very own Penny Wright hard at work at the front desk. If you visit Village Hall, she's the one who will greet you with a (masked) smile!

Look to the Village Facebook page and website for pop-up Holiday Events as weather (and COVID restrictions) permit!

Please note that photographs and footage will be taken throughout Village Events. These will be used by the Village for marketing and publicity in our publications, on our website and in social media or in any third party publication. Please contact the event organizer if you have any concerns or if you wish to be exempted from this activity.

We Want To Hear From YOU!

Do you have a question or concern about what is happening in Homer Glen? Ask us! Send us a message on the Village Facebook page.

@villageofhomerglen

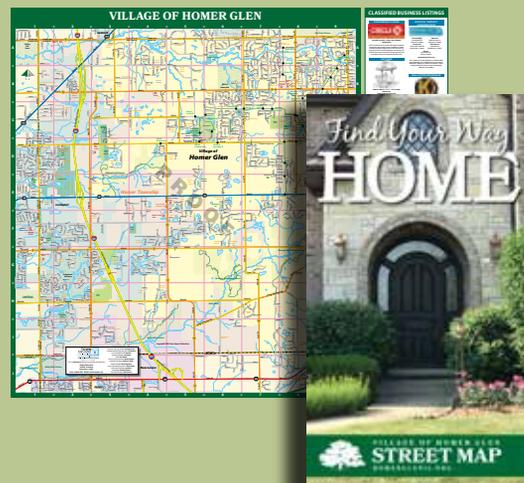
News alerts, helpful Village reminders, and Event announcements can all be found on our social media pages, our website at homerglenil.org and our new cable access station, Channel 6!

We are at Village Hall Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call us at 708-301-0632 or email us at mediarelations@homerglenil.org with your feedback.

homerglenil.org

Maps of Homer Glen

The most current, up-to-date Village map is now available. Pick yours up for free at Village Hall, 14240 W. 151st Street.



2020 COMMUNITY AWARDS



Community & Nature In Harmony

The Garbacz Family

For their efforts of picking up trash while on walks and helping to beautify their neighborhood.

Becky Heerd

For her efforts of over 25 years of gardening on her 1.5-acre property that includes over 60 varieties of Hosta, many species of shade plants, a nature path through a forest and around a duck pond.

The Pacione Family

For their efforts of picking up trash while on walks and helping to beautify their neighborhood.

Debbie Rea

For her efforts in creating a Mackinac Island themed garden, an island in Michigan known for bicycles and old-fashion charm, and sharing her garden through a virtual tour on the Homer Glen Gardening Club Facebook page.



Danelle Sowatzke

For her efforts in creating an extensive garden sanctuary, filled with a variety of individual gardens, hardscape, built garden structures, a naturalized planting area and a newly constructed vegetable garden area with raised planters, and demonstrating how items can be repurposed to create unique garden features.



Phyllis Sullivan

For her efforts in maintaining all of the gardens surrounding her home, especially the attractive gardens at the entrance to the mother-in-law suite on the side of her home.

Tender Loving Care Animal Shelter

For their efforts in creating a beautiful sanctuary to support the mental health of the animals they serve and protect. The gardens at the shelter include plantings along the street frontage, a beautiful dog walk area, and a sitting gazebo, which are helpful to the animals and provide an attractive view when traveling along 151st Street.

Patrick and Christina Moroney

For their efforts in creating a stunning backyard full of colorful annual pots, many varieties of Hydrangeas garden nooks, and a vintage Cinderella carriage adorned with hanging baskets of overflowing annuals.

Melissa Warren

For demonstrating a commitment to our environment through a love of gardening, planting of native plants and the creation of wildlife habitat which includes a waystation for migrating Monarch butterflies through the extensive planting of native Milkweed.



Chalk-It-Up!

- 1st place
Kevin Traynor with "Captain America"
- 2nd place
Maggie Parham with "Inside Out"
- 3rd place
Team Defrates with "Alice in Wonderland"
- Honorable Mention
Jon Carter with "Octopus"



Harvest Bags Tournament

Congratulations to our 1st place Bags Team, "Squid Squad" (Tyler Bockholdt and Shaun Mulcahy)! Twenty-four teams competed in a double elimination tournament for a top prize of \$200.



Plastic Free July

Congratulations to our contest winner Eileen Solt. To find ways to reduce your use of plastic, read Eileen's award winning submission on the Village website under Plastic Free July.



Decorate Your Home For The 4th Of July Contest

Congratulations Steve and Erin Fiskow, our Decorate Your Home for the 4th of July contest winners! The Fiskow's received a gift basket from Jewel with \$100 in Jewel gift cards and a gift card for a free Soft-Way Car Wash. Nine other winners will also receive a free car wash gift card from Soft-Way.



Bike Bingo

Coverall - Emilie Knaack
Photo Round - Patti Nakutis
Bingos - Brad McCabe, Adrian Lys, Barbara Fricilone, Kylie Knaack



14240 W. 151st STREET
HOMER GLEN, IL 60491
homerglenil.org



Farmers and cats come out to play on October's final day! Village staff all dressed up for Halloween in 2019.

VILLAGE MANAGER
Karie Friling

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Amy Blank

TELEPHONE
708-301-0632

EMAIL
kfriling@homerglenil.org
ablank@homerglenil.org

VILLAGE FACILITIES

VILLAGE HALL

14240 W. 151st Street
708-301-0632

Administration Department: Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Building Department: Monday thru Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

HERITAGE PARK

Located behind Village Hall

ERIN HILLS PARK

13725 S. Dublin Drive

EVLYN'S GATE NORTH PARK

16066 S. Syd Creek Drive

GLENVIEW WALK PARK

15603 James Lane

GOODINGS GROVE PARK

13900 S. Greystone Drive

KINGSTON HILLS PARK

14848 S. Carlton Lane

STONEBRIDGE PARK

16000 S. Stonebridge Drive

