

Village of Homer Glen
 14331 S. Golden Oak Drive
 Homer Glen, IL 60491
 Phone (708) 301-0632
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**ARE YOU IN THE
 NEW 60491
 ZIP CODE?
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**BUILDING PERMITS
 NOW AVAILABLE
 IN HOMER GLEN!
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**YOU'RE INVITED
 TO BE NOSY**

Would you like to see the future of Homer Glen? For the past eighteen months, a group of 25 volunteers has been working with a planning consultant and Village officials to prepare a set of long-range recommendations for the Village's future growth and development. The draft *Comprehensive Plan* is now ready for your inspection, reaction, and comment.

Open Houses are scheduled for Saturday, August 9 from 10 to 3 and Monday, August 22 from 5 to 9 at the Village Hall, 14331 S. Golden Oak. Come and see what is planned for your neighborhood or next door. The proposed *Land Use Plan* will be on display. It depicts the locations of 18 land use categories, ranging from single-family residential uses to commercial sites to the proposed location for a Town Center. In addition, plans for Transportation (including new roads and multi-use trails); Community Facilities; Parks, Open Space and Environmental Features; and Agricultural Lands will be on display.

It is important to have as many Homer Glen residents and business owners as possible review the proposed plans. Your comments are desired and needed before we can say this is how we want our Village to grow. Please come and visit during one of the Open Houses and meet with the members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee, the planning consultant, and Village officials.

Starting a week prior to the Open Houses, a copy of the *Land Use Plan* will be on display at the Homer Township Public Library and at the Village Hall. In addition, copies of the *Plan Report* may be checked out at the Library and Village Hall. These documents will continue to be available after the Open Houses for your review and comment.

After the Open Houses, it is expected the Comprehensive Plan Committee will consider the various comments and reactions to the draft *Plan* and make appropriate changes. The revised *Comprehensive Plan* will then be presented to the Homer Glen Plan Commission, which will then hold an official public hearing on the proposed *Plan*. The Plan Commission may make additional changes before recommending the *Plan* to the Mayor and Village for adoption.



**RUSS
PETRIZZO,
MAYOR**

Dear Homer Glen Residents,

May I first say "thank you" to all who voted in our first municipal election. I am honored to be retained as your Mayor and will work hard to keep Homer Glen a great community.

We are beginning a new fiscal year and the Village Board has recently adopted the 2003-04 budget. The budget includes funding for a mosquito abatement program and a community safety awareness program. The safety program will be designed to educate young drivers about staying safe behind the wheel. Also included in the budget is funding for conducting a Special Census.

A Special Census will give us an accurate population count for Homer Glen. It is important to the Village because the shared revenue we receive from the State of Illinois is based upon population. Since Homer Glen does not levy a municipal property tax, this "per capita" revenue is a primary revenue source. The increased funds are expected to exceed \$200,000 per year. Full details about the program will be sent to you after Homer Glen's application is approved by the U.S. Census Bureau.

We are close to completing the Comprehensive Plan. I am pleased that the preliminary plan includes a network of trails offering residents walking and cycling opportunities. The addition of *Hiking & Biking Trails* received the highest ratings in the community survey conducted last year. The development of our trail system will start with the Kingston Hills subdivision where the developer,

as part of the rezoning agreement, will be installing a hard surface trail. This will eventually connect to a larger park site and additional trails.

We have submitted a grant proposal (a cooperative effort between the Homer Glen and Lemont communities) to build a 4-mile trail connecting Kingston Hills to Culver Park, Goodings Grove School and Homer Town Square, then north to the Lemont Township High School Sports Complex. A map of the proposed community trail can be viewed at the Village Hall.

As we conclude the comprehensive planning process, please arrange to attend one of the scheduled Open Houses. This is your opportunity to provide comments about the land use map before a final plan is approved.

Sincerely,

Russ Petrizzo, Mayor

UPDATE ON NEW ZIP CODE 60491

By now, all of the residents in Homer Glen who have been using the 60441 ZIP code should have received a letter from the Postmaster verifying the change and their new ZIP +4 number. Some other issues the Village would like to clarify:

Regarding the use of the new 60491 zip code in UNINCORPORATED HOMER TOWNSHIP:

The western boundary for the new 60491 zip code is ROUGHLY east of the proposed I-355 Extension.

If you live in unincorporated Homer Township and received a letter stating that your zip code changed to 60491, you have the OPTION of using either "Lockport" or "Homer Glen" in your address. "60491" is NOT OPTIONAL.

Please don't assume that if you live in unincorporated Homer Township you were assigned the new zip code.

The Village is recommending that if you did not receive a letter from the postmaster regarding the new zip code, you should call the Postmaster to determine what zip code you should be using for your specific address.

Additionally, the Village has three areas that had different ZIP Codes. The Post Office sent surveys to all

residents in these areas asking whether they wanted to keep their current ZIP Code or be included in the new Homer Glen ZIP Code. Their responses were as follows:

Orland Park: 54 % response ratio. 79% of those who responded voted to keep their existing Orland Park ZIP Code.

Mokena: 32% response ratio: 52% of those who responded voted to keep their existing Mokena ZIP Code.

Lemont: 47% response ratio: 81% of those who responded voted to keep their existing Lemont ZIP Code.

Since the majority who responded did not want to change their ZIP Code, these areas will remain as they were and will not have Homer Glen mailing addresses.

PUBLIC FORUM

POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF PIN OAK DRIVE

A meeting to discuss the possible extension of Pin Oak Drive to the rear of Goodings Grove School at 12914 W. 143rd Street has been organized by Mayor Russ Petrizzo. The meeting is scheduled to be held at Goodings Grove School Gym on Monday, August 11, 2003 at 7:30 pm. The extension is being proposed to permit safe access into the school due to the planned improvements to 143rd Street.

Will County Highway Department engineers will be present along with representatives of Homer School District 33C. The meeting is open to anyone who would like to learn more about the proposed plan or who would like to comment.

JAYCEES FUN AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Lemont Jaycees would like to help the Homer Glen Community by establishing a new Homer Glen Jaycee chapter. If you are between the ages of 21 and 39, either male or female, and would like an opportunity to work on community service projects, to develop leadership and organizational skills, and to enjoy social activities with others in your age range, the Jaycees present limitless opportunities. The Jaycees have a nation-wide reputation for their good work, for helping younger members of the community attain leadership positions, and for good times. It takes community involvement to build a village. Contact Glenn Spachman at (708) 301-0632 for additional information.

WANTED SIGN PATROL

Would you like to help make Homer Glen more attractive? We are looking for volunteers to serve on the "Sign Patrol". The "Sign Patrol" will periodically tour the Village and remove the illegal, tacky, and unattractive signs that "sprout" from utility poles and "grow" in street right-of-ways.

If you would like to be on a volunteer team of two and possibly own a truck or other vehicle that can transport a small ladder, tools, and discarded signs, you are our man or woman. (Almost) everyone in Homer Glen would LOVE you (but probably not the sign makers). Please call the Village Hall at (708) 301-0632.

HOMER GLEN ESTABLISHES BUILDING DEPARTMENT

As of April 21, 2003, the Village of Homer Glen began accepting applications for building permits.

In addition to commercial and new house construction, residents will also be required to obtain permits for:

- ?? Sheds/Garages/Accessory Buildings
- ?? Pools
- ?? Decks
- ?? Additions
- ?? Electrical Service
- ?? Remodels
- ?? Sprinkler Systems
- ?? Roofing/Siding

Until further notice, contractors will still have to register through the Will County Building Department.

If you have any questions regarding whether a permit is required, please call the Homer Glen Building Department at (708) 301-1301. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

COMMUNITY AND NATURE IN HARMONY AWARD 2003

The Village of Homer Glen is now accepting nominations for the second annual Community and Nature in Harmony Award. The purpose is to recognize an individual, business, group or community organization who, through the creation of wildlife habitat or preservation, restoration and/or beautification of land within the Village of Homer Glen, has demonstrated a commitment to the environment and, in the process, significantly contributed to community pride. Each winner will receive recognition along with a certificate or plaque.

The Village will observe National Public Lands Day on September 20, and will celebrate deserving individuals, businesses and community groups.

Nomination forms are available at the Village Hall, or on our web site at www.homerglen.org. If you would like a form mailed to you, please call (708) 301-0632 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

Hurry! Entry deadline is August 25, 2003.





MOSQUITO BUZZ

As the first signs of spring have passed, we are all enjoying the great outdoors. Unfortunately, with fabulous weather comes the pesky mosquito population, which is not only annoying, but also can present some health risks such as West Nile Virus (WNV). Spending time outdoors can be even more pleasurable with a little planning. Take time today to eliminate comfortable breeding areas for mosquitoes near your home. By simply eliminating areas of standing water you can dramatically reduce the multiplication of the disease carrying mosquitoes that flourish in stagnant water.

Here are a few ideas to keep in mind as you begin your yard and garden work:

- ?? Birdbaths and feeders should be eliminated completely until the threat of the disease has passed.
- ?? Keep gutters, downspouts and landscape drains clear and free of debris.
- ?? Flower pots, decorative planters and yard art should allow for drainage.
- ?? Keep grass and shrubs well trimmed.
- ?? Toys, tires and other items that retain water should be kept in the garage or shed.
- ?? Spraying your clothing with repellent containing up to 35% DEET will help keep mosquitoes from biting. Follow label for directions of use.
- ?? Avoid dusk to dawn outdoor activities when mosquitoes are prevalent.

- ?? Socks, long sleeve shirts and long pants in light colors will keep mosquitoes from contact with exposed limbs.
- ?? **Most electronic, propane or "ultra sonic" devices actually attract mosquitoes.** Yellow "bug-bulbs" and sodium vapor lamps are less attractive to mosquitoes than white or clear bulbs.
- ?? Wading pools should be drained every 5 days. Full sized pools must have the filter run weekly.
- ?? Talk to your veterinarian about keeping your pets, horses and livestock safe from mosquitoes.
- ?? Applying products such as "Mosquito Dunks" will safely stop the growth of the mosquito larvae. These products are environmentally friendly and used for treatment of catch basins, ponds, water retaining ditches and stagnant water areas too difficult to drain. "Mosquito Dunks" are available from most hardware, lawn and garden and home improvement stores.

For more information on West Nile Virus (WNV) please call the Will County Health Department at 815-727-8480. You can also get information from the following web sites:

- Will County Health Department:
www.willcountyhealth.org/WNVpage.htm
- Illinois Department of Public Health:
www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/wnv.htm

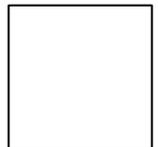
Have a safe and happy summer!

The Homer Glen Public Safety Committee



Community and Nature . . . in Harmony

14331 S. Golden Oak Dr. Homer Glen, IL 60491



To the Homer Glen resident residing at: